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"THREE LITTLE MAIDS" (S.) Kettering (Easter).
"COUNTRY GIRL," Vacation.
"CHINESE HONEYMOON," Vacation.
"GAY PARISIENNE," Sheffield (Lyceum Theatre).
"TOREADOR," Vacation.
"ARE YOU A MASON?" Liverpool (Shak. Theatre).
"WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM," Tour starts Autumn, 1906.
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Vacant, May 21 (three nights), between Newcastle and Harrogate.
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April 16 (Easter), OPERA HOUSE, TORQUAY.
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General Manager: MR. J. W. CORDINER.

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The Scotsman, April 2.
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The Evening Dispatch, April 2,
A distinct advance on anything seen on these boards hitherto. There is a welcome improvement in the quality of the fare vocally; the singing is, in fact, first-rate all round.
The Evening News, April 2,
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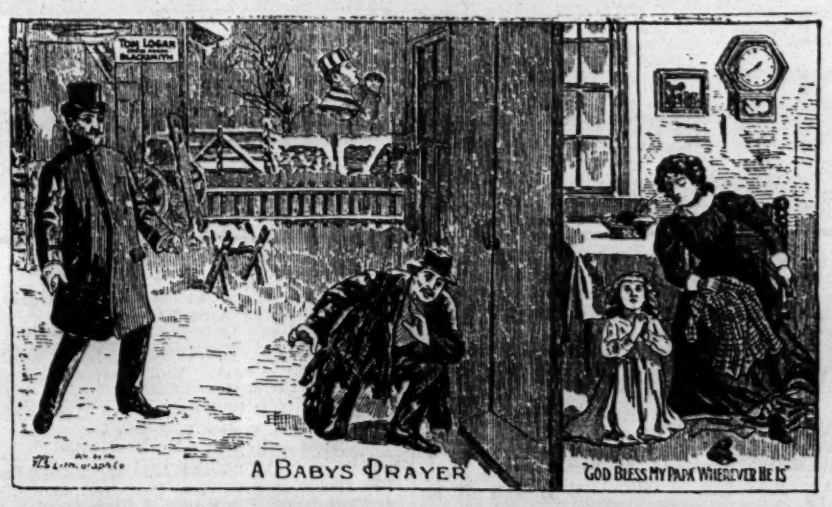

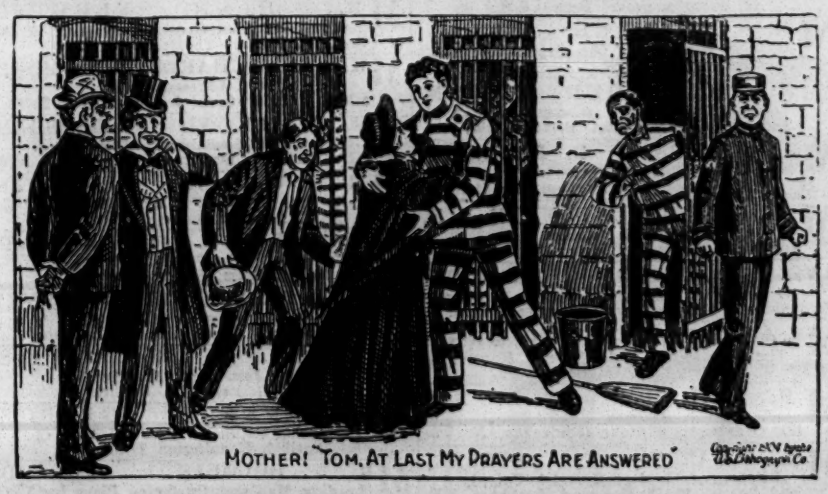

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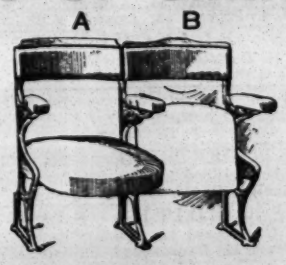

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MISS FLORENCE DALTON, Starring as "The Worst Woman in London." At Liberty April 28. Grand Theatre, Fulham.

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MISS DAISY ENGLAND,
Mrs. Smith, Mr. Walter Reynolds's "Mr. Smith" Co., Alex. T., Greenock. Dis. April 21.

MISS ANNIE ESMOND Concluded Engagement with Mr. Charles Frohman in America. Disengaged. Marble Arch House, W.

MISS ALMA EVELYNE, Dramatic Soprano. Disengaged, Musical Comedy or Comic Opera. Address, A. A., 10, King-street, W.C.

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MISS RUBY FORBES,
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MISS HELENE FOREST, Flora McDonald, in "My Highland Laddie." Britannia Theatre. 50, Elsham-rd., Kensington, W.

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MISS BARTLE FRERE, playing Lady Duncan, "Billy's Little Love Affair." Next week, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MISS KATE FROUDE, Title-rôle "A Modern Adventuress," Messrs. Carson and Kendal's Co. Coliseum Theatre, Oldham.

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MISS MABEL MANNERING, Starring in "When Woman Hates." April 16, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

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MISS HELEN PILLANS, Disengaged. Letters, Care of "The Era" Office; Agents.

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MISS DORA PRICE, Starring as The Woman, in Mr. William A. Armour's "What a Woman Did" Co. April 9, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MISS ALICE RAYNOR (Mrs. Howell-Poole). On Tour, Address, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS ROSEMARY REES, At Liberty April 9. Address, 34, Oxford-gardens, North Kensington, W.

MISS GRACE RICHARDSON, Nora, "What the Butler Saw." April 9, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MISS MARIAN RIPLEY, Kitty, Mr. Brandon Thomas's "Charley's Aunt" Co. April 9, Broadway T., Deptford.

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MISS INA ROZANT. Address, A. A., or 85, Jerningham-road, New Cross, S.E.

MISS SYBIL RUSKIN, Madame St. Lo "Count Hannibal," and Dorothy Fenton "The Adventure of Lady Ursula," Alexandra T.

MISS ETHEL RUSSELL, April 9, Theatre Royal, Aldershot. Perm. Add., 34, Tenham-avenue, Streatham-hill, S.W.

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MISS MAUD RUSSELL (Mrs. Frank M. Thorne), "Napoleon the Great" Co. April 19, Spennymoor.

MISS FRANCES RUTTLEDGE, Lead. Mr. A. Melville's Company. Dis. April 23. Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

MISS SCOTT-WATSON. Dis. Lead. MRS. SCOTT WATSON, Old Women. 7, Falkland-road, Hornsey, N.

MISS EVELYN SHAW (Mrs. Dick Winslow). April 9, rehearsing Mrs. Grimper. "For Life—and After." County Theatre, Reading.

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MISS HELENA WALBRAN, Juvenile Lead. April 9, Surrey Theatre, S.E.

MISS LAURA WALKER Please note change of permanent address: 10, King-st, Covent Garden. R., Chesterfield.

MISS ANENA WALTON, Soubrette. Dis. Panto. Principal or Special Girl. 11, West Clowes-st., Eccles New-rd., Salford.

MISS LESLIE WARNER, Lead, "Napoleon the Great" Co. April 9, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

MISS ADA WATSON, Princess Soo Soo, Mr. G. Dance's "A Chinese Honeymoon." April 9, Yarmouth.

MISS DOROTHY WATSON, Lady Roop, "Billy's Little Love Affair." Grand Theatre, Croydon, April 9.

MISS DAVIES WEBSTER, Disengaged. 38, Flanders-mansions, Bedford-park, W.

MISS ETHEL WEYBURN, Joan Trevelyan, "Sweet and Twenty," April 9, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MISS KATHLEEN WILLOUGHBY, Disengaged. Juveniles, Light Comedy. Add., 52, Cambridge-mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.

MISS GRACE WILSON, Permanent address, 25, Flanchford-road, Ravenscourt Park, W.

MRS. CHAS. WOOD, Comedy and Character Old Woman. Dis. 94, Aughton-street, Gt. Homer-street, Liverpool.

MISS MARIE WRIGHT, Comedienne. At Liberty. 67, Oxford-road, Gunnersbury, W.

MR. FRANK ADAIR, At Liberty May 14. Address, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

MR. F. RONALD ADAIR, Disengaged April 21, Disengaged. 21, Prince George-rd., Stoke Newington, N.

MR. ALEC ALEXANDER, Heavy Lead, "Gipsy Jack." April 9, Royal Court, Wigan.

MR. A. HYLTON ALLEN, Comedy Theatre, W.

MR. ALEC ALVES, Vere de Bogyns, "What the Butler Saw." April 9, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MR. DALLAS ANDERSON as Orlando is a charming player, courtly, cheerful, and intelligent.—Chicago Chron. Low's Exchange, N.Y.

MR. HENRY ARMSTRONG, Compton Comedy Co., Vacation Address, c/o "The Era."

MR. WILLIE ATOM, Small Comedian (4ft. and a fraction), Comedy Boy Parts a Speciality. Address, 26, St. George's-rd., Brighton.

MR. JAMES C. AUBREY, Disengaged. Address, 21, Yukon-road, Balham Hill, S.W.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE, Leading Business, at Liberty after Easter. 71, Boundary-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. & MRS. GEORGE R. J. AUSTIN (Miss Marie Florence). Summer offers invited. T. R., Brighton.

MR. WILFORD BAILEY, Principal Character Comedian, "Proof" Co. Palace, Newcastle, Five Nights, April 9.

MR. MAURICE E. BANDMANN, Annual Tour of the World. Address, care of "The Era."

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY, Manager of the Palace, Walthamstow. Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT. Address, 160, Earl's Court-road, S.W.

MR. J. J. BARTLETT, "Twixt Axe and Crown," Mrs. Russ Whytal's Tour. Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. CHARLES B. BEDELLS, Address all Letters, 46, Liverpool-street, King's Cross.

MR. HENRY BELDING, Lt. Reresby (The Rat), "Breed of the Treshams." Address, next week (Vacation), 54, Albert-st., Eccles.

MR. and MRS. SOMERS BELLAMY (Miss Madge Haines), Lead, Bumble, "Oliver Twist" Co., H. B. Tree's. Arrangements complete.

MR. W. BESLEY BELTRAN, At liberty April 21. 34, Padwell-road, Southampton.

MR. EDMOND BERESFORD, Disengaged. Address, 34, Kimberley-gardens, Harringay, London, N.

MR. IVAN BERLYN, Disengaged Shortly, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. WILSON BLAKE, "Breed of the Treshams." Lib. in May. Light Comedy or Character. Perm. add., 94, Fernhead-road, W.

MR. J. S. BLYTHE, Disengaged. 12, Avington-grove, Penge, S.E.

MR. CHARLES BOULT, Douglas Kingston, "The Orphan Heiress." 30, Upper Baker-street, N.W.

R. CLIFFORD BOWN, "Oliver Twist" Co. Disengaged May 21. Address 94, Vassall-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. and MRS. T. B. BRABAZON (Lillian Murray), 19, Farcliffe-place, Manningham, Bradford.

MR. BRABOURNE, Comedy, Disengaged. Address, 17, Lawn-road, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. ALFRED BRANDON, At liberty. Juveniles or Heavies. Address Maidenhayne, Musbury, nr. Axminster, Devon.

MR. & MRS. F. DUDMAN BROMWICH The Eton Hotel, Adelaide-rd., Haverstock Hill, N.W. 'Phone, 892. P.O., Hampstead.

MR. HARRY BUSS, Address, 195, Church-street, Stoke Newington, N.

MR. HARRY T. BUTLER, Disengaged Light or Eccentric Comedy. Sing and Dance. 39, Clayton-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. JOHN CABOURN, at Liberty. 4, Yale-court, West Hampstead, N.W.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE, H. C., Re-engaged by Mr. Willard, America; Mrs. C. Disengaged. 23, Linden-gardens, W.

MR. LESLIE CARTER, at Liberty for Leading Parts. 1, Clayerton-street, St. George's-square, S.W.

MR. ALBERT CAVANAH, General Manager, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's "Proof" Tour. Palace T., Newcastle.

MR. and MRS. FRANCIS CHAMIER (Miss Violet Chamier), Disengaged. Perm. Address, 46, Altenburg-gardens, Clapham Common.

MR. HAROLD CHAPIN, Rehearsing, Savoy Theatre.

MR. GEORGE CHILD Thanks friends for kind letters of condolence. April 9, Camden Theatre, N.W.

MR. JAMES CHIPPENDALE, Disengaged for Pantomime, 1906 and 1907. Perm. Address, 86, Vaughan-road, Camberwell.

MR. JOHN CLYDE, Lead, At Liberty. Offers Invited, Stock or Tour. 11, Carnarvon-street, Glasgow.

MR. J. H. CLYNDES. "A Royal Revenge." Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS, Disengaged shortly. Address, 14, Berners-street, W.

MR. CECIL A. COLLINS, Bill Sykes in "Oliver Twist" (Mr. Tree's Co.). Dis. May 21. S. Lodge, Roker, Sunderland.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS, Disengaged Autumn. 34, Sharsted-street, Kennington Park, S.E.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON, at Liberty in May. "The Breed of the Treshams." Holy Week vacation. 54, Edge-lane, Liverpool.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON, as Brassett in "Charley's Aunt." Broadway Theatre, New Cross.

MR. FRED CONQUEST, Address, Kenilworth, Worcester-villas, Hove.

MR. BERNARD COPPING Lead. MISS ISA BELLINGTON, Comedy, Miss Maud Hildyard's Co. T. R., Stratford, E.

MR. J. W. CORDINER, Sole Manager for Henry Swinerd, Esq. April 9, Grand Theatre, Swansea.

MR. and MRS. CLAVERING CRAIG, Disengaged April 16, Star Lead, Special Parts, &c. Theatre, Motherwell.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE Address, 198, Barry-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.

MR. HOWARD CRISPIN, Business Manager, "Petronella," See Theatres Wanted column.

MR. HENRY CROCKER, Vacation. Address, Actors' Association. Disengaged June 16.

MR. W. CRONIN-WILSON, Captain Fanshawe, "Saints and Sinners." Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. JULIAN CROSS, "Catch of the Season," O. H., Southport. Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. CLIVE CURRIE, Address, His Majesty's Theatre.

MR. ARTHUR CURTIS, Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES invites offers from first-class Theatres to produce Stock with or without own Co. Queen's T., Longton.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE, Is delightfully humorous as Sergeant O'Reilly. Dis. 59, Harders-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. GUY DENE, Disengaged April 21, Termination of Tour. April 9, T. R., Hull.

MR. JACK DENTON, Returned from America. Disengaged. 72, Middle Wall, Whitstable, Kent.

MR. CLARENCE DERWENT, Mr. F. R. Benson's Principal Co., Stratford-on-Avon season. Claudius, Antonio, Baradas, Feste.

MR. J. TELLY DILLSEN, (Formerly Known as J. O. Depone), Character Comedian, Geo. Kirk's Co.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MISS MARY AINSLIE. Dr. and Fay Colbrooke, "Life's Sweetest Sons" Co. T. R., Chatham.

MR. WELLESLEY DRAPER Thanks Frank Wethersby for Wire. Disengaged April 21. T. R., Rotherham (Six Nights).

MR. CHARLES DRAYCOTT, At liberty Easter. Lead, Heavy, Management. T. R., Hyde.

MR. WILTON DRURY, Comedian, Disengaged. Offers invited, Drama or Sketch. First class refs. 153, Capworth-st., Leyton, Essex.

MR. CECIL DU GUE, Starring in "The Still Alarm." Theatre Royal, Bristol.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN, Business Manager. At liberty. Address, 55, Saltoun-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. and MRS. T. W. DUNSCOMBE (Miss Marie Tennant), April 9, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

MR. & MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS (Miss Bella Power), Maj. Stretton and Lady Charlotte, "The Cotton Spinner." T.R., Halifax.

MR. EDWARD FENTON, "A Traitor Prince" Co. April 9, Metropole T., Manchester.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR FERRISS (Ethel Asbury), Low Com. and Soubrettes (sing and dance), Disengaged. 3, Gladstone-st., S.E.

MR. HUGH FLEMING, Advance Director, George Musgrove's "Prince of Pilsen" Co., Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE Address, C/o Mrs. Ross, 77, Great Junction-street, Leith.

MR. LIONEL GADSDEN, Lütz, "Old Heidelberg." Disengaged. April 18. Add., 27, Elm-grove, Cricklewood, N.W.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS, As Ellis Jordan, "A Wife's Triumph" Co. 7, Paradise-square, Oxford.

MR. W. V. GARROD, Title-rôle, "The Prodigal Parson." Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY (Kitty Jones), Elephant and Castle Theatre, London.

MR. J. D. GEDDES, Heavy or Juv. Lead. Dis. April 23. April 9, Kirkcaldy (3), Falkirk (3).

MR. HENRY GEORGE, Mr. Arthur Collins's "Prodigal Son" Co. April 9, Kennington Theatre.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD, Leading Man and Producing Plays for J. C. Williamson, Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD, Thanks Bannister Howard, Esq., re Autumn. Disengaged Shortly. Alexandra Theatre, Greenock.

MR. and MRS. A. CARLAW GRAND (Miss Rollo Deas). Engaged by Peter Davey, Esq. Address, April 9, Opera House, Leicester.

MR. DAVID GORDON, Juvenile Lead, "The Little Breadwinner." En Route. Perm. Address, c/o the A.A.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON, Engaged by Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler. Add., C/o Messrs. Wheeler, O. H., Cape Town.

MR. J. B. GORDON, At Liberty. 10, Cleveland-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR GRENVILLE, At Liberty. 20, Kenyon-mansions, West Kensington, W.

MR. FRED GROVE and MISS EMILY GROVE, Drury Lane Tour, "Prodigal Son." Kennington, S.E.

MR. CLARENCE HAGUE, Disengaged. Address, 78, St. George's-road, S.E.

MR. CHARLES HALLING, General-Manager, Messrs. Northway and Garrod's Co. Eden T., Bishop Auckland.

MR. ST. JOHN HAMUND, Disengaged April 23, till Autumn. 33, Thornton-avenue, Chiswick, W.

MR. HUBERT HARBEN, at Liberty, 40, Perham-road, West Kensington.

MR. A. C. HARDIE, Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Engaged by Miss Hildyard, for Easter.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER, Disengaged April 23. Opera House, Northampton.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY, Spencer Traughton "Public Opinion" (South). Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MR. J. BRUNELLE HARVEY, Character and Old Men. At Liberty, Sketch or Drama. 54, Liverpool-street, Salford.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY, Business Manager, "The Earl and the Girl." April 9, Royal Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. T. P. HAYNES, Specially engaged by W. W. Kelly, Esq. Marlborough Theatre, N.

MR. HORACE E. HERBERT, as David Heath, in "A Woman's Past." April 9, Met., Devonport.

MR. GRAHAME HERINGTON, Principal Comedian and Stage Manager. Disengaged end of April. 36, Russell-sq., Brighton.

MR. A. T. HILTON, Disengaged. Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES, Guiderius in "Cymbeline." At liberty April 14. Juvenile Lead. Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD. All Business communications to be made direct to Mr. Cecil Barth, 8, Melina-place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. JOHN J. HOOKER, "Saints and Sinners" Tour. Disengaged next week. T. R., Hull.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE, Norman Repertoire. Dis. June 17. Musical Comedy, Comic Opera, High-class Plays. Alex., Stoke Newington.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD (Miss Clara Earle), "A Royal Divorce" (Suburbs), April 9, Marlborough T., Holloway.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD (Miss Carlotto Anson), "Claudian" Co., Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. FRANK V. HUNTLEY, Advance Manager. Disengaged. Address, 45, Ouse-road, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

MR. J. A. HYBERT, 22nd Year Own Companies. Open to Run Solid Attractions. Address, c/o Cresser, Plymouth.

MR. and MRS. F. JACQUES (Miss M. Rayner), offers invited. Spring and onwards. Soubrette (con.), and Char. 52, Crowndale-rd., N.W.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Week's vacation. Disengaged June 16th. Address, 135, St. Mark's-rd., North Kensington, W.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES, Stage-Manager Stock Season, Terriss Theatre, S.E. Disengaged April 16.

MR. THEO JONES and ADA MANSFIELD, Touring "Jack Sheppard" Scena. Vac. April 16, 23, 30. 33a, Talfourd-rd., Camberwell.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES, Touring the Success, "Life's Sweetest Sins." Address, 25, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. WHITFORD KANE, Paul Martin in "The Duffer." Address, Actors' Association.

MR. OGILVY KEITH. Address, Charlmont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. CLAUDE KING, Edward Courtenay in "'Twixt Axe and Crown." April 9, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. CECIL KINGSLEY, Address, Garrick Theatre, W.

MR. FRED KNIGHT, Eames, "The Little Stranger." Criterion Theatre, W.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE, Offers invited for Light Comedy. Address, 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY (Jessie Price). Disengaged. Joint or Single engagements. 3, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE, Disengaged May 12. Stock or Tour. April 9, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

MR. EDMUND LEA, Waldorf Theatre, W.C. Address, 106 Rusthall-avenue, Bedford Park, W.

MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON, Engaged by Mr. Cyril Maude. Address, Waldorf Theatre, W.C.

MR. FRANK LILLIPUT, Short Comedian, at Liberty. Wadhayes, Wylde Green, Birmingham.

MR. ARDENE LINDEN, Disengaged for the Autumn. Pier Pavilion, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Two Weeks.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY, Manager, "The White Chrysanthemum" Co. Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. EDWIN LING, Disengaged S. M., or Char. part. Address, King's Theatre, Walthamstow.

MR. FRANK LISTER, Napoleon, Scala Production, 47b, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY, "The Village Blacksmith" Co. Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, Disengaged. 28, Chelverton-road, Putney.

MR. EDWARD LLOYD, At liberty shortly. Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE. Disengaged. Address, 7, Bridson-street, Liverpool.

MR. F. WILSON LOWTHER, Disengaged. Char. Com., Military parts, A.S.M. (tall)., 14 Cleveland-street, Wolverhampton.

MR. J. G. LOWTHER, Stage-Manager, Frank Curzon's "Mr. Hopkinson" Co., Dis. Summer. April 9, Royal, Cardiff.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES L. LUDLOW
(Agnes St. Clair), at Liberty.
64, Hove-avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW,
This, H. M. T., Carlisle.
Next, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG,
Disengaged.
7, Swift-street, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY.
Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. J. T. MACMILLAN,
Disengaged.
Ad., 1, Rochdale-place, Mount Florida, Glasgow.

MR. AUBREY MALLALIEU,
Light Comedian. Meynell-Gunn Australian Tour. Address, Princess's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. and MRS. W. MANFREE (Amy Wood) and AMY MANFREE, "Silver King" Co. Dis. April 30. Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MR. D. LEWIN MANNERING
Engaged to play Fagin in "Oliver Twist" from April 16. 100, Earl's Court-road, S.W.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER,
at Liberty, April 16.
Address, 18A, Hartswood-road, Wendell Park, W.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Wibsey, in "Public Opinion."
16, Mill-lane, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN,
Advance Manager, Mr. Cyril Maude's "Beauty and the Barge" Co., April 10, G., Wolverhampton.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Address,
April 9, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

MR. HENRY W. MAY.
All Kinds of Music Composed and Orchestrated. Pantomimes, &c. Add., C/o "The Era."

MR. QUINTON McPHERSON,
Engaged by Mr. Charles Frohman.
18, Bonneville-gardens, Clapham Park, S.W.

MR. and MRS. CECIL A. MELTON
(Miss E. Vanbrugh). C. A. M. Engaged "The Colleen Bawn." Easter, Kingston-on-Thames.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR MERVYN,
Juvenile Leading Business. Arrangements complete till autumn. T. R., Sheffield.

MR. and MRS. HUGH METCALFE
(Miss V. Montgomery). Dis. im. Joint offers invited. The Den, Queen's-road, Wimbledon.

MR. GEORGE MILLER,
Disengaged.
Address, 409, Edgware-road, W.

MR. GEORGE MITCHELL,
Disengaged for Leading Business, Drama or Sketch. 13, Peak Hill-gardens, Sydenham, S.E.

MR. ANDREW MONEY, Heavy Lead,
"Two Little Drummer Boys." Dis. April 23. Lead or Heavies. Kirkcaldy and Falkirk, 3 nights.

MR. G. M. MONTANINI,
Title-rôle "A Traitor Prince."
Address, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY,
MARIE HARCOURT, Napoleon and Marcel, "Napoleon the Great" Co. T. R., Spennymoor.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Disengaged. Heavy Lead.
Lyceum, Newport (Mon.).

MR. EDWARD MORGAN,
Character, Comedy, or Musical. Disengaged April 22. Address, Grand T., Brighton, or A.A.

MR. ARTHUR B. MURRAY,
Disengaged.
11, Florence-road, New Cross, S.E.

MR. KENYON MUSGRAVE, President of the Court, Stage Society's production of Brieux's "Maternité," 8th, 9th, 10th inst.

MR. SINCLAIR NEILL,
Disengaged, Juvenile Lead.
Crown-chambers, 64, Royal-avenue, Belfast.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
Heavy Lead, "The Prodigal Parson."
April 9, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON,
Lead, "The Luck of Life" Co.,
Theatre Royal, Bilston.

MR. GUS OXLEY,
Address,
Daly's Theatre, W.

MR. F. M. PAGET,
"B B B B" Tour, P. of W. T., Birmingham.
Permanent Address, 121, Victoria-street, S.W.

MR. ROBSON PAIGE, Disengaged
shortly. Concluding Tour with Forbes Robertson, Esq. April 8, Grand, Leeds, 6 nights.

MR. WILLIAM S. PARKES, Dis.,
Elderly Character, Farcical C., O. M., Broken Eng. parts. Add., 68, Holloway-road, Highbury.

MR. and MRS. MARK PATON
(Miss Mabel Rees). Disengaged, for Character and Comedy. 1, Stockwell-avenue, Brixton, S.W.

MR. POPE PAX,
Journalist and Dramatic Critic,
Address, 18, Trinity-road, Birmingham.

MR. & MRS. W. KINGSFORD PEARCE
(Miss Wynne Hanley). S.M., "The Duffer" Co. T. R., Preston. Disengaged May 12.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Monks, in "Oliver Twist" (Mr. Tree's Co.), Vacation, April 14, T. R., Dublin.

MR. FRED PENLEY,
Mr. Brownlow in "Oliver Twist."
All coms., Great Queen-street Theatre, W.C.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Mr. Wheeler's Comedy Co., Cape Town, South Africa; or A.A.

MR. W. H. PERRETTE,
Disengaged April 17.
Address, 74, Lupus-street, London, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY
(Miss Gertrude Price), Mrs. Clement Scott's Co. Add., 10, Oberstein-road, London, S.W.

MR. THOMAS J. PHILLIPS,
Gen.-Man. Cyril Maude's "Beauty and the Barge," Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne; Dis. June 11.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP,
General-Manager,
Coms., Care of "The Era."

MR. FELIX PITT,
Leads, Heavies, Special Parts. Disengaged April 23. Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

MR. & MRS. FREDERICK POWELL,
Offers invited.
256, Penton-place, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MR. SYDNEY PRICE,
Disengaged April 21.
Athenæum, Lancaster.

MR. DONALD PRICE-EVANS, "The Talk of the Town" Co. April 16, Bolton. Char. Com. Dis. May and June. Stock or Tour.

MR. WILLIAM PRINGLE,
Rehearsing,
Vaudeville Theatre, London.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR,
Business Manager for Mr. Bert Coote.
Address all communications 150, Oxford-street, W.

MR. TOM REDMOND. S.-M.
"Mikado," for Sunderland Amateurs. At Liberty April 30. 47, Moreton-terrace, S.W.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF,
S.R., 100th Performance as Davy, in "Sunday." T. R., North Shields.

MR. PERCY RHODES,
On Tour as Paul Sylvaine, in "Leah Kleschna."
At Lib. April 23. Stanley Hall, Disley, Cheshire.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON, Mr. Geo. Edwardes' "Lady Madcap" Co., Disengaged Shortly. Address, Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Weinstein and Stage Management. "What the Butler Saw," Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD,
at Liberty. Permanent address,
34A, Aldis-street, Tooting, S.W.

MR. WALTER ROBERTS,
Rudolph Laski, "Passion's Power,"
April 9, T. R., Bolton, Six Nights.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON, Lead,
Comedy or Drama, Disengaged for Easter.
115, Grosvenor-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

MR. G. STAPELTON ROCHE,
Disengaged April 21. Light Comedy, &c.
Add., Belmeath, Upper Dorset-rd., Bexhill-on-Sea.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS.
Address all communications,
124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

MR. FREDERICK SANDY,
General manager Andrew Melville's "Driven from Home" Co. Victoria, Broughton.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT,
Principal Comedy, "Great Awakening" Co.
Borough Theatre, Stratford.

MR. J. W. SEAWARD, Advance, Mr. George Edwardes's Co., "The Little Michus," Dis. April 21. P.O.W., Birmingham.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Tommy Keston, "The Freedom of Suzanne."
April 9, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES SEWELL
(Miss Sara Dudley). Light Com. and Juv'les. Summer Offers Invited. Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor. Krockitt, "Lady of Ostend" Co. Theatre Royal, Tunbridge Wells.

MR. GEO. M. SLATER,
Manager and Producer.
39, Upper Gloucester-pl., Dorset-sq., London, N.W.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY,
Manager for Mr. Robt. Courtneidge,
Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. FRANK STANLEY,
Acting-Manager,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. E. STANTON-SHARP,
April 8,
Melrose, Marischal-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. W. R. STAVELEY,
"Little Father of the Wilderness" and "Mountain Climber," Coronet Theatre, W.

MR. and MRS. W. S. STEVENSON
(Miss Evelyn Robson), at Liberty April 21. Offers Invited. April 9, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING,
Present arrangements
Complete.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES R. STONE,
Comedy or Character, at Liberty.
140, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident Manager (Twelfth Year),
Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS, Engaged
by Chas. Frohman, KATE PARRY, Disengaged. Light Com., Juv., &c. O. H., Southport.

MR. ALGERNON SYMS,
Leading Business. Disen. for good tour, &c.
Perm., 3, Springdale-road, Clissold Park, N.

MR. TAPPING.
Address,
28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. JAMES C. TAYLOR,
Re-engaged for Benvolio for revival of "Romeo and Juliet," Prince's T., Bristol.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR, Heavies,
Character. Disengaged May 28. "The Golden Ladder" Co. 77 Edge Lane-road, Oldham.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE
(Louise Hampton),
New King's Theatre, Pitfield-street, Hoxton, N.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER,
Dis., Comedy, Char., Mus. Com., Drama, or Management. 51, Bridge-road, Hammersmith.

MR. ALLEN THOMAS,
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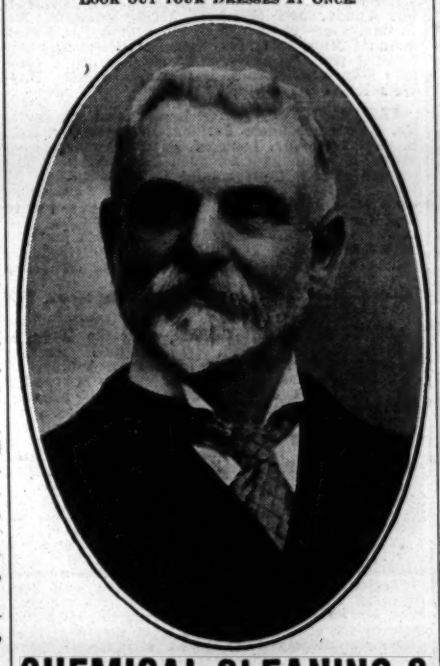

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,

BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I.
COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

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NOTICE

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Please keep your ADDRESS CARD permanently in THE ERA in the Alphabetical Arrangements of Dramatic Artists' Advertisements. Managers, Agents, and Friends are in need of this information. Engagements are frequently lost through failure to find your Address. For terms, address—

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Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Beesle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown, Mr. Frank	May 27, 1905
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Callan, Late Mr. H. J	June 17, 1905.
Carlton, Mr. Arthur	Nov. 11, 1905.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Castleton, Mrs. Robert	July 15, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Cooper, Miss Florry	Nov. 11, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	August 12, 1905.
Corelli, Miss Hilda	April 15, 1905.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
Cullen, Mr. James	October 7, 1905.
D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
Daltra, Miss Marie	July 22, 1905.
Daly, Late Miss Maria	Nov. 11, 1905.
Davis, Mr. Tom B.	June 24, 1905.
Denmeade, Mr. and Mrs.	July 1, 1905.
Denton, Mr. St. John	March 18, 1905.
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Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James E.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry K.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Ellis, the Late Mr. Percy	July 29, 1905.
Emery, Miss Pollie	July 1, 1905
Fanchette, Miss Amy	April 15, 1905.
Flinn, Madame Kate	July 29, 1905.
Forde, Mr. H. Athol	August 26, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
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Grove, Mr. Fred	March 10, 1906.
Grein, Mr. J. T.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Gunn, Miss Haidee	September 30, 1905.
Gwynne, Miss Daisy	October 14, 1905.
Hamlyn, Mr. J. D.	January 20, 1906.
Hansen, Miss Laura	January 20, 1906.
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
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Holloway, Mr. Baliol	April 15, 1905.
Holmes-Dallimore, Mr. A.	Dec. 9, 1905.
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Howard, the Late Mr. W.	August 12, 1905.
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Jenoure, Miss Aida	June 24 1905.
Johnson, Mr. William	December 16, 1905.
Jones, Miss Marie	April 1, 1905.
Jones, Miss Gladys Rose	September 16, 1905.
Juliette, Mdlle.	January 13, 1906.
Karno, Mr. Fred	August 12, 1905.
Kenney, Miss Rosa	July 1, 1905.
Kenney, Mr. Charles	September 23, 1905.
Kinghorne, Mr. Mark	February 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.
Kinnaird, Miss Helen	March 3, 1906.
Klein, Mr. Cecil	March 18, 1905.
Lang, Mr. Matheson	September 23, 1905.
Lathbury, Mr. Stanley	March 11, 1905.
Lawrence, Mr. Wingold	March 18, 1905.
Le Hay, Mr. John	August 26, 1905.
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Liddon, Miss Adele	August 26, 1905.
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Loftus, Miss Kitty	January 20, 1906.
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Love, Miss Mabel	December 16, 1905.
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Makeham, Miss Gladys	March 11, 1905.
Maltby, Mr. H. F.	June 10, 1905.
Marinelli, Mr. H. B.	April 15, 1905.
Mario, Miss Minnie	April 1, 1905.
Maskelyne, Mr. J. N.	May 13, 1905.
Matthison, Miss E. Wynne	May 13, 1905.
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Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
Mills, Miss Kate	Dec. 9, 1905.
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Russell, Miss Kathleen	June 24, 1905.
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Sanger, Lord George	November 4, 1905.
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Vernon, Late Mr. W. H.	Dec. 9, 1905.
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Vincenti, Signor	Oct. 21, 1905.
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Walton, Miss Gladys	March 17, 1906.
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Wheatley, Mr. Horace	March 24, 1906.
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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

NOTICE. — Provincial Correspondents are requested to send in copy next week to reach us not later than Wednesday morning.

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—That striking play *The Walls of Jericho* is presented to good houses this week by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company. Mr. Herbert Bunston plays most effectively as Jack Frobisher, and Miss Florence Jackson finds scope for her powers in the part of Lady Alethea; Mr. George Brandram admirably portrays Hankey Bannister, and Miss Molly Carton gives a lively and entertaining impersonation of Lady Lucy Derenham.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Two Bees make a successful appearance, and a highly sensational sketch *The Maniac* is presented by Mr. Sydney Bacon's company, the leading part being powerfully played by Mr. Melville Bickford. Mr. Johnny Alexander and company appear with success in a funny sketch *Husband and Lodger*; and some fine kaleidoscopic dancing is contributed by Mlle. Effie White. Other very acceptable turns are those of Elverton (the spinning marvel), Miss Beattie Kent (comedienne and dancer), Mr. Harry Wenburn (a quaint comedian), and Bishop and Vale (acrobatic dancers).

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. William Greet's company opened here on Monday in *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr. Alfred Donohoe gave an excellent performance as Jim Cheese; Dick Wargrave was well played by Mr. Leslie Gaze; Mr. G. Hayes, Mr. Percy Bronson, and Mr. Sam Lysons were excellent in their respective parts. The Misses Hylda Dugdale, Lina Hicks, Beatrice Anderson, Ida Stratham, and Miss Winnie Plumpton were particularly smart in the characters allotted to them.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—The excellent bill provided this week includes Miss Fredricks, with her marvellous performing terriers; Chris. Masters, descriptive vocalist; Sidney Dolf, vocal trickster; and Mlle. Haydee's Royal Miniature Theatre.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Mr. Leonard Barry's variety company is proving a good attraction. The feature of a full programme is the wrestling by Tom McInerney, Great Britain's champion wrestler. On Tuesday night McInerney failed to beat Jack Grumbley according to conditions, and handed over £10. Other keenly-contested matches have taken place. The other members of the company are Harry Maynard, Rene and Relburt, Miss Ada Parker, Leslie's Bioscope, Will Walker, E. Clifford, Mark Lorne, and Barry's song-scena, *The Moocher's Walk*.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — Theatre Royal. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Another of Geo. Dance's musical comedy companies is here for the week, with *The Cingalee*, which is lavishly mounted and dressed. Mr. Lauri de Frece, as Chambuddy Ram, displays comic power and remarkable agility as a dancer. His song, "London Extraordinary," is very well received. With Miss Gladys Guy, as Peggy Sabine, he shares the success of the quaint bird-duet. Mr. Frank Crimp as the tea-planter, Harry Vereker, is full of vigour as the lover of Nanoya, and sings admirably; Mr. E. Edwards in the character of Bobby Warren is also a prime favourite, and his admirable vocal gifts win him applause in the ditty "The Four Little Girls of Ceylon"; Mr. C. Edmunds gives a good character study of Sir Peter Loftus; and Mr. Bertroud Gates makes a picturesque Boobhamba. Miss Marjorie Clarke as Lady Patricia Vane has some of the choicest lyrics to sing, and her vocal gifts are displayed to great advantage; Miss Winnie O'Connor, who makes a dainty Cingalese girl as Nanoya sings her lyrics with much strength of voice and sweetness of tone; Miss Essie Perrin dances with nimbleness and grace.

The Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—There is a strong programme at the Hippodrome this week. Drum and Major give a skilful exhibition with batons; Emma Don and Co., in a scena, *The Prodigal Son*, have ample opportunity for a display of vocal talent; Henry Carlton, as Billy Blobbs, in the sketch, *For One Night Only*, display ability as a comedian, and is well backed by his company; Arthur Slater, the "whistling man," warbles delightfully; Violet Thorne is a promising juvenile vocalist; and the Nine Zouaves give some clever evolutions; Jay Laurier, as "Silly Billy Brown" provokes roars of laughter; the Celios are a clever pair of instrumentalists; Dubito and Buxton, a pair of vocalists of exceptional talent, are warmly applauded; Les Rupertos, a pair of equilibrists, introduce novelty into that much-exploited variety of entertainment; "The Wedding Morn," depicted on the Bioscope, is a pretty picture.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Mr. Alfred H. Cook's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday with *The Prodigal Son*, which had a hearty reception from a large house. Mr. Ellerslie Pyne portrays with earnestness the part of Jack Fanshaw (title-rôle); Mr. W. A. Buckstone proves himself a capable actor as Captain Harry Fanshaw; Bill Burke finds an able exponent in Mr. Ambrose Horton; Mr. John Bryce is good as Ralph Marsden. That sterling actor of Irish comedy, Mr. John S. Chamberlain, causes roars of laughter by his legitimate interpretation of Larry M'Gehan, his efforts being ably seconded by Miss Rosie Kearns as Mary; Miss Marion Forrester shows marked ability as Margaret Marsden; a pleasing performance is that of Miss Nora Bedford as Nelly Burke, and Miss Nellie Hook is deserving of praise as the outcast Dick. Minor parts are well played by Mr. F. Dudley as Sir John Fanshaw and Mr. William Edwards as Corbett.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—Talent of the highest order marks the programme here this week, led off by the Royal Zerbinis troupe of clever and refined musicians in a scena entitled *In Fairyland*, the stage setting of electrical effects being splendid, and the efforts of the troupe meeting with great favour. The Sisters Tinsley are admirable as duettists and dancers; Little Joe is a juvenile comedian of great promise; Kyoto gives a daring exhibition of pyramid balancing; Baroni and Kemp (lady and gentleman) are exceptionally smart as quick-change artists; Mr. E. C. Clayton's Attergraph pictures are still a most acceptable item; the Three Rubies receive well-merited applause for their graceful act as contortionists and acrobats, and Mr. Martin Conway, the comedian of "walk round" fame, keeps the house in roars of laughter with his quaint songs and funny patter.

AYR.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry W. Day.—On Monday night a crowded house received Mr. Edward Compton and his celebrated company, when the play of *Davy Garrick* was produced. It was preceded by a short piece, *The Desperate Lover*, which was very cleverly performed. In *Davy Garrick* Mr. Compton appeared in the title-rôle, and it is needless to say that he played the part like a true artist. Mr. Compton has capital all-round support from a capable company. Mr. Henry Crocher as Alderman Gresham was excellent; Miss Mackenzie played the part of Violet with great acceptance. The play was well staged. On Tuesday night, *Money* was the production, and on Wednesday *New Men and Old Acres*. Mr. Compton and his company were to be followed on the three remaining nights of the week by Mr. Leigh Lovel's company, in *The Duke of Killiecrankie* and *Sowing the Wind*.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company is here this week with the military play *The Two Hussars*. Mr. J. Stuart infuses the due amount of military dignity into the character of Colonel Manners, and Mr. Wilson Benge as Harry Alford plays as a man of honour should; Captain Paul Villiers is skilfully represented as a thorough-paced villain by Mr. F. J. Webb; Mr. Paradice as Sergt. McFinnie gets plenty of fun out of the character; Mr. Louis Nanton gains enthusiastic applause for his comical efforts in the part of Trooper Runn, and he is ably assisted by Miss Lallah Price as Mollie Cutts; Miss Sadie Smith gives evidence of ability as Ellen Maythorne, afterwards Trooper Gunstock; and Miss Danvers Smith as Marie plays with much charm.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. O. Mitchell.—Messrs. John B. Shinton and Alexander Greenwood's company is here in *The Price of Her Soul*. Mr. John B. Shinton gives a powerful rendering of Lord Rolf Mandeville, V.C., whilst Miss Ada M. Ryder plays with sympathy and charm as the heroine, Countess Lucy Steinmitz. The villainies of Major Ivan Skoboloff are skilfully represented by Mr. Annesley Hely, and he is ably assisted by Miss Mona Gray as Olga Lanovitz. The play is sufficiently lightened by the humour of Mr. Edwin Coates as the Hon. Algy Fraser, and Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy. Mr. Archie Gear is well placed as General Lanovitz; Mr. Murray Yorke is a capable Captain Sergius Petruski. Miss Ina Mervale is seen to advantage as Nadine Marcovitz; Miss Ada Arnott proves interesting as Lady Jemima Fraser; Miss Ida Thompson is a remarkably clever child actress as Vera; Miss Tina Frank is satisfactory as Polly Perkins.

Public Hall.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Hoey.—Mr. William Hamilton is exhibiting quite a new series of "excursions" and animated pictures here this week, which are relieved by some capital variety turns, amongst which are the following—Gustave Fasola, Indian fakir and illusionist; George French's troupe of acrobatic cyclists; the Snow Family, grotesque skaters; the Bros. Warlock Irish comedians. Claude Howell is the guide and elocutionist.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS. — Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company in *A False Wife* is here. Mr. George Langham gives a good account of Sir Colin Mansfield; Mr. W. Howard Barlow is a vigorous Lieutenant George Mansfield; Mr. Frank Strickland plays Jean Berand with care; the Agnes Weyland of Miss Ellen Armor has much to charm; Miss Florence E. Florence in the difficult part of Lady Mansfield is effective; and the humours of Mr. Owen Edwin as Archibald Brown Tee and of Mr. Elton Morgan as Ben Rattler are welcome.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Sidney Dench's company is playing a welcome return visit here in the drama *The Rich and Poor of London*. Miss Dora Dench gives a commendable performance in the character of May Webster; Mr. Walter Foster makes an excellent villain of Mark Stanley; Mr. Sidney Dench as Spider Jack keeps the audience in the best of humours, being ably supported by Miss Lilah Arlis as Polly Philpot.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Mr. Arthur Rigby, who tops the bill here this week, keeps the house in roars of laughter. Harris L. Bell and Lilly Pearl give a capital comedy sketch entitled *A Bit of String*; Wilson Blackledge as a society entertainer is successful; Merton and Ryden, speciality artists, give a capital show; the Crystals dance cleverly; Cora Magda is a pleasing lady gymnast; and an Irish comedy act given by the Two Kelsos is acceptable.

BATH. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—For a fourth week melodrama holds the boards, the latest production being the play, *The Hindoo's Revenge*, capitally acted and carried through by Messrs. Arthur Whittaker and Gifford Stacey's company. Mr Cyril W. Mackay sustains the character of the hero, Bruce Glenister, with success, his various disguises showing what good histrionic talents he possesses. His traitor brother, Stephen Glenister, is well handled by Mr. Frank Ridley; Mr. Arthur Willerby as the Irishman, Dr. Murphey, could not easily be improved upon, his brogue being delightful; Mr. Clive Ross is well placed as Major-Gen. Strong; the comedy element is mostly provided by Mr. Stanley Bell as Warren, a man servant; Mr. Hamilton Travers enacts the small part of Count Polskoff; and as Kumar Nana, a Hindoo, whose revenge forms the final climax to the play, Mr. E. H. Dobell puts in some excellent work, his sister Zephan finding in Miss Ethyle Murray a strong exponent. Miss Lilian Laits, acting as Diana Strong, a sort of lady Sherlock Holmes, is full of brightness and decision, and Sylvia Glenister is realised by Miss Daisy Snowden in a pleasing manner.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Charles Schubert.—That bright American couple, Barton and Ashley, are appearing here this week, and their reception is cordial in the extreme. Of the many teams of lad vocalists on tour none exceed in excellence that of the King's College Boys, whose combined efforts in excerpts from opera have won a great success. Lester and his trained dogs carry through an amusing and clever turn; two ladies who have previously won their way into popular favour here are Janet Howard Reynolds, ballad vocalist, and Millie Howell, descriptive vocalist, who gain further admirers; Grey and Welford, comedians, give a comic boxing act that goes well; Joe Humphreys, character comedian, starts the programme, which, as usual, closes with a series of pictures by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux. On Tuesday evening a special cricketers' night was arranged, when several local amateurs added items that met with acceptance from large and friendly audiences.

BATLEY. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—Mr. H. G. Place's Opera Co. is fulfilling a week's engagement here in a repértorie of operas, including, *Lily of Killarney*, *Faust*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Maritana*. The principals are Messrs. F. S. Gilbert (who is in excellent voice), Frank Laud, Fred Wade, J. K. Campbell, H. G. Place, and Mesdames Constance St. Bride, Ella Ross, Kathleen McCabe, and Madeline Stone Humphries. In *The Lily of Killarney*, on Monday evening, Mr. F. S. Gilbert as Myles and Miss St. Bride as the Coleen Bawn were conspicuously successful; Mr. Kneall Campbell was a good Corrigan; Mr. Edward Griffen gave a faithful portrayal of Father Tom; and Mr. Frank Laud was a capital Danny Mann.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Charles Harrington's company in Frank Bateman's naval play, *The Sailors of the King*. Mr. Charles Harrington makes an excellent Admiral Drake, whose son, Dick, finds a powerful exponent in Mr. Harry Douglas; Orrel Drake, the villain, is cleverly impersonated by Mr. F. Vernon Travers; Mr. Fred Owen gives a capital interpretation of Wilkenstein; Miss Sylvia Stella pathetically represents the trials and troubles of Felicia Phrynne; and Daisy Dent is successfully rendered by Miss Gertrude Stenoll; Miss Hero Hathaway makes a charming little Penelope Penn, the Quakeress.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on Monday with the popular musical comedy *The Gay Parisienne*. The cast includes the accomplished actress Miss Nellie Hodson, who was most successful in her vivacious interpretation of Mlle. Julie Bon-Bon. Mr. Tom Conway exhibited much humour in his capital impersonation of Ebenezer Honeycombe, and Mme. Ilma Norina was good as Mrs. Honeycombe. Although suffering from a severe cold, a hit of no small magnitude was made by Mr. Charles Seguin, who was the volatile M. Pompier to the life. Miss Lucia Collins was a graceful Norah, and Mr. Lester Carey was responsible for the rôle of Tom Everleigh, and played it extremely well; Mr. Rudolf Kloss succeeded admirably as the irascible Major Fossdyke, and the rôle of Ruth was done full justice to by Miss Gwennie Harcourt. Other rôles were cleverly sustained by Miss K. O'Malley, Miss E. McHardy, Miss G. Davies, Miss N. O'Neill, Miss Ducie Sanderson, and Messrs. Graham Wentworth, Norman Craigh, E. Marriott, J. Fitz-James, &c. One of the features of the performance are the vocal quartettes capably rendered by the Original Imperial Glee Singers.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie.—Much disappointment was expressed here on Monday at the announcement that owing to the sudden and serious illness of Mr. Alec Hurley, he and his company were unable to travel from Manchester. Under these circumstances, Mr. George Gilbey was accorded the premier position on the bill, and this capable comedian was very successful. Talbert and Douglas caused roars of laughter with their comedy acrobatic act; Counsell and Mill appeared to much advantage in their vocal comedy episode *On the Stage*; and others in the bill were Mr. Geo. Fairburn (mimic), Miss Nellie Dunbar (comedienne), Mr. Fred Collins (Scotch comedian), Miss Rose Waller (comedienne), and the Palace pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The Lukushimas head the bill, and have been most successful with their unique entertainment. Mr. Wilson Hallett returns with a new entertainment, entitled *Children at Home*. Virto, assisted by Irene and Venita, appear in their refined musical act; the Two Bostons are very funny, and Aihas and Collins appear to great advantage in their comedy act; Morton and Elliott sing well, and their paper tearing exhibition has been voted first-class. Also here are Miss Mattie Wilkes and Mr. G. W. Foster (comedian).

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. Fred Moule and Mr. E. D. Nicholl's company top the bill and represent with much effect their sensational screamer *The Battle of the Belles*. Mr. Harry Dent and Miss Fanny Harris have made a big hit in their refined comedy scena *Mary and the Squire*; and a clever act has been provided by the Paul Hesse Trio in their wonderful feats of equilibrism and acrobatism; Mr. J. H. Milburn, an old favourite here, has renewed his former successes; and Newco and Sullo, comedians and grotesque dancers, have been well received. Also appearing are Miss Florence Watson (comedienne), Sultan Bros. (comedy acrobats and boxers), and Mr. Fred Hallam, and the Alhambra Bioscope is an interesting item.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Miss Daisy Halling is again seen to advantage as Sarah Drake in *Man's Enemy*, which is being presented here. Mr. John Power is another talented artist, and his portrayal of the heavy part, Tom Drake, calls for special commendation; Mr. Campbell Kelly plays energetically as Harry Stanton; the General Stanton of Mr. Edgar Thorne is a well-studied character sketch; Miss Lynn Darlington, a vocalist as well as an actress, is effective; and Mr. J. Newton-Cowling makes a lively Ikey Barnett; the light comedy is introduced by Mr. Percy Williams as Adolphe and Miss Amy Rudd as Polly

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company is fulfilling a first engagement here in *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. Arthur Reynolds gives an irresistibly humorous and clever performance of the title-rôle, and is ably supported by Mr. Charles McLagan, who as Crookie Scrubbs displays exceptional powers as a comedian, and unmistakably shares in the honours of the evening. Lady Bickenhall is admirably impersonated by Miss Lily Lingard, who speedily establishes herself in high favour; Aurora Brue is charmingly played by Miss Eva Weigh, and Miss Eliza Earle is a smart and piquant Daisy. Mr. E. Percy Rogers gives an energetic and telling portrayal of Michael Brue; Mr. Henry Chichester is an excellent magistrate; Mr. Arthur Stroud is a good Gerald Treherne, and the cast generally is a most capable one. The chorus is numerous and well up in their business, and the augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Norman Lathan.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—A really excellent and comprehensive company includes Mr. Mark Sheridan, comedian, who is on a welcome return visit with, if anything, increased success, and in addition Mr. Clarke has a strong retinue of comedians in Mr. Dan Thomas, Mr. George Reeves, and Mr. Charles Austin, all of whom are well received. Charlie Harvey. W. G. Sutton, John Green, and Minnie Harvey are amusing in their sketch *The Sculptor's Dilemma*, and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Finden in *Two to One* are an attractive feature; Miss Lily Langtry, the popular comedienne, is again achieving distinction here, and Mr. Charles Norton, a clever mimic, Miss Nettie Starr, comedienne, and the Stella Troupe of vocalists and dancers help to strengthen the programme. Miss Queenie Leighton, the popular and charming comedienne, was unfortunately unable to open here on Monday, but it was hoped she would be able to appear later in the week. Mr. Ernest Benney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*Charley's Aunt*, which is received here as usual with general delight and applause, is this time distinguished by the appearance of the author, Mr. Brandon Thomas, who as Sir Francis Chesney meets with a cordial reception. Mr. Stanley Cooke "carries on" as the pseudo aunt in his own effective and laughter-provoking method, and his abettors and fellow undergraduates score in the persons of Messrs. Hastings, Lynn, and Richard B. Mason. Mr. Walter Beaumont acts as the discomfited solicitor, Spettigue, with perfect unction; Miss Lena Macnaughtan is dignified, graceful, and elegant as Donna Lucia; and the Misses Marian Ripley, Dorothy Deacon, Gladys Storey, and Mr. Sydney Compton contribute valuably. *A Highland Legacy*, also by Brandon Thomas, completes the bill.

Prince of Wales's Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Prince of Pilsen* pays a successful return visit with Mr. George Musgrove's company, which scores all round. Miss Ruby Verdi acts and sings in an entrancing style as Nelly Wagner; Miss Nelly Cozens displays rare vivacity as the widow, Mrs. Crocker; Miss Nelly Emerald acts with chic and intelligence as the French maid; Miss Meg Hamilton disports herself as the bell-boy in an entertaining fashion; and Miss Mildred Baker makes an excellent impression as the Vassar Girl. Mr. Edwin Adeler as the mock Prince and Mr. Stuart Alexander as the real Prince of Pilsen do excellently well in their equally clever, albeit dissimilar styles.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Eternal City* is presented here on a scale of much excellence by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, amongst whom Miss Marie Polini must at once be singled out for her fine histrionic powers as Donna Roma Volomia. Mr. Henry Deas wins excellent opinions as David Rossi; Mr. E. Stanton Sharpe as Baron Bonelli is powerful; Mr. J. Fortescue excels as Pope Pius XI.; Mr. L. St. G. Lowther is a pillar of strength as the Chief; Mr. William O'Flynn submits a finely-acted study of Bruno Rocco; and Mr. Richard Walsh as Tommasso, Mr. E. Stidwell as the major-domo Felice, Mr. Comberbach as Father Pifferi, and Mr. Herbert Legerton as Minghelli are distinguishable among the cast for their meritorious acting.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The 10.30 Down Express* was due here on Monday, and received an excellent welcome on its arrival with Mr. Horace Stanley's company. Mr. Charles Burdon won a cordial reception for his clever presentment of the lieutenant Jack O'Malley; Mr. George Arthur exploited the evil character of James Inderwick to its fullest vent; Mr. Claude Haviland was successful in the detective's rôle; Mr. Alaric Burton scored as Cuthbert Leigh; Mr. Tom Roydan gave a capable study of the accomplice's rôle, Seth Coombes; and Miss Elsie Capell depicted the virtues and graces of Bessie Leigh in a very charming manner. Mr. Horace Stanley was a big favourite in his highly-diverting rôle of Sam Wagstaffe; Miss Kate Kilpack lent clever support as Peggy Potts; and the Misses Clara Santley and Evelyn M. Walton occupied conspicuous places in the cast.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville.—*The Still Alarm* occupies the bill here, with Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company. Full houses have greeted this powerful and well-mounted play, and Mr. M. H. Glenville, for his sterling acting as the hero Jack Manley, has been in receipt of hearty applause. Mr. Cecil Du Gue lends his fine presence and polished acting as John Bird; Mr. J. S. Pateman does good work as Fordham; Miss Maude Warburton invests the heroine's rôle with an attractive presence and much ability; Mr. Fred Osmond delights the audience with his clever witticisms as Doc Wilber; and other humorous rôles are cleverly enacted by Mr. Tom Beasley, Mr. L. Gordon, Miss M. Veriton, and Miss Hettie Zillwood, the latter of whom also shines as a vocalist. The alarm and fire scenes, in which appear the beautiful trained horses Pegasus and Bucephalus, evoke wild enthusiasm.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*On the Stroke of Twelve*, in which musical comedy is agreeably interspersed with drama, is played here by a clever company. Mr. W. Matthews appears with conspicuous ability and success as Jack Rutledge; Mr. R. A. Greene gives an excellent portrayal of the villain James Horton; Mr. Fred Guiness is well liked as George Bainbridge; and Mr. P. Palmer as Henry Rutledge. Mr. W. H. Burton as Van Dyke and Mr. Thomas Young as Keeper Dole act with much ability. Miss Florence Trevor as Marie Bergerre shows power; Miss Bertha St. Ruth acts with sympathy in the rôle of Doris Rutledge; and Mr. Fred J. Little is comical.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham. — Machnow, the Russian giant, who stands 9ft. 2½in. in height, is the novel attraction here. Mlle. Olive is an expert juggler, while Bert Woodward is seen in a clever cycling act. *The Naughty Professor* is a smart sketch introduced by Amann and Hartley; Seeley and West and the Korries are highly entertaining in their musical act; Harding and Ah-Sid cause plenty of fun; Fyne and Hurley in their sketch, *The Coster and Dude*, are amusing; McPhee and Hill perform some difficult feats on the triple bar in an easy and confident manner; and the American Bioscope illustrates the arrival of Togo's Six Hundred and the Grand National Steeplechase.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Bella and Bijou are always sure of a big reception here. Their turn is most refined and artistic, and their duologues, *The Agent*, *The Flunkey*, and *The Curate*, won loud applause. Dinah Morris and her lost coons are an attractive item; Maudie A. Edwards is a clever ventriloquist; Selby and Myers, Charley Dixon, Harry Hayton and Robbins and Collier in a comedy scena add largely to the mirth of the programme; while De Breans both mystifies and amuses with his smart juggling.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The diversified and well-arranged programme here is attracting large houses. The Harvey Boys' boxing sketch, *The Dummy*, causes endless amusement; H. O. Wills is encored for his eccentric songs; as also are the Lowenwidth Bros.; Garden and Zesch, Australian society entertainers, meet with an enthusiastic reception; Ada Twibell wins loud applause for her songs; and other popular turns are Susie and Protti, Lilian (the trick cyclist), the Sisters Silcott, the Sisters Caina, and Fred Yound.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—A strong bill is being presented this week. The quaint comedian O'Gust is making a big impression, and deserves the applause which greeted him, while Alice Maydue is a character comedienne who can delight an audience. The Burnells in their sketch, *Fun on the Golf Links*, and Brook, Dale, and Blitz are very amusing; Sinclair and Parr are applauded for their duets; and the Sisters Finny, Mezzette and Mara, and Griff complete the programme.

BISHOP AUCKLAND. — Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—A most enjoyable attraction is being presented here this week by Mr. W. H. Kirby's No. 1 company in the musical comedy play *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr. W. H. Kirby as Martin Blabbs is highly successful in evoking laughter; Mr. E. H. Bertram gives a praiseworthy impersonation of Stanton Ashleigh; the part of Stephen Leverton is capitally rendered by Mr. Percy Maitland; Old Joe is well played by Hyland Shea, and Mr. George P. Lester is good as Lem Lee. Miss Dot Reeve is most attractive in the title-rôle, whilst Miss Cordelia Knight as Zorah and Miss Bella Periss as Miss Ainslie are excellent in their respective parts. As Freddie Ashleigh Miss Dora Condor is well placed.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal paid their annual visit to Blackburn this week, and have been again warmly welcomed by large audiences. *The Housekeeper*, presented on Monday, has not been seen before in Blackburn, but, though new and somewhat different in style to plays usually associated with Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, it was as keenly appreciated as any of the older favourites. In Lady Audrey Whitby Mrs. Kendal has a part which is thoroughly suited to her. Her acting throughout possessed all its old charm, and she received a hearty recall at the close of each act. Mr. Kendal, too, gave a fine portrayal of the whimsical, but good-natured, Colonel Lionel Tuent. Mr. Bassett Roe acts well in the part of Lord Runswick, and as the vulgar William Hickson Mr. Ernest Hendrie is cleverly amusing. Mr. Reynolds Devensford and Mr. Metcalf Wood as Robert Sledmere and Chiffenham Berkeley respectively are both good, as is Mr. F. C. Pool as Pennington Greene. The part of Crove, butler, is well played by Mr. W. M. Rutherford. Miss Ellise Clarence displays ability in the part of Mrs. Millington, and Mrs. A. B. Taffing is a good Lady Robertson. Miss Marie Lohr acts charmingly and naturally as Cicely Blake and a capital representation of Mrs. Pennington Greene is given by Miss Jessie Moore. On Tuesday *The Elder Miss Blossom* drew another crowded house, and on Wednesday *The Iron Master* was also well received. The remainder of the week is occupied by Mr. Norman V. Norman's company in *The Adventures of Lady Ursula*, *Nell Gwynn of Drury Lane*, and *David Garrick*.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—*Home, Sweet Home*, as given by Mr. Frank Lindo's excellent company, has been drawing good houses at this place of entertainment. Mr. Frank Lindo himself acts well in the principal rôle, and he is well supported by Miss Marion Wakeford, and actress of much ability.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The excellent variety show here includes G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, who has had a hearty reception. George Formley, the well-known comedian, pays a welcome return visit, and George Brooke obliges with the old success, "His day's work was done." Alethea is a graceful lady contortionist and gymnast; Nash and Noel are amusing comedians; and other good turns are those of Deone, Tribune, and company in a sketch *Applicants*, Lizzie Daniels (comedienne), and Raymond's Biograph.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Mary Austin and company are paying still another visit here with *The Cotton Spinner*. The personnel of the company is little changed since the last

Miss Daisy Scudamore as Nellie Denver, Mr. Edward J. George again fills his old part of Daniel Jaikes; the Spider is in the able hands of Mr. Algernon J. Hicks; and Mr. Arthur Wright as Eliah Coombe and Mr. James L. Power as Corket are also good.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Billiston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—There is an excellent programme presented here this week, including Henry Abdy's Canine Hippodrome; Mlle. Marvelle's highly trained cockatoos and macaws; Will H. Fox in his musical funniosity, "Paddywhiski"; Frank Coyle, comedian; Avon and Crest, speciality comedy artists; Mlle. Pollo Jerome, trapeze artist; Tom Parker, comedian; Marie Gibson, soprano vocalist; Tom E. Hughes, character comedian; the Three Henriques, comedy acrobats; Pete and Juno, coloured dancers; the Wedburns; the Flockton-Foster Sketch Company in *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law;* and the bioscope.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied with the drama, *A London Actress*. Miss Emma Lichfield gives a powerful rendering of Hilda Mannering, and Mr. Geo. H. Doyle plays the part of Captain Mannering capably. Mr. Arthur F. Dudley is a dashing Lieutenant Kingston, and Mr. John C. Carlyle gives a capital rendering of Sergeant-Major Crawford. Miss Maud Steeples plays Phyllis Crawford with much feeling, and Mr. Stuart Cleveland scores a distinct success in the part of Moses Mendoza. The humorous element is capitally sustained by Mr. John Hitchins and Miss Nellie Fern as Pat and Biddy Maloney.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—This week Fred Ginnett, supported by a powerful cast and his marvellously trained mare Black Bess, is paying a visit here with his latest London success, the romantic equestrian spectacle, *Turpin's Ride to York*. It is well mounted, and, of course, gets a big reception nightly. The La Failie troupe of male and female equilibrists and gymnasts, who are making their first appearance in England, deservedly win great applause. They accomplish many new and daring feats in a smart and pleasing manner; the Melrose, duettists, delight with their singing and clever dancing; Les Voces, operatic vocalists, give selections from *Il Trovatore, Maritana*, &c., in good style; and Mabel Keeler, vocalist, cornet, post horn, and bugle soloist; the Venola Brothers, aerial comedians; Beattie Mayer, comedienne and vocalist; and Frank Gee, comedian, are other attractions.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company opened here on Monday with *Lucky Miss Dean*. Much of the success of this comedy was due to the excellent acting of Mr. William E. Ashcroft, who infused a great deal of humour into the part of Frederick Ware, and to Miss Dora Gray, who made a charming and finished study of the title-rôle. Mr. Vivian Gilbert as Horace Chaney, Mr. W. T. Elworthy as Percival Chaney, Mr. Cyril Price Evans as Wilfred Ashmole, and Miss Estelle Despa as Lady Ashmole gave most satisfactory support. The comedy was preceded by a one-act farce, entitled *My American Admirer*, in which Miss Beth Elliott and Mr. W. T. Elworthy especially distinguished themselves.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Weedon Grossmith's play, *The Duffer*, was successfully presented here on Monday by Mr. Louis Calvert's company. The love interest in the play is strong, and Mr. Whitford-Kane's acting as the madly infatuated student, Paul Martin, carried conviction with it. Mr. E. H. Wynne, who is humorous, and at times broadly farcical, in the title-rôle, caused a constant ripple of laughter. The Charles Chester of Mr. F. Pennington-Gush was an able effort. Miss Mabel Taylor's acting as Mary Hillier was marked by repose, and full of sympathetic grace and charm; Miss Margaret Montrose was excellent as Lady Amelia Gainshays; Miss Florence Adale filled the part of the Model, Phyllis Wade, brightly; and as the impossible Miss Bide Miss Nellie Griffen was broadly humorous.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—It is a long time since Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's drama *Death or Glory Boys* was last seen here, and its reproduction on Monday, with the author himself in his original part of the scheming scoundrel, Captain Ferrers, proved a strong attraction. Jack Malden, the hero, has a manly representative in Mr. Wellesley Draper, and the heroine's part is filled with sympathetic grace by Miss Violet Carlyle. Colonel Ferguson is played with the requisite impetuosity by Mr. Theo Balfour; Lieutenant Tuff, "the irrational," is well acted by Mr. Edwin Janner; Mr. Edward Lowrie ably handles the part of Carn; and Miss Hettie Senior and Mr. J. Russell Bogne are good in comedy rôles.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Dan Crawley's humour and mirth-provoking songs are features in a good programme here this week. Lilian Bishop, comedienne charms with her songs and graceful dancing; in their "adventure with a plank," acrobatic knockabout business, and burlesque wrestling the Three Missouris are very funny; as vocalists, musicians, and daring cyclists the Royal Six are charming and clever; with his Irish songs and anecdotes, Horace Wheatley is as near and smart as ever; a welcome reappearance is made by W. H. Clemart, the clever ventriloquist; a good turn is submitted by Ted Cowan, comedian; Jessie Merrilees, comedienne, contributes songs in dashing style; with excellent vocalising and humour of a distinct and mirth-provoking type the Empire Comedy Four evoke much applause and laughter; and there are a series of excellent up-to-date films shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—In their turn, *Nicodemus*, a combination of broad comedy and drama, the Vandyke Troupe are diverting; the vocalism of Maud Esmond, burlesque artist, meets with approbation; Walker and Lake are good comedians and purveyors of smart patter; excellent character-vocalism is submited by Lade Henderson; the Bros. Ashley are responsible for a deal of mirth in their comedy boxing turn, *Next, Please;* the English Roses are winsome, and dance and sing in excellent style; as comedy cyclists the Narow Brothers are distinctly clever; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux exhibit some entertaining films.

BRIDGEND.—TOWN HALL.—Manager, Mr. T. D. Schofield.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Cingales* drew a crowded audience here on Tuesday. Mr. Tom Payne was a great success as Chambuddy Ram, his quaint mannerisms and clever mimicry causing much laughter. Delightfully piquant was Miss E. Hughes as Peggy Sabine; Mr. A. Wortley Drewitt was an excellent Hon. Harry Vereker; Mr. Frank Sutton made the most of Boobhamba; Mr. Scott Cullen gave a lively interpretation of Bobby Warren; Miss Edith Harmer was a charming Nanoya, and Lady Patricia Vereker found an excellent interpreter in Miss Millie Field.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. William Maclaren, Miss Lily C. Bandmann, and company are here this week with *Claudian*, which is superbly staged and dressed. Mr. William Maclaren gives a masterly impersonation of Claudian, and Miss Lily C. Bandmann makes a grateful and charming Almida. Mr. A. G. Carr is deeply impressive as the Holy Clement, Mr. Wilson Howard is forcible and convincing as the Tetrarch, Mr. George R. J. Austin submits an excellent portrayal of Agazil; Mr. C. T. Chaloner is humorous as Belos; Miss Carlotta Anson is admirably suited as Edessa, and able support is given by Miss Rosa Webster (Serena) and Mr. Weston Hubbard (Alcares). At Thursday's special London matinée, Sir Charles Wyndham and company gave a performance of *The Candidate*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company opened here on Monday with *The London Fireman*. Mr. I. Forbes Knowles gave a representation of Hal Curtis, the young fireman; Miss Nellie Shirley imparted great feeling to her charming enactment of Ida Curtis, Mr. Edward L. Garside was highly effective as Ratty, Miss Nellie Garside made a vivacious Polly Bramble, Mr. Charles Preece acquitted himself admirably as Bill Stringer, Mr. Oliver Birrell was a capital Viscount Fleming, Miss Nellie Waddington's Countess Fleming, and Mr. William Burgess's Abel Fortnum were well played, and the remaining characters were satisfactorily sustained. The drama was splendidly staged and mounted.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. Lew Lake and company present a sensational absurdity, entitled *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, with great success; Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins and company are very entertaining in *Mashing the Missus;* the Tally-Ho Trio, great favourites in Brighton, display amusing acting and artistic vocalisation in their musical farce, *The Three Buttercups;* Marie Kendall is warmly applauded for her topical song "Come away"; the Sisters Casselli are pleasing singers and clever dancers; Leah Arden, operatic ballad vocalist, is well received; Andrews and Thompson merit warm praise for their singing act, Steve McCarthy gives a clever dancing performance, Daisy Jerome is a bright and winsome comedienne, and the Bioscope pictures are amusing.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. George Robey is as popular as ever, and is enthusiastically applauded for his songs and smart patter, the Daunton-Shaw troupe of Australian trick cyclists submit a clever turn, Terry and Bentley are well received in the amusing sketch *The Hunt*, Aryama (the Japanese wonder) gives a daring performance on the high wire, Sable Fern is a charming vocalist, Dan Conroy achieves much success as a comedian and raconteur, the Sisters Bartholomew are effective in their original act *The Ladies' Idol*, Woolmer Young is a pleasing vocal comedian, and the Alhambrascope pictures are excellent.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Henry Austin's company entered upon their second week here on Monday with *The Rivals*. Mr. W. Allison, as Sir Anthony Absolute, and Mr. R. Cameron, as Captain Absolute, were highly successful; Miss Cicely Wade made a charming Lydia Languish, Mr. Henry Austin was admirably suited as Bob Acres, Miss Constance Groves' Mrs. Malaprop was a capital delineation, and Miss Mary Brougham's Lucy deserves commendation. The programme for the week also included *The Heir at Law* and *The School for Scandal*.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alexander Genée.—Mr. Arthur St. John, Miss Ida St. John, and company opened here on Monday with *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr. Arthur St. John gave a spirited and artistic representation of Petruchio, and Miss Ida St. John submitted an admirable portrayal of the shrewish Kate. Mr. Bert Elvin's Baptista and Mr. Powell James's Hortensio were ably played, Miss Kitty Bennett made a pleasing Bianca, and the remaining characters were satisfactorily sustained. The programme for the week included *She Stoops to Conquer* and *A Tale of Two Cities*.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer.—The Pygmies from the Ituri Forest, Central Africa, hold afternoon and evening receptions here, and appear in their interesting war songs and dances. Other attractions include turns submitted by Hercat, in his sleight of hand experiments; Miss Florrie Fairfax, vocalist and mimic; and Little Dorothy, marvellous thought reader.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. George Edwardes's company is here with *The Spring Chicken*. The musical play is staged with considerable liberality, and there was a large attendance on Monday evening. Mr. George Gregory and Miss Irene Verona are both very amusing as Mr. and Mrs. Girdle; Miss Gertrude Glyn acts in pleasing style as Rosalie; Miss Rita Everard and Miss Gertrude Gilliam are successful as Dulcie Babori and Baroness Papouche; Mr. L. W. Harris is sufficiently lively as Gustave Babori; Mr. Frank Hector is a quaint exponent of the Baron; Mr. C. D. Cleveland presents a funny study of the head waiter Felix; and Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., is satisfactory as the clerk Boniface. All the principals score with their songs, and some capital dancing is introduced. The chorus is tuneful and strong, and the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Clarance Lucas.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company is here with *Tommy Atkins*, the play being excellently staged, and very carefully played. Mr. Norris presents a fine, manly exposition of Harold Wilson; Miss Theresa Osborne displays considerable dramatic power as Ruth Raymond; Mr. Wilford Mansfield does well in the heavy part of Captain Richard Maitland; Mr. George Lyttleton acts excellently and submits a fine study of the unpopular part of Stephen Raymond; Mr. H. Maxwell is effective as Private Mason, and Miss Kitty Courtney as Elsie Wilson and Miss Gladys King as Rose Selwyn are both pleasing. The comic parts of Kate Perkins, Col.-Sergt. Paddy Malloy, and Ebenezer Skindale are capitally taken by Miss Denny Fitzherbert, Mr. Sydney Burt, and Mr. Arthur R. Carlton.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Wilkie Bard is here for the week, and is attracting full houses. As usual, all his songs go well. Ford and Barris do a good turn as legmania dancers and bone soloists; Miss Nellie Stratton comedienne, scores with some pleasing songs; Bicknelle does some good clay modelling; Lottie Siegenberg appears successfully in a musical and dancing sketch *The Lazy Slavey;* Royston Dene and company obtain appreciation for their sketch *His Birthday;* Slippere, blind pianist and vocalist, assisted by Miss Ramsey, obtains considerable applause; Charles Somers, comedian, has some good songs; Myles and May (vocalists) are successful, and there are amusing street dancing competitions at each performance. The entertainment concludes with "A Story of a Brown Hat" by the Barrascope.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Here the company is headed by Mme. Laurie and her juvenile company in a pleasing Kindergarten sketch; the Selbinis, acrobatic, musical, and trick cyclists, present an excellent turn; the McConnell Trio have a good sketch *A Musical Mistake;* Will Souls, comedian, has some good songs; the Frazettis do a capital instrumental turn; Lily Adair is a pleasing soubrette and dancer; Condon and Preston are smart comedy artists and dancers; and Tom Wootlwell, comedian, obtains considerable appreciation. The performance concludes with animated pictures projected by Vernon's Bioscope.

BROMLEY.—LYRIC THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. A. Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Strong.—On Monday evening Miss Ella Russell and party paid a visit, and received an excellent reception. Miss Russell, who was in splendid voice, gave "The Jewel Song" from *Faust;* "Il Bacio," and "Mattinata," and for an encore sang "Robin Adair." A pianoforte solo, "Rhapsodie Hongroise, No. 6," was artistically rendered by Miss Vera Margolies, who also played "Soiree de Vienne," and "Marche Militaire." Mons. Marchade gave some excellent violin solos, entitled, "Balade and Polonaise," "Faust Fantaisie," and "Reviere," for which he received tumultuous applause. Madame Izat introduced some sweetly rendered songs, entitled, "Chanson de Florian," and "The Rosary"; and Mr. Ward Cowdrey sang with feeling, "An African Love Song," and "I Think." Mr. Herbert Hughes was an ideal accompanist.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The marvellous Craggs in *Laughter Land*, furnish endless amusement here. Mr. Harry Rousby as Dick Marlow is very successful in his efforts; roars of laughter follow the antics of Mr. Cremore Cragg as Billy; Professor Sylvanus Ward is an excellent study by Mr. H. B. Lewis; Miss Amy Hastings is a charming Clarisse; and Miss Louise Millward is a comical old maid as Clothilda. Sir Vincent Marlow, Alderman Trentham, and Archie are successfully well sustained by Mr. G. Westacott, Mr. C. Edwards, and Mr. S. Basil Reynolds. Mr. Dan Hardie as Squire Topsam gets a lot of fun out of the character; the smart acrobatic performance of the Craggs (6) gets well-merited applause; and the Sisters Glynne contribute some expert dancing. The scenery is very pretty.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. George Dance's company, in *A Country Girl*, is here this week. Mr. J. Warren Foster makes a handsome Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. F. G. Rooney creditably performs the rôle of the Rajah of Bhong; and Mr. Jack Crichton as Barry adds to the general merriment. In this task he is ably assisted by Miss Addie Leonard as Sophie. Miss Nancy Rossiter is a most pleasing Marjory Joy; Miss Daisy Davis sings well as the Princess; and Miss Maisie Gay is an excellent Nan.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Culcen; General-Manager, Mr. Jas. E. Culcen.—Much attention is being paid here this week to Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company in *A Soldier's Revenge*.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Arthur Lloyd Trio (Lillie, Arthur, and Dulcie), in an extremely well-played entertainment, *Little Charlie*, provoke much laughter; the Westwoods perform some brilliant tricks on cycle and tandem; Haley's Prize Juveniles (some twenty-four in number) give a charming miscellaneous vocal and dancing performance; and the Dayton Family, clever Risley acrobats, are rewelcomed. Davis and Davis are a pair of acceptable comedians; Zavan, the lamp-post man, is praiseworthy; Marie de Pasto is a clever lightning clay modeller; and the Urbanora series of fine pictures is very pleasing.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The sensational drama, entitled *The Scarlet Clue*, has been played here this week by Miss Grace Warner's company. Miss Grace Warner enacts with dramatic power and intensity the rôle of Sal Scarlett. A character in sharp contrast, that of Elsie Dane, is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Grace Jones. Miss Ellen Beverley (Aunt Tabitha) and Little Edith Rutland (Pollie) are creditable embodiments. Mr. J. Leighton Leigh is eminently successful in his dual rôle, while Mr. George Gordon as the villain is forcible and effective. *The Little Widow* has been presented on alternate nights.

BURY (LANCS).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A first-class company is here in the delightful play, *Mr. Smith*. Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart is very good as Earle Godwyn Smith; the Earl of Oxtod is in the safe hands of Mr. Sydney Price; the Duke of Angleland is well played by Mr. William Dunlop; as Jack Berkeley Mr. Austin Spencer is most natural; Miss Ethel Milton is a charming Lady Mary Hildergate; Miss Mary Relph is sufficiently dignified as the Duchess of Angleland; and Mrs. Smith is capitally represented by Mrs. Alfred Davis.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—An exceptionally brilliant programme includes the Seven Savonas, musical marvels; the Six Elliotts, cyclists; the O'Learys, burlesque acrobats; Sammy Shields, Scottish comedian; Curtis and Vanity, American dancers; Arthur Royce, comedian; Senorita Eloina; and Miss Florence, illustrated song vocalist.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A good programme here includes the Three Clarions in a musical sketch; F. G. Pearce and company in a dramatic sketch; Sam Jesson's Juveniles in *Minnie's Birthday;* Hess and Lisbon, roller skaters; Stanley and Vandyke, humorists; the Gilberts, tight-rope performers; Sam Shipley, eccentric character and dancer; and Annie Cohen and Beatrice Worth, comediennes.

BURY ST. EDMUND'S.—ATHENÆUM HALL.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Crack.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company was here for three nights, commencing on Monday with *The Merchant of Venice*. Shylock was cleverly portrayed by Mr. Arthur Phillips; and the Portia of Miss Mary Webb left nothing to be desired. In the production of *Romeo and Juliet*, Mr. Frank Darch's acting as Romeo was far above the average; Mr. G. F. Hannam-Clark gave an excellent rendering of Friar Lawrence; and Mr. Arthur Phillips acquitted himself well as Mercutio. Miss Christie Laws made a charming Juliet, her acting in the tragic scenes being very powerful. Praise is also due to Miss Mary Webb as the Nurse and Miss Katherine Reynolds as Lady Capulet. *The School for Scandal* was billed for Wednesday.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—This week the successful play, *The Walls of Jericho*, has proved a great attraction here. Mr. Edward Warburton appears in the part of Jack Frobisher, presenting a well-studied impersonation. Miss Amy Ravenscroft, in the trying part of Lady Alethea, gives a particularly charming portrayal; Mr. Alfred S. Barber is successful as Hankey Bannister; the Marquis of Steventon has a clever exponent in Mr. Cecil Brooking; and Mr. A. W. Tyrer as Harry Dallas makes the most of an unattractive character. Miss Nona Wynne presents a pleasing delineation of Lady Lucy; and Lady Westerby has a reliable exponent in Miss Helen Haye.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman; Business-Manager, Mr. Reg. Grant.—*The Romany's Revenge*, presented here on Monday evening, was received with enthusiasm. Mr. Evelyn A'Dell made a manly hero as John Hope, and was ably seconded by Miss Eva Elwes as Lillian. The villain, David Renard, was in the excellent hands of Mr. Harry C. Robinson. Miss Ethel Ashleigh gave a winsome portrayal of the gipsy boy, Zamet; and Miss Fannie Wallace as Pollie Pluck, and Mr. David Hamilton as Bobbie Bloom, kept the audience in good humour.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—An attractive programme is presented here this week. Josephine Sabel has proved a great favourite; Alma, Abdullah, and La Superbe, in *Electra's Bower*, give an electrical spectacle of unexampled brilliance; Unthan, the armless wonder, is still popular; Violas, the white Mahatmas, astound the audience by their marvellous second-sight performance; Tom Owen, the Welshman, is well received; Geoffreys and Benson, in a diverting piece of comedy; the Maningos, clever equilibrists; Ethel Ra Leslie, a captivating singer; the Four Skandias, an exceptionally smart quartette of gymnasts; and Madge Carlyle, a talented vocalist, are all turns that gain applause.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of Mr. R. S. M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is paying a return visit with *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Lilian Dundas in the rôle of the Empress Josephine achieved an artistic triumph; Mr. Frederick Moyes as Napoleon gives a fine impersonation; Mr. H. Gray Dolby is very successful as Talleyrand; and Murat in the hands of Mr. T. W. Ford is effectively played. Miss Muriel Thompson is dignified as Marie Louise; and Miss Gracie Kendrick as the little King of Rome is a favourite.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—A good programme is provided here this week, the principal item being Miss Dolly Elsworth's company, in *The Orange Girl*. Miss Elsworthy in the title-rôle contributes an excellent piece of acting, and the production altogether is far above the average. Derenda and Green, juggling comedians, submit a clever performance; the sweet singing of Barbara Babington is much appreciated; Elton and Edwin as banjo duettists are successful; Cissy Collette in her farmyard mimicry displays talent; Charles Milner, eccentric comedian, scores a success; Satsuma, Japanese juggler, does some smart work; and some fine pictures are shown on Vernon's Bioscope.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs. P. E. Veitch; General-Manager, Mr C. Algie.—Will Onda and company, in *The Motor Maniac*, are the principal turn here this week, and score an emphatic success. The Wulfrunas, who are paying a return visit, fully sustain their reputation as comedy acrobats; Bromley and Fontein in a smart duologue keep the audience in a good humour; the comicalities of Jack Hylton are irresistible, and he has become a warm favourite; Little Barney, Scotch comedian, does well; Percy Curry, the candy-man, is funny; the Sisters Poole, society entertainers, have a pretty and dainty act; Rabbit, the funny man, is to the fore again in a comedy juggling act; Payne's Bioscope exhibits new pictures; and the Bros. Donos, acrobatic comedians, do some clever work on the triple bars.

CARMARTHEN.—ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Company; Secretary, Mr. Edward Baldwin.—Mr. Charles Macdona's powerful company has this week paid a welcome visit in *The Toreador*. Mr. Richard Telford, as Sammy Gigg, was extremely funny; Mr. Tom May, as Pettifer, was exceedingly clever, and his singing and dancing and quick-change performance were remarkably good. Mr. F. Hulme Sharp, as Sir Archibald Slackett, was amusing. Mr. Fagan, who possesses an excellent voice, enacted the part of Carajola admirably, and the same may be said of Miss Enid Alexander as Donna Teresa. Miss Marie Beresford delighted the audience by her portrayal of Nancy Staunton; and the part of Dora Selby was ably sustained by Miss Mary Conroy. Mr. David Miller impersonated Rinaldo most realistically; and Mr. Henry Arthur, as the Governor of Villaya, was an unqualified success. Miss Edith R. Montford as Mrs. Malton Hoppings, evoked genuine amusement; while Miss Lillian Clark, Miss Lucy Marvis, Miss Leah Howard, and Miss Maud Field, as the bridesmaids, were charming. Mr. Charles M. Heslop gave an admirable representation of the part of Augustus Trail; Miss Gracie Vicat as Susan, Miss Madeline Wyse as La Belle Bolero, and Miss Gladys Silvani as La Belle Otero, were excellent.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is paying a second visit here with *A Modern Adventuress*. Mr. Leonard Aardale presents a clever study of Pietro Donelli; Miss Kate Froude scores as Violet Meredith; William Delby is ably represented by Mr. Harry C. Rutland; Mr. Sydney Grant as the gentlemanly villain Wallace Dalton is greatly appreciated, as also is Mr. Louis Edmonde in the part of Harry Delby, the manly hero. Miss Alice Defoe gains much sympathy as Vivette Delby, the much-tried heroine; Miss Ivy Chandos is responsible for a great deal of merriment as Sally Hodges; while Mr. Leonard Montgomery is extremely droll as John Compton, a Yorkshireman. Mr. A. G. Poulson-Turner gives a good reading of Waller Beal, a detective. A capital character-study of Steve Meredith is given by Mr. Frank Orchard.

CHATHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—The Royal's patrons are this week enjoying a return visit of *The Cingales*, played by one of Mr. George Dance's companies. Chief honours rest with Mr. Johnny Osborne as Chambhuddy Ram and Miss Nellie Wigley as Nanoya. Mr. Heller Le Maistre's vocal numbers are much appreciated; Mr. Kenneth Wynne is a popular Harry Vereker, Miss Cissie Sephton a lively Peggy, and Mr. Roy Sidney a natural Bobby Warren; while mention must be made of the clever dancing of Miss Violet Holmes.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—A capital company headed by Mr. J. L. Shine's combination in *Hogmanay* nightly attracts good houses here.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Tom Leamore tops the bill here. Millie Denham's choruses are readily taken up by the audience; the Three Romas give a smart gymnastic display; Paul Pelham's songs are well received; the Sisters Lunelle (duettists), Lytton and Bland in *A Lesson in Love*, and Vickey Delmar (drum and bugle soloist) complete the variety items; while the concluding item consists of pictures projected by the Edisonograph.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. N. Oswald Redford.—This week *Kitty Grey*, played by Mr. C. St. John Denton's company is paying a welcome return visit. Miss Marie West as the unsophisticated Lady Binfield invests the part with a charm that is all her own; Mr Robert Hyett as Sir John Binfield was seen to advantage; Miss Hilda Guiver was as effective as ever in the title-rôle; Mr. Lauri Lisle played in humorous style the part of the King of Illyria; and Mr. H. E. Garden was exceedingly funny as Lord Plantagenet. Mrs. Bright was a power in the hands of Miss Nellie Lauraine, her rendering of "The feeling's just the same" bringing down the house; Miss Gertrude Page was successful as Saidie de Poulson; Mr. P. Allerton Turner was good as Ponbrichet; and in minor parts Messrs. Gordon Leslie, Leslie Steward, L. Fencham, Miss Florrie Weigh, and Miss Kathleen Arnold did well.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Sante; Secretary, E. Crane.—*The Price of Pleasure* is being performed at the above theatre this week by Miss Emily Huby's company. Mr. Howell Webb capably enacts the part of the villain, Sir James Featherstone, being well supported by Miss Mara Collings as the villainess. The parts of the hero and heroine are well sustained respectively by Mr. Horace E. Herbert and Miss L. B. Clarke. Mr. L. Clements, Miss Dot Russell, and Miss Emily Huby constitute the mirth-provoking element and render suitable songs. The piece is well staged.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan.—The attraction here this week is Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Kimberley's company in the military drama *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. Edward Bikker gives a fine reading of General Kingsley; Mr. I. Geddes displays much ability as Captain Carsdale, the villain of the drama is safe in the hands of Mr Andrew Money, who gives a convincing rendition of Captain Darrell; Mr. Charles Gallier is well placed as Allen Kingsley; Miss B. Shirley looks and acts charmingly as Alma Kingsley; Miss Mildred Eversleigh gives a good account of herself as Margaret Rivers, otherwise known as Drunken Meg; Miss Edie is a sprightly Molly Meadows; and the two little drummers are smartly played by Misses May Smart and Eva Norman. The comic element receives good treatment from the hands of Mr. F. C. Imbert as Quincey Quirke and Harry Lyndon as Timothy Trimmer.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—The American Indian actress, Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, and company, occupy the boards here this week with *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, and on Monday evening the house was comfortably filled. Mr. C. W. Charles capably delineates Colonel Stockton; Mr. Edward Leroy gives a typical rendering of Manuel Lopez; Mr. Ike Shawcross makes a very successful Captain Franklin; and the comedy element is well looked after by Mr. Dan Ryan. The title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Mohawk, and this actress shows great capabilities, and leaves nothing to be desired in a difficult part; Miss Dorothy Neville makes a pretty Matilda Shuffles; and Nellie Stockton has an able representative in Miss Minnie Goepel.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—*Two Little Vagabonds* is this week being presented by Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company. As the Vagabonds Miss Roselyn D. Vayne and Miss Helen Grenville were on Monday most decidedly successful, and in conjunction with the admirable portrayal of Marion Thornton by Miss Grace Haywood (a clever and popular actress), kept the interest at the full throughout the evening. Mr. Henry Hare played George Thornton in a convincing manner; and Mr. Sidney Vautier was an acceptable Capt. Darville. The parts of Barbara and Nurse Randall were capably depicted by Miss Russell Spiers and Miss Muriel Clay respectively; whilst the Gaffer (Mr. John Traynor), Dido (Mr. E. Nelson), The Coughdrop (Mr. Fred Archer), and Biddy (Miss Marie Pritchard) were each of them ably sustained.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. Alen.—The bill this week is attracting good houses. The orchestra, which has been largely augmented under the new management, is under the baton of Mr. James Hargreaves, and has speedily become a very popular feature of the house. Ahrensmeyer, the hypnotist, heads the bill, and is undoubtedly a very big draw; whilst the extreme cleverness shown by Selbo with clubs and china is fully recognised by the audience. Takio, the mimic, gives a novel entertainment; and the Musical Chandos form a pleasing item. Ruby Norton, comedienne, and Rosalie Jacobi, soubrette, are both capital turns, a like remark applying to the comicalities of Arthur Boyne. The bioscope gives a series of pictures depicting the play in the local Charity Cup final on Saturday last.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Variety occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Chas. Coborn, the popular comedian, heads the bill, and the following artists also appear: Fred Tenby, vocalist and dancer; Vowles and Boyan, humorous patterers; Tom Davis and his combination, in their funny sketch *Retaliation;* Harry Dowsett, comedian; Victor Hall, ventriloquist; Bert Rees, comic vocalist and dancer; De Ora, aerial gymnast; and Miss Bessie Richards, comedienne. The entertainment concludes with a farcical scena, *The Happy Costers' Concert*.

NEW TOWN HALL.—Secretary, Mr. T. W. Welford.—Messrs. Harry and Fred Poole's myriorame is here again this week. The variety artists include the Two Mitsutas, feet equilibrists; Houston, the wonderful Chinese magician; Prof. Bewar and his educated donkey; Learto and his performing dog; and Prof. Alboni, comedian. A very fine series of animated pictures are also shown.

CORK.—PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The company here includes Armina, a strong man; Weiland, comedy juggler; J. H. Hawtrey, character vocalist; Carr and Rose in a sketch, entitled *Catching the Catch of the Season;* Mlle. De Rose, who possesses a powerful baritone voice; Henderson, the blind musician; Harry Maxam, comedian; Eugene and Willie in a comedy musical act.

COVENTRY.—THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—Some first-class terms are provided at this house of amusement this week. Muir and Bartletta give an amusing duologue, entitled *The Collar Stud*, which is much appreciated; Ernest Rees as a comedian is successful; Miss Raffin presents a number of trained monkeys, who do some clever tricks on the trapeze; George Prince is an able comedian; Alf. Aubyn and company appear in a scena, entitled *The Coster Millionaire;* Scottie's Waifs and Strays give a novel ballet, *Life in the Street;* and Olga and Otto are clever comedy instrumentalists and mock operatic artists.

THE OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—The visit of Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera company is proving an attraction at the above house this week. The following works are announced for the week: *Satanella, The Bohemian Girl, Il Trovatore, Faust, The Daughter of the Regiment, Maritana*. On Monday, in *Satanella*, Mr. J. W. Turner was in excellent voice as Count Rupert, and Miss Kitty Brownlee did justice to the title-rôle.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John H. Morton.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey present the drama here this week, entitled *A Traitor Prince*. G. M. Montanini gives a powerful rendering of Prince Rao Dalmirez, and he is ably assisted by Miss Nita Langford as Vashti, an Indian snake charmer. Mr. Ernest A. Duval gives a pleasing interpretation of Lie

charmingly played by Miss Leonora Castelle; Miss Daisy Hestor as Lady Letty has proved herself decidedly capable.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. William Mollinson and company are here this week with *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. As Lachlan Campbell Mr. William Mollinson enacts the dour, "unco' guid" elder and hill farmer with rare force and fervour. Mr. Allen Thomas, as William Maclure, is bright and breezy; Lord Hay has a manly and earnest exponent in Mr. A. Chappell; and Mr. F. M. Paget is thoroughly satisfactory as the Earl of Kilspindie. Mr. Durward Lely is well suited in the part of the Rev. John Carmichael, to which he does ample justice. As good almost as anything in this touching play is the Archibald McKittrick ("Posty") of Mr. Alec Thompson whose clever and diverting assumption does him infinite credit; and capital, too, in his own droll ways is Mr. Kendal Chambers as Tammas Mitchell. The Flora Campbell of Miss Evelyn McNay is a very sweet and sympathetic presentment; Miss Alice Francis makes a charming Kate Carnegie; and as Marget Howie Miss Josephine Woodward is in every way successful. Miss Edith Blair-Staples plays with freshness and vivacity as Annie. The children's parts of Geordie and Jeannie are right well accounted for by Miss Martha Stewart and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald respectively. *A Happy Pair* forms a capital little curtain-raiser, Miss Alice Francis as the young wife and Mr. Durward Lely as the husband both acquitting themselves admirably.

Palace.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—May Lilian Levey forms the attraction here this week. Her songs are rendered in smart style, and meet with general approval. Ben Harris and his nippers are another entertaining item of the programme, and are responsible for a clever boxing exhibition. Jchnny Holland and company appear in an amusing sketch entitled *My Friend Boots*, and create much hearty laughter. Yorkshire Tom, animal mimic, an old favourite here, is again to the fore. Anthony, described as "the mysterious gentleman in white," is a clever juggler; Fred Villiers is a refined comedian; and the Dalton Boys are praiseworthy comedians. The bioscope depicts an exciting film entitled "The Train-Wreckers."

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. John Walter's pantomime, *Cinderella*, is here this week. With principals of merit, including the Misses G. McQueen, M. Hardacre, K. Rafferty, and Messrs. J. English and A. M. Benson, fine scenery and dresses, the performance gives complete satisfaction.

Hippodrome and Varieties. — General-Manager, Mr. G. Weldon.—The Harriscope is this week displaying that remarkable picture, "The Hen that Laid the Golden Egg"; as duettists and dancers, the Percys exhibit a good style; Carrie Lieslie has merit as a descriptive vocalist; while the gymnast, Sidurma, gives an excellent act. Geo. Adams, baritone, has a strong voice, which he uses with credit; and Walter Sutton, comedian, is up to the mark. Esmann, a juggler, does well; and T. B. Talbot, dialect artist, is a quaint turn.

DONCASTER.—New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A Chinese Honeymoon* was staged here on Monday evening by Mr. George Dance's principal company. Mr. St. John Hamund was clever and humorous as Hong Chaw, and Mr. Percy Russell was good as Chippi Chop. Mr. Jack Lisle's embodiment of Hi Lung proved very acceptable. Tom Hatherton was capably dealt with by Mr. L. Bullock-Webster. The Mr. and Mrs. Pineapple of Mr. Foster Courtenay and Miss Poppy Wilkinson respectively were both characterised by careful reading of the parts. Misses Maud Carlton, Madge Shaw, Lillie Hildroe, and Isabel Vivian were prepossessing bridesmaids. Miss Mabel Bell and Miss Florence Linton as Loo Loo's Maids of Honour were well placed. Miss Harriette Green was successful as Mi Mi, and the Mrs. Brown of Miss Edie Ross gained deserved appreciation. The title-rôle was pleasingly played by Miss Ada Watson, and Miss Minnie Leslie was admirable as Fi Fi.

DOVER. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.— Messrs. Travis, Green, and Arthur Hinton's company is here this week in a drama entitled *When a Man Hates*. A powerful performance is given by Mr. Arthur Hinton as Pietro Danelli; Mr. Graham Arthurs is an earnest and consistent exponent of the part of Lawrence Hastings; and Mr. Pleon Gains does well in the small rôle of Sir Rupert Trehern. Mr. Gerald Byrne as Paul has many opportunities for effective work, of which he avails himself; Mr. Travis Green is well in the picture as Detective Smart, whose assistant, Hawk, is played with success by Mr. Charles Timms. Mr. Frank Brunell scores an instantaneous success as Peter Pimple; Miss Leila Zillwood deserves unqualified approval for her graceful impersonation of Olga Gwynne. A pretty and unsophisticated little Letty is found in Miss Lydia Andre, and Miss Florence Zillwood is a vivacious Dolly Dimple.

The Empire Palace, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. P. C. Wraith.—The Four Kays, at the top of the bill this week, are presenting a clever pantomime sketch entitled *Aladdin*, in which Miss Aggie Fenton is a dashing and sprightly principal boy, Miss Ada Vestrais a charming Princess, Mr. Walter Kay an excellent Abanazar, and Mr. Harry Kay a humorous Widow Twankey. Jeannette Latour, a smart comedienne, makes a decided hit; Harry Royde has a good song, well sung, in "Don't move"; a capital song-scena, *Cloudland*, is given by Harry Gold; and Josie Watson's songs and dances are well received. A funny turn is that of Karr and Kooney; the Sisters Charnley are expert dancers.

DUBLIN.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The Hippodrome, which has had such a successful season, entered on its last week here on Monday. The Meister Glee Singers contributed some vocal numbers which were warmly applauded; and the character impersonations given by Mr. V. L. Granville were a decided success. Morris Cronin and troupe of jugglers meet with appreciation; and the efforts of the Greo Brothers, acrobats, are well rewarded. Mlle. Von Etta, illusionist and protean artist, is an acceptable turn; and little Ray McLean excels as a big-boot dancer. The Two Australian Dartos, juvenile dancers, are particularly good; and Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope provide an interesting sketch, entitled *An Emperor's Divorce*. Miss May Durkin, who has been specially engaged for this week, has met with a flattering reception. A gorgeous spectacle, entitled "A Mystic Grotto," in which Mlle. De Silva appeared, was loudly applauded; and the animated pictures were up to date.

Empire.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—A strong programme is provided here, foremost amongst the artists being Cole du Loss, a duo of comedians in a smart slack-wire act, which is duly appreciated; Ranshackle achieves success with his impersonations; and Florence Deighton is a charming ballad vocalist. The Ramblos give a clever and amusing bar act; and Charles Vincent is an excellent vocal comedian. The Knick-Knacks, duettists, dancers, and bâton manipulators, supply an enjoyable turn; and Cooke and Rothert, knockabout comedians, have a good reception. Frank Lincoln is a first-class comedian; and the Empire pictures are interesting.

Tivoli.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Six Brothers Luck, in an absurdity, *The Demon of the Cellar*, supply the attraction here this week; the Sivronis, burlesque comedy artists, score; and the Arundels' sketch, *The Office Boy* creates much laughter. Mlle. Henriette, musical entertainer, receives well-deserved applause; and Will McIvor, comedian, secures marked attention. Pete and Minnie Lee give pleasure with their comedy duologue; and Tom Vaughton is a good vocal comedian. The Cranks, trick cyclists, give a capital show; and Amy Bellwood, comedienne, and Frances Lyric, vocalist and dancer, are also in the bill.

World's Fair.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here:—Gus Owen, comedian and dancer; Irene Cameron, soprano vocalist; W. F. Wilbert, humorist and instrumentalist; and Cliff Beever, baritone vocalist.

Samuels' Exhibition Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The company engaged here includes George Millard, comedian; Ada Brogden, serio, the Cliffords, comedy artists; Percy Rosslyn, eccentric comedian; and Phil Lister, musical entertainer.

DUDLEY.—Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Frederick Melville's drama, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, is being played here by a strong company. The title-rôle is embodied by Miss Beatrice Homer, a native of this town, whose charming acting is much appreciated. Mr. Philip Darien is of sterling worth as Jack Merriman, Mr. Leyton Cancellor, an old favourite, gains further favour by his clever portrayal of Hubert Gold. Another striking character is that of Antonio Luchesi, played by Mr. Charles Barratt. Capital comedy is infused into the play by Mr. Edlin as Tubby Herrick and Miss Nellie Jackson, who is very chic as Aggie Brown. Miss Rita Milman is a clever Rose Courtenay, Miss Margaret Watson has thoroughly mastered the character of Morita, Mr. Frank Denis makes a benevolent Dr. Carr.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—A good programme here is headed by Leoni Clarke with his cats, monkeys, rabbits, and canaries; Nina Vesta is a pretty comedienne with a good voice, Celest is extremely clever on the slack wire, Madame Collard gives a good show with her burlesque boarhounds. Other successful turns are Dot Hardy, the saucy slavey, and Edney and Wade, vocalists and dancers.

DUMFRIES. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Miss Evelyn Moore's company, under the direction of Mr. Percy Shaw, is here in *The Crimson Club*. The principal part, that of Sir Philip Garside, is ably sustained by Mr. L. J. Kay; Mr. J. Clifford Wright does well as Richard Fenton; Mr. Joseph Magrath as the Hon. Herbert Selby is good; Mr. Percy Shaw as Reginald Adolphus Garside is very humorous. Miss Syd Potts as Muriel Lockwood gives a capital rendering of her part; Miss Bal Potts as Reginald's wife is clever; and Miss Florence Delmar as Julia Marsden is well suited.

DUNDEE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—*Mr. Smith*, by Walter Reynolds, is presented here this week. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart undertakes the title-rôle, and acts throughout with fine distinction and dignity; Mr. Russel Norrie makes an excellent Earl of Oxford; Mr. Carter Bligh is very good as the "fussy" Jack Berkeley; Mr. W. Edwyn Holloway gives a very clever impersonation as the Duke of Angleland; and Mr. Fred Darrel acts with quaint humour the part of the "Lager Beer" Millionaire. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon makes a very graceful Duchess; Miss Daisy England gives a capital character study as the mother of the renowned Mr. Smith; Miss Ruth Anheuser was enacted with complete success by Miss Fyfe Alexander; and Miss Rosamond Rokeby cleverly represented the rôle of Lady Mary.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Roden and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Albert and Edmunds Troupe top the bill with their comedy sketch, *Two up a Tree*. Hall and Earle give a smartly worked acrobatic act which is very well received; W. H. Downs, the coloured tenor returns with new songs; Nelson and Thomas create great hilarity with their sketch, *On the Ra-ta*; Jack Heath and Geo. Foyle meet with approval; Jeannie Evans is successful with "Moke and Barrer"; Daisy Silcott sings very well; *The Chaperon* is a diverting sketch played by Frank Bertram and company; and Vernon's Pictures still retain their hold on the audience.

Gaiety Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Charles Majilton's company produce *The Plumber*. Mr. Jim Bond in the title-rôle creates the utmost hilarity, and proves himself to be a resourceful comedian. Mr. Majilton as the mad doctor has a part that suits his eccentric method of laughter-making thoroughly. Mr. Frank Majilton and Miss Amy Majilton introduce a clever conjuring speciality act. The Coliseum Quartette of Lady Dancers give a clever exhibition; Miss Maddie Majilton sings with much success "My Irish Indian"; Miss Carrie Foy has a very fine appearance; and the other parts are in capable hands.

Empire Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Prof. Inman Hocking gives a clever mesmeric exhibition; the Kyasyas are a lady and gentleman of extraordinary strength, the lady lifting weights with her hair, the gentleman with his teeth; the Two Wambas are a smart pair of instrumentalists; Louis Murray is a very fine actor-vocalist; Lily and Albert contribute a clever gymnastic performance; Miss Eva Strass, ballad vocalist, has a sweet voice; and a clever Indian club manipulator and top-boot dancer is seen in Miss Ruby Hill.

DUNFERMLINE.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company is doing good business here with *Florodora*. Mr. Daley Cooper gives an ideal interpretation of Anthony Tweedlepunch; Miss Leonora Grieve as Dolores contributes a much appreciated performance; Mr. Stanley White is a capital Cyrus Gilfain; Mr. R. Courtier Dutton an admirable Frank Abercoed; Mr. Herbert St. John is successful in the part of Captain Arthur Donegal; and Mr. Edwin Exlee is well placed as Leandro. Miss Edith Housley plays with much skill and acceptance the part of Lady Holyrood; Miss Lily Gullick is a capable Angela Gilfain; and Miss Brock is good as the Typewriter. Mr. Bert Paterson proves himself an able musical-director.

EASTBOURNE. — Pier Pavilion. — Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Junius Booth and company are appearing here in *Monte Cristo*. A large share of the work falls to Mr. Junius Booth, who as Edmond Dantes gives a strong and striking performance which earns frequent and well-marked favour; Mr. E. Howard Tempieton scores quite a success as an easy, polished M. Nortier; Mr. Walter Uridge is a very good villain; and Mr. Laurence Grove does able work as General Fernande. Mr. Chauncy Morris gives a clever character-sketch as Caderousse, Mr. A. T. Gullifer is a brisk and animated Lieutenant de Morcef, Mr. William Dawson is a pathetic Abbé Faria, and Mr. Alfred Teris is satisfactory as Baron Danglers. Miss Joan Ellis is a pretty and quietly effective Mercedes, Miss Kate Maynard is a realistic and capable La Carconte, and Miss Doris Regan does well as Sophie Danglers.

The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—A long and attractive bill is being offered to the patrons here. Lockhart's performing elephants, introduced by Captain Taylor, are wonderful examples of animal training, for at a word they perform many amusing and effective tricks with a smartness and intelligence which seem almost human; Miss Hetty King again charms the audience with pleasing and refined male impersonations; Mr. Billy Farrell as a coloured comedian is in great favour with the audience for his singing, dancing, and imitations; the Two Eltons are clever bar performers, and introduce much fun; Mlle. Sylvesto accomplishes astoundingly clever feats as a contortionist; the Marblesque Trio appear in pretty, well-arranged tableaux; Miss Jenny Hartley is an accomplished dancer; the Franco Midgets are young and entertaining sleight-of-hand artists; Robbie Roy works his song well as a Scotch comedian; and Miss Belle Harcourt pleases as a comedienne.

EBBW VALE.—King's.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Responsible Managers, Messrs. W. Devereux and E. T. Wood.—Mr. Carr Loates' company has provided a strong attraction here, in *At the World's Mercy*. Mr. Carr Loates made a great success as Capt. Manley, Mr. Jess Boxer as Charlie Smart was the life of the piece, and he was ably assisted by Miss Marie D'Alton as Kitty Knott. Little Daisy's performance as Dot was delightful.

EDINBURGH.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Whitehead.—The production of *Peter Pan* here by Mr. Chas. Frohman's company has been a conspicuous success, and on Monday, when the piece entered upon the closing week of its present run, the theatre was crowded from floor to ceiling. The spirit of fantasy and of human interest which pervades the play is admirably interpreted by the actors. Miss Cecilia Loftus as Peter Pan, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Wendy have won golden opinions for their bright, artistic impersonations, and the charming performance of Miss Enid Spencer Brunton strikes a note of pathos which appeals to everyone. The character of Slightly, small in itself, is very humorously acted by Mr. A. W. Baskcomb, who gets all the available drollery out of the part, and Miss Pauline Chase, by her vivacious method and graceful dancing, evokes the heartiest recognition. There is a good deal of quaint fun in the Gentleman Starkey of Mr. Ben Field, and praise must be bestowed upon Miss Rosamond Bury for a pretty rendering of the part of the Mermaid. But each character is skilfully portrayed, and all the players act with great felicity, even to the dainty baby mermaid of sweet little Miss Geraldine Wilson.

Royal Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; General-Manager, Mr. G. T. Minshull.—Messrs. Edward A. Parry and Fredk. Mouillot's smart farcical comedy, *What the Butler Saw*, is this week in Edinburgh for the first time. The production, which ranks among the most diverting pieces of its kind, has had a very hilarious reception. That inimitable comedian, Mr. Lionel Rignold, has a capital part in Pink, the butler, which he plays with his own peculiarly humorous method, compelling uncontrollable laughter. Miss Ada Blanche, as Mrs. Barrington, acts in a delightfully piquant and unconventional fashion, and the fascinating Mr. Barrington finds an excellent representative of the husband passing as a bachelor in Mr. Charles Fawcett. Mr. Reddick Anderson is exceedingly good as Sir Charles Foden, whose old maiden aunt, Miss Foden, is portrayed by Miss Maria Daltra with unqualified success. Miss Grace Richardson is an attractive Nora, and the varied types of lady visitors at the quondam hydro are well represented by Miss Annie Goward as Mrs. Hake, Miss May Hart as the juvenile Sophonisba, Miss Edith Blanche as Mrs. Fleming-Smyth, and Miss Phyllis Gibson and Miss Minnie Willett as Clarissa and Selina Dunlop. The physician, Dr. Clayton, is efficiently played by Mr. Frank Elton, while among the male guests, amusing character sketches are furnished by Mr. George Ascott as General Dunlop, Mr. Harry H. Rignold as Abraham Weinstein, Mr. George Beale as Sidney Clifford, Mr. Alec Alves as Vere de Bogyns, and Mr. Roy Byford as Professor Shale. The Maria of Miss Dorothy Garth, and the servants' parts of Miss Violet Gould and Mr. J. Turner are kept artistically within the picture, which is framed by a remarkably fine piece of stage setting.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. J. Cawood.—Mr. George Gray heads a good bill this week with his well selected company in their telling sketch, *The Fighting Parson*. Mr. Gray appears with great effect in the name part, and the production thoroughly holds the audience. Miss Ray Wallace is a most pleasing artist, cleverly hitting off a number of well-known variety stars in the happiest manner. Her mimetic turn, in which she accompanies herself on the piano is most enjoyable. As a yodeler Mr. Jake Friedman makes a favourable impression, and Mr. Chris Richards' smart dancing and comic business with a hat keeps the house in continued merriment. An old friend and favourite appears in Mr. WalterMunroe, a comedian of the real Irish quality; Max York's dogs are among the smartest of canine marvels, the Sisters Morgan prove themselves expert duettists and dancers, Baker and Lynn give a farcical sketch, entitled *The Brainless Boy*; the Stuart Quartette are seen and heard to advantage in their dances and songs, and Helene and Emilon introduce some novelty in their graceful gymnastic act.

EXETER.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Charles Price's company opened here on Monday in *The Shop Boy*. Mr. Harry Pleon sustains the title-rôle, and his depiction of the part was intensely amusing. Miss Celia Kent was quaintly humorous as Blighted Birdie; and Mr. Jack McKenzie was highly successful as Mrs. Septimus Green; the Alexander troupe of dancers met with well-deserved approbation; and Miss Celia Kent contributed a smart dance.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbatt.—For the first three nights of the week the ever-popular *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was given by Mr. Charles Harrington's company. Mr. J. Carr contributed a very fine rendering of the character of the kindly and much-abused Uncle Tom, and as Legree Mr. J. Henry Rogers was callous enough for the part. Phineas Fletcher found a fitting representative in Mr. J. H. Renney, and Mr. Walter Langford was delightfully humorous as Marks, the lawyer. The bearing of Mr. Leslie Beaufort as George Harris was dignified, and Miss Hettie Johnston as Eliza Harris took her part with ability. Miss Annie Watson's Topsy was a rare representation. The piece was very well staged. On Thursday Mr. Frank Bateman and company presented *No Wedding Bells for Her*.

FARNWORTH.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, T. Morton Powell.—Miss Blanche St. Alban and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is this week presenting *Her One Great Sin*. Miss Blanche St. Alban plays the part of Grace Warhurst in a capable manner. Miss Nellie Lambert is excellent as Nancy Winpenny, and Miss Maudie Lambert is successful as Little Gracie. The part of Arthur Thornhill has a capital representative in Mr. J. Leicester Jackson, who meets with well-merited approval. Mr. Sam Arthur as Reuben Warhurst gives a good all-round performance, and Mr. Fred Hodson as Jerry Jumble is all that could be desired.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. N. Rowland.—A strong attraction is provided here this week by Miss Maud Hildyard's company in *The Great Awakening*. Mr. Charles Vivian as James Selby contributes a careful study of a somewhat difficult part; Mr. Bernard Copping is in every way excellent in the dual rôle of Sir Henry Merton and Jack Merton; Mr. William Vaughan as Guy Logan portrays the character in an able manner; Mr. Herbert Evelyn is a manly Captain Harry Lambert; Billy Brass finds a humorous exponent in Mr. Willie Scott, who with Miss Isa Bellington as Selina Worts, keeps the audience in good spirits; Mr. Herbert Sidney does well as Richard Wilson; Mr. Tracy Barrow portrays the French waiter Antoine to the life; Mr. Godfrey Sheldon and Mr. Frank Cole are good in their respective parts of Dr. Lang and Sergeant Brue; and Mr. Edwin Gordon makes the most of the part of the Newsboy. Miss Nina Blake Adams is a sweet and womanly Molly Merton, and a good contrast is provided by Miss Maud Hildyard's striking rendering of the unscrupulous Lola Selby.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Robt. Kirk.—Miss Grace Warner's company appeared here for three nights last week in *The Little Widow*. Miss Warner played in a vivacious manner as Mrs. Rattlebrain, and she was well supported by Mr. Geo. Gordon as Wilkins Potter and Mr. V. T. Raymond as Dr. Potter, the latter introducing some pleasing songs, assisted by little Edith Rutland. Mr. J. E. Tomlinson was an amusing Frenchman, Miss Ellen Beverley cleverly sustained the part of the jealous wife, and the other characters were capably played.

GATESHEAD.—Metropole Theatre, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The Russian drama, *At War with Women*, is the attraction here. Mr. Chas. A. East fully realises the part of Baron Kirsch; and a clever impersonation of Ivan Clovitch comes from Mr. J. G. Maine. Mr. Albert Strong capitally sustains the rôle of Alexis; and the General Malakoff of Mr. Chas. A. Heathcote is praiseworthy. Comedy parts are in the capable hands of Mr. Millar Anderson, Mr. Fred Denman, and Miss Nellie V. Warden. Miss East-Robertson submits a powerful delineation of Auriel Romanoff; and Miss Gladys Lloyd gives a clever portrayal of Freda Malakoff.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith. — Messrs. Beaudyn and Sidney Crowe's company is appearing here in *The Way of the World*. Mr. Herbert Skardon presents a manly appearance as Cecil Montague; Mr. Victor Gordon depicts in able fashion the villainies of Captain Slade; Matthew Malyon has a powerful impersonator in Mr. Clarence Temple; Mr. Louis Scott is amusing as Horatio Bluff; and a like remark applies to Mr. Dick Seddon, who fills the rôle of Joe Sparrow. Mr. Pat Quinn as Silas Montague takes advantage of the few opportunities offered him; Miss Sidney Crowe as Adele gives a forcible rendering; and Miss Cissie Bellamy is a charming Kate Montague. Miss Violet Ingram acts with grace as Marian Fanshaw; and Miss Violet Vivienne as Polly Bell is responsible for much amusement.

GILLINGHAM.—The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. D. S. Cooper; General-Manager, Mr. Roy Cochrane.—Mr. Henry Neville's company is appearing here in *The Anarchist Terror* and *The Sorrows of Satan*. In the first-named piece, which was given on Monday, Mr. G. Langdon displayed great ability in the different characters of his part; Mr. Herbert Claremont was effective as Lieut. Armstrong: and Mr. Gus Bowerman did good work as Ismael, a gipsy chief. Miss Flora Leslie achieved a well-merited success as Columbia Goldstraw; Miss Connie Laurie was winsome as Zara, a gipsy girl, and contributed a smart dance; and Miss Kate Parr acquitted herself well as Marita. Mr. Edward Neville as Micky Doolan and Miss Lois Osmond as Kitty Malone were excellent in their comedy parts, and added greatly to the success of the piece with their songs and dances. The well-known play founded on Marie Corelli's novel was performed on Thursday and Friday.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—The Rev. Forbes Phillips's adaption of the well-known religious novel, *When It was Dark*, is being performed here this week by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company. In the prologue Mr. Leslie Carter appears as Satan, and declaims the sinister creed "in the valley of the shadow" with impressive effect, while afterwards as the millionaire Schuabe he portrays the character with both force and finish; the opposing rôle (Rev. Basil Gortre) is thoroughly realised by Mr. Rupert Lister, whose whole bearing is suggestive of muscular Christianity. As Sir Robert Llewellyn Mr. H. Athol Forde acts with consistent effect, and Mr. Stanley Lathbury succeeds admirably in depicting such widely different characters as Lord Caiston and the Greek foreman Tonides; the benevolent Vicar and his charming daughter are excellently represented by Mr. Frank Melrose and Miss Hope Mayne. In the play the character of Gertrude Hunt is of more importance than in Mr. Thorne's story, and in the hands of Miss Margaret Damer is a study of engrossing interest; as the typist Miss Hilda Forbes Phillips shows considerable promise; the Secretary of Mr. Humphrey Warden and the Rabbi of Mr. Douglas West are good assumptions.

Royalty, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company are paying a return visit here this week with the well-known comedy *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Brough ably sustains the rôle of Le Baron de Longueville; Mr. Harry Hampson is highly amusing as Dick Whortles, and Mr. Charles Groves, jun., is responsible for a considerable amount of humour as Joseph Carbury. Mr. James Skea is a suitable Toby Krockett. Dorothy Whortles is charmingly represented by Miss Kathleen Coleman; Miss Dorcas Corsbie is capable as Matilda Carbury, and Miss Daisy Cook is all that can be desired as the Lady of Ostend. Miss Edith Ormonde is successful as Millie Grace. The comedietta *Margaret's Stratagem*, admirably played, is the curtain-raiser.

Grand, Limited. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—After a month of operatic fare, a strong dramatic attraction is given this week in Mr. Walter Melville's sensational play *Her Second Time on Earth*. Miss Hilda Beverley repeats her realistic impersonation of Dora Grey—a powerful and impressive piece of acting. Mr. George Gaisford gives a breezy picture of the old sailor, Captain Norman, whose son Tom is acted in manly style by Mr. Paige Lawrence; Mr. Wm. H. Porter as Guy Brand portrays the scheming villain with much ability, and a clever character-sketch is the Italian Beppo of Mr. A. Fellows Bassett. Miss Dorothy Hilderbrande makes a sympathetic Laura Norman; Mr. Henry Lonsdale is a pleasant lover as Jack Carlton; Miss Dora Hargreaves as Kitty and Mr. Willie Reid as Teddy Butterfly infuse the necessary comedy into the play. Miss Polly Marsh as Margaret Rivers and Mr. Alec Williams as Father Gumbril give two well-rendered impersonations.

King's, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Martin Harvey commenced a fortnight's engagement here on Monday with his revised version of *Eugene Aram*, and his portrayal of the conscience-stricken murderer was very fine. Miss Coleridge made an attractive and pathetic Madeleine, and was particularly successful in the trying scene in the last act. Miss N. de Silva was a bright and lively Nancy, and her comedy scenes with Squire Upjohn (excellently played by Mr. Charles Glenney) were most enjoyable; Mr. Charles J. Cameron acted with striking effect as the debauched ruffian Houseman, and another clever sketch of villainy was the Daniel Clarke of Mr. Alfred Mansfield. Mr. Fred Wright, sen., made a picturesque old squire, whose nephew, Walter, was well acted by Mr. Percy Anstey. In the prologue, Miss Frances Ivor gave a characteristic portrayal of the slovenly landlady, and Miss Ethel Patrick acted with pathetic effect as Miriam. Mr. P. Hewland as Parson Haythorne, Mr. P. Alexander as the garrulous Noah Fitchett, Miss Bessie Elder as the gipsy, and Mr. George Cooke as Job Fullilove completed the cast. Later in the week *The Breed of the Treshams* was given.

Royal Princess's.—Sole Proprietor, Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Hugh Murdoch.—*The New Barmaid* is the attraction here this week. Messrs. Alexander Loftus and Joseph B. Montague as William and Bertie White are the life and soul of the comedy. Miss Maisie Ellinger is a sprightly New Barmaid, and as Dora, the lady journalist, Miss Maude Nichols is also well placed. Mr. Leslie Austin as the Captain is good; as the Colonel Mr. Jas. Grant has a fine grip of the character, and Bonsor and Bradley are well-played parts, thanks to Mr. W. E. Chewd and Mr. Frank Melroyd. Brenda Louth and Lady Moulton have capital exponents in Miss Hilda Blanche and Miss Winifred Preston.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—The Preston Repertoire Company occupy the boards this week, under the direction of Mr. F. B. Woulfe and Miss Josephine Colona. In the favourite play *Lady Godiva* Miss Colona appears in the title-rôle, which she acts with exquisite grace and tenderness; while Mr. Woulfe gives a powerful rendering of Tom of Coventry; the stern Earl of Mercia is ably portrayed by Mr. Ernest Lodge, and the plotting villain Algar finds an effective representative in Mr. James Duncan. A pleasing character is that of Lady Aldyth, finely played by Miss Gwen Stewart, and the lively serving-maid Elfrida is archly depicted by Miss Edith Loraine; Mr. Harry Benson gives a spice of comedy to the character of Robin, and enlivens the part with a couple of songs. Mr. Leslie Lingham is highly effective as Edgar the Foundling, and Mr. Ernest Hamilton as Unwolf Unwolfson is sufficiently repellant to provoke the ire of the "gods." On Friday *Jane Shore* was played.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The stirring and impressive situations in *A Girl's Cross Roads* have proved a draw with Govan playgoers, and good houses are the result. The company is the same as at the Princess's last week.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Massett.—Harry Tate, in his sketch *Motoring*, provides a source of great laughter; Albert Whelan, with his cool and easy manner is very successful; Menetekel, or the magic ball, is a mystifying performance in which the audience are deeply interested; the Brothers Anthony are a couple of clever comedians; imitations by Venie Clements are heartily enjoyed; Millie Engler, a clever comedienne, Johnny Johnson, the musical dandy, the Calcotts in their musical speciality act, and the Paxton Trio, clever gymnasts, complete an enjoyable programme.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss's Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The principal item in the programme here is Herbert Darnley's company in the new sketch *Moving In*, which provides hearty amusement; Horace White's ventriloquial turn is as good as ever, and he meets with much favour; the Phantos give an ingenious comic scene *The Phantom Ship*. The Howards are a clever musical couple; Harriet Vernon gives several fine songs with excellent taste and expression, and her costumes evoke admiration; Irving Jones, the funny little black man, Fred Terry (comedian), Lily Lena (a clever serio), and the Rinaldos, who give a smart balancing turn with some good comedy business, complete an attractive bill.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—An excellent programme submitted here this week includes Malcolm Scott, comedian, who occupies the place of honour—a position he fills with credit; another interesting turn is that by Miss Mildred Howard de Grey, the modern Trilby. Other notables include Regan and Ryan (the popular patter comedians), George Collins (comedian), Rose Harvey (burlesque actress), Harry Alliston (character impersonator), Tom Craven and Co.'s sketch party in the new sketch *The Lady in Red*, in which Miss Marie Shields and Mr. Charles Adeson ably assist, Maude Forde (comedienne and dancer), Gus Barra (musical comedian), Nancy St. John (comedienne and dancer), and Alix Lukos (descriptive vocalist).

Colisium.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—Joe Elvin is the star here, and his latest sketch *Two Nights Out* has all the necessary elements for success, and meets with an enthusiastic welcome. The Musical Johnstons give a clever xylophone performance; Maggie Walsh in three ballads again proves a great favourite; Ross and Lewis are an extremely smart American couple, and their comedy and dancing items make a hit at once; Hartley Wonders give their barrel jumping display, in which the marvellous jumping of the gentleman and the comedy of the lady prove equally popular; Terley provides an artistic novelty in impersonations of famous men, the business being worked up on entirely new lines; La Tostia in mandoline selections, Mariano Sisters on the trapeze, and Charles Lilburn, comedian, complete a first-rate entertainment.

Palace.—Proprietors and Managers, Thos. Barrasford and Rich. Waldon; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. M'Kelvie.—The programme provided here this week includes George Leyton, in the military scena *Boys of the Chelsea School*, which was well received on the opening night; Lind (?) also creates a favourable impression. The other artists are Whit Cunliffe (the smart light comedian), Geo. Barron (comedian), Bernard and Weston (comedians), J. P. Hayworth (Scotch comedian), the Olive Trio (vocalists and dancers), Arthur Elverg (vocal comedian), and Harry Vardon (ventriloquist).

Queen's.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. T. J. Colquhoun and B. M. Armstrong.—The management have secured a first-class company this week, the chief attraction being the engagement of the renowned Japanese wrestler, Yukio Tani. A clever turn is submitted by Laurence Barclay, comedian, who was so recently in pantomime at the Princess's; and the singing and dancing of Cosgrove and Burns, American variety artists, are much appreciated; Jack McCormack, comedian, is as great a favourite as ever; and the Two Neros accomplish some smart acrobatic feats. The other members of the company include Mark Leslie (swell coon), Geo. Edney (vocalist), Oakley and James (variety entertainers), and Rose Gilbert (comedienne).

Tivoli.—Lessee, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—At this popular hall the variety turns are the same as at the Queen's, while in addition Mr. Armstrong is introducing the leading lights in the boxing fraternity, and is being rewarded for his enterprise with excellent houses.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, in *A Sister's Sin*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. William Vane gives a good portrayal of Harold Raymond; Mr. Charles Locke is successful as Walter Hastings; Mr. Ernest Fare plays the part of the villain, George Oakley, in a skilful manner; and Mr. Ernest Frere as Ikey Moses and Mr.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Ailton.—Miss Billie Barlow has fully sustained her former popularity here, her dainty style and sprightly business appealing to all. Two amusing sketches have been presented, the one a burlesque upon the old-time highwayman, *Hands Up*, performed by the Pender Troupe, and the other entitled *The Substitute*, for which Sid Cotterell's company was responsible. Little Salvano, a juvenile musician, has shown commendable mastery of a variety of instruments; clever stilt-walking, combined with good comedy, was accomplished by the Continental Troupe; and others contributing to the merriment were Sandy and Carl, comedians and dancers; Harry Cotton, comedian; and Harry Luck, comedian.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Clever imitations have been accomplished here by Leo Tell, who mimics the cries of animals with wonderful reality; a capital vocal turn is given by Austin and Cowan; Dickinson and Johnson show extraordinary staying powers under water; the Falcons, comedy acrobats, introduced novel feats; and other entertaining turns are submitted by Mlle. Eldee, a graceful artist in pose; the Tindall Twain, in a humorous speciality; Oliver Conroy, comedian; Mignon, a talented banjoist; and Kitty Marion, a vocalist with good songs.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—This week Mr. Chas. Carey's company in the latest musical comedy *After the Ball* is playing here with success. Miss Florence Smithers is the life and soul of the piece as Nancy. Miss Nellie Groves does well as Nellie Mather; the comedy is well looked after by Mr. Victor Widdicombe as Colonel Menit, and Mr. Walter Kingham as Halliwell Menit, while Mr. Buckstone Clark has much to recommend him as Martin.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—A capital vaudeville programme is presented here this week. It is headed by Dr. Carl Herman, hypnotist, electrician, and scientist, whose performance elicits much applause. The Three Bostonians in their singing and dancing act, Xley and Hamilton's musical duo, Hyam Long (comedian), Wild, Willie, and West, together with Cyrus Dare (mimic) are also among the chief attractions, which include wrestling.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—The ever-popular comedienne Florrie Gallimore, notwithstanding her innumerable visits here, is once more delighting crowded houses this week. A piquant turn is provided by Bonnie Goodwin and her winsome little Apollo piccannies, whose remarkable performance wins hearty plaudits; Chas. Jerome's vocal scena is excellent; Josie Delaine is a dainty vocalist and dancer, and Smaun Sing Hpoo (the miniature man and ring performer), Johnny Walker (eccentric comedian), Blanche Marion (a graceful dancer), and Helen Charles (drawing-room entertainer) are also in the bill.

HANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Charles Howard.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is paying a welcome visit in *Sergeant Brue*. As Aurora Miss Constance Lait is charming, having both a good voice and an excellent presence; Miss Violet Dene's impersonation of Lady Bickenhall is one of refinement; Mr. Walter H. Page makes a distinctly amusing Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. Percy Clifton as Sergeant Brue is an admirable representative of the character; Mr. Chas. Hanbury is capital as the hairdresser who has turned gentleman.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Another capital programme is submitted this week. At the head are Radford and Valentine in their humorous juggling performance; Belloni's performing cockatoos have been admirably trained; Bernar's marionettes are quite a novelty, the standard achieved being indeed high; the Marlo and Dunham Trio are bar performers of extraordinary ability; Florence and Lilian provide a high-class musical turn; Victor Travers sings his songs well; Collins and Rice in their speciality act contribute some smart dancing; the Sisters Neilson as dancers have but few rivals, and the Bioscope shows the Grand National.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock.—On Monday evening Basil Hood's charming play *Sweet and Twenty* paid a return visit, this time under the direction of Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram. As Joan, Miss Ethel Weyburn spoke her lines delightfully, acted gracefully, and scored a great success; as Ellen the housekeeper Miss Isabel Grey plays naturally; Miss Zeta Russell, who is quite a child, was very lifelike as Chris; as Douglas, Mr. Lionel Glenister has made many friends; Mr. Stephen Wentworth, as Eustace, played carefully and cleverly; as the Rev. Jas. Floyd, Mr. Drelincourt Odlum acted with impressive force and dignity; Mr. Gus Wheatman's impersonation of Prynne was responsible for much laughter. As Mrs. Trevelyan, Miss Dorothy Carrington was bright; and Mr. J. Wood-Ingram was good as Trehearne. Preceding Capt. Hood's play, Mr. Walter Cranch's musical curtain-raiser, *In the Strand*, was submitted. Mr. Cranch was well supported by Miss Zeta Russell and Mr. Wood-Ingram. Mr. Arnold Bell on Thursday presented *Called Back*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—Hardeen, the handcuff king, is astounding all by his marvellous display; Billy Richardson, the evergreen, delights with his stump orations; in feats of strength and of equilibrism the Three Schaffers create profound astonishment; George French is funnier than ever; the Mimosa Trio of lady dancers are smart, and Carson Hicks (vocalist and buck dancer), Wal Croft (Scotch comedian), Maud Clifton (comedienne), and some interesting pictures are other attractions in the programme.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Mr. George Dance's company opened on Monday with *Veronique*. Miss Rita Leonhardt acted and sang admirably as Helene de Solanges; Mr. Ellis Holland kept the house convulsed with laughter by his drolleries as Mons. Coquenard; Mr. Roland Bottomley won much applause by his singing as Florestan de Vellancourt. Miss Florence Aylwin was distinctly good as the Countess; Miss Neste Laurel as Denise won distinction in song and dance; Mr. Ivan Berlyn as Mons. Loustot and Mr. Tom Shelford as Seraphim added much to the success achieved. The orchestra was skilfully conducted by Mr. Leonard Leslie.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. W. Hunter.—Mr. J. W. Hunter and his clever company are appearing here in the comedy, entitled *The Guv'nor*. Mr. Hunter as the deaf boatbuilder causes the greatest amusement; a fine characterisation of Mr. Butterscotch is given by Mr. Arthur Ricketts; Mr. Charles Kingsley is excellent as Freddy; as Gregory Mr. Charles Hawker acts very cleverly. Miss Lucie Evelyn gives a sweet rendering of Aurelia; a fresh, winsome performance of Kate is submitted by Miss Cherry Wardroper; Miss Dora Levis is a graceful Mrs. Macclesfield, and Carry finds a lively interpreter in Miss Eva Hamblin.

HIPPODROME.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Matham.—The company here includes Miss Lillie Steward, an attractive comedienne. An amusing turn is given by the eccentrics Clifton and Gibson; some excellent films are shown by the Hippo. Bioscope; a laughable comedy farce is introduced entitled *Barmaids;* Miss Minnie D'Aubyn possesses a pleasing voice; a remarkable whistler and droll comedian is found in Fred Mason; Miss Ella exhibits an astonishing amount of fearlessness in her performance with her lions.

HEBBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. G. H. Austin; Acting-Manager, Mr. H Graham.—A large audience assembled here on Monday night to welcome the first appearance of the Royal Gipsy company. Very graceful and attractive is Miss Elsie Rubina as the Princess of Equipouse. The bill also includes the Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats and tumblers, who give a clever performance; the Musical Keiths, in a pleasing and novel entertainment; John Mathews, descriptive vocalist; the Florida Girls, vocalists and dancers; Annie Knowles, a clever lady trombone soloist; Paul Mathew; the Weir Trio, humorists; Sam Paul, comedian; Clare Hall, lady cornet soloist; the Sisters Beatrice, duettists and dancers; Bert Allen, comedian; La Petite Carlina, quick-change artist; Eric Lynn, dancer; and Frank Weir, comedian and dancer.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Provincial Theatres Co.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke; General Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley.—Mr. J. W. Carson's company in *The Master of the Chain* was the attraction on Monday. Mr. J. W. Carson's rendering of Valois de Riche was powerful; Mr. Thos. S. Cooke, as Ralph Legend, did justice to a difficult part; Mr. Cecil Van Waller impersonated the twin brothers, Maurice de Chant and Marquis Leon de Chelereaux in good style; and Mr. Maurice Love, as Octavius Splinters, caused roars of laughter; Miss Florence Whelan gave a sympathetic rendering of the part of Madeline Trevor, her singing being especially good; Miss Amy Bell was amusing as Dorothy Bains, and Miss Stella West's portrayal of Lena de Meuza was a striking one. For Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *The Streets of London* was billed.

HOYLAND.—THE METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Geo. S. King.—The above opened on Monday night with a strong variety company to a good house. Jean Seul, the Indian Mystery, was excellent; the Stavordale Quintette were well received; Aguzzi, in his wire act, and Emil Almaio, in a gymnastic pot-pourri act, were applauded; the Dalburgs, speciality artists, and the Sisters Clarence, duettists and dancers, were successful; and other turns included Billy French (rag-time dancer), Geo. Listor (quaint comedian), Rose Bartlett (chic comedienne), and Violet Harvey (vocalist and dancer).

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy G. Arthur.—An excellent change from modern drama and musical comedy has been provided this week by Mr. Norman Macowan and his capable colleagues in the two costume plays *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Soldier of Fortune*. The former play, with which the week opened, had an admirable representation. Mr. Macowan played Beaucaire with distinction, Miss Marguerite Cellier endowed Lady Mary with sweetness and dignity; Miss Annie Windsor's Lucy possessed much charming freshness; Mr. Murray Hathorn gave an adequate impersonation of the sinister Duke of Winterset; and less prominent parts were capably filled by Mr. Arthur Somers as Molyneaux, Mr. C. Gough as Rakell, and Mr. L. Laurence as Bean Nash. The beautiful costumes and careful mounting are worthy of commendation.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The combination here includes W. L. Murray and his eight trained athletes, Marco (a youthful illusionist), Fielding and Hull (duettists), Ara, Zebra, and Vora in their well-known gymnastic turn, Miss Edith Courtney (a ballad singer of more than ordinary refinement and ability), Bert Dansie (light comedian), Maxwell and Francis (duettists), Leo Stormont (baritone vocalist), and the Hippodrome pictures.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Lewis Waller's well-selected company, which opened here on Monday with *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, met with a most encouraging reception. Mr. Frederick Victor, who handles his part in a delightful manner, gives a dashing and effective portrayal of Captain Harry Peyton; Miss Cynthia Brooke, also a conspicuous success, invests the rôle of Miss Elizabeth with charm and grace; Mr. Elliott Ball ably sustains the character of Major Colden; Mr. Sidney Young is thoroughly well suited as Mr. Valentine; Mr. A. Carlaw Grand submits a creditable representation of John Edwards; Miss Leonora Braham is to be congratulated on her clever characterisation of Mistress Sarah Williams; and Miss Phyllis Back is a pleasing Molly Edwards.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland's company this week is presenting *The Coal King* for the first time in Hull. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland in the rôle of Tom Roberts proves himself an accomplished actor; the part of Sir Reginald Harford is ably sustained by Mr. Robin Shiells; Mr. Jos. Millane gives a clever portrayal of Walter Harford; Mr. Wilfred Grahame as Dick Shirley does good work; Miss Gertrude Valentine submits a talented impersonation of Grace Shirley; and the character of Mad Ann as presented by Miss Joan Willman is also worthy of mention. Mr. Harry Brayne as Jim Williams and Miss Hetty Cornwallis as Araminta Green supply the fun, and keep the house well amused.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. George Morton.—The picturesque melodrama *A Wrecker of Men*, presented by Mr. C. Watson Mill and company, is here this week. Miss Rosalind Tate as "the wrecker," Risca Mallison, sustains the character with ability. Mr. C. Watson Mill figures to advantage as Jim Murley, "the slogger"; Mr. Alfred Maurice as Guise Strange contributes a capable performance; and Mr. Ben Davies does well as Erric Melville. Miss Cissie Podmore achieves marked success as the heroine, Doris Melville.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—*The Belle of the Orient* is an attractive item. Kavados is a smart juggler, and Flo Melville has some good songs. Others include Milsted and Bell, Madie Scott, the Grosvenors, Conan and Doyle, and Fred Curran, who are all popular.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Animated pictures are beginning a successful third weeks' stay.

THE NEW PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Hackenschmidt is a good drawing turn here. Edwin Barwick excels as a character comedian; Forest and King are smart in acrobatic dances. Other artists include Roze and Calvert, Edouin and Edwards, Elsie Robey, Rich and Rich, and Leos Alfa Sisters.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—This week a capital entertainment is being supplied here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's *The Sin of Her Childhood* company. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes cleverly depicts the callous and selfish nature of Stephen Haysel; a quiet but effective study of Captain John Thornton is submitted by Mr. Frederick Loyd; Mr. Charles Fancourt makes an admirable Rev. Alan Grey; as the rollicking good-natured Irishman, Barney O'Reilly, Mr. Hugh Brady causes roars of laughter, and he is assisted by Miss Annie Megson, who looks pretty and acts with vivacity as Eliza Muggins. As Mary Haysel Miss Mary Fulton plays with touching tenderness and intensity, and easily wins the sympathy of the audience. Little Dot Moss, besides displaying high histrionic merit as Hannah Spry, distinguishes herself in songs, dances, and banjo solos, and in no small measure contributes to the success of the drama. Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks displays considerable versatility in the rôle of Maria Haysel, and Little Edith deserves praise for her performance of Eric Dugdale.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. Millar Anderson's company is here in the drama *When Woman Hates*. Mr. Jerrold Heather as Lieut. Fred Rokeby is successful; Miss Maude Townsend is effective as Marie Rokeby; Miss Dorothy Lupone as Nellie Rokeby is a juvenile actress of much promise; and Miss Gladys Lloyd (Edith Rokeby) admirably fills the part. Mr. Alfred Grenville's Americanisms as Colonel Hiram K. Vancutson are good; Mr. Charles Herberte as General Sir Henry Rokeby gains hearty applause; and Mr. Frank Litchfield (Patrick O'Brien), Mr. Chas. H. Hughes (Alphonso Picolet), Miss Helena Papera (Mrs. Sally Potts), and Miss Helen Richmond (Miss Sally Potts), are responsible for the comedy. Miss Mabel Mannering as the adventuress Cora Daintry plays cleverly.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Knightall.—Mlle. Fontain's marionette show has the first position here, and is well received; Marie Liston is a patriotic vocalist; Flo Varley sings with much taste; J. F. Ellis does well as a facial comedian; Hand and Hart amuse in duets and patter; the De Roys are clever burlesque conjurers; and Eric Kino is a commendable comedian.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Jennings.—The return visit of *The Orchid*, played by Mr. George Dance's company, was welcomed by a crowded audience on Monday night. Meaken, the gardener, was capitally impersonated by Mr. Tommy Weldon, who received able assistance from Mr. Arthur Hemsley in the part of Zaccary, the orchid hunter. Mr. Gordon Begg was a dignified Aubrey Chesterton, and Messrs. Fern Pounds and W. Griffin also added to the success of the piece. The chief female part, Lady Violet Anstruther, found a clever and graceful representative in Miss Dorothy Firmin, and Miss Madeline Maude made a decided hit in the character of Caroline Vokins. Other parts were adequately filled by Miss Elsa Brill, Miss Daisy Kersey, and Miss Florence Wakeman.

HIPPODROME (St. Nicholas-street).—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Bostock.—One of the chief items of the current week's bill of fare is the appearance of the Barra Troupe, whose eccentric instrumental performances are both clever and amusing; Little Dando greatly pleases the audience by his comicalities; and another comedian, J. H. Bowman, sings and dances in good style. Harry Morris gives some excellent farmyard imitations, and Howard and Collinson, in a little sketch, called *The Porter and the Parcel*, receive applause. The Three De Veres give a brisk and skilful acrobatic performance; Millie Payne justifies her claim to the title of "comedy queen"; and the Society Quartette also contribute songs and dances in a pleasing manner.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds and Miss Mary Austin's company is here with the powerful drama, entitled *Passion's Power*. Mr. William Clayton gives a manly rendering of Prince Kandos; while Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan furnishes a powerful portrayal of Michael Laski. Mr. Walter Roberts is good as Rudolph Laski; and the part of General Zaran is done full justice to by Mr. Frank Radcliffe. Mr. Henry Howard is quite at home as Patrice. Miss Ruth Shepperd gives a charming rendering of Zorah Varno, and Miss Stella Carmichael is excellent in the part of Countess Delaunay.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—Manager, Mr. L. F. Sanderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Wallace.—The following artists are here this week: W. J. Ashcroft, the well-known Irish comedian; Mabel Higson, comedienne and dancer; George Bernard, actor-vocalist; Lena Dudley, versatile artist; the Sisters Llewellyn, operatic vocalists; Earle and Melville, patter comedians; J. Walker, comedian; the Alskarno Trio of Risley acrobats and tumblers; and Roberto's living fantoches of miniature artists.

KILMARNOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Hales.—The first three nights of this week Mr. Leigh Lovel and company presented the stirring play, *Sowing the Wind*. The part of Mr. Brabazon received full justice in the capable hands of Mr. Lovel, and Mr. Hendry Osman was excellent as Mr. Watkin; Mr. Richard Vane did well as Ned Annesley, and Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood gave a lifelike impersonation of Sir Richard Cursitor. Miss Octavia Kenmore was charming as Rosamond, and Misses Celia Gordon and Ethel Savile were equally successful as Mrs. and Maud Fretwell. The latter part of the week Mr. Edward Compton and the celebrated Compton Comedy Co. paid a welcome return visit, presenting the popular comedies *Money*, *New Men and Old Acres*, *The School for Scandal*, and *David Garrick*, the latter preceded by the new one-act-comedy *The Desperate Lover*.

KINGS LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard's Co., Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—The old favourite *East Lynne* has been here this week, and Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company presented the play in stirring fashion. Miss Julie Kennard gives a passionate rendering of the part of Lady Isabel, easily reaching the sympathetic ear of the audience; Mr. Alfred Beaumont capably portrays Archibald Carlyle; the part of Francis Levison is played by Mr. Eric Mayne in a natural and forceful style; P.c. Bullock, as presented by Mr. Alfred Tate, is humorous, and Mr. C. C. Grattan as Justice Hare deserves praise for a creditable performance. The part of Lawyer Hill is in the able hands of Mr. Cyril Haywood.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Rex Sugden.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company, in *No Wedding Bells for Her*, formed the attraction during the first part of the week. On Monday a large audience assembled, and they did not fail to show their appreciation. The caste includes Miss Lizzie Montague, who does excellent work in the leading rôle of Lola Delaspiere; another conspicuous artist is Miss Ida Mackay, who gains much admiration by her charming manner and distinct utterance; Mr. Geo. C. Doughty is well suited to his detective duties; and as Rev. Frank Hatherleigh, Mr. Stuart Lomath could not be better placed; Mr. Archie Helsby is sufficiently villainous as Abney Stone; and Mr. Edward C. Louis is a capital Harold; as the customary funny servants, Mr. Will Skelton and Miss Helen Stewart evoke much laughter with their witty sayings. Messrs. Louis Garton, A. Balfour Mackay, Herbert J. Walton, and Misses Helen Owen, Nellie Parsons, Ethel Lawrence, and Patty Albery are all successful.

LEAMINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—For the fourth time since Christmas pantomime is in possession of the stage here. Miss Lena Stanton's company is appearing in an excellent version of *Robinson Crusoe*. Miss Stanton, in the title-rôle, plays it with spirit and dash, and sings her songs in a most creditable manner. Pretty Polly Perkins is impersonated by Miss Minnie Melbah with much grace and charm. Mr. Bruce Green as Dame Crusoe does all that is expected of the "old woman" of pantomime, and Little Kœno, who appears as Sunny Jim, has good facial expression. Several good specialities are introduced, including "Jo Ginger" in an entertaining ventriloquial sketch; the clever Orient Troupe of Lady Dancers, La Belle Esmé in a graceful performance of equipose on the silver thread, and the Musical Melbahs.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The clever three-act farce, *The Mountain Climber*, adapted from the German by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, is an effective vehicle for the humour of that popular comedian, Mr. Huntley Wright, and good audiences are being vastly amused here. The part of Montague Sibsey presents unbounded opportunities for mirth, of which Mr. Wright fully avails himself. Miss Kate Mills is excellent as the hero-worshipping wife, and the two daughters Alice and Betty are portrayed in very pleasing style by Miss Christine McGill and Miss Dora Barton. Mr. Eric Maturin is an able representative of the real mountaineer, Arthur Lydbrook; the two guides are effectively played by Mr. Algernon Newark and Mr. Scott Craven; and the rôle of Samuel Midgham has a capable exponent in Mr. W. R. Staveley. Good work is also done by Mr. J. Sebastian Smith, Mr. Montagu Elphinstone, and Miss Ivy Hertzog. In the curtain-raiser, *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, Mr. Wright evinces his versatility by his acting of the pathetic central figure, an old Jesuit priest.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—This week we renew acquaintance with the popular drama, *At Duty's Call*. Mr. John Gerant gives a fine and effective portrayal of the villain, Harold Alison; a manly and vigorous hero goes to the credit of Mr. Leonard Williams; and Miss Georgina Hamilton presents charmingly the rôle of Dora Drummond. All the other parts are capably handled, Mr. Harry Ugar and Mr. Ernest St. John being noticeable for good work.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—The Leopolds are here engaged in *The New Frivolity*, and the show continues to attract good patronage. The cast includes four or five members of the famous family, each of whom is an acrobatic specialist, whilst Mr. Watson Hume, Mr. Barry Lupino, and Miss Amy Hall are also prominent contributors to the success scored.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—That versatile entertainer, Tom Costello, is having a great week here, his contributions include both humour and pathos, and are particularly well received. There are two animal shows in the bill—Spessardy's bears and ponies and the intelligent canines of Tina Clementa—and both are unusually interesting. Expert acrobatics by the Trapnell Family arouse great enthusiasm. Of comedians, there are that clever pair, the New Macs, and an equally smart contribution by Booker and Narbis. The Dorrells and Hayes and Suits are pleasing in song and dance, and a couple of charming comediennes, Amy Russell and Dora Lyric, complete a bright programme.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr Claude Shayler.—An elaborate and well-dressed musical trifle, *The Phonograph Girl*, is the feature of this week's Tivoli bill, and is brilliantly done by a company of which Arthur Dandoe and Ida Gladstone are the leaders. A clever dramatic sketch by Kitty Clover and company is enthusiastically received; Vandinoff with his lightning painting speciality is a popular entertainer; Verno and Voyce score a big success with a fine vocal scena; a comedy episode by that clever pair, Hunt and Thomas, is very entertaining; the musical speciality by George Barrington is entertaining; Tate and Tate distinguish themselves as amusing eccentrics; the Donatos are clever one-legged clowns; and other items are subscribed by the Four Jumels in a musical act, the Two Dixons (bâton-swingers), and Sid Brandon (comedian).

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Duncan and Godfrey lead here with their clever coster act, which is a much-enjoyed item. Barrett and Knowles figure successfully as eccentrics and comedians; Harry Nelson and Johnny Worman are popular in comedy business; Speedwell, the lightning painter, scores a success with his expert act; and Gintaro is a clever Japanese juggler. Henri Bekker does an amazing conjuring show, with assistance from Mlle. Maie, and Madge Daly, comedienne, completes the bill.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—The popular comedy *The Freedom of Suzanne* is being presented here this week by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, whose efforts are heartily appreciated. High praise must be accorded Miss Beatrice Lindley for a finished and delightful performance as Suzanne Trevor. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley, too, as Charles Trevor is also conspicuous with a portrayal of exceptional merit; Mr. F. G. Thurstans is good as Fitzroy Harding, and Mr. William Mallalieu as Sir Horace Hatton. Mr. R. Harley West as Lord Datchet, and Mr. Townsend Whitling as Captain Cecil are each responsible for clever embodiments; Miss Emily Patterson shines as Lady Charlotte Trevor; Miss Charlotte Meade is capital as Miss Fanny Minching; Miss Violet Ley is good as Lady Isabel Bury; Mrs. Mallalieu as Mrs. Patman is well placed, and Miss Annie Stalman's Mrs. Dustall is a success. Praise should also be accorded Mr. Archie Selwyn for his admirable Tommy Keston. The comedetta, entitled *Two in a Trap*, in which Miss Violet Ley and Mr. Townsend Whitling are very good, precedes.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The attraction at this theatre—which, by the way, looks very clean and smart, the exterior having been repainted facing Horsefair-street—is provided by Miss Marie Menzies's company, in the new drama *A Rogue's Daughter*, by M. Hall-Page (Marie Menzies). In the name-part Miss Mary Menzies is seen to considerable advantage, and Miss May Ediss is also a success as Dicky, a waif; Miss M. Devereux is capital as Lotty Grey; Mr. Richard Terris is good as Colonel Foster, and Mr. F. V. Fenn as Frank Tyler is also well placed. Both Miss Marie E. Robertson as Priscilla Jenkins and Mr. J. Taylor as Ebenezer Dunnem give humorous and popular portrayals. Others who deserve special praise are Mr. A. Hall-Menzies as John Gibbs, Mr. William Pimm as Isaac Isaacs, Mr. C. Hartopp as Sir George Mignard, and Mr. Arthur Kent as Christopher Crummles. Entertaining specialities are introduced by Misses Mabel Taylor and May Ediss, Mr. Tom Taylor, and Ercules. Mr. Julian Clarke is the courteous acting-manager for the company.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The principal item in this week's excellent bill of fare is supplied by Miss Florence St. John, who is presenting the delightful little sketch, entitled *My Milliner's Bill*, in which she is well seconded by Mr. Charles B. Bedell as Mr. Merridew. *Codology*, as presented by the Great Hughes, is an extremely clever and funny burlesque on the shows given by hypnotists, &c. The Brothers Artois are remarkably smart on the triple bars, their turn having the merit of being humorous as well. The Three Renards in their aerial strong act display great cleverness; the Delevines are introducing their new comedy act *Flipp and Flopp* with success; the Brothers Warsaw are a pair of musical comedians who give an excellent entertainment. Arthur Sutcliffe, light comedian, and the Two Cavaliers, in jest and song, are also well to the front with entertaining turns. The American Bioscope is projecting the Grand National and other up-to-date pictures.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—At the head of a capital programme this week are Carlton's Four Kweeries. Hetty Lee, comedienne, is a popular turn; the Howards, in their thought-reading act, mystify the audience; Adeline Yohle is an excellent soprano vocalist; Bert Brantford is an amusing comedian; F. H. Dundas is a capital actor-vocalist; Flo Wood, comedienne, is on a successful return visit; Walter H. Pallister's bioscope, always a popular feature, is retained. Ariello, the human butterfly, and Princess Leah, on the wire, are also attractions.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst.—Miss Beatrice Isaacson and company are appearing here with the sensational drama, entitled *A Great Sensation*. Miss Beatrice Isaacson displays marked ability as Eva Dale; Miss Edith Wallis acts admirably as the adventuress Sidonie; Mr. Sydney N. Hallows gives an excellent account of himself in the dual rôle of Jack Damer and Stephen Damer; Mr. Alfred Richards capitally renders the part of Robin Dale; Mr. E. C. Clive as the scheming Henry Encombe scores, as also does Mr. William Ames as Wiley Jones; the humour of the piece is well sustained by Mr. Fred Dalton and Miss Marian Mayne as Peter and Ria respectively. Miss Vic Raymond deserves praise for her efforts as Waif, the flower girl.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. C. R. Clarke and Mr. H. R. Silva's interesting drama, *Honour Thy Father*, is presented this week, and an excellent rendering of the piece is given by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company. In the leading and difficult rôle of Gabriel Garth Mr. J. W. Evelyn is distinctly successful, and Mrs. Clavering gives good support as Mrs. Garth, the unhappy Lilian being forcibly personated by Miss Mabel Coleman. Miss Winnie Donovan is an effective Mercy Merry, while the part of Violet Wilfred is well sustained by Miss Maud Grey. Mr. D. B. Watson does good work as Jack Halyard; Mr. Clavering Craig is thorough as the villain, Duncan Bly; and the acting of Mr. Claude Merton and Mr. Frank Eden in their respective rôles of Job Merry and Dr. Sleak deserves commendation. The comedy element is well supplied by Mr. W. H. Melrose and Mr. Walter M. Cameron as Ned Pennycomquick and Mike Copplestone and Miss Lizzie Morley as Poppy Cornleigh.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A hearty welcome has been extended this week to Mr. and Mrs. Forbes-Robertson in *Mice and Men*, *Mrs. Grundy* (first Liverpool appearance), and *The Light that Failed*. The first-named piece was particularly enjoyed on Monday, the charm infused into the part of Peggy by Miss Gertrude Elliott earning for that accomplished actress a most cordial recognition. Mr. Robertson's picture of the studious Embury was as fine as ever. A manly Captain Vernon, possessed of an easy and telling style of delivery, was presented by Mr. Vernon Steel; the part of Roger Goodlake could scarcely be in better hands than those of Mr. Charles Weir; Miss Auriol Lee displayed ability as Joanna; and other capable supporters were Miss Keith Lytton, Mr. J. H. Beaumont, and Mr. J. H. Ryley.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Lessees, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Musical Liverpool, noted for its great support of the Carl Rosa Opera Company of former days, has given a gratifying welcome to the Moody-Manners Opera Company at this house. The programme of the week included *Carmen*, *Faust*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Eugene Onegin* (first time in Liverpool), *Tannhäuser*, and *Maritana*, and among the principal artists were Messrs. Joseph O'Mara, Charles Manners, William Ludwig, John Child, Charles Magratti, William Dever, Lewys James, and Wilson Pembroke, Mesdames Zelie de Sussan, Kate Anderson, De Vere, Toni Seiter, Fanny Moody, and Olive Westwood. The whole of the productions were placed upon the stage in a most finished manner, the full company numbering 120, including a chorus of 55, and a travelling orchestra of 30 first-class instrumentalists. The conductors were Herr Richard Eckhold and Mr. Cuthbert Hawley.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—Mr. Andrew Melville's company is here this week with *Driven from Home*. Miss Frances Ruttledge, as Laura Raybrook, presented a most pathetic picture of an abandoned woman; Mr. Felix Pitt played with dramatic strength as Anthony Raybrook, the cruel father; Mr. Ernest Owttrim handled the rôle of Willie, the outcast, with care and discretion; as Walter Hatherleigh Mr. Morley Carroll was satisfactory; Mr. Herbert Cecil made an excellent Geoffry Waring; Mr. Howard Tracey was good as George Clissold, and the rest of a lengthy cast rendered valuable support.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—This week's bill is headed by Walton and Miss Ella's dog show, W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, *All Scotch*, is loudly applauded. The Gotham Quartette are as good as ever, delighting the audience with their singing; Jock Whiteford's humour is keenly appreciated; the Three Sisters Chester are capital musicians and dancers. Other noteworthy turns are Gerald Mount, Hector and Paulus, and Tom E. Finglass. The Grand National pictures were greatly enjoyed.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*At Cripple Creek*, a drama fresh to Liverpool, has proved a strong attraction here this week. The work is well mounted and presented by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. As Joe Mayfield Mr. Hilliard Vox was eminently satisfactory, and displayed a high degree of talent; Baby Betty, as Little Tatto, played with a deal of youthful judgment, her singing and dancing proving very pleasing. Miss Daisy Carlton, as Maggie Mason, the pride of Cripple Creek, ably filled the rôle; Mr. Albert Rogers created much laughter as Ben White, the nigger; Miss Ella Dixon was appreciated as Belle Gordon; Mr. C. Douglas Carlyle portrayed the bully, Manuel Alverez, with effect, and Mr. Chas. D. Pitt was good as Wahketah, the faithful Indian.

QUEEN'S THEATRE

efforts cause much merriment, and as a trick cyclist and juggler Lalla Selbini's work proves highly meritorious. The dry humour of W. G. Sutton, comedian, is much appreciated; a smart musical comedy duologue, *In the Studio*, by Mulvey and Miriam, gains general approval; and others in the list are Leslie Race (vocal comedian), Ethel Loftus (comedienne), Rumbo Austin and his comical troupe, and the Three Seabornes, with their remarkable equilibristic act.

New Parthenon.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—So much public patronage has been bestowed upon the excellent cinematograph pictures showing the Britt v. Nelson fight, that Mr. Smith has decided to keep them in the bill for a second week. Large audiences have attended twice nightly, and at the matinées held three times during the week. Varieties are given by Prince Bendon, novelty ventriloquist, with electrical figures; the Sisters Daventry, coon duettists; and Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" Stock Dramatic Company here this week have been presenting the sketch, *Lost by Drink*, in eleven Tableaux. Mr. Percy Boucher, in the part of Mes Bottes, shows ability, and Mr. Harry Tresham is an excellent Coupeau. Other strong supporters are Miss Beryl Ravenswood (Virginie), Miss Alice Hinton (Fauchette), Mr. Cecil Ravenswood (Gouget), Mr. E. D. Allen (Basil), and Miss Lina Nazeby (Gervaise). Variety turns are given by Miss Nellie Moore, soubrette, and Mr. Harry Snow, comedian.

Paddington Palace.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Harry Levaine, a comedian possessing many capital points, heads the bill here this week. Arthur Byron's Sketch Company, including Percy M. Stevenson, produces an interesting episode, entitled *Rose O'Connor's Fortune*; Shean, Fox, and Shean have a laughable trifle, *The Fighting Tramp*; Annie Webster shines as a dancer, and Little Violet is a clever young character comedienne.

Park Palace.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost here this week is John Grün Marx, with his exhibition of strength. Some particularly acceptable comedy juggling is submitted by Rebla, the Bros. Lang are funny knockabouts, some smart patter comes from Harry Bent, Tom Hayes, as a boy comedian, shows talent, Clive Watts gives satisfaction as a character comedian and dancer, and others in the bill are James Lowery, the singing furnaceman, and Lottie Lunn, comedienne and dancer.

Westminster.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—A most pleasing programme is provided at this popular house this week. Topping it are the Four Abadaroffs, with their smart comedy production, *Prehistoric Peeps*; Richardson Taylor, the whistling ventriloquist, has a good turn; George Carney and Frank Armstrong arouse much laughter with their act, *The Pro. and the Baggage Man*; the illustrated songs by Bird and Arnold are very pleasing; as a pair of comedy artists Keswick and Nana distinguish themselves; Charles Beanland is an accomplished comedian, with some quaint songs, and others in the list are Winnie Scott (soubrette, dancer, and coon impersonator) and George Hyam (character comedian).

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Principal here this week are Tiller's *High Jinks* company, which has proved enjoyable; the Aurora Troupe of cyclists are enthusiastically applauded for their wonderful feats, Urbani and Son give a grand athletic display, Albert Le Fre is an eccentric comedian of no mean order, the conjuring of Sylvesta causes much surprise, George Ridgwell, a baritone with an excellent voice, renders several popular pieces, and Bowman and Morton have a diverting duologue, *She Loved a Policeman*.

LLANELLY.—**Royalty Theatre.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews; Acting-Manageress, Miss Alice Rocheforte.—*The Toreador* is being played here this week by Mr. Chas. Macdona's company. The part of Pettifer is represented with much success by Mr. Tom May; Mr. J. Colclough Fagan plays Carajolo, the toreador, in a capital manner; Mr. F. Hulme Sharp is a good Sir Archibald Slackett; Mr. Chas. W. Anson as Rinaldo is well placed. As Susan Miss Leah Howard is very clever; Mrs. Malten Hoppings is in the able hands of Miss Avis Graham, whilst Miss Sadie Neville makes a charming Dot Selby. There is a strong chorus, and the augmented orchestra is under the bâton of Mr. Herbert Linwood.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—**New Theatre Royal.**—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here with *Three Little Maids*. The Maids are cleverly represented by the Misses Vera Vallis, Cora Lingard, and Edith Colley, while the lively Gretchen is impersonated by Miss Laura Wright; Mr. Ewart Drake is funny as the caddie, and Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson does well as Lord Cheyne. Miss Kate Graham Beck (Lady St. Mallory), Mr. G. Wilson (Brian Molyneux), and Mr. Wilfred Heath (M. de L'Orme) all do well.

LOWESTOFT.—**Marina.**—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—This week we have a return visit of Mr. Henry Bedford in *The See-Saw of Life* and *Gipsy Jack*. The first-named was warmly received on the opening night by an appreciative audience. Mr. Bedford appeared successfully as Matt Marston, and Mr. Alec Alexander was admirably placed as Sir Jas. Dalroy. Mr. Walter H. Domoney made the most of his opportunities as James Denton, and Miss Bessie Bedford gave a careful study of Laurie Musgrave; Miss Ella Sennett presented a capital reading as Judith Dalroy.

MACCLESFIELD.—**Theatre Royal.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—A capital representation of *The Cingalee* was the attraction here during the early part of the week, the company sent by Mr. George Dance being exceptionally strong. Mr. Courtney Comber as Harry Vereker gave an admirable portrayal; Mr. Arthur Foote scored heavily as Bobby Warren; Mr. Walter Champney as Chambuddy Ram had a character which fitted him like a glove; Mr. Hugh Webb was excellent as Boobhamba; and Mr. W. Bosco as Sir Peter Loftus was responsible for much mirth. Miss Cecile Berisford as Nanoya and Miss Florrie Tressider as Angy Loftus played charmingly. Miss Katie Yates as Peggy sang her songs with taste and sweetness; and Miss Mona Grey as Lady Patricia delighted everyone with her vocalisation.

MAIDSTONE.—**Hippodrome.**—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—The bill is headed this week by Austin Rudd, who is very popular in his good songs and funny ways. The Toreadors are droll in the scena, *A Spanish Bullfight*; Spencer and Marks as "stage-struck waifs" are clever dancers; and Wisper, comedy juggler, and Herbert Cyril, comedian, are popular. Others appearing are Miss Beattie Bloom, comedienne; T. E. Johnson, comedian; Herbert Barker, mimic; and Miss Minnie Dare, dancer. The Hippograph brings the programme to a close.

MANCHESTER.—**Theatre Royal.**—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company appeared here on Monday in *Are You a Mason?* which gave pleasure, as usual, to the assembled house. Mr. E. H. Paterson is responsible for a large amount of fun as Amos Bloodgood, and a clever and amusing performance is given by Miss Adelaide Grace as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood. Mr. Allan Pollock is full of vivacity as George Fisher; Mr. H. Langdon Bruce gives an excellent interpretation of Frank Perry; Mr. Percy Bell acts with distinction as Hamilton Travers; quite a satisfactory rendering of Eva is provided by Miss Mabel Younge; while among the remainder of an all-round clever cast Mr. Howard L. Tracey stands out with some distinction as Ernest Morrison, the real "mason." *A Bad Penny* precedes.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—An enormous attraction here this week is Mr. George Edwardes's company in *Lady Madcap*, an exceedingly clever combination which includes Miss Marie Studholme in the title-part. Miss Studholme is, of course, the particular star, and her performance is entirely charming. As the gallant Captain Harrington Mr. J. Edward Fraser acts and sings with great success. Considerable humour is provided throughout by Mr. Arthur Longley as Oroya Brown, Mr. J. Robert Hale as Bill Stratford, Mr. Olive J. Round as the latter's factotum (Posh Jenkins), and Mr. E. Statham Staples as Corporal Ham; all of whom are as entertaining and resourceful as could be wished. Miss Nina Sevening very pleasantly embodies the part of Gwennie Holden; Miss Mabel Russell is extremely capable as Susan, and makes a big hit with her dancing; and others worthy of praise are Mr. W. E. Richardson as Colonel Layton, and Mr. Eustace Burnaby as Major Blatherswaite.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company present here this week *Her Luck in London*, an interesting and well-played drama. Miss Mary Neil has a strong part as Nellie Harborne, the unfortunate heroine, whom she portrays with fine emotional power. Mr. Charles A. Leicester is vigorous as O'Connor, the young Irish nobleman; Mr. Tyrone Power plays the church-proud father with convincing force; Miss Frances Waring is equally good as a daughter of similar mind; Mr. S. Crossley makes a capital Lenowen; and much amusement is provided by Miss Florrie Groves as Maud Gladys Shovepenny and Mr. J. Telby Dillson as the farm servant, Jerry Gotobed.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—After two weeks of Ibsen, Mr. Harold V. Neilson signalised his enterprise in the higher drama by staging on Monday an elaborate and highly creditable production of Shakespeare's comedy, *Measure for Measure*. Scenery specially designed and painted by W. T. Hemsley gave brightness and beauty to the setting, which was further enhanced by elaborate and pleasing costumes; and conspicuously good incidental music, arranged and composed by Robert Cox, of St. John's College, Oxford, who also conducted, called forth frequent and well-deserved applause. Mr. Courtenay Thorpe's depiction of Vincentio (the Duke) was a triumph of skilled and sympathetic acting, and in the difficult crises of the rôle of Isabella Miss Amy Sangster proved herself a capable and intelligent actress. Mr. Harold V. Neilson gave a commendable version of Angelo; Miss Katherine Romsey played Mariana with nice discretion; and the lighter rôles of Elbow, Pompey, and Froth were handled in cheerful style by Messrs. J. H. Atkinson, Ardene Linden, and John Detliv. Others who distinguished themselves in the cast of this distinctly enjoyable revival were Mr. J. F. Fox (Escalus), Mr. G. Alexander Marsh (Claudio), and Mr. H. Gomer May (Lucio).

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Harry Tate's *Fishing* sketch is proving a big attraction here this week, the funny incidents being greatly enjoyed. The Three Clements go through a dancing act in an extremely neat manner; Fanny and Harry Groves present a novel ring act; the Boston Twins are very amusing in their act entitled *Screams*; and Leo Traynor is a smart and funny comedian. Others who contribute good items are Jacko, the man monkey; the Dainton Girls, character duettists; Bessie Willow, vocalist; and Bowman and Woods, assisted by Arthur Lester, in a sketch, *Medals v. Gold*. "The Poachers' Revenge" is depicted on the bioscope.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company are playing *The Christian* here to good houses, after a successful week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

St. James's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Miss Frances Delaval's company occupies the stage here this week in *Her Lost Self*. Miss Frances Delaval is seen to great advantage in the central part, and other important characters are cleverly impersonated by Mr. Percy Carne Waram, Mr. C. Kean, and Miss Min Johnston. The staging of the play is also very good.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—An excellent programme here this week is headed by the premier male impersonator, Miss Vesta Tilley, who sings three songs in her usual inimitable manner, and meets with a very flattering reception. Mike S. Whallen is to the front with smart tales, and causes no end of laughter; Morny Cash, "the Lancashire lad," is an extremely funny comedian; Coram is one of the very best of ventriloquists, and is well received; and Selma Braatz is a graceful and clever lady juggler. Good turns are also those of the San Remo Girls, duettists and acrobatic dancers; the Fitzroys, gymnasts; and Bert Lytton, swell comique. The Grand National is shown on the bioscope.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will Collins.—*The Human Bullet*, direct from the London Hippodrome, is the big attraction here this week, and is watched with breathless interest. An amusing sketch, *The Phantom Footpad*, is presented by Mark Melford and company; Kyoto introduces his mysterious Japanese box, and is a good contortionist; Howe and Ardle are remarkably smart acrobats and gymnasts; Duncan's Scotch Collies are exceedingly well trained; May Geraldine dances neatly; *Where's the Ghost?* is an amusing and cleverly-contrived illusion-sketch, presented by the Sleedes; Payne's Little Vagabonds in their speciality, *Old Daddy Watchman*, are good; and the Brothers Esdale are entertaining comedians. The pictures shown on the American Bioscope are particularly interesting.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Chung Ling Soo is the attraction here this week, and repeats his exceedingly clever performance. The Kellinos appear in their scena, *A Fête in Venice*, and meet with a flattering reception. The Cape Girls are excellent dancers; Herr Grais' Baboons show almost human intelligence in a clever act; the Jurgins Trio are very good in a globe act; George Westland is a capital Scotch comedian; and the Æolians are pleasing in a vocal and dancing act. The Choir render Pinsuti's "My Lady is the Flower of Flowers," and Mr. Tom Ince is the soloist in an illustrated song, "Asleep in the Deep." The Animated Pictures are good. Mr. Hengler's water sketch, *The Village Wedding*, is still in the bill (third week).

Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Prominent and well-received turns here this week are Frank Coyne, comedian; the Ferraris, cosmopolitan terpsichorean artists; Fred Maitland's Comedy Trio in a short sketch entitled *The Picture*; and Rowland Hill, the comedian in skirts. Other enjoyable items are offered by Daisy Morrell, comedienne; Carrie Joy, comedienne; Lillie Arthur, miniature comedienne; Hughes and Elliott, vocalists and buck dancers; and Aida Martine, comedienne and dancer. Raymond's Vivagraph, as usual, is good.

King's, Longsight.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Gus Harris, the Hebrew character delineator, tops the bill here this week, and is highly successful in his dramatic song-scena, *The Synagogue*. Bert Williams is an excellent ventriloquial humorist; Marjutti Lady goes through a remarkable contortionist performance in her scena, *From Demon to Fairyland*; Harland and Rollinson, musical artists, are capital in an amusing and tuneful melange; Arthur Gilbert scores with two songs; King and Delane are a funny couple; Bernard Noble, vocal comedian, sings a good song entitled "She is a Lady"; Marti and Julietta are clever in an act on a pyramid of chairs, decanters, and on the flying spar; Olive Veno is a neat dancer; Little Rene sings "Mother" in an effective manner; and a spirited dance is contributed by Nellie Grahame.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The *pièce de résistance* here this week is *Casey's Court*, a distinct novelty-sketch, which consists of clever dances, jests, and mirth-provoking antics by the Midget Mimes, which gains hearty applause. Another good sketch, with a touch of the pathetic, is that presented by Whimsical Walker and his clever young assistant, Miss Nellie Palmer. Other commendable items are offered by Ruby Dahl with her excellent marionette imitations; Arthur Stacey, the demon step-boot dancer; Frazer and Haley, vocalists; Gale and Frank St. John, instrumentalists and dancers; and Harris and Worth, patter comedians and dancers. Rosa Finlay, serio, whose name figures in the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

Hippodrome (Hulme).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Paul Vandy, the well-known juggler and conjurer, heads the bill here this week, and is well received. Hinton and Wooton play football on bicycles in a remarkably clever manner; Lachie Thompson's Top Weights (Tom and Neil) are smart wrestlers, boxers, and club-swingers; Welda and Wynne are good double jugglers; Little Tina is a capable juvenile comedienne; and other good turns are those of Star and Jerome (vocalists and dancers), the Three Esmonds (eccentric comedians and grotesque dancers), Ida Ross (comedienne and Tyrolean vocalist), and Fred Harrison (comedian). Bioscope Pictures complete.

MANSFIELD.—**Hippodrome.**—Proprietors, Messrs. Morella and Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Drama is the fare provided this week at this place, where Mr. Evan Roland's company is presenting *The Guilty Man*. Mr. Leonard Anthony capitally plays the part of General Seymour; Mr. Harold Lewis is an admirable exponent of George Seymour; Mr. Henry S. Dacre capably impersonates Esau; Mr. Alfred D. Adams as James Redman plays admirably; and the part of Nell Radford is capitally impersonated by Miss Muriel Inglis. As Sukie, Miss Sybil Haughton receives applause; and Miss Lily Lewis is capable in the part of Audrey Priestley.

Victoria Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Fox.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company opened a three nights' engagement here on Thursday in *The Cingalee*.

MARGATE.—**The Hippodrome.**—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The programme this week again includes some excellent turns. It is headed by Cline and Clark, the black and white comedy duo, in their clever dancing act; Will English, the coloured coon, is paying a return visit, and is as popular as he was at his first appearance here; Lozelle, a marvellous gymnast, introduces some astonishing feats; and Marie Blythe, contralto vocalist, and Amy Elcock, comedienne, are specialists in their own particular line, the latter being also an expert dancer. The Hippodrome pictures are interesting.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—**Theatre Royal and Opera House.**—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—*Saints and Sinners* is being presented here this week by Miss Elaine Verner and company. Mr. Harding Thomas submits a clever reading of the character of Jacob Fletcher; Miss Elaine Verner is sympathetic and natural as Netty Fletcher; Mr. Frank Lyndon ably sustains the part of Samuel Hoggard; George Kingsmill has an efficient representative in Mr. John J. Hooker; and Mr. W. Cronie Wilson is an admirable Captain Fanshawe. *The Middleman* was billed for Wednesday and Thursday.

MEXBOROUGH.—**Prince of Wales's Theatre.**—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The Joseph Poole's myriorama, myriograph, and variety combination provide the attraction here this week. In addition to a series of up-to-date pictures, there are some first-class variety turns, including Felix de Marce's performing ponies and dogs and equestrian baboons; Miss May Finch, vocalist; the Veronas, dancers and duettists; Felix Somers, the facial king; Nash and Nash, patter comedians; the Three Phydoras, eccentric musical novelty artists; Mr. Nat Abatt is a capable guide and raconteur.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—**Theatre Royal.**—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Mr. Louis Calvert in *Sunday* is here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Emelie Polini appears to distinct advantage, bringing out light and shade of the character in most effective fashion; Mr. Leonard Pagden as Colonel Brinthorpe acquits himself admirably, as does Mr. William Lockhart as Towzer. Mr. Ernest A. Douglas does well as Tom Oxley; Mr. Cecil Duncan is capital as Arthur Brinthorpe; Miss Rosalind Ross makes a dignified Mrs. Naresby; and Miss Muriel Pope gives a true impersonation of the Nun. Mr. Sydney Rennef in the character of Davy is interesting, and Mr. Norman Walter as Lively leaves nothing to be desired. Mr. Arthur Vezin as Jacky and Mr. Ernest Harrison as Abbot are exceedingly good.

Opera House.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. George Dance's company in the musical play *The Duchess of Dantzic* is here this week. Miss May Glenn gives an admirable rendering of the title-rôle; Miss Maggie White is seen to advantage as Saint Mezard, her vocal efforts being heartily appreciated; Mr. Leonard Griffiths as the Duke of Dantzic leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Gilbert Yorke gives a commendable impersonation of Napoleon; Mr. Arthur Paterson is amusing as Papillon; and Miss Buena Bent is a charming Lisette.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. B. Rembges.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. King and Benson, the versatile humorists, head the bill, and have a most flattering reception. The cycle feats of the Tom Davies Trio are highly appreciated; Miss Bertha Winder gives a remarkable dancing performance; Fred Keeton, comedian, scores a big success; and Les Silvas are well applauded for their daring feats. Other turns are provided by Lava, gentleman equilibrist; Wal Robbins, in his black and white entertainment; and Gertrella, speciality artist.

Oxford Palace.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf Graham.—An interesting programme is submitted here this week. Mr. Harry Tate's company appears in his popular sketch *Motoring*, and creates roars of laughter. Dave O'Toole, comedian, scores a big success; an amusing ventriloquial sketch is given by Oakdene; Gus Leclerq keeps the audience in roars of laughter; and Lottie Govell (comedienne) and Miss Maggie Grimshawe (juvenile male impersonator) also contribute.

MOTHERWELL.—**New Century Theatre.**—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. W. Davies.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company is this week paying a return visit, and on Monday opened with *Hamlet*. Mr. Henry Herbert gives a carefully studied rendering of the Danish Prince, and reaches his highest artistic level in the scene with the players. As Ophelia Miss Dorothy Green shows herself possessed of histrionic abilities of no mean order. Mr. Ross Shone is sufficiently garrulous as Polonius; Mr. Lionel Bevans does well as Horatio; Mr. Bernard is a stalwart Laertes; and Mr. Alfred A. Harris gives a careful rendering of the King of Denmark, Miss Kate Turner being the Queen. For the remainder of the week *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Macbeth*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *The Merchant of Venice* were billed.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—**Tyne Theatre.**—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Sutcliffe.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company are paying a visit here this week, and opened on Monday with *The Merchant of Venice*, with Mr. Benson as Shylock, a character in which he is seen to distinct advantage. The Portia of Mrs. Benson was also a noteworthy portrayal, and was cordially appreciated. The remainder of the cast, including Mr. Geo. R. Weir, Mr. Clarence Derwent, Mr. Cyril Keightley, Mr. George Buchanan, Miss Mildred Forster, and Miss Leah Hanman, all acquitted themselves favourably. The remaining nights were allotted to *As You Like It*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Henry V*.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—This week Mr. R. C. Carton's farcical comedy *Public Opinion* is presented for the first time, by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchinson. Mr. George Giddens as Horace Wibsey gives an amusing representation of a stage lawyer; Mr. William Hargreaves (Mr. Justice Mulley), Mr. Geo. Mallett (Sir Babington Mulley), and Mr. Templar Powell (Lord Percy Kilgour), are very entertaining in their unsuccessful endeavours to obtain possession of incriminating love letters. Mr. Harold West as the inane Viscount Poffley is realistic; whilst Mr. Ernest Ruston as the blatant and overbearing Spencer Traughton, C.B., acts very naturally; Mr. G. J. Gray and Mr. C. B. Evans as Smeeton and Finchett are responsible for some amusing business. Miss Emma Hutchinson as Lady Diana Caldershaw is excellent; she acts with ease and contributes largely to the success of the farce; Miss Lilian Hallows as Pansy Bligh imparts verve and spirit into a rôle which suits her to perfection, and Miss Mary Mallalieu as Lord Percy's fiancée is charming. *Public Opinion* is preceded by a cleverly acted comedietta, *The Stratagem*.

Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—The boards are this week occupied by Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *An Abandoned Woman*. Mr. Harry Foxwell as Paddy Boyle, an Irish policeman, makes a true son of Erin, and keeps the house bubbling with merriment; Mr. J. Butler gives a capital rendering of his part; Mrs. Harry Foxwell has a rôle which shows her dramatic ability in a favourable light, while Miss Doris Gilham acts with great skill. The remainder of the principal characters are in the capable hands of Mr. Wolston Forster, Mr. Geo. Gormley, Mr. Nelson Ford, and Miss Lily Addison.

Grand Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The drama, entitled *Her Wedding Day*, has been staged here this week, and has proved a popular attraction. The principal exponents are Miss Ward, a charming heroine, and Mr. S. Herbert Humber, who portrays villainy in a forcible manner. Minor characters are capably filled.

Empire Theatre.—Resident Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—The principal item in this week's programme is contributed by Staley's Novelty Transformation Co., whose musical act, not forgetting their marvellous quick-change from a blacksmith's shop to a drawing-room, is remarkably clever. "India in Europe" is an exceedingly attractive turn, wherein elephants, horses, dogs, &c., are introduced by the Novellos; Gwennie Hasto has met with an enthusiastic reception on making her return to Newcastle, and is as successful as of yore in song and dance; Drew and Alders, also pantomime favourites, are equally successful with their new speciality act, and Gracie Graham is cordially received in a couple of songs; Kitts and Windrum contribute a clever sketch, entitled *The Cuckoo*, and Sam Soda extemporises on any subject suggested by the audience; the Golty Trio are clever jugglers, &c., on globes, and Frank Seeley merits favourable comment as an eccentric comedian; Colby and May in a ventriloquial act, and the Bioscope also contribute successfully.

Pavilion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Harry Ford, the popular comedian, is the attraction here this week, and his various songs have resulted in roars of merriment. Lottie Lennox in a repertoire of chorus songs is also a leading feature; Sibb and Sibb in a trapeze act are favourites hereabouts, and deservedly so; a particularly clever turn is contributed to by Rastus and Banks, American entertainers; and other entertaining items include Annie Laurie, the Zampahs, Miss Diana Hope and company in a speciality act, Harry Lawson, Lambert and Glover, Chas. R. Whittle, and Florence Ellis. The animated photograph by the Barrascope is also an attractive item in the programme.

NORTHAMPTON.—**Opera House.**—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. George Dance's company is here on a return visit with *The Girl from Kay's*. Mr. H. C. Barry is extremely funny as Hoggenheimer, Miss Beatrice Poole plays with charming ease and grace the name-rôle, Miss Emily Taylor is a pretty Norah Chalmers, whose maid, Ellen, has a lively representative in Miss Mabel Dent. Mr. J. S. Durant is well suited as Harry Gordon, Mr. Reginald Grey plays the part of the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle with pleasing effect, Mr. Robert Rivers is quite at home in his old part of Theodore Quench, K.C., and Mr. Tom Seymour is an amusing hall porter.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—In the absence of the lady engaged for the top of the bill, Miss Lilian Elfrida made a most successful appearance as a mimic. A clever show is furnished by the Five Whiteleys in an acrobatic wire-walking, musical pot-pourri, Florrie Bray is a versatile comedienne, the Solari Duo are good operatic vocalists and instrumentalists, the Prinellas appear in a musical scena with pleasing effect, Rena and Rex tender a duologue in which the fun is provided by the comparison of stature, Allan Hanbury (comedian) and Will Ellerslie (comedian) sing comic songs, and the Palace pictures represent the launch of "The Dreadnought."

NORTH SHIELDS.—**Theatre Royal.**—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's company with *The Streets of London* has had a hearty reception here this week. Mr. H. Douglas Cottell as Mark Livingstone submits a clever study, Mr. Reginald Palgrave gives a satisfactory interpretation of Captain Fairweather, Mr. William Rokeby as Badger, deserves praise, Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie is good as Paul Fairweather, Mr. Henry Moxon makes the most of his opportunities as Gideon Bloodgood, and Mr. James Bracewell makes a hit as Dan Puffy. As Alida Bloodgood, Miss Octavia Noel gives a finished performance, Miss Marion Armitage is well placed as Dan Puffy, Miss Edyth Goodall acquits herself with credit as Lucy Fairweather, and Miss Helena Rigby makes the most of Mrs. Puffy. The Fiori Del Monte Trio and the Four Fiorellas Troupe also appear with success.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—A capital company here this week is headed by Mr. Will Godwin, character comedian; the Brothers Dean, dancers and whistlers, have been accorded a good enthusiastic reception; Darrels, comedy juggler, presents a smart act; Max Merlin, the human crocodile, wins much favour; the Brooklands, comedians and dancers, are loudly applauded; the Dowtons, in their vocal absurdity, have a host of admirers, and the Bio-Photoscope is still a leading feature.

NORTHWICH.—**Central Theatre.**—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden; Manager, Mr. Lester Wright.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company, in *A Gambler's Daughter*, opened to an excellent house on Monday night. In the dual rôle of Miriam and Mildred Grant, Miss Adria Hill stamps herself as an actress of ability; Mr. Robert Ayrton is a fine type of a big-hearted Irishman in the character of Desmond O'Dare; Mr. Frank Wheatcroft is a manly Captain Stanhope; while Mr. Victor Millard scores as Jack Grant. Miss Lizzie Gordon is admirably suited to the part of Carmen Sancho.

Pierrot Pavilion.—The Royal Pierrots opened their season on Saturday night to a packed house. Several of last year's favourites received a hearty welcome. Mr. Glanmore Jones proved that his voice has lost none of its sweetness and power; Mr. H. T. Hughes has an admirable voice, and received well-merited encores; Miss Dora Baddeley was all that could be desired; the Three Martinettes, in their sketch *The Mad Music Master*, were the cause of uproarious laughter; while Jim Pullen is an excellent patter comedian. The Pavilion has been improved, and the comfort of its patrons carefully considered.

NORWICH.—**Theatre Royal.**—Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's No. 1 company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, is here this week, Mr. Will Brereton as Silas Crump is most mirth-provoking. Mr. Cecil W. Parke ably represents Harold Vivian, and Mr. Harry C. Ward does well as Capt. Edward Dudley. Mr. Frank Howard makes the most of the part of Featherstone Haugh, Mr. Walter Boyce scores as General Garston, and Mr. Alf Stretton deserves mention as Hawkins. Mr. W. George Hearson excels as Smith. Miss Norah Carrone is very good as Ruth Montrose, Miss Dorothy Desmonde charmingly enacts the part of Dorothy Montrose. Miss Nellie Harcourts's singing and dancing are appreciated. as Judith, whilst Miss Mabel Blake as Rosy Ann and Miss Lilly Blake as Polly respectively deserve praise. Miss Ada Coral gives a clever illusion dance.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is provided this week. Mr. Imro Fox is a most entertaining juggler; Mr. F. V. St. Clair, no stranger to Norwich, is successful in his patriotic songs; Gallando, the lightning sculptor, does some wonderful work in clay modelling; Zeta Grey and company are amusing in their sketch *The Lancashire Lass*; and the Revell Troupe evoke much laughter in their absurdity *Mischief*. Matt Wilkinson and his company create much fun in their comedy sketch *The Registry Office*; Harry Bickley, comedian, is successful; and George and Nelly Cosman deserve commendation for their singing and dancing. The Hippo-Bioscope gives some entertaining films.

Agricultural Hall Assembly Rooms.—Mr. W. F. Jury's Imperial Bioscope Company is here this week. The films are of varied character. Mr. James W. Horton and Musical Ritter (the "one-man band") contribute in no small measure to the success of the entertainment.

NOTTINGHAM.—**Theatre Royal.**—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—A return visit of *Lucky Durham* is welcomed here this week. The company touring under the auspices of Messrs. Armitage and Leigh is a very good one, and large houses nightly testify their appreciation of play and players. In the name part Mr. Edmund Kennedy displays great breadth and power, and is ably assisted by Miss Gertrude Robins, who, as Helen Vallerton, is entirely at ease, and looks and speaks the part admirably. Miss Francis Wolviston makes an excellent Lady Mountfallon, and great praise is due to Miss Florence Dulhunty for her portrayal of Meg. Mr. Arthur Leigh deserves congratulation on his rendering of the rôle of Reggie, and a capital Mountfallon is seen in Mr. Benson North. As Durham's mother, Miss Louise Gourlay has the necessary touch of pathos, and as Vallerton Mr. A. E. Walker is entirely successful. Mr. Campbell Goldsmid makes the most of his opportunities as Walcombe, and a good deal of amusement is got out of a small part by Mr. W. F. Clitherhow as the Jew moneylender.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—Mr. Wm. Greet sends a capital company with the ever-interesting play, *The Sign of the Cross*, the combination being headed by that excellent actor, Mr. William F. Grant. The rôle of Marcus is one that well fits Mr. Grant, whose resonant voice and clear enunciation give full effect to the character of the proud, licentious Prefect. He displays throughout a dignified force and dramatic intensity that compels the highest enthusiasm. Miss M. Leonhard invests Mercia with a simple grace and refinement that fully deserve the ready appreciation accorded her. Mr. J. Boyd Pearson effectively represents the cowardly Nero, Mr. Frank Wood brings out cleverly the humorous side of the wine-bibbing Glabrio, and Mr. Harry Jones does well as Philodemus. The execrable nature of Tigellinus is powerfully shown by Mr. Charles Aldred, and Mr. J. Wetherall excites repugnance as Licinius. The Empress is well impersonated by Miss Nellie Bonser, and attractive representations of Berenice and Dacia are given by Miss Alma Bolton and Miss Cissie Carlton. Miss Ivy Millais gives the requisite pathetic touch as Stephanus, and Miss Lillian Dacroy sings several songs in a pleasing manner.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—A drama, entitled *The Coward*, forms a great attraction this week, in which the celebrated salon duellist, Senorita Marda, displays her clever fencing. The cast also includes Miss Lillie Reed and Messrs. Percy Murray, H. Young, J. Authors, and Charles Frome. An excellent piccolo soloist is heard in May Moodie. The juggling of Francisco causes much delight, and the songs of Will Bacchus are deservedly rewarded. G. M. Schilling describes his experiences while walking round the world, and is accorded a hearty reception, and Miss Lena Penrose, Miss May Braden, Mr. Wm. Noble, and Mr. Chas. Bird present a capital comedietta, entitled *My Wife's Sister*. Will Lytton adds to the fun by his comic songs, and Raymond's Biotableaux show some new films.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The chief attraction here is T. E. Dunville. A very pretty turn is presented by the Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolese, whose singing and dancing are of considerable merit. Ian Colquhoun once more demonstrates his ability to render songs

as Nellie Hallett, and Miss Shaw as Jane Adelaide are all to be commended for meritorious work. Mr. Harry G. Wright makes an excellent accomplice to the chief villain of the play (Jim Price).

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—The following are here this week and submitting a capital programme—Chris Clark, Nance Liddell, the Lashmars Trio, Sandes and Vincent, George Loyd, Will Saunders, R. C. Macgill, and Patty Yole.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's famous company is here this week in *The Swiss Express*. The fun, which throughout the piece is fast and furious, is highly appreciated. Mr. Herbert Lewis as Dr. Gondimor Gull and Miss Jessica Ford as Virginia have some capital musical pantomimical comedy, and Messrs. Chas. and Frederick Renad are chiefly accountable for the success as Dr. Gull's eccentric servants. Mr. J. Carl Lyle causes some amusement at Rhino, and the various other parts are all in capable hands. The dancing and singing of the Edene Quartette are enthusiastically received.

PETERBOROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. Darville Vernon.—*Three Little Maids* made their first appearance here on Monday night. The piece is well performed by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. The maids are admirably played by Miss Vera Vallis, Miss Cora Lingard, and Miss Edith Colley; Miss Kate Graham Beck gives a capital impersonation of Lady St. Mallory; Miss Laura Wright is an excellent Gretchen; and Miss Grace Hardy, Miss G. Bruce, and Miss Mabel Sarl are well placed as Lady Rosemary Beaulieu, Venetia Grafton, and Lady Marjory Crichton respectively. Mr. Chas. Stephenson gives a good impersonation of Lord Cheyne, keeping the house in a continual titter; Mr. Wilfred Heath does well as M. de L'Orme; Mr. Chas. Leverton is successful as Rev. Mr. Branscombe; and Mr. Garnet Wilson is seen to advantage as Bryan Molyneaux.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Langdon Lee.—*Mr. Hopkinson*, as presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's company, is responsible for much hearty laughter. The title-rôle is filled by Mr. Edward Rigby, who plays the part of Mr. Newly Rich to perfection, the character being indirectly greatly assisted by contrast with the aristocratic bearing of Miss Blanche Stewart and Mr. Chas. Esdale as the Duchess and Duke of Braceborough respectively. Miss Helen Rupel makes a delightful society debutanté, and Messrs. Edward Vaughan (Lord Gawthorpe) and Geo. Desmond (the Hon. Otho Dursingham) furnish studiously correct versions of society "men about town." Miss Frances Davie as the lady's maid who wipes off old scores with Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Cecil Burt as the Earl of Addleton, and Mr. Harold Johnson as the family solicitor are responsible for some clever work in the last act. Tribute must be paid to the very excellent mounting of the piece. *Mr. Hopkinson* is preceded by a curtain-raiser entitled *The Impossible Trio*, the outstanding feature of which is a very cleverly executed violin solo by Miss Evelyn Tyser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—*The Mysteries of London* is being presented here. Mr. Edward Lloyd plays the dual part of Sam Conway and Philip Conway in a very creditable fashion, and Mr. Cecil Gray as Victor Gray gives a good melodramatic display. Other members of a hard-working company are Messrs. Richard Bosco, Tom G. Warren, Miss Lily Beverley, and Miss Irma Favington.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—A competent and well-balanced touring company (Mr. John A. Thomson's) is presenting an Easter pantomime *Dick Whittington and His Cat*. Miss Beatrice Varley is principal boy, and has a number of catchy songs; Miss Ella Willmer, a local favourite, wins the good graces of the audience as Alice Fitzwarren, and the comic element is well sustained by Messrs. Syd Morrell and Fred Anderson. There are a host of side attractions, amongst others the Sisters English, who are acomplished dancers, the Morillis, musical experts, and Mlle. Florence, the lady globe-walker.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Livermore; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Field.—Miss Ethel Arden's farcical sketch, entitled *Three of a Kind*, is the star turn this week, and thanks to the excellent work of the company presenting it, it creates excellent fun. Another very good number is that of the Northern Troupe of dancers, who secure well-deserved applause for some fine dancing; Tom Haig and Millie Novel earn tributes for a very funny acrobatic comedy act; Royal Best gives some clever impersonations of celebrities; and Agnes Molteno scores in a song-scena, entitled *The Daughter of the Regiment*. Others contributing are the Sisters Pine, and the Leonards. Vernon's pictures are also an attraction.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Miss Annie Bell and company are here in the play entitled *Sapho*. In the title-rôle Miss Bell arouses unbounded enthusiasm and admiration; Mr. Albert Simber's distinguished appearance greatly aids him in presenting a telling assumption of Jean Gaussin; Mr. G. Antley is good as the dissipated Césaire Le Fenat; Mr. Chas. M. Daly interprets Father Legrand in a really masterly manner; Mr. H. Langford makes the most of his opportunities as Eugene Flamant; Mr. Pringle Roberts leaves little to be desired as Caoudal; Mr. Lawrence Kingsley looks and acts well as Dechelette; Miss Florence Graham admirably portrays Machaume; little Miss Doris E. Graham's assumption of Joseph, a petted child, is clever.

PORTH.—POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—For the first three nights of the week Mr. George Dance's company appeared here in *The Orchid*. The Lady Violet Anstruther of Miss Constance Hamilton was really delightful, her singing, dancing, &c., being much appreciated; Miss Hilda Vining deserved compliments on her fine impersonation of Caroline; Miss Maude Jay was a great favourite as Josephine Zaccary; Miss Nancy Taylor scored a success as Zelie; and as the Countess Anstruther Miss Kitty Smythe gave a most creditable impersonation. Mr. Ion Maxwell was extremely successful as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour; Mr. W. Garland admirably portrayed the impecunious Dr. Roland Faussett; Mr. Berwick did some clever acrobatic dancing as Zaccary; and Mr. Colin Campbell was irresistibly funny as Meakin. Miss Clara Beck made an excellent Thisbe. On Thursday, *Under the Czar* occupied the boards here.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell. — The comic opera *Peggy Machree* is being presented here this week by Mr. Charles E. Hamilton's company. Miss Claudia Lasell, in the rôle of Peggy, was delightfully piquant and charming, her singing being greatly admired; the part of Molly was admirably taken by Miss Blanche Astley, who sang her numbers very sweetly; Miss Madge Avery did extremely well as Moria Cafferty; Mme. de la Cour and the Hon. Emily Pryor were effectively rendered by Miss Doris Kelvey and Miss Dorothy Garden; Mr. Vernon Davidson made a clever and manly Barry Trevor; Alexander M'Dougall was well portrayed by Mr. Milroy Cooper; the Michael of Mr. Dan Fitzgerald was a piece of capital character-acting; Mr. John Morley was excellent as Sergeant Bampton; and Messrs. Ralph Lynn and Marc Macdermott were well placed as Sir Lawrence Borthwick and Captain de la Cour.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company are here for the week with the sensational drama *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. T. A. Jones gives a convincing and powerful impersonation as Captain Harold Marston; Mr. Oswald Douglas acts with great force and energy as Doctor Colbrooke, whose confederates are well personated by Messrs. Robert Sawin and Clem Harlock, as Kimberley Coutts and the Rev. Edward Grey; Mr. Charles Sewell is decidedly good in the part of Ernie Woodstone; Miss Marie Daventry as Doreen Rivers, plays sympathetically and with charming dignity; Miss Marv Ainslie is very winsome as Fay Colebrooke. The lighter side of the drama is well sustained by Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner, Miss Sarah Dudley as Bess Grayson, and Mr. Bertram See as Martin, an old salt.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt. —Topping the bill here this week is Arthur Lennard, the popular actor-vocalist, who is in fine form; Casselli and James hold the house with their very fine banjo playing; Morimura, Japanese illusionist, is most expert and neat in his manipulations; Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, is much applauded; the Three Delaries, with their gymnastic speciality, "The Demon Grotto," are clever; Tennyson and Wallis are a pair of exceedingly humorous artists. Also contributing successfully are the Sisters Wingrove, duettists and dancers; the Elvio Trio, comedy sketch artists; and Winnie Travers, soubrette; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope with excellent pictures.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—On the first three nights of this week Mr. Norman V. Norman and his company, including Miss Beatrice Wilson, filled a welcome return engagement here. *The Adventures of Lady Ursula* was presented on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Norman's exceptionally fine stage presence and dignified manner admirably fitted him for the rôle of Sir George Sylvester, which he sustained with distinct success. Mr. Dennis Cleugh gave an excellent impersonation of the Earl of Hassendean; the Rev. Mr. Blincoe was quaintly depicted by Mr. Francis Hope; Mr. Dent had a representative of notable ability in Mr. Brember Wills; Mr. D. Murray was quite satisfactory as Quilton, and Mr. Norman Leslie, Mr. Alex. Cassy, Mr. Chas. Casson Freer, and Mr. Chris Curtis as the officers of His Majesty's Guards commendably filled their respective parts. Mrs. Fenton was effectively delineated by Miss Hilda Gregory; Miss Sybil Ruskin made an attractive and vivacious Dorothy Fenton, and much praise is due to Miss Beatrice Wilson for her clever and winsome portrayal of Lady Ursula. *David Garrick*, with Mr. Norman in the title-rôle, formed the attraction on Wednesday evening. During the remainder of the week the theatre was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal on a return visit. The plays announced were *The Housekeeper*, *A Scrap of Paper*, and *The Ironmaster*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Cliff Ryland heads the bill here this week, and scores a success with his songs and patter. Ernesto is a brilliant juggler and musical equilibrist; Miss Fanny Robina and Florrie Cooper gain a cordial reception for their vocal contributions; the songs of Billy Bint also are received with much favour; the Dagodets, musical comedians, win loud applause; the Four Charles appear in a remarkably clever acrobatic act, and *Casey's Court*, on a return visit, is a popular attraction. "A Trip to Oxo Land" depicted on the Bioscope completes an excellent programme.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Mr. Gerald Hunt's varieties have been paying a return visit this week. By means of the biograph incidents of topical, dramatic, and humorous interest are given. Mme. Renee, lady equilibrist, has made a successful bid for popularity; Mr. Roy Beavis conjures with marked dexterity; and Frank Sterling and Minnie Cashen contribute clever turns to an excellent entertainment.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—Mr. Frank Bertram's fine company presented Mr. John Rutherford's delightful romantic drama, *The Breed of the Treshams* here on Monday. As Lieutenant Beresby, "the Rat," Mr. Henry Belding gave a clever and powerful impersonation; the part of Colonel Hungerford was ably sustained by Mr. Hamilton Deane; and Mr. Oswald Lingard's portrayal of Viscount Dorsington was also a satisfactory performance. Mr. Cecil Klein was successful as Francis Tresham, making the most of his part; Mr. George Trill was effective as Sir Henry Curwen; and Mr. Wilson Blake filled the rôle of Rashleigh in a capable manner. Miss Florence Tresilian gave a charming portrayal of Margaret Hungerford, her acting being delightful in its sweetness and refinement; and Miss Celestine Bertram was a clever Batty, the faithful boy companion of the Rat.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Herbert Hollister's company is appearing this week in *The Lights o' London*. Mr. J. Edward Pearce gives an excellent rendering of Harold Armytage; Miss Jeannie Burgoyne acts effectively as Bess; Mr. George Wallace is highly amusing as Philosopher Jack; and Mr. W. E. Passmore as Jarvis, Miss Violet Temple as Mrs. Jarvis, and Miss Gladys Murray as Shakspeare Jarvis represent the Thespian family characteristically. Mr. F. Dalton as Jim, Mr. Herbert Morgan as Squire Armytage, Mr. Riddell Robinson as Clifford Armytage, Mr. Herbert Hollister as Seth Preene, and Miss Constance Daney as Hetty Preene are all worthy of special notice.

BAKER'S HIPPODROME.—Caban, with his clever troupe of ponies, donkeys, and dogs, is the leading attraction this week. Business continues very satisfactory.

ROCHDALE. — NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. — *The Little Breadwinner* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. J. A. Campbell does well as Lord William Dorrington; Mr. David Gordon portrays with power the part of Richard Lawrence; the unscrupulous Joseph Prior has a clever exponent in Mr. Scott Leighton; and Mr. Allen Charles acts well as Charles Prior. Miss Maud Hastings enlists the sympathy of the audience as Margaret Daventry; Miss Maud Buchanan cleverly enacts the part of Kate Cherry; and little Emmie Thomas has much to do with the success of the play as Little Megg.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee.—The Mohamed Ben Mohamed Troupe of Arab Tumblers perform some extraordinary feats of tumbling; Ryan and Hall are a pair of amusing acrobats. The Elgars in an operatic scena; Witty Will White, comedian; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley, society entertainers; Master Ralph Moore, the boy "Patti"; Clifton Hall, baritone vocalist; and Vernor's Bioscope complete a capital programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Hanvarr and Anna Lee give a really clever exhibition of juggling, combined with a humorous and clever acrobatic display. Jennie Johns is a charming soubrette. Other good turns include Charles Chard, comedian; Frances Haskoll, illustrated vocalist; Barton and Franklin, Scotch musicians; Dave McNeil, comedian; Annie Casey, comedienne; and the Empire Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Messrs. Dottridge, Logden, and Livesey's company is here this week with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey as John Strong gives a finished portrayal of the title-rôle; Miss Bertha Hanbury is a capital Harry Strong; Mr. Joseph Carter is seen to advantage as Captain Leo, being ably seconded by Mr. Edwin Maydew as Lucas Marlow; Mr. George Wilton scores as St. John Harman; and Mr. Thomas Marshall is humorous as Jeremiah Parkins. Miss Edith Giddens is amusing as Martha Mopps; Mrs. T C. Livesey gives a natural rendition of the part of Sal Parkins; Miss Carrie Edwards is deserving of mention as Ruth Parkins; and Miss Laura Walker is very pleasing and sympathetic as Kate Strong. The wrestling contest is the cause of great excitement.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Rugby Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakespearean company is here this week, and opened on Monday with *Hamlet*. As the Prince, Mr. Maclaren proved himself to be an actor of exceptional talent, and his efforts were successful in every way; Miss Gertrude Gilbert was an admirable Ophelia; Mr. Aubrey Miller as the King was very good; and Miss F. Glossop Harris as the Queen met with well-deserved applause. *David Garrick*, *Othello*, *As You Like It*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Three Musketeers* were also in the week's programme.

RUNCORN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Caddick.—Pantomime is the attraction here this week, Messrs. Levaine and Clayton providing the fare with *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Jessie Lindsay is a pronounced success in every way as Robin Hood, and she is ably seconded by Miss Lizzie Levaine as Maid Marion. Miss Florry Anderson comes in for a fair share of attention as Allan-a-Dale, as does also Miss Gertrude Bingham as Helen. The Misses Lily Belle and Madge Bingham as the Babes are an exceedingly clever juvenile couple. The comic characters are safely entrusted to Messrs. Will Thorne and Eddie Clay as Flip and Flop, and Messrs. Fred Fosco and Dave Anderson as Weary Willie and Tired Tim. Mr. Alf Vulo also keeps the merriment in full swing as Berlinda. The specialities are the Valmores, mace spinners and sand dancers; Percy Victor's Dog Orchestra; and the Ruby Quartette of Lady Dancers.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Fight for Millions*, by Malcolm Douglas, which has previously found favour with the patrons of this house, commenced on Monday a week's visit under Mr. Robert Perris, who, as Tom Manley, is successful in portraying the hero. The heroine, Pearl Rivers, is charmingly sustained by Miss Eva Purcell. The shady side of the play is well led by Mr. P. Ballard as Richard Dudley, who is assisted by two comical characters in Willie Neverwork and Solomon Moses, amusingly presented by Mr. L. Fred Tenaur and Mr. Karl H. Edwards. Miss E. C.Turner works well as the deserted wife Helen Dudley. Miss A. Canning as Mrs. Hudson Rivers, Miss A. Sutherland as Little Madge, Miss Lottie Pearce as Betty and May Brady, Mr. P. George Beresford as Hudson Rivers, and the other members of the company give adequate support. An illustrated song by Mr. Perris in the second act goes well, and the many exciting incidents include an escape in the submarine boat at the bottom of the Hudson river.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Florrie Forde gets much applause for her songs, a smart barrel act is given by Augustin and Hartley, much laughter is caused by the Lorrisons in their eccentric act, Princess Pauline contributes some acceptable songs, Fred Lloyd and company, in the sketch, *The Blind Spinster*, are well received, and Rose Tilley, versatile artist; Read and Wright, expert top boot dancers; Mamie Iris, comedienne, and Fred Dunstone, character comedian, also give interesting items.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Madge Gray, comedienne, heads an excellent and well varied programme, delighting large audiences with her clever impersonations. A musical comedy sketch, *A Broken Journey*, by Hallam and Stanton (Henry and Josephine) gives much pleasure. The Andreassons, in sport on board ship, are amusing, and the other items include McCann (roller skate dancer), Bert Kemp (lightning cartoonist), Grapho and Jackson in a quick change act, Lily Gaston (top boot dancer), Arleys (eccentric comedians), Pueblo and Cropp (creole speciality artists), and Gilroy and Gross (sand dancers).

SCARBOROUGH. — PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman. —A leading feature in this week's programme is Rita and Roma, vaudeville entertainers, who give a capital turn, the lady doing some excellent contortional work. Linton in his cable act seems to have obtained perfection in wire-walking; Dene and Dawson in a sketch entitled *Stage Aspirants* are seen to advantage in an ingenious act; Fred Cashburn pleases the audience with his comic songs; Renson and Waite give a droll and humorous turn; Charles Cardle, on a welcome return visit, sings "Love's Serenade" excellently; Harry Barclay, comedian, maintains his popularity; A. Nightingale, an extra turn, has also made a big hit; and the Imperial Bioscope produces some very effective pictures, including "Life in St. Petersburg."

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Sarony and Co.; Lessee, Mr. George Zalra.—Billy, the talking pony, tops the bill this week. The Avolos give a unique and novel performance on six perpendicular poles; Carlynn is an ingenious and clever mimic; Mlle. Zelda gives an interesting musical turn; and the pictures include "The Prince and Princess of Wales in India."

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and J E. Cardwell's Grand Juvenile Pantomime company is paying a welcome return visit here with *Beauty and the Beast*. Miss May Gibson does excellently as Silver Star, her singing in several pretty numbers being much appreciated. Miss Kitty Thewitt presents a dashing and vivacious Prince Charming; Miss Mona Townshend does well as Will Scarlet; Miss Isa Gibson as Maid Marion, and Miss Daisy Fielder as Tommy Tucker, are both capable in their respective parts; Master Will Kay makes a comic little Baron Mumps, his two "elderly ugly daughters" being smartly depicted by Masters Fred Bentley and Fred Ellis; Miss Gladys Skipp is an acceptable Marjory Daw, and Master Will Orston does full justice to the Beast. Master Paddy Mills and Master J. Harrison are as funny as ever as Flip and Flop; and Miss D. Dodds pleases everybody by her rendition of Beauty.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*The Drama of Life* is the attraction this week, the play being well presented by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. Mr. George M. Newall's portrayal of Harry Beech stands out prominently; Walter Beech is cleverly sketched by Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; an original piece of comedy is submitted by Mr. Harwood Roberts as Sir Dobson Wilde; Jack Lawton is humorously drawn by Mr. Maxwell Payne; Richard Brenton is cleverly presented by Mr. Walter Steele; Mr. Edward Van Biene is a capable Count de Loix; Sylvia is played with much charm by Miss Kate Hallam; Lady Jane Wilde receives refined treatment at the hands of Miss Florence French; and Betty affords Miss Nellie Birchenough plenty of scope for her capabilities. Master Robert is well sketched by Miss Marie Pardy.

SHEERNESS.—THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.—There is an excellent entertainment submitted here for this week. Allsopp and Beckwith in their burlesque act *I'm Coming Upstairs* meet with an enthusiastic reception; Hans and Lux, patter comedians, are entertaining; a much-appreciated turn is submitted by Tyrola, Swiss mountaineer vocalist; Edna Thelma is a pleasing comedienne; Harry Meir in "A Bit of Everything" and Tom Lowen, eccentric comedian, also score; and Mr. Cliff Harley, billed as the electric automaton, is also very praiseworthy. The pictures by Ruffell's Bioscope are exceptionally good.

THE PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Phil Reymond. — A first-rate company occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Ted Ramsey is a clever comedian and dancer; Miss Jennie Mellor wins loud applause for her well-rendered songs and ballads; Mr. Fred Donald causes roars of laughter with his funny songs; Miss Marie Lester is in excellent form, her songs and business betoken the true artist; Mr. Alec Thomas (deputy for Harry Tomlin), black-faced comedian, is going great guns; and that clever and versatile pair, the Summersons, as usual, score immensely with their laughable comedy act, *A Gay Deceiver*. Altogether, the Palace is well worth a visit this week.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The visit of *The Little Michus* to Sheffield's premier theatre has been eagerly anticipated by lovers of dainty and melodious entertainment, and there was consequently a large audience present on Monday to welcome Mr. George Edwardes' company. Some big local favourites are in the cast, notably Mr. Eric Thorne, who was cordially greeted. The clever comedian was well suited in the rôle of General Dessiffs. Mr. Jack Cannot also scored a big success as Ragnolet, the honest servitor; and Mr. Arthur Boyd sang and acted in the true romantic way as the dashing lover. Mr. Eardley Turner acted, sang, and danced with his accustomed drollery and sense of humour as M. Michus, Mr. Leonard Mackay kept the fun going as a shop-assistant, and Mr. Willie Warde, jun., was also good in a character part. The ladies were all bright, pretty, and charming, Miss Iris Hoey as Blanche Marie and Miss Thelma Ray as Marie Blanche making a delightful picture as the daughters of M. Michus. Miss Elsie Cameron was a handsome Mme. Michus, and Miss Deborah Volar sang with sympathetic expression. There was a large and well-trained chorus, and the piece was staged in the artistic manner which is the hall-mark of all Mr. Geo. Edwardes' productions.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—The new management made an auspicious beginning on Monday with the dramatic version of "When It was Dark," entitled *Darkness*, played by Mr. Morton Powell's specially-selected company. Miss V. St. Lawrence acted with sustained power as Gertrude Hunt. Two strongly-drawn characters were Constantine Schwabe and Sir Robert Llewellyn, played respectively by Mr. H. K. Ayliff and Mr. Edward Valentine. Mr. T. A. Shannon was heartily applauded as the Rev. Basil Gortre; and others who did good work were Messrs E. H. Allen, H. J. Butler, Mrs. Morton Powell, and Miss Ethel Rainforth.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The old favourite, *The Grip of Iron*, is again being acted here. Mr. Fred Powell repeats his realistic impersonation of the strangler, Jagon, *alias* Simmonet. The part of Paul Blanchard is carefully represented by Mr. Harry Scott; the two detectives are amusing personages as depicted by Mr. John Brittain and Mr. Harry A. Lyons; the villainous Lorentz de Ribas is painted in bold colours by Mr. Stanley Bedwell; Miss Nellie Fletcher acts with much ability and emotional power as Mlle. Blanchard; and the heartless Cora Simmonet has a graceful representative in Miss Mildred Cottell.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The *pièce de résistance* this week is the protean melodramatic sketch, *Dick Turpin*, which is admirably enacted by the versatile artist, Mr. R. A. Roberts. The veteran comic vocalist, Mr. James Fawn, seems as funny and sprightly as ever, and he is the recipient of hearty applause. A special feature this week is a scene from "Martin Chuzzlewit," admirably given by those talented artists, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas. Mr. Fred Russell and Coster Joe, with new quips, keep the house convulsed with mirth; My Fancy brings down thunders of applause by her smart exposition of step and sand-dancing; Park's Eton Boys appear in a novel and refined entertainment; and other good turns are Mr. George Miller's company, in *The Lady Help*; the Sisters Jonghmann, the Sisters Julian, and the American Bioscope.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The principal item of the programme here is a clever sketch, in which that amusing comedian and old local pantomime favourite, Mr. Brien McCullough, appears, supported by a well-selected little company. Other artists engaged are the Darrell Trio, Miss Tiny Arnold, Leo Fallowfield, Miss Jenny Reeve, &c. The Pallister Biograph, with up-to-date pictures, is still a popular feature. The auditorium has recently been thoroughly cleaned and redecorated, and now presents a bright and cosy appearance.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company of players is here with *The Love that Women Desire*. Mr. G. C. Wallace appears successfully as Richard Abingdon; Mr. J. O. Stewart deals cleverly with the rôle of Squire Abingdon; Mr. D. G. Noble evokes admiration by his sturdy acting as Philip Carnaby; and Mr. Frank Fuller realises the part of the outcast, Frank Hardy, in an exceedingly creditable manner. Miss Lalla Stanhope displays the heroine's qualities in a pleasing manner; and Miss Alice N. Livesey does well in the part of Madge Abingdon.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Miss Katie Johnson's and Mr. Frank G. Bayly's society comedy, entitled, *Billy's Little Love Affair*, was presented with considerable success on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Miss Johnson is responsible for the exacting part of Wilhelmina Marr or "Billy," and pleases in a refined manner, and is admirably supported by Mr. Frank G. Bayly, who plays the rôle of Jack Frere in a manly and effective way, both artists gaining spontaneous applause. Sir Harry Harmon was well interpreted by Mr. W. Lemmon Warde, and Mr. Orlando Barnett as Jim Greaves displayed humour. Messrs. Reginald Maurice and Gerald Garden were suited as Mr. Munkittrick and Captain Becher respectively, whilst Hagson was embodied by Mr. Simon D. Ord. Mrs. Jim Greaves was ably represented by Miss Clara Nicholls, and Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere was capital as Lady Duncan.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—After a most successful winter season of roller skating, the popular lessee has resumed his summer entertainments, and large audiences are well satisfied with the excellent programmes submitted twice daily. The following artists contribute: Miss Georgie Morris, a pleasing comedienne; Mr. Eeisler James, society humorist; and Mr. Ballard Brown, whose baritone selections are immensely enjoyed. Professor Le Clair's troupe of performing dogs, of which the dog Spot evinces the heartiest of interest in his extraordinary dive from the roof of the building. The pictures on the American Bioscope shows "Our Navy on Sea" and "Our Army on Land," and are much enjoyed. Music is furnished by the celebrated Red Band, who services have been retained for the summer.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—*The Poor Must Live*, a play of the sensational type, presented by Geoffrey Fulton's company is attracting excellent houses here. Mr. Charles O'Connor excellently presents the dignified Earl Marswood; a prime favourite is Mr. Shaun Glenville, a comedian of no mean order; Mr. Herbert Clifton is seen to advantage; and the dual part of the Countess and Dorothy Murlock is admirably played by Miss Violet Hammersley.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. R. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—A charming musical scena, *In a Japanese Tea Garden*, is presented by Marie San Toi and her clever company, the singing and dancing being noticeable features. The Yankee girl, Daisy Meyer, is always welcome here, her sand dancing captivating the audience. Little George Bamlett, the boy wonder, scores heavily in two songs. It is interesting to notice that this prodigy, ten years of age, was discovered in Sunderland last week by Mr. Richard Thornton. George Tacius, the double-voiced vocalist is another popular item. James Stewart, tramp pianist, again stands out prominently; Frazer and Mac do well in a new musical comedy act. The remaining items are Herbert Shelley, actor-vocalist; Bert Byrne, comedian; Walter Stanley, comedian; and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—The Frantz troupe of acrobats, who head the bill, submit an exceedingly fine performance; Mephisto gives a capital contortionist act; the Sisters Russell, low comediennes, appear with success; a very funny comedian is Syd Herman in his scena, *The Hebrew Fugitive*; Edie Endon is a comedienne and acrobatic dancer of ability. Others are Harry Walker, patter comedian, and Walter Payne's Photo-Bioscope.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Mr. Gus Levaine's pantomime *Aladdin* opened here on Monday for the week. The specialities introduced include Leon and Leoni, in a clever musical turn; Ethardo, a juggler of ability; and Mr. Robert Williams, sword expert.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie.—*The Master Criminal* holds sway this week. Mr. Henry L. Osmond, in the title-rôle, finds ample opportunities for his histrionic abilities; Miss Winifred Chalmers, whose company is engaged for the production, acquits herself commendably; Mr. J. W. Gallagher, as Gentleman Jim, as a character comedian, must be complimented; and Miss Mabel Tremere and Mr. Harry Cooke appear successfully as music-hall artists.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader. — Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' company is appearing here this week in *The Golden Ladder*. As the Rev. Frank Thornhill, Mr. Harry Cullenford gives a manly and realistic impersonation of the rôle; Mr. J. Milne Taylor makes an exceedingly good Michael; Mr. Joseph Rowlands and Miss Nellie Graham are amusing as Mr. and Mrs. Peckaby. Other rôles are sustained by Messrs. G. Winsford, T. Lionel Ellis, and Miss Holly Haslewood.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Wilmott; Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—Heading the bill here this week we have Mr. Charles Morritt, an excellent illusionist. He also introduces "the blind man," who astonishes the audiences with his wonderful memory. Mr. George Garrick, an old favourite, scores as an eccentric comedian; the Brothers Adderley are meeting with success as duettists and dancers; Miss Rosie Archer has made a hit, her impersonations both of male and female stars being remarkably good; Keith and Merson are laughable in *The Meet*; Les Loubertos are successful in a comedy acrobatic sketch; and Brady, Johnston, and company evoke much hilarity in *Turning the Tables*.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company, presenting *Leah Kleschna* here this week, is one of exceptional merit. Mr. George Ingleton acts the part of Kleschna in masterful style, and Paul Sylvaine has an exceedingly clever representative in Mr. Percy Rhodes. As Schram Mr. Cyril Rawdon displays marked ability, and Harold Weston acts effectively as Raoul Berton. A most accomplished actress is Miss Pearla Goodwin, whose portrayal of Leah Kleschna commands much appreciation. The play is admirably staged.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mlle. Lumiere, assisted by Mr. D. J. Birteno, is the chief attraction here this week in the pleasing electric spectacle "The Fairy Grotto"; Gilbert's troupe of performing dogs and cats are most entertaining; and Elton and Elma are clever and amusing in their knockabout triple bar act; Fred Cary, comedian, is genuinely funny; and the Lannons are expert clog dancers. The Sisters Cora, duettists, are highly successful; and Vera Mayne, comedienne, is pleasingly greeted; whilst the Three Bros. Hunter are marvellous acrobatic performers. The proceeds of both performances on Thursday were devoted to the benefit of the wife and family of Denis McNamee, who was condemned to death for the murder of his daughter, aged two years, but who has just been reprieved by the Home Secretary.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — THEATRE ROYAL. — *The Manxman* has been enthusiastically received at this house. Mr. Alfred E. Cross appears in the rôle of Pete, and Miss Minnie Watersford in that of Kate Cregeen. The other artists in prominent parts are well chosen.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Herbert Lloyd heads the bill this week, and causes roars of laughter. The Les Valdos, with their motor-bus skit and tumbling fe

Kerno (coon impersonator), the Four Trees (vocalists), and Zarmo (the "uncommon" juggler), complete a first-class programme.

STOURBRIDGE.—Alhambra Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company opened a three nights' engagement on Monday in *The Christian*. Miss Grace Muriette as Glory Quayle gave a praiseworthy portrayal; and Mr. J. Rawson Buckley as the Hon. John Storm was excellent. Mr. P. Gedge Twyman as Horatio Drake was convincing; and Mr. Duncan Yarrow as Horatio Drake proved a capable actor. Mr. Anthony Rawles as the Faro King was very good; and Miss Violet Vivian as Mrs. Callander earned commendation. Mr. Colin Johnston was prominent as Archdeacon Wealthy; as was Mr. Harry Colbeck as Father Lamplugh, and Miss Florence Radcliffe as Polly Love.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Captain Clayton; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company was here on Monday and two following days with *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. J. Harold Carson caused much merriment; Mr. Frank Wilson as Michael Brue, and Mr. Fred Laceby as the Magistrate, were also good and clever; Mr. Albert James as Crookie Scrubbs presented a humorous character-study; Miss Raydon Dallas was a charming Lady Bickenhall; Miss Gertrude Fawcett played Aurora Brue in winning style. On Thursday and Friday, Mr. W. A. Armour's company, in *What a Woman Did*, made a welcome return visit.

SWINDON.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Monday last being Old Swindon Fair day, it was not surprising to see the popular parts of this playhouse crowded with an enthusiastic audience to welcome the Irish musical drama, *The Wearin' o' the Green*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. C. Mackey's company. The company is a capable one, the outstanding feature being Mr. Chalmers Mackey's excellent work as Barney O'Hea. He is cleverly supported by Miss Nana Flensberg, who appears successfully as Biddy McGinn. Both became popular at once, with their fun, songs, and dances. Mr. Charles Homer does well as Shamus McDermott; the part of Nora McGrath is effectively and naturally undertaken by Mrs. Chalmers Mackey; and equally successful is the Gerald Courtney of Mr. St. John Stuart. Miss Adele Linden, Messrs. D. McFarlane, and H. Sainsbury should all be complimented on their work.

TON-Y-PANDY. — Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—Mr. F. E. Burdett's company is presenting here a new version of *The Indian Mutiny*. It is well mounted and staged, and has ample justice done to it by a capable company. Lieutenant Manley is ably played by Mr. G. Steel; Mr Villiers Stanley proves a capable exponent of Nebu Singh, a native rebel; Miss Melrose Millett represents Ghuznah, a Brahmin priestess, in a highly-meritorious manner.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—There have been good houses each night for the first visit of Mr. Allan Wilkie's company, which is appearing in répertoire. On Monday *The Corsican Brothers* attracted an excellent house, and Mr. Allan Wilkie had a most cordial reception in his powerful assumption of the dual rôle, as did Miss Ivie Cameron, who enacted with dramatic intensity the part of Emilie de L'Esparre. Mr. George Lambton ably sustained the rôle of Château Renaud; and Messrs. J. Geig and J. Willoughby, as the heads of Corsican families, and Mr. Malcolm Tearle as Meynard, and Mr. Clifford Rean as the Baron Montgiron, gave powerful renderings of their respective parts. The other characters were in excellent hands, with Messrs. G. S. Simms, Alfred Grey, John Phelps, and R. S. Innes; and the Misses Dorothy Barrington and Barbara Pigot were sprightly ladies of the ballet. Miss Lizzie Maddocks as Madame dei Franchi also gave an excellent study. The piece was followed by *Robert Macaire*, in which Mr. Wilkie sustained the title-rôle, and Miss Cameron the part of Marie. On Tuesday *The Lady of Lyons* was produced, with Mr. Wilkie as Claude Melnotte and Miss Cameron as Pauline, and on Wednesday *The Sleigh Bells*.

WAKEFIELD.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company in the sensational drama, *The Face at the Window*, is here. Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale gives a powerful and effective rendering of the villain, Lucio Delgard; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe fills with marked success the rôle of the detective, Paul Gouffet; Mr. Alfred Warne does well as Henry de Brisson; Mr. Gilbert Hall is impressive as Lucian Cortier; and Mr. C. Alan Hineson is successful as Peter Pottleberry. The character of Marie de Brisson finds an able exponent in Miss W. Thorne Hallam, and Miss Gwynne Warren is bright as Babette.

Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Bouncing Dillons win applause with their clever gymnastic comedy act; Ted Waite, eccentric comedian, is responsible for much laughter; Shavo and Frank contribute a smart juggling performance; Fox and Melville, American song illustrators, merit applause; and other turns include Phedona in a pleasing musical act, Miss Lil O'Gorman (vocalist and dancer), Mr. Cade Burnett (actor-vocalist), and Palette (smoke painter).

WALSALL. — Her Majesty's Theatre of Varieties, Ltd. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—There is a well-varied programme here this week. The blind pianist, Mendel, the first on the list, proves a great attraction. Arabella Allen gives some clever impersonations from Charles Dickens' works; the Redferns, vocalists and dancers, are distinctly successful; Mason and Bart, gymnasts, give a pleasing turn; Ruby and Laws appear in a musical comedy sketch, *Cora's Dressing-room;* David Poole, ventriloquist, is good; La Berat, as the Mystic Fire Maiden, gives a startling performance; and the pictures shown by the American Bioscope are interesting.

Grand Theatre, Ltd. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood. — Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is here in *The Span of Life*, including the troupe of acrobats known as the Almo Trio.

WALTHAMSTOW. — King's Theatre. — A capital production of *The Shadows of a Great City*, by Mr. John Franklin's company, occupies the boards here this week, and is meeting with a fair measure of success. Mr. H. Howell Travis is a stalwart and forcible Tom Cooper; Mr. George Delaforce is a capital representative of the happy-go-lucky Jim Farren; a charming picture of Nelly is given by Miss Geraldine Verney; and Mrs. Colonna is an amusing Biddie Roonan. Other parts are adequately filled by Messrs. R. N. Davidson, E. Oakley, W. Bruce Scott, John Daly, James Seaman, Jaspar Edwards, and Thomas King.

WARRINGTON.—Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company in *Dr. Wake's Patient* is the attraction here this week. Miss Olive Terry gives due prominence to the rôle of Lady Girania, playing with delicate finish and artistic restraint; Miss Amy Fanchette is excellent as the homely Mrs. Wake, and Miss Lucy Beaumont makes much of the garrulous Mrs. Murdock; Miss Beatrice Webb as Harriet Bronson gives a light and cheerful embodiment of the part; Miss Ina Pelly makes the Countess of St. Olbyn a dignified and aristocratic personage, and Miss Amy Townsend is effective as the Gipsy; Miss Dorothy Gordon is well cast as Janifer. Mr. Hubert Ross scores as the eccentric love-sick swell, Duff Wynterton, and Mr. Douglas Vigors as Dr. Forrester Wake plays in convincing yet easy style; Mr. Cecil Yapp is clever as the Bishop of Selby, and Mr. Arthur Willoughby plays the Earl of St. Olbyn with taste and restraint. The elder Wake is presented in sturdy fashion by Mr. Alfred Wellesley, and Mr. H. L. Dolree is droll as the vacuous Mr. Murdoch.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—The Waldrons are again well received here this week, and the sketch *The Silly Burglar* nightly convulses the audience. The Sisters Terry are charming burlesque artists, and the Kimberley Boys are a clever pair of eccentric comedians; Kathleen Inez charms all with her singing, and Loudon Cameron is an expert conjuror; Bob Gardner has a voice of remarkable range, and F. S. Hulme scores with good songs.

WEDNESBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company is here in the Anglo-Russian drama, entitled *The Luck of Life*. Mr. Norman A. Overton is seen to advantage in the rôle of George Stanhope, and as Simon Stanley Mr. A. Leedham gives an effective rendering. Mr. Roland Yorke as Michael Bazilovitz, and Mr. Edwin Turner as Count Petroff both prove themselves capable artists. Mr. H. Hesslegrave does well as Bahadur. A capital study of Rene Bazilovitz is submitted by Miss Isabel Marte, and as the Countess Vlame Miss Gertrude Bonser is excellent. Miss Flo Russell is warmly applauded for her able embodiment of Vivienne D'Artois, whilst the part of Laura North is in the safe keeping of Miss Dora Huggett.

WEST BROMWICH. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's company opened here on Monday with a return visit of *La Poupée*. Mr. Fred Seymour appeared as Hilarius and kept the audience in the merriest of moods by his quaint humour and eccentricities; Miss Dot Stephens, who gave a charming impersonation of Alesia, won hearty applause for her artistic vocalisation and finished acting; Mr. William Everard was well suited as the bashful novice, Launcelot; Mr. Walter Balfour as Father Maxime, who was highly successful, gained repeated encores for his rendering of "A Jovial Monk," and Mr. Arthur Dennis's Loremois and Mr. Fuller Allen's Baron Chanterelle were cleverly played. Miss Edith Hunter's Madame Hilarius and Miss Doris Dickens's Henri were capitally enacted.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — Palace. — Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Dr. Walford Bodie is carrying all before him here. His operations in "Bloodless Surgery" upon patients are witnessed by crowded and enthusiastic houses. Others on the programme are J. G. Aitken, a comedian full of brisk fun; Signor Bandoni in a cleverly manipulated one-man band; Dolly Robson, child vocalist and dancer; Bert Hague, the singing pit lad; Bella Skene in scena; Helen Henri, operatic vocalist; and Norman Mills in a vocal scena.

Grand.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*The Female Swindler* is the attraction this week. Mr. Henry C. Cooper as the criminal investigator, John Coulson, has a part which he plays with realism; a fine portrayal of Lu Valroy is given by Miss Grace E. Leslie; Mr. Hugh Mewburn is quite at home in the heavy rôle of Captain Stanton; the character of Billy Binks is capitally played by Mr. Luke Forster; Mary Ann Mee is effectively presented by Miss Amy Maitland; Miss Florrie Kelsey plays the part of May Andrews in a manner worthy of all praise; and an earnest and commendable portraiture of Harold Travers is submitted by Mr. Paul Beckett.

WEST STANLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatres Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Messrs. Northway and Garrod's company in *The Prodigal Parson* is here this week. Mr. W. V. Garrod admirably fills the part of the Rev. Tom Godley. The rôle of Enoch Jaggins is faithfully portrayed by Mr. Alf. Northway; Ben Jaggins and Ned Kettlepin are well played by Mr. F. Dallas and Mr. Walter Vincent; Mr. E. W. Avery makes a creditable Phil Drive; Mr. Thomas Ashton is a capital Detective Markby. Miss Bertha Kingston scores as Fern Godley; Miss Gladys Conover interprets the part of the parson's blind child in a pleasing manner; Miss May Crayce is funny as Gretchen van Crane; the Radium Girls are neat dancers. Other parts are in the able hands of Mr. H. Fredericks, Mr. Edward Ashton, Miss Nancy Shore, Miss E. Vincent, and Miss Amy Shaw.

Victoria Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Raws; Managing-Director, Mr. D. Williams.—Messrs. Bandmann Palmer and company opened here on Monday with *Mary Queen of Scots*. Mrs. Bandmann Palmer played the title-rôle in excellent style. Mr. Montague Lane as the Earl of Leicester ably filled the part; the Earl of Shrewsbury and Lord Burleigh were well portrayed by Mr. Geo. Munroe and Mr. Syd. Bland; Mr. Leonard Lorraine, Mr. R. Pillard, and Mr. Matthew Boulton successfully represented the Earl of Kent, Sir Amius Paulet, and Sir Edward Mortimer; Mr. Vincent Lorraine was good as the officer of the guard; Sir A. Meville and Burgoyne were in the capable hands of Mr. N. Fenton and Mr. G. Fielding. Hannah Kennedy, Maragret Curl, and Gertrude were represented by Miss More Dunphie, Miss Ida A. Chapman, and Miss Adelaide Cecil; while Miss Katherine Herbert as Queen Elizabeth created a favourable impression.

WIDNES.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. James Kiddie.—This week a capital attraction is found here in Miss Florence Baines's company with *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. Miss Baines appears as the Lancashire lass Mary Ellen Thompson, and her clever delineation of a well-drawn character reveals her as a comedienne of exceptional merit. Mr. David Donaldson is a good John Higgins, and Mr. Patrick Evans lends capable support as Harry. Mr. Richard C. Hick is capital in the rôle of the somewhat amorous lawyer Fox. Mr. Will Casey portrays Grant cleverly. Mr. Payne Fletcher is responsible for some very humorous work as Thompson, while Mr. Allan M. Servington as Goldberg, and Mr. Chas. Reeve as Morgan also distinguish themselves by capable handling of their parts. Miss Jennie Hallworth is quite charming as the real Miss Lancashire, and Miss Mabelle Clinton as Bertha Joynson plays judiciously. Miss Pattie Groves registers a success in the character of Bridget Thompson.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival. —Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are appearing at this house this week. On Tuesday evening *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was staged. Mr. Edmund Tearle appeared as Sir John Falstaff, and gave an excellent impersonation; Mr. Bernhardt Turner submitted a vigorous portrayal of Master Ford; and Mr. V. O. Crabtree did well as Master Page. Miss Kate Clinton was admirable as Mistress Ford; Miss Mary Cleveland was capital as Mistress Page; and Miss Mary Campbell acquitted herself well as Mistress Quickly. Other parts were also well filled. During the week *The Three Musketeers, Othello, Julius Cæsar*, and *Richard III.* were also billed.

Empire Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—A special and unique attraction is provided here this week in Richard Sawade's tigers, dogs, polar bears, and lions, whose sensational performance is highly appreciated. Other attractions include Mabel Hind, "the little Japanese"; the Four M.P.'s in a musical entertainment; the Brothers Redmond, acrobats; Percy Harman Young, American baritone; Downes and Langford, comedians; Marion Scott, comedienne; and Daisy Alma, vocalist and dancer.

WORKINGTON. — Opera House. — Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday there was a large and appreciative house to witness *For Better or Worse*, presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company. Mr. G. E. Clive was manly and impressive as the hero, being capably partnered by Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Olive; Mr. C. A. Grant was satisfactory as the villain; Mr. H. C. Lovell as Hector proved amusing; Mr. Willie Black was seen to advantage, his songs being entertaining; Miss Amy Vennimore was excellent as Belle; Miss Annie Lovell did well in the part of Dollie; Miss Eva Reed scored as Melinda; and Miss Leslie Cudd as the Aunt played with ability. The piece was well mounted.

YORK.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Rogues of the Turf*, played by a company this week under the skilful guidance of Mr. J. F. Preston, is being well received here. Mr. Preston, a genial Joe Flaxman, plays a popular rôle excellently; Miss Madge Nelson as Nellie gives a fresh and charming portrayal; Mr. Herbert Woodin does well as Sam, and as the arch-traitress Miss Hilda Shirley is excellent.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Brooke.—The Spanish Goldinis give a really novel and interesting show this week, the performance of the juvenile members of the troupe being warmly applauded. The Norman and Leonard Trio are also artistic and amusing; Nelson Hardy gives a clever ventriloquial performance; Cribb and Cribb are most amusing, and the witticisms of Aleck Kendal are heartily enjoyed; Abdullah's twelve Arabs give a most exciting exhibition, and Miss Lucretia and Chriss Cross are up to date both in song and dance.

NOTICE. — Provincial Correspondents are requested to send in copy next week to reach us not later than Wednesday morning.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The balance sheet of the Dramatic and Musical Fund has at last been published, and a copy will be found in another column. It is announced that members of the late fund may obtain a copy of the balance sheet on applying to Mr. Grame, Mr. Edward Terry's manager, at Terry's Theatre. There is a residue of £55 2s. 5d., which it is expectcd will be distributed among the six societies benefiting from the previous distribution of a portion of these funds.

It is difficult to compare the statement now published with the statement sent to the Registrar on the dissolution of the fund; but in the latter statement the estimated balance, after paying the share alloted to the members, and subject to further expenditure on income, was £1302 16s. Of that sum £964 2s. 7d. was distributed among six societies, and £76 15s. 1d. to members in addition to the estimated sum, being an allowance for the period which elapsed from the date of the dissolution to the date of payment. These sums account for £1040 17s. 8d., leaving the sum of £261 9s. 10d., which apparently was required to liquidate the liabilities not covered by the sum set aside for that purpose, and included in the statement sent to the Registrar.

Considering that the members—only thirty-two in number—have received the huge sum of £1865 9s. 7d., one would assume that they are thoroughly satisfied; such, however, is not the fact in one or two cases, as communications have been addressed to Mr. Terry and Mr. Tree, suggesting that the £400 or £500 which has or will pass under the control of Mr. Tree, as president of the Benevolent Fund, which was administered by the officials of the late Musical and Dramatic Sick Fund, should be divided among the late members of the Sick Fund. Mr. Terry stated in a letter to the *Era* last August that neither he nor his cotrustee, Mr. Henry Neville, had any control over this sum, and that he had suggested to Mr. Tree that it should be divided among the six societies mentioned in the terms of the dissolution, a suggestion which will, no doubt, commend itself to all conversant with the work these societies are doing. It would be an advantage if Mr. Tree would make a public announcement of the decision on this point, although in April last he did inform the Heads of Departments' Association that their Association would receive a share of the sum named. This is the more desirable, as there is reason to believe that he has been favoured with a communication from a late member of the fund, in which statements at variance with the facts have been made in respect of the manner in which at least two of the societies benefiting from the distributions of the funds have treated the late members of the fund connected with the working staff.

An appeal is being made on behalf of Mr. William Lowe, a member of the Scenic Artists' Association, who has not been able to keep up his subscriptions. Mr. Elm-Lester, 8, New Compton-street, W.C., would be glad to hear from those willing to assist in this matter.

Those who desire tickets for the Heads of Departments' fourth annual dinner, to be given on Sunday evening at 7 o'clock, in the Georgian Hall, New Gaiety Restaurant, should apply without delay to the hon. secretary, Mr. G. H. Dyball, stage-manager, at the Tivoli. As already announced, Mr. H. B. Irving will preside. The toasts are "The King"; "Success to the Association," proposed by the chairman, Mr. James Cullen, president, responding for the Association; "Our Guests and the Profession," proposed by Mr. G. Poynton-Applebee, and responded to by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., and other gentlemen; "The Artist and the Committee," proposed by Mr. A. Earnshaw, and responded to by Mr. G. H. Dyball and others. Miss Ella Lorraine, Mr. Herbert Grover, Mr. F. W. Pedgrift, jun., and others will contribute to the musical programme. Mr. W. W. Arter, jun., will be the accompanist.

The weekly meeting of the Theatrical Sports Committee was held on Thursday evening at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. The following resolution was passed:—"That the balance derived from the 1906 sports be handed over to the Open Benevolent Fund under the control of the National Committee of the N.A.T.E., and that it be stated when applying for prizes or subscriptions to the prize fund that the balance will be available to assist *bond-fide* employees, male or female, connected with any theatre or music hall whose case is recommended to the committee of the N.A.T.E. by a subscribed to the Sports' Fund or any Association connected with the profession."

The qualifications for competitors were defined as follows:—"The sports are open to threatre managers, actors, and music hall and theatre employees. The term 'employee' to mean civilians employed in any stage department, musicians, attendants, and dressers, who have been engaged in any such capacity for at least thirteen complete weeks during the past twelve months."

The conditions under which championship trophies are to be competed for will be separately considered. It is suggested that such trophies shall be "perpetual" trophies, and that there shall be a maximum weight fixed for the teams entering the tug-of-war competition.

The General Theatrical Operatives' Sick and Benevolent Society will hold its monthly meeting on Sunday evening at the Freemasons' Arms, Long Acre, when the complaint made against the Society to Mr. Edward Terry with regard to the Society's treatment of the late working staff members of the Dramatic and Musical Fund will be considered. The officials express their indignation at the allegations of unfair treatment, which they declare have no foundation

At the Stoke Hippodrome the premier position is held by *A Coward's Revenge*, a sketch that is admirably portrayed, Mr. W. L. Lee's company being excellent. The Four Rosaires in their bar act are clever and amusing; the Arizona Troupe contribute an interesting club-swinging and tumbling turn; Miss Amy Anderson and company are seen in a sketch depicting *Life in the East-end of London*; Elsie Earle is a good comedienne; Will Percival dances admirably; Will Letters is a capital vocalist; and the Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

Mr. T. R. Nugent's No. 1 Company was at the Town Hall Assembly Rooms, Welshpool, on Monday with the drama *The Web of Fate*. Miss Maggie Gardiner made a good impression as the adventuress, Florence Damer; Miss Polly Smith as Mary Poppin was amusing, her songs being well received; Miss May Kemp was all that could be desired as Olive Veneer; Mr. T. R. Nugent made a capital study of Clement Burnie; Mr. James Fox was good as Sir Wm. Heath, and the same may be said of Messrs. Cameron and Daneville as Frank Damer and Vincent Heath. Mr. Charles Buxton's performance of Pippins Perkins caused considerable laughter.

Presentation.—Mr. J. E. Barnes, acting-manager at Prince's Theatre, Accrington, was last week the recipient of a handsome gold watch and chain and a gold-mounted umbrella, presented by the members of the staff and proprietors of the theatre. Mr. Barnes, who is a great favourite in the town, was spoken of in very high terms, and suitably responded.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London.

Mar. 2. *Die Kinder der Excellenz*, comedy, in four acts, by Ernst von Wolzogen and William Schumann (German Theatre)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 3. *Brigadier Gerard*, romantic comedy, in four acts, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle—Imperial.
" 5. *Parlez-vous Français?* comedy, in three acts, by Florence Warden—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 5. *United States*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Charles Hannan—Opera House, Crouch End.
" 7. *Paris and Œnone*, tragedy, in one act, by Laurence Binyon—Savoy.
" 7. *The Friend in the Garden*, play, in one act, by E. F. Benson—Savoy.
" 10. *The School for Husbands*, comedy, in four acts, by Stanislaus Stange (played for the first time in London) (Miss Jessie Millward's season)—Scala.
" 11. *The Vision*, a morality, by the Hon. Eleanour Norton—King's Hall, Covent Garden.
" 13. *A Judge's Memory*, play, in three acts, by Brandon Thomas—Terry's.
" 16. *Das Opferflamm*, farce, in three acts, by Oscar Walther and Leo Stein (German Theatre)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 19. *A Queen of Villainy*, drama, in four acts, by Ridgewood Barrie—Carlton, Greenwich.
" 19. *The Little Breadwinner*, drama, in four acts, by J. A. Campbell (originally produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, Dec. 11, 1905)—The Standard.
" 19. *The Beauty of Bath*, musical play, in two acts, by Seymour Hicks and Cosmo Hamilton, lyrics by Charles H. Taylor, music by Herbert E. Haines—Aldwych.
" 20. *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, romantic play, in three acts, by George Bernard Shaw (originally produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on May 12, 1902)—Court Theatre.
" 26. *A Woman's Past*, drama, in a prologue and four acts, by H. F. Housden (originally produced at the Metropole Theatre, Devonport, Jan. 19, 1906)—Carlton Theatre, Greenwich.
" 30. *Hasemann's Töchter*, comedy in four acts, by Adolph L'Arronge (German Theatre)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 31. *Mauricette*, play, in three acts, translated from André Picard's play *Jeunesse*, by H. B. Irving—Lyric.

Revivals

Mar. 9. *Maria Stuart*, tragedy, in five acts, by Schiller (German Theatre) — Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 11. *Ghosts*, play, by Henrik Ibsen—King's Hall, Covent Garden.
" 14. *A Pair of Spectacles*, adapted, by Sydney Grundy, from *Les Petites Oiseaux* (originally produced at the Garrick Theatre, Feb. 22, 1890) (Mr. John Hare's season)—Comedy.
" 14. *Afterthoughts*, episode, in one act, by Albert E. Drinkwater (originally produced on June 12, 1899, at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater; revived at the Coronet Theatre, on Nov. 22, 1905)—Comedy.
" 20. *Measure for Measure*, Shakespeare's comedy, in three acts, version prepared by Oscar Asche—Adelphi.
" 20. *The Heir-at-Law*, comedy, originally in five acts (produced at the Haymarket on July 15, 1797), compressed into three acts, and produced by Cyril Maude—Waldorf.
" 21. *The Candidate*, comedy, in three acts (adapted by Justin Huntly McCarthy from Alexandre Bisson's comedy, *Le Député de Bombignac*, and originally produced at the Criterion Theatre, on Nov. 22, 1884)—Wyndham's.
" 24. *The Man from Blankley's*, comedy, in three acts, by F. Anstey—Haymarket.
" 26. *The Hippolytus* of Euripides, translated into English rhymed verse by Gilbert Murray (originally produced at the Lyric Theatre on May 26, 1904)—Court Theatre.

Provinces.

Mar. 1. *Greysteel*, opera, in one act, composed by Nicholas Gatty—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
" 5. *The Hindustanee; or, Jones at Jonespore*, musical comedy burlesque, by A. F. Allen Tower and Leon Wood—Empire Theatre, Oxford.
" 8. *The Youngest of Three*, costume play, in four acts, by H. F. Maltby—Theatre Royal, Worthing.
" 12. *Darkness*, play, in four acts, founded on Guy Thorne's novel, "When It Was Dark," by S. Buchanan Rogerson—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
" 12. *The Hindoo's Revenge*, drama, in four acts, by S. Lewis-Ransom and H. A. Saintsbury—Victoria Theatre, Broughton.
" 12. *Conscience and Crime*, romantic drama, in four acts, by Alfred Stafford—Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.
" 20. *Ashes*, sketch, by John T. Stanfield and Miss M. E. Ward—Paisley Theatre.
" 23. *By Whose Hand?*, drama, in four acts, by Eugène Gotere—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
" 26. *A Heart's Desire*, romantic play, in a prologue and four acts—King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
" 31. *The Scottish Bluebells*, musical comedy, in two acts, book and lyrics by David James, music composed by Dr. Osmond Carr—Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

Berlin.

Mar. 2. *Der Vogel im Käfig*, five-act drama, by Stefan Grossmann—Schiller.
" 2. *Graf Essex*, tragedy, in five acts, by H. Laube—Luisen.
" 4. *Ein anderer Enoch Arden*, one-act grotesque by MM. Morrison and Sargent (matinée of the Dramatische Gesellschaft)—Kleines.
" 4. *Die Sirene*, one-act play, by K. von der Heydt—Kleines.
" 4. *Der Zenge*, one-act play, by G. Fellinger—Kleines.
" 4. *Die Retterin*, drama, in one act, by A. Nossig—Kleines.
" 10. *Antigone*, play, in four acts, by Sophecles, German by H. Vollmoeller—Kleines.
" 11. *Drei Schwestern*, four-act play, by Anton Tschechow (Moscow Artistic Theatre Co.'s season)—Berliner.
" 19. *Die von Hochsattel*, three-act farce, by MM. Stein and Heller—Lustspielhaus.
" 21. *Die Vier Grobiane*, comic opera, in three acts, by E. Wolf-Ferrari—Des Westens.
" 31. *Cæsar und Cleopatra*, historical comedy, in five acts, by Bernard Shaw—Neues.

Paris.

Mar. 1. *Le Bourgeon*, comedy, three acts, by Georges Feydeau—Vaudeville.
" 1. *L'Indiscrète*, comedy, one act, by M. Beauvallon—Vaudeville.
" 2. *Pour sa Patrie*, play, five acts, by the Marquis de Castellane—Ambigu.
" 5. *Sacha*, comedy, three acts, by Régine Martial—Gymnase.
" 5. *Le Cœur d'Angélique*, comedy, one act, by E. Guiraud—Gymnase.
" 6 *L'Irrésistible*, comedy, four acts, by A. Germain—Nouveautés.
" 9. *L'Attentat*, play, five acts, by Alfred Capus and L. Descaves—Gaité.
" 17. *Glatigny*, play, five acts and six tableaux, by Catulle Mendès—Odéon.
" 18. *Pécheresse*, comedy, four acts, by Jean Carol—Renaissance.
" 26. *L'Enfant Chérie*, comedy, four acts, by Romain Coolus—Gymnase.
" 26. *Le jeune homme d'en face*, vaudeville, three acts, by André Sylvane and Alfred Souvenière—Palais Royal.
" 27. *Aphrodite*, musical play, six tableaux, by Louis de Gramont, music by Camille Erlanger—Opéra Comique.
" 27. *L'Assiette au Beurre*, comedy, three acts, by Lée Marchès and Clément Vautel—Trianen.
" 30. *La Tourmente*, play, four acts, by Maurice Landay—Ambigu.

A NEW PLAY BY M. MAURICE DONNAY.

AN ATTACK ON SOCIETY.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Paraître, M. Maurice Donnay's new play produced at the Comédie-Française, deals with the ruling vice of contemporary society—the sacrifice of all considerations to "appearance." But if the author has painted a picture, he also has pointed a moral; and has ruthlessly applied the lash to the shoulders of those who only live for the "gallery."

In his interesting plot he has intertwined the history of an honest bourgeois household, the Margès, with that of a millionaire family, the Raidzells. The Margès family consist of the father, the mother, their son Paul, a politician, married to Christiane (a divorced woman, of whom he is madly fond), their daughter Juliette (a charming girl), and Mme. Deguingois, who, because her name begins with a De fancies herself of noble extraction. Jean Raidzell, a champagne grower, a millionaire, has met with an automobile accident. He has been brought to the villa of the Margès, where he has been carefully nursed, especially by Juliette. Jean falls in love with Juliette. He asks her to be his wife, and in the ensuing act they have been married three years. Jean is not a model husband. Flighty and unsteady, he listens with delight to the flatteries of the hairbrained society women who bow to the young millionaire. But a greater danger awaits him. Christiane has all along been jealous of Juliette's good fortune. She, too, would have liked to possess immense wealth, and a diabolical plan enters her head. She starts by making up to Jean; and winds up by giving him plainly to understand that he has but to lift his finger, and she will become his mistress. Paul Margès of course knows nothing of his wife's infidelity, and loves her as before. He is, however, grieved to see Christiane develop such a taste for excessive luxury. Mme. Margès, his mother, is also dissatisfied. Her old husband, carried away by the whirlwind of luxury raised by the Raidzells, has become fast, and spends his evenings in the company of cocottes. Christiane's plan is very simple. She wants Jean to divorce, and all her efforts tend in that direction. In the fourth tableau Christiane has left her husband in Paris engaged on his electioneering campaign, and she has come to stay with Jean and Juliette at their villa in Cannes. When the scene opens Christiane and Jean have had an interview, wherein the latter has promised to divorce his wife and make Christiane Mme. Raidzell. They have gone out together on a small errand when Paul arrives unexpectedly. He has been hooted at his meeting, and been told publicly that his wife is unfaithful to him with his friend Jean. The first person he meets at the villa is his sister Juliette, who, although knowing the intrigue between her husband and Christiane, is anxious to prevent a calamity, and, therefore, assures her brother that his suspicions are unfounded. Christiane enters, and goes up smilingly to kiss Juliette. But this is too much for the outraged wife, who violently repels her. Paul then rushes forward and questions his wife, who replies: "Yes, he is my lover." At that moment Jean comes in, whereupon Paul takes a revolver from his pocket and Jean falls dead. The play should have ended here, but M. Donnay made an interesting innovation by showing up the scene after the murder, or rather the effect the drama has had on the household. Paul regrets nothing, and, knowing that in a *crime passionel* a jury will acquit him, leaves the house to surrender himself to the police. His father, old Margès, is terror-stricken. Eugène Raidzell, Paul's brother, also a megalomaniac, becomes quite mad. And the Baron, the philosopher in the piece, remarks that men are wrong to take a life for a question of love.

Philosophical, satirical, violent, M. Donnay's play has the great merit of being always interesting and diverting, notwithstanding that it ends in a murder. Moreover, the dialogue is bright and witty, and, despite some of its defects, the piece will rank among the talented author's best productions.

The new work was excellently played by Mlle. Cerny, who made her début at the Comédie-Française, Mlle. Piérat, Mlle. Lecomte, Mme. Kolb; and MM. Grand, Paul Numa, Henry Mayer, and Sinlot.

"THE LADY BURGLAR."

To the Editor of the Era.

Sir,—I see by announcements in the Press that Mr. Charles Brookfield's one-act play, shortly to be produced at Terry's, is entitled *A Lady Burglar*. Perhaps my friend C. B. is not aware that I produced, about two years ago at the Tivoli, a one-act play, by Florence A. Smith, entitled *A Lady Burglar*, and am now negotiating for a reproduction of it at a West End theatre.—Yours truly, CECIL MORTON YORK.

London Hippodrome, March 30.

On Friday evening, at the Tamworth Assembly Rooms, Messrs. Addison Bright and Mr. Walter Maxwell's company appeared in *Merely Mary Ann*. Miss Margaret Fareleigh in the title-rôle achieved no little success. Mr. Harold Standing as Lancelot gave a capital impersonation of the young composer; Mr. J. Cranstown Nevill as Peter was amusing, whilst Mr. W. Collard as Herr Brahmson was a comedian of no mean order. Miss Ruth Hazlewood as Mrs. Leadbetter made a typical lodging-house keeper; Miss Pauline Emeric as Rosie was decidedly good, and Miss Margaret Hanson made an aristocratic countess.

The alterations at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, are going on apace, under the supervision of the new proprietor, Mr. B. Twitchen. The date of re-opening has not yet been arranged.

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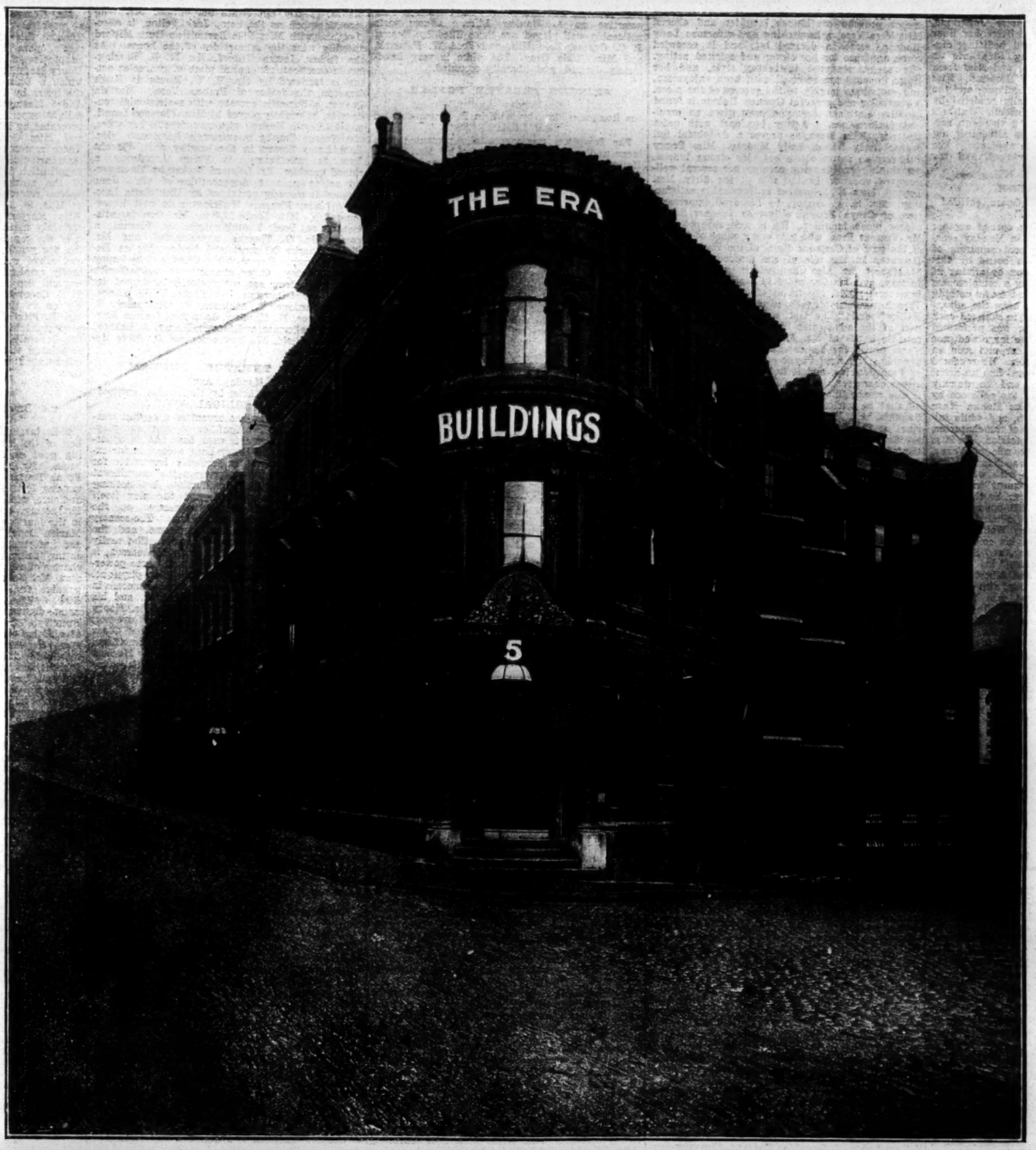

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 2,
the Play, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE.

As Mr. Mulholland's chatty "King's Kronikle" reminds us *A Royal Divorce* was originally produced fifteen years ago, and the present performance at the King's follows on a successful season at the Scala Theatre with all the elaborate scenery and dresses transferred therefrom, together with Mr. W. W. Kelly's talented company, including Miss Edith Cole. *A Royal Divorce*, which is practically the history of Napoleon from his alliance with the Austrian Princess Marie Louise, to his downfall at Waterloo and exile to St. Helena, is very interestingly told, and makes a stirring play. An excellent acting cast is provided. Mr. Frank Lister undertakes the rôle of Napoleon with immense success, displaying the necessary saturnity and belief in his destiny with masterly skill. An exceedingly clever portrait of Talleyrand is given by Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell; and a very praiseworthy rendering of the Marquis de Beaumont is presented by Mr. G. W. Cockburn. Mr. George Howard is distinctly good as General Augereau; and Mr. St. George Frere acts well as Marshal Murat, particularly where he upbraids Napoleon for his conduct towards Josephine. Mr. Frederick Powell is painstaking as Dr. Corvoisart; and Grimaud, the innkeeper, is amusingly played by Mr. T. P. Haynes. Brigadiers Antoine and Pierre are well represented by Mr. Edward Langford and Mr. Lorton Orme. Judiciously acted is the Lord Keith of Mr. Percy H. Vernon, and Mr. Edwin Sykes makes a typical sailor, Bob Royal. Miss Edith Cole, as the Empress Josephine, acts with marked ability, and delivers her lines with sympathetic earnestness and befitting dignity. A bright and fascinating Stéphanie de Beauharnais is Miss Clara Earle; and Miss Irma Foldi is a charming Blanche d'Hervas. Miss Violet Furnival is pleasing as Angelique; and the little King of Rome is delightfully rendered by Miss Violet Hollam. Miss Elizabeth Watson's performance of Marie Louise is a thorough success, her impressive acting in an altogether unsympathetic part commanding applause. The stage crowds are excellently managed, and the Waterloo tableaux vividly carried out.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 2, Wagner's Opera, entitled
"TANNHAUSER."

The Carl Rosa Opera Company opened another engagement at the Marlborough on Monday evening, to the great delight of local admirers of high-class music. The reputation borne by this well-known company has been won by aiming at a high artistic ideal as well as by a completeness of representation and staging that leave nothing to be desired. Opera-lovers, too, have the advantage of a wide choice, as the bill is changed each evening. On Monday *Tannhäuser* was performed to the complete satisfaction of the large audience assembled. In Herr Julius Walther was seen an admirable exponent of the title-rôle. He rendered the music in a manner that stamped him an artist possessed of exceptional gifts, and he quickly gained the favourable verdict of the audience by his masterly interpretation. Miss Hanna Mara appeared in the part of Elizabeth, and while fulfilling all the acting requirements of the character, also sang with much charm of expression. To Miss Grace Nichol was entrusted the rôle of Venus, and this accomplished vocalist was heard to the fullest advantage. The applause with which her singing was greeted was an eloquent tribute to her finished art. Mr. Frank Arthur, as the Landgrave, made the very most of his opportunities, and his fine voice was greatly admired. Mr. Charles Victor did good work as Wolfram; Mr. Edward Wynn was successful in his embodiment of Walther; and Biterolf, Reinmar, and Schreiber had satisfactory representatives in Messrs. Frederick Clendon, C. Brierley, and Albert Fenton. Miss Ina Hill, as the shepherd boy, also deserves mention. Mr. Eugene Goossens was the conductor, and discharged his duties with characteristic zeal, the orchestra and chorus contributing in no small degree to the success of the performance. Tuesday evening was devoted to *Carmen*, an opera that steadfastly maintains its pristine popularity. Mr. Edward Davies, as José, sang with earnestness and vigour; and Miss Doris Woodall, in the title-rôle, delighted the audience by her admirable work. Able support came from Miss Elizabeth Burgess as Micaela and Mr. Frank Arthur as Escamillo. Mr. Walter Van Noorden was the able conductor. *Faust* was the attraction on Wednesday evening, and *Fidelio* was presented at Thursday's matinée, with Miss Grace Nichol in the title-rôle, and Herr Julius Walther as Don Florestan. During the company's recent visit to Glasgow Beethoven's opera was performed no fewer than four times, so delighted were local audiences with this charming work. On Thursday night *Il Trovatore* was given; and on Friday Wagner's *Lohengrin*. Each of these performances attracted large audiences, and the wisdom of the management in making this important engagement was completely vindicated.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 2, the Drama, in Five Acts, adapted from Charles Dickens's novel by J. Comyns-Carr, entitled
"OLIVER TWIST."

An elaborate production of Dickens's celebrated story is being presented by Mr. J. Bannister-Howard here this week. The scenery is excellent, the many changes being effected without undue waiting. Mr. Stanley Drewitt gave a cleverly repulsive study of the Jew, Fagan, moving his audience powerfully in the last scene, and as the brutal cracksman, Bill Sikes, Mr. Wm. H. Kemble never once relaxed his deadly earnestness. Miss Edith A Laing was pathetic and restrained as the unfortunate Nancy, Miss Dorothy Marsdin made an interesting Oliver, and as Mrs. and Rose Maylie Miss Alice Maude and Miss Helen Clement were well suited. Fagin's pupils were characteristically represented, Mr. Charlie Clarke's Dodger being lifelike and grotesque, and the Charlie Bates of Mr. R. C. Hunter being a quaint study. In Mr. A. Klein's hands Barney, the spy, was a loathsome fellow enough. Mr. W. H. Rotherham, who doubled the parts of Mr. Grimwig and Monks, had a fine chance, of which he fully availed himself, his mannerisms in the former rôle and his capital acting in the latter being fully appreciated. Mr. Fred Penley made a kindly Mr. Brownlow, and Mr. Cyril Cattley carefully played the part of Harry Maylie. Mr. Edward Walsh, as Bumble, had all the importance which a parish appointment can bestow. The theatre will be closed to-day on account of the visit of the Salvation Army.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 2,
the Play, entitled
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

Once again we have Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow at this theatre, and their admirers in the neighbourhood are giving them a capital reception. They are again appearing in Mr. E. Felsner's adaptation of Ouida's famous novel, "Under Two Flags," which has lost none of its powers of attraction. It is a fairly strong play, plentifully interspersed with comedy and song and dance. Miss Ida Molesworth of course reappears as the vivandière Cigarette, and repeats her fine rendering of the character, which she handles in an able manner, showing great vivacity in the lighter, and touching a deeper note in the more pathetic scenes. Mr. Mark Blow presents Bertie Royellieu in his accustomed clever style. He cuts a fine figure in his uniform, and acts with dignity and restraint. Barklie Royellieu is carefully played by Mr. Theodore Hill, who makes full use of his opportunities. Mr. Fred Halliwell does well as Lord Rockingham; Lord Royellieu is capitally portrayed by Mr. Charles Brooke; Mr. Walter Rousby as Rake, the faithful valet, is altogether excellent; Mr. Sydney Richards is seen to advantage as Captain de Chaurellon; and Mr. Charles D. Pitt, who once again assumes the rôle of Colonel Chateauroy, repeats his forcible rendering of the character. Miss Mabel Ormonde is imposing and graceful as the Princess Venetia, and Lady Beatrice is charmingly played by Miss Lucy Carr. Miss Daisy Carlton is a very bright Lavinia, meeting with success in her song and dance. Mr. Fred Rolls extracts much humour out of Baroni, the money-lender. The various other parts are capably filled. The play is capitally staged under Mr. Charles Brookes' management, and Cigarette's ride over the Pass is cleverly done. The play is preceded by an amusing trifle entitled *Aunt Rebecca*, in which Mr. Mark Blow and Miss Ada Palmer are both very diverting. Mr. George F. Ford is to be complimented on the excellence of his orchestra at the present time.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 2,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Paul Rubens, entitled
"LADY MADCAP."

This popular and diverting musical comedy is proving a great attraction at the Shakespeare this week, and Mr. George Dance's principal company is being received with great enthusiasm. The play, excellently interpreted, goes with a swing from start to finish, and the witty lines and amusing scenes provoke continuous laughter and cheers. Miss Vera Vere, a bewitching and vivacious Lady Madcap, scores a decided hit, and is accorded much applause for her clever and spirited acting. Her songs, rendered in taking style, and her clever dancing are received with keen enjoyment, and contribute largely to the success of the piece. A charming and graceful Gwenny Holden is found in Miss Kathleen Ronayne, who gives an excellent performance. Acting her part with quiet sincerity, Miss Ronayne proves a delightful foil to her lively friend, Lady Madcap. Miss Peggy Primrose as Susan comes out very strong indeed, her singing and dancing earning her several well-deserved encores. In the rôle of the flirty Mrs. Layton Miss M. Johnstone is thoroughly satisfactory. Mr. H. V. Surrey, by his droll impersonation of Oroya Brown, otherwise Trooper Smith, causes much laughter. He is well supported by Mr. Vincent Erne, who gets every ounce of fun out of the part of Corporal Ham, of the East Anglian Hussars. In the rôle of the amorous Count De St. Hubert Mr. Alec Chantrens is eminently satisfactory, and his fine voice is heard to advantage in several songs, the tit-bit of the evening being French versions of such popular songs as "Bill Bailey" and "The Old Bull and Bush." The part of the adventurer Stony Stratford is in the capable hands of Mr. Bay Russell, who deserves warm praise for his excellent singing and clever dancing. Mr. Fred Payne causes much merriment as Posh Jenkins, and is to be congratulated for a clever character sketch. Mr. Louis du Cane, who is also responsible for the stage management, does all that is possible with the part of Lord Framlingham, and Mr. Lyall Grant is thoroughly efficient as Colonel Layton. Mr. Frederick C. Leister as Major Blatherswaite, Mr. Robert Cranny as Captain Harrington, and Mr. E. Whitelock as Lieutenant Somerset, all of the East Anglian Hussars, are excellent in their respective rôles. Amongst others giving good support mention may be made of Mr. Ralph Holland as Palmer and Mr. Percy Barrett as an old huntsman. The rendering by the chorus of the concerted pieces is all that could be desired, and the augmented orchestra was under the capable direction of Mr. Alfred C. Toone. Mr. J. Alban Newton is the courteous manager for Mr. George Dance

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 2,
the Romantic Drama, in Five Acts, by Rudolph Bleichman, entitled
"OLD HEIDELBERG."

Mr. Mouillot has engaged a strong company to perform *Old Heidelberg*. Mr. Robert Minster gives a finished impersonation of the boyish Karl Heinrich. The contrast between his light-heartedness in the earlier scenes and his pathetic parting with Kathie in the last is very marked, and shows Mr. Minster to be a performer of no mean merit. Miss Irene Lavington is a bright and winning Kathie, and gains much favour by her sympathetic interpretation. An excellent Dr. Jutner is presented by Mr. J. Nelson Ramsay, and much amusement is caused by Mr. Willis Searle in his assumption of Kellerman, the audience indulging in hearty laughter at his antics in the Prince's apartments. Mr. Lionel Gadsden appears with much success as Lutz; Mr. Eric Phillips does well as Staatsminister Von Haugk; Mr. P. Wells and Mr. Collyn Leslie are excellently placed as Hofmarschall and Kammerherr. The students Graft and Von Wedell are admirably presented by Mr. Wallace Court and Mr. Martin Pedlar. Mr. A. M. Moore and Miss Rose Hélène are successful as Rüder, an innkeeper, and Frau Rüder, his wife, respectively. The minor characters, of which there are a large number, are all in capable hands, and the students' chorus adds much to the effectiveness of the performance. The play is well mounted, the scene of the Garden of Rüder's Inn calling for special commendation.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 2,
the Musical Play,
"THE ORCHID."

Mr. George Dance's principal company has been here this week with *The Orchid*, and the vicissitudes of this valuable flower and its various possessors have been followed with interest and amusement by large audiences. Miss Chrissie Ralland is well suited as Lady Violet Anstruther, her charming acting and tasteful singing making her a firm favourite; her most popular number is "Little Mary," which is enthusiastically redemanded. Miss Mamie Stuart submits a delightful rendering of Josephine Zaccary, throwing herself whole-heartedly into her work, and singing several songs with considerable skill. As Caroline Vokins Miss Florence Vie had a part which fitted her like the proverbial glove, and she causes endless amusement by her impersonation of this matrimonially-inclined cockney, her song "In my time" being one of the most decided hits of the evening. Miss Ruby Garman made a very smart Private Secretary, her clever dancing being a much-appreciated item. Miss Ida Chichester is an aristocratic Countess Anstruther, and Miss Elsa D'Usez makes as much as possible of Zelie Humbert. Mr. Bertie Wright as Meakin, the diminutive gardener, is irresistibly droll, never missing a point, and keeping his audience in a continual ripple of laughter. Another excellent impersonation is the Guy Scrymgeour of Mr. Alfred Bennett, whose refined, genuinely humorous rendering of the rôle makes him immensely popular. Messrs. Bennett and Wright's duet on the troubles of the unemployed is excellently given, and receives a well-merited double encore. Mr. Harry T. Butler is a great success, as Zaccary, and brings down the house with his song and dance graphically descriptive of the pleasures and perils of the ballroom. Mr. C. Stone acts and sings in good style as Dr. Ronald Faussett; Mr. Jack V. Fairley is impressive as Mr. Aubrey Chesterton; Mr. William Benson is sufficiently fire-eating and absurd as Count Raoul de Cassignat; and the seconds are amusingly portrayed by Messrs. Buchanan Wake and Cecil Frere. The chorus is tuneful and well up to its work, and the mounting and dressing are all that can be desired.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, April 2,
the Musical Play, in Two Acts, by Seymour Hicks, Composed by Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

The return visit of Mr. William Greet's company with *The Earl and the Girl* is proving a highly attractive one, and on Monday a large house received it with enthusiasm. The majority of the ladies and gentlemen of the company have been seen here before in their respective parts, and repeat the successes they scored on their former visit. The Jim Cheese of Mr. William Stephens is, if possible, more quaint and more humorous than ever, and the value of this clever comedian's work to the production is incalculable. Mr. Percy Carr is a breezy and natural Dick Wargrave, and has two of the most effective numbers in the piece, "The Mediterranean" and "The Cosy Corner Girl," of which he makes the utmost possible. Mr. Percy E. Wright plays the Hon. Crewe Boodle pleasantly and easily, and misses none of his not too many opportunities. A striking performance is the 'Liza Shoddam of Miss Dot Carey, which is in its way a clever and complete little character study. Miss Aimée Grey and Miss Florence Imeson as the young ladies of the piece, Elphin Haye and Daisy Fallowfield, both give charming renderings of their respective rôles. Miss Gladys Fontaine is an imposing Mrs. Shimmering Black, and as Virginia Bliss Miss Helen Langton is duly dignified. A smart and incisive performance of the American solicitor, Downham, comes from Mr. Will Hudson, and Mr. George H. Curzon is duly assertive as A. Bunker Bliss. Other parts noticeably well played are those filled by Messrs. J. C. Graves, Fred Hill, and Fred W. Pattrick, and Miss Hilda Gray. The piece is very handsomely dressed and liberally mounted.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday April 2,
the Romantic Play, by William P. Sheen, entitled
"THE TEMPTRESS."

The Temptress was successfully presented to a large audience on Monday night by Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company. The piece has already won a host of friends in the provinces, and certainly it does not lack qualities to commend it to a public desiring melodrama of the most thrilling and sensational kind. The plot is ingeniously constructed, although not having the distinction of complete novelty. The acting is of all-round excellence, headed by Miss Mabel Scudamore, who is responsible for a charmingly unaffected assumption of the heroine, Marion Fordyce. In fact, Miss Scudamore's portrayal deserves very high praise. She delineates artistically a wide range of emotion, and in Act 3 Marion's unwilling submission to the mesmeric influence of the villain, Nemo, is depicted with vivid intensity. Miss Scudamore's admirable impersonation appeals instantly to the sympathies of the onlookers. Mr. Frederick Ross distinguishes himself by an earnest and painstaking study of Lucas Denbeigh, otherwise Nemo, and earns the full wrath of the audience by his attempts to ruin Marion. Mr. George P. Diaper is successful in his portrayal of Philip Welford, whilst Mr. Robert Wilton is well placed as the clergyman, Austin Dale. Miss Blanche Steele gives a finished embodiment of the unscrupulous woman of the world Lady Fordyce, the many varying moods and passions being well portrayed. Miss Florence Palmer does effective work as Madge. The eccentricities of Fitz Fluke are accentuated in a drily amusing fashion by Mr. Allan Carruthers, ably supported by Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Bob Tanner. Mr. W. H. Hallatt appears as Pedro Gonzoles, a lion tamer; Miss Lizzie Chambers is Rhoda, and her impersonation is full of vivacity and go. Others deserving of mention are Miss Dora Mason (Dennis), Mr. Forbes Harrison (Caleb), and Mr. James C. Ashworth (Sir Oswald Fordyce). The scenery is good, there being many striking sets, and is the work of Mr. Alfred Whyatt.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 2,
The Adaptation by J. Comyns Carr of Dickens's Novel,
"OLIVER TWIST."

Mr. Tree's company in *Oliver Twist* is paying a welcome visit to the Kennington Theatre this week. The scenery and appointments compare very favourably with Mr. Tree's own production at His Majesty's, and the company is composed entirely of clever members of the profession. The Fagin of that experienced actor Mr. William Mackintosh seems to be the very Jew that Dickens himself depicted, having the relentless cruelty and cringing hypocrisy thoroughly brought out. The finished characterisation is a complete success. Mr. Cecil A. Collins makes an equally repulsive Bill Sikes, and his dog behaves himself decorously. Mr. Grimwig is capitally impersonated by Mr. Clifford Bown, his delivery being neat and to the point. Mr. Ben Lewin, a young actor of the highest promise, gives a very creditable rendering of Mr. Brownlow, his performance being a sound, well-studied, and compact piece of work. Mr. Harvey Braban looks the handsome Harry Maylie to the life, his interpretation being excellent. Monks is made villainous enough by Mr. Ashton Pearse, and the small part of Dr. Sime is happily entrusted to Mr. E. C. Buffum. The members of the gang of thieves under the control of Fagin are all adequately caricatured. The Artful Dodger of Mr. Tom Macfarlane is excellent, and the Charlie Bates and Tom Chitling of Messrs. Edgar Coyne and Christmas Grose are all that could be desired. Giles finds a careful exponent in Mr. Miller Davis, and Mr. Horace Adams as Brittles causes no little amusement. The minor characters are all in good hands, and help to give a finish to the artistic whole. The Oliver Twist of Miss Gertrude Lang is a very clever bit of acting, although perhaps her sudden outburst of grief is a little too loudly expressed. Miss Hutin Britton's Nancy is a well-studied embodiment, the despair and terror of the unhappy creature being realistically assumed. Miss Hilda Dick is a charming Rose Maylie, and acts sympathetically. Mrs. Maylie finds an excellent exponent in Miss Elsie Carew, and the Mrs. Bedwin of Miss Helen Boucher deserves favourable mention. Betsy is well impersonated by Miss Edith King, and Miss Betty does everything possible with the part of Mrs. Bumble. Some pretty music is rendered by the orchestra under the bâton of Mr. J. H. Wilson.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, April 2,
"THE GEISHA."

At the pretty Notting Hill Gate theatre this week Mr. Mouillot's company is appearing in the delightful tale of a tea-house by Owen Hall, with music by Sidney Jones, entitled *The Geisha*. It has lost none of its pristine charm and freshness, and some of the songs—such as "The Amorous Goldfish," "The Jewel of Asia," and "Star of My Soul"—will always rank among the happiest efforts of this talented composer. Miss Bessie Allayne makes a most lovable and winsome little tea-girl, O Mimosa San, and she is in fine voice, doing full justice to the excellent material at her disposal. Miss Florrie Saunders is very bright and engaging as the frolicsome Molly Seymour, and sings and dances with charm and vivacity. Mr. Cyril Thompson makes an excellent Reginald Fairfax, and he acts and sings as the tickle naval officer with admirable effect. Mr. S. Lockridge presents a highly commendable portraiture of Dick Cunningham, and sings well. Messrs. Ryton Hoare, Stephen Hall, and Miss Blanche Brown (a cheeky young "Middy") are all well in the picture as young officers on board H.M.S. Turtle. Miss Aubrey Ashton is a fine, handsome Lady Constance Wynne, and Misses Elsie Brocklebank, Marie Gilbert, and Ruby Latham are her guests. Mr. Edward Carlton is excruciatingly funny in the fine, "fat" part of Wun Hi, and keeps the audience in fits of laughter by his droll antics. Mr. Lionel Braham as the Marquis Imari displays a considerable fund of dry humour. Mr. Edgar Ward does well as Captain Katana, and Misses Lydia Bland, Daisy Browne, Victoria Jennings, and Maud Lloyd, among others, figure as Geishas. Miss Violet Kenyon enacts the part of O Juliette Diamante very creditably. Mr. F. Leslie Moreton is the general manager for the company. Mr. James La Fane and his assistant, Mr. George Russell, stage-manage the show. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Francis G Knowles, Mus.Bac.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, April 2,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

Mr. Walter Melville's great Adelphi success, *The Worst Woman in London*, is being presented here this week. Excellently staged and enacted by a really capital company, the piece was received on Monday evening with unstinted applause. Miss Florence Dalton as Frances Vere, the worst woman in London, must be credited with a powerful impersonation of the part. In the many intensely dramatic scenes she thoroughly earns the hisses of the audience, who, however, by their after-applause, greatly appreciate her efforts. Mr. Wallace Campbell as the hero, Jack Felton, is effective, and with Miss Effie Bartlett as Ruth Milford speedily wins the sympathies of the house. As the father, James Milford, Mr. H. H. Barrington is excellent. A capital piece of character acting is tendered by Mr. H. W. Monte as Hugh Drayton, the father of Frances Vere. Matilda Parker, a domestic servant with matrimonial tendencies, is brightly played by Miss Florence Lovell, and as Bertie Heslop, who succumbs to her wiles, Mr. George Cranby is extremely humorous. Mr. Paul Barry Sewers in the lengthy part, Vincent Lyle, is satisfactory. As Philip Armstrong, a ruined gambler, Mr. Leonard Booker by his powerful acting gains the sympathies of all. Jane Nogood is cleverly portrayed by Miss Katie Lawrence; Miss Florence Walkington is well impersonated by Miss Jessie Wilton; Mr. Cass is satisfactory as Fred Thornborough; as Thomas, a sweep, Mr. G. Thomas is successful; and Mr. Walter Clarke is smart and businesslike as Detective Curson. Master Willie Crisp is quite happy as a stableboy. Other characters connected with the circus scene are satisfactorily sustained by Messrs. Percy Dawsone, Fred Smith, Willie Harlee, James Wantage, T. Atkinson, F. Winstanley, B. Featherstone, H. Manners, John Lee, George Fairfield. As policemen and firemen Messrs. A. Rushen, Thomas Oldfield, W. Fortescue, and G. Pikey deserve mention.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 2,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

Mr. Arthur Collins has organised a capital company to take *The Prodigal Son* on tour, and playgoers at the Fulham this week have had an opportunity of seeing the Drury Lane success under excellent conditions. It is obviously impossible for a touring company to reproduce the magnificent setting of the original production, but nothing essential has been omitted, and the play itself is as intensely human and impressive on the smaller as it was on the greater stage. The scenery and dresses are fresh and handsome, and the principal parts are in capital hands. The really heroic figure of the story, Magnus Stephensson, is impersonated by Mr. Henry Renouf, whose powerful acting is as impressive as his fine physique. Mr. Norman Partriege scores a decided success in the exacting rôle of the prodigal Oscar, and his work is really strong and emotional. Mr. Henry George acts with quiet dignity as the Governor, and Mr. Frank Collins makes an excellent Oscar Neilsen. Mr. Howard Russell is good as Dr. Olsen, and Mr. Phillips as the Sheriff, Mr. Herbert Hewetson as Neils Finsen, Mr. Fred Grove as the Pastor, and Mr. Bryan Daly as the Director of the Casino all fitted their parts capably. Of the feminine parts, that of Thora is taken by Miss Lily Hall Caine, who will add to her reputation by her powerful yet tender impersonation of the wronged wife, as well as by her fresh and charming acting in the character of the girl Elin. Miss Cecil Cromwell is excellent as the sist[illegible] Helga, the evil genius of the erring Oscar, a[illegible] shows great dramatic power. To Miss Alma Murray we must give a word of praise for her fine work as Anna, the mother of Magnus and Oscar, and the pointed homely sayings of Aunt Margret are admirably brought out by Miss Mima Renouf. Altogether, the management is to be congratulated on the success of the attempt to reproduce in miniature, so to say, the great play which did so well at Drury Lane.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 2,
the Play, in Five Acts, by C. M. S. McLellan, entitled
"LEAH KLESCHNA."

We have a great attraction here this week in the first visit of Mr. Charles Frohman's company in the popular success, *Leah Kleschna*. The play is very interesting and strikingly original, and, as it is excellently cast, it is no wonder that very large audiences have been the rule. Miss Haidee Wright makes a great impression as Leah Kleschna, the gradual dawning of a better nature in the character of the girl-thief being admirably shown. Her great scene in the second act, when she is discovered by Paul Sylvaine robbing the safe, is especially well rendered. Mr. Robert Pateman as Kleschna presents a most striking portrait of an extremely complex character, the man's love for his daughter, his dauntless courage, his fierce outbursts of passion being all most graphically delineated by this sterling actor. Mr. J. Graeme Campbell is a dignified and restrained Paul Sylvaine, his difficult scenes with Leah Kleschna being admirably rendered. Mr. Cyril Harcourt achieves a great success in the unthankful rôle of the dissolute rake, Raoul Berton, contributing a character sketch which is of the utmost value to the play. Mr. E. H. Brooke, to whom belongs the credit of stage-managing the production, is a capital representative of the faithful Schram. Mr. Roland Daniel is a mercurial and amusing Valentine Favre, whose sweetheart, Sophie Chaponniere, is brightly presented by Miss Dorothy Sidney, the two artists making the most of the small comedy element in the piece. General Berton is played in appropriately pompous fashion by Mr. Kenneth Rivington, and Miss Haidee Hemsley and Miss Ethel Marryat are good as Claire Berton and Mme. Berton respectively. The scenery is excellent, the view of the lettuce fields in the last act being a very pretty piece of brushwork.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 2,
the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled
"FLORODORA."

Still in the prime of its popularity, *Florodora* is proving a great attraction at the Standard this week, and is affording much delight to the audience at each performance. The company contains a carefully-selected body of players, and on Monday frequent encores had to be given before the desires of the audience were satisfied. The piece is capitally mounted and staged, and is in every way a great success. Heavy responsibilities rest upon the shoulders of Mr. Gus Danby, who is called upon to portray the many eccentricities of Anthony Tweedlepunch, but he proves himself quite equal to the task, and with his dry humour brings out every point in a manner which is positively irresistible. Mr. Edward Chester shows ability in his impersonation of Cyrus W. Gilfain, the proprietor of the island of Florodora. As Frank Abercoed Mr. Edward Crossland is decidedly good. He used his fine voice to good effect, and his rendering of "The Shade of the Palm" is greatly appreciated. Mr. Harry Perry admirably sustains the rôle of Captain Arthur Donegal and Mr. C. A. James does well as Leandro. Gilfain's clerks have satisfactory impersonators in Mr. Frank Green, Mr. Beaulah Coe, Mr. Claude Farrow, Mr. Geoff Arthur, and Mr. Leonard Robson. These gentlemen assist materially in the very bright rendering of "Tell me, pretty maiden." The heroine, Dolores, is exceedingly well played by Miss Gladys Elvey. She does every justice to the part, and sings in a manner worthy of warm praise. Miss Florence Hersee is a sweet and charming Angela Gilfain, and deserves special mention for her song and dance in Act 2. Miss Kate Leicester contributes a delightful performance as Lady Holyrood; her songs, "Jack" and "I've an inkling," being well received. The minor characters are all in safe hands, and the orchestra and chorus, under the bâton of Mr. J. G. Hahn, render capital service.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 2,
the Comic Opera,
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

Mr. George Dance's company is meeting with a positively great reception at the Dalston Theatre this week in its representations of the comic opera *The Little Michus*. The book, an adaptation of A. Vanloo and G. Duval's work, by Henry Hamilton, provides plenty of fun, a quality which a Dalston audience fully appreciates; and the lyrics by Percy Greenbank and the music by André Messager materially add to the general delight experienced. The Little Michus are represented by Miss Alice Coverick as Marie Blanche and Miss Gracie Sinclaire as Blanche Marie. These representations are in every sense of the term artistic, and the duet, which constitutes a supplication to St. Valentine, is one of the features of the musical portion of the entertainment. Special reference must be made to Mlle. Marjorie as Mlle. St. Cyr, a famous dancer of the period. Mlle. Marjorie, by her graceful divertissement, certainly maintains the reputation of the famous lady she represents. Mr. Gerald Clifford as Gaston, the young soldier-lover, has a gallant bearing, and sings well. The humour of the piece is drolly emphasised by Mr. Leslie Holland as the General des Ifs; and the quaint acting of Mr. T. E. Conover as Pierre Michu and Miss Florence Hylton as Madame Michu also aids the success. Mr. D. FitzGibbon as Artistide Vert, an amorous shop assistant, and Mr. Cecil Clayton as Bagnolet, the General's busy servant, lend material help in sustaining the briskness of the action. The representation is noteworthy for its general smartness.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, April 2,
the Drama, by Henry Pettitt, entitled
"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."

This favourite old Adelphi piece, one of the best of the late Henry Pettitt's plays, is attracting good audiences to the popular Rotherhithe house. Mr. Ashley Page, as the young barrister Frank Drummond, scores a great success, and his varying fortunes are followed with interest by the audience, with whom he has long been a favourite. His acting, especially in the exciting trial scene in the fourth act, reaches a very high level. Miss Marion Denvil ably seconds him as the distracted and unfortunate yet faithful Mary Lonsdale, her acting being marked throughout by her usual charms of voice and manner. That sterling comedian Mr. Johnny Chippendale extracts much of genuine fun out of the rôle of the eccentric Dick Chilton, and Miss Mattie Everett creates great amusement as Dick's sweetheart Lottie Bromley. Mr. Richard Norton gives a good study of villainy as Robert Overstone, and John Overstone becomes an excellent character-sketch in the able hands of Mr. S. Major Jones. Mr. John Sargent has an arduous rôle to play as the malignant and revengeful solicitor Jephtha Grimwade, and scores very heavily, thoroughly earning by his able impersonation the execrations of the cheaper portions of the house. Little Mary is well played by little Florrie Green. Mr. H. J. Barrett is a dignified Judge, and Mr. E. J. Collins ably enacts the Counsel for the Crown. Miss Rosemary Rees is good as the adventuress Mabel Wentworth, and Miss Maggie Lindsay, Mr. Sidney James, Mr. Will Skett, Mr. Alf Peters, and Mr. John Adams make up the remainder of a most efficient cast.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."

Mr. Melville's latest and stirring production is commanding good houses this week at the Kingston playhouse, where the capable company appearing in it commenced a six days' engagement on Monday evening. The play, with its vivid contrasts and sensational incidents, was evidently to the liking of the audience, who gave it an unmistakably favourable reception. Mr. Fred D. Davis is cast for the part of the headstrong Jack Barrymore, and gives a very good account of himself in it. Mr. Bernard Mervyn as the villain, Henry Denver, is also well placed, and Mr. Bernard J. Liell makes an acceptable Earl of Loman. The fun of the piece is ably contributed to by Mr. Will Corrie, who plays the aspiring light-weight champion, Tom Chicken. Miss Alice Bowes makes a charming Violet and Miss Georgette Thierry plays with distinction in the thankless part of Delilah Vane. Others deserving of favourable mention are Mr. Ronald Adair as Ned Samson, Miss Mamie Rendle as Clarice, and Miss Jessie Denvers as Mimi. The play was admirably staged, the scene representing a prize-ring being particularly effective.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 2,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled
"I DEFY THE WORLD."

Very much to the taste of Mr. William Bailey's patrons is the dramatic fare provided for them this week in the shape of Mr. Julian Malvern's capable company in *I Defy the World*, a drama packed with startling incidents and stirring situations. The chief honours fell on the stalwart shoulders of Mr. Lewis Gilbert as Leon Darville, a part he enacted with distinctive force and reality, his various disguises being worthy of Sherlock Holmes at his best. Mr. Frank Eversley was sufficiently convincing as Count de Beaulieu; Mr. Alfred Denning was duly impressive as General Delaporte; Mr. Charles Conway was full of animation as Laroche; whilst Mr. Charles M. Julian scored a complete success by reason of his lively whimsicalities as Samuel Wozzle. Miss Trixie St. Albans was sympathetically graceful as Pauline Delaporte; Miss Maud Lillian was lively and energetic as Marie Wozzle; and Miss Maud Malvern interpreted the rôle of Blanche Darville in such a way as to completely win the favourable verdict of the audience. The piece was staged and mounted in a most effective manner, the scenery being especially noticeable. Mr. Charles M. Julian is the general manager for Mr. Malvern, and Mr. James Sinclair, as usual, looks after Mr. Bailey's interests in front.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"CAESAR UND CLEOPATRA."

Historical Comedy, in Five Acts, by Bernard Shaw, Produced at the Neues Theatre, March 31, 1906.

Caesar	HERR STEINRUCK
Cleopatra	FRAU EYSOLDT
Ptolemaeus	FRAULEIN KUPPER
Rufio	HERR VON WINTERSTEIN
Britannus	HERR MARLOW
Pothinus	HERR ROYAADS
Theodotus	HERR HERZFELD
Achillas	HERR NOLLET
Hatateeta	FRAULEIN WANGEL
Apollodorus	HERR ECKERT
Belzanor	HERR SAUERMANN
Bel Affris	HERR HARTAN
Perser	HERR SADO
Lucius	HERR ARNDT
Charmian	FRAULEIN BERGER
Iras	FRAULEIN CONRAD
Alter Musiker	HERR LEOPOLD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, April 5.—Mr. Shaw's latest production met with a very cordial reception, and deservedly so. It is brimful of wit, irony, persiflage, and double-meanings—in a word, a genuine Shaw. The piece has one serious fault—it is too long—and the patience of even the author's warmest admirers was tried, while a few malcontents expressed their feelings without any reserve. The critics, as usual, are divided in their opinions, one declaring the author had intended and dreamed great things, and it was a pity he had fallen into the burlesque tone. Personally, I am not so sure that Mr. Shaw has entertained any lofty aims with regard to his play; it conveys to my thinking rather the impression that he has thoroughly enjoyed himself poking fun at everybody and leading the critics—to use a colloquial expression—by the nose. Plot there is none to speak of, and most of the characters are amusingly-drawn caricatures—caricatures, be it understood, that speak very smart, up-to-date wisdom at times. Caesar is particularly modern, a well-educated, eminently respectable, jovial old gentleman, of radical tendencies, and a philosopher withal, while Cleopatra is represented as a wild little tiger-cat of sixteen—sensuous, cowardly, and false, as a result of the tyranny of her nurse, the "Reichsamme" Hatateeta. The character of Cleopatra is the best of all in the piece, upon which Mr. Shaw has evidently expended much pains. Caesar's private secretary, Britannus, is a delightfully-comical figure, with his English prudery, in whose portrayal the author has let himself go with visible enjoyment. A really fine scene is the meeting of the victorious emperor with the sleeping Cleopatra at the foot of the Sphynx, where she has hidden herself in fear. On awakening she is conducted to her palace by the good-natured conqueror, who teases her with stories of the savage Romans, and in the end discovers himself as the all-dreaded Caesar. The love-scene is of short duration, Caesar almost forgetting to say farewell to Cleopatra at the end, but he promises to send her the man of her dreams—the handsome young Mark Antony. Herr Siegfried Trebitsch has had the translation of the play, and he appears to have done his work conscientiously and with skill. As to the interpretation, it was by no means even. Frau Gertrud Eysoldt had in Cleopatra a rôle eminently suited to her peculiar talents—she has had many similar ones, to wit, Electra and Salome—and her rendering was a grand one, every phase of the character, from the shy child, the self-willed, savage girl, to the imperious queen, being depicted without a flaw. Less successful was Herr Steinrück in his impersonation of Caesar, whom he made too little imposing, and neither was Herr von Winterstein so good as usual. Fräulein Wangel did her best with the uncanny horror of a "State nurse," and Herr Marlow's Britannus was a praiseworthy rendering. The mounting was in good taste and unusually fine, the desert scene by night and break of day being quite beautiful.

AT the Lessing, Ernst Rosenow's three-act comedy *Kater Lampe* has been revived with the best results. It was first produced at the Berliner some three years ago, and was at the time fully detailed in your columns. The piece has much in common with Hauptmann's "thieves'-comedy" *Der Biberpelz*, which satirises red-tapeism and provincial officialdom in this country. It is scarcely necessary to say that the Lessing company did *Kater Lampe* greater justice than the Berliner, in the nature of things, and a splendid cast was got together. Frau Else Lehmann, as a Saxon village Lady Macbeth, was irresistibly comical, and Herren Patry, Meinhard, Ziener, and others were quite as good. The audience laughed till it cried, and applauded frantically, so that there is every likelihood of the piece enjoying a lengthy run.

THE Royal Schauspielhaus was closed on the anniversary of the first Emperor's birth last week, by the Kaiser's orders—meaning a sacrifice of some thousand marks on the shrine of "Pietät." The following day, Otto Ludwig's gloomy play *Der Erbförster* was revived after a long interval. It was scarcely worth the trouble expended upon it, for the dust of ages has collected thickly upon it, and no amount of care can make the piece anything but old-fashioned and—for the younger generation, at any rate—uninteresting.

AT the New Philharmonic a one-act operetta, *Yvette*, by Karl Heins, was produced last week, meeting with a very cordial reception. There is nothing much in either music or text that calls for comment, both being of mediocre quality. The composer has arranged with some amount of skill a good many apparently familiar melodies in the Viennese operetta style to which we have grown accustomed in the course of years. Fräulein Mary Hagen and Herr Wellhof—whose services were obtained from the Theatre des Westens—gave their best, which is very good indeed, and to their clever renderings of the chief rôles the success of the evening was principally due.

THE Komische Oper is now running *Figaro's Hochzeit* in company with *Don Pasquale* and the inexhaustible *Hoffmann's Erzählungen*. Mozart's delightful work was produced with an excellent cast, and though the performance could not—as we had been led to expect—bear comparison with those of the Royal Opera, it was nevertheless a creditable one. The chief fault was the over-hurrying of the the overture and several other important numbers under Kapellmeister Cassier's otherwise skilful conductorship.

AT the Apollo Theatre *Das bummelnde Berlin*—burlesque in three scenes, by Benno Jacobson—is still drawing well. It is full of laughable hits, and is capitally acted. The author has made use of the following idea: Three merry Berliners—an unappreciated painter, composer, and inventor respectively—fall in with a melancholy British Lord, who offers them anything they may propose if they can only succeed in making him laugh. They show him Berlin in all its phases, but the blasé Lord only yawns in their faces, and sighs. How he is made to laugh must be seen to be appreciated—for of course he does laugh in the end. One of the best scenes is where three excellent comic actors appear as Saharet, Isadora Duncan, and Cléo de Mérode; the audience roared with laughter at their drolleries, and applauded by open stage. The burlesque—which comes on at 9 o'clock—is preceded by a good variety programme.

MR. NAT GOODWIN, we are informed, has secured the American rights of Mr. Gilbert Dale's comedy, *What Would a Gentleman Do?* produced at the Apollo Theatre in the autumn of 1902.

"THE SCOTTISH BLUEBELLS."

Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, produced for the first time on any stage at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, on Saturday, March 31.

Ex-Bailie Maie	MR. PETER D. BERMINGHAM
Montague Migg	MR. LEON SIMKIN
The Hon. Bobby	MR. HARRY STUART
Prince Izan	MR. CLIFFORD MORGAN
Rory	MR. DAN O'CONNOR
Hamish	MR. ALEC. STEWART
Guy Chalmers	MR. ARTHUR CARTWRIGHT
Mrs. Elspeth	MME. KATE SHERRY
Jennie	MISS KITTY CLINTON
Maggie	MISS DELIA CHERRY
Mrs. Melton Mowbray	MISS ELSIE STEADMAN
Miss Washington Potts	MISS EDYTHE CARLYLE
Kersty	MISS MAY ANDERSON
Maisie Maie	MISS HETTIE GALE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The book and lyrics of this new play have been written by Mr. David James; and the music has been composed by Dr. F. Osmond Carr, who conducted in person on the opening night. Mr. Harry Fischer, the new manager of this popular theatre, is responsible for the production of the piece; and on the opening night the house was crowded in every part with a most enthusiastic audience, whose appreciation and enjoyment of the new comedy were marked in no uncertain fashion. The scene of *The Scottish Bluebells* is laid entirely in Edinburgh, with strong local colour successfully supplied. Thus the story appropriately opens in West Princes-street Gardens (an effective bit of stage-setting with a view of the Castle in the background); and the plot, which is planned on simple lines, concerns itself mainly with the search for a missing Scottish heiress, whose mother had been a singer in a concert party touring in India. There is nothing to trace the girl by except a packet of old letters, a few faded bluebells, and the melody of a song which her mother used to sing. A professional pedigree expert, Mr. Montague Migg, appears on the scene in search of the lost one amongst the gay crowd in the Gardens. After getting on various wrong scents Migg at last—in the second act, which passes at a grand charity bazaar and fancy fair held in the Waverley Market—succeeds in establishing the identity of Maisie Maie, the adopted daughter of ex-Bailie Maie, as the missing heiress. Maisie is loved by Guy Chalmers, a poor student of good family, who imagines, however, that he has cause to doubt her attachment to him. So for a time the course of true love runs with its proverbial lack of smoothness. But everything comes right in the end; Guy marries his Maisie and goes, to be happy with her ever after, as chief of the staff to his friend and fellow-student, Prince Izan, a Persian potentate. This is the barest outline of Mr. James's book, which contains much smart dialogue, interspersed with plenty of catchy songs both sentimental and humorous, and well besprinkled with topical hits. Dr. Carr's music is light and sparkling, and includes several very melodious numbers, especially the "Bluebells" air, which is sure to become a general favourite.

For the presentation of the piece an excellent company has been brought together. As the student-lover, Mr. Arthur Cartwright makes a handsome figure, singing and acting with all needful verve and passion. Miss Hettie Gale looks very sweet and pretty as the heroine Maisie, her ditties being sung with much taste and feeling. "Sweet Scottish Bluebells," in particular, is very charmingly rendered. Mr. Peter D. Bermingham plays the part of the ex-Bailie very unctuously on the familiar lines of comic stage Scotchman; and he is ably supported by Mme. Kate Sherry, as Elspeth, his wife, whose singing is cultured and expressive. The two up-to-date daughters, Jennie and Maggie, somewhat ashamed of their homely mother, are capably enacted by Miss Kitty Clinton and Miss Delia Cherry. In the rôle of Montague Migg, Mr. Leon Simpkin shows considerable ability as a low comedian; and the Hon. Bobby of Mr. Harry Stuart is a thoroughly humorous delineation of a dude. The part of Prince Izan affords Mr. Clifford Morgan the opportunity of displaying his undoubted talent both as actor and singer; and two smaller parts of Rory, an Irishman, and Hamish, a Highland policeman, are aptly filled by Mr. Dan O'Connor and Mr. Alec Stewart. An exceedingly smart performance is that given by Miss Elsie Steadman as Mrs. Melton Mowbray, a husband-hunting young widow; and the rôles of an American lady journalist and a Highland servant girl are cleverly sustained by Miss Edith Carlyle and Miss May Anderson. The cast further includes a large number of students, Cranston and Elliott Girls, flower-girls, visitors, &c., besides the celebrated Monte Carlo troupe of dancers. Praise is due to the artistic staging of the entire production. Of the two sets, the West Princes-street Gardens scene was painted by Mr. J. K. M'Lennan, and the Charity Bazaar by Mr. Edmund Sift; and both do credit to local workmanship. The dresses by Messrs. Elkan Bros., London; Mme. Dupont, London; Mr. Morris Angel, London, and others are fresh and fashionable, quite a feast for the ladies.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Royal Academy of Music gave a most successful orchestral concert at Queen's Hall on Tuesday afternoon, when two new and interesting works by students were introduced. Mr. Montague F. Phillips may be heartily commended for his clever "Idyll" MS. for orchestra, a composition full of poetical feeling and melody, a quality rare indeed among modern young composers. Mr. Phillips has evidently a strong inclination towards the great composer Humperdink, clearly shown in the able scoring for the wind instruments; and the audience speedily recognised the ability of the artist by several hearty recalls. In the other new production, entitled "Two Poetic Illustrations" MSS. for orchestra, Miss Eleanor C. Rudall has endeavoured to musically illustrate two little poems, the first dealing with ocean waves and a storm at sea and the other representing a calm on the sea with mermaids dancing and singing. It was evident Miss Rudall had here a difficult subject, much being expected from the poem describing a storm at sea, but Miss Rudall may be warmly commended for her graceful and imaginative music to the second poem. The vocal side of the programme included "Mignon's Song," by A. Goring Thomas, sung with great intelligence by Miss Clara Smith, the recit. and aria, "Salve, Dimora," from *Faust*, rendered with taste and expression by Mr. Thomas Gibbs, who was ably supported by the violin obbligato of Mr. Rowsby Woof, and Saint-Saëns' air, "O Love, from thy power," from "Samson and Delilah," given with a fair amount of dramatic power by Miss Edith Kirk. Mr. F. Percival Driver was somewhat overtasked in the difficult scena and aria "I fain would hide," from Weber's *Euryanthe*.

The instrumental items heard were of special interest, Miss F. Margaret Bennett playing Saint-Saëns' Concerto for pianoforte in C minor with remarkable success, and being most carefully seconded by the orchestra, under the conductorship of Sir A. C. Mackenzie. The young artist, who showed great technical ability, was at the close warmly applauded by the large audience. Mr. Walton O'Donnell also showed great intelligence in his playing of the first movement of Dvorák's Concerto in B minor for violoncello, and Miss Hilda F. M. Barnes may be praised for her playing of the first movement of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, o.p. 64, Miss Jessie Bowater being responsible for the other two movements. The young students who played in the orchestra, ably conducted by Sir A. C. Mackenzie, also deserve favourable mention.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. FREDERICK SARGENT.

Mr. Frederick Sargent has been on the stage seven years. He was educated at the Quaker School, Ackworth, and Durham University, and before commencing life seriously as an actor he put in a year at provincial journalism. In March, 1899, Mr. Sargent began his theatrical career under particularly pleasant auspices, being engaged by Mrs. Louis Calvert to play the juvenile parts in *Proof* and *The Lyons Mail*. A six months' tour with Mrs. Calvert was followed by a year with Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer's Shakespearean Répertoire company, in which Mr. Sargent was a "generally useful" man, combining the duties of assistant-stage-manager with the playing of several parts nightly. In something more than a thirty weeks' tour he played about as many parts in varying lines of business. The occasional "purple patches" of the engagement consisted in going on for big understudies, generally at a few hours' notice. In May, 1900, through the kind offices of Mrs. Calvert, his theatrical sponsor, he was engaged by Miss Julia Neilson to play in a suburban tour of *As You Like It*, with herself, Mr. Mollison, Mr. Louis Calvert, and other noted artists. A season at the Haymarket Theatre followed, when he had the satisfaction of playing Mercer in the original cast of *Sweet Nell of Old Drury*. Tiring very much of small parts, he returned to the country to play Tigellinus in Mr. Wm. Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company. Another short season in town followed, Mr. Sargent being in the cast of that clever comedy from the French, *Lion-Hunters*, when it was produced at Terry's Theatre.

In the autumn of 1901 he made a definite attempt at leading business, supporting Miss Lillian Herries in a fine répertoire of plays, chiefly modern masterpieces. His parts included Dunstan Renshaw in *The Profligate*, Lucas Cleeve in *The*

MR. FREDERICK SARGENT.

[*Photo. by Langfier.*

Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith, Philip Selwyn in *A Fool's Paradise*, Armand Duval in *Camille*, and Rawdon Crawley in a version of *Becky Sharp*. Messrs. Edwardes and Frohman next engaged Mr. Sargent to play one of the juvenile parts in the first tour of *Are You a Mason?* A chance call at Mr. Ben Greet's office in the summer of 1902 led to him being engaged to play *Sherlock Holmes*, a character he successfully sustained for two lengthy tours. Several special engagements followed, among them being a season at the New Theatre, when he was a member of Mrs. Patrick Campbell's company, playing Herr Holtzmann in *The Joy of Living*. About this period he also appeared as Henri de Flavigneul in *There's Many a Slip*, and Clarence Vane in *Our Flat*. The autumn of 1903 saw Mr. Sargent with Drury-lane drama, sustaining the part of the Boer boy, Paul de Lahne, in *The Best of Friends*. One or two special engagements early in 1904—including a few nights at the Court Theatre—and then in March he sailed for South Africa, where he remained for the remainder of the year, playing the romantic leads in "unlimited stock" with Mr. Leonard Rayne's company. The company opened with *Human Nature*, followed by *The Cardinal*, and then a series of plays, probably unequalled for variety of type in any stock season, concluding with productions of *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Lady of Lyons*. In Africa Mr. Sargent played Romeo and Claude Melnotte for the first time, also a number of romantic melodramatic leads, such as Harold Armitage in *The Lights of London*, Cuthbert Cuthbertson in *The Trumpet Call*, Pharaoh Lee in *The Gipsy Earl*, Gaston in *The Man in the Iron Mask*, and Gilbert Vaughan in *Called Back*. Other favourite characters included Jacky in *Sunday*, Bernard Gray in *A Sung Little Kingdom*, and the Marquis de Beaumont in *A Royal Divorce*.

Shortly after his return from abroad in the early spring of 1905 Mr. Sargent was engaged for leading romantic work in Shakespeare and Old English comedy. During the summer he played in the Hon Mrs. Henniker's play *The Courage of Silence*, and several other special productions. Other parts played by him at this time include Othello, Brutus, Orlando, David Garrick, Claude Melnotte, and Charles Surface.

Though hard-worked as an actor, Mr. Sargent endeavours spasmodically to take an interest in playwriting. One of his efforts—a dramatic trifle, entitled *Love's Comedy*, taken from an original short story he wrote for the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*, and dramatised by himself and Mr. Leon M. Lion—was produced in the spring of 1904 at the Opera House, Leicester, and successfully toured in the provinces.

A MARVELLOUS child-actress named Wanda Radford is making a sensation in private circles in Berlin. The little girl, who is only eight years old, was born in Australia, and came to Vienna and Berlin with her mother on her way to London a few weeks ago. She acts the Potion Scene from *Romeo and Juliet* better than many an adult artist, while in lighter things, and in singing and dancing, she is equally clever. Little Wanda has had some elocution lessons in Adelaide, but she is chiefly self-taught, and does herself infinite credit. She is an uncommonly pretty and graceful child and thoroughly unspoilt, notwithstanding the adulation she is receiving. The small genius is going to London in May, and I hear Miss Ellen Terry and other artists of note are interesting themselves in her.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE WIFE'S PERIL."

A New and Original Sketch, by Barry Williams, produced at the Surrey Theatre on Monday, April 2.

Sir Geoffrey Wrenfield	MR. WILLIAM GIFFARD
Lord Trenchard Dene	MR. ERNEST G. BATLEY
Joseph Fleishmein	MR. ROBERT DRYSDALE
Brooks	MR. WILTON FLETCHER
Estelle Boudain	MISS HELEN EDWINS
Lady Alicia Wrenfield	MRS. WILLIAM GIFFARD

Well staged and costumed, this admirable sketch received the stamp of approval from a crowded house on Monday. The plot is of sustained interest, and the period that of George III. Sir Geoffrey Wrenfield has been entrusted with important dispatches by the King, which the traitor, Lord Dene, who is assisted by a German spy named Fleishmein, is determined to obtain, in order to dispose of them to the French Government. Lord Dene comes to Sir Geoffrey's country mansion accompanied by Fleishmein, who is disguised as a monk; but their host is suspicious of their friendly overtures, and orders them out of his house. Being called away, he places his dispatches in a large chest, giving his wife the key, with strict orders not to allow any one access to the room. Fleishmein, who has been hidden in an alcove, makes desperate love to Lady Alicia's French maid, Estelle, and promises to marry her. In the midst of their love-making Lady Alicia returns, takes the dispatches out of the chest, and carries them to her room. Estelle accompanies her ladyship, leaving Fleishmein alone. He avails himself of the opportunity to lower a rope ladder from the window by which means Lord Dene re-enters the house. Estelle returning, is threatened with death if she raises an alarm, and Lord Dene proceeds to lock her up in an adjacent room. Fleishmein meanwhile opens the chest, and finds only some flagons of wine, and being busy drinking, does not see Sir Geoffrey enter by the window. The newcomer soon makes himself known, and a desperate fight ensues between Fleishmein and him. Sir Geoffrey proves the victor, and securely binds the German and places him in the chest. Assuming the rôle of the drunken Monk, he then hides in the alcove. Lord Dene and Lady Alicia return to the room at the same time. She defies him, and when he attempts force a snore from the alcove startles him. He is relieved when he sees whom he imagines to be Fleishmein intoxicated, and again attempts to embrace Lady Alicia. Sir Geoffrey staggers towards them, and gets between his wife and Dene, and when Dene tries to push him aside he finds himself in the firm grip of an outraged husband. The fall of the curtain at this point leaves the audience to surmise the fate of Lord Dene and his foreign ally.

As Lady Alicia, Mrs. William Giffard gives a portrayal full of winsome grace and womanly dignity that merits the highest praise. As Sir Geoffrey, Mr. William Giffard plays excellently. Mr. Ernest G. Batley, as Lord Dene, has little to do, but does that little well. Mr. Robert Drysdale, as the German, Fleishmein, acts his arduous part with firmness and decision. Miss Helen Edwins, as the pert French maid, Estelle, is delightfully arch and lively, while her broken English accent is pretty and effective. Mr. Wilton Fletcher, as the footman Brooks, fills this minor rôle carefully and well.

GREAT QUEEN-STREET THEATRE.

On Friday, March 30, the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Adolph L'Arronge, entitled "HASEMANN'S TOCHTER."

Anton Hasemann	WILLY KLEIN
Albertine	CHARLOTTE KELLY
Emilie	ELSE GADEMANN
Rosa	JOHANNA BECKER
Franziska	MARGARETE RUSS
Wilhelm Knorr	HANS STOCK
Hermann Körner	RICHARD STARNBURG
Baron von Zinnow	ERNST REICHER
Klinkert	BRUNO WIBURGER
Frau Klinkert	IDA WEISS
Eduard Klein	GEORG BASELT
Dr. Seiler	OTTOMAR BLOSS
Anna	HELENE MARSHALL
Fritz	GRETE HAHN
Lohmann	KARL BERGER
Bartsch	WILLY SCHMIDT

A real Teutonic flavour is possessed by the above-named play, which thoroughly delighted the audience at the German Theatre on the 30th ult. The contention that it is better for a maiden to be expert in domestic duties rather than accomplished in the arts is peculiar to no particular nation, but the piece is embellished with many characteristics of German home life which are made as agreeable to the English spectator as to his friend from the Fatherland. Anton Hasemann has three daughters whose up-bringing has been a constant source of dispute between him and his wife, Anton desiring to educate them in the duties pertaining to the household, and Frau Hasemann wishing them to receive a training far above their station. Many schemes are put into practice by the ambitious mother, but in the end Hasemann gains the day with regard to his one unmarried daughter, who is to receive an education quite after her father's own heart. Of the two other daughters, who are married and settled, the second one nearly compromises herself with a baron with whom she was formerly in love, but a reconciliation is effected, chiefly through the intervention of the father, whose parental care is agreeably evident throughout. The part of Hasemann revealed the capabilities of Herr Willy Klein to exceptional advantage. His characterisation of the homely florist was crowded with realistic touches that proved the artist throughout. Fräulein Margarete Russ acted in excellent light-comedy style as the youngest daughter, whose pettishness was realistically expressed. Johanna Becker gave an impressive rendering of Rosa, the second daughter; and the eldest was vivaciously played by Else Gademann. Charlotte Kelly acted with praiseworthy care as the overbearing wife; Herr Georg Baselt made a genuinely comic character of the suitor Eduard; and Herr Hans Stock should be singled out for praise in the part of Wilhelm, the husband of the eldest daughter.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 2, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM."

Musical compositions are in high favour with Stratford playgoers, and it being the first visit to the Borough Theatre of *The White Chrysanthemum*, a very large and appreciative audience witnessed the performance on the opening night of the week. The members of Mr. Frank Curzon's well-selected company acquit themselves with entire credit, and the dressing and mounting of the piece leave nothing to be desired. Miss Ruth Lincoln very charmingly impersonates Sybil Cunningham, and her delightful vocalism is greatly enjoyed. Mr. O. E. Lennon achieves a notable success as the volatile Chinaman Sin Chong, and he works indefatigably in the cause of mirth. Much of his good work is in conjunction with Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., who scores heartily as the phlegmatic Private Perks, these two sharing in a duet which is one of the best things of the evening. Mr. Davy Burnaby exactly realises the idiosyncrasies of Lieut. "Chippy" Belmont, Lieut. Reginald Armitage has a manly and buoyant exponent in Mr. F. Pope Stamfer, and Mr. Fred Rolph plays in just the right vein as Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage. Miss Isabelle Dillon is a graceful and vivacious Cornelia Vanderdecken, and Miss Maud Harvey is a bright and pleasing exponent of Betty Kenyon. Other parts are all capably played.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, April 5.—The Ambigu is not very fortunate in the plays it brings out. *La Tourmente*, the four-act drama by M. Maurice Landay, is very poor stuff, and I am not surprised to hear it is already withdrawn. The author committed the mistake of serving us another strike story. He should have remembered that we have already had too many of them. Moreover, the work is too violent, and the long tirades are too wearisome.

DOES M. Antoine want to imitate the small *théâtres-à-coté*, like the Capucines, the Grand Guignol, or the Théâtre Royal? It looks like it, for he has offered us six novelties in one night, all of them in one act. Three of them are rather amusing.

"BABOUCHE," by MM. Louis Marselleau and Jacques Lirla, bears a strong family likeness to Courteline's *Boubouroche*, except that it plays in a harem in Constantinople. The pretty Nazié has hidden a man in a wooden box, when Nedjib, her lord and master, enters. Nedjib has his suspicions, and wants to open the box, but the woman manages things so cleverly that although—and perhaps because—she taunts him to do so, he refuses, and begs her to forgive him he ever suspected her.

IN *Depuis six mois* M. Max Maurey shows us the household of M. and Mme. Floche, and we hear that the latter is never able to keep a servant longer than a day. She offers them high wages, and tells them they may do as they please, but all to no good. None of them will stay. Poor Mme. Floche, who cannot explain this anomaly, has no idea that it is her husband who is the cause of it all. It is he who bribes the servants to give notice the day after they have come. Why? Because if there are no servants he has an excuse to dine in the restaurant and enjoy himself. And his unsuspecting wife even pities him that he is compelled to take his meals out of doors. But everything comes to an end. One day a raw-boned girl, Gertrude, is engaged, and, as usual, her master at once gives her a sovereign to clear out. Gertrude takes the sovereign, but remains. And when M. Floche remonstrates with her, she tells him that she has not the slightest intention of helping him to deceive his wife. A man, she says, once got the better of her, and she now intends to assist her oppressed sex against the common enemy. And now M. Floche is worse off than ever, for not only is he tyrannised by his wife, but he is also in Gertrude's power. His happiness is at an end.

AN excellent translation was also given of MM. E. Fenn and R. Pryce's *Op o' my Thumb*. The delightful little act created a deep impression, and was admirably played by Mdlle. Jeanne Lion and M. Clerget.

AT the Sarah-Bernhardt Theatre, *Le Frisson de l'Aigle* will be withdrawn and replaced by a revival of *L'Aiglon*.

THE Théâtre de l'Œuvre announces, for the 11th inst., the première of *Le troisième couvert*, a new play by M. Alfred Savoir.

At the Variétés *La Piste* has not had a long run, for on the 9th we are promised the revival of M. Henri Lavedan's *Nouveau Jeu*, with Mme. Jeanne Granier and M. Brasseur, as before, in the principal rôles.

"LA TROUPE CHAMBERTIN" is the title of the new vaudeville, in three acts, to be brought out at the Folies Dramatiques in the course of next week.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, April 2, the Military Drama, by Seymour Hicks and George Edwardes, entitled "ONE OF THE BEST."

Military drama appeals strongly to the patrons of this favourite Mile End house, and good business is being done this week with the engagement of Miss Elsie Roberts's company in that stirring play *One of the Best*, in which a legitimate story is unfolded in dialogue alternately humorous and pathetic. The strong situations in the various scenes, particularly the degradation in the third act and the reparation in the finale, provoke demonstrations of genuine enthusiasm. The scenery and mounting are admirable in every respect, and the groupings of the soldiers and their bands, together with the efficient management observable, reflect every credit upon the stage-manager, Mr. Cyril Melton, remembered for his past association with the Pavilion. Nothing better could be desired than the manly dignity of Mr. Frank Fenton, who gave a powerful rendition of Dudley Keppel, which won the hearty approval of a sympathetic audience. Mr. Escott Robson acted Phillip Elsworth in excellent style, and Mr. George Child was well suited as the venerable cleric, Dr. Penrose. Mr. Edward S. Earle was to be commended for his clear enunciation and martial bearing as Sir Archibald McGregor, and Jules de Cruchy was carefully played by Mr. Lionel West. Mr. Harry Edward Ray as Private Jupp kept the house in continual good humour, and a neat little sketch of Jason Jupp was presented by Mr. Bertram Zardi. Mr. Cyril Melton distinguished himself by his portrayal of Lieut.-General Coventry, and Mr. C. B. Vaughan was imposing as President of the Court Martial. Miss Elsie Roberts gave a delightful example of a loving, noble, and devoted woman in her representation of Mary Penrose, her love scene in the first act being very happy; and a smart and winsome Kitty Spencer was found in Miss Dorrie Roberts, Miss Ethel Sarjient being seen to advantage as Mrs. Spencer. Miss Ethel Royale supplied a well-defined exposition of the erring Esther Coventry; and the minor rôles were capitally played by Messrs. A. J. Vincent, Chris Dashwood, King Egerton, George Croydon, John Sinclair, Edward Rayne, and Fred Riddell. Mr. Leonard Maxwell is the courteous general manager for Miss Elsie Roberts.

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Queen has sent to Miss Ellen Terry a beautiful diamond and ruby pendant as a souvenir of the forthcoming jubilee of the celebrated actress. The Royal gift was accompanied by a gracious message of personal congratulation. Miss Terry, who wished to mark the actual date of her jubilee by an appearance in a Shakespearean play, suggested to Mr. Otho Stuart that she should take part in the performance of *Measure for Measure* at the Adelphi. Mr. Stuart eagerly accepted the offer, and Miss Terry will therefore appear on Saturday, the 28th inst., by consent of Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker, as Francisca the Nun, a part which is of comparatively little importance, but which will give an Adelphi audience an opportunity of acclaiming the great actress at the most momentous period of her career.

Mr. Edward Terry hopes to get permission from the old members of the Dramatic and Musical Sick Fund to divide the balance available for distribution, viz., £55 2s. 5d., among (1) the Heads of Departments No. 5 Branch Theatrical Stage Employees' Sick and Benevolent Fund, (2) No. 1 Branch of the same society, (3) the Actors' Benevolent Fund, (4) the Actors' Orphanage Fund, (5) the Theatrical Ladies' Guild, and (6) the General Theatrical Operatives' Sick and Benevolent Fund.

Mr. J. M. Barrie's double effort attracted a representative audience to the Comedy on Thursday, when the notable gathering included the Duchess of Marlborough, the Hon. Lady Hardinge, Sir George Lewis, Mr. Goschen, and Sir Charles Rivers Wilson.

A matinée in aid of the Seaside Convalescent Hospital, Seaford, will be given on Thursday, May 24, at the New Theatre. Among those who have already generously promised to contribute are Misses Gertie Millar, Adrienne Augarde, Evie Greene, Louie Pounds, Sybil Arundale, Mabel Love, Amy Augarde, Winifred Hare, and Lily Elsie; Messrs. James Welch, Martin Harvey, Frank Cooper, Rutland Barrington, Hayden Coffin, Louis Bradfield, Richard Green, M. R. Morand, Courtice Pounds, Harry Lauder, Chirgwin, Johnnie Schofield, and J. P. Piddock.

Mrs. Beerbohm Tree was present with her two younger children at Mrs. Adair's juvenile fancy dress party, given on Wednesday at her house in Curzon-street. The two little girls represented Nero and Agrippina, every detail of their dress being the facsimile of the gorgeous apparel worn nightly by their parents at His Majesty's Theatre, and were the most picturesque figures of the party.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell will produce the adaptation from the French entitled *The Whirlwind* at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, next week. There is much local interest in the reappearance of the distinguished actress, who will be supported by Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. Noel Pemberton, Mr. Lloyd Lowndes, Miss Mabel Beardesley—a sister of the famous artist Aubrey—Miss Nelly Mortyne, Mrs. C. Bradley, and Mrs. William Burchill. It is intended to present the play at a West End theatre in due course.

We regret to record the death on the 23rd ult. at 19, Eglantine-road, East Hill, Wandsworth, of Miss Ellen Standing, at the age of fifty. She was a sister of Mr. Herbert Standing and of the late Mr. Francis Standing (Frank Celli), the well-known operatic vocalist, who died in December, 1894. Miss Standing appeared as the aristocratic Lady Appleby in *The Shop Girl* and also as Lady Stilton in *Little Miss Nobody* (Mr. Tom B. Davis's Lyric Theatre company). When Mr. Geo. Alexander's provincial company went on tour in the autumn of 1900 she was the representative of Frau Teppich in *The Prisoner of Zenda*, also appearing in *Rupert of Hentzau*, *In Days of Old*, and *The Princess and the Butterfly*, and understudying Miss Rose Leclercq and Miss Olga Brandon.

In *The Queen's Double* at the Garrick Theatre she appeared as Mme. Campan, and on the production of the farcical comedy *Why Brown Went to Brighton* at the Kennington Theatre on May 5, 1902, she represented Mrs. Rushbrook. Other parts played by Miss Standing included Mrs. Brown in *A Chinese Honeymoon* (Mr. Geo. Dance's autumn tour, 1903), the Countess in *The Orchid*, and also the Countess in *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Miss Standing paid a visit to America in the autumn of 1902 as a member of Mrs. Campbell's company, playing the part of Lady Nottingham in *Aunt Jeannie*.

A peculiar explanation of the causes of coughing in theatres is given by a well-known Harley-street physician. "People in theatres," he says, "do not cough because they want to. They cough because they cannot hear. Two nerves connect the tympanum of the ear and the back of the throat, with the result that if the ears are strained through, say, an actor's faulty enunciation, it produces irritation in the throat, which sets up coughing. At this time of the year it is certain that in a theatre several members of the audience will start coughing directly the play begins. This, of course, makes hearing all the more difficult, and the audience generally, being unable to hear, start the nervous cough which shows how intently they are striving to catch all that is being said."

Mr. George Edwardes has sent the sum of £15 to the Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, Miss E. S. Cooper having forwarded to him that amount as the result of an amateur pantomime in which Mr. Edwardes had permitted the use of musical numbers which greatly contributed to the success. To the same beneficent object Miss Marie Studholme has added a further sum of £5 12s. 6d., which she has collected by means of her autographs.

The commemoration tablet of the new theatre in course of erection in Park-place, Cardiff, was laid on the 29th ult. by Mrs. Grace Redford, wife of Mr. Redford, the owner of the theatre. The stone, which faces the main entrance, and is let into the wall of the crush-room, is of white marble and bears a gilded inscription. Mrs. Redford, having prepared the bed with an inscribed silver trowel, presented by the architects, Messrs. Ernest Runtz and Ford, declared the stone well and truly laid. The niche above the commemoration stone will be occupied by an enamelled shield bearing the arms of Cardiff.

The building has made rapid progress, and it is hoped that the theatre will be opened to the public at the end of the year. The steelwork of the main circle, which embodies the dress and upper circles, has been fixed for some time, the main girders for the top circle are in their place, and the cantilevers are now in course of erection. The auditorium generally is within a few feet of the roof, the dressing-rooms are completed, and the roof is now going on. Every part of the house is provided with two additional staircases, and practically the whole of the structure is of fire-resisting material.

Mr. A. E. W. Mason, the actor M.P., delivered his maiden speech in the House of Commons on Thursday. He dealt with Colonial affairs in an earnest and impressive address, which evoked loud cheers. The Prime Minister was the first to offer congratulations.

Press and players met in friendly conflict on Tuesday, when the London Press Golfing Society scored a decisive victory on the Northwood course over the George Edwardes Golfing Society. Owing to the absence of Mr. H. H. Hilton (Press) and Mr. Fred Leslie, jun. (George Edwardes Golfing Society), only seven a side took part in the singles. For the foursomes, the teams were completed by the inclusion of Mr. H. Dane and Major A. E. Williams. The scores were:—Singles.—The London Press Golfing Society: Mr. F. H. Newnes, 1; Mr. J. Stewart Paton, 1; Mr. G. W. Beldam, 1; Mr. Emsley Carr, 1; Mr. G. L. Jessop, 0; Mr. Dudley Maddick, 0; Mr. A. P. Faulkner, 1—total, 5. The George Edwardes Golfing Society: Mr. A. Hart, ½; Mr. F. J. Hope, 0; Mr. G. J. Hooper, 0; Mr. Rutland Barrington, 0; Mr. A. J. Evelyn, 1½; Mr. J. D. Hart, 1½; Mr. A. Hatherton, 0—total, 2½. Foursomes.—The London Press Golfing Society: Mr. Newnes and Mr. Paton, 1½; Mr. Beldam and Mr. H. Dane, ½; Mr. Carr and Mr. Jessop, ½; Mr. Maddick and Mr. Faulkner, 0—total, 2. The George Edwardes Golfing Society: Mr. A. Hart and Mr. Hope, 0; Mr. Hooper and Major A. E. Williams, 1; Mr. Barrington and Mr. Evelyn, ½; Mr. J. D. Hart and Mr. Hatherton, 1—total, 2½.

Touting by theatrical lodging-house keepers was under discussion at the Bristol Police Court on Monday, when William Henry H. Dowding was summoned for trespassing at Temple Meads Joint Station. Counsel for the railway company said the case was of importance to the company, because it was really a question of touting at the station. Defendant was a lodging-house keeper, and particularly catered for theatrical people who came to Bristol on Sundays. He went to the station and tried to get them to lodge at his house, and on Sunday, February 18, he was seen several times at Temple Meads. He was asked to leave the station or produce some authority to show that he was there for some lawful business. Defendant refused, and a police-constable was fetched, and he was taken to Bedminster Police Station. He then said he could produce some authority, and on going to his house he produced a telegram telling him to reserve rooms. It was urged in defence that the baggage men from the theatres and hotel porters were allowed on the station, and defendant had an equal right to look after his customers. The Bench, however, convicted, and fined defendant 20s. and costs.

Mr. H. B. Irving has in rehearsal an adaptation in one act, by W. L. Courtney, of Robert Louis Stevenson's story "Markheim," which will be put on at the Lyric in front of *Mauricette*. The theme of "Markheim," which is included in the volume entitled "Merry Men and other Tales and Fables," is of the most weird description, and should prove dramatically effective.

The English rights of *Les Plumes du Geai*, M. Jean Jullien's four-act play, produced in February last at the Theatre Molière, Paris, have been acquired by Mr. Chas. Frohman. The story is that of a self-made millionaire, who tires of the adulation and praise of a legion of sycophants, and looks with envy upon the simple, but contented, existence of one of his clerks whom he visits in disguise. He falls in love with the poor man's cousin, and his affection is returned, but when he reveals his identity as that of the millionaire whose name is held in little reverence by his employees, the girl irrevocably refuses his offer of marriage.

Mr. John Hare, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, and Mr. Ernest Bendall, who were the judges in the competition at the Academy of Dramatic Art for the gold medal annually presented by Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, have awarded the prize to Miss Mary Barton for the pre-eminence of her pantomime in *L'Enfant Prodigue*; and in recognition of the all-round excellence and versatility shown by Mr. Robert Atkins in his performance of Shylock, and of M. Pierrot in *L'Enfant Prodigue*, they desire to award and give him a special prize. The judges further specially commend the work of Miss Estelle Kaufmann in the excerpt from *Richard III.*, and of Mr. Quentin Ayrault in *The Times* and in dancing.

Miss Nellie Mortyne has been engaged by Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who produces the new play, *The Whirlwind*, at Birmingham on Monday.

The General Committee of the fund organised to mark the occasion of Miss Ellen Terry's fiftieth year on the stage contains the names of the most eminent members of the dramatic and musical professions, the additions during the past week including those of Mr. Hamilton Aïde, Herr Hans Andresen, Mr. F. R. Benson, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Mr. John Davidson, Miss Rosina Filippi, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Miss Margaret Halstan, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Eva Moore, his Honour Judge Parry, Mr. G. R. Sims, Mr. Yorke Stephens, Miss Ellaline Terriss, and Mr. Brandon Thomas.

Popular actresses will appear again in the guise of charity at the Elizabethan Fair and Fête to be given in aid of the King's College Hospital Removal Fund at Lincoln's Inn on May 23 and two following days. Among the distinguished stall-holders and helpers will be Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, and Mrs. Cyril Maude.

"A Bomb in Pink Bows," a new comedy by Edward Gulich, was given on Thursday evening at the Hampstead Conservatoire in aid of the Gordon Leisure Hour Club, which is to be opened shortly. Mr. Hugh Moss stage-managed, and the orchestra of the Royal Academy of Music, conducted by Mr. René Ortmans, played between the acts.

Mr. Cyril Maude has postponed the revival of *The Second in Command* at the Waldorf from this Saturday to next. A triple "first night" will thus be inevitable, *Dorothy of the Hall* at the New and *The Dairy Maids* at the Apollo being also down for that date.

The Forbes Robertson Dramatic Club will produce an original play in three acts, by Catherine Clivert-Young, entitled *The Crimson Rambler* at the Cripplegate Theatre on Saturday, the 28th inst., preceded at 7.45 by a new monologue by Clare Shirley entitled *Married a Month*.

Mr. H. Reeves Smith, who is on tour in the United States, is negotiating for the production of *The Marriage of William Ashe* in London in September. The play has done excellent business all through America, and is likely to repeat its success in England. Mr. Reeves Smith returns to this country in May.

At the next meeting of the Touring Managers' Association, which takes place on Wednesday, April 11, at the Tavistock Hotel, the question of instituting a new Touring Managers' Club will come up for discussion. Such an interesting topic is sure to draw a large meeting on Wednesday next.

A memorial tablet now decorates the walls of the cottage at Roncole where Verdi was born. There was no ceremony at its unveiling, the poor villagers, whom the illustrious composer had "remembered" in his will, and as a mark of whose gratitude the stone was to be set up, being the only persons present. Neither were there any speeches, prayers only being said by the curé.

A new drama, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, entitled *The Spider and the Fly*, will be produced by Mr. Ernest Carpenter at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on Easter Monday.

Messrs. A. and S. Gatti and Mr. Charles Frohman have underlined Wednesday next for the production at the Vaudeville Theatre of the new musical comedy, *The Belle of Mayfair*, of which Captain Basil Hood and Mr. Charles H. E. Brookfield are the authors, the composer being Mr. Leslie Stuart. The production is additionally noteworthy from the fact that it marks Miss Edna May's return to the London stage after a prolonged absence in America. The cast, in addition, will consist of Messrs. Sam Walsh, Farren Soutar, Arthur Williams, Courtice Pounds, Charles Angelo, Charles Treede, and Mervyn Dene, and Misses Louie Pounds, Irene Desmond, Maud Boyd, Ruby Ray, Jane May, Camille Clifford, Lillian Digges, and Stella de Marney.

Mr. E. S. Willard has commissioned Mr. Kellett Chambers to write him a comedy for next season, the plot of which has been discussed and agreed upon between them. The central character is along lines quite different from those of any comedy rôle Mr. Willard has played in late years, but promises to have a popular interest equal to that of Professor Goodwillie in Barrie's *The Professor's Love Story*, and to possess all the vital quality, rugged force, and human interest of Cyrus Blenkarn in *The Middleman*.

Miss Ethel Barrymore, we regret to learn, is suffering from appendicitis at Boston, U.S.A., and will have to undergo an operation.

The Annual General Meeting of the Touring Managers' Association will be held at the Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden, on Wednesday next, at 12.30.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil A. Melton have been specially engaged by Mr. Jack Haddon for a summer tour of *Under the Russian Flag*.

Mr. Charles Frohman is enjoying, with the production of *The Beauty of Bath* at the Aldwych receipts like unto none he has before experienced in his extensive connection with London theatres. In about a year he contemplates taking Miss Ellaline Terriss and Mr. Seymour Hicks, with their present organisation, to New York, presenting them for a season at the Knickerbocker Theatre there, in order to show New Yorkers one of the most gorgeous productions ever seen in the musical play line.

Under its new title, and with its new features, Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Longbridge's *Eugene Aram; or, After All*, was sealed with success by an immense audience at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, on Monday night, and Mr. Martin Harvey scored a complete triumph as the picturesque hero; the clever and able company also coming in for liberal applause. No better sign could be desired of the pluck and energy of Mr. Harvey than in the matter of this new version of the Aram story. He had the original *After All* thoroughly reconsidered and revised, and now he has the satisfaction of knowing that in *Eugene Aram; or, After All*, he has a play which is received everywhere with the warmest appreciation. On Monday Mr. Harvey commences the last week of his Glasgow engagement with performances of *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance*, passing therefrom on Wednesday to *Hamlet*, which will be given on that evening, and on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The officers and men of the Japanese battleship Katori have accepted the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge to visit His Majesty's Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, to-day. Togo's heroes will be escorted to the theatre by the St. Andrew's Pipe Band in full Highland costume.

Mr. Tom Craven, who is now exceptionally careful in protecting his property, having suffered at the hands of pirates more than most people imagine, will shortly copyright a new and original dramatic episode, entitled *Tim's Treasure Trove*. This is founded upon a story of Mr. Craven's recently publisned in *Household Words*.

Mr. Charles Hermann, we are pleased to learn, has recovered from his late illness, and is about to take up with his old love, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, in which he made his first appearance in this country.

"Forty Shillings," a comedietta in one act by F. A. Besant Rice, which will be produced at the Brixton Theatre on Monday, will include in the cast Miss Daisy Atherton (Mr. Willie Edouin's daughter) and Mr. Percy Foster. *Forty Shillings* will precede *Our Flat*, in which Miss Pollie Emery will be the Bella and Mr. Charles Steuart the Reginald. Mr. Besant Rice, who is the son of the late member of the celebrated firm of novelists of Besant and Rice, was for many years secretary to Mr. Pinero.

"Prunella; or, Love in a Dutch Garden," the pierrot play by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker, which is to be revived by Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker for a series of matinées at the Court Theatre on the 24th inst., will include in the cast Messrs. W. Graham Browne, Nigel Playfair, Trevor Lowe, Gordon Bailey, Edmund Gwenn, C. H. Croker-King, C. L. Delph, F. Cremlin, Edmund Gurney, Norman Page, and Lewis Casson, Mrs. C. Maltby, and Misses Valerie Salberg, Margaret Busse, Ruby Crawford, Hazel Thompson, Amy Lamborn, Agnes Hill, Clare Greet, Agnes Thomas, and Dorothy Minto.

Extraordinary enthusiasm was aroused at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, last week, on the occasion of Mr. Norman V. Norman's first visit there. Call after call was given to the principals throughout the week, and on the Saturday night, at the conclusion of *David Garrick*, Mr. Norman, in returning thanks for the reception given him, said that it was a great number of years since he had last appeared in Glasgow, but he sincerely hoped that many months would not again elapse before he returned to the city. He was fully aware how difficult it was to obtain the approbation of a critical Scotch audience; but, once secured, that approbation was not forfeited so long as it was deserved. Mr. Norman's speech was received with the greatest applause.

Mr. Norman V. Norman will play Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge's adaptation of Stanley Weyman's powerful romance, *Count Hannibal*—with Miss Beatrice Wilson as Clotilde de Vrillac and himself as Count Hannibal de Tavannes—at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, during next week. Part of the action of the play takes place during the Massacre of St. Bartholomew, A.D. 1572, in the reign of Charles IX. of France

Mr. Herbert Shelley has just received a mail from New Zealand to say that Mr. Edward Lauri is playing to enormous business with *Bill Adams*, the successful musical comedy made popular here by Mr. Arthur Roberts. Mr. Lauri arrives in London in June.

The libretto of *Castles in Spain*, which is due at the Royalty on the 18th inst., is by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, and the lyrics by Mr. Eustace Ponsonby. The music of the first act is from the pen of Mr. Harry Fragson, who will impersonate the principal character; but in order to give the proper tone to the second act, which is laid at Madrid, the services of two Spanish composers have been called in. Miss May De Sousa will appear as an American belle, and among others in the cast will be Miss Mabel Nelson, Mr. Johnny Danvers, Mr. Ivo Dawson and Mr. Hubert Willis.

Mr. Edward Compton has had a veritable tour of triumph since Boxing Night, having beaten his records at no less than seven important towns in the North and across the Border, and kept well up to his fine level of business at the many other theatrical centres visited. To-morrow he travels to London from Kilmarnock for a week's "rest," during which he expects to be exceptionally busy one way and another, one of his engagements being to sit to Mr. Herman G. Herkomer each day for his presentation picture, which is to be a three-quarter size painting in oil of the popular actor as David Garrick. On Easter Monday he will continue his tour at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for nine weeks, finishing at Oxford on June 16, thus completing eleven months of genuine "hard labour."

Madame Blanche Marchesi, the celebrated prima donna, the Hungarian violinist Kurcsoy, and the Russian pianist Shapiro have been engaged for a classical concert on Good Friday at the Brixton Theatre. The advance booking is very heavy, a fact which must be very gratifying to Mr. Ernest Stevens and Murray Heriot, showing as it does that their efforts to provide in every way for their patrons are well appreciated.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin," of all plays, has just been banned in Kentucky from which State comes the intelligence that the Bill prohibiting the presentation of the adaptation of Mrs. Beecher Stowe's famous novel and similar plays to *The Clansman* has unanimously passed the Legislature. The Bill (according to our informant) was presented by Senator J. Embry Allen, of Lexington, in the interest of the Lexington Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The Bill states that such plays as *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *The Clansman* are harmful to the youthful minds of the younger generation.

Mr. F. R. Benson will go to Jersey with his principal company on Good Friday, opening at the Opera House there on the following day. On the 20th he will be at Guernsey, from which place he will go direct to Stratford-on-Avon for the purpose of starting his three weeks' Shakespearean Festival at the Memorial Theatre on April 23. For his historical plays he has just engaged the services of Mr. William Haviland and Miss Nora Lancaster.

The Easter pantomime at Belfast will be *Dick Whittington*, and will be produced at the Theatre Royal, on Saturday evening next, the 14th inst. The cast includes the celebrated Scotch comedian Mr. Neil Kenyon, Miss Harriet Fawn, Miss Winifred Reece, Miss Marie Gerrard, the Sisters Vincent; Messrs. Fred Acton, Tom Gilmore, Wattie Nugent, Browne and O'Mallie; the Lohrenz Quartette of Dancers, &c. The pantomime will be produced under the experienced personal supervision of Mr. Fred W. Warden (managing-director, Warden, Ltd.), in conjunction with Mr. Edward Marris.

"The Temptress," a play of the most powerful order, is the attraction at the New Prince's Theatre, Poplar, this week, and Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is being welcomed heartily by the patrons of Mr. Clarence Saunes' fine theatre.

Mr. J. S. Metcalfe, the dramatic critic, who has been excluded by the American Theatrical Trust from its theatres, has entered a suit against twenty-seven managers, claiming £54,000 damages for alleged conspiracy.

Mr. Fred Locke, the well-known pantomime librettist, is lying seriously ill at his residence, Adelaide Cottage, Saltcoats, N.B. The sympathy of his many theatrical friends will be extended to his wife and family in their time of trouble and anxiety.

The Rev. Frederick Langbridge, rector of St. John's, Limerick, who, in collaboration with the Rev. Freeman Wills, is the author of *The Only Way*, *After All*, and the four-act romantic play *Count Hannibal*, which Mr. Norman V. Norman will produce at the Alexandra Theatre, N., next week, has just been appointed Canon of Limerick Cathedral. As Mr. Freeman Wills has the unusual honour of being a Lieut.-Colonel of Volunteers, Mr. Norman has rather a singular pair of authors for his new production.

Max Goldberg, author of *The Rogues of the Turf*, *Secrets*, and several other successes, has written a new drama which is to be produced in the autumn. Mr. Dan. F. Roe, who will head the company, is now booking dates. Much sympathy has been expressed with Mr. Roe in regard to the severe loss he sustained through the destruction of the scenery and wardrobe of *The Voice of the People* in the fire at the Theatre Royal, Wallsend, his property being uninsured.

Miss Lena Ashwell will produce *The Bond of Ninon*, of which particulars have already appeared in this column, at the Savoy, on Thursday, April 19. The full cast will comprise Miss Ashwell herself, Messrs. H. V. Esmond, Henry Ainley, Frank Tyars, Edward Sass, Eugene Mayeur, Vincent Sternroyd, Stanley W. Ashworth, Harry Welchman, St. Clair Bayfield, Henry Williams, Thomas Pauncefort, Leonard Calvert, Charles Terris, J. H. Walters, Lionel Scott, and Philip Darwin, Master Herbert Hollom, and Misses Laura Barradell, Evelyn D'Alroy, May Straker, St. Clair Swanzy, Lillian Mather, Beryl Mercer, Beatrice Terry, and Helen Ferrars. The play will be produced under the direction of Miss Clotilde Graves, the author, by Mr. Edward Sass.

"The Dairymaids" will make their entry into the Apollo Theatre on Saturday. The cast and particulars of the new musical comedy have already appeared here, and it only remains to wish Mr. Robert Courtneidge's production all prosperity.

Mr. Henry Tweedie has rented Stanley Hall, Disley, on the Golf Links, Cheshire, and has invited some of the principal members of Mr. Chas. Frohman's *Leah Kleschna* company to spend the Passion Week vacation with him. Golf, boating, and geological and antiquarian research can be freely indulged, and a most enjoyable time is anticipated.

"The Mirror of Time," a new one-act play by Cyril Wentworth Hogg, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Monday, in front of *Lucky Miss Dean*.

Mr. Richard Vane has just concluded a several months' tour as Mark Antony, Richelieu, Iago, Macduff, &c., with Mr. Edmund Tearle, and is now fulfilling a special engagement, as Ned in *Sowing the Wind*, with Mr. Leigh Lovel.

Mr. F. R. Benson has specially engaged Mr. William Haviland to play the parts of Bolinbroke in *Richard II.* and the title-rôle in Henry IV. at Stratford-on-Avon during the Festival celebrations. Mr. Haviland's excellent performance of Mowbray in Mr. Tree's revival of *Richard II.* will be remembered. Mr. Haviland has arranged with Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler to return to South Africa in June with his own company to play a répertoire of classical and other pieces in the principal towns only. The tour will be started in Cape Town with a grand revival of *Julius Cæsar*, and other productions will include *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, and *The Tempest*. Miss Edyth Latimer will again accompany Mr. Haviland as leading lady. Mr. Angus MacLeod will be the general manager of the tour.

Mr. Charles Manners, than whom no more earnest apostle of music exists, submitted his scheme for the production of Wagner's *Ring* to a representative meeting of Liverpool musicians held in the local Town Hall on Thursday, under the chairmanship of the Lord Mayor. After some discussion a resolution approving the project was passed, and a local committee appointed to arrange general details and invite subscriptions. Mr. Manners, while explaining his propositions, said that his last season had been a more profitable one than any previous, and he would have done even better but for the £6,000 he lost in London "trying to teach the Londoners." He had had to make the money in the provinces in order to lose it in London.

The Annual Ladies' Afternoon Concert of the Eccentric Club will be given at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday, when a treat is in store for all lovers of good cheer and bright entertainment. The Eccentrics have worthily won renown for the quality of their entertainments. The menu is always of the best, the artists of the first class, and the company the most select.

Miss Florence Hamer, who has fulfilled a two years' tour engagement in Australasia under the management of Mr. J. C. Williamson, returns to England early this month. For the first year Miss Hamer was engaged as leading lady in Mr. Williamson's new comedy company, comprising *Cousin Kate*, *The Marriage of Kitty*, and *The Duke of Killicrankie*, being re-engaged for the past year for Mr. Williamson's Dramatic Company for Damaris Holden in *His Majesty's Servant*, *The Darling of the Gods*, *If I Were King*, and other parts.

"Mrs. Green Obliges" is the title of a duologue produced at an entertainment given on Monday at the Parish Hall of St. Mary's, Bryanston-square. The duologue was acted by Miss Elsie Fogerty, the well-known Albert Hall and Crystal Palace teacher of elocution, and Miss Sylvia Dawson, a pupil of Miss Fogerty. Miss Dawson was a great success in the title-rôle, and her performance reflected creditably on the abilities of her teacher.

Miss Ada Rehan, the famous American actress, whose work with Mr. Augustin Daly at his theatre in Leicester-square will be most recently remembered, has been seriously ill—for the second time—the malady, it is said, resulting from the attack of appendicitis which she had last year. Miss Rehan is now slowly recovering; but plans for her spring tour have been abandoned, and she will sail in a few days' time for her home on the coast of Ireland.

Miss Sybil Ruskin, whose work in connection with the British Empire Shakespeare Society, notably as Ophelia in *Hamlet* and a Gentlewoman in *Macbeth*, has met with very favourable recognition, will be the Celia in Mr. Norman V. Norman's production of *As You Like It*, which Mr. Bannister Howard is making the feature of his Shakespeare Festival at the Crystal Palace. Miss Ruskin is also playing Mme. St. Lo in the new play *Count Hannibal*, dramatised from Stanley Weyman's novel by Freeman Wills and Fredk. Langbridge, which Mr. Norman is producing at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, next week.

The Easter term of the Royal College of Music concluded on Saturday, when the following awards were made by the Director and Board of Professors:—Council Exhibitions.—Pianoforte: Lucia T. Simpson (£7), Agnes M. Stevens (£10). Singing: A. Christa Wood (£7). Violin: Gladys Raymond (£10). Organ: Harold Gregson (£6), John Dixon-Smith (£10). The Charlotte Holmes Exhibition (£15) was awarded to Ada M. Thomas. The John Hopkinson gold and silver medals for pianoforte playing to Edmund O'N. R. Phillips and Phyllis Emanuel respectively. The Council prize, value £3 3s., for organ extemporising, to Harold E. Darke. The Challen gold medal, for pianoforte playing, to Phyllis E. Emanuel. The Arthur Sullivan prize of £5 for composers, to Ernest B. Farrar. The Clementi Exhibition, for pianoforte playing, value £30, to Lucy G. Polgreen. The Scholefield prize (£3), for string players, to Beatrice E. Jones. The Henry Leslie (Herefordshire Philharmonic) prize (£10), for singing, to Phyllis Lett. The S. Ernest Palmer (Berkshire) scholarship was awarded to Alfred G. Millard (organ), subject to confirmation by the Council.

Mr. Albert Bruno, who has for so many years been the provincial favourite as Tweedlepunch in *Florodora*, has been specially engaged by Mr. Fred Karno to appear in his sketches on the music halls. He will therefore not be seen in *The Prince of Pilsen*.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, in order to give Miss Violet Vanbrugh time to regain her strength, has again postponed *Monsieur de Paris*, the production of which will take place to-day. It will be played at both the morning and evening performance.

At the Fulham Theatre next week the attraction will be *The Worst Woman in London*. On Good Friday evening a sacred concert will be given, under Mr H. Bernhardt's direction, including Miss Zena Dare, Miss Phyllis Dare, Mr. Henry A. Lytton, Mr. Richard Green, Mr. G. H. Snazelle, and Signor J. Bartolotta.

"Petronella; or, A Royal Romance," the new Spanish comic opera, shortly to be produced in London by Mr. Harold Payne, is written round the adventures of a young Spanish captain of dragoons. The first act takes place in an obscure fortress in Catalonia, and the second in a disused Moorish palace, where a mock court is held. A strong cast is engaged, Mr. Howard Crispin being the business-manager.

The Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, was registered on March 24, with a capital of £1,000, in £1 shares, with the object of acquiring the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds. There is no initial public issue. The first directors (not less than two nor more than five) are to be appointed by signatories.

Mr. Wm. Morton's opinion of Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's production of *The Prodigal Parson* is evidenced by his immediately booking the play for the Alexandra Theatre, Hull, after witnessing it at Harrogate. The universal opinion is that the play has never been seen to greater advantage, the returns for previous visits having been exceeded at nearly every theatre visited. The advance bookings extend well into 1907.

The first ordinary general meeting of the London and Provincial Pantomimes Company, Ltd., was held at Glasgow recently, Bailie Davidson, Coatbridge, the chairman of the company, presiding. The audited accounts of the company for the year ended Feb. 23, 1906, were submitted. After writing off one-third of the cost of the production as depreciation, dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum and a bonus of 1s. 6d. per share on the Ordinary shares and 60 per cent. on the Deferred shares were declared. The auditors, Messrs. Drynan, Fulton, and Mitchell, C.A., were reappointed for the ensuing year. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and to the managing directors (Messrs. Ernest Stevens and R. C. Buchanan) for their services during the past year.

"MAURICETTE."

A Play, in Three Acts,
from the French of André Picard,
Produced at the Lyric Theatre, on
Saturday, March 31.

Roger Dautran .....MR. H. B. IRVING
Paul Aubert .....MR. LESLIE FABER
Chavry .....MR. W. T. LOVELL
Rivray .....MR. D. MCCARTHY
Phibert .....MR. ERIC LESLIE
Croissard .....MR. G. A. SEAGER
Mme. Dautran .....MISS MARION TERRY
Mauricette .....MISS DOROTHEA BAIRD
Mme. Chavry .....MISS ETHEL WARWICK
Mme. Rivray.....MISS GWLADYS MORRIS
Antoinette Aubert .....MISS EILEEN MUNRO
Françoise .....MISS ADA MELLON
Servant .....MISS EMELINE CARDER
Marie .....MISS EVELYN MARTHEZE

Ibsen, in *Ghosts*, deals with the question, "What is a wife to do when her husband is an incorrigible rake?"; and, in the case of Mrs. Avling, he shows to what dreadful extremities a woman may be reduced who persists in "sticking to" her spouse *quand même*. "Leave him," says Ibsen; "it is the best way in the end." But M. André Picard, from whose French *Mauricette* has been "taken," teaches otherwise. Your husband may give you some trouble, he says, but he is certain to "come round" when he gets to the elderly stage; and then you can commence your Darby and Joan existence. Mme. Dautran, the wife of the fascinating and popular deputy, Roger Dautran, has shut her eyes persistently, for the sake of domestic peace, to her husband's many infidelities. At the time that the play commences, he finds that his vices are leaving him. So he tries to become domestic; but habit is too strong, and he has actually to go out and dine at a restaurant by himself in order to get away from the society of his "incomparable" wife, who, like himself, is on the wane. Into the Dautran ménage at this juncture comes an impulsive, inexperienced girl, Mauricette, the daughter of an artist, absolutely frank, and bewitching by reason of her beauty and her simplicity—a simplicity which is not without a spice of natural shrewdness. Paul Aubert, a young doctor, the *homme sérieux* of the play, falls in love with Mauricette at first sight. And so stand the chessmen at the end of the first act.

And now a change comes over Dautran. He becomes gentle, domestic, and attentive to his wife; and she, with her husband and Mauricette, at a pretty place in the country, is serenely satisfied and unsuspicious. Of course, this fool's paradise cannot endure. First of all, Aubert announces his intention of proposing marriage to Mauricette, and Dautran opposes the project strenuously. Then a libertinish visitor, a M. Chavry, makes a dishonourable proposal to the girl, and, from the manner in which Dautran defends her, his wife begins to be jealous. When Aubert asks Mauricette to be his wife, she refuses him in such a way as to excite his suspicions; so he makes her promise that, if she is ever in trouble, she will seek shelter with his sister in Paris. The trouble soon comes. Mauricette, conscious of secretly loving Dautran, tries to escape from the house; but he meets her as she is going away, and she is weeping in his arms after they have confessed their love for each other, when Mme. Dautran enters, and, at last, is goaded to indignation. Mauricette eventually flies to Paris, and, six months later, we find her married to Aubert; but still cold and indifferent to him. In the interval, Dautran has fallen seriously ill, and he looks a complete "wreck" when, at last, he calls on Mme. Aubert, and, with her husband's full consent and approval, has a conclusive interview with her. But Mauricette, half-unconsciously, has gradually been yielding to the devotion, the tenderness, and the fresh, vigorous youth of Aubert; and when she looks at Dautran, and sees him obviously and repellently outworn, her infatuation dies, and she, of her own free-will, prefers her husband, the deputy falling back resignedly on the patient affection of his wife.

The production of *Mauricette* on Saturday was one of those after witnessing which one wonders how much of the effect created is due to the merit of the piece and how much to the happy luck of its casting. At least two of the characters had representatives so exactly suitable, so fortunately well-fitted, that to this must be attributed much of the success of the performance. Mr. H. B. Irving's innate distinction and fine voice and presence stood him in good stead as Dautran. He was particularly successful in indicating the point of age and feeling at which the deputy had arrived, and the style and authority of the individual. Mr. Irving acted with vivid intensity in the love scene in the second act; and, in the third, he handled the situation with an unshrinking art and fine subtlety which made a slightly supersentimental situation impressive. Miss Dorothea Baird is unapproachable in characters of the boldly-ingenuous sort—not the *ingénue* of the French stage, with her demure presence and assumed reticence, but the enterprising, energetic *ingénue*, who has seen life without understanding it, and is only protected by her instincts. Miss Baird has an exuberant amiability which is invaluable in a rôle like that of Mauricette; and her beauty and individuality, combined with a certain natural ease and grace, made her reading of the character irresistible. As for Mr. Leslie Faber, it would have been difficult to improve upon his Paul Aubert, so commendably firm, steady, and earnest was it, and so entirely free from self-consciousness. Then there was Miss Marion Terry, absolutely irreproachable in tenderness, tact, and delicacy of touch as Mme. Dautran. The character of the devoted wife, with her half-faded beauty and her gentle insipidity, is not an easy one to redeem from tameness and make interesting; but Miss Terry, by her personal magnetism, and by a number of artistic and ingenious touches, deeply endeared the personage to the audience. Miss Terry's delivery of the expository dialogue in the first act was admirable in its pathetic simplicity, and the "tone" of her rendering throughout was deliciously subtle and refined. That excellent and always effective actor, Mr. W. T. Lovell, played Chavry with sufficient character, and without the caricature to which the rôle offers so much temptation, and took full advantage of his one scene in the second act. Miss Ethel Warwick hit off quite cleverly the stylish malevolence of Mme. Chavry, and wore an amazing costume with an appropriate air. The other characters are more or less subordinate, and supply few opportunities to their representatives. Miss Ada Mellon gave a sound and judicious embodiment of the old servant Françoise; Miss Gwladys Morris was efficient as Mme. Rivray; and Miss Eileen Munro did good work as Antoinette Aubert; Mr. D. McCarthy being all that was required as Rivray, Mr. Eric Leslie contributing a neat bit of acting as Phibert, and Mr. G. A. Seager being quite commendable for his acute depiction of Croissard. *Mauricette*, with its return to the school of domestico-sentimental drama, its simple situations, and its conventional but interesting characters, delighted the audience at the Lyric immensely. There was a hearty demonstration at the end of each act, the applause at the conclusion being loud, long, and enthusiastic. The play was preceded by a monologue by Mr. Sam Sothern, entitled *What Shall I Say to Her?* A young officer, about to start for India, meditates in his chambers upon the best way for him, at his father's orders, to break off his engagement with a "penniless lassie." After an amusing soliloquy, he resolves to make use of the post; but just as he is about to sit down and write, he observes a note that has dropped on the floor. It is from the young lady in question, informing him of her engagement to a rich wholesale grocer. However, the youth, piqued by opposition, determines not to give up the girl, and goes out excitedly to "win her yet." The monologue, delivered with agreeable expressiveness and easy humour by its author, formed a pleasing prelude to the piece of the evening.

MR. AND MRS. IRVING AT THE NEW VAGABOND CLUB.

A luncheon, in honour of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving, was given by the New Vagabond Club at the Hotel Cecil on Thursday, when the guests included Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Laurence Irving (Adrian Ross), Miss Constance Collier, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Eva Moore, and Miss Genevieve Ward.

Mr. W. L. COURTNEY, who presided, gave the toast of "Our Guests," and said that Mr. Irving's career was before them all. In that clever, odd, humorous study to which Mr. Barrie gave the name of *The Admirable Crichton*, the author owed much to Mr. Irving for the amplification and embodiment of the character which he had designed. It was a remarkable study from many points of view, because while Mr. Irving had to represent a butler they felt and were conscious of the undeveloped hero, and when he was the hero they had not quite forgotten the butler. Some critics had thought that Mr. Irving's Hamlet was, if anything, too persuasive, too real, and too much of the actual young man on whom had come the crushing fate of having to avenge his father. He could not understand how any student of Shakespeare could regard any of his characters as otherwise than real people, whom, if only they had the lucky chance, they might possibly meet. It was because they felt that Mr. Irving's Hamlet, while it preserved the poetical elements of character, yet put before them the actual lineaments of an actual living man, that his impersonation came home to their hearts. Nor were they likely to forget how much of ingenuous charm and simple gracefulness Mrs. Irving had given them in the course of her career on the stage; the only real and original Trilby or the Mrs. Darling of Barrie's play, *Peter Pan*. It was indeed a happy incident, he thought, to find two such artists in union. Soon Mr. and Mrs. Irving were going to America. They wished them God-speed, and the success they deserved. Mr. Irving would produce in America some of the great productions which were identified with his great father. He hoped they would win plaudits from that great and friendly American nation, who were always glad to welcome talent, and that they would return happier and more prosperous for the change.

Mr. IRVING, who was enthusiastically greeted, recalled the fact that Mr. Courtney was his tutor at Oxford, and that he had given him one of the best pieces of advice that could be offered to an actor. When asked to take part in a performance of *Julius Cæsar* at the O.U.D.C., he thought that the character allotted him was not good enough. Quin once said, when asked to play the Ghost in *Hamlet*, that he would not take the part because he was "not going to catch cold behind." In those days the Ghost was not dressed as he was now. He only had a little armour in front of him, and had to be content with his waistcoat and trousers behind. That was an occasion when an actor might fairly refuse a part. When he found at Oxford that Mr. Arthur Bourchier had a leading part, he felt injured, and consulted Mr. Courtney, who replied, "Don't talk nonsense; you take what is given you." He had been wondering what were the New Vagabonds. A vagabond had been defined as "a wanderer without a home." None in the company would answer that description. The members of his profession once were the "real old thing." They really were vagabonds in the days of the Keans and Kembles, but times had changed, and actors were not the same sort of vagabonds now. Mr. Irving went on to comment upon a recent article in a contemporary in which the writer thought the critics spared the profession too much, and expressed the opinion that they should be treated in the same way as rival politicians were criticised. That was not a pleasant prospect, added Mr. Irving. Fancy the diatribes of Mr. Winston Churchill or the sarcasm of Mr. Chamberlain being imparted into dramatic criticism, or imagine a critic saying "Enough of this foolery" like the Prime Minister. Although such criticism might be exciting, it could hardly be useful or instructive. On behalf of himself and his wife he thanked the New Vagabonds for this token of regard which would remain amongst their most cherished memories.

Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in a speech thanking the Chairman for presiding, also replied to the article alluded to by the previous speaker. The writer seemed anxious to show them how to manage a theatre, but he (Mr. Alexander) would be willing to lend St. James's Theatre for a week if he would undertake to pay all expenses and produce two plays.

FOR the few remaining performances of *The Candidate* Sir Charles Wyndham has revived another old friend in the one-act piece by R. C. Carton, entitled *Dinner for Two*, which was put on as a curtain-raiser at Wyndham's Theatre on Monday. The plot of the little piece, which was originally produced at the Duke of York's, then known as the Trafalgar-square Theatre, in 1893, takes place in a private room in an hotel at Richmond, where Stapylton Kidbrook, a member of the Indian Civil Service, awaits a lady who is to dine with him. Instead, there breaks in upon him a prosy old Major, who talks of the wife he has lately taken. Kidbrook accidentally finds out that the lady he is momentarily expecting is no other than the newly-made bride referred to, and he tries every endeavour to get the Major out of the way until at length a telegram arrives to say that the lady is unable to come. Mr. Yorke Stephens acted with his customary smartness and mordant expression as Stapylton, and Mr. Edmund Maurice realised the tiresome and tenacious Indian Army officer to the life. A neat sketch of a waiter was supplied by Mr. Herbert Duppa.

MR. WILFRED STANFORD, the acting-manager of the Camden Theatre, announces a sacred concert at that house on Good Friday at which several well-known artists will appear.

MISS SOPHIE HARRISS.

It was with a feeling of regret that Nottingham bade farewell to its charming principal boy of the Grand Theatre pantomime. Three months' acquaintanceship of Miss Sophie Harriss's delightful Robin Hood had made that character a greater favourite with the local inhabitants and gentry than the original outlaw had ever been in his own day and generation. And the fair outlaw herself reciprocated that feeling of regret, for she regards Nottingham audiences with no small degree of affection. "They are so quick to appreciate one's efforts," she tells us, "so vociferous in signifying their pleasure, and so prompt at recognising a good point. In fact, I always feel at home in a Nottingham theatre. It was a magnificent pantomime, too," she added, as if the memory of it all could not be blotted from her mind's eye.

"What a happy time a principal boy has at Christmas, Miss Harriss—the invitations, the presents, the flowers—"

"Ah, but let me tell you I never accept invitations. I always go straight from the theatre to my rooms. The presents I give away, and the flowers I send to the local hospitals."

There were others present at the interview to testify to Miss Harriss's kindly nature. One lady detailed how Miss Harriss generously entertained the members of the pantomime company at Nottingham regularly to tea, and performed other agreeable and thoughtful little offices. The interviewer was scarcely prepared to meet four members of the fair sex when he went to converse with one, but there lay an advantage in the presence of the other three in that he learnt of many instances of Miss Harriss's good-heartedness that that lady's modesty would have kept in the background. Miss Harriss, by the way, has made a most delightful

MISS SOPHIE HARRISS

home of her flat at the Hotel Cecil, and evidences of her artistic sense are not lacking in the beautiful decorations of the different apartments over which we were shown.

A glance round the spacious and handsome drawing-room revealed tokens of visits to many lands.

"I see you have travelled a bit, Miss Harriss."

"Travelled! I should say so! Pretty nearly all over the world—South Africa principally, but India, America, New Zealand, Australia—where I was born—Japan—everywhere! My first hit in Australia was in excerpts from *Il Trovatore*. I was singing Leonore and another part—and thereby hangs a tale. Australia produces many good voices, and the audiences know how to treat them. I mean by that that they keep as quiet as mice while a singer is entertaining them. One night, during the run I am speaking of, just as I went up to top B, there was a breathless silence, and grating through it there came a raucous juvenile voice from the gods—'My hye, wouldn't she be a stunner to 'awk bananas?'"—and the little chap smeared the perspiration from his brow with his coat sleeve. I simply had to laugh, and the top B came down with a run."

"And how did you find the Transvaalers?"

"They're hypercritical, satiated with good things. Why, Londoners will stand productions that would not be looked at out there! You see, all the rich Jews—American, German, Russian—can pay well for their amusements, and they won't put up with inferior shows. And they will have constant change—répertoire is almost essential in South Africa. Here in England our long runs are good for the manager, but they produce artists capable of perhaps only one style of work. They force specialisation, and give no chance to varied talent. In Australia, most of the Colonies, and in America actors are taught everything, simply because they have to be able to play everything."

Early in her professional career Miss Harriss took part in several of the Australian productions of Drury-lane dramas, afterwards playing Katisha in *The Mikado*. Then followed engagements in *La Mascotte*, *The Bohemian Girl*, in which Miss Harriss played the Queen of the Gipsies, *Madame Angot*, the Countess in *Olivette*, Ralph Radestraw in *Pinafore*, and the pantomime of *Dick Whittington*, in which her part was, of course, the title-rôle. Then came a series of characterisations in drama at the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, and in the Victorian capital she also took part in a successful production of *The Three Musketeers*. Her professional engagements next took her to South Africa, by way of England, and she toured in Africa in comedy, comic opera, and vaudeville. During one period the company of which she was a member produced no fewer than eighteen operas in twenty-two weeks. Miss Leonora Bartram was the prima donna of the troupe. Among the operas were *The Mikado*, *Pinafore*, *Haddon Hall*, *The Sorcerer*, *Ruddigore*, *Iolanthe*, *The Gondoliers*, *Princess Ida*, *Yeoman of the Guard*, *Maritana*, in which Miss Harriss played Lazarillo, Siebel in *Faust*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *The Bohemian Girl*, and others. Then, after playing *Aladdin* in Chicago and New York, she returned to London to play Selim in Mr. Oscar Barrett's production of *Blue Beard*, subsequently appearing as Robin Hood in Birmingham, London, and Edinburgh pantomimes. In the intervals of pantomime Miss Harriss appeared in comedies and at the principal London music halls, and took out her own company in *A Merry Madcap*. She was the Robinson Crusoe of a Brixton pantomime, and opened the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Kennington, playing the Prince in *Cinderella*.

More music hall appearances, and then an engagement with Ada Blanche in *The Telephone Girl*, which was succeeded by Colin in *The Babes in the Wood*. There were further tours with her own company in *Lady Madcap*, more pantomime, this time as Dick Whittington at Dalston, several musical comedies, a season of comedy proper, a tour all over the Continent of Europe, and back to London.

"JOSEPHINE."

A Revue in Three Scenes, by J. M. Barrie,
Produced at the Comedy Theatre
on Thursday, April 6.

Mr. Buller .....MR. LOUIS CALVERT
James .....MR. A. E. MATTHEWS
Colin .....MR. KENNETH DOUGLAS
Andrew .....MR. GRAHAM BROWNE
Bunting .....MESSRS. WREN, ELDRED, and MATHESON LANG
A Future Prime Minister.MR. CLIFFORD BROOKE
Sammy .....MR. FREDERICK VOLPE
Miss Blarney .....MISS EVA MOORE
Free .....MISS MABEL HACKNEY
Fair .....MISS GRACE LANE
Josephine .....MR. DION BOUCICAULT

"The sports of children satisfy the child." One could not help remembering Goldsmith's immortal line after the "Barrie evening" at the Comedy on Thursday. One of Mr. Barrie's most charming qualities is his childishness. It is a question, however, whether this attribute of his is not more or less of an affectation. He has been so much "encouraged," as the nurses say of their charges, that he has become a little "spoilt." It is a "far cry" from the authorship of *The Little Minister* to that of *Josephine*, which is an up-to-date political allegory. The English nation is typified in Mr. Buller, the typical John Bull of old agricultural days, in blue coat, top boots, &c. He has four sons, James (Mr. Balfour), Colin (Sir Campbell-Bannerman), Andrew (Lord Rosebery), and Bunting (the Labour Party). Each of these sons wants to be the eldest (i.e., Prime Minister). Colin is frequently detected in flirting with Miss Blarney (the Irish Nationalist Party), while Josephine (Mr. Chamberlain), while still clinging to an old love Free (Trade), is attempted by the alluring promises of Protection, who appears as a Fairy.

The first two scenes of the revue take place in Mr. Buller's house; the third is laid in his London establishment, and represents the House of Commons. Through open doors we see the House sitting, and hear the droning sound of a speech; and a couple of charwomen arrive with brooms and buckets, and are sent off with the words "still sitting." Free (Trade) and Fair (Trade) disappear in turn *à la* Grigolatis, and the dialogue is a succession of "topical hits" at the indifference of the English public, Mr. Balfour's alleged indecision, Home rule by instalments, the increasing power of the Labour Party, &c. In the end Mr. Buller entrusts its representative with the Premiership, and the attitude of Josephine suggests a coalition with Labour in the near future.

Josephine had every chance given it by the acting, which was, at least, as good as the play deserved. Mr. Louis Calvert's Buller was every inch a bucolic magnate, solid, lazy, and authoritative; Mr A. E. Matthews played James with a polished ease and a quaint, sly humour which were delicately artistic and extremely effective. Mr. Kenneth Douglas was briskly vigorous as Colin, and Mr. Graham Browne made the most of the rôle of Andrew. Messrs. Wren, Eldred, and Matheson Lang, who successively represented Bunting—who may be supposed to embody the electorate—all did excellent work; and Mr. Clifford Brooke was seen to advantage as A Future Prime Minister, Mr. Frederick Volpe giving a sound and droll performance as Sammy. Miss Eva Moore was as arch, winning, and active as could be desired as Miss Blarney; and Miss Mabel Hackney acted with skill and ability as Free, Miss Grace Lane making a very pretty and graceful Fair. M. Dion Boucicault's Josephine was a marvellous piece of feminine impersonation, finished and capable in every detail, and so artistic as to be entirely illusive. Immediately before *Josephine* came a toy tragedy in one act, by Mr. Barrie, played for the first time, and entitled

"PUNCH."

Punch .....MR. DION BOUCICAULT
Judy .....MISS EVA MOORE
'O Χαρεῖς .....MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Superpunch .....MR. A. E. ANSON

The scene is a room which is used as a showbooth by an elderly couple, Punch and Judy. The former appears at the window, and his business of hanging the executioner is hooted indignantly by the mob outside. Punch realises that his entertainment is out of date; and when a butcher-boy, representing the public, comes in and tells him so, Punch hits him with his truncheon and kills him. His corpse is carried out by two footmen; and then Mr. Bernard Shaw comes in, announces himself as the modern Punchinello, and "takes" the window stage, amidst roars of applause from the street, while Punch and Judy slink out in dejection. The good taste of introducing the travestie is questionable; but Mr. Shaw should be grateful to Mr. Barrie for yet another bold advertisement. Mr. Dion Boucicault played Punch with a happy mixture of real pathos and eccentric business; Miss Eva Moore was delightfully odd and delicately amusing as Judy; Mr. Arthur Eldred was a most ready and realistic butcher-boy; and Mr. A. E. Anson undertook, with much audacity, the task of "depicting" Mr. Bernard Shaw. The first piece of the evening was a miniature melodrama in one act by Austin Strong, played for the first time, and entitled

"THE DRUMS OF OUDE."

Captain Hector MacGregor, MR. MATHESON LANG
Lieut. Alan Hartley.....MR. KENNETH DOUGLAS
Sergeant MacDougall ..MR. LOUIS GOODRICH
Stewart .....MR. HYLTON ALLEN
Servants .....MR. QUENTIN MACPHERSON, MR. A. FARRER
Mrs. Jack Clayton .....MISS MABEL HACKNEY

The author has drawn upon the Indian Mutiny for his material. The time is 1857; the place, a Palace in Northern India occupied by the British. A large quantity of gunpowder is stored in the Palace, and when the rebels rise and storm the building, Captain Hector MacGregor determines to blow it up if they effect an entrance. His duty is made the harder by the fact that he receives assurance that his love for a fair widow, Mrs. Jack Clayton, is returned; but nevertheless he is about to cause the explosion, when it is fortunately rendered unnecessary by the arrival to the rescue of a body of British troops. Mr. Matheson Lang's Hector MacGregor, with its cool reserve and complete ease and mastery, could hardly have been bettered; Mr. Kenneth Douglas gave a capital representation of a brave and boyish lieutenant, Mr. Louis Goodrich was quite satisfactory as a sergeant, Mr. Hylton Allen played a small part carefully, and Mr. Quentin Macpherson and Mr. A. Farrer were picturesquely mysterious as two Hindustani servants. Miss Mabel Hackney contributed a powerful and poignant performance of the part of Mrs. Jack Clayton, depicting the terror of the poor lady intensely and graphically. Mr. W. Hann's scenery for this piece and for *Josephine* was suitable, sufficient, and artistic.

ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART.

STUDENTS' PERFORMANCE.

If any people who predicted ill of the Academy of Dramatic Art when it was founded by Mr. Tree two years ago were present at the performances given by the students on Monday afternoon at His Majesty's Theatre, they would surely have been willing to admit that Mr. Tree's scheme had indeed fructified with unexpected success. It is pleasant to be able to state that the number of the students who have attended the school has been remarkable, and this fact seems to point to a widely increasing recognition of the usefulness of the institution. Many of the students have already begun their careers upon the professional stage, a result, it is thought, due in great measure to the public performance given by the Academy at His Majesty's in February of last year. It has already been announced that the executive council of the Academy consists of Sir Squire Bancroft (President), Mr. John Hare, Mr. Tree, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Pinero, and Mr. J. M Barrie. These gentlemen have undertaken to visit the school regularly, and conduct the work of the more advanced pupils. This will be done in the "final school," and here it is of interest to state that managers of London theatres may call upon this final school to give copyright performances of plays.

Undoubtedly the most creditable performance of last Monday's matinée—which, by the way, was given in aid of *The Referee* Children's Dinner Fund—was that of Miss Mary Barton in the title-rôle of *L'Enfant Prodigue*. Miss Barton was the winner in 1905 of the "Secretary's Prize" for general industry and progress, and this year she carried off Mr. W. L. Courtney's prize for dramatic blank verse recitation. Pantomimic—i.e., dumb-show—acting is a very high form of acting, and in the character of the Young Pierrot Miss Barton admirably told us, by graceful, easy, and self-explanatory expressions and movements what could scarcely have been better conveyed by words. It was really a brilliant and delightful performance. As the father of the prodigal, Mr. Robert Atkins capitally portrayed the troubled state of mind and unrelenting disposition of the old man, and Mdlle. Denège presented an interesting "study in silence" of the coquettish Phrynette, although it must be said that she was scarcely suited to the part. Mdlle Denège hails from the Theatre Antoine, Paris, and is the "auditrice libre" in the Academy. Miss Muriel Alexander, who in 1904 was awarded "free tuition for merit," was fairly good as Madame Pierrot, and Mr. Reginald Owen, winner of a gold medal last year, and awarded free tuition in 1904, and Mr. Stanley Warmington adequately filled the rôles respectively of the Baron and the Negro. Mr. Landon Ronald played the pianoforte part in exquisite style, and in the interpretation of the piece much was due to the beautiful and expressive accompaniment. It should be mentioned that the pupils received instruction from Mme. Cavallazzi for *L'Enfant Prodigue*.

Another item in the programme was the trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice*. Here again Mr. Robert Atkins distinguished himself by the subtle manner in which at one time he showed us Shylock the venomous, and at another time Shylock the pathetic. Mr. Atkin's characterisation was unquestionably the gem in the whole performance. Miss Frances Leighton spoke the lines of Portia exceedingly well, and her movements and gestures were dignified and graceful. A little more practice, and she should turn out an accomplished actress. Mr. Reginald Owen was an acceptable Bassanio, and gave evidence of careful appreciation of the part, while others who satisfactorily fulfilled the requirements of their various rôles were Mr. Edward Ouston as the Duke, Mr. David Powell as Antonio, Mr. Walton Palmer as Gratiano, Mr. Stanley Warmington as Salarino, Mr. A. E. Benedict as the Clerk, and Miss Cecily Stuckey as Nerissa. *The Merchant of Venice* performance was the result of Mr. J. Fisher White's tuition.

The first act of Mr. Pinero's play *The Times*—under Mr. Frederick Kerr's tuition—was also given. In this several of the pupils exhibited considerable ability. Mr. Quentin Ayrault's representation of the absurd Hon. Montague Trimble was a particularly commendable effort. The intonation of voice and comical mannerism necessary to the part were well sustained, and in other respects Mr. Ayrault thoroughly "looked the picture." Mr. Frank Royde as Percy Egerton Bompas depicted in amusing fashion the doings and sayings of the vulgar, but rich, ex-merchant, who yearns to go into society. Mr. Royde was rather too forcible in his impersonation, which otherwise was an excellent one. A commendable piece of acting was Miss St. Clair Swanzy's Mrs. Hooley. It was a characteristic likeness of a hypocritical lodging-house keeper anxious to secure a husband for her daughter. Mr. Hubert C. Brett brought out in strong relief the absurd stupidity of Howard Bompas, the weak, sobbing, effeminate voice, and girlish, half-idiotic manner lending an appropriate finish to the presentment. Mr. C. H. Sworder created an excellent impression in the more manly rôle of Viscount Lurgashall, and Miss Rose Hersee's embodiment of Mrs. Egerton Bompas indicated a thorough grasp of the true inwardness of her part, while Miss Ellen Cutcliffe proved a charming and engaging daughter. A word of praise is due to Miss Irene Clarke for a very capably-drawn study of the pseudo-unsophisticated Honoria; while others who showed signs of ability were Miss Gwendolen Williams as the Countess of Ripstow, Miss Ruby Miller as Miss Cazalet, Miss Sheba Brozel as Lucy Tuck, and Mr. Eustace Arundel as Jelf.

In Scene IV., Act IV., of *Richard III.*, Miss Estelle Kaufmann won high honours for the splendid elocution which marked her delivery of the lines of Queen Margaret. This young lady's work was highly commended by the judges. Miss Alison March as Queen Elizabeth, and Miss Gwendolen Williams as the Duchess of York respectively acted with dignity and gracefulness, and spoke with admirable enunciation. All the three ladies received tuition from Mr. J. Fisher White.

A selection of very attractive dances—the outcome of Mr. Louis Hervey d'Egville's teaching—were performed by the pupils. Particularly pleasing was the "Passepied," music by M. André Messager, in which the following ladies and gentlemen took part: Misses Pamela Hope, Irene Clarke, Sheba Brozel, Mabel Piper, Marjorie Rogers, Muriel Dole, Beatrice Smith, Nora Cattley, Dora Arnold, Edith Dent, and Dulcie Coury; and Messrs. Frank Royde, Stanley Warmington, Cecil Norfor, Herbert Lomas, and Eustace Arundel. In the patter step-dance, executed to the accompaniment of some delightful music by Mr. d'Egville, the artists were Misses E. Hilton, M. Hilton, Bertha Dawson, Jessica Stanton, and Messrs. Quentin Ayrault and Percy A. Gawthorne. In the "Danse Rapide" Miss Aileen Caylus was the Arlequina, Mr. Quentin Ayrault the Arlequin, and Miss Vera Wilson the Columbine.

The orchestra was most ably directed by Mr. Adolph Schmid.

The judges of the afternoon's acting were Mr. John Hare, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, and Mr. Ernest Bendall, who awarded the gold medal presented annually by Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft to Miss Mary Barton for her clever pantomimic representation of l'enfant prodigue. A special prize is to be given to Mr. Robert Atkins for his performance of Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice* and M. Pierrot in *L'Enfant Prodigue*, while Miss Estelle Kaufmann and Mr. Quentin Ayrault have been commended, the first for her interesting portrayal of Queen Margaret in *Richard III.*, and the second for his acting of the Hon. Montague Trimble in *The Times*, and for his dancing.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Happy Medium, Haymarket, Nov. 8, 1875.
Happy Pair, St. James's, March 2, 1868.
Happy Returns, Vaudeville, March 1, 1892.
Happy Thought, Bayswater, March 2, 1894.
Happy Valley, Warrington, Feb. 10, 1880.
Happy Village, Camberwell, Feb. 17, 1894.
Harbour Lights, Adelphi, Dec. 23, 1885.
Harbour Master's Secret, Britannia, Dec. 21, 1868.
Hard as Iron, Varieties, Burton, Jan. 16, 1885.
Hard Case, Terry's, Oct. 26, 1893.
Hard Hands and Happy Hearts, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Nov. 22, 1869.
Hard Hearts, Grand, April 26, 1886.
Hard Hit, Haymarket, Jan. 17, 1887.
Hard Lines, Queen's, Manchester, April 16, 1883.
Hard Struggle, Lyceum, Feb. 1, 1858.
Hard Up, Theatre Royal, Reading, March 26, 1883.
Hare and Hounds, Royal Princess's, Edinburgh, Aug. 13, 1883.
Harlequinade, Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, Oct. 26, 1899.
Harlequin Alfred the Great, Cabinet, Dec. 26, 1866.
Harlequin Cock Robin, Victoria, Dec. 26, 1866.
Harlequin Fun, Effingham, Dec. 26, 1866.
Harlequin Little Boy Blue, Crystal Palace, Dec. 21, 1868.
Harlequin Rokoko, Grecian, Dec. 24, 1879.
Harmonious Discords, Opera Comique, March 31, 1873.
Harmony, Strand, Jan. 14, 1884.
Harmony Restored, Grand, Leeds, Aug. 13, 1879.
Harold, Prince's, Portsmouth, March 29, 1875.
Harold Hawk, Surrey, Sept. 27, 1858.
Harold the Saxon, Leicester, Oct. 21, 1897.
Harvest, Princess's, Sept. 18, 1886.
Harvest of Crime, Brierley Hill, May 27, 1897.
Harvest of Hate, Theatre Royal, Castleford, Feb. 1, 1899.
Harvest of Wild Oats, Henley-on-Thames, March 8, 1897.
Harvey's Portrait, Theatre Royal, West Hartlepool, June 22, 1869.
Haseman's Tochter, Opera Comique, Oct. 27, 1894.
Haska, Drury Lane, March 10, 1877.
Haste, St. George's, Jan. 23, 1879.
Haste to the Wedding, Princess's, Edinburgh, Dec. 1, 1873.
Hatred, Theatre Royal, Oldham, March 1, 1880.
Haunted for Ever, Britannia, Feb. 23, 1880.
Haunted Glen, Woolwich, April 27, 1888.
Haunted Houses, Princess's, April 1, 1872.
Haunted House at Lodore, Guildford, Feb. 11, 1895.
Haunted Lives, Theatre Royal, Hull, April 7, 1884.
Haunted Man, Adelphi, June 20, 1863.
Haven of Content, Bristol, Oct. 22, 1896.
Haven of Rest, Theatre Royal, Worksop, March 14, 1868.
Hawaia; or, The Burning Gulf, Alhambra, Dec. 27, 1880.
Hawke's Nest, Park, June 3, 1878.
Hawk's Grip, Prince of Wales's, Southampton, Feb. 14, 1887.
Hawkwood Hall, Islington, Jan. 31, 1895.
Haymaking, Opera House, Kilmarnock, March 19, 1877.
Haymarket Spring Meeting, Haymarket, April 9, 1855.
Hazard, Theatre Royal, Margate, July 1, 1891.
Hazel Kirke, Vaudeville, June 30, 1886.
Headless Man, Criterion, July 27, 1889.
Head of Romulus, St. James's, May 10, 1900.
Head of the Family, Olympic, Nov. 14,
Head of the Poll, St. George's Hall, Feb. 28, 1882.
Head or Heart? Comedy, May 29, 1890.
Heads and Hearts, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Aug. 20, 1877.
Headsman's Axe, Grecian, Oct. 24, 1870.
Heads or Tails, Olympic, June 26, 1854.
Heartless, Olympic, April 18, 1885.
Heart of a Brother, Britannia, May 1, 1871.
Heart of a Hero, Theatre Royal, Darwen, Aug. 5, 1899.
Heart of Gold, Princess's, Oct. 9, 1854. 1859.
Heart of Hearts, Vaudeville, Nov. 3, 1887.
Heart of Maryland, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 25, 1895.
Hearts, Theatre Royal, Bishop Auckland, July 17, 1874.
Hearts and Hampers, Theatre Royal, Gloucester, Nov. 21, 1881.
Hearts and Hands, Theatre Royal, Manchester, May 2, 1865.
Hearts and Homes, Theatre Royal, York, Feb. 11, 1876.
Hearts are Trumps, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, March 27, 1879.
Heart's Delight, Globe, Dec. 17, 1873.
Heartsease, Princess's, June 5, 1875.
Hearts, Hearts, Hearts, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, May 25, 1868.
Hearts of Gold, Keighley, Feb. 13, 1888.
Hearts of Oak, Victoria, Jan. 22, 1866.
Hearts of the West, Theatre Royal, Darwen, Dec. 3, 1896.
Heart's Ordeal, City of London, Aug. 3, 1863.
Hearts or Diamonds, Steinway Hall, May 12, 1891.
Heart-Strings and Fiddle-Strings, Princess's, Feb. 27, 1865.
Heather Field, Dublin, May 9, 1899.
Heavy Fathers, Folly, April 14, 1879.
Hebrew, The, City of London, Feb. 9, 1852.
Hector's Retribution, Walworth Institute, Feb. 9, 1881.
Hecuba a la Mode, Anerley, May 1, 1893.
Hedda Gabler, Vaudeville, April 20, 1891.
Hedge Carpenter, Britannia, Feb. 7, 1870.
Heimath, Drury Lane, June 25, 1895.
Heinrich, Theatre Royal, Bristol, April 3, 1876.
Heiress Hunting, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, Feb. 27, 1882.
Heiress of Daventry, Glasgow, June 28, 1899.
Heiress of Hazeldene, Theatre Royal, Bilston, Aug. 4, 1893.
Heiress of Maes-y-Felin, Merthyr Tydfil, Feb. 2, 1893.
Heir from the Ocean, Queen's, Dublin, Sept. 25, 1871.
Heir of Linn, Glasgow, Oct. 9, 1899.
Heirs of Rabourdin, Opera Comique, Feb. 24, 1894.
Held Asunder, Prince of Wales's, April 3, 1888.
Held at Bay, Marylebone, Sept. 1, 1879.
Held by the Enemy, Ladbroke Hall, Feb. 20, 1886.
Held in Harness, Keighley, May 29, 1890.
Held in Judgment, Garston, Nov. 11, 1891.
Held in Slavery, Spennymoor, Sept. 3, 1894.
Held in Terror, Theatre Royal, Bristol, June 21, 1897.
Helena in Troas, Hengler's Circus, May 17, 1886.
Helen Douglas, Haymarket, July 18, 1870.
Helen of Troy up to Date, Folkestone, May 22, 1893.
Helen; or, Taken from the Greek, Adelphi, June 30, 1866.
Helen's Babies, Gaiety, Sept. 15, 1878.
Hellas, St. James's Hall, Nov. 16, 1886.
He Loves Me, He Loves Me Not, Maidenhead, Dec. 16, 1891.
Helping a Friend, Strand, May 13, 1899.
Helping Hands, Adelphi, June 20, 1855.
Help in Time, Criterion, June 14, 1879.
Helps, Theatre Royal, Lincoln, Dec. 13, 1877.
Helter Skelter, Opera House, Sheffield, June 28, 1886.
Helvellyn, Covent Garden, Nov. 3, 1864.
Hen and Chickens, Adelphi, Aug. 24, 1863.
Henley Regatta, St. George's Hall, June 14, 1886.
Henrietta, Elephant and Castle, Sept. 23, 1887.
Henry Dunbar, Olympic, Dec. 9, 1865.
Henry Esmond, Edinburgh, March 5, 1897.
Henry the Eighth, Lyceum, Jan. 5, 1892.
Henry the Fourth, Lyceum, March 29, 1890.

Presentation.—On Saturday evening, after the fall of the curtain on *Sergeant Brue* at the Kennington Theatre, the whole of the staff and friends assembled in the foyer to say farewell to Mr. Harold Entwistle, who has resigned his position as acting manager of the Kennington Theatre to take up the management of Mrs. Patrick Campbell's forthcoming tour Mr. C. F. Parsley, treasurer at the Kennington Theatre, made the presentation, which consisted of a handsome diamond pin. Mr. H. Entwistle, in returning thanks, said it was always hard to part from old associations, and their handsome gift and kind wishes would ever be remembered by him in his new venture.

An enjoyable invitation smoking concert was given at the Caversham Bridge Hotel, Reading, on the 28th ult., to welcome the new proprietor, Mr. H. J. Spragg, who has taken over the whole of this well-known hostelry. Some 300 guests accepted the invitation. Mr. Fred Hermann's London Lyric Party was specially engaged, and gave entire satisfaction. Mr. Spragg, who is well known in city and theatrical circles, is having the hotel entirely refurnished and decorated, and it is intended to run a fortnightly series of concerts.

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ON THE ROAD, APRIL 9.

Abandoned Woman.—West London Theatre.
After the Ball.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
An Unwedded Wife.—Theatre Royal, Batley.
Are You a Mason?—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
At Cripple Creek.—T. R., Hanley.
At Duty's Call.—New T., Loughboro'.
At the World's Mercy.—New Theatre, Aberdare.
Bandman-Palmer.—Spa Theatre, Whitby.
Beauty and the Barge.—New Pier, Eastbourne.
Billy's Little Love Affair.—Grand T., Croydon.
Bramley, Esmond.—T. R., Blackburn.
Bulmer, Mr.—T. R., Darlington.
Carl Rosa Opera Company.—T. R., Brighton.
Catch of the Season.—O. H., Southport.
Christian, The.—Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Coal King.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Grand T., Swansea.
Dishonoured.—Theatre Royal, York.
Driven from Home.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Earl and the Girl.—New T., Chatham.
Face at the Window.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Faithful Friend.—P. O. W., Salford.
False Wife.—Empire T., Dundee.
Fight for Millions.—Grand T., Walsall.
Gay Parisienne.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Golden Ladder.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
Great Awakening.—T. R., Stratford.
Greatest Scoundrel Living.—T. R., Darlington.
Her Lost Self.—Prince of Wales's, Nuneaton.
Her Luck in London.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Her One Great Sin.—York.
Her Second Time on Earth.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Honour Thy Father.—Century T., Motherwell.
I Defy the World.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Indian Mutiny.—Pontypridd.
In Holy Russia.—T. R., Sunderland.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
Kitty Grey.—Queen's T., Swindon.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Middlewich and Sandbach.
Lady Madcap (Edwardes).—T. R., Nottingham.
La Poupee (Ralland).—T. R., Bury.
Life of a Showman.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—Chatham.
Little Bread Winner.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Grand T., Blackpool.
London Fireman.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Love that Women Desire.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Luck of Life.—Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.
Man and Wife.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.
Manxman, The.—T. R., Barnsley.
Martin Harvey.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Midnight Mail.—Junction T., Manchester.
Money Makes the Man.—Queen's T., Longton.
Moody Manners (A.).—T. R., Birmingham.
Moody Manners (B.).—Grand T., Nelson.
Mountain Climber.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Mr. Hopkinson.—T. R., Cardiff.
Mr. Smith.—Greenock.
Napoleon the Great.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Norman V Norman.—Alexander Theatre, N.
No Wedding Bells for Her.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
One of the Best.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
On the Love Path.—Edinburgh.
Otto, the Outcast.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Passion's Power.—T. R., Bolton.
Penalty of Crime.—Treherbert.
Poor Must Live.—T. R., Sunderland.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Price of Her Soul.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Prince of Pilsen.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Prodigal Parson.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Prodigal Son.—Grand T., Stalybridge.
Proof.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Public Opinion (N.).—Court T., Liverpool.
Revenge.—T. R., Rotherham.
Rogue's Daughter.—T. R., Worthing.
Rogues of the Turf.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
Romany's Revenge.—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Royal Divorce.—Marlborough T., N.
Royal Divorce (N.).—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Royal Revenge.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
Sailors of the King.—T. R., Ashton.
Saints and Sinners.—T. R., Hull.
Sign of the Cross.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Silver King.—Royalty T., Chester.
Sins of a City.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Spring Chicken.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Sunday.—T. R., South Shields.
Sweet and Twenty.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Swiss Express.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
Temptress, The.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Traitor Prince.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Two Hussars.—T. R., Batley.
Two Little Drummer Boys.—Kirkcaldy.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Prince's T., Glasgow.
Under Two Flags.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—H. M. T., Dundee.
Warner, Miss Grace.—St. James' T., Manchester.
Way of the World.—T. R., South Shields.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Middlesboro'.
White Chrysanthemum.—T. R., Brighton.
Wilkie, Allen, and Co.—King's T., Walthamstow.
Williard, E. S.—Davidson's, Milwaukee.
Woman's Past.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Worst Woman in London.—Grand T., Fulham.
Wrecker of Men.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Youngest of the Three.—Llanelly.
10.30 Down Express.—T. R., Leicester.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Hilda H. Wilson—Saturday, April 7.
W. P. Dempsey—Saturday, April 7.
Will White—Saturday, April 7.
Madge McIntosh—Sunday, April 8.
E. F. Kennedy—Sunday, April 8.
Arthur Estcourt—Sunday, April 8.
Beatrice Isaacson—Sunday, April 8.
Marie Montrose—Tuesday, April 10.
Frank Wheeler—Tuesday, April 10.
W. F. Frame—Tuesday, April 10.
Helen Martin—Tuesday, April 10.
Lily Barley Clarke—Tuesday, April 10.
Cissy Grahame—Tuesday, April 10.
John Davidson—Wednesday, April 11.
Leonard Boyne—Wednesday, April 11.
Austin Melford—Wednesday, April 11.
Helen Vicary—Wednesday, April 11.
Kate Robberds—Wednesday, April 11.
F. D. Wood—Wednesday, April 11.
Alma Evelyne—Thursday, April 12.
C. Carlton Wallace—Thursday, April 12.
Ellaline Terriss—Friday, April 13.
Leonard Shepherd—Friday, April 13.

Excellent reports of good business have resulted from Mr. W. W. Kelly's visit to suburban London. His policy in practically reproducing *A Royal Divorce* with probably more than double the average expenses of similar plays proves that the more the public is given for their money the more they will give in return. The playgoer with average perception wants to see signs of something better each time he goes to the theatre, and good plays produced by practised writers for the stage and performed by experienced professional players under thoroughly proficient stage management, with a well-qualified business man at the head of everything, will assuredly reap a golden harvest. Mr. Kelly's enterprise in taking the Scala Theatre and mounting *A Royal Divorce* in every detail as well as it could possibly be done was a decided success, and in taking the same company and production to the outlying theatres he affords a still stronger proof that an interesting play, well played, earns a handsome profit. There is no doubt that his visit to the Marlborough next week will be entirely satisfactory.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Homewood.—On March 29, at 19, Gainsboro'-mansions, Queen's Club Gardens, W., the wife of Talbot Homewood, of a son.

Greenbank.—April 1, at 14, King's-gardens, West Hampstead, the wife of Percy Greenbank, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Leech—Vickers.—At the Methodist Church, Crewe, April 4, 1906, Ernie Leech, ventriloquist, to Minnie Bruce Vickers.

DEATHS.

Scott.—On March 31, John Scott, better known as "Scottie," many years stage hand at the Palace, Sunderland.

Spink.—Died April 1, age 28, Beatrice Mary Spink, (Ena Bertoldi), the beloved wife of George Spink (Dandy George). Sleep well, dear girl. American papers please copy.

Standing.—March 23, at 19, Eglantine-road, East Hill, Wandsworth, Ellen Standing, actress, aged 50.

Wieland.—April 2, at her residence, 16 St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, W.C., from hemorrhage of the brain, Adelaide Wieland (professionally known as Zeo, gymnast), the beloved wife of H. W. Wieland, musical and dramatic agent, aged 43.

In Memoriam.

Bell.—In ever-loving remembrance of our darling sister, Eva Bell, who died April 4, 1901. Never forgotten by her sisters Minnie and Bella Terry.
"We loved her, O, we loved her much,
But Jesus loved her best;
He has taken her to His Heavenly home
Of everlasting rest."

Coleman.—Mr. George D. Coleman, who died April 10, 1902.
"There's rosemary; that's for remembrance."
—J. P. R.

Newham.—Rose Newham (Mrs. A. M. Stuart).—In loving memory of my dear wife, who passed away April 8, 1905. Never forgotten by her loving husband and brothers and sisters.

Saker.—In loving memory of Freddie, the dearly loved brother of Annie Saker, who passed away April 5, 1904. At rest and happy with mama.

Wright.—In loving memory of my dear husband, who died at Boscombe, April 9, 1905.
The blow was great, the loss severe,
To part with him I loved so dear.
It was God's will it should be so,
At His command we all must go.

Wright.—In fondest everlasting memory of our own darling, Henry Wright, who died April 9, 1905. Never forgotten by his devoted, sorrowing wife and daughter.

For Sympathy.

Mr. Tom Claxton wishes to thank all sympathising friends for the letters and telegrams in reference to the death of his beloved daughter, Mrs. George Spink, *i.e.*, Ena Bertoldi. I also wish to thank the following kind friends for their great thoughtfulness in sending floral contributions as a mark of respect for my beloved daughter:—Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Devere, James and Lucy Allison, Mrs. Fred Karno, R. J. Harris (Manager of the Ten Loonies), Philippi Bros. and Marie Rieff Mr. and Mrs. Frank Silvo, Dicks Comedy Five, Daisy Dormer, Thomas Claxton, jun., Emily Claxton, Dandy George, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Howe.—Signed, Tom Claxton.

A RELIC OF HANDEL.

In the Court of King's Bench on the 30th ult., before Mr. Justice Kennedy, Mrs. Henrietta Maria Shearer sued Dr. William H. Cummings, principal of the Guildhall School of Music, to recover Handel's silver presentation watch, or damages for its conversion. Defendant pleaded that he had purchased the watch.

Mr. R. J. Drake, in opening the case for the plaintiff, said his client, who was now seventy years of age, was formerly a professional singer, and known as Miss Henrietta Mackenzie. For many years she took an interest in Handel's works, and she attended the Handel Festivals for forty years. In July, 1879, there was a sale by auction of Handel's relics, and the plaintiff purchased the watch in question for a small amount. The defendant purchased at the same sale Handel's will. In 1905 the plaintiff found it necessary to raise some money, and she asked a Mrs. Herring if she could assist her in selling the watch. The plaintiff informed her that she could not take less than £150 for it, and that any offer made for the watch must be submitted to her before it was accepted. Later, the watch was handed to Mr. Stafford Smith, a commercial traveller, to show to a likely purchaser, but he had no authority to sell it. Some time afterwards the plaintiff heard that the watch had been sold, and Mr. Stafford Smith informed her that he had sold it to the defendant for £90. The plaintiff received from Mr. Stafford Smith a cheque for that sum, but it was not met when presented. The defendant was communicated with, and he replied that he had purchased the watch for £50, and held Mr. Stafford Smith's receipt. Counsel submitted that Mr. Stafford Smith had no authority to sell the watch and that the plaintiff was entitled to recover it.

The plaintiff was called, and gave evidence in support of counsel's statement. She added that neither Mrs. Herring nor Mr. Stafford Smith had authority to sell the watch without the offer being first submitted to her. The defendant had informed her that he purchased the watch of Mr. Stafford Smith for £50. In cross-examination the plaintiff said she paid £4 2s. 6d. for the watch. She had exhibited it at the Crystal Palace. At first she objected to the watch going out of England, but afterwards she withdrew that objection. At the time she handed the watch to Mrs. Herring she was not particularly in want of money, but she thought that by selling it she would add to the sum she had to acquire an annuity. She was offered £150 for the watch in 1888 by some American gentleman, but at that time she did not wish to sell it.

After the luncheon interval it was stated that the parties had come to terms.

The clever synopsis in the native tongue of *Old Heidelberg* presented to the Japanese sailors who visited the Crystal Palace last week was written by Mr. George Stuart, the translation and printing being carried out by him in every detail.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

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The PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. T. Dearden.—*A letter addressed to him at the Duke of York's Theatre, London, will reach him.*

Dan Dominic.—*It is against our rule to give the age of members of the profession.*

E. Beresford.—*We regret that we are unable to inform you.*

H. F. L.—*The original representation of Krux in T. W. Robertson's* School *was Frederick Glover.*

C. L.—The Grand Mogul, *comic opera in three acts, was first played in London at the Comedy Theatre on Nov. 17, 1884, the cast including Miss Florence St. John, Messrs. Fred Leslie, Henry Bracy, Frank Wyatt, and Arthur Roberts.*

S. A. R.—*(1) Gerald Griffin, the novelist and dramatist, died in 1840. (2) Mr. Alfred Austin's drama, entitled* Flodden Field, *was produced at His Majesty's Theatre on June 8, 1903.*

C. Moss.—*(1) Mr. Bransby Williams gives the scene between David Copperfield and Uriah Heep in which the latter fawns upon David, but after his departure curses him fiercely. (2) Write to S. French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand.*

C. E. T.—*(1) About thirty years ago. We are unable to give the precise date. (2) Yes. (3) Mr. Justin McCarthy, jun. (4) Miss Marie Loftus is appearing this week at the Shepherd's Bush Empire. See her advertisement on the back page of* The Era.

Poppie Howard.—*We do not think you have any claim against either the railway company or Marris. The best way is to insure against such accidents.*

A committee meeting of the Actors' Orphanage Fund was held on Wednesday, at 18, Russell-street, Covent Garden. There were present Mr. Charles Cruikshanks (in the chair), Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Mrs. Gay, Mrs. Mangles, Miss Carlotta Addison, Mrs. Fred Wright, Mrs. E. Compton, Miss May Warley, Mrs. E. S. Willard, the Rev. A. Brinckman, and Mr. E. H. Bull (secretary). Members of the committee reported on their various visits to orphans, all such reports being considered to be most satisfactory. The present rules were under discussion, and certain alterations, rendered necessary by lapse of time, suggested. At the present moment there are no less than fifty-three orphans in the care and under the charge of this excellent charity.

The special committee of the Actors' Association held a meeting on Saturday last, when several important questions in connection with copyright in photographs and payment for rehearsals were under discussion, and the secretary received instructions. There were present Messrs. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Clarence Blakiston, Arthur Holmes-Gore, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The usual weekly meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday last, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor, V.P.), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Elizabeth Kirby, Kate Phillips; Messrs. J. Cooke Beresford, Clarence Blakiston, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, A. E. George, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Norman McKinnel, Quinton McPherson, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members, and a member of the council expressed sincerest thanks for valuable advice given by them during the past week. Two cases of alleged insanitation at provincial theatres were under consideration, and exhaustive reports from the Medical Officers of Health in the different districts were received as fully explanatory and satisfactory. The report of the special committee was received. The following ladies and gentlemen were nominated for election to the association: Arthur Fayne, Willie Garvey, Norman Wrighton, Edward Vaughan, Donald Maclean, and Howard Brenan. The suggestion book was considered, and an entry made.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee met and transacted business, and the secretary received instructions to issue a whip for the meeting to-day at 11.30. There were present Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), J. Cooke Beresford, A. E. George, A. Holmes-Gore, C. Aubrey Smith, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

On Saturday afternoon, March 31, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company presented, for the first time in twenty years, Beethoven's *Fidelio*, with Miss Grace Nicoll in the title-rôle. The opera was produced by Mr. Charles Victor, and was a pronounced success, the artists being called many times before the curtain at the end of each act, the conductor, Mr. Walter Van Noorden, sharing largely in the applause. The opera is certainly well worthy of a place in the weekly répertoire. A very fine performance of *Tristan and Isolda* was given also on the previous evening.

Mr. Charles Frohman has decided to produce *The Beauty of Bath*, Mr. Seymour Hicks' latest successful piece, in New York next winter.

SORE THROAT OR HOARSENESS
CURED IN A FEW HOURS.
Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D., the Eminent Throat Specialist, constantly recommended Condy's Remedial Fluid to be diluted and used as a Gargle for speedily curing Sore Throat or Hoarseness.
Dr. Walford Harris, in his book entitled "The Throat and its Treatment," says: "I have found the 'Condy' and cold water gargle excellent, many cases being cured immediately."
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HOCKEY.

MANNERING HOCKEY CLUB ("WHEN WOMAN HATES" Co.) v. MISS LONGDEN'S TEAM.

Played at Leeds on March 22. Won by the latter by four goals to one. The goal for the actors was secured by Millar Anderson.

The *When Woman Hates* team consisted of Mabel Mannering, Millar Anderson, Alfred Grenville, Helen Richmond, Maud Townsend, Eleanor Papeira, Frank Litchfield, Chas. H. Hughes, and Chas. Herbert.

"UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH" Co. v. MANNERING HOCKEY CLUB ("WHEN WOMAN HATES" Co.).

Played at Castleford on Thursday, March 29. Won by the *Ugliest Woman on Earth* Co. by eight goals to nil. Goals were scored by Edlin (6), Edwards (1), and Cross (1). Teams:

"UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH" Co.—Nellie Jackson, goal; L. Cancellor and P. Darien, backs; Rita Millmann, A. S. Davenport, and C. Wallis, half-backs; F. Cross, Margaret Watson, Tubby Edlin, W. Wallace, and J. Edwards, forwards.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES" Co.—Chas. Herbert, goal; J. G. Maine and Frank Litchfield, backs; Alfred Grenville, Helen Richmond, and Elcanor Papeira, half-backs; Mabel Mannering, Millar Anderson, Jerrold Heather, C. H. Hughes, and Maud Townsend, forwards.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' ATHLETIC TEAM v. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES' TEAM.

Played near Clifton Downs on March 31. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's Eleven:—Miss Ethel Bowman, goal; Miss Edie Francis and Miss Ivy Bowman, backs; Miss Nellie Bailey, Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), and Miss Lillie Belding, half-backs; Miss Lillie Clayton, Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Amy Bernard, Miss Bertha Godfrey, and Miss Gertrude Thomas, forwards.

Miss Bradley's Team:—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Minnie Hamilton, backs; Miss Lucy Norris, Miss Lillie Coles, and Miss Edie Lawrence, half-backs; Miss Winifred Bradley (captain), Miss Nellie Maguire, Miss Rosie Davies, Miss Nellie Lawrence, and Miss Kit Montgomery, forwards.

Referee, Miss Nellie Stephens. Result: Miss Fowler's Team, nil; Miss Bradley's Team, 4 goals. Misses Rosie Davies, Kit Montgomery (2), and Lucy Norris secred the goals for the winning team.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

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THE GREEN-ROOM BOOK.

NEW GUIDE TO THE STAGE.
[PUBLISHED TO-DAY.]

"For a profession so popular as the theatrical, it has often been a matter of comment (and one of great inconvenience) that there was no publication dealing in an adequate manner with its personal side. Now, however, this inconvenience no longer exists, for 'THE GREEN-ROOM BOOK,' A 'WHO'S WHO' ON THE STAGE, was issued this morning. It is a most useful work of reference, and though it is the first year of publication, the information supplied is very complete.

The new book gives biographies of actors and actresses, and also interesting information concerning many of the principal variety artists, dramatists, music composers, conductors, dramatic and musical critics, managers, proprietors, and dramatic and musical agents of the United Kingdom, America, and the Continent.

The fascination of the footlights has been strong enough to group certain families together in a way which suggests many ideas for the student of heredity. This is interestingly emphasised in the series of tables of 'Footlight Families' which are set forth in this book. The genealogical trees of the Irvings, Terrys, Kendals, Robertsons, Grossmiths, Batemans, &c., show how the dramatic instinct has been inherited. As is pointed out, this is rather remarkable, for 'while it is natural on the one hand that the player's children should follow his art, in many instances the strongest impediments are placed in the way, a minute knowledge of the origins of actors . . . would show many ramifications of footlight families.'

Those interested in the dramatic profession—and who is not nowadays—should purchase this book, for it will supply all the information desired, whether it be about a player or a music-hall artist.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS ARE NUMEROUS.

The publisher can be complimented on his first volume."—*Leeds Mercury*, March 30.

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EASTER ANNOUNCEMENT.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

NEXT FRIDAY being GOOD FRIDAY,
ADVERTISEMENTS
Intended for our Issue of APRIL 14
should reach this Office
ON or BEFORE THURSDAY NEXT.
Letters from the Country should be Posted
ONE DAY EARLIER THAN USUAL.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1906.

"STANDING ROOM ONLY."

The days when the theatrical and music-hall managers and the County Council were habitually at "daggers drawn," and when legal combats between them were as common as the complaints of the public against the tyranny of the municipal body, have happily passed away. We must always remember that the reputation of the Council suffered from the extreme views of some of its less wise members; and that the odium thus engendered attached itself to the Council as a whole. Experience has "educated" the London County Council as it educates everyone; and the experiences of the Council have been numerous. The recent death of the lady who was known as ZÆO recalls incidents which seem from their strangeness to belong to an antiquated period of municipal history. One can only remember with difficulty the absurd fuss that was made about ZÆO's poster—merely a picture of a female in the ordinary "trucks" and tights of the gymnast; and the ridiculous examination of her back which was made by a Councillor anxious to prove that her picturesque feat of diving, with a somersault, from the roof of the Westminster Aquarium into a net beneath was injurious to her frame. A good deal of water has run under the bridges since those days; and now the County Council is cognisant of feats much more sensational, and posters absolutely identical in subject and treatment with the ZÆO bill, without making any sign or protest.

We may contrast agreeably the old tyrannic tone of the Council in dealing with *entrepreneurs* with the more moderate spirit in which the matter of standing-room was dealt with both at the meeting on the 20th ult. and that of last Tuesday. Why the question has been revived just now is mysterious. For some five years arrangements have been allowed to rest on the rule which was made by the Council in 1901, requiring that in all new places of amusement sufficient "exit accommodation" should be provided for all the persons who could be admitted thereto. This was done by planning the width and number of the exits in proportion to the number of persons to be accommodated, and it was ordered that "in calculating the number of persons that can be accommodated in any tier or part of a tier of such premises, the standing space from which a view of the performance can be obtained will be considered as well as the seated area." The rule of the Council previous to 1901 was to the effect that "all gangways, passages, and staircases intended for the exit of the audience should be kept entirely free from chairs or other obstructions, whether permanent or temporary."

The proprietors of the eleven theatres and music-halls which have been built since 1901 certainly had a right to suppose that they were entitled to allow standing to take place except in the "intersecting" gangways; but still the Council felt it necessary to increase the stringency of its regulations; and in March, 1905, they sent a circular letter to all persons holding a music, music and dancing, or stage-play licence asking for a statement showing the maximum number of persons whom the management desired to admit at any one time to his establishment; and the places (if any) in which it was considered that persons should be allowed to stand. A deputation representing the principal London music-halls attended before the Council in the October of 1905, and protested against any fresh action in the matter.

The Council then asked the opinion of the Lord Chamberlain, who advised that the audience should not be allowed to stand in the gangways between or at the sides of the seats, but that they should be permitted to stand at the back of the seating accommodation.

The objection of the managers to the new rule proposed by the Council is easily understood. At many places of amusement the "side gangway," as it may be called, is a wide space outside the boundaries of the seats. From a practical point of view, an assemblage of people not more than three deep—and a greater depth of front would prevent the persons at the back from seeing the performance, even through interstices between the heads of those before them—could not possibly cause "obstruction" in case of a panic. These places are not gangways in any accurate meaning of the word; and, even if they were, those occupying them *in a standing position* could not add to the danger in case of a panic. What would happen on an alarm would be that the standers, having all the advantage of the erect position and the clear space behind them would be through the exits and out of the house several seconds before even the people from the end seats had sprung to their feet and commenced their flight. In these cases a second or two makes all the difference. The first horse in a race does not "obstruct" number two, even though it be only won by a length; nor does the first glass of wine that is poured out of a bottle "obstruct" the second. If people were permitted to *sit* down in the so-called "gangways" that would be a different thing. They would then be almost on a "par," as far as quickness of flight was concerned, with the occupants of the fixed and numbered seats. But, being on their feet, they are rather an advanced guard of "escapers" than part of the main body. If the exits are made large enough, and numerous enough, to permit of the departure of the bulk of the audience, much more therefore must they be sufficient to allow of the comparatively few standing-roomers getting out by them. We were pleased to find that at the meeting of the Council on Tuesday, Mr. Greenwood, the vice-chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, stated that, in view of the representations on the subject made by the Theatrical Managers' Association, the Committee did not intend to submit their recommendation that it should be "referred to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee to consider and report as to the number of persons to be admitted to the various parts of the places of public entertainment licensed by the Council with a view to such numbers being registered on the plans in the possession of the Council; that the number of persons to be admitted to any part should in no case exceed the exit capacity of that part; that in no circumstances should persons be permitted to stand or sit in any of the side or intersecting gangways; and that, if standing be permitted in any other part, it should not be in such a position or to such an extent as to interfere with the ready egress of the seated audience."

THE DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SICK FUND.

The following statement of receipts and payments from Jan. 1, 1904, to Aug. 25, 1905, is to hand from Messrs. Willby and Co., chartered accountants, of London Wall:—

Dr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To balance as at Dec. 31, 1903.		
Investments.		
£1000 Victoria 4% Stock (cost)	1038 6 0	
£1000 South Australian 4% Stock (cost)	1020 1 0	
£1000 New South Wales 4% Stock (cost)	1055 0 6	
£412 16s. 8d. India 3% Stock (cost)	450 0 0	
	3563 7 6	
Cash	6 17 4	
		3570 4 10
To dividends and interest		184 14 1
To amounts received from Benevolent Fund (and Secretary for rent)		112 16 0
To subscriptions		56 7 1
To proceeds of sale of furniture		10 0 0
To loan of Vallance and Vallance		15 0 0
		3949 2 0
To balance cash at bank		70 2 5

Cr.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By sundry creditors as per accounts rendered at Dec. 31, 1903		164 18 6
By sickness and death payments		126 14 6
By loss on realisation of investments		131 6 5
By secretary's salary (including payment in lieu of notice)		226 16 0
By rent of offices		112 10 0
By sundry expenses—books, printing, meetings, advertisements, stationery, petty disbursements, &c., &c.		70 4 4
By housekeeper's charges		24 0 0
By legal and professional charges, &c.		
Vallance and Vallance, 1903-5		97 6 9
Willby and Co., 1903-5		70 15 2
Russell Spokes, 1903		23 15 9
By amounts distributed.		
To members	1866 9 7	
To participating societies	964 2 7	
By balance cash at bank	70 2 5	
	3949 2 0	
By amount payable to Vallance and Vallance		15 0 0
By balance available for final distribution		55 2 5
		70 2 5

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In noticing my new play, *A Heart's Desire*, in last week's issue, your Sutton-in-Ashfield correspondent has omitted to mention the name of the author,—Yours faithfully, FRANK ADAIR.—Grand Theatre, Blackpool, April 2, 1906.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

On Saturday, March 31,
Revival of the Farce, in Three Acts,
by H. M. Paull, entitled
"THE NEW CLOWN."

Mr. Lamb	MR. GORDON TOMKINS
Thomas Baker	MR. E. DAGNALL
Winnie Chesterton	MISS HELEN MASSY
Captain Jack Trent	MR. GEORGE F. TULLY
Maude Chesterton	MISS GLADYS MASON
Lord Cyril Garston	MR. JAMES WELCH
Billy	MR. LEONARD BUTTRESS
Mr. Dixon	MR. G. H. SNAZELLE
Rosie Platt	MISS ESTELLE WINWOOD
Mr. Pennyquick	MR. LEOPOLD PROFEIT
Ping Pong	BY HIMSELF
Figgis	MR. JOHN W. DEVERELL
Boy	MASTER JACK FROST
P.C. 1006	MR. C. ENTWISTLE

Mr. James Welch, one of the most artistic and original of our actor-managers, has been rather unfortunate in selecting plays for his season at Terry's Theatre, and has had to fall back upon a revival of Mr. H. M. Paull's amusing play *The New Clown*, which was successfully produced at this house on Feb. 8, 1892. The piece, which is modestly entitled a farce, contains much genuine comedy, and the mixture of observation and absurdity is very effective. Its tone is pure and pleasant, and it is acted with a finish which elevates it in the artistic scale. Mr. Welch is as quaintly effeminate and dryly droll as ever as the little Lord who, in order to escape arrest for the manslaughter which he believes that he has committed, dons the motley, and suffers so much in his attempts to take the place of a professional clown, Thomas Baker, who is represented by Mr. E. Dagnall with an unctuous and eccentric oddity which is irresistible. Mr. Leopold Profeit as the smug and servile Mr. Pennyquick is very cleverly made up, and acts with all the necessary oiliness; and Mr. George F. Tully is the ideal of hearty, downright good-tempered manliness as Captain Jack Trent. Mr. G. H. Snazelle as Mr. Dixon presents a well-considered and capitally carried-out impersonation of the elderly circus proprietor. Every detail of complexion and character is most cleverly supplied, and the contrast between Dixon in *mufti* and the same individual got up for appearance in the ring, is extremely funny. Mr. Snazelle must be credited with a performance of genuine humour and real merit. Miss Estelle Winwood plays Rosie Platt—the pleasing personage originally depicted by Miss Nina Boucicault—with bright, expressive simplicity; and Mr. Leonard Buttress is sufficiently athletic in appearance for the part of Billy, and suggests, with sturdy energy, the rough earnestness of the professional athlete. Mr. John W. Deverell's Figgis is easy, natural, and true to type; and Mr. C. Entwistle is a vigorous P.C. The parts of the two Miss Chestertons have charming exponents in Miss Helen Massy and Miss Gladys Mason; and Master Jack Frost shows decided promise as the boy who brings the washing. The performance of *The New Clown* was punctuated with bursts of laughter, and the revival evidently gave great satisfaction. It was preceded by the play in one act by Charles H. E. Brookfield, entitled,

"A LADY BURGLAR."

Miss Honora Macfarlane ..MISS GLADYS MASON
Mr. Darcy FitzHerbert ..MR. HENRY J. FORD

The idea of this bright little piece, which was produced at Liverpool in the November of 1894, is somewhat fantastic. Miss Honora Macfarlane, a young lady whose head appears to have been turned by Socialistic study, plans to put her theories into practice by becoming a burglar, and, with a view of "learning the business," makes an inroad on the flat of an acquaintance of hers, a barrister named Darcy FitzHerbert, with whom she has already engaged in a sentimental flirtation. FitzHerbert finds her in his room when he returns, and, clapping a pair of handcuffs on her wrists, retains her in his company, amusing himself with her artless explanations of her presence in his flat at midnight. After some diverting dialogue, the lady is allowed to depart, after giving the young man every encouragement to press his suit later on. *A Lady Burglar* was prettily played by Miss Gladys Mason, who made a delightfully impulsive and very prepossessing Miss Macfarlane; and by Mr. Henry J. Ford, who was crisp, alert, and polished as Mr. Darcy FitzHerbert. The little piece was quite cordially received.

THE members of the Committee of Management of the Royal Academy of Music commemorated the eightieth birthday of the King's Harpist, Mr. John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwalia) on St. David's Day by the presentation of a handsome silver inkstand. Accompanying the gift was a letter of congratulation from his colleagues, who added: "As student, professor, and member of committee your name stands permanently in the history of your Alma Mater, and that of no more loyal servant of its interests or its artistic welfare is to be found recorded in those pages."

FIVE men were prosecuted for musical piracy at Leeds Assizes on the 30th ult. by the Music Publishers' Association, on behalf of Messrs. Chappell and Co. and others. It was stated that during the last twelve months the officers of the society had seized over a million copies of pirated music in the United Kingdom, and the piracy was still going on. Evidence was tendered that no consent had been given to copy the music. The defence was raised that there was no common design or conspiracy. The judge said that he desired to deal leniently with the prisoners, because possibly they did not fully appreciate what they were doing. John O. Smith, described by his lordship as a wholesale dealer, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment. Four other prisoners were sent to gaol for various periods, and others were bound over.

MISS MABEL LEWES has been this week playing Miss Julia Neilson's part in *The Scarlet Pimpernel* at the New Theatre, and has sustained the rôle very cleverly and creditably.

AT the head of the bill this week at the Palace Theatre, Boston, were Harry Clyo and Rose Rochelle, in their unique speciality act; Chas. Danton, a clever character comedian, shows his ability as a vocalist, whistler, and dancer; Tom Brantford, "the human band," brings the house down with his mimicry; the Hulines, Continental musical clowns, cause much merriment; Miss Bessie Travis is a wonderfully clever ventriloquist; and Miss Nellie Nora, in a refined musical act. Frank Zara, the funny story-teller; and Miss Ruby Ransford complete a really first-class company. Business is very good, many being unable to get in on Monday night.

MISS VI CARLYLE'S charming song, written and composed by herself, and entitled "My Pretty Little Mountain Maid," is in the press, and will shortly be issued by the Charing Cross-road firm of music publishers, who have likewise secured Mr. Harry Bedford's clever and tuneful ditty, by Barnes and Weston, "Live a day at a time."

THE I.A.L.

AT the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge, held at the Hotel Provence, Leicester-square, on Sunday, Brother 1139 re-opened the discussion which had taken place the week before with regard to the duties and customs demanded in the American ports on goods brought over by artists. He declared that all artists can take goods which are required by them for the gaining of their living into America as their personal luggage. Another brother declared that he had to pay 36 dollars on apparatus he took into America. This was a set-off against the experience of a third brother, with electric lamps, who had had to pay no duty. From the conflicting evidence the chairman said that it seemed as if it was a matter of luck to a great extent. It appeared from the testimony of several brothers that animals born in America, or which had been there before, need not go into quarantine. Also animals to be used in the pursuance of one's profession need not go in quarantine if they are to be taken out of the country again within six months.

BROTHER 1365 informed those present that Mr. Hill, the business-agent of the Dover and Calais line, at the London Bridge station, would always change a third-class ticket to a second, and a second to a first, for anyone who could prove himself a bonâ-fide artist, and wanted to travel to the Continent. Brother 1365 had himself not known this till he got to Paris, where the assistant-manager of the Alhambra had sent his (the artist's) tickets to London, and so enabled Mr. Hill to endorse them, and allow the artist to travel back to England first class with a second-class ticket.

BROTHER 1139 brought forward a resolution to the effect that the meetings of the lodge at the Hôtel Provence should begin at seven o'clock instead of six, which was a most inconvenient hour for nearly everybody concerned. The motion was passed unanimously.

IT was reported to the meeting that he pamphlets which it was decided to print some time ago would be ready in the course of the week, and the meeting recommended that the executive committee should send out small parcels to members in different parts of the country for propaganda purposes, as members are often somewhat at a loss when asked for a clear and definite statement of the aims and principles of the I.A.L. This motion was passed.

MR. SIDNEY LEIGHTON writes from Birmingham, under date April 2:—"Reading in your interesting 'Theatrical Gossip' of difficulties met with and overcome by a lady artist, perhaps an account of a difficulty I met with recently may not be uninteresting. I have just returned from a six months' tour of 20,000 miles through the West Indies and South America, with Willie Freear—perhaps the greatest globe-trotter in the profession. My ventriloquial figure not only caused amusement, but some amazement amongst the superstitious natives of Trinidad, Jamaica, and elsewhere; in fact, so much was it appreciated, that it was stolen from the landing wharf at Trinidad, and the man got clean away with figure, case, and various other props, and I've never set eyes on them since.

"MY reputation must have reached Barbados, for the audience clamoured for my ventriloquial sketch on our opening night. Of course, not having a figure, I had to cut it and substitute something else. However, I promised a ventriloquial sketch on the second night, but what to do for a figure I didn't know. It suddenly struck me that I had seen heads carved from cocoanuts, and I obtained a green one of good size, and carved a very respectable-looking face on it. With a little trouble, and the aid of some wire and elastic, I made the mouth movable, and of course the body was easily made with some small barrel-hoops, an old hat-box, and a suit of boy's clothes. With this substitute I finished the remaining four months of our tour, and if the West Indian papers are to be believed, not without success. I have brought it home with me, and shall keep it as a curio and a proof that one should never say die."

GEORGE ROBEY'S great grievance in life is that nobody will believe that he is a splendid athlete. Robey, who appears at the Hackney Empire next week, complained to the writer that he cannot get people in private life to take him seriously. "My greatest hobby," said Robey, "when I am engaged at a provincial hall, is to organise a scratch cricket team among the stage hands. The town team is challenged, and on the day fixed I lead my team on to the field. Although I seldom publish an announcement that the match will take place, the ground is invariably crowded with spectators, who commence to laugh immediately I make my appearance. If I make a good catch or take a difficult wicket I never get the credit another man would. If I fall everyone regards it as a funny incident, and the laughter is immoderate. Altogether I find it very hard lines being a popular comedian, for one is never allowed to take anything seriously And you know I am really a splendid all-round athlete—I am really. But I can't get anyone to believe it."

SOME months ago it was announced in *The Era* that the Empire Theatre, Liverpool, was to be converted into a two-houses-per-night concern. The scheme, however, fell through. On Thursday there was a revival of the matter, when an application was made at the Transfer Licensing Sessions by Moss' Empires, Ltd., for permission to introduce the system of two performances a night. The solicitor representing the applicants said it had been found necessary to go with the times, and they could not give the same satisfaction by having the long performance as they could in having the entertainment shortened and giving two a night. That being so, the question was whether the Empire would enjoy its privilege of having a full Excise licence? The Empire Company had bought the whole of the adjoining block of buildings (this was stated in *The Era* some time ago) and they proposed to rebuild the theatre. Moss', Ltd., had changed their programmes from one to two per night in seven houses which they owned in the country, and the Excise licences attached to them had not been taken away.

THE Chairman of the Bench said that the Excise licence was granted to the present applicants ten years ago, because the building had been a theatre (the Alexandra), and when it ceased to be such he thought it should have been deprived of the licence to sell drink. It was quite true they had theatrical performances at times, and therefore it would have been unwise, perhaps unfair, to take away the privilege of selling drink; but, now that they proposed that the place should cease to be a theatre, and just become an ordinary two-performances-a-night music hall, why should it have any different privileges to the Olympia and Hippodrome? If the Bench granted such an application, all the other music halls would ask for a similar privilege, and, in justice, it could not be refused. In respect to what had been done elsewhere, Liverpool did not follow other towns. Furthermore, considering the immense traffic in Lime-street, the applicants, if they decided to have two houses, would have to make accommodation for the people of the second house inside their premises. The application was withdrawn.

THE praise given to Miss Nancy Browne in last week's notice of the Elephant and Castle should have been devoted to Miss Nell Oliver, who played the part of Morita in Mr. F. Melville's *Ugliest Woman on Earth* company.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The annual dinner in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund will be held at the Trocadero on Sunday, April 29, under the presidency of Mr. J. L. Graydon, the president of the fund, who would be pleased to hear from any gentlemen willing to act as stewards. The secretary makes a strong appeal for donations and subscriptions, as the distress is very great and the funds are very low. Tickets, one guinea, may be obtained from any of the committee, or by letter addressed to the secretary at the office, 18, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. Bransby Williams will, on Monday, at the Empire produce an entirely new mimetic duologue, entitled *Actors, Day by Day*, in which he, assisted by Miss Daisy Cordell, from the pantomime at Drury-lane Theatre, will give impersonations of well-known actors in a novel form.

At the Empire on Easter Wednesday, if elaborate scenery will permit, the revue by George Grossmith, jun., *Venus, 1906*, will be produced. It is in four scenes, the last a mechanical novelty, showing how Venus revenges herself by destroying London. In the production the principal characters will be taken by Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Firth (who will make a stately Venus), Miss Daisy Cordell, Mr. W. H. Berry, Mr. C. Tremayne, and Mr. Harry Grattan. Pilu, the thought-reading dog, is still puzzling Empire audiences.

An interesting presentation was made on Monday evening at the Lyceum, when Mrs. M. Barrasford was the recipient of a handsome gift, which was handed to her on behalf of a large number of season-ticket holders for her successful management of the house since September last. The presentation consisted of a replica of the famous Lyceum portico in gold, and outlined with diamonds. Mr. Barrasford suitably responded.

When the Oxford and Cambridge crews pay their annual visit (for the third year in succession) to the Alhambra this evening, a special feature of the "Urbanora" entertainment will be a panorama of the Boat Race in animated photographs, for the taking of which Mr. Urban has consummated a most perfect scheme. By this every salient feature in the struggle will be as graphically pictured as are the many exciting incidents in this exhibitor's pictorial record of the recent Grand National, now being given there nightly at 9.50 p.m.

Carl Hertz, having received a cable from America informing him that his father is dangerously ill in San Francisco, sails to-day on the s.s. St. Paul for New York *en route* to San Francisco.

Mr. Neil Kenyon, who concludes to-night five weeks' phenomenally successful engagement at the London Pavilion, has been ordered by his doctor to give his voice a few days' rest. He returns to the Piccadilly-circus house at the end of October, when he will produce a burlesque scena entitled *Rob-Roy, of that ilk*.

Three weeks ago the Palace Theatre staff were in mourning for the death of "Jack," known throughout the variety theatre world as "The Palace Dog." On Thursday evening Mr. M. V. Leveaux very generously presented Mr. Fitzroy Gardner, the assistant-manager of the Palace, with a magnificent pedigree bulldog to take the place of the late-lamented "Jack" as third fireman, who now rests (preserved by Rowland Ward) in a glass case in the green-room of the theatre.

Nothing in the progress of modern entertainment is more remarkable than Mr. John Tiller's successful captures of what had previously been regarded as the strongholds of the art of Terpsichore on the Continent. Mr. Tiller lately produced at the Winter Garden, Berlin, a ballet entitled *Roccoco*, of which a local journalist says that it easily holds its own in contra-distinction to the ballets of the Opera House. It is original and charming; of a distinction almost incredible in one's experience of vaudeville. But *Roccoco* has done more than captivate a critic. There was a special afternoon performance lately for the delectation of a party, including the Crown Prince and Princess and several other members of the Royal Family, who bestowed upon the Tiller ballet hearty applause and enthusiastic compliments.

Little Elizabeth Neiman, of seven summers, is a daughter of Fred Neiman, the ventriloquist, and is an ardent collector of funds for the Music Hall Home. Her card this week contains 43½ shillings. Let other little music hall misces go and do likewise.

Miss Agnes Molteno, for the first time, on Monday introduced a new feature into her scena, *The Daughter of the Regiment*. A little girl dressed exactly as herself—in fact, a miniature vivandiere—acted as standard bearer, and brought on the British flag, and was vociferously applauded.

In consequence of the indisposition of Sir Henry Kimber, Bart., M.P., his son, Mr. Henry Dickson Kimber, laid the foundation-stone last Saturday of the new Putney Hippodrome, situate in Felsham-road. The new Hippodrome has a frontage of 110ft. to Felsham-road, and is surrounded on the three other sides by a 20ft. way, being therefore completely isolated.

Mesdames Victoria Monks, Ella Retford, Ella Shields, Julie Mackay, Lilian Lea, and Lily Burnand have been scoring great success with Messrs. Feldman's songs in London this week; truly a fine bevy of talent to make any firm proud.

Mr. Wal Pink, that most ingenious and witty of sketch author-actors, is responsible for a new production entitled *Repairs*, announced as an acrobatic, knockabout dancing interlude, which describes in the funniest fashion possible how Messrs. Spoiler and Mecsitt set about the refurbishing (?) and redecorating (?) of Muddleton Villa. The sketch was produced with tremendous success at the Hippodrome, Southampton, and has been scoring a triumph this week at the Duchess, Balham. On Monday next it goes to the Zoo-Hippodrome, Glasgow.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next at two o'clock.

The latest coon craze comes from the pens of those prolific writers, Messrs. Castling, Mills, and Scott. The title is "My Bungalow in Borneo," and the publishers, B. Feldman and Co., anticipate a very lively time with it this summer.

Before departing from this country, Commander Sakamoto, of His Imperial Majesty's battleship Katori, and Commander Ijichi, of His Imperial Majesty's battleship Kashima, sent letters of thanks to Mr. Oswald Stoll and Mr. John Donald for the warm welcome accorded their men last week at the London Coliseum. The letter reads as follows:—"On behalf of the officers and 600 men who have been ordered by the Imperial Government to navigate home His Imperial Majesty's battleships Katori and Kashima, we have to express our cordial appreciation of your warm and enthusiastic welcome to the Coliseum. We take this opportunity on leaving for our respective destinations to tender, on behalf of said officers and men, our most hearty thanks, and beg you to accept our cordial wishes for your prosperity and good health."

At the annual general meeting of the Maidstone Hippodrome Co., Ltd., which took place at Maidstone on Wednesday, Mr. G. Howard Watson was appointed managing director of the company, such appointment to take effect immediately.

Mr. Richard Thornton, who has undertaken the building of one of his Empires at Sunderland, cut the first sod in connection with the enterprise on Monday. The ceremony was brief and business-like. An incision was made in a workmanlike manner, with an ordinary workman's spade, on the spot on the site facing High-street where the central tower is to spring from. Mr. Thornton filled a barrow with earth, and wheeled it away to a spot from which it will be carted off the site.

Following this spell of unusual labour, Mr. T. R. Milburn, one of the firm of architects from whose plans the theatre is to be erected, presented Mr. Thornton, on behalf of Mr. J. W. White, the contractor, and his own firm, with a miniature silver spade, as a souvenir of the occasion. On one side was the Sunderland coat of arms, and on the other the inscription "Presented to R. Thornton, Esq., on turning the first sod of the new Empire Theatre, Sunderland, April 2, 1906. W. D. and T. R. Milburn, architects; J. W. White, contractor."

In making the presentation, Mr. Milburn expressed the hope that the undertaking would be as successful as others of the same kind which Mr. Thornton had carried through, and said that that was the best wish he could offer. Mr. Thornton thanked the architects and the builder for their present. He said it was totally unexpected. Sunderland for a long time had been in need of a good music hall, and he should do all in his power to make the undertaking a success.

The new hall, which is on the site of the old Bishopwearmouth Rectory, High-street, Sunderland, is estimated to cost £21,000 for building (capital £43,000). The building will be of three tiers, and will look on High-street and Dun Cow-street. It will have seating accommodation for 3,000 people. One noticeable feature will be the absence of stage-boxes, the space usually occupied by the same being seated so that the occupants will face the stage. There will be waiting-halls for each section of the house, and distinct exits apart from the entrances, the site being an island one. When completed, the house will be run in conjunction with the Moss, Thornton and Stoll tours.

The new Empire at Sunderland will be the 39th in conjunction with the great Moss combine all over the country, and we understand that Mr. Frank Allen, the chief of the staff of Moss' Empires, will be one of the directors.

Croydon's new Empire Palace of Varieties is announced to open its doors to the public for the first time on Saturday next, April 14, when Croydon amusement-lovers will be able to boast of a variety theatre worthy of such an important borough. The new house occupies the site of the old National Palace of Varieties, situated off North End, but whereas the old building was approached through a passage, the entrance to the new house fronts directly into North End—an important position, seeing that North End is one of Croydon's principal thoroughfares and is on the main road for traffic London to Brighton.

The old National Hall was built by Mr. Percy Hubbard for Mr. T. Gardiner Hales in 1895, and it was then used as a circus. In October, 1896, it was taken over by Messrs. Seymour and Athol, and run as a variety hall, and remained under their management until January, 1897, when a company was formed, under the title of the National Palace of Varieties (Croydon), Ltd., with Mr. Jesse Sparrow as general manager, the directors being Messrs. Dan Leno, Herbert Campbell, Harry Randall, Fred Williams, Henry Joyner, and G. E. S. Venner. The old house closed for good in May last, and Mr. Hales decided to have it pulled down and a more substantial and up-to-date theatre erected in its place. At various times the National was under the active management of Mr. P. A. Lennon, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, and Mr. Eustace H. Jay, the latter being a very popular manager from the time he took charge in June, 1898, until the house closed last May.

The new Empire is not the first of its name in Croydon, as the present Theatre Royal was run as a music hall from September, 1897, until April, 1898, under the title of Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., under the directorship of Messrs. Fred Bartlett and Edmund G. Pratt, with Mr. Will Sergeant as manager. Mr. Hales is, however, the first to introduce two houses a night to Croydon, and it remains to be seen whether this innovation is a wise one. The new house seems at present far from complete, and doubt is expressed in the town whether it will really be finished by Saturday next. Those concerned, however, seem sanguine about the date, and Mr. Wallis, the builder, is said to have 170 men engaged.

Mr. Thomas Barrasford has kindly lent to Donald's Agency, of 85, Victoria-street, Liverpool, the Hippodrome, in that town, for their first "trial" performance for latent talent, on condition that the proceeds, after paying the usual expenses, are devoted to the Music Hall Home. The agency is simply inundated with applications, and as soon as a special staff has evolved order from the present chaos a definite announcement will be made concerning the dates and other particulars. Aspirants are requested to have patience while waiting for a reply and particulars. Applications, accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, should still be sent in. There is room yet for talent of all kinds, and the best will come out "on top."

A pleasant instance of the good feeling which exists between the artists and staff of the Empire Palace Theatre, Edinburgh, was shown last week. Mr. Harry Stuart, stage-manager, in the name of himself and one or two friends, took the opportunity, behind the curtain, after the turn of the Aurora troupe, on Wednesday evening, of presenting a gold pendant to little Miss Aurora. The tiny performer has endeared herself, by her bright and winning ways, to all the staff, and Mr. Stuart expressed the admiration of the subscribers for her fearless act, and their love for her personality.

A public and gratifying presentation was made on Saturday last to Mr. P. D. Elbourne, resident-manager of the Birmingham Hippodrome, by Dr. Bodie, of a handsome solid gold match-box and sovereign purse combined, bearing the inscription, "To P. D. Elbourne, a live manager, from Dr. Bodie." The presentation was accompanied by much cheering on the part of the audience, who, uprising, sang, "For he's a jolly good fellow."

A painful accident happened on Wednesday morning at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, to an Old Trafford gymnast named Arthur Baxter during a trial performance by him as "the Human Bullet."

At the Palace Theatre, Sunderland, on March 29, Mr. Andrew McManus presented Mr. W. J. Ashcroft with a gold-mounted umbrella, and from Mr. John Kirk the "solid man" received a silver-mounted walking-stick. Mr. McManus accompanied Mr. Ashcroft on the stage, and said he felt it impossible to let the opportunity pass without showing in some small way the intense and heartfelt appreciation of an old friend. Mr. Ashcroft suitably responded.

Miss Mary Allestree, who is playing Virginie in *Drink* with Mr. Chas. Warner at the Coliseum, is having quite an experience in character studies, her last four parts being a Russian lady, a Scottish chieftainess, a Red Indian girl, and a French bourgeoise.

Miss Margaret Ashton is greatly benefiting in health from the sea voyage and delightful climate of Cintra. The charming cantatrice returns by one of the R.M.S. boats from Lisbon next week, and will appear for the next six weeks at the Oxford. Later in the year she fulfils engagements at Leipzig and Vienna.

Mr. Sam Mayo has instructed Mr. Wilfrid Powell, his solicitor, to issue a writ against the *Sun* newspaper for alleged libel under the headline "Around the Halls" in a recent issue. The writ has been served.

Miss Lily Burnand has in active rehearsal one of Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s latest gems entitled "I wonder if the girl I'm thinking of is thinking of me."

Miss Florrie Gallimore has accepted from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate a new comedy song of unique character entitled "Are you coming home to-night, Mister Brown?" which she is producing while on the Stoll tour, and to which she will give prominence in conjunction with her evergreen success "Remember Me to Mother Dear," at her forthcoming Oxford engagement.

Miss Millie Lindon has during the week been scoring a "hit—a palpable hit," with Messrs. Ballard Macdonald and Jas. W. Tate's delightfully quaint story-song, "Mary—she kept a Dairy," at the Palace Theatre and her other engagements, and the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have already been inundated with orders for it. It is one of their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

Charles Collette, who returns from a flying visit to Manchester, will present his brilliantly-successful farce-duologue *Tea for Two* at the Metropolitan on Monday, supported by the graceful young actress, Miss Helen Perry.

Miss Katie Marsh, the rising young entertainer, has been compelled to relinquish her engagements for the present, to undergo an operation by a throat specialist at Brompton Hospital. She, however, expects to be able to resume business shortly.

H. Cee-Mee has just returned from Frank Brown's Circus in South America, where, we are pleased to hear, he achieved a great success. His son, Lionel Harry Peat Cee-Mee, made his first appearance on the stage as a fat policeman in the water pantomime at the tender age of four years. We hope the kiddy's career will be as successful as that of his grandfather, the great Cee-Mee.

Mr. John Lawson and his company, with *The Shield of David* and *A Bride for a Living*, will visit New Cross Empire next week, when they will also present *The King's Minister*, by Cecil Raleigh. Only quite recently Mr. Lawson sustained a loss of £5,000 worth of scenery through railway trucks taking fire when he was *en route* for Belfast.

"Dronza," the latest sensational novelty at the London Hippodrome, is a marvellous mechanical invention. A beautifully modelled wax head, slightly larger than that of a human being, is brought into the arena and placed on a machine, somewhat resembling in appearance a miniature organ. It is this head which, without assistance of any kind, speaks in a loud, clear, and perfectly distinct voice, displaying a remarkable knowledge of things past, present, and even future, and also possessing a wonderful aptitude for answering questions on various subjects. The entire mechanism is laid bare for inspection, and undoubtedly one of the most surprising features of the entertainment is the sight of this complicated machinery suddenly set in motion without the aid of any outside agency whatsoever. An elaborately-dressed footman stands by the side of the head during the performance. "Dronza" is well up in "events," and Datas will have to look to his laurels.

The Press were invited on Monday to the Hippodrome to view the working of the great water scene in the latest sensational melodramatic spectacle *The Flood*. Under the apt guidance of Mr. Frank Parker a small army of stage hands construct, with the celerity of magic, the village of Ripplemere. Shapeless masses of canvas-covered woodwork become picturesque mountains, bridges, and cottages. In a few minutes the stage is peopled with villagers celebrating the wedding of hero and heroine, while a translucent waterfall dashes into the mill weir below. At a signal from the stage-manager the sky becomes o'ercast, the thunder rolls, and the lightning flashes. The waterfall grows in volume until, with a mighty roar, it bursts forth in its full fury, sweeping everything before it. Horses, cattle, men, women, and children are submerged, and never was a catastrophe more potently realised. The spectacle is even more amazing from the wings than the auditorium.

An unfortunate accident occurred at the Walthamstow Palace on Tuesday evening, when, during the interval between the two performances, one of the men employed on the stage, J. H. Barrick, in descending the "flies" ladder, missed his footing, and fell a considerable distance on to the stage. Mr. Arthur J. Barclay immediately sent for aid, and it was found that the unfortunate man had sustained a severe fracture of the leg. He was at once conveyed on an ambulance to the Walthamstow Hospital, where he is likely to remain for some time to come.

Miss Victoria Monks has this week secured two new songs from the combined pens of Messrs. Tom Mellor, Alf. J. Lawrance, and Harry Gifford. Both numbers will be produced during the forthcoming week at the Tivoli. They are respectively entitled "Ev'ry little bit of help's worth a deal of pity," and "Hullo! Who's there?"

Mr. C. Wordley Hulse, whose sketch *The Fight in the Forge* has met with much success in the provinces, has now brought it to London, opening last week at Sadler's Wells. It is gratifying to note that the verdict of the provinces is confirmed in London, and that the miniature drama is nightly winning favour, culminating in enthusiasm over the realistic battle with sledge-hammers between two blacksmiths. This week *The Fight in the Forge* is being played twice nightly at the Palace, Bow, and the rest of the Macnaghten halls follow consecutively.

The following artists left Southampton per the Kildonan Castle on Saturday to fulfil engagements with Sydney M. Hyman (Limited), of Leicester-square, W.C., at the Empire Palace, Johannesburg, and the Tivoli, Capetown:—The Picquays, singing and dancing act; Fred Land, quaint English comedian; De Witt, Burns, and Torrance, American artists in the mirthful presentation *The Awakening of Toys*; Stuart, American male-voiced Patti; and Cora Corina, Anglo-Spanish speciality artist. Amongst the artists arriving home from South Africa on the same day were:—Bros. Damm, Odeyne Spark, Lillie Soutter, and De Vere and Kenwick.

At a meeting of the Theatre, Concert, and Variety Agents' Association recently it was decided to advertise in *The Era* inviting artists who may be asked for preliminary or registration fees by agents to communicate with that Association, which has been formed for the protection of artists against not only bogus agents, but so-called agents who demand preliminary fees of various amounts from artists *before they will attempt to do any business for them*. It is this practice which caused the London County Council to introduce their recent Bill, which came into force last January, and which makes it compulsory for every agent who takes any preliminary fee of any kind to take out a licence from the County Council. The founders of the Association know very well that there are quite a number who do charge these preliminary fees, and have no licence. They are particularly desirous to impress upon the profession that members of the Association are working in conjunction with the London County Council. They do not accept any fees or payment from an artist until such artist has fulfilled the engagement which the agent books, and are not required to be licensed. In dealing with any agent who is a member of the Association, artists know that they are being properly treated, and are in respectable hands.

Mr Joe O'Gorman occupied the chair at the 457th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, held at the general offices in Wellington-street on Tuesday. There were also present Messrs. Fred Herbert, James Finney, Frank Gerald, Chas. Pastor, Jeff Vendome, and C. Douglas Stuart, secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting having been duly passed, the secretary read a letter from the Ocean Company, saying that an *ex gratia* payment would be made to the mother of the late Mr. Donaldson (Allen), who lost his life recently at sea. The secretary reported the death of Mr. Chas. Proctor, the Association's agent in Plymouth, and a vote of sympathy with the widow was passed. A letter was read from a railway agent, giving particulars of a case of base ingratitude on the part of a performer whom he had assisted by a loan and otherwise, and submitting a bill for expenses incurred, and the secretary was instructed to communicate with the artist.

A letter, stating that the widow of the late J. D. Humphreys was left unprovided for, and suggesting that some means of assisting her be promoted by the Association, was considered. It was decided that the applicant be informed that it was contrary to the Association's rules to deal with such matters, but that the committee would be glad to give their individual support should the case be taken up in any other quarter. In answer to an application by a member for a loan, the secretary was instructed to write that the committee had no power to lend money. Mr. Henry Brown, jun., of the Canterbury Hotel, Southend, was appointed agent in that town. The secretary reported the addition of fifty-two new members, and read the financial statement for the week, the receipts amounting to £37 19s. 6d.

Mr. J. L. Graydon, the chairman of the annual dinner of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, asks all those directly or indirectly connected with the profession, to render all the assistance possible to make this event successful, with a view of helping the fund, which is now so greatly in need of support. It is only by the liberal support of the profession and others that the good work can be continued, and it is hoped that all interested in the chief music hall charity will show their willingness to assist in befriending those who are so much in need of help. Donations will be gratefully acknowledged both at the dinner and through the Press.

The Terriers gave their last social of the season on Sunday at the Dover Castle. Mr. Fred W. Millis, who was in the chair, was warmly welcomed after his tour of the East. During the evening the following were well received: Miss Ada Norman, Miss Elsie Baker, Miss Kathleen Leslie, little Minnie Atlas, Miss May McCrystal, Messrs. Beaverly Long, Tom Packer, H. Cory Woodrow, Steve Buckingham, Andie Caine, Edward Bartell, Walter Norman, and F. W. Millis. Archie Howells acted as accompanist, and Walter Norman ably officiated as M.C.

Something quite new in violins will be seen at the Lyceum next week, when Simms and Simms will submit their new musical comedy entertainment. The latest invention has been termed the "Kokiu." It consists of one string, on a long frame, but the special feature of the instrument is the blending of five different kinds of wood, ranging from bamboo to pine. This is a violation of the usual law in the manufacture of string instruments, and the result obtained is the nearest approach to a human contralto that has yet been heard.

Mr. Charles Craig, who has succeeded Mr. Chris. Wordsworth as acting-manager at the Surrey, was the other evening the delighted recipient of a valuable token of the esteem in which he is held by the staff. Mr. Chris. Wordsworth, in making the presentation on their behalf of a gold lever watch, said the inscription inside, "A token of respect to Mr. Charles Craig by the staff of the Surrey Theatre, March 29, 1906," conveyed more than he could say as to the sterling qualities of the recipient with whom he had worked in perfect harmony. To Mrs. Craig was given a silver mounted umbrella and a diamond and opal ring. Mr. Craig returned thanks in a few graceful sentences.

Mendel, the blind pianist, who is this week occupying the premier position at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, is introducing for the first time in public a decidedly clever novelty, by giving at one and the same time three tunes. He first of all plays "Stop yer tickling, Jock" and "The Bluebells of Scotland," one with each hand. Afterwards, on repeating the same, he introduces vocally another tune, "Auld Lang Syne," making three distinct melodies at once. He has had a most successful tour in the provinces of six months, and opens in London again with Mr. Walter Gibbons at the Hippodrome, Ealing.

"Pimple" and Tom White's Arabs are this week meeting with tremendous success at the Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees, the scene of "Pimple's" former triumphs, he having made his first appearance in public there with the late James Haslam (England's great clog dancer), at the old Star Varieties, when Haslam led him on by the hand to sing "The ship that never returned." This was at the age of six!

Miss Lil Hawthorne's latest song novelty, which has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis and Day, is entitled "My cosy caravan," and is written and composed by Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford. Mr. Day, at the same time, also acquired a "free" song, entitled "Like a sailor of the King," by the same author-composers.

The musical curtain-raiser, *In the Strand*, which at present precedes Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's production of *Sweet and Twenty* on tour, will most probably be seen on the halls in the autumn. It will be taken out by Mr. Walter Cranch, the author. Mr. George Ess, a young composer, is writing new music for it. Two songs from the pen of the latter gentleman will be produced by Miss Maidie Scott at Morecambe in Easter week.

That amusing and most tuneful comic effusion made so popular by Messrs. Walton and Lester, entitled "Down by the river," has been secured by Mr. David Day for publication. It is the joint work of those well-known writers T. F. Robson and Percy Edgar.

Mr. T. E. Finglas's tuneful number entitled "She's my only gal" has been accepted for publication by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. It is by H. F. Greenfield, who has also just fitted Miss Alma Gray with a song entitled "My Paramatta Queen."

Miss Nell Richardson has made quite a hit at the London Pavilion with "The Rose of my heart," the charming ballad by Charles Wilmott and Henry E. Pether, which Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have just placed on the market.

The new musical comedy sketch *Missing; or, the Light of Day*, written by Preston Hope, composed by Ernest Vousden, which was produced at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on April 2 by Johnnie Schofield and J. C. Piddock, has proved such a great success that they at once start on tour, opening at Belfast on Monday, the 9th inst.

Mr. Harry Taft, after a successful run of four years in England, will sail on April 28 for New York, where he will book turns in conjunction with Mr. Harry Burns. He will return on August 6, opening at the Park Palace and Haymarket, Liverpool

Mr. Will Smithson intends striking out in a new line. He will work the Theatre Royal, Merthyr, one week with variety companies, and the next with drama or opera. No doubt his fifteen years' experience in the music-halls and fifteen in the theatres will serve him in good stead.

Mrs. Walter Groves wishes to express her sincerest thanks to the many kind friends who sent telegrams, letters, and floral tributes as a mark of their sympathy in her recent great bereavement.

Sacco, the fasting man, who caused such a sensation at the Royal Italian Circus by his forty-five days' fast, has been booked by his sole agents, Chester's Agency, Ltd., Manchester, a series of thirty-day fasts in Manchester, Liverpool, Blackpool, and Southport.

Mrs. Geo. Thursby, of Thursby and Alexander, after six weeks in hospital, is now convalescent and anticipates resuming work in a few weeks time.

Mr. P. A. Lennon, the late popular manager of the Richmond Theatre, had a very successful complimentary benefit at the Castle Theatre, Richmond, on Wednesday last. The theatre was packed, Mr. Lennon's friends loyally rallying round him, his brother Terriers being agreeably prominent. Mr. Orlando Powell conducted a superb little orchestra, and the following artists appeared during the evening:—R. Bland, comedian; Kathleen Leslie, male impersonator; Mr. and Mrs. F. Elliston, *All the World's a Stage*; Mabel Sinclair, lady ventriloquist; Leo Sheffield, baritone; Arthur Blount, eccentric patterer; Lily Esplin, comedienne; Ed. E. Ford, Australian comedian; Fred Bronte, descriptive vocalist; Harold Hughman, in imitations; Edith Blanchard, contralto; Andie Caine, comedian; Ella Shields, comedienne; Ernest D'Almaine, tenor; Syd Godfrey, comedian; Lazern, in modern magic; Joe Lawrence, comedian; Fred W. Millis, ventriloquist; A. E. Sinden, comedian; Little Ganty, comedian; and E. Carter Livesey and Miss Lillian Rosebery in the farcical absurdity *The Would-be Actors*.

The *bénéficiaire* was the recipient of an illuminated address and a handsome cheque. Among others who were present were Messrs. Sydney Hyman, H. Cory Woodrow, Edward Granville (Fortune and Granville), Kay Draco (Richmond Theatre), and Percy Felgate.

The Royal Zanettos have been absent some time from London. We hear that they are making a successful tour of the Continent, where they have appeared in all the principal cities. This is their sixth month. We hope to see them in town again shortly.

Mr. Andie Caine has acquired the Mustor Sands, Filey, for his pierrot performances this season.—Cosgrove and Burns are deputising for the Four Bon-Bons at the Queen's and Tivoli, Glasgow, with gratifying success.—Ernie Myers and Lily Lonsdale, who are going strong at the Hippodrome, Southampton, this week, will shortly be seen in London as single turns in new songs and business.

Mr. Tony Pastor recently celebrated the forty-first anniversary of his proprietorship of his house. Tony first came into notice as a church singer in 1843, and afterwards proceeded to Barnum's Museum as an infant prodigy. He afterwards became a minstrel, and may be said to have begun his variety career at the Broadway Music Hall, New York, in 1861, afterwards going into partnership with Sam Sharpley, with whom he opened a house on the Bowery on the site of which the People's Theatre now stands.

"I've Built a Bamboo Bungalow for You," Lawrance and Mellor's delightful song, as rendered by Miss Alice Lloyd, has conquered Johannesburg and Cape Town, and the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have just been the recipients of cablegrams for trade copies for South Africa. "Remember Me to Mother Dear," another of the firm's publications, has also achieved much success there.

Mr. Marsham had before him at Bow-street Police-court, on Tuesday, Charles H. Houghton, commission agent, 218, Theobald's-road, and Hedley Howard, alias H. Gay, livestock dealer, Waterloo-road, charged with obtaining money from Miss Violet Crossley by false pretences. Detective-Inspector Dew stated that he went with Detective-Sergeants Stephens and Wyborn to an office on the third floor of 62, Strand, which was advertised on the windows as the office of the Empire Dramatic and General Agency. The accused were there, and he told them he held a warrant against them for obtaining money by false pretences from Violet Crossley. Houghton said, "We sent Miss Crossley to Mr. Murray, of Woolwich, and she has settled with Mrs. Murray." On this evidence a remand was asked for. Gay was released on bail. Houghton applied for bail, which was refused.

A case of some importance was heard on Thursday at the Westminster County Court before his Honour Judge Woodfall. Mr. George Foster, variety agent, claimed the sum of £14 from Mr. Philip Bisera, proprietor of a troupe called the "Eight Biseras," for procuring him an engagement at the Alhambra, Paris, for four weeks. Mr. Walter Payne, instructed by Amery-Parkes and Co., appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Powell for the defendant. It was admitted by the plaintiff that the engagement was not worked, owing to the proprietor's refusal, as it was alleged the troupe had made certain changes. The defendant brought an action against the proprietor, and recovered his salary as damages. It was therefore submitted that the plaintiff was entitled to his commission. The defendant contended that the engagement had not been performed, and that there was nothing in the plaintiff's commission note agreeing to pay commission on any damages which might be recovered. His Honour upheld the plaintiff's submission, and gave judgment for the amount claimed, with costs.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPIRE.

No important change of programme has yet to be recorded at this favourite place of entertainment, those extremely attractive features of the bill, *The Bugle Call*, ballet divertissement, and the fairy ballet, *Cinderella*, being nightly received with every sign of popular appreciation. In the first-mentioned piece, with its charming suggestions of rural life in a Normandy farmhouse more than a century ago, Mlle. Zanfretta continues to give her delightful performance of the Lady of the Manor, whose accomplishments include that of the art of dancing in the most dainty manner imaginable. Then we have Miss Elise Clerc as Charlot, the bright little bugler boy; and a strong incentive to mirth is found in the Colonel de Mille Tonnerres of Mr. Fred Farren, a comedian who has studied the difficult art of pantomime with such good effect that he can express his meaning very clearly without uttering a word. There are numerous other characters who have able and pleasing representatives; and life and colour are imparted to the pretty rustic picture by the presence of handsome peasant lads and lasses, gaily clad soldiers, and smart cantinières.

The old well-worn but never wearisome *Cinderella* legend comes out quite fresh in the form of a ballet; and though it does not fall to the lot of the heroine of the ancient story to delight us with a plaintive ballad as she sits alone by the fire she fully makes up for it by her delightful dancing. She conceals her ragged dress by the coloured cloth which she snatches from the table, and she adorns her fair hair with four bright-red feathers, and then, forgetting her disappointment at having her ticket for the Prince's ball torn up by her irate step-mother, she dances amid the shadows of the ancient hall with a grace and charm that arouse the applause of the whole house. No more fitting exponent of the part of the Baron's youngest daughter could be found than Mlle. Adeline Genée, as dainty and sweet a Cinderella as was ever seen on the stage. As to her dancing, it continues to charm everybody by its truly delightful qualities. Mlle. Zanfretta, as the fairy godmother, again renders the most valuable service by her clever embodiment of Cinderella's protector, who suddenly changes from a decrepit old dame to a dazzling creature whose habitation is unquestionably fairyland. Mr. Fred Farren furnishes a genuinely comical portrayal of Fi-Fi, the Baron's second wife, whose daughters, Brunette and Blondine, have capital representatives in Miss Elise Clerc and Miss May Paston. Miss D. Craske is a very handsome and stylish Prince, and Mr. P. Sundberg does some excellent work as the court dancing-master. Mr. W. Vokes as the Baron and Miss M. Dawson as Dandini are also deserving of a word of praise. The scenery elicits the warmest admiration.

Amongst the single turns engaged here this week is Mr. Bransby Williams, who is presenting a selection of his clever character sketches from the works of Charles Dickens. We thus renew acquaintance with Montague Tigg, who figures in "Martin Chuzzlewit," Uriah Heep, the crawling hypocrite who entertained a secret hatred for David Copperfield; and Sergeant Buzfuz, whose address to the jury in the famous breach of promise case of Bardell v. Pickwick is such a remarkable example of forensic eloquence. Mr. Williams happily hits off the peculiarities of each character he selects for portrayal; and the excellence of his illustrations from the works of the world-famous novelist are recognised by repeated applause. "Pilu," the wonderful dog, astonishes everybody by his performance; in reply to questions the animal picks out certain figures which correctly furnish the answers. Ganivet II. is an eccentric French comedian, who gives a droll turn, and is received with considerable favour. Kelly and Rino give a curious performance in which there is much smashing of chairs; while the acrobatics feats of one of the two deserve recognition. The Duo Paulus are a couple whose song and dance contributions are well received. Mac Turc scores with a comic juggling act; Mr. Burt Earle continues to add to his fame as a banjoist and comedian; and the Three Braggs also contribute to a programme which is as varied as it is attractive.

THE TIVOLI.

The near approach of Lent makes apparently no difference to the business being done at the Tivoli, where Mr. Joseph Wilson smilingly surveys a crowded house every evening. The cosy establishment in the Strand is noted for the excellence of its programmes, and this week's is no exception to the rule. There is a fine and large assortment of comedians. One of the most successful is Mr. Russell Wallett—among the few funny men who have migrated with success from the theatres. We are given to understand that Mr. Wallett languished in the provinces; but his opportunity came a few short months ago, and he made such good use of it that he is already well booked up at the principal variety theatres. He is fulfilling his second engagement at the Tivoli, where his clever performance makes a great hit nightly. He appears as "The Lady in Black," and causes roars of laughter by his imitation of a modern Romeo serenading a twentieth-century Juliet while afflicted with a very bad cold. His talk to the girls is exceedingly droll, especially when he tells them that it is better to have freckles on one's face than spots on one's reputation. Mr. Arthur Nelstone, who won a reputation on the variety stage a few years since as a soft-shoed policeman, has come to the Tivoli from Drury-lane Theatre in his celebrated sentry song and dance with which he won such a complete success in the recently withdrawn pantomime of *Cinderella*. Mr. Nelstone's dance is of its kind unique, and recalls the days of Fred Vokes. It is received with tremendous applause. Mr. J. P. Ling's turn is away from the ordinary groove of the comedian. He satirises with considerable ability the "turns" at an amateur entertainment in the country, and is decidedly funny in his sketch of a slightly inebriated reciter, who mixes up Longfellow's "Wreck of the Hesperus" with the same poet's "Village Blacksmith." Mr. Harry Lauder is making a greater hit than ever in his now celebrated song, "Fou the noo," and the laughter of the audience must be grateful music in the eminent Scotch comedian's ears. It has taken some years to acclimatise at the London variety theatres the pawky humour of our canny brethren north of the Tweed; but Lauder has at last accomplished it, and Scotch comedians threaten to become as numerous as Irish. Mr. Ernest Shand is quite English, of course, and proclaims the fact in his clever patter to the "bachelors" among his delighted hearers. He also triumphs in his song "What curious weather we're having." Mr. Harry Rogerson engrafts considerable humour on his song as a sleepy acrobat, and also displays the comedy gift in a slight sketch which precedes his remarkably quaint tumbling display.

That well-cultured and well-endowed vocalist, Miss Florence Esdaile, who looks particularly charming in a costume that suggests sunny Spain, is heard to advantage in a medley which includes an excerpt from Gounod's *Faust*, and several snatches of bright numbers from famous comic operas. The popular lady meets with well-deserved success. Miss Annie Purcell, another big favourite at the Tivoli, has a capital number in "The swallow and the airship," and scores unmistakably by her comedy in the description of the courtship of an admirer, who secures a high musical reputation by his playing of the pianola.

Nothing in the programme is more diverting than the entertainment of the Follies, who repeat their success in their burlesque of a typical pantomime. It is entitled *Bill Bailey*. The lyrics are by Arthur Wimperis and Arthur Davenport, and the music has been composed and selected by Mr. H. G. Pelissier, the chief of the combination. The production is a blend of the story of Cinderella and Dick Whittington, and it is exceedingly funny from start to finish. Miss Gwennie Mars, Miss Marjorie Napier, Miss Ethel Allandale, Mr. Dan Everard, and Mr. Lewis Sydney all support Mr. Pelissier very ably, and the harmless but trenchant skit has a laugh in every line.

The Mumming Birds, presented by Mr. Fred Karno's company, provides a most hilarious wind-up to a programme that is mostly cast in the lighter vein. The clever people in this amusing parody of a variety entertainment are not mentioned by name on the bill, and therefore we can only speak of them collectively. They contribute to some admirable fooling, and create roars of laughter. Mr. Harry Leybourne gives clever imitations of a village choral society in "Hail, smiling morn," and of an old country couple singing as a duet "The Anchor's Weighed." He is also responsible for a startling quick change from gentlemen's evening dress to the giddy skirts of a lady ballad singer, afflicted with a desire to sing "Whisper and I shall hear." Miss Carlotta Levey is heard to advantage in her tuneful chorus song, "Put a little bit by for a rainy day"; and others announced on the bill are Dandy George and his dog Rosie, and Miss Ella Retford.

THE BEDFORD.

It is part of Mr. B. P. Lucas's policy at the Bedford to inaugurate competitions at that popular Camden Town establishment, and it is found that these events never fail to create a lively local interest. This week the inhabitants of the North-Western suburb have been invited to enter a contest for ballad-singers, and at the first house on Tuesday Mr. A. F. Lovesy, the manager, announced the names of no less than four competitors for the first, second, and third prizes offered by Mr. Lucas. The first young person who tried her luck behind the footlights chose Asher's well-known ballad, "Alice, where art thou?" and though Nature had done something for her in the way of vocal endowment, she used her gifts so villainously that not a word of the song could be heard, and the rendering was marked by a gentle melancholy which ever seems to afflict the cockney amateur vocalist. The young gentleman to whom a place in the final competition on the evening of Friday (in the second house) was given by the judges, chose Loder's well-known song "The Diver," but could not apparently get his voice out of his throat. His low notes, however, saved him. He was the best of a very indifferent lot, and, judging by the display given, the cult of music among the masses in the North-West does not reach a very high plane.

The sketch of the current programme is presented by the Collinson combination, and bears the title of *The Gambler's Daughter*. The heroine, Madeline Gregory, during her father's long absences from his country cottage, has managed to fall in love with Reginald Langley, who announces at the opening of the playlet that he has been lucky enough to inherit a legacy of £40,000. Madeline is much puzzled at the reason why her pater is so much away from home, but the secret is revealed by that worthy in a portentous aside. He is the chief of a gang of swindlers, who carry on their operations in a gambling-den in London. His chief confederate is an ex-officer in the Guards, who had been cashiered for card-sharping ten years before the action commences. He it is who, getting hold of Reginald Langley, promises to let him see life in London, and takes him to the gambling hell owned by his chief—who is called the Captain. Reginald plays at cards, and loses £10,000 in a very few seconds. Warned by a former victim—now a waiter—that he is being swindled, he would get away from the den. Accidentally he drops a letter of introduction written by Madeline to her father. This is picked up and read by the Captain, who discovers that he is chief conspirator in the ruin of his daughter's fiancé. There is time to retrieve disaster, and, telling Reginald to stake on black, the "Captain" is relieved when he finds that the young fool wins the £10,000 back again. The ex-Guardsman, however, gets nasty, and there is a "scrap" with the "raw-uns" between him and the Captain. Madeline then comes on the scene, and is in time to witness a duel with swords between her father (the "Captain") and his chief confederate. The latter, fatally wounded, draws a revolver and shoots the Captain. We may suppose that Madeline and Reginald live happily ever afterwards. Mr. Collinson is responsible for a powerful performance of "the Captain"; but the actor who plays the ex-Guardsman should be careful not to say *roilent*, and he should know that an officer in one of His Majesty's regiments of Household Cavalry would never say "Between you and I."

The variety company has an amusing couple of entertainers in Ray and Calden, the gentleman being a smart acrobatic dancer. The lady also shows the way in a cake-walk, the turn being brightened by some amusing patter. Larry Lewis evokes appreciation for his skit on the descriptive song, which is written with some cleverness; George Rapley has an amusing style in his impersonation of an ancient dame, who has been christened by her sterner half "a pansy blossom"; and Miss Daisy De Roy's dainty style and fascinating ways easily ingratiate her into the favour of the audience. Valvero, the mechanical painter, draws a naval battle on a specially-prepared board, and then illustrates a sea-fight with a number of firework effects. The enthusiasm exhibited by the audience at the running up of the Japanese flag—the nationality of the conquering vessel—is tremendous. Thiel's Pom-Poms contribute a bright and versatile music and dancing turn, which deservedly scores a success; Jansen and Lion are amusing as speciality artists; and the Imperial Bioscope is responsible for a series of comic films illustrating the story of a lost legacy. Mr. George Hatley is the new orchestral chief here.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

At the Holloway Empire this week the curtain rises upon a scene in which the familiar framework to a Punch and Judy show is a conspicuous object, and one naturally jumps to the conclusion that a performance by these old favourites of the public is about to take place; but doubts arise when it is observed that the gentleman with the squeak is absent, and there is no sign of dog Toby. As a matter of fact, the venerable Punch and the maltreated Judy never make their appearance at all; and the entertainment is given by a company (Messrs. Denton and Rowland's) of juvenile performers, who are known as the Punch and Judy Girls, the showman, who is accompanied by Mrs. Showman, acting as director of the revels. Miss Marjorie Lawrence, a very clever little girl, delights the audience as a vocalist and dancer. Indeed, her dancing for one so young is remarkable; but there are several other little girls in the company who also distinguish themselves in a similar line, one of them appearing in a neat military uniform. The rest of the company join in the choruses and dances, and this charming song scena is greeted with loud applause. On Monday evening each of the principal performers, at the conclusion of her turn, was the recipient of a box of sweets, these presents being thrown upon the stage by some kind friends in front.

"The Little Charwoman," described as a petite musical comedy melange, played by the Holles and Goldman Trio, has done duty at the halls for some considerable time now; but no slackness is discernible in the performance. On the other hand, it is acted with more spirit than ever. The charwoman, who proves by giving a rehearsal that she is capable of taking the place of the leading lady, who has sent a message that she will be unable to appear at the evening performance, is indeed a rara avis; and the delight of the manager at the discovery is naturally of a rather extravagant character. And one can scarcely recognise the humble charwoman when she re-enters attired in the dress of the absent leading lady. She sings her songs in racy style, and appears in various characters, including that of a boy of the "poor Jo" type. "How to Treat a Burglar" is the title of a very amusing duologue, played by the couple known as the Maples. The husband has returned home at five o'clock in the morning considerably the worse for drink, and his recently-wedded wife, at the first opportunity, proceeds to give him a lesson which is likely to prove a salutary one. She points out very forcibly that in his inexcusable absence the house might be entered by burglars, and she forthwith gives a practical illustration of how she would deal with a Bill Sikes by catching hold of the unfortunate little man and throwing him to the ground, where he lies helpless and gasping for breath. But the lesson is not yet over. A formidable-looking bludgeon is called into requisition, and eventually the peccant husband, fearing further punishment, makes a solemn promise not to imbibe too freely again. The duologue concludes with a smart acrobatic display. The lady shows much vivacity and go in her embodiment of the wife who relies upon physical force rather than persuasion as an effective drink-cure. Mr. Maple presents an exceedingly comical figure as the rollicking husband who is only just recovering from the effects of a prolonged orgy.

Boswell's Stage Circus is an interesting item in the programme, introducing as it does a number of well-trained dogs, horses, and mules. The ancient game of see-saw is played by some of these educated animals, and they also accomplish other wonderful feats under the direction of the lady and gentleman who act as their tutors. Dogs and ponies afford evidence of how they have overcome the difficulties of the revolving table; whereas the lads who make the attempt are ignominiously flung off on to the stage, amidst the laughter of the audience.

The Canary Company appear with success in a comic pantomime, the scene of which is a kitchen, the performers being dressed as cooks. They are clever jugglers, and make ingenious and novel use of various articles used in the culinary art. Miss Bessie Featherstone, a comedienne of handsome presence, has a song in which fun is made of the style of the authors of penny novelette fiction, and she also sings a ditty called "The Latest London Betting," one verse of which has reference to the approaching wedding of Princess Ena. Sloan supplies an excellent mixture of comic business and jugglery; Mr. Harry Bedford as "the second-hand aristocrat" quite upholds his reputation as a droll comedian; the Six Lancashire Lasses distinguish themselves as clog-dancers; and the Morton Trio win applause as comedians and vocalists. Those who arrive in good time have the pleasure of listening to the "Church Parade" march from *The Catch of the Season*, excellently played by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Henry W. May.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

The centre of amusement at Camberwell is attracting crowded audiences, who find ample provision for their delight in the programme placed before them by Mr. Jesse Sparrow, the indefatigable manager whose taste in the choice of an artist never errs. A feature of the current programme is the sketch *Drummed Out*, of which an elaborate revival is given. Mr. A. C. Lilly repeats his well-marked impersonation of the recreant officer who has to undergo the degradation suggested by the title, and is well supported by his admirably-selected company. A military drum and fife band add picturesqueness to the production, and gain hearty cheers for their spirited playing.

An early appearance is made by Walker and May, the coon comedians, whose singing and dancing surpasses that of most of the artists who exploit that form of entertainment. Mr. Walker is a comedian of the drollest resource, and jests in a manner that drives home the point of every joke, with the result that the audience is kept in roars of laughter. His partner is the exact replica of the coloured songstress as she exists in the United States, and she renders her numbers with unfailing vivacity and humour. Their give-and-take conversation is admirably done, and the duet "Back to the woods," in which they join at the end of their highly-successful turn, is artistically sung. Echoes of the land of the Stars and Stripes are also brought by Terry and Lambert, who present a neat sketch of character, in which the sunshine and showers of domestic felicity alternate in quite a seasonable manner. The lady of the pair indulges in some wonderfully expressive facial play, and she and her partner sing tunefully. Their vocal and mimetic abilities are further displayed in a duet between a New York Bowery boy and girl, whose courtship is quaintly depicted.

Blithesome and bonnie as ever, Happy Fanny Fields continues to make comic capital out of the merest trifle, and laughter is general while the captivating Dutch girl occupies the stage. In singing and dancing she is equally irresistible, her skill and precision in the latter department being agreeably marked, and in the beating with her feet of a drum tattoo her practised art is again revealed. Mr. Billy Williams, the Australian comedian, is also an optimist whose example is infectious. He sings by desire his own parody on "All coons look alike to me," and his burlesque of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" is a further means of merriment.

The beauteous Lily Burnand, charmingly arrayed, receives a cordial welcome when she appears to sing "When she was in the ballet," in the tuneful air of which the fair comedienne's voice is heard with the greatest pleasure. "The Stowaway" affords Miss Burnand the opportunity of touching the hearts of her audience with a little sentiment neatly expressed, and the refrain of the song is taken up with vehemence by the songsters perched up above. Mr. George Bastow represents the comic countryman in youth and age, and both pictures are equally well drawn. As the old man of four-score, whose advice in song to the youngsters is "Wire in, my lads," he arouses mirth, the force of which is increased when he appears as the youthful yokel to give a burlesque version of the old lay "She's young and she's beautiful." Mr. Phil Ray keeps the audience rocking with laughter by the "patter" which he adds to his song "Only Seventeen," and none among his hearers is able to resist the hilarious effect of his utterances. Mr. Harry Taft's whistling is invested with humour as well as skill; there is novelty in the acrobatic feats of the Athos Troupe; Mr. Archie Glen has abilities above the average as a raconteur; and other items of the liberal programme consist of Miss Lilian Lea (soprano), Miss Jenny Belmore (comedienne), the Sisters Hall (duettists and dancers), the comedy sketch *The Mummy and the Undergrad*, and animated pictures on Vernon's bioscope. For Thursday an addition to the programme in the person of Mr. Albert Mackelvin, Scotch humorist, was announced.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

Love and lucre form the stakes in the unpretentious but none the less clever playlet which is presented here this week by "The Players," and which is winning a favourable verdict. Briefly told, the story runs as follows: Jack Vivian is hopelessly in love with Ella Warrener, and opens the scene by proposing to her with the usual masculine coyness. Ella accepts the protestations and her *preux chevalier*, but has some misgivings as to the reception of the news of the engagement on the part of her mother, whom she knows to be a gambler. A moment later the mother and Prince Sergius—her evil genius—enter. They have both been tempting the dice, with the result that the Prince—who bears quite a shocking reputation—has plundered Mrs. Warrener of all she possesses, including the gems she is wearing. But he would win still another stake. He is in love with Ella, and infamously suggests that there should be one final throw of the dice for his chance of winning her. There is a scene; but in the end Mrs. Warrener accedes. The dice rattle ominously; she throws a double-five; Prince Sergius is more fortunate, and scores with a double-six. It is at this point that Ella enters to announce her engagement to Jack Vivian; but the Prince claims his prize. It is then that Mrs. Warrener confesses, to her own shame, that the riches which her daughter should inherit are legally the property of Jack Vivian, and that Ella is penniless. The Prince is somewhat upset at this turn in the tide; and in the end, after receiving a castigation at the hands of Jack Vivian, he beats a retreat, leaving the field clear for his rival.

With a little judicious pruning and a quickening touch here and there *Her Last Chance* should become quite popular. The piece is admirably interpreted. Premier honours go to Miss Violet Ellicott, who as the distraught mother, Mrs. Warrener, succeeds to admiration; Mr. Henry Doughty is sufficiently villainous as the Prince; and Mr. Fred Conyers is a fine bluff, breezy lover. Miss Rose Temple makes a charming Ella, playing with much ability.

Of the other good things provided at this pretty theatre on Monday, Bliss and Bliss are divertingly amusing as comedians and dancers; Mr. Joe Gold exhibits his skill as a lightning artist, assisted vocally by Miss Dorothy Sterling, her rendering of "Asthore" being excellent. Miss Ruth Lytton makes a bonnie Highland laddie, and infuses considerable humour into her ditties dealing with the Gaelic race. One of the novelties of the evening is presented by Mr. Kennedy Allen, who opens his scene by singing, to orchestral accompaniment, excerpts from the "Wanted columns" of *The Era*. Mr. Allen evidences his versatility as a comedian, a tragedian, comic old man, and a low comedy man. In each of these characters he does remarkably well, and is in every respect admirable. Miss Lilian Lee has a soprano voice of considerable flexibility, and she has quickly won her way to popularity. Her operatic selection is one of the musical treats of the entertainment, and in a quaint song-scena, entitled *My Bungalow in Borneo*, she proves her ability as an artist of a high order.

Baldwin's Bank Clerks, a wonderful knock-about pantomimic show, create the greatest hilarity, but the show would improve with compression. Vernon's bioscope gives one a peep at the Nice junkettings, and Mr. Norfolk Megone's orchestra contributes a capital selection from *Carmen*. Mr. Kay Draco is to be complimented on the excellence of all the arrangements, and his courtesy is highly appreciated.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Few programmes presented recently by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay at the handsome house under his direction have been more completely filled with attractive features than that of the current week, and the natural result is the crowded state of the Palace at every performance, and the pervading spirit of enthusiasm that prevails. Where every item of a programme is excellent it may seem invidious to praise one more than the other; but there is no getting away from the fact that the engagement of Miss Victoria Monks has proved an unmistakable success. Miss Monks came, sang, and conquered her new audience. An artist to her finger-tips, the charming American comedienne carries all before her. Looking supremely dainty, she delivers her song having for its refrain "Kind regards to Leicester Square" with a delicacy of style that at once stamps her as an artist; while her imitation of an American lady singing a coon song is as pretty as it well could be. Miss Victoria Monks adds, this week, another public to the long list of her devoted admirers. Miss Florence Schuberth, handsome in appearance, irreproachably costumed, and in good voice, gives her song with immense success. Mr. George D'Albert is a comedian with a capital voice, and his chief contribution to the programme, in which he amusingly contrasts the "difference 'twixt the ideal and the real," calls forth the heartiest plaudits. A merry little sketch, entitled *The Member for Muddlesex*, is played with all the requisite touch-and-go manner by Mr. William Lee and Miss Helen Bentley. The latter, as the exceptionally loquacious lady who asserts that she never talks, is particularly amusing, while Mr. Lee upholds the best traditions of farce. Miss Jessie Preston has already established herself as a popular favourite here, and has had a very cordial reception this week. Her singing of "Remember me to all the folks at home" is full of good points, while her appearance in a burlesque edition of Highland costume, singing "I'm his Daisy"—a sort of reply to the song of a well-known Scotch comedian—with some wildly grotesque step-dancing, is the signal for loud and prolonged applause. Mr. Charles Faning rattles away concerning Mr. Plowden, the magistrate, with a volubility that makes his audience shout with laughter. Every point in his amusing patter is taken up at once and applauded to the echo. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows, as usual, some very excellent films.

The longest and, in some respects, the most important feature of the programme is the new and original musical pantomime, *Dwarfland*, written by Mr. James Hewson, and performed by the Six Brothers Luck. The piece, which is in three scenes—or acts—recalls visions of Christmas-time, music, dancing, brilliant dresses, and lovely scenery combining to form a pretty picture, enlivened with much excellent fooling. There is a sort of connected plot concerned with the doings of a "rightful heir" to a throne and the machinations of a yellow dwarf. The whole is redolent of those days when an Easter *féerie* was an acknowledged dish in the *ménu* of the theatrical year. The pretty dances have been arranged, and the chorus drilled by Mr. Joseph Pomè, the scenery painted by Messrs. McLellan and Turner, the costumes are creations of Alias, and the wigs are by Mr. C. Haley. *Dwarfland* is received with unbounded satisfaction. The overture for the week is from the pen of Mr. H. Petersen, and is entitled "Ate." The heavy stage-management is admirably carried out by Mr. John Grant.

THE EUSTON.

The visit of Mr. Harry Lauder to this well-patronised hall has proved quite as successful as one, without laying claim to the gift of prophecy, might with confidence have foretold. His humour is happily combined with the originality and finish of the true artist who takes a pride in his work, and does not risk his well-earned popularity by even a suspicion of carelessness or indifference. Mr. Lauder also fully appreciates the value of contrast, as his selection of songs testifies. Attired in the garb of his native land, he first sings the pretty ditty "Mary, my Scotch blue-bell," the chorus of which is so catchy that it is generally sung by the audience while the comedian is changing for the next song. The curiously crooked walking stick which Mr. Lauder carries as he sings in praise of his Scotch blue-bell cannot possibly escape observation and amused wonder. Remarkably lifelike and intensely amusing is the Scotch comedian's sketch of an individual who has been having an evening out with a friend he had not met for three years. The convivial spirit which they have jointly cultivated has caused them to imbibe a good many "wee sma' drops," and the result is that the festive gentleman is, as he admits, quite "fou." He sways unsteadily as he rattles on with the garrulousness of the drunken man. Taking from an inner coat pocket a small flask, his face assumes a bibulous smile of calm content as he congratulates himself on the fact that there is a drop left for the morning. In his left hand he holds a miserable looking fowl, which he explains is a present for his wife. Mr. Lauder has never presented a more comical or effective character-sketch; and all the details of the picture have been so cleverly worked up as to make the whole quite a perfect study of inebriety.

On Tuesday evening, at the conclusion of his turn, Mr. Lauder introduced to the audience the Scotch lad who recently walked from Scotland to London with vague expectations of finding the streets of the great city paved with gold. In order to earn a living he gave performances in the streets, and was taken into custody by the police. He was brought up before a magistrate and, having given proof of his ability as a musician, was set free. The notice of Mr. Lauder was called to the case, and it was he who secured for the lad an engagement at one of the music halls. On Tuesday evening the youth, who speaks with a broad Scotch accent, gave a musical performance, which included an imitation of Mr. Lauder was heard through a gramophone, and an express train leaving Euston Station. The newcomer was well received, and Mr. Lauder watched the lad's performance from the wings.

Miss Alice York and Mr. Royston Keith in the duologue *A Yacht For Sale*, continue to excite the merriment of the audience by a mutual misunderstanding, which is ingeniously maintained until it suits the author of the trifle to clear up matters. The gentleman is referring all the time to a yacht which he has for sale, while the lady is under the impression that the subject under discussion is a maid servant for whom she has advertised. Merriment again reigns during the time that the Bros. Griffiths occupy the stage. These well-known comedians are still giving their genuinely comical burlesque of a wrestling match, the younger of the two presenting a grotesque appearance as an athlete with muscles of abnormal development. To many this performance affords more enjoyment than the real thing.

The Mayvilles, with their living marionette show, retain their popularity as entertainers, successfully impersonating a policeman and a cook, a couple of members of the Salvation Army, and a Scotch lad and lass. Little Cliff, the boy comedian, makes a very smart drummer, and his clever dancing is loudly applauded. Miss Edie King sings a ditty in the character of Little Red Riding Hood and dances gracefully. Herr Fritz, conjurer, accomplishes all his tricks neatly, concluding with a well-contrived cabinet illusion. The singing of Miss Florence Esdaile is greeted with applause, Mr. Frank Sylvo scores as a comedy juggler, and Miss Madeline Rees, comedienne, also successfully contributes. With Mr. Fred McEvoy as manager and Mr. Chas. E. Wellman as acting-manager, the front of the house is well looked after.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The constant cry at the elegant hall at Clapham Junction this week has been "Standing-room only!" but seekers after amusement who have gained admittance have been well rewarded in the feast of variety laid before them by Mr. H. Ketteman, whose judicious management and unfailing courtesy have helped greatly to place the hall among the most prosperous of Mr. Walter Gibbons' enterprises. The biggest line in the bill this week is taken by *The Belle of India*, which, although described as an Indian sketch, is very much akin to the musical comedy which has its birthplace in the Strand, with the exception that the company playing the sketch is headed by a Hindoo rajah, and the Oriental nature of the production is further sustained by the inclusion in the cast of Rhanee Singharee, "the beautiful Indian Nautch Queen," evidently the heroine of the piece. She arouses the admiration of the Prince of Kashmir, in whose dominions the action passes, and he eventually chooses her to share his throne. Cupid is also busy with a young captain in the English garrison, who falls in love with the daughter of an American millionaire, travelling in India in the candy interest. The sketch is everything by turns and nothing long, and by means of songs, dances, concerted pieces, and funny situations wins the plaudits of the audience. Rajah Rham Singh makes a picturesque figure as the Hindoo prince, who sings the praises of the nautch girl, and afterwards acknowledges the sovereignty of the British Emperor in a fine rousing song, "When the King commands," sung by the English officer, a part played in spirited fashion by Mr. Charles Hampden. An excellent light comedian is found in Mr. Cecil Rutland, who represents the millionaire, and engages in a mock wrestling combat with a native with a pronounced cockney accent, played with great humour by Mr. Harry Chase, who secures many laughs. Rhanee Singharee renders her numbers well and dances with sinuous grace as the "belle of India," and Miss Adelina Balfe, who sings prettily and acts with unfailing vivacity as the belle from New York, can also trip a dainty measure. The scenery is of a gorgeous description, and a meritorious feature of the production is the excellent work of the chorus.

An eccentric figure is cut by Mr. George Antill, who appears as a sailor with equally peculiar methods of vocalisation. His song "Over the sea" has irresistible attractions for the audience, who let themselves go with wonderful unanimity in the refrain. Still greater effect is attained by his elongated appearance in which he sings "You are a-carrying on," the dance that follows including some extraordinary leg manipulation that caused roars of laughter. Mr. Russell Wallett commands admiration by his appearance as "the Lady in Black," who performs at the piano, but his sex is soon betrayed by the masculine voice in which he delivers some feminine confidences. He has a clever "sneezing song," and the lay of the "Lady in Black" is supplemented by a dance.

A humorous absurdity entitled *Fun on a Broom Handle* enables Morris and Morris to go through some quaint acrobatic manœuvres both on the stage and on the trapeze; and Les Sprays well distinguish themselves as Continental dancers. Excellent views of interesting events are pictured by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. "A Tragedy at Sea" and a representation of the carnival at Nice providing both excitement and humour. Miss Ella Retford sings "The sun am shining" very tunefully, and dances with lightness, ease, and precision; Silvo, who plays expertly on the concertina and upon a number of zinc cylinders, also extracts the sweetest melody from the musical glasses, winning a hearty recall; and the programme is contributed to by Miss Lilian Doreen, speciality vocalist. Mr. David Dealer has succeeded to the post of musical director at the Grand, and keeps his forces well in hand.

BILLIE BARLOW.

AT GRIMSBY.

A HOST IN HERSELF.

There ought to be few empty seats at the Palace this week, for the management are giving the public another first-class bill. Billie Barlow is a host in herself. Vivacious and dainty, stylish yet graceful, with comedy that at once secures the ear and mind, this popular comedienne entertains the house as she only knows how. What Billie Barlow does not know about comedy business is not worth knowing. She has visited Grimsby in the past; we are false prophets if she does not return yet again. To hear Billie Barlow once is to want to hear her again. There is comedy in her every word and act, and her winsomeness captivates the whole house, especially in the songs "It goes" and "Fidgeting."—*Grimsby News*, April 3, 1906.

DEATH OF ZÆO.

We regret to announce the death of Zæo (Mrs. Adelaide Wieland), who passed away at 7.20 on Monday morning with painful suddenness at her residence in St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, in the presence of her husband, Mr. H. W. Wieland, the well-known musical and dramatic agent, and her children, with the exception of her eldest daughter, Miss Clara Wieland, who is at present fulfilling engagements in America, and who received the sad news by cable at Newark, N.J. Just before 12 o'clock on the previous night the deceased lady, who was an excellent linguist, was coaching her son—a pupil of the City of London School—in his French, and though she was slightly ailing no anxiety whatever regarding her health was felt by her family.

One of the greatest gymnasts of the nineteenth century, Zæo made her first appearance in public at the Alexandra Palace in October, 1878, and went in 1880 to the Westminster Aquarium, then the home of sensational gymnastic performances. Nothing more startling than Zæo's turn had been seen. She was a most accomplished wire walker, and her rope descent was instinct with classical grace; but it was when she was hurled into the air from a catapult that she thrilled her audience. Her salary was demurred to by Captain Molesworth, the then manager, and sharing terms were suggested; but at the end of the first week the salary, which was the largest ever drawn by any artist at the now defunct temple of amusement in Tothill-street, was paid.

When she had completed her first engagement at the Aquarium, Zæo departed for the Continent, ostensibly for a fortnight's engagement, and stayed away from England for ten years. She appeared at the Cirque d'Eté and Cirque d'Hiver, Paris, at Bordeaux, at the Teatro Zarzaella, Madrid (four months), at Lisbon, and during her triumphant career also visited the chief cities of Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, and went as far as Cairo, where she performed with immense success at a hippodrome, specially erected by Mr. Wieland, in the Esbikiah Gardens.

She did not enjoy complete immunity from accident. In Trieste an enthusiastic gallery boy dislodged a piece of decorative iron, which Zæo, standing on her trapeze, endeavoured to divert from the audience. It struck her from her perilous position, inflicting a terrible wound, and caused her to lie prostrate during three months. Among many kind friends at this juncture were the late Sir Richard Burton, author of a free translation of "The Arabian Nights," and Lady Burton.

It was in 1890 that Zæo returned to the Aquarium. The London County Council had not been long in existence, and the posters on the then hoardings announcing the gymnast's sensational performance attracted the attention of some zealots on the newly-formed body, and came in for much criticism. Thus a splendid advertisement was given to the star. Where there had been one Zæo poster there were soon half a dozen, and every night the Aquarium was crowded when Zæo went through her daring performance.

Just when the poster was ceasing to be talked about, another fillip was given to the performance by a statement publicly made to the effect that Zæo was suffering from injuries to her back caused by her dive into the net. This was strenuously denied by the Aquarium management and by the lady herself, who afterwards appeared with enormous success at the Oxford, under Mr. C. R. Brighten's management.

After many years' success in her aerial performances she appeared at the Palace Theatre, the Metropolitan, the Aquarium, and other establishments, in her celebrated fire dance, which was also a great success in the United States.

Her gifts to local charities were on a queenly scale. For instance, she received a fee of £200 for a single performance in Valencia, and promptly handed half of it to the Hospital for Incurables in that town. She received the special commendation of the Queen of Spain for her skill and equally for her benevolence. In Lisbon, enjoying the patronage of the King and Queen of Portugal, she gained the tremendous profit of £4,000 during a season of eight weeks.

The funeral took place on Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Nunhead Cemetery, the deceased lady being interred in her husband's private grave. In the cortége were three mourning coaches. In the first were seated Mr. H. W. Wieland, three children (Harry, Lizzie, and Olga), a grandchild (Clara), and Mr. J. Munro. The second carriage was occupied by the two sisters of the deceased, and in the third were Mr. Antonio Pierri and some intimate personal friends. Among those who followed in private broughams were Mr. and Mrs. Percy Harvey, Mr. E. J. Leamy, Messrs. Ted and Taff Volta (retired members of the celebrated Hanlon-Voltas), and Mr. and Mrs. Basil Dawson. There were many beautiful wreaths and floral tributes sent by the following:—Mr. H. W. Wieland (husband), Clara (daughter), Harry (son), Lizzie (daughter), Olga (daughter), Clara (granddaughter), Mr. and Mrs. Curtis (sister), Mr. and Mrs. Barchard (sister), the Alhambra company, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilson of the Alhambra, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Urban (Urbanora), Mr. Sydney M. Hyman, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Munro, Mr. and Mrs. James Holden, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Holden, Messrs. Fortune and Granville, Theatre, Variety, and Concert Agents' Association, Messrs. Anger and Bauer, Mr. Arthur Carlton, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Day (Miss Lottie Lennox), Mr. McWilliam, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Howard (Howard and Harris), Messrs. Taff and Ted Volta, Mr. and Mrs. de Gracia, Mr. Antonio Pierri, Mr. Ahmed Madrali, the Bros. Egbert, Mr. and Mrs. Maple (The Maples), Mr. and Mrs. James Finney, Mr. E. J. Leamy, Mr. Sam Elton, Miss Rosina Casselli and Mr. Vanola, Mr. and Mrs. A. Schwartz, Mrs. Brustmeyer, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Cochran, Mr. A. D. Robbins, and Mr. and Mrs. Percival Hyatt.

The announcement that the Baronne de Rahden is to sing for the first time in public at a concert under the patronage of Princess Louise of Belgium takes the memory back to a remarkable and pathetic history. Ten years ago Mme. de Rahden was a well-known rider in the circuses of Paris The French have a particular admiration for feats by horsewomen, and a proof of it is the prosperity of the amateur circus in Paris, which occasionally performs for charity. The feats of Mme. de Rahden were celebrated by the newspapers, and no circus was complete without her.

At the height of her fame she married the Baron de Rahden. While she and her husband were staying at Clermont-Farrand, where she was performing, the Baron became jealous of an officer, and killed him. The jury, believing that the Baron had been provoked, acquitted him. The Baronne de Rahden herself was almost shattered by the shock, and a good deal later she woke up one morning to find that she was blind. Careless of what she did, she decided to appear that night as usual at the circus where she was engaged. What she almost expected happened. She was thrown against a wall, and for days lay half dead. She never rode again, but finding that she had a good voice, she has learnt to sing.

The Five Dandies, who are assigned important parts in Mr. Oswald Stoll's forthcoming revue at the Coliseum, were founded by Mr. H. J. Corner two years ago for a series of concerts at Prince's Hall, Piccadilly. Shortly after, they received a Royal command to appear before their Majesties the King and Queen, at Sandringham, on the occasion of the Queen's birthday. So pleased were their Majesties with the performance of the Dandies that they shook hands with them individually, and made some very complimentary remarks. In the autumn the Dandies will sail away to America for a long tour.

MR. FRANK PARKER.

An Appreciation.

By Henry W. Garrick.

In my time I have, as Shakespeare says, "filled many parts," but I am open to say that whatever parts they may have been I have accomplished them "more by good luck than good management." A proof of this was demonstrated to me on a recent Sunday morning when taking an airing I found myself in the vicinity of Thames Ditton, and remembered that Frank Parker lived there. I called, and by great good luck found him in. Whenever I have met the genial and volatile Frank before on a Sunday it has been at the London Hippodrome rehearsing in the "wee small hours," with the inevitable cigar, half eaten, plugged into his mouth, and his three-hour-old meal stone cold, placed upon the ring fence awaiting his pleasure—a pleasure which I have never had the satisfaction of seeing realised. Hour after hour, while all London sleeps, I have seen him directing a million and one salient points, nay, even solving problems of mechanical importance; his deductions from blue drawings, specifications, mathematical problems, and calculations, worked out on a rough sheet of paper to the fraction of a degree; draughtsmen round him arguing theoretical possibilities, defeated by practical possibilities evolved in the mind of one who knows, and who has the courage of his opinions and the strength of mind to carry them out. My own impression of the man has always been clearly from a journalistic point of view; that is to say, I have always taken him at my own estimate. I will not say that I have always found him immaculate—that would be absurd—but I have always found him to be a producer, a stage-manager, an expert equestrian, an electrician of the first water, an organiser in every possible department, and, what is

Photo. by Campbell Grey.
MR. FRANK PARKER.

more, in a vast collective establishment a disciplinarian, who, despite the fact that he is not ten feet high and five feet broad, can control a staff of over 400 individuals with the same ease that can be applied to looking at the hall clock for the time when you leave home in the morning.

Many people beside myself have often puzzled themselves about Mr. Frank Parker's adaptability to any and all circumstances. How came it that he is such a splendid "Jack of all trades"? He is an expert photographer, and can take photographs in natural surroundings equally well with the successors of Vernon Heath, and yet his judgment of colour under artificial surroundings is so perfectly balanced that the eye is pleased, and the "one touch of nature" is presented as real. Perhaps some day he may instruct us how to solve the problem of producing a black rose; let us hope he will; but up to the moment I do know that he is composed of the concentrated essence of resource, knowledge, and energy.

The privilege I gained from my promiscuous visit turns out to be an important one, from the reason that Frank Parker in town is as inaccessible as the Governor of the Bank of England, not from the fact that he does not want to see everybody who calls to see him and engage his services, but that he finds it impossible to cram forty-eight hours into twelve. However, I found him, and I determined to extract from him something about his career, and how he came to be the "greatest producer"—as a leading daily newspaper has it.

To look at Frank Parker in his miniature drawing-room at Sunnyside, surrounded by tokens of past accomplishments, souvenirs of old-time theatrical celebrities, the majority of whom are now "resting" but still vivid in the minds of playgoers, is a revelation. Who would think that this fresh-coloured little gentleman of forty-three years could have completed his thirty-second year of extremely active association with stage production?

I glance around, and view autographs, and recall the days of my youth when as a lad I saw the individuals perform. I look again at Mr. Parker, and doubt if it can really be true that the testimonial on the wall from Chatterton, the numerous presents from the late Sir Augustus Harris, his brother Charles Harris, Mr. George Edwardes—in the old Gaiety days of Fred Leslie and E. J. Lonnen—were presented to him or his namesake. But I find I am mistaken, for Frank Parker started life very young indeed. In fact, he can scarcely remember when he first joined Chatterton at the Adelphi Suffice to say he has, from the time he was a gas-boy thirty-two years ago, climbed the hill in sunshine and storm, and reached the pinnacle of success as London's premier stage-director and producer.

In the theatrical profession as a rule modesty, as far as one's own histrionic abilities are concerned, is a quantity very difficult to obtain, but not more so than in the case of our subject. True, I managed to get some sort of a tangible story of his doings, but it was at the rate of an inch an hour, for he would insist upon me inspecting his beautiful garden and homestead, his ponies, his motor-car, and his ideal farmyard, with its bantams and ducks, black lambs and "neddies"; the vineries, asparagus beds, and aviaries. No talk of self could I get out of him in his "den," so I had to glean all I could while strolling round the charming demesne of Sunnyside.

"Yes," he said, "I have worked with Chatterton, Sir Augustus Harris, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Milton Bode, Mr. C. Rider Noble, and Mr. Charles Harris. I cannot think of all the good men and true I have been associated with or under whose banner I have served. Perhaps you do not know it, but my father, Geo. Parker, was a music-hall proprietor in London, so you see although I do not quite remember the regime under which my father worked, I was born with an instinct to follow in his footsteps. But I must tell you one thing, Mrs. Parker (my wife) has been a wonderful help to me. It was a very happy day for us when we met at Drury-lane Theatre. She was a splendid dancer, and now, by the way, she trains troupes and troupes of ladies for my productions, and that really explains how I am able to do two things at once—that is to say, be responsible for two productions 300 miles apart."

"Tell me, Mr. Parker, how many plays you have brought to light in your time?" "Well," he said shrugging his shoulders, "I'd rather not acknowledge; let us come and see 'Tuppence'—a dear old favourite of mine. Now, there are only two things in this world that I would not part with. One is 'Tuppence' and the other is 'Haidee.'" "Oh, yes; but who is the former?" "Why, my favourite pony; 'Haidee' is my missus!" "And very nice, too," said I. "But what about the productions?" I inquired. "My dear old friend, leave business alone; I am at home now." Nearly despairing, I was half inclined to get a trifle hasty. However, I managed, by a frantic effort, to squeeze the following facts from him.

"Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the old Gaiety Theatre, and the old Adelphi I was at for many years. *Morocco Bound* I produced at the Shaftesbury, where it had a very long run. I re-staged it at the Trafalgar Theatre, where also I put on *Go-Bang*. Then came *The Dandy Fifth*, which has not stopped marching yet; but that was in the first instance at the Duke of York's. The Avenue came afterwards with *Dandy Dick Whittington* and *Pot Pourri*—a very big revue that was at the time. The Prince of Wales's, *On the March*, with Mr. Tom E. Murray, the quaint comedian; Terry's Theatre, *The French Maid*; Vaudeville, *Her Royal Highness* and *Piccadilly*, in which Dan Leno appeared; Lyceum, "Lydia Thomson Benefit"; Empire Theatre, with Sir Augustus Harris. Other productions include Vienna, Berlin, Brussels, three pantomimes at Brixton, one at Brighton, two at Plymouth, one at Hull, and three at Northampton. Then I was hon. stage-manager at the King's Dinner to the poor—I mean at the entertainments organised by Sir Edward Moss." "Yes!" "Just a few little items in my six and a half years at the London Hippodrome, where I have been stage and equestrian director since its inception. That the public at large have appreciated my efforts with the various successes there, such as *Siberia, Cinderella, Tally Ho! Aladdin, The Bandits, Dick Whittington, The Redskins, The Golden Princess, Butterflies in Fairyland, The North Pole, Rob Roy, Among the Stars*, and my latest, *The Flood*, is very gratifying to me indeed. Further, five or six of these pieces I have re-staged in the provinces—at Olympia, Liverpool; Hippodrome, Manchester; Empire, Edinburgh; and Empire, Liverpool."

Having gained this amount of information, I was eager to obtain more, and I tried very hard to induce Mr. Parker to come out of his shell and explain to me how his dual life is so consistent—the one side so incredibly real (to the public), the other side so sincerely ideal in his domestic environment where no possible element of artificiality exists. But it was all to no purpose.

I take my farewell, and journey back to town wondering about this many-sided genius and his next development.

THE PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE.

Flags flew across Putney's main street on Saturday afternoon last, and their meaning was explained by a huge crowd which had taken possession of one side of Felsham-road. On the other side a mass of huge poles, woodwork, and unfinished masonry was gaily bedecked — it was the beginning of what is to be the Putney Hippodrome. Sir Henry Kimber, Bart., M.P., who was to have performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone, was prevented by illness at the last moment from attending, and his son, Mr. Henry Dixon Kimber, C.C., appeared in his father's stead.

In a brief speech Mr. Kimber said: "Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have to apologise to you for being here myself and for my father's absence, due to illness. It was only at very short notice that I heard of this function, or I might have made myself better acquainted with the circumstances and objects of the building. I should like to congratulate you upon this fine building you will have in your midst, and I would like to express the hope, in which I am sure my father will share, that it will have a long career of usefulness and uninterrupted success."

Mr. Kimber then declared the foundation stone well and truly laid, amid the cheers of the onlookers.

Mr. Frederic W. Hingston, the architect, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Kimber, mentioned that the new establishment would be conducted on strictly teetotal principles, and that a high-class entertainment would be provided. As there was no other similar place of amusement in Putney, the Hippodrome should be very largely supported by the local public.

Mr. T. H. Kingerlee seconded the vote of thanks, and after Mr. Kimber had suitably acknowledged the compliment, the party went on a short tour of inspection.

The new Hippodrome is situated in Felsham-road just off the High-street, Putney. It has a frontage of 110ft. to Felsham-road, and is surrounded on the other three sides by a footway 20ft. wide, completely isolating it from the neighbouring buildings. The depth is 80ft., and it is about 60ft high. The front is of red brick and stone, and a fine ornamental tower rises to a height of nearly 80ft. at the right-hand corner, near the High-street.

The house will accommodate 1,500 people distributed as follows:—110 seats in the stalls, 460 in the pit, 345 in the circle, 565 in the gallery, and 20 in the four boxes.

The exits are ample and well arranged, being thirteen in all, viz.:—Gallery 3, circle 3, pit 3, stalls 2, and boxes 2, and the house can be emptied in a very few minutes.

The building is constructed on the cantilever principle, with no intermediate columns to obstruct the view. It will be entirely fireproof throughout. On both sides of the fireproof curtain the stairs, floors, tiers, and every possible part will be fireproof, and fire hydrants will be fitted throughout the building.

The stage is 49ft. long and 30ft. wide, and the proscenium opening 31ft. wide and 32ft. high.

The house will be run on strictly temperance principles, and no intoxicants will be allowed.

The entertainment will be of the highest class, and will be on the two-houses-a-night system now so popular.

The architect is Mr. Frederic W. Hingston, of Portland House, Basinghall-street; the builders, Messrs. T. H. Kingerlee and Son, of Oxford. Messrs. Dawnay and Sons are supplying the steelwork, the ventilating and heating are by Messrs. Hendry and Pattisson, and the electric lighting by Messrs. Roger Dawson, Ltd.

An almost unparalleled reception has been accorded "The Players" this week at the Richmond Theatre in their successful sketch, *Her Last Chance*, by M. A. Curtois and George Unwin. Rounds of applause marked the excellence of the acting of Miss Violet Elliott as Mrs. Warrener, Mr. Henry Doughty as Prince Sergius, Miss Rose Temple as Ella Warrener, and Mr. Fred Conyers as Jack Vivien. The dresses are beautiful in the extreme. "The Players" have secured a funny farcical sketch, written expressly for them by Mr. George Unwin, which will shortly be produced in the West End.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

DEATH OF ENA BERTOLDI.

We regret to have to record the death of Ena Bertoldi, the well-known gymnast, equilibrist, and contortionist. The sad event occurred on Sunday morning, at five o'clock, at the deceased's lady's residence at Balham, the cause of death being heart failure. Bertoldi was trained in the gymnastic profession by her father, Mr. Tom Claxton, the well-known agent, himself a celebrated performer in his day, and made her first appearance at the age of five years at the old Amphitheatre, Portsmouth, then under the management of Mr. D. Barnard. In 1891 Bertoldi introduced her intrepid and graceful performance on an illuminated staircase at the Grand, Newport, whence she went straight to America, in which country she remained some seven years. She played three seasons with the Howard Athenæum Co. of Boston, then under the management of Mr. J. D. Hopkins, and later became associated with Sam De Vere's Vaudeville Company. She was afterwards seen on the Keith and Proctor circuits, and at Koster and Bial's, and visited every important theatre in the States from New York to San Francisco. She was a great favourite, too, on the Continent, being especially so in Vienna and Berlin. She also astonished, by her intrepid performance, the patrons of the Casino and Nouveau Cirque, Paris. One of her most difficult feats was the ascent and descent of a staircase on her hands. She was not content with a downward course step by step, but bounded down with two or three graceful movements, alighting, of course, each time upon her hands. Another striking act was the ascent of a kind of double tower, on the summit of which she performed several astonishing balancing feats. During a professional experience of some twenty years Bertoldi never had an accident, except once, when, in an inverted posture, she dropped off a platform about 4 feet high. This led to no serious

ENA BERTOLDI.

consequences. She was half-sister to Vonare, herself a graceful contortionist, and the wife of Dandy George (Spink). She leaves no family.

The deceased lady was interred in Tooting Cemetery on Wednesday. Beautiful wreaths were sent by Dandy George (the husband), Mr. Tom Claxton (father), Mr. and Mrs. E. De Vere, James and Lucy Allison, Mrs. Fred Karno, Miss Daisy Dormer, Dicks's Comedy Five, Fred Howe, and Mr. and Mrs. Silvo. Mrs. Claxton and Tom Claxton, jun., sent a cross, and the Philippi Brothers and Marie Rieff a floral harp. The funeral arrangements were ably carried out by Mr. Theophilus Dunkley.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

"Anniversary Day" drew tremendous crowds to the Stratford Empire, both "houses" on Tuesday night being packed from floor to ceiling. This is little to be wondered at, for, apart from the desire of local pleasure-seekers to be present on this notable occasion to show their appreciation of possessing this high-class variety theatre in their midst, there was the strong attraction of a largely augmented bill. Among this week's company (most of whom had to curtail their turns), a huge hit was made by Will Evans, who rattled off in his own inimitable style on "Rates and Taxes," which pleased the audience mightily. The Two Allisons proved themselves bright and interesting entertainers, and the Lawn Tennis comedians, Grell and Grey, evoked plenty of applause. Hermann Melot's conjuring was much to the liking of the audience, for, in addition to its mystifying and amusing everybody, there was the chance of being a lucky recipient of one of the numberless button-holes and cigars which the performer extracted from a hat and threw to those in front. Conn and Conrad, in a burlesque burglary act, caused much hilarity; and the Serenaders, as masked entertainers, gave a much-appreciated performance. Rosie Lloyd was an immense favourite when she appeared in the low-comedy ditty, "Never introduce yer bloke to yer lady friend," and Lilian Doreen sang "Annie Laurie" with much expression. Burke, Andrus, and Frisco in *Trafalgar Square at 4 a.m.* was a highly mirth-provoking turn, and the Hardinis proved themselves violinists of marked ability. Tom Edwards's ventriloquial entertainment received some of the heartiest applause heard during the evening, and May Henderson, always popular at Stratford, contributed some brisk singing and dancing. The American Comedy Four combined high-class vocalism with excellent comedy business with highly gratifying results, and the illustrated songs by Lloyd Langdon and Coliseum Choristers afforded the keenest pleasure. Robb Harvey gave a sporting recitation with much dramatic effect, and Millicent Marsden's singing was most favourably received. Percy Honri was perhaps more successful as a concertina soloist than as raconteur, but his turn was vociferously applauded; and Bessie Featherstone scored very heavily with "The Latest London Betting," Ella Shields won warm praise for her contribution to the programme, and the Three Leaves are juvenile entertainers of merit. That both performances were carried through without the slightest hitch or wait reflects the greatest credit on the stage-management. "Empire Echoes" served as a most appropriate overture, and the composer and arranger, Mr. Augustus Greco, conducted the well-balanced orchestra with his customary skill. Mr. T. S. Mayne's arrangements for the comfort of the huge audiences were admirable and deserving of every praise, and he had an able lieutenant in Mr. W. S. Bucclengh.

Miss Madge Temple, who by this time next week will have completed a five months' continuous engagement at the London Coliseum in *La Mascotte* and *Fenella*, will, after a short holiday, leave England for the Continent to fulfil an engagement at Lucerne. Miss Temple was only induced to accept this engagement by reason of the magnificent salary offered.

WOLVERHAMPTON'S NEW MUSIC HALL.

The old Prince of Wales's Theatre, Bilston-street, Wolverhampton, has been acquired by Mr. Walter de Frece and a syndicate, who propose to conduct it as a hippodrome. The whole of the former interior has been gutted from floor to ceiling, and in its place has been built an auditorium of the most handsome character, the decorative colours being in white, scarlet, and gold.

The new house has been built after the form of a modified horseshoe, with two tiers, which stretch round towards the stage on either side, being terminated on the circle tier by private boxes, and the slope of each is such that each seat in both portions of the house provides a full view of the stage.

The stalls and circle are beautifully carpeted with red material, and the seats are of the most approved tip-up type, and are all comfortably upholstered in dark plush.

The seating accommodation in the pit at the rear of the stalls consists of rows of benches, with backs, while the gallery seating accommodation is in rows without backs.

The general idea of the decorative work is based upon the floreated Corinthian style; while the colour scheme, as already indicated, is chiefly of white, relieved and adorned by red wall-papering and gold details.

Along the borders of the tiers facing the stage, the white panels contain festoons of flower garlands, in the central hoops of which are the brackets fitted with electric lamps, and which, when the house is fully lighted, cannot fail to produce a rich and pleasing effect.

The ceiling has been handsomely decorated in accordance with the prevailing white and gold scheme. In the centre is a gas "sunlight," formed of clusters of burners, and at each corner is a handsome electrolier furnished with powerful electric lamps, and the illumination is further assisted by a number of powerful electric pendants, with brass attachments and mountings.

The private boxes on each side are supported on the auditorium side by graceful fluted Corinthian columns with floreated capitals and decorations, and beneath each box is an open stall lounge. On the right-hand side (looking towards the stage) has been provided a refreshment bar, the arrangement and decorations of which follow the general scheme of the whole buildings.

It is estimated that the new arrangement will find accommodation for an audience of between 2,500 and 3,000.

The building is fitted throughout for electricity, which will be generated on the premises, and a switch-board on the stage will control every light throughout the building. The fire curtain is manipulated by a lever on the stage, and can be drawn up or lowered, as the case may be, practically instantaneously. In all parts of the house a full water supply apparatus has been established, with hydrants and hoses.

In order to provide additional exits (for emergency) a strip of land has been utilised at the side of the old building, by means of which egress can be immediately obtained either into Bilston-street or Tower-street. The main entrances, which are, of course, in Bilston-street, and which open into a handsome foyer for stalls and circle, will be the ordinary exits, but the emergency exits, which will always be available, are such that even when most crowded it is estimated that the building can be cleared in the space of a couple of minutes.

The stage and accommodation for the artists has been dealt with on the same generous scale as the auditorium. The stage is 51ft. wide by 30ft. deep, which is large enough to accommodate very elaborate productions, and has been fitted with all the latest improvements.

A "green room," handsomely furnished and carpeted, has also been provided for the artists. There is a refreshment bar at the back of the pit, a smoke- and refreshment-room for the grand circle, and a refreshment-bar has also been provided for the habitués of the gallery. The alterations have been carried out by Messrs. Horton's, Ltd., and Messrs. W. Butler and Co., and the decorations had been due to the initiative and suggestions of Mr. Latham.

The performances at the Hippodrome will commence on Easter Monday, but there will be an inaugural opening on Saturday next, when Miss Vesta Tilley will be present, and will open the doors. The Hippodrome will be run on the two-shows-a-night principle, and Mr. Lennox Barry has been appointed the acting-manager of the new Hippodrome.

ALBERT CHEVALIER AT EALING.

On Wednesday evening at the Victoria Hall Mr. Chevalier, assisted by an able company, gave one of his amusing and entertaining shows. The popular artist, on making his appearance upon the stage, received a most flattering welcome. Mr. A. H. West, who presided at the piano, and skilfully accompanied Mr. Chevalier in all his songs, played as an overture, the "Valse Rhapsodie," and would have been encored had not the audience been impatient for the popular artist's appearance. In "An old bachelor," given in his most characteristic style, Mr. Chevalier at once secured the sympathetic attention of his audience, who were not slow in showing their appreciation of the old gentleman's pathetic lament. "Anky panky," which followed, showed the vocalist in the rôle of a card and billiard ball manipulator; "Poor Old Joe" was played upon a "cigar-box" violin, and some sweet notes were produced from this singular instrument. In the "Burlesque French Song" the artist found himself, as it were, in his native element. Song followed song in rapid succession—"The Workhouse Man"—where one looks so like another—"Wot vur do 'ee luv' Oi," "Hemmer," and, lastly, "Mafekin' Night" were all items that were thoroughly enjoyed by the audience, Mr. Chevalier's fooling in the last-mentioned number being so delightfully funny that he fairly brought down the house.

At intervals Miss Ethel Walker gave some amusing musically-accompanied recitatives; while Mr. A. H. West, in his "Imperial Patrol," gave a fine imitation of a marching regiment. A most enjoyable evening concluded with the farcical sketch entitled *The Goose with the Golden Eggs*. The tale is probably too well known to need repetition. As Mr. Turby (a country lawyer) Mr. Chevalier again found scope for some of his funniest witticisms. He was ably supported by Mr. Henry Brett as Mr. Flickster (another lawyer), Master Bertie Baxter as office boy, Mr. Arthur Brankston as Mr. Turby's clerk, and the fiancé of Clara (Miss Winifred Ingham), the old lawyer's daughter. The little company, all working with a will, secured for the sketch the success it so well merited.

One of the chief artists in the Lyceum programme of this week is Madame Bernice de Pasquali, the well-known operatic vocalist. This lady has sung in the capital of every country in the world, and in each of these she has sung in the native language. At the special performance given to the Japanese sailors on Mar. 28 this accomplished vocalist sang the Japanese National Anthem in the native tongue at the beginning of the performance, and so pleased were the Japanese sailors that they requested the officer in command to beg her to repeat the anthem at the termination of the evening.

A rearrangement of prices for the Coliseum's six o'clock performances is to be effected at Easter. Fauteuils and orchestra stalls will be 3s. and 2s. 6d. respectively; royal stalls, 2s.; grand tier stalls, 1s. 6d.; grand tier, 1s.; and balcony, 6d. These seats may be booked in advance, as usual.

"MISSING;
or, THE LIGHT OF DAY."

A Musical Comedy Sketch,
Produced at the Shepherd's Bush Empire
on Monday evening, April 2.

Lily .....MISS MARIE ADAIR
Irma .....MISS PEARL KEATS
The Rajah .....MR. ALBERT EVREMOND
Jack Carlyon .....MR. J. C. PIDDOCK
Crooky .....MR. JOHNNIE SCHOFIELD

Precisely where the scene is laid we are not told, nor does it really matter much. The whole of the action of the sketch takes place in one of the rooms of a Rajah's palace, and this apartment provides us with a very beautiful piece of scenic painting. As to the story there is very little to say. Two adventurers—this is rather a charitable description, since it appears the gentlemen referred to do not seem to possess any scruples in the way of honesty of purpose and character—who go by the names of Jack Carlyon and Crooky, arrive by some means or other at the Rajah's palace. This Eastern potentate has lost a very valuable jewel, which bears the name of the "Light of Day." Jack Carlyon decides to join in the search for the missing stone, not altogether unselfishly, it must be admitted. He arranges that Crooky shall act as his servant, and Crooky is accordingly dressed up as a native flunkey. But in the palace Jack meets with Lily, an English governess, and falls in love—and becomes honest. Lily, apparently, has found the jewel, and she hands it to Jack in order that he may receive the reward from the Rajah, and at the same time be at liberty to take her away.

There is any amount of merry fooling in the piece, and most of it is contributed by Mr. Johnnie Schofield in his rôle of Crooky. He looks comical in his turban, red coat, and blue pantaloons, and his absurd doings among the harem ladies and his ridiculously mistaken notions of what his conduct should be in the palace are a great source of merriment. Crooky is told by his erstwhile master to "put on side and show off," and the manner in which Mr. Schofield carries out the instructions is uproariously laughable. Mr. Schofield, by the way, is quite a well-known and popular personality in this neighbourhood, as he was for five years the principal comedian at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill. Mr. J. C. Piddock has a lot of work to do in the part of Jack Carlyon, and he does it extremely well. With the amusing acts and sayings of a mischievous schemer he—in the character—combines the more sincere and serious qualities of a lover. His singing of "Are you tired, little heart?" was a particularly pleasing performance. Miss Marie Adair was sweet and engaging as Lily, and spoke her lines well, and Miss Pearl Keats agreeably acquitted herself in the rôle of Irma. Mr. Albert Evremond did all that was necessary with the character of the Rajah. Some most graceful dancing was executed by five girls attired in picturesque Eastern costumes, and the whole piece was beautifully mounted and dressed.

SADLER'S WELLS.

A song that reminds us of the approach of summer and brings to the mind merry retrospects of days on the river is that sung by the Sisters Albert. It is all about a bungalow and the invitation of a lover to his loved to join him. As a love ditty it is most effective, and to the credit of the Misses Albert, be it said, it is effectively rendered. The ladies are also extremely graceful dancers. An attractive ventriloquial act is that furnished by Sergeant Pearl. His vocal representation of the chatter and singing of a little girl is extremely realistic. The singing of "Stop yer ticklin', Jock," by another of his "dummies," and his imitation of a gramophone rendering of "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo" are among the cleverest things we have heard in this line lately. Looking smart, debonair, and neat in her masculine attire, Miss Vesta Fay sings in vigorous style about an old sun-dial which is to be the trysting place of two sweethearts. From a serious and dainty love theme Miss Fay turns to a lighter subject, and humorously applies the words, "the real thing," to a variety of incidents, the telling of which evoke the merriment of the audience. Miss Esther Phillips and company appear in the romantic "episode," *A City of Shadows*. Miss Phillips possesses in goodly measure the sense of tragedy, and with fine dramatic skill and forcefulness does she portray the character of Elise. The other rôles are in capable hands.

A couple of comedy acrobatic jugglers enter the field in the persons of Dale and D'Argan. After producing all manner of articles from some mysterious place unknown to all but themselves, they proceed to indulge in some laughable acrobatic antics, their somersaulting being particularly commendable. *Did He Deserve It?* the sketch presented by Mr. James Willard and company, proves one of the most entertaining features of the bill. The story, briefly, concerns the punishment meted out to a man who finds pleasure in ruining the lives of young girls. He has for a time pretended to be in love with a young lady who is a champion boxer. Subsequently he brutally informs her that he has no intention of marrying her. She has taken under her wing a flower-girl. While she is out this girl enters her apartments, and is followed by the man, who endeavours to take a liberty with her, but is prevented by the prompt action of a mastiff, who holds him to the ground. When the dog's mistress returns it releases the man. But the latter meets with a worse fate, for the jilted woman dons a pair of boxing-gloves and gives him a good drubbing. Mr. James Willard acts with realistic brutality—at least of speech—in the part of the man, while Miss Lydia Hart, in her impersonation of the boxing woman, leads one to think that there is after all no need for woman's suffrage. Mr. Willie Atom is intensely comical as the boy; and Miss Violet Carr is sweet and pretty as the flower-girl.

Miss Eva Kelland is seen and admired in a pretty little scena. A girl finds it necessary to part with her little brown mare, and the parting is a sad one. However, the purchaser of it is a gallant young bushranger, who offers her his love, and so the little brown mare and its mistress do not separate after all. The song is prettily sung, and Miss Kelland's act is enhanced by its being set in a picturesque Australian scene. Mr. Billy Williams has proved an immense favourite with his laughter-compelling drollery. His parodies on "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" and other ditties are exceedingly smart and to the point. In Mr. Charlie Deane we have a highly entertaining comedian. He contrives to be most ludicrous when he applies his comical mannerisms to such songs as "Follow the tram-lines" and "You are getting older." The Vaudeville Dramatic Company, under the business and stage-management of Mr. Ernest Wingfield, render a good account of themselves in the sketch, *The Isle Despair*. Mr. Wingfield treats us to a carefully-acted and interesting interpretation of the part of the hero, and Miss Helena Walbran imparts the charm and sweetness of her own personality to the rôle of the heroine. Mr. Weldon Atherstone is seen in a clever character-study of a wrong-doer in the part of Stephen Hardie, which is, to say the least, admirably played. The other rôles are in capable hands. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux submit several interesting series of pictures, the set describing "What Jones told his Wife on the Telephone" being particularly attractive and clear.

THE Terriers and their friends (ladies specially invited) will have their "Good Friday Dinner and Social" at 7 p.m., at the Hotel Boulogne, 27, Gerrard-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

COUPEAU AT THE COLISEUM.

Mr. Charles Warner can again be seen in London in his favourite character of Coupeau—this time at the Coliseum, where a compressed version of *Drink* was produced on Monday afternoon, with the following cast:—

Lantier .....MR. HARRY GRIBBEN
Mes Bottes .....MR. ALFRED PHILLIPS
Bibe .....MR. GEORGE ELLIOTT
Bec Sale .....MR. F. SAVILLE
Virginie .....MISS MARY ALLESTREE
Gervaise .....} MISS HELEN GRAEME
Nana .....}
Coupeau .....MR. CHARLES WARNER

Mr. Warner himself admits that when he first played this part at the Princess's Theatre in 1879 he had not acted much in melodrama, and in some quarters doubts were freely expressed regarding the success of the experiment. Every playgoer knows how triumphantly he passed through the ordeal, and what a memorable hit he made in the character of the Parisian plumber. More than a quarter of a century has passed since the production of the late Charles Reade's stage adaptation of Emile Zola's powerful story of "L'Assommoir," and the famous impersonation has been seen in both hemispheres, and has been reproduced at almost every theatre in the kingdom. On Monday at the Coliseum the famous actor showed that his realisation of the downward course of Coupeau to the *Avernus* of *delirium tremens* had not lost one iota of its tremendous power. The audience on Monday sat spellbound while the shuddering wretch, having satisfied his unconquerable craving for brandy, raves wildly in his terrible alcoholic dementia, and jabbers of the awful phantasms that dipsomania presents to his mind, until death shortens his sufferings. In the first scene in *Drink* Mr. Warner suggests with all the skill of a great artist the gradually degrading effects of the drink habit, and indicates with many fine touches the pitiful mental struggle of the unhappy workman against his baser self. The star receives excellent support from the company. Miss Mary Allestree plays with immense spirit and vigour the character of Virginie, whose hatred of the unfortunate Gervaise reaches the point of ferocity. The virulence and spite of the character are fully emphasised by the clever actress, who scores most unmistakably. Miss Helen Graeme in the rôles of Gervaise and Nana displays considerable versatility, sounding a pathetic note in the public-house scene, and quite rising to the trying ordeal through which the character has to pass in the scene of the final catastrophe. The drunken and dissolute Lantier has an effective representative in Mr. Harry Gribben; Mr. Alfred Phillips brings out the humour of the character of Mes Bottes; and Mr. George Elliott and Mr. F. Saville figure to advantage in the characters of Bibe and Bec Sale.

The Coliseum bill has no brighter item than the selection of the second act from *La Mascotte*, adapted by the late Henry Brougham Farnie and Robert Reece from Audran's famous opera-comique, and produced at the opening of the Comedy Theatre on Oct. 15, 1881. Miss Madge Temple now plays the part of Bettina, originally represented by Miss Violet Cameron, and both sings and acts gaily and artistically. Mr. Charles Trevor makes comic capital out of the part of Laurent XVII., first played in this country by the veteran Lionel Brough; Mr. Watty Brunton's experience and drollery stand him in good stead in the part of Rocco (the Lord Chamberlain); Mr. Andre Kaya is heard to advantage as Pippo, the shepherd; and Miss Clara Webber is a graceful Fiametta.

The Troubles of Tuffin plays closer than on its opening night; and a great hit is made by Mr. George Lashwood, both in his "farewell to his latchkey" and in the song, "She's my best girl." The Ten Loonies at play and the "Umbrella" song are also strong attractions in the bill.

LOVERS of sacred and classical music who were accustomed to attend the famous Good Friday concert at the St. James's Hall will find an efficient substitute in the one arranged by Mr. Barrasford at the Lyceum. The South London Choral Association, numbering over 200 vocalists, assisted by an orchestra of 50 solo musicians, will perform the *Stabat Mater*, whilst selections from *Cavalleria Rusticana* and Handel's wonderful work *Messiah* should attract music-lovers from all parts of the Metropolis. The Lyceum has a capacity of seating over 5000 persons, and the concert has been timed to commence at 7.30 p.m.

MR. ALF COOK and Mr. Harry Brighton have joined hands as the Panlo Bros., and are working a comedy act. They are fast booking 1906.

THE NEW ROYAL HIPPODROME, PORTSMOUTH.

This new theatre of varieties will shortly commence building on a commanding site at the corner of Commercial-road and Salem-street, from the designs of Mr. Bertie Crewe, of the Savoy, London, the architect for many of our best theatres in London and the provinces. The site is in an excellent position, being in the busiest part of the town, close to the railway station, with trams to all parts passing the door, and, being a corner site, is most suitable for a theatre, as numerous exits may be obtained.

The elevation, as will be seen from the sketch, is particularly fine, though plain, and will be of terra-cotta. At night, when the glass canopy, arc lamps, and electric signs are lit up, and the lights inside are shining through the elaborately painted windows, it will look very handsome. The theatre will be a two-tier house, divided up into pit and stalls on the ground floor, circle over, and gallery over that, and will be run on the popular two-houses-a-night principle.

The main entrance is in Commercial-road, in the central position, that to the pit also in the front, and that to the gallery in Salem-street. The extra exits from these—all parts of the house having, of course, two exits—can also be used for entrance if necessary, so that the people from the first house do not have to meet those waiting for the second. The stage-door is placed at the end of the building, right away from the waiting crowd.

Through the mahogany doors to the main entrance is the vestibule—a very fine hall, containing the two box offices to stalls and circle, with marble mosaic floor and wide staircase leading to the foyer. This is a fine, large apartment, and from here a wide corridor each side leads direct to the stalls and lower tier of private boxes, and another wide staircase leads up to the circle and upper tiers of boxes. Off this foyer are also the stalls, ladies' and gentlemen's retiring and refreshment saloon. There will be ten rows of stalls with 252 tip-up armchairs, upholstered in red velvet, the floor covered in thick blue carpet. These seats, and in fact all those throughout the whole building, are comfortably arranged, with wide gangways and plenty of "knee-room" between each row. In front of the stalls is a large orchestra that will accommodate thirty musicians. The pit follows on behind the stalls with fourteen rows of upholstered seats to hold 625 people, and, with a good rake on the floor and the entire absence of columns, a perfect view of the stage is to be had. There is ample lavatory accommodation at the back, and downstairs, below the vestibule, is a large comfortably-furnished saloon. The staircase to the circle lands one at the back on to a fine, wide promenade, extending the full width of the building and down the sides, from which there is a good view of the stage. There will be twelve rows in the circle, seating 362 people in armchairs, the same as those provided in the stalls. At the back is a fireproof cinematograph box. Short flights of stairs each side lead to the retiring-rooms and the saloon. This last room will be one of the finest in any theatre, being large and lofty, with decorated ceiling and walls, thick pile carpet, comfortable lounges, &c. There will be eight private boxes, entered from the stalls corridors and circle promenades, holding forty people. The gallery will be as spacious and comfortable as it can possibly be made, with fourteen rows of seating to hold 695 people, with lavatories off the promenade at the back and a large saloon. All the saloons will be comfortably fitted up for the sale of minerals, tea, coffee, and cigars. Excellent sight lines are to be had from all parts of the house, and the circles being constructed on the latest suspensory principles, there will be no columns of any sort to obstruct the view.

The stage is of ample proportions, large enough for any performance on the road, and lofty enough to take all scenery straight up.

The dressing-rooms, eleven in number, are in a separate building at the end, with self-closing iron doors from the corridors on to the stage. They are all lofty, well lighted, ventilated, and heated, and with lavatories with hot and cold water in each. Under the dressing-rooms will be the electric lighting plant and boiler-house.

Two exits at least have been provided to each part of the house, all leading direct to the street. These will be indicated during the performance by two red electric lights over each door, so that in clearing the house (especially in case of panic) attention would be at once drawn to the exits by these red lamps.

An impression will be made on entering the auditorium by the simplicity and gracefulness of the decoration, which will be in the Empire style, with a colouring of cream and gold, a richness and warmth being added by the seating, while all the handsome draperies to the stage and boxes will be in dark red and the carpet in dark blue. The proscenium opening will be carried up higher than usual, with an arched head, and constructed entirely of marble; either side will be two columns carrying a richly-decorated arch right over from these columns. The walls splay out to the main auditorium walls, and will be divided into bays containing the entrances to stalls and the private boxes, surmounted by pilasters and columns, the whole finishing on the top with a finely-decorated frieze and cornice. The ceiling will be oval in shape, filled in with one large painting.

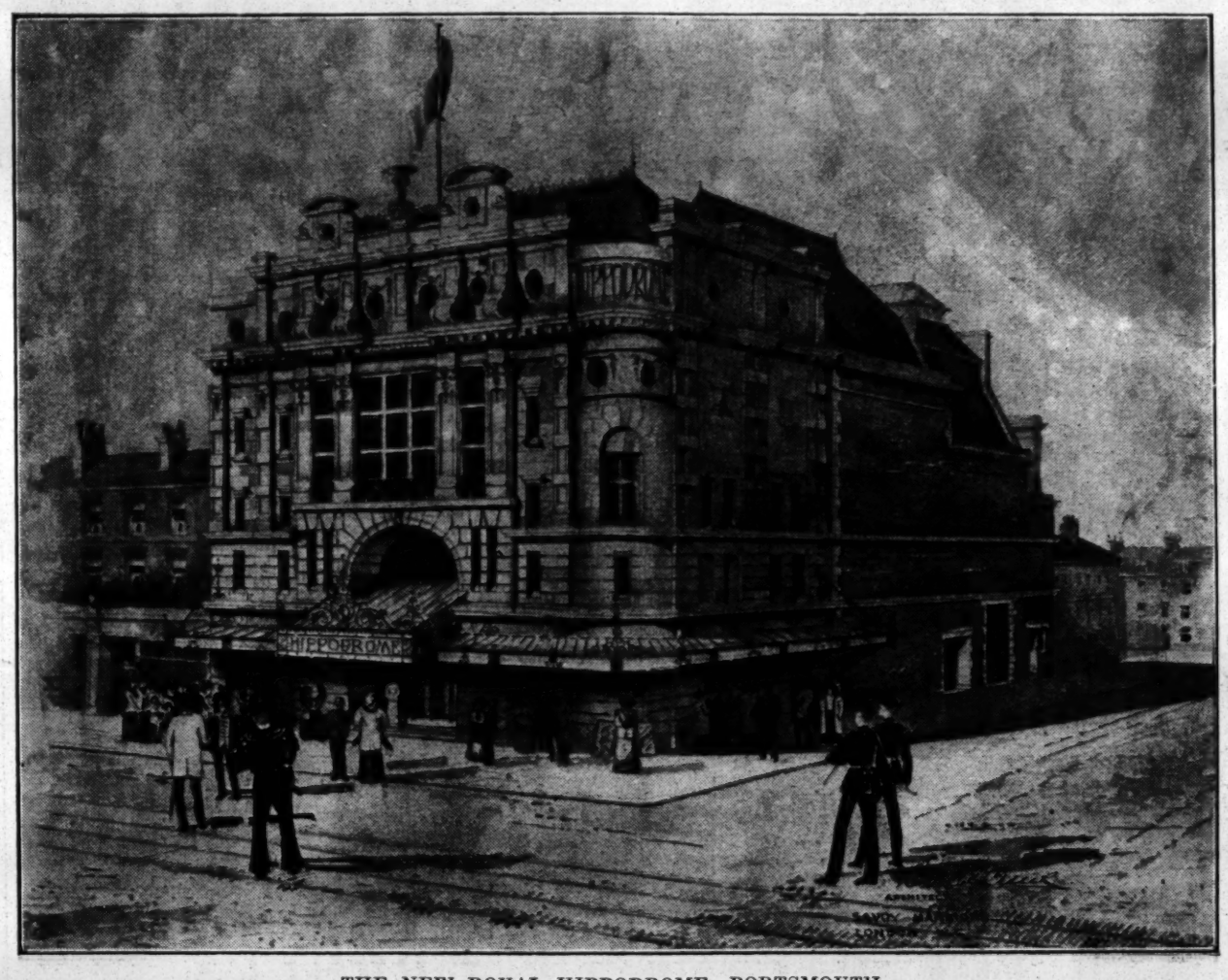
The whole theatre is as fireproof as it can be constructed, all the floors and tiers being of concrete and steel, the steppings for the seats only being of wood. There will be two hydrants on each floor in the auditorium, and five on the stage. The proscenium opening will be provided with an automatic asbestos fireproof curtain, with a water-sprinkler over, and all other openings in the proscenium wall will have self-closing iron doors. The lighting will, of course, be by electricity, arranged on two separate circuits, half from the plant in the theatre and half from the Corporation's supply, so that in the case of the failure of one the other is always in readiness.

All the electric fittings will be specially made to design, so as to be in character with the general scheme of decoration. The heating will be on the low pressure hot-water system, numerous radiators and coils being placed in the most advantageous positions in the auditorium, retiring-rooms, and saloons.

The ventilation will be by means of air-ducts and electric fans in the ceiling. Ample retiring-rooms will be provided on each tier, placed in the most desirable positions. The dimensions of the theatre are as follows:—Auditorium, 63ft. 6ins. wide by 76ft. 9ins. deep, and height of 51ft. from the stalls to the main ceiling. The stage, 30ft. deep by 65ft. wide, with a grid 58ft. above the stage.

The seating is as follows:—Stalls 252, boxes 40, circle 362, pit 625, and gallery 695, or just about 2,000 in all, and with ample standing room for at least 650 more.

The new theatre will, it is expected, be open by next October.



THE NEW ROYAL HIPPODROME, PORTSMOUTH.

Proprietors—PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME, LTD. Managing-Director.—WALTER DE FRECE.

VARIETY ARTISTS' FEDERATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I have attended several meetings of the V.A.F., and can assure Miss Alexandra that the word "fight" is only the outcome of her own imagination. Never have I heard a more earnest and unaggressive set of speakers—who one and all speak highly of Mr. Stoll and other managers—than at these meetings. Miss Alexandra asks: "What of the English artists who depend more upon their popularity than their novelty?" This is surely the pot calling the kettle black with a vengeance. I enclose my card.—Yours faithfully,

ONE OF THE V.A.F.

London, S.E., April 3.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH END.

Variety still holds the boards at this theatre, and some very good turns are seen this week. Miss Victoria Lytton, burlesque actress and dancer, scores with "When the ship's in port again," and "I'm getting on" is well received. Mr. Gwyn Elwen, a new Welsh tenor, gives everyone a musical treat with "Angels guard thee" and "Tom Bowling." His enunciation is excellent, and the audience highly appreciate his good singing. Mlle. Rosetti, the musical girl, gives evidence of her skill, first with the 'cello and then with the violin. Collins and Hawley, dancing experts from across the "herring pond," receive quite an ovation. Miss Mabel Lynn, an American comedienne and dancer, with her song depicting the waitresses of different nations, is very clever; her coon song and dance are also well rendered. The New York Quartette, with "What the brass band played," is favourably received. The ladies are all excellent dancers and exceedingly graceful in their movements. Lauri Wylie with his Mimicking Mannikins is very successful. Arthur Pearl, comedian, is another excellent turn.

THE *Mansfield Advertiser* of last Friday says that the Victoria Theatre, which has been occasionally occupied by dramatic and musical companies, has been taken over by the Midland Theatres, Ltd., who intend to open on Easter Monday with a variety company on the two-shows-a-night principle.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

A REMINISCENCE OF DAN LENO.

Mr. Arthur Stevens, a personal friend of the lamented comedian, has contributed the following interesting article, "How I first met Dan Leno," to the columns of a recent number of the *Leicester Examiner*:—"It was in the month of March, 1875. I was employed by the Midland Railway Company at their Newark Station. Being a 'Son of Cockaigne,' and never having previously lived out of London, it was my practice when off duty to take long walks, in order to see the surrounding country. One bitterly cold day, in the early part of the month, when a keen north-easter was blowing, bringing with it heavy showers of sleet, I left the town for one of my usual tramps. I had walked about four miles, when I met a man, a woman, and a boy. My vocation having brought me into contact with many theatrical companies, I could see at once that they were 'professionals.' The father and mother—for such they proved to be—were hale and hearty in appearance, but the son was a thin, weedy, delicate-looking lad, whose age might be anything from ten to thirteen. Neither the father nor the son had overcoats, and the boy looked half frozen, his thin face being blue from the cold. The man had a small portmanteau slung on a stick across his shoulder, the woman carried a bundle in her hand, and the boy had a wooden box perforated with holes strapped on his back, in knapsack fashion. I noticed that the boy was wearing a pair of dancing clogs. I discovered afterwards that, his boots having become dilapidated, he had cast them aside, and their means not being sufficient to buy new ones, he had been forced to take the road in this unusual footwear.

"'Good morning,' I said, 'it's very cold.'

"'It is that,' replied the man; 'we have walked from Sutton-in-Ashfield, and have covered twelve miles this morning. We are going to Newark, to fulfil a week's engagement at the new White Hart, in Carter-gate.'

"'I know it very well,' I said, 'and you will find Mr. Lundover, the landlord, a very good sort.'

"Then I heard the first joke it was my lot to hear Dan Leno make. It was a little far-fetched, but the manner in which it was delivered made it sound very humorous. 'He'll be all right, dad,' said young Dan, 'so long as he will *lundover* the brass we shall be satisfied.'

"I felt interested, and so turned and walked with them towards the town. As we passed through the village of Kelham, I proposed that we should have some refreshment, and the offer being accepted, we turned into a very ancient hostelry known as the Fox, and I called for what we required. I could see the boy was hungry, but I felt rather diffident in making an offer of food. At length an idea struck me. 'Here,' I said, 'I am going to have some lunch: you may as well join me.' The mother was about to refuse my offer, when I cut the matter short by ordering bread and cheese for the whole of us. It did me good to see how the boy enjoyed the food. He told me, years afterwards, that they had left the lodging-house where they had slept the previous night without having any breakfast, as they had no money whatever with which to purchase it. After a rest and a smoke, we continued our way, and I left them on the outskirts of the town and went on duty.

"In those days the licensed houses in most towns had what was termed a 'singing-room' attached to them. In most cases a professional would be engaged for the week, and the remainder of the programme would be filled by any of the audience who were able and willing to oblige.

"I heard from the lad that, previous to going to Sutton-in-Ashfield, he had spent three very happy and prosperous weeks in Leicester. He told me that he had appeared at Paul's, the Rainbow and Dove, the Antelope, and Barley Mow, and at each place had been most kindly received. He voted Leicester as being the best town that they had visited, and said that, after leaving that place, they had done very badly.

"There are no doubt several old inhabitants of Leicester who were wont to patronise what were in those days the only music halls in existence, who will be able to recall the performances of young Dan, when he visited that town as a lad. Few, I venture to think, ever dreamt of the future there was in store for the weakly, undersized boy. To the very last year of his life Leicester had a warm place in his heart.

"To return to my story, I may say that, during the week he stayed at Newark, I was a frequent visitor to the new White Hart, and saw the lad give several performances. He sang and danced with exceptional ability for one so young, and during his show a variegated rat ran round him, perched upon his shoulder, or found a resting-place in the outside pocket of his costume. The Australian, or variegated rat, was then quite a novelty in this country, and hence it added an extra effect to what was in itself a very smart and attractive 'turn.' The landlord was delighted with the lad, and prophesied that he would go a long way if he had a fair chance.

"I spent a happy week with them, and during that time wrote to a Nottingham licensed victualler whom I knew, and secured them an engagement to follow the one at Newark. When they arrived at the station, on the Monday morning, in order to proceed to Nottingham, they were too early for the train, and 'improved the shining hour' by giving a show in one of the waiting-rooms. The father played a brass whistle, and the lad performed one of his expert clog dances. It was my duty to stop them, but 'a fellow feeling makes the world kin.' I was an amateur entertainer myself, and I let the affair go on; but, as the dance was finished and the usual collection was being made, the stationmaster appeared on the scene, and promptly fined me 5s. for neglect of duty.

"'That's rough on you,' said Dan, as I wished him good luck at the carriage door.

"'Never mind,' I answered, 'perhaps he may forget it.'

"And he most certainly did forget it, for I never had to pay.

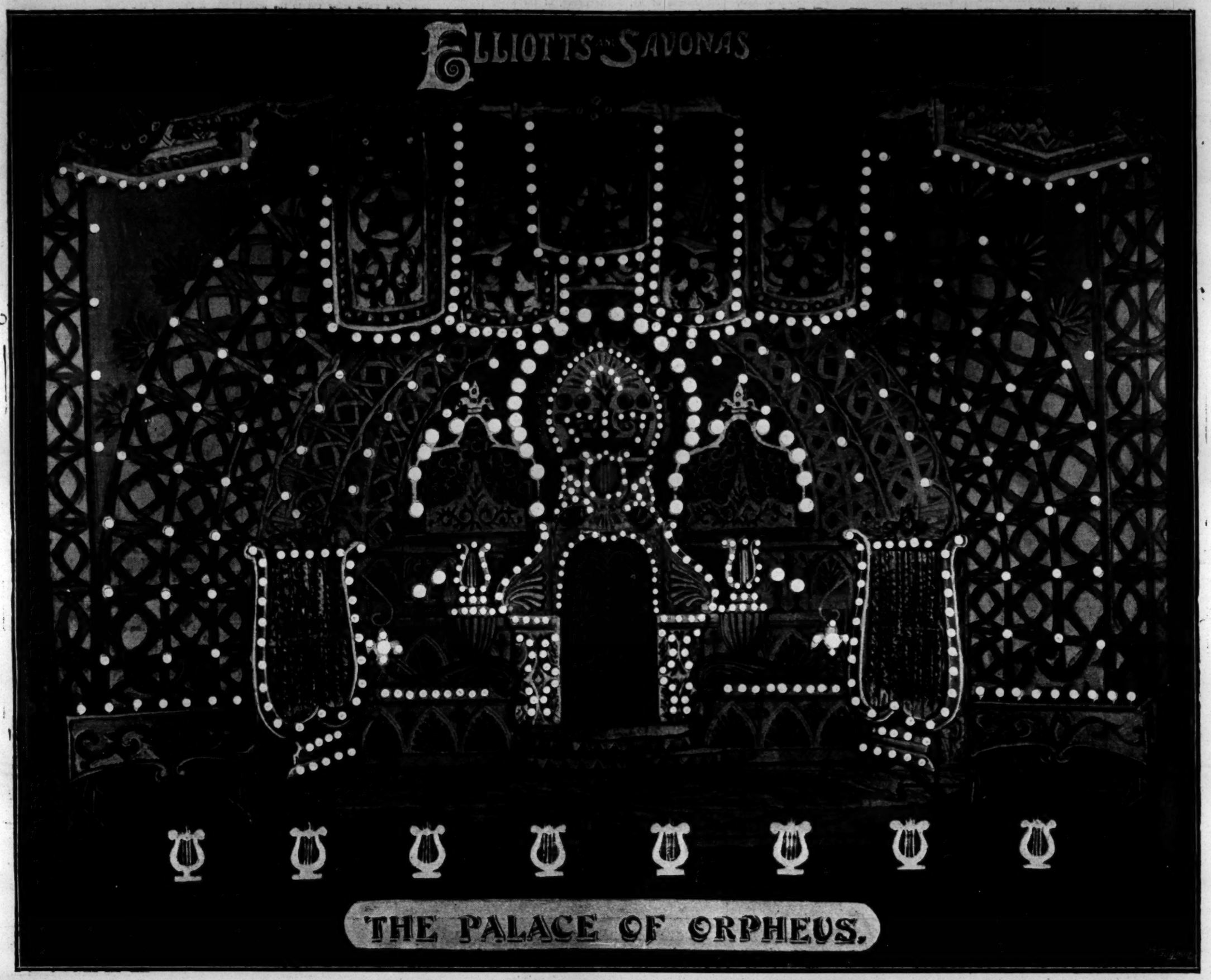
"My next meeting with him was in the November of the same year. He had then made some progress, being engaged at Pullan's Theatre of Varieties, Bradford, and I spent several hours in his company while he was there. Many years elapsed before I met him again, during which he had made rapid strides in his profession, and had risen to be a 'star' of the very first magnitude.

"I had business in London with a variety agent, and he took me on the Good Friday evening to a hotel on the Surrey side, much frequented by the music-hall profession. Dan Leno was present, and I made myself known to him. When the genial little man grasped the fact as to who I was, his delight was most flattering. He introduced me to every one in the room, and then, in his inimitable manner, gave a description of our first meeting. His narrative evoked a continuous ripple of laughter, but there was a vein of pathos running through the whole of it, which was noted and appreciated by those who heard it.

"I met him frequently after that, and enjoyed the honour of his friendship until his lamentable affliction overtook him. I can add my testimony to that of many others by saying that no truer friend, or more kind-hearted man, ever trod the boards of the variety stage."

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your most eulogistic notice of the Empire, Holborn, of *'Appy 'Ampstead*, you say Mr. Joe Elvin played Tommy Flipper. "Palmam qui meruit ferat"; the part was played by yours faithfully, MAITLAND MARLER.

THE ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS.



A FEW OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ERA, Dec. 2, 1905.

"THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS."

Mr. J. B. Elliott's latest "creation," entitled **"The Palace of Orpheus,"** was produced at the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, and was accorded by a **crowded audience** a reception which testified to its **entire success.** It is recorded that Orpheus was able to charm beasts and make rocks and woods move to his melody. That Mr. Elliott will attempt to emulate the achievements of the mythical musician of Greece is not to be expected, but, at all events, **he is in a position to present a satisfying feast of harmony** which is **entirely distinct** from what the public are accustomed to receive.

When the curtain rises a scene depicting the interior of a **gorgeous palace** is revealed. An immense star forms a pretty centre-piece on the stage, and at the back are three large organs, which display innumerable brass trumpets in front; while the side scenery is designed to represent harps, lyres, and other musical instruments. The scene in itself is **exceedingly beautiful** with merely the aid of the ordinary stage illumination, but when scores of coloured electric effects arranged tastefully in all directions are turned on, the claim of its being a **"veritable Arabian Night's realisation of beauty, colour, and effect,"** is justified. Then commences an entertainment by the **Eight Savonas**, four ladies and four gentlemen, which is certainly unique. The performers are dressed in **Georgian costume**, with the customary white wigs and patches, the skirts of the ladies being of rich white satin, with music and musical instruments worked upon the **front and sides in coloured silks.** Space will not permit a detailed description of the various instruments used to produce delightful harmonious effects. Beyond the well-known brass there are the miramba, commonly used in South America to produce dance music; aluminium lyres, consisting of upright rods, from which sounds are produced; American organ chimes, the shaking of which produces mellow tones; ocarinas, metal discs spun on a slab table, &c. Three of the performers preside at the organs, and a volume of sound floods the whole of the auditorium. The rendering of the overture to **"William Tell"** (Rossini), was accompanied by **very impressive stage effects.** As the selection progressed the blaze of dazzling light gradually disappeared, **the whistling of the wind**, with **peals of thunder**, and **vivid flashes of lightning**, were introduced, and eventually these gave place to the **twittering of birds** as the darkness disappeared and the morning broke.

The second part of the entertainment consisted of a new comic Negro fantasia, entitled **"A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer,"** where we are treated to some charming dancing by the four lady **Savonas**, who wear large straw hats. This little turn earned a **hearty encore.** The half-hour's entertainment terminated with the playing of a hunting piece, which was full of life and action. The artists running to the footlights, which, by the way, consisted of **electric-lighted transparent lyres**, drew forth long, white streamers attached thereto. From these were suspended small bells, which raised a merry tinkling as the ribbons were jerked.

This fine show has cost **Mr. J. B. Elliott, who invented it**, the sum of **£2,000**, out of which **£900** went for the three organs; and the weight of the scenery is about six tons. The modelling and painting, which are extremely clever, are the work of **Mr. Charles Wood.** These gentlemen have certainly succeeded in producing an attraction which cannot fail to satisfy wherever it is shown.

THE PORCUPINE,
Liverpool, Saturday, Dec. 2, 1905.

LYRIC—THE SEVEN SAVONAS.

Monday was an **especial occasion**, and a **red letter** one for the habitués of the pretty Lyric. This was in the **first production** of a **glorified musical show** by the **Seven Savonas.** Musical grotesques are to be counted by the scores in the variety world, but such a **gorgeous display** as this **has not before been seen** as that **invented** and **produced** by **J. B. Elliott**, and the **refined** and **high-class musical performance** given by the **Seven Savonas** amid a **perfect dazzling** and almost **blinding glory of electric lighting.** At first sight this seems an almost chaotic **mass of colour** without form, but shapes of **graceful design** and **contour** soon emerge from this, and become a **gleaming habitation fittingly called "The Palace of Orpheus"** In this abode of **brilliant colour** and **electrical splendour** the **gifted Savonas** show their **incomparable qualities as musical experts**, and their **wonderful command** over the most extraordinary instruments. **Perfect** in the manipulation of these, they show **marvellous skill in the execution** of the most **intricate classical music**, and with equal facility handle such diverse instruments as organs, sleigh bells, metal discs, aluminium lyres, American organ chimes, ocarinas, South African marembas, zylophones, and silver tubes. I am looking forward, with all the other elect, to playing a harp, but I shall never attain to the accomplishments of the Savonas, either terrestrially or celestially. **It is altogether a wonderfully great show. Well done, Papa Elliott.** I take off my hat to you as the **Greatest Musical Entertainer of the Age.** You are a **Genius** in **inventions**, and he must be a **bold man** who would **try** to **follow in your footsteps.**

THE ENCORE, Nov. 30, 1905.

First Production of Mr. J. B. Elliott's Great Creation "THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS" at the Lyric, Liverpool.

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS.

On Monday evening, November 27th, was **produced** for the **first time** at the Lyric Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool, Mr. J. B. Elliott's great creation, **"The Palace of Orpheus,"** and we must at once confess that our **most sanguine expectations** were **more than realised.** The **dazzling beauty, magnificent colouring**, and **elaborate design**, are **perfect** and **unique**, and the manner it was **received** by a **crowded house** must have given **great satisfaction** to the artist and inventor.

It is a **fascinating pleasure** to witness such a **gorgeous spectacular scene**, the like of which has **never before** been put on in Liverpool. It is a veritable **triumph**, of **artistic art**, and **beyond description**; however I will try and give your readers some idea of this **charming dream** of **fairyland.**

When the curtain rises it displays **"The Palace of Orpheus,"** in a subdued tone of light, which **instantly changes** to the most **brilliant display** of **electric effects imaginable**; a veritable feast for the **eyes** and **mind** to dwell upon and **wonder how such effects can be created.** In the background we see **massive organs**, towering up at least twenty feet high surrounded by terraces and golden staircases for the artists to reach them; also **fantastic designs** of **every description** illuminated by **thousands** of **electrical coloured lights** When the scene was fully developed the whole **audience rose to a pitch of excitement**, and was **unbounded** in its **applause**, and called **vociferously** for the artist, **Mr. Charles Wood**, who came forward to **receive** their **greeting.**, which he **richly deserved. Mr. J. B. Elliott** also had to respond, and it must have been a **source of gratification** to him to know that **his great and costly efforts** were so **fully appreciated.** In this scene the famous **Savonas** appear and give their **unequalled performances** arrayed in **superb dresses**, to harmonise with the colour of their surroundings. After giving their **unparalled perfotmance** of the overture to **"William Tell,"** they play for the **first time** on any stage their negro fantasia, entitled **"A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer,"** written by **Mr. J. B. Elliott.** It is a **pleasing** and **melodious sketch**, and went with a **dash** and **swing** which the **Savonas** so well know **how to infuse** into their **productions.** It was **received** by the **whole house** with a **perfect storm of delighted applause**, and **was voted a musical treat** of the **highest order.** It will always be a welcome addition to their **extensive repertoire.**

We are pleased to say the whole performance went without the **slightest hitch**, which speaks volumes for all concerned in this **great production.**

THE MUSIC HALL AND THEATRE REVIEW,
Dec. 1, 1905.

It would be **difficult**, writes our Liverpool correspondent, **to imagine anything more gorgeous** or more **pleasing to the eye** than **Mr. J. B. Elliott's** new creation **The Palace of Orpheus**, which was successfully produced on Monday evening at the Lyric Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool.

In fact, it is a moot point, indeed, whether the Ancients, in their Eleusinian mysteries, could conjure up such a **handsome palace** in which to enshrine their musical divinity, of whom Shakespeare wrote:—

> "Orpheus, with his lute, made trees
> And the mountain tops, that freeze,
> Bow themselves, when he did sing:
> To his music, plants, and flowers,
> Ever spring, as sun and showers,
> There had been a lasting spring.
> Every thing that heard him play,
> Even the billows of the sea,
> Hung their heads, and then lay by.
> In sweet music is such art:
> Killing care, and grief of heart."

Pleasurable anticipation ran high on Monday evening as to the **merits** of the **new production**, the **fulfilment** of which was **realised** in **every particular.** Much, of course, was expected from Mr. Elliott, having regard of the fact that his last creation, which was produced at the London Hippodrome, for the celebrated musical marvels, the Seven Savonas, caused something of a sensation in the metropolis

On his **new venture Mr. Elliott has spared neither time nor money.** Consequently, he has **ably succeeded** in making it a **veritable triumph in stagecraft.** The prevailing hues of the **rich scheme of colouring** are blue, gold, and amber, and when **illuminated** with the numerous variegated coloured **electric lights** the scene presented is **fairy-like in the extreme.**

In this the **Seven Savonas (beautifully garbed in picturesque Georgian Costumes)** give a **capital show.** At the initial performance they gave a clever rendering of a new Negro fantasia entitled **"A Moonlight Trip on a Mississipi Steamer.'** They also performed the overture and the famous **Storm Scene** from Rossini's opera of **"William Tell,"** which was **executed** in a **brilliant manner** by these **clever exponents** of **mirth and music.** The **natural effects** of **thunder, lightning, rain, wind**, the **howling of wild beasts** escaping from the storm, the **return of calm**, and the **singing** of the **birds**, lent **additional effect** to a **most enjoyable performance**, which **no one should miss.**

THE STAGE, Nov. 30, 1905.

Lyric.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Musical eccentricities, from the harmonious coffee-pot to the electric orchestra, have long been familiar to music hall habitués, **but it has been left to Mr. J. B. Elliott to prove** that **there is still novelty** to be **displayed** in this line of entertainment. Under the title of **"The Palace of Orpheus,"** he **has presented** through the **famous Savonas** a **marvellous** and altogether **remarkable creation.** From a merely spectacular standpoint the **performance** is quite **unique.** Amid a **dazzling blaze** of **electric lights**, which is to be taken as suggesting the **gorgeous palace** of some god of harmonies, there is set up a **bewildering mass** of **musical instruments** of a **strange** and **weird character.** Even the footlights have been invaded, for along them runs a line of **lyres**, all **beautifully illuminated**, and all of which add to the **musical pleasures** of the turn. From these on the stage are silver tubes, South African marambas, saxaphones, grand organs, sleigh bells, chimes, ocarinas, aluminium lyres. American organ chimes, and musical metal discs. These, in the hands of the seven **highly-gifted** and **talented Savonas**, are made to produce a **rich flood** of both **solo, concerted**, and **orchestral music** of the **highest order.** This singularly **fascinating turn** is not only rich in these **wonderful instruments** and **electrical effects**, but in the **infinite charm** of the **performers** and their **varied** and **comprehensive musical accomplishments.**

Money, ingenuity, resource, and **special attainments** are **visible** in **every phase** and **feature** of the show, and it may be said to be **one of the most perfect** and **astonishing** entertainments which the music halls, with all their **modern enterprise, have yet furnished.** In this **blaze of splendour Mr. J. B. Elliott** and **Mr. Charles Wood** appeared to **receive the plaudits** of the **delighted audience.**

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W. W. Walton	5	Mr. Kitts	1
E. Morris	1	Ed. Ford	1
C. F. Williams	2½	Mr. Phil	1
H. H. Short	2	Buck Tooth Juke	1
George Beverley	1	Annie Laurie	1
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J. Ward	1	Walter Beresford	1
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Alec Kendal	1		

MR. TOM GREEN, the well-known stage-director and comedian of cinématograph fame, having completed some fine pictures for Messrs. Cricks and Sharp, of Kingsway, is now engaged in producing some of his startling and original pictures for that well-known London firm the Walturdaw Company, of Dean-street, Holborn. Showmen will do well to watch the coming events, as they are something out of the common.

OUR news from Yorkshire is that Halifax Spring Fair was well maintained by Mrs. H. Waddington's motor-car set, J. W. Waddington's Kaffir-circus machine, Alf Morley's steam swings, and Joe Corrigan's ships in the air; gem motors, gem horses, and swings by Messrs. Hutchinson, Gavin Brook, J. T. Cooper, and Mrs. Thomas; Frank Gess with school of boxers and athletes; Sam Towers' novelties of nature—the three-legged calf, the tiniest pony in the world, and other freaks; rifle saloons, bottle batteries, and egg-smashers by Messrs. Thompson, Ratcliffe, and Mrs. Jameson. The *olla podrida* of the fairground was furnished in all its variety by Messrs. Hughes, Illingworth, Rhodes, Cooper, Cookshaw, Brook, Turner, Joy, Corrigan, Jameson, and a host of others.

A CARNIVAL under the direction of Messrs. H. Thurston and Sons commenced on the Circus Field, St. Albans, on the 30th inst., and will close to-night (Saturday). The chief attractions have been Messrs. Thurston's latest novelty, "The Racing Motor-cars," which have been well patronised, and their Royal Hippodrome of Living Pictures, in which have been shown many of the latest films from the best firms. On the outside of the Hippodrome the Dawsons (Joe and Lil), comedy duo and cake-walkers, have been appearing. Another feature which has attracted considerable attention is Messrs. Thurston's electric juvenile motor-cars, which have been crowded. Other amusements on the ground included H. Barnard's royal park swings, striker, and throwing games; Moore's fish globes; E. Shaw's Wild West shooting saloon, dart board, and cup-breakers; "Kettering Willie's" dart board; and John Harris's cokernut alleys. On Thursday, April 5, Messrs. Thurston and Sons generously gave the entire takings to the St. Albans Hospital, when a large sum was realised.

A FORESTERS' fête will be held at Inkberrow, Worcester, on July 2, on which date the Inkberrow Wakes also take place. There will be flower shows in August at Elmley Castle, near Pershore, and at New End, near Astwood Bank.

IN our notice of the Shepherd's Bush Empire last week the name of a very attractive vocalist—namely, Miss Madge Carlyle—was omitted. Miss Carlyle's singing was a delightful feature of the programme, and her efforts were extremely well received by the audience.

MR. TOM LEO, the success of whose song "Too lazy to live" was instantaneous and complete, opens at two well-known suburban halls on Monday. He has acquired a new comic song from the same pens as supplied the "lazy" ditty. It is entitled "The fellow who falls in love."

THE following plays have been performed at Jennings's Alexandra Theatre, Redditch:—*The Streets of London, The Shaughraun, A Mother's Love, Oliver Twist, Linda the Pearl of Savoy, The Scarlet Mark*, and *The Bottle Imp*.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

IT is very gratifying to notice the splendid rally of the London showmen to the support of the Showmen's Guild. This was not only clearly shown at the annual meeting in London and the two important gatherings of showmen since, but it is also evidenced in the eagerness with which individual showmen constitute themselves active intelligence officers and supply important information to the Guild executive. This, of course, is understandable when we remember that only within the last two years—that is, since the settlement of the Rev. T. Horne in London—has any particular personal touch existed between the executive and the London members of the Guild.

LAST Easter a meeting was attempted at Wanstead Flats, but owing to the unfortunate incidents of a storm and behind that considerable apathy with regard to the work of the society, the meeting was but poorly attended. This of course was very discouraging, and the Rev. T. Horne did not feel justified in running the risk of another failure.

AT the close of the largely-attending meeting of showmen at the Islington headquarters of the Guild last week, Mr. Horne received a warmly-pressed invitation to essay a meeting at Wanstead Flats on Easter Sunday. To this he consented readily, and particulars of the time and place of meeting will be found in our advertising columns.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Showmen's Guild: J. W. Chipperfield, 5s.; J. Hastings, 5s.; C. Biddall, 5s.; H. J. Birch, 5s.; C. Hill, 5s.; H. Peters, 5s.; J. Wilson, 5s.; T. Manning, 5s.

THE fairs ahead for next week are: Stanhope, Worksop, Norwich, Bacup, Doncaster, Haslingden, Ordsall Lane (Salford), Padiham, Queen's Road (Manchester), Seaforth Sands (Liverpool), Todmorden, Trafford Road (Manchester), Trinity Market (Salford), Bilston, Blackburn, Darlington, Deptford, Derby, Glossop, Godmanchester, North Shields, and Wanstead Flats. In Scotland there are Dundee and Levan, and in Wales Holyhead and Neath.

THE principal agricultural shows and cattle fairs for April are: Oakham on the 9th; Howden (Yorks), Hull, Lynn, and Melton Mowbray on the 10th; Worksop on the 11th; Horncastle, Nottingham, Norwich, and Weyhill on the 12th; Grantham and Preston on the 14th; Darlington, Driffield, Dublin, Luton, Kirkby Stephen, Sleaford, Stamford, Strood (Kent), Godmanchester, and Romsey on the 16th; Barnard Castle, East Ilsley, Gainsborough, Leek, Ripley, and Royston on the 18th; Chester on the 19th; Derby on the 20th; Leicester on the 21st; Downton, Penrith, and Lincoln on the 23rd; Holt and Loughborough on the 25th; Clones on the 26th; Chatteris on the 27th; Alton on the 28th; Market Harborough and Rugby on the 30th.

WHEN the busy toilers of the United Kingdom go out in their thousands to enjoy themselves during the short respite of the Easter holidays they will find their ready servants, the showmen of the Empire, prepared to give them amusement and recreation.

BUSY Londoners will crowd out to the great open spaces so admirably preserved for their use by the London County Council, the verderers of the forest, and the Commissioners of Crown Lands. At more than a dozen centres within the outer ring of greater London open-air amusement will be provided for the people by the travelling showmen.

NOTABLY there will be great fairs at Hampstead Heath, Wormwood Scrubbs, Blackheath, Wanstead Flats, the Welsh Harp (Hendon), Hounslow Heath, Alexandra Palace, Crystal Palace, Deptford, and in many an East-End and busy Southside thoroughfare amusements will be provided for the crowding people.

MANCHESTER and the many great cotton towns within a radius of ten miles from it will keep Easter fair. Old Knott Mill Fair will be kept on J. Collins's celebrated ground, the Queen's Road, Manchester; John Whiting and William Holmes will both hold their well-known fairs at Ordsall Lane and Trafford Road, Manchester; and the Salford ground (Trinity Market) will as usual keep its Easter fair.

ALL the towns in the immediate neighbourhood will keep holiday, and good business will be done by showmen at Oldham, Ashton, Bacup, Haslingden, Todmorden, Blackburn, and Glossop. Liverpool will have many pleasure centres, H. J. Wallis's famous fair on Seaforth Sands, P. Collins's Birkenhead fair, and of course good business will be done at New Brighton.

IN the Midland and Western counties, fairs at Bilston, Derby, Cheltenham, Halesowen, Malvern, Northampton, Exeter, Bristol, Portsmouth, and Torquay. All the great Welsh towns—Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Pontypridd, Aberdare, and Neath will keep Easter holiday, and in the far North, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Darlington, and North Shields will have their Easter fairs.

THE places we have indicated above suffice to demonstrate the important part travelling showmen play in the national life.

THE old Chooter Fair of Grantham Town was held in grand style, the entertainers and novelty providers being G. H. Kemp, with coliseum of varieties and the latest pictures; Enoch Farrars, similar show, animated photography; John Proctor's cinematograph theatre; Harry Hughes's assault-at-arms and military display; Westray's freak exhibition, and Aspland's novelty booth; Twigdon's three sets—the gondolas, the switchback, and the highflyers; Aspland's three machines—the motor-cars, the bicycles, and the steam-gallopers; Smith and Warren's flying ostriches; P. Collins's switchback; George Holmes's steam-horses; and Waddington's two sets—the ships in the air and steam-swings. The minor novelties were rifle saloons by Shaw and Bloomfield, and throwing games and varieties by Westrop and Hearn.

WREXHAM is always a capital spring fixture, and deservedly attracts some of the best shows on the road. The chief show attraction was Mrs. Flora Collins's superb theatre of living pictures and varieties, closely followed by similar exhibitions by Charles Farrell and Patrick Collins, jun. Other capital shows were Gal. Hague's black and white boxers, and Wright's fine art academy. The machine list was a big one, and included Patrick Collins's motor-switchback and the flying ostriches, and Charles Farrell's three sets, the steam-gallopers and the big boats.

WINCHESTER ranges and rifle saloons were by Messrs. Farrell, Turner, Wright, and Fossett. The other novelties—throwing games, variety stalls, &c., were by Messrs. Cordwell, Fletcher, Chadwick, Greatorex, Wright, Dobson, Cordwell, and Turner.

SIR ROBERT FOSSETT AND SONS' grand circus and hippodrome have given some excellent performances at Broadway and Evesham.

AT Woodford are Tiller's mechanical mannikins, bioscope, and variety entertainment, giving excellent performances.

WE regret to announce the death of Henry Hammersley, professionally know as Prof. Wall, of Wall's Phantoscope. He retired some nine or ten years ago from the road full of honours and with an ample competence, and has lived the last ten years of his life in his own house, Sussex-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester. He passed peacefully away early on Monday morning last. Few men of his day were better known on all the great fairgrounds of the country. Lancashire, Yorkshire, and his native county Cheshire regarded him with the highest honour and affection.

WALL'S Phantoscope was quite an institution for many years at all our great fairs. Birmingham, Nottingham, York, Hull, Leeds, Halifax, the Lancashire and Cheshire Wakes and fairs, all welcomed the advent of Wall's ghost illusion. Hammersley was a man of strong character, strong opinions, fearless in the advocacy of what he held to be right and just. He made his show the model concern on the road, and wisely decided to retire at the zenith of his fame and

Photo by J. Caddick.

THE LATE PROFESSOR WALL.
(H. HAMMERSLEY.)

prosperity, and enjoy the well-earned sweets of old age. He was buried at Macclesfield Cemetery in the family grave amid profound expressions of respect and public esteem.

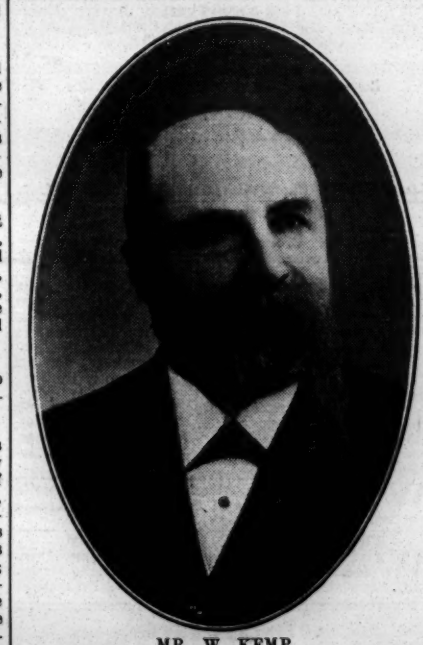
THE RAILWAYS AND THE FAIRGROUNDS.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY REPRESENTATIVE.—MR. WM. KEMP.

When we remember that the London and North-Western Railway runs right through the great industrial belt of England, from London to Liverpool, and penetrates by its connections into the heart of Yorkshire and the Welsh Principality, with at the same time joint powers with the Lancashire and Yorkshire in covering Lancashire, it will be seen how very great are the mutual interests of this trunk line and the showmen of England.

A conspicuous and ever-welcome figure on the fairgrounds of the country is the representative of the London and North-Western Company, the ubiquitous and courteous William Kemp.

For several years past Mr. Kemp has been the show business canvasser of this great railway company, and in that capacity he has handled the biggest shows and roundabout concerns on the road—notably, the huge roundabouts, shows, and fairground enterpises of Collins Bros., Green Bros., Studt Bros., Mitchell and Sons, Relph and Pedley, Monte Bros., Colonel Clarke, the Thurstons, Cap-



MR. W. KEMP.

tain Payne, George Kempe, C. Farrell, Enoch Farrer, Wm. Holmes, John Whiting, and scores of others.

Mr. Kemp has made hosts of friends, and is universally esteemed in showland. He is a warm friend and supporter of the Showmen's Guild, and has been for many years past an hon. member and a liberal subscriber to its funds.

In the development of railway enterprise the fairground has been an important factor, and we have already dwelt upon the important relation of the fairs of England to the holidays of the people, and the growth of the pleasure resort and seaside traffic.

We venture to point out that the business of the fairground is also an important feeder for the great railway lines. Most of our large shows and roundabouts are especially constructed for railway transit, and it is no unusual thing for these large concerns to go right away by rail from one end of the country to the other.

It is no matter for surprise, therefore, that the railway companies have been quick to see the possibilities of this thriving industry, and that they send their agents and canvassers to all the fairs, not only within their own territory, but also wherever they have running powers.

We have therefore great pleasure in giving Mr. Kemp a place in the gallery of our fairground celebrities, and readily accord the great company he represents every good wish for their enterprise in developing this important side of their multiform business.

EASTER ANNOUNCEMENT.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

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For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post, FREE OF CHARGE.

NO STAMPS.

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THE PUBLISHER,
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IN case of the non delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers, with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
May 7, 21, 28, June 11, 18, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 6, 13, 20, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 14, 21, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
April 30, May 7 (Race Week), 14, June 11, Aug. 6, 27, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
May 7, 14, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
May 7, June 18, 25, Aug. 13, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, 19, Xmas, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
June 11, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
April 30, May 7, 14, Sept. 3, on.
Wanted, First-class Pantomimes, for Christmas, 1906, for three weeks.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Wolverhampton, May 7, 14;
Reading, May 21, 28, June 4;
Huddersfield, April 9, May 7, June 18;
Chester, April 30, May 7 (Race Week), May 14;
Dalston, May 7, 21, June 11;
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE.
May 21, 28, August 13, 20.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Dramatic Attractions, April 23, May 7, 14, 21.
ANDREW MELVILLE, Metropole Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
April 30, May 21, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
July 23, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11 (3 nights each town), Aug. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
E. GRAHAM FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, June 11, 12, 13, Luton; 14, 15, 16, Bedford.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, May 7, June 4, 11, 18, onwards. Address, HERBERT VERE.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, April 23 and 30.
L. CARSON, Queen's, Keighley.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 23 and May 21. Apply,
HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

P. O W., NUNEATON.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, May 14, Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 3, 17, Nov. 5, and various Spring, 1907.
A. F. CROSS.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
May 7 Vacant.
WANTED, Strong Play, for the above.
FRED FREDERICKS.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
Manager, STEPHEN PRITT.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, April 30, May 14, 28, and June 4. Silence in all cases a polite negative.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Really First-Class Attractions, May 21, 28, July 2, 9. Good sound combinations entertained to play twice nightly.
JAMES BELL.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, April 23, 30, and May, on, with exceptions, First-class Dramatic Attractions.
This Theatre is now under entirely New Management, Business is First-class, and everything is done to ensure Companies a Successful Week.
Refer Herbert Barrs, Esq., Frank Thorne, Esq., J. Rice Cassidy, Esq.
Companies requiring Fares and Printing, save stamps.
Wire for April 23. FRED HAMMOND.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.
WANTED, Companies, April 30, May 7, 14, also 24, 25, 26 (3 nights only), and 28th, onwards. Stock Company required for six or nine weeks, June and July. Send répertoire. Share or rental.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, April 9, May 7, 28, and June 4. Wire for April 9.
Apply,
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, for one night only, April 14, Good Attraction of any Sort. Saturday, April 14, Saturday. Wire or write, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant May 21, June 4, July 30, Aug. 6.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant April 2, 30, May 21, 28.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant April 9, 23, 30, May 14.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant April 9, 16, 26 (3 nights), May 3 (3 nights).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant April 9, 16, 30, May 7.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant April 30, May 14, 28, Sept. 3.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant April 9, 16, 23 (3 nights), May 14.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant April 9, 23, 30, May 7.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant April 23, 30, May 14, June 4.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant April 16, 23, May 7, 14.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant April 23, May 14, 21.

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN."
Vacant Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
WANTED, Musical or Light Comedy, April 16 and 23. Theatre closed six weeks prior. Certainty for Easter week.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, New Theatre, Hawick.

GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, for April 30, also Dates in May. Apply,
F. SERGENSON,
Proprietor and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 30, through disappointment.
Wire, YORKE, Royal, Blackburn.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Musical Comedies preferred, for Weeks of May 14 and 21.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, April 30, June 11, also First-Class Musical Attraction, June 25 (Royal Show week), open dates Aug. and Sept. Pantomime, Feb. 4 (one or two weeks).
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday and Onward, High-class Plays, Musical Comedies, Comic Opera, and Shakespearean Répertoire.
Apply to JAS. KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.
WANTED, First-class Company, Whit. Week, musical preferred.
Several Open Dates in May and June.
Apply, ARTHUR WILLOUGHBY.

NEW HIPPODROME THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, MANSFIELD; also THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, CHESTERFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Companies and Musical Attractions for Present and Future Dates. Good Pantos. can write for Xmas, both towns. Communications, MORRELLA, Hippo., Mansfield.

THEATRE ROYAL, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, May 14, Vacant, Musical Show preferred; June 25, July 23, 30. Full particulars, SOUNES, Grand Theatre, Woolwich.

THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Important Attraction, April 16.
FRED GRANVILLE.

WANTED, Big Attractions, June 4, 11, Grand, Radcliffe; also May 7 on, Grand, Chorley.
Address, SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Leading Attractions, May 7, 21, Aug. 6, 13, 27; also for Lyceum, Govan, Aug. 6, 20, 27.
Address, RICH. WALDON, Princess's Theatre.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, First-class Company, for Easter week (April 16), vacant through breach.
Wire, ALBANY WARD.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for June 11 (week), Musical Show preferred.
WADDINGTON, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies for May 14, 21, 28; also Whit Week, and on. Address, H. B. GOULDEN.

STANLEY (DURHAM) NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Attractions, April 30 (through transferring, May 28, and for a few Autumn dates. Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

T. R., RUGBY.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies, May 14, 21, 28, June 4, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.
A. F. CROSS, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
Vacant May 14, 21, June 4, and on.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
Vacant May 28.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUBLIN,
Vacant May 14, 21, 28.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, Good Attractions, April 23, 30, May 7 (Musical Festival week), and on.
Special Attraction required for Whit Week.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager, April 9, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OLDHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for
April 30, May 7 and 28.
April 30, May 7 and 28.
Wire, Wire, Wire, Wire.
Big Combinations. Variety Entertained.

Important Notice.
During the Summer the Empire Theatre will undergo extensive Alterations and Decoration, and will Re-open
Monday, July 30.

Wanted, a Big Musical Attraction for this date.
Wanted, a Big Musical Attraction for July 30.
All communications to E. Dottridge.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, April 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21, and on.

Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Sound Attractions for May 14, 21, 28, June 4, July 6, 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, Dec. 3. Only vacancies this year. All applications, Chas. E. Machin, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Strong Dramas, May 28, June 11, July 16, and Aug. 27.
All communications, Chas. E. Machin, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

PAVILION THEATRE, ST. LEONARDS.
(The West-end Theatre of Hastings).
WANTED, Good Companies, for July 9 and 30 Only dates open till late autumn. Apply, Mr. Elvey Thomas, as above;
or Mr. J. Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Frank Mundill.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic and Musical Attractions, April 23, May 7, 21, 28, June 11, 18, and 25, July 30, Aug. 6, a few Autumn Dates.
Frank Mundill.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for May 7, 28, Nov. 12, and Dec. 10.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply,
Mr. C. F. Williams, T. R., Plymouth.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, and June 4. Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

OPERA HOUSE, DUDLEY.
WANTED, Companies, April 23, 30, and May 14; a few Autumn Dates, Jan. 14 and 28.
J. Maurice Clement.

WANTED, Good Companies, for Theatre Royal, Merthyr, June and July dates;
also for Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd,
Good Attraction for June.
For dates, apply,
Will Smithson, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to
Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Managing Director,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Special Attractions, May 14 and 21; also a few good Autumn Dates Vacant.
Harry Fischer.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Darwen, Good Companies, April 30, May 7, June 11 and 25.
F. J. Robinson, T. R., Darwen.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, Good Attraction, April 30, only vacant date this Spring. Now booking Autumn. Address, David Williams.

WANTED First-Class Companies May 7 and 28. Apply,
Managing-Director, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

RUNNACLEAVE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, ILFRACOMBE.
Sole Lessee, Cissie Louie Lawson.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the Months of April, May, and June. Write,
The Secretary, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

FROME, SOMERSET.
WANTED, Known, F. E. Douglas can arrange for Good Fit-up Companies and Entertainments complete in themselves, Frome and district, 1 to 6 nights, Whit Week vacant. Terms, shares. 16, Portway, Frome.

THEATRES WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13, 20.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14 Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 1, Dec. 3.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED April 16, Sept. 24, Oct. 22,
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Frederick Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 13, Sept. 24.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Spring 1907,
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 8.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, April 30, June 4, Sept. 10, Oct. 1.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug 13, 20, Nov. 26.
Douglas Bruce, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, April 30, May 28, June 4, 18, on.
"SAILORS OF THE KING."
Aug. 6, 20, on.
Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Ashton.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegrams, "Jefferson, Glasgow." Nat. Tel. 5310.
Assistant and Representative,
George Gordon Jefferson.
WANTED, Dates for the following Attractions:
"THE ORPHAN HEIRESS."
Mr. W. Reuben Payne's Company.
Spring Tour complete. Aug. 6, various onwards.
"A QUEEN OF VILLAINY."
Mr. Howard Sturgess's Company,
April 23 (Midlands), various on (Northwards),
"SAINTS AND SINNERS," and "MIDDLEMAN."
Miss Elaine Verner's Company,
Sept. 10, various on (North),
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Mr. Arthur Carlton's Company,
August 6 (Midlands), various on.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, for this Excellent Attraction, May 7, 14, 21, and onwards.
L. Carson,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Managers desirous of Booking this Record-Breaker to kindly send their Vacant Dates.
L. Carson,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
Played by a most excellent cast of first-class artists on a most lavish scale.
All new scenery and printing.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant April 23, 30, and May 7. L. Carson, Queen's T., Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR,
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, June 18 unexpectedly Vacant, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and few later.
Magnificently advertised (24 kinds), beautifully staged, and splendidly acted.
A complete and charming production and a solid success. Now in fifth year of Tour.
T. R., Barnsley, April 9, 5 nights.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this year.
Chalmers Mackey,
This, Queen's Theatre, Swindon;
next week, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant May 21 (three nights), between Newcastle and Harrogate, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13, 27.
J. W. Cordiner, Grand Theatre, Swansea.
See Companies advertisement, Page 2.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID!"
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, April 23 (?) and 30 (follow Ton-y-Pandy, Easter), May 7, and onwards, with exceptions. William A. Armour, to-day, King's, Sutton-in-Ashfield; next, T. R., Leeds.

WANTED, Theatres, Miss Mary Neil and Mr. Geo. Kirk's Company, "Her Luck in London," by Chas. Darrell. Spring fully booked; first vacant date, Aug. 20, on, with exceptions. Address, George Kirk, Prince's T., Blackburn.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, for this Money-making Attraction, May 7, 14, 21, and Whit.
A few Summer Dates open.
34th Week of Present Tour. Oct. 1, 8, and 29, Lancs. Bookings and Re-bookings extend into March, 1907. Full cast of experienced Artists.
Coms., Frank Ayrton, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

LESTER COLLINGWOOD'S
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS" No. 1. CO.,
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS" No. 1. CO.,
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS" No. 1. CO.,
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS" No. 1. CO.,
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Good Theatres, for this Enormously Successful Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and 17, with all new scenery. Only Vacant Dates in 1906. Lester Collingwood,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Theatre.—Mr. Henry Bedford is prepared to run a Stock Summer Season at a low certainty. For any manager who wants to keep his Theatre open this is a good paying offer.
Address, Court Theatre, Wigan.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 23, 30, Aug. 6, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever.
E. Carter Livesey, Palace, Hammersmith.

WANTED, "Private Secretary," Open Dates, Sept. 17 and 24, Nov. 1 (3 nights), 12, and Dec. 24, onwards.
Apply, Eugene C. Stafford, c/o French, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANIES.
"THE GUIDING STAR,"
"A LONDON ACTRESS,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, June 18, July 2 and 30, for "A LONDON ACTRESS,"
Aug. Bank Hol. on, for "A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
Address, Stuart Cleveland, Grand T., Doncaster.

BERT COOTE'S
"THE FATAL WEDDING" No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Aug. 20, Oct. 22, only Vacant Autumn Dates. Address,
Bert Coote, 150, Oxford-street, W.

"THE ASSASSIN."
WANTED, Oct. 29, to oblige Victoria, Broughton, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, March 11, cn.
Augustine Knight, T. R., Stockton-on-Tees.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
WANTED, April 16 (Easter), 23, May 21; also "The Sorrows of Satan," Sterling Attractions; either or both. Wire, till Wednesday next, Lois Esmond, Hippodrome, New Brompton; Thursday, April 12, T. R., Loughboro'.

The New Spanish Comic Opera,
"PETRONELLA."
(Production at Penley's, May 26.)
WANTED, July 2 and 9 (South).
Mr. Howard Crispin, Business-Manager, 22, Blomfield-rd., Shepherd's Bush. Tel., 2023 P.O. Hampstead.

"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Whit. Week, and various, on. Another success scored here. Refer F. Bateman, Esq. Wire, A'Dell, to-day, King's, Cardiff; next, A., Stourbridge.

"A TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS."
WANTED, Aug. 13, 20, and 27, North.
Harry Fischer, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, for this Strong Attraction, July 9, 23, Aug. 6, and onwards
Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl. Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia. Supported by a Star Cast.
Startling Pictorials. New Scenery.
Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatre, August Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, for
Miss MAUD HILDYARD and Powerful Company,
Mr. Ernest Dottridge, Empire T., Oldham.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Xmas week, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

"THE GREATEST SCOUNDREL LIVING."
WANTED, Easter, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

"THE MASTER OF THE CHAIN."
WANTED, April 16, 23.
Wire, Carson, Theatre, Horwich.

WANTED, Xmas Date, for the Great Revival of Walter Howard's Masterpiece, "Man and Wife," play secured by Wm. Morton for his New Year's Attraction at A. T., Hull. Address, T. E. Ward, T. R., Stockton.

"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."
WANTED, April 16 (Easter Week), also Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1.
Frank G. Bayly, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

"A SISTER'S SIN."
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, Good Theatre, to follow Opera House, Leicester, for this Attraction; also May 14, onwards, with exceptions; special cast. Wire, F. G. Kimberley, this, Glossop; next, Rotunda T., Liverpool (third visit).

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED PAUMIER, WALTER HOWARD.
ALFRED PAUMIER, WALTER HOWARD.
TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
By Walter Howard.

Annie Saker,
Alfred Paumier.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for few remaining Spring Dates, 1907.
Paumier, 5, Church-terrace, Richmond, Surrey.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes by Angels.
WANTED, April 16, to precede T. R., Leeds; also April 30, May 7, 21, 28, June 11, 18.
Jack Haddon, 9, Grand-parade, Teddington.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.,
"£1000 REWARD."
"£1000 REWARD."
By Charles Rogers.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this Successful Drama, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
Two truck-loads magnificent scenery.
Special uniforms and electrical effects.
Over 200 sheets printing by Allens, Staffords, and Moodys. Managers invited to forward vacant dates. Re Dates, Frank J. Pitt, T. R., Barnsley, April 9. Other coms.,
Chas. Halling, Eden T., Bishop Auckland.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, May 7, 14, 21 (continuing Tour till Whit), no greater success touring; phenomenal business Grand Theatre, Islington, last week. Return booked after second performance.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire,
James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN,"
The Dramatic Mascot.
Enthusiastic reception at Stratford.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Nov. 19, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 1907, onwards, with exceptions. Managers kindly refer, or better still, come and see the show. Sante, T. R., Stratford; P., Poplar.
Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's third year of Tour with "WHEN A MAN HATES."
WANTED, Theatres, Whit Week (June 4), Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10. Receipts at Dover this week: Tuesday well over Monday; Wednesday well over Tuesday. This is the rule (not the exception) with "When a Man Hates." Two tons of beautiful scenery travelled. Clear stage only required. Printing by Allen's. Address, this, Dover; next, Grand, Brighton.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 13, 20, 27, and Oct. 8, only vacant dates this year.
Address,
Frank Lindo, P. O. W., Grimsby.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Splendid Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6 (South preferred); also on, with exceptions.
Apply, Frank M. Thorne, C. T., Spennymoor.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Easter, and various onward, for this High-class Costume Drama. W. J. Miller, this, Batley; next, Royal, Macclesfield.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
WANTED, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 8, 22, Xmas, New Year. Frances Delaval, to-day, St. James's, Manchester; next, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

KIDDIE'S KOMEDY KOMPANIES.

J. GAR KIDDIE'S
PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Production Dates, for Christmas,
"BO-PEEP"
and
"BABES IN THE WOOD."

Must be Recognised Theatre, or no use.

Write,
J. Gar Kiddie,
This week and next,
Grand Theatre,
Douglas,
I. of Man.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, having Large Stage and Large Holding Capacity, for Christmas Production, 1906, of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Record-breaking Pantomime Successes,

"LITTLE CINDERELLA."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
"LITTLE CINDERELLA."
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Address,
James Kiddie, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

THE NATIVE CHOIR FROM JAMAICA.
Ten Coloured Ladies and Gentlemen.
Specially Brought to this Country by Sir Alfred L. Jones, K.C.M.G.
WANTED, Theatres, Pier Pavilions, Halls, &c., April 30, and a few Vacant Dates only. Apply at once for this delightful, artistic, and novel entertainment, and a sure draw anywhere. Just finished at Pier Pavilion, New Brighton, to record business. Next week, Victoria Pavilion, Ilfracombe. To follow:—Bristol, Swansea, Crystal Palace, Tynemouth, Blackpool, Bognor, Whitby, Saltburn, Bridlington, &c.
For dates and terms, apply to Messrs. Jones and Douglass, Sole Agents,, 21, Water-street, or 47, State Insurance-buildings, Liverpool. 'Phones, 5650 and 2449 Cent. Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."
WANTED, Good Theatres and Halls, Newcastle district, Easter and future; also Al Fresco pitches. Wire, Williamson, Wylam-on-Tyne.

THOMAS THORNE AND COMPANY.
WANTED, April 30 and May 7, to follow Dundee. Wire, Russell Rossa, 10, King-street, W.C.

ARTISTS WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists for Musical Comedy, in all Lines, Early Autumn Tours; also Chorus, good voices; also Eccentric Dude, sing and dance well. C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, for Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, Full Company, for Stock Season, commencing May 14, with stage-manager who has répertoire of sound, money-making Dramas. All applications to Chas. E. Machin, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, following Artists, Tour, Musical Comedy; Juvenile, Dude, Soubrette, Chambermaid, Dual Rôle of Boy-Girl, Robust Lady, for Widow; all must sing and dance, and be accustomed to Pantomime work. Please furnish record of parts played to Tour, Box 3,020, "The Era," Office.

WANTED, for Summer Tour, rehearse Wednesday, Dramatic Artist, all Lines. J. Carson, Prince's Theatre, Horwich.

"HELD IN BONDAGE."
WANTED, Autumn Tour, Powerful and Emotional Leading Lady, commanding and prepossessing appearance; Juvenile Lady, to look 17; must be pretty and petite; Gentleman, for char. romantic lead, powerful voice, swordsman; smart, refined Juvenile Gent., look 18, good appearance and voice essential. Terms, last 2 refs. (applied for), photos., height, Vivian Grantham, 10, King-street, W.C.

WANTED, Juvenile Leading Lady, smart appearance, about 5ft. 6in., for Arthur Roberts' Co. Apply, Monday, personally, at Oxford Music Hall, 2 o'clock.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"PASSION'S POWER."
WANTED, Emotional and Powerful Leading Actress, to rehearse Tuesday next, Bolton. All particulars, photographs, E. Vivian Edmonds, to-day, Opera House, Blackpool; next, Royal, Halifax.

WANTED, Actress, for Comedy Duologue (special week), long Engagement if suitable; must have had first-class Music Hall experience. Box 3,079, "The Era."

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Powerful Leading Actor, for Rev. Frank Thornhill, rehearse Tuesday, Eccles. Address, all particulars, E. Vivian Edmonds, to-day, Opera House, Blackpool; next, Theatre Royal, Halifax.

WANTED, a Light Comedian, who can play the 'Cello, for a Summer Engagement of twelve weeks certain. Write to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Good Heavy or Juvenile Man, Sketch, April 16. Terms, full particulars, Fred Conquest, 77, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Easter Week, Heavy Gentleman, able to fence, for Costume Sketch. Letters only, Giffard, 55, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Smart, Attractive Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, good appearance and good voices absolutely essential. Apply personally and immediately, Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, 40 Experienced Ballet Dancers; must be of good appearance, and not over 22 years of age. Contract for 6 months, commencing September next. Apply personally, to
Ashton's Royal Agency,
33, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, from Monday afternoon next, between 3 and 5 o'clock.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
WANTED, a few Choristers, Quartette, &c., male voices, for Special Week. W. Howard Ashley, Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Chorus and Show Ladies, for comedies and pantos., also dancers. Photos. and terms, to Box 3,073, "The Era."

WANTED, for Palace Gardens, Douglas (eight weeks, commencing July 16), Baritone and Lady Accompanist (Contralto). Apply by letter, Phil Smith, 84, Eswyn-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Amateur Lady and Gentleman to join Good Company. Full particulars to Box 3,071, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, for Tour, Dramatic Production, Beginners (either sex); no premium, salary to commence. Stamped envelope. Box 3,069, "The Era."

WANTED, Amateurs, and Beginners, thorough tuition free, no fees till engagements found. Bob Graham, Raleigh, Salford-rd., Streatham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Dancers, immediately, a few smart Girls for Troupes, suitable Girls can have one or two years' constant engagement. Full particulars, 44, Prince's-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Danish Soloist Choir, four to six Gentlemen, Engagement by the 1st or 15th of May (in England to begin with). Address, H. A. Henriksen, Ravnsborggade 7, A. Mezz, Copenhagen.

WANTED, Refined Summer Season, by Young Frenchman, French and broken English songs, à la Farkos and Fragson; also 'cello solos. Full particulars, Box 3,065, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Popular Entertainer at Piano, Open for Easter through misunder standing, large original répertoire. Coms., "Hugh Moor," 81, Ferndale-road, Clapham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes for '06 and '07, Principal Boys and Girls, Comedians, Dames, and all Lines. Apply by letter, with photos. and all particulars, to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, 300 Chorus and Show Ladies, for Eight Pantomimes, Town and Provinces; must have good figures and voices. Apply, Wednesday, April 11, 2.30, at Somers and Warner, Oxford Buildings, 1 Tottenham Court-road, Oxford-street.

WANTED, for Easter Week (South Wales), Strong Speciality (not Musical), First-class Wire or Gymnastic Act. Terms must be very moderate, as an introduction with a view to long Pantomime Engagement next Xmas. Wire or write, John A. Thomson, Opera House, Porth.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and secondhand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Smith, jun., Artist, Figure, Animal, Landscapes, and Flowers, Gilding, Writing, and Decorations. Address, 66, Stanbury-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, high-class work and best materials, at reasonable prices. Studio and workshop, 107, Waddon New-road. Charles Sayer, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

MISCELLANEOUS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, a thoroughly competent and energetic Advertising Manager, for a First-class Theatre in the Provinces. Only those not afraid of work (and must be a hustler) need apply. A permanency to a first-class man. Terms, &c., Box 3,051, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Good Resident Stage Carpenter, Bench Hand.
Terms and references,
apply Reginald Taylor,
County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, for Tour, Practical Stage Carpenter, capable of touching up scenery, one capable of making himself useful; must be temperate. Letters only, with qualifications and references, to P., Empire Theatre, Glasgow.

Billposter.
WANTED, steady single Young Man, for Permanency, used to the Slides. Wages, 25s. weekly. State age and reference to last employer.

Willing and Co., Ltd., 28, Castle-street, Hastings.

Billposters.
WANTED, Wanted Wanted,
Four good High Laddermen.
Macdonald,
Glasgow.

WANTED, by well-known, energetic, respectable Manager, at Liberty end May, Summer or Permanent Engagement, Theatre, Hall, Pavilion, or Institution; unexceptionable references; unique qualifications; absolute integrity; moderate terms. I. S., 2, Lottery-street, Chestergate Stockport.

WANTED, Known, an experienced Manager can undertake Management and Bookings of Music Hall, also willing to invest a considerable sum. Apply Box 2,998, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Secretary.
WANTED, by Lady, Engagement, as Secretary to Professional Lady or Gentleman, rapid writer and Yost typist, few hours daily, or three or four days a week preferred. Address, Box 3,055, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Pier Pavilion Manager or Secretary; all-round experience; first-class references, &c. Box 3,056, "The Era."

WANTED, by Charles Gascoigne, Management of Variety Hall; last position of management over 12 years. C. Gascoigne, Bull Arms Hotel, Victoria-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Employment, in London Theatre, Front of House, 25 years' character; first-class references. E. Adams, 64, Tantallon-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, by Expert Male Shorthand Writer and Typist, 24, with own Typewriter, and Knowledge of Theatrical and Variety Business, Engagement. Moderate terms. W. J. Crane, 59, Kingsgate-road, Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Charles E. Massey, Dis. for Advance, Theatres or Fit-up. Offers. Agricultural Hall, Norwich.

WANTED, by Electrician, Situation, well up in theatrical lighting and effects, gas engines, dynamos, and motors; references; no objection to tour. Corbett, 76, Roman-rd., Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Electrician, Re-engagement, First-class Theatre or Music Hall; thoroughly experienced; good references. Write, Electrician, 76, Wilton-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by H. Leeding, as Carpenter, resident or good company, own tools, late Maskelyne and Devant's. Good refs. 11, Little Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, Situation, as Foreman Billposter, could manage small business, 15 years' practical experience, excellent refs. Apply, Box 3,053, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Leonard Emberson, bill inspector or agent, 16 years' all-round experience. Address, 1a, Oxford-rd., Ealing, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Young Lady, with good experience, in pay-box of a busy London theatre. H., 21, Derby-road, Watford, Herts.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, First-class Pianist-Conductor, for Immediate Tour of Musical Comedy. Please furnish record of past engagements to Conductor, Box 3,021, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Leader, Violin, April 16, three weeks certain; those that don't mean business save stamps. Tudor, Circus, Blyth.

WANTED, Leader, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, for Music Hall, near London. Terms and refs. Apply, Box 3,059, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Leader and Musicians of First-rate Experience for Summer Engagement. Box 3,070, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductor (Violinist), experienced in Variety Business, and have good Répertoire. Lowest terms and refs. to F. W. Moyes, Manager, Palace Theatre, Grimsby.

WANTED, Conductor, to Play Violin, Open immediately, experienced in variety business, evening dress, permanency to suitable man. Wire age, references, and lowest terms, T. A. Edwardes, Palace, Derby.

PAVILION THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, Two First Violins, Open April 16; must be thoroughly experienced variety business, permanency for suitable men. Address, Will H. Boardman.

WANTED, for Mediterranean Trip, April 11 to about July 24, Solo Violin (bandmaster) and Pianist, musical duties only, second-class accommodation.
Black, 19, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Lady Violinist, for Orchestra work, Easter.
Write, Paul Mill, 156, Strand.

WANTED, to open Easter Monday, good First-Violin (two houses, Variety). Apply, Sutherland, Conductor, 211, Wingrove-avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Young Lady, First Violin, immediately. Write particulars, Box 3,074, "The Era."

WANTED, for Town Band, at once, good Cornet and Clarionet, Shares, permanent.
Phillips, 11, Market-place, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Lady Cornettist, at once, to join Music Hall Troupe. Apply by letter, Cole, 5, Lewisham High-road, S.E.

WANTED, a really good Solo Cornet Player, for a Police (full Military) Band. Applicants to be 5ft. 10in. in height. Apply Box 3,077, "The Era."

WANTED, Militia Training, July 2 to Aug. 25, Solo and Second B flat Clarionets. State reference, age, and lowest terms,
Bandmaster, The Castle, Monmouth.

WANTED, at Once, Good Bassoon; lowest terms and latest references. Also reliable Music Hall Leader. Apply, Conductor, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, for Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, Double Bass, to open 9th inst. Refs. and terms, A. A. Peuleve, Musical Director.

WANTED, First-class Bassoon Player, Summer Engagement, open May 15; moderate terms. 99, Guilford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Bombardon, Euphonium, Trombone, Double Drums, with Symbols and Effects. Terms, 30s. per week. T. Reynolds, Red Lion, Coleshill, Warwickshire.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, 'Cello, to open April 14. Refs. and lowest terms, to Musical Director, 18, Amberley-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, Good Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist (Lady), for Small Band in Hotel, Summer Engagement. Write Box 3,067, "The Era."

WANTED, 'Cellist, experienced Grand Opera; immediate engagement. Apply, with references, terms, Manager, Moody-Manners Opera Co., Theatre Royal, Preston.

WANTED, Good Harpist, for Season, Hotels, Refined Al Fresco, &c., could open now. Apply, H. Reano, 35, Greenclose-road, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, Flautist, for Ashton, open April 16. Apply, enclosing copy of last reference, to Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Pianist, to train three young Musicians (Flautist, Clarionet, and Violinist), in ensemble, for three months, daily lessons necessary. £1 per week. Further particulars of R. L., Calder Turner's Library, Bathurst-street, Hyde Park.

WANTED, Young Lady, able to play the Piano or Mandoline, Sing, Dance, or do a few Acrobatic Tricks. State age and height. Box 3,061, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Al Fresco Pianist, open Good Friday, young, single, do turn preferred. Photo., terms, letters only, Manager, 8, Brunswick-place.

PALACE THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Double Drummer and Effects, Variety Business, evening dress; must be good man and reliable. State terms, with references, to Musical-Director, 16, Abington-avenue, Northampton.

WANTED, for Militia Training, all String and Military Instrumentalists, including Drummer.
Ex-military men only apply.
Guest,
58, Princess May-rd., Stoke Newington, London, N.

WANTED, First-Class Orchestral Musicians, including Pianist, for Concerts and Dancing, Whitsuntide (seven days) and twelve weeks commencing July 2; short hours, Queen's Palace, Rhyl. Apply, Mr. Collinson, 125, Chatham-st., Liverpool.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, Double Drums, Flute, and Piccolo, for Tenting Season, commence Monday, April 9. Apply by wire, BANDMASTER, Circus, Ystalyfera.

WANTED, Drummer, thoroughly Experienced in variety business, permanent engagement to suitable man. Terms and references to WILLIAM CLOSS, Mus. Dir., Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Bandsmen, to Re-enlist, 12 years' service men preferred; those playing string instruments only need apply; a good opportunity for Piano, Violin, and 'Cello Players to form a Quartette profitable to themselves. Apply to the ADJUTANT, 3rd Batt. Royal Sussex Regt., Chichester.

WANTED, Full Orchestra, to open April 23, for the De Frece Circuit Halls; also others, for future dates. Apply, with lowest terms and recent references, and giving permanent addresses, to J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, Violinist, Disengaged, Summer Tour or Resident desired. 54, Casewick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathew's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor and Musical Director, at Liberty from June 1. Field End Villa, Worsley-rd., Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical-Director, First-class Variety Theatre. Highest London references. Can supply Orchestra; splendid library; open at once. Wire, SWINGLER, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Variety Conductor (Piano), can supply Orchestra, Disengaged April 21, Hall closing for alterations. J. GROVES, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Leader, Tenting or otherwise; good repertoire; abstainer. Could supply Band. JAMES, 15, Lower Drayton-place, West Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Conductor (violinist), composer, refs., experienced all lines. CONDUCTOR, c/o 1, Church-st., St. John's Wood, London.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra. JEAN G. MACLEOD, 44, Talbert-place, Kirkca'dy, N.B.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Open at Once, First Violin, ballroom or variety, competent and reliable. Good refs. VIOLIN, 30, Wadboro'-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by the Principal Second Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co. Address, LEWIS, St. Croix, Waterlooville, Hants.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, ballroom business preferred, good refs., experienced. Add., C. LISTER, Crimsworth-ter., Midgehole, Hebden Bridge.

WANTED, by Good, Capable Violinist, steady, age 30, Seaside Job, either salary or shares. Good refs.
MARSH, 130, Wallgate, Wigan.

WANTED, by Violinist (Good), Engagement, Music only, Sight-reader, Seaside preferred. Particulars to "GAMUT," 22, Greville-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violinist, can combine Clarionet; any business; at Liberty April 23, through closing. Address, H. LYME, Hippodrome, Sheerness.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Trio (Violin, Clarionet, Piano), for Hotel, Restaurant, &c; can combine any number of performers. Box 3,046, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, First or Second Violin, experienced. References.
VIOLINIST, 21, Sovereign-road, Wigan.

WANTED, by Violinist, experienced reader, good accompanist on Piano, Engagement, any business, or would join Lady Vocalist. TYLER, High-street, Westerham.

WANTED, by Young Lady, good appearance, Permanent Engagement in London, Vocalist, Violinist, and Accompanist. Box 3,042, "The Era."

WANTED, by Trumpet or Cornet, Engagement, any Business, Seaside preferred; good references. P. D., 30, Silver-crescent, Gunnersbury, W.

WANTED, by Good Solo Cornet, Engagement, after April 21, 13 years' experience, excellent refs., age 27. H. CAPRON, Hippo., Sheerness.

WANTED, Engagements, Cornettist, Theatre and Music Hall experience. H. ANGEL, 47, Stopford-road, Upton Manor, London, E.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement in Orchestra or Military Band; 4 years Solo Cornet in Town Band. P. F., 8, High-street, Hailsham, Sussex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, immediately, any Business, thoroughly experienced; good references. CAUNT, Bentinck-street, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Solo Cornet, used to any Business. Apply, WRIGHT, 14, Badgate, Lincoln.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Dramatic or Variety, or Seaside Business; good transposer. Address, WILLIE KAYE, 133, Gordon-street, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement as First-Class Cornet Soloist, String or Military, young, smart, of good address, Seaside or Town. Immediate offers invited. HERBERT SPRAKE, 49, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, perm. or season, any business, sober and reliable. Good refs. and testimonials. FRISWELL, 45, Sydner-rd., Stoke Newington.

WANTED, by Two Young Gents., Engagement, cornet, violin, piano, experienced all lines. Good refs. Apply, COLLIS, Admiral Nelson Hotel, Humberstone Gate, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, late soloist for La Carnera, Brighton. References. WILLIAM NORMAN HOLLAND, 84, Prestbury-road, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Cornet, just finishing tour with W. Hamilton's Excursions. Good refs. Add., Monday next, F. ROGERS, Hippodrome, Wigan.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Clarionet, any business. Disengaged June 24. Apply, CLARIONET, New Theatre, Oxford; late Army Solo Clarionet; good references.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, any Business, experienced and reliable. Excellent refs. Add., CHARLES MANTLE, 148, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Solo Clarionet, good répertoire of solos. Address, Box 3,047, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, Solo, Skating Rink, Brighton, finish Easter, late Lieut. D. Godfrey's Band. Refs. ONSLOW, 10, Luther-st., Brighton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Solo Clarionet or E flat, orchestra or military. Best of references. G. HARRISON, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Solo Clarionet, London experience, Disengaged, String or Military, late Staff Band. W. G., 308, Leytonstone-road, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, First or Second, for Band, Orchestra, or Varieties; also Summer Season. Address, WALTER, 193, Seven Sisters-road, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet or Double Bass, thoroughly experienced in theatres or varieties, reliable, deputising accepted. BASSIST 48, Lincoln-road, Ponder's End.

WANTED, Known, Double Bass, young, leaving Asylum Orchestra, seeks engagement, any capacity. F. V., c/o Mumby, 72, Newtown-rd., Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement, summer or permanency; first-class references; steady. T. ORTTON, 339, London-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, for Summer Season, as Double Bass, any Business; good references. J. L., 85, Chewton-road, Walthamstow, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by good reliable Trombonist, experienced all branches; smart and competent; good refs. SAMPSON, c/o Neil, 23, Nelson-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, by Four-String Bass, also Cornet, Dramatic or Variety; good refs. BRYANT, 15, London-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Double Bass, sobriety and competency guaranteed. JACK ALLEN, 1, Buckland-st., New North-rd., London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone or Double Bass, immediately, experienced, any business. Good refs. Apply, DUMBLETON, Elmete House, Scholes, near Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, any business, will be at Liberty April 16. BERT ROBINSON, 7, Octavia-st., Kirkcaldy, Fife.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Trombone. HIBBS, 2, Brook-villas, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Trombonist, thoroughly experienced, any Business, Variety preferred; distance no object, can join at once. GEORGE NICKS, 53, King-street, Camden Town, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, well up in Variety, Orchestral, any business, or deputising; excellent refs. W. S. HILL, 93, Florence-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombonist, Theatre, Music Hall, or Summer (London or near preferred), good refs. RYAN, 55, Waddon New-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Horn, French or Kœnig, any business, first-class refs., at Lib. end of April. W. J., 70, Lowther-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, by Experienced French Horn, Engagement, Easter and Summer Season. W. H., 89, Flaxman-road, Loughboro' Junction.

WANTED, by French Horn, Experienced, Engagement, April 23, excellent refs., any business. F. LADLEY, First Horn, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello. Also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLS, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist and Violinist, experienced, summer engagement, with orchestra or concert party, 'cello soloist. HARVEY, 4, Belsize-parade, Hampstead.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Violoncellist, could open at once, any Business. Address, M. C., 34, Leoville-street, Belfast. Good refs.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Viola, combine Piano, experienced accompanist and Orchestral Pianist, advertiser well known, London preferred. Box 2,951, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, combine Piano, experienced Accompanist and Orchestral Pianist. Address, VIOLA, 25, Bridge-street, Bolton.

WANTED, by Oboe, Summer Engagement, orchestral or military, late soloist Royal Marines. Excellent refs. G. WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, by Oboeist, Engagement; experienced (good testimonials), any business; can join at once. Address, JACKSON, 2, Church-street, Cambridge.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement in Theatre, London or Suburbs; first-class refs. CHAMBERS, 24, Mayville-road, Leytonstone.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Summer engagement, Pier, or First-class Hotel. Finished 3 months, Court Theatre, L'pool. Address, 49, Haverstock-hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ada Brandon, Solo Harpist, accepts Engagements, Concerts, At Homes, Piers, Brilliant Popular Selections. Address, Writtle, Chelmsford.

WANTED, Good Summer Engagement, by Harpist and Violinist; also by Lady, first-class Soprano; joint or singly. Address ,1, Eton-rd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Seaside Engagements. Miss EVELINE HALL, Solo Harpist (sister of Miss Marie Hall, the celebrated Violinist), Peckham Villa, Poolbrook, Malvern.

WANTED, by First-class Flautist, Easter and Summer Engagement; excellent refs., abstainer, aged 31. W. ARMSTRONG, 61, Weaste-road, Weaste, Manchester.

WANTED, by Experienced Flautist, Engagement, Theatre, Music Hall, or Seaside; thoroughly reliable; splendid refs. MUIR, 18, Thistle-street, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, Permanency or Season, by Flautist, Variety or any business, experienced, steady; references. A. HOLT, Drayton-street, Eccles, near Manchester.

WANTED, Season's Engagement, by Flautist (soloist). First-class references. HILTON, 4, Chapel-road, Hounslow, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, Liner preferred, 6 years' experience with small orchestra; could conduct small band; splendid library. Box 3,052, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, Second Violin, combine viola, experienced, smart, abstainer, refs., orchestral, tour, or chorus, baritone, any business. MANTON, c/o Benniston, jun., 86, Park-rd., Coalville.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Orchestral Drummer, theatre or music hall preferred, at Lib. through closing, April 21. Box 3,063, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, First-class Double Drummer and Tympanist, good for any business. S. BARBER, Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, a Shop, as Drummer, with own tympani, any business. Good references. F. K., 87, Caledonian-road, King's Cross.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced; Summer Season or permanency; Variety preferred. LILLE, 94, Graham-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement, by Double Drummer, combine harp and piano, experienced all lines, good references. JEANNIE MORRIS, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, by the Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Engagements, for exhibitions, hotels, &c., brilliant costumes. CONDUCTRESS, Volthurst, Boundary-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Wanted, by the London Euphonic Orchestra, London Euphonic Orchestra, Summer Engagement for not longer than Three Months.
CONDUCTOR, 21, High-road, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, Known, Offers invited for the Celebrated Blue Hongroise Orchestra, from 6 to 20 performers, ballroom or variety, excellent répertoire, great attraction. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Brooklyn, Vernon-road, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, First-class Conductor, with own band of six (upwards), open for engagement, long experience, exceptional references. Box 3,048, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Engagement, by the Celebrated Rhine String Band, any number; ex. rép. BECHER, 19, Old Orchard-street, Bath.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9,827, Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel., 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, WINTER GARDENS, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, at Once, and for Future Dates, the Greatest Novelties on Earth, and Star Turns, in all Lines. Great success of the opening. Press and Public declare that this is the best Circus Company ever seen in the town.
Address,
KING OHMY, Grand Circus, Southport.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS, on Tour.
General-Manager, GEO. SCOTT.
WANTED, immediately, for Tenting, Triple Bar Performer, or any other First-class Act that can be done in Circus Ring.
No fancy prices, but money sure.
State full particulars and lowest in first letter, to 12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, good Circus Artists, also Musicians, open Easter, long Engagement. Lowest terms. Address, CIRCUS DIRECTOR, 35, North-street, Stamford, Lincs.

CIRCUS, HULL.
WANTED, Equestrians, Lady and Gentlemen Riders, Clowns, and Artists of all Descriptions, Open April 16, 23.
Address, EDWARD EMERSON, General-Manager.

WANTED, for Wilder's Fêtes and Galas, June 4, July 9, Aug. 6 and 13, Aerial Novelties, Acrobats, and Up-to-date Gymnastic Performers, Single and Double Acts.
Full particulars, sample litho., and lowest terms to WILDER,
29, Gt. Francis-street, Birmingham.
John Fossett and Luba Sarema write at once. Important, Contracts waiting.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S "SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
WANTED, Single Acrobat (bearer), one who can join in bar act preferred.
Lowest terms to
SANDERSON MOFFAT, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

WANTED, Attractive Young Lady, for long Circus Tour, assist with specialities, and take part in sketch. Photo., SHELDON, Stewart's Waxworks, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, those holding Contracts to write for time and place for opening. DUFFY'S Star Theatre, Dee-st., Newtownards-rd., Belfast.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, all Artists to note that the above establishment closes the end of Easter week, Saturday, April 21, 1906, for Summer Season. Artists engaged please communicate for later dates. This is two clear weeks' notice.
Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Managers in want of a sure Top capable to pack Houses should at once secure Miss Ella's Performing Lions. Vacant through postponements of American Engagements, May 21, June 11, onwards, with exceptions. Week, April 9, Gaiety Theatre, Chatham.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, Pigeon Charmers and Foot Equilibrist, Liberty Easter Monday, with own Horse and Riding Dog. Address, 144, High-st, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Clown, appearing nightly with grand success at the Moss-Stoll Empire, Liverpool. Then Hull to follow until April 28.

WANTED, Known, Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey, a comic act, different to all other animal acts. Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Barred nowhere.

WANTED, by Les Uniques, Gymnastic Pot-Pourri, on two electrically illuminated perpendicular ladders. Vacancies from April 30. Shall be pleased to hear from a good agent, who can do business for the act. Address, Alhambra, London.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Comedy Triple Bar Act, Liberty 9th, 16th, 23rd. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Known, The Fitzroys, Classical Society Gymnasts at Liberty, Easter. Coms., 95, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Known, De Ora, Aërial Gymnastic Speciality, Vacant Monday next, also 16th free, for galas and tenting; also Rosie Rickards, Comedienne. Coms., Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Legitimate Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Act, April 9. Wire, Winter Gardens, Southport.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Equilibrists and Acrobats, April 9, 16, tenting season. Wire, THORNE, Doncaster.

WANTED, Dates for Galas, &c., by Mdlle. Bartenelli, the clever and sensational Aerial Contortionist; also the Boultons, Comedy Artists; one or two acts. Thanks Otto C. Culling, Wilder, Burton, Dodson, and other for dates and offers. Address, Poole's Myriorama, Swindon.

WANTED, John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, Liberty for Easter Monday, big turn for fêtes and galas. Address, 144, High-st., Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Mons. de Greine, Juggler, Liberty Easter till August. Plenty Juggling Tricks, Galas. 18, Portland-street, Soho, London.

WANTED, experienced Bicycle Polo Players, for five months' Contract, commencing Easter Monday. Write, ATHOLL, 8, Rockmount-rd., Upper Norwood.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils, for Parachute Descents, together or separate. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham. Lady Parachutist still open for Whit. Week.

WANTED, Secretaries, to engage Lieut. Lempriere, the popular, reliable, scientific Aëronaut, for Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents. Address, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Coventry Hippodrome, First-class Variety Artists, of every description, good comedians, big acrobatic troupes, comic sketches, big productions, spectacles, and any sensational novelty that will draw and please the public. Money no object; any salary from £5 to £200 paid to the right class of talent. Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Managing-Director, Sites, Ltd., 213, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, Known, Mr. T. M. Sylvester, now of 213, Piccadilly, W., hereby gives notice to all Artists and Agents that, having severed his connection with Messrs. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., of 63, Regent-street, all Contracts made through that Firm for the Coventry Hippodrome, and not signed by the Secretary to the Hippodrome, should be immediately so countersigned. Mr. Sylvester, on application by letter or otherwise, will forward artists fresh Contracts, and begs to announce, in his new position as Managing-Director to Sites, Ltd., 213, Piccadilly, that, in the course of the next few months, he will be able to offer a tour to artists of eight to ten weeks' engagement. Notice of the various towns will be given in due course.
April 6, 1906.

WANTED, Known, Mr. T. M. Sylvester, Managing-Director of the Maidstone Hippodrome, Ltd., begs to give notice to all artists and agents that, on April 19, he will be severing his connection with the above company.
Within the next few months he hopes to Start Booking for the Maidstone Empire.

Communications,
T. M. SYLVESTER, 213, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Variety Artists to Note that all Contracts held with Messrs. A. W. Gamage, Ltd., Aldershot, hold good. Artists cannot be too particular in booking with a safe treasury. All Salaries Paid as per Contract. No Commission is Stopped.

WANTED, Star Variety Artists, the Biggest Speciality Acts, April 16, onwards. Terms, bookings, lithos., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
WANTED, Good Variety Artists, May 21, June 4, &c., 1 house nightly.
WILL SMITHSON, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, April 16, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any), to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Artists desirous of Filling in a few weeks at Eastbourne, from Whit. Monday till Sept., write lowest, HARRY CLIFFORD, Proprietor Eastbourne Al Fresco Concerts, April 9, Empire, Bradford; 16th, Birmingham; 23rd, Hanley.

WANTED, Variety Artists every description. Letters only,
MARCUS BOYLE, G.P.O., Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists, all Lines, for immediate dates. Please state in first instance absolutely lowest terms to save correspondence. Messrs. STANHOPE and Co., Ltd., 63, Regent-street, W. Telephone, 6070 Gerrard.

KILBURN EMPIRE.
WANTED, Sketch Company's Variety Artists of recognised ability, from Easter onwards.
J. D. SOLOMON, Proprietor.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD.
WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, Gala Artists, all Lines, June 4, onwards.
Again appointed Caterer to the Great York Gala, also the Peel Park, Bradford, Gala, and all the Principal Galas throughout the Kingdom.
Lithos., &c.,
JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, April 16, May 14, 28, June 4. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin. Freaks wanted, April 23.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, April 14, 16, Tour to follow, Al Fresco Artists, sharing terms, each to deposit £1. DALTON, 5, Sampson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for April 16. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines. H. A. JORDISON, Managing-Director, Empire Theatrical Agency, Ltd., St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from Easter Monday, and onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Big Specialities, for Easter Week, Bowes Park, Sittingbourne. DEMPSEY, Pavilion, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Stars, on Shares, and Good Combinations, April 23, May 7, on. GEO. SAPHRINI, Lessee and Manager, Palace, Boston. Call Monday, Carlton's Four Kweeries, Harry Drew, Princess Leah, Tom Dawson, Arielelle, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Peggy Fame, Bioscope, The Marvellous Howards.

WANTED, Artists in Every Line. for quick dates.
DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Agency, First-Class Artists and Attractions only represented. Interviews by appointment. HENRY J. BILSBOROUGH, Woodville-terrace, Bradford.

MAIDSTONE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Known, at the Annual General Meeting of the Maidstone Hippodrome Company, Limited, which took place at Maidstone on Wednesday last, Mr. G. Howard Watson was appointed Managing-Director of the Company, such appointment to take effect immediately. Artists and Agents wishing to book Maidstone, please address, G. HOWARD WATSON, c/o Messrs. Stanhope and Co., 63, Regent-street, London.

MAIDSTONE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Agents and Artists, to Note that Mr. G. Howard Watson has been appointed Managing-Director of the Maidstone Hippodrome Company, Ltd. Will Artists and Agents holding bookings kindly send them for confirmation to the new management? Address, Mr. WATSON, Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 63, Regent-street, London.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, immediately, also future dates. Apply by letter only to DICKINS, 67A, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Palace, Oldbury, Monday next, onwards. Please note, hall small. Address, MANAGER.

SUMMER HIPPODROME, SITTINGBOURNE.
WANTED, Artists, Useful Acts, suitable for Stage; Musicians can write in lowest terms. Also Advt. Curtain to Let.
BOWES, Sittingbourne.

ASTLEY BROS., FLEETWOOD CADETS.
WANTED, for Above, Al Fresco Artists, all Lines, open June 2; also Specialities write. Full particulars to 7, Ellesmere-terrace, Withington, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WILL HUNTER'S PIERROTS, TYNEMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Artists, for above, all Lines; also Pianist (vocalist, humorous preferred); all must have up-to-date rép., and used to concerted items and sketches. Send photo., age, fullest particulars, and lowest terms, WILL HUNTER, Temperance Hall, Walsall.

WANTED, Artists, Special Entertainments, London, Seaside, also Sundays. To advertise "Amusement," 6d., post 7d. EDWIN DREW, 7, Whitefriars, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Proprietors, Managers, and the Cream of the Profession, to Know that
TOM CLAXTON'S
English, American, and Continental Dramatic and Variety Agency Nelson House, 9, Charing Cross-road, London, Telegrams, "Plagiarism, London," Telephone 5314 Gerrard, is always in a position to supply Managers with the Greatest Acts of all Descriptions, for immediate dates. Always Vacancies for Stars, Novelties, or anything that will draw. Artists at Liberty for Monday next and immediate dates, to save time, should send in early, lowest terms, lithos., &c., address, and route.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME Co., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that, from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless Signed by the Secretary and Manager.
T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager.
G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Proprietors, SMITH and LEE.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Monday next, 2 o'clock, for Toch and Tard, Lena Brenton, Vernon's Bioscope, Vosper, Craig, Roze, and Craig, Little Barney, Minnie D'Aubyn, Ray and Miles.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GROVE-STREET, EDINBURGH, is closed for the season.

WANTED, Artists holding Contracts to Note that same are cancelled from this date, April 7, 1906.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, all Artists to Note that the above Establishment closes the end of Easter week, Sat., April 21, '06, for Summer Season. Artists engaged, please communicate for later dates. This is two clear weeks' notice. Address, C. ALGIE.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars, Big Attractions, nothing too big. Send lowest terms and full bookings, DUNNING'S Agency, 7, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Big Stars, Novelties, Specialities, Comedy Acts, &c., April 9, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c.; I can place you. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 51, West Derby-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars, and Artists all Lines, for Easter. AYTOUN'S Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop

THORNE GALA,
June 21.
WANTED, One or Two Good Speciality Turns, for Afternoon and Evening.
A Platform cannot be Provided in any Event.
JAMES SERVANT,
Secretary,
Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, a Few Good Turns, for Monday, 9th, at Morpeth, tour to follow. Terms must be low; money sure. Wire. ALVAR, 4, Westmoreland-terrace, Newcastle.

WANTED, Speciality Turns, Suitable for Stage, April 16, onward.
GEO. BAKER, Hippodrome, Reading.

HIPPODROME THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, MANSFIELD; also MORELLA'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, CHESTERFIELD.
WANTED, Variety Talent, in all Branches, for present and future Dates. All letters, address MORRELLA, Hippodrome, Mansfield

WANTED, Variety Talent and Specialities, for immediate and future Dates, for Hippodromes, Barrow and Grimsby. Address, H. MORGAN, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

WANTED, Big Top,
April 16, '06,
also Various Other Acts,
for immediate Dates,
onwards.

Absolute lowest first instance,
HARRY BURNS' Agency,
Head Office: Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
Telephones, 6231 and 0231A.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wiggleworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, for Whit. Week, and numerous other Dates, startling novelties, for fêtes, galas, carnivals; cycle troupes, acrobats, aërial and ground acts of every description, knockabouts, musical clowns, artists, for pavilions. Send lithos., memos., terms, bookings, permanent addresses, to BURTON'S Variety Agency, Fargate, Sheffield. Telegrams, "Amusements."

WANTED, First-class Acts, for London and Provinces.
Big Tops of Bills, Serios, Comedians, Double Acts, in fact anything new.
Novel, and a Draw. Send full details at once, full list of bookings, lowest terms, photos. or lithos. if possible, to
C. T. SMITH & Co.,
Variety Agents, 150, Strand, London, W.C.
(late Wordsworth and Smith).
Important Notice.
This business will be conducted as before, under the personal direction of Mr. C. T. Smith.
Telephone, 6832 Gerrard.

DALTON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Acts of all Kinds.
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, June, July, and August, the very best of sensational acts. Lithos. (if any), memos., GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Comedy Acts, Specialities, Singles, Doubles, all Lines, during July, Aug., Sept. State if new to Yarmouth. Three performances daily. Lowest terms permanent address. HARRY BARKER, 6, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Monday next, Four Good Acts, variety or specialities; must be reasonable terms; also for Easter Week. Wire lowest, ZALVA, Scarborough.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, for immediate and future dates, the Biggest Acts in the Market, Novelties, Star Comic Acts, &c. Bookings, photos., &c.

WANTED, Known, I can place the Biggest Acts.
ATLAS, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Specialities for Fêtes, near London. Send lithos., terms, rail paid, J. FURNEAUX, Royal Caterer, 40, Thorpe-road, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Tops of Bill, for immediate dates, also good Animal Act, for twelve weeks.

Send full list of bookings, lithos., terms, &c., to DAY'S Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.
Telephone, 6915 Gerrard; 1500 Central.
Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Blackpool, Morecambe,
and other Seaside Towns,
Whit. Week, July 2, and onwards.
Also for
London,
Manchester,
Liverpool,
Leeds,
Glasgow,
Birmingham,
Brighton,
Stockton,
Burnley,
Bolton,
Oldham,
Barrow,
Carlisle,
Warrington,
Hull,
Middlesbrough,
St. Helens,
Accrington,
Stockport,
Rochdale,
Stoke,
Derby,
Grimsby,
Attercliffe,
Hanley,
&c.,
Star Comedians, Star Comediennes,
Big Specialities,
Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts;
in fact, anything that is New and Novel.

Send List of Bookings, Lithos., Terms, &c.,
Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

BILLY KEENE'S PIERROTS (11th Season).
WANTED, Refined Comedian, used to Concerted Numbers, able to produce and play in sketches; refinement and sobriety imperative Lowest terms and particulars to Billy Keene, 27, Phœbe Anne-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Gilbert Rodgers, Comedians with good Voices, Specialities, all must be smart, up-to-date, gentlemanly, and competent Artists. Age, height, terms, business, previous experience, photo. (in all cases, with stamps if to be returned). Address, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, for next week, Stoke-on-Trent, Sketch, tall Light Comedian. Fares paid. Wire or call between 12 and 1.30, Louisa Peach, 26, Wallace-road, Canonbury, N.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, Good Pierrots, or complete Al Fresco Entertainment, weeks commencing June 11 and Sept. 10. All other dates full. Bookings include The Yokels, The Hollanders, The Caledonian Boys' Band, Scarlet Mr. E's, Jamaica Native Choir, &c.
Spa Theatre: Mr. Edward Terry, F. R. Benson, "Sergeant Brue," "Public Opinion," "The Country Girl," "Walls of Jericho," "Christian," "Three Little Maids," "On the Love Path," &c. Address, W. Payne Seddon, New Theatre, Hawick.

WANTED, Minstrels, Pierrots, Coms., &c., Pavilion, Birmingham, also Ground, cheap, Swings, &c. Letters, Manager, 7, Summerhill-terrace, Parade, Birmingham.

WANTED, Whitsuntide Holidays, June 2 to 10, inclusive, Concert Party, refined, 5 or 6 artists. State lowest terms. Silence polite negative. Managing-Director, Pier, Skegness.

CAVALRY THEATRE, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, for Above, and other Places, Good Doubles, Serios, &c. Coms., Tintern Villa, Aldershot. Harry Saunders.

WANTED, good Cabinet Illusions and Startling Attractions, nothing too big. Lowest terms. Pickard, Britannia Theatre, Glasgow.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAUX,
15, HOTHAM-STREET, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Big Lady Troupes, for Continent, for immediate dates. Send photos., lowest terms, &c., at once. Fare paid out. Miss Lottie Stone communicate, please.

WANTED, Animal Acts, S. Coast Piers, July 23, &c.; Cinématograph, Double-handed Acts, Wales Whit., Midlands Aug. Shares. 8, Milhill-rd., Acton.

WANTED, Serios and Dancers, Sisters, Coloured Boys and Girls. Write lowest terms to Dillon, Miners' Theatre, Ashington, Northumberland.

WANTED, Young, Smart Comedienne, to work with French Specialist, unprecendented novelty for halls, good amateur not objected, appearance essential. Box 3,064, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Youth, for Pantomimist Sketch. Apply,
A. B., 5, Pollitt-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Clever Juveniles (Boys and Girls), over 14, and must be small, for "Casey's Court." Applicants must either have fine voices or previous experience. Apply (letter only), Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Pretty Child, 14, small, Sing, live with refined people; long Engagement; everything found. Lowest terms. Box 3,066, "The Era."

WANTED, a Boy, age 14, immediately, with good Voice, Soprano preferred, for Music Halls. Write immediately, Stanley's Urchins, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, First-class Coloured People, male and female, good, dark, sober. Letters only, C. Hermann, "Golden Lion," Bolton. Old servants write.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, Open April 9; must be thoroughly experienced with electric, direct or alternating. Manager, Bioscope, Victoria Hall, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Good Living Picture Operator; must be thoroughly sober, and attentive to business, and willing, to open April 12. Horace Holloway, Phantoscope, South Sea, near Wrexham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Bouverie Pleydell, at Liberty April 30, May 7, 14.

This week's address,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Laura Muriel (late Merry Muriels), comedienne, descriptive. This, Hippo., Broughton; Lib. Monday, to join sketch or comic ballet. See Cards.

WANTED, by Lily Turner, Versatile Vocalist, Monday next, also April 16.
Wire, Circus, or 3, Baron-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, 9th, 23rd, by Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, also Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist and Dancer, Re-engaged for three years, E., Dublin. Wire, B158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham Contracts or Tour.

WANTED, by Grosvenor Sisters (Three), Operatic Vocalists, April 23, and Summer; offers invited Piers, &c.; handsome costumes. Success this week Hippo., Hull. Next, 39, Electric-avenue, Brixton, or Will Oliver.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Barney Stuart,
the Refined Character Actor and Vocalist,
Vacant Monday next, also
April 16 and 23.

Letters and Wires to
25, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Poynton, the Great Impersonator and Chapeaugraphist, my Celebrity act, perfectly up-to-date, gorgeous costumes, &c., by Clarkson. Talk of everywhere. Offers invited for Panto. and 1907. Two Acts that Draw. Note my NEW perm. address,
Blenheim House, Marlborough-place, Brighton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, April 9, 30, May 21, or later. Big Success this week, New Tivoli Varieties, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Harry Leaton, Refined Comedian and Actor-Vocalist, vacant April 16 and onwards. Address, Sheep Market Hotel, Bridgwater.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey (a big novelty), and clever dog; also ventriloquist. Wire, Theatre, Consett, Durham.

WANTED, Known, Clifton Hall, Baritone and Descriptive Vocalist, Liberty Monday, also 16th, can perform Good Friday. Wire offers, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Len Keppel, America's latest exponent of Sand Dancing (the real thing), is open to join High-class Pierrot Troupe or good Concert Party, for Summer Season, Pavilion or Al Fresco; extensive répertoire of smart songs. Offers invited from good combinations of repute only. 37, Morgan-street, Bow, London.

WANTED, Known, Charles Newbound, Comic Vocalist, open for Concerts, &c., London preferred. 42, Talfourd-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Known, Jardine, Knockabout, Pantomimist, just finished with well-known troupe, Liberty Monday. 18, Gough-st., Woolwich.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, with Big Musical Novelties, Mirambaphone, Violinist, &c., &c.; would invest small amount. Ace, 20, Victoria-park, Totterdown, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Dan Kirton, Character Comedian and High-class Dancer, wants April 9, 16, Halls or Al-fresco. Wire or write, 31, Sidney-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Immediate Dates, the Latest Sensational Novelty, George Kirkland, the Only Blind Conjurer in the World. Wire Donald's Agency, Liverpool.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. Prof. Lenton, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, by Barham, Hypnotist, Magnetist, immediate dates. Low terms, splendid show. Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Will Knight, Knockabout Comedian, would like to hear from well-known sketch troupe; bears a good reputation for attention to business.
Address, 16, Bury New-road, Bolton.

WANTED, April 16 and 23, by Vic Hearne (Jump Jimmy Nacko), Ecc. Com. and Dancer. 25, Ingrave-street, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Original Kyoto, and his Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box, introducing a wonderful Contortion Act, Comedy Juggling and Conjuring. Miss May Geraldine, a chic Dancing Comedienne. Enormous success, Empire, Ardwick. Monday, Zoo Hippo., Glasgow. To follow Coliseum, Glasgow, Liverpool, Bordesley, Grand, Hanley, &c. Vacant April 30, May 21, June 11, 25, July 2 to Aug. 13, Aug. 27, onwards, with exceptions.

WANTED, Known, Will Bell, Comedian and Dancer, and Ida Dalton, Serio and Dancer, Liberty Monday next. Wire, Palace Theatre, Belfast.

WANTED, Monday next, and Easter Week, Bert Hicks, Actor Vocalist; Olga Featherstone, Contralto. Wire or write, 42, Norfolk-st., Rotherham.

WANTED, by E. W. Selman, Comedian, and Ivy Gallard, Smart Comedienne and Dancer, Easter and Summer Dates. 13, Wroxton-road, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Walter Bannell, Comedian, and Jenny Joy, Serio and Ballad. Wire one or both. 22, Queen-st., Cleator Moor, Cumberland.

WANTED, Monday next, also Easter, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers, One or Two Double Acts. Wire, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, May 7, 14, by The Monckton, in Screamingly Funny Musical Comedy Successes. Letters, 12, Kyotts Lake-rd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Zelda, Big Musical Novelty Act; Wal Owen, Silent Comedy Act; Vacant April 16. Address, Hippodrome, Scarborough; next, Tivoli, Grimsby.

WANTED, Monday, also 16th, by Snowdon and Conway (Will and Winnie), Refined Comedy Couple. Wire, 89, Bath-row, Rounds Green, Oldbury.

WANTED, Easter Week, and onwards, Dates, at pier pavilions, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Latimer, society entertainers, in comedy songs, recitals, and sketches. Address, Retford, Notts.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Renowned Musical Comedians, April 9, onwards.
Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

WANTED, April 30, May 14, by Cosgrove and Burns, big singing speciality. This, Queen's, Glasgow (hit of programme); next, Opera House, Perth. Thanks to Delno Fritz, Esq., for 2 weeks Paisley and 1 week Perth.

WANTED, by Chant and Chant, Refined Comedy Vocalists, April 9, 16, 23, also Summer Dates, Halls, Piers, Al-fresco, &c. Wire, Hippo., Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, by Lee and Arden, Comedy Couple, Monday next.
Wire, 23, Trent Bridge, Footway, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Carl and Carr, Comedians, with Novel Act, Liberty April 16 till May 28. Wire, 27, Ashley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Speciality Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with mechanical Donkey; roars of laughter. Two Clarkes, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act,
meeting with great success
in Rome.

WANTED, April 9, onward, through termination of tour, by Lead and Lead, Comedy Duettists, Singles if required. Wire, Post Office, Boston.

WANTED, Known, the Two Hansfords, comedians, character actors, in their refined specialities, including well-known dramatic characters. F. Hansford, Post Office, South Shields.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson, Patter Comedians, Monday first, also April 23. Wire, Circus, Blyth: after to-night, 4, Harvey-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday, and May 14, by Gravetta and Parr, Sand and Clay Modellers, Conjurers, and Jugglers, Pot-Pourri Act. Wire, P. Office, Milford Haven.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 16 and 23, by the Maddison Bros., Refined Comedians and Burlesque Boxers. Wire, 34, Stanhope-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Elton and Elma, Comedy Bar Act, Panto. settled with E. Dottridge, Esq. Monday, Tower, Blackpool (two weeks).

WANTED, Known, Rex and Ford, Liberty Monday, two distinct acts, double patter act, musical single. Wire, 8, Washington-terrace, Deering-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, April 16, 23, by the Lashmars, Comedy Acrobats, Hand Balancers, Expert Dancers. This, Empire, Paisley; next, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, by The Gelders (Van and Li-Li), Modern Marvellous Mystifiers, &c., Lillie Hustler, Dainty Soubrette and Expert Dancer, Easter week, April 16, May 14, onwards. Thanks for offers. Great success this week, Albert Theatre, Brighouse. Monday, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, the Original Arthur Saxon Trio, in their sensational and unrivalled strong act, Vacant April 16. This week, Albert T., Brighouse; next, Queen's T., Farnworth.

WANTED, Easter Week, Los Granadas, Greatest Comedy Trampolin Act, own scenery. Good Friday, Palace, Newcastle. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, also 30th, by Four Abadaroffs, Great Comedy Act. Wire, Westminster, Liverpool, or 95, Stretford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, and Easter, for Scottie's Waifs and Strays, in their Great Act, "Whilst London's Sleeping," complete Scenery, Props, and Effects carried; also Scottie's Laughing Cyclone, "Whizzing the Whirl." Two great money drawing acts. Wire, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, April 16, by the Melvernes, Living Marionettes; Newling Major, extraordinary Double-voiced Ventriloquist; just returned from India, China. Both acts artistic, elaborate, reliable. Melvernes, Grand Theatre, Islington.

WANTED, April 16, and following weeks, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystic Lady, also Marie Riviera, with Popular Songs. Care of Cameron, 315, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Everyone Interested in an Act of the Greatest Magnitude to See
Mdlle. Von Etta,
La Mystère Indéscriptable,
at the Star, Bermondsey, next week, April 9.
Those who saw the act on its first production in London are earnestly requested to see it in its present improved form.
This week, a genuine artistic success,
Theatre Royal, Dublin.
Mdlle. Von Etta,
the World's only Lady Illusionist,
Protean and Quick-change Artist,
in an entirely New, Novel, and Bewildering Series of Magical Problems, Wonderful Productions, and Mysterious Effects, introducing a Magnificent Fit-up,
The Palace of Electricity.
Everything Beautifully Staged and Gorgeously Dressed. Shortly to be introduced,
"The Phantom Hand," the most weird clairvoyant and most puzzling writing act ever attempted. Add., T. M. Paul, Business-Manager, Star, Bermondsey.

WANTED, Monday next, and Easter, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope, everything up to date. Wire for Monday, 55, Effingham-st., Rotherham.

WANTED, Known, Seven Wulfrunas (three ladies, four gentlemen), in Comedy Creation, "Fun in a Café," own scenery, introducing Twisters, Corkscrew, Pirouette, Somersaults, roars of laughter. Proprietors, Managers should secure this act; terrific success Hippo., Carlisle, after six months' absence. Liberty 9th and 16th. Wire for Monday, after Saturday 22, Ashted-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, April 16, 23, 30, for Dr. Nikola's (M.D., U.S.A.) Star Combination, introducing a "Mystic Slate" Act (as at Hippodrome, London), and George Kirkland, the only Blind Conjurer in the World. The most Sensational Combination ever got together. Magnificent printing. Wire, Donald's Agency, Liverpool.

WANTED, through obliging a Manager, April 16, 23,
for Muir and Bartlett's great Comedy Sketch,
"THE COLLAR STUD,"
with all its beautiful scenery and effects.
This week topping the bill to big business at the Hippodrome, Coventry; next, Hippo., Maidstone. A most novel and amusing act, abounding in humorous situations. Cannot but be vastly appreciated. Well mounted, and perfectly played.
—Midland Daily Telegraph

WANTED, Known, Claude Ginnett, jun., Original "Rejected Remounts," Vacant April 9, 16, May 7, 21, June 11, onwards. Address, 59, Nichols-square, Hackney-rd., N.E.

WANTED, Dates, Juvenile Military Spectacle, "Japan"; also Adults' Spectacle, "Gordons at Dargai"; everything carried. Clarke, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

WANTED, Easter, unexpectedly, also some later bookings, whole or part programme, Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lumley's "Merry Moments." P.O., Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, by Ching Li Loo, Acrobatic Cyclist, Vacant April 30, onward.
Wire or write, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, the smartest and finest lady's animal show on tour, great London and Continental success, elaborate stage setting and costumes, up to date, including the Goal Keeper, Vacant 30th. Address, Park Palace, Liverpool.

WANTED. Few Immediate Dates, Chard's Dog Circus, and the World's Greatest Troupe of High-leaping Hounds. Wire,
Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, The Pygmies. These interesting little people have weeks of April 30 and May 7 disengaged. Offers invited. The Manager, Brandesburton Hall, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Le Clair, with latest Urban Bioscope, also troupe of dogs, including leaping dog Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Punch and Judy, open for Easter. 101a, Penwith-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, S. Phillips, Cinématograph and Triple Lantern Operator, Disengaged; finishing seventh tour with J. Dyson's Dioramas and Gipsy Choir. Town Hall, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, Lime or Electric, ten years' experience; abstainer. Travers, 91, Totterdown-street, Tooting.

WANTED, by Lady, Engagement, with Hypnotist, Illusionist, Clairvoyante, long experience. Ida, c/o Mrs. Carfrae, 6, Mexburgh-place, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Easter, Engagement, with Hypnotist, good subject for trance, catalepsy, clairvoyance &c. Rosalie, c/o Carfrae, 6, Roxburgh-place, Edinburgh.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Tom Orton,
The Showman Fire Insurance Man,
Security, Security, Security.
An old-established company, with funds of over £1,000,000 (one million pounds), are prepared to grant policies covering Shows, Roundabouts, and Cinématograph Exhibitions against Fire; Workmen's Compensation; Third Party Risks.

Balance-sheet and full particulars of rates, &c., to Sole Agent, Tom Orton, Lion Carriage Works, Princess-street, Burton-on-Trent.

Move with the times, or get left.
WANTED, Showmen to Note that we are the Sole Agents of the Mills Novelty Co., who make 200 different Slot Machines, and not a "dud" among them. They make the famous ball-punching machine, which has taken over £25 in one week in London. The punching ball is a "daisy"; takes money quick, and takes it all the time Send for catalogue and testimonials.
Minerva Automatic Co.,
120, York-road, King's Cross,
London.

The Minerva Automatic Co., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London.
WANTED, to thank the many Customers who have placed their Orders for the Ball-punching and other Automatic Machines for Spring Delivery, and would respectfully ask those who contemplate ordering to do so as quickly as possible, to prevent risk of disappointment.
Members of the Showmen's Protection Association.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. Clacher, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Professor Retene supplies Shooting Galleries, Side-shows, and Novelties for Gardens, Piers, and Pavilions. Latest Novelty, the "Willow Pattern Plate" Shooting Gallery, right up-to-date, a good money-taker (duly registered). Spaces wanted in good places. Address, 50, Vernon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Know, that the Gourock Ropework Co., Ltd., the largest makers of Circus Tents in the World, have removed from Wisbech to Lowestoft. Mr. Gamblin still superintends the making at Lowestoft.
Address,
Battery Green-road, Lowestoft.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR APRIL, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

April 7.	Brighouse Fair	April 16.	Northwich
April 7.	Caistor (Lincs.)	April 16.	Portsmouth
April 7.	Gloucester	April 16.	Richmond (Surrey)
April 7.	Malton		
April 7.	Pickering	April 16.	Richmond (Yorks.)
April 7.	Pontefract		
April 11.	Stanhope	April 16.	Rothwell Feast
April 11.	Worksop	April 16.	Rushden
April 12.	Norwich	April 16.	Ryde (I. of W.)
April 13.	Bacup	April 16.	Seaham Harbour
April 13.	Doncaster		
April 13.	Haslingden	April 16.	Selby
April 13.	Ordsall Lane (Salford)	April 16.	Southport
		April 16.	Stafford
April 13.	Padiham	April 16.	Thornaby
April 13.	Queen's - road (Manchester)	April 16.	Torquay
		April 16.	Tring
April 13.	Seaforth Sands (Liverpool)	April 16.	Tunbridge Wells
April 13.	Todmorden	April 16.	Wormwood Scrubs.
April 13.	Trafford - road (Manchester)	April 17.	Folkestone
		April 17.	Hitchin
April 13.	Trinity Market (Salford)	April 17.	Romsey
		April 17.	Thame
April 14.	Bilston	April 17.	Wareham
April 14.	Blackburn	April 18.	Barnard Castle
April 14.	Darlington		
April 14.	Deptford		
April 14.	Derby	April 18.	Lincoln
April 14.	Glossop	April 19.	Yarmouth
April 14.	Godmanchester	April 20.	Bedford
April 14.	North Shields	April 20.	Bicester
April 14.	Wanstead Flats	April 20.	Devizes
April 16.	Birkenhead	April 20.	St. Austell
April 16.	Blackheath	April 20.	Tyldesley
April 16.	Cheltenham	April 21.	Chesham
April 16.	Clevedon	April 23.	Bewdley
April 16.	Exeter	April 23.	Horwich
April 16.	Gainsborough	April 24.	Barnoldswick
April 16.	Garston	April 24.	Crediton
April 16.	Halesowen	April 24.	Hatfield
April 16.	Hinckley	April 25.	Bracknell
April 16.	Hockham	April 25.	Iron Acton
April 16.	Jarrow-on-Tyne	April 25.	South Shields
April 16.	Luton	April 28.	Alton
April 16.	Malvern	April 28.	Horncastle
April 16.	Midsomer Norton	April 28.	Longtown
		April 28.	Newchurch
April 16.	Morecambe	April 28.	Ravensthorpe Feast
April 16.	New Brighton		
April 16.	Newcastle-on-Tyne	April 30.	Cobham
		April 30.	Kenilworth
April 16.	Newmarket	April 30.	Newick
April 16.	Northampton		

SCOTLAND.

April 9.	Dundee	April 28.	Bridge o Allan
April 14.	Levan		
April 20.	Hamilton	April 28.	Cupar (Fife)
		April 30.	Edinburgh

WALES.

April 7.	Newtown	April 16.	Merthyr Tydfil
April 13.	Holyhead	April 16.	Mold
April 14.	Neath	April 16.	Newport (Monmouth)
April 16.	Aberdare		
April 16.	Cardiff	April 16.	Pontypridd

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at Accrington, on Tuesday, April 10,

at 2.30 p.m.

Members to meet on the Fair Ground.

Signed, T. Hurst, Sec.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, Lord George Sanger.
WANTED, Known, Meeting at Wanstead Flats, Easter Sunday Afternoon, at 3.30. Speaker, Rev. T. Horne. For place of meeting, see "The Era" next Saturday.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen to Know, Paintings of every Description to Order; Show Cloths, Roundabouts, Switchbacks, Letter Cloths, Transparencies; also Scenery for Marionettes, &c. First-class work. Reasonable prices; prompt attention. Turner, Showman's Artist, also Builder of Side-shows, Galleries, and Jungles. 50, Vernon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, to all Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen,
Up-to-date Travelling and Electric Lighting.
One of Savage's Steam Motor Wagons will be on show at Mr. John Collin's Easter Fair Ground, Queen's-road, Manchester, having fixed to its framing a separate Direct Coupled Electric Plant, equal to 16 2,000 candle power arc lamps, or 160 12 c.p. incandescent lamps. The most up-to-date wagon on the market, suitable for the combined purpose of carrying and hauling goods from place to place, and electric lighting.
Before Purchasing Traction Engines,
see this,
which Complies with the Motor Act.
Further particulars from
Savage Brothers, Limited,
St. Nicholas Works, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for 22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know Cheapest and Best House Job Linoleums and Oilcloth. Ward, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Roundabouts, Slipping the Slip, Camera Obscura, Novelty Stalls, Automatics, Seaside, Al Fresco pitch, to Let. Director, 13, Old Lound, Kendal.

WANTED, for Easter Holidays, commencing Saturday, April 14, and following week, Side Shows, large or small, of every description; up-to-date Novelties, Native Village, Freaks, Good Jungle Range, Diorama, or any good money-maker, on Sharing terms, for Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea (entirely under new management). To suitable shows season can be arranged. Every assistance given to ensure success and shows thoroughly boomed. Wire, Wire. Entertainments, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Novelties, for Monday next and onwards, for Four of the Best Shops in London. Whitechapel, Hammersmith, Fulham, and Borough. Novelties must have paintings or posters, and work on Sundays, otherwise useless. Notice to whom it may concern, that I, Madame Vallus, have no connection with any other showmen in London. Terms, anything up to £10 per week, or shares. All communications to be addressed to Manager, Madam Vallus' Permanent Exhibition, 129, Whitechapel-road, London, E.

WANTED, Novelties, Suitable for Waxwork Exhibition, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and Glasgow. I can book you for 8 weeks. Humbee's Waxworks, 112, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, a good Novelty for Side-show, open Good Friday and onwards, on share or certainty; also Two Good Knockabouts or Lady Paraders write in. State terms and particulars, W. Biddall, Electric Exhibition, High-road, East Finchley.

WANTED, Show Novelty or Living Freak, for April 30 Bunce write. Pickard, Britannia Glasgow

WANTED, Good Living Novelty, with Good Paintings, for Easter, and onwards,
Best Position in London,
and other Good Fairs to Follow.
Salva, Gondola Works, Walsall.

WANTED, Novelties, Present and Future Dates, to follow the Lion-headed Boy, good shop for good show. Good Doorsman write in, used to fair business. Manager, 184, Rye-lane, Peckham, London.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties of all Descriptions, Engagements not less than month. First-class terms. Gardner, Dog Inn, Cowhill, Oldham.

WANTED, at Once, Two Smart Girls, for Tank Performance; must be good under water. Apply, Prof. Powsey, West Pier, Brighton.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Tattooer, and suitable Novelties, for Waxwork at Reading.
Mason, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, good Doorsman, also a Practical Lamp man, both to assist in building up and pulling down for Tom Norman's "Dahomey Warriors." Good wages and good situation to the right men. Apply Box 3,038, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Doorsman, Permanent Job for steady, sober man. F. Stewart, Waxwork Exhibition, 124, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, two Knockabouts, also two Female Paraders, must be used to the business; can join at once. State lowest terms. Also two useful men. Bioscope Exhibition, New Southgate, Middlesex.

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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Flood," Dronza, Alexandre and Hughes, Claire Beasley's Cats, Sutcliffe Family, Frobel and Ruge, Rohda Brothers, Vasco, Alexandre and Bertie, Lydia and Albino, Labakans, Villaud Brothers, Lavater Lee, Bioscope, Mdlle. Doris.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
R. A. Roberts, Gracie Grahame, Herbert Shelley, David Poole, Daisy Mayer, George Tacius, Chas. Lilburn, Jas. Stewart, Bert Byrne, The Novellos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Johnson and Dean, Bioscope, Helen Mar, Chris Richards, Stuart Quartette, Four Ramlos, Stylo, Beatrice Bonnie, Max Yorke's Dogs, Baker and Balfe, Ray Wallace.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Bioscope, G. W. Foster, Arabella Allen, Kyoto, May Geraldine, Baker and Lynn, Billy McClain and Co.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
George Gray and Co., in "The Fighting Parson," Sisters Morgan, Jake Friedman, Athas and Collins, Bioscope, Trapnells, Minnie Cunningham, Mezzetti and Mora.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Joe Elvin and Co., Booker and Narbis, Bioscope, Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Hayes and Suits, Three Cape Girls, Roze and Calvert, Jurgens Trio, Staley's Transformation.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Gordon Highlanders, Ted Cowan, New Macs, Amy Russell, Horace Wheatley, Jonghmann Sisters, Dorrells, Walter Stanley, Dora Lyric, Fred Russell.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Dan Crawley, Sisters St. Julien, Lilian Bishop, Park's Eton Boys, Lios Alfa Sisters, Edwin Barwick, Forest and King, Edouin and Edwards, Julie Mackay, Robb Gilmore.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Tom Costello, Frazer and Mac, A Bo Kou, Flem and Brok, Matweef Hugoston Troupe, Harry Clifford, Griff and Alpha, The Korries, Prince Fee Lung, Holden's Mannikins.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Tate in "Fishing," Nina Gordon, McPhee and Hill, Frank Seeley, Delevines, Bioscope, Amann and Hartley, Jas. H. Cullen, Tina Clementa, Mary Merry.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Bioscope, Empire Comedy Four, Mike S. Whallen, Mabel Hind, Katie Traill, Deane Tribune Trio, My Fancy, W. H. Clemart, Goltz Trio.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Karno's "Mumming Birds," Bioscope, Grace Merton, Helen Forde, George Westland, Royal Six, Mason and Bart, Allan Hanbury.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Vesta Tilley, Pat Rafferty, Bioscope, Cole De Losse Duo, Paxton Trio, Steinway Quartette, Alf Bishop, "Kiss Your Father," Venie Clements, Urma Sisters, Camille D'Alberg and Co., in "Le Main."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Machnow, Bioscope, Luigo's Serenaders, Alice Maydue, Mariano Sisters, Anna Kenwick, Chas. Vincent, Ranschle, Cooke and Rothert, Mark Melford and Co., in "Black and White."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
George Robey, Ethel Hayden, Norman Leonard Trio, Marba and Verity, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Chinko, The Uessems, The Dandies, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
The Boissets, The Anartos, Cora Caselli, Chas. Gardiner, Walter King, The Seddons, Vernando, Sisters Bosanquet, May Henderson, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
John Lawson and Co., in "The King's Minister," T. E. Dunville, Bessie Featherstone, Boswell's Circus, Six Lancashire Lassies, Harry Bedford, The Maples, Morton Trio, Holles Trio, Canary Co., H. Sloan.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Madrali, Tom Edwards, Ross and Grayson, Starr and Leslie, Esta Stella, Beatrice Willey, Finney and Sister, Frank Leslie, De Lucca Troupe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Will Evans, Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, Melot Hermann, Conn and Conrad, Rosie Lloyd, The Serenaders, The Hardinis, Lilian Doreen, The Svengalis, Grell and Gray, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Marie Collins, R. H. Douglass, Manning's Entertainers, Marzella's Birds, Mora and Lola, Oetzmann Troupe, "Lady Fauntleroy," Frank Dunlop, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Cruikshank, Brett and Orford, Sisters Klos, Ten Genis, Eugen Joly, La Berat, Alf Chester, Wolkowsky Troupe, Bioscope, "Dreamland."

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Menetekel, Arthur Gill, Ian Colquohoun, Haydas Troupe, Alf Barker, Dainez' Circus, Sarnthaler Troupe, Abel and Welsh, Gladys Mavius, Marie Weston.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Moving In," Bioscope, Elsie Hill and Co., Marguerite Ismay and Piccaninnies, James and Hesketh, Three Renards, Bowman and Morton, Warsaw Bros., Two Cavaliers, "Human Bullet."

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"High Jinks," Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Phantos, Artois Bros., Leslie Bros., Spessardy's Bears, Ruby and Laws.

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Madame Alice Esty and Mr. E. C. Hedmondt, The Classicum Quartette, Bioscope, "The Troubles of Tuffin," The Clarkes, Marlo and Dunham Trio, Illustrated Song, Herr Grais, Millie Hylton, Taylor Trio.

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EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Fred Lincoln, Florence Deighton, The Howards, Albert Whelan, La Tostia, Rinaldos, Fred E. Terry, Terley, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bros. Egbert, Sam Soda, Drew and Alders, Walter Munroe, Colby and May, Pictures, Helene and Emilon, Gwennie Hasto, Kitts and Windrum.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Aurora Troupe, Bioscope, The Allisons, Jimmy Shields, Bros. Lang, Bouverie Pleydell, Burt Shepard, Three Rubys.

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THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Coram, Jack Lorimer, G. W. Hunter, Arthur Reece, Leo Dryden, T. W. Johnson, Ernie Mayne, Katie Butler, Sisters Warner, Edie Rivers, Molly Doon, Knick Knacks, Two Jagos, W. L. Murray, Elverton, Collins and Rice, Ella Retford, Bioscope, Belle Davis and Piccaninnies.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements Cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

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Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Winifred Hare, Harry Lauder, The Karno Troupe, in "Mumming Birds," The Follies, Ernest Shand, Florence Esdaile, Harry Rogerson, Dandy George, Harry Leybourne, Wee Mona, Carlotta Levey, Ella Retford, and Arthur Nelstone.
Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
Harry Lauder, George Mozart, Lee and Bentley, Imperial Bioscope, Chirgwin, Sisters Hall, Walter Tilbury and Daisy Ford, Millie Lindon, Winifred Hare, Keen and Waller, Lillian Elfreda, Bros. Griffiths, Leonard Mortimer and Co., in "Spectres."
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARACON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
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Geo. H. Chirgwin, Bijou Russell, Cassie Walmer, Alexandra Dagmar, Geo. Mozart, Martine and Son, Myra Stansfield, Kisbey, Charles Mildare, The Brontes, Five Canadians, Six Bros. Luck, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
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Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
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Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Six Brothers Luck, "Dwarfland," Harry Lauder, Orpheus, Eugenie Fougère, Ernest Shand, Alexandra Dagmar, Gus Elen, Bijou Russell, Ryder Slone.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
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Secretary and Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 o'clock.
Victoria Monks, Dora Martini, Walter Clyde, Fyne and Hurley, Glenroy Troupe, Little Cliff, Imperial Bioscope, A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out," Tom Leo.
Manager, H. KETTERMAN.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
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Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
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Manager, LYNDON GREENWOOD.

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HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
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Manager, G. L. WILSON.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,
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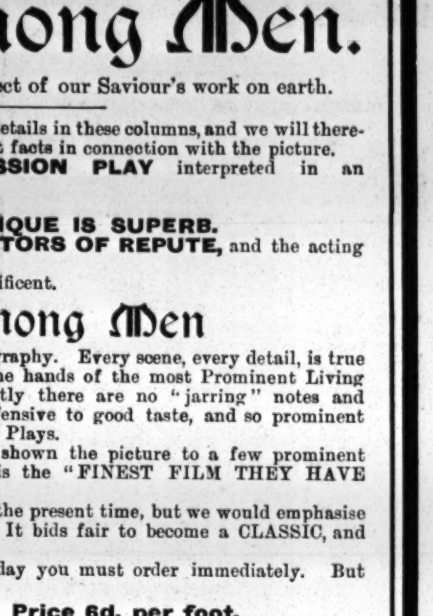

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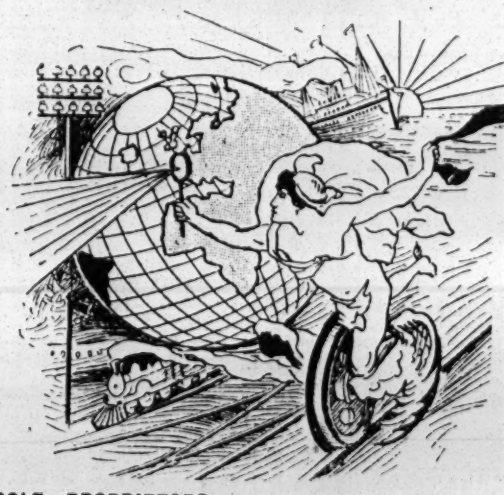

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COVENTRY, HETTY, Newsky Troupe, Rattenberg Variety Theatre, Leipzig, Germany.

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COWPERS, THE, "Missus' Double." Re Dates, Coliseum, London, W.C.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Care of "The Era."

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., April 9, Empire, Newcastle.

CROFT, WAL, The Quaint Scotch Comedian. Empire, Rochdale, April 9.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY, Terrific Hit, Gaiety, Oldham. 1, Sawdridge-street, Hulme, Manchester.

CURRAN, FRED, Parody Singer. Booked at every Hall of Note. Mon., Park, Liverpool. Geo. Foster.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. Big Hit, This, Circus, Carlisle; Next, Hippodrome, Stockton.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Foresters' Palace. Coms., 112, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

DANIELS, THE TWO, an Act of a Comic Nature. Splendid Success. Newbury and Andover. Next, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

D'AUBYN, MINNIE, the Successful Singer. This week, Hippo., Hastings; next, Hippo., Rochdale. Pacey and Reeves.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Cyclists (Monarchs of the Wheel). April 9, Hippodrome, Colchester.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, April 9, Palace, Blackburn.

DE DIO, MDLLE., The Originator of the Fire Dance. Wintergarden, Berlin. Manager, P. H. Boggis.

DE GRUCHY'S "Britannia" Bioscope. Always up-to-date and reliable; one machine vacant. Address, 32, Craigie-street, Glasgow.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Phenomenal Marvellous Painter and Cockatoos. Grand Theatre, Stockton.

DELEVINES, THE, in New and Original Comedy, "Flipp and Flopp." Empire, Sheffield.

DENBY and DENT, Monday, Empire Theatre, Rochdale.

DENHAM, MILLIE, the Original Singer of "Molly, I Love You." Big Success of same. Gaiety, Chatham, Mon., Hip., Sheerness.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet open on Sundays.

DEORA, Speciality Gymnastic Act, and ROSIE RICKARDE, comedienne. Coborn's Co. Consett. Vac., 9 and 16; also Galas.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., the Lady Foli; J. H. HAWTREY, Actor-Vocalist. Empire, Stockport.

DEVERENNE, Nail Walker and Balancer, the Mystery, requires Engagement 31, Higher Wharf-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

DEVEREUX'S Comic Dog Show, the most original Dog Act in the World. Vacant, April 23, on. Regent Theatre, Salford, Manchester.

DEVOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, His Wonderful Educated Pony. Success Everywhere. Next week, Palace, Manchester.

DEWICK, DAWSON, Comedian and Versatile Vocalist. Address, 15, Pauline-street, Salford.

DIAMOND and RUBIE, Mad Juggling Necromancer and Maid, Two Acts in One Unique Number. Free April 23. 8 Mill Hill-rd, Acton.

DILLON, CHARLIE, Comedian, the original "Ba-a-a." At liberty for Panto. Address next week, Lyric, Liverpool.

DILLONS, BOUNCING, Funniest Show on Earth. Pavilion, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, Screams at "Jock," Gaiety, Birmingham, very nice. Mon., Special, Starring Palace, Oldbury.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, the Vocal Trickster. Success, Hippodrome, Accrington, Success.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, the Factory Nightingales. This, Starring, Hippodrome, Paisley. Monday, Queen's, Glasgow.

DOMINOS, TWO, Clown and Donkey, A Pure Arabian Talking Donkey. Specially engaged. H. and F. Poole's, Town Hall, Newcastle.

DONNA and CLIFF, Two gifted Artists.—The Era. Fourth visit, Standard, Pimlico.

DONNAS TRIO, Trapeze Equilibrists (Three Gents.). Monday next, Surrey Theatre. Agent, Richard Cass.

DORRETTA, LITTLE, Dutch Song and Acrobatic Dancer. Liberty July, Poole's, Portland Hall, Southsea.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, Usual Success, Palace, Blackpool. Monday, April 9, Empire, Dudley.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, Hippodrome, Coventry. Next week, Tivoli, Shields.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Comedians and Dancers. Vacant Mon., also April 23. Wire Circus, Blyth; after, 4, Harvey-street, Newcastle.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Comedienne and Dancer. Coms., E. Stebbings, Manchester. 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUNCAN and MORTON, Comedians, Pier Pavilion, Lytham (Al Fresco).

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. Two Stormers: "Have You?" by Alf. Ellerton; and "Always," by L. Aldworth.

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, the two Finest Acts on Earth; Resting. See Wanted column. 7, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, S.W.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Palace, Southampton. Next Week, April 9, Grand, Gravesend.

ELCOCK, AMY, and FLORRIE ST. ROY, Great Success. Hippodrome, Margate, Monday. 1, Castle-street, Stoke Newington, N.

ELDINES, LES (ELLA, MINNIE, and GRACIA), in musical scena, "The Little Drudge," and Barefoot Dancing. Lib. Easter.

ELGARS, THE, Operatic Soloists and Speciality Duettists. Monday, Hippo., Dewsbury.

ELLA'S, MISS, Best existing Lion Show. April 9, Gaiety, Chatham.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Dunville's "Nurse"; Reece's "Weazle." Latest for Sheridan, Leonards. 90, Vassall-rd, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. April 9, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

ELLISON, J. W., the Popular Light Comedian. Next week, Hippo., Eastbourne Bentley, 169, Stamford-street. Tele., 12706 Central.

ELMO, NINA, Comedienne, Barrasford Tour, Tivoli, Leeds, April 16, 1906. Communications, Day's Agency.

ELTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act. Fully Booked '06; first Vac. May 27, '07. Mon., Tower, Blackpool.

ELTONS, TWO, Comedy Bars; Marblesque Trio, Statuary Tableaux. Mon., Hippo., Hastings. Vacant, April 23.

ENDON, EDIE, Great Acrobatic Dancer. This week, T., S. Shields. Next week, E., E. Hartlepool. Vacant May 27.

EPLETT, KATIE, FRANK ZARA, Thanks Mr. Sam Hart for Contracts. Mon., Theatre, Bedford. Mr. Harry Clyo's Co.

ESDALE, BROS., Novelty Comedians. Big Success, Empire, Ardwick, Manchester. Next, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

EUGENE, Military Musician, London Nightly, This, Foresters', Next, Sadler's Wells. Coms. to 50, Chatham-place, Hackney.

EUSTACE, FRED, "Lights of the Harbour," Empress, Brixton.

FALCONS, THE, Refined Comedy Acrobats. Always a success. Next week, Empire, Dudley.

FAME, PEGGY, Registered Title, "The Girl in Grey, without a Smile." Monday, Palace, Boston. All new quaint Comedy Songs.

FARRIMOND, PERCY, the Original Lancashire Singing Collier, April 2, Opera House Theatre, Winter Gardens, Southport.

FENTON, MINNIE, The Premier Scotch Comedienne. Permanent Address, 42, Pollok-street, Glasgow.

FIELDING, MISS ANNIE, and MR. BERT HULL. "An Officer's Flirtation. This, H., Huddersfield; next, 358, Kennington-rd, S.E.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park-Keepers. Park-Keepers. Park-Keepers. Five Vaults, Hope-street, Salford.

FIMANS, THE, "Your Stage a Fire-Station," An Original Speciality, Protection Applied for.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS. HAROLD, Grand, Clapham, and Granville, Walham Green.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1,686 Royal.

FITZROYS, Society Gymnasts. Vac. Easter. Perm., 95, Brixton-road, London.

FLORIZELL, Original. Great Act for Galas. Liberty Easter and Whit week. Address, 57, James-street, Mina-road, Bristol.

FORD, SISTERS, Character and Comedy Duettists, Conclude Gaiety, Chatham; Monday, Palace, Northampton.

FORDYCES, THE (JENNY and WILLIE), World's Nimblest Nippers. Open for Panto., "Riding Hood." Palace, Newcastle.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company, Enormous Success, Theatre Royal, Oldham. Monday, Bedford Leigh

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams "Waggishly." 'Phone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOX and MELVILLE, Famous song illustrators. Grand, Sheffield. New songs by F. V. St. Clair. F., D. & H.

FRASETTIS, LES, Specially Engaged to Play for Sterling Record Co. Address, 1, Fieldaway House, Highbury, N.

FREDRICKS, CARL, and YA PYN KETO FAMILY. Carlton and Fredrick's Concert Controls. Pier Pavilion, Lytham.

GANNON, NELLIE, HARRY WRIGHT, Monday, Palace, Boston. First vacant date June 18 (2 weeks). Up-to-date.

GANTHONY, ROBERT, Great Success, Stoll Tour. Address, Poplars, Richmond, Surrey.

GATLEY, ADA, in her Up-to-date Combination Speciality. A few Vacant dates. Address, 149, Waldegrave-rd., Preston, Brighton.

GEE, FRANK, Hippodrome, Southampton. Ashton's Agency.

GERETTI SISTERS, Trapezists, Smartest and Best; no two their equal. Add., Peel's, or 3, Wiltshire-road, Brixton.

GLENN, MARY, the Premier Vocalist. Usual Success, Empire, Greenock. Perm., 170, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

GLENNIE'S MARIONETTES, Mirth and Fun for Old and Young. c/o "Era," Tavistock-street, London, W.C.

GRAHAM, BOB, Author and Composer. The best stuff at the smallest prices.

GRAHAM, Human Marionettes. Few Dates Vacant for Summer Tour. Address, 28, Chaucer-road, Brixton.

GRAHAM'S, DAISY, Performing Birds. Gorgeous electric fit up. Liberty July. Poole's, Portland Hall, Southsea.

GRANADAS, LOS, Agent, Tom Shaw 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

GRANTLEY, CHAS., LILLIE COLEMAN, Thank David Hart, Esq., for Contracts Monday, Pavilion, Broughton, Manchester.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, Versatile Comedians. "In a Restaurant." A Novel Original Act. Hippodrome, Ashton.

GRAY, GEORGE, Stoll-Moss Empires. Stoll-Moss Empires.

GREEN, MR. TOM, "Who's Who on the Stage." 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

GREEN, MRS. TOM, (Miss Nellie Gordon). See "The Green Room Book."

GREEN, MISS JENNIE, The Original Success of Twenty Cinématograph Pictures. 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

GROSVENOR SISTERS (Three), Operatic Vocalists. This, Hip., Hull. Vacant April 23. Next, 39, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

GROVINIS, On Tour. Address, care of "The Era."

GUNN, WALTER, Vocal and Swell Comedian. Open for Summer. All Coms to Stebbings, Manchester.

HAIG and NOVEL, Palace, Plymouth. Monday next, Middlesex

HALL, CLIFTON, Vocalist, Liberty, Monday Next, also April 16. Big Success, Circus, Rochdale. Wire.

HALL, MISS EDITH, Address, C/o "The Era."

HALLAM and STANTON, Refined Entertainers, in "A Broken Journey." Palace, Halifax.

HALL'S, TOM, NIPPERS, Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Animals' Acts. Vacant, Summer. Per. Add., 8, Dudley-ter., Beaumont-st., E.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE, "The Golfer and the Maid," Tivoli, High Shields.

HARLAND and ROLLISON, on Tour. Only Vacancies this year May 7 and 14. Address, 16, Repton-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

HARRIS and WORTH, Hippodrome, Salford.

HARRISON, FRED, Versatile Comedian. Hippo., Salford. Vacant April 30. Invite Summer Offers. Agent, Neiman.

HARROW, BERT, "That's Me," The Rum Comedian. Monday, Grand, Bolton.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton. Tele., 116, Brixton.

HARTLEY WONDERS, Jumping Speciality. MAGGIE WALSH, Singing Mill Girl. Two Acts. Central Pier, Morecambe.

HARVEY, CHARLEY, Comedian. No Vacancies. Open to Buy Funny, Clean Songs. Monday, Grand, Bolton.

HASTINGS, CLARA, Descriptive Vocalist and Sketch Artist. At Lib. Monday; also for Good Alfresco. Wire, Masonic H., Milford.

HAVERLEYS, THE, America's Premier Song Illustrators. All coms., 15 Albert-sq., Clapham-rd., S.W. See other advertisement.

HAYDEE, Lyric, Liverpool.

HECTOR, the Wire King. An artist of exceptional ability.—Era. Ohmy's Circus, Southport. Free April 16. Wire.

HENDERSON FAMILY, Eccentric Acrobatic Musical Turn. Usual Success. 50, Shepherd-street, Bury, Lancs.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Success, P., Cork; also at Blarney. Assisting Carr and Maxam to kiss the Blarney Stone. Mon., G. Bolton.

HENRI, JACK, Scottish Character Comedian Vacant April 23; also Panto. Coms., Aquarium, Scarborough.

HENRIETTE, the Incomparable Vocal and Musical Entertainer, a Genuine Soloist. Monday, Hippo., Barrow-in-Furness.

HENRIS, LES, Elegant Equilibristes, Theatre, Perth.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR, The London, Shoreditch. Still have a few Summer Vacancies.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist.

HERMAN, SYD, Hebrew Comedian; LIL DRESDEN, Vocalist. This, Tivoli, S. Shields; next, New T., Consett. Vacant April 16.

HILL, MISS ELSIE, "Fanny's Flat." April 9, Ardwick Empire, Manchester.

HILL, ROWLAND, One week's well-earned rest. Add., Bellevue, Ethelbert-road, Bromley, Kent.

HILTON and HILTON, Comedy Bar Performers. Perm. Address, 47, Nuttall-street, Liverpool.

HIND, MABEL, in her Original Scena, "A White Japanese." This week, Emp., Wolverhampton; next, Emp., Birmingham.

HINTON and WOOTON, Wilder's Galas. P. A., Market-place, Willenhall, Staffs.

HONRI, PERCY, Communications, 357, Holloway-road, N. Telegrams, Honri, London. 'Phone, 1,063, North.

HOUSTON and HELENE RESKE, Presenting Chinese Magic and Illusions. Poole's Myriorama, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH & NELLIE) Empire Theatre, Belfast.

HOWELL, MILLIE, Palace, Bath. Next week, Pavilion, Leicester. Oliver and Holmes.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL Illusionist. Two smart Acts. Vacant July 2, 9, 16, 23. Letters, Union-road, Macclesfield.

HULME, F. S., This, Royal, Warrington; next, Regent, Salford. "Chips," "Dear old Home," by H. and C. Carlton.

HULO, SISTERS, Vocalists and Dancers. Vac. Mon., also April 23. Wire, 8, Canterbury-st., Liverpool, or Aytoun or Stebbings.

HUNTER, G. W., Comedian and Raconteur. Camberwell Palace and Granville.

HUTT, BOB, Granville, Middlesex.

HUXTER, THREE BROS., This week, E., Stockport. Next week, 10, Middle-street, Worcester.

HYAM, GEORGE, and NELLIE ROSE, Westminster, Liverpool; next week, Empire, Wolverhampton. London to follow.

IVESON, TONY, Full this Year. Hippodrome, Stockton. April 9, Hippodrome, Preston.

JAMES, Comedian, Tambourinist, Banjo Jugglings, Bone Solo expert. Theatre Royal, Oldham. Liberty April 23 and June 25.

JAQUES, T. C., Comedian and Actor-Vocalist. Liberty April 9 and 16. Wire, 39, Clifford-street, Manchester.

JONES, THEODORE, as Jack in "Jack Sheppard" Scena; also "Prodigal Son" Scena, Vac. 16, 23, 30. April 9, Hippo., Manchester.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with their Marvellous performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. King's Theatre, Nottingham.

KATHRENA, MISS IDA, "Carnival of Toys" and "Jack in the Box." Coventry. Agent, TOM CLAXTON.

KATOS, THE, Komikal Kidgets, Empire, Holborn.

KAVADOS, Juggler; **FLO MELVILLE,** Burlesque Artist, Central Palace, N. Shields, or Whitworth House, Whitworth Park, Manchester.

KEENE, BILLY, & JESSIE ADAMS, The Popular Duettists and Dancers, See Artists Wanted.

KEIR and KEMPTON (DONALD and MABEL). The Premier Vocal Duettists. Perm. add., 31, Horsell road, Highbury, N.

KEITH and MERSON, Hippodrome, Accrington.

KILNER, THE THREE SISTERS, Vocalists and Acrob. Dancers. Ap. 9, 16, Maskell-st., Manchester; 16th, Clough Hall, Harecastle.

KIMBERLEY BOYS, This, Royal, Warrington. Next, Lyric, Liverpool.

KING and DELANE, Broadhead Tour. Address, 102, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

KIRK, HARRY, FLO EVERSLEIGH, Address all letters, Victoria Hall, Portsmouth.

KLOOF and RAMSAY, Musical Novelty and Vocal Burlesques. Monday, 9th, Return, Royal, Oldham.

KNICK-KNACKS, THE, Empire, Dublin; next, Palace, Camberwell. Coms., GEO. BARCLAY.

KYOTO, the Original One; MAY GERALDINE. Empire, Ardwick, Manchester; Mon., Zoo Hip., Glasgow. See wanted column.

LA BLANCHE, KATIE, and LA BELLE SYLVIA. Erving T., Seacombe. Monday, 9th, P., Accrington. Lib. April 23 and on.

LACK and FORD, Comedy Acrobats. Vacant, April 9, Hippodrome, Stoke.

LAKE, LEW, and CO., "Bloomsbury Burglars," Tivoli, Leeds.

LA MARA, CHUMMIE, WILL SERGEANT. Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

LAMBERT and GLOVER, This, Pavilion, Newcastle. Next, Tivoli, Leeds.

LANG, GENTLE BROS., Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall. Lithos. by D. Allen and Sons

LASSAH, LILLIE, This Week, Metropolitan. Monday next, April 9, Met.

LEARTO and Clever Dog BABS, Musical Eccentrics. Next, Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

LE BRUN and MDLLE. IRENE, Novel Equilibrists and Double Jugglers. Vacant May 7. Add., Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

LE CLERQ, GEORGE, Rehearsing daily Coliseum. Nightly, Palace, Ealing, and Metropolitan.

LEE and ARDEN, Vacant, April 9 and 23. Address, 23, Trent Bridge, Footway, Nottingham.

LEECH, ERNIE, Premier Singing Ventriloquist. Spending his Money soon at Breezy Blackpool. Thanks to friends for presents.

LE FRE, ALBERT, Address, Empire, Liverpool.

LEIGH, SISTERS, Rehearsing New Act. All coms. to Marie Leigh, Palace-buildings, Oxford-street, Manchester. Tel. No. 09042.

LEMPRIERE, LIEUT., the Popular balloonist and parachutist. Handsworth, Birmingham. Lady parachutist open for Easter.

LEVAINE, HARRY, Eccentric Patter Comedian, "'Ave a Bit o' Sense," April 9, Parthenon, Liverpool. Sole Agents, VERNO.

LINTON and TERE (Lady and Gent), Bounding Cable Performers. Vacant April 23. Aquarium, Scarborough.

LISTON, MARIE, Patriotic Vocalist, Big Hit, Bottom of Bill Again, Second Week, Palace, Ilkeston.

LIZZETTE, THE FOUR SISTERS, Lady Acrobats; ELSIE RUBINA, Wire Dancer. On Tour. Theatre Royal, Crook, Durham.

LONSDALE, ETHEL, H. Flockton Foster's Sketch Co., "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law." April 9, c/o G. Post Office, New Brighton.

LORCH FAMILY, the Marvellous, Greatest Risley Act, including Three Ponies, One Donkey. Walhalla T., Magdeburg, Germany.

LORRISONS, THE, Crazy Comedy. April 9, Varieties, Leeds. BENTLEY'S AGENCY.

LOTTO, LILO, and OTTO, Trick Cyclists, 2, Lambeth Palace-road, S.E.

LOUBERTS, LES, in their Refined Comedy Act, "Uninvited," a Screaming Acrobatic Sketch. Alhambra, Morecombe.

LOVELACES, THE, Song Illustrators. This week, Albert Theatre, Brighouse. Next, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

LUCAS, MR. and MRS. EDWARD H., in Scenes from Dickens. Next week, Regent, Salford. Agents, FORTUNE and GRANVILLE.

LUCK, FLORENCE, the Lucky Comedienne, Monday Next, Barnard's, Chatham. Booked by DAY. Vac., Easter Mon., Wire, Chatham.

LUMIERE'S, MDLLE., Serpentine and Fire Dances. Causing a Sensation this, Emp., Stockport. Mon. return Winter Gdns., Morecambe.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR, In American Picture Songs. Palace, Lincoln; Monday, Palace, Bradford.

LYNN, CARL, King of Animal Mimics, thanks Mr. Adney Payne and Mr. Walter De Frece for Contracts. 11, Market-place, Hyde.

LYTTON and BLAND. in "A Lesson in Love." Gaiety, Chatham.

MACS, THE NEW, Comedians. Monday, April 9, Palace, Hull.

MADCAPS, THE, A. Winkler's World-famed Dancers. 20, Rusthall-avenue, Bedford Park, London, W.

MARION, KITTY, Tivoli, Grimsby. Vacant, April 9. 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MARJUTTI, ADA, the Flexible Venus. MARTI and JULIETTA. Lib. April 16, May 21. Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

MARTIN, MISS HELEN, Indisposed. Letters, 8, Cambridge-road, Southampton.

MARTINETTES, THE, Three Eccentric Knockabouts, Liberty May 14, Gala Acts, Great Success, Norwich. 27, Sidney-st., Manchester.

MAXWELL and FRANCES, TOM and (his Daughter) VIRGINIA. Address, 3A, Beira-street, Balham, London, S.W.

MAYNE, ALICIA, Australian Dramatic Songstress. Permanent, 12, Dover-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

MAYNE, VERA, Empire, Stockport. Vac. April 9, 16. Wire. Thanks ROSEN and BLISS for Contracts.

McASKELL, Komic Konjurer, in Clean Evening Dress, an Original Performer. Monday next, Albert Hall, Jarrow.

McNEIL, DAVE, Versatile Comedian. This, Empire, Rochdale Next, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness. Unexpectedly dis. Easter Week.

McNEIL, SHEILA, All Scotch. Address, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

McQUEEN, SISTERS (Four), Vocalists, Cinderella Co. This, T. R., Dewsbury; next, G. T., Rawtenstall. Lib. April 23, and onwards.

McVEIGH, DAN, the Glenrone Bar, 43, Moss-street, Paisley. Professional House of Call. Era, Stage, &c., taken.

MEIER and MORA, Empire, Johannesburg.

MENTIS, Hypnotist. Success Everywhere. Own Company. Second to None.

MEPHISTO, The Ideal Contortionist. April 9, Pavilion, Newcastle.

MERRY, MARK, In "Mirthful Melancholy," Empire, Sheffield.

MERTON and RYDON, First-class Comedy Duo. Open May 7. 21. 28. Address 10, St. Thomas-st, Scarboro'; or, FIONI.

M'FALL, JOHN E., Gardeners' Arms, 10, Market-st., and 5, Manse-lane, Greenock. Opposite Empire Theatre. "The Era," &c., kept.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE (the Original Act). Touring Australia. Address Letters, ANGER and BAUER, 50, Rupert-st., W.

MILIAN, MAX, Marvellous Equilibrist. Address, HARRY DAY.

MILLARD, JACK, George Hotel, West Derby-rd., Liverpool. Close to Hippodrome Everything of the best. Barney Vox's headquarters.

MILSTED, EMMIE, and JOE BELL, Indian Comedy Scena. April 9, Tivoli Varieties, Grimsby.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES, On Tour. Communications, c/o "The Era" Office.

MITSUTAS, THE TWO, Japanese Feet Equilibrists. On Tour. Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED, THE, TROUPE of Eight Genuine Souasa Arabs. Olympia Circus of Varieties, Bury.

MONTAGUE, LEO, Laughter Lifter. Shansi, India. Letters, c/o Post Office, Bombay, India.

MOON and MORRIS, Comedians. J. Walters' "Cinderella." Vacant, April 23. G. T., Rawtenstall.

MOONEY, MARK, Loonie Comedian. Monday, c/o 15, Camp-st., Lower Broughton, Manchester. Easter, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

MORELL, MISS DAISY, One week's Holiday. Add., Bellevue, Ethelbert-road, Bromley, Kent.

MORTIMER, MISS MAUDE, Address, 10, Lismore-circus, Gospel Oak, N.W.

MOUNT, GERALD, Concludes Successful eight weeks. Starring Liverpool this year. Next, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

MOZZETTO, Juggler, Pavilion, Southport. April 9, Empire, Rochdale (third return). Royal, Oldham (second return) to follow.

MUNROE, MR. WALTER, Indisposed. c/o Mrs. Pattison, 36, Lothian-street, Edinburgh.

MURIEL, LAURA (late Merry Muriels), Comedienne, Descriptive, second Engagement in two months, Hippodrome, Broughton.

MURRAY, LESLIE H., Magician. Central Hall, Sheffield; next, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

MYERS, ERNIE, and LILY LONSDALE. Big Success Hippodrome, Southampton. Monday, Hippo., Margate.

NEIMAN'S VENTRILOQUIAL MINSTRELS. Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

NELSON and THOMAS, "On the Ra Ta." A winner all along the line. Vac. April 23 and 30. Palace, Aberdeen.

NORA, NELLIE, Musical Act, Want April 23, also Summer offers. This, Pal., Boston; next two weeks Hip., Blackpool. CLAXTON.

NOTE, R. C., & DAISY DEVONPORT, Theatre Royal, Perth. Agents, G. ZALVA and DUNNING.

OAKDENE, Comedy Ventriloquist. Few Summer weeks vacant. This, Oxford, Middlesbro' (3rd visit). Next, Hippo, Ipswich.

OAKLEY and JAMES, This, Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow. Next, Lyric, Liverpool.

OBO, BROS., the Popular Laughing Comedians, April 9, Palace, Manchester.

O'CONNOR and BRADY, Permanent, 83, The Crescent, South Tottenham, London.

O'GORMAN, LIL, an Artist Above the ordinary. Hippo., Wakefield. Monday, Liverpool. Africa shortly.

O'MALLEY and BROWN, Rehearsing Easter pantomime. Theatre Royal, Belfast.

ONDA and ARTELL, Palace, Greenwich. April 9, Barnard's, Woolwich.

ONDA BROTHERS and WILL ONDA and Company in "Motor Maniac." Alhambra, Morecambe.

ONDA and LEON, Conversational Gymnasts. April 9, Alhambra, Belfast.

OSBORNE, CHARLIE, The Leading Author and Entertainer. 54, Fortess-road, London, N.W.

OWEN, TOM, the Original Welsh Comedian. This, topping the bill Empire, Cardiff; next, Swansea.

PACEY and REEVES, Variety Agents, 186, Brixton-road, S.W. 'Grams, Parthenon, London. 'Phone, No. 87 Brixton.

PALETTE, Lightning Painter, and Dog MAX. A Novel, Refined Speciality. Vacant Mon. Wire, Hip., Wakefield, or DONALD'S Agency.

PALMERS, THE MUSICAL, Conclude to-night Empire, Wolverhampton. Monday next, Palace, Derby.

PANLO BROS., Comedy Acrobats. This week. Circus, Blyth. Lib. Mon., April 9; also 16th. Wire or write, Circus, Blyth.

PARLATO, Facialist and Impersonator. Festival Concert Rooms, York.

PAULETTI, Novelty Juggling, Acrobatic, Leaping Cyclist. Next week, Hippo., Broughton, Manchester. Vacant April 16, 23, on.

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PEARCE and WARD, Merry Makers. This, Theatre, Consett; next, Circus, Blyth. Vacant April 23. Wire or write for a sure success.

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PHILLIPS and TERRY, Disengaged Monday next. Wire, 155, Narborne-avenue, Clapham, S.W.

PHYDORA, HARRY, April 9, Gaiety, Birmingham.

PIRMANS, THE THREE, Tremendous. Offers include America, Russia, Germany, &c. Alhambra, Paris.

POLLARD BROS. and KITTY GREY, Speciality Artists, "The Soldier, Policeman and the Cook." Vac. 16, 23, 30, Oxford, London.

POOLE, DAVID, Novelty Ventriloquist. Touring Moss' Empires. Next week, Empire Edinburgh.

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POYNTON, MR. ALFRED, Great Facial Mimic. Perm. address, Blenheim House, Marlborough-place, Brighton.

PRIMAVESI, Unique Juggler. Monday, The Homestead, New Malden, Surrey.

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RAFFIN'S, MDLLE., Monkeys, the Most Capable Exponents of the Darwinian Theory Extant. Grand, Bolton.

RALLIS, LES, Big Success, Foresters'. Monday, Grand, Hanley.

RAPLEY, GEO., Big Success, The Bedford. Monday, Empress, Brixton.

RAPPO and ELLA, Great Continental equilibrists, in their new speciality. Monday, Gaiety, Birmingham. At liberty for panto.

RAY, HARRY, and LILLIE CALDEN, Sensational Hit at the Bedford, Camden Town. April 9, Pavilion, Glasgow.

RAY, MR. PHIL, London Pavilion. Tel. 211, P. O., Wimbledon; or Fernholme, Mitcham, Surrey.

READ and WRIGHT, Just Concluded 15 weeks' Scotch Tour. This, Regent, Salford. Vacant Monday. Wire above.

REAYS, THE, Equilibrists, Terrific Hit. Theatre Neath. Thanks Martino for contracts. Free April 23. Add., Circus, Bury.

REDFERN, RUBIE and ELSIE. Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall. Next Week, Palace, Plymouth.

REDMOND, BROS., Acrobatic Comedians. Palace Theatre, Northampton. Open to buy good songs and patter.

REED and LERNE, The Novel Comedians, Monday, 9th. Hippodrome, Wakefield. Vacant 16th, Wire.

REGAN and RYAN, Another Record Success Pavilion, Glasgow. Monday next, Circus, Bury.

RESDAN, RITA, the Dainty Gifted Male Impersonator. Open April-May for Seaside Pier Pavilions. 158, Kennington-road, S.E.

REVELL TROUPE, "Mischief." Marvellous. Same Success, Hippo., Ipswich.

REYNOLDS, JANET HOWARD, April 9, Pavilion, Leicester. Agents, PACEY AND REEVES.

REZENE and ROBINI, Four and Five Curtains Nightly, and Follow Overture. People Raving. Mon., E., Cardiff.

RICH and RICH, Empire, Newcastle, with an entire New Act.

RICHARDS, ENA, Canadian Comedienne and Dancer. 49, Fleming-road, Kennington Park, S.E.

RICHARDSON, MISS NELL. Vocalist and Comedienne. The London Pavilion.

RICK, ALF E., the Naughty Boy of the North. 20, Holly-terrace, Sunderland. CHARLIE CRASTON write.

RIZARELIS, THE, Clever Lady Gymnasts, in their New Act, Revolving Trapeze. Ohmy's Circus, Southport. Vac. March 14.

ROBY, ELSIE, Empire, Newcastle. The Slavey's "At Home."

ROCHESTERS, THE, Refined Juveniles, on Tour with C. W. Poole (Second Season), with Own Copyright Scena. "The Era."

ROSAIRES, Original, World's Greatest Comedy Acrobats (4 men). Mon. next, Pal., Attercliffe. Vac. May 28. Allen Hanbury write.

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RUSHFORTHS, THE, and KING LEO, Vocal pictures and ventriloquist. Grand, Gravesend; next, Gaiety, Chatham. Vac. 16, 23.

RUSSELL, HARRY, and CO., in the Pantomimical, Farcical Trifle, "Binks's Blunder." 40, Venetian-road, Camberwell, S.E.

RYLAND, CLIFF, Monday next, Tivoli, Grimsby. "The day our Kat had Kittens."

SABINO, Man of Many Instruments, Concludes to-night, Hippo., Barrow-in-Furness. At liberty April 16. All letters to above address.

SALAMBOS, THE, No Vacancies until 1908. Touring Colonies.

SANDES and VINCENT, Funny Knockabout Leg-mania Act. Liberty Monday. Wire, Empire, Paisley.

SANDY and CARL, Comedians and Speciality artists. Palace, Grimsby. Next, 44, Oak Leigh, Tue Brook, Liverpool.

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SHENTON, TOM, Big Success, Granville, Walham Green. Next, Camberwell Palace.

SHIELDS, JIMMY, Comedian. An extraordinary dancer.—"The Era," March 31. Vac. April 16, 23. Coms., H. M. T., Walsall.

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STEBBING BROS., Acrobats and Triple Bar Artists, on Tour, Perm., 3, Waverley-road, Walthamstow, London.

STEINWAY QUARTETTE, in "Songs of the Sea." Vacant April 30, May 7, 14. Write Empire, Liverpool.

ST. JOHNS, THE (GALE & FRANK), Music, Comedy, and Dancing. Argyle T., Birkenhead. Vacant dates June 11, onward.

STOCKELLE, VIOLET, This week, Bedford. Monday, Royal, Holborn.

STUART QUARTETTE Finish To-night, Empire, Edinburgh. Mon., first, Empire, Glasgow. 6, Roxburgh-ter., Edinburgh.

STYLO, Wonderful Hoop Juggler; BEATRICE BONNIE, Artistic Comedienne. 3rd Return, Pal., Blackpool; Next, E., Glasgow.

SULLIVAN, CISSY, Serio and Dancer; GEORGIE HEATON, Male Impersonator. Lib. May 7. Coms. Hippo., Dewsbury. Good enough.

SWAN and VESTA, "The Captain and the Ship." This, Duchess, Balham; next, Empire, Wolverhampton. R. WARNER.

SYLVESTO, MDLLE., Unique Speciality Act. This, Hippo., Eastbourne; next, Hippo., Hastings. Liberty for Abroad.

TAFT, HARRY, This Week, Camberwell, London, and Collins's. Next, Hippo., Hull.

TAIT, "SILENT," the Funniest Comedy Conjurer in the World. April 9, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester. Vac. April 16. Wire.

TALLY-HO TRIO (Erne Chester, Wm. Doust, and Eric Farr). April 9, Barnard's, Chatham.

TAMAMOTO, C., the Japanese Blondin. Next, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth. April 16, London.

TAYLOR, RICHARDSON, The Whistling Ventriloquist. Next week, Palace, Tynemouth.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL, including LOUIE GILBERT. This, Central Hall, Sheffield; Next week, Palace, Oldbury.

THOMAS, DAVE, Royal Oak Hotel. High-street, Stockton. Kind regards to old friends. Tell your friends to call.

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TRAVERS, VICTOR, Grand, Hanley; next, Grand, Gravesend. Vacant this year for Panto, GEO. BARCLAY.

TRAVIS, BESSIE, Ventriloquist; also HULINES', Musical Grotesques. P., Boston; Mon., T., Bedford. Vac. April 16 and 23.

UNTHAN, C. H., Empire, Swansea. TOM SHAW.

URMA, THREE SISTERS, Premier Triple Trapeze Artists. Empire Palace, Liverpool.

VALVO, CHARLES, Ventriloquist. Vacant April 16, 23, 30. 90, Amberley-street, Bradford.

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VINCENT, Acrobatic Table Expert, April 9, London, Shoreditch, E.

VIOLET, LITTLE, the Original. Actress & Comedienne. Huge Success. Palace, L'pool. All coms, Mr. D. Hart. Agent, G. Gravesend.

VIOLI, Lady Instrumentalist. Aquarium, Scarborough.

VOX, BARNEY, Irish Ventriloquist, Rusticating at The Cottage, Earswick, York. Mon., April 16, Emp., Stockport. "Oh! the Sea!"

WALKER and MAY, Coloured Coon Singers and Dancers. C. W., the only Coloured Blind Comedian. 69, Mostyn-rd., Brixton.

WALLIS, W. H. (Tennyson and Wallis), the Successful Song Writer. April 9, 12, Victoria Park-road, London, N.E.

WARDEN-REED, Next week, Palace, Lincoln.

WARREN, ROSS, Comedian, Metropole, Devonport; next, Theatre, Porth. Still scoring. At liberty April 23.

WEBB, THE BROS., Musical Grimaldis. Vacant Ap. 9, onwards. Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, London.

WEDBURNS, Comedians, Vocalists, Grand, Stockton; or FORTUNE & GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand.

WELDON, HARRY, April 9, Oxford, Metropolitan, South London. Coms., TOM SHAW, or Vaudeville Club, W.

WESTON, MISS MARIE, Moss and Stoll Tour, Palace, Leicester.

WHEATLEY, HORACE, Empire, Hull.

WHITNEY, W., & BEATIE FOSTER, This Week, Hippo., Wigan, Usual Success. Next, The Palace, Lancaster.

WILDER BROTHERS, Pyrotechnic Artists, Agents, 29 Gt. Francis-st., Birmingham. Sarema and J. Fossett write.

WILKINSON'S, MATT, Laughter-makers. "The Registry Office." Hippo., Ipswich, April 9.

WILLIAMS, BERT, Ventriloquist, London Season Whit-Week. PEEL'S Agency, Queen's Park, Manchester.

WILLIAMS and WARDEN, The Real Things. Address, Vaudeville Club, London, W.C.

WILLS, MR. H. O., Terrific Success Hippo., Birmingham. Monday, Hippo., Brighton. SOMERS and WARNER.

WILSON, J. A., the Black Oracle, and "Private Towser," Palace, Lancaster. Sole agent, TOM SHAW, 18, Adam-st., Strand, London.

WINSOME, MISS MARIE, the Ideal Male Impersonator. Central Hall, Sheffield; next, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WIRSON, Marvellous Head and Hand Equilibrist. Vacant April 9, 16. 9, Sidney-street, Manchester.

WISPER and BEATTIE BLOOM, April 9, Alhambra, Brighton. April 9, Alhambra, Brighton.

WOODFORD'S, KITTY, Canine Circus and Orchestra. Offers Invited for July; Halls, Piers. Monday, Portland Hall, Southsea

WOODHOUSE and WELLS, Comedians and Popular Story-tellers. Empire, York. Agents, FORTUNE and GRANVILLE.

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YOUNG, TED, and ADA TWIBELL. This week, Hippodrome, Birmingham. Next week, Hippodrome, Brighton.

ZARMAH'S African Lions, Bears, and Boarhounds. No Vac. Dates until Oct. BARKER, Manager, 42, Newman-st., Ashton-u-Lyne.

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ZERBINIS, THE GREAT ROYAL, TROUPE. Again Topping, Again Packed Business. Palace, Attercliffe. Next, Hip., Stoke.

ZETTER, HARRY, Comedian and Eccentric Dancer. April 9, Pavilion, Leicester (third visit).

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At a Special Term of the
SUPREME COURT of the State of NEW YORK
on the
8th Day of MARCH, 1906,
before the
HON. MR. JUSTICE SAMUEL GREENBAUM,
the case of
PINAUD *against* KARNO,
JUDGMENT WAS GIVEN IN
FAVOUR OF FRED KARNO.

his important Judgment gives Fred Karno the absolute right to the proper production of HIS OWN PROPERTY in THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Just as already secured by law THROUGHOUT EUROPE and ELSEWHERE.

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THE MOST SUCCESSFUL OF ALL COMIC DUMB SHOWS,

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A spendid entertainment. . . . Suits all tastes. . . . Star attraction. . . . "Moving In."—Clever in the extreme. Not a dull moment. Keeps the house in one continual roar of laughter. A pleasing feature of the performance is the entire absence of vulgarity.
(*N.B.—Kindly read last remark twice.—H. D.*)

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A NOVEL ITEM.

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— IN —
REPAIRS.
A brilliant example of "how NOT to do it."

Written by WAL PINK.
Music by TOM KENT.

The scene—which represents Muddleton Villa in the hands of the well-known decorators, Messrs. Spoiler and Messitt—has been specially built by T. Wood and painted by Syd Cook.

REPAIRS
Was produced at the Hippodrome, Southampton, March 19th. The Southampton Observer, March 24th, said:—

"THE BEST THING OF ITS KIND
Seen at this hall is the extravaganza given by
WAL PINK'S WORKMEN
entitled
REPAIRS,
A brilliant example of 'how not to do it.'

The special scenery represents the interior of Muddleton Villa in the hands of those eminent house decorators, Spoiler and Messitt, and their operations,

BRIMFUL OF AMAZING LUDICRITIES
And side-splitting absurdities, culminating in pandemonium, cause the hall to
ROCK WITH INCESSANT LAUGHTER."

That is what the PRESS said.

This is what the MANAGEMENT did. They immediately exercised their option to play the act through the whole of their circuit—Boscombe, Belfast, Manchester, Wolverhampton, Liverpool, Portsmouth, &c.

This is what the PUBLIC did. They flooded to see it in droves—and the hall rocked with "incessant laughter"—*vide Observer.*

THIS WEEK
REPAIRS
Is topping the bill at the
DUCHESS, BALHAM,
Playing to splendid business, and is, as a natural sequence, booked by Mr. Walter Gibbons for all his establishments.

It was seen on April 5th by Mr. Oswald Stoll's representative—Result, it opens Monday next, April 9th (4 days later) at
ZOO HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Booked on top of the company already engaged.

Like the poor little mouse, those who see it, Jump at it.

The average British workmen are artful. Wal Pink's workmen are artistes.

The average British workmen in executing repairs put the windows in. Wal Pink's workmen put them out.

The average British workmen can whiten a ceiling without bringing it all down. Wal Pink's workmen can't—and won't.

Some British workmen draw big barrows. Wal Pink's workmen draw big audiences.

Some British workmen paper houses. With Wal Pink's workmen on the bill, there is no need to "paper" the house—It fills with money.

Some British workmen smoke pipes. Wal Pink's workmen burst them—and flood the stage and scenery—But we carry our own stage and scenery.

REPAIRS
Is not a dumb show—It is an acrobatic, knockabout, dancing interlude, plentifully besprinkled with funny dialogue and odd quips and cranks. Moreover,

It hath no plot,
It is NOT a stage play.

Travelling Manager—
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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER, BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

M. H. A. R. A.,
28, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, W.C.

Members are requested to note that the new Agent at Southend-on-Sea is Mr. Henry Brown, jun., of the Alexander Hotel. Will the Brothers Delmar and Charles Dillon send their addresses to the Secretary?

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) is, of course, issued by our premier theatrical journal, which, under the literary supervision of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, has recently improved an already strong position. The Annual is better than ever, and includes, besides details of all plays produced in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin, lists of all theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, &c., many stories and sketches by and portraits of actors and actresses. It is a remarkable shillingsworth; useful and interesting to all playgoers and members of the profession alike.—Sunday Sun, Jan. 21, '06.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
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Usual Success this week at the Empire, Newport.
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Two Distinct Separate Specialities. Monday next, HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS, HIPPO., WIGAN.
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Japanese Variety Artists,
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FOUR JUGGLING GERALDOS,
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Would advise the seasiders to read this week's Entr'acte.

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Funniest of all Jugglers.
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King of the Wire. Free for the Summer Season, May, June, July, and Aug. Returns to U.S.A. in Oct. Cable Address, "Caicedo, Auditorium, Chicago." Permanent, 131, West 42nd-st., New York, U.S.A.

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THE CALIFORNIAN GEMS,
BARNARD'S PALACE, GREENWICH,
every evening.
Just closed a highly-successful Engagement.
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ACHMED IBRAHIM TROUPE of Ten Bedouin Arabs, the Premier Arab Troupe, Just Completed another very Successful Engagement at Apollo Theatre, Mannheim, Opened on April 1 (with our Usual Success) for One Month, at Albert Schumann Theater, Frankfurt a/M. Return to England in May, to Fulfil Engagements at all the Leading Establishments. For Vacancies, Terms, &c, address,

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"The Original,"

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THE HAVERLEYS,
America's (Premier) Song Illustrators. Just Concluded Thirteen Weeks' Provincial Tour with Great Success. All Communications, 15, Albert-square, Clapham-road, London, S.W. Thanks to F Bostock (Return Date), C. Algie, T. M. Sylvester, Geo. Gilbert, Sam Lloyd, Will Sley, Albert Bushell, Harry Burns, John Lawson, Esqs., and others for Contracts. Agents, GEO. FOSTER and PACEY AND REEVES. Unexpectedly vacant Monday Next. Wire.

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(WINNER OF THE SANDOW GOLD STATUETTE)
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THE DELEVINES,
In New and Original Comedy,
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"Here She Goes, There She Goes."

Messrs. DOTTRIDGE & LONGDEN'S SKETCH CO.
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DID HE DESERVE IT?
A Dramatic and Humorous Episode, Played by
JAMES WILLARD and CO.,
including the Famous Champion Mastiff "Tiger."
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DID HE DESERVE IT?
Always creates an Absolute Sensation.
Vacant Dates, June 11, 18, July 9, 23.
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JAMES WILLARD'S HISTORICAL SKETCH,
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Correct Historical Costumes and Special Scenery.

SIDNEY BACON'S
Remarkable Dramatic Sketch,
"THE MANIAC,"
by Arthur Jefferson.
MELVILLE BICKFORD as NATHAN BLACK,
a Mad Inventor.
April 9,
PALACE, DUNDEE.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Gateshead.

"THE LADY IN RED,"
Miniature Comedy
by Frank Dix.
Mr. TOM CRAVEN as WILLIAM.
MR. STEPHEN ADESON as JOHNSON.

Unexpectedly Vacant,
April 9, April 23.

The Daily Chronicle, in its Lyceum Theatre, London, notice, says of "The Lady in Red":—Far above the average music-hall sketch.
The Bristol Mirror says:—There are many things which commend the sketch to an audience. There is an entire lack of vulgarity and suggestiveness. There is no element of shouting or knock-about business, and there is no attempt to get a laugh with the aid of a "chestnut"; in fact, there is a delightful freshness and originality about the whole piece.
Lloyd's, Lyceum, London, notice says:—"The Lady in Red" is just the bright kind of little piece that has always appealed to us so sympathetically in the long war waged by the sketch for a place on the variety stage. It is all fun, a perfect study in the expression of comic terror.

Vacant May 14.
Easter, PALACE, MANCHESTER.
G. AND F. PEEL.

"FANNY'S FLAT,"
A Farce in a Few Minutes,
Written by Frank Dix.
Presented by Elsie Hill and Co.
Fanny Leroy, ELSIE HIL.
Booked solid by Mr. Oswald Stoll.
Agents, G. and F. PEEL.
April 9, MANCHESTER.

"THE MASKED LADY,"
the New Musical Farcette,
Written by Frank Dix; Music by Julien Wilson.
MARTIN ADESON
will produce shortly in Variety Theatres.
Letters, 58, Loughboro' Park, S.W.; or Gaiety, Manchester.

C. WORDLEY HULSE AND CO.,
in
"THE FIGHT IN THE FORGE."
Success again at Palace, Bow.
Thanks Messrs. ROSEN and BLISS for 1907 contracts.
Communications, C. WORDLEY HULSE,
April 9, BRITANNIA.

"BATTLE OF THE BELLES."
"THAT DREADFUL DETECTIVE."
Either Vacant June 4, London.
MOULE and NICHOLLS.
April 9, GRAND, SHEFFIELD.

"IN THE CUPBOARD,"
"IN THE CUPBOARD,"
the Hugely Successful New Farcical Sketch,
by Fritz Zorn, Author of "The Designers."
FRANK LESTER AND CO.
Went with a roar from start to finish.—Referee.
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STANLEY'S URCHINS,
Including Tich Bourne,
PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Next week, April 9,
GRAND, GRAVESEND.
Proprietors, Managers, and Agents should see this Act at once.
First Class Agent Wanted.

Still the Cyclone of Talent, the Original
TOM WHITE'S ARABS,
including the Famous
"PIMPLE,"
Originators of everything they do with many copyists, but few (if any) equals.
Tremendous Success this week,
HIPPODROME, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
P lease to understand
I deas portrayed in unique manner
M ean originality and success.
P imple that inimitable comedian,
L eaps into popularity wherever he appears,
E nsuring proprietors, managers, and public talent in all its branches.
Great Success of new numbers. "Out in a Garden of Roses" (sung by the Troupe). "I'm Keeping another Lady," by E. J. Hilliery and J. Hipple.
All Communications direct, or CADLE'S Agency.

THE AMERICAN HARTLEYS.
"TOMKINS IN LOVE,"
Funny Comedy, Good Boxing, Splendid Wardrobe. Fifteen minutes' roars of laughter without vulgarity. This act is new to England. Vacant June 11, onwards. Sole Agents, DONALD'S, L'pool.

Enormous Success, Hippodrome, Wakefield.
Special Bills Out on Wednesday, Headed, viz.,
"The Funniest Show on Earth
at the Hippodrome, Wakefield.
If you want to Laugh, see the
BOUNCING DILLONS,
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Great Comedy Gymnasts," &c., &c.
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DEVEREUX'S Novel Dog Show, that stands alone in Originality. A Show that makes the Public laugh from start to finish. This is the Safe Act. Vacant April 23, on, for Piers, Galas, &c.
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The Original Singer of
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A Vesta that strikes everywhere.
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L. L. LILY BURNAND,
LONDON, Nightly.
Big Success of New Songs,
"Stowaway" and "Sally."

"Can't you see I want you to be my girl?"
MISS SABLE FERN,
"The Dandy Cow-Boy."
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Frank Leo. G. and F. Pehl.

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ETHEL RA-LESLIE,
Moss and Stoll Tour,
Nineteenth Week.
Success Greater than Ever.
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The Daintiest of Barefooted Dancers.
MISS RUBY BIJOU,
Monday, PALACE, HAMMERSMITH,
Requires April 23 and 30.
Letters, 23, Seymour Flats, Euston-road, N.W.

The Inimitable
NELLIE WALLACE,
Resumed business again Monday last.
April 9, HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.

FANNY ROBINA, FLORRIE COOPER,
BILLIE BINT, all working again, KING'S THEATRE, LONGSIGHT, MANCHESTER. A few Vacant dates, May 21, and later. FANNY ROBINA, the Principal Boy, at Liberty for Panto. Who's the First to Secure Her. Don't Dwell.

Une Belle Cantatrice,
De Première Qualité.
MISS MARGARET ASHTON,
Cintra, Lisbon.

The Times says:—
Miss Margaret Ashton sings brilliantly.
The Daily Telegraph says:—
Miss Margaret Ashton proved herself possessed of a beautiful voice.

The Australian Nightingale.
MISS ADA COLLEY,
Prima Donna.
Vacation.
Coms., c/o Leo. Dryden, en route.

Successful soubrette—accomplished dancer.—Press.
A fine presence—catchy songs.—Glasgow News.
MISS GEORGIE BEAUFORT
(Niece and Pupil of Signor D'Honore Salvina of Royal Italian Opera), on Tour.

Another Novelty. Another Novelty.
"Emmie's Christmas Tree," by Collins and Cole.
Huge Success. Huge Success.
EMMIE AMES,
Monday Next, April 9,
TIVOLI, MANCHESTER (12th Return).

An Actress of the Nellie Farren type.
MISS DOLLY HARMER
New Songs in Preparation, by Henry Leighton and J. F. Lambe. April 9, OXFORD, MIDDLESBROUGH. Panto. Vacant.

"English Girls," Pub. by F. and D.
MISS HETTIE LEE,
On Tour. Returns to Town
May 28, Two Halls.
Communications, Will Oliver (Spot).

No Vacancies in 1906.
The Greatest Juvenile Comedy
Artist before the Public.
QUEENIE MAY,
Monday next, EMPIRE, DUDLEY.
Sole Agent, E. De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

London's Premier Chorus Vocalist.
LOTTIE LENNOX,
Everybody's Favourite.
This Week, Pavilion, Newcastle.
Monday Next, TIVOLI, LEEDS.

LOTTIE LENNOX,
The Greatest Chorus Singer of the Day.
Communications, Day or Wieland.

MISS MILLIE PAYNE,
The Low Comedy Queen,
Has beat the record at Norwich and Ipswich.
Returns to both, May 6 and 13, 1907. How's that?
She is lazy enough to have a rest next week, with that vagabond (her husband), George, of that ilk. See cutting from Ipswich paper, Tuesday last:—Last, but not least, comes Millie Payne, the comedy queen, who deservedly scored the success of the evening. Her eccentric style of singing was irresistibly funny, and her song, "The Old Log Cabin down the Lane," immediately "caught on." This lady certainly has a future berore her.
All coms. to the one and only Spot, Will. Oliver.

A really wonderful dancer.
MISS ROSIE COLEMAN,
A genuine success Empire, Shepherd's Bush.
Monday, EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Agent, Geo. Foster, Esq.

MISS JESSIE ALBINI,
Queen's Park Hippodrome,
Manchester

MISS MARGUERITE ISMAY,
and her Peerless Pics
In their Eastern Scena,
"KICKAPOO."
Big Success, Empire, York, topping the bill.
Finish to-night, Haymarket, Liverpool, topping again.
Monday next,
EMPIRE, ARDWICK GREEN,
Sole Agent, James Fioni

CISSIE CURLETTE,
The Brilliant Mimetic Vocalist.
Enormous success in Aberdeen and Dundee.
Thanks Rosen and Bliss for offer of more dates.
Conclude to-night with usual success, Palace, Carlisle.
Monday next, starring CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.
Business Manager, James Fioni

NORA MOORE,
is now at the
KRYSTAL PALAST,
LEIPZIG.

"What is the Use of a Penny," by Charley Deane.
"Bridget, my Darling Bridget," Rule and Pelham.
"Zarada," by Megson and Illingwood.
ALMA OBREY,
All Coms., Bob Baxter, "The Genial One."

"The Lilac Girl."
MISS HARRIETT VERNON,
"The Lilac Girl."
Special Scenery and Effects, Special Costumes.
Great Success of "Sunshine and Shadow."
Representative,
Leslie Race,
Address, c/o "The Era."

MISS VESTA TILLEY,
April 9, EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.
All Communications to be addressed to
Mr. Walter de Frece, 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

MISS MILLIE HYLTON,
THE LONDON COLISEUM.

MISS LELIA ROZE'S
New Entertainment, entitled
"A Dressing-room Dream."
All letters,
207, Junction-road, N.

Singer of Novelty Songs.
MISS RACHEL LOWE,
Address, care of "The Era."

A Full Date-Book.
MISS ROSE HARVEY,
THEATRE ROYAL,
WARRINGTON.

To Managers, Agents, and others. No connection with anyone using my name or part of same.
MISS BILLIE BARLOW,
TIVOLI, MANCHESTER.
89, Palace-rd., Streatham-hill, or G. and F. Pehl.

FLORRIE FORDE,
England's Premier Burlesque Actress.
April 9,
PALACE, ABERDEEN.
Vacant for Panto.

MISS LINA VERDI,
EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
G. and F. Pehl.

Enormous Success of another "'Liza Johnson."
Enormous Success of another "'Liza Johnson."
Enormous Success of another "'Liza Johnson."
"The Sunday Promenade,"
By Chas. Collins.
Sure to be Whistled and Sung all over London,
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
"The Sunday Promenade."
Another in active preparation, entitled,
"The Flower Girl."
Two Scenes. By Joseph Tabrar.
Also, "The Surrey Surrey Side."
Both by George Collins.
"Once You Told Me that You Loved Me"
and
"I'm Coming Back, Love,"
both by George Collins.
"'Liza Johnson," and "Our Laundry,"
First House. Second House.
MISS KATE CARNEY,
Resting after Provincial Tour,
prior to opening at
GRAND and GRANVILLE.
With the above successful songs.
All Business Communications to
George Barclay and Co.,
221, Brixton-hill,
London, S.W.

At the Lyceum there is a number which appeals most strongly to the better-class of theatre-goer,
GERTIE GITANA,
This little lady is not only an artist of great discrimination, but possesses a refined, beautiful face, and a natural grace, which is charming. Her singing is excellent, and her "business" good. Yet managers go to Hindostan and Spitzbergen for talent.—Vide Entr'acte, 30/3/'06.
Third week, LYCEUM THEATRE, 7.30 and 9.40.
Also (after a few weeks' absence),
STAR, BERMONDSEY.
Agents, G. Barclay and Co., 221, Brixton-hill, S.W.
Coms., J. O'Connor, 83, The Crescent, S. Tottenham.

MISS LILLIE SOUTTER,
Portrayer of Comedy Characters. Just returned from Successful S. African Engagement.
April 16, PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Didcott's Agency only, 6, John st., Adelphi, W.C.

MISS LUCRETIA,
Return Monday next,
GRAND THEATRE, HANLEY;
also again, April 15th, 1907.
Thanks for Panto. offer, have Settled, Prin. Boy.

MDLLE. DE ROSE,
The Lady Foli.
Triumphant Success at the Palace, Cork.
April 9, EMPIRE, STOCKPORT.
New and Startling Songs, by Albert Hall.
Coms., J. H. Hawtrey or W. Sley.

MISS KATIE MARSH,
In Her Entertainment, "Grave and Gay."
Owing to undergoing an operation to her throat has reluctantly had to give up engagements at Margate and Walthamstow, but hopes to resume business in a few days.
All coms. to her only agent, Will Oliver, Spot.

Success!
GWENNIE HASTO,
April 9, EMPIRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Agent, E. De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road.

Unapproachable Baby Mimics.
Highly popular and energetic duettists.—Press.
SISTERS TERRY,
(BELLA and MINNIE),
April 9, HIPPODROME, ST. HELENS.

SISTERS (THREE) SPRIGHTLY
(MAUD, FLORRIE, and LILY).
Enormous Success, Palace, Southampton.
Enormous Success, Palace, Southampton.
Mon. next, RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.

SISTERS MAY,
Dainty Vocalists and Dancers,
This Week, Hippodrome, Birmingham.
Next Week, TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Perm. Add., 4, Victoria-mans., Wirtemberg-st., Clapham, S.W.

THE CRYSTALS,
Smart, Up-to-Date Duettists and Dancers,
Conclude To-night, Tivoli, Barrow.
Monday next,
ALBERT HALL, EDINBURGH.
Glasgow, Greenock, Blackpool, Carlisle, Southport, &c., to Follow. All made by our Exclusive Agent, Will Oliver, Spot.

MARTINI.
EIGHT MIMOSA GIRLS, EIGHT,
Vocalists and Novelty Dancers.
Address re dates,
THEATRE ROYAL, NOTTINGHAM.

GARDEN'S ROYAL QUINTETTE,
Vocalists, Pipers, and Scotland's Representative International Dancers. Tremendous success of our new show, which we produce at the Hammersmith, June 25, '06. Monday, HIPPO., STOKE.

HARRY REYNOLDS' MINSTRELS,
Organised 1893. 25 Minstrel Star Artists, 25.
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Fourth Time. Slight Proof, Eh?
All the Above by my Sole, Exclusive Agent,
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High-class Comedy Entertainers. Booked solid till March, 1907. The comedy hit of every programme. This, Hippodrome, Preston.
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In Duets, Dancing, and Dooleyisms.
Producing New Act in London, April 23.
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In a New and Original Comedy Act.
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Rehearsing Apollo Theatre.
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Splendid London Success.
LONDON, SHOREDITCH. Every Evening.
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London Proprietors are Specially Invited
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A really humorous comedian.—Vide
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"Ain't it All Right, Eh?"
JOE ELVIN
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"TWO NIGHTS OUT."
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Until
Further
Notice.

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"LORD HARKAWAY."
ROYAL ALBERT, CANNING TOWN.

Notice.
Imitations of "Hullo, Old Dear"
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TOM WOOTTWELL
would like to point out to artists, before wasting their money on these, that he has sung the original in every Hall in London Twice, and Twice in every Town of Importance in the Provinces; also Africa and Australia.
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Agents, Warner, Ltd,

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WALLETT,
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The Lady in Black.
Going Bigger Every Night, Enormous Success.
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METROPOLITAN, and SOUTH LONDON.
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for
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The Only Real John Bull Patter Comedian on the British Stage. At Liberty May 7, onward. Notice, The Echo, Friday, Feb. 9:—"Hippodrome, Wakefield.—Every turn a specialty, and topping the bill is Mr. Norman Mills, who impersonates the real John Bull. As a vocalist, impersonator, and elocutionist, Mr. Mills has few equals, and certainly no superiors." Will buy good Comic or Chorus Songs and Funny Patter. All must be very, very good, and very, very funny. Communications de dates to Donald's Agency, 89, Victoria-street, Liverpool. This Week, Palace, W. Hartlepool; Next, PALACE, HALIFAX.

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Miss Marie Lloyd's Great Songs,
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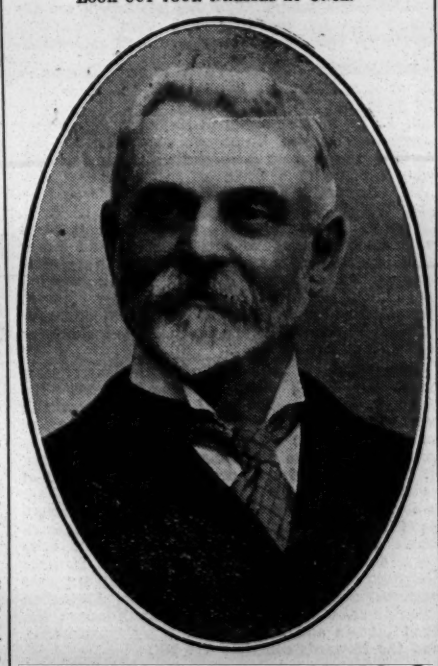

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present issue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

"COUNT HANNIBAL."

A Romantic Play, in Four Acts,
by Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge, from the novel of the same title by Stanley Weyman, Produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, on Wednesday, April 11.

Charles IX., King of France..MR. BREMBER WILLS
M. le Duc de Rochefoucauld..MR. ALEXANDRA CASSY
Abbé St. Lo .....MR. HILTON VERNON
M. de Montsereau .....MR. NORMAN LESLIE
Count Hannibal de Tavannes
MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN
M. de Tignonville .....MR. DENNIS CLEUGH
Carlat .....MR. FRANCIS HOPE
Father Pezeley .....MR. FRANCIS CHAMIER
M. La Tribe .....MR. BREMBER WILLS
Bigot .....MR. NORMAN LESLIE
Badelom .....MR. SAM WILKINSON, JUN.
Provost .....MR. CHRIS CURTIS
An Alderman .....MR. CHAS. CASSON FREER
A Soldier .....MR. DOUGLAS MURRAY.
A Servant .....MR. RICHMOND HOWARD
A Prior .....MR. PHILIP PIMPERNAL
Madame St. Lo .....MISS SYBIL RUSKIN
Madame Carlat .....MISS HILDA GREGORY
Javette .....MISS BETTY STANNARD
A Maid .....MISS SHIELA DUFF
Clotilde de Vrillac .....MISS BEATRICE WILSON

The besetting weakness of the play adapted from a novel is too much talk and too little action; and the dramatisation by Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge of Mr. Stanley Weyman's story exhibits this serious fault, more particularly in the earlier part of the drama. The Court intrigues which lead to the massacre of St. Bartholomew no doubt form an interesting portion of Mr. Weyman's historical tale, but the vacillating King of France and the gambling Duc de Rochefoucauld have so little to do with the plot of the piece that their presence is superfluous, and only delays the action. In the relations of the Count Hannibal de Tavannes to Clotilde de Vrillac, the heroine of the play, there is a suggestion of the story of *The Taming of the Shrew*, only the lady is not by any means a shrew. But recently arrived in Paris from her country home, the Castle of Vrillac, she attracts the notice of Count Hannibal de Tavannes, a nobleman who stands high in the King's favour. The country girl repels his advances, being already betrothed to M. de Tignonville, a young man of her own age, who finds the French Court far more attractive than his sweetheart does. It is but natural that he and the Count should quarrel, and that the older man should call his youthful rival "a puppy." The young couple are Huguenots, and they are only saved from the fury of the mob by the intervention of the all-powerful Count. The scene of the second act is a room in Clotilde's house in Paris; and hither have come, under the protection of de Tavannes, the young girl and her lover. Through the open window we catch glimpses of the howling mob who have converted the streets of Paris into a pandemonium, and even now are seeking more victims to be sacrificed to their lust for blood. The Count announces that he will save the lives of all in the house on one condition: that Clotilde consents to become his wife. Otherwise they will be left to be dealt with by the murderous mob whose fierce cries are ringing in their ears. After considerable hesitation Clotilde consents, but gives her future husband to understand that she still loves de Tignonville, whom the Count finds little difficulty in defeating when they engage in a duel with swords. The marriage ceremony is duly performed by a Huguenot minister; and the act concludes with a strong scene between the newly-wedded couple, the Count bringing matters to a climax by striking his wife with his glove, exclaiming, "I will be your lover or your master—it is either a kiss or a blow, and by this token, madam, I would have you remember it." By command of the King, de Tavannes sets out for Angers, where the massacre of St. Bartholomew is to be repeated. To show his confidence in Clotilde he entrusts her with the Royal commission, and she proves true to the trust reposed in her, refusing to give the document up to the Huguenot minister by whom the marriage service was solemnised. She also declines to be a party to the slaying of her husband by de Tignonville, and that young gentleman resolves to bring about the death of his hated rival in another way. De Tavannes tears up the King's commission, declaring to carry out what he terms "butcher's work," and as he has also placed himself in a position of danger through striking Father Pezeley, a fanatic monk, he resolves to make for the Castle of Vrillac, his wife's home. But de Tignonville, having learnt of this intention, places himself at the head of a body of men and attacks the Count and his few followers. Overpowered by numbers, de Tavannes is wounded, but with the help of two of his faithful retainers he reaches the castle. After a time Father Pezeley arrives with a message to the effect that de Tignonville has fallen into the hands of the Catholics, and will be hanged unless by sunset Count Hannibal gives himself up for execution in the young man's place. Believing that to win the love of his wife is a hopeless task, the Count expresses his intention of delivering himself up; but, falling asleep, he does not wake until past sunset. Information arrives that Father Pezeley's story of the capture of de Tignonville is a false one, and the play concludes with the confession of Clotilde that her husband has after all won her love and esteem.

Mr. Norman V. Norman throughout the piece bore himself gallantly as Count Hannibal, a rough wooer, but ever inspired by generous instincts. He was somewhat hampered by the responsibilities of a first production, but it was on the whole a thoroughly sound performance. Miss Beatrice Wilson played with natural feeling the part of the heroine, Clotilde de Vrillac, whose gradual change of attitude towards her husband was admirably shown. Mr. Dennis Cleugh acted with a considerable degree of vigour and spirit the rather unsatisfactory part of de Tignonville, whose conduct quickly deprives him of the sympathy of the audience. Mr. Francis Chamier forcibly embodied the fanatical Father Pezeley, and Mr. Francis Hope was impressive as the Count's devoted follower Carlat. Mr. Brember Wills presented a clever sketch of Charles IX., afterwards doing good work as the Huguenot minister, M. La Tribe. Mr. Alexandra Cassy was excellent as the Duc de Rochefoucauld, and able assistance was rendered by Mr. Hilton Vernon as the Abbé St. Lo, and Mr. Norman Leslie, who doubled the parts of M. de Montsereau and Bigot. Madame St. Lo and Madame Carlat were well embodied by Miss Sybil Ruskin and Miss Hilda Gregory, minor rôles being entrusted to Miss Betty Stannard, Miss Shiela Duff, Messrs. Sam Wilkinson, jun., Chris Curtis, Chas. C. Freer, and others. The massacring mob that were making the Paris gutters run red with blood were very realistically represented, so much so indeed that in the second act their clamour was rather embarrassing to the actors engaged in the scene. The staging and dresses were satisfactory, and the new play met with a good reception.

AT the Hippodrome, Scarborough, this week, a very excellent programme is submitted, the leading speciality being D'Arc's Fantoches and Liliputian Theatre. The De Breans give a good exhibition of Japanese conjuring, finishing with the "mysterious head" and comic sciographs, which are cleverly done. Merton and Rydon are droll comedians. The animated pictures contribute very largely to an attractive programme.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Jessica Ford, the charming Virginia of *The Swiss Express* company, has presented Mrs. Renad with a handsome gold and topaz thistle as a souvenir of their tour through Scotland.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAVON.—Grand Theatre.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. D. Jones.—Mr. George Dance's *Orchid* company appeared here the first three nights of the week. The company includes Miss Maude Jay, Miss Constance Hamilton, Miss Hilda Vining (a very effective Caroline Vokins), and Miss Beck as the charming lady secretary. Mr. Colin Campbell as Meakin kept the house convulsed with laughter while he was on the stage; Mr. Ion Maxwell was good as the nonchalant nephew of Mr. Chesterton (Mr. R. Corray); and the sprightly dancing of Mr. Berwick, who represented Zaccary, was well appreciated. Miss Edith Isabelle's company appeared on Thursday in *The Girl from the Halls*, a musical comedy with plenty of dancing and varieties.

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—The charming comedy *Dr. Wake's Patient* is admirably presented this week by Mr. Louis Calvert's company. Miss Olive Terry plays the part of Lady Geranja with much sweetness, grace, and humour, and Duff Wynterden finds a delightful representative in Mr. Herbert Ross. Mr. Douglas Vigors is exceedingly effective as Dr. Wake; and another excellent character, that of Andrew Wake, the farmer, receives full justice at the hands of Mr. Alfred Wellesley. Miss Amy Fauchette is equally successful as Mrs. Wake; and other most capable portraitures are given by Mr. Arthur Willoughby and Miss Ina Pelly as Lord and Lady St. Olbyn, Mr. Cecil Yapp as the Bishop of Selby, Mr. H. P. Owen and Miss Lucy Beaumont as Mr. and Mrs. Murdoch, and Miss Beatrice Webb as Harriet Bronson.

Palace Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Miss Florrie Forde is most enthusiastically welcomed this week, and so popular is she that encores altogether out of reason are insisted on by her admirers. Miss Rossetti is equally talented and versatile as an instrumentalist; Mr. W. H. Downes, the Australian vocalist, is even more popular than on his previous visits; the Olive Trio are appreciated as comediennes and dancers; Johnny Alexander and company appear in an amusing sketch *The Troubles of a Tourist;* and among the other artists who make a successful appearance are Nelson and Thomas, Mr. Frank Boyce, Miss Jeannie Evans, Miss Laura Wyllie, and Mr. George Foyle. Mr. Gilbert, the universally popular and respected manager, took his annual benefit on Wednesday. The house was crowded in every part. Among the chief of the many special attractions for the evening was a singing competition for girls, with Miss Florrie Forde as adjudicator.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is giving a clever interpretation of *East Lynne*. Miss Julie Kennard, a talented actress, is an excellent Lady Isobel; Mr. Eric Mayne gives a powerful portrayal of Levison; Mr. Alfred Beaumont's is a capable impersonation of Carlyle; Miss Ethel Hardacre is capital as Cornelia; and Miss Violet Thorold is good as Barbara. Fun is introduced by Mr. A. Tate as Bullock; and Messrs. S. Goodwin, C. Grattan, G. Jervis, and C. Hayward, Misses A. Byron, Dorothy Townrow, and Ethel Rae do well in smaller parts.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn. — Mr. Chas. Harrington is here this week with his company in the naval drama *The Sailors of the King*. In the part of Admiral Drake, a retired English naval hero, Mr. Harrington presents an impersonation of undoubted skill. Throughout he is the English gentleman, brave and true, the soul of honour and honesty. Dick, his son, a lieutenant in the Navy, finds in Mr. Harry Douglas a courageous and manly exponent; the rascally curate, Orrel Drake, is vindictive and cruel as personated by Mr. T. Vernon; Captain Concordine is the tender father of the erring daughter as portrayed by Mr. C. Trevlayne; Mr. Fred Owen makes up well as the stage Jew money-lender; and Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., relieves the tension by his humorous impersonation of a wooden-legged ship's steward. The ladies are deserving of special mention for able studies of female character. Miss Maud Digby has feminine traits of a reprehensible character to depict, which she does successfully; Miss Sylvia Stella makes a courageous heroine; Miss Gertrude Sterroll plays admirably as the betrayed girl; and Miss Hero Hathaway is the precise Quakeress to the life. The piece is well mounted.

The Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The big item at the Hippodrome this week is the production of Mr. Bob King's famous *Casey's Court*, of which the dumb acting of Scottie is a feature. Mr. Bob King as Bridget Casey is rich in humour, and the collection of juvenile talent is the means of laughter. Ben Harris's Nippers are a good turn, the dancing of the boy and girl being much appreciated; Lily Gaston, male impersonator, is a talented dancer, and is loudly applauded; Bert Kemp is an expert cartoonist and impersonator; Grapho and Jackson give a sketch, *The Café Riche*, which is full of humour, and they are clever quick-change artists; Bert Weston is a capable comedian, with a good voice and smart style; the Three Clarions in an absurdity, *The Would-be Tenor*, are exceedingly funny, and add to the effect of their absurd antics by some very smart dancing; the Three Rolands are fine specimens of manhood, and give exhibitions of strength and skill which would be difficult to surpass; the Three Emonds, a lady and two gents, give a military burlesque entitled *As You Were*, which is very novel; the Three Clements do some clever trapeze work, one performer doing some of the most daring and finished somersaults and twirling feats seen in the town for many years; and the Bioscope Pictures conclude.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle. — Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's excellent company occupies the boards here this week with the romantic drama, *The Midnight Wedding*. Mr. Alfred Paumier as Paul Valmar has many opportunities of showing his capabilities, of which he takes full advantage; Mr. Clinton Baddeley plays the part of Captain Rudolph Von Sarsbruck with all the force and finesse of a capable actor; Mr. Fred Constable gives a breezy yet dignified portrayal of Sergeant Max; Mr. Frederick W. Freeman is seen to advantage as the Crown Prince Leopold; Mr. Reginald Payne is good as Corporal Otto; Miss Annie Saker as Princess Astrea plays with charming grace and distinction; Miss Florence Hunt is good as Rozel; so also is Miss Prudence Lawrence as Marie. Valuable service is rendered by Mr. Sydney Lynn as Lieut. Eugene Von Streisburg, Mr. Arthur Radford as Sub-Lieut. Kulmann, and Mr. W. S. Hardy as Father Gerrard. Comedy is judiciously interspersed throughout the piece, and is well looked after by Mr. Algie Spalding as Private Bobo and Miss Ada Champion as Kathie.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—This week's programme here is contributed to by Mr. W. L. Lee and company in a dramatic sketch, *The Coward's Revenge;* Phillips and Merritt, the whistling lady and dancing Bowery boy; Mr. Harry Luck, eccentric comedian; Miss Elsie Clare, soprano vocalist; Yorkshire Tom, animal mimic; the Four Rosaires, bar performers; the Sisters Lytton, duettists; and Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures on the Attergraph.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Edward Rainer's No. 1 vaudeville company of concert and variety artists is here this week in the detective episode, *The Bank Robbery*, and *The Blinding Light*. Miss Kitty Rhodes contributed some good songs; Mr. Preston Holmes's playing is greeted with applause; the Two Wiltons, duettists and dancers, meet with a good reception; Maynard and France are eminently successful in their dialogue *A Perfect Lady;* and other attractions on the bill are the Two Sages and Walter Payne's Biograph.

BARNSLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company, in *The Manxman*, are here this week. Pete is impersonated with great skill by Mr. Cross, who plays a somewhat difficult and arduous part with much finish; Miss Minnie Watersford in the character of Kate Cregeen displays fine emotional power; Cæsar Cregreen has a clever exponent in Mr. David Phillips; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns is successful as Philip Christian; and Mr. George Marriott, jun., as Ross Christian, Miss Nancy Mitchell as Nancy, and Miss Mona Spearing as Miss Christian do ample justice to their respective parts.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone. —Mr. Carlton Wallace's company, in *The Love that Women Desire*, is here. He distinguishes himself as Richard Abingdon, and Mr. J. O. Stewart plays with sterling dignity the part of Squire Abingdon; while Mr. David G. Noble is a spirited and admirable Philip Carnaby. Miss Lalla Stanhope is winning and graceful as Sybil Thornburn; and in the exacting part of Madge Abingdon Miss Alice N. Livesey is excellent. Much fun is created by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as P.C. Sowerberry, Mr. John Hignett as Dennis O'Rourke, and Miss Maud Stuart as Rattie Swift.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The principal turn here this week is the Pichel troupe of acrobats. Mlle. Sylvia's singing tableaux vivants are enthusiastically received; Francis and Clown give a clever juggling act; Dave McNeil is successful in well-rendered songs; Rose Tilley has a good voice and pleasing style; and an excellent musical entertainment is given by Dixon.

BATH.—Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—A varied programme this week includes a great novelty—the appearance of Smaun Sing Hpoo, the Burmah dwarf; Carlton continues to retain his firm position as the comedy card trickster par excellence; Ben Albert, the droll comedian, secures instant success; Francisco, juggler and equilibrist, does marvels in balancing swords and lighted lamps; Leah Kloet finds many admirers in her classical speciality, *Les Poses;* May Moodie's talents as a piccolo soloist are justly acclaimed; Hettie Lee, comedienne, with her trim figure and agile dancing, wins much favour; Adeline Yohle, soprano vocalist, is well received; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux also deserves mention.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—*The Two Hussars* is an interesting and well-knit play, and Messrs. F. J. Webb and Wilson Benge have a company which give a sound rendering of it. Mr. Benge plays with considerable power and judgment; Mr. Webb is cool, calculating, and callous as Villiers; Mr. Louis Nanson is a particularly smart comedian, and an adept at dancing; Mr. G. Paradise is successful as the bluff, fiery Irish sergeant; and Mr. J. Stuart does good service. Miss Sadie Smith gives a neat, piquant study of Marie; Miss M. Danvers Smith is successful in a dual rôle; and Miss Lallah Price, as well as being in evidence in comedy work, is a particularly good dancer.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Clyo and Rochelle's vaudeville company. Napier and Pattingson, American sketch artists, appear in their latest skit, *Professor Muddlehead;* Mr. Charles Danton's character-sketch songs are highly appreciated; and Miss Bessie Travis gives a unique ventriloquial turn. Mr. Frank Zara is a clever comedian. The humour of the programme is also well sustained by the Hulines (eccentric clowns), Charles Burwell, Bernhard, and Bath, and Katie Eplett (chic comedienne and dancer), Messrs. Clyo and Rochelle's comedy act *Watch for the Kiss*, and Tom Brentford's speciality *The Human Band* are both successful.

BELFAST.—Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie.—Clark and Hamilton, who head the list here, have been most successful with their Japanese operetta; the Creo Brothers, smart comedy acrobats, take well; and a hit has been made by Ross and Lewis, musical comedy artists. Mr. V. L. Granville presents characters from famous plays with much realism and decided effect, and Bayne and Hope appear to advantage in their Napoleonic episode, *An Emperor's Divorce*. Also in the bill are Little Ray McLean, Miss Daisy Martell (comedienne and dancer), Mr. Will Johnson (comedian), the Two Dartos (Russian dancers), and the Palace pictures.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The chief attraction here this week is the production of an original musical comedy, *Missing; or, the Light of Day*, by the popular comedians Mr. Johnnie Schofield and Mr. J. C. Piddock and company, with every element of success. Terley, the Continental mimic, furnishes a decidedly novel turn; and the feats of head-and-hand balancing by the Rinaldos are simply marvellous. La Tostia's clever mandoline solos have been deservedly applauded, and Miss Florence Deighton's charming vocalism merits the applause bestowed nightly. Mr. Albert Whelan, Australian entertainer, who made a big hit on Monday; Mr. Fred Lincoln and Mr. Fred E. Terry (comedians), and the Howards complete the bill.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. Henry Carlton and company top the bill, and this clever comedian appears to the utmost advantage as Billy Shine in his latest sketch, *The Window Cleaner*. Lady Julia, "the ape with the human brain," is certainly a wonderful animal; and the Arundels (Will and Harry) create much laughter with their act, *The New Office Boy*. The mimicry of Mr. Harry Thurston is clever, and the Two Neros are undoubtedly smart tumblers. The new pictures exhibited by the Alhambra bioscope have proved a great draw; and also appearing are Miss Rosa Gilbert (comedienne), Mr. Will McIvor (comedian), and Onda and Leon (comedy bar performers).

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—On Monday evening the Clifton Amateur Operatic Society commenced a series of six performances of *Merrie England*. These entertainments are an annual event, and are in aid of the Mersey Railway Staffs' Benevolent Fund.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties. — Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Derenda and Green, entertaining juggling comedians, are an attractive feature here, as also is Mr. Malcom Scott, the popular patter comedian, who is fulfilling a highly-successful return engagement. Prominent turns are also contributed by Mr. Larry Lewis, comedian; Collins and Hawley, dancing experts; Dusty Rhodes, comedian; the Two St. Johns, instrumentalists; Harry Coates, the singing navvy; Miss Mamie Iris, comedienne; Maynard Dakin, comedienne and dancer; and an excellent display by the bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Whirlwind*, produced here last Monday by Mrs. Patrick Campbell, is described in another column.

Prince of Wales's Theatre. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, which made a powerful and withal a tender impression on its initial visit last year, has returned, to the manifest delight of all. Mr. William Mollinson repeats his superb performance of the dour Scot; Miss Evelyn McNay realises the sweet nature of the heroine; Mr. Durward Lely represents the Free Kirk Minister in a fine, manly fashion; Mr. A. Chappell acts fervently and naturally as the lover; and Mr. Kendal Chalmers as Tammas, Mr. Allen Thomas as the doctor, Mr. Alec F. Thompson as the "wee Posty," Miss Josephine Woodward as Margaret, Miss Alice Francis as Kate Carnegie, and others vouchsafe excellent studies. On Wednesday Mr. Lewis Waller appeared at a flying matinée, when his assumption of the brave and dashing Brigadier Gerard won the enthusiastic plaudits of a full house. Miss Evelyn Millard played the Comtesse with exquisite grace and charm.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—The J. W. Turner Opera Company, in which the veteran tenor himself continues to score many noteworthy successes, enjoys much favour on its return visit this week. On Monday *Satanella* was performed in a praiseworthy fashion, for which credit is due to Messrs. J. W. Turner, Sidney Clifford, Chas. Le Sueur, Geo. Ridding, R. Cummins, and Mesdames Constance Bellamy, Jessie Dennis, Maude Esdale, and Kitty Brownless. On Tuesday *Il Trovatore* was billed, and on Wednesday *Carmen*.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*A Noble Brother* figures here, with Mr. Chas. Carte in his famous and clever assumption of Jerry the Tramp, a rôle he has now played for over two thousand times. Miss Doris Brookes engages rapt attention with her talented acting as Nana, the heiress; Mr. J. Ansdell Wilson as Jack Elsworth acts in a fine and lover-like fashion; Mr. Max Madden is impressive as the Colonel; Mr. J. Naylor Grimson as Henry Travers shows excellent powers of dissimilation; and Miss Alice Ballard as Mrs. Leigh, Miss N. Faithful as Miss Claire, and Mr. Ronald Douglas as the Strange Preacher are very successful. The programme is completed with the murder episode from *Oliver Twist*, in which appears Mr. Ronald Douglas as Sikes, Mr. J. N. Gimson as Fagan, and Miss Doris Brookes as Nancy.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville.—*The Master Criminal*, with Miss Winifred Chalmers's company, is installed here. Mr. Henry L. Osmond acts the grim rôle of Telford Lestage with much force and earnestness; Miss Winifred Chalmers as the wicked Cecile, alias Lady Travennes, elicits tributes in the shape of execrations by her clever acting; Mr. J. W. Gallagher as Gentleman Jim is a valuable asset; Mr. Alexander Haviland enjoys well-earned popularity as Philip Manners; Miss Kate Summerville wins sympathy for the sorely tried Mabel Manners; Mr. Elmore Frith displays the wily tactics of the detective with much success; and Mr. Russell Yorke as James Dawney does well. The humorous rôles are well enacted, Mr. Harry Cooke as Tommy Dale and Mabel Tremere as Peggy Perks winning much applause and laughter by their clever efforts.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*A Queen's Vengeance* formed the programme here during Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, when Mrs. Walter Bentley as Queen Eleanor elicited storms of approval with her graceful and dignified acting. Mr. T. H. Neville as Sir Rupert Warriner was highly convincing, and the remainder of the company proved adequate in all the parts.

Theatre Royal, Aston. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Geoffrey Langdon Wife ?* supported by Miss Marie Dagmar, Fred C. Somerfield, and company, is successful here. Miss Dagmar has deeply impressed large audiences with her graphic portrayal of the rôle of Elinor D'Arville; Mr. Fred C. Somerfield as Will Maynard fills a responsible rôle with distinction; Mr. Cyril Grier wins fame in the dual-rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon; Miss Maude Grayson acts with much charm as Lily Lorrimer; and Miss Stephey Stephens as Rosine Philipi, Miss Laura Brookes as Phœbe, Miss M. Monaghan as Janet, Mr. T. G. Vane as Vimbart, Mr. B. Crosby as Peter, and Mr. H. Entwistle as Hingston do well.

Empire Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Eugene Stratton is the big draw here this week. Mike Whalen causes plenty of laughter; the Empire Comedy Four have a hearty reception; My Fancy dances in a most accomplished manner; the Dean-Tribune Trio have a smart sketch, *Applicants;* W. H. Clemart is successful in a ventriloquial speciality; the Goltz Trio of Globe Jugglers are particularly smart; Mabel Hind is a dainty comedienne; and the songs at the piano by Kate Traill are well received.

Gaiety Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—An artistic acrobatic act on a ping-pong table is presented by the Three Laurels. Morney Cash, the Lancashire comedian, is loudly applauded for his songs; Verno and Voyce have an amusing act in *The Butcher and Baker;* Jimson's novel sketch *The Burglar's Surprise* is appreciated; and other popular turns are Zaia in an Oriental act on the rings, Maud Vera (descriptive coon artist), Clive Watts, Harry Phydora, and Rappo and Ella in a clever acrobatic display.

Hippodrome. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Harry Ford and J. W. Churchill are entertaining large audiences here. The Akimotes Troupe of Japanese Jugglers give an excellent display; Rastus and Banks in their American act, *The Major and the Maid*, and Mulvey and Miriam in their musical duologue, *In the Studio*, are smart entertainers; the Brothers Zampah are expert one-legged jumpers; Lily Flexmore is one of the best acrobatic dancers we have seen; and George Barron, Harry Vardon, Harry Lawson, and Percy Hannan add to the mirth of the programme.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—With Fred Karno's comedians in *The Mumming Birds* at the head of affairs, it is only natural that large houses are the rule. The Royal Six present an entertainment both vocal and instrumental of a high order; Helen Ford and Grace Merton are the possessors of charming voices; and Mason and Bart, George Westland, and Allen Hanbury are comedians with plenty of "go" in them.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod and company are appearing here this week in *The Prodigal Parson*. Mr. W. V. Garrod as the Rev. Tom Godley gives a manly impersonation of the title-rôle, for which he receives a full measure of applause; Mr. Alfred Northway is seen to distinct advantage as Enoch Jaggins; Mr. Frank Dallas is a suitable exponent of the part of Ben Jaggins; and Mr. Walter Vincent as Ned Kettlepin is very good; Fern Godley is a part admirably suited to Miss Bertha Kingston; Myrtle Godley is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Gladys Conover; Mr. E. W. Avery as Phil Drive and Miss May Grayce as Gretchen Van Crans create much amusement. The dancing of the Radium Girls is most entertaining.

BLACKBURN. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr. Reginald C Yorke.—As usual, the theatre is closed during Holy Week, but reopens to-day with Mr. Esmonde Bramley's Shakespearean répertoire company in *The Merchant of Venice*.

New Prince's Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company are appearing here in the new drama *Her Luck in London*. The company is a good one, Mr. Charles Leicester acting finely in the part of Fitzgerald O'Connor; while Miss Mary Neil distinguishes herself in her arduous part. The staging of the play is excellent.

Palace Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—The capital entertainment at this house includes Will H. Fox, otherwise known as "Paddywhisk," whose piano "turn" is as amusing as ever; Walker and Lake, clever patter comedians; T. W. Royal, comedian and clog dancer; Hughes and Elliotts, a smart comedy pair; Wallan, juggler, with some new and dexterous feats; Lode Henderson, character vocalist; the Dayton family of acrobats; and Bonnie Goodwin and her troupe of piccaninnies. The charity matinée in aid of the local Nurses' Home on Saturday afternoon was a big success, and Mr. Macnaghten and Mr. Murray are to be complimented on the capital entertainment they provided. The whole of the proceeds, without any deduction for expenses, were handed over to the Nurses' Home.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal entered on a nine nights' engagement here on Thursday. They will appear in their usual parts.

Grand Theatre. — Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The Little Michus*, played by Mr. George Edwardes's company, is proving an immense attraction here this week. The major portion of the work falls on the shoulders of Mr. Eric Thorne, who, as General Des Ifs, is largely responsible for the success achieved. Miss Iris Hoey as Blanche Marie, and Miss Thelma Ray as Marie Blanche, are the dainty little Michus; Miss Elsie Cameron gives a satisfactory account of Mme. Michu; and Mr. Yardley Turner ably impersonates Pierre Michu. Mr. Alec Worcester as Aristide Vert, Mr. Arthur Royd as Gaston Rigaud, Mr. Jack Cannot as Bagnolet, and Mr. Willie Ward, jun., as the market man, are all good in their respective parts. Miss Ivy Louise is very successful as a dancer. The staging and dresses are fully up to the Edwardes standard.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A good all-round programme is supplied here this week by Seeley and West, comedians and instrumentalists; the Wally Hoste Trio of acrobats; Bob Baxter, comedian; Lola Patey, comedienne; Edgar Budden, bone soloist; Harry Alister, impersonator; Alma Obrey, the Australian queen of comedy; George Formby, comedian; and the Collins-Stella troupe of dancers and vocalists.

BOLTON. — Theatre Royal (Limited).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' company is this week presenting *Passion's Power*. The play is well staged, and presented by a capable company.

Grand Theatre (Limited).—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon. — Appearing here are the New York Comedy Four, humorous vocalists, &c.; Annie Cohen, comedienne; Famous Henderson, blind musical genius; Bert Harrow, comedian; the Jansons, in a gymnastic novelty act; Mr. Ellis Barrieton, double-voiced baritone; Charles Harvey, droll patter comedian; Stanley and Vandyke, in a comedy act; Sybil Montague, ballad vocalist; Geo. Collins, quaint comedian; and Miss Raffin and her trained troupe of performing monkeys.

BOSCOMBE. — Hippodrome.—Joint-Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Lionel Strongfort is paying a first visit here this week. He gives a wonderful exhibition of strength and muscular control. Harry Freeman is soon a great favourite with his audience; Mlle. Eldee presents "Pose Plastique," a novel and artistic performance; another prime favourite is Jack Pleasants, who sings his droll songs with the happiest results; A. E. Clifford, actor-vocalist, uses his voice in a pleasing manner. Little Salvino, juvenile instrumentalist, and Ada Parker, coon vocalist and dancer, complete the programme.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—*The Walls of Jericho* has been delighting appreciative audiences this week, as well it might when one considers the book and the all-round excellence of the company of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux. Mr. Edward A. Warburton is a fine exponent of the part of Jack Frobisher, playing it with passion and sincerity; while as Lady Alethea Miss Amy Ravenscroft scores a decided success. A finished study of Harry Dallas is given by Mr. A. W. Tyrer; Mr. Alfred S. Barber as Hanky Bannister and Mr. Cecil Brooking as the Marquis of Steventon are both well placed, and the small part of Wilfred Renton, played by Mr. Joseph Herbert, stands out. Miss Nono Wynne is a really charming Lucy; and Miss Helen Haye as Lady Westerby and Miss Jean Harkness as Miss Mornington cleverly undertake their respective characters.

BRADFORD. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—The American musical comedy *The Prince of Pilsen* was presented here on Monday by Mr. G. Musgrove's company. Much applause greeted the performance, hearty laughter prevailed from start to finish, and many of the musical numbers were encored. In the title-rôle Mr. Stuart Alexander was picturesque, and his pleasing tenor voice was heard to advantage; Mr. Edwin Adeler, a comedian who is at once resourceful, original, and humorous, elicited hearty laughter in his impersonation of the Cincinnatti brewer, Hans Wagner, who is mistaken for the Prince; and his son Tom was smartly played by Mr. G. Villiers Arnold. Mr. Lawrence Wensley, in his assumption of the dude, Arthur de Willoughby Rossmoss, was entertaining; François, the waiter, was very funnily played by the agile Mr. Alfred Selby; Miss Nelly Cozens sang well, and was a dashing Mrs. Madison Croker; Miss Mildred Baker, possessed of a sweet voice, was charming as Edith Adams; as Sidoni Miss Nell Emerald was delightfully piquant; Nellie Wagner was pleasingly played by Miss Ruby Verdi, who sang well; Miss Meg Hamylton was a bright Bell Boy; and Mr. J. A. Robertson ably conducted the augmented orchestra and fine chorus.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Douglas Bruce is here this week with a capable company giving a telling performance of Mr. Walter Melville's stirring drama *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. The interest is intense and well sustained throughout. For this Miss Marie McAuley in the part of the adventuress is responsible in no small degree, whilst the part of Molly Vernon, which affords Miss Madge Haines scope for pathos, lends added interest. Miss Ethel Bracewell fills the part of the heiress with considerable effect, Mr. Frank Adair gives a telling impersonation of the scoundrel Captain Caversham, Mr. Henry Herne is a typical clergyman, Mr. Wingold Lawrence is good as the discarded son, and Miss Daisy Maynard and Mr. C. Hammond Asquin are responsible for the excellent comic relief.

The Empire. — Moss' Empires, Ltd. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Tom Costello, the comedian, is here again, interesting the audience greatly with alternate samples of quaintness and pathos; Flem and Brok, the aerial pugilists; Prince Fee Lung, the Chinese magician; Griff and Alpha, in the manipulation of hoops; the Korries, in an original musical act; A-Bo-Kou, a clever juggler; and Harry Clifford, character vocalist, supply turns of merit. The Matweef Hugoston troupe of Russian singers and acrobats give a characteristic and clever turn; Frazer and Mac supply good comedy; and Holden's Mannikins are again a source of interest and amusement.

Palace Theatre. — Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—Tom Foy and company, in their sketch *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, provide a fund of humour here this week, and excellent comedy on the part of Happy Tom Parker and George Prince is duly appreciated by the audience. Excellent illustrated songs by Agnese and Arthur Lynch find favour; a bright turn is provided by the San Remo Girls, comediennes and speciality dancers; Nash and Noel's comedy patter and dancing are of good quality; a capital musical scena, *Good Old Days*, is submitted by Frances Manners; W. Selkirk's animated juvenile spectacle *All Scotch* is inspiring and excellent; and with some fine films Raymond's bio-tableaux conclude an enjoyable entertainment.

BRIGHTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company opened here on Monday with *The White Chrysanthemum*. The musical comedy was beautifully staged and dressed, and the various characters were ably portrayed. Miss Ruth Lincoln made a charming Sybil Cunningham ("the White Chrysanthemum"), and displayed artistic vocalisation; Mr. Fred Rolph was well suited as the Admiral, whose son, Lieut. Reginald Armitage, had an excellent representative in Mr. F. Pope Stamper; while Mr. Davy Burnaby as Lieut. Chippendale Belmont was very droll and humorous. Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., was highly amusing as Private Perks; Mr. O. E. Lennon, a clever comedian and nimble dancer, imparted great vivacity to his enactment of Sin Chong; Miss Maud Harvey, a bright and pleasing Betty Kenyon, and Miss Isabelle Dillon, a dainty Cornelia Vanderdecken, also merit warm commendation. The chorus and augmented orchestra acquitted themselves admirably, and the duties of conductor were in the able hands of Mr. Leonard Hornsey.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company opened here on Monday with *When a Man Hates*. Mr. Arthur Hinton was powerfully effective as Pietro Danelli; Miss Leila Zillwood achieved complete success as Olga Gwynne; Mr. Graham Arthurs gave a capital impersonation of Lawrence Hastings; Miss Lydia Andre was a winsome Letty; and Miss Florence Zillwood a delightful Dolly Dimple. Mr. Travis Green did well as Detective Smart; Mr. Pleon Gains was an admirable Sir Rupert Treherne; and others who added to the success of the performance included Mr. Gerald Byrne (Paul), Mr. Frank Brunell (Peter Pimple), and Mr. Charles Timms (Hawk). The programme for the week also included *The Sorrows of Satan*.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—There is an excellent company here this week. Nellie Wallace, a quaint and clever comedienne, keeps the house rippling with laughter by her comic songs and amusing patter; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene and company, assisted by Mr. Malcolm Wills, are highly successful in *His Birthday;* Hetty King is a capital male impersonator; Lalla Selbini, trick cyclist, performs some marvellous feats; the Five Whiteleys, Continental speciality artists, are very clever equilibrists on the tight wire; H. O. Wills is aptly described as "the curious low-comedy merchant"; Frank Bernard and company are well received in their screaming absurdity *Hello!;* Ted Young is a versatile comedian; and other capital turns are given by Charles Somers, comedian, and Ada Twibell, burlesque artist, the performance concluding with "The Curate's Day Out," projected by the Barrascope.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—A very attractive programme is sustained here this week. Marie Lloyd, who is received with enthusiasm, is nightly encored for her delightful songs; Ernest Rees, a droll comedian, is also distinctly successful; Ted Lowan is another clever comedian; Blanche and Powell win cordial applause for their musical comedy act; the Sisters Vincent are capital duettists and dancers; the Four Athos are skilful acrobats and ball manipulators; Beattie Bloom is a pleasing comedienne; Professor Zeidler, legerdemain artist, submits a good turn; Wisper, comedy juggler, is very entertaining; and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—The Ghita Grand Opera company opened here on Monday with a performance of *Il Trovatore*. Mlle. Ghita Corri sang superbly as Leonora; Mr. George Hilton St. Just as Manrico also achieved great success; Mr. Gilbert King was excellent as the Count; Miss Gertrude Booth sang and acted well as Azucena; and Miss Hilda Carter made a pleasing Mez. The varied programme submitted during the week included *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Faust*, *The Bohemian Girl*, and *Maritana*, and special concerts on Good Friday.

New Palace Pier Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alexander Genée.—Mr. Arthur St. John's company opened their second week here on Monday with *Louis XI.*, *King and Hypocrite*. Mr. Arthur St. John gave a fine enactment of the title-rôle, and Miss Ida St. John submitted an artistic impersonation of Marie de Comine. Mr. W. J. Cortier, Miss Kitty Bennett's Dauphin, and Mr. Walter Clark's Comine were admirably played. Mr. Bert Elvin was capitally suited as the Duc de Nemours; and praiseworthy support was given by Mr. Powell James and Miss Maud Mackersey. On Thursday the company gave a performance of *The Three Musketeers*.

Aquarium. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. J. Sallmayer. — The Ituri Forest Pygmies are still here, and appear in their interesting war songs and dances.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Miss Ida Molesworth is here with the interesting drama *Under Two Flags*. The play is staged well, and the company is a good one. Miss Molesworth presents a clever study of Cigarette, and Mr. Mark Blow acts well as Bertie Cecil Royellieu. Miss Mabel Ormonde is pleasing as Princess Venetia Carona, Mr. Charles D. Pitt is successful as Colonel Chanteroy, and Mr. Walter Rousby

Sydney Richards, Reginald Huntworth, and Fred Rolls. Cigarette's ride for life up a mountain path is capitally arranged.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company is here with the interesting drama *The Still Alarm*. The play is staged with great care and in an effective style, the special Engine House scene being a capital representation of the Central Fire Station, New York, and the harnessing of the horses to the engine and the departure to the fire is a faithful reproduction of the system adopted by the American fire department. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville acts in a fine convincing style as Jack Manley; Miss Maud Warburton is very pleasing as Ellinore Fordham; Mr. Cecil du Gue presents a good study of John Bird; Miss Hettie Zillwood plays Carrie Wilbur with much vivacity, contributing both song and dance in excellent style; Mr. F. Osmond is both effective and amusing as Doc Wilbur; Miss Mabel Veriton makes a kind and motherly Mrs. Manley; and Mr. Tom Beasley does well as Willie Manley. The well-trained pair of horses and the greyhound add much to the attraction of the play.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—An amusing sketch, *A Trip to the Isle of Man*, in which Lorne and Rene introduce their musical duo "Capital and Labour," successfully heads the programme. Bernar obtains considerable applause for his clever manipulation of the puppets in his marionette entertainment; Agnes Molteno displays her fine vocalisation in a song-scena; the Bransbys amuse in a coster sketch; George Reeves, comedian, is successful; the Great Northern Troupe excel as speciality dancers; the McConnell Trio score with a medley sketch; and Eily Adair is a pleasing soubrette and dancer. Animated pictures of "Vesuvius in Eruption" are projected in good style by Vernon's bioscope. Mr. Welchman, the courteous secretary and treasurer of the Palace, has a benefit on Good Friday, the entertainment consisting of sacred, vocal, and instrumental music, and a grand display of dissolving views, animated pictures, and dioramic effects.

BROMLEY.—LYRIC THEATRE.—Lessee, A. Carlton; Manager, H. Strong.—Last Friday and Saturday Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. H. Chattell, played a successful engagement with *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*. The attraction this week is the National Bioscope Company, with a variety combination. Amongst the artists engaged is Miss Nellie Navette, the chic comedienne, who introduces a good selection of songs and dances. The most popular turn is that of the Two Carpenters, who perform one of their amusing sketches. Mr. Fred Field, the popular baritone, is meeting with a good reception.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*Driven From Home*, with Mr. Felix Pitt as Anthony Raybrook, had an excellent house on Monday, when Mr. Pitt's fine acting was found to be most convincing. Miss Frances Ruttledge sustained the characters of Laura Raybrook and young Walter with marked ability; a clever performance was that of Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Willie the outcast; Mr. Morley Carroll was careful in his portrayal of Walter Hatherleigh, giving a manly performance; Geoffrey Waring was well placed by Mr. Herbert Cecil; and Mr. Arnold Winters as Tom Mortlake, Mr. Charles French as Phineas Mullett, and Mr. F. Bates as Tim Murphy have a most amusing drunken incident. Mr. Alick Macmillan as John Anderson and Miss Evelyn Marrable as Margaret Bayley also present some good comedy work Mr. J. H. Booth gives an excellent study of Dick Saunders.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett and Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here this week with *Darkness*, founded on the novel, "When It Was Dark." Miss V. St. Lawrence as Gertrude Hunt acted with ability; Mrs. Morton Powell was a distinct success as Helena Byars; Mr. H. K. Ayliff as Constantine Schawbe gave a fine performance; Mr. T. A. Shannon played the part of the Rev. Basile Gortre in a quiet, unassuming style; Mr. Edward Valentine contributed a meritorious impersonation of Sir Robert Llewellyn; and Mr. E. A. Allen as Harold Spence interpreted the part in a praiseworthy manner. Mr. Arthur Lenville was amusing as the Hon. Charlie Gadfly, Mr. Henry Heller did good work as the Rev. Mr. Byars, and Miss Ethel Rainforth as Gracie Goldeye, Miss Isabel Taylor as Lady Llewellyn, and Mr. Frederick Biron as Mr. Ommaney also reserve praise.

BURNLEY.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Culeen; General-Manager, Mr. Jas. E. Culeen.—Mr. Charles Marche's company is doing excellent business here with *The Gamester of Metz*.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The wonderful lady juggler, Selina Braatz, is one of the chief attractions at this house. The Frantz troupe of acrobats are certainly worthy of the hearty reception they secured, and the Two Bees, in the scena *Hiawatha Wed* are pleasing. Odeyne Spark sings charming and catchy songs; E. J. Wilkes, with his clever little dog Woof, is most acceptable; and Robbins and Collier, in a sketch *The Lady and the Porter*, cause much merriment. Gilbert Rodgers is another excellent turn, and Urbanora maintains its usual standard of excellent pictures.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.—ATHENÆUM HALL.—Manager, Mr. E. A. Crack.—Mr. George Dance's company has paid a successful visit here for one night with *The Orchid*. Mr. Harry Walsh as Meakin delighted the audience by his drolleries; Mr. J. F. Val fully realised what was required of him as Zaccary; Aubrey Chesterton was well played by Mr. Charles Seymour; and Mr. Sinclair Holden was good as Hon. Guy Scrymgeour. Miss Margery Moore very pleasingly played Lady Violet Anstruther; Caroline Vokins was humorously depicted by Miss Phil Grumpel; and Miss Trilby Collier was a charming Josephine.

CANTERBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—After a lapse of a few weeks the Canterbury stock company returned to the Theatre Royal last week, and presented on Wednesday and following nights the well-known Irish drama *The Shaughraun*. Mr. William Cuthbert as Conn made a first-rate Irishman; Mr. O. P. Heggie was an excellent Father Doolan; and the part of Duff was creditably impersonated by Mr. Austin Leigh. Mr. Richard Fielding acted the difficult part of the schemer Kinchela with much skill, whilst Mr. Farrington Stuart as the political exile and Mr. J. E. Savery as the young officer both made good impressions. Mrs. Culling showed ability in the rôle of Clare Ffolliott, whilst Miss Agnew (Arte O'Neal) was also seen to advantage. Miss Lilian Rogers made a typical Moya Doolan, and the impersonations of Miss Eugenie Vernie (Mrs. O'Kelly) and Miss O'Reilly (Biddy) were both creditable.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—The amusing farce *Mr. Hopkinson* occupies the boards this week, capitally presented by Mr. Frank Curzon's No. 1 company. Samuel Hopkinson is cleverly interpreted by Mr. Edward Rigby, Miss Helen Russell as Lady Tyra submits a charming portrayal, while equally pleasingly rendered is the Duchess of Braceborough by Miss Blanka Stewart. The Duke of Braceborough is impersonated very creditably by Mr. Charles Esdale, Mr. Cecil Burt contributes considerably to the humour of the piece by his delineation of Lord Addleton, Mr. George Desmond seems quite at home in the part of the Hon. Otto Dursingham, and Mr. Edward Vaughan as Lord Gawthorpe is well suited. Mr. Harold Johnson imparts the required dignity to the character of Mr. Smethurst. The piece is preceded by a one-act farce entitled *The Impossible Trio*.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman; Business-Manager, Mr. Reg. Grant.—At this house on Monday the powerful modern drama *The Executioner's Daughter* was played to a good house. Miss Beatrice Moore, as the little cripple Christine, gave an extremely clever delineation of a difficult part; Miss Ina Grant was particularly good as Annette; and Miss May Rosine as Sally King was highly amusing. Mr. Duncan Bell as the executioner and Mr. W. S. Stevenson as Kretch were excellent in their respective parts.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Cardiffians are always pleased to see the name of Fred Karno on the Empire programme, and *Moses and Son*, the elaborate and latest production of that enterprising gentleman, has proved a great source of amusement this week. Mr. Fred Kitchen as Perkins is given a genuine welcome, the clever comedian, being in excellent form. The other turns are no less attractive. The Andos, Happy Little Japs, are an exceedingly clever troupe of acrobats; Walter Bellonini, the juggler, compels admiration by his marvellous dexterity; Rezene and Robini prove an entertaining couple; and Harry Conlin (comedian), Rosie Coleman (sand dancer), Ernest Heathcote (the droll comedian), and the bioscope complete the bill.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, the Trustees of R. Stewart McKim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. Morton Powell's company opened here on Monday in the sensational drama *The Woman Who Gambles*. Miss Ada Roscoe as Countess of Steinbach proves herself to be an emotional actress of ability; Mr. Edward E. Ashley as Count Otto Steinbach acts in a manly and self-reliant manner; Karl is admirably played by Mr. Beresford Lovett; and Mr. Horatio Sinclair does justice to the villainies of the Baron. Miss Violet Sims as Cora is all that can be desired, and Miss Florrie Hall is lively and amusing as Zila.

PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The principal item in this week's bill of fare is that laughable sketch *The Would-be Actors*, which is played for all it is worth by Mr. Carter Livesey and Miss Lilian Rosebery. Florence and Lillian provide a delightfully artistic musical act; the Gladenbecks, with a ring act and hand-balancing, are wonderfully clever; Harrigan and Holt are smart comedians; the Wallys give one of the smartest juggling performances seen here for some time; the Devenports are quite up to date as lightning illusionists; Nancy Renshaw is an energetic comedienne and vigorous bone soloist; and Vernon's bioscope, with new pictures, complete an entertaining programme.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs. P. E. Veitch; General-Manager, Mr. C. Algie.—The bright particular star here this week is the famous juggler Paul Cinquevalli, and the place is packed nightly as a result. Miss Alice Grice, a charming young soprano vocalist of local repute, scores an emphatic success; Miss Marie Walker, trombone soloist, does some clever triple-tongueing upon that instrument; the Two Whites, dancers and cross-talkers, are appreciated; a Russian and Japanese spectacle by a number of local children reflect great credit upon Mr. Clarke; and Rabbit (clown) is still as funny as ever. Payne's bioscope exhibits some remarkably good pictures.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—Mr. Fred Jarman's company is here this week with *Under the Czar*. Mr. James Hare gives a spirited performance of Nicholas Teroslaff; Mr. W. H. Riley submits a telling picture of the crafty and heartless Zakhah Zozesky; Mr. Lawrence Brien is a smart Alexis Petroff; whilst Mr. Louis Westwood causes much laughter as Paul Ignat. Mr. C. P. Amalia is well suited to the part of Count Nesseldorf; Miss Cathleen Cavanagh's Sonia Gregorovitch is a clever piece of acting, and the audience are not slow to show appreciation. As Siamoko Miss Linda Riley gives a capable portrayal, and is well received; Zara, a gipsy, is played with grace and charm by Miss P. Carewe; Mr. J. Leicester plays with much care as Egor Gregorovitch; Mr. R. Tarrant makes a capital Victor Kleff.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Santé; Secretary, Mr. E. Crane.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here this week in *The Plucky Nipper*. In the title-rôle Miss Bonwin Carlton is excellent, her acting being greatly appreciated; Mr. Fred Revels successfully enacts the part of the villain, Richard Vanbrugh; Bill Burgess has a capable exponent in Mr. Edward Surrey; Mr. George W. Knight and Mr. E. Stream are capital as Colonel Fenwick and Captain Frank Leslie respectively; Miss Esther Lamonte excels in the part of Ina Fenwick; and as Tommy Atkins Mr. Douglas Cambell causes much amusement.

CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan.—The attraction here this week, which, by the way, is the last of the present season, is Mr. Frank Bateman's company in the drama *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mr. George C. Doughty acts cleverly as Dick Delver, a detective; Mr Stuart Lomath is highly successful as Frank Hatherleigh; Montague Blair finds a capable exponent in Mr. Louis Garton; Mr. Archie Helsey deserves praise for his fine portrayal of Abney Stone; Mr. A. Balfour Mackay depicts an old actor, by name Horatio Fane, to the life; Mr. Edward E. Louis ably sustains the part of Harold Trevelyn; Miss Lizzie Montague displays histrionic ability as Lola Delaspierre, an actress; and Doris Vane is smartly acted by Miss Ida Mackay. The comic element is well looked after by Mr. Will Skelton as Simkins and Miss Alice Nattin as Peggy Simkins, who together keep the audience in good fettle throughout the drama.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—Mr. F. B. Woulfe's company opened here on Monday with *Lady Godiva*. Mr. Woulfe delineates Tom of Coventry in an admirable manner; Mr. Ernest Lodge satisfactorily represents Leofric; Mr. James Duncan displays ability as Algar; and Mr. Ernest Hamilton successfully portrays Unwolf Unwolfson. Miss Josephine Colona deserves praise for her fine rendering of the title-rôle, Miss Gwen Stewart capably renders Lady Aldyth, Miss Edith Loraine makes an excellent Elfrida, and Miss Sarah Wheatman is a pleasing Editha. *Jane Shore* was billed for Friday.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—A large house assembled on the opening night of the week, and the capital bill provided was thoroughly appreciated. The Daunton-Shaw troupe of trick cyclists had an immense reception; the Bros. Bright provided lovers of physical culture with an interesting item; the clever absurdities of Arthur Goodman, the tramp juggler, caused the heartiest laughter; Will English, the coloured artist, gave a smart exhibition of American and other walks; Ned Graydon proved himself a very efficient instrumentalist; Woolmer Young sang most creditably; and Dolly Denton was popular as a comedienne and dancer.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess is presenting his No. 1 company at the above house this week in an excellent drama entitled *A Queen of Villainy*, by Ridgewood Barrie. Miss Edith Blande is seen in a very fine rendering of Cora Granville; Mr. Edward Heaney does himself great credit by his impersonation of Stephen Faucit; Mr. Arthur E. Maskey is seen to advantage as Reuben Hawk; and Miss Amy Ross Clyde makes a capital Sally Chimes. Miss Jessie Crammond and Mr. Chas. Rogers are responsible for a good deal of humour as Mrs. and Mr. Kodac respectively.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—There is a capital programme here. Selbo, a well-known juggler, gives some difficult and clever tricks; George Brooks proves himself to be a favourite comedian; Joe Conroy is another successful comedian; Miss Lizzie Daniels is a capable artist; Burley and Burley are speciality comedians; and Tom Yorke is quite a success as a coster comedian.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Messrs. Levaine and Clayton's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* is doing good business here. Little Lilly Belle and Wee Madge Bingham are responsible for the Babes Nora and Terry, in which impersonations they are very successful. Mr. W. Valmore as Belinda also does well. Mr. Fred Fosco and Mr. Dave Anderson are amusing as Weary Willie and Tired Tim, and Mr. Will Thorne and Mr. Eddie Clay are good as Flip and Flop. Mr. Harry Sully gives a smart rendering of Baron Blackheart, and Mr. Phelps Leo is well placed as Friar Tuck. Miss Jessie Lindsay is successful as Robin Hood, and Miss Lizzie Levaine as Maid Marion is excellent. Neither must we omit to praise Miss Flossy Anderson and Miss Gertrude Bingham for their winsome presentation of their respective characters, Allan-a-Dale and Helen. Miss Fanny Collins is pleasing as Will Scarlett, and Miss Ruby Dale is well placed as Little John. Mr. Percy Victor, besides impersonating the Demon Darkness, introduces his dog orchestra with great success.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, with *A Royal Divorce*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Lilian Dundas displays talent of a high degree, and unstinted praise is due to her for her excellent portrayal of the Empress Josephine. Mr. Frederick Moyes as Napoleon acts with a power which stamps him an actor of the front rank; Miss Muriel Thompson sustains with dignity the character of Marie Louise; and Miss Gertrude Entwistle is a charming Stephanie. Miss Alice Metcalf is an efficient Blanche d'Hervas; Mr. H. G. Dolby is distinctly good as Talleyrand; Mr. Henry Ludlow is a capable Marquis de Beaumont; and Mr. C. Lionel Brocknor and Mr. T. W. Ford as General Augereau and Marshal Murat respectively are well suited. As the innkeeper Mr. Dennis Bryan is humorous. On Thursday night there was announced a complimentary benefit to Miss Lilian Dundas.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Miss Katie Johnson, Mr. Frank G. Bayley, and company are appearing here in *Billy's Little Love Affair*. Miss Katie Johnson is a winsome and charming Wilhelmina Marr; Miss Vera Codd is an appropriate Miss Perrot; Miss Dorothy Watson deserves a good word as Lady Roop; Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere is excellent as Lady Duncan; Miss Beatrix Bell is adequate as the Hon. Mrs. Herring; and Miss Clara Nicholls is interesting as Mrs. Jim-Greaves; Mr. Frank G. Bayly is satisfactory as Jack Frere; Mr. W. Lemmon Warde is smart as Sir Harry Harman; Mr. Orlando Barnett is capital as Jim Greaves; and Messrs. Reginald Maurice, Gerald Garden, and Simon D. Ord are suitable as Mr. Munkittrick, Captain Beecher, and Hagson. The curtain-raiser is *Semi-Detached*.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company is here in *The Power of Gold*. Mr. Charles Whitlock makes capital out of the rôle of Hadji Zambra; Mr. Richard Oliver scores as Paul Judson; Mr. Albert Sefton is commendable as Mark Harley; Mr. Frank Holyoake deserves praise as Dr. Stephen Saunders; Mr. W. Victor is excellent as Peter Maguire; Mr. Donald Summers puts in genuine work as Mr. Richards; and Mr. Frank Ayrton is a quaint and curious Sammy Smudge. Miss Madge Seymour is very good in the rôle of Norah Donnelly; Miss Georgina V. France is a suitable Meg Judson; and Miss Lilla Wilde submits a forcible and skilful rendering of Lady Brandon. Mr. John Reillie's orchestra is well up to the mark.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Bulmer's company is having a hearty reception here this week in *Sentenced for Life*. Mr. Ernest Vaughan as Captain Paul Derrick gives an admirable portrayal Mr. T. Arthur Ellis as Lieut. Stillwell ably sustains the part, Mr. T. C. Glenville is good as the Rev. Martin Orris, Mr. James F. Firth is appreciated as Percy MacGentle, Mr. A. Keand and Mr. Reg. Oldroyd are smart as the two Komical Konvicts, Miss Madge Douglas as Adele Gray acts and sings with marked effect, Miss Mary Dalby is admirably suited as Kate Rennell, and Miss Gladys Hawthorne is excellent as Lady Stillwell.

DARWEN. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Mr. Evan Roland's company is appearing here this week in the sensational drama, entitled *The Guilty Man*. Miss Lily Lewis undertakes the rôle of Audrey in an excellent manner, Mr. Alfred D. Adams gives a powerful representation of the heavy part of James Redman, Mr. Harold Lewis is excellent as Seymour, and the comedy portion is in the capable hands of Mr. Evan Roland and Miss Sybil Haughton. In Act 4 a real working infernal machine, captured during the revolution in Russia, and bought specially for this production, is introduced.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's company is this week appearing in *The Ruby Ring*. Mr. A. D. Tapping makes an admirable Alphonse Leloir, the French valet; Mr. Sargent is a manly Cuthbert Vaughan; and Mr. Chas. Leveson Lane as Reginald Clethorpe submits a meritorious performance. Mr. George Mudie, jun., is praiseworthy as Charles Lynton, and Mr. George Cecil Murray succeeds as Col. Clethorpe. Miss Alice Farleigh is a charming Helen Neville, and Miss Clarissa Selwynne figures agreeably as Jane Clethorpe. An excellent character-sketch is that of Miss Edith Matt as Mother Hicks, and some amusement is caused by Miss Blanche Bayley, who plays Mary Richards, Helen's maid. Mr. Geo. Thorne, jun., and Mr. Harry Collier also contribute to the fun by their capital impersonations of John Jenkins (a valet) and Peter Tagg (a clerk) respectively.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—Charles Fisher's Pocket Opera Company is the attraction here this week, and their excellent singing and acting secure them a hearty reception; the Musical Palmers are paying a return visit, and are a great success; Kioto as a sensational equilibrist should be specially mentioned, his performance being one of exceptional merit; Harry Cotton is a successful comedian; Baroni and Kemp, quick-change artists, are popular; Marlow and Manton, in their comedy duologue, entitled *The Nursery*, are entertaining; and Elsie Earle is a charming comedienne and dancer. The Palace bioscope depicts an exciting film entitled "The Swell Mobsman."

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A London Actress* is the attraction here. Sergt.-Major Clive Crawford is vigorously presented by Mr. John C. Carlyle, and Mr. Arthur F. Dudley is a breezy Lieut. Kingstone. Mr. George H. Doyle gives a good embodiment of Capt. Mannering. Prominent in the comedy business is Mr. John Hitchins, who sings in a rich, mellow voice several popular ditties. Mr. Stuart Cleveland scores as the Jew (Moses Mendoza), Miss Maud Steeples is a charming Phyllis Crawford, Biddy Maloney and Rosie Blythe are amusingly represented by Misses Nellie Fern and Millie Maynard, Miss Theo Harriss receives warm recognition as Miss Skinner, Miss Maud Saxby is *chic* as Nellie, and Miss Emma Litchfield as Hilda Mannering displays great ability.

DUBLIN.—EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The principal feature here this week is the Lukushima Troupe, whose clever acrobatic performance elicits loud applause; the musical turn of Virto and daughters is well received; James Fawn, comedian, is as popular as ever; Wilson Hallett is a capable entertainer; and Mattie Wilks sings pretty ballads. Morton and Elliott, vocalists, paper-tearers, and harmonica manipulators, score a success; T. C. Callaghan is a comedian of more than ordinary merit; the Two Bostons are an acceptable pair of comedians; and Florrie St. Clair is a vivacious comedienne and dancer. The Empire pictures are interesting.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company here this week includes F. W. Wilbert, humorist and instrumentalist; Santley and Clifford, operatic duettists; Gus Owen, comedian and dancer; Irene Cameron, soprano vocalist; and Cliff Beever, baritone.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels. — The following are appearing here:—Percy Rosslyn, eccentric comedian; Ada Brogden, comedienne; the Cliffords, duologue artists; and Phil Lister, musical entertainer.

DUMFRIES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—Mr. Arthur Branscombe occupies the theatre this week with *Morocco Bound* for the first three nights, and *The American Heiress* for the remainder of the week. The company is a large and capable one. In the first-mentioned piece the part of Squire Higgins was well sustained by John Wilkinson, Mr. Paddy Dupress was very well placed as Spoofah Bey, Little Tony as Lord Percy was a decided success, Miss Marjorie Grey as the Hon. Miss Ethel Sportington and Miss Dolly Doyle as the Hon. Maud Sportington admirably sustained their parts, and Miss Gipsy Touscan as the adventuress played with marked ability.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E Potts.—A short stock season opened here on Monday. In the opening piece, *My Sweetheart*, the company was highly successful. Mr. Will Oswald proved himself an acceptable Tony, Mr. Sam Allen was a capable Harold Bartlett, Mr. James Somerville made a good Dudley Harcourt, Mr. Walter T. Barlow ably sustained the part of Dr. Oliver, Mr. Karl Vallender did well as Joe Shotwell, and Mr. Harry Rich did ample justice to the part of Farmer Hatzell. Miss Flo Stansfield was an able exponent of Mrs. Fletcher, Miss Madge Clare was a creditable Mrs. Hatzell, and Miss Clarice Jenner was a sweet and attractive Tina Hatzell. *Called Back* and *A Village Outcast* are to be produced during the week.

EASTBOURNE. — PIER PAVILION. — Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Cyril Maude's company is appearing here in *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Harry Ashford combines a breezy buoyancy with real unctuous humour, and his work as Captain Barley is quite a conspicuous success; Mr. Percival Knight is a natural and refined Seton Boyle, and pleasing in every way; Mr. Walter Pemberton is a thoroughly convincing Major Smedley, Mr. Chas. Goold causes much genuine laughter as Tom Codd, and Mr. J. Wheatman submits a fine character sketch as John Dibbs. Mr. Forrester Harvey is a quietly effective Augustus, and Mr. Percy Marmont and Mr. Charles Caffrey lend valuable aid as Herbert Manners and George Porter. Miss May Fairclough is a pretty and animated Ethel Smedley, Miss Mary Griffiths causes merry laughter as Mrs. Baldwin, and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite is very clever in the part of Mrs. Porter, and Miss Mary Pemberton and Miss Ethel Stalman are able assistants as Lucy Dallas and Mrs. Smedley. The farce is preceded by *That Brute Simmons*, capitally played by Miss Harriet Trench and Messrs. J. Wheatman and Fred Paul.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—A very good variety bill finds a place here this week. Miss Queenie Leighton, with pretty face, fine figure and presence, and beautiful dresses, is soon a favourite with the audience, and her songs are given in a very clever and effective manner; the Cotton Blossom Quartette of coloured gentlemen have a pleasing turn with their melodies, songs, and dances; Miss Nellie Lewis, a favourite pantomime artist, has returned, and in her well-rendered songs she is again a success. Miss Mabel Thorne and a capable company appear in a beautifully and most elaborately staged sketch, *A Willow-Pattern Plate*. Miss Thorne is an attractive and graceful Chang, Miss Marjorie Cecil is a charming and sweet-voiced Li-Chi, Mr. Fred McLeod is an efficient Mandarin, and three ladies dance well in very original dances. Mr. Harry Meir is a clever, quaint, and amusing juggler, Mr. J. W. Elliston sings in a good voice his taking songs, Miss Lily Stewart scores as singer and dancer, and the animated pictures complete the bill.

EDINBURGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—This week Mrs. Russ Whytal, the distinguished American actress, is appearing here in Tom Taylor's drama *'Twixt Axe and Crown*, a piece associated in bygone days with the "beautiful Mrs. Rousby." Mrs. Russ Whytal is well fitted by nature for the queenly part of Elizabeth, which she sustains. She has a beautiful and expressive face, a fine figure, and a well-modulated voice, which she uses with great skill and judgment to represent the conflict of emotions through which Elizabeth has to pass. Miss Geraldine Olliffe gives a fine representation of Queen Mary; Miss Lena Flowerdew as the Duchess of Norfolk and Miss Mabel Knowles as Isabel Markham act with care and intelligence, and Miss M. Garth and Miss Fanny Lawrence acceptably present the parts of Anne of Cleves and the Countess of Dorset respectively. Mr. Charles Combe enacts in life-like manner Bishop Gardiner, the plotting cleric; and another excellent bit of portraiture is Mr. J. J. Bartlett's Simon Renard, the Spanish envoy. Mr. Claude King as Courtenay affords an admirable picture of a manly English gentleman, and Mr. Leslie Palmer as Sir John Harrington plays with the requisite lightness and dash.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The enterprise of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison has been the means of introducing Mr. C. M. S. McLellan's comedy *On the Love Path* this week to Edinburgh audiences for the first time. There is a certain freshness in Mr. McLellan's work which gives it an interest, and it is admirably interpreted by Miss Hutchison and Mr. Hutchison's company. Mr. Percy Hutchison takes the character of the susceptible Arthur Taunton, and plays it with exhilarating buoyancy and great humour, and withal a touch of pathos when that is required. As the fussy solicitor, John Gripleigh, Mr. Geo. Mudie has one of those parts in which his comedy powers stand him in good stead; Mr. Frank Hill is extremely droll as Peter Concannon, and his acting is marvellously bright and lively. Mr. Frank Elliott is a capable Gerald Marvel, and a clever bit of character-acting is given by Mr. T. W. Rawson as the rascally Denbigh Thrayle. Miss Lilias Earle's charming personality enables her to supply an attractive sketch of Charity Concannon, whose sisters, Mary and Norah, are acted with grace and effect by Miss Margaret Marshall and Miss Hilda Harriss. Mr. S. Irwin Barrett is pleasant and quiet as William. The comedy is preceded by Mr. Geo. Mudie's farce, *His Landlady*, in which the author gives a capital performance of Mr. Howfield, excellently supported by Miss Margaret Marshall, Miss Hilda Harriss, and Mr. Frank Elliott.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Henry Fischer.—The new two-act musical comedy *The Scottish Bluebells* has, as we predicted, become a great success. Full houses have ruled and are likely to rule for a long time yet. The week's performances have enabled the management to tighten up the piece here and there. Miss Hettie Gale wins golden opinions for her charming impersonation of the winsome Maisie, and Mr. Arthur Cartwright as Guy Chalmers, the poor student, is a handsome and engaging lover, who acts with taste and refinement. Mr. Clifford Morgan uses his fine baritone voice with great effect as the Persian Prince, and Mr. Peter Bermingham puts plenty of humour into Baillie Maie. Miss Kate Sherry gives considerable character to the Bailie's wife, and their two smart daughters are smartly played by Miss Kate Clinton and Miss Delia Cherry. As the fascinating young widow Miss Elsie Steedman has scored a great success both in her singing and her acting; an exceedingly clever bit of comedy work is Mr. Leon Simkin's Montague Migg, the pedigree expert. Other performances of merit are Miss Edytha Carlyle's American lady journalist; Miss May Anderson's Kirsty, the Highland servant lass; Mr. Harry Stuart's dude, and Mr. Dan O'Connor's Irish Rory. Some capital dancing of the acrobatic type is supplied by the Monte Carlo troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. J. Cawood.—Mr. R. A. Roberts, fresh from his American triumphs, plays here his miniature drama, *Dick Turpin*, with his customary vividness, humour, and power. The Novellos, in their clever entertainment *India in Europe*, provide a performance which gives real pleasure not only from the skilful acrobatic feats of the troupe, but from the intelligent actions of the elephants, horses, and dogs; Mr. James Stewart, "the tramp at the piano," is amusing and clever; and Mr. George Tacius surprises his hearers by the adroit use of soprano and baritone notes in his songs. Mr. Herbert Shelley, the actor-vocalist, supplies three sketches remarkable for force and spirit, and Mr. Bert Byrne evokes loud applause by his admirable rendering of his songs. Miss Daisy Mayer is a dancer who fairly bewilders one by the dash and resistless energy of her movements, and her turn is heartily received. Mr. David Poole (a ventriloquist of no mean order), Miss Gracie Grahame (a charming comedienne), and Mr. Charles Lilburn (comedian) are also on the bill.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr. Alexander Loftus, supported by a strong company, appeared in *The New Barmaid* the first half of the week. Mr. Joseph B. Montague scored a big success as Bertie Whyte, Mr. Alexander Loftus gave a capital rendering of William White, Mr. Frank Melroyd proved a nimble Braddy, and his smart dancing was well received, while Mr. Leslie Austin as Capt. Lovebury was repeatedly recalled for his song "Will you marry me?" Miss Maude Nichols was a captivating Dora Heather, and Misses Hilda

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NEW BOND ST.,
LONDON.

Blanche and Maisie Ellinger gave capital renderings of Brenda Louth and Ethel Joy respectively. Miss Lottie Stone's trio of dancers contributed some very pretty dancing to a highly successful production. On Thursday Mr. F. S. Kimberley's company opened a three nights' engagement in *Two Little Drummer Boys*.

FARNWORTH.—Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—This week we are having a welcome change from the usual dramatic production by the engagement of a variety company. The Saxon Trio top the bill with a clever, strong act; Herman Maxim, a champion wrestler, who challenges all comers; Marcia Gomez Moore is a contralto vocalist of more than ordinary merit, the Lovelaces are successful with their illustrated songs, Bush and Bushell give a capital speciality performance, the Gelders are clever magicians, Lillie Hustler gives a good account of herself as a comedienne, and Marcus Boyle proves himself a funny comedian.

GAINSBOROUGH.—King's Theatre.—Proprietors, The Arthur Carlton Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Robert Kirk.—Messrs. Murray and Stafford's company appeared here for three nights last week in an interesting new drama by Mr. Stafford, entitled *Conscience and Crime*. Mr. James Chippendale gave a clever rendering of the old miser; Mr. R. F. Stacey was a manly Tom Cranleigh; and Miss Lily Prescott a charming Mary. The villainous propensities of Mark Wolfton were well brought out by Mr. W. R. Winning, and Mr. John A. Stimson proved himself an excellent comedian as Nobby Rutter.

GATESHEAD.—Metropole Theatre. — Proprietors, Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Eade Montefiore is presenting the musical drama *The Streets of London* here. Mr. William Rokeby is extremely funny as Badger, Mr. Henry Moxon submits an excellent portrayal of Gideon Bloodgood, Mr. H. Douglas Cottell is responsible for a quiet yet effective study of Mark Livingstone, Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie does well as Paul Fairweather, Mr. Joe Bracewell creates much laughter as Jonas Puffy, Miss Edyth Goodall is a charming Lucy Fairweather, and Miss Octavia Noel plays with commendable skill as Alida Bloodgood. Miss Helena Rigby as Mrs. Puffy fills a small rôle with distinction. Specialities are introduced by the Four Fiorellas.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. D. S. Cooper; General-Manager, Mr. Roy Cochrane.—Mr. Edward Neville's company remained here for a further three nights' engagement, and presented the powerful drama, *Tempest Tossed*. Mr. Gus Bowerman gave a manly impersonation of Harry Haworth; Mr. W. H. Wilson was effective as Hubert Marsden; Mr. J. Roberts did well as Haworth's father; and Mr. Edward Neville was a capital representative of Theophilus Jewry. Miss Flora Leslie gave a charming portrayal of Ethel Vernon; Miss Loie Esmond played the part of Charlotte Marsden in a manner worthy of all praise; and Miss Jessie McKean was seen to advantage as little Willie Haworth.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. Leigh Lovel's company presented *The Duke of Killicrankie* on Monday evening. Mr. Guy Cary as the Duke gave a most successful performance; Mr. Lovel as Henry Pitt-Welby, M.P., ably brought out all the humorous touches of the play, and in this he was well supported by Miss Celia Gordon as Mrs. Mulholland. Miss Octavia Kenmore as Lady Henrietta Addison was delightful; and the minor parts were well filled. Later in the week, Sydney Grundy's charming play, *Sowing the Wind*, was presented.

Royalty, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—Many as have been the visits of *Florodora*, the popular comedy has lost none of its local popularity, and large audiences are welcoming Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. Daley Cooper takes the lead with a capital impersonation of Tweedlepunch, and does much for the general success; Mr. Stanley White makes an excellent Cyrus W. Gilfain, his performance is full of merit; Miss Leonora Grieve scores as Dolores; Mr. R. Courtier Dutton does good work as Frank Abercoed, and sings the music admirably; Miss Lily Gullick shines conspicuously as Angela Gilfain; and Miss Edith Housley is well placed as Lady Holyrood.

Grand, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is again here in *The Christian*, and this fine play, though here so often, is attracting good houses. Miss Grace Chalmers makes a charming Glory Quayle, and Mr. Frank Tennant is again the John Storm. The company otherwise is much the same as when the play was in Glasgow a short time ago.

King's, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—The second week of Mr. Martin Harvey's engagement here commenced on Monday with a revival of that standard favourite *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance*. An admirable performance was given, Mr. Harvey in particular receiving well-merited applause for his extremely natural and touching portrayal of Count Skariatine. Miss N. de Silva was again the Viera, and played the part with all her accustomed tenderness and pathos; a strong touch of character being given to the part of Akulina by Miss Frances Ivor; while the other female rôles, Augusta and Anna, were successfully taken by Miss Bessie Elder and Miss Maud Rivers respectively. The Anton Skariatine of Mr. Chas. J. Cameron was a performance of considerable polish; Mr. Charles Glenney undertook the part of Dumnoff with the happiest results; and the Schmidt of Mr. Percy Anstey and the Heinz of Mr. B. Barry both showed ability in character-work; Mr. L. Craske was good as the henpecked Christian; the parts of the lawyer and his friend Nicholas were well filled by Messrs. George Cooke and H. le Grand. The play was repeated on Tuesday, the rest of the week being devoted to *Hamlet*.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Charles Harrington's American combination in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr. J. Carr gives a quietly-effective impersonation of Uncle Tom, while Mrs. Carr is equally natural as Aunt Chloe. Eliza Harris has an excellent representative in Miss Hettie Johnson; and Mr. Leslie Beaufort gives a manly rendering of George Harris. There could hardly be a better interpreter of the brutal Legree than Mr. J. Henry Rogers; and Mr. James Jackson as the slavedealer is a fit companion for him. Mr. Walter Langford as a grotesque lawyer gives a spice of fun to the drama; but the bulk of the humour is contributed by Miss Annie Watson as Topsy. That rough diamond is finely contrasted by Miss Jeannie Malcolm as Aunt Ophelia; Miss May Turner is well suited as the ultra-refined Mrs. St. Clair; while Little Minnie is sweetly engaging as Eva. Mr. Stanley Howard is an ideal representative of the easy-going St. Clair; and Mr. J. H. Renney is a breezy exponent of the Yankee Phineas Fletcher. The drama is conspicuous for its fine unaccompanied choral music, and the Plantation Festival in Act 4 gives enlivening opportunities for the introduction of negro songs and dances.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—This week Miss Mabel Mannering and Mr. Miller Anderson's company is appearing in Frank Bateman's play, *At War with Women*. Miss Eastbourne Robertson gives an incisive rendering of the part of Countess Slavensky; Mr. Charles A. East as Baron Kirsch acts with dramatic breadth and intensity; Mr. Albert Strong, as Romanoff in the prologue and as Lieut. Alexis in the play, gives clever performances in both characters; Miss Gladys Lloyd makes an attractive Frida Malakoff; her father, General Malakoff, is played with military gruffness by Mr. Chas. Heathcote; some extravagant fun is introduced by Mr. Miller Anderson as Jerry Blake, Mr. Fred Denman as Phocas, and Miss Nellie V. Warden as Katinka.

Lyceum.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—After a successful week at the Grand, Mr. Walter Melville's company, in *Her Second Time on Earth*, is now claiming the suffrages of Govan playgoers, and the theme of the play evokes hearty interest. Miss Hilda Beverley is powerful as Dora Grey, and all the members of the company give clever renderings of their respective parts.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Johnson and Dean, "the coloured fashion plates," had a capital reception for their clever singing and dancing act; Baker and Balfe are xylophone players of a high order, the gentleman being also a neat dancer. Very pleasing variety is lent by the performance of Max York's dogs; and further interest is added by the display of the Four Ramlos, whose burlesque gymnastic turn is genuinely funny. The hoop manipulations by Stylo is one of the best of its kind seen here, many of the tricks being entirely new; while that charming mimic, Miss Ray Wallace, again establishes her claim as a prime Glasgow favourite. The Stuart Quartette excel as dancers, introducing novel acrobatic and skipping-rope movements; Mr. Jake Friedman replaced Miss Helen Mar, absent through illness, and proved a most acceptable deputy. In Beatrice Bonnie and Chris. Richards the house had a couple of pleasing performers. The animated pictures are again good.

Zoo Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock. — The Wal Pink company of "workmen," in their new sketch, *Repairs*, cause laughter loud and long, their comedy business being funny and unforced. Arabella Allen gives her wonderfully good impersonations of Dickens's characters; Billy McLean's Coloured Sextette, in their coon scena, sing and dance well; Baker and Lynn give an amusing comedy turn; Elton and Edouin are expert banjoists; Kyoto, as a comic Japanese conjurer and contortionist, is well received; and the catchy songs of May Geraldine are also popular. G. W. Foster, eccentric comedian, is well received; and the bioscope pictures complete a varied bill.

Pavilion.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—May Yohe heads the bill here, and comes supplied with several attractive new ditties; Will Godwin, in a sketch, entitled *Re-united*, is well received, and is ably assisted by his little girl; the Athlones give a fine display of muscular development and a striking performance on the rings; Edie Grey and her white coons contribute a first-rate vocal turn; Ray and Calden, in their comedy eccentricities and cake-walk, prove big favourites; Hamilton Hill's fine baritone voice is heard to advantage in several songs; Albano Troupe give a most enjoyable musical turn; Sisters Oswald are attractive singers and dancers; Tate and Tate give an amusing acrobatic speciality; and Fred Keeton's comic songs are well received.

Coliseum. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—The attractive programme submitted here this week includes the engagement of Mr. George Gray and company in *The Fighting Parson*. Athos and Collins contribute a smart comedy act, entitled *For Four Bob*; and the Trapnell Family are graceful acrobats. Jake Friedman, comedian, is well to the front with catchy songs and patter; Miss Minnie Cunningham, in Irish songs, is a decided attraction; and Mezzetti and Mora appear in a clever bar act; while the American bioscope is much appreciated.

Palace.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rich. Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A strong variety company is billed here this week, the chief attraction being the engagement of Howard and Harris, in an amusing sketch, entitled *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*. Dan Thomas, comedian, is well received for his singing and dancing alike; an exceptionally smart turn is submitted by Vandinoff, lightning painter in oil-colours; and the Cumberland Trio give a marvellous display as acrobatic cyclists; while Chas. F. Best's comedy act, *McBunker the Mountebank*, is exceedingly amusing. The other members of the company include Welda and Wynne, eccentric jugglers; T. B. Fayme, comedian; the Sisters Tinsley, duettists and dancers; Society Quartette, comedians and clever dancers; Sivronis, burlesque comedy artists, and there is a new set of animated pictures.

Queen's.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. T. J. Colquhoun and B. M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. Bernard M. Armstrong.—An interesting programme is submitted here this week, including Owen Moran, boxer, and Johnston of Newcastle; Arthur Rigby, comedian, in his clever scena, *The March of the Married Men*; Ted Saunders, mimic; Nellie Dunbar, comedienne; Chas. E. Paton, character comedian; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, vocal trio; Fred Hallam, comedian; Mr. A Hubner, descriptive conjurer; and the bioscope.

Tivoli.—Lessee, Mr. Barney Armstrong.—An unusual attraction here is a series of animated pictures of the boxing contest between Britt and Nelson, the length of the film being such that it takes over an hour to exhibit. In addition, Charles Ouseley, the favourite coloured comedian and dancer, gives a clever turn; Captain and Miss Julia Maynard give a shooting display; and the remainder of the variety programme is the same as at the Queen's.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Christian* had a good reception on Monday evening. Mr. F. Rawson-Buckley cleverly acted the part of John Storm; Mr. Percy Johnson was an able exponent of Parson Quayle; and Mr. Harry Colbeck did well as Father Lamplugh; Mr. Colin Johnston gave a good reading of Archdeacon Wealthy; whilst Mr. Charles Stafford was successful as Brother Paul; Mr. Percy Twyman proved a capital villain as Lord Robert Ure; and Mr. Duncan Yarrow, as Horatio Drake, was excellent; Miss Florence Radcliffe gave a good impersonation of Polly Love; and Miss Violet Vivian won admiration as Mrs. Callander; Miss Grace Murielle, as Glory Quayle, submitted an admirable portrayal of the varying moods of the character. Mr. Anthony Raubes (the Faro King), Mr. Jack Hames (Mr. Loraimer), Mr. George Moon (Linkman), Miss L. Kingston (Netty), Miss Phyllis Leslie (Betty), Miss Eileen Barry (Letty), Miss Cicely Oates (Liza), and Miss Aggie Royal (Aggie Jones) rendered material assistance.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This week's attraction at the above theatre is *Mr. Smith*. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart acts with power and ability in the title-rôle; Mr. W. Edwyn Holloway makes an excellent Duke of Angleland; Mr. Fred Darrell is an amusing Herr Anheuser; Mr. Russell Norrie ably fills the rôle of the Earl of Oxted; Mr. Charles Pilling Baird is well suited as the Hon. Dudley Dysart; and Mr. H. Carter Bligh is a capable exponent of Jack Berkley. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is a dignified Duchess of Angleland; Miss Elsina Gaunt is a graceful and charming Lady Mary; and Miss Fyfe Alexander is a captivating Ruth Anheuser. Miss Daisy England gives a delightful portrayal of Mrs. Smith.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The O'Learys top the bill here, and their burlesque act is much enjoyed. Diana and Natalia are a clever pair of gymnasts, and the same may be said of the Brothers Pasquali. Bertha Winder is an excellent dancer; Andre and Breton smartly play an amusing sketch; J. A. Cassels is an amusing Scotch comedian; and the entertainment is concluded by an excellent cinematograph display.

Pavilion Theatre.—Lessees, the Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The principal turn here this week is by J. W. Hall, a clever comedian. Other items of a good bill are the Macdonald troupe of dancers; Bishop and Vale, comedians and dancers; Gus Barra, the musical motorist; J. MacFarlan, Scotch comedian; and Polly Heath, comedienne; and an excellent Biograph display is given.

HALIFAX. — Theatre Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*The Cotton Spinner* is being staged here this week. Miss Mary Austin plays the melancholy part of Mary Prescott in a manner that proves her to be an actress gifted with remarkable talents; Mr. John S. Haydon is exceptionally good as John Prescott, as is Mr. Vivian Edmonds as Arthur Northbury. The Lord Northbury of Mr. Edwin F. Fysher is all that can be desired, and the part of Foster Cunningham has a worthy representative in Mr. Chas F. Wilton. *The Cotton Spinner* is nightly preceded by the Imperial Rayograph pictures.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Mr. Arnold Bell's repertoire company opened here on Monday with *Ben My Chree*. Mr. Arnold Bell acted capably as Dan Mylrea, Mr. Cuthbert Mail made a discriminating Bishop, and Miss Frances Campbell sustained Mona Mylrea with judgment. On Tuesday *The Shaughraun* was staged, on Wednesday *The Octoroon*, and on Thursday *Called Back*.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—Dr. Walford Bodie, the emperor of electricity, heads the bill. The famous bloodless surgeon has during the week effected many cures. Mr. Norman Mills has scored a big success in his scena *The Real John Bull*; a versatile comedienne is Minnie Wren. Others sharing honours are Little Dolly Robson, child wonder; Signor Bandoni, the one-man band; Bert Hague, the singing pit-lad; and Hallam and Stanton in a musical comedy sketch. Some fine pictures are exhibited on the Bio-Tableaux.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Chas. Howard.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company opened on Monday in the American drama *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Hillard Vox appears as Joe Mayfield, and his interpretation is both manly and effective. Mr. Walter Thornton makes a capable Martin Mason, Mr. C. Douglas Carlyle as the Mexican bully is well placed, the part of Reggie Harwood is admirably sustained by Mr. Will Hook, Mr. Albert Rogers is also distinctly successful as the nigger Ben White, Miss Vera Fordyce as Dynamite Ann acts cleverly, Miss Leslie Wynne as Sarah Lively does some good work. Miss Daisy Carlton as Maggie Mason is bright and vivacious, as Belle Gordon Miss Ella Dixon is well suited, and Baby Betty is entrusted with the part of Little Tatto, and is very successful.

Grand, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—The Riogoku Family head the bill in their clever juggling and acrobatic performance, which is much appreciated; Celest contributes a wire-walking turn, which is highly interesting and clever. Other turns include Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes; the Two Rallis, in their sketch *The Artist and His Monkey*; Ryan and Hall, in their burlesque wrestling match; Wal Robbins, the black-and-white man; Miss Lucretia, who sings nicely and dances capitally; Will Musgrave, a comedian of merit; and the bioscope.

HARROGATE. — Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock. — Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark's company in *Blue Bell in Fairyland* is the attraction here this week. Miss Gladys Cooper deserves great praise for her Blue Bell, as the Reigning Queen Miss Muriel Juin sings well, Mr. Lawrence Emery's Dicky is an all-round performance of considerable merit, as Blib and Blob Messrs. H. C. Moston and Ernest Cossart are responsible for much genuine merriment, Mr. David Cruikshanks works hard playing Mr. Jopling and the Reigning King and stage-managing in addition, Miss Happy Apps makes an efficient Water Lily, singing "Little Glow-worm" daintily, and Miss Constance Emerald shows great promise of becoming famous. Instead of closing the theatre on Good Friday night, the directors kindly lent it free of charge to the committee of the Harrogate Infirmary for a sacred and classical concert. Local talent was strengthened by the help of several members of the *Blue Bell* cast, thanks to the kindness of Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark. Mr. J. M. Glover, chef d'orchestra of Drury Lane, conducted his intermezzo from *The Prodigal Son*.

The Kursaal.—General-Manager and Musical Director, Mr. C. L. Naylor, M.A., Mus.B.; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. R. Yeulett.—The Corporation season opened on Thursday with a large orchestra, and Miss Violet Ludlow (soprano), Miss Sara Silvers (contralto), Mr. Frank Leedam (humorist), and the American Bioscope. On Good Friday "The Messiah" was performed. To-night an additional attraction is secured in Mr. Tom S. Jones's operatic concert party.

HARTLEPOOL.—Empress.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company is here in *The Orange Girl*. Miss Elsworthy's portrayal of the character of Nell Gwyn is decidedly good; the rôle of Charles II. is well sustained by Mr. F. Liston; praise is due to Mr. A. Howard for a capable delineation of Dick Harraden; and distinct prominence is given to the rôle of Mother Gwyn by Miss S. Shanton. Mr. E. Percy makes the most of the part of Duke of Buckingham; and Miss M. Montrose shares largely in the success achieved by her acting as Lady Castlemaine. Major Charles's Three Nations, including Lilian and Vera, give a remarkable exhibition of rifle and revolver shooting; Harland and Rollison, musical grotesques, are amusing and clever, and grace and charm are displayed by Edie Endon. Dale and O'Malley and the Sisters Cora are as popular as ever; and Silly Billy Elliott and some interesting pictures are included in the programme.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—This week Basil Hood's charming comedy, *Sweet and Twenty*, is here on a return visit. Miss Ethel Weyburn fills the rôle of Joan Trevelyan delightfully; and Joan's garrulous mother is amusingly played by Miss Dorothy Carrington; Miss Isabel Grey acts artistically the part of Ellen, and the boy Chris is neatly embodied by Miss Zeta Russell; Mr. Drelincourt Odlum ably impersonates the Rev. Mr. Floyd, Mr. Stephen Wentworth exhibits a fine reserve as Eustace Floyd. A diverting piece of comedy is supplied by Mr. Gus Wheatman as Prynne, and the young naval officer, Douglas Floyd, is well presented by Mr. Glenister. The comedy is preceded by a musical farce, *In the Strand*. On Tuesday a special matinée grand concert drew a good house.

Hippodrome.—Resident and General Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—An exceptionally good comedy-sketch, *Three of a Kind*, is being played here by Miss Ethel Arden and Mr. George Abel. *The Little Stowaway*, by Fred Bowyer, greatly pleased the crowded house on Monday. Barton and Franklin proved excellent dancers, able musicians, and good vocalists. The Franco Midgets are very smart and amusing little conjurers; the Two Eltons are good triple-bar performers and comedians; Mlle. Sylvesto is a clever and graceful contortionist; Mlle. Sara's marblesque trio is an attractive turn in classical studies. Other turns include the Sisters Brenton (vocalists and dancers), Robbie Roy (Scotch comedian), and Ruffell's Bioscope Pictures.

HAWICK.—New Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon; Lessees, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Gordon Starkey.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company is fulfilling a week's engagement here. The company opened to a crowded house on Monday, when *The Taming of the Shrew* was given. Mr. Henry Herbert submitted a capital impersonation of Petruchio, but is seen to better advantage as a tragedian; Miss Dorothy Green, who undertook the part of Katharina, the shrew, gave a charming performance, her clear enunciation being much admired; Miss Kate Turner made a distinct bit as Bianca; Mr. Bernard Limpus gave a good interpretation of Lucentio. The amusing part of Grumio was in the capable hands of Mr. Ross Shore; as Gremio, Mr. Montague Wigan acted in an able manner. The parts of Tranio and Biondello were well filled by Mr. James Annand and Mr. Alfred A. Harris. The week's bill includes *The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet, Macbeth, The Rivals, She Stoops to Conquer*, and *As You Like It*.

HORWICH.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—For this week Mr. Bradley has engaged an exceptionally good variety company. Mr. Fred C. Brook's musical romance *Visions of the Past* is a very successful item; Mr. Russell Hatton's character sketches from Dickens are interesting; Mr. Carlos Menard's imitations on the violin are remarkably clever; Mr. U. C. Ugo, in his mirthful mysteries, gives a smart entertainment; the Original Musical Japs contribute a grand musical entertainment; Mr. Lionel Royle, comedian, is funny; Mr. Albert Stern is a good acrobatic dancer; and the Symbleens, in a musical absurdity, *Smith and Brown*, complete the evening's entertainment, to which Mr. Percy Harcourt, comedian, and Miss Gladys Norman, vocalist, also contribute.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The wonderful Savonas, whose musical versatility is almost bewildering in its extent, are creating quite a sensation with their performance. The gorgeous setting for their turn, The Palace of Orpheus, surpasses anything of its kind ever seen here. As the Cycling Elliotts, the troupe also displays more than ordinary cleverness. Other items in the bill are John Ross, double-voiced vocalist, who is well received; Miss Hanid Alexander, a gifted young drawing-room entertainer; Stephens and Remoir, comedians and expert dancers; Miss Ida Brophy, comedienne; the Lindon Vaudevilles, in their refined vocal scena, *Monks at Play*; and new pictures on the Biograph.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Miss Elaine Verner's company occupies the boards here with Mr. Henry Arthur Jones's famous play *Saints and Sinners*. Mr. Harding Thomas in the rôle of Jacob Fletcher submits a masterly and faithful representation of a Dissenting minister; Mr. Frank Lyndon is conspicuous with a clever study of the hypocritical Samuel Hoggard; Mr. Edgar Kent is a complete success as Lot Burden; Mr. W. Crome Wilson is extremely well placed as Captain Eustace Fanshaw; Mr. John J. Hooker is good as George Kingsmill; and Mr. J. Max Jerome is a humorous and commendable Prabble. Miss Elaine Verner is an eminently capable Letty Fletcher, and Miss Ada Clarke a very satisfactory Lydia.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Hindoo's Revenge* is presented here by Messrs. Arthur Whittaker and Gifford Stacey's company. Mr. Cyril W. Mackay displays considerable talent and acquits himself creditably as the hero, Captain Bruce Glenister; the rôle of the villainous Stephen Glenister has a capable exponent in Mr. Frank Ridley; Dr. Murphy could hardly be in better hands than those of Mr. Arthur Willerby; and Mr. Clive Ross makes an excellent Major-General Strong. Mr. Hamilton Travers does well as Count Polskoff, and Mr. Stanley Bell introduces much fun as Warren. The Hindoo parts are cleverly portrayed by Mr. E. H. Dobell and Miss Ethel Murray. Miss Lilyan Lait is delightful as Diana Strong, and Miss Daisy Snowden is a sympathetic Sylvia Glenister.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. George Morton.—A very pleasing drama, *The Little Bread-Winner*, is being presented here by Mr. J. A. Campbell's company. Mr. Campbell appears with good effect in the rôle of Lord Dorrington; Mr. David Gordon's representation of Richard Lawrence is much appreciated; Mr. Scott Leighton is entirely successful as Joseph Prior; and Mr. Allen Charles is a capable Charles Prior. Little Emmie Thomas wins approbation by her clever and dainty performance as Megg. Amongst others to whom praise is due are Miss Lissa Young, Miss Maud Hastings, Miss Maud Buchanan, Miss Emmie Litchfield, and Miss Jenny Bostock.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Morritt is a very interesting conjurer, and the blind man who accompanies him scores as a man of memory; Chas. R. Whittle is rapidly coming to the front rank as a comedian; Nancy St. John is a dainty singer and dancer; Alix Lukos, actor-vocalist, is a big favourite; Arthur Croxon is a welcome addition to the music halls. Other artists appearing include Regan and Ryan, Harry Taft, and the Donatos.

The New Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders, in an attractive military lightning drill, top the bill here. Genial Horace Wheatley is as great a favourite as ever; the Jonghmann Sisters are excellent singers; Dora Lyric has some good songs, which she renders very daintily; the New Macs are a clever duo, in songs, dances, and patter. Other popular turns include Fred Russell, Amy Russell, Walter Stanley, Ted Cowan, and the Dorrells.

ILKESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—On the opening night Mr. Leon Wood presented the comedy burlesque, entitled *The Hindustanee*, in which Miss Edith Mason wins favour by her singing as the Hindoo Princess. Mr. Percy Beresford achieves success as King Kawfee, and Mr. A. E. Behan is quaint as Dr. Theophilus Cody-Jones. The Three Behans evoke enthusiasm with their speciality.

Queen's Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Knightall.—Mlle. Fontain's marionette show is applauded; the Danvils give unbounded pleasure with their illustrated songs; May Tudor does well as a ballad vocalist; and George Russell is similarly successful as a laughing comedian. Miss Flo Varley sings songs which are appreciated. Eric Kino, comedian, and the De Roys, conjurers, also contribute to the programme.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Jennings.—Closed; reopen on Easter Monday.

Hippodrome (St. Nicholas-street).—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief attraction of the programme is Imro Fox, a clever conjurer, whose tricks and patter greatly please the audience; Mr. F. V. St. Clair renders topical songs with spirit and effect; and Zeta Grey and company are well received in a musical comedy sketch called *The Lancashire Lass*. Other turns include Howe and Ardie, skilled gymnasts; George and Nellie Cosman, who contribute a smart comedy speciality; Matt Wilkinson and company, in a sketch called *The Registry Office*; and the Rebelle troupe in an absurdity entitled *Mischief*.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—This week's attraction is Mr. W. H. Kirby's company, in *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr. Percy Maitland gives a good account of Stephen Leverton; Stanton Asleigh is well presented by Mr. E. H. Bertram; Miss Dot Reeve is a capable Lulu; Miss Cordelia Knight a powerful Zora; Mr. Hyland Shea is seen to advantage in the part of Old Joe; Mr. G. P. Lester is quite at home as Lem Lee; and Mr. W. H. Kirby causes amusement as Martin Blabbs. Dances are introduced by the Gibson Girls, and musical entertainments by various members of the company.

Royal Albert Hall.—Manager, Mr. L. F. Sanderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Wallace.—This week's company includes Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers; McAskell, comic conjurer; the Cool villes, comediennes and dancers; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; Payne's Bio-Photoscope; the Sisters Russell, low comedy artists; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians; Nanee Harder, comedienne; and the Mezzettis, in an original comedy act.

KIRKCALDY.—King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Rex Sugden.—Mr. F. G. Kimberley's company opened on Monday night with *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Mr. Edward Bikker gives a pleasant and impressive reading of General Kingsley; Mr. J. Geddes is well suited as Frank Carsdale; and Mr. Charles Gallier gives a careful study of the unfortunate Allen Kingsley. Mr. Andrew Money is certainly skilful as the villainous Captain Darrell, but his utterance is slightly too rapid to be distinct. A well-known face is that of Mr. F. C. Imbert, who, along with Mr. Harry Lyndon and Miss Edie Macklin, keeps the audience in a good humour. The two drummer boys are Misses May Smart and Eva Norman, who are capitally suited to the parts. Special mention should be made of Misses B. Shirley and M. Eversleigh as Alma Kingsley and Margaret Rivers.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman. After an absence of six years Mr. Forbes Robertson opened at this premier theatre on Monday, and a very cordial welcome was extended to the distinguished actor and his talented leading lady, Miss Gertrude Elliott, by a crowded and enthusiastic audience. On the two first evenings of the week the adaptation of Kipling's novel, *The Light That Failed*, was presented, and the renowned actor's classic conception of Dick Helder, artist, lover, and soldier, held his audienec intensely interested. Miss Gertrude Elliott gave a living and convincing impersonation of Maisie, whose stubborn spirit is at last broken by love. A very clever effort was the Bessie Broke of Miss Auriol Lee, and Miss Gertrude Bibby was also good as the sympathetic Red-haired Girl. The medical comrade, Torpenhow, had a fine and manly exponent in Mr. Ian Robertson, and other characters were well and carefully played by Mr Chas. Weir, Mr. Herbert Dansey, and Miss Esme Hubbard. *Mrs. Grundy* and *Mice and Men* also figure in the week's repertoire.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*What a Woman Did* is presented twice nightly at the Royal this week, and Mr. W. A. Armour's company is well up to its work. Miss Amy Elfam and Miss Dora Price are in the two principal female rôles, the former as a callous adventuress and the latter as the wronged wife. Both acquit themselves in creditable style. Mr. Edward Rawlinson plays the rôle of Conrad, the hero, with manly vigor; Mr. W. A. Armour, as the villainous Marquis de Viray, earns the execrations of the "gods" in approved style; and Mr. Edward Devizes and Miss Amy Gray are other prominent members of the cast.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—The new and attractive musical comedy *After the Ball* is proving a great draw at the Queen's this week, and the success is deserved, for bright and tuneful song and dance along with artistic scenery are the features of the show. Mr. Chas Carey's company includes Mr. Walter Bingham and Mr. Victor Widdicombe, who are throughout prominent as Halliwell Menit and Colonel Menit respectively. Mr. Buckstone Clair is smart and amusing as Martin, the servant; and Mr. Norman Bowyer is no less capable as the exponent of Dick Seymour. A very charming Nancy is the outcome of Miss Florence Smithers' efforts, and Miss Nellie Groves, Miss May Florence, and Miss Nellie James are also capable exponents of their respective parts. A bevy of Gibson Girls and an enthusiastic chorus are important factors in the success.

Empire Palace.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—That sprightly comedian Dan Crawley heads a bright Empire bill, and, with some smart new songs, enhances a big local reputation. Another clever comedian is Edwin Barwick, who also scores a success. The comedy sketch *A Bachelor's Dream* is well conceived and cleverly acted by Edouin and Edwards, Park's Eton Boys are successful, Julie Mackay again evinces her ability and versatility in pleasing vocal work, the St. Julian Sisters sing and dance to general satisfaction, and the Lios Alfa Sisters distinguish themselves in a graceful trapeze act. Robb Gilmore contributes largely to the gaiety of his audience, acrobatic business by Forest and King is well received, and the efforts of Lilian Bishop, comedienne, are deservedly applauded.

Tivoli. — Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—A farcical act, *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, capitally done by Lew Lake and company, is a big feature in the programme here, and proves vastly amusing. There is no more popular comedienne who visits here than Lottie Lennox, and the clever lady is now enjoying every success. Bernard and Weston and Frank Leon are prominent among the fun-providers, Lambert and Glover do an entertaining comedy act, those expert trapeze artists Sibb and Sibb find ready acceptance, and the bill also includes popular entertainers in Lizzie Kirk (comedienne), Three Sisters May (vocalists and dancers), C. Williams (comedian), and Lilian (expert trick cyclist).

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Cissy Curlette is a feature here with vocal and mimetic specialities, but indisposition prevented her appearance on Monday. Talberto and Douglas are prominent entertainers with comedy items, Bertisch and Mac are also clever in a similar line, and Carr and Rose combine song and comedy in pleasing style. Bert Brantford and Jack Hylton are a couple of smart comedians, the Lorrisons are amusing eccentrics, May Fallowfield (comedienne) has a plenitude of admirers, and the pictures are a good lot.

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honours are scored by Miss Cythia Brooke as Miss Elizabeth and Mr. Frederick Victor as Captain Harry Peyton, both artists acting their parts in a manner which leaves nothing to be desired. Others in the cast who deserve special praise are Mr. Elliott Ball as Major Colden, Miss Leonora Braham as Mistress Sarah Williams, Mr. Sidney Young as Mr. Valentine, Mr. A. Carlaw Grand as John Edwards, and Miss Phyllis Back as Molly Edwards. The staging and dressing of the play are also a feature. A new comedietta, entitled *Slightly Compromising*, precedes, in which Mr. A. Carlaw Grand, Miss Phyllis Back, and Miss Rollo Deas appear with success.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The sensational drama *The 10.30 Down Express* arrived here on Monday for the fourth time, being presented by Mr. Horace Stanley's company. Mr. Charles Burdon is capital as Jack O'Malley, the hero; and Mr. George Arthur as the evil genius, James Inderwick, plays well. Mr. Claude Haviland is good as the detective, Huntley Mason. Miss Elsie Capell, as Bessie Leigh, the heroine, is a decided success. Both Mr. Horace Stanley as Sam Wagstaffe and Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts repeat their clever and humorous portrayals. Others who also deserve praise are Mr. Alaric Burton as Cuthbert Leigh, Mr. Tom Roydan as Seth Coombes, Miss Evelyn M. Walton as Letitia Leigh, and Miss Clara Santley as Olive Coombes. The introduction of the railway train causes the usual thrill of excitement.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Mr. and Mrs. Berob-Konorah are this week introducing a mystic novelty in Menetekel, or the Magic Ball, which is placed against a white sheet, and adheres to it. At the word of command, however, it moves deliberately about the sheet, tracing letters which, when completed, form words suggested by members of the audience. The whole performance is of a most bewildering character, and is heartily appreciated. The Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean vocalists and dancers give a delightful turn, which proves very popular; the Haydas, comedy acrobats, submit a very smart exhibition; Ian Colquhoun, who is possessed of a splendid baritone voice, receives quite an ovation for his songs; Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika introduce some cleverly-trained animals; Abel and Welsh are remarkable contortionists, who do things that seem impossible; Dainez and his comedy circus are responsible for an entertaining show; Arthur Gill, possessed of many voices, is well received for an excellent turn; Gladys Mavius is a vivacious and attractive comedienne and dancer; and Marie Weston, singer, dancer, and banjoist, also entertains with success.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—Brien McCulloch and his company are the principal attraction here this week, and are presenting the sketches *The Tramps* and *The Girl I Love* with their usual success. Gray and Welford, character comedians, keep the audience in the merriest of moods; Janet H. Reynolds sings in excellent style; Ethel Loftus, the comedy-girl, is very good; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is retained, and is projecting the usual interesting pictures; Harry Zetter is a most amusing comedian and eccentric dancer; Jenny Reeves, comedienne, is also entertaining.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst.—Variety is the attraction here this week. At the head of the programme is Chung Ling Soo, the marvellous Chinese magician, who is again scoring a thoroughly well-deserved success; the Three Schaffers, gladiatorial acrobats, are responsible for a good turn; a vastly amusing farce is presented by the Edgar Forrest sketch company; Lestrel is a smart juggler; Messrs. Starr and Jerome, singers and dancers, are loudly applauded; Mr. Charles Milner, comedian, scores a success; Frank Kegan and company are the cause of much laughter in their sketch *Everyday Bicyclist*. Other turns are Miss Susie Beavan, character comedienne; and Miss Ida Ross, Tyrolean vocalist.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Walter Melville's combination is paying a return visit to this theatre in the play *A Girl's Cross-Roads*. The leading part is played by Miss Beaumont Collins, who as Barbara Wade discharges a difficult task with great skill. In the great silent scene in Hyde Park, in the third act, she holds the attention of the house for fully ten minutes without speaking a single word. Jack Livingstone is excellently played by Mr. Frank R. Robertson. Mr. Charles Franmore gives a powerful rendering of Meadows, the old farmer; and Nellie, his daughter, has an able exponent in Miss Nannie Meade. Cuthbert Lumley, the arch-villain of the piece, is capitally played by Mr. Roy Fortescue, and Mr. Fred Ingram as Toby Turvey and Miss Zena Delphine as Tilly Vane keep the fun going in hearty style.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—For the first time in Liverpool the merry, rollicking *Public Opinion* has held the stage here and created endless laughter. The general estimation of the piece is that nothing funnier has been here for many a long day. The Hutchison company, an excellent combination, has presented it in a most complete style. Mr. George Giddens, the original exponent of Horace Wibsey, repeats his mirth-provoking assumption; Miss Emma Hutchison makes a delightful Lady Diana; as Pansy Miss Lilian Hallows plays with care; and the remainder of the cast includes such competent artists as Mr. Ernest Ruston, Mr. William Hargreaves, Mr. George Mallett, Mr. Harold West, Mr. Templer Powell, and Mr. C. J. Barber. *The Stratagem* is the curtain-raiser.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Lessees, The Shakespeare Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company is here this week with *Are You a Mason?* the funny farce making a welcome reappearance. The rôle of George Fisher, played by Mr. Allan Pollock, is greatly enjoyed; Mr. E. H. Paterson makes an excellent Amos Bloodgood; the Frank Perry of Mr. H. Langdon Bruce is full of spirit; Mr. Percy Bell fills the part of Hamilton Travers with efficiency; credit is due to Mr. Howard L. Tracy for his Ernest Morrison; and of the ladies Miss Adelaide Grace makes a dignified Mrs. Bloodgood, Miss Mabel Young is a lively and witty Eva, and Miss Mabel Jowett affords much satisfaction as Lulu. The curtain-raiser is *A Bad Penny*, sustained by Messrs. Percy Bell, E. H. Paterson, Howard L. Tracy, and O. Smith, and Miss Jowett.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, with their good all-round company, are here this week presenting *A Sister's Sin*, which has found much favour. In his original part of Larry Murphy, Mr. Kimberley plays with a spirit and force which earn for him a deal of appreciation; Mrs. Kimberley makes an excellent Minnie Hastings; in the heavy character of Harold Raymond Mr. William Vane acquits himself with credit; Miss Augusta Tullock thoroughly realises the rôle of the gipsy Charzel; a similar part, that of Redempta, being carefully handled by Miss Violet Langley. Miss Elsie May as the child Jack shows herself to be an accomplished young performer, and sings with sweetness and simplicity; and a deal of humour is introduced by Mr. Horace Custins as Theophilus Hope and Mr. G. E. Liddle as Billy Smart.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Haley's Prize Juveniles, who top the bill here this week, give a most entertaining turn, their singing and dancing being greatly enjoyed. Haydee's miniature theatre came in for a full share of attention and applause. Fred Cary is a comedian of no mean order, J. H. McCann's roller skating is applauded, Ruth Molloy is a clever mimic, Oakley and James are good comedians, and Charlie Dillon, comedian, is well received.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*Otto the Outcast*, presented by Mr. Harry Starr and his company, has proved a good attraction here this week. Mr. Starr's abilities are shown to much advantage in the title-rôle, and in the course of the piece he introduced his quick change from Napoleon to Nelson, the illuminated tableaux accompanying being very striking; Mr. Edwin Firth plays with power as Roderique D'Estalier; as Daddy Bruneau, king of the river rats, Mr. D. Cowell Clarke affords every satisfaction; Mr. Arthur Esdail enacts the rôle of Marquis Laporte with ability; a pathetic picture of the flower girl Lara is given by Miss Katie Norris, who sings several songs with taste; Miss Ella Crossley makes an excellent Susette; and Miss A. Caley is good as the Marchioness.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. F. L. Arthur.—Tom Taylor's capable company is here this week with *The Female Swindler*. Mr. Henry C. Cooper plays the important part of John Coulson with fine dramatic effect; Miss Grace E. Leslie, in the title-rôle, achieves much success; Mr. Luke Forster creates considerable fun with his four comedy characters; Mr. Bernard Dunstan proves a capital Abraham Mikestein; Miss Amy Maitland contributes largely to the mirth with her Mary Ann Mee; and strong support comes from Miss Florrie Kelsey, and Messrs. George R. Montford, A. Kenyon Gray, Harry Marshall, Charles Elton, and James Carter.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole. — Miss Vesta Tilley, who is a great favourite in Liverpool, heads the bill here this week, and receives a gratifying welcome; Pat Rafferty, the Irish comedian, also came in for a good reception; some delightful singing is rendered by the Steinway Quartette; the Urma Sisters perform daring feats on the trapeze; J. F. Elliston's sketch company has a very humorous trifle in *Kiss Your Father*; Cole de Losse are a pair of smart comedians on the slack wire; Miss Camille D'Alberg presents a lively pantomime sketch, *Le Main*; Alf. Bishop is a comedian of much ability; and others in the list are the Paxton Trio, gymnasts, and Venie Clements, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Foremost here this week is *The Phonograph Girl*, a merry musical fantasia, presented by Mr. George Leyton's sketch company. The cast is a large one, and the whole production of a kind that cannot fail to take the fancy of an audience. Edward Lewis, as "Bumps the phrenologist," proves exceedingly funny; the Carina Sisters offer a pretty musical mélange, and display much cleverness; a capital turn is given by Harry Brown, the coloured comedian; some smart speciality dancing is provided by Susie and Protti; Lawrence Barclay, eccentric comedian, creates a deal of laughter; George Barrington, musical expert, supplies a pleasing entertainment; and others who appear are Sid Bandon, comedian, and Eileen Douglas, comedienne.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—A smart couple of gentlemen patter comedians and dancers are the Hampson Brothers, who head the bill here this week; another capital turn is that given by Syd Bird and Walter Arnold with their new series of illustrated songs; Harry Levaine as an eccentric comedian earns much applause; the singing and whistling of Nellie Adrienne commands attention; Alf. Fleming sings and dances in capital style; and Cissie Maud has several very acceptable songs.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—This week the Royal stock dramatic company are producing the eleven-tableaux sketch *Homeless*. Mr. Percy Boucher is the Japhet Jones, and receives excellent support from Messrs. Harry Tresham, E. D. Allen, Cecil Ravenswood, J. Moore, M. Kyburn-Dellar, and Miss Beryl Ravenswood. Arthur Brown, comedian, and Harriet Page, serio, give variety turns, and some striking pictures are shown on the bioscope.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The animated pictures showing the Britt *v.* Nelson fight, which took place in America, occupy nearly the whole of the evening's programme here. Variety turns are, in addition, given by Vowles and Bryan, comedians, patterers, and duettists; Vera Winstone, ballad vocalist; and Eric Graham, coster comedian.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmott.—At the head of the bill here this week is Mlle. Roza and her canine hippodrome, the work of the animals being witnessed with much pleasure; Fred Curran, a parody comedian of no mean order, is responsible for a deal of laughter; Miss Frances Haskoll presents a smart electric illusory novelty, *The Vocal Chameleon*; Little Renee is a neat child mimic; Sidney Dolf, the vocal trickster, causes amusement; some smart juggling comes from the Three Symons; Gus Garrick, as an eccentric comedian, shows ability; and the Sisters Graham, duettists, also appear.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Messrs. J. Wright Aitken and company, including Miss Una Wright, are the principal performers here this week, with the domestic sketch *A Human Fiend*; George and Athol have an attractive speciality act; the Kimberley Boys are excellent as comedians and dancers; George Gornall sings and dances well; and the Bioscope shows a number of interesting pictures descriptive of a voyage to New York.

WESTMINSTER.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—An excellent acrobatic show by the Emilions tops the bill this week, and is much appreciated; the clever cycling by Rastus is particularly good; Sam Thomson, the Scotch patter comedian, takes well; Conan and Doyle raise a deal of laughter with their funny talk; Tennis and Laune are a pair of charming duettists; Nellie Swarge, a local amateur, does well as a comdienne; and Bert Bowden is very quaint.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Much interest is shown here in Machnow, the tallest man in the world; J. F. Elliston and company, with the sketch *Kiss Your Father*, deputised for Mark Melford, who was unable to appear; Cooke and Rothert, the Yankee Doodle boy and girl, give a smart original turn; the Luigos Sextette Serenaders provide a pretty vocal scena, *Naples by Night*; Rauschle, a wonderful impersonator, is loudly applauded for his finished work; Charles Vincent keeps his audience in a right merry mood with his stream of patter; the Mariano Sisters, on the breakaway trapeze, perform some remarkable feats; Alice Maydue has some comic dialect songs; and Anna Kenwick, comedienne and dancer, also appears.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Miss Beatrice Isaacson's company with the sensational drama *A Great Sensation* opened here on Monday. Mr. Sidney N. Hallows in the dual rôle of Jack and Stephen Damer is to be commended; Robin Dale is well interpreted by Mr. A. Richards; Mr. E. C. Clive is good as Henry Encombe; and Mr. William Ames also scores. Peter and Ria are well taken respectively by Mr. Fred Dalton and Miss Marian Mayne; and as Eva Dale Miss Isaacson displays power.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gattey.—Mrs. R. A. Cutbert's company, under the management of Mr. J. Kingsley Roydan, is presenting this week an interesting drama, *The Black Bishop*. Mr. Gordon Kay Bull as Vaughan Rejainee plays throughout with distinction and frequently evokes applause. Mr. J. Kingsley Roydon cleverly represents the part of Simeon Strathcoat, Mr. Chas Coventry gives an admirable portrayal of Captain Keilcrift, the part of Brank Bruttlebut is capitally rendered by Mr. Frank Hudspert, Miss Isabel Norman is a sympathetic Ruth, Miss Jeannie Marquise scores in the dual parts of Marian Strathcoat and Kate Marleigh, Miss Maggie White as Hannah acquits herself worthily, and Miss Madge Turner as Little Ruth sustains the part well.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr. Henry Chattell, performed *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* on Monday. Miss Gertrude Evans in the title-rôle plays with success, Miss Bessie Deares was delightful as Rose Seymour, Miss Kathryn Eckart presented a careful study of Marian Franklyn, and Miss L. Ramsdale, together with Mr. Sidney Dean, worked hard and successfully in the comedy scenes. Mr. Charles Coleman made a typical parson, Mr. Frank Etheridge acted with discretion as Jack England, Mr. Edwin Lever was good as James Sutton, and Mr. Richard Fulton realistic as Capt. Caversham.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.— Managing-Director, Mr. G. Howard Watson.—Mr. George D'Albert is at the head of affairs here this week, and is having a good reception nightly; Muir and Bartlett, on a return visit, prove amusing with *A Collar Stud*; Princess Pauline is a popular comedienne; Leyton and Bland, in a quick-change act, are clever; and Edney and Wade, duettists, and the Three Cheers are also in the bill.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Visitors to this theatre on Monday were delighted by the performance of *Lucky Miss Dean* by a company under Mr. Eugene C. Stafford. A better interpretation of this merry little farcical comedy could not be desired. Miss Dora Gray gave a vivacious depiction of the young wife and supposed heiress, and as the ambitious but impracticable young husband, who is responsible for the "situation" of the play, Mr. W. E. Ashcroft played with excellent spirit and humour. Miss Estelle Despa gave a characteristic rendering of the Aunt; Mr. W. T. Mason was quite successful as the Uncle; while as the cousins, Horace and Wilfred, Mr. Vivian Gilbert and Mr. Cyril Price-Evans contributed greatly to the success. The piece was preceded by a farce, *My American Admirer*, in which Miss Beth Elliott, as the heroine, was well supported by Miss Estelle Despa and Messrs. W. Mason and Vivian Gilbert. The evening's programme was completed by *The Mirror of Time*, a new one-act piece, which is noticed elsewhere.

PRINCE'S THEATRE AND GAIETY THEATRE.—Closed. (Also St. James's Theatre.)

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company in *The Price of Her Soul* are the attraction here this week. The performance is under the personal lead of Mr. John B. Shinton, who gives a strong and artistic rendering of the part of Lord Rolf Mandeville, V.C. The rascality of Major Skoboloff is realistically depicted by Mr. Annesley Hely, whose doings are ably supported by Mr. Murray Yorke as Petruski, and Miss Mona Grey as Olga Lanovitz. Miss Ada M. Ryder gives a charming delineation of Countess Steinmitz; Mr. Will Percy's impersonation of Pat Murphy is very clever and amusing; and good work is contributed also by Miss Tina Frank, Mr. Archie Gear, Mr. Edwin Coates, Miss Ada Arnott, Miss Ina Mervale, and little Ida Thompson, a clever juvenile actress.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey again present to Manchester audiences their well-known and successful drama, *A Traitor Prince*, and a good house welcomed this change from a variety programme here on Monday. Mr. G. M. Montanini plays Prince Rao Dalmirez with distinct power; Miss Nita Langford is forcible and effective as Vashti, the Indian snake charmer; Mr. Ernest Duval makes a very engaging Lieutenant Derrick; and Miss Rose Routledge is well suited to the part of Lola Vane. Humour is contributed by Mr. Edmund O'Grady as Bobby Bright and Mr. Edward Fenton as the Hon. Vavasour Dalrymple; and others who distinguish themselves in an all-round clever cast are Miss Kitty Thomas, Mr. Victor Rae, and Mr. Richard Roberts.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—This week's attraction here is Messrs. Dot tridge and Longden's company in *The Midnight Mail*, under the direction of Mr. James Willard. An excellent interpretation of this interesting and exciting drama is given, the chief heroic part being played by Mr. George Harvard with considerable power; while Miss Grace Lester acts admirably as the wife of the engine-driver. Mr. Fred G. Evison gives a fine depiction of Brewer, the drunken stoker; and Miss Mildred Carr is clever and entertaining as the stoker's wife. All the remaining members of the long cast fulfil their responsibilities with distinct credit, and the effect of the play as a whole is highly satisfactory. Among the stage effects is a railway engine, built at Longton, Staffs; and the scenery is by C. E. Markham.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Secretary, Mr. P. Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Wilkie Bard, the well-known droll comedian, tops the bill here this week, and is vastly amusing. Another excellent turn is that of Whit Cunliffe, light comedian, who is very entertaining, and is greatly appreciated. James De Voye's educated pony "Billy" is wonderfully well trained; Mons. Albany, the versatile Parisian, contributes a pleasing turn; and Arthur Slater is a very clever whistler. Other good turns are Jessie Merrilees, comedienne; the Brothers Obo, duettists and patter comedians; and Fred Clements, humorist. Les Voces, operatic vocalists, did not appear on the occasion of our visit. The pictures, as usual, are good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Will Collins.—Herbert Darnley's company of comedians are the chief attraction here this week in a laughable absurdity, entitled *Moving In*, and cause much merriment. A clever and most amusing turn is provided by the Warsaw Brothers, musical comedians, whose eccentric methods are followed by roars of laughter; *Fanny's Flat* is a farcical trifle presented by Elsie Hill and company; the Three Kenards appear in a novel aerial strong act, and are well received; Charles J. Butler and John Josey, as Two Cavaliers, sing well; and some good singing is also contributed by James and Hesketh, vocalists. Bowman and Morton are seen to advantage in a diverting duologue; the Grand National is shown on the Bioscope; and Marguerite Ismay and Piccs are loudly applauded for some excellent dancing. The Human Bullet, lately at the London Hippodrome, is here for a second week.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—John Tiller's company is here this week in that amusing sketch *High Jinks*, and the songs, dances, and jokes are greatly enjoyed. Spessardy's bears and ponies are wonderfully well trained; the Phantos present a smart novelty, weird and comic, entitled *The Phantom Ship*; the Leslie Brothers give a delightful and clever musical entertainment; the Artois Brothers are finished artists on the triple bars; Ruby and Laws are good in an amusing incident, *Cora's Visitors*; the Choir render Sullivan's madrigal "Strange Adventure" from *The Yeomen of the Guard*; Miss Beatrice Vere sings, with the aid of the choir, "There is a green hill far away," in excellent style; and the Life of a New York Policeman is graphically portrayed on the Bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The charming Billie Barlow is the top star here this week, and is as popular as ever. Ike Scott and Son are highly amusing in songs and patter; and the eccentric methods of George French meet with well-deserved applause; Emmie Ames is a comedienne of merit; Newco and Sullo are capital grotesque dancers; and the magic of Sewell is neatly performed. Others who contribute entertaining items are Fuller's human marionettes; the Sisters Selwyn, vocalists and dancers; and Harry Bancroft, comedian. Raymond's Vivagraph completes.

KING'S (LONGSIGHT).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*Casey's Court*, that highly diverting novelty, is going strong here this week. The Midget Mimes enter into the spirit of the sketch in fine style, and are to be much commended. Bob King, as Mrs. Casey, is particularly funny; and Scottie, the droll one, is deserving of great praise. The always popular Fanny Robina makes a big hit with her excellent songs; Tait performs conjuring tricks in a quaint way; the Sisters Petram manipulate marionettes in a most life-like manner; and Arthur Stacey, the demon step boot dancer, is very good. Others who contribute enjoyable items are Florrie Cooper, vocalist; Billy Bint, comedian; and Fiman's vaudeville act, introducing song, dance, and patter, is very funny. The animated pictures are amusing. Frazer and Haley, vocalists, figure on the programme, but on the night of our visit did not appear.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Four Hearnes head the bill here this week in a clever and amusing acrobatic act. Jessie Albini, a smart comedienne, proves a great success; and Bert Williams, the ventriloquial humorist, meets with a flattering reception. Lou Langley is a dainty comedienne, and is well received; Charles Bignell is a capital comedian; Frank Whiteley is a clever bone soloist, with some funny patter; the Two Harveys (Jack and Polly), are smart acrobats and Hess and Lisbon are marvellous roller skaters. On the occasion of our visit the Calthorpe Comedy Four appeared in the absence of George Hall, who figures on the programme, and sang well. "A Trip to Oxo Land" is shown on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Gus Harris, the Hebrew character delineator, in his striking song-scena, "The Synagogue," is at the top of the bill here this week, and makes a decided hit. A clever and somewhat humorous "Ring" act is presented by Minnie and Harry Groves, and is well received; as is also the smart patter and neat sand-dancing of Gilroy and Gross. The youthful Gilbert Brothers are expert on the tight-rope; Marti and Julietta are clever and daring pyramidical artists; Ada Marjutti is a surprising contortionist; Jacko, the man-monkey, is very good; the Sisters Poole are neat dancers; J. C. Laurie has some funny business; and Fred Naundale's sketch company appear in sketch, *The Squire's Daughter*.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Morella and Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Variety again held the sway here this week. The Prinellas received much applause in their musical and farmyard scena *A Country Flirtation*, the Sisters Daventry give a good turn, Akbar (Continental gymnast) scores with a clever exhibition on the rings and trapeze, the Three Great Danes appear in a diverting sketch *An Old Fool's Folly*, and Knoto gives a good turn. Miss Wentworth and Mr. Harker also contribute, and the Moullascope is again here.

MARGATE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—This week the programme is headed by Arthur Kenny, a clever sensational cyclist; the Gordon Brooks Duo, comedy duologue artists, evoke considerable laughter; and the other contributors include Fred Dorset, comedian; Hill and Dover, speciality artists; Ernie Myers, the funny man; and Lily Lonsdale, ballad vocalists. The Hippodrome pictures are, as usual, interesting.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. George Dance's *The Cingalee* company is presenting that opera here for the first time. Mr. Tom Payne is very successful as Chambbuddy Ram, and keeps the house convulsed with laughter by his droll impersonation; Mr. A. Wortley Drewitt is a tuneful Harry Vereker, and Miss Edith Harmer a charming Nanoya, both vocally and otherwise. Other principal parts are successfully represented by Mr. F. Sutton as Boobhamba, Mr. Eric Fenton as Sir Peter Loftus, Mr. Millar Wilson as Myamgah, Mr. Scott Cullen as Bobby Warren, Miss Eva Stephens as Lady Patricia, Miss Minnie Muir as Peggy Sabine, and Miss Cynthia Norman as Angy Loftus.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company is this week presenting *The Branded Woman*. Mr. James Stillwell displays dramatic power in the dual rôle of Philip Maurice and the hunchback Zarka, Mr. Ed. Fryer performs cleverly as Leon Baron Hauber, Mr. Paul E. Teulon is excellent as Louis Duroc, and Mr. Beckett Bould plays creditably as Dick Brown. Miss Renee Glendower gives a vigorous rendering of Genevieve Larouche, a graceful interpretation of Marie is presented by Miss Katherine Barnett, and Miss Hester Kennedy is a pleasing Rudolph.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company in *What the Butler Saw* is here this week. Mr. Rignold acts with much humour as the Butler, Miss Ada Blanche makes a most attractive Mrs. Barrington, her scenes with her flirting husband (ably played by Mr. Charles Fawcett) being excellent. Miss Marie Daltra gives a clever impersonation of Miss Foden, Miss Annie Goward is a clever Mrs. Hake, Miss Dorothy Garth plays the character of Maria with much humour, and Miss Grace Richardson makes a handsome Nora; Mr. Reddick Anderson submits a clever sketch of Foden, and Mr. Frank Elton gives a fine impersonation of Dr. Clayton.

OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Thos. Thorne and company is paying a visit here this week with *Our Boys*. Mr. Thorne in the rôle of Perkin Middlewick is responsible for a typical impersonation of the retired butterman, Mr. Norman Clarke's Sir Geoffrey Champneys is an excellent impersonation, and Mr. Keith Fraser does well as Talbot.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. Theo Hardeen, handcuff king, heads the bill, and puzzles audiences by his smartness; Miss Marie Kendall, an old favourite, maintains her popularity, as does Spy and Austin; Will Crackles creates roars of laughter with his songs, and the musical turn provided by Little Salvino is highly popular; Steve McCarthy causes much merriment with his songs, as does Harry Walker with his songs and stories; the Sisters Lunelle provide a clever dancing turn, and an interesting programme ends with the Bio.

OXFORD PALACE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—A good programme is submitted here. The star turn is the Sidney James's Strolling Players, whose musical speciality act proves a great attraction. Harry Tate's company is here for a second week in a skit, *Golfing*, and the Esdele Brothers prove themselves a pair of quaint comedians. Ernesto gives an interesting juggling turn, and Carl Mysto, the handcuff manipulator, puzzles the audience. The other turns are provided by James Fairplay, Dolly Harmer, and the Mimosa Trio.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — TYNE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—*Peter Pan* met with a most cordial reception here on Monday night. Mr. Charles Frohman's company includes Miss Cecilia Loftus, whose performance in the title-rôle is a source of unqualified delight. Another charming representation is the Wendy of Miss Hilda Trevelyan. The Mrs. Darling of Miss Enid Spencer Brunton is characterised by natural sympathy and grace, and nothing but praise can be bestowed on the Mermaid of Miss Rosamond Bury. Mr. Loring Fernie proves an effective representative of Captain James Hook; and the humour imparted into the rôle of Slightly by Mr. A. W. Baskcomb is of the bright and refreshing sort. Mr. Ben Field submits a thoroughly amusing picture as Starkey; Miss Ela Y. May repeats her quaint and odd embodiment as Liza; the graceful dancing of Miss Pauline Chase is a prominent item; and the animal impersonation of Mr. Arthur Lupino is clever and life-like.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company are this week paying a return visit in the late Wilson Barrett's play, *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy is very earnest as well as businesslike in the part of John Durham, and makes a most admirable hero. Mr. Benson North supplies a very good study of Lord Mountfallon. Mr. Arthur Leigh, as the Hon. Reginald Steighton, is responsible for a great deal of fun. Miss Gertrude Robins gives a graceful impersonation of Helen Vallerton; Miss Frances Wolviston, as the aristocratic match-making Lady Mountfallon, is exceedingly good; and Miss Florence Dunhunty is charming as the Hon. Margaret Steighton. The other parts are in the capable hands of Messrs. A. E. Walker, Campbell Goldsmid, W. F. Clitherow, John Hart, Sydney Bancroft, Charles Phipps, George Lake, Eric Wynne, and Bert Gunter, and Miss Louise Gourlay, Miss Mabel Bishop, and Miss Evelyn.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*Proof* is presented this week by Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company. Mr. Gerald Kennedy gives a polished and natural rendering of Pierre Lorance; Mr. William Dexter gives a finished impersonation of Lazare. The Chamboran of Mr. Welford Bailey is very interesting; and Mr. G. Garnet-Vayne sustains the part of Victor de Laugney to perfection. Miss Lucie Prittie-Tydd, as Adrienne, proves herself to be an artist of no mean ability. Miss Phena Powell, as Madame Deprets, is seen to great advantage; Miss Dorothy White sustains the rôle of Duchess D'Aubeterre to perfection; Miss Ellen Morris, as Julie, is excellent; and Miss May Grimshaw, as Valentine, acts in a praiseworthy manner.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Miss Evelyn Moore's company is appearing here this week in the sensational drama, entitled *The Crimson Club*. The company engaged is a good one, and is seen to advantage.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Joe Elvin and his merry little company in a sketch entitled *Two Nights Out* constitutes the premier attraction in this week's bill, and their efforts to amuse have been warmly appreciated. A great success has been achieved by Rose and Calvert, whose dramatic skit on "Captain Kettle" is a ludicrous piece of business; Hayes and Suits prove themselves dancers of marked ability; and Rich and Rich display much versatility in a droll act. Elsie Robey, as a comedy-pianist, is as popular as ever; and Joseph Coulson, a young local vocalist, makes his début on the variety stage in a manner which augers well for his future success. Booker and Narbis win favourable comment as comedy artists; the Jurgens Trio in "an all-round act," the Cape Girls, singers and long-boot dancers, and the Bioscope also contribute to the evening's enjoyment. Staley's Novelty Transformation Company remain over from last week.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—A particularly bright array of talent occupies the boards here this week, a leading feature being the return visit of George Leyton, whose vocal scena is enthusiastically received. The Colberg Family are a troupe of youthful musicians, who are no strangers on Tyneside; the methods employed by Arthur Elvey as the up-to-date tipster are original, and therefore worthy of success; Radford and Valentine distinguished themselves as comedy jugglers; as a contortionist, Mephisto is remarkably clever; and the Two Dixons, banjoists

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and dancers, disport themselves to advantage. Excellent fare is also forthcoming from George Crogie, comedian; Garden and Zesch, society vocalists; Anthony, an amusing conjurer, whose introduction is quaint in the extreme; and the Barrascope.

Olympia Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton.—The Olympia was re-opened on Monday for a short season, with the life-size pictures of the Britt-Nelson fight, when these two exponents of the "noble art" fought for the championship of the world. The engagement should certainly prove popular.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—A capable company is playing *East Lynne* here. Mr. Lionel D'Aragon makes a first-rate Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Arthur C. Lyons is well suited to the part of Lord Mount Severn; Justice Hare is admirably acted by Mr. Chas. Johnson; and as Richard Hare Mr. E. E. Lynn shows himself a very capable actor. Miss Fanny Olive gives a delightful portrayal of Cornelia, Miss Violet Desborough does full justice to the part of Barbara Hare, and Miss Emma Magnus shows considerable emotional power as Lady Isabel.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Included in a good bill here this week are Mme. Marzella and her troupe of performing birds. A laughable sketch is presented by Manning's Entertainers, and R. H. Douglass is a character entertainer of great merit. Frank Dunlop, comedian, receives warm recognition; Marie Collins sings her songs in good style; Mora and Lola give a finished performance with the handbells; and Lady Fauntleroy's performance as a ventriloquist is heartily enjoyed. The Reed-Oetzmann troupe of knockabouts present a pantomime sketch *On Tour in the Tyrol*; and the Bioscope shows a fine series of pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—This week Mr. Harry Pleon and company are here in *The Shop Boy*. As Sarsaparella Smith Mr. Pleon is most amusing, and his depiction of characters from Dickens is very clever. Miss Celia Kent, the Sisters Clifford, and the Alexandra troupe of lady dancers, are well received. Mr. Jack McKenzie is good as Mrs. Septimus Green.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—The Brothers Redmond are smart acrobatic comedians; Mons. Slippere, blind novelty pianist and baritone vocalist, shows considerable talent; Miss Lotte de Abbey is a pleasing young vocalist; J. G. Aitken, comedian, is well received; Lilian Rigby (who dances cleverly), Marion Scott (comedienne), the Sisters Ford (duettists), and the Palace pictures furnish interesting items.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is presenting *Sunday* here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Emilie Polini is prominent with a portrayal of great merit, and Mr. Leonard Pagden as Colonel Brinthorpe gives an admirable rendering, which is much appreciated. Mr. Cecil Duncan submits a clever study of Arthur Brinthorpe, and Mr. William Lockhart is seen to advantage as Towzer. Mr. Ernest A. Douglas displays much ability as Tom Oxley, Mr. Sydney Rennef makes the most of Davy, and Mr. T. Norman Walter is well placed as Lively. Mr. Arthur Vezin scores as Jacky, and Mr. Ernest Harrison makes a satisfactory Abbott. Miss Rosalind Ross displays histrionic ability as Mrs. Naresby, and Miss Muriel Hope is effective as the Nun.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Tom White's Arabs, including the famous Pimple, is at the top of a good bill here. Lieut. Chard, with his wonderful dogs; Kavados, the clever cannon-ball manipulator; Miss Flo Melville, a favourite comedienne; Mr. Jock Walker, Scotch comedian; the Llewellyns, popular operatic artists; and the Bio-Photoscope are also billed.

NORTHWICH. — Pierrot Pavilion.—Proprietors, the Royal Pierrots' Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Glanmore Jones.—The Pavilion was again packed on Monday, when another really good array of talent was presented. Miss Baddeley sang descriptive songs with great feeling; Miss Thwaites, the possessor of a sweet soprano voice, was well received on her début at these concerts; Jim Pullin, who is staying another week, has become a great favourite; the Brothers Allison, clever song and dance artists, present a thoroughly enjoyable turn; Bert and Dora, speciality artists, go well; Mr. Dawson Dewick is a quaint humorist; and Mr. Glanmore Jones is most happy in his selections.

NORWICH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Wieland, American comedy juggler, is a great attraction here. Miss Daisy James, "the Gibson Girl," is also well received, her songs being very taking; Stewart and Morgan are entertaining in their popular Irish melodies; Cline and Clarke, black and white comedy artists, are pleasing in their songs and dances; and Avon and Crest, vaudeville artists, are a good turn, as are the Two Errolls in their comedy speciality act. Oakdene obtains applause as a ventriloquist, and Mr. J. H. Howman as a comedian is a favourite. The Hippo Bio completes an excellent programme.

Agricultural Hall Assembly Rooms.—Mr. W. F. Jury's Imperial Bioscope company continues here, and the pictures, with James W. Horton and Musical Ritter, are very attractive.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The first visit of Mr. George Edwardes's company, with *My Lady Madcap*, drew a large audience on Monday, who thoroughly enjoyed the rollicking and amusing musical comedy. As is to be expected, Miss Marie Studholme dominates the piece, her fascinating manner, delightful vivacity, and airy animation being enhanced by the dainty costumes she wears. Mr. Arthur Longley reveals admirable talent in his assumption of Oroya Brown, which the house is not slow to recognise. Mr. W. E. Richardson looks and acts well as Captain Layton, and Major Blatherswaite has a capable exponent in Mr. Eustace Burnaby. Mr. J. Robert Hale just gives the right touch in his humorous portrayal of Bill Stratford, and an excellent comedian is revealed in Mr. E. Statham Staples, who makes a droll Corporal Ham. Mr. Oliver J. Round adds much to the fun as Posh Jenkins, and the mercurial activity of Count de St. Hubert is smartly shown by Mr. Ernest Mahar. Miss Nina Sevening proves an attractive Gwennie Holden; and Miss Mabel Russell as Susan and Miss Ethel Griffies as Mrs. Layton lend valuable assistance in a really fine all-round performance.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—A strong company, under the direction of Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland, is here in the play *The Coal King*. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland plays Tom Roberts with a spirit and determination that gain many expressions of approval. As Sir Reginald Harford, Mr. Robin Sheills shows a careful and interesting study; and Mr. Wilfred Grahame does well in the part of Dick Shirley. The malevolence of Walter Harford is strongly portrayed by Mr. Joseph Millane; a sympathetic and winsome interpretation of Grace Shirley is given by Miss Gertrude Valentine, and Miss Joan Wellman acts with commendable care as Mad Ann. The large element of humour is capitally furnished by Mr. Harry Brayne, who never fails to raise a laugh, and he is well supported by Miss Hetty Cornwallis as a pert and vivacious parlour-maid.

King's Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The re-engagement for another week of Mr. Percy Murray and company in *Garrick the Actor* has given great satisfaction, and their success is well merited. Judge's cockatoos and macaws provide a fund of amusement and wonder; Davis and Davis cause hearty laughter in a comedy act; and Fred Bronte's character vocalism calls forth applause. Lily Esplin pleases by her songs, and Leo Fallowfield adds to the mirth as a comedian. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux shows some new films, and a capital sketch, entitled *One Too Many*, is presented by a smart company.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Cruikshanks can always be relied upon to provide an interesting entertainment by his comical patter and funny parodies, which never fail to evoke hearty laughter; La Berat, styled the "fire maiden," gives a unique exhibition of graceful dancing, the beauty of which is considerably heightened by the admirable staging and lighting; the Russian Wolkowsky troupe of singers and dancers present an enjoyable item, and the Sisters Klos deserve congratulation for a smart and sensational gymnastic turn. Alf. Chester supplies some genuinely comic songs, and Brett and Orford are a comedy pair whose appearance is always acceptable. A fine setting to a Risley performance of exceptional merit is provided by the Ten Genis, and Eugen Joly plays the cornet in a masterly style. Miss Grace Moore's illustrated songs are well rendered, and the programme is further helped by the Biograph.

NUNEATON. — Prince of Wales's Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Miss Frances Delaval's company is presenting here *Her Lost Self*. Miss Delaval impersonates Phillipine Marcel in good style; and Mr. Percy Carne Waram does good work as Wilfred Daventry.

OLDHAM. — Colosseum Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Eastwood.—Mr. Lingford Carson's latest drama *A Modern Adventuress* is paying a return visit here this week, and gets a good reception. Miss Kate Froude has a strong part in that of Violet Meredith, and plays it in fine style, the audience showing keen disapproval of her villainy; Harry Delby, the hero, is well looked after by Mr. Louis Edmond; Mr. Leonard Aardale plays the Italian Pietro Donelli in a masterly manner; and the minor villain, Wallace Dalton, is in the hands of Mr. Sydney Grant. Mr. Leonard Montgomery is a typical Yorkshireman in the part of John Crompton, and Walter Beal, a detective, is played by Mr. A. G. Polson Turner. Mr. Harry C. Rutland as the banker and Mr. Frank Orchard as Steve Meredith are capital. Vivette Delby, the wife of Harry is ably played by Miss Alice Defoe; whilst Miss Ivy Chandos is responsible for most of the comedy in the part of Sally Hodges. Other rôles are played by Mr. Tom Avery, Mr. H. M. Victor, Mr. G. Hampton, and Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—An excellent programme is provided this week. Richard Sawade and his performing lions, tigers, bears, and dogs head the bill, and they give a good show. Miss Lilly Langtry, comedienne, submits an exhilarating turn, and is well received; Sammy Shields causes roars of applause with his description of "The Football Match"; Gallando is very neat with his clay modelling; and Kloof and Ramsey "catch on" with a musical burlesque. The Fitzroys (Fred and Lillian), society gymnasts, are very smart; Madge Elliott, vocalist and dancer, and Harry Wenburn, comedian, are also in the programme.

Gaiety Theatre. — Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall. — Curtis and Vanity, American comedy duo, are at the top of the bill here, and give a very amusing show; the Four Oldham Mill Lads have a good reception, their singing being very good; Mill May, the singing protean artist, gives a nice turn, assisted by Mlle. Theresa, castanet player; J. P. Carroll, military tambourinist, is excellent in his various imitations; Lil Hartley, comedienne, sings nicely; Louis Kerno is successful as a coon impersonator; and Jimmy James gives a banjo solo and manipulates the bones. The Dottoscope shows some new pictures.

OXFORD.—Emire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Miss Ida Wallis's company is paying a return visit here with *Sweet Marie*. Mr. Victor Silvernie gives a bright and intelligent rendering of Alfred Bush, and sings in good style; while Mr. T. C. McQuin makes an effective Lord Tofton. Mr. Harry Vernon is the heart and soul of the piece as Tom Bush, and is responsible for a considerable amount of fun. Miss Ada Wallis is quite up to her usual form as Marie Denver, and Miss Blanche Vernon is dignified as Lady Augusta. Miss Nellie Carlton is well suited as Lady Violet Piccadilly.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—A variety company engaged here for the week includes Daisy Davenport, serio and dancer; Tommy Daniels, comedian; Darlock, handcuff manipulator; Cosgrove and Burns, Scottish-American comedy duo; Angeline, lady juggler; J. H. Harris, Scotch comedian; Patty Yole, comedienne and dancer; R. C. Note, swell comedian; and Les Henris, in their elegant equilibristic and gymnastic act.

PLYMOUTH. — Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Langdon Lee.—*The Spring Chicken* is likely to become a very old bird before Plymouthians tire of it, judging from its enthusiastic reception on Monday. Mr. George Gregory as Mr. Girdle and Mr. L. W. Harris as Gustave Babori, the "hubbies" affected by the balmy air of spring, keep the fun at concert pitch, their efforts in this direction being ably seconded by Mr. C. D. Cleveland as Felix, the head waiter at the Crimson Butterfly. Amongst the ladies, Miss Irene Verona (an old Plymouth favourite) comes in for a hearty reception as Mrs. Girdle, the catchy songs contributed by her and Miss Rita Everard as Dulcie Babori earning well-deserved encores. Miss Gertrude Glyn, as Rosalie, increases the charms of a fascinating manner by some very graceful dancing. The lesser parts of Boniface, Emmy Lou, and Stephen Henry are made the most of by Messrs. Fred Leslie, jun., Miss Nellie Lonnen, and Mr. Nelson Keys respectively.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Langdon Lee.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is being played this week. The vicissitudes of Bob Brierly, the Lancashire lad, as presented by Mr. Edward Lloyd, were eagerly and sympathetically followed by a numerous audience. Mr. Cecil Gray, as Jim Dalton, had a warm reception; Mr. Richard Bosco made the most of the dramatic situations falling to the lot of Hawkshaw, the detective; and Miss Emmie Barton was an attractive May Edwards; Miss Irma Farington causing plenty of merriment as Mrs. Willoughby.

Metropole Theatre.—Owner, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—*A Woman's Past* is the drama being presented here. The principal part of Bessie is allotted to Miss Maisie Hanbury, who gives a very finished exhibition; Mr. Oswald Cory portrays the usual type of stage villain in acceptable fashion, being well backed up by Miss Gertrude Harrison as Clara Darrell.

Palace of Varieties.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Livermore; Manager, Mr. S. Field.—Mme. Laurie's Juveniles quite justify their place this week as principal turn, the youngsters submitting dances and vocal efforts in a way that would do credit to many of their seniors. Another attractive item is that of the Burnells, who furnish a clever satire on modern golf. Great Scott performs some smart jugglery whilst balancing himself on the end of a lofty ladder; Tom Woottwell is one of the few comedians who understand how to be funny without being vulgar; and Condon and Preston perform some top-boot dancing marked by rapidity and extreme precision. The Redferns are a fascinating pair of lady banjoists and dancers. Other attractions of the week are Lil O'Gorman and Will Souls, and Vernon's Pictures.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence Theatre.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company in *The Indian Mutiny* is proving a great attraction at the above theatre this week. Mr. George Steel presents an admirable assumption of Lieut. Manley; Mr. Ernest Keand as Ra Goonga is to be congratulated upon a fine performance; Captain Manley is capitally portrayed by Mr. Cyril Harrison; Mr. John Davidson shows to advantage as Major Ingleby; Mr. George Scully as Terry O'Brien is a host in himself; and Mr. Villiers Stanley is worthy of high praise as the villainous Nebu Singh. Miss F. Melrose Millette displays great dramatic power as Ghuz-Nah, a priestess; Miss Kate Bruce as Mrs. Major Ingleby is a typical martinet; and Miss Lillie Grey makes a delightful Kate Ingleby.

PORTH.—Poole's Opera House.—Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The special attraction here for this week is Mr. John A. Thompson's No. 1 company in *Dick Whittington*. The pantomime is excellently got up, the scenery, costumes, &c., being delightful. The choruses are exceptionally well rendered, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Sheldrake. The title-rôle is meritoriously played by Miss Beatrice Varley, whose singing is much appreciated. Miss Ella Wilmer deserves compliments as Alice; Mr. Ross Warren gives a satisfactory account of Alderman Fitzwarren; Mr. Lovell Rowlands delights the audience with his impersonation of Idle Jack; Mr. Harry Harcourt scores a success as Betsy Jane; Mr. Fred Anderson, as Pimple, is most amusing; Mr. Syd Morreli makes a delightful Captain Bunting; and Mr. Hubert Davis is most successful as the Cat. Mr. Albert Victor is a capital Emperor; Miss Annie Swires is decidedly popular as the Fairy; Mr. Gus Harding as Smoothface and Mr. Fred Barnes as Sleekface deserve mention.

PORTSMOUTH. — Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is here with *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Beatrice Lindley is charmingly attractive as Suzanne Trevor; Mr. Herbert Bentley is an admirable Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstans personates Fitzroy Harding in capital style; Sir Horace Hatton is excellently portrayed by Mr. William Mallalieu; and Lord Dachet, Captain Cecil, and Tommy Keston are well presented by Messrs. Hartley West, Townsend Whitling, and Archie Selwyn. Miss Emily Patterson makes the most of the part of Lady Charlotte Trevor; Lady Isabel Bury is well taken by Miss Violet Lee; Mrs. Mallalieu gives a satisfactory character-study of Mrs. Putman; and Miss Fanny Minching and Mrs. Tustail are well played by Miss Charlotte Mead and Miss Annie Stalman. The piece is preceded by a capital curtain-raiser, *Two in a Trap*. On Tuesday there was a special flying matinée given by Mr. Lewis Waller and his London company of *Brigadier Gerard*.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The powerful and interesting drama *I Defy the World* is a big attraction here for the week, Mr. Julian Malvern's capable company being responsible for its presentation. Mr. Lewis Gilbert invests the part of Leon Darville with realistic force; Mr. Horace Booth as Count de Beaulieu is well placed; Laroche is well enacted by Mr. C. Conway; Samuel Wozzle, a tourist, in the hands of Mr. Charles M. Julian, is a lively and amusing personage; Pauline Delaporte is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Trixie St. Albans; Miss Maud Lilian as Marie Wozzle is very efficient; and Miss Maud Malvern is highly successful as Blanche Darville.

Empire Palace.—Secretary Mr. W. Pratt.—The programme for the week here includes Ben Hur, athlete, in feats of strength; Mark Sheridan, eccentric comedian, is rightly named; Maggie Rimmer is a dainty little soubrette and danseuse; Will Cornish is much liked for his musical bell act; the Sisters Brooklands, duettists and dancers, are a smart pair; and Allsopp and Beckwith, burlesque entertainers, are good. Also appearing with success are Charles Cranston, vocal comedian; Lily Black, comedienne; the Lurins, with a musical extravaganza; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

RAMSGATE. — Amphitheatre. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Large audiences have congregated here nightly to witness an admirable variety programme in which the chief item is the appearance of Lockhart's educated elephants, introduced by the lady trainer, Mabelle; Frederic Neiman, ventriloquist, causes much amusement; Primavesi, juggler, contributes a clever exhibition; Chummie La Mara (comedienne), Tom Packer (comedian), and Will Sergeant (Anglo-American comique) sing successfully, and effective animated pictures are shown by means of the Taylorscope.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller. — A great attraction is here this week in Mr. and Mrs John Walter's juvenile pantomime company in *Cinderella*. Miss Gerty McQueen is a fascinating Prince Charming; Miss Marie Hardacre, as Dandini, makes the most of her part; Mr. A. Benson, as the Baron, displays an excellent gift of humour; and Messrs. Moon and Morris, as the Baron's daughters, are really clever. Miss Kitty Rafferty, as Cinderella, is a charming little actress; and Miss Kitty Chester, as Dewdrop, the fairy godmother, sings and dances with success.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. E. Oswald Brooks' No. 1 Company is here this week in the sensational play, *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. Henry P. Kenn acts powerfully as Sir Gerald Kingston; the heroine (Ethel Maynard) is sympathetically impersonated by Miss Marjorie May; Mr. Wilford Cheetham earns the execrations of the audience by his realistic acting in the villain's part; Mr. Vincent Kelway is very amusing as Will Higgins; and good work is also done by Booth Conway as Gipsy Jake, Mr. George Harris as Ben Chudes, Mr. T. E. Dudley as Bully Tom, Mr. G. F. Pateman as Detective Handson, Miss Ethel Stuart as Rachael the gipsy, and Miss Gladys Newcombe as Rose Wilson.

Baker's Hippodrome.—Prinz's new lion act by a troupe of fourteen performing lions is a special attraction this week, and Miss Viola gives a very daring performance by dancing in the lions' cage. Caban's star variety company and troupe of performing monkeys, donkeys, &c., are also well worth seeing.

ROCHDALE.—New Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Days of Cromwell* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Montague Beaudyn is powerful in his impersonation of Ironhand, the Avenger; Mr. Robertson Foulis cleverly interprets the part of Sir Marsden Mardyke, Mr. Howard Hardy is well placed as Matthew Mardyke, Mr. Tom Robertson sustains with effect the part of Cromwell; and the humorous element is safely entrusted to Mr. T. R. White as Shadrack Shadwell, Mr. Harry G. Momber as Toby, Miss Annie Clunn as Betsy, and Miss Janie Massey as Mrs. Shadwell. Miss Gloria Hill enacts with power the part of Mistress Judith, and Miss Irene Munroe makes a most effective heroine as Ruby Avondale.

Circus and Hippodrome. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee.—Toch and Tard create roars of laughter with their clever burlesque turn; Craig, Rose, and Craig are smart gymnasts; Minnie D'Aubyn (burlesque artist), Vosper (mimic), Lena Brenton (in impersonations), Ray and Miles (comic jugglers), Little Barney, and Vernon's animated pictures complete an attractive bill.

Empire Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Dinah Morris, American comedienne, and her troupe of twenty artists in *The Lost Coon* submit some enjoyable coon dances and songs; Addie Dorina in *How It was Done* astonishes the audience with her quick changing, and impersonation of six distinct characters; Mr. Pat Woddock ably assists. Other turns are given by Mozzetto, juggler; Care Miller, boy vocalist and dancer; Wal Croft, Scotch comedian; Denby and Dent, in a comedy act; Lillian Neville, ballad vocalist; and the Empire bioscope.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Hill-Mitchelson and company are here this week with *Revenge*. Mr. Wellesley Draper is seen to advantage as Captain Loris Vanessa; and Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson gives a capital portrayal of Prince Orloff; Mr. Theo Balfour scores as the King, and Mr. Edward Lowrie is deserving of mention as Count Mussant; Mr. Edwin Jenner is a smart Captain David Carr, and Miss Grace Aimers is a sprightly Lieutenant Maurice; Miss Violet Carlyle is graceful as the Queen, and Miss Rosabell Dodd is a capable Draga Vanessa; Miss Ada Douglas gives a clever portrayal of Olga, and Miss Alice Barber, as Cora Brook, submits an excellent embodiment of the part.

RUGBY.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. T. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—Miss Lena Stanton's company is here this week with *Robinson Crusoe*. This is Miss Stanton's third visit to Rugby, and she more than repeats her former successes. As Robinson Crusoe she is both pretty and picturesque, and displays great ability; Miss Melbah, as Polly Perkins, gives a charming and clever rendering; Mr. Bruce Green, as Mrs. Crusoe, is responsible for a humorous female impersonation much above the average; and as Sunny Jim Crusoe, Little Keeno displays versatility. Mr. George Melbah, as Man Friday, does very well; and Miss Nellie Maxwell, as Captain Teapot Taylor, is excellent. The Orient Troupe of Lady Dancers give a clever and graceful exhibition; and the Musical Melbahs are successful in their novel act.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales' Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. J. W. Worley's company had a good reception from a full house on Monday in *A Faithful Friend*. Mr. Jos. W. Worley is successful as Harold Sefton; John Tollerton is well played by Mr. Henry W. Hatchman; Miss Esther Ohlson acts well as Cynthia; and Mr. R. W. Lynn as Antonio Orsini, Mr. Jas. Stevenson, jun., as Squire Somerset, Miss Trissie Humphreys as Mildred Marsden, Mr. John Cullen as Sir Thomas Jones, Miss H. Francis as Lady Thomas Jones, Mr. W. Anneeley as Harry Somerset, Mr. J. P. E. Hussey as Augustus Sylvester, and Miss F. Gomer as Ruth Mayfield give good support.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Jock Whiteford, the Scotch comedian, is very amusing as a Scotch comedian; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas in a comedy duologue, *The French Manager*, are much applauded; and the other items on the bill include the Young Colossus and L'Homme Miniature, F. S. Hulme (actor-vocalist), Sacco (the fasting man), the Four Jumels in a musical melange, Flo Chevalier (comedienne), Captain Devereux with his clever dogs, Maggie Grimshaw (juvenile male impersonator), and Ernest Ball (actor-vocalist).

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth. —Harry Tate's *Motoring* causes endless fun. Quick changes mark the turn of the Four Charles; Ruby Dahl and her wonderful mannikins are very good; and other excellent turns include the Royal Raynor Trio in a comedy acrobatic act, Stelling and his dog Kiswoski, Fred Harrison (Chinaman), Harris and Worth (good patter and dancing), Violet Thorne (juvenile vocalist), the Melroses (burlesque artists and novelty dancers), and Drum and Major.

SALISBURY.—County Hall.—Proprietor, Mr. Arthur Whitehead; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Brinsmead.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke's company was here on Saturday in the musical comedy drama *Our Sailor Lad*. Mr. Fred J. Kirke gave an admirable representation of Jack Maitland, Miss Louie Fountaine was equally successful as Nell Lindsey, Mr. Harold Wallace submitted a powerful impersonation of William Fenton, the Sisters Gladys and Elsie Allen as Sarah Ann and Mary Jane delighted the audience with their clever and picturesque dances, Mr. Bert Leighton did good work as Alphonso, and Miss Lily Seymour was amusing as Mrs. Loveman.

SEACOMBE.—Irving Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Councillor James Kiernan.—Mr. Sidney Dench's company occupies the boards here this week with *The Rich and Poor of London*. The pathetic rôle of May Braithwaite is well handled by Miss Dora Dench, and Ruby Redgrave receives a powerful rendering by Miss Lilian Burns. The chief villain, Mark Stanley, is excellently played by Mr. Walter Foster; Mr. Sydney Dench as Spider Jack and Miss Lilly Artis as Polly Philpot supply the comic relief with conspicuous success. Dan'l Drake is cleverly embodied by Mr. Arthur Hartley, and Mr. Mal. Gascoigne gives a capital portrayal of Matthew Grabbam. Master Bert Dench submits a good study of Dixie (a waif), and Mr. Robert Hall cleverly represents Dr. Leonard Morton.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*Life* is the attraction here this week, the comedy drama being presented by Mr. Herbert Barrs and company for the Midland Syndicate. Mr. Barrs portrays Jack Lockhart with conspicuous ability; a highly creditable performance of Sir Horace Lester is given by Mr. Arthur Pringle; Mr. Herbert Fuller as Zae Krabbe and Mr. Willis Collins as Joe Pippet score heavily; and Detective Blake finds a careful exponent in Mr. E. Cheetham. Ruth Thorpe is sweetly played by Miss Dorothy Oswald; Miss Maudie Vincent is a vivacious Jess; Miss Ethel Batement does well as Miss Moslyn; and as Beatrice Ferrars Miss Collin plays creditably. Enjoyable songs are given in Act IV. by Miss Ethel Bateman, Miss Maudie Vincent, and Mr. Herbert Fuller.

SHEERNESS. — The Hippodrome. — General Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.—A prominent feature of this week's bill is the welcome reappearance of Marie Blythe, a refined comedienne, who successfully repeats her former triumphs. Ahrensmeyer submits a mystifying entertainment as a hypnotist, the Sisters Belmont (top-boot and clog dancers) gain hearty applause, Miss Marie Pownall (ballad vocalist) is accorded a flattering reception, and a whistling scena contributed by Ted Williams is also appreciated. Miss Millie Denham, a pleasing comedienne, likewise scores; and Ruffell's Bioscope, with plenty of interesting films, completes a capital bill.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. P. Reymond. —A capital bill here includes The Paragon Sketch Company in the comedy act *A Race for £20*, in which they are eminently successful. Miss Eunice Bell, balladist, is well received; Miss Marie Lester, coon impersonator, is also much admired. Other items deserving of special mention are Mr. Fred Donald, eccentric comedian; Mr. Alec Thomas, negro comedian; Mr. Ted Ramsay, comedian; and the Summersons, comedy duettists.

SHEFFIELD. — Lyceum Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened to a good house on Monday in *The Gay Parisienne*. That popular local favourite, Mr. Tom Conway, acted with unctuous drollery as Mr. Ebenezer Honeycombe, Miss Nellie Hodson was a bright, handsome, and vivacious Julie Bon-Bon, Miss Gwennie Harcourt made a pretty and graceful Ruth, and Mr. Charles Sequin caused great amusement as Mons. Pompier. Miss Ducie Sanderson, in a clever skipping-rope dance, and the Imperial Glee Party were very successful.

Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Mr. Rass Challis's well-known military drama *The Curate* was played here on Monday to an appreciative audience by Miss Hettie Jeffries's company. Mr. Whitmore Ledger acted in a dramatic manner as a Russian spy, Miss Hettie Jeffries easily secured the sympathies of the house as Dick the Trumpeter, and all the other parts were acted in a careful manner.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—A drama which exactly hits the tastes of the Alexandra patrons is *The Sins of the City*, by Nita Rae, which is again delighting good audiences this week. The members of Miss Winifred Maude's company do full justice to their respective parts, leading characters being well sustained by Miss Winifred Maude and Mr. Victor Du Cane, two special favourites at this theatre.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, the Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar. —Undoubtedly the special feature in this week's programme is the laughable farcical absurdity *Fishing*, in which Mr. Harry Tate, supported by several talented artists, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Amann and Hartley prove very successful in their clever sketch *The Naughty Professor*. A lively pantomimical absurdity is smartly performed by the Four Delevines; and other clever and amusing entertainers are McPhee and Hill, on the triple silver bars; Mr. Frank Seeley, a funny vocal comedian; Mr. Jas. H. Cullen, a vocalist with an original vein of dry humour; Miss Nina Gordon, with imitations of music-hall celebrities; and Miss Tina Clements and her wonderful ponies and dogs. The American Bioscope pictures are heartily applauded.

Grand Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Messrs. Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholl's sketch company in the thrilling one-act drama *The Battle of the Belles*, Fox and Melville in a refined vocal act, the Brothers Anthony (two smart performers), Mr. Johnny Walker (comic vocalist), Messrs. Mantell and Oval (trick cyclists, &c.), Miss Millie Howell (vocal comedienne), and Pallister's animated pictures are giving delight to crowded houses.

SMETHWICK. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*On the Stroke of Twelve* is being well received here. Messrs. W. Matthews and Fred Guiness appear with conspicuous ability as Jack Rutledge and George Bainbridge; Messrs. R. A. Greene and Syd Russell give excellent portrayals of a couple of unscrupulous villains, James Horton and Moses Levi; Mr. P. Palmer is well liked as Henry Rutledge; and Mr. W. H. Burton as Van Dyke and Mr. R. A. Barnett as Keeper Dole act with much ability. Miss F. Trevor as Marie shows power, and Miss Bertha St. Ruth acts with sympathy in the rôle of Doris Rutledge. Mr. Fred J. Little is comical as Jasper. The specialities are introduced by Messrs. Bass and Guiness, patterers; Nellie Moors, song and dance; Syd Russell, in a sand dance; Bertha St. Ruth, ballad vocalist; and Mr. Fred J. Little.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Grand Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is this week appearing in *The Span of Life*. The Almo Trio score with their acrobatic evolutions, the human bridge being well done. The company is a capital one, and the staging excellent.

Palace.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell. —Happy Fanny Fields, the joyous Dutch girl, is the top-liner here, and scores a huge success. Austin Rudd, a capital comedian, wins golden opinions, and Dan Conroy, with comical patter and stories, meets with approval. The Narow Bros., comedy cyclists, create roars of laughter, and the King's College Boys sing delightfully. Vernon and Burdell's comedietta, *What Price Me?* is a favourite number, and the Delari Trio excel in an acrobatic act *In the Demon Grotto*. Maud Esmond is a comely comedienne, and the bioscope pictures include a capital view of the 'Varsity boat race.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Aldin.—For all-round excellence the company here would be hard to beat. Mr. Fred Ginnett and company, in *Dick Turpin*, are the star turn, and the stirring story of the famous highwayman is remarkably well presented, "Black Bess" giving evidence of careful training. Walter George's "Smart Set" entertainers are exceedingly popular; Jack and Evelyn are a mirth-provoking couple; and La Faille Troupe, equilibrists and gymnasts, are wonderfully clever. Venola Bros. (aerial comedians), Vi Carlyle (vocalist), Frank Gee (a clever comedian), and Mabel Kessler (cornet soloist, &c.) complete the best show ever seen in Southampton. Mr. Alf Burgess, manager for Mr. Ginnett, has secured the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress for this (Saturday's) matinée.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre, Ltd. —Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—*Sapho* is the attraction here this week. Sapho, or Fanny le Gr

sentation of the play at this theatre. Miss Maie Ash depicted the rôle of Angela with charming vivacity and dash, her representation of the pseudo Irish girl being delightful. Mr. Frank Lincoln scores highly in the part of his Grace the Duke of St. Jermyns, in which he displayed remarkable versatility, the rendering of "A Quaint Old Bird" and "The Sixpenny Diary" being enthusiastically received; Miss Ida Mann very effectively represented the unsympathetic Lady Crystal, and was well supported by Miss Alice Lethbridge and Miss Hettie Muret as her two daughters; Miss Belle Napier characteristically impersonated the fairy godmother as Lady Caterham; Miss Hilda Stewart was a graceful exponent of the Duchess; Mr. E. H. Kelly was exceedingly humorous and clever as Lord Dundreary; and Master Grata as Bucket the page brought down the house by his precocious display of the grand passion.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The famous comedian Witty Wally Walton, who heads the bill here this week, submits a clever and humorous performance. Another good turn is supplied by the Three Henriques, eccentric acrobats. The programme also includes Lillian Courtney, contralto vocalist; Robert Leach, a popular baritone; Richardson Taylor, entertainer; Gerald Mount and Hilda Corelli in their musical duologue entitled *The Master and the Maid;* and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The attraction here this week is provided by Mr. Montague Beaudyn and Miss Sydney Crowe's company in a sensational melodrama entitled *The Way of the World.* Miss Crowe powerfully depicts the adventuress, Adele de la Roche, and is ably supported by Mr. Victor Gordon as the villainous Captain Slade. Mr. Herbert Skardon conscientiously handles the heroic Cecil. The comedy element is considerably strengthened by the combined efforts of Messrs. Dick Seddon, Gus Hammond, and Miss Marie Fontaine; and Miss Cissie Bellamy and Miss Violet Ingram both submit creditable performances in their respective parts of Kate Montague and Marian Fanshaw.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The original happy dustmen, the Brothers Egbert, are as diverting as ever. An amusing military sketch, *The Cuckoo,* is contributed by Kitts and Windrum; Drew and Alders, eccentric comedians, are always popular here; Gwennie Hasto is seen in a smart dancing act; Colby scores as a ventriloquist, being excellently assisted by May, who cleverly impersonates a dancing doll; and the remaining turns are Sam Soda, topical comedian; Helene and Emilon, clever gymnasts; Ida Gladstone, a charming comedienne; and the bioscope with new films.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—Hanvarr and Anna Lee, in their refined juggling act *The Golfer and the Maid,* meet with appreciation. A clever turn is Bosanquet, violin virtuoso, who introduces the singing violin and the wonderful Bosanquetphone. Wilton Allen, a baritone of ability, is well received; Roose gives an excellent contortionist and chair-lifting act; warm applause is accorded to Ethel Dove, comedienne; Carson Hicks, vocalist and buck dancer, goes well; and a good stump orator is found in Billy Richardson. Walter Payne's popular bioscope completes the bill.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—This week's bill of fare consists of *Napoleon the Great* played by Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company. Mr. Hugh Montgomery's interpretation of the character of the Little Corporal is all that can be desired. In marked contrast to his cool and deliberate demeanour is the passionate rendering of Marie Walewska by Miss Leslie Warner; Miss Maud Russell scores heavily as Leonie Marboeuf, and Mr. Phil Harper is a distinct success as Jules Meuron. The villainy is admirably worked out by Mr. Henry Earlesmere as Colonel Laverennes, Mr. Bartlett Garth as Paul Laczinski, and Mr. G. Acton Dix as Mons. Fouche. Comedy is supplied by Mr. Frank M. Thorne as Pierre, Miss Marie Harcourt as Marcelle, Mr. C. W. Spencer as Sergt. Choupin, and Miss Florence Thorne as Mère Dumont.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the St. Helen's Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—A company, under the direction of Mr. W. J. Miller, is here for five nights this week in *The Throne of Terror.* The principal parts are well enacted by Messrs. W. J. Miller, Bert Ellis, Ray Milton, Miss Rose Salisbury, and Miss Catherine M. Davies..

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Wilmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—An excellent company is appearing here this week. Heading the bill is Mr. Russell Wallett, "the lady in black." Zarmo is an exceptionally good comedy juggler, Shawlene (an old favourite) scores with his excellent whistling, Tray and Rich cause endless fun with their duologue, the Sisters Terry are talented duettists, Hector and Paulus secure much favour as acrobats and balancers, and Wright and Reson give a good turn as vocalists and dancers.

STOCKPORT.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—There is an abundance of exciting incidents in *For Better or Worse,* which Mr. Fred Granville's company is submitting here this week. Mr. George Edwin Clive portrays the character of Captain Frank Hilliard with ability, and the part of Major-General Crawford is effectively filled by Mr. Chas. A. Grant. As Horatio P. Ranter Mr. Willie Black is clever and amusing, and Mr. Carthage Cladcleugh acts satisfactorily as Ned Earnshaw. Miss Amy Venimore gives a commendable impersonation of Belle Baverstock, and Miss Chrissie Dunbar pleasingly presents the part of Olive Heathcote, whilst Miss Annie Lovell as Dolly Delancy, Miss Eva Reed as Melinda Little, and Miss Leslie Cudd as Aunt Gertrude are in every way successful.

EMPIRE, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Two popular favourites in Bennett and Martell are the chief attraction here this week, appearing with success in a sketch, *The Shipwrecks;* Frank Crossley and Alice Hamilton are a smart musical couple; the Westwoods, comedy cyclists, accomplish some marvellously clever feats; the Three Sisters Silcott are delightful vocalists and dancers; Cribb and Cribb in their comedy scena *Idle Fellows with Idle Thoughts* are received with applause; Mlle. de Rose, baritone vocalist, commands appreciation; the Bodini Trio are very entertaining; and Fred Casburn, comedian, and J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, both meet with satisfactory success.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in the melodrama entitled *Her Wedding Day* occupies the boards this week. Miss Ward as Madge Conway and Mr. S. Herbert Humber as Weedon Kenyon give faithful interpretations of their characters. The other parts are in good hands, and the play is well received.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—There is a good bill here this week, headed by G. H. Elliott, the original chocolate-coloured coon. Then come Hall and Earle, with their eccentricities; the Wedburns are clever instrumentalists, and have a fund of good patter; Mr. Harry Nelson maintains his reputation as a clever comedian; the Lannons (dancers), Wat Tyler (vocalist), Alf Richards (tenor), Charles Serra (gymnast), and Ada Gatley are all well received.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Proprietors, George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—The management have secured a good company, headed by Morris Cronin and troupe, jugglers, who are exceptionally clever. The performance of Richard Corbin's dogs is well worth witnessing, Downes and Langford are as good as ever, Percy Curry (the original "Candy Man") is entertaining, and with the Moxon Family, Mona Brae (soubrette), Arthur Royce (eccentric at the piano), and the Izons (patterers) a good variety entertainment is provided.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Zerbinis Troupe, in their musical act, are excellent; the four senior members being musicians of ability; Belrose and Maud de Velin are a couple of excellent singers; Casselli and James are clever banjoists; the Garden Troupe of international dancers are pleasing; the Karno Trio are seen to advantage in a merry pantomime; Miss Louisa Peach and company present the capital sketch *Taming a Husband;* Stan Aubrey is a comedian of merit; the Sisters Lylle are an entertaining pair; and the pictures are excellent.

STOURBRIDGE.—ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Managéress, Miss Maude Lynton.—For this week, with the exception of Good Friday, Messrs. E. A. Dell and Fred Chabot's company is presenting *The Romany's Revenge.* Mr. Evelyn A'Dell as John Hope presents a careful study; Miss Eva Elwes in the dual rôle of Lilian Hoye and Elspie is versatile; Mr. Harry C. Robinson proves capable as David Renard; and Mr. David Hamilton as Bobbie Bloom is amusing; Miss Fannie Wallace as Polly Pluck is also deserving of praise.

SUNDERLAND.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hemingway.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company opened on Monday to a full house with the stirring modern drama *The Poor Must Live.* Mr. Chas. O'Connor is quietly effective as the Earl of Marshwood, Mr. Harold C. Macartney submits a manly and incisive impersonation of Donald Marshwood (erstwhile known as Drummond Tredigar), Mr. Geoffrey Fulton is fully equal to the heavier rôle of Clifton Manville, Mr. Herbert Clifton fairly revels in the part of Dick Sully, proving himself an exceedingly bright and versatile comedian. Mr. Shawn Glenville, late pantomime favourite here, also has a hearty reception as Hooker Holdsnich, being most amusing; Miss Alice Buckland sustains the part of Moya Darling, the flower girl, with charm and grace; Miss Olive Fulton, in the stronger rôle of the unscrupulous Olga D'Eyncourt, surnamed the Vengeance, is fairly effective; and Miss Margaret Thorne submits an excellent character study of the old hag Sal Darling. Miss Violet Hammersley, in her representation of Dorothy Murdock is responsible for a graceful performance; Mr. Arthur Trail as Sam Sully also submits another excellent low-life character study. Messrs. Geo. Mour as Bertie Miggs, Albert Spencer as Jack O'Moods, and Wm. Myers as James the footman, are all adequate.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. John H. Stringer; Treasurer, Mr. A. Browne.—The well-diversified bill here is headed by the Kellinos in their clever acrobatic speciality entitled *A Fête in Paris.* The three Prestons also occupy a prominent position on the programme with their smart comedy act *The Liftman's Rise.* The bill also includes Bonnette and Corrie, eccentric jugglers; Reg. Bolton, the comedy incubator; Mlle. Effie White, with a kaleidoscope dance; Cordite and Buffalo, rope spinners; the Sisters Prue, comediennes; the Leonards, in a refined entertainment; and Vernon's pictures of *The Fire Fiend.*

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Clayton; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is paying a return visit here with *The Face at the Window.* As Le Loup Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale plays with fine effect; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Gouffot is excellent; Mr. Alfred Warne in the small part of Henry de Brisson, a wealthy banker, and Mr. George Phythian as the mad doctor achieve success; as Lucian Cortier Mr. Gilbert Hall presents a manly character-sketch; and Mr. C. A. Hineson in the comedy part of Peter Pottlebury hits the fancy of his audience. Miss N. T. Hallam as Marie de Brisson plays in earnest style; Miss Gwynne Warren is bright and cheery as Babette; and Miss Elaine Grant displays skill as La Pinau.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE—Proprietor and Responsible-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—On Monday a large and appreciative audience welcomed a return visit of that popular musical comedy *Kitty Grey.* Mr. C. St. John Denton's company, under the business direction of Mr. J. MacCabe, is an efficient one; the piece is prettily staged, and goes with an excellent swing throughout. In the title-rôle Miss Hilda Guiver is admirable, and wins much favour; the part of Lady Binfield has a bright and graceful exponent in Miss Marie West, who renders her vocal numbers charmingly; while a more effective Mrs. Bright than Miss Nellie Lauraine could not be desired; and Miss Gertrude Page is pleasing and smart as Sadie. Very high honours must be awarded Mr. H. E. Garden for his remarkably fine portrayal of Lord Plantagenet; Mr. Laurie Lisle is an excellent King of Illyria; and Mr. Robert Hyett deserves special mention for particularly good work as Sir John Binfield.

SWIMMING BATHS.—Secretary, Mr. Wm. Spruce.—Poole's Myriorama, under the general management of Mr. J. W. Poole, is installed in the large hall on an annual visit, opening a fortnight's stay on Monday to a large audience. The pictures, with clever mechanical effects, again reach their usual high standard, and the long list of animated pictures are greatly interesting. The programme of varieties is a strong one, and includes the Carls, who introduce their clever speciality *Fun in a Café,* Captain Howlett's Marionettes, Funny Johnny O'Rourke, Graceful Mlle. Bartenelli, Fred and Ivy Boulton, Eileen and Maynie (the dancing dots), and an excellent orchestra under Mr. Fred Drake.

WAKEFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Dr. Carl Hermann, hypnotist and electrician, heads the bill this week, and gives an astounding and interesting entertainment; Wild, Willie, and West submit an exceedingly clever acrobatic turn; Carl Rosini is a smart hoop manipulator; the Three Bostonians dance well; Professor Holt, ventriloquist, and Mr. Hyam Long, musical artist, contribute able turns; and Reed and Lerne, comedians, prove amusing.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The star turn at this place of amusement is the Aurora troupe, who perform some extraordinary feats most gracefully; the Allisons are smart duettists and dancers; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian, is good; the Brothers Lang, in their playful interlude; the Three Rubys give a clever turn as hand-balancers and acrobats; Bouverie Pleydell, comedienne, is well received. The pictures on the American Bioscope prove a great attraction. The programme is satisfactorily completed by Burt Shepard with parodies and stories.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Robert Perris's company, in *A Fight for Millions,* is here this week. Mr. Perris as Tom Manley is effective; Mr. P. George Boresford's Hudson Rivers is ably presented; and Mr. Watkin Wynne scores as Richard Dudley. Mr. L. Fred Tenaur as Willie Neverwork, Mr. Karl H. Edwards as Moses, and Mr. Nicholas Conway as Hobbs are all praiseworthy. Miss Eva Purcell as Pearl Rivers does good work; Miss Elma Turner's portrayal of Helen Dudley is excellent; and Miss Audrey Sutherland does well as Little Madge.

WALTHAMSTOW.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—A programme containing several attractive features has been arranged by Mr. Barclay. Miss Wynnie Darrell sings with her accustomed grace and charm; "Mr. E.," a new-comer, makes a success with his amusing patter; Miss Adey Spencer, "the Girl from the Hat Shop," sings tastefully, dances with much elegance, and plays the piano with a delicate touch; the Harvey Boys are as amusing as ever; Mr. Chas. Austin's dry humour keeps his hearers in one prolonged roar of laughter; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is, as usual, a popular feature; and a great success is scored by Joe Elvin's company in *'Appy 'Ampstead.*

KING'S THEATRE.—An interesting incursion into the realms of the "legitimate" is made this week by Mr. Allan Wilkie and company, a band of promising young histrions whose watchword is earnestness. On Monday our old friend, *The Lady of Lyons,* served to show of what material the company is composed, and a creditable *ensemble* was the result. Mr. Allan Wilkie proved himself well up in all the traditions of Claude Melnotte, looking the part well, acting with what may be described as vigorous restraint, and declaiming his lines with distinctness; Miss Ine Cameron is hardly endowed with the physical power to carry out her very intelligent intentions as Pauline; nevertheless, her picture of the proud beauty of Lyons was carefully limned. As Beauseant Mr. Clifford Rean was pronouncedly melodramatic; and Mr. J. Greig made a respectable Glavis. The good-hearted, outspoken Colonel Damas had a fine representative in Mr. George Lambton. Mr. James Willoughby as M. Deschapelles, Miss Barbara Pigot as the affected and talkative Mme. Deschapelles, Miss Lizzie Maddocks as the Widow Melnotte, Messrs. Alfred Gray, R. S. Innes, B. Sullivan, Malcolm Tearle, H. Burton, and Miss Dorothy Barrington completed the cast. For the other nights of the week Mr. Wilkie announced *The Corsican Brothers, Robert Macaire, Othello, David Garrick,* and *The Sleigh Bells.*

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Miss Adria Hills and R. Ayrton's company is here this week in the stirring drama *A Gambler's Daughter.* Mr. Robert Ayrton acts with natural force as Desmond O'Dare, and Mr. Alfred Sanders is a typical specimen of the Jewish renegade as Solomon Solomons. Mr. Richard Pitt is well placed as John Grant, and Mr. Victor Millard scores as his son Jack. As Stephen Brand Mr. H. Lloyd displays the requisite dramatic force. Mrs. Adria Hill in the dual rôle of Mildred and Miriam Grant displays genuine histrionic ability.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Marie Santoi and her merry Japs are supplying a capital entertainment here this week. John Grun Marx performs several herculean feats; Happy Atwood is a comedian with a style which is peculiarly his own; and other capital turns are Ralston and Francis, duettists; Ivy Leafe, comedienne; Levarni, wire-walker; the Brothers Adderley, duettists; Rose Harvey, vocalist; and the Royal Bioscope pictures.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Messrs. Beardmore and Power's company, in the up-to-date drama entitled *Man's Enemy,* is paying another visit here. The important rôle of Harry Stanton is characteristically impersonated by Mr. Campbell Kelly, and as General Sir Arthur Stanton Mr. Edgar Thorne plays a manly part. A deep impression is made by Mr. Cecil Vernon Proctor in the part of Fred Lisle; Mr. J. Newton Cowling's portrayal of Isaac Barnett proves highly interesting; whilst Count Lanski is admirably rendered by Mr. Harold White. Mr. Alfred Burrows is a decided success in the comedy part of Bill Sanders; a clever representation of Tom Drake is presented by Mr. John Power; Miss Daisy Hallings does some clever work as Sarah Drake; well merited applause is accorded Miss May Douglas for her able acting in the rôle of Nell Saunders; Miss Amy Rudd as Polly Harris, and Miss Lynn Darlington as Grace Lisle, are also excellent in their respective portrayals.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—The Elster Grime Grand Opera Company is on a week's visit here with *Carmen, The Daughter of the Regiment,* and *Il Trovatore.* In the first-named Mr. Payne Clarke is heard at his best in the rôle of José; Mr. M. Kemble is warmly encored for his rendering of the Toreador song; Remendado and Dan Cairo have creditable exponents in Mr. Albert Kewley and Mr. Tom Partridge; and Michaela has a pretty exponent in Kathleen Emmett.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The principal item in a really strong all-round programme is the wonderful performance given by Mr. Belloni and his performing cockatoos. A conspicuous hit is made by Rumbo Austin and his troupe of navvies; poetry of motion is exemplified in the graceful performance of Alethea; Helen Charles is remarkably versatile and refined; and a gratifying reception is scored by Rita and Roma. Will Vay's juveniles win golden opinions in their scena, *Life in the Slums;* and Halma (society juggler), the English Roses (vocalists and dancers), and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are included in the list.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Reuben Payne's company in *The Red Coat* is appearing here this week. The title-rôle is in the clever hands of Mr. V. H. Carlyle; Mr. A. T. Dudley portrays the cowardly Clifford Marl in good style; Harriet Marl is represented in an imposing manner by Miss Constance Medwyn; and the part of Violet Darnley is well played by Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh. Mr. Cecil Morand's impersonation of Finch Fernleigh is all that can be desired; Mr. L. Thompson, a capital Gibson, is ably seconded by Miss Cora Duncan as Pepsy Drew; and the part of little Edith Darnley is cleverly played by Miss Ruby Sutherland.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. David Williams.—The Ediscope and Barnum's Animated Pictures are paying a return visit here, supported by a number of variety artists. The pictures are clear and up to date. The Lulus give a good musical turn; Miss Queenie Vane is a good top-boot dancer; and the bill also includes Vie Verney, whistling comedian; Phil Rabey, versatile comedian; the Two Ver-Vains, duettists and dancers; and the Two Allies, jugglers; Lyons, ventriloquist; and Mons. Aerice, gymnast.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakespearean and répertoire company is this week appearing here in a round of plays. On Tuesday *As You Like It* was produced, in which Mr. Maclaren appeared as Orlando. His impersonation was admirably done, and his enunciation capital. Mr. François Cellier, jun., gave an excellent portrayal of the part of Jacques; Mr. Rathmel Wilson was a capable Adam; Mr. B. Iden Payne did well as Touchstone; and Mr. Aubrey Mather, Mr. Gordon Phillott, Mr. P. Vavassour, and Mr. Sidney Fairbrother were all good in their respective parts. The part of Rosalind was taken by Miss F. Glossop Harris, whose acting was charming, graceful, and at times vivacious. Miss Gertrude Gilbert was praiseworthy as Celia; and Miss Mona Limrick and Miss Gertrude Littlewood did well as Phebe and Audrey respectively. During the week *The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet,* and *The Corsican Brothers* were also billed.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—May Moore Duprez, "the jolly Dutch girl," heads this week's bill, and provides good entertainment. Other items in the programme are the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; Hurley and Cole, vocalists; Swan and Vesta, comedians; Fred Cleveland's comedy company, in *Swank versus Talent;* Geo. Hyam, comedian; and the Brothers Newport, trapeze artists.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Miss Marie Menzie's company is here this week with *A Rogue's Daughter.* Mr. R. Gordon ably sustains the part of Sir George Mynard; Mr. Frank V. Fenn is a manly Frank Tyler; Mr. Richard Ferris excellently portrays the villainies of Colonel Foster, being ably assisted by Mr. William Pimm in the character of Isaac Isaacs; Mr. T. Taylor well supplies the necessary fun as Ebenezer Dunnem; Mr. A. Hall-Menzies is also quaint as John Gibbs; and Mr. T. Rowe presents a typical Inspector Morris. Miss Marie Menzies is excellent as Lady Mynard, acting with force and charm; Miss Marie E. Robertso is highly amusing as Priscilla Jenkins; Miss Violet Leader as Dicky is well placed; Miss K. Raile causes roars of laughter in her impersonation of Mrs. Jenkins; and Miss Madge Daveraux gives a clever character-study of Letty Grey.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Clark.—Miss Violet Maitland's company is engaged here in the dramas *The Dawn of Hope* and *The Night Mail.* The first-named was presented on Monday. Mr. Harry Glenney was successful as Edgar Hartington and Miss Violet Maitland good as Elsie Marchand; Mr. Montague Corrie was well cast as Billy Barton and Mr. Herbert St. Claro was efficient as Herbert Hartington.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. Henry Bedford and company, in a round of plays, have had possession of the stage during the current week. The series included *Gipsy Jack, Mafeking,* and *The See-Saw of Life.* On Monday night, in the first-mentioned piece, the title-rôle was taken by Mr. Henry Bedford. Mr. Alec Alexander as Gerald Skinner, and Mr. Cecil B. Churton as the Rev. Francis Harvey, also contributed to a fine representation of the play. Miss Bessie Bedford made a vivacious May Harvey, Miss Ella Sennett gave a sympathetic impersonation of the part of Dorothy Dexter, Miss Francis Foley as Agar acted very forcefully, and Miss Marie Rawlins as Nan, a gipsy girl, gave an admirable representation of the character.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Hamilton's Excursions have attracted fairly large audiences during the week. In addition to the pictures excellent specialities were provided by George French's troupe of cyclists; Gustave Fasola, illusionist; Brothers Warlock, comedians; Herr Cronow, character impersonator; and the Snow Family, comedy roller skaters.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*Dishonoured,* presented by Miss B. St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is the attraction here. Miss St. Albans as Leslie Maynard proves herself an actress specially suited to the part, and her success is undoubted. As Phillip Cunningham Mr. Percy Ballard is particularly at home; he gives an artistic rendering of a popular rôle. The villainies of Captain Peyntland are acentuated by Mr. Jackson Hayes, whose reception at the hands of "the gods" is the reverse of cordial.

EMPIRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Payne's Little Vagabonds are exceptionally smart youngsters whose singing is much above the average. Kitty Clover and company in their sketch prove themselves amusing, and Mignon is a dainty and pleasing musician; the ventriloquial efforts of Miss Maude Edwards are highly appreciated; Shean, Fox, and Shean are amusing in *The Fighting Tramp;* Woodhouse and Wills are comical; and the efforts of Adrim and Oram and Arthur Gilbert are of a diverting nature.

"THE MIRROR OF TIME."

An Episode, in One Act, by Cyril Wentworth Hogg,

Produced for the First Time on Any Stage at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, on Monday, April 9.

Terence Marsbrook ..... MR. FLORIAN RAYMOND
Mrs. Desborough ..... MISS DARBISHIRE

The scene of this little piece, which plays about fifteen minutes, is the boudoir adjoining Mrs. Desborough's dining-room, St. James's-street, London. The lady and Marsbrook, her admirer, are together, and the topic of conversation is the relationship between them and its probable issues. Mrs. Desborough is apparently a woman with a past, but Marsbrook does not mind this, and from the first is disposed to regard her with a refined and honourable sentiment. Discovering, however, that her character has been impugned by a third person in Marsbrook's presence (on which account he is averse from mentioning even her name to his mother, a rather saintly person), Mrs. Desborough resolves to clear herself in his eyes by telling him her story. This she does in a rather lengthy and narrative style, which somewhat stifles the dramatic interest of the situation; but her story of a wretched marriage, which seemed her only way of escape from the rigours of a Belgian convent, satisfies him that she has been a suffering and misunderstood woman, who must still suffer in the fact that her husband is alive. Marsbrook's confession of love in these circumstances is so extremely honourable that he proposes to take the lady to his mother's roof and wait patiently for his reward until her husband dies; and this satisfies Mrs. Desborough that his love for her is really what he has professed it to be. Thereupon she corrects her story by the addition of a very important confession, which is that her husband is not alive, her assertion to the contrary having been made as a test; and on this she yields herself to his outstretched arms, with an appeal that he should "deal with her tenderly." The general tone of the piece is bookish rather than dramatic, and the subtleties of the dialogue require to be sharpened and modified a little nearer to average requirements; but when this is done, and some condensation brought to bear upon the narrative portions, it ought to prove quite successful as a serious and sentimental little playlet. The characters were very well portrayed, Miss Darbishire giving the impression of a resourceful actress as Mrs. Desborough, and Mr. Florian Raymond depicting the restrained and honourable Marsbrook with skill and good taste.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of frost, cold winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after walking, cycling, motoring, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.]

AN ACTOR IN PORTUGAL.

Mr. Mark Kinghorne, who has been on a trip through Spain and Portugal, sends the following amusing account of an incident which occurred in Lisbon during his stay:—

A glorious Sunday in mid-Lent. Not a cloud in the rich blue sky. Lisbon is *en fête.* The women in thin mantillas; the men in capotes and sombreros. The children rushing about like so many animated rainbows. It is Sunday! But the shops and stores are open; and the wine lodges, restaurants, and lottery ticket sellers are doing a roaring trade. Everything is at fever heat. Everybody is excited. *But*—nobody is intoxicated! They have a saying here which I blush to record: "As drunk as an Englishman." What is the reason of all this gaiety? For the last ten days the walls have been placarded with enormous posters announcing that on Sunday the celebrated Matador, Senhor Machiquita would fight seven bulls specially trained and brought from Spain. Since then nothing has been talked, dreamed, or thought about but "*Toros.*" The noisy "Murillo" children play "Toros" as ours play horses. Mass has been finished some hours. Lunch is over, and as four o'clock approaches everybody in Lisbon turns in the direction of the Campa. The Carris Ferro or electric—the mule cars—run on the same set of rails. Two, three, and four horse carriages; horse, mule, and donkey back. Everybody rides. Riding is so cheap. You can go the round of the city on the cars for something like 150 reis. Outside the Bull Ring are grouped the *cognoscenti,* eagerly awaiting the arrival of their favourite Matador. His reception makes that of the King and Royal Family fade into nothingness. The King regards his salvoes of applause as divine right. Machiquita, as a matter of course. What a sight! And what sounds! Tier upon tier of stone benches; gaudily decorated private boxes; on the sunny side and on the shady side. A magnificent band is playing various national melodies. The Royal party have settled down into their places—Senhor the President into his. Rockets and explosive bombs are going off in the air. A babel of *badinage.* Shrill cries and cat-calls. The huge gates are flung open. Two splendidly mounted and attired officials in the costume of the sixteenth century dash into the arena, and, after being brought up by flourish of trumpet before the Royal box, boldly avow their intention of killing the bull, or perishing in the attempt. This, of course, means that they will perform the feat by deputy—just as our Sheriffs engage Jack Ketch for hanging by proxy. At their exit, which is gladly welcomed (for their formal speeches have been long drawn out), a perfect thunder of applause ascends, as the Matadors, Chulos, Banderillos, and Picadores enter, salute the Royal box, salute the audience, salute the den where the bulls are caged; and, just when we begin to think they will never stop saluting, a strange thing happens. A tiny cloud, no bigger than a man's hand, sheds a few welcome drops of rain. The star of the day looks up at the sky, shrugs his shoulders, shakes his head, and disappears, followed by the crowd who came to fight the bull. A brief conference between the officials takes place, and it is announced that there will be no bull-fight. A dead, ominous hush for some seconds, and then—well, I tremble to think what would have happened had it been a Rugby match. As it was, the enormous audience refused to disperse. Hissing, hooting, and whistling—reminding one of a "Barrie" first night, and the author declining to acknowledge his imperative call. I remained with the rest to take some snap-shots. On looking at my exposure book I noticed the date. It was the "*First of April*"! I had never been so "spoofed" before. Travelling 1,500 miles to see a bull-fight, and — ! ! ! ! All's well that ends well. Silence was restored, and an official announcement was made to the effect that, "*weather permitting,*" the fight would be held on Easter Sunday; or that the prices of admission would be refunded next day at the office in the "Rua" something or other. I may here briefly state that bull-fighting in Portugal is not the brutal, bloody sport (?) so beloved of the Spaniards. The bulls are never killed, but brought up time after time, while the horses are worth from three to five hundred guineas a-piece. Bred and trained to the business, they, as a rule, do not sustain as much injury as a pony at a polo match; while, if a man gets killed or injured, it is due to his own carelessness or rashness. And they are both careless and rash, I do assure you.

MR. BROMHEAD, the manager of Messrs. L. Gaumont and Co., the cinématographers, was in Naples a few days ago, and made the ascent of Mount Vesuvius. He had with him a cinématograph camera and obtained pictures of the volcano, which was then in violent eruption. Amongst the scenes photographed were streams of molten lava running down the mountain side, and a view looking into the crater, from which clouds of smoke, stone, and lava were belching forth with great fury. Immediately after the pictures were taken the eruption became so violent as to cause widespread damage, and the result has been the loss of several hundreds of lives, and great destruction of property. Many of the places photographed have now been wiped out of existence, and the edge of the crater on which Mr. Bromhead stood has now dropped 850ft.; that is to say, the top of the mountain has been practically blown off by the violent eruption. The picture is grand and awe-inspiring, and must be seen to be believed. It is now being offered by Messrs. L. Gaumont and Co., who must be congratulated upon their good fortune.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 9, the Play, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

The sentimentality of Mrs. Henry Wood's story, as displayed in the popular Heath-Wilson Barrett version of *East Lynne* will always have an attraction for the average playgoer, and although Passion week is not looked upon as profitable theatrically, yet it must be admitted that audiences have been up to expectation at this favourite house. Of all the dramatisations—and they are many—of "East Lynne" the "Bullock" version stands out as the one most interestingly told, and having the advantage of much "comic relief" in the shape of the quips of P.C. Bullock. For the present production Mr. J. B. Mulholland has, with infinite judgment, engaged for the rôle of Lady Isabel an actress of exceptional merit, Miss Gertrude Scott, whose intense and emotional acting has earned her vociferous applause. In the part of Archibald Carlyle, Mr. William Calvert has gained fresh laurels for a painstaking and very capable performance. Mr. Edward Sorley gives an accomplished rendering of the villainous and hypocritical Francis Levison. As Justice Hare, Mr. George Delaforce is excellent; and Mr. Herbert Young makes an adequate Richard Hare. Mr. Walter Russell is a dignified Lord Mountsevern, and he subsequently acts Lawyer Dill in a praiseworthy manner. P.C. Bullock is allotted to that favourite comedian, Mr. Lloyd Townrow, who plays the character for all it is worth, with the pleasing result that when he is on the stage, the audience is in roars of laughter—a fitting tribute to his powers. Miss Vera Kingsford renders Barbara Hare in approved fashion; and a very satisfactory Cornelia Carlyle is Miss Emma Averne. Miss Susie Nainby is a pleasant Joyce, and Miss Eveleen Hartford is good as Wilson. Miss L. Hartford acts with spirit as Suzanne, the French maid. The two children, Little Isabel and Willie, are satisfactorily played by Miss Minnie Ray and Miss Dolly Swift.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 9, the Drama, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The patrons of this theatre are enjoying the return visit of Miss Edith Cole and company in *A Royal Divorce*, under the management of Mr. W. W. Kelly, ably assisted by Mr. Walner Gregory. This historic play, originally produced at the New Olympic Theatre in 1891, is still popular with the play-going public, and to all appearances will attract crowds for years to come. Miss Edith Cole successfully repeats her fine impersonation of the Empress Josephine, which has lost not one whit of its engrossing quality. Mr. Frank Lister, who has also proved himself in the past such a capable and versatile exponent of the histrionic art, adds materially to his reputation by his interpretation of Napoleon, speaking his lines with such sound judgment that the proper effect is never missed. A favourable impression is also made by Miss Elizabeth Watson with her impersonation of Marie Louise, the part being one that admits of some brilliant acting; Miss Watson rises to each occasion. Miss Helena Meadows is suitably cast for the part of Mother Lomas; and the Misses Clara Earle and Irma Foldi are able exponents of the parts of Stephanie de Beauharnais and Blanche d'Hervas. The acting of Master Herbert Hollom as the little King of Rome is highly praiseworthy; and Miss Loyale Frere gives an excellent reading of the Gouvernante. Mr. Joynsen-Powell submits a very careful portrayal of Talleyrand; and an excellent interpretation of the Marquis de Beaumont is given by Mr. G. W. Cockburn. Very ably enacted are the parts of General Augereau and Marshal Murat by Messrs. George Howard and St. George-Frere. Dr. Corvisart has an able representative in Mr. Frederick Powell; and Mr. T. P. Haynes also successfully enacts the Genappes innkeeper. Mr. Percy H. Vernon finely sustains the part of Lord Keith, and the remaining small parts are all well played. "The Story of Waterloo" is splendidly presented, the scenery, appointments, and costumes being exceptionally good.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 9,
the Military Play, entitled
"ONE OF THE BEST."

Despite the fact that this is the week before the holidays and theatrical business is at a low ebb, a large and enthusiastic audience was present at this theatre when Miss Elsie Roberts and company appeared in that favourite military drama *One of the Best*. It has been played here before; but the present company is as good as any we have seen, and the great scene in the play depicting the degradation of the falsely-accused Dudley Keppel was capitally acted and well staged. The drama has been produced and is under the direction of Mr. Frank Fenton, who is well known here, and he undertakes the rôle of Dudley Keppel, giving a very manly and soldierly portrayal of the character, and playing throughout with earnestness and in the most finished manner. Miss Elsie Roberts makes a charming Mary Penrose, her acting in the scene where her lover Keppel is stripped of his decorations being especially good. Philip Ellsworth, the villain of the piece, is carefully played by Mr. Escott Robson, who is careful not to overdo the part. Lieut.-General Coventry is played in a distinguished manner by Mr. Cyril Melton, while Mr. Edward S. Earle is particularly good as Sir Archibald McGregor. Mr. George Child acts the part of the old vicar, Dr. Penrose, in a quiet but effective manner. The humorous element is chiefly provided by Mr. Harry E. Ray, in the character of Private Jupp. Mr. Ray is a very amusing comedian, causing endless amusement, and yet always in the picture. Miss Dorrie Roberts, too, is bright and lively as Kitty Spencer, and she ably assists Mr. Ray in the various light comedy scenes. Miss Ethel Royale plays Esther Coventry in a dramatic manner, and Miss Ethel Serjient makes an acceptable Mrs. Spencer. Mr. Lionel West is good as the foreign spy M. de Crushy, and Jason Jupp, the old sexton, is amusingly presented by Mr. Bertram Yardi; while the various other minor characters are all creditably acted. The play is well mounted, and the two military bands are an attractive feature.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 9, the Play, in Four Acts,
by C. Haddon Chambers, entitled
"THE IDLER."

Miss Elma Baring's company gave a most satisfactory rendering of this powerful play here this week. The interest and sympathy of the audience were enlisted from beginning to end. Mr. Percy Carlton earnestly portrayed the changing moods of Mark Cross, whose wrong-doing is more than atoned for by his self-sacrifice in the end, and Mr. David Sellar was natural, yet forcible, as Sir John Harding, M.P., whose early misdeeds form the *raison d'être* of the piece. As Simeon Strong, the American, Mr. James Martin was excellent, acting with skilfully reserved strength in the dramatic situations with which the play abounds. The General Merryweather of Mr. C. St. J. Wallace was most amusing, though never farcical, and he had the great advantage of looking the part to the life. Mr. Arthur Bond took the rôle of Bennett, Cross's man, and gave due point to his lines. Lady Harding is a difficult part, but Miss Elma Baring, who had a good reception, was quite equal to all its demands. Miss Ada Gordon as General Merryweather's daughter, Kate, was a pleasing influence, and much relieved the production by her infectious merriment. As Mrs. Cross Miss Gwendoline Williams was motherly and sympathetic, and Miss Tamela Hope sustained the part of Mrs. Glynn Stanmore, the widow who would willingly change her condition. Mr. J. Bannister Howard's *Florodora* company is announced for to-day and next week.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, April 9, the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Mrs. Musgrave, entitled
"OUR FLAT."

Laughter on easy terms is to be obtained this week at the elegant Brixton Theatre, where large audiences have been kept in the throes of mirth throughout the evening. *Our Flat*, which began its successful career at the Opera Comique nearly a score of years ago, has since proved a source of amusement in all parts of the kingdom. It is done full justice to by Mr. Charles Steuart's company, Mr. Steuart himself assuming the rôle of the much-dunned Reginald Sylvester, whose embarrassments seem to set so lightly upon him. Mr. Steuart acts in admirable light comedy style and with a verve and bonhomie which intensifies the droll situations in which he is placed. A bright and ingenuous Margery is found in Miss Daisy Atherton, a daughter of the famous comedian, Mr. Willie Edouin, who created a principal part in the original production of the piece. Miss Atherton's exposition is varied by many touches of humour, and her animation and buoyancy add in no small measure to the pleasure afforded by the impersonation. Mr. Percy Foster gives an admirable embodiment of the impecunious young artist Clarence Vane, and his fiancée, Lucy, is made sweet and winsome in the hands of Miss Empsie Bowman, who combines with the vivacity of youth excellent attainments as an actress. A weirdly comic make-up and unbounded droll resource render Miss Pollie Emery's Bella irresistible. The humble "slavey" has been presented in many forms and in various disguises, but Miss Emery seems to get as near realism as could be conceived, and the result is heard in screams of merriment from all parts of the house. Mr. Wilfred E. Shine draws a broadly comic picture of the theatrical manager, Nathaniel Glover, his appearance and delivery being very striking; and Mr. Frank Emery, who acts in a more subdued style as Stout, the hall-porter, is no less effective. Another clever character impersonation is that supplied by Miss Mary Stuart of the stately Madame Volant, the pretended Parisienne, whose indignation at the non-payment of her bill leads her to forget her French accent and to express her feelings in the vernacular. Mr. J. B. Gordon assumes the stern parent with great effect as Mr. McCullum, speaking his lines remarkably well. Miss Nellie Bowman, as Clara Pryout, plays with restless energy, and is the mischievous romp to the life; and Mr. Fred Conyers as the Milkman and Mr. Kaye Brudell as a foreman furniture shifter complete a cast in which no flaw could be discovered. The piece of the evening was preceded by a comedietta in one act, by F. A. Besant Rice, played for the first time, entitled

"FORTY SHILLINGS."

Fabian Cassilis .....Mr. Percy Foster
Mabel Cassilis .....Miss Daisy Atherton
Geoffrey Fordham .....Mr. Fred. Conyers
Ingram .....Miss Empsie Bowman

A nice sense of humour is revealed in the little piece, not sufficiently strong, however, to atone for the lack of novelty in the story. The basis of the farce has done duty often before, and the argument at the end moreover is too subtle to be easily perceived. The young husband, who has a "night out" during his wife's temporary absence, is a familiar figure enough, and in this instance his name is Fabian Cassilis, who has gone "on the spree" with a bachelor friend. They are taken in charge for obstructing the police, and spend the night in a prison cell, eventually getting off under the assumed names of Smith and Brown with a fine of 40s. and 20s. respectively. Fabian is at considerable pains—more, indeed, than seems needful—to conceal his escapade from his wife, going so far as to buy up from the local newsagent all the copies of the morning paper containing the account of the case. All might be well but for the arrival of Fabian's boon companion, whose apologies open the young wife's eyes to her husband's duplicity. He pleads for forgiveness, but she constitutes herself a justice of the peace, and allows Brown, the bachelor, to plead the cause of Smith, the husband. Counsel argues that Smith is now non-existent, and eventually the defendant's wife relents, but reserves the right to re-convict should the said Smith ever be resuscitated. The favour with which the comedietta was received was mainly due to Mr. Percy Foster, whose embarrassment as the remorse-stricken Fabian was skilfully portrayed. Miss Daisy Atherton was graceful and intelligent as the young wife, Mr. Fred Conyers did well as the bachelor friend, and Miss Empsie Bowman was an engaging maid-servant.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 9,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by W. P. Sheen, entitled
"THE TEMPTRESS."

A good drama is always sure of a welcome at Woolwich, and it is therefore quite in accordance with precedent that the fortunes of *The Temptress* and her companions, as presented by Mr. W. H. Hallatt's powerful company, have been closely followed by keenly-interested audiences. In the title-rôle Miss Blanche Steele is provided with a strong part, to which she does full justice, rightly insisting on the utterly infamous character of this remarkable woman who is perfectly ready to commit murder or any other crime to gain her own unholy ends. Miss Mabel Scudamore submits a sympathetic and touching rendering of Marion Fordyce, and fully enlists the sympathies of the audience for the much-wronged but throughout high-spirited and sweet-tempered girl. Miss Florence Palmer contributes a pathetically convincing portrayal of Madge, Denbigh's mad wife. As Lucas Denbigh Mr. Frederick Ross gives a life-like rendering of this thorough-paced scoundrel, and soon earns recognition for his efforts in the shape of the heartiest disapproval of the "gods." Mr. W. H. Hallatt is very successful as Pedro Gonzales, and manages to avoid the exaggeration to which the part is particularly liable. Mr. George D. Daiper plays in manly, straightforward style as Philip Welford; Mr. Claude Ashworth is a dignified Sir Oswald; and Mr. Robert Wilton is good as Austin Dale. The low-comedy element in the play is well looked after, and the flirting and amusing "carryings-on" of Miss Lizie Chambers as Rhoda Brown, with the whimsicalities of Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Bob Tanner, and the clever nonsense of Mr. Allen Carruthers as Francis Fitz-Fluke, keep the audience in continual good humour. The smaller parts are ably handled by a capable cast.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday April 9, a New Edition of
Alexander Dumas'
"MONTE CRISTO."

Dumas' wonderful novel has long been one of the delights of our boyhood hours. At Terriss's this week we have an adequate adaptation of the immortal story. There is perhaps in the play rather less of comic relief than the good folks of Rotherhithe are accustomed to, but they follow the adventures of Edmond Dantès with the utmost excitement, and are deeply interested in his escape in a sack from the Château d'If, and in his subsequent vengeance upon his enemies. The talented stock company, as usual, gives an excellent rendering. Mr. Ashley Page, in the prologue, is the light-hearted, breezy sailor lad to the life, and in the drama he makes a most dignified figure as the calm, inexorable Monte Cristo, "the man with the dead heart," who hunts down his foes one by one and brings them to justice. Miss Marion Denvil gives a picturesque rendering of the peasant girl Mercedes, and afterwards plays with quiet impressiveness and grace as the silver-haired Countess de Morcerf. Mr. Edwin Williams is sympathetic as the youthful Albert de Morcerf; Mr. C. A. Chandler, usually cast for lighter rôles, shows his versatility by playing capitally as the vindictive Fernand Mondego. Mr. John Sargent gives a good study of unscrupulous ambition as M. Villefort; and Noirtier is well presented by Mr. S. Major Jones. Mr. Richard Norton is earnest and convincing as the scoundrel Danglars; Miss Mattie Everett makes the most of her small chances as Marie; Mr. Johnny Chippendale extracts all the fun possible out of the part of the bibulous innkeeper Caderousse, whose wife is effectively enacted by Miss Maggie Lindsay. Mr. E. J. Collins acts with much realism as the unhappy Abbé Faria. The scenery and effects are adequate, the Salon de Morcerf in the third act being very well realised.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 9, the Drama, in Four Acts,
by James Willard, entitled
"A WOMAN OF PLEASURE."

This interesting drama, presented here on Monday by Mr. Morice Prendergast's company, met with a cordial reception. The book is exceedingly well written, and the series of thrilling scenes holds the attention of the audience throughout. The acting all round is worthy of praise, and the scenery and general effects are all that can be desired. Mr. Jerrold Ord makes a dignified Lord Carlingforth, the sincerity of his acting provoking general applause. The part of the villainous Major Burrows is in the safe hands of Mr. Arthur Gilroy, who contributes a sterling performance; Mr. H. T. Wood gives a refined and manly impersonation of the Rev. Luke Goddard; Mr. Fred Norman's portrayal of the Boer Commandant Dench is eminently satisfactory; and Mr. Ern Carlton as Joe Plougham scores a decided hit, his clever presentation of the Devonshire yeoman evoking much merriment. Another notable performance is that of Mr. Deane Cliffe in the rôle of the American tourist Bobby Bumpwell. Mr. Fred Laws as the shady financier Michael Issilt, Mr. Sid Vincent as Captain Zoratoff, and Mr. Jack Bradbury as the butler Dawson are highly capable exponents of their respective parts. As the Countess of Carlingforth Miss Theo Henries is seen to great advantage, and Miss Grace Chesterfield is to be congratulated on her excellent performance in the part of Mrs. Josiah Bumpwell. Miss Dolly Gilroy, who makes a pleasing appearance as Dolly Dimple, acts with a charm and grace that are very refreshing; and little Violet Leal, a very young girl, plays the part of Lord Arthur Selwood with remarkable self-possession. Mr. Arthur Gilroy is general-manager, and Mr. Fred Norburn stage-manager, for Mr. Morice Prendergast.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 9,
the Operetta, in Four Acts, entitled
"BLIMELE."

By arrangement with Mr. W. Schaffer Mr. M. D. Waxman's Hebrew operatic and dramatic company is this week appearing at the Standard Theatre in a series of popular Yiddish plays. On Monday a highly satisfactory performance of *Blimele* was given, and great appreciation was exhibited by the audience present. Sound judgment has been shown in the staging of the play, and the mounting was everything that could be desired. Mr. M. D. Waxman proved his histrionic ability beyond all doubt in his impersonation of Doctor Daniel. His delineation was marked by great power and feeling, and was decidedly successful. As Zeligel Mr. M. Streng made full use of his talents, and was greatly appreciated. The King August of Mr. D. Raitz showed the result of careful study, and Mr. S. Bergman took advantage of every opportunity offered in the part of Papa Maxim. The rôle of Count Sablouowitz was capitally sustained by Mr. N. Isaacowitz, and great praise is due to Mr. Joseph Fineberg for his extremely powerful portrayal of Berele. Madame F Waxman played with pathos and feeling as Miriam, and Madame R. Waxman supplied a careful and natural picture of Blimele. The minor characters received adequate support from other members of the company, and substantial assistance was rendered by a capable troupe of singers and dancers. Other pieces in this week's bill are *Gabriel, The Seider Night, The Broken Hearts, The Son of the Star*, and *The Rubinical Student*.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, April 9,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Tom Taylor, entitled
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

Mr. John M. East, the new manager at this theatre, is to be congratulated on his first production, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, Tom Taylor's famous drama. Mr. East has secured the services of a strong company, including Mr. Ernest Leicester, who on Monday night was accorded a very warm welcome on his return to this side of the river. As Robert Brierley he gives a thorough representation of the much-wronged Lancashire lad. Mr. Alfred Harding, well known here as an able exponent of villainy, is at his best as James Dalton, his many disguises being cleverly carried out. His partner in crime, Melter Moss, is excellently impersonated by Mr. Teddy Colman. In the important rôle of Hawkshaw, the detective, Mr. Horace Hunter, with his crisp delivery and impressive acting, fully realises the character. The audience is convulsed with laughter whenever Mr. Willie Garvey, as Green Jones, is on the stage, while as the adoring wife Emily St. Evremond Miss Jessica Black is very successful. Miss Kenneth Black is effective as Mr. Gibson, a bill broker; Mr. Harry Bristowe as Maltby and Mr. H. Gibbs as Brunton ably sustain their parts. As the incorrigible and cheeky Sam Willoughby Miss Agnes Paulton is an inimitable boy, and thoroughly identifies herself with the part. Mrs. Willoughby, his garrulous and much-worried mother, is cleverly depicted by Miss Mary Smith. As the heroine, May Edwards, Miss Lily Hammersley gives a pathetic rendering of the part, scoring heavily in her many dramatic scenes. The piece is carefully staged. Mr. J. Dobson continues here as the courteous acting-manager.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 9,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

The play this week at the Fulham Theatre is that well-known Adelphi success *The Worst Woman in London*, played by a good all-round company organised by Mr. Tom H. Taylor. The members of the company put plenty of life into their work, and several of them display considerable dramatic power. The title-rôle is played by Miss Florence Dalton, who certainly came through the ordeal of a very exacting part with flying colours, and well earned the applause she received. Miss Florence Lovell displayed rich gifts of humour as Matilda Parker, and Miss Effie Bartlett was charming as Ruth Milford. Mr. Wallace Campbell played with great earnestness as Jack Felton, and Mr. Percy Dawsone was very amusing as Bob Goldfinch. The same may be said of Mr. H. W. Monte as Hugh Drayton. Mr. P. B. Lewers as Vincent Lyle was a persuasive villain, and Mr. Leonard Booker played powerfully as Philip Armstrong. The work of Mr. H. H. Barrington as James Milford was quietly effective; and amusing character-sketches were contributed by Mr. G. Thomas as a sweep and by Miss Katie Lawrence as a lady of the Jane Cakebread stamp. Mr. Walter Clarke as a detective and Mr. A. Rushen as a policeman on duty in Hyde Park filled minor parts most effectively. There were some good sets of scenery, notably those of the Marble Arch and a part of Rotten Row in Hyde Park.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, April 9,
the Farce, in Three Acts, from the German,
by Cosmo Hamilton, entitled
"THE MOUNTAIN CLIMBER."

Mr. Huntley Wright and company, in *The Mountain Climber* and *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, provide the attraction at the Coronet Theatre this week. The merry mixture concocted by Mr. Cosmo Hamilton from the German of Curt Kraakz, is very much to the taste of laughter-loving audiences, and the absurd antics of the make-believe mountain-climber Mr. Montague Sibsey, as enacted by Mr. Huntley Wright, keep the audience in one continuous roar of laughter. One almost feels sorry for the little man when his laboriously built-up edifice of deception totters, and is likely to fall to the ground, and quite a sense of relief comes over us when his reputation is saved in the eyes of his wife and daughters. The whole piece revolves around the intensely comic personality of Mr. Huntley Wright, who is admirably suited. Miss Kate Mills cleverly hits off the mock-heroic vein of bustling farce as the infatuated Mrs. Montague Sibsey, and Miss Dora Barton as the ingenuous Betty is very pretty and winsome; whilst Miss Christine McGill as the more strong-minded sister Alice plays commendably. As the budding medico, Dr. Charles Midgham, and as the real mountain-climbing enthusiast, Mr. Arthur Lydbrook, the girls' lovers, Mr. Montague Elphinstone and Mr. Eric Maturin are well in the picture. Mr. Algernon Newark as Oscar Rheinthaler, and Mr. Scott Craven as the sturdy Sepp of that ilk, the pair of Swiss guides who aid and abet Sibsey in his deception, do admirable service; and Miss Ivy Hertzog as the masculine-minded Lena is amusing and attractive. Mr. W. R. Staveley enters thoroughly into the fun of the piece as Samuel Midgham. Messrs. L. Victor, R. O. Rich, and Geo. Paulton, as the deputation, Miss Amy Thomas as the volatile maid-servant Mary, and Mr. J. Sebastian Smith as the journalist Watson-Frimley, all do good service. *The pièce de résistance* is preceded by *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, an episode in one act, by Lloyd Osbourne and Austin Strong, in which Mr. Huntley Wright gives us a taste of his quality, and comes out strong, in a pathetic part as Père Marlotte of the title-rôle, assisted by Mr. Eric Maturin as Louis XV., Miss McGill as Henrietta, and others.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, April 9,
The Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell and George Testo Sante, entitled
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."

The Life of a Showman is being presented in a capable manner this week to the delight of large audiences. Mr. Logan Darra imparts great earnestness and conviction to the part of Hendrick Marais. Miss Enid Trench's assumption of the distraught Lena is a fine piece of work, and the actress makes a decidedly good impression. Mr. Edward Warden contributes a carefully-conceived impersonation of the fighting parson, Cyril Arliss, meeting with due recognition. Mr. George Testo Santé appears as Brien Leader, a circus proprietor, and successfully undertakes various feats of strength. Mr. Charles Osborne gives good support as Stickers, whilst Mr. Frank Santé contributes an amusing portrayal of Tommy Allthere. Mr. Fred Vaughan portrays Chuckers in a skilful manner, and as Ben Tic Tac Mr. E. Turner is well placed. Miss Amy McNeill's clever performance as Agatha is much admired; Miss May Neilson appears successfully as Angelina, and Miss May Warden as Lynette. Other parts are capably undertaken. Mr. Sounes' fine orchestra, under Mr. Stephen E. Blythe's direction, contributes greatly to the pleasure of the performance.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Drama, founded on Mrs. Henry Wood's Novel, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

This old favourite, which has been produced several times at Kingston since the theatre was opened, found a sympathetic audience awaiting it when it was reproduced there on Monday evening, and the reception accorded to it showed that it has lost none of its old charm. Mr. Orlando Daly fills the part of Archibald Carlyle with acceptance, and an intelligent reading of that of Richard Hare is given by Mr. J. Edgar Stevenson. Miss Marion Lind, a lady with undoubted histrionic abilities, appears in the rôle of the unfortunate Lady Isabel, which she succeeds in investing with much pathos; Miss Molly Wynne appears as the chambermaid Suzanne, in which she scores a success; and valuable assistance is also rendered by Mr. Leslie Tyler as Lord Mountsevern, Mr. C. B. Vaughan as Francis Levison, Mr. C. R. Stone as Justice Hare, Mr. Bruce Lindley as the lawyer Dill; Miss Merrie Omar as Willie Carlyle, Miss Ida Phillips as Barbara Hare, Miss Blanche Stanley as Cornelia Carlyle, Miss Priddle as Joyce, and Miss Murray as Wilson. Mr. Davey, the managing-director, has secured a strong company in *The Colleen Bawn* for the holidays, a matinée of which will be given on Easter Monday.

THE PAVILION.

On Tuesday, April 10,
the Historical Operetta, in Four Acts,
by S. Feinmar, with Music by Fredzel, entitled
"THE VICEROY."

The feature at the Pavilion for a lengthened period is the special engagement of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, which will give all their performances in Yiddish. This company has spared no trouble or expense in obtaining the best artists possible from all parts of the Continent, and their stage-management is excellent, their dressing and mounting being also in the best of taste. Special mention must be made of the well-drilled and large chorus, which renders with admirable effect the music entrusted to its care, and also of the augmented orchestra under the capable direction of Mr. F. Staub. On Tuesday was given the historical operetta *The Viceroy*. The scene and action of this production are in Spain during the year 1528. Congratulations must be given to Mme. Zwiebel for her fine exposition of Miriam, and Miss Gespass was an able Alonzo. Mr. Shapira was well suited as Don Sebastian, and Mr. Goldsmid was undoubtedly successful as Don Antonio. Leonora stands out prominently by the splendid acting of Mme. Kayzer; while a convincing portrayal of the lover Angelo is given by Mr. Gusofsky. The Grand Inquisitor is emphasised impressively by Mr. Katz, and King Charles V. is capitally impersonated by Mr. Chizick. Mr. Shilling and Miss Bruch work hard as Pedrillo and Seraphina, and Mr. Landau does well as Fernando.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 9,
the Comedy,
"A PAIR OF SPECTACLES."

The comedy, by Sydney Grundy, entitled *A Pair of Spectacles* being one of those pieces which audiences do not mind seeing over and over again, the Dalston Theatre is nightly crowded with enthusiastic playgoers to witness certainly a most efficient rendering by an admirable company, of which Mr. David James is the head. Mr. James appears as Benjamin Goldfinch, and the way in which he represents the varying phases of the character is quite an interesting study. Mr. Groves Watson as Uncle Gregory gives a fine representation of what is known as a blunt provincial man. The character of Mrs. Goldfinch is one which affords many opportunities for quiet effect, and Miss Muriel Godfray-Turner does not miss any of them. A charming presence has much to do with her general success. Mr. Lionel Gadsden as Percy is a typical free-and-easy young man; Mr. Robert Minster makes a manly Dick; and Mr. Walter Machan is a homely Mr. Lorimer. The shoemaker, Bartholomew, finds a quaint representative in Mr. Charles R. Hann; and Mr. Clarence Pelham does well. Miss Edna Godfrey-Turner is fascinating as Lucy Lorimer; and Miss Marion Lewis is effective as Charlotte. The comedy is preceded by a romantic episode, entitled *The Setting of the Sun*, by Charles Hannan, the characters in which are represented by Mr. Charles R. Hann, Mr. Robert Minster, Miss Mabel Durrant, and Miss Helena Millais. Mr. M. Russell Rosse is responsible for the entire production.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 9,
the Play, founded on Mrs. Henry Wood's ever-popular Novel, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

East Lynne is one of those evergreen dramatic favourites which never seem to go out of favour. At Peckham this week we have the adaptation of Mrs. Wood's famous novel known as "the Bullock version." Peckham audiences have laughed uproariously over the comicalities of the bucolic officer of the law Bullock, and have been beguiled of their tears by the misfortunes of the unhappy Lady Isabel, a part played with much tenderness and pathos by Miss Katharine Clarke. Miss Clarke invests the rôle with great emotional power, and had a very favourable reception. Mr. Albert Ward is a manly and handsome Archibald Carlyle, and quite gains the sympathy of the house. Mr. Harry Barford causes roars of laughter as the stolid Bullock; Mr. Alfred Hollis presents an artistic and amusing character-sketch as Lawyer Dill; and Mr. H. W. Brame is a duly dignified Lord Mountsevern. Mr. Frank Harding gives a clear-cut and striking portrait of the callous and cold-hearted villain Francis Levison, and evokes the execrations of the occupants of the cheaper portions of the house. Miss Julia Warden contributes to the fun of the piece as the old maid Cornelia Carlyle, and Miss Kitty Cardigan makes a pert French maid as Suzanne. Miss Cissy Farrell does all that is possible with the somewhat colourless rôle of Barbara Hare, Mr. Charles Langley is appropriately pompous as Justice Hare, whose unfortunate son Richard is well played by Mr. Fred Boustead. Miss Jessie Bayes is a pathetic little Willie, and Miss Dora Vere, Miss Milly Murray, and Miss Clarice Shirley complete a good all-round cast.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH END.

On Monday, April 9,
a Play, in Four Acts,
by R. C. Carton, entitled
"LIBERTY HALL."

Legitimate drama once more reigns supreme at the Crouch End Opera House, and in *Liberty Hall* Mr. Samuel James has chosen a fine play to present to his patrons. Miss Florence Creagh as Blanche Chilworth ably portrayed the proud and aristocratic daughter of the Chilworths, and her acting was beyond reproach. She showed marked ability in her performance. As Amy Chilworth Miss Sylvio Morris was winsome and dainty; she gained much favour by the sympathetic rendering of her part. Mr. C. F. Collings gave a masterly performance of Mr. Owen, the unknown cousin; his acting was characterised by great vigour and earnestness. Mr. Geo. Ellis as the Hon. Gerald Harringay could scarcely be bettered; as William Todman Mr. Maurice Drew presented an excellent picture of the kindly old uncle, who, though broken in fortune himself, offers a home to the penniless girls his nieces. Mr. F. Waller gave a very satisfactory impersonation of the blustering Briginshaw, the purse-proud linen draper and owner of the emporium; as Mr. Pedrick, the solicitor, Mr. H. May was excellent; Mr. R. Holden was well placed as Mr. Hickson; and Miss Enid Barwell gave an interesting sketch of a lisping old maid as Miss Hickson. Mr. Eric Vayne was good as Robert Binks, an amorous shop boy; and Miss May Seton was a veritable Gorgon as Crafer, the domestic, who rules the Todman ménage with a grip of iron. Mr. W. Harrison, as Luscombe, the footman, completed what was in all respects a satisfactory cast.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 9,
the Play, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

Mr. Arthur Collins' company, travelling with the entire reproduction of *The Prodigal Son*, halted this week at Kennington, and the patrons of that handsome theatre took their opportunity and turned up in good round numbers. It is unnecessary to discourse on the quality of the play; that has already been proved at Drury-lane and elsewhere in the suburbs, but a word must be said for the excellent company. Mr. Henry Renouf as Magnus Stephensson submitted an excellent and powerful piece of work, as also did Mr. Norman Partreige as Oscar Stephensson, the prodigal; their father, Stephen Magnusson, Governor-General of Iceland, had an able exponent in Mr. Henry George, and Anna, his wife, was unobtrusively and charmingly undertaken by Miss Alma Murray. Mr. Frank Collins was natural and effective as Oscar Neilson, the factor; Helga Neilson was played in becoming manner by Miss Cecil Cromwell. Miss Lily Hall Caine as Thora was in a word charming, although perhaps a little wanting in emotion; while her impersonation of Elin, Thora's daughter, was highly successful. Miss Mima Renouf went straight to the point, and caused not a little amusement with the quaint sayings of Margret Neilson. Mr. Howard Russell made the most of Doctor Olsen, and Mr. Bryan Daly was characteristic as the manager of the Casino. Eric Arnasson was successfully entrusted to Mr. P. Gromer, and Miss Kathleen Kellie was bright and jolly as Gudrun. The Pastor was made the most of by Mr. Fred Grove, and the Sheriff of Mr. Phillips was decidedly good. Mr. Harpin deserves mention as Jon Vidalin. The piece was played to a good audience, and some entertaining music was provided.

The virtues of Pasta Mack, that wonderful preparation which exercises a softening influence on the hardest water and gives it a fragrant perfume, have long been celebrated. They are now applied to a new soap, brought out by the same firm, which gives to the bath the very refinement of luxury. Pasta Mack Soap is at once the most delightfully perfumed and the most hygienically perfect of high-class soaps. It satisfies the most refined and fastidious taste, and is so refreshing and comforting, whether used for the bath or toilet, that it will once and for all become a favourite with those who appreciate beautiful perfumes combined with hygienic excellence and soothing and refreshing qualities. This latest creation may be obtained of all perfumers and chemists at 10d. per tablet, or in dainty boxes of three tablets for 2s. 6d.

The Chancery-lane Safe Deposit Company have made special arrangements for the temporary custody of plate, jewellery, and other valuables during the Easter Holidays.

The management of the Hastings Gaiety Theatre arranged on Tuesday last a special matinée concert, given by Mme. Ella Russell and party, which was a complete success.

"EVERYMAN" AT THE GARRICK.

The representation of *Everyman* at the Garrick on Monday afternoon left us in doubt whether the old "morality" should be looked upon from the standpoint of a play, or as an exposition of the Catholic doctrines of Confession and Penance. To the ceremonial introduced some objection might be taken by sincerely religious persons, while others might recognise in the introduction of ritual a sincere, even a reverent desire, to give the production the right atmosphere. It is questionable whether the voice of an unseen priest and the ringing of a bell, implying the consecration of the "elements," which was followed by the administration to Everyman of the Sacraments of Communion and Extreme Unction, would not give offence to devout Catholics. The moral, too, given at the end of the action by the Doctor, should, we think, be recited by the actor without tracing any sign of blessing to the audience. Were the piece produced in a Roman Catholic place of worship, with the part of the Doctor taken by a priest, no religious susceptibilities would be shocked, either by the "consecration," the implied blessing, or the use of incense. About the reverential spirit of the representation there could, however, be no two opinions; and if we ourselves may entertain some doubts as to the taste of producing a religious play with "ritual" on a theatre stage, we must admit that our opinions were not shared by those seated in the stalls, many of whom were quite devout in their bearing. Miss Edith Wynne-Matthison no longer impersonates the title-rôle—a beautiful performance, that haunts the memory of those who witnessed the first revival of the old Morality; nor is Miss Tita Brand playing the part of Knowledge. The parts, however, do not suffer in the keeping of their present exponents. Indeed, the young lady who plays Everyman gives a rendering that is marked by sincerity and pathos; and the representative of Knowledge, though a little monotonous at times, possesses a beautiful voice, and is responsible for a most interesting exposition of the part. Good Deeds also has a representative who never fails to bring out the quaint beauty of the lines. Praise may also be given to the gentlemen playing the parts of Death, Goods, and Confession. During the representation on Monday the theatre was kept in darkness during the whole of the representation, and the auditorium was pervaded by a reverential hush.

In speaking of *Everyman*, Dr. Adolphus William Ward, in his "History of Dramatic Literature," tells us that its immediate sources are not ascertainable. Very probably the author may have taken the story of his Morality from the *Legenda Aurea* of Jacobus Voragine, who died in the year 1298, to which it was appended as a later addition in a brief form derived from the *Speculum Historiale*, a compilation of the thirteenth century by Vincentius of Beauvais. But there can be no doubt that the story itself is a parable narrated in the religious romance of *Balaam and Jehoshaphat*, which has been ascribed to the John of Damascus, who died in 780, but is now held to be more probably the work of his younger namesake, afterwards Patriarch of Antioch, who died in 1090. It has been supposed that the morality of *Everyman*, of which the first impression is traceable to about the year 1529, was written at a considerably earlier date; but Collier has not substantiated his conjecture that this date should be placed as far back as the reign of Edward IV. A Dutch poet, Peter van Diest (Petrus Diesthemius), soon after the appearance of *Everyman*, composed a version of the play in Dutch, which was performed before a *civitatum brabanticarum conventus*, probably to be interpreted as a representative meeting of the *rederyk*-chambers of these towns. This Dutch version again was reproduced in Latin, with what measure of fidelity we do not know, under the title of *Homulus*, by "Christian Ischyrius," who dates his preface, Mæstricht, 1536. This Latin version again became the basis of a German, and the latter was in its turn translated into Dutch. Without pursuing the history of the theme further, I merely note that the publisher of the Latin *Homulus* sought to add to its attraction by prefixing to it a series of scenes, taken in part from the contemporary Latin comedy of *Hekastus* by Macropedius, which was independently derived from the same sources as *Everyman*, and which was itself followed by a long series of reproductions and imitations in Germany.

The writer of an introduction to the carefully-printed edition of the play, published by A. H. Bullen, of 47, Great Russell-street, in considering the history of *Everyman*, says that we must take into account the parallel and contemporary Dutch play *Elckerlijk* (*i.e.*, every man); for a comparison of the two leaves no doubt that either the one was translated from the other, or else both were derived from a common original. Three other plays of the same period bear a close resemblance to these two; firstly, a Latin play called *Homulus*, and, secondly, two translations therefrom, one into Low German and the other into Dutch. These, however, need not detain us long, though they are interesting in themselves. The Latin *Homulus* is undoubtedly a translation of *Elckerlijk*, and is the indirect original (through the Low German play) of the Dutch version.

We are thus left with *Everyman* and *Elckerlijk*, but the question of priority is difficult to answer. Internal evidence points strongly to the supposition that *Everyman* (with the exception of the prologue) was translated from *Elckerlijk*, and not *vice versâ*; because, in more than one passage, the English text is not easily intelligible without reference to the Dutch, and certain points are inexplicable, except upon the theory that *Elckerlijk* was the parent play. Had the Dutch play been derived from *Everyman*, why should the English prologue (ll. 1-21) have been omitted by the Dutch translator? It may be noticed that the rhythmic form of the prologue differs from that of the rest of the play.

Granting for the moment that *Elckerlijk* is the original, we may pursue an inquiry into its authorship. The Latin translation of 1536, mentioned above, has for its title *Homullus Petri Diesthemii*. This implies that a certain Peter, of the town of Diest, was either the translator, or the author, of *Elckerlijk*; but the translator has left his name, Christianus Ischyrius, upon his work, and we may therefore assume that Peter, of Diest, was the author of *Elckerlijk*. In treating of this question not long ago, Dr. Henri Logeman, of Ghent, put forward the credible theory that this Peter of Diest was Peter Dorland, a historian and theologian of a speculative and mystic turn of mind, who lived at Diest during the latter half of the fifteenth century. His acknowledged works (many of which are extant only in MS.) do not disqualify him from consideration as the possible author of *Elckerlijk*; and in a posthumous edition of one of his books his name is given as Petrus Diestensis, or Peter of Diest, which proves him to have been sufficiently well known to be recognised under that title. Moreover, as Ulrici pointed out, *Everyman* shows the hand of a priest in its construction, *e.g.*, from the eulogy of the power of the Church; and if it is a translation from *Elckerlijk*, the theologian of Diest may very well have been the author of the Dutch play.

"YE PLAYHOUSE PLOT," a comedy, in one act, by Maude Thompson, was produced for copyright purposes at St. Leonards Pier on the 5th inst.

MR. ERNEST CH. GITTINS has been re-engaged by the directors of the Carl Rosa Opera Company for their 1906-7 seasons, this making his fourth consecutive season as acting-manager and secretary with the company.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."

A Drama, in Five Acts,
by Miles Wallerton and Frances Gillerton,
produced for the first time in London at the
West London Theatre,
on Monday, April 9.

Captain Herbert Seaton ..MR. WOLSTON FOSTER
Sir Marmaduke Seaton ....MR. HARRISON TATE
Robert Saunders .....MR. JOHN GORMLEY
Phillipe Malvoisin .....MR. W. J. BUTLER
Pierre .....MR. NORMAN NORBURY
Paddy Boyle .....MR. HARRY FOXWELL
Sammy Sharp .....MR. FRED PARK
Jules .....MR. HARRISON FORBES
Sergeant Stubbles .....MR. PAT QUINN
Ninon Malvoisin .....MISS DORIS GILHAM
Sally Sloper .....MISS RUBY ROMA
Mona Dean .....LITTLE FRANCES MADDOCKS
La Celeste .....MISS LILY ADDISON
Eleanor Dean .....MRS. HARRY FOXWELL

The title of this drama, which was produced at the Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on March 6, 1905, gives the experienced playgoer something more than an "inkling" of what he is to expect. He can make a pretty safe guess that the most important female character will be that of a woman who is lost to all sense of shame, and whose career is one black record of evil and crime. And his surmise will prove correct. Ninon Malvoisin, who gives the title to the play, is a "bad lot" indeed. In the first place she outrages the natural instincts of her sex by cruelly treating her own child; and, though the wife of Phillipe Malvoisin, the chief of a gang of French thieves, she does not hesitate to go through the marriage ceremony with Sir Marmaduke Seaton, a feeble old man, her sole object being to induce him to make a will in her favour. His son, Captain Herbert Seaton, has offended Sir Marmaduke, and the French adventuress achieves her purpose quite easily. When the Captain returns to Seaton Castle, bent upon introducing to his father his newly-wedded wife Eleanor, he recognises and denounces Ninon as an impostor, whereupon Phillipe Malvoisin, from his place of concealment, fires at and kills the old man. The villainous couple of course accuse Herbert Seaton of the murder of his father, and call in the police; but Paddy Boyle, a true-hearted Irishman, absolutely refuses to arrest the young man. The latter also has a staunch friend in Sammy Sharp, who was a street waif until he was fortunate enough to obtain a situation as page at the Castle. Herbert takes the lad's advice and resolves to make his way to Paris, his double purpose being to avoid arrest and to obtain if possible information concerning the antecedents of the Frenchman and woman who are his accusers. But as he has reason to fear being taken into custody as an escaped murderer he disguises himself as a tramp, and eventually succeeds in escaping to France. In the meantime Ninon, with the help of her accomplice, has abducted Eleanor's little girl Mona, who, however, having been conveyed by the Frenchwoman to a wharf opposite Greenwich Hospital, is rescued by Sammy Sharp, assisted by Robert Saunders, an artist, who is another of the victims of Ninon's treachery. The scene of the fourth act is the Café Noir, Paris. Here assemble, attired in fancy costume, the members of the Frenchman's gang. Writing under an assumed name, Ninon has invited Herbert Seaton to meet her at this spot, promising to impart to him certain valuable information. He falls into the trap, and suddenly finds himself in the power of Phillipe and the members of his murderous gang. The Frenchman, acting somewhat inconsistently, offers to give his prisoner one chance. He proposes to fight a duel with knives, promising his opponent that if he conquers he shall be granted his liberty, but giving secret instructions to his men to kill the Englishman. They fight, and after a prolonged and fierce struggle Phillipe receives a mortal wound; but it would go hard with Seaton but for the intervention of Paddy Boyle and Sammy Sharp, who, revolvers in hand, keep the ruffians at bay. In the last act there is the usual righting of the wrongs, and a happy future apparently awaits the hero and heroine.

The drama is very well acted all round, Mr. Harry Foxwell being specially prominent in the part of Paddy Boyle. With his flow of high spirits, his genial humour, and his loyalty to his friends, the Irishman soon becomes on the best of terms with his audience. Paddy is seldom serious, and has on hand a stock of jokes both new and old which tend to greatly enliven the play. Mr. Foxwell's sketch of the Irish constable is extremely clever and entertaining. Equally good in an entirely different type of character is Miss Doris Gilham as Ninon Malvoisin, her portrayal of the wicked woman being clearly marked by all those repellent features which quickly bring the shameless adventuress under the freely-expressed condemnation of gallery and pit. The broken English and the sneering, unfeeling manner are both admirably assumed. Mr. Wolston Foster is a handsome representative of the hero, and plays the part with spirit and earnestness. Mr. W. J. Butler as Phillipe Malvoisin is a villain of the sardonic type whose appearance is decidedly against him, being suggestive of a frock-coated Mephistopheles. Mrs. Harry Foxwell is an attractive and graceful heroine. Mr. Fred Park as Sammy Sharp, who turns out to be the son of Ninon, has a large share in the comedy scenes, in which he is associated with Miss Ruby Roma, a bright exponent of Sally Sloper, housemaid at the Castle, who later becomes the wife of Paddy Boyle. Mr. John Gormley as Robert Saunders gives in the third act a realistic representation of a man suffering from an attack of delirium tremens. Mr. Pat Quinn scores in the part of Sergeant Stubbles, another Irishman; and other minor parts are safely entrusted to Mr. Harrison Tate, Mr. Norman Norbury, Mr. Harrison Forbes, Miss Lily Addison, and little Frances Maddocks as the abducted child. The new play lacked nothing in the way of scenery and dresses.

THEATRICAL FINANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Is it not time that somebody said something in favour of theatrical finance and its market possibilities? Why does everybody—many of whom ought to know better—argue on the black side, and frighten financiers who would otherwise be prepared to invest money in a commercial pursuit which, I maintain, is as stable, lucrative, solid, and firm as any other?

We are periodically informed of the insolvency of this or that "manager," and when the cat comes out of the bag the record invariably points to inexperience. It is argued that no ship can successfully undertake a passage minus a captain, but a captain, a pilot, a grocer, a butcher, a baker, or any other person, feels himself qualified to run a theatre or a tour without any elementary knowledge, and without engaging—even for a short term—a practical manager to teach him the business and put him on the right road.

Let the sceptical financier seek information from the representative theatrical managers, let them search the records of limited companies which have been alive for years past, and the fact will be established that the respective heads of affairs not only know their business, but have acquired that most necessary qualification of every responsible man, *videlicit*, the art of economy, or securing twenty shillings or more value for every sovereign disbursed.—Yours faithfully,

London, April 2, '05. OPTIMIST.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE BELLE OF MAYFAIR."

A Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Basil Hood, Charles H. E. Brookfield, and Cosmo Hamilton; the Music by Leslie Stuart; Produced at the Vaudeville Theatre, on Wednesday, April 11.

The Earl of Mount Highgate..MR. SAM WALSH.
Hon. Raymond Finchley ..MR. FARREN SOUTAR
Sir J. Chaldicott, Bart., M.P...MR. A. WILLIAMS
Hugh Meredith .....MR. COURTICE POUNDS
Comte de Perrier .....MR. CHARLES ANGELO
Dr. Marmaduke Lawrence..MR. CHARLES TROODE
Captain Theobald .....MR. MERVYN DENE
Charlie Goodyer .....MR. PHILIP DESBOROUGH
Bandmaster .....MR. T. A. SHALE
Simpson .....MR. W. PRINGLE
Gregory .....MR. NORMAN RIDLEY
François .....MR. MURRI MONCRIEFF
Bramley .....MR. C. A. CAMERON
Bagstock .....MR. JOHN BLANKLEY
Princess Carl of Ehrenbreitstein..MISS L. POUNDS
Countess of Mount Highgate ..MISS I. DESMOND
Lady Chaldicott .....MISS MAUD BOYD
Lady Rosaline Rockesly .....MISS RUBY RAY
Lady Violet Gussop .....MISS JANE MAY
Duchess of Dunmow.....MISS CAMILLE CLIFFORD
Lady Jay .....MISS HILDA HAMMERTON
Lady Paquin .....MISS KITTY HAROLD
Lady Louise .....MISS DORA GLENNIE
Lady Lucille .....MISS MAY HOBSON
Lady Peter Robinson .....MISS KITTY DALE
Lady Hayward .....MISS FLORENCE RANDLE
Lady Swan .....MISS IVY DESMOND
Lady Edgar .....MISS HELEN COLVILLE
Pincott .....MISS LILLIAN DIGGES
Sophie .....MISS STELLA DE MARNEY
Miss Corrie Fay.....MISS VIVIEN VOWLES
Julia Chaldicott .....MISS EDNA MAY

When Roger Dautran, the impressionable deputy in *Mauricette*, first meets with the young lady, all that he can do is to murmur, "aside" to his wife, the commonplace word, "Charming!" One is almost reduced to a similar extremity in dealing with the new musical play at the Vaudeville. *The Belle of Mayfair* belongs to the least objectionable and most delightful department of musical comedy. It does not aim at being raspingly ironic in dialogue or thrillingly dramatic in plot; but it is clean, bright, and pretty all through—just the kind of "show," indeed, to which ordinary people resort to look upon tasteful costumes, to listen to lively and agreeable airs, and to enjoy the "efforts" of favourite artists.

A pre-Raphaelite depiction of the piece in print would not do it justice. Its success at the Vaudeville will be created by its general, and not by its particular, virtues. The plot is charmingly naïf. There are two hostile fathers, Sir John Chaldicott, a new baronet who has made his money by the manufacture of a patent boot-protector, and the Earl of Mount Highgate, a haughty aristocrat. There are two loving children—that is to say, they love each other—Julia, Chaldicott's daughter, and Raymond Finchley, Lord Highgate's son. At first the parents object; finally, after further objections, they relent. That is all. But who asks for such a thing as a plot when, for the three hours' traffic of the stage, we are blandished and beatified by a succession of sweetmeats? The popularity of Miss Edna May, so inexplicable to cynics, can easily be accounted for, and speaks volumes in favour of the patrons of the Vaudeville. Miss May's appearance is angelic, and her style is calm and virginal. Young people who never heard of Blanche Amory in "Pendennis" adore Miss May *à outrance*. She has that invaluable stage asset, a distinct individuality. Even her method of singing is original; and the combination of a West End manner and an Eastern American accent is all that can be of bewitchery. To give the titles of Miss May's songs would not convey any of the effect produced by her triumphant rendering of them. It must be heard to be enjoyed. Mr. Sam Walsh is the ideal of up-to-date *hauteur* as the Earl of Mount Highgate, and his "Military Man" song, which he renders with great fun and spirit, is one of the most telling things in the score. Miss Camille Clifford is a fair and fashionable Duchess. Miss Louie Pounds, who plays the German Princess, an amicable and expressive artist whose sincere smile is irresistibly winning, has two neat lyrics, and delivers them like the clever artist that she is. Miss Pounds has a real sense of humour—that excellent thing in a comedienne!—and it comes out in her dainty treatment of her droll little ditty, "Said I to Myself," and in her smart *soulignement* of the satire in "The weeping willow wept." The willow, un-Jove-like, was deploring the "tara-diddles" of two lovers. Charming, charming! And who could be more "chippy"—we take the word from the programme—than Miss Ruby Ray as Lady Rosaline Rockesly? "Always agreeable and amusing, and ready for anything," as Disraeli wrote of the Three Graces in "Ixion." Charming, charming!" as Dautran says in *Mauricette*.

And the male artists in the cast are equally irreproachable. Mr. Arthur Williams is especially happy in the part of Sir John Chaldicott, which can give this consummate comedian very little trouble. His ease and repose create a conviction of reality in the spectator. The humour of the embodiment is unconscious, natural, and deliberate. The errors in pronunciation are not emphasised. The whole man, unconscious and uncaricatured, is before us. Could one require a more immaculate aristocrat than Mr. Farren Soutar makes as the Honourable Raymond Finchley? We fancied that, in the second act, his trousers were a quarter of an inch too short; but that may be a new fashion, the report of which has not yet reached us. Mr. Soutar is an artist and a comedian, and when he has to deliver outbursts of uncompromising sentiment he does it with just a suspicion of quaint slyness. He is active, energetic, and artistic; and he makes the most of the business with a dressmaker's dummy in the first act in connection with the song, "What makes the woman?" As for Mr. Courtice Pounds, he reminds us in this comedy that he is not only a sweet singer, but a capital elocutionist. He has a really well-written *tirade*—a comparison of marriage with a ride in a motor—which takes "a great deal of doing." Mr. Pounds does it splendidly, and he sings a gay bachelor song with a zest and airiness which are full of "the joy of living." Mr. Chas. Angelo, as a pinchbeck, foreign Count who is engaged by the Chaldicotts to pose as their daughter's *fiancé* in order to keep off young Highgate, is the acme of elaborate politeness and superficial gentility; and Mr. Charles Troode is every inch a sweet, suave, diplomatic Bishop. Miss Lillian Digges is as pert and piquant a soubrette as could be wished, and the two mothers, the Countess of Mount Highgate and Lady Chaldicott, are represented by Miss Irene Desmond and Miss Maud Boyd with just the necessary amount of "swelling port." Even the men-servants, Mr. W. Pringle, Mr. Norman Ridley, and Mr. C. A. Cameron, conduct their little quarrel scene in the first act with dramatic spirit and distinct delivery.

The music is a quite "charming" part of the production. It seems to have been, as Mickey Free used to say in "Charles O'Malley," "thrown off as aisy as a game at football." And it is this very spontaneousness, this absence of care and strain, which win one in Mr. Stuart's score. It lilts, it lifts and falls, it plays coquettishly with an idea, it enlivens, and it amuses—all in the same elegant, artless, irresponsible way. It is exactly the music to "go with" Jay's exquisitely tasteful dresses, with Mr. W. Harford's pretty sets, and the seductive strains of the excellent orchestra, so admirably conducted by Mr. Edward Jones. The Dautran verdict was effusively pronounced on *The Belle of Mayfair* by the "house" at the Vaudeville on Wednesday, and will certainly be repeated by many others, both in London and the provinces. It is indeed a bountiful and beauteous bouquet.

CONCERT ARTISTES AT DINNER.

The ladies and gentlemen who invariably embellish the festive board were themselves bidden to the banquet on Sunday, when the eighth annual dinner of the Concert Artistes' Benevolent Association took place in the Victoria Hall of the Criterion Restaurant, and was numerously attended. The Association, of which Mr. Arthur C. Roberts is secretary, has for the past ten years been doing excellent and unassuming work, the proceeds of periodical "at homes" and other entertainments being devoted entirely to the relief of the more necessitous members of their profession. Mr. Charles Bertram, the renowned conjurer, occupied the chair on Sunday, and, after loyal toasts had been honoured, called upon Mr. Tom Clair to propose that of "The Concert Artistes' Association."

MR. CLAIR said he was quite unprepared to give this toast, as it had been originally assigned to the president, while the speaker had been set down for that of "The Visitors." The only reason for the change he thought was that they had more visitors than professional members, and the president wished him to take the quantity and reserve to himself the quality. He expressed regret that members had not gathered round so numerously as they ought to have done, but he could only put it down to professional engagements. The Association had been in existence ten years, and during that time it had made a wonderful advance, being able to help many poorer brethren who had fallen by the way. When they came to consider that the professional life was often so short that for two years a man might be a star, but in the following year might have to hunt round for engagements, they would agree that the Concert Artistes' Association, in helping these men, was performing one of the greatest deeds that any benefit society could perform. The life of an artist was not in reality a bright one. After finishing his professional career he had nothing to depend upon. A business man at the end of his work still had a certain amount of profit arising from his establishment, which might go on flourishing; but an artist had only himself to rely upon. The Association was worthy of support because it could help them when they were unable to help themselves. The honorary members of the Association did a great deal for them, but they wanted professional members. He had read that there were no less than 6,000 concert artists in the City of London, and to them he appealed to join that great Association. Among the advantages to be gained by membership were those of the services of honorary physicians, honorary solicitors, and other benefits; while it was admitted that the artists who appeared at their "at-homes" found their professional status had increased. Unless they got greater support, they could not do much more for the professional members. He would like to see them get the same concessions in fares as the railway companies gave to the theatrical and music hall professions. If they had an increased membership, he felt certain they could go to the Clearing House and get similar benefits. He wished success and prosperity to the Concert Artistes' Association, and coupled with the toast the name of the president and one of the founders of the society, Mr. George Robins.

MR. ROBINS, who was received with cheers, said that the Association had often been alluded to as his pet child. The child had now grown up, and had become short-frocked or short-coated, whichever it might be. It could now run by itself, and he thought it had run very well. Mr. Robins referred to a lecture recently delivered at the Playgoers' Club, which advocated the abolition of the agent system, and a column was next morning devoted to the speech in the daily Press. It so got upon his nerves that he immediately had letters sent round to every agent, informing them that the Association had nothing whatever to do with any such object as that mentioned at the Playgoers' Club. Their great idea was to run with, and not contrary to, agents, whose power they all recognised. He was pleased to see at least two of them in that room that evening, and he took it as a compliment to the Association that they should be there. He thanked Mr. Clair from the bottom of his heart for proposing the toast, and the company generally for the manner in which it had been accepted.

THE CHAIRMAN proposed "The Visitors and the Press," coupling with it the names of Mr. Sparks, the president of the Playgoers' Club, and Mr. J. C. Griffiths, who responded very felicitously.

The toast of "The Ladies" fell to MR. WALTER WALTERS, who did it adequate justice, and it was acknowledged in becoming terms by Miss Ada Wheeler and by Mr. Wilson James.

MR. GEORGE ROBINS proposed the health of the chairman, than whom he said no one could preside in a more sympathetic spirit or more able manner. Mr. Robins wished to embody in his speech a vote of thanks to the committee. They had no place on that evening's programme, but their hard and unremitting work entitled them to the heartiest appreciation. He also included in his toast the name of Mrs. Bertram.

THE CHAIRMAN thanked them very much indeed for the way in which the toast of his health and that of his dear wife had been proposed and accepted. He had not had the opportunity of attending so many committee meetings as he should have liked, but he looked forward to appearing at them more frequently in the future.

A feature of the evening was the presentation of prizes, won under novel conditions at one of the "at homes" given periodically by the society, when awards were made to the artists who gave the best performance outside his or her own line of business. The prizes fell to Miss Alice Craven, a soprano vocalist, who selected "Mrs. Kelly" as a subject; to Mr. Alfred Thomas, a humorous entertainer, who gave a comic complexion to Tosti's "Good-bye"; to Mr. George Lakeman, who sang a comic lay pathetically; and to Mr. James Godden, a humorist, who sang a sentimental song.

A wide selection of talent was naturally at the disposal of Mr. H. Crozleigh, the musical director, and the programme for the evening was a varied and entertaining one, the accompaniments being shared by Mr. W. E. Manaton and Mr. Tom Clair. Encores were frequent, and began with Mr. Paul Mill, who sang "Mo!" and "Isn't it wonderful" in his drollest style; and Miss Ada Wheeler won a hearty encore for "The little lady said Amen!'" and responded with "She didn't know.' Mrs. Bertram, who was similarly honoured, supplemented a tasteful rendering of a ballad with "The black nurse's song to a black baby"; Mr. James Godden caused the utmost merriment with a well-rendered lyric which dealt with an assortment of pins, and, being heartily recalled, gave the popular song, "If love be kind," with rare comic emphasis. Miss Minnie Hentridge submitted a stirring ballad of "Men of Cambria"; and Mr. Harrison Brockbank, who was warmly welcomed, aroused enthusiasm by his rendering of "Love, could I only tell thee" and "Son of Mine." Mr. Tom Clair, who gave a clever "financial love ballad," added, on demand, a coon song of a sort quite apart from the ordinary; and others who contributed to the programme were Mr. A. Thorogood, Mr. Harry Briden, Mr. Lorne Wallett, Mr. Fred Wilden, who played solos on the one-stringed fiddle, and Mr. Sidney Buck, who gave an effective musical monologue.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Owing to a mistake in the programme here, another lady is credited with playing Dandini in Mr. Clayton's *Cinderella* pantomime. The part is played by yours faithfully, MABEL BEAUFORT.—Theatre Royal, Gloucester. April 8, 1906.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, APRIL 12. — By way of a change we have not had any premières at our regular theatres, and the Cercle des Escoliers promptly took advantage of this to launch their annual novelties at the Théâtre des Bouffes. The proceedings opened with a small pantomime by M. Georges Briquet. Pierrot is starving, and for want of anything better serenades a lady, who throws down a rose and a purse. But instead of buying food Pierrot spends all the money in flowers, and when he knocks at the door to offer them to the lady nobody answers. Everybody is in bed, and the bouquet drops from poor Pierrot's hand.

THE next play, *Les Ingénus*, is by M. Marcel Gerbidon, and the scene is laid in a small village in the Landes. Suzanne Turpault is engaged to Adolphe Lodru. Two more innocent and unsophisticated beings cannot well be imagined. They have known each other since they were children, and Suzanne's uncle, Albert Turpault, a shrewd man of the world, notices, not without dismay, that the young people have not the remotest idea of what love means; and he trembles for the consequences of such a union. But the automobile, which has assisted already so many playwrights out of their difficulties, also comes here to the rescue. A motor-car comes to grief in the village, and the two persons inside are brought to Suzanne's father's house. They are the Marquis Hector de Montecherret and his mistress, Yvonne de Losange, whom the Marquis introduces as his wife. What we expect happens. The fiancé falls in love with Yvonne, and Suzanne loses her heart to Hector, without either the Marquis or his fair companion having any idea of the passions they have aroused. Then follows the terrible day when the two guests, having recovered from their accident, drive off in their car, leaving the engaged couple disconsolate. They cry first in secret, then in each other's arms, and, finally, leave off weeping, for they now know what love is, and have discovered that they madly love each other. These two clever acts were capitally interpreted by Mlle. Dora Gregg, Mlle. Eveline Janney, M. Acahard, and M. Henri Bauer.

ANASTASIE has departed this life, and nobody mourns her death. She was so grotesque and stupid that it was no longer considered good sport to play practical jokes on her; and the very name of Anastasie, bestowed upon that institution, proves that it was not held in respect by the Parisians. Why our Censor should ever have been christened like that is a mystery. The gentlemen supposed to look after our morals, but who never attended to their work, are possibly in the secret. During the last years, however, this institution had become the laughing-stock of the theatrical world, and our Fine Art Ministry did well to suppress it. The public themselves are the best judges in these matters, and the censorship should be left in their hands There are States in America where this principle has been adopted, and has been found to answer.

IT is a pity that our Fine Art Ministry cannot at the same time sweep away another institution more harmful than poor Anastasie—*i.e.*, our Société des Auteurs, whose ideas of justice are of a very peculiar nature. You will remember that not so very long ago MM. Deval and Richemond were excommunicated because they dared to own two theatres. "There shall be no such thing as a trust," said the Authors' Society, "and as long as we are in existence we will never allow any man or woman to run more than one house at a time." Besides excommunicating the beforementioned managers, the Society also expelled M. Tristan Bernard for having produced a play at one of the tabooed theatres. To-day I see that the Society has renewed their treaty with M Ruez, despite the fact that this gentleman runs no less than three houses—the Folies-Bergère, Olympia, and Parisiana Personally I do not see any reason why M. Ruez should not own a dozen houses if he thinks fit to do so, but it is the extraordinary action of the Society that is causing much surprise. Possibly the Society starts from the principle that the same rules do not apply to theatres and to music-halls. If so, they are much mistaken, inasmuch as it has been proved that our music-halls employ many more artists than the playhouses.

M. GAILHARD, manager of our Opera, can be congratulated on the wise step he has taken in no longer allowing ballet-masters, chefs d'orchestre, chorus-masters, &c., to recruit pupils among those engaged at the Opera. The truth is that this practice had degenerated into a perfect scandal. In fact, it was nothing less than an organised system of blackmailing No girl in the ballet had the remotest chance of ever coming out in the smallest *pas-seul* unless she was well in with the authorities. And to be "well in" was an expensive affair, and under the name of "private lessons" cost a few thousand francs. M. Gailhard has introduced many healthy changes in the house, but none that has been received with so much joy by the staff than the suppression of this crying abuse.

AMONG the pieces to be produced on the celebration of the third centenary of Corneille's birth is *La Mort de Pompée*. The work was revived in 1809 and in 1860. The first Napoleon, who admired the play hugely, wanted the cast to be submitted to him, and he had no cause for complaint, for the names include those of Mlle. Georges, Mme. Raucourt, Talma, St. Prix. This time the principal rôles will be undertaken by Mme. Segond-Weber, Mlle. Delvair, M. Silvain, M. Paul Mounet, and M. Leitner.

THE Théâtre Royal, the little pill-box in the Rue Royale, will disappear to-day, because the building is to be pulled down. In September next the Théâtre Royal will reopen again, but on the Boulevards.

M. LAROCHELLE, the popular manager of the Porte-Saint-Martin, has become the husband of Mlle. Flore Mignet, the charming young actress who played the rôle of Jeanne Morin in *Sous l'Epaulette*.

"ABD-UL-AZIZ" is the title of a play by M. Georges Maldague, which plays in Turkey. One of the tableaux is said to be of a rather sensational nature, and is based on a dramatic incident that took place in a harem in Smyrna a few years ago.

DURING the Easter week most of our theatres are changing their programmes. Thus at Antoine's we will have *L'Assomption de Hannele Mattern*, and the Gaîté has gone back to *Cyrano de Bergerac*. The latter piece always attracts strangers and provincials, of which Paris is full during the holidays.

THE native choir from Jamaica, brought over by Sir Alfred L. Jones, K.C.M.G., after fulfilling numerous engagements in Liverpool and district with conspicuous success, left Liverpool on Thursday to commence their tour of the United Kingdom. The managers of the choir, Messrs. H. E. Jones and Albert Douglass, have made all the necessary arrangements, and the choir was to appear on Good Friday and following days at the Victoria Pavilion, Ilfracombe.

"THE ARMS OF APHRODITE," a play in one act, by Laurence Grant, was produced for copyright purposes at the St. James's Theatre, by kind permission of Mr. George Alexander, on the 6th inst.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—I should be much obliged if you would kindly mention that the Miss Violet Crossley in the Houghton theatrical fraud case, is not—Yours faithfully, VIOLET CROSSLEY. Wyndham's Theatre, April 10, 1906.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree is busily preparing for the production of *Colonel Newcome*, the new adaptation from Thackeray which he intends for early production at His Majesty's. In company with the adapter, Mr. Michael Morton, Mr. Tree on Wednesday paid a visit to Charterhouse-square, in order to get local colour from the last refuge of the amiable Colonel.

The farewell benefit to Miss Fanny Coleman to which we alluded in a recent issue has been postponed, and will not now take place till the autumn. Time, which is essential in all such projects, will thus be given for the organising of a performance worthy of an actress of such merit and popularity.

A letter signed by influential actors and managers has been sent to the Press calling attention to the fact that on April 28 next Miss Ellen Terry will have been fifty years upon the stage. "We believe," the letter goes on to say, "that there are very many thousands who will not willingly allow so interesting an occasion to pass without manifesting in a marked manner the true affection with which Miss Terry is regarded by them. We propose to invite all the readers of your paper to whom the name of Miss Ellen Terry brings happy memories of delightful evenings at the theatre to join in a national testimonial to her on her jubilee. Without making any impertinent intrusion upon Miss Terry's privacy, we may be permitted to say that it is our desire, if possible, to use the funds subscribed for the purpose of placing Miss Terry beyond any future anxiety regarding her comfort, as a tribute to her beloved personality and a homage to her art."

The letter contains the signatures, among others, of Messrs. George Alexander, H. Granville Barker, Arthur Bourchier, Arthur Chudleigh, Arthur Collins, E. Distin Maddick, J. Forbes Robertson, Chas. Frohman, Frederick Harrison, Carl Hentschel, Martin Harvey, William Hill, H. J. Loveday, Cyril Maude, Arthur W. Pinero, Otho Stuart, Fred Terry, H. Beerbohm Tree, J. E. Vedrenne, James Welch, Lewis Waller, Sir Charles Wyndham, and Stephen Coleridge, the hon. treasurer of the Shilling Fund, to whom subscriptions should be sent at 7, Egerton-mansions, S.W.

Mrs. Langtry, it is understood, has abandoned for the present her intention of producing a play in London, and contemplates a visit to Paris with her own company during the coming season. The popular actress is credited with the desire to present at a French theatre Shakespeare's comedy, *As You Like It*, with Mr. William Mollison as the melancholy Jaques—the part which he so successfully represented at the St. James's recently. The play will be given in English.

"Markheim," the one-act adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's short story, will be produced by Mr. H. B. Irving at the Lyric Theatre this afternoon. In the performance of the little piece Mr. Irving will be associated with Mr. Daniel McCarthy, Miss Eileen Munro, and Mr. Leslie Faber.

The actor is admitted to Royal functions and into the best society, but appears to be an outcast in London so far as the environs of St. James's Park are concerned. Last week an actor of some celebrity found a convenient suite of rooms in that locality, and asked for the agreement to be sent on to him for signature. Next morning the agreement arrived, and was found to contain a clause to the effect that members of the theatrical profession were not admissible as tenants to the flats. The reason alleged is that theatrical people have so many visitors on Sunday, and that necessarily their habits are late.

Miss Gertie Millar aired a real grievance in the Court of Chancery on the 6th inst., when counsel appeared on her behalf, and asked for an injunction to restrain Messrs. R. Dunn and Co. from publishing postcards on the back of which appeared photographs representing her in a nightdress, and in other different costumes none too abundant. As a matter of fact, she had never been taken in such costumes, and they amounted to a serious libel. He understood that the photographs complained of were produced in this way: The photograph of the head of the plaintiff was attached to the body of another person who had been taken in the various costumes depicted. It was admitted on behalf of the defendants that the photographs were produced as described, but that they were not libellous. Although the lady had not at present donned such garments, it was quite possible that in the course of her professional career she might have occasion to do so. Now that the attention of the defendants, who had acted perfectly innocently, had been drawn to the matter, they were willing to give an undertaking not to publish, &c., any of the photographs complained of until trial or further order. His Lordship, on that undertaking being given, said he would make no order on the motion.

Miss Edna May was the recipient of many beautiful bouquets on her reappearance in London on Wednesday night in *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville. With becoming kindliness, she sent them all to the Children's Hospital in Great Ormond-street.

Mrs. Kendal, Miss Marie Hall, and Mr. George Grossmith will be among the artists to give their services at a concert in aid of Sunshine Home, Hurstpierpoint, to be held at Stafford House on May 3. H.R.H. Princess Christian has graciously promised her patronage.

Mr. Seymour Hicks has earned the approbation of the *Tailor and Cutter*, which is of opinion that, in his play, *The Beauty of Bath*, Mr. Hicks has succeeded in idealising evening dress. Mr. William Lugg, who takes the part of Viscount Bellingham, also comes in for eulogy. His dress coat, it is said, is the very latest West-end style, the bone buttons and velvet cuffs being an innovation and an improvement. With the white vest and whole-fall trousers, with gold seals hanging from the fob, his fine figure and splendid head of white hair (which is supplied by nature, not by Clarkson), Mr. Lugg makes an ideal picture of an English gentleman in an English gentleman's dress.

There are several other examples of evening dress—modern style—but decided novelties are to be noted in each, the watered silk lapels on the coats going better with the velvet collars than might be supposed, one reason for this being that the "watering" is specially designed to run with the shape of the revers. There are several interesting departures from the orthodox in the cut of the vests and the materials used for buttons; but all seem to be in harmony and good taste.

Miss Dorothy Edwardes, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Edwardes, is engaged to be married. The bridegroom-elect is Mr. Cuthbert Arthur Sherbrooke, third son of the Rev. Nevile Sherbrooke, of Clifton, Bristol, and the late Lady Lilias Sherbrooke.

Mr. Matthew Brodie is forty-two to-day, but looks no more than thirty. Last Saturday his eldest son, William, came out at the top of the fifth form at the Maidenhead College, taking two first prizes. He has also passed the Cambridge University (Local Junior) Examination with honours.

Miss Lena Ashwell, who embarks upon managerial enterprise on Thursday, will carry with her the best wishes of all in her new venture. She is looking forward with mingled feelings of anxiety and delight to the first performance of Miss Clo Graves's play, *The Bond of Ninon*, at the Savoy. "All the members of the company," she confided to an interviewer, "have worked so loyally together that they have made my position as manageress very easy and pleasant for me. So far, it has been a delightful experience, and we have all of us greatly enjoyed the rehearsals. When once that dreadful first night is over—you can't think how nervous I am on the first night—I feel as though I should have a good time as the manageress of such a beautiful theatre as the Savoy, to say nothing of taking the character of Ninon—as long, that is to say, as the audiences will encourage me to play both parts! I like the rôle immensely, and after having endured on the stage so many tragedies I simply revel in a comedy part. For the first time for some years I shall disport myself in beautiful clothes, and you will be relieved to hear that I do not commit murder this time. Neither do I burgle, nor become intoxicated as I did in *Resurrection*, nor seriously misbehave myself in any way as it has been my fate to do in many plays of late. In *The Bond of Ninon* the criminal side of my character, you see, remains for once undeveloped."

Miss Graves, the authoress, desires to contradict the rumour that *The Bond of Ninon* has been suggested or inspired by any other play, or by any character existing in any other play. "The idea of the story," said Miss Graves, "occurred to me when I happened to come across a quaint little brown volume of snuff-stained pages, 'Lettres de Ninon'—I can assure you there was a separate sneeze in every page—once the property of the Earl of Eglinton, of tournamnt fame, for his bookplate adorned the cover. Out of these letters I have built up the character of Ninon, and surrounded her with those famous folk with whom she must have come in contact in the middle of the seventeenth century. We have taken great pains to make the costumes historically correct, and I have ransacked the British Museum for old prints of the period. Most of the portraits, however, stopped short at the knees, and we were afraid that Mr. Crafter, who has designed the dresses for us, might have to evolve the boots and shoes out of his inner consciousness. Fortunately, we obtained later on other assistance in the way of book illustrations, which set our minds at rest on that point, and I think the costumes will be an interesting feature of the production."

London managers are interesting themselves in the formation of a matinée performance to celebrate Miss Ellen Terry's fiftieth year as an actress. An important London theatre, selected chiefly for its holding capacity, will be chosen for the performance, and it is suggested that it shall include a play in which all the principal parts will be sustained by members of the Terry family. Miss Terry, by the way, has gone into the country to rest, but will return to London to appear at the Court production on Monday.

Among the latest names appended to the list of the General Committee for the Ellen Terry Testimonial is that of Mr. E. S. Willard, touring in America. Other names freshly added are those of Captain Robert Marshall, Mr. Walter Stephens, and Mme. Melba. The fund is essentially a national one, and all classes of the community are responding liberally.

Mr. Leonard Rayne's London Dramatic Company was due to arrive in Cape Town on March 20. The company was to be considerably augmented on its arrival at Johannesburg, and was to open at the Opera House on April 4 with Hall Caine's latest Drury-lane success *The Prodigal Son*. Our Cape Town correspondent, writing last month, states that the following theatres were then closed in South Africa, owing to a lack of companies: Wheeler's Opera House, Pretoria; Empress Theatre, Pretoria; Vaudeville Theatre, Bloemfontein; Theatre Royal, Kimberley; Theatre Royal, Pietermaritzburg; Theatre Royal, Durban; Opera House, Port Elizabeth; Good Hope Theatre, Cape Town; Empire Theatre, Buluwayo; while the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Cape Town, was also closed for extensive alterations and improvements.

Easter is to be ushered in by one of the hottest days which the theatrical thermometer has ever had to record. No less than three productions of first importance will be seen this evening, when *Dorothy o' the Hall* will make her début at the New, the première of *The Dairymaid* will be accomplished at the Apollo, and Mr. Cyril Maude will revive *The Second in Command* at the Waldorf. Mr. Arthur Bourchier's reproduction of *The Merchant of Venice* at the Garrick is fixed for this afternoon, on which occasion also, Mr. H. B. Irving has resolved to stage Mr. Courtney's adaptation in one act of Robert Louis Stevenson's *Markheim* at the Lyric.

The first-nighter is then faced by a busy week, which will be begun by the transference to the evening bill at the Court on Monday of Bernard Shaw's *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*. Wednesday will witness the erection of *Castles in Spain* at the Royalty, and on Thursday Miss Lena Ashwell will start her managerial career with *The Bond of Ninon* at the Savoy. Saturday is now claimed by *The Girl Behind the Counter* at Wyndham's, and the devoted playgoer will have only the Sunday to prepare for the Shakespeare Festival Week, which Mr. Beerbohm Tree begins at His Majesty's on the following Monday.

Mr. Fred Brown, the popular acting-manager of the Pavilion Theatre, has been the recipient of extended congratulations during the past week, on the recovery of his little daughter Ethel, who for the past seven months has been an inmate at the London Hospital. It says much for the skilful treatment given by the medical staff, combined with the unremitting attention of the ward nurses, that little Ethel Brown has been practically snatched from death and restored to her parents in good health.

A reading of *Antony and Cleopatra* will be given by the British Empire Shakespeare Society in the afternoon of Thursday, April 19, at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock Place. Miss Edyth Olive will be the Cleopatra, Mr. Acton Bond the Antony, and the long cast will also include Miss Gertrude Scott, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Lawrence Grant, Miss Eily Malyon, and Messrs. Charles Doran, Clive Currie, Lawrence Leyton, Yates Southgate, J. Henry Twyford, Robert Atkins, Frank Royde, and Misses Margaret Parker and Victoria Addison.

Miss Ruby Verdi, who has resumed her original rôle of Nellie Wagner with Mr. George Musgrove's *Prince of Pilsen* company, made her first appearance on the stage as Cinderella at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, in Mr. Michael Gunn's famous pantomime some few years ago, when a mere child. Since then Miss Verdi has been in much demand as a pantomime heroine, appearing last season as Morgiana in the Stoke Newington pantomime. In the interim, engagements with Mr. Arthur Roberts in *H.M.S. Irresponsible*, and principal lady with Mr. George Edwardes's *Toreador* company have been fulfilled. Miss Verdi is the youngest daughter of the late famous Dr. Verdi, and was tutored for the stage by her mother, a well-known society amateur actress. She is passionately attached to horses and dogs, and is accompanied always on tour by a favourite toy-terrier of priceless value, who rejoices in the name of Tatters.

After the close of the performance of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (in which Miss Ellen Terry will take part), at His Majesty's Theatre, on the evening of Friday, April 27, an address from the Playgoers' Club will be presented to Miss Terry, enclosed in a silver casket, bearing a suitable inscription, commemorative of her jubilee on the stage. The address will be read and presented on behalf of the Club by Mr. Tree.

Mr. Samuel James has secured the entire rights of a new drama, entitled *As Good as Gold*, and will send the same on tour in the autumn, with every scene and property carried. The first production will take place at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, on May 14, and the tour will start from the Grand Theatre, Islington. The bookings are in the hands of Mr. F. S. Jennings.

Mr. William Ravenscroft will, by arrangement with Mr. F. S. Jennings, tour that tried success *Why Woman Sins* from Whit week. The bookings and management will be in the hands of Mr. Charles Hermann.

Mr. Harold Payne has engaged Miss Zoe Gilfillan, Miss Marie Ault, Mr. Broughton Black, and Mr. Ivor Harvey for the forthcoming tour of *Petronella; or, A Royal Romance*, a new comic opera by Montague Turner, with music by W. T. Gliddon.

At the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, this week, Mr. Charles Carey's production of *After the Ball* has been meeting with an extraordinary reception. Mr. Victor Widdicombe, in his original part, scores perhaps even more heavily than he did as Sergeant Brue. Miss Florence Smithers, too, has been making a great hit in an exceptionally catchy new song with a large chorus. Mr. Carey is booking another company to go round the South Coast in the summer with the same piece.

The Opera House, Tunbridge Wells, reopens today after being "vacuum'd" and renovated. To-night's piece is *The Lady of Ostend*, which is to be followed by *Kitty Grey*, *His House in Order*, and *Lady Madcap*. We understand that the business at this beautiful theatre has more than doubled during the last twelve months.

At the annual general meeting of the Touring Managers' Association on Wednesday afternoon at the Tavistock Hotel, it was decided to proceed with the formation of the Managers' Club, which will have its premises in Savoy Mansions, and membership to which will be open to managers of public entertainments in London and the country, including business and acting-managers or gentlemen interested in or connected with the theatrical, concert, and music-hall professions, who may be deemed eligible by the committee. The Touring Managers' Association is about to be formed into a limited liability company, with a capital of £1000 in £1 shares. Applications for shares should be made to the secretary, Mr. William Martin, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. R. W. Allum, of the Brixton Theatre, has sent the sum of £2 14s. 9d. to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, having collected that amount at his theatre in the Fund's box.

The choice of *As You Like It* for the Shakespearean Festival Week at the Crystal Palace Theatre, beginning on April 23, was made by the audience, to whom three plays, of which *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Tempest* were the other two, were submitted for ballot. Mr. Bannister Howard has therefore arranged with Mr. Norman V. Norman to present this comedy for six nights and a matinée during the week mentioned. Miss Beatrice Wilson will be the Rosalind, and Mr. Norman the Jaques.

Mr. and Mrs. William Calvert (Miss Clara Cowper) have been specially engaged by Mr. Samuel James for his production of *The Merchant of Venice* at Crouch End at Easter. Miss Cowper's last appearance was as Audrey in *As You Like It* at the St. James's, during Mr. William Mollison's season.

Mr. Herbert Leonard has been unanimously elected Worshipful Master of the Green Room Lodge, which shares the proud distinction of being representative of the theatrical profession with the Adolph Lodge and the Dramatic Mark Lodge, in both of which Mr. Leonard is a Past-Master.

Miss Stella Gastelle, supported by Messrs. Scott Russell and Broughton Black, opens on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, with Offenbach's opera comique, in one act, entitled *The Rose of Auvergne*. Miss Gastelle's engagement is only for a short tour of four weeks, but it is hoped that some manager may be found to give this little gem a more extended career.

A meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of the Actors' Association was held on Saturday last, when there were present Messrs. Acton Bond (chairman), A. E. George, and Arthur Holmes-Gore, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). Several matters connected with the general working of the affairs of the association were under discussion, and the secretary received instructions.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday last, there being present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Carlotta Addison, and Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, Lawrence Grant, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, Walter Russell, Fredk. Volpe, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The hon. solicitors reported that they had advised several members. A question having arisen as to the present method of voting for the election of members of the Council, Mr. Quinton McPherson brought forward the proposition that the Council should call a special meeting for the purpose of recommending to the members the resumption of the old system, and, after some discussion, it was agreed that the further consideration of the subject should be postponed until the next meeting of the Council, which will be held on Tuesday, the 24th inst. (there being no meeting on Easter Tuesday). The secretary was directed to issue a whip for the occasion. A question of holding an arbitration in a case referred to the Joint Arbitration Board was under discussion, and the Secretary was instructed to carry out the necessary arrangements. A matter affecting the condition of a provincial theatre was under consideration, and the secretary received instructions. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. Leslie Carter and Stanley Roberts were nominated for election to the association. The suggestion book was considered, and an entry made.

Mr. Leonard Shepherd has been gaining unqualified praise from the American critics for what they refer to as his "wonderful and remarkable" creation of Trivulzio in Maeterlinck's *Monna Vanna*, which recently received its first production in the English-speaking language under Mr. Harrison Grey Fiske at the Manhattan Theatre in New York.

Professor Arthur Nikisch, the Director of the Leipzig Opera House, has resigned his position owing to a disagreement over pecuniary payments. Professor Nikisch demanded a salary equal to his aggregate possible earnings in Europe—£10,000 sterling—plus the purchase of a life insurance of £25,000 sterling.

Mr. Martin Harvey concludes to-night a brilliantly successful fortnight's visit to the King's Theatre, Glasgow. *Hamlet* and *Eugene Aram; or After All* have been received with especial favour, and in the chief part in each play the popular actor has won nothing short of personal triumphs. On Monday evening, Mr. Harvey, Miss N. de Silva, and company commence a week's visit at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, where *Hamlet* will be presented on Wednesday. The production of *The Rapparee Trooper*, at the Royal, Newcastle, has been postponed from the 25th inst. to the following evening.

It was noticeable that in the front ranks of the long queue at the pit and gallery doors of the Vaudeville Theatre on the first night of *The Belle of Mayfair* there were not only District Messenger boys reserving seats, but apparently two or three neat little girls engaged for the same purpose. They looked very happy during their long wait, and held their positions at the head of the line of people with cheerful self-possession.

"Under Two Flags," that particularly successful version of Ouida's novel, produced by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow four years ago, is this week paying its third return visit to the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. Though following the story of the novel very closely, this version has several original situations and effects, which have mainly contributed to its success. *Under Two Flags*, which last week paid its third return visit to the Camden Theatre, is booked well into 1907.

Mr. J. Bannister Howard's *Florodora* company will have a very busy day on Easter Monday at the Crystal Palace, as they have no less than three performances, viz., at 1, 4, and 6.45. Mr. Howard has arranged for Mr. James Welch and full company from Terry's Theatre to give a special matinée of *The New Clown* at the Crystal Palace Theatre, on Thursday, April 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Petley (Miss Gertrude Price) have been engaged by Mr. Frank Grans for his spring tour of *The Other Man's Business*.—Mr. Leslie Carter, who recently made a success in the parts of Satan and Constantine Schaube in Mr. Walter Maxwell's production of *When It Was Dark*, has been engaged by Mr. Chas. Frohman to support Mr. Huntley Wright in *The Mountain Climber* and *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, opening on Easter Monday at the King's Theatre, Glasgow.

In the Court of Chancery on Tuesday a motion was made in the action of "Saunders v. the Waldorf Theatre Company (Ltd.)," in which the defendant did not appear, to strike out a statement of claim in an action brought by the plaintiff against Messrs. Waring and Gillow, to restrain further payments to them in respect of work done at the theatre. The Court was asked to strike out the statement of claim on the ground that it disclosed no reasonable cause of action and was frivolous and vexatious, and on the further ground that the plaintiff was unable to prosecute the action on account of having been made bankrupt. Mr. Justice Kekewich on the second ground directed that the statement of claim should be struck out and the action dismissed.

Mr. J. Murray Herriot, who by his unflagging energy and unexcelled courtesy to all has brought the Brixton Theatre to the front among suburban playhouses, is about to leave South London to take up a similar position at another and more important house with which Mr. Ernest Stevens, the lessee of the Brixton Theatre, is associated During his connection with the theatre, Mr. Herriot, who is a native of Scotland, has had untold difficulties to contend with, but by the exercise of rare business ability and ripe judgment, has overcome them triumphantly. Mr. Herriot, who recently had to deplore the loss of his mother, sustained another bereavement on Monday, when his father passed away at Glasgow. The event occurred exactly two months to a day after that of his mother, and in each case the telegram containing the sad news reached Mr. Herriot just before his time of rising in the morning.

Mr. George Edwardes closed Daly's Theatre for Holy Week, to allow the artists, who have been performing continuously for a year, to take a needful rest. The theatre will re-open with *The Little Michus* and the full cast on Easter Monday, an extra matinée being given on Wednesday.

Shakespeare's Birthday will be marked by Mr. J. M. Chute at Bristol by the revival at the Prince's Theatre, for two weeks, of *Romeo and Juliet*. The production will be that given by Mr. Richard Flanagan some time ago at Manchester, and since played in several parts of London. The Romeo will be Mr. Milton Rosmer, Miss Haidee Gunn will play Juliet, and the cast will include Messrs. Eric Blind, Kenyon Musgrave, Arthur Chesney, James Taylor, John Burton, C. Brandon, Sydney Arnold, Ernest Griffin, Richard Fielding, Frank Roy, Harold Nuttall, Malcolm Strachan, and Misses Eddie Victor, Gertrude Verne, Lilian Revell, Alice Marjorie, and Barbara Fenn.

The Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, was offered for sale by auction on Tuesday, but no bid being made the property was withdrawn. This offer, it should be explained, does not in any wise concern the present occupiers of the theatre, who have a long lease.

Mr. T. Arthur Jones is at present making his fifth continuous tour of *Life's Sweetest Sins*, by W. Brabner. This piece, which reached its 500th performance some time since, is well booked up into next year.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Joseph Ball, the joint-lessee and general-manager of the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, who ruptured a blood-vessel on the Monday of last week, and died on the following Thursday. The funeral took place on Tuesday amidst general expressions of regret. Mr. Ball was well known as a steeplejack, and before becoming joint-lessee of the Colosseum was connected with the Gaiety Theatre. Always to the fore in acts of charity, the late manager will be greatly missed in Oldham and district.

At the Royal Academy of Music the Charles Mortimer prize for composition has been awarded to Susan Spain-Dunk (a native of Folkestone). The adjudicators were Messrs. Geo. Jacobi, Hamilton Robinson, and Lionel Jerkes. The Louisa Hopkins memorial prize for pianoforte was won by Hilda Rekas (a native of West Horsley, Surrey), Myra Hess being highly commended. The adjudicators were Messrs. Ernest Fowles, Harold Macpherson, and Miss Lily West, in the chair.

During the regrettable absence of Miss Cecilia Loftus for three nights from the cast of *Peter Pan* at the Edinburgh Theatre Royal last week, owing to a slight nervous breakdown, the title-part was played with much success by Miss Pauline Chase.

"The Knight of the Bath," a new farce in three acts, by Arthur Aplin, will be produced at Terry's Theatre (kindly lent by Mr. James Welch) at the annual matinée arranged by Mrs. St. Hill for the benefit of Our Dumb Friends' League, on Tuesday, May 1. Mr. Lennox Pawle will produce the farce, and the cast includes Mmes. Eily Malyon, Grace A. Noble, D. J. Williams; Malcolm Cherry, and Lennox Pawle.

Messrs. Gilbert Heron and Fraser Brunner have secured from Messrs. Shubert the entire rights for the United Kingdom (London included) of Sidney Bowkett's charming comedy *The Superior Miss Pellender*, recently produced by Mr. Cyril Maude at the Waldorf Theatre. A tour commencing at the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, on April 30, has been booked, and includes many of the chief watering-places on the West and South Coast, as well as other important towns. Mr. Maude's part will be played by Mr. Gilbert Heron; Miss Winifred Emery's part by Miss Jessie Danvers; and the company will include Misses Alice Bowes, Jessie Ramsey, Alice Esther Belmore, and Mr. George Belmore. The curtain-raiser is from the pen of Mr. Gilbert Heron, and Mr. Fraser Brunner is playing the principal part therein.

Mr. George Stone, resident-manager of the Royalty Theatre, Barrow, who was among those who offered entertainment to the Japanese sailors during their recent visit to this country, has received a letter from Captain Sakamoto, of which the following is a translation:—"H.I.J.M. Battleship Katori, April 10, 1906.—Dear Sir,—On behalf of the officers and three hundred seamen who have been ordered by the Imperial Government to navigate home his Imperial Japanese Majesty's battleship Katori, now lying at Barrow, I have to express our great appreciation and great honour accorded us both by individuals and by collective bodies, by their warm and enthusiastic welcome during our short stay in Barrow. I take this opportunity on leaving Barrow to tender, on behalf of the said officers and men, our most hearty thanks, and beg you to accept our cordial wishes for your prosperity and good health. —Flajime Sakamoto, Commanding H.I.J.M. Battleship Katori.

Theatrical cricket has begun thus early, the first report to hand being that of the veteran wielders of the willow, the Bristol X.L.C.R., whose ranks are mainly composed of orchestral musicians. For long seasons past they have taken part in many a hardly-contested fight with touring companies and with local teams, acquitting themselves with general excellence. The first match of the season took place on Clifton Downs on Saturday, when the second eleven met the St. Michael's Reserves C.C. and theatricals, to whom, however, they succumbed, losing by the spacious margin of three wickets and 39 runs, undeniably due to the excellent innings of Mr. George Warren, who "carried his bat" with a score of 58.

Mr. Milton Rosmer, who has been appearing with considerable success as Romeo in the Birmingham production of *Romeo and Juliet*, has been specially engaged by Mr. J. M. Chute to appear in that part at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on April 26. At the conclusion of the run there Mr. Rosmer goes again to Birmingham to play Pete in *The Manxman* and to create the leading part in a new play by Meredith Thorne, to be produced at the Grand Theatre.

Acting on the example set by Sherborne, in Dorset, the people of Warwick have resolved to hold a pageant setting forth the famous events in the history of their ancient town and its superb castle, under the direction of Mr. Louis N. Parker, the dramatist, who devised the Sherborne production. The pageant, which is fixed for July 2 to 7 inclusive, will represent in dramatic form nearly 1,700 years of the town's history, set forth in verse and text, and embellished with choruses, songs, dances, marches, and spectacle. The beautiful lawn in front of Warwick Castle conservatory will be the arena, and Shakespeare's Avon will be utilised for Queen Elizabeth's State barge.

The pageant will consist of eleven episodes in the history of Warwick Castle and town, for which Mr. James Rhoades has composed many narrative choruses, to be sung by fifty Druids. The first episode deals with the Roman invasion of Britain and the first introduction of Christianity to this land. Another scene will illustrate Queen Ethelfleda (Alfred the Great's daughter) founding Warwick Castle just a thousand years ago; and in the next episode, 1123 A.D., Roger de Newburgh returns from the Holy Land and raises the Parish Church of Warwick to collegiate rank. Another striking scene will be the "trial" and execution of Piers Gaveston, Edward II.'s favourite, by eight angry earls; and equal with this episode in interest will be the story of the quarrel between the "King-maker" and Edward IV., as told by Shakespeare. The proclamation of Lady Jane Grey as Queen at Warwick in 1553 will be followed by the introduction of Queen Elizabeth in her state coach. Nearly one thousand performers will be in the arena in this episode, in which Shakespeare himself will figure. The last episode, in which William III. restores Warwick after the great fire of 1694, will prepare the way for a magnificent final tableau, in which the whole of the performers will take part.

Miss Lena Ashwell has paid special attention to the incidental music in her forthcoming production of *The Bond of Ninon* at the Savoy Theatre. Mr. Percy Fletcher is the composer, and a song sung on the stage is the work of Mr. Stanley Hawley.

Miss Emily Sheridan will shortly tour the successful American play, by Elwyn Barron, entitled *A Prince of the People*. The tour starts June 4, and the bookings include Edinburgh, Glasgow, Birmingham, and other important towns. The work is a strong romantic play, dealing with the period immediately following the French Revolution, and the high tone of the piece is being maintained by the excellence of the company, scenery, dresses, and printing.

The Reading Corporation have approved the plans of a new theatre proposed to be erected in the Caversham-road. The plans were deposited by Messrs. Lamb and Dawkins, of Charing Cross, architects acting on behalf of Mr. R. D. Daniel, who represents a syndicate. These plans are in place of those (disapproved by the Buildings Committee) for a theatre at the corner of Cheapside and Friar-street, another site having been adopted. The building is designed to seat 1,250 persons, and embraces pit, circle, and gallery floors. The front of the theatre abuts on Caversham-road, and has a frontage of about 110ft. It was stated at the Corporation meeting that the committee were quite satisfied that the building would be absolutely safe, and in addition to that the syndicate which proposed to build were willing to do all that was required by the Borough Engineer.

Thomas Hardy's famous novel, "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," has been turned to the purposes of opera by Baron Frederic d'Erlanger, whose *Inez Mendo* was produced at Covent Garden eight or nine years ago. The libretto is by Signor Illico, and the pathos of the story, which is told in four acts, is relieved by some comedy.

An English translation of Maxim Gorky's play, *The Bessemenovs*, which has never yet been acted in England, will be produced by the Mermaid Society at Terry's Theatre on Monday afternoon, April 23. The cast will include Mr. Arthur Curtis, Mr. Bertram Forsyth, Mr. Herbert Grimwood, Mr. Matheson Lang, Mr. Caleb Porter, Mr. Michael Sherbrooke, Miss Alice Arden, Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Ada Potter, Miss Ina Royle, Miss Katherine Stuart, and Mrs. Theodore Wright. The play will be produced under the direction of Mr. Philip Carr. During May will also be presented Browning's *Colombe's Birthday*, and in July open-air performances will be given of George Peel's pastoral play, *The Arraignment of Paris*.

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL DINNER.

Mr. H. B. IRVING presided at the annual dinner of the Heads of Departments Association, held on Sunday evening last at the New Gaiety Restaurant. Mr. Irving was supported by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., Mr. Joseph Wilson, Mr. James Howell, Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles I. Coltson, Mr. Horace Marriott, Mr. Lionel Belmore, Mr. Sidney Watson, Mr. Frank Desprez, Mr. E. Arnold, and Mr. F. Shorland. The stewards were Messrs. James Cullen (president), Mr. G. H. Dyball (Tivoli), Mr. G. Poynton Applebee (Gaiety), Mr. H. J. Powell (Prince of Wales's), Mr. Philip Sheridan (Crown), Mr. Robert Affleck (Opera House), Mr. T. Sheridan (Waldorf), Mr. A. Earnshaw (Paragon), and Mr. William Johnson (secretary). Among others present were Mr. W. Sheldon (master carpenter, Prince of Wales's Theatre), Mr. H. Elliott, Mr. G. Applebee (electricians' department, Gaiety Theatre), Mr. Watson (Savoy), Mr. W. Davies (property master, St. James's Theatre), Mr. W. Barbour (electrician, St. James's Theatre), Mr. W. Crawshaw (electrician, Opera House), Mr. A. Stanghton (stage-manager, New Cross Empire), Mr. C. T. Cory (master carpenter, Vaudeville Theatre), Mr. Walter W. Arter, Mr. John Walker, Mr. A. Richardson, (St. James's), Mr. Dawson, Mr. A. Grimmett, Mr. E. Jackson, Mr. Ralph, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. C. Hopwood, and Mr. Hewson (Tivoli).

After the toast of "The King" had been drunk with musical honours, the chairman mentioned that he had received letters regretting inability to attend, and wishing success to the meeting, from Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Comyns Carr, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. A. W. Pinero, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Fred Terry, and Mr. Herbert Blackmore.

THE CHAIRMAN, in proposing "Success to the Association," said:—Gentlemen, if I were not connected with you by the common bond of our association together in the theatre, there would always be one reason why the Heads of Departments' Association would have a peculiar interest for me personally—why I should feel towards your Association a very affectionate regard. I may perhaps remind you that the very last act of my father during his last season in Drury Lane was to receive from you on the stage when the curtain had fallen for the last time that beautiful token of affectionate remembrance which will ever be in my family a treasured possession. It is a proud and happy thing for those who come after a man—his children and grandchildren—to know that he was held in high esteem, and was beloved by those who had worked with him in the business of his life. The theatre is a peculiar place—the work of the theatre a peculiar thing. It tries a man's patience, his temper, his forbearance. The atmosphere is often highly charged. It is difficult for any of us not sometimes to be less amiable, less patient, than we could wish; so that if a man in the course of some fifty years of such a life can, at its close, take with him the affection and respect of those who have worked with him, it is surely something of which those who come after him may well be justly proud.

Gentlemen, nothing can be more auspicious for the peace and welfare of our theatre than the formation of an Association such as your own, and the annual gatherings, such as this one, which bring together employers and employed in friendly and convivial enjoyment. And it is right it should be so, for if there were friction or unfriendliness between those who control the working of our modern stages the result would be disastrous. You, gentlemen, as heads of departments, have become far more important to the theatre than you were a hundred years ago. For good or for ill, the mechanism of production in the staging of plays has advanced to a degree of elaboration that would astound our forefathers of the days of Garrick and Kean. And so your responsibility is much greater than it used to be. You have to keep pace with all the advances in electricity, and those branches of science which, in common with the sister arts of music and painting, are called into the service of our modern theatre. I think I am paying you no idle compliment in saying that England can hold its own in respect of the excellence of its stage productions with any other country in the world.

I am not here, however, to talk to you about your work. That speaks for itself, and I can only congratulate you that, in common with other callings, you have founded an Association that unites you and gives you that strength to uphold your interests which can only be acquired by combination. I am sure it is a cause of congratulation for us all that the formation of such a union has led to nothing but good results. Some people are naturally alarmed at the mere mention of a Trades Union, and they are more alarmed at the present moment when an amiable and an accommodating Government is ready—with the concurrence, I am sure, of my friend, Mr. T. P. O'Connor—to give them every assistance they are pleased to ask—even Home Rule, if they wanted it! I am sure, however, that in our profession we need have no fear that, if a lion's strength is conferred upon you, you will not use it like a lion, but with the gentleness of a sucking-dove and the diplomacy of a theatrical manager. I will not say of an actor-manager, because one is at the present moment almost afraid to use the term. One of those periodical attacks which are every now and then delivered against the unfortunate theatre has, as usual, attributed our shortcomings to the baneful influence of the actor-manager, who is represented as the old man of the sea clinging round the neck of our half-throttled British drama. I am, myself, not an actor-manager, though my father was one, and I number among my friends those who are our leading actor-managers to-day. They can hardly stand in need of defence, and a gathering such as this is the last I should think in which any defence of them would be a necessity. You know their work. You know what they have done for our English theatre. The history of the theatre shows us conclusively that, so far, it is to the actor-manager we owe all the most worthy achievements of our drama, the preservation from decay and disaster of all that is highest in theatrical art. In the eighteenth century it was Cibber, Garrick, and John Kemble, actor-managers, who rescued the theatre from the dishonesty, incompetence, or extravagance of the fine gentlemen who in those days gambled in theatrical enterprise. I am afraid there are not many knocking about at present. In the absence of a State theatre, it has fallen to the task of individual actors to do what they can to uphold the finer traditions of our stage, and history proves to us that, in face of difficulties which time increased rather than diminished, these actors have not failed in their duty. Whether it brought them profit or loss, prosperity or ruin, they have successively devoted themselves to an enterprise which, in every other country, has been deemed worthy of the assistance of the State!

But what are we told? Why, that our actor-managers to-day do not know a good play from a bad one, and will accept no play which will not give them opportunities of gratifying their own vanity. That is the sum and substance of the accusation brought against them. It is the usual cry that we always hear—the cry of the unacted masterpieces which owe their neglect to the fact that they do not minister to the so-called self-glorification of these evil geniuses of the drama. Now I frankly do not believe in the existence of the unacted masterpiece, and experiment, so far as we can ascertain, justifies such a belief. Plays are so few and so rare, the gift of playwriting so uncommon a gift in itself, the supply of plays so hopelessly inadequate to the demand, that from mere motives of self-preservation no manager could afford to neglect a play which offered any reasonable prospect of success. A little while ago the Playgoers' Club had a competition, and out of many hundreds of plays sent in, only one was found to be acceptable, and that by a committee not composed of actors. Again, the recent report of the Stage Society, whose committee is not composed of actors, tells us that they find a good play as rare as the great auk's egg. Amongst the numbers that passed through their hands, I think I am correct in saying that they only recorded three as presenting any likelihood of success. It is idle to pretend that actors do not make mistakes with plays, just as distinguished publishing firms have rejected novels which have turned out ultimately to be successful. No one's judgment is infallible; but if a play of merit does not get a hearing at once, if it wanders a little, it will, I am sure, ultimately find publication in the theatre, and, if it be a good play, success. Though judgment in these matters is difficult, and the public taste to a certain extent mysterious, I cannot help thinking that those who have spent their lives in the presence of the public, dealing directly with the public, endeavouring to please and satisfy the public, and, at the same time, make their living, are, on the whole, people who may be considered to be the most competent judges of the articles in which they are accustomed to deal. Good plays are as rare as good actors—or good stage-carpenters. If there were too many good actors, electricians, or carpenters, where, gentlemen, should many of us be? But I am sure we can none of us have any objection to plenty of good plays and long runs. But that is a condition of things which must be accepted and must be faced. Undoubtedly in England, as compared with other countries, we are more limited in the class of subjects with which we can deal on our stage, and I am not going to say that is not a wise or wholesome limitation. But it seems to me that there is little ground for serious complaint, and certainly little ground for that fierceness of attack which we are told should be our portion at the hands of our critics. Nor do our critics seem to me anxious to respond to such an invitation. I think most of them are well aware of the difficulties of theatrical management, and are far too sensible not to recognise how much we owe to those actors who have spent their energy, their art, and their capital in upholding the highest traditions of our English theatre. I am afraid I have kept you in talking too long about a subject which is only indirectly connected with stage-management and stage-production; but I think you who have worked for so many actor-managers would be the first to acknowledge how much the theatre owes to their labour; and your answer—you who know so much about the theatre—to a critic of this kind would be, as your and your President's friend, Mr. George Alexander, has suggested: "Well, come and manage a theatre for a week yourself, and see what you can make of it!" You know perfectly well what a difficult thing it is to manage a theatre—you who have done so much to lighten and overcome those difficulties by your energy and enthusiasm. And there is not one of us who has had anything to do with the production of plays who will not gladly and gratefully give his individual testimony to the sterling qualities of your work. For that reason, if for no other, we actors must all wish for the success and prosperity of your admirable Association You have taken as your motto Sir Charles Wyndham's advice to actors to make unity the guiding spirit and goal of your endeavours; and I can only wish that the same success may in the future attend your Association as has hitherto attended the efforts of actors to do for themselves what you are doing on your side. There is still much to be done so far as actors are concerned, and nobody knows that better than the Actors' Association, who are always working to further our best interests. The same spirit, I am sure, informs your Association, and that your present prosperity and success may be increased a hundredfold in the years to come is, I am confident, the sincere hope of actors and managers alike.

The CHAIRMAN, rising again, said: There is more to be done. In fact, I have a surprise for you. I have been asked to present to a very good friend of this Association a tribute from his fellow members expressing their appreciation of the work he has done as honorary secretary. That gentleman is Mr. William Barbour, who is, I am sure, most popular with everyone who has ever been connected with him in our business.

Mr. Barbour then received at the Chairman's hands a silver cigarette case bearing the following inscription: "Presented to William Barbour by the members of the Heads of Departments' Association, in appreciation of his services as honorary secretary, 1903-5. 4th Annual Dinner, April 8, 1906.—H. B. Irving, Esq., Chairman." Mr. Barbour suitably acknowledged the gift.

MR. JAMES CULLEN, the president of the Association, responded to the toast in the following speech:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, my first duty—and it is a pleasant duty—is to thank you, Sir, for kindly consenting to honour us by presiding over this, our fourth annual gathering, and next, to thank you for proposing this toast, which has been so cordially received. In responding to this toast, you will naturally expect me to say a few words about our Association. Well, Sir, I am glad to be able to say that it deserves success, and that it is trying its hardest to deserve success in the fullest possible measure. It represents a body of men who, by their position, and the nature and extent of their duties, were isolated—an isolation which was by no means splendid, or meritorious to the individual or beneficial to the general body of our calling; they enjoyed, in fact, an obscurity in which I venture to say their duty to themselves was neglected and their misfortunes unheeded. This Association is striving to replace such isolation by a sense of fellowship and duty one to another, and to provide the means by which a worthy member of our body, or his dependants, may be assisted in times of adversity, so that unmerited suffering may not pass unheeded and neglected. It aims to encourage the individual member to take a pride in his craft, and to make the craft more worthy of the best men, and the worst man more worthy of his calling and his Association. I, for one, after nearly forty years' service, am proud to belong to my calling, and to be in the service of one who has always taken a friendly interest in this Association. My only regret is that every head of a department connected with the theatres and music halls of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland—you will excuse me mentioning Ireland, Mr. Chairman—is not a member of this Association. As is the case with other societies similar to ours, we have sometimes to help a man almost against his will; but, at any rate, some of our members have, in their hour of need, realised the advantages of the help afforded by this Association. Our sick and benevolent funds are flourishing. We have built them up, largely, by our own subscriptions, and we welcome non-members who are willing to help others in order that they, in their need, may have assistance. I am glad to be able to say that this Association received a substantial sum from the late Dramatic and Musical Sick Fund, and that sum was added to our benevolent fund. We look forward to the time, Sir, when our Association will exercise a commanding influence in all that concerns the efficiency and character of its members, and the fellowship which is the source of its benevolent objects. We prize these gatherings because they win us friends who bring us friendly words to cheer us in our efforts to raise and to benefit our craft and those who follow it. I thank you, Sir, and the gentlemen who have given this toast such a cordial reception. I thank you most heartily in the names of our members who are fortunately present, and in the names of those who are unfortunately absent.

MR. G. POYNTON-APPLESEE, who submitted the toast of "Our Guests and the Profession," said:—I have been asked to give this toast of the visitors and the profession. I feel, however, that the speech made by Mr. Cullen has left me nothing to say, so on behalf of the Heads of Departments' Association I will merely say that we are very glad to have you gentlemen here this evening, and I sincerely hope that you will be with us on many future occasions.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P., in replying to the toast, said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—This is the second occasion on which I have had the honour and the privilege of addressing the annual dinner of the heads of departments. I am very glad and proud to be here again to add my small testimony to the testimony given by those more competent to do it than I, as to the large and honourable part which this Association plays in the life of the theatre. You will not expect a man of my opinions to be very much in favour of artificial inequalities between man and man. Perhaps the amiable and accommodating Government to which our friend in the chair has alluded may be disposed to manage in some way or other to remove some of these artificial inequalities. I do not know whether they will or not. But, gentlemen, there are natural inequalities which it is beyond the power of man or superman, or Ministries, or of the House of Commons, or even of a Labour Party, to entirely remove. One man has the genius to conceive and create, to organise and dominate, and to invent, and other men are privileged to be the humble instruments of carrying out the designs of greater minds than their own. I do not think it is wise or reasonable ever to fail to recognise these natural inequalities, and therefore, when I say that the Heads of Departments have no reason to complain because they are subordinate to the manager—even though it be an actor-manager—I am only exemplifying that great truth of the natural inequality of men in a particular way. They would not have come into existence, they would not have their function, they would not have their employment, they would not have that increase of remuneration which I hope is one of the results of their Association, they would have none of these things had there not been some great mind—a Garrick, a Kean, an Irving—to create the organisation of which they are part. And I am sure they are far too sensible men not to recognise the obligation they owe to the creative mind and genius which has brought them and many other people and things into existence. But, all the same, Mr. Chairman, in all spheres of life there is, beside the great figure that looms large before the public, an invisible figure behind. Very often I have been told that great Ministers would not be able to perform their very large part as legislators if they had not some private secretary behind them whose very name and existence were unknown to the public. In the same way the heads of departments behind the scene are often the invisible and unknown factors that largely contribute to the great success of the piece and of the theatre, and it is to merit of that kind, which often has little to reward it except the consciousness of duty done, which we ought to be proud to have an opportunity of recognising.

It would be very presumptuous on my part if I were to enter into the question of actor-managership, which the chairman has so ably discussed. A substitute is suggested in the shape of a pure man of business. After all, gentlemen, we do not live by bread alone in the theatre any more than in any place else. For myself, being a working man of letters, I cannot profess to have an entirely unmixed admiration for the gentleman without letters, and sometimes without education, who makes fortunes out of men of far larger intellects than his own. The middleman has not been looked on with favour by Irishmen—I do not know whether he is favoured by Englishmen. If I wanted any proof of the desirability of the combination of actor and manager I could point to no better example than that of the illustrious actor whose son is in the chair this evening. I have met a good many brilliant men in my time, public men, literary men, theatrical men, who were not pecuniarily as successful as others, and were not nearly as successful as the public expected and believed. Well, gentlemen, all kinds of reasons have been given in many cases of such a disproportion between success and pecuniary result—some of the reasons true, some of them false. Reasons have been suggested that were creditable, some that were discreditable; but the real reason is that the true artist is so absorbed in his art, just as the public man sometimes is so absorbed in his cause, that he really has not the time to think of his private interests or his private affairs. If Sir Henry Irving had cared less for the drama, less for dramatic art, he would perhaps have been pecuniarily a more successful man; but he would not have died the idol of a whole people. I do not speak from personal knowledge, but from some kind of instinctive knowledge of these things; but I think when Sir Henry Irving and other actor-managers have been producing a play their first thought has not been the particular pecuniary result or the pecuniary cost of such-and-such a production, or such-and-such a presentation—their first thought has been the artistic completeness and perfection. I know a distinguished actor-manager of to-day—I won't mention his name for obvious reasons—with whom I once travelled from Brighton in a Pullman car—it ran to that is the inspiration of high thought, of noble literature, of history truer, though it is written in poetry, than any written in a solemn and prosy chronicle—if there be one book more than another that appeals to the British people, even to those who hate the theatre, it is the plays of that same actor-manager, William Shakespeare. Well, in face of the fact that the greatest literature of the world must put as its first names the playwrights of the world, it is sometimes almost too sad for tears and too comic for laughter that there should be people still who do not recognise the great and supreme power that the drama, of which, after all, gentlemen, you are only the servants, exercises over humanity. I see constantly lamentations that the churches are not as largely frequented now as they used to be. I remember there is a very pathetic description in one of Carlyle's works of how John Stirling, a great friend of his, thought that the great calling of life to him was to become a clergyman of the Church, and how this John Stirling was found as the rector in a City church; and Carlyle, in his characteristically sardonic manner refers to this fine speaker addressing an audience where with perfect safety you could have fired a gunshot without the least chance of hitting any person. I do not know whether that is the state of the churches in the City to-day. I never go to the City except to lose money, and that you do on a week-day, and not on a Sunday. But I think I saw that a church in the City was recently sold because no one ever entered it. Well, gentlemen, if the pulpit does not reach the people, somebody and something else should reach the people. Far be it for me to suggest that a newspaper is an adequate substitute for the pulpit. I must remember at this point that I am a politician, and I am treading on rather delicate and dangerous ground. But if the world is to be taught lessons of courage, lessons of manliness, of fortitude in difficulty, lessons of tenderness and pity, and if men will not go to the pulpit to learn those lessons, they must go somewhere else; and I tell those who have never gone inside a theatre that in a properly-organised theatre, with a proper play and proper actors—and good heads of departments behind the scenes—they will learn the lessons of nobleness and of all these virtues. I think the people of this country do not require to be taught that lesson now. It is sometimes pitiful to think of what the actor is in the memory of mankind, in the imagination of mankind, and what he was sometimes when he was in the flesh. Molière was regarded as highly honoured when he sat for awhile at the same table as Louis XIV., and when Molière died he was denied Christian burial. And yet to-day there is no personage which France values so highly as Molière. I daresay if we knew something of the intimate history of Shakespeare we would have found that in his day he had to put up with a great deal of that contumacy to which he has alluded in the greatest of his plays, and that many of the lordly dames and noblemen who met him thought they were doing him a great honour by even recognising his existence. Well, gentlemen, I have always regarded posthumous fame as a very poor compensation for great discomfort and great dishonour during one's earthly existence. For myself, I would sooner never have done without a meal and a bed and a roof over it than have centuries of posthumous fame after my unfeeling dust had returned to earth. I think we owe something of compensation and something of conscience-money, if I may so express it, to those great luminaries of the stage who in their days of earthly existence were often the outcasts and derelicts of society, and now in many a crowded hour upon the stage, or in a solitary hour in the study, give to us those pleasures and those consolations which time cannot destroy, and which are among the holiest and among the highest enjoyments of the human soul.

MR. CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS, who responded to the same toast, said: On my road here to-night in my motor—omnibus—I had time to think of a few impromptus to fire off; but when I remembered that I had to reply to the toast of the visitors, and that I was put in the harness with my friend Mr. T. P. O'Connor, I knew there would be very little for me to say when he had finished. But I would like to tell you that I am here not as a visitor, although I am responding to the toast, because this is the ever-so-many-something occasion on which I have been amongst you; but I presume I am down to reply for the profession. Well, I think the profession is in a very fair way. As to the actor-manager—what is the matter with the actor-manager? If it were not for him we should not have the fine plays we have had for the last few years. What do you want? Do you want your theatres run by a syndicate of pork butchers and plaster of Paris manufacturers? And when somebody comes along with the money, why should he not play the leading part? Personally, I have been very much indebted to the heads of departments, and I wish them all success. We only want unity among actors and the Actors' Association would be a very fine association indeed. I will conclude by saying that I sincerely thank you on behalf of the visitors and the profession for my presence here this evening, and I trust that I shall have the honour of being amongst you on many other occasions.

MR. JOSEPH WILSON, who replied to the same toast on behalf of Mr. John Wilson, said that he had had the honour of being in the acting profession for twenty years. He was now attached to the variety branch, and on behalf of that branch he begged to return his most sincere thanks.

MR. JAMES CULLEN, in proposing "Our Chairman," said: Gentlemen,—It gives me the greatest pleasure to propose this toast, although the pleasure I feel is tempered by the knowledge that my remarks will fail to do justice to the chairman or myself. Our chairman will, I am sure, make allowances for my shortcomings. I am but a workman, representing other workmen, who, whatever their shortcomings, have a deep regard for the name our chairman bears—a name which is deservedly honoured wherever the English tongue is spoken, and in that wider world in which genius and nobility of mind are held in high esteem. As the son of a man whom we have good cause to hold in affectionate remembrance, and for his own sake, we could not be otherwise than proud of his presence here to-night, or fail in our welcome to him. I well remember my last meeting with his father. It was on an occasion, most memorable to me, and the most memorable in the history of the working staff societies in this country. That occasion was when I had the honour to present the late Sir Henry Irving, after his last performance at the Drury-lane Theatre, with a testimonial on behalf of the working staff in the United Kingdom. In the address which I read, we gladly and gratefully recognised that he had done much to hasten the time "when to be a noble master among noble workmen might again be the first ambition." I had the honour to receive a letter from Sir Henry Irving, after that memorable gathering, in which he said "To have done something to promote friendly relations between masters and workmen is a title to remembrance of which I am very proud." Surely, nothing kinder to us could have been said. It is because of these cherished associations, and because our chairman is worthily upholding the name he bears, that we rejoice to have him with us to-night.

I may say that I held my present position, as master carpenter, at the St. James's Theatre, when our chairman joined Mr. Alexander in 1896 to play in *The Tree of Knowledge* and *The Ambassador*. Since that time our chairman has done much to make a career and a high place for himself in the profession, and I hope his present play

HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS' DINNER
AT THE NEW GAIETY RESTAURANT, SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 1906.
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at the Lyric Theatre may have a long and prosperous run. I understand that our chairman will visit America this year. He will find in every city he may visit, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, a branch of the alliance which our comrades in that country have created, and I can promise him that we will ask them to do what lies in their power to help our chairman and his staff, so that their visit may be as pleasant as possible, and free from avoidable discomfort. I ask you all to join me in drinking the health, long life, happiness, and prosperity to our chairman, Mr. H. B. Irving.

The Chairman: Mr. Cullen and Gentlemen, I thank you most warmly for the kind words in which this toast has been proposed. I can only say that it has been a great honour and a great pleasure to me to come here to-night, and to feel that, in your asking me here, you were perhaps thinking of those associations with my father that were made very dear to you all. I am only too proud and too happy to think that I have had an opportunity, however humbly, of acknowledging that feeling which I have always known has existed between you and your Association and him. As I have already said, it will always be a cherished memory with me and my family, and those who come after us, as we think of that night when you were kind enough to present him with that bowl, and that address, which so feelingly and so kindly expressed what you felt towards him. He spoke to me afterwards about it in a manner that made me feel that you had done something that brought great happiness to a man who was feeling then that his career was approaching its end, and that all he had to look for were testimonies from those with whom he had been associated. It has been a great privilege to-night to listen to the remarkable speeches, especially that of Mr. O'Connor. He has spoken a good word for the theatre, and I feel that we have a great friend in him. I feel that our profession has won the regard and esteem of the outside world when a man so distinguished, a man so eloquent, and a man who has known the world as Mr. O'Connor has known it, shows himself ready to speak in our defence. I wish you and your Association every prosperity and every happiness.

Mr. Arthur Earnshaw, who proposed "The Artists and the Committee," said he thought it was very kind of the ladies and gentlemen who had come forward that evening for their benefit, and entertained them so well. In reference to the committee, they were jolly good fellows, every one of them. They worked most loyally and well for the Association. He noticed there were one or two changes in the constitution of the committee. Mr. Barbour, the honorary secretary, had retired, and Mr. George Dyball had taken his place, and they could not have a worthier successor. It was pleasing to be able to report that Mr. Barbour was still with them, and that they would still have a call upon his services.

Mr. Herbert Grover, in responding for the artists, said that musical artists, like theatrical, were always delighted to come to the aid of their professional brothers and sisters. He desired to express his gratitude for the compliments that had been showered upon them.

Mr. G. H. Dyball acknowledged the toast on behalf of the committee. The members of that body were, as Mr. Earnshaw had said, all jolly good fellows. They worked very hard, and tried their utmost to attend the committee meetings. In regard to Mr. Barbour, that gentleman, during his year of office, had done everything he could to further the interests of the Association. Then, as to Mr. William Johnson, he (the speaker) did not know where they would be without him. He was the life and soul of the Society. If they lost him they would never find his equal.

The speeches were from time to time varied by a most agreeable musical entertainment. Miss Ethel Walker delighted her hearers with a couple of humorous songs, "If you only knew," and "Nothing"; Mr. Herbert Grover rendered in fine style "Alisa Mine" and "Mary of Argyle"; Miss Elizabeth Davies enchanted everybody with her interpretation of "Give your heart to me," and Miss Ella Lorraine won golden opinions with "My dearest heart"; while Mr. Walter W. Arter accompanied in admirable fashion.

GREAT QUEEN STREET THEATRE.

On Friday, April 6, the Play, in Five Acts, by Anton Ohorn, entitled

"DIE BRUDER VON ST. BERNHARD."

Der Prior	Bruno Wiburger
Der Subprior	Willy Schmidt
P. Fridolin	Hans Andresen
P. Servaz	Karl Berger
P. Simon	Ph. Lesing
P. Meinhard	Richard Starnburg
Fr. Erhard	Ernst Reicher
Fr. Paulus	Hans Stock
Fr. Bruno	Ottomar Bloss
Döbler	Paul Wind
Marie	Ida Weiss
Grete	Johanna Becker
Franz Richter	Georg Baselt
Brinkmann	Willy Klein

Die Brüder von St. Bernhard can scarcely be called a pleasing play, a vein of morbidness running through it from beginning to end, and the mean, hypocritical cruelty of the Prior of the monastery, together with the bigoted and sleek sub-prior, combine to give a distasteful impression. The story in brief runs thus. The first act opens in the monastery of St. Bernard, where monks are dining. It has come to the Prior's ear that Paulus Döbler, a novice, has been reading Lessing's "Nathan die Weise," and also that he has been writing articles in an advanced newspaper. The Prior reproaches Döbler with acting against the dictates of the Church, and forbids him to read any book unless first submitted to his inspection. Paulus hotly refuses to consent, and is about to tear off his scapular when he is stopped by Brother Meinhard, the only one of the monks worthy of the name. At this moment a letter arrives from Paulus's sister, saying that his mother is very ill. He leaves at once for his home, and finds that his mother, not satisfied with putting him into a monastery, wishes to do likewise with his sister Grete, who is greatly averse to the proposal, knowing that she loves, and is loved by, the very estimable Franz Richter. Paulus excites his father's anger by threatening to renounce the Church, but decides to take the vows on condition that his sister shall be allowed to marry the man of her choice. The third act sees him back in the monastery, where he is about to be admitted to the priesthood along with a young hypocrite brother Erhard. The Prior of the monastery is dying, and his subordinates immediately solicit the votes of the other monks for the succession. More discreditable incidents are depicted, and at length Paulus decides that he will not take the vows—a piece of news that is disastrous to his father, who bestows his curse on the young man, and falls dead. Hans Stock made the most of Paulus, and imbued the part with the necessary amount of feeling. Brother Meinhard was decidedly life-like and natural in the hands of Richard Starnburg. Willy Klein played the part of Brinkmann in the clever, careful manner of the experienced artist. Georg Baselt brightened the piece up a little as Franz Richter; and Paul Wind was excellent as Old Döbler. Ada Weiss gave the part of his wife Marie the required amount of selfish hypocrisy; Bruno Wiburger as the Prior and Willy Schmidt as the Sub-Prior both did well. The piece was played to a good audience.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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Henry III. et sa Cour, Drury Lane, June 22, 1893.
Henry IV. (Part II.), Manchester, March 22, 1898.
Henry V., Lyceum, Feb. 16, 1900.
Henwitchers, Haymarket, Dec. 2, 1878.
He Proposed, Ladbroke Hall, Jan. 31, 1900.
Her Advocate, Trafalgar, Sept. 26, 1895.
Her Atonement, Theatre Royal, Windsor, Aug. 31, 1885.
Her Birthday, Lewes, Aug. 13, 1885.
Her Cousin Frank, Surrey, June 2, 1879.
Hercules and Omphale, St. James's, Dec. 26, 1864.
Her Dearest Foe, Criterion, May 2, 1894.
Here's Another Guy Mannering, Vaudeville, May 23, 1874.
Here She Goes, Princess's, Jan. 25, 1896.
Her Father, Vaudeville, May 16, 1889.
Her Father's Friend, Savoy, June 29, 1896.
Her Father's Sin, Strand, July 23, 1889.
Her First Appearance, Court, Liverpool, Nov. 7, 1890.
Her First Ball, Terry's, June 29, 1899.
Herod, Her Majesty's, Oct. 31, 1900.
Her First Engagement, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, March 5, 1894.
Her Guardian, Royalty, March 9, 1895.
Her Ladyship, Strand, March 27, 1889.
Her Ladyship's Guardian, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, July 24, 1865.
Her Level Best, Brighton, Nov. 9, 1894.
Her Majesty's Guests, Kennington, March 26, 1900.
Hermann and Dorothea, Opera Comique, Oct. 24, 1894.
Hermesianax, Derby, July 9, 1869.
Hermine, Court, Sept. 24, 1888.
Hermit, The, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, June 20, 1892.
Her Mother's Ransome, Theatre Royal, Rugby, May 7, 1891.
Hernani, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Oct. 5, 1868.
Herne's Oak, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Oct. 24, 1887.
Herne the Hunter, Gaiety, May 24, 1881.
Her New Dressmaker, St. George's Hall, May 14, 1895.
Hero and Leander, Prince's, Manchester, May 9, 1892.
Her Oath, Princess's, Nov. 26, 1891.
Herod the Tetrarch, Queen's, Barnsley, Feb. 16, 1874.
Heroes, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Nov. 20, 1876.
Heroine of Glencoe, Liverpool, Dec. 11, 1899.
Hero of an Hour, Charing Cross, Sept. 29, 1869.
Hero of Heroes, Queen's, Dublin, Aug. 12, 1889.
Hero of Jerusalem, Standard, June 13, 1896.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Fraser-Brunner.—On Friday, April 6, 1906, Queenie Fraser-Brunner (Mrs. Wm. Fraser-Brunner), of a fine healthy boy. Both progressing well.

DEATHS.

Ball—April 5, at Oldham, Joseph Ball, joint lessee and general manager of the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

Melhado.—On Sunday, April 8, 1906, at 5d, Hyde Park-mansions, N.W., William Henry Hunter Melhado, the beloved husband of Miss Madeleine L'Estrange. R.I.P.

Vidal—April 5, at his residence, "Woodbank," Doncaster-road, Leicester, Leonard Vidal, acting-manager of the Leicester Palace Theatre of Varieties, aged 45.

In Memoriam.

Adams.—In ever loving memory of our darling brother, Albert George Down Adams (Bert Adams), only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Saml. Adams (Mdme. Cicely Nott), who fell asleep, April 17, 1904. Ever deeply mourned by his devoted sisters, Ada Blanche, Edith Tully, Rosie Courtneidge, and Addie Peacock.

If love and care could death prevent,
Thy days would not so soon be spent;
Life was desired, but God could see
Eternal life was best for thee.

Bell.—In loving remembrance of my dear niece Miss Eva Bell (Mary Loftus), died April 4, 1901.

Gillin.—In loving memory of Arthur, dearly loved son of W. E. and Beatrice Gillin (Ventriloquist), who died April 14, 1902, aged 3 years. Sadly missed.

Hastings.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Mortimer Stephen Hastings, who died April 13, 1899. Deeply mourned.

Powles.—In loving memory of Matilda Alice Powles, widow of the late Henry Powles (Harry Ball), and mother of Vesta Tilley, who departed this life April 15, 1901. Never forgotten by her loving family.

Wilkinson.—Flossie Wilkinson. Loving thoughts and memories of darling "Sister." Never forgotten and missed more each day by her sister Lucie. April 15, 1905.

Wilkinson.—In ever loving remembrance of my dear wife (Flossie Wilkinson), who died April 15, 1905.—Wilton Heriot.

The Drury-lane Lodge of Masons, No. 2127, held its regular meeting on Tuesday at Drury-lane Theatre, under the presidency of the Master, Mr. Clarence Coggin. Those present included Dr. S. H. Tatham-Armitage, P.G.D., Mr. Albert Neville, P.M. of the lodge, P.D.G.D.C., Mr. Henry Neville, P.A.G.D.C., and Mr. Harry Nicholls, secretary of the lodge, P.G., Std.B. At the close of the business an adjournment was made to the Hotel Cecil for supper.

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DEATH OF MISS ELLEN STANDING.

We regret to record the death, on the 23rd ult. at 19, Eglantine-road, East Hill, Wandsworth, of Miss Ellen Standing, at the age of fifty. She was a sister of Mr. Herbert Standing and of the late Mr. Francis Standing (Frank Celli), the well-known operatic vocalist, who died in December, 1894. Miss Standing appeared as the aristocratic Lady Appleby in *The Shop Girl* and also as Lady Stilton in *Little Miss Nobody* (Mr. Tom B.

Photo by Ellis.
THE LATE MISS ELLEN STANDING.

Davis's Lyric Theatre company). When Mr. Geo. Alexander's provincial company went on tour in the autumn of 1900 she was the representative of Frau Teppich in *The Prisoner of Zenda*, also appearing in *Rupert of Hentzau*, *In Days of Old*, and *The Princess and the Butterfly*, and understudying Miss Rose Leclercq and Miss Olga Brandon.

TOURING MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION.

NEW MANAGERS' CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Touring Managers' Association was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden, Mr. E. Lockwood, the president, occupying the chair. There was an excellent and representative attendance of managers.

The honorary treasurer (Mr. J. Bannister Howard) submitted the balance-sheet for the past year, which was declared to be satisfactory in every respect, and was unanimously passed.

A lengthy discussion took place in regard to the proposed Managers' Club, and in reference to the Touring Managers' Association being formed into a limited liability company. A resolution to the following effect was carried unanimously:—

"That the formation of the Managers' Club and the registration of the Touring Managers' Association, Ltd., in accordance with the memorandum and articles of association in draft, as submitted by the honorary solicitor, be proceeded with."

The honorary secretary (Mr. William Martin) then gave the following details as to the subscription and qualifications of membership of the club:—

"The subscription to the Managers' Club for members of the Touring Managers' Association is an extra 10s. 6d. per year on their present subscription. The entrance fee for non-members of the Association is 2 guineas, and the annual subscription is 2 guineas; but the first one hundred members will be admitted without being required to pay any entrance fee. The membership of the Club will be limited to London and country managers of public entertainments, including business and acting managers, or any gentlemen interested in, or connected with, the theatrical, concert, or music hall professions who may be deemed eligible by the committee."

Club Premises.—It was also decided that the honorary solicitor be empowered to continue the negotiations already entered into for acquiring the Club and Association premises in Savoy Mansions, as he may deem fit, the term of occupancy to commence either at the half-quarter, or, if possible, at June 24.

Management of the Club.—It was further decided that the management of the Club should be vested in a committee of twenty-one, to be elected from members of the Club.

Several new members were elected, both for the Association and for the Club.

The present committee and officers of the Association were duly re-elected for the ensuing year, as follow:—

Committee:—Mr. Clifton Alderson, Mr. Rollo Balmain, Mr. Cecil Barth, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. Lester Collingwood, Mr. Edward Compton, Mr. A. Courtenay, Mr. C. St. John Denton, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon, Mr. William Greet, Mr. W. H. Hallatt, Mr. Charles Harrington, Mr. W. W. Kelly, Mr. F. Mouillot, Mr. Norman V. Norman, Mr. Alfred Paumier, Mr. G. A. Polini, Mr. T. M. Powell, Mr. H. Ralland, Mr. Bertie Shelton, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. John Tully, and Mr. J. E. Whitty.

Officers:—President, Mr. E. Lockwood; vice-president, Mr. Milton Bode; honorary treasurer, Mr. J. Bannister Howard; honorary solicitor, Mr. William Muskerry-Tilson.

Secretary:—Mr. William Martin, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the officers for their services during the past year, and a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding terminated the proceedings.

Mr. Sidney Dench, the manager of *The Rich and Poor of London* company, playing this week at the Irving Theatre, Seacombe, had an unpleasant adventure on Wednesday. He was leaving the building when he was set upon by a coloured man named Burt, formerly employed as agent-in-advance of the company, who was recently discharged by Mr. Dench. His assailant seized him by the throat and attempted to strangle him, but Mr. Dench escaped, and ran into the theatre. A constable was sent for, and Mr. Dench again ventured forth; but Burt returned to the attack, and once more seized him by the throat. Then the officer interfered, and, with the aid of bystanders, dragged Burt away and handcuffed him. On being searched at the police station, a six-chambered revolver, fully loaded, was found upon him.

The King has subscribed for the Royal box for the forthcoming season of opera at Covent Garden, which opens on Thursday, May 3. The subscription is unusually large, and early application is advisable both for the season and the "Ring" cycles. *Tristan und Isolde* will be given on the opening night, Herr Burrian and Frau Wittich in the title-rôles. *Rheingold* will be produced on the 4th, *Walküre* on the 5th, *Siegfried* on the 7th, and *Götterdämmerung* on the 9th. Two novelties will figure in the programme on Tuesday, May 8, on which occasion Cornelius's *Barber of Bagdad* and Poldini's *Princess and the Vagabond* will be staged.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 16.

Abandoned Woman.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Alexandra Opera Co.—Llandudno.
Are You a Mason?—Edinburgh.
At Cripple Creek.—County T., Bedford.
At Duty's Call.—Loughborough.
At the World's Mercy.—Royalty T., Llanelly.
Bandman-Palmer.—Whitby and Bridlington.
Beauty and the Barge.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Benson, F. R. (B.).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Jersey.
Bramley, Esmond.—T. R., Blackburn.
Carl Rosa Opera Company.—T. R., Brighton.
Catch of the Season.—O. H., Harrogate.
Chinese Honeymoon.—Yarmouth.
Christian.—Attercliffe.
Christian, The.—T. R., Cardiff.
Cingalee (2).—Southampton.
Country Girl.—Weybridge and Littlehampton.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—O. H., Torquay.
Dishonoured.—Victoria, W. Stanley.
Driven from Home.—O. H., Radcliffe.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Duchess of Dantzic.—Southport.
Earl and the Girl.—New T., Chatham.
Eternal City.—Exeter.
Face at the Window.—King's T., Nottingham.
Facing the Music.—Lyceum T., Stafford.
Faithful Friend.—Pardoe's T., Middleton.
False Wife.—O. H., Perth.
Female Swindler.—Theatre Royal, Batley.
Fight for Millions.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Florodora (N.).—Dublin.
Florodora (S.).—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Frivolity.—Alexandra Palace, N.
Gay Parisienne.—Grand T., Hull.
Girl from Kay's.—Folkestone.
Golden Ladder.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
Great Awakening.—Grand T., Fulham.
Grip of Iron.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Her Lost Self.—Hippodrome, New Brompton.
Her Luck in London.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Her Second Time on Earth.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Her Wedding Day.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Honour Thy Father.—Miner's T., Ashington.
I Defy the World.—T. R., West Bromwich.
Indian Mutiny.—T. R., Merthyr.
In Holy Russia.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.—H. M. T., Blackpool.
Kitty Grey.—King's T., Hammersmith.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Newtown and Dawley.
Lady Madcap (Dance).—Deptford.
Lady Madcap (Edwardes).—Grand T., Blackpool.
La Poupee (Ralland).—T. R., Leamington.
Life of a Showman.—Junction T., Manchester.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—O. H., Leicester.
Little Bread Winner.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—P.O.W., Birmingham.
Little Michus.—Clapham.
London Fireman.—O. H., Porth.
Love that Women Desire.—Prince's T., Preston.
Luck of Life.—T. R., Ilkeston.
Man's Enemy.—T. R., Yeadon.
Manxman, The.—Alexandra T., Greenock.
Martin Harvey.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Moody-Manners (A.).—T. R., Birmingham.
Moody Manners (B.).—Grand T., Nelson.
Mountain Climber.—King's T., Glasgow.
Mr. Smith.—Lancaster.
Mr Smith.—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Stockton.
Norman V. Norman.—Alexandra Theatre.
No Wedding Bells for Her.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Oliver Twist.—Southend.
One of the Best.—Royalty T., Chester.
On the Love Path.—Glasgow.
Orchid (3).—Bournemouth
Orchid (2).—Hanley.
Otto, the Outcast.—O. H., Workington.
Passion's Power.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Peggy Machree.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Penalty of Crime.—Maesteg.
Poor Must Live.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Power of Gold.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
Price of Her Soul.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Prince of Pilsen.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
Prodigal Parson.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
Prodigal Son.—T. R., Macclesfield.
Proof.—Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.
Public Opinion (M.).—O. H., Buxton.
Public Opinion (N.).—Grand T., Fulham.
Public Opinion (S.).—D. P., Eastbourne.
Revenge.—Prince's, Bradford.
Rogue's Daughter.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Rogues of the Turf.—T. R., Jarrow.
Romany's Revenge.—Alhambra, Dudley Port.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Royal Divorce (N.).—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Sailors of the King.—T. R., Castleford.
Sailor's Sweetheart.—Princess's, Glasgow.
Saints and Sinners.—New Theatre, Aberavon.
See-Saw of Life.—King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Sentenced for Life.—T. R., South Shields.
Sign of the Cross.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Silver King.—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby.
Sin of Her Childhood.—O. H., Doncaster.
Sins of a City.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Sister's Sin.—O. H., Leicester.
Spring Chicken.—Borough Theatre, Stratford.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Sunday.—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
Sweet and Twenty.—O. H., Coventry.
Swiss Express.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Temptress, The.—T. R., Stratford.
10.30 Down Express.—Carlton T., Saltley.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Kettering and Rushden.
Throne of Terror.—Crook.
Toreador.—Cork.
Traitor.—T. R., Birkenhead.
Traitor Prince.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Two Hussars.—Theatre Royal, Windsor.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Queen's T., Fleetwood.
Under Two Flags.—New Theatre, Cambridge.
Village Blacksmith.—Grand T., Derby.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Warner, Miss Grace.—St. James's, Manchester.
Way of the World.—Theatre Royal, W. Stanley.
What a Woman Did.—T. R., Tonypandy.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Manchester.
When Woman Hates.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
White Chrysanthemum.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Wilkie, Allen, and Co.—Wisbech.
Woman's Past.—Theatre Royal, Ryde.
Worst Woman in London.—King's Lynn.
Wrecker of Men.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Youngest of the Three.—Ilfracombe and Barnstaple.

Miss Dorothy Cacey will produce a new one-act play, entitled *Bathsheba*, by Agnes Platt, at the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on April 30, in front of *Facing the Music*.

The Original Cocoa, and a Speciality.
EPPS'S
Distinguished from all others by its invigorating nutritious qualities and delicious flavour. It contains all the substance of the choicest Nibs, and maintains its leading position as
COCOA
the best form of Cocoa for every-day use.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Marie Searle.—*Write to Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, who is this week appearing at the Canterbury.*

F. E. F.—*In addition to the names you mention, the company included Mr. Lionel Brough, Henry Neville, C. M. Hallard, Chas. Allan, Holman Clark, Edmund Maurice, Berte Thomas, J. Nutcombe Gould, Herbert Ross, and the Misses Hilda Hanbury, Emily Cross, Elsie Cross, Conover, and Tomlinson. For the cast we must refer you to the New York journals of February or March, 1895.*

Roland Bailey.—*We are not aware that she is, but we have no definite information.*

C. C.—*La Cosaque, comic opera in three acts, with music by Hervé, libretto adapted by Sydney Grundy from that of Meilhac and Millaud, was first performed in England at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on April 7, 1884. It was produced at the Royalty on April 12 of the same year, with Miss Kate Santley as Princess Machinskoff.*

J. S. T.—*The burlesque was entitled* Cracked Heads, *and was produced at the Strand Theatre on Feb. 2, 1876, the cast including Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Harry Cox, Miss Lottie Venne, and Miss Angelina Claude. It was written by Arthur Clements and Frederick Hay.*

F. Chase.—*We have no information on the subject.*

Anxious.—*Most members of the variety profession are clean shaven, and the gentleman you mention is not likely to be an exception to the general rule.*

L. Shepherd.—*Appeared in our last week's list.*

G. F. W.—*No, not since the year 1879.*

"THE KING'S SECRET."

An Original Drama, in Four Acts,
Produced at the Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, on
Thursday, April 5.

Capt. Douglas Fairburn *alias* Lord Zardon	Mr. J. Stillwell
Hassan Alfar	Mr. Edward Fryer
Lieut. Percy Dorincourt	Mr. Beckett Bould
Count von Bernstein	Mr. Atherden Edwards
Lawyer Swiverton	Mr. Charles Crosby
Boastswain Jack	Mr. Paul E. Teulon
Jonathan Newark	Mr. Robert A. Earl
Aclar	Mr. Richard Brooklyn
Zalmar	Mr. F. Bradleigh
Signalman	Mr. John Burgess
Charlie Fairburn	Miss Hester Kennedy
Leila Fairburn	Miss Katherine Barnett
Sister Newark	Miss Kitty McPherson
Birdie	Miss Lena Lattridge
Zenopa	Miss Zana St. George

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. Charles Whitlock has, in his latest drama, *The King's Secret*, revelled in sensation, the piece being brimful of exciting events, which succeed one another in startling fashion. The action of the play takes place in and around Alexandria, and Egyptians lend colour and picturesqueness to the scenes. The private signal code of the British Navy is stolen from an English captain who has married an Egyptian, Zenopa, believing his first wife to be dead. Zenopa only wants his money, and, aided by her accomplice, Hassan Alfar, stabs her husband, and imagines him also dead. He returns as Lord Zardon, and plots to get back the "King's secret." At a fancy dress ball he eventually recovers the book by a clever ruse. He discovers that his first wife is alive, and rescues her and his little son from a horrible death. Still more complications follow, and the boy is stabbed, and dies. The wife is again inveigled into a death-trap, but saved. An American and his daughter assist in righting the wrongs, and a lieutenant in the 7th Hussars and an English boatswain aid them mightily. Murders and attempted murders punctuate each act. A most horrible device is a machine which, when set going, gradually winds a rope which is drawing to its doom the victim round whose neck it is tied. The last scene, in which a woman tied to a gate at a railway-crossing is saved from an awful fate, is marred by the flimsy character of the train.

Of the acting, it may be said that each one worked hard and well. In the trying and exacting rôle of Zenopa Miss Zana St. George deserved nothing but praise. She depicted the Egyptian adventuress with rare power and naturalness, and scored a big success. Mr. Edward Fryer as Hassan Alfar, Zenopa's accomplice, with his rage for stabbing, played with force and fervour. Mr. James Stillwell as Captain Douglas Fairburn represented in manly fashion the Englishman who dared much to re-establish his honour. Mr. Beckett Bould was amusing as Lieutenant the Hon. Percy Dorincourt. Count von Bernstein found an able exponent in Mr. Atherden Edwards; and Mr. Charles Crosby gave a capital character-study as Lawyer Swiverton. Boatswain Jack was presented in merry, breezy fashion by Mr. Paul E. Teulon; Mr. Robert A. Earl as Jonathan looked and spoke as a thorough Yankee; and Miss Kitty McPherson as Jonathan's daughter was still more eloquent of Yankee-land. Miss Katherine Barnett was quiet and subdued as Leila Fairburn; and Miss Hester Kennedy was pleasing and winsome as the captain's son. The minor parts were well filled. The scenery was excellent, and the dressing picturesque and appropriate.

The Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster, with properties including two cottages and shop attached, was put under the hammer on Wednesday evening before a fair attendance. Bidding commenced at £2000, and was taken to £2800, when the property was withdrawn, the reserve price being declared at £4000. Mr. Porter of the Palace, Mr. Malvern of the Royalty, Morecambe, and Mr. Chorlton of Kendal, were the only people representing the profession present. The Athenæum was built in 1781 by a local syndicate, and was opened during the assizes and the races, when it did a tremendous business. The management were able to command the best talent, and amongst those who graced the boards on these occasions were Mrs. Siddons in 1802, Miss Mellon in 1804, Master Betty, "the young Roscius," with Betterton and Mrs. Glover, in 1805. In 1843 it was opened as a music hall. From 1849 to 1882 the Athenæum was the property of a private company, and entertainments of a high-class order were given. In 1882 the company was wound up, and in 1884 the hall came into the possession of Mr. H. Wilkinson, the present proprietor, who, after twenty-four years' service as *entrepreneur*, is about to retire into private life. Mr. Wilkinson rebuilt the stage end of the building in 1897, at a cost of over £1000, and added new dressing-room accommodation.

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt was recently championed by her son Maurice, who, considering that an article in an illustrated paper was offensive to his mother, sent his seconds to the author. The matter has been settled, however, by an apology by the writer.

SORE THROAT OR HOARSENESS
CURED IN A FEW HOURS.
Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D., the Eminent Throat Specialist, constantly recommended Condy's Remedial Fluid to be diluted and used as a Gargle for speedily curing Sore Throat or Hoarseness.
Dr. Walford Harris, in his book entitled "The Throat and its Treatment," says: "I have found the 'Condy' and cold water gargle excellent, many cases being cured immediately."
The late Mr. Sims Reeves, the world-famed Tenor Vocalist, wrote: "'Condy' used as a Gargle clears the voice and braces up the uvula."
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"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Akimoto, Mrs. S.
Albert, Mr. Ben
Alen, Mr. Geo.
Alexander, Miss Ada
Anderson, Miss Mary
Ando, Mr. M.
Arayama
Arundale, Miss S.
Armadale, Mr. R. H.
Armitage, Mr. Harry
Artois, Mr. Jack
Ashton, Mr. Alfred
Astley Bros.
Audre, Miss Olga
Baker, Mrs. E.
Baldry, Mr. H.
Bard, Miss G.
Bartlett, Mr. Hubert
Bater, Mrs. C.
Batley, Mr. E. G.
Beaumont, Miss Alma
Bell, Mr. W.
Beresford, Miss Marie
Biddall, Bros.
Bignell, Mr. C.
Bowman, Miss Isa
Boyd, Mr. Austin
Bright, Mr. Arthur
Bromlow, Mr. R.
Brooks, Miss Maud
Broomhead, Miss L. J.
Bunce, Mr.
Burgatiles, The
Burke, Miss Billy
Burn, Mr. Andy
Burton, Mr. Ainslie
Bush, Miss Sadie
Callcott, Mr. Ted
Carey, Mrs. Edith
Carnso, Signor
Carson and Kendall
Cavendish, Miss Ada
"Chainlock"
Chard, Miss Kate
Clarke, Col.
Clarke's Nippers
Clifford, Mr. Harry
Coleman, Miss Fanny
Cooke, Mr. Fred
Costello, Bros.
Cotton, Mr. Harry
Craven, Mr. Alf.
Curre and Son, Messrs. B.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred
Dando, Mr. F.
Dare, Mr. Chas.
Darrell, Mr. Dan
Dauvergne (Telegram)
Davis, Mr. A.
David, Mr. Worton
Dixon, Mr. Josh
D'Ouisnell, Mr. J.
Dover, Mr. Cliffe
Dutton, Mr. C.
Edwards, Mr. Fred
Elliott, Miss B.
Elliott, Mr. Billy
Elliott, Mr. G
Elmo, Mr. Jack
Elvo, Mr. J.
Eno, Mr. Tom
Espinawse, Mr. Bernard
Espinosa, Mr. Ed.
Fairbanks, Mr. F. E.
Fax, Mr. Max
Featherstone, Miss Vane
Felix, Mr. Tom
Fisher, Miss L.
Foster, Mr. Ike
Franzer, Mr. C.
Frecar, Mr. Willie
Freeman, Mr. Chas.
Garth, Mr. Edwin
Gerald, Mr. Frank
Gerard, Capt. A.
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Goddard, Mr. Alfred
Goggin and Davis
Goodfellow and Gregson
Greenaway, Miss Helen
Grove, Miss Syble
Haddon, Miss Blanch
Hamilton, Mr. Wm.
Handel, Miss Z.
Harris, Mr. Leslie
Harrison, Mr. John
Hatchman, Mr. H. W.
Hawthorne, Miss Lola
Hawtrey, Mr. Chas.
Hegwood, Mr. Conrad
Helene, Miss Rose
Herbert, Miss Lily
Hill, Mr. Wm.
Hobson, Miss Maud
Hookin and Davis
Hope, Mr. R.
Hope, Mr. Stanley
Howard, Mr. Jack H.
Howard, Mrs. T.
Howe, Mr. Willie
Ingleby, Mr. F. G.
Ismay, Miss M.
Jackson, Miss Nellie
James, Mr. Sydney
Jerome, Miss Daisy
Johns, Miss Jennie
Johnstone, Mr. T. E.
Kavanagh, Miss Nellie
Kavanagh, Mrs.
Kennedy, Mr. Claremont
Kingston, Mr. A. W.
Kinnaird, Miss Helen
Kirs, Mr.
Kirkby, Mr. Stanley
Kilkenny, Mr. L. A.
La Martine, Mr. H.
Langtry, Mrs.
Lanty, Miss Olive
Lawrance, Mr. Woods
Lee, Mr. Smiler
Leighton, Miss Queenie
Leister, Miss L.
Leglere, Mr. F.
Leonard, Mr.
Lessing, Miss Madge
Lester, Mr. Leo
Letters, Mr. Will
Lingard, Miss
Linwood, Mr. Lance
Llewellyn, Mr. H. H.
Lochner, Miss Muriel
Lorimer, Mr. Jack
Lukos, Mr. Alix
Lyndon, Miss Marie
Lytton, Miss Ruth
Mac, Miss Ada
Maltby, Miss Babbette
Mappin, Mr. W.
Marie, Miniature
Masters, Mr. Dennis
Maxwell and Masters
Maynard, Miss Gertie
McCann, Prof.
McCarthy, Miss Lillah
Melba, Sisters
Melrose, Mr. J.
Melrose, Miss Loll
Melverne, Mr. Grenville
Montague, Mr. Herbert
Moretti and Alice
Mowbray, Miss Ethel
Murray, Mr. Thomas
Natalia, Mdme. D.
Neilson, Mr. Lauri
Newton, Mr. Chaunce
Norman, Mr.
Osborne, Miss Nina
Owen, Miss Vi
Parker, Mr. Edward
Parker, Mr. F.
Parker, Mr. Richard
Pattison, Mr. James
Paulinetti and Piquo
Pearce, Mr. W.
Pelham, Mr. P.
Plumpton, Mr. Ernest
Pollard, Mr. Fred
Potter, Mr. Brown
Powell, Mr. A.
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Purchase, Mr. A.
Ramler, Mr. Ed.
Rawson, Mr. T. W.
Ray, Miss Belle
Raynor, Miss D.
Reekie, Mr. Lister
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Roseno, Mr. Otto
Ross, Miss Irene
Rowlands, Miss Gaynor
Rudd, Mr. Austin
Savaros
Selby, Mr. Alf.
Sevening, Miss Nina
Scott, Miss Veretta
Scott, Mr. C. W.
Scott, Mr. Malcolm
Searelle, Mr. Luscombe
Sellin, Miss E.
Shrapnel, Mr. Leonard
Smith, Miss Marie
Smith, Mr. Phil
Smith, Mr. W. H.
Somerville-Ellis, Mr. J
Shea-Warlock, Mr. Mick
St. Albans, Mr. E.
Steen, Mme. Martha
Stephenson, Miss Minnie
Stevenson, Mr. Bob
Stigant, Mr. Arthur
Theodore, Miss S.
Thomley, Mr. Fred
Trevillion, Mr. Alf
Vay, Mr. Will
Wade, Mr. G.
Wade, Mr. Walter
Wadle, Mr. Harry
Walker, Mr. Chas.
Wallace, Mr. Victor
Wallis, Mr. Walter
Ward, Miss Genevieve
Wardroper, Mr. Henry
Warwick, Mr. B.
Waterfield, Mr. C.
Webb, Mr. H.
Widdowson, Mr. Alf.
Wilton, Miss Jessie
Wood and Bates, Messrs.
Woodward, Mr. Geo. E.
Woodward, Capt.
Wren, Mr. Harry
Wright, Mr. Helshy
Wright, Mr. Hugh J.
Wykeham, Mr. R.
Yealding, Mr. R.
Zertho

ALLEGED STAGE FRAUDS.

Somewhat curious were the remanded charges of false pretences heard on Wednesday at Bow-street against Charles Henry Houghton, of Theobald's-road, and Hedley Howard, alias Gay, a live stock dealer, of Waterloo-road.

Mr. Williamson (for the Treasury) said there would be other charges against both prisoners and against Gay alone in connection with a business known as "Gay's Fisheries," carried on by him in the Waterloo-road. The prisoners occupied an office on a third floor in the Strand, calling themselves the Empire Dramatic and Variety Agency.

Violet Crossley, of Ivanhoe House, Kenton-street, King's Cross, said that on March 15 last she saw the following advertisement in the *Stage* newspaper:—

"Wanted, 24 chorus ladies and gentlemen for leading West End music halls and suburbs. Ten weeks' engagement. Also ladies and gentlemen for dramatic parts."

She called at the address given in the Strand, and there saw Houghton. He eventually agreed to engage her for a sketch which, he said, was to be produced at the Palace Theatre and music halls in the suburbs, and told her she would have to pay £2 owing to the valuable dresses to be worn. She paid 6s. on account, and a few days later Houghton introduced her to Gay, who filled in a printed form of contract.

Houghton told her that the sketch was to be entitled *An Affair of Honour*. (Laughter.) The contract was signed, and she paid the balance of £1 14s. She had never secured any engagement through the prisoners.

The prisoners were again remanded.

Mr. Kent applied for a reduction of the bail in the case of Gay. He mentioned that his client had "some fisheries at Surbiton."

Detective-Inspector Drew: That is not so. Two years ago Gay rented a house in the country at £26 a year, and had a few holes in the back garden in which he was supposed to rear gold fish. They are now filled in with mould, and flowers are growing there beautifully.

The magistrate refused the application.

JIMMY SHIELDS, the well-known one-legged comedian and dancer, has secured a scena from the pen of Mr. Tony Ivesoh, entitled "An old veteran's advice to his son," in which Mr. Shields takes the character of an old soldier. Blarney and Kennard, after their success at the Foresters', return to London on May 7, to fulfil engagements on the Machaghten circuit.

BUREAU DE CHANGE
SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED. HANDS and CO., 15, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY STATION, LONDON, W.C.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."—TEMPEST, Act ii., Scene ii.

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ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE.

Each Bottle of this well-known Remedy for
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SPASMS, &c.,
BEARS ON THE STAMP THE NAME OF THE INVENTOR,
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1906.

SERIOUS PLAYS AND THEIR PATRONS.

In one of Mr. BERNARD SHAW'S plays a dear old waiter at an inn says feelingly, "What I always think about an 'otel, Sir, is that it's such a *refuge from 'ome!*" The English theatre has long been regarded by the British public as a Refuge from Thought; and it is only recently that a kind of toleration has been extended to Ideas on the stage. Even now, we doubt if the enthusiasm and interest which Mr. SHAW'S pieces have evoked are not, to a great extent, assumed and fictitious. That is to say, if the Average Patron of the Court Theatre, for instance, really grasped Mr. SHAW'S meanings, he (the Average Patron) would be either intensely irritated or disgusted. But the A. P. is like the pantaloon in the pantomime, under the influence of the harlequin. He is turned round and round until he is giddy; he hears the flip-flap of the supple wand until he is entirely amazed and bemused; and then hey, presto! come the clown's merry quips and cranks, and the A. P. is in a condition, at the conclusion of the performance, to agree that it is "all werry capital," and that he has had his money's worth, and a little over.

In what other way can one account for the favour extended to Mr. SHAW'S pieces by members of the real British public? For there is no mistake about the author's intention. He is a proclaimed Socialist, and the object of his works is to push his hearers up in a corner and convert them to Socialism. Take *Widowers' Houses* as an example. Its moral is that improvement under the present individualistic arrangement of things is hopeless. We are all in the same boat, says Mr. SHAW, and it is hopeless to struggle as long as we are under the heel of capitalist production and social conventions. The young man in *Widowers' Houses* virtually "throws up the sponge" because he cannot contemplate a reduction in his income that would mean an immediate descent in the social scale. He becomes hopeless, and joins the ranks of the "blood-suckers." And Mr. SHAW is an opponent of the present marriage law, and an advocate of Free Love. In *Candida* the right of a woman to break the Seventh Commandment—"dispose of her person" is, we believe, the consecrate phrase—is insisted upon by being asserted by the "good woman" of the piece, a most lovable and admirable individual. She tells her husband "straight" that it is her love for him, and not any notions of right and wrong, that prevents her from "going wrong"—excuse the necessary euphemism—with any young man who would be improved by her embraces. Barring this love, she would as soon cohabit with the youth as lend him her shawl if he felt cold. *Mrs. Warren's Profession* is an indictment of the "sweated" labour system which is mercilessly severe and relentless. Mr. SHAW'S contention is that, until you have Socialism, present conditions will continue. As long as people are what they are, they will get married; as long as they marry they will have families; and as long as they have families the labour market will be overstocked, and you will have so many thousands of men and women always on the verge of starvation, and forced to live in kennels at exorbitant rents, to produce families of degenerates, and to sell their bodies for bread.

Now, the number of Socialists in England in the middle class—the class that keeps the Court Theatre, like other playhouses, "going"—is very small. In an anti-Socialist who sees Mr. SHAW'S drift and appreciates his intention, these plays of his should cause violent indignation and irritation. The anti-Socialist ought to be swearing or growling between the acts, even if he does not actually get up in the middle of the performance and protest excitedly against its continuance, as somebody did in that of *The Promise of May*. It should be still worse with an audience which witnesses the performance of a work like M. BRIEUX'S *Maternité* at the King's Hall on Monday afternoon. It is a horrible play for anyone to see who takes the theatre and what is done there seriously. Of course, M. BRIEUX exaggerates to emphasise. Things are not as bad, nor are all people as bad, as he depicts them in *Maternité*. But there is sufficient foundation in fact for his situations to send a whole audience away in hopeless despair—supposing they took the play seriously.

So far as we could observe, however, from the behaviour and attitude of the audience at the dispersion of the "house," *Maternité* went off the audience at the King's Hall at the matinée on Monday as water goes off a duck's back. English audiences apparently possess the power of interposing a shield of some kind between the appeal upon the stage and their minds. How else can we account for the patronage often bestowed upon adaptations of French plays in which the leading character is a jocund adulterer? Adultery is rare amongst the well-to-do middle classes in England; when it is discovered, the scandal and sensation created attest its unusualness. Yet the same sort of people who go and weep over a clean domestic drama, breathing marital virtue in every scene, will crowd in the next week to witness a piece the fun of which consists in men pursuing other men's wives, getting into difficulties, and having to hide or disguise themselves in consequence. It is this curious insensibility to logical conclusions, this extraordinary indifference, this resolute refusal to take the playhouse as anything but a toy and a box of puppets, that makes us less hopeful than Mr. JOHN HARE is of the ultimate establishment of an Endowed Theatre.

A LADIES' AFTERNOON.

The Eccentric Clubbers gave their lady friends a delightful afternoon at the Hotel Cecil on Tuesday, when one of those agreeable functions for which the club is renowned took place. The fine tones of Mr. Norfolk Megone's grand orchestra, which prefaced a very long programme, were much appreciated. Gintaro, that wonderfully clever Japanese equilibrist, opened the performance. Charming ballads were sung by Miss Annie Bartle, Miss José Collins, Mme. Mackenzie Fairfax, Miss May Gurney, and French songs by Miss Annie Mars, Mlle. Da Costa, Mlle. Ena Mady, and Mlle. Fougère. A duet was given by Miss Elsie Southgate and Miss Florence Venning, Mr. Frank Lawton whistled, Mr. George Mozart submitted a funny dissertation on hats, and Miss Millie Lindon gave in her best style, "Mary, the Dairymaid." Miss Ida Kahn, a fresh young singer, delighted all with a powerful rendering of the jewel song from *Faust*. Miss Kahn is a very successful pupil of Randegger, and, we venture to predict, will have a very fine career. Mr. Bransby Williams's imitations were greatly admired, the Follies quite sustained their well-earned reputation, and Cliff and his little dog proved very amusing. Mr. Charles Warner gave a recitation by Kipling; Miss Margaret Cooper pleased all present with that charming ditty, "A Grand Lady," rendered in her inimitable style; Miss Katie Moss sang very sweetly "Sing me to sleep," accompanying herself on the violin; and Miss Mabel Love gave a recitation in her most charming manner. The stewards have every reason to congratulate themselves on a very long programme most successfully carried out, the popular Mr. "Billy" White and J. A. Harrison especially distinguishing themselves in their efforts to promote the happiness of the afternoon.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Matthew Brodie—Saturday, April 14.
E. Allan Aynesworth—Saturday, April 14.
Edward Swanborough—Saturday, April 14.
Jake Almo—Saturday, April 14.
Winifred Stuart—Sunday, April 15.
Harry Marlow—Sunday, April 15.
Austin Lenton—Sunday, April 15.
Dora Gray—Monday, April 16.
Mary Brough—Monday, April 16.
Marguerite Moreau—Monday, April 16.
D. W. Watson—Monday, April 16.
Bertha Duckett—Monday, April 16.
Poppy Lytton—Monday, April 16.
Minnie Griffin—Wednesday, April 18.
Violet Macree—Wednesday, April 18.
Harry Thurston—Wednesday, April 18.
Harold Kinton—Wednesday, April 18.
H. Val Kimm—Wednesday, April 18.
Arthur Wyndham—Wednesday, April 18.
George Robinson—Thursday, April 19.
Edith Blanche—Thursday, April 19.
Mrs. John Douglass—Thursday, April 19.
Gladys Bartle Frere—Thursday, April 19.
Amy Height—Friday, April 20.
H. Leslie Bell—Friday, April 20.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In last Saturday's *Era* you publish an account of the Handel watch case, in which a Mr. Stafford Smith is mentioned. Allow me to state that the person referred to is in no way connected with yours faithfully, STAFFORD SMITH, Pavilion, Leicester, April 10.

MR. HARE ON ACTING.

The rising generation of aspirants to the stage is indeed fortunate. Quietly and steadily, a system of education is being organised which, when completed, will compare favourably with the method in vogue at the Paris Conservatoire. Imagine the advantage of final tuition by such masters of their art as Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Bourchier, or Mr. Pinero! Fancy the finishing polish which may be put upon a learner's style by such an expert in technique as Mr. John Hare, who, as is well known, is one of the most enthusiastic advocates, not only of an English Conservatoire but of an English Endowed Theatre.

"No," says Mr. Hare, settling himself into the easiest of easy chairs in his cosy study in Upper Berkeley-street, "I am not a fanatical admirer of French acting all round. Whatever estimate one may form of the leaders of the Paris stage, there can be no doubt that, in the grades below the very best, we have in England a vast deal more of individuality, of gift, and of genius than they have in France. Why," he continues, waxing enthusiastic, rising, and standing with his back to the fireplace, "whenever I go to a theatre here I am amazed, positively amazed, at the marvellous number of clever men—especially clever young men, I see acting. It does not matter where you go—it is the same in all departments. Take *The Little Michus* at Daly's. In the cast is Mr. George Graves, an admirable, a delightful comedian, who would shine in Sheridan or any high-class modern comedy. Take His Majesty's, the Haymarket, the St. James's, the Court, and the Garrick, and see the galaxy of mature and immature talent their respective managers have gathered round them. I need not mention names; they will occur to you in dozens. No, I say boldly, that in material, in the amount of talent in existence, we have the advantage of the French. Beneath their great geniuses we find a *stratum* of flat mediocrity, of young men who all appear to have been cast in the same mould and trained in the same school."

"And yet, if your Academy of Dramatic Art is brought to perfection, that is the ultimate result you may attain here?"

"I anticipated your objection; but, believe me, it will be a long time before we need trouble ourselves about over-training. Our position is at the opposite extreme. Our ability is scattered, crude, and often wasted. What we are trying to do at the Academy is simply to *prepare* young actors and actresses for the stage."

"And you think that can be done by tuition in classes?"

"My dear sir," says Mr. Hare impressively, "it *has* been done! Look at Miss Mary Barton, who made such a success in *L'Enfant Prodigue* at the matinée at His Majesty's last week. How long would she have spent offering her services to managers in the usual way before obtaining an engagement? How, indeed, could she ever have realised how great her gift was without the aid of the Academy? Remember, the object of all schooling is—or should be—not only to cultivate talent, but to discover it, to develop and draw it out. Previous attempts at an English Conservatoire have failed, chiefly because the basis of the enterprise was necessary. At the Academy we do not take all that comes to our net. Before being permitted to join the school, the aspirant must satisfy certain skilled judges that he or she is suitable. Thus we weed out the 'impossibles.' We are not obliged, in order to make both ends meet, to accept hopeless 'duffers' just because they can pay the fees. The Academy is "run" for love of art, not money. Do you think any money would induce men like Bancroft, and Tree, and Alexander, and Bourchier, and Pinero—

"And Mr. Hare?"

"Exactly, I don't except myself: do you think that any money consideration would make us devote a certain number of hours, as we are going to do, to teaching acting? But something had to be done. Between the decay of the provincial stock company system and the establishment of the Academy of Dramatic Art, the managers had to do, in the theatre, and at rehearsals the hard-labour of teaching technique, which is now done at the Academy by such fine instructors as Mr. Fisher White, Mr. Fred Kerr, and Mme. Cavalazzi. And how well they have been doing it was shown at the matinée, when these young people—who, mind you, had only been instructed in class, and on a miniature stage—went on to the vast boards of His Majesty's Theatre, and gave us, with complete confidence and ease, a performance which was equally excellent in miming, and in elocution, in gesture, attitude, and delivery."

"You are a 'stickler' for elocution, are you not?"

"I always was. When I was in management, and was rehearsing a new piece, do you know what I used to do towards the end of the rehearsing period? I used to seat myself in a private box, turn my back upon the stage, and take up a newspaper. I expected the delivery of the dialogue by my company—without the assistance, you understand, of the gesture and pantomime—to distract my attention entirely from the news of the day. When the enunciation got 'sloppy,' and the expression a little flat, I used to call out, 'I am beginning to enjoy my newspaper!' What we must do is to revive the Art of Diction. It is a fact that wherever a blank verse play is performed at a London theatre, the audience loses a large fraction of the words entirely. In the case of Shakespeare, the shortcoming is pierced out by knowledge of the text and the situations; in the case of a new play there is a good deal of guesswork. I want our young poet-dramatists to have every possible chance. What is the use of a man writing poetry if all the music of his verse is lost in its delivery by a subordinate artist? Remember that the finest bit of writing in Shakespeare—the description of Cleopatra's barge—falls, not to one of the principals, but to Enobarbus. I hope to see the time when plays, long and short, may be written with the intention of their succeeding by their poetry as much as by their situations—plays like those of Augier, De Musset, and François Coppée, only in good English verse instead of the French Alexandrine—an inferior medium, though, perhaps, a more facile one."

"You are to be envied, Mr. Hare, for your hopefulness."

"I hope for more; I hope for an English Endowed Theatre. Observe that the time is past when such an institution was absolutely 'laughed out of court.' It has come to the stage of being considered, and seriously discussed. Look at the success of the experiment at the Court Theatre! Think what the Lyceum was under Irving's management—a house to which one could take a foreign visitor with pride; a house with a recognised status, a *cachet* of superiority, a great reputation. Well, Irving dies, and it all 'makes itself air.' The traditions, the *cachet*, the career of the house as a theatre, evaporate. It is the same with the Court. It is entirely dependent upon the caprice or capital of an individual, or individuals. I hope some day to see a playhouse, permanent and artistic, where the aim will be absolutely uncommercial."

"You don't expect assistance from the State?"

"No, that's out of the question in a country where most of the ratepayers persist in regarding the theatre not as a most valuable educational medium, but purely as a means of diversion. Our only chance is that some Astor or Carnegie may arise to endow and establish an Art Theatre, where the question, 'Will it pay?' would never have to be put in considering a new production; where credit, not cash, would be the ruling influence, and where, in time, we might establish traditions, produce classics, and create a 'school' of the drama—in another sense from that in Gower-street."

"Which would, of course, be a valuable 'feeder' to your endowed playhouse?"

"Of course. There ought to be in London what there is in Paris; a house where if you are only staying in the capital for a week you are certain to be able to see a masterpiece adequately enacted; where the traditions of the past are maintained, and a high standard set of technique, of quality, and of ambition."

"And where would you expect to get your audiences?"

"Where? From the great minority of the cultivated folk, who at present abstain from the theatre almost entirely; from the people who go to the Comédie Française, and the Odéon when they are in Paris, but refuse to take the London theatre seriously."

"MATERNITE."

A translation by Mrs. Bernard Shaw, of the Play, in Three Acts, by Brieux; Produced at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, at a Matinée, on Monday, April 9

Lucie Brignac ..... Miss Suzanne Sheldon
Julien Brignac ..... Mr. Dennis Eadie
Lioret ..... Mr. Robert Grey
Annette ..... Miss Muriel Ashwynne
Catherine ..... Miss Betty Castle
Mme. Bernin ..... Miss Lilian M. Revell
Pierre Poiret ..... Mr. Fred Grove
Laurent ..... Mr. Charles Dodsworth
Le Sous-Intendant ..... Mr. Michael Sherbrooke
Le Colonel ..... Mr. Frank H. Denton
M. Chevillot ..... Mr. Vincent Sternroyd
Jacques Poiret ..... Mr. Trevor Lowe
Madame Chevillot ..... Mrs. Charles Maltby
Le Président ..... Mr. Kenyon Musgrave
L'Avocat ..... Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson
Madame Thomas ..... Miss Claire Greet
Marie Gaubert ..... Miss Italia Conti
Tupin ..... Mr. Blake Adams
Madame Tupin ..... Miss Eily Malyon
Le Procureur ..... Mr. Charles A. Doran

The real difficulty in dealing with the translation of M. Brieux's play *Maternité*, which was presented at the Stage Society's matinée at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Monday, is that it is a challenge to the discussion of a subject which it is disgraceful to talk about in the presence of ladies. Either one has to be content with evading M. Brieux's attack on Society, or one has to meet it; and this would involve going to the bottom of the subject. Paraphrases and synonyms are useless in this instance; and M. Brieux has "got up his case" very cleverly. Unless you march round the position he has taken up, you must take it by a siege involving something like a pamphlet or an article in a scientific review. Perhaps it is better simply to describe the play, and leave the refutation or support of M. Brieux's theories to students of sociology.

M. Brieux's contention is that the limitation of families by any means should be tolerated, if not encouraged, by society in every possible way; and that motherhood, even if the child is illegitimate, should be revered and respected. As a "rider" to his proposition, he puts in a claim for the wife's right to a free disposal of her person as regards child-bearing. At present, the wife, according to M. Brieux, is a mere brood-mare, from whom the husband may extract as many colts or fillies as he desires. We are shown a spouse of this sort, Lucie Brignac, who does not love her husband. How should she, indeed, when he has used her three confinements to escape from his allegiance, and, as Emilia puts it, "Pour his treasures into foreign laps." Here we have the wife refusing to bear any more children, and the husband insisting on her having them.

The second thread of the story leads up to the old grievance of the severity of society on the seduced girl, and its indulgence of her dastardly betrayer. The innocence of Annette, Lucie's sister, has been taken advantage of by a young man named Jacques Bernin, whose mother explains to Lucie that she—Madame Bernin—and her husband have had such debasing experiences in amassing a competence that their son, in order to avoid similar trials, must marry a woman with money. As Annette is dowerless, she cannot wed Jacques. When it is discovered that Annette is *enceinte*, Lucie demands that the birth of the child shall take place in the house, where the poor girl may have every care and sympathy. The husband refuses his consent to a course which would injure his social position; and Lucie leaves her home indignantly with Annette. In the end, the birth of the child is prevented by surgical means; and the woman who performed the operation is placed in the dock at the Assizes. Her trial involves the examination and touching excuses of a working-man and his wife, who have practised similar means of preventing an addition to the number of the mouths they have to feed, and the poor "board school" mistress, who has found large families unpopular with the authorities. Finally, the Court dissolves amidst the fiery denunciations by the prisoners of Society, and especially the "men."

The piece was acted with great care and genuine ability by the well-selected cast. Miss Suzanne Sheldon played Lucie Brignac with admirable intelligence, and looked the part thoroughly well; Mr. Dennis Eadie, as the completely vain, selfish, and pompous sous-préfet was cleverly made-up, and acted with clear and acute characterisation; and Miss Muriel Ashwynne put deep and poignant intensity into her pathetic performance as Annette. Miss Lilian M. Revell delivered Mme. Bernin's sharp definition of her views with commendable distinctness and severity; and Mr. Fred Grove was excellent as the plump and prosperous Pierre Poiret, the silly Jacques Poiret being well represented by Mr. Trevor Lowe. Mr. Kenyon Musgrave, as the President, was the essence of official insensibility; and Mr. Blake Adams and Miss Eily Malyon powerfully and graphically depicted the hopeless working-man and his wife; Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson speaking out strongly and well as the Avocat, and Miss Italia Conti representing Marie Gaubert very judiciously. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd, neatly made up, was effective as M. Chevillot; and Miss Claire Greet showed well-restrained power as Madame Thomas. Mr. Charles Dodsworth distinguished himself by a telling piece of resolute argument as Laurent. The piece was applauded with enthusiasm by the members of the Stage Society; and—but, perhaps, on the whole, we had better "leave it at that."

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Vesta Tilley sails for New York, per s.s. Cedric, from Liverpool on April 20, to fulfil six weeks' engagement with Mr. Percy G. Williams. Miss Tilley will be all the time at the Colonial Theatre, New York, but if the weather does not grow too warm, she will remain an extra week or two to play at Mr. Williams's Orpheum Theatre, Brooklyn. This gentleman has the exclusive right of Miss Tilley's services on this trip, but it is on the cards that she may return to America in 1907 to play the Keith Circuit, in conjunction with Mr. Williams's New York houses. Miss Tilley is to have the highest salary ever paid to an individual European artist in America.

Mr. Walter de Frece, who now controls fourteen or fifteen hippodromes and variety palaces in Great Britain and Ireland, will accompany his wife (Miss Vesta Tilley) on her forthcoming trip, and will be very pleased to hear from American variety artists desirous of visiting England where and when he can see their acts. He will be able to offer a six months' engagement to suitable turns. Letters addressed care of Percy G. Williams, Esq., will be duly forwarded.

Messrs. Fred and Michael Abrahams will again be seen at the Queen's, Poplar, which has been redecorated, and will reopen on Easter Monday with Mr. Peter Conroy, late of the Canterbury, as musical director, and Mr. Jack Woolf as manager.

Mr. Harry Lauder has been unable to answer to his number at his various engagements this week, and somewhat disquieting reports regarding his health were prevalent. We are, however, assured by Mr. Joseph Wilson that the famous Scotch comedian's absence from the Tivoli programme will be of a temporary nature. He has contracted influenza, and is also suffering from slight bronchial trouble, but hopes to resume work in the course of a few days.

Mr. George Robey has given us his confidences as "The Mayor of Muckemdyke," as "The Dresser," and as the Lost Property Office official; and this Easter, on his welcome return to the West End, after his immensely successful pantomime engagement at Liverpool, he will entertain us with "The Village Beadle," a favourite character in many a melodrama. He will be singing on Thursday at Mr. W. W. Kelly's matinée for the Liverpool Theatres Gala Fund, taking the night train to the Lancashire metropolis immediately after the conclusion of his turns, and returning in time for his engagements.

Mr. Thomas Barrasford has offered to place the Lyceum Theatre—the scene of her many triumphs—at the disposal of the executive committee of the Ellen Terry presentation fund for a special matinée.

So as to avoid clashing with another premiere, the new revue, *Venus 1906*, will be produced at the Empire on Tuesday, April 17, instead of on the 18th, as previously arranged. The revue, which is by George Grossmith, jun., and being produced by Mr. Tom Terriss, will be in four scenes. In it Miss Daisy Cordell will play a classic Venus; Miss Elizabeth Firth, a typical Gibson girl, who is the Venus of the present day; and Miss Sybil Arundale will impersonate Lord Percy Pall Mall, Mr. R. Tremayne will be Vulcan, and Messrs. W. H. Berry and Harry Grattan will play a number of parts which have not yet been specified by the author There is, of course, a chorus, and the regulation number of supers as in a "sketch."

Next Monday—the Coliseum *Grand Revue!* What will the celebrated French writer, M. de Cottens, show us? That remains to be seen, of course. In the meantime he promises that his "magic mirror of the times," his "living newspaper," his "pot-pourri of fun" shall consist of seven scenes: The Actuality Club, Earl's Court, The Boulevards, The Zoo, A Lady's Socialist Meeting, The Frocadero, and the grand finale, The Jubilee of the Victoria Cross. The Theatrical Supper Party takes place very appropriately in The Frocadero scene, and among the successes of the year present will be the charming representatives of *The White Chrysanthemum, The Beauty of Bath, The Scarlet Pimpernel, The Spring Chicken, The Little Michus*, and others.

The chief parts will be played by Tom E. Murray as Compère, Miss Billie Burke as Commère, Mr. Arthur Conquest, fresh from his triumphs at Drury-lane, George Le Clerq, the Trumpeting Girls, the Rocking Girls, the Dandies, George Lashwood, Bella and Bijou, and George Lupino. Over 300 beautiful women take part in the principal spectacles.

The Earl's Court scene will be a blaze of colour—a really faithful presentation of the beautiful Western Gardens and beautiful buildings so well known to Londoners. Every device of the scenic artist and engineer has been utilised to make this scene the triumph of the revue, though the finale in which the decorations of nations is the principal feature should undoubtedly come in for the highest praise. Mr. Walter Slaughter has had the composition and arrangement of the music, the lyrics are by Messrs. Roland Carse and Arthur Wimperis, and Mr. Will Bishop has rehearsed the entire production.

The Palace Theatre directors at their last meeting decided on a new departure. Hitherto (except at matinées) the lowest priced reserved seat in the house has cost 5s., but from Easter week it will be possible to book the 3s. seats in the Royal circle.

Mr. C. Geraldo, of the Geraldos, and Messrs. Bliss and Bliss, comedians, are the latest to swell the ranks of the Terriers' Association. They were elected on Sunday last.

The Terriers and their friends, numbering over sixty, had their annual Good Friday dinner and concert at the Hôtel Boulogne, Gerrard-street, W. A most enjoyable evening was spent, commencing at 7 p.m., and lasting till midnight. Mr. Archie Howells presided at the piano, and Mr. F W. Millis, the popular ventriloquist, occupied the chair. The arrangements were admirably carried out by the secretary, Mr. Harry Lester.

At the last meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund the committee investigated twenty-eight applications for assistance, and relief was granted in every case.

Among the novelties that are to be produced at Easter, a special note must be made of the production at the Oxford by Fred Karno's company of *The Smoking Concert*. If this be as funny as *His Majesty's Guests, The Mumming Birds*, or *Moses and Son*, presented by the same company, then we anticipate a long and enduring success for it. It will have every possible advantage that good stage-management and liberal mounting can give it at the Oxford.

Miss Victoria Monks' two new songs, namely, "Every little bit of help's worth a deal of pity" and "Hullo! who's there?" have been secured for publication by Messrs. Sheard and Co. Both are from the joint pens of Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford.

We regret to learn that Mr. Walter Munroe, the well-known Irish comedian, has, during the past two weeks, been lying dangerously ill at Edinburgh with pleurisy and congestion of the lungs. His doctor states that some weeks must elapse before he will be able to get about again.

Building operations in connection with the New Coliseum at Portsmouth are about to be commenced. The architects for the new house are Messrs. Frank Matcham and Co., of London, and as Messrs. Moss' Empires, Limited, are associated and immediately interested, success may be assured.

The King's Theatre, Gateshead, will reopen its doors on Easter Monday to the public—this time as a music hall on the two-houses-a-night principle. Mr. Joe May is the new manager. The Queen's Theatre, in the same town, will also open as a variety house on the same night.

The news of the death of Mr. Leonard Vidal, late acting-manager of the Leicester Palace Theatre, will be received with sincere regret by a large number of members of the variety profession. The sad event happened with painful suddenness at the residence of the deceased gentleman in Doncaster-road, Leicester, on the 5th inst. On the Tuesday evening he was present at the performance at the Leicester Pavilion. Before his connection with variety the late Mr. Vidal was associated with the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Company in the provinces, and was for some time with Mr. J. B. Mulholland as acting-manager at the Grand Theatre, Nottingham. He was only forty-five years of age.

The management of the Hastings Hippodrome has wisely abandoned the idea of resuming at Easter the practice of giving two performances nightly. This determination has been arrived at in consequence of the unanimous wish of the patrons.

At the Hastings Hippodrome, on Friday, the 6th inst., much interest was aroused by a game of billiards played in the lions' cage by the manager, Mr. Albert Mathams, and Mr. George Gooding, during Miss Ella's visit there. Although Miss Ella was present, the lions were at first rather restless. Mr. Mathams won by 3 a game of 25 up, in which he made a break of 22.

The Empire Theatre, Liverpool, is still to exist as a one-show-a-night music hall. As was reported in our columns last week, the management had an idea about two shows and an excise licence, but the authorities thought otherwise. There was provision for waiting crowds to be made, and the Licensing Bench had views on the matter. The result was that the application was withdrawn, and the Empire will go on in the old sweet way.

At the Empire, Bristol, on Saturday night, after the final performance, Mr. Frank Weston, the manager, appeared behind the footlights, and expressed thanks for the generous support that had been accorded by the Bristol public to the Empire Music Hall. In all businesses, however, there was frequently a change, and he had to announce a change of proprietorship there.

The Empire would be carried on (from Easter Monday next) by a very excellent firm, headed by Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, of the New Bedford Palace, London, and several provincial houses of entertainment. The hall would be redecorated and re-upholstered, from top to bottom, by the well-known firm of Maple and Son, of London, in co-operation with Messrs. W. Cowlin and Son, of Bristol. A new fireproof wall-paper would be used at that hall for the first time in any place of entertainment. The hall, Mr. Weston mentioned, would be reopened on Easter Monday. The staff demonstrated the esteem in which Mr. Weston is held by presenting him with a large photographic group, and Mr. Wilkie Bard also presented him with a case of silver plate.

The many friends of Mr. Percy Aldin, who to-night (Saturday) finishes his engagement at the Southampton Hippodrome as acting-manager, intend to give him a good send-off. He has been compelled to resign his position owing to ill-health, and intends to retire from the profession altogether. During his short connection with the "Hippo," he has made hosts of friends, who, one and all, wish him a speedy recovery, and he and his wife the best of luck in the future. Mr. H. P. Howell succeeds Mr. Aldin as acting-manager .

Mr. Sydney Paxton, who has so successfully managed the Grand Theatre, Southampton, for the past three years, will sever his connection with Mr. Mouillot and Southampton in the autumn. Until October he will continue the management of the Grand and Hippodrome as hitherto. We understand that Mr. Paxton's arrangements beyond the autumn are not yet complete. That he will be missed in Southampton is to put the matter mildly, for he has endeared himself to local playgoers by his geniality and astuteness. Mr. Paxton is a model manager, and his departure will be regretted by all.

Grosvenor H. Hamilton, of Hamilton's Excursions, reopens the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Manchester, on Easter Monday, with an attractive programme. He should do well, as the Grand is one of the oldest variety houses in Cottonopolis.

Mr. Fred Coles, the popular acting-manager of the Lyric Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool, was, by the kindness of Mr. Henry C. Arnold, lessee and manager, accorded a bumper benefit on Thursday, the 5th inst. His many friends from far parts of Liverpool and district crowded to help, and a financial success is certain. We sincerely hope that his health will soon improve.

Croydon's new Empire Palace of Varieties will not open to-night, as previously announced. The Croydon Council, at their last meeting, would not issue the licence, owing to the building being then unfurnished. As the Council do not meet again until the 30th inst., the opening is postponed until early next month.

The details of the story of how Arthur Baxter, aged 23, a gymnast, of Essex-street, Old Trafford, came by his death, were given to the Manchester City Coroner (Mr. E. A. Gibson) and a jury on Monday, when the inquest was held. Baxter, whose professional name was Hilton, was last Wednesday morning, the 4th, shot out of a cannon at the Ardwick Empire, whilst qualifying as understudy to the "Human Bullet," Professor Cassini. The young man failed to catch the bar of the trapeze, and, falling awkwardly into the net, injured his spine. Death took place at the Royal Infirmary on Friday evening, the 6th inst. The jury, after a consultation, returned a verdict of accidental death, brought about by the fall into the net.

At the Palace Theatre, Halifax, on Tuesday night, occurred an incident which created some alarm amongst those behind the scenes, and yet was to some extent unnoticed by those in front. Dr. Walford Bodie, now appearing at that place of amusement, with special curative demonstrations for paralysis, was engaged upon one of these experiments in the second house, and was experimenting with current of high voltage power, when a short circuit was established, and an explosion occurred. Dr. Bodie was badly burned. His moustache and eyebrows were singed, as well as his face and head injured. He adopted measures which secured momentary relief, and continued his experiments, the audience evidently being under the impression that what had occurred was part of the "turn." This, however, was not the case. Dr. Bodie had experienced a nasty shock, and some very painful burns. Still he was present on Wednesday evening at the Palace Theatre, and also during the remainder of the week.

The annual meeting of the London Entertainments Protection Society was held on Wednesday, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Henri Gros; vice-president, Mr. George Adney Payne; treasurer, Mr. Joseph Davis; hon. secretary, Mr. J. L. Graydon; auditors, Mr. Henry Tozer and Mr. Joseph Davis; standing counsel, Mr. Walter Payne; solicitor, Mr. Philip J. Rutland; and architect, Mr. Walter Emden.

Mr. Leo Dryden had a lucky escape from serious accident on Saturday night last, when one of the horses attached to his brougham became restive, and urged on its wild career along the Brixton-road. The animal fell at Brixton Station, and both artist and coachman escaped unhurt.

Mr. Harry Bawn has been re-elected President of the Grand, Clapham, Cycling Club and also Vice-President of the Chelsea Cricket Club, which he founded when established at the local Palace as acting-manager.

Mr. Will Evans always catches the whim of the passing hour, and knowing generally how exercised in its mind is the British public over the story by Mr. William Le Queux in the *Daily Mail* of "The Invasion of 1910," he has determined to give a parody of the idea. With only a quarter of an hour to develop the idea, it would be thought that the popular comedian would be handicapped; but we make no doubt that he will contrive to be funny. He will produce the novelty at the Metropolitan.

Some eighteen months since we prophesied that the natural development of what is called the "song-scena" would necessitate the establishment by every far-seeing manager of a variety theatre of a small trained contingent of singing and dancing ladies. Since then Mr. Oswald Stoll has opened the Coliseum with a choir of forty; Mr. Alfred Butt has presented the Palace Girls in various productions; and now Mr. Frank Glenister in connection with two novelties, which will be presented by Mr. Ambrose Thorne at the London Pavilion, announces the Pavilion Girls.

It was whilst studying in St. Petersburg to become an engineer that Hackenschmidt spent some part of his unoccupied time in gymnasium work. Such progress did he make that he had a shot at record breaking in weight-lifting, and in a little time he had no fewer than twelve records to his name. This was only ten years ago, and since then he has been busily employed defeating the champions of different countries, until to-day he stands the unconquered champion of the world. His first wrestling match was against the Frenchman Paul Pons, the then champion of the world, seven years ago. The Russian won after a keen contest of forty-six minutes. Hackenschmidt is an enthusiastic cyclist and a good swimmer. Most men would consider skipping an effeminate kind of amusement, and yet the Russian finds that it is excellent for keeping all the muscles in condition, and attributes to it the very noticeable quickness of his movements.

Mr. Gus Elen, who returns to town on Easter Monday, to take up his number at several re-engagements, has been spending the past few weeks with the rod and fly after the wily trout on the banks of the beautiful Exe, his headquarters being at the quaint old-world Somersetshire village of Dulverton. Mr. Elen is a lover of nature, and revels in the morning anthems of the chaffinch and wren. He loves to find the primrose "by the river's brim," to pluck the early blossoms of the wild flowers from the hedges, and to make just a nodding acquaintance with that beautiful, but exceedingly shy bird, the kingfisher. He has followed the hunt after the stag on his beautiful 10-horsepower Panhard car, which answers splendidly up and down the hills and dales, and will return to town with the health bloom on his cheek, and happy recollections of a delightful holiday.

Miss Lil Hawthorne, who starts on the Stoll Suburban Empire circuit at Easter, was born in Texas, the land of the cowboy, where her father had a large cattle ranch. Miss Hawthorne became a fearless rider, and would mount the most spirited horses. No doubt this physical training helped to give her the clear, healthy complexion and fine figure she now possesses. At the age of fourteen she, with her two sisters, owing to financial reverses, had to seek their fortune, and found it on the stage. They went to New York to a variety hall, where the agent for the late Chas. Morton made them a tempting offer to appear in London, where the charming trio became very celebrated in their pretty scena, *The Willow-pattern Plate*. When her sisters returned to America Miss Lil remained, and continued the same success as a single turn. She has played in any number of pantomimes as "principal boy." Her chief successes have been "Kitty Mahone," "Rosie O'Grady," and "I'll be your sweetheart."

Miss Maree Kean, comedienne, is by way of making her début at the Oxford this afternoon, when she will sing, "I'll ask mother if I may," a number from the pens of Harrington and Tate. Miss Kean is a descendant of the famous Edmund. Her father, John Taylor, was the first manager who took touring companies round the West of England. When she was but eight years of age, the late Mercer Simpson, of the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, made little Marée a very flattering offer, which she was not allowed to accept. She has hereditary talent, and has the glorious privilege of youth, being just out of her teens.

Mr. Albert Gilmer, the popular manager of the Oxford, at the installation meeting of the Willing Lodge, on the 5th inst., at the Hotel Cecil, was presented with a handsome Past Master's jewel on completion of his year of office as Worshipful Master. Mr. Gilmer was also cordially congratulated on his brilliant work during the year.

Miss Molly Seymour, who has for the past few weeks been hard at work rehearsing a pleasing little novelty in a duo-scena, has, upon the eve of production, been so unfortunate as to contract measles, and will have to postpone her engagements for four or five weeks.

The largest man in the world, Giant Machnow, will make his reappearance at the London Hippodrome on Easter Monday. Arrangements have been made for him to take exercise early every morning on a new motor omnibus. He will arrive in London at mid-day on Easter Sunday, and, after touring round London will probably make a trip on the Baker-street and Waterloo Electric Railway, visit the Zoo, and retire to his quarters in close proximity to the stage-door of the Hippodrome. It is rather doubtful if he will be seen outdoors, except for early morning fresh air, during the whole of his stay.

Miss Florrie Gallimore will, on Monday next, introduce at all her London engagements, to wit, the Oxford, Canterbury, and Euston, the popular number with which she has been so phenomenally successful during her recent three months' provincial tour, viz., the late Mr. George Le Brunn's last song, "Remember me to mother, dear," published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., in their "Sixpenny Successes" series.

The Theatre Royal, Darlington—licensee and manager Mr. Jas. Bell—will on April 30 be transformed into a first-class music hall, with two performances nightly at 7 and 9.

Mr. Frederic Bavon, general-manager for Mr. Frank Macnaghten, will be given a grand testimonial benefit at the Britannia Theatre (which has been kindly lent by Mr. Thomas Barrasford) on Friday evening, April 27. The arrangements are in the hands of Mr. James Fortune, of Fortune and Granville.

It is highly gratifying to learn that the net pecuniary result of the recent matinée at the Alhambra for the immediate relief of the sufferers by the Courrières Colliery Disaster exceeds even the substantial sum which Mr. Alfred Moul (acting as honorary treasurer to the Fund) announced tentatively on the occasion of the performance. That the receipts reached the handsome total of £538 2s. 6d. is exceedingly satisfactory; and, in acknowledging in a letter, couched in warm terms of grateful appreciation, the receipt of a cheque for this amount, His Excellency the French Ambassador further intimates that the money has already been applied to the service for which it was raised.

The following is a copy of the letter:—

Ambassade de France,
à Londres,
Avril 6, 1906.

Monsieur,—Par votre lettre du 5 courant, vous avez bien voulu me faire parvenir un cheque de £538 2s. 6d. montant des recettes obtenues à la representation donnée, par vos soins à l'Alhambra, pour venir en aide aux victimes de la catastrophe do Courrières.

En vous accusant reception de cet envoi, je tiens à vous exprimer de nouveau ma profonde gratitude au nom de nos malheureux compatriotes frappés par ce terrible malheur.

Je n'ai pas manqué de leur faire transmettre aussitôt votre don genereux.

Recevez, Monsieur, les assurances de ma considération distinguée.—Signed,

PAUL CAMBON.

Monsieur Alfred Moul,
Directeur de l' Alhambra.

A new music hall comedian has arisen in Mr. Arthur Laceby, who has been re-engaged to appear at the Lyceum during Easter week. Those who saw this actor in Bernard Shaw's play of *Major Barbara* at the Court Theatre would have found it difficult to recognise him the other night at the fine variety theatre mentioned above. In a miserable visage he discussed many subjects, and gave one the impression that everything depressed him. He has studied the anatomy of melancholy, and has made it very funny.

Notwithstanding the "barring" clause, Mr. Tom Barrasford seems to be able to compile at the Lyceum a programme which, apart from any ordinary merit, possesses one particular feature, viz., that hardly a turn on the bill has been seen in London before. The Easter attractions will be of this nature, and we are informed that it is Mr. Barrasford's system to wait for his provincial managers' weekly reports before finally deciding what artists shall make their London *début* in the following week.

Thiel's Pompons, who have proved so successful in town, are about to go on a short provincial tour, visiting Chatham, Eastbourne, Hastings, Bristol, &c., after which they commence their season at Roker, Sunderland, returning to town in October.

The "first séance of the Magic Circle" was given at the home of mystery, St. George's Hall, on Tuesday night. "The Magic Circle" is a newly-formed club for amateurs and professionals interested in the art of conjuring, whose intent is frankly to deceive. There was a long programme, contributed to by some of the leading professors of the art, and eagerly followed by the amateurs. The performers included Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, Mr. David Devant, Mr. Nate Leipsic, Mr. Max Sterling, Joad Heteb, and others.

Miss Millicent Marsden, who is now giving such a remarkably clever rendering of the part of Lola in *Cavalleria Rusticana* at the Coliseum, and who recently was singing so successfully the pictorial song "In Dreamland" at the same house and playing Lange in *Madame Angot*, has had the unique professional experience of having begun her stage career at the early age of six in the Gilbert and Sullivan children's opera companies, since when she has never once been out of an engagement, having made what is practically one continuous run of over twenty years.

La Belle Atalanta, who has recently returned from her highly successful forty weeks' tour in America, will open at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on April 16, with her dainty and fascinating disrobing act on the wire. She will return later to commence a re-engagement at the London Pavilion.

Mr. Eugene Stratton's latest success, "De White-Washed Coon," written and composed by Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, has this week been issued by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., in their "Sixpenny Successes," and has already commanded an immense sale, being the first song this eminent comedian has ever consented to have published in sixpenny sheet music form.

Mr. Hubert Bartlett, of Muir and Bartlett, has written for the Becketts a comedy duologue, entitled *Two's Company*, which will shortly be produced at a West End hall.

Mr. David Day has this week secured two novel "free" songs for immediate publication, entitled respectively "My Summer Butterfly" and "Grow, Little Mushroom, Grow," two numbers especially adaptable to seaside entertainers, &c. Both are by Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford.

Miss Lelia Rozn has thoroughly enjoyed her three weeks' holiday at Bournemouth, and will present her new scena at the Palace, Manchester, on Easter Monday, for one week.

Miss Ethel Gordon Paull will, in conjunction with Mr. Charles Hartley, begin a series of afternoon dramatic and song recitals, commencing this afternoon, at St. Leonards, going on to other seaside resorts. Miss Gordon Paull will return to town each evening to take up her part of the Hon. Mrs. St. Ozier in *The King's Minister*.

The Happy Valley, Llandudno, the resort of thousands of holiday-makers during the summer, is to be let for minstrel performances as from Easter, 1907, and tenders are invited by the Urban District Council for a lease of the ground.

William Heckford, 54, waiter, Kimmerton-street, Knightsbridge, was charged, before Mr. Denman, at Marlborough-street Police Court, on Wednesday, with stealing a diamond ring, of the value of £4, belonging to Mr. Philip Yorke, theatrical manager, of 36, Gerrard-street, Soho. The prosecutor said that formerly the prisoner had been in his employment as a messenger. About Feb. 24 he missed the ring in question, and hearing that the accused was wearing it, the police were communicated with, and he was arrested. Detective Barrell, C division, said he arrested the prisoner that day (Wednesday) in Gerrard-street. When told the charge he admitted the theft, and produced the duplicate relating to the ring, which he had pawned in Wardour-street. On the prisoner's room being searched several articles alleged to have been stolen from the Hyde Park Hotel were found. The prisoner was remanded.

Messrs. Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth's successful series of fancy dress balls at Covent Garden ended on Friday the 6th. Two of the special prizes were awarded to Mr. Willie Clarkson for his "Roseland" and "In the Far East."

Mr. Norman Bowyer, who is scoring such a notable success as a young swell in Mr. Charles Carey's production *After the Ball*, is the youngest son of that genial "Savage" Mr. Fred Bowyer, who has written so worthily both for the theatrical and variety stages, his *Little Stowaway* being one of the notable successes of the nineteenth century.

At the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge at the Hotel Provence, Leicester-square, on Sunday, April 8, Bro. 1312 was elected to the chair. There were fourteen members present. Bro. 1365 proposed that the meeting should pass a resolution to the effect that pamphlets should be sent out in small parcels to members in different parts of the country, with a letter asking for kind co-operation and help in making the I.A.L. known. This motion was seconded by Bros. 978 and passed. A member asked questions as to the payment by the lodge of costs in cases which are taken up, and was not at all clear as to the reason why in some cases the member had to pay. It was explained that this was owing to the fact of the member having practically taken the case out of the hands of the lodge by effecting a compromise himself.

Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate have this week been busy on a new musical, farcical comedietta, the principal part in which will be sustained by that well-known and talented comedian, Mr. T. W. Volt, so long associated with *The Lady Slavey;* and principal comedian at the Hippodrome, recently, in *Among the Stars*.

A young tamer named Martha Lahire was killed by a leopard in a menagerie at Lyons on Sunday. She had only just been married to M. Lahire, with whose menagerie she had for some time travelled as principal girl. The animal had not been under her control very long, and was so savage that no one but Mme. Lahire could do anything with it. She had put it through its paces, and was turning to leave the cage, when the best sprang at her, burying its claws in her breast. Before she could be released she had been killed.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. have recently acquired from Mr. J. F. Lambe a new Irish song, written and composed by him, entitled "Widow Doolin," which, although it has only been accepted a few days, has already been "placed" by the firm with nearly every pierrot troupe of note for the forthcoming season.

The 458th meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at Wellington-street on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Joe O'Gorman (in the chair), J. Collinson, Fred Herbert, Charles Pastor, George Preston, Jeff Vendome, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were passed, and correspondence was disposed of. A letter thanking the committee for their vote of sympathy on the death of her late husband was read from Mrs. Proctor, in whose hands the agency at Plymouth is to remain. The case of a member who wanted to pay a portion of his renewal fees out of a refund due to him was considered, and it was decided such a proposition could not be entertained, and that the member must forward his subscription in the usual way.

Mr. Charles Coborn commented in a letter on the discourtesy with which railway officials were occasionally treated by members of the Association, mentioning one instance in particular, and the secretary was instructed to write a letter of warning to the offending person. A case which had given rise to some complications was submitted to the committee. Two members had written to a certain town to have their names placed on the sheet to make up a party about to travel to London, but in the meantime one of the artists who formed the number arranged to go to town with a theatrical company, and withdrew his name from the sheet. He was applied to to have his name restored, but refused, and the others were consequently obliged to pay full fare. Subsequently he consented to make up the party, and telephoned to the artists first alluded to, but they had already purchased their tickets. Two of the gentlemen concerned appeared before the committee and stated their case, and it was agreed to ask the railway company to refund the difference, in default of which the member who refused to make up the party should be held liable.

The secretary reported the receipt of a cheque for £50 from the Ocean Accident Company in fulfilment of their promise to pay an *ex gratia* compensation to the mother of the late Mr. Allen, of the Donaldson Brothers, and he was instructed to forward the amount to the lady. Twenty-nine new members had joined during the week, and the financial statement showed the amount received to be £30 5s. 6d. Mr. George Ashton, of the Pavilion, Greenock, was appointed local agent. The next meeting of the committee was fixed for Thursday, instead of Tuesday, in Easter Week.

Mr. Ernest Shand is making his satirical ditty, "Look at the weather we're having," his *pièce de résistance* at all his turns, the Oxford included, on Easter Monday. The Monte Carlo Publishing Co., of Berners-street, who are issuing this song in their "Sixpenny Successes," may be congratulated on having secured one of the biggest "winners" of the year.

The usual monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held at the York Hotel, York-road, on Wednesday last. Mr. W. J. Wainratta (vice-president) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Frank Heath (hon. treasurer), W. Brisco, G. Desmonti, and W. West. The business was of a purely formal character, and the meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter are publishing a new song "I ain't a-goin' to work for you no more," written and composed by Mr. Charles Collins, to whose fertile brain the world is chiefly indebted for that immense success, "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you," Mr. Collins being, in fact, the absolute originator of the idea, the principal author of the words, and the composer of the music of that song. The new ditty, which is expected to rival the popularity of its predecessor, will first be sung by Miss Daisy Dormer.

The case of Clifford v. Neal came up at Westminster County Court on Tuesday, Mrs. Clifford claiming wages in consequence of her sudden dismissal by a proprietor of aerial ballets. She was première danseuse in the aerial ballet which was part of Fred Karno's pantomime at Manchester. She did not attend a rehearsal because it was suddenly "called" to take place between the afternoon and evening performances. The defence was that the defendant had supplied aerial ballets for twelve years to sixty-nine pantomimes. Specialities rehearsed when they could. For safety's sake it was imperative there should be a rehearsal at each place to test the wires; and on this occasion it was arranged for at the first opportunity, but the plaintiff led a rebellion, and four girls "struck" with her. Having heard evidence on both sides as to custom Judge Woodfall found for the plaintiff with costs.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE CANTERBURY.

Smart duologues, nicely balanced with song and dance, and with just a little plot, are always acceptable at the variety theatres, and Mr. Walter Tilbury's new and original production *When the Cat's Away*, which was produced at the Canterbury on Monday, fulfils all the conditions necessary for such trifles. In it fun and sparkling music are pleasingly allied. Of the plot, we need say no more than that Binks, a musical page-boy, being placed in the household of a burlesque actress, is caught by her in the very act of playing on the grand piano during her supposed absence. A bright thought strikes her. Binks may be usefully employed in playing the accompaniments of her songs and rehearsing her for the production of a musical comedy. This slight imbroglio—if it may be so called—is the prelude to a series of solos and duets that are bright in character and engaging in their melody. Mr. Walter Tilbury (the author of the trifle) and Miss Daisy Forde, his charming partner, are happily associated in the duet "Sweet love, come away," and a number that bears an up-to-date topical complexion is entitled "If." Mr. Tilbury scores a great success with a Tariff Reform song, in which the following prophecy is made:—"There will be work for every man when we impose that duty." It is written as a parody of "The Death of Nelson." Braham's melody fits the words exceedingly well, and the number, which is admirably rendered, makes a decided hit. Miss Daisy Forde looks decidedly fascinating in the tunic and tights of a principal boy, and sings and dances effectively. *When the Cat's Away* should certainly find much acceptance from music-hall audiences, as it is a playlet that has plenty of musical charm and brightness.

A new mimic has arisen in the person of Miss Lilian Elfreda, who is making her first appearance at the Canterbury. She is an artist who has evidently used to good purpose keen powers of observation. She starts a series of imitations with a reproduction of Mr. Gus Elen's methods, mannerisms, and voice in "Meriah." Though taking the melody a little too slowly, Miss Elfrida presents an excellent counterfeit of the famous coster comedian. George Bastow is also another comedian imitated very cleverly by the débutante, who also scores highly as Miss Marie Lloyd with "It's the skirt that tells the tale" and as Miss Kate Carney, the coster queen. Miss Elfrida's success is striking, and she was loudly applauded on the night of our visit.

Miss Millie Lindon has a delightful song in "Angel of my dreams," which she renders with charming effect, being recalled again and again; Keen and Waller are clever acrobats, with a nice derangement of twisting somersaults and acrobatics as smart as they are eccentric; and Mr. George Mozart presents his capital entertainment "Hats," and his humorous impersonation of Bertie, the dandy M.C., the inventor of a new dance, the "Grazando Gasata." The dance accompanying the description of several patrons and patronesses of the shilling hop at which Bertie officiates is screamingly funny, and the waltz with a gigantic partner intensely amusing. Harry Lauder has unfortunately been unable to answer to his number during the week, and his place has been taken by that popular coon singer Miss Victoria Monks, who is a very warm favourite at the house in the Westminster Bridge-road. Miss Monks has a "way" with her that "fetches" audiences north, south, east, and west, and her vivacity and *entrain* are remarkable. Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, a favourite of Londoners for more years than we care to count, is as popular with the new generation as he was with the old. He is always happy in his methods of entertainment, and the union of tune and tattle makes for strength. Nightly for very many years he has been asked to sing "The Blind Boy." This fact is an astonishing proof of the love of a simple melody that possesses the hearts of the million. The White-eyed Kaffir does not always comply, but whatever he presents in the way of entertainment invariably fills his audiences with delight.

Miss Winifred Hare, one of the most cultured vocalists on the variety stage, and a charming actress, puts much verve and piquancy into her pierrot song; the Griffiths Brothers furnish broad fun in their burlesque of catch-as-catch-can wrestling; and the Sisters Hall are effective vocalists. Lee and Bentley, in their absurdity *The Member for Muddlesex*, well sustain their well-established reputation as farceurs; and Mr. Leonard Mortimer and his company present the thrilling story of a West End haunted house, entitled *Spectres*, with much success. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope is responsible for a series of interesting pictures. Mr. Fred Miller is one of the most genial of London's managers.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

During this the dullest week of the year Mr. J. C. Coe is presenting a really capital programme, and his enterprise has drawn excellent houses. A genuine hit is made by the screaming comedy sketch presented by Hodgson and Lowther's company, and entitled *Barmaids*. This is another variant of the frisky husband imbroglio, which in the form of farcical comedies in three acts used to delight us at the Criterion in the days of our youth, when Sir Charles Wyndham first made a reputation as the most alert and facile light comedian of the Victorian Era. The hubby of *Barmaids*, during the absence of his unsuspecting wife, has indulged in a loose leg—in fact, to freely translate a Parisian idiom, he has "thrown his cap over the mills." In his visits to various hostelries he has made appointments with no less than three barmaids. Of course, each turns up at his residence, and just precede the return of the wife. A trusted footman is charged with the interviewing of the intruders, while the Brixton Lovelace hears what is going on behind a screen. The confidential man is urged to "sound 'em, my boy, sound 'em," and this process seemingly demands much liquid refreshment. The situations are of the broad description that invariably appeals to popular audiences, and the company, which includes a decidedly clever comedian in the part of the footman, has to listen to the gratifying sounds of uproarious laughter during the progress of the trifle. No cast is given, unfortunately, so that we are unable to praise individually the members of the company, who play with genuine comicality and smartness.

A happily devised trifle is *Matrimonial Agency*, to the farcical situations of which the acting of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden gives unwonted strength. The trifle reminds one forcibly of that ancient and rollicking farce, *Perfection*. Mrs. Sugden very ably represents the proprietress of the agency, whose clients include a rich lady with wooden legs. Mr. Sugden is highly amusing as the impecunious suitor who woos the timber-toed damsel for the sake of her cash, and discovers to his delight that she is an old flame, who since she jilted him for a richer man has become a widow. The wooden legs are simply assumed for the sake of the fun they create. Miss Carlyle is well placed as the widow.

The programme is opened in an interesting manner by Frank Hartley, a boy juggler, who possibly may, some day, become another Cinquevalli. He is especially deft in plate throwing and catching. Miss Esme Gordon, a fascinating comedienne and dancer, is particularly well suited in her coon number, "Rufus Rastus Brown"; Mr. Arthur J. Hill, the living Lilliputian, gives an entertainment that many years since was popularised by the Tissots. He is amusing as a Scotchman and a dame, and the dancing causes a deal of laughter. Versatility and well-directed energy mark the doings of Terry and Bentley, who present a comedy sketch, entitled *The Hunt*. There is some laughter-provoking cross-talk by the two; some clever acrobatics on the part of the gentleman and the lady's singing is much enjoyed. A bright interlude is wound up by a *pas de deux*. Miss Ruby Bijou is one of the daintiest dancers, and reminds one by her perfect exhibition of the lamented Katie Seymour, who graduated at the halls and then went to the Gaiety. Ruby's bare-footed dance is worthy of all the applause it receives. Miss Clara Rita impersonates a dark-eyed Senora from Sunny Seville, and appropriately winds up her turn with a Spanish dance accompanied by castanets. Fun is in the ascendant while the Brothers Griffiths occupy the stage in their burlesque wrestling; and Mr. J. P. Dryden and company present a most effective dramatic sketch in five scenes, entitled *The Soldier's Wife*.

A pronounced hit is made by Coram, who, quite unannounced, appeared at the Lyceum a month or two since, and has rapidly gained the favour of Londoners as a ventriloquist of the first rank. The distinguishing feature of Coram's clever show is that he lets his figure "Jerry" do the largest share of the talking—if we may so express ourselves in writing about a dummy. The whole entertainment is without the slightest sense of effort, and the illusion is perfect. Other attractions on the bill are Mr. Fred Dunstone, character comedian; Mr. Will Farrell, comedian; and the Edisonograph. Mr. Lewis Vincent is a capable and courteous acting-manager, and Mr. J. H. Cleve a good musical director.

BOW PALACE.

Miss Eva Kelland's song, "Farewell, my little bush mare," has quite caught on, as the saying is, and this week it has helped the young lady to win further laurels at the Bow Palace. The idea of bringing a pony on to the stage to assist in the telling of Miss Kelland's story pleases the audience immensely, especially as the pony seems to entertain not a little affection for its mistress. The song concerns the selling of a mare by a young girl to a brawny bushman. She doesn't wish to part with the animal, and she doesn't after all, for the would-be purchaser's proposal of marriage is accepted. It is a pretty theme prettily told. Mr. Billy Williams, who styles himself "the famous singer of little people," causes a good deal of amusement with his parodies on "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" and "Stop yer ticklin', Jock." He has a style of his own which is received with great favour by the East-Enders. Wake and Dean are about as comical as anyone could wish with their argumentative patter, which is full of really funny remarks. Mr. Fred Conquest and company are seen in the sensational sketch *The Freak's Revenge*, in which Mr. Conquest presents his weird and thrilling characterisation of a man-monkey, and Mr. Leon Dubois as a gorilla treats us to another clever portrayal of an animal.

An engaging little artist comes on the stage in the person of Miss Lottie Bell. Miss Bell, who is described as an Australian vocalist, gives a delightful rendering of a song the subject of which is appropriate to her age. The burden of it is that a child is endeavouring to console her mother for the unlooked-for absence of the father, and the last verse tells the good news of the father's return. Miss Bell also proves herself to be a talented dancer by her graceful and smart execution of a step-dance. Zasma renders an excellent account of himself in his trapeze act. He shows himself not only to be an agile and accomplished gymnast, but possessed of remarkable physical strength. He imparts the sensational element to his doings by lifting and swinging heavy weights suspended from his teeth. We wonder whether these exercises have the effect of strengthening or weakening his "incisors" and "canines." At any rate, he seems none the worse for the strain to which he puts them. The Five Casino Girls submit some agreeable performances of popular melodies on different instruments, their playing giving evidence of considerable skill and musical attainments.

Luis Hardt, "the mighty atom," furnishes an act of the strong-man type. With one hand he plays with a 130lb. bar-bell in much the same way that the ordinary man contents himself with swinging a 5lb. dumb-bell. Then he supports a weight of 425lb., in addition to a couple of men, who stand one upon his chest and the other upon his thighs. Thirdly, resting his head on one stool and his feet on another—his body of course being in a horizontal position—he keeps his limbs rigid, while bearing a weight of a quarter of a ton. The feat which seems to prove the greatest trial to him is the lifting and raising above his head with one hand of a 171lb. bar-bell. In a series of classical poses one sees the wonderful muscular development of Mr. Hardt, and his turn throughout is a most interesting one. Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company in the episode *Did he Deserve It?* add quite a feature to the programme. Mr. James Willard acts with brutal naturalness in the rôle of the woman-deceiver, and Miss Lydia Hart is amusingly realistic in her portrayal of the boxing woman. Most of the humour, however, is furnished by Mr. Willie Atom, who, as an impertinent "boots," contrives to be comical in the extreme. Miss Violet Carr is pretty and unaffected as the flower girl. The concluding item on the bill is Lacey's Erascope, which, as usual, displays some admirable films.

THE DUCHESS.

The suburbs are evidently determined to be in no way behind the City in the provision of amusement, one proof of which is supplied in the fact that pictures of the boat-race were exhibited on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope at the first house at Balham on Saturday—a feat of which Mr. George Wilson, the manager, is reasonably proud. The picture, which has also been given this week, is a remarkably fine film, and depicts with exceptional clearness the start and finish of the race, together with the embarking and landing of both crews. Other interesting and amusing views on the cinematograph also figure in the programme, and are thoroughly enjoyed. An interesting feature of the current bill is the barefoot dancing of Miss Mildred De Grey, whose illustrations of the art are given in exquisite costumes. Miss De Grey's dancing, which is done in a handsomely-furnished set scene, is accompanied by entrancing music, to the strains of which her varied movements are skilfully adapted.

Clever mimicry is supplied by Mr. J. P. Ling, who imitates a glee-party singing "Hail, smiling morn," with a too obtrusive and less tuneful tenor. An imitation of a boy playing a cornet is given, and a gentleman, who finds the high notes of "Mary of Argyle" too much for him, and a lady with peculiarities of respiration, are also travestied. Mr. Ling's performance is a finished one, and the impersonations cause great laughter. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden provoke uncontrollable mirth with their sketch *Two to One*, in which Mr. Finden is responsible for some quick changes, which would not disgrace a professed protean artist; and both performers act in the skilful comedy style for which they are famous.

A sketch with a similar object is that of *The Silly Burglar*, played by the Three Waldrons. The gentleman who enacts "Johnny," an enterprising youth, who attempts to frighten the maid-servant by pretending to be a burglar, loses no opportunity of creating laughter, and some of his effects are very ludicrous. His make-up as the "burglar" is a fearsome one, and his drolleries are never-ending, and quite fulfil their purpose. The well-known zoological comedy submitted by the Donaldson Brothers and Ardel gives occasion for further hilarity at the expense of the misadventures of the individuals who visit the famous gardens at Regent's Park; while the antics of the two apes who occupy the monkey-cage are wonderfully realistic. The mirthful devices employed are many and various, an important contribution being made by the diminutive comedian, who appears at one time as an Indian rajah, and at another as a baby in a perambulator. A juggling act, supplemented by a quantity of humour which is highly appreciated, is provided by Drawee, Frisco, and Hambro, whose turn is one of the most successful of the evening; Miss Rita Bell is a talented comedienne; and the Right of Hearts, vocalists, also figure in the programme. Mr. Chas. Longmaid directs a well-qualified orchestra, and Mr. J. H. Watling is agreeably conspicuous as acting-manager. An appropriate attraction was provided for Good Friday in a special sacred series of animated pictures, including "The Passion Play," as represented at Ober-Ammergau. The actual performances take place only at intervals of seven years, and a large audience on Friday were thoroughly justified in availing themselves of the opportunity of witnessing a reproduction of so famous a series.

EALING HIPPODROME.

The magic name of Hackenschmidt is spelling the word "success" in a most unmistakable manner at the Ealing Hippodrome this week, and the crowded houses, at both first and second performances, are showing how keenly the sport-loving world of the western district appreciates the appearance of the "great wrestler." Additional interest is lent to the display owing to the expectations aroused in connection with his forthcoming encounter with the "Terrible Turk" at Olympia towards the end of the present month.

To those who love to see an athlete in the pink of condition a real treat is afforded. Hackenschmidt, on appearing on Monday, was given a most hearty reception, as also was his first opponent, Jack Smith. The bout, in catch-as-catch-can style, proved very short, Smith being easily disposed of in one minute. Hackenschmidt's second opponent, however, proved to be of tougher metal. Gunner Moir is an athlete of as fine a physique as even Hackenschmidt himself, and a much more exciting struggle ensued. One, two, three, four minutes were marked by the timekeeper ere superior skill commenced to assert itself, but at 4min. 6secs. the game "Gunner" succumbed. Conqueror and defeated were alike accorded honours at the termination of their fine display.

A very welcome turn here this week is that of the Four Magnets, termed the "finest quartette of lady dancers in the country." The four handsome and prettily-costumed ladies are both clever and graceful. Their first dance, coupled with a song, "There is only one New York," is given in excellent style, and a coon dance which follows, with a slight change of costume, secures an unqualified success. C. J. Johnson, the "Black Diamond," follows with two songs, "The Darkie and his girl" and "My friend is my pocket," concluding with the usual cake-walk, which never fails to please. Miss Linda Wasey proves a most welcome item in the programme, giving in bright and enchanting style her two songs, "You must hear many things that you hate" and "Have you noticed the boy who has been blessed with good luck is the boy who looks after his mother?" the refrain of which is quickly caught up by the audience.

Fred Adderley and company, in their musical medley, *The Rivals*, are responsible for some amusing episodes. The lady member of the combination, who plays a domestic of the Marchioness type, is particularly mirth-provoking. The two gentlemen well second her efforts—one of them, a most capable musician, rendering several *morceaux* at the piano with good effect. Beyond the title, no names are attached on the programme to the trifle, which receives a cordial welcome. The Eight Lancashire Lads form a smart company of singers and dancers. A harmonised version of the ever-popular "Annie Laurie," which they sing, is listened to with rapt attention. Some capital clog-dancing follows. Splitting into couples and then into single file, the "Lads" make a merry clatter with their clogs, and amply justify their claim of "a turn without a rival." Miss Fanny Wentworth is ever welcome. A clever instrumentalist and a witty raconteuse, she has always her audience with her, and her anecdotes are, as usual, smart and pithy. In *Black Justice*, Messrs. Brown, Newland, and Leclercq present a sketch of the most side-splitting character. Many, no doubt, are familiar with its incidents, but this is its first appearance at the Ealing house. Of course a trifle of this kind lends itself to all sorts of ridiculous predicaments, and judge, counsel, policeman, and prisoners exploit the situations for all they are worth. By the introduction of a piano-organ and a couple of street dancers a very lively termination is arrived at. The sketch is admirably played, and evokes screams of merriment. The Astley company of American musical farmers shows how music may be allied to fun, and how tuneful sounds may be obtained from all sorts of unlikely material.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS

CAUSE GREAT BUSTLE AND EXCITEMENT AT THE HIPPODROME, HUDDERSFIELD.
A GREAT TRIUMPH.

It is about four years since that marvellous musican combination, The Savonas, visited Huddersfield, and their return visit, which was made at the Hippodrome on Monday evening, was signalised by the achievement of a great triumph. In the gorgeous "Palace of Orpheus"—a scene which from its utter brilliance is difficult to describe—they gave a truly remarkable performance. Nearly half an hour was occupied by seven members of the troupe in a rendering of the whole of the overture to Rossini's "William Tell." The instruments used are three organs, saxaphones, sleigh bells, chimes, ocarinas, aluminium lyres, American organ chimes, musical metal discs, xylophones, silver tubes, and many other kinds. The effects produced in the storm music is wonderful. Lightning is made to play by means of electricity, a motor works the organ bellows, thunder roars from some other ingenious appliance, and the sound of rain trickles from a revolving barrel, whilst the other instruments are utilised by the Savonas with surprising rapidity, the players using one after the other as called upon in this marvellous creation of musical effects. There is no such thing as playing from copy with the Savonas. All the parts have been religiously memorised. It is all too prodigiously complicated to discover who is who. One moment a player is tinkling sleigh bells on the stage, and the next he is seated at an organ high up in the glittering and bejewelled erection which forms the background of the scene. And so on. All is bustle, excitement, and sound, and there is plenty of all these. Another extraordinary performance is a fantasia, "A Moonlight Trip on the Mississippi Steamer," written by Mr. J. B. Elliott, the designer of the "Palace of Orpheus." Here again wonder exerts a big influence on the audience, who applaud unceasingly.—Huddersfield Daily Chronicle, April 10, 1906.

The Duchess, Balham, another famous house on the Gibbons circuit, will present to crowded audiences that charming vocalist Miss Alexandra Dagmar, the Gotham Comedy Quartet, the Gregson Comedy Trio, the Katos Komikal Kidgets, the Sisters Aindow, the Brothers Hayes, and Gertrude Glenn and company in *Larks in the Park*.

"Variety consolidated" and amusing will be found in the Easter bill of the Walthamstow Palace, where holiday crowds will be entertained by George Antill, Leo Dryden, Sisters Caselli, Sterling and Love, Drawie, Fred Eustace and company in *Lights of the Harbour*, Halton and Stanton, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

EASTER VARIETY PROGRAMMES.

"Spring's delights are all reviving; verdant leaflets clothe each spray," says the song, and the sunny weather that prevails at the moment of writing leads our thoughts to primrose paths and dalliance with southern breezes. With a continuance of the present meteorological conditions, indeed, seaside excursions and outdoor recreation should be quite in favour; but good old London will hold thousands of variety lovers, who will be glad of the excuse offered by the first St. Lubbock day of the year to revel in the halls of smoke and song. Comic singing favourites are returning from the realms of pantomime to strengthen many programmes, and we anticipate an excellent time for the box offices during the earlier days of next week.

Those holiday-makers who can appreciate a widely-diversified variety entertainment will certainly be attracted by the lavish programme which the Alhambra puts forward for Easter. This theatre has ever been the pioneer of the best Continental turns, and Leo Nino, in a new musical act, the marvellous dogs of Richard Braatz, the accomplished Yiulian Troupe, and Les Uniques hold foremost places in the new bill, which includes also the Four Harveys, in the prettiest tight-wire act before the public, and Miss Edna, the remarkable siffleuse. Ballet will sustain its high prestige here with the second edition of *Parisiana*, introducing new scenes, new dances, and new music, and *A Scene in Holland*; while the Urbanora animated picture exhibit will give a new and complete exposition of the marvels of the bioscope in expert hands.

The Easter novelty at the Empire will be the revue by George Grossmith, jun., entitled *Venus, 1906*, which is in four scenes. To this we have already referred in our Gossip columns. In the production the principal characters will be taken by Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Firth (in the title-rôle), Miss Daisy Cordell, Mr. W. H. Berry (who has established his position as one of London's principal comedians since his début at the younger house in Leicester-square last October), Mr. R. Tremayne, and Mr. Harry Grattan. *Cinderella* will be retained, and most of the members of the variety company doing duty this week.

The Palace Theatre retains the services of charming Millie Lindon, in her delightful scena *In Barcelona*, and the Palace Girls have a new dance scena. Other Easter attractions are the Dumonds, who will give choice examples of Parisian minstrelsy; Aurora Castillo, the Marie Lloyd of Spain; dainty Daisy Jerome, a great Palace favourite; and Cole and Johnson and Grant and Grant, two pairs of coloured duettists. Mirth will be provided by the Frank Elliston company in *Aunt Matilda;* Toch and Tard, eccentric acrobats; and Jack Lorimer, comedian. Other turns include Charles Norton, mimic; Dorothy Gould, comedienne and dancer; Hebe Dennis, vocalist; Arley's combination and performing dogs; and the Bioscope. There will be a special matinée on Easter Monday at two o'clock.

At the Coliseum, in the six o'clock programme only, will be found Mr. Charles Warner and company, in two scenes from *Drink;* Mme. Alice Esty and E. C. Hedmondt in an excerpt from *Cavalleria Rusticana;* and Duncan's Collies, the Marlo-Dunham Trio, Millie Hylton, Decima Brooke, the Classicum Quartette, and the Juggling Taylor Trio take part in a comic album, entitled *Puck's Portfolio*, written by Arthur Shirley. The Grand Easter Revue will be presented at the three o'clock and nine o'clock performances. It is dealt with in detail in our "Variety Gossip."

To the London Hippodrome Giant Machnow will return as a big attraction. Another return is Paul Cinquevalli, the world-famous juggler; and the wonderful spectacle *The Flood* will, of course, be retained, with Dronza, the wonderful talking head, which is causing much speculation in the wigwams of the scientists and quidnuncs. Other turns include Brothers Leslie, eccentrics; Frobel and Ruge; Claire Beasley's Cats; Sutcliffe Family, Scotch pipers and acrobats; Villaud Brothers, clowns; McPhee and Hill; Rohda Brothers; the Labakans; Lydia and Albino; Lavater Lee, with his wrestling mule; Alexandre and Hughes, eccentrics; O'Gust, clown; and the Bioscope.

An exceptionally strong holiday programme is promised at the Tivoli. George Robey, fresh from his pantomime triumphs, returns to the West End halls, with songs new and humorous; Harry Randall comes from Old Drury, also with new songs; and other humorists include Harry Ford, T. E. Dunville, and the Poluski Brothers. Happy Fanny Fields, Alice Hollander (the Australian contralto), with a new song "Irish Lily," of which report speaks very highly, Amber Austa, Rachel Lowe, and Billie Barlow are also included in a company of exceptional strength at the "cosy little house in the Strand."

The Oxford also welcomes back George Robey and Harry Randall after their pantomime triumphs for the Easter programme, and such names as Fred Karno and company, in *The Smoking Concert*, Gus Elen, Clark and Hamilton, Harry Tate, Ernest Shand, T. E. Dunville, Fred Earle, Flo Gallimore, Edie King, Margaret Ashton, Florence Esdaile, Rachel Lowe, Winifred Hare, the Poluskis, the Casino Comedy Four, Griff and Alpha, and Ike Scott and Son cannot fail to attract. A matinée will be given on Easter Monday.

At the London Pavilion Mr. Frank Glenister, in his holiday scheme, announces old favourites in Messrs. Malcolm Scott, Ambrose Thorne, and Mark Melford and company in the well-known sketch *My Wife Won't Let Me*. Mr. George Mozart, who is still retained, has a new song from the pen of that versatile author, Mr. Chris Davis, entitled "The Teapot Queen"; and the Motramos and Foreman and Fannan also continue their successful engagements during holiday week. Mr. Marriott Edgar, "the man in red," will fulfil his first re-engagement at the famous house. The Pavilion Girls will assist in a singing and dancing novelty; and capital attractions will also be provided by Hill and Whittaker, in nigger melodies and song; Susie and Protti, speciality dancers; the Three Laurels, speciality acrobats; the Raies, dancers; Massona, juggler; Josh Dixon, eccentric comedian and dancer; Nell Richardson and Arthur Aldridge, vocalists; the Glenroy troupe of International dancers; My Fancy, the famous sand dancer; Kit Keen, bone soloist; and Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian.

An interesting programme has been prepared at the Holloway Empire. Prinz's Lions to many will form the particular attraction, but otherwise there is a variety of talent. The Arthur Lloyd Trio will give their sketch *Little Charlie; or, the Twin Sisters;* the Norman Leonard Trio will submit their amusing act, *The Musical Itinerants;* the Uessems, two wonderful head-and-hand balancers, will also appear; and Gracie Moore, in a picture setting, will sing the ballads "In Dreamland" and "Homeland of my heart." Other members of the company are Chinko, the boy juggler; Marba and Verity, the whirlwind dancers; Will Vokes, eccentric dancer; and Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, with their comical mule.

Heading a varied bill at the Shepherd's Bush Empire next week is Tom Edwards, the clever ventriloquist. In the same bill are included the two favourites, James Finney, of world renown, and his sister. Other important turns are Ross and Grayson, Starr and Leslie, Esta Stella, Beatrice Willey, the De Lucca Troupe, and Frank Leslie.

Hackenschmidt, the unconquered, is the big liner at the Hackney Empire. Special features will be provided by, among others, Seeley and West, Mark Sheridan, Binns and Binns, the Sisters Chester, Alcide Capitaine, Frank and Free, Odeyne Sparke, Francis and Alfred, and Belloni's Cockatoos.

At the Stratford Empire the Novellos will appear in a scena, *India in Europe*. In this act will be seen several highly-trained horses, dogs, and elephants. In the same bill are the Maples, with a practical example of how to deal with a burglar; Bessie Featherstone, a winning comedienne; the Holles Trio, in their famous sketch *The Little Charwoman;* the Morton Trio of comedians and singers; H. Sloan, comedian and juggler; the Six Lancashire Lasses, singers and dancers; Harry Bedford, comedian; the Canary company, in a comic pantomime; and Boswell's Circus.

Those funny pantomimists the Boissets top the bill at the New Cross Empire. Lil Hawthorne is an important turn. This popular comedienne comes with all her latest song successes. Miss May Henderson is another bright star in the same programme; and others on the bill are Cora Caselli, Walter King, the Seddons, Vernando, the Sisters Bosanquet, Chas. Gardiner, and Ella Lane. A fine series of animated pictures will be thrown on the screen by the Bioscope.

Mr. Jack Edgar's Easter crowd at the Metropolitan is headed by Miss Ella, with her performing lions. Will Evans will be seen in an amusing novelty, *1910 Invasion;* the Rousbys will foreshadow *Paris in London* in some remarkable electric tableaux; and other entertainers will include Tom Woottwell, Victoria Monks, Albert Le Fre, Lucy Clarke, Ara, Zebra, and Vora, Hamilton Hill, the New York Nippers, Baker and Balfe, Edna Thelma, Jack Charman, Georgina Leonard, Frank Seeley and the Sisters Oswald. Pictures on Ruffell's Bioscope will also be seen.

Mr. J. L. Graydon's company contains such popular favourites as Lieutenant Travis, the Leonards, Arthur Reece, Harry Weldon, Charles Baldwin's comedians in *The Bank Clerks*, Fyne and Hurley, Vincent, Sisters Pine, Fielding and Hall, Baby Hunter, Molly Doon, the Great Northern Troupe, Thomas E. Finglas, Wal Phillips, Amy Ellie and company, Hague and Russell, Amy Sullivan, Collings Trio, and Dorothy Veld.

At the Canterbury the holiday company is headed by George Robey; and comedy will also be provided by T. E. Dunville, Poluski Brothers, Happy Fanny Fields, Will Van Allen, Jack Lorimer, Harry Randall, and Harry Tate and company in *Motoring*. Other excellent turns include the Casino Comedy Four, Florrie Gallimore, Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel's company, in *Three of a Kind*, and Alice Hollander.

The Paragon Easter audiences will be entertained by Clark and Hamilton, comedy duo; Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, in *A Zoological Comedy*, in two scenes; Verno and Voyce; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes; the Sisters Caselli, speciality dancers; Harry Tate and company, in *Motoring;* Jessie Preston, comedienne; the Carina Sisters, in an artistic musical mélange; Frank Seeley, comedian; Daisy Dormer, coon impersonator; Amber Austa, comedienne and dancer; and Madoline Rees, comedienne.

At the Islington Empire Mr. Walter Gibbons presents the Six Brothers Luck in *Dwarfland*, a variant of the famous legend, "The Yellow Dwarf." Variety turns will be submitted by Harry Champion, Kitty Wager, the New York Nippers, G. H. Elliott, Dora Martini, Tom Woottwell, and Mezzetti and Mora. Pictures of "Sport in Switzerland" will also be shown.

At the Hammersmith Palace, Mr. J. C. Coe's capital Easter company is headed by the one and only Chirgwin. The comic singers will include George Bastow, Charles Austin, and Jack Pleasant. Miss Ella Shields will renew most pleasant impressions in her songs; and other turns will include Reilly and Taylor, Thos. Finglass, Lily Black, Phillips and Terry, Nipper Lane, Rosy Revell, Cordyn's Dogs, the Herald Comedy Four, Doody and Wright, the Mackweys, F. V. St. Clair, Musical Schafers, and the Edisonograph.

The Chelsea Palace puts forth as a leading feature of the holiday bill Fred Karno and company in their military burlesque *The Thirsty First*. Mr. Oswald Williams will present his original illusions for the first time in London; and the stars of the bill are Mr. George Bastow, Miss Victoria Monks, and Miss Rachel Lowe. Other popular turns are the Tally-Ho Trio, Lucy Clarke, Edith and Tom Felix, and Bert Byrne.

The following artists will be found in the Royal Standard Easter programme: G. H. Chirgwin, Arthur Lennard, Florence Esdaile, Chas. Bignell, the Northern Troupe, Harry Grey, Queenie Lawrence, Mat Wilkinson and company, in *The Registry Office*, the Delormes, Dick's Comedy Five, Ethel Dunford, Leslie and Loncrain in *A Cat's Eye*, Jack Pleasants, Donna and Cliff, Kitty Chandos, Bros. Curran, Tom Carney, and the Edisonograph.

A big attraction at the Camberwell Palace is Miss Kate Carney and her company in *The Sunday Promenade;* Miss Nellie Wallace will also supply low comedy fun as a single turn; Ernest Shand heads the comic singers; and other entertainments of the stage will be submitted by Sanford and Lyons, George Hyman, Percy Hannon, Chas. Clark, Terry and Bentley, Rose Harvey, Edie Veno, Wm. Lee and company, Zavan and Cecilia de Paso, the McConnells, Eily Adair, and pictures.

Miss Kate Carney and company will also present *The Sunday Promenade* at the Granville, Walham Green. Other turns will be given by George Gilbey, Herbert La Martine, H. G. Prosper, Arthur Lennard, Harry Anderson, A. G. Spry, Ben Albert, Harry Weldon, George Newburn, Alexandra Dagmar, Alice Digby, Lizzie Fletcher, Griff and Alpha, Haldyne Duo, Lovelle Brothers, Rice, Rose, Davis, and Half, and pictures.

Audiences at the South London will be well entertained by Mr. Frank Boyce, Mr. G. H. Elliott, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Miss Margaret Ashton, the Two Graces, Miss Myra Stanfield, the Daintons, and Ruffell's Bioscope.

Easter Monday at the Euston will be well spent in the company of Harry Ford, Winifred Hare, John Lawson and company in *The King's Minister*, Keen and Waller, Amy Clevere, the Musical Jees, the Northern Troupe, Fred Earle, and the Sisters Wingrove.

Starring at the Ealing Hippodrome will be Mendel, the blind pianist. Mr. A. C. Lilly and company will be seen in the favourite sketch *Drummed Out*, and other attractions will be supplied by Albert Le Fre, Tom Leamore, Carlile and Walker, Minnie Mace, Beattie Mayer, and the Five Julians.

At the Grand, Clapham, holiday visitors may be sure of a good laugh when Will Evans appears in "I am a soldier"; Ernie Mayne will parody in his own droll way; Verno and Voyce will be heard in a vocal scena; and other numbers will be provided by such popular artists as Walton and Lester, the Sisters Warner, the Carina Sisters, Bob Hutt, Onda and Artell, Ben Albert, and the bioscope.

The Empress, Brixton, crowds will rejoice in the engagement of John Lawson and company, in the weird playlet, *The Monkey's Paw;* Arthur Rigby will extract laughter by his amusing business in "The Married Men's March"; and in a bright contingent of entertainers will be found Arthur Lennard, Florence Esdaile, H. G. Prosper, Sterling and Love, Victor Travers, Katie Butler, the Brothers Bright, Edie King, Ike Scott and Son, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, the Astley Troupe, and the pictures.

Mr. Arthur Laceby, who was recently seen in *Major Barbara* at the Court Theatre, remains over Easter at the Lyceum; Simms and Simms figure in their quaint musical act; Frank Lawton, the original mixed ale pugilist in *The Belle of New York*, will entertain with his whistling solos; Clara Walters, Smaun Sing Phoo, Billy Williams, the Brothers Etharien, and some interesting pictures, are also in Mrs. Barrasford's holiday scheme of amusement.

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Leeds Tivoli Collecting Box	108
Dr. Walford Bodie	100
Wm. Morton	63
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mannering	25
Johnny Holland	21
P. Madden	21
G. H. Chirgwin	21
Mr. Pat Doherty	21
Charles Weldon	20
Nellie Wilson	10½
Bros. Webb	10
Bostons	5
Andie Caine	3
Lydia Dudley	1
Marie Gautier	1
Fred Ewing Albini	1
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Collected by Regan and Ryan, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, £1 1s.

Ada Reeve	5	Patty Yole	2½
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Fred Kitchen	1	Allen Dinning	1
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Fred Kitchen, jun.	1	J. Grahame	1
Cossie Kitchen	1	Tom Bowling	1
Gladys Kitchen	1	J. Begg	1
Tom Buxton	1	J. B. Helm	1
Janet Reeves	1	A. Brown	1
Dudley Powell	1	Barney Gordon	1
Leah Morris	1	Kate Forster	1
Ben. F. Rosenthal	1	Cossie Noel	1
Chas. Collins	1	Cain and Abel	1
Sam. Hawley	1	King Cole	1
Capt. Scott	1	B. Crabb	1
H. Lappo	1	H. C. Myers	1
J. Gass	1	J. Hart	1
Bert Landeck	1	F. Kitchen, minor	1

Collected by "Griff," £1 10s.

Griff	1	Griff's Mother	1
Mrs. Griff	1	Griff's Sister	1
Harry Griff	1	Griff's Other Sister	1
George Griff	1	Griff's Brother	1
John Griff	1	Alpha Griff	1
Victor Griff	1	Omega Griff	1
Winifred Griff	1	Eldest Griff	1
Griff, senior	1	Youngest Griff	1
Griff, junior	1	First Griff	1
The Straight Griff	1	Second Griff	1
The Great Griff	1	Third Griff	1
The Only Griff	1	Fourth Griff	1
Griff's Pupils	1	Fifth Griff	1
The Original Griff	1	Sixth Griff	1
Griff's Father	1	Seventh Griff	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Solo, £1 3s.

Hetty King	5	A. Lester	1
F. Maguire	1	Tom Lowen	1
M. Anderson	1	Isabelle Dillon	5
S. Da Silva	1	F. Lefranc	1
J. Schofield	1	Fred Solo	5
C. Wallun	1		

Collected by Karr and Kooney, Grand Theatre, Brighton, £2.

Annie Meyers	1	E. Cutler	2½
Edgar Budden	1	Allan Wye	1
Rosalie Jacobi	1	A. S. Betts	1
Aggie Fenton	1	L. M. Woolf	1
Ada Vestrais	1	Mrs. K. R.	1
Winifred Norman	1	Johnnie Wilkinson	1
L. W. Lester	1	Signor Camera	1
G. H. Drake	1	J. Lewis	1
Ernest Carpenter	1	H. Dixon	1
Freddy	1	F. M. Phillips	1
Harold Betts	1	Monti De Cooke	1
H. R.	1	Chris. Pell	1
B. Court	1	H. G. Perks	1
Ethel Campbell	1	Harry Karr	2½
J. D. Newton	1	Walter Kooney	2½
Kitty Clinton	1	Sisters Pine	2½
Ruby and Laws	2		

Collected by Frazer and Mac, £2 12s. 6d.

Frazer and Mac	2	John Allison	1
Gladys Frazer	1	Rohda Bros.	2
Frank C. Frazer	1	Mr. and Mrs.	
Frank Martin	1	F. Maxwell	2
Frank Quigg	1	Joe and Jenny	1
Mrs. Robinson	1	J. Roland	1
Chas. Warner	1	Frank Leonard	1
Lilly Anderson	1	J. Cunningham	1
Minnie Anderson	1	A Bo Kan	1
J. D. McGregor	1	A. M. Holmes	1
B. Iles	1	Ledden and Heywood	2
Harry Clifford	1	G. Rhone	1
Hardeene	1	H. Griff	1
Chas. Fisher	1	W. H. Clemart	1
Mrs. Fisher	1	Lux's Dogs	1
Luigi Gargani	1	Gallando	1
Maude Rose	1	J. W. Riley	1
Henry Butcher	1	J. Mendel	2½
Geo. Green	1	Mr. and Mrs.	
Givani Cristie	1	Jeane Priver	2
Geo. Vickery	1	Mitzi Streing	1
Vi Esdaile	1	Erna Harrison	1
Ethel Esdaile	1	Mina Fisher	1
Will Collins	1	Adalfinia Dillmer	1

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £2 10s.

Horace Wheatley	21	Will King	1
Terrance Wheatley	1	John Camp	1
Ellen Wheatley	1	W. Hill	1
Norah Wheatley	1	Jas. E. Donegan	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Tom Hughes	1
H. Wheatley, jun.	1	P. Fairbairn	1
E. Garbutt	1	A. Hopter, T.A.	1
Mrs. Garbutt	1	Meier and Mora	1
C. Henderson	1	Dona Mealy	1
Morris	1	Harry Herald	1
T. E. Finglas	1	Tom Packer	1
William Hargreaves	1	Abe Mellay	1
Cavern	1	Fred Laurel	1
Fred Walker	1	Frank Leon	1
F. Lyons	1	Joe Lawrence	1

Collected by Harry Conlin, Esq., £1 16s. 6d.

Harry Conlin	2½	Marguerite Broadfoote	2½
Rosie Coleman	2½	Lily Black	1
Bob Selvidge	1	Alf. Fry	1
Fred Fowler	1	Fred Wood	1
Katie May	1	Gus Harris	1
Cissy Iris	1	J. W. Whiteman	1
Harry Nelson	1	Alexandra Thomson	1
Emmie Franks	1	Danl. Rutherford	1
Fred E. Terry	1	S. Pincus	1
Fred Calvert	1	Fred Balchin	1
Bowery Boys	1	Katie May	1
Billy McClain	1	Mrs. Balchin	1
J. Pardoe	1	Frank Cumminger	1
W. Pardoe	1	Fred Land	1
John Othen, jun.	1	Geo. Penn	1
Frank Woodville	1		
Tom Ardell	1		

Collected by Miss Daisy Morell, H. A. Jordison's Pantomime, 15s.

Daisy Morell	2	Miss Dolly Cullen	1
Rowland Hill	2	Miss Ray Ford	1
Charlie Martell	1	Elsie Jordison	1
Arthur Stratton	1	Thomas Hargraves	1
Madge Daly	1	Charles Deetrich	1
Nancy Thornton	1	Merquis Bolton	1
David Poole	1		

Collected by Baroux and Bion, 13s.

Baroux and Bion		Ford and Barris	2
John R. Val	1	Tom Gilbert	1
Chas. A. Stephenson	1	Fred Land	1
Ernest Lashbrook	1	Grace Morton	1

Collected by Walton and Lester, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, 16s.

Walton and Lester	5	Deane Tribune	1
Percy Yorke	1	E. Edmonds	1
Arthur Poole	1	F. Zola	1
Wal Croft	1	May Marton	1
Ivan Berlyn	1	Stella Tribune	1
Harry Tribune	1	Daisy Stratton	1

Collected by Mr. James Brady, 9s.

Ernest Ball	1	J. Woods	1
Ethel Dunford	1	M. Anderson	1
"Zaid"	1	Sam Jones	1
E. W. Manning	1	James Brady	1
D. J. Banks	1		

Collected by Eugene and Willie, P. Davey's Puss in *Boots* Panto., 16s.

Marie Kildare	1	Ernest Noble	1
Nellie Groves	1	Leslie Digby	1
Maude Brockwell	1	Robert Entwistle	1½
Dollie Shaw	1	Folkestone Police	½
H. W. Rowland	1	George Mallett	1
McCann's Dogs	1	Harry Gold	1
Arthur Royce	1	Eugene and Willie	2
Wyn Weaver	1		

Collected by Miss Maud Mortimer, 34s.

G. Norton	1	Alf. Bishop	1
W. J. Churchill	5	W. H. J.	1
H. Calver	1	Billy Closs	1
Bert Burnell	1	A Friend	1
Billy Barlow	1	James Chippendale	1
J. H. Whittaker	2	L. C.	1
Jack Davenport	5	Frederick Ross	1
Walter Gillman	1	Maude Mortimer	5
Boris Fridkin	5		

Collected by Barrett and Knowles, 25s.

George F. Ide	1	Madge Sinclair	1
Harry Barrett	1	Louie Mavis	1
Jack Knowles	1	Malcolm Scott	1
José Collins	1	J. P. Wilson	1
Birdie Sutherland	1	K. A. Hutchison	1
Alice Russon	1	Bob Potter	1
Paul Knox	1	W. B. Barratt	1
Harry Laudy	1	Arthur Sutcliffe	1
Bessie Featherstone	1	Billy Ireland	1
Syd May	1	Uncle Scott	1
Alice Belmore	1	P. C. Murray	1
Dorothy Ide	1	Max Rose	1
Jeanie Christoe	1		

Collected by Mr. Charles Beanland, 22s. 6d.

Chas. Beanland	1	Harry Tomlinson	1
Anon	1	Henris	1
Boys	1	Mrs. Fred Cary	1
G. Cerney	1	E. S. Salambo	1
Belmonts	2	C. M. J.	1
F. Armstrong	1	Harry Du Gros	1
E. Korrie	1	Eddie Stidder	1
A Friend	1½	Tom Bonnetti	1
J. Zedora	1	Gus Richards	1
J. C. Skelsey	½	Harry Trevor	1

Collected by Ernie Mayne, Esq., 9s.

Ernie Mayne	1	Daisy Dormer	1
St. John Madley	1	Lina Vercli	1
Geo. Formby	1	Robert Pender	1
Drew and Alders	2	Maggie Pender	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, £1 17s.

Bob Selvidge	2½	Barney Dixon	2
Fred Fowler	2½	Mrs. Selvidge	1
Martin Conway	1	Frank Gee	1
Joe Waldron	1	Will Gee	1
B. Nicholls	1	Mrs. Martin Conway	1
F. Borland	1	Fox	1
Harry Dent	1	Mr. Clemart	1
Fanny Harris	1	Mr. Charles Weldon	1
Miss Walker	1	Baby Conlin	1
John Tiller	1	Griff	1
John L. Tiller	1	Summerton	1
Mrs. Conlin	1	Juno Salmo	1
F. W. Balchin	1	Bessie Cohen	1
Mrs. Balchin	1	Harrogate Friend	1
Harry Conlin	1	Sidney Bacon	1
Carlton	1	Harry Elliston	2

Collected by Harris and Worth, 15s.

Harris and Worth	2	Mabel Higson	1
Chas. Russell	1	M. Mamie Iris	1
Billy Keene	1	Syd Dooley	1
Fred Dry	1	George Coopers	1
Will Letters	1	Carrie Mack	1
Johnny Worman	1	Les B. Americaines	1
Mr. Rutt	1	W. J. Williams	1

Collected by Mr. T. C. Callaghan, 10s.

T. C. Callaghan	2	Mike Cray	1
W. Dane	1	Griff	1
J. Waldron	1	Alpha	1
A. H.	1	Florrie St. Clair	2

Collected by Mr. Ernest Shand, £1 2s.

K. Vesey	1	P. Davies	1
Ruby Forbes	1	Gladys Dare	1
Meg Hampton	1	L. Kinross	1
Ethel Dunbar	1	M. Molloy	1
Enid Errol	1	Alexandre	1
H. C. B.	1	N. E.	1
Brabourne	1	Hughes	1
Herbert	1	Ernest Shand	1
T. W. Wood	1	Ditto	1
A. Linton	1	La Même	1
Bee Duppa	1	Idem	1

Collected by Sandford and Lyons, 24s.

Neil Kenyon	1	Ted Fields	1
Harry Zietz	1	Morny Cash	1
Albert Le Fre	1	Mrs. Morny Cash	1
Lil Hawthorne	1	Madge Daly	1
Geo. McNally	1	John Worman	1
John McNally	1	Tom E. Gilbey	1
Arthur Haytor	1	Dave Poole	1
Colin Coop	1	Chas. Parker	1
E. T. S.	1	Vivian Munro	1
Geo. Miller	1	Willie Edelsten	1
Dave Miller	1	Geo. Abel	1
Mr. Smithers, M.B.C.	1	Will Letters	1

Collected by Mr. Frank Dunlop, 20s.

Mdlle. De Rose	2½	Frank Dunlop	2½
J. H. Hawtrey	2½	Fanny Hartland	2½
Dick Thomas	1	Houpla	1
Jack Kershaw	1	Steve Cooke	1
Syd Benson	1	Geo. Burton	1
Geo, Hecla	1	Miss Adele Roze	1
Rose Parreyer	1	Miss Zenapana	1

Collected by Fred Herbert, Esq., 14s.

Fred Herbert	1	C. W. Porter	1
R. Millett	1	Roma and Romani	1
Hughes and Elliott	1	The Rubens	1
T. E. Dunville	1	Hanvarr	2
Jim Howard	1	Anna Lee	2
Ronald Bayne	1	Gus Dallon	1

Collected by Mr. Chas. Clifford, 8s.

Charles Clifford	1	Kate Moffat	1
George Essmann	1	T. Hulbert	1
Oldbury Brough	1	H. J.	1
Graham Moffat	1	Georgie Butler	1

Collected by Swan and Vesta, 5s.

Swan and Vesta	1	Oscard Armino	1
Primavesi	1	Charles Danton	1
Fred Wood	1		

Collected by the Danbys, Peter Thompson's *Babes in the Wood* Co., 25s.

Kioto	5	Peter Thompson	5
The Danbys	5	Wallace Childs	1
Bill Bill	1	William Attfield	1
Geo. Collins	1	George E. Mudd	1
Pink Pyjamas	1	Fred Danvers	1
Anon	1	Billy Pakeman	1
J. Templar Ellis	1		

Collected by the Bowery Boys, Grand Theatre, Leeds, 25s. 6d.

Bowery Boys	5	Fred Cowman	1
Harry Conlin	1	Alf Howard	1
Fred E. Terry	1	G. H. Elliott	1
Fred Fowler	1	J. W. Rowley	5
Carlton	2½	Fred W. Balchin	1
Rose and Calvert	1	Hilda Jacobeen	5

Collected by Miss Nellie Wallace, 25s.

Bert Williams	1	W. F. Munroe	1
Bert Woodward	1	Emma Don	1
Arthur Danbys	1	Three Seabornes	1
Richardson Taylor	1	Kate Lynd	1
Nuttall Cross	1	C. Stewart	1
George Abel	1	Norton Greenop	1
James Stewart	1	W. H. Liddy	1
Chas. Dixon	1	Nellie Wallace	10

Collected by Miss Maud Beaumont, Peter Thompson's *Babes in the Wood* Co., 16s.

Kioto	5	Mr. Peter Thompson	5
Geo. Collins	1	Mr. J. W. Childs	1
Mr. Liddy	1	Miss Maud Beaumont	2
Anon	1		

Collected by The Clevelands, 23s.

F. Cleveland	1	J. Sary	1
Mrs. Cleveland	1	A. Knight	1
A. Silbon	1	J. D. Hunter	1
Dale and O'Malley	1	Dave Bentley	1
D. Tubb	1	Fred C. Dew	1
H. Vivian Fisher	1	F. B. Farrant	1
Florrie Cleveland	1	R. Whiteley	1
J. Wood	1	E. De Vere	1
Tom Branson	1	Harry Weldon	1
C. Carey	1	Minnie Duncan	1
W. E. Urquhart	1	Arthur E. Godfrey	1
H. Bauerman	1		

Collected by Mr. Imro Fox, 17s.

Max Copland	1	Mr. T. F. Dun	1
Arthur Dandoe	1	Harry Lauder	1
Imro Fox	1	Alice Russell	1
Dan Crawley	1	J. C.	1
Paul Knox	1	Mrs. Imro Fox	1
Carl Hertz	1	Alfred Carpenter	1
Mrs. Carl Hertz	1	Conn and Conrad	1
Mr. J. Craig	1	C. C. Bartram	1
Mr. Frayser	1		

Collected by Mr. Alexander, 38s.

Topsy Robina Julian	10	Clara Alexander	1
Johnny Alexander	10	Bob Ralston	1
Harding	2	Ernest Selbini	1
Victor Selbini	2	Lillian Lowe	1
Leola Selbini	2	L. J.	1
Rumbo Austin	2	J. Olrac	1
Alf Gibson	2	C Olrac	1
Harry Gregory	1		

Collected by Miss Ra Leslie, 33s. 6d.

Ethel Ra Leslie	1	St. Helens	1
Phyllis Gibbon	1	C. A. Trevitt	1
Florrie Chester	1	E. Holt	1
Boswells	2	V. Thompson	1
F. Travis	1	L. de Lacey	1
Dan Conroy	1	Miss Brown	1
Frank Evans	1	Mrs. E. Lucas	1
Edinburgh	1	J. Welwyn	1
H. E. Garden	1	Rêné Willoughby	1
Mr. and Mrs. Brown	2	La Tostia	1
Strolling Players	1½	Gertrude Bradshaw	1
Arthur Lee	1	Frank Darwin	1
Ray Wallace	2	Boskelby	1
Vera Thompson	1	Harry Jefferson	1
Lilian Leslie	1	Flo Peirce	1

Collected by Mr. Edward Johnson, 20s.

Bert Johnson	1	"Curly"	1
Will Johnson	1	H. Elton	1
Ed. Johnson	1	Little Ganty	2½
Daisy Martell	1	Madge May	2½
Tom Groves	2	E. Addler	1
H. Sheffield	1	C. C. Bartram	1
J. L. Sheffield	1	W. Ethairien	1
E. de Hague Body	1	Fred Astley	1

Collected by Mr. Will Johnson, 35s. 6d.

Powis Pinder	1	Mrs. Fred Hall	1
Will Johnson	1	Bertha Northam	1
Daisy Martell	1	Les Four Papillons	2
Ed. Johnson	1	Miss Mildred Baker	1½
Bert Johnson	1	Capt. Taylor	1
H. Berlin	1	Fanny Wright	1
Winsley Russell	1	Capt. Gray	2
Tim	1	New York Comedy Four	4
G. V. Arnold	1	G. Messer	1
Geo. Danvers, jun.	1	H. Jno. Burgess	1
May Gurney	1	Mr. Hadsley	1
R. Verdi	1	Will Holmes	1
B. Albert	1	Mac	1
Gilbert Laye	1	Chappell	1
Leonard Hornsey	1		
Fred Hall	1		

Collected by Mr. Lawrence Barclay, 26s.

Lawrence Barclay	5	Lily Lingard	2
Will Poluski	3	Esta Stella	2
Jack Lorrimore	2	E. W. Avery	1
Larry Lewis	1	Rich. Waldon	1
The Monkey	2	Sisters Hall	2
W. Harte	2	Annie Thomas	1
Arch. McDougall	1	Jas. Miller	1

Collected by the New Macs, 20s.

Mrs. T. McNally	1	Mr. Albert Mellor	1
Mr. J. J. McNally	1	Mr. Fred Donaldson	1
Mr. Geo. Mac	1	Mr. Tom Ardell	1
Mr. Jno. Mac	1	Dr. Syntax	1
Miss Jessy Dorrell	1	Mr. Robert Potts	1
Miss Annie Dorrell	1	Mr. Will Gibson	1
Mrs. Morny Cash	1	Mr. J. H. Taylor	1
Mr. Morny Cash	1	Mr. Forbes Russell	1
Mr. Geo. Sandford	1	Mr. Gilbert Martinengo	1
Mr. Geo. Lyons	1		
Mrs. Albert Mellor	1		

Collected by George Collins, 42s. 6d.

Kate Carney	5	Aryama	1
Daisy Dormer	2½	Ethel Dunford	1
Geo. Collins	2½	Jennie Johns	1
Harry Goodson	2½	Inky	1
Harry Speakman	2	W. L. Murray	1
The Danbys	2	Ethel Loftus	1
Bert Frost	1	Percy Oakley	1
One of Those	1	Robb H. Howard	1
Bert Williams	1	Frank Sheilock	1
Bert Woodward	1	Jean Van Dalle	1
Maude Beaumont	1	David Barone	1
Minnie Moran	1	Terras Bros.	1
Harry Leybourne	1	Mersano	1
Sisters Melba	1	H. Atkinson	1
W. J. Ashcroft	1	Kitty Clover	1
Amandus	1	Fred Malcolm	1

Collected by Miss Kathleen Courteney, 27s.

Kathleen Courtney	3	H. A. Luke	1
W. Pegge	2½	C. H. M. Stanley	1
Chas. T. Andrews	2½	X. Y. Z.	1
E. H. Jones	2½	D. Bradley	1
C. G. M.	2½	Little Brother	1
G Duckworth	2	Paris	1
T. F Mathews	2	S. Duncan	1
F. Swift	2	A. J. Cohen	1

Collected by Haig and Novel, 4s.

T. Haig	1	Tom Haig	1
Miss Novel	1	Miss Novel	1

Collected by Mr. James De Voye, 50s.

Billy's Picture Postcards	20	Anon	1
Billy's (Educated Pony's) Box	15	Tom Lloyd	1
James De Voye	5	Grant and Grant	1
W. Emmett	2	Henri Bekker	1
Ariel and Astarte	1	Billy's Groom	1
		Mrs. De Voye	1
		Walter Curtis	1

Collected by the Sisters Terry, 9s.

Maxwell and Frances	2	Marguerite Ismay	1
Minnie Terry	1	Eileen Douglas	1
Bella Terry	1	Mabel Higson	1
Maudie Ford	1	Wee Macgregor	1

Collected by Mr. Dan. Crawley, 5s.

Imro Fox	1	Harry Champion	1
Dan Crawley	1	Lilian Bishop	1
Arthur Dandoe	1		

Collected by Chant and Chant, 12s.

Chant and Chant	2	Harry Lee	1
Wild and Willie	2	C. Hutson	1
A Friend	1	R. Everton	1
Gertrude Mason	1	H. Burns	1
B. Wilde	1	Wm. Ransford	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Rogerson, 20s.

W. B. Kelly	2½	H. W. Gillette	1
Carlotta Levey	2	Mrs. Harry Rogerson	1
Harry Kilburn	1	Miss Amy Rogerson	1
Johnny Fuller	1	Mrs. Whit Rogerson	1
Fred Spencer	1	Master Fred Rogerson	1
James Foreman	1	Master Hal Rogerson	1
Peter Fannan	1	Harry Rogerson	4½

Collected by Mr. Geo. Rapley, 6s.

Geo. Rapley	2	Rosie Archer	1
Woolmer Young	1	Clyo and Rochelle	1
Macdonald Trio	1		

Collected by Miss Ethel Dove, 2s.

Ethel Dove	1	Sisters Brand	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Kitchen, 24s.

J. L. Weisker	1	Little Old Man	8
H. Stevens	1	Fildes	1
W. Poluski, jun.	1	Helm	1
Troughton	1	Hermons	1
Dudley Powell	1	A Friend	1
W. G.	1	Fred Kitchen	1
Harry Lappo	1	Papa Kitchen	1
Landeck	1	Fred Kitchen, jun.	1
Buxton	1		

Collected by Mr. Harry Phydora, 10s.

Harry Phydora	2	R. Wallis	1
Will H. Evans	1	Fanny Wright	1
Harry Gifford	1	Lawrance Gifford	1
M. Espinosa	1	Addie Lennard	1
W. P. Sheen	1		

Collected by Mr. Arthur Elvey, 21s. 6d.

Arthur Elvey	2½	May Ebborn	1
Mrs. A. Elvey	2½	J. Joel	1
Doris Elvey	1	Black Boy	2
Gladys Elvey	1	King's Arms	1
B. Hyman	1	Cris Wordsworth	2
J. Myers	1	Miniature Maria	2½
E. Myers	1	The Equestrian	1
Johnny Harris	1		

Collected by Bliss and Bliss, 16s.

George Bliss	1	Moran-Mareece Qrt.	2
Leo Bliss	1	Cinquevalli	1
Anthy	1	La Danseuse	1
Fred Land	1	Boyd and Gilfain	1
Blake and Granby	1	W E. Haines	1
Kroney Bros.	2	George D'Albert	1
Massona	1	Amber Auste	1

Collected by Tiller's (Minnie Williams) Snowdrops, 42s.

P. D.	2½	Snowdrops	5
A. F. D.	2½	Marian Wood	1
Mr. A. Anderson	6	Emmie Appleton	1
Misses Monkman	2½	Daisy Costin	1
Harry Grell	1	Rose Wade	1
George Le Clerq	5	Elsie Mynne	1
Fred Grey	2½	Alice Donaldson	1
Ben Brown	1	Minnie Williams	1
W. P. Scott	3	Eva FitzSimmons	1
J. McK.	1	Mrs. Geo. Lashwood	2

Collected by Mr. Tony Iveson, 16s.

Tony Iveson	1	Miss Rosebery	1
Alskarno Trio	1	Jas. Benyon	1
Lillian Victoria	1	Rose Cass	1
T. J (Royal Alfred)	1	Mrs. Trapnell	1
F. Tarbuck	1	Jack Boardman	1
The Perkins	1	George Trapnell	1
Carter Livesey	1	Mr. Calthorpe	1
Dusty Rhodes	1	Jerry Langford	1

Collected by Frazer and Mac, 27s. 6d.

Frazer and Mac	2	W. Uessem	2½
Understudy	1	Bowman and Morton	2
Thespian	1	M Bertier	1
Sarah Kirby	1	Alpha	1
S. R. Smith	1	Newhouse	1
Miss Ashby	1	Warden Reed	1
Griff	1	Albert Boiset	1
Emy Müller	1	Frank Boiset	1
Iona	1	Bert Gilbert	1
Bijou Russell	1	Jerry Driscoll	1
A Friend	1	Ryan and Hall	1
Belle Victoria	1	Anna De Gray	1

Collected by Daunton and Shaw Troupe, 10s.

A. Daunton Shaw	1½	Edward Bethell	1
Mrs. A. Daunton Shaw	1½	Frank Hartley	1
Nil Desperandum	1	R. H. Sykes	1
Mick Bishop	1	E. Daunton Shaw	1½
H. Slater	½		

Collected by Mr. Bert Brantford, 12s.

B. Brantford	1	Jimmy Shields	1
Guy Ryder	1	Jimmy Howard	1
Non-Runner	1	F. O'Neil	1
Piquo	1	H. Moore	1
Paulinetti	1	Bro. Dunning	1
Ford Williams	1	W. Haste	1

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, 22s.

Zarmo	1	Barney	1
Jake Friedman	1	H. Chang	1
W. Taylor	1	Streakey	1
Tom Dunmore	1	W. Hutton	1
Mrs. Thos. E. Finglas	1	R. Reynolds	1
Will Vay	1	Jim	1
Fred Lloyd	1	Sam	1
Wm. Garrett	1	W. King	1
Otto and Olga	1	Jack Jowsey	1
A. P. Boswell	1	J. B. Hampson	1
L. Myers	1	Pal	1

Collected by Mr. Gus Garrick, 12s.

Polly Prim	1	A. Anarto	1
Nell Richardson	1	Miss A Kellino	1
Sidney Young	1	Albert Kellino	1
George Mudie	1	Miss Kellino	1
G. Belmore	1	George Kellino	1
Gus Garrick	1	Toy Shop (Hastings)	1
Mrs. Garrick	1	Harry Allister	1
Lily and Jack G.	1	Gus Lennard	1
W. Kellino	1	Roma and Romant	1
Mrs. W. Kellino	1	Harry Ford	1
John Kellino	1	F. Napoli	1

Collected by Miss Marie Weston, 7s.

Marie Weston	1	Lottie	1
Allan Allen	1	Nell	1
Cristo	1	Mary Ellen	1
Sarathaler	1		

Collected by Mr. Arthur Lennard, 140s.

Capt. Woodward	100	Huxter Bros.	2
Sam Glenroy	5	Billy Hobbs	1

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

We congratulate the deputation of the Showmen's Guild that lately made a representation to the London County Council with regard to living-vans on the success of their efforts. As will be seen from the new regulations which we give *in extenso* below, living-vans are permitted on the open spaces under the control of the Council and used by Londoners at holiday times.

The whole body of showmen are under a deep debt of gratitude to their president, the veteran showman George Sanger, and to the hon. organiser, the Rev. T. Horne, and their hon. treasurer, Mr. Pedgrift, of *The Era*, for the great work they have done in safeguarding the interests of the show business.

Showmen were fully aware of the serious issues at stake so cogently expressed in one of the arguments used by the president in his speech before the committee, "that, if London led the way in a reactionary movement against the liberty and business privileges of showmen, other public bodies would speedily follow suit, and the prohibition of living-vans would become general throughout the country."

The Parks and Open Spaces Committee were undoubtedly most favourably impressed not only by the matter but by the charm of the veteran showman's speech, and the members of the deputation left the committee room buoyed up with the confident expectation that the Council would give every possible consideration to the justice of their demand, and this expectation has been fully justified by the successful results.

We have reason to believe that the imposition of the rule prohibiting living-vans was occasioned by the thoughtless and utterly selfish conduct of a few individuals who are unworthy of the name showman, and are merely hangers-on of the fairground business. These people forget that by their selfish and reprehensible conduct they involve the large and respectable body of fairground traders in public contempt, and bring them under vexatious restrictions of public bodies and officials. It will be for the peace and well-being of the whole body of amusement caterers when these people are brought to recognise that the local authorities must not be unduly provoked, and that all necessary regulations for the public health and the proper control of open-air amusements must be respected and honourably carried out by showpeople.

For sixteen years past the Showmen's Guild has defended the trade interests, the domestic life, and the good, honest character of the great body of itinerant providers of popular amusements with severe impartiality. This work has been done as much for the non-subscribers and non-members as for those who have given priceless time and large means to the defence movement.

It has very frequently happened that individuals without any authority to speak in the name of the organised showmen have used the name of the Guild in threatening legal proceedings against local authorities when the authorities have been in the right. This is an abuse of the Guild's protective work, and it ought to be clearly understood that only when authorised by the committee should the authority of the Guild be used by individual showmen.

From time to time we have ventured to speak plainly with regard to the care that should be taken to keep all living-vans in such a condition of scrupulous cleanliness that suspicion would be at once disarmed, and that the people would say: "Come and see how beautifully homelike these vans of the showmen are." Of course this homily only applies to a very small and fast-diminishing section of people who abuse the name of travelling showmen and bring disgrace upon an old and honourable profession.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.
Parks Department, 11, Regent Street, S.W.
April 11, 1906.

NOTICE TO LICENCE HOLDERS.

The Parks and Open Spaces Committee have carefully considered the representation made to them by the Deputation from the Showmen's Guild on March 16, 1906, with regard to the use of dwelling vans in connection with shows, &c., at holiday times, at Blackheath, Hampstead Heath, and Wormwood Scrubbs, and as an experiment have decided to relax the present regulation prohibiting the use of such vans, subject to the undermentioned regulations:—

1. Only proper dwelling vans, ordinarily used for living purposes and approved by the Chief Officer of the Parks Department, will be allowed on the places where shows are permitted.
2. The sites occupied by dwelling vans must be kept clean and tidy to the satisfaction of the Council's officers.
3. No litter or refuse of any kind may be deposited on the open spaces.
4. Arrangements for sanitary accommodation, and for the supply of drinking water, are to be made to the satisfaction of the Officers in charge of the open spaces.
5. The use of dwelling vans will be confined to showmen, and will not be extended to the holders of licences for stalls, barrows, or animals.
6. The dwelling vans must be kept within the area of ground indicated in the licence. The holders of licences for cocoanut shies, roundabouts, swings, and refreshment tents must pay a fee of 10s. a year for a dwelling van in addition to the fee for the licence.
7. The dwelling vans must be kept tidy in appearance, and no advertisements except those relating to the shows for which licences are held may be displayed thereon.
8. The occupants of dwelling vans must conform to any regulations communicated to them by the Council's officers, and must not do anything which would be a nuisance to those frequenting the open space.
9. Dwelling vans must be removed not later than 11 a.m. on the days following those to which licences extend.
10. Horses used in connection with shows will not be allowed on the open spaces after 11 a.m.
11. Sleeping in tents, &c., or outside dwelling vans is forbidden.
12. The licence of any person not conforming to the above regulations will be cancelled, and the amount (if any) paid in respect of the licence will be forfeited.

Any licence holder desiring to have a dwelling van in accordance with the above conditions must forward to me, by return of post, the fee of 10s. payable under regulation 6. The holders of licences for side-shows must keep the dwelling van within the area already allotted to them or pay at the usual rate for the extra space they occupy.

JNO. J. SEXBY,
Chief Officer.

We are sorry to hear of a serious accident to a well-known Birmingham showman, Mr. George Ford. He was travelling with his living-wagon near Over Whitacre when the vehicle was accidentally overturned. Obtaining assistance, he proceeded to set the van again on its wheels, and, whilst thus engaged, the sustaining rope broke, and the wagon toppled over again, pinning the unfortunate showman to the ground. When extricated from his perilous position, he was found to be seriously hurt.

A gentleman of the town kindly conveyed the injured man in his motor-car immediately to the General Hospital, Birmingham, where he received every possible attention. It was found upon examination that he had sustained a serious fracture of the left thigh and a compound fracture of the right ankle. The poor fellow now lies in a critical condition in the institution to which he was so quickly conveyed.

Towyn kept its fair in grand style with the following shows and fairground varieties:—Baker's circus, Farrell's coliseum of varieties, Huting's temple of magic, and Wright's fine art academy. The whole of the machines and a number of the minor novelties were provided by Charles Farrell, the enterprising lessee and caterer of this circuit, and included flying motors, galloping horses, two sets of steam swings, one set of big boats, two shooting concerns, and two throwing games. The other caterers were Turner, Fossett, and Wright, with shooters; Greatorex, Wright, Dobson, Fossett, and Turner, with varieties and throwing games.

A new cycle factory will shortly be commenced at Redditch, and showmen and others should make a note and pay a visit to this progressive town. There are several large manufacturing villages in the district—viz., Astwood Bank, Studley, Alvechurch, Feckenham, etc., the market day being Saturday. The show-ground is situated in the centre of the town. The annual pleasure fair will be held on Aug. 4, 6, 7, and 8. Headless Cross Great Cherry Wakes are fixed for July 13 to 18.

T. Jennings and Sons' elaborately electrically-fitted gallopers, with attendant side-shows, have pitched upon the Broad Quay, Bath, for the holiday season, and crowds are being attracted to enjoy the capital sport provided by these enterprising showmen.

Sir Robert Fossett and Son's Circus and Hippodrome has been giving excellent performances at Alcester, Feckenham, and Droitwich. At Alcester the workhouse inmates were given a free treat.

Horse Sales or Fairs will take place on April 24 at Bromsgrove, on May 1, 2, and 3 at Wrexham, on April 17 at Shipston-on-Stour, on June 22 at Shipston-on-Stour, on June 25 at Bromsgrove, and on June 26 at Pershore. A Foresters' fête is fixed for July 2 at Inkberrow, Worcestershire.

The fairs ahead for next week are: Birkenhead, Blackheath, Cheltenham, Clevedon, Exeter, Gainsborough, Garston, Halesowen, Hinckley, Hockham, Jarrow-on-Tyne, Luton, Malvern, Midsomer Norton, Morecambe, New Brighton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newmarket, Northampton, Northwich, Portsmouth, Richmond (Surrey), Richmond (Yorks.), Rothwell Feast, Rushden, Ryde, Seaham Harbour, Selby, Southport, Stafford, Thornaby, Torquay, Tring, Tunbridge Wells, Wormwood Scrubbs, Folkestone, Hitchin, Romsey, Thame, Wareham, Barnard Castle, Lincoln, Bedford, Yarmouth, Bicester, Devizes, St. Austell, Tyldesley, and Chesham. In Scotland, Hamilton; and in Wales, Aberdare, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Mold, Newport (Monmouth), and Pontypridd.

The spring fair at Pendlebury, near Manchester, is evidently growing in popularity, and in the early days of the show business season supplies an evidently much-felt want. For the amusement of the people of this large industrial district the following shows and fair-ground amusements were located on the market ground: Dennis' circus and variety empire; Colonel Clarke's electric coliseum of animated pictures and varieties; Mitchell's motor-cars; Hurst's flying ostriches; Richard's steam yachts; Holland's whirling the whirl; Harrison's slipping the slope; and Shuttleworth's three concerns—the juvenile motor-cars, the big wheel, and park swings. The rifle ranges and shooting saloons were provided by Booth and Henshaw. The minor novelties, variety stalls, throwing games, &c., by Messrs. Brannan, Lorenzo, Henshaw, Street, Freear, and others.

From Middlesbrough we have news of the following shows having been located on the market ground: Crow's cinématograph theatre; Davies' model show, a working coal mine; galloping horses and steam sets by Rich, Crow, Small, and Culline; big boats and swings by Watkins, Twilley, Rich, and Cullin; rifle saloons and bottle batteries by Thompson, Crow, Harper, Twilley, and Watkins; varieties and throwing games by Williams, Nicholls, Rich, Twilley, and Watkins.

The amusements at Bridport Fair were provided by the local caterer, Townsend, and included a set of steam horses, three sets of park swings, three rifle galleries, Emma and coker sheets, with stalls, and other fair-ground attractions.

SENATOR J. LEO.

One of the younger generation of showmen, whose career on the road has been a series of unbroken successes. The son of a well-known and highly-respected Blackburn tradesman, he was educated for a skilled trade, but early in life earned considerable appreciation as an amateur ventriloquist, conjurer, and gymnast. After a preliminary venture in conjunction with a partner on the variety stage, he started his one-man show at the fairs, beginning with a ground booth and himself as the living ventograph, a clever variation of ventriloquism. In connection with this show, he added various mysteries, such as the flying lady, Fatima, Galatea, and La Morte. Then for two seasons he ran an entirely novel concern, the portable Egyptian hall, introducing to the fair grounds the theosophic and Buddhistic dark séance, the principal features of which were reincarnation and dematerialisation.

In a former notice of Mr. Leo and his showground enterprise, we paid an eminently just tribute to his adaptability as well as remarkable ability, and we ventured to anticipate for him a brilliant future. This anticipation has been more than justified, for, after several years of persevering effort to introduce entirely original and special business, he has come to the conclusion that the show of to-day and the show of to-morrow is the cinématograph. So that a year ago found James Leo starting out with the latest model of the cinématograph theatre. This has been brought up to date by the latest novelties and improvements in both organ and electric light installation.

James Leo has thrown himself most heartily into all movements for the betterment of the showman and his avocation in life. He is a member of both the Showmen's Guild and the Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union, a keen man of business, full of sympathy and kindly charity, and is universally esteemed by all sorts and conditions of show people.

LOVELY BROWN HAIR.

Grey, or faded hair, can be easily restored to a Golden Brown, Auburn Brown, or to almost any other desired shade of Brown, by "Condy's Fluid," which is non-poisonous, and harmless in every way.

The fullest possible Directions for obtaining the various natural shades of brown hair, and copies of a large number of Valuable Testimonials, can be obtained from Condy's Fluid Works, 65, Goswell-road, London, E.C. Insist on having "Condy's Fluid." Sold by all Chemists, 1s. 8oz.; 20oz., 2s.

The Lady's Pictorial, The Gentlewoman, The Lady, and other High Class Ladies' Journals strongly recommend the use of "Condy's Fluid" for restoring the hair when grey or faded.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

By the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain to the Showman's Guild.
(Copyright.)

"TRUTH WILL OUT."

Yorkshire showmen will remember that about thirty years ago there appeared on the fairground a new showman, Professor Bockler. He brought a clever variant of the then great novelty, Pepper's Ghost Illusion. Bockler was a man of original ideas, and to aid him in the carrying out of his original notions he was ready to pay good money to clever people. Amongst his company were the clever Brothers Panto, whose early life has already formed the subject of a showman story.

Withing the limits of our purpose we cannot go into minute details concerning the things that led up to the trouble that lies at the very heart of this story. It is enough to say that Bockler had conceived a most virulent hatred of the two clever young men who but a few months before he had gone out of his way to entice by the offer of a big salary from excellent employment.

The quarrel between Bockler and the Panto Brothers came to a head at Armley Feast, and to everybody's amazement the two young men found themselves cast into gaol to answer a charge of theft brought against them by their employer, Bockler.

This was a veritable thunderbolt to all the old travellers who had known the Pantos from their childhood, and so great was the indignation towards Bockler, and so strong a conviction in the innocence of the young showmen, that a fund was immediately started to provide them with legal assistance.

The Pantos were not without friends outside the showmen world, and to the great delight of their showmen friends one of the Leeds Parish Church Clergy, who had known the Pantos on and off for a considerable time, came forward to testify to their good character.

It was a crowded court when the Bockler charge was preferred against the young showmen, and it was with the greatest possible satisfaction that the rebutting evidence as to good character given by their curate friend was received by the court.

The story of the theft as told by Bockler was as follows:—"About six months ago I engaged the Brothers Panto at a salary which entitled me to all their services. When they had been with me some little time I suspected James Panto of taking sketches and plans of my show novelties; in particular, he sketched the most important part—'The Dark Chamber'—of the ghost illusion. I charged him with this, and he answered me that it was impossible for him to take part in the illusion without getting at the secret or professional wrinkle of the trick. Of course, I admitted that; but what I charged him with, and I had reason to believe the truth of the accusation, was that he had prepared sketches with a view to selling them to a business rival.

"Of course, this led to serious words between us, and from that time on up to Armley Feast we never got on together, so at last I determined to dismiss them with a week's wages, sending them about their business at a moment's notice.

"It was after they left the show that I missed two valuable Fantoccini figures. I immediately followed them, and caught up with them at the Central Station, where I charged them with the theft, and, sure enough, my figures were found in one of their boxes hidden amongst their dress togs."

At this point the solicitor for the Pantos began his cross-examination of the prosecutor.

"You say rightly, sir, that the figures were hidden among the theatrical togs, and the point of our inquiry is, Why were they hidden, and by whom? It is my case that my clients deny all knowledge of the presence of these figures in their box. They assert that, whoever placed them there, they did not. Now, sir, I put it you, did you place the figures there yourself?"

Quite sternly the solicitor gazed into the face of the accuser, and the accuser quailed before that penetrating look. Manifestly breaking under the suddenness of the attack, he gasped, "No."

Then came the climax of the drama, and from the most unexpected quarter. Standing in the midst of a group of show-women was the fourteen-year-old daughter of Professor Bockler.

Clear and distinct these words rang out from the girl's lips: "Yes you did, father, yes you did; I saw you do it."

As may be imagined, the excitement was intense as the presiding magistrate asked the girl to tell what she knew without fear to the court.

The amazement and dismay of Bockler can also be left to the imagination, for the malignity mirrored upon his face was beyond the power of words to convey. He became a madman when his own child entered the witness box to tender her unexpected evidence, and it took two stalwart policemen all their time to restrain him from doing bodily harm to the child or to himself.

"I will ask you," said the magistrate, "if you understand what is meant by taking the oath—or, rather, I should say, do you understand what is meant by speaking the truth?"

"Yes, sir, I do, and the man who has taught me to understand and to speak the truth is Tom Panto, who is now charged with stealing what I know he did not steal, for I saw my father take the two figures out of the locker in the caravan, and hide them away in Tom Panto's box, and I heard him say, 'They are leaving me, but no one else shall have them, for I will see to that.'"

The magistrate said, "Thank you, my child, I believe you have spoken the truth, and I want you to tell me now, why is it that you have gone against your own father, and spoken up for these young men?"

The girl answered quite simply, "It is, sir, because I have known them to be kind and good and God-fearing men, who have taught me and other children to fear God and speak the truth."

"You are a brave girl, and, though you may have to suffer for having spoken the truth, you will always be glad that you were brave enough to do it."

At this point there was an outburst of the too long pent-up excitement of a crowded court, and it was more than the usher could do to suppress it. With a wave of his hand for silence, the magistrate said first to Bockler, "Out of the mouth of your own child, of whose ability to understand and to speak the truth we have no doubt, you have been proved one of the most despicable villains that it is possible for society to be afflicted with. With such men as you no man's character is safe, and I shall make it my duty to lay this case before the Public Procecutor with a view to your punishment."

Then, turning to the young men in the dock, he said, "It is with the utmost satisfaction that I welcome the complete vindication of your character. It is a mere truism to say that you leave this court without a stain upon your character. There is more than that to be said in this case. Your true character has been tried in the fire as gold and silver is tried, and it comes out all the purer for the testing. It is such men as you that bring honour and respect to any walk or profession of life. It is such men as your accuser who bring disgrace upon the most honourable profession with which they are associated."

The return of the Panto Brothers to Armley Feast was a veritable triumphal procession. The news of the dramatic scene in the magistrate's court spread like wildfire, and the end was one of those tremendous upheavals of popular justice that stagger the quieter minds in old countries, but are of frequent occurrence in newer lands. How the people gathered and who marshalled them was never known; nor, indeed, did there seem to be any need for generalship. The Feast was over, and most of the shows packed up and ready for departure to the next fair on the round. Bockler's show, owing to the trial, still stood, and was the target for the angry crowd.

Now, it fortunately happened that the Brothers Panto were at tea in Sam Pickulls' van when the roar of the crowd on stern justice bent reached them. "Good Heavens," cried Sam, "go and show yourselves, lads, or the people in their fury will pull down Bockler's show about their heads."

Mounting the run-up on Bockler's front, the Panto Brothers faced the crowd. They had faced many crowds, but here was a new experience—an angry, surging, tumultuous mob.

Tom Panto was equal to the occasion: "I know what you feel, you good Yorkshire folk, you want to do justice, and to wreak vengeance upon the man who did the evil deed.

"Men of Yorkshire, we thank you for the good thought, but we ask you not to punish the innocent with the guilty," and here he hurriedly whispered to his brother, "Go and bring the girl."

Turning to the crowd again, he continued: "Have patience, and before you attempt to lay angry hands upon the show think of the harm you will do to the suffering wife and family of the man you are here to punish."

At this moment Jim Panto returned, bringing with him the heroine of the Police Court scene.

"Friends, this girl was brave to tell the truth, now let us make a bargain—we may rest assured that the law will punish the wrong-doer. He stands self-convicted of a conspiracy and perjury. We may well leave him to the punishment stern justice will mete out to such villains.

"Now, here's the bargain: Leave Bockler to even-handed justice. Do not destroy these rags and sticks, let the show stand; and, if Mrs. Bockler will permit it, my brother and I will remain with the show, and, in spite of all her husband has done, see the family through the dark days before them."

At this there was a tremendous shout of approval, and upon the show front there came one of the crowd, who seized Tom Panto by the hand, and exclaimed: "Tha's jannock tu t' backbone. Heer's my hon, an' I speak for all Armley side: tha may be a show lad, but tha's gettin' a heart as big as a mountain, and if ever there wor' a Christian i' this wurld tha's one."

That was the end of the crisis. The show was saved, and Tom Panto's sermon on the text, "Return good for evil," is a sweet and precious memory amongst Armley people to this day.

With regard to Bockler, little more need be said; he was punished, and severely too, as the law directs.

Brief indeed was his incursion in Showland. Showmen have a sure and certain method of squeezing such men out when once their true character is discovered. It is recognised that every stranger who has talent or a novelty to submit for public approbation has free right to bring his commodity to the open market of the people at the fair; but if the would-be showman transgresses the well-defined lines of honest dealing between man and man, or attempts by unfair and dishonourable means to compass private gains or satisfy mean revenge, such a man is speedily fired out.

So it was with Bockler. He utterly disappeared, and the pity is that with him, to a certain extent, his family had to suffer; but as far as the Brothers Panto could mitigate that suffering it was done for the sake of the brave girl who, in spite of all risk and consequence, would speak the truth.

A "PICTURE" IN PREPARATION.

A production, commencing on Tuesday, April 3, and extending to the 10th, savours something of a Chinese entertainment; yet the famous episode in the life of Dick Turpin occupied this space of time, owing to the large tract of country that had to be covered to obtain the necessary local colour. The Hepworth Cinématograph Manufacturing Co. have a large theatre and factory situate at Walton-on-Thames, and in this vicinity and that of Weybridge was produced during the period mentioned a stirring episode of the notorious highwayman, entitled

"DICK TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK."

Dick Turpin	Mr. Lewin Fitzhamon
Major Mowbray	Mr. Louis Stanislaus
Sir Luke Rookwood	Mr. Claud Whitten
Mr. Coates	Mr. Willie Hartill
Mr. Patterson	Mr. Elco Mearson
Mr. Tyrconnell	Mr. Cliff Bing
Inn Keeper	Mr. Tom Mowbray
Postillion	Mr. Frank Cousins
Ostler	Mr. Nathaniel Menzies
Horse Boy	Mr. George Curtiss
Maid at the Falstaff	Miss Emily Custance
Inn Keeper's Daughter	Miss Dorothy Lupone

It must have been disconcerting for the ordinary City man darting out of his garden gates to catch the morning train to be suddenly confronted by a brilliantly-costumed personage mounted upon a magnificent horse, and armed with murderous-looking pistols. Though closely pursued by the vindictive Lawyer Coates, Turpin was not at liberty to make a bee-line for York, for wherever there was the suggestion of a modern residence, and whenever the telegraph pole sprang up on the highway, he had to turn aside. Fortunately roadside inns of antique appearance are numerous in the neighbourhood, and Dick was able to make an effective escape from the Sir John Falstaff, Kilburn (the King's Arms, Weybridge), although, owing to the treachery of the inn keeper, very finely impersonated by Mr. Tom Mowbray, it was a near thing.

There was quick mounting by the pursuers, and next came an electric dash at top speed through the most ancient portion of Weybridge, to the gratification of the entire population, who lined the roadway five deep on each side, being kept back by the horse boys, travellers, gentlemen, and footpads dressed in the costume of the period, who fell into attitudes of astonishment as the cavalcade tore by, to reappear during subsequent days in all the glory of brocaded coats, jingling spurs, and clattering hoofs.

The Ride shows Dick leaping the toll-gate to the discomfiture of his pursuers, holding up the London to York coach, the narrow escape of Dick Turpin at the Beauchamp Arms, besides a great number of other thrilling escapades.

The production, which was under the direction of Lewin Fitzhamon, and entailed some weeks of preparation, necessitated the use of twenty horses, a coach and four, and an extraordinary number of costumes, chiefly supplied by Messrs. Raynes and Co. Black Bess was a superb specimen of the thorough-bred, and all were well mounted. Mr. Cliff Bing shining conspicuously on a spirited animal; while Mr. George Curtis showed that he is as good a jockey at the real thing as he is upon the stage. There were some hairbreadth escapes, such as the bolting of Lawyer Coates's horse, which finally fell on the pavement, nearly smashing a plate-glass window. Major Mowbray's horse also took fright at the extraordinary demonstrations of the crowd, rearing up and falling on its rider. There were humorous incidents, too, such as a somewhat heated interview between Dick Turpin and the driver of a steam-roller who lagged superfluous on the stage. This unfortunately was not chronicled by the biograph. Altogether, the Hepworth manufacturing Co. are to be congratulated on obtaining a very stirring dramatic film.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(from our own correspondent.)

CAPE TOWN, March 17.—Opera House (Sole Lessees and Manager, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler).—There was a large and enthusiastic audience present on Tuesday, March 13, when the Wheeler-Edwardes Gaiety Company opened a season at the above theatre with *San Toy*, a piece in which they had not hitherto been seen. An energetic and powerful chorus presented the music with spirit, and the augmented orchestra, under the efficient direction of Mr. Herbert C. Howlands, rendered the score in finished style. Mr. Victor Gouriet was very diverting as the ingenious Li, and scored a conspicuous success. Mr. Gouriet is a clever comedian, who works hard with restless energy throughout the piece, and excels both in song and dance. Mr. Edmund Shirra as Captain Bobbie Preston could scarcely be improved upon, his good acting and pleasant singing ensuring his popularity. Mr. T. R. Norbury acquitted himself admirably as the pompous Yen-How, receiving several encores for his rendering of "Six Little Wives"; Mr. George Grundy made a favourable impression as Lieutenant Harvey Tucker; Mr. Arthur Staples was capital as the Emperor; Mr. Myles Clifton provoked much laughter by his able impersonation of Sir Bingo Preston; and satisfactory performances of Fo Hop, Hu Pi, Wai Ho, Li Li, Li Ho, Ah Wen, and Sing Hi were given by Messrs. J. Leith Harvey, R. Whitehouse, Gordon Adams, David Keay, Jack Harper, Sidney Holland, and Adam Gordon. The fine and well-trained voice of Miss Maude Thorne was heard to advantage in her artistic portrayal of San Toy; Miss Anna Hickish was an attractive Poppy, singing admirably; Miss Daisy Wallace made a charming and vivacious Dudley, displaying plenty of spirit and dash; Miss Nellie Palmer was also pleasing as Rose Tucker, dancing an exceedingly smart *pas seul* in the second act. Capable representatives of the Emperor's Own were the Misses Jessica Dean, Captain of the Guard, Miss Sybil Thorne as Yung Shi, and Miss Lilian Bell as Me Koui.

Mr. Harry Rickards, who will probably be seen in England at the latter end of the summer, reopened the Adelaide Tivoli on March 1 with a company headed by Leroy, Talma, and Bosco, who were such favourites at the Alhambra. After two weeks at Adelaide they went to the Theatre Royal, Perth, for two weeks, and sailed from Fremantle on April 2 for London per s.s. Orontes. Barnard's Marionettes, at the finish of their Melbourne season, opened successfully at the Tivoli, Sydney, on Feb. 24; and the Miles Stavordale Quintette, who arrived per s.s. Mooltan on Saturday, March 3, made a phenomenal hit. Martinetti and Grossi opened at the Tivoli, Sydney, on March 10.

Mr. Tom Leo, who has been scoring heavily at Richmond and Clapham with his "Too Lazy to Live" ditty, has consented to have his especial "business" printed on the copies of the song. The comedians of the various seaside combinations are keen on the number.

Mr. Tom E. Murray, the American comedian, who is to be the star of the Coliseum *Revue*, tells an amusing story of how he literally upheld the credit of the stage, under trying circumstances, in the days of his youth. He was a member of a small company playing a répertoire of comic operas, and at one little town it was discovered, during the last act of *H.M.S. Pinafore*, that the platform, with its oil lamp footlights and apology for scenery, was shaking ominously under the actors' feet. Mr. Murray and a friend found their way, with much trouble and in clouds of dust, to a small sort of cellar under the stage, and perceived the necessity for immediate action. The deck of the good ship *Pinafore* was actually creaking. They were both big men, and, hearing that the opera was nearly over, turned themselves into temporary pillars to support the stage—even while an unconscious comrade up above danced a hornpipe! Mr. Murray has—to alter the last word of a slang phrase—"the gift of the gag," and has written a particularly comic miniature monologue, which he frequently introduces into his pantomime parts, dealing with an imaginary quartette—"five of the nicest fellows," he says, "not including myself!"

Les Henris are still on tour, and are meeting with great success everywhere with their attractive equilibristic act. They will appear in London in July.

Before the Licensing Justices at the Portsmouth Town Hall on Wednesday morning, application was made by Vere D'Oyley Noble (secretary to the Portsmouth Coliseum Syndicate) for a dancing, singing, and music licence for the proposed Coliseum in Greetham-street. Dr. S. H. Emanuel appeared in support of the application. Mr. J. Alderson Foote, K.C., and H. P. St. Gerrans opposed on behalf of the Portsmouth Hippodrome, Ltd., and Mr. H. F. Dickens, K.C., and Mr. Theobald were present to oppose on behalf of the Citizens' Union and the owners and residents in the locality. Dr. Emanuel stated the case for the syndicate, and evidence in support was given by Mr. Frank Matcham, the well-known architect, who stated that the hall would hold 3000 people, and there would be two performances each evening, with an interval of six or seven minutes; by Mr. R. Allen, a director of Moss's Empires, and Mr. Vere D'Oyly Noble. After a long consideration the magistrates returned to Court. With reference to the Coliseum, the Mayor said the licence would not be granted, but he added "The magistrates are favourably impressed with the proposal to erect a music hall on the site in question in accordance with the plans produced."

Mr. Frank Coyle tells us that he is now able to sing three songs in nine minutes. Prodigious! He is also greeted with thunders of applause, and the only thing requisite to complete his happiness is a "lightning conductor."

A great favourite at the People's Palace and Aquarium, Scarborough, this week is Marie Winsome, male impersonator, who is accorded a rousing reception. Jack Henri, Scotch comedian, sings well, and gives the audience the benefit of his experiences the other side of the Tweed with great ability. Linton, in his cable act, has been rebooked this week, giving a comic exhibition on the wire with his usual ability. Leslie Murray delights the audience with his conjuring; Alec Kendall is a versatile comedian, endowed with a good supply of original patter; whilst Baroux and Bion give a good turn as eccentric acrobats, and Miss Bessie Willows is pleasing with her songs. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope displays a fine film, entitled "Two Little Waifs."

Mr. Alfred Humphreys presided on Saturday evening over the last smoking concert of the present season held at Canonbury Tower, Canonbury, and it proved a very successful function. Everybody joined very heartily in the chorus of "Here's a Health unto His Majesty," the solo of which was sung by Mr. Lambert Perry, whose sister, Madame Sanders, kindly gave her charming services as a vocalist. There was quite a big crowd of comedians, including Mr. Gurney Russell, Mr. Rex Kempton, and Mr. Fred King, all of whom were well received. Mr. Herbert Johnson delighted the company with a couple of songs, with violin accompaniment; and Mr. Donald Keir, the basso, again had a good reception. Mr. Charles Gellett, by special request, repeated his amusing Scotch recitation, "The Mission of McBray." Mr. Lovett King rendered loyal service as accompanist.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS AT THE EMPIRE.

Mr. Bransby Williams is one of those men who, having achieved marked success in one characterisation, or series of characterisations, are not content to "let be." He is constantly giving us something new, therefore we are always ready to renew his acquaintance again and again. This week at the Empire he furnishes further proof of that wonderful versatility which has helped in so large a measure to make him a popular figure on our music-hall stage. He is appearing in what is described as a mimetic duologue, entitled *Actors Day by Day*, written by himself, and partly, we understand, introduced by him during the recently-concluded pantomime at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool. Mr. Williams imitates the peculiarities of voice, manner, and gesture of Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Tree, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr. G. P. Huntley, and Mr. Martin Harvey. He has contrived to concoct a most amusing dialogue from the names of well-known plays, songs, sketches, &c. Conversations, it should be mentioned, take place between Mr. Williams and a very charming young lady, to wit, Miss Daisy Cordell, who remains on the stage all the time and entertains the house while Mr. Williams is engaged in his quick changes—and marvellously quick they are. In the pretty æsthetic costume worn by gentlemen in the middle of the eighteenth century he shows us Sir Charles Wyndham as Garrick. Garrick demands to know if *Charley's Aunt* is still running, and the young lady replies in the affirmative. "Then it must be 'Her Second Time on Earth'!" he exclaims. Next we are treated to a capital imitation of Mr. G. P Huntley, who is made to say to the lady, among other things, "I missed you last night; I missed you to-night—that is 'Two Little Michus.'" Mr. Williams concludes his exceedingly interesting and clever act with a representation of Mr. Martin Harvey as Sydney Carton in *The Only Way*, delivering the famous lines of the dissipated barrister's last speech with appropriate pathos and feeling. Mr. Williams is to be highly congratulated on *Actors Day by Day*. It is crowded with well-turned phrases, puns, and witticisms.

MISS RUSSELL-GRAHAM'S CONCERT.

The Scotch violinist, Miss Reena Russell-Graham, pupil of Sevcik, made her first appearance in London at Queen's Hall on Friday evening, April 6. Miss Russell-Graham was assisted by the London Symphony Orchestra, and by Mr. W. A. Peterkin, vocalist. Miss Graham was first heart in Tschaikowsky's Concerto for violin and orchestra, which, although not the most interesting work of its kind, served to display the undoubted ability of the young Scottish violinist as an executant. What Miss Russell-Graham chiefly lacked was richness and fullness of tone in the more sustained passages, and this was more noticeable in Beethoven's Romance in G and Vieuxtemps' No. 4 Concerto, given later in the concert. Miss Graham's most successful effort was in Bach's "Air." The young artist, who was warmly greeted by her audience, also received many floral tributes at the conclusion of the Tschaikowsky Concerto. The London Symphony Orchestra, admirably conducted by Mr. A. W. Payne, rendered the utmost assistance to the concert, giving, in addition to accompanying the soloist, Svendsen's Overture, "Carnaval in Paris," and a sympathetic performance of the familiar "Vorspeil," from *Lohengrin*. Mr. W. A. Peterkin sang Burns' "Bonnie wee thing" in a large, expressive manner, and was particularly successful in Cowen's "Border Ballad." Being encored in the latter, the singer responded with another air, accompanied on the piano by Mr. John W. Ivimey.

A cheque for £50 has been forwarded to the Japanese Embassy by the directorate of the Alhambra Company, Ltd., with the request that it shall be applied by the Japanese Government in alleviation of the distress now existing through famine in Northern Japan.

Frank E. Fillis's New Circus of Varieties is playing to crowded houses in Johannesburg. The company is an international one, and includes several artists of sterling merit, prominent amongst whom are the Zeno, Jordan, and Zeno acrobatic troupe; the Brothers Lloyd, aërialists; Frehal Brothers, Continental clowns; Provo, illusionist; and Kearney P. Speedy, who gives a thrilling exhibition of high diving from a height of 250ft. into a pool of water 2ft. deep. The company concluded their season on the 20th inst., and then opened at Boksburg.

Mr. Edgar Hyman, the popular managing-director of the Empire Palaces, S.A., Ltd., announces that their new Empire Palace of Varieties, in Commissioner-street, Johannesburg, will be opened on May 14 by Miss Ada Reeve. This famous artist, who will arrive on Friday, the 11th, will most likely be present at the private view of the new house to be given on the 12th.

The Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Cape Town, of which the lessees are the Empire Palaces, S.A., Ltd., and in which the Hyman family are largely interested, has been closed, owing to extensive alterations to the stage and fire exits. The house, however, was reopened on April 4, with a new company, headed by the Horne Bros., under the management of Mr. E. A. Pickering.

Mr. Fred Higham informs us that, on behalf of the "Pimlico Lodge" of Freemasons, No. 1772, he has had the pleasure of forwarding a cheque for £25 to the widow of the late Brother George Le Brunn as a grant from the Worshipful Master and Brethren of the lodge, with their kind sympathy.

Mr. Arthur Randal's costume concert party, the Middies and Maids, embark upon their spring and summer tour next week at the Pier Pavilion, New Brighton. The company numbers seven artists. Like other well-known comedy concert parties, they will be seen upon the halls next autumn.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hertz (Mlle. D'Alton), who were in London last week after their long Continental tour, left Southampton on the steamship St. Paul on Saturday for New York, and will be absent three or four months. Mr. Hertz is called away by the news of the dangerous illness of his father.

Miss Flo Warner, burlesque artist, who is at present touring the provinces, will be seen in London early in June.

Apollo, the modern Hercules and jiu-jitsu expert, supported by an excellent vaudeville company, is playing to good business at the Grand Theatre, Bloemfontein. Mr. T. A. Comby is the general resident-manager of this new theatre, which has just been opened.

Mr. Sylvester Schaffer, jun., who made such a success with his one-man show at the Alhambra some time ago, has been scoring a triumph in Dresden. He was responsible for the whole of the second half of the programme at the popular Central Theatre, and was honoured with a visit from the King of Saxony, accompanied by the Crown Prince and his other children. His Majesty, whose tastes lie in the direction of light music, is a frequent patron of the opera and the drama.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"HOCHPARTERRE LINKS,"

Farce, in Three Acts, by MM. Kren and Lippschitz, produced at the Thalia, April 7.

Von Münzhausen	Herr Toussaint
Von Branden	Herr Bartels
Von Rodenwald	Herr Werckmeister
Waldern	Herr Graening
Von Klausenberg	Herr Tepper
Pschemschinsky	Herr Schlotthauer
Ostermann	Herr Thielscher
Minka	Fraulein Boje
Suschen	Fraulein Weise
Wanda	Fraulein Bernauer
Esmeralda	Fraulein Beck
Martha	Fraulein Wannovius
Annchen	Fraulein Ballot
Ernestine	Frau Junker-Schatz
Brimbowsky	Herr Meyerhofer
Louis	Herr Herrmann
Lieschen	Fraulein Gerste
Chauffeur	Herr Haase

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 12.—The latest novelty at the Thalia bids fair to rival even its predecessor, *Bis früh um Fünfe*, which reached its 200th consecutive performance. Its production was a signal success for all concerned—authors, artists, and managers being called and re-called and applauded till the walls rang. A farce by MM. Kren and Lippschitz cannot be detailed; it must be seen to be properly appreciated. Plot there is as good as none, but everything has been turned to account to produce laughter, and the audience complied from start to finish. The action passes this time among military surroundings—always a safe draw here. The interest centres in Otto Ostermann, a corn dealer, who is called upon to serve in the Army and go through the autumn manœuvres. Ostermann's wife, Minka, is a remarkably frivolous little person, and the two create all kinds of laughable "situations." Ostermann, in the barracks, is of side-splitting comicality, especially played by Herr Thielscher, our inimitable low comedian, the original Charley's Aunt, by the way. The whole cast is a capital one, and the incidental music by Paul Lincke is extremely pleasing and adequately executed.

Signor Francesco d'Andrade has commenced his annual season at the Theatre des Westens. The popular baritone, who took Berlin by storm some twenty years ago as Don Giovanni, is—if not quite as fresh as he was then—still delightful to listen to, and having studied his rôles in German, he does not disturb the "ensemble" as was then the case. He selected Rigoletto for his opening night, and being in excellent voice, earned enthusiastic applause. The star was efficiently supported by Fräulein Stoeller, Herren Hansen, Barck, and others, while Kapellmeister Buechel in the conductor's seat was all that could be desired.

Bernard Shaw being the mode of the moment, the Schiller Theatre O. put his satirical play, *Helden*, in the bill last week with, however, but scant success. The audiences of our two Schiller theatres (in the north and east of the city) are generally most grateful for what is set before them, but satire does not appeal to them. They did not understand many of the author's finest points and his most caustic raillery fell flat. The piece was far more successful when it was given a number of years ago at the Deutsches under Dr. Lindau's management. It was not satisfactorily interpreted, either, at the Schiller, many of the artists exaggerating unpleasantly.

And still they come, the imitators of Isadora Duncan, the "bare-foot" American dancer, who thus pays the penalty of popularity. First came Medelaine B.—as she was called, and nobody ever learnt her full name—then Miss Sanden, and now it is a Miss Maud Gwendolen Allan who "dances" Chopin and other great masters. This lady gave a highly interesting performance in the theatre of the Royal High School for Music last week, and showed us much that was tasteful and original. Among the numbers were Schubert's "Ave Maria," illustrated with slow, graceful movements by Miss Allan in trailing garments, and Chopin's "Dead March," for which she wore a mourning garb and veil. Her illustration of Schumann's "Träumerei" was charmingly poetic, and her vivacious dancing to the strains of Rubinstein's "Valse Caprice" (for which she wore a short Bacchante costume) electrified the audience. Miss Allan announces her intention of further following in Miss Duncan's steps by opening a dancing school here, where attention will be given to a certain kind of calisthenics as well as the terpsichorean art. Both these ladies hail from America, and Berlin is large enough for both.

The Schliersee peasant actors' company have commenced their season at the New Royal Opera, making their customary hit. These children of the mountains possess enormous native talent, more than some trained artists of our cities, and their volks-plays are full of fresh, wholesome humour and healthy sentiment. That the Kaiser himself has a predilection for the "Schlierseers" is not to be wondered at. The season commenced with a novelty, a four-act "country play," as the authoress, Frau Hartl-Mitius, calls it, entitled *Die Zauberwurzel* (the magic root). It is a comedy of the lighter sort, though were it not so playfully handled by the writer the plot might easily have become tragic. An elderly master-farmer has married a frivolous, heartless coquette for his second wife, who falls in love—or pretends to—with her step-son, Hans, and tries to seduce the young fellow. Hans, however, is true to his sweetheart, and the tables are turned on the foolish and erring step-mother. The acting was particularly bright, Xauer Terofal, the star of the company, being well to the front as Lorenz Schönwelter, a merry fellow and species of village wizard, who believes in the efficacy of magic herbs and who is a friend to everybody. This is the happiest-drawn character, and it was done every justice to by the clever artist to whom it was intrusted. It is a pity the Schliersee guests have not found a theatre more suited to their needs, the New Royal Opera being too large for plays of this description.

Fraulein Irene Triesch, or, to give this great actress her proper name, Mrs. Frederick Lamond, is still drawing large audiences to the Lessing to witness her faultless impersonation of Rebecca West in Ibsen's *Rosmershohn*. This is considered by many of the critics to be her best rôle, and the finest conception of the intricate character on the German stage. In the great scene with Rosmer and Kroll in the third act the strain is almost painful; the proverbial pin might be heard to fall in the crowded house, and the audience are too much moved to applaud. The Rosmer of Herr Reicher is, too, a grand reading, and the remainder of the cast in keeping. *Und Pippa Tanzt* and *Kater Lampe* are holding the boards on the other nights of the week. Fräulein Triesch, by the way, is giving an occasional recitation evening with great success. One of these took place on Wednesday in the Singakademie, the actress selecting passages from the Old Testament, poems by Goethe, Heine, and Lenan.

Tschaikowsky's opera, *Pique Dame*, which we were hoping to see produced at the Royal Opera this season, has now been definitely postponed until the beginning of next. Thus perish our hopes of hearing any new work at the Opera House.

A new playhouse, the Figaro Theatre, will be opened at the West End before long. It is under the joint management of Fräulein Olga Wohlbrueck and Herr Waldemar Wendland.

Miss Lil Hawthorne will be heard on Monday, at the New Cross Empire, in Lawrance, Gifford, and Mellor's new song-scena, *My Cosy Caravan*, with special scenery and effects.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The attendance at the fourth annual dinner of the Heads of Departments' Association was not so large as last year, this being due mainly to many members being at work. Owing to the necessity for the date of the dinner being fixed many weeks ahead, it is impossible to avoid circumstances such as prevented the attendance of many who would otherwise have been present. Those who would like to have a copy of the photograph of the dinner party may obtain one from Messrs. J. Jacks and Co., 22, Glasshouse-street, W. Price, mounted, 4s. each.

Those who are not yet members of the Association will find much instructive reading in the speeches contained in the report of the dinner published in another column. Mr. J. Cullen, the President of the Association, desires to repair an omission in his speech. He had been requested by Mr. George Alexander to personally convey to those present his great regret at not being able to attend and support the chairman, Mr. H. B. Irving.

Mr. Cullen also desires to contradict a statement that he is in charge of both the stage and property departments at the St. James's Theatre. There is no foundation for such a statement. Mr. W. Davies is the property master, and has been in sole charge of the property department since his predecessor, Mr. H. S. Henby, vacated that position.

The proceedings at the monthly meeting, on Sunday last, of the General Theatrical Operatives' Sick and Benevolent Society were somewhat lively. The complaint made by Mr. H. Kelly to Mr. Edward Terry caused an exciting discussion. A resolution was proposed that Mr. Kelly resign. In view of the fact that Mr. Kelly had invited the Society to grant him £20 as a reward for services, and compensation for expenses incurred by him, in securing a share of the Dramatic and Musical Fund for the Society, and that he actually did receive £5 in recognition of the services he claimed to have rendered, it does not appear that he has much cause for complaint.

It is not a fact that this Society refused to accept any working staff member of the Dramatic and Musical Fund, but it appears that some members of the Fund refused to join under the conditions offered to them by the Society. The resolution inviting Mr. Kelly to resign was lost by one vote, which sufficiently indicates the feelings of the members on the matter. It is to be regretted, however, that two of the most trustworthy officials and oldest members felt so strongly on the matter that they resigned their offices, and it is to be hoped that, in the interests of the Society, they may be induced to reconsider their decision.

The complaint made to Mr. Terry relative to the Dramatic and Musical Fund again occupied the attention of the Committee of the General Staff Branch of the National Association of Theatrical Employees at their meeting on Wednesday last week. The result of the inquiry made among the members to whom Mr. Kelly alleged he had acted elicited the fact that they had not sanctioned any complaint against this Branch and were not aware that such a complaint had been made. A vote of censure was passed upon Mr. Kelly, and he was requested to withdraw the statements he had made to Mr. Terry.

The Theatrical Sports Committee met on Thursday following; the list of events occupied most of the time of the meeting, and it is expected that entry forms containing a list of events will be issued next week. The Committee hope to be able to provide a handsome trophy for the tug-of-war competition. The assistance of volunteers is invited to act as representatives of the Committee in every theatre and music hall in the London district. Communications should be addressed to the hon. secretary at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

Within a few days Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s newly-published song, "My Bungalow in Borneo," has leapt into popularity, and already Miss Ella Retford has made a great hit with this melodious number.

The popular comedian, Mr. Sid Cotterell, has terminated his fourth consecutive engagement at Drury Lane Theatre, and is now on tour with his comedy success, *The Substitute*.

Not since the erection of the Hippodrome, Wakefield, have there been more delighted and enthusiastic audiences than there have been this week to welcome Dr. Carl Hermann. The huge building has been filled at early-door prices on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Miss Lilian Elfrida, the mimic, who has been scoring at the Canterbury during the current week, was responsible for a smart bit of work in travelling and opening on the 2nd inst. at the Palace, Northampton. Wired for from that town to deputise for the top-liner, in a few minutes she was *en route* for Euston in a hansom, caught the 6.5 p.m., and appeared at the second house at the Palace, being awarded three encores and high encomiums from the management.

A singular charge of wilful damage at the Empire Music Hall, Newcastle, was heard in that city on Wednesday against Robert McDonald, electrician, who had been discharged for drinking. The man was seen on Sunday in the motor-room of the hall, where all the switches for the main lines of light were kept. On Monday it was found that these had been tampered with, the current cut off, the fuses drawn from the footlights and thrown about the floor, and the arc lamps in the front of the building rendered useless. But for the timely discovery, the building on Monday night would have been in darkness. There being no direct evidence against McDonald, he was discharged. A few minutes afterwards McDonald was heard to say to the manager of the Empire (Mr. Conroy), on leaving the court, that he did do the damage. Accused was then brought back, and, sobbing, admitted the offence. Mr. Conroy asked the Bench not to be hard upon the man, and a fine of 20s. with costs was imposed, or a month's imprisonment.

We have to record the death, on March 29, of Mr. Tom B. Harms, one of the founders of the well-known American music publishing house of T. B. Harms and Co., of New York.

Mr. Fred Day, the energetic manager of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's New York branch, has secured for his firm two numbers of which much will be heard later this side "the pond." The titles are "Said the Hornet to the Bee" and "Moonshine." Miss Vesta Victoria's "Waiting at the Church," by Leigh and Pether, commands a steady sale, and a song entitled "Bridget," by the former writer, is gaining in public favour with our Transatlantic cousins. Mr. W. A. Francis, the son of Mr. David Day's partner, who looks after the printing department of the Anglo-American music publishing house, attained his majority on the 2nd inst., and was the recipient of a now much-prized memento of the auspicious occasion from the London staff.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has accepted the dedication of Kenneth Lyle's fine march song, "The Beat of the Drum," the professional copies of which have just been issued by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. May 7, 21, 28, June 11, 18, 25, Sept. 3, 10, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, Aug., Sept. 17, Oct. 15, 22, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER. Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 11, 18, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, May 7 (Race Week), June 25, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, 8, 22, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, May 7, 14, Aug. 20, Sept. 10, 17. Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, June 18, 25, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, Aug. 6, 27, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, June 11, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Dec. 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON, April 23 (3 nights), 30, May 7, 14, Sept. 3, 10, 17, on.
Wanted, First-class Pantomimes, for Christmas, 1906, for three weeks.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Wolverhampton, May 7, 14; Reading, May 21, 28, June 4; Leamington, April 23 (3 nights), April 30 (6 nights); Chester, May 7 (Race Week); Dalston, May 7, 21, June 11; Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE, May 21, 28, August 13, 20.
Address, Walter Melville, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, April 23, May 7, 21, and 28, First-Class Dramatic Attractions.
Andrew Melville, Metropole T., Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, April 30, May 21, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, July 23, onwards.
Address, Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON; May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, Aug. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
Bedford vacant Whit week.
E. Graham Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Company, June 11 (three nights, Luton; three nights, Bedford).
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, May 7, June 4, 11, 18, onwards. Address, Herbert Vere.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 30.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, April 23 and 30.
Wire, Carson, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

HIPPODROME THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, Musical Comedies, Burlesques, and Opera Companies, Good Panto., for Xmas. Morella's New Theatre and Opera House, Chesterfield. Wanted, Good Companies, from Whitsun Monday, and onwards, Good Panto. for Xmas. Communications, Morella, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 7, 21, and June 4. Apply,
Stanley Rogers, H. M. Theatre, Carlisle.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 21, June 11, also First-Class Musical Attraction, June 25 (Royal Show week), open dates Aug. and Sept. Pantomime, Feb. 4 (one or two weeks).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical Attraction, June 25 Share or Certainty.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for May 14, 21, 28; also Whit Week and onwards. Address, E. B. Goulden.

THEATRE ROYAL, PRESTON.
Manager, Stephen Pritt.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, April 30, May 14, 28, and June 4. Silence in all cases a polite negative.

GRAND THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for Whit Week.
Full particulars to
Clarence Sounes, Grand Theatre, Woolwich.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, good Attraction for May 14; also vacant June 18, 25, Aug. 27, Oct. 1. Address, Frank King.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 7 and 21. Full particulars to Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, May 28, T. R., Bury, and T. R., Halifax.
Otto C. Culling, Theatre Royal, Bury.

STANLEY (DURHAM). NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attraction, May 28.
Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

PAISLEY AND PERTH THEATRES.
WANTED, Attractions, April 30, Paisley; April 30 and May 7, Perth. Share or certainty.
J. H. Saville, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, Companies, New Prince's Theatre, Blackburn. Wanted, First-class Attractions, Musical Comedy or Drama, May 28, June 11 and 18, on. E. H. Page.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant April 23, May 21, 28, June 4.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant April 23, 30, May 14, 21.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant April 16, 26 (3 nights), May 3 (3 nights.)

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant April 16, 30, May 7, 21.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 14, 28, Sept. 3, Oct. 8.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant April 23 (3 nights), May 14, 28, June 4.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant April 23 (3 nights), April 30, May 7, 21.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant April 30, May 14, June 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant April 23, May 7, 14, 21.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant May 14, 21, June 11.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.

All communications to Arthur Carlton, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
Vacant May 14, 21, 28, June 4, and on.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant May 28.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-Class Attracitons, for May 7, 28, Nov. 26, Dec. 10.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply,
Mr. C. F. Williams, T. R., Plymouth.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Owners and Proprietors, Messrs. Trenchard and Jones.
WANTED, Good Company, April 30, April 30, April 30; also a few dates vacant in June.

RUNNACLEAVE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, ILFRACOMBE.
Sole Lessee, Cissie Louie Lawson.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the Months of April, May, and June. Write, The Secretary, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, HULL.
WANTED, July 16 and Aug. 13.
Address, W. Morton.

DUNFERMLINE AND DUMFRIES.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 14 and 21; also a few good Autumn dates vacant.
Harry Fischer.

WANTED, High-Class Musical or Burlesque Companies, for P.O.W., Nuneaton, for May 14, Aug. 13, 27 (County Show week), Sept. 3, 17, and various spring.
A. F. Cross.

WANTED, Companies, for T. R., Rugby, May 14, 21, 28, June 4, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10, on, with exceptions.
A. F. Cross, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, April 30, May 14, 28, and June 4 (White Week), only First-Class Companies entertained. Com., W. C. Dornton, Bus.-Manager.

WANTED, Good Companies, Paisley, April 30; Perth, April 30, May 7; share or certainty.
Apply, J. H. Saville, Paisley Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.
WANTED, Companies, April 30, May 7, 14, also 24, 25, 26 (3 nights only), and 28th. onwards. Stock Company required for six or nine weeks, June and July. Send répertoire. Share or rental.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 30, through disappointment.
Wire, Yorke, Royal, Blackburn.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Frank Mundill.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic and Musical Attractions, May 7, 28, June 11, 18, and 25, July 30, Aug. 6, a few Autumn Dates.
Frank Mundill.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, June, dates for Merthyr; also for Clarence, Pontypridd, April 30, June 4, and later.
All communications to
Will Smithson, Merthyr.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday and Onward, High-class Plays, Musical Comedies, Comic Opera, and Shakespearean Répertoire.
Apply to Jas. Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

PAVILION THEATRE, ST. LEONARDS.
The West End Theatre of Hastings.
WANTED, through disappointment, good Company for April 30; other vacant dates, July 30, Nov. 12. Wire for April 30, Mr. Elvey Thomas, as above. For other dates apply to Mr. Thomas, or to Mr. Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-st., Piccadilly.

COMPANIES WANTED.

FOLKESTONE and HASTINGS.
WANTED, High-class Companies, GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS, now in the height of success.
May 7, June 18, July 16, Oct. 22, Nov. 1 (3 nights), Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE, FOLKESTONE.
May 7, June 25, July 2, 9, 23 (3 nights), Oct. 22, 29 (3 nights), Nov. 19, Dec. 3.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Sound Attractions for May 14, 21, 28, June 4, July 6, 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, Dec. 3. Only vacancies this year. All applications, Chas. E. Machin, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Strong Dramas, May 28, June 11, July 16, and Aug. 27.
All communications, Chas. E. Machin, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Musical Comedies preferred, for Weeks of May 14 and 21.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Managing Director, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28, June 4.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 244, Regent-street, S.W.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.
Lessee, J. Bannister Howard.
WANTED, Good Company, May 28. 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, April 23, 30, May 7, 21, and on.

Wire, Wire, Wire.
R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 4, and on.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager, April 16, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, GRAND THEATRE, LEEDS, May 14.
PRINCE'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER, May 21.
Apply, John Hart, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 3, 4, 5, onward.
Apply, William Peacock.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.
May 7 Vacant.
WANTED, Strong Play, for the above.
Fred Fredericks.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E.
May 14 and 21 vacant.
WANTED, Strong Attractions for the above dates.
Fred. Fredericks.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

WANTED, for one week, strong First-class Society Drama, of the "Fédora" or "Tanqueray" order, with fine leading part for woman, and good part for man.
Courtenay Thorpe, 143, Ebury-street, S.W.

FROME, SOMERSET.
WANTED, Known, F. E. Douglas can arrange for good fit-up companies, and entertainments, complete in themselves, April 30, onwards, Whit. Week Vacant, Frome and District, three towns, two nights each. Terms, shares. 16, Portway, Frome.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13, 20.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14 Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 1, Dec. 3.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 22,
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Frederick Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 13, Sept. 24.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 8.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, April 30, June 4, Sept. 10, Oct. 1.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 13, 20, Nov. 26.
Douglas Bruce, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, May 21, June 4, 18, on.

"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
Aug. 6, 20, on.
Charles Harrington, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this year.
Chalmers Mackey,
This, Theatre Royal, Scarborough;
next week, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant May 21 (three nights), between Newcastle and Harrogate, July 2, 9, 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13, 27.
J. W. Cordiner, Opera House, Torquay.
See Companies advertisement, Page 2.

WANTED, "Private Secretary," Open Dates, Sept. 17 and 24, Nov. 1 (3 nights), 12, and Dec. 24, onwards.
Apply, Eugene C. Stafford, c/o French, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Special Week, April 23, "My Sweetheart,"
Gentleman for Tony, Lady for Tina. Those who have played the parts preferred. Lowest terms to Rich. Waldon, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, for this Money-making Attraction, May 14, and Whit.
A few Summer Dates open.
35th Week of Present Tour. Oct. 1, 8, and 29, Lancs. Bookings and Re-bookings extend into March, 1907. Full cast of experienced Artists.
Coms., Frank Ayrton, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
Played by a most excellent cast of first-class artists on a most lavish scale.
All new scenery and printing.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant April 23, 30, and May 7. L. Carson, Queen's T., Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, for this Excellent Attraction, May 7, 14, 21, and onwards.
L. Carson,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

ALFRED PAUMIER, WALTER HOWARD.
ALFRED PAUMIER, WALTER HOWARD.
TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
By Walter Howard.
Annie Saker,
Alfred Paumier.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for few remaining Spring Dates, 1907.
Paumier, Grand T., Nottingham.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 23, 30, Aug. 20, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever.
E. Carter Livesey, Metropole, Manchester.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR,
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, June 18 unexpectedly Vacant, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, and few later.
Magnificently advertised (24 kinds), beautifully staged, and splendidly acted.
A complete and charming production and a solid success. Alex. T., Greenock, April 16.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, April 23, follow Ton-y-Pandy Easter, April 30, May 7, and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire for April 23.
William A. Armour,
To-day, T. R., Leeds; next, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.

"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."
WANTED, Sept. 3, 10, 24, Oct. 1.
Frank G. Baily,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this great Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6 (South preferred), and on, with exceptions.
Apply, F. M. Thorne, T. R., Stockton.

WANTED, Theatres for E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S COMPANIES.
"THE GRIP OF IRON,"
Vacant August Bank Holiday, and on.
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN,"
Vacant Whit Week and on (London or near).
George Denham, Prince's, Poplar.

"UNDER TWO FLAGS."
WANTED, Theatres, third visit Camden Theatre last week; third visit Prince's, Bristol, this week. Booked into 1907; vacant dates, Mark Blow.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. Bank Holiday, Sept. 17, 29, Oct. 8, Dec. 24, 31. Frances Delaval, to-day, Nuneaton; next, Hippodrome, New Brompton.

"THE ASSASSIN."
WANTED, Oct. 29, to oblige Vic., Broughton, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, March 11, on.
Augustine Knight, T. R., Aston, Birmingham.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
The Dramatic Mascot, Scores again at Prince's, Poplar. Managers in doubt, kindly refer.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 21, also Feb. 4, 1907, onwards, with exceptions. No Vacant Dates this year. Sante, Prince's, Poplar; Junction, Manchester.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S PLAYS.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, June 18, July 3 and 30, for "A LONDON ACTRESS."
Stuart Cleveland, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANY,
"THE SILVER KING."
(By arrangement with Messrs. Polini and Melford.)
WANTED.—A Few Dates still Open for Autumn Tour. Address,
J. Bannister Howard, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, April 30, May 7, 14, on, with exceptions, for Messrs. Doyle and Gordon's grand production, "My Sweetheart." Coms., Grand T., Walsall.

MESSRS. SHINTON & GREENWOOD'S TOUR.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
One of the finest Dramatic Attractions Touring. All Spring Dates Booked.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24, Xmas.

All communications to
John B. Shinton, Dalston Theatre, Dalston, N.E.

"THE GREATEST SCOUNDREL LIVING."
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

WANTED, Theatres, Miss Mary Neil and Mr. Geo. Kirk's Company, "Her Luck in London," by Chas. Darrell. Spring fully booked. First Vacant Date, Aug. 20, on, with exceptions.
Address, George Kirk, Alexandra, Hull.

BERT COOTE'S
"THE FATAL WEDDING" No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Aug. 20, Oct. 22, only Vacant Autumn Dates. Address,
Bert Coote, 150, Oxford-street, W.

The New Spanish Comic Opera,
"PETRONELLA."
(Production at Penley's, May 26.)
WANTED, July 2, 16 and 23 (South).
Mr. Howard Crispin, Business-Manager, 22, Blomfield-road, Shepherd's Bush. Tel., 2023, P.O. Hampstead.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, April 23.—Owing to misunderstanding, this extraordinary Attraction Vacant April 23. Managers say after Box Office returns this play should be entitled "Money."
Apply, L. Carson, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, May 7, 14, no greater success touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Wire,
James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" CO.
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" CO.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 21 (follow Princess, Portsmouth), 28, June 4. Edward Surrey, to-day, Theatre, Chorley; next, Town Hall Theatre, Brierley Hill.

"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Whit, and various on.
Wire, E. A'Dell, to-day, Stourbridge; next, A., Dudley Port.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, for this Strong Attraction, July 9, 23, Aug. 6, and onwards
Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl. Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia. Supported by a Star Cast.
Startling Pictorials. New Scenery.
Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

WANTED, for "Throne of Terror," May 14, 28, various onwards. Thanks Messrs. Flanagan, Pritt, Lindon, Waldon, Harrison, &c., contracts and offers. Miller, next, Royal, Crook.

"THE KING'S SECRET," by Charles Whitlock.
WANTED, Summer and Autumn Dates, for this splendid production.
James Stillwell, T. R., Seaham Harbour.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.,
in a New and Original Drama,
"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
from the Grand Theatre, London, N.
Production May 14, at Lyric, Hammersmith.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for Autumn, eight complete Scenes, all Properties, Furniture, Carpets, Electric Fittings, &c., travelled. Magnificent plant of new Pictorials by Allen's (as much supplied as managers will post).
Clear Stage only required.
Address (re dates only),
F. S. Jennings, Lyric Opera H., Hammersmith, W.

MISS WINIFRED MAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
By Nita Rae.
"THE STOWAWAY,"
By Tom Craven.
WANTED, April 23 (to follow Woolwich), May 7, June 4,
Two Popular Successes.
Victor Du Cane, to-day, Alex. Theatre, Sheffield; then, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG."
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG."
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG."
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes by Angels.
WANTED, May 21, 28, June 18.
Jack Haddon, 9, Grand-parade, Teddington.
After Monday, c/o David Allen and Sons, 5, St. Peter-square, Manchester.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatre, August Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, for
Miss MAUD HILDYARD and Powerful Company,
Mr. Ernest Dottridge, Empire T., Oldham.

MIDLAND SYNDICATE DRAMAS AND PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, June 4 on, follow Leeds, &c., for "EAST LYNNE" and "LIFE."
Superb Co. and Magnificent Printing.
Wanted, Feb. 4, 11, for "ALADDIN."
First-class Theatres only. Xmas Production (two weeks) not definitely fixed. Must be large theatre.
Herbert Barrs, Opera House, Kidderminster.

FRANK J. PITT and CHARLES HALLING'S CO.,
"£1000 REWARD."
"£1000 REWARD."
By Charles Rogers.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this Successful Drama, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
Two truck-loads magnificent scenery.
Special uniforms and electrical effects.
Over 200 sheets printing by Allens, Staffords, and Moodys. Managers invited to forward vacant dates. Re Dates, Frank J. Pitt, Alex., Greenock, April 16. Other coms.,
Chas. Halling, Grand, West Hartlepool.

THE ORIGINAL "MIDDIES AND MAIDS" CONCERT PARTY.
WANTED, Managers, Artists, &c., to kindly note that the above is entirely under my control and management, and that I am not in any way connected with any other Party that may appropriate, as near as possible, the style and title of my Company.
I hereby warn Managers to beware of Imitators. The Party is fully booked from April 16 to Sept. 23. Open to accept from latter date and onwards.
Arthur Randal
(New and perm. address),
28, Kempsford-gardens, Earl's Court, London.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, Full Company, for Stock Season, commencing May 14, with stage-manager who has répertoire of sound, money-making Dramas. All applications to Chas. E. Machin, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Smart, Attractive Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, good appearance and good voices absolutely essential. Apply, personally and immediately, Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Leading and Juvenile Gentlemen, also Comedian and Character Actor, good Baggage Man, and useful people for good Summer Tour, commence June 4, two weeks' rehearsal previous; all must be tall, have good speaking voices, and references; also Agent. Particulars, photo., summer salaries, &c. Write only in first instance, Sheridan, 58, Brook-street, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Short Powerful Character Actor, for Charles Peace, 5 weeks, Open April 23, London; also strong Heavy and Juvenile Man, good appearance, open same date, London. Long Engagement. Age, height, lowest, photos., refs., Leonard Mortimer, "Highbury," 162, Clapham-rd., S.W. Letters only. No interviews without appointment.

WANTED, for Autumn Tour, First-class Leading Heavy Man, Gilbert Fernside, "Her Fatal Past"; also Refined Child Actress, 14 years age, short, and good singing voice. All particulars, with photos., &c., to T. E. Ward, Theatre Royal, Aston.

Mr. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOUR.
WANTED, Gentleman for Special Week, one who has played Oliver in "As You Like It" preferred. Ashley, Alexandra Theatre, N.

WANTED, a Light Comedian, who can play the 'Cello, for a Summer Engagement of twelve weeks certain. Write to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Comedian, for Plantagenet, in "Kitty Grey"; must sing and dance well. Also Artists for all Lines in Musical Comedy (Autumn Tour), and Chorus, must be young and pretty and have good voices. Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, good Intense Actor, for strong character parts. Full particulars, salary, &c. Harry Starr, Queen's Theatre, Workington.

WANTED, Known, an opportunity arises for a young Amateur Lady of good appearance to have thorough training, and play small part and understudy lead in well-known company, now playing at London theatre. Full particulars in first instance to Box 3,095, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Fifty Ladies, must be of good appearance, for Great Musical Comedy Act. Grand opening for those desiring to enter the profession. J. Lyons and Co., 8, Morgan-street, Bow, London, E.

WANTED.—An Opening occurs for One or Two Talented Amateurs, for stock season of society plays, at a recognised Provincial Theatre. Address for particulars, Managing Director, Town Hall, High Wycombe.

Amateurs.
WANTED, two or three Gentlemen, for good Small Parts. Tuition by experienced Stage-manager. Tour of First-class Theatres. Fine opportunity. Must be tall, and have good Speaking Voices. Letters first instance, Box 3,083, "The Era."

WANTED, Vocalist (good), Tenor, or Baritone, permanent engagement. Photo. (stamp for return) and all particulars to Clarence Ernest, 194, South Lambeth-road, S.E. The Singing Furnaceman write.

WANTED, Chorus Girls, for Musical Scena, good voice, dark, small. Apply, 12 to 1 p.m., Monday, Nolan's Agency, 8, New Coventry-st.

WANTED, next week, Refined, Clever Amateur Vocalists, Instrumentalists, Reciters, &c. (not comic). Terms, photo., to Bertram, P.O., Woodhall Spa.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Sylvestre, Engagement. L. S., Responsibles; B. S., Soubrette or Juvenile Lead (Sing and Dance). 121, Judd-street, King's Cross, London.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Dramatic Soprano, young, good appearance, former pupil of Mr. William Shakespeare, excellent accompanist, Concert Engagements, At Homes, Banquets, &c. E. L. C., 119, High-road, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, by Arthur Mann, Tenor Vocalist, Sketch, Al Fresco or London Chorus, concluding second tour with G. Dance's "Orchid" Co., April 23. Theatre Royal, Colchester.

WANTED, by Contralto, Engagement in Concert Party for Summer, Seaside; can accompany; refs. M. N., 17, Melton-road, West Bridgford, Notts.

WANTED, Two or Three good Patriotic Songs, Naval, Military, or Descriptive, with Catchy Chorus, similar to George Leyton and Arthur Reece successes; for such, good prices will be paid if approved of. F. R., 239, High-road, Wood Green, N.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes for '06 and '07, Principal Boys and Girls, Comedians, Dames, and all Lines. Apply by letter, with photos. and all particulars, to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for an Important Provincia Theatre (England), for next Christmas, Full Company of Pantomime Artists, including Principal Comedians, Principal Boy and Girl, Fairy Queen, Demon King, Eccentric Comedians and Vocalists, Speciality Dancers, 50 Chorus Ladies, &c., &c.
Address, C. and F. Renad,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists Disengaged for next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists to write for Leete's Catalogue of Special Colours and Brushes for Scene-painting. 129, London-road, Southwark.

WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and secondhand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel. Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, McCulloch, Scenic Artist, Orchard-place, Sheffield, is open for large or small Contracts; most reasonable terms for cash.

MISCELLANEOUS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Mrs. E. Pinder, Ord's Royal Circus and Menagerie, Advance Agent, drive pony trap, know how to use brush, must be sober. All letters, Kirkcaldy, Fife, Scotland.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Good Agent, those used to the business (no others need apply); also Two Horsekeepers. Address, Hucknall Torkard, Sat.; Nottingham, Mon. and Tues.; Derby to follow.

WANTED, Billposters, for Buffalo Bill's Wild West, now Touring in Italy; must be good, reliable and experienced men, able to use long-handled brushes.
Apply to
John Moore, London, Ltd.,
23, Oxendon-street, Piccadilly-circus.
Sole Agents for Donaldson Litho. Company, Greatest Printers in the World of Pictorials for Circuses, Menageries, &c., &c.

WANTED, Billposter, steady High-ladderman. Apply, giving references. Richey and Co., Ltd., Clayton-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Travel with Circus Agent, smart, reliable young Billposter, commence immediately. Address, Geo. Dobler, c/o P. O., Dublin.

WANTED, to open at once, for Tenting, Good Smart Billposter, sober and energetic.
Bosco, 20, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, an experienced Manager can undertake Management and Bookings of Music Hall, also willing to invest a considerable sum. Apply Box 2,998, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Agents, Managers, Authors.—Expert male shorthand writer and typist, with own typewriter and some knowledge of theatrical and variety business, seeks Engagement. W. J. Crane, 59, Kingsgate-road, Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, Immediate Offers, as Advance, or Acting-Management, highest refs., just concluded 19 months' with Messrs. Poole Bros. Add., J. M. Bevan, 56, Castle-st., Maesteg, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Amateurs' Plays, Suggestions, Alterations, Advice. Fee 1 guinea; no other charges, by successful Dramatist. Add., Box 3,096, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Property Master, Bill Inspector, or in any capacity, theatre or music hall, disengaged April 21. Osborne, 10, Effingham-st., Pimlico.

WANTED, Engagement, by Carpenter, Practical Bench Hand, full equipment of tools, resident or tour, halls or theatres, 12 years' experience; or could arrange joint, for wife, as wardrobe mistress. Address, G., c/o James Buckley, Fern Lea, Lees, near Oldham.

WANTED, by H. Leeding, as Carpenter, resident or good company, own tools, late Maskelyne and Devant's. Good refs. 11, Little Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Master Carpenter, at First-Class Theatre, or Stage-Manager at Music Hall, 20 years' experience, at home or abroad, at Liberty shortly; undeniable references. Box 3,100, "The Era."

£20 offered.
WANTED, Evening Employment in London Theatre, smart young man. Introductions strictly confidential. Write Advertiser, 53, Crampton-street, Newington Butts, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, in theatre or music hall, as attendant, or for programmes. M. H., 24, Linden-grove, Peckham.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Conductor, Grimsby, also Pianist and Bass, for London. State age, references, and terms, John Holman, Conductor, Hippodrome, Hounslow, London. Kind regards to all.

WANTED, Second Cornet, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Bombardon, and Drums, open at Harrogate Easter. Money terms, good and sure. Wire, James, 15, Lower Drayton-place, West Croydon.

WANTED, a really good Solo Cornet Player, for a Police (full Military) Band. Applicants to be 5ft. 10in. in height. Apply Box 3,077, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, for Croydon Town Band, good Cornet and Clarionet players. Terms shares. Walters, 51, Waddon New-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Militia Training, July 2, Aug. 25, two First Clarionets, two Second Clarionets, first 30s., second 25s. 6d., inclusive, weekly; fare one way; must enlist. Free discharge if required. Silence polite refusal.
Bandmaster, The Castle, Monmouth.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet, Oboe, Solo 'Cellist, and Drums (Tympani and effects), for Summer Season, and permanent Engagement in London to follow; only first-class players with Concert experience apply, Joseph Sainton, Crystal Palace, Theatre.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, at once, Tenting, good, young, and sober Solo Trombone. Terms 30s. Apply, Bandmaster, Circus, Saturday, Iron Bridge; Monday, Oakengates, Salop.

WANTED, Oboist, as Deputy, for one week, April 23 till 28. Military and String. Write, Herrick, Oboe, Municipal Orchestra, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Flute, E Flat Clarionet, First and Second Cornet, Second Horn, and Drums, to complete Military Band, at Redcar and Saltburn, ten weeks, commencing July 2, twice daily, including Sunday. Lowest terms. G. B. Robinson, Bandmaster, Newtown, Stockton-on-Tees.

ADA ALEXANDRA'S CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. Tenting Season, 1906.
WANTED, for Above, Flute and Piccolo, commence at once, good salary to brilliant soloist. Apply to Augusta Denton, Mus. Dir., Sat., Kidwelly; Sun. and Mon., Carmarthen.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo, Clarionet, 'Cello, for New Turbine Steamer, end of May to September, Ardrossan to Belfast. Terms or Shares. Maitland Lacey, Mus.-Dir., Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, good Flute and Piccolo player, permanency to suitable man, open at once. Lowest terms and refs. Conductor, Pal., Lincoln.

WANTED, Accompanist, to Rehearse Small Chorus. Apply, 12, Aigburth-mansions, Chapel-street, Brixton-road, on Saturday, 12 to 1 p.m.

WANTED, for Bostock's Continental Menagerie, First-Class sober and sound Double Drummer, with all effects; also Bombardon. C. Kettering, Bandmaster, Menagerie Bostock, Liege, Belgium.

WANTED, First-Class Double Drummer, must have Tympanis and all effects; long Summer Engagement, Seaside; com. Whitsuntide. State lowest terms, reference, and age. Box 3,104, "The Era."

WANTED, Bandsmen.
Clarionet Players required,
in a First-class Regimental Band now at home.
A good opportunity for Young Instrumentalists desiring to advance.
Apply,
P. S., c/o Messrs. Hawkes and Son, Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, Lady Accompanist, Guitar or Banjo, for Outdoor Singing.
Address, Box 3,084, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Mandolinist, to join Troupe. State lowest terms, &c., to Carpenter, 53, Bridge-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Musicians, to attend an Open Meeting on Sunday, April 15, at 4 p.m., at 9, Thistle-street (off Sauchiehall-street), Glasgow. Speakers, Mr. J. B. Williams, General Secretary, A.M.U., and Mr. George Carson, Secretary Glasgow Trades Council. All are cordially invited.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, Violinist, Disengaged, Seaside, Tour, or Resident desired. 54, Casewick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathew's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor and Musical Director, at Liberty from June 1. Field End Villa, Worsley-rd., Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Knight Pearce (Conductor-Pianist), Disengaged April 23, for Summer Season. Address, April 14, T. R., Hanley.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Smart, Sober, Satisfactory Conductor, violin or piano, resident or tour. Address, Leonard Tute, 31, Marlehill-parade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement as First-class Musical Director (Piano), Resident or Tour; excellent references. Walter Scott, 18, Beulah-grove, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Martin, Conductor (Violin), at Liberty April 21, late Conductor the Grand, Folkestone, also the Leas Shelter, Folkestone; thoroughly experienced, any Business. Address, c/o 13, New-road, Stourbridge, Worcestershire.

WANTED, Well-known, Johannes Tomscha (pupil of Dr. Joachim and Sauret), Musical-Director or Leader, Great Solo Répertoire. Tour or Residence. 10, Biddulph-mansions, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, by Present Leader, Summer Engagement, any business, thoroughly experienced, first-class refs. Address, Hart, 65, Grasmere-st., Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director, Conductor or Leader, Violinist (soloist), reliable, first-class experience, Disengaged, large library. Box 3,098, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, good Conductor (Violinist), experienced all lines, reliable and smart. Apply, Conductor, 1, Church-street, St. John's Wood, London.

WANTED, by First-class Lady Violinist, Summer Engagement, Hotel or Seaside, Orchestra or Solo. Highest references.
Apply to "Violin,"
c/o Arthur Russell, Concert Agent,
13, Sackville-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin. Good references. H. Smith, 14, Prince's-square, Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Violinist, at Liberty April 23, any business. Mills, 2, Buckingham-street, Brighton.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, Engagement in High-class Ladies' Orchestra, Violin or Viola, experienced. Write Box 3,085, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin (or Viola). Good references. At liberty May. E. Handel, Hippodrome Bostock, Paris.

WANTED, by Young Amateur Violinist, Professional Engagement in Orchestra; used to Operatic Music. "Strings," 40, Churston-avenue, Upton Park.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin, any Business, at Liberty, steady and reliable. Butler, 55, Hampstead-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by the Principal Second Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co. Address, Lewis, St. Croix, Waterlooville, Hants.

WANTED, by experienced First Violin or Viola, Engagement, Disengaged April 30. A. E. Pritchard, 81, Norwich-road, Lowestoft.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, perm. or season, any business, sober and reliable. Good refs. and testimonials. Friswell, 45, Sydner-rd., Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Solo Cornet, Seaside or Town, immediate offers invited. Herbert Sprake, 49, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, late Royal Artillery, &c. King, 6, Victor-villas, near Kneller Hall, Hounslow.

WANTED, by good Solo Cornet, Engagement, Orchestral or Military; 13 years' experience; excellent refs.; age 27. Box 3,102, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Cornet; excellent refs.
Montague, 33, Thomson-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Cornet, well up in Theatre or Variety; can give good references. Bryant, 15, London-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, at Liberty Theatre or Variety; best refs., and thoroughly experienced. A. Benning, 18, Paulsgrove-road, Portsmouth, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, any business; reliable; reference; at Liberty 23rd inst. McCormick, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, by String Bass or Bombardon, competent and experienced, summer engagement. Best refs. J. H., Shrub Hill Cottage, Worcester.

WANTED, Engagement, Contra Bass, for Summer Season.
Jack Walker, Grand T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-Class Bombardon, excellent refs.
Address, Bombardon, 9, All Saint's Green, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn, thoroughly experienced, Orchestral and Military, at Liberty, May 1. French Horn, 15, Century-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by French Horn, Experienced, Engagement, April 23, excellent refs., any business. F. Ladley, First Horn, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello. Also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. Cassells, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent and Experienced 'Cellist. T. Cathie, Theddlethorpe, Louth, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist. Address, A. G., 17, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, good experience, April 23, used to any Business. Write, S. S., 51 Southwold-mansions, Widley-road, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Viola, combine Piano, experienced accompanist and Orchestral Pianist, advertiser well known, London preferred. Box 2,951, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement in Ladies' Orchestra. Viola, Violin, experienced, good sight reader, July, August. Box 3,094, "The Era."

WANTED, by Oboe, Summer Engagement; Orchestral or Military; late Soloist Royal Marines; excellent refs. G. Williams, G. T., Hull.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Summer engagement, Pier, or First-class Hotel. Finished 3 months, Court Theatre, L'pool. Address, 49, Haverstock-hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ada Brandon, Solo Harpist, accepts Engagements, Concerts, At Homes, Piers, Brilliant Popular Selections. Address, Writtle, Chelmsford.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist,
Royal Albert Hall and Queen's Hall.
accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party.
Pupils received. Harp, Pianoforte.
Write as above. 24, Waldemar-mansions, Fulham.

WANTED, Seaside Engagements. Miss Eveline Hall, Solo Harpist (sister of Miss Marie Hall, the celebrated Violinist), Peckham Villa (Poolbrook), Malvern.

WANTED, Season Seaside Engagement, or business, flute (piccolo soloist), well known, military or string. Reliable, 27, Thistlewaite-rd., Lower Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, experienced and reliable; good references. C. H. Coleman, 27, Park-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, any business, steady and reliable.
Flautist, Box 3,093, "The Era."

WANTED, by Experienced Flautist, Engagement, at Liberty April 23, good references, and thoroughly reliable. Flautist, 41, Medway-st., Leicester.

WANTED, by Pianist (first-class), Engagement for summer, good appearance, young, reliable, well up in variety business. J. Alexander, 170, Cambridge-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Howard Jones, Pianist, Disengaged, late ten years' Queen's, Poplar; London or Seaside. 29, Hayday-rd., Barking-rd., Plaistow, E.

WANTED, by Piano, Engagement, combine Violin or Conduct; also Cornet; together or separate; any business. W. Kaye, 133, Gordon-st., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Orchestral Drummer, Theatre or Music Hall preferred, at Lib. April 21, through closing.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced, Summer Season, or permanency. Variety preferred. Lille, 94, Graham-road, Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, Known, Mandolinists, Guitarists, Banjoists (lady and gent., good appearance), experienced, expert, splendid répertoire; also Piano. Disengaged. De Vekey, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Musicians, playing Mandoline and Guitar. Apply, Ehrmann, 6, Cable-street, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Florence Voorzanger has returned from Sweden, and is open, with her Celebrated Ladies' Orchestra, for summer engagement. For terms and particulars, 61, Warwick-avenue, Maida Vale.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Known, the Albert Hall Bijou Orchestra (ten performers, no ladies), at Liberty for Summer Engagement. To secure this A1 Combination, apply, Conductor, Albert Hall, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement in vicinity of Southampton, by Madame Stockham's Ladies' Grecian Band of Harps and Concert Party, July 23, 24, 25, Aug. 13, 14, 15, appearing Easter week Bognor Pier Pavilion.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. Williams, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. Jesson, 96, Long-acre W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone 9,827, Central. F. J. Lees, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. Bartley, 9, Seamore st., Glasgow. Tel., 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS, BLYTH.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Musical excepted. April 16, 23, and 30,
three weeks only.
Address as above.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPO., Paisley and Belfast.
WANTED, to open Monday next, good Flying Show. Three Bar Act, Cycle Act, refined Variety; also good Picture Show, for Belfast. Address, Transfield, Hippo., Paisley, N.B.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, WINTER GARDENS, SOUTHPORT.
WANTED, the Best Talent in England, for present and future dates. Note.—All artists engaged at this successful circus will have the option of engagements at Ohmy's next new building. This circus is now the talk of the town, and everyone says it is the best circus ever seen in Southport. Address, King Ohmy, Grand Circus, Southport.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, all Artists to note the above establishment closes at the end of Easter week, Saturday, April 21, 1906, for Summer Season. This is the second time this advertisement has been inserted. The above Circus is to let for any first-class entertainment that can work ring or open Stage.
Share or Rental.
Address,
C. Algie.

WANTED, for Wilder's Fêtes and Galas, June 4, July 9, Aug. 6 and 13, Aerial Novelties, Acrobats, and Up-to-date Gymnastic Performers, Single and Double Acts. Full particulars, sample litho., and lowest terms to Wilder, 29, St. Francis-street, Birmingham. Luba Saremа write at once. Important, Contract Waiting.

WANTED, for Burley Carnival, June 30, Acrobatic and Gymnastic turn, afternoon and evening. Inclusive terms required by April 21. Address, J. E. Caukwell, 11, Harold-mount, Burley Fields, Leeds.

WANTED, Circus Performer (retired or otherwise), resident in London, who is well acquainted with entire routine of Circus Business, Entrées, &c. Letters only. Powell, 109, Clapham-road.

WANTED, Girl, for Acrobat Troupe, about 14 years old, small, and light figure, slight knowledge of dancing preferred; good home. Reply, Box 3,099, "The Era."

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S
HIPPODROME,
CENTRAL PARK, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, the following Artists to attend Rehearsal, Easter Monday, April 16, at 11 o'clock, prompt:—
Tom Cannon and Troupe of Wrestlers,
Du Callion, Funny Neddy Vokes,
Black Eagle and Prairie Flower,
Blumenfeld's Dogs, W. F. Cattle, Les Henris,
The Three Martinettes,
Frank Anderson, La Belle Lily and Albert,
Marie De Carteret, The Parzones,
Chloe Convere and Yankee Cake Walk Horse,
Miss Amy Samwells, The Two Wambas,
The Celebrated Cooke Family,
Edina Moika, Miss Ernestine Rosa,
Fynn and Haddie,
Harry Wamba, and Full Hippodrome Band.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Capt. Gruber's Elephant, Horse, and Pony, &c., Elephant, Horse, and Pony, &c., are Liberty April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, and 28. For terms
9, Huntingdon-road, East Finchley, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Tom-Tom, Tumbling, Talking Clown and Agouste, at Liberty for long or short engagements. Address, 15, Union-st., Southport.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Gymnast, vacant Monday next, Stage or Aërial. Address, 78, Gartside-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Bros. Almo (Fred and Albert), comedy three bar act, Monday, onwards. Wire, 21, Windsor-terrace, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Comedy Triple Bar Act, next, Circus, Hull. Liberty 23rd, 30th, on. Com. as above.

WANTED, Known, Two Devoras, Aërial Teeth Gymnasts; also Gertnier, Equilibristic Juggler; three distinct acts, liberty tenting or variety tour, &c. C/o Post Office, Seaforth, Lancs.

WANTED, offers, Les Henris, M. and Mme., Elegant Equilibristic and Gymnastic Act, Liberty 23rd and 30th (North). Cooke's Circus, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Monday next, by Lillian and Clown, Contortionists. Wire, offers, Sadler's Wells Theatre, N. Then, 65a, Ellen-street, London, E.

WANTED, April 16, on, Circus or Reliable Tenting Engagement, by the Levene Wilton Troupe, Two Acts, Specialities. 36, Graham-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, April 16, 23, by Mdlle. De Vena, Lady Juggler; Aubrey, Gymnast; Star Acts. Salary or Shares. 17, Rhondda-street, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, the Two Droflas, Double Jugglers, Balancers, Tub Spinners, Vacant Monday next. Add., 27, Quay-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Staircase Leaping Acrobatic Cyclist. Big success. This, Hippodrome, Higher Broughton, Manchester. Liberty Monday onwards. Also Panto., Animal parts.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists, all Lines, for immediate dates. Please state in first instance absolutely lowest terms to save correspondence. Messrs. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 63, Regent-street, W. Telephone, 6070 Gerrard.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Lancashire and Yorkshire. Marcus Boyle, 113, Bridge-st., Farnworth, Bolton; after Sun., G.P.O., Keithley, Yorks.

WANTED, Variety and Speciality Artists, for immediate and future dates, for Hippodromes Grimsby and Barrow. R. Silvester, Hippo., Grimsby.

WANTED, Variety Artists every description, Sensational Acts. Full particulars, vacant dates, terms, Valentine's Agency, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, April 23, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any), to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, for the International Hippodrome, near Birmingham, to open April 28, onward, useful Artists in all Lines, also Cinématograph, with working plant, with up-to-date Pictures, two Property Men, and Double-handed Musicians. Address, with lowest Summer Terms, to H. Giles, Heldathorpe, Hay Mills, Birmingham. Jack Baur, of Donkey fame, please send address.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines. H. A. Jordison, Managing-Director, Empire Theatrical Agency, Ltd., St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, May 28, June 11, 25, July 9; Freaks and Novelties April 23. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists in all Lines, for Blackpool, must be refined and used to concerted numbers. Preference given to those who play an instrument.
Photos. and lowest terms to
Mason, Palace Theatre, Carlisle;
next week, Metropole, Manchester.

WANTED, Gala Artists all Lines, June 4, onwards. Lithos., Bookings, Terms, &c. Edgar Stebbings, Gala King, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, also good Bioscope, to open Monday, Bowes Park, Sittingbourne. Wire, Hugh Dempsey, 15, Dover-street.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Tivoli and Summer Carnival, Maidstone,
Opening June 16,
Artists of every Description in the Variety and Equestrian Profession, Big Aërial Acts, Acrobats, Three Bars Comedy preferred, Big Military and Equestrian Spectacles. Could arrange with a Small Circus complete in itself, and any Big Attraction with drawing power that can be worked in the open air or on roofed stage. Good Military Band of not less than Thirty Performers, Sideshows, Balloon Ascents (captive or otherwise). Should be pleased to hear from Messrs. Spencer, Aëronauts.
A similar Carnival will be run at Coventry later in the season. Further particulars will be announced in the columns of "The Era" at a later date.
Apply, T. M. Sylvester, 213, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, the absolute cream of the Variety Profession, Big Bright Shining Stars, Novelties and Sensational Attractions. Nothing too Big; in fact, the Bigger the Better. The above Hall has been proclaimed by the Public and Press to have produced the best organised and specially selected programmes ever seen in Coventry, and is engineered by a Practical Manager who is thoroughly experienced in every branch of the Equestrian and Variety Profession. Mr. Sylvester will at all times be glad to receive applications from all recognised Agents. The majority of the Artists which have appeared at the above-named Hall have been supplied by George Barclay, George Foster, F. Peel, Tom Shaw, and Tom Claxton's Agencies.
Communications, T. M. Sylvester, 213, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Known.—Call for the Coventry Hippodrome, Monday, April 16. Rehearsal at 11 a.m. sharp. All must attend; no excuses. Matinée at 2 p.m. Austin Rudd, The Three Brags, Burg, Haud, and Wise, The Dunvilles, Fred Dunstone, Roland Hill, Daisy Morell, Spencer and Marks, Hippodrome Pictures, Clements Trio, and Mitchell's Combination.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Proprietors, Managers, and the Cream of the Profession, to Know that
TOM CLAXTON'S
English, American, and Continental Dramatic and Variety Agency, Nelson House, 9, Charing Cross-road, London. Telegrams, "Plagiarism, London," Telephone 5314 Gerrard, is always in a position to supply Managers with the Greatest Acts of all Descriptions, for immediate dates. Always Vacancies for Stars, Novelties, or anything that will draw. Artists at Liberty for Monday next and immediate dates, to save time, should send in early, lowest terms, lithos., &c., address, and route.

MAIDSTONE HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Agents and Artists, to Note that Mr. G. Howard Watson has been appointed Managing-Director of the Maidstone Hippodrome Company, Ltd. Will Artists and Agents holding bookings kindly send them for confirmation to the new management? Address, Mr. Watson, Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 63, Regent-street, London.

GRAND, MANCHESTER.
Grosvenor H. Hamilton, Director.
WANTED, Known, Call for Monday, Rehearsal 11 a.m. prompt, Ned Kennedy and Co., Smiler Lee, Dan Robans, Miss Rose Tilley, Animated Pictures, Miss Ada Kingsley, The Mozarts, Daulby and Beattie, Ripley Bros.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for April 23. Reymond, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small.

WANTED, for April 23, 30, May 7,
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Stars, Novelties, Comedy Acts, &c., April 16, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you. Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME,
DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Big Stars, Novelties, Specialities, Comedy Acts, &c., May 21, and onwards. State absolute lowest terms, bookings, &c. Can be booked in conjunction with Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough; Hippodrome, Stockton; Grand, Stockton; Hippodrome, Hull; &c., &c., &c.
Address, James Bell, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, Big Star Turns, immediate and future dates, nothing too big.
Send lithos., lowest terms, &c.,
George Pearson's Agency,
6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.
N.B.—Interviews by appointment only.

DUNFERMLINE RACES and HIGHLAND GATHERING.
WANTED, Open Air Stage Turns, Monday and Tuesday, July 16 and 17, 1905. Send Terms and Particulars to Alex. Dodds, East Port-street, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Turn to Bottom Bill, and a Good Comic Singer, April 23, for a Town near Manchester.
Only those near Manchester need apply.
Papa Brown, Agent,
8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-road, London, S.W.

GRAND
HALL-BY-THE-SEA,
MARGATE.
Proprietor, Lord George Sanger.
WANTED, Variety Specialities of Every Description, for Summer Season (July, August, and September).
Startling Dumb Shows, not only new to Margate, but new to the World, invited.
Quote absolute lowest terms, with full particulars (no fancy salaries),
to
Charles Evans,
General-Manager,
as above.
Note.—Agents save railway fares, as they will not be interviewed.
Lists submitted by post will receive consideration in due course.

WANTED, Dec. 24 and 31, Big Specialities, Novelties, &c. Lithos, terms. Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for Clough Hall Gardens, Harecastle, Big Specialities, Variety Artists, June 4, onwards. Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, June, July, Aug., Sensational Specialities all kinds, Ground and Lofty. Lithos., Memos., T. Gannon, Variety Agent, West Grove, Bristol.

HIPPODROME, THEATRE, & OPERA HOUSE, MANSFIELD, and MORELLA'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, CHESTERFIELD.
WANTED, Variety Talent all Branches, present and future dates. Address, Morrella, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

WANTED, the Best of Talent, in all Lines, 23rd, and on.
Drew Bayley, Agent,
170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park Manchester.

WANTED, for May 1, any really Interesting, Humorous, or Sensational Act that can be done on a raised Platform 20ft. square.
Lowest terms in first letter,
Box 3089, "The Era."

WANTED, every description of First-Class Dumb Acts, suitable for outdoor Fêtes, Sports, &c., June, July, Aug. Calverto, Giffnock, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, I can Place the Biggest Acts.
Atlas, Hippo., Maidstone.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
Manager, Henry Kemble.
WANTED, May 7, 14, and onward, Big Speciality Acts,
Jugglers, Illusionists, Cycle Acts,
Star Comedians, &c.
Lowest terms, with lithos.
Call Monday, April 16,
Menotti, Happy Attwood,
J. H. Milburn,
Les Valdos, Geo. Belrose and Maud De Velin,
Primavesi,
Continental Girls,
Victoria Dagmar, Four Maisanos.

WANTED, Gala Acts, of Every Description, June 4, 5, 7, Midlands;
June 30, July 14, Yorkshire;
Aug. 6, 7 several, in different parts;
Aug. 17, Durham; 23rd and 24th, Wales.
Send lithos and terms, and permanent address, by Monday, for June 30 and July 14.
Smalley, 11, Kennington-mansions, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Speciality Acts of every description, for Summer Dates.
Send lowest terms and vacancies to
Fortune and Granville,
115, Strand, London, W.C.

LUTON CHARITIES DAY.
Grand Fête in
Wardown Corporation Park, July 11.
WANTED, Known, the Committee are open to receive particulars and terms of Outdoor Attractions, Spectacular.
10,000 audience.
Hon. Sec., J. Jennings,
Castle-street,
Luton, Beds.

THE SPA, WHITBY.
WANTED, for August and September, with large Répertoire, Al Fresco Entertainment. Bookings include The Yokels, The Hollanders, The Caledonian Boys' Band, Scarlet Mr. E.'s, Jamaica Native Choir, &c.
Spa Theatre: Mr. Edward Terry, F. R. Benson, "Sergeant Brue," "Public Opinion," "The Country Girl," "Walls of Jericho," "Christian," "Three Little Maids," "On the Love Path," &c.
Address, W. Payne Seddon, Spa, Whitby.

WANTED, Whitsuntide Holidays, June 2 to 10, inclusive, Concert Party, refined, 5 or 6 artists. State lowest terms. Silence polite negative. Managing-Director, Pier, Skegness.

MUNSTER-CONNACHT EXHIBITION,
LIMERICK.
WANTED, First-class Vocalists, Illusionists, Jugglers, Conjurers, Musical Shows, &c., &c.
Full Particulars, with Vacant Dates in July, Aug., and Sept., to
Henry Kemble,
Palace Theatre, Cork.

WANTED, Sand Dancers, Buck Dancers, Cake Walkers, also Comedy Juggler, for Outdoor Carnival. Good opportunity for smart Amateur.
Address,
Box 3,088, "The Era."

WANTED, two refined Ladies, good voices, and dancers, for Music Halls. Apply, Sylverton, 3, Percy-street, Tottenham Court-road, Tuesday, 5 o'clock.

WANTED, Short Scotch Comedienne, must sing and dance, rehearse Monday, open Monday following, for Special three weeks. Send lowest terms, photograph, and refs. immediately, to Harry Fischer, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady, for a First-class Turn; some stage experience necessary. Terms and photo. to C. N., c/o "Program," 40, Lisle-street, London, W.

Comedians
(Ladies and Gentlemen)
WANTED, for Music Hall Playlet, Novelties,
Well-known Artists only.
Coms. to Box 3,097, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, to play in Sketch, Monday next. Apply, Manager, 30, Grosvenor-terrace, Camberwell Gate, London, S.E, between 10 and 11.

WANTED, to complete Troupe, Smart Man, well up in Zouave Drill and Wall-scaling. Letters only. Powell, 109, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, Amateurs, and Beginners, thorough tuition free, no fees till engagements found. Bob Graham, Raleigh, Salford-rd., Streatham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Known,
I have a vacancy for young man willing to become Bioscopist.
Address,
James Leo, Cinématograph, Tommyfield, Oldham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, April 16 and 30, Lulo O. Bright, Comedienne and Dancer, smart and refined; also Little Venus, the smartest Juvenile Character Vocalist on the Stage, encored nightly. Offers to Joy, Grove Cottage, Flemington, Motherwell, N.B.

WANTED, May 7, onwards, the Sisters Roze, in their refined Drawing-room Entertainment of Song, Music, Play, Mirth, including Roza, the Wonderful Girl Pianiste, as the "Musical Middy." 39, Cardigan-terrace, Leeds. Offers invited for summer, South Coast preferred.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, English and Continental Eccentric, just concluded part of Moss Tour with success, at Empire, Liverpool. Monday next, April 16, Circus, Hull.

WANTED, by Clifton Hall, Vocalist, Monday next. Big success, Circus, Rochdale; return Nov. 12, increase. Wire, 175, Katherine-st., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Easter Week, through disappointment, Tom Carrick, the famous Dame Comedian and Patterer. Wire, 84, Archway-road, Upper Holloway, N.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, a real Novelty; also Ventriloquist. Wire, Theatre, Hebburn-on-Tyne; also vacant for good Al Fresco.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, April 30, May 21, onwards, 1906. Will always buy funny songs and patter. Monday, Metropole, Openshaw, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also 23, by Jimmy Shields, Comedian. H. M. Theatre, Walsall. After Sat., 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Francis Gramaldie, Snort Comedian, height 4ft. 5in., concluding Special Fortnight, Liberty April 16. This week, King's, Longsight, Manchester; next, 335, Hyde-road, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, by Soros, the Mystery, Monday next, good top or bottom, and Motograph, best pictures. Salary or shares. Wire, Theatre, Abertillery.

WANTED, by Will Knight, Knockabout Pantomimist and Comedian, would like to join well-known Sketch; have a good reputation, and good attention to business. Letters, 16, Bury New-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement at Seaside, can give good Musical Turn on various Novelty Instruments; also could Lead as First Violin in Troupe. W. Wagnorn, Limes, Grove, Lewisham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. Prof. Lenton, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, to join for Summer Season, Al Fresco Concert Party, by High-Class Conjurer and Ventriloquist, Share or Salary. Montague Albert, 46, Aston-road, Raynes Park.

WANTED, April 30, May 21, June 11, 25, July 2 to Aug. 13, 1906, Kyoto, the Original Kyoto, and his Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box, a really funny but a clever Act; May Geraldine, Dancing Chic Comedienne. Enormous success Zoo Hippodrome, Glasgow; twelfth week of Stoll Tour. Monday, April 16, Olympia, Liverpool, Olympia, Liverpool. To follow: P., Bordesley, G., Hanley; Gravesend, Dublin, Belfast, Birmingham (two dates), Oldham, Yarmouth, Chatham. Wire or write, Olympia, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next and 23, the Lashmars (Harry and Flo), Comedy Acrobats, Head and Hand Balancing, Expert Dancers. Hippo., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday next, on, the Mintos, Lady and Gentleman, refined musical eccentrics, 2 distinct turns. Wire, 34, Booth-st. East, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 30, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality performers. Distance no object. Wire, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday, by N. C. Bostock and Nellie Elliene, Two Star Singing Turns. Wire, 10, Silver-street, Bloomsbury, London, quick.

WANTED, Known, Stylo, wonderful hoop Juggler, and Beatrice Bonnie, artistic Comedienne, Vacant next week. Wire, Empire, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Sterling and Cashen, Instrumentalists, Vocalists, and Champion Dancers, appeared at Lyceum Matinée; immediately booked by Messrs. Barrasford, Macnaghten, Baugh, Barnard, &c. Have few early dates. Sole Agent, Richard Cass, 33, Maiden-lane, Strand. 'Phone, 6704 Central.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Renowned Musical Comedians, April 23, onwards.
Address, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, April 23, 30, by Carl and Carr, Successful Comedians. Thanks for offers, Easter, Mon. and Tues., Zoo. Gardens, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, the Brothers Renzo, youngest and improved Handcuff Kings and Trunk Manipulators, at Liberty after Easter. Apply Box 3,086, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act, meeting with great success in Rome.

WANTED, Known, Sill and Sillcott, New Act, "Lively Luggage." Liberty Monday, also 23rd. Wire, Olympia, Sunderland. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Nelson and Thomas, Vacant April 23 and 30; also Miss Jeannie Evans, Serio. Wire or write. Hippodrome, Wakefield

WANTED, Monday, also 23rd, by Snowdon and Conway, Comedy Couple; also Winnie St. Ives, Serio. Wire for two good turns. 34, Summer-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Smart and Klein, the Harmonious and Classical Couple, in their Unique Musical Interlude. Coms., re dates, Sley, or Stebbings.

WANTED, 23rd and 30th (North), M. and Mme. Henri, Elegant Equilibristic Act, "Sport in the Electric Garden." Cooke's Hippo., Aberdeen.

WANTED, May 7, 14, by The Monckton, in screamingly funny Musical Comedy Acts, "A Woman's Curiosity," &c. Next, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, April 23 and 30, for Scottie's Waifs and Strays, in their great Spectacular Act, "Whilst London's Sleeping," complete Scenery, Properties, and Effects carried; also Scottie's Laughing Cyclone, "Whizzing the Whirl." April 16, Alhambra, Belfast.

WANTED, April 23 and 30, by Los Granadas, Greatest Comedy Trampolin Act; own Scenery. Monday, Queen's T., Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, June 25, onwards, by the Boultons, and Mlle. Bartenelli, two first-class acts, open July, for Galas. Good lithos. Address, Swimming Baths, Swindon, Wilts.

WANTED, April 16, 23, Luigo's Sextette Serenadas, "Naples by Night" (the Originals), special scenery and costumes. Managers and agents please note, Mr. Towyn Thomas is no longer authorised to book my show.
This, Olympia, Liverpool, a big draw.
Wire, 12, Kinglake-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Seven Wulfrunas (three Ladies, four Gentlemen), Comedy Acrobats, "Fun in a Café," Liberty 23rd. Wire. Ohmy's Circus, Southport.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, for one or both acts, April 16 and 23. Perm., 32, Courtenay-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope. Huge success this week, Theatre, Port Sunlight. Wire for Monday, one or both acts. Gilroy.

WANTED, Easter, one, three, six nights, by Melverne, refined, artistic, double voiced Ventriloquist, Mimic, two distinct specialities. Wire, Melverne, Grand, Islington.

WANTED, for Muir and Bartlett's great Comedy Sketch, "The Collar Stud," with its beautiful special scenery and effects, Easter week and 23rd, Easter week and April 23. This week, Starring, Hippodrome, Maidstone. Complimented by the Managing-Director, Howard Watson, Esq. Wire to-night, Hippodrome, Maidstone; Monday, 151, Grosvenor-road, Victoria, London.

WANTED, Known, Claude Ginnett, jun., Original "Rejected Remounts," Vacant April 16, May, 7, 21, June 11, onwards. Address, 59, Nichols-square, Hackney-rd., N.E.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings for Lutas Liberty's Star Magical Combination. "The Writing on the Wall," and other Big Mysteries with Drawing Powers; also his Living Liliputians. Whole or part programmes.
Address, c/o "The Era"; or
Donald's Agency, Liverpool.

WANTED, Bookings (some), from April 30, whole or part programme, our own pianist, Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lumley's "Merry Moments." Pier, Hunstanton.

WANTED, April 23, Chard's 14 Trained Dogs, 6 High-leaping Hounds.
Monday, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, to Managers of Halls and Piers. Don't miss this opportunity. At Liberty from May 7, onwards, the very latest Bioscope and up-to-date Pictures, Electric, A or C, or own cylinders carried; also a very fine Coloured Series of Biblical Stories, suitable for Sunday Exhibition, smartly worked, no waits, and good results. Positive satisfaction guaranteed.
Send best terms to
Claud Vincent,
9, Reform-street, Peterborough.

WANTED, Engagements, Britannia Bioscopes, always successful and up-to-date, 20 minutes to 2 hours. De Gruchy, 32, Craigie-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, 10 years' experience, lime or electric, abstainer. Travers, 91, Totterdown-street, Tooting.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, Lord George Sanger.
WANTED, Known, Meeting, in Taylor's Cinématograph Theatre, at Wanstead Flats, Easter Sunday Afternoon, at 3.30. Speaker, Rev. T. Horne.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. Clacher, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Minerva Automatic Co., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London.

WANTED, to thank the many Customers who have placed their Orders for the Ball-punching and other Automatic Machines for Spring Delivery, and would respectfully ask those who contemplate ordering to do so as quickly as possible, to prevent risk of disappointment.
Members of the Showmen's Protection Association.

WANTED, Known, to all Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen,
Up-to-date Travelling and Electric Lighting.
One of Savage's Steam Motor Wagons will be on show at Mr. John Collin's Easter Fair Ground, Queen's-road, Manchester, having fixed to its framing a separate Direct Coupled Electric Plant, equal to 16 2,000 candle power arc lamps, or 160 12 c.p. incandescent lamps. The most up-to-date wagon on the market, suitable for the combined purpose of carrying and hauling goods from place to place, and electric lighting.
Before Purchasing Traction Engines,
see this,
which Complies with the Motor Act.
Further particulars from
SAVAGE BROTHERS, LIMITED,
St. Nicholas Works, King's Lynn.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for 22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen to write for Leete's Catalogue of Special Colours, Brushes, and Varnishes, for Decorating Roundabouts. 129, London road, Southwark.

WANTED, Showmen and Others to Know that T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.
Bristol-street, Birmingham

WANTED, a few Exhibits, Plating and other Novelties, Original Touring Trades Exhibition, Torquay, April 24.
Apply, MANAGER, Market Hall, Newton Abbot.

WANTED, Novelties, Performers, &c., up to date; must have lithos. or paintings. Shares or certainty. Dr. CARL WHYTE'S Hippo., Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, immediately, Novelties, Shooter, Automatics, &c., share or rent, fine position in main street. BRYTON, 40, Llewellyn-street, Pentre, Rhondda.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, for Monday and future dates, also Tattooer, Wire Worker, and extra Spaces to Let, best position. MANAGER, Exhibition, 65, Stretford-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, for Holland's Cinématograph, for Parading, good Knockabouts, also Contortionist, any other suitable Parade for Outside Show. State wages first letter. Can join at once if wages suit. Gainsborough, Easter; then Lincoln. HOLLAND.

WANTED, Describer for Cinématograph Exhibition, will undertake to pay and teach the right person.
Address,
Box 3,090, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Doorsman, must wear uniform; also clever Character Readers.
MANAGER, 39, Spring-gardens, Buxton.

WANTED, Known, the Original Princess Gooma, of Youribah, and her West African Bodyguard Troupe of Warriors, in their Great Sensational Sword Dancing, Wrestling in their Native Style and Costume, will shortly be at Liberty. Have performed in all the principal Music Halls throughout Europe. Managers and Proprietors kindly take notice that we are the only Original Troupe travelling Europe. Wire or write to CHIEF LOBOGOLO, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with dog Toby. 101A, Penwith-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Lucy Moore, the American Coloured Giantess, weight 40st. 7lb., is at Liberty April 23. Good quick show, with good window show of lithographs, photographs, and day-bills. Write immediately, BOUNDS, James' Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Bianca, the Two-headed Lady, is disengaged by Sunday; largest show in England at present. Address, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Will Goodwin, doorsman, lecturer, or management of small show. Excellent refs. Over the Bridge, Wickham Market. Suffolk.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, H. G. Clark, planksman, comedian, also assist with piano. Refs. if required. H. G. CLARK, 14, Heath-st., Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Auctioneer, Floorman experienced Salesman; temperate, willing worker; wages and commission. GEORGE, 67, Windsor-road, Neath.

WANTED, Known, to Roundabout Proprietors. Showmen, that I have commenced my usual Spring Fairs this week at Eccles, next week Cheetham Hill, and continue until the end of the season, including Ordsall-lane for Easter, and Knutsford, &c. JOHN WHITING, Anchorage, Stretford.

WANTED, Space, 50 by 36, or larger, in Exhibition, Gardens, Pier, or any suitable Hall, for Miss Minni Letta's Novel and High-class Money-making Side-Show, the only one of its kind on the Road, on Rental or Sharing Terms.
For particulars address,
11, Addison Park-mans., Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, all Circus Agents visiting Thurles, co. Tipperary, Ireland, to Know, Field, in good position, can be had from Mrs. MCGRATH, Railway Hotel. Terms moderate.

TEIGNMOUTH REGATTA, 1906.
WANTED, Known, Tenders are Invited for the Sole Right of the Den, for
Shows, Roundabouts, Stalls, &c.,
for the Two Days of the Regatta,
Aug. 16 and 17.
Tenders to be sent in before April 30 to
GEO. DENNEY, Hon. Sec.

WANTED, to Let, Cheaply, Fair Field, Kidwelly, for Shows and Amusements, in centre of town, good business sure, next fair May 15. MORRIS, Cowparks, Kidwelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Shows and other Amusements, Fortnight's Carnival, commencing on Easter Wednesday, Belton-road, Willesden; also Wanted, to Engage, good Aërial Show or First-class Cinématograph. Address, PETTIGROVE, 36, Belton-road, Willesden.

ARMLEY FEAST GROUND, LEEDS.
WANTED, to Let, by Tender, the Ground on which the Feast is Held,
Sept. 1, 3, 4, and 5, 1906.
The Ground is Square,
Adjoins the Main Street,
and Contains about Three-and-a-half Acres.
The party taking the Moor will have to pay the Waterworks' Charge of about 30s., for the use of Water for Exhibitors' use. One-half of the Accepted Tender will have to be paid at the time of such Acceptance, and the remainder on Aug. 1, 1906. If this condition is not complied with, the amount Deposited will be Forfeited.
All the Tenders to be Sealed, and Endorsed,
"Tender for Armley Moor,"
and sent to the Undersigned
not later than May 7.
The Highest or any Tender not necessarily Accepted.
JOHN HUNTER, Clerk to the Common Right Trustees, 159, Armley-road, Armley, Leeds.

DUNFERMLINE RACES and HIGHLAND GATHERING, July 16, 17, and 18, 1906.
WANTED, Showmen, and Roundabout Proprietors to Know, Ground to Let, Roundabouts, Variety Shows, and Amusements. Terms and Space apply, ALEC DODDS, East Port-st., Dunfermline.

WANTED, to Let, all or part of Feast Ground, Earlsheaton, for Whit. Week.
Apply, H. HARRAP, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.
WANTED, Known, the South Shore Fair Ground is the only place of Outdoor Entertainment and Attraction in Blackpool, situated at South Shore, next the Promenade; the electric trams run right to it; finest position in the town. The Grounds face the sea, and have a frontage of over 500yds. The permanent Attractions now installed include the River Caves of the World, the Maxim Flying Machine, Helter Skelter, &c.
Room for new Attractions next season, commencing at Easter.
Good Tunnel Railway Wanted.
Native Village Wanted.
Enclosure now being erected for same.
Good Shooting Jungle or Side Show Wanted for new building, 30ft. by 30ft.
Covered and well-built Stalls, 10ft. by 20ft., to let.
Apply, PROPRIETORS, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

BREEZY BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, the Gigantic Wheel Arcade, Exhibition Grounds, and Tenth Annual Summer Carnival (now booking), is the original and only Free Pleasure Grounds within the town limits, and only one in England with live Sky-sign, costing £50,000; unaffected by gales and sandstorms; position absolutely the very centre, adjoining Winter Gardens, two minutes from stations and sea. Wheel (open 6 a.m.), visible many miles by passengers of all incoming trains, and first place visited; 20,000ft. under glass; Stalls, Shops, Side Shows, &c. Easter to October. Popular Native Village of last year replaced by newer and greater attractions. Early application imperative to MANAGER, Gigantic Wheel Company, Limited.

STARR ESTATE FAIRGROUND CO.
Manager, J. HARDMAN.
Secretary, A. ELLIS.
WANTED, to Let, Land, on Blackpool Sands,
for all kinds of Shows.
Already let: Pierrots, Tunnel Railway, Aerial Flight, Hobby Horses, Cycle Roundabout, Overboats, Throwing Game, &c.
Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary,
81, Central Beach, Blackpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Showmen, Roundabout Proprietors,
and other
Fair Travellers,
to know that
they can have Ground
on our well-known
Routes.
Numerous good Fairs
to follow after the
Easter Holidays,
in our various Districts.
Note.—None of our grounds are overrun with Stalls, &c. There is a good opening for energetic people with good Attractions.
Apply,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telegrams: "Gondola, Walsall." 'Phone: No. 80, Walsall.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Stalls, Roundabouts, Swings, Camera Obscuras, Shows, Palmistry, Games, Pierrots, Amusements, &c., for Portobello and New Brighton. Wire, MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Cycle Railway, New Brighton.

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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
The Boissetts, Lil Hawthorne, The Anartos, Cora Caselli, Chas. Gardiner, Walter King, The Seddons, Vernando, Sisters Bosanquet, May Henderson.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
The Novellos, Bessie Featherstone, Boswell's Circus, Lancashire Lasses, Harry Bedford, The Maples, Morton Trio, Canary Co., Holles Trio, H. Sloan.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Tom Edwards, Ross and Grayson, Starr and Leslie, Esta Stella, Beatrice Willey, The Finneys, Frank Leslie, De Lucca Troupe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Burke and Andrus, The Allisons, Melot Hermann, Conn and Conrad, Rosie Lloyd, Grell and Gray, The Serenaders, The Hardinis, Lilian Doreen, Bioscope.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY STREET, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
"Moses and Son," Rezene and Robini, Harry Conlin, W. Bellonini, Ernest Heathcote, Rosie Coleman, The Andos Troupe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Josephine Sabel, Benson and Geoffreys, Ethel Ra Leslie, Unthan, The Maningos, Four Skandias, Madge Carlyle, Alma and Abdullah, Tom Owen.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Fred Storey and Co., R. H. Douglass, Marie Collins, Manning's Entertainers, Marzella's Birds, Mora and Lola, Lady Fauntleroy, Frank Dunlop, Burt Shepard, Mason and Bart.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Brett and Orford, Cruikshank, Sisters Klos, Ten Genis, Eugen Joly, La Berat, Alf Chester, Volkowsky Troupe, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Bloomsbury Burglars," Bioscope, Ian Colquhoun, Alice Maydue, Haydas Troupe, Marie Weston, Abel and Welsh, Sylvesta, Dainez' Circus, Sarnthaler Troupe.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 11 for :—
Svengalis, Sherlock and Van Dalle, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Arthur Gill, Athlones. The Clarkes, Barker, Punch and Judy Girls, Walter Wallis and Co. Artists please note matinée on Monday.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Programme for 3 o'clock and 9 o'clock Performances :—
"The Revue," Tom E. Murray, Billie Burke, George LeClerq, The Price Troupe, The Dandies, Arthur Conquest, The Trumpeting Girls, The Rocking Girls, George Lashwood, Bella and Bijou, &c.
Programme for 6 o'clock Performance :—
Charles Warner and Company in "Drink," Madame Esty and E. C. Hedmondt, Bioscope, Puck's Portfolio, Duncan's Collies, Marlo and Dunham Trio, Millie Hylton, Classicum Quartette, Herr Grais, Taylor Trio.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 12 noon, for :—
J. C. Piddock and Johnnie Schofield, La Tostia, Rinaldos, Pictures, Terley, Fred E. Terry, James Fawn, The Howards, Albert Whelan, Artists please note, matinée on Monday.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 11.30 a.m., for :—
Minnie Cunningham, T. C. Callaghan, Stuart Quartette, Ray Wallace, Helene and Emilon, Chris Richards, Morgan Sisters, Florrie St. Clair, Jake Friedman. Artists please note, matinée on Monday, 2.30 p.m.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Tom Costello, Booker and Narbis, Elsie Robey, Pictures, Rich and Rich, Grace Merton, Hayes and Suits, Chas. Lilburn, Roze and Calvert.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mdlle. Jane May, Philip Sefton, Three Permans, Eva Kelland, Frank Sylvo, John Donald, Mulvey and Miriam, Pictures, F. V. St. Clair. Pictures.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
R. A. Roberts, Lily Esplin, Bioscope, Two Hiltons, Kate Traill, Violas, Fred Bronte, Reed Oetzmann Troupe.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN
Rehearsal at 3.0 for :—
Kate Carney and Co., in "The Sunday Promenade," George Gilbey, Herbert La Martine, H. G. Prosper, Arthur Lennard, Harry Anderson, A. G. Spry, Ben Albert, Harry Weldon, George Newburn, Alexandra Dagmar, Alice Digby, Lizzie Fletcher, Griff and Alpha, Haldyne Duo, Lovelle Bros., Rice, Rose, Davis, and Half, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m., for :—
Ernest Shand, George Hyman, Percy Hannon, Chas. Clark, Kate Carney and Co., in "The Sunday Promenade," Nellie Wallace, Rose Harvey, Edie Veno, Wm. Lee and Co., Terry and Bentley, Sanford and Lyons, Zavan and Cecilia de Paso, McConnells, Eily Adair, Pictures.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements Cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows :—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12.30 o'clock.
George Robey, Fred Karno's Co., Harry Randall, Harry Tate, Gus Elen, Clark and Hamilton, T. E. Dunville, Winifred Hare, The Poluskis, Margaret Ashton, Ernest Shand, Rachel Lowe, Fred Earle, The Casino Comedy Four, Florence Esdaile, Griff and Alpha, Edie King, Flo Gallimore, Ike Scott and Son.
Note.—Band rehearsal at 11 o'clock sharp.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, Happy Fanny Fields, The Poluski Brothers, Alice Hollander, Carrie Laurie,s Company, Will Van Allen, Rachel Lowe, Amba Austa, The Two Kings, Billie Barlow, Conway and Leland, Harry Ford.
Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
George Robey, Alice Hollander, T. E. Dunville, Poluski Bros., Happy Fanny Fields, Will Van Allen, Jack Lorimer, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope; Harry Tate and Company presenting "Motoring," Casino Comedy Four, Florrie Gallimore, Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel's Company.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARACON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artists are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3 o'clock.
Clark and Hamilton, Harry Tate in "Motoring," Jessie Preston, Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, Tom Woottwell, Sisters Casselli, Conway and Leland, Frank Seeley, Amba Austa, Mlle. Rees, Vernon and Voyce, Sisters Carini, Ruffell's Pictures, Daisey Dormer, King and Benson.
Manager, CHARLES BERCHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Frank Boyce, G. H. Elliott, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Margaret Ashton, Two Graces, Myra Stanfield, The Daintons, Ruffell's Bioscope, Six Bros. Luck, Chas. Russell.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
John Lawson and Co., in "The King's Minister," Harry Ford, Keen and Waller, Amy Clevere, Musical Jees, Winifred Hare, The Northern Troupe, Fred Earle, Sisters Wingrove.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Easter Monday.—John Lawson and Co., "The Monkey's Paw," Arthur Rigby and Co., H. G. Prosper, Victor Travers, Sterling and Love, Flo Esdaile, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Arthur Lennard, Ike Scott and Son, Katie Butler, Edie King, Bros. Bright, Ruffell's Pictures, Astley Troupe.
Secretary and Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 o'clock.
Will Evans in "I am a Soldier," Ernie Mayne, Onda and Artell, Bob Hutt, Carina Sisters, Verno and Voyce, Ben Albert, Sisters Warner, Bioscope, Walton and Lester.
Manager, H. KETTERMAN.

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Manager, LYNDON GREENWOOD.

DUCHESS PALACE,
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Two Performances Nightly, 6.45 and 9.10.
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Telephone, 58 Balham.
Gotham Comedy Quartette, Gregson Comedy Trio, Frank Coyne, The Katos, Alexandra Dagmar, Sisters Aindon, Bros. Hayes, Bioscope, Gertrude Glen and Co. in "Larks in the Park."
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WALTHAMSTOW.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.
Band Rehearsal, which all Artists must attend, Mondays, at 3 o'clock.
Fred Eustace and Co., in "Lights of the Harbour," Leo Dryden, George Antill, Sisters Caselli, Sterling and Love, Drawee, Hallam and Stanton, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
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Telephone, 1056 Ealing. Manager, E. W. JAMES.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.
Arden and Abel in "The Little Stowaway," Beattie, Sisters Slater, Harry Pleon, Ferguson and and Wright. J. W. Taylor, Morris and Morris, Driscoll and Mack, Victor Travers, Imperial Bioscope, Doody
Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

Are particularly requested to read their Contracts carefully, especially the Clause as to barring, which will be strictly enforced. Any Alteration thereof can only be effected by Special Agreement, in writing, with the Managing-Director. For Engagements at the Royal, Holborn; Duchess Palace, Balham; Islington Empire, and Grand, Clapham, address, Mr. WALTER GIBBONS, 1, Durham House-street, W.C Telephone, 6,825 Gerrard. For Engagements at the other Halls, address, Mr. G. ADNEY PAYNE, Managing-Director, Oxford, Limited, 1, Durham House-street, W.C. Office Hours, 10 to 4. Telephone No. 2,035, Gerrard.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Ella's Lions, Victoria Monks, Will Evans, Rousby's "Paris in London," Albert Le Fre, Lucy Clarke, Hamilton Hill, Ara, Zebra, and Vora, New York Nippers, Tom Woottwell, Baker and Balfe, Edna Thelma, Georgina Leonard, Frank Seeley, Jack Charman, Sisters Oswald and Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Fred Karno and Co., "The Thirsty First," George Bastow, Rachel Lowe, Tally Ho Trio, Lucy Clarke, Williams's "Illusion," Edith and Tommy Felix, Bert Byrne, and Victoria Monks.
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Sung by Miss Julie Mackay and Ryder Slone.

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Bros. Ashley, Rita and Roma, Tod Lowan, Mantell and Oval, Martin Henderson, Lillie Lassah, Pallister's Bioscope, Darrell Trio.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
King's College Boys, Janet H. Reynolds, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Edna Latonne, Francisco, May Moodie, Lee and Kingston, Mersano, Raymond Trio.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Gray and Walford, Hettie Lee, Flo Wood, Harry Zetter, McCann's Dogs, George Prince, Donatos, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Daunton Shaw Troupe, Tatten Hall, Frances Manners, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Maud Esmond, Warden Reed and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Myles and May, Will H. Fox.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Sisters Hall, Millie Howell, Leo Fallowfied, Geo. M. Schilling, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bernard and Weston, Harry Roxbury and Co., in "The Prince of Monte Carlo," Goldini Trio.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Tom Parker, Lola Patey, Pichell Troupe, May Fallowfield, Davis and Davis, Minnie Wren, Raymond's Pictures, San Remo Girls, "The Orange Girl."

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Frasettis, Lade Henderson, Walker and Lake, Hughes and Elliott, Empire Comedy Four, Jenny Reeve, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Bros. Zampah, Vay's Juveniles.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Bonnie Goodwin and Piccaninnies, T. W. Royal, Wallau, Chas. Faning, Frances Drew, Albano Troupe, Johnny Walker, Jock Walker, Raymond's Pictures.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Tennyson and Wallis, Gladenbecks, Tiny Arnold, Grace Langley, Raymond's Pictures, Joe Dale, Ford and Barris, The Sleedes, Adams and Ward.

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"Face at the Window."

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THE BRITANNIA.
Telephone, 7285 Central.
Matinées, Monday and Thursday.
The Deer Family, Joe Dale, Karr and Kooney, Susie and Protti, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Harry Russell and Co., Three Sisters Sprightley, Sam Barton, Bonnetti and Corri, James Willard and Co. in "Did He Deserve It?"

FORESTERS.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Vaudeville Dramatic Co. in "Bells of Vernavale," Florence Taymen, Nat Clifford, Astley's American Circus, Marie Neilson, George Bindon, Richard Elliott and Co., Ethel Loftus, Raymond's Bio-Ttableaux, Foreman and Fannan.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Telephone, 5890 Central.
Matinée every Monday.
Fred Conquest and Company in "The Freak's Revenge," Gladys Whitton, Violet Belrose, The Toreadors, Saxo, Tom Lloyd, The Wilfords, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Cyclo, The Virginians.

SURREY THEATRE.
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Matinée every Monday.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Frederic Maxwell, Miss Lois Du Cane and Co. in "Lord Harkaway," Rose Pareezer, The Falcons, Hicks' Clerks, Luis Hardt, Jack Rae, C. Wordley Hulse and Co. in "The Fight in the Forge," Marie Blythe, Baddow, The Four Cecilias, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Maurin's Marvellous Fountains.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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TIVOLI, LEEDS.
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Phonograph Girl, Chas. Somers, Barrington, Gus Hindell, Sibb and Sibb, Lawrence Barclay, Wyndham and Waters, Julian Mack, Lottie Siegenberg, Pictures, Lottie Lennox.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Howard and Harris, Elverton, T. B. Fayme, Lillian, Society Quartette, Harry Brown, Ed. Lewis, Dan Thomas, Sisters Poole, Tate and Tate, Pictures, Hunt and Thomas, Mdme. De Pasquali.

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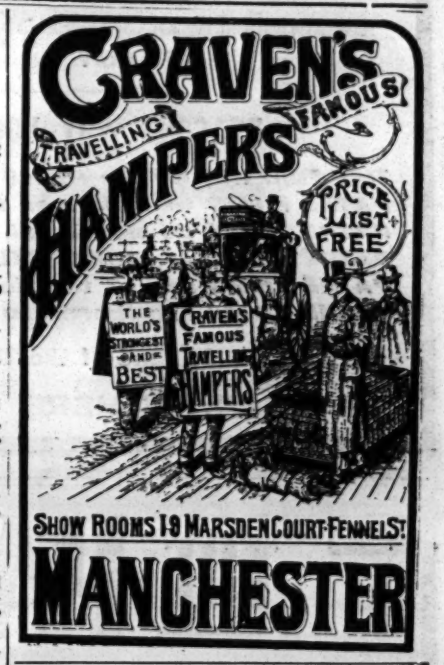

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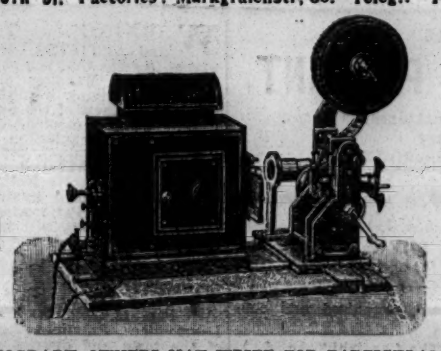

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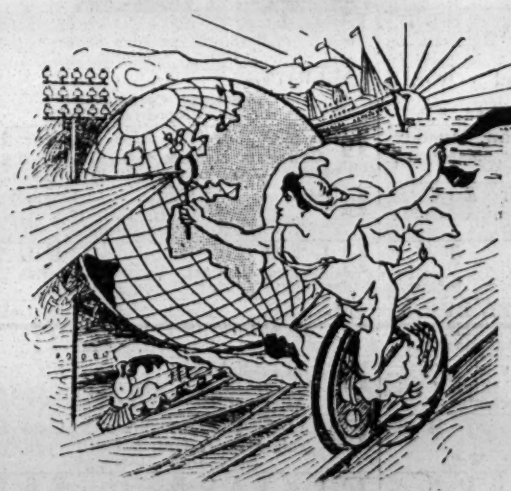

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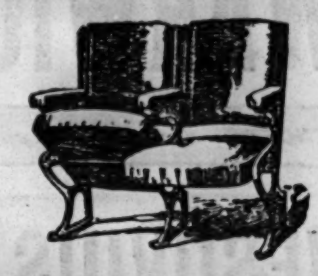

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Foreign Money Table.
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Their Telephone Numbers
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MISS FLORENCE CREAGH, Lead,
Grand, Islington, "The Bells of Haselmere." April 23, "London by Day and Night." Dis 29th.

MISS MARIE DAVENTRY,
Doreen Rivers "Life's Sweetest Sins."
April 23, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MISS FRACES DAVIE,
Eliza Dibbs, in "Mr. Hopkinson" Co. Dis. April 20. 27, Montague-place, Russell-square.

MRS. ALFRED DAVIS,
Dis., termination of eight months' Tour with "Mr. Smith." 69, Dinsmore-road, Balham, S.W.

MISS LENA DELPHINE,
"A Girl's Cross Roads" Co.
Perm. address, 54, Bishop's-road, Fulham, S.W.

MISS DORA DENCH,
Star Lead, "Rich and Poor of London."
This, Coatbridge; next, Metropole, Glasgow.

MRS. B. M. DE SOLLA, at Liberty.
Address 21, Maryon-terrace, South End-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W

MISS DORIS DIGBY (Mrs. C. Vane),
Juvenile Lead, Miss Maud Hildyard's Co. Thanks H. Yorke, Esq., for offer. T. R., Bath.

MISS ELLA DIXON,
Disengaged 21st.
Address, A.A.

MISS LYDIA DONOVAN,
Star Lead "Her one Great Sin," "East Lynne," and "The Penalty of Crime." Add., A.A.

MISS MAUDE STEWART DREWRY,
Thora, "Prodigal Son," and other parts, Mr. Leonard Rayne's Co. O. H., Cape Town.

MISS DOLORES DRUMMOND,
Disengaged.
17, Southfield-gardens, Strawberry-hill, S.W.

MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON,
Disengaged.
1, Claverton-street, Victoria, S.W.

MISS LOLA DUNCAN,
Engaged by Mr. Wm. Haviland,
for his South African Tour.

MISS MABEL DURRANT,
Disengaged.
Add., 6, Conau-mansions, West Kensington, or A.A.

MISS M. E. ELLIS.
Address,
10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MISS MAUDE ELLISTON,
(Miss Dorothy Elliston). Offers invited Autumn. April 23, Empire, Newcastle.

MISS DAISY ENGLAND,
Disengaged.
Address, 73, Lower Richmond-road, S.W.

MISS ANNIE ESMOND Concluded Engagement with Mr. Charles Frohman in America. Disengaged. Marble Arch House, W.

MISS ALMA EVELYNE, Dramatic Soprano. Disengaged, Musical Comedy or Comic Opera. Address, A.A., 10, King-street, W.C.

MISS VI FARREN, Juvenile Lead in Sketch. Disengaged. Concluded 3 years' Lead "Fighting Parson" Co. Empire, Newcastle.

MISS HARRIET FAWN,
Engaged by Fred Warden, Esq., Easter Pantomime, Belfast.

MISS DOROTHY FIRMIN,
Lady Violet, "Orchid" Co. This week, Bournemouth; next, Southampton.

MISS RUBY FORBES,
Address,
47, King's-gardens, West End-lane, N.W.

MISS HELENE FOREST. Flora McDonald "My Highland Laddie," Surrey Theatre. Per. Add.,50, Elsham-rd., Kensington, W.

MISS QUEENIE FRASER-BRUNNER,
at Liberty for Autumn, Juvenile Lead.
94, Rumford-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

MISS ARMINE GRACE,
Disengaged, Comedy, Character, Boys.
16, Charleville-mansions, West Kensington. W.

MISS LOUISE GRAEME,
Olivia, Celia, &c., Mr. F. R. Benson's Co.
April 23, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

MISS DORA GRAY as Acacia Dean.
Singularly adapted to the part. . . . it is all beautifully done. O. H., Cheltenham. Dis. June.

MISS MARION GREY,
Disengaged.
50, Curzon-street, Mayfair, W.

MISS ETHEL GRIFFIES, Disengaged
May 14. Leading Business, Drama, Comedy, or Musical plays. "Madcap" Co., Court, Liverpool.

MISS MARY GRIFFITHS (Mrs. Arthur Lyle), as Mrs. Baldwin, "Beauty and the Barge." Dis. Autumn. T. R., Brighton.

MISS PAULINE HAGUE,
late Marjory, "A Country Girl." At Liberty.
Cannons, Pevensey Bay, Sussex.

MISS ETHEL HALLE.
Address,
10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MISS DAISY HALLING,
Concluded with E. Carpenter, Esq., Sarah Drake, "Man's Enemy," Princess's T., Glasgow.

MISS LAURA HANSEN,
Lead, Disengaged.
86, Church-road, Hove, Brighton.

MISS BESSIE HARRISON
Thanks L. Brough, Esq., for 2nd offer of Reeng. Lib. for Autumn. York House, Torrington-sq.

MISS GERTRUDE HARRISON,
Autumn offers invited for Heavy Lead.
Address, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MISS THEODORA HENRIES,
Title-rôle, "A Woman of Pleasure."
April 23, P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.

MISS BEATRICE HOMER,
at Liberty, Lead or Heavy Lead.
Address, 35, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MISS EDITH HOUSLEY,
Concluded Tour as Lady Holyrood, "Florodora." Disengaged. 10, Berners-st. Mansions, W.

MISS AGNES IMLAY,
Nellie Temple, "Human Nature," Crown Theatre, Peckham. At Liberty April 30.

MISS CLARA JECKS.
Address,
care of "The Era" Office; or, A.A.

MISS MARY JERROLD,
At Liberty.
40, Perham-road, West Kensington, W.

MISS KATIE JOHNSON,
Disengaged until July.
Actors' Association, 10, King-st., Covent Garden.

MISS KATE KEARNEY,
Engaged by J. F. Graham, Esq.,
Prince of Wales, Birmingham.

MISS RHODA KILDARE,
at Liberty for Town or Good Tour.
Address, 4, Bloomsbury-square, W.C.

MRS. HENRY LEIGH,
at Liberty.
2, The Woodlands, Langton-rd., Vassall-rd., S.W.

MISS GRACE E. LESLIE, "Female Swindler" Co. Termination of Tour. Offers invited. Producing sketch Ap. 30, Q., Gateshead.

MISS ADELINE LESTER,
Letters,
10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MISS GRACE LESTER,
"The Midnight Mail" Co. Disengaged Summer. Address, April 23, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

MRS. L. L'ESTRANGE, at Liberty for Character, Comedy, Grande Dame.
35 Store-st., Bedford-sq., W.C.

MISS MADELINE L'ESTRANGE,
Disengaged Autumn, Character or Special Comedy Parts. 257, Marylebone-rd., N.W.

MISS EMILY LEVETTEZ,
Heavy, Aristocratic, Comedy. At Liberty shortly. 6, Longford-terrace, Kingstown, Dublin.

MISS KITTY LOFTING,
At Liberty, Lead, or Light Comedy.
Address, Actors' Association, 10, King-st, W.C.

MISS VIOLET LUDDINGTON,
Address,
Blenheim Lodge, Teddington.

MISS KEITH LYTTON, Mrs. Deborah, "Mice and Men." Mr. Forbes Robertson's Co. Prince of Wales's, Birmingham. Dis. May 6.

MISS MABEL MANNERING,
Starring as Camille, &c. Disengaged summer. April 23, G. T., Nelson.

MISS ALICE MANSFIELD,
Haymarket Theatre.
Every Evening.

MISS BEATRICE MARSDENE
Thanks H. Yorke, Esq., for offer.
April 22 Weston (3 nights), Weymouth (3 nights).

MISS GRACE MASSEY,
Disengaged.
Grove Farm, Highgate-road, N.W.

MISS ALICE MAY,
At Liberty.
15, Rupert-street, W.

MISS MARJORIE MAY, Juvenile Lead, "Trail of the Serpent" Co. April 16, A. T., Kettering; April 23, R. T., Ilkeston.

MISS KATE MAYNARD, Engaged by Junius Booth, Esq., for La Carconte, in "Monte Cristo." April 22, Queen's T., Manchester.

MISS ROSETTA McLAREN,
Mr. Tom Craven's Co.
April 23, Palace, Manchester.

MISS SASH MILLWARD,
Amateurs or short special engagements.
5, Havelock-road, Norwich.

MISS AGNES MOLTENO,
Prima Donna. Regent, Salford.
Vacant April 23 and 30.

MISS VYVYAN MONTGOMERY
(Mrs. Hugh Metcalfe), Dis. for Drama.
Coms., The Den, Queen's-road, Wimbledon.

MISS LOUISE MOODIE,
Address, C/o Chas. Dillingham, Esq.,
1402, Broadway, New York, U.S.A.

MISS MADGE MORLEY,
Lead, Special Parts. Disengaged.
4, Ardville House, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton, S.W.

MISS NELLIE MORTYNE,
Mrs. Patrick Campbell's Co.
Address, "Era" Office.

MISS EVA MOSS,
Lead, "The Golden Ladder."
April 23, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MISS DAISY MURCH,
Emotional and Light Comedy Lead.
Address, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS TESSA MYERS, Petunia Perkins in "The Brixton Burglary."
Pier Pavilion, St. Anne's-on-Sea.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON,
Dis. Ter. Mr. A. Melville's Tour,
Heavies. Com., 73, Munster-road, Fulham.

MISS GRACE ARMYTAGE NOBLE,
At liberty.
37, Manchester-street, W.

MISS OCTAVIA NOEL,
Lead with Mr. Montefiore (sixth re-engagement). 23rd, Avenue Theather, Sunderland.

MISS PHILLIS NOELL,
Disengaged. Add., 1, Glencoe-villas, Station-road, Whyteleafe, Surrey.

MISS MARGARET NYBLOC,
Comedy, Ingénues.
25, Mansion House-road, Langside, Glasgow.

MISS NELL OLIVER,
Autumn arrangements complete. Dis. April 21. Juv. or Lead. 11, Lady Margaret-rd., N.W.

MISS ADA PALMER,
Disengaged. Aristocratic, Character, Comedy parts. 78, Merton-road, Wimbledon.

MISS LOUISA PEACH,
April 30 Own Sketch London Halls.
Permanent address, 26, Wallace-rd., Canonbury, N.

MISS JOAN PEREIRA,
Disengaged. Thanks Vivian Grantham, Esq., for offer. 64, Charlwood-street, S.W.

MISS IDA PHILLIPS,
Disengaged May 5.
1, Tavistock-square, W.C. Telephone, 9402, Central.

MISS HELEN PILLANS,
Disengaged.
Agents, or care of "The Era" Office.

MISS CISSIE PODMORE, Juvenile Lead, "A Wrecker of Men" Co. Disengaged shortly. This, Met., Glasgow; Next, Mexborough.

MRS. MORTON POWELL,
Helena Byars, in "Darkness,"
April 23, Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.

MISS DORA PRICE, Starring as The Woman, in Mr. William A. Armour's "What a Woman Did" Co. Clarence T., Pontypridd.

MISS MARY RABY,
Disengaged.
91, Alderney-street, Warwick-square, S.W.

MISS FLORENCE RADCLIFFE,
Polly Love, "The Christian."
Disengaged May 14. Grand Theatre, Luton.

MISS ALICE RAYNOR (Mrs. Howell-Poole). Mr. Charles Macdona's "Are You a Mason" Co. Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

MISS ROSEMARY REES,
at Liberty April 29.
Address, 34, Oxford-gardens, North Kensington, W.

MISS GRACE RICHARDSON,
Nora, "What the Butler Saw."
April 23, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

MISS ATHOLIE ROBERTSON, Juv. Lead. Disengaged April 23. Played Letty Fletcher during Miss Elaine Verner's absence. A. A.

MISS CONSTANCE ROBERTSON,
Engaged by Otho Stuart, Esq. Address, Adelphi Theatre; or 9, Rosetti-mansions, Cheyne-walk, S.W.

MISS EAST-ROBERTSON,
Starring with Mabel Mannering and Millar Anderson's Co., Century, Motherwell, N.B.

MISS INA ROZANT.
Address, A. A., or
85, Jerningham-road, New Cross, S.E.

MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL,
Lead. At liberty May 6.
14, Elgin-avenue, W.

MISS MAUD RUSSELL
(Mrs. Frank M. Thorne), "Napoleon the Great" Co. 23rd, Seaham Harbour.

MISS RUSSELL-SPIERS, "Two Little Vagabonds" Co. Engaged by G. Mudd, Esq., for Summer, "Bunch of Violets." Pier, Eastbourne.

MISS FRANCES RUTTLEDGE,
Disengaged till Autumn.
10, King-street, W.C.

MISS SCOTT-WATSON,
Dis. Lead. MRS. SCOTT WATSON, Old Women. 7, Falkland-road, Hornsey, N.

MISS EVELYN SHAW (Mrs. Dick Winslow), Mrs. Grimper in "For Life—And After." April 23, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MISS RUTH SHEPHERD,
Lead, Mr. J. A. Campbell's
"The Sin of Her Childhood" Co.

MISS VIOLET SIMS,
Cora Gouldhart, "The Woman Who Gambles" Co. Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

MISS ETHELDRED SMART,
Heavies or Juveniles.
Her Majesty's T., Aberdeen.

MISS BLANCHE ST. ALBANS,
Own Companies.
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

MISS WINNIE STANHOPE,
At Liberty Autumn, and for Pantomime.
Address, "The Era" Office.

MRS. E. STATHAM STAPLES
(May St. Aubyn).
1, Prima-road, Brixton, S.W.

MISS BLANCHE STEELE,
"The Temptress," W. H. Hallatt's Company. Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, April 23, Six Nights.

MISS LESTER STEPHENS,
Resigning part in "Geoffrey Langdon's Wife?" Next week, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL,
Lead, Engaged by Mr. Charles Herrington.
April 22, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MISS EMMA STOCKLEY,
Lead or Star Heavy.
All coms., Coningsby House, Staines.

MRS. A. B. TAPPING,
Disengaged May 12.
Letters, 24, Hilldrop-road, Camden-road, N.

MISS GEORGETTE THIERRY
Thanks F. Melville, Esq., for Kindly Releasing to Star as "An Abandoned Woman," Alex. T., Hull.

MISS AGNES THOMAS,
Disengaged until September.
Royal Court Theatre, S.W.

MISS N. THORNE-HALLAM,
Lead. G. T., Walsall; Miss MARGUERITE THORNE, Char. Parts, Alex., Sheffield.

MISS LOUIE TINSLEY, Mrs. Snipe, "Talk of the Town." Disengaged April 30. King's Theatre, Hammersmith, W.

MISS MAUDE TOWNSEND, Juvenile Lead in "When Woman Hates," Nichette in "Camille." April 23. Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MISS MAUDE TREMAYNE,
Disengaged.
Address, 158, Cambridge-st., Warwick-sq., S.W.

MISS ELLA VANE,
Leading Business.
Fern Villa, Southbank-road, Southport.

MISS ROSSLYN VAYNE,
Dick, "Two Little Vagabonds."
April 23, Pier, Eastbourne.

MISS RUBY VERDI,
Nellie Wagner in George Musgrove's "Prince of Pilsen" Co., King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MISS EMMA VICTOR,
Comedy, Character. Disengaged for Tour or Stock. Address, 49, Calabria-road, N.

MISS HELENA WALBRAN,
Juvenile Lead.
April 23, Surrey Theatre, S.E.

MISS ANENA WALTON,
Soubrette. Disengaged now and Panto.
11, West Clowes-street, Eccles New-road, Salford.

MISS LESLIE WARNER,
Lead, "Napoleon the Great" Co.
April 23, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

MISS ADA WATSON,
Late Princess Soo Soo, "Chinese Honeymoon." Dis. (Dance's.) 39, Bramley-rd., Notting Hill, W.

MISS DAVIES WEBSTER,
Disengaged.
38, Flanders-mansions, Bedford-park, W.

MISS ETHEL WEYBURN,
Joan Trevelyan, "Sweet and Twenty."
April 23, Opera House, Cork.

MISS GRACE WILSON,
Permanent address, 25, Flanchford-road,
Ravenscourt Park, W.

MRS. CHAS. WOOD,
Comedy and Char., Old Women. Disengaged.
94, Aughton-street, Great Homer-street, Liverpool.

MISS MARIE WRIGHT,
Special week with Frank Harding, Esq.
At Liberty 30th.

MR. FRED ACTON,
Fitzwarren, T. R., Belfast, Easter Panto.
Disengaged, Char., Com., April 30.

MR. FRANK ADAIR,
At Liberty May 14.
Address, Theatre Royal, York.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED,
Mr. William Greet's Co. At Liberty May 21.
Address, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. ALEC ALEXANDER,
Heavy Lead, "Gipsy Jack."
April 23, Victoria T., Burnley.

MR. ALEC ALVES,
Vere de Bogyns "What the Butler Saw,"
April 23, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

MR. DALLAS ANDERSON, in America, Marc Antony, Orlando, Orsino, Lysander, &c. Add., Low's Exchange, New York.

MR. HENRY ARMSTRONG,
Compton Comedy Co., Disengaged June 18.
April 23, Prince's, Manchester.

MR. EDWARD E. ASHBY,
Lead, "The Woman Who Gambles" Co.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

MR. WILLIE ATOM, Small Comedian (4ft. and a fraction). Comedy Boys, or Georgie Porter parts, &c. 26, St. George's-rd, Brighton.

MR. ALBAN ATWOOD,
Returned from Australian Tour. Disengaged.
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MR. JAMES C. AUBREY,
At Liberty.
Address, 21, Yukon-rd., Balham Hill, S.W.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE,
Lead. At Liberty May 19.
Premier Hotel, 48, Dover-st., Piccadilly, W.

MR. & MRS. GEORGE R. J. AUSTIN
(Miss Marie Florence). "Claudian" Co.
April 23, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

MR. H. K. AYLIFF,
Present Arrangements Complete. Perm. Address, 9, Grafton-mansions, Duke's-road, W.C.

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Annual Tour of the World.
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Manager of the Palace, Walthamstow.
Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT.
Address,
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MR. J. J. BARTLETT,
"Twixt Axe and Crown," Mrs. Russ Whytal's Tour. Tyne T., Newcastle.

MR. CHARLES B. BEDELLS,
Supporting Miss Florence St. John.
Empire, Shepherd's Bush, Six Nights.

MR. HENRY BELDING, Lt. Reresby in "Breed of the Treshams." At Lib. May 7 (finish of tour). Grand, Croydon.

MR. IVAN BERLYN,
Disengaged.
10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MR. WILSON BLAKE, "Breed of the Treshams." Lib. in May for Light Comedy or Character. Grand, Croydon.

MR. J. S. BLYTHE,
Disengaged.
12, Avington-grove, Penge, S.E.

MR. CHARLES BOULT,
Dis., Lead or Heavy Lead, June 9. Douglas Kingston, "Orphan Heiress," Miners', Ashington.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN,
Mr. Tree's "Oliver Twist" Co.
Disengaged May 21. Opera House, Southport.

MR. and MRS. T. B. BRABAZON
At Liberty, May 7, Tour or Stock.
19, Farcliffe-place, Manningham, Bradford.

MR. BRABOURNE,
Comedy, Disengaged.
Address, 17, Lawn-road, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. ALFRED BRANDON. At Lib.
Juveniles or Heavies.
Ad., Maidenhayne, Musbury, nr. Axminster, Devon.

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The Eton Hotel, Adelaide-rd., Haverstock Hill, N.W. 'Phone, 892, P.O., Hampstead.

MR. WILLIAM BURCHILL,
Stage-Management, Productions or Parts.
118, Pall-mall, S.W. Now with Mrs. P. Campbell.

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Capulet, "Romeo and Juliet" production.
Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

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Disengaged Light or Eccentric Comedy, Sing and Dance. 82, Hilltop Mount, Leeds.

MR. VERNON WILLOX CADOGAN,
Bertram Hannaford, "Walls of Jericho," Mr. A. Bourchier's Co. 23rd Shakespeare, Clapham.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE
H. C., Re-engaged by Mr. Willard, America; Mrs. C. Disengaged. 22, Linden-gardens, W.

MR. LESLIE CARTER.
Chevalier de Frontinac, "The Little Father of the Wilderness," &c. April 23, T. R., Edinburgh.

MR. ALBERT CAVANAH,
General Manager, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's "Proof" Tour. April 23, T. Royal, Hyde.

MR. HAROLD CHAPIN,
Rehearsing,
Savoy Theatre.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD,
Dis. April 28, term. "One of the Best" Tour, Heavies, Char., Boro' T., Stratford, E.

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MR. DENNIS CLEUGH,
Orlando, The Shakesperian Festival.
Crystal Palace. Address, A.A.

MR. JOHN CLYDE, Lead Bus.
Thornhill, "Golden Ladder." Liberty May 28. Offers. This, Eccles; Next, South Shields.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS,
Disengaged Shortly.
Address, 14, Berners-street, W.

MR. and MRS. DAVID COLLINS
(Ethel Douglas), Business-Manager, Soubrette, &c. 28, Kennington Park road, S.E.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS,
Disengaged Autumn.
34, Sharsted-street, Kennington Park, S.E.

MR. EDWARD W. COLMAN,
Offers invited.
Address Elephant and Castle Theatre, London, S.E.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON, Disengaged
May 7, on. Com. or Char. "The Breed of the Treshams." April 23, Grand T., Croydon.

MR. MARTIN COMSTOCK,
Offers Invited from June 9, Management or Advance. G. T., Woolwich.

MR. T. E. CONOVER.
Disengaged April 28.
Address, c/o "The Era."

MR. FRED CONQUEST,
Address,
Kenilworth, Worcester-villas, Hove.

MR. BERNARD COPPING
Lead. MISS ISA BELLINGTON, Comedy, Miss Maud Hildyard's Co. T. R., Bath.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
"Dare-devil Dorothy" Co. Fifth Year.
April 23, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

MR. WALLACE G. COURT,
at Liberty now.
Leslie Cottage, Pevensey Bay, Sussex.

MR. ERNEST H. G. COX,
Lord Percy Kilgour and Stage-Management, "Public Opinion."

MR. HARRY J. CRANE
Offers Invited.
198, Barry-road, East Dulwich, London, S.E.

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MR. HOWARD CRISPIN,
Business Manager "Petronella."
See Company's Column.

MR. JULIAN CROSS,
"The Catch of the Season." G. T., Hull.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. HARRY CULLENFORD, Con.
4th Tour, "Golden Ladder." Eng. to Star "Conscript." Holywell, St. Ives, Hunts.

MR. CLIVE CURRIE,
Address,
His Majesty's Theatre.

MR. HUBERT DAVIS, Comedian,
"Whittington" Panto. Dis. April 23.
This week, Opera House, Treherbert. Wire.

MR. FREDERICK D. DAVISS, Disengaged for Leading Business.
23, Grosvenor-terrace, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. HAMILTON DEANE,
Colonel Hungerford, "Breed of the Treshams," Grand Theatre, Croydon. Six Nights.

MR. HENRY DEAS,
Rossi, "Eternal City." Disengaged in Three Weeks. Address, Theatre Royal, Torquay.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE,
Principal Comedy and Character.
Disengaged. 59, Harder's-road, Peckham.

MR. JACK DENTON,
Disengaged.
12, Angel-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. F. H. DE QUINCEY, at Liberty till Mr. Tree's production of "A Winter's Tale." London or Tour A. A., 10, King-st., W.C.

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MR. WELLESLEY DRAPER
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Dis. Immediate Offers Invited. Lead, Heavy, &c. 69, Celtic-st., Webb-lane, Stockport.

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Starring in "The Still Alarm."
Opera House, Northampton.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business-Manager, at Liberty.
Address, 55, Saltoun-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. T. W. DUNSCOMBE,
Paul Gouffet, "The Face at the Window."
April 23, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

MR. & MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS
(Miss Bella Power). Maj. Stretton and Lady Charlotte, "The Cotton Spinner." T.R., Rochdale.

MR. CHARLES ESDALE,
Disengaged April 20.
10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MR. EDWARD FENTON,
"A Traitor Prince" Co.
April 23, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. ARTHUR FERRISS,
Comedian. Special Two weeks' "The Smoking Concert." Offers invited. Pal., Glasgow.

MR. HUGH FLEMING,
Advance Director, George Musgrove's "Prince of Pilsen" Co., Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE.
Disengaged June 18.
Care of Mrs. Radie, 2, Apsley-place, Glasgow, S.S.

MR. and MRS. KEITH FRASER
(Miss Leah Marlborough), possibly Disengaged shortly. Address, 5, Chalk Farm-road, N.W.

MR. LIONEL GADSDEN,
Disengaged.
Address, 27, Elm-grove, Cricklewood, N.W.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
As Ellis Jordan, "A Wife's Triumph" Co.
Junction Theatre, Manchester.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
Title-rôle, "The Prodigal Parson."
Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY
(Kitty Jones).
Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

MR. J. D. GEDDES,
Heavy or Juvenile Lead, Disengaged.
London-road, Billericay, Essex.

MR. HENRY GEORGE,
Mr. Arthur Collins's "Prodigal Son" Co.
April 23, Prince's Theatre, Poplar.

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Leading Man and Producing Plays for J. C. Williamson, Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. ERNEST CH. GITTINS, Acting-Manager, Carl Rosa Opera Co. Arrangements complete. Next, T. R., Portsmouth.

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MR. LAURENCE GROVE,
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April 23, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. CLARENCE HAGUE,
Disengaged.
Address, 78, St. George's-road, S.E.

MR. CHARLES HALLING,
General-Manager, Messrs. Northway and Garrod's Co. Theatre Royal, Stockton.

MR. ST. JOHN HAMUND,
Re-engaged Autumn, by Geo. Dance, Esq. Disengaged till then. 33, Thornton-avenue, Chiswick.

MR. HUBERT HARBEN,
Engaged by Mr. Tree.
His Majesty's Theatre.

MR. A. C. HARDIE,
April 23, Theatre Royal, Bath.
Miss Hildyard's Co.

MR. FRANK HARDING,
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MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
Spencer Traughton, "Public Opinion" (South).
Address, April 23, Opera House, Chatham.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
with Mr. William Green in the Autumn. Disengaged now. Freemasons' Club, Richmond.

MR. T. P. HAYNES,
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Kennington Theatre.

MR. JERROLD HEATHER,
Star Lead.
Disengaged Whit. Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES,
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MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON,
Compton Comedy Co. Disengaged June 16.
April 23, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

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Touring the Success, "Life's Sweetest Sins."
Address, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. WHITFORD KANE,
Paul Martin in "The Duffer."
Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
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(Miss Emme. Roselle), Liberty High-Class Al Frescos. 17, Hawthorne-cres., Yeadon, near Leeds.

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MR. CLAUDE KING,
April 23,
Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

MR. CECIL KINGSLEY,
Address.
Garrick Theatre, W.C.

MR. FRED KNIGHT,
Eames, "The Little Stranger."
Criterion Theatre, W.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE,
Disengaged for Light Comedy.
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MR. JAMES R. LA FANE,
Address,
10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY
(Jessie Price), Disengaged May 7.
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MR. EDMUND LEA,
Waldorf Theatre, W.C.
Address, 106 Rusthall-avenue, Bedford Park, W.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Playing Fagin, in "Oliver Twist," for Special Fortnight on Tour. April 23, T. R., Bournemouth.

MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON,
Waldorf Theatre,
W.C.

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MR. MAITLAND MARLER,
At Liberty.
Address, 18A, Hartswood-road, Wendell Park, W.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Wibsey, in "Public Opinion."
April 23, T. R., Chatham.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN,
Advance Manager, Mr. Cyril Maude's "Beauty and the Barge" Co. April 24, G., Southampton.

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New Theatre Royal, West Stanley.

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MR. SINCLAIR NEILL,
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MR. DAVID G. NOBLE, Lead,
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MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
Heavy Lead, "The Prodigal Parson."
April 23, Theatre Royal, Stockton.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON,
Lead, "Man's Enemy."
Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. GUS OXLEY,
Daly's Theatre,
W.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN,
Col. Brinthrope "Sunday," 200th Time,
April 23, Carlisle.

MR. F. M. PAGET,
on Tour, "Brier Bush" Co., until June. Lib. for Aut. 121, Victoria-st., Westminster.

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(Miss Wynne Hanley), S.M., "The Duffer" Co. Queen's T., Swindon. Disengaged May 12.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Monks, in "Oliver Twist" (Mr. Tree's Co.), April 23, O. H., Southport. Disengaged May 21.

MR. FRED PENLEY, Mr. Brownlow in "Oliver Twist," April 22, T. R., Bournemouth. Dis. April 28.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Mr. Wheeler's Comedy Co., Cape Town, South Africa; or A.A.

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Disengaged April 23.
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MR. PERCY RHODES, Concluded engagement with Mr. Charles Frohman as Paul Sylvaine. Dis. 54, St. Maur-rd., Fulham.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON,
In Geo. Edwardes' "Lady Madcap" Co.
Disengaged shortly. Court Theatre, Liverpool.

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Weinstein and Stage Management, "What the Butler Saw," Theatre Royal, Manchester.

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April 23, Theatre Royal, Rotherham, Six Nights.

MR. FRANK R. ROBERTSON, Lead,
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Disengaged Aug. Met., Birmingham.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT,
Principal Comedy, "Great Awakening" Co.
Theatre Royal, Bath.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Tommy Keston, "The Freedom of Suzanne."
April 23, Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES SEWELL
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MR. JAMES SKEA,
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MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY,
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Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. E. STANTON-SHARP,
Baron Bonelli in "The Eternal City."
April 23, T. R., Torquay. Disengaged May 6.

MR. W. R. STAVELEY,
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Character. Disengaged May 28, "The Golden Ladder" Co. Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MR. JAMES C. TAYLOR,
As Benvolio in "Romeo and Juliet."
Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE
(Louise Hampton)
New King's Theatre, Pitfield-street, Hoxton, N.

MR. and MRS. E. W. THOMAS
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MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
"Breed of the Treshams." Dis. shortly.
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MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD, Concluded Charles Surface, &c. April 23, T. R., Exeter, Lysander. Disengaged 30th. Address A.A.

MR. A. W. TYRER,
As Harry Dallas, "Walls of Jericho" Co.
23rd, Shakespeare T., Clapham. Dis. May 27.

MR. GEORGE UNWIN,
The Scala Theatre,
W.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE
(Kate Hallam), General Manager and Lead, "Drama of Life" Co., Queen's T., Liverpool.

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Dover.

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MR. C. A. WHITE, at Liberty
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"'Twixt Axe and Crown" Co., Tyne T., Newcastle.

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Six Brothers Luck Company.
Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Juvenile Lead, "At Duty's Call," Star T., Liverpool. The Blorenge, Taunton, or A. A.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
Adam, "As You Like It."
23rd, Crystal Palace.

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE,
"Facing the Music."
April 23, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

MR. DICK WINSLOW, Manager,
Hardie and Von Leer's No. 1 Co., "Two Little Vagabonds." Ap. 23, Pier Pav., Eastbourne.

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MR. E. H. WYNNE,
Comedy, Character. Disengaged May 12.
"The Duffer" Co., Queen's, Swindon.

MR. DUNCAN YARROW,
as Horatio Drake, in "The Christian."
23rd, Grand Theatre, Luton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MASTER LESLIE OSWELL,
"Peter Pan" Company,
April 23, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

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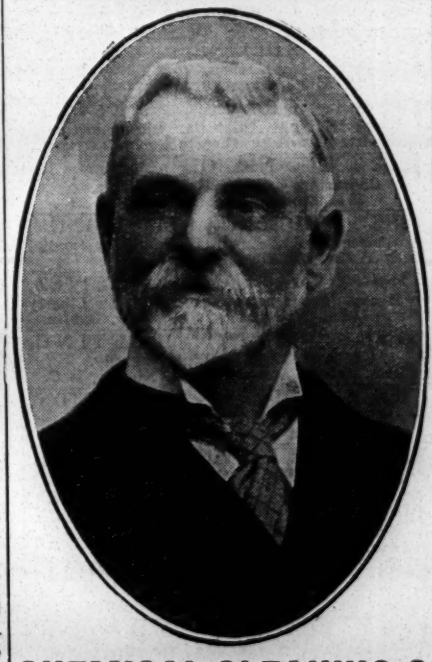

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THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on the 10th inst at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

INSPECTION.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that the expenditure incurred with regard to the inspection of places of public entertainment respecting the character of the performances, &c., during the quarter ended March 31, was £2 5s. 6d.

LEWISHAM PALACE OF VARIETIES.

The Committee reported that the Council on March 14, 1905, approved drawings submitted by Messrs. Owen and Ward, on behalf of Mr. W. Stephens, of a music-hall building proposed to be erected at the corner of High-street and Limesgrove, Lewisham, subject to the condition, *inter alia*, that the building should be commenced within six months from the date of the approval. On Oct. 17, 1905, this time was extended by six months, and Mr. Stephens has now applied for a further extension of six months. The Council on March 27, 1906, on the recommendation of the Building Act Committee, extended the periods allowed for the commencement and completion of the erection of the building by the terms of the consent granted under the London Building Act, 1894, and recommended that the application be granted upon condition that the building referred to be commenced within eighteen months from April 4. Agreed to.

THE OXFORD.

The Committee reported that they had considered a drawing, submitted by Messrs. Wylson and Long, showing certain alterations which it is proposed to carry out at the Oxford Music Hall with a view to preventing the gangways on each side of the stalls being used for standing room. They recommended that Messrs. Wylson and Long be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by them with regard to the proposed alterations, provided the cross gangway between the tenth and eleventh rows of the stalls be not reduced in width. Carried.

STANDING ROOM IN THEATRES.

Captain Hemphill asked the chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee if it was intended to drop the question of standing room in theatres, as the report on that subject had been withdrawn at the last meeting.

Mr. Yates replied that there had been some little misapprehension as to what occurred at the previous meeting. It was not the intention of the committee to let the matter drop; on the contrary, they were pursuing the subject very actively. The report had been withdrawn because the Theatre Managers' Association had approached the committee, and promised to lay before them certain facts and figures, which could be discussed in a perfectly friendly manner. He hoped that the Music-Hall Managers' Association would see the wisdom of adopting the same course, and in that case he had no doubt that some satisfactory and amicable arrangement would be arrived at. The committee would report fully on the subject at the conclusion of the negotiations with the Theatre Managers' Association.

UNREGISTERED AGENCIES.

On the presentation of the report of the Public Control Committee recommending that an assistant at a commencing salary of £150 a year be appointed in the Public Control department in connection with the Council's work in respect of the regulation of employment agencies, Mr. Hardy, M.P., the chairman of the committee, said that some of the revelations concerning unregistered theatrical agencies were positively appalling. The Committee's report did not deal with sound professional agencies which were registered, but with a lot of consummate rascals, who, under the guise of theatrical agents, debauched, or caused to be debauched, young women applying for professional engagements. They not only brought girls from the Continent, but exported young girls to the Continent.

SHELTERS.

The Building Act Committee recommended that the Council do consent to the erection of an iron and glass shelter in front of St. George's Hall, Langham-place, Marylebone, as shown on the plans, dated Feb. 27, 1906, submitted with the application of Mr. J. G. Buckle, on behalf of Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, such consent being subject to the usual conditions.

The Committee also recommended that the Council do consent to a deviation from the plans approved on Dec. 12, 1905, for the erection of two glass and iron shelters at the Aldwych Theatre, to abut upon Aldwych and Drury-lane, Strand, so far as relates to an alteration in the construction of the shelter at the main entrance to the theatre, as shown on the plans, dated March 6, 1906, submitted with the application of Mr. W. G. R. Sprague, such consent being subject to the following conditions—that the modified construction be to the satisfaction of the district surveyor, and that all the conditions contained in the resolution of Dec. 12, 1905, consenting to the erection of the said shelters, be otherwise strictly complied with.

The recommendations were agreed to.

THE SHOWMAN'S DWELLING VAN.

The Parks and Open Spaces Committee reported as follows:—No. 10 of the regulations governing the use of swings, roundabouts, and shows at Blackheath, Hampstead Heath, and Wormwood Scrubs at holiday times does not allow of dwelling-vans being taken on to the open spaces. Such prohibition has, we understand, inflicted considerable hardship on those who cater for the amusement of the public on such occasions, and, after having very carefully considered representations made to us on their behalf, we are of opinion that the restriction might be removed, subject to the responsible persons complying with such regulations as may be made to safeguard the interests and property of the Council. We propose to regard the concession as an experiment, and, if the use of dwelling-vans should prove objectionable or insanitary, we will consider and advise the Council as to any further action which should be taken in the matter. We have had prepared certain regulations which will, in our opinion, meet possible objections to the use of the vans, and recommend (*a*) that No. 10 of the regulations relating to games and recreations at Bank Holiday times be rescinded, and that regulations Nos. 11 to 17 be renumbered accordingly; (*b*) that the regulations governing the use of dwelling-vans in connection with shows at Blackheath, Hampstead Heath, and Wormwood Scrubs, as submitted separately, be approved. The recommendations were adopted without discussion.

After a sitting lasting seven hours the Council adjourned for the Easter recess until May 1.

On Thursday afternoon, Mr. W. W. Kelly generously devoted the proceeds of a special matinée at the Metropole, Birkenhead, in aid of the Birkenhead and Liverpool charities, when a host of attractions from the theatres and music halls of Liverpool, Manchester, &c., appeared, including Mr. George Robey, who journeyed specially from London in order to be present.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERAVON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. D. Jones.—Miss Elaine Verner's company opened on Easter Monday with her company in *Saints and Sinners*, followed on Thursday and the rest of the week by *The Middleman*. In the part of Jacob Fletcher Mr. Harding Thomas gave a masterful performance, Miss Elaine Verner herself played the rôle of the heroine, Letty Fletcher, in a sympathetic and graceful manner. Amongst others in the cast were Messrs. U. Croine Wilson, Frank Lyndon, Edgar Kent, Max Jerome, Guy Deane, and Miss Ada Clarke.

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—Mr. George Dance's company in *The Orchid* is delighting huge crowds here this week. Miss Constance Hamilton is a vivacious Lady Violet, and her singing reaches a high standard. Miss Hilda Vining as Caroline Vokins causes much amusement. Miss Nancy Taylor is good as Zelie Rumbert, Miss Clara Beck does well as Thisbe. Miss Kitty Smythe is sufficiently dignified as Countess Anstruther, and Miss Maud Jay is a favourite as Joseph Zaccary. Mr. Ion Maxwell is well suited in the part of Guy Scrymgeour, Mr. W. Garland is excellent as Dr. Ronald Fausset, and a better Aubrey Chesterton than Mr. R. Corray could scarcely be desired. Mr. T. A. Fisher as Le Comte de Cassignat is well placed, and Mr. Berwick finds favour as Zaccary. Mr. Colin Campbell is the life and soul of the piece as Meakin.

ABERTILLERY.—THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—Mr. F. H. Neville's company, including Mrs. Walter Bartley, is here in *A Queen's Vengeance*. Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell shows considerable ability as Henry II., Mr. F. H. Neville gives a powerful impersonation of Sir Rupert Warriner, as Gilbert Ormonde Mr. Gifforde Reynolds makes the most of his opportunities, the part of Sir Martin Clifford is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Bell, Mr. Alf. Russell acquits himself well as Bibeau, as also does Mr. Arthur Lea as Rafe Rugulphe, and Mr. Frank Fortescue as Father Francis is well suited. Miss Mildred Monteath achieves success as Mistress Clifford, being well supported by Miss Janet Lawton as Janet Jessop, and Mrs. Walter Bentley is powerful as Queen Eleanor.

ACCRINGTON.—HIPPODROME.—Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin; Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker.—A smart bill is provided this week at the above hall. First comes Emile Aspden, whose singing and imitations of musical instruments are far above the average; Will English is a smart dancer; Zarmo is very fine as a comedy juggler; the Sisters Graham must be complimented on their pleasing turn; Harry Levaine keeps the house in a good humour; the Hugo Troupe are good; Little Renée is a clever child vocalist; the Melroses are pleasing burlesque artists; and the Hippo. Pictures complete an entertaining programme.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—On Monday Miss Mary Austin's company opened here with *Passion's Power*.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—Mr. Mouillot's company is giving an excellent performance of *The Geisha*, this well-known Japanese opera proving a capital holiday-week bill of fare for the patrons of this house. The musical numbers are well rendered, and the performance throughout is successful. Among those who take part and whose efforts are highly appreciated, are Misses Bessie Alleyne, Violet Kenyon, Florrie Saunders, Aubrey Ashton, Elsie Brocklebank, Messrs. Cyril Thompson, Edward Carlton, Lionel Braham, G. D. Phillips, E. Ward, S. Lockridge, and Ryton Hoare. Last night *A Greek Slave* was produced by the same company.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—For Easter week Mr. Revill engaged something light and airy—music, dance, and humour—and this mixture was furnished by Mr. E. Marris's company in the reproduction of that amusing musical comedy *The Dandy Doctor*. Mr. Jas. Danvers displays his ability not only as a comedian but as a player of the pianoforte, and is the life and soul of the piece. Miss May Yates, who is full of vivacity as Ivy Pendred, dances delightfully; Mr. Edmond Russell as Brown, the tinned meat millionaire, has the Yankee bluster and exaggeration to the life; Mr. Stanley S. Gordon plays Vandyke, the smart young surgeon, in capital style, and Mr. Leslie Martin as Bertie Bolingbroke acts the part of an affected dude very funnily; Miss Norah Melton as Jane, the general servant, scores a big success, being immensely droll in speech and action.

THE EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Dr. Carl Herman is on a return visit to the Hippo. this week, and on Monday large "houses" were convulsed by the absurd antics of his hypnotised subjects. A dramatic sketch by Mr. F. S. Peake and Co., with beautiful special scenery and elaborate Charles I. costumes, was very well received. Haig and Novel, old-time favourites here, are a smart couple, the dainty dancing of the lady and the absurd antics of the gentleman being highly appreciated. The Royal Raynor Trio are a smart set of acrobats; Welda and Wynne, in a double juggling act, do some clever work; Phillips and Merritt are well received; the Three Bostonians, two boys and a girl, are finished dancers; Arthur Gilbert's songs are a pronounced success. The bioscope is also an attraction.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—The Easter attraction here was provided by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in Hall Caine's drama *The Christian*, which has drawn crowded houses on this its first visit. Mr. F. Rawson-Buckley gives a highly dramatic and powerful impersonation of the Hon. John Storm; Mr. Percy Johnson is excellent as Parson Quayle; a well-played part is that of Mr. P. Gedge Twyman as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Harry Colbeck is effective as Father Lamplugh; Mr. Charles Stafford as Brother Paul is very good; excellent service is rendered by Mr. Colin Johnstone as Archdeacon Wealthy, Mr. Duncan Yarrow as Horatio Drake, and Mr. John Haines as Mr. Lorrimer. A well-balanced portrayal of Glory Quayle is given by Miss Grace Murielle, who admirably succeeds in bringing out the light and shade of the part; Miss Florence Radcliffe is well placed as Polly Love; praise is due to Miss Violet Vivian as Mrs. Callender and Miss Aggie Royal as Aggie Jones. The company is under the direction of a lady, Miss Marie Beckenham, a capable and courteous business manageress.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—The holiday programme here is an attractive one. Stronge and Mainze give an equilibrist show, concluding with a sensational cannon act; the Keith-Merson company provides a mirth-provoking acrobatic hunting absurdity, entitled *The Meet*; Gardon's Royal Troupe of pipers, dancers, and vocalists are well received; Les De Breans (lady and gentleman) give a smart turn as jugglers and shadowgraphists; an attractive series of pictures is given by Mr. E. C. Clayton with the Palace Attergraph. Other items are furnished by York, Mac, and York in a comedy act; the Sisters Lylle, duettists and dancers; Mr. Harry Cotton, eccentric comedian, and Miss Maudie Ford, comedienne.

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. William Pardoe's variety company is here this week. The programme is headed by Mlle. Zelda, who gives a clever musical turn; Miss Ivy Valesco submits a marvellous exhibition with her troupe of performing ponies and dogs; Miss Elsie Redwards contributes a good song and dance; Mr. Bert Gordon, double-voiced vocalist, is well received; Miss Lottie Holland charms her hearers with her singing and dancing; the Brothers Hanaway merit warm praise for their singing, patter, and dancing; Mr. Charles Hampson in his eccentric act furnishes a novel and amusing entertainment; Mr. William Pardoe gives a daring exhibition on the trapeze; and other turns on the bill are Tom Hulme, patterer; Wall Owen, comedian; and George Hall, vocalist and whistler.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham* is here. Mr. Edmund Kennedy plays with much distinction as John Durham; Mr. Benson North gives an excellent portrait of Lord Mountfallen, the Hon. Reginald Steighton is well played by Mr. Arthur Leigh, and much grace and charm are shown by Miss Gertrude Robins as Helen Vallerton. Miss Francis Wolviston is capable as Lady Mountfallon, and Miss Florence Dulhunty is bright and vivacious as the Hon. Margaret Steighton.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Charles Majilton and company in *The Trippers* and *Round the Clock* appear here this week. *The Trippers* is new to Barrow. Mr. John Bond is a great success as a Scotchman, Mr. Charles Majilton in a "mysterious character" is capitally suited, Mr. Herbert Ashmore as the lawyer and Mr. Ben Storey as Slamit (the porter) are exceedingly good. Miss Nora Christie gives a pleasing impersonation of Alice, Miss Carrie Foy as the barmaid sings some catchy songs, and Misses Maddie and Amy Majilton are excellent as seaside swells. Mr. Fred Wilson as Algie is capital.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Payne's Little Vagabonds top the bill here this week, and are as popular as ever. The Brothers Winford, barrel jumpers, are quite a novelty; Harrigan and Holt prove a great attraction with their songs and patter; Dion Wade, a diminutive comedian, creates roars of laughter; Queenie May, with a pleasing voice, sings sweetly; Miss Nancy Renshaw is excellent as a negro comedienne, and Vandinoff is clever as a lightning flower painter.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*The Gold Diggers; or, The Girls from Utah* is being played here, a full notice of which appears in another column.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—Holiday crowds are the order of the day, or rather evening, this week, and they give a rousing reception to the Daunton-Shaw Troupe of cyclists, who are justly acclaimed monarchs of the wheel; Will H. Fox, "Paddywhisky," is paying a first visit, and this celebrated pianist has secured for himself a sure footing in popular esteem; Myles and May, the merry huntsmen, give a good double turn; Maud Esmond, burlesque actress, gives her songs in fine style; Warden, Reed and Co., in their duologue *Married or Photographed* create plenty of laughter; Tatten Hall, comedian, returns to secure another success, as do Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the factory nightingales. Francis Manners presents an effective vocal scena, *Good Old Days*. Raymond's Bio-tableaux include *The Child Stealers* and *A Bicycle Thief*.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company in the American drama, *At Cripple Creek*, by Hal Reid. Mr. Hilliard Vox submits a powerful rendering of Joe Mayfield; Mr. Walter Thornton capably depicts the evil designs of Martin Mason; Mr. C. Douglas Carlyle successfully undertakes the rôle of Manuel Alvarez; and a good exponent of Ben White, the nigger, is found in Mr. Albert Rogers. Mr. Arthur Leyland admirably impersonates the character of the faithful Indian Wahketah; Miss Vera Fordyce carefully delineates the part of Dynamite Ann; and Miss Ella Dixon satisfactorily interprets the rôle of Belle Gordon. Miss Leslie Wynne makes an excellent Sarah Lively; and Baby Betty, a clever little girl, prettily portrays Little Tattoo.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—On Saturday last the annual Easter pantomime *Dick Whittington and His Cat* was produced with much success under the able direction of Mr. Edward Marris and Mr. Fred W. Warden. A full report will be found in another column.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edwin Leslie.—The chief attraction here this week is the wrestling exhibition by Ahmed Madrali, who appears nightly with the International Troupe of Wrestlers. Wal Pink's company creates roars of laughter with the humorous sketch *Repairs*, one of the most genuine incitements to mirth and merriment that we have seen for some time, and Mr. Charles Williams is a capital big boot dancer; Mr. Daniel Gillen's ventriloquial sketch is decidedly humorous, and Miss Evie Hamilton is a charming comedienne. Also appearing are Cosgrove and Burns (comedy artists), Mr. A. J. Gamble (Scotch comedian), Miss Kate Mourlay (comedienne and dancer), and the Palace pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The star here is the favourite comedienne Miss Minnie Cunningham, who has renewed all her former triumphs, being most successful with her delightful rendering of several songs. Mr. Jake Friedman, the Original One Man Opera, is clever; and Mr. Chris. Richards, "the Man with the Hat," gains much applause; the Sisters Morgan are accomplished duettists and fine dancers. Also appearing are Miss Ray Wallace, T. C. Callaghan, Helene and Emilon in their novel gymnastic act, and Miss Florrie St. Clair (comedienne).

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The chief feature of the holiday bill is the wonderful illusion, "The Mysterious Lady in Black," presented with unqualified success by the celebrated illusionist Lieut. Albini. He is ably supported by Miss Marie Gautier, who appears as the "Lady in Black." Fred Lloyd and Co. return with their humorous sketch *The Blind Spinster*. A feature of the bill is the humorous and pathetic ballet *Whilst London's Sleeping*, presented by Scottish Waifs and Strays. Miss Bertha Winder delights all with her remarkably clever dancing, and a big hit has been made by Mr. Bert Oakley and Miss Polly James in their speciality "Tit-Bits." Also included in this fine bill are Mr. Will Letters (a capital comedian), Xley and Hamilton (in their attractive musical act), the Colvilles (dancers), Mr. Harry Lee (comedian), and the Alhambra bioscope.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—This favourite resort opened on Monday under the management of Mr. T. C. Transfield, whose unique circus is occupying the Hippodrome for a short season. At the matinée on Easter Monday there was a good crowd enjoying the fine programme submitted. The Three Transfields were most successful with their high-class musical entertainment, and a hit was made by Miss Queenie Wallace, whose catchy songs were loudly encored; Mlle. Leoville submitted some startling feats of illusion, and Mr. Tony Transfield's bar and hurdle act with two horses was very smart. Other clever items submitted were the Boxing Ponies, Mr. A. H. Fergus (comedian), the laughable sketch *Living Statue*, the Indian bred hare and midget pony, Mr. Johnnie Yelding (bare-back equestrian), Mr. Tom Alyantee (King of the Slack Wire), Curtis's Piccannies, and Clown Rabbit. Mr. T. C. Transfield is the proprietor, and Mr. Tony Transfield acts as secretary and manager.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr. Harold Rayner is presenting Ian Maclaren's company for the first time in Bilston in *The Prince of Rogues*. Much interest centres in the characters of Geoffrey Flint and Rita Congreave. The first-named is well presented by Mr. George Rammell, and Miss Georgina V. Thomas is the powerful exponent of Rita. Good service is also rendered by Mr. J. Fernandy as Frank Farrell, and by Miss Dorothy Riddell as Winnie Harwood. Hyram Harwood and his son Dick have careful exponents in Mr. Sidney Fairbrother and Mr. Jas. Fox.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson's company in the romantic military play *Revenge* provides a strong holiday attraction. Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson is a success as Prince Orloff, Mr. Wellesley Draper is well suited as Captain Louis Vanessa, Mr. Theo Balfour is a good representative of the King, and Mr. Edward Lowrie is efficient as Count Inussant. As Draga Vanessa Miss Rosabel Dodd exhibits considerable power.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Fred Karno's comedians in their pantomimic sketch *Jail Birds* are repeating previous successes. Miss Millie Payne, a clever comedy artist, is again appearing here with, if anything, increased éclat, and Bird and Arnold are cordially received in illustrated songs; a capital company also includes Miss Ella Retford (comedienne), Mr. Will Musgrave (comedian), the Lindon Vaudevilles in some attractive scenas, Mr. Alf Maynall (comedian), Bijou Russell (sand dancer, &c.), and a liberal display by the bioscope. Mr. Ernest Denny is musical director. On Wednesday evening an invitation was given by Mr. J. D. Clarke to the sailors of the Japanese warship *Katori*, and a special programme was provided for the occasion. In the interval refreshments, cigars, and cigarettes were served to the visitors by the thoughtful kindness of the management.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company opened here on Monday to a numerous and enthusiastic audience. *Maritana* figured brilliantly at the matinée on Monday, while in the evening a sumptuous production of *Faust* followed, when chorus, orchestra, and principals excelled themselves. Madame Fanny Moody won tumultuous cheers with her exquisite singing as Marguerite; Mr. Joseph O'Mara starred as Faust; Mr. Chas. Magrath was truly Mephistophelean; Mr. Lewys James scored as Valentine; and to Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, for his masterly conductorship, must be ascribed much of the success of the performance. *Tannhauser, Il Trovatore, The Marriage of Figaro, Carmen*, and, for the first time in Birmingham, *Eugene Onegin*, have been presented during the week.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*The Little Michus*, represented by Mr. Geo. Edwardes' clever company, provide the Easter attraction here. Mr. Eric Thorne heads a capable body of comedians, as General Des Ifs, a rôle he characterises, as usual, with irresistible humour; Mr. Jack Cannot wins a prominent place as Bagnolet; Mr. Eardley Turner as M. Michus, accentuates the fun with his triple accomplishments of singing, acting, and dancing; Mr. Leonard Mackay scores indubitably as the assistant; Mr. Willie Ward, jun., as the Market Man, is invaluable; and Mr. Arthur Boyd, as the lover, Gaston, is vigorous and effective. Miss Iris Hoey, as Blanche Marie, and Miss Thelma Ray, as Marie Blanche, are charming, and do all that the parts demand; Miss Elsie Cameron fills the rôle of Mme. Michus adequately; and the Misses Deborah Volar and Adeline Lester, supported by a strong chorus, meet with much success.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—Mr. J. W. Turner continues to attract his admirers this week with his famous opera company, commencing on Monday with *The Bohemian Girl*, in which Messrs. F. J. Hargrave, Harry Thornton, and Miss Alice Boaden won high honours. In the evening *Maritana* was made specially enjoyable by the brilliant performances of Mr. J. W. Turner as Don Cæsar, Mr. Jno. Lidding as Don Jose, and Miss Kitty Brownlees in the title-rôle. *The Daughter of the Regiment* figured at the matinée on Tuesday, when Messrs. Chas. Le Seur, Jno. Lidding, Richard Cumings, and Mesdames Winifred Knightly, Maude Esdale, and Kitty Brownlees were responsible. *The Lily of Killarney, Faust*, and *Fra Diavolo* are also down in the bill. *The Puritan's Daughter*, in which J. W. Turner sang magnificently as the Earl, scored on Tuesday night.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*A Fight for Millions* has been witnessed this week by exceptionally large and well-pleased audiences. Mr. Robert Perris, who provides the company, enacts the hero's rôle, Tom Manley, in a taking manner, which has made him popular; Miss Eva Purcell is the heroine, Pearl Rivers, to which rôle she imparts a winning charm all her own; Mr. Watkin Wynne acts with praiseworthy zest as Richard Dudley; and his satellites are rendered diverting by Messrs. L. Fred Tenour and Karl H. Edwards; Mr. P. G. Beresford as Hudson Rivers, Miss E. C. Turner as Helen Dudley, Miss Audrey Canning as Mrs. Hudson Rivers, Miss Audrey Southerland as Little Madge, and Miss Lottie Pearce in two clever rôles lend effective support.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville.—*The Ugliest Woman on Earth* has found favour here, well-filled houses nightly testifying to the popularity of Mr. Fredk. Melville's play. Miss Beatrice Homer continues to gain tremendous applause and sympathy for her touching and absorbing presentment of the title-rôle; Mr. Philip Darien presents an excellent likeness of Jack Merriman; Mr. Leyton Cancellor infuses much force of character into the part of Hubert Gold; Mr. Chas. Barrett shows fine capabilities for the rôle of Antonio Luchesi; and Mr. Frank Denis as Dr. Carr, Miss Margaret Watson as Morita, and Miss Rita Milman as Rose Courtenay acquit themselves capably. Mr. Tubby Edlin is a fount of sparkling humour as Herrick, and Miss Nelly Jackson scores as Aggie Brown.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The 10.30 Down Express* continues its highly successful course here this week. Mr. Horace Stanley as the irrepressible Sam Wagstaffe is the soul of humour, and the pivot thereof; and Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts is a valuable ally; Mr. Charles Burdon presents the manly exploits of Lieutenant O'Malley to advantage; Mr. Geo. Arthur develops the character of James Inderwick admirably; Mr. Claude Haviland deserves praise as the detective; and Mr. Tom Roydon as Seth Coombes and Mr. Alaric Burton as Cuthbert Leigh fulfil all requirements; Miss Elsie Capell displays ability and grace as Bessie Leigh, and the play is otherwise excellently treated.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Her Wedding Day* has attracted exceedingly large audiences, who have manifested the greatest possible appreciation of the exciting situations represented by Mr. T. E. Ward's company. Miss Ward invests the bride's rôle Madge Conway with rare charm; Mr. S. Herbert Humber, as the bridegroom and hero, Harold Saxby, pleases the audience by his genial and manly deportment; Mr. Augustine Knight stimulates interest as Weedon Kenyon; Mr. T. Edward Ward as his accomplice, Seth Mayson, makes many excellent points; Miss Eva Bertram wins sympathy by her clever acting as the deserted wife, Dora; and Mr. Morris Maud and Miss Beatrice Sinclair do good service. The comic parts are excellently rendered by Mr. Fred Yarnold and Miss Ettie Spalding.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—An excellent holiday programme is presented this week, John Tiller's company, in the burlesque *High Jinks*, being the principal item. The songs, dances, and jokes are entertaining, while the dresses and scenery are effective. George Brooks spins some good nautical yarns; the Findons have a smart duologue, *Two to One*; some daring acrobatic feats are accomplished by the Paxton Trio; while A-Bo-Kou is an expert trickster. Berner's fantoches are watched with keen interest, Lizzie Daniels is a pleasing comedienne, while Frazer and Mac are as eccentric as ever.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The popular Harriett Vernon is attracting crowded houses this week. Her excellent voice is heard to advantage in two new songs, "The Lilac Girl" and "Sunshine and Rain." Sinclair and Whiteford are seen in an amusing sketch. *Getting Even*; Spry and Austin and the Bros. Redmond add largely to the mirth of the programme; Rosie Archer is a clever mimic; Coram is an entertaining ventriloquist. Other popular turns are Le Voce, Will Dalton, Leslie Race, and the Mozondos.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thos. Barrasford.—*The Phonograph Girl*, an artistic and picturesque fantasia, is the big attraction this week. The production is under the direction of George Leyton. Lottie Lennox had a big reception, her songs being well encored, while Lottie Siegenberg, in her *Lazy Slavey* quick-change act, is decidedly clever. Wyndham and Waters give a good comedy vocal act, and are loudly applauded, as also are Julian Mack. Gus Hindell, and Lawrence Barclay. A musical entertainment of a high order is presented by Barrington, and Sibb and Sibb are seen in a smart trapeze act.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Fosier.—Holden's marionettes are the principal attraction this week. Tina Clementa, with her ponies and dogs, gives an interesting performance; the singing and dancing of the Matweef Hugoston Troupe is much admired; the Marino Sisters perform some wonderful feats on the trapeze; while Flem and Brok give a smart pugilistic exhibition. Spry and Monti and Harry Clifford add plenty of humour to the programme.

CURZON HALL.—The Royal Italian Circus have commenced a season here, and are attracting crowded audiences, over 200 animals taking part in the entertainment. The Pasquali Bros. are seen in a smart balancing act, while Beppo and Nip are comedians who provide plenty of fun.

BINGLEY HALL.—The holiday influx has made itself manifest at the Trades Exhibition, where large crowds of country visitors, as well as townsfolk, have expressed delight and admiration in the good things provided by the promoter and manager, Mr. George Stanley. The helter-skelter light-house, prismatic fountain, the Besses o' th' Barn Band, plus the Scots Guards' Pipers and dancers, and the innumerable side-shows with which the attraction abounds, have been exceedingly well patronised, and the charities which receive a percentage of the receipts are likely to benefit largely.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—EDEN THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company in the romantic play *Proof* is paying a third visit to this theatre. As Pierre Lorance Mr. Gerald Kennedy is all that can be desired; the despicable character of Lazare is powerfully portrayed by Mr. William Dexter; Mr. Terrence Nerrey is well suited to the rôle of Duke D'Aubeterre, as also is Mr. Wilford Bailey to that of Chamboran, whilst Mr. G. Garnett-Vayne does exceedingly well as Victor de Laugney. Much credit is due to Miss Lucy Prittie-Tydd for her acting as Adrienne; Valentine is admirably delineated by Miss May Grimshaw; Madame Deprets is in the talented hands of Miss Phena Powell, and the Duchess D'Aubeterre receives a capable impersonation by Miss Dorothy White. Miss Ellina Turner gives a clever exposition of Little Adrienne in the prologue.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—The Easter attraction here is Mr. Esmonde Bromley's company in a repertoire of Shakespearean plays. On the opening night (Saturday) *The Merchant of Venice* was given to a crowded house. In the part of Shylock Mr. David Beattie was somewhat unconventional, but his spirited study of the part by no means lacked interest. Bassanio was in the capable hands of Mr. Cyril Este, who acted with courtliness and dignity; Mr. Frederick Scarth, as Antonia, was capital. Miss Millie Ford was the Portia, and was highly successful in that rôle, her elocutionary ability being turned to good account, especially in the trial scene. Jessica was played by Miss Ruth Nightingale, who is a young lady with local connections, and her performance, which was all that could be desired, was watched with much interest. The representation of *Othello* on Monday was marked by the pronounced success of Mr. Balliol Holloway in the name-part. Mr. Frederick Scarth was a good Iago, and Miss Millie Ford a charming Desdemona. The other plays given during the week were *As You Like It, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth*, and *Richard III.*

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company is drawing crowded houses with the drama, *A Modern Adventuress*.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Miss Dolly Elsworthy's company supplies the principal item on the programme with an episode in the life of King Charles II., entitled *The Orange Girl*; the other performers include the Pickel Troupe of acrobats, Davie and Davie in a novel comedy sketch, Lola Patey (soubrette), May Fallowfield (comedienne), Tom Parker (comedian), the San Remo Girls (speciality dancers), and Minnie Wren (comedienne).

EXCHANGE HALL.—Lessee, Mr. W. Kenyon.—Messrs. Gale and Polden, with their animated pictures of Army and Navy life, are concluding a successful fortnight's engagement at this hall.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are continuing their visit here to the end of the current week, and judging by the reception accorded to them nightly the public are not yet tired of seeing them in *Still Waters Run Deep, The Ironmaster, A Scrap of Paper, The Elder Miss Blossom*, and *The Housekeeper*, and have eagerly embraced the opportunity of renewing acquaintance with these plays during the week.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Mr. George Edwardes's *Lady Madcap* Company is paying another visit here this week, and the holiday makers are nightly packing the theatre. The principal parts are in the same capable hands as on the last visit. Miss Marie Studholme in the title-rôle is as captivating as ever, Mr. J. R. Hale as Bill Stratford, Mr. Oliver Round as Posh Jenkins, Mr. Arthur Longley as Trooper Smith, Mr. E. Slatham Staples as the Corporal, Mr. J. E. Fraser as Captain Harrington, Mr. Ernest Mahar as Count St. Hubert, Mr. W. E. Richardson as Captain Layton, and Miss Nina Sevening as Gwennie Holden also fully merit the applause they evoke.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A big Easter programme is provided here by Jordan and Harvey (Hebrew comedians), Hanid Alexander (juvenile entertainer), Little Cliff (boy comedian), Tom Stuart (character actor), Morny Cash (Lancashire comedian), Jennie Johns (comedienne), Jessie Burnet (singer and dancer), Gallando (lightning modelier), Fred Elton (musical entertainer), and the Moran-Marreece Quartette of musical specialists.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—After being closed during the winter months, this popular pleasure hall is now again in full swing. The re-opening programme is supplied by Cecile and Francois (in America's latest novelty act), Sheila McNeil (Scotch comedienne), Jack Andrews (vocalist), Nellie Nora (musical entertainer), the Three Coopers (actor-vocalists), Barney Stuart (impersonator), Ford and Hanson (musical artists), Cailler (weight-lifter), Darnton Sisters (duettists), the Henris (jugglers), Dot Hardy (comedienne), and Conway and Garland (sketch artists). The house closes to-night and re-opens Whit Monday for the remainder of the season.

BLYTH.—HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—The above place of amusement was re-opened on Monday for a short season under the personal direction of Mr. Tudor with a good company, headed by the Musical Savonas, who introduced their latest creation *The Palace of Orpheus*. These talented artists had a most enthusiastic reception from a delighted audience. Mr. Tudor on entering the arena with his highly-trained and clever ponies had quite an ovation accorded to him. Miss Florence, a charming vocalist, was pleasing in illustrated songs; the Lockleys were much in evidence as bar performers; Yorick and Yorick provided much fun; Signorina Eloina, gymnast, had a good reception; Larke and Logan, comedians and acrobats, provided a good turn, and the marvellous performances of the Six Elliotts of bicycle fame were greeted with loud applause.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—For the Easter holidays the management have staged the musical comedy *The Talk of the Town*, the company appearing in it being Mr. William Greet's. Mr. William Cromwell is a clever comedian, and as Jerry Snipe frequently convulses the audience with laughter; Miss Louie Tinsley shows great ability as Geraldine Evelyn Snipe; Mr. Tom Graves and Mr. A. Gambier-Melford deserve praise for their rendering of the amusing characters of Ernest English and Frank English; and other principal parts are admirably taken by Mr. Arthur Harrold, Mr. A. T. Hendon, Mr. Charles Earldon, Mr. Conrad Kingsley, Mr. R. Wood, Miss Joan Keddie, and Miss G. Melville.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A splendid holiday programme here comprises Julia Mackay (comedienne), Chris Masters (character-vocalist), La Danseuse in her dancing speciality *Santa Claus*, Percy Maye (female impersonator), Austin Boyd and Trixie Gilfain (duettists, &c.), Dale and O'Malley (comedians), Mike Cray (eccentric comedy juggler), Arthur Slater (whistler), Vosper (facialist, in his marvellous character impersonations of past and present celebrities), Larry Lewis (eccentric comedian), Miss Marie Walker (trombone soloist), and the Sisters Urma (triple trapeze experts).

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson.—This week Miss Emily Heuby and company are appearing in the drama, *The Price of Pleasure*. Mr. Horace Herbert gives a manly impersonation of Gilbert D'Armand, Mr. Howell Webb makes the most of the part of Sir James Featherstone, Miss Lilly Clarke plays attractively as Lillian, and Miss Mara Collings is seen to advantage as Alice Rivers. Mr. Richard Harris takes the part of Sidney Roberts effectively, Miss Emily Heuby is an amusing Biddy O'Flannigan, and Mr. Larry Clements as Tatters and Miss Dot Russell as Polly Wilson create much merriment.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—An excellent holiday programme is provided for the patrons of this house this week. Leoni Clarke and his two hundred cats, monkeys, rabbits, canaries, &c., give a perfectly delightful turn; Carlotta Levey uses her rich clear voice to advantage in "Put a little bit away for a rainy day," in which the chorus is taken up most lustily by the gallery; Mack Ollive, a sweet whistler, appears in a scena entitled *The Candy Store*; Carlton, the famous comedy card manipulator, is distinctly good; and other turns include the Four Kweeries; Ernie Myers, comedian; and Lily Lonsdale, ballad vocalist. The Hippodrome Pictures include the 'Varsity Boat Race.

BOSTON.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—A fine bill of fare has been provided for the Easter holidays at this popular place of amusement, and on Monday many were unable to gain admission. The Revel Troupe (six in number) delight the audience with their pantomime absurdity *Mischief*, which is elaborately staged with special mechanical scenery, and caused unlimited laughter. Another attractive item is Ionia, said to be the greatest rifle shot on the stage, assisted by Carlos, the human target. Gravettie and Parr appear in a novel speciality act, introducing clay modelling, light and cartoon and smoke and sand paintings; Charlie Cowen, a funny singer of funny songs, has to respond to an enthusiastic recall; Harry Bickley, a smart comedian, is also a prime favourite; the Two Dianis (eccentric acrobats), Silvo on the revolving trapeze, Patty Transfield (descriptive vocalist), and Louie Duval (chic comedienne and dancer) complete the programme. Thursday night was set apart for a complimentary benefit to Mr. Saphrini.

BRADFORD.—TH

feats; the Tom Davies's Trio are daring and sensational in their "motoring in mid air"; Lillie Langtry, a vivacious comedienne, is a great favourite; the Jackley Trio of comedy acrobats submit a very amusing turn, George, their whistling comedian, being especially funny; Vi Carlyle achieves marked success in her latest scena *My Mountain Maid* and in her song "My Firefly"; Fred Herbert's topical songs are warmly appreciated; Tom Yorke gives his coster songs in capital style; Ruth Dorris is a pleasing vocalist and dancer; Bert Raynor and Cissie Reece also contribute a good singing and dancing turn, and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting.

West Pier.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here this week with *Lucky Miss Dean*. Miss Dora Gray submits a delightful and convincing portrayal of Acacia Dean, and Mr. William E. Ashcroft is distinctly successful in his artistic impersonation of the young husband, Fred Ware. Neat character-sketches are presented by Mr. Vivian Gilbert as Horace Chaney and Mr. Cyril Price-Evans as Wilfred Ashmole. Miss Estelle Despa as Lady Ashmole and Mr. W. T. Elsworthy as Percival Chaney also deserve praise.

New Palace Pier Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alexander Genée.—Miss Annie Bell and company are here this week with *Sapho*. Miss Annie Bell invests her enactment of Fanny le Grande (Sapho) with great dramatic power; while Mr. Albert Sember merits warm praise for his excellent portrayal of Jean Gausin. Mr. George Astley is entertaining as Jean's uncle; Mr. C. U. Daly is highly successful as Father le Grande. The remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained, and the play is well staged.

Aquarium.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry De Groot.—Mr. Bert Albert Rutley's company is here this week with *An English Belle*. Miss Jessie De Grey makes a bright and pleasing Jack Trenant, Miss Gertie Wasley is charming and winsome as the English belle, Alice Oldfield; Mr. Dan Whitley affords unbounded fun as Consul; Mr. W. E. Matthews is very successful as P.c. Nabim; Mr. Will Redmond's Sunny Jim is well played; Mr. Denis Lyndon gives a capital representation of the King Rajah of Cameo, and Miss Lily Mathews as Zelika dances gracefully. The Louis Rio quartet of dancers add to the success of the performance. The duties of musical director are in the hands of Mr. E. W. Vaughan.

Dome.—Mr. Albert Chevalier and company opened a series of four performances here on Monday afternoon. The eminent comedian, in addition to singing several of his popular songs, appeared as Mr. Turby in the farcical sketch *The Goose with the Golden Eggs*, and was ably supported by Mr. Harry Brett, Mr. Arthur Brankston, Master Bertie Baxter, and Miss Winifred Ingham. In sustaining his programme Mr. Chevalier was assisted by Mr. Alfred H. West (pianoforte soloist), Miss Ethel Walker (musical sketch artist), and Mr. Harry Carsdale (mimic).

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Frank Curzon's company is here with *Sergeant Brue*. The musical comedy is well staged, and it had a very cordial reception by a packed house on Monday. Mr. Percy Clifton scores a decided success in the title-rôle, obtaining also much applause for his singing and dancing. Mr. Walter H. Page is amusing as Crookie Scrubbs, Mr. O. H. McKierman makes the most of the part of Mr. Crank, and Mr. C. Hanbury is successful as Michael Brue. Miss Violet Dene acts and sings cleverly as Lady Bickenhall, Miss Constance Lait is pleasing as Aurora Brue, and Miss Margaret Saville and Miss Constance Berkeley do well in their respective parts of Mabel Widgett and Daisy. Some excellent dancing is introduced, and the smaller parts are all very carefully played.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—*A Great Sensation* is the attraction here, the drama being well staged and played in a competent manner by Miss Beatrice Isaacson's company. Miss Isaacson acts in sympathetic style as Eva Dale. Miss Edith Wallis displays considerable power as Sidonie, Mr. Sidney H. Hallows is decidedly good as Jack Damer, Mr. W. E. Clive is consistent and resourceful in the heavy part of Henry Encombe, obtaining excellent support from Mr. William Ames as Wiley Jones. Mr. John H. Firman is good in the light comedy part of Bunko Bates, and Mr. Alfred Richards acts very earnestly as Robin Dale. The comic parts of Peter and Hortense are capitally sustained by Mr. Fred Dalton and Miss Ruby Charlton. The sensational descent of a flying machine through a skylight is cleverly arranged.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.—This hall has been redecorated and upholstered on a very liberal scale. On Monday evening the house was packed at both performances. Lily Burnand, comedienne, headed the programme, and obtained much appreciation for her latest successes. The Stavordale Quintette presented an excellent musical turn, the Arleys did a smart and very clever turn as comedy cyclists, Marie Reeve (comedienne) was pleasing in song and dance, Harry Leyburn (comedian) obtained considerable applause, Clifton and Gibson amused as eccentric comedians, Valvero (mechanical painter, &c.) was appreciated, the Sisters Charmley were pleasing as vocalists and dancers, Harry Wenburn (comedian) had a quaint style, and the performance concluded with interesting animated pictures projected by the Empire Bioscope.

Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Alec Hurley and company in the comedietta *The Costers' Beanfeast* head the bill with considerable success. Other artists appearing with advantage are J. W. Rickaby, burlesque character comedian; the Burnells, musical and comedy artists; Fifi Gordon, character vocalist; Ruppo and Ella, equilibrists and acrobats; Viviana, in a dancing act; and Maud Vera, descriptive and coon artist. The performance concludes with a good display of Vernon's animated pictures.

Zoological Gardens.—Superintendent, Captain E. W. B. Villiers.—There was a record attendance here on Easter Monday, and also a very large gathering on Tuesday. The variety performance was supplied by Mr. Tom Wood, of Upper Easton, Bristol, and included the Gicardo Troupe of male and female acrobats, Will Hitchins (cartoonist), Max Carl and Harry Carr (comedians and dancers), the Three Celtics (comic jugglers), Fred Ace in a musical act, George Arclay (character comedian), A. Richardson (serio and dancer), and the Bodey Brothers (triple-bar performers). Mr. G. Walker presided at the piano. There was the usual country fair. Fireworks were by Messrs. W. and I. Wilder, of Birmingham, and Mr. Tom Weymouth's band played selections and for dancing.

Colston Hall.—Messrs. C. W. and I. R. Poole's animatograph entertainment (under the direction of Mr. Alfred I. West, F.R.G.S.) is here for a short season. The entertainment is styled "Our Army and Navy," and the numerous and interesting animated pictures fully deal with the subject. There is an excellent orchestra, and vocal numbers, both comic and sentimental, are introduced by the Avondale Quartette.

BROMLEY.—Lyric Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. A. Carlton; Manager, Mr. H. Strong.—An attractive holiday programme is presented by Miss Rose Moncrieff's company with *Fun on the Bristol*. Mr. George Tearle gives a humorous performance of the Widow O'Brien; Miss Grace Rosaire and Miss Rose Moncrieff as the two daughters Nora O'Brien and Dora McAllister sing and dance to the delight of the audience; Miss Lena Collier is well placed as the coloured girl, Bella Thompson; Miss Dorothy Maurice is a fascinating Florence Washington; Mr. Hal Collier is excellent as the boisterous Captain Cranberry; Mr. Sam Poluski, jun., gives a fine study of the dude Tom Cranberry; Mr. Arthur Brodie submits a good impersonation of the adventurous Count Menaggio; Mr. Algy Norton does well as Richard Sparks; Mr. Tod Squires is amusing as the steward, Jerry Thompson; and an excellent Hawkshaw is that of Mr. Walter Godfrey.

BROUGHTON. — Victoria, Ltd. — Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson. — *The Cingalee*, with its pretty scenery, charming ladies, expert dancing, catchy music, pretty costumes, and funny incidents, kept a very full house in excellent humour on Monday, when George Dance's principal company, under the management of Mr. Arthur Davis, commenced a week's engagement. Mr. Lauri de Frece got all possible fun out of the character of Chambhuddy Ram; Mr. Frank Crimp sang well as the Hon. Harry Vereker; Nanoya was well played by Miss Winnie O'Connor, whose songs were highly appreciated; Mr. Coop Edmunds was a comical Sir Peter; Lady Patricia Vereker and Peggy Sabine were respectively well placed in the hands of Miss Marjorie Clarke and Miss Gladys Guy; and Miss Essie Perrin as Angy did well, especially in her graceful *pas seul* in the second act.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Messrs. G. M. Polini and L. Maitland in a Lancashire drama, *The Coal King*, are playing to large and popular audiences here this week. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland plays the rôle of Tom Roberts in a masterly manner; Mr. Wilfred Graham gives a clever representation of Dick Shirley; and Mr. Robin Sheills is a most acceptable Sir Reginald Harford. Jim Williams is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Harry Brayne; Mr. Joseph Millane is good as Walter Harford; Mr. James Welford as "James" contributes to the fun; being well seconded by Miss Hetty Cornwallis as Araminta; Mr. H. S. Rutter makes a clever detective; and Miss Gertrude Valentine is a pleasing and graceful Grace Shirley.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Culeen; General-Manager, Mr. Jas. E. Culeen.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Benton's company is here this week with *A Life's Story*, and *A Marriage of Vengeance*.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—In a brilliant holiday programme, submitted here this week, the Abdullah's Arabs figure as intrepid tumblers; the Four Aces are acrobats of no mean order; Dunningarto is an expert sleight-of-hand performer; Tom E. Hughes, comedian, is cordially re-welcomed; and Lena Brunton is a charming and clever impersonator of music hall artists; the Three Royal Temples, vocalists, are very good; Mamie Iris is an acceptable sand dancer; Little Barney, is an excellent Scotch comedian; and the Urbanora pictures, "A Trip through Naples," are most interesting.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bonnett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Walter.—*The Cingalee*, played by Mr. George Dance's company is the holiday attraction here. Some capital songs are given by Mr. Courtney Comber, who is a most successful Harry Vereker. The clever comic business by Chambuddy Ram (Mr. Walter Champney) causes roars of laughter. The dusky potentate Boobhamba finds a capable representative in Mr. Hugh Webb; Mr. W. Boxo (Sir Peter) and Mr. W. Austin (Bobby Warren) creditably sustain their respective rôles. The charming voice of Miss Mona Grey is heard to special advantage in the numbers allotted to Lady Pat; Miss Cecille Beresford is chic and pleasing as Nanoya, a Cingalese girl; while Miss Katie Yates receives quite an ovation for her bright songs and dances.

BURY (Lancs.).—Theatre Royal and Opera House, Ltd.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's No. 1 company is presenting *The Days of Cromwell* here this week. A highly creditable performance is given by Mr. Montague Beaudyn as Ironhand; Mr. Robertson Foulis acts well as Sir Marsden Mardyke, Mr. Howard Hardy does well as Matthew Mardyke, Miss Gloria Hill submits a good study of Mistress Judith, and Miss Irene Munroe is capital as Ruby Avondale. The comic relief is in the capable hands of Mr. T. R. White as Shadwell, Mr. Harry G. Momber as Toby, Miss Annie Clunn as Betsy, and Miss Jane Massey as Mrs. Shadwell.

Circus of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A capital programme here includes The Mohamed Ben Mohamed Troupe of Sousa Arabs, in feats of strength and tumbling; Friscara, juggler; Howard and Collinson, in a sketch, entitled *The Porter and the Parcel*; Marlone and Manton, in *Other People's Babies*; Will and May Lannon, duettists; Guy Ryder, mimic; Miss Lucretia, vocalist and dancer, and Jack Martin, vocalist.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead; Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A pleasing performance is given here by the Three Clements, trapeze artists; Captain Davis and his Zouaves, in a capital exhibition of drilling; Ernesto, juggler; Tony Iveson, comedian; Harland and Rollison, in a musical turn; Gilroy and Gross, comedians; Harris and Worth, comedians, and the Sisters Marion, vocalists.

CAMBRIDGE. — New Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—For the Easter holidays Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company appeared on a return visit with *Under Two Flags*. Miss Molesworth is as attractive as ever, and met with a good reception, her Cigarette being an admirable performance; Mr. Mark Blow's Bertie Cecil Royellien is also an excellent personation, he being eminently well suited to the part; Colonel Chateauroy is well played by Mr. Charles D. Pitt; Miss Mabel Ormonde is a striking figure as the Princess Corona; Mr. Walter Rousby is amusing as Rake; Mr. Albert Wray is successful as Lord Rockingham; as are Mr. Theodore Hill, Mr. Charles Brooke, Mr. Sydney Richards, Mr. Reginald Huntworth, Mr. Fred Rolls, Mr. Fred Hilliard, Miss Joan Stearn, Miss Madge Severne, and Miss Daisy Carlton in their respective parts.

CARDIFF.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*The Christian* is presented here this week by Mr. Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company. John Storm is portrayed by Mr. Frank Tennent with sincerity and fervour; the Glory Quayle of Miss Grace Chalmers is a delineation of considerable skill and ability; Father Lamplugh is admirably depicted by Mr. Stanley Radcliffe; Mr. Jackson Wilcox gives a finished representation of Horatio Drake, and Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood, the well-known actor, acts with exceptional skill the part of Lord Robert Ure. Miss Vashti Wellborne as Polly Love is emotional and pathetic, and Mr. Chas. Hill as Parson Quayle and Miss Mollie Hayden as Mrs. Callender are suitably placed.

King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman.—Occupying the boards here is the domestic drama *A Mother's Love*, well presented by Mr. Fred L. Connynghame's company. Mr. Connynghame appears in the rôle of Mat Ruddock, which he depicts with undoubted skill. The company is an all-round capable one, and the drama is unusually well mounted.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Heading the bill here is the marvellous conjuror Hermann Melot; the Serenaders, masked entertainers, present a bright turn in song and dance; Conn and Conrad are still extremely popular in their smart trapeze act; Burke, Andros, and Frisco provide much merriment in *Trafalgar Square, 4 a.m.*; the Lawn Tennis Comedians, Grell and Greig are excellent mirth-providers; and the Hardinis are a family of talented instrumentalists; The clever duettists, the Allesons, Lillian Doreen (a captivating vocalist), Miss Lillian Lea deputising for Rosie Lloyd, and the Bioscope complete an exceptionally varied programme.

CARLISLE.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—After an absence of several years, *Morocco Bound*, played by Mr. Arthur Branscombe's company, is again the attraction here. Mr. John Wilkinson repeats his humorous and cleverly worked-out sketch of the retired coster, Lord Percy is capitally impersonated by Little Tony, a clever comedian, who scores his points with artistic ability, Mr. Paddy Dupres has a part which suits him well in Spoofah Bey, Josiah Higgins, an excellent character part, is safe in the hands of Mr. Walter Westwood, Mr. Frank Barclay's fine voice is heard to advantage, and Mr. E. O. Freshwater also sings with effect. Miss Margery Gray and Miss Dollie Doyle sing and dance admirably in leading rôles, and Miss Gipsy Touzean plays a conspicuous part as the adventuress.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Ltd.; Managing Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Director, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—For the holiday week the management have provided an extra strong bill. The centre of interest is Miss Hetty King, a male impersonator of unusual ability and a clever dancer. Aladina's performing cockatoos are big favourites, Frank Hartley contributes an excellent turn as the juggling schoolboy, the Dixons sing and dance creditably, and also shine as baton swingers and banjoists, a popular turn is given by De Henau, who does more with his toes than most of us do with our hands, Miss Helen Charles is a refined and artistic entertainer, George and Edwards are smart comedians and dancers, and Mlle. Sylvia's vocal tableaux is a turn quite out of the common. Vernon's Bioscope, with new films, completes a first-rate programme.

Algie's Hippodrome.—Proprietress, Mrs. P. E. Veitch; General-Manager, Mr. C. Algie.—For the last week of the season Mr. Algie has gathered together a strong array of talent, at the head of which is the Dayton Troupe of risley acrobats, who give a clever and finished performance. Miss Cordite, assisted by Wild Buffalo, submits a remarkable exhibition of rope spinning and lassoing; Mr. A. P. Boswell, the furniture shifter, gets a big reception; the three Milfords excel as rope-walkers, and perform some astonishing tricks; Flo Hilton, a male impersonator, is a prime favourite; Chas. Lyndon, eccentric comedian, does well. Other items include Rabbit (clown), Hare Trio (gymnasts), &c., and the Bioscope pictures.

CASTLEFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—Mr. Chas. Harrington's company is here this week with *The Sailors of the King*. Mr. Harrington as Admiral Drake is successful; Mr. Harry Douglas as Dick Drake leaves nothing to be desired; Orrel Drake receives an artistic interpretation from Mr. F. Vernon Travers; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., is delightfully humorous as Barnet Fair; Harris Wilkinstein finds a capital representation in Mr. Fred Owen; and Rufford Dent is excellently impersonated by Mr. Walter Farnsworth. Miss Maud Digby's abilities are well brought out in the rôle of Rebecca Crosby; a charming Penelope Penn is found in Miss Hero Hathaway; Miss Sylia Stella deserves unreserved praise for her Felicia Phrynne, and Miss Gertrude Sterroll cleverly represents Daisy Dent.

CHATHAM. — Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley. —This week marks the first visit here of *The Earl and the Girl*, which is proving highly attractive. The hit of the evening is made by Mr. Reginald Switz, whose Jim Cheese is a capital bit of acting. Miss Mary Fraser makes a captivating Elphin Haye, and Mr. Alec Fraser an admirable Dick Wargrave. Mention must be made of Mr. Frank Cane's Downham, and other parts are in excellent keeping.

Gaiety Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Captain Davis's holiday bill of fare is headed by Katie Lawrence, the popular comedienne, and includes Emlyn Jones and Co., with international songs; Bob Dare and Molly Malvern, in duologue, *May and December*, or *Marrying for Money*; Alice Maple, comedienne; Fred Dice, comedian; the Carlyles, dancers; Condon and Preston, comedians; and Pictures by the Edisonograph.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Albert Wyndham and Co. are pleasing all with a capitally staged sketch, entitled *Prince Arthur; or, The Days of King John*; Mlle. Von Etta, lady illusionist and protean artist, has had a good reception; Herbert Rule scores with songs which are just suited to the taste of Barnard's patrons; Thiel's Pompoms give a number of selections, which are much appreciated; while Mr. Lacey's Erascope has a new and effective picture, entitled "Animated Flowers."

CHELTENHAM.—Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—On Saturday evening Mr. Charles E. Hamilton's company opened here with *Peggy Machree*. In the title-part Miss Claudia Russell made a most favourable impression, scoring heavily in two prettily rendered numbers; Miss Blanche Astley as Molly danced neatly and gracefully, and sang with much charm. Mr. Vernon Davidson was quite successful as the hero, Barry Trevor; Mr. Ralph Lynn, as Sir Lawrence Borthwick, did well, and was repeatedly encored in his catchy number, "My family never does that"; Mr. Milroy Cooper created plenty of fun as Alexander M'Dougall; Mr. Dan Fitzgerald was the quaint old piper, Michael; Miss Madge Avery was typically Irish as Moira Cafferty; Mr. John Morley in the part of Sergeant Bampton was heard to advantage in the "Deer" song; Miss Doris Kelvey, Miss Dorothy Garden, and Mr. Marc Macdermott appeared with success as the aristocrats of the piece; Miss Flora Wood sung nicely as Aline; and Mr. J. Heribert Willis as Lawyer Keene, and Mr. Edgar Ashwin as Patsy were good. Mr. K. Ernest Irving, one of the joint composers, conducted the excellent chorus and augmented orchestra.

CHESTERFIELD. — Theatre Royal, Ltd.— Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—The Easter attraction here is Mr. Charles Price's company in *The Shop Boy*. Mr. Harry Pleon as Sarsaparilla Smith is most amusing. Miss Celia Kent, the Sisters Clifford, and the Alexandra Troupe of Lady Dancers are also warm favourites.

Corporation Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—For this the last week of the season, Mr. J. W. Carson and company (which includes G. Osmond Tearle) is appearing in the sensational play, *The Master of the Chain*.

CHORLEY (Lancs.).—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company are paying a visit here this week with the drama *The Power of Gold*. Mr. Ayrton as Sammy Smudge is responsible for an excellent impersonation, while Miss Madge Seymour successfully undertakes Norah Donnelly (with songs and dances); Miss Lilla Wilde charmingly represents Lady Brandon, and Mr. Charles Whitlock effectively renders Hadgi Zambra.

COATBRIDGE.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—Mr. Sydney Dench and company occupy the boards here this week with *The Rich and Poor of London*. Mr. Dench proved a great success as Spider Jack; Dr. Leonard Morton was ably represented by Mr. Robert Hall; Mr. Walter Foster received the execration of the "gods" for his delineation; Matthew Grabbam was cleverly played by Mr. Malcolm Gascoigne; Billy Binks was well portrayed by Mr. Jack Sydney; Miss Dora Dench gave a charming delineation of Mary Braithwaite; Miss Lillian Burns was a huge success as Ruby Redgrave; and Auntie Scrimp was safe in the hands of Miss Emily Woodleigh.

COLCHESTER.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—A capital house witnessed the opening night's performance of *The Orchid* by Mr. George Dance's company. Mr. Harry Walsh did ample justice to the humorous rôle of Meakin, the gardener, being ably seconded by the quaintness of Miss Phil Grumpel as Caroline Vokins. Mr. Charles Seymour was an able Minister of Commerce; as Zaccary, Mr. J. F. Val proved himself a very fine speciality dancer. Mr. Sinclair Holden was realistic as the dudish nephew; and Mr. Vyvyan Wakeman made a smart country doctor. Miss Margory Moore was a dainty Lady Violet; Miss Trilby Collier a graceful Josephine Zaccary, and Miss Morris as the secretary danced in a charming manner. Mr. George Asaf made an admirable duellist, whilst the make-up of his seconds (Messrs. Hunter and Hallam) was capital.

The Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—Michael Braham, with his bull terrier Micky; V. L. Granville in character impersonations; Alice Digby and her quartette of lady dancers; Louie Counsell and Oscar Mills, in a travesty on melodrama; Flo Cecil, vocalist; Will Driscoll, swell comedian; and Little Don, with his quaint drolleries, make up an excellent bill.

CONSETT.—New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. —The Ediscope and Barnum's grand combination of star variety artists is supplying the holiday bill of fare here this week. "Lulu," lady instrumentalist, in her illuminated garden scene, gives selections on the mandoline, sledge bells, &c.; Miss Queenie Vane, in her coon songs and dance, works hard and capably; Vic Virney, whistling comedian, is exceptionally clever; the Vir Vaine, duettists and dancers, also contribute an excellent turn; Phil Raby, versatile comedian, gives entire satisfaction; and the Two Allies, English and Japanese jugglers, are successful. Lyons, ventriloquist, is droll, and Mons. Aerie performs some good gymnastic feats. Animated pictures are also shown.

CORK.—Opera House.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened a week's engagement here, in *The Toreador*. Mr. Richard Telford as Sammy Gigg was admirable; Mr. F. Hulme Sharpe as Sir Archibald Slachitt won repeated applause; Mr. Tom May was a lively and energetic Pettifer; Miss Avis Grahame was successful as the loquacious Cockney, Mrs. Malton Hoppings; as Dora Selby, Miss Sadie Neville was charming; and Miss Alice Nixon made a graceful Nancy Staunton.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble; Stage-Manager, Mr. Lewis Folano.—The programme here is up to standard. Menotti gives a thrilling and original performance on a single wire; the Two Continental Girls sing and dance well; Happy Attwood is very amusing; Victoria Dagmar is a very clever horizontal bar gymnast; Les Valdos are capital knockabouts; J. H. Milburn is an excellent burlesque actor; Belrose and De Velin are well-trained duettists; Primavesi is an exceedingly clever juggler; and the Four Maisanos perform on a number of musical instruments, in a most artistic manner.

COVENTRY.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—*Darkness*, which is founded on Mr. Guy Thorne's novel "When it was Dark," is being presented by Mr. Morton Powell's company. Mr. Bonbote Wilson does excellent work as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. T. A. Shannon as the Rev. Basil Gorte is successful; Miss V. St. Lawrence is a capital worker as Gertrude Hunt, and Mrs. Morton Powell is responsible for an effective rendering of the part of Helena Myars.

The Hippodrome.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—An attractive holiday programme is being put before large audiences at this house of amusement, and on Monday three performances were successfully given. Austin Rudd, the popular comedian, is responsible for some good numbers which are well received; the performance by the Dunvilles is much appreciated; Fred Dunston is a capable comedian; Burg, Hand, and Wise present a laughable comedy sketch entitled *Ye Old Brown Cow*; the Three Braggs (acrobatic) present a much-appreciated and attractive turn; Messrs. Spencer and Marks submit an amusing act, entitled *The Stage-Struck Waifs*; Rowland Hill is a capable comedian, and Marlow and Dunlop (speciality comedians) and Miss Daisy Morell (descriptive and character vocalist) are also in the bill.

CRADLEY HEATH.—Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John H. Morton.—Mr. Coleman Davies and a powerful company are here with the comedy drama entitled *No Escape*. Mr. Davies himself has a dual part, being first of all successful as Major-General Geoffrey Arlington, and then showing a careful study as Constable Grip O'Grady. Mr. S. Forth is well placed as Sergeant Arlington, and Miss Ada Gower shows taste and feeling in her portrayal of the part of Ethel Arlington. Mr. T. Wood is humorous as Policeman A, and Mr. Terry Davies is also full of fun as Vandyke Collodion. Mr. George Tempest shows decided ability as Horace Hardcastle, and Mr. W. Vivian Tulloch well holds his audience as Sampson Slowman. Miss Unice Udall is winsome as Molly Muggs, and Miss Nelly Navene is capital as Betty Guzzle, whose son, Jabez Guzzle, finds an able exponent in Mr. E. Thorn. We must not forget Mr. W. Royd, who is well up in the part of Simpson, nor Miss Bertha Carte, who is quite at home as Tripp.

CREWE.—Lyceum Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Mr. George Dance's company is the attraction here this week with *The Girl from Kay's*. Mr. J. W. Hooper in his humorous impersonation of Max Hoggenheimer is the life and soul of the play, and is ably assisted by Mr. F. Thompson as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle and Mr. Claude Dampier as Joseph. Mr. Herbert Franklin as Harry Gordon is a success, and Mr. H. Jennings is responsible for a good rendering of Theodore Quench, K.C.; Mr. E. Forde is suitably placed as Mr. Chalmers. Miss Lily Edmonds in the title-rôle gives an artistic performance, and is entirely charming; Miss Marie Greenhouse is clever and graceful as Norah Chalmers, and Miss Irene Vere does well as Ellen; Miss May Wiltshire is satisfactory as Mrs. Chalmers.

CROYDON. — Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The Easter attraction at this popular house is Mr. Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliott and company, in *The Light that Failed, Mrs. Grundy*, and *Mice and Men*. On Tuesday a well-pleased audience witnessed *Mrs Grundy*, and testified their approval in an unstinted manner. Mr. Forbes Robertson did full justice to the rôle of Edward Sotheby, just touching the right note; Mr. J. H. Ryley was exactly fitted for the part of Joe Puddiford; Mr. Herbert Dansey was quite up to the mark as Major Pettifret; Mr. Charles Weir was seen to advantage as Mr. Jevons; Mr. Vernon Steel made an admirable Will Topplethwaite; Mr. Robson Paige submitted a smart sketch of Josh Harmony; and useful assistance was given by Mr. Ernest Barton as Jerry Budd, and Mr. Frank Bickley as Jimpson. Master Herbert Brown deserves congratulations upon his assumption of Little Jack; Miss Auriol Lee showed histrionic ability as Kitty Barson, Misses Doris Lytton and Dorothy Paget were charming as Dolly and Goodie Jevons; Miss Gertrude Bibby was praiseworthy in the rôle of Amelia Jevons; Miss Minnie Griffin was appropriate as Mrs. Jevons; and Miss Esme Hubbard did well as Mrs. Winch. Miss Gertrude Elliott acted with due delicacy, and was seen at her best as Mrs. Patrello.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The holiday bill here is Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company in *The Still Alarm*. Mr. Cecil Du Gue is clever as John Bird; Mr. Mathew H. Glenville wins approbation as Jack Manley; Mr. Tom Beasley is satisfactory in the part of Willie Manley; Mr. Fred Osmond deserves a good word as Doe Wilber; Mr. J. Sutton Pateman makes a suitable Franklyn Fordham; Mr. Lewis Gordon's Joe Jones is a finished performance; Miss Mabel Veriton is interesting as Mrs. Manley; Miss Hettie Zillwood is excellent as Carrie Wilber; and Miss Maud Warburton is a womanly Elinor Fordham.

DARLINGTON. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company is here this week in the romantic play *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. The part of Capt. Harry Peyton is admirably acted by Mr. Frederick Victor; Mr. Elliott Ball is well suited as Major John Colden; Mr. Sidney Young as Mr. Valentine is very droll; Mr. Tom Taylor is clever as Black Sam; Miss Cynthia Brooke makes a charming Miss Elizabeth, Miss Phyllis Back as Molly Edwards is equally successful, and Miss Leonora Braham as Mistress Sarah Williams is most entertaining.

DEAL.—Oddfellows' Hall.—Mr. Rutland Barrington gave on Monday a successful entertainment. He was assisted by Miss Robinson Grimston (late of the Savoy Theatre), who sang in a charming style. Mr. Harold Grimston made a first-class accompanist.

Pier Pavilion.—The Jesters were engaged for the Easter holidays, the company consisting of Miss Jessie Hotine (soprano), Miss Gustin Murray (contralto), Mr. Robert Dennant (baritone), and Mr. James Campbell. Each entertainment drew a large audience.

DERBY.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is here this week in *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey plays John Strong, the blacksmith, and the part could scarcely be in abler hands. He is well supported by Miss Laura Walker, a charming Kate. Miss Maggie Edwards is good as Ruth Parkins, and Captain Lee has a capable exponent in Mr. Joseph Carter. Mr. Thomas E. Marshall is praiseworthy as Jeremiah Parkins, Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Mrs. Parkins is equally so. Fun is provided by Mr. George V. Campbell as Billy Twigge and Miss Edith Giddens as Martha Mopps. Mr. Edwin Maydew is a satisfactory Lucas Marlow, and Miss Bertha Hanbury as Harry Strong is a pleasing child actress.

Palace.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—The bill this week is headed by W. J. Churchill, a popular comedian locally, and his songs and patter earn him a very cordial reception. The Dugros Trio in their comical trampolin act, are all that could be desired, the Arizona Troupe of jugglers and equilibrists are old favourites here, and Charles Deane, an amusing comedian, is also popular. The Two Whites, comedy artists, cause much merriment; Missie D'Aubyn is a pleasing burlesque artist, Fill Percival a fine clog dancer, and the programme concludes with an exhibition of this year's Grand National Steeplechase by the Palace Bioscope.

DEWSBURY.—Theatre Royal.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—The Easter attraction here is Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in the successful drama, *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Mr. J. D. Geddes successfully portrays Frank Carsdale; Miss Mildred Eversleigh, as Margaret Rivers plays with power; Mr. F. C. Imbert and Mr. Harry Lyndon, respectively, portray the rôles of O'Quirke and Trimmer, with much humour; and Miss Edie Macklin, as Molly, is clever; Mr. Andrew Money, as Captain Darrell, is responsible for a capable delineation; and Mr. C. H. Gallier, as Lieut. Kingsley, could scarcely be improved upon.

Hippodrome and Varieties. — General-Manager, Mr. G. Weldon.—Percy Curry heads the bill here, and goes well; The Bodinas, and Eugenie and Willie, in musical acts, are clever; Fox and Melville are repeatedly encored as song illustrators; the Monckton have a laughable sketch; and the Henriques, comedy acrobats, are capable; J. H. Bowman, comedian and dancer, has good style; and the Dainton Girls, duettists, are successful; the Harriscope presents attractive pictures.

DOVER.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew. —An excellent holiday attraction was found in Mr. Arthur St. John and répertoire company. *The Three Musketeers* was staged on Monday, and was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. Miss Ida St. John appeared as Nancy in *Oliver Twist*, which was played on Tuesday, and the same clever lady gave a good study of Cigarette in *Under Two Flags* on Wednesday, the part of Bertie Cecil being portrayed by Mr. St. John, supported by an unusually capable company. Mr. Albert Chevalier and company opened on Thursday for three nights. Mr. Chevalier gave a number of impersonations in his own inimitable style, and Miss Ethel Walker won success with her musical sketches at the piano; Mr. Harry Carsdale, an exceptionally clever mimic, and Mr. Harry Brett, a droll comedian, were well received. Mr. Alfred H. West rendered several pianoforte solos with good effect. Mr. Arthur Brankston and Miss Winifred Ingham are both refined artists, and Master Bertie Baxter, boy comedian, gave a wonderfully humorous turn.

Promenade Pier Pavilion.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—On Good Friday and every evening of the present week the popular society entertainers The Dagonets have been giving concerts, which have been well patronised. The artists include Mr. Joseph Blaskech, the famous Australian humorist, Mr. J. O. Thornback, and Mr. Henry Stockwell; and Misses Mildred Wrighton, Lily Beaton, and Jessie Jolly.

The Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield;

a sympathetic Elsie Marchand, Mr. Fred Sydney is a manly Edgar Hartington, Miss Violet Lisle gives a very fine impersonation as a street waif, and the comedy parts are ably filled by Miss Doris Brandon and Mr. M. Corri.

DUNFERMLINE.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. E. Potts.—The stock company is still proving a strong attraction here this week, and appeared on Monday night in *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*. Mr. James Somerville distinguished himself as Brian Fitzgerald; Mr. Sam Allen was a capable Rodger Moreland, Mr. Walter Barlow made a good Mark Frettlby, Mr. Henry Rich scored as Oliver White; Mr. Carl Vallender did full justice to the part of Kilslip; Mr. Will Oswald was well placed as Sam Gorby. Miss Flo Stansfield gave a good representation of Madge Frettlby, Miss Ada Wereker left nothing to be desired as Julia Featherweight, Miss Clarice Jenner made a capable Sal Rawlins. The répertoire for the week includes *East Lynne* and *The Queen of the Prairies*.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen-Triggs.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is appearing here in *Public Opinion*. Mr. Percy Marshall as Horace Wibsey keeps the house laughing continually, and Mr. Charles Harley as Spencer Traughton is smart and diverting throughout. Mr. Douglas Greet extracts much fun from the part of Pomfey, Mr. Shirley Lea is an excellent Mr. Justice Mulley, Mr. Douglas Hamylton a capable Doctor Mulley, and Mr. Cecil Warde a satisfactory Lord Kilgour. Mr. John E. Watson does admirable double duty as Smeeton and Jowers, and Mr. G. Vincent assists as Finchett. Miss Moyra Creegan, graceful and charming, is a most appropriate Lady Diana; Miss Nancy Beresford is a pleasing and attractive Pansy Bligh, Miss Violet M. Harley a commendable Phyllis Dagenham, and Miss Dorothy Last an excellent Charlotte.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Charles Stewart's company is appearing here in *Our Flat*. Mr. Stewart is an easy and natural Reginald Sylvester, Mr. Wilfred E. Shine evokes many laughs as the eccentric Nathaniel Glover, and Mr. J. B. Gordon does effective work as Mr. McCullum. Mr. Percy Foster is a natural Clarence Vane; and Mr. Frank Emery as Stout, Mr. Kaye Brudell as the Foreman, and Mr. Fred Conyers give the very best of help in smaller parts. Miss Daisy Atherton is a bright and charming Margery Sylvester, Miss Empsie Bowman a sprightly Lucy, and Miss Mary Stuart a clever Madame Volant. Miss Polly Emery realises the humorous possibilities of the part of Bella, and Miss Maggie Bowman is a most energetic Clara Pryout. The Redcaps, three gentlemen and two ladies, supply a very popular and pleasing musical entertainment as a curtain-raiser.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—The programme here has attracted excellent houses during the holidays. Ahrensmeyer, the cow-boy hypnotist, provides much laughter by means of his subjects; Miss Marie Kendal is at once a favourite with the audience, and her choruses are enthusiastically taken up; Mr. Charles Coburn is a most successful comedian; Miss Gertie Gitana has a pleasing and attractive musical turn; Barton and Franklin are clever instrumentalists; Allsopp and Beckwith amuse with song and patter; Miss Evelyn Taylor is a successful comedienne; Mr. Steve McCarthy, an expert dancer and singer; and the Sisters Brenton, too, are skilful dancers and singers. The bioscope pictures complete the bill.

EBBW VALE.—KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Responsible Managers, Messrs. W. Devereux and E. T. Wood.—Miss Edith Isabelle's No. 1 company in the musical comedy *The Girl from the Halls*, provides the special Easter attraction here. Jack Weston is presented by the versatile Mr. Geo. Elsworth; Mr. G. Ross is highly creditable as the Rev. Hezekiah Twinkle; and Mr. Cecil Park calls for special mention as the Hon. Richard Graham. Miss Connie Laurie as Janey scores most decidedly; and Miss Edith Isabelle does well as Minie Weston.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Mr. Martin Harvey and company began a week's engagement here on Monday, in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Harvey's performance of Lieutenant Reresby, "the Rat," possesses the qualities of pathos force, and humour, and the actor invests the part with the air of romance and elegance that pervades all his work. Miss N. de Silva's study of Batty is delightful, and she plays it with her customary spirit and ease. Mr. Charles Glenney is a powerful Colonel Hungerford, Mr. Fred Wright an admirable Colonel Bagshaw, Mr. Percy Anstey an excellent Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham, and Mr. Albert E. Raynor an extremely good Colonel Sir Henry Curwen. Miss Frances Ivor as Mrs. Bagshaw, and Miss Bessie Elder as Helena Pierrepoint, contribute pleasing impersonations. On Wednesday evening Mr. Harvey played *Hamlet* for the first time in Edinburgh. *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* has also been given during the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Chas. Macdona's chief company is appearing this week in *Are You a Mason?* Mr. Allan Pollock as George Fisher plays with much spirit. As Amos Bloodgood Mr. E. H. Paterson has a part that suits his comic vein to perfection; and Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as Frank has also ample opportunity of displaying his talent in farcical acting. Mr. Richard Purdon makes a capital Yorkshireman, Mr. Percy Bell gives a clever sketch of Travers, and Mr. Howard L. Tracey is effective as Morrison. Mrs. Bloodgood is in the experienced hands of Miss Adelaide Grace; the three daughters being capably played by the Misses Mabel Younge, Rita Ward, and Mabel Jowett. Miss Alice Raynor is also in the cast. The curtain-raiser is *A Bad Penny*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—*The Scottish Bluebells*, which is playing here to large audiences, will be withdrawn on Saturday owing to previous engagements; but it is safe to say that the piece has been so successful during its three weeks' run that it will be seen again very soon upon the stage of the Grand. The delightful music of Dr. F. Osmond Carr has had an able rendering by the members of the cast, all of whom are capable vocalists. Miss Hettie Gale, Madame Kate Sherry, Mr. Arthur Cartwright, and Mr. Clifford Morgan deserve the warmest praise for their meritorious singing and acting; while the humour of the play has been safe in the hands of Mr. Peter D. Barmingham, Mr. Leon Simkin, Mr. Harry Stuart, and Mr. Dan O'Connor.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. C. J. Cawood. Heading the bill this week is a lively sketch, seen here for the first time, entitled *Two Nights Out*. It is performed by Joe Elvin and company who do every justice to what is one of the funniest sketches seen on this stage. Athas and Collins also appear in an amusing sketch, *For Four Bob*, and give an excellent display of dancing. Another sketch performance, by Charlie Kitts and Rhoda Windrum, is deserving of mention. The Three Cape Girls submit a particularly smart exhibition of dancing; and Johnson and Dean also dance and sing themselves into the good graces of the audience. Those favourite artists Drew and Alders obtain, of course, the heartiest of receptions; and as a mimic Miss Nina Gordon pleases the house with her clever imitations. Other items in an excellent bill are Mr. Charles E. Colley, ventriloquist; Miss Gwennie Hasto, comedienne; the Jurgens Trio, acrobats and balancers; Mr. G. W. Foster, comedian; and the Coloured Fashion Plates.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Dr. Edward J. Domville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—*The Eternal City* is being presented here this week by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Miss Marie Polini is to be commended for a decidedly clever portrayal of Donna Roma. The part is one that calls for careful treatment, and on Monday Miss Polini's acting won the warmest approbation of the audience. Mr. Henry Deas was a complete success as Rossi, his depiction of the rôle being characterised by a pleasing vigour; Baron Bonelli was ably played by Mr. E. Stanton Sharp, Mr. William O'Flynn proved a capable exponent of Bruno Rocco, and the part of Pope Pius XI. was ably sustained by Mr. J. Fortescue.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS' THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—A good attraction is provided here this week by Mr. George Dance's company in *The Girl from Kay's*. Miss Emily Taylor in the rôle of Norah Chalmers sings and dances in good style; Miss Mabel Dent is a fascinating Ellen; Miss Beatrice Poole as Winnie Harborough infuses plenty of go into the part; Mr. J. S. Durant's rendering of Harry Gordon is satisfactory; Mr. Reginald Gray is a whimsical Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; and Mr. H. C. Barry as Max Hoggenheimer creates roars of laughter.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co., Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—The Sabots opened a week's engagement here on Thursday, and were well patronised. Mr. Harry Ivime and Miss Dorothy Payn are great favourites, and Miss Stroud Wilson sings pleasingly.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter. The Star Dominoes and their Pierrot are here this week, and cause much amusement, their songs, duets, &c., receiving deserved applause.

GATESHEAD. — METROPOLE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company is here in *The Poor Must Live*. Mr. Harold McCartney gives a powerful portrayal of Drummond Tredegar; another strong picture, that of the Earl of Marswood, comes from Mr. Charles O'Connor; Mr. Geoffrey Fulton does well in the part of Clifton Manville; Mr. Arthur Trail as Sam Sully presents a lifelike study of the London hooligan; Mr. Shaum Glenville in the part of Hooker Holdsnitch proves himself a first-rate comedian; and Mr. Herbert Clifton is funny as Dick Sully, and also wins applause for some fine singing. Miss Olive Fulton as Olga D'Eyncourt is responsible for some clever acting; Miss Violet Hammersley makes a sweet Dorothy Murdock; Miss Alice Buckland is successful as Moya; and Miss Marguerite Thorne makes up well as Sal Darling.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May. — An excellent variety programme is submitted here this week. Mr. J. W. Ashcroft (assisted by Mr. J. W. Morton) tops the bill, and makes a big hit. Hardeen, "the handcuff king," goes through his performance with his customary skill; Martin Conway, a great favourite locally, receives an enthusiastic welcome; the Three Prestons are seen in a comedy act which goes well; and the following artists make up a strong bill:—Yolande Noble, comedienne; Gordon and Winifred Le Barte in a comedy duologue; Miss Daisy De Roy, comedienne; Michael and Polo, strong men; and the Olive Trio in a musical act.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Varieties once more displace drama at this house. The week's bill is headed by J. Wright Aitken and company in a capital drama in "tabloid" form entitled *Beneath a Mask*. Picitt and Lizette have a smart conjuring act; Tom White's Arabs receive considerable applause for their vocal entertainment; Los Granadas are seen in a novel acrobatic act; Conan and Doyle are energetic comedians and dancers; and Cade Burnett (descriptive vocalist), Maude Clifton (comedienne), and Geo. Martinengo ('cello soloist) complete an excellent entertainment.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. D. S. Cooper; General-Manager, Mr. Roy Cochrane.—This week Miss Frances Delaval is here on a return visit with *Her Lost Self*. Miss Delaval brings dramatic power to bear on the part of the unhappy Philippine Marcel, Mr. Percy Carne Waram acts in a thoroughly conscientious manner as Wilfred Daventry, Mr. Chas. Kean ably depicts the rôle of Norman Esmond, Mr. Adian Lovett is tactful as Paul Kimberley, Victor Elsworth has a capital exponent in Mr. Fred Lillywhite, a typical Hebrew is presented by Mr. L. W. Halfpenny as Abraham Cohen, praise is due to Miss Dora Hammersley for her clever acting in the dual rôles of Dorothy and Lucelle, Mr. Horace Buckley as Tom Flyaway and Miss Nell Ingram as Bridget Malone introduce the indispensable comedy, and Miss Mina Johnson plays cleverly as the child Dorothy.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mrs. Russ Whytal is paying a return visit to Glasgow, and has made her headquarters here. A large holiday audience on Monday gave her fitting welcome in Tom Taylor's historical drama *'Twixt Axe and Crown*, in which she appears as the Lady Elizabeth. She gives a vivid impersonation of the part. Mr. Chas. Combe as Bishop Gardiner makes the most of the rôle; as Mary Tudor Miss Ada Marius gives a resolute and determined embodiment of the hapless sovereign; Mr. J. J. Bartlett as Simon Renard suave and cunning to a degree; Mr. Leslie Palmer as Sir John Harrington and Miss Mabel Knowles as Isabel were alike fine impersonations. As the gallant Edward Courtenay Mr. Claude King made a vigorous and manly lover. The Lords of the Council were in the excellent charge of Messrs. Ulick Burke, A. Spencer, and John Raymond; Mr. Edward Beecher as Sir John Brydges acted with fine presence and enunciatory force.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is paying a first visit here with the new comedy *On the Love Path*. Of the performers Mr. Percy Hutchison has perhaps the largest share of the work, and as young Taunton carries through his task with admirable dash and humour, receiving valuable support from Miss Lilias Earle, whose captivating impersonation of Charity Concannon helps the general success, another outstanding assumption being the John Gripleigh of Mr. George Mudie. Mr. Frank Elliot gives a fine manly portrayal of Gerald Marvel, while well-defined types of character are seen in the Peter Concannon of Mr. Frank Hill and in the Thrayle of Mr. T. W. Rawson, the parts of Mary and Norah Concannon being charmingly filled by Miss Margaret Marshall and Miss Hilda Honiss respectively. The comedy is preceded by a one-act farce of more than average merit, entitled *His Landlady*, in which the author, Mr. George Mudie, takes a leading part.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—*The Swiss Express* is an entertainment well suited to the tastes of holiday audiences, and at matinée and evening performances good houses heartily appreciated the efforts of Messrs. C. and F. Renad's clever company. The Renads themselves were, as before, the eccentric servants, and Mr. Herbert Lewis as Dr. Gull, Mr. George Martin as Bob Rollingstone, Mr. Harwood Cooper as Jack Gadabout, and Mr. Owen Remonde as Dudley Green, all added to the general hilarity. Miss Jessica Ford made an attractive Virginia, and Miss Helen Douglas was well placed as Mrs. Septimus Squeeze. The latter's husband was amusingly played by Mr. C. Gray, and Rhino was cleverly acted by Mr. J. Carl Lyle.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—An enthusiastic holiday audience extended a hearty welcome to Mr. Huntley Wright on his first visit here as a star. The principal piece of the evening is the three-act farce entitled *The Mountain Climbers*, and in this Mr. Wright was intensely funny as the sham mountaineer. Miss Kate Mills was excellent as the admiring wife, whose enthusiasm for her husband's bravery leads to all the mischief. Her two daughters, Alice and Betty, were charmingly played by Misses Christine McGill and Dora Barton, and their respective admirers by Messrs. Montague Elphinstone and Eric Maturin. Mr. Algernon Newark and Mr. Scott Craven made a picturesque couple of Swiss guides as the Rheinthalers, father and son. Miss Ivy Hertzog acted excellently as the Swiss girl, Lena; Mr. W. R. Staveley was well suited as Samuel Midgham. The play was preceded by a first-rate little comedy with a touch of pathos throughout, *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, and in this Mr. Huntley Wright demonstrated that his abilities are by no means confined to comic parts, his acting as the little priest being admirable. Mr. Eric Maturin, Mr. W. R. Staveley, and Miss Christine McGill gave able support.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—*A Sailor's Sweetheart* is this week being presented by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Alfred Goddard is manly and powerful in the part of the hero, Lieut. Charles Clive; Miss Molly Pearson as Grace Mayland gives a charming and sympathetic representation; Mr. Arthur Elwyn shows himself quite equal to the part of Philip Pemberton; Mr. E. Bulwer Pitt as Captain Mayland, and Mr. D. Johnstone as the Rev. Robert Clive do commendable work. The comic element is well looked after by Mr. W. Fixott as Tim Kelly, Miss Minnie Raynor as Phœbe Pembury, and Miss Ida Ernest as Mrs. Pembury.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Strong dramatic fare is provided here in *A Wrecker of Men*, which Mr. C. Watson Mills' company is playing this week. Miss Rosalind Tate gives a powerful rendering of the part of the scheming adventuress, Risca Mallison; Mr. C. Watson Mill appears as Jim Murley, and is a big favourite with the audience.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—The popular musical comedy, *The New Barmaid*, is providing the attraction at Govan. Mr. Chas. Edward's company, including Mr. Joseph B. Montague and Mr. Alexander Loftus, fill the parts. Mr. Montague in his old rôle of Bertie White is as good as ever. His local hits are well received. He is ably assisted by Mr. Loftus in the part of William White, and the pair are responsible for most of the humour. Miss Maisie Ellinger in the title-rôle sings and acts throughout in pleasant fashion; Mr. Leslie Austin, in the part of Captain Lovebury, is also well received. Other parts are well played by Miss Hilda Blanche (Brenda Louth), Miss Violet Osmond (Dora Heather), Miss Winifred Preston (Lady Moulton), Mr. W. E. Chewd (Mons. Bonsor), and Mr. Jas. Grant (Colonel Claymore). The lady dancers assist in making an attractive production.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—The Craggs give their smart acrobatic sketch in the Channel Queen scene from *Laughter Land*, and show wonderful agility; J. F. Elliston and company appear in the popular old farce *His Last Legs*; Camille D'Alberg and company give excellent point to that thrilling little French play *La Main*, their dumb-show being most expressive; James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, is as clever as ever, and his musical eccentricities are much enjoyed; Luigos Sextette are clever singers and dancers; Florence Deighton (ballad vocalist). Alf Bishop, and Fred Lincoln (comedians), and the Trapnell Family in their neat and clever acrobatic speciality complete a varied programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—After a successful week at the Coliseum Mr. George Gray and his company have been transferred here, and *The Fighting Parson* has proved a strong draw. The Steinway Quartette illustrated naval and other maritime deeds in their fine vocal entertainment, *Songs of the Sea*, in delightful manner; and George Tacius, who has a phenomenal vocal organ, is one of the successes of the evening. The Warsaw Bros. are as clever musicians as they are comedy artists. In equally complimentary terms we may note the ventriloquial display by Mr. David Poole; and notable successes are attained by Miss Gracie Grahame, a comedienne of much ability and charm of presence; Bert Byrne, stuttering comedian; and Allan Hanbury, comic vocalist, are also included in a capital programme. The American bioscope pictures are to the fore, as usual.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A specially good company is here this week. Mignonne and company (including Alma Mary) give some clever dancing of various styles; Atalanta is an attractive young lady, who gives a novel and daring performance on the wire; Kitty Clover and company present a lively farce, entitled *Mr. There's Heir*. The Eight Lancashire Lads are strong favourites, and their clog-dancing evokes hearty applause; Bosanquet's violin playing is wondeful, and his ingenious instruments enhance the novelty of the turn; Harry Cleff contributes a most enjoyable vocal turn, in which he is artistically helped by the Pavilion permanent choir of ladies. Daisy Martell as a dancer and Winnie Scott as a coon impersonator contribute clever items, and Jack Hylton, Will Johnston, and Harry Nelson all do well as comedians.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—Miss Marie Loftus is the chief attraction this week. She provides a most versatile turn, her many impersonations being extremely clever. The Artois Bros. go through some clever tricks on the triple horizontal bar; Burnetti, the impersonator of musical comedians, shows both cleverness and originality; Elsie Molly's company, in *The Lady Bankrupt*, gives a sprightly performance of the musical comedy order; Albert and Edmunds Troupe, in *A Trip to Boulogne*, give a clever interpretation of a humorous sketch. Other acceptable turns are provided by Sam Soda, the effervescent comedian; Herbert Shelley, who sings some clever songs of his own composition; and Canty's Grotto, a most artistic show. The Urban bioscope concludes an enjoyable programme with the very latest animated pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Rich. Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie.—An excellent entertainment is provided here this week. The principal item consists of Fred Karno's absurdity, *Our Annual Social*, presented by Lee Simpson's company. Another notable turn is that of Downes and Langford comedians. The other artists include Garden and Zesch, society entertainers; Nash and Noel, comedians; Rumbo Austin, acrobat; the Three Mays, comediennes and dancers; Effie White, mysterious fire dancer; Alethea, contortionist; C. Whittle, comedian; Polly Heath, comedienne and dancer; and the animatograph with a capital display of pictures.

QUEEN'S.—Lessees, Messrs. Colquhoun and Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong, jun.—Will Godwin, in a clever sketch with songs introduced, gives a good turn here; J. A. Cassels, the popular Scotch comedian, is a big favourite; Maude Edwards makes a hit as a ventriloquist; boxing bouts form a considerable portion of the programme.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—Much interest is taken in the gigantic film shown on the biograph here depicting the Britt *v.* Nelson boxing contest in California. The film is about a mile and a quarter in length, and shows with wonderful clearness all the movements of the boxers and the animation of the audience. Descriptive remarks by an American lecturer enhance the interest considerably.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—This week Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Spenser's own company in *Nell Gwynne; or, Sweet Nell of Old Drury*, is at the theatre. Miss Lizzie Hall (Mrs. Sydney Spenser) in the title-rôle gives a delightful performance; Mr. Sydney Spenser as King Charles submits an excellent portrayal; Mr. Fulton Atherton makes a capital Duke of York; Mr. Jno. Templar Ellis is effective as Sir Edmund Godfrey; Mr. Charles Yorke contributes a powerful reading of Lord Rochester; and Miss Kathleen Magee as the Duchess of Portsmouth acts with ability. Mr. Clifford Marl dexterously handles the part of Roland Graeme; Mr. Wilton Marsh as Anthony Doublechick is worthy of praise; Mr. Edwin Ramsdale provokes merriment by his humorous impersonation of Bellicose Betterton; Mr. Leonard Humphries is capable as Matthew Gole; and Mr. Edward Allardice does well as the French Ambassador.

GLOUCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Owners, C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—This week a variety programme is the attraction, and at the head of the bill is the renowned Chung-Ling-Soo, who is proving a great draw, his illusions causing wonderment and applause. Other artists engaged include the Three Schaffers, in gladiatorial pastimes; Miss Ida Ross, Tyrolean vocalist; Mr. Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; Messrs. Starr and Jerome, duettists; Frank Keegan and company, in a laughable cycling performance, entitled *Everyday Cyclists*; Miss Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist; the Five Zerbinis, spectacular musical fantasia; and Les Rallis, in *The Artist and the Monkey*; and Lestrel, a clever juggler, completes a capital bill of fare.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Crowded houses are nightly delighted with the tuneful numbers and mirth-provoking episodes in a *Chinese Honeymoon*, as represented by Mr. George Dance's principal company. Mr. St. John Hamund is admirable as Hang Chow, Mr. Percy Russell is excellent as Chippi Chop, Hi Lung is well played by Mr. Jack Lisle, Mr. L. Bullock-Webster sings expressively and acts naturally as Tom Hatherton, and Mr. Foster Courtenay's Mr. Pineapple is a humorous and clever assumption. Miss Poppy Wilkinson is good as Mrs. Pineapple, Soo-Soo is charmingly represented by Miss Ada Watson, Miss Edie Ross is capital as Mrs. Brown, and Miss Minnie Leslie as Fi-Fi keeps the audience laughing uproariously at her oddities and eccentricities.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—A capital programme of varieties is provided for Easter week. Harry Friskey is a great success as a comedy juggler; the Four Musical Palmers supply a clever turn; Rex Fox proves himself both an expert wire-walker and an amusing ventriloquist; "Mystery Jauze" wins loud applause by his singing; the Akimoto troupe of Japanese give a wonderful display of balancing and water-spinning; the Francis troupe of male and female acrobats contribute a good show; Carl Lynn gives marvellously correct imitations of "animal language"; and various other artists are well received.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—This week's attraction here is Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company with *The Manxman*. Mr. Sydney C. Kearns is an excellent exponent of Philip Christian; Mr. Cross's impersonation of Pete is a first-class piece of acting; Mr. David Phillips is well suited as Cæsar Creegan; Mr. George Marriot, jun., deserves praise for his embodiment of Ross Christian; and Mr. Arthur J. Moss is a capable representative of Tom. Miss Mena Spearing does well as Miss Christian; the part of Nancy finds an admirable representative in Miss Nancy Mitchell; Miss Minnie Watersford gives a thoughtful study of Kate Creegan; and the other parts are all in safe hands.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—The principal turn here is by Hall and Earle, eccentric comedians, who prove very amusing. Other good turns are Harry Carmen, vocal comedian; Master Hastings, boy soprano; Paul Hesse Trio, acrobatic wire performers; Daisy Lane, comedienne; and the Brothers Gardiner, midget wrestlers and boxers.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessees, the Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Wild, Willie, and West head the bill here, and their comedy turn is amusing. Others items of a good bill are Robbins and Collier in a comedy act entitled *The Lady and the Porter*; Fred Keeton, comedian; the Crystals, vocalists and dancers; the Melroses, who appear in a comedy duologue; J. P. Hope, vocalist; and La Paloma, vocalist and dancer.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Although it has been here many times, *The Silver King* has not declined in popularity one whit. In Mr. Herbert Ford a new Wilfred Denver is seen, and he worthily upholds the traditions of the character. Miss Daisy Scudamore is no less successful as Nellie Denver. Mr. A. J. Hicks makes an ideal Spider, and Mr. Arthur Wright as the bland but wily Eliah Coombe, Mr. Jas. L. Power as the timid Henry Corkett, and Mr. W. Thompson as Cripps are capital exponents of the Spider's accomplices. Miss C. Wynter is quite equal to the part of Olive Skinner, and Mr. Edward J. George is again seen as the faithful Jaikes.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Sam Elton, although he never utters a syllable whilst on the stage, causes roars of laughter each evening; Herr Fritz presents a wide variety of mystifying illusions; Addie Dorina's monologue, in which she represents several characters and accomplishes some wonderful quick changes, is received with special favour; and others contributing are Bessie Travis (ventriloquist), Frank Coyle (comedian), Linton (a skilful wire-walker), the New Hulines (musical clowns), and George Adams (a pleasing baritone).

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Hanvaar and Lee's golfing speciality, besides displaying humour, includes smart club manipulation; J. B. Preston is an amusing Scottish comedian; and the upside-down boxing act of Hector and Lauraine is a decided novelty. The quick-change turn of Baroni and Kemp is particularly acceptable; Yorkshire Tom's animal mimicry is realistic; Elsie Earle proves a charming burlesque actress; and an excellent musical speciality is contributed by the Elgars, operatic duettists.

THE EMPIRE (CLEETHORPES).—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White.—The Empire was opened for the Easter Holidays, the show principally consisting of animated pictures, a large number of novel films being exhibited.

HALIFAX.—GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—A gigantic vaudeville programme is headed here this week by Richard Sawade's tigers, dogs, polar bears, and lions—the most astounding wild animal act yet seen here. Another good turn is submitted by Cliff Ryland, an unctuous comedian; Mabel Field and Daisy Yates are amusing; Zetta is seen in a graceful cake-walk on the wire; Will Souls submits some excellent comedy; and Penistone and Tsaou-ngo, new Chino-American magicians, and the Clavers share in the honours bestowed.

THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A delightful holiday attraction is *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, which is making its initial appearance before the Halifax public. The finest piece of acting seen here for years is undoubtedly Mr. Wm. Mollison's interpretation of the old Highland sheep farmer, Lochlan Campbell. The interesting character of Tammas Mitchell is finely drawn by Mr. Kendal Chalmers; Mr. F. M. Paget is impressive in his original creation of the Earl of Kilspindie; Mr. A. Chappell does sterling work as Lord Hay; Mr. Durward Lely is very convincing as the Rev. John Carmichael. Miss Evely McNay as Flora Campbell fairly enthralls the house with her pathos in the character. *A Happy Pair* precedes the principal attraction.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. K. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—The Empire Comedy Four, America's leading singing comedians; Lade Henderson, character vocalist; Jenny Reeve; Bros. Zampah, the Continental one-legged equilibrists; Les Frasettis, violin, 'cello, harp, and xylophone soloists; Walker and Lake; Hughes and Elliott and Voy's Juveniles, in their new comedy scena, *Life in the Slums*, are delighting crowded houses here.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Chas. Howard. — Mr. George Dance's company opened here on Monday in *The Orchid*. Mr. Bertie Wright as Meakin makes the most of the part; Caroline is played by Miss Florence Vie in a manner which is highly effective and successful; Mr. Harry T. Bulter as Zaccary sings well and acts creditably; Lady Violet finds an admirable representative in Miss Chrissie Ralland; Mr. Alfred Bennett as the Honourable Guy is distinctly successful; as Zelie Rombert, Miss Elsa D'Usez acts well; Miss Rubie Garman as Thisbe portrays the part daintily; Miss Ida Chichester as the Countess is refined and stately; Dr. Ronald Faussett finds a manly exponent in Mr. C. Stone; Mr. William Benson scores in the part of de Cassignat, and is ably assisted by Mr. Cecil Frere and Mr. Buchanan Wake. Mr. F. Attree as the Registrar is most diverting; Josephine Zaccary in the hands of Miss Mamie Stuart is excellent.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes. — The Ergotti and King Luis Troupe of Risley performers contribute a truly wonderful acrobatic turn; the Aurora Troupe of acrobatic cyclists are well to the front in their marvellous performance, which is both daring and clever; Dome, the artist in clay, is a turn of much excellence; the Harvey Boys in the boxing act are clever and amusing; Nellie Coleman, comedienne, is distinctly successful in her songs; J. W. Hall is as funny as ever in his songs; Juno Salmo does some marvellous bending; Woodhouse and Wells are an entertaining pair, with funny patter; the pictures are well up to date.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock.—The Vaudeville success, *The Catch of the Season*, is the attraction here this week. Miss Maie Ash is charming as Angela; Mr. Frank Lincoln as the Duke of St. Jermyn's is a capable artist; Miss Alice Lethbridge, as usual, dances gracefully. The other members of the company are all suitably placed. Mr. Ernest Vousden has his large chorus and augmented orchestra well under control, and the dresses and mounting are very elaborate.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager and Musical Director, Mr. C. L. Naylor; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. R. Yeulett.—This week's programmes are all very entertaining. In addition to the municipal orchestra, Mr. Charles Sullivan (bass), Mr. Harold Scott (pianist), Miss Elsie Jones (soprano), the Gems concert company, and the bioscope form the attractions.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and Mr. J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Charlie Ferrier.—The holding capacity of this house was tested to the utmost at both performances on Monday. Premier position in the bill is occupied by the Alexandroff Troupe of Russian singers and dancers; Troba's performance as a cannon-ball manipulator is interesting; Edie Grey and her white coons discourse some sweet harmony; Gillin in ventriloquism is clever and humorous; Cecilia Maude, vocalist, is well received; and Will Russell, comedian, Will Walton, comedian, and the pictures are attractive numbers.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—This week Mr. R. C. Carton's farcical comedy *Public Opinion* holds the stage here, being played by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. George Giddens, the original exponent of Horace Wibsey, repeats his amusing assumption of the rôle; Mr. William Hargreaves (Mr. Justice Mulley), Mr. George Mallett (Sir Babbington), Mr. Harold West (Viscount Pomfey), Mr. Ernest Ruston (Spencer Traughton), and Mr. Templer Powell (Lord Percy) are respectively very entertaining in their search for the incriminating love-letters. Miss Emma Hutchison adds greatly to the success of the farce by her assumption as Lady Diana, Miss Lilian Hallows is smart as Pansy, whose maid Charlotte is well impersonated by Miss Alice Bunnett, and Miss Mary Mallalieu is graceful as Phyllis Dagenham. A cleverly-acted comedietta, *The Stratagem*, precedes the farce.

HIPPODROME.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—The holiday programme contains the names of some good artists. Miss Millie Denham is an attractive vocal comedienne, Mr. J. W. Ellison (the swell vocalist) is accorded a hearty reception, Miss Nelly Lewis (burlesque artist) contributes a good turn, the Cotton Blossom Quartette in their drawing-room entertainment achieve success, Tyrola gives some capital examples of Tyrolean singing, Will Poluski (comedian) proves exceedingly amusing, Queenie Leighton sings some capital songs, and a clever turn is given by the Four Athos. The Hippodrome bioscope still retains its popularity.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—An Easter burlesque, entitled *Bluebeard, Esq

Lester Carey a creditable Tom Everleigh. Miss Nellie Hodgson plays with acceptance as Mlle. Julie; Miss Gwennie Harcourt's portrayal of Ruth is a meritorious performance; and Miss Lucia Collins makes a charming Norah. Mme. Ilma Norina gives an adequate rendering of Mrs. Honeycombe. A speciality dance by Miss Ducie Sanderson is much appreciated.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. George Morton.—*Her Luck in London*, presented by Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil, is playing to crowded houses here this week. The principal rôle of Nellie Harborne is undertaken by Miss Neil, whose powerful acting is the great feature of the play. Valuable support is rendered by Mr. Chas. A. Leicester as the Hon. Gerald O'Connor, the hero, and Mr. Stephen Crossley, who skilfully portrays Richard Lenowen. The part of Stephen Harborne is capably presented by Mr. Tyrone Power; and Mr. Douglas Tremayne as the Rev. Lionel Strong is also well suited. Miss Ella Vane and Miss Frances Waring do good work as Ruth and Lilian Harborne; and Miss Florrie Groves as the maid is also deserving of special comment.

Ilkeston.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The attraction for the holiday week is Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company in the drama *The Luck of Life*, in which Miss Isabel Marte is highly successful as Réne Bazilovitz. The part of George Stanhope is well sustained by Mr. Norman A. Overton, and that of Bahadur is admirably embodied by Mr. H. Hesslegrave. The comedy is entrusted to Mr. George Davis as Simon Stanley and Miss Dora Huggett as Laura North, both artists being worthy of great praise. The Misses G. Bonser and F. Russell as Countess Vlarne and Vivienne D'Artois are capable exponents of their respective rôles, Messrs. E. Turner and A. Cuthbertson as Count Petroff and Ivan Polowski are suitably placed, and Mr. Roland Yorke as Michael Bazilovitz, the villain, is an actor of merit.

Queen's Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Knightall.—The Terrys, facial impersonators, are at the head of the bill, and are well received. Algernon is good as a tramp contortionist, Belle Leaburn is a commendable descriptive vocalist, and Florrie Wright (vocalist), Jack Truman (tenor), T. W. Lenner (comedian), and Alice Ashby (serio) are also very praiseworthy.

Ipswich.—Lyceum Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Jennings.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company occupies the boards for Easter week. On Monday *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented. Mr. Henry Herbert made a spirited representative of Petruchio, and was ably supported by Miss Gertrude Scott as Katharina. Miss Kate Turner as Bianca was satisfactory, and the other parts were adequately filled. *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *She Stoops to Conquer* were also presented during the week.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. H. E. Bostock.—An attractive programme has been presented here for the holiday week. Wieland, an American juggler, made a decided hit on Monday with his neat and clever tricks; Stewart and Morgan rendered some well-known Irish melodies, Avon and Crest were well received, and other turns included the Two Errolls (comedians), Oakdene (an accomplished ventriloquist), and Miss Daisy May.

Jarrow.—Royal Albert Hall.—Manager, Mr. L. F. Sanderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Wallace.—This week's company includes Fred Cary, comedian; Cavalli, juvenile juggler; the Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists; Cliff and Kean, comedians and dancers; Milstead and Bell, in a musical comedy scena, entitled *The Belle of Arizona*; Carson Hicks, buck dancer; Clicquot, sword and arc-lamp swallower; W. G. Webber, basso; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope with a fresh set of pictures.

Jersey.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson and company commenced their biennial visit here on Saturday night with *Julius Cæsar*. Mr. George Buchanan gave a dignified and well studied rendering of the name-part; Mr. F. R. Benson displayed considerable rhetorical ability as Marcus Antonius; Mr. B. A. Piltar's presentation of Brutus deserves warm praise; as Cassius Mr. Cyril Keightley proved himself a finished actor; Miss Leah Hanman did well as Lucius; Miss Tita Brand undertook the rôle of Calpurnia; and Mrs. F. R. Benson picturesquely portrayed the part of Portia. The piece was well staged. *Much Ado about Nothing*, *King Lear*, *Henry V.*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Hamlet* are also in the week's programme.

Kendal.—St. George's Hall.—Mr. Charles Clifford and company are appearing here this week in that powerful drama *On Circumstantial Evidence*. Mr. Clifford, who is the author of the play, is a capable actor, and in the character of Captain Hamilton, a renegade British officer, serving with Garibaldi in that leader's fight for freedom, earns unstinted praise. Mr. Wilson Brash ably fills the part of Jack Ogilvy, the hero, in a most manly and inspiriting fashion, and is well supported by Miss K. Wigney as Violet, his wife. The humorous element is in capable hands, Mr. Newton Pearce as Jeremiah Tobin and Miss M. Stewart as Polly Smithers evoking peals of laughter from a delighted audience. A special feature of the performance is the appearance of the local volunteer band, who naturally add to the military flavour of the play.

Kettering.—Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Payne.—Mr. E. Oswald Brooks' company is here with *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. Hobson Asche gives a good performance as Gerald Kingston; Mr. Willford Cheetham portrays the evil nature of Ralph Hammond in admirable style; Miss Marjorie May is successful as Ethel Maynard; and the comedy characters of Higgins and Rose are well presented by Mr. Vincent Kelway and Miss Gladys Newcombe.

King's Lynn.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's strong company is presenting *The Worst Woman in London* here this week. The drama is well staged and acted. As Frances Vere, "The Worst Woman," Miss Florence Dalton shows herself a capable actress, and well portrays the varying moods of the rôle. Mr. Wallace Campbell is good as Jack Felton, and Mr. H. H. Barrington is natural as James Milford. The part of Milford's daughter Ruth is gracefully acted by Miss Effie Bartlett, Mr. Percy Dawson makes a lively Bob Goldfinch, and the part of Hugh Drayton, the father of Frances Vere, is well acted by Mr. H. W. Monte. Philip Armstrong is forcibly presented by Mr. Leonard Booker, and Miss Florence Lovell is humorous as Matilda Packer. The part of Vincent Lyle is well sustained by Mr. Paul Barry Lowers.

Lancaster.—Athenæum.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hy. Wilkinson.—*Mr. Smith* has proved a big attraction for the holidays, opening on Saturday evening to a crowded house. Mr. Smith was remarkably well acted by Mr. H. Hamilton Stewart, who has an aristocratic appearance and a pleasing manner. Mr. William Dunlop as the Duke of Angleland gave an admirable interpretation of the part, and the Earl of Oxted had a sympathetic exponent in Mr. Sydney Price. Mr. Herbert Graham's impersonation of the Milwaukee millionaire was in every way admirable; an earnest embodiment of Jack Berkeley was contributed by Mr. Austin Spencer; and Mr. Rupert Stutfield was an efficient Hon. Dudley Dysart. Miss Mary Relph made an excellent Duchess of Angleland; a pretty and artless Lady Mary Hildergate was Miss Ethel Milton, whose impulsive acting was both winning and effective. Miss Phyllis Relph was exceedingly good as the American lady, and Mrs. Alfred Davis gave an excellent portrayal of Mrs. Smith.

Palace.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. W. J. Fergusson and J. Porter.—The last week of the season is announced at this bijou palace, and a capital holiday programme has been arranged. Marie San Toi and company are paying a welcome return visit, and have a great reception. George French, comedian, is an old favourite with Lancastrians, and brings down the house with his eccentricities; and Levarni is smart on the tight wire. Another capital turn is that of Renson and Waite, vaudeville entertainers; Chas. Deaton, comedian, sings well; and Edie Endon merits rounds of applause for her clever dancing. Miss Lilly Currie, vocalist, is well received; and Walter Payne's animated pictures complete the bill.

Leamington.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's principal company is here this week appearing with conspicuous success in the popular comic opera, *La Poupée*. Miss Dot Stephens gives a clever impersonation of Alesia; Mr. Fred Seymour as Pilarius has made the part his own. His business never strikes one as forced or mechanical; it is full of those little surprises and odd, unexpected effects which prevent an audience from being surfeited. Mr. Arthur Cozens successfully appears as the novice, Launcelot; Mr. Walter Balfour as Father Maxime is a dignified head of the monastic fraternity; Mr. Fuller Allen and Mr. Arthur Dennis respectively play the parts of the Baron Chanterelle and Loremois in creditable manner; and Miss Doris Dickens makes the most of her opportunities as Henri; Miss Edith Hunter as Madame Hilarius being also very good.

Leeds.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—A brilliant revival of *San Toy* is Mr. John Hart's holiday attraction. The cast includes many popular favourites, notably Mr. Frank Danby, whose quaint drolleries as the wily Li are a source of continual merriment. Yen-How, as presented by Mr. John Humphries, is a very amusing personage; and Mr. Alfred Clark makes the Emperor quite a merry monarch. Mr. Dennis Drew evinces vocal and histrionic abilities in his portrayal of Captain Bobby; and the peppery Sir Bingo is a characteristic effort by Mr. W. J. Manning. In the rôle of Fo-Hop, Mr. Frederick Hobbs does well in a vocal sense, the duet with Chu-San (ably interpreted by Miss Louie Collier) being one of the most admired features. A charming San Toy is Miss Fanny Dango; a graceful presentation of Poppy Preston goes to the credit of Miss Rhoda Gordon; and the Dudley of Miss Maud Darling is a sprightly and pleasing personage. Mr. Jocelyn Hope, Mr. George Taylor, and Miss May Gould are also filling prominent parts.

Theatre Royal.—General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Stirring drama is always a popular holiday attraction at the Royal, and this week's entertainment, *Life's Sweetest Sins*, is playing to crowded houses twice a night. The heroine is played with charm and sympathy by Miss Marie Daventry; a most effective presentation of the villain, Dr. Colbrooke, is contributed by Mr. Oswald Douglas; and other big parts are capably handled by Mr. T. Arthur Jones, Mr. Robert Sawin, and Miss Mary Ainsley. Some welcome comedy is infused into the piece by Mr. Edgar Morgan and Mr Henry Martin.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Miss May Austin brings her talented company on a most welcome return visit with *The Cotton Spinner*. The accomplished actress impressively sustains many dramatic situations in her portrayal of Margaret Prescott; and bluff old John Prescott is faithfully enacted by Mr. John S. Haydon. Mr. Edwin F. Fysher and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, in the parts of Lord Northbury and his son Arthur respectively, show conspicuous ability. Mr. Ernest G. Edwards, Mr. Charles F. Wilton, and Miss Bella Power also do good work.

Empire Palace.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—That drollest of comedians, Wilkie Bard, leads the fun here, and his quaint methods arouse the liveliest merriment; the veteran Horace Wheatley is also very entertaining with joke and story, and nimbleness of foot; and still another smart and successful comedian appears in Walter Stanley. Fred Russell is giving a ventriloquial turn; comic juggling is the feature of Derenda and Green's turn; the Sisters Jonghmanns are favourites; and there are three clever lady artists in the bill—Daisy Mayer, Gladys Mavius, and Nellie Stratton.

Tivoli.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—The Colberg Family head the holiday programme with an effective musical speciality. That clever comedian, Whit Cunliffe, is on an early return visit; the eccentricities of Regan and Ryan and Rastus and Banks are very popular; and Chas. F. Best scores with his comic speciality. A clever company does well with Fred Moule's screamingly comic episode, *The Battle of the Belles*; the Sisters Cora distinguish themselves in a vocal speciality; Nina Elmo is a charming comedienne; Geo. Grogie, the country yokel; Harry Vardon, ventriloquist; and Anthony, the mysterious gentleman in white, also make successful appearances.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Charles Morritt is here with a series of illusions; Bromley and Fontein ably bottom the bill; Marstro and Mlle. Oretta present an entertaining speciality; the Bros. Corcoran score with a musical show; Ryder Slone makes a popular reappearance; Edgar Budden, skating expert, has a big reception; and Boy Glen, juvenile raconteur, and the Sisters Walmsley, in song and dance, are other strong items.

Leicester.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in the sensational melodrama *A Sister's Sin* forms the attraction here this week. Both Mrs. F. G. Kimberley (the authoress) as Minnie Hastings and Mr. F. G. Kimberley as Larry Murphy play with great success. Mr. William Vane is good as Harold Raymond, and Mr. Ernest Fare as George Oakley, Mr. Charles Locke as Walter Hastings, Mr. Ernest Frere as Ikey Moscs, and Mr. Horace Custins as Theophilus Hope are also to be complimented. Mr. G. E. Liddle is amusing as Billy Smart, Miss Augusta Tulloch as Charzel and Miss Violet Langley as Redempta (two gipsies) are excellent, Miss Elsie May as Jack is greatly admired, little Dorothy Vivian is capital as May Raymond, and as the rival lovers Floss Perks and Nell Stubbs, Miss Jenny Clare and Miss Alice Granville are humorous.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The holiday attraction here is provided by Messrs. Darcy and Little's company with *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr. W. Matthews as Jack Rutledge and Mr. Fred Guinness as George Bainbridge do well, and Miss Bertha St. Ruth and Miss Nellie Moore as Doris and Jess are capital. Mr. R. A. Greene is a success as James Horton, being well seconded by Mr. Syd Russell as Moses Levi; Miss Florence Trevor does well as Marie Begerre, and Mr. P. Palmer as Henry Rutledge, Mr. W. H. Burton as Van Dyke, and Mr. Thomas Young as Keeper Dole are also commendable. Mr. Fred J. Little as the coloured man Jasper is amusing. Specialities are a feature of the play, being introduced by Messrs. Bass and Guinness, patterers, singers, and dancers; Miss Nellie Moore, soubrette; Syd Russell, eccentric comedian and dancer; Miss Bertha St. Ruth, ballad vocalist; and Fred J. Little, musical comedian and laughing negro comedian.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The enormous holiday audiences here are loud in their praise of the fine programme submitted by Mr. Oswald Stoll, included in which is Cruikshank, the delightfully funny singing clown, whose quaint drolleries and songs are accorded quite an ovation. La Berat, "the mystic fire maiden," is seen to considerable advantage in various dances; Brett and Orford, the versatile couple, score a well-deserved success; the Ten Genis submit a remarkably clever Risley performance; the Wolkowsky Troupe of Russian singers and whirlwind dancers are very smart; the Sisters Klos are seen in some pretty and astounding feats of strength; Alf. Chester proves a popular turn; Eugen Joly delights all with his finely-rendered cornet solos; and the bioscope, as usual, throws on the screen a selection of the latest subjects.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—A good all-round programme is presented here, included in which are: The Brothers Ashley, with their comedy sketch *Next, Please*; Tod Lowan, comedian; Lillie Lassah, a vivacious and popular comedienne and dancer; the Darrell Trio of musicians and vocalists; Rita and Roma, with their high-class vaudeville act; Martin Henderson, the blind musician; Mantell and Oval, eccentric acrobats and knockabout cyclists; and Walter H. Pallister's bioscope.

Temperance Hall.—Joseph Poole's combination opened their season here on Monday afternoon. Well-chosen variety is again a characteristic of the programme, which is contributed to by Felix de Marce's performing ponies, dogs, and baboons; Felix Somers in his entertaining *People We Know*, the Abadaroff Troupe of acrobats, the Vernons (lady dancers), Miss May Finch (characteristic vocalist), the Cameos (patter comedians), and Mr. Nat Abatt, the guide, who describes the various pictures in a delightfully telling and humorous manner. Animated pictures are also shown.

Leigh.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's Shakespearean and Répertoire company is appearing here this week. *Hamlet* was selected for Monday. Mr. Maclaren was responsible for a masterly impersonation of the title-rôle; Miss Gertrude Gilbert gave an artistic rendering of Ophelia; Horatio found a good representative in Mr. Stanley Roberts; Mr. Aubrey Mather submitted a careful study of Claudius; Miss F. Glossop Harris contributed a commendable exposition of Gertrude; and Mr. F. Robertson filled the part of the Priest most effectively. Wednesday was set apart for a grand complimentary benefit to Mr. J. Dewhurst under the distinguished patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress of Leigh, when Mr. Dewhurst undertook the part of Othello and Mrs. Dewhurst Desdemona. *David Garrick*, *As You Like It*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *The Three Musketeers* are also billed.

Leith.—New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*No Wedding Bells for Her* is being presented here by Frank Bateman's company. The cast, which is a large one, includes that well-known and talented emotional actress, Miss Lizzie Montague, who sustains with much force the part of Lola Delaspierre. Miss Ida Mackay plays the rival actress and heroine, Doris Fane, very nicely indeed; and Miss Alice Mattin makes a capital study of Peggy. Mr. G. C. Doughty is excellent as Delver, the detective; and Mr. Stuart Lomath makes an admirable clergyman. Mr H. J. Walton and Mr. Will Skelton also figure to advantage.

Limerick.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Robert Fogerty.—Mr. Roy Jackson's dramatic company is here this week, and on Monday night appeared in the pathetic drama, entitled *Oliver Twist*. Fagin, the Jew, had an exceptionally clever interpreter in Mr. Roy Jackson; and, as Bill Sikes, Mr. Edwin Beverley was very clever and truly realistic. As Monks, Mr. Lawrence was good; whilst Mr. Brownlow was well portrayed by Mr. C. Allister. The Artful Dodger was delightfully acted by Mr. R. Wood; and Charley Bates had a clever exponent in Mr. Stewart. The parts of Giles, Grimwig, and Bumble were excellently played by Messrs. E. Hayes, A. Beaufort, and C. Duval; whilst the rôle of Tom Chitling was forcibly sustained by Mr. P. Stevenson. The rôle of poor little Oliver was pathetically portrayed by Miss Florrie Hayes; and as Mrs. Bedwin, Miss Townsend was very artistic. Mrs. Bumble had a good exponent in Miss B. Richardson; and Miss V. Lesborough was charmingly graceful as Rose Maylie. That clever actress, Miss Kittie Douglas, forcibly acted the ill-fated Nancy. On Tuesday night a good performance of *Trilby*, with Mr. Roy Jackson as Svengali, and Miss Douglas in the title-rôle, was given.

Lincoln.—Royal.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank King.—A very well-written piece is *Mr. Smith*, which was heartily acclaimed on Monday. Mr. Walter Reynolds has sent a capable company, including Mr. Stephen T. Ewart, as the much-discussed Earle Godwyn Smith; Mr. W. E. Holloway is very good indeed as the profligate duke; Mr. C. P. Band ably plays the part of Dysart; and Mr. H. Carter Bligh makes a strong character of Berkeley; the Earl of Oxted has an efficient representative in Mr. Russell Norris; and Mr. Fred Darrell is amusing as Anheuser. The ladies all carry off high honours. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is admirably effective as the duchess, and Miss Daisy England is an excellent contrast as the homely Miss Smith. Miss Elsine Gaunt is as charming a Lady Mary as could be imagined; and Miss Fyfe Alexander wins favour as Ruth.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—The King's College Boys present an effective act, giving a musical turn based partly on concerted work in airs from *The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, *Trovatore*, &c., while the soloists are exceptionally good. Janet H. Reynolds is a serio of merit; and May Moodie deserves praise for her piccolo solos. Lee and Kingston are successful comedians; Edna Latonne renders her songs in good style; and other entertaining items come from the Raymond Trio, Mersano, Francisco, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

Liverpool.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—*The Prince of Pilsen* paid a return visit to the leading theatre this week, and was welcomed by large holiday audiences. Mr. Geo. Musgrave's company, that presented the merry musical comedy, was a capital one. Mr. Edwin Adeler appeared in his original part of Hans Wagner, providing most of the fun; as the Prince Mr. Stuart Alexander sang and acted most agreeably, a charming Nellie Wagner was submitted by Miss Ruby Verdi, Miss Nellie Cozens made a sprightly American widow, a pleasing Edith Adams was portrayed by Miss Mildred Baker, and every satisfaction followed the efforts of Mr. G. Villiers Arnold as Tom Wagner, Mr. Lawrence Wensley as Arthur Willoughby, and Miss Clara Stanton in her delineation of a New York girl.

Shakespeare Theatre.—Lessees, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The management of this popular theatre has had the honour of introducing to Liverpool the successful drama *Leah Kleschna*, which throughout the week has been played before delighted audiences. The company sent by Mr. Charles Frohman is in every respect admirably fitted to realise the strong points of this fine work. Miss Haidee Wright distinguished herself in the title part, and earned rounds of applause; Mr. Robert Pateman's assumption of Kleschna was generally regarded as the finest thing that clever actor has ever done, his naturalness as the hunted burglar being a wonderful exhibition of histrionic skill; Mr. J. Graeme Campbell presented a perfect Paul Sylvaine, handling his somewhat difficult part with that discretion which marks the true artist; Mr. Cyril Harcourt, in the unpleasant rôle of Raoul, acquitted himself creditably; every praise is due to Mr. E. H. Brooke for his excellent character of Schram; and the minor parts were held by very competent exponents—Mr. Kenneth Rivington as General Berton, Mr. Roland Daniel as Valentin, and Miss Haidee Hemsley as Claire. The scenery was particularly effective, and that of the last act, showing the acres of lettuces, so natural that the rising of the curtain was the signal for prolonged applause.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—*When Woman Hates*, presented by Miss Nettie Ware's company, has been a strong holiday attraction here. Miss Mabel Mannering as Cora Daintry played with much dramatic power, a strong supporter was Mr. Charles Herberte in the rôle of General Rokeby, whose son, Lieut. Rokeby, found in Mr. Jerrold Heather a worthy exponent; Miss Maude Townsend afforded much satisfaction as the latter's wife; as an assistant to the villainous Cora, Mr. J. G. Maine presented an excellent Godfrey Lawton, and other able artists were Mr. Alfred Grenville as the Colonel, Miss Violet Leal as Nellie, and Miss Gladys Lloyd as Edith. The scenery was very appropriate.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—The programme arranged for the holiday week is giving great satisfaction. The New York Comedy Four are always welcome, and their reception has been most gratifying; the Brothers Bellong give a daring cycling act, and are loudly applauded; another clever gymnastic turn is that of the Morchanis, who are deservedly applauded. The Kimberley Boys are amusing, the Sisters Terry are well received, Paul Vandy's juggling is good, Harry Bancroft has a fine voice, the Brothers Easdale are clever comedians, and Miss Frances Haskoll's electric novelty is duly appreciated.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The stage is occupied here this week with Mr. Harry Foxwell's company in *An Abandoned Woman*. Miss Georgette Thierry in the title part played with much effect, displaying considerable ability; Mr. Wolston Foster made a manly Captain Seaton, a deal of humour resulted from the efforts of Mr. Harry Foxwell as an Irish policeman, Mrs. Harry Foxwell tenderly portrayed Eleanor Dean, Mr. George Gormley afforded satisfaction as Sir Marmaduke Seaton, Mr. J. W. Butler made a sufficiently villainous Phillipe Malvoisin, and good support came from Mr. Nelson Ford as Robert Saunders, Mr. Norman Morbis as Pierre, and Miss Ruby Roma in the rôle of the housemaid.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. F. L. Arthur.—A company, under the direction of Mr. P. Howard Sturgess, has this week been presenting *A Queen of Villainy*. Miss Edith Blande as Cora Granville acts with her well-known ability, Mr. Edward Heanley is effectively villainous as Stephen Faucit, Mr. Chas. Stirling does justice to the rôle of Dick Leinster (the escaped convict), Miss Shirley Dalton is a sympathetic Rose Delmayne, as the waif Kit Mr. Lawrence Stevenson proves pleasing, Mr. Arthur Beverley presents a well-finished Alec, one of the best-drawn types of character is that of Sally Chimes, by Miss Amy Ross Clyde, and a deal of humour is provided by Mr. Cecil de Lee as the policeman and Mr. Charles Rogers as Timothy Kodac.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Mike S. Whallen, the versatile comedian, is foremost here this week with a lot of new songs and talk; his reception has been very gratifying. Menetekel, introduced by Mr. and Mrs. Berob-Ronorah, has proved very mystifying; Percy Honri, a humorous concertina player, provoked much laughter; Terry and Lambert, a smart pair of comedians, were very diverting, and loudly applauded; a capital turn was provided by Morton and Elliott, paper-tearers, vocalists, and instrumentalists; Kyoto caused great laughter with his comedy Japanese box; a very comic trifle was *Fanny's Flat*, played by Elsie Hill and company; Helen Mar told a number of witty tales, and others who appear are May Geraldine (comedienne) and Mattie Wilkes (coloured vocalist).

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Principal here this week is Arthur Roberts, who has been heartily welcomed. Along with his company he has been causing great laughter by producing *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. Another good turn was that by Herbert Lloyd and Lillian Lilyan in *Jack of All Trades*; *Master of None*. Some capital clog-dancing is executed by Frank Leon, Helen Lambert and Fred C. Glover have a farcical duologue, some neat singing and dancing come from Nancy St. John, the playette *His Birthday* by Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene and company is much enjoyed, Dave O'Toole affords satisfaction as a comedian, as does Harry Lawson in the same line, Ailsa Douglas contributes some taking songs, and others in the bill were Alix Lukos (mimic) and Mamie Cannon (vocalist). On Easter Monday an extra matinée, well patronised, was given.

New Parthenon.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—At this popular house Shawlene, a remarkable whistler, is paying a return visit, and is received with much acclamation; Tom Colins, light comedian, gives an excellent turn; the dancing and singing of Beatie Kent gains appreciation, as comedy duettists the Carney Bros. afford every satisfaction, Nellie Swage is a dainty vocalist, and Harry Hale acquits himself well as a comedian.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The holiday attraction here this week is Frank M. Thorne's dramatic sketch *Her One Great Sin*, in nine tableaux. Mr. Percy Boucher is a humorous Jerry Jumble; Miss Lina Nazeby (an accomplished actress) plays with much credit the rôle of Grace Warhurst, Mr. Harry Tresham is an admirable Reuben Warhurst, Mr. Cecil Ravenswood (an experienced actor) handles the part of Jack Hundle with effect, the character of Bet Hundle is ably presented by Miss Sara Blumenthal, and Miss Beryl Ravenswood makes a good Nancy Wympenny. Some interesting pictures are shown by the bioscope.

Paddington Palace.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—W. L. Lee and company are paying a return visit here with the domestic sketch, in six tableaux, *A Life of Sin*, which is well put on. Sive Selé, with his mystifying feats in an Indian temple, proves a most interesting turn; Madge Roberts sings and dances in pleasing style, and Hattee Hall, as a manipulator of many instruments, shows great skill. The bioscope is not the least interesting part of the evening's entertainment.

Park Palace.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A full programme is presented here this week, at the head of it being Gus Harris, Hebrew character delineator, with his latest vocal scena *The Synagogue*; the Mannikins Haydees provide a beautiful and artistic act, Hector and Paulus are a smart pair of society gymnasts, Tom E. Johnstone (a comedian) has several good songs, J. P. Boston gives an acceptable show as an English and Irish entertainer, *The Military Band* is an enjoyable trifle by the Bros. Adderley (duettists and mimics), Violet Ashcroft sings with taste, Emmie Ames distinguishes herself with the scena *Emmie's Christmas Tree*, and Rose Leslie (comedienne and dancer) also appears.

Westminster.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Foremost here this week is J. A. Wilson, the black oracle, with his lively negro entertainment, in which appears the intelligent dog Towser; as comediennes the Sisters Russell (Ida and Lill) are deserving of praise, Caselli and James give a capital exhibition of banjo playing, L. B. Athol has a pretty vocal trifle *Dreamland*, Mlle. De Rose, "the lady Foli," possesses a remarkable baritone voice, and J. W. Hawtrey, actor vocalist, and Jennie Reeves, comedienne, are also in the programme.

Olympia.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Included in the attractive bill put forward here this week is Joe Elvin and his company of comedians with the exceedingly funny *'Appy 'Ampstead*, which has been richly enjoyed; the Lukushima troupe of Japanese acrobats provide an excellent entertainment, Spessardy's trained bears and ponies are watched with the keenest interest, an amusing comedy incident *Cora's Visitors* is presented by Ruby and Laws, smart whistling and dancing by the Brothers Dean prove an enjoyable turn, Virto (assisted by Irene and Venita) has a refined musical act, a deal of laughter follows the "bullfighting" tricks of the Two Bostons, and Jessie Merrilees does well as a comedienne.

Llandudno.—Grand Theatre.—Responsible Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—Commencing on Saturday, April 14, and playing throughout Easter week, Mr. Norman Macowan's London company occupied this theatre with *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Soldier of Fortune*. As Monsieur Beaucaire Mr. Norman Macowan is excellent, fully justifying all that has been previously said of him. He is capitally supported by a thorough company of artists, the Captain Badger of Mr. P. Ramsey Forman being all that could be desired. Miss Marguerite Collier as Lady Mary Carlisle gives an accomplished portrayal. The scenery is good, and the pieces are in all ways staged well.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. R. Clay; Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday saw Mr. Charles Carey's company in the musical comedy, *After the Ball*. The musical and comic portions of this were received by large audiences with frequent outbursts of applause and laughter. The drolleries, facial expression, and comicalities of Mr. Victor Widdowcombe as Colonel Joseph Merit fairly convulsed the house, whilst the "truths" of Messrs. Walter Halliwell as Halliwell Merit and Mr. Buckstone Clair as Martin were excellently explained. Miss Florence Smithers as Nancy caused roars of laughter with her songs and grimaces; Miss Nellie Groves as Nellie Mather and Miss May Florence as Ruth Gay well sustained their respective parts. The dancing of the Gibson Girls was very pleasing. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday *Faust*, *Bohemian Girl*, and *Maritana* were presented.

Londonderry.—Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr. W. Payne Seddon.—Mr. Edmund Tearle, with Miss Kate Clinton, is here for the Easter week, producing *Ingomar*, *Jeannie Deans*, *Three Musketeers*, *Hamlet*, and *Othello*. In *Jeannie Deans* Miss Kate Clinton in the title-rôle gave a fine rendering of the part, and Miss M. Campbell was successful as Effie Deans. Mr. Edmund Tearle played the part of Counsel for the Defence capitally. Mr. James Skea as David Deans was excellent, and Mr. Vernon Crabtree embodied the Duke of Argyll very finely. Miss Esther Tearle scored as Madge Wildfire.

Loughborough.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—Mr. John Gerant's company in the successful military drama, *At Duty's Call*, is the attraction this week. As Harold Allison, Mr. John Gerant proves himself an actor of ability, and Mr. Leonard Williams makes a manly Captain Allison. Mr. Harry Ugar causes plenty of laughter by a droll impersonation of Terry O'Halloran, and he receives excellent support from Miss Harlington, who creates much amusement as Mary. Miss Edith Knight makes a sympathetic Dora Drummond, Mr. Ernest St. John a dignified General Gordon, Miss Georgina Hamilton a clever Salema, while Mr. Ivan Mavis is good as Joey Trot.

Lowestoft.—Marina.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Excellently staged and dressed, we have this week a welcome return visit of *A Message from Mars*, well presented by Mr. Fredk. Mouillot's company. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee appears to advantage as Horace Parker, and submits a really finished piece of acting. The messenger is capably undertaken by Mr. W. H. Broughton; and other parts are carefully portrayed. Miss May Saker is well placed as Minnie Templar, and Miss Parker finds a capable representative in Mrs. Edward Saker. Mr. Bruce Lindley gives an admirable character-study as the tramp.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Miles Gilbert.—The bill for the holiday week includes Harry Tate's *Motoring*; Leslie and Player; Reg. Bolton, comedian; the Two Eltons, bar performers; Mlle. Sara's marbiesque trio; Tom Culeen; Master Jamesie; the Three Rickards, &c.

Luton.—Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—*A Traitor Prince* is being presented here this week by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Prince Rao Dalmirez is well interpreted by Mr. G. M. Montanini, Lieut. Derrick is in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Duval, humour is supplied by Mr. Edmund O'Grady and Mr. Edward Fenton as Bobby Bright and Vavasour Dalrymple respectively, and Vashti, the Indian snake charmer, is admirably portrayed by Miss Nita Langford.

Macclesfield.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Mr. Alfred H. Cook's company, in *The Prodigal Son*, opened here on Monday. As Jack Fanshaw, Mr. Ellerslie Pyne portrays the part with earnestness. Mr. W. A. Buckstone as Harry Fanshaw is well placed; Bill Burke finds an able exponent in Mr. Ambrose Horton; Mr. John Bryce proves himself a capable actor as Ralph Marsden; Mr. J. S. Chamberlain as Larry M'Gehan causes roars of laughter, and he is ably seconded by Miss Rosie Kearns as Mary. Miss Marion Forrester is very good as Margaret; Miss Nora Bedford as Nelly Burke is a pleasing portrayal; Miss Nellie Hook as Dick is praiseworthy.

Maidenhead.—Pavilion Pleasure Gardens.—Proprietor, Mr. G. Gude.—These Gardens are open for Bank-holiday week, and immense crowds are attracted. There are various improvements since last year, and the entertainment provided is first-class. For Easter Monday the G

a very smart comedy and clog-dancing performance; Florrie Cooper is a pleasing vocalist; and a good turn is that of Les Rupertos, equilibrists.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Miss Grace Warner's company is here this week in an interesting and sensational drama, *The Scarlet Clue*. Miss Grace Warner herself sustains the important rôle of Sal Scarlet (a part of various aliases) with considerable power and effect, and she is vigorously supported by Mr. George Gordon as the rascally Michael Stanton, with whom Mr. Horace Roseby works well as Croker. Mr. Reginald Brown has good opportunities in the dual rôle of Jack and Harry Esmond; and among others in a well-chosen and commendable cast Mr. V. T. Raymond gives an entertaining depiction of Billy, the burglar. Several songs are sung in the course of the action, and the piece is well and sensationally staged.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A capital attraction here this week is the novelty drama, *The Life of a Showman*, in which Mr. George Testo Sante appears as Brien Leader with remarkable success. This admirable actor athlete is supported by a very clever company, of whom Mr. Logan Darra is excellent as Hendrick Marais; Miss Amy McNeill gives a fine interpretation of Agatha Winter, the unscrupulous housekeeper; Mr. Edward Warden plays well as the Chaplain; Miss Enid Trench is very good as Lena Hartland; Miss Mary Warden acts with sympathy and naturalness as Lynette; and Messrs. Frank Sante, J. G. Sante, and Ernest Turner portray incidental characters in admirable style. The play was well received by a good house on Monday, and is full of varied entertainment.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—The large audience which assembled here on Monday to witness the performance of Mr. William Greet's company in *The Sign of the Cross* testifies to the popularity which this well-known play still enjoys. Mr. William F. Grant gave a very strong rendering of the part of Marcus Superbus, and Miss Marie Leonhard played Mercia with a well-sustained, emotional effect. The scene between these two in the third act was especially well done. Miss Ivy Millais gave a praiseworthy rendering of Stephanas; Mr. Frank Wood was seen once more in his old part of Glabrio, which he played with much humour; Mr. Charles Aldred made an impressive Tigellinus; Mr. Harry Jones acted well as Philodemus; Mr. J. Boyd Pearson was grimly forcible as Nero; and as Berenice and Dalia Miss Nellie Bonser and Miss Alma Bolton gave each a clever rendering. All the remaining parts were well filled, and the performance as a whole was greatly enjoyed and applauded. Mr. Flanagan's revival of *Cymbeline* came to a close on Saturday evening last, amidst a scene of enthusiastic appreciation of the splendid success achieved by the producers and the company.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Sam Mayo, the Immobile One, tops the bill here this week, and is a big attraction. Charming Lilia Roze presents with much success her new quick-change musical scena entitled *A Dressing-room Dream*, consisting of four or five pleasing songs and a dance; highly successful also are Tom Craven and Stephen Adeson and company in an amusing comedy sketch, *The Lady in Red*; considerable laughter follows the efforts of that curious comedian W. O. Wills; Dandy George and his canine companion, Rosie, provide a good turn; Tray and Rich have some smart patter; Lily Soutter is a dashing comedienne; Phil Herman, the well-known Anglo-Teutonic comedian, sings characteristic songs; and Charles Cardow is entertaining. The Palace Pictures, as usual, are good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Managers, Messrs. H. Hall and H. Pryme.—The star attraction here this week is supplied by Lew Lake and company in their character comedy sensation, *The Bloomsbury Burglars*. A novel and highly enjoyable vocal turn is that of the Sarnthaler Troupe of Tyrolean Singers and Dancers; Dainez and his comedy circus are well applauded; Abel and Welsh give a really comic and wonderful acrobatic turn; Alice Maydue does excellently in character dialect songs; Ian Colquhoun, baritone, has a good voice, and is highly appreciated; the Haydas give a well-conceived mixture of comedy acrobatics; Sylvesta experiments agreeably in conjuring; and Marie Weston is a very clever dancer, banjoist, and vocalist. The Bioscope Pictures are entertaining.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The Svengalis are to the front here this week in a most wonderful show of mimicry, music, and mystery, and are warmly received. Denton and Rowland's company, including Marjorie Lawrence, present a song-scena, *The Punch and Judy Girls*, in fine style, the songs being most tuneful and the dancing excellent; Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika introduce some wonderfully clever dogs, the Clarkes, banjo experts, play several delightful selections; Walter Wallis and company are heard to advantage in an excerpt from *The Lily of Killarney*; Sherlock and Van Dalle do some excellent dancing in their fantasy, *The Mummy and the Undergrad*; Arthur Gill is a capital mimic; "The Village Blacksmith" is nicely rendered by the Choir; and the Athlones give an effective exposition of strength. Madge Robertson, assisted by the Choir, sings "In Dreamland," a song drolly illustrated, and the American Bioscope shows "Those Boys Again."

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The week's programme here is headed by La Belle Estellita, Spanish singer and dancer, who gives a nice turn, and is very well received. May Moore Duprez, America's jolly Dutch girl, is quaint, original, and pleasing; the Two Bees are seen in their latest comedy creations; a clever and amusing turn is that of the Lowenwirth Brothers, Hebrew dialect comedians; D. W. Watson is a highly accomplished cornet soloist and coach-horn artist; and other pleasing items are contributed by Lil O'Gorman (vocalist and dancer), the Sisters Redfern (banjoists), Tom Dunmore (comedian), and Margaret Radcliffe (vocalist and burlesque artist). Raymond's Vivagraph completes.

KING'S LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Harry Roxbury and company head the bill here this week in a musical mélange in three scenes, entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, and cause no end of laughter. Mr. Roxbury himself is vastly funny as P.C. Longfellow, and very charming is Miss Ethel Bryant as Lady Carr and Miss Vashti Wynne as Denise. The scenery and dresses are excellent. Minnie and Harry Groves go through a surprising ring act; the Great Levano throws side somersaults in a most marvellous and daring manner; Lily Gaston is a smart all-round dancer; and good turns are also those of Babs Grimshaw (a most juvenile male impersonator, who shows very great promise), Fred Mason (whistling comedian), Jacko (the man monkey), and George Raply (a quaint comedian with some smart patter). "The Race for the Grand Prix" at St. Cloud is realistically depicted on the bioscope, and concludes an excellent performance.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*A Motor 'Bus Outing* is a funny fancy presented here this week with plenty of go by Mr. C. H. Mannon and company, and is received with much laughter. The Two Callos offer a refined musical entertainment; Farr and Farland are good banjoists; the Three Esmonds are eccentric comedians and dancers; Sam Jesson's Merry-Makers contribute a pleasing musical sketch; an excellent acrobatic turn is given by the Four Charles; Leo Tell is as good as ever in his clever imitations of birds, animals, and sounds in general; Sandy and Carl are very good speciality comedians; and Harry Hayton is an acceptable humorist. The Sisters Petram manipulate some marionettes in a lifelike manner as an extra turn, and are well received, and the animated pictures are good.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—For a third week *Casey's Court* is in Manchester, and the midget mimics are as successful as ever in providing a thoroughly enjoyable performance. Madge Gray, "the Lancashire Lass," is also very popular, her funny stories of little children being most amusing; Bert Williams, that very smart ventriloquist, with up-to-date quips, is well received; and some quick-change burlesque business by Grapho and Jackson is greatly appreciated. Good items are also provided by the St. Johns in their refined comedy, musical, and dancing act; Stanley and Vandyke in sketch, *A Broken Promise*; Annie Cohen, comedienne; Frazer and Haley, harmonising vocalists; and Bert Kemp, lightning cartoonist. The Bioscope Pictures of "The Train Wreckers" complete a capital holiday programme.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Morella and Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Crowded houses have been attracted this week by Rass Challis's play *The Curate*, performed by Miss Hettie Jeffries' company. Mr. Arthur Mervyn as the Rev. John Audley acts in first-class style. Mr. Whitmore Ledger displays his capabilities as an actor in the part of Gilbert Westwood, the spy; Dick the Trumpeter (Miss Hettie Jeffries) enlists the sympathies of the house throughout. The rôle of Mabel Verner is in the capable hands of Miss Rosa Mervyn. Mr. Frank Stuart is a gallant and amusing Sergeant Snipe, and Mr. Clifford Spencer causes roars of laughter in the part of Simon Peter Muggs.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Midland Theatre Company; Manager, Mr. J. P. Hickey.—The place opened as a variety theatre on Monday night to good audiences. Ben Hur, the clever athlete, topped the bill; Mahatma succeeded in mystifying the audience, and received applause; Frank Cummenger gave a smart dancing turn; Helm and Cozens caused much amusement in their sketch *The Doctor and the Patient*. The Sisters Bronson gave some charming duets and dances; Barry Gilmore was amusing; Alfred Paynton received applause for his protean act, entitled *A Few Moments with Celebrities*. Vesta Whelan, juvenile serio, gave a good turn, and an interesting series of pictures was shown on the bioscope.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael.—The holiday attraction here has been the production by the Resident Stock Company, under the direction of Mr. Austin-Leigh, of Sutro's *Walls of Jericho*. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh gives a striking picture of Jack Frobisher, his ease of manner lending considerable weight to the part, whilst he delivers his lines effectively; as Lady Alethea Frobisher Mrs. Curling presents a clever and finished study of a Society woman, and hits off the type of character to a nicety; Mr. Percy Goodyear is amusing as the Marquis of Steventon, and a neat picture of the rough diamond, Hautley Bannister, is furnished by Mr. O. P. Heggie; Miss Lilian Rogers is particularly entertaining as the light-hearted Lady Lucy Derenham; the bridge-playing Duchess of Skye is well presented by Miss Madge Herrick, and Miss Maud Creighton is capital as Tiny Mornington; Lady Westerby is ably played by Miss Emmie O'Reilly, who is remarkably well suited to her part; Mr. R. Henderson Blond has an unsympathetic rôle as Harry Dallas, but handles it so neatly as to make one overlook most of its shortcomings. Mr. Farringdon Stuart has only a brief appearance as Lord Drayton, but does the little he has to do well; Mr. J. E. Savery is good as the epigrammatic Hannaford, and the remaining parts are all satisfactorily filled.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The holiday programme here has been a most attractive one, and crowded houses have been a rule at each performance. A very smart troupe of gymnasts, whose performance is quite out of the ordinary run, is La Faille Troupe, who are making their début in England after a run of continued success on the continent. The Marconis, the electrical wonders, who have been here before, are as great a draw as ever, and their performance awakens a good deal of wonderment; Mlle. Eldef pives a picturesque performance, entitled "Poses plastique"; and other contributions to an all round good programme include Blanche Marion (comedienne and an excellent dancer), Russell Carr (the military ventriloquist), Maggie Carr (comedienne, banjoist, and dancer), and the Hippodrome pictures, which are, as usual, amusing.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—On Easter Monday Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company opened here to holiday audiences in *The Indian Mutiny*, which is well mounted and played. Miss F. Melrose Millett submits an intensely realistic performance of Greznah, a Brahmin Princess; Mr. George Steel plays with vigour and energy as Lieut. Manley, Major Ingleby and Ensign Blake have excellent representatives in Mr. John Davidson and Mr. G. Birch, much humour is imparted to the character of Terry O'Brien by Mr. George Scully, Mr. Villiers Stanley presents an excellent study of Nebu Singh, Mr. J. S. Shedden acquits himself admirably as Abul Khan, and Mr. Ernest Keand does good work as Ka Goonga. Mrs. Major Ingleby and Miss Kate Ingleby have suitable representatives in Miss Kate Bruce and Miss Lillie Grey.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Animated Pictures forms the principal attraction in the holiday programme at this hall. The performance is diversified by a number of clever turns by a talented variety company.

LORD GEORGE SANGER'S CIRCUS visited this town for the holidays. On Easter Monday large audiences patronised the show.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—A variety combination, under the management of Mr. George Burton, is the attraction here this week. A capital programme is given by the following artists:—Abex, the miniature Hercules; Mlle. Florence, rolling-globe walker; Harry Daubney, ventriloquist; the Astley Bros., comedians and patterers; Miss Freda Tudor, male impersonator; Wallace Whitney, character comedian; Miss Beattie Foster, serio; Fred Tenby, comedian; Acme, musical comedian; and Peace and Ward, duettists, patterers, and boxers.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—Mr. Douglas Bruce's company in the drama *The Girl Who Lost Her Character* has proved a great attraction. Miss Madge Haines in the title-rôle leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Ethel Bracewell fills the part of the heiress with considerable success; Mr. Frank Adair gives a fine impersonation of the scoundrel Captain Caversham; Mr. Henry Herne is a typical clergyman; Mr. Wingold Lawrence is good as the discarded son; Mr. Hammond Asquin and Miss Daisy Maynard are responsible for much laughter; Mr. Albert Clarke is exceedingly good as James Sutton; Mr. John Wilson is excellent as George Purvis, and Miss Marie McAuley plays the adventuress with considerable success.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. R. Chatto.—The holiday attraction here this week is Mr. Arthur Shirley's popular drama *The Midnight Mail*, which is being played under the direction of Mr. Jas. Willard by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company. The part of Harry Steyne is sustained by Mr. George Harvard with considerable success, while Miss Grace Lester acts admirably as the wife of the engine driver; Mr. Fred G. Evison gives a fine depiction of Billy Brewer, the drunken stoker, and Miss Mildred Carr is clever and entertaining as Nancy Brewer, the stoker's wife; Mr. Harry Emmerson gives a fine impersonation as Jasper Thornleigh, and Mr. Alfred Warne is exceedingly good as the magistrate.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week. Datas, the man with the marvellous memory, is paying a return visit, and though plied with questions on every conceivable topic, has always a ready answer. Joe O'Gorman delights his hearers with some racy anecdotes, whilst Radford and Valentine are both clever and amusing in their juggling act; Martini and Son, song illustrators, are exceedingly good, and the Three Clarions cause roars of laughter in their absurdity *The Would-be Tenor*. Rosie Boolett (vocalist), Jessica Grace (comedienne), and Ruby Aston (comedienne and dancer) also contribute acceptable items.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf Graham.—For the third consecutive week Harry Tate is appearing here, and his absurdity *Fishing* evokes roars of laughter; the Five Olracs, a troupe of comedy acrobats, provide a distinctly interesting turn, their tricks being both smart and daring. Other notable appearances are J. P. Carroll, the Three Sisters Silcott, the Paulo Bros., Paline Zaro, and Barney and Kennard.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—Easter holiday makers have been attracted by *The Duke of Killicrankie* and *Sowing the Wind*, as presented by Mr. Leigh Lovel's company, and both pieces have been well received during the week. Mr. Lovel has been excellent as Pit Welby in the first piece, and Brabazon in the second. Miss Octavia Kenmore has proved herself a clever leading lady, and Miss Celia Gordon is also very good. Mr. Guy Cary, Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood, Mr. Arthur McCulloch, and Mr. Richard Vane have parts to which they are well suited. The scenery is excellent, and the dressing of the productions leaves nothing to be desired.

WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—A capital programme at Morecambe's premier house of entertainment has been headed by the Six Brothers Luck in their *Demon of the Cellar* sketch. Chanti, in his mechanical protean act, has proved a most popular turn. Mdlle. Lumière's fairy grotto is a charming act; Amy Anderson and company are seen to advantage in a typical coster sketch; the Ladderites and the Three Zaracs are both acceptable numbers in the programme, which also includes the Solari Duo, vocalists and instrumentalists; the Ringling trio of eccentrics, whose stilt work is capital; Walter Wade, mimic; and Annie Nelson, soprano.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Manager, Mr. John Gardner.—A good bill-of-fare has been thoroughly enjoyed here, the various turns having been the Four Avocas, in their dramatic act, *The Reckless Miner*; Bros. Onda, triple bar and acrobatic comedians; Madie Scott, a neat and clever comedienne; Les Louberts, in their comedy act *Uninvited*, in which they do some good work; the Bensley Evans sketch company in *Sally's Dilemma*, a clever composition, and in which Miss Olive Lanty is seen to advantage as Sally; Bros. Brooks, comedians; Will Onda and company, motor-maniac; Takio, a clever mimic; and Silbon's circus, introducing several highly-trained ponies, &c.

CENTRAL PIER.—Manager, Mr. E. Hill.—The Hartley Wonders, with their barrel leaping and jumping, have met with success hehe, and Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl, pleases the people. Magna poses with effect, and Rodin is a capital exponent of the trick cyclist's art. Capital banjoists are the Vekeys; Harry Morris is a capable comedian; Bendene, contortionist, does not do at all badly; and Captain Devereux, with his well-trained dogs, provides, as usual, a turn which takes.

WEST END PIER.—Secretary, Mr. E. Barton.—The chief attraction has been the fine band of the Irish Guards, conducted by Mr. C. H. Hassell, M.V.O., an engagement which has attracted crowds of people. Miss Maud Thornton, Miss Beatrice Willan, and Madame Tuite have been amongst the vocalists retained.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. W. Davies.—Mr. Walter Melville's company is this week appearing in *A Girl's Cross-Roads*. As Barbara Wade Miss Beaumont Collins may be congratulated on a performance of sterling merit. Mr. Charles Franmore gives a careful study of the old farmer, Meadows, his daughter Nellie having an apt exponent in Miss Nannie Mead. Jack Livingstone is suitably played by Mr. Frank R. Robertson; Mr. Walter Johnson scored as the delightfully boyish Dr. Weston; Miss Elsie Saville was a sweet and sympathetic Constance Cornell; Mr. Roy Fortescue was sufficiently villainous as Cuthbert Lumley. The humorous business was in the able hands of Mr. Fred Ingram and Miss Lena Delphin, in their respective rôles of Toby and Tilly.

NELSON.—NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—A rich musical treat has been provided here this week by the engagement of the Moody Manners Opera Company, which opened on Monday with *Faust*. Miss Ethel Cadman as Marguerite was in every way successful, her singing and acting being of the highest order; Miss Rosina Beynon as Siebel sang with delightful expression; and Miss M. Goodwin was satisfactory as Martha; Mr. Charles Carter as Faust was worthy of the highest praise; Mr. Frederic Erle acquitted himself admirably as Mephistopheles; Mr. Marshall Vincent made an effective Valentine, and Mr. L. Alexander was trusty and reliable as Wagner. The chorus and orchestra rendered valuable aid. *Maritana*, *Il Trovatore*, *Carmen*, *Lohengrin*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in this week's programme.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—*Peter Pan*, in its second week's stay at the Tyne, has done exceptionally good business, and the large audiences have expressed their utmost pleasure with Mr. J. M. Barrie's delightful extravaganza.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—This week Mr. Edward Compton is paying a visit with his comedy company. On Monday night *Davy Garrick* was presented, and in the title-rôle Mr. Compton gave the audience a rare treat. He played with his wonted ease and power, the dinner scene being particularly attractive. As Violet, Miss Mackenzie gave a charming study, and invested the part with a winsomeness which was highly pleasing. Mr. H. Crocker's impersonation of the worthy old Alderman was excellent, and met with well-deserved applause; while Mr. A. B. Imeson gave a praiseworthy rendering of the part of the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut. *Davy Garrick* was preceded by *The Desperate Lover*, in which Miss Mackenzie and Mr. Imeson are seen to advantage. *Money*, *To-morrow*, *The School for Scandal*, *New Men and Old Acres*, and *She Stoops to Conquer* are the remainder of Mr. Compton's répertoire.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—This week *Her Second Time on Earth*, by Mr. Walter Melville, occupies the boards. Miss Hilda Beverley in her original part of Dora Grey plays with rare ability and power. The other principal parts are in the capable hands of Mr. George Gaisford, Mr. Henry Lonsdale, Mr. Willie Reid, Mr. Alec Williams, Miss Agnes Rose, Miss Dora Hargreaves, Miss Dorothy Hildebrand, Mr. Wm. Porter, Mr. A. Fellows Bassett, and Mr. Paige Lawrence, whose efforts meet with the success they admittedly deserve.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Eade Montefiore is presenting his well-known musical drama, entitled *The Streets of London*, here this week. Mr. Henry Moxon is throughout prominent by an earnest and intelligent rendition of the rôle of Gideon Bloodgood; and Mr. Ian Lloyd Mackenzie gives a good account of himself as Paul Fairweather. The part of Badger affords Mr. William Rokeby ample scope for the display of his comedy talent, and that clever comedian, Mr. Jose Bracewell, is responsible for a fine character-study as the "'tater" man, Jonas Puffy. Mr. H. Douglas Cottell proves a capable exponent as Mark Livingstone. Miss Edith Goodall as Lucy Fairweather, Miss Octavia Noel as Alida Bloodgood, and Miss Helena Rigby as Mrs. Puffy all display commendable skill in their respective parts. Variety is lent to the production by an exhibition of the Terpsichorean art by the Four Fiorellas.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Edouin and Edwards, in their playlet entitled *A Bachelor's Dream*, top an attractive programme here this week; the Brothers Egbert, in their well-known speciality, are responsible for much hilarity, and prove immense favourites; Max York's performing dogs execute some remarkable feats; and Amy Russell is as successful as ever as a vocalist. Edwin Barwick displays considerable talent as a character comedian, and the trapeze performance of the Lios Alfa Sisters is characterised by neatness and grace. The New Macs are a couple of droll comedians, and the Dorrells win favourable comment as duettists and dancers. Dora Lyric is a captivating comedienne, and Forrest and King are contortionists much above the average.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Large holiday audiences have packed the Pavilion to its utmost capacity this week, the bill of fare being contributed to by Howard and Harris, whose trifle, entitled *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*, results in loud and spontaneous mirth; "Teddy" Lewis, phrenologist, recalls happy memories, and reminds one of his Anthony Tweedlepunch in *Florodora*; Rhyls Thomas and Minnie Hunt are here once again, and afford much pleasure with their sketch, *Her Birthday*; George Ripon is in capital form, and his songs are favourably received; and a like comment may be given to T. B. Fayme, comedian. The Sisters Poole, Society entertainers, have a very pretty act; and Lillian gives a particularly neat exhibition as a trick cyclist. Harry Brown is happy in his efforts as a coloured comedian; the eccentricities of Tate and Tate are greatly enjoyed; Dan Thomas has an excellent dame song, and scores a big success as a petticoated comedian; a sprightly dancing exhibition is given by the Society Quartette; and Elverton, the spinning marvel, and the Barrascope are both enjoyable items.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's excellent company in *The Little Bread Winner* is here this week. The title-rôle is admirably sustained by little Emmie Thomas; as Ruth Cherry Miss Emmie Litchfield gives ample proof of her ability; Miss Jenny Bostock as Bridget O'Flannagan has made a delightfully sweet, elderly spinster, and Miss Maud Buchanan does well as the scheming woman Kate Cherry; as Bobby Trott Miss Lissa Young acts with spirit, and Miss Maud Hastings is successful as Margaret Daventry; Mr. D. Gordon gives a forcible and consistent impersonation of Richard Lawrence; Mr. J. A. Campbell is a dignified Lord Wm. Dorrington, and Dr. Chadwick is in the capable hands of Mr. Wallie Prior; Mr. Allen Charles as Chas. Prior is responsible for the comedy element, and Mr. Scott Leighton plays the part of the scheming secretary Joseph Prior.

EMPIRE (Moss' Empires, Ltd.).—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—The holiday bill here includes Tom Owen (a typical Welsh comedian), Josephine Sabel (burlesque artist), the Four Skandias (a clever quartette of gymnasts), and Miss Madge Carlyle (an artistic singer), Ethel Ra Leslie sings very daintily, the Manigos (equilibriste) do some clever feats, and Geoffreys and Benson (comedians) play *Spoofed*, a smart bit of comedy. Unthan, the Armless Wonder, gives a marvellous performance, and "Electra's Bower," in which Alma, Abdullah, and La Superbe appear, is a remarkable spectacle of electric lights.

TREDEGAR HALL.—Poole's Myriorama is drawing crowded houses over the holiday season. A very pretty set of pictures are shown, and there is a very creditable variety crowd attached to the show.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Nearly eighteen years have elapsed since Mr. Wm. Calder brought here the American drama, entitled *Shadows of a Great City* (which the management have revived this week), and it therefore possesses the charm of novelty to the present generation of playgoers. Miss Marie Auckland, pathetic and refined as Annie Standish and showing a light-hearted and buoyant spirit as Nellie, has carefully embodied the characteristics of mother and daughter; Bidda Roonan, a true-hearted daughter of the Emerald Isle, finds a good representative in Miss Louise Millward; Mr. Magill Martyn is manly as the hero, Tom Cooper; Mr. Frederick Harker is satisfactory as George Benson; Mr. Edward Swinton is an amusing Jim Farren; Mr. Faucett Lomax is a typical Jew as Abe Nathan, and Mr. Charles L. Ludlow carefully plays the detective Arkwright. The duties of stage management are ably carried out by Mr. Harry Esden, under whose personal direction the piece was produced.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—The Ten Loonies provide a mad musical mélange that is a big laugh-producer from start to finish; Miss Annie Casey is a dashing serio; Miss Flo Warner is a dainty vocalist with a charming presence; Montefiore and company appear with success in a pathetic little sketch, entitled *The Little Colonel*; Ted Cowan, comic singer, and Chas. Chard, comedian, are both successful with their songs; the Venola Brothers are on a welcome return visit; Mignon furnishes some musical selections, and the Palace pictures this week are of the best.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. W. Reuben Payne's company opened here on Monday with *The Orphan Heiress* (written by Mr. Arthur Jefferson), which was as warmly greeted as ever by a large audience. Mr. Henry Willis gave a capital portrayal of Lord Warwick Ainsley; Mr. Charles Boult played Douglas Kingston in a masterly manner; Mr. W. Vincent Carlyle made the most of his opportunities as Laurence Gordon; Mr. T. H. Solby caused hearty laughter as Ginger; Mr. Cecil Morand achieved success as Jenkins; as Mabel Ainsley Miss Rosalie Heath gave a delightful impersonation; Miss Constance Medwyn displayed much talent as Edith Mowbray; Miss Beatrice FitzHugh gave a satisfactory rendering of Lady Laura Ainsley; Miss Edith Halford ably filled the rôle of Olive Kingston; and Miss Cora Duncan was all that could be desired as Betsy Buggles.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—This week's attractions include Mr. Albert Brady and company in *Turning the Tables*, which has been well received; Messrs. Alf Bishop and Jess Vale, eccentric comedians and dancers; Little Martha, juvenile vocalist and dancer; Mr. George Young, concertina soloist; Mr. Leo Traynor, comedian and mimic; Miss Lottie Harland, comedienne and dancer; the Pollards, speciality artists; and the Bio-Photoscope.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—The Easter attraction here has been Mr. Junius Booth's company in Dumas's celebrated costume play *Monte Cristo*, and a complete success was scored. Edmond Dantes, Count of Monte Cristo, is a part which Mr. Junius Booth's artistic versatility is particularly well adapted to bring out the strength of; Miss Joan Ellis achieved a complete triumph in her thoroughly natural rendering of the part of Mercedes, and Miss Kate Maynard as La Carconte was exceedingly well placed. Mr. E. Howard Templeton undertook the dual parts of M. Nortier and Abbé Farid in a manner which left nothing to be desired; Mr. Alfred Terris did very well as Baron Dauglers; Mr. A. T. Gullifer enacted the part of Lieut. Alberte de Morcef in a thoroughly capable manner, and Mr. Chauncey Morris, who is the stage manager, gave an excellent presentation of Caderousse. The tour is under the able direction of Mr. C. G. Griffin.

THE ROYAL PIERROTS CO.—General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Smethurst.—The Pavilion was packed to its fullest capacity on Monday, when a goodly array of talent was presented. Chant and Chant were highly appreciated in their song and dance turn; Sarco was amusing in his ventriloquial entertainment, and Harry Alberry, eccentric comedian, was the cause of roars of laughter; Miss Jeannie Mackay is the possessor of a sweetly brilliant soprano voice, and sang her songs admirably; Miss Gertie Fraser, contralto and soubrette, was also very successful, while the singing of Mr. Glanmore Jones seems to lose none of its attractiveness.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Dr. Thompson, the medical attendant at Thorpe Asylum, near this city, has again formed an amateur opera company, the members of which are entertaining numerous audiences at this place of amusement for the benefit of the funds of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, and are giving a capital rendering of the charming comic opera *Utopia* (*Limited*).

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—The holiday programme presented this week is a fairly good one. Mdlle. Rosina Caselli, with her troupe of Chihuahua dogs, heads the bill, and their performance shows marvellous training. The Villions are clever cyclists; Sydney James's Strolling Players, in their pastoral sketch and singing, are much appreciated; Vanola, the Mexican antipodeste, shows great dexterity on revolving globes and barrels; the Lorrisons, eccentrics, are a good turn; the Brothers Lang score as knockabouts; Bouverie Pleydell is a charming comedienne and dancer; whilst Howe and Ardie are amusing in their speciality *Up in a Balloon*. The Bioscope pictures are up to the usual standard.

AGRICULTURAL HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. Jury's animated pictures continue successful here. The variety turns include Mr. E., the up-to-date joker; the hoop droll Also; and the Evalos in their comic juggling and gymnastic mélange. Mr. E. Edmund Peterson and Mr. G. Egerton Burnett are the able managers.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*The Freedom of Susanne* occupies this stage here. Miss Beatrice Lindley has charge of the title-rôle, and gives a finished performance. She is well supported by Mr. Herbert J. Bentley, who as Charles Trevor acts well and makes up excellently; Mr. F. G. Thurstan's portrayal of Fitzroy Harding causes a great deal of amusement; whilst Mr. Wm. Mallalieu is successful as the family solicitor. Mr. R. Harley West makes a very good Lord Dachet, and the dashing Captain Cecil finds an admirable exponent in Mr. Townsend Whitling. Mr. Archie Selwyn also does excellently as Tommy Keston; as the aristocratic Lady Trevor Miss Emily Patterson is thoroughly at home; and Miss Charlotte Mead as Fanny Minching deserves every commendation. Miss Violet Ley portrays Lady Isabel Bury in a convincing manner, whilst Miss Annie Stalman makes a satisfactory Mrs. Tustail, and Mrs. Mallalieu works well as Mrs. Putnam. The remaining members of the cast, Messrs. Frank Lee, Bruce Smith, and Edward Sidney, fill their parts creditably. The comedy is preceded by the one-act episode, *Two in a Trap*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—The romantic play *The Midnight Wedding* proves a great attraction, being presented by a well-balanced company and staged in an effective manner. The portrayal of Paul Valmar by Mr. Alfred Paumier is a powerful piece of work, and well worthy the actor's reputation, while the acting of Miss Annie Saker, who doubles the parts of Lieut. Helsburgh and Princess Astrea is admirable. The rôle of Crown Prince finds an excellent exponent in Mr. Fred W. Freeman, and Messrs. Sydney Lynn and Clinton Baddeley realise in an artistic manner aristocratic German officers. Miss Florence Hunt is satisfactory as Rozel, and Miss Ada Champion works hard as Kathie; whilst Miss Prudence Laurence looks sweet as Marie. Mr. Fred Constable, Mr. Reginald Payne, and Mr. Algie Spalding make up well as soldiers, and Mr. W. S. Hardy does good work as Father Gerrard.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—*The Face at the Window* comes as the holiday attraction, and is being well patronised. Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale as the dreaded Le Loup is convincing, and Mr. T. W. Dunscombe submits an excellent representation of Gouffet, the detective. The rôle of Cortier is supported by Mr. Gilbert Hall with a good deal of power, and Miss Thorne Hallam as Marie de Brisson plays up to him very efficiently. Miss Gwynne Warren is at home as Babbette, and Miss Elaine Grant acts admirably as Le Pinau. Mr. Alfred Warne makes an excellent banker, and as the mad doctor Mr. George Phythian gives a carefully-considered rendering.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Mr. Fred Storey as Rip Van Winkle, supported by a goodly company, occupies the principal place on the bill this week. Mr. R. H. Douglass is always welcome in Nottingham, and never fails of a great reception. Marzella's birds are well trained, and Mason and Bart are comical gymnasts, whose turn elicits rounds of aplause. Marie Collins is her usual light-hearted self, and Frank Dunlop causes lots of fun by his quaint singing and patter. Lady ventriloquists are not always thoroughly successful, but Fauntleroy, with her dummy Dan, is an exception, and provides a highly-appreciated ventriloquial turn. Burt Shepard has a fund of drollery and comic songs at his command, and Mora and Lola in a novel musical act are well worthy the applause they evoke. The bill is completed by Manning's Entertainers in a second edition of their comical sketch, *The Hotel Boots*.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. A. P. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Miss Lena Stanton's pantomime company opened here on Monday with *Robinson Crusoe*, which has proved an excellent holiday attraction. Miss Stanton makes a first-rate Crusoe, Miss Minnie Melbah does well as Polly Perkins, Mr. Will Terry shows consid

Beast. As Beauty, Miss Dolly Dodds is first favourite, taking her part in a fascinating manner; Prince Charming is ably impersonated by Miss Kitty Hewitt; Miss May Gibson is a success as Silver Star, the witch is cleverly presented by Miss Beattie Townsend, and Master Will Orston ably acts the part of the beast. Masters F. Bentley and F. Ellis are responsible for a lot of comedy as the sisters Dressalinda and Marigolda, being ably assisted by Paddy Mills and Jack Harrison. Master Will Kay also does well as the Baron. Georgie Wood is also a great success.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Howgate.—Morris Cronin and his talented troupe are at the top of the bill here in a very smart turn, Tom Foy and company in the absurdity, *A Yorkshire Lad in London*, create roars of laughter; the Five Foys in *The Excursion Depôt*, keep up the merriment; Richard Corbin's dog circus gives a good show, the leaping dogs being especially interesting; W. H. Downes has a cordial reception in his songs, and the Three Rubys achieve success in their trapeze act. Mark Merry (quaint comedian) and Flo Chevalier (comedienne) are also applauded. Dot Stanley did not appear on the evening of our visit, and Jack Ross deputised for her.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—*Casey's Court*, by Mr. G. Casey's Midget Mimes, heads the bill, and they give a really capital entertainment. Amandus in his impersonations of celebrities is clever. Gus Balsiger, the funny little man, keeps up his reputation, John Ross, a local turn, is heard to advantage in his songs, and Musical Rosina, expert instrumentalist, is responsible for some attractive selections. Mozetto, with juggling feats, and the Mimosa Trio, vocalists and dancers, also appear. Winter sports in other lands are being shown by the Dottoscope, and another attraction is found in Jackson and Lutner, weight lifters.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott is here this week with his company in *A Wife's Triumph*, which was heartily received by the usual crowded Bank Holiday audience on Monday. Mr. Abbott is seen to great advantage as Frank Wilton, and gives a convincing and effective performance throughout; Messrs. W. H. Garbois and W. Ross furnish a pretty pair of scoundrels as Jordan and Hartman, betting men; Mr. E. Keene is brimful of humour as Ben Bradford, and sings some capital songs; Stubbs, Rylan, and Lopez find capable exponents in Messrs Davis-Brown, D. Pentland, and F. C. Roper; and Mr. D. C. Phelps gives an invigorating and natural rendering of Robert Dewhurst. Miss Ada Abbott submits a powerful and sympathetic performance as Bessie Dewhurst; Miss Kathleen Stewart is a capital Alice Wilton, Miss Marjorie Tennant is full of fun, and provokes genuine laughter as Margery, and Miss Elsie Yohe is an interesting Little Frank. Mr. Abbott's company perform *Trilby* here for the last half of the week.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. S. Smith's company is here with *A Sister's Devotion*. Capt. Thornton is carefully played by Mr. Sidney Ernest; Mr. Rex Willoughby makes an effective Col. Saunders, and Mr. Arthur Bell is well suited as Brian O'Connor; Mr. Barney Doreen interprets Larry O'Malley with considerable verve and power, and is well supported by Mr. George Harvey as Jerry Rooney. Miss Edie Desmond makes the most of Kathleen O'Connor, Miss Fanny Harvey is natural as Edith Saunders, and Miss Connie Arden makes a lively Molly Rooney.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile. — Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, the American Indian actress, is here this week with her own company, and the play, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, is realistically presented. The title-rôle is played by Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk in excellent style; Mr. C. W. Charles submits a finished portraiture of Colonel Stockton; as Manuel Lopez Mr. Edward Leroy acts powerfully and skilfully; Captain Franklin is finely interpreted by Mr. Ike Shawcross; and Mr. Theo. Alker makes a clever and attractive Chief Ga-Na-Gua. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr. Guy D. Hackney as Sam White and Mr. Dan Ryan as Garry Cullen; while Miss Dorothy Neville is to be complimented on her mirth-provoking presentment of Miss Matilda Shiffles. Miss Minnie Goopel plays in a graceful and charming manner the part of Nellie Stockton; and others in the cast who play successfully are Messrs. W. H. Killey, Lew Ripley, Bennie Doctor, and Albert E. Simms. The picturesque scenery is generally admired, and of great interest to the play is the introduction of two beautiful and intelligent Indian ponies and a well-trained dog.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—A capable company this week includes Ponto Dixon, boxer; Will Bell, Irish comedian; Ida Dalton, serio; Arthur Elvy, vocal comedian; the Schallers (Arthur and Pam), in their original comedy act; Nellie Dunbar, comedienne and dancer; and Chorley and Connor, comedians.

Transfield's Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. T. G. Transfield; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Tony Transfield. — An attractive programme is being submitted at this house. Besides the usual equestrian performances, there are turns by Miss Western, vocalist; Sterling, with his clever dog; Cavallottis, in a musical performance; Owen Moran and party, boxers; juggling by Dolf, and a gymnastic performance by the Reays. A new series of pictures on the bio-tableaux is well received.

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company is here this week in the drama *A False Wife*. Miss Florence E. Florence in the title-rôle displays power, Mr. George Langham is well adapted to the part of Sir Colin Mansfield, Mr. W. Howard Barlow as Lieut. George Mansfield gives an excellent impersonation, and Mr. Elton Morgan is diverting in the part of Ben Rattler, as also is Mr. Owen Edwin in the rôle of Archibald Downtee (the village constable). Mr. Frank Strickland is seen to advantage in the heavy part of Jean Berand, Mr. Harry Dunham is a favourite as Inspector Fulton, Mr. John Cecil ably depicts the mad wizard, Zorak, and Mr. Fred Levine makes an admirable William Marlow. Miss Ellen Armor's winning sweetness makes her an especial favourite as Agnes Weyland, and Miss Nita Imeson is a vivacious Bessie.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Wilson Barrett's ever-popular *Claudian* is at the Royal this week. Mr. William Maclaren in the title-rôle gives a powerful rendering of the character; Miss Lily Bandmann as Almida evinces a careful study of an impressive rôle; Mr. Wilson Howard makes a strong Tetrarch, and the ironworker is well sustained by Mr. Geo. Austin. The parts of Belos the farmer and Edessa are respectively taken by Mr. Chas. Chaloner and Miss Carlotta Anson in a manner that affords welcome relief after the heavier scenes. Mr. A. G. Carr as the hermit Clement pronounces the curse in the prologue with thrilling effect.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin*, popular as ever, was played on Monday to a large Bank Holiday audience. Mr. Dock Watson makes a venerable Uncle Tom, and Miss Irma Farington as Eva moved a large section of the feminine portion of the audience to tears; Mr. Cecil Gray has a difficult part as Legree, but proved equal to the task. Other noticeable parts were those of Eliza and George Harris, respectively undertaken by Miss Emma Barton and Mr. Edward Lloyd.

Metropole Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Sutton Vane's exciting drama *The Span of Life* is the attraction here, played by Mr. Carlton's own company. Mr. R. S. Trelawney makes a very good villain, the part of the hero being in the capable hands of Mr. Sanderson Moffatt. The formation and utilisation of the "human bridge" by the Almo Trio was watched with breathless interest. Miss Phyllis Hamilton is the heroine. Other members of the company are Miss Kitty Russel and Mr. Walter Dale.

Palace of Varieties. — Managing Directors, Messrs. Livermore; Manager, Mr. S. Field.—The Bransbys have a cleverly-written coster sketch, entitled *'Arf a Quid*, in which they introduce some smart East-end patter; the Haytors submit an acceptable turn combining plenty of fun with some marvellous contortionist business, and Selby and Myers are a finished pair of dancers; Breton's company in *A Trip to the Isle of Man* work hard to make their turn a success, and George Reeves has a funny skit on conjuring. Vernon's animated pictures have a fine film of the All Black v. Glamorgan match, and Fred Clements completes an interesting programme.

Promenade Pier and Pavilion.—This, the favourite summer resort of Plymouthians and visitors alike, opened for the season on Easter Monday. The Smart Set (Walter George's Light Opera Singers) were the attraction, the spacious pavilion being packed both at afternoon and evening performances. Mr. Walter George and Miss Georgie Martin supply the comedy element in a humorous yet refined manner well suited to the tastes of a cultured audience; Mr. Arthur Court is possessed of a mellow tenor voice, and Mr. Chas. Howard's deep bass voice is heard to advantage in some excerpts from standard operas; Miss Lena Hutchings is a first-class soprano, and Miss Ethel Wilford is at her best in clever monologue. Miss Hilda Light also comtributes.

PORTH.—Poole's Opera House.—Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The special dramatic attraction here is *The London Fireman*, which is being presented to capital houses by Garside and Knowles's company. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles is successful in his representation of Colonel Fleming; Hal Curtis is ably portrayed by Mr. Edward L. Garside. Miss Florence M. Daly acquits herself creditably as Grace Curtis; Miss Nellie Shirley is decidedly good as Ida Curtis; Mr. Oliver Birrell gives a satisfactory account of Viscount Fleming; Mr. Joe Rockley is a capable representative of Captain Langton; Mr. Charles Preece is an amusing Nixey Stringer, and Miss Nellie Garside does remarkably well as Polly Bramble.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Bell.—Mr. Frank Curzon's principal company with *The White Chrysanthemum* is the attraction here. Mr. Fred Ralph is a first-rate Admiral Sir Horatio Armitage, K.C.B., investing his part with much humour; Mr. F. Pope Stamper as Lieut. Reginald Armitage, is smart and capable; the part of Lieut. Chippendall Belmont is well taken by Mr. Davy Burnaby; Sin Chong, the Chinese cook, is admirably impersonated by Mr. E. O. Lonnen, and Private Perks is capably played by Mr. Harry Paulton, jun. Sybil Cunningham, the White Chrysanthemum, is very daintily portrayed by Miss Ruth Lincoln, her singing being very pleasing. Miss Maud Harvey is bright and refined as Betty Kenyon, and Miss Isabelle Dillon, in the part of Cornelia Vanderdecken, is most vivacious.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Miss Marie Menzies and company are here with *A Rogue's Daughter*. Mr. Reg. Gordon gives a dignified rendering as Sir George Mynard, Mr. F. V. Fenn, as Frank Tyler, acts consistently and well, Colonel Foster, an adventurer, is cleverly undertaken by Mr. Richard Ferris, and Isaac Isaacs, in the hands of Mr. William Plimm, is a capital character study. Miss M. Devereux, as Letty Grey plays most effectively, Miss Marie Menzies, as Lady Mynard, fills a difficult part with skill and judgment, and Miss Violet Leader as Dicky, a waif, is successful. During the play specialities are given by Miss Marie Robertson as Priscilla Jenkins, Mr. Tom Taylor, as Ebenezer Dunnem, and Mr. A. Hall Menzies as John Gibbs.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—This house was packed to its utmost capacity both at matinee and evening on Easter Monday, the management having provided a most inviting bill. Cassie Walmer, the dusky queen of comedy and dance, had a most flattering greeting, her well selected numbers being decidedly good. Narrow Bros., comedy and knockabout cyclists, are a hard-working pair, their show being much appreciated; Mlle. Kloet, with picturesque posing, is most pleasing; Wyotti, comedy juggler, is clever; Vasey and Ramsey are two eccentric and capable dancers; the New York Quartette of vocalists and acrobatic dancers, are smart and painstaking; Dan Conroy, character comedian, causes plenty of merriment; Bertha Norwood is a pleasing soubrette, and Arthur Boyne, vocal comedian, and Payne's Bio-Photoscope, with some capital new pictures, complete a successful programme.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company, in Mr. Weedon Grossmith's comedy, *The Duffer*, occupies the boards here this week. Mr. E. H. Wynne's assumption of the title-rôle is a finished performance, and shows a true appreciation of the varied phases of bohemian artist-life; Mr. Pennington Gush is a manly and sympathetic Charles Chester; Mr. Whitford Kane, as Paul Martin, presents a careful study of a difficult part; and Messrs. Warringay, Fordlace, and Pearce give a carefully-restrained interpretation of their respective characters. Miss Margaret Montrose as Lady Amelia Gainshays, is piquant and refreshing; and Miss Mabel Taylor as Mary Hillier acts with delicacy and feeling. Miss Nellie Griffen's presentation of the part of Miss Bide is an excellent foil to the rather tragic note of the play, and is, in itself, a capital piece of acting.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—This week Mr. G. Carlton Wallace and company has been here in the well-known romantic play, *The Love that Women Desire*. Mr. J. O. Stewart gave an excellent impersonation of Squire Abingdon; Miss Alice N. Livesey as Madge Abingdon left nothing to be desired; Mr. G. Carlton Wallace as Richard Abingdon ably sustained a difficult part; Miss Lalla Stanhope as Sybil Thornburn won the entire sympathy of the house; Mr. David G. Noble was distinctly successful as Philip Carnaby; Mr. Frank Fuller infused a strong dramatic interest into the play in the rôle of Frank Hardy; Mr. John Hignett was a mirth-provoking Dennis O'Rourke; Miss Maud Stuart made a charming and demure Pattie Swift. The play was handsomely and effectively staged.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Enigmarelle, the wonderful mechanical figure which walks and cycles, is the chief attraction here this week, and its manipulation by Mr. Frederick Ireland causes the greatest interest. Harry Tomlinson is an accomplished character vocalist; Fred Harrison's catchy songs are very popular with the audience; the Andreassens provide a clever acrobatic act; Jessie Albini, comedienne, scores a success; the singing of the Four Lancashire Mill Lads is well appreciated: Ben Harris's Nippers give an amusing display of boxing; and Hess and Lisbon are very funny in their comic skating act.

RADCLIFFE.—Grand Opera House.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—This week we are favoured by Mr. Andrew Melville with the celebrated drama *Driven from Home*. Mr. Felix Pitt in the part of Anthony Raybrook gives an able rendering; Mr. Morley Carroll is excellent as Walter Hatherleigh; Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Willie is quiet and effective, and Mr. Alick Macmillan contributes a meritorious impersonation of John Anderson; Mr. Harry Cornwall is particularly well suited to the part of Jabez Thomas; Miss Frances Ruttledge as Laura Raybrook and Walter Hatherleigh, the younger, displays considerable talent, and Miss Evelyn Marrable is an acceptable Margaret Bayley.

RAMSGATE.—Amphitheatre.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman. — *The Walls of Jericho*, put on in really artistic style by Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, has formed the Easter week attraction here. Miss Amy Ravenscroft brilliantly impersonates Lady Frobisher; while the Jack Frobisher of Mr. Herbert Bunston is a notable exhibition of histrionic talent. Miss Helen Haye does well as Lady Westerby; while Miss Nona Wynne, with charm, sustains the rôle of Lady Lucy Derenham. Lord Marchmont finds a capable representative in Mr. W. S. Lane; and Mr. A. S. Barber is eminently successful as Hankey Bannister.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre.—Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—Mr. Gus Levaine's pantomime company opened here on Easter Monday with *Aladdin*. The piece was well played, and merriment reigned supreme all the evening. Miss Mabel Harding makes a dashing Aladdin, and her songs are well rendered: Miss Florrie Gibson is a charming Princess. Messrs. Joe Wallace and Cecil Barry are smart knockabouts, and as Widow Twankey Mr. Charley Arnett is decidedly clever. Mr. Arthur Collins is good as the Emperor, and Mr. Robert Williams is successful as Abanazer. Among the specialities are Leon and Leoni (musical experts), Phil Rees (double-voiced vocalist), Watty Griffen (a marvellous contortionist), Mlle. Alberto (a clever wire artist), Cyrus Bell (a musical comedian of ability), Mlle. Pardo (a charming dancer), Robert Williams (a wonderfully expert swordist), and the Baden Troupe of Dancers.

ROCHDALE.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. —*Leah Kleschna* is proving an immense attraction here this week. On Monday a fine performance was submitted by Mr. Chas. Frohman's capable company. Mr. George Ingleton impersonated the criminal Kleschna to the life; Mr. Percy Rhodes submitted a life-like portrayal of Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Cyril Rawdon was prominent with a capital portrayal of Schram; Mr. Leslie Lees was good as General Berton; and Mr. Harold Weston made a most effective Raoul Berton. Miss Mary Barton gave a delightful delineation of Madame Berton; Miss Lillian Locke was bright and vivacious as Claire; and Miss Pearla Gardner acted with telling effect the part of Leah Kleschna.

Circus and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee.—A highly-attractive holiday programme drew packed houses here on Monday evening. The Three Brothers Huxter perform some remarkable feats of jumping; Jack Truman is a tenor vocalist of exceptional merit; Mill May, singing protean artist; Mlle. Theresa, castanet player; the Paolias, in classical pictures; Charley Dixon, comedian; Kate Lynd, comedienne; Curtis and Vanity, comedy duo; and Vernon's Bioscope complete the list.

Empire Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—The Kellinos, in *A Fête in Venice*, perform some remarkably clever feats, *à la* Risley; other excellent turns include Edna Cragge, burlesque artist; Kendrick and Laura, drawing-room entertainers; Les Bollingers, rag painters; Jack Pardoe, "the man on the clothes line"; Victor Vernon, comedian; Rose and Lewis, the Yankee-doodle duo; and the Empire Bioscope.

ROTHERHAM. — Theatre Royal, Limited. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—The special attraction for Easter week is being provided by Mr. E. Lockwood and company, with *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. J. Harold Carson gives an excellent portrayal of the title-rôle, being ably seconded by Mr. Frank Wilson as Michael Brue. Miss Gertie Fawcett is very pleasing as Aurora Brue; and Miss Amy Vivash is a smart Daisy. Mr. Cecil Strickland is deserving of mention as Matthew Habisham; Mr. Vernon C. Booth scores as Gerald Trehearne; Mr. Harold Godwin is a capable Inspector Corringe; Miss Kathleen V. Gray a vivacious Mabel Midget; and Miss Raydon Dallas a charming Lady Bickenhall. Mr. Edwin Thornton is an able director of a greatly augmented orchestra.

RUNCORN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Craddick.—The Easter holiday attraction was a return visit of Mrs. R. A. Cuthbert's company in the *Black Bishop*. Mr. Bartram Gascoigne gives a very fine interpretation of Vaughan Rejoine, Mr. J. Kinsley Roydon is a capital Sir R. Strathcoat, Mr. Charles Coventry is decidedly to the front with a smart rendering of Captain Keilcript, and Brank is skilfully acted by Mr. Frank Hudspeth. Miss Jennie Marquise plays the dual rôles of Marion Strathcoat and Kate Marne in a way that arrests the attention of the audience, Miss Isabel Norman gives a clever portrayal of Ruth Oldbury, Miss Madge White is cordially received as Hannah, and Miss Madge Turner depicts Little Ruth in a charming manner.

RYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd., Business-Manager, Mr. Wm. Martin.—The Easter attraction here has been the performance of Mr. A. Hamilton Warden's company of *A Woman's Past*. Bessie, the heroine, was portrayed by Miss Maisie Hanbury in a style which won all hearts; Mr. Horace E. Herbert, who undertook the part of David Heath, was responsible for some excellent acting; Mr. Oswald Cray's interpretation of Uriah Craven commanded admiration; the rôle of Clara Darrel was exceedingly well handled by Miss Gertrude Harrison; and Mr. Charles V. Sandford, as Frank Dellanoy, was a success. Mr. Hamilton Warden gave a finished portrayal of the character of Clement Harper. On Wednesday afternoon *The Idler* was ably presented by a specially selected London company.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Gambler's Daughter*, by Clarence Burnette, is being presented here this week, by Miss Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton's Company. As Desmond O'Dare, Mr. Robert Ayrton is very successful; Miss Adria Hill has a dual rôle of mother and daughter (Mildred and Miriam Grant), which she skilfully sustains; Mr. Alfred Sanders as Solomon Solomons, and Mr. H. Lloyd as Stephen Brand strongly portray those characters; Mr. Richard Pitt as John Grant makes a good impression; and Mr. Victor Millard does well as Jack Grant.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Sec., Mr. J. C. Patterson.—*The Club Raid*, by Harry Pleon, is a well-acted sketch, by Collinson and Co., and meets with much applause; Sable Fern is a pleasing singer; roars of laughter greet the Sivronis, in their comical act; Sid Cotterell and Co., in *The Substitute*, also get much laughter; a pretty scena. "The Daughter of the Regiment," is given by Agnes Molteno; Adeline Yohle is a charming ballad vocalist; and Dan Fielder, comedian, also comes in for a share of appreciation.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Haley's Prize Juveniles in their carnival scena get much applause; Sam Shipley, eccentric character comedian, is very comical; Lilian Dorie does some graceful trapeze work; Rice and Rudge are a comical and a clever pair of skaters and cyclists; and the other turns include Witty Watty Walton, comedian; Beatrice Worth, burlesque actress; Kempton and Murdock, Yankee comedy couple; James, banjoist and bone soloist; and Rosa Finlay, skipping rope dancer.

SCARBOROUGH.—Londesborough Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington; Manager, Mr. Carpenter.—Messrs. Murray, King, and Clark's company in *Bluebell in Fairyland* is the attraction here for the Easter holidays. Miss Gladys Cooper in the part of Bluebell shows ability; Miss Muriel Juin, as the reigning queen, contributed "Cupid," an up-to-date song, in good style; Mr. Lawrence Emery as Dicky is very popular, and Messrs. H. C. Moston and Ernest Cossart as Blib and Blob create much fun. Mr. David Cruikshanks as Jopling, the reigning king and stage manager, has his time well occupied; Miss Ruby Carter as Will of the Wisp is agile and amusing, Mr. Percy Ferrimond has a capital voice, and Mr. Fred Allen as P.C. I.C., and Mr. Stanley Crisp as Peter, the cat, are funny.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan. —As a special atraction for Easter, Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey's Irish musical costume play, *The Wearin' o' the Green* is here. Mrs. Chalmers Mackey is prominent with a clever portrayal of Norah M'Grath, Mr. Chalmers Mackey as Barney O'Hea is a big success in a difficult part, Mr. Chas. Homer as Shamus M'Dermott interprets his part faithfully and sings well. As Biddy M'Ginn Miss Nana Flensberg plays with ability, Mr. David McFarlane as Connor Martin acts his part in an accomplished manner, and as Michael Kenny Mr. Haughton McCauley proves himself an actor of exceptional ability. Mr. John St. Stuart as Gerald Courtenay is clever. The part of Sir George Courtenay is ably sustained by Mr. H. Stainsbury, and Miss Adele Liddon, an old Scarborough favourite, takes the difficult part of Mrs. M'Dermott in her usual clever style.

People's Palace and Aquarium.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Mr. Ernest Lord's Excelsior Light Opera Singers are making welcome appearances here with a large and varied programme, which includes selections from the various operas. Miss Alice Singleton, with a powerful contralto voice, hits off the peculiarities of man to advantage in "Men": Miss Ona Ashton delights with "Il Bacio." Mr. E. Edmondson has a well cultivated and powerful bass voice, which is heard to advantage in a fine song, entitled "Asleep on the Deep"; Mr. G. Harker Holt sings "Ailsa Mine" with great tenderness; and a humorous contrast is given by Mr. Stanley Burrows, who renders the "Cats' Serenade" in a very ingenious and comical way. Mr. Ernest Lord ably accompanies all the artists on the piano. Atroy, society juggler, is a master in the art of manipulation; Mlle. Viola, instrumentalist, submits some agreeable performances on a variety of novel instruments; Robb Gilmour, comedian, is always welcome here; Denby and Dent in their comedy act, *The Singing Barber*, keep the audience amused; Herr Cronow, facial expert, also appears. In the swimming bath Prof. Syd Jones shows every likelihood of being endowed with the many abilities displayed by his late father, Prof. Jones. He is accompanied by a fine troupe of lady swimmers.

The Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—That Mr. Zalza intends to be up to date is evidenced this week by the fact of Miss Fanny Wentworth heading the bill. Miss Went worth's efforts receive unstinted applause. Mlle. Gatley is a skilled wire artist, T. W. Barrett is undoubtedly Scarborough's favourite comedian, Miss May is a smart comedienne, and the animated pictures form a special feature of the programme.

SEACOMBE.—Irving Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Councillor James Kiernan.—Messrs. Arthur Whittaker and Clifford Stacey's company provide an agreeable change here this week with *The Hindoo's Revenge*, a drama that includes some clever and daring feats in pistol markmanship by Miss Lilyan Lait in the part of Diana Strong. Captain Bruce Glenister is capitally played by Mr. Cyril W. Mackay; Captain Stephen Glenister, the villain, finding an able exponent in Mr. Frank Ridley; Mr. Arthur Willerby gives a good study of Dr. Ulysses Murphy, and Mr. Clive Ross presents a good military Major General Sir Victor Strong. Miss Daisy Snowden's impersonation of Sylvia Glenister is natural and unaffected, and Mr. Hamilton Travers does justice to the part of Count Polskoff. Kumar Nana (Mr. E. H. Dobell) and Zephan (Miss Ethyle Murray) are both satisfactory.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—*The Branded Woman* was presented on Monday by Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company. Philip Maurice, the artist, and Zarka, the hunchback, are effectively portrayed by Mr. J. Stillwell, whose quick changes completely bewilder the audience. Baron Hauber finds a skilful exponent in Mr. Ed. Fryer, Louis Duroc is played with distinction by Mr. Paul E. Teulon, Dick Brown is presented with much dry humour by Mr. Becket Bould. Genevieve is admirably sketched by Miss Renée Glendower, Marie is sweetly played by Miss Katherine Barnett, Miss Kitty McPherson is a dashing Jacqueline, Miss Lena Lattridge a satisfactory Madame Crevier, and Rudolph is played with much skill by Miss Hilda Townsend.

SHEERNESS.—The Hippodrome.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.—Additional attractions are provided in this week's bill for the Easter holidays. The Wade Comedy Trio submit a humorous sketch, which is enthusiastically received; the Franco Midgets, juvenile conjurors, are clever; Robbie Roy scores as a Scotch comic; a clever contortionist act by Mlle. Sylvesto is also much appreciated; the Sisters Valli, in a musical melangé, are much enjoyed; Hetty Leo proves herself a successful comedienne; and Jenny Hartley, soubrette and dancer, is much admired. Tommy Dodd, comedian, also scores. An excellent display of pictures by Ruffel's Bioscope completes an entertaining programme.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. P. Reymond.—Amongst the newcomers for this week are Dray and Usher, negro comedians and dancers, who create much hilarity in their farcical act *The Doctor and His Boy*; Miss Alice, ballad and descriptive vocalist, is highly successful, a similar compliment being likewise due to Miss Frances (L.C.M.). Mr. Tony James is an amusing eccentric comedian, and Mr. Harry Merson, comedian and banjoist, is well received.

SHEFFIELD.—Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont. — A large audience on Monday gave a hearty reception to *A Country Girl*, which was performed in a vivacious manner by Mr. George Dance's company. As the irrepressible and nimble Barry, Mr. Jack Crichton kept the house in roars of laughter; Mr. F. J. Rooney was quietly humorous as Mr. Raikes, and his topical song was well received; Mr. J. Warren-Foster looked smart, and acted and sang agreeably as Geoffrey Challoner; Mr. Arthur Jackson was good as Sir Joseph Verity; Mr. Burgess Barratt proved successful as Douglas; and a good little character study was the old Mummery of Mr. Arthur Leyshon. Miss Nancy Rossiter was the incarnation of dainty femininity and girlish charm as Marjory; Miss Daisy Davies looked a picturesque Melanah, and she acted and sang with dramatic expression; Miss Maisie Gay made a handsome Nan, and she was soon on good terms with the audience; and Miss Addie Leonard was first-rate as Sophie.

Theatre Royal. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—The picturesque drama, *Ben Ma Chree*, was played here on Monday, by Mr. Arnold Bell's company. Mr. Bell repeated his powerful impersonation of Dan Mylrea; Mr. John Belton was excellent as Ewan; and the part of the Deemster was carefully represented by Mr. W. G. Gregory; Miss Frances Campbell acted with sympathetic earnestness as Mona; and the other characters were in capable hands.

Alexandra Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*A Woman's Revenge* has met with the warm approval of Mr. Forsdike's patrons. As Frank Drummond, Mr. Henry L. Osmond acts with sincerity; Mr. Elmore Frith submits a good sketch of the crafty lawyer; Miss Winifred Chalmers makes a tender and pathetic Mary Lonsdale; the part of the handsome adventuress is ably played by Miss Maude Yorke; little Ivy Rochefort is good as the child, Mary; and other parts are cleverly acted by Miss Mabel Tremere, Mr. H. Cook, and Mr. Frederick Biron. The piece was carefully mounted.

Empire Palace.—Proprietors, the Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan W. Dunbar.—The scheme of entertainment drawn up for the delight of Easter holiday-makers was, as usual, on a generous plan, the *pièce de résistance* being the wonderful transformation scene, invented and performed by the Staleys, in which the interior of a cooper's shop (with musical coopers at work) is changed suddenly to a grand drawing-room, with splendid appointments. Mdlle. Celeste does a graceful act on the tight and slack wire; and the juggling of the elegant and talented Mdlle. Olive is enthusiastically cheered; Harding and Ah Sid are two original and most diverting drolls; the Misses Florence and Lillian, in their refined drawing-room entertainment, are thoroughly appreciated; Miss Venie Clements is a clever mimic, and she meets with general approbation; the Lunelle Sisters are pretty and talented duettists; and Miss Belle Braham, vocalist; Miss Mabel Hind, comedienne; and the Bioscope complete the company.

Grand Palace.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—The following artists appeared on Easter Monday: The Donatos, one-legged clowns; Miss Hettie Lee, serio and dancer; Mr. George Prince, vocal comedian; McCann's leaping dogs; Miss Flo. Wood, burlesque actress; Gray and Welford, comedians; Mr. Harry Zetter, comedian; and Pallister's Pictures.

Albert Hall.—West's popular animated picture entertainment, "Our Navy and Army," under the management of Mr. Richardson, is paying a return visit here, to the delight and instruction of large audiences.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—Empire Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Owners, The Southend Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company is drawing large audiences in *Oliver Twist*. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering gives a fine portrayal of Fagin; Sikes is represented by Mr. William H. Kemble with dramatic force; Mr. Charlie Clark as the Artful Dodger, and Mr. R. C. Hunter as Charlie Bates, respectively act exceedingly well. Miss Edith Anton Laing as Nancy, a clever actress, takes a difficult part with marked success; and Miss Dorothy Marsdin in the title-rôle is in every way an actress of resource and ability.

Pier Pavilion.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. H. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—The Easter attraction here is provided by Mr. Harry Reynolds, who, with his celebrated minstrel troupe, is presenting a really first-class entertainment. Part I. is devoted to coon and humorous songs, ballads, and vocal marches, the patter being of the best, and is concluded with the screamingly funny absurdity entitled *The Rival Telephones*, Messrs. Harry Reynolds, Gavin Wood, and Dick Tubb being the exponents. In Part II. the Two Monetas (Harry and Carl) please immensely in their famous acrobatic speciality; the Alabama Quartette sing glees in creditable style; Mr. Harry Reynolds creates merriment in his oration, "I am here for that purpose"; Mr. Dick Tubb is a quaint comedian and burlesque actor; Mr. Norman Russell wins favour in his musical act; Mr. Wallie Scott is a speciality dancer; Messrs. Chas. Wiles and T. Kelly introduce a novel speciality; and Messrs. Harry Moneta, Wallie Scott, and Carl Moneta are heard to advantage in their plantation scena, *Essence of Old Virginny*. The capital entertainment terminates nightly with a humorous sketch.

The Kursaal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Enormous attractions are provided here for the holiday week. In the Hippodrome, which is under the direction of Mr. Dave Hyman, the Indian Hercules causes quite a sensation with his weight-lifting; Clivetta is a clever Continental juggler; a refined musical act is given by the Gartell Trio; Clown Holder and his well-trained canine troupe are interesting; and Zarinella is a wonderful contortionist. In the Variety Theatre some good talent is displayed, those contributing being Miss May Tyler, a dainty dancer; Miss Lena Willard, coon singer; Miss Nellie Navette, comedienne and danseuse, who is a great favourite; the Lyric Quartette, with glees; Jack Sheppard, a handcuff king; and Little Zola, who pleases immensely with his songs and patter. Other attractions of considerable interest are Mrs. Steve Cooke's famous Cosmorama; Mons. Fredericks, card manipulator; Princess Gooma and her Amazon Warriors, including the great Fire King; entertainments in the Café Chantant; dancing, and pictures on the Bioscope.

SOUTHPORT.—Opera House and Winter Gardens.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. George Dance's premier company in the brilliant musical comedy *The Duchess of Dantzic*, has furnished an entertainment for the Easter holidays of more than usual attractiveness, crowded audiences being the rule. The principal part of Sans Gêne was cleverly and artistically depicted by Miss May Glenn. Mr. Arthur Paterson gave a fine display of comedy in the part of Papillon the Pedlar, which he portrayed with rich humour; the Vicomte de Bethune was capitally impersonated by Mr. J. H. Gold

Kaufmann. As Capt. Hustle Mr. Mark Practice provided plenty of fun, as did also Mr. B. Leighton as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox. Miss Edith Claris as Susan Scrubbs, Miss Lily Seymour as Rebecca Gentle, and Mr. Chas. H. Burns as Hans Winklepump completed the cast.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Visitors to this theatre on Monday were delighted by the performance of *Facing the Music*, by Miss Dorothy Casey's company. Mr. Wentworth Fane made a typical Rev. John Smith; Mr. Charles Windermere as the other Mr. John Smith kept the house in a continuous roar of laughter; Mr. Harry Averell as Dick Desmond played with spirit and humour; Mr. J. Knox Orde was a capable Col. Duncan Smith, and Mr. Henry Nelson a good Sergeant Duffell. Miss Claro Manifield made a vivacious and interesting Mabel; as Nora Miss Dorothy Casey proved herself an actress of ability; and Miss Mildred Hodson as Miss Fotheringay and Miss Evelyn Shelly as Mrs. Ponting contributed to the success. *Clause Number Six* preceded.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie.—Mr. Fred Jarman's company is appearing in the sensational drama depicting Russian life, entitled *Under the Czar*. Mr. James Hare undertakes the character of the persecuted Nicholas Yerosleff, the chief of the Russian police. Mr. J. Leicester and Mr. W. H. Riley score heavily in the parts of Egar Gregorovitch and Zakhar Kovesky. Mr. Louis Weston as Paul Ignat, a genial landlord, and Mr. Lawrence Brien as Alexis Petroff, a professor of medicine, are responsible for the chief comedy element, and receive assistance from Miss Linda Riley. Miss Poppy Carewe, as the Zara Bhura, a Kirkese gipsy, appears to advantage. Miss Cathleen Cavanagh, in the leading rôle of Sonia Gregorovitch, gives a very fine impersonation of a true-hearted Russian girl.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—On Monday Mr. E. Lockwood's company in *Sergeant Brue*, under the direction of Mr. P. McLeod Foster, made its appearance here. Mr. Arthur Reynolds in the title-rôle was excellent, and kept the audience in a continual state of merriment. Mr. Percy Rogers sang and acted exceedingly well as Michael Brue; Mr. Charles McLagan was highly amusing as Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. Arthur Stroud was well suited as Gerald Treherne, and Mr. Henry Chichester made a capital Mr. Crank. Miss Lily Lingard (Lady Bickenhall), Miss Eva Weigh (Aurora Brue), Miss Eliza Earle (Daisy), and Miss Aileen Macdonald (Mabel Widget) were all good. The chorus and augmented orchestra under the bâton of Mr. Norman Lathom rendered excellent service.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Parnell.—An attractive programme here this week includes the Smythsons, who are creating roars of laughter with their sketch *The Lie Alarm*. Mr. Harry Taft wins laughter and applause with his songs, patter, and whistling; and other capital turns are contributed by Mr. James Newry (comedian), Miss Marie Dane (vocalist), Mr. George Edney (character-vocalist), Fredrica's dogs and pony; Mr. Harry Bent (vocalist and mimic), Ray and Miles (comic jugglers), and Craig, Rose, and Craig (gymnasts).

STOCKPORT.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—A packed audience on Monday accorded a reception of the heartiest character to Mr. Frank Lindo and company in *Home, Sweet Home*. The author, Mr. Frank Lindo, gave a powerful impersonation of Stephen Armitage, Mr. J. W. Henson's portrayal of David Armitage was a realistic one, the Duke of Ancaster was made a thoroughly pleasing character in the hands of Capt. Gerald Gambier, Lucas Lyle (the villain) was played to perfection by Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Mr. George Overs performed impressively as Dick Redmayne, and as Joan Miss Marian Wakeford acted sympathetically.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, the Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Black.—The Six Æolians, in their pleasing and clever comedy and vocal act, head the bill. Among others are the mirth-provoking stump orator Billy Richardson; Barney Vox, whose ventriloquial entertainment is amusing; the Sisters Selwyn, captivating vocalists and dancers; Florence Ellis, vocalist; E. J. Wilkes, comedian, and his cleverly-trained dog Woof; Charles Milner, eccentric comedian; and Marguerite Ismay and her "peerless picaninnies."

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—The historical and romantic drama entitled *Napoleon the Great*, is here this week. An effective Napoleon is Mr. Hugh Montgomery; whilst the author of the play, Mr. Frank Thorne, is seen to advantage as Pierre Pomponnet. The other parts are well sustained.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Austin and Cowan, Australian vocalists, top the bill here, and sing well; Barton and Ashley make a great hit in *Canal-Boat Sal*; the Mayvilles are clever novelty artists. James de Voye's horse Billy is a well-trained animal; Bennett and Martell appear in their successful sketch *The Shipwreckers*; J. W. Bray (vocalist), Lily Morris (comedienne), and Bert Woodward (cycling coon) complete an attractive programme.

HIPPODROME THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. William Ainsworth. — John Marx, the modern Hercules, heads the bill at this hall, and performs marvellous feats of strength; Arthur Kenny, described as the world's wonder on wheels, does some clever tricks; Agnese and Arthur Lynch, with their picture songs, take well; the Llewelyns, operatic artists, are well received; and the Wallys, jugglers; George Daunton, vocalist; Lily Wright, dancer; and Andie Caine, comedian, are included in a fine programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—A packed house on Monday greeted Chas. Fisher's Pocket Opera Company in their selections from grand opera, which were admirably sang and much appreciated; the Pender Troupe, in their absurdity, *Hands Up*, are exceedingly amusing; the Continental stilt-walkers provide a turn of much interest; Chas. Tempest is a comedian of merit, his songs being rendered in a manner which was truly artistic; Ida Fair sings her songs with taste, and is much appreciated; Kioto as a balancer has but few rivals, several of his feats being most exceptional; Lee and Arden in the sketch, *The Scotchman in London*, are capital; Wake and Dean, in their patter turn, are above the average; and the pictures are quite a feature in the programme.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is appearing here this week in *Sunday*. Miss Emelie Polini has plenty of scope for her abilities in the title-rôle, which she plays in excellent style; as the boys, Messrs. William Lockhart, Sydney Rennef, T. Norman Walker, and Arthur Vezin could scarcely be improved upon; Mr. Leonard Pagden makes the most of his opportunities as Colonel Brinthorpe; and the Tom Oxley of Mr. Ernest A. Douglas leaves little to be desired. Miss Rosalind Ross is a pleasing Mrs. Naresby, and Miss Muriel Pope is seen to advantage as the nun.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company with the play *In Holy (?) Russia* is here. Mr. Tom G. Warry gives an admirable rendering of Count Gregori Petrolski; Mr. Carl Rovinelli acts with power as Laurice Steragoff; Michael Natolski finds an apt exponent in Mr. Louis Norman, and Mr. Arthur Stratton is a clever Col. Richard Forrest; Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy is a capital Renee Rubinoff, and Miss Beatrice Western scores as Catska Lavotski. Miss Evie Norman is a pleasing Natalie Natolski.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. John H. Stringer; Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Browne.—Florrie Forde, the popular burlesque actress, received a hearty welcome on Monday, when Mr. Sidney Bacon's combination in an exciting episode, entitled *The Maniac*, with Mr. Melville Bickford as Nathan Black, proved to be most interesting. Horton and Linder (in a bar act), Annie Laurie (comedienne), Bliss and Bliss (comedians), Russell Wallett (a clever comedian, billed as "The Lady in Black"), Speedwell (portrait painter), the Wedburns (comedians), and Vernon's animated pictures are also attractions of the programme.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Clayton; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The holiday attraction here is Mr. Henry Bedford and company in *Gipsy Jack*. In the title-rôle Mr. Bedford plays in good style. The cast, which is a large one, is well chosen, and those who call for special mention are Mr. Alex Alexander as Gerald Skinner; Mr. Walter H. Domoney as Mr. Skinner; Mr. Cecil B. Churton whose impersonation of the Rev. Francis Harvey is a good piece of work; Mr. Sid Bedford, who is well suited as Joe Banks; and Miss Bessie Bedford, who plays in pleasant fashion as May Harvey.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. George Dance's *The Cingalee* company, under the business direction of Mr. W. Wright, commenced its first visit to this town on Monday. High honours must be awarded to Miss Edith Harmer, who plays the part of Nanoya with fascinating freshness; Miss Eva Stevens undertakes the rôle of Lady Patricia with exquisite grace and finish, Mr. A. Wortley Drewitt as Harry Vereker scores an unqualified success, and Mr. F. Sutton deserves much credit as Boobhamba. Mr. Scott Cullen is seen to advantage as Bobby Warren, and Mr. Eric Fenton is effective as Sir Peter Loftus. A prominent feature of the piece is undoubtedly Mr. Tom Payne, a comedian of remarkable versatility, who is great as Chambhuddy-Ram, and with the support of Miss Minnie Muir, most pleasing as Peggy, he keeps the audience in roars of laughter. Miss Cynthia Norman as Angy Loftus also deserves special mention for her graceful dances.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—*The Lady of Ostend*, played by Mr. Lawrence Brough's excellent company, was the Bank Holiday attraction. Mr. Brough's impersonation of the Baron is as successful as ever. Mr. Henry Hampson furnishes a humorous study of Whortles, and Mr. Charles Groves, jun., scores as the father-in-law; while Mr. James Skea as Tobie Crockitt keeps the audience fully amused; Mr. Harold M. M'Nay as the manager of the cinematograph, Mr. H. Douglas as Thompson, the clerk in Whortles' office, and Mr. Hewson Elliott as the butler, all contribute their share to the fun of the evening in a very able manner. Miss Daisy Cook is a charming impersonator of the title-rôle; Miss Molly Tremaine displays much excellent comedy as the maid; while special praise is due to Miss Kathleen Coleman, who as Mrs. Whortles is admirable, and to Miss Dorcas Corsbie, who makes the most of the mother-in-law; Miss Edith Ormonde also gives a successful study of the niece.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—This popular North-East Coast resort re-opened for a ten days' season on Good Friday. On Monday night, when the vast auditorium was filled to its utmost capacity, Salida and Vone, American Rag-time dancers and coon vocalists, contributed an excellent turn; the Cumberland Troupe of trick cyclists performed some remarkably smart feats; Alberto, magician, caused much amusement; Richardson Taylor proved to be a versatile entertainer; the Haydn Opera Singers pleased in their various items; and the Royal Roumanian Band pleased with their selections. In addition there is an up-to-date show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—This week's attraction is furnished by Mr. Morris Prendergast's company in the drama *A Woman of Pleasure*. Lord Carlingforth is well interpreted by Mr. Jerrold Ord; Mr. H. T. Wood is good as Rev. Luke Goddard; Mr. Fred Norbury is successful as Commandant Deuch; Mr. Arthur Gilroy gives a manly rendering as Major Burrows; and Mr. Deane Cliffe is capable as Bobby Bumpwell. Miss Theo Henries depicts with taste and ability the rôle of the Countess of Carlingforth; Miss Carlotta Blanche is well placed as Mrs. Bumpwell; and Miss Dolly Gilroy is chic as Dolly Dimple.

HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Mr. Charles Dillon, comedian, makes a hit; the Rizareiles are a couple of clever juvenile gymnasts; Geo. Bernard, character-vocalist, sings well; the Summersons (Will and Maggie), comedy duettists, cause merriment; Nelson and Thomas, sketch artists; the Sisters Stratton, duettists; and Vivian Dell all merit appreciation; and the Ruars are smart in an acrobatic turn.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. R. A. Roberts, the clever protean actor, in his self-sustained sketch, *Dick Turpin*, is an undeniable attraction; Lily Esplin, comedy artist, is charming; and Fred Bronte, actor-vocalist, is smart. The Reed-Oetzmann Troupe; Kate Traill, with song at the piano; the Two Hiltons, in a horizontal bar act; the White Mahatmas, in their second-sight act; and some interesting pictures, are other attractions.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood. — This week Miss Emma Litchfield's company, under the direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland, occupy the boards with the drama, *A London Actress*. Mr. John C. Carlyle gives a capital portrayal of Sergeant-Major Crawford; Mr. Arthur F. Dudley does well as Lieutenant Kingstone; Captain Mannering has a clever representative in Mr. George H. Doyle; Mr. John Hitchins makes a comical Pat Maloney; Miss Maud Steeples ably enacts the part of Phyllis Crawford; and Miss Emma Litchfield gives a fine portrayal of Hilda Mannering.

WALTHAMSTOW. — KING'S THEATRE. — The holiday season here was celebrated by the production of a merry little pantomime on the subject of *Jack the Giant Killer*, performed by a clever company gathered together by Mr. H. A. Langlois. Mr. John Maxwell looks imposing as King Go-Easy, speaks his lines with commendable distinctness, and sings well; a very popular character is that of the Widow, played with much humour by Mr. E. C. Matthews, who may be said to make a speciality of the distressed mothers and widows of pantomime; Mr. T. May is alert and amusing as Buttons, contributing not a little to the fun of the piece; Miss Amy Robson is bright and merry as Jack, looking well and acting with point; Princess Blushrose has a charming exponent in Miss Georgina Oliver; Miss Julia Gwynne is a good Prince Racket and Miss Doll Bell very fetching as Charley Cholmondeley; Miss Mary Poole is a handsome and clever Titania, and Mr. H. A. Langlois throws a great deal of humour into the "big" part of the play, Giant Blunderbore. Other parts are sustained by Messrs. Geo. Francis and Ed. Leigh; Miss Nell Dalton, Susan Granby, Dora Morgan, and Jeannie Lawson.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—A capital bill of fare was provided by Mr. Potter for his holiday patrons, and on Monday evening a full house received with every sign of approval and enjoyment the excellent performance of *The Earl and the Girl*, given by Mr. William Greet's company. Mr. Alfred Donohoe is amusing as the dog trainer Jim Cheese; Mr. Leslie Gaze plays well as Dick Hargreave, and renders his songs with taste; Mr. Thomas Kennard does well as the Hon. Crewe Boodle; and Mr. Greville Hayes as A. Bunker Bliss, Mr. Percy Bronson as the voluble American solicitor Downham, and Mr. Sam Lysons as Mr. Talk, all give excellent contributions. Miss Hylda Dugdale is a dainty and charming Elphin Haye; an excellent character sketch of Liza Shoddam is given by Miss Lina Hicks; and Miss Beatrice Anderson is imposing and appropriate as the strong lady Mrs. Shimmering Black. Miss Ida Stratham is chic and engaging as Daisy Fallowfield. The augmented orchestra and chorus under the direction of Mr. W. Stephenson do commendable work.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Arthur Milton, who is one of the most popular of comedians with Warrington audiences, is a great attraction at the Scotland-road house; Luigo's Sextette Serenaders also make a big hit; and capital turns are supplied by Fred Horsfall, comedian; Maxford and Cheil, patterers; Nora Hildon, comedienne; Gus Garrick, comedian; Three Symons, jugglers and gymnasts; and the Royal Bioscope pictures.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Mr. Gus Levaine's and Clayton's comic pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, is attracting crowded houses here. The part of Robin Hood is ably rendered by Miss Jessie Lindsay; as Maid Marion, Miss Lizzie Levaine leaves little to be desired; excellent comedy is contributed by Mr. Fred Fosco, and Mr. Dave Anderson, as the two robbers, Weary Willie and Tired Tim. The Babes are artistically portrayed by Miss Lilly Belle and Miss Madge Bingham; Miss Kate Travers makes an ideal Fairy, her songs being received with enthusiasm; the specialities include, Percy Victor's wonderful dog orchestra; Mons. Foxo, harmonicaphist; the Valmores, in their vocal and sand-dancing performance; the Ruby Quartette of lady dancers; and Eddie Clay, American tramp musician.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Julian Malvern's powerful company opened here on Monday with the drama *I Defy the World*, under the direction of Mr. Chas. M. Julian, who gave a fine representation of the part of Samuel Wozzle. Mr. Lewis Gilbert was well received in the character of Leon Darville, Mr. Horace Booth did well as Count de Beaulien, as did Mr. Charles Conway as Laroche; Miss Trixie St. Albans was all that could be desired as Pauline Delaporte; the Marie Wozzle of Miss Maude Lilian was ably portrayed; Miss Maude Malvern gave a clever embodiment of Blanche Darville.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company, in *The Prodigal Parson*, is the attraction this week. Mr. W. V. Garrod fills the title-rôle with conspicuous ability; Miss Bertha Kingston sympathetically portrays the character of the heroine; Miss Gladys Conover as the little blind daughter is winning; in the heavy work, Mr. Fred Northway and Mr. Frank Dallas show themselves to be competent actors; and Miss May Grayce quickly wins her way to favour as a German lady. Mr. A. W. Avery brightens the play with his humour; and a pleasant diversion is given by the Radium Girls (dancers).

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies are delighting crowded audiences; Wallau is enjoying immense popularity in his juggling; Chas. Faning's turn is distinctly funny; Jock Walker's Scotch humour is highly appreciated; Frances Drew contributes popular songs; Raymond's Biotableaux are particularly attractive; the Albano Troupe of instrumentalists give an enjoyable show; and other acceptable turns are contributed by T. W. Royal (clog dancer) and Johnny Walker (comedian).

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—This week Mr. Charles Otley's company is here in *Our Boys* and *Caste*. The former piece was presented on Monday. Mr. Charles Otley as Perkyn Middlewick gave a highly artistic and extremely humorous interpretation; Mr. F. Stuart Willson was successful as Sir Geoffrey Champneys; Mr. William Allison was a praiseworthy Talbot Champneys; and Mr. Herbert Robinson was decidedly good as Charles Middlewick. Miss Ethel Verne did well as Violet Melrose; Miss Edith Heron Brown made a delightful Mary Melrose; as Clarissa Champneys Miss Amy Coleman did excellent work; Belinda found a droll exponent in Miss Maria Jonquil.

WIDNES.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. James Kiddie.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company with *A Royal Divorce* is the Easter attraction. Mr. Frederick Moyes gives again his famous delineation of the Emperor Napoleon, Mr. H. Gray Dolby is an excellent Talleyrand, Mr. Henry Ludlow does good work as the Marquis de Beaumont, and Mr. C. Lionel Brocknor is admirable as General Augereau. The Marshal Murat of Mr. P. W. Ford is a virile piece of acting, Mr. Dennis Bryan handles the part of Grimaud very well indeed, and Mr. Charles Stanley draws a vivid portrayal of the ill-fated Ney. Miss Lilian Dundas, although suffering from a severe cold, acts sympathetically as the Empress Josephine, and Miss Muriel Thompson as Marie Louise is decidedly impressive.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—A capital holiday attraction has been furnished by Mr. Frank Bertram's powerful company, in the romantic drama, *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Henry Belding plays the part of Lieutenant Reresby with considerable dash and humour; and, as Colonel Hungerford, Mr. Hamilton Deane portrays the characteristics of the "villain" of the piece with exceptional ability. Mr. M. Wetherell as Captain Stanhope, and Mr. Wilson Blake as Captain Rashleigh, give admirable representations in their respective rôles; and Mr. Cecil Klein is an excellent exponent of Cornet Tresham. Margaret Hungerford is ably impersonated by Miss Florence Tressillian; and Miss Celestine Bertram assumes the male part of Batty with *naïveté* and personal charm.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Selma Braatz is a lady juggler who performs her marvellous feats with great neatness and dexterity; and Henri Bekker, illusionist, displays the art of conjuring in a very pleasing form. The D'Arcs Marionettes are cleverly made to represent the chief artists on the music hall stage; and other capital turns are furnished by Tom Moy, Lancashire comedian; Emma Don and company, in a musical mélange; Kloof and Ramsay, in a musical novelty burlesque; Minnie Fenton, Scots comedienne and dancer; the O'Learys, burlesque comedians; and the Brothers Obo, laughing comedians, &c.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival. —Mr. Cyril Maude's company is this week appearing here in *Beauty and the Barge*. The piece is admirably played. Mr. Harry Ashford is particularly good, and quaintly funny as Captain James Barley; Mr. Percival Knight gives an excellent interpretation as Lieut. Boyne; Mr. Percy Marmont does well as Herbert Manners; Mr. Walter Pemberton is a vigorous and capable Major Smedley; and Mr. J. Wheatman is a capital John Dibbs. As Ethel Smedley Miss May Fairclough is smart and vivacious; Miss Mary Pemberton is a pleasing Lucy Dallas; and Miss Mary Griffiths gives a clever portrayal as Mrs. Baldwin. The play is preceded by *That Brute Simmons*, in which Messrs. J. Wheatman and Fred Paul and Miss Harriet Trench are seen to advantage.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—The holiday attractions at this house consist of the two little friends, L'Homme Miniature and the Young Colossus; Billy McClean's coloured sextette in *The Hottest Coon in Dixie*; Duncan and Godfrey in their coster act; Florence Watson, comedienne; Fred Curran, vocal comedian; Fred Cullane's comedy trio, in *The Lady's School*; Barratt and Knowles, comedians; and the Bros. Durant, gymnasts.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—For many years known as the Prince of Wales's Theatre, afterwards as the Star Theatre, the Bilston-street establishment, after the fire there many months ago, has now been rebuilt and reconstructed, and was opened as a variety house of entertainment under the above title on Easter Monday. The week's programme includes Captain Max Gruber's elephant, horse, and pony; Charles Ulrick, barrel manipulator; Fred Nieman, ventriloquist; Lieut. Charde's canine circus; Arthur Croxon, humorous entertainer; Lilian Barry, vocalist; Orpheus, instrumentalist; Arabella Allen, the Dickens girl; Creo Bros., acrobatic comedians; and the Hippodrome pictures.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—*The Executioner's Daughter* is proving attractive to holiday folk this week. Miss Isa Grant in the title-rôle achieves artistic success, and as the girl's father Mr. Duncan Bell provides a clever character-study. Mr. W. S. Stevenson is admirably suited as Kretch; and two capable impersonations are Mr. Julian di Alberte's Felix Marius and Mr. Stapleton's Vivian Ormonde; Miss Beatrice Moore is a pathetic figure as Christina, and Miss Evelyn Robson makes the unpleasant part of Felice a strong one. Paul Robel, in the hands of Mr. Victor R. C. Moore, is a strong part; and the comic element is capably provided by Miss May Rosine and Mr. Willie Hicks as Sally King and Tom Helmes respectively.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday Mr. Harry Starr's company presented *Otto the Outcast* to a crowded house. Mr. Starr was given an enthusiastic reception in the title rôle, playing with his usual ability; Mr. D. Cowell Clarke proved excellent as the villain, Mr. E. Firth was good as the detective. Mr. F. W. Graham as Carrotte was humorous, and he was well partnered by Miss Elia Crossley as Susette, and Miss Katie Norris was sympathetic as Lara. As Corinne Miss Madge Blundell gave a strong delineation.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—*Old Heidelberg* is being presented here this week, and was thoroughly appreciated by a crowded house on Monday. Mr. Robert Minster is excellent as Karl Heinrich, as is Mr. J. Nelson Ramsay as Dr. Juttner; Mr. Lionel Gadsden deserves special commendation as Lutz; Mr. A. M. Moore is diverting as Ruder, and is ably assisted by Miss Rose Helene as Frau Ruder; Miss Irene Lavington leaves nothing to be desired as Kathie. The remaining characters are well placed.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This hall was re-opened on Easter Monday, after being closed for three weeks for re-decoration. The chief attraction was Mr. Tom Herman's naval and military spectacle *Defending the Colours*. Alec Kendal, comedian, made a welcome reappearance, and Dene and Dawson, in their comedy skit *Stage Aspirants*, and Miss Lillie Coleman, comedienne, did well. The animated tableaux still prove an attractive feature.

YORK.—OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Sidney Brooke.—This week the company is the strongest seen here for a long time. The Selbinis head the bill, and their reception is most cordial. Charley Harvey is a comedian whose humour is never forced, and is therefore all the more acceptable; Lilian and Vera are expert rifle shots; Carr and Rose in their sketch are clever; some amusing business is indulged in by the American Comedy Four, and Mlle. Leola, a dainty lady juggler, never fails to please. Little Ada and the Bioscope are also in the programme.

BELFAST EASTER PANTOMIME.

On Saturday, April 14,
the Pantomime, Libretto by Edward Marris
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Belfast,
entitled,
"DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT."

Dick Whittington ..... MISS HARRIETT FAWN
Thomas, the Cat ..... MR. TOM GILMORE
Alderman Fitzwarren ..... MR. FRED ACTON
Alice ..... MISS WINIFRED PREECE
Julia ..... MR. WALTER NUGENT
Captain Kettle ..... MR. FRED O'MALLEY
Ben Bobstay ..... MR. BILL BROWN
Lieut. Mainbrace ..... MISS ELVIRA VINCENT
Polly Perkins ..... MISS LOTTIE VINCENT
Muley Ben Whac ..... MR. HERBERT PEARCE
Princess Dainty ..... MISS MARIE GERRARD
Idle Jack ..... MR. NEIL KENYON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On Saturday, Mr. Fred W. Warden, in conjunction with Mr. Edward Marris, produced his annual Easter pantomime, and, judging by the reception accorded by an ever-critical Belfast public, a decided success has been achieved. The book is by Mr. Edward Marris (who, it appears, is also responsible for the lyrics), and, while it is true that very few local topics have been introduced, yet it must be conceded that the dialogue is very smartly written. The plot is on the traditional lines, and all of course ends happily for the hero and heroine. The music, which is most delightful, has been arranged by the talented and gifted resident musical conductor, Mr. Samuel P. Swanton, and the various catchy songs introduced, especially "I've built a bamboo bungalow," will soon be heard all over the city. The costumes, by Baruch and Co., Mme Marie Beck, &c., won much admiration; and the scenery, by Mr. William Wells, Mr. Thos. Holmer, Mr. W. F. Robson, and Mr. G. Jansen, is certainly beautiful. The nine scenes represented are Outside Fitzwarren's Shop, Interior of Fitzwarren's Shop, On the Road to Highgate, Highgate Hill, On Board the Lively Polly, The Valley of Palms, The Emperor's Harem, Street on the Way to Guildhall, and The Guildhall Gardens, London. As usual, Mr. Warden has been fortunate in securing a capital cast, and in engaging the services of that well-known Scotch comedian Mr. Neil Kenyon he has displayed excellent perspicacity. It is not too much to say that Mr. Kenyon in the rôle of Idle Jack is *the* premier success of the pantomime, being the life and soul of every scene in which he appeared. Whether in song or story, Mr. Kenyon is simply irresistible, his comedy, which is always humorous, but never obtrusive, having the faculty of keeping the audience in perfect shrieks of merriment. He sang a number of songs which were repeatedly encored. Mr. Kenyon must be heartily congratulated on his success. In the title-rôle, Miss Harriett Fawn was dashing and accomplished, acting with much spirit. She sang "Riding on top of the car," receiving a double encore, and was no less successful with "My Irish Lily" and "Good-bye, good old London Town." Miss Winifred Preece is a dainty and bewitching principal girl, and in the part of Alice she won all hearts with her charming interpretation. Her songs, "A cup of tea," and "I've built a bamboo bungalow," took well; but perhaps the greatest song hit was Miss Florrie Gallimore's catchy item, "Remember me to mother dear," which was loudly redemanded. Possibly the most accomplished vocalist in the whole pantomime is Miss Mary Gerrard, who was a beautiful Princess Dainty, and received a well-merited encore for her rendering of "You must guess, little boy." Much praise is due to Mr. Fred Acton, who, by his humorous acting, contrived to keep the fun going merrily as Alderman Fitzwarren, and in the comic duet, "Good-bye," with Mr. Walter Nugent, he made a hit. Mr. Walter Nugent had a difficult rôle to sustain as Julia, the cook, and must be complimented on his unexaggerated impersonation. Messrs. Fred O'Malley and Billy Brown were a jovial Captain Kettle and Ben Bobstay, creating much merriment with their funny patter and original business. Their songs and dances won a capital reception. Miss Elvira Vincent and Miss Lottie Vincent were captivating and exceedingly attractive as Lieutenant Mainbrace and Lieutenant Turner. Their duet, "Rufus Brown," and smart dancing, gained the heartiest approval. Mr. Herbert Pearce had little to do as the Emperor of Morocco, but acquitted himself well; and no one could desire a better impersonation of the cat than Mr. Tom Gilmore's. Among the specialities may be mentioned the Lohrenz Quartette of dancers, whose fine exhibition was received with enthusiasm. The Thalian Glee Singers sing in excellent taste, and one would fain hear more of their vocal efforts. Too much praise cannot be accorded Mr. Fred W. Warden (managing-director of the Royal) for his indefatigable efforts to make the pantomime a success.

THE Duke and Duchess of Connaught were present at the Vaudeville Theatre on Tuesday, and witnessed the performance of *The Belle of Mayfair*.

MR. CHARLES HYLAND, the indefatigable manager of the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, was accorded a complimentary benefit on Saturday, when the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. A feature of the excellent programme was the appearance of Mrs. Michael Gunn, so long associated with dramatic achievements in Dublin, who sang "Dinah Doe" and won an undeniable encore. Mr. Barton McGuckin was similarly honoured for "The Minstrel Boy," and the programme also included, among other items, the performance by the members of a literary and dramatic society of the drama *In the Eyes of the World*. Mr. Hyland received a warm welcome when he came forward to thank the audience, the artists, and the directors, whose lease, he reminded his hearers, terminates in a few weeks' time, when the theatre would go back to Mrs. Gunn. It was, he supposed, not much of a secret that he was to remain on the bridge and help to navigate the good ship Gaiety into the Port of Success, where she had been running with fair winds and good weather since her launch some thirty years ago, and he was hopeful of the same prosperity attending them in the future as in the past.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN.—THURSDAY, April 19.—*Die Jagd Um's Leben*, a "free adaptation," in eight scenes, by MM. Fox and Gradl, *of Sherlock Holmes*, was produced at the Carl Weiss on Sunday. It was just the right kind of entertainment for a Carl Weiss audience on a holiday night, and the adventures of the famous English detective—played by Herr Stuenkel—kept the hearers spellbound. The incidental music is pretty and effective, and the cast was a good all-round one. The piece was received with the utmost cordiality, and is filling the bill this week to the exclusion of all else.

THE Schliersee company have removed from the New Royal Opera to the Berliner Theatre, where they will remain for a fortnight. The clever artists have produced several novelties already, the piece which has caught on most being a farcical volks-play, entitled *In der Sommerfrisch'n*, by Herren Rauchenegger and Conrad Dreher. It was produced on Easter Sunday, and the crowded house received it with enthusiastic applause. The chief rôle was taken by Herr Terofal, the star of the company, and he had every opportunity for displaying his inimitable humour. He has the part of a city man, who, in his holidays, raves about the country to such an extent that he imitates the Tyrolean mountaineers in every particular; he wears their costume, jodels, attempts their wooden-shoe dances, and makes himself generally ridiculous. There are many such persons, be it said, in Germany; the case is a parallel one to that of a "schwärmerisch" cockney in the Highlands, and the idea—in a farce—is provocative of much fun. The artists and authors were applauded to the echo. Herr Dreher is, by the way, manager of the company, and has been frequently signalled out by the Kaiser for special honours.

A SECOND novelty of the Schlierseers was the four-act volks-play *Der Chinakrieger*, by Herren Neuert and Lauris. This, too, met with a very cordial reception, Herr Terofal taking the name-part—the "warrior" from China. The hero is a Tyrolean Munchausen; his deeds of prowess exist only in his imagination, but he succeeds in making them accepted by his countrymen. Ferdl, a knife-grinder by trade, is a very good fellow, in spite of his flights of fancy, and the rôle is a grateful one. Another new piece is announced for the end of the week, of a serious character this time.

AT the Royal Schauspielhaus Ernst von Wildenbruch's patriotic play *Die Quitzows* has been revived. It is a somewhat heavy work for the hot days we have been favoured with, but the Berlin people love historical pieces—dealing, *nota bene*, with their own history—and this is powerfully written and full of multi-coloured scenes. It was well acted and much applauded.

"HILLE BOBBE" is the name of a new one-act comedy, produced with good results at the Kleines Theatre last week. The author is a Swede, Herr Adolf Paul, but he lives in Berlin, and writes in German. The plot is risky, and not to everyone's taste, while the language descends to the verge of coarseness at times; but the amusing "situations" provoked a good deal of laughter. Frau Hille, nicknamed "Hille Bobbe," is a Dutch woman, whose daughter was lady's maid to Frau Pletchikoff—a resident in a Russian provincial town. The maid died, and as it was her great wish to be buried in her native country, Herr and Frau Pletchikoff send the corpse by a friend—Marmeladoff—who is willing (his expenses being liberally paid) to take charge of it. Arrived in Petersburg, Marmeladoff spends all the money in the fascinations of the metropolis, and sells the corpse to the "Anatomie" to pay his hotel bill. To pacify the m

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE WALDORF.

On Saturday, April 14,
Revival of the Comedy, in Four Acts,
by Robert Marshall, entitled
"THE SECOND IN COMMAND."

Lieut.-Col. Miles Anstruther, D.S.O. ..... Mr. Eille Norwood
Major Christopher Bingham ..... Mr. Cyril Maude
Lieut. Sir Walter Mannering ..... Mr. G. M. Graham
Lieut. Peter Barker ..... Mr. Chas. Maude
Medenham ..... Mr. King Fordham
Hartopp ..... Mr. Ralph McKie
Sergeant ..... Mr. Owen
Corporal ..... Mr. H. Cannon George
Orderly ..... Mr. Edmund Lea
Mr. Fenwick ..... Mr. F. Percival Stevens
Hon. Hildebrand Carstairs ..... Mr. A. Vane Tempest
The Duke of Hull ..... Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton
Muriel Mannering ..... Miss Sybil Carlisle
Lady Harburgh ..... Miss Ada Ferrar
Norah Vining ..... Miss Madge Titheradge

All the enthusiasm of a first-night was manifested at the Waldorf on Saturday, when a crowded house welcomed Mr. Cyril Maude in a character with which his later fame is intimately associated. Captain Marshall's comedy, the long run of which, on its original production at the Haymarket, in the autumn of 1900, was not sufficiently extended to satisfy popular appreciation, is an admirable example of the brilliant author's dramatic gifts. Sparkling with gems of humour, it possesses also a story of sentiment which provokes unceasing interest, and the approval of the audience on Saturday was expressed in hearty cheers, which necessitated the raising of each act-drop half-a-dozen times. Mr. Cyril Maude, who received an ovation at the first rising of the curtain, acted in his sunniest style as Major Christopher Bingham, whose ill-success in love has a certain compensation by his triumph in war. The happy faculty possessed by the actor of investing every line with humorous significance is agreeably evident in his impersonation of the generous-hearted "Binks," and every phase of humour in a deliciously droll conception was followed with endless mirth, except when an occasional touch of pathos brought the audience into complete sympathy. With four important exceptions, the cast of the present revival is entirely different to that of the original production. One of those happily retained is Mr. A. Vane Tempest, who, by the conclusion of the run of *Captain Drew on Leave*, is enabled to repeat his unconsciously funny embodiment of the Hon. Hildebrand Carstairs. Mr. Tempest is one of the two mirth-moving figures of the piece, and commands laughter whenever he is present. His humour is of the passive rather than the active description, but there is a wealth of comic suggestion, and the less he seems to do as the simple-minded descendant of a line of celebrities, the more effective do his efforts become, irresistible laughter being compelled by his appearances, both as the mild son of an assertive mother, and as the meekest member of the Imperial Yeomanry. Miss Sybil Carlisle displays once again as Muriel Mannering her sterling gifts of emotional acting, made additionally impressive by a graceful carriage and a mellifluous utterance, which captivates the ears. The feelings of the young girl who awakens to a sense of her love for one man after her hand has been promised to another, and the subsequent agony with which she relinquishes her new-found happiness, are realised with a truth and fervour which charm by their refinement and finish. Mr. G. M. Graham succeeds to the part of the impulsive Lieut. Sir Walter Mannering, and gives a skilful study of the remorse-stricken young spendthrift, who has to undergo so much humiliation at one period of his career. A stalwart and dignified Lieut.-Colonel Miles Anstruther is presented in the person of Mr. Eille Norwood, who obtains quite the "Kitchener" expression in his assumption of the commanding officer, but reveals a depth of tenderness when required, and makes completely manifest the chivalry and honour that belongs to the character. Miss Ada Ferrar, who never wavers in her dignified serenity and composure in the part of Lady Harburgh, is an admirable exponent of the part, and the humour of the scene in which her sense of rectitude is so greatly shocked by the wild dissipation of her nephew Hildebrand is added to valuably by the exercise of her ripe comedy talents and excellent delivery. Miss Madge Titheradge enters thoroughly into the exposition of the part of Norah Vining, and plays with engaging vivacity and charm. Mr. H. Lawrence Leyton gives a smart and concise rendering of the Duke of Hull, acting with the dignified alertness which sets the royal seal upon it. Mr. Chas. Maude plays Lieut. Peter Barker in a dandified style, and with a dash and buoyancy that make the character agreeably conspicuous. Mr. Fenwick is neatly depicted by Mr. F. Percival Stevens, whose make-up as the moneylender is not the least of the good points which the performance contains. The two soldier servants, Medenham and Hartopp, are smartly played by Mr. King Fordham and Mr. Ralph McKie, who vary the *haut ton* of the piece by a little low comedy which is greatly appreciated. Mr. Owen supplies a characteristic impersonation of a sergeant, and with Mr. H. Cannon George as a corporal and Mr. Edmund Lea as an orderly makes the cast complete. The scenes are splendid examples of artistic skill, some exquisite blendings of colour and shading being obtained in the various sets.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 16,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Geo. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

The two little vagabonds, although they have led a comparatively long stage life, have certainly not outgrown the popularity which they won at a very early period of their existence; and their adventures are followed with intense interest by a new generation of playgoers. The marked success which attended the production at the Princess's Theatre of Messrs. George R. Sims and Arthur Shirley's adaptation of *Les Deux Gosses* is a matter of theatrical history, and during the intervening years the drama has been toured with the most profitable results through the length and breadth of the land. Its selection as the holiday attraction at the Marlborough Theatre has been quite justified by results; Hardie and von Leer's company having met with a most favourable reception from well-pleased audiences.

Miss May Hollom displays ability in her portrayal of Wally, the pale-faced, consumptive boy whose pitiable condition in the early part of the play never fails to excite the keen sympathy of the audience; and their feelings are again moved when the lad discovers that Mrs. Thornton is not his mother as he had been led to suppose. Miss D. Rosslyn Vayne as Dick also plays well as the strong, hearty boy who protects as far as possible the weakly Wally. Miss Valerie Crespin as Marion Thornton expresses the acute feelings of the wife and mother in a manner that deeply impresses the audience, her outburst of despairing grief when she finds that Wally is after all not her child being extremely natural and effective. Miss F. Russel Spiers gives valuable assistance as Barbara Scarth; and Miss Muriel Clay is good as Sister Randall. Mr. William D. Fazan is a forcible representative of George Thornton and Mr. Sidney Vautier as Captain Darville, and Mr. Dunstan Haye as John Scarth make good use of their opportunities. Mr. John F. Traynor deserves to be complimented on his capital portrait of Bill Mullins, otherwise known as "The Gaffer"; Mr. Frank Gordon supplies a clever sketch of Dido Bunce; and Mr. Fred Archer neatly hits off the characteristics of the rough who rejoices in the nickname of "The Coughdrop." Miss Marie Pritchard effectively embodies Biddy Mullins; the drunken scene being well acted. Mr. Frank G. Kent is successful in his embodiment of the soldier servant Leeson; Mr. Marston Moor, as Hargitt, landlord of the Chequers, Mr. Thomas Blakeman as Dr. Lynn, Mr. Hugh Holliman as Joe Gargoyle, a sexton; Mr. Henry Buckland as Whiffin, a village constable; Mr. W. T. Harris as a haughty footman; and Miss Lonna Vernon as a maid-servant, all contribute to the success of the performance. Mr. E. P. Clift is the general-manager for the company.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 16, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"KITTY GREY."

A decidedly popular attraction for the Easter holidays is *Kitty Grey*, and the King's has, in consequence, been satisfactorily filled each evening by wholly delighted audiences. For *Kitty Grey* is a taking musical comedy, the story being simply and pleasantly told and the music catching and tuneful. In addition to these, we have Mr. C. St. John Denton's talented and hard-working company, and it is no wonder that *Kitty Grey* continues to be one of the most successful pieces on the road. The title-rôle is rendered in excellent style by Miss Hilda Guiver, a young lady of great personal attractions, bright in manner, and the possessor of a very effective singing voice. Lord Plantagenet finds an exceedingly droll representative in Mr. H. E. Garden, who keeps the audience in rare good humour; Mr. Robert Hyett plays Sir John Binfield with any amount of assurance, and sings well; a dashing performance of the rather naughty King of Illyria is presented by Mr. Lauri Lisle; and the Comte de Trenitz is capably handled by Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft. An altogether bewitching impersonation of Lady Binfield is given by Miss Marie West, a young artist who should be heard of again, and soon. She is a distinct acquisition to the company. Mrs. Bright is a most amusingly-drawn personage by Miss Nellie Lauraine, whose song "The feeling's just the same" proves very acceptable to the house, judging from the numerous encores it receives. Highly pleasing is the Sadie de Poulson of Miss Gertrude Page. The ladies and gentlemen of the large chorus show to much advantage, and the scenery and dresses could not be bettered. The orchestra is well handled by Mr. Forbes Russell.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 16,
the Drama, by G. R. Sims, entitled
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

Mr. Robert Arthur's engagement of Mr. Herbert Hollister's company for the holiday week is proving most successful, for Mr. G. R. Sims's old drama, *The Lights o' London*, is apparently as big a favourite as ever, and its drawing powers have in no wise diminished. Miss Jeannie Burgoyne is again seen as the unhappy Bess, playing the part in a pathetic manner, and enlisting all the sympathy possible. Miss Burgoyne has played this part some hundreds of times, but her grip of the character is as firm as ever. Mr. J. Edward Pearce makes a fine, manly Harold Armytage, his vigorous manner and earnestness being admirably suited to the rôle. Seth Preene, perhaps the best-drawn character in the play, is capitally handled by Mr. Herbert Hollister, who scores a big success by his forcible acting. The scheming Clifford Armytage is admirably portrayed by Mr. Riddell Robinson, who contributes a finished piece of work. That amusing old couple, Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis, the travelling representatives of the drama, are delightfully played by Mr. W. E. Passmore and Miss Violet Temple, while their budding genius of a son, Shakespeare, is brightly depicted by Miss Gladys Murray. Mr. F. V. Lloyd makes the most of his chances as Marks, the old lodge-keeper, and Mr. Herbert Morgan does well as Squire Armytage. The voluble and lively Philosopher Jack needs no better exponent than Mr. George Wallace, and Percy De Vere as played by Mr. H. Pettitt causes much mirth. Miss Constance Davey makes an acceptable Hetty Preene, and Miss Ida Murray is good as the street arab. Mr. Tom Raymond gives a neat sketch of the Man in the Park, and Mr. Reginald Holmes is smart as the detective. The various other minor characters are without exception capably filled. The drama is well staged.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 16,
the Play, in Five Acts,
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

Mr. W. W. Kelly's company has been here this week with *A Royal Divorce*, and the crowded house which assembled here on Monday night, despite the fine weather, was a decided tribute to the reputation both of the play and of the theatre. Napoleon finds a capable representative in Mr. Frank Lister, whose rendering, while commendably conventional in bearing and gesture, is sufficiently original in conception and execution to give a powerful impression of the personality of the "Man of Destiny." Miss Edith Cole is particularly well suited as Josephine, bringing out fully the fine traits of the character, and, especially in the scenes with Napoleon, acting with great force and feeling. In the by no means easy rôle of Marie Louise, Miss Elizabeth Watson shows herself possessed of considerable histrionic ability, and is perhaps at her best in some of the more emotional passages. Miss Clara Earle makes a charming Stephanie de Beauharnais, and Miss Irma Foldi and Miss Violet Furnival ably second her as Blanche and Angelique respectively. The young King of Rome is cleverly portrayed by Miss Marian Rider, while Miss Loyale Frere makes the most of his gouvernante. A painstaking study of Talleyrand comes from Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell; Mr. George W. Cockburn gives a powerful rendering of the Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. George Howard is impressive as General Augereau; Mr. T. P. Haynes is very amusing as the Innkeeper at Genappe; and Mr. Percy H. Vernon is particularly successful as Lord Keith. The small parts are carefully handled, and the drama is exceptionally well mounted and staged, worthy of special mention being the tableau in the fourth act, which was received with much applause.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 16,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by the late Chas. Reade, entitled
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

The series of sterling melodramas which Mr. William Bailey is reviving at the popular house in Edgware-road is proving powerfully attractive, and crowded houses throughout this week have been moved alternately to tears, laughter, and indignation by the fine old piece *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, in which the maladministration of prison laws is so strikingly denounced. The play, which is produced by Mr. John M. East, is ably acted by a company admirably suited to their various rôles. Tom Robinson is portrayed by Mr. W. S. Hartford, a capable actor and practised elocutionist, who shows an appreciation of grim humour in the part. He acts with real dramatic power, and delivers his lines with vigorous force and emphasis. The rascally governor of the gaol is made duly brutal and relentless by Mr. J. C. Thompson, who quite succeeds in making the character contemptuous. A bold and unflinching George Fielding is found in Mr. Horace Hunter, who looks the part of the intrepid young farmer to perfection, and delivers his lines with spirit and energy. His brother William has a satisfactory representative in Mr. Abel Rogers, who creditably assumes the attributes of the part. A finished and effective rendering of Susan Merton is given by Miss Lily Hammersley, whose comeliness, sincerity, and dramatic skill combine to ensure a perfectly satisfying performance. Mr. J. A. Rosier makes a benign parson as the Rev. Francis Eden, and his excellent methods of delivery give every value to his stirring lines, which are invariably greeted with cheers. Miss Jessica Black is a pathetic and gentle Josepha, and wins general expressions of pity and regard by her sympathetic portrayal of the poor waif, though her manner is a little too refined for a boy brought up under such circumstances as those which environ the London street urchin. Mr. Harry Buss, whose comic resource in infinite, is cast for the part of Jacky, the Aborigine, and though his chances of fun-making are more limited than usual, the laughter is loud and hearty while it lasts. There is humour also in the Peter Crawley of Mr. W. P. Sheen, who may be especially commended on his grotesque make-up, and as Mr. Meadows Mr. Fred Dobell is intense and unwavering in his depiction of villainy, his sound performance adding greatly to the effect of the play. Mr. Kenneth Black gives a meritorious impersonation of Isaac Levi, and Mr. Seaton is to be commended for his rendering of Mr. Merton. Humour marks the performance of Mr. Adams as the turnkey Fry, and as his confrère Evans Mr. George Claremont is well placed. Messrs. C. M. Thomson and H. Smith are entrusted with the parts of bushrangers; Mr. Tom Ellison is the village constable; and the cast is completed by Miss Clarke and Mr. C. Clive. The drama is mounted with care, the scenes of the "model prison" and the Australian diggings being effectively realised.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, April 16,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by G. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled
"IN THE RANKS."

Notwithstanding the far from theatre-going weather which prevailed on Monday, large and enthusiastic audiences gathered at this well-known drama house at both the afternoon and evening performances. The play selected by Mr. John M. East for this week is the well-known Sims and Pettitt military drama *In the Ranks*. As the hero, Mr. Ernest Leicester is again warmly welcomed, giving a manly and soldierly portrayal. Mr. Alfred Harding as Gideon Blake has no difficulty in securing the cordial hatred of all present. Mr. Talbot in the somewhat thankless part of Captain Holcroft is quite successful; as Joe Buzzard Mr. Teddy Coleman supplies ample comic relief; and the hop picker, an important character, which he had undoubtedly carefully studied, is very ably portrayed by Mr. J. P. Dryden. Mr. J. M. East is a smart representative of Sergeant Searle; as Farmer Herrick Mr. Edwin Boddy is very effective; and Mr. George Travener is duly gruff and bluff as Colonel Winter. In other male parts in the long cast Messrs. E. Godfrey, Ellis, Paul Peters, Ernest, Alfred Owen, and Baddage deserve mention. As the heroine Ruth Herrick, Miss Catherine Clarke is charmingly unaffected, and in her pathetic scenes is eminently successful. Miss Agnes Paulton as Barbara is delightfully fresh and girlish. Miss Johnstone as Mrs. Timmins, and Miss Blanche Stanley as Mrs. Buzzard, do good work. Other parts are well placed in the hands of Miss B. Douglas as Mrs. O'Flanagan, Miss Warwick as Mrs. Wimple, Miss Douglas as Dinah, and Miss F. Green as Polly. The piece is well staged, the scene of the village church, with the villagers in old-fashioned country dress, being very effective.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 16, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, written by Owen Hall; Lyrics by Boyd Jones and Paul Rubens; Music by Leslie Stuart, entitled
"FLORODORA."

The attractions of *Florodora* appear to be as evergreen as the foliage of the island which gives the name to the play, for Mr. Bannister Howard's No. 1 company has been delighting crowded holiday houses, whose vociferously-demanded encores testified to their satisfaction. The company form a united band, each member loyally supporting the other, and the merriment is genuine and infectious. Miss Gwladys Elvey as Dolores reached almost to tragedy in the more serious parts, and her singing and acting were of a high order. Lady Holyrood, with up-to-date verses in her songs and a pleasing crispness of style, was agreeably acted by Miss Kate Leicester; and Miss Florence Hersee as Angela Gilfain became an immediate favourite by her vivacity and charm. Her interpolated song in the first scene of the second act, "My Starlight Queen," was twice encored and then loudly re-demanded. Miss Bessie Nunan as Maude Milton, Mr. Gilfain's typewriter, and Miss Daisy Allen as Valleda, Lady Holyrood's maid, are well suited; and a bevy of tuneful and fascinating damsels appeared as Florodoreans, English ladies, and Welsh peasants. In the part of Anthony Tweedlepunch Mr. Gus Danby has succeeded in giving fresh point to all the older wheezes and grafting on some most amusing business of his own. He was ably seconded by the mellow humour of Mr. Edward Chester as Cyrus Gilfain; and Mr. Harry Perry made a sprightly Captain Arthur Donegal, with some especially good dancing. As Frank Abercoed, the hero, Mr. Edward Crosland was in excellent voice, each of his songs going well, and encores being well deserved. Mr. C. A. James was a saturnine Leandro, looking the part well, and the clerks were adequately represented by a smart assembly who had unlimited encores in the "Tell me, pretty maiden" concerted song in the second act. The scenery was specially painted for the production and the management is to be congratulated on securing so good a company for the Easter week.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, April 16,
the drama, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

Mr. Bennett has secured a particularly strong attraction for the holiday week in the shape of a visit of Mr. Arthur Collins's company in the latest Drury-lane success *The Prodigal Son*. More than adequately mounted, and played by a clever and carefully-selected company, Mr. Hall Caine's dramatisation of his novel has proved highly attractive to the patrons of the Alexandra during the present week. The company includes that sterling actress, Miss Alma Murray, whose pathetic and womanly embodiment of Anna, the mother of the prodigal, is the most striking performance in the piece. Another exceedingly clever and highly creditable piece of work is the Helga Neilson of Miss Cecil Cromwell, and Miss Lily Hall Caine appears as Thora, and afterwards as Thora's daughter Elin, with conspicuous success, especially in the former rôle. Mr. Henry George is manly, straightforward, and sincere as Stephen Magnusson, the Governor-General of Iceland, and a small sketch that stands out by its excellence is the Eric Arnasson of Mr. P. Gromer. Mr. Norman Partreige handles the part of Oscar with tact and skill, and in the third act his playing reaches a high level of excellence. Mr. Henry Renouf is most impressive as the sullen and stern Magnus Stephensson; the factor, Oscar Neilson, is cleverly portrayed by Mr. Frank Collins, who also undertakes the duties of stage-management; and the part of Doctor Olsen is quite safe in the keeping of the veteran Mr. Howard Russell. The little comedy contained in the piece is provided by Miss Mima Renouf, who speaks the lines allotted to Margret Neilson with due point and effect. Other parts adequately filled are those played by Messrs. Phillips, Herbert Hewetson, Fred Grove, Byron Daly, and Misses Fisher, Emily Grove, and Kathleen Kellie.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 16,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, entitled
"VERONIQUE."

Mr. George Dance's principal company in the delightful comic opera, *Veronique*, is meeting with great success at the Shakespeare this week. The play is beautifully staged, and the acting and singing all round are thoroughly satisfactory. Taking full advantage of every opportunity, the members of the company quickly rouse the enthusiasm of the audience, and at the final fall of the curtain the applause is very pronounced. Miss Rita Leonhardt makes a charming appearance in the title-rôle, and wins scores of admirers by her clever acting and singing. In her admirable rendering of the "Swing Song" Miss Leonhardt scores a triumph. Miss Florence Aylwin cleverly assumes the part of the Countess de Champ d'Azur, and contributes a performance of which it would be difficult to speak too highly. The song allotted to her in the last act is sung with much expression and sweetness, and gains a well-merited encore. An ideal Madame Coquenard is found in Miss Florence Lee, who looks the part to perfection, and acts it with marked ability. Miss Neste Laurel as Denise plays with charm and intelligence, and Miss Patty O'Hanlon is satisfactory as Aunt Benoit. The parts of the Florists are creditably sustained by the Misses Winnie Gordon, Clarice Carter, Nan Holmes, Brownie Hodson, White, and Graham. Mr. Roland Bottomley as Florestan de Vallancourt gives a very natural representation, and acquits himself with great success. A full share of the musical honours falls to Mr. Bottomley, who delights the audience with his excellent singing. Mr. Ellis Holland as Mons. Coquenard keeps the house in a constant state of merriment, and not a dull moment intervenes whilst he is on the stage. He is well supported by Mr. Ivan Berlyn, who causes much amusement by his quaint impersonation of the bailiff, Mons. Loustot. Another good performance is that of Mr. Tom Shelford, who does all that is possible with the part of the groom, Seraphin. Mr. Frank Sealey as Octave and Mr. Miller as Felicien are good in their respective parts. The minor characters are all well played, and the chorus is of the best quality. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Leonard Leslie, and Mr. Harry B. Earle is manager for Mr. George Dance.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, April 16,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Mr. Brandon Thomas's company have bobbed up with the perennial *Charley's Aunt* to keep Bank Holiday audiences good-tempered and amused. This wonderful old lady still retains her pristine vigour and charm, and attracts large audiences just in the same sweet way as when she first arrived from Brazil. Mr. Brandon Thomas repeats his excellent assumption of the generous-minded Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart., late Indian Service. Mr. Stanley Cooke is as brisk and incisive as ever as the irrepressible little Lord Fancourt Babberly, and avails himself to the full of all the comic opportunities which the part presents. Mr. Hastings Lynn as the resourceful and strong-minded Jack Chesney, and Mr. R. B. Mason as his more malleable chum, Charley Wykeham, do excellent service. Miss Lena McNaughtan makes a handsome and commanding Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez, and Misses Marion Ripley, Dorothy Deacon, and Gladys Storey as the three charmers who win the hearts of the young undergrads of St. Olde's College, Oxford, do all that is required of them very commendably. Mr. Sydney Compton repeats his admirable embodiment of the college scout, Brassett, and Mr. Walter Beaumont is amusing as the unctuous Stephen Spettigue. *Charley's Aunt* is preceded by Brandon Thomas's one-act play *A Highland Legacy*, in which Mr. Thomas plays his original part of Tammy Tamson with all his customary adroitness. Mr. Hastings Lynn is good as Gordon MacDonnel, and Messrs. S. Compton as the retired stockbroker Dobson, W. Beaumont as Cavendish Howley, an actor, and C. B. Keston as Job Fixem, a lawyer; also Miss Katherine Vereker as Mrs. Butler, Gordon's landlady, and Miss Ruth Suffield as Clara, Mr. Dobson's daughter, lend valuable assistance.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 16,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Mr. Frederick Melville, entitled
"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

It is a well-known and firmly-established fact that the name of Melville, used in conjunction with a drama, is a certain key to success. This has been testified again and again, and on Monday last was once more proved beyond all doubt, when Mr. Frederick Melville's attractive drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, was staged at the Standard. Although this is by no means the first time this play has been seen here, its drawing power is still very much in evidence, so much so, in fact, that a crowded house is the result each night. Every appreciation was shown by the enthusiastic audience present at both the afternoon and evening performance on Easter Monday. The scenes were artistic examples of brushwork, and the staging certainly left nothing to be desired. Mr. Louis Hector showed considerable ability in his delineation of George Maddison, the inventor, displaying both manliness and vigour. The villainy of Charles Devereux was pictured with striking force by Mr. Lionel D'Aragon, who ably emphasised the callous nature of the man. Geoffrey Broughton was acted in an effective manner by Mr. Holland Day, who certainly made the most of every opportunity offered. Mr. Geo. Littleton, jun., supplied a capital impersonation of Joe Lambkin, a very much-married man; whilst Mr. Geo. Elsworthy was in every way satisfactory as Benjamin Wardle. A dignified and impressive performance was contributed by Mr. Eric Campbell as Sir George Lancaster. This drama, like others from the pen of the same author, is enlivened at the right moments with abundance of comic element. This was adequately attended to by Mr. Fred De Vere as Timothy Tuttutt, who scored a huge success in the part, and never failed to raise a hearty laugh just where it was most needed. He was very suitably assisted by Miss Sybil Hammersley as Pattie Lovejoy, who played with energy and skill. Miss Isla Garnet Vayne made a charming Lucy, and sustained the rôle with such sweet pathos and feeling that she soon became a decided favourite with the audience. The malicious nature of Lady Lucretia Lancaster was made to stand out in bold contrast to the foregoing character by Miss Eugenie Magnus, who deserves a word of praise for her lifelike portrayal; and Miss Barbara Gott as the Mother Superior played with decided force, and was impressive in the highest degree.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 16,
the Russian Drama, entitled
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."

The holiday attraction at the Dalston Theatre is the Russian drama, by William Hibbert, entitled *The Price of Her Soul*. Members of Mr. John B. Shinton and Mr. Alexander Greenwood's company are responsible for the representations, which are, speaking generally, effective, inasmuch as the performance rivets the attention of the audience from first to last. Mr. John B. Shinton undertakes the part of Lord Rolf Mandeville, V.C. The representation of such a character as this is no mere child's play. There is hard work to be done in depicting various moods, the influence of passion, and the maintenance throughout of a dignified bearing. It is only fair to Mr. Shinton to say that he comes out of the ordeal very well indeed. Miss Ada M. Ryder also has a difficult part to play as the Countess Inez Steinmitz, and she succeeds in gaining the sympathy of the audience. Mr. Archie Gear as General Demetrius Lanovitz and Miss Mona Gray as Olga Lanovitz represent the opposing element against the Countess; and Mr. Annesley Hely appears as Major Ivan Skoboloff, who shares with Lord Rolf, but with vastly different spirit and intention, an infatuation for the same distinguished lady. Mr. Murray Yorke gives quite a character-sketch as Captain Sergius Petruski. A strong contrast to this hard-hearted personage is provided by Mr. Edwin Coates as the foppish Hon. Algy Fraser. Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy, and Miss Tina Frank as Polly Perkins, help to support the comedy element. The cast also includes Miss Ina Mervale, Mr. R. Taylor, Mr. J. J. Harbin, Mr. L. Goulding, Mr. Maurice Le Sage, Mr. S. Rose, Mr. F. White, and little Ida Thompson, who plays intelligently the part of Vera, the juvenile daughter of the vindictive Olga.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, April 16,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE."

For the holiday attraction at this theatre Mr. Samuel James selected the above drama. Always popular by reason of those sensational episodes so dear to the heart of the lover of popular drama, the wisdom of the choice was justified on Monday, a good house witnessing the performance. For the performance of the play Mr. James has wisely relied on his excellent stock company, who have to be congratulated. Mr. Beresford Whitcombe as Frank Beresford gave a manly and convincing portrayal, which was very favourably received. As John Silkstone Mr. Montague Turner was good; Mr. Keith Fraser as Captain Vere submitted a satisfactory performance of that somewhat singular personage; Mr. George Ellis was commendable as Matthew Brookfield; Mr. Charles Cecil was amusing and clever as Reuben Armstrong; Mr. Fred May as Joseph Thorndyke gave a sound performance; Mr. George K. Ashley as Patrick Desmond deserves praise, as does Mr. Manville Morton as Captain Salem. As for the ladies, Miss May Seton gave another pleasant and attractive reading of the character of Norah Desmond; as Dorothy Tremble Miss Mary Stafford Smith contributed in no small measure to the humour of the lighter scenes; Miss Florence Creagh gave a praiseworthy performance as Evelyn Brookfield; and Miss Beatrice May as Mary Northcote was excellent. The remaining smaller parts were all in good hands, and the scenery and mounting were, as usual, above reproach. Mr. Gliddon's orchestra is still a feature of the evening, and Mr. Maurice is most courteous in the front of the house.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, April 16,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank Lindo, entitled
"HOME, SWEET HOME."

An excellent holiday attraction is being presented this week at Brixton. Mr. Frank Harding's company is playing *Home, Sweet Home*. The piece is well acted, and the interest is well maintained throughout. Mr. Albert Ward as the hero, Stephen Armitage, gives a well-thought-out study of the fisherman; Miss Agnes Imlay plays sympathetically as Joan, her spirited acting in the third act calling for special mention; Mr. Charles Dodsworth as David Armitage is excellent; Mr. C. B. Vaughan as Lucas Lyle submits a capital impersonation of the unscrupulous private secretary; Mr. J. C. Aubrey plays the part of the Duke of Ancaster with the necessary dignity; Mr. Richard Cruikshanks is natural and effective as Dick Redmayne; Mr. W. Dempsey plays with skill the character of Solomon Keary; a really good character-study of the Gaffer is presented by Mr. Lionel Scudamore; Mr. S. W. Carlton displays sincerity in the small part of Dr. Granby; Mr. James Gray is good as Lord Silvermore; the aristocratic and haughty Lady Summerton is made sufficiently overbearing by Miss Kate Maynard; and a delightfully refreshing performance of the child Dora is given by Miss Jose Archer. The comedy is well sustained by Mr. Harry Barford as the Hon. Percy, and Miss Jennie Armstrong as Sybil Fay, a music-hall artist, who introduces some good songs, and keeps the audience in roars of laughter.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

On Tuesday, April 17,
the Domestic Drama, by Maud Hildyard and Russel Vann, entitled
"THE GREAT AWAKENING."

The attraction at the Fulham Grand this week is the powerful drama *The Great Awakening*, presented by Miss Maud Hildyard and a very strong company. Miss Hildyard as Lola Selby, alias Lady Merton, an unprincipled adventuress, has a part in which full scope is given to her abilities as an actress. The character of James Selby, Lola's convict husband, is capitally portrayed by Mr. A. C. Hardie. The parts of Sir Henry and Jack Merton are admirably taken by Mr. Bernard Copping, who displays great power in his mad scene at the end of the third act. The rôle of Guy Rogan, Lola Selby's companion in crime, is adequately filled by Mr. Charles Vivian. The hero, as presented by Mr. Herbert Evelyn, in the character of Capt. Harry Lambert, is manly and vigorous, and he is well supported by Miss Doris Digby in the part of Molly Merton. Comic relief is ably supplied by Mr. Willie Scott and Miss Isa Bellington in their respective characters as Billy Brass (Capt. Lambert's servant) and Selina Warts (Molly Merton's maid), who cause great merriment. The other characters are well portrayed, and the play fully deserves all the applause it receives. The scenery gives complete satisfaction.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 16,
the Comic Opera,
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

Mr. Cecil Paget has secured a great attraction here for Easter week in the pretty persons of the two little Michus. The popular opera is capitally rendered by Mr. George Dance's London company, and packed audiences have applauded the pleasing music, and roared at the many comicalities of the piece. Miss Alice Coverick sings sweetly and acts daintily as Marie Blanche Michu, and Miss Gracie Sinclaire wins all hearts by her taking portrayal of the demure little Blanche Marie, the general's daughter. Mr. Leslie Holland causes much merriment by his clever acting as the eccentric General des Ifs, and Mr. Cecil Clayton as Bagnolet, the general's smart servant, dances neatly, and also contributes much to the comedy of the production. Mr. T. E. Conover gives a clever character-sketch as the much-worried Pierre Michu, and the foolish Aristide Vert is well played by Mr. D. Fitz Gibbon. Mr. George Sade makes a good deal of fun out of the small part of the Market Man. Miss Florence Hylton is excellent, though perhaps too youthful in appearance, as the domineering Mme. Michu. Mr. Gerald Clifford makes a manly lover as Gaston Rigaud, and sings very tunefully; and Mlle. Marjorie contributes some graceful dancing as Mlle. St. Cyr. There is a full chorus and augmented orchestra, under the able leadership of Mr. Victor Champion. The scenery, dresses, and effects are all admirable.

"THE WHIRLWIND."

A Play in Three Acts, from the French of Henry Bernstein, adapted by Harry Melvill,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, on Monday, April 9.

Sir Henry Langerman .....MR. OSCAR ADYE
Hugh Carlton .....MR. JULIAN ROYCE
Joseph Locksley .....MR. SCOTT BUIST
Mr. Leonard .....MR. A. G. POULTON
Earl of Ellingham .....MR. GEORGE BEALBY
General Brandon .....MR. REGINALD DANCE
Captain Carysfort .....MR. LLOYD LOWNDES
Grono .....MR. WILLIAM BURCHILL
Butler .....MR. NOEL PEMBERTON
Countess of Ellingham ..MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL
Lady St. Austell .....MISS NELLY MORTYNE
Mrs. Guy Rushcliff ....MISS MABEL BEARDESLEY
Lady Langerman .....MRS. C. BRADLEY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Whirlwind, which it may be said without hesitation was received with general favour throughout, is very well suited for the display of Mrs. Patrick Campbell's talents, and the adapter may be commended for the facility with which he has transferred his characters and situations to English soil. The play has for its *motif* the secret passion of Lady Ellingham for her father's friend, Hugh Carlton. Lady Ellingham, to satisfy her father's social aspirations, has entered into a loveless marriage, having previously been engaged to a cousin, one Joseph Locksley, who, however, develops Socialistic tendencies. This engagement having been brushed aside by her opportunist father, we see Sybil installed as the Countess of Ellingham, regarded as a woman of immaculate reputation and no emotions. Then her lover, for whom she has entertained an all-absorbing passion for three long years, appears on the scene. This man, Hugh Carlton, is a gambler, who in a weak moment, to cover heavy losses, has committed embezzlement, which necessitates his leaving the country. Thus he calls on Lady Ellingham, presumably for a last interview and farewell, albeit he hopes to hide from her the cause of his departure. She, however, with her woman's instinct, perceives he is in trouble, surprises his secret, and, imploring his confidence, learns all. Thirty thousand pounds is the full amount of his liabilities, which should be met by the morrow. Lady Ellingham's offer of help is refused, likewise her proposal to accompany him in his flight. Then, in a frenzy of passion, she threatens to avow their guilty relations should he persist in his refusal. A hurried assent on his part, and they are joined by the guests, the curtain falling on a most effective curtain. In Act II. we are taken from the drawing-room to the boudoir, where Lady Ellingham is seen seeking to raise the necessary money on her jewels with the aid of a dealer, one Leonard, who, however, is not equal to the emergency. Next she essays to gain the help of the aforementioned cousin Joseph, whose price is, however, too high, and not to be tolerated. Then she appeals to her father, Sir Henry Langerman, who, after gaining her secret, refuses his help except on impossible conditions. Nevertheless, to avoid a scandal he is willing to concede a point. All this was very clever acting, the daughter's dissimulation and the parent's vaunted righteousness being vividly expressed; and when the latter, striking his daughter, had quitted the scene, excitement was at its height. This was another effective curtain, artistic and clever, and the cloth had to be raised again and again. In Act III. we find Hugh Carlton at his flat, to which comes the dealer, Leonard, at Lady Ellingham's beck, proposing means of extricating Carlton from his embarrassments. Lady Ellingham appears anon in the temporary absence of Carlton, and announces to Leonard that she can now dispense with his pecuniary assistance, having procured the full amount from her cousin at a price. Carlton returning, she appeals to him to fly with her; and, appearing to consent, he, on a visitor being announced, bids her go into his room. The visitor is none other than Sir Henry Langerman, who has come to discuss terms with Carlton, who refuses them *in toto*, and threatens to end his life with a bullet-shot. Langerman, after attempting to dissuade him most strenuously from such a desperate course, departs, having arranged to meet his daughter at a café where Lady Ellingham has been in the habit of dining with her lover. On Langerman's departure his daughter, Lady Ellingham, emerges from Carlton's room, and an appointment is made to meet at the café. As she departs she says she is about to leave the old life for the new, with him, mischievously taking up and retaining a door-key as she does so. Being left alone, Carlton, after dispatching his servant on his last service, enters his private room, and silence reigns for some moments, when Lady Ellingham returns; and, there being no response to the bell, which she has rung thrice, she, accompanied by Mr. Leonard, enters by means of the key she had retained. Then, as she calls "Hugh!" she hears the report of the revolver from within her lover's chamber, and with a wild and despairing cry she falls to the floor prone.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell in this rôle has excellent scope for the exercise of her rich powers, the cold and listless woman of society and the passion-swept woman of love being limned with perfect art. Mrs. Campbell conveys a world of meaning with a single gesture and look, and in portraying the highly-strung, hapless, and unhappily-married woman, Lady Ellingham, she often reaches the pinnacle of her art. More than once or twice the audience was held breathless and spellbound, and at the end the recalls and compliments were numerous and sincere. Mr. Julian Royce played the part of the lover, Hugh Carlton, with much polish and restraint, and preserved to himself an air of mystery which added to the fascination of the rôle. No calamity seemed sufficient to disturb his admirable self-possession, and his scene with Sir Henry Langerman was excellent, down to the minutest detail. Mr. Oscar Adye, as the father who sacrifices his daughter to his social ambitions, acted with a true understanding of the rôle, neither over or underdoing the part, but displaying the insistence of the character with telling and suave effect. Mr. Scott Buist, as the intolerable and caddish cousin Locksley, gave an excellent account of the rôle, conducting himself with an assured air that befitted the part admirably. Mr. A. G. Poulton gave a fitting and highly successful reading of the dealer, Leonard. Mr. George Bealby was truly clever and successful in depicting the undesirable qualities of the Earl of Ellingham, qualities which would be calculated to grate on such a woman as Sybil, Lady Ellingham. Mr. Reginald Dance was fluent and fervent as General Brand, and Mr. Lloyd Lowndes acted with admirable sang-froid as Captain Carysfort. Mrs. C Bradley, in the subdued rôle of Lady Langerman did her share of the acting well; Miss Mabel Beardesley was properly vivacious as Mrs. Guy Rushcliff; and Miss Nelly Mortyne lent a dignified air to the character of Lady St. Austell. Messrs. William Burchill as Grone and Mr. Noel Pemberton as the Butler were satisfactory, and the play was well staged.

MESSRS. F. W. BOLAM AND SIDNEY BACON, the proprietors of the Queen's Theatre, Gateshead, have secured a long lease of the Grand Theatre, Newcastle, and the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Mr. Bacon has long been identified with the management of these theatres, and it may confidently be anticipated that the new lessees will spare no effort to induce the best possible companies to visit them. Meanwhile, the Queen's Theatre, Gateshead, is to revert back to variety business, so that the Metropole Theatre will be the only dramatic house in the town.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
or, THE GIRLS FROM UTAH."

A new Comic Opera, in Three Acts, written by Walter Wadham Petre and Claude Aveling, with Music by the first-named.
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Bath, On Monday, April 16.

Sir Joseph Pickles .....MR. ARTHUR STIGANT
Jacob Henry Brewgood..MR. FRED EASTMAN
Terence Rainford ....MR. HARRISON BROCKBANK
Alphonse Comte de Beaucoup
MR. W. H. POWELL
Billy .....MR. HOWARD V. CROPTON
Registrar .....MR. CHARLES A. JAMES
Mrs. Bumble .....MISS FLORENCE PARFREY
Mildred .....MISS NORA BROCKLEBANK
Suza .....MISS KATE VESEY
Rose .....MISS SEYMOUR HODGES
Deborah .....MISS LILIAN POLLARD

Described as a comic opera, this new production is nearer akin to modern musical comedy, and as such is likely to gain much favour throughout its tour of the principal cities of Great Britain. The scene is laid in a mining district of Kangaroona, where a number of miners have gone in the character of bachelors, leaving their spouses at Brisbane, to seek their fortune. At the inn where they congregate, the landlord runs a matrimonial agency, and he is the means of importing a bevy of Mormon widows from Salt Lake City; but the real wives also put in an appearance, so that plans and intentions are quickly frustrated. The necessary love interest is centred around Terence Rainford, a young mining manager, and Mildred Bumble, who, with her mother, the wife of an ex-M.P., likewise visits the colony. Mrs. Bumble has determined that her daughter shall marry Sir Joseph Pickles (of the Legislative Council), so as to comply with her late husband's will, the stipulation being that Mildred must become allied to a titled gentleman. As usual, the course of true love does not run smoothly. The young couple, after arranging an elopement, get separated for a time by the vigilance of Mrs. Bumble, and Mildred is compelled to promise her hand in marriage to Sir Joseph. In the last act the bridal feast is prepared and the guests have arrived, but instead of the ceremony taking place, Terence receives the intelligence that he has come into a title, so that Mrs. Bumble's objection to the young miner being removed, and with a shuffle of partners, the lovers become united, which enables Sir Joseph to marry Suza, a bright girl, who has been posing as a boy miner, Mrs. Bumble falling to the lot of Brewgood, and Alphonse, an amorous Frenchman, obligingly looking after the Utah widows.

The music, which is by Mr. Walter Wadham Petre, is particularly melodious, many of the airs being pleasing to the ear, while much of the concerted music reminds one of the charming work of the late lamented Sir Arthur Sullivan, the unaccompanied quartette in the second act, excellently harmonised, receiving an unmistakable encore. Mr. Petre, together with Mr. Claude Aveling, is also responsible for the lyrics and dialogue, and congratulations are deservedly due to them for the crisp and amusing lines throughout the three acts. The cast, which is first-class, includes that popular and accomplished comedian Mr. Fred Eastman as Jacob Henry Brewgood, and when one remembers this gentleman's performance of Tweedlepunch in *Florodora*, it is easy to imagine what capital fun he can make as the matrimonial agent. He has several good songs, and when he has settled down into his part he can reckon on having added another to his many successful comedy impersonations. Mr. Harrison Brockbank is seen to great advantage as Terence Rainford, his fine baritone voice and cultured vocalism creating a pleasing impression. One of his happiest efforts is "Just a song of hope," while he also gives a rousing toast-song, "For King and Queen," with chorus, in the last act that is sure to become popular. As the Frenchman Alphonse, that clever actor Mr. W. H. Powell is well placed, his pidgin-English sayings creating endless hilarity. He has his best chance in a ditty "The Ladies," which he gives with great gusto, his dancing proving as agile and clever as anything he has yet done. Another comedian who could easily be given more to do is Mr. Arthur Stigant, but he makes a hit in his topical song "What are you going to do?" containing innumerable Parliamentary tips evidently much to the liking of the audience. Another gentleman who won great approval by his pleasing bearing and capital voice is Mr. Howard V. Cropton as Billy (a gold miner). The ladies are all excellent in their respective rôles, a personal triumph being won by Miss Kate Vesey as Suza. She has several of the most taking songs to render, such as "From Borneo," "Billy and Nanny Goat," which, with her accomplished and graceful *pas seuls*, bring down the house. Mrs. Bumble, a sort of character with which Miss Connie Ediss's name is associated, is played in a confident style by Miss Florence Parfrey, her vocalism also proving of much assistance in the concerted numbers, besides which she renders her solos with success. Mrs. Bumble's daughter Mildred is charmingly impersonated by Miss Nora Brocklebank, her high soprano voice being displayed to advantage in the pretty ballad "'Tis of thee," and also in association with Mr. Brockbank in the duet "Coo-ey," a real tit-bit of melody. The chorus, composed largely of pretty and imposing ladies, is deserving of cordial recognition. Mr. Geo. M. Saker is the musical director, and right well does he undertake his duties. The new scenery is from the brush of Julian Hicks, the costumes are designed by Robert Crafter, and executed by the firms of Hugo Baruch and Co., and Elkan Bros. The wigs are from the well-known Clarkson establishment. Finally it remains to record that the piece is produced by Mr. Walter McEwan, who must be highly complimented on the smooth manner in which everything went off on Monday evening, when the large audience accorded the piece the heartiest of receptions. Mr. C. Finch Hatton is the acting-manager, and Mr. Charles A. James undertakes the onerous duties of stage manager for the tour.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, April 16,
the Musical Comedy,
"LADY MADCAP."

The holiday attraction here is the delightful musical play entitled *Lady Madcap*, which is admirably interpreted by Mr. George Dance's company, the members of which all work loyally together, and are each and all exceptionally good. Mr. Alex. Chentrens (Count de St. Hubert), Mr. Ray Russell (Bill Stratford), Mr. Fred Payne (Posh Jenkins), Mr. Lyall Grant (Count Layton), Mr. Frederick C. Leistar (Major Blatherswaite), Mr. Robert Cranny (Captain Harrington), Mr. E. Whitlock (Lord Somerset), Mr. Louis du Cane (Lord Framlingham), Mr. Vincent Rene (Corporal Ham), Mr. Ralph Holland (Palmer), Mr. Percy Barrett (the old huntsman), and Mr. H. V. Surrey (Oroya Brown), are all remarkably good in their respective parts. Miss Kathleen Ronayne is a charming Gwenny Holden, Miss Peggy Primrose a vivacious Susan, Miss M. Johnstone a pleasing Mrs. Layton, and Miss Vera Vere a fascinating and delightful Lady Madcap. The chorus is capital, and the dresses are charming.

S. FEINMAN'S historical operetta, *The Viceroy*, as presented by the talented members of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company, at the Pavilion Theatre, was so successful last week that a repetition was given on Easter Monday evening to a packed house. During the week admirable performances have been rendered of *The Star of Jerusalem*, *The Parents' Trouble*, *The Sulamite*, *Seider Night*, and *Moses the Tailor*.

MR. DAN ROLYAT.

AS JOE IN "THE DAIRYMAIDS" AT THE APOLLO THEATRE, LONDON.

A FEW PRESS OPINIONS.

A new comedian has come to town, and he is very welcome indeed, for the number of mirth provokers is very limited, and has apparently but little power to add to its number. When he made his first appearance in *The Dairymaids* at the Apollo Theatre last Saturday night Mr. Dan Rolyat was unknown to most of us, but after we had seen and listened to his Joe Mivvens for a few minutes we all made up our minds that he was distinctly novel and good, and one to be treasured here in London and made much of. Mr. Rolyat got no reception from the audience on making his first appearance, but he did get a reception every time he came on afterwards, and that is a very remarkable thing. His part is not a big one. I would respectfully suggest to the powers that be that it should be at once greatly increased, but he makes it stand out because he is a really funny comedian, with a genuine sense of humour, and what, to us at least, is a new way of doing things. Mr. Rolyat is a find, and now that he has come to London he has got to stop there, &c., &c.—*The Pelican.*

But if the production had done nothing else it deserves to be remembered as having given to

MR. DAN ROLYAT.

the London musical comedy stage a new comic actor of great gifts in Mr. Dan Rolyat; his part is a comparatively secondary one, but from the first minute he took the fancy of the audience. His method defies description, its coolness and quietness are delightful, and the certainty with which the audience took up every one of his points showed that Mr. Rolyat has the knack of pointing his meaning without the exaggerated emphasis deemed necessary by less gifted comedians. It is quite time he came to town, and Londoners will be making a mistake if they let him leave them again in a hurry.—*Daily News.*

The sensation of the evening was the great success of Mr. Dan Rolyat; he is quite original in his methods, and acts with ease, and can make everybody laugh by his way of saying the most ordinary things, &c., &c.—*Evening Star.*

The hits of *The Dairymaids* are really . . . and Mr. Rolyat, the new comedian; he is very welcome. Mr. Rolyat has a real sense of fun, which relies largely on the quiet hiatuses of American humour, &c., &c.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

Mr. Rolyat's contribution to the fun of the evening was perhaps greater than that of any other performer, &c., &c.—*Morning Post.*

Mr. Dan Rolyat, the new comedian, proved a great success; his triumph was undoubted, &c., &c.—*Westminster Gazette.*

Of the men of the company probably the greatest success was gained by a newcomer, Mr. Dan Rolyat, &c., &c.—*Morning Advertiser.*

There is a comedian of absolutely the front rank in Mr. Dan Rolyat, an acrobatic sailor servant, whose merest gesture was sufficient to send the house into paroxysms of laughter.—*Daily Mail.*

Perhaps the biggest success falls to Dan Rolyat, &c., &c.—*Sporting Life.*

But Mr. Dan Rolyat was the man who did the hat trick and got always applauded, &c., &c.—*Sunday Observer.*

The surprise of the evening was doubtless supplied by Mr. Dan Rolyat; his success was instantaneous, &c.—*News of the World.*

Mr. Dan Rolyat is a decided acquisition to the London stage; the engagement of so alert and entertaining a performer may indeed be accounted a capital move on the part of the management. People like to be amused, and Mr. Rolyat as the volatile sailor-man is quite irresistible. To the success of *The Dairymaids* he contributes largely, &c.—*Telegraph.*

London playgoers are rendered the happier by the acquisition of a new comedian, for Mr. Dan Rolyat, who secured the lion's share of laughter and applause in *The Dairymaids*, is a genuine humorist, whom the audience at once took to its arms, &c.—*Birmingham Daily Mail.*

A special welcome is to be given to a new comedian, for London is sadly in need of such. Mr. Dan Rolyat comes from the provinces, a deadly sin in the eyes of the average London critic, who heartily praises only the fashionable favourite, and who never likes to be asked to laugh in a fresh way. And he had not been on the stage five minutes before he had his audience roaring at every quip; he has the faculty of making every word and gesture tell, and he richly deserved the applause the audience lavished upon him.—*Birmingham Daily Post.*

The most whimsical character however was surely that of Joe Mivvens, who made what was undoubtedly the hit of the play by the originality of his methods, &c.—*Nottingham Guardian.*

"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER."

A New Play, by George R. Sims, adapted from his recently-published Novel of the same title,
Produced for the first time on Monday, April 16, at the Royal County Theatre, Reading.

Richard Grey .....MR. VERNON SANSBURY
Rube Hexham .....MR. FRANK HARRISON
Gilbert O'Neil .....MR. A. E. MELBORNE
Jack Huggett .....MR. HENRY HARE
Jim Huggett .....MR. HENRY HARE
Joe Grimper .....MR. CHRIS MASON
Zeke .....MR. H. G. WRIGHT
Dr. Shand .....MR. H. F. WRIGHT
Marks .....MR. GEO. GOODWIN
Pilcher .....MR. MAYOR COOKE
Bob .....MR. DAVID GARSIDE
Colonel Smith .....MR. STANLEY FIELD
Barker .....MR. JOHN CHEVINGTON
Marion Grey.....MISS GRACE HEYWOOD
Dora Grey .....MISS MURIEL DEAN
Jenny Huggett .....MISS ETHEL KINGSTON
Loo Hexham .....MISS EMIL LESLIE
Mrs. Grimper .....MISS EVELYN SHAW
Liza Jones .....MISS CISSIE MURDOCK
Matron of the Prison ....MISS HELENA GRAVES
Warderess .....MISS DOROTHY MARSH
Maid .....MISS MOYRA CALHOUN
Nurse .....MISS DORIS MALLORY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. George R. Sims's new drama, produced on Monday, was received by a holiday audience with every sign of appreciation, auguring well for a successful future, under the able and energetic management of Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer, who are commencing an extended tour with the new play.

For Life—and After is an echo of the famous Maybrick case, and shows how Marion Grey is accused, on circumstantial evidence, of a crime of which she is innocent, and for which she is sentenced to death. The sentence is, however, commuted to penal servitude for life, and on regaining her liberty after fifteen years' imprisonment, with wealth at her command, she is eventually able to prove her innocence to the world.

The play opens in Henley Regatta week, when a gang of thieves have been able to secure a fine haul, under the disguise of "Mysterious Musicians." The leader of the gang is Jack Huggett, alias John Dyson, who has discovered that Marion Grey, now living happily at a riverside cottage at Henley with her husband, Richard Grey, and little daughter, Dora, is no other than the young girl to whom he himself had been married under an alias and false pretences nine years previously. Immediately after the marriage Dyson had been arrested on a charge of forgery, and at the trial, a previous conviction having been proved against him, had been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. Marion had kept the terrible secret, and looked upon her marriage as illegal, as she was a minor, he had obtained her consent by fraud, and had married her under a false name. Having convinced herself that the marriage was not a legal one, she had fallen in love with Richard Grey, a young actor in the same company, to whom she was married, but hesitated to tell the man she loved that she had been the dupe of a criminal undergoing penal servitude. She was happy in her married life, a baby had been born, and she had subsequently come into a fortune left by a relative in Australia, which made the couple independent, and they had settled down at Henley-on-Thames. Dyson, having discovered the whereabouts of his former wife, decided to make use of the discovery by blackmailing her, and wrote to her to meet him at night at the "Cottage," where the Masked Musicians had taken up their residence for the Henley week. The note was delivered by Rube Hexham, another member of the gang. Marion decided to keep the appointment, as her husband was away, but as a precaution took with her a phial of poison, so as to make him believe that in a fit of desperation she would rather destroy herself than face the life-long torture she knew he would inflict upon her. The interview took place, Black Rube being a concealed witness. Marion threatened to destroy herself rather than submit to blackmail, when Jack Dyson wrenched the bottle from her, and, in a very dramatic scene, it was eventually arranged that for the child's sake she would send him a remittance of two hundred pounds every three months. Not thinking it advisable to disclose his own address, he gave Hexham's, and Marion then departed. Hexham, who had been a concealed witness of the scene, at once decided to secretly empty the contents into a tumbler from which Jack Dyson was drinking, as by getting rid of him there would be no one to prevent his receiving the money himself. Dyson lifted the tumbler and took a deep draught, reeled across the room, and staggered dying to the ground. Rube Hexham took to flight, and at this moment the police entered the room to arrest Dyson for another crime which he had committed, and discovered that their prisoner was lying dead on the floor.

Suspicion at once fell on Marion, as the letter to her was found, and the phial of poison was traced to being in her possession; and she was tried and sentenced to death. A respite was, however, granted, and in the second act we are taken to the Female Prison at Aylesbury, on the day on which Marion and a fellow-convict, Loo Hexham, are to be released. The subsequent acts are devoted to Marion's efforts to prove her innocence, which she is eventually able to do, and also that Dyson had been previously married. Finally, Rube Hexham is denounced as the murderer.

The play is very melodramatic, and the interest is sustained throughout. Miss Grace Heywood acts most sympathetically as Marion Grey, whose daughter Dora is very feelingly impersonated by Miss Muriel Dean, some pretty love-scenes taking place between her and Gilbert O'Neil, a London surgeon, well impersonated by Mr. A. E. Melborne. Mr. Vernon Sansbury gives an able rendering of the character of Richard Grey, who in the later acts develops into a dipsomaniac. Mr. Frank Harrison is forcible as Rube Hexham. Mr. Henry Hare plays the part of Jack Huggett (alias Dyson) in good style; Mr. Henry Hare is a veritable hooligan as his scapegrace son Jim Huggett. The comedy element is well supplied by the old Punch-and-Judy showman and his wife, who are capitally represented by Mr. Chris Mason and Miss Evelyn Shaw. Miss Emil Leslie acts powerfully as Loo Hexham, and the other parts are well rendered. The scenery is very effective, particularly the Henley scenes, the prison scene, the garden at Epsom, and the final scene at Epsom Downs on the Derby Day.

PRESENTATION.—On Good Friday, April 13, Mr. Lyndon Greenwood's birthday, the staff of the Islington Empire presented him with a marble timepiece, suitably engraved, and a pair of exquisite vases. Mr. Greenwood gracefully thanked the donors.

MR. AND MRS. KENDAL have accepted a new three-act comedy by Herbert Swears, entitled *A Tight Corner*, which they will produce at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, on Wednesday, May 9.

PRESENTATION. — Mr. Rex Sugden, the much-respected manager of the King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, was presented by the theatre staff and a few friends on Saturday afternoon with a handsome smoking cabinet; while Mrs. Sugden was the recipient of a beautiful umbrella. Mr. Sugden, who has acted as manager since the theatre was opened two years ago, is leaving the town, and his departure gives general regret.

"THE SPIDER AND THE FLY."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane,
Produced at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, April 16, 1906.

Cyril Girdlestone .....MR. STANLEY GORDON
Welby Girdlestone .....MR. BERESFORD INNES
Rev. Mr. McAllister .....MR. H. JOYE
David Strong .....MR. CECIL G. CALVERT
Romulus Roe .....MR. FRED TERRISS
Remus Roe .....MR. EDWARD MORGAN
Sergeant Blatchett .....MR. J. W. THOMAS
Jack Naylor .....MR. ROBERT CASTLE
Edith McAllister .....MISS NINA VAUGHTON
Lola Gray .....MISS DAISY HALLING
Maria Nibbling .....MISS AMY ROGERSON
Jane Ellen Scriver .....MRS. S. HALLING
Flippa .....MISS MAY DAY
Polly .....MISS NELLIE BURGESS
Abigail .....MISS KATE PARKER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A very enthusiastic reception was given by a crowded audience in the Grand Theatre, Brighton, last Monday afternoon, to the new drama, *The Spider and the Fly*, which was produced by Mr. Ernest Carpenter, the popular managing director of the theatre. The authors may be warmly congratulated upon the excellence of their work. The story is interesting from start to finish; the characters are well drawn; several of the situations are powerfully effective; and yet, in striking contrast to works of a kindred character, the drama is one without an actual murder, and the villain does not covet his neighbour's wife. The serious phases of the piece are admirably varied by pleasing light comedy, and the drama should have a long and prosperous career.

Welby and Cyril Girdlestone, half-brothers, have sown their wild oats together in London. Welby, the elder, has influenced the younger man towards an evil and dissolute course, one of the consequences being that Cyril has married Lola Gray, a woman whom they met at a night club in Soho. Welby by this means hopes to induce his father to cut his younger and favourite son out of his will. Cyril soon discovers the mistake he has made, separates from Lola Gray, and goes abroad, where he hears that his wife, on her voyage to America, has been drowned. Cyril meets a young lady, Edith McAllister, governess in an English family, and daughter of a clergyman who lives in the old sea-girt village of Undercliff, in Yorkshire, falls in love with her, and is accepted by her. The young man is seized by sudden illness, and the girl nurses him. Edith consents to marry the dying man, and the ceremony is performed in the sick room by the Mayor of the French village. Cyril recovers, and when the play opens at the Vicarage of Undercliff the young couple are celebrating the anniversary of their wedding. Their happiness is short-lived, for Welby, the evil genius, by accident finds his brother, and tells him that his first wife, Lola Gray, was not drowned, and, in fact, is in the village at that moment. Edith overhears this, and, broken-hearted though she is, when Lola Gray confronts her and demands her rights Edith is equal to the occasion, and, in order to save Cyril from the prison with which he is threatened for bigamy, she declares she is not Cyril's wife, but only his mistress. This stirring situation closes the first act.

In the second act we find that, in consequence of Edith's admission, she and her father are compelled to leave the village of Undercliff, and go to London, where they are found in poor lodgings. They have a hard fight for life, and but for the friendship of an early admirer of Edith's—David Strong, a fisherman—times would be hard indeed; for Cyril, on the day that Edith had saved him from prison, had been trapped by his half-brother, and taken to a lonely house near London, where he was being kept half-starved and slowly poisoned. To this place, in the course of her business duties, Edith comes, escorted by David Strong. By accident, and while waiting to see the mistress of the house, she discovers her husband. In her effort to rescue him she is caught by Welby and Lola, and but for the opportune appearance of David Strong would be condemned to the same fate as Cyril.

In the third act we realise that Cyril is saved, but that Edith, resolute in her determination that he shall not be charged with bigamy, still lives apart from the man she loves, though, for the sake of their year-old child, she accepts his assistance. Cyril and David have gone abroad; but the villainous Welby and Lola make a desperate effort to get rid of Edith and her child, so that at Cyril's death they can divide the inheritance between them. Learning from a newspaper that Cyril is returning home, they decoy Edith and her child under the pretext that Cyril is at death's door on a vessel lying in the Thames, so that they can drown the mother and babe, but Edith is rescued by Cyril, and her child is also saved. By the confession of Remus Roe, formerly a waiter at the club in Soho where Cyril met the adventuress, it is proved that Lola was never Cyril's wife, and that his marriage with Edith is perfectly legal. In the last act a final and desperate effort is made by Welby and Lola to gain their ends, and, though Edith is confined in one of the secret cells in the Old Moat House, she is rescued. Welby and Lola are baffled, and complete happiness is restored to Cyril and his devoted wife.

Mr. Stanley Gordon gave an excellent impersonation of Cyril Girdlestone, his acting being easy, natural, and convincing. The villainous Welby Girdlestone found a forcible and very capable exponent in Mr. Beresford Innes, while the adventuress, Lola Gray, was skilfully portrayed by Miss Daisy Halling. Miss Nina Vaughton invested her representation of Edith McAllister with graceful and sympathetic acting; Mr. H. Joye made a capital Rev. Mr. McAllister; Mr. Cecil G. Calvert was a manly and popular David Strong; Miss Amy Rogerson was excellent as the warm-hearted Maria Nibbling; and Mrs. S. Halling submitted an admirable character study as the lodging-house keeper, Jane Ellen Scriver. Much amusement was furnished by Mr. Fred Terriss (Romulus Roe) and Mr. Edgar Morgan (Remus Roe), whose eccentricities kept the house rippling with laughter while they occupied the boards. The minor characters were satisfactorily sustained.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, April 16,
the Irish Drama, by Dion Boucicault, entitled
"THE COLLEEN BAWN."

There was a typical Bank Holiday audience at the Kingston playhouse on Monday evening to greet the reappearance of this old and favourite drama, which has occupied the boards there during the week, and although it must have been seen several times before by many of those present, there was no visible indication that the play had lost any of its old charm. Thanks to the capable company which Mr. Frank Harding has got together, ample justice was done to it histrionically, and the influence of the scenic artist was also an element in a successful production. Mr. Lytton Grey plays the part of Myles-na-Coppaleen, which he succeeds in investing with a breeziness that is racy of the soil; Mr. Harding gives a fine conception of the scheming Danny Mann; Mr. Cecil Melton acquits himself well in the part of Hardress Cregan; Mr. Orlando Daly scores as Kyrle Daly; and an impressive Father Tom is presented by Mr. Charles Langley. Amongst the lady artists premier honours are won by Miss Marie Wright as Eily O'Connor; whilst Miss Victoria Addison as Anne Chute, Miss Dora Heritage as Mrs. Cregan, and Miss Annie Brophy as Sheelah, each assisted materially in the success of the production.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree's Shakespeare Festival will share with Miss Ellen Terry's jubilee the dramatic honours of next week. During that period six different plays are to be staged at His Majesty's, Monday being devoted to *The Tempest*. Then follow *Henry IV.* (Part 1) on Tuesday, repeated at the matinée the following day; *Twelfth Night* on Wednesday, *Hamlet* on Thursday, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Friday, *Hamlet* again on Saturday afternoon, and *Julius Cæsar* in the evening. The performance of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will stand out from the rest as being the play in which Miss Terry will appear in celebration of her fiftieth year on the stage, and for that occasion every bookable seat has been secured.

"Colonel Newcome," which is to be Mr. Tree's next production at His Majesty's, has been cast in part, among those to whom characters have been allotted being Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. Norman Forbes, Mr. Basil Gill, Mrs. E. H. Brooke, and Mr. Lyn Harding. With such a competent body of performers Mr. Tree is already assured of invaluable support.

Mr. E. S. Willard, breaking through his rule not to act on Sundays, has determined to give a special performance of *The Middleman* to-morrow (Sunday) night in aid of the sufferers by the San Francisco disaster. The performance will be given in the Colonial Theatre, Chicago.

The secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund asks us to acknowledge the following amounts which he has received for the benefit of the fund during the past week—viz., £5 5s. from Miss Phyllis Dare and £5 4s. 6d. from Mr. George Alexander, both sums having been collected by means of their autographs. Mr. Wilfred Stanford has forwarded £2 13s., that amount having been collected in the Fund's box at the Camden Theatre.

Mr. G. P. Huntley, we are sorry to hear, has lost his little son, John Guy Patrick, who died on Monday, at Kensington House, Kensington Court, at the age of eight months.

Mr. Edward Compton and Miss Louise Moodie have been added during the week to the general committee associated with the Ellen Terry Jubilee Fund. The project is exciting the greatest interest in America, and many letters of appreciation of the great actress have been received by the *Tribune*. Mark Twain sends the following message:—"Ellen Terry: Age has not withered nor custom staled the admiration and affection we have felt for you for so many, many years. I lay them at your honoured feet with the strength and freshness of their youth upon them undiminished."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier and Mr. Charles Frohman will produce *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*, the new four-act comedy by Alfred Sutro, at the Garrick Theatre, on Thursday. Mr. Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will both be included in the cast, which will further comprise Messrs. Aubrey Smith, Walter Pearce, O. B. Clarence, George Trollope, Charles V. France, Charles Goodhart, Douglas Imbert, and Master Hugh Wakefield, and Misses Norah Greenlaw, Elfrida Clement, Muriel Beaumont, Henrietta Watson, Pamela Gaythorne, Kate Phillips, and Annie Stuart.

Mr. George Edwardes' *Lady Madcap* company met with a mishap on their journey to Blackpool on Sunday. They were within a mile of Miller's Dale Station when the scenery was ignited by a spark from the engine. By the time the train was stopped the coach was in full blaze, and threatened to set fire to that containing effects of *The Coal King* company, who were travelling by the same train. The truck was shunted into a siding, and the members of *The Lady Madcap* company, assisted by that of *The Coal King*, gallantly tackled the seemingly impossible task of subduing the flames. The fire extinguishing apparatus at the station consisted of one hand-pump, but energy and perseverance prevailed, and the blazing material was at length extinguished, the wardrobes and properties being fortunately preserved.

"The Little Michus" at Daly's will be enriched next week by several new numbers from the pen of M. Messager, the composer, which will no doubt give the delightful piece fresh impetus in public favour. Sardou's opera *La Merveilleuse* is designed for eventual production at Daly's, but prior to that event a brief revival of *The Geisha* may be anticipated. Mr. George Edwardes has also in hand a revised version of *The Little Cherub*, which is shortly to be seen in new attire at the Prince of Wales's.

The success of *Mauricette*, in which Mr. H. B. Irving, Miss Marion Terry, and Miss Dorothea Baird figure to such conspicuous advantage at the Lyric, has so influenced the management of the Paris Odéon, that *Jeunesse*, from which Mr. Irving's play was adapted, is to be revived during the week.

Mr. Martin Harvey found time on the 13th inst. to lecture on "Some Thoughts on Acting" at Irvine, under the auspices of the Irvine Dramatic and Musical Association. The favourite actor's address was listened to and warmly endorsed by a large audience, and Sheriff Mackenzie, of Kilmarnock, who was in the chair, took occasion to make some highly appreciative remarks concerning Mr. Harvey's personal art. Mr. Harvey pleaded for greater sympathy towards the actor's art, and dealt with incidents in the lives of Garrick, Macready, and other masters. Mr. Harvey contended that whether an actor gives his best depends on his audience. He believed that an actor could express nothing but himself—a startling remark, he admitted—and that rare heights of tragedy could never be scaled save by those who broke from the placid comforts of the middle course. These rare heights were not for those who walked the comfortable, well-fed valley. Those who had climbed need never mind if, from the pinnacle, they came crashing down again. The crash would teach them patience and humility. Only by these means would tragedy and the capturing of the soul be won.

Rarely in recent years has there been a more enthusiastic outburst than that which occurred on Monday night at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, when Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche and their company presented for the first time in the town Judge Parry and Frederick Mouillot's clever comedy *What the Butler Saw*. The house was crowded from floor to ceiling, and included many of the most prominent citizens of Manchester. The play early commended itself to the good opinion of the audience, and those present were moved to hearty laughter by the merry sayings of Mr. Rignold and Miss Blanche in the principal characters. The audience at the end of the performance became so enthusiastic that the curtain had to be raised again and again, and Mr. Rignold and Miss Blanche repeatedly came forward in acknowledgment. Cries of "Authors!" were then raised until Judge Parry, who occupied a box, came forward, and thanked the audience by smiles and bows for the kind way in which the play had been received.

Three performances of Maxim Gorky's play, *The Bezsemenovs*, will be given by the Mermaid Society at Terry's Theatre on the afternoons of Monday, Thursday, and Friday next.

The appearance of Queen Elizabeth in *Dorothy o' the Hall* at the New Theatre is so exactly like a picture from Hampton Court or the National Portrait Gallery, that it is hard to believe that the character is played by Miss Miriam Lewes. Originally trained as a dancer, she always had a hankering to act serious and comedy parts in real plays, and, thanks to Mr. Louis Calvert, who introduced her to Mr. Fred Terry, her first London opportunity came in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, when she understudied Miss Julia Neilson, and played her part for three weeks. She wears magnificent clothes as Good Queen Bess, making her entrance in a riding dress of stiff red corded silk, studded with big rubies; the cloak is plush of the same colour. There is a quaint little pointed hat, the red plume held in place by a rosette of precious stones. Her second costume is even more effective, being old gold and blue brocade, embroidered with pearls, the cobweb ruff fastened by a string of pearls, and the small crown composed of pearls and rubies. It should be remembered that Miss Lewes's face is completely changed by the false nose that adds not a little to the accuracy of the make-up, the red wig, and high-arched eyebrows. Off the stage she is very dark—showing her Russian descent in the colour of her eyes and olive complexion—and very many years younger than Queen Elizabeth is supposed to be in *Dorothy o' the Hall*.

In compliance with Miss Ellen Terry's own request, the programme at the Court Theatre on the evening of Saturday, the anniversary of her stage jubilee, will not be changed in any way, and *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* will be performed as usual, with Miss Terry as Lady Cecily Waynflete. A special commemorative autograph programme will be presented to each member of the audience.

Added interest is given to the production of *Markheim* at the Lyric by the inclusion in the properties and effects of numerous relics of the late Sir Henry Irving, used by him in his various productions. The sideboard from which Corporal Gregory Brewster's breakfast was brought in *Waterloo* has a conspicuous place, and some necklaces and bracelets used in *Macbeth* and *King Lear*, together with the orb Irving bore as the latter sovereign, are also to be seen, as well as an old oak Jacobean chest taken from Sir Henry Irving's rooms in Grafton-street and used in *Charles I.* The same bells that chime the hour in *Markheim* aroused the conscience of Mathias in *The Bells*, and were also used in *The Lyons Mail;* and the huge iron chest, over which the figure of Markheim bends as he hunts for his murdered victim's money, recalls a former triumph in *Louis XI.* The helmet, specially designed by Alma-Tadema, was used by Lancelot in *King Arthur*, and jugs and salvers were made for *Peter the Great;* mugs, goblets, jugs, and chalices, which have been with Irving to America, and silver ink-pots and bric-à-brac used in *Robespierre* also figure in Mr. H. B. Irving's staging of this scene, the value of the appointments of which is said to be over £2000.

The Council of the Actors' Association did not hold their usual weekly meeting last Tuesday, as it was Easter Tuesday. The third bi-monthly meeting of the members of the Association will be held in the saloon at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Thursday, the 10th prox., at 2.30 p.m., when several matters of importance will be brought up for discussion.

Mr. Seymour Hicks has brought forward the Danby benefit by one week in order to avoid a clash with another bespeak. The event is now fixed to take place at the Aldwych on Thursday, May 17. A number of well-known artists have already signified their intention of giving their services, and the committee of the Eccentric Club have made a donation from their benevolent fund of £25. It may be remembered that the unfortunate comedian recently underwent a series of operations on the jaw, and he will probably be incapacitated from ever following his profession.

Mr. Charles Frohman has commissioned Mr. Seymour Hicks to write the libretto of a modern version of *As You Like It*, to be produced both in America and England. The lyrics will be supplied by Mr. C. H. Taylor and the music by Mr. H. G. Haynes. The piece will differ materially from the original play, in the sense that the atmosphere is to be quite modern, and Rosalind and Orlando are to discard their mediæval costumes for up-to-date garments. They will travel in motor-car, send love messages to each other through the telephone, and live in a Mayfair flat. There are two scenes, one of which is laid in a rustic landscape at Windsor, and the other in a ballroom in town.

"The Rose-Scented Handkerchief," a little comedy by Baron St. Eon, will be performed by the Harlequin Dramatic Society on Saturday evening, April 28, at the Bijou Theatre, Bayswater. The play will be produced under the stage-management of Mr. Frank Kingston.

"Captain Brassbound's Conversion" was revived at the Court Theatre on Monday evening, with every indication of success. The run is for eight weeks, and the cast is identical with that of the former production. Miss Ellen Terry's impersonation of Lady Cecily Waynflete is a very finished performance, and all the members of the company are happily placed.

Miss May Bensa, niece of W. S. Penley, has successfully passed the advanced Senior Examination in Singing at the London College of Music. This talented young artist also gained the diploma A.L.C.M. for pianoforte playing at the April examinations.

Herr Hans Andresen is including a cycle of Sudermann's plays in his "After-Season" at the Great Queen-street Theatre. The series consists of *Die Ehre* ("Honour") announced for yesterday; *Die Schmetterlingsschlacht* ("The Battle of the Butterflies"), to be given this afternoon and evening; *Morituri* on Friday next; *Das Gluck im Winkel* ("A Happy Nook") on Saturday; *Die Heimat* ("Magda") on May 4; and *Das Blumenboot* ("The Boat of Flowers") on May 5. Magda will be played by Frau Minna Hocker.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Actors' Orphanage Fund was held on Wednesday last at 18, Russell-street, Covent Garden. Present, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (in the chair), Miss Carlotta Addison, Mrs. Edward Compton, Mrs. Gay, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss May Warley, Mrs. Mangles, Mrs. Fred Wright, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Rev. A. Brinckman, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, and Mr. E. H. Bull (secretary). The arrangements for the annual general meeting to be held at the Garrick Theatre, on Friday, May 18 (by the kind permission of Mr. Arthur Bourchier), were discussed and settled. Mr. Cyril Maude will preside, and amongst the speakers on the occasion will be Miss Carlotta Addison, Mrs. Edward Compton, Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Helen Ferrers, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, and Miss Eva Moore, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Harry Nicholls, and Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks.

"The Silver Box," a new play by John Galsworthy, has been secured by Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker for production next autumn at one of the series of matinées at the Court Theatre.

Mr. Michael Connelly, the well-known musical-director, has been specially engaged to arrange the music of *Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Bessie Comedy Company. He will conduct the performance of it for one night in London, and for six nights in Exeter, commencing on Monday.

Mr. Charles Frohman will shortly replace the triple bill at the Comedy by the American success *Raffles*, the work of Mr. E. W. Hornung, the English novelist, and Mr. Eugene Presbrey, the American playwright. The comedy-drama is in four acts, and is based upon a series of sketches by Mr. Hornung, entitled "An Amateur Cracksman." The scenes of the play are laid in and near London, and the principal character is a personage who combines the qualities of both hero and villain. He is an educated English gentleman, who becomes a thief simply for the purpose of outwitting the police, returning the valuables after he finds he has succeeded in his design. To Mr. Gerald Du Maurier has been allotted this unique part, and no better choice could be made.

The congratulations of his many friends will be offered to Mr. Norman Macowan, whose wife (Miss Violet Sterne) presented him with a son on the 18th inst. The happy event occurred at 52, Flanders-road, Bedford Park.

The Scala Theatre is to have at Christmas a play of the *Peter Pan* type, produced by Mr. Marshall Moore, who severs his connection with the Coliseum at the end of May. Mr. Moore has also in hand for production in the early autumn his semi-Scriptural play *Hadasseh*, adapted from Mrs. Lenty Collins's book of that name. Amongst the most notable scenes will be "The Fall of Vashti," "The Triumph of Esther," and "The Entry into Jerusalem over the hills of Susa."

Master Tonge, a youthful but experienced actor, who was among Sir Henry Irving's company when he died, has been specially engaged by Mr. Tree to play Robin in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* for the Festival production on Friday. Master Tonge played Geoffrey in *Becket* at Drury Lane, and his other parts include:—Ib in *Ib and Little Christina*, Mercury in *The American Citizen*, and Eigil in *The Viking* (with Miss Ellen Terry's company).

Miss Rose Moncrieff, the wife of Mr. Newman Maurice, the popular acting-manager at the Grand Theatre, Islington, who was the winner of the *Ally Sloper* fifty-guinea diamond ring competition, is to be presented with it to-night by the Genial One in person at the Lyric Theatre, Bromley, where she is playing with her company in *Fun on the Bristol*.

The Grand Master of English Freemasons, his Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, has appointed Mr. Charles Cruikshanks Assistant Grand Standard Bearer of England. The present roll of Grand Officers connected with the theatrical profession consists of Sir Squire Bancroft and Messrs. James Fernandez, Henry Neville, Harry Nicholls, W. S. Penley, and Edward Terry.

Mr. Alick Maclean, who won the first Moody-Manners opera prize competition several years ago, had a new work of his composition produced with success at Mayence on Easter Monday. The new opera is entitled *Die Liebesgeye*, and is founded on François Coppée's well-known story "Les Luthiers de Crémone."

Miss Grace Hampton, who was associated for a long period with the late Sir Henry Irving, has been engaged by Mr. Martin Harvey to appear in his new production, *The Rapparree Trooper*. Miss Hampton in private life is Mrs. Chas. Dodsworth, wife of the well-known actor. Among her more notable successes with Irving was that of Margery, the country girl, in *Becket*.

Mr. Hardie and Miss Von Leer's production of Geo. R. Sims's new play *For Life—and After* on Monday night, at Reading, was attended by every sign of success, the curtain having to be raised again and again after each act. Theatre managers from all parts of the country have witnessed the production during the week, and the piece is being rapidly booked up. Mr. E. P. Clift, we are informed, is at present unable to consider any of the applications he has received for No. 3 and "fit-up" rights.

Miss Dora Gray, as the somewhat luckless heroine of Mr. Sidney Bowkett's sparkling comedy *Lucky Miss Dean*, is acquiring fresh laurels by her charming portrayal of Acacia. She acts the part, as she looks it, to the life, and not only wears pretty frocks, but knows how to display them to advantage. Miss Gray's ability and her graceful method of expression are agreeably evident in her performance, to which the success of the comedy is mainly due.

The new Joan of Arc play, entitled *The Flower of France*, by Justin Huntly McCarthy, was recently performed for copyright purposes at the Scala. Following his usual custom, Mr. McCarthy has utilised the material for a novel, which has been published by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett under the same name.

With the advent of the fine weather many touring managers cease from touring, and expenses are at rest. In this respect they are more fortunate than their resident brethren, who must run their theatres right through the summer, or close with heavy charges still running. Under the circumstances managers are compelled to produce for themselves, and such fine plays as *The New Magdalen*, owned by Mr. Mulholland, become suddenly in great demand for special weeks or stock seasons. There is the added advantage in this that many young actors, who would otherwise be playing only one or two parts all the year round, thus gain valuable experience in a variety of characters.

Mr. Clarence Sounes announces the Drury Lane success, *The Prodigal Son*, for the attraction during the coming week at the new Prince's Theatre, Poplar. With his strong company and splendid production packed houses will certainly rule. Mr. Sounes has decided to give the weekly matinée on Thursday for the future.

"The Talk of the Town" will make its first appearance on Monday night at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith. The special company is under the direction of Mr. William Greet, who ran the piece at the Lyric Theatre, and it should be interesting to compare Mr. Seymour Hicks's earlier effort with his latest work at the Aldwych. The company is a strong one, and as the engagement is only for six nights and matinée on the Thursday, Mr. Mulholland's spacious playhouse should be crowded.

Miss Mildred Baker, whose charming personality and brilliant vocalisation lend such lustre to her performance of the part of Edith Adams, the Vassar Girl, in Mr. George Musgrove's *Prince of Pilsen* company, was introduced to the musical comedy stage by the merest accident. An ardent student of the pianoforte, Miss Baker was engaged to play the accompaniments to a famous prima donna at a "function" held at Claridge's Hotel, and graced by the presence of the King. The prima donna failed to appear at the proper moment, and Miss Baker, with great sang-froid, sang the numbers allotted to the absent star with an ease and dexterity which elicited not only the personal approbation of His Majesty, but secured for Miss Baker an immediate offer from Mr. George Edwardes to play Miss Violet Cameron's part of the Mother Superior in *The School Girl*.

Mr. F. R. Benson examined the pupils of the School of Drama, of which he is president, at the Albert Hall, on the 10th inst. The students were seen in a wide range of parts, including scenes from the *Atlanta in Calydon*, *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire* (by kind permission of Mr. Barrie), Dowson's *Pierrot of the Minute*, which was admirably performed by Miss Vivienne Stuckley and Miss Ruby Ginneo, an old pupil of the school, who had arranged the Moon Maiden's dance. Among the professors of the school present were Mr. Hugh Moss, Mr. Theodore Gilmer, M. Jules Morel, and Miss Elsie Fogerty, the principal of the classes, who stated that out of about seventy pupils attending the school, twenty-five had joined the new artist section. Mr. Benson, in the course of a careful and detailed criticism, emphasised the importance of the training given in the school by Dr. H. Hulbert in breathing and physical development, and of the fencing and dancing instruction. A dancer, properly trained, he said, became incapable of ungraceful movements. He also laid stress on the opportunities of learning from one another in rehearsal classes as distinct from mere individual coaching.

Mr. George Musgrove is to be congratulated upon the verasatility of the members of his *Prince of Pilsen* company. On Good Friday they gave a sacred concert at the Theatre Royal, Hull, which, under the control of Charles Thorburn, was a great success. After the opening by the orchestra, under Mr. J. Robertson's bâton, three other selections were played by them, Mr. B. T. Little and Mr. Frank Freeman sharing with Mr. Robertson the duties of conductor. Mr. Freeman also appeared as a violin soloist, and won enthusiastic applause. The vocalists were Miss Mildred Baker, Miss Flora Grey, Miss Nelly Cozens, Miss Nell Emerald, Mr. Stuart Alexander, Mr. G. V. Arnold, and the *Prince of Pilsen* Quartette. They all made valuable contributions to the programme of twenty-four items. Special praise was due to Mr. Stuart Alexander's rendering of "Ailsa Mine" and his duet, "The Birds that Sing," with Miss Nelly Cozens; the duet, "Oh, that we two were maying," by Miss Mildred Baker and Mr. G. V. Arnold; "The Lost Chord," by Miss Flora Grey; and "Tell me that beautiful story," by Miss Nell Emerald. Mr. J. A. Robertson and Mr. Charles A. Wenman were the accompanists. Mr. Edwin Adeler gave two monologues with great dramatic feeling and power.

The Scenic Artists' Association will give their third social dinner on Tuesday at the Adelphi Hotel, John-street. Tickets, which are limited to fifty, can be obtained by any scenic artist, whether a member of the Association or not, of Mr. H. Lawrence Harris, the honorary secretary, by application by post, enclosing a remittance and stamped addressed envelope. Applications must reach him at 23, Whittingstall-road, Fulham, S.W., by the first post on Monday at the latest, and tickets must be bought a day beforehand. The musical arrangements for the evening are in the hands of Mr. H. May Hemsley, several of whose professional friends have kindly volunteered their services, and an excellent programme is anticipated.

Mr. Arthur Stigant writes to say, relative to the Empire Revue *Venus, 1906*, that a musical comedy of his, produced at the Theatre Royal, Bradford, on Nov. 13, 1903, and provisionally entitled *The Time Machine*, has a certain resemblance to the Revue which emanates from the pen of George Grossmith, jun., inasmuch as both productions have Mr. H. G. Wells to thank for the main idea (the Machine).

Miss Madeline L'Estrange wishes to to tender her sincere thanks to her many friends for their letters and telegrams of sympathy in her great bereavement. Miss L'Estrange hopes to be well enough to resume work shortly.

Mr. Arthur Jefferson, of the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, has established a booking agency for recognised successful touring attractions. No commission will be accepted without an intimate knowledge of the production, and a full belief in its "drawing powers," and occasional personal visits will be paid to companies en route for Mr. Jefferson to satisfy himself that each production is being kept up to its original standard.

Mr. Bannister Howard has made arrangements with Mr. Norman V. Norman to produce *As You Like It* at the Crystal Palace next week, Shakespeare Festival Week. The entire production is under the personal supervision of Mr. Norman, who will play Jaques, with Miss Beatrice Wilson as Rosalind, supported by the members of Mr. Norman's company.

Mr. Norman V. Norman, owing to the very favourable reception given to Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge's adaptation of Stanley Weyman's novel *Count Hannibal*, has decided to present the play frequently in the provinces this year.

Fears with regard to the safety of Signor Caruso, Mme. Sembrich, and other members of the Metropolitan Opera Company who were in San Francisco at the time of the disaster, are allayed by the news of their escape. The hotels in which they were staying were utterly destroyed, and numerous jewels and valuables have been lost. Many of the chorus singers who were staying in the poorer quarter are reported missing.

"The Little Stranger," which has made such an extraordinary success at the Criterion, held a reception on Thursday afternoon, the invitations being extended to hospital nurses, who filled the theatre to the number of 600. Every institution of the class in London was represented, and the enjoyment of the piece was thorough and hearty. There was another baby present besides Master Edward Garrett, the diminutive impersonator of the title-rôle. In one of the boxes, nestling in the arms of a private nurse, was the "little stranger" which arrived in the household of Mr. Frank Curzon, the manager of the theatre, last month, and it was in this little baby girl's honour that the matinée took place.

Miss Tita Brand has been engaged to recite Grieg's "Bergliot" under the composer's own direction at the Queen's Hall on May 17, having been kindly released by Mr. F. R. Benson for the occasion. Miss Brand was asked by Dr. Grieg himself to recite the same work in German at Amsterdam on the 26th inst., also under his own conductorship, but as she is acting at the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford at the time, her mother, Miss Marie Brema, will appear at Amsterdam in her stead in the same work.

Mr. Norman A. Overton concludes on Saturday his engagement as lead in *The Luck of Life*, and opens on Monday in the principal part in *Man's Enemy*.

"The Rapparee Trooper," the comedy which Mr. Martin Harvey will produce on Thursday at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, is in four acts, and tells a story of seventeenth century days. Mr. Harvey appears as Brian O'Carroll, the hero, and Miss De Silva as Paudheen, a horse-boy. Supporting Mr. Harvey, will be Mr. Charles Cameron, Mr. Thalberg, Corbett, Mr. Albert Raynor, Miss Kate Rorke, Miss Grace Hampden, and Miss Bessie Elder. The action of Act I. is laid in the Royalist Camp at Ripton-under-Wye; that of Act II. in the Hall of Yarrington Grange, Upper Locombe; that of Act. III. in the Wardrobe Room of Armitage Manor; and that of Act IV. at Marbrook Hall, Lower Upcombe.

Mr. Charles Fry will give his Saturday Shakespearean matinées this year at the Court Theatre, the first one taking place on May 5, when *The Winter's Tale* will be performed, with incidental music by Arthur Fox. Mr. Fry will appear as Leontes, Miss Olive Kennett as Hermione, and Mr. Patrick Munro as Autolycus.

At the meeting of the Dramatic Debaters at Frascati's on Sunday next, 8 p.m., Miss Italia Conti will open a discussion on "Realism versus Idealism," a plea for the "simple life" of the drama. Mr. Hamilton Fyfe will be in the chair.

By kind permission of his Grace the Duke and of her Grace the Duchess of Sutherland, and under their especial patronage, Miss Italia Conti will give a musical and dramatic recital at Stafford House, on Tuesday afternoon, June 12. The matinée will be under the patronage of H.R.H. the Princess Christian and H.R.H. the Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, and many other distinguished leaders in social and artistic circles.

In the forthcoming revival of *Prunella* (a pierrot play by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker) at the Court Theatre, the serenade in the second act will be sung instead of spoken, as it was in the original version, the vocalist being Mr. W. H. Penderel Price. There will also be several alterations in the third act.

Mr. James Welch and full company from Terry's Theatre will give a special matinée of *The New Clown* at the Crystal Palace Theatre on Thursday, at 2.30. Mr. J. Bannister Howard is thus fulfilling his promise to provide leading London attractions similar to those which were such a successful feature of the old prosperous days of the Palace.

The proverb that "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good" was illustrated on Wednesday, when a motor-car broke down on its way through Canterbury. The occupants decided to wait until the car was repaired, and looked in at the Theatre Royal, where the new farce, *The Other Man's Business*, was in progress. At the end of the play they asked to see the manager, and at once negotiated for the American rights of the piece. The lady and gentleman proved to be a well-known American manager and his wife, and they seemed well pleased with their stay in Canterbury.

Bombay is to be provided with a new theatre, which is to be ready early next year. It will be fitted with all modern improvements, and will have a spacious stage, ample dressing-room accommodation, and electric lighting. The house will seat 1200 persons, representing about £300 per night. Messrs. Soundy and Co., theatre and concert agents, of Bombay, are interested in the scheme, and would furnish all particulars.

Princess Henry of Battenberg has graciously accepted the dedication of a song of love, entitled "Love's Sweet Interpretation," to her daughter, the Princess Ena, in commemoration of the forthcoming marriage to King Alfonso. The song is written by Mr. A. C. Shelley and composed by Mr. Stephen Philpott, the composer of the opera *La Gitana*, in the Turner Opera Company's répertoire, and many lighter pieces. It is set to a pretty waltz refrain.

Miss Mary Raby has just terminated thirteen weeks' engagement as the Queen in *Cymbeline* at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester. On the last night of the production, which ran 101 nights, Miss Raby was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan with a handsome silver toilet set.

Mr. Alban Atwood, who will be remembered as an actor of some twelve years' experience, also as part author of *Oh, Susannah!*, *The Lady Dentist*, *Naughty Rosina*, &c., has just returned from a long tour in Australasia.

Mr. Russell Rosse will produce Arthur W. Pinero's world-famous comedy, *Sweet Lavender*, at the Brixton Theatre on Monday next. A strong company has been engaged, including Messrs. W. H. R. Lancy, Robert Minster, J. Nelson Ramsay, H. Tripp-Edgar, Walter Maclean, Chas. R. Hann, Mmes. Ethel Verne, Eugenie Vernie, Edna Godfrey-Turner, and Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner.

At Marlborough-street Police-court, on Thursday, George Baker, described as a "stage hand," living in Whitechapel, was charged, on remand, with being found in His Majesty's Theatre on the evening of the 5th inst. for the supposed purpose of committing a felony. The evidence showed that the prisoner had been forbidden to enter the theatre, but, to the astonishment of one of the electricians, he was seen on the stage behind the scenes during the performance of *Nero*. As coats belonging to the employees had been missed, one disappearing on an occasion when Baker was in the theatre, he was given into custody. Asked to account for his presence on the stage, he said he had acted as a "super" at the theatre, and only called for his money. The witnesses denied this statement. A previous conviction for "loitering" at Birmingham with intent to commit a felony having been proved, Mr. Kennedy committed the prisoner for trial.

"Telharmony" is the euphonious name of a new invention by means of which music can be obtained by electricity. The inventor of the system is Dr. Thaddeus Cahill, an American, who claims that by his invention music can be projected to a distance of fifty miles or more. The principle of the invention is that the music is generated in the shape of electricity, sent to its destination by wire, and then turned into sound waves. Dr. Cahill says that the generators produce a constant supply of electrical vibrations, from which the performer draws such as he desires. Similarly, in a pipe organ air is pumped into a bellows; then the player, by pressing certain keys, turns it into different pipes to produce the tones he desires. The beauty of the music depends entirely upon the skill and soul of the performer.

Dr. Cahill is at present engaged with his invention in America, where it is being placed in hotels, cafés, theatres, concert halls, and the large shops. Concerts have already been sent from Baltimore to Washington on leased telephone wires, but when the system is fairly installed the company that has been formed hopes to put in its own wires. The invention will be launched in England some time in the autumn, and Dr. Cahill hopes that within a year Londoners will put it into their homes.

At Bow-street Police-court, on Wednesday, William Cecil Watson, twenty-three, described as an elocutionist, was charged with obtaining £5 5s. by fraud from Mr. Bertram Parker. A detective-inspector said that the accused was arrested at 63 and 64, Chancery-lane, in an office, the door of which bore the name of the International Theatrical Syndicate. When taken into custody the accused turned to another in the room, and exclaimed, "They say it is fraud, Henry. Come along to the station with me, and back me up in this." The detective added that he found in the office some memos headed, "Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate. Established 1898. W. C. Watson, general manager." The prisoner was remanded, and upon an application for bail, the inspector mentioned that he had already interviewed a number of young ladies in connection with this matter, and there would be a lot of cases against the prisoner of fraudulently obtaining sums of money, ranging from £5 to £10. The application was refused.

"THE BOND OF NINON."

A New and Original Play, in Three Acts, by Clotilde Graves, produced at the Savoy Theatre, On Thursday, April 19.

Louis XIV. ..... Mr. H. V. Esmond
Chevalier de Bellorme ..... Mr. Henry Ainley
M. de Bellorme ..... Mr. Frank Tyars
La Brosse ..... Mr. Edward Sass
Abbé Gedoine ..... Mr. Eugene Mayeur
Marquis de la Châtres .. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd
Baron de Marsal .. Mr. Stanley W. Ashworth
Comte de Lauzun ..... Mr. Harry Welchman
De Vigny ..... Mr. St. Clair Bayfield
Duc de la Rochefoucauld .. Mr. Henry Williams
Sieur de St. Evrémond .... Mr. Walter Powis
Maréchal de Turenne .... Mr. Leonard Calvert
Molière ..... Mr. Charles Terric
Racine ..... Mr. J. H. Walters
La Fontaine ..... Mr. Harold Chapin
Père la Chaise ..... Mr. Lionel Scott
Laramie ..... Mr. Alfred Callan
Blouet ..... Master Herbert Hollom
Madame Scarron ..... Miss Helen Ferrers
Hélène de Villars ..... Miss Beatrice Terry
Duchesse de Longueville .. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy
Duchesse de Sully ..... Miss Laura Barradell
Marquise de Rambouillet .... Miss May Straker
Marquise de Sévigné .. Miss St. Clair Swanzy
Mlle. de Scudéry ..... Miss Lillian Mather
Rosette ..... Miss Beryl Mercer
Ninon de l'Enclos ..... Miss Lena Ashwell

Miss Clotilde Graves has grasped the great truth that there is only one way of playing the Dumas-the-elder tune, and that is in the "fair, fearless old fashion." But she has introduced some agreeable variations. Her hero is, as customary, all-conquering; but a pleasant touch of humour is introduced by making him a slight stutterer. There is a certain amount of subtlety, too, in the character of the heroine. She is an epicure in love, and—mark of the self-analysing modern!—is more anxious about the state of her own heart than about that of her adorer's. She secludes herself so as not to mix up common worldliness with the poetry of a fresh fancy; and, like the Lady of the Camellias, when it is put to her by the elderly relative that she is spoiling the young man's life, she promises to act as the good genius of the youth and his family, and keeps her promise. These refinements give an agreeable modernity to the old adventures—the duelling, the troubles with the libertine King, the arrests, and the escapes; and the net result is an active and interesting piece, ingeniously arranged, and written with an admirable combination of intelligence and information. Miss Graves has the history of the period at her fingers' ends; and her dialogue is bright, clear, and always pat to the point.

She starts with a well-known personality—always a great point in a "historical" piece. Most people have a "notion" of Ninon de l'Enclos, chiefly celebrated for the wonderful way in which she "wore"; a fact which has been attributed by some to hygiene, and by others to cosmetics. When the action opens, Ninon is in her bloom, and has captivated, amongst many others, a young Lorraine gentleman, the Chevalier de Bellorme, who, D'Artagnan-like, has come to Paris to enter the King's Musketeers, and by Royal influence secure possession of some family property. In the society of Ninon he forgets both objects. He volunteers, however, in a moment of impulse, for the war which is going on, and induces Ninon to sign a romantic "bond" agreeing to love only the "bearer." De Bellorme pins this document to his breast, and defies the world to take it from him. After he has left her, Ninon regrets having bound herself down in black and white, and sends, first an Abbé, and afterwards three officers to fight De Bellorme, and get back the paper. The Lorrainer vanquishes them all, wounding each of the soldiers slightly. Then, outside Ninon's windows, we hear read out the King's edict threatening with death anyone who shall hurt or kill one of his household troops; and the King, *incognito* as "Monsieur de Dieudonné," enters, and makes audacious love to Ninon, who fends him off as best she may, sending a female friend to warn de Bellorme of his danger. The message brings back the gallant disguised in the friend's cloak. He finds Louis and the lady together; and there is an explosion, resulting in the Chevalier being arrested and taken to prison. Ninon bets the King a kiss, &c., that De Bellorme will escape and come to supper with her as arranged; and, at a fashionable gathering, "amongst whom," as the reports say, "we noticed" the Duc de la Rochefoucauld, the Marshal de Turenne, Molière, Racine, and "many others," the young man, who has set fire to his prison in order to get out of it, arrives scorched and swooning, and wins his mistress's wager. The King gives him his estate and a commission in the Musketeers; and Ninon restores him virtuously to his friends and his relations, including an insipid little lady to whom he was betrothed in Lorraine, but with whom he had a lover's quarrel on account of an inconsiderate imputation which she made upon his personal courage.

The amount of talent which can be placed at the disposal of a romantic dramatist nowadays was proved by the fine cast to which Miss Graves's piece was entrusted. Miss Ashwell's achievements in previous productions have made for her a reputation far above any to be obtained by her charming performance as Ninon de l'Enclos, which gained immensely by the absolute ease and confidence with which she handled the part. She was the fine lady of the period to the ends of her nails; and her delightful diction, her exquisite grace, and the expressive and dramatic touches which she introduced whenever possible, made her embodiment absolutely satisfying and convincing. Mr. Henry Ainley played the Chevalier de Bellorme with just the needed chivalric elation and romantic ardour, and looked the part excellently; and Mr. H. V. Esmond's Louis XIV. could hardly have been improved upon, so polished and acute was it, and so full of crisp confidence and sharp command. Mr. Frank Tyars was as blunt and sincere as could be desired as M. de Bellorme, and supplied a bold and rugged embodiment of the honest old Lorrainer; and Mr. Edward Sass hit off neatly the traits of the refined valet, La Brosse, Mr. Eugene Mayeur, as Gedoine, giving a neat embodiment of the "fighting parson" of the period. Mr. Vincent Sternroyd, Mr. Stanley W. Ashworth, and Mr. Harry Welchman were entirely satisfying as the three military duellists; and Miss Helen Ferrers played the widow Scarron piquantly, Miss Beatrice Terry being duly naïve and natural as Hélène de Villars. The many distinguished personages of the period introduced wore their sumptuous costumes well, and bore themselves bravely and with grace and discretion. The single scene, a luxurious Louis XIV. interior, was beautifully designed and cleverly painted by Messrs. Hugo Baruch and Co.; and the whole of the splendid costumes were supplied by Messrs. B. J. Simmons and Co., who had carried out a large and important commission with very great taste and liberality. Mr. Percy E. Fletcher had composed a special overture, and some appropriate incidental music; and under the personal superintendence of the authoress and Mr. Edward Sass, the piece went with the greatest smoothness. We must not forget to mention the very pretty performance of the small part of the boy Blouet which was given by Master Herbert Hollom, who showed remarkable intelligence and promise. *The Bond of Ninon* had a hearty reception; and the audience waited for some time in the hope—which proved to be a vain one—that the authoress would appear and acknowledge their demonstrations.

THE GARRICK.

On Saturday, April 14, Shakespeare's Play, "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Shylock ..... Mr. Bourchier
Jessica ..... Miss Elfrida Clement
Tubal ..... Mr. Charles V. France
Prince of Morocco ..... Mr. Lawson Butt
Duke of Venice ..... Mr. Arthur Whitby
Antonio ..... Mr. Charles V. France
Bassanio ..... Mr. Julian L'Estrange
Gratiano ..... Mr. George Trollope
Lorenzo ..... Mr. Walter Pearce
Salarino ..... Mr. Wilfred Forster
Salanio ..... Mr. Douglas Imbert
Salerio ..... Mr. Alfred Bristowe
Launcelot Gobbo ..... Mr. Norman Forbes
Old Gobbo ..... Mr. O. B. Clarence
Leonardo ..... Mr. F. G. Knott
Balthaser ..... Mr. James Adams
Clerk of the Court ..... Mr. Harrison Carter
Nerissa ..... Miss Muriel Beaumont
Portia ..... Miss Violet Vanbrugh

For Easter week Mr. Bourchier revived *The Merchant of Venice* at the Garrick Theatre, opening on Saturday last with two performances, afternoon and evening. This brief revival has given playgoers another opportunity, not only of enjoying an excellent representation of Shakespeare's play, but of showing their appreciation of the remarkably effective and artistic manner in which the piece has been staged, under the supervision of Mr. Alan Mackinnon. Seldom have the details of a Shakespearean revival been looked after with such an evident desire to secure perfection; and this marked feature of the production last October and the latest revival is deserving of special attention. Take for example the scene where Launcelot hands Lorenzo the letter he has brought from Jessica, and then with a bow takes his departure. Lorenzo, and his companions, Gratiano, Salarino, and Salanio, inspired by the high spirits which accompany youth, resolve to have a bit of fun with the younger Gobbo, and in succession they make him a profound bow, as if he were a most distinguished personage. A capital piece of business this, trifling in itself no doubt, but important in helping to lighten and brighten the play. Then, again, how well-managed is the next scene, before Shylock's house, where the Jew's daughter flees with the gallant Lorenzo. The hurried departure of the lovers by boat, the sudden inrush of a number of noisy, gaily-dressed revellers, and then the silence of the night, broken only by the return of the Jew, who, lantern in hand, makes his way over the bridge which spans the river to the door of his deserted house, where he stands knocking as the curtain falls. The Court scene is another admirable sample of stage-management, all the details having evidently received the most careful attention.

Mr. Bourchier's Shylock remains the sound and satisfying performance which received the approval of the critics when "the Merchant" was revived last autumn. The embodiment of the Jew is marked by a level excellence throughout rather than by any special piece of acting, and the whole bears the impress of much scholarly care and thought. Miss Violet Vanbrugh, happily recovered from her recent indisposition, again gives us a charmingly vivacious Portia, who enters into the scheme to masquerade as the youthful advocate with a girlish enthusiasm that is quite delightful, while her deportment and delivery of her lines in the famous Trial scene are also deserving of special commendation. A few changes in the cast are to be noted. Mr. Charles V. France now doubles the parts of Tubal and Antonio (formerly played by Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw), and is quite successful in both rôles. Mr. George Trollope, the Salarino of the original cast, is the new Gratiano, and is appropriately gay and gallant in his bearing. The Lorenzo of Mr. Walter Pearce is characterised by youthful spirit and gallantry; and Mr. Julian L'Estrange is a handsome Bassanio. Mr. Lawson Butt is an exceedingly fine and commanding Prince of Morocco; and both dignity and calm composure are conspicuous in the Duke of Venice of Mr. Arthur Whitby. Mr. Norman Forbes exhibits genuine humour in his portrayal of Launcelot; and an exceedingly neat and telling character-sketch is the Old Gobbo of Mr. O. B. Clarence. Messrs. Wilfred Forster, Douglas Imbert, and Alfred Bristowe, as Salarino, Salanio, and Salerio, make the best use of their opportunities; and other minor parts are safely entrusted to Messrs. F. G. Knott, Jas. Adams, and Harrison Carter. Miss Elfrida Clement is a graceful and pleasing Jessica; and Miss Muriel Beaumont scores as an attractive Nerissa. The revival has been greatly appreciated by holiday audiences who prefer "the bard" to more frivolous forms of theatrical entertainment.

MISS ELLEN TERRY'S STAGE JUBILEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I see in your last number a splendid scheme set out to raise a national fund for the above object, and some thirty names underneath, representing most of the heads of the profession; but, alas! I do not see any name standing for opera, and yet one cannot be surprised, and the promoters of this scheme cannot be blamed, for, after all, where is grand opera in this country? And it is only because I might suggest that with grand opera we would associate oratorio and concert artists that I raise my voice for a representative. May I say that, if satisfactory, I should be only too happy to help in any way the committee suggest, and though grand opera in English, in my opinion, is probably about in the same condition, position, and state at present as the drama was some 400 years ago, yet I can assure the committee that there are none more willing to help admirers of Miss Ellen Terry than Fanny Moody and Charles Manners.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES MANNERS.

Theatre Royal, Birmingham, April 16.

At one time during the Easter Holidays those connected with the theatrical world in Paris were allowed to take a rest. On Good Friday the playhouses were closed, and no manager dreamt of launching novelties at that moment. Things, however, are totally changed. The *entente cordiale* has sent a large portion of the English population into France. And in order to do honour to their English guests, Paris managers have thrown their doors wide open, and have reaped a golden harvest.

A new one-act play entitled *Bathsheba* will be produced in front of *Facing the Music* at the Artillery Theatre, Woolwich, on Monday.

"DOROTHY O' THE HALL."

An Original Romantic Play, in Four Acts, by Paul Kester and Charles Major, Produced at the New Theatre, on Saturday, April 14.

The Earl of Rutland .. Mr. Frederick Groves
Sir John Manners ..... Mr. Fred Terry
Sir George Vernon .... Mr. J. Carter-Edwards
Sir Malcolm Vernon .. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw
William Cecil ..... Mr. D. J. Williams
Sir William St. Loe ..... Mr. Malcolm Cherry
Perkin ..... Mr. Horace Hodges
Will Dawson ..... Mr. W. A. Haines
Mark ..... Mr. Walter Edwin
Gregory ..... Mr. George Dudley
An Old Retainer ..... Mr. Ernest E. Imeson
Elizabeth Tudor ..... Miss Miriam Lewes
Mary Stuart ..... Miss Adeline Bourne
Lady Vernon ..... Miss Claire Pauncefort
Jenny Paxton ..... Miss Mary Mackenzie
Bess ..... Miss Marion Sterling
Dorothy Vernon ..... Miss Julia Neilson

Messrs. Paul Kester and Charles Major are a pair of skilful playwrights, and they have provided Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry with a capital piece of its kind—an unflagging succession of incidents, an ever-animated combination of comedy and melodrama. And they have made a great deal out of very meagre materials. Upon the mere anecdote of Dorothy Vernon's elopement, upon the traditional charm of the fine old Devonshire mansion, they have hung a tale of treasons and trials, of captures and escapes, of alarms and excursions, which is constantly amusing and exciting. The free and liberal way with which they have handled their work is quite in the spirit of the sixteenth century, when parents scolded, slapped, and starved their daughters into submission, and when the daughters—unruly baggages!—were only to be managed by scolding, starving, and slapping. Taine's view of the Elizabethan temperament is quite endorsed by the authors of *Dorothy o' the Hall*, in which play the stern father is always on the point of "boiling over," and is only reduced to the "simmering" stage by the authority of a Tudor sovereign. Sir George Vernon, the lord of Haddon Hall, has made a contract with the Earl of Rutland, promising to give his daughter Dorothy to the Earl's son, Sir John Manners, on her majority. Sir George, however, changes his mind, and decides to marry the young lady to her cousin, Sir Malcolm Vernon, who, when the play opens, is expected to arrive and claim his lovely bride. But young Sir John presents himself in the character of Sir Malcolm, and woos and wins the young lady; and when the real "Simon Pure" comes he finds himself forestalled. Sir John's life is in danger—the Vernons and the Rutlands are at deadly enmity—but the ready-witted Dorothy conceals him in the Hall, and leads her father to believe that the gallant has got away.

Now it happens that, in addition to his little love-affair, Sir John is concerned—quite innocently of any treason, be it understood—in assisting Mary Queen of Scots to enter England as a suppliant for Elizabeth's mercy; and Mary is, in fact, harbouring at Rutland Castle. Manners is discovered in his hiding-place by the Vernons; but Elizabeth, who happens to be calling at the Hall, agrees to set him free if Dorothy will extract from him the place of Mary's concealment. To save her lover from the rack, Dorothy does this, and then gets through the guards in disguise, and gallops off to Rutland Castle, to warn the Queen of Scots that Elizabeth and her soldiers are coming to capture her. Sir Malcolm, a thorough traitor, is one of Mary's men, and is plotting to put her on the English throne. He arrives in haste at Rutland Castle, and meets Dorothy, disguised as the Scottish Queen. He thus betrays his treason; and when Dorothy discloses her identity, he is inclined to kill her to secure her silence. But the young lady is a practised swordswoman; and in the bout which follows Malcolm gets the worst of it, Elizabeth's party arriving in time to stop the duel, but not to catch the traitor. In the last act, Dorothy cajoles Elizabeth by persuading the vain Queen that Manners is hopelessly smitten by her beauty, and Queen Bess merely sentences Sir John to a year's exile to Rutland Castle, Dorothy running away with him to be married—as per legend.

Miss Dorothy Vernon has a fine, exuberant temper, and a good many funny feminine idiosyncrasies; and the part permits Miss Julia Neilson to storm and scold after the manner of Katharine in *The Taming of the Shrew*, to display "amorous propensities" in the most winning and amusing way, to tremble with anxiety, to languish with grief, to lament troubles, to defy oppressors, and to fight a stage duel in the most vigorous and energetic way. It is, as we used to say of a Sarah Bernhardt rôle, *toute la lyre*; and a more effective part in a romantic costume play has seldom been written. Miss Neilson revels in its opportunities, and sends her audience into transports of delight by her versatile and vivacious performance. It is hardly necessary to state that she makes a beautiful picture in the sumptuous dresses of the Tudor period, her orange wig being especially becoming. Mr. Fred Terry's handsome person is finely embellished by the male dress of the time, and he plays Sir John Manners with a manly boldness and an earnest intensity which render the love-making of the "pretty pair" very agreeable to witness. What with Dorothy's caprice and Sir John's masterfulness, there was certainly nothing mawkish about these passages; and what is a romantic play without plenty of good, hearty love-making? Mr. J. Carter-Edwards, with that mellow, distinct delivery of his, his striking personality, and his ripe experience, was the most violent and imperious of sixteenth century sires, and his strong and solid embodiment stood out strongly from the general canvas. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw in the unthankful character of Sir Malcolm Vernon acted with his usual conscientious care and steady ability; and Mr. J. D. Williams was a dignified Lord Burleigh; Mr. Frederick Groves being entirely efficient as the Earl of Rutland. Mr. Horace Hodges was fortunate in the possession of such a good part as that of Perkin, and played the faithful jester with all the requisite quaint oddity and half-humorous sentiment. Mr. W. A. Haines was satisfactory as an old retainer; and Mr. Walter Edwin merited favourable notice as the Butcher. A performance really remarkable both for its promise and its achievement was Miss Miriam Lewes's Queen Elizabeth. It was an admirable historical study, the famous characteristics of Queen Bess being quite naturally noted, and the whole reading being imbued with a most commendable assumption of regal authority. Miss Lewes's facial play was capital, especially in the scene in which the Queen was flattered by the artful Dorothy. Miss Adeline Bourne played Mary Queen of Scots with just the necessary touch of mournful resignation, and took full advantage of the few opportunities offered to her. Miss Claire Pauncefort was a most imposing Lady Vernon; and Miss Mary Mackenzie was a pleasing representative of Jenny Paxton, Miss Marion Sterling doing useful work as Bess. The whole production, under the direction of Mr. Fred Terry, was liberal and artistic. Mr. R. C. McCleery has supplied a charming view of the exterior of Haddon Hall—with a profusion of flowers and bowers—and two excellent interiors; and Mr. Raymond Roze has written some very suitable incidental and entr'acte music. *Dorothy o' the Hall* is likely to be one of the most popular productions of the Terry-Neilson *régime*. Its reception at the New Theatre on Saturday was ardently enthusiastic.

"THE DAIRYMAIDS."

A Farcical Musical Play, in Two Acts and Three Scenes, by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, Music by Paul A. Rubens and Frank E. Tours, Lyrics by Paul A. Rubens and Arthur Wimperis, Produced at the Apollo Theatre, on Saturday, April 14.

Lady Brudenell ..... Miss Phyllis Broughton
Sam Brudenell ..... Mr. Walter Passmore
Frank Brudenell ..... Mr. Horace Lane
Capt. Fred Leverton ..... Mr. Frank Greene
Dr. O'Bryne ..... Mr. Ambrose Manning
Joe Mivens ..... Mr. Dan Rolyat
Tim Capus ..... Mr. G. W. Bowes
Lieut. Brereton ..... Mr. Rupert Mar
Todgers ..... Mr. Carr Evans
Peggy ..... Miss Carrie Moore
Winifred ..... Miss Agnes Fraser
Hélène ..... Miss Florence Smithson
Miss Penelope Pyechase .. Miss Carlotta Zerbini
Eliza ..... Miss Gracie Leigh
Daisy ..... Miss Gertrude Kushlle
Betty ..... Miss Dorothy Ward
Joan ..... Miss Alice Coleman
Jenny ..... Miss Winnie Volt
Nancy ..... Miss Louie Lochner
Rosie ..... Miss Beryl Vaudrey
Gertie ..... Miss Bertha Russell
Bessie ..... Miss Kittie Sparrow

We almost ought to begin this notice with a description of the acting; for never was a success more attributable to the efforts of individual artists than was the triumph of *The Dairymaids* at the Apollo Theatre on Saturday last. Yet we must always remember that, putting plot on one side, the comedian or comedienne in a musical play must have "something to go upon"; and the cleverness of Messrs. A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, the authors of the book, and of Messrs. Paul Rubens, Frank Tours, and Arthur Wimperis, the lyricists and composers, has been shown in the way in which they have supplied the principals of the company at the Apollo with just enough material to suggest, without trammelling, their individual talents. The librettists have avowedly taken their "notion" from *Much Ado About Nothing*. The Beatrice and the Benedick of the "story" are O'Bryne, a naval doctor, and Lady Brudenell, whose hobby is "running" a model dairy. Two brisk young men, Sam Brudenell and Frank Brudenell, are in love with Peggy and Winifred, young lady pupils at the farm, who, having offended Lady Brudenell, are sent back to school. Thus the exhibition of an "up-to-date" female gymnasium in the second act is accounted for; and to this establishment Sam and Frank obtain admission, disguised as schoolgirls, the good-natured O'Bryne posing as a widower with two "encumbrances." It is obvious that to create a complicated embroglio has not been the intention of the authors, who have safely relied on simple drollery of dialogue and harmless variety of incident. The naval doctor goes into a field in the first act, tries to milk a bull, and returns with his overcoat torn to ribbons; a common sailor—"Oh! the irony of that word," as applied to Joe Mivens!—has a prolonged wrestle with a wheelbarrow, and a violent struggle later on with a punching-ball, besides coming down a flight of stairs in one glide; and the spirit of the whole entertainment is one of easy, artless jollity.

Much of the success of *The Dairymaids* must be attributed to the very pretty way in which the piece is dressed and mounted. Mr. Conrad Tritschler is responsible for a "truly rural" set for the first act, with a real modern churn, real hay, and real pigeons; and there is a novel and charming spectacle in the second act, where, after a cleverly-managed quick-change from an officer's mess-room on board a man-o'-war to the female gymnasium above-mentioned, we are allowed to see the young ladies, in becoming light blue suits, doing their Indian clubs and dumb-bell exercises. The hit of the evening was scored by Mr. Dan Rolyat, who has certainly come, been seen by, and conquered a London audience. Mr. Rolyat has a style of his own—a quiet, "pawky" way of making his points, a meek, sleek smile, and a side-long appealing glance, which, combined, prove irresistible. He is, besides, an expert acrobat; and the easy, natural way in which he "throws himself about" creates roars of laughter. The cast includes that delightful comedian, Mr. Walter Passmore. Ludicrous in the extreme is Mr. Passmore's appearance in the second act, attired as an old-fashioned girl with red hair and gold spectacles. There is nothing in the least forced or vulgar about Mr. Passmore's "female impersonation"; and from first to last his performance is in the purest vein of light comedy. His treatment of the ditty, "Dover Street"—a playful satire on a well-known ladies' club—is the acme of dainty drollery. When Mr. Rolyat and Mr. Passmore get together, as they do in a burlesque duet, "Poaching," the result is most comical. Their fooling is the extreme of the absurd, the alert, and the extravagant. Then there is Miss Phyllis Broughton, reviving many pleasant memories as Lady Brudenell, and playing the part with all the necessary *aplomb* and style; and Mr. Frank Greene, who acts ably as Captain Fred Leverton, and pleases all ears by his agreeable rendering of the song "Dreamland" in the last act. Mr. Ambrose Manning's Dr. O'Bryne is an excellent portraiture of an essentially good-natured Irishman. It exudes amiability at every pore; and is a most hearty and humorous impersonation. Mr. Horace Lane does excellent work as Frank Brudenell, employing ease, activity, and ability. Miss Carrie Moore, radiant with cheerfulness, sly, smiling, and seductive, quick, comely, and clever, wins all hearts as Peggy. Her great hit is made in the song, "The Sandow Girl." Here Miss Moore appears in the light and clinging attire of a female athlete, made familiar by a well-known "poster," and is supported by a quartette of tall lasses, similarly attired. *The Dairymaids* will chiefly be remembered by this song and its accessories. Miss Agnes Fraser is a bewitching Winifred; and she gets every ounce of possible archness and effect out of a "Little Stranger" ditty, in ridicule of various contemporary precocities. Miss Florence Smithson is the most innocent and imperturbable of ingénues, and well deserves the encore she obtains for a really well-written song, "The Thrush," one of the gems of the score. Miss Smithson sings it very sweetly, showing thorough command of a very agreeable voice. She is equally successful with another of Mr. Tours's compositions, a very pretty number, with the title, "Love among the Daisies." Miss Carlotta Zerbini is irreproachable as the schoolmistress; and that droll and original artist, Miss Gracie Leigh, is cleverly characteristic as Eliza, and brings down the house by her dainty and expert step-dancing. She is well suited with the amusing song, "Mary of the Dairy," and with another of the same character called "Grambles." What a mere description of *The Dairymaids* must fail to do justice to is the spirit of grace, beauty, and harmless fun which pervades the piece. Dialogue, music, and performers are in the same key of prettiness and pleasantry. A sweet note of rustic freshness is struck in the first act; and a delicate tone of simplicity is secured in the second by the boarding-school business. From first to last, there is not a harsh note or an unsavoury suggestion to be thankful for. To Mr. Wilhelm must be allotted credit for the designs of the costumes; and Mr. Harry Grattan has arranged the dances very nicely and neatly. Mr. Arthur Wood's orchestra is well under the control of his practised bâton; and Mr. Robert Courtneidge's superintendence of the production quite accounts for its completeness. *The Dairymaids* adds one more to the list of recently-presented musical-play successes.

"MARKHEIM."

A Play in One Act, Adapted from a Story of Robert Louis Stevenson, by W. L. Courtney, Produced at the Lyric Theatre, on Saturday afternoon, April 14.

Markheim ..... Mr. H. B. Irving
A Dealer ..... Mr. D. McCarthy
A Servant Girl ..... Miss Eileen Munro
A Spirit ..... Mr. Leslie Faber

It is a somewhat gruesome "notion" that Mr. Courtney has borrowed from Stevenson. But the adaptor has certainly done justice to the work of the original author, for his one-act play, *Markheim*, is extremely well written and well constructed. Markheim is one of the world's gamblers. He has become more than that, for into his spirit of gambling has crept the spirit of criminality. He has not been content with merely spending his own money in the most prodigal fashion—he must needs steal valuable curios from his uncle's collection in order to raise money to gratify his passion. These treasures he disposes of to a dealer, a doddering old miser who keeps a curiosity shop. It is Christmas Day, and the dealer has just permitted his servant a grant of absence to see her sweetheart. A few minutes after the girl goes out, a knock is heard at the door, and Markheim is admitted. The dealer anticipates that Markheim has brought some special objet d'art to dispose of, but the latter assures him that his uncle's cabinet is bare to the wainscot, that he has not come to sell but to buy, and that he wishes a Christmas present for a lady. Is a rich marriage a thing to be neglected? The dealer unlocks a drawer, and produces a fifteenth-century hand-mirror. While he is getting it, Markheim swiftly and silently steps behind him with raised hand. His intention is obvious—but for the moment he lacks the determination to carry it out. The hand-mirror will not do. Then, in somewhat strange fashion, Markheim enters into the history of the business transactions which have passed between the two men. He suggests that each take the other into his confidence. A dishonest enterprise is hinted at. The dealer will have none of it, and says Markheim must either make his purchase or walk out of the shop. The dealer goes to select another article; but while his body is bent over a drawer he is stabbed in the back by Markheim, and falls to the ground dead. Markheim is terrified. He sees hideous ghosts in the old portraits, in the china gods, in the chance reflections in the mirrors. And ever and anon, as he is ransacking the chests and drawers, some fresh apprehension thrills and unmans him. He turns his attention to an iron-bound box, and is in the act of unlocking it when the door opens noiselessly, and a shrouded figure glides into the room. It is the Spirit of Right and Wrong. It taunts him with not having found as much money as he anticipated, but proposes to tell him where a hidden hoard can be found. Markheim disdains the offer, and then the Spirit tempts him further. Will not the same dexterity that has rid him of the dealer also relieve him of the last danger in his path—the servant girl? Then he will have the whole night in which to ransack the treasure-house and make good his safety. And yet, in the next breath, the Spirit mercilessly warns him that even further wrong can only afford a temporary relief. Still Markheim refuses to adopt the suggested means of escape. He will meet the fate he has merited by the murder. The Spirit vanishes, a smile of hope and joy and peace illuminating its countenance. For Markheim the night of evil is past. He is about to see the dawn of a better life, even though that life can only be entered into through the gates of death. Some loud raps are heard at the door. Markheim opens it, and admits the servant girl. "You had better go for the police," he tells her. "I have killed your master."

Mr. H. B. Irving gave an intellectual and realistic portrayal of the inner working of a murderer's mind. The look of horror which followed the dealing of the miser's death-blow, the sensation of terror as he imagines he sees witnesses of his deed in the old family portraits, in the bric-à-brac, even in the mirrored reflection of his own face, and the way in which he regarded the bloodstained figure on the floor with a feeling of physical repulsion, made a striking and expressive dramatic picture. It was an awesome and thrilling performance, and one not easily to be forgotten. Mr. D. McCarthy submitted an admirable character-study of the aged dealer, the shuffling movements of the old man and his weak, croaking voice, being well sustained. As the ghostly visitant, Mr. Leslie Faber was very impressive, his lines being delivered in a quiet, unassuming, but none the less effective manner. Miss Eileen Munro had little to do as the servant, but did that little well.

The Paris Folies-Dramatiques have not been fortunate with *La Troupe Chambertin*, their new farce. It is a very poor production, for which M. Paul Delarey is responsible. The Mayor in a small town in the South is annoyed because so many ladies within his jurisdiction deceive their husbands. He fancies it is because they have not sufficient amusements, and he therefore turns the old market into a theatre, and engages a good company to perform there nightly. But things become much worse, for the respectable citizens now make love to the actresses, and their wives lose their hearts to the actors. The piece is not likely to have anything of a run.

The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd., have decided to return to drama at their Dewsbury house. It will be presented on the two-houses-a-night system, beginning on Monday, with Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's No. 1 company in *East Lynne*.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Hero of Romance, Haymarket, March 14, 1868.
Her Own Enemy, Gaiety, March 26, 1884.
Her Own Rival, Opera Comique, April 13, 1889.
Her Own Witness, Criterion, Nov. 6, 1889.
Her Release, Folkestone, June 1, 1892.
Her Retaliation, Homerton, Nov. 18, 1889.
Her Royal Highness, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Aug. 22, 1898.
Her Second Love, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, June 13, 1887.
Her Secret, Shoreham, Nov. 24, 1897.
Her Talisman, Camberwell, Jan. 16, 1896.
Hertford, Theatre Royal, Bradford, Aug. 29, 1879.
Her True Colours, Ruthin, Nov. 6, 1891.
Her Trustee, Vaudeville, March 2, 1887.
Her Wedding Day, Glasgow, March 28, 1895.
Her World Against a Lie, Adelphi, Feb. 12, 1881.
He's a Lunatic, New Queen's, Oct. 24, 1867.
He's so Nervous, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, March 4, 1872.
Hester Gray, Prince's, Manchester, Oct. 27, 1877.
Hester Prynne, Tyne, Newcastle, March 27, 1876.
Hester's Mystery, Folly, June 5, 1880.
He Stoops to Win, Lyric Club, Dec. 15, 1891.
He Would be a Bohemian, Gall. of Illus., March 12, 1870.
He Would be a Sailor, Britannia, March 23, 1868.
Hidden, Stockport, Jan. 21, 1888.
Hidden Enemy, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, June 13, 1887.
Hidden Foe, Greenwich, May 28, 1892.
Hidden Gold, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Dec. 4, 1882.
Hidden Hand, Grecian, Feb. 25, 1861.
Hidden Past, Walsall, May 18, 1896.
Hidden Terror, Prince of Wales's, Southampton, March 16, 1891.
Hidden Treasure, Adelphi, Nov. 25, 1871.
Hidden Worth, Prince of Wales's, Nov. 3, 1886.
Highlanders, The, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Nov. 11, 1872.
Highland Fling, Vaudeville, Jan. 4, 1879.
Highland Hearts, Grand, Glasgow, Oct. 28, 1889.
Highland Legacy, Strand, Nov. 17, 1888.
High Life Below Stairs, Terry's, Jan. 14, 1895.
Highly Improbable, New Royalty, Dec. 5, 1867.
High Road of Life, City of London, March 23, 1857.
High Street Mystery, Theatre Royal, Cheetham, Sept. 23, 1885.
Highway Knight, Liverpool, March 14, 1898.
Highwayman, The, Opera Comique, June 5, 1891.
Hilda, Princess's, May 28, 1892.
Hilda's Inheritance, New Pavilion, Oct. 21, 1871.
Hilda, the Miser's Daughter, Adelphi, April 1, 1871.
Hinko; or, The Headsman's Bond, Queen's, Sept. 9, 1871.
His Brother's Keeper, Spennymoor, Dec. 24, 1900.
His Evening Out, Ladbroke Hall, Feb. 28, 1899.
His Excellency, Haymarket, July 11, 1860.
His Excellency the Governor, Court, June 11, 1898.
His Future Wife, Brighton, Feb. 3, 1890.
His Hidden Revenge, Upton Park, Oct. 10, 1887.
His Highness, Opera Comique, June 13, 1893.
His Landlady, Parkhurst, June 13, 1892.
His Last Cruise, Hatfield, Feb. 8, 1893.
His Last Stake, Princess's, April 24, 1888.
His Last Victory, St. James's, June 21, 1862.
His Little Dodge, Royalty, Oct. 24, 1896.
His Little Mania, Athenæum Hall, July 12, 1890.
His Lordship, Warlingham School, Aug. 6, 1890.
His Lordship's Birthday, Parkhurst, March 19, 1894.
His Majesty, Savoy, Feb. 20, 1897.
His Majesty's Musketeers, St. George's Hall, May 9, 1899.
His Masterpiece, Matinée, March 18, 1898.
His Mother, Grand, March 23, 1891.
His New French Cook, St. George's Hall, Feb. 6, 1899.
His Novice, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 1878.
His Other I, Theatre Royal, Worcester, May 20, 1898.
His Own Enemy, Haymarket, March 8, 1873.
His Own Guest, Opera Comique, May 19, 1883.
His Own Wife, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone, Nov. 3, 1894.
His Relations, Avenue, May 28, 1895.
His Romance, Olympic, Feb. 16, 1888.
His Satanic Majesty, Southend, Nov. 13, 1899.
His Success, Bayswater, Dec. 3, 1896.
His Second Wife, Avenue, June 29, 1892.
His Son-in-Law, Herne Bay, Sept. 12, 1890.
His Toast, Court, July 13, 1889.
His Treasures, Brompton Hospital, March 9, 1897.
His Wife, Sadler's Wells, April 16, 1881.
His Wife's Little Bill, Bedford-street, May 17, 1894.
His Wife's Picture, Avenue, May 23, 1900.
His Wives, Strand, May 23, 1888.
Hit and Miss, Olympic, April 13, 1868.
Hit Him, He Has No Friends, Strand, Sept. 17, 1860.
H.M.S. Missfire, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, March 11, 1895.
H.M.S. Pinafore, Opera Comique, May 25, 1878.
Hobbies, St. George's Hall, April 6, 1885.
Hobby Horse, The, St. James's, Oct. 25, 1886.
Hobson's Choice, Nottingham, April 24, 1895.
Hogmanay, Globe, Aug. 30, 1898.
Hokee Pokee, Grecian, Dec. 24, 1878.
Hold Fast, Theatre Royal, Leeds, Sept. 21, 1885.
Holding the Mirror, Tyne, Newcastle, Oct. 26, 1885.
Holly Branch, Ealing, Dec. 11, 1891.
Holly Tree Inn, Strand, Jan. 7, 1856.
Holyrood, Glasgow, Oct. 5, 1896.
Homburg, Toole's, May 3, 1893.
Home, Haymarket, Jan. 14, 1869.
Home Again, Standard, March 24, 1877.
Home Chimes, St. George's Hall, Nov. 10, 1888.
Home Coming, Comedy, July 4, 1892.
Home Feud, Comedy, Feb. 14, 1890.
Home for a Holiday, Olympic, Nov. 12, 1860.
Home for Home, Vaudeville, Aug. 16, 1879.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH END.

On Monday, April 16,
the Play in Four Acts, entitled
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

As a special attraction for the Easter holidays, Mr. Samuel James engaged Mr. William Calvert, Miss Clara Cowper, and a powerful company, to present *The Merchant of Venice*. The whole forms an excellent combination, and the play is given in a highly commendable fashion. Mr. Wm. Calvert was admirable as Shylock. He ably depicted the burning hatred and implacable revenge of the wealthy Jew, and was especially strong in the highly dramatic parts of the play. Mr. C. F. Collings was well suited as Bassanio. Combined with grace and elegance, he possesses a fine presence. Mr. J. H. Manley was highly successful as the sorely-tried Antonio. Mr. J. E. Manning as the Duke of Venice made a dignified judge in the trial scene; Mr. Bert Morley as Lorenzo was a manly and interesting lover, and was ably seconded by Miss Sylvia Morris, who as Jessica was bright and charming. Mr. A. P. Kaye, a great favourite at this theatre, was very successful as Launcelot Gobbo, and his acting provided an excellent bit of low comedy. As old Gobbo, Mr. Stockall Ward was very good. His character-study of an old man was realistic. The Portia of Miss Clara Cowper was an able and sterling performance. Her lines were rendered with great care, yet nothing of the charm with which the author has endowed them was lost in the delivery. In the trial scene her rendering of the "quality of mercy" speech left nothing to be desired. Miss Ina Austen was excellent as Nerissa, and enacted the part of the Clerk in the last scene in a very satisfactory manner. Mr. Harry Hiller as Solanio, Mr. F. Castleman as Salarino, and Mr. Edwin Wilde as Gratiano, were all satisfactory in their respective parts; and the same remark applies to the Tubal of Mr. George Freeman, and the Balthazar of Mr. Joseph Lewis. The whole of the original music was specially composed by Mr. Frank Bradsell, the able musical-director of the theatre, and the production reflects the greatest credit on the popular acting-manager, Mr. R. Eldrid.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 16, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE SPRING CHICKEN."

Appropriately enough, the Easter Monday fare provided at the commodious Borough Theatre was a visit from that ever-juvenile fledgling *The Spring Chicken*, who has gaily fluttered into Stratford at a season when the "egg theory" is of absorbing interest. With the mounting and dressing on the high standard usually associated with the companies under the régime of Mr. George Edwardes, and the addition of fresh numbers, new "business," and scenic embellishments, there is no wonder that the piece is nightly attracting crowded audiences. Mr. George Gregory's performance as Mr. Girdle is one of the best things this clever comedian has given us, and his evanescent humour and untiring energy in the part add immeasurably to the success of the piece. Mr. L. W. Harris appears to revel in the part of the immaculate Babori, and his smart songs and agile dancing win unstinted applause. Mr. Fred Leslie, jun., plays in bright and exhilarating style as Boniface, and a capital performance as Baron Papouche comes from Mr. Frank Hector. Mr. C. D. Cleveland cleverly impersonates the head-waiter Felix, and Mr. E. G. Woodhouse lends valuable aid as the proprietor of the Crimson Butterfly. Miss Gertrude Glynn acts and sings with much vivacity and charm as Rosilie, and quickly becomes a general favourite. Miss Rita Everard is a dainty and bewitching Dulcie Babori, and her songs, "O, so gently," and "The Game of Love" are delivered with much piquancy and verve; but all too little is seen of her admirable dancing. Miss Irene Verong, in the broad comedy part of Mrs. Girdle, is immensely successful, and her songs—particularly "Regent-street"—go wonderfully well. Miss Gertrude Gilliam contributes a delightful performance as Baroness Papouche, and sings very pleasingly. Miss Amy Bingham is excellent as La Modiste; and Miss Jennie McNulty and Miss Beatrice Dunbar play with entire success as clients of Babori. Emmy Lou and Stephen Henry are appropriately played by Miss Nellie Lonnen and Mr. Nelson Keys; and Miss Queenie Hill, Miss Edith Denton, Miss Dore Dent, Miss Emilie Honsley, and Miss E. Dawsley are well suited in minor rôles. Mr. Clarence Lucas skilfully directs the augmented orchestra; and Mr. W. Hesseltine is Mr. George Edwardes's courteous acting manager.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 23.

Abandoned Woman.—Alexandra T., Hull.
After the Ball.—Opera House, Harrogate.
Alexandra Opera Co.—O. H., Dudley.
Are You a Mason?—Royalty T., Glasgow.
At Cripple Creek.—P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
At Duty's Call.—Star T., Liverpool.
At the World's Mercy.—Pavilion, Altrincham.
Bandman-Palmer.—O. H., Wakefield.
Beauty and the Barge.—T. R., Brighton.
Benson, F. R. (B.).—T. R., Norwich.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R..—Stratford-on-Avon.
Bramley, Esmond.—T. R., Preston.
Carl Rosa Opera Company.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Catch of the Season.—Grand T., Hull.
Christian, The.—Grand T., Luton.
Christian, The (Croke's).—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Cingalee (2).—Deptford.
Cingalee.—Wigan.
Claudian.—T. R., Cardiff.
Coal King.—New Prince's T., Blackburn.
Cotton Spinner.—T. R., Rochdale.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Dishonoured.—Gateshead.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—New T. R., Birkenhead.
Duchess of Dantzic.—Derby.
Face at the Window.—Grand T., Walsall.
Facing the Music.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
Faithful Friend.—T. R., Stratford.
False Wife.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Fight for Millions.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Florodora (8.).—County T., Kingston.
For Life and After.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Frivolity.—County T., Bedford.
Girl from Kay's.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Great Awakening.—T. R., Bath.
Her Wedding Day—T.R., Smethwick.
I Defy the World.—Royalty T., Morecombe.
In Holy Russia—New T., Greenock.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Kitty Grey—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Madley and Wrexham.
Lady Madcap (Dance)—Woolwich.
Lady Madcap (Edwardes)—Court T., Liverpool.
La Poupee (Ralland)—T. R., Lincoln.
Life of a Showman—Osborne T., Manchester.
Life's Sweetest Sins—Prince's T., Accrington.
Little Bread Winner—Grand T., Swansea.
Little Michus (Edwardes).—Alexandra T., N.
Little Michus—Oxford.
London Fireman.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Love that Women Desire.—Prince's T., Preston.
Luck of Life—O. H., Gloucester.
Man and Wife.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Man's Enemy.—Prince's T., Glasgow.
Manxman, The—Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Martin Harvey—T. R., Newcastle.
Midnight Mail.—Jarrow.
Moody-Manners (A.).—T. R., Birmingham.
Moody-Manners (B.).—T. R., Barnsley.
Mountain Climber.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
No Wedding Bells for Her.—Paisley T., Paisley.
Oliver Twist.—O. H., Southport.
One of the Best.—Borough T., Stratford.
On the Love Path.—Dublin.
Orchid (2).—Burnley.
Orchid (3).—Southampton.
Otto, the Outcast.—Grand T., Halifax.
Passion's Power.—T. R., Rotherham.
Peggy Machree.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
Penalty of Crime.—Aberdare.
Poor Must Live.—Alexander T., Sheffield.
Power of Gold.—T. R., Wednesbury.
Price of Her Soul.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Prince of Pilsen.—King's T., Glasgow.
Prince of the People.—T. R., Middlesboro'.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Stockton.
Prodigal Son.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Public Opinion (M.).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Public Opinion (S.).—T. R., Chatham.
Rogue's Daughter.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
Rogues of the Turf.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
Romany's Revenge.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
Royal Divorce.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Royal Divorce (N.).—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
Sailors of the King.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
See-Saw of Life.—Victoria, Burnley.
Silver King.—Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Still Alarm.—Opera House, Northampton.
Sunday.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Sweet and Twenty.—O. H., Cork.
Swiss Express.—Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.
Temptress, The.—Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
Throne of Terror.—Theatre Royal, West Stanley.
Traitor Prince.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Two Hussars.—Theatre Royal, Colchester.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Pier, Eastbourne.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington). — Victoria T., Broughton.
Under Two Flags.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Village Blacksmith.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Opera House, Harrogate.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Theatre Royal, Glossop.
Way of the World.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Theatre R., Castleford.
What the Butler Saw.—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
When Woman Hates.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Wilkie, Allen, and Co.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Woman's Past.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Worst Woman in London.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Wrecker of Men.—P. O. W., Mexborough.
Youngest of the Three.—Weston-super-Mare and Weymouth.
10.30 Down Express.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 16,
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Les Cloches de Corneville may well be called the musical *Charley's Aunt*. It has been played by Mr. E. St. Alban's company over 4000 times, and is likely to run another 4000 times if the performance is kept up to the present high standard. As Germaine Miss Marion Ayling took all hearts by storm with her sweet singing and charming appearance, a special encore of her song "Ding, Dong, Bell," being required. Mr. George Fox played the Marquis Henri in a creditable manner, his duets with Germaine being very successful. Mr. William Everard deserves warm commendation for the thorough way in which he acted and sang as Greenicheaux. The humour of the piece was ably sustained by Mr. Fred Dark the bailie, who won ready laughter; and Mr. Richard Martin as Gobo was capital. Mr. St. Alban's Gaspard was a very realistic piece of work, and was greatly appreciated. Miss May Bradbury was a breezy and jolly Serpolette, her singing being often encored; and the chorus worked hard under the bâton of Chevalier Legrand, who had the excellent orchestra well in hand.

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STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. John Fitzmaurice, which took place at the City Hospital, Limerick, on the 10th inst., after a brief illness. Deceased was only thirty-three years of age, and had spent a number of years as stage-carpenter, under the Robert Fogerty management, and in the course of a long and faithful service became a popular and universal favourite with the companies on the road. His funeral, which took place on the 12th inst., was attended by a large and representative gathering, wreaths being received from the following:—Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fogerty and family, the staff of the Theatre Royal, Mrs. Hewson and family, the Glee Club, and Mrs. Fitzmaurice. Several local amateur companies marched in processional order to Mount St. Laurence's Cemetery, where the interment took place.

Mr. Poland, who was master carpenter at the Lyceum, has joined the staff at the Coliseum as assistant stage carpenter. Mr. G. Armstrong, who held that position, is leaving to return to Dublin.

Mr. J. White, of the Empire, Dublin, and coach to the famous Empire tug-of-war team, spent the Easter Holidays in town. Mr. White says he hopes to be present at the theatrical sports, but is in doubt whether the Empire team will compete this year.

Mr. Woolcott, who was recently master carpenter with one of Mr. Frohman's touring companies, is in charge of the stage department at the Apollo. Mr. Vallis is the property master, and Mr. Godfrey retains his position of electrician under the new management.

It goes without saying that there are many members of the working staff attached to the theatres throughout the country who would like to contribute to the "Ellen Terry Jubilee Celebration Fund," and no doubt the various branches and societies with which the working staff are connected will take steps to provide facilities for the members of the working staff to take part in this celebration.

The following is a list of the events for the theatrical sports on Whit-Tuesday:—(1) 100 yards running handicap; (2) 100 yards veterans' running handicap (for men over fifty years of age); (3) Quarter-mile runing handicap; (4) Half-mile running handicap; (5) One mile running handicap; (6) 50 yards blindfold race; (7) Quarter-mile obstacle race; (8) 120 yards obstacle sack race; (9) Four lap relay race (open to teams of three men from any theatre or music hall, one to run, one to walk, and one to cycle, for a silver Championship Cup presented by Mr. C. A. Smith. Holders, the Drury Lane Theatre team); (10) 80 yards hopping championship (for silver Challenge Cup. Holder, Mr. G. Harold); (11) One mile walking handicap; (12) Half-mile cycling handicap; (13) One mile cycling handicap; (14) Five mile cycling championship (for the Championship Shield presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, to be won three times in succession. Holder, E. Dawson, who has won on two occasion); (15) Tug-of-war competition (open to teams of five men from any theatre or music hall, limited to 60st., maximum weight of team. One reserve man allowed. For Championship trophy and gold medals); (16) 100 yards race for girls under fourteen years of age (daughters of those eligible to compete at the sports); (17) 50 yards boot race; (18) 100 yards consolation race for those who have not won a prize in other events.

The Sports Committee have decided that the sports shall be open, as last year; but, with regard to the tug-of-war competition, they have fixed a limit to the weight of a team, in order that the teams may compete under more equal terms than has previously been the case. The Dublin team which competed last year exceeded the maximum fixed by about 20st., and if that team decides to compete this year some of the London teams will have a fair chance of defeating these redoubtable Irishmen.

Entry forms for the sports may be obtained from the hon. secretary at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
J. R. Lowe—Saturday, April 21.
"Papa" Brown—Saturday, April 21.
C. Haddon Chambers—Sunday, April 22.
Ada Rehan—Sunday, April 22.
Helen Charles—Sunday, April 22.
Brian Daly—Sunday, April 22.
C. Hayden Coffin—Sunday, April 22.
Amy Coleman—Sunday, April 22.
Leslie Beaufort—Sunday, April 22.
Maurice Farkoa—Monday, April 23.
Ernest Dottridge—Monday, April 23.
James Howell—Monday, April 23.
Emma Victor, Tuesday, April 24.
Violet Ellicott—Tuesday, April 24.
Rosie Vernon—Tuesday, April 24.
Cyril Maude—Tuesday, April 24.
Celestine Brandon—Tuesday, April 24.
John Wainwright—Wednesday, April 25.
Chas. H. Gallier—Wednesday, April 25.
Harry Graham—Wednesday, April 25.
Percy E. Abell—Thursday, April 26.
Ethel Griffies—Thursday, April 26.
Fred Williams—Thursday, April 26.
Lily Hanbury—Thursday, April 26.
Rhoda Beresford—Friday, April 27.

FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Cluss v. Music Halls A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, April 7. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.:—H. Belding (captain), goal; A. Cox and A. Hamblin, backs; F. Stevens, W. J. Horton, and S. Carter (half backs), H. Clements, E. Belding, J. Aubrey, H. Edwards, and E. Palmer, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; F. Arni and J. Tyley, backs; J. Lacey, D. O'Connor, and T. Neagle (captain), half backs; F. Hansford, P. Reardon, R. Cullen, F. Boyce, and W. Hinder, forwards.

Referee, Jack Lewis (Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.). Linesmen, E. Denton and E. Bowman. Result, Bristol X.L.C.R., 1 goal; Music Halls A.F.C., 5 goals. Messrs. J. Aubrey, J. Lacey (3), P. Reardon, and J. Tyley scored the goals for their respective sides.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. R. H.—*In* A Bachelor's Romance, *produced at the Globe, Jan. 8, 1898, the principals were Messrs. John Hare, Gilbert Hare, Frank Gilmore, F. Kerr, and Charles Cherry; Misses May Harvey, Mona K. Oram, Nellie Thorne, and Susie Vaughan. The piece was originally played at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, with the same cast, except one or two of the minor characters.*

Barnsbury.—*The Philharmonic opened as a music hall on Nov. 7, 1860, and the proprietors were Messrs. Saunders and Lacy.*

L. E.—Our Boys *was revived at the Strand, June 2, 1884.*

Yorick.—*The Broadway was opened with a* Cinderella *pantomime on Dec. 27, 1897.*

J. V. T.—*Dr. Charles Burney, author of the "General History of Music," was born at Shrewsbury in 1726. In 1749 he was elected organist of St. Dionis' Backchurch, Fenchurch-street. In conjunction with Dr. Arne he composed the music of three pieces for Drury Lane, entitled* Alfred, Robin Hood, *and* Queen Mab. *His "General History of Music" appeared, in four volumes, between 1776 and 1789. In 1789 he removed to Chelsea College, and acted as organist there for the last twenty-five years of his life. He died on April 12, 1814.*

Fred L.—The Harbour Lights *was produced at the Adelphi Theatre on Dec. 23, 1865.*

Queenie. — *When* The Cricket on the Hearth, *adapted by Albert Smith from Charles Dickens's story, was produced at the Lyceum Theatre on Dec. 20, 1845, Mr. Samuel Emery was the Peerybingle, and Mrs. Keeley appeared as Dot.*

J. Lane.—*Write to Mr. Harry Conlin, whose address is 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.*

Stakeholder.—*It is against our rule to give the age of members of the profession.*

City Road.—The Black Crook *was produced at the Alhambra in 1873.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Barry-Lewers.—On Saturday, April 14, 1906, the wife of P. Barry-Lewers (Elizabeth Watkins), of a son.
Creber.—April 8, at 4, Restormel-ter., Plymouth, the wife of John H. Creber, show printer, of a son. Both doing well.
Heath.—On Thursday, April 12, 1906, Ida Heath (Mrs. Joe Archer), of a fine healthy boy. Both progressing well.
Keir.—On Friday, April 16, 1906, the wife of Donald Keir (Mabel Kempton), of a fine boy. Both doing well. 31, Horsell-road, Highbury, N.
Macowan.—At 52, Flanders-road, Bedford Park, on the 18th inst., the wife of Norman Macowan (Miss Violet Sterne), of a son.
Martin.—Wife of Rolando Martin, on April 15, of a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Gray—Tree.—On Saturday, April 14, 1906, by licence, at Wheelsby, Robert Alexander Gray, M.A., B.Sc., to Lucy Tree, of the Four Trees, youngest daughter of Mrs. Walter Raynham.
Musgrave—Wingrove.—April 14, by special licence, Will Musgrave to Gladys Wingrove, of the Sisters Wingrove.

DEATHS.

Bailey.—April 11, of erysipelas, James Anthony Bailey, showman and circus proprietor, of Barnum and Bailey, age 59.
Fitzmaurice—April 17, at the City Hospital, Limerick, after a brief illness, John Fitzmaurice, stage carpenter, aged 33.
Harris.—April 18, at his residence, 28, Wiltshire-road, Josiah Harris, professionally known as Frank Coyne, variety comedian, age 30.
Lee—April 4, of pneumonia, Alfred Lee, composer of "Champagne Charlie" and other notable melodies.
Lord.—On Good Friday, April 13, at 128, Campbell-street, Hull, Gladys Lucy Lord, only child of Will and Annie Lord. Never forgotten.
Marris.—On the 10th inst., at Branksome Park, Bournemouth, Samuel Arthur Marris, the dearly beloved father of Edward Marris. Aged 63.
Martino.—April 14, 1906, at Grimsby, Doris Martino, the beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Martino. Sleep well, dear child, sleep well.
Roberts.—At Northampton, Hannah Roberts, the beloved mother of Frank R. Robertson, who fell asleep on April 13, 1906.

In Memoriam.

Beaven.—In loving memory of my dear mother, who fell asleep April 18, 1905. Never forgotten by her loving daughter Susie.
Hurst.—In loving memory of my dear husband Jesse H. Hurst, who died April 20, 1905. Deeply mourned by wife and children.
Redfern.—In ever loving memory of our darling mother, who passed away April 20, 1905.—Rubie and Elsie Redfern.
Smith.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Charles P. Smith, Secretary of the Guildhall School of Music, who died April 18, 1894. Gone, but never forgotten.

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A match was played at Castleford on Thursday, March 29, and won by the "Uglies" by eight goals (Edlin 6, Cross 1, Edwards 1) to nil. Teams:—

"Uglies": — Rita Milman, Nellie Jackson, Beatrice Homer, Margaret Watson, Philip Darien, Leyton Cancellor, Allan Davenport, Claude Wallis, Jack Edwards, William Wallace, Tubby Edlin.

"When Woman Hates": — Mabel Mannering, Maude Townsend, Dorothy Lupone, Eleanor Papera, Jerrold Heather, Alfred Granville, Charles Herberte, Frank Litchfield, Chas. Hughes, R. F. Symons, Millar Anderson.

For the winners, Mr. Darien was prominent, and on the losing side Miss Mannering distinguished herself.

On Friday the "Uglies" played an eleven of Leeds and District, when two goals were scored on each side. For Melville's Eleven, Messrs. Darien and Edlin scored. The actors had hard lines in not winning outright.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' ATHLETIC TEAM v. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES' TEAM.

Played near Clifton Downs on April 7. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's team:—Miss Fowler (captain), goal; Miss Rosie Davies and Miss Ivy Bowman, backs; Miss Lilla Carter, Miss Nellie Bailey, and Miss Lillie Belding, half backs; Miss Gracie Leonard, Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Amy Bernard, Miss Gertrude Thomas, and Miss Lillie Clayton, forwards.

Miss Bradley's team:—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Minnie Hamilton, backs; Miss Edie Lawrence, Miss Florence James, and Miss Lucy Norris, half backs; Miss Winifred Bradley (captain), Miss Nellie Lawrence, Miss Florrie Hooper, Miss Maudie Burgess, and Miss Kit Montgomery, forwards.

Referee, Miss Ethel Bowman. Result: Miss Fowler's team, 1 goal; Miss Bradley's team, 3 goals. Misses Minnie Leonard, Winifred Bradley, Edie Lawrence, and Kit Montgomery scored for their respective sides.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1906.

SHOWMEN AND SELFISHNESS.

The extraordinary eagerness with which people will rush into print when influenced by class feeling and prejudice was exemplified last week in the letter of a correspondent, who, writing to a London "daily," stated that this year, for the first time, the London County Council had given permission to the showmen who visited Hampstead Heath on Bank Holiday to bring their vans and camp for nearly half a week on the Heath. The gathering was described by the writer as "vulgar" and the enjoyment of the masses as "roisterings." The correspondent then went on to say that Hampstead was thronged by holiday-makers during parts of four weeks in each year, and that the result of the Council's new regulation would be to consecrate a large portion of the open space available to the noisiest and least desirable of the holiday-makers of London. Then the writer drew a touching picture of "tired workers" travelling to the Heath in search of a "semblance of country conditions, trees, flowers, and grass, and a free space on which the youngsters could frolic," and finding themselves forestalled by the ever-encroaching colony of showmen, whose army, it was stated, had "brought its heavy vans and cumbrous and ugly paraphernalia, and had beaten down every living thing upon a large portion of the Heath." "London," it was added, "was being robbed of a place of natural beauty"; the Heath was being "desecrated"; and when the showmen departed they would leave behind them desolation in the place of an unique piece of open country.

The statements in the above communication were less offensive than absurd. The writer had evidently no geographical instinct whatever. From the eastern to the western extremity of Hampstead Heath is over a mile and a half. The place occupied by the shows is a narrow strip on the side of East Heath-road and a spot on the north of the Vale of Health. There is also a large show, a menagerie, in the hollow by the side of the stream running from the Vale of Health pond to the Hampstead ponds.

The rest of the Heath—the whole space between the Hampstead Ponds and the Highgate Ponds, including Parliament Hill, the beautiful slope west of the Spaniards Road, and the pretty garden at Golder's Hill—is absolutely unaffected by the presence of the show-folk. If every blade of grass were worn away on their "pitches" it would not affect the enjoyment of a single Sunday visitor. On Bank Holiday you could walk from the Gospel Oak end of the Heath, over the hill, and down to the Hampstead Ponds without the existence of the fair being forcibly thrust upon your senses. The shows were a mere spot on the large expanse of the Heath; and nothing was easier to avoid them if you desired to do so by simply passing to the north or south of the Vale of Health.

It is sad to see the selfishness of people who, possessed of leisure and competence, grudge the hard-working masses their few opportunities of relaxation. "The same things change their names at such a rate," as BYRON wrote in his day. We were walking out on Bank Holiday with a cultured companion, and stopped to watch a couple of factory-girls dancing a "jig" on the pavement. Our ultra-refined friend was disgusted, and was still more scandalised when we pointed out to him the moderation of the girls' movements compared with those of himself and his lively partner in a "cake-walk" at a smart dance last season. Swings and merry-go-rounds are not intellectual enjoyments; indeed, they are about on a par with motoring, the pleasure in which consists simply in rapid movement through the air. As for shooting galleries, is not Lord ROBERTS vainly endeavouring to infect the middle and upper classes with exactly the same instinct which leads the mechanic on Hampstead Heath to put down his pennies? It is not, however, a question of the intrinsic merit of the recreations of the masses. They are the best judges of what suits them, and the showmen merely supply the demand of the public. Their shrewdness is proved by their success. On Bank Holiday the weather and arrangements could only be described as "ideal." It was a perfect realisation of the Fair in *Faust*. There was room for everyone, and there were enjoyments for all tastes. Children of different growths were delightedly revolving astride of wooden steeds; the crack of the saloon-rifle and the bang of the aimed balls rang out merrily; feats of strength were performed with mallets and punching apparatus; and the lover handed to his lass a trinket won by the skilful casting of rings over uprights. The writer of the letter speaks of these shows as catering for the "lowest public taste." We could only wish that these *were* the lowest, and then Society would be a great deal more healthy and wholesome than it is at present. We never saw so much harmless enjoyment to the square yard as we did at Hampstead Heath on Bank Holiday.

As our readers are aware, the only difference in the regulations of the County Council this year and last was that this year—as was the custom previous to 1905—the living vans have been allowed to accompany the shows. Up to last year this had been permitted, and the prohibition caused so much inconvenience that a deputation from the Committee of the Showmens' Guild, headed by Lord GEORGE SANGER, waited upon the Parks Committee of the County Council, who were so much impressed by the arguments used that they rescinded their prohibition of the presence of living-vans. In any case, the addition of the vans to the assembly on the Heath could not make any difference in the damage done or the "vulgarity" of the amusements which delighted the holiday-makers.

Ignorance and prejudice are apt to go together, and we are not surprised that the class feeling of the writer of the letter was combined with a pitiful lack of information. It is not, however, by such as he, or by statements such as his, that these and similar matters will be settled in the time that is at hand. The old hide-bound egotisms, the finicking gentilities, the mean selfishness, and the want of human sympathy which have divided class from class in the past are fast giving way to better and broader views; and such people as the writer of the letter are decidedly in the minority.

"CASTLES IN SPAIN."

A Comic Opera, in Two Acts, by Cosmo Hamilton; Lyrics by Eustace Ponsonby; Music by Harry Fragson;
Produced at the Royalty Theatre on Wednesday, April 18.

Gabriel H. de Beauséjour..MR. HARRY FRAGSON
Paul P. Stanford .....MR. JOHNNY DANVERS
Senor Terraro .....MR. IVO DAWSON
Jenkins .....MR. HUBERT WILLIS
José .....MR. ESPINOSA
Rodrigo .....MR. FRANCIS HOWARD
Pepito .....MR. ROGER ALWYN
Charles .....MR. THORNTON WYNNE
Violet .....MISS MAY DE SOUSA
La Chiquita .....MISS MABEL NELSON
Germaine .....MISS NOEL NEVILLE
Louisette .....MISS ETHYL JAMES
Yvonne .....MISS KITTY LINDLEY
Suzette .....MISS IRMA DE LANGLOIS
Manuela .....MISS MAUD MILLAIS
Crispin .....MR. ALEC DAVIDSON
Lamotte .....MR. BERT HUNTER
Barbaroux .....MR. EARLE HOPWOOD
Chevalier .....MR. HARRY THOMPSON
Flower Girl .....MISS QUENNIE FINNIS
Fruit Girl .....MISS SYDNEY DAVIS

One of the traditional favourites of the French drama is Pierrot, the sweet, affectionate-foolish fellow in the white smock and skull-cap, a delicate mixture of harmlessness and pathos. It is as Pierrot, travestied as the Count Gabriel Honoré de Beauséjour, that Mr. Harry Fragson is appearing at the Royalty Theatre in *Castles in Spain*. We accept the personage fancifully, not seriously. A Count who keeps some dozen of attendants and domestics in his suite, dresses to the *dernier cri* of elegance, never pays a tradesman's bill, cannot do a "dirty" trick, and sentimentalises perseveringly is obviously unreal and poetic. It is, indeed, the fantasy of Mr. Fragson's performance that is its greatest charm. It is entirely original, quaint, and eccentric, especially in the attire, which is extraordinary. Count Gabriel is apparently not quite "right in his head." He composes choruses which he has sung to him by his servants, and he lives entirely on credit, while endeavouring to get a tragedy accepted by theatrical managers. He has tried many ways of making a fortune, and his "castles in Spain" have been numerous. While he is on "his last legs," he is visited by Violet Stanford, a young American girl to whom he has recently paid attention at Monte Carlo. She has escaped from the convent in which she was placed by her father, an American diplomatist, and comes in her innocence—which is astounding—to stay with de Beauséjour at his flat in St. James's-street. This the chivalrous gentleman will by no means allow; and when the parent arrives on other business, and discovers his daughter, there is trouble. It ends in Paul P. Stanford taking his child away with him *en route* for Madrid, and in de Beauséjour being commissioned by a swindler named Terraro to obtain certain compromising letters which have been written to a popular Madrid opera-singer by the son of an American magnate. Stanford has come to Europe to obtain these epistles; and Terraro, who calls himself a Count and a friend of the King of Spain, has promised to procure them from La Chiquita and pass them to the American. Thus we get the principals to Madrid in the second act. La Chiquita falls in love with de Beauséjour, gives him the letters, and excites the jealousy of Violet, who has given her heart to the chivalrous, if crack-brained, Count. However, the misunderstanding is easily cleared up; and, by handing Stanford the precious documents, de Beauséjour wins the American's gratitude and his consent to the Count's marriage with Violet, Terraro when detected making himself scarce.

Mr. Fragson, whether acting, vocalising, or composing, is always an artist. As the score of *Castles in Spain* includes the principal numbers from *La Gran Via*—presumably a Spanish opera—one is ignorant to what extent go Mr. Fragson's contributions to the music; but perhaps we shall be right in attributing to him the air of a very amusing song in the first act, in which the attempts of a beginner to get a play accepted by a London manager are described. This Mr. Fragson renders with remarkable neatness and point, sending the house into roars of laughter. Mr. Fragson has other numbers to his share, notably some sentimental ones, which he treats with the peculiar delicacy which is the great charm of his style. He has a delightful associate in Miss May de Sousa, who is the essence of affectionate ingenuousness as Violet, and acts with an innocent *abandon* which is quite delightful. Her tact and talent are shown in her treatment of a song entitled "I am thinking," and another equally effective entitled "Love's Fairyland." She joins with Mr. Fragson in two very agreeable and neatly-written duets, "Frou Frou" and "The Cherry," both of which are warmly applauded. Mr. Johnny Danvers's impersonation of the American diplomatist is excellent all through, and he had a very "taking" Yankee Doodle ditty in the second act, which, with its nimble dance, brings down the house. Mr. Ivo Dawson looks the Spanish Swindler admirably well, and the way in which he rattles off the verses of a very "snappy" song in the first act wins for him a well-deserved encore. Mr. Hubert Willis as Jenkins supplies a dryly humorous embodiment of the faithful servant, and sings about "Visions of home" with a clear distinctness and firm point-making which are very acceptable. Miss Mabel Nelson makes a magnificently handsome La Chiquita, and puts a vast amount of fire and feeling into her delineation of the singer's passionate impulses. Her performance is dramatic, direct, and expressive, and she sings a Spanish song capitally. Messrs. Espinosa, Francis Howard, and Roger Alwyn deserve warm praise for the eccentric oddity of their antics as the three subordinate scamps; and Senorita Lola Bernal does some characteristic dances in the second act in the real Iberian style and spirit. Miss Ethel James, Miss Kitty Lindley, and Miss Irma de Langlois make a prepossessing trio of Spanish girls; and Miss Maud Millais is seen to marked advantage as Manuela, Mr. Thornton Wynne being efficient as Charles.

Castles in Spain is remarkably well "put on." The scenery, by Emile Bertin and Smee and Corbay, is bright and pretty, the set for the second act, with its creeping roses and old-fashioned architecture, being especially picturesque. The costumes, designed by Comelli, are very artistic and effective; and a change from darkness to dawn is very adroitly managed. The whole production is bright, active, and stimulating; and every detail is worked out in the most thorough and finished manner. Perhaps there was even an *embarras de richesses* in the second act, which was not concluded till past the usual hour; but this is a fault which can easily be removed, and then *Castles in Spain* will appeal with strength to those who like a vivacious, various, agreeable, and amusing entertainment, free from offence, full of movement, and embellished with a profusion of attractions—personal, pictorial, musical, and comic.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, APRIL 19.—The Palais-Royal has given us a new vaudeville by MM. Nancey and Armont. It is called *Le Trèfle à quatre Feuilles* ("The Four-leaf Clover"), the trade mark of Montmirail, a sardine exporter. At curtain-rise we see M. Lechably, a notary, and his wife receiving their friends, who have come to help to celebrate Madame's birthday. We meet there a M. Muveran, another notary, his wife, and a cousin called Edouard, an idiotic young millionaire with the strange mania for disguising himself as a valet, and running people's errands. The last comer is Montmirail, the sardine man. He does not bring any congratulations; his mission is a more delicate one. He has journeyed to Paris to warn his friend Lechably that Mme. Lechably intends to run off the rails. Many years ago Lechably rendered him the same service, and he is now anxious to show his gratitude. Mme. Lechably, however, has no intention whatever to betray her husband, and Montmirail would have done much better to have remained in Nantes. But he has come to save, as he thinks, his friend, and starts bungling things in a manner that cannot be imagined. Lechably's house is turned upside down. It is invaded by a crowd of unknown persons, among whom are several cocottes. The irrepressible Police Commissary makes his appearance, and we are beginning to doubt whether the authors will ever be able to extricate themselves from the imbroglio. But somehow or other they manage it, and the tom-foolery ends in a general reconciliation. This rather broad farce was fairly well interpreted by the Palais-Royal company.

THE Théâtre de L'Œuvre has also produced several new pieces, among which M. Alfred Savoir's three-act play, *Le Troisième Couvert*, is the most important. The author could hardly have chosen a more repulsive subject; and, although they made no demonstration, the audience were visibly shocked. The story is as follows. Gabriel, a Government clerk, is the husband of Jeanne. They live in a small provincial town, and Gabriel is anxious to be invited at the house of the Sous-Prefet, where he hopes to meet the chief of his department, who can assist him to advancement. What, however, he does not know is that this very chief is his wife's lover, and the father of the third child she (Jeanne) is expecting. The chief is a callous scoundrel. He knows that Jeanne is poor; yet he refuses to do anything to help her in her present trouble. And when Gabriel learns that he is to expect an increase in his family he is mad with rage and—surprise. He accuses his wife, he accuses himself, and finally declares that he cannot afford this extra encumbrance. In a scene so painful as to defy description he gives his wife to understand that she will have to take the necessary steps to prevent them from incurring this extra expense. Jeanne gives a shriek of horror, and flatly refuses to lend herself to such a manœuvre The child is born, and grows up; but Jeanne has taken an inveterate dislike to the little boy, the cause of all this trouble. She ill-treats him in every possible way until the boy, then about ten years old, commits suicide. The wretched parents are arrested, and Gabriel is almost glad when he is taken to prison, where at last he hopes to find rest. As to Jeanne, she is mad with grief, hatred, and remorse. The author takes care to show us that it is the constant want of money that has demoralised these people. We see them sink lower, until they are led into crime. It is a horrible play, but well written, and it was capitally interpreted.

ALEXANDRA DAGMAR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—We are instructed by our client, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, to ask you to allow us to deny in the columns of your newspaper some very serious allegations that have been made against her by a certain newspaper.

It is alleged by the newspaper in question that Miss Alexandra Dagmar was associated with a troupe which was taken to Calcutta and stranded there, and by misleading representations she withdrew from Messrs. Cook and Son a sum of £700 which had been deposited to bring home the troupe to England.

Now Miss Alexandra Dagmar has never been in India, and has had nothing whatsoever to do with any troupe sent there. She never withdrew from Messrs. Cook £700 or any sum whatever, and the whole thing is a complete fabrication so far as she is concerned.

If the slightest inquiry had been made by the proprietor of the newspaper in question he could have ascertained easily that Miss Alexandra Dagmar had nothing whatever to do with the matters in question.

We need hardly point out the great damage which may be done to our client by these defamatory statements, and we are instructed to take the necessary steps to obtain damages against the proprietor of the newspaper in question. Meanwhile we shall be glad if you will allow us to deny in your important journal these charges in the most strenuous manner possible.—We are, Sir, yours obediently,

GIBBS, WHITE, AND STRONG.
4, Eastcheap, London, E.C., April 19.

SINGERS appear and disappear, concerts are given and forgotten, and the number of teachers is legion; but Madame Kate Flinn can afford to smile at them all. Her enthusiasm, delight in her work that is always fresh, originality, perfect diction, and finished style—in one word, her personality—is the open secret of her great success. She loves her profession, and is a born teacher, quick to appreciate the possibilities of a big voice, and unfailingly optimistic in the development of a small one; and her pupils are to be found among the most promising girls on the stage. Miss Lucy Webling is the latest name on her list, which includes Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Coralie Blythe, and many other well-known artists. We are glad to hear that Madame Flinn intends to give a morning concert at Steinway Hall, on May 15. Her programme is still to be arranged, but there is every probability that such popular "attractions" as Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Mrs. Clement Scott, and Mr. Louis Bradfield will not be lacking. Madame Flinn will herself sing, and she hopes to introduce four new pupils, all to be named as promising, and one in particular, who possesses a beautiful contralto voice, of whom the gifted teacher expects great things.

IT is needless to say that Madame Flinn, in the course of her many experiences, has met with amusing and strange would-be pupils. She is the soul of good nature, but her temper was sorely tried when a certain lady came for a voice trial, and commenced the interview by giving a list of teachers with whom she had studied in England and abroad. Interested and hopeful, Madame Flinn played the symphony of a little French song, and the lady sang the first two lines—on the same note! Madame Flinn turned and stared at her, surprised at what she considered a foolish little joke. The singer, however, was perfectly serious. She had positively no ear at all, and it was half an hour before she consented to go, strongly protesting against the opinion she had frankly asked to have. The same lady, six months later, again made her appearance at the popular teacher's house, but her indignation had given place to a wild desire to take more lessons. Madame Flinn knew it was hopeless—she would never be able to sing—and the persistent lady's lamentations were just as loud and lengthy as her rage and expressions of amazement had been on the previous occasion.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

JOHANNESBURG.—MARCH 17.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler).—Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler are to be congratulated on their latest presentation to the above theatre, when on Monday, the 12th inst., they presented the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Company in Gilbert and Sullivan's delightful opera, *The Gondoliers*. Mr. C. H. Workman as the Duke of Plaza Toro was superb. His solos were finely rendered, and his powers as a comedian were heartily appreciated. Mr. Leicester Tunks was an excellent Luiz; and Mr. Fred Billington made a humorous but quaintly unconventional Grand Inquisitor. Mr. Pacie Ripple as Marco is the proud possessor of a beautiful tenor voice, which he used to advantage in his song, "Take a pair of sparkling eyes," which elicited great applause; and in Mr. Albert Kavanagh as Giuseppe the company possesses a baritone of exceptional merit, whose clever acting was heartily appreciated. Mr. Fred Drawater (Antonio), Mr. S. Moss (Francesco), Mr. J. L. Campion (Georgio), and Mr. R. Whyte (Ambardo), all acted and sang admirably. It would be difficult to speak too highly of Miss Jessie Rose (Teresa). Her dancing was perfect, and her voice and elocution, combined with her dainty and winsome appearance, scored an instantaneous success. Miss Nancy Fryne as Gianetta possesses a fine soprano voice which she used to advantage. Miss Therese Rassam as the Duchess acted and sang the part excellently; and Miss Mabel Graham as Casilda sustained her part well.

STANDARD THEATRE (Sole Lessee, Mr. James Nelson; Business Manager, Mr. Pierre Cohen).—On Friday, March 9, Mr. James Nelson, so long associated with Mr. Edward Sass, opened the above pretty little house of entertainment with his first American musical comedy company. The first production, *The Prince of Pilsen*, may be described as a pronounced success. Mr. W. H. Sloan as the Cincinnati brewer presents a most amusing study. His quaint stump-speeches are irresistibly funny, and his whole rendering of the part is one of the drollest Johannesburg has seen for some time. Mr. A. B. Francis in the immaculate attire of Artie, of London, proved himself to be a capable comedian; Mr. C. O'Connor, a quaint character actor and an eccentric dancer, scored heavily as Francois the concierge; Mr. Charles Flynn as Lieutenant Wagner achieved a great success; and Mr. Joseph Roye as Carl Otto, Prince of Pilsen, has a good baritone voice, which is heard to distinct advantage. Miss Eleanor Kent, the prima donna of the company, played the widow. She is a charming actress, and sang with culture and refined taste. Miss Kathleen Clifford made a dainty and vivacious Sidonie. Miss Alice Benton as Edith Adams possesses a lovely contralto voice; and Miss Louise de Salle was exceptionally good in the part of bell boy The dancing of Miss Grace Nile, Miss Maude Connor, and Miss Jeane Raymond, illustrating the various national dances in the song, "The Cities," was exceedingly good.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES (Lessees, The Empire Palace, S.A., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Edgar Hyman).—The new company which was introduced to the large and enthusiatic audience on Monday, the 12th inst., at the above handsome theatre of varieties, included several excellent star turns. Chief amongst the new artists are Pierce and Maizie, American burlesque artists, who are the fortunate possessors of excellent voices. Their turn consists of typically American songs and dances. The lady, Maizie, is pleasing in her quick changes of costumes, besides which she is an exceedingly clever and agile dancer. Another notable turn was the famous Miss Alice Lloyd, burlesque artist, who scored an instantaneous success. She wears some dainty dresses, and her songs are piquant and artistically rendered. Another quaint turn is provided by Mooney and Holbein, who gave a decidedly new and quaint exhibition of grotesque dancing and high kicking extraordinary, the lady singing several songs in excellent style. Miss Georgina Preston scored an immense success with her song, "There is summer in two young lives." The Strolling Players continue to amuse with their ludicrous turn, the ventriloquial entertainment introduced by these perfect artists creating quite a furore. The Bros. Horne and Miss Effie Stuart give their sketch, *London Life*. They are both clever and mirth-provoking. The Brothers de Wynne present a unique head and hand balancing act, and their billiard-room feats cause immense astonishment. Miss May Evans sings several coster songs in a taking style; and Mr. Walter Emerson, comedian, and the bioscope, under the direction of Mr. Pym, conclude a programme of all-round excellence.

MANAGERS, in their estimates of pieces offered to them, are generally correct. *La Griffe*, a play in four acts by M. Henry Bernstein, which was produced at the Renaissance Theatre, Paris, on Wednesday, was written a few years ago, and, under the title *Ses yeux Bleus*, was offered to Antoine, who liked the piece, but refused it on account of the fourth act, which, according to him, brought the work to an unsatisfactory termination. In the meantime the author had it produced at Turin, and on Wednesday it saw the footlights in Paris under the auspices of M. Guitry. It met with an excellent reception, but after the third act, which took the house by storm, the final tableau certainly fell flat and marred the general effect. It is the old story of a middle-aged man married to an adventuress much younger than he, and who, having ruined and betrayed him, seeks fortune elsewhere. Antoinette, the girl, is the daughter of Jules Doulers, an old journalist. When the story opens Antoinette is the mistress of Paul Ignace, but she leaves him to inveigle Achille Cortelon, a widower, an honourable man and owner of a large and important newspaper. Cortelon meets Antoinette, falls in love with her, and marries her. No sooner has Antoinette become Madame Cortelon than she no longer is satisfied with the brilliant position her husband can offer her. Vain, ostentatious, and recklessly extravagant, she forces her husband to sell his services to shady individuals, and to enter into shameful intrigues to become a member of the Cabinet. In the meantime Mme. Cortelon has resumed her liaison with Paul Ignace. She has even other lovers, among whom a certain Nathaniel, a financial agent, mixed up in the transactions into which, at his wife's bidding, Cortelon has embarked, and which have brought him in a large sum of money.

CORTELON'S reputation, however, is hopelessly ruined. His friends have all withdrawn from him, and even Anne, his daughter, refuses to remain beneath his roof. And then comes the catastrophe. Cortelon, publicly accused of malpractices as Minister, is summoned before a Parliamentary committee; and he is preparing his defence when a violent scene with Antoinette takes place. The cruel woman knows that the man's ruin is complete, and she goes away with a wealthy youth. Outside Cortelon's the mob has gathered, uttering threats because he has not come forward to justify himself. The noise outside swells into a roar, and Cortelon's house is invaded by the rabble, who smash the windows and force open the doors. And when at last they enter Cortelon's study they find the unfortunate man, totally bereft of reason, standing on his work-table, swinging an imaginary flag, and singing a revolutionary song he heard when he was a boy. M. Lucien Guitry scored a tremendous triumph in the rôle of the luckless Cortelon; Mlle. Rogers, Mlle. Mellot, M. Arquillière, and M. Rouselle were also deservedly applauded.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. Harry Tate's company, which has been playing the famous comic sketch *Motoring* in America, was due at the Orpheum, San Francisco, now destroyed by the appalling catastrophe, on Monday. We are very glad to hear at the moment of going to press that Mr. Tate has received a cable with the news that the little crowd is quite safe. The Orpheum was the most prominent vaudeville theatre on the Pacific slope.

Sir Edward Moss, looking the picture of robust health, has returned from his cruise to South America. As Sir Edward is an acute observer, we may reasonably expect to see some of his globe-trotting impressions crystallised in the form of something new on the boards.

The coming of age of Miss Assie Randall, Mr. Harry Randall's second daughter, will be celebrated on May 2 by a ball at the Trocadero. A large number of invitations have been issued and accepted, and the Empire Room will be thronged with the friends of the popular comedian and his charming wife and daughters.

Miss Ada Reeve, that magnetic little artist, sails for South Africa to-day by the Kenilworth Castle to fulfil engagements, report says, at the largest salary ever yet paid an artist on the variety stage. She will arrive at Johannesburg about May 10 or 11, and will open the new Hyman Theatre there on the 14th. On her return in August, she has been secured for the Tivoli by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has induced her to again coquet with her old love—the variety halls. An excellent engagement this.

Mrs. Thos. Barrasford has pluckily carried on for several months now the management of the Lyceum, but the attractions presented have failed to draw. In these circumstances, the notices were posted up last Saturday. Whether the place will close or not this evening had not been finally decided at the moment of going to press.

On July 1, 1905, Mr. Barrasford closed the building for the summer months, and reopened it on Sept. 18 with a revival of the ballet, *Excelsior*, which did not prove a successful venture. The principal debenture-holders are Mr. William Chas. Hallett and Miss Mary Arnold, who sold the freehold of the Lyceum to the original company—that registered in 1899—for a sum of £120,000, and the debenture-holders accepted 4 per cent. debenture stock redeemable in forty years. There have been further issues of £3,100 and £30,000, both at 5 per cent. interest, making a total capital of £153,100.

The Putney Hippodrome bookings will be in conjunction with the syndicate halls, and Mr. Nelson Francis, manager and secretary of the Brixton Empress, has been appointed by Mr. George Adney Payne secretary to the new establishment.

Mr. John Lawson is appearing at the Empress, Brixton, this week with that powerful sketch, *The Monkey's Paw*, by W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker. He is supported by Cissie Lawson. It is staged, like all John Lawson's episodes, magnificently. Our readers will be sorry to hear that Mr. Lawson is still suffering considerably from his arm, which he put out two weeks ago at the Palace, Tottenham.

The Water Rats dined together on Good Friday evening, when, in consonance with their pleasant annual custom, some three dozen of the popular fraternity sat down together. Fairy lights and choice flowers decked the banqueting table, and harmony and comradeship prevailed.

The services of Mr. Harry Huntley, who is a nephew of the late Charles Morton, father of the halls, has been secured by the management of the Empire as understudy to Mr. W. H. Berry, who is so successful as the "Labour Leader" and other characters in the new Empire revue *Venus, 1906*.

The New Palace, Croydon, it has been definitely decided, will be opened on Tuesday, May 1. It is generally understood that Mr. Gardiner Hales, the proprietor, will grant Mr. Walter Gibbons a ninety-nine years' lease of the house, and that it will be run in conjunction with the Gibbons London circuit.

Mr. Harry Lauder, who has had to relinquish his Easter engagements in consequence of throat trouble, has been ordered to his native Scotland, where the air of the heather-clad hills will do much to restore his overworked vocal chords.

The reports concerning the health of Mr. Harry Masters, the popular secretary to Mr. George Adney Payne, are much exaggerated. He is now recovering very satisfactorily from an attack of congestion of the lungs.

Miss Florrie Gallimore has just secured from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate a worthy successor to her most popular song "Remember me to mother dear" in the shape of a new number with the striking title "Old Calabar." She will produce this during her present Oxford engagement. The song has already been accepted for immediate production by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company.

Miss Margaret Ashton, who made a welcome reappearance at the Oxford on Easter Monday, met with an excellent reception. The charming American cantatrice, beautifully begowned, appeared in what is really a musical comedy scena of a very attractive nature, and sang of spring fashions and the latest style of hats. The original and extremely artistic manner in which Miss Ashton renders this dainty song has won universal praise.

Little Tich, who is fulfilling his last Stoll tour, will be the principal attraction at the Hackney Empire next week. In describing his first public performance, Little Tich says that it was a solo upon a tin whistle at a place of entertainment in Gravesend, before he was thirteen years old, and this set such a spark to his youthful ambitions that he determined upon the stage as his profession from that moment. "As you may imagine," he says, "in those early days my salary was even smaller than I was; in fact, I used to sing a great many songs for so little pay that they only worked out at about threepence apiece.

Little Tich has a fund of rich stories at his disposal. Concerning his appearance in *Lord Tom Noddy*, at the Garrick Theatre, he relates the following:—He had been busily engaged rehearsing his part in the piece, and one evening walked across the road to the Alhambra, to witness the performance for a couple of hours. While standing by the side of the stalls, Mr. Tich was passed by a couple of gentlemen, one of whom nudged the other as he went by. "After a time," says Mr. Tich, "one of them quitted his seat, walked out of the stalls, and, on coming back, asked me what time I was due on the stage. I told him that I was not engaged at the Alhambra, and he inquired at what music hall I was performing. 'I am not appearing at any music hall,' I answered; in fact, I have left the halls.' To be candid, I was rather proud to think I was playing at the Garrick Theatre. The gentleman looked down at me, and remarked, 'I hope we are not going to lose you altogether?' I then informed him that I was opening during the following week at the Garrick in *Lord Tom Noddy*, whereupon he expressed the opinion, 'Oh, well, that's better than nothing at all.' What a blow to my vanity!"

The Wolverhampton Hippodrome was formally opened on Saturday afternoon by Miss Vesta Tilley, who "received" a large number of local theatrical and music hall friends. Amongst them were Messrs. Walter De Frece, Jack De Frece (general manager), Lennox Barry (resident acting manager), Percy Percival, W. H. Lennox, Harry Battersby, and others. Miss Tilley, after thanking the company for a hearty welcome, declared the new Hippodrome open. She was presented with a handsome bouquet. Mr. Walter De Frece also spoke.

Mr. Will Collins, manager of the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, has been appointed district manager for Mr. Oswald Stoll's halls in London, and will take up his duties at the end of the present month. The management of the Ardwick Empire will devolve upon Messrs. H. Hall (of the Manchester Hippodrome) and Harry Pryme (of the Empire) jointly. Mr. Collins has had considerable experience of the managerial side of theatrical matters, including a connection of some years with the stage in South Africa.

The Variety Theatres Consolidated, Ltd., has declared an interim dividend at the rate of eight per cent. per annum for the half-year ended March 31 last.

Mr. Ambrose Thorne's new numbers have been secured by Mr. David Day for publication. They are "The practical, tactical, nautical man," by J. P. Harrington, and "She didn't seem to know just what she wanted," by Frank Redmond, of Mr. David Day's staff. The music in each instance is by J. Airlie Dix, another member of an establishment which includes on its permanent staff such well-known writers as Messrs. Lester Barrett, H. E. Pether, Fred W. Leigh, and Charles Wilmott.

Mr. Fred Leighton, late the popular manager of the Sheerness Hippodrome, who is now installed in a similar position at the Empire, Bristol, made his acquaintance with Sheerness when he went to the Hippodrome as manager to Neilson, who was vanquished by the local wrestler, Teddy Williams. It was not long after that—seven month ago, to be exact—that he took over the management of the hall itself, going there at twenty-four hours' notice from the Holloway Empire.

Born in County Wexford in 1874, Mr. Leighton will be thirty-two next month; he was educated at Gloucester Collegiate School, and after two years spent in comparative ease, a domestic misfortune necessitated his taking up the battle of life in earnest. It was then that he discovered his ability as a conjuror, and he practised as an illusionist on the stage for about five years, taking his first engagement in Belfast. Later he made his mark as a political orator. In the cricket seasons of 1899-90, Mr. Leighton played for Somersetshire, rendering his county assistance both as a bowler and batsman. In 1899 he played for the Chess Championship of Kent at Dartford, and he also played for the City of London Chess Club. As a Volunteer he served for seven years as a lieutenant in the 1st Hants Regiment, a post he had to relinquish five years ago. As a rifle shot he achieved success at Bisley, where in the years 1893-4-5 he won the Holdaway Cup in open competition, the trophy becoming his own property.

As a devotee of the wheel, Mr. Leighton was instrumental in founding the Dartford Cycling Club in 1899; and in the same year he won the 25-mile road race in connection with that club; he is also an ex-member of the N.C.U. His professional career has brought him into touch with several friendly societies of which he has become a member. Mr. Leighton takes to Bristol with him as his assistant stage-manager there Mr. W. Broom, who has acted as stage-manager at the Hippodrome.

The friends of Mr. Oscar Schaller (Eric Brand), recently playing comedy bo'sun in Mr. Paul Pelham's *King's Navee*, will regret to learn that he is at present lying seriously ill with pneumonia at his home at 183, Stewart's-road, Wandsworth.

Mr. Harry Phydora has had to relinquish his engagement at the Empire, Wolverhampton, through a severe attack of laryngitis and aphoma. He hopes, however, to be well enough to open at the Cambridge on Monday.

Messrs. Walton and Lester, the world's worst wizards, who so happily burlesque the methods of "The Chinese Conjurers" and "The Magic Kettle," have successfully produced a new magic muddle, which is a clever travesty of the society wizard and his impromptu boy assistant. The whole act is full of mysteries and mirth, and bids fair to become one of their most popular productions.

Miss Arabella Allen has been the bright particular star of a capital programme at the Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, this week. The hall was re-opened with big success on Monday night, and the Dickens Girl succeeded in getting her laughs easily enough from a crowded, excitable house. That she should win them to absolute silence during her pathetic impersonations was an even greater proof of her complete success.

No fewer than 3000 people welcomed the opening of the Albert Hall, Southport. The company was headed by the one and only Vesta Tilley, and the stage was under the management of Mr. Will Oliver—once again on the spot.

Miss Fanny Robina, Florry Cooper, and Billie Bint have just finished a successful tour with Messrs. Broadhead, and have been booked to return again March, 1907.

A funny coincidence happened to Billie Bint at the King's Theatre, Longsight, last week. Asked by a few friends to revive his old successful song, "Chuck him out," Bint acceded to the request, and asked one of the attendants at the side of the stage to chuck him out after the last verse of the song. The attendant did his work so well that Billie said, "Why, you do that job like it was done twenty years ago at the old Folly, Manchester. The man was named Harper." "Yes," said the attendant, "I used to watch *him* do it. He was my *father!*"

It is now forty years ago since Harry Adams, the well-known writer of Charles Godfrey's famous "Here upon guard am I," wrote his first "swell" song for the great Vance, and he has just disposed of a song of the same class for that swellest of swell comedians, Mr. George Lashwood, for whom he wrote "My Latchkey."

Mr. Sydney Arthur, the able general manager and lieutenant for Mr. Frank Macnaghten, was accorded two crowded houses and a most flattering reception on the occasion of his benefit at the Palace, Lincoln, on Wednesday, April 11. A very strong company appeared, and the best of Lincoln's amateur talent had offered its services, with the result that two long and highly successful performances were given. First place was undoubtedly secured by Miss Florrie Gallimore, rightly billed as Lincoln's favourite comedienne. Sid Cotterell and company in *The Substitute* presented an extremely funny sketch, and Warden Reed and Glennie were also highly effective with their amusing duologue, *Married or Photographed?* The Darrell Trio; Josie Delaine, vocalist and dancer; Tiny Arnold, comedienne; the Brothers Ashley, intensely amusing in their boxing turn; Flo Wood, comedienne; and George M. Schilling also entertained. Mr. Sydney Arthur received a great ovation when he came on the stage to return thanks.

The annual general meeting of the Terriers' Association will take place on Thursday next, the 26th inst., at 2 p.m., at the Hercules, Kennington-road, S.E. The president, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, will be in the chair.

Variety circles in South London received a painful shock on Wednesday evening when they heard that Mr. Frank Coyne, the well-known comedian, had been found by his wife with his throat cut at their residence, 28, Wiltshire-road, Brixton. The deceased had been much depressed since his return with his wife (professionally known as Miss Carrie Joy) from a successful tour in South Africa a few weeks since, and was really suffering from mental breakdown. During his engagement last week at the Chelsea Palace it was noticed by the company that he did not display his usual cheerfulness, and he complained of nervous debility.

There were no monetary difficulties, and deceased had no anxieties concerning his engagements, as he was booked up to 1908; but it was stated at the inquest on Thursday before Mr. Wyatt, by Dr. Robertson, that he was suffering from a kidney complaint that would set up depression.

Frank Coyne started life at Derby as a jeweller's traveller, but, possessing a love for the stage, he became a most successful amateur comic singer, and was very popular at local concerts. So encouraging were his audiences that he determined to join the ranks of the profession, and after some experiences in the provinces he came to London. On coming to London he speedily achieved success with a very catchy chorus song, "Come and have a tiddley at the Fountain," which was heard at every street-corner, and speedily found its way into the pantomimes.

Another of poor Coyne's great successes was "The horse the missus dried the clothes on." He was so genial and amiable that he seemed the last man in the world that would take his own life. The greatest sympathy is felt for Mrs. Coyne in such a terrible bereavement. The deceased, whose real name was Josiah Harris, was one of the Rats brotherhood and a member of the Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association.

On behalf of the Music Hall Sick Fund, Messrs. R. T. Baines (secretary), Mr. Pat Carey (president), and Mr. H. E. High (member) express their sincere sorrow at the death of Mr. Coyne, who was on the committee of that Fund.

The remains will be interred on Monday in Tooting Cemetery. The funeral cortège will leave the residence of the deceased, 28, Wiltshire-road, S.W., at two o'clock.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £10 18s. 3d. from Mr. Frank Weeks, collected by him in his pence-box at the South London.

Mr. E. H. Dobson, acting-manager at the Shepherd's Bush Empire, was summoned at the West London Police-court on Wednesday, before Mr. Lane, K.C., for assaulting Walter Howard, an electrical engineer, living at Chesterton-road, North Kensington. Mr. Lane said there was not the shadow of a charge made out against Mr. Dobson, and dismissed the summons.

Miss Ida Heath (Mrs. Joe Archer) presented her husband with a son on the 12th inst., and mother and child are doing well. Mr. Archer, who is as popular with brother artists as he is with audiences, is likely now to revive his well-known ditty "Matrimonial Bliss," as he is blessed with a pigeon pair.

Miss Alice Hollander met with an unfortunate accident at the Tivoli on Tuesday evening, when she fell down a flight of stairs, and was picked up unconscious. She, however, speedily came to herself, and persisted in going to her engagement at the Canterbury. Here she was able to go through her songs successfully, but the effort was too much for her, and she fainted in her dressing-room.

The famous and popular instrumentalist, Mr. Vasco, and his wife and son, sailed yesterday for a voyage round the world, and an agreeable social function—which was much enjoyed by everyone who had the good fortune to be invited—was arranged by Mr. J. Jasper, the proprietor of the Lord Derby Hotel, Woodpecker-road, New Cross, to wish the travellers *bon voyage* and a safe return. To an excellent musical programme Messrs. W. Bowther, Seeley, West, Bishop, Nice, W. Donovan, Ivatts, T. Bedford, Miss Imhoff, and Mr. Vasco himself contributed. The toast of "Mr. and Mrs. Vasco and Son" was gracefully proposed, and in reply the chief guest of the evening spoke a few felicitous phrases of thanks.

Mr. Frank Glenister will "present" a new Venus at the London Pavilion next Monday, and, from a preliminary exhibition of the goddess which was afforded on Thursday afternoon, it may be anticipated that this addition to the current programme will generally please. La Milo is the designation which the shapely artist chooses to wear.

Mr. Fred Storey, who is billed next week at the New Cross Empire, in his sketch *Rip Van Winkle*, has a great eye for artistic "interiors," and his home is a good proof of his tastes; but his fondness for old oak and old china makes his touring times much harder to him than to the man who has possibly grown up among inartistic surroundings. Once when on tour with "Rip," Mr. Storey struck in Plymouth a sitting-room of more than ordinary hideousness, and, as the lodgings were otherwise satisfactory, and he was weary after his whole-day journey by train, he decided to brave the terrors of imitation fruit and only too real horsehair chairs and sofas. But by the time supper was ready the chalky china vases, and stags and minstrel boys, and the forests of wax fruit, had begun to play sad havoc with his nerves, so he called the landlady up and asked her to remove them. And how artfully was the favour requested! He told her that if a member of his company visited him, and saw him surrounded by so many beautiful things, stories of the luxuriousness of his lodgings might get about the theatre, and lead to appeals for higher salaries. The landlady was immensely gratified at being taken into his confidence in so pleasant a manner, and removed the ornaments in a basket to—his bedroom!

Mr. Harry S. Hart, the smart and active young manager of Messrs. Pacey and Reeves's agency, is engaged to be married to Millie, one of the beautiful daughters of Mr. Burnett, the well-known tobacconist in New Oxford-street. Mr. Harry S. Hart is the eldest son of Mr. Hart, the proprietor of the Star, Bermondsey.

The Stockwell Angling Society, which numbers amongst its members such well-known artists as Mr. Wal Pink and Mr. Fred Redfern, has moved its headquarters to the Perseverance Hotel, Vassall-road, Brixton. Mr. Arthur Lennard is the society's latest recruit. On the 10th inst. a crowded meeting listened attentively to a paper, entitled "How to Make a Roach Angler," by Mr. W. Eyke, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's own fresh-water fisherman. Edgar Bateman is dedicating his new song for Mr. T. B. Dunville to the society. It is entitled "The fish I caught at Brighton," has music by Alf Ellerton, and is calculated to make Ananias turn in his grave.

Mr. Fred Baugh, the popular manager of the Macnaghten circuit, as has already been announced in these columns, is to be testimonialised. Mr. James Fortune, the hon. secretary and treasurer, of 115, Strand, W.C., desires that all Mr. Baugh's friends who wish to subscribe should notify their intention to him before Friday next, the 27th inst.

A number of Japanese Naval men, who have brought their new battleship the Katori to the Mersey from Barrow, have been enjoying the sights of Liverpool during the week, and on Monday evening a large company of them, along with their officers, visited the Royal Hippodrome on the invitation of Mr. Thomas Barrasford. Mr. Hassan, the manager, delivered a speech of welcome to Togo's men, which was received with great applause, the orchestra playing the Japanese national anthem. On Tuesday evening the men accepted an invitation to witness the Empire programme, which they richly enjoyed.

One of the most successful turns in the current Oxford programme is supplied by Miss Winifred Hare, who wins some of the loudest plaudits every evening in her exquisite rendering of John P. Harrington's and the late George le Brunn's charming number "One Little Lonely Star," which will be issued in popular music form at an early date by a young, but particularly enterprising, firm of publishers with whom the author is not altogether unconnected.

Mr. John P. Harrington is remarkably well-represented in West End halls this holiday time, for not only is he responsible for two song-scenas in the London Pavilion programme, viz., Mr. Jock Whiteford's "Bonnie Jean" and Mr. Ambrose Thorne's "Practical, Tactical, Nautical Man," but at the Oxford also no less than three numbers of his are being nightly presented—Miss Winifred Hare's "One Little Lonely Star," Mr. Ernest Shand's "Look at the Weather We're Having," and Miss Florrie Gallimore's "Remember Me to Mother Dear," all being from his facile pen.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Company, of Berners-street, have in the press, and will shortly issue as one of their popular "Sixpenny Successes" series, Messrs. Paul Paulton's and Arthur Van Dixie's daintily-written and tuneful song "Rosie is waiting," so successfully introduced by Miss May Marton at all her London engagements This song should undoubtedly have an immense vogue among seaside entertainers this season.

Miss Louisa Peach, who has been appearing quite recently at Greenwich, Maidstone, and Stoke-on-Trent with her successful comedy sketch, *Taming a Husband*, will be seen at some of the London halls, starting April 30 at Barnard's Theatre of Varieties, Woolwich. Mr. Wellesley Draper will appear as the husband (Frank Marlow), and Mr. Conrade Clerke as the old bachelor friend, Colonel Adams.

Miss Emma Don for over five and a half years has not had one idle week. She is at present introducing into her act a youthful comedy quartette, consisting of two coloured boys and two white boys, one of whom is a clever comedian.

Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, the well-known trio of mystery, have finished an exceptionally successful engagement of twenty-six weeks in Australia, a dozen of which weeks were a prolongation. They will arrive in England on May 5, and open in London on May 7.

Papa Brown, comedian and variety and dramatic agent, is sixty-four years of age to-day. His telegraphic address is "Jibbers, London." He is in the best of health, with a fine appetite, and, like Victor Hugo, he has mastered the art of being a grandfather.

Mr. Alfred Lee, the veteran composer of "Champagne Charlie" and many other highly successful songs sung by George Leybourne, the Great Vance, Harry Liston, Jolly John Nash, Harry Rickards, Jim Hillier, Alf Walker, and other stars of the variety world of the 'sixties and 'seventies, died on Saturday afternoon last (14th). The immediate cause of death was pneumonia. We are sorry to hear that he leaves a widow totally unprovided for.

The fasting man, Sacco, commenced a 32 days' fast at the Regent, Salford, on Tuesday afternoon, when he took into his "little wooden hut" about 300 bottles of soda water, nearly 1,000 Turkish cigarettes, three dozen boxes of matches, a dozen cigars, some shirts, clothing, shaving apparatus, ink and pens, eau de Cologne, flowers, and a tin of boot polish, with which to occupy his time when he is not copying or composing music or poetry, which he proposes to do.

Mr. Alfred Montgomery, the well-known fête and gala caterer, is suffering from permanent nervous paralysis, and is compelled by his doctor's special orders to retire from his variety agency after forty years. Mr. Montgomery is open to dispose of all his rights, titles, and interests for a small sum to an immediate purchaser. His address is 51, Cornwallis-road, Upper Holloway, N.

"On the Banks of the Rhine," that was sung by Happy Fanny Fields so successfully in this year's Bristol pantomime, has been taken up by Miss Florrie Forde, who declares she has a second "Bull and Bush" in it. Mr. J. Callan is also singing with success this song on the Stoll tour.

This Saturday evening, after playing in the Association Cup Final at the Crystal Palace, the Everton Football Team will visit the Alhambra to witness, in addition to the present excellent entertainment, the cinematographic reproduction of the game by "Urbanora." Everybody who knows the Alhambra knows "Urbanora," and "Urbanora" has done nothing better than its existing travelling menagerie series, to secure which Mr. Charles Urban went for a week "on the road" with a world-famous wild-beast show, and has emerged from that somewhat strenuous undertaking with excellent results.

A site has been secured in a central position in Maidstone for the erection of a new hall, to be called the Maidstone Empire Theatre of Varieties, and plans are being prepared by a well-known London architect. The company has secured the services of J. M. Sylvester as manager, who is manager of the Coventry Hippodrome, and managing director for Fêtes, Ltd.

The latest quotations of music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, 1; Empire, (15s. pd.) 1¼, (10s. pd.) 1⅛; London Pavilion, Ordinary 4¼, Preference 4⅞; London Coliseum, 1¼; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss' Empire, 3⅞, Preference 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅞; Palace, 10s.; Tivoli, 6¼; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 15s. 6d.

Messrs. Leo Dryden and Ed. E. Ford have presented Basil Bright, the plucky coachman whose skill averted a catastrophe in the Brixton-road on Saturday, April 7, with a gold watch and chain suitably inscribed.

The Shapiro Von Tilzer Co. announces that the new coon song, "Moving Day," which Miss Victoria Monks is singing nightly, is a tremendous success, and bids fair to eclipse "Bill Bailey." The firm has had already a big demand from al-fresco artists for this song.

Mr. F. W. Millis (ventriloquist) and Mr. Emile Lazern's Eastern Entertainers having just returned from an extended tour of Australia, New Zealand, India, and the Far East, are open to receive offers for half-an-hour to two hours' show.

The usual budget of summer novelties have just been issued by the popular song providers, M. Witmark and Sons. Their annual Pierrot Book has just been issued, and contains some of the most attractive material for the seaside and al-fresco entertainers.

Miss May Mars, whose appearance at the Oxford in the beautiful song-scena "In the Shadow of the Pyramid" occasioned considerable comment, has been booked by some of the most important managers. The song is another Witmark publication, and the singing rights for the halls has been reserved for Miss Mars.

"Kettles to Mend," sung so successfully by Miss Rachel Lowe during her recent pantomime engagement, had its first London hearing in Easter Monday at the Oxford, Tivoli, and the Chelsea Palace. That the different audiences of these popular halls evinced their warm approbation is a proof positive of the merit of the number. The strain of rehearsal and a matinée on Monday, in addition to four shows at night, proved too much for Miss Lowe, and she was so suffering from her throat that she was obliged to leave the stage of the Oxford on Wednesday night before finishing her number. A night's rest has, however, fully restored her, and she resumed her work last night.

Miss Florrie Forde, at the Regent, Salford, has been singing nine songs nightly; at Aberdeen (one house), seven songs nightly and numerous encores; and at Sunderland, six songs nightly. In the three weeks Miss Forde has sung no less than 135 songs. Messrs. Rosen and Bliss have secured her services for Aberdeen, Dundee, Sunderland, and Gateshead for three years, at an increase on each contract.

"'Appy 'Ampstead" is being played with immense success for the first time out of town by a No. 2 Company, which made an enormous success with this popular Cockney spectacle at Olympia, Liverpool, on Easter Monday.

Miss Florence St. John, the old favourite, will appear at the Shepherd's Bush Empire in *My Milliner's Bill*, expressly written for the celebrated actress, Mrs. John Wood, by the late Mr. G. W. Godfrey, and produced at the Court Theatre on March 6, 1884. Miss St. John has been before the public for many years, and made her first appearance when a mere child as a ballad vocalist with a diorama company. When she joined Durand's Opera Company her success was assured. She went to the Oxford under the management of the late Mr. Jennings, and sang under the name of Florence Leslie. Mr. Alexander Henderson was looking for someone to play Germaine in *Les Cloches de Corneville*, and selected Miss St. John.

Her Madame Favart is a matter of history, and the brilliant triumph she achieved placed her right in the front rank of comic opera *prime donne*. She joined the Gaiety company as Marguerite in *Faust Up to Date*, and afterwards went to America. She has been associated with many successes at the Gaiety and Savoy, and has also appeared in many works dealing with the famous Nell Gwynne. Some years ago, when under Mr. Henderson's banner, she had the honour of creating the title part in the comic opera of *Nell Gwynne*. She was christened the Patti of comic opera, and worthily deserved the title.

The 459th meeting of the Committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the general offices on Thursday. Mr. Albert Le Fre was elected to the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Charles Pastor, Geo. Preston, Arthur Rigby, Albert Voyce, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed. The Secretary reported the death under distressing circumstances of Frank Coyne, a member of the Committee, and it was decided that a letter of condolence be sent to the widow, together with a wreath, and that a deputation be appointed to attend the funeral. The addition to the Committee of Captain Slingsby, the next in rotation at the election last year, was approved. It was decided to send a letter of condolence to Griff, a member of the Committee, on the recent bereavement which he sustained by the loss of his daughter.

A provincial agent wrote complaining that a member wished to place his name on the sheet on Saturday, and when informed that he was too late became abusive. By withholding his name, moreover, he had prevented others from gaining the concession. The Secretary was instructed to express the Committee's regret to the agent, and to ask for full particulars, and also to write to the member in question and ask for an explanation. A letter was read from a member offering to be responsible for a loan obtained by his former partner, who had since disappeared. The Secretary was instructed to find out the whereabouts if possible of the person in question, and it was decided that if he made an application to rejoin it would be refused. Insurance claims and refunds were considered, and a receipt for the £50 paid to the mother of the late Harry Allen was submitted. The addition of thirty-nine new members was reported, and the statement of accounts showed the income for the week to be £39 3s. It was decided that a special reminder be given next week to those members of the Executive in town that the meeting of the Committee begins at one o'clock.

At the meeting of the International Artists' Lodge held on Sunday at the Hotel Provence, Leicester-square, Brother 1,365 was elected to the chair, there being seventeen members present. Brother 1,258 related an unpleasant experience through which he is now passing. He has an assistant whom he has been at much pains to train, and who is now well adapted to the work. Another artist is trying to entice the boy away. The Brother regards this as a most reprehensible proceeding, and thought that the Lodge should reprimand the artist in question. A Brother proposed that a letter should be written asking the Brother to explain his action, and, if still persisting in trying to get the lad away, that he should be called before a Court of Honour.

A Brother also related his experience with an agent. Introduced by the agent to the proprietor of a number of music halls, he was offered a number of dates, but would only accept one week. The agent then declared he would have nothing more to do with him. The artist worked for one week with the proprietor, the said week being booked for him by above agent. Then the artist himself booked four weeks with the proprietor. The agent now claims commission on the whole tour. There was a long discussion on this point, several members giving their personal experience. It was decided that the matter should be put before the Legal Committee.

A Brother reported that Messrs. Cadle, agents, having a case against a member of the Lodge, would like to know if the Lodge would be willing to arbitrate in the matter. Brother 382 proposed, and Brother 1,253 seconded, that a letter be written to Messrs. Cadle to the effect that the Lodge would be willing to do so now or at any time, and that the Lodge meeting would be glad to hear particulars of the case in question. Another Brother then informed the meeting that Mr. H. P. Hyatt, agent, had lately said he had noticed the great fairness of the Lodge, and declared himself willing to leave any dispute which he might have with any member of it to the decision of the Lodge meeting.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

PALACE.

Holiday-makers have lacked nothing in this week's programme at the Palace Theatre, for the quality and quantity of its variety are beyond question. Among the "special additions" to the bill, Mlle. Aurora Castillo, in her "creations internationales," comes first. Mlle. Castillo, whose vivacity and liveliness remind us strongly of Guerrero, delighted the house with her clever imitations of well-known Continental artists, though it must be admitted that the audience do not seem to realise she is giving imitations. Her mimicry of Mlle. Caramba, with a chanson comique, is, perhaps, best appreciated, as in it we get representations of the Italian, Swiss, English, French, and Spanish styles of walking and ways of making love. The song and its accompanying movements are distinctly amusing. Then we are treated to a cleverly executed valse comique—and Mlle. Castilla can dance!—and a couple of songs rendered in exquisite style. Another attractive act is that of the Dumonds, Parisian street musicians. These three gentlemen, who are expert string instrumentalists, provide an intensely laughable act, the facial expressions of the smallest member of the little company, who makes grimaces while his comrades are busy pouring forth harmony divine, being most comical.

Mr. Frank Elliston and company appear in the farcical sketch *Aunt Matilda*. The story of how an elderly lady is treated by her too frolicsome nephew, who believes her to be a disguised male friend playing a trick upon him, is uproariously funny, and Mr. Elliston plays the principal part with conspicuous ability. The other rôles, too, are in good hands. Mr. Charles Norton is an admirable "counterfeit presentment" of certain well-known music-hall artists whom he essays to imitate. His impersonations of Mr. R. G. Knowles dilating upon womenkind, and Mr. Harry Lauder in one of his "favourites," are a near approach to the originals. The Arleys Combination present an interesting performing dog exhibition, and themselves display great activity and agility in their different feats. Mr. Jack Lorimer makes for merriment with his quaint Scotticisms, and his verses about three jolly Scotsmen are sung in a manner calculated to bring out the utmost essence of humour which they contain. Grant and Grant are highly entertaining with their coon duets, their "Dinah" and "Yankee Doodle Boy" being extremely popular with the gallery.

Miss Millie Lindon, as charming and as refreshing as ever, sings about one Mary, who kept a dairy, after which, in a pretty and picturesque scena, in which Miss Lindon is assisted by the Palace Girls, we get to know a lot about what the people do in Barcelona. Topical allusions abound in the song, and it is rendered as only Miss Lindon can render it. Messrs. Cole and Johnson, the American coloured entertainers, form another outstanding feature of the Palace bill of fare. Their business is somewhat novel. One of the gentlemen sits at the piano, at times sings to his own accompaniment, and at times acts in the latter capacity for his partner. Their brief items, "Mexico," "Oh! Lindy," "A Darktown Elopement," and "Everybody works but father," are treated in their own peculiar style, which receives great favour from the listeners. Messrs. Cole and Johnson may congratulate themselves on having fully won the esteem of the British public. Two eccentric acrobats, whose doings cause no small diversion, are Toch and Tard. Their burlesque wrestling is one of the most absurd things we have seen of late. Miss Hebe Dennis is a talented vocalist, and she gives an excellent account of herself with the song, "Nightingale."

The Eight Palace Girls furnish an agreeable entertainment with their ditties, "As we march along" and "The Japs," and their dancing is as dainty a creation as one could wish to witness. Miss Daisy Jerome shows herself to be an accomplished and versatile comedienne, what with her coon song, "Molly," her pathetic verses about two poor boys, and her amusing lines, "The poor man never had a chance." Miss Gladys Archbutt is another comedienne who compels one's admiration for her rendering of "Push Off" and "Mr. Johnson." The Bioscope concludes what is unquestionably a big show. The films by themselves are a capital programme, for we are taken to see the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, the Grand National, Life in India, and the Eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Mr. Herman Finck's exquisite music forms a delightful accompaniment to the cinematograph pictures.

THE OXFORD.

Mr. Fred Karno always shows so much ingenuity in his farcical concoctions that one always looks forward in any new production emanating from him for a feast of fun. In his latest piece of irresponsible frivolity, which is termed a characteristic sketch, not only is there plenty to laugh at, but the opportunities given to a company of excellent comedians can so easily be amplified that eventually *The Smoking Concert* should pan out into one of the most successful of the Karno farces. Its main idea is to burlesque the amateur vocalist—sentimental and comic—and this opens out the prospect of a wealth of drollery. The scene is the club-room of the Semolina Cycling Club, the members of which have abandoned themselves to conviviality. "'Armony" rules the proceedings, and with soothing weed and "flowing bowl" the merry wheelers give themselves up to the delights of listening to the untutored efforts of their chums. Each contributor to the improvised entertainment mounts a small platform, and, in the case of the vocalists, has a short colloquy with the professional pianist as to pitch and time. There is the sentimental vocalist who gets under way and finds the key too high. This is changed, and it is then too low. When it is properly adjusted to the capacity of his voice, he forgets his words. Then there is the languid, straw-haired young man who is painfully comic, preceded by the little girl reciter, who gabbles pathos that brings the whole assemblage to grief. A couple of jolly old dogs sing an old-fashioned duet, garnished with angular gestures that degenerate into wild gesticulations and ultimate collapse. The assembly have a short way with the amateurs. They chant in chorus, "Sit down." A surprising piece of impromptu conjuring is introduced by a young gentleman who has been living at the country's expense, and who, on removing his overcoat, displays a broad-arrowed uniform. He borrows watches, money, and other articles of value, and conceals himself behind the piano. The harmonic meeting is broken up by the entry of a couple of policemen in search of the convict, and in the midst of an amusing melée the curtain falls, not, however, before we have listened to an excellent parody by the principal comedian of the sentimental vocalist singing "Only to see her face," and to an amusing skit on the "intense" reciter, by "Mr. Martin Harvey Dustbin"—to quote the official announcement of the chairman. The trifle is all fun, just of that extravagant order that appeals—and must always appeal—to the masses. It is a laugh from start to finish, and the holiday audience, kept late on the night of our visit by a programme of prodigious proportions, retained their seats until its conclusion. As it is the last item on Mr. Albert Gilmer's scheme of amusement, this says an immense deal for the potency of its mirth-provoking qualities. The fun is wholesome, and it is sustained by a capital company, which includes Messrs. Albert Weston, George Welch, Fred Palmer, W. Moran, James Fletch, H. Le Fre, Reed Almonti, Jack Lloyd, W. Crackles, jun., Bert White, W. H. Flint, J. W. Bradbury, H. D'Albert, R. J. Holmes, Dick Harcourt, Misses Rosa Mayville, Dorothy Dean, Muriel Palmer, Rose Fenton, Lillian Girvan, and Maud Carlisle. *The Smoking Concert* should have a most successful career, for its drollery is of the most exhilarating nature, but always wholesome; in fact, it is "Karnomania" at its very best.

The variety bill bristles with the names of stars, and is strengthened by the return of such favourites as Harry Randall, who has been sharing the *entente cordiale* at Drury Lane, and Mr. George Robey, who has been making himself immensely popular in Liverpool. Mr. Randall has a decidedly successful number in his impersonation of Mrs. Tootles, the wife of a degenerate flute-player, who sails home three sheets to the wind, and wearing "a saloon-bar giggle." Mr. Robey is responsible for nothing newer than "The Dresser" and "Be a man." He will probably wait a few days before he presents "The Beadle." Mr. Gus Elen has an excellent number in his song-scena, "The Unemployed Question." Mr. Elen's "out-of-work" is quite an optimist in his way. He doesn't "worrit" himself about his enforced idleness, and he doesn't become footsore in his search for "graft." As he aptly reasons—

If you don't get work,
Well, you can't get the sack—
That's an argyment that seems to me most sound.
With the swells in Rotten-row
You can sit and take a blow,
And wait till the work comes round.

This is the best thing we have had from the famous coster comedian for some time. Mr. Fred Earle requires nothing better to amuse a holiday audience than his droll song, "Seaweed"; and Mr. Ernest Shand finds hearty appreciation of numbers that have already done him some service. Mr. Harry Tate also has in "Motoring" a sketch that puts the audience in the most hilarious mood. Miss Margaret Ashton, a dainty figure in white, sings delightfully of the rollicking joys of winter, and puts an immense amount of vivacity into her work. Miss Florence Esdaile demonstrates her complete command of a pure and flexible soprano, which is heard to advantage in a medley of bright and catchy airs; and Miss Flo Gallimore gets the ear of the house—which choruses with heart and voice—in the melody of "Remember me to mother dear," the last composition of the lamented George Le Brunn. Miss Winifred Hare, with a dainty style and a voice of considerable range, presents a pretty scena, in which she plays principal boy to a charming partner, whose name is not mentioned on the programme.

Miss Rachel Lowe makes a great hit in her song, "They always went to church on Sunday," and her waif impersonation is both piquant and pathetic. The programme has other successful contributors in Miss Edie King, vocalist and dancer; Griff and Alpha, jocose jugglers; Ike Scott and Son, comedians and dancers; the Poluskis, in "Wibbles and Wobbles"; Clark and Hamilton, musical comedy duo; the Casino Comedy Four, from "Amurrica"; and Mr. T. E. Dunville.

THE EMPRESS.

The keen competition by the clerk of the weather against indoor entertainment on Monday had no effect on the patrons of the elegant hall at Brixton, so ably presided over by Mr. Nelson Francis, and the house at an early hour presented an agreeable appearance of fulness. The centre-piece of the programme is provided by *The Monkey's Paw*, the "story in three lights" by W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker, which Mr. John Lawson has made so successful at the variety theatres. The little piece manages to preserve a literary flavour without losing its power over a popular audience, and throughout the house on Monday there was every evidence that the house was completely engrossed in the unfolding of the grim story. The acting of Mr. and Mrs. Lawson is of the utmost importance in securing such effective results, and in either case merit of no ordinary kind attaches to them. Mr. Lawson's old man is a piece of acting which has comic and pathetic possibilities, and in both phases of the character he creates a decided impression. Mrs. Lawson, who makes a gentle and lovable housewife in the earlier portions of the play, rises to heights of dramatic fervour in the scene where the frenzied mother endeavours vainly to open the door to her boy recalled from the grave. Mr. E. E. Vincent impersonates the old sergeant-major with his customary cheeriness and the keenest sense of humour, and the little piece aided by a wonderfully realistic set of an interior of an old house in Fulham, makes an unqualified success.

A warm welcome awaits Mr. Arthur Lennard, whose popularity at Brixton equals that so long enjoyed in all parts of the kingdom. Mr. Lennard is among those who have retained the favour of the public for the longest period, and his fame is always sufficient to secure crowded houses. In comedy or in sentiment he equally excels, and nothing more agreeable could be offered to the variety audience than the opportunity to join in his tuneful lays or to smile at his wholesome humour. Mr. Fred Poplar, who is termed the "great drunken comedian," gives an exposition of the different modes of "coming home tight," as favoured by the "Johnnie," the burglar, and the henpecked husband. In all cases Mr. Poplar achieves a large amount of realism, over which the house grows noisily hilarious.

The splendid physique of the Brothers Bright is shown in a series of hand-to-hand lifting feats, which necessitate the employment of great muscular strength and endurance, and evoke enthusiastic recalls. The Astley Troupe turn the paraphernalia of a farmyard to melodious purposes, and at one time are seen extracting music from milk-churns, rakes, and brooms, while at others they perform similar wonders on a windmill and some ivy-clad trellis-work. Their quartet on sleigh-bells affixed to hands and feet is also decidedly quaint.

Arrayed in the traditional scarlet cap and gown, Miss Edie King presents Red Riding Hood, whose determination to beware of the wolf in the form of man is expressed in song, to which a neat *pas seul* is added. A few dainty steps also supplement her song as "The A.B.C. Girl," to which an arch and vivacious rendering is given. Miss Flo Esdaile, habited in a charming Spanish costume, reveals in her singing a strong and well-cultivated soprano, and her spirited rendering of the Soldier's Chorus from *Faust* gains enthusiastic cheers. Mr. H. G. Prosper is seen as a comic fireman, in whose song a mock recitation figures effectively; and others in the programme are Miss Millie Lindon; Mr. Arthur Rigby, in his matrimonial mixture, "The March of the Married Men"; Mr. Victor Travers, eccentric comedian; Miss Katie Butler, character comedienne; and Ruffell's Bioscope, on which a fine view of figure drill by the lads of the Reedham Orphanage is depicted, together with some films very humorously conceived. Miss Kitty Wager is also in the bill, but on Monday her place was taken by Miss Flo Morton, who sang of "The dear little lady from Bow" in a way that won her immediate favour. The orchestra is skilfully directed by Mr. Robert Allington, and Mr. Francis Winchcombe's assistance in the managerial department is invaluable.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

When the Clerk of the Weather elects to favour Easter Monday with delightful atmospherical conditions that are said to establish an absolute "record," he provides an anxious time for those whose contributions to the gaiety of nations are of an indoor character. But when, as on Monday, a beautiful day is followed by an evening on which "winter lingering chills the lap" of April, the holiday crowds are glad to finish up their day's pleasure-seeking in the warmth and brightness of a first-class theatre of varieties. Such, no doubt, was the experience of Mr. Arthur J. Barclay on Monday, when, with his able assistant-manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter, he found his resources taxed to the uttermost to provide accommodation for the clamouring crowd.

The programme Mr. Barclay has provided at the Walthamstow Palace this week is well supplied with attractive items, and the whole leaves a sense of brightness and mirth behind it when the curtain falls. An unusually good start is made by Hallam and Stanton, a lady and gentleman who, besides being excellent light comedy actors, are gifted with fine voices, admirably trained. The vehicle for the introduction of these attractions is a merry little act, and the whole goes with a briskness and spirit that put the audience into a thoroughly contented frame of mind. The gentleman who is known as Drawee proves himself to be a comedy juggler of exceptional neatness, dexterity, and originality. He is admirably assisted by Frisco and Hambo—a clever young African native and a beautiful dog of the collie breed—but which is Frisco and which is Hambo the audience is left to decide for itself. Both deserve unqualified praise. An eccentric comedian, who on a former visit here made hosts of friends, is Mr. George Antill, whose singing is exceedingly droll, especially in an amusing ditty, "Oh! isn't it joyful being a married man." Another artist who has also before now made himself an immense favourite at this house, although in a very different line of business, is Mr. Leo Dryden, whose handsome appearance and intensely dramatic style are eminently suited to the songs he sings. He first appears in the dress of the "Directoire" period, and gives every effect to a capital song, "The Bachelor's Club," in which a member of the coterie is saying good-bye to his comrades on the night before his marriage. Mr. Dryden's other contribution, "The Prodigal Son," is equally effective, the artist being made up somewhat after the manner of Mr. George Alexander in the Drury-lane play. Full of dash and vivacity the Sisters Caselli sing acceptably, and excel as expert dancers. Their movements are almost bewildering in their rapidity, while their "kicks" are extraordinary, yet never lose grace. A little scena that the audience applauds to the echo, and apparently would like to have all over again, is furnished by Sterling and Love. The gentleman is a master of many kinds of musical instruments, playing each with exquisite precision and a rare quality of tone, while the lady sings with combined power and sweetness. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with novel films, still holds its own in popular favour. The more solid and substantial dish of the banquet is the new dramatic sketch *Lights of the Harbour*, in which Mr. Fred Eustace and his company appear. True British audiences will never tire of witnessing plays and sketches that deal with nautical life, and when a handsome, dashing sailor hero is placed in jeopardy by the machinations of an "alien," to be rescued by his "lass" just as things look blackest, we have all the ingredients at hand that make for popular success. Mr. Fred Eustace as Jack Beresford is a fine specimen of the British sailor—handsome, outspoken, and alert. Miss Mary Eustace throws much picturesque power into her impersonation of Grace Darling, who, to save her lover, dons the breeches and goes to sea as cabin boy. Mr. Edwin Bennett is undisguisedly wicked as the villain of the piece, Jacob Krahn; and Mr. David Collins is an insinuating Caleb Crawshaw. A hearty old salt is the Joe of Mr. Ferris Gordon, and Mr. David Curtis does well as Jim Morley. The piece is handsomely staged, the scenery being very effective. Mr. John Grant, of the Palace, is largely responsible for the smoothness of the stage-management.

THE BRITANNIA.

A capital programme was arranged for the holiday-makers who patronised the famous old Hoxton theatre, once the stronghold of melodrama in North-East London, but more recently given up to a lighter and, in many respects, brighter form of entertainment. Not that the scowling villain has departed altogether from the scene where once he held such a prominent position, for quite a typical specimen of the genus takes part in the dramatic episode, entitled *Did He Deserve It?* the successful production of which at the Surrey Theatre we recently noticed. In this sketch the comedy is very cleverly mixed with the dramatic, and the villain, it is satisfactory to know, has an exceedingly bad time of it. His base designs upon a pretty and innocent little flower girl are thwarted in the most complete and effective manner imaginable, to the unconcealed delight of Hoxtonian audiences, who have always been noted for their theatrical enthusiasm in the cause of virtue versus vice. The villain in this excellent little sketch finds more than his match in the woman he has betrayed—and her dog. Finding himself alone with the little flower girl already mentioned, he grossly insults her, and is about to proceed to violence when he is tackled by "Tiger," a huge mastiff, who seizes him by the wrist and holds on. But this is only the beginning of the scoundrel's punishment. The woman, who is a champion lady boxer, arrives on the scene, and having called the dog off, announces her intention of giving the man a sound thrashing. She is as good as her word. The villain is evidently not a champion at the game; and is floored again and again, until, at length, he is compelled to give in, and is about to make a hurried exit when the mastiff seizes him for the second time. Mr. James Willard, an experienced actor, puts plenty of vigour and energy into his embodiment of the villain; Miss Lydia Hart is a very determined and spirited representative of the boxing lady, who uses the gloves with the skill of a veteran at the game; Miss Violet Carr is pleasing as the flower girl; Mr. Willie Atom is remarkably active and amusing as the page boy, who divides his time pretty equally between catching flies and worrying the villain. As for the dog, he plays his part with an obvious regard for its responsibilities.

The programme contains another sketch, entitled *Binks's Blunder*, just the kind of piece to afford unqualified delight to a merry holiday audience. We find Mr. and Mrs. Nattleton, a newly-wedded pair, seated at the breakfast table with Binks, their man-servant, in attendance. The couple appear to be an unusually ill-assorted pair, for they disagree on all points, the gentleman declaring that his wife's eternal "jaw" is accountable for his late hours at the club. At length, Mr. Nattleton, producing a revolver, threatens to blow his brains out in the garden, but the lady is in no way perturbed, even when a shot is heard without. But in her turn she puts poison in a glass of milk, and hints darkly at suicide. Her husband, who has meanwhile returned quite unharmed, exchanges the glass for the one which Binks has placed on the floor for the cat. Presently Binks, who was absent when the exchange was made, drinks the poisoned milk, and when he learns the appalling truth his expression of face causes the heartiest merriment, while to save his life the most drastic measures have to be adopted. Mr. Harry Russell is quaintly comical as Binks, and Mr. Ernest Thiel and Miss Verna Reed play briskly as the quarrelsome couple. The little piece, which serves its purpose admirably, is greeted with roars of laughter.

The current bill also includes Susie and Protti, who distinguish themselves in a series of clever dances; Sam Barton, comedian, who sings a parody on "Down the Swanee River"; and Bonetti and Corri, comedy jugglers. The Sisters Sprightly are decidedly successful with their popular ditties, "The Artista" and "All you want is a coon song." Karr and Kooney are a smart pair of comedians and patterers, their parody on "The Little Wooden Hut" causing much merriment. The Deer Family are appearing in the sensational act, *Indians of the Past*, showing how a family of settlers are waylaid by the "Redskins," a great pitch of excitement being reached when the natives are about to put to death their victims, who are only rescued in the nick of time. The youngest member of the family shows great ability as a sand and buck dancer. Luis Hardt deputised on Monday for Joe Dale with a strong man show. The orchestra play the grand march, "Ophir," by Mr. Carl Hamlin, the conductor, and also a selection from popular melodies.

ROYAL ALBERT.

Looking as radiant and as genial as ever, Mr. Walter Leaver is presiding this week over an admirable holiday programme at the Royal Albert, Canning Town. One of the biggest items on the bill is entitled

"THE STAR OF SINNERS,"

a Sensational Sketch, by Leonard Mortimer.

Francis Durham ..... MR. REGINALD WEIGHILL
Detective Chesterfield .. MR. ERNEST WINGFIELD
Charles Peace ..... MR. LEONARD MORTIMER
Herman Krutz ..... MR. WELDON ATHERSTONE
The Faded Lady ..... MISS IDA CLIFFORD
Edith Durham ..... MISS EDITH LEWIS

This piece is certainly one of the most sensational that Mr. Leonard Mortimer has yet given us. It deals, we are told, with "an hitherto unrecorded adventure in the life of Charles Peace." We are afraid there is more than one adventure in it; in fact, the sketch is crowded with exciting incidents. Francis Durham has the idea of going in for a Parliamentary career. He has been receiving a number of anonymous letters hinting at a scandal connected with his wife, who, by the way, is the sister of an abandoned girl whose life Charles Peace has wrecked. Detective Chesterfield is engaged both by Francis Durham and his wife separately. Some incriminating correspondence associated with Mrs. Durham and her sister is taken from the possession of a blackguard named Herman Krutz, and deposited in Durham's safe. Krutz visits the residence of the Durhams, and endeavours to compel Mrs. Durham to hand back the letters to him. She refuses, and during her absence he attempts to pick the lock of the safe. Seeing a man at the window, he darts into hiding, and Charles Peace enters the room with all the implements of a burglar's calling. Charlie soon opens the safe, and extracts money and papers. Krutz tries to get possession of the latter, and a desperate scene between the two men follows. Peace escapes, but is afterwards tracked down after a variety of exciting incidents, and the story ends as the righteous would wish it to end. It is a veritable dare-devil that Mr. Leonard Mortimer presents to us as Charles Peace. His make-up is distinctly good, especially that in which Peace is made to look like a sanctimonious Non-conformist minister, and apparently Mr. Mortimer has studied the existing likenesses of the famous murderer. Miss Ida Clifford is pathetic as the Faded Lady, and Miss Edith Lewis treats us to some excellent tragic acting in her rôle of Edith Durham. Mr. Reginald Weighill is gentlemanly and unaffected as Francis Durham; Mr. Ernest Wingfield gives us a smart detective as Chesterfield; and Mr. Weldon Atherstone makes himself sufficiently disagreeable as a blackguardly German schemer. The sketch is superbly mounted.

A distinct feature of the evening's entertainment is afforded by Mr. Harry Gold. He has a new song-scena entitled *The Animated Sovereigns*. A black cloth is studded with glittering coins, which are thrown forward, and children's heads appear through the apertures. The youngsters sing the chorus of Mr. Gold's catchy song, "Gold, gold, gold." The effect is most pleasing. Mr. Gold's ditty, "I've got a pal," also meets with the approbation of the audience. Miss Rose Tree is a chic comedienne and speciality dancer, and a very delightful rendering she gives of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" and "Bright Eyes." Hans and Lux prove exceedingly entertaining with their comedy patter and lively repartee, and the Three Victorias submit a burlesque singing and dancing turn which is highly appreciated. Miss Belle Meredith, a charming and engaging comedienne and dancer, enchants the house with her special songs and her terpsichorean efforts, and Mr. Will Burton causes roars of laughter with his facial eccentricities and his grotesque dancing. The Kanes have a musical comedy act which is interesting and amusing from beginning to end, and for exquisite vocalism we can commend the Olympian Quartette, whose glees and miscellaneous songs are most popular with East Enders, especially their "Baby Boy" song. Sergeant Pearl, the clever ventriloquist, and Walter Payne's bio-photoscope conclude the programme.

BROTHERS WEBB.

AT BLACKPOOL,
KEEP THE HOUSE IN A ROAR OF LAUGHTER.

At the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, quite one of the smartest turns is that of the Brothers Webb, a couple of clever and brilliantly humorous musical clowns, who keep the house in a constant roar of laughter.—*Blackpool Herald*, April 17, 1906.

MR. PETER CONROY had a great reception at the Queen's, Poplar, on Monday evening last, when he resumed his post of *chef d'orchestre* at that hall, a position he vacated in 1888.

MR. TOM LEO, whose interests are now being looked after by Mr. George Barclay, will produce immediately his new comic song, by the author and composer of "Too Lazy to Live," entitled "The Fellow Who Falls in Love."

BLANCHE AND DIACOFF, the tea-cup track cyclists, after a long tour in India, will arrive, per s.s. Orient, from Colombo in Tilbury Docks on Monday.—Myles and May, with their original comedy and vocal costume act, will be coming to town shortly.—Mr. Syd Herman, with his Hebrew parody on "My Irish Molly O," will shortly be seen in London after his provincial tour.

WE regret to hear that Mr. Gordon Wilson, the well-known poet, writer of ballads, and reciter, has been ill for a very long time, and is now an inmate of the Fawler Ward at the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, county Durham.

MISS MAUD GRUNDY, harpist, who had been engaged for the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, was suddenly taken ill on Tuesday. The doctor on being called in pronounced her to be suffering from measles.

MASTER F. BURNS, one of the vocalists of the celebrated troupe, Tom White's Arabs, was presented on Saturday night last with a gold medal bearing the inscription, "To Master F. Burns, from J. H. P., on his third year with Tom White's Arabs." The lad belongs to Middlesbrough, and Pimple, the popular comedian, and director, is proud of the honour done to a clever member of his company.

PROFESSOR WOOD'S musical and pictorial organisation has been attracting large audiences at the Public Hall, Dudley, this week. A capital series of animated pictures is shown, and in addition there is a specially-selected company of talented artists, including Professor J. H. Maccann, C.A.M., the renowned "Concertina King," who again proves himself a complete master of his favourite instrument, and wins very warm applause.

MR. W. J. RAINE and his vaudeville company, who are in Inverness this evening, will finish at Perth on Saturday next, having had a most successful tour.

THE COLISEUM REVUE.

Fantasy and actuality are happily united in the new *Revue* at the Coliseum, and the alliance has enabled Mr. Oswald Stoll to present a series of scenes that should delight both the mass of Londoners and the visitors to the Metropolis for months to come. The *Revue* is indigenous to the boulevards, and bears much the same relation to French as pantomime does to English dramatic art. M. Victor de Cottens, the inventor and producer of the Coliseum novelty, wields a practical pen, being the author of similar pieces at the Folies-Bergère and the Chatelet. He describes the production as a series of scenes illustrating the events of the year in a light comic vein. Politics and social crazes are parodied, and in order to be abreast of the *entente cordiale* an international character is given to it by the introduction of a scene in Paris, with a typical illustration of a mid-Lent carnival, backed by a panoramic representation of the boulevards from the Porte Saint-Martin to the Opéra. Mr. Arthur Shirley, the English adaptor, has had much experience of Paris and Parisian plays; Mr. Roland Carse and Mr. Arthur Wimperis have fairly well surmounted the difficulties of adapting the majority of the lyrics to foreign melodies; and Mr. Walter Slaughter, who has shown a wise choice in borrowing from lively French and German scores, has also written some excellent numbers himself. The *Revue* is the most ambitious and elaborate work of the kind that has been seen on any English stage since Dion Boucicault produced *Babil and Bijou* at Covent Garden on Aug. 29, 1872. This was labelled a fantastical spectacle in eighteen tableaux, and was by that unapproachable writer of burlesque, J. R. Planché, the stage arrangement being undertaken by the popular author of *The Shaughraun*.

The production, indeed, is on a scale of lavish splendour, and with its magnificent dresses and scenery, its supreme quality of swing and go, and the whole-hearted enthusiasm with which the company enters into its work, it should establish the fame of the Coliseum as a home of spectacle. The *compère* of the *Revue* is our old friend Robinson Crusoe, who, waking up after a long Rip Van Winkle, has "left his little wooden hut," and finds himself in a gorgeous apartment in the Louis Quinze style devoted to the soirées of the Actuality Club, where beauty and fashion meet. Robinson, who has seen nothing since he was lost sight of in the Island of Juan Fernandez in 1810, is filled with amazement, but is kindly welcomed by the "smart set," who tell him that Bernard Shaw is Pinero and Shakespeare all in one. Defoe's adventurous hero then finds a guide, philosopher, and friend in the *commère*, represented on Monday by Miss Billie Burke, late of the *Blue Moon* company at the Lyric, and on Tuesday by Miss Godwynne Earle, who was suddenly called upon in consequence of Miss Burke's indisposition. "Actuality" is followed by a pretty fantasy of the months, the first scene being wound up by a typical resumé of pantomime, with follies, Punches, columbines, and clowns.

In the next scene, which has much topical interest, *compère* and *commère* go Earl's Courting, and merriment and pleasure rule the famous "lamp-lit" ground in the outer western district. Here we enjoy an electric ballet, and Miss Fashion shows us a series of dainty petticoats, to which at a given signal life and "understanding" are given by daintily hosed legs, swinging in rhythmic fashion to tuneful melody, which records the enchanting grace of snowy lace and melodious frou-frou. The faces belonging to the owners of these shapely limbs are not seen. Robinson, the *compère*, is much impressed with the charm of the tea-girls, but when he attempts to kiss one he is informed that they are not allowed to receive gratuities. An interesting episode at Earl's Court—which, by the way, is admirably realised—is the attempt of a music-publisher—well played by Mr. Charles Trevor—to obtain the arrest of a cohort of music pirates, who are ingenious enough to change their "graft" on the appearance of a policeman, represented in characteristic style by the burly Ben Brown, of *Black Justice* fame.

The chief characters in Scene 3 take flight to Paris, wherein the topical interest of the *Revue* is well maintained by a representation of the kissing of the Market Queen by the chairman of the London County Council during the agreeable visit of that body to *la ville lumière*. The *entente cordiale* is humorously represented by the canine friendship of a British bulldog with a French poodle. Mr. Arthur Conquest and Mr. Harry Lupino are associated in this scene, and their success is great. A decided hit is also made by the famous Price Troupe of Pantomimists, who give life, colour, and reality to the amusing mid-carnival scene in the Place de l'Opéra, to which reference has already been made.

Perhaps the most appreciated topical item is the duet (words by Roland Carse, music by Walter Slaughter) sung in the Zoo (Scene 4) by Princess Ena Primrose (Miss Queenie Essex) and King Alfonso Pomegranate (Mr. Henry J. Corner). English audiences are always loyal, and the hearty reception given to the number on Tuesday will be sure to grow in intensity during the run.

The Lady Socialists' Meeting (Scene 5) is evidently a parody of a noble Countess's address in favour of a Labour candidate at West Ham. Mr. George Le Clerq, the well-known negro comedian, represents the lady orator with no little command of humour, and the meeting at a theatre (cleverly realised in a built-up scene) is rudely interrupted by Miss Nellie Bowman, who plays the London street boy in very amusing fashion. Mr. Fred Zeitz and Mr. Harry Gardner also assist the fun, which might well be increased here.

The last scene of all is a supper-party at the Trocadero, which serves to introduce several recently popular plays with some successes of the present, and ends with a very gorgeous procession of the Decorations of Nations. Representatives of Italy, Spain, America, France, Japan, Russia, Germany, and England march in stately procession, the glittering and dazzling spectacle culminating in the grand finale, the Jubilee of the Victoria Cross. The note of the production is kaleidoscopic variety and entrancing spectacular effect; and here let us heartily recognise the immensity of the task of the arranger, Mr. Will Bishop, who has done so much for the ballets and special dances, and who has found in Signorina Galimberti a singularly charming prima ballerina, with the true Italian method at the points of her toes. We have mentioned Mr. Arthur Conquest in his impersonation of the British bulldog, but we must not omit to speak of the real artistic excellence of his parrot—a wonderfully natural bit of acting. Miss Queenie Essex shows considerable ability in her various characters, and should prove an acquisition to the ranks of musical comedy actresses. She is always exceedingly bright and animated. Mr. Henry J. Corner does well in his various characters, but will do better when less self-conscious; Mr. William Morgan distinguishes himself in the small part of a gendarme; Miss Annie Braddan makes a popular figure of the Queen of the "Halles," and is also heard to advantage as Miss Fashion in the song of the "petticoat"; Mr. George Lashwood makes an excellent Dandy in the Trocadero scene; and a sensation is caused by the Rocking-Chair Girls, who, after giving reminiscences of "The Cosy Corner Girls," turn over with the seats of their chairs. Propriety is not shocked, however, by this daring display, for not even a frill gets out of place. Miss Godwynne Earle, who played the *commère* on Tuesday afternoon, may be said to have done well under trying circumstances; but she was obviously handicapped by insufficient preparation, inevitable in the circumstances. Mr. Tom E. Murray, with his familiar chuckle and anecdotes, is funny in a restrained way.

THE EMPIRE REVUE.

Mr. George Grossmith, jun., has been saturated with Gaiety traditions, and what is more to the purpose, he can give expression to the spirit of travesty that possesses him—a fact that will be readily recognised in his latest work, *Venus, 1906*, which was successfully produced at the Empire on Tuesday evening. It is in four scenes, and we are introduced to Lord Percy Pall Mall in the hall of his house in Park-lane. Percy has statues of Venus Aphrodite and Vulcan standing in the vestibule, and when a Gibson girl, whom he has taken out to supper, comes on the scene, he is bold enough to say that she is more beautiful than the goddess, who comes to life to put in an indignant *caveat* against such an outrageous statement. She is supported in her remonstrance by Vulcan, who, as a faithful spouse, champions his wife's case in the law courts (Scene 2). Lord Percy is counsel for the Gibson Girl, who claims to be an actress because she has three words to say in a musical comedy—"What price Romano's?" The witnesses in the case include Mr. Onions, Jane Cakebread, and a bookmaker. The Judge—a connoisseur of beauty—after singing an excerpt from Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial by Jury*, decides in favour of the Gibson Girl. The Court scene, with its female jury, is very funny. We lose sight of some of the principal characters in the next scene—a compartment in an electric coach on the Underground; but there is plenty of riotous fun in the final tableau, Trafalgar-square, with the Nelson column in the foreground. The Square has been the scene of a meeting of the unemployed, and when the curtain rises a Labour leader is addressing about half-a-dozen loungers and a small boy or two. The audience dwindles to one *gamin*, who eventually disappears. No sooner has he gone than Vulcan, enraged at the turn things have taken, decides to destroy London by an agent more powerful than radium. The god seems to have seismic force at his disposal, for the Nelson column and Morley's Hotel topple over, the lions trot off, the National Gallery disappears, and that particular portion of London consecrated to living loafers and statues of dead heroes becomes a rocky waste. It is peopled by the characters of the revue in the costumes which Mr. Reed has made famous by his drawings in "Punch." They are pre-historic and scanty.

In a moment we see birds and beasts even more grotesque than Mr. Tree's fanciful fauna in his fine production of *The Tempest*. The pre-historic waste is peopled by the characters of the revue in skin costumes, and the wildest spirit of travesty pervades the whole scene. *Venus 1906* is just the right length, and Empire audiences will discover in it just the right kind of entertainment for the summer months.

The company works admirably together. Miss Sybil Arundale is an exquisite swell as Lord Percy Pall Mall, and has several taking numbers to sing. The chief of these is "The Picture Postcard Girlie," in which various of the ballerine appear as living portraits in frames. The bright and clever young actress, who dances delightfully, is encored invariably, and her success is very great. Mr. W. H. Berry's unctuous humour as the Judge is surpassed even by his drollery as a labour leader, and it is only his due to say that the success of the Trafalgar-square scene, which is the funniest in the piece, is largely due to his efforts. Mr. Harry Grattan may be bracketed with Mr. Berry, and he shows remarkable versatility in his impersonations of the Professor, Mr. Onions, a bookmaker, Jane Cakebread, Arthurius Robertus, and Mr. Nelson, R.N.V. Miss Elizabeth Firth makes a fascinating Gibson Girl, and is lively and spirited in her work; Miss Daisy Cordell is a stately Venus; and Mr. T. Tremayne is well placed as Vulcan. The scenery by Telbin, Banks, and Bruce-Smith is decidedly ingenious, the Trafalgar-square set being especially so; and the music, which for the most part is composed and arranged by Miss Constance Tippett, is catchy and tuneful. Mr. Tom Terriss is responsible for the arrangement of the dances and business, and the swing and go of the whole performance, which is due in great measure to his genius for stage-management, make it very exhilarating. The costumes are cleverly designed by Wilhelm, and Clarkson is responsible for the wigging.

Most of the ante-Easter attractions are found in the variety portion of the entertainment, which has already been noticed at length in these columns.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

Of the glorious Bank Holiday on Monday full advantage was taken by the thousands who frequented the people's grounds and palace at Muswell Hill. The amusements were continuous for twelve hours, and a three-show variety entertainment in the Central Hall attracted large audiences. Amongst the notable turns were the clever and agile Desmonti and Mora, the triple bar performers; the Selton Troupe of comedy jugglers; Arthur James, pedestal skate-dancer; Miss Helen Poppmacher, a singer of more than ordinary merit; Mr. W. L. Cockburn, whose good and powerful voice was well suited to the large building; Hill's Living Marionettes, a diverting exhibition; W. W. Donovan, cornet soloist; and the ever-welcome Hardy, the American Blondin, with his extraordinary feats on the high rope. This intrepid funambulist met with an enthusiastic reception. This is probably his last appearance in England prior to leaving for his native Canadian home for good. Mr. G. D. Cunningham's masterly efforts on the large organ were listened to with intense delight.

At half-past two M. Auguste Gaudron made a high parachute descent from a hot-air balloon, and a right-away ascent at half-past five from the Park. Pain's fireworks on the lake were brilliant specimens of pyrotechnic art. The side shows were apparently doing good business throughout the day, and the indefatigable lion tamer, Captain Henry, gave eloquent explanations in the zoological section, which is placed under his experienced care.

The theatre, notwithstanding the huge crowds in other parts, was largely attended, the attraction being the newest version, which runs all the week, of *New Frivolity*, the invention of the clever Mr. John Leopold. It is supported by the original members of his talented family. The merriment was kept at bubbling-point from the rise to the fall of the curtain. As Oliver Buckwheat, Mr. Watson Hume was a host in himself, his grotesque make-up and witticisms scoring heavily. Mr. John Leopold, jun., was a distinct success in his delineation of an English student, and earned well-deserved applause. Mr. Wilfred Vaughan did admirable work in his humorous study of the deserted husband, Jules Vermiglio, his assumed ferocity being a commendable feature. Mr. Barry Lupino as Sammy Vermiglio was responsible for a performance that was the acme of eccentricity, and his versatility was recognised by constant marks of approval. Mr. Tom Leopold presented a good embodiment of Professor Fumble, the schoolmaster; and Mr. Willie Leopold as Tickle, a page, was a most desirable acquisition to the company. Miss Marie Ault as Madame Cobweb submitted a pleasing and well-defined interpretation of the schoolmistress; Miss Amy Hall was a piquant Lucy Buckwheat; Miss Gertie Winter was full of jollity and *bonhomie* as Vinnie Moore; the pretty French waitress, Mananette, had careful treatment at the hands of Miss Queenie Bronte; and the Misses May Gordon and Minnie West respectively well sustained their rôles.

Zarmo, the comic juggler, is going to make a tour around the world, commencing in May, 1907. He is starring at the Hippodrome, Accrington, this week.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

On the first great public holiday of the year no place of amusement round London proved a greater centre of attraction than the Palace which crowns Sydenham Hill; and here on Easter Monday, cheered by an unclouded blue sky, balmy breezes, and pleasant sunshine, a huge crowd spent hours of unalloyed enjoyment in a manner that gave a flat contradiction to the oft-quoted saying that the English take their pleasures sadly.

In the theatre, three performances of *Florodora* were given by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, and this favourite musical comedy was greatly enjoyed by the holiday-folk.

In the centre transept was given a capital variety entertainment. The Yags and Mary Trio of trick cyclists appeared in a novel and startling act, which included cycle-somersaulting in mid-air; Les Trois Itrams were seen in a novelty perch and gymnastic pot-pourri act; other attractions that received extensive patronage included Fraulein Angeline, lady juggler and cannon-ball performer; the Mar-Ti-Fi Trio of Montenegrin acrobats; Mlle. Lillie Le Breton, trapeze artist; and Mlle. Louise Raffin's troupe of performing monkeys. In the Chinese Court those curious little people from the forests of Central Africa, called the Pygmies, held frequent receptions, and gave their quaint dances. In the electric theatre Cotes Clark's "Palace of Mystery," an exhibition of scientific creations, attracted many interested in such matters.

The huge holiday crowd were entertained in many other ways; the field of selection was indeed a wide one. One of the special attractions was the latest American sensation, the topsy-turvy railway, which ceaselessly whirled its passengers round the loop. Maxim's captive flying machine was on the move from early morn to dewy eve, and long after; the water chute, the largest on earth, plunged continuous boatloads of excited young people into the receptive basin amidst peals of laughter; the electric canoes took others for voyages on the lake through marvellous grottoes and caves and a perfect fairy archipelago; in the Castle of Trouble people got into an amazing maze, and there were roars of laughter, amidst which all trouble was forgotten; and the helter-skelter slide proved a novel if somewhat undignified source of delight. Other attractive items were two balloon ascents, bicycle and football matches, motor-car racing, palmistry and phrenology by Miss Alice Lee, the electric fish-pond, Hyatt and Brown's rifle range, scientific exhibition of under-water swimming by Miss Kirk, assisted by Miss Sylvia and Miss Violet Saraski, a shooting gallery, open air dancing, a grand evening concert in the centre transept by the massed bands, and, finally, a firework display by Messrs. C. T. Brock and Co. Apart from the delightful weather and the myriad attractions of the Palace, there were special reasons why Monday's holiday crowd was larger than ever. Electric trams were, for the first time, running from the southern districts to its doors, and many thousands reached the splendid grounds after an exhilarating ride who formerly would have found the place inaccessible.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BRUSSELS, April 17.—Easter and fine weather are a treat for the tourists, and have brought to our town thousands of strangers. Our theatres, in spite of the glorious sun, and thanks to rather cool evenings, have been crammed all these days.

The only novelty of late has been at the Monnaie, a new opera, *Deidamia*, taken by Lucien Solway from Musset's play, *'Twixt the Cup and the Lips*. The first performance was a success for the composer, Mr. Rasse, a local man, and the interpreters, specially for M. Albers in the part of Frank, the huntsman.

The Parc has been reviving *Frou-Frou*. The Alcazar has secured Mlle. Mistinguette to play La Môme Crevetté in *La Dame de Chez Maxim*. The Molière, after a very successful revival of *La Poupée*, has just unearthed Hervé's *Petit Faust*. The Galeries have sumptuously mounted Javaul and Varney's *Pompier de Service*, whilst at the Olympia the Parisian success, *Triplepatte*—that fine comedy by Tristan Bernard, which might be sub-titled *The Irresolute*—is drawing big and appreciative audiences. At the Alhambra popular opera prevails with a good sound troupe, and the Vaudeville has not exhausted yet the hilarity of the public with Bisson's *Surprises du Divorce*.

Easter Eve witnessed another important event, the reopening of the Palais d'Eté. Farfalla, a chanteuse; the comic singer, Amelet; the Paulasto Troupe, *Follies in a Café Garden*; the Three Saytons in their original alligator scene; the Six Rastelbinder in their military evolutions; Alice and Nina, Transvaal sharpshooters; the Samourai, Japanese wrestlers; Harry Rochez, with his trained ponies and dogs; Neuero, the clever juggler with soap bubbles; and Edith Helena, the American Patti, have all caught the favour and the applause of an overcrowded audience.

AGENCY AND THE PRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As a variety agent, I think it is quite time that the public should be informed that such instances as frequently occur of so-called variety agents obtaining fees from stage aspirants by what seems general misrepresentation is not the *modus operandi* of variety agencies as a body; and the time has now arrived when they have been forced to protect their calling in the eyes of the public by forming themselves into an association to deal with cases of this kind, and such an association is in existence, and doing good work.

It seems an accepted rule with the Press that anything occurring connected with the stage should be blazoned forth in daring type, and here we have headlines such as "A Variety Agent's Misrepresentations," "A Theatrical Agent's Promises"; and it quite seems that we as variety agents suffer the same indignity that the profession does at large when it notices cases in the Police-courts, coloured up and headlined, "A Music-hall Comedian in Trouble," "A Prominent Serio-comic Arrested," &c.; and I say without fear of contradiction that in the majority of instances the profession suffers for the misdeeds of people *actually not in the profession, and entirely unconnected with the stage.*

This is how the profession suffers in the eyes of the public. It is the old story—the good suffer for the bad; and, speaking as a variety agent, I think the time is ripe for the public to know that these happenings cited in papers are gradually getting "weeded out," and that the variety agent proper is not a person who extorts money by false pretences, that his rate of commission is a recognised one, and that there is not the bad odour about his business that the public may think exists.—Yours faithfully,

WILL DALTON
(Dalton's Agency).

5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury,
Manchester, April 19, 1906.

Mr. Lester Barrett has been overwhelmed with applications for copies of America's latest song crazes, "Starlight" and "Just a little rocking chair and you." Mr. Theodore Morse, of "Bluebell" fame, has surpassed himself in the melodies, and Miss Belle Braham and Mr. Hamilton Hill are to be congratulated on being among the first to secure them. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter have placed heavy orders with their printers for these huge successes.

OPENING OF THE ALBERT HALL WINTER GARDENS, SOUTHPORT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Under the patronage of his Worship the Mayor and Mayoress of Southport (Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Bibby-Hesketh), together with 150 of Admiral Togo's heroes from the Japanese warship Katori, who were the guests of the management, the above handsome hall was opened on Saturday evening before an immense audience. The building, which was formerly known as the Pavilion Theatre of Varieties, has during the past few months undergone what may be described as a complete transformation, and no one would now recognise any semblance of the former place of entertainment. The decorations and rich embellishments are on a huge scale, and nothing has been omitted to make the hall (which has accommodation for about 3,000 people) one of the most up-to-date, comfortable, and attractive in the provinces. An inclined floor has been substituted for the old level one, which equalises the line of sight from back to front, and the eight pairs of iron columns, which greatly intercepted the view, have been entirely removed. A new gallery, capable of seating 200, has been erected at the east end of the building, and one of the most striking features is the re-arrangement of the old balcony, which now forms a number of projecting bays, each having the appearance of a large box. A separate covered entrance has been constructed from Coronation Walk for the convenience of the patrons of the back seats, and a grand staircase leading from the promenade to the balcony has been erected. The hall has been refurnished in a lavish style, and there are also a number of minor structural improvements, the whole of which, as well as the architecture, has been undertaken by local firms.

At the commencement of the programme the genial manager (Mr. Alfred Hemming), who has been indefatigable in his efforts in promoting and carrying out the detail arrangements, briefly thanked the audience on behalf of the directors for their generous response, both in point of numbers and heartiness of appreciation; for many years, he said, Southport had wanted a hall which could accommodate so large an audience, and enable high-class concerts, music hall entertainments, festivals, &c., to be given at reasonable rates. "I hope," continued Mr. Hemming, "the building is to your satisfaction. It was not the intention there should be any speeches, but seeing such a magnificent 'house' rally to support the directors and extend so cordial a reception to our gallant allies, induced me to express the gratitude of the directorate."

The programme was then proceeded with, an agreeable item being the selections rendered by the band of H.M. Scots Guards. Other turns included Miss Violet Ludlow, soprano; Madame Dews, contralto; the Maori Chieftain, Ranginia, the marvellous tenor; Mr. Frank Leedam, society entertainer; and the Southport Prize Choir of sixty voices under the conductorship of Mr. W. Tattersall.

The new hall was well filled on Sunday evening, when the principals and a selected chorus from *The Duchess of Dantzic* company, supported by the Opera House orchestra, under the baton of Mr. W. P. Stone, submitted a very enjoyable sacred and classical concert, both the vocal and instrumental items being capitally rendered.

Miss Vesta Tilley appeared here for the Bank Holiday night only, and the popularity of this celebrated variety artist was evidenced by the attendance of an immense audience, who accorded her an overwhelming reception. Miss Tilley sang no less than six songs, each of which was rendered in her well-known inimitable dashing style. The initial selection was "Down Lovers' Lane," which was followed by "Fellows of the Royal Artillery," and subsequently "The Seaside Sultan," "Following in Father's Footsteps," and, in response to repeated encores, the old favourite, "Algy," was given.

In reply to the prolonged cheering, Miss Tilley heartily thanked the house for the approval they had shown. They did not know, she observed, how delighted she felt that they had appreciated her "humble efforts" to please them. She added that she sailed for America on Friday, and she hoped there to hear of the success of this beautiful hall. She also warmly thanked Mr. Hemming for his kindness in connection with this visit to Southport.

Mr. Hemming acknowledged the kind things said about him by Miss Vesta Tilley. He observed that it was seven years since he first came amongst them in the capacity of manager of the Winter Gardens. That was not his first visit. It was over twenty years since he came to Southport, but since he came as manager of the Winter Gardens he had thought Southport required something better than the old Pavilion. He begged of his directors then to do something to supply that want, but circumstances occurred which prevented their accomplishing such a result as they saw that night. He was very pleased that the present Board of Directors were only too anxious and willing to supply the want Southport had felt for many years. He hoped that the method of meeting that want by the creation of that beautiful hall had met with their appreciation. He could assure them that so long as he was there as a caterer for their wants he would do his best to bring to Southport all the talent he possibly could. If only Southport people would support them in appropriate ratio, they might rest content that there was no hall in the North of England, in the whole of England, that would be better catered for. This was not, however, a philanthropic institution—it was a matter of pounds, shillings, and pence, and the shareholders required a dividend. So long, however, as the support was adequate, they might rest content that the talent would be. He added that during the last two months he had put in almost fourteen hours every day seeing that every detail should be perfect. He hoped the result had come up to their expectation. Honestly, he himself would tell them he never thought it possible to create such a handsome hall out of the old Pavilion. Every credit was due to the local tradesmen for the skilful, artistic, and finished manner in which they had carried out the reconstruction. Now they only required adequate support for the talent to be of the best. In conclusion, Mr. Hemming warmly thanked Miss Vesta Tilley for coming to Southport on that important occasion. She had attended at great inconvenience to herself, seeing that she was to sail for America on Friday.

The remainder of an admirable programme comprised Roma and Romani, artistic musical speciality; Mr. Frank Cass, Lancashire vocal comedian; Miss Millie Engler, American speciality artist; the Players (Jennie and Harry), eccentric comedy vaudeville; Mr. J. C. Kurry, loose-legged comedian; Miss Florence Gwynne, society entertainer and pianist; Tee and Tee, comic acrobatic comedians; and *Beauty and the Burglar*, a farcical episode presented by Miss Millie Engler and company.

Mr. Fred Eustace's new production, *The Lights of the Harbour*, has been booked for a large number of the London Halls.—Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene have made a hit with their novel playlet, *His Birthday*.—Miss Elsie Molloy's success at the Coliseum, Glasgow, this week, in the musical comedy *The Lady Bankrupt*, has been very gratifying.

The Four Trees, in consequence of the marriage of their sister Lucy, who has now retired from the stage, will in future work together in the halls as the Three Sisters Tree, and will shortly be seen in an entirely new act.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY.—Feb. 27.—*The Passport*, after a ten years' rest, was revived by Messrs. Brough and Flemming at the Criterion Theatre on Feb. 24. Miss Beatrice Day was in her very best form as Mrs. D'Arcy. It was an intensely artistic impersonation. Mr. Herbert Flemming as the fussy and pompous Coleman was very good; Miss Emma Temple was admirable as Markham; Mr. Edgar B. Payne was a capital Greenwood; and Miss Bessie Major gave valuable assistance; and smaller parts were acted by Misses Gordon Lee and Mary Millward, and Messrs. Norman McKeown (Schmirkoff), Phillip Leslie (Algie Grey), Dundas Walker (an inane Henry Harris), and Mr. Carter Pickford, an excellent Sinclair.

The Knight Jeffries Dramatic company, at the Criterion, followed R. G. Knowles. *David Garrick* and Gilbert's *Comedy and Tragedy*, constituted the bill, with Mr. Knight as Muskerry's fanciful hero, and Miss Maud Jeffries as Clarice, both praiseworthy performances. Alderman Gresham was admirably depicted by Mr. George Carey; the Ada Gresham, called Violet this time, was entrusted to bright and piquant Miss Unie Russell; and Mr. Harry Plimmer was Tom Tallyhaut (our old friend Squire Chivey), and he made the most of the rôle. Other parts were fairly acted by Misses Amy Singleton and Eva Quinn, and Messrs. J. B. N. Osborne, Herbert Leigh, and George Chalmers. In *Comedy and Tragedy* Mr. Frank Stirling was an acceptable Duc d'Orleans, and Mr. Harry Plimmer made D'Aulnay dignified and manly.

"Veronique" is in its last week at Her Majesty's, as Mr. J. C. Williamson will produce *The Shop Girl* next Saturday.

The Tivoli welcomed Barnard's Marionettes on Saturday with laughter, applause, and great enthusiasm. Mr. Harry Rickards seldom misses fire with his imported or local "big guns," and this new turn is a capital engagement. Mlle. Ada Cerito, the Scottish Meisters, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Fred Bluett (warmly welcomed back), Hilda Lane, Ethel Preston, Ruby Watson, Carleton and Sutton, Alf. Lawton, and Leeds and Semar are all to the fore.

The train conveying Mr. J. C. Williamson's répertoire company from Launceston to Hobart, Tasmania, on the 25th, caught fire. All the *Princess Ida* scenery, properties, and wardrobe were destroyed, and but for the prompt stoppage of the train the passenger carriages would have been burnt with their living freight. As it was, all escaped uninjured, but several passengers lost every vestige of their luggage.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S MYSTERIES.

The varied assortment of startling tricks prepared by Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant for their reopening at the St. George's Hall are admirably designed to please the numerous visitors who make a visit to the popular Home of Mystery an unalterable feature of their holiday arrangements. An interesting item of the Easter programme is the announcement of the result of the "Trick without a title" competition, the winner of the £50 being a lady. A young man, it will be remembered, is bound securely to an iron framework resembling "The Scavenger's Daughter" in the Tower of London, and placed upright within a narrow oblong box, which is firmly locked and bolted, and raised several feet from the ground. Mr. Maskelyne, who performs the trick, then takes a wax doll and turns it upside down, the cabinet is opened, and the young man inside is seen to have reversed himself in exactly the same way. The youth is dressed as a boy in buttons, and the trick has therefore been christened "The New Page"—a page turned over—a clever title which has won the award out of no less than 4000 suggestions.

Mr. David Devant has provided new additions to his répertoire of magical problems, one of the prettiest being that of a number of bells attached to coloured ribbons, which depend from a cord drawn across the stage. The bells are detached from their places, and carried a few yards away, but return instantaneously to their respective ribbons at the word of command. Mr. Devant also does wonders with the tub of Diogenes, which is brought forward quite empty, and devoid of top or bottom. A thin sheet of white paper is placed over each end of the empty tub, when, suddenly, by the aid of a strong light, a weird figure is seen within making strange motions, and presently the paper is broken, and the philosopher himself emerges from the barrel. Mr. Devant accompanies his tricks with his customary flow of good humour, and both in his new illusions, and those which have already become popular, is heartily cheered. Wonderful feats are also performed in association with his sister, Miss Dora Devant, whose experiments in "mental magnetism" are always correctly managed.

The musical interlude at the piano, submitted by Mr. Barclay Gammon, has also been replenished, and the clever humorist now makes "The Honeysuckle and the Bee" a foundation for some admirable travesties of the styles of Chopin, German, Sullivan, and other celebrated composers. His monologue, "To be continued in our next," which is embellished with storm effects and very cleverly rendered, gives rise to further merriment, and wins the performer a hearty recall. The Burmese Gong is manipulated by Mr. John Warren, who also gives a ventriloquial performance with his puppet, "Marmaduke." M. Gintaro, the Japanese juggler, continues to astonish by his clever feats, and C. Tamamoto, who is also representative of Dai Nippon, performs on the perpendicular rope with his usual skill and intrepidity.

The Enchanted Hive has an early place in the programme, and in addition to the perplexing tricks which figure in it, witnesses some good acting on the part of Miss Helen McCullouch as a gipsy, and Miss Cassie Bruce, who plays with refinement and grace as Beatrice. Mr. F. W. Arnold-Mussett makes a specially humorous study of the nigger Sambo, Mr. Charles Glenrose is a gallant young hero, and Mr. Edward Morehen is a duly ferocious police-agent. *The Mascot Moth*, the pretty illusion which comes at the end of the programme, also gives employment to the talents of most of the artists above named, with the important addition of Mr. Devant, who acts cheerily as the young army officer, and performs the trick neatly. A good word should also be given to Mr. Henri Hermann, who plays well as an Indian fakir, and to Mr. E. A. Maskelyne, who acts realistically as the card-sharper. Effective music is performed by the orchestra under Mr. F. Cramer, a piece descriptive of a motor smash finding particular favour.

M. de Cottens and Mr. Walter Slaughter, the collaborators in the *Revue* which is now proving such a success at the Coliseum, are engaged in writing an original musical play, to be produced in London and Paris. Mr. Slaughter, in addition to selecting and adapting the music for the gorgeous entertainment at the Coliseum, has also composed many numbers. These include, in view of the forthcoming marriage of the King of Spain, a charming piece suggesting the English Rose and the Pomegranate, the national emblem of Spain.

Mr. Johnny Holland has accepted a sketch, written by Mr. Charles R. Stone, entitled *Our Betsy*, which he intends to produce at the Palace of Varieties, Portsmouth, shortly.

RE-OPENING OF QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The Queen's Palace of Varieties, Poplar, was re-opened, under the proprietorship of Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams, on Monday afternoon, when an excellent programme was presented. With its fresh gold and cream decorations, its maroon hangings, and general artistic interior, the Queen's looked bright, handsome, and cosy. Mr. Jack Woolf, the general-manager, has been busy for some time past preparing for the opening, and his artistic sense and sound judgment are evidenced in all directions in the building. The conductor of the orchestra is the able Mr. B. Conroy. It may be mentioned that the upholstering has been done by Messrs. Lewis and Deakin, the decorations by Mr. A. Sugman, and the electric lighting by Messrs. Troy and Co. During the performances this week the portraits of the two proprietors and the manager have been thrown on the screen to the accompaniment of the cheers of the audience.

The bill of fare for the opening week is an interesting one. Mr. Tom Leo carries comicality to a fine point. As the curtain is raised for his turn, he is seen seated on a stool, his head resting against the back sheet, and looking the very personification of slothfulness. When he awakes with a mighty yawn, he tells us that he's heard about a man who never went downstairs because he was too lazy to get out of bed, and then proceeds to say that he himself can beat that, for he feels too lazy to live, and too lazy to die, and all he wishes to do is to go to hush-a-by. Then, in order to carry out his predominant characteristic on the stage, he asks the audience to sing the chorus, while he goes to sleep, and, finally, he is carried off the stage by two attendants. Mr. Leo's business is exceedingly clever, and proves greatly to the liking of the house. Miss Rose Hamilton appears in her delightful musical monologue, entitled *Jack Sheppard*. The scene is a well-nigh bare room. On one of the walls is a portrait of an elderly woman. It is the likeness of Jack Sheppard's mother, and the precocious young burglar is constantly seeing before him the face of his mother coming as a warning. Miss Hamilton renders her lines with feeling and expression. Miss Lily Lawrence is a pleasing singer and dancer, and her work is greatly admired. She has decided gifts as a comedienne, and ought to be heard of a good deal in the future.

A successful mimic comes along in the person of Miss Elfrida. She quite "touches the fringe" when she gives us imitations of well-known music-hall artists. Thus, we have Mr. Gus Elen with his coster chatter about a "pyjama hat," Miss Kate Carney in her "Mouth organ brigade," and Miss Marie Lloyd, and Mr. George Bastow in some of their songs. Miss Elfrida may certainly be congratulated upon her efforts in the imitation line. With excellent effect does she catch the voice and mannerisms of her subjects. Mr. C. O. Hughes, the Hebrew dialogue comedian, is an extremely whimsical individual. He brings out in strong relief the peculiarities of speech and gesture of the Jew, without in any way exaggerating the picture. No one is a better appreciator of humour than our Hebrew friends, and Jewish comedy, as a rule, is comedy that is irresistibly funny. McGovan and McGovan are a couple of charming young ladies, who sing sweetly and dance prettily. Their song "Lulu" is a very catchy number, and their terpsichorean efforts which succeed it are neatly and smartly executed. From the New Bioscope we have a remarkably interesting series of pictures illustrative of the life of New York policemen. Another film, depicting in lurid fashion the nightmare of a drunken man, is most laughable.

The Deer Family offer a somewhat sensational act in *Indians of the Past*. Three or four bellicose North American Indians are holding a pow-wow. In the next scene we are shown the hut of a settler. The latter is saying good-bye to his two little girls, as he is going to shoot something for supper. During his absence the Indians arrive, drag the children out, and set fire to their wooden home. They then bind the girls preparatory to scalping them. However, fortunately for the children, there is a disagreement between their captors, and during the quarrel the father returns and rescues the youngsters. The story is thrillingly told by the Deer Family. Miss Jenny Mills submits an attractive item in her new electrical act, which is set in the midst of prettily designed scenery. The first portion of her turn consists of an allegorical picture, in the shape of a dance, of "Dreamland." Very gracefully does the lady manipulate her dancing robe over the variegated lights, the effect being extremely pleasing to the eye. Following that we get "The enchanted cave" and "The spirit of fire." In the latter the representation of flames mounting higher and higher, and eating their way in all directions, is quite realistic. Miss Mills has shown considerable originality in conceiving her act, which we notice goes by the name of *The Mystique Dream*. Mr. Brian McCullough and company are presenting the sketch *Beneath Big Ben*. Mr. McCullough is seen in his amusing character-study of Walker Wallop, and Messrs. Algernon Syms and Gilbert Vernon give interesting portrayals of the villain and the hero; while Mr. Stafford Smith is effective as Farmer Bainbridge. Miss Ernice Fielding and Miss Nellie Nelson capably enact the rôles of Lucy Bainbridge and Marian Medwin respectively.

"Drink" is proving a great attraction at the Coliseum. Oddly enough, Miss Helen Graeme, who plays Gervaise with so much emotion, resembles Mr. Charles Warner's own daughter, Miss Grace Warner, in the same part. Of Scotch family, as her name shows, Miss Graeme was born in South America, and is a pretty young actress whose experiences hitherto have been more in the provinces than in London, although she has acted at His Majesty's, the Hippodrome, and other West End houses. Mr. Warner's extraordinary performance of Coupeau affected her so much when she first played with him that she found it positively haunting—a feeling that other actresses, who have also thrown themselves heart and soul into the same part, have confessed to experiencing.

Miss Mary Allestree, who plays Virginie in *Drink*, looks very handsome in a frock that was made in London but looks like Paris. It is a peculiar shade of rose-pink that turns to flame colour in certain lights, trimmed with a delicate design in ribbon of the same beautiful tint, with an effective wide black belt, elbow sleeves edged with fine lace, and an elaborate yoke also made of lace. The coquettish hat is composed of black chiffon, with a cluster of brilliant roses under the brim, and the whole costume is admirably suited to Miss Allestree's brunette style of beauty.

Mr. Will Musgrave was married by special licence on Saturday, April 14, to Miss Gladys Wingrove, of the Sisters Wingrove.

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Grey, or faded hair, can be easily restored to a Golden Brown, Auburn Brown, or to almost any other desired shade of Brown, by "Condy's Fluid," which is non-poisonous, and harmless in every way.

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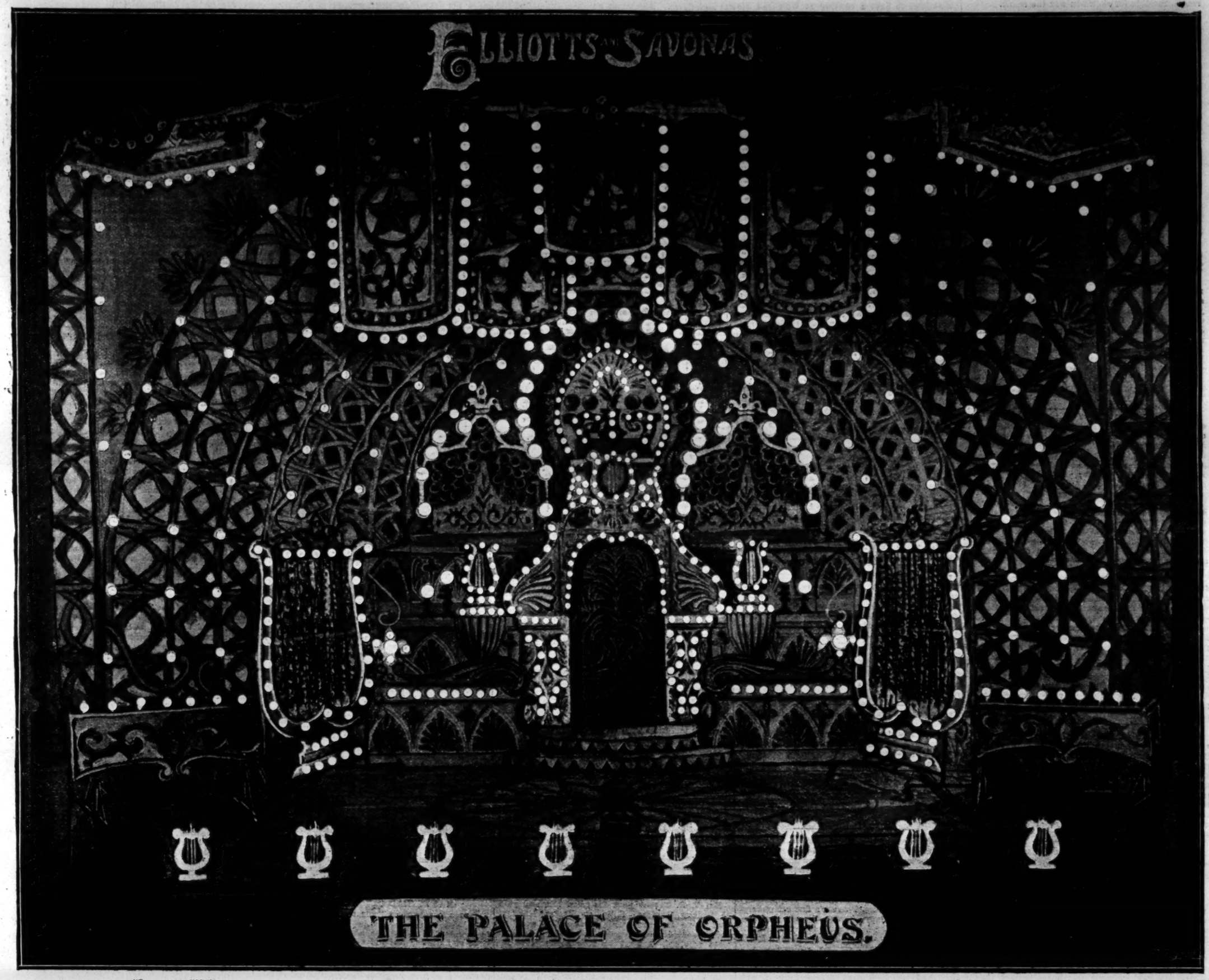
The Lady's Pictorial, The Gentlewoman, The Lady, and other High Class Ladies' Journals strongly recommend the use of "Condy's Fluid" for restoring the hair when grey or faded.

THE ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS.



A FEW OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ERA, Dec. 2, 1905.

"THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS."

Mr. J. B. Elliott's latest "creation," entitled "**The Palace of Orpheus,**" was produced at the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, on Monday, and was accorded by a **crowded audience** a reception which testified to its **entire success**. It is recorded that Orpheus was able to charm beasts and make rocks and woods move to his melody. That Mr. Elliott will attempt to emulate the achievements of the mythical musician of Greece is not to be expected, but, at all events, **he is in a position to present a satisfying feast of harmony** which is **entirely distinct** from what the public are accustomed to receive.

When the curtain rises a scene depicting the interior of a **gorgeous palace** is revealed. An immense star forms a pretty centre-piece on the stage, and at the back are three large organs, which display innumerable brass trumpets in front; while the side scenery is designed to represent harps, lyres, and other musical instruments. The scene in itself is **exceedingly beautiful** with merely the aid of the ordinary stage illumination, but when scores of coloured electric effects arranged tastefully in all directions are turned on, the claim of its being a "**veritable Arabian Night's realisation of beauty, colour, and effect,**" is justified. Then commences an entertainment by the **Eight Savonas**, four ladies and four gentlemen, which is certainly unique. The performers are dressed in **Georgian costume**, with the customary white wigs and patches, the skirts of the ladies being of rich white satin, with music and musical instruments worked upon the **front and sides in coloured silks.** Space will not permit a detailed description of the various instruments used to produce delightful harmonious effects. Beyond the well-known brass there are the miramba, commonly used in South America to produce dance music; aluminium lyres, consisting of upright rods, from which sounds are produced; American organ chimes, the shaking of which produces mellow tones; ocarinas, metal discs spun on a slab table, &c. Three of the performers preside at the organs, and a volume of sound floods the whole of the auditorium. The rendering of the overture to "**William Tell**" (Rossini) was accompanied by **very impressive stage effects.** As the selection progressed the blaze of dazzling light gradually disappeared, **the whistling of the wind**, with **peals of thunder**, and **vivid flashes** of **lightning**, were introduced, and eventually these gave place to the **twittering of birds** as the darkness disappeared and the morning broke.

The second part of the entertainment consisted of a new comic Negro fantasia, entitled "**A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer,**" where we are treated to some charming dancing by the four lady **Savonas**, who wear large straw hats. This little turn earned a **hearty encore.** The half-hour's entertainment terminated with the playing of a hunting piece, which was full of life and action. The artists running to the footlights, which, by the way, consisted of **electric-lighted transparent lyres**, drew forth long, white streamers attached thereto. From these were suspended small bells, which raised a merry tinkling as the ribbons were jerked.

This fine show has cost **Mr. J. B. Elliott, who invented it**, the sum of **£2,000**, out of which **£900** went for the three organs; and the weight of the scenery is about six tons. The modelling and painting, which are extremely clever, are the work of **Mr. Charles Wood.** These gentlemen have certainly succeeded in producing an attraction which cannot fail to satisfy wherever it is shown.

THE PORCUPINE, Liverpool, Saturday, Dec. 2, 1905.

LYRIC—THE SEVEN SAVONAS.

Monday was an **especial occasion**, and a **red letter** one for the habitués of the pretty Lyric. This was in the **first production** of a **glorified musical show** by the **Seven Savonas.** Musical grotesques are to be counted by the scores in the variety world, but such a **gorgeous display** as this **has not before been seen** as that **invented** and **produced** by **J. B. Elliott**, and the **refined** and **high-class musical performance** given by the **Seven Savonas** amid a **perfect dazzling** and almost **blinding glory of electric lighting.** At first sight this seems an almost chaotic **mass of colour** without form, but shapes of **graceful design** and **contour** soon emerge from this, and become a **gleaming habitation fittingly called** "**The Palace of Orpheus**" In this abode of **brilliant colour** and **electrical splendour** the **gifted Savonas** show their **incomparable qualities** as **musical experts**, and their **wonderful command** over the most extraordinary instruments. **Perfect** in the manipulation of these, they show **marvellous skill in the execution** of the most **intricate classical music**, and with equal facility handle such diverse instruments as organs, sleigh bells, metal discs, aluminium lyres, American organ chimes, ocarinas, South African marembas, zylophones, and silver tubes. I am looking forward, with all the other elect, to playing a harp, but I shall never attain to the accomplishments of the Savonas, either terrestrially or celestially. **It is altogether a wonderfully great show. Well done, Papa Elliott.** I take off my hat to you as the **Greatest Musical Entertainer of the Age.** You are a **Genius** in **inventions**, and he must be a **bold man** who would **try** to **follow in your footsteps.**

THE ENCORE, Nov. 30, 1905.

FIRST PRODUCTION OF MR. J. B. ELLIOTT'S GREAT CREATION "THE PALACE OF ORPHEUS" AT THE LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS.

On Monday evening, November 27th, was **produced** for the **first time** at the Lyric Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool, Mr. J. B. Elliott's great creation, "**The Palace of Orpheus,**" and we must at once confess that our **most sanguine expectations** were **more than realised.** The **dazzling beauty, magnificent colouring**, and **elaborate design**, are **perfect** and **unique**, and the manner it was **received** by a **crowded house** must have given **great satisfaction** to the artist and inventor.

It is a **fascinating pleasure** to witness such a **gorgeous spectacular scene**, the like of which has **never before** been put on in Liverpool. It is a veritable **triumph**, of **artistic art**, and **beyond description**; however I will try and give your readers some idea of this **charming dream of fairyland.**

When the curtain rises it displays "**The Palace of Orpheus,**" in a subdued tone of light, which **instantly changes** to the most **brilliant display** of **electric effects imaginable**; a veritable feast for the **eyes** and **mind** to dwell upon and **wonder how such effects can be created.** In the background we see **massive organs**, towering up at least twenty feet high surrounded by terraces and golden staircases for the artists to reach them; also **fantastic designs** of **every description** illuminated by **thousands** of **electrical coloured lights.** When the scene was fully developed the whole **audience rose to a pitch of excitement**, and was **unbounded** in its **applause**, and called **vociferously** for the artist, **Mr. Charles Wood**, who came forward to **receive** their **greetings**, which he **richly deserved. Mr. J. B. Elliott** also had to respond, and it must have been a **source of gratification** to him to know that **his great and costly efforts** were so **fully appreciated.** In this scene the famous **Savonas** appear and give their **unequalled performances** arrayed in **superb dresses**, to harmonise with the colour of their surroundings. After giving their **unparalleled performance** of the overture to "**William Tell,**" they play for the first time on any stage their negro fantasia, entitled "**A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer,**" written by **Mr. J. B. Elliott.** It is a **pleasing** and **melodious sketch**, and went with a **dash** and **swing** which the **Savonas** so well know **how to infuse** into their **productions.** It was **received** by the **whole house** with a **perfect storm of delighted applause**, and **was voted a musical treat** of the **highest order.** It will always be a welcome addition to their **extensive repertoire.**

We are pleased to say the whole performance went without the **slightest hitch**, which speaks volumes for all concerned in this **great production.**

THE MUSIC HALL AND THEATRE REVIEW, Dec. 1, 1905.

It would be **difficult**, writes our Liverpool correspondent, **to imagine anything more gorgeous** or more **pleasing to the eye** than **Mr. J. B. Elliott's** new creation **The Palace of Orpheus**, which was successfully produced on Monday evening at the Lyric Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool.

In fact, it is a moot point, indeed, whether the Ancients, in their Eleusinian mysteries, could conjure up such a **handsome palace** in which to enshrine their musical divinity, of whom Shakespeare wrote:—

> "Orpheus, with his lute, made trees
> And the mountain tops, that freeze,
> Bow themselves, when he did sing:
> To his music, plants, and flowers,
> Ever spring, as sun and showers,
> There had been a lasting spring.
> Every thing that heard him play,
> Even the billows of the sea,
> Hung their heads, and then lay by.
> In sweet music is such art:
> Killing care, and grief of h art."

Pleasurable anticipation ran high on Monday evening as to the **merits** of the **new production**, the **fulfilment** of which was **realised** in **every particular.** Much, of course, was expected from Mr. Elliott, having regard of the fact that his last creation, which was produced at the London Hippodrome, for the celebrated musical marvels, the Seven Savonas, caused something of a sensation in the metropolis

On his **new venture Mr. Elliott** has **spared neither time nor money.** Consequently, he has **ably succeeded** in making it a **veritable triumph in stagecraft.** The prevailing hues of the **rich scheme of colouring** are blue, gold, and amber, and when **illuminated** with the numerous variegated coloured **electric lights** the scene presented is **fairy-like in the extreme.**

In this the **Seven Savonas (beautifully garbed in picturesque Georgian Costumes)** give a **capital show.** At the initial performance they gave a clever rendering of a new Negro fantasia entitled "**A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer.**" They also performed the overture and the famous **Storm Scene** from Rossini's opera of "**William Tell,**" which was **executed** in a **brilliant manner** by these **clever exponents** of **mirth and music.** The **natural effects** of **thunder, lightning, rain, wind**, the **howling of wild beasts** escaping from the storm, the **return of calm**, and the **singing** of the **birds**, lent **additional effect** to a **most enjoyable performance**, which **no one should miss.**

THE STAGE, Nov. 30, 1905.

LYRIC.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Musical eccentricities, from the harmonious coffee-pot to the electric orchestra, have long been familiar to music hall habitués, **but it has been left to Mr. J. B. Elliott** to **prove** that **there is still novelty** to be **displayed** in this line of entertainment. Under the title of "**The Palace of Orpheus,**" he **has presented** through the **famous Savonas a marvellous** and altogether **remarkable creation.** From a merely spectacular standpoint the **performance** is quite **unique.** Amid a **dazzling blaze** of **electric lights**, which is to be taken as suggesting the **gorgeous palace** of some god of harmonies, there is set up a **bewildering mass of musical instruments** of a **strange** and **weird character.** Even the footlights have been invaded, for along them runs a line of **lyres**, all **beautifully illuminated**, and all of which add to the **musical pleasures** of the turn. From these on the stage are silver tubes, South African marambas, saxaphones, grand organs, sleigh bells, chimes, ocarinas, aluminium lyres, American organ chimes, and musical metal discs. These, in the hands of the seven **highly-gifted** and **talented Savonas**, are made to produce a **rich flood** of both **solo, concerted**, and **orchestral music** of the **highest order.** This singularly **fascinating turn** is not only rich in these **wonderful instruments** and **electrical effects**, but in the **infinite charm** of the **performers** and their **varied** and **comprehensive musical accomplishments.**

Money, ingenuity, resource, and **special attainments** are **visible** in **every phase** and **feature** of the show, and it may be said to be **one of the most perfect** and **astonishing** entertainments which the music halls, with all their **modern enterprise, have yet furnished.** In this **blaze of splendour Mr. J. B. Elliott** and **Mr. Charles Wood** appeared to **receive the plaudits** of the **delighted audience.**

Permanent Address, 42, ST. PAUL'S-ROAD, MIDDLESBROUGH, ENGLAND.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The glorious summer weather of the last fortnight had its effect upon the vast crowds that are not able to journey to the sea, and yet desperately need a holiday. At all the great open air fairs within easy access of London record crowds and record business for showmen was the result.

When we visited Hampstead Heath in the early afternoon of Monday, the greatest sight of all the sights was the ever upward streaming of the people, and we are quite certain that the crowd was a thoroughly representative one, all classes being there on pleasure bent. The sweated workers from the East End, the daintily attired Miss from the West End shops, the carman from Soho, the navvy from Rotherhithe, the clerk from Canonbury, the merchant from Camden Town, they were all there—such a commingling of the classes and the masses that only a thoroughly British fair and British holiday induces.

We started early, but stood aghast at the fight for the tram-car in Euston-road, and even when we retreated from the fray to secure a twopenny ride, and diplomatically advanced to Camden Town in the fond hope of there obtaining cheap conveyance, again we were foiled, and had to travel by other and less popular means. But when we reached Hampstead village, before we got to the heath, we saw a considerable settlement of steam roundabouts, swings, shooting galleries, and other novelties; this private enterprise fair was doing excellent business.

Going forward in the press of the crowd, we reached the grand entrance avenue of a hundred side shows, throwing games, variety stalls, juvenile roundabouts, swings, dolly frames, and other novelties. Conspicuous amongst these were John Hastings' two capital ground booths, the midget marvels, and the giant lady; Wilson's fine art academy, Forrest's juvenile roundabouts, Brett's steam horses, and the varieties, throwing games, shooting galleries, and novelty stalls of Messrs. T. Manning, Purchase, Peters, Bolsworth, Stockwood, Birch, Rose, Turner, Shore, Ayres, Townsend, and Hewitt.

Another great avenue of fair ground novelties contained Chipperfield's French menagerie and cinematograph, Professor Goldsmith's assault-at-arms, Elliott's school of boxers, and some thirty minor concerns, swings, overboats, and throwing games, amongst which we noticed the concerns of Messrs. Golledge, Warnsby, S. Jones, S. Shaw, Marshall, Swain, Crisp, and Peters.

Far away from the frenzy of these immense streams of life, sheltered in a valley, was a settlement of big shows, swings, and other varieties. Amongst the shows were the magnificent electric bioscope of Biddall Brothers, and the equally big concern of Wm. Biddall, the Empire of Varieties and Royal cinematograph.

In this select fair ground we noticed how carefully the County Council provides for all sorts and conditions of holiday makers. Here the people whose tastes range above the fearful excitement of three shots a penny or the substantial joys of ham sandwiches and cowheels, or the elusive delights of the winkle and the delicious morsels displayed on the half shell, may find their improving minds gratified by the marvels of up-to-date animated photography. Messrs. Biddall were certainly justified in their enterprise in providing for a constant succession of appreciative audiences the very best films, and, indeed, it were impossible to find better shows than these modern first-class exhibitions.

We must here congratulate the County Council and its officers upon the excellent way in which they have distributed the shows and amusements upon the Heath. No better plan could have been devised for breaking up and constantly keeping on the move a multitude of people. The thought of a crowd aimlessly wandering about the heath, with no object in view and no points of attraction to keep them moving from place to place, would be appalling, and for this reason alone the provision made for the shows is fully justified.

Passing from the vale of cinematography, and traversing the great open footway that divides the heath in twain, we reached, by the side of a beautiful stretch of water, yet another fair ground, the trysting place for pilgrims of the Heath known as "The Vale of Health," and here we found that celebrated local showman, Mr. Harry Cox, surrounded by a splendid galaxy of mechanical and steam-driven novelties, including the steam horses, the giant revolving wheel, two sets of park swings, and Mrs. Cox's beautiful set of gem swings, the shooting jungle, and other varieties. Upon this pitch were displayed some thirty novelties of a minor character, amongst which we noticed the concerns of Messrs. Stafford, Smith, Lane, and Swayne.

But this is not all. On the extreme edge of the Heath, from the point where we commenced our pilgrimage, there was yet another fair ground, and by way of experiment we counted the number of separate concerns, big and little, and this reached the immense total of 137. Here were Purchase's menagerie, with the performances of lion tamers (male and female), Chittock's London cinematograph, Beverlay's American cinematograph, Bailey's fine art show, Wilson's living pictures, La Belle, the giant lady, Wilson's juvenile motor set, Laing's gem horses, Denholme's swing boat, Smith's roundabout, Simpson's orangery, a new and novel throwing game, Bailey's egg smasher, and doll frame, Brett's throwing games, the swings of Messrs. Crisp, Marshall, Corbett, and Long, with, as our numbering of the concerns indicates, a vast crowd of other caterers.

Next to Hampstead Heath the biggest gathering of shows in Greater London was found upon Wanstead Flats, the great open space on the edge of the Forest at Forest Gate. Vast crowds thoroughly enjoyed the excellent entertainments provided by Thurston's cinematograph theatre, Taylor's coliseum of varieties and animated photography, Ball's American bioscope, Burnett's military tournament, Norman's new show, the Dahomey warriors, and Nail's varieties. The machines and roundabouts, a splendid list, included sets by Messrs. Thurston, Symonds, Presland, Forrest, and Brown. There were swings, overboats, throwing games, and a very fine array of coker sheets, dolly frames, varieties, and penny stalls. Wanstead Flats, unlike the Heath, is one great aggregation, laid out in an immense square, and the effect, whether viewed from the centre of the ground, or from the wide approach, is altogether bright and attractive.

The meeting of showmen at Wanstead Flats on Easter Sunday was of a most interesting character. The Hon. Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, the Rev. T. Horne, convened the meeting at the request of several prominent London showmen, the hope being that the recent success of the Guild would induce showmen who still remained outside the organisation to join and loyally support the necessary work of trade defence.

A very agreeable surprise rewarded the showmen who attended the meeting in the arrival quite unexpectedly of the honoured President of the Guild, who drove to the fair in pursuance of a pleasant pilgrimage he has been making to all the showgrounds around London. Amongst the prominent showmen present were—Mr. William Taylor (in whose beautiful pavilion the meeting was held), Mr. Alf. Ball, Mr. Tom Norman, Mr. Burnett, Mr. H. Forrest, Mr. J. Pettigrove, Messrs. Thurston, Mr. Anderson, Mr. S. Forrest, Mr. Symonds, and many others.

In opening the proceedings the Rev. T. Horne said that it was only in deference to the earnest wish expressed at the last meeting of the London Committee to have a meeting at Wanstead Flats, that he was present that day. He felt that after the very full statement of the Society's work and the successful result of their appeal to the London County Council with reference to admitting living vans on the open spaces, all London showmen would see the necessity of supporting the Guild. He recognised that with very few exceptions the men he was now addressing were already loyal supporters of that trade organisation. It was to him a source of great satisfaction that behind all that the Guild Executive did they now had the strong support of an overwhelming majority of London show-people.

The remarkable series of Parliamentary successes achieved by the Guild were matters of history, and it was eminently satisfactory that the justice-loving public now readily accorded to the travelling showman full recognition of the work he is doing as the provider of popular and open-air amusements. When the workers turned out in their hundreds of thousands on Easter Monday it would be to set their faces towards the fairgrounds and pleasure resorts of the nation in order that they might obtain with surcease from toil necessary relaxation and enjoyment.

In conclusion, he felt certain that he was only voicing the feeling of all those present when he said how deeply gratified and touched they all were with the extremely pleasant surprise their honoured President had afforded them that day by coming in their midst and identifying himself once again with his people. He felt sure that it was entirely owing to the great tact and the convincing charm of manner with which their President had stated their case at the recent deputation to the London County Council that the objectionable prohibition of living vans had been rescinded, and permission given for the movable dwelling to accompany the show. He hoped that their President would give them a little helpful counsel, and, therefore, in their name he asked him to address the meeting.

Lord George Sanger was received with warm applause, and began by thanking their Hon. Chaplain for the kindly words with which he had made reference to the work he had tried to do in their behalf. He had, he confessed, been most agreeably surprised at the kindly reception his defence of their movable homes had met with at the hands of the London County Council. It had been a great pleasure to him to give from the volume of his own experience testimony to the essential value of the home life of travelling showmen.

At the same time he felt very strongly that a serious responsibility rested upon them all that scrupulous care must be taken to justify the public confidence, that their vans must be kept strictly clean, and that everything must be done to leave the grounds they occupy free from litter or any objectionable rubbish. They must recognise that in these days of local government the showman must fit in with the altered condition of things. That they would do this he had every reasonable hope, and in so doing they would continue to obtain the patronage and support of the show-loving public.

He had really come to Wanstead Flats because still his heart was with them. It had been a pleasure to him to visit his brethren of the road at Hampstead Heath, at Wormwood Scrubs, and now at Wanstead Flats. He wished them every success in their work and enterprise.

Questions were asked with reference to Mitcham Fair, and the appointment of a solicitor for London. These were satisfactorily answered, and after the enrolment of new members the meeting terminated.

From the Manchester fairgrounds we have news of the new Knott Mill Fair held on Collins' Ground, Queen's-road. Here were gathered together a big crowd of shows, roundabouts, and other varieties. Chief amongst these were—Proctor's circus, Colonel Clarke's coliseum, Dr. Edward Lawrence's cinematograph, Gal Hague's black and white boxers, Trayner's fine art gallery, and North's giant lady; George Green's gondolas, John Collins' motor-cars, galloping horses, and ships in the air, Royle's gallopers and high-flyers, J. Hibbert and Sons' electric cockerells, and juvenile horses by Messrs. Cordwell, Humphrey, Mercer, and Montgomery. The shooting galleries, ranges, and smashers were provided by Messrs. Lever, Jewell, Fletcher, Johnson, Ingham, Mercer, and Hughes and Martin. The crowd of minor novelties included the well-known concerns of Messrs. Cordwell, Whatmore, Chaplain, Deekes, Mercer, Lynch, Fletcher, Johnson, Royle, Chaplain, Humphrey, N. Whatmore, Mercer, and Lever.

Upon the Trafford-road Ground, Salford, we have news of the presence of J. Dayes' boxing and athletic saloon, Waddington's motor-cars, W. Mitchell's motor-cars, Williams' tunnel railway, Hurst's No. 2 set of ostriches, Richards' steam yachts. The lessee of the ground, W. Holmes, exhibited galloping horses, big boats, and varieties. The other caterers were White, Marsden, Barker, and Lorenzo with shooting concerns, and White, Ormrod, Black, Lorenzo, and Holmes with throwing games.

At Ashton-under-Lyne for the Easter festival were the well-known concerns of Messrs. J. Hibbert and Sons, comprising the flying motor-cars, the steam-horses, and big boats. Leskie's big wheel, Thwaite's Winchester range and rifle saloon, Thomas's bottle-smasher, and Emms' sheet. Other minor novelties were by Harry Hibbert, J. Seldon, H. Thomas, and Mrs. Seldon.

The Easter Fair at Blackburn is always a first-class fixture, and attracts the very best shows on the Lancashire Round. Here for Eastertide were Kemp's coliseum of animated photography, Captain Tom Payne's bioscope, Relph and Pedley's cinematograph theatre, Green's cinematograph, Hayden's second sight, Braham's conjuring and trained birds, and Wright's fine art gallery. The machine list at this fair is always an attractive one, and includes the well-known concerns of the Mitchells, the Holdens, the Greens, the Howarths, and single sets by Shaw, Makings, and Slater. The shooting concerns were provided by Barker, White, Starkie, Wilson, George Cornwell, and Mrs. John Cornwell, and amongst the caterers of minor novelties are Messrs. Showrocks, Slater, Wilson, White, Pickles, and Ingham.

At Worksop for the Spring Fair Mr. Tuby supplied the principal attractions. These included the coliseum of cinematography (Mr. Denby, manager), a motor-car set, park swings, and Winchester range. There were minor novelties by Archie Illingworth, James Hunt, and local caterers.

Exeter Fair was patronised by large crowds, and was held in perfect weather; the variety and cinematograph shows of W. C. and S. Hancock, Anderton and Rowland, and John Jones were resplendent in all the glory of new adornments and improvements, Hancocks' and Anderton and Rowland's having new organs lit up with innumerable revolving electric lights, which deservedly created a great sensation. The other shows included Lawrence's marionettes, Holborn's fine art gallery, W. Weston's school of boxers, and Alf. Wright's boxing and athletics. New motor switchbacks were shown by Messrs. Hancock and Mr. Heal. The Hancocks also exhibited two sets of steam horses and a range of park swings. Mr. Heal's other concerns were steam gallopers, rifle saloon, and high-flyers. The minor novelties comprised Chapman's big wheel, Lock's, Hurford's, Whitelegg's, Morgan's, and Jones' rifle saloons, Whitelegg and Locke's swings, and throwing games by A. Jones, Walsher, and W. Jones.

On Easter Sunday the children of the Exeter Fair were entertained to tea through the kindness of Miss Millington (well known amongst travelling showpeople); this is a kindly act that might well be copied in other towns. A welcome visitor to this fair was Mr. G. W. A. Norton, whose work amongst showmen in the West is so much appreciated and well known.

From the Welsh Round we have news of Newport (Monmouth). The Easter holidays were well maintained by Creecraft's electric bioscope and lion show, Captain Eacle Davies with two ground booths, the Mexican knife-throwers, and the anthro-porcine freak Bunce, Danter's galloping-horses and switchback, and shooters, swings, and variety stalls by Danter, Butlin, and Odely.

At the "Maundy" Fair at Todmorden were Marshall's motor-cars, Relph and Pedley's whirling the whirl, Connolley's flying motors, Holland's swings, rifle saloons by Messrs. Sharp, Bland, and Bentley. The varieties were provided by Mrs. E. Thomas and local caterers.

Tetsury Fair was entirely in the hands of Messrs. Jennings and Matthews, the local showmen, who provided steam-horses, swings, Winchester range, children's horses, bottle batteries, and throwing games.

Tempted by the glorious weather, a great number of Londoners journeyed as far as the Old Deer Park, Richmond, where the Corporation, following the example of the London County Council, makes excellent provision of popular amusements. The local showmen, headed by Matthews of Farnborough, Hants, displayed a capital array of fair-ground entertainments, including roundabout swings and throwing games. Here, as elsewhere, splendid business was done.

Tombland Fair had its origin many years back and consisted of a few toys and confectionery stalls upon the open space at the entrances to Norwich Cathedral known as Tombland, but for a long time past it has been a fair for horses and cattle, which are exposed for sale on the Castle Meadow or Cattle market, and contiguous thereto is held a pleasure fair. The latter commences on Maundy Thursday, and continues the following Saturday and Monday and Tuesday in Easter week. Two ancient fairs formerly held on Tombland on the feast of St. Mary Magdalene and the Tuesday after Michaelmas Day have long been obsolete, as well as the pleasure fairs held at Bishop Bridge in the city on Easter and Whit Mondays and Tuesdays. This year there was a capital attendance of some of the best showmen on the road, and the fine weather caused a large number of citizens and persons from different parts of Norfolk to pay a visit, thus enhancing the business very much, and making it more successful than has been experienced for many years past. Messrs. Barker and Thurston with their usual enterprise engaged the big hall of the Agricultural Hall, where their large steam motor-car roundabout occupied the centre, and the remaining space was filled with side-shows and shooting galleries. Among others were J. Chrighton's, J. Neale's, Abbott's, C. F. Barnes's, Robert Barker and Thurston's, Stock's, and G. Barnes's steam roundabouts, and many smaller roundabouts for the juveniles; Maddington's steam yachts; Aspland and Howden's "whirling the whirl"; Parkin's, H. Westrop's, J. H. Norman's, W. Westrop's, J. Neale's, Abbott's, C. F. Barnes's, Robert Holmes' and G. Holmes' shooting-galleries; John Holmes's saloons; Tidman's mystic swing; Wheatley's boxing-saloon; besides numerous swings, coker-nut shies, ups-and-downs, toys and sweetstuff stalls, and not forgetting a constant visitor for many years—Poulton, with his famous braces. On Saturday and Monday crowds thronged the fair, making the rows quite impassable, but all spending money, and in thorough good humour.

Mr. T. R. Gannon gave his usual fête and gala at Sydney Gardens, Bath, on Easter Monday, and, being favoured with summerlike weather, crowds attended to enjoy the sport and entertainment provided. A startling wire performance by Don Pedro was one of the attractions, and was received with enthusiasm.

At Headless Cross are Herberts' grand world's fair, roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, coker-nut gardens, and numerous other attractions. The Great Cherry Wakes take place here on July 13 to 18.

Coming events include the Worcestershire and Herefordshire Agricultural Society great show at Bromsgrove on June 12, 13, and 14; and the Bromsgrove great annual pleasure fair on June 25. Bromsgrove is a market town between Birmingham and Worcester, with a population of 14,106. The principal industries are nail, boots and shoes, clothing, and railway wagon making. Market gardening is carried on extensively in the neighbourhood.

Oxford May Fair, which is held on Thursday, May 3, should prove a great attraction this year. It is the only fair taking place in term time, and is held on early closing day. Not many side shows have attended in recent years.

Fossett's Circus and Hippodrome visited Carmarthen on Good Friday, and gave a capital performance before a large audience on the Morgan Arms' field. The equestrian, acrobatic, gymnastic, and musical contributions were up to the usual standard, and highly pleased and amused their audiences.

On Easter Monday Alexandra's well-known circus paid a visit to Carmarthen, and was exceedingly well patronised by holiday-seekers and townspeople. The tent was erected on the fair ground, and both performances—afternoon and evening—were excellently gone through. Dare-Devil Diabelo topped the bill in his daring act, "The Devil's Wheel; or, Looping the Revolving Wheel," and the other artists were the Kanari troupe of Japanese acrobats and vaulters; Wilfred, the human mystery and flexible marvel; Alfonso, equilibristic performer; the Three Stebbings, acrobatic marvels; Mlle. Astuarte, with her educated troupe of dogs and monkeys; Frank Stephenson, the lightning jockey act rider; David Burrows, the hurricane American horseman; Texas Frank, bar and trick act rider; Mlle. Bettina, haute école and manège act rider; and George Knight, the Cossack rider, who were augmented by Alexandra's troupe of clowns and mirth-provokers. The performances were thoroughly enjoyable.

In connection with the Carmarthen sports on Easter Monday, Astella, high-wire performer, gave an acceptable exhibition; J. Augustin and Annie Hartley, acrobatic barrel jumpers, submitted a clever performance; the Electrones, trick and tramp cyclists, proved amusing; and Capt. Bidmead performed a successful balloon ascent and parachute descent.

THE L.C.C. AND LONDON SHOWMEN.

A correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, writing to that paper on Saturday, April 14, curiously illustrates the vast amount of ignorance that still obtains in some quarters with regard to the work of the travelling showmen. It is a curious commentary on the amenities of public life that in these so-called enlightened days men should still be found so saturated with the leaven of puritanical prejudice that, without rhyme or reason, they rush into print in order to vent their fanatical spleen against their fellow men. It is most unpardonable ignorance, for in these days of ready access to all sources of information, ignorance ceases to be folly, and becomes a positive crime.

The writer of the short article in the *Daily Telegraph*, which we give in extenso below, could have obtained either by inquiry at the Parks and Open Spaces Department, or by perusal of our columns, full and accurate information upon the question he has so erroneously presented to the public. The attack of the writer in the *Daily Telegraph* is as follows:—

COSTER CAMP ON HAMPSTEAD HEATH.
AN L.C.C. INNOVATION.

A correspondent writes: For the first time the London County Council have given permission to those who provide the miscellaneous and garish shows on Hampstead-heath on Bank Holiday to bring their vans and camp for nearly half a week on this open space. The vans, the families, the horses, with all the litter incidental to gipsy life as led by costers, is to be seen at this moment on the only one of London's lungs which hitherto has preserved any semblance of its natural state. Yesterday, within four miles of Charing-cross, a typical country fair, with its vulgar shows, roundabouts, swings, fat women, shooting galleries, prize-fighters, and other attractions, was in progress, and on the scene of the day's roisterings these caterers for the lowest public tastes have received permission from the London County Council to make their domicile, without even the most primitive sanitary arrangements. Such a condition of affairs is bad enough on the outskirts of a country town once a year, but Hampstead is thronged by holiday-makers during parts of four weeks in each year, and the result of the Council's new regulation is to consecrate a large part of this open space to the noisiest and least desirable of the holiday-makers of London. The tired workers who travel to the heath in search of a semblance of country conditions—trees, flowers, and grass, and a free space on which the youngsters can frolic—find year by year that the bucolic and vulgar amusements are permitted to make ever-increasing inroads on this pleasant upland playground.

It is particularly unfortunate that the London County Council should have inaugurated their new policy this year. The country aspect of the heath has been steadily decreasing, and this spring, owing to the continued absence of rain, the trees and grass have had a poor chance of growing. Now, at the very birth of the summer, when, as every country-bred person knows, the tender greenery needs protecting, an army of so-called entertainers has been allowed to bring its heavy vans and cumbrous and ugly paraphernalia and beat down every living thing upon a large portion of the heath. Year by year the number of persons to whom these vulgar entertainments appeal decreases, and the authority which is so largely responsible for the good government of London has at this moment capitulated to these out-of-date and undesirable visitors.

Hampstead-heath is no mean inheritance for such a huge and overcrowded city as London, and the best way in which the authorities can serve this and future generations is to do their best to preserve the rural aspect of this lung of London, so that in years to come the heath may continue an oasis of simple country, with its valleys and dales, its gorse and heather, its ponds and spreading trees, instead of an arid waste. If the County Council is going to ally itself with the so-called providers of popular entertainment they will be throwing their influence against the present marked movement towards an improvement in the public taste, besides robbing London of a place of natural beauty, which, once destroyed, not even the authorities at Spring-gardens can restore. As it is, those who value the heath must perforce look on and watch its desecration during the present holiday, and when all the caravanserai have disappeared it will be their misfortune to mark the desolation which has been caused by this careless and ignorant betrayal of the best interests of the people of Northern London, who, in past years, responded so liberally to the periodical appeals which resulted in the acquisition by the public of this unique piece of open country.

This communication came under the notice of the executive of the Showmen's Guild, and in their name the following letter was sent to the *Daily Telegraph*:—

HAMPSTEAD "COSTER CAMP."
TO THE EDITOR OF "THE DAILY TELEGRAPH."

Sir,—The correspondent who wrote to you the communication under the above heading in your issue of Saturday last did not take the trouble to acquaint himself with the very simple facts of the case.

An inquiry at the Parks and Open Spaces Department of the London County Council would have prevented the string of grievous mistakes, seriously reflecting upon the showmen and itinerant traders of our fairs and national holidays.

To begin with, it is not an innovation on the part of the London County Council. The living vans, with the exception of last year, have always been allowed to accompany the shows, roundabouts, and other entertainments.

Twelve months ago new regulations were drawn up by the Parks Committee, and amongst other things, living vans were prohibited. This, however, was found to be such a serious hindrance to the business of the travelling showmen that they petitioned the Council to return to its former practice, and with success.

A representative deputation from the committee of the Showmen's Guild, headed by their president, the well-known showman—Lord George Sanger—laid the matter so fairly before the Parks Committee that the experiment of prohibition of living vans was rescinded and a new set of regulations drawn up.

An extract or two from these will demonstrate how carefully the interests of the public visiting the open spaces have been conserved, and that all necessary provision has been made for sanitary and other conveniences.

1. Only proper dwelling vans ordinarily used for living purposes, and approved by the chief officer of the Parks Department, will be allowed on the places where shows are permitted.

5. The use of dwelling vans will be confined to showmen, and will not be extended to the holders of licences for stalls, barrows, or animals.

8. The occupants of dwelling vans must conform to any regulations communicated to them by the Council's officers, and must not do anything which would be a nuisance to those frequenting the open spaces.

11. Sleeping in tents, &c., or outside dwelling vans is forbidden.

I have quoted enough to show that every reasonable care has been taken in the interest of the visitors to the open spaces, and of the showmen themselves.

The Showmen's Guild, representing the trade interests of an industry affecting the livelihood of 70,0000 people, is naturally anxious to counteract the evil effects of such rash and misleading statements as those of your correspondent.

I particularly refer to the words, "These caterers for the lowest public tastes have received permission from the London County Council to make their domicile without even the most primitive sanitary arrangements." This is not only a serious reflection upon the London County Council, but it is a most injurious and libellous statement against a body of hard-working and industrious traders and amusement caterers.

Contrariwise, Sir, I hold that it is an enlightened and humane policy to regulate and control, as the London County Council does, the provision of open-air amusements for the vast crowds of busy London workers, who can only afford to take their holiday upon the free public spaces, and at the cost of the humble penny.

It must not be forgotten that the popular open-air entertainment of the people is a necessity of the "cribbed, cabined, and confined" life of the workers, and that to simply draw the people to the heath, and then leave them in their vast multitude to provide their own amusement, would be an open temptation to seek relief from deadly dulness in drunkenness and other excesses.

The showmen claim to be craftsmen in an industry that has grown with the growth of the nation, and that instead of being, as some ignorant and unobservant people think, a dying industry, it is more vigorous and popular to-day than ever in the history of the Empire.

There are more shows within a ten-mile radius of St. Paul's to-day than could be found in the whole of the country fifty years ago, and there are more fairs and places of open-air amusement fulfilling the useful and necessary purpose of entertaining the people than ever existed before.

For every fair that has become obsolete by the lamentable fact of the decay of local industries or by the necessity of the migration of the people to new labour centres, ten new fairs have sprung into existence.

The showmen claim also that the character of the entertainments they provide demonstrates that, as business men, they are not only up to date, but are keenly anxious to anticipate the demand of that better taste to which your correspondent refers.

Before writing this letter I went to Hampstead-heath and saw London at play. I took note of the excellent provision of the London County Council, not only for the amusement of the people, but for every other necessity—the temporary latrines, the ambulance tents, and the admirable arrangements of local church bodies for feeding the people with wholesome food and temperance drinks, this being done in large refreshment tents, staffed by an army of volunteer waiters. So, too, I noted the presence everywhere of policemen with nothing to do. In fact, the only bored people on the heath were these civil officers of the law, and, I believe, only bored because their official position prevented them a fling for cocoanuts or a little relaxation in the cinematograph theatre.

When a critic tilts at the freak shows and forgets to mention the superb cinematograph theatres of Messrs. Biddall, Chittock, and Chipperfield, and Purchase's menagerie, it is not playing the game fair, and I feel sure that the show-loving public will properly discount such remarks so partial and so evidently inspired by prejudice.—Yours ever, for God and for good,

T. HORNE, Hon. Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild.
5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C., April 16.

We have before pointed out to our showmen readers the urgent necessity of meeting all attacks upon them and their industry that from time to time find their way into the public press. To allow such misleading and libellous statements to go uncontradicted would inflict the most serious injury upon a business that entirely depends upon the public for its support.

Even the slightest suspicion that the movable dwellings of showmen are in the least degree a menace to public health, or that their domestic life is in any sense destitute of the necessary safeguards of health and cleanliness, would create a prejudice of the most detrimental character. This is a point that constantly astounds us that men should be so ignorant of the truth that the very existence of the travelling showmen depends upon the certain assurance that the public must always have complete immunity from all risks affecting health and sanitation when they visit travelling shows.

During the past sixteen years the Showmen's Guild, in season and out of season, have placed before the general public the very important, yet simple facts of the case. Every dwelling, whether movable or stationary—the van on Hampstead Heath and the mansion in Park-lane—comes under the same law, as regards the safeguards of public health, and the sanitary officer has as much right to assure himself of the possibilities of a healthy life in a travelling-van as in the palace of the Bishop or the cottage of the peasant.

It was with the greatest possible satisfaction that the executive of the Showmen's Guild found itself, in the interests of the travelling showmen, co-operating with the enlightened and humane policy with regard to open-air amusements of the London County Council. It only needs a flying visit to the great open spaces of Hampstead Heath, Wanstead Flats, Wormwood Scrubs, and Blackheath to demonstrate to any observer of human life the absolute necessity of providing popular amusements for the vast crowds that throng these resorts at holiday times.

To turn out a crowd as big as the population of a large provincial city in the open air, and then leave them utterly unprovided with anything to amuse, interest, or employ them, would indeed be the worst thing that could possibly happen, and it is the true instinct of a popularly-elected body to look after the interests of the people upon whose suffrage they depend for their mandate to administer public concerns.

We sincerely trust that this attack upon their enlightened administration will not deter the London County Council in its policy of providing wholesome and harmless amusement for the toiling masses of London town. We also trust that the general public reading the defence of the showmen, so carefully and soberly stated in the letter of the hon. chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, will banish from their minds misgivings as to the health conditions that govern travelling shows and living-vans.

The death of James Anthony Bailey, the able partner of the great Barnum, recalls the most triumphant days of big circus and menagerie combines. Barnum was pre-eminently a showman, he knew how to gauge the public taste, and had a wonderful instinct that led him to the discovery and exploitation of novelties and freaks of nature. Unlike Barnum, Bailey was a genius of organisation and control. In the public eye it was always Barnum, but the strong man behind the scenes, carrying out to the most minute detail of management the great showman's ideas, was James Anthony Bailey, the living, driving force of the vast organisation known as Barnum and Bailey's Show. The following slight biography of the deceased showman will be of interest to our readers.

Mr. Bailey was born at Detroit in 1847. Left an orphan while still a child, he worked on a farm in the summer and attended school in the winter. He became connected with the Robinson and Lake Show, and in 1863 with the Nashville (Tennesse) Theatre. In the American Civil War he acted as sutler's clerk. After the war he re-entered the show business, and in 1873 became a partner in the show which became known in 1875 as the Cooper an dBailey Circus.

This circus was consolidated with P. T. Barnum's in 1881; the firm soon afterwards becoming Barnum and Bailey. After the death of Mr. Barnum, Mr. Bailey became the sole owner of the Barnum and Bailey Show, and, after the death of Adam Forepaugh, in 1891, he bought the latter's show. He several times brought the Barnum and Bailey Show to London, and had also taken it to Germany, Austria, Hungary, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, France, and nearly all the cities of Continental Europe.

Besides acting as the head of the largest amusement institution in the world, Mr. Bailey was an active partner in the two next largest shows, namely, the Buffalo Bill Wild West, and Forepaugh and Sells Brothers' Show, the latter known in America only. He introduced some of the most striking departures in the show business, such as the three equestrian rings with simultaneous performances, the hippodrome, and the enormous menageries and collection of human curiosities and freaks.

One of Mr. Bailey's great coups was the purchase of the elephant Jumbo from the London Zoological Gardens. One of the show agents had just returned to New York from London, and in reply to the question "What was the biggest thing you saw while abroad?" he replied, "An elephant in the London Zoo." "How big is it?"

Mr. Bailey inquired. The agent having indicated its huge size, Mr. Bailey asked, "What is the price?" "Forty thousand marks" (about £2,000) was the reply. "That settles it," said the great showman, "we will have it." The next day another agent was despatched to London, the elephant was bought, transported to America, and proved so great an attraction that it brought to the show a profit of over four million marks. The show employed fully 1,000 people, and 500 horses, three herds of elephants, droves of camels, and rare animals, two menageries, and a vast amount of paraphernalia were used in connection with it. About seven years ago the show was floated as a limited liability concern, Mr. Bailey continuing to act as managing director, but for some time past he has been in failing health.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to Showmen's Guild:—Per Rev. T. Horne: W. Taylor (cinematograph exhibition), £1 1s. Per Mr. Shuttleworth: W. Bradbury 5s., J T. Court 5s., J. Hoadlay 5s., J. Cottam 5s., W. Dearden 5s., Mrs. Ormrod 5s., J. W. Robinson (Pendlebury) 5s.

AT Stafford for Eastertide the principal amusement caterer was W. Davis, with his fine switchback roundabout, and with him were the usual minor novelties, throwing games, &c.

LUTON FAIR had for its entertainers James Harris, with roundabout swings and coker sheets; John Short, with roundabout, shooting gallery, and throwing games; Marshall, with dolly-frame and varieties. There were, in addition to the above, a goodly number of fancy, toy, and pannum stalls

A RECENT case in the Salford Court of Record, wherein damages were claimed by a well-known gentleman in the local entertaining world against a local optician who had undertaken to supply a cinematograph, fixes attention upon a matter of more than local interest, and that is the necessity laid upon entertainers to place their orders for cinematograph items in their programme with one of the many well-known firms. Briefly put, the case tells the story of an entertainment that failed, because not only did the cinematograph refuse to work, but that the pictures when seen were so poor and indistinct that the describer could not tell what they represented.

THERE was a good deal of amusing evidence from the point of view of the listener, and ultimately, on proof being given of the truth of the plaintiff's case, he secured a verdict and £35 damages. The point of special interest to our readers is that every care should be taken not to disappoint the public by any lack of care in securing, as may be so easily done, the best cinematographs. A reference to our advertisement columns will give would-be entertainers a wide range of selection of the most dependable and up-to-date firms supplying both machines and films at the shortest possible notice. A word to the wise is sufficient. The moral of the story is: Never be content with third-class when you can get the first.

MR. FRED GINNETT, with *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* and a combination company, did record business, it appears, at Messrs. Mouillot and Dr Frece's Hippodromes, Boscombe and Southampton, last week and the week before. A good deal of this success was due to the untiring energy of Mr. Ginnett's manager, Mr. Alfred Norton.

MESSRS. CRICKS AND SHARP have brought out another fine picture, "The Attack on the Agent," in which Miss Jennie Green, daughter of Mr. Tom Green, of cinematograph fame, enacts the principal character. This young lady has surpassed herself in previous productions—her dash to the rescue on a jaunting car, and racing the express train, being splendid pieces of dramatic acting.

CRICKET.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. II. C. C. v. ST. MICHAEL'S RES. C. C. and THEATRICALS.

Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, April 7. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—Bert Davies, b Harry Clarke, 13; Frank Thorne (captain), b Harry Clarke, 0; Harry Hare, b Harry Clarke, 3; Fred Austin, run out, 1; Tom Blavis, b Jack Edmunds, 0; Arthur English, b Harry Clarke, 28; Fred White, l.b.w., b Jack Edmunds, 1; Alf. Norman, b Jack Edmunds, 7; Will Lloyd, run out, 3; Teddy Austin, b Harry Clarke, 0; Frank Hodges, not out, 0. Extras 7. Total, 63.

St. Michael's Reserves and Theatricals:—Martin, b Arthur English, 0; A. Humphries, b Arthur English, 7; Tommy Moore, b Harry Hare, 11; Ted Escott, c and b Arthur English, 3; Geo. Foster, b Arthur English, 0; Arthur Griffen, b Harry Hare, 5; Harry Clarke (captain), b Harry Hare, 7; Geo. Warren, not out, 58. Extras, 11. Total (for 7 wickets), 102. Will Hallett, Jack Edmunds, and George Osborne did not bat.

MR. LEON BASSETT gave his fifth annual concert on Good Friday at Camberwell Palace to a packed house. He ably controlled a superb orchestra of fifty performers under the leadership of his brother, W. S. Bassett. The chief orchestral items were the Overture and Venusberg music from *Tannhäuser* and Tchäikowsky's "1812," Mr. Bassett receiving quite an ovation for his reading of the latter piece. The orchestra also rendered "The War March of the Priests," "The Egyptian Ballet Music," and the music to the third act of *Lohengrin*. Mr. Jack Lorrimer surprised everybody with his talent as a concert artist, and deserved the applause he received. Mr. J. L. Shine recited "A Letter from England," incidental music being supplied by the orchestra. German's *Henry VIII.* dances were beautifully rendered on the concertina by Mr. Percy Honn, and others who appeared were Misses Julie Dolan, Florence Esdaile, Ethel Turner, Violet Vivian, Messrs. Dalmaine, Arthur Laurence, Eric Dane, Jack Fox, Francis Walker, Geo. English, and Neilson and Jolly. The stage arrangements were in the hands of Mr. H. C. Woodrow.

MISS JOSEPHINE SABEL, the delineator of coon life, in a football match at Swansea on Good Friday between the Empire and the Press, kicked off. The popular artist, who was escorted to midfield by Messrs. A. S. Harris and T. Wignall, the captains of the respective sides, was very heartily received.

BLAKE AND GRANBY sailed for Australia and Fred Land for Africa last week; and Little Cliff leaves for Australia on May 4. The above engagements were arranged by Pacey and Reeves.

MR. HERBERT CYRIL, the seven-foot comedian, is winning a high place for himself in the provinces just now. His new song "They've all got a daddy but me" is very likely to be on the lips of everyone when he returns to town in May. Messrs. Lawrance and Gifford are responsible for many popular numbers this year, and they have certainly got another one here. Mr. Cyril, with his patter and character of a street lad, causes much merriment.

Two concerts were given on Good Friday at the People's Palace, Bristol, for the third complimentary benefit of Mr. F. J. V. Welchman, the treasurer, and gigantic programmes were provided, the items numbering no fewer than 34. A special feature of the entertainment was the representation by means of a series of animated pictures of scenes in the life of Moses. The choir engaged were the winners of the Lennard champion challenge shield and the Colston cup. Enjoyable selections were provided by the Palace orchestra and the band of the 2nd Gloucestershire Royal Engineers.

TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED SHILLINGS
FOR
"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND
FOR THE
MUSIC HALL HOME.

MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD'S APPEAL.

Subscribed to date, 2,554 shillings.

	Shillings.
Belfast Theatrical Charities (per Fred W. Warden)	400
Leeds Tivoli Collecting Box	108
Dr. Walford Bodle	100
Wm. Morton	63
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mannering	25
Johnny Holland	21
P. Madden	21
G. H. Chirgwin	21
Mr. Pat Doherty	21
Charles Weldon	20
Nellie Wilson	10½
Bros. Webb	10
Bostons	5
Andie Caine	3
Lydia Dudley	1
Marie Gautier	1
Fred Ewing Albini	1
Rozel	1
Nellie Nora	1

Collected by Regan and Ryan, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, £1 1s.

Ada Reeve	5	Patty Yole	2½
Harry Tate	5	Fanny Dango	2½
Regan and Ryan	5	Miss Martin	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Kitchen, £1 12s.

Fred Kitchen	1	Allen Dinning	1
Mrs. Fred Kitchen	1	For Luck	1
Fred Kitchen, jun.	1	J. Grahame	1
Cossie Kitchen	1	Tom Bowling	1
Gladys Kitchen	1	J. Begg	1
Tom Buxton	1	J. B. Helm	1
Janet Reeves	1	A. Brown	1
Dudley Powell	1	Barney Gordon	1
Leah Morris	1	Kate Forster	1
Ben. F. Rosenthal	1	Cossie Noel	1
Chas. Collins	1	Cain and Abel	1
Sam. Hawley	1	King Cole	1
Capt. Scott	1	B. Crabb	1
H. Lappo	1	H. C. Myers	1
J. Gass	1	J. Hart	1
Bert Landeck	1	F. Kitchen, minor	1

Collected by "Griff," £1 10s.

Griff	1	Griff's Mother	1
Mrs. Griff	1	Griff's Sister	1
Harry Griff	1	Griff's Other Sister	1
George Griff	1	Griff's Brother	1
John Griff	1	Alpha Griff	1
Victor Griff	1	Omega Griff	1
Winifred Griff	1	Eldest Griff	1
Griff, senior	1	Youngest Griff	1
Griff, junior	1	First Griff	1
The Straight Griff	1	Second Griff	1
The Great Griff	1	Third Griff	1
The Only Griff	1	Fourth Griff	1
Griff's Pupils	1	Fifth Griff	1
The Original Griff	1	Sixth Griff	1
Griff's Father	1	Seventh Griff	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Solo, £1 3s.

Hetty King	5	A. Lester	1
F. Maguire	1	Tom Lowen	1
M. Anderson	1	Isabelle Dillon	5
S. Da Silva	1	F. Lefranc	1
J. Schofield	1	Fred Solo	5
C. Wallun	1		

Collected by Karr and Kooney, Grand Theatre, Brighton, £2.

Annie Meyers	1	E. Cutler	2½
Edgar Budden	1	Allan Wye	1
Rosalie Jacobi	1	A. S. Betts	1
Aggie Fenton	1	L. M. Woolf	1
Ada Vestrais	1	Mrs. K. R.	1
Winifred Norman	1	Johnnie Wilkinson	1
L. W. Lester	1	Signor Camera	1
G. H. Drake	1	J. Lewis	1
Ernest Carpenter	1	H. Dixon	1
Freddy	1	F. M. Phillips	1
Harold Betts	1	Monti De Cooke	1
H. R.	1	Chris. Pell	1
B. Court	1	H. G. Perks	1
Ethel Campbell	1	Harry Karr	2½
J. D. Newton	1	Walter Kooney	2½
Kitty Clinton	1	Sisters Pine	2½
Ruby and Laws	2		

Collected by Frazer and Mac, £2 12s. 6d.

Frazer and Mac	2	John Allison	1
Gladys Frazer	1	Rohda Bros.	2
Frank C. Frazer	1	Mr. and Mrs.	
Frank Martin	1	F. Maxwell	2
Frank Quigg	1	Joe and Jenny	1
Mrs. Robinson	1	J. Roland	1
Chas. Warner	1	Frank Leonard	1
Lilly Anderson	1	J. Cunningham	1
Minnie Anderson	1	A Bo Kan	1
J. D. McGregor	1	A. M. Holmes	1
B. Iles	1	Ledden and Heywood	2
Harry Clifford	1	G. Rhone	1
Hardeene	1	H. Griff	1
Chas. Fisher	1	W. H. Clemart	1
Mrs. Fisher	1	Lux's Dogs	1
Luigi Gargani	1	Gallando	1
Maude Rose	1	J. W. Riley	1
Henry Butcher	1	J. Mendel	2½
Geo. Green	1	Mr. and Mrs.	
Givani Cristie	1	Jeane Priver	2
Geo. Vickery	1	Mitzi Streing	1
Vi Esdalle	1	Erna Harrison	1
Ethel Esdalle	1	Mina Fisher	1
Will Collins	1	Adalfinia Dillmer	1

Collected by Mr. Horace Wheatley, £2 10s.

Horace Wheatley	21	Will King	1
Terrance Wheatley	1	John Camp	1
Ellen Wheatley	1	W. Hill	1
Norah Wheatley	1	Jas. E. Donegan	1
Catherleen Wheatley	1	Tom Hughes	1
H. Wheatley, jun.	1	P. Fairbairn	1
E. Garbutt	1	A. Hopter, T.A.	1
Mrs. Garbutt	1	Meier and Mora	1
C. Henderson	1	Dona Meely	1
Morris	1	Harry Herald	1
T. E. Finglas	1	Tom Packer	1
William Hargreaves	1	Abe Mellay	1
Cavern	1	Fred Laurel	1
Fred Walker	1	Frank Leon	1
F. Lyons	1	Joe Lawrence	1

Collected by Harry Conlin, Esq., £1 16s. 6d.

Harry Conlin	2½	Marguerite Broadfoote	2½
Rosie Coleman	2½		
Bob Selvidge	1	Lily Black	1
Fred Fowler	1	Alf. Fry	1
Katie May	1	Fred Wood	1
Cissy Iris	1	Gus Harris	1
Harry Nelson	1	J. W. Whiteman	1
Emmie Franks	1	Alexandra Thomson	1
Fred E. Terry	1	Danl. Rutherford	1
Fred Calvert	1	S. Pincus	1
Bowery Boys	1	Fred Balchin	1
Billy McClain	1	Katie May	1
J. Pardoe	1	Mrs. Balchin	1
W. Pardoe	1	Frank Cumminger	1
John Othen, jun.	1	Fred Land	1
Frank Woodville	1	Geo. Penn	1
Tom Ardell	1		

Collected by Miss Daisy Morell, H. A. Jordison's Pantomime, 15s.

Daisy Morell	2	Miss Dolly Cullen	1
Rowland Hill	2	Miss Ray Ford	1
Charlie Martell	1	Elsie Jordison	1
Arthur Stratton	1	Thomas Hargraves	1
Madge Daly	1	Charles Deetrich	1
Nancy Thornton	1	Merquis Bolton	1
David Poole	1		

Collected by Baroux and Bion, 13s.

Baroux and Bion		Ford and Barris	2
John R. Val	1	Tom Gilbert	1
Chas. A. Stephenson	1	Fred Land	1
Ernest Lashbrook	1	Grace Merton	1

Collected by Walton and Lester, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, 16s.

Walton and Lester	5	Deane Tribune	1
Percy Yorke	1	E. Edmonds	1
Arthur Poole	1	F. Zola	1
Wal Croft	1	May Marton	1
Ivan Berlyn	1	Stella Tribune	1
Harry Tribune	1	Daisy Stratton	1

Collected by Mr. Dan. Crawley, 5s.

Imro Fox	1	Harry Champion	1
Dan Crawley	1	Lilian Bishop	1
Arthur Dandoe	1		

Collected by Mr. James Brady, 9s.

Ernest Ball	1	J. Woods	1
Ethel Dunford	1	M. Anderson	1
"Zaid"	1	Sam Jones	1
E. W. Manning	1	James Brady	1
D. J. Banks	1		

Collected by Eugene and Willie, P. Davey's *Puss in Boots* Panto., 16s.

Marie Kildare	1	Ernest Noble	1
Nellie Groves	1	Leslie Digby	1
Laude Brockwell	1	Robert Entwistle	1½
Dollie Shaw	1	Folkestone Police	½
H. W. Rowland	1	George Mallett	1
McCann's Dogs	1	Harry Gold	1
Arthur Royce	1	Eugene and Willie	8
Wyn Weaver	1		

Collected by Miss Maud Mortimer, 34s.

G. Norton	1	Alf. Bishop	1
W. J. Churchill	5	W. H. J.	1
H. Calver	1	Billy Closs	1
Bert Burnell	1	A Friend	1
Billy Barlow	1	James Chippendale	1
J. H. Whittaker	2	L. C.	1
Jack Davenport	5	Frederick Ross	1
Walter Gillman	1	Maude Mortimer	5
Boris Fridkin	5		

Collected by Barrett and Knowles, 25s.

George F. Ide	1	Madge Sinclair	1
Harry Barrett	1	Louie Mavis	1
Jack Knowles	1	Malcolm Scott	1
José Collins	1	J. P. Wilson	1
Birdie Sutherland	1	K. A. Hutchison	1
Alice Russon	1	Bob Potter	1
Paul Knox	1	W. B. Barratt	1
Harry Laudy	1	Arthur Sutcliffe	1
Bessie Featherstone	1	Billy Ireland	1
Syd May	1	Uncle Scott	1
Alice Belmore	1	P. C. Murray	1
Dorothy Ide	1	Max Rose	1
Jeanie Christoe	1		

Collected by Mr. Charles Beanland, 22s. 6d.

Chas. Beanland	1	Harry Tomlinson	1
Anon	1	Henris	1
Boys	1	Mrs. Fred Cary	1
G. Carney	1	E. S. Salambo	1
Belmonts	2	C. M. J.	1
F. Armstrong	1	Harry Du Gros	1
E. Korrie	1	Eddie Stidder	1
A Friend	1½	Tom Bonnetti	1
J. Zedora	1	Gus Rickards	1
J. C. Skelsey	2	Harry Trevor	1

Collected by Ernie Mayne, Esq., 9s.

Ernie Mayne	1	Daisy Dormer	1
St. John Madley	1	Lina Vercli	1
Geo. Formby	1	Robert Pender	1
Drew and Alders	2	Maggie Pender	1

Collected by Mr. Harry Conlin, £1 17s.

Bob Selvidge	2½	Barney Dixon	2
Fred Fowler	2½	Mrs. Selvidge	1
Martin Conway	1	Frank Gee	1
Joe Waldron	1	Will Gee	1
B. Nicholls	1	Mrs. Martin Conway	1
F. Borland	1	Fox	1
Harry Dent	1	Mr. Clemart	1
Fanny Harris	1	Mr. Charles Weldon	1
Miss Walker	1	Baby Conlin	1
John Tiller	1	Griff	1
John L. Tiller	1	Summerton	1
Mrs. Conlin	1	Juno Salmo	1
F. W. Balchin	1	Bessie Cohen	1
Mrs. Balchin	1	Harrogate Friend	1
Harry Conlin	1	Sidney Bacon	1
Carlton	1	Harry Elliston	2

Collected by Harris and Worth, 15s.

Harris and Worth	2	Mabel Higson	1
Chas. Russell	1	M. Mamie Iris	1
Billy Keene	1	Syd Dooley	1
Fred Dry	1	George Coopers	1
Will Letters	1	Carrie Mack	1
Johnny Worman	1	Les B. Americaines	1
Mr. Rutt	1	W. J. Williams	1

Collected by Mr. T. C. Callaghan, 10s.

T. C. Callaghan	2	Mike Cray	1
W. Dane	1	Griff	1
J. Waldron	1	Alpha	1
A. H.	1	Florrie St. Clair	2

Collected by Mr. Ernest Shand, £1 2s.

K. Vesey	1	P. Davies	1
Ruby Forbes	1	Gladys Dare	1
Meg Hampton	1	L. Kinross	1
Ethel Dunbar	1	M. Molloy	1
Enid Errol	1	Alexandre	1
H. C. B.	1	N. E.	1
Brabourne	1	Hughes	1
Herbert	1	Ernest Shand	1
T. W. Wood	1	Ditto	1
A. Linton	1	La Même	1
Bee Duppe	1	Idem	1

Collected by Sandford and Lyons, 24s.

Neil Kenyon	1	Ted Fields	1
Harry Zietz	1	Morny Cash	1
Albert Le Fre	1	Mrs. Morny Cash	1
Lil Hawthorne	1	Madge Daly	1
Geo. McNally	1	John Worman	1
John McNally	1	Tom E. Gilbey	1
Arthur Haytor	1	Dave Poole	1
Colin Coop	1	Chas. Parker	1
E. T. S.	1	Vivian Munro	1
Geo. Miller	1	Willie Edelsten	1
Dave Miller	1	Geo. Abel	1
Mr. Smithers, M.B.C.	1	Will Letters	1

Collected by Mr. Frank Dunlop, 20s.

Mdlle. De Rose	2½	Frank Dunlop	2½
J. H. Hawtrey	2½	Fanny Hartland	2½
Dick Thomas	1	Houpla	1
Jack Kershaw	1	Steve Cooke	1
Syd Benson	1	Geo. Burton	1
Geo. Hecla	1	Miss Adele Roze	1
Rose Parreyer	1	Miss Zenapane	1

Collected by Fred Herbert, Esq., 14s.

Fred Herbert	1	C. W. Porter	1
R. Millett	1	Roma and Romani	1
Hughes and Elliott	1	The Rubens	2
T. E. Dunville	1	Hanvarr	2
Jim Howard	1	Anna Lee	2
Ronald Bayne	1	Gus Dallon	1

Collected by Mr. Chas. Clifford, 8s.

Charles Clifford	1	Kate Moffat	1
George Essmann	1	T. Hulbert	1
Oldbury Brough	1	H. J.	1
Graham Moffat	1	Georgie Butler	1

Collected by Swan and Vesta, 5s.

Swan and Vesta	1	Oscard Armino	1
Primavesi	1	Charles Danton	1
Fred Wood	1		

Collected by the Danbys, Peter Thompson's *Babes in the Wood* Co., 25s.

Kioto	5	Peter Thompson	5
The Danbys	5	Wallace Childs	1
Bill Bill	1	William Attfield	1
Geo. Collins	1	George E. Mudd	1
Pink Pyjamas	1	Fred Danvers	1
Anon	1	Billy Pakeman	1
J. Templar Ellis	1		

Collected by the Bowery Boys, Grand Theatre, Leeds, 25s. 6d.

Bowery Boys	5	Fred Cowman	1
Harry Conlin	1	Alf Howard	1
Fred E. Terry	1	G. H. Elliott	1
Fred Fowler	1	J. W. Rowley	5
Carlton	2½	Fred W. Balchin	1
Rose and Calvert	1	Hilda Jacobsen	5

Collected by Miss Nellie Wallace, 25s.

Bert Williams	1	W. F. Munroe	1
Bert Woodward	1	Emma Don	1
Arthur Danbys	1	Three Seabornes	1
Richardson Taylor	1	Kate Lynd	1
Nuttall Cross	1	C. Stewart	1
George Abel	1	Norton Greenop	1
James Stewart	1	W. H. Liddy	1
Chas. Dixon	1	Nellie Wallace	10

Collected by Miss Maud Beaumont, Peter Thompson's *Babes in the Wood* Co., 16s.

Kioto	5	Mr. Peter Thompson	5
Geo. Collins	1	Mr. J. W. Childs	1
Mr. Liddy	1	Miss Maud Beaumont	2
Anon	1		

Collected by Mr. Geo. Rapley, 6s.

Geo. Rapley	2	Rosie Archer	1
Woolmer Young	1	Clyo and Rochelle	1
Macdonald Trio	1		

Collected by The Clevelands, 23s.

F. Cleveland	1	J. Sary	1
Mrs. Cleveland	1	A. Knight	1
A. Silbon	1	J. D. Hunter	1
Dale and O'Malley	1	Dave Bentley	1
D. Tubb	1	Fred C. Dew	1
H. Vivian Fisher	1	F. B. Farrant	1
Florrie Cleveland	1	R. Whiteley	1
J. Wood	1	E. De Vere	1
Tom Branson	1	Harry Weldon	1
C. Carey	1	Minnie Duncan	1
W. E. Urquhart	1	Arthur E. Godfrey	1
H. Bauerman	1		

Collected by Mr. Imro Fox, 17s.

Max Copland	1	Mr. T. F. Dun	1
Arthur Dandoe	1	Harry Lauder	1
Imro Fox	1	Alice Russell	1
Dan Crawley	1	J. C.	1
Paul Knox	1	Mrs. Imro Fox	1
Carl Hertz	1	Alfred Carpenter	1
Mrs. Carl Hertz	1	Conn and Conrad	1
Mr. J. Craig	1	C. C. Bartram	1
Mr. Frayser	1		

Collected by Mr. Alexander, 38s.

Topsy Robina Julian	10	Clara Alexander	1
Johnny Alexander	10	Bob Ralston	1
Harding	2	Ernest Selbini	1
Victor Selbini	2	Lillian Lowe	1
Leola Selbini	2	L. J.	1
Rumbo Austin	2	J. Olrac	1
Alf Gibson	2	C Olrac	1
Harry Gregory	1		

Collected by Miss Ra Leslie, 33s. 6d.

Ethel Ra Leslie	1	St. Helens	1
Phyllis Gibbon	1	C. A. Trevitt	1
Florrie Chester	1	E. Holt	1
Boswells	2	V. Thompson	1
F. Travis	1	L. de Lacey	1
Dan Conroy	1	Miss Brown	1
Frank Evans	1	Mrs. E. Lucas	1
Edinburgh	1	J. Welwyn	1
H. E. Garden	1	Rêné Willoughby	1
Mr. and Mrs. Brown	2	La Tostia	1
Strolling Players	1½	Gertrude Bradshaw	1
Arthur Lee	1	Frank Darwin	1
Ray Wallace	2	Boskelby	1
Vera Thompson	1	Harry Jefferson	1
Lilian Leslie	1	Flo Peirce	1

Collected by Mr. Edward Johnson, 20s.

Bert Johnson	1	"Curly"	1
Will Johnson	1	H. Elton	1
Ed. Johnson	1	Little Ganty	2½
Daisy Martell	1	Madge May	2½
Tom Groves	2	E. Addler	1
H. Sheffield	1	C. C. Bartram	1
J. L. Sheffield	1	W. Ethairien	1
E. de Hague Body	1	Fred Astley	1

Collected by Mr. Will Johnson, 35s. 6d.

Powis Pinder	1	Mrs. Fred Hall	1
Will Johnson	1	Bertha Northam	1
Daisy Martell	1	Les Four Papillons	2
Ed. Johnson	1	Miss Mildred Baker	1½
Bert Johnson	1	Capt. Taylor	1
H. Berlin	1	Fanny Wright	1
Winsley Russell	1	Capt. Gray	2
Tim	1	New York Comedy Four	4
G. V. Arnold	1	G. Messer	1
Geo. Danvers, jun.	1	H. Jno. Burgess	1
May Gurney	1	Mr. Hadsley	1
R. Verdi	1	Will Holmes	1
B. Albert	1	Mac	1
Gilbert Laye	1	Chappell	1
Leonard Hornsey	1		
Fred Hall	1		

Collected by Mr. Lawrence Barclay, 26s.

Lawrence Barclay	5	Lily Lingard	2
Will Poluski	3	Esta Stella	2
Jack Lorrimore	2	E. W. Avery	1
Larry Lewis	1	Rich. Waldon	1
The Monkey	2	Sisters Hall	2
W. Harte	2	Annie Thomas	1
Arch. McDougall	1	Jas. Miller	1

Collected by the New Macs, 20s.

Mrs. T. McNally	1	Mr. Albert Mellor	1
Mr. J. J. McNally	1	Mr. Fred Donaldson	1
Mr. Geo. Mac	1	Mr. Tom Ardell	1
Mr. Jno. Mac	1	Dr. Syntax	1
Miss Jessy Dorrell	1	Mr. Robert Potts	1
Miss Annie Dorrell	1	Mr. Will Gibson	1
Mrs. Morny Cash	1	Mr. J. H. Taylor	1
Mr. Morny Cash	1	Mr. Forbes Russell	1
Mr. Geo. Sandford	1	Mr. Gilbert Martinengo	1
Mr. Geo. Lyons	1		
Mrs. Albert Mellor	1		

Collected by George Collins, 42s. 6d.

Kate Carney	5	Aryama	1
Daisy Dormer	2½	Ethel Dunford	1
Geo. Collins	2½	Jennie Johns	1
Harry Goodson	2½	Inky	1
Harry Speakman	2	W. L. Murray	1
The Danbys	2	Ethel Loftus	1
Bert Frost	1	Percy Oakley	1
One of Those	1	Robb H. Howard	1
Bert Williams	1	Frank Sherlock	1
Bert Woodward	1	Jean Van Dalle	1
Maude Beaumont	1	David Barone	1
Minnie Moran	1	Terras Bros.	1
Harry Leybourne	1	Mersano	1
Sisters Melba	1	H. Atkinson	1
W. J. Ashcroft	1	Kitty Clover	1
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T. F. Mathews	2	S. Duncan	1
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Miss Novel	1	Miss Novel	1

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Ariel and Astarte	1	Billy's Groom	1
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		Walter Curtis	1

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Collected by Miss Ethel Dove, 2s.

Ethel Dove	1	Sisters Brand	1

Collected by Mr. Fred Kitchen, 24s.

J. L. Weisker	1	Little Old Man	8
H. Stevens	1	Fildes	1
W. Poluski, jun.	1	Helm	1
Troughton	1	Hermons	1
Dudley Powell	1	A Friend	1
W. G.	1	Fred Kitchen	1
Harry Lappo	1	Papa Kitchen	1

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 4.—*The Redskin*, an Indian drama, in four acts and nine scenes, was recently produced by Mr. William A. Brady at the Liberty Theatre. The play was written by Donald MacLaren, and all the characters represented were Indians. Lonawanda, chief of the Ockotchees, being desirous that his daughter, Adulola, shall marry, summons the young men of his tribe in order that the maiden may choose a husband. In so doing, however, he slights a certain redoubtable "brave" named Niatawa, and grievously offends Niatawa's father, Matawagnon. Angry words ensue, and Lonawanda kills Matawagnon by strangling him. Niatawa, when the news of his father's death is brought to him, is inflamed with a desire for revenge; but, being beguiled by female artifice, he ascribes the murder of his sire to the wrong man, and becomes involved in complex and suspicious circumstances which presently lead to his being condemned to death. He is tied to the stake, the faggots are kindled, and the Indians dance around him, emitting the yells peculiar to such festive occasions. At this point, however, Lonawanda interposes, and relates the circumstances of Matawagnon's death. Thus Niatawa learns that Lonawanda, whose daughter Niatawa loves, is his father's murderer. He is released from the stake, only to be forced to fight Sheanangua, whose wife is enamoured of Niatawa, and the latter, despairing of love and honour, permits himself to be slain. Mr. Tyrone Power's impersonation of the Indian chief Lonawanda was highly commended, and the picturesque and beautiful manner in which the play was mounted called forth no little praise. But the newspapers ridiculed the language of the play, protesting that it was incongruous and inappropriate. Moved by these strictures, Mr. Brady addressed the audience between the acts at the second performance, and on several evenings thereafter, rebuking the critics in an exceedingly caustic manner, and accusing them of writing flippant and unfair notices. Mr. Brady's speeches, being published at length in the newspapers, imparted a new interest to playgoing at this particular theatre, and proved a satisfactory antidote to the dread effects of adverse criticism.

A grand miscellaneous matinée, under the patronage and presence of the Lord Mayor of Belfast (Sir Daniel Dixon, J.P., M.P.), will be held at the Palace Theatre, Belfast, on Saturday afternoon, the 28th inst. The proceeds will be devoted to local charities and Theatrical and Music Hall Benevolent Funds (London). The fact that the programme will be in the hands of Mr. Fred W. Warden (managing-director of the Theatre and Palace, Belfast), is a guarantee that the undertaking will be an unqualified success. Already Mr. Warden has arranged that a number of artists from the Palace, the Empire, the New Alhambra, and the principals of the *Dick Whittington* pantomime will take part, and doubtless the handsome sum realised last year for charity will be considerably augmented.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Company have accepted for publication, and will at an early date issue in their "Sixpenny Successes" series, Mr. Jock Whiteford's new Scotch comedy song-scena, "Ma Bonnie Jean," with which he is scoring so heavily at the London Pavilion nightly. This novelty was specially written for Mr. Whiteford by Mr. John P. Harrington, with music by the late Mr. George Le Brunn.

A Bill has just been passed by the Senate of New York recognising bloodless surgery as a profession, and we understand that Dr. Bodie has had two offers to go to America at the biggest salary ever paid to a vaudeville artist. He may open at New York at a very early date, when no doubt he will create the same sensation as he has done in the first city of the world, London. It is now over eighteen years since Dr. Bodie gave up the Church—theology having no charm for him—and went in for medicine. He is at present the only recognised exponent of bloodless surgery in this country, and his career has been one of unbroken success.

The Easter attractions in the handsome Pavilion of the Victoria Pier, Blackpool, proved a strong draw to many thousands, and packed houses were the rule throughout the week. The artists engaged were Mme. Sadler-Fogg, soprano, Mr. Richard Evans, baritone, and the Vypond Costume Concert Party, which talented combination included Miss Maud Vypond, Miss Dollie Hook, Miss Spearman, Mr. Fred Vypond, Mr. Cyrus Dare, Mr. Harry Fife, Mr. Charles Pearson, and the well-known London society entertainers, Miss Marion Brereton and Mr. Lawrence Derrick.

The people of Hounslow still flock in great numbers to Cissie Louie Lawson's cosy hall, which fully deserves its popularity. This week there is a company of all-round excellence, and the bill is topped by the one-act sketch presented by Lily Herries and company, entitled *The Profligate*. The playlet tells of the triumph of the wife over the mistress, and the audience on Monday worked themselves into a frenzy over the fight with swords. As the wife, Miss Herries played sympathetically; Mr. Stanley Grosvenor was most satisfactory as the selfish husband; and Miss Mabel Wynne gave a good portrayal of the mistress. The Ongars present their well-known dancing act, and meet with the applause their turn deserves; those droll comedians, the Harrison Brothers, are working their funny song "Walking to Brighton"; Ernie Williams sings as well as ever; a smart knockabout sketch is presented by the Bowery Boys; and Minnie Mace wins applause with "Buster Simpson, Esq." Miss Edie Anderson, the Grosvenors, and Jury's Pictures complete the programme. Mr. Reginald Grant is the courteous acting-manager.

At a matinée performance given on Saturday, April 14, at the Central Hall, Sheffield, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne's company produced, for the first time, a clever little sketch, entitled *Our Typist*. The plot is very slight, but serves its purpose admirably of introducing funny situations and mirth-provoking dialogue. The part of Augustus Giddiflick, a merchant, in search of a typewriter, was well played by Mr. John Hitchins; Oppitt, a volatile office-boy, was cleverly impersonated by Miss Frances Ferina, a comedienne of considerable ability; and the dual rôle of Florentina Fluff (typist) and Mrs. Giddiflick were admirably presented by Miss Maud Randford, each part receiving adequate treatment. It is the intention of Mr. J. Lacy Lyne, who is the manager of the Palace of Varieties, Attercliffe, to send the piece into the halls, where it should find a hearty welcome.

Mark Sheridan, who tops the bill at Holloway Empire next week, is a genial cynic and humorous critic. He will comment on the news of the day. A close observer of the daily papers, he selects his topics of the day with quite a sub-editorial instinct, comments upon them humorously, and, upon occasion, with no little sarcasm. Mr. Sheridan is in himself a host in pantomime, and in this business has established what must be a record. He has been with Messrs. Howard and Wyndham for ten successive winters, and is engaged by them for ten seasons more, appearing next at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, taking the part of the Baron in *Cinderella*. He has travelled almost the world over, and has been twice in South Africa, and is so enthusiastic a motorist that he has not taken a railway ticket since last December.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

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ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
May 21, 28, Sept. 3, 10, 24, Oct. 1, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 11, 18, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
May 7 (Race Week), June 25, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 5, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
May 7, 14, Aug. 20, Sept. 10, 17,
Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
June 18, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Aug. 6, 27, Oct. 29, Nov. 12, 19, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
June 11, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON,
May 7, 14, Sept. 13 (three nights), 17, 24, Oct. 1, on. (six nights each).
Wanted, First-class Pantomimes, for Christmas, 1906, for three weeks.
Address, Milton Bode, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Wolverhampton, May 7, 14;
Reading, May 21, 28, June 4;
Leamington, May 7;
Chester, May 7 (Race Week);
Dalston, May 21, June 11;
Theatre Royal, Leicester, June 11, 18.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE,
May 21, 28.
Address, Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, Good Plays, possessing Printing, to produce during Stock Season, at Terriss' Theatre. State lowest fee, and write full particulars to W. and F. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
July 30, Aug. 13, 27, onwards.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, Aug. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
Bedford vacant Whit week.
E. Graham Falcon,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Company, June 11 (3 nights Luton, 3 nights Bedford).
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, May 7, June 4, 11, 18, onwards. Address, Herbert Vere.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, High-class Attractions for May 21 and June 4; the latter is the Oddfellows' Festival Week at Barrow. June 11, 18, and 25 also open. Apply, Hugh Robertson, St. Brelade's Bay Hotel, Jersey.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Companies, Bank Holiday, Whit Week,
Whit Week unexpectedly vacant,
also May 14 vacant.
Apply to Fred Morgan.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, May 3, 4, 5, onward.
Apply, William Peacock.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, May 21.
Apply, John Hart, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

HIPPODROME, THEATRE, AND OPERA H., MANSFIELD; also MORRELLA'S NEW THEATRE AND OPERA H., CHESTERFIELD.
WANTED, Good Companies, April 30, May 7, 14, and onwards. Address,
Morrella, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

WANTED, First-class Companies, May 7,
and Dates, on.
Apply, T. Sergenson,
Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED Known, only Vacant Dates this Spring, May 21, 28, and June 4 (Whit); a few Autumn Dates still open for First-Class Attractions only.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 7, June 18, 25, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17; good Pantomime for Xmas week.
Frank Mundill.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 7, 21, and June 4.
Apply, Stanley Rogers,
H.M. Theatre, Carlisle.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Powerful Companies, May 7, 21. Terms, &c., to Rich. Waldon.

Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Cos., May 7, July 16, and 23.
Apply, M. Montgomery, jun.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 21, June 4 (Whit Week), June 11, Aug. 6, 13,
Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 29, Nov. 5,
and Pantomime, Feb. 4 (one or two weeks).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical or other Attraction, June 25; Share or Certainty.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, Attractions, for April 30, May 7, 14, 21, 28 June 4.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED First-class Companies,
Wanted, First-class Companies.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant April 23, May 21, 28, June 4.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant April 23, 30, May 14, 21.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant April 26 (3 nights), 30, May 10 (3 nights).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant April 23, 30, May 7, 21.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 14, 28, Sept. 3, 24.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant April 23 (3 nights), May 28, June 4, 11.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant April 23 (3 nights), April 30, May 7, 21.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant April 30, May 14, June 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant April 23, May 7, 14, 21.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant April 23, May 14, June 11.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.

All communications to Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions for Aug. 6, 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, and Dec. 3.
All communications, Chas. E. Machin,
Avenue Opera House,
Sunderland.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.
WANTED, Good Dramas, April 30, May 14, 21, June 11 and 25, First-class Companies only need apply to
J. E. Bull (General Manager for Samuel James), Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, Musical Comedies preferred,
for Weeks of May 14 and 21,
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
WANTED, First-Class Company, May 7, through disappointment. Write or wire, H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 7 and 21. Full particulars to Jno. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Attractions, April 30, Grand, Middlesbrough; May 7, T. R., Newcastle-on-Tyne; May 14, 21, Aberdeen and Dundee.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E.
May 14 and 21 vacant.
WANTED, Strong Attractions for the above dates.
Fred. Fredericks.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 7, May 28,
Nov. 26, and Dec. 10.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply, Mr. C. F. Williams, T. R., Plymouth.

WANTED, Attractions, for May 7 (?), 14, June 4 (?), and Sept. 10 (Musical only).

Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

RUNNACLEAVE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, ILFRACOMBE.
Sole Lessee, Cissie Louie Lawson.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the Months of April, May, and June. Write, The Secretary, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Musical or Good Comedy Companies, for Aug. 6, 13, 20, Oct. 1, 22, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, on. Nothing too big. Address, Horner, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHREWSBURY.
WANTED, April 30, April 30, April 30, First-Class Musical Comedy preferred.
Wire, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

WANTED, Good First-class Companies, May 7, June 4 and 11.
Wm. B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Vacant May 14, 21, and June 4. Apply, Fred W. Warden.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for June 11 (Musical preferred). Waddington and Sons.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Darwen, Good Companies, April 30 and May 14. Wire for April 30. Robinson, T. R., Darwen.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.
WANTED, First-class Company, Whit. Week. Several open dates in May and June.
Apply, Arthur Willoughby.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, April 30, May 14, on.
A. D. Vernon,

PAISLEY THEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 21. Apply, J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, First-Class Company for June 4 and Aug. 13. Apply, Chas. Elphinstone.

COMPANIES WANTED.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, April 23 and 30.

Wire,
Carson,
Queen's Theatre,
Keighley.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
Vacant May 14, 28, June 11, and on.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
Vacant May 28 (?),
Apply, Frede. Mouillot, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

FOLKESTONE and HASTINGS.
WANTED, High-class Companies, GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
now in the height of success.
May 7, June 18, July 16, Oct. 22,
Nov. 1 (3 nights), Nov. 5, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE, FOLKESTONE,
June 25, July 2, 9, 23 (3 nights),
Oct. 22, 29 (3 nights), Nov. 19, Dec. 3.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, Good Drama, April 30, also Light Attractions,
June 4, 11, and on.
Write immediately for April 30.
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Managing Director, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 30, through disappointment.
Wire, Yorke, Royal, Blackburn.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
April 30, April 30, April 30.
WANTED, Big Attraction, Musical Comedy or Drama, also May 28. Wire for 30th.
E. H. Page.

DUNFERMLINE AND DUMFRIES.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday and Onward, High-class Plays, Musical Comedies, Comic Opera, and Shakespearean Répertoire.
Apply to Jas. Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.
WANTED, Companies, May 7, 14 (24, 25, and 26, 3 nights only), 28, June 4, Whit, Aug. 13, Sept. 3, onwards. Silence a courteous negative.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for May 14, 21, also Whit Week (Big Holiday date). Address
E. B. Goulden.

RAMSGATE.
AMPHITHEATRE.
Proprietor, Lord George Sanger.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions only, for Season Dates. This week, "WALLS OF JERICHO." Next, "WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
Address, Henry Bowman, Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, May 21;
Grand Theatre, Hull, May 28.
Apply, John Hart, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, May 7, 14, 28, and June 4. Address, H. Wilkinson, The Athenæum, Lancaster.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Good Companies, Comedy and Musical,
May 14, week,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Particulars, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
WANTED, First-class Company, April 30 (?) (through disappointment), also May 7 (3 nights). Wire, F. C. Dew.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, Attraction, April 30, May 14, and a few Autumn Dates; good terms given to the right Attractions. Address, David Williams.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 7, and on, with exceptions, three nights each town.
Chaplin, Colwyn Bay.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, best Companies only, April 30, May 1, 2, and 7, 8, 9, magnificent new buildings.
Phillips, proprietor.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards,
Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, May 14, Aug. 6, 13.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14 Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Oct. 1, Dec. 3.
Frede. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Aug. 13, Sept. 24.
Frede. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Frederick Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Aug. 13, Sept. 24.
Frede. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE BEAST AND THE BEAUTY."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 22, Spring 1907.
Frede. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 8.

Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, April 30, June 4, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, for Nov. 26, and various dates in 1907.
Douglas Bruce, Theatre Royal, York.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 4, 18, on.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
Aug. 6, 20, on.

Charles Harrington, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this year.
Chalmers Mackey.
This, Theatre Royal, Scarborough;
next week, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
Played by a most excellent cast of first-class artists on a most lavish scale.
All new scenery and printing.
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant April 23, 30, and May 7. L. Carson, Queen's T., Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, for this Excellent Attraction,
May 7, 14, 21, and onwards.
L. Carson,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, April 23.—Owing to misunderstanding, this extraordinary Attraction Vacant April 23. Managers say after Box Office returns this play should be entitled "Money."

Apply, L. Carson, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, May 7 (follow Pontypridd), May 14, and onwards, with exceptions.
William A. Armour, to-day, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy; next, Clarence, Pontypridd.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant May 21 (three nights), between Newcastle and Harrogate, July 2, 9, 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.
J. W. Cordiner, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.
See Companies advertisement, Page 2.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR,
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl. Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia. Supported by a Star Cast.
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 16 (?), 23 (?), Aug. 20 (Lancs.), and onwards. Thanks Messrs. Bailey, James, Machin, Moore, Melville, Kelly, and Whitbread for offers and Contracts.
Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this great Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6 (South preferred), and on, with exceptions.
Apply, Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, L'pool.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 16, 30, Aug. 20, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever.
E. Carter Livesey, Rotunda, Liverpool.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
By Geo. R. Sims.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for this fine Dramatic Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 8 (?), Nov. 5 and 12; also Whit week for Special production.
Herbert Hollister, Camden Theatre, N.W.

WANTED, Theatres, Miss Mary Neil and Mr. Geo. Kirk's Company, "Her Luck in London," by Chas. Darrell, Spring fully booked. First vacant date, Aug. 20, on, with exceptions. Address, George Kirk, Alexandra, Hull; next, Opera House, St. Helens.

"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."
WANTED, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1.
Frank G. Bayly,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate.

WANTED, Theatres (South Coast preferred), for Répertoire of the following plays: "Bunch of Violets," "Captain Swift," "One Summer's Day," "A Man's Shadow," powerful company, June 4, 11, 18, 25, and on.
Apply, Loris Lovell, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, May 14, June 4, 18, on, 36th Week of Present Tour.
Oct. 1, 8, and 29, Lancs.
Bookings and Re-bookings extend into March, 1907.
Frank Ayrton,
T. R., Wednesbury.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 7 and 21,
to precede T. R., Bolton (return).
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Star Theatre, Liverpool. April 23, Alexandra Theatre, Hull (return).

HERBERT BARRS' ATTRACTIONS.
Toured by Midland Syndicate, Ltd.
WANTED, June 4 and 11 (between Mansfield and Hull), 25, on, and Autumn and Spring. Répertoire includes "East Lynne," "Life," "Sorrows of Satan," "Streets of London," "Mystery of Hansom Cab," &c. Herbert Barrs, O. H., Kidderminster; next, T. R., W. Bromwich.

"THE ASSASSIN." A Star Cast. Everything Carried. Booked at all Best Drama Houses.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 29, to oblige Victoria, Broughton; Oct. 29 Vacant, to oblige Victoria, Broughton; Nov. 25, Dec. 10. First Spring Date, March 11, South. Augustine Knight, T. R., Smethwick.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, May 7 (South), No greater success touring.
Enormous Business Everywhere.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FANNY LE GRANDE.
Wire, James Bell, Theatre, Darlington.

M. RUSSELL ROSSE'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Manager, who has open week suitable to above répertory, to write or wire,
Russell Rosse, 10, King-street, W.C.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" CO.
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" CO.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 21, follow Prince's, Portsmouth, May 28, June 4.
Edward Surrey, to-day, Theatre, Brierley Hill; next, Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath (third visit).

"CRIMSON CLUB."
WANTED, July 2, 9, 23, Aug. 6, and various Autumn Dates. Percy Shaw, Victoria, West, Stanley.

WANTED, May 14, onwards, "Rich and Poor of London," Miss Dora Dench as May Braithwaite. Dench, T. R., Coatbridge; next, Met., Glasgow.

MR. EADE MONTEFIORE'S 2,000 RUN,
"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, May 7 (between Bradford and Nottingham), June 18, 25, July 2.
Address, Mr. Montefiore, Kennington T., London.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 3, 10, and on,
to follow Grand, Walsall.
Nov. 5, to follow Alex., Birmingham.
Address, C. M. Julian, Royalty, Morecambe.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 25, July 9, 16, and 23.
Dickie Clark, Theatre, Paisley.

WANTED, First-Class Theatre, for "Mason," principal company, May 28, to follow Dublin. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"A SISTER'S SIN."
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, May 21, between Merthyr and Rotherham; June 11, to follow P., Bradford; excellent cast. Wire,
F. G. Kimberley, O. H., Leicester; next, Maesteg.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," April 30 (to oblige), follow Glasgow; May 14 (follow York, return). Wire, Charles Clifford, Kendal; April 23, Lyceum, Govan.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Dec. 26, on, with exceptions.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

"THE GREATEST SCOUNDREL LIVING."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres.
Fred Bulmer, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; the Greatest Woman Play of the Age. Vacant Aug. Bank Holiday, 13, 20, Dec. 10, 24, 31. Miss Frances Delaval, to-day, Hippo., New Brompton; next, T. R., Dover.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatre, August Bank Holiday, onwards, with exceptions, for
Miss MAUD HILDYARD and Powerful Company,
Mr. Ernest Dotteridge, Empire T., Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."

WANTED, for this Sterling Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, and few later. June 18 unexpectedly vacant.
Magnificently Advertised, Beautifully Mounted, and Splendidly Acted.
Fifth Year of Tour.
Grand T., Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 23.

Mr. GEORGE E. MUDD'S TOUR of
"A BUNCH OF VIOLETS" CO.,
from the Haymarket Theatre, London.

WANTED, Good Theatre, June 18, through disappointment, July 9 and 23. Mr. NORMAN PARTRIDGE as SIR PHILIP MARCHANT. All new scenery and properties carried, absolutely as West-End production. Re dates, apply, GEO. E. MUDD, Resident Business-Manager, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MURRAY AND STAFFORD'S COMPANIES.
Wire, April 30, Wire.
"CONSCIENCE AND CRIME."

WANTED, April 30, for this Strong Dramatic Attraction.
All scenery carried.
A few Summer Dates vacant (South preferred).
New Burlesque in Active Preparation.
All communications, Victoria Hotel, Newmarket (till Sunday morning post);
Monday, T. R., Edmonton.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes by Angels.

WANTED, May 28, June 18, and onwards. JACK HADDON, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, "Private Secretary," Open Dates, Sept. 17 and 24, Nov. 1 (3 nights), 12, and Dec. 24, onwards.
Apply, EUGENE C. STAFFORD, c/o FRENCH, LTD., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London, W.C.

"ALADDIN" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, First-Class Theatre, for production, and a few dates in Feb. Expenses being over £100 weekly, only large theatres required.
Wires, HERBERT BARRS, O. H., Kidderminster;
Monday, T. R., West Bromwich.

"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."

WANTED, June 11, 18, and various, on. Cast second to none Touring. Wire, E A'DELL, this, Dudley Port; next, Star, Swansea.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
Enthusiastic reception at Junction, Manchester. Managers kindly refer W. B. Broadhead, Esq.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Spring, Feb. 4, 1907, onwards. No Vacant Dates this year. SANTE, Junction; next, Osborne, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, "A Miserable Marriage," now arranging Autumn Tour for Sensational Novelty. Re dates address, JOHN H. NEGUS, Grand, Walsall.

WANTED, for "Throne of Terror," May 14, 21 (?), onwards, Aug. 13, on. W. J. MILLER, New Royal, West Stanley.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Halls, Pavilions, and Gardens, May 7, 14, and on (with exceptions) for Messrs. Firth and Beer's Carlton Juvenile Pierrots and Society Entertainers, comprising 10 of the most talented young Artists on the Vaudeville Stage, including the wonderful Boy Mimic, Master Basil Clifford, in impersonations of all the leading Star Artists. A Novel, Up-to-date, and Enjoyable Programme. Managers of First-class Establishments are invited to communicate with Messrs. FIRTH and BEER, Sandringham Hotel, St. Mary-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, May 7, and Whit Week, First-class Theatre,
Hippodrome or Public Hall,
for the Kellinos' "Fête in Venice,"
and Star Vaudeville Co., share or certainty.
Wire, KELLINOS, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, June 4 (Whit), onwards, Theatres, Halls, Piers, &c., for Novel Variety Show, strong Specialities. TERRY, Assembly Rooms, Leamington.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Smart, Attractive Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, good appearance and good voices absolutely essential. Apply, personally and immediately, KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

HARRY YORKE'S TOURS.
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."

WANTED Full Company, for four special weeks (commencing May 21 and ending June 16). Full particulars and lowest terms to HARRY YORKE, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
N.B.—No stamps; silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Full Company (exceptions), for "Throne of Terror," rehearse April 24, West Stanley; also immediately, Heavy Lady. MILLER, till Monday, Crook; then, Royal, West Stanley.

WANTED, for Musical Comedy on the Halls, Juvenile Lady and Gentleman, Dude, American Lady, Irish Comedian, Character Comedienne, and Chorus. Lowest terms, Box No. 3,108, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Responsible Artists, for Stock Sketch Company. Permanent. Silence a polite negative. Address, S. J. POWELL, Palace Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, Talbot and Violet, for Special week, for "Our Boys," in Town. Those that have played parts previously preferred. Address letters only, EDWARD CRANSTON, 8a, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions, Edgware-road. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, for Special Week, commencing April 30, First-class Leading Lady to Star as Lady Isabel, "East Lynne," own Script; also Full Company, rehearse Wednesday, 25th, at 12 o'clock. Address, with photos., references, and stating lowest inclusive terms, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Leading Lady and Gentleman, for Stock, commencing May 7, rehearse April 30; must be young and of good appearance. Particulars and absolute lowest summer terms to HARRY ESDEN,
O. H., Northampton.

WANTED (through illness), immediately, Lady for Tina. Lowest terms, photos., references, to GORDON and DOYLE, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Young Light Comedy Lady, must dress well and assist at piano, long fit-up tour; rehearse next Thursday. Photo., lowest terms, BELL, P. O., Thetford, Norfolk.

WANTED, Lady, for small important part, Sketch. Apply, with references and photos. BELL, 23, Mytton-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Comedian, for Plantagenet, in "Kitty Grey"; must sing and dance well. Also Artists for all Lines in Musical Comedy (Autumn Tour), and Chorus, must be young and pretty and have good voices. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, a Light Comedian, who can play the 'Cello, for a Summer Engagement of twelve weeks certain. Write to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Character Actor (Spalding part) for Sketch, one week, April 30, Rehearse Manchester 26. Lowest terms, T. JONES, G. P. O., Manchester.

WANTED, Character Old Man, also Smart Character Actress, for Sketch. WADE, Hippodrome, Hastings. Rehearse Tuesday.

WANTED, good Juvenile Leading Man. Photo. and references.
BUSINESS-MANAGER, 50, Barmouth-rd., Wandsworth.

WANTED, Responsible or Second Comedian, to open at once.
W. G. VICKERS, Bridlington.

WANTED, clever Child Actress, for Johnnie in "Master and Man," Special Week May 7; rehearse week previous; must be over 14, and petite. Particulars and lowest inclusive terms to HARRY ESDEN, O. H., Northampton.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen (good appearance and voice) for London. Apply, Saturday, 2-5, Society Professional Singers, 445, Strand. Members specially note.

WANTED, Vocalist (good), Tenor or Baritone, permanent engagement. Photo. (stamp for return), lowest salary, CLARENCE ERNEST, 194, South Lambeth-road, S.E.

Dancing.

WANTED, a Pretty Child, not under 14 or over 15, medium height and good figure, to be Apprenticed and Trained in Dancing; live in, everything provided. Apply, with recent photo. (returned) and full particulars as to age, height, &c., Box 3,107, "The Era."

WANTED, Boy about 17, with good strong Tenor or Baritone voice. Call, 1 Glengariffmansions, South Island-place, Brixton-road.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by refined Soprano, Lady Vocalist, Concerts, Piers, or good Al Fresco. Can open at once. IDA RENCE, 19, Brixton-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Arthur Mann, Tenor, just concluded second tour with Mr. G. Dance's "Orchid" Co. Address, 22, Trinity-rd., Upper Tooting.

WANTED, April 23, 30, and May 7, by Alfred Thomas, London's Popular Concert Comedian, Easter, usual success, Dover, Mayor's Entertainments to Volunteers. Perm., 68, Truro-road, Wood Green, N.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes for '06 and '07, Principal Boys and Girls, Comedians, Dames, and all Lines. Apply by letter, with photos. and all particulars, to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artists, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Principal Boys, Girls, Second Boys and Girls, Comedians, Specialities, &c., for the best Pantomime Productions, 1906 and '07. Terms, references, with photos., at once to JOE LAWRENCE, The World's Agency, 17, Brook-street, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Principal Boys and Girls, and First-class Comedians, for "Cinderella," "Whittington," "Crusoe," and "Babes in Wood." Send fullest particulars, lowest terms, and state where can be seen working. SIDNEY DOOLEY, 55a, Booth-street, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, First-class, to Re-paint Stock Scenery and Act Drop. State lowest terms and references, CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and secondhand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, Known, W. Cooke at Liberty for Exhibition work, just finished contract building New Japan Scenic Exhibition. P. O., Beith, Scotland.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel. Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Scenic Factory (20 years' reputation), Artistic Scenery, &c., Dramatic and Variety. Compare Prices. W. B. BOSTOCK, 11, Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Billposting Business. Just Opened.
WANTED, Investor-Manager, with a similar Business; good offices; first-class stations; agreements; printing; established name. Moderate premium. View Floating. Box 3,138, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Manager, for Pierrot Troupe, at Seaside.
Apply, Box 3,121, "The Era."

WANTED, sober, industrious Man for Props. and Baggage, &c.
Terms and full particulars,
LIONEL RIGNOLD,
Theatre Royal, Manchester.

WANTED, a Carpenter, to make and repair neatly, and touch up Scenery; permanent if suitable, Summer Season. Lowest terms. WM. BENNETT, Theatre, Coventry.

WANTED, Single Man, as useful man, and rough Carpenter, used quick productions. Apply, with latest references to FRANK SEDDON, The Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, Poster Writer,
Good Up-to-date Man,
used to High-class Work.

Send samples and all particulars to SHEFFIELD'S, LTD., Birmingham.

WANTED, Billposters,
Two Smart Young Men,
Good Berth to Good Willing Workers.

Apply, giving particulars to SHEFFIELD'S, LTD., Birmingham.

WANTED, Billposter, Permanent. State age, wages required, and last situation. BILLPOSTING CO., Albert-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Single Man, as Bill Inspector and useful man, to act as Commissionaire if required, used to brush. Apply, with latest references, to REGINALD GRANT, Hippodrome, Hounslow.

WANTED, First-Class Bill Poster, must be energetic, willing, and sober. Apply, A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Theatre of Varieties, Glasgow.

WANTED, Position as Stage-Manager for First-class Music Hall, to commence end of June; capable of speaking French, German, and English; 14 years' experience in Variety Business; staunch teetotaller and a hard worker. Address, P. C., 39, Dorset-road, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Position as Business-Manager, Resident or Tours.
Would Invest in or Finance any Sound Scheme.

Box 3,120, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, an experienced Manager can undertake Management and Bookings of Music Hall, also willing to invest a considerable sum. Apply Box 2,998, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting or Business-Manager. Salary and commission; can join at once. Box 3,118, "The Era."

WANTED, by Charles Gascoigne, late Manager of People's Palace, Bristol, for twelve years, a Situation as Manager for Variety Hall. Apply, Bull Arms Hotel, Victoria-street, Bristol.

WANTED, Situation by Shorthand Typist, male, own machine, experienced, willing to be useful. Mod. terms. W. J. CRANE, 59, Kingsgate-road, Kilburn, N.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, age 21, position in Theatrical, Music Hall, or Agency Office; thorough experience, excellent recommendations. W. S., 34, Marney-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Carpenter, Practical Bench Hand, full equipment of tools, resident or tour, halls or theatres, 12 years' experience; or could arrange joint, for wife, as wardrobe mistress. Address, G., c/o James Buckley, Fern Lea, Lees, near Oldham.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Carpenter, Resident preferred, own tools; good refs.; abstainer; bench hand. H. L., 8, Glendale-rd., Erith.

WANTED, Situation by Thomas Stroud, as Practical Billposter, experienced in all branches, to take charge of round, &c. Good references. Address, 6, Mill-lane, Llanelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, as Wardrobe Mistress, cut out, make, own machine; good refs. Mlle. FRANKS, 167, Lloyd-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for a Seaside Palace of Varieties and Ball Room (afternoon and evening performances), a Musical Director, to supply Band of ten to twelve men, for July, August, and September, must be a Violinist and take the Conductorship.

Orchestra to consist of

First and Second Violin, Viola, Pianist, 'Cello, Double Bass, Cornet, Trombone, Piccolo and Flute, Clarionet, Drums, and Effects.

Those tendering will be expected to provide competent Musicians for the sum quoted, and must enclose full particulars with Tender. regarding References, and Previous Experience, age, &c., to

Box 3,139, "The Era."

N.B.—The Management reserve the right of approval of each Musician.

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.

WANTED, thoroughly competent Musical-Director, Pianist, commence duties April 30. All communications, CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

WANTED, Leader and Band of Nine (Double-handed musicians), for Circus, Touring England. Lowest terms to MANAGER, care of Post Office, Shrewsbury.

YOUNG MEN'S HOLIDAY CAMP,
DOUGLAS, I.O.M.

WANTED, First Violin, Flute, Bass and Cornet, for Summer Season (June to Sept.), must be young men, total abstainers, and thoroughly efficient musicians. Terms (to live in), age, and references to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, as above.

WANTED, First Violin (Leader), for Suburban Theatre (Variety), to commence Monday week, 30th inst.; must be experienced in Variety Business. Write, stating experience, age, to Box 3,141, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, First-Class Violin, Lady or Gentleman, for Hotel in the Provinces. Send refs. and state age and terms; must have good up-to-date répertoire of music. Apply Box 3,129, "The Era."

WANTED, Violin, for Empress, Brixton. Apply, ALLINGTON,
35, Antill-road, Bow, London, E.

WANTED, two First Violins and First Trombone, one week, April 30, for Grand Opera. Terms, &c, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, for Aberystwyth, Summer Season, Good Violinist, also Cornet, Sight-readers, used to Varieties. Particulars, age, terms, HARRY COLLINS, Rhyl.

WANTED, to open immediately, good Solo Cornet, single, sober, age 20 to 30 preferred. Permanency to right man.
Must assist in Comedy business.
Good salary; fares paid after joining.
Write full particulars,
HARRIS, Manager, Ten Loonies.
This, Palace, Northampton;
April 23, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, a really good Solo Cornet Player, for a Police (full Military) Band. Applicants to be 5ft. 10in. in height. Apply Box 3,077, "The Era."

WANTED, Solo Cornet or Clarionet Player, as an Attendant in County Asylum.

Salary, £34, increasing to £48, all found. Single man.

Apply, with testimonials,
W. GRAINGER, County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet; must thoroughly understand variety business; permanency to competent man. J. WHITELOCK, Conductor, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

WANTED, First-Class Cornet, must be steady. Terms 35s. Apply, W. H. HARPER, Musical-Director, Palace T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player, well up in Variety, to open April 30. State age and ref. to RICHARDSON, Conductor, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, for Dare's Minstrels, Douglas, Isle of Man, First-Class Cornet, special week, Whitsun, and three months from July 9. Particulars and absolute terms. CHARLES DARE, 296, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Good Clarionet and Double Bass, end of May till Sept., Steamer on Clyde. Terms or shares. MAITLAND LACEY, Mus. Dir., Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, First-Class Orchestral Bassoon and First Trombone, for Seaside, 18 weeks, must be young, smart, &c. Terms and references to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 25, Nettleton-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Bassoon for the Hippodrome, Preston, to Open May 7. Apply, enclosing copy of last reference, to PERCY B. BROADHEAD, The Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Euphonium, flute, String Bass, to complete Small Military (Council) Band, June 25, 10 or 12 weeks. BELLERBY, Denecholme, Ilkley.

WANTED, for Circus Tenting Season, Euphonium, Double Drums. State age and experience, refs. Commence Monday, April 30. AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, at Once, Good Bombardon, Circus, Tenting, 32s. 6d. Wire and write, Sat., LEADER, Circus, Montgomery; Mon., Bishop's Castle.

WANTED, Oboe, 'Cello, and Viola, to commence April 30, 1906. D. J. CLARKE, Manager, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

FULBOURN ASLYUM,
CAMBRIDGE.

WANTED, Male Attendant, Bombardon Player preferred.
Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copy of testimonials to MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, at once, a thorough good Pianist, Sight Reader, to travel with Auction Vans. Apply, WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Ferndale, Rhondda Valley.

WANTED, Pianist (gentleman), Picture Tour, First Class and Reliable, with good library up-to-date music. Send age, photo., and particulars, Box 3,110, "The Era."

WANTED, for Tour, Pianist; must read at Sight. Lowest, ASHLEY BEALE, Athenæum, Warminster, till Sunday; after, Laverton Institute, Westbury.

WANTED, Double Drummer, for Variety Business, as Deputy, May 7 to Sept. 29.
W. W. BENNETT, 1, St. Leonard's-rd., Bournemouth.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, Solo and Orchestral Pianist, also Double Drummer (Tympani), for long Seaside Engagement. State references, lowest terms, and age. Box 3,130, "The Era."

WANTED, a Band, Rhyl (Seaside Resort), N. wales. The Rhyl Urban District Council invite tenders for providing a Band, for the Promenade and Town, for the Season of 1906, from Whitsuntide until the end of September. The Band must depend entirely on voluntary subscriptions, collections, and charges for seats by the Bandstand, but with the addition of a subsidy by the Council of a sum not exceeding £100. The tenders, stating number of performers, nature of instruments, and class of music, may be sent to the undersigned, not later than May 3, 1906, and from whom any further information may be obtained.
The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.
Signed, ARTHUR ROWLANDS,
Clerk to the Council.
Council Offices, Rhyl, N. Wales.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Douglas, Isle of Man, Summer Season, commencing July 9, Orchestral Band and Conductor. Apply, with refs., &c. FRED J. CONNOR, Vaudeville Club, London.

WANTED, three small Bands, for high-class Steamboats, would engage, or let privilege; also Band of twelve, for small Pier, North Wales. TREMAIN, 8, Russell-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
a Band of Fifteen,
for Whitsuntide and Season,
must be good.
Replies to WEST END PIER CO., Morecambe.

THE DE FRECE CIRCUIT HALLS.

WANTED, Musicians, for Present and Future Dates. Apply, with lowest terms and recent references, to J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, Hip-odrome, Southampton.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, Violinist, Disengaged, Seaside, Tour, or Resident desired. 54, Casewick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathew's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor and Musical Director, at Liberty from June 1. Field End Villa, Worsley-rd., Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, by Present Leader, Summer Engagement, any business, thoroughly experienced, first-class refs. Address, HART, 65, Grasmere-st., Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director, Conductor or Leader, Violinist (soloist), reliable, first-class experience, Disengaged, large library. Box 3,098, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by well-known Conductor, with own Band (ladies and gents), Halls, Theatres, Piers, &c. BAND, 19, Mayton-street, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Musical Director, Violinist, Theatre or Variety. Apply, CONDUCTOR, 1, Church-street, St. John's Wood, London.

WANTED, Known, Carlos Aschermann, late Leader of St. Leonard's Kursaal Orchestra, fine Soloist, accepts Engagements; First-Class references. Apply, Kursaal, St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, by the Talented Johnson Family, two ladies, one gent., piano, violin, and cornet, through closing during summer, well up in any business, Vacant April 23, onwards, just finishing third season. Address, Theatre, Tyldesley, Lancs.

WANTED, by First-class Lady Violinist, Summer Engagement, Hotel or Seaside, Orchestra or Solo. Highest references.
Apply to "VIOLIN,"
c/o ARTHUR RUSSELL, Concert Agent,
13, Sackville-street, W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by the Principal Second Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co. Address, LEWIS, Orchestra, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, A. E. Pritchard, Violin and Viola, Disengaged April 30. Offers invited. Thoroughly experienced. Address, 81, Norwich-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement by Violin, can combine Clarionet; good refs. H. SMITH, 14, Prince's-square, Kennington Park, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Violin, any business; steady and reliable; can open at once. BUTLER, 55, Hampstead-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, an Engagement by smart young Violinist, in Orchestra, Seaside preferred. References. Apply Box 3136, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Cornet; excellent refs.
MONTAGUE, 33, Thomson-street, Stockport.

WANTED, by Competent and Reliable Solo Cornet, experienced all lines, Engagements, at Liberty April 30. J. BONNER, 82, Millbrook-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Seaside Summer Engagement, as Second Cornet, Orchestra or Military. Apply, with particulars, H. RUSSELL, jun., 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Known, Solo Cornet and Two Trombones, experienced, at Liberty for Season. BELL, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Solo Cornet, Seaside or Town, thirteen years' experience, excellent refs. Apply, MATTHEWMAN, The Grove, Wakefield, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Good Cornets, steady, reliable; seaside preferred; Liberty June 30. CORNETTISTS, 22, Clare-street, Chesterton, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Solo Cornet, any business; immediate offers invited; excellent refs.; sober and reliable. Box 3,125, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Cornettist and Drummer, both play Trumpets, just terminating four years with the Bisera Troupe; Music Halls preferred; England or Continent. CARRINGTON, 12, Wilberforce-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Season, Clarionettist, E flat or B flat, just finishing Tour, Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, Mr. Geo. Edwardes' "Little Michus" No. 1 Co. R. D. McHAFFIE, 35, Braeside-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement for Summer, experienced and reliable; good references. Address, CLARIONET, 97, Latimer-road, Eastbourne.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, at Liberty Theatre or Variety; best refs., and thoroughly experienced. A. BENNING, 18, Paulsgrove-road, Portsmouth, Hants.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, any business; reliable references; total abstainer; at Liberty 23rd inst. MCCORMICK, 8, Cleveland-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, Orchestral or Military; also by Double-handed Musician, Viola or Saxhorn. Apply, HUBERT PERKINS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Clarionettist, combine Violin, also by good Pianist, combine Clarionet; together or separate. Address, Box 3,123, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Clarionettist, orchestral or military. Add., ARCHIBALD H. PRICE, 41, Leswell-st., Kidderminster.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, any Business, sober, reliable, and experienced, Liberty May 12. WILL SMITH, 15, Portland-place, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass, Theatre or Music Hall preferred; good references. BASSIST, Victoria Hall, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by experienced Bassoon Player, Engagement, at Liberty May 14. Moderate terms. Address, BASSOON PLAYER, 99, Guilford-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Summer, by good Contra Bass, late Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne, Military Band, Brighton. JACK WALKER, Grand T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, any Business. Disengaged May 5. ROBSON, 21, Carlton-street, Shields Field, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by First-class Trombonist, through disappointment, any business, can join at once, any distance. GEORGE NICKS, 102, Fenton-st., Leeds.

WANTED, Known, First-Class Trombonist, at Liberty any business.
Address, Box 3,109, "The Era."

WANTED, by Horn (Cor), Engagement, experienced; open to re-engage with Militia or Yeomanry for Training. References, LOCK, 15, Theatre-street, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn, thoroughly experienced, orchestral and military, excellent refs, any business. C., 7, Portenrd., West Kensington, W.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn, experienced Orchestral and Military, at Liberty from June 2 to 24. FREEMAN, 42, Holsworthy-square, W.C.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello. Also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent and Experienced 'Cellist, Theatre or Variety. T. CATHIE, Theddlethorpe, Louth, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by 'Cello, Solos.
'CELLO, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violoncello, last shop Leading London Theatre, 4 years. C. SHERWOOD, 8, Albion-grove, Barnsbury, London, N.

WANTED, by a First-class Violoncellist, recently arrived from Russia, Engagement in Orchestra. Mr. AISICOVICH, 203, Oxford-street, Stepney.

WANTED, Known, Violoncellist, Disengaged, experienced in variety and dramatic business. Good refs. Address, 'CELLO, 34, Leoville-st., Belfast.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Viola, combine Piano, experienced accompanist and Orchestral Pianist, advertiser well known, London preferred. Box 2,951, "The Era."

WANTED, by Viola, Summer Engagement. ARTHUR DELMOTTE, Carl Rosa Opera Co., Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Oboe, Summer Engagement, Orchestral or Military, late Soloist Royal Marines. Excellent refs. G. WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Hull.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FRANK FIELD, 18, Windsor-road, Holloway.

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboe or Double Bass, any Business, long experience, season or permanent. CRABTREE, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times, Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool, Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth. Address, 49, Haverstock-hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist,
Royal Albert Hall and Queen's Hall,
accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party.
Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte.
Write as above. 24, Waldemar-mansions, Fulham.

WANTED, by Lady Harpist, Summer Engagement.
Box 3,105, "The Era."

WANTED, Seaside Season, Summer Engagement, flute (piccolo soloist), military or string, thoroughly reliable. PENFOLD, 27, Thistlewaite-rd., Lower Clapton.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, through closing, Open for Permanent Engagement or Deputising; steady and reliable. Address, C. HOLDING, Opera House, Perth, Scotland.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo, Orchestral or Military; good refs. FLAUTIST, 35, Pentney-road, Balham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, commencing Whit Monday, for Season. Address, VICTOR CANDLER, 6, Oxford-ter., Harrorate.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, Offers, Dramatic, Variety, and Brilliant Soloist. Refs. WM. BOARDMAN, 16, Wolseley-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic and Variety Business. L. MAJOR HORNSEY, 17, Kimberley-terrace, Tredegar, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, in Ladies' Orchestra; First-Class Pianist and 'Cellist; experienced; good sight readers; together or separate. PIANISTE, Box 3,127, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Double Drummer, experienced, theatre, music hall, or deputising, any business. Good refs. M. CONNOR, 173, Downham-rd., London, N.

WANTED, Known, Double Drummer, in every business, Disengaged from April 22 till 26, 1906, and every Sunday. Thrawl-st., Block F134, Commercial-street, E

WANTED, by Orchestral Drummer, Engagement. Theatre or Music Hall; experienced. W. G., 50, Flood-street, Chelsea, S.W

WANTED, Known, Mandolinists, Guitarists, Banjoists (lady and gent., good appearance), experienced, expert, splendid répertoire; also Piano. Disengaged. DE VERNY, Bournemouth.

To Corporations, Pier Managers, Hotels, &c., &c.
WANTED, Known, Frederick Lane's Green and Gold Band,
a First-class Combination,
15 to 30 performers.
Open for August and September, also Separate Weeks.
For offers, write LANE, PEGG, & Co.,
The Avenue, West Ealing, London.
'Phone, 856 P.O. Ealing.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Florence Voorzanger has returned from Sweden, and is open, with her Celebrated Ladies' Orchestra, for summer engagement. For terms and particulars, 61, Warwick-avenue, Maida Vale.

Notice to Proprietors, Managers, and Agents.
WANTED, Known, the Original Cecilias are lady instrumentalists, not men. Topping the bill at Hengler's Circus, London. Agent, TOM SHAW.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Engagement, Summer Season, The Vrasatzka Band or English Salon Orchestra, three performers upwards. Music especially arranged. Box 3,113, "The Era."

WANTED, by the Shikisimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Engagements for exhibitions, hotels, &c., brilliant costumes. Conductress, Volthurst, Boundary-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. Williams, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. Jesson, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9,827, Central. F. J. Lees, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. Bartley, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel., 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, SOUTHPORT.

WANTED, at Once, the Greatest Star Turns in England, also Useful Artists in all Lines, to assist the Greatest Circus Company in England. Address,
King Ohmy, Grand Circus, Southport.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S HIPPODROME, ABERDEEN.
Grand and Glorious Opening;
the Large Marquee crowded.
WANTED, the Best of Talent Weekly.
Thanks for all Good Wishes.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS, BLYTH.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, April 30 (one week only). Address as above.

WANTED, for Burton's Fêtes and Galas, June 4 (3 days), June 16, 21, 30, July and Aug, Startling Novelties, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Double Acts, anything and everything suitable for Open Air. Send lithos., memos., list of bookings, terms, permanent address, Burton's Agency, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, Lady Trapeze Performer over Stage, and other Novelties, for numerous Fêtes, June, July, August. State lowest terms per day, fares paid from London terminus, permanent address, specimen lithos., Sylvester, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London. Mlle. Pauline Perita write immediately.

WANTED, Jugglers, Clowns, Posturers, useful people. Those that wrote from Cambridge write again, or join Friday next. Dennis, Circus, Seaforth, Liverpool.

WANTED, a few useful people to travel with a small Circus, a good chance for new beginners. Money low, but sure. Wanted, to buy, a Bear's Dress. Manager, Circus, Post Office, South Creake, Norfolk.

WANTED, for Military Tournament, July, Circus Clowns; other Acts, with lithos., June, July, and Aug. Gannon, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, a Lady Gymnast, about 20. State salary for Big Troupe. Send photo. to F. Athol, Post Office, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Acrobat, Comedy, Top Mount, young man about 8st. Apply, personally, Impresario, Nolan's Agency, 7, New Coventry-street, daily, 3 o'clock.

WANTED, Young Man or Lad, Tumbler, and Second. Apply to Mr. Geo. Mannings, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Artists to Note the above establishment closes to-night, Saturday, April 21, 1906, for Summer Season. This is the third week this notice has been inserted. The building to let for good Combinations, rental.
Address,
E. P. E. Veitch or C. Algie.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, vacant May 21, June 11, onwards, with exceptions.

Coms., The Metropolitan, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Capt. Max Gruber's Elephant, Horse, and Pony finish to-night with Big Success, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton. Liberty April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, and 28. Wire or write for terms if you require a First-class Show. 9, Huntingdon-road, East Finchley, London, N.

WANTED, Miss Pinder, novel Bareback Equestrienne, and John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist; finished three days Easter, Gala, Harrogate; Monday, Ohmy's Circus, Southport; Lib. April 30. We wish Managers and Agents to know that Miss Pinder is the only lady doing this Act on any Stage, in which she introduces her highly-trained Horse, riding Collie Dog, and flight of Pigeons.
Address, Ohmy's Circus, Southport.

WANTED, Circus and Hippodrome Proprietors and Directors to note that The Three Ohmys, Greatest of all Lady Acrobatic Somersault Three-horse Equestriennes, Greatest Riding Act on Three Beautiful Coloured Horses, will be at Liberty early in May to accept Engagements for the most Marvellous Riding Act ever seen in this country. Grand lithos., &c. Can be seen nightly at the Grand Circus, Southport, where they have made the greatest success ever known in the town. Address, The Sisters Ohmy, Grand Circus, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Barebacked Equestrienne and Clown, own horse, Liberty April 30, home, abroad. Grand Circus, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Comedy Bar Act, vacant April 30, May 7. Address, 24, Brook-street, Preston.

WANTED, Dates for Galas, &c., by Mdlle. Bartenelli, the most clever, sensational Aerial Contortionist; also The Boultons, Comedy Artists. Swindon Herald, April 13, says: The whole of the turns are decidedly good, while some are exceptionally so. One of the most remarkable is the display given by Mdlle. Bertenelli, who is a contortionist of far more than ordinary skill. She does some marvellous things, and her performance must be seen to be appreciated. A really smart burlesque exhibition is given by the Boultons. Communications, Poole's Myriorama, Cirencester.

WANTED, April 23 and 30, by Los Granadas, Greatest Comedy Trampolin Act; own Scenery. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, Les Henris, Equilibrists and Gymnasts, Big Draw, top or bottom. This, Hippodrome, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Lad wishes to join Trick or Comedy Cyclists, good knowledge of the business. Swifto, 23, California-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lempriere and his charming Lady Pupils, for Parachute Descents, together or separate. Lempriere, Handsworth, Birmingham. Lady Parachutist still open for Whit. Week.

WANTED, Secretaries, to engage Lieut. Lempriere, the popular, reliable, scientific Aëronaut, for Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents. Address, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Captain Bidmead has few vacant dates. Terms, &c., 94, Balaam-st., Plaistow, Essex. Lady parachutist write immediately.

WANTED, Engagement, as Stud Groom, or Groom, Boots, and Breeches, 36, smart. Marvin, 5, Mosedale-st., Church-st., Camberwell, London, S.E.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists, all Lines, for immediate dates. Please state in first instance absolutely lowest terms to save correspondence. Messrs. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 53, Regent-street, W. Telephone, 6070 Gerrard.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists (twice nightly), May 7, June 11, 18, 25, Aug. 6; good Combinations may write, must be good or save stamps. Particulars, and lowest terms, Frank Mundill.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, April 30, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any), to Morgan, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, on Shares, five nights, commencing Tuesday, 24th. Wire, Evans, Drill Hall, Amble, Northumberland.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Descriptions.
Marcus Boyle, G.P.O.,
Bacup, Lancs.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, also Al Fresco. All particulars and lowest terms to Williamson, Donald's Special Representative, Wylam-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists in all Lines, for Blackpool,
must be refined and used to concerted numbers.

Preference given to those who play an instrument.

Photos. and lowest terms to
Mason, 6, Cherry-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
William Mould, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, all Lines, for Whitby and elsewhere. Full particulars, Geo. Douglas, Post Office, Gloucester.

MESSRS. SHINTON & GREENWOOD'S TOURS.

WANTED, Artists all Lines. Photos., full particulars, and absolute lowest terms. No interviews except by appointment. Address, John B. Shinton, Grand T., Nottingham.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for April 30. Reymond, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, May 28, June 11, 25, July 9; Freaks and Novelties April 23. Charles A. James, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists in all Lines, April 30, onward, Good Patter Comedians, Vocalists and Musical Specialities.
Sidney Dooley,
55a, Booth-street, East Manchester.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. Scott, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, 23rd, and onward, Double and Single Turns. Specialities and Combinations, write or wire absolutely lowest summer terms. Those that wrote before write again. Mark envelopes "Stage." Baker, Hippo., Reading.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, April 30, New to Bacup, Big Acts, shares. Letters, Harry Clyo, Public Hall, Leyland, Lancs, till Sunday; after, Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Smart Concert Artists, Amateurs, and Beginners, immediately, for small Music Halls. Write, Bob Graham, "Raleigh," Salford-road, Streatham Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. H. A. Jordison, Managing-Director, Empire Theatrical Agency, Ltd., St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, by Hugh Dempsey, Artists in all Lines, also Bioscope, to open Monday, St. George's Hall, Canterbury. Wire, 15, Dover-street, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Artists capable of working Turns and accustomed to Pantomime, sing and dance, to join advertiser (well-known Manager) in immediate Musical Comedy and Variety Tour. Sharing Terms. Photos. (with stamped envelope) and fullest particulars to Manager, Box 3,132, "The Era."

WANTED, Known.—Gala Artists write in. Quote lowest first. Triple Bar Act, Contortionist, June 4. Farnsworth and Dyson, 124, Crookesmoor-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, several Juvenile Artists, Vocalists, Dancers, &c., for Firth and Beer's Juvenile Pierrots; rehearse May 7. Particulars to Sandringham Hotel, Cardiff.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, Absolute Cream of the Variety Profession. All the Biggest Novelties on Earth. Money no object. Any price paid, from £5 to £200, for the right article. Apply, with vacant dates and sample lithos. to T. M. Sylvester, 213, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Known, Mr. T. M. Sylvester begs to thank Captain Fitzgerald for Offer of Engagement to Manage his proposed New Empire Palace, Coventry.

WANTED, Known.—Call for Coventry Hippodrome; Rehearsal 1 o'clock sharp: Dinah Morris, Atlas and Vulcana, The Smythsons, Herbert Cyril, Belrose and De Velin, Hippodrome Pictures, Harry Mongton, and Miss Kate Martell.

WANTED, for Maidstone Grand Carnival and Tivoli, commencing June 4, Artists in every Branch of the Variety and Equestrian Profession, Big Aërial Acts, Three Bars (Comedy preferred), Spectacles, Military and otherwise, Sensational Attractions, and anything that can be produced in the Open Air or under Canvas, Good Troupe of Performing Elephants or Lions, or Good Circus, complete, would be entertained on salary or share, First-class Military Band (not afraid of work), Good Side-shows, Captive Balloons, Fireworks Display, &c. For further particulars, apply, T. M. Sylvester, 213, Piccadilly, W., and the Showman's column.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, Coventry Hippodrome Co., Ltd.

WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that, from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless Signed by the Secretary and Manager.
T. M. Sylvester, Manager.
G. E. Wright, Secretary.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Proprietors, Smith and Lee.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Monday next, 2 o'clock, for Yukio Tani's Combination.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Boston, closes to-night, April 21, for a few weeks, re-opening June, for Pierrot Business, and Sept. 3 for the Variety Season. Geo. Saphrini, Lessee and Manager.

MAIDSTONE HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Agents and Artists, to Note that Mr. G. Howard Watson has been appointed Managing-Director of the Maidstone Hippodrome Company, Ltd. Will Artists and Agents holding bookings kindly send them for confirmation to the new management? Address, Mr. Watson, Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 53, Regent-street, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.

WANTED, Star Turn (big draw), with own Combination, Nine Turns, six nights, commencing April 30; two houses nightly and one matinée (Thursday. Wire turns and lowest terms to Harry Yorke.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS VARIETIES,
Foundry-street, Dewsbury.
General-Manager, George Weldon.

WANTED, Two Good Dumb-show Turns, for week commencing May 7,
or a Good Comedy Sketch;
must be new to the town.

WANTED, Big Star Turns, and Novelties of every description. Send bookings, Dunning, All Letters, Canterbury Music Hall.

WANTED, Big Stars, Novelties, Comedy Acts, &c., April 23, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c., I can place you.
Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076, Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-Avenue, W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, for April 30, May 7 and 14, Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Stars, April 30 and May 14.
Geo. Aytoun,
22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Variety Talent all Branches, present and future dates, for Hippodrome, Theatre, and Opera House, Mansfield, and Morella's Theatre and Opera House, Chesterfield. Address, Morrella, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

WANTED, immediate and future dates,
First-Class Acts
of every description,
that possess the merit of novelty.
Big Specialities specially wanted for the months of
July,
Aug.,
Sept.,
and on.

Give full list of Bookings and absolute lowest terms.

A good Equestrian Act wanted for Whit Week, Lancashire; must be good.

Geo. Zalva's Agency,
The Hippodrome,
Scarborough.
Telephone, 288; Telegrams, "Zalva."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-Class Acts,
First-Class Acts,
Star Specialities,
Star Comedians,
Star Serios,
for immediate and future dates.

Send terms, bookings, and full particulars, to Sidney Dooley, 55a, Booth-st, East, Manchester. Provincial representative, Mr. Charles Seymour.

WANTED, for Fêtes, Galas, Piers, June 4, June 16, 21, 30, all July and Aug., Sensational Acts of every Description, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Double Acts, Anythin gand Everything suitable for Open Air. Send lithos., memos., list of bookings, permanent addresses, terms, to Burton's Agency, Fargate, Sheffield. Good Baritone required for Al-fresco.

WANTED, Known,
I can Place the Biggest Acts.
Atlas, Agent, Hippo., Coventry.

WANTED, Acts in all Lines, to send full list of bookings and lowest terms. Martino's Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, Good Sound Comedy Acts, Specialities, Comedians, Serios, &c. Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, June 4, onwards,
Big Acts for Piers, Gardens, Galas.
Bookings, lowest terms, lithos.,
Edgar Stebbing,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, of every description, for Summer Dates.
Send lowest terms and vacancies to
Fortune and Granville,
115, Strand, London, W.C.

CAVALRY THEATRE, ALDERSHOT.

WANTED, Good Doubles (doing Single), Good Serios, for above and other halls. All coms., Harry Saunders, Tintern Villa. The artists engaged by Harry Saunders, Manager, Cavalry Theatre, Aldershot, and other Military Entertainments, wish to thank him for paying them full salaries Good Friday Week. Notice.—Brother and Sister Artists cannot be too careful in Booking with a Safe Treasury.

WANTED, First-class Variety Combination, May 14, onward. Wm. B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigg'esworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, May 21, for Town near Manchester, Varieties and Specialities, also Good Comedy Sketch Combination. Terms, Atroy, Empire, York.

WANTED, Big Specialities and Novelties, nothing too big.
Send lithos., bookings, and lowest for
Ireland and the North.
Cavill's Agency, 127, Clapham-rd., London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Dramatical, London."

WANTED, Agency, only High-class Attractions and Artists considered. Managers immediately supplied. Appointment interviews. Henry J. Bilsborough, Woodville-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, Big Attractions, May 7, 14, 28, Grand, Chorley; also June 4 and 11, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, good Pierrot Troupe, on Sharing Terms, for large town, Midlands; also Big Stars and Novelties, also Artists for Galas. Those on my books keep me posted. Fred Neiman, 74, The Grove, Camberwell, London, S.E. Telephone, 247 Brixton.

WANTED, First-class Pierrot Troupe (Five), for three weeks, June 11 to 29, one hour, morning, afternoon, evening; excellent recommendations necessary; must be smart show. State lowest and full particulars. Hague, Spa Gardens, Limited, Bridlington.

WANTED, First-Class Pierrot Troupe.

Send fullest particulars to
West End Pier Co., Morecambe.

WANTED, Pierrots, Minstrels, Artists, semi Al Fresco Parties, open Monday; also Young Acting-Manager. Manager, 7, Summerhill-terrace, Parade, Birmingham.

WANTED, Good Pierrot Troupe, on sharing terms, for Large Tow nin Midlands; must be smart and clean. Address, Fred Neiman's Agency, 74, The Grove, Camberwell, London, S.E. Telephone, 247 Brixton.

WANTED, a Good Troupe of Acrobats, Punch and Judy, and other Artists, for one week, June 18, 1906, would suit those finishing Dublin, Belfast or Cork.
Seltina Troupe write terms to
Freear and Son, 39, Dame-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable, and stay depends upon reception. Will Avis, A. W. Gamage, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady., Playing Piano or Mandoline, for Variety Act. Those doing anything besides preferred. State age and height, Box 3,140, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Girls, Acrobatic Dancers, with good voices, respectable, for First-class Troupe. Permanency, with favourable terms. Apply personally, only until Tuesday, 24th inst., daily between 11 and 12, punctual, Rehearsal Room, Swiss Club, 74, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, W. Offers by letter, Jean Priver, London Coliseum.

WANTED, Gentleman, Amateur, tall, for Music Hall Sketch. No premium.
Full particulars to Box 3,126, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, for Sketches, small speaking part, must tumble a little. State tricks, lowest terms (no best offers). Tom Kelso, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Ten Boys, good voices, Dance a bit preferred. Apply between 10 and 11 every day, Park's Eton Boys, 23, Sudbourne-road, Brixton Hill, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Blackpool, Morecambe,
and other Seaside Towns,
Whit Week, July 2, and onwards.
Also for
London,
Manchester,
Liverpool,
Leeds,
Glasgow,
Birmingham,
Brighton,
Stockton,
Burnley,
Bolton,
Oldham,
Barrow,
Carlisle,
Warrington,
Hull,
Middlesbrough,
St. Helens,
Accrington,
Stockport,
Rochdale,
Stoke,
Derby,
Grimsby,
Attercliffe,
Hanley,
&c.,
Star Comedians, Star Comediennes,
Big Specialities,
Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel.

Send List of Bookings, Lithos., Terms, &c.,
Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Good Patter Comedians, must be refined, also good Sopranos, Baritones, &c. Jones, Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, Good Man to arrange smart, up-to-date Dance for Sketch. Reply letter,
V., 5, Goldsmith-avenue, Acton, W.

WANTED, Bioscope, open Monday, several weeks, must have electric fittings, change pictures weekly, money small but sure. Wire, Samson, Wonderland, Sheffield.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator (First-Class) to commence early date. State age, full particulars to save time, lowest terms tour, Box 3,111, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, April 30, May 7 and 21, Lule O. Bright, the Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Terrific Success, this week, Hippodrome, Paisley; next week, Empire, Paisley. Also Little Venus, the Smartest Juvenile Character Vocalist on the Stage. Offers to Ivy Grove Cottage, Flemington, Motherwell, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Roze, Vocalists, Patterers, and Dancers, in Grand Speciality, introducing Roza, the Wonderful Girl Pianist, Liberty May. Offers invited for Summer, South Coast preferred. Letters, 39, Cardigan-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Baby Spring in future will be Known as Rosie Spring, champion Lady Barrel Jumper, assisted by La Belle Marie, at Liberty for galas, gardens. All letters, Directress Rosie Carlo, 8, Heathfield-house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Known, through short notice of closure, Tony Iveson Las Monday next vacant, only week this year. Tony Iveson, "The Aristocratic Ragman and the Piano." Wire, Hippodrome, Bury, to-day. After Sunday, c/o Sley, Variety, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Stacey Calvert (Lord Percy), Comedian, Sketch Artist and Speciality, with First-Class Concert Party. Share or Salary, Disengaged Whitsun. 133, Holden-hurst-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, May 28 and June 4, by Harry Morris, Comedian and Mimic. This week, Central Pier, Morecambe; next, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, by Harry Tomps, Comedian. Address, 357, Holloway-road, N. Wires, "Honri, London." 'Phone 1063N.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical Tumbling, Eccentric, now appearing nightly with success at the Circus, Hull. At Liberty for April 30. All communications, Circus, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the musical monkey, a big novelty; also ventriloquist. Wire, 12, Ashfield-terrace, Harrogate.

WANTED, by Vosper, in his remarkable facial impersonation of male and female celebrities. Monday next, also April 30, owing to Circus, Carlisle, closing. Wire, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Monday next, by the famous Comedian and One-legged Dancer, Jimmy Shields. Wire, 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, Robb Gilmore. A really humorous comedian.—Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq. Third visit, this week, wire, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday, 23rd, Sidney Dolf, Vocalist, Mimic, Juggler, vacant through obliging Rosen and Bliss. Great hit this week, Hippodrome, Paisley. Wires, c/o Mrs. Gibson, 18, Moss-street, Paisley.

WANTED, April 30, between Aberdeen and Cradley Heath, for Harry Kardoc, with the finest Handcuff Show touring; Straight Jacket and Packing Case Challenges. April 23, Cook's Circus, Aberdeen, Wire.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Renzo, Youngest and Improved Handcuff Kings and Trunk Manipulators, with their latest Trunk Mystery, Disengaged. Wire or write, c/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Lutas Liberty has a few Open Dates for "Magical Moments." "The Writing on the Wall," and other Startling Mysteries, also Living Liliputians. C/o "Era," or Donald's Agency, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Pharos, Egyptian Illusionist, April 30, May 7, Opened Monday, Bournemouth, for two weeks, enormous success. My "Decapitation" caused Big Sensation, Talk of Town; two-column interview in local papers. Only vacant dates this year. Wire, Pharos, Drill Hall, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, vacant May 7, 14, shares or salary, Soros, Egyptian Mystifier and Illusionist, top or bottom; also Motograph, latest Pictures. April 23, Palace, Swansea.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. Prof. Lenton, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, April 30, May 21, June 11 (wire, Palace, Bordesley), Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Entertainer; also May Geraldine, Dancing Chic Comedienne; enormous success Empire, Liverpool. Monday, Palace, Bordesley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Will Bell, Comedian and Dancer, and Ida Dalton, Serio and Dancer, at Liberty Monday next. Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Monday and April 30, the Lashmars (Harry and Flo), Comedy Artists, Hand and Head Balancing, Singing, Acrobatic Dancers. Hippo., Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday next, by Mdlle. Zelda, Big Musical Novelty Act; also Wal Owen, Silent Comedy Act. Sure Success. Wire, Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Monday, also May 7, by The Charnleys (Annie and Edie), Dainty Duettists and Dancers. Wire, 128, Campbell-street, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, by Alice Townend and Fred Burnand, Dramatic Duologue, or 2 Good Vocal Turns. Wire, 55, Georgiana-street, Bury, Lancs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by The Monckton, May 7 and 14, "Excruciatingly Funny Act," "A Woman's Curiosity." 12, Kyotts Lake-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, April 30 and May 7, by Snowdon and Conway, smart Comedy Couple; also Winnie St. Ives, Serio. April 23, Prince's T., Preston.

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, Harry Harcourt, conclude 17 weeks' successful engagement J. A. Thomson's "Whittington" Co. Vacant May 14. This, O. H., Treherbert; next, Post Office, Stourbridge.

WANTED, Known, by Dan Noble, the popular Comedian, and Marie Yorke, Dainty Burlesque, Monday next, also Al-fresco. Wire, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, April 30, May 7, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystic Lady, also Marie Riviers, popular songstress. Wire, c/o Cameron, 315, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Renowned Musical Comedians, April 23, onwards.
Address, 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act,
meeting with great success
in Rome.

WANTED, April 30 and May 7, by Dale and D'Argan, in a great Comedy Act, "La Café Magique." Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday 23rd and 30th, Cliff and Kean, Comedy Artists and Novelty Dancers. Wire, Albert Hall, Jarrow.

WANTED, by Chant and Chant, Refined Vocalists and Patterers, Halls, Piers, Pavilions, Al Fresco, &c. April 23, 30, Summer Dates. Wire, Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, Known, that the Maros are making a big hit, Circus, Hull, re-engaged another week, Liberty April 30, on.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte (Lady and Gentleman), Gymnastic Pot Pourri Act, May 14, 21, 28, great success Poole's, Portland Hall, Southsea. Monday, Poole's Myriorama, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, April 30 and May 14, by Four Abadaroffs, in "Prehistoric Peeps." Wire, Temperance Hall, Leicester; or, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, Return Moss and Stoll Tour, Oct. 8, 1906, and London Coliseum, Feb. 11, 1907. Agent, Tom Shaw.

WANTED, Known, The Monetas, Vacant May 21 and 28, June 4, 11; also Panto.
Communications, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, One Week April 30, 1906, by Stanley's Urchins. Wire or write offers to Stanley, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Seven Wulfrunas (three Ladies, four Gentlemen), Comedy Acrobats, "Fun in a Café," conclude to-night Circus and Albert Hall, Southport; Liberty Monday. Wire, Circus, Southport.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Illusionist, one or both Acts, April 23, on. Wire, Hippodrome, Reading.

WANTED, Cavalli, Ventriloquist, at Liberty April 23 and 30. Wire Albert Hall, Jarrow; after Saturday, 96, Ellison-street, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday next, April 23 (through Carlisle closing), Emma Don and Co. Wire, Hippodrome, Wigan. No other vacant dates. Managers, note.—This turn is a Draw, as well as being a Success, and is absolutely Original.

WANTED, Bookings, salary or share, Whole or Part Programme, Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lumley's "Merry Moments." Pier, Hunstanton.

WANTED, by Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, the smartest and finest lady's animal show on tour, great London and Continental success, elaborate stage setting and costumes, up to date, including the Goal Keeper. Vacant 30th.
47, Wiltshire-street, Southsea.

WANTED, few immediate Dates, Chard's Wonderful Dogs, now the Whole Talk of Wolverhampton. No Act could make a Bigger Success, a fact which cannot be disputed. Wire, Chard, Hippodrome.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Gigantic and Funny Dog Show, at Liberty May 21, for Galas, Piers, &c. Address, Alhambra, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Denerenne, Nail Walker, Balancer, the Mystery, requires Engagement. 31, Higher Wharf-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Managers focus your lenses on this.
WANTED, Known.—To Managers of Halls and Piers. Don't miss this opportunity.
At Liberty from May 7, onwards (except May 21 and June 4), the very latest Bioscope and up-to-date Pictures. Electric or Lime. Own cylinders carried. Also 4,500ft. of very fine coloured, Biblical subjects, suitable for Sunday Exhibition. Smartly worked. No waits; no breaks, and, above all, good results and positive satisfaction guaranteed.
No reasonable offer declined.
Show from twenty minutes to two hours.
Best terms to
Claud Vincent,
Post Office, West Stanley, co. Durham.

WANTED, Known, Le Clair's Bioscope and Dogs, including the greatest leaping dog in the world. 47 weeks' success, Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, Bioscopist, Lime or Electric, Alternating or Direct, shortly concluding 10 months with Poole's. Gerard Somers, Temperance Hall, Leicester.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, important, that the next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on Tuesday next, April 24, at 2.30 p.m., for the Transaction of important business.

All Members are requested to attend.

Signed,
T. Hurst, Secretary.

Auctioneers.

WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. Clacher, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

The Minerva Automatic Co., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London.

WANTED, to thank the many Customers who have placed their Orders for the Ball-punching and other Automatic Machines for Spring Delivery, and would respectfully ask those who contemplate ordering to do so as quickly as possible, to prevent risk of disappointment.
Members of the Showmen's Protection Association.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102a, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for 22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen and Others to Know that
T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

Bristol-street, Birmingham

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, &c. Stacey's, Settles-street, London, E., supply everything for the Fair. Specialists in Rifles, Ammunition, Targets, &c. Established 60 years.

WANTED, Startling Novelties and Attractions, now and onwards.
A. E. Pickard, American Museum, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, all to Know we have found Maiden Town at Last for Novelties, 7 days a week, with population of over 50,000, a circuit of 3 miles round, 7 miles from Dublin. Shop in the Heart of Kingstown. First-class Novelties and Character Readers. Can Open at Once. Shares or salaries. Apply, PERCY W. SHARP, 9, Upper George's-street, Kingstown, Ireland.

WANTED, good Living Novelties and Shows suitable for Waxwork Exhibitions, two months' engagement. Lowest terms. STEWART'S Waxwork, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Good Lady Character Reader also required for Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties, suitable for Waxwork Exhibitions, Aberdeen, Glasgow, and Edinburgh, eight weeks certain. HUMBER'S Exhibition, 112, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, for Monday and future dates, also Tattooer, Wire Worker, and extra Spaces to Let, best position. MANAGER, Exhibition, 65, Stretford-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, with Photos. or Posters. State lowest salary in first letter. FRED BURNETTE, Manager, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Good Side Show wanted, for Scottish Tour, with New Japan Scenic Exhibition (two weeks in each town). Address, MANAGER, New Japan Exhibition, Dalry, N.B.

WANTED, at Once, Two Smart Comedians, to Travel with Auction Mart; must be Funny, and able to Entertain an Audience; also Good Pianist, Sight-reader; those afraid of work save stamps. Apply, WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Ferndale, Rhondda Valley.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope Exhibition, two Knockabout or Legmania Artists, to open at once.
Send full particulars of Act and lowest Salary in first letter.
Silence polite negative.
DOONER, Bioscope, Rhymney.

WANTED, Planksman, Comic Singer, used to Tent, who could take management. Lowest terms first. GRANT, 11, Sackville-st., Londonderry.

WANTED, Good Doorsman, for Side-show, can live in or out, good place for good man to make himself generally useful, as there is not much work. E. JOHNSON, Novelty Exhibition, Market-place, Darwen.

WANTED, First-Class Doorsman, sobriety and good appearance indispensable. Letters only, MANAGER, "Martinique," 49, Osborne-road, S. Shore, Blackpool.

WANTED, a steady, capable Doorsman, one who can lecture inside preferred. Wanted, also, an Agent, who knows the country, and can door if required. Only those used to fair business need apply. GEORGE GREEN, Cinématograph, Cattle Market, Blackburn.

WANTED, good reliable Auctioneers, for season. Address, FARR, Auctioneer, Wellington-terrace, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Auction Mart, Pianist, must sing, also Watchmaker, singer preferred, and a funny Planksman, must be workers and single. Box 3,124, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Man, that can work Illusions and be generally useful to First-Class Show. Apply Box 3,134, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with dog Toby. 1014, Penwith-road, S.W.

WANTED, Chester and Lees' Marionettes, Al Fresco Engagements, Piers or Fêtes, fittings carried, splendid show, big novelty. Central Hall, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Le Mere's Original Clown Cricketers are at Liberty Whit Monday and Tuesday, onwards; good reliable game guaranteed; distance no object. Particulars, 14, Astbury-road, Peckham.

WANTED, early dates, by Castania, Human Ostrich and Fire King, new up-to-date show on Mephisto, Human Gasometer; also Lady in a Trance, the greatest success ever known at Stewart's Waxworks Exhibition. Address, 123, Stockwell-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Lucy Moore, the Coloured Giantess, weight 40st 7lb, wishes to thank C. A. James, Esq., Dublin, for the five weeks' successful and comfortable engagement. Note.—Lucy Moore is at Liberty for Monday. Wire at once. BOUNDS, James' Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Zawgyi, Burmese Magician and Indian Cabinet Illusionist, Paintings. This, Crystal Palace; next, Whitechapel. 65, Halford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagements, at First-class Halls, Palaces, or Fashionable Resorts, or will rent Spaces, for the most Sensational Performance and absolutely the Greatest Draw in England to-day, namely, the Amazon Dahomey Warriors (the only and original), Sixteen Men, Women, and Children. Please remember that this Tribe Troupe and Family are what they profess to be, and the Lecturer, Manager, and Proprietor is TOM NORMAN, The Silver King. Apply, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Proprietors of Roundabouts, &c.

The Town Council of the Burgh of Broughty Ferry will, at their meeting on May 7 next, consider offers for the Letting of the Show Ground at Esplanade there for the Season, from July 1 to Aug. 31 next.

The Ground is about 280ft. long by 85ft. broad, and adjoins the Sands.

Plans, conditions of Let, and all other particulars can be seen at the office of the undersigned, who will receive offers up till May 5th proximo.
DOUGLAS WINNING,
Borough Surveyor.
Municipal Buildings,
Broughty Ferry,
April 11, 1906.

STARR ESTATE FAIRGROUND CO.

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Already let: Pierrots, Tunnel Railway, Aerial Flight, Hobby Horses, Cycle Roundabout, Overboats, Throwing Game, Gipsy Camp, &c.

Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary,
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WANTED, Known.—Special Notice to Showmen and Others. A grand Carnival and Tivoli, and Extraordinary Fête and Gala, will be held at Maidstone on Whit Monday, June 4, and Tuesday, June 5, and continue nightly with great Weekly Attractions until further notice.

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Apply, H. HARRAP, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces in Successful Touring Trades and Foods Exhibition, for Engravings, Handkerchiefs, Monograms, &c. Apply, MANAGER, Trades Exhibition, Polytechnic Hall, Falmouth, April 24 to May 5.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Enclosure now being erected for same.
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Covered and well-built Stalls, 10ft. by 20ft., to let.
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WANTED, Offers for the Use of a Large Piece of Ground,
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during the
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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 23, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Flood," Cinquevalli, Brothers Leslie, Dronza, McPhee and Hill, Lavater Lee, Rohda Brothers, Villaud Brothers, Claire Beavy's Cats, Mendel, Alexandre and Hughes, Sutcliffe Family, Frobel and Ruge, O'Gust, Bioscope, Machnow.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
J. L. Shine and Co., Booker and Narbis, Florence Deighton, Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Bros. Egbert, Hayes and Suits, Fred Lincoln, Roze and Calvert, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Svengalis, Bioscope, Arthur Gill, Sinclair and Whiteford, Percy Honri, Colby and May, Helen Ford, Tina Clementa, Wallis's "Lily of Killarney," C. J. Johnson.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Piddock and Schofield, Bioscope, J. A. Wilson, Grace Merton, Clown Barker, Drew and Alders, Cape Girls, Haydas Troupe, Burt Shepard, Arthur Gillin.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
"Casey's Court," Bioscope, Gwennie Hasto, Spessardy's Bears, Kitts and Windrum, Jurgens Trio, Frank Cumminger, Mendel, Daisy Mayer, George Tacius.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
George Gray and Co., Venie Clements, Athas and Collins, Chas. Lilburn, Johnson and Dean, Fred Russell, Jonghmann Sisters, Tom Costello, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"Moving In," G. W. Foster, Belle Braham, Harding and Ah Sid, Mdlle. Olive, Lunelle Sisters, Derenda and Green, Rosie Bartlett, Celeste, Florence and Lillian.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Jacques Inaudi, Bernar's Fantoches, Goltz Trio, Leonie Dixon, Amann and Hartley, Jessie Merrilees, Ruby and Laws, Five Delevines, Bioscope, Jas. H. Cullen.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Tarro Myaki, Florrie St. Clair, Urma Sisters, T. C. Callaghan, Reilly and Taylor, Terry and Lambert, Bioscope, Gladys Mavius, Twin Andersons, Cardow's Cadets.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Aurora Troupe, Lizzie Daniels, Spry and Monti, Labakans, George Brooks, Four Olympian Stars, Mariano Sisters, Two Bostons, Dumond Minstrels, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Mrs. Brown Potter, Bioscope, Chas. Vincent, Madge Gray, Harry Leybourne, Matt Wilkinson and Co., Ranschle, Goggin and Davis, Staley's Transformation, Hunt and Thomas.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Cooke and Rothert, Forrest Combination, Kyoto, George Ridgwell, Gilbert Rogers, May Geraldine, Cole de Losse, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Eugene Stratton, The Findens, Ernie Mayne, La Testia, Bros. Artois, Albert Whelan, Terley, Max Yorke's Dogs, Mike S. Whallen, Madge Temple, The Howards, Bioscope.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Bioscope, Walter Stanley, Punch and Judy Girls, Rinaldos, Warsaw Bros., Fred E. Terry, Ella Shields, Tom Owen, Celtic Comedy Four.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Little Tich, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Fielding and Hull, Ella Retford, Stave, Leah Arden, Johnson and Bert, Jordan and Harvey, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Mark Sheridan, Sisters Chester, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Belloni's Cockatoos, Frank and Free, Odeyne Spark, Francis and Alfred, Lil Hawthorne, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Fred Storey and Co., Norman and Leonard Trio, Marba and Verity, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Chinko, Arthur Lloyd Trio, The Uessems, Gracie Moore, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
The Boissetts, Anartos, Cora Caselli, Chas. Gardiner, Walter King, The Seddons, Vernando, Sisters Bosanquet, May Henderson, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Florence St. John, Harry Bedford, Canary Co., The Maples, Lancashire Lassies, Morton Trio, Boswell's Circus, Holles Trio, H. Sloan, Bessie Featherstone.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Tom Edwards, Ross and Grayson, Starr and Leslie, Esta Stella, Beatrice Willey, The Finneys, Frank Leslie, De Lucca Troupe, Seeley and West, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Melot Hermann, Burke and Andrus, The Allisons, Conn and Conrad, Rosie Lloyd, The Serenaders, The Hardinis, Lilian Doreen, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
"Moses and Son," Rezene and Robini, Harry Conlin, W. Bellonini, Ernest Heathcote, Rosie Coleman, Andos Troupe, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Edouin and Edwards, Benson and Geoffreys, Ethel Ra Leslie, Unthan, The Maningos, Four Skandias, Madge Carlyle, Alma and Abdullah, Violas, Josephine Sabel.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
Hetty King, R. H. Douglass, Marie Collins, Manning's Entertainers, Mora and Lola, Reed Oetzmann Troupe, "Lady Fauntleroy," Frank Dunlop, Mason and Bart, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
La Berat, Bioscope, Alf Chester, Elsie Molloy and Co., Ten Genis, Helen Mar, Bros. Dean, Eugen Joly, Eric Dare, Cruikshank.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Menetekel, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Brett and Orford, Sisters Elos, Jack Theo Troupe, Wolkowsky Troupe, "Canty's Grotto," Herbert Lloyd, Billy McClain's Sextette.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Programme for 3 o'clock and 9 o'clock Performances:—
"The Revue," Tom E. Murray, Billie Burke, George LeClerq, The Price Troupe, The Dandies, Arthur Conquest, The Trumpeting Girls, The Rocking Girls, George Lashwood, &c.
Programme for 6 o'clock Performance:—
Charles Warner and Company in "Drink," Madame Esty and E. C. Hedmondt, Bioscope, Puck's Portfolio, Duncan's Collies, Marlo and Dunham Trio, Millie Hylton, Classicum Quartette, Herr Grais, Taylor Trio, Bella and Bijou.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Minnie Cunningham, Chris Richards, Pictures, Helene and Emilon, Morgan Sisters, Jake Friedman, Ray Wallace.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Joe Elvin and Co., in "'Appy 'Ampstead," Bert Byrne, James Stewart, Bioscope, James Fawn, David Poole, Gracie Grahame, Herbert Shelley.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Pictures, Horace Wheatley, Dora Lyric, Forest and King, Amy Russell, Dorrells, Edwin Barwick, Lios Alfa Sisters, New Macs.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Augustin and Hartley, Sisters St. Julian, Vere Cavendish, Millie Engler, Raie Walters, Four Esmeraldos, Chas. Mildare, Pictures.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Trapnell Family, Allan Hanbury, The Clarkes, Watson's Dogs, Hughes and Elliott, Bioscope, Marzella's Birds, Madge Osmond.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Will Evans, J. C. Morris, George Antill, Pat Rafferty, Rosina, Katie Butler, Lina Verdi, Sisters Hayden, Rose Harvey, Collins and Rice, Ergotti and King Luis, Knick Knacks, Crown Trio, F. Eustace and Co., Amandus, Bioscope.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Marie Lloyd, Bob Hutt, Pat Rafferty, Harry Anderson, G. H. Elliott, Sisters Hayden, Katie Marsh, Alexandra Dagmar, Mark Melford and Co., Three Phydoras, Ergotti and King Luis, Keen and Waller, Robins and Collier, Herald Comedy Four, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Co-operative Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements Cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday at 12.30 o'clock.
George Robey, Fred Karno's Co., Harry Randall, Harry Tate, Gus Elen, Clark and Hamilton, T. E. Dunville, Winifred Hare, the Poluskis, Margaret Ashton, Ernest Shand, Rachel Lowe, Astley Troupe, Fred Earle, the Casino Comedy Four, Florence Esdaile, Griff and Alpha, Edie King, Flo Gallimore, Ike Scott and Son.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, Happy Fanny Fields, the Poluski Bros., Alice Hollander, Carrie Laurie's Co., Will Van Allen, Rachel Lowe, Amber Austa, King and Benson, Billie Barlow, Conway and Leland, Harry Ford, G. H. Elliott, W. H. Rawlins and Co., in "Mashing the Missus."
Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
George Robey, Verno and Voyce, Daisy Dormer, Orpheus, Happy Fanny Fields, Tom Woottwell, Robert Dunning, Harry Tate, presenting "Motoring," the Poluski Bros., Kahn and Kahn, Imperial Bioscope, Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, Madoline Rees, Amber Austa, Frank Seeley, Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel's Co. in "Three of a Kind."
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARACON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artists are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 2 o'clock.
Clark and Hamilton, Lockhart's Elephants, T. E. Dunville, Flo Gallimore, Jack Lorrimer, Park's Eton Boys, Casino Comedy Four, Will Van Allen, Alice Hollander, Nat Clifford, Conway and Leland, Sisters Casselli, Harry Tate and Co. in "Motoring," Carina Sisters, Ruffell's Bioscope, Jessie Preston.
Manager, CHARLES BEECHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
"The Night Alarm," Amy Sullivan, the Lurins, Florrie Gallimore, Two Eltons, Arthur Reece, Ruffell's Bioscope, George Mozart, Katie Butler.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Fred Ginnett and Co., "Dick Turpin," Harry Ford, Arthur Rigby and Co., Marriott Edgar, A. Bo-Kou, Mabel Thorne, C. Emlyn Jones Quartette, Brown and Le Clerq, Sisters Casselli.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Donaldson Bros. and Co., Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, A Bo Kou, G. H. Elliott, Daisy Dormer, the Gothams, Slippere, Austin Lenton and Co., Lee and Bentley, Fred Earle, Harry Weldon, Bijou Russell, Pictures, Three Merrills, Floradora Girls.
Secretary and Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 o'clock.
Kate Carney, Bert Weston, Maragret Ashton, Eugene and Willie, Ernest Shand, Geo. Reeves, Bioscope, Bros. Brooks, Mansell's Juveniles, Mildred de Grey.
Manager, H. KETTEMAN.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
Matinées, Mondays, at 2.30.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
"The Britisher," Walter Clyde, Herbert La Martine, Nat Clifford, Park's Eton Boys, Edith Courteney, Bioscope, Bijou Russell, Alexandra Dagmar.
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DUCHESS PALACE,
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Two Performances Nightly, 6.45 and 9.10.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
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A. C. Lilly and Co., Sisters Slater, Victor Travers, Zaros, Morris and Morris, Lieut. Travis, Chas. Austin, "Ski-ing" (Bioscope), Driscoll and Beattie, Winfred Hare.
Manager, G. L. WILSON.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,
WALTHAMSTOW.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.
Band Rehearsal, which all Artists must attend, Mondays, at 3 o'clock.
Geo. H. Chirgwin, "Casey's Court," Mdlle. Nadji, Howe and Ardie, May Mars, The Brontes, Bessie Butt, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
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Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

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EDGWARE-ROAD, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Ella's Lions, Victoria Monks, Will Evans, Rousby's "Paris in London," Albert Le Fre, Lucy Clarke, Hamilton Hill, Ara, Zebra, and Vora, New York Nippers, Tom Woottwell, Baker and Balfe, Edna Thelma, Georgina Leonard, Frank Seeley, Jack Charman, Sisters Oswald, and Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Fred Karno and Co., "The Smoking Concert," Ara, Zebra, and Vora, Austin Rudd, the London Girls, George French, Maudé Mortimer, Henri Bekker, Gracie Taylor, and Albert Le Fre.
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Sung by Miss Florrie Gallimore at the OXFORD, SOUTH LONDON, &c., nightly.

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"GOOD-BYE, MR. WILLIAMS!"
Sung by Little Cliffe and Miss Gladys Archbutt.

"I'VE BUILT A BAMBOO BUNGALOW FOR YOU."
Sung by Everybody.

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Sung by Misses Dorothy L. Clarke, José Collins, and Fifi Gordon.

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Sung by Little Cliffe, Misses Aida Martini and Nellie Chandos.

"GOOD-BYE, MY LITTE FLO."
(Arthurs and Lyle.)
Sung by Miss Julie Mackay and Ryder Slone.

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THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.
Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.
Call for Monday, April 23.
"Our Annual Social" Company, Dan Filmer, Sisters Cora, H. O. Wills, 8 Lancashire Lads, 4 Jumels, Edward Lewis, Royston Dene and Co., Ada Colley.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, April 23, 1906.
Rehearsal at 12 noon.
La Belle Estellita, Charles Whittle, The Arundels, Cee Mee Troupe, Lilian, Keith and Morison, The Crystals, Mike Cray and Dog, Belle Davis and Picks, The Ferraris.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m.
Marie Loftus, Albanos Troupe, Flo Hilton, Bromley and Fonteim, Queenie May, La Atalanta, The Folkestones.
ALBERT HALL, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m.
May Yohe, The Dixons, Pictures, and Company booked.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists are requested to send words and music in advance, so that permanent Ladies' Choir may learn them.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, Peter-street, MANCHESTER.
Director Grosvenor H. Hamilton.
CALL for Monday, April 23. Rehearsal 11 prompt. Ned Kennedy and Co., T. W. Barrett, Read and Learn, Minnie Fenton, Singing Pictures, Kitty Phelps, Bioscope, Kitty Gower, G. W. Hastings.

Stock Season.
CALL.—Will all Artists please communicate with Mr. C. M. Daly, Stage Manager and Producer, Empire Theatre, Southend.
CHAS. E. MACHIN, Sunderland.

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
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Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.

London, May 19, 1904.

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" VII.—Helter-skelter, ding-dong, hell-for-leather chase. "Gad, boy, how he rides!"
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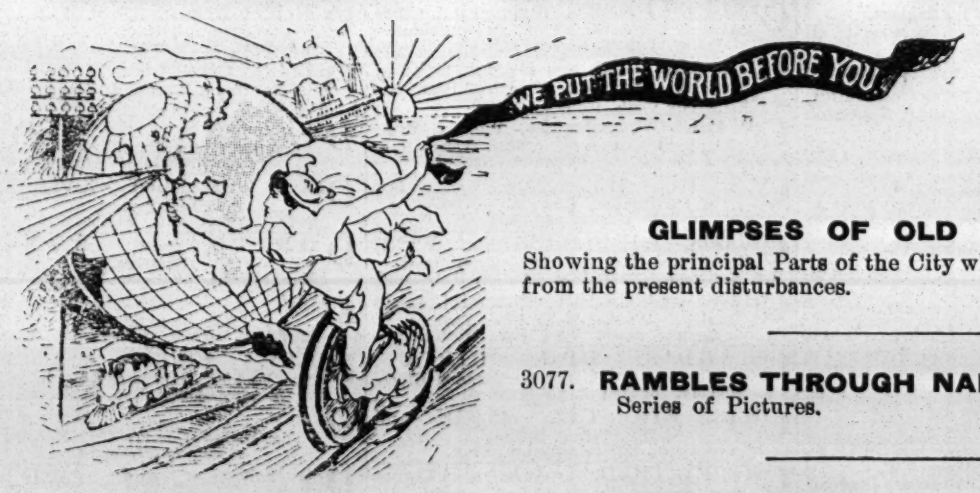

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CRAGGE, EDNA, Resting. Address, 93, Bedford-rd., Clapham, London.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Care of "The Era."

CRAY, MIKE, Eccentrique Comedy Juggler, and dog Dooley. This, usual terrific success, Grand, Bolton. Next, Pavilion, Glasgow.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., April 23, Empire, Birmingham.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY, Big Hit, Empire, Dudley. 1, Wasnidge-street, Hulme, Manchester.

CURRAN, FRED, Specially Engaged by Mr. Harry Rickards to sing Parodies in Australia. Sail Nov. 16. Palace, Derby.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. Topping the Bill. This, Hippodrome, Dewsbury; next, Albert Varieties, Jarrow.

CUSTANCES, THE, in their Bright and sparkling comedy duologue, "A Game for Two." Com. re dates, 104, Salisbury-st., Bedford.

CYCLUMINA, The Only Electrical Cycle Act. Communications to BENTLEY'S AGENCY.

DAINEZ, Comedy Circus, Liberty June 4, 11, 18, 25. Address, Smiler's, Pitsea, Essex.

DALE and D'ARGAN, conclude Big Success, Tower, New Brighton, April 23. Pier Pavilion, Southport.

DALE, JOE, the Popular Singer of Chorus Songs, This Week, Palace, Southampton; Next Week, Pavilion, Leicester.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Acts wanted, Immediate and Future Dates. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Clean, Clever, Laughable Negro Versatile Act. Dis., April 30. 1, Rectory-place, Woolwich. D.C. Lithos.

DARE, ERIC, and his Eight Cavalry Girls, in Military Scena, "The Reservist." 23rd, E., Ardwick; 30th, Coli., Glasgow. Vac. May 7.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Cyclists (Monarchs of the Wheel). April 23, Gaiety, Birmingham.

DAVIS, RYDER, and EVA WARD Finish to-night seventh return Palace, Greenwich. Lib. Mon. 41, Cambridge-st., Camberwell.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, April 23, Hippodrome, Boscombe.

DE DIO, MDLLE., The Originator of the Fire Dance. Wintergarden, Berlin. Manager, P. H. BOGGIS.

DE GRUCHY'S "Britannia" Bioscopes, Always successful. For terms address, 32, Craigie-street, Glasgow; or Transfield's Circus.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Phenomenal Marvellous Painter and Cockatoos. 3, Highgate-st., Edge Hill, Liverpool.

DELEVINES, THE, In New and Original Comedy, "Flipp and Flopp." Empire, Leeds.

DENBY and DENT, Monday, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

DENHAM, MILLIE, the Sprightly Burlesque Actress. Tremendous Success, This Week, Hippo., Hastings; Mon., Hippo., Eastbourne.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet open on Sundays.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., the Lady Foli; J. H. HAWTREY, Actor-Vocalist. Empire, Burnley.

DE VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, His Wonderful Educated Pony. Success Everywhere. Next week, Palace, Dundee.

DEWICK, DAWSON, Comedian and Versatile Vocalist. Address, 15, Pauline-street, Salford.

DILLON, CHARLIE, Eccentric Comedian. Top of the bill Hippo., Wakefield. 1, Castle-street, S. Newington, London, N.

DILLONS, BOUNCING, Comedy Gymnasts with a Novelty. Gaiety Theatre, Oldham.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, Monday next, Albert Hall, Edinburgh.

DOBITO and BUXTON, Duettists. Mon., Grand, Sheffield. Panto. Settled.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, The Vocal Trickster. Enormous Success, Hippodrome, Paisley.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Factory Nightingales. Originality and ability. Monday, Albert Hall, Southport.

DOME, The Original Comedy Clay Modeller. Palace, Plymouth.

DONNA and CLIFF, Great Success at the Standard. Fourth Engagement in Twelve Months.

DONNAS TRIO, Sensational Novelty Equilibrist and Ladder Trapeze Act. Mon. next, Empire Palace, Wolverhampton. R. CASS.

DOOLEY, SIDNEY, Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent. 55A, Booth-street, Manchester.

DORRETTA, LITTLE, the Only Juvenile Dutch Comedienne and Acrobatic Sabot Dancer. Next week, Theatre, Ryde.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, A pretty singer and dancer.—Vide Press. Gigantic Success, Alhambra, Brighton.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, Regent, Salford; April 23, Gravesend. Liberty for Panto., Principal Boy or Girl.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Patter Comedians, This, Tivoli, Shields; next, Albert Hall, Jarrow; vacant April 30, May 21.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Comedienne and Dancer. Coms., E. STEBBINGS, Manchester. 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUDLEY, SISTERS, Operatic Duettists, with Brenda Leslie's Popular Pierrots, Broadhead shortly. Assembly Rooms, Leamington.

DUNCAN and MORTON, "Ain't we Popular?" Pier Pavilion, Lytham.

DUNLOP, FRANK, and SYDNEY WALLACE, Authors and Composers, Songs, Concerted Pieces, &c. 45, Gloucester-st., Cardiff.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. The Idiotic Dude. This, Tivoli, Manchester; next, Hipp., Hull. Com., Macdermott.

DUNN, JAMES W., and MADAME MABEL LENDON, Musical Speciality Comedian and Living Statuary. Hippo., Reading.

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, Canterbury or Paragon. Letters, Canterbury Music Hall.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY (Kitty Jones). Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham.

MR. J. D. GEDDES, Heavy or Juvenile Lead, Disengaged. 61, Gurney-street, S.E.

MR. HENRY GEORGE, Mr. Arthur Collins's "Prodigal Son" Co. April 30, Marlborough Theatre, N.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD, Leading Man and Producing Plays for J. C. Williamson, Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD, Engaged by Leigh Lovel, Esq. to play Ned Annesley in "Sowing the Wind." T. R., Torquay.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON, Engaged by Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler. Add., C/o Messrs. WHEELER, O. H., Cape Town.

MR. J. B. GORDON, At Liberty. 10, Cleveland-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

MR. and MRS. A. CARLAW GRAND (Miss Rollo Deas), Light Comedy. Address, April 30, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. ERNEST GRIFFIN, Tybalt, "Romeo and Juliet." Prince's Theatre, Bristol. Disengaged May 7.

MR. FRED GROVE and Miss EMILY GROVE, "Prodigal Son" Tour, Holloway. Disengaged, May 19.

MR. LAURENCE GROVE, Fernande Mondiga in "Monte Cristo" Co. April 30. Grand Theatre, Stalybridge, or A.A.

MR. CHARLES GROVES, Jun., Carbury, "Lady of Ostend." April 30, Opera House, Burnley.

MR. CLARENCE HAGUE, At Liberty. Address, 78, St. George's-road, S.E.

MR. & MRS. AUGUSTUS HAMMOND (Marie Fontaine), Polly Bell, Bluff, "Way of the World" Co. T. R., Middlesbrough.

MR. HUBERT HARBEN, Engaged by Mr. Tree. His Majesty's Theatre.

MR. A. C. HARDIE, Grand Theatre, Woolwich, 30th, Miss Hildyard's Co. Disengaged June 9.

MR. FRANK HARDING, Address all Coms., 21, Argyll-mansions, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W. T. No. 2077, Ken.

MR. W. HARGREAVES, Disengaged May 14. Letters, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER, Stock Season, Opera House, Northampton.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY, Spencer Traughton, "Public Opinion" (South). April 30, Oxford; May 3, Cambridge.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY, with Mr. William Greet in the Autumn. Disengaged now. Freemasons' Club, Richmond.

MR. R. CALVERT HAWS, "Castles in Spain." New Royalty Theatre.

MR. T. P. HAYNES, Specially Engaged by W. W. Kelly, Esq. Grand Theatre, Fulham.

MR. JERROLD HEATHER, Lead. Autumn. Offers invited. Starring Lieut. Rokeby, Gaiety, Burnley.

MR. HORACE E. HERBERT, Lead, Mrs. A. Hamilton Warden's Company. Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

MR. DALZIEL HERON, At Liberty. Address, 39, Harpenden-road, West Norwood, S.E.

MR. A. T. HILTON, Disengaged. Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES, At liberty for Juvenile Lead. Address, Enniscoffy, Stratford-on-Avon.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD. All Business communications to be made direct to Mr. CECIL BARTH, 8, Melina-place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD (Miss Clara Earle). April 30, Grand Theatre, Fulham, Six Nights.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD (Miss Carlotta Anson). "Claudian" Co., Theatre Royal, Bath.

MR. S. HERBERT HUMBER and BEATRICE SINCLAIR, Starring, Lead and Com., "Her Wedding Day." Dis. Col., Oldham.

MR. HORACE HUNTER, Leads, Disengaged for Autumn. G. Fielding, Elephant T.; next, Ned Drayton, Alexandra, N.

MR. A. B. IMESON, Three Years' Lead Compton Comedy Co. Dis June 16. April 30, G. T., Dublin.

MR. and MRS. F. JACQUES (Miss M. Rayner), offers invited, Spring and onwards. Soubrette (con.), and Char. 52, Crowndale-rd., N.W.

MR. and MRS. EDWIN JENNER (Hettie Senior), Thank E. Hill Mitchelson, Esq., for tour. Dis. York House, Seacombe.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Compton Comedy Co. Disengaged June 16. April 30, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES, Touring the Success, "Life's Sweetest Sins." Address, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES, at Liberty. 101, Sugden-road, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. THEO. JONES and ADA MANSFIELD, Touring "Jack Sheppard." Offers invited. 33A, Talfourd-rd., Camberwell, S.E.

MR. F. JOYNSEN - POWELL, "A Royal Divorce" (Scala Production). Dis. Shortly. 49, Waldemar-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MR. WHITFORD KANE, Paul Martin in "The Duffer." Grand Theatre, Croydon. Disengaged May 12.

MR. OGILVY KEITH. Address, Charimont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. EDGAR KENT, Sir Reginald Belsize, "The Marriage of Kitty." Per. add., Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

MR. CLAUDE KING, "Twixt Axe and Crown," and "Lady Clancarty," April 30, Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. LAURENCE KINGSLEY, Déchelette and A.S.M., "Sapho," Miss Annie Bell's Co. T. R., Croydon. Next, New L., Hammersmith.

MR. J. POOLE KIRKWOOD, Mr. Leigh Lovel's Company. April 30, T. R., Torquay.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE, Disengaged for Light Comedy. Address, 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard.

MR. FRANK LACY, Garrick Theatre, W.C.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE, Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY (Jessie Price), Disengaged May 7. 3, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE, Lead. Dis. May 12. Offers invited. April 30, T. R., Worcester.

MR. EDMUND LEA, Waldorf Theatre, W.C. Address, 105 Rusthall-avenue, Bedford Park, W.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Terminating Special Fortnight of Fagin in "Oliver Twist." 100, Earl's Court-road, S.W.

MR. HERBERT LEWIS, Disengaged owing to termination of "Swiss Express" tour. Address, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON, Regrets unable to accept Mr. Yorke's offer re. en., Title-rôle "Sherlock Holmes," Waldorf T.

MR. and MRS. BERNARD J. LIELL (Miss Georgette Thierry), at Lib. Autumn. 25, Walsingham road, Hove, Sussex.

MR. ARDENE LINDEN, Disengaged for the Autumn. 55, Edward-st., Broughton, Manchester.

MR. BRUCE LINDLEY, Rehearsing old part the Tramp in R. Ganthony's new play, a Sequel to "Mars." 5, Broad-court-chambers.

MR. EDWIN LING, Dis. S.M. or Character part. 71, Kennington-road, S.E.

MR. FRANK LISTER, Napoleon, Scala Production. Dis. Autumn. 47s Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON, Heavies, Juveniles, Disengaged till Oct. 1. 311, Kentish Town-road, N.W.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY, "The Village Blacksmith" Co. Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, Disengaged. 28, Chelverton-road, Putney.

MR. EDWARD LLOYD, At liberty Autumn. C/o Post Office, Princetown, Dartmoor, Devon.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE, Mrs. L., "Dumbiedykes." G. T., Middlesbrough. Perm. add., 7, Bridson-street, Liverpool.

MR. & MRS. CHARLES L. LUDLOW (Agnes St. Clair), C.L.L., at Liberty. 64, Hove-avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW, Heavy Lead, "A Royal Divorce" To-day, T. R., Aldershot; Next, G. T., Nottingham.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG, Lord Bellingham in "The Beauty of Bath." Aldwych Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY. Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green." En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. J. T. MACMILLAN, Disengaged. 1, Rochdale-place, Mount Florida, Glasgow.

MR. GEORGE MALLETT, Disengaged May 14. Parts or Management. "Public Opinion" Co., King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. and MRS. W. MANFREE (Amy Wood) and AMY MANFREE, "Silver King" Co. Dis. Joint or Single. 172, Camberwell New-rd.

MR. WILFRID PERCY MANSFIELD, Captain Maitland, "Tommy Atkins," County T., Reading; next, Grand, Brighton.

MR. JERROLD MANVILLE, Disengaged. 105, Allison-road, Harringay, N.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER, At Liberty. Address, 18A, Hartswood-road, Wendell Park, W.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL, Wibsey, in "Public Opinion." April 30, Oxford. May 3, Cambridge.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL. Address, April 30, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. HENRY W. MAY. All Kinds of Music Composed and Orchestrated. Pantomimes, &c. Add., C/o "The Era."

MR. QUINTON McPHERSON, Character Comedy Stage Management. At Liberty. 18, Bonneville-gds., Clapham Park, S.W.

MR. CYRIL MELTON, Dis. Stage Manager, Producer, Character, Heavy, &c. Add., 130, Linkfield-road, Isleworth.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR MERVYN, Juvenile Leading Business. Arrangements complete till Autumn. T. R., Stockport.

MR. BERTRAM MILLAR, Address, 47, West 28th Street, New York City, U.S.A.

MR. GEORGE MILLER, Disengaged. Address, 409, Edgware-road, W.

MR. JO MONKHOUSE, The Versatile Actor. Offers invited. 19, Bengeworth-road, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY, MARIE HARCOURT, Napoleon and Marcel, "Napoleon the Great" Co. Theatre Royal, Aston.

MR. G. M. MONTANINI, Address, Theatre Royal, Halifax.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS, Disengaged, Heavy Lead, &c. Perm. Add., The Blorenge, Taunton.

MR. FRED MORGAN, Heavies, Character. Disengaged May 7. 6, Ardville House, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

MR. and MRS. TOM MOWBRAY (Miss Edith Ife), Disengaged. Address, 133, Lavender-sweep, Lavender Hill, S.W.

MR. DOUGLAS MUNRO, Disengaged Shortly, for Stage and General-Management, or Parts. T. R., Belfast.

MR. ARTHUR B. MURRAY, Address, 11, Florence-road, New Cross, S.E.

MR. DAVID G. NOBLE, Lead, "Love that Women Desire." Offers invited June 11, on. Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. PERCY NORMAN, Arrangements complete till Autumn.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY, Heavy Lead, "The Prodigal Parson. April 30, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

MR. & MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM (Dorothy Carington), Mrs. Trevelyan, Rev. Floyd, "Sweet and Twenty." April 30, Preston.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON, Lead, "Man's Enemy." ANNA BEAUMONT, Cornelia. Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. ERNEST OWTTRIM, Disengaged. Address, 33, Grove-lane, Camberwell, London, S.E.

MR. GUS OXLEY, Daly's Theatre, W.

MR. F. M. PAGET, on Tour, "Brier Bush" Co., until June. Lib. for Aut. 121, Victoria-st., Westminster.

MR. ROBSON PAIGE, Disengaged May 5th, Conclusion of Tour with Forbes Robertson, Esq. April 29th, Royal, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. MARK PATON (Miss Mabel Rees), Disengaged, for Character and Comedy. 1, Stockwell-avenue, Brixton, S.W.

MR. POPE PAX, Journalist and Dramatic Critic, Address, 18, Trinity-road, Birmingham.

MR. & MRS. W. KINGSFORD PEARCE (Miss Wynne Hanley). S.M., "The Duffer" Co., Grand Theatre, Croydon. Disengaged May 12.

MR. SAM T. PEARCE, Stage Management and Character. At Liberty. Theatre Royal, Manchester.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE, Monks, in "Oliver Twist" (Mr. Tree's Co.), April 30, T. R., Nottingham. Disengaged May 21.

MR. FRED PENLEY, Disengaged. Address, Gt. Queen's Street Theatre.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN (Miss Florence Le Clercq), Mr. Wheeler's Comedy Co., Cape Town, South Africa; or A.A.

MR. EDWARD S. PETLEY, At Liberty for Heavies, Juveniles, or Character. Torquay Villa, Arlington Park, Chiswick, W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY (Miss Gertrude Price), "The Other Man's Business" Co. April 30, Opera House, Southport.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP, General-Manager, Coms., Care of "The Era."

MR. HARRY PHYDORA. Resting by Doctor's Orders. Resume Business Shortly.

MR. WILLIAM PIMM, Isaacs, "A Rogue's Daughter." Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

MR. FELIX PITT, Disengaged May 14 until August. 172, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MR. & MRS. FREDERICK POWELL, Offers invited. 256, Penton-place, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MR. JAMES L. POWER, "Silver King" Co. Disengaged, Comedy and Character. 89, Earl-street, Edgware-road, N.W.

MR. SYDNEY PRICE, at Liberty, Care of "The Era" Office.

MR. CYRIL PRICE - EVANS, Wilfred, in "Lucky Miss Dean," Harrogate and Buxton. Dis. Autumn, Character Com.

MR. DONALD PRICE-EVANS, Dis. for Few Weeks. Char. Com. King's, Hammersmith. Next, Summersdale, Chichester.

MR. and MRS. WALTER PURVIS (Miss Lily Brammer). "H.M. Guests." Disengaged shortly. T. R., Dewsbury.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR, Business-Manager for Mr. Bert Coote. All communications, 150, Oxford-street, W.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF, S. R., Davy, "Sunday" Co., H. M. T., Aberdeen.

MR. PERCY RHODES, Disengaged now, and for Autumn. 54, St. Maur-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON, Mr. Geo. Edwardes' "Lady Madcap" Co. Dis. Summer, Autumn, Christmas T. R., Belfast.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD, Weinstein and Stage Management, "What the Butler Saw," Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD, at Liberty. Permanent address, 34A, Aldis-street, Tooting, S.W.

MR. WALTER ROBERTS, Rudolph Laski, "Passion's Power." April 30, Royalty Theatre. Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON, Thanks Mr. Lovel for offer of Lysander, "Dream." 43, New Oxford-st., W.C.

MR. G. STAPELTON ROCHE, Light Comedy, &c. Belmeath, Upper Dorset-road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

MR. BASSETT ROE, Camden Theatre, Camden Town.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS. Address all communications, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

MR. HOWARD RUSSELL, Dr. Olsen, "The Prodigal Son" Tour. Dis. May 12. 88A, Queen's-road, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. FREDERICK SANDY Concludes with A. Melville, Esq Disengaged till Aug. Met., Birmingham.

MR. and MRS. FREDERICK SANDY, Re-engaged by Andrew Melville, Esq. for Autumn. Dis. Add., 11, Rumsey-rd., Brixton, S.W.

MR. STEPHEN E. SCANLAN, Disengaged June and July. Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT, Principal Comedy, "Great Awakening" Co. Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN, Tommy Keston, "The Freedom of Suzanne." April 30, Theatre Royal, Norwich.

MR. ERNEST SHIEL-PORTER and MISS DORRIE DAY (Mrs. E. S.-P.). Queen's T., Fleetwood. At lib. shortly. Offers invited.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and Character, Disengaged, May 13, 2 weeks, "Freedom of Suzanne," New Theatre, Norwich.

MR. FRED SINCLAIR, Hippodrome (Oxford-road), Manchester.

MR. JAMES SKEA, Character Actor, "Lady of Ostend," and "Saucy Sally" Co., Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

MR. GEO. M. SLATER, Manager and Producer. 39, Upper Gloucester-pl., Dorset-sq., London, N.W.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY, Manager for Mr. Robt. Courtneidge, Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. FRANK STANLEY, Acting-Manager, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. E. STANTON - SHARP, Baron Bonelli in "The Eternal City." April 30, T. R., Plymouth. Disengaged May 6.

MR. W. R. STAVELEY, "Little Father of the Wilderness" and "Mountain Climber," King's T., Hammersmith.

MR. and MRS. W. S. STEVENSON (Miss Evelyn Robson) thank F. J. Little, Esq. for comfortable engt. April 30, Met. T., Glasgow.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING, Lead, Heavies. Present Arrangements Complete.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES R. STONE, Comedy or Character, at Liberty. 140, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

MR. GEORGE STONE, Resident Manager (Twelfth Year), Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY-GORTON, "Cymbeline," 101 Times, Queen's, Manchester. At Liberty. Address, c/o "The Era."

MR. WALLACE STRANACK, Engaged by John Hart, Esq., for new production. Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS, Engaged by Chas. Frohman, KATE PARRY, Disengaged. Light Com., Juv., &c. O. H. Leicester.

MR. ALGERNON SYMS, Disengaged May 14, for Good Tour, Leading Business. Perm., 3, Springdale-rd., Clissold Park, N.

MR. TAPPING. Address, 23, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR Concludes 30 weeks with Miss Maxine Elliott. Knickerbocker-buildings, Broadway, New York.

MR. JAMES C. TAYLOR, As Benvolio in "Romeo and Juliet." Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. J. MILNE TAYLOR, Heavies, Character. Disengaged May 28, "The Golden Ladder" Co. Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. ALLEN THOMAS, Address, 75, Marlborough-st., Walton-st., Chelsea, London.

MR. and MRS. E. W. THOMAS (Agnes Knights). The Attic, 38, Grafton-square, Clapham Common.

MR. WYLIE A. THOMPSON, Dude, Light Comedy, Disengaged. Bridgen, Bexley, Kent.

MR. WALTER THORNTON Leading Business. Disengaged shortly. April 30, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. TRUEMAN TOWERS, Producer and Stage Manager. Dis. Autumn and Panto. Address, 55, Grove Crescent-rd., Stratford, E.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL, "Breed of the Treshams." Dis. May 7. Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

MR. A. W. TYRER, As Harry Dallas, "Walls of Jericho" Co. April 30, T. R., Portsmouth. Dis. May 27.

MR. GEORGE UNWIN, Business Manager for Miss Minnie Palmer.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE (Kate Hallam), General Manager and Lead, "Drama of Life" Co., Eden T., B. Auckland.

MR. RICHARD VANE, Special Week, Ned Annesley. Dis. May 7, Address, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN (Miss Miriam Lewes). Mr. Vaughan at Lib. for Autumn. 25, Kathleen-road, S.W.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON, "A Royal Divorce," at Liberty in May. Grand Theatre, Fulham.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR, Capt. Peyton, Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner," Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS (Miss Lucy Blaumont), Conclude Tour, May 19. Disengaged. Next, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT, Disengaged. Address, 10, Brunswick-square, W.C.

MR. A. E. WALKER, Mr. Vallerton, "Lucky Durham" Co. Next Week, Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

MR. ALBERT WARD, Star Lead, Brixton T., Disengaged May 7, 55, Doddington-grove, Kennington Park.

MR. HYLTON WARDE, Messrs. B. & F. Wheeler's Comedy Co., South African Tour. Perm., 17, Doris-rd., Norwich, or A.A.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE, Disengaged. 47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY, Theatrical Agency, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, 'Phone, 3781 Cen. Tel., "Frivolous, London."

MR. WYN WEAVER, Permanent Address, 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. CHARLES WEIR, Disengaged May 5. Theatre Royal, Manchester.

MR. & MRS. ALFRED WELLESLEY (Miss Beatrice Webb), "Dr. Wake's Patient" Co. At Liberty May 21; next, T. R., Hanley.

MR. HAROLD WEST, Dis. May 14, Termination of "Public Opinion" Tour. Add., King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. C. A. WHITE, at Liberty June 2, for Summer and Autumn. "Twixt Axe and Crown" Co., Royalty T., Glasgow.

MR. & MRS. TOWNSEND WHITLING (Violet Ley). "Freedom of Suzanne." T. R., Norwich.

MR. JACKSON WILCOX, Horatio Drake, "The Christian." May 30, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

MR. AYLMER J. WILLIAMS, A.A., Dis. Offers invited. Arist., Old Men, or Character. April 30, G. P. O., Ilkeston, Derbys.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS, Six Brothers Luck Company. Middlesex and South London.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS. Juv. Lead. Dis. May 12. Thanks Mr. Gerant, Offer of Re-engagement. The Blorenge, Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS, Charles IX., "Count Hannibal." April 30, New T., Cambridge.

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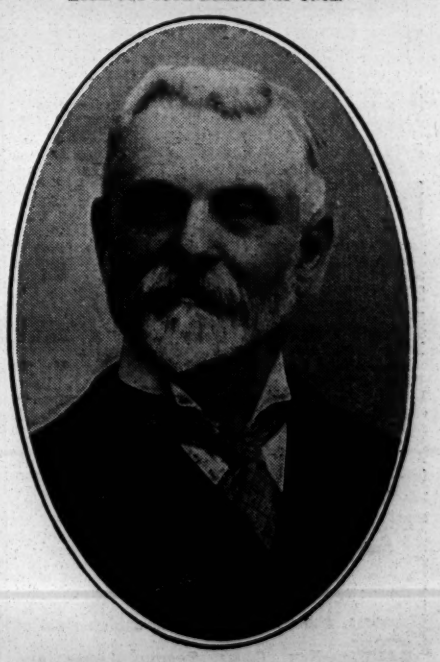

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—His Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Harry Fischer's company is appearing in an attractive Scottish musical comedy this week. Mr. Arthur Cartwright, who takes the part of Guy Chalmers, an impecunious student, sings admirably, and Miss Hettie Gale also shows much musical talent as Maisie. Mr. Peter D. Bermingham is exceedingly amusing as an ex-Bailie of the humorously farcical type; and much good work is likewise contributed by Mr. Leon Simkim as Montague Migg, Mr. Clifford Morgan as Prince Izan, Mr. Harry Stuart as the Hon. Bobby, and Mr. Dan O'Connor as Rory. The dancing of the Monte Carlo Troupe is also highly appreciated.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The programme this week includes a number of excellent sketch companies, Mr. Harry Tate's combination appearing in his exceedingly diverting farce, entitled *Motoring*; and Miss Kitty Clover and her company also make a great success with *Mr. There's Heir*. The Karno Trio appear to distinct advantage in *The Travellers' Rest*; and the same can be said of the Three Prestons in *The Liftman's Rise*. Mr. Johnny Worman, comedian, is as popular as ever, and Mr. Russell Wallett shows himself to be an exceedingly clever female impersonator. Miss Madge Daly is a vivacious comedienne; Michel and Polo are adepts in gymnastic and balancing feats; Mr. Bob Nicol excels as a mimic, and Speedwell puts in some very rapid work as a "lightning portrait-painter."

Cooke's Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—Mr. Cooke is now in the second week of his present visit to the city, and the success attending the performances is very gratifying. In addition to the fine exhibition of horsemanship by members of the Cooke family, Mr. Leicester and Miss Ernestine Rosa, the principal attraction is perhaps Karduc, the handcuff and gaol breaker; his feats are certainly remarkable. Among the other turns are the Martinettis in a humorous sketch *The Mad Music Master*; the Eccentric Flynn and Haddic, Mr. C. Stelling and his exceptionally clever and well-trained dog Kismaski, Funny Neddy Vokes and his dummy son, and Du Caillon, the lightning ladder climber.

ABERTILLERY.—Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—This week Mr. Redan Smith's new musical comedy *The Girl from the Halls* is being performed in capital style by Miss Edith Isabelle's No. 1 London company. The part of the Rev. Hezekiah Twinkle is well taken by Mr. Chas. Ross, Mr. Geo. Elsworth gives a capable rendering of Jack Weston, Mr. Cecil W. Parke is responsible for the Hon. Richard Graham, his fine voice being heard to advantage; and Mr. Cliffe Owen makes a typical John Robbs. Miss Lilian De Vere and Miss Connie Laurie are charming as the Hon. Frederick Augustus Humphum and Janey respectively, their singing and dancing being much appreciated. Miss Edith Isabelle is responsible for an effective interpretation of Minnie Weston.

ACCRINGTON.—New Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—The bill provided here includes the New York Comedy Four, a really good turn; Lilly Arthur, chic and clever, is well received; Silvo is popular; and B. Athol scores with "Dreamland," a vocal scena. Agnes McKellar has a good soprano voice; Dunningarto is worthy of mention; Haig and Novel, in a refined comedy act, and the Hippo pictures complete a capital programme.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company opened here on Monday with *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. T. Arthur Jones gives a manly impersonation of Captain H. Marston; Dr. Colbrooke is a good performance by Mr. Oswald Duglas; Kimberley Coutts is well played by Mr. Robert Sawin; Mr. Charles Sewell deserves to be complimented on his Rev. Ed. Gray; Miss Marie Daventry gives an artistic rendering of Doreen Rivers; Miss Sara Dudley is good as Bess Grayson; Miss Mary Ainslie is well cast as Fay Colbrooke.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—*A Royal Divorce*, played by Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, is the attraction here this week. Miss Lilian Dundas gives a talented rendering of Josephine; Miss Muriel Thompson submits an effective embodiment of the cynical Marie Louise, and Miss Gertrude Entwistle's is an acceptable Stephanie; Miss B. F. Stewart does well as Gouvernante and Blanche, whilst the young King is ably played by Miss G. Kendrick. Mr. Fred Moyes is fresh here as Napoleon, and his efforts are successful; Mr. H. G. Dolby is good as Talleyrand; Mr. H. Ludlow as Marquis de Beaumont is well placed, and Mr. C. L. Brocknor's General Angereau is capably played. Messrs. T. W. Ford, H. Powell, and Dennis Bryan as Corvisart and Grimaud respectively also do well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Empire, Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The sensational automaton, Enigmarelle, produced by Mr. F. Ireland, is attracting crowded houses here this week; the famous Haley's Prize Juveniles (about a score of very able youngsters), prettily dressed, and trained in singing and evolutions, display remarkable talent, notably Dot and Spot, the smallest duettists before the public; Messrs. Hess and Lisbon are a well-matched pair, and give a graceful and exceedingly clever exhibition of roller skating and comedy; Billy Richardson, with his famous stump speech, received a hearty welcome; Bertha Stuart, a sweet singer of Scottish songs, was loudly applauded; Rice and Rudge are very good in the manipulation of wheels of various kinds, and create considerable amusement; Rosa Finlay, with her pleasant smile, pretty costumes, and faultless rendering of a top-boot skipping-rope dance, won loud plaudits; and Lilian Dorie, a clever and daring trapesist, was well received; Marti and Juliette, in an acrobatic display on pyramids of chairs, give a daring and clever display, which was greatly appreciated; hearty applause was accorded Ada Marjutti, the "Flexible Venus," who, in a striking scene, entitled, "From Demon to Fairyland," gives a sensational display of contortion, in graceful style; interesting bioscope pictures represent "Oxo Cattle Farms."

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Legitimate drama has this week been superseded by a variety company, under the direction of Mr. Edward Ranier, the principal feature of which is a sketch, entitled *The Bank Robbery*. Other items in the programme are contributed by Miss Millie Howell; Wright and Elton, acrobatic duologue artists; Knoto, the "man serpent"; a sketch, entitled *The Blinding Light*; Mr. Leo Fallowfield, eccentric comedian; Maynard and France, in a skit, "A Perfect Lady"; and Mr. Walter Payne's biograph.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—A capital programme is provided here this week. A sensational dramatic episode, entitled *Beneath a Mask*, is sustained in good style by Mr. J. Wright Aitken, Mr. Percy Stevenson, Miss Una Wright, and Miss Daisy Norman; Mozetto is a clever juggler; Kloof and Ramsey (lady and gentleman) are responsible for much fun in a vocal and musical act; as usual, Mr. E. C. Clayton has an excellent selection of pictures; the Pender Troupe are seen to advantage in a laughable absurdity, *Hands Up*; other turns are provided by Mr. Charles Tempest, comedian; the Continental stilt-walkers; and Miss Ida Fair. The Palace orchestra is now under the able direction of Mr. W. H. Chambers, who has brought it to a high state of efficiency.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Mr. Marcus Boyle's variety company is here this week, headed by Marcus Boyle, comedian. Miss Ada Whitton, male impersonator, contributes some good songs; Jim Elvo, comedian, meets with a favourable reception; the Royal Saxonias give a good account of themselves in their musical mélange; and others who do well are Urquhart, in his marvellous upside-down performance; the Lovelaces, with their singing pictures; George Wyres, comedian; and Mayon and Marle, in their comic interlude, *Elizabeth and the Baby*. Professor Gluckenstein's Royal Bioscope, with up-to-date pictures, is also an attraction.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company, in *The Branded Woman*, is here this week. Mr. J. Stillwell does remarkably well in the dual rôles of Philip Maurice and Larka, the hunchback; and Mr. Beckett Bould is particularly happy as the gay Dick Brown. Mr. Edward Fryer and Mr. Paul E. Teulon are exceptionally good as Leon Baron Hauber and Louis Deroc respectively; Miss Renee Glendower plays Genevieve, the branded woman, with great distinction; Miss Kitty McPherson is a vivacious Jacqueline; Miss Katherine Barnett an expressive and charming Marie; and Miss Hilda Townsend a promising Rodolph.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge took their first benefit here on the first three nights of the week. Mr. and Mrs. Routledge have only been responsible for the management of the theatre since August last, but they have very considerably increased the popularity of the house; they have engaged some excellent companies, and the appreciation of the public has been shown by greatly increased receipts. Mr. Routledge received a most enthusiastic reception when he came in front of the curtain to thank, on behalf of his wife and self, the audience, orchestra, staff, and all concerning, for the hearty support they had given them on this, their first annual benefit. The management were fortunate in securing Mr. E. Lockwood's company, in the successful musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*, for this occasion. Mr. Arthur Reynolds, in the title-rôle, does himself considerable credit, and thoroughly appreciates the humour of the situation. In the hands of Mr. Charles McLagan, Crookie Scrubbs is a capital part, his quaint humour keeping the house in roars of laughter; the Lady Bickenhall of Miss Lily Lingard, who has a fine stage presence and taking manner, is an excellent performance; Mr. E. Percy Rodgers as Michael Brue makes the most of the part; Mr. Arthur Stroud is a capital Gerald Treherne, and sings his songs with good taste; and the duets with Aurora Brue, Miss Eva Weigh, who sings very pleasantly, are well received. Mr. Clarence Napier as Inspector Gorringe is capital. On Thursday and Friday, Mr. Arthur Bourchier and company appeared in *The Walls of Jericho*.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The star turn here this week is Lew Lake and company, in the farce, entitled *The Bloomsbury Burglars*. Abel and Welsh, grotesque eccentrics, are paying a welcome return visit; Bert Harrow is a good comedian, with quaint songs; Baroni and Kemp, protean entertainers, give a capital show; Pete and Lee sing very well; Lillian Travelli is a pleasing comedian; and Sam Dalton is a capable comedian.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*The Great Awakening* is here, with Miss Maud Hildyard starring in the character of Lola Selby. She receives generally good support from her company, in which Miss Doris Digby sustains with ability the heroine Molly Merton. Mr. A. C. Hardie is well placed as James Selby; the dual impersonation of Sir Henry Merton and his son Jack are cleverly portrayed by Mr. Bernard Copping; Mr. Charles Vivian as Guy Rogan is duly heartless, Harry Lambert is enacted with conviction by Mr. Herbert Evelyn, Mr. Herbert Sidney loks and acts the part of Richard Wilson, and credit is due to Mr. Tracy Barrow for his fussy impersonation of the French waiter Antoine. The comedy element is quite safe with Miss Ida Bellington as Selina Worts and Mr. Willie Scott as Billy Brass.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—This week Dutch Daly, with his ever-ready wit and clever concertina playing, is scoring his usual hit; Allis and Cassati provide a singing, dancing, and comedy interlude that secures for them hearty applause; Mersano, as a palmer of coins and in other sleight of hand tricks, is surprising to a degree; Gertie Moore, comedienne and dancer, gains her biggest success with her big boot rag-time dance; Bishop and Hanlon give a boisterous knockabout acrobatic comedy act that finds favour, and return visits are paid by the Bros. Ashley in their well-known boxing sketch *Next Please*, the Darrell Trio of accomplished musicians and vocalists and the Sisters Hall (duettists)—all of whom continue popular. Raymond's Bio-tableaux exhibit new and interesting pictures.

Assembly Rooms.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Howes.—On Monday afternoon Mr. Rutland Barrington, assisted by Miss Robertson Grimston, gave a delightful humorous and musical recital before an appreciative audience.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—*The Prodigal Son* is being followed attentively here by interested audiences. Mr. Alfred H. Cook's company includes Mr. J. P. McBride, a competent and conscientious actor; Mr. Hal Lowe, a crisp and convincing exponent of Bill Burke; Mr. W. A. Buckstone, a sound actor; Mr. John S. Chamberlain, a thoroughly successful Irish comedian; Mr. John Bryce, a satisfactory exponent of a heavy part; Miss Rosie Kearns, a chic comedienne; Miss Marion Forrester, a good actress; Miss Nora Bedford, a patient and pathetic figure in the play; and Miss Nellie Hook, a bright, alert, and attractive exponent of a boy's part.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. John Leopold's company, in the farcical comedy, *New Frivolity*. Mr. Tom Leopold as Professor Fumble, Mr. Willie Leopold as Tickle, the page, Mr. Joe Leopold as Student No. 1, and Mr. Ernest Leopold as Student No. 2, with Mr. John Leopold, jun., as Daniel Teething afford an excellent rollicking entertainment of fun and gymnastics. Mr. Watson Hume as Oliver Buckwheat, Mr. Wilfred Vaughan as Jules Vermiglio, and Mr. Barry Lupino as Samuel Vermiglio are also responsible for plenty of good humour. Miss Minnie West makes a charming schoolgirl, and Miss Queenie Bronte is a pleasing Manenette. The troupe of lady dancers give an excellent entertainment.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Notwithstanding the success of the Easter pantomime, *Dick Whittington*, it must of necessity be withdrawn to-night owing to the important engagement of Mr. George Edwardes' company in *Lady Madcap* commencing on Monday night. Last night Mr. Neil Kenyon, who has made such an enormous hit during the run of the pantomime, took his benefit—a well-deserved compliment indeed. Mr. Warden has undoubtedly every reason to be satisfied with the success of this Easter annual.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Frece.—Mr. Sam Elton, the smart comedy juggler, tops the bill, and his capital act has been successful. A novelty is submitted in the appearance of Young Colossus and L'Homme Miniature, the contrast between the two men being remarkably striking. Mr. Otto Menotti appears to much advantage in his startling novelty, "The Twentieth Century Cycling Track," his various feats causing quite a sensation. Kopski's clever performance at the piano is received with enthusiasm; and the Cribb Trio appear in their original comedy scena, *Idle Fellows with Idle Thoughts*. The Three Ettenas in their wonderful speciality on the globes; Miss Gladys Archbutt, comedienne and dancer; Mr. Tom Collins, comedian; Miss Beattie Kent, vocalist and dancer; and the Palace Pictures complete.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr John A. Walker.—Mr. Joe Elvin's company tops the bill with the exhilarating sketch, *'Appy 'Ampstead*, which has created roars of laughter. Mr. Maitland Marler, in Mr. Elvin's part, has been most successful. Mr. Herbert Shelley, the clever actor-vocalist, appears to much advantage in his scena, *The Fox and Hounds Inn*; and a hit has been made by Mr. Jas. Stewart, "the original tramp at the piano." Mr. David Poole is a smart ventriloquist; and others appearing are Miss Gracie Grahame, a charming comedienne; Mr. Jas. Fawn, a comedian who is always up-to-date; and Mr. Bert Byrne, comedian.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Queen Le Brunn and company head the list here, and have been most successful with their sporting absurdity, *The Cockney Huntsman*. Captain Devereaux introduces with much effect his wonderful troupe of trained dogs; and Mr. Lawrence Barclay, a versatile comedian, creates much merriment with his humorous songs. Fred Andre and Miss Lillie Brenton gain much approval with a comedy sketch. The new pictures exhibited by the Alhambra Bioscope are decidedly entertaining; and Mr. Louis Kerno, comedian; Miss Mary Glenn, vocalist; Lack and Ford, comedy acrobats; and Mr. Harry Nelson, comedian, also contribute.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—*The Babes in the Wood*, now called an Easter pantomime, is presented here for the current week by Gus Levaine and Clayton's company. Miss Jessie Lindsay makes a dashing Robin Hood, and sings well; a pretty vocalist and dancer is found in Miss Lizzie Levaine; Misses Florry Anderson and Gertrude Bingham as Allan-a-Dale and Helen are a smart pair, dancing and singing together admirably; and the Babes, little Lilly Belle and wee Madge Bingham, are also good step dancers; Mr. Harry Sully as the Baron is supported in his amusing stage villany by Weary Willie and Tired Tim, a couple of characters well suited to the frisky and mischievous propensities of Fred Fosco and Dave Anderson. Among the specialities are Percy Victor's dog orchestra, Mons. Fosco's harmonics, Eddie Clay, the tramp musician, Bonando, comedy juggler, and special dances by the Valmores and Ruby Quartette.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company in the comedy *Dr. Wake's Patient* succeeds in presenting an entertainment which at once secures the interest and promotes the enjoyment of large audiences. It is seldom that anything better is seen than the performance of Mr. Alfred Wellesley in the rôle of Andrew Wake, the Doctor's father, a rendering which is received with the heartiest applause; Lady Gerania is admirably played by Miss Olive Terry; Mr. Douglas Vigors gives a capital interpretation of Dr. Forrester Wake; Mr. Herbert Ross is a general favourite by reason of a highly-finished and humorous performance of Duff Wynterden, and Mr. Arthur Willoughby admirably impersonates the Earl of St. Olbyn. Miss Amy Fauchette displays great ability as Mrs. Wake; Miss Ina Pelly is an irreproachable Countess of St. Olbyn, and Miss Beatrice Webb is a charming Harriet Bronson. Mr. Cecil Mapp is entertaining as the Bishop of Selby, and the remainder of the caste render excellent service. The production is carefully staged.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Karno's Comedians are in the second week of a highly successful engagement, and on Monday evening presented a new sketch for the first time in the provinces, entitled *The Smoking Concert*. The production may be fairly termed a "screamer," and was received with the utmost cordiality; it has been repeated twice each evening during the week. A prominent feature here is a welcome return visit from Mr. Dan Crawley, the popular character comedian, and Frazer and Mac in their amusing and clever interlude are also an undeniable attraction. Miss Lilian Bishop is a vocalist of exceptional ability; and the excellent company also includes Clifton and Gibson (character comedian and mimic), Miss Florence Schubert (a talented comedienne), and the latest football pictures by the Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway. The Moody-Manners Opera Company has during the passing fortnight given striking performances from their extensive repertoire, including one special novelty, to wit, Tschaikowsky's *Eugene Onegin*, which they produced for the first time in Birmingham on Friday last week. This proved an artistic triumph for all concerned, band, chorus, and principals all being hailed with acclamations. Madame Fanny Moody as Tatiana sang her brightest and best, and scored brilliantly; Mr. Lewys James as Eugene rose to all exigencies, and the other rôles were handled to excellent advantage, Mr. Charles Manners, in answer to the furore, making a capital speech of thanks. The engagements has been concluded this week by representations of *Lohengrin*, *Faust*, *Carmen*, *Tannhauser*, *Lucia Di Lammermoor*, *The Bohemian Girl*, and *Eugene Onegin*, all of which have been well attended and enthusiastically applauded.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. Forbes Robertson is fulfilling a welcome engagement here in *Mice and Men*, *Mrs. Grundy*, and *The Light that Failed*, attended by Miss Gertrude Elliott and company. *Mrs. Grundy* was staged on Tuesday, and Mr. Forbes Robertson as the pure-minded manly clergyman Edward Sotheby, delighted all with his rare, polished acting, Miss Gertrude Elliott gives an enchanting performance as the widow (Mrs. Patullo), Miss Auriol Lee submits a clever and a charming view of the rôle of Kitty Barson, Mr. J. H. Ryley scores in the humorous rôle of Joe Puddiford, Mr. Chas. Weir and Miss Minnie Griffin are successful as Mr. and Mrs. Jevons, Master Herbert Brown is much admired as Little Jack, and Miss Gertrude Bibby, Miss Esme Hubbard, Miss Dorris Lytton, Miss Dorothy Pagett, Mr. Vernon Steel (who acts strenuously as the lover), Mr. Robson Paige, and Mr. Herbert Dansey are conspicuous in the cast. Mr. Ian Robertson deputised on Monday for Mr. Forbes Robertson, who was on that night the guest of the Shakespeare Society.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—Mr. J. W. Turner concludes a highly successful three weeks' operatic season this evening. Several rare old favourites have been essayed, including *The Waterman*, in which Mr. Turner continues to sing and act as Tom Tug with undiminished power and verve. Mr. Turner has also delighted his admirers as Count Rupert in *Satanella*, Don Cæsar de Bazan in *Maritana*, and others of his popular rôles; while his principal support has been forthcoming from Mr. F. J. Hargrave, Mr. Chas. Le Seur, Mr. John Ridding, Mr. Sidney Clifford, Mr. Harry Thornton, Mr. L. Cummings, Miss Kitty Brownlees, Miss Maude Esdale, Miss Jessie Dennis, Miss Constance Belmy, and others. *Il Trovatore*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, *Faust*, *Martha*, *Satanella*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment* have constituted the week's programme.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Sign of the Cross* has made a powerful appeal here played by Mr. William Greet's company. Mr. W. F. Grant is cast for the rôle of Marcus Superbus, which he makes intensely powerful and dignified. Miss Marie Leonhard represents the gentle traits of the martyr Mercia in a sweet and ennobling manner, Mr. J. Boyd Pearson ably depicts the ignoble character of Nero, Miss Ivy Millais as the boy Stephanas is to be commended for her cleverly poignant acting, Mr. Frank Wood's bibulous Glabrio is welcome for its drollery, and the other rôles are well played, as witness Mr. Chas. Aldred as Tigellinus, Mr. Harry Jones as Philodemus, Miss Nelly Bonser as Poppœa, Miss Alma Bolton as Berenice, Miss Cissy Carlton as Dacia, and Mr. Walter Fleet as Favius.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager Mr. Andrew Melville.—*A Queen of Villainy* is presented here with much success by Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company. Miss Edith Blande is engaged for the rôle of Cora Granville, which, with her powerful acting, she makes the dominant character of the play. Miss Shirley Dalton presents the rôle of Rose Delmayne in sympathetic tints, Miss Amy Ross Clyde gives a clever character sketch of Mother Damnable (otherwise Sally Chimes), Miss Jessie Crammonde affords much amusement as Mollie Maggs, Mr. Chas. Rogers enacts the tourist (Timothy Kodac) with much humour, Mr. E. G. Batley gives a manly rendering of the hero Alec, Mr. Edward Heanley submits a bold portrayal of the accomplice, Stephen Fausit, and Messrs. A. E. Maskell and Chas. Stirling, in the respective rôles of Reuben Hawk and Dick Leinster, act in an exceedingly meritorious way.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, as represented here this week by Mr. Sanderson Moffat's company, preserves all its old attractions. Mr. Sanderson Moffat acts most satisfactorily as Bob Brierley, Mr. Edwin T. Kisby is realistic as James Dalton, Mr. Walter Dale shines as his ally Melter Moss, Mr. R. S. Trelawney acts as the detective in the most approved style, Miss Phyllis Graham gives a graceful presentment of the rôle of Sam Willoughby, Miss Harriet Russell acts the garrulous part of Mrs. Willoughby cleverly, Miss Phyllis Hamilton gets due sympathy as May Edwards, and Mr. Jas. Wilton is successful as Mr. Gibson. On Friday, *East Lynne* occupied the bill for the benefit of Miss Hamilton.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whitties.—*The Village Blacksmith* is fulfilling a popular return engagement here, securing for Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company a hearty welcome. Mr. Sam Livesey imbues the titular rôle with a robustious spirit that gains him much popularity, Mr. Joseph Carter excels as the villain athlete, Miss Laura Walker holds the audience in deep sympathy as the falsely-accused wife, Miss Maggie Edwards scores in the rôle of Ruth Parkins, and sings a favourite ballad with much taste; Mr. Edwin Maydew enacts the cat's-paw, Marlow, in a clever style; and Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Sal Parkins, Mr. T. E. Marshalls as Jeremiah, Mr. G. V. Campbell as Billy Twigg, Miss Edith Giddens as Martha Mopps, and Miss Bertha Hanbury as the child give excellent portrayals.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—The patrons of this place of amusement are this week enjoying Messrs. Ediscope and Barnum's variety company. Mr. Vic Verney, whistling comedian, is accorded very hearty applause for his efforts; the Two Allies give a clever juggling performance; the Vervaines, coon vocalists and dancers, make quite a hit; Miss Queenie Vane is loudly encored for her step-dancing; Mons. Aerie, gymnast and equilibrist, performs some smart acrobatic feats; Miss Lulu, the lady instrumentalist, in her illuminated garden scene, is responsible for a pleasing entertainment; a series of interesting and amusing pictures is nightly given by the cinematograph, which completes an enjoyable programme.

BLACKBURN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company (under the management of Mr. Peter Davey) is drawing crowded houses to the "cosy Royal" with the play *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. Miss Cynthia Broke is playing the impetuous Miss Elizabeth, and invests the part with a charming naturalness which has appealed strongly to local lovers of the drama. Mr. Frederick Victor is a manly Captain Harry Peyton and a striking contrast to the craven Major John Colden, which is played by Mr. Elliott Ball, who does well in a somewhat ungrateful rôle. The necessary vein of comedy is well introduced by Miss Leonora Braham as Mistress Williams, and Mr. Sidney Young as Mr. Valentine. The parts of Molly Edwards (Miss Phyllis Back), John Edwards (Mr. A. Carlow Grand), Sergt. Carrington (Mr. Donald Young), Black Sam (Mr. Tom Taylor), and Cuff (Mr. J. Thomas) are also well done. The play has been preceded each evening by a comedietta *Domestic Bliss*, in which Mr. A. Carlow Grand and Miss Rollo Deas appear.

New Province Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—*The Coal King*, which forms the attraction at this house, naturally appeals to Lancashire audiences, in that the scene of the drama is laid near Wigan, and the different phases of mining life are realistically shown. The company is an excellent one. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland acts well in the part of Tom Roberts, and is sympathetically supported by Miss Gertrude Valentine, who makes a charming heroine; Mr. Joseph Millaine is good as the villainous son of the Coal King, and a capital study of Mad Ann, a village character, is given by Miss Joan Wellman.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—the famous Dr. Walford Bodie, bloodless surgeon and electrical anatomist, is heading the bill here. He performs remarkable experiments with his wonderful electrical apparatus, and has in addition accomplished some remarkable cures of local children who have been paralysed from an early age, and whose cases had been given up as hopeless by medical men. There is also an excellent variety show, including Signor Bondini (the one-man band), Bernard and Weston (comedians), Halma (juggler), the Two Pooles (duettists and dancers), Dolly Robson (child vocalist), Norman Mills (patriotic singer), Edna Latonne and Flo Wood (comediennes), J. G. Aitken (comedian), and Ray mond's biograph.

BLYTH.—Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tudor.—The Elliotts and Savonas remain from last week, and are introducing an entire change of programme, which is drawing large and enthusiastic audiences. Among the new arrivals are the Two Clarks, in a globe performance; Phinas and Aida, equilibrists; the Reays, modern athletes; Mr. Tudor, with his ponies, Daisy and Ida; and an old favourite, Clown Rabbits.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—A comic opera entitled *The Gold Diggers; or, the Girls From Utah*, under the direction of Mr. Walter McEwan, was staged here on Monday. Mr. Harrison Brockbank as Terence Rainford proved himself both a good actor and singer, and was repeatedly encored; Mr. Fred Eastman (an old Bolton favourite) was very humorous as Brewgood; the comicalities of Mr. W. H. Powell were entertaining as Beaucoup, and Mr. Arthur Stigant was excellent as Sir Joseph Pickles. Mr. H. V. Cropton was smart as Billy; Miss Nora Brocklebank as Mildred Bumble was charming alike in acting and singing; Miss Florence Parfrey was comical as Mrs. Bumble; Miss Kate Vesey was dainty as Suza; and Miss Lilian Pollard was charming as Deborah. The chorus was strong and well-balanced.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An excellent company is this week appearing here, headed by The Gems, in their unique entertainment of mirth and melody. The following are also engaged: The Lowenwirth Bros., original Hebrew dialect comedians; Edie Rivers, comedienne and dancer; Vincent, acrobatic table expert, &c.; Alf Maynall, comedian; the Danbys, eccentric comedians; Edwardes and Espinosa, in their refined musical speciality; Denby and Dent, in a novel up-to-date comedy act; Geo. Rapley, burlesque comedian; A. P. Boswell, the black-faced furniture shifter; the Gittis, in a novel eccentric act, entitled *Disturbances in the Kitchen*; and Vernon's bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—The main feature of this week's programme is the first appearance here of Jack and Evelyn, the elite entertainers, whose efforts, especially their sand dancing, are much appreciated. The Dayton Family are paying a return visit, and their wonderfully clever turn gains for them an enthusiastic reception nightly; another prime favourite is Rosie Reval, character comedienne. Peggie Lennie and Walter Hast present a "poetic phantasy," *The Sea Nymph*, in which the latter's excellent voice is heard to advantage. Blanche Marion, comedienne and dancer; Marie Blythe, vocal comedienne; Will Driscoll, swell comedian and dancer; and Jean Priver's Royal Six, are other attractions. The bioscope as usual forms a pleasing final item. Mr. Harry Ball, the popular manager, is taking a well-deserved benefit matinée on Thursday next, April 26. He has secured an exceptionally strong and attractive programme, and we trust a packed house will reward his efforts. Mr. Ball deserves every encouragement, not only for the excellent bills he provides week by week, but also for his never-failing courtesy and untiring energy and astuteness.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—On Monday Mr. Bannister Howard's company in *Oliver Twist* opened to an enthusiastic house. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering gave a most impressive picture of Fagin the Jew; Mr. William Kemble was a capital Bill Sikes; Mr. W. H. Rotheram, who doubled the parts of Grimwig and Monks, gave a very finished conception of both. Miss Edith Anton Laing scored in the part of Nancy, as did Charlie Clark as the Artful Dodger.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—With his own company, beautiful scenery, and charming costumes, Mr. Hart presents this week a brilliant revival of *San Toy*, which is produced under the direction of Mr. Victor Stevens. Monday night's large audience greeted the performance with much enthusiasm, and a successful run is assured. The company is a strong one, stamped all round with the seal of general excellence. Miss Fanny Dango's charm and brightness in the character of the lively San Toy have at once established her as a general favourite, and, together with Miss Louie Collier, who plays Chu San, success is achieved in the exigeant musical parts of the piece. Mr. Frank Danby introduces some capital up-to-date songs in his impersonation of Li, which is quaint and humorous. Mr. Dennis Drew's fine voice is heard to advantage in the part of Captain Bobby Preston. There is much suppressed humour in Mr. John Humphries' Yen How; as the peppery Sir Bingo Preston Mr. W. J. Manning is excellent; Mr. Jocelyn Hope's "make up" as Sing Hi is a study; and the ease and humour of Mr. Alfred Clark as the susceptible Emperor are irresistible. Mr. Frederick Hobbs is a dramatic Fo Hop; as Lieut. Harvey Tucker Mr. George Taylor is good; very acceptably Miss Rhoda Gordon fills the part of Poppy Preston; Miss Maud Darling is graceful and delightfully buoyant as Dudley; a "pas seul," executed by Miss May Gould, is a charming feature of the revival, which Mr. Albert Bartlett conducts with ability.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—A first visit is being paid here this week by Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard in the latter's strong drama *The Midnight Wedding*, which was well received by a large and deeply interested audience on Monday. Around a sword-master of the Red Hussars, Paul Valmar, a strong plot is woven, and Mr. Paumier achieves distinction in the character, being finely supported by Miss Annie Saker as the heroine of the story, Princess von Strelsburg. Mr. Clinton Baddeley fills effectively the part of the villain of the piece, Captain Rudolph von Scarsbruck the unstable Lieut. Engene von Strelsburg; and the part of the Crown Prince are capable efforts by Messrs. Sydney Lynn and Fred R. W. Freeman respectively. The incidents are dramatic and admirably portrayed, and there are numerous humorous interludes introduced in the way of relief by Mr. Fred Constable as Sergeant Max, Reginald Payne as Corporal Otto, Algie Spalding as Private Bobo, and Miss Ada Champion as Kathie, who is the object of their rivalry.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The exhibition given here this week by Tarro Myaki, "the champion jiu-jitsu wrestler of Japan," is an interesting and novel feature of the strong and attractive programme provided, and it arouses much hearty enthusiasm. Terry and Lambert make a welcome reappearance; and Reilly and Taylor are responsible for good Dutch dialect and comedy. A graceful and clever triple trapeze performance is submitted by the charming Urma Sisters; Florrie St. Clair sings and dances acceptably; and in their turn, *Naval Officers at Play*, Cardow's Cadets are humorous and diverting. T

(refined burlesque artist), and Miss Gertie Grahame (quick-change artist dancer). Mr. Percy Osborne contributes pianoforte selections, and the performances conclude with an exhibition of the Aquariograph animated pictures.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—This week Mr. Chute has achieved a notable success with his magnificent production of *Romeo and Juliet*. The scenery by Messrs. Freemantle and William Palmer is exceptionally beautiful and tasteful, the special music is composed by Mr. Yorke Sheffield, the chorus is full and powerful, and the augmented orchestra is capably conducted by Mr. G. R. Chapman, the whole production being under the personal supervision of Mr. James Macready Chute. There was a well-filled house on Monday evening, the play was followed by the large audience with attention, and the performance evidently gave the utmost satisfaction. The tragedy concludes with a splendid tableau, "The Church of San Zeno, Maggiore, Verona," where, grouped around a raised bier, the congregation engage in a requiem; the whole picture, with its solemn music and fragrant incense, forming a striking and impressive conclusion to the play. In this final scene valuable assistance is given by members of the Bristol Amateur Operatic Society. The play is very capably performed all round. Mr. Milton Rosmer plays Romeo in a sufficiently impulsive style, with tenderness, and with dramatic intensity when needed. Miss Haidee Gunn has previously played Juliet here; her interpretation of the part, her beautiful voice, and her grace and charm of movement leaves nothing to be desired; and the advantage of youth in such a part and her intellectual capacity adds much to her conspicuous success. Mr. Eric Blind may be said to be absolutely perfect as Mercutio; he has a fine stage presence, he speaks well, and is sufficiently buoyant and energetic. Mr. Ernest Griffin is good as Tybalt; Mr. James Taylor acts well as Benvolio; Mr. Kenyon Musgrove is impressive as Friar Lawrence; and Mr. Arthur Chesney, capitally made up, does well as the Apothecary. Miss Barbara Fenn is pleasing as the Nurse; Miss Alice Mazzoni displays ability as Lady Capulet; and the other characters are all very carefully taken. On Monday evening an artistic souvenir of the production, containing eight beautiful plates 13in. by 10in., printed on high toned paper, with an introduction by Sir William H. Bailey, was presented to every lady in all parts of the theatre.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—*The Christian* is attracting good houses. The play is well staged, and Mr. Wentworth Croke has secured a competent company. The leading parts of Glory Quayle and John Storm are carefully taken by Miss Grace Chalmers and Mr. Frank Tennant. Mr. T. R. Lockwood acts cleverly as Lord Robert Ure; his style just fits the part, and he is not too aggressive. Mr. Jackson Wilcox is well placed as Horatio Drake; Miss Vashti Wellbourne displays dramatic power as Polly Love; and Miss Molly Hayden is decidedly good as Mrs. Callander. The other parts are all in very competent hands.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.—Wal Pink and Vendome's pantomimic sketch, *Day-Breakers*, creates much hilarity; the Ramlos do a very clever triple-bar act; Sadie Seymour is a pleasing comedienne; Bert Brantford's songs might be selected with better taste; Vere and Royal do a smart patter and dancing act; Will Fredo, comedian, dances well; Margaret Agnes, comedienne, sings in good style; Minnie Mace, comedienne, is successful both in song and dance; Mr. and Mrs. Payte score with a comedy duologue, *Also Ran;* and the Five Casino Girls present an interesting and clever turn as brass instrumentalists. The performance (two shows a night with a Wednesday matinée) concludes with a display of animated pictures. The matinée on Wednesday last was for the benefit of the widow and orphans of the late Arthur Wale, member of the Bristol Fire Brigade, who lost his life in a recent fire here. There were special attractions, and the attendance was satisfactory.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Albert Wyndham and company are presenting with success the Hall of Justice scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, with Mr. Albert Wyndham as Shylock and Miss Martell as Portia, supported by a good company. The O'Learys, in an Oriental burlesque act, do some fine acrobatic work; the Haytors amuse with eccentric comedy, &c.; Dolly Harmer is a pleasing comedienne; the Five Julians sing and dance in good style; Harry Grey, comedian, is very popular; Selby and Myers, comedians, obtain applause; Fred Clements is a versatile humorist; and the performance concludes with interesting animated pictures.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA, LTD. — Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 American combination drew a good house on Monday with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Uncle Tom is well presented by Mr. J. Carr; Mr. J. Henry Rogers makes a thorough villain of Legree; Marks is a comical lawyer in the hands of Mr. Walter Langford; Miss Hettie Johnson does well as Eliza; Topsie has a good representative in Miss Annie Watson; Miss Ethel Mildmay as Cassy, little Minnie as Little Eva, Mr. J. H. Renney as Phineas Fletcher, and Mr. Leslie Beaufort as George Harris give good support. The plantation festival scene is taken advantage of for a variety entertainment, with specialities by Miss May Vincent, ballad vocalist, Ikey Jones, eccentric dancer, Walter Langford, banjoist, W. H. Nott, tenor, Shorty May, acrobatic dancer, and Rowe and Holden, cake walkers.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. Henry Bedford's company is here with *Gipsy Jack*, in which he plays the title-rôle with great skill and effect. Mr. Alex. Alexander as the villainous Gerald Skinner distinguishes himself; Mr. Cecil B. Churton is excellent as the Rev. Francis Harvey; and Mr. Walter H. Domoney does well as Mr. Skinner. Mr. Sid Bedford and Mr. J. H. Damer in the respective parts of Joe Banks and Charley Bates create merriment; Miss Bessie Bedford plays charmingly as May Harvey, Miss Ella Sennett gives a clever representation of Dorothy Dexter, and Miss Jennie Risley is very good as Jennie Huggins. The *See-Saw of Life* was staged on Friday.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Culeen; General-Manager, Mr. Jas. E. Culeen.—Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company occupies the boards here in a drama entitled *The Blind Foundling*.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Duncan and Godfrey in their coster act *Me and 'Er*, which is a delightful performance, are one of the many excellent turns here this week. The Four Harveys perform a series of clever tricks on the wire; Bliss and Bliss (comedians) succeed in raising many laughs, and J. H. Hawtrey is a clever actor-vocalist. Mlle. Dé Rose (lady baritone) renders several popular songs in good style, Theresa and May (duettists) are acceptable, Agnes and Arthur Lynch, with picture songs, are much appreciated, and the English Football Cup tie, given by Urbanora, receives an enthusiastic ovation.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's company is appearing here with *The Ruby Ring*. Chief honours must be awarded to Mr. Frederick Sargent, whose Cuthbert Vaughan is a fine piece of work. Mr. George Cecil Murray infuses plenty of go into the character of Colonel Clethorpe; Mr. Horace Pollock proves himself a polished villain as Reginald Clethorpe; Mr. Chas. Langton shows ability as Henry Jordon; Mr. Geo. Mudie, jun., acquits himself with distinction as Chas. Lynton; and Mr. A. B. Tapping gives an interesting character sketch as Alphonse Leloir. Miss Clarissa Selwynne is fascinating as Jane; Miss Alice Farleigh shows dramatic power as Helen Neville; and in the lighter vein, Mr. Geo. Thorne, jun. (John Jenkins), Mr. Harry Collier (Peter Tagg), and Miss Blanche Bayley (Mary Richard) are responsible for hearty laughter.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and company are here with a series of Shakespearean and classical plays. On Monday *The Merchant of Venice* was finely rendered, the Shylock of Mr. Maclaren being a most thoughtful and carefully studied character. Miss F. Glopop Harris was remarkably good as Portia; Miss Mona Limerick (Nerissa) and Miss Gertrude Gilbert (Jessica) also gave capital impersonations. *David Garrick, Othello, Romeo and Juliet*, and *Hamlet* are also in the répertoire.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Cardiffians have an opportunity this week of witnessing a revival of *Claudian*, performed by Mr. Wm. Maclaren's company. Mr. Maclaren interprets the title-rôle with dignity and a restraint which emphasises its power; Miss Lily C. Bandman submits a fine rendition of Almida; as Agazil Mr. George Austin is seen to much advantage; and Miss Carlotta Anson as Edessa and Mr. C. T. Chaloner as Belos contribute some welcome comedy; Mr. William Howard is well suited as the Tetrarch; and other parts well represented are Alcaros (Mr. Weston Hubbard), Theorus (Mr. Edmund Grogan), the Holy Clement (Mr. A. G. Carr), and Serena (Miss Rose Webster). The earthquake scene is capitally managed.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman.—Occupying the boards here is the drama, *A Rogue's Daughter*. Miss Marie Menzies, the authoress of the play, appears as Lady Maynard, and submits a skilful delineation; Mr. F. V. Fenn, as Frank Tyler, proves himself a capable actor; and Miss Violet Leader, as Dichy, a waif, does extremely well; Mr. A. Hall-Menzies, as Ercules, gives a particularly droll representation; and Miss M. Devereux as Lotty Grey soon wins the approval of her audience by a sympathetic rendering.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—The clever ventriloquist, Tom Edwards, tops the bill this week; Esta Stella, the dainty singer and dancer, is also well received; Seeley and West are funny musical comedians; Starr and Leslie are simply past masters as club-jugglers, &c.; the Finneys (James and Elsie) are still without rivals in their aquatic exhibition; and Beatrice Willey, in a medley of flower songs; Ross and Grayson in their humorous piano-playing scene; Frank Leslie, comedian; the De Lucca Troupe of up-to-date drawing-room gymnasts; and the entertaining Bioscope complete an attractive programme.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. S. M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Stanley.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is here in *Sunday* this week. Sunday, as impersonated by Miss Emélie Polini, is a delightful character, played with an exquisite touch of pathos and a sparkling appreciation of comedy. The Nun is capitally characterised by Miss Muriel Pope; and Miss Rosalind Ross gives a refined portrayal of Mrs. Naresby. Mr. Leonard Pagden submits a sound and impressive representation of Colonel Brinthorpe, a part which fits him admirably; Tom Oxley is delightfully played by that experienced and clever actor, Mr. Ernest A. Douglas; a clever character-sketch of Towser is submitted by Mr. William Lockhart, always a popular favourite here; Mr. T. Norman Walter gives a telling performance as Lively; Mr. Sidney Rennef finds a congenial part in Davy; and Mr. Arthur Vezin cleverly depicts Jacky.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Palace Theatre, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nichols.—The Lukushama troupe of Japanese are the star turn here this week, and present a truly wonderful show; Mlle. Lumiere in her superb serpentine dancing meets with quite an ovation; Barrett and Knowles are two funny cross-talkers; the Ollive Trio in a pretty act score a big success; Ernesto (musical equilibrist) is clever and neat, Hall and Earle make an instantaneous success with their acrobatic performance, Dave McNeil is successful as a vocalist, and the Palace pictures are up to the usual standard.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Delighted audiences are this week roaring over the many amusing incidents and complications presented by Miss Emma Hutchison's and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in the farce, *Public Opinion; or, Pansy's Breach of Promise* case. Miss Nancy Beresford as Pansy and Miss Moyra Creegan as Lady Diana Caldershaw give excellent representations; Mr. Percy Marshall is excellent as Horace Wibsey, Mr. Shirley Lea a good Justice Mulley, Mr. Douglas Hamilton quaint as Babington. Spencer Traughton is in the safe hands of Mr. Charles Harley; while Mr. John E. Watson must be mentioned for his powers.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—The Piccaninnies, introduced by Bonnie Goodwin, are gaining an unusually enthusiastic welcome nightly; Ernest Rees is a fine patterer; and Ben Albert knows how to sing comic ditties. Lily Morris proves a dainty serio; imitations of music hall artists are given by Miss Lillian Elfreda; Charlie Jerome, coloured vocalist; the Two Kanes, in musical act; and pictures by the Edisonograph, complete the bill of fare.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's company is here, in *Lucky Miss Dean*. Miss Dora Gray in the title-rôle wins laurels; Mr. William E. Ashcroft as Frederick Ware shows artistic restraint; Miss Estella Despa looks and acts well as Lady Ashmole; Mr. W. T. Elworthy is successful as Percival Chaney; Mr. Vivian Gilbert and Mr. Cyril Price-Evans are good as Miss Dean's cousins; and Mr. Frederick Holgate as the Lift Boy and Mr. Charles West as the Telegraph Boy are well placed. Mr. Claude Merton as Bill Adams the Bailiff is quite successful. The comedy was preceded by *My American Admirer*, in which Mr. W. T. Elworthy as Petroleum Hooker, Mr. Vivian Gilbert as Frank Cooper, Miss Estella Despa as Mary Ann Stubbs, and Miss Beth Elliott as Winifred Crow acquit themselves in humorous fashion.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. G. T. Sarle.—The two-act farce, entitled *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, by Mr. Sydney Sydney is the attraction here this week. As Mary Ellen Thompson, the Lancashire lass, Miss Florence Baines is the life and soul of the cast, her sayings and antics being most amusing; Miss Jennie Hallworth excels as Eva Lancashire; and Mr. David Donaldson takes the part of John Higgins with much ability.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—This week lovers of military drama are well catered for by Mr. Fred Webb and Mr. Wilson Benge's company in *The Two Hussars*. Mr. Wilson Benge himself undertakes the rôle of the hero, Harry Alford, and plays it in an unmistakably dramatic style; while Mr. Fred Webb, both in speech and gesture, represents the part of the villainous Capt. Villiers in an able manner. Mr. T. Stuart is an intensely fiery Colonel Manners, and Mr. Paradise, a typical recruiting-sergeant of the old school; but the popular part, though of the extravagantly humorous order, is that of Trooper Run (Mr. Louis Nanton). As the heroine, Miss M. Danvers-Smith is very dramatic; whilst Miss Sadie Smith is a capable Marie, the vivandière; Miss Lallah Price (an old favourite) is highly popular as the humorous Mollie Cutts.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—The programme this week is a most interesting one, the foremost turn being Prinz's Lions. Charles Ulrick scores with his foot balancing; Marquis Itonye is a clever equilibrist; Russell Carr, the military ventriloquist, Frank Hartley, the schoolboy juggler, F. S. Hulme, comedian, and Charles Deane, with his latest songs, contribute to a highly successful bill. As usual, the pictures conclude the programme.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—The visit of Mr. Charles Carey's *After the Ball* company is proving a phenomenal success here this week. Mr. Walter Ringham as Halliwell Merrit and Mr. Buckstone Clair as Martin work well together; Mr. Victor Widdicomb as Colonel Joseph Merrit is very quaint; Dick Seymour is in the capable hands of Mr. Norman Bowyer; Miss Nellie Groves as Nellie Mather acquits herself with ability, being ably supported by Miss May Florance as Ruth Gay. Miss Nellie James is an attractive Kitty; and as Nancy, Miss Florena Smithers fairly convulses the house.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company is here in *Sweet and Twenty*. In the part of Joan Trevelyan, Miss Ethel Weyburn acts with cleverness and charm; Miss Dorothy Carrington is most successful as Mrs. Trevelyan; the Hon. and Rev. James Floyd is played in finished style by Mr. Drelincourt Odlum; as Eustace, Mr. Stephen Wentworth is admirable; Mr. Lionel Glenister, as Douglas, plays cleverly; and Mr. James Wheatman, as Prynne, shows ability. A musical scena, *In the Strand*, precedes the play, and is well received.

PALACE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—The programme here is excellent. The turn given by "Lady Julia" (the ape with a human brain), is very clever, changing her dresses without aid; Rex Fox, as a wire walker, is exceedingly clever, and is also a capital ventriloquist; the Vetter Brothers, in "The Page's Recreation," prove themselves clever acrobats; the Two Neros are excellent gymnasts; the Three Sisters Wartana are capital jugglers; Hyam Long, musical comedian, entertain on a number of instruments; Charlie Craston, comedian, pleases very much in two catchy songs; and the Two Mimosas sing and dance well.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company appeared here on Monday and Tuesday, in *When a Man Hates*, and on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in the adaptation of Miss Marie Corelli's novel, *The Sorrows of Satan*. In the first mentioned play Mr. Arthur Hinton figures prominently as the villain, Pietro Danelli, and is ably assisted by Mr. Travis Green as Detective Smart, of Scotland Yard; Miss Leila Lillwood is clever as Olga Gynne, Miss Lydia Andre being responsible for Letty, and Miss Florence Lillwood makes a capital Dolly Dimple; Mr. Gerald Byrne is good as Paul, the half-witted. Other members of the company are Mr. Pleon Gaine (Sir Rupert Treherne), Mr. Frank Brunnell (Peter Pimple), Mr. William Beck (Sergt. Wiggins), Mr. E. Sampson (Jim Rogers), and Mr. Charles Timms (Hawk).

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—A good programme is provided at this popular house of amusement. Miss Dinah Morris and company, numbering twenty artists, appear in *Life on a Plantation*, which is much appreciated. Athas (athlete) and Vulcana give a marvellous exhibition of strength; the Smythsons appear in a laughable sketch, entitled *The Lie Alarm*; Tom Bass is appreciated as a comedian; Miss Esmé Gordon, serio and dancer; Belrose and Develine, who are capital vocalists, and Herbert Cyril, comedian also contribute, the animated pictures, as usual, concluding the performance.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is giving us *The Plucky Nipper*. The title-rôle is in the very able hands of Miss Bonwin Carlton herself. She is ably assisted by Mr. W. Anderson, who, as John Grip, holds the attention of his audience. Mr. William Heilbronn presents a careful study of Richard Vanbrugh; Mr. George W. Knight makes a dignified Colonel Fenwick; Mr. Claud Kingston is well placed as Henry Paget; and Mr. Edward Stream justifies his selection as Captain Frank Leslie; Mr. Edward Surrey supplies the humour as Bill Burgess; and Mr. Douglas Campbell, as Tommy Atkins, has several good songs. Miss Esther Lamonte is responsible for a winsome interpretation of Daisy Paget; Miss Ethel Whiteley holds her audience well as (Ino) Fenwick; and Mr. Jno. Chambers as Van Voch, Mr. Philip E. Mond as P.C. Smith, and Mr. T. Hadlin as Bill Brown, all show to advantage.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Mr. Morton Powell's company occupies the boards here this week with *The Woman who Gambles*, a play in four acts, by S. Buchanan Rogerson. Mr. Edward E. Ashby gives an excellent portrayal of Count Otto Steinbach, being well supported by Miss Ada Roscoe, who acts with marked ability; Mr. Horatio Sinclair is responsible for a good performance as Baron Cratzlaw; Mr. Reginald Fox displays talent as Lieut. Karl Czarteryski; Mr. Ernest H. Clarke is well placed as M. Stambuloff; and Mr. G. H. Hurst as M. Koska Marinavitch, Mr. Charles Calvert as the Hon. Bertie Bray, and Mr. Fred Prior as Peter Peteroff, acquit themselves creditably; Miss Violet Sims is winsome and charming as Cora Gouldhart; and Miss Florrie Hall is bright and vivacious as Mlle. Zila Zeyelda.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—A strong bill is being submitted here this week, Mr. Frank Bertram's company appearing in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Henry Belding gives a vivid and powerful rendering of Lieutenant Beresby; Mr. Oswald Lingard is a creditable Viscount Dorsington; Mr. Hamilton Deane acts with accuracy in the rôle of Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford; Mr. George Traill speaks his lines with effect as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen; Mr. Charles T. Doe is well placed as Colonel Bagshaw; Mr. M. Wetherell is good as Captain Stanhope; Mr. Wilson Blake gives point to the rôle of Captain Rashleigh; Mr. George Jackson is painstaking as Lieutenant Willoughby; Mr. Cecil Klein is convincing as Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham; and Messrs. Gerald Clarke, W. C. Crowe, Wilson Blakemore, Wilfred Compton, and George Scott are useful in minor parts. Miss Florence Tressilian is a natural and charming Hon. Margaret Hungerford; Miss Kathleen Morgan is efficient as Mrs. Bagshaw; Miss Belle Donaldson is neat as Helena Pierrepoint; and Miss Celestine Bertram makes a big hit as Batty. Mr. Lawson Lambert's management of this house leaves nothing to be desired.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The boards are occupied by the New *Sapho* Syndicate, Ltd., company, in *Sapho*. Mr. Albert Sember does himself credit as Jean Gaussin; Mr. Charles M. Daly gives a quaint sketch of Father Le Grand; Mr. George Antley is excellent as Cessire Le Fenant; Mr. H. Langford is natural as Eugene Flamant; Mr. Pringle Roberts is skilful as Caroudal; Mr. Lawrence Kingsley makes the most of Paul Dechelette; and a word of praise is due to Mr. Fred H. Terrell as Dejoie, Mr. Phil Roberts as Ezano, and Mr. S. Briley as La Gonnerie. Miss Annie Bell submits an artistic and fascinating rendering of Sapho; Miss Florence Graham scores as Machaume; and little Miss Doris E. Graham wins applause as Joseph.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Jas. Bell.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is appearing here this week in the racing drama, *Rogues of the Turf*. Mr. J. F. Preston in the part of Captain Dudley Clifton gives a clever sketch of a scoundrel; Mr. Hardy Macro as Joe Flaxman deserves praise; Mr. A. Prescott as Moses is a typical Hebrew; Miss Madge Nelson as Nellie Flaxman plays her part cleverly; Miss Hilda Shirley as Lady Heathcote gives a capital rendering; Miss Madge Palmer and Mr. Herbert Woodin cause roars of laughter in their respective comedy parts.

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—The first visit of Mr. William Greet's company with *The Earl and the Girl* drew a large audience here on Monday night. Miss Hylda Dugdale was both charming and fascinating in the rôle of Elphin Haye; Miss Ida Stratham came in for a hearty reception as Daisy Fallowfield; Miss Beatrice Anderson was a vivacious Mrs. Shimmering Black; Miss Winnie Plumpton made an excellent Virginia Bliss; whilst Miss Lina Hicks was good as Liza. Mr. Alfred Donohoe kept the audience in roars of laughter by his humorous portrayal of Jim Cheese; Mr. Leslie Gaze is a talented artist, who looked and acted well as Dick Wargrave; Mr. Thomas Kennard made the most of his opportunities as Bunker Bliss, and his singing earned well-deserved encores; Mr. Percy Bronson, Mr. Sam Lysons, and Mr. Bernard Leslie were all effective in minor parts. The chorus is an exceptionally good one.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. George Dance's premier company is here this week with *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss May Glenn, in the name-part, is a success in a superlative degree, both vocally and histrionically. Mr. Leonard F. Griffiths gives a manly and in every way effective representation of the part of the Duchess's lover and husband, and Napoleon has an admirable exponent in Mr. Gilbert Yorke. In the dual rôle of the Vicomte de Bethune (*père et fils*), Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy figures most agreeably, and sings with the greatest acceptance, while Mr. A. Patterson is an entertaining Papillon. The Renée de Saint Mezard of Miss Maggie White is a dainty and graceful presentment, and Miss Buena Bent is a bright and vivacious Lizette. Misses Violet and Maine Blyth and Ella Derwent, as the two sisters of Napoleon and the Empress Josephine respectively, also merit special mention. A hearty word of commendation should be accorded the ably-handled chorus.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—A capital programme here this week is headed by the Four Lafailles, gymnasts and equilibrists, who submit a performance considerably above the average, and meet with a hearty reception; Maidie Scott is a charming comedienne, and sings her songs in a very acceptable manner; the Four Burnells, in the musical absurdity, entitled *On the Links*, are diverting and cause much merriment; Fred Curran, described as the Peculiar Fellow, is an old local favourite, and is responsible for much amusement; Sisters Bartholomew are pleasing duettists and dancers, York, Mac, and York appear in a mirth-provoking act, and Harry Morris is a capable comedian and mimic. The Palace Bioscope is well to the fore with films depicting winter sports in other lands.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's able company is attempting the somewhat difficult task of playing *East Lynne* twice nightly. As Carlyle, Mr. Alfred Beaumont enacts the character with telling effect, while Mr. Eric Mayne as Levison submits a powerful performance. Miss Julie Kennard as Lady Isabel has an admirable presence, and draws the usual sympathy; Miss Violet Thorold is good as Barbara Hare, and the services of Mr. Alfred Tate as Bullock are indispensable.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. George Weldon.—The programme here this week includes the Four Figaros in national dances, the Bros. Corcoran with selections on brass instruments, Takio, a clever mimic, the Greys (operatic vocalists), the Carney Twins, Max Merlin, who repeats his former success, the Redfearns (banjoists), Rose Tilley (comedienne), and the Harriscope.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman. — Lingford Carson's *Modern Adventuress* was presented to a Doncaster audience for the first time on Monday. William Delby was intelligently sustained by Mr. Harry C. Rutland; and a strong portrayal of Harry Delby came from Mr. Louis Edmonde. Mr. Sydney Grant embodied Wallace Dalton with marked artistic effect; Mr. Leonard Aardale gave piquancy to Pietro Donelli; Mr. Leonard Montgomery scored as the Yorkshireman, John Crompton; Mr. Polson Turner was good as Walter Baal, and support was afforded him by Mr. Frank Orchard, who essayed the part of Steve Meredith. Miss Ivy Chandos did well as Sally Hodges; and Miss Alice Defoe admirably rendered the part of Yivette Delby. Miss Kate Froude in the title-rôle made good use of her opportunities.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Miss Frances Delaval and company are here this week in the drama, entitled *Her Lost Self*. Miss Delaval plays the part of Philipine Marcel with much dramatic intensity, and speedily wins the commendation of the audience for her clever rendering; Mr. Percy Carne Waram's fine stage presence and excellent elocution well fit him for the rôle of Wilfred Daventry, whose little daughter Dorothy has a charming and skilful exponent in Miss Min Johnson. An effective sketch of Paule Kimberley is the work of Mr. Adrian Lovett; Mr. Charles Keene is a thoroughly capable and artistic Norman Esmond; a convincing and consistent impersonation of Victor Elsworth is given by Mr. Fred Lillywhite; an element of humour is introduced by the eccentricities of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Cohen, amusingly portrayed by Mr. L. W. Halfpenny and Mrs. Edmund Lyons; and Mr. Horace Buckley, a capable comedian, plays Tom Flyaway well. A sympathetic Dorothy of the first act is found in Miss Dora Hammersley, who afterwards takes the part of Lucille with much success; while Miss Nell Ingram as Bridget Mahone, the warm-hearted Irishwoman, speedily gains popularity.

THE EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield; Manager, Mr. P. G. Wraith.—Zasma, an expert gymnast, is at the top of the bill this week; Flo Carlo, comedienne, is good; Ventom Swift, a well-dressed comedian, is most amusing; the Mays, burlesque artists, appear in an absurdity called *The Maniac Child;* and the Sisters Stratton are successful duettists and dancers; Miss Maud Ethelda is a dainty and fascinating dancer; and Fred Dice is giving a clever scena, *The Fatal Card*.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—A large audience was present here on Monday night to witness the performance of the comedy *On the Love Path*, by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. Hutchison successfully portrays the part of Taunton, and Miss Lilias Earle does full justice to the rôle of Charity Concannon. Mr. John Mudie's impersonation of John Gripleigh is highly amusing, and Miss Margaret Marshall gives a careful study in the rôle of Mary Concannon. The parts of Gerald Marvel, William, and the Reception Clerk, are played in a satisfactory manner by Messrs. Frank Elliott, S. Irwin Barrett, and J. Mitchell, and Miss Hilda Honiss is all that could be desired as Norah Concannon. The part of Denbigh Thrayle is ably depicted by Mr. T. W. Rawson. The curtain-raiser, *His Landlady*, is well received.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company opened here on Monday with *Leah Kleschna*, which met with a cordial reception. Mr. Robert Pateman as Kleschna displays much ability, and Miss Haidee Wright merits commendation for her interpretation of Leah Kleschna. Mr. J. Graeme Campbell is a distinct success in the rôle of Paul Sylvaine, and Mr. Kenneth Rivington acquits himself well as General Berton. Mr. Cyril Harcourt makes the most of the part of Raoul Berton, and Claire Berton is played in a pleasing manner by Miss Haidee Hemsley. Mr. E. H. Brooke is acceptable as Schram, and Miss Ethel Marryat is an excellent Mme. Berton.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. J. W. Whitbread's company entered on its second week here on Monday, when *The Insurgent Chief* was presented. Mr. Robert Faulkner sustains the part of Michael Dwyer in an able manner, and Miss Cecilia Dare is effective in the rôle of Mary Doyle. Mr. James O'Brien as Hughey Byrne repeats his former success, and Anne Devlin is in the capable hands of Miss Monica Kelly. Captain Airley has a good representative in Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh, and Miss Madeline Hurst is excellent as Mrs. Airley. The parts of Captain Carr, Lieutenant Fenton, and Doctor Armstrong are creditably filled by Messrs. Dane Clarke, R. Rainalt, and Harry Richardson, and Mrs. Brady is successful in the rôle of Mrs. Agar.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Miss Minnie Cunningahm is a great attraction here, captivating all with her catchy songs. Jake Friedman, the "one-man opera," is a clever and interesting turn, and Ray Wallace finds great favour by her impersonations of music-hall artists. The Morgan Sisters sing and dance in good style, and Fred Bronte is well to the fore as a vocal comedian. Helene and Emilion, sensational gymnasts, receive merited applause, and Lily Esplin makes a decided hit as a low comedy artist. Chris Richards also contributes.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Renards, herculean gymnasts, top the bill here this week, and are well received. Lieutenant Albini's illusion, "The Lady in Black," elicits applause, and Bertha Winder is an expert clog and top-boot dancer. Charles Chard is a comedian of more than ordinary merit, and much good comedy business is subscribed by Lee Valdos, "the eccentric motor 'bus men." The Coolvilles are pleasing and attractive in song and dance, and Mlle. Victoria Dagmar, horizontal bar performer, also has a gratifying reception. Harry Lee, comedian and mimic, Annie Casey, comedienne, and Oakley and James, comedy artists, complete the programme.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here:—Irene Cameron, soprano; Cliff Beever, baritone; Fred Ramsdale, comedian; and Santley and Clifford, duettists.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The American spectacle, *Slavery Days; or, Life in Old Kentucky*, is being produced here by Mr. George Howard, and meeting with success.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. G. H. Place's Alexandra Grand Opera company is here this week, opening on Monday with the "evergreen" *Maritana*, in which Miss Constance St. Bride figured conspicuously in the title-rôle. Miss Madeline Stone Humphries, although suffering from a severe cold, was a distinct success as Lazarillo; and Mr. H. G. Place was a capital Don Jose; Mr. David Fuller gave a dignified and artistic rendering of the King of Spain; and Mr. F. S. Gilbert, an old Dudley favourite, met with an ovation, and excelled himself in his principal numbers. *Il Trovatore, Faust, Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Bohemian Girl* were also billed.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—The programme here this week is headed by Smith and Johnson, who are very successful in their song scena, *The Maid from Hindustan*. A turn of exceptional merit is that of Ernest Montefiore and company, in the scena, *The Little Colonel*. Venola Bros. are excellent comedy gymnasts; and Yorkshire Tom is a clever animal mimic; the Twin Sisters Edwards, vocalists and dancers, are making themselves popular; Ernesto, the royal juggler, is also in the bill. An interesting series of pictures are given on the Empire Bioscope.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—This week Mr. Robert Arthur presents Mr. Thomas Thorne and company in *Our Boys*, under the direction of Mr. Russell Rosse. Mr. Thorne is quite at home in the part of Perkin Middlewick, the retired butterman, creating much amusement. Mr. Randolph Reade makes an excellent Charles Middlewick; Mr. Norman Clark as Sir Geoffrey Champneys presents a fine study of the proud and dignified parent; and Mr. Rex B. Foote gives a really capital representation of the easy-going Talbot Champneys. Miss Elsie Howard Ross as Violet Melrose and Miss Eva Rousdale as Mary Melrose act cleverly in their respective parts. Miss Bessie Harrison is an amusing Clarissa, and a good character-study is given by Miss Edith Hesketh as Belinda.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen

acting. Mr. Templer Powell is a lively Lord Percy Kilgour, and Mr. C. J. Barber doubles very cleverly the parts of Smeeton and Jowers. Miss Lilian Hallows plays with great dash the character of Pansy Bligh, and Miss Mary Mallalieu is a sweet Phyllis Dagenham. The small part of Charlotte is supremely well acted by Miss Ida Laurie, who shows what a good artist can make out of trifling materials. The comedy is preceded by a comedietta, entitled *The Stratagem*, pleasingly played by Miss Lilian Hallows, Mr. Harold West, Mr. Templer Powell, and Mr. C. J. Barber, who gives a capital sketch of an old butler.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—*The New Barmaid* has always been a great favourite in Edinburgh, so it was not surprising that Mr. Alexander Loftus's company should open here with it on Monday to excellent business. The musical comedy is strongly cast, Mr. Joseph B. Montague especially being a tower of strength as Bertie White. Mr. Loftus himself makes a good deal of the part of the South African millionaire, and Mr. Leslie Austin as Captain Loveday has every opportunity of using his rich baritone voice. Mr. James Grant imparts the proper pepperiness to Col. Claymore, Mr. Frank Melroyd acts and dances well as Braddy, and Mr. W. F. Chewd gives a capital character-study of a Frenchman. The ladies, too, are in great force. Miss Maisie Ellinger plays the title-rôle in winning fashion, and the crafty old barmaid is well sustained by Miss Hilda Blanche. Miss Violet Osmund as the lady journalist and Miss Winifred Preston as Lady Moulton are also highly successful. Exhibitions of artistic dancing are given by Miss Lottie Stone's Trio, consisting of Miss Sophia Dorram, Miss May Hawthorn, and Miss Queenie Bell.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. C. J. Cawood.—The programme here this week is spiced with many capital turns. A prominent feature is the performance of the sketch entitled Hogmanay, by Mr. J. L. Shine and company, who command the warm applause of the audience by their admirable acting. Miss Elsie Robey is smart and amusing in her musical act, and she hits off the mannerisms of some society amateurs in a happy manner. Hays and Suits give a clever display of dancing, and the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, in their lively sketch *Up a Tree*, evoke the heartiest laughter. Miss Flo Deighton sings "Annie Laurie" and "Come Back to Erin" with such delightful expression as to secure an enthusiastic recall. The Bros. Egbert are amusing, as usual, in their sketch, *The Happy Dustmen*; Booker and Harris are successful in their duologue, *The Interviewer*; Miss Ivey Roze and Mr. Frank Calvert give a playful skit on Captain Cuttle; Mr. Fred Lincoln is laughter-provoking in his turn; and Rich and Rich funny in their duets, patter, and dances.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manger, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—*The Gamester of Metz*, a sensational drama, is being presented here by Mr. Chas. March and Co. As Paul Baldot Mr. March proves himself an actor of versatility; Captain Badaire is well taken by Mr. John B. Murray; and Louis Badaire is fittingly presented by Mr. W. G. Dudeney. Miss Una Lane acts gracefully as Lucia Baldot, and Miss Cissy Haigton and Mr. Victor Knight contrive with a good deal of success to keep the audience in a merry mood.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's co. is paying a return visit here this week with *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Mark Blow as Bertie Cecil Royellieu acts the part to perfection; Mr. Theodore Hill as Berklie Cecil Royellieu is very good; the part of Lord Royellieu is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Brooke; Mr. Albert Wray is well suited as Lord Rockingham; Mr. Walter Rousby, who causes amusement as Rake, sings well; Mr. Charles D. Pitt, in his old rôle of Colonel Châteauroy, plays in an able manner; Mr. Fred Rolls makes the most of the part of Baroni; Miss Mabel Ormonde as the Princess Venetia acts with quiet dignity; Miss Nelly May sings and dances effectively as Lavinia; and the highest praise must be accorded Miss Ida Molesworth for her impersonation of Cigarette.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Litter.—The Gipsies and their Jester, under the direction of Mr. D'Arcy Clayton, are paying a return visit here this week, and are as popular as ever. Mr. Alfred Leslie as the Jester has a fund of humour, and never fails to please.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*Dishonoured* is being staged here this week. Mr. Percy Ballard gives a powerful depiction of Philip Cunningham; Mr. Geoffrey Broughton is well placed as Sir William Cunningham; the villainies of Capt. Pentland are excellently portrayed by Mr. Jackson Hayes; Mr. J. Leicester Jackson does full justice to the rôle of Captain Cholmondeley; and Messrs. H. B. Ford and J. Ferne, as Mike Farthing and Jem Stokes respectively are successful in comedy parts. Miss Blanche St. Albans is a capital Leslie Maynard, and Miss Pollie Denville a humorous Anne Maria.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The Cratons, in a pantomimical burlesque entitled, "Front and Behind," head a good bill here. Hanvarr and Anna Lee are seen in an entertaining juggling performance; a sketch entitled, "The Battle of the Belles," played by Messrs. Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company, causes roars of laughter; Rose Elliott sings two ballads in excellent style; Chevalier Clicquot, described as the Human Arc Lamp, gives a sensational performance; Lauri Wyllie, with his mimicking mannikins, makes a hit; the Two Whites, American comedy artists, have some amusing patter, and are also excellent sand-dancers; Rosetti, the musical girl, gives an interesting turn; and the King's Bioscope shows a good film of the Cup Final.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Excellent entertainment is provided here. J. W. Hall, a comedian, who always has a great reception, heads the bill, and convulses the house; another laughter-maker is Raglus, who has some original juggling business and many quaint mannerisms; Ruby Dahl, with her mock mannikins, gives an interesting turn; Carson Hicks is an expert buck dancer; Arthur Bright (comedian), the Harc Trio (in an acrobatic act), and the "graphs" of the Cup Final complete the bill.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. D. S. Cooper; General-Manager, Mr. Roy Cochrane.—The attraction this week is Mr. Charles H. Aguzzi's company in the musical comedy, *An Irish Honeymoon*. Mr. Lyall Grant, as Lord Belville, and Miss Lilian Mayne as Molly Molloy, are well suited in their respective parts, and render some excellent songs and duets; Mr. Lorimer Stuart as Augustus Fitznoodle makes a typical dude; Mr. Malcolm Cumming is entertaining as Professor Maggs. Miss Florence Spencer as Matilda, and Miss Patrici Lavelle are equally successful as the maids. Mr. E. E. Giles, jun., as Spinks, the valet, is a warm favourite, and causes roars of laughter. Other parts are ably undertaken by Mr. Cyril Rosse, Mr. A. H. Lindor, Mr. H. A. Charles, Miss Flora Owen, and Miss May Marcus. Special mention must be made of the Franklin Troupe of Russian dancers. Mr. Frank Corri conducts the excellent chorus and augmented orchestra.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—A cordial welcome was extended to Mrs. Patrick Campbell and her company in the new play from the French, *The Whirlwind*, originally produced at Birmingham a fortnight ago. The part of the Countess of Ellingham affords Mrs. Campbell many opportunities (somewhat on the lines of her earlier success, Mrs. Tanqueray), and the powerful scenes which conclude the first and second acts were veritable triumphs for the actress. Mr. Julian Royce, as Hugh Carlton, contributed greatly to the success of the play, his acting throughout being most impressive; Mr. Oscar Adye, as Sir Henry Langham, was at his best in the strong scene with the Countess in act two; Mr. Scott Buist gave a striking embodiment of the caddish Joseph Locksley; as Mr. Leonard, Mr. A. G. Poulton was well suited, and imparted an air of suavity to the part. Various typres of society ladies were ably acted by Mrs. Campbell-Bradley, Miss Mabel Beardsley, and Miss Nellie Mortyne. Mr. George Bealby neatly hit off the unattractive attributes of the Earl of Ellingham.

ROYALTY. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. N. Downie.—That very enjoyable farce, *Are you a Mason?* is being presented to crowded audiences this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. E. N. Paterson's Amos Bloodgood was both humorous and clever. He was ably assisted by Miss Adelaide Grace as Mrs. Bloodgood. The Frank Perry of Mr. H. Langdon Bruce was a clever performance of the would-be Mason; cleverness also characterised Mr. Richard Purdon's delineation of John Halton; Miss Mabel Younge as Mrs. Perry was natural and charming. The one-act drama, entitled *A Bad Penny*, was given as a preliminary, and Mr. E. N. Paterson as Richard Hyde scored a great success.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—A return visit is being made here by Mr. Walter Melville's company in the drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Beaumont Collins gives a powerful study of Barbara Wade, portraying the many phases of the character with realism and fidelity; Mr. Frank R. Robertson makes a manly young Jack Livingstone; Miss Nannie Meade acts well as the frivolous Nellie Meadows, and the part of her father, the old farmer, is impersonated with excellent effect by Mr. Charles Franmore; Miss Elsie Savile makes a sympathetic Constance Cornell; Mr. Fred Ingram as Toby Turvey and Miss Lena Delphine as Tilly Vane impart considerable humour to the play; Mr. Roy Fortescue gives a clever performance as the scheming Cuthbert Lumley; Mr. John Brooks, as Luke Ramsden and Mr. Courtney Bellenden as Dr. Weston give able support.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. George Musgrove's company is this week revisiting the west end theatre in that exceedingly picturesque production, *The Prince of Pilsen*. It is almost a year since the company was here before, and among the changes in the cast the most notable is in the part of Hans Wagner, now played with a keen characteristic humour by Mr. Edwin Adeler. Mr. G. ViHiers Arnold is still with the company, his fine ringing voice being again heard with pleasure in the part of Lieut. Wagner; Mr. Lawrence Wensley repeats his former success as the Earl of Shrimpton, as also does Mr. Alfred Selby as the eccentric French waiter, Francois; in the part of the real Prince some expressive solo and concerted singing is done by Mr. Stuart Alexander; Miss Nellie Cozens attractively represents Mrs. Croker; a charming Edith Adams is seen in Miss Mildred Baker; Miss Nell Emerald, Ruby Verdi, and Meg Hamylton are all heartily welcomed back in their respective parts of Sidoni, Nellie Wagner, and Jimmie, while amongst the ladies of the chorus a special hit is made by Miss Clara Stanton as the girl from New York. The production is staged in capital style, and has the advantage of a full chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. A. Robertson.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Mudoch.—Mr. John Power's company is here this week with *Man's Enemy*, in which Mr. Power sustains with much dramatic effect the part of the villain, Tom Drake; while Miss Daisy Halling, as his accomplice, Sarah Drake, gives a humorous exposition of a cynically selfish "woman of the world." Harry Stanton, the hero, is finely portrayed by Mr. Norman A. Overton; Miss Lynn Darlington is pleasing as Grace Lisle, in which character she sings a couple of songs with charming effect; General Sir Arthur Stanton is a fine old soldierly character, well played by Mr. H. Payne; Mr. Cecil Vernon Proctor represents the Rev. Fred Lisle in a natural manner; Miss Amy Rudd as Polly Harris, Mr. J. Newton-Cowling as Ikv Barnett, and Mr. Percy Norman as Adolph D'Embonpoint all help to keep the fun going. Mr. Cliff Locke as a Russian duellist, is a picturesque figure, and Mr. Alf. Burrows as Bill Sanders acts the London loafer admirably.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Sidney Dench and company are here this week with the drama *The Rich and Poor of London*. Mr. Robert Hall as Dr. Morton is responsible for some good acting, and Miss Dora Dench is seen to advantage as May Braithwaite; Mr. Sidney Dench, as Spider Jack, adds largely to the success of the play with his humour and drollery. Mr. Walter Foster, as the villain, Mark Stanley, plays with appropriate intensity; Ruby Redgrave is well sustained by Miss Lillian Burns, Matthew Grabbam is ably represented by Mr. Malcolm Gascoigne, Miss Lilly Artis as Polly Philpot, and Miss Ethel Denville as Seadrift give good portrayals.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, J. H. Oakden.—*On Circumstantial Evidence* was presented by Mr. Charles Clifford's company here on Monday evening to a good audience. Mr. Chas. Clifford, the author, has provided himself with a capital part, and in the rôle of Capt. Hamilton has many fine opportunities of which he makes the utmost; Miss Jennie Wigney wins sympathy as the sorely-tried Violet Ogilvy; as Jack Ogilvy, Mr. Wilson Brash is conspicuous, acting with no small dramatic fervour and skill; the Sir Lawrence of Mr. A. M. James is an admirable presentation, and the diversified dual rôles of Olga and Mary Brandoni have ample justice done them by Miss Hilda Hatton, an artist of more than ordinary ability. The comedy is in the safe hands of Miss Amy Stewart and Mr. Newton Pearce: Miss Dot Stewart makes much of the homeless waif, Tim; the Gen. Garibaldi of Mr. J. Keane, elicits deserved approbation.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—The Svengalis, in their music and mystery turn, are the stars here, and give a very mystifying performance; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford provide much amusement with their lively sketch, *Getting Even*; Percy Honri's concertina playing and his volatile humour are equally appreciated; Colby and May in their ventriloquial and dancing doll turn are specially good; an excerpt from *The Lily of Killarney*, by W. Wallis and company, is much enjoyed; Chas. J. Johnson, coloured comedian and dancer; Arthur Gill, yokel humorist; Tina Clements and her trained dogs and pony, and Helen Ford, vocalist, complete a varied programme.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The bill here is headed by Johnnie Schofield, assisted by J. C. Piddock and company, in the musical comedy, entitled *Missing; or, The Light of Day*. Drew and Alders continue first favourites, and J. A. Wilson, negro comedian, is well to the front with new songs and jokes; Burt Shepard gives numerous selections on the piano, and the Cape Girls are clever dancers. The other members of the company include The Haydas Troupe of acrobats, Grace Merton (sweet singer), Clown Barker and Miniature Circus, Arthur Gillin (smart ventriloquist), and Hippodrome Bioscope with new pictures.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The place of honour here is occupied by La Belle Estellita, Spanish singer and dancer; Belle Davis and her company of coons also give a capital account of themselves. Other notable artists contributing to the entertainment include Chas. R. Whittle (comedian), the Arundels (comedians and boxers), the Ferraris (terpsichorean artists), Cee-Mee Quartette of gymnasts, Lilian (trick cyclist), the Crystals (vocalists and dancers), Keith and Merso (acrobatic humorists), and Mike Cray (comedy juggler).

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—A most amusing sketch is provided here in *Casey's Court*, and the talent of the youngsters engaged in it is wonderful. Daisy Mayer's sand dancing turn is heartily applauded, and another clever sand dancer is Frank Cumminger; Mendel, the blind pianist, displays his skill and memory in numerous musical selections; Charles S. Kitts and Rhoda Windrum contribute a lively farcical sketch, *The Cuckoo*; Jurgens Trio give a smart display on the globes, Gwennie Hasto's catchy songs and neat dances make her a strong favourite, Stelling and Revell on the bars give a particularly good performance. The Bioscope, George Tacius, and a clever ventriloquist, who gives an extra turn, complete a most attractive programme.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A great attraction here this week is the presence of Miss Ada Colley, who is greeted with much applause; also in the musical line are the Four Jumels, who contribute a pleasing little entertainment; the Eight Lancashire Lads show themselves to be undoubted masters of the art of clog dancing; the Sisters Cora, panto. favourites in Glasgow, make a graceful appearance; H. O. Wills is extremely funny in his songs and patter; Edward Lewis makes some very good hits in his bump-reading performance. In the midst of the mirth created by many humorous turns comes a pathetic little sketch, *His Birthday*, by Royston Dene and company. Dan Filmer also appears with success; Lu Simpson's company presents *Our Annual Social* with great success.

QUEEN'S.—Lessees, Messrs. Colquhoun and Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The programme here includes Ida Gladstone, who was such a favourite in the Metropole pantomime, and her various songs are well received; the Willies give an amusing turn, and good items are contributed by Arthur Croxon, Three Clarions, Violet Morgan, and Willie Turnbull. Some of the ties in the Scotish Boxing Championships, inaugurated at the Tivoli, are being given here.

TIVOLI.—Lessee, Mr. Bernard M. Armstrong.—The management here have arranged to hold a series of Scottish Boxing Championships, and a good start was made on Monday with the first of the ties. In the variety programme Ida Gladstone is easily first favourite, and clever turns are given by J. K. McFarlane, the popular Scotch comedian, and by Sam Soda, quaint extempore vocalist.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Miss Grace Warner and company, in *The Scarlet Clue* and *East Lynne*, provide the attraction this week. On Monday night *The Scarlet Clue* was well acted. Miss Warner as Sal Scarlet gives a vivid portrayal; Mr. George Gordon well handles the villainous character of Michael Stanton; whilst Mr. Horace Moseley as Edward Croker is good. Mr. J. Leighton Leigh scores in the dual rôles of Jack and Harry Esmond; Mr. V. T. Raymond as Billy, a burglar, is well placed, and is applauded for capitally-rendered songs; Mr. J. E. Tomlinson is seen to advantage as Crazy Jim, a waif; Miss Lizzie Palmer as Elsie Dane plays in a winning way; and Miss Ellen Beverley does well as Miss Tabitha Esmond. Miss Kathleen Cranston is effective as Mother Scrooge; Miss Esther Dean is amusing as Musette; little Phyllis Massey as Reggie Carstairs and little Edith Rutland as Little Polly contribute pleasing impersonations.

GLOUCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company is playing here *The Luck of Life*. Mr. R. H. Stephenson is a good exponent of George Stanhope; Mr. Roland Yorke gives a capital interpretation of Michael Basilovitz; Rene Basilovitz is powerfully enacted by Miss Mary Dawson; and Miss Gertrude Bonser makes an excellent Countess Vlame. Mr. Leonard Thackeray renders able assistance as Count Petroff; the comedy relief is cleverly introduced by Mr. George Davis as Simon Stanley and Miss Dora Huggett as Laura North; and Mr. H. Hesslegrave as Bahadur is agreeably prominent, as is Mr. Albert Cuthbertson as Ivan Polowski.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here this week with Mr. S. Buchanan Rogerson's play, *Darkness*, founded on Mr. Guy Thorne's novel, "When It was Dark." Mr. H. K. Ayliff is effective as Constantine Schawbe; Miss V. St. Laurance depicts the varied moods of Gertrude Hunt with much success, in some scenes being intensely realistic; the Rev. Basil Gortre of Mr. T. A. Shannon is natural and fervent; Sir Robert Llewellyn is ably represented by Mr. Edward Valentine; Mr. Ernest Allen is eager and intense as Harold Spence; and Helena finds a capable exponent in Mrs. Morton Powell. A lighter element is introduced by Mr. Arthur Lenville as the Hon. Charlie Gayfly and Miss Ethel Rainforth as Gracie Goldeye.

GREENOCK.—ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is playing the drama *In Holy Russia* at the above theatre this week. Mr. Tom G. Warry is an able exponent of Count Petrolski; Mr. Louis Norman makes an excellent Michael Natolski; Mr. Arthur Stratton, an amusing Colonel, is ably assisted by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, who takes the part of Micky; Mr. Frank Copeland is an effective Sir Harry Beresford; and Mr. Joe Cuthbertson is a lifelike Chief of Police. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy admirably sustains the trying rôle of Renee Rubinoff, and Miss Beatrice Western makes the most of her opportunities as Catska Lavotski.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Sidney Bacon's company heads the bill here in that thrilling sketch, *The Maniac*. Rene Best, vocalist, sings nicely; Louis Lenoir is a clever sciographist; Volp and Volp submit a pleasant musical speciality act; Playfair and Nikola are a pair of remarkably expert papierographists; and A. J. Gamble, Scotch comedian, is as popular as ever.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessees, the Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Marie Loftus heads the bill here, and does a varied and clever turn. Other members of a good company are The Folkestones, in a comedy act; Arthur Bromley and Lina Fontein, in a sketch entitled *A Musical Birthday*; the Albano Troupe, in a musical speciality act; Flo Stilton, male impersonator; and Miss Queenie May, juvenile vocalist.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The American drama, *At Cripple Creek*, has proved attractive here, the thrilling scenes depicting the frenzied search for gold in the early 'eighties arousing the keenest interest of the audience. Joe Mayfield, a typical miner of the best kind is presented by Mr. Hilliard Vox with a considerable degree of natural force; Miss Ella Dixon is all that could be wished for as Belle Gordon; the villainy of the saloon-keeper, Martin Mason, and his Mexican companion, Manuel, is amply emphasised by Mr. Walter Thornton and Mr. C. Douglas Carlyle; Mr. A. W. Layland makes a dignified Wahketah, the Indian; and Miss Vera Fordyce is a popular figure as Dynamite Ann. Comedy is provided by Miss Daisy Carlton as Maggie Mason, Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood, and Mr. Albert Rogers as the negro, Ben White. Little Freda wins approval as the child, Tatto.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Barton and Ashley's burlesque, *Canal Boat Sal*, has caused much merriment, and the programme generally is of a humorous character. Quaint feats of physical contortion and acrobatics are presented by Ryan and Hall; the fun is likewise added to by the McKays, whose painting speciality is a decided novelty. Something new in the way of marionettes is exhibited by the D'Arcs, whose puppets are remarkably faithful imitations of well-known variety artists, both in appearance and action. Miss Jennie Johns scored a success; Miss Molly Woolstenholme is a charming soprano; and Mr. Tom York, baritone, also contributes capital songs.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—As a burlesque actress Katie Lawrence receives a hearty welcome here, her smart songs and general business being greatly appreciated; Mabel Kessler proves herself a skilled performer upon various brass instruments, her cornet and post-horn solos being especially worthy of note; a capital musical turn is given by Charles Fisher's company, their selections including items from popular operas; dancing of various types is performed by the Garden Troupe; and others who appear are Fred Villiers, in a vocal scena, "Dreams," Harry Vardon, an entertaining ventriloquist, Maudie Ford, vocalist and dancer, and Marlow and Manton, in an amusing sketch.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson's company appeared here on the 20th inst. in *The Taming of the Shrew*. Their visit had been eagerly anticipated, and they were accorded an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Benson gave a scholarly and clever reading of the part of Petruchio; Mr. Cyril Keightley as Biondello was much admired; Mr. Clarence Derwent as Tranio proved successful; Mr. George Buchanan merits praise as Lucentio; and Mr. H. O. Nicholson (Gremio), Mr. George R. Weir (Grumio), Mr. P. D. Owen (Baptista), and Mr. Philip Sanders (Vincentio) were all highly meritorious performances. Mrs. Benson's interpretation of the shrewd Katherina was exceedingly clever, and Miss Olive Noble proved a charming Bianca. *Henry V.* was given as a matinée performance.

GUILDFORD. — COUNTY HALL. — The Gipsy Maids' Choir of Mr. Douglas Eley's No. 1 company has drawn large houses here during their ten days' visit. A capital variety show is provided, including Frank Pierce, comedian; Gwennie Leaks, sketch artist; Olive Sara, club manipulator; Millie Cole, contralto; Cissie Senior, double-voiced vocalist; Lottie Wyndham, variety; Dorrie Courtney, banjoist; Professor Davison and Sons, thought transference and magic; Elsie Ranson, sketch artist; Gertie Gavagan, dancerse; Jenny Swires, vocalist; Marie Stock, comedienne; Clara Burland and Leah Hingley sopranos. Mr. Percy Ranson is the accompanist.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Chas. Howard.—Messrs. Murray, King, and Clarke's company opened on Monday in *Blue-Bell in Fairyland*. As Blue-Bell, Miss Gladys Cooper is distinctly successful; Lawrence Emery is well placed as Dickey; Blib and Blob, in the hands of Messrs. C. Morton and E. Cossart, are a most amusing pair. Happy Apps and Minnie Blanchard are seen to advantage in the respective parts of Water Lily and Autumn Leaf; Miss Muriel Juin acts and sings admirably as the Queen. Mr. Percy Farrimond, the singing collier, scores a success in his tenor songs.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—A good all round programme is submitted this week. Miss Annie Purcell returns with her artistically-rendered vocal contribution; Morton and Elliott provide a capital turn; Geo. D'Albert is a descriptive vocalist of a capital order; Mr. Chas. Morritt, in his illusions, baffles his audiences nightly, and is much appreciated. Les Frasettis, in their musical turn, are artistic; Harry Clifford is a comedian of merit; Marion Scott is a comedienne of much ability; Spry and Austin are as funny as ever; the Bros. Redmond are capital acrobatic comedians; the pictures are as usual excellent.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cyril Fielding-Smyth.—On Monday a welcome return visit of *The Walls of Jericho* was paid by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company. The cast has been considerably altered since the last visit of the piece, but the standard of excellence is the same. Miss Florence Jackson as Lady Alethea repeats her fine performance; Mr. Edward A. Warburton's Jack Frobisher is better than ever; Mad Jim Bannister is capably acted by Mr. George A. Brandram; Mr. Laurence Hanray gives a capital character study of the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Molly Carton is a natural Lady Lucy; Lady Westerby is carefully portrayed by Miss Lydia Busch; Harry Dallas was played in a clever and effective manner by Mr. Sydney Hamilton; and as Bertram Hannaford Mr. George Percy amuses with his epigrams. On Thursday Mr. Chas. Carey's company, in *After the Ball*, opened a three nights' engagement.

THE KURSAAL. — Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. C. L. Naylor, M.A., Mus.Bac.; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. R. Yeulett.—The attractions this week, in addition to the orchestra, are Miss Maud Santley (contralto), Miss D'Orsay (soprano), and Mrs. Clifford Granville (reciter).

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Everton and Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The excellent programme provided here resulted in two packed houses on Monday. The King's College Boys are at the top of the bill, and provide a fine vocal entertainment. Martin Conway is always sure of a hearty welcome; the Sisters Llewellyn are excellent in operatic vocalism; and Andie Cane, a comedian, in his latest successes, is also an old favourite. Salida and Vone, coon artists; Mabel Hind, in a delightful scena, *A Little Japanese*; and the Hugo Troupe of three artists, with a performance that is pretty and effective, also add to the attractions.

GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*Lucky Durham*, Wilson Barrett's last and greatest play, is being presented here by H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. John Durham and Helen Vallerton have excellent exponents in Mr. Edmund Kennedy and Miss Phyllis Ralph. A charmingly sweet character is made of Mrs. Durham by Miss Louise Gourlay; Miss Frances Wolviston assumes the rôle of Lady Mountfallon in a manner that calls for especial commendation; and Lord Mountfallon has a capable exponent in Mr. Benson North.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The Matweef-Hugoston Troupe, in charming costumes, provide a turn which is distinguished by smart Russian dances and remarkably daring and clever acrobatic feats; Virto, a musician of much versatility brings down the house, especially with his band imitations. Another highly successful turn is that contributed by McCann's Dogs; Walker and Lake have some bright songs and racy patter, and the character songs by Lade Henderson are capitally rendered. Miss May Fallowfield is a dainty soubrette, and Miss Hettie Lee a smart comedienne and dancer. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux provide a never-failing source of delight to picture lovers.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is here this week in Mr. George R. Sims's new play, *For Life and After*, which was successfully produced at Reading last week. The company is a good all-round one, and commands the absorbed attention of its audience throughout. The stage-management is in the hands of Mr. Frank Harrison, who also fills the rôle of Rube Hexham. Mr. Vernon Sansbury is finely effective as Richard Grey, and Miss Grace Heywood enacts the rôle of Marion Grey most convincingly. Mr. Henry Hare plays well both as Jack Huggett, the murdered man, and as his son, Jim Huggett. Mr. Chris Mason as the old showman, Joe Grimper, is realistic, and is ably supported by Miss Eveline Shaw as Mrs. Grimper. Miss Muriel Dean is charming as Dora Grey, adding much to the pathos of the play.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—An excellent programme this week is the means of drawing full houses. Miss Hettie Leo, a good comedienne, opens the entertainment. A laughable dramatic episode is given by the Wade Comedy Trio; Miss Evelyn Taylor is a pleasing singer; the fun supplied by the Society Pierrots is highly appreciated; the new films shown by the Hippodrome bioscope lend an agreeable variety; Tommy Dodd is a truly eccentric comedian; Allsopp and Beckwith, droll entertainers, gain great applause; Miss Jenny Hartley is a juvenile vocalist of exceptional ability; Ahrensmeyer introduces some marvellous hypnotic experiments.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The Easter burlesque, entitled *Bluebeard, Esq.*, is still an attractive feature here. Mr. J. D. Hunter's Sister Ann is exceptionally amusing. Mr. Arthur Ricketts is good as Bamboozlum, and Mr. Charles Hawker keeps up the fun as Pimple. Selim is very gracefully taken by Miss Mabel Sadie. Some pleasing songs are contributed by Miss Cissie Wade and Miss Rence Ashley, whilst some pretty dances are given by Loolah (Miss Nellie Bowen).

ST. LEONARD'S PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Edward Neville and company are occupying the boards here his week in the dramatised version of Marie Corelli's novel *The Sorrows of Satan*. Nothing could be more impressive than the titular character of the drama as represented by Mr. Edward Neville. Mr. Gus Bowerman gives an able impersonation of Lord Lynton; the difficult part of Geoffrey Tempest is very realistic in the hands of Mr. W. H. Wilson; Lady Sybil as taken by Miss Flora Leslie is an extremely natural performance; Miss Cecil Bryne is a most acceptable exponent of the lodging-house keeper Mrs. Grimbes; Miss Lole Esmond is well suited as Diana Chesney; Miss Rosie Neville takes the part of Mavis Clare with well-sustained ease. As the Earl Mr. J. Le Fleming does the character ample justice.

ROYAL CONCERT HALL. — A children's pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*, was played here on three days this week. The libretto and songs were by Mr. Maurice Benington Reckitt, and the music was composed by Miss Gwendolen Campbell-Cory. The object of the entertainment was to aid the Convalescent Home for poor children at St. Leonards-on-Sea. The piece was performed by over 100 young people, and was excellently stage-managed by Mr. Harold Savery, the special scenery being supplied by Messrs. Drury, of Brighton.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—The Elster Grime Opera company opened on Monday in *Maritana*. Miss Marie Elster in the title-rôle gave a fine rendering; Mr. Payne Clark's Don Cæsar was very grand, Mr. Michael Kemble's rendering of Don José was excellent, Mr. Frank Land as the King of Spain was in capital form, Miss Constance Russell's the Marchioness was good, and Miss Madge Quilliam's Lazarillo richly deserved the applause accorded. *Faust*, *Carmen*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Les Cloches de Corneville*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment* are billed for the remainder of the week. The orchestra, under Mr. Grimes's direction, rendered good service.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—An excellent variety company opened here on Monday. The "Mighty Medicine Chief" is excellent; and Walter Moet, conjurer and illusionist, is good. The Sisters Delmore, in their scena *The Redskin Chief*, introducing fancy rifle and revolver shooting, are well received; and the Sisters Lemars, banjoists and mandolinists, are applauded. The bill also includes the Two Deans, duettists and dancers; Miss Raie Le Roy, coon vocalist and dancer; Little Napper, quaint comedian; Lily Rose, serio; Minna Roselle, ballad vocalist; Young Cody; and Myra Wynne, serio and dancer.

HUDDERSFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy G. Arthur.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are here, playing *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Jennie Deans*. *Othello* was the piece chosen to open the week, and the tragedy was capably presented by the cast engaged, Mr. Tearle's strong performance as the Moor being supported by Mr. Wilson Gunning as Iago, Mr. V. O. Crabtree as Cassio, and Miss Esther Tearle as Desdemona.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—There is a capital entertainment provided by the Riogoku Family of Japanese Acrobats; Lloyd Morgan, descriptive vocalist; Miss Renée in a clever and refined musical act; Bert Williams, a ventriloquial humorist of the highest excellence; Miss Fanny Wright and Picton Roxburgh, in a sketch entitled *Cockie*; Miss Sable Fern, a dainty little lady with some popular songs; and new pictures on the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy H. Hutchison's capable company is presenting *The Freedom of Suzanne* here. A performance

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is here with the powerful drama entitled *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. George Harvard is a manly Harry Steyne; Mr. Fred G. Evison is quite at home as Billy Brewer; Mr. Austin Mortimer is well placed as Leonard Royle; Mr. Wentworth supplies a powerful portrayal of Hassan Padisha; Mr. Dobell Lyle submits a fine rendering of Donald Craig; Miss Grace Lester is a charming Mary Steyne; Miss Mildred Carr is well placed as Nancy Brewer; and Lady Phyllis Eustace is ably represented by Miss Hilda Merrilese.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—*Merely Mary* Ann paid her first visit here this week, and the pathetic little comedy, which was remarkably well played by Messrs. Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company, was accorded a good reception. Mr. Ruper Lister was particularly successful as Lancelot, and Miss Margaret Fareleigh gave a perfect impersonation of the name-part. Mr. J. Cranstoun Neville played smartly as Peter; Mr. W. Collard was sufficiently oily as the Vicar; Miss Ruth Hazlewood and Miss Pauline Emeric as the lodging-house keeper and her daughter caused much amusement; and Miss E. Daw and Miss Margaret Frame put just the requisite amount of vulgarity into their impersonation of the Sisters Trippett.

KEIGHLEY.— QUEEN'S THEATRE.— Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Sin of Her Childhood* is proving very attractive this week. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes scores heavily as Stephen Haysel, playing the part with much power; Mr. Charles Fancourt as the Rev. Alan Grey receives hearty applause; Mr. Frederick Loyd enacts the part of Captain John Therton in an able manner; a bright and breezy performance of Barney O'Reilly is given by Mr. Hugh Brady; Miss Ruth Sheppard is a charming Mary Haysel; and little Dott Moss is pert and attractive, her songs and dances being well received.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietors, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer. — Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company commenced a short season here this week by presenting *The Streets of London*. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's Badger is an excellent performance; and Miss B. Doyle cleverly portrays the spoilt, domineering Alida Crawley. The part of Gideon Crawley has an able exponent in Mr. H. K. Ayliffe; he has a commanding figure, and acts well. Miss G. Hastings-Walton plays the part of Lucy Fairweather sympathetically and intelligently; Mr. Walton B. Freear is quite at home as Jonas Puffy, his song and dance in Act 4 proving popular; Mr. Gerald Jordon does well as Mark Livingstone; Mr. Norman Aveling is responsible for the dual rôle of Captain Fairweather and Paul Fairweather, and Miss Elsie Hastings looks a "boyish" boy in the part of Dan Puffy.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—On Thursday evening Mr. E. Lockwood's company commenced a short engagement of three nights and one matinée with the successful musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*. This is the first time the piece has been presented at Leamington, and the attraction proved a very popular one.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The novel entertainment inaugurated by Mr. Hart at his Bradford Theatre last week opened here on Monday, and has proved an unqualified success, for the experiment has been received with rare enthusiasm by crowded houses. Offenbach's vivacious and melodious trifle, *The Rose of Auvergne* is first presented, the executants being Miss Stella Gastelle. Mr. Broughton Black, and Mr. H. Scott Russell. Miss Gastelle evinces rare vocal and histrionic abilities in a charming portrayal of Fleurette. The remainder of the evening is taken up by the Follies, a company of remarkably clever vaudeville artists, whose répertoire of burlesque business and vocal and comedy items is truly refreshing and entertaining.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The stirring melodrama *Under the Russian Flag* retains a strong hold on the public taste, and is attracting good patronage to this "home of drama." Mr. Jack Haddon cuts a manly vigorous figure as the hero, Captain Demetrius; some forcible acting is done by Mr. George Herbert in his part of General Romanoff; whilst Miss Elaine Vanburgh plays the heroine, Vera Vasilloff with decided charm of manner. Much good work is also done by Mr. Bernard Mervyn, Mr. Cecil Melton, and Mr. George Draycott.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush. — Mr. Charles Harrington appears on a first visit with *The Sailors of the King*. The hero, Dick Drake, a lieutenant on H.M.S. Storm, is faithfully portrayed by Mr. Harry Douglas; Mr. T. Vernon Travers as Orrel Drake does some good acting; and the old Admiral is a characteristic and successful effort by Mr. Chas. Harrington. Miss Sylvia Stella makes a captivating heiress and heroine, and the Daisy Dent of Miss Gertrude Sterroll is also a clever and successful effort. Other leading parts are presented by Mr. Walter Farnsworth, Mr. Charles Trevlayne and Mr. Kenneth Black. Some realistic sea pictures and episodes are shown.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley. — The calculating marvel, Jacques Maudi, is giving a taste of his quality here, and his mental feats arouse great interest and enthusiasm. A clever comedy sketch by Amann and Hartley is a popular feature; Ruby and Laws are diverting in comedy and vocal entertainment; the Delevines score the usual success with their contributions; the Goltz Trio are gymnasts of more than average merit; Prof. Bernar's marionette show is amongst the best ever seen here; a smart comedian appears in Jas. H. Cullen; and Leonie Dixon, vocalist and dancer, and Jessie Merrilees, comedienne, also contribute.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Mr. John Tiller's clever extravaganza, *High Jinks*, largely accounts for the crowded state of this popular hall during this present week, and of a smart company Bob Selvidge is particularly successful. George Leyton appears at the bottom of the bill, and his military scena, *Boys of the Chelsea School*, goes with dash and vigour. Of comedians Ted Young is popular, and Dale and O'Malley are very smart with eccentric business. The Society Quartette sing and dance in good style; a remarkable gymnastic turn is contributed by the Bros. Zampah; and Lily Flexmore (the flexible lady), Ada Twibell (favourite burlesque artist), and Frances Haskoll (vocalist) also contribute.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Sanford and Lyons are at the top of the bill here, and ably fill the position with smart patter and neat dancing. Another eccentric pair are Bell and Henry, who amuse in a similar line; comedy is contributed by George and Edwards; the vocal work of Merton and Rydon is acceptable; Julian Mack is scoring a success; Gus Hindell continues to be popular; an eccentric juggling act by Zarmo is amongst the best features of the bill; and Marie Weston, instrumentalist and speciality dancer, and Irene Rose, comedienne, complete a good bill.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—The Leicester Amateur Music and Dramatic Society hold the boards this week with *La Fille du Tambour Majeur*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont. — Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is presenting the melodrama, *The Master Criminal*. Miss Chalmers as Cecile plays with histrionic ability, and Mr. Henry L. Osmond as Telford Lestage (the Master Criminal) is a success. Both Mr. Alexander Haviland as Philip Manners and Mr. Elmore Frith as Ben Beaudy are good. Mr. Harry Cooke is capital as Tommy Dale, and little Ivy Rochefort acts commendably as Winifred Manners.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Miss Hetty King is unquestionably a smart and clever male impersonator and dancer, and well deserves the excellent reception accorded her. Manning's Entertainers are as mirth-provoking as ever in a second edition of *The Hotel Boots;* Marie Collins, a vivacious comedienne, gets a warm reception; the Reed-Oetzmanns create laughter in their comic pantomime, *On Tour in the Tyrol;* Mason and Bart are first-rate gymnasts; Frank Dunlop is an entertaining comic singer; Mora and Lola give a capital musical display; Lady Fauntleroy's ventriloquial turn secures merited appreciation; Victor Newman, who deputises for R. H. Douglass, impersonates in a lifelike manner Sir Henry Irving as Mathias, and also gives an excellent performance as Svengali; and the American Bioscope also depicts a new series of up-to-date subjects.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The leading feature in this week's programme is the romantic and dramatic episode (from the French) entitled *Husband or Child?* which is well presented by Forbes, Murray, and company. Tiny Arnold, a diminutive artist, is receiving a warm welcome; Francisco is smart juggler and equilibrist; the Murrays create much laughter in their absurdity, *The Star Twins;* May Moodie shines with her piccolo solos; Frances Manners in her musical scena, *Good Old Days*, is both seen and heard to advantage; Joe Dale, chorus singer, also entertains; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, always a popular feature at this hall, is retained.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company opened here on Monday with *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Lawrence Brough causes much laughter by his impersonation of the Frenchman; Mr. Henry Hampson makes a conspicuous success as Dick Whortles; and Mr. Charles Groves, jun., is also to be complimented on his excellent portrayal of Joseph Carbury. Miss Kate Milford makes a captivating Dorothy Whortles; Miss Edith Ormonde was successful as Millie Grace; and Miss Dorcas Corsbie cleverly presented the character of Matilda Carbury.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke's musical play, *The Naval Detective*, is being staged here. Mr. Kirke enacts the title-rôle, and appears in all his various guises with the greatest success. He is ably supported by Messrs. Harold Wallace, Mark Practice, B. Leighton, Charles Burns, and Joe Plant. Special mention should be made of Miss Louie Fountaine, who sustains three parts, one of them a sailor boy, all with distinct success. The Sisters Gladys and Elsie Allen introduce their clever international dances, and Miss Edith Claris, Miss Gladys Claney, Miss Annie Brunette, and Miss Lily Seymour also appear to advantage.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A hearty welcome has this week been given to *Lady Madcap*. The company sent by Mr. George Edwardes is the same as on the former occasion. Miss Marie Studholme is the life and soul of the merry comedy in her assumption of the title-rôle. Mr. Arthur Longley, first "swell" trooper, and then amateur butler, provoked uproarious laughter; the diminutive Corporal Ham, presented by Mr. E. Statham Staples, proved one of the most popular as well as one of the best figures in the cast; Messrs. Robert Hall and Oliver Round, as the adventurers, contributed largely to the merriment; the graceful acting of Mr. Ernest Mahar as the wooer, and his rendering in French of "My Irish Molly," "Bill Bailey," and other well-known songs, were a most acceptable feature; Miss Nina Sevening played sweetly the rôle of Gwennie Holden; and Miss Mabel Russell as the lady's maid was vivacious, and danced charmingly.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Lessees, the Shakespeare Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The management of this popular theatre has made a bold move in booking *Peter Pan* for three weeks, with matinées every Wednesday and Saturday. Such enterprise establishes a record in Liverpool, and time alone will show whether the venture is a wise one. So far the bookings have proved satisfactory, and as nothing but praise is heard on all hands in regard to the exquisite production, the financial results ought to leave no cause for regret. Regarding "extended" engagements, however, the Mersey city has generally proved somewhat erratic and uncertain. At all events, the Shakespeare people deserve success, even if they cannot command it, for the beautiful conception of Mr. J. M. Barrie has come as a great artistic treat to playgoers here. Nothing like it has been witnessed before in Liverpool, and there is a general and unanimous chorus of praise in its behalf. Not alone the sweet simplicity of the theme, with its peeps into fairyland, but the wonderful stage pictures, so pleasing to the eye, and the mechanical effects of cunning construction, have afforded the utmost satisfaction to all who have visited the theatre during the week. Miss Cecilia Loftus, as the merry sprite, speedily won the affections of her audience, whose measure of applause was cordial and unstinted; Miss Hilda Trevelyan proved a sweet Wendy Darling; the make-up and manner of Mr. Loring Fernie was quite in keeping with his excellent portrayal of the Pirate Captain; Miss Enid Spencer-Brunton handled the small part of Mrs. Darling with credit; and all the juveniles in the cast showed a high degree of qualification. The play is presented by Mr. Charles Frohman, and will not, we understand, be produced anywhere else in the Lancashire district.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—The sensational drama *A Traitor Prince*, from the pen of George De Gray, has been played here this week by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Mr. G. M. Montanni held the part of Prince Dalmirez, playing with much intensity and dramatic power; Miss Nita Langford displayed high accomplishments as Vashti; Mr. Ernest A. Duval was a manly Lieut. Derrick; Mr. Edmond O'Grady created much humour as Billy Bright; as did Mr. Edward Fenton in the part of the Hon. Bobby Dalrymple. Two rôles, Richard and Colonel Vane, were ably undertaken by Mr. A. W. Norman; and Miss Clara O'Grady was satisfactory as Mrs. Blossom.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—An entertaining programme here is headed by the Six Brothers Luck, in their sketch *The Hotel Grande*, wherein their antics and patter create continuous and uproarious laughter. Stewart and Morgan are artistic and finished singers; the Three Seymours, clever and daring gymnasts; Maxford and O'Neill, laughable comedians; Gus Garrick, a popular eccentric; and Mamie Iris, a pleasing entertainer. The bioscope comes in for special attention.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*At Duty's Call*, an interesting military play, has been produced here by Mr. John Gerant and company. Mr. Gerant as the villainous Harold Allison sustains the greater part of the hard work, and acts with much dramatic power; Mr. Leonard Williams is a capital Captain Allison; as General Gordon Mr. Ernest St. John wins popularity; Miss Edith Knight is a charming Dora Drummond; and Miss Georgina Hamilton does credit to the rôle of Salema.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*The Drama of Life*, from the pen of Mr. Lingford Carson, is here this week with the author's own company. Mr. George M. Newall proved an admirable Harry Beech; a meritorious Sylvia was presented by Miss Kate Hallam; Mr. Edward M. Hamilton made the most of Walter Beech; a deal of amusement followed the movements of Sir Dobson Wilde, impersonated by Mr. Harwood Roberts; Miss Florence French assisted in the comedy with her Lady Wilde; and Mr. Edward Van Biene filled the rôle of Count Foi satisfactorily.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—At the top of the programme this week is Eugene Stratton, who has proved a great draw; Madge Temple, a winsome vocalist, met with a hearty reception for her delightful songs; Mike S. Whallen, the laughtermaker, was in fine form; a humorous comedy duologue, *Two to One*, came from the Findens; Ernie Mayne, as a comedian, caused great fun; Albert Whelan proved a pleasing turn at the piano; Terley executed some particularly clever models in clay; and others who appeared were La Tostia, mandolinist; Ralph and Nellie Howard, musicians; Max York's clever dogs; and Les Suprisks, lady gymnasts.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Owing to the great success that followed their appearance last week, Arthur Roberts and his sketch company have been retained for another six nights, playing the exceedingly funny trifle, *Where's the Count?* Another mirth-provoking turn is that submitted by Radford and Valentine, the juggling jesters; Florrie Forde is heartily cheered for her latest songs; as comedy acrobats the Schiavonis are notably good; Downes and Langford are a clever couple of comedians and dancers; Charlie Williams is funny as a Scotch coon comedian; Ada and Setta Poole are acceptable as society entertainers; and others in the list include Charles Somers, comedian; George Grogie, the Sussex yokel; and Maud Esmond, burlesque artist. The English Cup football contest of Saturday last was shown very realistically by the Bioscope.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—A local favourite comedian, Will Hebden, heads the bill here this week, and brings several of his latest songs; Billy Kelly, with his laughable "Walk, walk, walk," assisted by a variety of peculiar pedestrians, has proved an excellent turn; as a comedy juggler, Monti affords every satisfaction; Pete Dwight and son are speciality artists and dancers of no mean order; Will Daniels has some funny songs and patter; and Amy Linton is a most creditable comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The Royal stock dramatic company are producing *Her Wedding Day*, in six tableaux, a sketch which has been received with much favour. Miss Lina Nazeby played with considerable skill the part of the heroine Madge Conway; Mr. Percy Boucher humorously presented Lothario Caccles; Mr. Harry Tresham made an excellent Harold Saxby; the rôle of Weedon Kenyon was in the safe hands of Mr. Herbert Cecil; the Sam Klink of Mr. Cecil Ravenswood proved acceptable; Miss Sara Blumenthal displayed much ability as Jemima Caccles; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood effectively held the character of Dora. Some capital pictures were shown by the bioscope.

PADDINGTON PALACE. — Proprietors, the Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The principal item here this week is the three tableaux sketch, *The Miser*, produced by Mr. W. L. Lee and company; Davis and Roberts, a smart pair of variety artists, who were discovered by Mr. Edwin W. Smith, of the Parthenon, performing in the street, gave a most satisfactory turn; Walter Aubrey, fresh from pantomime, has several taking songs; as comedians and dancers, the Sisters Kennedy are exceedingly pleasing; and Marie Doust does well as a comedienne.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Three Schaffers are foremost here this week with their gladiatorial exhibition; the terriers and "Dot," the cake-walk pony, shown by Miss Fredrica, display a remarkable degree of training; as comical acrobats, Burley and Burley raise a deal of laughter; Sydney Carden and Zulu Zesch provide a neat society entertainment; smart burlesque artists and novelty dancers are the Melroses; Fred Horsfall affords satisfaction as a humorist and mimic; Miss Queena Barnes does well as a character comedienne; and Tom E. Hughes, versatile character comedian, also appears.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Hector and Paulus, smart comedy gymnasts, are at the head of the bill here this week; the Sisters Terry sing several pleasing duets; James Newery is particularly eccentric; Emmie Ames has a neat vocal scena, "Beneath the Shadow of Big Ben"; and Harry Bancroft sings some popular descriptive pieces.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager. Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Heading a lengthy bill here this week are Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, assisted by Albert Mason, with the laughable skit, *The Would-be Actors Rehearsing a Drama;* Ford and Hanson, "the musical millionaires," provide an interesting turn; Shavo and Frank as vocalists and comedy jugglers, are well worth witnessing; the Ashmoles provide some smart speciality work; J. A. Cassels is a Scotch comedian of merit; and others on the list are Queenie Lewis, chic comedienne, and Dan Agar, comedian.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Wilkie Bard, always popular in Liverpool, has proved a strong attraction here this week, and has been cordially welcomed; another favourite is Ella Shields, who, among other pieces, gives her latest success, "My Cotton Blossom Lou"; Denton and Rowland's company, in *The Punch and Judy Girls* song-scena, including Miss Marjorie Lawrence, have been loudly applauded; Tom Owen, the new Welsh comedian, had a gratifying reception; Nellie Stratton gave dainty songs in her well-known admirable style: the Warsaw Brothers proved exceedingly diverting; some charming singing was provided by the Celtic Comedy Trio; clever and funny were the Rinaldos with their balancing feats; and two able comedians, Fred E. Terry and Walter Stanley, appeared with credit to themselves. The bioscope showed an excellent film of Saturday's football cup final.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—The first three nights of the week *The Dandy Doctor* was the attraction here. Mr. Edmund Russel as Melchisadeck Brown creates unbounded hilarity; and Miss Norah Melton is genuinely comical as Jane. Miss May Yates is all animation and bightness as Ivy Pendred, and her dancing is charming; Mr. Leslie Martin is distinctly clever in the rôle of Bertie Bolingbroke, and Mr. James Danvers makes a good Colonel Pendred.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—*The Christian* is being presented here this week by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. F. Ranson Buckley, as the Hon. John Storm, gives a powerful impersonation of the part; Parson Quayle is well represented by Mr. Percy Johnson; Archdeacon Wealthy is finely portrayed by Mr. Colin Johnstone; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman is capital as Lord Robert Ure; as Glory Quayle Miss Grace Murielle gives an admirable portrayal; Miss Florence Radcliffe is good as Polly Love. The company is under the direction of Miss Marie Beckenham.

MAIDENHEAD.— THE PAVILION.— Proprietor, Mr. George Gude.—This week's programme is very entertaining. Harry Bromley and Eva West contribute a comedy duologue; Harry Monkhouse, comedian, appears; Sara Yost (lady baritone) sings well; and Galino is successful, especially in a laughing song. Sidney Jones is well received in musical sketches; Gus Daniels, character vocalist, sings exceptionally well; and Wragg and Wragg earn applause with their remarkable exhibition of swordsmanship. A good selection of animated pictures concludes the performance.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Howard Watson.—The following are included in a good programme here this week: Cline and Clarke, duettists and dancers, who give a smart exhibition of sand dancing; Hague and Russell in a comedy duologue *Your Loving Aunt;* Roland Hill, an amusing comedian; the Dunvilles, in a clever musical act; Miss Daisy Morell, comedienne and vocalist; Harry Bent, mimic in "A Peep Into the Music Halls"; Miss Carlotta Lunn, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Miss Ada Blanche and Mr. Lionel Rignold and company, in *What the Butler Saw*, is again the attraction at this house, after a very successful week.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Manchester playgoers should congratulate themselves on the opportunity of witnessing such an excellent répertoire of Old English plays as those presented by Mr. Edward Compton and his thoroughly efficient company during the current week. On Monday night, before an appreciative though only moderately filled house, a brilliant performance was given of the popular *Davy Garrick*, in which Mr. Compton made his 1314th appearance in the title-rôle with his accustomed great success. As Violet Miss Mackenzie contributed a nice and tactful performance; Mr. H. Crocker gave a masterly rendering of Alderman Gresham; and Mr. A. B. Imeson made a distinct hit as the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut. Other parts were played by Mr. Herbert Pigot, Mr. Arnold Lucy, Mr G. W. Johnston, Mr. Reginald E. Besant, Mr H. Armstrong, and the Misses M. Hassell and Muriel Meek, all of whom acted with neatness and discretion, while the dresses were elaborate, and the scenery correspondingly excellent. A one-act comedy, *The Desperate Lover*, preceded, in which Mr. A .B. Imeson, Miss Mackenzie, and Miss Evelyn Hall were particularly successful. On Tuesday an equally fine performance of *The School for Scandal* was given, followed by a matinée on Wednesday of *She Stoops to Conquer*, and in the evening a most enjoyable rendering of Mr. Compton's record success, *To-Morrow*, the remainder of the week being filled in with a revival of Lord Lytton's comedy *Money*, the Haymarket comedy *New Men and Old Acres*, and a repetition of *Davy Garrick*.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—The Easter pantomime of *Puss in Boots* entered upon its second week here on Monday, with every indication of completing its three-weeks' run successfully.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's highly successful attraction at the Grand Junction Theatre, *The Life of a Showman*, is transferred here this week, and proved quite to the liking of Monday's audience. Mr. George Testo Santé and his company are efficient throughout.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Cavilina Troupe, in their clever and enjoyable comedy act, are the top attraction here this week. Prominent also are the Andreassens, the Danish midshipmen, whose "sport" is extremely good. Stanley and Vandyke give a pleasing sketch, entitled *A Broken Promise;* Lily Gaston is a clever dancer and male impersonator; Annie Cohen comedienne, sings very acceptably; Grapho and Jackson are seen in a novel quick-change act called *The Café Riche;* Bert Kemp, lightning cartoonist, is clever; Sam Shipley, eccentric comedian and dancer, adds much to the entertainment; Phillips and Merritt give a smart American comedy act; and Beatrice Worth, comedienne, provides an enjoyable turn.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's company is here in the detective drama, *The Prince of Rogues*. The heroic part of Frank Farrell is played well by Mr. Alec W. Wynne, and he finds an excellent partner in Miss Dorothy Riddell as Winnie Harwood. Mr. George Rammell is capital as Geoffrey Flint, the rogue upon whose machinations Gilbert Kenry, the detective, is set to work in the person of Mr. Henry B. Lewis; and as Rita Congreve, a woman with a past, Miss Georgina V. Thomas adds conspicuously to the sinister interest. Among the remainder of the capable cast Mr. Sidney Fairbrother gives a clever depiction of Harwood, the gambler-millionaire, and Mr. James Fox is well suited in the rôle of Dick. The staging is good.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Sutton Vane's sensational drama, *A Wife's Triumph*, was presented here on Monday by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and a powerful company. Mr. Abbott plays Frank Wilton, the cashier, in excellent style, and Miss Ada Abbott takes advantage of her fine opportunities as Bessie Dewhurst; while as Robert Dewhurst, the Squire, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps makes a distinct success, and Mr. Edwin Keene gives an admirable impersonation of Ben Bradford. The two betting-men, Jordan and Hartman, are cleverly rendered by Mr. W. H. Garbois and Mr. Weedon Ross; Mr. D. Pentland gives a good idea of Rylan, the American sportsman; and among the minor parts Miss Marjorie Tennant contributes a smart and amusing depiction of Margery Crib, the Yorkshire servant.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—A spirited version of Dumas' novel, "Monte Cristo," is staged here this week under the direction of Mr. Junius Booth, the American actor, who gives a successful rendering of the central part. The story is carried through four acts, after an elaborate prologue which occupies three scenes in itself, and the whole staging is managed in picturesque and effective style. Mr. Junius Booth's skilled efforts as the Count of Monte Cristo are well supported, principally by Mr. Laurence Grove as Mondego and Mr. Walter Uridge as Villefort, the King's attorney; while Miss Joan Ellis acts cleverly as Mercedes, Miss Doris Regan is pleasing as Sophie Danglers, and Miss Kate Maynard gives a good delineation of La Caronte.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Wal Pink's "workmen" are here this week in *Repairs*, an absurdity concocted solely to raise laughter; Datas, the human almanac, creates considerable interest with his wonderful memory; Rosie Archer is a first-rate mimic, and is well received; and Howard and Collinson are particularly good in their *Porter and Parcel* sketch. The Bros. Bright are clever and graceful gymnasts; and the Three Sisters Silcott are pleasing vocalists and dancers. Other enjoyable items are those of Amy Anderson and company, Ted Cowan (comedian), and J. T. McMillan (a capital Scotch comedian). As usual, the Palace pictures are good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Managers, Messrs. H. Hall and H. Pryme.—The top star here this week is La Berat, as the Mystic Fire Maiden, whose illuminated dancing is but feebly described as the most beautiful act of its kind upon the stage. Another really delightful turn is that of Cruikshank, whose style in song and story is at once a novelty and a treat. To these are added the remarkably fine contributions of Elsie Molloy and company, in *The Lady Bankrupt;* Eugen Joly, a marvellous performer on the cornet; the Ten Genis, in an elaborate Risley act; the Twin Bros. Dean, whose simultaneous dancing is an exhibition worth going a long way to see; Alf Chester, comedian, whose laughing-song is a big hit; Eric Dare and company, in a bright scena, *The Reservist;* Helen Mar, the American raconteuse, and the bioscope.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A new and extraordinary exhibition of the uncanny is given here this week by Menetekel, whose doings are reminiscent of the supernatural writing on the wall of old. An extremely pretty spectacle is Canty's Mystic Grotto, which introduces Mlle. De Sylva, the mysterious lady, among wonderful effects of light. Other enjoyable features of the programme are Brett and Orford, who give their well-known act successfully; the Jack Theo trio of skilled equilibrists; the Wolkowsky troupe of Russian singers and dancers; Herbert Lloyd, "the King of Diamonds," an amusing comedian; Billy McClain's coloured sextette of dancers and sketch artists (including Mme. Cordelia); and the Sisters Klos, a clever duo. In addition the choir render a part-song by Pinsuti, an illustrated song by Pontet is rendered by J. F. Headlam and the choir, and the bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Mlle. Eugénie Fougére, the charming Parisian "chanteuse," tops the bill here this week, and delights all with her excellent singing. The Harvey Boys, well-known boxing comedians, are screamingly funny in their item *The Fighting Dummy;* Mark Anthony is a humorist of the first water; the Three Rubys show much cleverness in their equipoise, acrobatic, and trapeze act; and Flo Watson is a pleasing character-vocalist. Other good turns are those of Charles Woodward (actor-vocalist), Florrie Bray (comedienne), Joe Oliver (singer of coon songs), Mlle. Leona (comedienne and dancer), and Raymond's vivagraph.

KING'S LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The principal attraction here this week is provided by Edwin Garth and his company in the farcical sketch, *McKenna in Love*. The combination is highly successful and a big draw, quite a long cast being employed, of whom the principals are Edwin Garth and Joe English. In the programme also are Wallace Whitney, character-comedian, who presents a variety of smart and amusing impersonations; Beattie Foster, a singer of character songs of the low-comedy order; and an amusing series of pictures on the bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—This week's programme includes the popular actor-author, Mr. Walter Howard, and company, in a farcical sketch, entitled *Spiff! Spaff! Spoof!* which causes much amusement. Tom White's Arabs are a troupe of juvenile comedians, who contribute funny sayings and songs; the Three Clements give a clever and daring gymnastic display; the Rayners are wonderful contortionists; Fred Mason whistles in an acceptable manner; Greener achieves much success with plaintive ballads sung in good style; Gilroy and Gross are expert dancers and laughable comedians; J. C. Laurie scores with his "Walk" song; and Babs Grimshaw is a particularly clever child vocalist and male impersonator.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—After a successful week at the King's Mr. Harry Roxbury and company are here this week in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, the whimsicalities of Mr. Roxbury and his capable company causing no end of laughter. Leo Tell is an excellent mimic, and meets with a good reception; and Ben Harris and his famous Nippers provide a good speciality scene. Happy Attwood is a quaint comedian; and the songs rendered by Edna Grey (ballad vocalist) and Jessie Albini (comedienne) prove very acceptable. Kendrick and Laura possess good voices and dance exceedingly well, and Frank Whiteley contributes a bone solo. The pictures include the Final Cup Tie at the Crystal Palace.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Morelia and Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Messrs. Leon Wood and A. F. Allen-Tower's company is here in *The Hindustanee*. Miss Dolly Ross as the Hindustanee Princess sang and acted well; the part of Dr. Cody Jones was admirably taken by Mr. Arthur E. Behan; and Mr. George Barr was amusing as King Kawlee. Good dancing turns were given by the Maharance Troupe, and Mlle. Joseline proved herself an efficient soloist. The Three Behans were also responsible for specialities.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael.—This week the resident stock company, under the direction of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh, has been playing *The Middleman*. Mr. O. P. Haggie is seen to great advantage as Cyrus Blenkharn; Mr. A. Austin-Leigh sustains the rôle of Joseph Chandler cleverly; Mr. Henderson Bland is effective as Captain Julian Chandler; Mr. Edward Mervyn as the manager, Batty Todd, is good; and Mr. Percy Goodyear is excellent as Jesse Pegg. Miss Emmie O'Reilly plays charmingly as Mrs. Chandler, and both Mrs. Culling and Miss Lillian Rogers cleverly sustain the rôles respectively of Mary and Nancy, Blenkarn's daughters. Miss Violet Agnew capably fills the part of Maude Chandler, and good support is given, among other members of the company contributing to the success of the production, by Miss Madge Herrick, Lady Umfreville; Mr. J. E. Savery, Sir Seaton Umfreville; Mr. Claude Agnew, Vachell; Miss Dora Laney, Felicia Umfreville; and Mr. J. K. Lord, Daneper.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—This week's programme includes Harry Freeman, comedian; Dorothy Veld, comedienne and dancer; Frank Gee, comedian; Sisters Aindow, musical experts; Billy Hobbs, dancer and comedian; Anthony, the mystic man in white; and the usual series of Animated Pictures—the whole of the turns being much appreciated.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. Charles Carte and company are revisiting here this week with *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Carte repeats his well-known impersonation of Jerry the Tramp, and is well supported by Miss Doris Br

acting. Mr. Templer Powell is a lively Lord Percy Kilgour, and Mr. C. J. Barber doubles very cleverly the parts of Smeeton and Jowers. Miss Lilian Hallows plays with great dash the character of Pansy Bligh, and Miss Mary Mallalieu is a sweet Phyllis Dagenham. The small part of Charlotte is supremely well acted by Miss Ida Laurie, who shows what a good artist can make out of trifling materials. The comedy is preceded by a comedietta, entitled *The Stratagem*, pleasingly played by Miss Lilian Hallows, Mr. Harold West, Mr. Templer Powell, and Mr. C. J. Barber, who gives a capital sketch of an old butler.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—*The New Barmaid* has always been a great favourite in Edinburgh, so it was not surprising that Mr. Alexander Loftus's company should open here with it on Monday to excellent business. The musical comedy is strongly cast, Mr. Joseph B. Montague especially being a tower of strength as Bertie White. Mr. Loftus himself makes a good deal of the part of the South African millionaire, and Mr. Leslie Austin as Captain Loveday has every opportunity of using his rich baritone voice. Mr. James Grant imparts the proper pepperiness to Col. Claymore, Mr. Frank Melroyd acts and dances well as Braddy, and Mr. W. F. Chewd gives a capital character-study of a Frenchman. The ladies, too, are in great force. Miss Maisie Ellinger plays the title-rôle in winning fashion, and the crafty old barmaid is well sustained by Miss Hilda Blanche. Miss Violet Osmund as the lady journalist and Miss Winifred Preston as Lady Moulton are also highly successful. Exhibitions of artistic dancing are given by Miss Lottie Stone's Trio, consisting of Miss Sophia Dorram, Miss May Hawthorn, and Miss Queenie Bell.

Empire Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. C. J. Cawood.—The programme here this week is spiced with many capital turns. A prominent feature is the performance of the sketch entitled Hogmanay, by Mr. J. L. Shine and company, who command the warm applause of the audience by their admirable acting. Miss Elsie Robey is smart and amusing in her musical act, and she hits off the mannerisms of some society amateurs in a happy manner. Hays and Suits give a clever display of dancing, and the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, in their lively sketch *Up a Tree*, evoke the heartiest laughter. Miss Flo Deighton sings "Annie Laurie" and "Come Back to Erin" with such delightful expression as to secure an enthusiastic recall. The Bros. Egbert are amusing, as usual, in their sketch, *The Happy Dustmen*; Booker and Harris are successful in their duologue, *The Interviewer*; Miss Ivey Roze and Mr. Frank Calvert give a playful skit on Captain Cuttle; Mr. Fred Lincoln is laughter-provoking in his turn; and Rich and Rich funny in their duets, patter, and dances.

FALKIRK.—Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manger, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—*The Gamester of Metz*, a sensational drama, is being presented here by Mr. Chas. March and Co. As Paul Baldot Mr. March proves himself an actor of versatility; Captain Badaire is well taken by Mr. John B. Murray; and Louis Badaire is fittingly presented by Mr. W. G. Dudeney. Miss Una Lane acts gracefully as Lucia Baldot, and Miss Cissy Haigton and Mr. Victor Knight contrive with a good deal of success to keep the audience in a merry mood.

FOLKESTONE.—Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's co. is paying a return visit here this week with *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Mark Blow as Bertie Cecil Royellieu acts the part to perfection; Mr. Theodore Hill as Berklie Cecil Royellieu is very good; the part of Lord Royellieu is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Brooke; Mr. Albert Wray is well suited as Lord Rockingham; Mr. Walter Rousby, who causes amusement as Rake, sings well; Mr. Charles D. Pitt, in his old rôle of Colonel Châteauroy, plays in an able manner; Mr. Fred Rolls makes the most of the part of Baron; Miss Mabel Ormonde as the Princess Venetia acts with quiet dignity; Miss Nelly May sings and dances effectively as Lavinia; and the highest praise must be accorded Miss Ida Molesworth for her impersonation of Cigarette.

Leas Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. A. Litter.—The Gipsies and their Jester, under the direction of Mr. D'Arcy Clayton, are paying a return visit here this week, and are as popular as ever. Mr. Alfred Leslie as the Jester has a fund of humour, and never fails to please.

GATESHEAD.—Metropole Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*Dishonoured* is being staged here this week. Mr. Percy Ballard gives a powerful depiction of Philip Cunningham; Mr. Geoffrey Broughton is well placed as Sir William Cunningham; the villainies of Capt. Pentland are excellently portrayed by Mr. Jackson Hayes; Mr. J. Leicester Jackson does full justice to the rôle of Captain Cholmondeley; and Messrs. H. B. Ford and J. Ferne, as Mike Farthing and Jem Stokes respectively are successful in comedy parts. Miss Blanche St. Albans is a capital Leslie Maynard, and Miss Pollie Denville a humorous Anne Maria.

King's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The Cratons, in a pantomimical burlesque entitled, "Front and Behind," head a good bill here. Hanvarr and Anna Lee are seen in an entertaining juggling performance; a sketch entitled, "The Battle of the Belles," played by Messrs. Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company, causes roars of laughter; Rose Elliott sings two ballads in excellent style; Chevalier Clicquot, described as the Human Arc Lamp, gives a sensational performance; Lauri Wyllie, with his mimicking mannikins, makes a hit; the Two Whites, American comedy artists, have some amusing patter, and are also excellent sand-dancers; Rosetti, the musical girl, gives an interesting turn; and the King's Bioscope shows a good film of the Cup Final.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Excellent entertainment is provided here. J. W. Hall, a comedian, who always has a great reception, heads the bill, and convulses the house; another laughter-maker is Raglus, who has some original juggling business and many quaint mannerisms; Ruby Dahl, with her mock mannikins, gives an interesting turn; Carson Hicks is an expert buck dancer; Arthur Bright (comedian), the Harc Trio (in an acrobatic act), and the "graphs" of the Cup Final complete the bill.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. D. S. Cooper; General-Manager, Mr. Roy Cochrane.—The attraction this week is Mr. Charles H. Aguzzi's company in the musical comedy, *An Irish Honeymoon*. Mr. Lyall Grant, as Lord Belville, and Miss Lilian Mayne as Molly Molloy, are well suited in their respective parts, and render some excellent songs and duets; Mr. Lorimer Stuart as Augustus Fitznoodle makes a typical dude; Mr. Malcolm Cumming is entertaining as Professor Maggs. Miss Florence Spencer as Matilda, and Miss Patrici Lavelle are equally successful as the maids. Mr. E. E. Giles, jun., as Spinks, the valet, is a warm favourite, and causes roars of laughter. Other parts are ably undertaken by Mr. Cyril Rosse, Mr. A. H. Lindor, Mr. H. A. Charles, Miss Flora Owen, and Miss May Marcus. Special mention must be made of the Franklin Troupe of Russian dancers. Mr. Frank Corri conducts the excellent chorus and augmented orchestra.

GLASGOW.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—A cordial welcome was extended to Mrs. Patrick Campbell and her company in the new play from the French, *The Whirlwind*, originally produced at Birmingham a fortnight ago. The part of the Countess of Ellingham affords Mrs. Campbell many opportunities (somewhat on the lines of her earlier success, Mrs. Tanqueray), and the powerful scenes which conclude the first and second acts were veritable triumphs for the actress. Mr. Julian Royce, as Hugh Carlton, contributed greatly to the success of the play, his acting throughout being most impressive; Mr. Oscar Adye, as Sir Henry Langham, was at his best in the strong scene with the Countess in act two; Mr. Scott Buist gave a striking embodiment of the caddish Joseph Locksley; as Mr. Leonard, Mr. A. G. Poulton was well suited, and imparted an air of suavity to the part. Various types of society ladies were ably acted by Mrs. Campbell-Bradley, Miss Mabel Beardsley, and Miss Nellie Mortyne. Mr. George Bealby neatly hit off the unattractive attributes of the Earl of Ellingham.

Royalty. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. N. Downie.—That very enjoyable farce, *Are you a Mason?* is being presented to crowded audiences this week by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. E. N. Paterson's Amos Bloodgood was both humorous and clever. He was ably assisted by Miss Adelaide Grace as Mrs. Bloodgood. The Frank Perry of Mr. H. Langdon Bruce was a clever performance of the would-be Mason; cleverness also characterised Mr. Richard Purdon's delineation of John Halton; Miss Mabel Younge as Mrs. Perry was natural and charming. The one-act drama, entitled *A Bad Penny*, was given as a preliminary, and Mr. E. N. Paterson as Richard Hyde scored a great success.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—A return visit is being made here by Mr. Walter Melville's company in the drama, *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Beaumont Collins gives a powerful study of Barbara Wade, portraying the many phases of the character with realism and fidelity; Mr. Frank R. Robertson makes a manly young Jack Livingstone; Miss Nannie Meade acts well as the frivolous Nellie Meadows, and the part of her father, the old farmer, is impersonated with excellent effect by Mr. Charles Franmore; Miss Elsie Savile makes a sympathetic Constance Cornell; Mr. Fred Ingram as Toby Turvey and Miss Lena Delphine as Tilly Vane impart considerable humour to the play; Mr. Roy Fortescue gives a clever performance as the scheming Cuthbert Lumley; Mr. John Brooks, as Luke Ramsden and Mr. Courtney Bellenden as Dr. Weston give able support.

King's, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. George Musgrove's company is this week revisiting the west end theatre in that exceedingly picturesque production, *The Prince of Pilsen*. It is almost a year since the company was here before, and among the changes in the cast the most notable is in the part of Hans Wagner, now played with a keen characteristic humour by Mr. Edwin Adeler. Mr. G. Villiers Arnold is still with the company, his fine ringing voice being again heard with pleasure in the part of Lieut. Wagner; Mr. Lawrence Wensley repeats his former success as the Earl of Shrimpton, as also does Mr. Alfred Selby as the eccentric French waiter, Francois; in the part of the real Prince some expressive solo and concerted singing is done by Mr. Stuart Alexander; Miss Nellie Cozens attractively represents Mrs. Croker; a charming Edith Adams is seen in Miss Mildred Baker; Miss Nell Emerald, Ruby Verdi, and Meg Hamylton are all heartily welcomed back in their respective parts of Sidoni, Nellie Wagner, and Jimmie, while amongst the ladies of the chorus a special hit is made by Miss Clara Stanton as the girl from New York. The production is staged in capital style, and has the advantage of a full chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. A. Robertson.

Royal Princess's.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Mudoch.—Mr. John Power's company is here this week with *Man's Enemy*, in which Mr. Power sustains with much dramatic effect the part of the villain, Tom Drake; while Miss Daisy Halling, as his accomplice, Sarah Drake, gives a humorous exposition of a cynically selfish "woman of the world." Harry Stanton, the hero, is finely portrayed by Mr. Norman A. Overton; Miss Lynn Darlington is pleasing as Grace Lisle, in which character she sings a couple of songs with charming effect; General Sir Arthur Stanton is a fine old soldierly character, well played by Mr. H. Payne; Mr. Cecil Vernon Proctor represents the Rev. Fred Lisle in a natural manner; Miss Amy Rudd as Polly Harris, Mr. J. Newton-Cowling as Iky Barnett, and Mr. Percy Norman as Adolph D'Embonpoint all help to keep the fun going. Mr. Cliff Locke as a Russian duellist, is a picturesque figure, and Mr. Alf. Burrows as Bill Sanders acts the London loafer admirably.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Sidney Dench and company are here this week with the drama *The Rich and Poor of London*. Mr. Robert Hall as Dr. Morton is responsible for some good acting, and Miss Dora Dench is seen to advantage as May Braithwaite; Mr. Sidney Dench, as Spider Jack, adds largely to the success of the play with his humour and drollery. Mr. Walter Foster, as the villain, Mark Stanley, plays with appropriate intensity; Ruby Redgrave is well sustained by Miss Lillian Burns, Matthew Grabbam is ably represented by Mr. Malcolm Gascoigne, Miss Lilly Artis as Polly Philpot, and Miss Ethel Denville as Seadrift give good portrayals.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Proprietor, Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, J. H. Oakden.—*On Circumstantial Evidence* was presented by Mr. Charles Clifford's company here on Monday evening to a good audience. Mr. Chas. Clifford, the author, has provided himself with a capital part, and in the rôle of Capt. Hamilton has many fine opportunities of which he makes the utmost; Miss Jennie Wigney wins sympathy as the sorely-tried Violet Ogilvy; as Jack Ogilvy, Mr. Wilson Brash is conspicuous, acting with no small dramatic fervour and skill; the Sir Lawrence of Mr. A. M. James is an admirable presentation, and the diversified dual rôles of Olga and Mary Brandoni have ample justice done them by Miss Hilda Hatton, an artist of more than ordinary ability. The comedy is in the safe hands of Miss Amy Stewart and Mr. Newton Pearce; Miss Dot Stewart makes much of the homeless waif, Tim; the Gen. Garibaldi of Mr. J. Keane, elicits deserved approbation.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—The Svengalis, in their music and mystery turn, are the stars here, and give a very mystifying performance; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford provide much amusement with their lively sketch, *Getting Even*; Percy Honri's concertina playing and his volatile humour are equally appreciated; Colby and May in their ventriloquial and dancing doll turn are specially good; an excerpt from *The Lily of Killarney*, by W. Wallis and company, is much enjoyed; Chas. J. Johnson, coloured comedian and dancer; Arthur Gill, yokel humorist; Tina Clements and her trained dogs and pony, and Helen Ford, vocalist, complete a varied programme.

Zoo-Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The bill here is headed by Johnnie Schofield, assisted by J. C. Piddock and company, in the musical comedy, entitled *Missing; or, The Light of Day*. Drew and Alders continue first favourites, and J. A. Wilson, negro comedian, is well to the front with new songs and jokes; Burt Shepard gives numerous selections on the piano, and the Cape Girls are clever dancers. The other members of the company include The Haydas Troupe of acrobats, Grace Merton (sweet singer), Clown Barker and Miniature Circus, Arthur Gillin (smart ventriloquist), and Hippodrome Bioscope with new pictures.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The place of honour here is occupied by La Belle Estellita, Spanish singer and dancer; Belle Davis and her company of coons also give a capital account of themselves. Other notable artists contributing to the entertainment include Chas. R. Whittle (comedian), the Arundels (comedians and boxers), the Ferraris (terpsichorean artists), Cee-Mee Quartette of gymnasts, Lilian (trick cyclist), the Crystals (vocalists and dancers), Keith and Merso (acrobatic humorists), and Mike Cray (comedy juggler).

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—A most amusing sketch is provided here in *Casey's Court*, and the talent of the youngsters engaged in it is wonderful. Daisy Mayer's sand dancing turn is heartily applauded, and another clever sand dancer is Frank Cumminger; Mendel, the blind pianist, displays his skill and memory in numerous musical selections; Charles S. Kitts and Rhoda Windrum contribute a lively farcical sketch, *The Cuckoo*; Jurgens Trio give a smart display on the globes, Gwennie Hasto's catchy songs and neat dances make her a strong favourite, Stelling and Revell on the bars give a particularly good performance. The Bioscope, George Tacius, and a clever ventriloquist, who gives an extra turn, complete a most attractive programme.

Palace.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A great attraction here this week is the presence of Miss Ada Colley, who is greeted with much applause; also in the musical line are the Four Jumels, who contribute a pleasing little entertainment; the Eight Lancashire Lads show themselves to be undoubted masters of the art of clog dancing; the Sisters Cora, panto. favourites in Glasgow, make a graceful appearance; H. O. Wills is extremely funny in his songs and patter; Edward Lewis makes some very good hits in his bump-reading performance. In the midst of the mirth created by many humorous turns comes a pathetic little sketch, *His Birthday*, by Royston Dene and company. Dan Filmer also appears with success; Lu Simpson's company presents *Our Annual Social* with great success.

Queen's.—Lessees, Messrs. Colquhoun and Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The programme here includes Ida Gladstone, who was such a favourite in the Metropole pantomime, and her various songs are well received; the Willies give an amusing turn, and good items are contributed by Arthur Croxon, Three Clarions, Violet Morgan, and Willie Turnbull. Some of the ties in the Scotish Boxing Championships, inaugurated at the Tivoli, are being given here.

Tivoli.—Lessee, Mr. Bernard M. Armstrong.—The management here have arranged to hold a series of Scottish Boxing Championships, and a good start was made on Monday with the first of the ties. In the variety programme Ida Gladstone is easily first favourite, and clever turns are given by J. K. McFarlane, the popular Scotch comedian, and by Sam Soda, quaint extempore vocalist.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Miss Grace Warner and company, in *The Scarlet Clue* and *East Lynne*, provide the attraction this week. On Monday night *The Scarlet Clue* was well acted. Miss Warner as Sal Scarlet gives a vivid portrayal; Mr. George Gordon well handles the villainous character of Michael Stanton; whilst Mr. Horace Moseley as Edward Croker is good. Mr. J. Leighton Leigh scores in the dual rôles of Jack and Harry Esmond; Mr. V. T. Raymond as Billy, a burglar, is well placed, and is applauded for capitally-rendered songs; Mr. J. E. Tomlinson is seen to advantage as Crazy Jim, a waif; Miss Lizzie Palmer as Elsie Dane plays in a winning way; and Miss Ellen Beverley does well as Miss Tabitha Esmond. Miss Kathleen Cranston is effective as Mother Scrooge; Miss Esther Dean is amusing as Musette; little Phyllis Massey as Reggie Carstairs and little Edith Rutland as Little Polly contribute pleasing impersonations.

GLOUCESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company is playing here *The Luck of Life*. Mr. R. H. Stephenson is a good exponent of George Stanhope; Mr. Roland Yorke gives a capital interpretation of Michael Basilovitz; Rene Basilovitz is powerfully enacted by Miss Mary Dawson; and Miss Gertrude Bonser makes an excellent Countess Vlame. Mr. Leonard Thackeray renders able assistance as Count Petroff; the comedy relief is cleverly introduced by Mr. George Davis as Simon Stanley and Miss Dora Huggett as Laura North; and Mr. H. Hesslegrave as Bahadur is agreeably prominent, as is Mr. Albert Cuthbertson as Ivan Polowski.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here this week with Mr. S. Buchanan Rogerson's play, *Darkness*, founded on Mr. Guy Thorne's novel, "When It was Dark." Mr. H. K. Ayliff is effective as Constantine Schawbe; Miss V. St. Laurance depicts the varied moods of Gertrude Hunt with much success, in some scenes being intensely realistic; the Rev. Basil Gortre of Mr. T. A. Shannon is natural and fervent; Sir Robert Llewellyn is ably represented by Mr. Edward Valentine; Mr. Ernest Allen is eager and intense as Harold Spence; and Helena finds a capable exponent in Mrs. Morton Powell. A lighter element is introduced by Mr. Arthur Lenville as the Hon. Charlie Gayfly and Miss Ethel Rainforth as Gracie Goldeye.

GREENOCK.—Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, The Greenock Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Directors and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is playing the drama *In Holy Russia* at the above theatre this week. Mr. Tom G. Warry is an able exponent of Count Petrolski; Mr. Louis Norman makes an excellent Michael Natolski; Mr. Arthur Stratton, an amusing Colonel, is ably assisted by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy, who takes the part of Micky; Mr. Frank Copeland is an effective Sir Harry Beresford; and Mr. Joe Cuthbertson is a lifelike Chief of Police. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy admirably sustains the trying rôle of Renee Rubinoff, and Miss Beatrice Western makes the most of her opportunities as Catska Lavotski.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Sidney Bacon's company heads the bill here in that thrilling sketch, *The Maniac*. Rene Best, vocalist, sings nicely; Louis Lenoir is a clever sciographist; Volp and Volp submit a pleasant musical speciality act; Playfair and Nikola are a pair of remarkably expert papierographists; and A. J. Gamble, Scotch comedian, is as popular as ever.

Pavilion Theatre.—Lessees, the Greenock Pavilion, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Marie Loftus heads the bill here, and does a varied and clever turn. Other members of a good company are The Folkestones, in a comedy act; Arthur Bromley and Lina Fontein, in a sketch entitled *A Musical Birthday*; the Albano Troupe, in a musical speciality act; Flo Stilton, male impersonator; and Miss Queenie May, juvenile vocalist.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The American drama, *At Cripple Creek*, has proved attractive here, the thrilling scenes depicting the frenzied search for gold in the early 'eighties arousing the keenest interest of the audience. Joe Mayfield, a typical miner of the best kind is presented by Mr. Hilliard Vox with a considerable degree of natural force; Miss Ella Dixon is all that could be wished for as Belle Gordon; the villainy of the saloon-keeper, Martin Mason, and his Mexican companion, Manuel, is amply emphasised by Mr. Walter Thornton and Mr. C. Douglas Carlyle; Mr. A. W. Layland makes a dignified Wahketah, the Indian; and Miss Vera Fordyce is a popular figure as Dynamite Ann. Comedy is provided by Miss Daisy Carlton as Maggie Mason, Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood, and Mr. Albert Rogers as the negro, Ben White. Little Freda wins approval as the child, Tatto.

Curry's Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Barton and Ashley's burlesque, *Canal Boat Sal*, has caused much merriment, and the programme generally is of a humorous character. Quaint feats of physical contortion and acrobatics are presented by Ryan and Hall; the fun is likewise added to by the McKays, whose painting speciality is a decided novelty. Something new in the way of marionettes is exhibited by the D'Arcs, whose puppets are remarkably faithful imitations of well-known variety artists, both in appearance and action. Miss Jennie Johns scored a success; Miss Molly Woolstenholme is a charming soprano; and Mr. Tom York, baritone, also contributes capital songs.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—As a burlesque actress Katie Lawrence receives a hearty welcome here, her smart songs and general business being greatly appreciated; Mabel Kessler proves herself a skilled performer upon various brass instruments, her cornet and post-horn solos being especially worthy of note; a capital musical turn is given by Charles Fisher's company, their selections including items from popular operas; dancing of various types is performed by the Garden Troupe; and others who appear are Fred Villiers, in a vocal scena, "Dreams," Harry Vardon, an entertaining ventriloquist, Maudie Ford, vocalist and dancer, and Marlow and Manton, in an amusing sketch.

GUERNSEY.—St. Julian's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson's company appeared here on the 20th inst. in *The Taming of the Shrew*. Their visit had been eagerly anticipated, and they were accorded an enthusiastic reception. Mr. Benson gave a scholarly and clever reading of the part of Petruchio; Mr. Cyril Keightley as Biondello was much admired; Mr. Clarence Derwent as Tranio proved successful; Mr. George Buchanan merits praise as Lucentio; and Mr. H. O. Nicholson (Gremio), Mr. George R. Weir (Grumio), Mr. P. D. Owen (Baptista), and Mr. Philip Sanders (Vincentio) were all highly meritorious performances. Mrs. Benson's interpretation of the shrewd Katherina was exceedingly clever, and Miss Olive Noble proved a charming Bianca. *Henry V.* was given as a matinée performance.

GUILDFORD. — County Hall. — The Gipsy Maids' Choir of Mr. Douglas Eley's No. 1 company has drawn large houses here during their ten days' visit. A capital variety show is provided, including Frank Pierce, comedian; Gwennie Leaks, sketch artist; Olive Sara, club manipulator; Millie Cole, contralto; Cissie Senior, double-voiced vocalist; Lottie Wyndham, variety; Dorrie Courtney, banjoist; Professor Davison and Sons, thought transference and magic; Elsie Ranson, sketch artist; Gertie Gavagan, danseuse; Jenny Swires, vocalist; Marie Stock, comedienne; Clara Burland and Leah Hingley sopranos. Mr. Percy Ranson is the accompanist.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Chas. Howard.—Messrs. Murray, King, and Clarke's company opened on Monday in *Blue-Bell in Fairyland*. As Blue-Bell, Miss Gladys Cooper is distinctly successful; Lawrence Emery is well placed as Dickey; Blib and Blob, in the hands of Messrs. C. Morton and E. Cossart, are a most amusing pair. Happy Apps and Minnie Blanchard are seen to advantage in the respective parts of Water Lily and Autumn Leaf; Miss Muriel Juin acts and sings admirably as the Queen. Mr. Percy Farrimond, the singing collier, scores a success in his tenor songs.

Grand.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—A good all round programme is submitted this week. Miss Annie Purcell returns with her artistically-rendered vocal contribution; Morton and Elliott provide a capital turn; Geo. D'Albert is a descriptive vocalist of a capital order; Mr. Chas. Morritt, in his illusions, baffles his audiences nightly, and is much appreciated. Les Frasettis, in their musical turn, are artistic; Harry Clifford is a comedian of merit; Marion Scott is a comedienne of much ability; Spry and Austin are as funny as ever; the Bros. Redmond are capital acrobatic comedians; the pictures are as usual excellent.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cyril Fielding-Smyth.—On Monday a welcome return visit of *The Walls of Jericho* was paid by Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company. The cast has been considerably altered since the last visit of the piece, but the standard of excellence is the same. Miss Florence Jackson as Lady Alethea repeats her fine performance; Mr. Edward A. Warburton's Jack Frobisher is better than ever; Mad Jim Bannister is capably acted by Mr. George A. Brandram; Mr. Laurence Hanray gives a capital character study of the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Molly Carton is a natural Lady Lucy; Lady Westerby is carefully portrayed by Miss Lydia Busch; Harry Dallas was played in a clever and effective manner by Mr. Sydney Hamilton; and as Bertram Hannaford Mr. George Percy amuses with his epigrams. On Thursday Mr. Chas. Carey's company, in *After the Ball*, opened a three nights' engagement.

The Kursaal. — Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. C. L. Naylor, M.A., Mus.Bac.; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. R. Yeulett.—The attractions this week, in addition to the orchestra, are Miss Maud Santley (contralto), Miss D'Orsay (soprano), and Mrs. Clifford Granville (reciter).

HARTLEPOOL. — Empress. — Proprietors, Messrs. Everton and Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The excellent programme provided here resulted in two packed houses on Monday. The King's College Boys are at the top of the bill, and provide a fine vocal entertainment. Martin Conway is always sure of a hearty welcome; the Sisters Llewellyn are excellent in operatic vocalism; and Andie Cane, a comedian, in his latest successes, is also an old favourite. Salida and Vone, coon artists; Mabel Hind, in a delightful scena, *A Little Japanese*; and the Hugo Troupe of three artists, with a performance that is pretty and effective, also add to the attractions.

Grand.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*Lucky Durham*, Wilson Barrett's last and greatest play, is being presented here by H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. John Durham and Helen Vallerton have excellent exponents in Mr. Edmund Kennedy and Miss Phyllis Ralph. A charmingly sweet character is made of Mrs. Durham by Miss Louise Gourlay; Miss Frances Wolviston assumes the rôle of Lady Mountfallon in a manner that calls for especial commendation; and Lord Mountfallon has a capable exponent in Mr. Benson North.

Palace.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The Matweef-Hugoston Troupe, in charming costumes, provide a turn which is distinguished by smart Russian dances and remarkably daring and clever acrobatic feats; Virto, a musician of much versatility brings down the house, especially with his band imitations. Another highly successful turn is that contributed by McCann's Dogs; Walker and Lake have some bright songs and racy patter, and the character songs by Lade Henderson are capitally rendered. Miss May Fallowfield is a dainty soubrette, and Miss Hettie Lee a smart comedienne and dancer. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux provide a never-failing source of delight to picture lovers.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is here this week in Mr. George R. Sims's new play, *For Life and After*, which was successfully produced at Reading last week. The company is a good all-round one, and commands the absorbed attention of its audience throughout. The stage-management is in the hands of Mr. Frank Harrison, who also fills the rôle of Rube Hexham. Mr. Vernon Sansbury is finely effective as Richard Grey, and Miss Grace Heywood enacts the rôle of Marion Grey most convincingly. Mr. Henry Hare plays well both as Jack Huggett, the murdered man, and as his son, Jim Huggett. Mr. Chris Mason as the old showman, Joe Grimper, is realistic, and is ably supported by Miss Eveline Shaw as Mrs. Grimper. Miss Muriel Dean is charming as Dora Grey, adding much to the pathos of the play.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties. — Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams. — An excellent programme this week is the means of drawing full houses. Miss Hettie Leo, a good comedienne, opens the entertainment. A laughable dramatic episode is given by the Wade Comedy Trio; Miss Evelyn Taylor is a pleasing singer; the fun supplied by the Society Pierrots is highly appreciated; the new films shown by the Hippodrome bioscope lend an agreeable variety; Tommy Dodd is a truly eccentric comedian; Allsopp and Beckwith, droll entertainers, gain great applause; Miss Jenny Hartley is a juvenile vocalist of exceptional ability; Ahrensmeyer introduces some marvellous hypnotic experiments.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The Easter burlesque, entitled *Bluebeard, Esq.*, is still an attractive feature here. Mr. J. D. Hunter's Sister Ann is exceptionally amusing. Mr. Arthur Ricketts is good as Bamboozlum, and Mr. Charles Hawker keeps up the fun as Pimple. Selim is very gracefully taken by Miss Mabel Sadie. Some pleasing songs are contributed by Miss Cissie Wade and Miss Rence Ashley, whilst some pretty dances are given by Loolah (Miss Nellie Bowen).

St. Leonard's Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Edward Neville and company are occupying the boards here his week in the dramatised version of Marie Corelli's novel *The Sorrows of Satan*. Nothing could be more impressive than the titular character of the drama as represented by Mr. Edward Neville. Mr. Gus Bowerman gives an able impersonation of Lord Lynton; the difficult part of Geoffrey Tempest is very realistic in the hands of Mr. W. H. Wilson; Lady Sybil as taken by Miss Flora Leslie is an extremely natural performance; Miss Cecil Bryne is a most acceptable exponent of the lodging-house keeper Mrs. Grimbes; Miss Lole Esmond is well suited as Diana Chesney; Miss Rosie Neville takes the part of Mavis Clare with well-sustained ease. As the Earl Mr. J. Le Fleming does the character ample justice.

Royal Concert Hall. — A children's pantomime, *The Sleeping Beauty*, was played here on three days this week. The libretto and songs were by Mr. Maurice Benington Reckitt, and the music was composed by Miss Gwendolen Campbell-Cory. The object of the entertainment was to aid the Convalescent Home for poor children at St. Leonards-on-Sea. The piece was performed by over 100 young people, and was excellently stage-managed by Mr. Harold Savery, the special scenery being supplied by Messrs. Drury, of Brighton.

HORWICH.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—The Elster Grime Opera company opened on Monday in *Maritana*. Miss Marie Elster in the title-rôle gave a fine rendering; Mr. Payne Clark's Don Cæsar was very grand, Mr. Michael Kemble's rendering of Don José was excellent, Mr. Frank Land as the King of Spain was in capital form, Miss Constance Russell's the Marchioness was good, and Miss Madge Quilliam's Lazarillo richly deserved the applause accorded. *Faust*, *Carmen*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Les Cloches de Corneville*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment* are billed for the remainder of the week. The orchestra, under Mr. Grimes's direction, rendered good service.

HOYLAND.—Metropole.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. S. King.—An excellent variety company opened here on Monday. The "Mighty Medicine Chief" is excellent; and Walter Moet, conjurer and illusionist, is good. The Sisters Delmore, in their scena *The Redskin Chief*, introducing fancy rifle and revolver shooting, are well received; and the Sisters Lemars, banjoists and mandolinists, are applauded. The bill also includes the Two Deans, duettists and dancers; Miss Raie Le Roy, coon vocalist and dancer; Little Napper, quaint comedian; Lily Rose, serio; Minna Roselle, ballad vocalist; Young Cody; and Myra Wynne, serio and dancer.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy G. Arthur.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are here, playing *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Jennie Deans*. *Othello* was the piece chosen to open the week, and the tragedy was capably presented by the cast engaged, Mr. Tearle's strong performance as the Moor being supported by Mr. Wilson Gunning as Iago, Mr. V. O. Crabtree as Cassio, and Miss Esther Tearle as Desdemona.

Hippodrome, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—There is a capital entertainment provided by the Riogoku Family of Japanese Acrobats; Lloyd Morgan, descriptive vocalist; Miss Renée in a clever and refined musical act; Bert Williams, a ventriloquial humorist of the highest excellence; Miss Fanny Wright and Picton Roxburgh, in a sketch entitled *Cockie*; Miss Sable Fern, a dainty little lady with some popular songs; and new pictures on the Biograph.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy H. Hutchison's capable company is presenting *The Freedom of Suzanne* here. A performance of exceptional merit is that of Miss Beatrice Lindlay, who is admirably suited as Suzanne; Mr. Herbert J. Bentley gives a fine representation of Charles Trevor; and Mr. F. G. Thurstans plays in delightful style as Fitzroy Harding.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company is here with the powerful drama entitled *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. George Harvard is a manly Harry Steyne; Mr. Fred G. Evison is quite at home as Billy Brewer; Mr. Austin Mortimer is well placed as Leonard Royle; Mr. Wentworth supplies a powerful portrayal of Hassan Padisha; Mr. Dobell Lyle submits a fine rendering of Donald Craig; Miss Grace Lester is a charming Mary Steyne; Miss Mildred Carr is well placed as Nancy Brewer; and Lady Phyllis Eustace is ably represented by Miss Hilda Merrilese.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—*Merely Mary Ann* paid her first visit here this week, and the pathetic little comedy, which was remarkably well played by Messrs. Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company, was accorded a good reception. Mr. Ruper Lister was particularly successful as Lancelot, and Miss Margaret Fareleigh gave a perfect impersonation of the name-part. Mr. J. Cranstoun Neville played smartly as Peter; Mr. W. Collard was sufficiently oily as the Vicar; Miss Ruth Hazlewood and Miss Pauline Emeric as the lodging-house keeper and her daughter caused much amusement; and Miss E. Daw and Miss Margaret Frame put just the requisite amount of vulgarity into their impersonation of the Sisters Trippett.

KEIGHLEY.— QUEEN'S THEATRE.— Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Sin of Her Childhood* is proving very attractive this week. Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes scores heavily as Stephen Haysel, playing the part with much power; Mr. Charles Fancourt as the Rev. Alan Grey receives hearty applause; Mr. Frederick Loyd enacts the part of Captain John Therton in an able manner; a bright and breezy performance of Barney O'Reilly is given by Mr. Hugh Brady; Miss Ruth Sheppard is a charming Mary Haysel; and little Dott Moss is pert and attractive, her songs and dances being well received.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietors, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer. — Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company commenced a short season here this week by presenting *The Streets of London*. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson's Badger is an excellent performance; and Miss B. Doyle cleverly portrays the spoilt, domineering Alida Crawley. The part of Gideon Crawley has an able exponent in Mr. H. K. Ayliffe; he has a commanding figure, and acts well. Miss G. Hastings-Walton plays the part of Lucy Fairweather sympathetically and intelligently; Mr. Walton B. Freear is quite at home as Jonas Puffy, his song and dance in Act 4 proving popular; Mr. Gerald Jordon does well as Mark Livingstone; Mr. Norman Aveling is responsible for the dual rôle of Captain Fairweather and Paul Fairweather, and Miss Elsie Hastings looks a "boyish" boy in the part of Dan Puffy.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. C. B. Fountaine.—On Thursday evening Mr. E. Lockwood's company commenced a short engagement of three nights and one matinée with the successful musical comedy, *Sergeant Brue*. This is the first time the piece has been presented at Leamington, and the attraction proved a very popular one.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—The novel entertainment inaugurated by Mr. Hart at his Bradford Theatre last week opened here on Monday, and has proved an unqualified success, for the experiment has been received with rare enthusiasm by crowded houses. Offenbach's vivacious and melodious trifle, *The Rose of Auvergne* is first presented, the executants being Miss Stella Gastelle. Mr. Broughton Black, and Mr. H. Scott Russell. Miss Gastelle evinces rare vocal and histrionic abilities in a charming portrayal of Fleurette. The remainder of the evening is taken up by the Follies, a company of remarkably clever vaudeville artists, whose répertoire of burlesque business and vocal and comedy items is truly refreshing and entertaining.

THEATRE ROYAL.— Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—The stirring melodrama *Under the Russian Flag* retains a strong hold on the public taste, and is attracting good patronage to this "home of drama." Mr. Jack Haddon cuts a manly vigorous figure as the hero, Captain Demetrius; some forcible acting is done by Mr. George Herbert in his part of General Romanoff; whilst Miss Elaine Vanburgh plays the heroine, Vera Vasilloff with decided charm of manner. Much good work is also done by Mr. Bernard Mervyn, Mr. Cecil Melton, and Mr. George Draycott.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.— Mr. Charles Harrington appears on a first visit with *The Sailors of the King*. The hero, Dick Drake, a lieutenant on H.M.S. Storm, is faithfully portrayed by Mr. Harry Douglas; Mr. T. Vernon Travers as Orrel Drake does some good acting; and the old Admiral is a characteristic and successful effort by Mr. Chas. Harrington. Miss Sylvia Stella makes a captivating heiress and heroine, and the Daisy Dent of Miss Gertrude Sterroll is also a clever and successful effort. Other leading parts are presented by Mr. Walter Farnsworth, Mr. Charles Trevlayne and Mr. Kenneth Black. Some realistic sea pictures and episodes are shown.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The calculating marvel, Jacques Maudi, is giving a taste of his quality here, and his mental feats arouse great interest and enthusiasm. A clever comedy sketch by Amann and Hartley is a popular feature; Ruby and Laws are diverting in comedy and vocal entertainment; the Delevines score the usual success with their contributions; the Goltz Trio are gymnasts of more than average merit; Prof. Bernar's marionette show is amongst the best ever seen here; a smart comedian appears in Jas. H. Cullen; and Leonie Dixon, vocalist and dancer, and Jessie Merrilees, comedienne, also contribute.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Mr. John Tiller's clever extravaganza, *High Jinks*, largely accounts for the crowded state of this popular hall during this present week, and of a smart company Bob Selvidge is particularly successful. George Leyton appears at the bottom of the bill, and his military scena, *Boys of the Chelsea School*, goes with dash and vigour. Of comedians Ted Young is popular, and Dale and O'Malley are very smart with eccentric business. The Society Quartette sing and dance in good style; a remarkable gymnastic turn is contributed by the Bros. Zampah; and Lily Flexmore (the flexible lady), Ada Twibell (favourite burlesque artist), and Frances Haskoll (vocalist) also contribute.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Sanford and Lyons are at the top of the bill here, and ably fill the position with smart patter and neat dancing. Another eccentric pair are Bell and Henry, who amuse in a similar line; comedy is contributed by George and Edwards; the vocal work of Merton and Rydon is acceptable; Julian Mack is scoring a success; Gus Hindell continues to be popular; an eccentric juggling act by Zarmo is amongst the best features of the bill; and Marie Weston, instrumentalist and speciality dancer, and Irene Rose, comedienne, complete a good bill.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—The Leicester Amateur Music and Dramatic Society hold the boards this week with *La Fille du Tambour Majeur*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.— Miss Winifred Chalmers's company is presenting the melodrama, *The Master Criminal*. Miss Chalmers as Cecile plays with histrionic ability, and Mr. Henry L. Osmond as Telford Lestage (the Master Criminal) is a success. Both Mr. Alexander Haviland as Philip Manners and Mr. Elmore Frith as Ben Beaudy are good. Mr. Harry Cooke is capital as Tommy Dale, and little Ivy Rochefort acts commendably as Winifred Manners.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Miss Hetty King is unquestionably a smart and clever male impersonator and dancer, and well deserves the excellent reception accorded her. Manning's Entertainers are as mirth-provoking as ever in a second edition of *The Hotel Boots;* Marie Collins, a vivacious comedienne, gets a warm reception; the Reed-Oetzmanns create laughter in their comic pantomime, *On Tour in the Tyrol;* Mason and Bart are first-rate gymnasts; Frank Dunlop is an entertaining comic singer; Mora and Lola give a capital musical display; Lady Fauntleroy's ventriloquial turn secures merited appreciation; Victor Newman, who deputises for R. H. Douglass, impersonates in a lifelike manner Sir Henry Irving as Mathias, and also gives an excellent performance as Svengali; and the American Bioscope also depicts a new series of up-to-date subjects.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The leading feature in this week's programme is the romantic and dramatic episode (from the French) entitled *Husband or Child?* which is well presented by Forbes, Murray, and company. Tiny Arnold, a diminutive artist, is receiving a warm welcome; Francisco is smart juggler and equilibrist; the Murrays create much laughter in their absurdity, *The Star Twins;* May Moodie shines with her piccolo solos; Frances Manners in her musical scena, *Good Old Days*, is both seen and heard to advantage; Joe Dale, chorus singer, also entertains; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, always a popular feature at this hall, is retained.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company opened here on Monday with *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Lawrence Brough causes much laughter by his impersonation of the Frenchman; Mr. Henry Hampson makes a conspicuous success as Dick Whortles; and Mr. Charles Groves, jun., is also to be complimented on his excellent portrayal of Joseph Carbury. Miss Kate Milford makes a captivating Dorothy Whortles; Miss Edith Ormonde was successful as Millie Grace; and Miss Dorcas Corsbie cleverly presented the character of Matilda Carbury.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke's musical play, *The Naval Detective*, is being staged here. Mr. Kirke enacts the title-rôle, and appears in all his various guises with the greatest success. He is ably supported by Messrs. Harold Wallace, Mark Practice, B. Leighton, Charles Burns, and Joe Plant. Special mention should be made of Miss Louie Fountaine, who sustains three parts, one of them a sailor boy, all with distinct success. The Sisters Gladys and Elsie Allen introduce their clever international dances, and Miss Edith Claris, Miss Gladys Claney, Miss Annie Brunette, and Miss Lily Seymour also appear to advantage.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A hearty welcome has this week been given to *Lady Madcap*. The company sent by Mr. George Edwardes is the same as on the former occasion. Miss Marie Studholme is the life and soul of the merry comedy in her assumption of the title-rôle. Mr. Arthur Longley, first "swell" trooper, and then amateur butler, provoked uproarious laughter; the diminutive Corporal Ham, presented by Mr. E. Statham Staples, proved one of the most popular as well as one of the best figures in the cast; Messrs. Robert Hall and Oliver Round, as the adventurers, contributed largely to the merriment; the graceful acting of Mr. Ernest Mahar as the wooer, and his rendering in French of "My Irish Molly," "Bill Bailey," and other well-known songs, were a most acceptable feature; Miss Nina Sevening played sweetly the rôle of Gwennie Holden; and Miss Mabel Russell as the lady's maid was vivacious, and danced charmingly.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Lessees, the Shakespeare Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The management of this popular theatre has made a bold move in booking *Peter Pan* for three weeks, with matinées every Wednesday and Saturday. Such enterprise establishes a record in Liverpool, and time alone will show whether the venture is a wise one. So far the bookings have proved satisfactory, and as nothing but praise is heard on all hands in regard to the exquisite production, the financial results ought to leave no cause for regret. Regarding "extended" engagements, however, the Mersey city has generally proved somewhat erratic and uncertain. At all events, the Shakespeare people deserve success, even if they cannot command it, for the beautiful conception of Mr. J. M. Barrie has come as a great artistic treat to playgoers here. Nothing like it has been witnessed before in Liverpool, and there is a general and unanimous chorus of praise in its behalf. Not alone the sweet simplicity of the theme, with its peeps into fairyland, but the wonderful stage pictures, so pleasing to the eye, and the mechanical effects of cunning construction, have afforded the utmost satisfaction to all who have visited the theatre during the week. Miss Cecilia Loftus, as the merry sprite, speedily won the affections of her audience, whose measure of applause was cordial and unstinted; Miss Hilda Trevelyan proved a sweet Wendy Darling; the make-up and manner of Mr. Loring Fernie was quite in keeping with his excellent portrayal of the Pirate Captain; Miss Enid Spencer-Brunton handled the small part of Mrs. Darling with credit; and all the juveniles in the cast showed a high degree of qualification. The play is presented by Mr. Charles Frohman, and will not, we understand, be produced anywhere else in the Lancashire district.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—The sensational drama *A Traitor Prince*, from the pen of George De Gray, has been played here this week by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Mr. G. M. Montanni held the part of Prince Dalmirez, playing with much intensity and dramatic power; Miss Nita Langford displayed high accomplishments as Vashti; Mr. Ernest A. Duval was a manly Lieut. Derrick; Mr. Edmond O'Grady created much humour as Billy Bright; as did Mr. Edward Fenton in the part of the Hon. Bobby Dalrymple. Two rôles, Richard and Colonel Vane, were ably undertaken by Mr. A. W. Norman; and Miss Clara O'Grady was satisfactory as Mrs. Blossom.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—An entertaining programme here is headed by the Six Brothers Luck, in their sketch *The Hotel Grande*, wherein their antics and patter create continuous and uproarious laughter. Stewart and Morgan are artistic and finished singers; the Three Seymours, clever and daring gymnasts; Maxford and O'Neill, laughable comedians; Gus Garrick, a popular eccentric; and Mamie Iris, a pleasing entertainer. The bioscope comes in for special attention.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*At Duty's Call*, an interesting military play, has been produced here by Mr. John Gerant and company. Mr. Gerant as the villainous Harold Allison sustains the greater part of the hard work, and acts with much dramatic power; Mr. Leonard Williams is a capital Captain Allison; as General Gordon Mr. Ernest St. John wins popularity; Miss Edith Knight is a charming Dora Drummond; and Miss Georgina Hamilton does credit to the rôle of Salema.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—*The Drama of Life*, from the pen of Mr. Lingford Carson, is here this week with the author's own company. Mr. George M. Newall proved an admirable Harry Beech; a meritorious Sylvia was presented by Miss Kate Hallam; Mr. Edward M. Hamilton made the most of Walter Beech; a deal of amusement followed the movements of Sir Dobson Wilde, impersonated by Mr. Harwood Roberts; Miss Florence French assisted in the comedy with her Lady Wilde; and Mr. Edward Van Biene filled the rôle of Count Foi satisfactorily.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—At the top of the programme this week is Eugene Stratton, who has proved a great draw; Madge Temple, a winsome vocalist, met with a hearty reception for her delightful songs; Mike S. Whallen, the laughtermaker, was in fine form; a humorous comedy duologue, *Two to One*, came from the Findens; Ernie Mayne, as a comedian, caused great fun; Albert Whelan proved a pleasing turn at the piano; Terley executed some particularly clever models in clay; and others who appeared were La Tostia, mandolinist; Ralph and Nellie Howard, musicians; Max York's clever dogs; and Les Suprisks, lady gymnasts.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Owing to the great success that followed their appearance last week, Arthur Roberts and his sketch company have been retained for another six nights, playing the exceedingly funny trifle, *Where's the Count?* Another mirth-provoking turn is that submitted by Radford and Valentine, the juggling jesters; Florrie Forde is heartily cheered for her latest songs; as comedy acrobats the Schiavonis are notably good; Downes and Langford are a clever couple of comedians and dancers; Charlie Williams is funny as a Scotch coon comedian; Ada and Setta Poole are acceptable as society entertainers; and others in the list include Charles Somers, comedian; George Grogie, the Sussex yokel; and Maud Esmond, burlesque artist. The English Cup football contest of Saturday last was shown very realistically by the Bioscope.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—A local favourite comedian, Will Hebden, heads the bill here this week, and brings several of his latest songs; Billy Kelly, with his laughable "Walk, walk, walk," assisted by a variety of peculiar pedestrians, has proved an excellent turn; as a comedy juggler, Monti affords every satisfaction; Pete Dwight and son are speciality artists and dancers of no mean order; Will Daniels has some funny songs and patter; and Amy Linton is a most creditable comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The Royal stock dramatic company are producing *Her Wedding Day*, in six tableaux, a sketch which has been received with much favour. Miss Lina Nazeby played with considerable skill the part of the heroine Madge Conway; Mr. Percy Boucher humorously presented Lothario Caccles; Mr. Harry Tresham made an excellent Harold Saxby; the rôle of Weedon Kenyon was in the safe hands of Mr. Herbert Cecil; the Sam Klink of Mr. Cecil Ravenswood proved acceptable; Miss Sara Blumenthal displayed much ability as Jemima Caccles; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood effectively held the character of Dora. Some capital pictures were shown by the bioscope.

PADDINGTON PALACE. — Proprietors, the Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The principal item here this week is the three tableaux sketch, *The Miser*, produced by Mr. W. L. Lee and company; Davis and Roberts, a smart pair of variety artists, who were discovered by Mr. Edwin W. Smith, of the Parthenon, performing in the street, gave a most satisfactory turn; Walter Aubrey, fresh from pantomime, has several taking songs; as comedians and dancers, the Sisters Kennedy are exceedingly pleasing; and Marie Doust does well as a comedienne.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, the Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The Three Schaffers are foremost here this week with their gladiatorial exhibition; the terriers and "Dot," the cake-walk pony, shown by Miss Fredrica, display a remarkable degree of training; as comical acrobats, Burley and Burley raise a deal of laughter; Sydney Carden and Zulu Zesch provide a neat society entertainment; smart burlesque artists and novelty dancers are the Melroses; Fred Horsfall affords satisfaction as a humorist and mimic; Miss Queena Barnes does well as a character comedienne; and Tom E. Hughes, versatile character comedian, also appears.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Hector and Paulus, smart comedy gymnasts, are at the head of the bill here this week; the Sisters Terry sing several pleasing duets; James Newery is particularly eccentric; Emmie Ames has a neat vocal scena, "Beneath the Shadow of Big Ben"; and Harry Bancroft sings some popular descriptive pieces.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager. Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Heading a lengthy bill here this week are Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, assisted by Albert Mason, with the laughable skit, *The Would-be Actors Rehearsing a Drama;* Ford and Hanson, "the musical millionaires," provide an interesting turn; Shavo and Frank as vocalists and comedy jugglers, are well worth witnessing; the Ashmoles provide some smart speciality work; J. A. Cassels is a Scotch comedian of merit; and others on the list are Queenie Lewis, chic comedienne, and Dan Agar, comedian.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Wilkie Bard, always popular in Liverpool, has proved a strong attraction here this week, and has been cordially welcomed; another favourite is Ella Shields, who, among other pieces, gives her latest success, "My Cotton Blossom Lou"; Denton and Rowland's company, in *The Punch and Judy Girls* song-scena, including Miss Marjorie Lawrence, have been loudly applauded; Tom Owen, the new Welsh comedian, had a gratifying reception; Nellie Stratton gave dainty songs in her well-known admirable style: the Warsaw Brothers proved exceedingly diverting; some charming singing was provided by the Celtic Comedy Trio; clever and funny were the Rinaldos with their balancing feats; and two able comedians, Fred E. Terry and Walter Stanley, appeared with credit to themselves. The bioscope showed an excellent film of Saturday's football cup final.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lindsey Edwards.—The first three nights of the week *The Dandy Doctor* was the attraction here. Mr. Edmund Russel as Melchisadeck Brown creates unbounded hilarity; and Miss Norah Melton is genuinely comical as Jane. Miss May Yates is all animation and bightness as Ivy Pendred, and her dancing is charming; Mr. Leslie Martin is distinctly clever in the rôle of Bertie Bolingbroke, and Mr. James Danvers makes a good Colonel Pendred.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—*The Christian* is being presented here this week by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. F. Ranson Buckley, as the Hon. John Storm, gives a powerful impersonation of the part; Parson Quayle is well represented by Mr. Percy Johnson; Archdeacon Wealthy is finely portrayed by Mr. Colin Johnstone; Mr. P. Gedge Twyman is capital as Lord Robert Ure; as Glory Quayle Miss Grace Murielle gives an admirable portrayal; Miss Florence Radcliffe is good as Polly Love. The company is under the direction of Miss Marie Beckenham.

MAIDENHEAD.— THE PAVILION.— Proprietor, Mr. George Gude.—This week's programme is very entertaining. Harry Bromley and Eva West contribute a comedy duologue; Harry Monkhouse, comedian, appears; Sara Yost (lady baritone) sings well; and Galino is successful, especially in a laughing song. Sidney JONES is well received in musical sketches; Gus Daniels, character vocalist, sings exceptionally well; and Wragg and Wragg earn applause with their remarkable exhibition of swordsmanship. A good selection of animated pictures concludes the performance.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Howard Watson.—The following are included in a good programme here this week: Cline and Clarke, duettists and dancers, who give a smart exhibition of sand dancing; Hague and Russell in a comedy duologue *Your Loving Aunt;* Roland Hill, an amusing comedian; the Dunvilles, in a clever musical act; Miss Daisy Morell, comedienne and vocalist; Harry Bent, mimic in "A Peep Into the Music Halls"; Miss Carlotta Lunn, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—Miss Ada Blanche and Mr. Lionel Rignold and company, in *What the Butler Saw*, is again the attraction at this house, after a very successful week.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—Manchester playgoers should congratulate themselves on the opportunity of witnessing such an excellent répertoire of Old English plays as those presented by Mr. Edward Compton and his thoroughly efficient company during the current week. On Monday night, before an appreciative though only moderately filled house, a brilliant performance was given of the popular *Davy Garrick*, in which Mr. Compton made his 1314th appearance in the title-rôle with his accustomed great success. As Violet Miss Mackenzie contributed a nice and tactful performance; Mr. H. Crocker gave a masterly rendering of Alderman Gresham; and Mr. A. B. Imeson made a distinct hit as the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut. Other parts were played by Mr. Herbert Pigot, Mr. Arnold Lucy, Mr G. W. Johnston, Mr. Reginald E. Besant, Mr H. Armstrong, and the Misses M. Hassell and Muriel Meek, all of whom acted with neatness and discretion, while the dresses were elaborate, and the scenery correspondingly excellent. A one-act comedy, *The Desperate Lover*, preceded, in which Mr. A. B. Imeson, Miss Mackenzie, and Miss Evelyn Hall were particularly successful. On Tuesday an equally fine performance of *The School for Scandal* was given, followed by a matinée on Wednesday of *She Stoops to Conquer*, and in the evening a most enjoyable rendering of Mr. Compton's record success, *To-Morrow*, the remainder of the week being filled in with a revival of Lord Lytton's comedy *Money*, the Haymarket comedy *New Men and Old Acres*, and a repetition of *Davy Garrick*.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—The Easter pantomime of *Puss in Boots* entered upon its second week here on Monday, with every indication of completing its three-weeks' run successfully.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's highly successful attraction at the Grand Junction Theatre, *The Life of a Showman*, is transferred here this week, and proved quite to the liking of Monday's audience. Mr. George Testo Santé and his company are efficient throughout.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Cavilina Troupe, in their clever and enjoyable comedy act, are the top attraction here this week. Prominent also are the Andreassens, the Danish midshipmen, whose "sport" is extremely good. Stanley and Vandyke give a pleasing sketch, entitled *A Broken Promise;* Lily Gaston is a clever dancer and male impersonator; Annie Cohen comedienne, sings very acceptably; Grapho and Jackson are seen in a novel quick-change act called *The Café Riche;* Bert Kemp, lightning cartoonist, is clever; Sam Shipley, eccentric comedian and dancer, adds much to the entertainment; Phillips and Merritt give a smart American comedy act; and Beatrice Worth, comedienne, provides an enjoyable turn.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Mr. Ian Maclaren's company is here in the detective drama, *The Prince of Rogues*. The heroic part of Frank Farrell is played well by Mr. Alec W. Wynne, and he finds an excellent partner in Miss Dorothy Riddell as Winnie Harwood. Mr. George Rammell is capital as Geoffrey Flint, the rogue upon whose machinations Gilbert Kenry, the detective, is set to work in the person of Mr. Henry B. Lewis; and as Rita Congreve, a woman with a past, Miss Georgina V. Thomas adds conspicuously to the sinister interest. Among the remainder of the capable cast Mr. Sidney Fairbrother gives a clever depiction of Harwood, the gambler-millionaire, and Mr. James Fox is well suited in the rôle of Dick. The staging is good.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Sutton Vane's sensational drama, *A Wife's Triumph*, was presented here on Monday by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and a powerful company. Mr. Abbott plays Frank Wilton, the cashier, in excellent style, and Miss Ada Abbott takes advantage of her fine opportunities as Bessie Dewhurst; while as Robert Dewhurst, the Squire, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps makes a distinct success, and Mr. Edwin Keene gives an admirable impersonation of Ben Bradford. The two betting-men, Jordan and Hartman, are cleverly rendered by Mr. W. H. Garbois and Mr. Weedon Ross; Mr. D. Pentland gives a good idea of Rylan, the American sportsman; and among the minor parts Miss Marjorie Tennant contributes a smart and amusing depiction of Margery Crib, the Yorkshire servant.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—A spirited version of Dumas' novel, "Monte Cristo," is staged here this week under the direction of Mr. Junius Booth, the American actor, who gives a successful rendering of the central part. The story is carried through four acts, after an elaborate prologue which occupies three scenes in itself, and the whole staging is managed in picturesque and effective style. Mr. Junius Booth's skilled efforts as the Count of Monte Cristo are well supported, principally by Mr. Laurence Grove as Mondego and Mr. Walter Uridge as Villefort, the King's attorney; while Miss Joan Ellis acts cleverly as Mercedes, Miss Doris Regan is pleasing as Sophie Danglers, and Miss Kate Maynard gives a good delineation of La Caronte.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Wal Pink's "workmen" are here this week in *Repairs*, an absurdity concocted solely to raise laughter; Datas, the human almanac, creates considerable interest with his wonderful memory; Rosie Archer is a first-rate mimic, and is well received; and Howard and Collinson are particularly good in their *Porter and Parcel* sketch. The Bros. Bright are clever and graceful gymnasts; and the Three Sisters Silcott are pleasing vocalists and dancers. Other enjoyable items are those of Amy Anderson and company, Ted Cowan (comedian), and J. T. McMillan (a capital Scotch comedian). As usual, the Palace pictures are good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Managers, Messrs. H. Hall and H. Pryme.—The top star here this week is La Berat, as the Mystic Fire Maiden, whose illuminated dancing is but feebly described as the most beautiful act of its kind upon the stage. Another really delightful turn is that of Cruikshank, whose style in song and story is at once a novelty and a treat. To these are added the remarkably fine contributions of Elsie Molloy and company, in *The Lady Bankrupt;* Eugen Joly, a marvellous performer on the cornet; the Ten Genis, in an elaborate Risley act; the Twin Bros. Dean, whose simultaneous dancing is an exhibition worth going a long way to see; Alf Chester, comedian, whose laughing-song is a big hit; Eric Dare and company, in a bright scena, *The Reservist;* Helen Mar, the American raconteuse, and the bioscope.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—A new and extraordinary exhibition of the uncanny is given here this week by Menetekel, whose doings are reminiscent of the supernatural writing on the wall of old. An extremely pretty spectacle is Canty's Mystic Grotto, which introduces Mlle. De Sylva, the mysterious lady, among wonderful effects of light. Other enjoyable features of the programme are Brett and Orford, who give their well-known act successfully; the Jack Theo trio of skilled equilibrists; the Wolkowsky troupe of Russian singers and dancers; Herbert Lloyd, "the King of Diamonds," an amusing comedian; Billy McClain's coloured sextette of dancers and sketch artists (including Mme. Cordelia); and the Sisters Klos, a clever duo. In addition the choir render a part-song by Pinsuti, an illustrated song by Pontet is rendered by J. F. Headlam and the choir, and the bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Mlle. Eugénie Fougére, the charming Parisian "chanteuse," tops the bill here this week, and delights all with her excellent singing. The Harvey Boys, well-known boxing comedians, are screamingly funny in their item *The Fighting Dummy;* Mark Anthony is a humorist of the first water; the Three Rubys show much cleverness in their equipoise, acrobatic, and trapeze act; and Flo Watson is a pleasing character-vocalist. Other good turns are those of Charles Woodward (actor-vocalist), Florrie Bray (comedienne), Joe Oliver (singer of coon songs), Mlle. Leona (comedienne and dancer), and Raymond's vivagraph.

KING'S LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The principal attraction here this week is provided by Edwin Garth and his company in the farcical sketch, *McKenna in Love*. The combination is highly successful and a big draw, quite a long cast being employed, of whom the principals are Edwin Garth and Joe English. In the programme also are Wallace Whitney, character-comedian, who presents a variety of smart and amusing impersonations; Beattie Foster, a singer of character songs of the low-comedy order; and an amusing series of pictures on the bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—This week's programme includes the popular actor-author, Mr. Walter Howard, and company, in a farcical sketch, entitled *Spiff! Spaff! Spoof!* which causes much amusement. Tom White's Arabs are a troupe of juvenile comedians, who contribute funny sayings and songs; the Three Clements give a clever and daring gymnastic display; the Rayners are wonderful contortionists; Fred Mason whistles in an acceptable manner; Greener achieves much success with plaintive ballads sung in good style; Gilroy and Gross are expert dancers and laughable comedians; J. C. Laurie scores with his "Walk" song; and Babs Grimshaw is a particularly clever child vocalist and male impersonator.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—After a successful week at the King's Mr. Harry Roxbury and company are here this week in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, the whimsicalities of Mr. Roxbury and his capable company causing no end of laughter. Leo Tell is an excellent mimic, and meets with a good reception; and Ben Harris and his famous Nippers provide a good speciality scene. Happy Attwood is a quaint comedian; and the songs rendered by Edna Grey (ballad vocalist) and Jessie Albini (comedienne) prove very acceptable. Kendrick and Laura possess good voices and dance exceedingly well, and Frank Whiteley contributes a bone solo. The pictures include the Final Cup Tie at the Crystal Palace.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Morella and Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Messrs. Leon Wood and A. P. Allen-Tower's company is here in *The Hindustanee*. Miss Dolly Ross as the Hindustanee Princess sang and acted well; the part of Dr. Cody Jones was admirably taken by Mr. Arthur E. Behan; and Mr. George Barr was amusing as King Kawfee. Good dancing turns were given by the Maharanee Troupe, and Mlle. Joseline proved herself an efficient soloist. The Three Behans were also responsible for specialities.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael.—This week the resident stock company, under the direction of Mr. A. Austin-Leigh, has been playing *The Middleman*. Mr. O. P. Haggie is seen to great advantage as Cyrus Blenkharn; Mr. A. Austin-Leigh sustains the rôle of Joseph Chandler cleverly; Mr. Henderson Bland is effective as Captain Julian Chandler; Mr. Edward Mervyn as the manager, Batty Todd, is good; and Mr. Percy Goodyear is excellent as Jesse Pegg. Miss Emmie O'Reilly plays charmingly as Mrs. Chandler, and both Mrs. Culling and Miss Lillian Rogers cleverly sustain the rôles respectively of Mary and Nancy, Blenkarn's daughters. Miss Violet Agnew capably fills the part of Maude Chandler, and good support is given, among other members of the company contributing to the success of the production, by Miss Madge Herrick, Lady Umfreville; Mr. J. E. Savery, Sir Seaton Umfreville; Mr. Claude Agnew, Vachell; Miss Dora Laney, Felicia Umfreville; and Mr. J. K. Lord. Daneper.

THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—This week's programme includes Harry Freeman, comedian; Dorothy Veld, comedienne and dancer; Frank Gee, comedian; Sisters Aindow, musical experts; Billy Hobbs, dancer and comedian; Anthony, the mystic man in white; and the usual series of Animated Pictures—the whole of the turns being much appreciated.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. Charles Carte and company are revisiting here this week with *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Carte repeats his well-known impersonation of Jerry the Tramp, and is well supported by Miss Doris

all his well-known artistic ability, and his elocutionary powers furnished evidence of his being a worthy pupil of a worthy master. The Richard Houseman of Mr. Charles J. Cameron was a capital piece of stage rascality. Mr. Charles Glenney proved himself to an artist in comedy in the rôle of Squire Upjohn; Mr. Fred Wright, sen., as Squire Orchard (Aram's victim) was excellent; Mr. Percy Anstey acted with spirit as Walter Orchard; Miss Colridge as Madeline Orchard made a sympathetic heroine; Miss N. de Silva infused a great amount of spirit into her part of Nancy Orchard. On Tuesday and Wednesday *A Cigarette Maker's Romance* was presented. *The Breed of the Treshams* will occupy the boards to-day. The event of the week was the production on Friday by Mr. Harvey (for the first time on any stage) of *The Rapparee Trooper*.

The Palace Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clarke.—This week the boards are occupied by an American drama by Malcolm Douglas, entitled *A Fight for Millions*. It is presented by the company of Mr Robert Perris, who successfully undertakes the leading rôle. The drama is well staged, and contains many incidents of a thrilling and sensational character. Other parts are taken by Mr. Geo. Beresford, Mr. W. Wynne, Mr. Karl H. Edwards, Miss Elma C. Turner, Miss Audrey Sutherland, and Miss Lottie Pearce. A most attractive item in the programme is the cinematograph representation of the Final Cup Tie at the Crystal Palace on Saturday.

Grand Theatre.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company is appearing here this week in the favourite play *The Manxman*. Mr. Cross himself undertakes the rôle of Pete, and right well does he succeed in presenting this character to the satisfaction of one and all. Mr. Sydney C. Kearns contributes an intelligent rendering of Phillip Christian; very prominent is the Cæsar Creegan of Mr. David Phillips; Mr. Arthur J. Moss submits a capital study of Tom; and Mr. George Marriot, jun., is a capable Ross Christian. Miss Mona Spearing scores an artistic success as Miss Christian; Miss Nancy Mitchell is deserving of praise as Nancy; and Miss Minnie Watersford is equally successful as Kate Creegan.

Empire Theatre.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Mr. George Gray and company appear with success in *The Fighting Parson*; Tom Costello proves his versatility with his character-study of *The Old Clown*; Johnson and Dean, the coloured fashion plates, win favourable comment on their sprightly dancing; the popular song, "Put a bit away for a rainy day" is artistically treated by the Sisters Jonghmanns; Venie Clements is a winsome and fascinating mimic and dancer; Fred Russell repeats his well-known ventriloquial act; the efforts of Athas and Collins, comedy artists, arouse much merriment; and Charles Lilburn, eccentric comedian, is distinctly good.

Pavilion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Arthur Prince, the well-known ventriloquist, assumes command in this week's programme, and scores an instantaneous success. Ida Rene is also an immense favourite; Rumbo Austin and his gang of navvies create roars of laughter; particularly pretty are the electrical effects that attend Effie White in her kaleidoscopic dance; and the Akimotos troupe of jugglers and equilibrists perform some clever and daring feats. W. J. Churchill, comedian and patterer, is accorded a hearty reception; and the three Sisters May, vocalists and dancers; Austin and Cowan, vocalists; and the Barrascope, with interesting football photographs, are excellent attractions.

NEWPORT.—Lyceum.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company is playing *The Indian Mutiny* here this week. Miss F. Melrose Millett gives a capital representation of Ghuz-nah; Nebu Singh is effectively presented by Mr. Villiers Stanley; Ra Goonga is ably depicted by Mr. Ernest Keand; and Mr. J. S. Seddon makes a crafty Abul Khan. Mr. Cyril Harrison submits a good performance of the British officer Capt. Manley; and Mr. George Scully is a humorous Terry O'Brien. Mr. Geo. Steel (Lieut. Manley), Mr. Jno. Davidson (Major Ingleby), and Miss Lillie Grey (Kate Ingleby), all aid the success of the piece.

Empire (Moss' Empires, Ltd.).—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Mr. Fred Karno's sketch company in *Moses and Son* heads the bill here, and is responsible for much amusement. The Andos troupe of Jap gymnasts score a success; Walter Bellonini's dexterity in juggling is applauded; and Rezene and Robini convulse the house with their sketch *The Policeman and the Baby*. Rose Coleman gives a clever exhibition of sand dancing; Harry Colin and Ernest Heathcote are amusing comedians; and the bioscope shows some up-to-date pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—*The Still Alarm* is being presented here this week. Mr. Matthew H. Glenville acts well the part of Jack Manley; Mr. Cecil du Gue is well placed as John Bird; Mr. F. Osmond is amusing in the character part of Doc Wilber; and Mr. Tom Beasley is sincere and convincing as Willie Manley. Miss Maud Warburton is a pretty and animated Elinore Fordham; Miss Hettie Zillwood a lively Carrie Wilbur, her songs and dance being well received; and Miss Mabel Veriton is good as Mrs. Manley.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Harriett Vernon, the well-known burlesque actress, who is paying us another visit, provides the star turn here this week, and has presented some of her latest successes, including "The Lilac Girl," with special scenery and effects. Miss Vernon has also delighted her audiences with some of her old favourites. Sydney Lee furnishes some card and other illusions; the Sisters Spencer appear in a medley song; Henry Carlton, comedian, plays the part of a window-cleaner in a boisterous sketch; Will Hicks gives a good example of his abilities as a comic singer; The Percys, duettists and dancers, submit a couple of lively numbers; and the Palace Pictures provide a fresh series of interesting subjects.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The boards here this week have been occupied by Mr. Evan Roland's company with *The Guilty Man*. Mr. Harold Lewis acquits himself in satisfactory style as George Seymour; Mr. Alfred D. Adams as James Redman does justice to the part; Mr. Hill Cremer makes the most of Sir Lawrence Farrant; Mr. Leonard Anthony gives a good interpretation of General Seymour; and Mr. Henry S. Dacre is successful as Esau Hebron. As Audrey Priestley Miss Lily Lewis is well received; Miss Sybil Haughton appears to advantage as Sukie Barton; Miss Muriel Inglis is an efficient Nell Radford; and the remaining characters are well sustained.

Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The popular comedian, Mr. George Ripon, is the star here and has come in for an enthusiastic reception. The Bollingers, the rag pickers of Paris, are clever; Mlle. Ada Gatley, wire artist and juggler, does some smart feats; Kid Johnson and Maisie Pelham in *The Golf Match* are well received; and Miss Maude Clifton (comedienne), Saternon (jumping expert), and the Bio-Photoscope meet with favour.

NORTHWICH.—Pierrot Pavilion.—The Royal Pierrot Co., Manager, Mr. Arthur Smethurst.—The Pavilion is packed nightly. Miss Jeannie Mackay is again pleasing everyone with her admirable singing; Miss Gertie Fraser is also re-engaged, and sustains the good impression she made last week; The Hustlers are successful both in their sketch and songs; Mr. Alfred Brookes, comedian, sings humorous songs which cause much amusement; Max Palette's rough-haired terrier is a highly intelligent dog, and Palette himself is a wonderfully quick sketch artist; Mr. Glanmore Jones, the genial stage-manager, is again to the fore in his selections.

NORWICH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company in répertoire of Shakespearean plays opened here on Monday, and gave an excellent rendering of *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr. Henry Herbert did well as Petruchio, and Miss Dorothy Green was an admirable exponent of Katherine. Baptista was carefully rendered by Mr. Lionel Bevan, and Miss Kate Turner as Bianca and Mr. Bernard Limpus as Lucentio were successful. On Tuesday *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was presented, and on Wednesday *Romeo and Juliet*, Thursday *Hamlet*, and Friday, *The School for Scandal*.

Agricultural Hall Assembly Rooms.—Mr. Jury's Bioscope Pictures conclude their season this week, and the variety company as well as the pictures have been much appreciated.

NOTTINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*A Queen Without a Crown* was presented here on Monday for the first time on any stage, and a full report of the new production appears in another column.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*The Price of Her Soul*, a powerful drama by Wm. Hibbert, occupies this stage here. The company is under the management of Mr. John B. Shinton and Mr. Alexander Greenwood. Mr. Shinton himself takes charge of the principal rôle, and as Lord Rolfe Manderville, V.C., has plenty of opportunity for the exercise of his undeniable talents. Mr. Archie Gear makes an excellent Russian General, and Mr. Annesley Hely also plays the part of a military officer very commendably. Miss Ada M. Ryder acts skilfully as Countess Steinmetz, and Miss Mona Gray depicts with great force the character of Olga Lanovitz. Little Ida Thompson is good as the child, and Miss Ina Merrivale does well as Nadine. Mr. Edwin Coates causes much amusement by his droll realisation of the Hon. Algy Fraser, and clever work is presented by Mr. Sydney Ross as Capt. Jack Lawton. Miss Ada Arnott, Mr. Will Percy, and Miss Tina Frank are responsible for the comedy parts, and the remaining characters are depicted by competent artists.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—Dr. Carl Hermann, as the principal attraction, gives an amazing exhibition of hypnotism and electrical surprises. The Three Bostonians are clever, and their singing and dancing finished and graceful; Vernon and Burdell provoke a great deal of merriment by their comedy sketch. *What Price Me?* Lillian and Clown are a remarkable attraction as contortionists; the Scotch comedian seems to be coming to the front more than ever, and of the many Jock Walker has claims to distinction which cannot be ignored. Masie Calder as a coon singer can have very little, if anything, to learn, and Baddow has attained considerable proficiency in the ventriloquial art. A programme of considerable merit brings itself to a close with an exhibition of Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—A very dainty little comedy, presented by Edouin and Edwards, provides the principal attraction here this week. Unthan, the armless wonder, pays another visit, and secures his usual gratifying reception. Miss Josephine Sabel comes for the first time, and her quaint antics, comical singing, and unending flow of spirits bespeak for her unmistakable welcome. The Manningos are equilibrists of no inconsiderable merit, and the Violas present a mystifying exhibition of second sight. A stage spectacle of unusual brilliance accompanies the turn called *Electra's Bower*, which is given by Alma, Abdullah, and La Superbe. Ethel Ra Leslie sings very sweetly and dresses daintily, and Madge Carlyle is a singer who is well worth listening to. An exceptionally clever gymnastic display is that of Four Skandias, while Geoffreys and Benson are responsible for a comical sketch entitled *Spoofed*.

NUNEATON.—Prince of Wales Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Benton's company is here this week, with *A Life's Story* and *A Marriage of Vengeance*. In the former play on Monday Mr. Benton as Tom Berry won much praise; Miss Harrison-Tate scored a decided success as Zeika; Miss Cora Linde was a good Beatrice; and Miss Ruby Belasco a capable Rosa. Mr. Seymour Perry extracted fun from the part of Toni; Mr. Max Coutts made an excellent Count Bergen; and Mr. Chas. E. Linney was well fitted to the part of Capt. Jack Temple. Mr. A. L. Baron did good work in the double rôle of Max and Frank Clifford; and Mr. T. Arthur Plummer appears successfully as Lieut. Hugo.

OLDHAM.—Empire Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E Dottridge; Asistant-Manager, Mr. Hulme.—Variety takes the place of musical comedy this week, Chung Ling Soo heading the bill, his performance of various feats of mystery being greatly appreciated; Les Rallis, as the "Artist and the Monkey," give a capital turn, and are well received, as are the Selbinies, in a pot pourri of cycling juggling; Martini and Son are excellent in their illustrated songs, and Mr. and Mrs. Lucas give three scenes from Dickens's works in good style. The Five Zerbinis are good in their musical fantasia, Hambo and Frisco Drawee, in a comical juggling absurdity, are funny, and Starr and Jerome give some capital songs and dances. G. W. Hunter, comedian, is as good as ever, and Ida Ross sings Tyrolean songs nicely, Susie Beavan, a charming vocalist, also contributes. Miss Florence Baines took a complimentary benefit on the 20th inst., and an excellent programme was provided.

Colosseum Theatre.—Manager, Mr. J. Ball: Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—This week the Britt-Nelson fight for the light-weight championship is being shown on the Bioscope. Mr. Fred Stainton, a local vocalist, also appears.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant, Mr. Howgate.—A capital star company is engaged here this week. The Sarnthaler Troupe, Tyrolean vocalists, get a good reception; Selkirk's juvenile sketch, *All Scotch*, is a fine spectacle, performed by 100 Oldham juveniles in a very able manner; Holden's Mannikins are worked in a realistic manner; Lillie Soutter, comedienne, who pays a return visit, is a great favourite; Ryder Slone sings his ditties in capital style; Brady Johnston and Co., in their sketch, *Turning the Tables*, cause roars of laughter; Les Voce are very good in operatic selections, and Stephen Blythe, actor vocalist, appears to great advantage.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—E. R. Dainez, with his comedy circus, is at the top of the bill here; the Bouncing Dillons give a capital show; Sid Cotterell and Co., in *The Substitute*, provide some genuine comedy; the McDonald Trio give a novel musical entertainment, and Lena Brunton is good in her impersonations of music hall stars; Fentoni, with his smoke pictures, and Little Barney, "the small Scotch," along with the Dottoscope, are also in the bill.

OXFORD.—New Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—This week we are having a first visit of Mr. George Dance's company in *The Little Michus*, which was received on Monday night by a crowded house with every sign of approval and delight. Mr. J. Clifford sings delightfully and acts well as Gaston Rignold; Mr. D. FitzGibbon is admirably suited as Aristide; Mr. Cecil Clayton is highly amusing as Bagnolet, and dances very quaintly; Mr. T. E. Conover is capital as Pierre Michu; and Mr. Leslie Holland convulses the house with laughter by his droll performance of General des Ifs. Miss Florence Hylton is very good indeed as Madame Michu; while the Little Michus find most piquant and charming representatives in Miss Alice Coverick and Miss Gracie Sinclaire, whose arch acting and delightful singing quite bring down the house. Mlle. Marjorie contributes some exquisite dances, the chorus is numerous and well-trained, and the dresses and scenery are admirable.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Miss Lena Stanton and her excellent company are paying a return visit here with the pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. In the title-rôle Miss Lena Stanton is, as usual, full of life, and fully maintains her well-established reputation. She is well supported by Miss Minnie Melbah, who contributes a dainty performance as Pretty Polly Perkins. Mr. Bruce Green, an old favourite, adds considerably to the success of the play as Lucretia Margaret Crusoe; Mr. Will Terry is a success as Little Willie Carlisle Atkins; and Mr. Phil M. Beirne is good as Davy Jones, jun. Mr. George Melbah makes the most of his opportunities as Friday, and Little Keeno is as attractive as ever in his whimsicalities as Sunny Jim Crusoe. Miss Millie Maxwell is well to the front as Capt. Taylor.

PAISLEY.—Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—*No Wedding Bells for Her*, presented by Mr. Frank Bateman's company, is a drama that is appealing to many patrons of this house this week. The chief character, Lola Delaspierre, is skilfully and powerfully played by Miss Lizzie Montague, who displays rare histrionic ability; Mr. George C. Doughty essays with considerable success the part of Dick Delver; as Frank Hatherleigh, Mr. Stuart Lamoth is extremely good and clever; Mr. Archie Helsby renders capital aid in assuming the villany of Abney Stone; and Mr. Edward E. Louis is to be complimented on his admirable portraiture of Harold Trevelyn. Humour of an extremely funny nature is provided by Mr. Will Skelton as Simkins, Mr. Frank Davies as Osric Guilderstern, Mr. Herbert J. Walton as Adonis Tightfist, and Miss Alice Mattin as Peggy Simkins. Miss Ida Mackay as Doris Fane acts with much feeling and charm; Miss Helen Owen plays Marie Flail with exceptional care and intelligence; Mr. A. Balfour Mackay furnishes a capital study of Horatio Fane, and Mr. Louis Garton assumes with credit the part of Montague Blair.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—This week the company includes Lance Anderson (champion boxer), Vowels and Bryan in a clever comedy act, Lule O. Bright (comedienne and dancer), W. C. McPhie (vocalist), Johny Jopp (swell comedian), and La Paloma (vocalist and dancer).

PERTH.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—The fair city is being favoured with a special visit of the only American Indian actress, Go-Won-Go Mohawk, and her American company in the picturesque sensational drama, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. Go-Won-Go Mohawk, in the title-rôle, is deservedly applauded throughout, and her personally-trained Indian ponies, Wongy and Buckskin, deserve special note. Mr. Guy D. Hackney and Mr. Dan Ryan are a source of continual amusement as Sam White and Garry Cullen respectively, as also is Miss Dorothy Neville in the part of Miss Matilda Shiffles; Mr. C. W. Charles makes an ideal Colonel Stockton.

PLYMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—*Our Boys* appears to increase in popularity, judging from its reception at the Royal, as presented by Mr. Charles Otley's company. Mr. William Anson and Mr. Herbert Robinson play Talbot Champneys and Charles Middlewick respectively; Mr. Charles Otley and Mr. Stephen Ewart appear as the fathers of "the boys"; the ladies find able exponents in the Misses Olive Palmer and Edith Heron Brown; while Miss Marie Jonquil as the lodging-house maid-of-all work, Belinda, is distinctly good. The company has also staged *Caste*, which has come in for an equally good reception.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Grant.—Miss Winifred Maude's company is here in *The Sins of a City*. Miss Maude distinctly scores as the self-willed and headstrong Seaweed, receiving material assistance from Miss Marie Lyons as Leshia and Miss Jessie Mason as a Scotch fisherwoman. Mr. Royce Carleton makes quite a noble Sandy McDonald, while the humorous element does not suffer by being entrusted to a lady, Miss Amy Corallie, who is distinctly good as Midge.

Metropole Theatre.—Owner, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—The exciting melodrama, *The London Fireman*, is being staged this week. The title-rôle is creditably filled by Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, and Miss Nellie Shirley is conspicuously successful as Ida Curtis, the fireman's wife. Miss Nellie Garside, Miss F. M. Daly, and Messrs. E. L. Garside and Frank Herlie are other members of a hard-working company.

Palace of Varieties.—Managing Directors, Messrs. Livermore Brothers; Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Alec Hurley and company are the principal attraction here in *The Costers' Beanfeast*, the sketch being well staged and very amusing. J. W. Rickaby has a couple of funny songs; Nellie Coleman, lady comedian, is distinctly original; Viviana is a graceful dancer; Maude Vera is a chic little coon artist; Dome combines some smart clay-modelling with humorous by-play; and Rappo, the great Containental equilibrist, and Vernon's Pictures complete the programme.

Promenade Pier and Pavilion.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—The famous Besses o' the Barn Brass Band are performing to large audiences on the pier, and have a very fine repertoire of secular and sacred music as occasion requires.

PONTYPRIDD.—Royal Clarence Theatre.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's musical comedy novelty *Dare-Devil Dorothy* is proving an attraction at the above theatre this week. Mr. Will Brereton as Silas Crump is well received; Mr. Henry C. Ward cleverly portrays Captain Dudley; Miss Dorothy Desmonde's singing is most effective; Mr. Alf. Stretton leaves nothing to be desired as Hawkins; and Miss Norah Caronni shows to advantage as Ruth Montrose.

PORTH.—Poole's Opera House.—Manager, Mr. Walter Bynorth.—The great attraction here for the week is Chas. W. Poole's No. 1 Colossal Hyper-Myriorama. The pictures are much appreciated. Mr. J. R. Poole proves an excellent guide. There are also variety turns, which include Coma, up-to-date ambidexteriologist; Harry Raymond, Mexican coon; the Three Rochesters, marvellous musical children; Woolford's wrestling ponies and clever dogs and donkey, Dane's Marionettes, Nanty Chef with his comicalities, and Poole's animated photos.

PORTSMOUTH.—Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The Royal Carl Rosa Opera company opened on Monday evening to a house crowded in every part, to hear Gounod's *Faust*. Miss Grace Nicoll as Marguerite was in capital voice, and gave a charming rendering of the part. Mr. Edward Davies was heard to advantage in the title-rôle, acting also with admirable effect; Mr. Arthur Winckworth's Mephistopheles was most telling and dramatic, his fine voice being well suited to the mocking serenade. As Valentine, Mr. Dillon Shalland played with judgment and sang tunefully; Miss Anna Hope was most effective as Siebel, and Miss Douglas Wilson as Martha and Mr. F. Clendon as Wagner were also successful. On Tuesday *Tannhauser* was given. *Il Trovatore*, *Carmen*, *Don Giovanne*, *Fidelio*, and *Maritana* are also in the répertoire. Mr. Eugene Goossens shares with Mr. Walter Van Moorden the highly responsible duties of conductor.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. W. H. Hallatt and his company are here this week with *The Temptress*. Miss Blanche Steele as Stella displays considerable dramatic power; Miss Mabel Scudamore plays Marion Fordyce with much charm; Miss Lizzie Chambers as Rhoda Brown and Miss Florence Palmer as Madge Denbeigh are to be commended for their impersonations; Philip Welford, the much-persecuted hero, is played by Mr. George D'Daiper in a taking and popular way; Mr. Frederick Ross invests the part of the villain, Lucas Denbeigh, with all the necessary amount of duplicity; Mr. W. H. Hallett as Pedro Gonzales, is admirable, and Mr. Tom E. Sinclair makes a humorous Bob Tanner.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A strong and varied programme is submitted here for the week. The Kellinos, with their acrobatic speciality *A Fête in Venice*, are daring and graceful; the Four Watsons, vocal and instrumental quartette, are capable and highly-trained musicians; the Firmans, in an original comedy act, create roars of laughter; Hector, wire walker and hoop manipulator, is a capital entertainer; Oakdene, with his ventriloquial scena, *The Stowaways*, pleased greatly; Marco, illusionist, is clever; and Kits Keen, Ethiopian entertainer; the Victorias, a vocal and terpsichorean trio; Will Farrell, express comedian, and Payne's Bio-photoscope all successfully help to make a good bill.

PRESTON.—Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Mr. Esmond Bramley's company is here this week with a répertoire of Shakespearean plays. An admirable performance of *The Merchant of Venice* was given on Tuesday evening. Generous praise is due to Mr. David Beattie for his convincing impersonation of Shylock; Mr. F. Owen Chambers made a dignified Antonio; and Bassanio was ably delineated by Mr. Cyril Este. Portia had a clever and attractive exponent in Miss Millie Ford. Other plays included in the week's programme were *Richard III.*, *All's Well that Ends Well*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Macbeth*.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—A capital variety entertainment is being presented here this week. Miss Daisy de Roy, as usual, delights the audience with her songs; Mr. Chas. Grantley, comedian, gains well-merited applause; the Cumberlands provide a sensational cycling act; Charles Vandyke and company present a screaming absurdity, entitled *Nicodemus*; the Two Shamrocks contribute some very clever clog-dances; Miss Florence Hill scores a success; Miss Nellie Nora gives a pleasing musical performance; Polletti appears in a clever trick cycling act; Mlle. Rosini's miniature menagerie is well worth seeing; and Snowden and Conway are clever patter artists.

Royal Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill here this week is Gustave Fasola, the Indian magician, whose wonderful feats completely mystify the audience; Mr. Chas. Majilton and company create much merriment in the popular musical farce, *Round the Clock*; George Leith gives an effective exhibition of strength; Arthur Slater is an accomplished whistler; Harris and Worth and Oliver Conroy are successful comedians; Minnie and Harry Groves provide a clever gymnastic act. Other good turns are those of the Two 'Cellos, and Jacko, the man monkey. Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

RADCLIFFE.—Queen's Hall.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—The bill here includes Mr. Barry Gilmore, a popular comedian and dancer; Miss Lizzie Wilson, a good soprano; Mr. Will Holiday, baritone; Miss Emma Halliday, comedienne; Miss Claire Bancroft, ballad vocalist; Mr. Syd. Mountford, with his magical mysteries, banjo interludes, &c., and a comedy sketch, *The Poor of London*, played by Messrs. Lonsdale Wilson and Holiday.

RAMSGATE.—Amphitheatre.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Large audiences have this week enjoyed the performances of Walter Melville's play *The Worst Woman in London*. In the title part Miss Florence Dalton has scored a success, and Mr. Wallace Campbell admirably fulfils the requirements of the part of Jack Felton. Mr. G. Thomas is amusing in the rôle of Thomas, a London sweep, and Miss Florence Lovell is a lively Matilda Parker. The part of James Milford is handled with skill by Mr. H. H. Barrington, and the same remark applies to the manner in which the rôle of Ruth is played by Miss Effie Bartlett.

RAWTENSTALL.—Grand Theatre.—Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—Mr. Alf Berg is here this week with his excellent variety company. Alec Alexander is an actor-vocalist of considerable talent, and C. Ricardo is a clever conjuror; Unity Vezzy and her performing dogs are an excellent turn, Miss Clara Urwin scores well with her songs and dances, and Messrs. W. T. Burgess, H. Shaw, and W. F. Rogers amuse with their sketch, *Found Faithful*. Mr. Alf. Berg gives a fine exhibition of his lifting powers, Miss Dorothy Dare contributes some enjoyable songs and dances, and Grin and Bear it, "the quarrelsome couple," are good. Mlle. Ena is also well received, and an excellent programme is brought to a close by a wonderful display of handcuff breaking by Leo Sylwyn, the handcuff prince.

READING.—Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Ernest E. Norris is presenting the popular *Tommy Atkins* this week with great success. Mr. Norris himself in the character of the Rev. Harold Wilson shows ability; Mr. Maurice Drew takes the undesirable part of Stephen Raymond well Mr. Arthur R. Carlton creates amusement as Ebenezer Skindle; Mr. Wilford Mansfield as Captain Richard Maitland, Mr. Harold Wagner as Captain Bob Sparrow, Mr. Sydney Burt, as Colour-Sergt. Paddy Malloy, and Mr. A. Wilson as the Arab Chief act in good style. Miss Theresa Osborne plays most sympathetically as Ruth Raymond; Miss Cicely Holland as Rose Selwyn, Miss Kitty Courtenay as Elsie, Miss Elsie Bonnett as Martha, Miss Alice Spry as Margaret Maitland, and Miss Denny Fitzherbert as Kate Perkins all sustain their parts satisfactorily. The scenery is good, and the effects are well managed. Mr. Wilton Reed is very efficient as general manager.

ROCHDALE.—New Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Cotton Spinner* is the attraction here this week. Mr. John S. Haydon again appears with a powerful impersonation of John Prescott; Mr. Edwin Fysher is seen to great advantage as Lord Northbury; Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds submits a vigorous portrayal of Arthur Northbury; Mr. Charles F. Wilton is good as Foster Cunningham; and much amusement is afforded by Mr. Ernest C. Edwards as the fiery Major Stratton, and Miss Bella Power as Lady Charlotte Needy. Miss Enid Ross is well placed as Constance Harrington; and Miss Mary Austin acts with life-like effect the part of Mary Prescott.

Circus and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee.—Much interest is being evinced here this week in the exposition of the jiu-jitsu style of wrestling given by Yukio Tani. Other interesting items on the programme include Frank Weir, comedian; Lottie Poole, serio and dancer; Marie Strabor, ballad vocalist; Three Sisters Geronde, vocalists and dancers; Mlle. Fontains, royal marionettes; De Reys, speciality artists; Vernon's Bioscope; Vesta Whelan, descriptive vocalist; and Wynford Brothers, jumpers.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—A highly-diverting entertainment is provided by the able management here this week. Payne's Little Vagabonds, in a vocal comedy act, are exceptionally amusing and clever; Boyd and Gilfain are loudly applauded for their operatic scena; Arthur Royse, comedy pianist; Lucretia, burlesque artist; Jansons, gymnasts; Ruby Emmerson, comedienne; Jack Martin, actor-vocalist; and the Empire Bioscope complete the programme.

ROTHERHAM.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company is here this week with *Passion's Power*. Mr. William Clayton is seen to advantage as Prince Kandos; Mr. Steven E. Scanlan is deserving of mention as Michel Laski; Mr. Frank Radcliffe scores as General Zuran; and Mr. Walter Roberts gives a forcible portrayal of the part of Rudolph Laski. Miss Stella Carmichael is smart as Countess Delaunay, and Miss F. Conyers Radcliffe gives a clever rendition of the difficult rôle of Zorah Varno.

RUGBY.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—Mr. Walter Thurlestone's company is this week presenting the musical drama, *Violet, the Dancer*, in which Mr. Thurlestone, as Grimaldi, an old actor, gives a very able rendering. Miss Ivy Alberta as Violet is extremely clever, and is equally acceptable as actress or dancer. Mr. Eric Westwood as Wopshot is smart and amusing, and Mr. Basil Reynolds as Lord Richard Mountraners is effective. Mr. Fred Slain as Captain Calcroft Vane acts well, and Mr. Arthur St. Clair is good as Selwyn Dawdle.

RUNCORN.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Caddick.—Another pantomime is engaging attention here this week, Mr. Gus. Levaine's *Aladdin* company being responsible for the representation. Miss Marie Harding is well suited as Aladdin in every way, singing delightfully and otherwise performing the rôle with marked success. Miss Florrie Gibson as the Princess is chic and charming; Mr. Arthur Collins manages to enlist a fair share of notice as the Emperor; Mr. Robert Williams as Abanazar works with true spirit; Miss Isabel Anetto scores as So-shi. The comedy business is well looked after by Mr. C. Arnett as Han-Kuff, Mr. Cecil Barry as Trum-Chum, and Mr. Ian Fleming as Washee-Washee, Mr. Richd. Teesdal scores as the Widow Twankey. Miss Florence Burnett appears as Electra, her singing being hugely enjoyed. The specialities include Leon and Leoni in a novel musical act, Phil Rees (double-voiced vocalist), Watty Griffin (a contortionist), Mlle. Alberto (on the wire), Ethardo (a clever juggler), Robert Williams in a unique sword exhibition, Cyrus Bell (musical comedian), and the Baden Troupe of dancers.

SALFORD.—Prince of Wales.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Woman of Pleasure* is this week meeting with success, as presented by Mr. Morice Prendergast's company. Mr. Jerrold Ord is an excellent Lord Carlingforth; Miss Theodora Henries makes a favourable impression as Alice; Mr. Arthur Gilroy (the general-manager of the company) ably undertakes the rôle of Major Burrows; the Rev. Luke Goddard, as played by Mr. H. T. Wood, leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Deane Cliffe as Bobby Bumpwell, Mr. A. Bradley as Joe Ploughman, Miss Grace Chesterfield as Mrs. Bumpwell, and Miss Dolly Gilroy as Dolly Dimple supply the comedy element.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The chief item in this week's bill is an amusing sketch *Did He Deserve It?* well played by Mr. James Willard, Miss Lydia Hart, Miss Violet Carr, and Master Willie Atom. The eccentric Arleys, in their absurdity, *On the Benches in the Park*, do some smart work with cycles. Other good turns include Nina Elmo, comedienne; Henry Drew, bass vocalist; Cosgrove and Burns, Scottish-American Comedy Duo; Milner Verren, silver-voiced vocalist; Will Godwin, comedian; San Remo Girls, comediennes and speciality dancers; Marie Walker, clever trombone soloist; Charles Serra, gymnast; and Harry Wenburn, comedian.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The Four Emilions give a very good show of balancing; some smart work is done in lightning drilling and wall-scaling by Captain Davis and his nine Zouaves; Mannon's Merry Maids, in *A Motor 'Bus Outing*, cause some fun, and are good dancers. The other turns include Harry Haytur, comedian; Young Igo, comedian and dancer; St. Johns, in their musical act; Boston Twins, in their comical act, entitled *Screams*; Levano, side somersault thrower; King and Delane, good patterers and dancers; and Vekeys, banjo soloists.

SCARBOROUGH.—Londesborough Theatre.—Proprietors, Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—*The Shop Boy* is presented here this week. Mr. Harry Pleon, who takes the part of Sarsparilla Smith, also gives impersonations from Dickens; as Blighted Birdie, Miss Celia Kent plays in a most original and fascinating way that greatly pleases the audience; Mr. Jack McKenzie, as Mrs. Green, is quite at home in the part; and Mr. Claude Aymond does justice in the rôle of Victor Victorine; Mr. Edward Simson scores as the Boxer. The specialities include the Alexandra Troupe of dancers, and Miss Celia Kent in their respective dances.

People's Palace and Aquarium.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—First and foremost here is the musical comedy scena, entitled *The Belle of Arizona*, given by Emmie Milster and Joe Bell. George Martinengo, solo 'cellist and baritone vocalist, in his original scena, *One of the Unemployed*, is wel lreceived; Miss Jennie Eraus, comedienne, sings "Moke and Barrer" in a captivating style; Sabino, on seven different instruments gives a varied tur

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Hodgson and Lowther's Sketch company, Mr. Lang Lewis (comedian), Messrs. Nash and Noel, in a clever entertainment, Mr. Tod Lowen (comic), Messrs. Dobito and Buxton, in an original vocal act, Miss Lily Lessah, and Pallister's Biograph, with up-to-date films, are delighting the Grand habitués this week.

ALBERT HALL.—West's Bioscopic show, "Our Navy and Our Army," under the able management of Mr. Richardson, continues to keep up the patriotic enthusiasm of large audiences. Some well stage-managed effects add considerably to the realism of the pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—In addition to the usual animated photos of local and topical events, a good variety show is provided here this week, the performers being Jack Renson and Rose Waite, two old Sheffield favourites, Mr. Ned Graydon (humorist and instrumentalist), the Astley Brothers (variety entertainers), and Miss Freda Tudor (vocalist).

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—Mr. Norman Macowan's powerful and talented company is here this week with *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Soldier of Fortune*. In the first-named play Mr. Norman Macowan himself takes the title-rôle, and enacts the part superbly. Mr. Murray Hathorn, the villain of the piece, merits the highest encomiums; Mr. Arthur Somers makes a fine Major Molyneux; Mr. P. Ramsey Forman is a capable Capt. Badger; Mr. Conybeare Gough is good as Mr. Rakell; Mr. Franc Stoney plays capitally the part of Mr. Bicksett; Mr. Leonard Lawrence as Beau Nash performs creditably; and other male parts are in capable hands. Miss Marguerite Cellier as Lady Mary Carlisle acts throughout with taste and judgment; Miss Annie Windsor is effective as Lucy Kellerton; and several minor ladies' parts are satisfactorily sustained.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, in *Her Wedding Day*, has proved a popular attraction. Miss Ward as Madge Conway, the bride, makes a charming heroine; Mr. S. Herbert Humber, as Harold Saxby, is capital; Mr. Augustine Knight plays strongly as the villain Weedon Kenyon; and Mr. T. Edward Ward is particularly good as Seth Mayson, ex-convict. On Wednesday evening Miss Ward, who is a local lady, took a well-deserved benefit.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—This week Mr. George Dance's company under the direction of Mr. Hugh Nolan, is presenting for the third time here the successful musical play *The Orchid*. The principals are all excellent, many of them being newcomers. One old favourite remains, Mr. Arthur Hemsley, whose Zaccary is an admirable performance. His legmania dancing is also very smart, and he is recalled again and again. Miss Dorothy Firmin is delightful as Lady Violet, and Miss Elsa Brull sings and dances daintily as Josephine Zaccary. Mr. Tommy Nelldon is admirable as Meakin, and he causes roars of laughter with his eccentricities; Mr. E. Nainby, the energetic stage-manager, does well as the French Count, and Mr. Fern Pounds plays the part of Guy in approved style. The other characters are all well sustained, and the chorus do good work, under the bâton of Mr. Albert Vernon.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Director-General Mr. Frank Nacnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—A capital array of talent is appearing here. Smaun Sing Hpoo, the miniature man and ring performer from British Burmah, is a great attraction; Tom Davies Trio score with a sensational motor-cycle act in mid air; and Kelly and Ashby simply revel on the bounding billiard table; Rastus and Banks, "the Major and the Maid," are smart dancers; and others who do well are Lillie Langtry, comedienne; Warden Reed and Co. in a farcical duologue *Married or Photographed*; Sterling and Love, Arthur Aldridge, and Harry Walker. Mr. Frank Reed's orchestra has been considerably augmented, and is quite a feature of the performance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell.—The star turn is Leoni Clarke and his 200 cats, monkeys, rabbits, mice, canaries, &c.; Dandy George and his clever dog Rosie are also big favourites; and Carlotta Levey, comedienne, and Carlton, comedy card manipulator, are well received. The Four Kweeries present a clever illusion, and Mlle. Kloet, the artist's model, poses gracefully; Mack Ollive whistles well, and Rosalie Jacobi is a charming soubrette.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, The Southend Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest.—*The Way Women Love*, a drama not wanting in thrilling episodes, is attracting large audiences here. Miss Sybil Thompson's company includes artists of conspicuous ability. Herr Adam Leebold, provides music of the best, including several French pieces.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A capital week's entertainment is being provided here by Miss Rose Moncrieff and company, who are presenting, in a successful manner, the musical comedy play, entitled *Fun on the Bristol*. Act II. chiefly consists of a special variety concert. Adelina, in her facial impersonations and great speciality, entitled "Britannia's Levee," is seen to advantage; Dorothy Maurice is a pleasing danseuse; Tod Squires, an eccentric comedian and big boot dancer, scores well; Grace Rossaire finds favour in her soprano selections; Sam Poluski, jun., proves a clever pantomimist; and Miss Rose Moncrieff wins especial favour as a burlesque actress and expert dancer. Those responsible for the chief characters are George Tearle as Widow O'Brien, Miss Grace Rosaire as Nora O'Brien, Miss Rose Moncrieff as Dora McAllister, Mr. Walter D. Brodie as Count Menaggio and Mr. Tod Squire as Jerry Thompson.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. J. T. Bacon.—The National Bioscope Company's entertainment includes illustrated songs by Mr. Fred Field; Miss Nellie Navette, comedienne and danseuse, and the Merry Carpenters contribute good turns. Some very fine pictures are shown by means of the Bioscope.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Company, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. J. Comyns Carr's adaptation of Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist* was presented here for the first time on Monday by Mr. Tree's very capable company. Mr. William Mackintosh's conception of the rascally Jew Fagin left nothing to be desired, either in make-up, gesture, or voice. It was a remarkably realistic characterisation. Miss Hutin Britton depicted the part of Nancy with strong histrionic effect; Bill Sikes was very ably portrayed by Mr. Cecil A. Collins; Mr. Tom MacFarlane was a commendable exponent of the Artful Dodger; the title-rôle was well enacted by Miss Gertrude Lang; Grimwig had an able representative in Mr. Clifford Bown; and other good character sketches were contributed by Miss Elsie Carew as Mrs. Maylie, Miss Hilda Dick as Rose Maylie, and Mr. Edgar J. Coyne in the part of Charlie Bates.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—A large audience patronised this beautiful variety hall on Monday, when a capital all-round programme was presented. One of the best turns, which created roars of merriment, was supplied by Haidee Lee and Wallace Kingston, in their latest success, entitled *Practical Joking*. Another humorous item was that of Otto and Olgar in their burlesque operatic and mirth-provoking entertainment. Mr. Will Cornish submitted a unique musical speciality, his manipulation of twenty-four silver handbells being very clever; Mr Fred Elton gave an amusing description of "A concert on an Atlantic liner"; Angeline, the female Cinquevalli, performed some astonishing feats of legerdemain; and other good contributions were presented by Miss Ruby Norton, comedienne; Dolly, Agnes, and Maude, the factory girls; and Mr. Walter Wade, eccentric comedian.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The principal item in the excellent combination appearing here this week is contributed by Haydee, with her miniature vaudeville theatre. The programme also comprises Flo Ellis, speciality vocalist; Tom Moy, comedian; Friscari, juggler and hat manipulator; Wee Jessie, song and dance artist; Dale and D'Arzan, Continental acrobats and conjurors; Madge May, comedienne; Little Ganty, comedian; and the bio tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The boards here are occupied by the well-known drama *The Golden Ladder*, presented by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmond's company. A manly and sound delineation of the Rev. Frank Thornhill is given by Mr. John Clyde; Miss Eva Ross's charming acting is decidedly praiseworthy as the heroine Lillian; Mr. J. Milne Taylor is much in evidence as the villainous Michael Severn, and an able accomplice is seen in Mr. Graham Winsford as Perenza; Mr. Jos. Rowlands renders capital work as Samuel Peckaby; Mr. T. Lionel Ellis quietly and effectively represents the banker John Grant; Mr. Harry Belford is deserving mention as Jim Dixon; Miss Nellie Graham scores as Mrs. Peckaby.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—The English Cup final and the local walking competition are films of especial interest, and as shown by the bioscope are enthusiastically received. Horace Wheatley, comedian and dancer, renews acquaintance here, and his bright and quaintly rendered numbers are the source of much delight; Edwin Barwick displays great ability and resource in his contributions; Dora Lyric is a comedienne of much charm and refinement; Lios Alfa Sisters are seen in a smart trapeze act, the New Macs are funny comedians and dancers, Amy Russell is a popular comedienne. Forrest and King and the Dorrells (duettists and dancers) are both well received.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—Theo Hardeen, the Handcuff King, heads this week's bill; a pleasing vocal act is given by Edie Grey and her white coons; Harland and Rollaston figure successfully in a musical comedy act; B. H. Almon, novelty hand acrobat, receives well-merited applause; Cecilia Maude is a good vocalist, and J. C. Scatter is a favourite comedian here. Interesting pictures by Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope completes the programme.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Mr. Coleman Davies and company opened on Monday with the drama, *No Escape*. Mr. Coleman Davies in the dual parts of Major-General Geoffrey Arlington and Constable Grip O'Grady shows great ability, his comedy business in the latter character being most humorous. Mr W. Lloyd is well placed as Simpson; Mr. Sydney Forth is an able Sergeant Arlington; and Mr. Wilton Richards submits a good study of Horace Hardcastle. Miss Evelyn Clare is a pleasing Ethel Arlington; and as Molly Muggs Miss Eunice Udall acquits herself with credit.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eugene E. Hardie.—*Somebody's Sweetheart* is being presented here by Mr. W. H. Kirby's combination. The part of Blabbs is drolly undertaken by Mr. Kirby, who is ably assisted by Miss Dot Reeve in the title-rôle.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD. — General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is here this week in *Her Luck in London*. Mr. Charles A. Leicester is excellent as the Hon. Gerald O'Connor; and Mr. Stephen Crossley is capable as Richard Lenowen. Mr. Tyrone Power gives a good performance as Stephen Harborne; Mr. Charles Digby does well as Algie; and Mr. Douglas Tremayne is advantageously placed as Rev. Lionel Strong. Miss Ella Vane cleverly represents Ruth Harborne; Miss Florrie Groves is exceedingly good as Maud Shovepenny; and Miss Mary Neil as Nellie Harborne deserves the highest praise.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Cornell.—Mr. Paul Vandy, juggler, heads the bill here this week. Mr. Gus Harris, Jewish vocalist, repeats his former successes; and other attractions in a good programme include Mr. J. H. McCann, roller skater; the Four Mill Lads, vocalists; the Kimberley Boys, comedians; Mr. J. P. Boston, comedian; Harrigan and Holt, comedians and dancers; and Weisker Bros'. bioscope.

STOCKPORT.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—A distinct attraction here this week is Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company in *The Love that Women Desire*. The author, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, acts the part of Frank Hardy with much power and feeling; and Mr. J. O. Stewart gives an admirable impersonation of Squire Abingdon; as Richard Abingdon, Mr. Hugh Mewburn is very effective; and Mr. David G. Noble displays ability in the character of Philip Carnaby; genuinely amusing is Mr. John Hignett as Dennis O'Rourke; and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson is quietly funny as P.C. Sowerberry; Sybil Thornburn is charmingly impersonated by Miss Lalla Stanhope; Miss Alice N. Livesey gives a realistic portrayal of Madge Abingdon; and Pattie Swift in the hands of Miss Maud Stuart is very pleasing.

EMPIRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Troba, phenomenal juggler, heads the bills here; Morny Cash, comedian, makes a great hit with his funny songs; and Bert Woodward, the cycling coon, is appreciated for the graceful manner in which he accomplishes his tricks; Mlle Dora is a clever oboe soloist; and the Sisters Marion are pleasing duettists; the Mozandos, eccentric speciality artists, are well received; and Leo Sprays (Marie and Minnie), Continental dancers, meet with satisfactory applause; whilst Curtis and Vanity, the American comedy pair, are very entertaining.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—An interesting programme is provided here this week by Messrs. A. Northway and Mr. W. V. Garrod's company in *The Prodigal Parson*. There is a pleasant vein of humour running through the piece, and in a carnival scene a number of variety turns are introduced. Messrs. Northway and Garrod themselves take important parts in the play, and are supported by a company of experienced artists.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The Empire Comedy Four, vocal humorists, provide some delightful singing; George Bastow maintains his reputation; the Three Zaracs, in a comedy sketch, *Washing the Barmaid*, are comical; Ian Colquhoun is a fine baritone, and the Ladderites, Millie Payne, the Sivronis (comedy artists), and J. P. Carrol (tambourine player) give attractive turns.

HIPPODROME THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—The marvellous Craggs, in their success, *Billy*, give a splendid acrobatic turn; Herr Fritz mystifies his onlookers with his tricks; Stylo, the juggler with hoops, earns much applause; the Three Missouris, in *Captain Kettle and his Mate*, provoke roars of laughter; and Beatrice Renee (comedienne), the Two Dixons (banjoists), Jack Hylton (eccentric), and Ruth Lytton (Scotch comedienne) complete a good programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Mohamed Troupe of Souasa Arabs, in their acrobatic performances here, are truly wonderful; Weiland, in a comedy juggling turn, is both funny and clever; the Demon Chef is a conjurer of much ability; Mr. J. B. Preston is a Scotch comedian of considerable merit; the Sisters Daventry sing harmoniously; Elsie Clare meets with much success; the Gregson Comedy Trio in their absurdity, *The Dummy*, are most entertaining; Little Joe Conway is a juvenile comedian of merit, and the pictures are excellent. On Thursday, the 19th, the receipts of both houses were given for the benefit of the Stoke Amalgamated Society, by the kindness of the generous proprietor, Mr. Allan Edwardes.

STOURBRIDGE. — ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—On Monday we had a visit from the famous Besses o' the Barn Band, who gave two performances. The attendances were most gratifying at each. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday the theatre was occupied by a company of local ladies and gentlemen, who appeared in the *Colleen Bawn*.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's company, in *The Streets of London*, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Henry Moxon gives a capital impersonation of Gideon Bloodgood, and Mark Livingstone finds an apt exponent in Mr. H. Douglas Cottell. Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie makes the most of his opportunities as Paul Fairweather; whilst Mr. Joe Bracewell, as Dan Puffy, causes much mirth. Miss Edyth Goodall gives a refined and pathetic rendering of Lucy Fairweather, and Miss Octavia Noel is seen to advantage as Alida Bloodgood. The Mrs. Puffy of Miss Helena Rigby leaves little to be desired, and Miss Marion Armitage is a pleasing Dan Puffy. The Four Fiorellas introduce some excellent speciality dances.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—The Sunderland Operatic Society are producing *The Mikado* here this week in aid of the funds of the Hebrew Board of Guardians.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. John H. Stringer; Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Browne.—Rosina Casselli's midget canine wonders top the bill here. Dusty Rhodes, comedian, provides an excellent turn; Ray and Calden are amusing in their comedy act; Pete and Juno are clever coloured comedians and dancers; the Wallys, in juggling act; Vanola, antipodeste; Will Musgrave, comedian; Will Souls, comedian; and Vernon's animated pictures complete the programme.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Clayton; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Variety is the attraction here this week, and among the artists appearing with success are Jean Seul, who gives a clever and mysterious performance; the Stavordale Quintette, with some fine harmony on banjoes and harp; Belford and Mars, with refined comedy; and Bella Leaburn, comedienne.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—That successful comedy *The Duffer* is the attraction here this week, and was witnessed on Monday by a large and appreciative audience. The piece was excellently performed by Mr. Louis Calvert's company, under the business-direction of Major E. A. G. Gossett. Mr. E. H. Wynne must be complimented on his admirable study of the title-rôle, the many strong points being very cleverly accentuated. The part of Charles Chester was impersonated with commendable judgment throughout by Mr. F. Pennington Gush; and Mr. Whitford Kane gained high honours for his telling and effective work as Paul Martin. Miss Margaret Montrose as Lady Amelia, and Miss Mabel Taylor as Nicebe, undertook their respective parts with care and grace; while Miss Florence Adale was seen to considerable advantage as Phyllis Wade. As Miss Bide, Miss Nellie Griffen presented an excellent piece of work, always applying just the correct touch to the character. Friday night's performance was set aside by Mr. Manners as a complimentary benefit, under distinguished patronage, to the Swindon Town Football Club.

TODMORDEN.—TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Todmorden Corporation.—Mr. John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Company opened here on Monday with a capital entertainment, combining song, dance, and story. Miss Minnie Richardson brought down the house by her admirable violin playing; and the singing of Mr. Frank Powel was much admired. Miss Elsie Rubina performed some clever feats on the high wire; and Sam Paul and Fred McLean, comedians, caused much merriment. The Florida Girls pleased with their dancing; and Bert Allen, the Lilliputian comedian, is funny. The performance of the Musical Keiths is worthy of high praise; and the Lizette Troupe of lady acrobats and tumblers concluded an enjoyable entertainment. Mr. L. Elgar makes an efficient musical director.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—An enthusiastic house greeted *The Eternal City*, presented by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company this week. The principal honours fell to Miss Marie Polini as Donna Roma. Mr. Henry Deas as David Rossi was exceedingly good, and Mr. William O'Flynn as Bruno Rocco received repeated applause for his vigorous interpretation; Mr. E. Stanton-Sharp's Baron Bonelli was characterised by great care and judgment, and Mr. J. Fortescue's Pope Pius XI. was a well-studied character with much reserve force.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. St. John Denton's company, in *Kitty Grey*, has had a most successful week. Mr. Hilda Guiver in the title-part has scored immensely, and she has been well supported by Miss Marie West, who plays with much charm the rôle of Lady Binfield. Miss Nellie Lauraine displays great powers of comedy as Mrs. Bright; and Miss Gertrude Page was very successful as Sadie. Mr. Robert Hyett submitted a capital study of Sir John Binfield; and Mr. H. E. Garden as the hare-brained Lord Plantagenet was quite irresistible. Mr. Lauri Lisle provided a most humorous study of the King of Illyria, Mr. Stanley Ravenscroft of the Comte, and Mr. Allerton Turner as Pontechet. In minor rôles, praise is also due to Messrs. H. L. Davies, G. Leslie, G. Hathaway, L. Steward, L. Fincham, and the Misses Ada Booth, Elsie Skillings, Mary Preston, Maud D'Alberston, Barbara Evangeline, Gertie Bryan, M. St. Clair, Kitty Wells, Florence Weigh, and Kathleen Arnold. Mr. Forbes Russell ably directs the orchestra.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mrs. Bandmann Palmer and company are paying a return this week. On Monday night *Hamlet* was presented, when Mrs. Bandmann Palmer gave an able and impressive rendering of the Prince of Denmark, her efforts receiving well-deserved applause. Mr. Sydney Bland was successful as the King of Denmark; Mr. G. Montague Lane (Laertes), Mr. Robert Puttard (Horatio), and Mr. George Munro (Polonius) were good in their respective parts; Miss More Dunphie acted with ability as Ophelia, and Miss Katherine Herbert ably filled the character of the Queen of Denmark. *The School for Scandal*, *Sapho*, *Nell Gwynne*, and *East Lynne* were billed for the remainder of the week.

HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Lachie Thomson's Top-Weights (Tom and Neill) a couple of youths, give a smart exhibition of club swinging, wrestling, and boxing; Mr. Will Percival delights with his excellent clog dancing turn; a talented juvenile, Little Tina, comedienne, wins applause; the Arizona Troupe contribute a good turn; Harry Wright, comedian, is amusing; Miss Lillie Coleman, soprano vocalist, Miss Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist, and Silvester and Sansome Trio, sketch artists, are equally successful.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A particularly bright array of talent occupies the boards here this week, a leading feature being Marzella's birds. Allan Hanbury, comedian, is very entertaining; Watson's dogs are clever and amusing; the Clarkes distinguish themselves as first-class banjoists; Madge Osmund, male impersonator, is well received; the Trapnell Family prove themselves clever and graceful acrobats; Hughes and Elliott, rag-time vocalists and dancers, do well; and the Bioscope shows a fine series of pictures.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Messrs. Amadale and Warren's company is presenting the drama, *The Face at the Window*. Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale gives a strong and artistic rendering of the part of Lucio Delgado; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe is well placed as Paul Gouffet; Mr. George Phythiam makes a capital mad doctor; Miss Elaine Grant plays creditably as La Pinau; and Miss Thorn Hallam is successful as Marie de Brisson.

WALTHAMSTOW. — PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter. — Mr. Geo. H. Chirgwin comes up smiling this week and carries all before him; *Saucy Maude* is played by the Brontes, the lady of the duo being a perfect low-comedy actress—a *rara avis*; Nadjo, the queen of equipoise, delights everyone with her graceful movements, and the manner in which she walks up and down staircases on her hands is nothing short of marvellous; Miss May Mars, after singing a good regulation song, gives her scena *The Shadow of the Pyramids* in fine style. Attired in a handsome Cleopatra-like costume, and in front of a beautiful scene suggestive of Egyptian sands, pyramids, and the Sphinx, Miss Mars sings with declamatory power a good song, and is vehemently applauded. Miss Bessie Butt is a capable singer of songs of the "coon" order, and dances prettily; Howe and Ardio give their well-known grotesque performance as acrobats and gymnasts. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, always up-to-date, shows, among other films last Saturday's match for the Cup final at the Crystal Palace. An entertainment quite new to audiences in the London district is *Casey's Court*, chiefly performed by a troupe of well-trained "midget mimics," who reproduce with wonderful fidelity the extraordinary doings of a set of gamins made popular by one of the comic papers. The piece is full of life and frolic, and contains one or two tuneful musical numbers well rendered. The whole thing goes with great spirit, and is received with continuous laughter.

KING'S THEATRE.—A capital performance of Mr. J. C. McQuire's popular musical comedy *The Major* occupies the boards here this week, enacted by Miss Ada Wallis's No. 1 company. The merry piece, familiar as it is to local playgoers, seems to go better than ever, thanks greatly to the efforts of Miss Wallis herself as Angelina, and Mr. McQuire as Major Barney O'Neal. Mr. Victor Silvernie is a handsome George Goodman, and Mr. Harry Vernon a satisfactory Jeremiah.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. J. H. Clyndes' company in *A Royal Revenge* is the attraction here this week. In the dual rôle of Estevan Alvarez and Pedro de Castro Mr. J. H. Clyndes displays histrionic abilities; Mr. John Foxhill submits a clever piece of acting as Nicholas Vargas, and Mr. Ellerstie Pyne is well placed as Manuel Mondega. Mr. Herbert M. King is good as the King of Spain, and Mr. H. Gomer May scores as the Moor. Miss Aimee Grattan is a tender Cora Casilda, and Miss Enid Edoni charms all with a faithful interpretation of Inez Alvarez. Miss Grace Jones submits a clever study of the Mother Superior.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—At this house Juno Salmo heads the bill, and his extraordinary contortionist feats causes wonderment. Billy English, coloured vocalist, scores; whilst Adeline Yohle charms all with her admirable singing; Tray and Rich are a capable pair of comedians; and Wyndham and Waters are amusing in their sketch *The Professor and his Pupil*. George Edney sings several good descriptive songs; and the Royal Bioscope shows a series of excellent pictures.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Miss Dorothy Oswald and company opened here on Monday with the musical version of *East Lynne*. Mr. Herbert Barrs played with success the rôle of Archibald Carlyle; Mr. A. E. Pringle satisfactorally portrayed Francis Levison; Miss Dorothy Oswald gave a clever impersonation of Lady Isabel; Miss Maudie Vincent was all that could be desired in the part of Joyce doing well in song and dance; and Miss Agnes Collier made a good Barbara Hare. On Wednesday by special request was presented *The Sorrows of Satan*.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. H. F. Maltby's No. 1 company is here this week in that fine romantic play *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. Maltby is entitled to the highest eulogy for presenting a most artistic impersonation of George Wendover; Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver gives a decidedly good interpretation of Phillip Radford; the Gerald Wendover of Mr. H. Henry Hargreaves deserves instinted praise; Mr. Ernest Noble's delineation of Joshua Pynne is much appreciated, whilst Mr. Ralph Hutton's Samuel Johns is worthy of commendation; Mr. George Mortimer (Hickey), Mr. W. Reginald Favel (Loke), and Mr. Noble (Paul) make the most of their respective parts. Mr. George Laidlaw does well as Perkins. Miss Mabel Mellor (Anne Dulley), Miss Mora Maltby (Florence Dulley), and Miss Beatrice Marsdene (Lucy Dulley) all give charming portrayals. A word of praise must also be awarded Miss Nancy York as Jane.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—The attraction here this week is H. and F. Poole's wonderful Realisations. The whole thing is highly instructive and interesting. The trip round the world shows the chief wonders of other lands. Chief amongst the variety turns are Houston, conjuror and illusionist; the Snow Family in a laughable skating turn; the French cyclists with trick riding; and the musical dog and performing donkey.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible Manager, Mr. David Williams.—*The Crimson Club* is paying a return visit this week. Mr. F. G. Kay fills the part of Sir Philip Garside in an able manner; Mr. J. Clifford Wright makes a fine Richard Fenton; the Hon. Herbert Selby is ably portrayed by Mr. Joseph Magarth; Mr. Chas. Nugent is a capital Sir Richard Steel; Mr. Franklyn Heywood as Silas Craddock is an able actor; Mr. Leslie Baker scores as Sir Chas. Lockwood, K.C.; and Mr. Percy Shaw, the whistling comedian, makes a hit as Reginald Adolphus Garside, being ably supported by Miss Kitty Elliott. Miss Sydney Barrasford is an admirable Muriel Lockwood; and Miss Flo Delmor ably portrays the part of Julia Marsden.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Presented with additional chorus and special orchestra, Mr. George Dance's principal company has given delightful performances of the opera *The Cingalee* during the week. The piece is gorgeously mounted, and the sparkling orchestration and admirably rendered vocal selections impart to the play a brilliant ensemble which is a chief characteristic of the production. The cast is an excellent one. Mr. Frank Crimp in the part of the Hon. Harry Vereker uses his fine voice with great artistic effect and with due appreciation of the niceties of musical comedy. Mr. Bertram Gates presents the character of Boobhamba with all the native ideal of dignity, and Mr. Coop Edmunds creates much merriment as Sir Peter Loftus; Bobby Warren is ably represented by Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, and the exceedingly grotesque and humorous part of Chambuddy Ram, a Baboo lawyer, is enacted with a fine sense of the ludicrous by Mr. Lauri de Frece. Of the ladies, Miss Marjorie Clarke (Patricia) is distinguished for her excellent singing, and Miss Gladys Guy impersonates with charming vivacity the character of Peggy Sabine. Miss Essie Perrin (Angy) is a graceful dancer, and Miss Winnie O'Connor is Nanoya, a Cingalese girl, is highly successful and most popular, especially in the song "My Cinnamon Tree."

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—A capital programme is provided at this popular house this week. The Frantz Troupe of ladies and gentlemen in conventional evening dress perform several remarkable acrobatic feats. Tom Foy, as the Yorkshire Lad in London, is a welcome visitor to Wigan, and his broad humour and dialect are irresistibly laughter-provoking. Lalla Selbini is an exceedingly clever lady trick cyclist who is well received, and the Elgars, operatic duettists, and Cissie Curlette, mimetic vocalist, are also popular; Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian and patterer, the Five Foys, in a sketch *The Excursion Depôt*; The Wedburns, comedians; Welds and Wynne, jugglers, &c.; and Gertrude Lytton, descriptive vocalist, all contribute pleasing turns.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night Mr. Arthur Branscombe's company presented *Morocco Bound* to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Jno. Higgins was excellent as the Squire; as Spoofah Mr. D. Dupres was rollicking and enjoyable; Mr. E. O. Freshwater appeared as Vivian, but was handicapped by a severe cold; Little Tony as Percy caused amusement by his drollery; Mr. F. Barclay as the Vizier sang with taste and spirit, and acted well; Mr. W. Westwood was good in his character-sketches; Miss M. Gray as Ethel was charming, and her singing was admired; as Maude Miss Dollie Doyle danced agreeably; Miss G. Tonseau appeared to advantage as the Countess.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following are the attractions: The Five M.P.'s (the Musical Palmers); Mr. Fred Lawton, an eccentric character comedian; Miss Lily Anton, comedienne and dancer; Lee and Arden, comedy duologue artists; Miss Daisy Palmer, serio and dancer; and the electric animated tableaux.

YORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Sidney Brooke.—The Five Olracs, acrobatic comedians of well-known merit, are being heartily applauded here this week; Cassie Walmer, a sand dancer, creates quite a furore; Atroy is a juggler of more than average merit; Viola is undoubtedly a great attraction, her efforts on various instruments never failing to please; and Sam Mayo, Clarke's Nippers, Pauline Zaro, and Blarney and Kennard complete the bill.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry J. Dacre.—Douglas Prince's company is playing *The Girl who Lost Her Character* with great success here. Mr. Frank Adair's Captain Caversham is a cleverly thought-out piece of acting; Mr. Wingold Lawrence makes a handsome Jack England; Miss Madge Haines is pathetic and natural as Molly Vernon; and Miss Ethel Bracewell's Rose Seymour is an interesting study. Mr. Henry Herne is manly in the popular rôle of Rev. Robert Everton; Mr. Geo. Asquin as Dick Punch has ample opportunities to display his abilities as a comedian; and he is ably helped by Miss Joan Taylor, a most amusing Isabella Jones.

THE HULL BIJOU THEATRE.

On Tuesday an application was made to the Hull Corporation Licensing Committee by Mr. Stuart on behalf of Mr. Alfred Graham, lessee of the Hippodrome, for a licence for stage plays at the Bijou Theatre of Varieties, Grimston-street.

In answer to Mr. Stuart, the Chief Constable said he objected to a dramatic licence being granted on the ground that there was a beer and wine licence to the building. It was all very well, he said, for a music hall, but unsatisfactory for a dramatic licence.

Mr. Stuart, in making the application, observed that Mr. Graham was well known in the city, and had had a great deal of experience in conducting houses of entertainment of that kind. Before Mr. Graham came to Hull he was for twelve years the manager of the Alexandra Theatre at Sheffield, and subsequently he was for eight years the manager of the Palace Theatre, Hull. He was at present the lessee of a music hall at Middlesbrough, and also of the Hippodrome, Hull, formerly the Alhambra. Mr. Graham's object in making the application was that he might cater for a stage play hardly touched by any of the existing theatres in the city. In the dramatic profession there was a large number of small companies, which, as a rule, performed small plays which could not get into the bigger houses. Many of them toured the country, some weeks in employment and some weeks out of employment, and Mr. Graham thought there was a distinct opening for that class of performance in Hull. His idea was to have those companies, possibly more than one in an evening, who would take turns, and if the theatrical performance was not sufficient he would intersperse between the acts or the plays variety turns by artists who happened to be performing at the Hippodrome Theatre. In addition, he proposed to close the performance with a bioscope exhibition, so that really it would be a combination of theatrical and music-hall performances. The building was at present licensed for dancing on the stage only, and for music and singing. It was a seven days' licence, and in addition to that there was a beer and wine licence. Mr. Graham was willing that that licence should go on as before. Subject to the application being granted, the theatre would be leased for two years from the Mechanics' Institute, with the option of extending it for a further period of five years. They also desired "smoking" throughout the building.

The committee finally resolved that they could not see their way to grant the application, having regard to the structural unfitness of the building.

OWING to the sad and sudden death of Mr

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 23,
the Musical Comedy, by Seymour Hicks and Herbert Haines, entitled
"THE TALK OF THE TOWN."

A very lively and entertaining musical comedy is *The Talk of the Town*, and of the approved type to which we have now become so well accustomed. Smart dialogue, catchy music, elegant costumes, good comedians, and pretty chorus all combine to please playgoers bent on spending a pleasant evening. The principal comedian is Mr. Wm. Cromwell, who, in the character of Jerry Snipe, the man in possession, keeps the house in roars of laughter by his exceedingly clever performance, which could not be bettered. As Lieut. Reggie Drummond, Mr. Arthur Harrold sings and acts with excellent effect; Mr. Ernest Arundel, as Lieutenant the Duke of Topford, is successful; and Mr. Price Evans is a capable Colonel Sir Charles Nightingale. Mr. Leslie Owen scores in the small part of Captain Richard Hambledon, Mr. Geoffrey Allsop as the heavyweight champion 'Arry Biff gives a good account of himself, and the Private Belzey of Mr. A. T. Hendon is a capital impersonation. The two Dutch moneylenders, Ernest and Frank English, prove acceptable and amusing in the hands of Mr. Tom Graves and Mr. A. Gambier Melford. The character of J. Ocheltree Ott, an American, is smartly played by Mr. Charles Earldon, and much hilarity is occasioned by the comic performances of Mr. Conrad Kingsley and Mr. Raymond Wood as the fiery Indian soldier servants La Pa Do and Juddy Wuddy Ah. Of Ellaline Lewin a most charming representation is given by Miss Joan Kiddie, whose melodious singing and bright and attractive acting make quite a hit. Miss G. Melville plays the part of Madame Modiste with eminently satisfactory results, Lady Nightingale is pleasantly played by Miss Katherine Harrington, and Miss Helen Gordon and Miss Jessie Winter are two fascinating daughters Marjorie and Mabel. An extraordinary and deserved triumph is attained by Miss Louise Tinsley for her extremely funny rendering of Geraldine Evelyn Snipe. The full chorus is excellent, the orchestra ably directed by Mr. Percy E. Fletcher, and the scenery and effects are on a most elaborate scale.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 23,
The Comic Opera, entitled
"PEGGY MACHREE."

Miss Claudia Lasell and company are here this week with *Peggy Machree*. The piece was seen at this house last year, and on the opening night of the return visit and throughout the week the company has been accorded enthusiastic receptions. The audiences have enjoyed to the full the sparkling music and interested themselves in the unwinding of the plot. The piece is beautifully dressed and staged, and the company work together excellently to ensure success. The title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Claudia Lasell in a most piquant manner, investing the part with the necessary charms of vivacity and grace. Her songs, "The Emerald Isle" and "The Simple Life," are rendered in excellent style, her witchingly sweet voice delighting everyone. Mr. Venron Davidson is to be congratulated upon the manner in which he acts and sings the lyrics which are associated with the part of Barry Trevor, his two most appreciated numbers being "Widow Malone" and "Donovan." As the stern-visaged Alexander McDougall, Mr. Milroy Cooper acts the part with great ability, and extracts a large amount of quiet, dry humour from it. Miss Madge Avery is seen to great advantage as Moira Cafferty, and a refined little actress and songstress is Miss Blanche Astley as Molly, her manner being perfectly natural. She scores with her vocal contributions, especially with "Little Airs and Graces," and "The Old Oak Tree." Miss Astley's display of the terpsichorean art is one of the best we have seen for some time. Mr. John Morley as Sergeant Bampton proves himself worthy of high praise, and his singing is much appreciated. Mr. Dan Fitzgerald repeats his happy impersonation of Michael, a typical Irishman, and Mr. MacDermott again gives his careful study of the part of Capt. de la Cour, acting with good effect. Messrs. Ralph Lynn and Edgar Ashwin make the most of their parts of Sir Lawrence Borthwick and Patsy, and Mr. J. Heribert Willis is an admirable exponent of Lawyer Keene. Miss Doris Kelvey (Madame de la Cour), Miss Dorothy Garden (Hon. Emily Pryor), and Miss Flora Hayden (Aline) all deserve praiseworthy mention. The Marlborough orchestra, augmented, under the direction of Mr. K. Ernest Irving, render all the numbers in good style.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 23, Shakespeare's Comedy,
"AS YOU LIKE IT."

Some weeks since Mr. J. Bannister Howard gave his patrons the opportunity of making their choice of three Shakespearean plays, and *As You Like It* was at the head of the poll by a large majority. It has this week served as a celebration of Shakespeare's birthday, and Crystal Palace audiences are fortunate in having for its interpretation such a good all-round company as that of Mr. Norman V. Norman. Complete attention to details has been given in the production, which includes a good male quartette for the rendition of the incidental lyrics. Mr. Dennis Cleugh is a forcible and earnest Orlando, and genuine interest is aroused in the wrestling scene. The melancholy Jacques of Mr. Norman V. Norman is a finished and careful study, his soliloquies being closely followed and applauded. As Touchstone, Mr. Francis Hope is quaint and to the point, and his singing of "O Mistress Mine" in the woodland scene shows his possession of a pleasing voice. The harsh Duke Frederick and the banished Duke are both played by Mr. Norman Leslie, who takes full advantage of the contrasts presented by the opposite natures of the two rulers. Mr. Brember Will looks and acts well as Orlando's unnatural brother Oliver. Mr. D. Murray's Old Adam is convincing, and his acting of the aged servitor is natural, and much appreciated. Mr. Sam Wilkinson, jun., appears as the foppish Le Beau in the first act, and afterwards as the old shepherd Corin, and creates much amusement in his scenes with Touchstone. Mr. W. Roberts Marshall gives a sound impersonation, and shares the responsibilities of the wrestling scene; Mr. Alexander Cassy makes the most of the love-sick shepherd Silvius, who so patiently bears the flouts of Phœbe. Though evidently suffering from a cold Miss Beatrice Wilson's Rosalind is a great treat, her pretty rendering of the shy-bold maiden being excellent, and her appearance being all in her favour. Miss Sybil Ruskin makes Celia full of girlish fun and vivacity, and Miss Betty Stannard is appropriately hoydenish and rustic as Audrey. Miss Hilda Gregory imparts colour to the rôle of Phœbe, and the lords and ladies of the Courts, both town and woodland, are represented by Messrs. Chris Curtis, Martin Sands, and Shiela Duff, and Mesdames Frances M. Harmon and Maud Grosvenor. Messrs. S. Millan, Henry, H. Summers, and H. Newman give the three glees with much taste, and greatly add to the success of the piece.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 23,
the Musical Comedy,
"LADY MADCAP."

The adventures and misadventures of that decidedly hoydenish young person Lady Madcap and her companions, as portrayed by Mr. George Dance's chief company, have been followed with great interest here this week. The title-rôle was enacted with much life and spirit by Miss Vera Vere, whose sprightly acting and tuneful singing soon made her a popular favourite. Susan, the lady's maid, found a vivacious exponent in Miss Peggy Primrose, whose clever dancing was one of the features of the evening. Gwenny Holden was charmingly played by Miss Kathleen Ronayne, whose talents were indeed worthy of a wider scope, and Miss M. Johnstone was very successful as Mrs. Layton. As Oroya Brown Mr. H. V. Surrey proved himself a genuine comedian with a decided talent for character-acting. Valuable aid in the provocation of mirth was rendered by Mr. Vincent Erne, whose singing and dancing as Corporal Ham were much appreciated, and by Mr. Fred Payne, whose Posh Jenkins was really screamingly funny. Mr. Alex Cheutrens was well suited as Count de St. Herbert, his good presence and fine voice, together with a cleverly-assumed French accent, making his impersonation one of particular merit. Mr. Bay Russell played seriously and effectively as Bill Stratford, and Mr. Lyall Grant and Mr. F. C. Leister as Colonel Layton and Major Blatherswaite respectively were typical examples of the stage British officer from two totally distinct points of view.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, April 23,
the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by Arthur Jefferson, entitled
"LONDON BY DAY AND NIGHT."

Melodrama, which has been driven from its chief home in the West End of London, is still a delight to the dwellers in the suburbs, and in no theatre is it more welcome than at the popular house in Upper-street, Islington, where Mr. Samuel James is vigorously carrying on the campaign against dulness, with, as chief guide and adviser, the experienced Mr. Newman Maurice. The current week's attraction is a piece from the busy pen of Mr. Arthur Jefferson, who has won considerable distinction in theatres in the provinces and in the outer Metropolitan area as a purveyor of melodrama, both of the sensational and domestic type. In *London by Day and Night*, his romantic story of London life, he touches a chord of tenderness and devotional gratitude that reverberates in the hearts of the eager and responsive Islingtonians, who have crowded the favourite local theatre during the week; and several times in the course of the performance on Monday exclamations from intensely emotional spectators in gallery and pit rent the air at some despisable act of villainy. Encouraging cheers, too, were heard for hero and heroine, who pursue a course of self-sacrifice, undaunted by the temporarily successful schemes of cool and calculating roguery. The chief evil-doer, Gideon Snake, flourishes like a green bay tree for the major portion of the drama, but in the end love and faith triumph in the old-fashioned way over cold-blooded avarice and bloodthirsty cruelty, the curtain falling on a happy ending, that is as balm to the hearts of a popular audience. Opening "prologuially" and in lively and interesting fashion with a treat to the youngsters in Epping Forest, introducing local children and the Gordon Boys' Brigade Band, we get at the heart of things at the residence of the villain, Gideon Snake, in the first act, and witness the success of his scheme to ruin the unsuspecting Richard Thorneycroft, who bitterly repents a past that is associated with Olga Snake, the wife of the unspeakable Gideon, from whom he had separated years before the action commences. In the second act the pathetic interest deepens with the return of the sea-captain, Edgar Thornycroft, who is in search of his brother Richard and his daughter Beatrice, and whose heart is gladdened by the discovery that the son whom he thought to be lost at sea is still alive. It is not necessary to disclose how the tangled web of villainy is unravelled, and how the virtuous characters emerge from their tribulations with hearts chastened, but Mr. Jefferson, we can assure our readers, grips the attention of the lover of melodrama from the first, and the interest felt in his work is cumulative. There is no clumsy workmanship in his structure, and *London by Day and Night* answers to the description set forth in the programme, in that it is deeply interesting, thrilling, and remarkable.

The drama is consistently well acted throughout. Mr. Fred Morgan presents us with a clever conception of Gideon Snake, whom he makes a very plausible and smiling villain indeed. Gideon is quick to plan, and even quicker to strike, and Mr. Morgan pursues the downward path with unabated energy and resourcefulness throughout. Miss Marie Clavering as the adventuress Olga Snake is quite mercurial in the lighter moments of the drama, and especially so at her entrance in the first act. The buoyancy of Miss Clavering's impersonation in this act is in deep contrast to her tragic intensity in the second, where she throws vitriol into the eyes of her partner in villainy, Gideon Snake. Mr. Beresford Whitcomb makes an interesting Richard Thorneycroft, and emphasises with considerable pathos the repentance of the philanthropist for the errors of his youth. Mr. Jo Monkhouse also cuts a pathetic figure as Edgar Thorneycroft, the sea-captain, a character that strongly reminds us of Dan'l Peggotty in "David Copperfield." Miss Irene Ross is earnest and sympathetic as the waif Dick, and only requires to be more boyish to be quite perfect. Mr. Frank Stone puts a deal of backbone into his rendering of Jack Hainsworth, of the Royal Navy, being especially good in the second act; and Mr. George Ellis, who, as George Fleming, becomes in turn a solicitor's clerk and a prison warder, puts plenty of character into his work. Mr. Fred May, who is largely responsible for the comic relief, plays Nicodemus Sneezer, an elderly grocer suffering from the effects of a chronic cold in the head, and possessing also amatory instincts that are equally as chronic; for in spite of the fact that he owes allegiance to Emily Ann Sneezer, his better half, he hankers all through the piece after "Baria," otherwise Maria Pink, described on the programme as a "rough diamond." Mr. May keeps the house in roars of laughter, and Miss May Seton, who appears as Maria, also becomes immensely popular. Mr. Keith Fraser strengthens the forces at the disposal of vice by his clear-cut and consistent portrait of Major Godfrey Snake, the Governor of Portland Prison; Mr. A. J. May is characteristically brutal as the unscrupulous chief warder, Peter Carter; Miss Julie Adams is a droll Mrs. Weston, Miss Nell Gilmore an effective Mrs. Sneezer, and Miss Florence Creagh, always refined and interesting, presents us with a sketch of Beatrice Thorneycroft that is at once forcible and touching. Other parts are adequately handled by Mr. Ashton Winslow and Mr. Albert Sumner. The piece was originally produced for the first time in the Metropolis at the West London Theatre on July 18, 1898, under the title of *The Bootblack*. It is exceedingly well staged.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 23,
the Comic Opera, by H. B. Farnie and R. Reece,
Composed by R. Planquette, entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

This week the Fulham Theatre is given over to the attraction of genuine comic opera. A good company, under the management of Mr. E. St. Alban, is appearing in the delightful *Les Cloches de Corneville*, which is surely one of the best comic operas ever produced. The work of the principals is excellent, the chorus is well dressed and well drilled, and the whole production creates a most favourable impression. Mr. G. A. Fox is a stately and handsome figure as the Marquis de Corneville, and his rich voice is heard to great advantage. Mr. William Everard sings well and acts brightly as Grenicheaux; Mr. Fred Dark as the Bailie possesses an inexhaustible fund of broad humour, of which he makes ample use, his efforts to amuse being ably seconded by Mr. Richard Martin as Gobo, whose fantastic get-up is most effective. The performance of Mr. St. Alban as Gaspard is certainly one of unusual excellence, his acting throughout being particularly clever and powerful. Miss Marion Ayling is a charming and dainty Germaine, singing the tuneful numbers allotted to her in excellent taste; Miss May Bradbury makes a capital representative of Serpolette, being brimful of humour and abandon; and Miss L. Rhodes looks very smart as Christophe. The orchestra, under the direction of the Chevalier Legrand, does full justice to the bright and pleasant music.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 23,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

Mr. William Greet's principal company is here this week on a return visit with that lively musical play, *The Earl and the Girl*, and is meeting with a most enthusiastic reception. On Monday evening the house was very full, and the audience were much delighted with the excellency of the production, showing their appreciation by their demands for encores. The company has been subject to very slight alteration since its last visit, and several old favourites were given a big reception, notably Mr. William Stephens, who is seen to such advantage as Jim Cheese, the dog trainer, who is passed off as the Earl with such mirth-provoking results. The part is well suited to Mr. Stephens' style, and he is very amusing, being a comedian of endless resource and originality. As usual, the song, "I'd be satisfied with life," secured several recalls. Another prime favourite is Miss Florence Imeson, who makes a captivating Daisy Fallowfield, scoring very heavily with "Sammy," a song of which audiences never seem to tire. Elphin Haye is charmingly played by Miss Aimee Grey, who is the "Girl"; while Mr. Percy Carr as the "Earl," Richard Wargrave, is excellent. His song, "The Mediterranean," is among the successes of the evening. Downham, the pushful American solicitor, is capitally played by Mr. Will Hindson, whose energy seems to know no bounds. The other solicitor, Mr. Talk, is amusingly embodied by Mr. J. C. Graves; while Mr. G. H. Curzon is in great form as Mr. Bunker Bliss. Mr. Percy E. Wright is smart as the Hon. Crewe Boodle, and Mr. F. W. Pattrick shines in the small part of Mr. Hazell, "mine host" of the Fallowfield Arms. In the character of Liza Shoddam Miss Dot Carey makes a great hit, her low comedy is cleverly played, and adds greatly to the humour of the piece. Miss Gladys Fontaine is very good as the retired strong woman, Mrs. Black; while Miss Helen Langton is imposing as Miss Virginia Bliss. The chorus are most indefatigable in their efforts, and help greatly towards success. The dance "L'Entente Cordiale" is now quite one of the most attractive features of the production. The staging is on the most complete and artistic scale, and the dresses are very tasteful. The orchestra does fine work under the bâton of Mr. Evelyn Baker, and the whole production is under the direction of Mr. G. H. Highland.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, April 23,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Reade, entitled
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

Although the motive for which this drama was written—the remedying of the barbarities of prison life—is no longer existent, its sterling merits still appeal strongly to theatre-goers; and on Monday it was presented by Mr. John M. East to a large and most appreciative audience. As Tom Robinson that sterling actor Mr. Ernest Leicester gives a thorough representation of the young adventurer. He completely identifies himself with the part, and acts with great power and resource, his touches of grim humour being especially successful. Mr. Horace Hunter makes a manly George Fielding, and scores heavily. William Fielding is well placed in the hands of Mr. W. Goddard; Mr. George Claremont does well as the Governor of the Model Prison; the prison chaplain, Rev. Francis Eden—whose stirring lines are frequently greeted with cheers—is ably submitted by Mr. J. A. Rosier; the rascally attorney Peter Crawley, as impersonated by Mr. Willie Garvey, is responsible for much laughter; Mr. Fred Dobell makes a grinding and overbearing villain as Mr. Meadows; the antics of the famous character Jacky are made screamingly funny by Mr. Teddy Coleman; Mr. T. Adams and Mr. H. H. Young as turnkeys are responsible for pleasant touches of humour in the heartrending prison scene; Mr. Harry Crane is satisfactory as Isaac Levi, a Jew; and Mr. R. A. Beeton as Mr. Merton gives a good reading of the part. Miss Katherine Clarke is seen to advantage as the heroine Susan Merton. In her dramatic scenes, by her pathos and feeling, Miss Clarke soon secures the sympathies of the audience. As the poor waif, Miss Jessica Black gives a finished performance, and the slight dashes of rebellious spirit, so true in a boy, although in dire distress, are admirably shown.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 23,
the Drama, by Henry Pettitt and Augustus Harris, entitled
"HUMAN NATURE."

The patrons of this popular Peckham house have had this week the pleasure of seeing the evergreen Drury-lane drama *Human Nature*. The piece has long ago received the stamp of popular approval, and therefore comment upon it is superfluous. At the Crown the play is excellently rendered, and the scenery and effects are all that could be desired. Especially good from a spectacular point of view is the presentment of the return of the troops from the Zulu war at the end of the fourth act. Mr. Albert Ward is a manly Captain Temple, acting with much force and feeling, and quite gaining the sympathy of the audience in the various trying situations through which he has to pass. Mr. Frank Harding is a polished villain as the military adventurer Paul De Vigne. Mr. Charles Langley makes an excellent impression as Matthew Hawker, a scoundrel of a different temperament. Mr. Orlando Daly gives a powerful character-study as the deeply-wronged Stephen Mardyke; Mr. Lytton Grey is very amusing as Horatio Spofkins, the eccentric lawyer's clerk, with a devotion to the poetic muse; Mr. H. Watson is capital in the small part of an Arab chief; Mr. H. W. Brame gives a good representation of the kind-hearted vicar, Arthur Lulworth; Joe Lamkin is admirably played by Mr. Charles Dodsworth; Nellie Temple is presented with much sympathetic force by Miss Agnes Imlay; Miss Leah Marlborough is a powerful and stately Cora Grey; Miss Marie Wright is a vivacious and amusing Maggie Wilkins; Miss Irene Ross gives a touching embodiment as the poor waif Dick, and the pathos of her death scene moves many to tears. Miss Dorie Mason plays well as Frank; and Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem gives a striking study of the unsympathetic rôle of Mrs. Lamkin. Miss Cissy Farrell is excellent as the kindly Mrs. Lulworth.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 23, the Drama in Five Acts,
by G. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled
"IN THE RANKS."

This famous old Adelphi drama is always sure of a hearty welcome no matter where it is staged, and, needless to say, in Marylebone its reception has been most cordial, Mr. Bailey's cosy theatre being comfortably filled during the week with sympathetic audiences. The part of Ned Drayton is an excellent one, and Mr. W. F. Hartford's fine elocutionary powers enable him to score, his voice filling every corner of the house. As Gideon Blake, Mr. Alfred Harding brings out most effectively all the repulsiveness of that shady character, whose doings are execrated quite unanimously by the "gods." Mr. Talbot Homewood is decidedly good as Captain Holcroft, Mr. A. G. Lytton does well as Sergeant Searle, Mr. Kenneth Black is duly impressive as the hop-picker, and Mr. W. P. Sheen's whimsical rendering of Joe Buzzard is responsible for much laughter and applause. As Mrs. Buzzard, Miss Blanche Stanley exploits her low-comedy talents to great advantage, Miss Agnes Paulton is a merry and bright Barbara Herrick, and Miss Lily Hammersley as Ruth Herrick sustains the trying rôle with sympathetic tenderness. The remaining members of a long cast work with a will, and the piece, which is mounted and staged in good style, is produced by Mr. J. M. East.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 23,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Alfred Sutro, entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

Mr. Alfred Sutro's successful play, *The Walls of Jericho*, is proving a great attraction here this week, and the members of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's excellent company must feel highly gratified by the enthusiastic reception accorded them nightly by crowded houses. The all-round excellence of the acting is most marked. Full advantage is taken of every opportunity, and the play from start to finish goes very smoothly. Chief interest centres upon the doings of Jack Frobisher, who by vigorous protests endeavours to break down the artificiality and intrigues of society life, and, failing to do so, departs with his wife and child to the purer atmosphere of the Australian bush. Mr. Herbert Bunston scores a great success as Jack Frobisher, and quickly impresses the audience by the convincing force of his acting, notably in the third act, wherein he indulges in a furious tirade against society life. This is an exceedingly effective piece of acting, and provokes rounds of applause. He is well supported by Miss Amy Ravenscroft, who as Lady Alethea Frobisher gives a very natural representation and acquits herself with distinction. The varying moods of indifference, pride, and love are faithfully portrayed, and by her excellent impersonation Miss Ravenscroft holds the attention of the audience throughout. Another good performance is that of Mr. Cecil Brooking in the rôle of the Marquis of Steventon, a part in which his talents, fully employed, receive hearty acknowledgment. Warm praise must also be given to Mr. Alfred S. Barber, who keeps the house in continuous good humour by his clever delineation of Hanky Bannister. Mr. A. W. Fryer handles the part of Harry Dallas with considerable tact and skill, and is to be congratulated on a sterling performance. Some excellent work is put in by Mr. V. Wilcox Cadogan as Bertram Hannaford, and commendation is due to Mr. Joseph Hart as the Hon. Wilfred Renton, Mr. W. L. Briscoe as Lord Drayton, and Mr. Wilfred Lane as Lord Marchmont. The natural charm and ingenuous manner of Miss Nona Wynne are apparent in the rôle of Lady Lucy Derenham, and Miss Helen Haye is sincere and sympathetic as Lady Westerby. Miss Jean Harkness appears to advantage as Miss Mornington, and Miss Mary Weigall as the Duchess of Skye, Miss May Brooke as Lady Porchester, and Miss Florence Harcourt as Miss Wyatt are excellent. The minor parts are well played, and the piece is admirably staged. Mr. Ernest F. Mehser is acting-manager, and Mr. A. H. Leveaux stage-manager for the company.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, April 23,
the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Metcalf Wood and Beatrice Heron-Maxwell, entitled
"THE HOUSEKEEPER."

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are treating the patrons of the pretty Notting Hill Gate theatre to their delightful répertoire this week. *Still Waters Run Deep* on Tuesday, *The Elder Miss Blossom* on Wednesday, *A Scrap of Paper* on Thursday, and Friday and to-day, matinée and evening performances of *The Ironmaster*, will complete their week's programme. Cleverly devised, wittily written, and admirably acted, *The Housekeeper* is just one of those delightfully airy drawing-room comedies, which show off Mr. and Mrs. Kendall at their best. Indeed, all the company is excellently well cared for, and each minor part has its meaning and opportunity. It is the acme of legitimate farcical comedy when Colonel Trent finds out that he has been treating Lady Audrey as a mere housekeeper, and even funnier is the scene where he practises his "'prentice hand" at love-making "by the card," and becomes engaged to all the household in turn. Mrs. Kendal is sublime in her assumption of the clever, good-natured, unselfish guardian angel of the Whitby *ménage*, and in most difficult and subtle situations she never descends to the ridiculous, but maintains an equable level of excellence throughout. Mr. Kendal has seldom showed to better advantage than as the bashful "bear," and modest martinet, Colonel Lionel Trent, and he contributes some scenes of exquisite comedy. Mr. Bassett Roe glides easily through the part of the languid Lord Runswick, whom Lady Audrey runs as M.P. for Westcliffe. Mr. Ernest Hendric contributes a vastly amusing and clever character-sketch of the amorous parvenu, William Hickson. Mr. Reynolds Denniston and Miss Marie Lohr, as the pair of young lovers, Robert Sledmere and Cicely Blake, are quite satisfactory; whilst Mrs. A. P. Topping is intensely droll, and gives a finished performance as the deaf old Lady Robertson, with her decorated ear-trumpet. Mr. Metcalfe Wood acts well in the unconventional part of Chippenham Berkeley; and Mr. W. M. Rutherford distinctly scores as the butler Crane. Miss Elise Clarens makes an attractive widow, and her somewhat artificial manner is exactly suited to the part of the designing Mrs. Rillington. Miss Jessie Moore also does good service as the sporting Mrs. Pennington Greene, and Mr. Charles F. Pool as her unobtrusive hubby.

ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

Miss Dorothey Cacey's company in the farcical comedy, *Facing the Music*, have had an excellent reception this week at the Artillery Theatre. It is the first time Mr. J. H. Darnley's play has been seen in Woolwich, and, judging by the favour extended to it, we doubt not that the play will be brought here again. Mr. Charles Windermere is exceedingly entertaining with his portrayal of the absurdities of "the other Mr. Smith," and his characterisation is a considerable factor in the success of the play. Miss Dorothey Cacey gives us a delightful performance of Nora, and Miss Clare Manifield acts in agreeable fashion the part of the curate's wife. Mr. Wentworth Fane is amusingly sanctimonious as the Rev. John Smith, and he sustains in capital style the priestly intonation of voice and the gestures and movements of a mild-mannered man of the Church. Mr. Harry Averell is light-hearted and breezy as Dick Desmond; and Mr. J. Knox Orde presents a well-finished study of Colonel Duncan Smith. Miss Evelyn Shelley is to be highly commended for her admirable representation of the talkative but shrewd old housekeeper; and praise is due to Miss Mildred Hodson as the actress, and Mr. Henry Nelson as the police-sergeant. Mr. Charles Windermere's one-act play, *Clause Number Six*, is given as a curtain-raiser, the two characters in it being handled with conspicuous ability by Mr. H. Averell and Miss Clare Manifield.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 23,
The Musical Play, entitled
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

The really amusing play *The Girl From Kay's*, for the story of which Mr. Owen Hall is responsible, forms the attraction this week at the Dalston Theatre, and it is once more demonstrated that it is as popular as ever. Not only on account of its droll incidents, its tuneful music by Ivan Caryll, and its lyrics by Adrian Ross and Claude Aveling, does it appeal to the general public, but its pretty dresses and its attractive scenery by Harker also further its claim to the consideration of the playgoer. It is presented by Mr. George Dance's principal company and goes with a swing which is exhilarating. Winnie Harborough, "the girl from Kay's," is played by Miss Beatrice Poole, who fully sustains the many excellent points of the character. Max Hoggenheimer, the bumptious, but withal good-natured, millionaire, finds a most congenial representative in Mr. H. C. Barry. Another noteworthy character, that of Joseph, hall-porter at the Flacton Hotel, is most capably sketched by Mr. Tom Seymour. Mr. T. S. Durant makes a manly Harry Gordon; Mr. Reginald Grey is just sufficiently foppish as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; and Mr. Robert Rivers is parchment personified as Theodore Quelch. There are others in the male cast who do good service, including Mr. Bert Burton, Mr. Walter Bates, and Mr. D. King. The necessary touch of "society" demeanour is given to the character of Mrs. Chalmers by Miss Maud Leonard; and Miss Emily Taylor charmingly impersonates Nora, Miss Mabel Dent being a neat Ellen. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Arthur L. Spittle.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, April 23, the Musical Comedy, entitled
"FLORODORA."

Kingston audiences have been delighted this week with this charming production, which is being presented by a strong company captained by Mr. J. Bannister Howard, whose name, well known to Kingston playgoers, is recognised as a guarantee of excellence. The dominant character in the play, Anthony Tweedlepunch, is impersonated by Mr. Daley Cooper, than whom it would be difficult to find a more capable exponent of the part. His irresistible drolleries, occurring as they do so frequently in the course of the play, keep the audience in a continual state of merriment, so that there is scarcely a dull moment from the rise to the fall of the curtain. A captivating portrayal of the part of Lady Holyrood is given by Miss Kate Leicester, who won many admirers amongst the onlookers. Miss Florence Hersee also makes a most creditable appearance as Angela Gilfain, which she invests with a captivating juvenility. Miss Gwladys Elvey makes a most attractive Dolores. Mr. E. Courtier Dutton appears as Frank Abercoed, and discloses the possession of a fine baritone voice, which the audience are not slow to recognise. Mr. Stanley White acquits himself well as Cyrus W. Gilfain; and Mr. Harold Perry as Captain Arthur Donegal gives every satisfaction. The chorus is a strong one, and well trained, and the scenery and the costumes are all that could be desired. An augmented orchestra is ably directed by Mr. J. G. Hahn.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, April 23,
The Drama, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

Good acting and excellent stage-management were the distinguishing features of the opening performance here of Mr. Arthur Collins's company in *The Prodigal Son* on Monday evening, when an excellent company was accorded a hearty reception by a well-filled house. Miss Alma Murray achieves in gratifying fashion the most striking personal success of the evening in the part of Anna. The audience follows her performance with close attention throughout. Excellent, too, is Miss Cecil Cromwell as Helga, playing with forcefulness and earnestness the many scenes allotted her. Miss Lily Hall Caine successfully impersonates the part of Thora; Mr. Norman Partriege gives a thoroughly sound and effective performance of Oscar; Mr. Henry Renouf contributes a powerful reading of Magnus Stephensson; and as Stephen Magnusson Mr. Henry George is well cast. Many eulogistic things have been written of Mr. George's admirable portrayal, and these are being readily endorsed this week. Mr. Frank Collins appears as Oscar Neilson, and Mr. P. Gromer as Eric. Miss Mima Renouf makes the character of Margaret conspicuous by good acting. Others deserving of mention are Mr. Howard Russell, Miss Emily Grove, and Miss Kathleen Kellie. At the conclusion of the performance on Monday the principal artists were accorded generous recognition, the applause being loud and long. Mr. Stephen E. Blythe's orchestra remains a feature of the evening's entertainment.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 23,
the Domestic Drama, in Three Acts, by A. W. Pinero, entitled
"SWEET LAVENDER."

Mr. Russell Rosse has engaged an excellent company to interpret *Sweet Lavender*, including Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner, who gives a pleasing and dainty impersonation of Minnie Gilfillian. Mr. W. F. K. Lancy's Dick Phenyl is a clever performance; his assumption of the eccentric barrister keeps the audience in the merriest of moods. Mr. Tripp Edgar as the love-sick Clement Hale is excellent, and soon establishes himself a favourite. A fine interpretation of Geoffrey Wedderbarn is presented by Mr. Nelson Ramsay; Mr. E. C. Matthews gives a clever delineation of the humorous and good-natured doctor, Delaney; Mr. Robert Minster causes amusement by his boisterous performance of Horace Bream; a quiet and sympathetic portrait of Ruth Holt is given Miss Ethel Verne; a good exponent of Mrs. Gilfillian is found in Miss Eugenie Verne; Miss Edna Godfrey Turner makes a quiet and unobtrusive Lavender; Mr. Maw, a solicitor, is well played by Mr. Walter Maclean; and Mr. Charles R. Hann gives a well-thought-out study of the hairdresser, Mr. Bulyer. The curtain-raiser is *Lady Fortune*, a smartly written little play by Mr. Charles Thomas, and admirably presented by Mr. Robert Minster as Lord Amblely, Mr. Tripp Edgar as Guy Mallory, Mr. Charles R. Hann as Mr. Jessup, Miss Ethel Verne as Mrs. Cunliffe, Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner as Kate Cunliffe, and Miss Sybil Wise as Sarah.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, April 23,
the Play by A. Goldfaden, entitled
"SHULAMITH."

The engagement of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company still continues to give great satisfaction to the particular section of the patrons of the Pavilion to whom these performances appeal, and large audiences are the result of the special efforts which are being made. There is a change of play every night, and the work thus entailed upon the talented artists engaged is necessarily somewhat of a heavy character; that the various delineations are perfectly successful is well shown by the great enthusiasm which prevails throughout each evening. Mr. J. Scherman proves himself an able stage-manager, and Mr. F. Staub is efficient as musical conductor. In A. Goldfaden's play *Shulamith*, great praise must be given to Mme. Zwiebel for her powerful acting of the title-rôle; while Mme. Kayzer was excellent as Abigail. A clever and realistic impersonation of Menoah was given by Mr. Goldsmid, and Mr. Chizick was well received as a Shepherd. Mr. Katz proved interesting as the Gideonite Joab, and Mr. M. Gufosky is worthy of high commendation for his portrayal of Absalom. Mr. M. Axelrad was effective and impressive as the priest Nathan, and a creditable representation of Abinadab was given by Mr. Landau. Mr. J. Scherman was very entertaining as Zinngetank, and Chanonya was made the most of by M. Ellman. The scenery and dresses were in the best possible taste. During the week performances have been given of *Moriss Tailor*, *Daughter of Jerusalem*, *The Viceroy*, *Bar Cochba*, *King Lear*, and *Hero of Jerusalem*, with gratifying results.

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL AT STRATFORD.

No sign was wanting of the increased importance which attaches to the honouring of Shakespeare's Birthday at Stratford-on-Avon, and this year the 342nd anniversary was made the occasion of a public holiday. The town was crowded with visitors, and meetings of many local Shakespeare societies were held in the course of the day. The ceremony of decorating the poet's tomb in the chancel of the Collegiate Church was performed in the morning, some hundreds of persons bringing floral offerings. Chief among the wreaths were those from the Birthplace Trustees, the Shakespeare Club, the Royal Society of St. George, the National German Society at Weimar, the Birmingham Shakespeare Club, and Mr. and Mrs. Benson. Nearly the whole width of the chancel was covered with beautiful flowers and wreaths. An appropriate address was delivered by the vicar, the Rev. G. Arbuthnot, who asked his hearers to think of Shakespeare as a great pacificator—he united not only the hearts of those present, he had united nations by his works.

Foremost in the celebrations were the performances given in the Memorial Theatre by Mr. F. R. Benson's company, the series, which is to extend over three weeks, opening on Monday with *Much Ado About Nothing*, in which both Mr. and Mrs. Benson appeared and received a hearty ovation from a crowded house. Mrs. Benson is at her brightest and best in the part of Beatrice, and her rendering of the rôle on Monday was marked by grace, feeling, and spontaneity, and occasioned the greatest enthusiasm. Mr. Benson's Benedick was notable for its rich humour and deep sensibility, and the worth of the performance was keenly recognised. Mr. Cyril Keightley gave a sound and well-emphasised rendering of Claudio, and Miss Tita Brand's performance of Hero was a pleasing one. Mr. Clarence Derwent was highly successful as Don Pedro; Mr. Philip Sanders realised exactly the forbidding characteristics of Borachio; and the resonant voice of Mr. D. P. Owen served him well as the grave and reverend Friar. To Mr. George R. Weir's rendering of Dogberry was imparted the essence of drollery, and every humorous point in the rôle told with unerring effect. Praise is also merited by Mr. H. O. Nicholson as Verges and Mr. B. Richton as Seacole. Miss Mildred Forster made a most engaging Margaret, and other parts were entrusted to performers whose earnestness was a marked feature of the representation. The songs were allotted to Miss Cissie Saumarez, who rendered them excellently, and also charmed by her graceful dancing.

A handsome bouquet was presented to Mrs. Benson by the Mayor of Stratford, who appeared upon the stage and extended a warm welcome to the company. Mr. Benson said, in acknowledgment, that they had been welcomed on so many occasions that, although the company were never tired of receiving it, they thought some of their hearers might be tired of giving it. The warmth of the welcome was very encouraging. They had been set a somewhat difficult task, and if any imperfections were noticeable during the ensuing three weeks he hoped the audiences would attribute them to the difficulty of the undertaking rather than to any weakening of a desire to do honour to that great festival. It was interesting to learn that at the end of the three weeks the Memorial Theatre would have achieved one of the purposes for which the founders built it, as by that time there would have been presented in that building nearly all of Shakespeare's actable plays. The governors, continued Mr. Benson, were now going to turn their energies in a somewhat new direction, and they had commissioned him to secure—and he was pleased to say that he had been successful in so doing—the co-operation of a great many distinguished artists, who had promised them their support and assistance next year. He was glad to say, and he hoped they would be pleased to hear, that that did not mean that he and his company would not come back to Stratford. But they would have the honour of co-operating with, among others, Sir Charles Wyndham, Messrs. Beerbohm Tree, George Alexander, Arthur Bourchier, Otho Stuart, Lewis Waller, Forbes-Robertson, and H. B. Irving, and in the future (possibly next year) they hoped to be able to announce the names of other distinguished artists who would work with them. It was a great privilege and pleasure to Mr. Benson to make the announcement, and he hoped his company would have the honour of co-operating in that great work, either directly or indirectly, for many years. Mr. Benson's speech was received with prolonged cheers.

The Taming of the Shrew was chosen for Tuesday, when Mr. Benson's company again acquitted themselves to the fullest satisfaction. Mr. Benson's personality is happily suited to the character of the redoubtable Petruchio, and in his impersonation the humour of the part had full play. Fire and energy were never lacking in his performance, and he held the closest attention of the audience throughout. Mrs. Benson entered thoroughly into the rôle of Katharina, whose temperament was fully evidenced by the characteristic treatment the part received. Miss Olive Noble charmed all as Bianca, acting with rare brightness and vivacity. Mr. George R. Weir handled the rôle of Grumio in the way which his artistic accomplishments led us to expect; Mr. H. O. Nicholson played with care and judgment as Gremio; and Mr. Cyril Keightley surrounded the part of Biondello with quaint mannerisms. The minor parts of the piece, which excited hearty laughter throughout, were also well sustained.

Wednesday's programme embraced *Hamlet* in the morning and *Julius Cæsar* in the evening, both performances being greatly enjoyed. Mr. Benson's Hamlet gives every evidence of deep study, and his dramatic resource and skilful by-play serve to place it among the most interesting representations of the character. Mrs. Benson was seen to exceptional advantage as Ophelia, exhibiting at times great emotional capacity, while her depiction of the distraught maiden was made remarkably real and convincing. Mr. H. O. Nicholson acquitted himself admirably as Polonius, and the King of Mr. Clarence Derwent was an impersonation that gave strength to the production. In *Julius Cæsar* Mr. Benson supplied ample proof of his elocutionary gifts as Mark Antony, and Mr. Cyril Keightley's Cassius was also a memorable performance. Mrs. Benson's fine presence was invaluable in the part of Portia, and the other characters were in keeping with the all-round excellence of the performance.

The governors of the Shakespeare Memorial Association held their thirty-first general meeting in the library of the Memorial-buildings on Monday. Mr. Archibald Flower, chairman of the governors, presided, and, in presenting the report for the previous year, called attention to the services which Mr. F. R. Benson had rendered the association, to which the Memorial Theatre belongs, by undertaking for many years past the conduct of the Shakespearean performances at the annual festivals in April and May. At the same time he made a most interesting announcement regarding dramatic arrangements which were in contemplation for the festival of 1907. He pointed out that at the festival of last year the management was, for the 17th time, entrusted to Mr. F. R. Benson, who arranged an interesting programme, including fourteen of Shakespeare's plays and Marlowe's *Edward II*. Thanks largely to the enthusiasm and hard work of Mr. Benson and his company, the annual festival, the chairman said, now aroused so wide an interest that they could feel that the one great object of the association—namely, the honouring of the memory of Shakespeare—was year by year being more fully attained. In 1902 they received the invaluable help of Miss Ellen Terry, who generously gave her services. Her example was to have been followed by Sir Henry Irving, but his death prevented the fulfilment of his promise. And now he had the pleasure of announcing that, in response to invitations conveyed by Mr. Benson, as one of the governors, all the leading Shakespearean actors were promising co-operation on similar lines. Through Mr. Benson the council had already received assurances from Messrs. George Alexander, Arthur Bourchier, H. B. Irving, Forbes-Robertson, Otho Stuart, H. Beerbohm Tree, Lewis Waller, and Sir Charles Wyndham that they were in full sympathy with their objects, and that they would individually and collectively support the festival. They therefore hoped that most of these gentlemen would appear in one or more of their performances next year. The statement of accounts for the year ended March 31, 1906, showed a total expenditure of £3463 11s. 5d. The receipts for admissions to the theatre, library, and lecture-room amounted to £2755 19s. 6d., showing a deficiency of £707 11s. 11d. Towards this deficiency they had received a donation of £130 from Mrs. Flower and £363 9s. 5d. from rents and interest on property and investments which had been presented to the association, leaving a balance of £214 2s. 6d. on the wrong side. If it had not been for a specially heavy payment for alterations and additional fire-escapes the total receipts would have covered the expenditure. They would like to find themselves with a good balance in hand, which might be added to their fund for the purchase of books or pictures; but they were at present spending more than their income on their primary object—the production of Shakespeare's plays.

Sir Edward Russell (Liverpool), the Rev. F. H. Hodgson (Stratford), and Mr. Howard Pearson (Birmingham) were added to the executive council.

"CUPID IN KERRY."

An original Three-Act Comedy, by the late Edmund Leahy, M.P., produced for the first time at the Queen's Royal Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, April 19.

Harry Wingfield .....MR. ROBERT FAULKNER
Jack Meredith .....MR. H. RYELAND LEIGH
Major Dobbs .....MR. ION IRELAND
Fred Danvers .....MR. DANE CLARKE
Thaddeus Hegarty .....MR. J. A. DALY
Jerry .....MR. JAMES O'BRIEN
Pat .....MR. T. BAYLEY
Eily .....MISS CECILIA DARE
Nora .....MISS MAY AXON
Mrs. Judith Hegarty....MISS MADELINE HURST
Nancy .....MISS MONICA KELLY
Mrs. O'Donoughue .....MRS. BRADY

At the Queen's, Dublin, on Thursday night last week, there was a capital house, which had assembled to witness the first production of the above comedy, the performance being under the patronage and in the presence of Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., and other members of the Irish Parliamentary Party. Prior to the demise of the author arrangements had been made for the production, and playgoers are indebted to Mr. J. W. Whitbread for seeing the project through, and for the excellent manner in which he stage-managed and mounted the piece.

The comedy, full of Hibernian humour, is thoroughly Irish in character. The characters are well drawn, and are racy and of the soil. The plot is, of course, a simple one. The story opens in a hotel in Kerry, to which two young Englishmen have journeyed in search of the objects of their love, whom they had met while on a visit to Bournemouth, and who had been hurried off to Ireland by their aunt, to whose care they had been entrusted by their uncle. The uncle, a mercenary old gentleman, is in receipt of the interest on the fortunes of the two girls until they marry with his consent, and he has charged the aunt not to permit anything in the nature of love-making on their part. The girls, however, find lovers, and also friends who are willing to assist them in defeating the plans of their elderly relations. By means of a bogus threatening letter, concocted by Jerry, the servant, the uncle's fears of assassination are aroused, and he demands police protection from Mr. Danvers, the local constabulary officer, who is in league with the lovers. Danvers pretends to give an unwilling consent to the young men masquerading as policemen on guard at Castle Hegarty. The girls are let into the secret, and the plot works admirably, the most humorous situations arising after the introduction of the pretended constabulary men. A conspicuous figure in the police is that of Major Dobbs, who aspires to the heart and hand of Mrs. Judith Hegarty, the austere aunt, who already mourns the loss of her "dear No. 2." In the end she accepts the major, the uncle consents to the marriages of the young people, and the final curtain falls on a happy party.

The acting throughout was exceedingly good. Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh and Mr. Robert Faulkner were in excellent form as Jack Meredith and Harry Wingfield; the character of Major Dobbs was safely entrusted to Mr. Ion Ireland, whose description of his doings as a competitor in the point-to-point races was most entertaining. The selection of Mr. Dane Clarke for the part of Fred Danvers was a good one. The eccentric Uncle Thaddeus Hegarty had a most able exponent in Mr. J. A. Daly, the humour of the part of Jerry was quite safe in the keeping of Mr. James O'Brien, and the character of Pat (an old waiter) was well played by Mr. Tom Bayley. Eily and Nora found fascinating representatives in Misses Cecilia Dare and May Axon, Miss Madeline Hurst gave a most artistic rendering of the part of Mrs. Judith Hegarty, and Miss Monica Kelly as Nancy was much appreciated. Mrs. Brady made a very capable Mrs. O'Donoughue.

AN ACTOR IN MISFORTUNE.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.)

SIR,—I notice in the *Era* of the 21st inst. you say a few words as to Mr. Gordon Wilson's illness. I know Mr. Wilson personally, and I also know that he is lying seriously ill in the hospital and is *absolutely* penniless. I shall be pleased to receive any subscriptions for him, and see that the money is properly spent.

Mr. Gordon Wilson played First Robber in Gompert's *Pamorama of the Crimean War*, under the management of his father, in 1857. Thirty-five years ago he was engaged with the old Rochester Theatre in F. B. Chatterton's juvenile production of *Henry VIII*. From that time onwards he played many parts under many managers, being perhaps better known under his stage name of "G. W. Glennie."—Yours faithfully,

MATTHEW ARNOLD.

39, High-street, Watford, Herts, April 24, 1906.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

THE URBAN CLUB.

The annual festival in celebration of the birthday of William Shakespeare was held on Monday evening at the Hotel Cecil, under the presidency of Sir Squire Bancroft. The members and guests included Sir James Crichton Browne, M.D., Mr. W. Parkinson, the Rev. T. W. Wood, the Rev. C. W. Steffans, Mr. W. E. Church (hon. secretary), Mr. T. Thurgood Catling (hon. treasurer) and Mrs. Catling, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Coffin, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Marriott, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cruikshanks, Mr. and Mrs. Hance, Mr. A. H. Hance, Miss Hance, Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd, Dr. Appleby Stephenson, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Trass, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pratt, Mr. J. R. Perfect and Miss M. Perfect, Dr. John Phené, Mr. R. T. Baines, Miss E. Burfield Brown, Messrs. H. Cooper Cliffe, E. J. Odell, J. Hancox, Henry Evill, H. Haes, R. H. Gibson, C. E. Gibson, E. A. Smith, A. Peachey, L. D. Powles, Sydney Pardon, G. J. Dawson, Walter Browne, H. Battrams, J. Pitkin, and others.

The toast of "The King and Queen" was duly honoured, the National Anthem being sung by the company with solo by Mr. Walter Grace.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of the evening, "The Memory of Shakespeare," said his task was a difficult one, for it would almost seem that every word had been spoken, every thought had been uttered, every eulogy had been written concerning that wonderful genius, William Shakespeare, who had earned above all others the diploma of immortality. His best claim to the occupancy of the chair on that occasion was in the calling he had followed, for while Shakespeare was honoured by all, actors might justly claim to pay the highest tribute to his memory, as by his works he made the stage eternal. His own great love for the poet owed its origin to the visits he paid as a boy to Sadler's Wells and the Princess's Theatres. At the former he enjoyed the scholarly Shakespearean performances of Samuel Phelps, a member of whose company—Henry Marston—was a former esteemed member of the Urban Club. At the Princess's Theatre he witnessed the splendid revivals of Charles Kean. In later years came the Shakespearean productions at the Lyceum Theatre, and now they had Mr. Tree's brilliant revivals at His Majesty's Theatre. It might be interesting to mention that at the Princess's fifty years ago that week he was one of those who saw Ellen Terry make her first appearance on the stage as the boy Mamillius in *The Winter's Tale*. With Phelps, Charles Kean, and G. V. Brooke, it was his privilege as a young and struggling country actor to appear, and he learnt much from them. To Shakespeare they were indebted for the most alluring and entrancing works in the English tongue. How much poorer would the world be without those princesses of the drama, Julia, Rosalind, Desdemona, Beatrice, Viola, Miranda, Portia, Imogen, Olivia, and Cordelia. Shakespeare was "for all time," so he was for all men a "guide," philosopher, and friend. To him the monarch could look for majesty, he taught the statesman patriotism, the gentleman true conduct, the preacher real piety, and the soldier courage. By whom was old age so soothed with consolation, or youth so upheld by hope, or who was better qualified to give the poet living inspiration and the painter an elevating subject? In conclusion, the Chairman called on the company to drink to the memory of England's famous son, William Shakespeare.

Sir JAMES CRICHTON BROWNE, M.D., in proposing the toast of "The Drama," entered upon an interesting speculation as to what might have happened if Shakespeare had reached old age; and remarked that however powerful the influence of the drama was in the treatment of mental disease, it was much more useful as a preventive; and he believed that if the drama were to be for a time abolished they would have to enlarge their lunatic asylums.

Mr. H. COOPER CLIFFE and Mr. E. J. ODELL briefly replied to the toast.

Mr. W. E. CHURCH, in proposing the health of the Chairman, trusted that Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft would enjoy many years' tranquillity and happiness in that wide social circle in which they were so much admired and esteemed.

The CHAIRMAN acknowledged the toast in a few appropriate words; and the concluding toast, that of "The Visitors," was proposed by Dr. Appleby Stephenson, and responded to by Mrs. Leighton.

The programme of music and recitals was under the able direction of Mr. Charles Cruikshanks, secretary of the Actors' Association. The recitations included "The Graveyard Scene" from *Hamlet*, by Mr. Francis Oldacre. "Othello's Speech before the Senate," and "King Henry before Harfleur" (*King Henry V.*), by Mr. H. Cooper Cliffe; a selection from the third part of *Henry VI.* by Mr. E. J. Odell; the wooing of Princess Catharine by Mr. Frederick Perks, and the closet scene from *Hamlet* by Miss Helena Millais. Shakespearian songs were given by Mr. George H. Dawson, Mr. Walter Grace, Miss Stella St. Audrie, and Mr. Arthur Millward. Pianoforte soles were excellently played by Mr. Wolseley Charles. The frontispiece of the programme, designed by Mr. Ernest Coffin and engraved by Mr. Fred Catling, represented the Casket scene in *The Merchant of Venice*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, April 23,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, by A. Vanloo and G. Duval, Adapted by Henry Hamilton, Composed by André Messager, entitled
"THE LITTLE MICHUS."

Mr. George Edwardes's company, in *The Little Michus*, is paying a first visit to North London this week, and a hearty welcome was extended to it on Monday last at the Alexandra by a well-filled house. Mounted and dressed with all the lavishness and care bestowed on a West End production and played by a company of conscientious and capable artists, complete success results, and Stoke Newington playgoers were not slow to show their appreciation of the excellent entertainment provided for their amusement. The Little Michus are most charmingly and daintily played by Miss Iris Hoey and Miss Thelma Ray as Blanche Marie and Marie Blanche respectively, the latter scoring heavily in the last act with her song, and violin obbligato played by herself à la Miss Denise Orme. The extravagances and eccentricities of General Des Ifs are most amusingly presented by Mr. Eric Thorne, an old favourite here, and laughter is incessant in every scene in which he is concerned. A most finished and artistic performance of Aristide Vert comes from Mr. Leonard Mackay, who is to be complimented on the much he makes out of very little: his singing of the "Weather-glass" song is one of the most pleasing features of the piece. As Gaston Rigaud, Mr. Arthur Royd sings well. Mr. Jack Cannot contributes largely to the fun by his excellent performance of Bagnolet; and Mr. Eardley Turner and Miss Elsie Cameron as Pierre and Madame Michu do sound work, which adds materially to the general success. A quaint and diverting little sketch of the Market Man comes from Mr. Willie Warde, jun.; and a couple of effective and graceful dances are executed by Miss Ivy Louise, who appears as Mlle. St. Cyr. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Harold Vicars.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your criticism of the 21st inst. of *Castles in Spain* at the New Royalty Theatre, you omitted my name, and substituted that of another lady, in the Spanish trio. I play Germaine the manicurist.—Yours faithfully, (Miss) NOEL NEVILLE, 28, Stanley-gardens, W.—April 24.

"A QUEEN WITHOUT A CROWN."

A Romantic Play, in Three Acts and a Prologue, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck. Produced at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, for the First Time on any Stage, on Monday, April 23.

Theresa Maria.....MISS GERALDINE OLLIFFE
Countess Mercedes Melrosa...MISS RUTH MACKAY
Ilga Branski .....MISS EMMA RAINBOW
Mme. Valbourg .....MISS C. MOORE
Duchess of Rudini .....MISS KATE KEARNEY
Rudolph .....MISS HELEN GRENVILLE
Dr. Daly .....MR. WELLESLEY SMITH
General Dominica .....MR. ERIC HUDSON
Captain Michael Granino ....MR. T. HOLDING
Captain Nicholas Marcoso.MR. S. CREAGH HENRY
Petrofski .....MR. WALLACE STRANACK
Capt. Ferdinand Alexiovitch ..MR. THOS. BARRY
Count Joseph de Solonica..MR. H. C. PRITCHARD
Patoli .....MR. HERBERT FRANKS
Carolly .....MR. OWEN WILLIAMS
Bertini .....MR. FRED HERRICK
Orderly .....MR. B. NEWMAN
Vasco .....MR. MAURICE DREW
Adolph .....MR. CARR

A Queen Without a Crown was launched at the Theatre Royal on Monday under the most favourable circumstances, the large audience demonstrating their appreciation in no uncertain manner, the curtain having to be frequently raised. Former works of Mr. Arthur Shirley and Mr. Ben Landeck are no strangers to Nottingham, and in their new play these practised playwrights have made a laudable attempt to raise the standard of melodrama. This aspiration is not without a large measure of success, and they deserve congratulations on providing what is essentially a "play to reach the heart," possessing emotional qualities and a sufficiency of stirring events that will go far to make it popular.

The curtain rises at the time that King Marcus of Balkaria is dying. Before he ever anticipated ascending the throne, Marcus had contracted a morganatic marriage with the Countess Mercedes Melrosa, by whom he had a son. On his accession he was compelled to espouse Theresa Maria, a princess of Caspia, who also bore him a son. The callous nature and arrogant manner of the Queen had embittered the life and happiness of the King, and earned the execrations of the populace, in consequence of which she had found it expedient to return some time before to the Court of her father. Hearing that the King is nearing his end, she comes back to Balkaria with her child, intending to assume the position of Queen-Regent, and proclaim her son as King. Just as the news is brought of her husband's death she is also apprised of the sudden death of her son, by which her hopes of reigning as Regent will be shattered. At the instigation of her uncle, General Dominica, and through her hatred of the Countess Mercedes, who she knew possessed the love of the dead King, Theresa Maria contrives that the infant son of the Countess shall be stolen, and take the place of her own dead son as King. A fine dramatic incident is worked in, whereby the Countess arrives at her home in time to see what she conceives to be her own child thrown into the lake, when, in reality, it is the body of the dead Prince, and at once she vows vengeance against the Queen-Regent and all her accomplices. There is now an interval of twelve years, during which time Mercedes has become a popular favourite and operatic star, but never relaxes her efforts in the scheme of vengeance. The iron rule of the Queen-Regent so inflames the people that they rise in open revolt, and threaten her life and that of the young Monarch. Mercedes has been an active agent in stirring up the revolt, and is eventually taken prisoner, only to be released, however, by the young King, who has taken a great liking to her. Seeing that the end of her reign is drawing near, Theresa Maria conceives the diabolical plot of leaving the King at the mercy of the frenzied mob, and escaping in safety herself. Just before he is seized, an old nurse, who assisted in his abduction as a baby, acquaints him of his real position as the son of Mercedes, and this being made known to the leaders of the Revolutionary party, his life is spared, and he is restored to the loving arms of his long-suffering mother, Theresa and her uncle meeting with the fate that they had marked out for their victims.

We have nothing but unqualified praise for the artists, and they thoroughly deserved their warm reception. Miss Ruth Mackay played with striking force and impassioned earnestness in the rôle of Mercedes, giving the fullest expression to the emotions of this unhappy lady, thereby gaining the warmest commendation from the audience. Miss Geraldine Olliffe portrayed the relentless hatred of Theresa Maria with a dramatic force that was entirely convincing. Miss Kate Kearney's versatile comedy talent was well exhibited as the Duchess of Rudini, and Miss Emma Rainbow made a capital Ilga. Miss C. Moore did exceedingly well as Mme. Valbourg. Miss Helen Grenville presented a charming picture as the young King, and in every way justified her selection for the part. Mr. S. Creagh Henry did not mince matters in his interpretation of the villainous Captain Marcoso; and Mr. Eric Hudson cleverly depicted the scheming of General Dominica. Mr. J. Holding embodied the faithful Captain Granino acceptably; and Mr. Wallace Stranack gave an effective rendering of Petrofski. Mr. Wellesley Smith provided the humorous relief as Dr. Daly, an Irish tutor to the young King, his quaint drollery and "rale" brogue eliciting the heartiest of laughter. Mr. Fred Herrick acted naturally as Bertini; and Mr. Maurice Drew worked assiduously in the small part of Vasco. A word of praise is also due to Mr. Thomas Barry (Captain Alexiovitch), Mr. H. C. Pritchard (Count Joseph), Mr. Herbert Franks (Patoli), Mr. Owen Williams (Carolly), Mr. B. Newman (Orderly), and Mr. Carr (Adolph). The production was under the sole guidance of that excellent actor, Mr. J. F. Graham, and was splendidly staged and dressed.

AN IRVING REPERTORY THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I be allowed to make a very earnest suggestion in your columns—that a special effort should forthwith be made by the public to secure the Lyceum Theatre, i.e., for the permanent establishment of a repertory theatre in the capital city of our great Empire, and to be called the Irving Repertory Theatre, in lasting and cherished memory of one who achieved his greatest histrionic triumphs within its classic walls. I would respectfully urge that a national appeal should be made for subscriptions towards so absolutely necessary and desirable an object, both in the highest interests of our dramatic art and so as to fittingly perpetuate his worthy memory. Such an appeal would, I feel sure, be most heartily responded to by all those who have the future welfare of our theatre at heart, and who gladly recognised the genius of our late great tragedian and actor, who was so universally beloved, and who did so much to elevate and ennoble the English stage. We should further be carrying out his most cherished and oft-expressed wish if we formed such an institution in our great metropolis, and in so historical a centre.

I need hardly add that such a theatre would feed the soul of art, and lift the motif of both plays and players far above the exigencies of the box-office, whilst it would be for all time a dramatic temple worthy of a great nation and people, and a splendid instrument of culture in our midst.—Yours faithfully WALTER STEPHENS.

London, W., April 23, 1906.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, April 26. — Our theatrical managers have every reason to feel disgusted with a certain class of papers here, which, in their desire to annoy the Government in view of the coming elections, spread all kinds of alarming rumours as to the terrible things that are to happen on May 1. Their efforts, unfortunately, have in a great measure proved successful, inasmuch as many strangers have hurriedly left our city, whilst many of the inhabitants have also withdrawn to their country houses to wait there until the "storm" will have blown over. The whole thing would be childish were it not really harmful, for the theatres are, of course, the first to suffer from this exhibition of fright on the part of people who turn the smallest alarm into a catastrophe, and unwittingly produce the very panic they dread. The takings in our playhouses will, I am afraid, show a marked decrease against last week, a fact which, at this time of the year, is particularly to be deplored.

IT is not only in the political world that the elections will be a bit stormy. The same will be the case when the new committee of our Authors' Society will have to be elected. M. Ohnet refuses to be president any longer, and his place will most likely be taken by M. Capus. Among the candidates for the board of management are MM. Bernstein, Feydeau, and Gavault. Should they be elected, we are likely to have some trouble in the course of the year, as they have always been the advocates of the harsh measures taken against offending managers and playwrights. One serious question, soon put on the tapis, will be that of the "small theatres," which rarely or ever bring out any new pieces, but are content to take over the répertoire of the large playhouses. But, whilst at one time they brought out these pieces long after they had been launched, they now pounce upon them at once if they prove a success. In Paris it is not the stalls and the boxes that bring in the most money. Our managers rely for their takings on the pit and the gallery; and as in the "small theatres" the prices are very low, the public of the cheap places are deserting the big playhouses to hear a new piece at the opposition show. In order to put a stop to this competition it is probable that the Society will raise the royalties paid by the small houses from 8 to 12 per cent.

MADAME REJANE intends to open her theatre next season with M. Georges de Porto-Riche's *Le Vieil Homme*, a work that has always proved successful. The principal rôles will be played by M. Dumény and Mlle. Margel. The next work will be *Qui perd gagne* by M. Alfred Capus, taken from his well-known novel.

AT the Beethoven-Berlioz festival, conducted by M. Félix Weingartner, Berlioz's "Cleopatra" was produced, and created a deep impression. The history of the work is pathetic. In 1829 Berlioz, then studying at the Paris Conservatoire, wrote this cantata for the prize competition, called "Le Prix de Rome." But the ill-luck that clung to the composer all through life showed itself already here. The artist who had to sing the part of Cleopatra fell ill at the last moment, and her place was taken by one who had not had sufficient time to study the music. Moreover, Lesueur, Berlioz's professor, a member of the jury, was unable to come on the day of the competition, and as Auber, then director of the Conservatoire, showed himself particularly hostile to the young musician, no prize was awarded to him. This preyed so much upon Berlioz's mind that he never again looked at the composition, and it was allowed to slumber for three-quarters of a century, until M. Weingartner unearthed it. The composer and those who condemned his work are all dead; but the beautiful creation is resuscitated, and will now take its place on the répertoire.

THE Ambigu announces the last performances of *La Goualeuse*, which will be replaced on the bill by *Roule-Ta-Bosse*, a five-act play by M. Jules Mary, founded on his novel of the same name. The new piece will be preceded by *Bastien-Bastienne*, a prologue in one act, in which Mlle. Reyé will take the principal rôle.

THE Théâtre de l'Œuvre will bring out shortly an interesting play by M. Edouard Rod. It is called *Le Réformateur*, and, for the first time, we will see Jean-Jacques Rousseau impersonated on the stage. Rousseau's life is sufficiently known by his autobiography, "Mes Confessions"; but the author of the new piece will show his hero in an entirely new light, and will introduce therein Thérèse Levassour, the woman with whom Rousseau lived for a great number of years, and on whose account he is said to have committed suicide. *Le Cloaque*, a one-act play by M. Charpentier, will be brought out on the same evening.

M. MONZA, manager of the Bouffes-Parisians, has engaged Mlle. Otero, who will make her début there in *Une Nuit de Noël*, after which she will appear in an operette specially written for her.

AT the Opéra Comique M. Carré has made several interesting engagements. The most important is that of Mlle. Georgette Leblanc (Mme. Maeterlinck), who in February and March next year will interpret M. Dukas's *Barbe Bleue*, and, possibly, will be heard in *La Navarraise* or in *Sapho*. Mlle. Geneviève Vix leaves the Opéra to come to M. Carré, where she will create *Le Chandelier*. As to M. Renaud, it is now settled that he will also turn his back on the Opéra to join the Place Favart. He is expected to make his début there in M. Xavier Leroux's *Le Chemineau*. Mlle. Rachel Launay and Mlle. Vallandri have likewise gone over to the Opéra Comique.

IT is an unpleasant psychological fact that a certain number of our playwrights seem to be only inspired by murders. No sooner is a horrible crime committed but it is at once adapted for the stage, where we are treated to a series of tableaux, one more horrible than the other. Some twelve months ago an unfortunate cocotte was strangled by a man in Aix. Before the criminal was even sentenced, the irrepressible dramatist was already at work upon it, and served it up under the title of *Le Crime d'Aix*, wherein none of the fearful details were spared us. This time it is a society authoress, Mme. Tola Dorian, who has fallen a victim to this epidemic. In August last year an officer shot a café concert singer with whom he was madly in love, and under the title *Nos Salariés* the before-mentioned authoress will trot out this case at the Théâtre Molière. The work is in five acts and six tableaux.

WHERE will the Lamoureux concerts be held next year? That is the question, and not an easy one to solve. Within the last few years these concerts were given in the Nouveau Theatre, but their lease runs out in December next. The management had hoped to secure the Opéra for their afternoon performances, but M. Gailhard shook his head. The fact is that M. Gailhard intends to give Sunday afternoon concerts himself, and, therefore, wants his hall for his own purposes. Under these conditions, it is not unlikely that the Lamoureux orchestra will seek shelter in the Théâtre Marigny.

MR. HANDEL VICTOR PHASEY and his Anglo-American Band provided the music at the Trades Furnishing Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall from the 17th to the 27th inst, the band being highly appreciated both by exhibitors and visitors, and several other engagements have been the outcome of his success at the exhibition. On Tuesday Mr. Phasey was presented with an ivory gold-mounted bâton.

MR. EDWARD TERRY has accepted a comedy written by Julian Rochefort; and the play may probably be produced shortly.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

A monument to Sir Henry Irving is shortly to be erected in America. The Episcopal Church of St. Chrysostom, in Seventh-avenue, New York, the vicar of which, the Rev. Thomas H. Sill, takes a deep interest in the Actors' Church Alliance, is the place selected to house the memorial. It will be the work of Mr. E. St. John Matthews, and will take the form of a bronze tablet, six feet in height, with a half-relief of Irving at the top and an inscription, giving a summary of his life, beneath. About £2000 has been raised by subscription for the cost of the work.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree will command the sympathy of all in the recent loss he has sustained by the death of his brother, Mr. Julius Beerbohm, who died on Saturday morning of an attack of double pneumonia. The deceased gentleman had in his youth travelled extensively over the world, and was the author of "Wanderings in Patagonia," a book illustrated by himself, which was widely read. Mr. Beerbohm was a well-known figure in the world of finance.

To-day's issue of the *Sphere* has a four-page supplement devoted to Miss Ellen Terry, and containing a pictorial record of her fifty years on the stage, together with portraits of the members of the famous family who have appeared before the footlights. The celebrated actress is depicted in a number of characters with which her fame is closely associated, and the full-length painting by J. S. Sargent, R.A., of Miss Terry as Lady Macbeth is also reproduced. Portraits of Miss Terry at various periods of her career and a pencil sketch of the mother of the brilliant family also figure in the pages, and a bright personal impression, written evidently by the editor, Mr. Clement Shorter, accompanies the illustrations. The supplement is printed in a way which reflects credit even on a journal so widely admired as the *Sketch*, and the production is well worthy of preservation as a souvenir.

The Charles Danby benefit matinée, promoted by Mr. Seymour Hicks, at the Aldwych Theatre, is receiving influential support. Miss Ellen Terry and Mrs. Kendal have promised to appear if their engagements will permit, and others who will give their services during the afternoon, by kind permission of their various managers, are Miss Evie Greene, Mlle. Adeline Genée, Miss Edna May, Miss Helen Mar, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Ella Russell, Miss Marie Tempest, and Miss Ellaline Terriss, while the young actresses who have already offered to dispose of programmes can be numbered by scores. Male members of the profession have also responded promptly, and include Messrs. Hayden Coffin, Harry Fragson, George Groves, Charles Hawtrey, H. B. Irving, Walter Passmore, Arthur Prince, George Robey, and Charles Warner. The committee of the benefit includes Sir Squire Bancroft, Messrs. George Alexander, Charles Frohman, John Hare, W. H. Kendal, and A. W. Pinero. A feature of the matinée, which is fixed for Thursday, May 17, will be the first act of *The Beauty of Bath*.

Mr. Martin Harvey's production of B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland's new romantic comedy was fixed for last evening at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne. At the last moment it was decided to change the title of the play from *The Rapparee Trooper* to that of *Boy O'Carroll*, a name suggested by the character assumed by Mr. Harvey. The play is in four acts, and is provided with an exceedingly effective setting from the brush of Mr. George Dobson. Mr. Harvey's part of Brian O'Carroll is, in many ways, a complete contrast to the majority of the characters to which he has accustomed his admirers. Apparently, it is what is known as a "straight" comedy part, and it gives the favourite actor a particularly good opportunity of revealing yet another phase of his artistic versatility.

Mr. Robert Brough, the bearer of a name revered in the whole dramatic world, died last week at Sydney. The deceased gentleman, who was a nephew of Mr. Lionel Brough and brother to Miss Fanny Brough, had lived for the past twenty years in Australia, where he gained an enviable reputation as manager and actor. His appearances in London have been few in number, and included a part in *The Thread of Silk*, produced at the Crystal Palace in 1881. He afterwards appeared in *Little Robin Hood* at the Gaiety and *Silver Guilt* at the Strand, and other characters he sustained were those of Zapeter in *Princess Toto* and Major McTurtle in *Mother-in-Law* at the Opera Comique, as well as the title-rôle in Rose and Harris's burlesque *Vulcan* at the same theatre. Early in his career he migrated to the Colonies, and finally settled in Melbourne, where he managed the Bijou Theatre, introducing many London successes and acting a varied range of parts. A year ago Mr. Brough broke a blood-vessel, and though he recovered sufficiently to reappear last month in *Little Mary* at the Criterion Theatre, Sydney, a relapse set in, with the result which we regretfully record.

At the forty-sixth meeting of the committee of the Scenic Artists' Association, held at the Adelphi Hotel on Tuesday evening, the chair was taken by Mr. Richard Douglass, in the absence from town of Mr. Walter Hann, from whom and from Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., and Mr. W. T. Hemsley letters of regret for unavoidable absence were read. The honorary secretary read the minutes of the forty-fifth meeting of the committee, and they were confirmed and signed by the chairman. Mr. Harris announced the death on March 8 last of Mr. J. G. E. Rutland, a member of the Association. The committee considered an application for a loan from the benevolent fund, and gave the secretary instructions in the matter, and a collection for the applicant was made and contributed to by the members present. Messrs. E. G. Banks, Harry Potts, G. H. Wallis, and H. Warner, and the secretary, Mr. H. Laurence Harris, attended the meeting, and Mr. Markham and Mr. Tweddell were present as visitors.

The Scenic Artists' Association's third monthly social dinner was held at the same place on the same evening. There were present Messrs. George Tweddell, R. S. Smythe, H. Collins, Charles E. Markham, H. May Hemsley, W. T. Hemsley, Harry Hall, G. Herbert Wallis, J. C. Holliday, Harry Potts, Francis H. Bull and four friends, Richard Douglass, Finlay Dunn, E. G. Banks, H. Warner, H. Woolls, &c. After the dinner an excellent entertainment was provided under the direction of Mr. H. May Hemsley. Mr. H. Collins gave some very clever sleight-of-hand tricks with cards, Mr. Harry Hall related several good stories and sang some capital songs, Mr. Finlay Dunn caused hearty laughter by imitation of a recitation by a man who had been through a course of physical exercise, and Mr. H. May Hemsley himself contributed several imitations which were justly much appreciated. The company separated about 11 o'clock, much pleased with the programme provided.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor has determined upon immediate action in the House of Commons in the interests of musical composers and publishers. No intention being evident on the part of the Government to bring in a measure this Session, Mr. O'Connor is having a Bill drafted, and will introduce it in a few days. Every effort will be made to obtain facilities for its passage through the House, and it is hoped thereby that the Bill, which, it is expected, will have the support of influential members of all sections of Parliament, may become law within the limits of the present year.

The Society of Women Journalists celebrated the birthday of Shakespeare at an "at home" at Essex Hall, Essex-street, Strand, on Monday afternoon. Among a distinguished assemblage numbering over four hundred were Mrs. T. P. O'Connor (president of the Society) and Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., Sir Charles and Lady Stevens, Lady Foster, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Beatrice Waller, Mrs. W. W. Jacobs, and Mr. Pett Ridge. An appropriate musical entertainment selected from the poet's works was given during the afternoon, when Mme. Blanche Marchesi sang "Willow, willow," "Who is Sylvia?" "Should he upbraid," and other songs. Mr. Courtice Pounds sang "Come away, death," "Sigh no more, ladies," and "O mistress mine"; and Mr. H. V. Esmond gave the closet scene from *Hamlet*. Mrs. Jerrold Robertshaw was the accompanist.

Mr. Arthur Collins was a spectator of the eruption of Vesuvius while in Naples, from which city he has just returned, and was so impressed by the awful spectacle that he has decided to reproduce it as far as possible on the stage of Drury Lane Theatre when Mr. Hall Caine's drama, *The Bondsman*, is produced in the autumn. Mr. Collins hopes to find means whereby he can show not only the active crater, but also the descending waves of lava and the ascending smoke. Spectacles of this description have hitherto, so far as we can gather, been confined to firework displays, but, with the resources of the National Theatre at command, wonders may well be expected.

Mr. H. B. Irving, who will pay his first visit to America in the autumn, will previously make a short provincial tour of a few of the principal cities. *Markheim* and *Mauricette* will be played on tour, and in addition Mr. Irving will appear in two or three of the plays associated with the name and fame of his great father.

Why do new grand operas never pay? is a question propounded by Mr. Charles Manners, who makes an extraordinary prophecy in connection therewith. The Moody-Manners Opera Company will be visiting the Coronet Theatre for a fortnight, commencing on Monday, and, while there, will reproduce Tschaikowsky's opera, *Eugene Onegin*, which was produced at Covent Garden some four years ago, and formed a feature of the festival week at Sheffield recently. The manager says there will be at least three curtains after the first act, and four after the second; while at the end of the third and last they will exceed half a score. This enthusiasm will be more than any other opera will receive during the visit; yet, from a money point of view, the house will be the least patronised This, at any rate, is the experience the company have met with since the production of the opera, and the bad business done by all their novelties has been a proverbial fact with them since they were founded, now some years ago. It will be interesting to see if the above prophecy of great applause and small houses will be realised.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Henry Brinsley Sheridan, who passed away suddenly on the 19th inst. He was the son of Garrett Sheridan, of County Cavan, Ireland, and grandson of Sir Richard Perrott, Bart., Lord High Admiral of Prussia, and kinsman of the Right Hon. Richard Brinsley Sheridan, dramatist. He represented Dudley in Parliament for thirty years, and started with a sum of 100 guineas a subscription for the purchase of Anne Hathaway's cottage at Stratford-on-Avon. He was about to receive a pension from the Government in recognition of his many services to the State. His daughter, Emily Sheridan, is shortly touring with *The Prince of the People*, a play to be produced in London.

Miss Ellen Terry's jubilee celebrations began last evening at His Majesty's, where the special performances of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* admitted of the reappearance of the famous actress in her delightful impersonation of Mistress Page. The feature of the evening was the presentation to be made on behalf of the members of the Playgoers' club by Mr. Tree. It takes the form of an illuminated address contained in a casket of solid silver, measuring 11½in. in length, 5½in. high, and 7½in. in width. Scenes representing the Olympian Games are depicted on the lid of the casket, on the sides of which appear the places of entertainment in Athens. On the front is engraved the following inscription:—"A token of affection and esteem from the members of the Playgoers' Club to Miss Ellen Terry, on the celebration of her jubilee, April 28, 1906." The presentation was to be led up to by a little interpolated scene in verse written by Mr. Louis N. Parker.

An Adelphi audience will be permitted to share in the jubilations this afternoon, when Miss Terry will, by a happy arrangement, appear as Francesca in *Measure for Measure*. In the evening Miss Terry will return to the Court, to resume her part in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, the performance of which will also be made specially commemorative. The monster performance arranged by leading actors and managers at Drury Lane will take place at the end of next month or early in June, and will be followed within a week by a banquet given in Miss Terry's honour.

Shakespeare's birthday week was commemorated in Indianapolis by a series of plays given by the Ben Greet players, *Hamlet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Henry V.*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Macbeth* constituting the bill. Mr. Greet gives all his plays from the first folio, and in their entirety, *Hamlet* alone being taken from the second quarto. This play was acted on the 23rd, from 4 to 6 and from 8 to 10.45. The stage is made to represent one of the old halls. The Middle Temple, and many of the large colleges have their own reproduction of the Globe Theatre of the poet's time. The Greet Company has now acted in almost every American college from ocean to ocean.

Mr. Frank Weathersby, who recently purchased Mr. Bertram's De Dion motor-car, finds it quite easy to visit several suburban theatres nightly. In July he has decided to spend a week motoring, and has mapped out a thousand-mile tour.

Mr. Hubert Harben has been engaged by Mr. Tree to play Pendennis in his forthcoming production of *Colonel Newcome*.—Mr. Francis Hawley has been re-engaged by Mr. William Greet as business-manager for *The Earl and the Girl* company for the autumn.

The Moody-Manners Opera Company will open a two weeks' season of grand opera in English at the Coronet Theatre on Monday. The programme for the first week will be: Monday, Meyerbeer's *Huguenots*; Tuesday, Tschaikowsky's *Eugene Onegin*; Wednesday, *Tannhäuser*; Thursday, Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*; and Friday, Bizet's *Carmen*. On Saturday afternoon *Eugene Onegin* will be repeated, and on Saturday evening Wallace's *Maritana* will occupy the bill.

The most interesting item in the programme is *Eugene Onegin*, with Mr. Charles Manners as Prince Gremin and Madame Fanny Moody as Tatiana, the parts they created when the opera was first produced in London in 1892. *Onegin* has been given with great success by the Moody-Manners Company in Sheffield and other towns in the provinces. The company includes Madame de Vere, Mlle. Zelie de Lussan, Mme. Fanny Moody, Miss Kate Anderson, Miss Toni Seiter, Mr. Joseph O'Mara, Mr. Wilson Pembroke, Mr. John Child, Mr. Lewys James, Mr. Wm. Dever, Mr. Charles Magrath, and Mr. Charles Manners.

Mr. Granville Barker and Miss Lillah McCarthy were the principals in a ceremony which took place within the walls of a registry office in Henrietta-street on Tuesday, when they were made man and wife. Mr. Barker, who is actor and author as well, is notable also for having brought fame and fortune to the Court Theatre by the artistic performances begun there in conjunction wth Mr. J. E. Vedrenne a year or more ago, and still achieving distinction. Among his dramatic efforts are *The Weather Hen*, produced at Terry's Theatre in the summer of 1899, and *The Voysey Inheritance*, brought out at the Court last November, which gave proof of the dramatic genius within him.

The bride is well known as the beautiful actress who was discovered a few years ago in Australia by Mr. Wilson Barrett. She accompanied him back to England, and played Mercia in *The Sign of the Cross*, and the heroine in *The Silver King* during several provincial tours. Since then she has appeared in London with Mr. Beerbohm Tree. Miss McCarthy created the part of Ann Whitefield in Mr. G. Bernard Shaw's play *Man and Superman*. Mr. and Mrs. Barker, who left for Paris immediately after the ceremony, will tour the Continent for about six weeks.

Miss Christine McGill, who enacts the part of Henrietta on tour with Mr. Huntley Wright, in *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, had a narrow escape last Monday night at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, when she accidentally trod on an electrical connection, which exploded and set fire to her skirt. Mr. W. F. Reynolds (Mr. W. Clarkson's representative) leapt forward with commendable promptitude and extinguished the smouldering garment, thus averting what might have proved a serious catastrophe.

Mr. William Haviland, who joins Mr. F. R. Benson at Stratford-on-Avon for the historical plays, has had a very extensive experience in Shakespearean work. When Mr. Tree sent his Shakespearean répertoire company on tour some two years ago he engaged Mr. Haviland as director of the company and to play the principal parts, namely, Mark Antony in *Julius Cæsar*, Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, and Prospero in *The Tempest*.

Mr. Robert Arthur has arranged with Mr. Esmonde Bramley to give a series of Shakespearean plays next week at the Kennington Theatre. *Richard III.* will be given on Monday, *The Merchant of Venice* on Tuesday, *Merry Wives of Windsor* on Wednesday, *As You Like It* at the Thursday matinée and *Hamlet* in the evening, *All's Well that Ends Well* on Friday, and *Romeo and Juliet* on Saturday. The cast will include Mr. Cyril Este and Miss Millie Ford, and the production will be under the personal direction of Mr. Haldane Crichton.

Mr. Arthur Carlton, the lessee of the Theatre Royal, Worcester, marked Shakespeare's birthday by the production of *The Merchant of Venice* for six nights and a matinée. The piece was under the auspices of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, and with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton (who played Portia and Bassanio respectively) was sustained entirely by amateurs. It is proposed to give these performances annually at the Worcester Theatre during the Shakespeare festival week. On the first night every member of the audience received a special souvenir, entitled "Theatre Royal, Worcester—A Century of Reminiscence," by Arthur Carlton, to which is added "A Short History of the Worcestershire Shakespeare Society," by the Lady Isabel Margesson.

The souvenir consists of an admirably printed brochure, giving a history of the stage in Worcester, dating from Henry VII., when the Guilds or Trading Companies had five pageants or plays performed while the Trades or Guilds went in procession to do worship "to God and the Citie on Corpus Christi day and the following Sunday." The little work is embellished by portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Carlton, and of the late Mr. Gomersal, who was lessee of the theatre for twenty-two years, and contains interesting facsimiles of old playbills and a number of references to Kean, Sarah Siddons, and other famous personages.

The performances created the greatest interest throughout the week, the rendering of Portia by Miss Carlton being universally admired. She made a handsome and stately lawyer, and delivered her lines with fluency and grace, while the comedy of the part was deliciously portrayed. Mr. Carlton also won the warmest commendation for his sound and earnest portrayal of Bassanio, in the representation of which elocutionary grace and dramatic skill of a high order were apparent. Mr. H. Urwick acquitted himself meritoriously as Shylock, and credit was also reflected on the other members of the cast.

Miss Madge Girdlestone has this week returned from America, where she has had a long and successful season of nine months playing second to Miss Maxine Elliott in the Clyde Fitch comedy, *Her Great Match*. The merits of her performance of Mrs. Sheldon in that play have gained for her an engagement by Mr. Charles Frohman for Miss Beryl Faber's part in *His House in Order* for his coming autumn production in New York.

"Her Lost Self," a drama by Nita Rae, originally produced at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, on Dec. 18 last, will have its first London production at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday. The play will be produced by Miss Frances Delaval's company.

We understand that Mr. Herbert Leonard's successful melodrama, *The Girl of My Heart*, is about to be toured again by Mr. Hugh Evans, under the management of Mr. Byron Webber. It is intended to produce the drama on a lavish scale, with entirely new scenery and costumes. This old Surrey Theatre success was originally produced by Messrs. Conquest and Leonard in 1898.

An amateur entertainment, organised by an influential committee, of which the Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, is president, will be given at Daly's Theatre on May 17. Among those who will appear will be the Hon. Ethel Cadogan, Major and Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Claude Hay, and Sir Simeon Stuart. Mr. Alfred de Rothschild's private band will perform between the acts. The performance is in aid of the Regimental Homes and Benefits Agency, which is doing such excellent work in helping regiments to establish their own benefits for their disabled men.

Miss Edith Gibbs, the well-known teacher of singing, is remarkably successful with her pupils. One of her most promising protégées is Miss Anna MacDowall, this week taking the part of Dorothy Stanley and singing the "Soldiers in the Park" in the performance by amateurs of *A Runaway Girl* at the Crouch End Opera House. To another student, namely, Miss Mabel Palmer, was allotted the part of Siebel in *Faust* at the Scala Theatre on Thursday.

Mr. Charles Fry will revive *The Winter's Tale* at the Court Theatre next Saturday afternoon, with incidental music by Arthur Fox, and will impersonate Leontes. Mr. Fry will be supported by Miss Olive Kennett as Hermione and Mr. Patrick Munro as Autolycus. This will be the first of Mr. Fry's three Shakespearean matinées. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be revived on Saturday week, and *King Richard the Third* on May 19.

The usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present:—Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, Maud Milton, and Saba Raleigh, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Burton Cooke, A. E. George, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Spencer Trevor, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

The Hon. Solicitors reported that they had advised several members on points submitted. The further consideration of a question raised by a member concerning the present method of voting for the election of members of the council was adjourned until the next meeting. The Secretary reported that an amount awarded, under an arbitration, to a member of the Association, having been paid, he had, at the request of the member, handed the money to the Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. The Hon. Solicitors were requested to interview the legal representatives of those against whom a member had a claim, and to report progress.

A case of alleged bogus management was under consideration, and the Secretary received instructions. A case of alleged insanitation at a provincial theatre was again under discussion, and the matter was ultimately referred to the Hon. Solicitors for them to communicate with the complainer. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was taken. John Richter, Maud Hynnerley, and Jules Charmettes were nominated for election.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last. There were present:—Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (in the chair), Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Messrs. A. E. George, M. R. Morand, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Several matters connected with the business of the Association were discussed, and the Secretary received instructions.

Mr. Forbes Robertson replied to the toast of "Literature and the Drama" at the Shakespeare commemoration dinner of the Birmingham Dramatic and Literary Club, at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Monday. Dealing with the present state of the drama, Mr. Robertson said there was a stage society in London prepared to perform plays not accepted by the ordinary theatre, but they also were starving for the want of good plays. The same cry came from Paris. But there was no need to be pessimistic, and they could hardly expect the general public to rush at the highest form. Appreciation had to come gradually. A great actor could not expect monetary return as well as kudos, and the man who was working the highest form of art must expect to sacrifice his purse. He was proud to think they had such men. A year ago his profession had lost its great leader, who did more for their beloved William Shakespeare than all the rest of the world. At the speaker's suggestion, the audience rose and drank in silence to the memory of Henry Irving.

Referring to the question of a national repertoire Theatre, Mr. Robertson said that while he did not urge upon the Government or the nation to provide funds out of the taxes for such a purpose, he thought it was their duty to encourage high art. The provision of a repertoire theatre itself, however, would depend upon the enthusiasm of individuals, but he was sorry to say that America had anticipated us. A repertoire theatre had already been established at Boston, and other similar theatres would be opened in a few months in New York and Chicago. He trusted Birmingham and Glasgow would follow suit. He expressed his regret that while the London County Council could give a thousand pounds to improve the façade of the Gaiety Theatre, they had insisted upon such structural alterations to the Lyceum, which was known throughout the world as a great classic theatre, associated with the achievements of Sir Henry Irving, that it had been necessary to convert it into a music hall. It was desirable that the influence of Government should be brought to bear to prevent such an unfortunate occurrence in the future.

Miss Lettie Paxton, eldest daughter of Mr. Sydney Paxton, is lying dangerously ill with pneumonia.

Miss May Hart, who plays Little Sophy with Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company in Judge Parry and Fredk. Mouillot's comedy *What the Butler Saw*, had an amusing experience at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, last week. Looking extremely young and childlike, she was visited on the stage by one of the police inspectors, who wanted to know her age and whether she had left school. The gentleman's looks and feelings can be better imagined than described when the little lady referred him to her husband, Mr. Leo St. Clair, the business-manager of the company.

Miss Decima Moore has just returned to England from West Africa, where she accompanied her husband, Major Guggisburg, and met with many interesting and novel experiences. Although Miss Moore has not been seen on the stage since her marriage, it is to be hoped that such a bright and attractive singer and actress does not intend to desert the profession entirely.

"Kitty Grey" has been doing excellent business at the Tunbridge Wells Opera House this week. This beautiful theatre seems to be developing into a veritable gold mine for musical comedies.

Mr. Albert E. Wells, son of Joseph Wells, the well-known pyrotechnist, was leaving the stage-door of the Pavilion Theatre, about eleven o'clock on Saturday night, when a man struck him violently in the chest and with marvellous celerity relieved him of his gold chain, a silver watch, and silver match-box. The thief was captured, but none of the stolen property was recovered. The man was committed for trial at the next sessions at the Old Bailey. By a singular coincidence, Mr. Wells's father was attacked in the same manner at eleven o'clock one Saturday morning during October last, but he fortunately recovered his watch and chain, though the thief was lucky enough to get clear away.

Mr. Charles Frohman will devote the entire receipts of this evening's performance at the Duke of York's Theatre to the fund being raised for the relief of the sufferers in the recent San Francisco catastrophe. The entertainment will consist of *All-of-a-Sudden Peggy*, and, in addition, Miss Marie Tempest will be heard in two of her most popular songs. The Hon. Whitelaw Reid, the American Ambassador, will be present on this occasion.

"Measure for Measure," at the Adelphi, will reach its fiftieth performance on Wednesday, thus constituting a record for this play. Mr. Otho Stuart's next production at the Adelphi will be a modern comedy from the pen of Mrs. Henry de la Pasture, entitled *The Lonely Millionaires*, which won favour on its original representation at the Court Theatre a little more than a year ago, when it was given at three special performances for charity. The cast at the Adelphi will include Miss Lily Brayton, Mr. Oscar Asche, and Mr. Matheson Lang.

Mr. Sidney Cooper has arranged with Mr. Frank Weathersby to send a special company to the Lyceum Theatre, Newport, for two weeks, commencing on May 7. The plays to be presented are *Shall We Forgive Her?* and *The New Magdalen*.

Mr. Lewis Waller has surrounded himself with a notable cast for his matinées of *Othello*, which he revives about the middle of next month. Mr. H. B. Irving will play Iago to Mr. Waller's Othello, Miss Evelyn Millard will be the Desdemona, and the other parts will be in the practised hands of Messrs. A. S. Cookson, Henry Neville, G. Heslewood, Frank Woolfe, Henry Ainley, A. E. George, and Owen Roughwood, Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, and Miss Sarah Brooke.

The tenth annual general meeting of the Actors' Orphanage Fund will be held at the Garrick Theatre on Friday, May 18, at three o'clock. The chair will be taken by Mr. Cyril Maude, and the following ladies and gentlemen have promised to speak:—Miss Carlotta Addison, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mrs. Edward Compton, Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Miss Eva Moore, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Miss May Marley; Mr. Arthur Bourchier, the Rev. Arthur Brinkman, Mr. Chas. Cruikshanks, and Mr. Harry Nicholls.

Mr. Laurence Irving will be welcome back to the London stage when he takes up the part allotted to him in *Raffles*, which is to be produced at the Comedy early in May. Mr. Gerald du Maurier, it will be remembered, has the title-rôle, and the cast is completed by Messrs. Dion Boucicault, Frederick Volpé, Courtney Foote, Grahame Browne, and Horton Cooper, and Misses Hilda Thorpe, Lettice Fairfax, Jessie Bateman, Sarah Brooke, and Florence Sinclair. Rehearsals of the successful American piece are now in full swing.

Mr. Bernard Shaw has brought an action in the United States Supreme Court against Herbert S Stone and Co., the New York publishers, to recover £5000 damages for detention of copyrights of his plays, and also for an accounting of royalties and profits. Mr. Shaw, it is stated, entered into an agreement with Grant Richards as to "Plays Pleasant and Unpleasant." With the consent of Mr. Shaw, the rights held by Mr. Grant Richards were transferred to Stone and Co. It is alleged that the copyright, which the author values at thousands of dollars, has been wrongfully assigned to Fox, Duffield, and Co., who succeeded to most of the business of Stone and Co. As the five years' licence granted to Mr. Richards by him has expired, the author says Stone and Co. should no longer be permitted to publish or sell the books.

"The Man from Blankley's," at the Haymarket, is shortly to be preceded by a new one-act play by M. E. Francis (Mrs. Francis Blundell), entitled *Olf and the Little Maid*. The action of the play passes in a Dorset dairy, and the two principal characters will be sustained by Mr. Sydney Valentine and Miss Dorothy Minto.

It is not surprising that Mr. Fred Allandale has made a hit, in *The Girl Behind the Counter*, in the character of a Frenchman. This clever young actor—who was recently one of the many amusing men in *The Blue Moon* at the Lyric, toured in a similar part with *The Prince of Borneo*, and also appeared in a French rôle, some while ago, at a special matinée of *The Postmaster*, at the Strand Theatre. Mr. Allandale has a capital song in the new musical play at Wyndham's, and is quite at his best in a duet with Miss Marie Dainton, called *The Switchback of Love*.

Mr. Milton Rosmer, who was announced to appear shortly as Pete in *The Manxman*, will not now take up the part, arrangements for the production of the play having fallen through.

Congratulations to Mr. Walter Joyce, the popular comedian of the 'sixties and 'seventies, who celebrated his golden wedding on Thursday last, the 26th inst.

Miss Edna Godfrey-Turner, who is playing the title-rôle in *Sweet Lavender* in Mr. Russell Rosse's company at the Brixton Theatre this week with marked success, is the younger sister of Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, who also plays Minnie Gilfillian. Miss Edna made her début at the Dalston Theatre only three weeks ago as Lucy in *A Pair of Spectacles*, and Mr. Rosse decided to try her in the more ambitious part of Larry, and he has no reason to be disappointed in his judgment. Of course the little lady, who will not be out of her teens for some years, has been greatly helped by her sister, whose experience has been of the utmost aid.

Miss Nora Chesson, the writer of so much delightful verse for the *Westminster Gazette*, has, we regret to say, passed over to the majority. She wielded a graceful pen, and was the authoress of the libretto of *Muirgheis*, an Irish grand opera, produced at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Dec. 7, 1903, the music being by Mr. O'Brien Butler.

Mr. Norman V. Norman's production of *As You Like It*, during the Shakespeare Memorial festival week at the Crystal Palace, has been exceedingly successful. Miss Beatrice Wilson's Rosalind has been much admired. The last time Mr. Norman appeared at the Crystal Palace Theatre was as Marcus Superbus in the first visit of *The Sign of the Cross* there in the spring of 1896, but in the "eighties" Mr. Norman frequently took part in the Shakespearean performances of Mr. Oscar Barrett and others at the Palace.

Mr. J. M. Chute's revival of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, in celebration of the Shakespeare anniversary, was attended by marked success. Mr. Chute received many congratulatory messages, among which was one from Mr. Tree, who telegraphed:—"Chute, Prince's Theatre—Best wishes for the success of your performances of *Romeo and Juliet* during the Shakespeare celebration; it is a splendid move. I hope soon there may be Shakespeare festivals in all the great centres.—Tree." From Mr. George Alexander came the wire:—"Best wishes for the success of the revival."

The Play Competition initiated last year by the committee of the Playgoers' Club, on the understanding that if a suitable play were found Mr. Philip Carr would produce it at a West-end Theatre, is now at an end. More than 250 plays were sent in for competition, and every play was carefully read and considered; but amongst all the MSS. submitted, not one was found suitable for production as a prize play at a London West-end theatre. All the plays sent in for competition have now been returned to their authors, with the exception of one or two which were received without the necessary sealed envelope containing the author's name and address.

In the Court of Appeal on Thursday, before Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Stirling, and Fletcher Moulton, the cases of Gordon-Lennox v. Curzon and Scott and another v. Gordon-Lennox came on for consideration. The two actions, which by order were tried together, were brought by the respective plaintiffs to recover rent for the Avenue Theatre, which was destroyed by the fall of the roof of Charing Cross Station. Mr. Justice Lawrence decided in favour of the plaintiffs, being of opinion that the clause in the lease and sub-lease which provided that rent should not be payable if for certain causes the theatre was closed did not apply. The defendants now appealed from that judgment. Counsel addressed the Court at considerable length, and at the close of the arguments their lordships reserved judgment.

"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by Alfred Sutro, produced at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday, April 26.

Mr. Vanderveldt ..... MR. BOURCHIER
Colonel Rayner ..... MR. C. AUBREY SMITH
Lord Woolham ..... MR. WALTER PEARCE
Sir Bartholomew Cardick .. MR. O. B. CLARENCE
Mr. Goddlestone ..... MR. GEORGE TROLLOPE
Rev. Hubert Langston .. MR. CHARLES V. FRANCE
Mr. Mellon ..... MR. CHARLES GOODHEART
Alfie ..... MASTER HUGH WAKEFIELD
Footman ..... MR. DOUGLAS IMBERT
The Marchioness of Hendingby MISS NORA GREENLAW
Lady Clementina Desborough MISS ELFRIDA CLEMENT
Lady Clarice Howland .. MISS VIOLET VANBRUGH
Aggie Coles ..... MISS MURIEL BEAUMONT
Miss Pelling ..... MISS HENRIETTA WATSON
Mrs. Brevell ..... MISS PAMELA GAYTHORNE
Mrs. Mellon ..... MISS KATE PHILLIPS
Mary ..... MISS ANNIE STUART

The only fault that can be found with *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt* is that it is just a little thin. Mr. Bourchier's patrons would probably reply, like the testy old gentleman whose hirsute covering was criticised by the hairdresser, "Yes, we like it so!" And, to judge by the enthusiastic reception which was given to Mr. Sutro's play at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday evening, this would be a faithful description of their feelings. The piece is a "slight, pretty thing" in four acts; all the deep feeling is under the surface and inferred; and the action moves on agreeably to the accompaniment of Miss Violet Vanbrugh's rippling laughter. She plays Lady Clarice Howland, the widow of an athlete, who in his lifetime was too much occupied either in "hitting a ball, running away from a ball, or kicking a ball," to devote much attention to his wife, whose mother and sister, the Marchioness of Hendingby and Lady Clementina Desborough, are very strict and serious in their views. Lady Clarice is driven for amusement to the society of a certain Mr. Vanderveldt, an insinuating libertine who has been the cause and origin of many divorces. Colonel Rayner, the *homme sérieux* of the play, greatly objects to Lady Clarice's friendship with Vanderveldt, and even goes so far as to induce her to rescue a silly little woman, Mrs. Brevell, from the toils of the wealthy Don Juan. Lady Clarice has a great liking for Rayner; but Vanderveldt amuses her, and she is so pestered by the attentions of two stupid suitors, a judge and a musician, that she is glad of his cynicism as a relief. He proposes to her; and being promptly refused, lays a plot to compromise her—a variant of the old "last-train" trick. He takes her with him in his motor far into the depths of the country, and, by removing the sparking-plug, creates an artificial breakdown near a solitary country inn, having previously arranged that every horse in the vicinity is miles away carting granite. He then suppresses the telegram which Lady Clarice sends home in explanation; and, as there is no train available for return until next day, he believes that he has her, metaphorically speaking, "on board his lugger." But he reckons without the local parson, who, when he learns that Lady Clarice is the widow of the famous athlete whom he had worshipped at college, consents to replace the sparking-plug and drive the lady home. So Vanderveldt, while he is laying out the nice little supper which he has so considerately brought in a hamper, hears the hoot of the departing motor, and realises that he has been "spoofed."

In the last act the inevitable *rapprochement* between Lady Clarice and Rayner takes place. He refuses to suspect her for a moment—there has been an accident on her homeward journey, and she has arrived "next morning" after all; and when he hints at his love for her she meets him more than half way the "fascinating Vanderveldt" retiring from the scene with as much ease and grace as are possible in his position.

With Mr. Bourchier and Miss Vanbrugh in the leading characters, the piece could hardly fail to please and amuse; and every scene in which they and Mr. Aubrey Smith appeared held the attention of the audience. Mr. Bourchier was the acme of insinuating unscrupulouness and cynical humour as Mr. Vanderveldt, his make-up being "modern Mephistophilean" in style and his tone exquisitely suave, sly, and satirical. Miss Vanbrugh was quite captivating as the capricious Lady Clarice, and hit off, in the lightest and airiest way, the curiously complicated character, a fascinating compound of humour, frivolity, and genuine good-feeling. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith's part of Colonel Rayner suited him exactly, and could hardly have been better cast. He realised to the full the Colonel's stern and serious nature, and acted throughout with admirable firmness and earnestness. Mr. Walter Pearce played a young aristocrat cleverly, and Miss Muriel Beaumont looked very pretty, and acted with delightful naturalness as an American girl. Mr. O. B. Clarence did all that could be done with the rôle of Sir Bartholomew Cardick; and Mr. George Trollope played Mr. Goddlestone conscientiously, Mr. Charles V. France making the very most of his one "chance" as the Rev. Hubert Langston, and Mr. Charles Goodheart developed with skill the broad humours of a country innkeeper. Miss Nora Greenlaw was a most austere Marchioness, and Miss Elfrida Clement was quite commendable as Lady Clementia Desborough, Miss Henrietta Watson acting with her usual incisive emphasis and quiet irony as Miss Pelling, and Miss Pamela Gaythorne being excellent in every way as the pretty and silly Mrs. Brevell. Neither the artists above-mentioned, however, nor Miss Kate Phillips, to whom fell the little part of a country landlady, had much scope for the employment of their notorious and acknowledged abilities. Mr. Walter Johnstone's riparian view in the background of the Sonning scene was a marvel of light and distance; and Mr. R. C. McCleery's garden, set with its spreading cedars and bluish woodlands, was full of sunshine. Indeed, as usual at the Garrick, nothing had been left undone in the way of mounting and dresses that could ensure the success of the production.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS was the victim of a false accusation on Tuesday. William Walkley Ramsey, described as a song-writer without a home, deliberately broke an advertisement frame outside the Aldwych Theatre early in the morning, and when arrested told the constable that he did it as a protest against the way in which he had been treated by Mr. Hicks. At Bow-street Police-court he told the magistrate that some little time ago he wrote a song entitled "The Beauty of Bath," and entrusted it to Mr. St. Clair, the composer, who had utilised it for his own purpose. He understood that the same song was now being sung at the Aldwych Theatre. He had, he said, written to Mr. Seymour Hicks on the subject, but had not received any answer to his letter. Mr. Hicks, who was present in court, stated that he knew nothing whatever about Ramsey, who was ordered to pay 10s. and 2s. 6d. damage; in default, seven days.

MR. F. STUART WILLSON, who since the disaster at San Francisco has naturally been very anxious, having a brother resident there, on Thursday received the welcome cable announcing his safety.

"IN THE LAND OF THE CZAR," a drama by Edgar L. Noel, was produced for copyright purposes at the Brixton Theatre on the 19th inst.

"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."

A Musical Comedy, in Two Acts,
Written by Leedham Bantock and Arthur Anderson; Lyrics by Arthur Anderson;
Music by Howard Talbot;
Produced at Wyndham's Theatre, on Saturday, April 21.

Charlie Chetwynd ..... MR. C. HAYDEN COFFIN
Gen. Sir Wilkie Willoughby .. MR. J. F. MCARDLE
Lady Willoughby ..... MISS VIOLET CROSSLEY
Viscount Gushington .. MR. LAWRENCE GROSSMITH
Monsieur Duval ..... MR. FRED ALLANDALE
Millie Mostyn ..... MISS VIOLET ENGLEFIELD
Ninette ..... MISS MARIE DAINTON
Susie ..... MISS CORALIE BLYTHE
Rudolph ..... MR. AKERMAN MAY
Adolphus Dudd ..... MR. HORACE MILLS
A Waiter ..... MR. GEORGE BARRETT
Alice ..... MISS JENNIE BUCKLE
Mildred ..... MISS EVELYN POWIS
Olive ..... MISS VIOLET VASILLA
Phyllis ..... MISS CONSTANCE GUILBERT
Poppie Waring ..... MISS DOROTHY REYNOLDS
Lottie Vernon ..... MISS NANCY MALONE
Rosie Marshall ..... MISS MOLLIE VENTRY
Lillie Lovegrove ..... MISS LILY MILLS
Kitty Debenham ..... MISS DOLLY BEAUFOY
Hettie Hudson ..... MISS KITTY HIVES
Jack Spencer ..... MR. REGINALD COOPER
Harold Vane ..... MR. FRED MAGUIRE
Cyril Scott ..... MR. BARRY NEAME
Frank Mason ..... MR. WALTER DOLPHIN
Harry Thornton ..... MR. H. B. CLARKE
Gerald Mills ..... MR. EDMUND HOLLICK
Winnie Willoughby ..... MISS ISABEL JAY

A most diverting and dainty production is the musical comedy which Messrs. Leedham Bantock and Arthur Anderson have written, and Mr. Howard Talbot has composed. It is very cleverly put together, authors, composers, and lyricists having combined their forces most judiciously. There are some "great favourites" amongst the artists in the cast, and each of these has to do just what he or she can do best. And it has not been found necessary, in order to amuse, to introduce an unsavoury subject or a doubtful detail. The fun is as harmless as it is humorous, and as clean as it is clever; and for this we should be warmly grateful.

One of our modern West-end emporiums is an admirable scene for a farce, and Mr. Julian Hicks's elaborately-built-up interior, with its pretty stalls and curved staircases, is an effective background for the first act of *The Girl Behind the Counter*. Many people "turn up" at the Maison Duval, including Charlie Chetwynd, who has been out to West Africa gold-digging, and has returned immensely rich, but still wearing a short coat and a soft hat. General and Lady Willoughby are trying to "marry off" their daughter Winnie to a silly young "swell," Viscount Gushington; but Winnie finds him unattractive, and on his side he is enamoured of Millie Mostyn, the manageress of the Duval establishment. Winnie, for fun, gets the manageress to let her dress up as a shop-assistant and serve in a flower-stall, and here Charlie sees her, and falls in love with her at once. Adolphus Dudd, the office-boy, in order to raise funds to take his sweetheart, the cashier, to a carnival at the Baron's Court Exhibition, steals a five-pound note from the till while she has gone to dinner, leaving her desk in the care of the disguised Winnie; and—as Miss Willoughby is too deeply engaged with Charlie to observe the larceny—when it is discovered, suspicion falls on her, the situation ending the act spiritedly and operatically.

In the second act there is a great deal of fun got out of the adventures at Baron's Court of Adolphus and Susie, and the absurdities of General Willoughby, whose senile gambollings and doddering flirtations, attired as he is in a *moyen age* costume with embarrassing boots, provide food for loud laughter. Eventually the real thief is discovered, and by threatening the General with the disclosure of his flirtations at the carnival, he is induced to accept Charlie as a son-in-law.

The event of the evening was the return to the stage of Mr. Hayden Coffin, in finer form than ever, acting with a gracious ease and manly energy which delighted everybody, and singing in splendid style. Mr. Anderson and Mr. Talbot gave Mr. Coffin an excellent opportunity in the spirited song, "The land where the best man wins," and Mr. Coffin rose to the occasion *con amore*, rendering the verses with a vigour and earnestness that electrified the house, and won a unanimous and enthusiastic encore. Quite in the romantic and sentimental tone of Mr. Coffin's earlier impersonations was the ballad by Mr. Arthur Anderson and Mr. Augustus Barratt, called "Some Day," and the singer treated it with all the necessary refinement and taste. Mr. Coffin's performance of the part was a complete success, and, both in the free-and-easy attire of the returned adventurer, and in the becoming grey costume of a Spanish student in the masquerade, Mr. Coffin looked a "perfect picture." He was in excellent voice, and his acting was an agreeable mixture of delicacy and determination. Another favourite whom everyone was eager to welcome was Miss Isabel Jay, whose simple and sincere style, charming personality, and thorough training in a good school, were readily recognised and heartily applauded. As Winnie Willoughby she won all hearts by her embodiment of the sweet, unaffected English maiden, and she brought down the house in a chorus of applause by her animated rendering of the capital song, "I mean to marry a man!" Miss Jay's earnestness and expressiveness, and the admirable distinctness of her enunciation, were as keenly appreciated as was her neat and piquant treatment of her share in a delightful duet with Mr. Coffin, "Won't you buy?" In this her lightness of touch and sweetness of style were worthy of the warmest praise. Mr. J. F. McArdle as the senile "squire of dames," Sir Wilkie Willoughby, contributed a quaint and comical caricature, highly original in method and intensely droll in its eccentric oddity. Mr. George Barrett gave a dryly humorous impersonation of a sardonic waiter. Miss Violet Crossley did excellent work as Lady Willoughby; and Mr. Lawrence Grossmith, in a part of the "Johnnie" order, was the acme of imbecility, inanity, and smart tailoring. As an "up-to-date" portrait of an empty-headed dandy of the present period, Mr. Grossmith's impersonation could not have been surpassed, and his peculiar method and the imperturbable manner in which he sang a "beastly awfully jolly" ditty while seated in a manicurist's chair, appealed to the audience immensely. Mr. Fred Allandale was all activity and alertness as the propreitor of the Maison Duval, and made every point possible in the song with chorus, "Ze entaireprising Frenchman," acting throughout with commendable alacrity and smartness. Miss Violet Englefield, an artist of much quiet humour, made a decided hit by her calm and impassible rendering of the amusing song "Enid"; and clever Miss Marie Dainton as an arch, roguish, and ready-witted Frenchwoman, sent the house into ecstacies by her lively dancing and her unflagging movement and brisk drollery. Miss Coralie Blythe had her best opportunities in the second act, in which she appeared at the masquerade as a "Greenaway girl"; but she was always pleasant and prepossessing, and made all her points in the nicest and daintiest way. Mr. Akerman May was quite characteristic as the German commissionaire; and that capital comedian, Mr. Horace Mills, gave an irresistibly humorous and original exposition of the rôle of the office-boy, Adolphus Dudd. Mr. Howard Talbot conducted, and *The Girl Behind the Counter* had the heartiest of receptions.

"THE BEZSEMENOVS."

A Play in Four Acts, by Maxim Gorky, translated by J. R. Crauford.
Produced for the first time in England at the Matinée at Terry's Theatre, On Monday, April 23.

Tatiana ..... MISS EDYTH OLIVE
Polia ..... MISS INA ROYLE
Piotr ..... MR. BERTRAM FORSYTH
Bezsemenov, Vasily Vassiliovitch MR. HERBERT GRIMWOOD
Akoulina Ivanovna .... MRS. THEODORE WRIGHT
Stepanida ..... MISS ALICE ARDEN
Pertchikine ..... MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
Tetereff ..... MR. CALEB PORTER
Elena Nicolaievna Krivtzova .. MISS ADA POTTER
Nil ..... MR. MATHESON LANG
Chichkine ..... MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Zvetaieva ..... MISS KATHERINE STUART
A woman from the street.. MISS VIOLET BAZALGETTE
A doctor ..... MR. ROBERT

For the first production in England of Maxim Gorky's play, *The Bezsemenovs*, we are indebted to the Mermaid Society; and Monday's matinée and the subsequent performances on Thursday and Friday offered opportunities of judging of the famous Russian writer's capabilities as a dramatist. There is no question that Maxim Gorky has done brilliant work as a novelist, but judging by Monday's production he has still much to learn before he can be described as a playwright who really knows his business. The partial or complete failure of the successful novelist when he ventures upon the supremely difficult art of playwriting is, we know by experience, not by any means uncommon; and Gorky, with all his brilliance, does not appear to have succeeded where so many less distinguished authors have failed. The weak point of the play produced on Monday is that everybody talks too much, with the inevitable result that the action is irritatingly slow. But in spite of this some of the scenes grip the attention and are impressive because of their intense realism; whilst the dialogue, if diffuse, could only be written by a deep thinker and man of poetic temperament.

The author gives us a picture of a middle-class family, and there is no doubt that the sketches of character, after allowing for a little exaggeration in the outlines, are drawn from life. They are not people one would care to meet, these Bezsemenovs. The white-haired old man and his wife have done their duty by their children; they have given them a good education, but the result is disastrous. The son Piotr, an expelled University student, is a moody, miserable young man, who loafs about the house in a frame of mind that may be described as brooding discontent. His sister Tatiana is a poorly-paid school teacher—a melancholy, lifeless, neurotic girl, for whom her parents are anxious to find a husband. She would like to win the love of Nil, Bezsemenov's adopted son, a bright, breezy, young fellow, who, though only an engine-driver, finds a real delight in life, and is naturally not attracted by the melancholy pale-faced school mistress. His choice is Polia, a hard-working seamstress, who is evidently just the woman to make the young workman happy. The family have two boarders—Tetereff, a choirmaster, with a weakness for strong drink and feeble philosophy; and Elena Krivtzova, a rather gay and giddy widow, by whose charms even the moody Piotr is attracted, to the great annoyance of his parents. Old Bezsemenov cannot discuss any point calmly—he has frequent and violent fits of passion, which his wife does her best to allay. He has noisy scenes with his son and daughter. He is a working man—a house painter—and they have nothing in common. In his estimation their education has proved a curse. They despise their parents, they are sick to death of their vulgar surroundings, and yet escape seems impossible. Tatiana, after secretly witnessing a love scene between Nil and Polia, attempts her own life by taking poison, but she quickly recovers. Old Bezsemenov, it should be said, gets on no better with his friends. A distant relative, Pertchikine by name, a drunken bird catcher, and the father of Polia, he vigorously assails with his tongue and turns out of the house; indeed, a more choleric, disagreeable old gentleman it would be difficult to imagine, and his outbursts of temper are so extremely violent and frequent that the bursting of a blood-vessel seems highly probable.

Mr. Herbert Grimwood played this part very well, his portrayal of the passionate old man being admirable in all its details. One cannot take the ill-tempered patriarch quite seriously, but there is a touch of pathos in his declaration, delivered in a broken voice, that he really loves his son and daughter. Mr. Michael Sherbrooke as the bird-catcher Pertchikine, who is a bit of a poet in his way, gave a delightfully humorous embodiment of the light-hearted vagabond. Mr. Caleb Porter was also successful in his clever portraiture of the choir-master Tetereff, who talks more sensibly when he is half drunk than in his sober moments. Mr. Matheson Lang deserves warm praise for his fine, vigorous representation of Nil, whose presence always seemed to dispel the gloom that invaded the home of the Bezsemenovs. Mr. Bertram Forsyth, a pupil of the Academy of Dramatic Art, showed ability as the melancholy Piotr, whose equally depressing sister Tatiana had an excellent exponent in Miss Edyth Olive. Miss Ina Royle was a bright and attractive representative of Polia; and Mrs. Theodore Wright, who had a good reception on making her appearance, quite justified it by clever acting as the wife of Bezsemenov. Miss Ada Potter was good as Elena Krivtzova, though perhaps a little too refined and "ladylike" in appearance and manner as the widow of a prison warder. Miss Alice Arden neatly hit off the character of Stepanida, the Bezsemenovs' cook; Mr. Robert did well in the small part of the doctor who is called in to attend Tatiana; Mr. Arthur Curtis appearing as Chichkine (a student), Miss Katherine Stuart as a friend of Tatiana's, and Miss Violet Bazalgette as a woman from the street. The play, which was produced under the direction of Mr. Philip Carr, was favourably received by a rather small audience.

BALLET, which in olden days used to be a feature of the grand operas at His Majesty's, is to be revived during the forthcoming opera season at Covent Garden, which begins on Thursday. *Les Deux Pigeons*, originally performed at the Paris Opera in 1886, is to be produced as an after-piece to one of Gluck's shorter operas, and Mlle. Boni, première danseuse of the Brussels Opera, together with the whole corps de ballet now appearing with her, and M. Ambrosini, maître de ballet, will be brought over for the occasion. The season will open with *Tristan*, followed by *Das Rheingold*, *Die Walkure*, *Siegfried*, Poldini's *Princess and the Vagabond*, *The Barber of Bagdad*, and *Götterdämmerung*.

MR. SYDNEY PAXTON, before leaving Southampton for Manchester, presented Mr. Percy Aldin, the retiring acting-manager of the Southampton Hippodrome, with a purse of gold, and Mrs. Aldin with a handsome brooch, both of which had been obtained by subscription, amongst those immediately interested in the Hippodrome, as a memento of Mr. Aldin's short but eminently successful tenure of a responsible position. Mr. Paxton said it was most unfortunate that Mr. Aldin's health should necessitate this step, but though it was an unwelcome one to those whom he was addressing, it would, he trusted, be beneficial to him. Mr. Aldin made a brief and suitable reply, in the course of which he cordially thanked all those who had worked with him. Mr. J. Howard Shackleton, the popular chef d'orchestre of the Hippodrome, Southampton, has now been appointed musical-director for the De Frece circuit.

THE COURT.

On Tuesday Afternoon, April 24,
Revival of the Pierrot Play, in Three Acts,
By Laurence Housman and Granville Barker;
Music by Joseph Moorat: entitled
"PRUNELLA;
Or, LOVE IN A DUTCH GARDEN."

Pierrot ..... MR. W. GRAHAM BROWNE
Scaramel ..... MR. NIGEL PLAYFAIR
Kennel ..... MR. TREVOR LOWE
Callow ..... MR. GORDON BAILEY
Mouth ..... MR. EDMUND GWENN
Hawk ..... MR. C. H. CROKER-KING
Tawdry ..... MISS VALERIE SALBERG
Doll ..... MISS MARGARET BUSSE
Romp ..... MISS RUBY CRAWFORD
Coquette ..... MISS HAZEL THOMPSON
Tenor ..... MR. W. H. PENDEREL PRICE
Prim ..... MRS. CHARLES MALTBY
Privacy ..... MISS AMY LAMBORN
Prude ..... MISS AGNES HILL
Queer ..... MISS CLARE GREET
Quaint ..... MISS AGNES THOMAS
1st Gardener ..... MR. C. L. DELPH
2nd Gardener ..... MR. F CREMLIN
3rd Gardener ..... MR. EDMUND GURNEY
Boy ..... MR. NORMAN PAGE
Statue of Love ..... MR. LEWIS CASSON
Prunella ..... MISS DOROTHY MINTO

A large and appreciative audience followed with delight the performance, at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, of *Prunella*, a charming poem in prose and verse by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker, to which Joseph Moorat has supplied tuneful and appropriate music. This phantasy is based on an episode in the life of Pierrot, and seeks to show that the end of selfish pleasure is but vanity, but that love—the love that is ready to prove itself even to death—is the only real and abiding joy. Those who saw this play when it was produced at the Court Theatre last year may remember that the plot is as follows:—Prunella, the child of a runaway match between the youngest of four sisters and a strolling artist, is being strictly and conventionally brought up by her three maiden aunts, who are personifications of their names—Prim, Prude, and Privacy—in perfect ignorance of the world and of man. To her, in her quaint Dutch garden, enters serpent-wise, through a hole in the hedge, Pierrot, who sows in her heart the first seeds of love and the longing for the joy of life. He tries to persuade her to "fulfil her destiny" and join his merry band of strolling players as their Pierrette. Taking counsel of the Statue of Love, she overcomes her natural reluctance at leaving the only home she has known, and joins them in their search for joy and "life."

In the third act, Pierrot (who has deserted Pierrette, thinking he had tired of what was only an episode in his life), is drawn to revisit the scene of his first meeting with Prunella, and tries to reconstruct the past with the help of his former companions. He finds that Death has been there before him, and the house and garden are desolate. His former companions, whose appearance, halt, lame, and blind, symbolises the disappointing nature of their joys, have no power to rouse him from his self-pity and self-absorption. Pierrette, after much wandering, also returns to her old home to find herself forgotten and alone. She reproaches the Statue of Love for the advice which is the cause of her present sorrow, but he promises her peace and rest, and a reward for her constancy and love. Pierrot enters the garden, and, believing that he sees the spirit of Pierrette, declares that he prefers death with her to life without her love. Pierrette reveals herself, and the curtain falls on the promise of a brighter future.

Miss Dorothy Minto acts the part of Prunella with sincerity and charm, and her appearance fulfils our idea of the character. Mr. W. Graham Browne gives a finished performance as Pierrot, and Mr. Nigel Playfair ably supports him as his servant Scaramel. Mr. Trevor Lowe as Kennel, Mr. Gordon Bailey as Callow, Mr. Edmund Gwenn who is particularly active as Mouth, and Mr. C. H. Croker-King as Hawk ably co-operate with Miss Valerie Salberg as Tawdry, Miss Margaret Busse as Doll, Miss Hazel Thompson who is a graceful Coquette, and Miss Ruby Crawford as Romp, "the jolly girl," in giving us a picture of the irresponsible gaiety of the troupe of strolling players. Mr. W. H. Penderel Price as Pierrot's living voice, "which he has paid for," sings the serenade in the second act nicely. The three aunts Prim, Privacy, and Prude are carefully acted by Mrs. Charles Maltby, Miss Amy Lamborn, and Miss Agnes Hill respectively. The Queer of Miss Clare Greet is a crisp performance, and Miss Agnes Thomas as Quaint gives a good account of the part of the other serving-woman. Mr. Norman Page as the Boy acts well, and he and Messrs. C. L. Delph, F. Cremlin, and Edmund Gurney as the three Gardeners give the necessary relief by their unconscious humour. The Spirit of Love is admirably acted by Mr. Lewis Casson. The revival was well received.

NORTH LONDON OPERATIC SOCIETY.

A Runaway Girl has been staged during the present week at the Crouch End Opera House by the North London Dramatic Society, and the venture has been accomplished with marked success. The play was produced under the direction of Mr. Eric Lodge. The Brother Tamarind of Mr. Harry Evans was an excellent performance. Mr. Percy Short gave a spirited rendering of the part of Guy Stanley, and won an encore for his singing of "Not the sort of girl I care about." Mr. Charles E. Dickenson was exceedingly well placed as Lord Coodle, and the same remark applies to Mr. Wm. Stamp as Mr. Creel. The four strolling singers were well represented by Messrs. Palmer, Ingram, Yates, and Taylor; and Mr. Douglas Cox did well as a waiter. Mr. Montague Oakes and Mr. Fred Buchanan as the two gendarmes also did good service. Mr. Murray Short as Flipper was very funny, and caused much merriment; he was ably seconded by Miss Nellie Craig, who played Alice, the Coodles' maid, in bright and attractive fashion. Her duet with Flipper in the first act gained hearty applause. Miss Anna MacDowall, a pupil of Miss Edith Gibbs, did well as Dorothy Stanley. The young actress reflects the dramatic methods of her accomplished teacher, and has natural gifts which have been well cultivated. Her singing of "Listen to the band" was one of the hits of the evening, and was re-demanded. The Carmeneta of Miss Netta Van Eitzen was very satisfactory, and Miss Fowler and Miss Violet Williams as Lady Coodle and Mrs. Creel were well placed. Miss Katherine Craig as Winifred Grey was the life and soul of the performance. She possesses an attractive personality which ably fitted the character, and she emerged from her task with great credit, her dancing being exceptionally good and her singing excellent. The chorus showed signs of having been well drilled, and the whole production reflects the greatest credit on the Society and its musical director, Mr. Arthur Roby.

"MEASURE FOR MEASURE" was the subject of an interesting debate, opened in capital style by Mr. E. M. Vaughan-Roderick, at the Playgoers' Club on Monday evening. Mr. Kenneth Havers took the chair, and gave a really admirable address on the play. Other speakers were Messrs. Greenwell, Waitman, Steele, Hess, Beaufoy, Harfeld, Malcolm Bell, Dunn, and Raunheim. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded Mr. Vaughan-Roderick for his opening of the debate and Mr. Kenneth Havers for presiding.

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree's series of revivals with which he celebrated at His Majesty's the anniversary of Shakespeare's birth have attracted crowded audiences quite in sympathy with the object and enthusiastic in appreciation. The week was begun with *The Tempest*, reproduced with all the elaboration and artistic detail which distinguished its former representation. Mr. Tree's Caliban remains one of his most remarkable assumptions, brutal and ferocious, yet grimly humorous, and his performance on Monday held the house completely in thrall. Mr. Lionel Brough repeated his admirable embodiment of Trinculo, and to the Stephano of Mr. James Hearn equal credit is due. Miss Viola Tree was a winsome Ariel, her gaiety and animation being charmingly natural. Miss Maude Cressall spoke the lines belonging to the part of Miranda with grace and fluency, and Mr. Basil Gill's embodiment of Ferdinand and the Prospero of Mr. Lyn Harding were also invaluable to the dramatic effect of the performance. Mr. S. A. Cookson was the Alonzo, Mr. Reginald Owen the Sebastian, and the part of Gonzalo was safely entrusted to Mr. J. Fisher White, and that of Antonio to Mr. Robert Farquharson.

The programme for Tuesday evening was occupied by the first part of *Henry IV.*, one of the most interesting features of the festival. Mr. Tree first produced the piece ten years ago, and in the interval his conception of Falstaff has grown more and more comic, and his appearance as the fat knight still more grotesque. The mellow voice and varied gesture are as expressive as ever, and the audience on Tuesday entered thoroughly into the enjoyment of the performance. Mr. Basil Gill made a stirring and striking figure of Hotspur, and Mr. S. A. Cookson acted the King with intensity and power. Mrs. Tree played with her customary gentleness and refinement as Lady Percy. To Mr. Lionel Brough fell the part of Bardolph, which he made conspicuous by his cheery acting and whimsical humour. The merit of the acting of Mr. J. Fisher White as the Earl of Worcester and Mr. Lyn Harding as Owen Glendower was also fully apparent, and Miss Jennie Lee's Mistress Quickly and Miss Marion Evans' Lady Mortimer were marked features of a delightful performance.

Twelfth Night was given on Wednesday, when the beautiful theatre was again crowded. Mr. Tree's Malvolio is as repressive of mirth as his Falstaff is provocative of it, yet the laughter of the audience was equal in intensity. The two characters are a noteworthy example of Mr. Tree's wonderful versatility, and to compare the cheery humour of the one with the sedate drollery of the other is to realise in the most complete way the true art of the actor. The youth and freshness of Miss Viola Tree were invaluable in the part of Viola, the difficulties of which were admirably surmounted. Her voice was cleverly managed, and her singing also gave the greatest pleasure. Mr. Lyn Harding gave a fine performance of Sir Andrew Aguecheek, and Mr. Lionel Brough again won mirthful honours by his ripe and rounded rendering of Sir Toby Belch. Miss Margaret Halstan made a picturesque Countess Olivia, her appearance being remarkably well suited to the rôle, a gallant and chivalrous Orsino was found in Mr. Basil Gill, and the completeness of the production was fully sustained in the minor parts.

The fourth performance of the series introduced *Hamlet*, which was produced on Thursday, with scenery. Mr. Tree's rendering of the title-character created the greatest enthusiasm, every phase of the intricate part being followed with profound interest. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson commanded admiration as Ophelia, whose innocence and purity were made agreeably apparent. Mr. Basil Gill submitted a sincere and vigorous exposition of Horatio, and the humour of the Grave-diggers was conveyed with irresistible effect by Mr. Lionel Brough and Mr. C. W. Somerset. The King and Queen of Mr. Henry Neville and Mrs. Tree were portrayed with artistic completeness. Mr. J. Fisher White was an excellent Polonius, and the elocutionary skill of Mr. Lyn Harding in the part of the Ghost was made manifest.

Friday night was made memorable by the representation of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, with Miss Ellen Terry in the cast; *Hamlet*, again with scenery, will be repeated this afternoon, and the festival will conclude this evening with *Julius Cæsar*.

WITH the passing of winter and the advent of spring the townsman instinctively longs for the exhilarating tonic of open-air recreation. A leaflet recently issued by the Great Eastern Railway Company draws attention to the special claims of Clacton-on-Sea and Felixstowe to rank with other sunny spots as ideal spring resorts. These invigorating and charming watering places have now been brought into comparative proximity with the Metropolis by a daily service of express trains, whilst for the week-end visitor a special non-stop train will, commencing on May 4, leave Liverpool Street every Friday at 4.10 p.m. for Felixstowe, with a connection by means of slip carriages at Colchester with Clacton, Frinton, and Walton. The journey to Felixstowe by this express occupies only 1 hour 56 minutes. Other specially convenient trains to Felixstowe, Frinton, Walton, and Clacton for the week-end are the 1.30 p.m. from Liverpool-street on Saturdays, and the express midnight supper-train to Clacton only from Liverpool-street one the same day. Those who may find it necessary to be back in town on Sunday evening are provided with a fast train from Felixstowe Town Station at 7.33 p.m., and from Clacton at 8 p.m., arriving at Liverpool-street at 10.3 p.m.; and for those who can prolong their week-end trip until Monday, trains leave Felixstowe Town at 8.3, 8.55, and 9.27 a.m., and Clacton at 7.40, 8.48, and 10 a.m., a breakfast-car being attached to the 7.40 a.m. train from Clacton.

PRESENTATION.—At the Dalston Theatre on Saturday evening, after the performance of the *Price of Her Soul*, the staff of the theatre and friends, assembled on the stage, and presented Mr. E. Story-Gofton, jun., with a purse of gold in token of their esteem and respect. Mr. Story Gofton is relinquishing his position as advertising manager and leader of the orchestra, and it says much for his popularity that every member of the theatre united in this expression of goodwill. The recipient thanked the company assembled, adding that he should always have the most pleasant recollection of his eight years' stay amongst them.

IN our notice of the revival of *The Merchant of Venice* at the Garrick Theatre we were led by the programme to state that the parts of Antonio and Tubal were doubled by Mr. C. V. France, whereas the credit due for the performance of Tubal should have been attributed to Mr. Frank Lacy, who took up the part upon Mr. France's succession to that of Antonio. Mr. Lacy played Tubal at every performance since, with the exception of those times when, through the indisposition of Mr. Norman Forbes, he played the part of Lancelot Gobbo.

"THE KNIGHT OF THE BATH," the new farce in three acts by Arthur Applin, will be produced at Terry's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon (by kind permission of Mr. James Welch) in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League. The cast will comprise—Mr. Lennox Pawle, Miss Lily Malyon, Mr. Malcolm Cherry, Miss Grace A. Noble, Mr. D. J. Williams, Miss Maud Henderson, and Mr. Allen Wade. The farce will be preceded by a monologue specially written for the occasion, entitled *What the 'Bus-Horse said to the Motor-Car*, to be spoken by Miss Edyth Olive. Well-known actresses have generously consented to aid the cause by selling programmes.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Homeless, Theatre Royal, Leicester, July 19, 1893.
Home Once More, Britannia, April 6, 1885.
Home; or, A Father's Love, Victoria, Feb. 7, 1880.
Home Rule, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, March 19, 1877.
Home Secretary, Criterion, May 7, 1895.
Home Spun, Novelty, Nov. 11, 1884.
Homestead Story, Princess's, June 22, 1861.
Home, Sweet Home, Olympic, June 19, 1876.
Home Truths, Princess's, 1860.
Homeward Bound, Lyceum, Sunderland, Aug. 28, 1874.
Homeward Bound, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Nov., 1858.
Home Wreck, Surrey, Feb. 8, 1869.
Honest John, Britannia, July 19, 1875.
Honest Labour, Britannia, Aug. 3, 1870.
Honest Lawyer, Strand, June 11, 1855.
Honest Living, Opera House, Wakefield, March 13, 1891.
Honest Man, Surrey, Nov. 16, 1878.
Honesty—A Cottage Flower, Avenue, Nov. 29, 1897.
Honeydove's Troubles, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 1867.
Honeymoon in Eclipse, St. George's Hall, April 12, 1838.
Honeymoon Tragedy, Comedy, March 12, 1896.
Honour, Tyne, Newcastle, Dec. 1, 1876.
Honourable Herbert, Vaudeville, Dec. 22, 1891.
Honourable John, Crouch End, Dec. 12, 1898.
Honourable Member, Court, July 14, 1896.
Honour among Thieves, Pavilion, Aug. 4, 1877.
Honour Bright, East London, April 18, 1870.
Honour Before Wealth, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, Sept. 7, 1885.
Honour of the House, Driffield, July 25, 1893.
Honour or Love! Oldham, Feb. 3, 1898.
Honour; or, One Redeeming Spark, Grecian, Sept. 4, 1871.
Honours, Grecian, Oct. 4, 1879.
Honours Divided, Lupton-street, N.W., May 14, 1895.
Honour's Price, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, Aug. 25, 1884.
Honour Thy Father, Imperial, Sept. 12, 1898.
Hoodman Blind, Princess's, Aug. 18, 1885.
Hook and Eye, Grand, Leeds, March 22, 1837.
Hoop of Gold, Pavilion, March 2, 1878.
Hope, Standard, Oct. 2, 1882.
Hope of the Family, Haymarket, Dec. 3, 1853.
Hope's Answer, Theatre Royal, South Shields, Nov. 19, 1886.
Hop o' My Thumb, Albion, Dec. 23, 1876.
Hop-pickers and Gipsies, Britannia, May 17, 1869.
Hornet's Nest, Opera Comique, Jan. 13, 1876.
Horn of Plenty, Acton, Dec. 15, 1897.
Horse of the Cavern, Astley's, May 12, 1856.
Hotel Charges, Adelphi, Oct. 13, 1853.
Hot Water, Criterion, Nov. 13, 1876.
Houp La, Comedy, Aug. 18, 1891.
Houp La! Tra-la-la, Royalty, May 20, 1886.
Houseboat, The, Prince of Wales's, Nov. 24, 1886.
Housebreaker, The, Theatre Royal, Stockton, March 25, 1892.
House Dog, 1850.
Household Fairy, St. James's, Dec. 24, 1859.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Kate Terry—Saturday, April 28.
George Leyton—Saturday, April 28.
J. Dewhurst—Saturday, April 28.
C. F. Collings—Saturday, April 28.
Dave Avrigny—Saturday, April 28.
Kate Avrigny—Saturday, April 28.
J. P. Macnally—Sunday, April 29.
Geo. Zanetto—Sunday, April 29.
Alix Lukos—Sunday, April 29.
Cecil Morton York—Sunday, April 29.
William Hillier—Sunday, April 29.
Tom Costello—Monday, April 30.
George Regan—Monday, April 30.
Horace W. Ebbutt—Monday, April 30.
W. H. Crane—Monday, April 30.
May Palfrey—Tuesday, May 1.
Edgar Romaine—Tuesday, May 1.
May Woolgar Mellon—Tuesday, May 1.
Arthur Palling—Tuesday, May 1.
Arthur Chesholm—Tuesday, May 1.
Jessie Preston—Tuesday, May 1.
J. P. Harrington—Tuesday, May 1.
Jerome K. Jerome—Wednesday, May 2.
Lucie Evelyn—Wednesday, May 2.
Peggy Pryde—Wednesday, May 2.
Elsa Joel—Wednesday, May 2.
W. L. Abingdon—Wednesday, May 2.
Minnie Rayner—Wednesday, May 2.
Cecile B. Anson—Thursday, May 3.
Julia Arthur—Thursday, May 3.
Herbert Ralland—Friday, May 4.

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 30.

Abandoned Woman.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
After the Ball.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Are You a Mason?—Alexandra T., Greenock.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, Glossop.
At the World's Mercy.—Pavilion, Altrincham.
At War With Women.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Bandmann-Palmer.—Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.
Beauty and the Barge.—Grand T., Southampton.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
Benson, F. R. (B.)—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Boom of Big Ben.—Grand T., Islington.
Bramley, Esmond.—Kennington Theatre.
Carl Rosa Opera Company.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Catch of the Season.—O. H., Leicester.
Christian, The (Croke's).—Queen's T., Swindon.
Claudian.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
Cloches de Corneville, Les.—Prince's T., Poplar.
Coal King.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Compton Comedy.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Conscience and Crime.—King's T., Walthamstow.
Curate, The.—T. R., Stockport.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Dishonoured.—T. R., Rotherham.
Drama of Life.—Bishop Auckland.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—T. R., Hanley.
Duffer, The.—Grand T., Croydon
East Lynne.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Face at the Window.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
Facing the Music.—Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Faithful Friend.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
False Wife.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Fight for Millions.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Forbes-Robertson.—T. R., Manchester.
For Better or Worse.—Alexander T., Hull.
For Life—and After.—T. R., Chatham.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Norwich.
Frivolity.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
Golden Ladder.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Go-Won-Go Mohawk.—Lancaster.
Great Awakening.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Her Lost Self.—T. R., Stratford.
Her Luck in London.—Junction T., Manchester.
Her One Great Sin.—Cardiff.
Her Wedding Day.—Oldham.
Honour Thy Father.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Human Hearts.—Grand T., Sheffield.
I Defy the World.—Morecambe.
In Holy Russia.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Kitty Grey.—Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Wrexham and Oswestry.
Lady Madcap (Edwardes).—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
La Poupee (Ralland).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Life of a Showman.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Little Bread Winner.—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby.
London Fireman.—T. R., Bristol.
Lovel Leigh Rep.—O. H., Torquay.
Love That Women Desire.—T. R., Ashton.
Luck of Life.—Star T., Swansea.
Macowan Norman.—O. H., Northampton.
Man's Enemy.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Manxman, The.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
Martin Harvey.—T. R., Liverpool.
Midnight Mail.—Gateshead.
Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner.—T. R., Edinburgh.
Modern Adventuress.—Palace, Newcastle.
Money Makes the Man.—Middleton.
Moody-Manners (A.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Moody-Manners (B.).—T. R., Birkenhead.
Mountain Climber.—King's T., Hammersmith.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R. Aston.
None but the Brave.—Royalty, Chester.
No Wedding Bells for Her.—Century T., Motherwell.
One of the Best.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
On the Love Path.—Birmingham.
Orphan Heiress.—T. R., Consett.
Otto, the Outcast.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Passion's Power.—Royalty, Barrow.
Peggy Machree.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Penalty of Crime.—
Plucky Nipper.—T. R., Edmonton.
Poor Must Live.—T. R., Leicester.
Power of Gold.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
Price of Her Soul.—Grand T., Swansea.
Prince of Pilsen.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
Prince of the People.—T. R., Newcastle.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Castleford.
Prodigal Son.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Public Opinion (N.).—Glasgow.
Public Opinion (S.).—Oxford and Cambridge.
Queen of Villainy.—Empire T., Oldham.
Rogue's Daughter.—T. R., Gloucester.
Rogues of the Turf.—Grand T., W. Hartlepool.
Romany's Revenge.—T. R., Llanelly.
Royal Divorce.—Grand T., Fulham.
Royal Divorce (N.).—Grand T., Nottingham.
Royal Revenge.—Prince's, Accrington.
Sailors of the King.—T. R., South Shields.
San Toy.—Grand T., Hull.
See-Saw of Life.—T. R., Barrow-in-Furness.
Sin of Her Childhood.—H. M. T., Carlisle.
Sins of a City.—Woolwich.
Sign of the Cross.—Crystal Palace Theatre.
Still Alarm.—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
Sunday.—His Majesty's T., Aberdeen.
Sweet and Twenty.—T. R., Preston.
Swiss Express.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Temptress, The.—Empire T., Southend.
Throne of Terror.—New T. R., West Stanley.
Traitor Prince.—Theatre Royal, Halifax.
Traitor.—Star T., Liverpool.
Two Hussars.—Carlton T., Greenwich.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Standard Theatre.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Grand T., Derby.
Under the Czar.—Grand T., Byker.
Under Two Flags.—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R., Smethwick.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Grand T., Walsall.
Way of the World.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Queen's T., Manchester.
What the Butler Saw.—Borough T., Stratford.
When a Man Hates.—Burton-on-Trent.
When Woman Hates.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Wilkie, Allen, and Co.—T. R., Colchester.
Willard E. S.—O. H., Cleveland.
Woman's Past.—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
Woulfe T. B. Rep.—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
Wrecker of Men.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Youngest of Three.—Jersey and Guernsey.
10.30 Down Express.—West London Theatre.

The programme of the Shakespeare Birth-Week Festival at His Majesty's has supplementary features admirably appropriate to the character of the performances. The first page bears a portrait of the poet taken from the Droeshout painting in the Memorial Gallery at Stratford-on-Avon. The title-page from the First Quarto of *Hamlet* is also printed, and views of the house of Shakespeare's birth and the room in which he was born add to the interest of the little work, which also contains portraits of Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Tree, Miss Viola Tree, Mr. Lionel Brough, and many of the leading actors and actresses associated with His Majesty's.

Mr. W. F. Frame finishes his North of Scotland tour this evening in the fair city Perth, and starts the Stoll tour at Edinburgh on May 7.

RIDDLE STOWER'S
ENGLISH and AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION,
80, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON, W.
Late of 202, Regent-st., W. Established over 25 Years
American Gold and Porcelain Crowns and Filling, &c
Absolutely Painless Extractions, 2/6.
Special terms to the Profession.
Ici on parle Francais. Man Spricht Deutsch.
Oui si parla Italiano.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

KIMBERLEY, April 2.—The Empire Variety Company (under the management of Mr. Hyman) put in two very successful evenings at the Theatre Royal last week, both performances having been given to crowded and appreciative houses. The company was a fairly strong one, with Apollo, a fine athlete and jiu-jitsu wrestler, as its chief attraction. The potentialities of jiu-jitsu were very cleverly demonstrated by Apollo, the wrestling bouts with which the turn ended being followed with the keenest interest and appreciation. Signor and Madame Borelli contributed some very amusing duets, their "cat duet" going down immensely. The Bensons showed abundance of talent in their American speciality act, the gentleman evincing especial ability in step-dancing. Miss Dorothy Webb, comedienne, sang a couple of songs with good effect, and let off a deal of amusing patter that was highly relished. Mlle. Nadji, a graceful and attractive little acrobat, delighted everyone by the skill and ease with which she executed some clever feats. Miss Nina Martino and the Bioscope pictures made up the remainder of a pleasant evening's amusement.

DEATH OF MR. J. F. JERRARD.

We regret to announce the death, at the age of fifty-four, of Mr. John Francis Jerrard, who passed away on Monday, after a few hours' illness, at his residence, 12, Bedford Court-mansions, W.C. He was the youngest son of the late Dr. Jerrard, D.C.L., and was called to the Bar, but after a few years' experience as a barrister entered the theatrical profession, in which he remained until his death. All who knew him will regret the loss of a kind and cheerful companion.

[*Photo by Coover and Rasmussen.*

THE LATE MR. JOHN FRANCIS JERRARD.

The funeral will take place this morning at St. Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The committee of the General Theatrical Operatives' Sick and Benefit Society wish it to be understood that the meeting arranged for the benefit of Mr. W. Townsend, one of the members of the Society, will be under the direction of the Society. Mr. W. Townsend has suffered a long illness, which the Society did something to relieve, but the death of his wife has induced the committee to endeavour to obtain further assistance for him, and they hope that the working staff at the various places of amusement will combine to make this meeting a financial success.

On Sunday last there was a well-attended meeting of theatrical employees in Leicester. A considerable number have already sent in their applications to become members of the Leicester branch of the National Association.

At a meeting of the Theatrical Sports Committee, held at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, on Thursday evening, it was reported that the following had consented to act as representatives of the committee at their various theatres: Mr. Fred Epitaux, stage-manager, the Empire, Leicester-square; Mr. A. Barbey, stage-manager, the Duchess Theatre, Balham; Mr. R. Kinney, treasurer, Grand Theatre, Fulham; Mr. A. Staughton, stage-manager, Empire, New Cross; Mr. George Lawrence, stage-manager, Collins's Music Hall; Mr. G. Poynton-Applebee, electrician, the Gaiety Theatre; Mr. W. H. Davies, master carpenter, the Coronet Theatre; Mr. F. Raper, electrician, Chelsea Palace; Mr. G. Saunders, master carpenter, Borough Theatre, Stratford; Mr. A. Earnshaw, electrician, the Paragon Theatre; Mr. Philip Sheridan, electrician, the Crown Theatre; Mr. William Aldous, master carpenter, the Royalty Theatre; Mr. Woolcott, master carpenter, the Lyric Theatre; Mr. J. H. Ashburner, master carpenter, the Broadway Theatre, Deptford; Mr. G. Fuller, stage staff, Grand Theatre, Croydon. Particulars may also be obtained from Mr. J. Hands, Pavilion Theatre, Mile End; Mr. A. List, Holloway Empire; Mr. A. George, the Grand Theatre, Islington; Mr. North, electrician, the Canterbury Music Hall; Mr. H. J. Powell, property master, the Prince of Wales's Theatre; Mr. G. H. Dyball, stage-manager, the Tivoli; Mr. E. Arnott, Duke of York's Theatre; Mr. Polland, stage department, the Coliseum; Mr. A. Palmer, master carpenter, and Mr. T. Morgan, property master, the Comedy Theatre; Mr. T. J. Sheridan, electrician, the Waldorf Theatre; Mr. Goodridge, electrician, the Aldwych Theatre; Mr. G. W. Wilton, property master, the Vaudeville Theatre; Mr. P. Thomas, the Alhambra Theatre; Mr. G. W. Farrell, Terry's Theatre; Mr. E. Baptist, the Hippodrome; Mr. G. Selcraig, the Lyric Theatre; Mr. A. E. Wood, the Shaftesbury Theatre; and Mr. J. Cullen, the St. James's Theatre. Volunteers are invited from other theatres and music halls.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Committee of the General Staff Branch, London, of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, two applications for legal assistance to recover wages and compensation for injuries were considered, and ordered to be submitted to the legal adviser to the Society. A complaint was made by a number of members respecting payment of money for rehearsals, and the secretary was instructed to communicate with the management concerned. Permission was granted to a member on the sick funds to go to a convalescent home, sick pay to be continued in the meanwhile.

The Blyth Theatre Royal for the present remains closed, owing to change of management. Mr. A. C. Moody, of Blyth, and a former manager, will assume the direction, and open the house shortly.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 26.—The Luisen has gradually worked itself up to a high standard of excellence, thanks to judicious yet enterprising management and a painstaking company of capable artists. In consequence, the theatre is filled nearly every night to the last place, and many West-End managers envy the good business of their city colleague. It was a happy thought to revive *Der Salontyroler*, which has not been given here for a long time. This is one of Von Moser's brightest comedies, and is always a safe draw—in this country, at any rate. The piece was revived on the 19th inst., and was received with enthusiasm, artists and manager being repeatedly called before the curtain. In the capital all-round cast Herr Ruff and Fräulein Servadio were perhaps the best, while a very humorous rendering of the Russian student, Vera Samiroff, was given by Fräulein Benkendorff. *Der Salontyroler*, having once started, its run will certainly be a long and prosperous one.

The success of the farcical volks-play, *In der Sommerfrische*, at the Berliner Theatre (season of the Schliersee company), is so great that it will fill the bill to the exclusion of all else until the end of the month. Every evening the house is packed, and Herr Terofal—the star of the company—receives an ovation. Ganghofer's volks-play, *Der Prozesshausel*, was given last week, meeting with a very cordial reception, although the exaggerated sentimentality of the scenes renders it well-nigh impossible. The piece would in all probability be a failure were it acted by any other company than the Schlierseer peasants, but even with them it did not remain long in the bill. The most appreciated feature was the couplet singing of Herr Terofal and Herr Pleithner, which was admirable.

Shakespeare's birthday was celebrated at the Royal Schauspielhaus by a very fine performance of *Othello*, with new scenery and decorations, and some alterations in the customary cast. Herr Matkowsky gave the title-rôle in his usual excellent manner. It is a part that suits this eminent actor down to the ground, and he rendered every phase of it with consummate skill. The Iago of Dr. Max Poul is also well known for a first-rate impersonation. The rôle of Desdemona was played for the first time here by Frau Willig, a new member of the company, and it was a sympathetic and interesting piece of acting. Frau Butze as Emilia, Herr Stegemann as Cassius, Herren Kraussneck, Arndt, and Hertzer in other rôles were one and all excellent. Director Barnay brought an inexhaustible supply of taste and experience with him when he entered the ranks of the State theatre managers, and he superintended the mounting in person with brilliant results. The part of Othello was, it may be remembered, the famous actor's favourite rôle in the old days at the Berliner.

BORROWING AN ACTOR'S NAME.

In the Court of Chancery, on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady, a motion was heard on behalf of Henry Buss, to continue till the trial or further order an injunction granted *ex parte* by Mr. Justice A. T. Lawrence, the Vacation Judge, on the 9th inst., restraining the defendants, John M. East and William Bailey, jun., "from advertising or billing, or allowing to remain advertised or billed, the plaintiff's name or the name 'Harry Buss,' on the advertisements, programmes, posters, and bills of the drama *It's Never Too Late To Mend*, or from otherwise representing that the plaintiff is playing the part of Jacky in the said drama at the West London or elsewhere." Mr. William Bailey, the father of the defendant of the same name, arranged for the production of the play in question at the West London during Easter week. East was to receive a fixed sum and to engage the actors. A list of the cast was subsequently handed to Mr. Bailey, which by some inadvertence contained the name of Harry Buss as taking the part of Jacky, the aboriginal Australian. From this list the bills, programmes, and advertisements were printed. The play ran for the time agreed, another actor appearing as Jacky; and it seemed that, owing to the make-up of the character being black and the performer otherwise disguised, neither Mr. Bailey nor his son, the defendant, whose name appeared on the programme as manager of the theatre, was aware that the plaintiff was not sustaining the part. It was only on April 18 that the plaintiff became aware of what was going on. He apprehended that the performance by another person under his name might, in view of the difficulty of identification and of notices in the Press attributing the performance to him, result in injury to his reputation. It was also very probable that the plaintiff might have lost employment elsewhere through being thus advertised as engaged in acting. There was no wish on the part of the defendants to justify their error, and since the week had come to an end and the piece had been withdrawn, there remained only the question of costs to decide. It was, however, pointed out that the defendant Bailey was not liable, although named on the bills as manager, but that the action should have been brought against his father, the licensee, who, under Section 7 of the Theatres Act, 1843 (6 and 7 Vic., c. 68), must be considered the "actual and responsible manager," and whose name and address were, in fact, printed on the bills, as required of persons in that position by the rules made by the Lord Chamberlain.

Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady said the matter was undoubtedly one of considerable importance to an actor, and no one attempted to justify what had been done; but there had been a slip, and it appeared that Mr. Bailey, the licensee, had been misled by the list handed to him by Mr. East. The cause of complaint had now ceased to exist, but the plaintiff was clearly entitled to his costs, and it was highly desirable that no further costs should be incurred. It was impossible to make an order against Mr. Bailey, sen., in his absence, and unless the parties agreed, all he could do would be to give the plaintiff leave to amend by making him a defendant. They had, however, agreed, and the proceedings would therefore be stayed, the defendant East paying the plaintiff's costs.

The Berlitz Schools of Languages announce the performance of one German and two French plays, entitled *Einer muss heiraten*, *L'Anglais tel qu'on le parle*, and *Le Retour de Japon* (with a cast including Miss Ada Webster), at the Hampstead Town Holl, Haverstock-hill, Tuesday, May 8. Miss Margaret Kingsford will give a selection of French songs.

The Original Cocoa, and a Speciality.
EPPS'S
Distinguished from all others by its invigorating nutritious qualities and delicious flavour. It contains all the substance of the choicest Nibs, and maintains its leading position as
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"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "The Editor," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

Notice to Subscribers.

"The Era" is sold by all Newsagents in all the leading English, Irish, and Scotch towns, every Saturday Morning. Price Sixpence.

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Notice to Advertisers.

Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "The Era," Ltd., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

Address,
The PUBLISHER,
"THE ERA" BUILDINGS,
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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. J.—*The late Mr. Edward Righton was the original Todman in* Liberty Hall, *at the St. James's, in December, 1892, and during the first run. When the piece was revived in 1895, the part was played by Mr. E. M. Robson.*

John Newey.—*The late Mr. Wilson Barrett appeared as Mercutio in a revival of* Romeo and Juliet *at the Court Theatre in the year 1881.*

Richard Cowell.—*Elizabeth.*

C. T.—*Tom Taylor adapted* Le Roi s'Amuse *for the English stage under the title of* The Fool's Revenge.

J. K. F.—Traviata *was performed at Covent Garden Theatre in July, 1902, when Madame Melba personated the heroine.*

D. L.—*Mrs. Patrick Campbell joined the Adelphi company in August, 1891, when she played Astrea in Sims and Buchanan's* Trumpet Call.

W. Roberts.—*The part was played by Miss Atkinson, who was for some years a leading actress with Samuel Phelps at Sadler's Wells. She made her first London appearance at that theatre as the Queen, in* Hamlet, *Sept. 26, 1853.*

P. M.—*The Holborn Theatre stood on the site now occupied by the First Avenue Hotel. The Holborn Amphitheatre was nearly opposite the Royal Music Hall.*

A. K. M. Dougall.—*Write to S. French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand.*

L. Smith.—(1) *We cannot say.* (2) *Consult "Grove's Dictionary of Music."*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Cruikshanks.—On Wednesday, April 25, 1906, at 189B, Latchmere-road, Lavender Hill, S.W., the wife of Richard Cruikshanks (Flo Lynn), of a daughter. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Andrews—Bruce.—March 29, 1906, Chicago, Ill., U.S.A. At St. James's Church, by the Rev. Henry Dexter, Frank Andrews and Ethel Bruce, both of "The Prince of India" Co.

DEATHS.

Attenborough.—On the 23rd inst., at Ramsgate, John Edward Trevor Attenborough, son of Ernest and Helen Attenborough (Helen Haye). Aged 3 years 8 months.

Beerbohm.—April 21, of double pneumonia, Julius Beerbohm, brother of Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

Brookes.—April 21, George Brookes, professionally known as Charles Verlino, the celebrated harlequin, aged 64.

Brough.—At Sydney, Australia, recently, Robert Brough, manager and actor.

Jerrard.—April 23, at his residence, 12, Bedford Court-mansions, W.C., after a few hours' illness, John Francis Jerrard, aged 54.

Studt.—April 25, at 56, Elm-street, Cardiff, Katharine Broxup, née Studt, eldest sister of John Henry and Jacob Studt, amusement proprietors, South Wales.

Urwick.—On April 21, 1906, at 9, South-street, Leominster, Samuel Lewis Urwick, in his fifty-sixth year. No cards.

In Memoriam.

Cuthbert.—In loving memory of Maud Cuthbert, the beloved wife of A. Robini, of Rezene and Robini, who departed this life April 24, 1905.
Gone, but not forgotten.

Dashwood.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, Harry Dashwood, who passed away April 23, 1900.
Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still!
—His loving wife, Mabel.

Villiers.—In memory of R. E. Villiers, died April 29, 1904. In loving memory.—Jack.

Wallace.—In loving memory of Rosa, wife of Percy Wallace and mother of Miss Ray Wallace, who died May 3, 1904. Never forgotten by those she left behind.

Walmer.—In loving memory of Geo. Closs Walmer, who died March 27, 1897. Never forgotten by his loving wife and daughter, Mrs. G. C. Walmer and Cassie Walmer.

Mr. C. B. Fountaine, manager of the Theatre Royal, Leamington, gave a farewell dinner at the Angel Hotel on Tuesday to the members of the staff and a few personal friends on his approaching departure to take up another appointment under Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton at Chester. Mr. Fountaine only succeeded Mr. H. Esden last year, but he has made numerous friends during his residence in Leamington. In the course of the evening Mr. Fountaine was the recipient of a handsome writing cabinet from a few friends, and a silver-mounted walking-stick from the male members of the theatre staff, both suitably inscribed. The lady members of the theatre staff also showed their appreciation for their departing manager on Saturday by presenting him with a silver-mounted cigar case. During the remainder of the season Mr. Reginald Taylor will take over the management of the theatre.

SORE THROAT OR HOARSENESS
CURED IN A FEW HOURS.
Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D., the Eminent Throat Specialist, constantly recommended Condy's Remedial Fluid to be diluted and used as a Gargle for speedily curing Sore Throat or Hoarseness.
Dr. Walford Harris, in his book entitled "The Throat and its Treatment," says: "I have found the 'Condy' and cold water gargle excellent, many cases being cured immediately."
The late Mr. Sims Reeves, the world-famed Tenor Vocalist, wrote: "'Condy' used as a Gargle clears the voice and braces up the nvula."
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No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Alexander, Mr. Eric
Anderson, Miss Mary
Ando, Mr. M.
Andre, Miss Olga
Andreasen Brothers
Arundale, Miss S.
Armadale, Mr. E. H.
Armitage, Mr. Harry
Ashton, Mr. Alfred
Bacon, Mr. C.
Baines, Miss Florence
Ball, Mr. W. H.
Bard, Miss G.
Barham, Mr. Gill
Barker and Nurston,
Barrie, Mr. J. M.
Barry, Mr. Nelson
Barwick, Mr. Edwin
Batley, Mr. E. G.
Beaumont, Miss Alma
Bianca
Biddall, Bros.
Bignell, Mr. C.
Black, Mr. Broughton
Blake and Granby
Bon-Bon, Mr. Harry
Bowman, Miss Isa
Branscombe, Mr. A.
Bromlow, Mr. R.
Brooks, Miss Maud
Broomhead, Miss L. J.
Bunce, Mr.
Burgatiles, The
Callcott, Mr. Ted
Carey, Mrs. Edith
Carson and Kendall
Cassidy, Mr. J. Rice
Cavendish, Miss Ada
Chapter, Mr. Hal
Chard, Lieut.
Chard, Miss Kate
Church, Mr. Samuel
Clarke, Col.
Clifford, Mr.
Clifton and Gibson
Colby and May
Combes, Mr. Arthur
Cooke, Mrs. Fred
Cotton, Mr. Harry
Courtney, Mr. R.
Craven, Mr. Alf
Cumminger, Mr. Frank
Darnley, Mr. John H.
Darrell, Mr. Dan
Davenport, Miss
David, Mr. Worton
De Laurier, Miss E.
Donnells, The
D'Ouisnell, Mr. J.
Dover, Mr. Cliffe
Doyle, Miss Madge
Durant, Brothers
Durell, Mr. Leonard
Eckersley, Mr. Dick
Elgar, Mr. Louis P.
Elliott, Mr. Billy
Elliott, Mr. G
English, Mr. Geo.
Fairbanks, Mr. F. E.
Fairburn, Mr. Geo.
Fax, Mr. Max
Felix, Mr. Tom
Fitch, Mr. Clyde
Fitzgerald, Miss Cissy
Forster, Mr. Will
Foster, Mr. Ike
Freear, Mr. Willie
Garth, Mr. Edwin
Gerard, Capt. A.
Ginnett, Mr. Claude
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Gordon, Mr. James
Graham, Miss Bertha
Greenaway, Miss Helen
Grice, Miss E.
Grove, Miss Syble
Hardacre, Mr. J. P.
Harris, Mr. Wm. T.
Hartington, Mr. Ernest
Hatchman, Mr. H. W.
Hector, Mr. Chas.
Hogwood, Mr. Conrad
Herbert, Miss Lily
Heron, Mr. Gilbert
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Hilton, Miss Cissie
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Howard, Mrs. Clara
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Hussey, Mr. E.
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Jerome, Miss Daisy
Johns, Miss Jennie
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Leglere, Mr. F.
Lessing, Miss Madge
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Melrose, Miss Loll
Metz, Mr. A.
Miflian, Mr. Max
Mills, Mr. Frank
Mowbray, Miss Ethel
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Newsome, Mr. James
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Parker, Mr. Edward
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Scott, Mr. C. W.
Selby, Mr. Alf.
Sevening, Miss Nina
Sillwood, Mr. C.
Sheridan, Miss Emily
Stephenson, Miss Minnie
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Vasco, Mr. Bert
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Verney, Mr. Chas.
Verona, Miss Irene
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Wallis, Mr. Claude
Wallis, Mr. Walter
Ward, Miss Genevieve
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Widdowson, Mr. Alf.
Wilton, Miss Jessie
Woodroffe, Mr. Percy
Woodward, Capt.
Wren, Mr. Harry
Wright, Mr. Hugh E.
Wykeham, Mr. R.
York, Mr. Chas.

THE GREEN-ROOM BOOK.

"The Green-Room Book; or, Who's Who on the Stage," published by T. Stanley Clark, 1, Racquet-court, Fleet-street, price 5s., is the first issue of an annual, devoted mainly to brief records of the careers of actors, actresses, leading variety artists, and others connected in various ways with the stage. Since the last publication some twenty-seven years ago of "Pascoe's List," we have had, with the exception of a series of biographies which appeared in two issues of "The Era Annual," no handy book supplying information concerning actors and actresses. The new publication, therefore, fills a void in the list of useful annuals. It would be unreasonable to expect completeness in the first issue of a work of this kind; and the publisher frankly admits that "the names of well-known artists and others which should find a place in its pages are omitted, while, possibly, in a few cases minor members of the dramatic and allied professions receive an undue measure of prominence." But these errors of omission and commission will, as far as possible, be rectified in succeeding issues, so as to leave no ground for grumbling on the part of professional people who have been unwittingly passed over. Under the heading of "The Stage and the Peerage," interesting details are given of actresses who have married peers, also of male members of the aristocracy who have appeared on the stage. The volume contains a list of plays produced at London theatres between the autumn of 1904 and March 3, 1906, and of provincial productions between Dec. 1, 1904, and Dec. 31, 1905; together with a list of the theatres, music-halls, and concert halls of Great Britain and Ireland. Very useful, too, are the particulars given concerning the theatrical clubs, charities, and other allied institutions in London. Several pages are devoted to "Players who have Passed," opening with a special memoir of Sir Henry Irving; while "Green-Room Gleanings, 1905," include the year's events and theatrical cases in the Law Courts. The editor acknowledges his obligations to Mr. J. M. Bulloch for the highly-interesting theatrical genealogical trees which are inserted at the end of the volume, which, it should be added, is illustrated by portraits of well-known members of the theatrical and music hall professions.

MRS. RUSS-WHYTAL, the well-known American actress, will give a special matinée at the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre in aid of the San Francisco relief funds on the occasion of her visit with *Clancarty* and *'Twixt Axe and Crown*, during the third week in May. Mr. John Gaffney, the manager of the Shakespeare, is arranging an elaborate programme.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1906.

THE ACTOR-MANAGER AGAIN.

In the *National Review* for this month a Mr. AUSTEN HARRISON, in an essay entitled "Our Insolvent Theatre," has been repeating the ancient lament over the degeneration of the English stage. The author of the article revives the "actor-manager" grievance—the "old story" which our readers know so well—and points his argument by an estimate of *Nero* at His Majesty's. "When we leave the theatre," says Mr. HARRISON, "we feel as if we had ourselves gone mad. . . . Nero is all. He is cycle and epicycle, the sun, and the whole planetary system. . . . This is the perfection of the spectacle drama. Drury Lane and the Alhambra ballets do not surpass it in colour, in magnificence, in scenery, or stage decoration. It is the summit of theatrical decorative art. . . . As a play, *Nero* has neither literary balance, nor dramatic sequence, nor climax. It is a compilation of revolving pictures."

Other contentions in the article are that there are a large number of dramatists of genius—"concealed poets," as BACON called them—who are suppressed by the present condition of things; and that the suppression is due to what Mr. HARRISON calls the "star" system. And his remedy for this condition of things is "fierce, fearless, and independent criticism."

Now, what is the real truth? It is that there are no great dramatic poets living in England, and that there are no great dramatic poems written. For the proof of this we have only to consider Mr. STEPHEN PHILLIPS'S career. He was the son of the Precentor of Peterborough Cathedral, and, having a vocation for the stage, joined Mr. F. R. BENSON'S company. Between 1890 and 1897 he published several volumes of poems. Immediately that he appeared in print as a dramatist he was acclaimed by literary criticism, and was soon "snapped up" by Mr. BEERBOHM TREE, who produced his *Herod* in 1900.

It is useless to maintain that there are great dramatic poems lying in the drawers of despairing geniuses in face of the easy access to fame which is thus provided by publication. Does anyone suppose for a moment that if *Othello* had not been written, and it were now published by Mr. LANE or Mr. HEINEMANN, the play would not be tried on the stage almost immediately by some London manager? When, recently, a theatrical club opened a competition for unacted playwrights, the whole of the 250 MSS. sent in for criticism had to be returned as useless. There is no difficulty nowadays for any dramatic poet to get a hearing. He has only to publish his play; and from the many volumes of absolutely "impossible" rubbish in blank verse which we receive for review, we should imagine that anything in dramatic form easily finds its way into type. When we shall be shown a work of dramatic genius that has been thus published, and has not been promptly played, then we shall believe in the statements as to "hidden talent" in the higher branches of the art. How carelessly such essays as Mr. HARRISON'S are written is proved by the following extract from his article: "Most certainly the author must come into his own again. But he can do so by insisting upon his own claims to publicity by publishing his works; *and this again he can only do when the 'star' system has passed away.*" It is matter of common notoriety that Mr. PHILLIPS has published all the plays that he has had acted by the "stars" whom Mr. HARRISON regards as obstacles to the birth of a great English drama.

The position of difficulty in which modern managers are placed is shown by Mr. HARRISON'S "appreciation" of *Nero*. Mr. PHILLIPS'S play is a psychological tragedy; that is to say, its pathos and horror consist in the gradual deterioration of character under the pressure of circumstance. The German critics of the last generation contended that the tragedy of *Hamlet* lies in the hero not being strong enough for the position in which he is placed. Nero in Mr. PHILLIPS'S play is similarly over-weighted by Fate. He has the great weakness of the artistic temperament—an excess of imagination. When BARRERE, in his old age, was asked to account for the barbarities of the French Revolution, he simply said, "We"—*i.e.*, he and his comrades in the Convention—"were all in such a desperate funk." Nero is driven to murder for fear of being murdered. He is cruel because he is nervous. The keynote of the play is the scene in the first act, in which Nero, realising the awful immensity of his world-empery, exclaims in terror "I shall go mad!" To say, as Mr. HARRISON does, that the play has "no dramatic sequence" is to arraign reality; for, as Mr. BERNARD W. HENDERSON has conclusively demonstrated in "The Life and Principate of the Emperor Nero," Mr. PHILLIPS has simply adhered to historical facts in his drama. That he has not made Nero cut his throat in the last act, as the ruined Emperor actually did, may be due to the dramatist's artistic sense that the true climax was not a physical but a moral one.

When we find that it is necessary to explain these obviousnesses to a gentleman who—on the *primâ facie* evidence of his article of nine pages being printed in a leading London review—might be expected to be above the level of the ordinary playgoer in intelligence, we perceive the disheartening conditions under which the modern manager follows his vocation. As Mr. BERNARD SHAW once put it in a preface: "Theatrical management in this country is one of the most desperate forms of gambling. At the theatre you must play the game for high stakes, or not play at all. And the risk falls altogether on the management. Everybody, from the author to the charwoman, must be paid before the management appropriates a farthing." The fact that any actor-manager runs a London theatre under such dangerous conditions Mr. SHAW accounted for by "the sweeping away of all reasonable economic prudence by the immense force of the artistic instinct which drives the actor to make opportunities at all hazards for the exercise of his art." So far from girding at the actor-manager for using every possible means—including elaborate mounting and his own personal attraction—for inducing the public to tolerate the subtle, poetic, or intellectual drama, we should applaud the motive, be it what it may, that is constantly urging on our actor-managers to such enterprising experiments. Their greatest discouragement comes from the flippant density of much contemporary criticism.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. J. L. Graydon informs us that there is no truth whatever in the report that the Music Hall Benevolent Fund dinner is postponed. It will take place at the Trocadero to-morrow (Sunday) evening at 7 o'clock for 7.30. Applications for tickets have been very numerous, and he anticipates the function being a great success. Mr. Frank Gerald, manager of the Variety Artists' Federation, will respond for the "Music Hall Artists," and would be glad if artists attending the dinner would communicate with him at 28, Wellington-street, W.C., or meet him at 7.15 sharp at the Trocadero on Sunday evening.

Mr. Alfred Butt sailed from New York on Wednesday on board the Majestic, and will most probably be welcomed by a number of his friends at the Palace Theatre on Thursday next. During his absence, Mr. Fitzroy Gardner has been acting as his *locum tenens*.

The third anniversary of the Chelsea Palace will be celebrated on Friday, May 11. At the moment of going to press we hear that there is some improvement in Mr. Edward Swanborough's condition, though his health still gives cause for anxiety to his numerous friends. We wish the genial Chelsea manager a quick recovery.

The meeting of the Coliseum shareholders is announced for Thursday next, May 3, at the Empire, Cardiff. The report, which is hopeful for the future of the magnificent house in St. Martin's Lane, contains an appeal from the directors to the shareholders for an additional subscription of £2 5s. per share to enable the establishment to "turn the corner." The real reason for this appeal is that in the beginning the cost of building exceeded the estimate by £80,000.

Mr. Charles Wilson has been associated with the production and arrangement of so many brilliantly successful ballets at the Alhambra that his services as a "producer" will be much missed by the directors of that house who, while congratulating him on the excellent offer that he has accepted from Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, have also expressed their great regret at the loss of so able a man.

Mr. Wilson, who before he became stage-manager at the Empire, fulfilled a similar position to Adelina Patti, goes to New York as stage-director of Mr. Hammerstein's enterprises at a salary—it is stated—of £5,000 a year. He will be located at the new Manhattan Opera House in the Empire city, and will leave London after the production of the new Alhambra ballet in June. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Wilson (Miss Ruth Davenport), the charming singer and actress, who appeared at the Lyric in 1898 in Sims and Corri's comic opera, *The Dandy Fifth*, and also played with much success at the Alhambra the heroine's rôles in *Gretna Green* and other operatic divertissements.

Mr. Jesse Sparrow (by the kind permission of his directors) will be granted a grand complimentary benefit on Tuesday, May 22, which will immediately precede his retirement from the management of the Camberwell Palace in June.

Mr. Albert Gilmer was felicitated by a number of his friends on Saturday on the seventh anniversary of his association with the Oxford. Like other celebrated men, Albert has been killed by the newspapers—a circumstantial account of his death appearing some ten years ago in an illustrated newspaper. The present writer did not believe the report, and had the gratification next week of denying it, and of announcing that Mr. Gilmer, who was suffering from typhoid fever, had turned the corner, and was going on exceedingly well.

"Coppelia," that most charming ballet by Léo Délibes, which was produced in Paris just before the Franco-German war broke out in 1870, will shortly be seen at the Empire. No better composer of ballet ever existed than Délibes, and he found in the story of the old doll-maker a scenario after his own heart. The subject will be illustrated at the younger ballet-house in Leicester-square with the magnificence for which the house is noted, and *Coppélia* should revive all the glorious traditions of grand ballet. Mlle. Genée will impersonate the heroine, Swanilda, a country girl, and Mr. Fred Farren will find a rôle quite to his liking in that of Coppelius.

The name of Frank Coyne is still to be found on the London hoardings, the lamented comedian being billed for the Holborn Empire this week. Widespread is the sorrow with which the news of his death has been received in the provinces. He was immensely liked among the Rats, and a touching tribute to his popularity was the carrying of his remains to their last resting-place on the shoulders of six of the brotherhood, viz., Joe Elvin, Wal Pink, Pat Rafferty, Arthur Reece, Fred Ginnett, and Harry Blake. The widow desires to thank the many kind friends for their expressions of sympathy—sent by telegram and letter—in her great bereavement.

Notwithstanding the positive statements in most of the "dailies," the Lyceum is still open. The latest arrangement is that the house will be carried on by Mr. Barrasford, in conjunction with the Macnaghten circuit—an arrangement that already obtains at the Britannia, Hoxton. The Lyceum bills are now ornamented with the lion rampant in red, which is the escutcheon for the Macnaghten postered proclamations throughout the country.

Mr. R. H. Douglass, the popular monologue artist, whose comic opera rehearsal is one of the funniest entertainments on the boards of the variety theatres, is now appearing as the Socialist Marquise in the London Coliseum *Revue*, which is attracting excellent houses both afternoon and evening.

The sport at Epsom on Wednesday was heartily enjoyed by Miss Marie Lloyd, who, looking exceedingly *chic* in a dreamy costume of sky-blue, motored down to the course. It wasn't Marie's day, and she backed three losers in succession.

Mr. Herbert Darnley has just engaged for a period of three years the well-known pantomimist and comedian Mr. Billie Reeves, the creator of the Drunken Swell in *The Mumming Birds*.

Arrangements have been made by Mr. Charles Urban to take a series of "animated pictures" of the great Hackenschmidt and Madrali wrestling match at Olympia to-day, and these pictures will be introduced on Monday into the Alhambra programme by Mr. George Scott.

Mr. Harry Cadle's *Casey's Court* sketch has been a big attraction at the Palace, Walthamstow, this week, Mr. George Casey, a real Irishman, playing the part of Biddy Casey in excellent style.

Miss Daisy Dormer, one of the brightest of coon singers and dancers adorning the variety stage, and one who has just fixed up one hundred weeks with Mr. Walter Gibbons, and has also been re-engaged by Messrs. Howard and Wyndham for principal girl at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, has just secured a new and tuneful number, by George Collins, entitled "My Malagasy Maizee," a Madagascar idyll. The little lady has been earning the highest encomiums from critical audiences for her rendering of George Collins's "I want a girl: a Shawnee Serenade" and "I'm going—going—I'm gone!" the latter a vivacious number by Charles Collins and Harry Castling.

Mr. G. H. Chirgwin will open the season at "The Happy Valley," Southend-on-Sea, on June 2, when he will himself appear at the matinée. All the proceeds of this entertainment, without any deduction whatsoever, will go to the funds of the National Lifeboat Institution.

The Portsmouth Hippodrome Company was registered on April 14. Its objects are to acquire certain lands and buildings in Portsmouth, to erect thereon a hippodrome and variety theatre, and to adapt an agreement with the South Coast Hippodrome Syndicate, Limited. The first directors are to be Messrs. Walter de Frece, Will Sley, George Essayan, Fred Mouillot, and H. F. Hann.

As we are going to press Mr. Gardiner Hales and Mr. Walter Gibbons are receiving a large number of guests at the new Empire Palace, Croydon, of which the stately proportions will be fully described in our next issue. The building is erected to accommodate 3,000 visitors, and will be run on the principle of two houses nightly. The first performance will be given on Tuesday evening next, May 1.

A site has been acquired by Sites, Limited, in an excellent position in Marlborough-street, Devonport, for the erection of an up-to-date hippodrome. Plans are being prepared by a well-known London architect, and as soon as arrangements are complete building operations will commence. The hall will be worked on the two performances nightly system. Mr. T. M. Sylvester, of Coventry, and other hippodromes, has been appointed manager. The opening has been fixed for a date early in December.

Mr. J. Howard Shackleton, the first musical director of the New Cross Empire, and now chef d'orchestre at the Southampton Hippodrome, has been selected by Mr. Walter de Frece as musical director-in-chief of the whole De Frece circuit.

The Palace-by-the-Sea at Clacton is a scene of unparalleled activity just now, the eminent builders who have the work in hand being evidently determined to hand over the completed building to the public-spirited proprietor by the date originally agreed upon. The inhabitants of Clacton, the railway company, and amusement-seeking holiday folk generally will have much to thank Mr. H. Ford for in adding such a great attraction to so salubrious a seaside watering-place. June next, it is rumoured, is likely to witness the Palace's opening.

Mr. Ford, by the way, has just been elected a member of the Urban Council of that town, being returned at the head of the poll by an enormous majority. Mr. Ford's two daughters—Miss Margery Lytton and Miss Maude Willey—have been spending a fortnight in town as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Curtis. Mr. Curtis, as is well known, will hold a very onerous position under Mr. Ford when the Clacton Palace-by-the-Sea opens.

The Newcastle United Football team visited the Newcastle Empire on Monday, on their return from London, and were received at the theatre by Mr. Richard Thornton and Mr. Leslie Conroy. Keen interest was centred in the picture of the match by the Bioscope.

Mr. Geo. Saphrini finished his season at the Palace Theatre, Boston, last Saturday. He reopens in June with a Pierrot show, and, after extensive alterations, which will include a new balcony and stage, will commence the variety season on September 3. At his benefit on the 19th inst. he was presented with a handsome gold watch by a few friends, and a magnificent diamond ring by Mr. H. Revel, of the Revel Troupe. The house was packed.

The Sheerness Hippodrome was closed on the 21st for a brief period for the purpose of re construction, both internally and externally. The building contract, it is understood, has been placed with a London firm.

An interesting item to be introduced by Mr. J. L. Graydon at the Brighton Alhambra on Monday next is a new sketch by the well-known dramatic writer, Campbell Rae-Brown, author of "Kissing Cup's Race," "The Prancing Girl," &c. The novelty is entitled *The Express Baby*, and is to be played by Miss Edith Evelyn's company, that clever lady being assisted by Mr. Frank Esmond and Miss Kitty Dease. The sketch has been already well booked.

Mr. Fred Leighton, the new manager of the Empire, Bristol, received a number of presentations prior to his departure from the Hippodrome, Sheerness. From the orchestra and staff came a silver sovereign case, local tradespeople presented him with a purse of gold, and Mr. Lucas, proprietor of the Bedford, London, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, presented him with an opera hat. Mr. Leighton made a suitable acknowledgment, and subsequently entertained his friends to supper.

At Mr. Graham's New Hippodrome, Hull, an enthusiastic scene was witnessed on Saturday night last. Mr. George Leyton during the week had been giving a scena in which a Crimean veteran, Private Simons, took part. At the conclusion of the last performance Sergeant-Major Franks stepped to the front and stated that the sum of £7 3s. 2d. had been collected as the result of the sales of songsheets on the old soldier's behalf, and the money was handed over to him. The gallant sergeant-major then further announced that up to that time Mr. Leyton's efforts on behalf of the Crimean veterans had resulted in a total of £1,241 5s. 9d., which had been distributed to them throughout the country.

The annual general meeting of the Grand Theatre, Gravesend, Ltd., was held at the theatre on April 17, Captain H. E. Davis, the managing director, in the chair. The chairman referred to the successful year's business, and it was proposed and carried that a dividend of 7½ per cent. for the year be paid, and £214 12s. 2d. carried forward to the next year. Mr. S. M. Hyman, one of the retiring directors, was re-elected. A vote of thanks was passed to the manager, Mr. David Hart, for the hard work he had put in during the past twelve months, and it was unanimously resolved to increase his salary by £50 per annum. A vote of thanks was passed to the managing director, and the meeting then terminated.

Mr. A. Douglas Willcox was on Tuesday presented by Mr. George Weldon, of the Hippodrome, Dewsbury, with a handsome marble timepiece. From the band and staff he also received a valuable case of cutlery. Mr. Willcox has been musical-director of the Hippodrome since its erection, and was married on Thursday to Miss Flora Nicholson at Greenock. The best man was Mr. Jack T. Willcox, and the bridesmaid Miss B. McPherson.

Mr. E. P. Morgan, manager for Mr. Stoll at the Manchester Hippodrome, has been personally presented by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of Manchester (Mr. J. Thewlis) with a handsome gold-mounted stick, suitably inscribed, in recognition of his services in connection with the Manchester Fund for the sufferers by the recent mining disaster in France.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Company is issuing a new song, written and composed by H. K. Hamilton Field (composer of the popular song, "His Country, King, and Girl," published by the same firm), in their "Sixpenny Successes" series. The new number bears the quaint title, "That's your Cactus over there."

By a slip of the pen, the date of the ball at the Trocadero in honour of the coming of age of Miss Assie Randall, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Randall's second daughter, was given in our last issue as May 2. It should have appeared as May 7.

The London Pavilion Cricket Club will inaugurate their season on Tuesday by a "house" match between the "front" and "behind" staff. Both Mr. Frank Glenister and Mr. William Cobbett will be playing. The Club has a most interesting series of fixtures, and anticipate many pleasant days in the tented field.

Miss Billie Burke—lucky girl!—has been left £7,000 under the will of a friend of her father's, Mr. Willis T. Sawyer, who recently died in San Francisco. The popular little lady, who is now playing Commère in the successful Coliseum *Revue*, will not be tempted by this sudden accession of wealth to leave the stage. She is the daughter of Mr. Burke, of Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, a combination that has long been popular on the London variety stage, and made her stage début in the Metropolis on the boards of the London Pavilion in September, 1902, when she fulfilled a five or six weeks' engagement. Later she joined Mr. George Edwardes's company, and played the part of Evelyn Ormsby on the original production of *The Blue Moon* at the Lyric on Aug. 28, 1905.

We briefly announced in our columns last week the death of Mr. Alfred Lee, the veteran composer who wrote the music for George Leybourne's popular song, "Champagne Charlie." It was the fashion in the 'seventies to glorify the swell of the day who imbibed too much and gave the police trouble. The refrain ran thus:—

Champagne Charlie is my name,
Knocking down "bobbies" is my game.
Good for any spree at night, my boys,
Up for any game at night, my boys;
Champagne Charlie is my name,
Knocking down "bobbies" is my game.
Up for any game at night, boys;
Who'll come and join me in a spree?

So much for the "buck" who sought a doubtful reputation at the bottle's mouth. In his representation of him Leybourne was simply magnificent, metaphorically and actually.

For the Great Vance Mr. Lee wrote "The Husband's Boat," "Walking in the Zoo," "I'm par excellence the idol of the day"; for Harry Rickards—now the premier entrepreneur of Australia—"Rosherville's the place to spend a happy day"; for Jolly John Nash, "I couldn't help laughing; it tickled me so." He was also the composer of the music to several ballets produced at the Metropolitan during the management of the late Mr. J. J. Poole, who later became the proprietor of the South London Palace.

The deceased composer began life as a tuner to Messrs. Peachey, where his father was also. He worked hard at music for many years, and after getting connected with the stage through amateur theatricals, he eventually drifted into the musical side of the early music halls. One of his earliest engagements was as pianist with the late Sam Collins, who inaugurated Collins's on Islington-green. He was also at one time musical director at the Duke's Theatre, and acted as musical director at Astley's for Mr. Sanger. His last engagement was by Mr. William Holland to write additional music for Sir F. C. Burnand's "Blackeye'd See-usan," on its revival at the Alhambra with Mr. Arthur Roberts and Miss Bessie Bonehill in it. Of late years Mr. Lee had acted as musical editor and arranger for Messrs. Charles Sheard and Co., the well-known music publishers.

Mr. George Adney Payne writes as follows:—"I notice in your issue of the 21st inst. that you mention 'The Putney Hippodrome bookings will be in conjunction with the syndicate halls, and Mr. Nelson Francis, of the Empress, Brixton, has been appointed by myself as secretary to the new establishment.' I am at a loss to understand from whom you got your information, as it is entirely wrong. I have nothing whatever to do with the Putney Hippodrome in any shape or way, either so far as the booking is concerned, or appointing anyone to any position in connection with that establishment."

If proof were needed of the cheerfulness and capacity for work of Miss Millie Hylton, the favourite burlesque actress, it was furnished on Wednesday night. After her appearance at the Coliseum in the afternoon she was asked to sing at Stratford Empire for a sister artist, who had suddenly fallen a victim to influenza. Without demur she consented, and, in company with little Decima Brooke with whom she plays, she was received with enthusiasm at Stratford.

No sooner had she left the stage than a favour was once more asked of her. Mark Sheridan, the humorist, fell suddenly ill, and was unable to appear at Holloway Empire. Miss Hylton was asked to oblige. Jumping into a motor-car, she completed the journey in thirty minutes, and again was the recipient of an ovation. Back again to Stratford, then to Holloway, she reached the Coliseum just in time to don her walking-out clothes before that place of entertainment closed for the night. Those who have a penchant for figures may be interested in the following statistics:—At the Coliseum, 7 p.m.; left the stage, 7.10; on stage at Stratford, 8.10; at Holloway, 8.45; at Stratford, 9.20; at Holloway, 10.10; and back to Coliseum at 11.5 p.m.

Miss Ada Reeve left Southampton on Saturday afternoon last by the Union Castle liner Kenilworth Castle to fulfil a nine weeks' engagement in South Africa under the management of Messrs. Sydney Hyman, of Johannesburg and Cape Town. Miss Reeve received an enthusiastic send-off from a large party of friends who assembled at the South-Western Hotel at Southampton on Friday night, when the clever little comedienne was entertained at a farewell dinner by Mr. Kuntze, the popular manager of the hotel. On Saturday morning, Miss Reeve, who is accompanied to South Africa by her husband, Mr. Wilfrid Cotton, was entertained at luncheon in the saloon of the liner by Mr. Hyman, two great features of the function being the presentation of a huge horseshoe, measuring over 2ft. in height, and composed of white azaleas, with the words "Good Luck" in red geraniums, and the receipt of an endless stream of telegrams from managers and fellow artists in all parts of the country, wishing the little star "bon voyage."

Miss Reeve will receive a total salary of £5,000 for her nine weeks' work in South Africa. She will appear only at Messrs. Hyman's two theatres, the Empire, Johannesburg, where she will open on May 14 and remain six weeks, and the Tivoli, Cape Town, whence she will sail for England at the end of July. She will appear as a single turn only, in her own extensive répertoire of successful songs. This is the first occasion on which Miss Reeve has gone abroad as a variety artist; her previous tours in Australia and America have always been as a musical comedy actress.

The Terriers held their annual general meeting on Thursday afternoon at the Hercules, Kennington-road, the President, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, taking the chair. The Press are not admitted to the deliberations of the Terriers, but we are informed by the secretary that there was a good attendance of members, and that a satisfactory balance-sheet and report were submitted and passed. A pleasing feature of the meeting was a double presentation, the President and the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Douglas White) being invested with the gold jewel of the Association.

Mr. H. B. Marinelli has informed us that, on account of the extension of his American business, he has been compelled to take larger offices, and from May 1 his New York address will be, Holland Building, No. 1,440, Broadway. His new offices are in the centre of the American variety business, and are therefore of easy access for both managers and artists.

Miss Maude Courtney, who went to the States a few weeks ago on business connected with the lamented death of her mother in South Africa, sailed from New York on Wednesday, and will open the Moss Tour at Edinburgh on May 7.

"Moses and Son," a farcical sketch, the latest and brightest of Fred Karno's productions, which has evoked enthusiasm wherever it has appeared, will be reproduced at Hackney Empire next week. This exceedingly humorous play is presented by a cast composed, with the exception of Fred Kitchen, entirely of acknowledged Hebrew artists. These include Miss Leah Morris, late principal of the *Florodora* company; Miss Janet Reeve, sister to Ada Reeve; Miss Kate Forster, from the Savoy Theatre; and Miss Rose Abrahams, from the Gaiety.

Two interesting artists on the Hackney Empire bill are Cooke and Miss Rothert, American eccentrics. Recently in Russia Miss Rothert had a marvellous escape from death. When dancing she dropped a valuable bracelet on the stage. After her act the curtain was lowered to allow the next "turn," a wild-beast show, to be placed on the stage. Miss Rothert went forward to pick up the bracelet, and at that moment a cage with two lions was pushed forward. One of the animals reached out with his claws and dug them into Miss Rothert's body, and it was only by the united efforts of the staff and the application of red-hot irons that she was dragged fainting away.

Mr. Eugene Stratton rightly considers that one of the luckiest moments of his life was when at Manchester (after leaving the Moore and Burgess Minstrels) he met Mr. Leslie Stuart, who submitted a song to him. His great success, the "Whistling Coon," the whistle of which is done without the aid of any mechanical contrivance, he owes to his constant practice on the farm at Buffalo, on which his parents, Alsatians born, had settled. The negro is naturally and unavoidably witty. Mr. Stratton, with his instinct of humour, would, as a boy, take in all he heard and saw, little thinking at the time probably that he would be able to turn his pickings up to such solid financial effect later on. Mr. Stratton's first successful hit was as one of Moore and Burgess's minstrels. His song "I lub a lubly girl," composed by Brandon Thomas, author of *Charley's Aunt*, was an immediate success.

One of the hits of "The girl behind the counter," the new musical play at Wyndham's, is from Mr. A. J. Mills's pen, with music by his famous coadjutor Bennett Scott. It is sung by Mr. Horace Mills, and is entitled "If there hadn't been an apple on the tree." Mr. Mills has written many successes for nearly every star in the music-hall profession.

Mr. James E. Hardy, "the American Blondin," with his wife and two little boys, aged four and six, left Euston on Wednesday, by the 12.10 train, for Liverpool, *en route* for Canada, by the Southwark (Dominion Line). His permanent address is 56, Shannon-street, Toronto, Canada. His arrangements on arrival are to open at Kent House, Montmorency Falls, Quebec. At the conclusion of this engagement he will make a tour of the world.

Mr. Frederick Maxwell's beautifully-acted sketch *Lord Harkaway* will be one of the chief items of the programme at the Lyceum next week. Miss Lois Du Cane, whose clever impersonation of the heroine has often been praised in these columns, will wear a picture gown of soft dove-grey cloth, a large black picture-hat, and long suède gloves to match. Mr. Maxwell will also play *Dick Dare, M.P.*, at the Britannia.

Professor Wingard, one of the cleverest and most humorous conjurers on the stage, received a command (through Lord William Cecil) to appear at Osborne on Tuesday to give his entertainment before his Majesty the King of Spain, Princess Ena, and other Royal guests of H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg. The professor possesses more letters and testimonials from Royalty than any other artist living.

Mr. James Willard, whose amusing sketch, *Did He Deserve It?* has met with such gratifying success in both London and the provinces, has just completed another comedy-sketch with the promising title of *The Strange Little Stranger*. He will shortly be touring this in the principal variety theatres.

Mr. Dion Wade has had to cancel engagements at the Empress, Brixton, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness, and Argyle, Birkenhead, owing to severe hoarseness, and has been resting at York, but hopes to resume work next week or the week after in London.

We regret to hear that Mrs. E. W. James, wife of the popular manager of the Ealing Empire, has undergone an operation for tubercular peritonitis at St. George's Hospital, and her condition is considered serious. Much sympathy will be felt for Mr. James in this grave crisis, but there is still hope, and we may have better news next week.

The 460th meeting of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices in Wellington-street on Tuesday, when Mr. Fred Herbert was elected to the chair. There were also present Messrs. Harry Blake, Chas. Coborn, J. Collinson, Albert Le Fre, C. McConnell, Chas. Pastor, Wal Pink, Geo. Preston, Arthur Rigby, Albert Voyce, C. Douglas Stuart, secretary, and Douglas White, hon. treasurer, who was warmly welcomed on his return after his recent illness. Some discussion arose out of the minutes of the last meeting, and Mr. Chas. Coborn gave notice of motion to rescind a portion referring to a vote of censure passed on a member, and Mr. Albert Voyce gave notice of amendment. A letter was read from Captain Slingsby, who has succeeded to a vacancy on the committee, intimating that he had only just recovered from illness, and, as he did not anticipate being in London for some time, would not be able immediately to take up his duties. The secretary was instructed to send Captain Slingsby a letter of condolence and to express the hope that he would do his best for the Association while in the country.

The secretary reported that forty-one new members had been added to the roll, and submitted his weekly statement. The hon. treasurer also presented a financial statement, both accounts being passed. The agency in Burnley was transferred to Mr. S. Jackson, who has taken over the Rose and Thistle Hotel, formerly occupied by the late agent. A member who by resolution of the committee two weeks previously was made responsible for loss incurred by other members missing the concession was heard by the meeting, and notice of motion to rescind the resolution in question was given. Mr. Harry Blake submitted a scheme on behalf of the agent in Manchester, who wished to obtain the approval and nominal support of the committee in the establishment of headquarters in the town, with club rooms restricted to members of the M.H.A.R.A., who should have the right of free entry. The proposal was discussed at considerable length, and eventually it was decided to write to Mr. Deschamps for further particulars.

M. Victor de Cottens has this week been presented by the principals at the Coliseum with a solid silver frame made by the Goldsmiths Company, Regent-street, W., containing the portraits and signatures of the ladies and gentlemen in question. An illuminated address is likewise let in this very novel souvenir of what M. de Cottens regards as the finest revue he has yet written.

M. de Cottens has addressed the following letter of thanks individually to the ladies and gentlemen concerned:—"Dear Mr. Marshall Moore—The joy and emotion I felt last night on receiving the splendid and charming souvenir you offered me on behalf of all my friends at the Coliseum quite prevented me from replying in adequate terms. I could not sufficiently express my gratitude to you each and all for the really cordial reception and valued assistance rendered me at the Coliseum. Will you, I beg, be my interpreter with all who have worked for the success of the revue, and express my gratitude to all the artists, commencing with Miss Billie Burke and Mr. Tom Murray, without excepting anybody; from first to last each one has devoted his or her talent and kindly assistance; to the gentlemen of the orchestra and Mr. Jacobi to whom I owe so much; to Mr. Will Bishop, who unceasingly devoted himself to the success of the revue, and whose valuable assistance as ballet master and assistant-producer has been doubly precious to me; to the ladies of the ballet; the gentlemen and ladies of the chorus; to Mr. J. Douglas and the stage-carpenters, who have accomplished a triumph of workmanship; to the electricians; to the props, and those employed in costumes, wigs, &c. It is to them all that we owe the success of our revue (Mr. Arthur Shirley's and mine), as we do also to my dear collaborators and friends Messrs. Walter Slaughter, Roland Carse, and A. Wimperis. I do not forget the kindly assistance of the 'front-of-the-house' staff, of Mr. B. Shelton, Mr. John Donald, and Mr. Will Bennet, and his valuable colleague and secretary of the Press department.—Queen's Hotel, Leicester-square, W. April 22, 1906. Marshall Moore, Esq., Coliseum, W."

Mr. Harold Arnold, who vacated the position of acting-manager to the Lyceum on Saturday evening, is possibly one of the most popular of the younger managers in the West End. At the conclusion of the second evening performance on Saturday he was the recipient of several valuable expressions of goodwill from the artists and staff, and Mr. Barrasford intimated his intention of suitably acknowledging Mr. Arnold's useful work at the historic house in the Strand.

Mr. Bransby Williams has been going strong at the Empire this week, his sketch of how Mr. Popple (of Ippleton) would play Hamlet being perhaps the most successful character-sketch in the turn. Mr. Williams sails for the United States in August for a twelve-weeks' engagement in New York, returning in time to fulfil several engagements before he goes into pantomime at Glasgow. He will open in America with his Dickens impersonations, but does not intend—at all events at first—to represent any of the hustling Yankees in Martin Chuzzlewit. Mrs. Bransby Williams will accompany her husband to America.

Happy Fanny Fields has received a hearty welcome on her return to town at the Tivoli this week. The little Dutch girl—from New York—is merrier than ever, and has added a waltz in sabots, a catchy song, and several new jokes to her capital turn. She has given up the simple muslin frocks in which she first laughed her way into the hearts of her audiences, and appears in a smart little dress of pale brocaded satin, white and blue, with a Swiss belt of deep blue velvet, glittering with golden sequins, the elbow sleeves and vest being fine lace, and the pockets of the tiny apron hidden by white satin bows, while her stiff Dutch cap is also of white satin, and her plaits of brown hair are tied with bright red ribbon. Miss Fields, who goes to America in three weeks for her annual holiday, is booked for pantomime in Liverpool next winter, having made such a hit at Bristol last Christmas, when not only her friends in front, but everybody behind the scenes, united to make "Happy" Fanny realise her quaint little name.

"Heard at the Telephone" is to succeed *Drink* at the Coliseum, in which Mr. Charles Warner will repeat his striking and realistic performance of the distracted husband who hears, and is powerless to prevent, the murder of his wife and child. Miss Mary Allestree and Miss Helen Graeme, who are now playing Virginie and Gervaise respectively, are engaged to support Mr. Warner in the forthcoming revival.

Mr. Ernest Shand's funny song, "Look at the weather we're having," continues to prove one of the most attractive and successful items in the current Oxford programme, and the smart comedian is constantly adding new and up-to-date verses on topics of the day, treated from a ludicrous point of view by the author, Mr. John P. Harrington. It has just been issued by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company in their "Sixpenny Successes" series, and the trade demand is unprecedentedly large.

Miss Florrie Gallimore will next week "introduce" at all her London engagements Mr. J. F. Lambe's lilting Irish song, "Widow Doolin." This number, which is issued by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, of Berners-street, and forms No. 22 of their "Sixpenny Successes" series, has been eagerly snapped up by all the principal al-fresco entertainers.

Mr. T. W. Volt and a specially selected company are now busily rehearsing Messrs. John P. Harrington and James W. Tate's new musical comedy-sketch, *Lord Bill's Bills*, which will be produced at an early date at one of the principal Stoll halls.

Mr. "Sixpenny Pop" Smith's catalogue of Francis and Day's copyrights will soon number 300 items, the three latest pieces just added being Theodore Morse's "Starlight"; "San Sebastian," another waltz from the same pen as "The Choristers' Waltz," and one which the King of Spain has just graciously permitted Mr. Samuel Dodwell to dedicate to his Majesty; and "Father!" the Cockney carol which Mr. Will Edwards has popularised.

Miss Bertha Duckett, owing to indisposition, has had to cancel all immediate dates.

The Arcadians, a trio of "pastoral players," who recently made a successful début at the Lyceum in dainty songs and dances, open at the Richmond Theatre on May 7. The trio consists of three of the youthful maidens who used to give pleasing little sketches, in conjunction with their brothers, under the name of Les Petites Viviennes. George, the eldest, who has long since grown out of the original family stage name, and is now touring in America with Mr. Ben Greet's company, sails for home on July 4.

"What Greater Love," a story of the American Civil War of the early sixties, by Sidney Bowkett, was produced on Tuesday evening at the Empire, Islington, by Mr. Charles Ommanney (late of Mrs. Brown Potter's company), before a crowded audience. Mr. Ommanney appeared with success as Lieutenant Valny, Mr. Arthur Royston (late of Sir Henry Irving's company) was dramatic and forcible as Captain Gordon, and Miss Laura Hansen (late of Miss Jessie Millward's company at La Scala) made a sympathetic Mona.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

Mr. Frank Glenister has certainly secured a most potent attraction at the London Pavilion in the shape of La Milo, a charming girl, age twenty-one, with eyes of forget-me-not blue, who is able to prove by her own beautifully modelled form that it is not necessary to go to ancient sculpture to discover perfect womanhood. La Milo is decidedly on the large side, and may be said to have the proportions of an athletically and healthily developed frame. She owns to a waist of 26in., and a bust measurement of 38in. She may well be compared with the Venus of Milo, or with the undraped statue of the same goddess, chiselled at the request of the people of Cos by Praxiteles, who gave them their choice of two, naked or veiled. They chose the latter, and the Cnidians bought the former, which eventually came into the possession of Nero. We are told that La Milo arrives so near to perfection as to constitute almost a challenge from Nature the creator to Art the idealiser. She poses as well-known classical statues, standing on a pedestal, in a scene representing a public garden, with ladies in fashionable modern dress in her immediate vicinity. In succession we see representations of Hebe, Psyche, the Venus di Medici, the Brown Venus, and the Venus de Milo, in which pose the broken arm appearance is cleverly realised by the *poseuse* wearing black gloves. The final tableau is a Bacchante, pouring out libations for the "gods"—not necessarily those seated in the gallery. The performance is chaste and artistic, and the fidelity of the "statues" simply wonderful. We are informed on the programme that the "impeccable correctness of detail in La Milo's poses must disarm the most austere censor." But can censors be austere in the presence of so much beauty? In the intervals necessary for the preparation of the various posings the artist Cruikshank's lightning caricatures of political celebrities are shown on a screen in the act of being drawn, the effect being very curious. The magic word "Joe" of course heralds the production of a portrait of Mr. Chamberlain, and the Tariff Reformers among the Pavilion audience show by shouts of encouragement that they are not "down-hearted."

Mr. George Mozart, who has been retained for the Easter holidays, is presenting a new monologue, which may be called *The Tea-Shop Girl*. At present it does not happen to be particularly funny, but will grow so, no doubt, in the course of a few days. Mr. Malcolm Scott as "The Woman who Knows," returns to the scene of his former triumphs with fresh witticisms; and Mr. Marriott Edgar is warmly welcomed in an amusing perversion of nursery rhymes, set to the ancient tune of "The Vicar of Bray." Mr. Edgar does not force his effects, and the quiet and restraint of his style contrast favourably with the blatant methods of some variety comedians. Mr. Ambrose Thorne, who seems to be cut out for musical comedy, is well fitted with an excellent number in "The Practical, Tactical, Nautical Man," "with the accent on the naughty," and is valuably assisted by a cohort of eight smart, attractive, and well-trained ladies, who are known as the Pavilion Girls. Mr. Thorne and his fair companions are again seen and heard to much advantage in a second number, "She didn't seem to know just what she wanted," in which they are several times encored. The scenas are a capital addition to a fine and large programme, in which that strong Pavilion favourite the excellent comedian and prolific dramatist, Mr. Mark Melford, repeats his old-time success as the Verger in the screamingly funny, farcical sketch, *My Wife Won't Let Me*; My Fancy brings the house down with her admirable step-dancing—a form of entertainment in which the talented Glenroy Troupe are also *facile princeps*. The Raies are responsible for a different form of terpsichorean entertainment, which is both fascinating and attractive; and other successful dancers are Susie and Protti, who revel in a sensational dance, which evokes much applause. We have no more accomplished acrobats than the Three Laurels; and the entertainment has also acceptable contributors in Mr. Will Edwards, comedian; the Motramos, in comedy, music, and song; Mr. Josh Dixon, eccentric comedian and dancer; Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker, with a unique novelty in music and song; Mr. Jock Whiteford, Scotch comedian; Miss Nell Richardson, a favourite ballad vocalist; and Massona, juggler.

THE SURREY.

The most sensational item in the Surrey bill is the new and original cycling act by the Yags and Mary Trio, who hail from the Olympia, Paris. Variety theatre habitués would think that they had seen all that could be seen in the way of trick cyclists, but this clever trio demonstrate that new deeds of daring on wheels have yet to be witnessed. Starting their novel act, two of them ride on to the stage astride an ancient velocipede, propelled by striking the toes on the ground. After this unique exhibition, Yags give some astounding feats on the old high-wheel machine, following this up with many trick acts on the ordinary free-wheel cycle. All these feats, however, fade into insignificance when, by the aid of a ladder, he mounts on to the front handle-bars of a long tandem and pedals around the stage upright on the rear wheel. The concluding trick is the most sensational. A form of see-saw is brought on to the stage, across the centre of which is a stand some 10ft. high. A lady member of the trio mounts a bicycle on one side of the see-saw while Yags sits a bicycle on top of the high stand. By bumping his machine to the edge of the stand he drops on to the raised end of the plank beneath, which shoots his fair companion at the other end of the plank high in the air. She turns a complete somersault with her bicycle and alights on to the mattress provided for her safety. Needless to say, this daring act calls forth thunderous applause.

The Strolling Singers give a musical and tuneful song scena, entitled *My Highland Laddie*. The scene is at an inn on the Scottish moors during the rebellion of 1745. It is kept by one Sandy McNab, who, while joining some Highlanders in part-songs and glees, is interrupted by the appearance of Flora Macdonald, who claims protection for her companion in flight, Prince Charles Stuart. This request is readily accorded, and McNab disguises the Prince as his potman and the lady as a waiting maid. Major Clifford appears on the scene, and soon discovers that the Prince he is in seach of is at the inn. An attempt on the major's part to kiss the new waiting maid enrages the Prince, who reveals himself, and is promised his liberty if he is successful in the duel forced on him by the major. He soon places that officer *hors de combat*, and the road is left open for his escape to the coast. During the interpretation of this romantic little episode the action is stayed to allow of some excellent solos and quartettes. Among the best of these are Mr. Edward Thorpe's song "How much I love you" and the final chorus "Hail to the King!" Mr. Phil Stockwell as McNab posseses a fine baritone voice and the art of using it. Mr. Alvin Sawyer is a blustering, pompous Major Clifford, Miss Edith Maynard a sweetly pretty and charming companion to the Prince, and uproarious merriment follows every action of Mr. George Whillis as the ostler Obadiah.

To the variety portion of the entertainment Eugene, the boy musician, in a smart uniform, contributes a musical act that is both skilful and interesting; Mr. W. B. Raby gives a humorous parody on the ballad "Angelina," and his second effort, in which he is heard to advantage, is a satirical song on the much overdone "Coon." Marie Neilson is a bright and merry comedienne, her song "Oh, the girls, lovely girls," being the vehicle for the introduction of some vigorous dances and acrobatic feats. The Brothers Esdale indulge in all the faites and gestes of two clever and amusing cross-talkers, winding up their all too short turn with a medley topical song. Florence Yaymen is quaint, original, and resourceful, three essentials of success in the variety theatre. Costumed and made up as a knock-kneed female Golliwog, she, in true nigger style, asks her audience to "Come and take this little piccaninny home." Her facial expression and inimitable laugh send the audience into fits of uncontrollable laughter. Miss Ghita Corri takes honours for her delightful and artistic rendering of "The Holy City" and "Ave Maria." The curtain rises on the exterior of a cathedral, and the beautiful voice of the singer is heard singing the first verse of "The Holy City." As the last note dies away, the interior of the sacred edifice is shown with the white-robed figure of the singer standing in the dim light of the chancel. As the second verse is sung the light gradually increases until the stage is brilliantly illuminated, and then as gradually dies out as the sacred song ends. Maurin's Fountains are an optical revelation, for in an endless variety of beautiful colours a series of gorgeous butterflies, national flags, &c., is thrown on a white-robed figure. Then when the fountains come into play, the sprays are illuminated in ever changing colours of green, gold, orange, red, crimson, pink, and blue. The Vaudeville Dramatic Company appears in a three-scene sketch, entitled *The Lonely Man*, which the programme states is a hitherto unrecorded adventure in the life of that famous criminal, Charles Peace. As a full notice was given of this sketch in our last issue under the title of *The Star of Sinners*, it needs no further comment. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux vividly represents a domestic tragedy, entitled *The Jealous Husband*, with its usual clearness and finish.

FORESTERS'.

Among the many useful purposes which the music hall has lived to fulfil is the training of the lower animals to a remarkable degree of intelligence and skilfulness. Some of the performances given now upon the stage would not have been thought possible a hundred years ago. Thus, we have Judge's marvellous performing cockatoos, macaws, and parrots executing somersaults and other physical evolutions, and engaging in acrobatics wonderful to witness. It is an act in which humour and bird-cleverness combine. Of course, we must have tragedy, and so we have a conflagration bidding fair to outrival Vesuvius or 'Frisco. The "fire-birds" of the cockatoo corps see the flames rising higher and higher in the sky. With the utmost despatch they harness their engines, and away to the scene of the catastrophe. Undauntedly, one brave "fire-bird" dashes into a burning house. He is next seen at one of the windows, from which he is throwing the household goods. Cheer! He deserves it! And now from tiny performers we go to bigger ones. There are the Willfords, for instance, who cause one to marvel at their hand and head-balancing feats. Herculean equilibrists they call themselves, and they thoroughly merit the title.

Then come the Sister Sprightly. Sprightly we have known them for some time, and sprightly they are to-day. Their dancing is graceful, it is poetic, while in their song, "All you require," we are treated to a capital piece of vocalism. Hicks' Clerks, vocalists, comedians, and dancers, refer to a subject upon which many folk have from time to time waxed furious. A crowd has assembled in the hope of being able to find places in an omnibus or tramcar. There isn't room for all, and the conductor endeavours to console them with the cry, "Another one coming along!" The song is rendered in amusing fashion, and the patter of Hicks' gentlemen is likewise entertaining. Some smart comedy acrobatics are witnessed in the turn of Adams and Ward, whose doings are relieved by the valuable quality of humour. Then Cyclo astonishes everybody by his skill and agility he displays in his various novel and daring tricks in the cycle-riding line. Cyclo is the envy this week of all the wheeling clubs in the East End, and no doubt the ambition of some of the local scorchers is to emulate him on their "jiggers." One's admiration, as well as one's risible faculties, are aroused to no small pitch by the exceedingly cleverly-conceived series of pictures, entitled "The Glutton's Nightmare," thrown on the screen by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

Mr. C. Wordley Hulse and company, in their dramatic scena, *The Fight in the Forge*. Mr. Hulse gives us a pleasing portraiture of a sturdy young blacksmith, and Miss Madeline Grande is pretty and sympathetic in the rôle of May Cobbold, the blacksmith's sister. Great praise is due to Mr. Gerald Noland for an extremely able character sketch of an old rustic, the croaking voice and hesitating step of the ancient being correctly represented. Mr. G. Edward Hall, as the quarrelsome Joel Crane, and Mr. Francis E. Wybert as Frank Harwood, do good work in their respective rôles. Mr. Jack Rae, the tramp-gymnast, submits an interesting aerial performance; and Miss Violet Belrose renders a coon song, "Rufus Ruskin," in the best coon style, and dances nicely too. Mr. Herbert Rule, the eccentric comedian, is intensely funny with his diary song and patter and his many laughable "gags." Miss Lily Black enchants her audience with her interpretation of "Mother, the wild waves are saying," while with remarkable ease she turns from the serious to the whimsical in her verses, "Has your mother got any more like you?"

ROYAL STANDARD.

Mr. J. C. Morris, in one of the liveliest items in this week's Royal Standard programme, is quaintness itself. He starts off with "Sing a song for sixpence," in which he introduces a host of comical ideas. His description, in his second number, of how he became "spliced," is exceedingly laughable. The droll manner in which he speaks and sings greatly accentuates the absurdities he delivers. The Cubas are an extremely lively couple. They engage in all kinds of quips and cranks. Their antics are of the uproariously ridiculous order. In their grotesque attire, in which there is enough hay to give a good feed to all the omnibus horses in London, they turn somersaults, perform other physical exercises, and do other things which make for laughter. They have some amusing chatter centred around the word Tennessee and what is done in that part of the world. Miss Mabel Thorne has much that is funny to say about one Mary, a servant girl, and her trips abroad. In her succeeding effort she is a love-lorn maiden, who says of her soldier-sweetheart, "If he's good enough to serve the King he's good enough for me." Considerable hilarity is caused by her addressing soldiers in the audience. Nipper Lupino Lane is the object of an immense reception as soon as he makes his appearance. He proves to be a very vivacious boy, and he displays really remarkable talent in the singing and dancing line. Especially commendable are his Dutch song and dance. Master Lane should be heard of a great deal in the future.

Mr. Charles Bignell, wherever he appears, never fails to receive a big share of public favour, and this week at Pimlico is no exception to the rule. He excites one's risible faculties with the song the chorus of which runs "Sticking on the top," while one is compelled to join in the shout, "Are we downhearted?" that goes up at the conclusion of each few lines of his ensuing song. Topical allusions abound in this latter effort, and never was the popular Charlie heard to speak more vociferously as he asks the question in relation to the British nation. For strength, nerve, and daring one need have no hesitation in commending the Lomas Trio, who take part in a novel and pretty gymnastic act, the electrically-lighted revolving trapeze on which they are seen towards the conclusion of their turn affording a most picturesque spectacle as it turns round and round with a man hanging in different positions from each of its extensions. Mr. Chas. Denman delights the house with his descriptive vocalism, and Miss Ada Parker is an accomplished dancer and a sweet singer.

An agreeable vocalist is found in the person of Mr. A. E. Clifford, whose opening attempt, a lyric concerned with one Mollie, is rendered with expression and feeling, as is also his subsequent song, "In the shade of the old apple-tree." A fine set of pictures is shown through the medium of the Edisonograph, the films bearing the names of "The Vendetta" and "Saved by a Lie" being particularly realistic. The Northern Troupe of International Dancers show us how people of different countries dance. Thus we have three young ladies attired in kilts executing in effective fashion a familiar Scots dance; later, two male members of the troupe, dressed in green, red, and white, treat us to the "light fantastic" as practised in the Emerald Isle. Mr. Billy Williams, who is deputising for Mr. Arthur Lennard, comes before the footlights to a regular outburst of applause. Then, looking as radiant and as jocular as ever, he dances up and down and round and about the stage what time he sings a parody on "Stop yer tickling, Jock." And after he has nearly brought the roof down with the laughter he evokes by this number, he burlesques in like fashion "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you." Mr. Williams' own assumption of merriment excites the genuine article from the crowded house, and he is voted a great hit. Miss Georgina Leonard gives an acceptable rendering of two songs, "After the victory's over" and "Good-bye, sweet Marie."

The Collinson combination are presenting their new sensational sketch in three scenes, entitled "THE GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."

John Gregory ..... MR. JACK COLLINSON
Oliver Marsden ..... MR. WALTER MACNAMARA
Reginald Langley ..... MR. WILLIAM BORD
Madame du Cros ..... MISS SELINA SEAFORTH
Nita St. Julian ..... MISS ANNIE HILL
Madeline Gregory ..... MISS JEANNIE MOSS

John Gregory, alias Captain Gerard, is the head of a band of swindlers and card-sharpers in London. His daughter Madeline, who lives in the country, knows nothing of her father's evil life. She is in love with one Reginald Langley, who has just come into £40,000. He gets a letter of introduction to Gregory at the latter's London address. There he meets Oliver Marsden, a confederate of Gregory. Marsden asks him to become his guest for the evening, and young Langley assents, as he is quite ignorant of London life. Marsden takes him to a gambling den and cheats him of £5000 at cards. Gregory, finding that the young fellow is his daughter's sweetheart, takes his side, and, acting on Gregory's instructions, Langley wins back his £5000. A violent altercation ensues between Marsden and Gregory. The latter kills Marsden and then commits suicide. Mr. Jack Collinson is vigorous yet sportsmanlike as Gregory, and Mr. Walter Macnamara shows off the viciousness and cunning of Marsden. Mr. William Bord gives an agreeable portrayal of the part of the hero, Reginald Langley; and Miss Jeannie Moss is pleasing and affectionate as Madeline Gregory. Miss Selina Seaforth is realistic in her characterisation of a bold, bad woman, and Miss Annie Hill makes the most of her rôle of Nita St. Julian.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr. B. Pearce Lucas, who has lately added to his responsibilities as managing-director by the acquisition of the Empire, Bristol, is presenting a very powerful attraction indeed in his current bill. It is nothing less than the latest sketch associated with the name and fame of Mr. John Lawson, an immense favourite at the Camden Town house, whose production of dramettas of a powerful type is always interesting. *The King's Minister*, which is from the pen of Mr. Cecil Raleigh, the author of *Hearts are Trumps*, and other Drury-lane pieces, is a tabloid of tragedy that thrills the spectator and enchains the attention from the rise to the fall of the curtain. The Earl of Draconsmere, who has risen to the post of Prime Minister by the sheer force of his talent, has had a "past," and associated with it is a lady whom he calls Kitty, who moves in smart society, and plays bridge with disastrous results to her income. When the curtain rises the two are dining in a private room at Melano's Restaurant, Soho, and in the course of conversation Draconsmere makes a confidante of the woman of whom he had been enamoured in his youth. His daughter, Muriel, has become engaged to Arthur Lincoln, the descendant of a noble family, standing high in the confidence of the Sovereign. Muriel had, in her schoolgirl days, written foolish letters to Aubrey Tremayne; and since her father had occupied such an exalted position, Tremayne had desired to use these evidences of a girlish infatuation as a means of raising money. Kitty, by stratagem, had succeeded in obtaining the incriminating documents, and hands them over to the Earl while they are sipping their coffee. Struck by the generosity of his old flame, he hands her his letter-case full of notes, and endeavours also to dissuade her from gambling. Directly after his departure through a thick fog, Melano, the restaurant proprietor, enters the room, and demands money from Kitty. She at first ignores his threats, but at length yields to his entreaties, and gives him a five-pound note. This sum is not enough to satisfy the foreigner, and he strangles the unfortunate woman with a serviette, and then calls in the police, making the statement that on entering the room after the departure of her companion he had found her dead body lying on the floor.

In the second scene Melano bursts into the reception-room of the Earl of Draconsmere's residence in Carlton House-terrace, and threatens to give information to the police that will put the hangman's rope round the neck of the Earl, whose letter-case, with monogram and coat-of-arms, is sufficient evidence of his guilt. The price of the Italian's silence is the Prime Minister's key to the cypher code that he employs in secret despatches. Melano demands this, with revolver in hand, because he is driven to do so by the chiefs of a society of political assassins. The Earl, by a ruse, obtains possession of the weapon, and shoots himself, charging the crime to the Italian, who is secured. On this tragic picture the curtain falls.

Mr. Lawson as the Earl of Draconsmere is made up somewhat to resemble the late Earl of Beaconsfield, to whose virtues as a statesman he pays a very pronounced tribute in the dialogue of the playlet. In the first scene he gives a light and agreeable touch to the character; but fully sounds the tragic import of the strong scene between the Prime Minister and the ruffian. Mr. Lawson does not spare himself; and his acting is intense, earnest, and convincing. Miss Cissie Lawson gives distinction and charm to the part of Muriel; and praise is due also to the actress who impersonates Kitty, and to the actors who represent Melano and Arthur Lincoln respectively.

The leading favourite of the variety portion of the entertainment is Miss Lily Burnand, whose beautiful figure looks superb in a principal boy's costume of green and gold. The successful career of Sally, who, emerging from the ranks of the ballet, reaches exalted rank, and drives her own motor, is interestingly described by the lively and lovely Lily, who is enthusiastically assisted by the gallery in chorus. In her second item, Miss Burnand tells the story of a youngster who becomes a stowaway on board his father's ship in order to be "a sailor laddie." This is another wholesome, interesting number, and it is wedded to an excellent melody that will be heard all over the neighbourhood before the popular burlesque artist finishes her engagement.

The Franko Midgets, the smallest conjurers in the world, submit their speciality with considerable success. The tricks include the fairy fishing-rod, the disappearing canaries, and the magic cone—at least these are the chief, and they are very neatly performed. Barton and Franklin enthral their hearers in their selections on musical glasses and on split Japanese bamboo sticks. They also play exceedingly well a popular melody as a cornet duet, and wind up their turn with the "Misèrere" scene from *Il Trovatore*, given as a duet on concertinas, which accompany the vocal rendering by the pair of the beautiful "Ah! che la morte." Parker and Parr are also responsible for agreeable melody, and their scheme of entertainment, entitled "My Wild Irish Rose," is not lacking in fun. Williams and Warden contribute a lively turn, including smart cross-talk and excellent dancing; and Mlle. Sylvesto is responsible for some wonderful contortion feats, in which she wriggles her body in a very remarkable way through a number of rings. Robbie Roy has an amusing style as a Scotch comedian; and a much-favoured item in the well-considered programme is Ruffell's Bioscope. Mr. George Hatley most capably directs the orchestra here; and Mr. A. F. Lovesy is a popular manager.

THE GRANVILLE.

After the lively programme and bustling haste of Bank Holiday the Granville has once more settled down to its normal state, and Mr. Robert W. Duce, the genial acting-manager, can boast a capital programme. Will Evans is well to the fore as one of the "star" turns with his latest popular wheeze, "I am a soldier," in which he is supported by army of 10,000, more or *less*. He relates, in his customary breezy manner, how he jointed the army, and that he has constituted himself the guardian of the old country, and is prepared to repel the invasion of 1910, but the enemy attack four years before the due time, which, as Kipling would say, is "another story." His grotesque make-up and the woe-begone appearance of his corps cause uproarious laughter, and the mock-heroic battle which ends up the piece and his death-scene are gems of comedy of the more boisterous kind. Miss Lena Verdi is, as the programme describes her, a very dainty and graceful mimic of most prepossessing appearance. She imitates Vesta Tilley in "Following in her father's footsteps," Marie Lloyd in "The tale of the skirt," Vesta Victoria in "It's all right in the summer-time," and Harry Lauder in "She's ma Daisy." Amandus, the facial mimic, gives realistic representations of Beaconsfield, Gladstone, Salisbury, Sir Henry Irving, General Buller, ex-President Loubet, General Gordon, Charley's Aunt, and essays a scena with Sir Henry Irving as Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*. The Three Sisters Hayden give a spirited rendering of "In the shade of the old apple-tree" and "Coming back home again." Mr. George Antill, the evening shadow, chortles in a minor key, "Oh! isn't it joyful being a married man" and "I've been over the sea," in which the jolly Jack Tar revisits his native haunts after forty-five years in order to get a new pair of socks! Collins and Rice give a very lively and bustling comedy duo, and the dancing of the twain is as remarkable as it is agreeable and amazing. Miss Katie Butler is very droll in her two songs of the Harry Lauder type of ditty. The Knick-Knacks are also a pair of remarkably agile comedians, and give a comedy act, in which the lady vies with her male confrère in the art of saltatory calisthenics. Ergotti and King Luis, the troupe of Risley acrobats, perform some wonderful feats of strength and agility as well as remarkable balancing and aerial whirling.

La Belle Parisienne, the melodrama in three spasms, in which Mr. Fred Eustace and company appear, is quite an ambitious effort. A doting old idiot, Sir Martyn Woodleigh, marries a notorious adventuress, Vera Langlois, who has been a circus-rider, decoy in a gambling saloon, and a well-known demi-mondaine by turns. The son, with whom she was well acquainted in her former life, and a certain Jew with whom she and her rascally husband Felix had dealings in past days, turn up to her confusion. In the endeavour to shoot young Woodleigh she shoots the old man, and promptly accuses the son of the crime. But Nemesis overtakes her, and the circumstantial evidence of a bullet-hole in the son's coat frustrates her fell design, and she ends this tale of villainy by accidentally taking the poison intended to make away with the Jew, who, by reason of his knowledge of the crime, is dangerous.

The animated pictures by Vernon's bioscope are as excellent as usual, and include an exciting Sherlock Holmes episode, in which the child of a millionaire is kidnapped, the aid of Sherlock Holmes is invoked, and he goes in lieu of the father to ransom the child, thwarts all their schemes for his destruction, and restores the child to her fond parents. The next scene is in the comic vein. "A Naval Engagement" shows how the intrusion and interference of a policeman are most effectually resented by both Jack and his sweetheart, the servant who is beating carpets in the garden, and incidentally beats the man in blue, and is ably assisted by Jack. Miss Rose Harvey is a well-known and appreciated burlesque artist, and the Crown trio of vocalists, Rosina (the instrumentalist), Pat Rafferty (comedian), and J. C. Morris (comedian) all help to swell the programme and assist in a pleasant evening's entertainment.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

A capital programme—rich equally in quantity and quality—is submitted for the delectation of the patrons of this comfortable and popular hall so ably catered for and courteously managed by Mr. Bert Dent. Miss Rosie Stewart comes first in the bill, and contributes two artistically and pleasingly rendered favourite songs, "Dear heart" and "In the valley where the blackbirds sing." The Three Continental Midgets are next, and excite much wonderment by their unique performance and remarkable stature. Mr. George Daunton follows with his interesting entertainment, entitled "Imitations of National Songs." The Two Roses give an attractive and well applauded turn, consisting of a song, entitled "My daisiest Daisy," followed by smartly executed sand and acrobatic dances. Messrs. Golden and Grey submit a bright and amusing comedy sketch, entitled *The Missing Will*; this item is well acted and favourably received. Miss Marion Hall and company appear with considerable success in a pretty comedietta, entitled *A Guilty Pair*. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, always one of the most popular features here, presents some new and interesting pictures, including "French Army Life" and the "Grand National."

Rita and Roma are very good in an entertainment of a pleasing kind consisting of two songs called "My Hindustani Maid" and "Monty," and winding up with a neatly executed dance. Mlle. de Roche contributes some cleverly rendered operatic selections, and proves herself a vocalist of a high order of merit. Culpitt, assisted by Mlle. Adele, presents his novel juggling act, and introduces a clever hat trick with good effect; this turn is described as a "Chinese Travesty and Pot-pourri Act," and is warmly applauded. Fred Alberto has an enthusiastic reception, and sings with quaint humour his song entitled "McGuiness's Ball," also a topical song, and concludes with a dance. Miss Jessie M. Lyons excites great interest by her dramatic treatment of the character of Nelly of the Veldt in the episode of that name. Mr. Fred Pollard sings in amusing style his contribution entitled "Let me have a look at it." Alys Hardy is also well received and applauded. Stanley's Urchins, billed as a refined harmony, comedy, and dancing act, cannot be more aptly described; and the company includes clever little Tich Bourne. The band, as usual, is excellent, and the selections and overture admirably chosen and capitally rendered.

FUNERAL OF FRANK COYNE.

Amid many manifestations of sincere sorrow the body of Frank Coyne, whose real name was Josiah Harris, was borne to the grave on Monday, followed by a number of his professional comrades. Despite the chilly weather and threatening clouds, a large crowd of people, among whom were many humble admirers of the deceased comedian, awaited the arrival of the cortège, which reached Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, shortly before four. In the first coach was Mrs. Frank Coyne, the widow, who, sobbing bitterly, had to be assisted into the chapel. She was accompanied by Mrs. Harris (the mother), Miss Polly Harris (sister), and Messrs. Tom, Edward, and Andrew Harris (brothers). The second coach contained Mr. Reuben Harris (uncle), Misses Florrie and Clara Harris (sisters), and Mrs. Tom Harris (sister-in-law), Miss Emma Harris (aunt), and Master Reuben Harris (nephew). In the third coach were Mr. and Mrs. Barney Hyams, Mr. and Mrs. Wal Pink, and Mr. Herbert Lamonte, a close friend and companion of the deceased, who made all the arrangements incidental to the funeral, and has rendered invaluable and timely service to the family in their bereavement. Among the long line of coaches and other vehicles which made up the procession was that of Mr. Joe Elvin, who had with him Mr. Jack Lotto, both influential members of the Order of the Water Rats, to which the deceased belonged. Mr. Will Oliver and Mr. Thomas Holmes were also among those who followed, and a deputation from the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, of whose committee Mr. Coyne was a member, consisted of Mr. C. Douglas Stuart (the secretary), Mr. Harry Blake, and Mr. George Preston. Mr. Fred Ginnett occupied another coach, and among others of professional renown who assembled to pay a last tribute of respect were Messrs. Chas. McConnell, T. E. Dunville, Pat Rafferty, Harry Tate, Johnny Gilmore, Phil Ray, Tom Leamore, Arthur Reece, P. Bijou, F. Boisset, Austin Rudd, and Mrs. Dan Leno.

The interment took place in the ground of the Water Rats' Society, the grave being close by that of Medley, the once famous mimic, and within a few yards of the last resting-place of the lamented Dan Leno. The coffin bore the following inscription:

JOSIAH HARRIS,
Aged 39.
Died April 18, 1906.

The ground was strewn with handsome wreaths, the most conspicuous of which was a harp with a broken string, bearing the words, "With deepest sympathy, from the Grand Order of Water Rats." The widow's tribute was a heart-shaped wreath, with the words "Rest, Beloved" inscribed thereon in red geraniums; and another read, "From Mother and Family, with love and affection." A wreath from Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin bore the simple word "Rest," and one composed of tiger lilies and lilies of the valley came from Miss Marie Lloyd, with the words "With deepest sympathy, from his sincere friend." Mrs. Dan Leno, with the memory of her own great loss upon her, sent a wreath bearing a sympathetic inscription. The Terriers' Association was represented by a floral reproduction of their shield, the letters "T. A." being traced in violets. From Oliver and Holmes came a wreath, "With deepest sympathy"; and a similar motto accompanied that sent by King Rat, Little Tich. The M.H.A.R.A. wreath also figured in the collection; and among those who testified their esteem by floral offerings were Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harris (brother and sister-in-law), Messrs. Edward and Andrew (brothers), Misses Polly, Florrie, and Clara (sisters), Mr. Reuben Harris (uncle), Miss E. Harris (aunt), Master Reuben Harris (nephew), Mrs. S. Dickenson, Mrs. L. Wiseman (sisters of Mrs. Coyne), Mr. and Mrs. Wal Pink, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stratton, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Finney, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Hyams, Mr. and Mrs. Laurie Barnett (Miss Florrie Forde), Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ginnett, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Elen, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martinetti, Mr. Fred Karno, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Mildare, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Dunville, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Leamore and family, Mr. and Mrs. Joe O'Gorman, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Rafferty, Mr. and Mrs. Syd May, Mr. and Mrs. Bond Sayers, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. William Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Astley, Mr. and Mrs. W. Monk, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Gunnip, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Lill, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Weight, Mr. and Mrs. Learoyd, Mr. and Mrs. Issy Woolf, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Crawley, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Fyne, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Hurley, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Boisset, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Dove, Papa Brown, Mr. Geo. Barclay and Miss Kate Carney, Miss Lily Burnand and Mr. Asher Simmons, Mrs. Wood Senior, Mrs. Karno, Morcaschani, The Kellinos, Mr. Fred Griffiths and family, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, Messrs. Leighton and Everard, Miss Carrie Laurie, Miss Selina Seaforth, Miss Gertrude Craven Glenn and Mr. James Passmore, Miss Kate Butler, Miss Annie Keegan, Miss Minnie Mace and Miss Alice Mace, Miss Nellie Erwin, Miss Marie Kendall, Miss Millie Tempest, Mr. Peter Bijou, Mr. Bert Lamonte, Mr. Jack Collinson, Mr. Chas. Colby, Mr. Len Harvey, Mr. Jack Lotto, Mr. Fred Earle, Mr. Alec Iseral, Mr. Billy Jones, The Leslie Family, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Devere and Kenwick, Starr and Leslie, Mr. Edwin Boyde, and Mr. Jack Wilson. The funeral arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr. J. Prebble.

Mrs. Frank Coyne (Miss Carrie Joy), the widow, wishes to thank all her numerous friends for their kind sympathy in her bereavement.

AT the meeting of the I.A.L. on Sunday there was little business of importance. The report of the committee appointed to consider the proposed change of address was postponed, as not sufficient members of the committee were present. However, the matter was informally discussed.

MR. FRANK GERALD attended the meeting, and was welcomed as a member of the V.A.F. There was some discussion on the barring clause. A brother related how a certain proprietor wanted to bar him, and he pointed out that the barring clause must be scratched out, especially as they were playing at their own theatre. The brother said that he meant to carry this policy out right along the line. Bro. 1356 said the chief difficulty in opposing the barring clause was that if proprietors did not bar you from other theatres they could from their own.

A LONG discussion then took place on various schemes by which artists could run their own theatres, tours, and companies. The chairman remarked that even if the matter was one which did not allow of actual resolutions being passed by the meeting it was good in every way to sometimes discuss questions concerning the abuses prevalent in the profession rather than to always take up the time solely with petty affairs of individual members.

Shakespeare's anniversary is celebrated at the People's Palace, Bristol, this week, for the chief attraction is Albert Wyndham and his company, who play *Shylock*; *or, The Merchant of Venice*. The scene, of course, is the Hall of Justice in Venice, where Shylock demands his pound of flesh and Portia defends Antonio. It is self-contained and self-explained, and one of the strongest scenes from the undying work of the dead artist in words. Its representation is most satisfactory, the Shylock of Mr. Wyndham and the Portia of Miss Martell being especially good studies.

"A MISS-CUE."

A new Playlet, by William Gourlay, produced at the Empress Theatre, Brixton, on Monday, April 23.

Captain Marks .....Mr. Charles Cautley
Tom Travers .....Mr. Ernest Travers
Tompkins .....Mr. Austin Lenton
Dolly Travers .....Miss Agnes Lane

The lively heroine of this new playlet, which was produced at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday, and is being performed there this week by Mr. Austin Lenton and company, is a young lady of very unconventional manners, as is evidenced by the free-and-easy manner in which Dolly perches herself on a table while in conversation with her brother's friend, Captain Marks. The officer professes to be an admirer of her's, but she gives him no encouragement. On the contrary, she addresses him in most uncomplimentary terms, calling him, amongst other things, "a double-barrelled, smooth-bored kill-at-one-hundred-yards cad." Nor is the young lady greatly alarmed when the captain informs her that he holds a number of I.O.U.'s which he has received from her brother Tom in acknowledgment of various loans. These documents he is quite prepared to tear up if Dolly will consent to become his wife, but the young lady only laughs at him, and unhesitatingly declines the honour. He then tells her that he has agreed to play her brother a billiard match, the stakes to be the sum of £50; he is, however, prepared to make her what he terms a sporting offer—that is, if he wins the game she consents to become his wife, but if her brother proves the victor, he (the captain) will at once tear up the I.O.U.'S and leave her free. She accepts the wager, and in the meantime the packet of I.O.U's is to be held by a third party, the elderly housekeeper, Mrs. Crook. Dolly is suspicious of the captain, and disguising herself very effectively, assumes the rôle of the dame. He hands her the I.O.U.'s, but bargains with her to give them up for a five-pound note should he require their return. The billiard match is supposed to be played in an adjoining room, and the game proves to be a very level one. The captain, uncertain of the result, obtains, at the cost of a "fiver" from the supposed Mrs. Crook, the return of the envelope which he naturally believes to contain the I.O.U.'s; but, not content with this, he plays a trick with Tom's cue, and pretends that the only piece of chalk is missing. The trick is observed by Dolly, who smartly exchanges the cues, and also rubs the top of Tom's cue with her powder puff. The game is resumed, and Tom wins. The captain, however, produces the envelope, but finds to his disgust that he has been tricked. Dolly laughs at his discomfiture, and taunts him with having made "a miss-cue," this bringing the piece to a conclusion.

Mr. Charles Cautley plays with discretion and earnestness the part of Captain Marks, a mild type of melodramatic villain. Mr. Ernest Travers is well placed as Tom Travers, whose sister Dolly has a most vivacious representative in Miss Agnes Lane. The comic relief is liberally supplied by Mr. Austin Lenton in the part of Tompkins, a bibulous butler, who has nothing to do with the plot, but is a highly amusing personage nevertheless. The new playlet, which is carefully staged, has met with a good reception at the Empress.

"MY LITTLE WOODEN HUT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your paper of April 13 Chas. Collins had a paragraph to the effect that he was the sole author and composer of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you," which is not correct. The song was written and composed by Tom Mellor and Chas. Collins.—Yours truly,

TOM MELLOR (Author and Composer).

The Empire, Bradford, April 25.

ALLEGED AGENCY FRAUDS.

At Bow-street Police Court on Monday Charles Henry Houghton and Hedley Howard, alias H. Gay, were charged on remand, before Mr. Marsham, with obtaining money by false pretences in connection with the Empire Dramatic and Variety Agency, 62, Strand.

Mr. Williamson, of the Treasury, prosecuted, Houghton was defended by Mr. Vaughan Williams, and Gay by Mr. Roderick, instructed by Mr. W. G. Kent.

Mr. Percy Murray, of Exmouth-street, W.C., was the first witness called. In reply to Mr. Williamson, he said he was an actor and sketch proprietor. He had known Houghton ever since he was a youngster. He had not had extensive business connections with him, but four or five years ago Houghton supplied him with a few extra ladies and gentlemen for a show he was running. About five weeks ago Houghton told him that he had started an agency, and had some good lady and gentleman clients who were likely to suit him.

Mr. Williamson: Did you come to an arrangement with him?—No. I said, "I can do with a good girl if you like to send one on. I am about to produce a musical show in London, and if you have any choristers who will suit me and my conductor, I will engage them."

In March, or at any time, had either of the prisoners any authority from you to engage people for the Palace Theatre?—Never.

You were not about to produce *An Affair of Honour* or *My Sweetheart* at the Palace Theatre or the Metropolitan?—No.

The witness went on to say that he had in all produced about fifteen successful sketches. He was to have opened an engagement at the Lyceum that evening, but had lost it because of the way in which his name had been dragged through the Press in connection with this case.

Mr. Marsham: I am not aware of anything having been said against you.

Miss Polly Ribler, a dark, neatly-dressed girl, living in Sutton-street, Commercial-road, said she was a fur worker, but wanted to go on the stage. A day or two before last Christmas she went to Houghton's place in the Waterloo-road, in answer to an advertisement she had seen in a newspaper, and asked him if he could obtain her an engagement on the stage. He replied, "Yes, if you pay £2 10s." She told him that she had had no experience, but he said he could get her a berth at 30s. a week. The witness remarked that she could not afford £2 10s. Houghton said it would be worth quite that, as he would have to take a great deal of trouble with her, and give her lessons. She could, he said, take part in the sketch *My Wife*, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction.

Mr. Williamson: What part were you to take?

The Witness: I was to be a Russian Princess.

She went on to say that on the following day she paid Houghton £2 10s., and he told her that she would commence her engagement at the Shakespeare Theatre after the pantomime was over. At the same time he gave her the part she was to learn.

What was that part?—I simply had to go on and say, "Thank you."

And did you learn to say it?—Yes.

In reply to further questions, the witness said that after a time Houghton told her she would not go to the Shakespeare Theatre after all, but to the Palace at Clapham Junction. He gave her a letter to take to Mr. John Lawson at the Palace, but she found that he was playing at Southend. Houghton then said he would give her "another start." This time it was to be at the Regent or Sebright Theatre, Hackney. One evening she met him there by appointment, he having told her that she would have to say a few words on the stage. After staying there some little time, Houghton said she would have to wait another week. He told her to call at his place on the following morning, but she said she did not want an engagement from him, and asked for her money back. He said he would try to get her an engagement at Poplar, and refused to return her money, saying he had gone to a great deal of trouble with her. Her sister called him "a swindler," and he asked her to write it down. He had previously told the witness that if she did not like the stage after she had given it a week's trial he would return her money. As a matter of fact he had never returned it, and when she spoke to him about it, he told her she could do as she liked.

In reply to Mr. Vaughan Williams, the witness said she was a Jewess from Roumania.

Mr. Horace Percival Young, the acting-manager of the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, stated that no arrangements had been made for producing *My Wife* or any other sketch there. He had no knowledge of either of the prisoners.

Mr. Robert William Westray, managing clerk to Messrs. Henry Chapman and Co., surveyors and estate agents, gave evidence as to letting to Gay two rooms on the third floor of 62, Strand (where the business of the Empire Dramatic and Variety Agency was carried on), at an annual rental of £40. He gave satisfactory bank references, and paid a quarter's rent in advance. He had no knowledge of Houghton.

Detective-Inspector Dew (recalled) said that on the 21st ult. he went with Detective-Sergeant Stephens to the office of the agency in the Strand, and asked Gay, who was sitting there, if he was the proprietor. Gay replied, "What can I do for you?" Witness said, "I have called to see what business you are doing here. I understand that you are engaging young ladies for a sketch to be brought out at the Palace Theatre and the Metropolitan." Gay said, "That's right. The sketch is to be brought out by Mr. Williams, who won't be here until Friday. You had better see my manager, who will be here this afternoon. He knows more about it than I do." The witness said, "You have been taking money from young ladies to put them on at the Palace?" Gay said, "I suppose you are friends of Miss Crossley, and have come here to get at the bottom of my pocket." He seemed to get angry, and producing a cheque-book, said, "I have plenty of money. You may make inquiries at my bank—the London and County (Law Courts branch)." The witness and Detective-Sergeant Stephens then left. The witness had tried to ascertain who "Mr. Williams" was, and had not succeeded. The witness subsequently searched the office, and found one book only. It contained the names of several people who had given evidence in this case. There were many letters, some of them being in reply to an advertisement for an acting-manager. Others had apparently been written in response to advertisements for artists. There were a few letters and telegrams from people who wanted artists.

Mr. Vaughan Williams.—Have you had much experience as to the way in which theatrical agencies are run?—No, but I have had a great deal of experience as to the way in which swindles are run.

In reply to Mr. Roderick the witness said that at first Gay seemed to think that he required an engagement. He did not go to the office to obtain evidence. He had had a complaint as to the agency, and he wanted to become acquainted with the appearance of the men who were running it. He wanted to stop a lot of poor, wretched girls being sent into the country and left in the lurch. The office was not registered, but immediately after witness's visit Gay sent to the London County Council notice of registration.

The prisoners, who pleaded not guilty, were committed for trial for obtaining money by false pretences, and for unlawfully conspiring together for that purpose.

The magistrate declined to reduce the bail in either case.

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Lillie Lassah	1	Millie Howell	2
Wee McGregor	2	Lillie Lassah	1

Collected by Atlas and Vulcana, 10s.

Atlas	1	Nora Atlas	1
Vulcana	1	Mona Atlas	1
Gwen Atlas	1	Winnie Atlas	1
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Geo. Aytoun	2½	Oliver Conroy.....	1
Babs Lloyd	1	Frank Coyle	1
The Korries	1	"Wisper"	1
Swift Trio	1½	Beatie Bloom	1
Dolly, Agnes, and Maud	1	Harry Hayton	1
		The Three Rubies..	1

Collected by Mr. Cliff Ryland, 15s.

G. Barron	1	Cliff Ryland	2
Harry Maynard	1	Ethel Ryland	1
Bert Delmar	1	Cliff, junior	1
Oliver Conroy.....	1	Julie Ryland	1
Dan Burke	1	Fred Redfern	1
Pat Carey	1	Howard and Harris..	1
Barber Ritchie	2		

The Besses o' the Barn Band intend to add further to the crop of laurels that they have reaped in this country and on the Continent. They start for a tour of the world next Saturday, when at a matinée at the Palace, Southampton, they will give their last performance for the present in the old country.

Miss Lil Hawthorne produced on Monday, at the Empire, New Cross, an entirely original song from the joint pens of Messrs. Tom Mellor, Alf J. Lawrance, and Harry Gifford, entitled "My cosy caravan." Messrs. Lawrance and Gifford are responsible for that excellent song "I want to be a soldier"; and Miss Gladys Mavius produced for the first time on Monday two songs by the combination entitled respectively "Who'll be a Volunteer?" and "It's no use you hanging up your hat round here."

The celebrated Achmed Ibrahim troupe of ten Bedouin Arabs are whirling themselves into favour on the Continent, and are a bigger success than ever at the Albert Schumann Theatre, Frankfurt-on-the-Main. They open on Tuesday at the Apollo Theatre, Düsseldorf, and return to England on Monday, May 21.

Many readers will learn with regret that the celebrated harlequin Chas. Verlino (George Brookes) passed away on Saturday, the 21st inst. He was father of those well-known artists, the Misses Alice, Harrie, and Lottie Brookes. The funeral took place at Paddington Cemetery on Wednesday. The chief mourners were Mr. Percy Brookes, Mr. Philip Sefton, Mr. Gerald Stevens, Mr. Frank Stevens, and Mr. J. Pingree. There were some lovely flowers, including a magnificent wreath from Mr. Victor Stevens, manager of *San Toy* company, sent from Bradford. Deceased was sixty-four years of age.

Mr. George Lashwood's song at the Coliseum, "It's the custom over there," has been published by Mr. David Day. It is by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott.

The Haverleys, American song illustrators, having just concluded a series of London engagements, depart on Monday next for a ten weeks' sojourn in the provinces, where their well-known and interesting act will be seen at the principal variety theatres, commencing at the Hippodrome, Coventry.

What should prove a real boon to the profession, especially to those who complain that they cannot procure engagements for want of opportunity of being heard, is to be found in the Audition Company, Ltd., of 10, Bedford Chambers, Covent-garden, who, for a small fee, provide everything necessary to enable an artist to give a successful performance. Plenty of time is allowed each turn, and artists may invite as many agents and friends as they wish without extra cost. As the auditions will take place in the small Queen's Hall and Polytechnic Hall, Regent-street, agents will no doubt avail themselves of the opportunity of witnessing turns without the usual inconvenience and waste of time. The auditions will be well advertised in the professional papers.

After his great battle with Madrali at Olympia to-day, Hackenschmidt will appear at New Cross Empire next week. It is worthy of note that Hackenschmidt regards his engagement at New Cross as a happy augury, for after defeating Madrali at their last meeting, he was enthusiastically received at that theatre during the whole of the following week. One of Hackenschmidt's favourite methods of keeping himself in trim, by the way, is the daily use of the skipping-rope.

Mr. Tom Leo's latest song, "The fellow who falls in love," has been successfully exploited this week. The song is by Edgar Bateman and Maurice Scott, the author and composer of the same singer's "Too lazy to live."

The hearing of the charge of obtaining money by false pretences preferred against William C. Watson, described as an elocutionist, was resumed at Bow-street on Wednesday. Mr. Williamson, who prosecuted, said the charges were brought in connection with a business the prisoner had carried on, known as the Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate (Limited), 63 and 64, Chancery-lane. The first case was that of a Mr. Bertram Parker, who, after reading an advertisement, called at the office and saw the prisoner, who represented that he was negotiating with Mr. Stoll, of Moss's Empires, for the production of a sketch called *Diamond Cut Diamond* for a fifty-four weeks' engagement, and that it was about to open at the new music hall in Holborn. The prosecutor paid a fee of £5 5s. to secure the part of the tramp in *Diamond Cut Diamond*. He committed the part to memory, and attended at the office from time to time and repeated it. Mr. Williamson added that there were a number of other complaints. The prisoner was again remanded.

Mr. Sid Cotterell, the popular Drury Lane comedian, has just had to refuse a tempting offer for an American tour owing to being booked up with his comedy success *The Substitute*, which is proving as big a draw in the provinces as it was in London.

Miss Lottie Collins has just secured for immediate production three new songs—viz., "Baby, my little baby," "Tippecanoe," and "Mr. Wilson—that's all." These songs are published by the Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., which has also just placed a new song with Mr. Fred Earle entitled "Presents," which he thinks will outrival in popularity his enormous success "Seaweed."

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COVENTRY, Hippodrome
DERBY, Palace Theatre
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HARROGATE, Opera House
HULL, Hippodrome
HANLEY, Grand Theatre
IPSWICH, Hippodrome
MAIDSTONE, Hippodrome
NORWICH, Hippodrome
OLDHAM, Royal Theatre
STOCKTON, Grand Theatre
WIGAN, Hippodrome
YARMOUTH, Hippodrome
DOUGLAS, Gaiety Theatre
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MACNAGHTEN TOUR, Etc. Etc.
PARIS, Folies Bergere
,, Olympia
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,, Printania
BERLIN, Wintergarten
,, Metropole
BRUSSELS, Palais d'Ete
BUDAPEST, Oes Budavara
BUENOS AYRES, Coliseo-Argentino
COPENHAGEN, Scala Theatre
MADRID, Circo Parish
ROME, Salon Margherita
ST. PETERSBURG, Krestowsky Theatre
,, Theatre Bouffes
STOCKHOLM, Svea Theatre
WIEN, Colosseum
,, Ronacher's
,, Danzer's Orpheum
,, Englischer Garten
BORDEAUX, Bouffes Bordelais
BRESLAU, Liebich's Etablissement
GRAZ, Orpheum
DRESDEN, Central Theater
DUESSELDORF, Apollo Theater
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HAMBURG, Hansa Theater
HANNOVER, Mellini Theater
LUCERNE, Kursaal
MANNHEIM, Apollo Theater
MARSEILLES, Alcazar
,, Eldorado
MOSCOW, Aumont Theater
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THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR MAY.

ENGLAND.

May 1. Axminster.
May 1. Castleacre.
May 1. Holbeach
May 1. Ipswich.
May 1. Knutsford
May 1. Lancaster
May 1. Leigh (Dorset)
May 1. Ludlow
May 1. Maldon
May 1. Ollerton
May 1. Poole
May 1. Reading
May 1. Stockport
May 1. Tenbury
May 2. Cleobury Mortimer.
May 2. Coventry
May 2. Leominster
May 2. Longridge
May 2. Norton St. Philip
May 2. Stockton-on-Tees
May 2. Worthen
May 3. Barton - on - Humber
May 3. Bishop Auckland
May 3. Horncastle
May 4. Bishop Castle
May 4. Boston
May 4. Chesterfield
May 4. Consett
May 4. Gosport
May 4. Guildford
May 4. Thornaby
May 4. Wooler
May 5. Bramley Carnival
May 5. Bury
May 5. Cornhill - on - Tweed
May 5. Holmfirth
May 5. Ivinghoe
May 5. Lewes
May 5. Looe
May 5. Morpeth
May 5. Northallerton
May 5. Oakham
May 5. Pleasley
May 7. Alnwick
May 7. Dudley
May 7. Heckmondwike Fair
May 7. Leintwardine
May 8. Braintree
May 8. Chester
May 8. Market Bosworth
May 9. Colne
May 9. Hereford
May 9 Soham
May 9. Swaffham
May 10. Beaconsfield
May 10. Farnham
May 10. Stamfordham
May 10. Stonehouse
May 11. Clun
May 11. Spalding
May 11. Staines
May 12. Chelmsford
May 12. Chertsey
May 12. Haslemere
May 12. Haverhill
May 12. Hertford
May 12. Lambourne
May 12. Leicester
May 12. Long Sutton
May 12. Lowestoft
May 12. Lymington
May 12. Maidstone
May 12. Much Wenlock
May 12. Pembridge
May 12. Sturminster Newton
May 12. Stow - on - the Wold
May 12. Wadebridge
May 12. Worsted
May 12. Yaxley
May 14. Arundel
May 14. Burwell
May 14. Haltwistle
May 14. Hartlepool
May 14. Heytesbury
May 14. Newark
May 14. Nuneaton
May 14. Richmond (Yorks)
May 14. Stafford
May 16. Elmley
May 16. Louth
May 16. Over (Cheshire)
May 17. Amesbury
May 17. Brentford
May 17. Earlestown
May 17. Newton - le - Willows
May 18. Leek
May 19. Ormskirk
May 19. Skegness
May 22. Felling
May 22. Kirkhampton
May 23. Bristol
May 23. Standish
May 24. Beverley
May 24. Bildesden
May 24. Blyth
May 24. Dorking
May 24. Kirkby Lonsdale
May 24. Loughborough
May 24. Mirfield Feast
May 24. Newbury
May 24. North Walsham
May 24. Orpington
May 24. Skipton Fair
May 24. Wigan
May 25. Cowes
May 26. Littlehampton
May 28. Bridgnorth
May 28. Hindon
May 28. Kirkby Stephen
May 28. Spilsby
May 29. Bodmin
May 29. Epsom
May 29. Iron Bridge
May 29. Thorpe (Surrey)
May 30. Crowle
May 30. Messingham
May 31. Alston (Cumb.)
May 31. Briston

SCOTLAND.

May 1. Stewartown
May 2. Burntisland
May 5. Hawick
May 8. Renfrew
May 8. Rothsay
May 12. Kilmarnock
May 14. Jedburgh
May 15. Alyth
May 16. Langholm
May 17. Paisley
May 25. Berwick - on - Tweed
May 25. Inverness
May 29. Airdrie.

WALES.

May 2. Brecon
May 3. Montgomery
May 4. Lydney
May 5. Crickhowell
May 5. Llanidloes
May 10. Penygroes
May 12. Brynmawr
May 12. Knighton
May 12. Monmouth
May 12. Abergavenny
May 12. Talgarth
May 19. Risca
May 24. Llanelly.

An important deputation from the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union waited upon the Lancashire County Council at the Council Hall, Preston, last week. Although organised by the Union, it was representative of the whole body of Lancashire showmen.

The question in dispute is the adherence of the County Council to their old by-law prohibiting traction engines to travel the county roads if the weight exceeds 14 tons. It will be readily seen that the large concerns, roundabouts, &c., drawn by traction power to parts of the county inaccessible by rail would be prohibited if this regulation were to be strictly adhered to. The deputation consisted of Messrs. Pedley, Hibbert, Leo, and Hurst. The Main Roads and Bridges Committee of the County Council received the deputation, and heard the case for a more up-to-date extension of the rule that now limits traction engines.

The Committee requested the deputation to withdraw until they had considered their representation. This was done, and ultimately the Committee sent for Mr. Hurst, the secretary of the Union, and they informed him that their minds were fully made up not to allow engines to travel in the county over 14 tons in weight.

Mr. Hurst pointed out to the Committee the impossibility of altering the weight of the engines now exceeding the standard in the time the Council had fixed, viz., April 21. The Committee saw the urgency of this, and, after discussion, granted an extension of another month's time, to May 21, and warned the deputation that legal proceedings would be taken against any roundabout proprietor or showman having an engine exceeding 14 tons in weight.

The following is the official communication from the County Council of Lancaster sent to Mr. Hurst as representing the showmen concerned:—

County Offices, Preston, April 11, 1906.

Re Traction Engines.

Dear Sir,—Referring to the deputation which attended before the Main Road and Bridges Committee to-day, I am directed to inform you officially that the Committee will not cause proceedings to be taken against the owner of any traction engine over 14 tons, used in the administrative county, who is a roundabout proprietor or showman, up to the 21st day of May, 1906, by which date the Committee expect that the engines will have been made legal.

Yours faithfully, HARCOURT E. CLARE.
Clerk to the County Council.

This official notification contains a list of the names of show proprietors whose traction engines now exceed the legal limit.

This is a matter of most serious importance to an industry like that of the amusement caterers. The business of providing entertainment for the people must not be hampered by laws passed thirty-two years ago, when the sight of a steam engine on a public road was a show in itself. At that remote period to limit a traction engine to 14 tons in weight was probably wise, but with the tremendous development of motor and steam traction that the past ten years has witnessed, it is absurd to say that an engine must not exceed 14 tons.

The Locomotive Act says that County Councils can grant special permission to engine owners with tractions that exceed the standard weight, and it was to gain this special consideration that the recent deputation at Preston was undertaken. As the Lancashire County Council seem determined to persist in their out-of-date resolution, it now remains for the showmen to lay their grievance before the Local Government Board, and most probably this will be done.

The reports of the holiday fairs continue to crowd in upon us. At New Brighton, for the Easter holidays, we have record of the entertainments at the Palace. The shows included Mrs. F. Collins' cinématograph theatre; Collins' menagerie, gondolas, switchback, steam swings, big boats, highfliers, and other novelties by the same firm. The other entertainers were Mme. Salva, with freak exhibition and novelty booth; Bury, with steam yachts; Fletcher and Hall, with varieties. These altogether constituted a splendid all-day-long programme of amusements for the vast crowds of holiday visitors to this popular seaside place.

At Holywell for Easter week the principal entertainments were provided by Mr. P. Collins, who exhibited big boats, highfliers, two sets of park swings, Winchester ranges, rifle saloons, and throwing games. Miss Maggie Collins had her fine set of steam horses on the ground, and the other entertainers included Manders, with cinématograph and fine-art gallery; and Wright with rifle saloons, up-to-date peep-show, and fair-ground varieties.

Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie were at Redruth for Easter, and Messrs. Brewer and Ware with their fair-ground varieties are also touring this part of Cornwall.

Subscriptions to the Showmen's Guild Fund:—Per Mr. W. Shuttleworth—Will Shuttleworth, 10s.; Mrs. Lorenzo, 5s. Per Mr. Mitchell—Alfred Haydon, 10s. 6d.

The following letter from a well-known showman fully proves that gratitude is not the rare virtue that many cynics would have us believe:—

"Dear Friend,—I would like, through the medium of the 'Showman World,' to express my sincere thanks and best wishes to Mr. Tom Norman, showmen's auctioneer, for his kindness, consideration, generosity, and liberality to me with reference to my goods sold by auction on Jan. 16. I also wish to thank Mr. Forrest, of Mile End-road show-ground, and other friends for kindness shown me.

"If we could all, as members of our Association, manifest the same good feeling one towards another, how much better and happier as a people we would be.—Prof. B. T. Burnett, London, Easter, 1906.—To the Rev. T. Horne."

HARRY TATE. WAL PINK. JOE ELVIN. JACK LOTTO.

Photo by Baker and Muggeridge.

WELL-KNOWN FACES AT THE "CITY AND SUBURBAN," 1906.

From the great Yorkshire round we have a good report of the Huddersfield fair, which we are pleased to notice is growing in popularity every year. The Corporation having decided to move with the times, changed the fair from an unsuitable Midsummer fixture to the Easter holiday, with the admirable result that many more shows are able to take it, and also that it fits in better with local holiday conditions.

The principal concerns were Harry Ashington's up-to-date cinématograph and mannikins; Hogini's circus; Enoch Farrer's coliseum and varieties; Ling's two ground booths, the up-to-date peep-show, and the freak show; Frank Gess, with school of boxers; and Birch's novelty booth. There was a big array of motor-car machines, including sets by W. H. Marshall, Goldthorpe Marshall, Mrs. Waddington, and W. H. Waddington. The other machines were Holland's whirling the whirl, Waddington's ostriches, Morley's steam swings and sets of manual swings by Riley, Morley, Hughes and Baker. The shooting concerns were by Ratcliffe, Houldsworth, Barker, and Seed. The providers of fair-ground novelties, throwing games, &c., included W. Turner, T. Chapman, Rhodes, Burrell, Houldsworth, J. Joy, Mrs. Hughes, and Mrs. Jameson.

Shipley Glen, a favourite holiday resort of the people of Bradford and Leeds, was well provided with open-air entertainments. These included Hutin's temple of magic and second-sight demonstrations; Harniess, with new set of motor-cars; Redfern's flying motors; J. Corrigan's steam swings; Sam Tower's novelty booth; and sets of park swings by Harniess, Redfern, Illingworth, and Stock. Bottle batteries by E. Thompson and W. Stott, varieties and throwing games by Crowther, Corrigan, Walker, Burrell, Illingworth, Rhodes, Baynes, Vaner, J. Illingworth, and others.

The Eastertide festivities at Wareham were provided by local showmen, and included Birchell's exhibition, Smith's roundabout, and Welldon's stalls and varieties.

From Gainsborough we have news of the appearance at the fair of Ball and Eva's, Holland's and Bennett's shows, Smith and Warren's roundabout and varieties, throwing games, &c., by Barwick, Harris, Hunt, and Lord.

When Hackenschmidt and Madrali take the mat at Olympia to-night, Mr. Charles Urban, whose admirable "Urbanora" animated pictures are pleasurably familiar to patrons of the Alhambra, will make the difficult and costly experiment of cinématographing by artificial light the great wrestling match from start to finish, and should the result be completely satisfactory the date of the production of this remarkable record will be immediately announced. If the essay should prove successful (as it is keenly to be hoped it may) the pictures will be perfectly unique, since Mr. Urban has purchased the sole photographic privilege, and his cameras will occupy the very best positions in the vast arena at Kensington, thus securing a clearer view of the entire proceedings than a large proportion of the seat-holders can possibly obtain.

Mr. Thomas Scott's steam roundabouts, park swings, bottle shooters' and cokernut gardens have formed the attractions at Crowle.

At Evesham Easter Fair Mr. Rawlings, the local amusement caterer, provided the attractions.

Studley picnic and fête will be held on Whit-Monday in the Castle Park. The committee of the Lady Warwick College have very kindly granted the use of the above park for this annual event.

Temple and Beckett's cinématograph has given some first-class entertainments at Cookhill.

The Eastertide fair at Devizes was principally provided by Jennings, the local caterer, who exhibited two roundabouts and other fair-ground novelties, and with him were associated Cole Bros., with switchback railway, and J. Cole with steam horses. The only exhibition was Larker's novelty booth. There were some thirty stalls, throwing games, &c.

Mr. Tilney's Fair Ground, Abertillery, is being occupied for a short season by Mr. W. Hagger's electric bioscope. The magnificent organ, one of the finest ever seen on these grounds, and the very smart and up-to-date pictures, are attracting huge crowds nightly.

Mr. Frank Fillis, the well-known showman of South Africa, has received a cheque for £50 from the De Beers Company for the loss of a balloon, which fell into a mining compound, and was hacked to pieces, the Kaffirs believing it to be an invention of the devil.

Llanidloes Fair was held in but indifferent weather. Yet, in spite of that, business was fairly good. A great attraction was the advent of Fossett's grand circus and hippodrome. The circus company included the great jockey act rider Thomas Fossett, the Zola troupe of lady and gentlemen act riders, Joe Holloway, the hurricane act rider, Harry Fossett in flying trick act of jumping through hoops and over banners; Lorenzo's performing dogs; the great clowns Rabbit and Redhot; and Professor Morris with bioscope pictures. The performance concluded with the equestrian drama, *Turpin's Ride to York*. The shows and roundabouts included Mander's cinematograph, Wright's fine art academy, Farrell's galloping horses, Greatorex's steam yachts and steam swings, shooting concerns by Wright, Fossett, and Turner, fairground varieties by Messrs. Curry, Wilson, Dobson, Turner, Wright, Fossett, Kemp, Cartwright, and others.

At Iron Acton for the holidays was S. Amos with roundabouts and a number of stalls and throwing games. At South Shields the principal show concerns were by John Murphy with roundabouts, Walter Hoadley and Claude Hamilton with similar concerns, and Wilson with exhibition.

Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., still continue their triumphant march through South Wales, and have been meeting with enormous success in the Rhonddha Valley this week. The advance management is now in the hands of Mr. Arthur Martin, who was for many years connected with the veteran showman Lord George Sanger.

Our New York correspondent writes us that Frank Lynne made such a big success, that on Sunday, April 15, at Proctor's 125th Street Theatre, notwithstanding the curtain had gone up on the big sketch which was heading the bill, the audience still clamoured for more of the English comedian. They would not desist either until the curtain had been lowered again, and the popular Lynne had returned, made them a speech, and had sung them still one more song.

Blanche and Diacoff, the daring trick cyclists, arrived per ss. Orient at Plymouth on Sunday, after a most successful tour of Australia and India.

Miss Winifred Hare's new song, "Can't you think of any other name but baby?" which has this week been received with acclamation at the Oxford, is by A. E. Sidney Davis and Hermann Darewski, jun. Mr. David Day has secured the *morceau*.

Miss Selma Braatz, the peerless lady juggler, sailed on Wednesday for America on a tour round the world.

Messrs. Lomax, Sons, and Mills will sell by auction, pursuant to the instructions of the Trustees of the Bolton Temperance Hall and of an Order of the Board of Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, at the Public Sale Rooms, Bowkers-how, Bolton, on Thursday, May 10, at 7 o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions, the Temperance Hall, St. George's-road, Bolton, with the appurtenances belonging thereto. The Hall is well-known throughout the kingdom as the largest in the neighbourhood, and is extensively booked for public entertainments, political and social gatherings, bazaars, concerts, exhibitions, &c.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK, April 4.—"The Embassy Ball," a comedy in three acts, by Augustus Thomas, has scored an emphatic success at Daly's Theatre. The story of the play is far-fetched and improbable, but it serves its purpose, being in keeping with the preposterous personality of the central character, Captain Hawarden Kellie, the present stage alias of that "ultra-English" actor, Mr. Lawrance D'Orsay. Mr. Thomas's play is simply a dramatisation of Mr. D'Orsay's drawl, which served the dramatist's purpose so well in *The Earl of Pawtucket*. In the latter play, Mr. D'Orsay was extremely amusing as a "typical stage Englishman," but his vocal mannerisms were kept within reasonable bounds, and the play itself was both interesting and funny. In *The Embassy Ball*, Mr. D'Orsay's mechanical drawl, his expressionless stare, and his belated "Ha! Ha!" after a joke has been explained to him, have all been "elaborated," and the result is a broad caricature of an English "swell" that would be considered too much overdone to be laughable outside of America. Such an Englishman as Mr. D'Orsay represents was never seen on sea or land. But Americans like this sort of thing. They would not accept a "stage Englishman" who was not dull and stupid, and the more ridiculous he makes himself the better they like him, especially if he does it in a very gentlemanly manner. The gist of the story is this:—Captain Kellie meets a young American lady in Paris, and helps her to obtain what is believed to be a bicycle "permit," but is really a marriage licence, as the French officials misunderstand her. When he visits America, of course he meets the young lady again, and passes through a series of amusing incidents based on the mistake made in Paris.

"The Mountain Climber," with that drollest of droll comedians, Mr. Francis Wilson, in the character of Montague Sibsey, is received with roars of laughter nightly at the Criterion Theatre. Mr. Wilson has a part that fits him like a glove, and has scored such a decided success that he will undoubtedly play to good houses throughout the season.

Abraham Lincoln is the central figure of a new play produced last week at the Liberty Theatre. It is called *Lincoln*, and was written by Benjamin Chapin, who appears in the title-rôle. Mr. Chapin bears a remarkable resemblance to the pictures of Lincoln, and for some years has impersonated the emancipator of the slaves in a sketch. The play is an enlargement of this sketch, and is composed of a series of episodes beginning with the firing on Fort Sumter, and ending with the night of Lincoln's assassination at Ford's Theatre.

Mr. Arthur Elvy has just returned from a very successful tour. He has lately given eight winners and three seconds in his sporting act, entitled *The Up-to-date Tipster*.—Mr. Fred Curran has just been engaged by Mr. Harry Rickards for his Australian tour.

My Fancy, who is now at the London Pavilion for four weeks, leaves town in July for three months.

Transfield's Hippodrome at Paisley is now closed for the season.

The latest quotations of music hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅜; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. paid), 1¼; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion Ord., 4; London Pavilion Pref., 4⅜; London Coliseum, ¼; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss Empire, 3⅜; Moss Empire Pref., 3⅜; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, 10s.; Tivoli, 5⅛; Varieties Consolidated Theatres, 14s.

Miss Gipsy Woolf, with her clever troupe, is now in London, after having finished a very successful Continental tour. She has returned to fulfil metropolitan and suburban engagements, at the conclusion of which she will go back to the Continent, where she is a great favourite.

"La Main," the highly dramatic mimodrame in one act, in which Mlle. Camilla Dalberg recently made such a hit at the Waldorf and the Tivoli, is to be revived at the latter house early in May. She has every reason to be delighted with her first appearance in the halls, for provincial as well as London audiences have received the sensational little piece with the enthusiasm it merits. Mlle. Dalberg was formerly leading lady at the Court Theatre, Hanover, and made her London début at the German Theatre, where she also played principal parts last year. One of her greatest successes was in the character of Nora in *A Doll's House*.

The general-manager of Donald's Agency is lying seriously indisposed in Birmingham, having been taken ill on the way to London last week. Business has, in consequence, been much disorganised, but arrears of work are being rapidly made up. Mr. Richard Waldon has lent this agency the Palace, Glasgow, for a "trial" performance for aspirants in Scotland.

Mr. Harry Phydora is getting the better of his attack of laryngitis and aphonia, but by his doctor's orders has had to cancel this week's date at the Cambridge, and will not be permitted to work next week.

Mr. Joseph Wilson, the popular manager of the Tivoli, has been absent from his duties at the Strand house through a severe cold, which has necessitated him keeping his bed.

Bessie Butt, who recently concluded a year's engagement at the Coliseum, has been making a big success at the Palace, Walthamstow, with an original song, "Scarecrow." After a short seaside tour, Miss Butt will be seen in the West End.

Mr. Fred Neiman, the sole agent for Mr. Arthur Conquest, tells us that this artist has only nine weeks vacant from now up to March 30, 1908. This speaks well for both artist and agent.

The Strolling Singers have a very pleasing performance this week at the Lyceum in their musical historical scena, *My Highland Laddie*. The scene of the "episode" is an inn on the Scottish moors, and the time the Rebellion of 1745, when that picturesque figure, Prince Charles Stuart, created no small excitement in Scotland and England. The Pretender enters the village to the singing by the villagers of "Hail, to the chief who in triumph advances!" There is a pretty love scene between the Prince and Flora MacDonald, Mr. Edward Thorpe, who takes the rôle of the Pretender, giving an admirable rendering of "I never knew till now how much I loved you," the chorus being sung by the villagers and others. Mr. Phil Stockwell, late of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, who appears as Sandy McNab, an innkeeper, and an adherent to the Jacobite cause, gives evidence of magnificent vocal gifts, and he is heard to advantage in "Sweet Genevieve" and "Eileen Alannah." Later some English soldiers arrive at the village in search of the Prince, and some amusement is caused by the answers given by the village idiot (Obadiah) to the questions of the King's officer. Mr. George Whillis is extremely comical as Obadiah, while Mr. Alvin Sowyer acts in good style the rôle of Major Clifford. Prince Charlie and the Major cross swords, and the later is disabled. The singing and acting all round are of a high-class order, and the sketch is extremely well received.

THE FOLKESTONES.

THIS WEEK,

GREENOCK.

NEXT WEEK,

HIPPODROME, EALING.

Agents—Warner and Co., Ltd.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
May 28, Sept. 3, 10, 24, Oct. 1, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
May 28, June 11, 18, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 14, 21, Feb. 11, 18, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
June 25, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 5, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
May 7, 14, Aug. 20, Sept. 10,
Oct. 22, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
June 18, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Aug. 6, 27, Nov. 12, 19, 26, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
June 11, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
May 7, 14, Sept. 13 (three nights), 17, 24, Oct. 1, on. (six nights each).
Wanted, First-class Pantomimes, for Christmas, 1906, for three weeks.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Wolverhampton, May 7, 14;
Reading, May 28;
Leamington, May 7;
Theatre Royal, Leicester, June 11, 18.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE,
May 21, 28.
Address, Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
July 30, Aug. 13, 27, onwards.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, Aug. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
Bedford Vacant Whit. Week.
E. Graham Falcon,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, May 14 and 21.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, May 7 and 14. wire. Address, Herbert Vere.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 21, June 11, Aug. 13,
Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 29, Nov. 5,
and Pantomime, Feb. 4 (one or two weeks).
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical or other Attraction, June 25, share or certainty.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.
WANTED, Companies May 7, 14 (24, 25, 26, 3 nights only), 28 (June 4, Whit), Sept. 3, onwards. Telegrams, "Rogers." Telephone No. 17.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, May 21 and 28.
Harry Fischer.

NEW GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies, for this up-to-date stone building, now being erected in main street, centre of town; electric cars pass doors; stage 70 by 40; will open August; dates fast filling. Wanted, good Panto. for Christmas. E. Gray, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH, LANCS.,
Under New Management.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 7, 14, 21, and on, with exceptions. H. Roussy, Manager.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for May 14 (?), 21, 28 (?), Whit week. Colchester; also Whit week, Clacton. Communicate, Chas. Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 7, 21, and June 4.
Apply, Stanley Rogers.
H.M. Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. CLARENCE SOUNES' THEATRES.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Woolwich and Poplar, June 11 and 18, July 16 and 23. Full particulars to Clarence Sounes, New Prince's Theatre, Poplar.

RUNNACLEAVE THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, ILFRACOMBE.
Sole Lessee, Cissie Louie Lawson.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for the Months of May and June. Write,
The Secretary, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Companies, Comic Opera or Musical Comedy, for Sept. 10 and Nov. 5.
Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Attractions, May 28, through misunderstanding, and for various autumn dates. Apply, Mark H. Lindon.

WANTED, Good Companies, May 10, 17, 24, 31 (3 nights)
Gray, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Companies, for O. H., Porth, May 7. Wire to Leicester Jackson, Met., Gateshead, or Poole, Gloucester.

WANTED through Disappointment, First-class Company, April 30.
Wire, Potter, Court Theatre. Warrington.

WANTED, Strong Attraction for May 28, Musical preferred. Henry Taylor, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 14, and Whit Week. Address, Stephen Pritt, Theatre Royal, Preston.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant May 21, 28, June 4, Aug. 6.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant April 30, May 14, 21, 28.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant April 30, May 10 (3 nights), 14, 21.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant April 30, May 7, 14, 21.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 14, 21, Sept. 3, 24.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant April 30, May 7, 21, 28.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant April 30, May 14, June 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant May 7, 14, 21, 28.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant May 14, June 11, 18.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

All communications to Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, May 7;
Theatre Royal, Newcastle, and Grand Theatre, Middlesbrough, May 14;
H. M. T., Aberdeen and Dundee, May 14 and 21;
Kennington Theatre, May 7 and 28;
Camden Theatre, May 14;
Grand Theatre, Fulham, May 14 and 21;
Coronet Theatre, May 28.
Apply, Mr. Robert Arthur, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH, Vacant June 11, 18, July 2, 9, 16.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS, Vacant June 25, and July.
Apply, Fredk. Mouillot, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, May 3, 4, 5, onward.
Apply, William Peacock.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
WANTED, High-Class Attraction, June 4 (Whit), 11, 18, and on.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, LTD.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction for Whit Week, Newcastle,
Edinburgh and Glasgow to follow.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, High-class Attractions for Aug. 6 and 20, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, and Dec. 3.
All communications, Chas. E. Machin,
Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for the Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth.
For vacant dates apply to
J. H. Rowe, Manager.

GLOBE THEATRE, DEAL.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 3, 10, 17, 3 nights.
Apply, Manager.

WANTED, through Change of Arrangements, for Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, First-class Companies. Vacant April 30, onwards, to Whit Week. Wire, Potter, Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, Good Plays, possessing Printing, to produce during Stock Season, at Terriss' Theatre. State lowest fee, and write full particulars, to W. and F. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, Comedy Company, July 9, for Scarboro'. Address, Waddington,
Stonegate, York.

WANTED, Good Musical Show, for June 18, Grand Yorkshire Gala Week.
Waddington, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 21, 28, for Paisley Theatre.
Apply, J. H. Savile, Paisley Theatre.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Good Attraction, May 14; also Vacant June 11 (?), Aug. 27, Sept. 17 (3 nights), Oct. 1, 8, 15. Silence polite negative. Address, Frank King.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 21, 28, and June 4.
Address, Stanley Rogers.

HIPPODROME NEW BROMPTON.
WANTED, Good Strong Dramas, for Autumn; Good Shows, Good Bus. Roy Cochrane.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Vacant May 28.
WANTED, First-Class Company, Wire,
Macnaghten, Sheffield.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Good Companies, Comedy and Musical, May 21 and 28, weeks, and onwards, with exceptions. Apply, Manager.
Silence a polite negative.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES,
Lessee, W. E. Potts.
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK,
Lessees, Payne Seddon and Gordon Starkey.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. 27, and on (first three days Dumfries, last three Hawick).
W. Payne Seddon, Spa, Whitby.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Nov. 19, Dec. 3, and Xmas.
Certainties to known Attractions.

THE SPA, WHITBY,
All engagements complete.

Bookings include The Yokels, The Hollanders, The Caledonian Boys' Band, Scarlet Mr. E's, Jamaica Native Choir, &c.
Spa Theatre: Mr. Edward Terry, F. R. Benson, "Sergeant Brue," "Public Opinion," "The Country Girl," "Walls of Jericho," "Christian," "Three Little Maids," "On the Love Path," &c.
Address, W. Payne Seddon, Spa, Whitby.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to
Mr. R. C. Buchanan, Managing Director,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 7 and 14; also July 25.
Managers can always depend upon doing a good week's busines at the Queen's.
Apply, L. Carson, Keighley.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction only, for Week of
May 21.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, May 21 and June 4 (Whit Week).
Address, Harry Yorke.

GRAND THEATRE, RAWTENSTALL.
Lessee and Manager, A. De Frece.
WANTED, Companies, Musical Comedy, Drama, &c. Having taken a lease of the above theatre, commencing in August next, will be pleased to arrange with First-class Attractions. Various dates open in August, September, October, and November. Everything will be done to ensure success. Liberal and equitable terms offered to attractions that can draw money. Early application is necessary, as dates are fast filling. Pleased to hear from Managers of First-class Pantomime Companies. Address, A. De Frece, 12, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Theatre Royal, Hyde, Vacant June 4, Aug. 6 and on; Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, Vacant May 14, 21, June 4, Aug. 6, and on; Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees, Vacant June 4, Aug. 6, 13, and on. Address, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday),
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

WANTED, for Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for May 14, 21; also Whit. Week (big holiday date), and on. Address, E. B. Goulden.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 28, June 18, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, 17, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17. Good Pantomime for Xmas week.
Frank Mundill.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Good Drama, May 21.
Routledge, H. M. T., Barrow.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Companies, May 21, 28, June 4, and on with exceptions.
Apply, Sherwood and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, through obliging Managers, First class Companies,
Weeks of May 7 and 21,
Musical Comedy preferred.
Wire, G. Conquest.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for May 21 and June 4; the latter is the Oddfellows' Festival Week at Barrow. June 11, 18, and 25 also open. Apply, Hugh Robertson, St. Brelade's Bay Hotel, Jersey.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.
WANTED, First-class Company, Whit. Week. Several open dates in May and June.
Apply, Arthur Willoughby.

DUNFERMLINE AND DUMFRIES.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday and Onward, High-class Plays, Musical Comedies, Comic Opera, and Shakespearean Répertoire.
Apply to Jas. Kiernan, Owner and Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
WANTED, First-class Company, May 28.
Address, Otto C. Culling, Theatre Royal, Bury.

WANTED, Musical or Good Comedy Companies, for Aug. 6, 13, 20, Oct. 1, 22, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, on. Nothing too big. Address, Horner, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Companies, May 7, 14, 21, on, with exceptions, also Whit Week. Wire for May 7. Chaplin, Colwyn Bay.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, May 14, Aug. 6, 13.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20.
Walter Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
Fredk. Melville,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 8.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, May 7, 14, June 4, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Nov. 26.
Douglas Bruce,
Bruges, Willow-avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 16, 30, Aug. 20, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever.
E. Carter Livesey, Grand, Halifax.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala production, weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 4, 18, on.

"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
Aug. 6, 20, on.

Charles Harrington, T. R., South Shields.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this Year.
Chalmers Mackey,
This, T.R., Castleford;
next week, Queen's T., Manchester.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, May 7, May 14, 21, and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire for May 7.
William A. Armour,
This and next, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant May 21 (three nights) between Newcastle and Harrogate, July 2, 9, 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

J. W. Cordiner, Opera House, Cheltenham.
See Companies advertisement, Page 2.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, May 14, June 4, 18, on, 37th Week of Present Tour.
July 2, precede Stratford, 23, follow W. London.
Bookings and Re-bookings extend into March, 1907.
Frank Ayrton,
T. R., Bilston.

JULIAN MALVERN'S TOUR.
"I DEFY THE FORLD."
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 3 and 10 (follow Walsall and precede Edinburgh), Nov. 5 and 12 (to follow Alex., Birmingham, return).
Address,
Chas. M. Julian,
Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

Mr. F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Mr. HARRY CULLENFORD as KARL.
Miss VIOLET CARLYLE as NADIA.
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 23 (?), Aug. 6 (?), Aug. 13 (?), onwards, with exceptions.
New scenery, striking pictorials, real Russian Equipment. Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

WANTED, "Private Secretary," Open Dates, Sept. 17 and 24, Nov. 1 (3 nights), 12, and Dec. 24, onwards.
Apply, Eugene C. Stafford, c/o French, Ltd., 26, Southampston-street, Strand, London, W.C.

Mr. ALLAN WILKIE'S TOUR.
WANTED, Good Theatre, for 4, 6, or 8 weeks' Stock, between Whit and August Bank Holiday, sharing or moderate certainty; répertoire of 12 plays as now being played on tour, Dramas, Comedies, and Shakespeare. Also Wanted, August B. H. and Aug. 20, the latter to follow Queen's, Leeds; and certain other dates, on. Company of Nineteen; extensive wardrobe. Now booking 1907.

Apply, Martin Sands, T. R., Colchester.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, June 11 and 18, to follow Bradford, and precede Aldershot.
F. G. Kimberley,
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sept. 10, North or Midlands.
Miss Maud Hildyard and Powerful Company.
Mr. Ernest Dottridge, Empire T., Oldham.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
WANTED, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 8, 15; nine scenes carried; furniture carried; properties carried; magnificent plant of printing. Re dates only, F. S. Jennings, Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Whit week, First-Class Theatres, Hippodromes, or Public Halls, for the Kellino's "Fête in Venice," and Star Vaudeville company. Share or Certainty. All communications, Vaudeville Club, 98, Charing Cross-road.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae. "THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Aug. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 24, 31.
Frances Delaval, T. R., Stratford, E.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S PLAYS.
"THE GUIDING STAR."
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, June 18, July 2, Aug. 6, on.
Add., Stuart Cleveland, 32, Station-st., Walsall.

"COAL KING" COMPANY.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for the above Great Success, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Midlands preferred. Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, Anerley, London, S.E.

"SILVER KING" COMPANY.
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for the above Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 19, 26. Address, Polini, 93, Penge-road, Anerley, London, S.E.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, May 28, June 4.
Address, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, May 14 (near London).
Wire, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

"THE ASSASSIN," by E. Hill-Mitchelson.
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 29, Dec. 10, Easter.
Augustine Knight, Coliseum Theatre, Oldham.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" CO.
WANTED, May 21, follow Portsmouth, May 28 and June 4. Wire for May 21,
Edward Surrey, to-day, Empire, Cradley Heath; next, T. R., Edmonton.

"THE KING'S SECRET,"
by Charles Whitlock.
WANTED, June 25, July 2, 9, Aug. 6, and on.
James Stillwell,
Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Enormous Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, and on, with exceptions. Apply,
Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 7 and 21, to precede Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
To-day, Harry Foxwell, Alex. T., Hull;
April 30, Alex. Theatre, Birmingham.

MONTAGUE BEAUDYN and SIDNEY CROWE'S CO., "THE WAY OF THE WORLD."
WANTED, June 11 and 18, between Manchester and London; Aug. B.H. Sept. 3, on. Herbert Skardon, T. R., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas and Easter, also few intermediates, for the costly revival of the Napoleonic Play, "Man and Wife," by Walter Howard, specially re-written by the author. The best artists that money can secure only engaged. Address, T. E. Ward, Colosseum, Oldham.

HERBERT BARRS' DRAMAS, PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, June 4, 11, "East Lynne," or répertoire "Aladdin," Vacant Xmas, two weeks, and Feb. 4. Emphatic success here of "East Lynne," &c. Re-booked by J. P. Moore, Esq., for 1907. Wires, West Bromwich; Monday, Empire, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, Whit Week, June 4, onwards, for the tried success, "The New World," booked by Messrs. R. C. Buchanan, A. Jefferson, C. Revill, J. Culeen, G. E. Mudd, W. H. Westwood. Wire, White, Metropole, Glasgow.

THOMAS THORNE AND COMPANY.
WANTED, May 14, between Chester and Glasgow. Wire, Russell Rosse, 10, King-st., W.C.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, May 14, 28, June 4, onwards.
Address, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, owing to Extending a most Successful Tour, May 21 and 28 (North only)
Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, June 4 and 11. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be second to none Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18. Can only entertain First-class Theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Companies are beautifully staged, well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident-management, shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, Lingford Carson.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Aug. 13, to follow Newcastle, through misunderstanding; also Sept. 3 and Oct. 8. No other Vacant Dates until 1907. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

"THE HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Sept. 15, 22, Nov. 26. All new scenery and printing. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, for this Sterling Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, and few later. June 18 unexpectedly vacant.
Magnificently Advertised, Beautifully Mounted, and Splendidly Acted.
Fifth Year of Tour.
Lyceum, Ipswich, April 30.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD TOUR.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
Romantic Play by Walter Howard.
Annie Saker. Alfred Paumier.

WANTED, Good Theatres, 1907; nothing vacant this year. Alfred Paumier,
Theatre Royal, Barnsley, April 30 (six nights).

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Miss Dora Dench as Nurse May.
Big Success, Met., Glasgow.
The Leader says:—
Mr. Sidney Dench and his company tackle the work in a most businesslike manner. Everything goes like clockwork, and with the precision of a cinématographic exhibition. Mr. Dench as Spider Jack sets a good example to those associated with him, a heavy share of the work falling on his shoulders; but he is ready for it all, and comes through the ordeal with flying colours. Miss Dora Dench as Nurse May excites the sympathy of her audience at an early stage of the performance, and the trials of the pretty hospital nurse are followed with compassionate interest.
WANTED, May 14, 21, 28, and on, through extension of Tour. Wires, Dench, Met., Glasgow. Letters, Gaiety, Leith.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes by Angels.
WANTED, June 18, and Autumn Dates.
Jack Haddon, Royalty Theatre, Chester.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
Mr. Jack Haddon, having acquired the sole proprietorship of above Pantomime, which is acknowledged to be one of the finest productions toured, will be pleased to hear from managers of first-class theatres, from Xmas week, and onwards.
Address as above.

WANTED, for special production, "Octoroon," May 7, Glasgow, rehearse May 1; full company; also Coloured Vocalists, Jubilee Singers, Specialities. Address (letters only), C. Hermann, 4, Highbury-mansions, Islington, N.

"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 6 (3 nights), 24.
Frank G. Baily,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, May 14, 21, and 28; also Whit. week.
Address,
Fred L. Connynghame, c/o "The Era" Office.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S COS.
WANTED, Theatres for
"THE GRIP OF IRON,"
Aug. 6, and on.
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN,"
June 11, 18, and 25 (London or near).
George Denham, Grand Theatre, Islington.

WANTED, May 7, June 4, Aug. 6, "No Escape" or "Money Makes Man," everything sound. Coleman Davies, Theatre, Middleton, Manchester.

WANTED, Theatres, Miss Mary Neil and Mr. Geo. Kirk's Company, "Her Luck in London." by Chas. Darrell. Spring fully booked. First vacant date, Aug. 20, on, with exceptions. Address, George Kirk, Junction, Manchester.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this splendid Attraction, Aug. 20, 27, and on, with exceptions. Address, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

Messrs. SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1.
All communications to John B. Shinton,
Grand Theatre, Swansea.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN."
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED, Dates, from July 9, on, with exceptions.
Address, Lumsden Hare, Criterion Theatre, London.

WANTED, for "The Throne of Terror." May 14, 21, various, on. Thanks Messrs. Flanagan, Macdona, Clements, &c., offers. Miller, Royal, Stanley.

"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, June 11, 18, 25, June 11, 18, 25.
Another success here. Refer W. Coutts, Esq.
Wire, A'Dell, to-day, Star, Swansea; next, R., Llanelly.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
1906-1907.
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, having large Stage and large holding capacity, for production at Christmas of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Record-Breaking Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA";
"CINDERELLA";
"CINDERELLA";
also vacant
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Jan. 21, and onwards, North;
"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Feb. 4, and onwards, South.
All communications to
Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

WANTED, Large Theatres or Hall, with big holding capacity, for Mdlle. Lumiere's Electrical Fairy Grotto, and Co., June 4, Share or Certainty.
Apply, this week, Tivoli, Barrow.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Summer Season, commencing June 11, First-class Combination, Pierrot Troupe, or Entertainment, share or certainty. E. Graham-Falcon, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, Operatic, Dramatic, and Variety Artists, in all Lines, for special summer season, including two good comedians, who can sing and dance well.
Age, references, lowest summer terms,
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Smart, Attractive Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, good appearance and good voices absolutely essential. Apply, personally and immediately, KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for High-Class Al Fresco, Artists in all Lines. Terms, age, photo., and full particulars in first letter to FREDERICK BUXTON, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, for South Africa, Lady for Juvenile parts; must be young and pretty, and Sing and Dance. Also good Light Comedian, Sing and Dance; Baritone, Musical Director, and Full Company, for Musical Comedy. Also for Autumn Tours in England, Baritone, Dude to Sing and Dance, and Artists in all Lines. Apply immediately, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Autumn Tour, Entire Companies (few exceptions), "Under Two Flags," "Cripple Creek." State terms, height, reference, parts played. Only Artists who can be interviewed in London. Write, MARK BLOW, Gaiety, Hastings.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for One Month's Stock, June. Aylmer Williams please communicate. Address, H. J. SNELSON, Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, a young and sympathetic Juvenile Lady for Doris, to rehearse Manchester, May 8. Apply, stating lowest Summer terms, with photo., height, &c., to BATEMAN, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, a vacancy occurs in a High-Class Comedy Company for a talented young Lady of good appearance, to play important small part; premium required; salary given. Give fullest particulars in first letter to Box 3,177, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Ambitious Lady or Gentleman can be received into Stock Company at London Theatre. Invaluable tuition and experience; moderate premium.—Box 3,179, "The Era."

WANTED, for Sketch, London. Young Soubrette and Light Comedian. Lowest terms, photos., ROY COCHRANE, Hippodrome, New Brompton.

WANTED, Child Actress, Sketches, at Hounslow, May 7, 14, rehearse April 30; also Coloured Gent., "Uncle Tom" sketch, May 14. Letters only. MARK BAYLY, 35B, Morat-st., Brixton, till Monday; then, Hippodrome, Hounslow.

WANTED, Pretty Child Actress, must be 14, who can Sing; live with refined people; everything found. Long tour. Lowest terms, Box 3,174, "The Era."

FRED J. LITTLE and FRED D'ARCY'S CO.
WANTED, Gentlemen for Aristocratic Old Man, Heavy, Character, must have pathos, tall Comedian, and short Comedian; special two weeks, May 28 and June 4. All must give one week previous for rehearsals; return fares from London will be paid. Photos. and absolute inclusive terms and references imperative.
Autumn tour will be offered to suitable Artists.
Address,
FRED J. LITTLE, 88, Boston-st., Hulme, Manchester.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, two Responsible Gentlemen, for three weeks, opening at Brixton May 7. Letters only, with all particulars, to T. R., Halifax.

WANTED, a Light Comedian, who can play the 'Cello, for a Summer Engagement of twelve weeks certain. Write to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, good Comedian, with Répertoire of up-to-date Gags and Sketches, must be young and refined. Terms, photo., and full particulars to F. BUXTON, Al Fresco Gardens, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, a First-class Comedian, must be young-looking, for a good Comedy Boy's part. Artists known to me please communicate. BERT LLOYD, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, Sound, Heavy Man, for Hardiski in above, rehearse May 29, Dewsbury. Lowest terms, photos. (stamped envelope), refs., &c., to F. WYBERT CLIVE, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

WANTED, "At Duty's Call," smart young Juvenile Leading Man. Full particulars, photos., and lowest terms, JOHN GERANT, T. R., Glossop.

WANTED, Juvenile Gentlemen, Chorus Ladies, for Musical Comedy on the Halls. Apply, between 11 and 12, stage-door, New Cross Empire.

WANTED, Gentleman, for Part Clincher, "Fighting Parson."
GRAY, Olympia, Liverpool.

WANTED, for three weeks, commencing May 21, boy of 14. Olaf, Ibsen's "Pillars of Society." Particulars, H. NEILSON, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

WANTED, Contralto (Instrumentalist), to complete Unique Entertainers; good amateurs write. Full particulars, age, experience, to Box 3,161, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady to join Professional, good voice, dancer, Seaside Engagements; Amateur can be trained. Moderate fees. HAMILTON, Mansfield House Academy, Clifton Gardens, W.

WANTED, Smart Young Gentleman, straight man, for the Brown and Kelly Combination, 1 week, May 14; if suitable, sixteen weeks, July 9. PAPA BROWN, 8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-rd., S.W.

THE AUDITION CO., LTD.,
10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C.
Notice to Artists and Agents.
WANTED, Known, the above Company is formed for the purpose of arranging Trial Performances either for Professionals or Amateurs. Agents having any particular turn they wish to see or Artists desiring an opportunity of appearing before Agents with a view to Engagement, should communicate at once. The above Company is prepared to represent a few really Clever People, but does not guarantee Engagements. Auditions will be held in small Queen's Hall and at Polytechnic Hall, Regent's-street, and will be well advertised and Agents circularised.
N.B.—The Audition Co. will pay any responsible Manager the sum of £100 (one hundred pounds) as liquidated damages for any turn booked by them proved to be incompetent. All Agents are invited to attend Auditions, due notice of which will appear.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Second Leads, in Good Stock Season, or Rep. Co., by experienced young Actress; nominal sal. accepted for Summer. Write, Box 3,145, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Laurence Sylvestre, Responsibles, with own Cinématograph; Bertha Sylvestre, Soubrette or Juv. Lead, Sing and Dance. 184, Bradford-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, the Bradfield Ladies' Trio, Quartet, Quintet, summer engagement, all good soloists, special music, with effects. 111, Holland-road, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contralto, experienced, large répertoire, can play piano. Address, MARJORIE IRVINE, c/o Mrs. Lavender, Brent-st., Hendon, N.W.

WANTED, by Tenor, refined, good appearance, Summer Engagement good Concert Party; terms mod. for long engagement. VOCALIST, 172, Cheltenham-rd., Bristol.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes, for '06 and '07, Principal Boys and Girls, Comedians, Dames, and all Lines. Apply by letter, with photos. and all particulars, to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars, to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Principal Boy, Two Knockabout Comedians, Specialities, for Christmas. Terms, photos., &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, for Christmas Productions (not touring), of "Cinderella" and "Dick Whittington." Artists not known to me must state when next appearing near Bradford.
FRANCIS LAIDLER, Proprietor and Manager,
Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists every description, Principals, Seconds, Comedians. Fullest particulars, permanent address, VALENTINE'S Agency, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, for Panto., 3 First-Class Principal Boys, must be young and pretty, and good figures; also full Company of Artists for 3 Pantos. Enclose photos. with stamped envelope, terms, &c.
FRED SINCLAIR,
Hippodrome, Oxford-road, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and second-hand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Managers to Note Address of the First and Original Manchester Scenic Factory (20 years' reputation), BOSTOCK, Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, John Cunningham, Disengaged, for Contracts, big or small, large panto. experience. No fancy prices. Write me, 10, Balfour-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, an Engagement or Contract Work. Address, 110, Wenlock-street, New North-road, Islington, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, to Capitalists, Gerald Lane, the well-known Lyric-writer and Composer, wishes to correspond with capitalist willing to finance the production and autumn tour of his brilliant new Musical Comedy, "The Marquis and the Maid." Good book, smart lyrics, and captivating music. First-rate leading parts. About £1,000 required. Mr. Lane's name is a household word, and Hall-marks the song as good.—Daily Mail. Address (pro. tem.), 51, Via Ricasoli, Florence, Italy.

WANTED, smart business Representative and Secretary, for well-known Animal Act, on Tour, to take over all correspondence and bookings; sobriety indispensable; third part interest of salary; no investment required; pay own expenses. Refs. Bank of England given. Apply, with previous experience, to Box 3,151, "The Era."

HIPPODROME, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Stage-Manager and Bill Inspector (combined), for above, for season 1906, June 4 to Sept. 29; must thoroughly understand business. Apply, with copies of references, and lowest salary required, to
T. P. DUIGNAN,
General-Manager.

WANTED, Business-Manager, for a Variety Theatre in the Midlands, only one with Long and Practical Experience need apply.
Address,
with full particulars, references,
lowest terms, &c., to
Box 3,171, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Stage-Manager, used to Stage Carpentry and Doing-up Scenery, and make himself useful. Apply, J. WOOLF, Queen's, High-street, Poplar.

WANTED, Working Manager, for Small Midland Town. Apply, giving references, to ROCKLEY'S, LTD., Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing of present Tour, Poole's Myriorama, Agent, Bill Inspector, any capacity in advertising line; use brush.
HARRY GREY, Public Hall, Dudley.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, experienced Electrician and Gas Man, to make himself generally useful, to open immediately. Lowest terms and references to T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

WANTED, Known, Manager (highest references and qualifications) of one of the Largest and Principal Suburban Theatres, seeks similar position in West End Theatre or Music Hall, or as Assistant Manager or Secretary, &c. (day work only preferred); or would accept a confidential post as Private Secretary to West End Manager, Author, or others, or other Business Appointment. Address in first instance, Box 3,172, "The Era."

WANTED, Position as Business-Manager, Resident or Tour, would invest in or finance anything sound. Box 3,163, "The Era."

WANTED, by Charles Gascoigne, late Manager People's Palace, Bristol, Position as Manager for Variety Hall. Bull Arms Hotel, Victoria-st., Bristol.

WANTED, Acting-Management, or Assist and Part, with Good Tour; young, smart. Investment if necessary. Particulars, Box 3,168, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Geo. E. Good at Liberty, owing to termination of Lesseeship Blyth Theatre, Management or Advance; thoroughly experienced. Wire or write, Beaconsfield-st., Blyth.

WANTED, Known, Shorthand Typist, male, own typewriter, willing to be useful. Mod. terms. W. J. CRANE, 59, Kingsgate-rd., Kilburn, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Agent, as high-window lithographer, circus, other company. Good refs. ADVANCE, 20, Fairhurst-st., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Practical Carpenter, Bench-hand, open to all offers, Resident or Tour. Height 6ft. Excellent refs. FRED J. STONE, P. G. T., Folkestone.

WANTED, by H. Leeding, as Carpenter, Resident or Good Co.; own tools; late Maskelyne and Devant's Bench Hand. Good refs. 11, Little Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, Known, Electrician, practical, Disengaged, open at once; good refs. J. H., 91, Sirdar-road, Kensington, London.

WANTED, Berth, by a thoroughly competent Wardrobe Mistress, clever cutter and fitter. E., c/o Mitchell, 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Young Lady, in Theatre or Music Hall, as Attendant or for Programmes. M. H., 24, Linden-grove, Peckham.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, 26, handy with tools (own), used to fit-ups, &c., can do a good Juggling Act, just finished 19 weeks tour; excellent references. Write, STIFFORD, 14, Greengate-street, Plaistow, E.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, July 30 to Sept. 9 incl., Seaside, Kent, extras, First Violin, Viola, Clart., Trom., and First Horn; Week-day and Sunday, 17 progms. State age, experience, rep., lowest salary, Box 3,146, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Violinist, for a Quartette, in Café. State age and experience.
Box 3,158, "The Era."

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED, First-class Solo Cornet; must thoroughly understand Variety Business. Permanency to competent man. Can open May 7.
Address, WILL H. BOARDMAN.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, Second Violin (combine Brass), Piccolo, Clarionet, Double Drums, for Tenting. Lowest terms, refs., LEADER, Circus, Carnarvon, N. Wales.

WANTED, First Cornet, to Open May 7, at King's, Manchester. Apply,
PERCY B. BROADHEAD, The Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Good Cornet Player, for New Musical Act, commencing June, rehearsals at once. Address, Box 3,162, "The Era."

WANTED, Militia Training July 2 to Aug. 25 First and Second Clarionets, first 30s., second 25s. weekly; fare one way. N.B.—Must enlist; free discharge at end, if required.
Silence polite refusal.
BANDMASTER, The Castle, Monmouth.

WANTED, Deputy, First Clarionet, Buxton Gardens Concerts, June 4 to 16, 4 hours daily. MORTIMER, 30, Worcester-street, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Experienced Clarionet, for Bandstand, open Whitsun, long season. Particulars, refs., &c., M. D., 1, Piedmont, Llandrindod Wells, Wales.

WANTED, Two B flat Clarionets, Euphonium, for Training, 4th Gloucester Regt., May 14; ex-army, under 45. ADKINS, Armoury, Cirencester.

WANTED, Bassoon, to commence May 7. Apply, stating references, &c., D. J. CLARKE, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for Sedgwick Menagerie, Euphonium and Bombardon. Terms, 30s. per week. Hinckley Saturday, Bedworth Monday, Brinklow Tuesday, Leicestershire.

WANTED, Good Trombone, to commence Monday, May 7. Terms and references to C. WRIGHT, Musical-Director, Palace, West Hartlepool.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S HIPPODROME, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, E flat Saxhorn (silver plated), to open Monday. Wire lowest terms to HARRY WAMBA, Conductor.

WANTED, Poole's Myriorama, Flute and Piccolo, assist with fittings when travelling, commence May 7, sobriety indispensable. Terms and refs., HARRY STEWART, Assembly Rooms, Bognor.

WANTED, Immediately, Good Pianist, for small orchestra, permanency. Send terms and references, MANAGER, "Japan" Scenic Exhibition, Drill Hall, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, at once, really First-Class Pianist, able to read manuscript, &c.; permanent berth in West End. Hours, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. AUDITION CO., Ltd., 10, Bedford-chambers, W.C.

WANTED, Pianist, for Auction Mart, Sight Reader and Vocalist; join at once. WEST, Auctioneer, Lees, near Oldham.

WANTED, Lady Pianist, or Vocalist, to join refined musician, with clever boy violinist, touring, and engagements. VIOLINIST, Paradise Cottage, Romney-place, Maidstone.

WANTED, on the South Coast, for August and September, a Band and Concert combined, of twelve to fifteen Artists, ladies or gentlemen.

Lowest terms and full particulars to be sent by letter to M. W. STANLY, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead.

WANTED, Smart Steady Orch., D. Drums and First Clar., ex-Mil. Men only; four months, Seaside, Week-day and Sunday, 17 Shows. State lowest terms. Age, refs., late regiment, Box 3,147, "The Era."

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, thoroughly experienced Double Drummer and Effects, to open Monday, May 7. Address, FRED TAYLOR, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Double Drummer, with all effects; must be good tympanist, used to variety business; tympani provided; permanency. WORSWICK, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Drummer, for Seven Weeks, commencing Monday, April 29, young man preferred. Lowest theatre terms, age, &c., 23, Strawberry Dale-av., Harrogate.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, to open Monday next, Good Drummer, with effects. Permanent engagement to suitable man. Wire absolutely lowest terms and references, JAMES BALL.

MATLOCK BATH.
PLEASURE GROUNDS.
WANTED, Season Band,
Ten or Twelve Performers
(name instruments),
Three Concerts Daily (Sunday excepted),
Probable Engagement from June 2 to Sept. 1 (inclusive).
Terms, References, &c., to
BAND COMMITTEE,
Council Chambers, Matlock Bath.

P.S.—State extra terms for Sunday Concert.

WANTED, Musicians, for Large Ocean Steamers, Pianists, 'Cello, Cornet, Violin, Bass, Clarionets, Flutes, and Buglers.
Apply, Monday Evening, at
HETHERINGTON'S,
Bandmasters' Help Offices, 163A, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, for Summer Season. Preference given to those who can do singing turns. Terms, age, and particulars to FREDERICK BUXTON, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, for Lloyd's Circus, good Musicians, to complete Brass Band, a good sober Leader with plenty of up-to-date Music; also Double Drummer; can tour at once. Direct, P. O., Waterford.

WANTED, Musicians for the Royal Anglesey Royal Engineers' Militia.
Apply, BANDMASTER YEABSLEY, Beaumaris.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Conelly, Musical Director, Violinist, Disengaged, Seaside, Tour, or Resident desired. 54, Casewick-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Conductor, with own band (ladies and gents.), halls, theatres, piers, &c. BAND, 19, Mayton-st., Holloway, N.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor. Musical Director, and Leader (Solo), at Liberty. Field End Villa, Worsley-rd., Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Engagement; can compose and arrange. Excellent references. Offers. GEORGE ESS, Conservative Club, Harrogate.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathew's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, by Pianist-Conductor, Organist (pipe), Clarionettist, and Composer, Vacant 23rd, experienced. EDWARD PAVEY, 5, Lennox-buildings, S. Lambeth.

WANTED, Known, Johannes Tomscha, Musical-Director and Solo Violinist, Great Solo Répertoire, Tour or Residence. 10, Biddulph-mansions, Maida Vale.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Leonard Tute, conductor, solo violinist, and pianist, experienced, and expert. Address, 31, Marie Hill-parade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Evelyn Baker, Musical Director, Disengaged May 7. 130, Bedford Court-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, by First-class Lady Violinist, Summer Engagement, Hotel or Seaside, Orchestra or Solo. Highest references.
Apply to "VIOLIN,"
c/o ARTHUR RUSSELL, Concert Agent,
13, Sackville-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, Good Second Violin, any business.
J. BEARD, Adelaide, West Vale, Halifax.

WANTED, by First Violin, combine Second or Third Clarionet, for Military Band, Engagement; experienced in double-handed bands. Good references. Box 3,160, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by the Principal Second Violinist Royal Carl Opera Co. Address, LEWIS, Orchestra, T. R., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violin, combine First or Second Trombone; excellent references. Liberty June 16. LEADER, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, by Violinist, a First-Class Engagement as Soloist and Leader; composer and arranger; young; excellent refs. Box 3,144, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by good First Violin, combine Solo Viola, Solo Euphonium; highest refs. C/o MUSICIAN, 6, Howland-st., Tottenham Court-road, W.

WANTED.—Young, experienced Amateur Violinist desires Professional Engagement; used to Orchestral work. BRIDGE, 90, Canterbury-road, New Cross.

WANTED, by Violinist, young, good repetiteur, Sit., Theatre or Hall.
Address, Empire, Dover.

WANTED, by Violinists (2), Engagement; last engagement together as Leader and Repetiteur, four years. Together or singly. VERNON, 2, Priory-place, Friars-st., Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, Violinist, thoroughly experienced, at Liberty May 5, First-Class Theatre or Music Hall. GEORGE HARRIS, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin or Viola, Disengaged May; good references, steady, reliable. Box 3,169, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement for Summer Season, Seaside, Violin and Viola. Address, J. GAMGEE, 91, Tachbrooke-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, a Situation as First Violin or Leader, good for Theatre or Concert. S. WOLKOVIECH, c/o K. Hyman, 123, Wardour-street, Soho, W.

WANTED, by good First Cornet, Engagement, would be willing to take a position as Second or as a Second Violin; 12 years as an Army Bandsman; total abstainer.
Address,
Mr. A. VINCE, 16, Pratt-st., Lambeth-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Second Cornet, Military Band, season, South Coast preferred, experienced and reliable. Army refs. ZEALLEY, 2, Brown-st., Dundee.

WANTED, by Competent Solo Cornet, experienced all lines, Engagement, any business; excellent refs.; at Liberty. BONNER, 82, Millbrook-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Season, perm. or dep.; reliable, sober, any business; good refs. FRISWELL, 45, Sydner-rd., Stoke Newington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Solo Cornet, Disengaged shortly, thoroughly experienced all lines; excellent refs. MONTAGUE, 33, Thomson-st., Southport.

WANTED, by Second Cornet, Summer Engagement; total abstainer. Apply, with terms, H. RUSSELL, JUN., 4, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, Orchestral or Military; also by Double-handed Musician, Viola or Saxhorn. Apply, HUBERT PERKINS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Solo Clarionet, String or Military, late solo staff band, disengaged after 29th. Box 3,159, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, Orchestral or Military; also by Double-handed Musician, Viola or Saxhorn. Apply, HUBERT PERKINS, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business; abstainer; reliable.
T. MITCHELL, Alexandra Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, Known, Solo Clarionet, Disengaged for Summer, experienced and reliable; highest references. Address, CLARIONET, 97, Latimer road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement, for Summer only; highest references from First-class Conductors; 8 years in present engagement. BASSOONIST, 26, Moreton-place, South Belgravia, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Experienced, Engagement, or Deputising, any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Known, experienced Double Bass, at Liberty for Immediate or Summer Engagement; excellent references. LYND, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, shortly Disengaged, Miss Maud Jones, Double Bass. Address, Polytechnic Hall, Falmouth, Cornwall.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, four strings, temporary or permanent, any business, disengaged, experienced, reliable. Address, Box 3,165, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone (good), Summer or Permanency, any Business; young, abstainer; good references. J. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Theatre, Motherwell, N.B.

WANTED, by Good Trombonist, an Engagement; can combine Violin. MUSICIAN, 6, Bath-ter. (off Lord-street), Southport, Lancashire.

WANTED, by E flat Bombardon, Summer Engagement; would join Band. Particulars, Mr. J. MAWBY, 4, Lea-street, Kingsland-road, London, N.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon, Experienced, and Steady.
HOSKING, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, Engagement, Bombardon, Seaside preferred, open for Yeomanry, or otherwise; experienced, good refs. Address, BOMBARDON, 9, All Saints'-green, Norwich

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent and Experienced 'Cellist, Theatre or Variety. T. CATHIE, Theddlethorpe, Louth, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Disengaged Shortly, Theatre or Summer Engagement. Good refs. HARVEY, Crystal Palace Theatre, London.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Summer Engagement. First-class References.
'CELLO, 60, Gwydir-street, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist Open for Engagements. Address,
Box 3,148. "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cellist, an Engagement, or Deputy, used to all Business. Write, S. S., 51, Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Deputising, by experienced 'Cellist, any Business. FLETCHER, 100, Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, F. S. Watson, 'Cellist, Disengaged May 18. Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello. Also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 36, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, combine Piano, experienced accompanist and Orchestral Pianist, advertiser well known, London preferred. Box 2,951, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Viola or Second Violin, any Business; experienced, steady, and reliable; good refs. WOODFORD, Alexandra Theatre, Greenock, N.B.

WANTED, Experienced Composer, Arranger, Oboe Player, wishes for London Engagement; would conduct. Box 3,152, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FRANK FIELD, 18, Windsor-road, Holloway.

WANTED, by Oboeist, London Theatre, Engagement, for Summer; good refs.; string or military. Box 3,150, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Oboe or Double Bass, any business, long experience, season, or permanent. J. CRABTREE, 10, Bethesda-st., Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, by experienced Oboe, Engagement, Orchestra or Military, late Soloist Royal Marines; excellent refs. G. WILLIAMS, 27, Paisley-street, Hull.

WANTED, by Oboeist, Engagement, in Theatre, London or Suburbs. First-class refs.
CHAMBERS, 24, Mayville-road, Leytonstone.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth. Address, 49, Haverstock-hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist,
Royal Albert Hall and Queen's Hall,
accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party.
Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte.
Write as above 24, Waldemar-mansions, Fulham.

WANTED, by Lady Harpist, Summer Engagement.
Box 3,156, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady Harpist, Engagement for Summer Season, thoroughly experienced; Orchestral Player and Soloist; highest refs. Address, HARPIST, 21, Kathleen-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Flute and Piccolo (Soloist), through closing; good refs.; at Liberty May 7. GEORGE PRAGER, Public H., Dudley.

WANTED, by Flautist, Permanency or Season, Variety or any business; experienced, steady. Reference. A. HOLT, Drayton-st., Eccles, near Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, experienced, steady and reliable; good references. C. H. COLEMAN, 27, Park-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged, steady and reliable, any Business. FLAUTIST, 244, Mitcham-road, Tooting.

WANTED, by First-class Flautist, good summer engagement. Address,
FLAUTIST, Lyndhurst, Rathmore-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, Good Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo Player, Orchestral or Military Band; good refs. FLAUTIST, 35, Pentney-road, Balham.

WANTED, Season or Permanent Engagement as Flautist or Double Bass; young and experienced. F. HANDEL, 14, Market-place, Ross, Herefordshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, through closing, thoroughly reliable, good refs. A. SCHMITT, Alexandra Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement by one Lady two Gentlemen, Pianiste-Vocalist, Violin, and Cornet; sight readers; well up in Variety. HEANE, The Baths, Stamford, Lincs.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced Conductor, smart, reliable; composer, arranger; large library to-date. Dis. through closing. STEWART, Alhambra, Stourbridge.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic and Variety Business. L. MAJOR HORNSEY, 17, Kimberley-terrace, Georgetown, Tredegar.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Engagement, for Dances or Orchestra; moderate terms. Address, H. RUSSELL, 49, St. Martin's-lane, Charing Cross.

WANTED, Known, William Bagnall (Medallist, L.A.M.), Accompanist for Rehearsals and Private Practices. Address, 25, Chewton-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Ernest Bell, Disengaged, pianist, conduct, or combine violin, three years last shop, experienced any business.
Address, 18, John-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, by Pianist, young, Brilliant Soloist, Engagement with Band, Concert Party; abstainer. Terms very moderate. H. A. N., 12, Coverdale-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Engagement, by Brilliant Pianist (combine Clart.); also by good Clarionettist (ocmbine Violin). Together or separate. Box 3,175, "The Era."

WANTED, by English Concertina Soloist, summer engagement, with concert party, 10 years' experience, large répertoire. VINCENT, 15, Montague-rd., Uxbridge.

WANTED, Engagements, by First-class Double Drummer, summer season, or permanency, string or military. A. LILLE, 94, Graham-rd., Dalston, London, N.E.

WANTED, by Orchestral Drummer, Engagement, Music Hall or Theatre. Experienced. DRUMS, 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Florence Voorzanger has returned from Sweden, and is open, with her Celebrated Ladies' Orchestra, for summer engagement. For terms and particulars, 61, Warwick-avenue, Maida Vale.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, the Vrasatzka Band, or English Salon Orchestra, three performers, upwards, music specially arranged. Box 3,164, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagements, by Professional Military Band (town or seaside), smart uniforms, splendid répertoire, excellent testimonials. BANDMASTER, 123, Drew-road, Silvertown.

WANTED, by Small Brass Band, Engagement, through closing, Saturday, Hippo., Southport. After, F. FISHBURN, Leader, 55, Brentnall-st., Stockport.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS, BLYTH.
WANTED, May 7 and 14, Big Combinations for Circus Ring, Wrestlers, Scientific Boxers, Champion Jumpers, or anything with drawing powers. Address, TUDOR, as above.

WANTED, Novelties, for Galas, Cyclists, Aerial Acts, or any Novelty. Lowest terms and lithos. to 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Whit week, Lady Cycle Troupe doing other Act, Flying Trapeze Act, Aërial, Ground Gymnastic Acts, and Novelties of every description, for Fêtes, Galas, Carnivals, June, July, and August; Big Acrobatic Speciality for Aug. 6. Send lithos., memos., terms, bookings, to BURTON'S Variety Agency, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, for Military Tournament, July, Circus Clowns; other Acts, with lithos., June, July, and Aug. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, One or Two Three-Bar Performers, open Monday, all found. State trick, age, terms, WIRE GYMNASTS, Newdegate Arms, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Small Smart Boys, those with knowledge Circus Business preferred. Exceptional opportunities ambitious boys. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, at once, a Girl, age 14 to 17, by a well-known Troupe, with slight knowledge of Bending or Acrobating; also a Boy Bender, &c.; twelve months' engagement.
Reply by letter only to
H. B., 154, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Young Girl, with Knowledge of Trapeze Work, to join well-known Troupe. Apply, B. DECAR, 3, Bowdon-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Young Man, for Triple Bars, do a few Tricks. State height, salary, F. ATHOL, General, Liverpool. Sanderson write.

WANTED, Young Man or Lad, Tumbler or Second Mounter, for a big Act. Apply, GEO. MANNING, 169, Stamford-st., Lambeth, London, S.E.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, Artists to note that the above establishment closed Saturday, April 21, 1906.
E. P. E. VEITCH,
C. ALGIE.

WANTED, at Once, First-class Circus Property Man, sober, agreeable, punctual.
JOHN HENRY COOKE,
Hippodrome, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Balloonist, to undertake occasional engagements for Lieut. Lemprière, best of apparatus always provided, and man capable of inflating in practical manner, and sending parachutists away in clean, smart style, required; hot-air experience advantageous. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Parachutists, Ladies and Gentlemen, to undertake occasional Engagements for Lieut. Lempriere, the reliable Aeronaut; best of apparatus provided and best prices paid. Address, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, vacant May 21, June 11, onwards, with exceptions.

Coms., Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, Circus and Hippodrome Proprietors and Directors to note that The Three Ohmys, Greatest of all Lady Acrobatic Somersault Three-horse Equestriennes, Greatest Riding Act on Three Beautiful Coloured Horses, will be at Liberty early in May to accept Engagements for the most Marvellous Riding Act ever seen in this country. Grand lithos., &c. Can be seen nightly at the Grand Circus, Southport, where they have made the greatest success ever known in the town. Address, THE SISTERS OHMY, Grand Circus, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, barebacked equestrians, and clown, Liberty May 7, home or abroad. Address, Grand Circus, Hull.

WANTED, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with good entries; also Agouste. Now vacant. Wire or write, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

WANTED, Known, Dominos, Two, Clown and Donkey, a Comic Act. Finish a comfortable and successful two months with H. and F. Poole's Myrioramas, open Monday with the International Hippodrome Company, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Known, Matthewson, Clown, Agouste, and Comedian, Liberty 30th; concluding season Ohmy's, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Sensational Lady Aerial Gymnast, 50ft. high, no net, Sensational. Vac. Galas. 78, Gartside-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., the Great Triple Bar Performers, vacant May 7, 14, 21. Address, 10, Fillwood-rd., Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Lero and Haldo, Horizontal Bars, Flying Rings, Two Distinct Turns, Free for Galas, &c. 8, Alton-road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Three-Bar Comedians; big success, Circus, Hull, another week, Liberty May 7, on. Address above.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gent, Gymnastic Pot-pourri Acts, free May 14, 21, 28. Address, Monday, Poole's Myriorama, Bognor.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, Mons. De Greine, Juggler, Equilibrist, Liberty, hall, circus, fêtes, just arrived. Harrogate Circus, Easter. 18, Portland-st., London, W.

WANTED, Known, Volray, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer, &c.; also as Clown Homo, Banjoist, &c.; Liberty June 4, Galas or Seaside. Terms, &c., see Card.

WANTED, Monday, The Reays, Equilibrists, Lady, Gent., clean, clever, original. Wire, Circus, Blyth, Northumberland.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Eccentric Trick and Staircase Jumping Cyclist. Big Success, Prince's, Preston. Free May 7, onwards. Per., 105, Bigland-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, May 7 and 14, by Salmon, Trick and Musical Cyclist. Next, R. C. Theatre, Eacup.

WANTED, by Young Man, Engagement, in good Gymnastic Troupe, Aerial preferred, Single Trapeze, Leaps, or Bearer. Apply, Box 3,173, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Bearer and Catcher, or Ring Performer, at Liberty to join Troupe or Partner.
S. WELSBY, 79, Tulkeith-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Young Man would join Comedy Tramoplin Act, do Doubles, and Comedy Tumbling. WILLIAMS, Post Office, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Secretaries, to Engage Lieut. Lemprière, the popular, reliable, scientific Aëronaut, for Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents. Address, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagements, by Lieut. Lemprière and his charming Lady Pupils, for Parachute Descents, together or separate. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

Balloon Ascents.
WANTED, Engagements by Fleet and Co., the recognised reliable Aeronauts. Lady Parachutist vacant Whit. 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, May 7, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, May 7, onward, Bristol, South Wales, Variety Artists and Specialities, and Star Acts, all Lines. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for May 7. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small.

WANTED, August Bank Holiday, Artists, Startling Novelties, for open air. Double acts send lithos. and terms, HUTCHINS, Butter Market, Bury St. Edmunds.

WANTED, for High-class Al-fresco, Artists and Specialities; all must be young, preference to those playing Orchestral Instrument. Terms and particulars to FREDERICK BUXTON, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, May 28, June 11, 25, July 9; Freaks and Novelties at once. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, May 7, Pierrot Business preferred. No fancy prices. Salary sure. BEAVIS, 19, Albany-road Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Sisters doing doubles and singles, May 7, onwards. Sharing terms. BLITY, 354, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artists, Short Pantomimic Knock-about. Call to-day, LLEWELLYN, Agent, 21, Leazes Park-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Nat. 'Phone, 1684.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. H. A. JORDISON, Managing-Director, Empire Theatrical Agency, Ltd., St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Palace, Oldbury, Monday next, onwards. Please note, hall small. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, Artists, well up in Al-fresco, ladies and gents.; must be refined. Shares or certainty. Open Monday; wire. NOBLE, Gardens, Durham.

WANTED, Monday and on, the Best of Artists, for Cavalry Tneatre, Aldershot, &c. HARRY SAUNDERS, Tintern Villa, Aldershot.

WANTED, May 7, for First-class Theatre, Midland town, own company,
Artists in all Lines. State lowest terms.
SAVILE'S Agency,
29, Bishop's-mansions, Fulham, London, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Knockabout Artist, one that can do some good Acrobatic Tricks. Open at once. State age, lowest terms, references, Revell Troupe, Empire, York.

WANTED, Artists, Entertainments, London, Suburbs, Provinces. See "Amusement," 6d. everywhere; post, 7d. EDWIN DREW, 7, Whitefriars-st., London.

WANTED, Refined Artists for Outdoor (Seaside), or would entertain a Troupe of Four or Five, with extensive répertoire, including Musical Comedy Numbers; exclusive permit, Bandstand. Box 3,178, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Galas, Day Shows, for immediate and future dates. Lowest terms, WALTER HANN, Amusement Caterer, Bath.

WANTED, immediately, Lightning Artist. Apply, stating salary required, Box 3,170, "The Era."

WANTED, for Tour, open May 7 (South), Speciality Artist, suitable for Picture Show, able to Lecture. Lowest terms, full particulars, first letter. ANDREWS, St. James' Hall, Plymouth.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Proprietors, SMITH and LEE.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Monday next, 2 o'clock, for French Troupe, Condon and Preston, Lynn, La Tosca, Vernon's Bioscope, Sidney Dolf, Arthur Gilbert, Snow Family.

WANTED, a Big Animal Act,
for June 4 (week),
also
Variety Artists
and
Big Specialities,
immediate and
future Dates.
Quote absolute lowest,
and give full list of bookings.

GEORGE ZALVA'S Agency,
Hippodrome,
Scarboro'.
Telephone, 288.
Telegraphic address, "Zalva,' Scarboro'."

WANTED, for May 7 14, and 21
Stars in all Lines.
Stars in all Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, Absolute Cream of the Variety Profession. All the Biggest Novelties on Earth. Money no object. Any price paid, from £5 to £200, for the right article. Apply, with vacant dates and sample lithos. to T. M. SYLVESTER, 213, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Known, Call for Coventry Hippodrome, Monday next, at 1 o'clock, for Lady Mansel's Juveniles ,Miss Fanny Wentworth, the Haverleys, Joe Love, Sisters Desmond, Ada Martini, the Steens, Whisper and Bloom, Rowe's Pictures, and the Curts Family.

WANTED, for Maidstone Grand Carnival and Tivoli, commencing June 4, Artists in every Branch of the Variety and Equestrian Profession, Big Aërial Acts, Three Bars (Comedy preferred), Spectacles, Military and otherwise, Sensational Attractions, and anything that can be produced in the Open Air or under Canvas, Good Troupe of Performing Elephants or Lions, or Good Circus, complete, would be entertained on salary or share, First-class Military Band (not afraid of work), Good Side-shows, Captive Balloons, Fireworks Display, &c. For further particulars, apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, 213, Piccadilly, W., and the Showman's column.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Stars only, May 7, 14. GEO. AYTOUN, Variety and Pantomime Agent, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Variety Stars and Speciality Artists, during stock season, from May 6. Terms must be low. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Big Stars, Novelties, Comedy Acts, &c., April 30 and May 7, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c.; I can place you. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Star Turns,
of every Description.
Immediate Bookings.

GEORGE PEARSON'S Agency,
6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

KIRN GARDENS.
WANTED, Good Refined Variety Turns, from June 23. Summer terms. GRAHAM COURTNEY, Broughton-place, Edinburgh; Kirn after June 1.

WANTED, near Manchester, May 14, turns, for combination, also cinématograph. Charles Bradford write. ABADAROFF, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Talent all Branches, present and future dates, for Hippodrome Theatre and Opera House, Mansfield, and Morella's Theatre and Opera House, Chesterfield. Address, MORRELLA, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Blackpool, Morecambe,
and other Seaside Towns,
Whit Week, July 2, and onwards.
Also for
London,
Manchester,
Liverpool,
Leeds,
Glasgow,
Birmingham,
Brighton,
Stockton,
Burnley,
Bolton,
Oldham,
Barrow,
Carlisle,
Warrington,
Hull,
Middlesbrough,
St. Helens,
Accrington,
Stockport,
Rochdale,
Stoke,
Derby,
Grimsby,
Attercliffe,
Hanley,
&c.,
Star Comedians, Star Comediennes,
Big Specialities,
Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel.

Send List of Bookings, Lithos., Terms, &c.,
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, First-class Specialities,
for Whit Monday, onwards.
Terms and lithos. to
E. VINCELLE,
51, Bloomfield-street, Derby.

WANTED, June 4, onwards,
Big Japanese and Arab Troupes,
Big Specialities, Ground and Aerial Acts.
Terms, bookings, lithos., &c.,
EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, for immediate and future dates, the Biggest Acts in the Market, Novelties, Star Comic Acts, &c. Bookings, photos., &c.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
I can place the biggest acts.
ATLAS, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Three Good Acts, Variety or Speciality, Monday next; must be cheap. Wire, ZALVA, Hippodrome, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Good Speciality Acts, New to Gravesend, 5 nights, commencing May 1. Money must be very low, but sure. Return fare London nightly, 2s. TRANSFIELD, Public Hall, Gravesend.

WANTED, for Paddington Palace, Liverpool, good comedy acts, specialities, comedians, serios, &c. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Pierrot Talent of every Description, Theatre Tour, open May 7. Absolute lowest to LESLIE, Assembly Rooms, Leamington Spa.

WANTED, Known, Palace of Varieties, Lancaster, closed for Alterations; re-opens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Fell. Wanted, Big Singing Tops; money no object if equivalent in drawing power.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, First-class Variety Combinations, May 28, June 18, and Aug. 6 (twice nightly); must be good shows, with strong top-liners, or no use writing. Particulars to FRANK MUNDILL. Many thanks to artists who wrote for May 7, June 11, 25; dates now filled.

WANTED, a First-class Combination, Hippodrome, Bury, May 21, onward. WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Combinations, must be good, eight turns for May 7, 14, 21; also First-Class Artists for quick dates, for the North. DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Tops, and Artists of all Kinds, for May 7, onwards. Send bookings, lowest terms, permanent address (which is imperative), to FRED NEIMAN, 74, The Grove, Camberwell, London, S.E. Tel., 247 Brixton.

WANTED, Novelties for Galas, Artists of all Kinds, with Good Acts. Lowest terms and lithos., 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

ATHLETIC SPORTS, CARLISLE.
June 2, 1906.
WANTED, Special Attraction or Novelties, for above date.
Write, with terms and particulars, to
TOM FORRESTER, Lowther Arcade, Carlisle.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, May 7, 14, and onward,
Big Drawing Numbers, Jugglers,
Cycle Acts, Acrobats, Musical Shows,
Animal Acts; must be refined or useless.

Call Monday, April 30:
The Five Cumberlands,
Lorna Doone.
The Three Ettenas,
L. Cameron,
Gladys Archbutt,
Little Don,
Two Eltons,
The Marblesques,
Boyd and Gilfain.

WANTED, Tenders for Sole Right of Amusements at Weston Show and Fête, August Bank Holiday. GRAY, Vine House, Weston, Bath.

WANTED, First-Class "Pepper's Ghost" Show. State lowest certainty for two weeks.
WILLIAMS, Gaiety, Dundee.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable, and stay depends upon reception. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, for Bulford Camp, May 7, and Cradley Heath, May 21, Refined Lady Serios, and Good Comic Acts. State lowest terms. LISLE, 12, Brewer-street, Woolwich.

WANTED, Monday next, Theatre, Bordon, Sisters doing Single, Comedian, Good Double. Mays wire. SLEATH and ALDIN, 21, Sackville-street, Reading.

WANTED, Comedian, about 23, Good Singer, Dancer, able introduce speciality, accustomed musical comedy preferred. State salary, reference, personal interview necessary, Box 3,153, "The Era."

WANTED, Comedians, Dancers, Vent. Acts, and Specialities, refined Al Fresco, May 28, onwards, nice break for Artists working Samuel's and James's (Dublin). Terms (must be cheap), dates vacant, 1, 2, or 3 weeks, to FRED FULTON, Pierrot Pavilion, Holyhead.

WANTED, First-class Comedians, and Smart Boy (must be over 14), for Sketch (dumb act); must be really funny, or no use. Last two references and lowest terms to LEVERSON LINTON, This week, Hippodrome, Colchester; Next, Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Small, Smart Boy Actors, Comedian, Dancers, Acrobats, over 14, with good voices. Exceptional opportunities clever, ambitious boys. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a Small Boy, age about 14; must be a good Dancer and Comedian.
Address,
ALBANO, Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, as Drummer Boy and take small part in Musical Act, smart Lad, between 12 and 17. Apply between 5 and 6 p.m., at 12A, Morat-street, Brixton. L. CARLE.

WANTED, Comedy Posturer. State height, lowest terms, long engagement, for Troupe. H. Sanderson write to FRANK ATHOL, General Post, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Specialities,
Sketch Companies,
Novelties,
Comedians,
Duettists,
Serios and Dancers,
to Write at once for
Immediate and Future Dates,
Enclosing Lowest Terms,
Full Bookings,
and Lithos. (if any), to
MELVIN and TAYLOR,
MELVIN and TAYLOR,
Dramatic and Variety Agents,
434, Strand, W.C.

Telegrams,
"Impromptu, London."

Nat. Tel., Gerrard.

WANTED, Good Cartoonist, well up in Heads, Long Engagement.
C. WILSON, 22, Low-hill, Liverpool.

BIOSCOPE OPERATORS.
WANTED, First-class Operators, with own Up-to-date Outfits. State lowest terms for Summer Tours and full particulars immediately, CHARLES HARNETT, Azalea-road, Blackburn.

WANTED, Star Comedian, May 7; also Good Comedienne, May 14; must be known, or useless. Wire or write immediately,

GEORGE PEARSON'S Agency,
6, Dunstan-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Babs Lloyd, the smartest Child Artist and Dancer in the World, Vacant a few immediate dates, April 30, May 7, 21, 28; also Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist and Dancer; big success People's Theatre, Taunton. Wire quick.

WANTED, April 30 and May 7, by Lily Turner, Versatile Vocalist.
Wire, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, The Sisters Roze, Vocalists, Comediennes, Patter Purveyors, Dancers, Instrumentalists. Offers invited for Summer; South Coast preferred. Letters, 39, Cardigan-ter., Leeds.

WANTED, by Sisters Truro, Harmonising Duettists, pretty dresses, good voices, Vac. Monday, and on. Wire, 6, Sand Hills-lane, Whitehaven.

WANTED, by the Sisters Beatrice, Duettists and Dancers, Monday next, April 30, and on. Wire or write, 35, Florence-street, Islington; or F. DENHAM, Esq.

WANTED, April 30, through barring, by Herbert Cyril, 7ft. Comedian, 6-sheet posters carried. Managers in No. 1 towns don't apply. Wire, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, by Vulcaris, Scottish Grossmith, high-class Piano Entertainer, April 30, May 7, 14. Wire, 5, Park-avenue, Dundee.

WANTED, May 7, 14, Palette, lightning artist, and his clever dog, Max, the first-class speciality, beautiful electric fit-up, great success everywhere. Monday, Queen's, Ilkeston.

WANTED, May 7 and 14, Arthur Goodman, America's Funniest Tramp Juggler, Laughing Hit of Bill, Defrece's Hippo., Colchester, week before last. Next week, Queen's, Poplar, London.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, Monday next, also May 21, or later, 1906. This week, Hippodrome, Preston.

WANTED, by Vosper, the Master Mimic, in his remarkable Impersonations, Monday next, also May 14. Address, Myrtle Cottage, Awsworth, Notts.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey; also smart ventriloquial show. Wire, Town Hall, New Mills, Derbyshire.

WANTED, by Geo. Martinengo, famous Baritone and Solo 'Cellist, May 7 and 14. This week, Aquarium, Scarboro'; next week, Pavilion, Northwich.

WANTED, Known, C. H. Fergus, Comedian, in Songs, Patter, and Dancing. A good all-round man, can work circuses, Theatres, or outdoor, as Singing Clown, Pierrôt, Minstrel, &c. Liberty Monday, 1, 2, 3, or 4 weeks only. Wire, 56, Buccleuch-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Soros, The Mystery, Good Top or Bottom, vacant May 7, 14, percentage or certainty; also Latest Pictures. Great success here. Refer W. Coutts, Esq. Coms., P., Swansea.

WANTED, Known, Harry Leaton, Refined Comedian and Actor-Vocalist, Vac. Monday, also May 7. Big success, Palace, Oldbury, where wire.

WANTED, by Will Knight, Pantomimist, Knockabout, and Comedian, to join Good Sketch; have a good reputation, and steady. A'l letters, 16, Bury New-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, to Pier Managers,
Lutas Liberty
has still a few Open Dates
for his
Up-to-date Magical and Illusionary Act,
and his
Living Liliputians,
with or without own Concert.
Combine. Share or certainty.

Box 3,170, "The Era."

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. PROF. LENTON, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, by Morimura, Japanese Conjurer, May 21, 28, June 18, 25, re-booked everywhere. Next, City Varieties, Leeds. Agent, SLEY.

WANTED, Monday next, April 30, also May 21, by the Great, Original Kyoto, and his mysterious comedy Japanese box. A laughing and applauding hit. Also May Geraldine, dancing chic comedienne. Concludes to-night, Stoll Tour, 14 weeks' terrific success. Enquire, Wire, Palace, Bordesley, Birmingham; or, 48, Camp-hill, Bordesley.

WANTED, Known, The Bohemians (Will and Madge), Instrumentalists, vacant May 21 and 28. This, Empire, Holborn; next, Duchess, Balham; or GEO. FOSTER.

WANTED, by the Fordyces, Jenny and Willie, nimblest pair, May 7, 14. Wire, write. Mon., Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 7, The Dunvilles, Comedy Musical Act, Gorgeous Spectacular Fit-up. Wire to-day, Hippodrome, Maidstone.

WANTED, May 7, through disappointment, by the Charnleys, dainty and clever duettists and dancers. Mon., return, Hippo., Huddersfield.

WANTED, April 30, May 14, by Bros. Webb. Many thanks to Mr. Bushell for three return dates. Address, 4, Speenham-rd., Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Bros. Renzo, Improved Handcuff Kings, with their latest and quickest trunk mystery. Good show wanting good turn, wire or write, Box 3,154, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act,
meeting with great success
in Rome.

WANTED, Monday, by Dale and D'Argan, Acrobatic Conjurers, in a great comedy act. Wire, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Monday, April 30, by Reed and Lerne, the Novel Comedians, through disappointment. Enormous success, Grand T., Manchester, where wire.

WANTED, May 7 and 14, by Los Granadas, Greatest Comedy Trampolin Act; own Scenery. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

THE STANFORD QUARTETTE
(Two Ladies and Two Gentlemen)
and HUMORIST
(Five Artists)
are already booked Summer Tour at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne; Bexhill Kursaal, Tunbridge Wells, and Pier Pavilions, Dover, Herne Bay, Bognor, Ryde, Ventnor, Torquay, Cleethorpes, Skegness.

WANTED, weeks commencing June 18, July 30, Aug. 6 Sept. 3, 17, 24, Vacant; offers invited.
Wire or write, LLOYD STANFORD,
11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Monday next, and 30th, for Scottie's Waifs and Strays, in "Whilst London's Sleeping." Wire quickly, Alhambra, Belfast.

WANTED, Monday next, April 30, by Stanley's Urchins. Wire, Stanley's Urchins, Barnard's Palace Varieties, Greenwich.

WANTED, Monday next, by Billy Ross and Co., greatest comedy act on the stage, splendid lithos. This week, Palace Theatre, Glasgow. Wire.

WANTED, by Four Abadaroffs, in "Prehistoric Peeps," Monday next, also May 28. Wire, Temperance Hall, Leicester; or, 95, Stretford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, and few following dates, for Miss Dot Robins' weird Sensational Sketch, "The Necklace of Death," splendid printing; always a draw. Gigantic success Hippodrome, Hounslow, where wire.

WANTED, Bookings (few), Piers, &c., whole or part programme; salary or share. Mr. HARRY LISTON and Miss LUMLEY'S "Merry Moments," Egyptian Hall, Llandudno.

WANTED, May 7, 14, 21, for Lady Ballad Vocalist, and Juvenile Troupe Six Fine Vocalists, Dancers. DIRECTRESS, 43, St. James's st., Leeds.

WANTED, by Seves, the Wonderful Child Thought-Reader and Second-Sight Expert, in though-reading, treble blackboards, chess tours, card tests, &c., act any time up to an hour, Vac. April 30, on, with exceptions. C/o MARTINO Agency, 125, Barcroft-st., Grimsby.

WANTED, next week, Chard's Fourteen Dog Artists, trick and leaping Hounds; no animal act ever made a bigger success in Wolverhampton or elsewhere. Wire, CHARD, New Market Hotel, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Galas, Chard's 14 Dog Artist Greyhounds, Staghounds, and Collies.
New Market Hotel, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, to Managers of Halls, Circuses, Piers, Galas.
Don't miss these Great Acts.
BLANCHE and DIACOFF,
the World-renowned Trick Cyclists,
the World-renowned Tea-cup Track Cyclists.
Just returned from 18 months' tour of
India and Australia,
April 30, Britannia Theatre.
May 7, Royal Albert, Canning Town.
Vacant from May 14, 21, on.
For terms, address all communications,
GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road,
Camberwell, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

To Managers of Halls and Piers.

WANTED, Known, good Bioscope at Liberty June and July, and First-Class Films, electric or lime. Terms reasonable.

Apply, CLAUD VINCENT,
This, T. R., Stanley;
Monday next, Miners' Hall, Hetton-le-Hole.

WANTED, Known, Brandon Medland, Oldest English Exhibitor of the Cinématograph long before a Bioscope was invented. Still Open to Engagement. Also the Magic Kettle and Desseinatograph. 44 Lorrimore-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, Bioscope, Halls, Pavilions, Change of Pictures Weekly; also Illustrated Songs. Terms low. LLOYD, 1, Northumberland-place, Westbourne-grove.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy and Boston Bioscope. Wire for these two great successes to GILROY, 55, Effingham-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, Known, Bainton's Bioscope, at Liberty, lime or electric. Summer terms for permanency. BAINTON, 4, Allhusen-terrace, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, 10 years' experience, lime or electric, abstainer. TRAVERS, 91, Totterdown-street, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Cinématograph Operator, just finished long tour.
PHILLIPS, 32, Davenport-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, by Operator, reliable, 9 years' experience, Engagement; has machine and few good films. STEER, 68, George-street, Euston-road, London, N.W.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

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WANTED, to thank the many Customers who have placed their Orders for the Ball-punching and other Automatic Machines for Spring Delivery, and would respectfully ask those who contemplate ordering to do so as quickly as possible to prevent risk of disappointment.
Members of the Showmen's Protection Association.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen and Amusement Caterers, Shanks and Taylor's Flying Roundabouts are the Novelty of the coming season. Small machines, to carry 12 passengers, now ready for delivery. £125 each, complete, ready to work. 17, Poland-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Stacey and Co., Showman Stores, Settles-st., London, E., Rifle Range requirements, everything for the Fair. Novelties in Iron Heads, &c.

WANTED, for Trades Exhibition, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea, commencing May 12 to 30, Ivory Workers, Fancy Rubber Stamps, Novelties, Jewellery, Electric Plating, Stalls, &c., &c.; strong Variety Company supports, good Bands, every opportunity given to do business. Terms moderate, share or rental; good business guaranteed to right people, and that big money can be taken refer Princess Gooma, Mons. Fredericks, and Steve Cook; all came for Easter week and are stopping season. This speaks for itself. Wire, Wire, Entertainments, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

KIRN PLEASURE GARDENS. Opens June 23.
WANTED, Stall, for Jewellery, or Striking Specialities, American Maize, Toboggan, &c., or plans for erection. GRAHAM COURTNEY, Broughton-place, Edinburgh.

To Showmen and Others.
WANTED, an Up-to-date Shooting Gallery, or Novelty Show, for a Good Pitch, Kew district sharing or other terms. Letters only to "SHOW," 125, Temple-chambers, Temple-avenue, E.C.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, Shows, any Kind. Good Flash, Capt. and Miss Bevan, just finished three weeks' good engagement with troupe of performing seals and reptiles. Princess Goma write. Future dates open to all. Mr. H. GREY, Eastern Olympia, 25, Whitechapel-road, E.

WANTED, Up-to-date Novelties, Freaks, Performers, Paintings, or Posters, open Monday, shares; splendid position. MANAGER, Hippodrome, High-street, Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, Novelties for Present and Future Dates, London, Birmingham, and Cardiff. Good shops for good shows. Address, ALLAM, 24, High-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties, from May 7, onward, for Best Show-town in Yorkshire. Cady write in. Two record weeks with the Jersey Lily.
WALTER BROOKS, Exhibition, Keighley.

SCARBOROUGH.—SIDE SHOWS.
WANTED, from Whit Week to End of September, Good Side Shows, Fairy Fountain, Maze, or any good novelty. State full particulars to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Two Girls, for Parading, All-round Dancers, used to Fair Business. State terms; live in. First letter, CRIGHTON'S Cinematograph, Fair Ground, Boston.

WANTED, Good Lady Character Readers, for Buxton, Matlock, &c.; also smart Doormen, to wear uniform. Stamp, photo. Operators may also write.
E. WILSON, 22, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, at once, a First-Class Comedian, for Auction Mart, must be funny and not afraid of work. Apply, WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Ferndale, Rhondda.

WANTED, a Doorsman, for Living Picture Show, used to Fair Business; steady and reliable. BARKER'S Royal Electric Coliseum, Beccles.

WANTED, Engagement, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy, with dog Toby. 101A, Penwith-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Chester and Lee's Marionettes, Al Fresco, Piers, Fêtes, fittings carried; splendid show, big novelty. Back Walk, Tything, Worcester.

WANTED, Engagements, at First-class Halls, Palaces, or Fashionable Resorts, or will rent Spaces, for the most Sensational Performance and absolutely the Greatest Draw in England to-day, namely, the Amazon Dahomey Warriors (the only and original), Sixteen Men, Women, and Children. Please remember that this Tribe Troupe and Family are what they profess to be, and the Lecturer, Manager, and Proprietor is TOM NORMAN, The Silver King. Apply, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, as Descriptive Actor-Vocalist and Planksman. Address, R. W. BURNETT, 147, High-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Charlie Jackson, Doorsman and Automatic Shop Attendant, is Disengaged. Late 108, Upper-street, Islington. 23, Denmark-road, Barnsbury, N.

WANTED, Engagement, for Season, by Clever Character Reader, well recommended, shares preferred. Write, c/o 3, Gas-rd., Pontypridd.

WANTED, Known, Character Reader requires good pitch, for season. State terms.
H. D., 24, Minto-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known.—Special Notice to Showmen and Others. A grand Carnival and Tivoli, and Extraordinary Fête and Gala, will be held at Maidstone on Whit Monday, June 4, and Tuesday, June 5, and continue nightly with great Weekly Attractions until further notice.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Roundabouts. Swings, Cocoanut Shies, Refreshment Tents and Stalls, Side-shows, Shooting Galleries, Punch and Judy, Circus, &c. The above enterprise is being organised by the Open Air Entertainment Syndicate under the personal supervision of T. M. Sylvester, General-Manager of the Coventry Hippodrome. It is the intention of the Syndicate to make this the Greatest Aggregation of Amusement ever seen in Kent. The Carnival will be very extensively advertised for miles round the district. No money will be spared in making it a huge success. There is within the advertised radius a population of 500,000. Similar outdoor Shows will take place at Coventry and elsewhere at a later date.
For particulars, apply respecting spaces,
T. M. SYLVESTER, 213, Piccadilly, W.

CHESTER RACES AND GRAND CARNIVAL.
WANTED, Known, I have a Grand Position to Let for
Slipping the Slip.
This Ground is Open for a Full Week, commencing Monday, May 7, to Saturday, May 12 (inclusive).
Also a few Good Positions for
Clean, Smart, and Up-to-date Novelties.
No Duff or Objectionable Shows allowed.
Parties having taken Ground and Paid Deposits can draw on the previous Friday, May 4.
N.B.—I have a continuous run of fairs, feasts, wakes, carnivals, fêtes, flower shows, &c., right through the summer. Some of the finest and best moneytaking grounds in England.
For particulars, address,
COLLINS,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telephone, 80 Walsall.
Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, to Let, Space, Side Shows, Stalls, Whit Monday Fête, Athletic Meeting, Hertford, enormous attendance, splendid programme events, entertainments, fireworks, two silver prize bands, set riding machines, cinématograph, swings, coker-nuts, shooters. H. SCARNELL, Secretary, West-st., Hertford.

WANTED, Known, all parties requiring ground for Looe Fair, May 7; Redruth Whit Monday; Poole and Hayle Fair to follow Holsworthy Fair, in the town or in field, July 9, 10, and 11; Honiton Fair, July 25 and 26; Kingsbridge Fair, July 25, 26, 27, and 28; Lympstone Regatta, Aug. 1; and other Holidays, on, before, and after these dates. All parties who have tried for ground elsewhere need not apply to us. Those who wrote to us at Exeter for ground can have it at a moderate price. All letters addressed W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Let, all or part of Feast Ground, Earlsheaton, for Whit. Week.
Apply, H. HARRAP, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

WANTED, to Let, Cheaply, for Shows and Amusements, Kidwelly Fair Field; Latest Successes, Fossett's and Alexandra's Circuses, Williams' Auction Mart. Fair May 15. Good Business certain. Cinematograph. Apply, MORRIS, Cowpark, Kidwelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, for Fête, Fancy Fair, and Carnival, Kidwelly, Castle Grounds, July 10, and following days, Spaces to Let for Stalls; Artists. Also to Hire, a good Hand-power Organ. MORGAN, Sec., Kidwelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Side Shows and Stalls, best position on the sea front.
Apply,
FREDERICK BUXTON, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, to Let, sharing or rental, Good Room, holds 700 people; any Attraction that will Draw. 3,000 persons visit the Grounds daily during Summer. Particulars to FREDERICK BUXTON, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, to Let, Space for Stalls and all Kinds of Amusements, best positions, Promenades, Portobello and New Brighton. DIRECTOR, Cycle Railway, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Several Side Spaces to Let. Exceptionally low terms for good sticky-back exhibit, &c. Vacancy for good small side show, sharing terms. Third year of unbroken tour. Address, MANAGER, "Japan" Scenic Touring Exhibition, New Town Hall, Consett.

STARR ESTATE FAIRGROUND CO.
Manager, J. HARDMAN.
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WANTED, to Let, Land, on Blackpool Sands,
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Already let: Pierrots, Tunnel Railway, Aërial Flight, Hoby Horses, Cycle Roundabout, Overboats, Throwing Game, Gipsy Comp, &c.
Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary,
81, Central Beach, Blackpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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WANTED, Known, the South Shore Fair Ground is the only place of Outdoor Entertainment and Attraction in Blackpool, situated at South Shore, next the Promenade; the electric trams run right to it; finest position in the town. The Grounds face the sea, and have a frontage of over 500yds. The permanent Attractions now installed include the River Caves of the World, the Maxim Flying Machine, Helter Skelter, &c.
Room for new Attractions next season, commencing at Easter.
Good Tunnel Railway Wanted.
Native Village Wanted.
Enclosure now being erected for same.
Good Shooting Jungle or Side Show Wanted for new building, 30ft. by 30ft.
Covered and well-built Stalls, 10ft. by 20ft., to let.
Apply, PROPRIETORS, 14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

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WANTED, Known, the Gigantic Wheel Arcade, Exhibition Grounds, and Tenth Annual Summer Carnival (now booking), is the original and only Free Pleasure Grounds within the town limits, and only one in England with live Sky-sign, costing £50,000; unaffected by gales and sandstorms; position absolutely the very centre, adjoining Winter Gardens, two minutes from stations and sea. Wheel (open 6 a.m.), visible many miles by passengers of all incoming trains, and first place visited; 20,000ft. under glass; Stalls, Shops, Side Shows, &c. Easter to October. Popular Native Village of last year replaced by newer and greater attractions. Early application imperative to MANAGER, Gigantic Wheel Company, Limited.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Proprietors of Roundabouts, &c.
The Town Council of the Burgh of Broughty Ferry will, at their meeting on May 7 next, consider offers for the Letting of the Show Ground at Esplanade there for the Season, from July 1 to Aug. 31 next.
The Ground is about 280ft. long by 85ft. broad, and adjoins the Sands.
Plans, conditions of Let, and all other particulars can be seen at the office of the undersigned, who will receive offers up till May 5th proximo.
DOUGLAS WINNING,
Borough Surveyor.
Municipal Buildings,
Broughty Ferry,
April 11, 1906.

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WANTED, to Sell, Shuttered Booth, size 43 by 22ft.; also Living Waggon, road or rail, 17ft.; the Booth builds to Waggon and this lot is admirably suited for Variety Theatre, Bazaars, Auction, &c., and in first-class plain condition, price £38, a great bargain. Also 8 beautiful oil-painted Glass Boards, containing 24 largest and best Lenses, and 32 small ditto, built for booth, 24ft. by 30ft.; also 3 top Oil-paintings, 10ft., Spilsbury's best work, War Subjects, equal to new, cost £30; also 2 ditto, by Alf. Smith, in frames, size 5ft. 6in, price the lot £10, or will separate; also another set of Beautiful Glass Boards, &c., complete, built for Alexandra Palace, cost £40, take £5; likewise a large quantity of massive heavy Carved Work, which forms Shooter Front, with Plates, &c., complete, price £3. All or any of the above lots can be seen by appointment only. Apply WYLDE, 3, Wick-lane, Old Ford, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Road or Rail Living Van, nicely furnished. Particulars, F. MORGAN, Empire Theatre, Grantham.

WANTED, to Sell, Peep-show, 20ft. front, 27ft. back, everything complete, £12. Room wanted. DAY, 49, Windmill-road, Brentford.

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WANTED, to Sell, to Exhibitors, Bazaars, &c., Phonograph (slot), 5 self-changing tunes, oak case, complete. Cost £45; price £10, genuine. MASON, Settles-st., E.

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WANTED, Known.—For Sale, Rifle Range, 8 guns, gas fittings, and 6 naphtha lamps, everything ready for work. £10 will be taken; cheap at £30. WALCOT, 1 Duncan-terrace, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, Set Distorting Mirrors, good order, 4ft. or 6ft. high. Lowest cash price, including packing cases. HUSBANDS, Opticians, Tramways Centre, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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Twenty Tripod Music Desks, £3.
EDWIN WOOLGAR,
Western Villa, Southwick, Brighton.

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WANTED, to Sell, Lease of a Fully Licensed Music Hall, with Immediate Possession.
Principals or Solicitors only Dealt with.
Illness Cause of Disposal.
Average Profit £40 Weekly.
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Ingoing £800;
Stock and Fixtures at Valuation.
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WANTED, to Sell, 50,000ft. of Films, just received from the Myrioramas, majority good as new, from 1d. per ft
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WANTED, to Sell, Urban Film of the Cup Final, played at Crystal Palace on Saturday last, only used six times, 400ft. Price £5, cash; only one copy for sale. REED, 20, Belgrave-terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, Perfect, Our Navy, 100ft., 15s.; Lady's Toilet, 50ft., 7s.; Coster's Derby, 400ft., 40s.; Ammeter, 15s. 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead.

WANTED, to Sell, Great American Earthquake Film, just arrived, the only one, £5, first has it; set sleigh bells, £3. Howard, 46, Millgate, Stockport.

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WANTED, Known, the Staff and Orchestra, Palace, Grimsby, acknowledge kindness of T. Allan Edwardes, Esq., full salaries for Good Friday.

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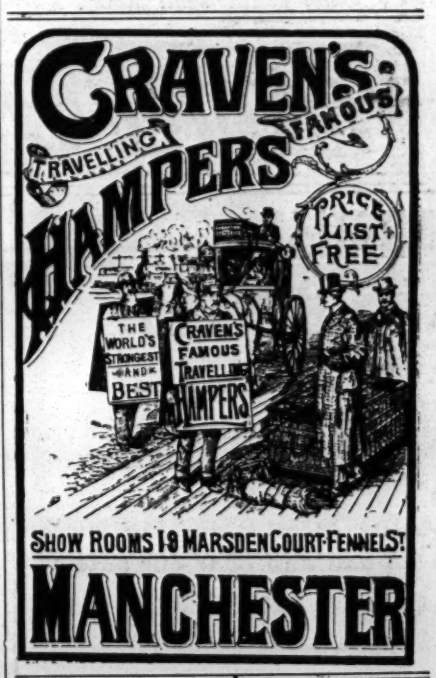

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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
"Casey's Court," Amy Russell, Edwin Barwick, Lios Alfas, New Macs, The Dorrells, Tina Clementa, Dora Lyric, Tom Costello, Bioscope, Forrest and King.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
J. L. Shine and Co., in "Hogmanay," Bioscope, Bros. Egbert, Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Ella Shields, Roze and Calvert, Ernie Mayne, Bros. Deane, Punch and Judy Girls.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Joe Elvin's Company, in "'Appy 'Ampstead," Bioscope, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Sisters Terry, Forrest Combination, Alf Chester, Reilly and Taylor, Harry Taylor, Terry and Lambert.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
La Berat, Bioscope, Ten Genis, Booker and Narbis, Lee and Kingston, Dainez' Circus, Hayes and Suits, Blanche and Powell, Eric Dare, Gothams.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Craggs, Lunelle Sisters, Amann and Hartley, Helen Ford, Nelson's Newsboys, J. H. Cullen, The Delevines, Horace Wheatley, Leonie Dixon, Jacques Inaudi.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Fred Storey and Co., Labakans, Walter Munroe, Four Olympians, Max Yorke's Dogs, Gladys Mavius, Jack Theo Trio, Bernar's Fantoches, Mariano Sisters, Dumond Minstrels.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Moving In," G. W. Foster, Mdlle. Olive, Belle Braham, Harding and Ah Sid, La Tostia, Johnson and Dean, Celeste, Spry and Monti, Chas. Lilburn, Florence and Lillian.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Lizzie Daniels, Morton and Elliott, The Howards, The Trapnells, Terley, George Brooks, Walter Stanley, Lukushima Troupe, Rinaldos.

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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Edouin and Edwards, Bioscope, Lily Langtry, Warsaw Bros., Two Bostons, Urma Sisters, Stuart Quartette, Prince Fee Lung.

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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Svengalis, Bioscope, Jake Friedman, Morgan Sisters, Grace Merton, Chris Richards, Baker and Lynn, Alice Maple, Julie Mackay, Ray Wallace, Billy McClain and Co., Randall's Middies and Maids.

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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS

All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows :—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday at 12.30 o'clock.
George Robey, Fred Karno's Co., Harry Randall, Harry Tate, Gus Elen, Clark and Hamilton, T. E. Dunville, Winifred Hare, the Poluskis, Margaret Ashton, Ernest Shand, Rachel Lowe, Astley Troupe, Arthur Lennard, Fred Earle, the Casino Comedy Four, Florence Esdaile, Griff and Alpha, Eadie King, Flo Gallimore, Ike Scott and Son.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, Happy Fanny Fields, the Poluski Bros., Alice Hollander, Carrie Laurie's Co., Will Van Allen, Rachel Lowe, Amber Austa, King and Benson, Billie Barlow, Coway and Leland, Harry Ford, G. H. Elliott, Daisy Dormer.
Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
Joe Peterman's Company, in "The Belle of the Orient," Mdlle. Nadji, King's College Boys, Happy Fanny Fields, Carina Sisters, Park's Eton Boys, the Jees, in "The Musical Smithy," Conway and Leland, Sisters Caselli, Jessie Preston, Gus Le Clerq, Imperial Bioscope, George Robey.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artists are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 2 o'clock.
Ethel Arden, George Abel and Co., in "Three of a Kind," T. E. Dunville, Florrie, Gallimore, Casino Comedy Four, Alice Hollander, Lockhart's Elephants, King's College Boys, Dunning and Kahn, Clark and Hamilton, Poluski Bros., Imperial Bioscope, Millie Lindon, Leonard Mortimer and Co., in "The Britisher."
Manager, CHARLES BEECHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Six Bros. Luck, Will Haines, Fraser and Halen, Lieut. Travis, Sisters Wingrove, E. Montefiore and Co., Atlas and Vulcana, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
J. Peterman and Co., "The Belle of the Orient," Sisters Hall, The Crown Trio, Harry Tate, Daisy Dormer, Arthur Lennard, John Marx, G. H. Elliott.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.
Victoria Monks, Nadji, Mezetti and Mora, Parke's Eton Boys, Walter Clyde, Daisy Davidson, Raffin, Gertrude Glenn, Carina Sisters, Ancillotti and dog Pilu.
Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Special Engagement for Six Nights only Marie Lloyd, 8.50. Fred Karno and Co., 9.40, Will Van Allen, Sisters Wingrove, Florrie Gallimore, the Ongars, Herbert La Martine, Ruth Doris, J. Charman, Nat Clifford, Brett and Orford, Ruffell's Pictures, Verno and Voyce, Tom Wootwell.
Secretary and Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 o'clock.
Globe of Life, the Brontes, Fred Spencer, Bioscope, Drawee, Frisco and Hambro', Two Bees, Fred Neiman, Edith Courtney, Nellie Wallace, George Young, Edward Sillward and Co.
Manager, H. KETTERMAN.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
Matinées, Mondays, at 2.30.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
John Lawson, Fred Poplar, Eugene and Willie, Katie Lawrence, George Newburn, Three Sisters Leigh, Mueller and Coyne, Bioscope, Fred Herbert, A Bo Kou.
Manager, LYNDON GREENWOOD.

DUCHESS PALACE,
HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Two Performances Nightly, 6.45 and 9.15.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
Telephone, 58 Balham.
Florence St. John, Alice Yorke, Dan Conroy, Terry and Bentley, Walton and Lester, Kit Keen, Bioscope, Bohemians, Frank Cass, Carrie Laurie.
Manager, G. L. WILSON.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,
WALTHAMSTOW.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.
Band Rehearsal, which all Artists must attend, Mondays, at 3 o'clock.
Ethel Arden, George Abel and Co. in "Three of a Kind," Stella Troupe, Arthur Melrose, Ida Kathrena, Three Sisters Silcott, Alice Digby and Quartette, Rumbo Austin, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
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Will Evans, Sisters Slater, Lovedon Plass, Folkestones, Paul Powell, Ford and Hanson, Arthur Pearl, Marie Reeve, Donaldson Bros. and Ardel.
Telephone, 1056 Ealing. Manager, E. W. JAMES.

CROYDON EMPIRE PALACE.
Rehearsal on Tuesday next, at 12 o'clock.
A. C. Lilly, Minnie Mace, Gilbert Girard, Baker and Balfe, Mildred de Grey, Billy Hobbs, Stanley and Greenop, Aindow Sisters, Beau Brummells (Collins and Hawley), Fergusson and Mack.
Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

Are particularly requested to read their Contracts carefully, especially the Clause as to barring, which will be strictly enforced. Any Alteration thereof can only be effected by Special Agreement, in writing, with the Managing-Director. For Engagements at the Royal, Holborn; Duchess Palace, Balham; Islington Empire, and Grand, Clapham, address, Mr. WALTER GIBBONS, 1, Durham House-street, W.C Telephone, 6,825 Gerrard. For Engagements at the other Halls, address, Mr. G. ADNEY PAYNE, Managing-Director, Oxford Limited, 1, Durham House-street, W.C. Office Hours, 10 to 4. Telephone No. 2,035, Gerrard.

THE METROPOLITAN,
EDGWARE-ROAD, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Eugenie Fougere, Clark and Hamilton, Victoria Monks, Will Evans, Rousby's "Paris in London," Mark Melford and Co. in "Only a Plant," Pat Rafferty, Tally Ho Trio, Jalvans, Terry and Bentley, Frazer and Haley, Sisters Casselli, Fred Spencer, Kitty Wager, Tom Woottwell, Frank Seeley, and Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Hamilton Hill, Oswald Sisters, Johnny Fuller, Lulu Evans, Ella Lane, John Callan, L. B. Athol, and Adderley Howard and Co., in "Right's Right," including Miss Dolly Elsworthy as "Venus."
Manager, EDWARD SWANBOROUGH.

For Engagements at the Metropolitan or Chelsea, address, the Managing-Director, Mr. HENRI GROS, at the Metropolitan, 267, Edgware-road, W. For times, address the Manager of each Hall, to whom also all Billing Matter must be sent Two Weeks in Advance.

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"REMEMBER ME TO MOTHER DEAR."
"ANY OLD PLACE WHERE THE SUN SHINES."
"SWEET EILEEN."
"ROSIE IS WAITING."
"MY PYRAMID GIRL."
"TRY AND FIND ANOTHER COON."
"GOOD-BYE, MY PRETTY FLO."
"MY TINY FIREFLY."
"MOLLY O'SHEA."
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THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.
Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

Call for Monday, April 30.
Wolkowsky Troupe, Will Letters, Queenie May, Sable Fern, Jack Hylton, Kelly and Gillette, Francis Haskell, Carlotta Levey.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, April 30, 1906.
Rehearsal at 12 noon.
Broadway Girls, Lily Flaxmore, Burke McVoy, Curtis and Vanity, H. Maxam, Musical Silvo, "Did he deserve it" (sketch), George Bastow, August and Hartley.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m.
George Leyton, Harry Claff, Two Dixons, Kate Lynd, Charles Dixon, La Belle Estellita.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists are requested to send words and music in advance, so that permanent Ladies' Choir may learn them.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General Manager.

International Hippodrome, Nuneaton.
CALL to Artists Engaged for the Above.
All must attend Rehearsal, Monday, April 30, 1906. Mr. John Irving, Ada Pinder, Collins and Irene, the Camerons, Marie De Voy, Mlle. Helene, Alfonso Bros., Jim Fitzroy, La Belle Rosa, Three Leonards Bros., Miss Lockhart, Luko, H. Gilleno, Buer and Donkey, Vernons, Bioscope, and Whimsical Walker. 11 sharp. Change of Artists every week. Always opening for first clean novelties.

CALL for Grand Theatre of Varieties, Peter-st., Manchester. Director, Grosvenor Hamilton. Rehearsal, Monday, April 30, 11 prompt. Cristo, Millie Harris, Eric Graham, Singing Pictures, Allis and Allis, Kavados, Flo Melville, Bioscope, Deline Valmar, Kitty Lewis.

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Sid Cotterill and Co., Lola Patey, Lade Henderson, Dobito and Buxton, Drum and Major, Ray Royal, Nash and Noel, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Barton and Ashley, Larry Lewis, Fred Cary, Yorkshire Tom, J. P. Ling, Lillie Lassah, Tod Lowan, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Fred Southern and Co., Allis and Cassati, May Fallowfield, Martin Henderson, Joe Oliver, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
"Casey's Court," Flo. Wood, Wallau, Mantell and Oval, Kathleen Gray, Geo. Prince, Rastus and Banks, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Pender Troupe, Hettie Lee, Tatten Hall, Bliss and Bliss, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, McCann's Dogs, Warden-Reed and Co., Schiavonis, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
Matweef Hugoston Troupe, Spry and Austin, Millie Howell, Mersano, Rosaire Boleros, Marie Santoi Troupe, Virto, Bert Harrow, Arthur Reece, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
Three Celtics, Sterling and Love, Janet H. Reynolds, Chas. Faning, Leo. Fallowfield, Albano Troupe, Myles and May, Goldini Trio, Bernard and Weston, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Pichel Troupe, Frasettis, Tom Parker, Frances Manners, Davis and Davis, Harry Zetter, Edna Latonne, G. W. Hunter, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Motramos, Blanch and Beattie, Lambert and Glover, Two Errolls, Barrington, Ethel Loftus, Frantz Troupe, Lina Verdi, Yags and Mary Trio, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Matinée Thursday.
Murray Forbes and Co., T. W. Royal, Alf. Brookes, Tiny Arnold, Joe Dale, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Sisters Hula.

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PALACE, BOW.
Telephone, 417 East.
Matinée every Monday.
Young Vento, Sisters Sprightley, Benson and Burley, R. Elliott and Co., Will Johnson, Daisy Martell, Lacey's Erascope, Smaun Sing Hpoo, The Deer Family, Sterling and Casham, Adams and Ward, Rose Pareezer.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
Sisters St. Julian, Raymond's Bioscope, Melody Makers, F. Maxwell and Co., Bros. Redmond, Marie Neilson, Edward Waite, Vandinoff, The Eight Sunrays, Dorothy L. Clark, Deane Tribune, and Co.

THE BRITANNIA.
Telephone, 7285 Central.
Matinées, Monday and Thursday.
F. Maxwell and Co., Jack and Evelyn, Eugene, Prince of Monte Carlo, Raymond's Bioscope, Melody Four, Cissy Dryden, Lillian and Clown, Sam Walsh, Blanche and Diacoff.

FORESTERS.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Sisters Ford, Harry Champion, Prince Bendon, Nat Watkins, Luis Hardt, Newco and Sullo, Bert Dansie, Raymond's Bioscope, The Four Magnets, Vaudeville Sketch Co., The Four Cecelias.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Telephone, 5890 Central.
Matinée every Monday.
Sisters Judge, Lily Black, Esdale Bros., Ethel Dunford, Raymond's Bioscope, Jack Rae, 10 Dixie Girls, W. B. Raby, Frank Hardie and Co., Maurin's Fountains.

SURREY THEATRE.
Telephone, 1460 Hop
Matinée every Monday.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Raymond's Bioscope, Marion Scott, The Swift Trio, Fred Conquest and Co., Fanny Erris, The Eight Sunrays, The Arleys, Charles Austin, The Ringling Trio, Harry Freeman, H. Russell and Co., Jeannie Johns.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
N.B.—All Billing Matter and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit must be addressed to "King's Chambers, Angel-street, Sheffield."

THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS for MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1906.

REHEARSAL EVERY MONDAY AT ALL OUR PLACES AT 12 NOON.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
"High Jinks," Sibb and Sibb, Society Quartette, Sam Mayo, Downes and Langford, Bert Brantford, Mephisto, Pictures, Colberg Family.

TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Herbert Lloyd, Sisters Poole, Vernon Troupe, V. L. Granville, Eight Lancashire Lads, Ada Fawn, Dan Thomas, T. B. Fayme, Pictures, Lind, Sachs and Rosay.

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Grand Variety Company.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Four Harveys, Grace Langley, Three Sisters May, Four Jumels, Akimotos, Tom Craven, Stephen Anderson and Co., King's College Boys, Lillian, Gus Hindell, Pictures, Howard and Harris.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Harry Roxbury and Co., Geo. Grogie, Chas. Williams, Lalla Selbini, Six Æolians, Alf. Gibson, Regan and Ryan, Tate and Tate, Sid Bandon, Pictures, Arthur Rigby.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Arthur Roberts, Nina Elmo, A. G. Spry, Sisters Cora, Mons. Slippere, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Deane and Co., C. F. Best, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shelley, Chas. Somers, Pictures, Leo Dryden.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Dalbert, Two Cabiacs, Heeley and Meeley, Max Waldon, Four Holloways, Lyons Trio, Harold Hughman, Pictures, Bros. Martine, John Tiller and Co.

LYCEUM, LONDON.
Grand Variety Company.

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Grand Variety Company.

LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.
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Grand Variety Company.

Bill Matter must be sent to the London Office Two Weeks before opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.
All Artists must carry Band Parts for Full Band.

All communications to be addressed to the London Office,
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"STELLA."
"ON A HOLIDAY."
"MARIAR."
"ALEXANDER."
"COAX ME."
"RUFUS, RASTUS, JOHNSON BROWN."
"HANNAH, WON'T YOU OPEN THAT DOOR?"
"EV'RY LITTLE BIT HELPS."
"OH, THE GIRLS, THE LOVELY GIRLS."
"COME ON, BOYS, LET'S FOLLOW THE BAND."
"HAVE YOU SEEN MAGGIE RILEY?"
"OH, WHAT A LOVELY DREAM."

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THAT'S MY IDEA OF A HERO.
I COULD LEARN TO LOVE A SOLDIER.
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DEAR LITTLE DAISY. BECAUSE YOU WERE AN OLD SWEETHEART OF MINE.
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A tipster goes into an eating house and bets the landlord that he cannot sit on a chair and imitate the swinging of a clock pendulum for an hour. Two £5 notes are placed on the table, and the landlord starts. The tipster meanwhile has a good meal. In a short time the landlord swings himself to sleep, and his family failing to wake him they fetch all the tradespeople to see what is the matter. Just on the hour the tipster takes the notes and walks out. The landlord is very surprised when his wife and friends succeed in waking him, and he finds the tipster has disappeared. About 412ft. The Subject, £10 6s. 0d.

THREE-HA'PORTH OF LEEKS.

A man sent by his wife for some leeks, calls for several drinks on the way, and, getting pretty elevated, he upsets several persons, and also a greengrocer's stock, which he cannot avoid running into. At last, after a very zig-zag journey, he arrives home, still holding fast to the leeks. His wife gives him a warm welcome, and their home is not improved by the knocking about it receives. About 345ft. The Subject, £8 12s. 6d.

CHILDREN'S MATCH.

A splendid film. Charming scenes, illustrating children's ideas of courtship. The rivals. The angry parents. The marriage ceremony. The wedding feast. The honeymoon. Very attractive. Nicely tinted. About 525ft. The Subject, £13 2s. 6d.

MRS. BROWN'S BAD LUCK.

Poor Mrs. Brown little knows what is in store for her when she prepares for a walk and bids her husband a loving adieu. Deeply interested in her paper, she does not notice some boys merrily playing at blind-man's buff. She next runs into a man who has stopped to get a light. A vacant seat in the park and an acquaintance to discuss affairs with. Sewing and talking, she does not notice a man with his stock of balloons who is sitting on the same seat. One by one the balloons are pricked by Mrs. Brown's busy needle, and the threatening attitude of the owner causes Mrs. B. an unpleasant five minutes. Bound for home, Mrs. Brown overlooks an open manhole leading to the sewer, and down she goes a terrific bump. She wanders about the sewer, tired and hungry, molested by rats and drenched with water. At last she succeeds in attracting attention, and is rescued by the fire brigade and carried to her home. About 375ft. The Subject, £9 7s. 6d.

THE WIG CHASE.

Wicked boys fasten some air-balls to a lady's wig, and this film shows the laughable adventures of the wig chased by a crowd of people through town and country, over bridges, up the Eiffel Tower, along the river, into houses, up the chimney. Finally the air-balls are captured by some boys; the wig is cut loose, and a street-sweeper sweeps the hair down the drain just as the indignant owner arrives on the scene. About 430ft. The Subject, £10 15s. 0d.

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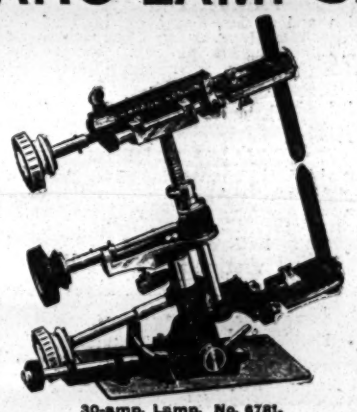

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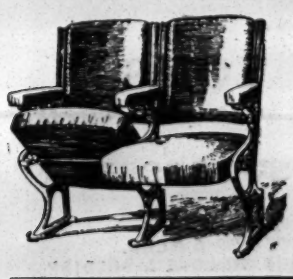

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Hepwix

No. 1017. **A POET AND HIS BABIES.**

A poet is writing a delightful sonnet. His wife is going out, and she brings him their eldest to kiss; he kisses the child, but to his horror his wife places it in a cradle by his side. Then she brings in the eldest but one, and places that in an arm-chair on the other side. Finally she brings in the tiniest baby, and forcing that into the reluctant father's arms, rushes out and leaves him just as all three children begin to yell their loudest. The distracted father tries to sooth first one child and then another, and his friend the Lieutenant enters while he is in the middle of it. He pushes the Lieutenant into a chair, saddles all three babies into his lap before he can say a word, and rushes from the room. The Lieutenant follows as quickly as he can with the three children in his arms. Then begins a chase of the wildest and most exciting order. The poet walks rapidly along reciting his verses as he goes; his friend the Lieutenant meeting the Colonel outside forces one baby into his arms and the two give pursuit; a policeman whom they pass is pressed into the chase and given the third baby to carry. They dash through the streets and out on to the tow-path by the river, followed by an ever-increasing crowd of children. Other policemen join in, and becoming imbued with the spirit of the thing, they seize babies from the arms of astonished mothers as they pass, and all, including the mothers, give chase to the distracted poet. By this time the crowd has swelled to about one hundred, and they swarm over fields and through hedges and tumble and scramble down the steep banks, until at last the poet sinks exhausted behind a blackberry bush. Then the people carrying babies begin to arrive, and very soon the luckless father finds himself almost smothered under a heap of six screaming, struggling mites, three of which may or may not be his own, and three certainly are not. Next come the mothers, and begin wildly sorting out the babies to find their own offspring, and they all unite in denouncing the unhappy man, who is marched off by the policeman. Length 450ft. Price, £11 5s. 0d.

No. 1015. **ITALIAN CAVALRY.**

The Cavalry of Italy is seen in this splendid film performing feats of horsemanship with that daring skill which has made it so admired throughout the world. With cool deliberation the company is seen to make their horses glide down almost impossible hills and over fences which bar the way. A comical element is here and there introduced by the fact that one or two members of the company being unsuccessful in their methods are seen to bite the dust with evident discomfiture. This beautiful subject, having been taken under Italian skies, is very clear and of splendid quality. Length 250ft. Price £6 5s. 0d.

No. 1014. **CUPID AND THE WIDOW.**

A young widow is turning over a number of old letters and lamenting her early widowhood, when Cupid breaks in upon her sorrow, takes away her late husband's letters, and carries to her, from a private drawer, some other letters and a photograph. He chides her for continuing to lament the death of a man whom she married only for his money, and reminds her, by a vision, how her true lover had been thrown over for the wealthy suitor. The vision shows a pair of scales, with Cupid on one side and a pile of money on the other, and as the money is showered in by the rich man Cupid's side rises and the girl's choice falls upon her wealthy admirer. As the vision fades the true lover, still faithful to his early choice, enters the room, but the young widow orders him away. Cupid, however, runs and pulls him back, and pushes the girl towards him, till she throws aside her mask of woe and welcomes the man she has always loved. Length 150ft. Price, £3 15s. 0d.

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" III.—Dick arrives at his favourite hostelry, "The Spaniards," Hampstead.
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" V.—Dick's thrilling leap from the window (*no dummy used*).
" VI.—Dick makes a dash for liberty from "The Spaniards" on his faithful "Bonnie Black Bess."
" VII.—Helter-skelter, ding-dong, hell-for-leather chase. "Gad, boy, how he rides!"
" VIII.—The old toll gate. Nothing stops Dick's wild flight. His bonnie black mare rises like a bird.
" IX.—Alas! Poor Bess is badly lamed and injured. With a last fond kiss for her master, she lays on the road side and expires. Capture of Dick by the runners.
TO TYBURN.
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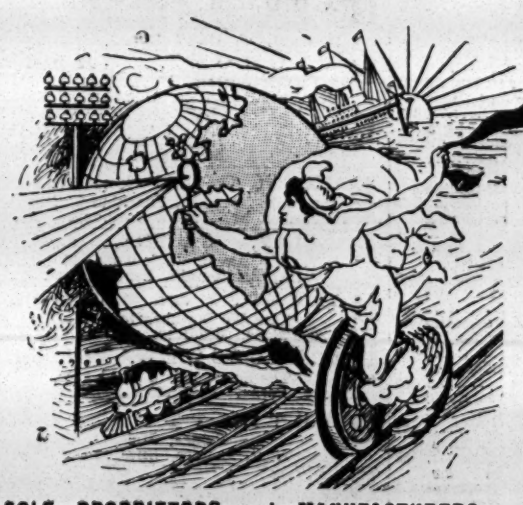

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Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
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Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessie, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown, Mr. Frank	May 27, 1905
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Callan, Late Mr. H. J	June 17, 1905.
Carlton, Mr. Arthur	Nov. 11, 1905.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Castleton, Mrs. Robert	July 15, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Cooper, Miss Florry	Nov. 11, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	August 12, 1905.
Corelli, Miss Hilda	April 15, 1905.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
Cullen, Mr. James	October 7, 1905.
D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
Daltra, Miss Marie	July 22, 1905.
Daly, Late Miss Maria	Nov. 11, 1905.
Davis, Mr. Tom B.	June 24, 1905.
Denmeade, Mr. and Mrs.	July 1, 1905.
Denton, Mr. St. John	March 18, 1905.
De Rohan, Miss Daphne	September 2, 1905.
Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James E.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry E.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr. Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Ellis, the Late Mr. Percy	July 29, 1905.
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Flinn, Madame Kate	July 29, 1905.
Forde, Mr. H. Athol	August 26, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
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Grein, Mr. J. T.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Gunn, Miss Haidee	September 30, 1905
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Hamlyn, Mr. J. D.	January 20, 1906.
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Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.
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Howard, Mr. Frank	April 1, 1905.
Howard, the Late Mr. W.	August 12, 1905.
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Johnson, Mr. William	December 16, 1905.
Jones, Miss Marie	April 1, 1905.
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Juliette, Mdlle.	January 13, 1906.
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Kenney, Mr. Charles	September 23, 1905.
Kinghorne, Mr. Mark	February 10, 1906.
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Lang, Mr. Matheson	September 23, 1905.
Lathbury, Mr. Stanley	March 11, 1905.
Le Hay, Mr. John	August 26, 1905.
Leggett, late Mr. Richard	February 3, 1906.
L'Estrange, Mrs. Louise	July 15, 1905.
Liddon, Miss Adele	August 26, 1905.
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus, Miss Kitty	January 20, 1906.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	March 11, 1905.
Love, Miss Mabel	December 16, 1905.
Ludlow, Mr. Charles L.	April 1, 1905.
Mackinlay, Mr. Sterling	September 9, 1905.
Maltby, Mr. H. F.	June 10, 1905.
Marinelli, Mr. H. B.	April 15, 1905.
Mario, Miss Minnie	April 1, 1905.
Maskelyne, Mr. J. N.	May 13, 1905.
Matthison, Miss E. Wynne	May 13, 1905.
Mervyn, Mr. Edward	April 15, 1905.
Miller, Miss Agnes	September 23, 1905.
Miller, Late Mr. Kennedy	March 10, 1906.
Mills, Miss Kate	Dec. 9, 1905.
Montgomery, Mr. M.	April 1, 1905.
Morgan, Miss Ida C.	Aug. 5, 1905.
Moss, Sir Edward	December 16, 1905.
My Fancy	February 24, 1906.
Nelson, Mr. Henry	April 22, 1905.
Neville, Mr. Henry	September 2, 1905.
Newham, Late Miss Rose	April 15, 1905.
Nicholls, Miss Clara	March 18, 1905.
Oliver, Mr. Will	February 24, 1906.
Pagden, Mr. Leonard	April 22, 1905.
Parker, Mr. Frank	April 7, 1906.
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Price, Miss Dora	March 3, 1906.
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Raynor, Miss Alice	July 29, 1905.
Rees, Miss Rosemary	September 30, 1905.
Revy, Mdlle. Aurelie	October 7, 1905.
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Sennett, The Late Mr. C.	November 4, 1905.
Shapiro, Mr. Maurice	June 24, 1905.
Sheridan, Mr. Philip	March 24, 1906.
Shirley, Mr. Arthur	March 3, 1906.
Sinden, Miss Topsy	Aug. 19, 1905.
Smithers, Miss Florence	April 15, 1905.
Sprague, Mr. W. G. R.	December 16, 1905.
Standing, Late Miss Ellen	April 14, 1906.
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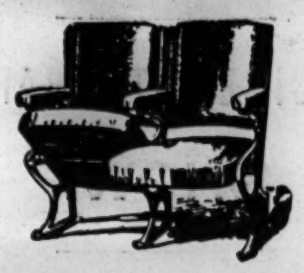

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INDEX.

	Page.
Actions for Deceit	3
Actor, Illness of	11
" Incompetence of	17
Advertisement of Artist's Name may be a Libel	81
Agents	2
" cannot appoint other Agents	2
Applicat'n for Theat'l Licence	53
" " Music and Dancing Licence	61
Apprentices, Contracts with	31
Ballet d'Action	52
" Divertissement	52
Band Music	74
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., to Lord Chamb'l'n	54, 150
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., Form of	150
Booth, when Licence Required for	50
Breach of Promise to Marry	41
Children, Licence to Employ	32
Children's Dangerous Performance Act, 1879	32, 95
Closing Times	63
Commission Payable to Agent	28
Consideration, Meaning of	2
Conspiracy to Damn a Piece	43
Contract, Definit'n of	7
" Form of Theatrical	5
" General Rules as to	1
" Grounds for Determination of	3
" in Writing or Verbal	1
" Made by Agent	2
" Made by Letters	2
" must have a consideration. no consideration necessary where under seal	2
" Setting aside	3
" Stamp on	3
" Variation of Written	2
" with Apprentice	31
" with Infant	31
Copyright	66
" Assignment of	67
" Duration of	67
" Infringement	76
" International	73
" Meaning of	66
" Mode of Registration of	66
" Musical	69
" Plays performed Abroad	69
" Remedies for Infringement of	76
" Act 1842	67, 100
" (Musical Compositions) 1887 Act	70, 123
(Musical Compositions) 1888 Act	70, 125
County Council	52, 61
" " Discretion of as to granting Licence	53
" Jurisdiction of	53
Criticism	43, 77
" must be honest	43
" Right to	43, 77
Crowds may be a nuisance	47
Custom of the Profession	2, 22
Damages	34
" for Breach of Contract	41
" for Breach of Promise to Marry	41
" for Tort	41
" Measure of	41
" must not be too remote	42
Dancing, Licence for	58
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897	32, 97
Defamatory Words	77
Disorderly Conduct in Theatres, &c.	43
Dramatic Copyright Act, 1833	98
Dramatic Piece, What is a?	71
Dramatising a Novel	74
Drunkenness no Excuse	17
Duologue, when a Stage Play	52
Evidence on hearing of Application for Licence	53, 61
Excise Licence (see Licence, Excise).	
Fame a Consideration in Contract	23
Fines and Forfeits must be reasonable	18
Fraud in Contract	3
"Hire" defined	55
Hissing an Actor	43
House, When Licence required for	50
Illness of Actor	11
" " Clause in Contract as to	16
" Manager may prevent Actor from performing	16
" " when it excuses	11
Infringement of Copyright	76
" " Remedies for	76
Injunctions	34
" Acquiescence will prevent	40
" conduct of party applying must be fair and honest	40
Incompetence of Actor	17
Infants	31
" Contracts with	31
" Licence to employ	33
Injunct'ns, Disobey'g	40
" Interim	40
" irrespective of Contract	40
Injunctions, not granted where previous compromise	39
Injunction only granted where injury irreparable	38
Injunctions party applying must have performed his part	35
Injunctions, there must be a negative clause	34
Injunctions to restrain Libel or Slander	40
Injunctions to restrain Nuisance	40
Injunctions to restrain Performance	40
Letters, Contract made by	2
Libel	77
" restraining	40
Licence, Effect of Want of	4, 55
Licence, Excise	63
" " by whom granted	63
Licence, Music and Dancing	58
Licence, Music and Dancing, Application for	61
Licence, Music and Dancing, Penalties on Breach of	62
Licence, Music and Dancing, when required	59
Licence, Theatrical	1
" Theatrical, Application for	53
Licence, Theatrical, Application, Evidence on	53
Licence, Theatrical, Granted Subject to Conditions	53
Licence, Theatrical, Granted to Manager of Theatre only	52
Licence, Theatrical, Penalties on Breach of	55
Licence, Theatrical, when Required	49
Licence to Employ Children	33
Liquidated Damages	39
London County Council, Regulations of	120
Lord Chamberlain, Bond Required by	54-150
Lord Chamberlain, Fees of	55
Lord Chamberlain, Jurisdiction of	52
Lord Chamberlain, Licence, Form of	150
Lord Chamberlain, Regulations of	146
Malicious Enticement to break Contract	31
Management and Audience	43
Manager, Jurisdict'n of, subject to Court	19
Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Mistake in Contract	3
Music, Licence for	58
" Hall Act, 1752	58, 93
" Copyright in Sheet of	69
Music and Dancing Licence (see Licence, Music and Dancing).	
Musical Copyright	69
" Compositions Act, 1882	70 123
Musical Compositions Act, 1888	70, 125
Novel, Dramatising a	74
Nuisance caused by Crowds	47
Opera, Copyright in	71
Order on Programme libellous	81
Owner of Unlicensed Premises liable	51
Partnership in Unlicensed Theatre cannot be enforced	5
Payment and no Room	46
Payment not essential to necessity for Licence	59
Penalties under Excise Acts	65
Penalties as to Music and Dancing Licences	62
Penalties as to Theatrical Licences	55
Penalty on Unstamped Agreement	3
Pianoforte Arrangement	71
Plans of Theatre	52
" Music Hall	61
Playwright	55, 68
Principal and Agent	2
Public Health Act, 1890	59
" House	61
" Performance	50
" Place	68
Re-engagement, Meaning of	28
Remedies for Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Remedies for Fraud in Contract	3
Representation, Right of	68
" Registration of Right of	68
Retaining a Seat	48
Rinking requires a Licence	59
Riot	43
Room, Performance in	51
Season, Meaning of	26
Seat, Right to Retain	48
Services, Specific Performance of	34
Slander	77
Song, when a Dramatic Piece	71
Song, when a Musical Composition	71
Stage Play, Meaning of	51
Stage Play, must be duly Licensed	54
Starring	31
Sunday Act	55
" Performing on Theatres Act, 1843	49, 97
Theatre, Patent	50
" Unlicensed	4, 55
Theatrical Licence (see Licence, Theatrical).	

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MR. ALBERT VERNON,
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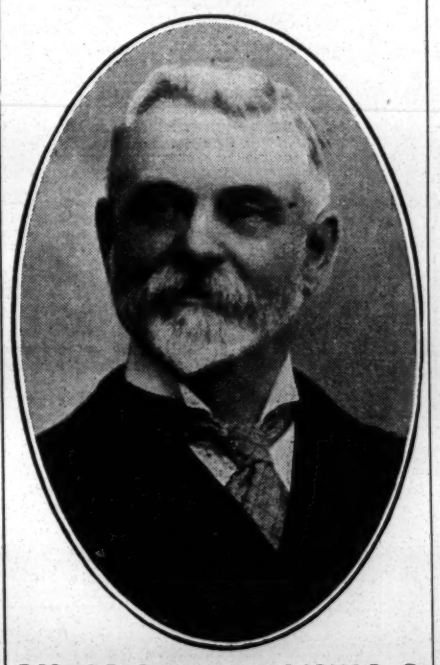

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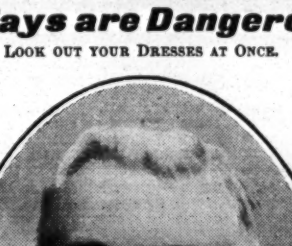

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NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON

APRIL 6. *Die Bruder von St. Bernhard*, play, in five acts, by Anton Ohorn (German Theatre)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 6. *The Drums of Oude*, miniature melodrama, in one act, by Austin Strong—Comedy.
" 6. *Punch*, toy tragedy, in one act, by J. M. Barrie—Comedy.
" 6. *Josephine*, revue, in three scenes, by J. M. Barrie—Comedy.
" 7. *La Révolte*, play, in one act, by Villiers de l'Isle Adam, translated by Lady Barclay (New Stage Club)—Bijou, Bayswater.
" 7. *The Fool of the World*, a morality, by Arthur Symons—Bijou, Bayswater.
" 8. *Maternité*, play, in three acts, by Brieux, translated into English by Mrs. Bernard Shaw—King's Hall, Covent Garden.
" 9. *An Abandoned Woman*, drama, in five acts, by Myles Wallerton and Frances Gillerton (originally produced at the Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, March 6, 1905)—West London.
" 9. *Forty Shillings*, comedietta, in one act, by F. A. Besant Rice—Brixton Theatre.
" 10. *The Viceroy*, historical operetta, in four acts, by S. Feinmar (produced by the Yiddish Operatic and Dramatic Company)—Pavilion.
" 11. *Count Hannibal*, romantic play, in four acts, adapted by Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge from the novel of the same title by Stanley Weyman—Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington.
" 11. *The Belle of Mayfair*, musical comedy, in two acts, by Basil Hood, Charles H. E. Brookfield, and Cosmo Hamilton; music by Leslie Stuart—Vaudeville.
" 14. *Dorothy o' the Hall*, romantic play, in four acts, by Paul Kester and Charles Major—New.
" 14. *The Dairy Maids*, farcical musical play, in two acts and three scenes, by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge, music by Paul A. Rubens and Frank E. Tours, lyrics by Paul A. Rubens and Arthur Wimperis—Apollo.
" 14. *Markheim*, play, in one act, adapted from a story of Robert Louis Stevenson, by W. L. Courtney—Lyric.
" 18. *Castles in Spain*, comic opera, in two acts, by Cosmo Hamilton, lyrics by Eustace Ponsonby, music by Harry Fragson—Royalty.
" 19. *The Bond of Ninon*, play, in three acts, by Clotilde Graves (Miss Lena Ashwell's season)—Savoy.
" 19. *In the Land of the Czar*, drama, by Edgar L. Noel (copyright performance)—Brixton Theatre.
" 21. *The Girl Behind the Counter*, musical comedy, in two acts, by Leedham Bantock and Arthur Anderson, lyrics by Arthur Anderson, music by Howard Talbot, additional music by J. St. A. Johnson and Augustus Barratt, additional lyrics by Percy Greenbank—Wyndham's.
" 21. *Three Lines a Shilling*, farcical sketch, by Malcolm Lisle—West London.
" 23. *The Bezsemenovs*, play, in four acts, by Maxim Gorky, translated by J. R. Crauford (produced by the Mermaid Society)—Terry's.
" 26. *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*, comedy, in four acts, by Alfred Sutro (originally produced in America)—Garrick.
" 27. *Tega*, play, in one act, by Hermann Sudermann (German Theatre)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 27. *Fritzchen*, play, in one act, by Hermann Sudermann (German Theatre)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 27. *Das Ewig-Männliche*, play, in one act, by Hermann Sudermann (German Theatre)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 28. *The Crimson Rambler*, play, in three acts, by Catherine Chilverd Young—Cripplegate Institute.
" 28. *Married a Month*, monologue, by Clare Shirley—Cripplegate Institute.
" 28. *The Key to the Situation*, duologue, by Miss Sydney Keith—Bijou Theatre, Bayswater.
" 30. *Her Lost Self*, drama, in four acts, by Nita Rae (originally produced at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, on Dec. 18, 1905)—Theatre Royal, Stratford.

REVIVALS.

APRIL 2. *Dinner for Two*, comedietta, by R. C. Carton (originally produced at the Trafalgar-square Theatre, March 22, 1893)—Wyndham's.
" 9. *Everyman*, morality play—Garrick.
" 14. *The Second in Command*, comedy, in four acts, by Robert Marshall, originally produced at the Haymarket, Nov. 27, 1900 (Cyril Maude's season)—Waldorf.
" 23. *The Tempest* (Shakespeare Festival week)—His Majesty's.
" 24. *Prunella; or, Love in a Dutch Garden*, pierrot play, in three acts, by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker (originally produced at the Court Theatre, Dec. 23, 1904)—Court.
" 24. *Henry IV.* (First Part), Shakespeare Festival week—His Majesty's.
" 25. *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare Festival week)—His Majesty's.
" 26. *Hamlet* (Shakespeare Festival week)—His Majesty's.
" 27. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Shakespeare Festival week—Ellen Terry jubilee)—His Majesty's Theatre.
" 28. *Das Glück im Winkel*, play, in three acts, by Hermann Sudermann (originally produced in this country at the Great Queen-street Theatre, Feb. 10, 1903)—Great Queen-street Theatre.

PROVINCES.

APRIL 5. *The King's Secret*, drama, in four acts, by Charles Whitlock—Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth.
" 5. *Ye Playhouse Plot*, comedy, in one act, by Maude Thompson (for copyright purposes)—St. Leonards Pier.
" 9. *The Mirror of Time*, episode, in one act, by Cyril Wentworth Hogg—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
" 9. *The Whirlwind*, play, in three acts, adapted from the French of Henri Bernstein by Harry Melvill—Theatre Royal, Birmingham.
" 14. *Dick Whittington and His Cat*, libretto, by Edward Marris (Easter pantomime) Theatre Royal, Belfast.
" 16. *The Gold Diggers; or, The Girls from Utah*, comic opera, in three acts, by Walter Wadham Petre and Claude Aveling, music by Walter Wadham Petre—Theatre Royal, Bath.
" 16. *For Life—And After*, drama, in four acts, by George R. Sims—Royal County Theatre, Reading.
" 16. *The Spider and the Fly*, drama, in four acts, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
" 19. *Cupid in Kerry*, comedy, in three acts, by the late Edmund Leahy, M.P. (copyright performance)—Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
" 19. *Okütoko; or, The Principality of the Simple Life*, musical comedy, by Dr. Harvey de Montmorency—Market Hall, Appleby.
" 23. *A Queen Without a Crown*, romantic play, in a prologue and four acts, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
" 25. *Only Human*, drama, by W. H. Harrison (copyright performance)—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
" 27. *Boy O'Carroll; or, The Rapparee Trooper*, play, in four acts, by Messrs. B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland—Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PARIS.

APRIL 2. *Paraître*, play, four acts and five tableaux, by Maurice Donnay—Comédie-Française.
" 3. *La Thune*, comedy, one act, by M. G. Fragerolle—Antoine.
" 3. *Babouche*, play, one act, by Jacques Liria and Louis Marsolleau—Antoine.
" 3. *Depuis Six Mois*, comedy, one act, by Max Maurey—Antoine.
" 3. *'Op o' My Thumb*, play, by E. Fenn and R. Pryce, French translation by Julien Sévère—Antoine.
" 3. *Sévérité*, play, one act, by L. Frapié and P. L. Garnier—Antoine.
" 3. *Une Vieille Renommée*, comedy, one act, by A. Athis—Antoine.
" 14. *Le Trèfle à Quatre*, vaudeville, three acts, by Nancey and Armont—Palais-Royal.
" 18. *La Griffe*, play, four acts, by Henry Bernstein—Renaissance.
" 26. *Le Clown*, musical piece, by Victor Capoul and Count I. de Camondo—Nouveau-Théâtre.
" 27. *La Vieillesse de Don Juan*, play, in three acts, in verse, by Mounet-Sully and Pierre Barbier—Odéon.
" 27. *La Patte d'Oie*, play, three acts, by René Péter and Robert Danceny—Théâtre des Arts.
" 27. *Oscar Baudriche*, fantasy, one act, by M. Fourtier—Théâtre des Arts.

THE DRAMA IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, APRIL 9.—We are having a series of benefits at the Grand Theatre as forerunners of the close of the regular season. The beneficiary of last week was Frits Tartaud, the sterling leading man of Manager Van Eysden's excellent dramatic company, and now it has just been the turn of Henri Poolman, the popular comedian and character-actor of the said company. Mr. Tartaud chose for his benefit a revival of *De Weldoeners der Menschheid* (*The Benefactors of Mankind*), a strong play from the German of Felix Philippi, in which the leading part of Dr. Eduard Marius may be considered as one of his best and most thoroughly rounded impersonations. Mr. Tartaud was enthusiastically applauded, besides being made the recipient of countless floral offerings and more substantial souvenirs. The evening was a doubly memorable one, as it was the anniversary of the twenty-five years' theatrical career in Rotterdam of this very talented actor. The programme chosen for Mr. Poolman's evening was the first performance of the farcical comedy from the German of Kadelburg, *Der Weg Zur Hölle*, given here in Dutch under the title of *Op den Breeden Weg* (*On the Highway*). This comedy-farce has been one of the latest successes in Berlin, and it bids fair to have a prosperous run here in Dutch. It is full of rollicking fun, and though but very frothy and trivial as to plot and scenes, it keeps the audience in a roar from beginning to end. The initial performance was made the occasion of a special ovation to Mr. Poolman, who was most comical as the henpecked Emil Dornwald. The other parts were done full justice to, an unequivocal success being made by pretty Miss Elsa Mauhs as the Spanish dancer Lola Cornero.

THE Royal Company of Amsterdam have given a performance at the Tivoli Theatre of Schönthan's dramatisation of "Little Dorrit." The dramatisation is not badly done, although it scarcely deserves a higher name than that of a sketch, as it merely reproduces a few incidents of the novel. The humour and pathos that have made Dickens immortal are, however, not entirely lost in the adaptation, so that the play is most pleasing. Miss Morel was too sharp in her manner and action as Little Dorrit, but was nevertheless most painstaking, whilst Mr. Schulze as old Dorrit gave a typical impersonation of the character, and deserves a word of praise.

THE Japanese Dramatic Company, under manager Paul Sydow, gave a number of performances here last week, first on two off nights at the Grand Theatre, and then at the Tivoli. This company has appeared in England in *The Geisha's Revenge*, which was the opening performance here. It is very primitive in construction and plot, and the same, indeed, must be said of the acting, at least from our point of view, and not from a Japanese one; but the novelty of the thing pleased the public.

NEWS has been received from the Dutch Indies announcing the death of Frits Bouwmeester. The deceased was an actor of some merit, particularly in character-rôles, and was the brother of the great tragedian Louis Bouwmeester.

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Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

THE Pioneers have arranged a triple bill for their second performance this season, which will take place at the Royalty Theatre on Sunday, May 20. The programme will consist of *Out of Sight*——, a comedietta by Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce; *Daughters of Shem*, a play in one act by Samuel Gordon; and *Compromising Martha*, a comedy in one act by Keble Howard.

"CASTLES IN SPAIN," which has become an established success at the Royalty, will probably have to be removed elsewhere before the 28th inst. to make way for M. Coquelin, who is to return for three weeks in a selection of pieces including Rostand's *Les Romanesques*, *L'Abbé Constantin*, *L'Attentat*, by Alfred Capus, *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, *Le Gendre de Monsieur Poirrier*, and a revival of *L'Arlésienne*, with Bizet's music. The season of French plays will also include Mme. Réjane, who will arrive on June 18, with Sardou's latest plays, *La Piste*, *La Souris*, and *La Rafale*.

THE King of Spain, Princess Ena, and Princess Henry visited the Waldorf Theatre on Wednesday, and witnessed the performance of *The Second in Command*. The Royal party occupied a stage-box, and were obviously delighted with the piece, King Alfonso, with the aid of his betrothed, entering thoroughly into the meaning of the clever lines.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—New Theatre.—Manager, Mr. Z. Andrews.—The attraction here this week is Mr. Charles Carte's company in *A Noble Brother*. Mr. Chas. Carte as Jerry, the tramp, is a capable actor; Mr. Paul Whittaker makes a dashing hero of Jack Elsworth; Mr. Ernest Wren represents the villain, Henry Travers, in clever style; Mr. Howard Thorne does all that is required of him as Colonel Richard Leigh; and Mr. Ronald Douglas is decidedly good as the Strange Preacher. Mr. Gerald Weston as Pipps creates roars of laughter, being ably assisted by Miss Rosie Conroy as Rosy Rapid; Miss Doris Brookes as the heroine, Nana Leigh, is an accomplished actress; and the part of Mrs. Leigh is well filled by Miss Alice Ballard.

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H C. Cavanah, C.A.—The comedy *Sunday*, by Mr. Louis Calvert's company, is well received this week by large houses. Miss Emelie Polini gives an admirable impersonation of the heroine, and the Colonel is finely played by Mr. Leonard Pagden. The four miners of Silver Creek are capably represented by Messrs. William Lockhart, Sydney Renef, T. Norman Waller, and Arthur Vezin; while Mr. Cecil Duncan acts with great skill in the character of Arthur. Miss Muriel Pope as a nun, Miss Rosalind Ross as Mrs. Naresby, Mr. Ernest A. Douglas as Tom Oxley, and Mr. Ernest Harrison as Abbott likewise appear with success.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Mlle. Rosina Casselli, with her highly-trained troupe of Chihuahua dogs, provides a remarkably interesting turn, and Mr. Frank Stafford, the Californian lyric whistler, also contributes an excellent entertainment. Vanola, the Mexican antipodiste, puts in some marvellous tricks; and Otto and Olga are warmly welcomed in their clever burlesque opera sketch. Mr. George Westland and Mr. Fred Collins are successful as Scottish comedians; Kioto is as dexterous an equilibrist and contortionist as ever; Cosgrove and Burns are entertaining comedians; and La Palone shines as a vocalist and dancer; while a series of interesting pictures is given by Vernon's bioscope.

Cooke's Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—This entertainment has now successfully entered on its third week. The programme is again greatly varied, one of its features being the number of attractive variety turns which have been introduced. One of the principal of these, not previously mentioned, is the wonderfully clever wire-walking act, which includes an exhibition of the cake-walk dance, by Mlle. Yetta.

ACCRINGTON.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. J. H. Clyndes' company opened here on Monday, with *A Royal Revenge*. Mr. Clyndes gives a masterly interpretation of the dual rôle of Estevan Alvarez and Pedro de Castro; Mr. J. Foxhill displays histrionic abilities as Nicholas Vargas; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne must be complimented on his Manuel Mondega; Mr. H. M. King submits a clever piece of acting as the King of Spain; Mr. Arthur is good as the Moor; Miss Annie Grattan gives a painstaking performance as Cosa Casilda; Miss Enid Edoni gives a charming impersonation of Inez Alvarez; Miss Grace Jones is the Mother Superior to the life.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—Will Vay's Juveniles top the bill this week, and fairly bring down the house with their comedy scena, *Life in the Slums*; Burley and Burley are quaint and clever; the Bros. Zampah are smart; F. S. Hulme is a good comedian; and Clark's Nippers submit some effective boxing, ball punching, and dancing; Ernesto is an excellent turn; and the Bioscope concludes a good bill.

ALDERSHOT.—Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—The Aldershot Operatic Society is this week occupying the boards of the theatre with *The Pirates of Pensance* and *Trial by Jury*, the performances being given in aid of the local hospitals and the Union Jack Club.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The attraction here this week is what is termed a love-romance, entitled *The Love that Women Desire*, by G. Carlton Wallace. Mr. Wallis himself sustains the part of an unfortunate outcast who has been robbed and left to perish in the swamps while diamond digging on the Rio Branco, Brazil; the hero is played with manly vigour and courage by Mr. David G. Noble, and the heroine with true womanly devotion and tenderness by Miss Lalla Stanhope. The three arch plotters are all admirably interpreted—by Mr. J. O. Stewart as the Squire, Mr. Hugh Newburn as Richard, his degenerate son, and by Miss Alice N. Livesey as the Squire's plotting, scheming daughter. Pattie is capitally played by Miss Maud Stuart; and Mr. J. W. Wilkinson is a droll policeman.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The big draw at the Hippodrome this week is undoubtedly the engagement of M. Prinz and company and his troupe of trained lions (some twelve in number). Mr. Bert Williams is an undoubted success as a ventriloquist; Leo Tell, an old acquaintance, gives a mimetic performance of exceptional merit; Levano is a marvel of muscular skill; Harry Tomlinson a vocalist with a good voice; Harris and Worth strike an original line in their chief song; Bertha Worth is a pleasing vocalist; Sam Shipley impersonated a "bobby" in good style; and Kisbey, the call-boy, also entertains. The Bioscope is also an attraction.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaughten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—A variety programme is again submitted this week here. Mr. Edward Ranier submits two sketches, entitled *The Pride of All* and *His Majesty's Coastguards*, both of which are well received. An interesting and highly dramatic playlet is presented by Messrs. Godfrey and Maynard, entitled *A Father's Love*; Playfair and Nichola, paper tearers, provide a good turn; the two Wiltons are acceptable coon singers and dancers; and other items are supplied by Miss Kitty Rhodes, comedienne and dancer; Rhide and Pealdo, shadowgraphists; Mr. Tony Iveson, musical turn; and Mr. Walter Payne's biograph.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Ilan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—A most attractive and diversified programme here is headed by the Lafaille Troupe with a novel and marvellous gymnastic and equilibristic performance. Sandy and Carl, in their acrobatic and boxing speciality, are well received; an amusing comedy scena, entitled *A Bit of String*, is given by Mr. Harris L. Bell and Miss Lily Pearl; Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures on the Palace Attergraph includes the "Life of Oliver Twist"; Mr. Fred Curran, eccentric comedian, is a favourite; the Sisters Daventry are popular duettists; and Monty, comedy juggler, and Mr. Tom Dunmore, comedian, complete the bill.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—Clyo's London and New York vaudeville company of concert and variety artists is here this week. Topping the bill are the Brantfords, in their latest American skit, *Prof. Muddlehead*, and Tom Brantford's speciality, The Human Band. Salmon, demon trick and musical cyclist, pays another visit, and secures his usual gratifying reception; Onda and Leon, horizontal bar performers, give a clever performance; and Mr. Henri Sardou, illusionist, presents a mystifying exhibition. Miss Marie Rivers contributes some good songs; Beanland and Bath are cartoon and comedy artists of no inconsiderable merit; Mr. Charles Danton is eminently successful in his songs; Clyo and Rockelle, in their unique comedy act, contribute a good turn; and other turns on the bill are Charles Burwell, quaint comedian, and Fred Harrison, comedian.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' company in *Passion's Power* is here. Lorah Varno is played with power and judgment by Miss F. Conyers Radcliffe; Miss Stella Carmichael makes a charmingly acceptable Countess Delauney, and Miss Lowe Dare a vivacious and pleasing Lucie. Mr. William Clayton's Prince Kandos is a fine elocutionary effort; Mr. Frank Radcliffe makes a vigorous General Zuran; and Mr. Steven E. Scanlan as Michael Laski is a villian of unusual impressiveness.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Henry Bedford is here this week with his company in the melodrama, *Gipsy Jack*. Mr. Henry Bedford is very clever in the title-rôle, a part he is most admirably suited for; Mr. Alex Alexander shows considerable ability in the rôle of Gerald Skinner; Mr. Sid Bedford supplies the humour of the piece in a very agreeable manner as Joe Banks; Miss Bessie Bedford was excellent as May Harvey; Miss Violet Alwynne gives a capital performance as Dorothy Dexter; as also does Miss Ada Antley as Nan.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—The Cee Mee Family are the top of the bill here this week, and they give an exceedingly fine performance on the swinging trapeze; Mlle. Lumière's electrical grotto is a beautiful show; the Sisters Marion, two young promising vocalists, score quite a success; E. J. Wilkes is a capable comedian, and his dog is trained to perfection; Arthur Slater, "the Man in White," is quite out of the ordinary in his whistling entertainment; J. H. Cassels, the Scotch comedian, is popular; Edie Endon is a pleasing comedienne and expert dancer.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—A revival of *Claudian* is this week meeting with cordial approval, and great praise is due to Mr. William Maclaren and his company for the excellent manner in which they present the play. Mr. Maclaren himself gives an impressive impersonation of the title-rôle, and has an able coadjutor in Miss Lily C. Bandmann as Almida. Capital support is given by Mr. Wilson Howard as Thariogalus, and Mr. George R. J. Austin as Agazell. In a much lighter vein the characters of Belos and Edessa are amusingly acted by Mr. Charles T. Chaloner and Miss Carlotta Anson.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—Very marked is the large attendance of juveniles, who revel in witnessing the latest novelty, *Casey's Court*, by the midget mimes; Wallau is a youthful juggler who is bound to make a name for himself; Rastus and Banks are a smart pair of coloured Americans who gain for themselves plenty of applause; George Prince scores with his Tyrolese parody song, and as an encore renders a humorous football song, with local allusions. Of Mantell and Oval, one of the gentlemen is a contortionist of merit, the other a comedy cyclist of skill; Flo Wood is a pleasing comedienne; Kathleen Gray, a vocalist, is also billed. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, as usual, conclude each performance with interesting and comic subjects.

BATLEY.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitby.—Mr. Morice Prendergast's company gives a good rendering of Mr. James Willard's well-written play *A Woman of Pleasure*. In the title-rôle Miss Theo Henries is conspicuous for a sound embodiment of the part; Mr. Jerrold Ord plays Lord Carlingforth with touching fidelity; Mr. H. T. Wood is impressive and sincere as the parson; Mr. Dean Cliffe is smart and alert in his comedy scenes; and useful assistance is given by Messrs. Fred Norburn, Arthur Gilroy, Alec Bradley, Fred Laws, and Misses Carlotta Blondin and Dolly Gilroy. Miss Rene Robertson speaks her lines with intelligence.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—The boards here are this week occupied by Miss Lena Stanton's company, under the personal direction of Mr. Harry Joseph, in the musical comedy *Bonny Boy Blue*. Miss Lena Stanton makes a vivacious Boy Blue, and Miss Minnie Melbah is a charming Dolly Dickory. Miss Millie Maxwell gives a satisfactory interpretation of Archie; and Nellie and May, dairymaids, find good exponents in the Misses Cecile Delaine and Carrie Herbert. Little Keno scores a great success; and the humour is also well sustained by Mr. Bruce Green as Dame Dickory, Mr. Will Terry as Lawyer Copall, and Mr. Geo. Bignell as Will Watkins. Mr. George Melbah ably depicts the character of Squire Longacre.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The attraction here this week is provided by Mr. George Edwarde's company in *Lady Madcap*. In the rôle of Lady Betty Clarridge Miss Marie Studholme is delightfully fascinating, enhancing her reputation here with her finished impersonation of the Madcap. As Bill Stratford, Mr. J. Robert Hale is decidedly humorous, and Mr. Arthur Langley must be commended for his capital assumption of Oroya Brown. Miss Nina Sevening, with her handsome stage presence, is a dainty Gwennie Holden, and Mr. J. Edward Fraser as Captain Harrington acts and sings delightfully. Other humorous studies are those of Posh Jenkins and Corporal Ham, by Messrs. Oliver J. Round and E. Statham Staples, who evoke roars of laughter. Miss Mabel Russell is a clever Susan, her dancing being much admired. Mr. Ernest Mahar as Count De St. Hubert furnishes one of the smartest impersonations in the piece. Mr. W. E. Richardson is an admirable Colonel Layton, and Miss Ethel Griffies appears to advantage as Mrs. Layton. Mr. Henry Latimer is a capital Lord Framlingham; and other rôles are smartly sustained by Messrs. Eustace Burnaby, Harold Parkes, Douglas Munro, and J. E. Walker. The chorus and augmented orchestra are under the able direction of Mr. T. Sutton.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The star here this week is charming Miss Marie Loftus, who is paying a return visit to this city with her delightful repertoire of songs. Miss Loftus was on Monday accorded a reception of which any artist might justly feel proud, encores being frequent and deserved. The Bros. Delbosque create quite a sensation with their marvellous acrobatic act, and Mr. Arthur Milton upholds his reputation as a first-class comedian. The Alaskana Troupe appear to great advantage in their smart act; and other engaged are Cordite and Buffalo, Little Salomo, Will Hebden, and Minnie Wren. The Palace pictures are always an attraction.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—Mr. Neil Kenyon, fresh from local pantomime triumphs, heads the bill here, and has created quite a furore with his humorous songs and witty patter. Kitts and Windrum appear in a succesful musical military dilemma, entitled *The Cuckoo*, and Mr. Charles Colby and Miss Lily May give their exceedingly smart ventriloquial act. Miss Gwennie Hasto is a charming comedienne, and her dancing is the very poetry of motion. Also appearing are Drew and Alders, the Three Cape Girls, the Jurgens Trio, in their startling act on rolling globes, and the Jagos, duettists and dancers.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Miss Belle Davis and her precocious "Pick Chicks" are starring here, and have been accorded an enthusiastic reception. The Les Valdos gain approval with their original absurdity *The Eccentric Motor 'Bus Men*, and Mr. Charles Chard is a capital comedian. Mr. Tony Iveson at the piano furnishes some realistic imitations, and Miss Emmie Ames stages her latest successful scena, *'Neath the Shadow of Big Ben*. Mr. Harry Bancroft's fine voice is heard to advantage in several songs, and the new pictures exhibited by the Alhambra Bioscope are a great attraction. Also appearing are Miss Annie Casey, a charming comedienne, and Mr. Dan Robans, operatic vocalist.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company is here in *The Power of Gold*. Miss Lilla Wilde scores as Lady Brandon; Mr. Charles Whitlock is the Malay doctor, and his acting is much appreciated; Paul Judson and Mark Harley have vigorous exponents in Mr. Richard Oliver and Mr. Albert Sefton; Miss Georgina V. France does exceedingly well in the rôle of Meg Judson; old Richards is well played by Mr. Donald Summers; and Mr. James Burleigh ably portrays Dobson, the British working man. The drama is relieved by the diversified antics of Mr. Ayrton as Sammy Smudge and shrewd Miss Madge Seymour as Norah Donnelly.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—The "B" division of the Moody-Manners Opera Company, Ltd., commenced a welcome return engagement on Monday in *Carmen*. Unfortunately, Mdlle. Zelie de Lussan was unable, through indisposition, to fill the title-rôle, but a most efficient substitute was found in Miss Rosina Benyon, who acquitted herself with much skill and effect, both vocally and histrionically, and to the entire satisfaction of a crowded house. Mr. Charles Carter gave a fine rendering of Don Jose. During the week *Il Trovatore*, *Faust*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Maritana*, *Tannhäuser*, and *The Bohemian Girl* have also been produced. The augmented orchestra was under the direction of Mr. Harrison Frewin.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Alaska, American comedy artistes, head the company, and furnish a very attractive turn. Harland and Rollison, in a clever and entertaining instrumental exhibition, have established themselves favourites, and Miss Lilian Warren, with some excellent illustrated songs, is also a leading feature. Les Voces, talented operatic vocalists, are much admired, and the capital company also includes Mr. George Collins, comedian; the Three San Remo Girls, in some pretty dances; Mr. Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; Mr. Jack Lane, the Yorkshire Rustic; and an interesting display by the Bioscope. Mr. Ernest Devaney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The Ian Maclaren Répertoire Company opened here on Monday in a cycle of standard plays, commencing with *The Merchant of Venice*. In this, as, indeed, in all his essays, Mr. Ian Maclaren as Shylock submitted a study as conspicuous for its originality as for its profundity. Miss F. Glossop Harris has fashioned her presentment of Portia on graceful lines, and Mesdames Mona Limerick and Gertrude Gilbert, together with Messrs. Gordon Philliott, Aubrey Mather, Rathmeh Wilson, François Cellier, jun., F. Stafford Dawson, Edward Landor, and others, are noted for their earnest studies. *As You Like It*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *David Garrick*, and *Richard the Third*, in all of which Mr. Maclaren plays the leads, have figured in turns, and Miss F. Glossop Harris as Rosalind, and Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Juliet have won golden opinions in these well-known parts.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, headed by the latter in the rôle of the erratic Taunton, has regaled large audiences with the new comedy, *On the Love Path*. Mr. Hutchison's performance proved most entertaining and clever, and Miss Lilias Earle as Charity Concannen played with charming taste and expression. Mr. Geo. Mudie assisted cleverly as Gripleigh; Mr. Frank Elliott made every attainable point as Gerald Marvel; Mr. Frank Hill as Peter Concannen, and Mr. T. W. Rawson as Denbigh Thraile were well within the picture; and Miss Margaret Marshall as Mary, and Miss Hilda Honiss as Nora Concannen played in a delightful manner. *His Landlady* preceded the comedy, and *Cousin Kate* has been revived.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*Sowing the Wind*, with which Mr. J. W. Turner commences a summer season of stock performances, for which he has secured a company of capable players, has allowed Miss Edith Turner further opportunities this week of enhancing her reputation locally, her performance of Rosamund being most noteworthy in its merits. Mr. Vincent Clive shows fine emotional power as Brabazon, Mr. Henry Bute characterises the rôle of Mr. Watkin in a clever manner, Mr. Richard Vane is successful as the lover, Ned Annesley; Miss Irene Rooke acts admirably as Maud Fretwell, Miss Annie Hill gives a most convincing ring to the rôle of Mrs. Fretwell, and Messrs. Arthur Soames and J. W. Macdonald as Sir Richard Cursitor and Lord Petworth respectively are well employed in the cast.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*An Abandoned Woman* is presented here to a full house nightly by Mr. Harry Foxwell, who figures successfully as Robert Saunders. Miss Georgiette Thiery represents the title-rôle, a woman of fierce, unbridled passions, with fine effect, and Mrs. Harry Foxwell in her charming impersonation of Eleanor Dean receives much sympathy. Mr. W. J. Butler portrays the malignant nature of the villain, Philippe Malvoisin, with sinister effect; Mr. Walston Foster is admired for his frank and manly acting as the falsely-accused captain; Mr. Russell Bogue affects the volatile spirit of Paddy Boyle with much gusto; Mr. Fred Park is clever and incisive as Sammy Sharp; and Miss Warren as Sally Sloper is vivacious and pretty.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville.—Mr. Frank Lindo and company present the fare here in *Home Sweet Home*, which is enjoying the best of receptions. Mr. Lindo himself supplies the heroic part in his excellently-drawn character of Stephen Armitage; Miss Marion Wakeford is both intense and sympathetic in her portraiture of the heroine, Joan; Mr. J. W. Henson submits a capital portrait of the old salt, David Armitage; Captain Gerald Gambier as the aristocratic father acts in keeping with the rôle; Mr. C. H. Lester shines as the insidious Lucas Lyle; and Mr. Geo. Overs as Dick Redmayne and Mr. D. Lawrence Doyle as the old countryman are very successful. Miss Daisy Rochefort wins all hearts with her charming acting as Dora, and Miss Hetty Webster and Mr. Sidney Bryant do good work in the humorous rôles.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—A clever variety company is appearing here in lieu of the dramatic fare ordinarily submitted, introducing a number of engrossing specialities, and also engaging in a funny pantomime sketch of *Sinbad the Sailor*. In this, Miss Florrie Bray displays much talent as Sinbad, and Miss Ada Clare is chic and otherwise pleasing as the hero's sweetheart; Miss Lilian Player is also popular for her good works as Sunbeam; Mr. Dan Idle is a capital antidote to melancholia as Mrs. Sinbad; and Messrs. Will Ellerslie and Arthur Allen aid in the fun as Tinbad and Weary Will. In the specialities proper the Sisters Ascott, who are most versatile artists; the Izons, duettists, &c.; Joe Cookson, a clever novelty ventriloquist; and Leslie and Player, duettists, in addition to the above, deserve the highest praise.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*Napoleon the Great* is presented here with much pomp and detail by Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company. Mr. Hugh Montgomery suggests the personality of Napoleon with striking éclat; Mr. Henry Earlesmere acts with well-studied effect as Lavarennes; Mr. Phil Harper as Jules Meuron gains repeated cheers with his well-acted adventures; Mr. Bartlett Garth as the Pole, Laczinski, gives a polished performance; Miss Maud Russell bestows graceful charms on the rôle of Mlle. Léonie Marbœuf; Miss Leslie Warner distinguishes the character of Marie Walewska by her clever acting; and Mr. C. W. Spencer as Sergeant Choupin. Mr. G. Acton Dix as Monsieur Fouché, and Miss Florence Thorne as Mère Dumont do well. Mr. Frank M. Thorne is excellently humorous as Pierre, and Miss Marie Harcourt droll as Marcelle Choupin.

Empire Palace.—Resident Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Hetty King is the star turn this week, and is well applauded for her songs. One of the finest pantomimic productions we have seen is *La Main*, which is an artistic, clever, and most attractive item under the direction of Camille D'Alberg. The Lindon Vaudeville Company has an excellent sketch, *Monks at Play*; Percy Honri delights his audience with concertina selections; Rosie Bartlett and Ruth Lytton are charming comediennes; Ruby and Laws have a sketch, *Cora's Visitors*, which is well received. Staley's Transformation Company remain another week while Sloan, who styles himself the Cigar-Box King, is an excellent turn.

Gaiety Theatre.—General Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Cruickshank has made a big impression here, his style, songs, and patter being worthy of the loud applause he receives; The Mackweys have a clever comedy wire act; May Moore Duprez, the Jolly Dutch Girl, is as happy as ever; the Three Clarions in an absurdity, *The Would-be Tenor*, are amusing; Kennedy Allen presents a scena, *The Actor at Breakfast*, which is well received; Will Farrell and George French are full of merriment; the Walleys have an excellent comedy juggling act; the Four Watsons, Professor Lionel Lee with his Animatograph, and the Korries make up a long programme.

Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—*The Prince of Monte Carlo* is being presented here by Harry Roxburgh, who is a smart comedian, and a good all-round company. Arthur Rigby is encored for his song "The March of the Married Men"; Alf Gibson is more popular than ever, his quaint songs and patter causing loud laughter; the Six Æolians are accomplished vocalists and dancers; Lalla Selbini is an expert trick cyclist; Regan and Ryan are as funny as ever; while George Grogie, Tate and Tate, Charles Williams, and Sid Brandon add largely to the mirth of the programme.

Bordesley Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—The excellent programme submitted this week is attracting crowded houses. May Edouin and Fred Edwards appear in their playlet, *A Bachelor's Dream*, which receives loud applause. A musical turn with plenty of comedy is introduced by the Warsaw Brothers; the Stuart Quartette score well with their singing and dancing; lively Lily Langtry is as bright as ever, her new songs being well received; a clever trapeze turn is that of the Urma Sisters; Prince Fee Lung mystifies with his weird tricks.

Curzon Hall.—The Royal Italian Circus is attracting large audiences here. The clever acts the animals go through do great credit to their trainers.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Eden Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. R. Addison, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. R. Addison; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. J. Huntley.—*The Drama of Life* has been played here this week by Mr. Lingford Carson's company. Mr. George M. Newall gave a manly rendering of Harry Beech; the villainous character of Walter Beech was powerfully portrayed by Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; a clever impersonation of Richard Brenton, a detective, was submitted by Mr Walter Steele; Miss Kate Hallam was most sympathetic in the rôle of Sylvia Beech; Miss Elsie May did well as Master Robert Beech; and Betty Black was capitally played by Miss Nellie Birchenough; Mr. Harwood Roberts was most amusing as Sir Dobson Wilde.

BLACKBURN.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—The Elster Gonne Opera Company is here this week in a series of English operas, opening on Monday with *Maritana*. Miss Marie Elster sings and acts well in the principal parts, and is capably supported by Miss Madge Quilliam, Mr. Gilbert King, and Mr. Payne Clarke.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company, in *The Gambler's Daughter*, is drawing crowded houses here.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A fine variety show is given by the Matweef Hugoston troupe of singers, dancers, and acrobats; Millie Howell, comedienne; Mersano, card expert; the Royare Boleros, comedy gymnasts; Virto, in his drawing-room musical act; Marie Santoi and troupe, in the illuminated Japanese scena, *A Japanese Tea Garden by Night*; Bert Harrow, comedian; Spry and Austin, comedians; and Arthur Reece, vocal comedian.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—*Facing the Music*, played by Miss Dorothy Cacey and company, is the attraction here this week. The important part of John Smith is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Windermere; Mr. Wentworth Lane supplies a careful study of the Rev. John Smith; whilst Messrs. Harry Averell and Knox Orde submit creditable impersonations of Dick Desmond and Colonel Smith respectively. Miss Cacey acts charmingly as Nora; and Miss Clare Manifield portrays Mabel with excellent effect. Miss Mildred Hodson as Miss Fotheringay, and Miss Evelyn Shelley as Mrs. Ponting, are likewise most acceptable. *Clause Number Six*, written by Mr. Windermere, and played by Mr. Averell and Miss Manfield, forms a good curtain-raiser.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Messrs. C. and F. Renad's company has possession here this week with *The Swiss Express*. The fun, which is fast and furious from start to finish, is supplied by the Brothers Renad, aided by Messrs. Herbert Lewis, George Martin, Owen Remonde, J. Carl Lyle, C. Gray, Harwood Cooper, and Misses Helen Douglas and Jessica Ford. The Edene Quartette of vocalists furnish special numbers.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—An excellent programme is found here this week. Harry Weldon, the swell entertainer, has established himself a great favourite; Ergotti and Luis are wonderful acrobats; Julian Mack shines as a patter comedian; and Eugene Joly is a famous cornettist. Hallam and Stanton, comedians; the Chrystals, vocalists and dancers; Rose Reval, comedienne; the Phontos, in a sketch; and the Ferraris, dancers, together with Vernon's Imperial Bioscope, complete the bill.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—*The Coal King*, a Lancashire drama, is this week being presented by a capable company. Mr. L. Maitland as Tom Roberts, the hero, plays the part well, and Miss Gertrude Valentine gives a sympathetic rendering of Grace Shirley; Mr. Harry Brayne causes much merriment as Jim Williams; Mr. Joseph Millane gives able representation of the character of Walter Harford, the villain; Mr. Robin Shiells is good as the Coal King, and Mr. Wilfred Grahame is a suitable Dick Shirley. Excellent work is done by Miss Joan Wellman as Mad Ann and Miss Hetty Cornwallis as Araminta Green.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The ever-popular Fred Karno's troupe of comedians are this week the great attraction here. They appear in *The Jail Birds*, *Mumming Bnrds*, and *Early Birds*. Other turns in the programme are Fred Keeton (eccentric comedian), Atroy (society juggler and hoop roller), La Belles Americaines (a quartet of lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers), Violet Ashcroft (vocalist), Violi (lady instrumentalist), and Charles Vincent (comedian).

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson.—Mr. Gus Levaine's pantomime, *Aladdin*, opened here on Monday to a crowded house. The scenery and effects are good. Miss Marie Harding as Aladdin wins applause with her songs; and Miss Florrie Gibson is a pleasing Princess Badroubaldor; Abanazer finds a capable exponent in Mr. Robt. Williams. Specialities are introduced by Leon and Leoni, musical experts; Watty Griffin, contortionist; and the Baden Troupe of dancers.

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—The New York Comedy Four are paying a visit to this popular house of entertainment. They use their admirable voices to much advantage in their clever and harmonious turn. Dandy George, with his wonderful dog Rosie, is well received. Theo. Hardeen releases himself from handcuffs of all kinds in a truly marvellous manner. Anthony, the mysterious gentleman in white, is a clever conjurer; J. C. Jimson, in his sketch *Pets at Home*, is very acceptable; and the same may be said of Evelyn Desa, banjoist, vocalist, and dancer; Rosalie Jacobi, soubrette; and the Olive Trio, comediennes and dancers.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. C. St. John Denton's company opened here on Monday in *Kitty Grey*. Miss Hilda Guiver, who has a good stage presence, is a fascinating Kitty, and sings well; Miss Marie West's rendering of Lady Binfield is excellent, her singing gaining many encores; and Miss Nellie Lauraine's impersonation of Mrs. Bright is given in true comedy vein. Mr. H. E. Garden as Lord Plantagenet is untiring in his efforts to amuse; and Mr. Robert Hyett as Sir John Binfield gives a brisk rendering of the part; while Mr. Lauri Lisle plays the amorous king in admirable style, causing hearty laughter whenever he is on the stage. The remaining parts are in safe keeping, and the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Forbes Russell, is an important factor in the success.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Brandon Thomas and company are this week paying another visit with *Charley's Aunt*. In his usual humorous manner, Mr. Thomas represents Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, and Mr. Walter Beaumont is capital as Spettigue, the solicitor. Mr. Stanley Cooke is irresistible as Lord Fancourt Babberley, and he has excellent support from Mr. Hastings Lynn as Jack Chesney, and Mr. R. B. Mason as Charley Wykeham. Mr. Sydney Compton is good as Brassett, Miss Lena McNaughton is strikingly effective as Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez, and Miss Marion Ripley, in the part of Kitty Verdun, and Mesdames Dorothy Deacon and Gladys Storey as Amy Spettigue and Ella Delahay respectively leave nothing to be desired. In *A Highland Legacy*, which precedes the comedy, Mr. Thomas represents with much success the part of Tammy Tamson, and he is capitally supported.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—A much modernised version of the late Dion Boucicault's drama, *The Streets of London*, is presented here with conspicuous success by Mr. Eade Montefiore's capable company, Mr. W. Rokeby scoring in the part of Badger, and Mr. J. Bracewell providing a fund of humour in the comedy part of Jonas Puffy. Miss Marion Armitage displays much exuberance in her impersonation of Dan, Mr. Henry Moxon, an old-time favourite here, gives a vigorous performance of the part of the old scoundrel, Gideon Bloodgood, and Miss Octavia Noel is fairly effective as Alida. Miss Edyth Goodall as Lucy, and Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie as Paul, win universal sympathy. Miss Helena Rigby is good as the motherly Mrs. Puffy, and Mr. H. Douglas Cottell acceptably fills the part of Mark Livingstone. The drama is well staged.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—A programme of all-round excellence is submitted here this week, George Brooks heading it with some funny songs, Walter Stanley following with humour of an acceptable quality, and Mike S. Whallen with up-to-date patter. The Lukushima Troupe of Japanese acrobats and equilibrists again submit with success their picturesque and clever entertainment, and in an acrobatic performance, combining skill and humour; the Rinaldos, too, are eminently successful. Terley submits a novel plastic performance; Lizzie Daniels, comedienne, contributes a capital song in good style. A return visit of Morton and Elliott, with their remarkable paper-tearing, clever harmonica playing, and good vocalism, proves acceptable. The Howards are again winning approbation for excellent cornet solo work, and the graceful and clever Trapnell Family of acrobats reappear with their accustomed deserved success.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—Topping a good bill-of-fare here, the Five Schiavonis, comedy acrobats, win hearty and unstinted applause. Hettie Lee, comedienne, sings and dances with animation; McCann's cleverly-trained terriers are put through a wonderful performance; a capital comedy turn is presented by Bliss and Bliss; the farcical duologue, "Married or

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.—Queenie Leighton, comedienne, heads the programme with a very pleasing turn, and very justly obtains appreciation by all parts of the house; the Hulo Hodgson and Harry Lowther Company has a smart sketch, *Barmaids*; Fred Peake and company score with their dramatic sketch, *The Hypocrite*, in which is a good display of rapier fencing; the Wilfords are expert Herculean equilibrists; Amy Alvira is a pleasing burlesque artist; the Sisters Valli excel as banjoists and dancers; Fray and Rich amuse as patter comedians and dancers; Charles Bignell, comedian, obtains applause, as also does Harry Cotton, eccentric comedian; and the performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The leading turn is by Dan Crawley, comedian, who obtains considerable applause; Mirza Ezzedin, Persian magician, performs many feats of legerdemain neatly; Nellie Coleman, low comedy artist, is highly successful; Lilian Bishop, male impersonator and step dancer, is pleasing; Hill and Lane present a good speciality turn of music, song, and dance; the Musical Palmers score with their selections on military instruments; Dome, comedy clay modeller, is clever in his line; and Harry Lynn and company amuse with the comedy sketch, *Dead to the World*. The performance concludes with animated pictures. Thursday's matinée is announced for the benefit of the Bristol Harmonic Male Voice Choir, with special attractions.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA, LTD. — Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—*In Holy Russia*, by Lilian Clare Cassidy, evidently retains much of its popularity, for it attracted a good house on Monday. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy (the authoress) plays the part of Renée Rubinoff, in which she is seen to advantage; as Micky Nolan Mr. J. Rice Cassidy keeps the fun rolling; Mr. Tom G. Warry does well as Count Gregori Petrolski; Mr. Louis Norman shows the avaricious and unscrupulous character of Michel Natolski; Mr. Arthur Stratton as Col. Dick Forrest causes much amusement; Mr. Joe Cuthbertson's Baron Von Pleve is a clever performance; and Sir Harry Beresford is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Copeland. Miss Beatrice Western makes a good impression by her portrayal of Catska Lavotski, and Miss Alice Marsden as Mme. Natolski, Miss Evie Norman as Natalie Natolski, Miss Annie Dudley as Mrs. Richard Forrest, and Mr. Carl Rovinelli as Laurice Stereagoff give adequate support.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company are here with *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Brough repeats his clever representation of Le Baron de Longueville; Mr. Henry Hampson is quite at home in the part of Dick Whortles; Mr. Charles Groves, jun., as Joseph Carbury is responsible for much fun; and Mr. James Skea makes a realistic Toby Krockitt. Miss Kate Milford plays with skill as Dorothy Whortles; Miss Evelyn Ormonde is charming as Millie; and Miss Eleanor Gilbart makes good use of her opportunities as Matilda Carbury. The play is preceded by a charming comedietta, *Margaret's Stratagem*. *The Saucy Sally* was announced for Thursday and Friday.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Another excellent programme is submitted here, including Miss Minnie Cunningham, who sings Irish songs in a pleasing manner. The Herald Comedy Four, in an Indian scena, evoke applause; Lozelle is a smart gymnast; Tom Moy, comedian, is good; and the Seven Wulfrunas, in *Fun in a Café*, exhibit clever acrobatic work. The Sisters Walmsley are worthy of praise; George Formby, comedian, is a favourite; Stanley and Vandyke, in an absurdity, *On the Shelf*, create roars of laughter; and Urbanora projects an interesting picture, "With a Travelling Menagerie through Cornwall."

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bonnett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The boards are this week occupied by Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company with *When a Man Hates* and *The Sorrows of Satan*. In the first-mentioned play the callous Corsican Danelli, who reduces murder to a fine art, is powerfully portrayed by Mr. Arthur Hinton. Mr. Graham Arthurs creditably interprets the part of the clerical lover; a veritable sleuth hound is the detective Smart, cleverly played by Mr. Travis Green; Mr. Gerald Byrne does well as the imbecile Paul; the woman endeavouring to atone for a sinful past is depicted with dramatic intensity by Miss Leila Zillwood; while Miss Lydia Ardre is natural and pleasing as Letty. Great amusement is caused by the comic business between Mr. Frank Brunell (Peter) and Miss Florence Zillwood (Dolly).

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Miss Mary Austin and company are paying a return visit here this week with *The Cotton Spinner*. Miss Austin displays considerable ability as Margaret Prescott; Mr. John C. Haydon makes a fine old John Prescott; Mr. Edwin F. Fysher as Lord Northbury and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds as Arthur Northbury both give capital presentations. Others in the cast who do good work are Mr. E. G. Edwards and Miss Bella Power.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A capital programme is provided here this week by Stelling and Revell, bar artists; J. W. Rowley, comedian; Lauri Wylie's mimicking mannikins; the Three Renards, gymnasts; Agnes McKellar, vocalist; Rosetti, a lady who plays the 'cello and violin; Milner Verren, vocalist; and George Schilling, who relates his experiences as a walker.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Broadhead and Sons; General Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A good bill here includes the six Brothers Luck in the sketch entitled *The Demon of the Cellar*; Tokio, Jap mimic; Dainton Girls, duettists; Jacko, man monkey; Cavilini Troupe, in a comedy act; and Minnie and Harry Groves in a model turn.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. Norman V. Norman and company presented *Count Hannibal*. Mr. Norman had a fine opportunity as Count Hannibal de Lavannes, and he made the most of it, his acting, both as a commander and in his softer moments, being excellent. Miss Beatrice Wilson has a graceful presence, and as Clotilde de Vrillac she was eminently suited. The Charles IX. of Mr. Brimber Wills stood out by itself. On Wednesday *As You Like It* was given.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—Messrs. W. Fraser-Brunner and Gilbert Heron's company is here in the comedy, *The Superior Miss Pellender*. The part of Mrs. Pellender is excellently portrayed by Miss Jessie Danvers, an actress of considerable ability; Mr. Tister is enacted by Mr. Gilbert Heron in an extremely humorous manner, and with skilful attention to the many amusing characteristics of the part; Miss Alice E. Belmore as Miss Pellender is quite successful, while Miss Jessie Ramsey is particularly suited for the part of Edith. Miss Alice Bowes, as Nancy, and Mr. George Belmore, as Noel, give interpretations that quickly win the admiration of the audience; and these two clever artists, with the assistance of Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner, present a curtain-raiser, entitled *Kit's Atonement*, that proves very much above the average.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman.—Proving an attraction here is the powerful drama, *Her One Great Sin*, well staged and capitally presented by Miss Blanche St. Albano and Mr. J. L. Jackson's principal company. The important rôle of Grace Warhurst is played by the well-known actress, Miss Lydia Donovan, while the company all round is one of considerable ability.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Heading the bill at the Empire is the popular comedian, Wilkie Bard, while a good second is Boswell's Stage Circus, with the ever-amusing revolving table. The Morton Trio are as entertaining as ever with their well-blended singing; the Six Lancashire Lasses are charming vocalists and expert clog dancers; the Maples give a humorous demonstration in *How to Treat A Burglar*; and the Holles and Goldman Trio prove most diverting in their successful musical melange, *The Little Charwoman*. Nellie Stratton, the well-known comedienne; the Canary Co., in a comic pantomime; Bessie Featherstone, a winsome artiste; and Harry Bedford, the second-hand aristocrat, complete the programme.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. S. M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Stanley.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company, in *The Sin of Her Childhood*, is filling the popular parts of the house this week. The piece is well staged and thoroughly interesting. Miss Ruth Sheppard, who appears as the much-wronged Mary Haysel, is an emotional actress of considerable power. Mr. Charles Fancourt scores heavily as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes, in the heavy part, emulates the feats of Palmer, the celebrated poisoner with a sang-froid which is quite convincing; Mr. Frederick Loyd successfully impersonates Captain Thornton; and a clever character sketch of the rollicking Barney O'Reilly is contributed by Mr. Hugh Brady, who is ably assisted by Miss Annie Megson. Miss Jennie Douglas Hicks does full justice to the part of Hannah Spry; Little Dot Moss makes quite a hit.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Palace Theatre, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—An excellent and well-varied entertainment is provided here this week. Yukio Tani, the famous Japanese wrestler, tops the bill. Mr. Charles Mildare's imitation of a parrot is distinctly novel; the Elgars contribute a capital operatic scena; the figures and business of Clemart, the ventriloquist, are quite out of the common; Miss Bessie Benson, as a sand dancer, scores a success; Geo. Bendon is a vigorous white coon; and Martine and Son, with illustrated songs, are popular. Vernon's Bioscope, with new pictures, concludes an enjoyable entertainment.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Mr. J. B. Elliott's amalgamation of stars is occupying the above place this week, and a first-rate programme is submitted. Of course the great attraction is the world-famous Savonas, who meet with a most enthusiastic reception. The finished manner in which these talented artists perform upon various instruments is little short of marvellous. A new item, written by Mr. J. B. Elliott, music by the Savonas, and scenery by Chas. Wood, entitled *A Moonlight Trip on a Mississippi Steamer*, was produced on Monday night, and met with instant success. The Cycling Elliotts improve with every visit, and their trick riding is appreciated to the full. The rest of the company includes Miss Peggy Fame, a really clever burlesque actress and eccentric low comedienne; Miss Nellie Gannon, contralto vocalist, who sings some descriptive songs very effectively; Miss Florence, who scores a hit with her illustrated songs; the Carney Bros., a couple of smart comedy duettists; Harry Wright, extempore vocalist, who is very popular; the Andreassen Bros., novelty acrobats and hand-balancers; and Rabbit, the droll, as popular as ever. Payne's Bio-Photoscope exhibits some good pictures.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company is presenting *The Prodigal Parson* during the current week. Mr. W. V. Garrod plays in a finished manner as the Rev. Tom Godley; Mr. Alfred Northway as the unscrupulous Enoch Jaggins shows considerable skill; as Ben Jaggins Mr. Frank Dallas speaks his lines with point and vigour; Mr. Walter Vincent is successful as Ned Kettlepin; Miss Bertha Kingston looks charming as Fern Godley, her singing and acting deserving much praise; the fun of the piece is largely sustained by Mr. W. Avery as Phil Drive; Myrtle Godley is cleverly presented by Miss Gladys Conover; and good service is rendered by Miss May Grayce as Gretchen. Miss Amy Shaw prettily acts the part of Pomeroy. The Radium Girls are smart dancers.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—Lovers of melodrama are having their tastes well catered for this week by Hardie and Von Leer's company in G. R. Sims's play *For Life—and After*.

BARNARD'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Effie White's kaleidoscope dance is very popular here; Harry Walker's patter just suits Barnard's patrons; Henri Bekker mystifies with his neat conjuring act; and Percy Murray and Co. are highly successful in *The Last Temptation*. As usual, Mr. Lacey is to the front, exhibiting a film depicting the wrestling match between Hackenschmidt and Madrali. Gladys Witton (vocalist), the Sisters Edwards (vocalists, dancers, and drummers), and Maxwell and Francis in a comedy act complete the list of attractions.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—At the top of the bill here we have The Selbinis in a smart display of cycling and acrobatic feats. Fox and Melville's illustrated songs find much favour; Maude Mortimer scores particularly in her topical ditty "When the blue moon shines"; and others appearing are Mlle. Leola (lady juggler and her page), George Barron (comedian and parodist), Frank A. Crisp (baritone), and Ethel Dove (comedy artist). The Edisonograph has among others a capital film entitled "The Coster's Revenge."

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company in *Dare-Devil Dorothy* opened on Monday evening to an enthusiastic house. Miss Dorothy Desmonde in the title-part scores heavily, and her rich contralto voice is heard to advantage; Mr. Walter Ashley is a dashing hero; Miss Ethel M. Darsley as Ruth Montrose is much appreciated; Mr. Henry C. Ward is excellently placed as Captain Dudley; Mr. Will Brereton as the faithful retainer, Silas Crump, sustains the chief burden of the comic relief, giving three highly amusing songs; and Silas's crafty accomplice, Hawkins, is well studied by Mr. Alf Stretton. Miss Nellie Harcourt, a lively soubrette, succeeds as Judith; and the Misses Lillie and Mabel Blake as Polly and Rosy Ann give exceedingly clever high-kicking and speciality dances. The stage-management is in the capable hands of Mr. J. W. Corinder.

CHESTERFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Mr. Harry Starr's company, in *Otto the Outcast*, forms the attraction here this week. Mr. Starr, in the title-rôle, plays with his usual ability; Mr. D. Cowell Clarke proves an excellent villain; Mr. E. Firth is good as the detective; Mr. F. W. Graham is a humorous Carrotte, and is well supported by Miss Elia Crossley as Susette; Miss Katie Norris plays with sympathy the part of Lara; Miss Madge Blundell gives a powerful delineation of Coriune.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé.—At the head of the bill this week is Mr. Charles Morritt, in his latest marvellous illusions. J. W. Swanson, character-comedian, presents smart and amusing impersonations; the Bros. Adderly are artistic singers; Rex and Ford, comedians, are responsible for much amusement. One of the most interesting items is the Blind Man, who quite astonishes the audience with his extraordinary memory. The programme also includes Jim Hegarty (negro comedian), Arnita (musical speciality), and Miss Muriel Denton (serio and dancer).

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke and company occupy the boards here this week, and on Monday evening opened with *The Naval Detective*. Mr. Kirke gives an excellent delineation of Lieut. Jack Beresford; Mr. Harold Wallace portrays with great effect the difficult rôle of Dr. Schriener; Mr. Mark Practice provides a capable interpretation of Capt. Hustie; and Mr. Charles Burns is admirably cast as Hans Winklepump. Miss Louie Fountaine displays ability as Phyllis Leslie; Miss Edith Claris makes a clever Susan Scrubbs; and Rebecca Gentle is well looked after by Miss Lily Seymour. *In Old Madrid* was billed for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—This week we have Mr. Allan Wilkie and company, with a répertoire of well-known plays, comprising *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *The Two Orphans*, and *The Sleigh-Bells*. The first-named drama was performed on Monday. In the title-rôle Mr. Allan Wilkie introduced the Lancashire dialect and mannerisms in unmistakably clever fashion, being seconded in a dramatic manner by Miss Ine Cameron as May Edwards. Mr. Clifford Kean played the detective Hawkshaw in a powerful and realistic style. Mr. George Lambton as The Tiger and Mr. George Greig as Melter Moss embodied those parts satisfactorily; and Miss Dorothy Barrington amusingly depicted the wilfulness of the youthful Sam Willoughby.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—The bill this week is more popular than ever, and is essentially a musical programme. Jean Priver's Royal Six are first-rate musical cyclists; Will Cornish, with his bells, is most refined; the scena introducing Mack Ollive, the silleur, is a capital item; the Sisters Albert sing popular songs and dance in clever fashion; Barney Vox, the ventriloquist, gives a highly amusing entertainment; and Flo Somers is a capable comedienne. The pictures this week are of a humorous nature.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. W. Reuben Payne's company is here this week with *The Orphan Heiress*. Mr. Albert Brasque gives an excellent portrayal of the part of Lord Warwick Ainsley; as Douglas Kingston Mr. Charles Boult is really good; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle does well as Laurance Gordon; and an able exponent of the part of Rev. Edward Ayton is found in Mr. George Handel, efficient aid being also given by Mr. Walter Fergus as Richard Craven, and Mr. Fred Ford as Sardien Loeki, Miss Rosalie Heath sustains the title-rôle with commendable ability; Miss Constance Medwyn plays the part of Edith Mowbray in a dignified manner; and as Lady Laura Ainsley Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh is pathetic. Olive Kingston is in the capable hands of Miss Edith Halford; the comedy element is supplied by Mr. T. H. Solly as Ginger, he being ably backed up by Miss Cora Duncan as Betsy Buggles.

TOWN HALL.—Secretary, Mr. T. W. Welford.—Scott's Royal Cinematograph company has been here for two nights this week. The following artists took part in the programme:—Mr. W. Atkinson, tenor vocalist; Mr. Fred Malburn, instrumentalist; Mr. Sam Kelly, Scotch comedian; Mr. Arthur Austin, comedy juggler; Mr. T. J. Scott, elocutionist; and Mr. S. W. Carlyle, solo pianist.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company presented here on Monday the thrilling melodrama, *Leah Kleschna*. Miss Haidee Wright, in the title-rôle, was a decided success; Mr. J. Graeme Campbell as Paul Sylvaine acted with great dignity; as Kleschna Mr. Robert Pateman gave a fine rendering; and Mr. Cyril Harcourt as Raoul was capital in the part.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble; Stage Manager, Mr. Lewis Tolano.—The star turn here is given by the Five Cumberlands, with a clever exhibition of cycle trick riding; Lorna Doone is a good vocalist and speciality dancer; Mlle. Sara's marblesque trio pose in some fine statuary tableaux; the Ettenas are wonderfully clever globe artists; Little Don is a diverting little comedian; the Two Eltons give an exceptionally clever horizontal bar exhibition; Loudoun Cameron is a clever conjuror; Gladys Archbutt pleases as a dancer; and Boyd and Gilfain, in a diverting operetta, are clever and sing well.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Wm. Bennett.—Hearty and appreciative audiences are gathering to witness Mr. E. Lockwood's company in *Sergeant Brue*. Mr. Arthur Reynolds is the roughly at home in the title-character; Mr. Charles McLagan is funny as Crookie Scrubbs; Mr. Arthur Stroud is successful as Gerald Treherne; Mr. E. Rogers as Michael Brue and Mr. Henry Chichester as Mr. Crank materially aid the success; Miss Lily Lingard achieves a triumph as Lady Bickenhall; and Miss Eva Weigh is responsible for a capable rendering of Aurora Brue.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, T. M. Sylvester.—Excellent houses are always assured at this popular house of amusement. The act given by Lady Mansel's Juveniles is an excellent one; Miss Fanny Wentworth is a clever mimic; Mahatma gives an interesting and curious turn; Whitsap is clever as a comedy juggler; Joe Love is a capable comedian; and Miss Bloom a successful comedienne; the Sisters Desmond are clever vocalists; Miss Ida Martini gives a good gymnastic display; and the Haverleys (vocalists) are well received.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Mr. Herbert Barrs and company are here again with the comedy-drama entitled, *Life*. Mr. Barrs himself takes the part of Jack Lockhart in a masterly manner. He is ably assisted by Miss Dorothy Oswald as Ruth Thorpe. The "heavy" part is in the hands of Mr. A. Pringle, who, as Sir Horace Lester, gives a good embodiment. Mr. H. Fuller pleases as Zac Krabbe, whose daughter Jess, impersonated by Miss Maudie Vincent, has several good songs and dances. Mr. H. Edwin shows a careful study as Peter Thorpe, and Mr. Willis Collins is smart as Joe Pippet. Miss Agnes Collier deserves special mention for her rendering of Beatrice Ferrars, and praise is due to Miss Shaw for her interpretation of Mrs. Moriarty. Mr. E. Cheetham makes a good Detective Blake, and Mr. Williams is well chosen as Inspector Young. Mr. Alf. Selwood is suitably placed as P.C. Nabbs, and Mr. A. Ord is in his element as Pat Moriarty. Mr. Arthur Wilson as Israel Jacobs and Mr. Leonard Ernest as Sam Sykes fully justify their selection for the parts.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's company, in *The Ruby Ring*, a drama in five acts by H. B. Maxwell and J. D. Hunter, is the attraction here for the current week. Mr. Frederick Sargent presents a clever conception of Cuthbert Vaughan; as Reginald Clethorpe, Mr. Horace Pollack makes a capital villain; Mr. George Mudie, jun., gives a meritorious performance of Charles Lynton; the part of Alphonse Leloir is in the very capable hands of Mr. A. B. Tapping; Mr. George Cecil Murray is well suited as Col. Clethorpe; and Mr. George Thorne, jun., is conspicuous as John Jenkins. Mr. Charles Langton is good as Henry Jordan; and Mr. Walter Selby as John Kendall, a solicitor, is the essence of law. Mr. Harry Collier is responsible for the humorous element as Peter Tagg; Miss Alice Farleigh is natural as Helen Neville; Miss Blanche Bayley is successful as Mary Richards; and Miss Clarissa Selwynne as Col Clethorpe's daughter. Miss Eva Bayley as Mrs Renshaw, and Miss Edith Matt as Mother Hicks are all satisfactory.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The attraction here is Mr. Louis Calvert's company in *The Duffer*. Mr. E. H. Wynne is successful as Robert Iles; Mr. F. Pennington-Gush gives a praiseworthy rendering of Charles Chester; Mr. Whitford Kane acts with dramatic effect as Paul Martin; Mr. P. Warringay deserves a good word as Richard Stamp; Mr. W. Fordiace is smart as Mr. Raleigh; and Mr. Kingsford Pearce is capital as James Deuth. Miss Margaret Montrose deserves high compliments for her portrayal of Lady Amelia; Miss Mabel Taylor acts with skill and ability as Mary Hillier; Miss Nellie Griffen causes amusement as Miss Bide; Miss Dorothy Cousen is efficient as Miss Montgomery; and Miss Florence Adale makes a pleasing Phyllis Wade.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—*The Girl of My Heart* is being well received here. Mr. Frank Stone is good as Will Stewart; Mr. Fred Morgan puts in genuine work as Major Fulton; Mr. Bert Morley is excellent as Captain Bridge; Mr. Lewis Gilbert is commendable as Peter Scragg; Mr. Joe Monkhouse is very funny in the rôle of Ben Lanky; Mr. E. Harvey White scores as Joshua Bradley; and Mr. C. F. Collins is a droll Gunner Phillips. Miss Nell Gillmore is quite up to the mark as Mrs. Stewart; Miss May Seton gives useful support as Sarah Bradley; Miss Marie Clavering is seen at her best in the rôle of Jenny Warden; and Miss Madge Morley acts with judgment as Mary Graham.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—A capital programme is put forward here, and is noticed in another column.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. Jas. Bell.—This week a variety company is giving here two shows a night for the first time in this town. Ching Ling Soo tops the bill with his marvellous conjuring; the Three Schaffers in their gladiatorial pastimes are excellent; the five Zerebinis in their musical turn are pleasing; Austin and Cowin give a charming entertainment; Frank Keegan and Co. score with their bicycle absurdity. Other clever turns are Ida Ross (Tyrolean singer), Dave McNell (comedian), Starr and Jerome (singers and dancers).

DARWEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—Messrs. Leon Wood and A. F. Allen Towers's company opened here on Monday in *The Hindustanee*. Miss Dolly Ross is exceedingly good as the Princess, and sings well; the part of Jones is in the capable hands of Mr. A. E. Behan, whilst Mr. George Barr is clever as King Kawffee. Capital dances are rendered by the Maharanee Troupe, the Three Behans's specialities are also much enjoyed. On Tuesday evening Mr. F. J. Robinson, the local manager, was accorded a well-deserved benefit; and in addition to the above, several local artists appeared.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. Chas. Harrington's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* company is engaged here this week. Mr. J. Carr repeats his success as Uncle Tom; as also does Mr. J. H. Renney as Phineas Fletcher; while Legree is well accounted for by Mr. J. H. Rogers. Mr. St. Clair has a good exponent in Mr. Stanley Howard; and the George Harris of Mr. Leslie Beaufort is a meritorious assumption. A similar meed of praise must be accorded Miss Hettie Johnson in the trying part of Eliza; and Miss Jennie Malcolm is all that can be desired as Aunt Ophelia. Topsy is humorously impersonated by Miss Annie Watson; and Mr. W. Langford makes a capital Marks. Little Eva is plaintively depicted by a child actress known as Little Minnie; while other characters capably sustained are the Cassy of Miss Ethel Mildmay, the Emmeline of Miss Carrie Ellis, and the Mrs. Sy. Clair of Miss May Turner. Among the specialities may be mentioned a well-executed duet by Rowe and Holden, some skilful acrobatic dancing by Shorty May, and creditable contributions by W. Langford, banjoist; May Vincent, ballad vocalist; W. H. Knott, coloured tenor; and Ikey Jones, eccentric dancer.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—The Lavails are appearing here this week in their sensational gymnastic act; Roma and Romani are smart and pleasing musicians; J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian, is diverting; Bennett and Martell are amusing comedians; the Sisters Lylle are attractive duettists and dancers; the Three Henres are skilful jugglers; and the Garden Troupe of International dancers are meritorious. The Palace Bioscope depicts the English Cup Final.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr. Fred Karno's company of comedians, in the successful farce, *His Majesty's Guests*, are playing to crowded houses on the twice nightly system. Mr. George Hestor, in the character of Sergeant Lightning, is the life and soul of the performance; Mr. Walter Purvis as Lord Easem submits a meritorious delineation; Mr. Chas Usher is the Mr. Miffin, and does well; while Mr. E. Travis as Harry is capable. Miss L. Castelle as Lady Maude plays with plenty of go; and Miss Dora Grahame as Dora submits a pretty rendering. The rest of the cast is well up to Mr. Karno's standard.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. G. Weldon.—Stylo, who is described as the champion hoop slinger, receives much applause; Lillie Coleman is an artistic soprano vocalist; and Ariella and the Rizarellis, in their respective business, are worthy of note. Shirley Liggins, coloured coon, and Fred Erick, quaint comedian, are good; and Beatrice Bonnie, comedienne, has good style. Wright and Elton, eccentric acrobats, have a clever act; and the Harriscope never fails to amuse.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. I. W. Chapman.—An excellent variety combination provides the amusement here this week. Wee Jessie, the surprise packet in song and dance, is admirable; Will Ivor pleases as a vocalist; Achilles maintains a foremost position in the rank of athletes; Gillin, ventriloquist, is warmly received. Much mirth is caused by the Bros. Onda, acrobatic comedians. An engaging turn is contributed by Lily Norbury, comedienne and dancer; and Will Dalton is loudly applauded. Will Rain and company in the novelty, *Motor Maniac*, with bioscopic illustrations, are well received.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Mr. Tom H. Taylor's company opened a six nights' engagement on Monday with *The Worst Woman in London*. Miss Florence Dalton, who plays the title-rôle, is an actress of much talent; Mr. Wallace Campbell portrays the part of Jack Felton with skill; Mr. Paul Barry Lewers gives a conventional reading of Vincent Lyle; Mr. H. H. Barring makes an impressive James Milford; a capital piece of work is the Philip Armstrong of Mr. Leonard Booker; Mr. Walter Clark is an excellent Detective; Bob Goldfinch is a most humorous individual as played by Mr. Percy Dawson; and an amusing sketch of Hugh Drayton is given by Mr. W. H. Monte. Miss Effie Bartlett gains the entire approbation of the audience for her prepossessing appearance and admirable acting as Ruth Milford; Miss Florence Lovell coming in for a good share of applause for her rendering of Matilda Parker.

THE EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietors, the Empire Palace Co.; Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Standfield; Manager, Mr. Percy G. Wraith.—This week the Weimars, musical tramps, are at the top of the bill, in *Sloper on the Wire*. Charles Lloyd is keeping up his reputation for smartly-written songs; the return visit of the Kays is heartily welcomed, and this clever company, including Miss Aggie Fenton, a dashing principal boy, appear in a humorous miniature pantomime. The Sisters Mayo, expert dancers, are well received; Karr and Kooney are funny; and Gladys Williams is also announced.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The boards here are occupied by Mr. Edward Compton and company. *David Garrick* was played on Monday, and again Mr. Compton assumed the title-rôle with his accustomed success. Mr. A. B. Imeson's impersonation of the Hon. Tom Tallyhant was exceedingly clever; Miss Mackenzie gave an artistic and pleasing embodiment of Violet; and Mr. H. Crocker submitted a particularly good performance of Alderman Gresham. Miss M. Hassell made an effective Mrs. Rumbelow; Selina was creditably enacted by Miss Muriel Meek; and the parts of Rumbelow, Sowerberry, and Simkins were all satisfactorily played by Messrs. Herbert Pigott, Arnold Lucy, and C. W. Johnston. A one-act comedy, *The Desperate Lover*, preceded, and was admirably acted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Secretary, Mr. George Parrington.—This week the Dublin Amateur Operatic and Choral Society are presenting the operas of *Faust* and *The Bohemian Girl*, the productions being under the able conductorship of that popular and well-known Carl Rosa tenor Mr. Barton McGuckin.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—*The Blind Foundling* is being played here this week by Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company. Mr. C. H. Phelps in the part of Gerald Dalton has a rôle just suited to his abilities; Miss Mabel Hall as Fairy evokes applause; Mr. Harry Tilbury sings and acts in a capable manner; and the rôle of Isabel is well portrayed by Miss Bella Tilbury. Mr. Frank Harvey submits a capital rendering of Reginald Ray, and Winnie Dobbins is effectively played by Miss Millie Doris.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Mr. Charles Baldwin's comedians, in an up-to-date absurdity entitled *Bank Clerks*, top the bill here this week, and meet with a flattering reception; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Findon are highly amusing in their comedy duologue *Two to One*; Bert Ryan, comedian, is highly successful; Daisy Meyer sings and dances in a charming manner; Herbert Shelley, actor-vocalist, is as big a favourite as ever; James Stewart, the original "tramp at the piano," submits an interesting turn; and Gracie Grahame, comedienne, has a host of admirers. Dave Poole is a capital ventriloquist, and the performance concludes with the Empire pictures.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The principal item here this week is Paul Vandy, whose clever feats of juggling elicit applause; Capt. Devereux's dogs are well received; Andre and Brenton's comedy sketch *Kitty* causes much laughter; Lawrence Barclay, comedian, is going strong; and Russell Hatton is an excellent mimic. Kitty Clover and company are seen to advantage in a smartly-played sketch, *Not a Word*; Rex Fox is heartily welcomed in his ventriloquial and musical act; and Helen Charles, pianist, vocalist, and siffleuse, meets with success; Harry Nelson, comedian, and Mamie Iris, comedienne and dancer, also entertain.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here: The Two Emms, society entertainers; Clara Parr, ballad vocalist; Will Emerson, comedian; Gravetta and Parr, impersonators; and Florrie Emerson, serio.

SAMUELS' EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The Irish spectacle, *Widow Machree's Garden Party*, produced here by Mr. George Howard, is meeting with success.

PAVILION (Kingstown).—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—This week we have the Olympian entertainers, who are drawing excellent audiences. Miss Winnie Harbor sings several humorous songs and dances with great success; the comic songs rendered by Mr. J. G. Taylor are encored; and Mr. Wallis Arthur's vocalism is greatly admired. Miss Annie Cleveland and Mr. Llewellyn also contribute successfully.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. G. H. Place's Alexander Opera Co. is staying another week here, and giving every satisfaction. Miss Marie D'Alcourt's Arline in the *Bohemian Girl* on Monday was a distinct artistic success, and received well merited applause; and Mr. F. S. Gilbert as Thaddeus, Mr. J. Kneale Campbell as Devilshoof, Mr. G. Ridding as Count Arnhiem, and Miss Madeline Humphreys as the Gipsy Queen all acted and sang with their usual artistic skill and ability. The répertory is the same as last week.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Deputy Acting-Manager, Mr. Rhodes Wells.—Sidney Lee is a big attraction here this week with his clever exhibition of sleight of hand. Another exceptionally good turn is Captain Zelah, with his performing animals; the Sisters Vincent are smart duettists and dancers; Lily Pender (speciality artist) and Vesta Wheelan (juvenile descriptive vocalist) are well received; Dave Gorman, character comedian, has some good songs; Bob Pearson (comedian) scores, and a cake walk competition is pro

assumption of Mrs. Madison Crocker; and Miss Mildred Baker does well as Edith Adams, the Vassar girl.

GRAND THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—There is much vitality in *Morocco Bound*, and notwithstanding many visits of the musical play to Edinburgh, Mr. Arthur Branscombe's No. 1 London Company, which brings the piece here on its present visit, is attracting good houses. Mr. John Wilkinson as Squire Higgins ripples with drollery, and his unflagging spirits and humour are powerful factors in the success of the performance of the play. As the genial Spoofah Bey Mr. Paddy Dupres gives a sparkling, exuberant impersonation; Mr. E. O. Freshwater is good as Vivian; and Mr. Walter Westwood is a capital Josiah Higgins. Miss Margery Gray, by her graceful acting and cultured singing, makes quite a hit as the Hon. Ethel Sportington; Miss Dollie Doyle is excellent as the Hon. Maude Sportington, and dances with delightful brightness and charm.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. C. J. Cawood.—Mr. Tom Costello has long been a favourite at this house, and his reception this week shows that he still reigns, his song about a five-pound note especially taking immensely; Mr. Bob King and His Midget Mimes produce great fun in their screaming farce of the *Palis of Varites*; a troupe of performing dogs and ponies, under the direction of Miss Tina Clementa, go through a number of tricks in a wonderfully clever way; as an imitator of the mannerisms of the late Sir Henry Irving, Mr. Edwin Barwick shows great skill; the trapeze performance of the Lios Alfa Sisters is both graceful and daring; and the dancing of the Dorrells calls forth loud applause. The Bioscope affords a very interesting turn, and other performances that make up an excellent all-round programme are given by Ernest and King, acrobats; Miss Amy Russell, vocalist; Miss Dora Lyric, vocalist; and the New Macs, Irish patter artists.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Dr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. Edward Neville's company is this week occupying the boards in *The Sorrows of Satan* and that sensational drama *The Anarchist Terror*. On Monday the play from the novel of Miss Marie Corelli was presented. As Prince Lucio Runanez Mr. Neville was most effective; and Mr. W. H. Wilson as Geoffrey Tempest did exceedingly well; and the same remark applies to Mr. Gus Bowerman, who portrayed Lord Lynton. Miss Rosie Neville as Mavis Clare, Miss L. Esmond as Diana Chesney, Miss C. Bryne as Mrs. Grimbes the lodging-house keeper, and Miss Flora Leslie as Lady Sybil Elton well maintained the interest in the piece; and deserving of commendation also were Mr. J. Le Fleming as the Earl of Elton, Mr. J. Nelson Turner as Geoffrey's servant, and Mr. R. Lawrence as the Prince's valet.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—The attraction here is *A Girl's Cross Roads*, one of Walter Melville's strong dramas. Miss Beaumont Collins takes the part of Barbara Wade, and her representation of the gradual downfall of the happy girl to the besotted drunkard is almost appalling in its realism. The other strong character in the piece is that of Farmer Meadows, which is undertaken by Mr. Chas. Franmore, in a manner which would be difficult to eclipse. Miss Nannie Meade acts with all the necessary reckless abandon the part of Nellie Meadows; while Miss Elsie Saville is good as Constance Cornell. Mr. Frank R. Robertson plays with considerable success the part of Jack Livingstone; while Mr. Roy Fortescue and Mr. John Brooks give faithful representations of Cuthbert Lumley and Luke Ramsden respectively.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—This week we are having a visit from Mr. Ian Maclaren's company in *The Prince of Rogues*. Mr. Alec W. Wynne as Frank Farrell gives a capital all-round performance; as Geoffrey Flint Mr. George Rammell is responsible for an interesting representation; Mr. Sidney Fairbrother is responsible for a very effective performance as Hyram Harwood; and Mr. James Fox as Dick is all that can be desired; Miss Dorothy Riddell as Winnie Harwood acts the part naturally; as Rita Congreave Miss Georgina V. Thomas meets with approval; and Mr. Harry Talbot and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaffe are responsible for the humorous element as Buggins and Polly Dibbs.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Frank Bertram's company opened here on Monday with *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr. Henry Belding gives an excellent rendering of Lieut. Reresby (the Rat); Mr. Oswald Lingard acts with dignity the rôle of Viscount Dorsington; Mr. Hamilton Deane is a particularly good Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford; Colonel Sir Henry Curwen is in the capable hands of Mr. George Traill; Mr. Charles T. Doe is an effective Colonel Bagshaw; and Mr. M. Wetherell is a satisfactory Captain Stanhope. Mr. Cecil Klein acquits himself well as Cornet Tresham; Miss Florence Tressilian as the Hon. Margaret Hungerford gives an extremely natural performance; Miss Kathleen Morgan makes the most of Mrs. Bagshaw; Miss Belle Donaldson is an excellent Helena; and the boy Batty has a good representative in Miss Celestine Bertram.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, under the direction of Mr. James Willard, is presenting here *The Midnight Mail*. Mr. George Harvard presents a striking portrait of Harry Steyne; Mr. Fred G. Evison's portrayal of Billy Brewer is a capital piece of work; Mr. Austin Mortimer gives a clever impersonation of Leonard Royal; and Mr. C. P. Wentworth's portrayal of Hassan Padisha is excellent. Mr. Dobell Lyle as Donald Craig, and Mr. Harry Emerson as Jasper Thornleigh, are successful in small parts. Miss Grace Lester's assumption of the rôle of Mary Steyne leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Hilda Merrilese makes a graceful Lady Phyllis; and Miss Mildred Carr is well placed as Nancy Brewer.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Miss Ada Colley, who heads the bill here, sings with her usual brilliance; Harry Tate's company, in *Motoring*, makes the house rock with laughter; Valazzi goes through a clever juggling performance; and the singing of the Two Cavaliers is much appreciated. Pete and Juno, a couple of "blacks," are smart coon dancers; and Alix Lukos, actor-vocalist; Clive Watts, comedian; Nancy St. John, comedienne; and the King's Bioscope make up an excellent bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Carl Lynn scores heavily with his animal mimicry; Miss Grace E. Leslie and company are producing a dramatic episode, which is well acted. Also appearing are Brown and Nixon, eccentric comedians, Volp and Volp, in a refined musical act; Cecilia Maude, descriptive vocalist; Belrose and De Velin, operatic duettists; Tom Colling, comedian; Carl Cavalli, ventriloquist; and Beattie Kent, comedienne. Downey's living pictures conclude the entertainment.

GLASGOW.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphrys.—This week the management here present Messrs. Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck's new romantic drama *A Queen Without a Crown*. The piece made a very favourable impression on Monday, the audience being quick to recognise the undoubted merits of the play itself, and also to show a warm appreciation of the excellence of the acting and mounting. For the part of Theresa Maria Miss Geraldine Olliffe possesses the needful dramatic intensity and force; while in the contrasting character of Countess Mercedes Miss Ruth Mackay acts with a pleasing grace and tenderness; as the young King of Balkaria Miss Helen Grenville gives another of her charming boy studies; the Ilga Branski of Miss Emma Rainbow, and the Duchess of Rudina of Miss Kate Kearney are carefully played parts; Mr. Eric Hudson gives weight and distinction to the part of General Dominica; an admirable type of character is seen in the Captain Michael Granius of Mr. T. Holding; another very pleasant effort being the Dr. Daly of Mr. Wellesley Smith; Mr. S. Creagh Henry plays Colonel Marcoss with strong effect; the Dr. Petrofski of Mr. Wallace Stranack is good; Messrs. Thomas Barry and H. C. Pritchard look and act well as officers of the Court; the incidental characters of Carolly (Mr. Owen Williams), Bertina (Mr. Fred Herrick), and Vasco (Mr. Maurice Drew) are all well filled.

ROYALTY. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. N. Downie.—Mrs. Russ Whytal is here on a return visit with Tom Taylor's *Lady Clancarty*, in which Mrs. Whytal acts the title-rôle with power, gracefulness, and pathos. A charming part is that of Lady Betty Noel, performed with great spirit by Miss Mabel Knowles; Mr. Claude King gives an excellent rendering of the hero Earl Clancarty; while the treachery of Scum Goodman is suitably expressed by Mr. J. J. Bartlett. Mr. Edward Beecher as Lord Charles Spencer gives a graphic picture of the heroine's unbending brother; some comedy is supplied by Miss Ada Marius as Mother Hunt, ably assisted by Mr. C. A. White, who doubles the parts of Robert Hunt, a tavern landlord, and Clink, a turnkey; Mr. Charles Combe makes a dignified King William III.; while Mr. Leslie Palmer as his confidant, and Mr. Arthur Hardy as his secretary, give entire satisfaction. Mrs. Russ Whytal gave a matinée performance on Wednesday, the proceeds to be devoted to the relief of sufferers by the San Francisco disaster, several artists from other theatres and music halls assisting.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—The management here have this week organised a special production of that hardy annual of the British stage, *East Lynne*. Miss Rosamond Mayne Young is specially well suited as the erring wife, Lady Isabel, and gives a strikingly pathetic rendering; Mr. G. Beresford Innes is also good as Archibald Carlyle; Francis Levison is acted with incisive force by Mr. Edward Sorley; Miss Lily Roselle gives a specially good account of the part of Barbara Hare; Little Rose Meredith is a touching figure as Willie Carlyle; and the good-hearted Cornelia is amusingly acted by Miss Anna Beaumont. Mr. Joseph Barker does well as Justice Hare, whose son Richard is ably impersonated by Mr. Max Copland. Mr. E. Bulwer Pitt is duly dignified as Lord Mountsevern; Mr. Montague Corri as Lawyer Dill, and Mr. Will Simpson as the Policeman, infuse the necessary spice of comedy into the play.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Much hearty laughter is heard here over the amusing situations in *Public Opinion*, Mr. R. C. Carton's clever farcical comedy, as presented by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. Mr. George Giddens plays his original part of Horace Wibsey, and is responsible for most of the fun; Miss Lillian Hallows makes a charming and attractive Pansy Bligh, and acts throughout with keen appreciation of the humorous possibilities of the part; Miss Emma Hutchison as Lady Diana Caldershaw cleverly embodies the modern society lady with her aristocratic manners and her slangy style of speech; Mr. Templer Powell makes a brisk and energetic Lord Percy Gilgour; and his fiancée is attractively played by Miss Mary Mallalieu; Justice Mulley is amusingly acted by Mr. William Hargreaves; and Sir Babington is equally well played by Mr. George Mallett. The juvenile Viscount Pomfley is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Harold West; and the hot-tempered Spencer Traughton is acted on conventional lines by Mr. Ernest Ruston; Mr. Andrew Jones as Smeeton; and Mr. C. J. Barber as Jowers, give clever little studies; and Miss Ida Laurie makes a lively lady's maid, as Charlotte. A clever comedietta, *The Stratagem*, is given in front.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Mr. F. Marriott-Watson and company are here this week with the sensational drama, *A False Wife*. Miss Florence E. Florence gives an excellent account of herself in the character of Lady Mansfield; equally fitting representatives of their parts are also found in Messrs. George Langham, W. Howard Barlow, Elton Morgan, John Cecil, and Miss Ellen Armor. The scenery and setting are worthy of special mention.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. Will White and company are doing good business here with *The New World*. The part of the hero, Jack Hawley, is admirably suited to Mr. Juan Di Alberte; and Miss Beatrice Moore acts with much earnestness as Jenny Williams; Mr. Will White displays sound ability as Col. Bijah Clayton; Mr. W. S. Stevenson gives due effect to the villainy of Jim Rawlings; and Mr. William H. Burton gives a good representation of Jose Alvarez. The Mary Walton of Miss Evelyn Robson is a careful and well-acted study; Mr. Willie Hicks as Pete keeps the house in good humour; Mr. Duncan Bell as Brutus Brown; and Mr. Stapleton Roche as Sam Smart make the most of their opportunities. Samantha is portrayed by Miss Maude Leslie in amusing style.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—Mr. John Power's company in *Man's Enemy*, which was at the Princess's last week, is now appearing before Govan playgoers, and meeting with a good reception. The leading parts are in the hands of Mr. Norman A. Overton, Mr. John Power, and Miss Daisy Halling, and an excellent performance is given of this clever play.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—An attractive programme is submitted here this week, the chief item being presented by Mr. John L. Shine and company in the amusing sketch, entitled *Hogmanay*. The Egbert Brothers, the happy dustmen, evoke roars of laughter; and Rich and Rich excel in funny patter and songs; while the turn submitted by Miss Ella Shields is far above the average; Roze and Calvert are well received; while the efforts of Ernie Mayne, the Simple One, are much appreciated. The other members of the company include Dean Bros., comedians and expert dancers; Denton and Rowland's Punch and Judy Girls; Elsie Robey, *The Slavey's At Home*; and the American Bioscope.

ZOO HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A lively comedy sketch is given here by Joe Elvin's company in *'Appy 'Ampstead*. The scene, representing the Heath on a Bank Holiday, is realistically carried out, with crowds of accessories, and Mr. Maitland Marler is well suited as Tommy Flipper. Terry and Lambert are paying an early return visit here, and their comedy turn is proving most enjoyable and popular; Alf Chester is a clever comedian, and his ditty, "I wonder if the sergeant knows," goes well; Burg, Haud, and Wise give their clever and amusing knockabout sketch, *Outside ye Olde Dunne Cow*; the Sisters Terry are great favourites, and come provided with smart songs; the Edgar Forrest combination in a smart sketch; Reilly and Taylor, dialect comedians; Harry Taylor, vocalist; and Biograph pictures of the great wrestling match between Hackenschmidt and Madrali complete a varied programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—George Bastow heads a good bill here, and comes provided with some clever songs and impersonations; August and Hartley give a wonderfully smart barrel-jumping turn; Edeson is a versatile comedian; Curtis and Vanity give an enjoyable comedy turn, the dancing of the lady being specially smart; James Willard and company appear in a novel and well-acted sketch, entitled *Did He Deserve It*; the acrobatic dancing of Lily Flexmore is heartily applauded; Musical Silvo's turn is a welcome one; and the dancing of the Broadway Girls is also a special feature of the evening's entertainment.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, B. C. MacLachlan.—La Berat, described as the Mystic Fire Maiden, goes through a series of pretty dances beautifully illuminated by the electric light; Dainez Comedy Circus is once more a pleasing interlude; and the Gotham Comedy Quartette are well received. Lee and Kingston in an amusing comedy turn, are deservedly recalled; capital vocal and instrumental music is given by Blanche and Powell, society entertainers; the Ten Genis are a troupe of excellent risley performers; American songs and dances by Hays and Suits are applauded; and Booker and Narbis, in a duologue act, *The Interviewer*, have had a good reception.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—An attractive programme includes Miss Carlotta Levy, whose latest songs, given in her usual clever style, are loudly applauded; Kelly and Gillette, in "Fun on a Billiard Table," are great favourites; Jack Hylton is popular with his funny songs; and in a song reminiscent of famous music-hall artists, Will Letters makes quite a hit. Queenie May, serio; and Sable Fern merit the favour of the house. "The Vocal Chameleon" is the title of Miss Frances Haskoll's electric illusory novelty. The scenic effects are good, and she sings with pleasing effect. The Wolkowsky Troupe, with their native Russian singing, instrumental playing, and whirlwind dancing, bring down the house. The Palacescope closed the performance with a series of new pictures.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. John Gerant and company are here with the drama *At Duty's Call*. Mr. Gerant as the unscrupulous Harold Allison gives a clever portrayal; Mr. Leonard Williams as Capt. George Allison is good; and Mr. Ernest St. John is particularly successful as General Gordon. Mr. Eric V. Rees as Hassan, and Mr. Ivan Mavis as Joey Trot, are excellent; Miss Edith Knight does justice to the rôle of Dora Drummond; Miss Georgina Hamilton acts with intensity the part of Salema. The humor of the play is in the capable hands of Mr. Harry Ugar (Terry O'Halloran), Mr. F. R. Gwyn Richardson (Jack Spencer) and Miss Harlington (Mary).

GLOUCESTER. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—Miss Marie Menzies and company in the drama, *A Rogue's Daughter*, are the attraction here this week. Mr. F. V. Fenn makes a favourable impression as Frank Tyler; Mr. Roy Gordon plays in excellent style the part of Sir George Mynard; Colonel Foster is ably undertaken by Mr. Richard Ferris, Isaac Isaacs being adequately represented by Mr. William Pimm. Miss Marie Menzies is responsible for a clever portrait of Lady Mynard, and Letty Grey is capably portrayed by Miss Madge Devereux. Mr. Tom Taylor proves a good comedian as Ebenezer Dunnem, and a screamingly funny burlesque on the strong man business is given by Mr. A. Hall Menzies, who poses as John Gibbs (Ercules). Miss Marie Robertson is smart as Priscilla Jenkins; Miss K. Raile as the voluble Mrs. Jenkins is successful; as is Miss Violet Leader as Dicky, a waif.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer and company are paying a return visit this week, presenting a fresh play each evening. On Monday, *Mary Queen of Scots* forms the programme, with Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer giving an excellent rendition of the hapless queen. The Earl of Leicester, Earl of Shrewsbury, and Lord Burleigh were capitally represented by Mr. Montague Lane, Mr. George Munroe, and Mr. Sydney Bland. Queen Elizabeth found a capable representative in Miss Katherine Herbert and Miss More Dunphe; Miss Ida A. Chapman and Miss Adelaide Cecil ably acted as nurse and attendant. On Tuesday *East Lynne* was played, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer making a sympathetic Lady Isabel. On Wednesday *Hamlet* was given, and on Thursday, *Sappho*. For Friday, *Nell Gwynn* was billed, and for to-night *Jane Shore*.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. J. A. Campbell has presented here this week his latest domestic drama, *The Little Bread-Winner*. He takes a prominent part in it himself, appearing as the Quaker, Lord Dorrington; and Miss Mary Fulton, who has been associated with him for some time, successfully portrays Margaret Daventry. As the unscrupulous secretary, Joseph Prior, Mr. Scott Leighton fulfils all requirements; whilst Charles Prior is amusingly represented by Mr. Allen Charles. Others who play important parts are Mr. David Gordon, as Richard Lawrence; and Miss Maude Buchanan, as Kate Cherry; whilst Miss Emmie Thomas and Miss Lissa Young give charming impersonations of the children, Meg and Bobby Trott, introducing pretty songs, dances, &c.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Albert Le Fre shows great versatility in his speciality, "That's What you See on the Halls"; plenty of comedy is provided by Stine and Evans, American artists, their divorce skit being very laughable. The fun is added to by Hall and Earle, smart eccentric acrobats; and also by the Mayvilles, whose living marionettes are cleverly manipulated. Lillie Soutter proves a special favourite, and scored a great success; Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope appear in an artistic dramatic episode, illustrative of a scene in the life of Napoleon; and others engaged are Ivy Gellard, comedienne; and E. W. Selman, comedian.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—A skilful and daring acrobatic performance is that given by the Ben Mahomed Troupe of Souasa Arabs. A capital display of strength is contributed by Strong and Mainze, who manipulated cannon balls with wonderful ease; whilst Mozetti also shows exceptional skill in juggling with weighty objects. The vocal turn of the Sisters Lytton is greatly enjoyed. Others who contribute to the programme are Clarice Netta, another pleasing vocalist; Charles Tempest, whose laughing song is popular; Maud Edwards, a lady ventriloquist; and Alf Bishop, comedian.

GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robt. Perkins.—On the 27th ult. *Merely Mary Ann* was played here for the first time by Messrs. Bright and Maxwell's company. Miss Margaret Fairleigh was a charming Mary Ann; Mr. Rupert Lister's Lancelot was good; Mr. Collard scored as the Rev. Smedge; Mr. J. Cranstoun Neville proved highly successful as Peter; Miss R. Hazlewood (Mrs. Leadbatter), Miss P. Emeric (Rosie), were capable exponents.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—This week we are having a return visit of Mr. Edmund Tearle's powerful Shakespearean company. On Monday night *Othello* was staged, when Mr. Tearle gave a fine interpretation of the Moor. The Iago of Mr. Wilson Gunning was wonderfully realistic; as Brabantio, Mr. T. W. Benson was humorous, and greatly relieved the heavier passages of the play; Miss Esther Tearle assumed the rôle of Desdemona in a delightful manner that cannot be too highly commended. On Tuesday *Hamlet* was presented, Mr. Tearle appearing in the title-rôle. On Wednesday and Thursday *The Three Musketeers* was given. On Friday *Julius Cæsar*.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company in *The Traitor Prince* is here this week, playing twice nightly to appreciative audiences. Mr. Montanni, as before, is responsible for the treacherous rôle of Prince Rao, and gives a finished portrayal of the part. Other characters in the play are capably sustained.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—A delightful programme is drawing good houses here. A turn of exceptional merit is provided by The Celtics, in a piquant musical episode, the instrumental portion of this being very artistically rendered; Mills and May are newcomers, but nevertheless they are listened to attentively; Bernard and Weston, Chas. Fanning, Albano Troupe, Sterling and Love, the Spanish Goldinis, and Janet Reynolds occupy prominent positions in the bill.

HANLEY. — ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Chas. Howard.—Mr. Louis Calvert's company is paying a welcome visit in that charming comedy *Dr. Wake's Patient*. Miss Olive Terry in the title-rôle contributes a refined and artistic delineation of the character; Mr. Douglas Vigors has a capital presence, and plays the part of the doctor in a manner which is admirably intelligent and effective; Farmer Wake finds a worthy exponent in Mr. Alfred Wellesley, his interpretation of the bluff sentimental old man being a wonderful piece of character acting; Mr. Arthur Willoughby as the Earl St. Olbyn is well placed; as also is Miss Ina Pelly as the Countess. Mrs. Wake is characterised in a truly motherly manner by Miss Amy Fauchette, whose acting is of a high standard; Mr. Cecil Yapp as the Bishop of Selby is distinctly successful; Miss Bronson, in the capable hands of Miss Beatrice Webb, is cleverly portrayed.

GRAND, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Mr. Geo. Leyton's company heads the bill in a musical fantasia, entitled *The Phonograph Girl*, which is both bright and entertaining. Mr. Arthur Sandoe makes the most of the part of Crookie Shanks; and the Lottie Stone troupe of dancers contribute largely towards the success of the entertainment. The Sisters Klos are seen in a wonderful gymnastic performance, which is much appreciated; Wee Mona, the gifted child singer and dancer, is heartily recalled for her clever contributions of singing and dancing; the New York Nippers sing well together, and provide an acceptable turn; the Two Neros, in their tumbling and bending exhibition, are well received; Hughes and Elliott are novel dancers of the rag-time order; and Little Zola is also highly successful. The pictures are, as usual, most interesting.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Everton and Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The position honours in this week's bill are shared by the Three Prestons in a comedy sketch *The Liftman's Rise*, which is brimful of irresistible fun, and Josh Dixon, comedian, whose business is provocative of hearty laughter. The Harc Trio in a novel ladder act do some work that is intensely exciting; Cassie Walmer, the dusky comedy queen, is an old favourite; Kid Johnson and Maisie Pelham in a pot-pourri act successfully introduce some smart ball punching. A sand dance on hands is the speciality of Velma; an acceptable number is contributed by Clara Victor, character-vocalist, and some new pictures on the bioscope are also an attraction.

GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Miss Madge Nelson and her No. 1 company are here in *Rogues of the Turf*, in which Mr. Preston appears successfully as Dudley Clifton. Miss Hilda Shirley gives a telling portrayal of Marion, and Nellie Flaxman has a pretty delineation at the hands of Miss Madge Nelson.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—An attraction of unusual strength is provided by Les Frasettis in violin, 'cello, harp, and xylophone selections. G. W. Hunter in song and dry story fairly convulses his hearers; a marvellous exhibition of acrobatic feats is presented by the Pichel Troupe; Frances Manners's fine appearance in "Good Old Days" gains for her a flattering reception; Happy Tom Parker is full of fun and frivolity; and others who add to the success of the programme are Harry Zetter (comedian), Davis and Davis in comedy act, Edna Latonne (comedienne), and Raymond's Bio-tableaux, with new and interesting pictures.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—A return visit is paid here this week by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow and company with *Under Two Flags*. Miss Molesworth gives a fine rendering of the character of the vivandière and Mr. Blow is suited to his rôle of the chivalrous Bertie Royellieu; Mr. Walter Rousby as Rake plays well in the comedy vein, and his singing is liked; he is ably seconded by Miss Nellie May, who, as Lavinia, wins success in song and dance. The revengeful Colonel Chanteroy is capably presented by Mr. Charles D. Pitt; and Miss Mabel Ormonde achieves success as the Princess Corona.

HIPPODROME. — Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—Mr. Charles Ashdown, eccentric, opens a good programme; a new speciality act is well performed by Raynor and Reece; Mr. Harry Wenburn is warmly welcomed; the new Hippodrome films are remarkably attractive; Miss Gertie Gitana introduces some pretty comedy; Miss Flo. Cecil, soubrette, achieves success; Mlle. Kloet illustrates picturesque poses; Woolmer Young is accorded a hearty reception; and a highly appreciated turn is given by Doody and Wright, the Australian comedy duo.

PIER PAVILION. — Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—A return visit is paid here this week by Mr. Thomas Sidney, supported by a good all-round company, and cordial interest is evinced in their presentment of *The Marriage of Kitty*. Miss Mary Thorne supplies a pleasing interpretation of Miss Silverton; Mr. Edgar Kent plays admirably as Sir Reginald Belsize; Miss Kathleen Russell displays exceptional ability as Madame de Semiano; and Rosalie has a good exponent in Miss Josephine Rae; and Mr. Thomas Sidney plays forcefully as John Travers; Mr. Charles Thorne as Hampton and Mr. Cronin Wilson as Norbury deserve special mention.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—Monday night's programme here included contributions from Mr. Geo. B. Bohee, Royal banjoist and entertainer; Miss Kathleen Marie, American expert dancer; Menard, a musical marvel; Savindo, komedy konjurer; Mr. Robert Davison, ventriloquist; Mr. Joe Harwood, comedian; Mr. Alf B. Millard, humorist and mimic; and Mr. Harry Sutton, comedian. For Friday night the manager's annual benefit was announced.

HOYLAND.—METROPOLE.—Lessee and Manager Geo. S. King.—On Monday night a complimentary benefit performance was given to Mr. King, the manager here. Mr. Roy Colville displayed marked histrionic ability as Mathias, in the dream scene from *The Sleigh Bells*; De Ora, gymnast, gave an excellent exhibition on the trapeze and rings; Crookson, handcuff king, completely mystified the audience by his wonderful performance; Mr. Geo. S. King displayed his powers as an elocutionist; the cake-walk, by eight local children, was vociferously encored; Master Lloyd Ball, vocalist; H. Dickenson; Geo. Rollinson, bone soloist; Fred Audly, comedian; A. Gedney, vocalist; E. Williamson, cornet soloist, were all good. Mr. King eloquently thanked the artists, the theatre staff, and the orchestra, all of whom had given their services free, also expressing his acknowledgments to his many friends.

HUDDERSFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—The new drama, *The Hindoo's Revenge*, is here for the week. The hero, Captain Bruce Glenister (Mr. Cyril W. Mackay), goes through many vicissitudes, and disguises, in consequence of the villainy of his half-brother, Captain Stephen Glenister (Mr. Frank Ridley). There is a humorous Irish doctor, Murphy by name, played by Mr. Arthur Willerby, who is in love with Diana Strong (Miss Lilyan Lait), whose shooting with a revolver is disconcertingly accurate. Sylvia Glenister is the much-tried heroine (Miss Daisy Snowden), and the Hindoo and his sister are played by Mr. E. H. Dobell and Miss Ethyle Murray.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—At the head of the bill comes the Col de Losse duo of clever and humorous slack-wire comedians. Other turns are Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, jugglers, whose absurdities are highly diverting; Lillian and Vera, a couple of ladies, whose skill with the rifle is wonderful; Miss Molly Wolstenholme, a good singer of good songs; Mlle. Lydia and Albino, equilibrists; the Sisters Charnley, singers and dancers; Alec Thomas, negro comedian; and the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Charles Carey's company in the new and successful musical comedy *After the Ball* is here this week. Mr. Victor Widdicombe has a congenial part as Colonel Menit, and is responsible for much hearty laughter; Mr. Walter Ringham ably sustains the rôle of Halliwell Menit; Mr. Norman Bowyer plays admirably as Dick Seymour; and Mr. Buckstone Clair, who is also responsible for the lyrics, gives an excellent performance as Martin. Miss Nellie Groves is an effective vocalist, and acts in a charming manner as Nellie Mather; Miss May Florance plays in capital style as Ruth Gay; whilst Miss Nellie James makes a neat and dainty Kitty. One of the chief features of the piece, however, is the grotesque character-sketch of Nancy submitted by Miss Florence Smithers, whose humorous songs are repeatedly encored.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. John Hart is to be congratulated upon the elaborate manner in which his revival of the popular comic opera *San Toy* has been staged and produced, and upon the general excellence of the company he has succeeded in bringing together. Mr. Frank Danby achieves a distinct triumph in his humorous portrayal of Li, and his topical songs meet with well-deserved applause; Mr. John Humphries is also successful as Yen How; and Mr. Dennis Drew does himself credit in the rôle of Captain Bobby Preston; Mr. W. J. Manning gives a characteristic rendering of Sir Bingo; and Mr. Alfred Clark makes a capital Emperor; Mr. Jocelyn Hope as Sing Hi, Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Fo Hop, and Mr. George Taylor as Lieut. Tucker are all capable exponents of their respective parts. Miss Fanny Dango is bright and vivacious as the wayward San Toy; Miss Louie Collier sings and dances well as Chu Sun; and Miss Maud Darling is equally successful as the maid Dudley; Miss Rhoda Gordon is a pleasing Poppy, whilst a *pas suel* by Miss May Gould is much appreciated.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. George Morton.—The interesting romantic drama *For Better or Worse*, presented by Mr. Fred Granville's company, is proving a successful attraction at this popular house. Mr. George E. Clive depicts Captain Hilliard with much energy and makes a commendable hero; Mr. Wilson Coleman gives an effective representation of Major Crawshaw; Mr. H. C. Lovell proves an excellent Lieut. Hector Dalrymple; Mr. Willie Black as Horatio P. Ranter is responsible for a great deal of fun; and Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh as Ned Earnshaw is also good. Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Olive Heathcote, the heroine, elicits the admiration of the audience; and Miss Amy Vennimore shows ability as Belle Baderstock; Miss Annie Lovell as Dollie Delaney and Miss Eva Reed as Melinda are also worthy of praise.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. C. E. Parlato and his vaudeville company are paying a fortnight's visit here, and submit a varied and enjoyable programme. Mr. Parlato's contribution as facialist and impersonator is exceedingly clever and much applauded. He is well supported by Miss J. Thorne, comedienne; Miss Ethel Barrs, cornet soloist; Mr. Walter Howard, comedian and "Musical Don"; and Mr. Will Bradford, eccentric comedian; whilst Parker's performing dogs, donkey, and goat provide an interesting turn. Some up-to-date pictures are shown on the Parlograph.

THE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Fred Storey and company head the bill in a weird sketch; Walter Munroe makes a welcome return visit; Bernar's fantachoes are an interesting contribution to the programme; Gladys Mavius sings and dances with much effect; the Four Olympians are a smart turn, and the Mariano Sisters on the breakaway trapeze perform a startling act. Other turns include the Dumond Minstrels, Max Yorke's dogs, and Jack Theo Trio.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—John Fay and company, old pantomime favourites, make a big hit in their sketches; W. J. Churchill is a good second in popularity; Will Souls, the eccentric laughing comedian, makes a welcome return. Other favourites include Ada Twibell, Ted Young, the Three Seabournes, and Nellie Merton and George Rydon.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—Aerian and Ostara on the flying trapeze and Permane's performing bears are the two leading items here. Mlle. Onra appears in a smart wire act; the rich baritone voice of Miss Clarence Raynor is much admired; an equestrian act by Mr. George is well worked; T. Anderson also appears in an equestrian act, as also does Miss Amelia. Among the clowns Little Valdo renders a good account of himself. The Maros appear in a triple bar act.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L

well-acted brutalities; Mr. C. W. Charles wins approval as Col. Stockton; and the comic element is successfully supplied by Mr. Dan Ryan as Garry Cullen, and Mr. W. H. Killey as Billy.

LEAMINGTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. R. Taylor.—For the fifth time this season pantomime is occupying the boards here, Messrs. Levaine and Clayton's company appearing this week in *The Babes in the Wood*. Miss Jessie Lindsay makes a dashing Robin Hood, singing several popular songs in a creditable manner. The character of Robin's faithful sweetheart Maid Marian is ably sustained by Miss Lizzie Levaine. Mr. Fred Fosco and Mr. David Anderson as Weary Willie and Tired Tim are particularly good. Berlinda, the nurse, has an admirable representative in Mr. W. Valmore, and Mr. Harry Sully scores as the Baron. The parts of the Babes are cleverly enacted by Little Lily Belle and Wee Madge Bingham. The specialities include an interesting turn by Mr. Percy Victor's clever dog orchestra; and the other turns introduced are the Valmores, the Ruby Quartette of dancers, and Mr. Fosco in an eccentric musical act.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart.—The Leeds Amateurs are making their annual effort on behalf of the charities with *Merrie England*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—All the best features are retained in the condensed version of *The Prodigal Son*, the interesting drama which is being done twice nightly at the Royal. The name-part is a virile performance by Mr. Ellerslie Pyne, whilst the accomplished rogue Ralph Marsden has an effective exponent in Mr. John Bryce. Mr. W. A. Buckstone presents the part of Harry Fanshaw with strength and power. Some welcome comic relief is infused into the piece by Mr. J. S. Chamberlain and Miss Rosie Kearns. Mr. Ambrose Horton, Miss Marion Forrester, Miss Nora Bedford, and Miss Nellie Hook have also a hand in the success achieved.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bush.—An interesting drama, *The Golden Ladder*, which claims the late Wilson Barrett as part author, is the attraction here for theatre-goers this week, and Miss Mary Austin and E. Vivian-Edmond's company presents the work in good style. Frank Thornhill, a young missionary, is admirably played by Mr. John Clyde; as the unscrupulous adventurer Mr. Graham Winsford is effective, and Mr. J. Milne Taylor also creates a good impression as the rascally cashier, Michael Severn. The heroine, Lillian Grant, is a charming and sympathetic effort by Miss Eva Moss; Miss Kate Haslewood enacts a trying rôle with good success. The comedy element is well looked after by Mr. Joseph Rowlands and Miss Nellie Graham, whilst Mr. T. Lionel Ellis, Mr. Harry Belford, and Miss Teresa Haynes are other prominent members of a capable company.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The new farcical concoction, *Moving In*, by Herbert Darnley's company, is a big item in the week's bill. An accomplished coloured pair, Johnson and Dean, are very entertaining in smart song and dance; the refined musical act presented by Florence and Lillian has been most successful; Spry and Monti are old favourites, and with vocal and comedy sketch obtain generous appreciation; an expert and novel juggling act by Mdlle. Olive is very interesting, as also are the evolutions of Celeste, an expert on the slack wire. La Tostia introduces a musical and speciality dancing act; Belle Braham submits new items, and Harding and Ah-Sid, eccentrics, contribute largely to the gaiety of their audience.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Herbert Lloyd is provocative of uproarious mirth with his eccentric comedy act. Among the comedians, Dan Thomas and J. B. Fayme provide a plenitude of amusement. The Sisters Poole, with novel specialty act, prove a popular turn; a clever vocal and dancing act by the Eight Lancashire Lads is high in popular favour; the mystifying Lind? again arouses the liveliest interest, and capital entertainment is also subscribed by the Vernon troupe of acrobats and Ada Fawn, the popular comedienne.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—The popular actor-vocalist, George D'Albert, is once again heading the bill here; Little Ganty is amusing with eccentric comedy business; the Gregsons have a mirthful sketch, which is much enjoyed; Florence Yaymen burlesques coon business in entertaining style, and Fred Hallam, comedian; Madge May, comedienne; Mori Mura, in a mystifying Eastern illusion, have many admirers.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—*The Catch of the Season* is being presented here for the first time in first-rate style by Mr. Charles Frohman's principal company. Miss Maie Ash gives a delightfully vivacious and refreshing impersonation of Angela; Mr. Frank Lincoln as the Duke of St. Jermyn's is to be highly complimented on an exceptionally clever and versatile portrayal; Mr. E. H. Kelly is very good as Lord Dundreary, and Master Grata as Bucket scores a popular success. Miss Ida Mann is excellent as Lady Crystal; Miss Belle Napier, as Lady Caterham, plays with distinction; Miss Hilda Stewart makes a good impression as the Duchess of St. Jermyn's, and Miss Hettie Muret and Miss Alice Lethbridge as the Hon. Misses Bedford are well placed. Miss Lethbridge repeats her big success as a dainty dancer. Both Mr. Julian Cross as Sir John Crystal and Mr. Alfred Lloyd as William Gibson are to be praised for capital impersonations.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's principal company, presenting the modern drama *The Poor Must Live*, provides the attraction here this week. Mr. Charles O'Connor makes a good impression as the Earl of Marswood; Mr. Harold C. Macartney is excellent as Donald, Mr. Geoffrey Fulton plays with ability as Clifton Manville, Mr. Shaun Glenville is mirth-provoking as Hooker Holdsnitch, Mr. Herbert Clifton scores a success as Dick Sully; Mr. Arthur Trail is amusing as Sam Sully, Miss Olive Fulton displays histrionic ability as Olga D'Eyncourt. Miss Violet Hammersleigh as the Earl's ward, Dorothy Murdock, is good, Miss Marguerite Thorne does well as Sal Darling, and as Moya Darling Miss Alice Buckland is commendable.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The premier attraction this week is the new and original musical comedy sketch, *Missing; or, The Light of Day*, presented by Mr. Johnnie Schofield and Mr. J. C. Piddock and Co., which well deserves the hearty appreciation bestowed. Mr. Johnnie Schofield keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter as Crooky, and Mr. J. C. Piddock, as Jack Carlyn, has a part which allows for the full display of his versatile talents. Miss Marie Adair as Lily Bardsley is very good, and Miss Pearl Keats dances cleverly as Irma. Miss Josephine Sabel, the American eccentric, is paying a first visit, and captivates the house with a turn which is full of cleverness and "go." Alma, Abdullah, and La Superbe are presenting their charming electrical display, *Electra's Bower*, which delights all sections of the audience. Geoffreys and Benson are scoring a well deserved success with their well-acted and extremely funny little comedy, entitled *Spoofed*. The Maningos are wonderfully smart equilibrists. The Violas, the well-known white Mahatmas, bewilder the house with their smart second sight act. Unthan, the armless wonder, is accorded a good reception; the Clarke's are responsible for a brilliant and enjoyable performance on the banjos, and both Miss Ethel Ra Leslie and Miss Madge Carlyle render their songs in a style which elicits hearty appreciation.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—At the head of this week's programme is Sid Cotterell and Co., who are on a return visit with the comedy sketch *The Substitute*, which keeps the audience in one continual roar of laughter; Drum and Major, the comedy couple, create much amusement with a clever turn; Nash and Noel are mirth-provoking comedians and smart dancers; Dobito and Burton, costume duettists, sing extremely well; Lola Patey is a dainty comedienne; Ray Royal, chorus vocalist, is scoring a success; Lade Henderson is an excellent character vocalist, and Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope is also an attraction.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst. This week the boards here are occupied by Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company in the romantic play, *Proof*. Mr. Gerald Kennedy gives a manly impersonation of Pierre Lorance, Mr. William Dexter submits a good representation of the scoundrel Lazare; the Duke d'Aubeterre is well embodied by Mr. St. Vincent Beechey, Mr. G. Garney-Vane is a dignified Victor de Laugney, Miss May Grimshaw displays ability and grace as Valentine, Miss Lucy Prittie-Tydd carefully delineates the part of Adrienne. Miss Dorothy White is a charming Duchess d'Aubeterre, and Miss Phena White, as Madame Deprets, is all that could be desired.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—*The Rich and Poor of London* is being played here by Mr. Sidney Dench's powerful No. 1 company. The difficult but interesting part of Spider Jack is taken by Mr. Dench, who, both musically and histrionically, is a host in himself; Miss Dora Dench appears as May Braithwaite, the hospital nurse, of which part she gives a highly-pleasing account; a word of praise, too, should be given to Master Bert Dench's Dixie, the singing street-waif; Miss Emily Woodleigh as a baby-farmer, Miss Lilly Artis as a flower-girl, and the Misses Lillian Burns, Brown, Mary Mignon, and Ethel Denville fill other rôles with much acceptance; while out of a large cast of gentlemen, mention may be made of Messrs. F. Danver, Walter Foster, Robert Hall, Arthur Hartley, C. Haxeltine, Malcome Gascoigne, Jack Sydney, and Fred Allen.

LIMERICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Robert Fogerty.—We have the Irish Animated Picture company with us this week, and the audiences nightly are large and enthusiastic. In addition to the beautiful scenic effects produced by the electric Bioscope, Miss Hilda Mooney plays some delightful selections on the violin, and Mr. Frank Goggin sings appropriate verses, which are well illustrated. Mr. Chapman is the popular guide.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Nowhere in the provinces is Mr. Martin Harvey more popular and welcome than in the city on the Mersey, and this week especially his visit has been looked forward to with keen interest, by reason of the fact that his new comedy *The Rapparee Trooper* was promised for presentation. The play first saw the light in Newcastle last week, when the above title was, at the eleventh hour, altered to *Boy O'Carroll; or, The Rapparee Trooper*, under which designation it was submitted to Liverpool for approval. The bookings for the whole of the week were heavy, and crowded and enthusiastic audiences assembled to accord the popular actor and his powerful company a hearty greeting. In fact, on each evening the curtain had to be raised several times, so continuous was the applause. As for the acting and scenic beauties of Mr. Harvey's latest venture, there was nothing but unrestrained praise. Mr. Harvey acquitted himself well as the rollicking Irish trooper who unconsciously landed himself into serious scrapes; Miss De Silva, as his companion, in the character of Paudheen, was very funny, putting plenty of life and spirit into her work; that delightful actress, Miss Kate Rorke, showed all her high accomplishments to the full as Lady Honoria; Mr. C. J. Cameron ably filled the part of Major Yarrington; a well-drawn figure was that of Captain Hebblethwaite by Mr. Thalberg Corbett; Miss Maud Rivers played with a charming simplicity the character of the Puritan niece, Lettice; Miss Bessie Elder created much amusement as Tabitha; and Miss Grace Hampton gave satisfaction as Win-the-fight-Bubb. On Monday the favourite, *Cigarette Maker's Romance* was staged, and on Friday and Saturday, *The Breed of the Treshams*.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Lessees, the Shakespeare Theatre Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Well-merited and satisfactory success is following the production of *Peter Pan*, now in the second of its three-weeks run. On all hands the highest praise is bestowed upon Barrie's artistic work, and hopes are freely expressed that the venture of such a long engagement may give the enterprising Shakespeare management no financial cause for regret.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—The favourite north-end house has this week submitted an attractive drama named *Life's Sweetest Sins* to its patrons. The work is replete with dramatic interest, and the introduction of the submarine boat in the third act is a striking feature. Mr. T. Arthur Jones, who heads the company, plays the part of Captain Harold Marston with credit; Miss Marie Daventry as Doreen Rivers, the heiress and orphan, worthily earns a large measure of the applause; Mr. Oswald Douglas makes an admirable Dr. Colbrooke, playing the villain to the life, as his daughter Fay, Miss Mary Ainslie acquits herself with satisfaction; the work of Mr. Charles Sewell, in the rôle of Ernie Wodstone, is particularly able, and Mr. Clem Horlock makes a rascally Rev. Edward Grey. The play is well staged, and the scenery very appropriate.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—The bill here this week is headed by Chanti, whose novel act is greatly enjoyed; Billy Williams is always well received here; Madie Scott sings some pretty songs; Craig, Rose, and Craig are clever gymnasts; Ray and Mills create considerable amusement with their juggling; as do Fyne and Hurley with their boxing; Lugio Sextett Serenaders are delightful singers; other artists who assist are Clive and Clark; and Nellie Randall.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The evergreen *East Lynne* (Bullock version) has met with acceptance here this week, Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's all-round able company presenting it. Mr. Alfred Beaumont did every justice to the character of Archibald Carlyle; Miss Julie Kennard exercised much judgment as Lady Isabel, displaying a high degree of talent; the Francis Levison, submitted by Mr. Eric Mayne, reflected every credit upon that artist; a well-filled part was that of Justice Hare by Mr. C. C. Gratton; the son Richard was in the good hands of Mr. Campbell Goldsmid; much humour resulted from Mr. Alfred Tate's policeman; and Miss Dorothy Townrow made a sweet little Willie; Barbara Hare was well enacted by Miss Violet Thorold; and Mr. Spencer Goodwin found acceptance as Lord Mountsevern.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur. That excellent drama *The Heart of a Hero*, from the pen of Mr. Lingford Carson, has been drawing big crowds here during the week. Mr. Carson's No. 1 company presented it, and the scenery and effects were most admirable. Displaying dramatic ability of a high order, Mr. Charles Draycott made Jem Resdale particularly striking, earning rounds of applause; Miss Adelaide Clare was sweetly sympathetic as Nell, the erring woman; Mr. Fred L. Arthur, an actor of considerable merit, handled the rôle of Dave Prichard, the detective, most commendably; Mr. Ernest J. Fare was an unscrupulous Wilfred Marl; the Jack Collinson of Mr. Harry Wren proved eminently satisfactory; while Mr. Arthur Byron, as Timothy Heighno; and Miss Daisy Norman in the rôle of Susie Slack, caused much laughter.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Heading the long programme here this week are the Svengalis, whose mystifying entertainment of mimicry and music has been keenly appreciated; Randall's Middies and Maids concert party proved an enjoyable turn; the songs of Julie Mackay were delightful; continuous laughter followed the patter of Chris. Richards; a pleasing mimic was Ray Wallace, to whom a hearty reception was given; Jake Friedman raised much laughter; Billy Maclain's Coloured Sextette sang several charming numbers; Baker and Lynn had a funny playlet; the imitations of street singing by Grace Merton were richly enjoyed; and others in the list were Alice Maple, comedienne; and the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—The Four Harveys head the bill here this week with their exceptionally clever work on the wire, the "cake-walk" being loudly applauded; Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris present a laughable trifle, *The Adventures of a Happy Tramp*; some charming singing from opera, melody, and comedy is provided by the King's College Boys; in their musical act the Four Jumels acquit themselves with every credit; Lillian as a trick cyclist earns a cordial reception; dainty singing and dancing comes from the Three Sisters May; Grace Langley is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; a most laughable sketch, *The Lady in Red*, is provided by Tom Craven, Stephen Adeson and company; and others in the list are Gus Hindell, comedian; and the Akimotos, Japanese Troupe of acrobats, who are remarkably agile and daring.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Great laughter has been raised here during the week with the farce *The Would-be Actors*, presented by E. Carter Livesey and company, including Miss Lilian Rosebery; Edward Ind, a popular comedian, has done well with his latest successes, including "I don't want any honey, girl"; Will Sanders and Amy Vincent have a smart comedy act, including acrobatic dancing; Alice Brokland sings several songs very sweetly; and others who appear are Nora Hildon, vocalist and dancer; and Harry Grant, comedian and dancer.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The Royal Stock company is this week producing the nine-tableaux sketch *What Women Suffer*. Mr. Percy Boucher is the Obadiah Shakespeare; Mr. Harry Tresham efficiently fills the rôles of Wilfred and John Coventry; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood is the Squire Norton; Miss Lina Nazeby makes a capital Edith Coventry; and other strong supporters are Mr. Herbert Cecil as Herbert Standish; Mr. E. D. Allen as John Meredith; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood in the rôle of Nance Meredith.

PADDINGTON PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The dramatic sketch *A Country Cousin* has provoked much amusement; J. H. Wakefield, jun., is a dancer of much merit; some smart conjuring comes from Godfrey; Bertha Collins sings agreeably, as does Cissy Dixon; and Stan Audley proves funny as a comedian, and dances well. The Bioscope projects many new and interesting pictures.

PARK PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Foremost here this week is Juno Salmo, the Golden Mephisto, whose novelty turn is particularly bright; the Kimberley Boys show themselves to be clever comedians; some excellent juggling is performed by Hurman; Harley and Harden are smart comedians and knockabouts; as a clog and big boot dancer Bertha Winder is above the average; James Newery has some good points as a comedian and mimic; and Adlenie Yhole, comedienne, also appears.

HAYMARKET.—Leesee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—At the top of the bill here this week are Stewart and Morgan, with their scena, *Leaving Ireland*; the Bensley Evans sketch company have a laughable trifle, *Sally's Dilemma*; Little Rennie is a child comedienne with some ability; Miss Fredrica's trained terriers, and Dot, the cake-walk pony, go through an interesting exhibition; and the Sisters Graham are accomplished duettists and dancers.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—The Rickards, three smart comedy acrobats, are here this week delighting everybody; Percy Farrimond, the original Lancashire singing collier, is well received for his several excellent songs; as a comedian Mr. Frank Coyle is an acceptable turn; some smart juggling comes from Prima Vesi; the Stanleys present an interesting speciality; and the programme also contains the names of Will Daniels, comedian; and Dulcie Milner, vocalist.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The principal item here this week is the popular *Fighting Parson*, presented by George Gray and Co., which has proved a good attraction; Alexandra Dagmar, with her latest successes, has been cordially welcomed; a funny and somewhat unique show was that provided by Clown Barker's dogs; Moran and Mareece submitted a clever musical transformation act; some excerpts from the opera *The Lily of Killarney* were given with pleasing result by Edward Arthur and company; the Haydas had a smart turn of comedy, acrobatics, and tumbling; Lilian Elfrida gave an interesting display of mimicry; and Chris. Richards, an able comedian, deputised in place of Arthur Gill.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. Louis J Beard.—Mr. John Leopold's company is occupying the boards here this week, with the farcical comedy, *The New Frivolity*. The specialities in Act II. introduced by Miss Amy Hall and Mr. John Leopold jun, are well received, and the quartette of lady dancers are to be commended.

MAIDSTONE. — HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. H. Watson.—Harry Tate's *Fishing* scena is causing hearty laughter here. Lloyd Morgan, a clever actor vocalist, has some well-written and well-sung songs; Rita and Roma, dnetists, on a return visit, are well received; Allsopp and Bekwith, in a comedy duologue, are popular; and others appearing are the Sisters Macgovan, whirlwind dancers; Zarinelli, contortionist; Bella Bashall, comedienne; and the Hippodrome pictures.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—A big reception was accorded to Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott on their appearance here on Monday in *Mice and Men*, of which a most enjoyable performance was given by the entire company. Mr. Forbes Robertson played naturally and with fine reserve as Mark Embury, and a delightful and convincing rendering of Peggy was given by Miss Gertrude Elliott. Mr. Vernon Steele was excellent as Captain Lovell, Mr. Charles Weir was well placed as Roger Goodlake, Miss Auriol Lee presented an agreeable Joanna, and particularly successful was Miss Keith Lytton as Mrs. Deborah, the housekeeper. In minor parts Miss Dorothy Paget, Miss Minnie Griffin, Mr. J. H. Beaumont, Mr. J. H. Ryley, Mr. Robson Paige, and Mr. William Pilling were entirely satisfactory. An equally successful performance of *Mrs. Grundy* was given on Wednesday evening, and the week's bill includes also *The Light that Failed*, for Saturday matinee and evening. At the fall of the curtain on Monday a tremendous call for the principals was made, but Mr. Forbes Robertson resisted the demand for a speech

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A nice comic opera, *The Girls from Utah*, was presented here on Monday by a company, under the direction of Mr. Walter McEwen. This piece contains little that is original in the way of its characters, but the matrimonial business is productive of much enjoyable fun. Comedy and vocalism are its chief attractions, and at the head of the laughter-makers is that excellent comedian, Mr. Fred Easturan, who gives a capital depiction of Brewgood, publican and matrimonial agent; while Mr. W. H. Powell, a comedian of distinct gifts, makes a good deal of the part of the amorous French greengrocer, Alphonse de Beaucoup. Mr. Harrison Brockbank is commendably tuneful as Terence Rainford, and admirable singing is heard also from Miss Nora Brocklebank as Mildred. Miss Florence Farfrey is vigorous as Mrs. Bumble, Mr. Arthur Stigant does well as Sir Joseph Pickles, and some delightful dancing is contributed by Miss Kate Vesey as Suza. The music is light and cheerful, and the scenery pleasing.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's attraction at the Grand Junction Theatre is here this week, namely, *A Wife's Triumph*, played by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott and company, including Miss Kathleen Stewart as the faithful wife.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A very funny item in this week's programme here is *That Dreadful Detective*, played by Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholl's company. Ben Harris and his Five Nippers in a speciality scena are also very entertaining, and capital business is added by Ada Marjutti, in a fine contortionist act; Marti and Julietta, pyramidical acrobats, and Billy Richardson, the well-known stump orator. Besides these, the Raynor Trio appear in a novel act, Burns and Bentley provide a good turn, J. C. Laurie presents a popular scena, with a local chorus, and Frank Whiteley, comedian and bone soloist, satisfactorily completes the bill.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Mr. Charles Clifford's company gave a very good performance here on Monday of his play *On Circumstantial Evidence*. The piece contains some strong parts, notable among which is that of Captain Hamilton, played powerfully by Mr. Charles Clifford; Mr. Wilson Brash gives a fine rendering of the heroic Jack Ogilvy, and Miss Jennie Wigney is equally successful as Violet, Jack's wife; while Miss Dot Stewart gives a clever depiction of Tim, a waif; Miss Hilda Hatton plays a dual rôle with skill, and humorous characters are well played by Mr. Newton Pearce and Miss Amy Stewart.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—This week we have here Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company in *Her Luck in London*. Miss Mary Neil has the central heroic part of Nellie Harborne, which she renders in fine style. Mr. Chas. A. Leicester has the corresponding rôle, Gerald O'Connor, in hand, and plays it extremely well. Great praise is due also to Mr. Stephen Crossley for a virile depiction of the rascally Lenowen; and ample fun is provided by Miss Florrie Groves and Mr. J. Tilly Dillsen, as a couple of farm hands, who are friendly to the heroine. Others who do well are Mr. Charles Digby as Algie, Mr. Douglas Tremayne as the curate, Mr. Tyrone Power as Farmer Harborne, Miss Frances Waring as Lilian, and Miss Ella Vane as Ruth. The dresses and staging are very pleasing, and the whole forms a capital entertainment.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey present here this week the Irish musical costume play *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr. Chalmers Mackey as Barney O'Hea, and Miss Nana Flensberg act their parts very naturally, and create roars of laughter by their quaint lovemaking, and Mrs. Chalmers Mackey gives a clever and convincing rendering of Norah M'Grath. Mr. Haughton Macauley appears as Michael Kenny. The songs and dances are well rendered and fully appreciated.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Pete Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—The top star here this week is G. H. Chirgwin, whose performance is, as usual, clever and well received. Alice Pierce, the American impressionist actress, makes a big success. Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, gives an exceedingly smart show, and other admirable turns are provided by the Bros. Ashley in an entertaining sketch. Edie Grey and her White Coons, pleasing vocalists; Ernie Myers, an amusing patter comedian; Lily Lonsdale, a refined ballad vocalist, and Dan Kennedy, a brisk comedian.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Managers, Messrs. H. Hall and H. Pryme.—A short but pleasing musical episode, *Highwayman Hal*, played by Lemprière Pringle and company, is the star item here this week. Prominent also are Manning's Entertainers, whose *Hotel Boots* sketch is a screaming success. Marie Collins, though suffering from a cold, is a spirited vocalist equipped with good songs; Fank Dunlop, comedian, gives a capital turn, in which he is highly successful in a variety of dialect renderings of a popular chorus; Mason and Bart give a comic and intrepid bar act; Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian, is quite successful in a couple of character songs; the Reed-Oetzmann Troupe give their comic sketch, *On Tour in the Tyrol*; Mora and Lola submit their musical act with success, and a clever ventriloquial turn is given by Lady Fauntleroy. The Bioscope pictures are more than usually sensational this week by the inclusion of the Hackenschmidt-Madrali event of Saturday last.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The principal attractions here this week are Mendel, the wonderful blind pianist; Madge Temple, a charming and accomplished vocalist; and Marzella's Birds, a dainty and delightful performance. Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas also appear successfully in a merry musical trifle, *Her Birthday*, and other engaging turns are Watson's Dogs, all beautifully trained; Sinclair and Whiteford, in a comic sketch; Burt Shepard, a clever comedian in song and story; Robb Gilmore, comedian, and Tom Owen, the Welsh comedian. The choir add a glee, "The Message," and an illustrated song in the chorus. "Sing me to sleep"; while the Bioscope depicts the recent great wrestling match, and other striking pictures.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Annie Purcell, the refined soprano vocalist, late of musical comedy, is very well received here this week. Popular also is Joe Archer, the "peculiar chappie," in all his latest successes. Good turns are contributed by Ryder Stone, in his *Burglar* scena, Boy Glen (a smart comedian and patterer), Harry Morgan (coon delineator and dancer). Marie Elsie (a spirited comedienne), the Paulo Brothers (in an acrobatic comedy act), Maud Prenton (chic comedienne), and Florence Leonard (soprano vocalist).

KING'S LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent programme here this week is headed by that farcical absurdity, *Spiff! Spaff! Spoof!* presented in fine style by Mr. Walter Howard and company. Tom White's Arabs, including the famous "Pimple," provide a most enjoyable turn, and the Three Clements go through a daring act in a marvellously neat manner. Leo Trainor is a capital comedian with smart patter, Rosa Finlay is an exceptionally clever top-boot skipping rope dancer, Lilian Dorie is a smart gymnast, the Katos give an acceptable mannikin performance, Rice and Rudge are amusing in an eccentric bicycle act, and the Sisters Allen are good dancers. The Bioscope pictures are screamingly funny.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Charles Majilton's company in *Round the Clock* are the principal attraction here this week, and are cordially received. Happy Attwood in a good selection of quaint songs also obtains much applause, Young Igo is a clever clog-dancer, H. O. Wills proves himself a capable and amusing comedian, the Nine Zouaves go through some very precise military evolutions, and the McDonalds give a pleasing musical turn.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Gustav Fasola, an Indian magician, is the top star here this week, mystifying the audience with legerdemain and illusions. The singing and dancing of Emma Doris (black and white entertainers) are good, some clever feats of hand-balancing are performed by the Four Emilions, and the Goodfellows (American comedy duo) provide some smart and amusing patter. The Toreadors give a comic bull-fighting act, Babs Grimshaw is a juvenile mimic of much promise, and other entertaining turns are Fred Mason (whistling and singing comedian), Hess and Lisbon in an eccentric roller-skating act, Mannon's Merry Maids in their motor 'bus sketch, and an interesting series on the Bioscope.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Morella and Jennings; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Mr. Oswald Brooks's company is here in the sensational drama *The Trail of the Serpent*. As Ethel Maynard, the heroine, Miss Marjorie May plays acceptably; Miss Ethel Stuart represents the part of Rachael in a capable manner; Mr. Booth Conway gives an excellent interpretation of Gipsy Jake; Mr. Hobson Asche is a capital Gerald Kingston; in the part of William Higgins Mr. Vincent Kelway causes much amusement; Mr. George Pateman is a good detective; Ralph Hammond is in the capable hands of Mr. Wilford Cheetham.

METHIL.—TOWN HALL THEATRE. — Mr. John Hamilton opened his second week here with *The Woman in Red*. In the name part Mrs. Geo. Loydall was effective; Miss Dukinfield and Mrs. Jack Carrick ably filled the parts of Francesca Donati and the Comtesse Donati, and Miss Agnes Hamilton made a winsome Minetta. Mr. John Hamilton was an amusing Matte Twitti; and Messrs. Edgar Hamilton (Victor Sanson), Will Henderson (Spada), Arthur Ashton (Count Claudio), and Jack Carrick (Bravadura) gave capable support. During the week the company also played *Jerry the Tramp*, *Mona*, *The Red Cross*, and *Buffalo Bill*.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is this week playing *The Face at the Window*. Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale is a vigorous Le Loup; in the rôle of Paul Gouffet, Mr. T. W. Dunscombe displays dramatic gifts; Mr. Alfred Warne is a capable Henry de Brisson; and Mr. Gilbert Hall is well placed as Lucian Cortier; Miss N. Thorne-Hallam treats sympathetically the character of Marie de Brisson; La Pinau is cleverly interpreted by Miss Elaine Grant; Mr. C. Alan Hineson (Peter Pottlebury), and Miss Gwynne Warren (Babette) supply the comedy.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Montague Beaudyn and Sydney Crowe's company in the drama, *The Way of the World*, is here this week. Miss Sydney Crowe is exceedingly good as Adela de la Roche; Mr. Herbert Skardon's Captain Slade is remarkably clever; Miss Marie Fontaine gives a fine impersonation of Mlle. Bellini; and Mr. Augustus Hammond as a broken-down swell does well. Mr. Arthur Chrisholm is clever as the circus rider, Cecil Montague, and Mr. Clarence Temple is good as Matthew Maylon, a disgraced clergyman. The racecourse scene, in which two thoroughbreds are introduced, is most effective

OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. John Clyde's company in the Scotch drama, *Jeanie Deans*, is here this week. In the title-rôle Miss Lillian Dare acts with much grace and distinction; Miss Mary Allan gives a fine impersonation of the Queen of England; Miss Clara Hunt's Marjory Murdochson is exceedingly good; and Miss Falconer scores as Effie Deans. Mr. R. Robertson gives a true interpretation of David Deans; and Mr. Herbert Bentone does well as the Duke of Argyll.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—An excellent programme is provided here this week, and good houses are the rule. The Wally-Hoste Trio head the bill and provide an interesting juggling turn; the Villons are exceedingly clever in their cycling entertainment; and the Three Sisters Jonghmans sing well; Dent and Harris create roars of laughter in their sketch, *Mary and the Squire*; Will Musgrave sings some catchy songs; and Harrigan and Holt are a clever pair of comedians.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—This week's programme is an excellent one. Millie Payne, who occupies the premier position on the bill, sings some humorous ditties in very droll style; the Waldrons, in their absurdity, *The Silly Burglar*, create lots of fun; and the Brothers Bright perform some smart gymnastic feats. Other acceptable items are contributed by the Three Royal Temples, Barret and Knowles, Dawson Dewick, Master Joe Conway, and Les Sprays, a dainty pair of dancers.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. W. Davies.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company is this week appearing in *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mr. Stuart Lomath, as Frank Hatherleigh, contributes a finished piece of work; the Dick Delver of Mr. George C. Doughty is convincing; Mr. Edward Louis makes the most of his limited opportunities as Harold Trevelyn; Mr. A. Balfour Mackay gives a fine character sketch of Horatio Fane; and the humorous interpretation of the worried theatrical manager given by Mr. Herbert J. Dalton in the second act calls for special mention. Miss Lizzie Montague's rendering of Lola Delaspierre proves her an emotional actress of exceptional ability; and Miss Ida Mackay is a sweet and winsome Doris Fane.

NELSON. — NEW GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are this week presenting *A Wrecker of Men*. Miss Rosalind in the r

a gallant bearing and plays the part with artistic finish; Miss Marguerite Cellier is well endowed for the impersonation of Lady Mary Carlisle, playing the part with charm, grace, and dignity; Mr. Murray Hathorn as the Duke of Winterset presents a difficult character with considerable distinction; Mr. Arthur Somers submits an admirable impersonation of Major Molyneaux; Mr. P. Ramsey Forman ably fills the part of Captain Badger; and Mr. Conybeare Gough as Mr. Rakoll; Mr. Frank Stoney as Mr. Bicksett; and Mr. Leonard Laurence as Beau Nash; Mr. W. Barnett Parker as Lord Townbreak; Mr. Taylor as Mr. Bantison; and Mr. Arthur Follip, who doubles the parts of Marquis de Mirepoix and François, are quite adequate. Miss Annie Windsor is a success as Lucy Rellerton.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Matt Wilkinson and company are here again in the screamingly funny interlude *The Registry Office*. Baroni and Kemp display talent in a lightning change act; Rose Archer is very good as a pianist and mimic; Serra gives a clever gymnastic act; Edgar Budden scores as a bone soloist; Violet Beatrice furnishes Irish melodies; Will Poluski sings comic songs; and the Palace Pictures are still a potent feature of the programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. Millar Anderson's company, with *At War with Women*, has attracted appreciative audiences here this week. As Airel Romanoff Miss East-Robertson proves herself to be a capable actress; Mr. Millar Anderson gives a good rendering of Autolski; Mr. Reginald T. Vincent wins praise as Lieut. Alexis; Mr. John Soden is well placed as General Malakoff; and Mr. Edward Avinal makes the most of Ivan Clovitch. Miss Violet Lytton achieves distinction in the character of Frida Malakoff; and Mr. Fred Denham as Hans Phocas and Miss Nellie V Warden as Katinka are received with favour.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Witty Watty Walton, the popular comedian, who is well received, tops the bill here. The Brothers Concoran, the musical shipbuilders, introduce a smart act; Miss Marie Gilbert, comedienne, is clever; the Five Arizonas, jugglers and foot equilibrists, are smart; Mr. Arthur Bright, Milanese piper, is an old favourite; and Mr. Will Percival, pedestral dancer; Messrs. Cliff and Kean, comedians; A. Douglas; and the Bio-Photoscope contribute successfully.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION. — Proprietors the Royal Pierrots Co.; Manager, Mr. Arthur Smethurst.—Among the newcomers this week is Miss Madge Allan, a pleasing soprano, who has met with a hearty reception; Martinerigo, baritone vocalist and 'cellist, is very successful in his 'cello selections; and Billy Gilmore's eccentricties are highly appreciated; the Hustlers are re-engaged, and Miss Hustler must be accorded the highest praise for her admirable work, both in her songs and the sketch; Mr. Glanmore Jones continues to be well received

NORWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, is here this week. Miss Beatrice Lindley, in the title-rôle, shows great ability; Mr. Herbert J. Bentley is excellent as Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurston as Fitzroy is very comical; whilst Mr. Wm. Mallalieu ably appears as the family solicitor. Mr. R. Harley West successfully represents Lord Dachet, and Mr. Townsend Whitling scores as Capt. Cecil and Mr. Archie Selwyn is good as Tommy Keston. Miss Emily Patterson deserves praise as Lady Trevor, whilst Miss Charlotte Mead is an acceptable Tommy Minching. Miss Violet Ley is satisfactory as Lady Isabel Bury, and Miss Annie Stalman does well as Mrs. Tustall. Mrs. Mallalieu ably portrays Mrs. Putnam.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—This week's attractions include Will H. Fox, comedian-pianist, who heads the bill. Troba, juggler and equilibrist, shows marvellous ability; Coulton's Four Queries excite the wonder of the audience with their illusionary performance; D. W. Watson proves a clever cornet soloist; Fred Carr and Ada Rose amuse in their sketch, *Catching the Catch of the Season*; Hector and Paulus are good as hand-and-head balancers; and Casselli and James are clever banjo players. Morny Cash, the Lancashire lad, is highly successful, whilst Gray and Welford create fun in their boxing act, *I'll Give You Duck*. The Hippodrome biograph and Capt. Selby's band help to make a pleasing entertainment.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The presentation of *Oliver Twist* by Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company has brought most appreciative audiences. Mr. William Mackintosh admirably delineated the fierce cruelty and servile hypocrisy of Fagan, his portraiture throughout being convincing. The Nancy of Miss Hutin Britton is a fine piece of work, her well-simulated terror of Sikes being most realistic in its intensity. Miss Gertrude Lang plays Oliver in a sweetly pathetic manner, and Miss Edith King is good as Betsy. Mr. Cecil A. Collins makes a thoroughly repulsive Bill Sikes, and the villainy of Monks is capably expressed by Mr. Ashton Pearse. Mr. Tom Macfarlane acts well as the Artful Dodger; and Charlie Bates and Tom Chitling are keenly relished as played by Messrs. Edgar J. Coyne and Christmas Grose. Mr. Horace Adams proves entertaining as Brittles; and Mr. Ben Sewin contributes a sound rendering of Mr. Brownlow. Miss Elsie Carew earns distinction as Mrs. Maylie; and Miss Hilda Dick makes a charming exponent of Rose Maylie.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke. *A Royal Divorce* is paying yet another visit, much to the delight of the patrons here. Miss Lilian Dundas essays the rôle of Josephine and plays it with much intensity and power. Mr. Frederick Moyes acts with artistic skill in his study of Napoleon. Miss Muriel Thompson embodies Marie Louise in a sufficiently austere manner; and Miss Gertrude Entwistle makes a bright Stephanie. Mr. H. Gray Dolby cleverly presents Talleyrand; and Mr. Henry Ludlow is effective as the Marquis de Beaumont. Praise is also earned by Misses Ada Kavanagh, Alice Metcalf, Teresa Gilmour, and Messrs. T. W. Ford, Charles Stanley, and Dennis Bryan.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—A couple of dramatic episodes, *Husband or Child* and *The Man of Vengeance*, are capitally presented by Forbes, Murray and company. The Sisters Hula score in their dancing; and Tiny Arnold calls forth abundant applause. The clog dancing of T. W. Royal gives great delight; and Joe Dale causes laughter by his songs. Alf Brookes gains his share of attention; and the Bio-Tableaux supplies some new and interesting films.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The marvellous rapidity with which R. A. Roberts makes his changes in *Dick Turpin* compels the greatest admiration; Rezene and Robini are always a comical pair and laughter is long and continuous during their presence on the stage; Darc's marionettes also form a source of amusement; and Andy's Little Japs contribute a skilful and smart gymnastic exhibition. The clever juggling of Walter Belloni is a turn of exceptional ability; and the extempore rhyming of Sam Soda calls forth much applause. The sand-dancing of Rosie Coleman; the comicalities of Harry Conlin and Ernest Heathcoat; and a film of the English Cup Final by the American Bioscope are all excellent items well deserving their reception.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Hulme.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company in *A Queen of Villainy* is paying a first visit here. Miss Edith Blande plays the part of Cora Granville with power; Mr. Edward Heanley as Stephen Faucit acts with ability; Miss Shirley Dalton is charming as Rose Delmayne, and Miss Amy Ross Clyde does well as Sally Chimes; Mr. Ernest G. Batley gives a spirited rendering of Alec; Mr. E. Carlton as Sir John Desborough is all that can be desired; Mr. Lawrence Stevenson gives much satisfaction in the part of Kit; and Mr. Charles Stirling is effective as Matthew Dawes. Miss Jessie Crammonde as Mollie Maggs and Mr. Charles Rodgers as Timothy Kodac are responsible for the comedy.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. J. Ball; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*Her Wedding Day* is the attraction here this week, being presented by Mr. T. E. Ward's company. Miss Ward as Madge Conway wins favour; Mr. S. Herbert Humber plays the part of Harold Saxby in manly fashion; Mr. Augustine Knight in the heavy rôle of Weedon Kenyon is good; and Mr. T. Edward Ward does well as Seth Mayson; Dora, as played by Miss Eve Bertram, leaves nothing to be desired. Much humour is introduced in the parts of Dolly Klink, Mrs. Caccles, and Caccles, as played by Miss Beatrice Sinclair, Miss Ettie Spalding, and Mr. Fred Yarnold.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant, Mr. W. Howgate.—Mr. Leoni Clarke's cats, canaries, rabbits, &c., top the bill, and give a very interesting show; Coram is a big attraction as a ventriloquist; the Smythsons in the sketch *Our Suite* cause roars of laughter; Miss Lucretia, burlesque artist and dancer, also does well; Dale and O'Malley are well received; Bell and Henry are very good; and Mint and Mart, comedy sketch artists; Barney Stuart, actor-vocalist; and Harry Bickley, comedian, complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Frank Harwood, actor-vocalist, is the principal turn in his original scena *In a Looking Glass*; Harry Marlow and May Manton in *Other People's Babies* cause much amusement; Carden and Zesch, society entertainers, are good; and the Three Delaires on the trapeze and rings; the Coolvilles (Nancy and Edie), smart singers and dancers; Miss Edith St. Clair, vocalist; and Harry Levaine also entertain. The Dottoscope is showing an interesting picture entitled "Raffles."

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—This week Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is paying us a welcome visit with that bright play *Public Opinion*, which met with a most cordial reception on Monday. Mr. Percy Marshall makes a most humorous and diverting HoraceWibsey; Mr. Shirlea Lea is quite excellent as Mr. Justice Mulley; Mr. Douglas Hamilton is a capital Sir Bebington Mulley; Viscount Goffley and Lord Percy Kilgour find smart exponents in Messrs. Douglas Greet and Cecil Warde. and Mr. Charles Harley's Spencer Traughton is a convincing performance. Miss Moyra Creegan makes a most fascinating and interesting Lady Diana Caldershaw; Miss Violet M. Harley is good as Phyllis D'Agenlaine; Miss Nancy Beresford is quite at home in the part of Pansy Bligh, and the maid is well played by Miss Dorothy Lart. *Public Opinion* is preceded by a clever little duologue, *Two in a Trap*, by Mr. A. E. Drinkwater.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Miss Edith Isabelle's company is paying a visit here with *The Girl from the Halls*. Mr. Charles Ross gives a commendable representation of Rev. Hezekiah Twinkle, singing in good style; Mr. George Elsworth ably portrays Jack Weston; Mr. Cecil W. Parke is a success as the Hon. Richmond Graham; some bright and effective songs and dances are contributed by Miss Lillian De Vere and Miss Connie Laurie as Hon. Frederick Augustus Humphum and Janie respectively, and Miss Edith Isabelle is a charming and graceful Minnie Weston; Miss Ida Fane makes the most of Mrs. Twinkle, and Miss Emmie Thorne is praiseworthy in the rather thankless part of Penelope Ann.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Thomas Thorne is this week renewing acquaintanceship with local patrons of this house in *Our Boys*. Mr. Thorne keeps the audience in the greatest merriment by his genuinely humorous portrayal of Perkin Middlewick; Mr. Norman Clark distinguishes himself by an excellent assumption of Sir Geoffrey Champneys; Talbot Champneys is cleverly enacted by Mr. Rex B. Foote; Mr. Randolph Reade plays effectively as Charles Middlewick; and Mr. A. Harding is good as Kempster. Miss Elsie Howard Ross as Violet Melrose and Miss Eva Lonsdale as Mary Melrose give excellent and delightful representations; Miss Bessie Harrison makes a quaint Clarissa Champneys, and Miss Edith Hesketh as Belinda submits a capital study. The curtain-raiser *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, is well acted by Miss Elsie Howard Ross and Mr. Rex B. Foote.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—The programme here this week includes Sam Thomson (Scotch comedian), Lizzie Lennox (soprano vocalist), the Two Rubies (refined variety instrumentalists), Nellie Kirk (chic comedienne and dancer), Jack Neil (comedian), and a clever scena, entitled *Rob Roy; or, the Bailie in a Fix* is taken part in by Messrs. James Anderson, Sam Thomson, Jack Neil, J. G. Anderson, and Miss L. Lennox, and Nellie Kirk.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The dramatised version of Hall Caine's novel *The Eternal City*, is presented here by Mr. Bannister Howard's company. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp gives a finished rendering of the intriguing minister, Baron Borelli; Mr. Henry Deas sustains the rôle of the democrat, David Ropi, in acceptable fashion; and Mr. J. Fortescue makes a venerable and saintly Pope Pius XI. Mr. William O'Flynn is a fine rough and ready Bruno Rocco; and Mr. L. St. G. Lowther, as Commendatore Angelelli, is of material assistance in developing the machinations of the minister, Borelli. The representation of Donna Roma Volonna by Miss Marie Poloni is a carefully-presented piece of work, and richly deserves the applause accorded it; other members of the cast who are largely responsible for the success of the piece are Mr. Herbert Legerton (Charles Minghelli); Mr. Comberbach (Father Pifferi); and Miss Mary Grey (Natalina, Roma's maid).

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—*The Master Criminal* is being played here by Miss Winifred Chalmer's company. There is plenty of exciting incident, principally caused by the deeds of Telford Lestage, the Master Criminal (played by Mr. Harry L. Osmond), assisted by his confederates, Gentleman Jim (Mr. J. W. Gallagher) and Cecil (Miss Winnifred Chalmer). Mr. Elmore Frith gives a realistic representation of a Scotland-yard detective; and Mr. George Nuttal, as Simmons, is quaintly humorous.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Managing Directors, Messrs. Livermore Brothers; Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Harry Grey is well received here, his "Carrie" song fairly bringing down the house; the O'Learys are a clever pair of burlesque acrobats; Orpheus proves himself master of numberless musical instruments; and the five Julians are a smart quintette of lady dancers. Albert Wyndham's company submit the trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice* in acceptable fashion; and the Cullane Trio have an amusing sketch, entitled *The Ladies' School*. The remaining items on the programme are Minnie Moran, comedienne; the Danbys, comedians; and Vernon's pictures.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—The band of the Rifle Brigade made their initial appearance on the pier this week, and submitted a most enjoyable programme to a large audience.

PONTYPRIDD.—ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Owners and Proprietors, Mrs. Trenchard and Miss L. Jones; Manager, Mr. Charles Trenchard.—The attraction this week is Mr. Wm. A. Armour's company in *What a Woman Did*. The Marquis De Viray is well portrayed by Mr. Wm. Armour; Conrad de L'Orme has a powerful exponent in Mr. Edward Rawlinson; Mr. Jim Woods is distinctly good as Fritz; Mr. Fred Rignold as Peter Pippin is capable; Mr. Charles Earle well assumes the part of the Hunchback; Miss Dora Price is to be congratulated upon her assumption of Elsie de L'Orme; Miss Amy Ellam makes a fascinating La Papillon; and Fanchon and Nannette are well played by Miss Tina Shaw and Miss Bertha Clifton respectively.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's capital company, under the direction of Messrs. Sylvanus Dauncey and M. A. Seveaux, is this week presenting here *The Walls of Jericho*. Jack Frobisher finds a masterly exponent in Mr. Edward A. Warburton; Mr. Alfred S. Barber is well placed as Hankey Bannister; the Marquis of Steventon is cleverly presented by Mr. Cecil Brooking; and Mr. A. W. Tyrer does well as Harry Dallas. Miss Amy Ravenscroft portrays Lady Alethea Frobisher in charming fashion, and the part of Lady Lucy Devenham is pleasingly taken by Miss Nona Wynne.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. George Testo Sante and company are here this week with *The Life of a Showman*. The drama is chiefly written round Mr. Sante's strong acts, he being responsible for the part of Brien Leader, circus acrobat. Hendrick Murais, the villainous Boer, is capitally taken by Mr. Logan Darra; Mr. Edward Warden is good as the Rev. Cyril Arliss; and Messrs. Charles Osborne and J. G. Sante are successful in their respective parts of Stickers, the circus billposter, and Laurie Grey, a maimed musician; Agatha Winter is well rendered by Miss Amy McNeil; Miss Mary Warden and Master Harry Warden play the juvenile characters most creditably; and the comedy element is well looked after by Miss May Neilson as Angelina Mutton; Mr. Frank Sante as Tommy Allthere; and Mr. Ernest Turner as Ben Tic-Tac.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A big success is again scored here by Arthur Prince, ventriloquist; the Knick-Knacks, comedy and dancing duo, are well received; J. W. Rickaby, comedian, is diverting; Elverton, the spinning marvel, gives a remarkable exhibition of baton and rifle manipulation; the Three Exaladors, double ladder performers, are a daring trio; Katie Marsh, in a pot-pourri of drama and song, is most pleasing; the McConnell Trio, comedy sketch artists, submit an excellent musical sketch; and also appearing and giving every satisfaction, are Eily Adair, soubrette and dancer; the Three Gilbert Girls, acrobatic dancers; and Cayne's Bio-photograph with new pictures.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company in *Sweet and Twenty* provides a pleasing attraction here this week. Mr. Drelincourt Odlum gives a natural and effective impersonation of the Rev. James Floyd; Eustace has an excellent representative in Mr. Stephen Wentworth; and Mr. Lionel Glenister ably depicts the breezy yet earnest character of Douglas; Mr. Gus Wheatman as Prynne affords much acceptable amusement, and Mr. J. W. Wood-Ingram evokes laughter as Trehearne; Miss Zeta Russell is a bright and intelligent Chris; Miss Isabel Grey successfully fills the rôle of Ellen; Miss Dorothy Carrington makes the most of Mrs. Trevelyan, and Miss Ethel Weyburn portrays Joan Trevelyan with exceptional ability and charm, her singing being notable for its rare sweetness and delicacy of expression. A delightful musical farcical scena, entitled *In the Strand*, precedes the play, and is cordially received.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—A good variety entertainment has been presented at the above theatre this week. Mr. J. W. Hall was accorded an enthusiastic reception; Bell and Milstead appeared in an effective scena, entitled *Arizona*, which was greatly appreciated; Mr. Marcus Boyle scored a success with his mirth-provoking songs; Miss Ada Whitton's songs also evoked hearty applause; the Dekays gave a clever conjuring and comedy act; some beautifully illustrated songs were contributed by the Lovelaces; the Fontaines provided a cleverly-manipulated marionette show, and Mr. Bob Hartley's songs and dances found favour.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Lindsell.—Haley's Prize Juveniles in their carnival scene, including pleasing songs, choruses, and dances, prove a popular attraction; Gilroy and Cross are excellent comedians and dancers; Greener's songs are well received; Picitt and Lizette appear with success in a novel act called *The Demon Chef*; Bert Kemp is an entertaining lightning cartoonist; Farr and Farland are expert banjoists; Grapho and Jackson present a smart quick-change act; Les Rupertos display strength and grace in their equilibristic feats; the Knockabout Arleys are remarkably clever and diverting in their cycling turn; and Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company has occupied the boards at Sanger's Amphitheatre, Ramsgate, during the past week, and their visit has proved a very popular one. The plays interpreted were *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, and *Merchant of Venice*, while Sheridan's comedy *The School for Scandal* was given on Friday evening. The company is a very strong one. Miss Dorothy Green, who has appeared as Lady Macbeth, Portia, Mrs. Ford, &c., has nightly earned the enthusiastic plaudits of the audience for her fine acting, and another great success has been scored by Mr. Henry Herbert in a series of chief male characters, including Sir John Falstaff, Shylock, and Macbeth.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller. — Mr. S. Smith's company opened here on Monday with the musical comedy drama, *A Sister's Devotion*. Miss Edie Desmond as Kathleen O'Connor was a distinct success; Miss Connie Arden as Molly Rooney scored with her clever acting and songs; Mr. Barney Doreen's (as Larry O'Malley) musical items were highly appreciated; Mr. George Harvie, as Jerrey Rooney, besides contributing enjoyable songs, acted with ability; Mr. Wallace Muirhead submitted a good performance of Thomas O'Connor; as also did Mr. Arthur Bell of Brian O'Connor; Mr. Sidney Ernest made an excellent Captain Dornton; and as Colonel Sanderson Mr. Rex Willoughby was everything desirable; Miss Fannie Harvie as Edith Sanderson and Miss Dolly Constance as Cormac O'Neil were capable exponents of those characters.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Frank E. Burdett's company is here this week with a new version of *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr. George Steel as Lieut. Manley, Mr. Cyril Harrison as Captain Manley, Mr. J. Davidson as Major Ingleby, Mr. G. Birch as Ensign Blake, Mr. George Scully as Teddy O'Brien, Mr. Villiers Stanley as Nebu Singh, and Mr. J. S. Sheddon as Abul Khan are all worthy of special mention. Miss Lillie Grey plays effectively as Kate Ingleby, and Miss F. Melrose Millett gives a powerful impersonation of the Brahmin priestess, Ghuz-Nah.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—This week the boards are occupied by the Rochdale Amateur Operatic Society in aid of local charities. The comedy opera *Merrie England* has been selected for this season's performance.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee.—The George French troupe of acrobatic comedy cyclists evoke roars of laughter with their clever and amusing tricks; the Snow Family of expert skaters provide a mirth-provoking turn. Other turns are submitted by Arthur Gilbert, comedian; Sidney Dolf, vocal trickster; Mlle. La Tosca, artist's model; Condon and Preston, comedy artists; Lynn, the singing newsboy; and Vernon's animated pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Cullen and Carthy, with Little Cluley, are a trio of clever comedians; the Lannons are smart pedestal dancers and vocal duettists; Madge Daly is a pleasing comedienne; Linton, the Mexican wonder; Dolly Harmer, comedienne; Johnny Worman, comedian; U. C. Ugo, in magical scena; and the Empire bioscope complete a capital programme.

RUNCORN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Caddick.—After what one might call a run of musical weeks, we have again reverted to drama as presented by Mr. Howell Webb's company in the interesting plays, entitled *The Price of Pleasure* and *The Convent Bell*, the former of which was staged on Monday. Mr. E. Hartington creates a distinctly favourable impression as Gilbert D'Armand; Mr. Howell Webb provides an admirable reading of Sir James Featherstone; a like remark applies to Mr. C. E. Howell, as Charles Mordaunt, the solicitor; Mr. Richard Harris, as Sidney Roberts, a man with a past, is forcible; Tatters is well presented by Mr. Harry Clements, a versatile artist; Miss Lily Clarke is a charming Lilian Mordaunt; Miss Mara Collings appears to advantage in the rôle of Alice Rivers, and Miss Emily Huby does creditable work as Biddy.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Jarman's company is appearing here this week in *Under the Czar*. The many exciting incidents, including the execution by hanging of the Chief of the Russian Police as a supposed traitor, were closely followed by a large house on Monday evening. As Nicholas Yeroslaff, Mr. J. Hare gave much satisfaction; Miss C. Cavanagh was very successful in the trying part of Sonia Gregorovitch; Mr. W. H. Riley was a forbidding Russian Major of Police; Mr. C. P. Omalia was well placed as Count Nesseldorf; and Mr. L. Weston as Paul Ignat, and Mr. L. Brien as Alexis Petroff furnished some acceptable comic business.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The Ten Loonies, in a Lunatic Asylum sketch, keep the house in roars with their eccentric performance; Payne's Little Vagabonds, in their comedy act, *Old Daddy Watchman*, are promising young vocalists and comedians; Michel and Polo's hand balancing and gladiatorial performances receive much applause; Kloff and Ramsay are comical in their musical novelty; and other acceptable items include Denby and Dent, in their tonsorial act; Andie Caine, smart dancer and comedian; Blanche Marion, comedienne and dancer; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; and some amusing pictures on the Bioscope.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—An amusing sketch, entitled *McKenna in Love*, is the principal item of the programme here. Mr. Edwin Garth, as Michael Ryan; Mr. Joe English, as Timothy McKenna; Mr. Walter Childs, as Tim McKenna; Mr. W. G. Wesley, as Greenleaf B. Kent; Miss Amy Knott, as Mrs. Ryan; and Miss Hettie Lind, as Miss Mary Ellen Ryan, are the principals. *Enigmarelle*, presented by Frederick Ireland, is a scientific sensation; Wallace Whitney, character comedian, is very funny; Sisters Petrams show some clever marionettes; and good singing is contributed by Beattie Foster.

SCARBOROUGH.—PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Curtis Leo (and his black piccaninny) in his conjuring and juggling act is the centre of attraction here this week. Miss Lottie Poole, serio and dancer, sings and dances in capital style; Syd Herman, Hebrew comedian, is well received; George Bernard is an old favourite here, and is accorded the applause he richly deserves; Frank Weir, comedian, in *Who is it?* is very humorous; the Brothers Hannaway score as patter comedians and dancers; Mlle. Rosini's dogs also appear; Vernon's Bioscope retains its place in a popular programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Good houses and a popular programme are the order of the day at this house. Stanley's Urchins have good voices, which are heard to advantage in part songs; Counsell and Mills are talented vocalists; Dunningarto, with his card tricks, amuses the audience; May Lloyd, comedienne, sings and dances with much grace; and Mlle. Du Roche is a vocalist with an excellent voice; the living pictures are also an attraction.

SEACOMBE.—IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Kiernan.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company is proving a powerful attraction here this week with *Sergeant Brue*. The title-rôle is skilfully enacted by Mr. J. Harold Carson. Michael Brue finds an excellent representative in Mr. Frank Wilson; and Aurora Brue is prettily played by Miss Gertie Fawcett. Mr. Harold Godwin presents an important and capable Inspector Ooringe; whilst Mr. F. Laceby plays Mr. Crank with refreshing originality. Mr. Albert James comes distinctly to the front as Crookie Scrubbs; Miss Reydon Daltas sings and plays charmingly as Lady Bickenhall

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—Mr. Robert Perris's company is here this week with *A Fight for Millions*. Tom Manley is powerfully drawn by Mr. Perris; Hudson Rivers finds a capable exponent in Mr. P. George Beresford; the cool villainy of Richard Dudley is successfully shown by Mr. Watkin Wynne; as Willie Neverwork and Solomon Moses Mr. Frank Sutherland and Mr. Karl H. Edwards are very good indeed; Robert Mackenzie is satisfactorily drawn by Mr. George Hodges; as Peare Rivers Miss Eva Purcell finds great favour; Helen Dudley is played with spirit by Miss Elma C. Turner; Miss Audrey Canning is well placed as Mrs. Rivers; Betty is vivaciously portrayed by Miss Lottie Pearce; and Little Madge is sweetly presented by Miss Audrey Sutherland.

SHEERNESS. — PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. P. Reymond.—A capital variety company is submitted here this week. The Kendalls, in their pleasing comedy act, *The Masquerade Ball*, are entertaining; the Two Daniels, negro comedians, provide plenty of mirth; the Sisters Charlton, duettists and dancers, are also received with much favour; Joe Long, bone soloist, contributes a pleasing turn; Miss Lillie Gainsley, burlesque artist, is well received; and Mr. Leonard Royal, descriptive vocalist, also scores.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—A delightful and interesting programme was placed before the patrons of the Lyceum on Monday by Mr. John Hart. First came Offenbach's tuneful and vivacious opera-bouffe, *The Rose of Auvergne*, with that great local favourite, Miss Stella Gastelle, as Fleurette, supported by Mr. Broughton Black and Mr. H. Scott Russell. Miss Gastelle acted with her accustomed charm, and her cultured vocalism was enthusiastically applauded. The scenery and dresses were thoroughly artistic, and the whole performance gave unalloyed pleasure to the large audience. The talented burlesque artists, known as The Follies, brought the entertainment to a merry close with their humorous skits and a funny burlesque of *Hamlet*, which caused great hilarity.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—The stirring transatlantic drama, *Human Hearts*, a piece replete with homely pathos, thrilling incidents, and humorous scenes, is being played to well-pleased audiences this week by Mr. C. W. Somerset's company. Mr. George Silver acts with manly vigour as Tom Logan; and other characters are cleverly represented by Miss Minnie Silvestre, Miss A. Pearson, Miss L'Estrange, Miss Rena Robertson, Mr. W. H. Tams, Mr. Ben McDale, Mr. Arthur Estcourt, and other capable artists.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The first visit to Sheffield of the American play, *At Cripple Creek*, has been well heralded, and there was a big house here on Monday to welcome Miss Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's powerful combination. Mr. Hilliard Vox, in the picturesque rôle of Joe Mayfield, acted with great force and convincing sincerity. The two villains, Martin Mason and Manuel, were depicted in bold colours by Mr. Walter Thornton and Mr. Douglas Carlyle. Plenty of fun was provided by Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood and Mr. Albert Rogers as a "coloured pusson." Mr. A. W. Layland was a striking figure as the Indian chief; and Miss Vera Fordyce, as Dynamite Ann; Miss Daisy Carlton, as Maggie Mason; Miss Ella Dixon, as Belle Gordon, and Little Freda, the clever representative of the child, Tatto, were all successful.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—There was a packed and enthusiastic audience on Monday to welcome the new-comers, headed by the great ju-jitsu wrestler, Taro-Myaaki, and other Japanese athletes, who were received with great applause. Mr. Harry Leybourne was very successful in his funny impersonations and quick-change business; and a notable contribution to the programme was the smart sketch, invented and played by Mr. Rex King, a clever protean artist. The Sutcliffe Family excel both as performers on the stirring pibroch and as active and graceful acrobats. The well-known Northern Troupe of Dancers were heartily cheered; Helene and Emilon do a daring and novel aerial act; Mr. J. Alexander's company caused laughter in a lively comic absurdity; and Derenda and Green, juggling comedians; Miss Jessie Merrilees, comedienne; and Miss Kate Trail, a refined entertainer, were deservedly applauded.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Mr. Fred Sothern's company, including Miss May Emery, in *The Blind Mother*; Allis and Cassiti, comedy merchants; Mr. Martin Henderson, blind vocalist; Miss Fallowfield, vocalist; Mr. Joe Olive, comedian; and Pallister's Bioscope, with the latest topical films, delight the patrons of the Grand.

CENTRAL HALL.—In addition to the animated pictures, the following performers are successfully appearing this week: Messrs. Nelson and Thomas, comic duettists and patterers; Miss Flo Warner, comedienne; Sydney Reid, vocalist; and Saxo, in a clever musical act.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—The return visit of *The Village Blacksmith* is proving very popular here. Mr. Sam Livesey fills the title-rôle with success. He has an athletic appearance, and in the wrestling scene, which is cleverly done, he looks every inch the character. He is ably assisted by Miss Laura Walker, a charming and clever actress; a pretty child's part is that of Harry Strong, portrayed by Miss Bertha Hanbury; Mr. Joseph Carter is well placed as Capt. Leo, an athlete and rogue. The company also includes Miss Maggie Edwards as Ruth Parkins, Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Sal Perkins, Messrs. Edwin Maydew as Lucas Marlow, George Wilton as St. John Harman, Thos. E. Marshall as Jeremiah Parkins, and George V. Campbell, who causes merriment as Billy Twigg.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—Mr. Cyril Maude's company is paying a successful return visit here with *Beauty and the Barge*, which is highly appreciated. The representation is a capital one, and the mounting of the play admirable.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Nacnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—The principal attraction is the Yags and Mary Trio, who excel as trick cyclists; the Frantz Troupe of lady and gentlemen acrobats are clever and well appreciated; Beattie and Blanche are dainty dancers; and Tom and Marie Motramo create great hilarity with their musical act, *Do You Reverse?* Lina Verdi is a clever mimic; the Two Errolls are wonderful jumpers; Lambert and Glover; Barrington, musical expert; and

Mr. Arthur Mervyn gave an excellent impersonation of the Rev. John Audley; and Mr. Claire Vera acted the part of Gilbert Westwood with marked effect. Mr. Clifford Spencer made the character of Simon Peter Muggs an amusing one; and Mr. Frank Stuart as Sergeant Snipe was most successful. Miss Hettie Jeffries as Dick acted delightfully; and Miss Rosa Mervyn gave a charming portrayal of Mabel Verner; whilst Miss Winifred Stuart filled the part of Katinka Vodsky with ability. Miss Agnese D'Aragon was a capable Mrs. Muggs.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—In addition to a capital array of talent a strong attraction is presented here this week in the appearance of Miss Elias Lims. The Arundels are exceedingly funny in their sketch *The New Office Boy;* Smiler Lee, comedian, relates amusing stories with success; and the Five Casino Girls, in their musical act, are pleasingly greeted. Lilian Trevelli, vocalist; Charles Russell, comedian; and Sam Dalton, comedian, are entertaining; and Bishop and Hanlon, knockabout comedians, provoke abundant laughter.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manageress, Miss L. H. Dale.—Wilson Barrett's last play, *Lucky Durham*, is here this week. Mr. Edmund Kennedy is a capital actor, playing the titular part with great success. The cast also includes a local lady in Miss Frances Wolviston, who appears in the rôle of Lady Mountfallen, a character she impersonates in excellent style.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, *All Scotch*, performed by one hundred local children, is an admirable performance; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins are good in their speciality; Henry Carlton presents a really funny absurdity, entitled *One Night Only;* and the Four Figaros, vocalists and dancers; Violet Morgan, in her impersonations; Rebla, the eccentric juggler; Maude Vera, descriptive vocalists; and the Boston Twins, comedians, are included in a really excellent programme.

HIPPODROME THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—The Aurora Troupe of cyclists are topping the bill here this week; Flockton, Foster, and Co. present a comedy sketch, *Ferdie's Ma-in-Law*, which causes roars of laughter; Carlo and Maie are a pair of clever acrobats; Mons. De Lil, illusionist, mystifies his audiences; Harry Carmen, in his scena, *Silent Jemmy*, is good; and Kay's Komedy Kompany; Daisy Lane, comedienne; the Three Rubies, acrobats; Prof. Hulbert, ventriloquist; and Harry Hayton, merriment maker, are all well received.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—A capital house greeted Miss Harriett Vernon on Monday, when her songs were received with great appreciation; Goggin and Davies, in their turn, consisting of dancing, acrobatic feats, &c., are a distinct success; Francisco is a juggler of extraordinary ability; Mr. Harry Morris as a mimic is capital; Miniature Marie in her imitations scores most successfully; May Moodie, piccolo soloist, is talented, and her contributions are pleasing; Leslie Race sings a capital song admirably; York, Mac, and York, in their comedy act, *A Widow's Troublesome Boys*, are successful. The pictures are, as usual, entertaining.

STOURBRIDGE. — ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Mr. Jack Cromo and his Pierrot Serenaders are fulfilling a week's engagement here. Mr. Cromo on Monday, in conjunction with Miss Amy Randolph, rendered several pretty duets. Mr. Harry Harcourt proved a capable comedian, while Miss Ella Rose sang her songs most creditably; the ventriloquial performance of Mr. Charles Chiff was excellent, as were the pianoforte solos of Mr. Francis Knowles.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—*The Walls of Jericho* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Herbert Bunston gives an admirable impersonation of Jack Frobisher; Hankey Bannister finds an apt exponent in Mr. George A. Brandram; Mr. Lawrence Hanvay makes the most of his opportunities as the Marquis of Steventon; and as Lord Drayson, Mr. E. F. Meads leaves little to be desired. As Lady Lucy Devenham Miss Molly Carron acts with chic and subtlety; and the Lady Alethea Frobisher of Miss Florence Jackson is excellent.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—Mr. Morton Powell's company in *Darkness* (suggested and founded on "When it was Dark") is drawing crowded houses here. Mr. T. A. Shannon gives a masterly rendering of the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. Bonhote Wilson plays with power the difficult rôle of Constantine Schawbe; Mr. Henry Heller is good as the Rev. Mr. Byars; and Mr. Edward Valentine is seen to advantage as Sir Robert Llewellyn. Miss V. St. Lawrence is a pleasing Gertrude Hunt; and Mrs. Morton Powell makes a charming Helena Byars.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. John H. Stringer; Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Browne.—Sam Elton, the popular comedian, heads the bill, and is accorded a flattering reception. The Redferns, lady banjoists; Kent and Keith, comedy duologue artists; Maud Esmond, burlesque actress; Marguerite Ismay and her Piccaninnies; George Ripon, comedian; the Burnells, musical comedy artistes; and Selby and Myers, comedians; all contribute acceptable turns. The admirable entertainment winds up with an up-to-date show of animated pictures.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Clayton; General Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—The attraction here this week is Ediscope and Barnum Animated Pictures and Variety Co. On Monday the whole entertainment went with a bang, the audience thoroughly enjoying it, and showing their unstinted approval. Lulu, the lady instrumentalist, plays some popular airs on the rope bells, mandoline, and various other instruments; the Two Ver-Vains, duettists and dancers, came in for loud applause; and the Two Allies, English and Japanese jugglers, perform some exceedingly clever feats; Mons. Aecrice, gymnastic equilibrist; Lyons, Irish humorist and ventriloquist; Vie Vernie, whistling comedian; and Miss Queenie Vane, speciality dancer, also contribute.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—That successful play, *The Christian*, has lost none of its popularity. Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, under the acting-management of Mr. Frank Brandon, is a fully competent one, headed by Miss Grace Chalmers, who appears with exquisite grace and finish as Glory Quayle. She is strongly supported by Mr. Frank Tennant, who is remarkably fine in his study of John Storm. Lord Robert Ure has an excellent exponent in Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood; Mr. Jackson Wilcox submits an effective portrayal of Horatio Drake; Mr. Stanley Ratcliffe is seen to advantage as Father Lamplugh; the part of Polly Love is in the hands of Miss Vashti Wellborne, an earnest piece of work; and the part of Mrs. Callander is undertaken with commendable judgment by Miss Molly Haydon.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse. Mr. Leigh Lovell's company is making a welcome return visit this week. In the *Duke of Killicrankie* Mr. Guy Cary acts with distinction and ability in the name part; Miss Octavia Kenmore makes an admirable Lady Henrietta; the Mrs. Mulholland of Miss Celia Gordon is full of interesting by-play and detail; Mr. Lovell's acting as the M.P. is productive of considerable amusement; Miss Ethel Saville is an agreeable Countess of Pangbourne; and the other parts are satisfactorily filled. *Sowing the Wind* was played at the end of the week.

VENTNOR.—PIER PAVILION.—The Oddfellows, refined entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Squire Day, have become popular on the pier here The comedians, Messrs. Squire Day and John Graham, are undoubtedly gifted with more than average ability; Miss Elsie Edwards is a charming soprano; and Mr. Sydney Leon is capable at the piano.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. W. H. Kirby's company is appearing here this week in the musical play, *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr. Percy Maitland is effective as Stephen Leverton; Mr. E. H. Bertram give an admirable portrayal of Stanvin Ashleigh; and Mr. Geo. P. Lester is successful as Leon Lee. Mr. W. H. Kirby's clever rendering of the part of Martin Blabbs keeps the house in continuous merriment. Miss Dora Condor is well suited as Freddie Ashleigh; Miss Cordelia Knight capably fills the part of Zora, and Miss Dot Reeves makes a charming Lulu.

HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The programme this week comprises Miss Cissie Sullivan, a clever clog dancer; Bert and Dora, comedy artists, in an interesting turn; Miss Georgie Heaton, male impersonator; Miss Mabelle May, vocalist, who dances delightfully; the Fordyces (Jennie and Willie), a couple of smart juvenile duettists and dancers; Mr. A. P. Boswell, chair balancer; Reg Bolton, patter comedian; and *A Terrible Tomboy*, well presented by Mr. Alfred Woods and Charles Gould's Combination.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—A good variety company here includes Miss Madge Grey, the clever dialect comedienne; Russell Wallett, "The Lady in Black"; The Skandias, an exceptionally clever quartette of gymnasts; Taylor and Danby, in their speciality *Coal;* the Greys, vocalists and dancers; Fred Lerry, a first-class comedian; and the Vandyke Troupe in *Sensations*. The pictures by the American Bioscope are interesting.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Miss Grace Warner and company are here this week in the thrilling drama *The Scarlet Clue*. Miss Warner in her enthralling portrayal of Scarlet Sal is much appreciated; Mr. George Gordon must be complimented on his Michael Stanton; Mr. J. Leighton Leigh doubles the rôles of the twin brothers, Jack and Harry Esmond, in a clever manner; Mr. Jack Clarence does well as Sir Desmond Lisle; Mr. V. T. Raymond as Billy (with songs), Mr. John Campling as Croker, and Mr. J. E. Tomlinson as Crazy Jim all display much ability. Miss Lizzie Palmer makes an admirable Elsie Dane, Miss Phyllis Massey as the boy Reggie, and Edith Rutland as Little Polly act commendably.

WALTHAMSTOW.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—One of the prettiest, cleverest, and "smartest" entertainments presented here for some time is that of Miss Alice Digby and her quartette of International lady dancers. Dances, with appropriate songs and national costumes, represent Spain, Japan, Holland, and the U.S., and the whole "show," artistically lighted, is received with rapturous applause that it thoroughly merits. The Sisters Silcott sing well in unison, and do some really clever dancing of the energetic order; Mr. Arthur Melrose is a good singer, and a wonderful whistler. A very pretty scena, *The Carnival of Toys*, is contributed by Miss Ida Kathrena. The bewitching little lady sings and acts after the manner of Alesia in *La Poupée*, reproducing the movements of a wooden doll with much humour. Her dancing is especially clever, and her singing sweet and refined. Great laughter attends the quaint doings of Rumbo Austin and his juvenile assistants; the Stella Troupe are an octave of dancers who do wonders, their performance on the swings being particularly novel and effective; Miss Ethel Arden, Mr. George Abel, and company appear in the popular farcical episode, *Three of a Kind*, which, acted in the truest spirit of farce, goes with a roar from beginning to end. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some more than usually interesting pictures.

KING'S THEATRE.—Modelled on the lines indissolubly associated in the minds of older playgoers with the Adelphi Theatre, *Conscience and Crime*, written by Mr. Alfred Stafford, which is the attraction for the last week of the season at this house, is an admirable specimen of the class of play to which it belongs. The author, in conjunction with Mr. A. Murray, brings a capable company to interpret his work. Mr. George Wallace gives a powerful rendering of the old miser, Simeon Wolfton; and Mr. W. R. Winning is a bright and buoyant exponent of his son Mark. Mr. R. F. Stacey plays with discretion as Tom Cranleigh; Bill Markham is excellently portrayed by Mr. J. Myrom-Howard; Nobby Rutter, a nondescript, is cleverly rendered by Mr. John A. Stimson, whose songs enliven the piece. Other male parts are all safe in the hands of Messrs. H. Renshaw, P. Wells, and John Ward. Miss Maude Elliott is picturesque as the gipsy Agatha; Miss Dorothy Wallace is pretty and intelligent as Belle Redvers; Miss Lily Prescott is an engaging Mary Hazlecroft; and Miss Elsie Mesnard is a lively and tuneful Polly. The drama is capitally staged, the scenery being of unusual excellence. Mr. A. Murray is general-manager of the company, and Mr. J. A. Stimson the stage-manager.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Miss Ada Wallis and company are here this week in the musical play *The Major*. Mr. T. C. McQuire in the title-rôle is the personification of humour; Mr. Nelson Silverne scores as George Goodman; and a clever character sketch of Jeremiah Stoney is submitted by Mr. Harry Vernon; Mr. G. Whitney is good as Ezekiah Stoney; and Mr. A. B. Allen, as Thomas Twickham, is a typical waiter; Miss Ada Wallis, as Angelina Touchemup, is the essence of vivacity; and Miss E. Tooney does well as Miss Emma Gampney. On Wednesday evening *Sweet Marie* was staged.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Another capital list of turns are billed here this week. Bonnie Goodwin and her Picks score in their vocal scena, and their coon dancing is rapturously applauded; T. E. Hughes is a comedian with a style peculiarly his own, and he makes many friends; Miss Masters is a capital vocalist; and the Lulaine Darrell Trio are novel gymnasts; J. H. MacCann is an expert roller skate dancer; and Burdon and Waite are original duettists; Hector and Sultan in their comedy acrobatic act are amusing; and the pictures depicting the recent football tie at the Crystal Palace are well received.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Mr. Fred A. Marston's company, in the musical domestic comedy drama, *The Silver Cross*, is proving a big draw here this week. The parts of Ned Heron and Jack Fudge are successfully undertaken by Mr. A. Verner and Mr. Edward Bond respectively; Mr. Syd Bazley is responsible for the comedy part of Tompkyns Quinton; Mr. Frederick A. Marston does excellent work as Ben Adams; the rôle of the Rev. Nicholas Frewin is characteristically portrayed by Mr. Douglas Howard; Miss Lilian Rignold is warmly appreciated for her admirable rendering of Ida Adams; and as Laura Beechcroft Miss Ida Hender is seen to advantage. As Sally Beedles Miss Cissy Cleveland proves herself a capable artist.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's No. 1 company in the drama *The Span of Life* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Sanderson Moffat successfully portrays the rôle of Richard Blunt, Mr. R. S. Trelawney submits a clever study of Dunstan Leech, Mr. Walter Dale makes the most of the part of Nutty Brown, Mr. Edwin T. Kisby does well as Joshua Gurnet. Miss Phyllis Hamilton is most effective in the character of Kate Heathcote, Miss Mary Moffat is decidedly good as Cecil Blunt, and the same adjective applies to the acting of Miss Kitty Russell as Shrove Tuesday. The Almo Trio work hard, and fully deserve the applause given.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. William J. Miller and company are here this week in the romantic play called *The Throne of Terror*. Mr. Wm. J. Miller as Robespierre gave a good performance; Captain Eugene de Lisle was admirably portrayed by Mr. Roy Milton; Mr. Frank Fuller and Miss Kath Maude Davies ably embodied the parts of Comte de Roqueforte and Marguerite. Peppietta and Joujou (Miss Russell and Mr. Bert Ellis) were responsible for the comedy parts; Miss Ethel Maude was a capital Victorine D'Almonte; Mr. Chas. Fernleigh, Mr. W. Williams, Mr. Pallister Acock, Mr. W. Russell, Miss Irene Vane, Mr. R. Bowman, Mr. Renton Sax, and Mr. Henfield in their respective rôles also did creditable work.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. C. Raws; Responsible-Manager, Mr. David Williams.—Lehmann's British Empire Animated Pictures are the attraction here this week. The following artists are also engaged—Professor Lehmann (shadowgraphist), Mr. Walter Norman (ventriloquist), Miss La Clair (descriptive vocalist), and Little Doris (a pleasing song and dance artist).

WEYMOUTH.—ROYAL JUBILEE HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs.—*The Youngest of Three* has proved a powerful attraction here. Mr. Maltby had a most enthusiastic reception as George Wendover; Gerald was ably represented by Mr. Henry Hargreaves, and Mr. Wyn Weaver capably impersonated Philip Radford; Joshua Pynne was excellently played by Mr. Ernest Noble, and the Samuel Johns of Mr. Ralph Hutton was especially good, as were also Mr. W. Reginald Favel, Mr. Geo. Mortimer, and Mr. Ernest Noble as Loke, Hickey and Paul respectively. Mr. Geo. Laidlaw played carefully and well as Perkins; Miss Mabel Mellor and Miss Mara Maltby as Anne and Lucy Dulley were very graceful; Miss Beatrice Marsdene scored as Florence Dulley, while Miss Nancy York capitally undertook the part of Jane.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Lovers of the sensational and tragic in drama have had the opportunity of gratifying their tastes during the week in witnessing Mr. Lingford Carson's play *The Power of the Cross*, by Geo. A. De Gray. The uncanny and mysterious character of Baron Curzola is ably impersonated by Mr. Geo. A. De Gray, and the part of Gerald Fairfax is skilfully enacted by Mr. Fred W. Goddard. The humour in the situations created by Timothy O'Dowd is admirably illustrated by Mr. Richard E. Nugent, and Benjamin Hawke, a shady solicitor, has a clever exponent in Mr. Edgar L. Hocking. The part of Rita Lascelles, an adventuress, is played with forced subtlety by Miss Cissie St. Elmo, and Miss Lilian Ross as Blanche Kingsley; Miss Etta Turner as Dolly Gray and Miss Stanley Burt as Margaret Seaton portray their respective rôles very effectively.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Menotti, described as the Stockholm wonder, in addition to being an expert shot with the rifle, performs marvellous feats with the bicycle propelled at the rate of forty miles an hour, on a wire running in the opposite direction, and driven by an electric motor. Kelly and Ashby are very clever bounding billiardists; and Shawlene, champion whistler, and Maxford and O'Neill, repartee comedians, all meet with excellent receptions. Other acceptable turns are provided by John Ross, Oldham vocalist; Brady, Johnson, and company in the sketch, *Turning the Tables;* George Edney, character actor-vocalist; Marie Weston, vocalist, banjoist, and dancer; Von Etta, lady illusionist; and Little Dando.

WOLVERHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. E. H. Bull and Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Percival.—Messrs. Matthew W. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is appearing here in *The Still Alarm*. The principal characters are well portrayed by Mr. Matthew H. Glenville, Mr. Cecil du Gue, Mr. John Bird, Mr. Tom Beasley, and Miss Mabel Veriton.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Bernard; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—Lew Lake's comedy company is the principal item in this week's bill, and their absurdity, *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, is very amusing. The other attractions are Sanford and Lyons, patterers and dancers; Jack Pleasants, comedian; the Grosvenors, vocalists; Irene Rose, vocalist; Tom Shenton, sand dancer; Welda and Wynne, jugglers; and the Three Seymores, equilibristic artists.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lennox Barry.—*Turpin's Ride to York* is the principal feature here this week, the same being performed by Mr. Fred Ginnett and company. The programme also includes Lennie and Hast, in *The Sea Nymph;* the twin Sisters Edwards, skipping-rope performers; Russell Carr, ventriloquist; Beattie Mayer, comedienne; the Melroses, vocalists and instrumentalists; Ruby Norton, vocalist; and the Hippodrome pictures.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; assistant-manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—Under the somewhat curious title *The Girl who Lost Her Character*, a production from the pen of Mr. Walter Melville, of the sensational melodrama order, is this week meeting with generous support in the cheaper parts of the house. Miss Madge Haines takes the part of the heroine Molly Vernon very pleasantly, and generally the piece is admirably presented by the following:—Miss Marie McAdlay, Marion Franklin; Miss Ethel Bracewell, Rose Seymour; Miss Daisy Maynard, Isabella Jones; Mr. Frank Adair, Geoffrey Caversham; Mr. Wingold Lawrance, Jack England; Mr. George Gaisford, the Rev. Robt. Everton; Mr. G. H. Asquin, Dick Punch, &c.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday night Miss Evelyn Moore's company presented *The Crimson Club* to a good house. Mr. R. Fenton was excellent as the hero, and he was sympathetically partnered by Miss Sidney Barrasford as heroine; Mr. F. G. Kay was a satisfactory villain; as Julia Miss Florence Delmar played with success, her dramatic style and commendable enunciation securing marked approval; Mr. P. J. Shaw supplied the comic element as Reginald Garside. His clever whistling solos were applauded.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Miss Rose Moncrieff and company are here this week in *Fun on the Bristol*. Mr. George Tearle as the Widow O'Brien is excellent; Miss Grace Rosaire is a capable Nora O'Brien; Miss Rose Moncrieff as Dora McAllister is all that can be desired, her dancing being much applauded; Miss Lena Collier is a typical coloured girl as Bella Thompson; Miss Maurice capably enacts the character of Florence Washington; Mr. Hal Collier breezily portrays the part of Captain Cranberry. Too much praise cannot be allotted Mr. Sam. Poluski, jun., as Tom Cranberry, his comicalities thoroughly delighting the audience; Mr. A. Bodies as Count Menaggio does well. Herr Seebold, ever ready to improve this theatre, has, by lowering the proscenium and placing the orchestra in a far better position, not only increased their comfort but also that of the occupants of the stalls.

WREXHAM.—PUBLIC HALL.—Secretary, Mr Geo. Bevan.—On Saturday and Monday evenings Mr. Wm. Lucky Dobell and a well-selected company appeared at this hall and attracted good houses. On the first evening *A Mockery of Marriage* was presented, and on Monday *East Lynne* occupied the boards. Miss Norah Baker and Mr. W. L. Dobell filled the principal parts in a most capable manner.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week Les Louberts, in their acrobatic sketch, entitled *Uninvited*, prove a big attraction. Mr. Hyam Long (comedian and dancer), Mr. Eugene Brant (eccentric), Cecil Terry and Vera Snowdon (duettists, dancers, and cross-talkers), Little Doris (quick-change artist), and the Empire animated tableaux complete a capital programme.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—*The Shop Boy* is a flimsy morsel wound round Mr. Harry Pleon, but as it affords this clever artist ample opportunities to display his talent, it serves. Miss Celia Kent has made a careful study of the rôle of Blighted Birdie.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Sidney Brooke.—The company this week is one of all-round excellence. Mr. H. V. St. Clair's patriotic and topical songs find great favour; Howard and Collinson give an amusing and clever absurdity; Fanny Robina's success is undoubted. She sings clever songs in first-rate style. The amusing antics of the Bros. Durant are no less amusing than their gymnastic display is clever, and the Great Vincent does some clever acrobatic feats from high tables. Dan Agar, Florrie Cooper, the Revell Troupe, and the Bioscope complete the bill.

A VOLCANO ON THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With reference to the paragraph in your last issue regarding the autumn production at Drury Lane, I desire to state that some time ago I completed a drama entitled *Gone Wrong*, in which the big sensation is an eruption of Mount Vesuvius. This play was finished before the last calamitous disturbances occurred, and the scenario submitted to several prominent managers in the early part of last year.—Faithfully yours,

CHARLES DARRELL.

54, Gurney-street, S.E., May 1.

WE regret to hear that Mr. Fred G. Locke, the prolific pantomime librettist, is now completely prostrated, and it is feared will never be able to do more work. His masonic brethren in Glasgow have interested themselves in the case, and any aid that may be forthcoming, and is sorely needed, will be received by Bro. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, S.S.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY, MARCH 13. — The Brough-Flemming comedy at the Criterion is once more applauded. *Little Mary* is in the bill, and surely it would be hard to cast J. M. Barrie's three-act conceit better than it now is acted. Miss Beatrice Day as the Countess of Plumleigh looms largely in the piece, and each of this lady's impersonations serves to increase her popularity and value. Miss Winifred Fraser brings out all the points of Moira, the crank granddaughter of the author of the stomachic reform. Miss Gordon Lee is a mischievously pretty Lady Milly. The actress Eleanor Gray fell to the lot of Miss Emma Temple with satisfactory results. Mr. Herbert Flemming adds another success by his polished portrait of Sir Jennings Pyke, M.D., F.R.S. It is a scholarly piece of acting. Mr. Philip Leslie is a natural schoolboy as the Earl of Plumleigh; and Mr. John Forde is of inestimable value as Deighton. Mr. Carter Pickford gives character to Lord Rolfe; and all combine to tell the improbable story with the greatest amount of footlight plausibility. Tom Gallon's "one-act episode," entitled *Aurora's Captive*, preceded the comedy, and Miss Emma Temple scored strongly as Aurora Petunia Emma Gibbs; Mr. Norman McKeown was an admirable burglar, and Miss May Millward completed the cast of principals as a well-made-up elderly spinster. Mr. Harry Whaite was responsible for excellent scenery.

"THE SILVER KING" was revived by the Knight-Jeffries company at the Palace for four nights and a matinée. The cast was as before, with Mr. Harry Plimmer in his polished impersonation of the Spider. Miss Maud Jeffries and Mr. Julius Knight finish Mr. Williamson's season here on the 15th and 16th with *The Lady of Lyons*, in which Miss Jeffries will be the Pauline. Mr. Knight, Claude Melnotte, and Mr. Plimmer, Beauseant.

MR. GEORGE COPPIN, the veteran actor and manager, lies very seriously ill. He is now eighty-five years of age.

SYDNEY, MARCH 27.—*Dr. Wake's Patient* is a charming play of simple human nature, and as acted by the Brough-Flemming company at the Criterion evokes an unexpected amount of enthusiasm. On the 24th Mrs. Robert Brough made her first appearance in Sydney since her return as the Countess of St. Olbyn, and the lady's reception was extremely hearty. Miss Beatrice Day exhibited much charm as Lady Gerania. Miss Bessie Major's portrayal of the simple old Mrs. Wake was most effective. Miss Emma Temple gave a forceful embodiment of Mrs. Murdoch. Miss Kate Gair was a handsome Janifer; and Miss May Millward made a good deal out of the small part of the Gipsy. Miss Winifred Fraser imparted to Harriett Bronson genuine natural charm. Mr. Herbert Flemming's Andrew Wake will take front rank amongst his excellent portrayals of character. The Earl of St. Olbyn was a dignified personage as represented by Mr. Norman McKeown. The Dr. Forrester Wake of Mr. Carter Pickford was a capital performance. Mr. Phillip Leslie's Duff Wynterden was made thoroughly enjoyable. Laughter followed every speech and action, and the Bishop of Selby could not have had a better exponent than Mr. John L. Forde.

THE TIVOLI has just now an extraordinary bill. The new arrivals are Mr. Bert Danson and Mlle. Nada Moret, who are first-class artists, who leapt at once into popularity. The Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, the Barnard Marionettes, Miss Lily Cole, the Three Lees, Mlle. Ada Cerito, the Dancing Gilberts, Mme. Leon Caron (a fine soprano), Rochfort and Hart, and Martinetti and Grossi. These are all in Mr. Rickards' current programme.

MR. J. F. SHERIDAN is having huge success in New Zealand, and he does not propose to return to Australia yet awhile.

MELBOURNE, MARCH 14.—PRINCESS THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson).—The lively and gorgeous pantomime, *Sinbad the Sailor*, attracted another large house on Saturday evening, and, judging by appearances, the short season of twelve nights should prove a highly-successful one for Mr. Anderson. The pantomime will only run for two more nights, the season closing next Friday evening.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—Though weather conditions were decidedly forbidding on Saturday evening, a large audience witnessed *Leah Kleschna*, as played by Miss Tittell Brune and the capable company supporting her. The performance throughout was followed with the closest attention, and the frequent outbursts of applause left no doubt as to the audience's approval of the representation. *Leah Kleschna* will run till further notice.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. Bland Holt; Business-Manager, Mr. Christie Simonsens).—Hall Caine's powerful play, *The Prodigal Son*, which is now in its last week in Melbourne, was on Saturday night again appreciated by an enormous house. Mr. Bland Holt thoroughly understands how to present Drury Lane drama in a convincing fashion, both as regards acting and stage accessories, and Melbourne playgoers are not slow to demonstrate approval of the stirring piece nightly offered to them at the Royal. *The Prodigal Son* will only run for two more nights. On Saturday evening next, Messrs. Meynell and Gunn will produce *The Fatal Wedding*, a play said to have caused a big sensation in America recently.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—Yet another novelty has been provided for patrons of the Opera House in the shape of the Scottish Meisters, a comedy quartette of glee singers, who have made a most favourable impression on Saturday evening. Their programme includes nearly all the old Scottish folk songs, which everybody knows and loves. The Scottish Meisters are a welcome addition to the company. Among other artists who contribute successful turns were Miss Fanny Powers, in her imitations; the Two Bells, in songs and dances; the Eight English Primroses, Tambo and Tambo, and Miss Alice Raymond.

MELBOURNE, MARCH 21.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE (Lessees, Messrs. Meynell and Gunn).—The laughable comedy, *There and Back*, was played on Saturday evening by Messrs. Meynell and Gunn's comedy company, and was most enthusiastically received by a packed house. Mr. J. J. Dallas was seen at his best as Henry Lawson. The part of Marie Antoinette Smith was played by Miss Florence Lloyd; who portrayed the character with vivacity and dash, her tasteful rendering of "Sue" in the second act elicited hearty applause. Mr. Aubrey Mallalieu as William Waring was well placed; while other characters were presented by Miss Florence Redfern, Miss Maud Chetwynd, Mr. Gregan McMahon, and Mr. Fred Camburne. *There and Back* will only be staged for a short season.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—The popularity of *Leah Kleschna* shows no signs of waning, and another large audience was present on Saturday evening. The piece presents some strong points of interest, and the characters are most successfully interpreted by Miss Brune and the capable company supporting her.

OPERA HOUSE (Sole Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—Mr. Harry Rickards made his reappearance on Monday evening for a brief farewell season of five nights and one matinée. The popular actor-comedian has been many months off the boards, and his return on Monday evening was welcomed by a bumper house. Amongst the latest London coster and character successes which Mr. Rickards placed before the audience may be specially mentioned "The best, best world" and "Give my regards to Leicester-square," both of which he gave in his own inimitable style. Mr. Rickards received a perfect ovation. It is understood he shortly leaves for England, so his short season here will certainly be a record one. Other artists appearing at present include the Scottish Meisters, the Eight English Primroses, the Two Bells, Bitie Williams, Alice Raymond, and Tambo and Tambo, all of whom present interesting and novel turns.

GAIETY THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. Frank Clark).—Mr. Clark's folly company appeared in a complete change of programme on Saturday evening. The attendance was large, and the various artists each obtained a cordial reception. Miss Lucy Levinia and Miss Katie Kerr, serios and dancers, made their first appearance, their respective turns meeting with approval.

NEW MUSIC.

Messrs. Ascherberg have issued a number of new works. Hugo Reinhold, in some characteristic pieces for the piano under the title "En Voyage," indulges in the usual freedom of Teutonic composers when attempting to be descriptive. He opens his series with "A Ride in a Boat," continues with "A Remarkable Meeting"—possibly he met a mermaid. Next we find him in a rose garden, where "Margaret Waits"; then a piece is called "Remembrance." Other items are "Bird upon the Branches," "At the Wedding," "Quick Resolution," &c. The subjects are capriciously chosen, but the musical setting is undoubtedly clever and artistic. The minuet "At the Wedding," might have been signed "Haydn," it has so much vivacity of style.

"I Need Thee" is a sacred song by Conrad King. It is an appeal *à miséricorde* to the Saviour, and has much expression. "The Madcap," by Cyril Burgess, is of a different character, telling of the pranks of a lively maiden who slides down the bannisters in a sheet to startle a visitor. She rightly calls herself "a merry girl." The great name of Rubinstein attracts us in a volksleid, which has many of the peculiarities of the composer. The pianoforte portion is by no means easy. Original part songs are by various composers, some of them famous, Meyerbeer being among them. Others are arranged from popular melodies, for example, Balfe's "Killarney."

"Serenata," by Theo. Bonheur, has great merits. Teachers of the pianoforte will welcome the piece, a capital study for youthful pupils. "It's the little things that tell," the homely philosophy of Mr. C. H. Bovil, finds appropriate setting in the genial music of Mr. Cyril Burgess, the combination being quite agreeable. The advice given by the author to the fair sex is not likely to be overlooked. The same writer and composer join forces with satisfactory results in "Sour Grapes" and "The Latch-Key." "A Southern Wine Song," words by Stanhope Gray, music by Paul de Loetz, is spirited, and some rattling arpeggios in the accompaniment add to the effect of the second portion of the melody. Napoleon Lambelet has displayed a lively vein of melody in his "Intermezzo Patrol." "The Choristers," set to the words of Clifton Bingham, by Bernard Phelps, has merit, and the arrangement by J. Airlie Dix for organ or harmonium is cleverly done. Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter are the publishers, as they also are of the following:—"Peggy O'Neil," a lively waltz, by H. B. Blanke, with a distinctly Hibernian flavour; "A Barn Dance," by H. Pether, entitled "Teasing," evidently justifies its title in the portrait adorning the title-page; Celian Kottaun, in his "Dance Poupée," has produced a very animated ballet air. The name of Celian Kottaun will be familiar to patrons of the Mohawk Minstrels, both as a player and composer.

Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter are also publishers of the under-mentioned works: "Jumper Johnson," a rag-time conceit, by T. W. Thurban. "Jumper Johnson" has the merit of extreme liveliness, a quality which will be a strong recommendation to many amateurs who consider classical music dull and slow, which "Jumper Johnson" certainly is not. "I Love You" is a vocal waltz by Luke Cavendish Everett, with a title-page representing two lovers under a trysting-tree. The melody is pleasing and tuneful. "My Ladye Fayre" is a medley suite of waltzes by Karl Kaps, based on popular airs. Karl Kaps is no novice in this kind of work. Francis and Day's "Scale Manual" for the pianoforte is worthy the attention of all teachers, and it has secured approval from many musical authorities. "Gertana" is a Spanish waltz by Chauncey Haines, who may be credited with a very

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

HOUSEHOLD WORDS, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Feb. 13, 1884.
HOUSE IN THAMES STREET, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, May 7, 1885.
HOUSE IN THE VALLEY, Grecian, May 28, 1860.
HOUSE OF CARDS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Nov. 13, 1891.
HOUSE OF DARNLEY, Court, Oct. 6, 1877.
HOUSE OF LADIES, Olympic.
HOUSE OF LIES, Theatre Royal, Rugby, Nov. 24, 1892.
HOUSE OF LORDS, Lyric, July 5, 1894.
HOUSE OF MYSTERY, Portsmouth, May 2, 1898.
HOUSE OF SLEEP, Balham, Dec. 6, 1897.
HOUSE ON THE BRIDGE OF NOTRE DAME, Lyceum, Feb. 11, 1861.
HOUSE ON THE MARSH, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, March 2, 1885.
HOUSE OR THE HOME, Adelphi, May 16, 1859.
HOUSE OUT OF WINDOWS, Lyceum, Oct. 18, 1852.
HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT, Drury Lane, Dec., 1862.
HOWARD HOWARD, St. George's Hall, Nov. 10, 1888.
HOW DREAMS COME TRUE, Grosvenor Gallery, July 17, 1890.
HOW I FOUND CRUSOE, Olympic, Dec. 28, 1873.
HOW LONDON LIVES, Princess's, Dec. 27, 1897.
HOW MONEY'S MADE, Salford, July 31, 1899.
HOW SHE LOVES HIM, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Dec. 7, 1863.
HOW'S THAT, UMPIRE? Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, Oct. 19, 1880.
HOW STOUT YOU'RE GETTING, Princess's, July 16, 1855.
HOW'S YOUR UNCLE, Adelphi, Aug. 27, 1855.
HOW TIME FLIES, Victoria, April 24, 1869.
HOW TO KILL HIM, Theatre Royal, Stockton, July 14, 1873.
HOW TO WIN A WAGER, Theatre Royal, Bristol, Nov. 30, 1874.
HOW WE LIVE IN THE WORLD OF LONDON, Surrey, March 24, 1856.
HOW WE SPENT CHRISTMAS DAY IN '69, Surrey, Jan. 31, 1870.
HOW WILL THEY GET OUT OF IT? St. James's, Aug. 13, 1864.
HUBBY, Ealing, April 22, 1884.
HUBERT'S PRIDE, Victoria, Strathaven, July 8, 1872.
HUBERT THE BOWYER'S SON, Victoria, Feb. 28, 1874.
HUE AND CRY, Theatre Royal, South Shields, April 16, 1883.
HUE AND DYE, Strand, Jan. 11, 1869.
HUGH WESTON'S WILL, Theatre Royal, Hull, Dec. 17, 1880.
HUGENOT CAPTAIN, Princess's, Aug. 13, 1866.
HUGGER MUGGER, Oct. 1, 1874.
HUGUENOTS, THE, Surrey, June 16, 1873.
HUMANITY, Theatre Royal, Leicester, March 27, 1882.
HUMANITY; OR, LIFE FOR LIFE, Sanger's, Oct. 15, 1881.
HUMAN NATURE, Olympic, July 22, 1867.
HUMAN SPIDER, Burnley, Nov. 14, 1898.
HUMAN SPORT, Globe, May 1, 1895.
HUMBUG, New Royalty, Dec. 19, 1867.
HUMPTY DUMPTY, Lyceum, Dec. 26, 1868.
HUNCHBACK BACK AGAIN, Olympic, Dec. 23, 1879.
£100 ASIDE, Pavilion, Dec. 8, 1890.
HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS, Prince of Wales's, May 5, 1866.
HUNDRED YEARS AGO, Royalty, July 16, 1892.
HUNGER, Theatre Royal, Great Grimsby, March 10, 1869.
HUNTED DOWN, St. James's, Nov. 5, 1866.
HUNTED DOWN BY FATE, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Dec. 11, 1882.
HUNTED TO DEATH, Victoria, Oct. 26, 1867.
HUNTING A FOX, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, April 5, 1878.
HUNT THE SLIPPER, Theatre Royal, Cork, April 18, 1887.
HURLY BURLY, New Cross Public Hall, May 24, 1884.
HUSBAND AND WIFE, Criterion, April 30, 1891.
HUSBAND IN CLOVER, Lyceum, Dec. 26, 1874.
HUSBAND OF AN HOUR, Haymarket, June 1, 1857.
HUSBAND OF MY HEART, Haymarket, Oct. 23, 1850.
HUSBAND TO ORDER, Olympic, Oct. 17, 1859.
HUSBANDS, BEWARE, Drury Lane, Oct. 28, 1865.
HUSBAND'S HUMILIATION, Criterion, June 25, 1896.
HUSBAND'S VENGEANCE, Marylebone, Nov. 23, 1857.
HUSH A BYE, BABY, Astley's, Dec. 26, 1866.
HUSH MONEY, Terry's, June 23, 1892.
HYDROPATHY, Islington, Jan. 26, 1892.
HYMEN WINS, Southall, Nov. 17, 1890.
HYPATIA, Haymarket, Jan. 2, 1893.
HYPERMNESTRA, Lyceum, March 27, 1869.
HYPNOTISEE, Royalty, Jan. 31, 1889.

IB AND LITTLE CHRISTINA, Prince of Wales's, May 15, 1900.
IBSEN CHRISTMAS, Birkbeck Institute, Oct. 20, 1897.
IBSEN'S GHOST, Toole's, May 30, 1891.
ICEBOUND, Wolverhampton, July 25, 1892.
ICI ON (NE) PARLE (PAS) FRANÇAIS, Toole's, June 13, 1891.
ICI ON PARLE FRANÇAIS, Adelphi, May 9, 1859.
I COULDN'T HELP IT, Lyceum, April 19, 1862.
IDA, Covent Garden, Nov. 15, 1865.
IDALIA, St. James's, April 22, 1867.
IDEAL HUSBAND, Haymarket, Jan. 3, 1895.
I DINE WITH MY MOTHER, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Jan. 23, 1871.
IDLE APPRENTICE, City of London, June 5, 1865.
IDLE JACK, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, Nov. 5, 1883.
IDLE 'PRENTICE, Strand, Sept. 10, 1870.
IDLER, THE, St. James's, Feb. 26, 1891.
IDLE WORDS, Edinburgh, Dec. 21, 1896.
IDOLATORS, Britannia, June 9, 1862.
IDOL OF AN HOUR, Theatre Royal, Windsor, Jan. 16, 1899.
IDOLS OF THE HEART, Liverpool, Feb. 21, 1890.
IDOL, THE, Folly, September 21, 1878.
IDUNA, Comedy, Manchester, Oct. 28, 1889.
IDYLL OF NEW YEAR'S EVE, Chelsea, Jan. 31, 1890.
IDYLL OF SEVEN DIALS, Prince of Wales's, May 30, 1899.
IDYLL OF THE CLOSING CENTURY, Lyceum, Dec. 2, 1896.
IF I HAD A THOUSAND A YEAR, Olympic, Oct. 21, 1867.
IF I WERE RICH, Park, April 16, 1881.
IL DEMONIO, Covent Garden, June 21, 1881.
IL GUARANAY, Covent Garden, July 13, 1872.
IL JACOBI, Bayswater, Feb. 26, 1895.
IL MAESTRO DI CAPPELLA, Prince of Wales's, Feb. 16, 1897.
IL PICCOLO HAYDN, Lyric, Nov. 16, 1897.
I'LL SEE YOU RIGHT, Opera House, Leicester, June 3, 1878.
I'LL TELL YOUR WIFE, Adelphi, March 10, 1855.
ILL-TREATED IL TROVATORE, Adelphi, May 21, 1863.
ILLUSION, Strand, July 3, 1890.
ILLUSIONS, Charing Cross, May 21, 1870.
I'LL WRITE TO THE "TIMES," Sadler's Wells, Oct. 9, 1856.
I LOVE YOU, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, Sept. 13, 1872.
IL RE DI LAHORE, Covent Garden, June 23, 1879.
IL RINNEGATO, Her Majesty's, July 9, 1881.
IL SONNAMBULO, Gaiety, April 6, 1878.
IL TALISMANO, Drury Lane, June 11, 1874.
I'M NOT MYSELF AT ALL, Drury Lane, Dec. 27, 1870.
IMOGEN'S NEW COOK, Ladbroke Hall, April 26, 1898.
IM-PATIENCE, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Aug. 25, 1884.
IMPEACHED, Gallery of Illustration, May 24, 1873.
IMPERIAL GUARD, Britannia, Sept. 2, 1872.
IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, St. James's, Feb. 14, 1895.
IMPRESARIO, THE, Crystal Palace, Sept. 13, 1877.
IMPRUDENCE, Folly, July 27, 1881.
IMPUDENT PUPPY, Drury Lane, Nov. 6, 1855.
IMPULSE, St. James's, Dec. 9, 1882.
IM VARTESALON ERSTE KLASSE, King's Cross, December 12, 1885.
IN A BALCONY, Prince's Hall, Nov. 28, 1884.
IN A DAY, Terry's, May 30, 1890.
IN A DISTANT LAND, Southend, June 20, 1900.
IN ADVANCE OF THE TIMES, Amphitheatre, Leeds, Sept. 23, 1875.
IN A LOCKET, Strand, Sept. 16, 1895.
IN AN AFTERNOON, Ladbroke Hall, May 13, 1898.
IN AN ATTIC, St. James's, March 25, 1895.
IN AND OUT OF A FIX.
IN AND OUT OF A PUNT, St. James's, March 9, 1896.
IN AND OUT OF PLACE, Adelphi, Feb. 23, 1857.
IN AND OUT OF SERVICE, Standard, Oct. 25, 1869.
IN ANOTHER MAN'S CASTLE, Neston, July 13, 1898.
IN A TELEGRAPH OFFICE, Sloane-square, May 11, 1893.
IN BLACK AND WHITE, Pavilion, Sept. 18, 1880.
IN CAMP, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Sept. 24, 1883.
INCENDIARIES, Britannia, Aug. 29, 1859.
IN CHANCERY, Lyceum, Edinburgh, Sept. 19, 1884.
IN CHARGE, Prince's, Bradford, June 29, 1888.
INCHAVOGUE, East London, April 21, 1873.
IN CHRYSANTHEMUM LAND, Redruth, Jan. 17, 1899.
INCH VERRA, Albion, Feb. 22, 1875.
INCOGNITA, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, Feb. 17, 1879.
INCOGNITO, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, June 11, 1881.
INCORRIGIBLES, THE, Londesbrough, Scarborough, May 29, 1882.
IN CUPID'S COURT, St. George's Hall, Nov. 30, 1885.
IN DANGER, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Oct. 24, 1887.
IN DAYS OF OLD, St. James's, April 26, 1899.
IN DEADLY PERIL, Scarborough, Feb. 3, 1890.
INDIA IN 1857, Surrey, Nov. 9, 1857.
INDIANA, Comedy, Manchester, Oct. 4, 1886.
INDIAN PRINCE, Grand, Walsall, July 26, 1897.
INDIAN MUTINY, Burnley, Dec. 26, 1892.
INDIAN QUEEN, Victoria, Dec. 24, 1877.
INDISCRETION, Folkestone, Nov. 13, 1888.
IN DUTY BOUND, Pavilion, Aug. 3, 1878.
INEZ MENDO, Covent Garden, July 10, 1897.
INEZ THE DANCING GIRL, Stafford, Aug. 3, 1896.
IN FACE OF THE FOE, Marylebone, July 25, 1892.
INFANTICIDE, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, March 16, 1868.
INFATUATION, Old Theatre Royal, Bristol, April 25, 1879.
IN FETTERS, Strand, Nov. 30, 1885.
IN FOR A HOLIDAY, Royalty.
IN FOR A PENNY, Southampton, May 5, 1888.
INFORMERS, Theatre Royal, Leeds, Aug. 31, 1883.
IN GAY PICCADILLY, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Oct. 9, 1899.
INGOMAR BUB, Theatre Royal, Douglas, Isle of Man, Sept. 2, 1868.
INGOMAR THE IDIOT, Alfred, Aug. 19, 1871.
IN HONOUR BOUND, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 25, 1880.
INGULPH, Britannia, Dec. 15, 1879.
INHERITANCE, THE, Comedy, May 16, 1889.
IN HIS POWER, Alexandra, Liverpool, Sept. 20, 1884.
INJURED FEMALE, Park, Nov. 6, 1876.
INKSLINGER, THE, Glasgow, Feb. 20, 1893.
IN LIFE OR DEATH, Olympic, March 24, 1885.
IN LONDON TOWN, Peckham, Aug. 7, 1899.
IN LONDON'S HEART, Llandudno, Nov. 9, 1899.
IN LOVE, Terry's, May 13, 1890.
IN LUCK, Hackney Wick, March 26, 1900.
IN LUCK'S WAY, Huddersfield, Dec. 26, 1895.
IN MARY'S COTTAGE, Terry's, Dec. 21, 1896.
INNISFALLEN, Lyceum, Sept. 17, 1870.
INNOCENCE, Theatre Royal, Gloucester, Oct. 22, 1874.
INNOCENT ABROAD, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Nov. 9, 1894.
INNOCENT; OR, LIFE IN DEATH, Surrey, April 14, 1873.
INNOCENTINEZ, King's Cross, March 29, 1876.
INNOCENTS ALL ABROAD, Blackpool, June 9, 1886.
INNOCENTS ABROAD, Opera House, Liverpool, May 15, 1882.
INO BUR, Strand, Oct. 30, 1869.
INOCULATION, Ladbroke Hall, Feb. 18, 1892.
IN OLDEN DAYS, Vaudeville, June 5, 1890.
IN OLD KENTUCKY, Theatre Royal, Hull, Feb. 10, 1894.
IN OLD MADRID, Theatre Royal, Garston, Jan. 23, 1897.
IN ONE DAY, Durham, Feb. 17, 1896.
INO, OR THE THEBAN TWINS, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, April 30, 1869.
IN POSSESSION, Gallery of Illusions, June 22, 1871.
IN SEARCH OF A FATHER, Derby, Aug. 1, 1898.
IN SEARCH OF AN ENGAGEMENT, Terry's, April 13, 1892.
INSECT SELLER OF FUSHIYAMA, Edinburgh, May 11, 1900.
IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S, Princess's, Aug. 1, 1896.
IN SPITE OF ALL, Theatre Royal, Margate, July 18, 1898.
IN SPITE OF SOCIETY, Duke of York's, Nov. 10, 1898.
INSTITUTE ABROAD, Matinée, May 6, 1897.
IN STRICT CONFIDENCE, Comedy, Oct. 9, 1893.
IN SUMMER DAYS, Theatre Royal, Bradford, March 2, 1891.
IN SUNNY SPAIN, Walsall, Nov. 9, 1896.
INSURANCE MONEY, Hammersmith, June 4, 1894.
INSURED AT LLOYD'S, New Queen's, Manchester, Nov. 5, 1870.
INSURING HIS LIFE, Theatre Royal, Manchester, March 24, 1875.
INTEMPERANCE, Elephant and Castle, July 19, 1879.
INTERLUDE, AN, Terry's, June 3, 1893.
INTERRUPTED HONEYMOON, Avenue, Sept. 23, 1899.
INTERRUPTED REHEARSAL, Croydon, July 20, 1900.
INTERVIEW, AN, Queen's Hall, Nov. 29, 1895.
INTERVIEWED, Brighton, Sept. 1, 1896.
INTERVIEW, THE, Garrick, Nov. 11, 1895.
IN THE CAUSE OF CHARITY, St. George's Hall, Feb. 3, 1900.
IN THE CLOUDS, Alexandra, Dec. 8, 1873.
IN THE CLUTCH OF THE ENEMY, Grecian, Oct. 4, 1873.
IN THE CORRIDOR, Court, May 25, 1889.
IN THE DAYS OF SIEGE, Plymouth, July 4, 1898.
IN THE DAYS OF THE DUKE, Adelphi, Sept. 9, 1897.
IN THE DAYS OF TRAFALGAR, Ampthill, Sept. 12, 1899.
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, Theatre Royal, Hanley, Aug. 13, 1877.
IN THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA, Avenue, July 5, 1894.
IN THE EYE OF THE LAW, Portsmouth, April 24, 1893.
IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD, Globe, March 29, 1894.
IN THE FASHION, Ladbroke Hall, Dec. 28, 1887.
IN THE GLOAMING, Theatre Royal, Bath, March 17, 1884.
IN THE GOLDEN DAYS, Matinée, June 17, 1897.
IN THE HEART OF THE STORM, Tottenham, Feb. 29, 1896.
IN THE ITALIAN QUARTER, Vaudeville, Nov. 30, 1899.
IN THE KING'S NAME, Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, June 18, 1888.
IN THE LION'S MOUTH, Theatre Royal, Bath, Sept. 25, 1885.
IN THE MOONLIGHT, Surrey, Oct. 16, 1893.
IN THE OLD TIME, St. James's, May 31, 1888.
IN THE ORCHARD, Folly, Feb. 14, 1880.
IN THE QUEEN'S NAME, Theatre Royal, Colchester, Feb. 5, 1890.
IN THE RANKS, Adelphi, Oct. 6, 1883.
IN THE RING, Gaiety, May 27, 1896.
IN THE SEASON, Strand, May 26, 1892.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT, Britannia, Dec. 5, 1898.
IN THE SOUP, Opera House, Northampton, Aug. 16, 1900.
IN THE SPIDER'S WEB, Grand, Glasgow, May 28, 1883.
IN THE STATIONERY LINE, Cabinet, Feb. 19, 1870.
IN THE SULKS, Opera Comique, Feb. 21, 1880.
IN THE TOILS, Oxford, Jan. 30, 1869.
IN THE TRAIN, Tottenham Court-road, April 18, 1888.
IN THE TWILIGHT, Scarborough, Dec. 5, 1900.
IN THE WOLF'S DEN, A STORY OF THE WELSH COURT, Theatre Royal, Swansea, April 30, 1869.
IN THE WRONG BOX, Strand, Oct. 15, 1866.
IN THREE VOLUMES, Strand, Feb. 27, 1871.
INTIMIDAD; OR, THE LOST REGALIA, Strand, April 8, 1875.
IN TOWN, Prince of Wales's, Oct. 15, 1892.
INTRUDERS, Theatre Royal, Worcester, Jan. 16, 1899.
INTRUDER, THE, Haymarket, Jan. 27, 1892.
IN TWO MINDS, Garrick, June 27, 1894.
INVASION OF BRITAIN, Glasgow, April 16, 1900.
INVENTORIES A PROPOS, Strand, July 8, 1885.
INVISIBLE CLIENT, Princess's, Edinburgh, March 1, 1875.
INVISIBLE PRINCE, Princess's, Dec. 26, 1866.
IN WANT OF A WIFE, Camden Town, Feb. 14, 1885.
IOLANTHE, Lyceum, May 20, 1880.
IOLANTHE, Opera, Savoy, Nov. 25, 1882.
I. O., OR LOVE IN A FOG, Sadler's Wells, April 12, 1864.
I.O.U., Gaiety, Dublin, July 5, 1873.
I.O.U.; OR, THE WAY OF THE WICKED, Elephant and Castle, June 28, 1879.
I PAGLIACCI, Covent Garden, May 19, 1893.
IPHEGENIE, Drury Lane, June 18, 1881.
IPHIGENIE AUF TAURIS, St. George's Hall, Oct. 4, 1900.
I PROMESSI SPOSI, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, March 23, 1881.
IRAN SAFFERI, Surrey, April 17, 1854.
I RANTZAU, Covent Garden, July 7, 1893.
IRELAND AS IT WAS, New York, 185—
IRENE, Theatre Royal, Manchester, March 10, 1880.
IRISH ARISTOCRACY, Theatre Royal, St. Helens, June 2, 1884.
IRISH DIAMOND, Haymarket, Oct. 29, 1850.
IRISH ELOPEMENT, Queen's, Manchester, April 11, 1887.
IRISH EYES, Kelso, Jan. 4, 1889.
IRISH FOOTMAN, Sadler's Wells, Dec. 17, 1872.
IRISH GENTLEMAN, Globe, June 9, 1897.
IRISH INTRIGUE, Sunderland, Sept. 29, 1873.
IRISH LIFE, Theatre Royal, Lowestoft, Oct. 22, 1888.
IRISHMAN, THE, Elephant and Castle, Nov. 4, 1889.
IRISHMAN'S HEART, Britannia, Sept. 29, 1879.
IRISHMAN'S HOME, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, April 12, 1875.
IRISHMAN'S POLICY, Barnsley, Sept. 9, 1875.
IRMA, St. George's Hall, March 17, 1885.
IRMENGARDA, Covent Garden, Dec. 8, 1892.
IRON ARM, Surrey, April 13, 1857.
IRON BEFORE GOLD, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Feb. 12, 1872.
IRON CASKET, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, Feb. 10, 1868.
IRON GATES, Theatre Royal, Todmorden, Oct. 29, 1883.
IRON HANDS, Princess's, Edinburgh, Sept. 29, 1873.
IRON MAIDEN, Theatre Royal, Hanley, June 3, 1896.
IRONMASTER, St. James's, April 17, 1884.
IRON TRUE, Theatre Royal, Stratford, May 3, 1886.
IRVINGMANIA, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, July 12, 1877.
ISAAC ABROAD, Theatre Royal, Oxford, Jan. 15, 1878.
ISAAC OF YORK, Court, Nov. 29, 1871. 12, 1877.
ISALDA, Toole's, Feb. 14, 1890.
IS BROWN AT HOME? Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Feb. 24, 1873.
I SHALL INVITE THE MAJOR, New York, 1875.
IS HE A CHRISTIAN? Liverpool, Dec. 10, 1900.
IS IT THE KING? Strand, Nov. 14, 1861.
ISLAND OF BACHELORS, Gaiety, Sept. 14, 1874.
ISLE OF ST. TROPEZ, St. James's, Dec. 20, 1860.
ISLE OF UTOPIA, Eastbourne, Dec. 26, 1892.
IS LIFE WORTH LIVING? Prince's, Bristol, Sept. 1, 1887.
ISLINGTON, OR LIFE IN THE STREETS, Sadler's Wells, May 11, 1867.
IS MADAME AT HOME? Prince's Hall, May 23, 1887.
IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE? Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Nov. 19, 1888.
ISOFEL, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, Feb. 2, 1887.
IS SHE GUILTY? Britannia, June 23, 1877.
ITALIAN QUARTER, Criterion,
ITALIAN ROMANCE, AN, Middlesex County Asylum, Nov. 14, 1889.
IT IS JUSTICE, Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, Dec. 26, 1890.
IT MUST BE TRUE, Lyceum, Oct. 20, 1862.
IT NEVER RAINS BUT IT POURS, Alexandra, Liverpool, April 16, 1877.
IT'S AN ILL WIND THAT BLOWS NOBODY GOOD, Adelphi, May 14, 1860.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND, Princess's, Oct. 4, 1865.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO REPENT, Britannia, Aug. 18, 1875.
IT WAS A DREAM, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Sept. 18, 1890.
IVANHOE, Theatre Royal, Dundee, Feb. 15, 1875.
IVANHOE, Burlesque, Strand, Dec. 26, 1862.
IVANHOE, Opera, Royal English Opera, Cambridge Circus, Jan. 31, 1891.
IVANHOE, OR MAID OF YORK, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Nov. 27, 1871.
I'VE EATEN MY FRIEND, Olympic, Sept. 8, 1851.
IVERS DEAN, Theatre Royal, Hanley, Nov. 12 1877.
I'VE TAKEN A HOUSE, St. George's Hall, Nov. 4, 1889.
I'VE WRITTEN TO BROWNE, Olympic, Feb. 7, 1859.
IVORY TABLETS, Theatre Royal, Margate, July 7, 1898.
IVY, Theatre Royal, Manchester, April 4, 1887.
IVY HALL, Princess's, Sept. 26, 1859.
I WILL IF YOU WILL, St. James's, Feb. 14, 1860.
IXION, New Royalty, Sept. 28, 1863.
IXION RE WHEEL'D, Opera Comique, Nov. 21. 1874.
IZEYL, Daly's, June 18, 1894.
"1679," Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Sept. 23, 1872.
1870, OR THE BATTLE OF LIFE, Queen's, Dublin, Oct. 31, 1870.
1874; OR, HIGH AND LOW, RICH AND POOR, Theatre Royal, Hanley, Aug. 17, 1874.
'98; OR, FAUGH-A-BALLAGH, Prince of Wales's, Rochdale, July 13, 1874.
JACKAL, THE, Strand, Nov. 28, 1889.
JACK, Royalty, June 14, 1886.
JACK AND BEANSTALK, Drury Lane, Dec. 26, 1859.
JACK AND JILL, Victoria, Dec., 1874.
JACK AND JILL AND THE SLEEPING BEAUTY, Surrey, Dec. 26, 1868.
JACK CRAWFORD, Lyceum, Sunderland, Oct. 1, 1877.
JACKEYDORA, Theatre Royal, Leamington, Dec. 26, 1890.
JACK-IN-THE-BOX, St. James's, June 11, 1866.
JACK IN THE GREEN, Adelphi, May 23, 1850.
JACK IN WONDERLAND, Crystal Palace, Dec. 22, 1874.
JACK MINGO, Britannia, Aug. 11, 1866.
JACKO, Stalybridge, April 11, 1898.
JACK OF ALL TRADES, Olympic, Oct. 3, 1861.
JACK O' HEARTS, Swindon, March 26, 1894.
JACK O' LANTERN, Britannia, July 8, 1867.
JACK; OR, THE MAGIC KEY, Queen's, Dublin, April 14, 1879.
JACQUELINE, Amphitheatre, Leeds, May 8, 1874.
JACQUES DAMOUR, Royalty, Feb. 4, 1889.
JACK ROBINSON CRUSOE, Theatre Royal, Windsor, Oct. 14, 1876.
JACKS AND JILLS, Vaudeville, May 29, 1880.
JACK'S DELIGHT, Strand, Nov. 3, 1862.
JACK SHEPPARD, Pavilion, April 9, 1898.
JACK SPRAT, Astley's, Dec. 26, 1864.
JACKSON'S BOY, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, March 28, 1891.
JACK STEDFAST, Britannia, Aug. 30, 1869.
JACK TAR, Pavilion, Oct. 12, 1896.
JACK THE GIANT KILLER, Princess's, Dec. 26, 1859.
JACK, THE TALE OF A TRUMP, Theatre Royal, Blackpool, Nov. 12, 1877.
JACK THE VALIANT, Elephant and Castle, Dec. 24, 1877.
JACK WHITE'S TRIAL, Alexandra Opera House, Sheffield, March 16, 1883.
JANE, Comedy, Dec. 18, 1890.
JANE ANNIE, Savoy, May 13, 1893.
JANE EYRE, Surrey, Nov. 16, 1867.
JANE SETON, Theatre Royal, Leith, March 28, 1870.
JANE SHORE, Amphitheatre, Leeds, March 8, 1875.
JANE SHORE; OR, THE FEARFUL PENANCE AND THE FATAL PENNY ROLL, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Aug. 16, 1880.
JANET O'BRIEN, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Feb. 27, 1869.
JANET PRIDE, Adelphi, Feb. 5, 1855.
JAN THE ICELANDER, West Hartlepool, Nov. 24, 1900.
JAPANESE GIRL, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, June 26, 1897.
JAPANESE LAMP, Tiverton, Feb. 25, 1897.
JAPS, THE, Prince's, Bristol, Aug. 31, 1885.
JASPER'S REVENGE, Shaftesbury, June 25, 1891.
JAUNTY JANE SHORE, Strand, April 2, 1894.
JEALOUS IN HONOUR, Garrick, April 27, 1893.
JEALOUS MISTAKE, Globe, April 27, 1899.
JEALOUS OF THE PAST, New Cross Hall, Sept. 17, 1885.
JEALOUS WIFE, Strand, July 26, 1892.
JEALOUSY, Covent Garden, Nov. 18, 1838.
JEAMES, Gaiety, Aug. 26, 1878.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, April 26. — Arthur Schnitzler's drama *Der Einsame Weg* has been revived at the Lessing, after an interval of several years. With a magnificent cast the play made a profound impression, its subtle, psychological points being interpreted to a nicety. The interesting piece—which is considered by many to be the talented Austrian author's best work—was detailed in your columns on the occasion of its production. It depicts the erring side of humanity with almost Ibsen-like genius, while the touches of humour which occasionally glint through it are very bright and effective. Notwithstanding its good points, however, the play is not of a kind to become popular, and with any other cast but an unusually good one it would hardly score at all. Fräulein Lehmann and Fräulein Triesch, as Irene and Johanna, gave exceptionally fine impersonations, and the rôle of Von Sala is one of the best in Herr Bassermann's repertory. Herren Reicher, Sauer, and Stieler completed the list of principal artists, each giving a faultless account of the character entrusted to him.

WITH the close of the present season Herr Reinhardt gives up the management of the Neues Theatre, which he has run for the last two years together with the Deutsches. The latter theatre has always had a leading place, and has risen under the present management to a very high standing. Herr Reinhardt finds two of the same class theatres too much responsibility, so he has handed the Neues over to Herr Schmieden, who will continue the same kind of répertories.

HIS EXCELLENCY BARON HULSEN, the Intendant General of the Imperial Theatres, left for Wiesbaden last week to put the finishing touches to the "Kaiser-Spiele," the run of plays and operas to be given during their Majesties' sojourn at Homburg. The handsome Court Theatre at Wiesbaden receives a number of selected artists as "guests" for these performances (usually chosen by the Kaiser himself), and the acme of taste is brought to bear upon the representations down to the smallest detail.

THE Belle-Alliance Theatre has passed into other hands—it has seen many vicissitudes during the last few years—and will, with the opening of next season, be re-christened. Its future cognomen is the Lortzing Theatre, and, as the name implies, it will be an operatic house. Light opera and good-class operettas will be given exclusively. The admission prices are to be popular ones, within the reach of all, and a good all-round company—without stars—is promised. For the south-west of the city, which is destitute of any theatre of this description, the Lortzing should be a welcome acquisition.

AT the Opera House at Frankfort-on-the-Maine the four-act opera, entitled in German *Die Fischer von Saint Jean*, by Mr. Widor (director of the Paris Conservatoire), met with distinct success last week. So good are the reports of the music that it is highly probable the work will be produced in Berlin next season. The book is very simple, the plot being insufficient, say the critics, for four acts. Jean Pierre, a wealthy ship-owner, has a beautiful daughter, who loves and is loved by one Jacques, a pilot in her father's employ. The father will not consent to a union of the lovers, but in a storm Jacques succeeds in saving his life, and Pierre, in gratitude, opposes no longer. That is all the plot, but it is said to be well padded out by incidental episodes, while the scenes, including a launch and accompanying festivities, are exceedingly effective, both from a musical and structural point of view. The orchestration is said to be unusually fine and imposing, if with occasional reminiscences of Richard Wagner. M. Widor had not to complain of his German reception; he was called before the curtain at the close of each act, and enthusiastically applauded. The interpretation was, as is mostly the case at the Frankfort Opera House, extremely good.

"DIE SCHWARZE NINA,"

Volks Opera, in Three Acts, by Alfred Kaiser, produced at the Komischo Oper, April 26.

Anna	FRAULEIN WALTER
Grete	FRAULEIN MISCZKO
Nicolo	HERR MANTLER
Nina	FRAU FELSER
Jakob	HERR KREUDER
Peter	HERR THOMASCHEK
Hans	HERR SPIELMANN
Michel	HERR BUERS
Marten	HERR FUNFGELD
Klaus	HERR SCHNELLER
Kraemer	HERR GEZMANN
Zweite Kraemer	HERR WARCZAWSKI
Lise	FRAULEIN URBAN
Stimme des Priesters	HERR HERBERT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, MAY 3.—The change in the bill of the Komische Oper had been eagerly anticipated, and good things were reported of the forthcoming work. It met, too, with a very cordial reception, and the composer was called before the curtain at the close in response to hearty applause. Truth, nevertheless, compels me to say the music is disappointing, and it is doubtful whether—in this as in so many cases—first-night cordiality is to be trusted as an omen for the future. There is very little originality in the music, and as little system. It is a confused mingling of marches, waltzes, student and volk songs, while reminders of familiar compositions are everywhere distinctly audible. One or two of the melodies are very pleasing, particularly Nina's aria "Es soll mein Leben untergraben sein," in the second act, which was applauded—having been admirably rendered by Frau Felser—by open stage. But these numbers are exceptions, and the music is, on the whole, noisy and expressionless. The book is drawn from episodes of the working classes, as is usually the case in a volks opera. Nina—whose raven locks have gained for her the sobriquet of "Black Nina"—is the pretty daughter of an innkeeper named Nicolo. She has had no lack of lovers, but with Hans—a factory hand—she has had a more serious liaison than with any, and when he turns the cold shoulder on her Nina's wrath and jealousy are boundless. She loves Hans genuinely, and he has cast her off for Grete, the burgomaster's daughter—his ideal and lode-star. So the girl swears vengeance, and for a time gets things all her own way. She stirs up the workmen in the factory, and promises herself freely to anyone who will kill the traitor Hans. At the last moment, however, as Michel is about to stab him, Nina throws herself between them, and receives the fatal thrust instead. With her dying words she confesses that she has worked upon the factory hands to revolt, and expires, after Hans and Grete have accorded their forgiveness. The interpretation was somewhat uneven, Frau Felser making a great hit in the title-rôle, while the part of Grete was far from satisfactorily given. Herren Mantler, Spielmann, and Buers gave excellent renderings of their respective rôles; and Herr Moris staged the work very finely, fully deserving the call he received along with the composer and artists. Herr Lango conducted with his customary fiery temperament and unquestionable skill.

GRILLPARZER'S famous comedy *Weh' dem, der lügt* (woe to him who lies) was revived at the Schiller O. on Thursday, with tremendous success. The large house was filled almost to the last place by an enthusiastic audience, and the exquisite humour of the piece was brought out adequately by the artists. Herr Kainz delighted in playing the cook's boy Leon, many critics considering it among his best rôles; and Herr Paeschke trod in the great actor's footsteps without losing any of his own individuality. He played it quite delightfully, with Frau Becker as an equally good Edritta. I do not know whether this piece has ever been done in English, but there is little doubt that it would prove a successful experiment.

A NEW three-act comedy by MM. Xanrof and Carré, the German title of which is *Liebeskunst* (the art of love), was produced with good results at the Residenz on Saturday. The plot is a familiar one; it has much in common with that of *Der Prinzgemahl* and several others. A young married woman, innocent and unsophisticated (in this particular case it is a Queen), fails at the opening to chain her husband's fancy. His youthful majesty finds his spouse less attractive than the queens of the half-world; so she goes to an authority in such matters to learn the piquant subtleties of love. Needless to say, she succeeds in winning her husband back with *éclat*. The part of the Queen was charmingly acted by Fraülein Dewal, the star of the Residenz, if such a word may be used in connection with such an all-round good company. Herr John was capital as the King; and other rôles were sustained in excellent style by Frau Brahms, Frau Gabri, and Herr Seldeneck. Herr Alexander—manager and actor—was for once missing from the cast, but Herr Seldeneck proved, in the part of the M.C., a most humorous substitute.

THE Royal Schauspielhaus revived last week Grillparzer's classical play *Sappho*, affording thereby two new artists an opportunity of making their bow to a Berlin audience. Fräulein Rominger confirmed the favourable impression she made at this theatre in the part of Gretchen in Goethe's *Faust*. The young actress gave the rôle of Melitta—the slave of Sappho—very sympathetically, earning much and warm applause. The second "guest" of the evening was Herr Geisendörfer, who will probably be engaged here as Herr Christian's successor, the latter popular artist quitting the Schauspielhaus and Berlin in a short time. Herr Geisendörfer possesses quite sufficient talent to stand alone, and it would be more gratifying were his performances not so palpably an imitation of Kainz's superb art. When the new artist learns to be himself he will be more likely to satisfy his audiences. His impersonation of Phaon was, nevertheless, a thoughtful piece of acting, and brought him a "call." Fräulein Poppe gave the name-part in her customary able manner. The remainder of the cast was adequate, and the mounting excellent.

A NEW play was produced at the Deutsch-Amerikanisches Theatre on Sunday, the author being Herr Adolf Philipp, the popular actor and manager of this theatre. Herr Philipp has repeatedly proved that he can write amusing farces and burlesques, but he is far less successful when he attempts a serious piece. *Arme Mädchen* is the title; "three scenes from the people," the author terms it, and the action passes in New York. It is confused and pointless, the scenes are very unconnected, while the sensational effects are far-fetched and unconvincing. The piece was fairly well acted, but neither that nor the interpreters appeared at home on the boards of the usually merry little theatre.

A TWO-WEEKS season of comic opera and operetta by the Hamburg "Operetten Ensemble," opens at the Berliner to-night. The opening performance is Franz Lahár's new operetta *Die lustige Wittwe*. There are a number of well-known artists in the company, one of the foremost being Herr Leopold Deutsch—frequently mentioned in your columns on previous occasions—who is among the very cleverest of vocal comedians. A second "première" this evening is *Die Tragödie der Liebe*, at the Neues.

AT the Lessing, Hauptmann's whimsical play, *Und Pippa tanzt*, is still being given several times in the week, and proving an attraction. *Die Weber* and *Der Biberpelz* having been revived, it is a Hauptmann monopoly this week.

THE Moscow Artistic Theatre Company have been performing at the Court Theatre at Wiesbaden, by the Kaiser's special invitation. Their Majesties were present last week at a performance of *Czar Feodor*, by Alexis Tolstoi, the powerful play witnessed twice by the Kaiser and Kaiserin during the Russian company's season here a few weeks ago. The Kaiser conferred upon M. Stanislewski and his brother manager the Order of the Red Eagle.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, April 30,
The Drama, in Five Acts, by Horace Stanley, entitled
"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."

Now in the seventh year of its tour, this sensational drama of Mr. Stanley's received a most cordial welcome in Marylebone, on the occasion of its return visit this week. The whole bearing of Mr. Charles Burdon as Jack O'Malley is an excellent one, in addition to which he speaks his lines clearly and well. The rascally James Inderwick finds a capable exponent in Mr. George Arthur, who infuses plenty of originality into his acting; Mr. Francis Serle makes a good impression as the alert Huntley Mason; Mr. Alaric Burton gives a careful rendering of Cuthbert Leigh; Mr. Tom Roydan is well made up as Seth Coombes; whilst Mr. Horace Stanley as the jovial Sam Wagstaffe, A.B., plays with a broad vein of comedy and clever touches of humour, to the great delight of the Maryleboners. Miss Elsie Capell enacts Bessie Leigh with much grace and charm, thus quickly securing the sympathies of the house; Miss Evelyn M. Walton provides plenty of amusement with her grotesque portrayal of the would-be fascinating Letitia Leigh; Miss Clara Santley is painstaking as Olive Coombes; and Miss Kate Kilpack is full of vivacious energy as the lively Peggy Potts. The piece is well staged and mounted, and quite deserving of the warmth of its reception.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 30,
the Domestic Comedy, by A. W. Pinero, entitled
"SWEET LAVENDER."

There has been quite a succession of what may be termed homely plays at the Dalston Theatre recently, and *Sweet Lavender*, which forms the attraction this week, can be classed among those which have been most keenly appreciated. The members of the company do full justice to the opportunities the comedy offers. The interesting and amusing character of Dick Phenyl is played with genuine art by Mr. W. F. K. Lancy. Horace Bream, the young American, is depicted to the life by Mr. Robert Minster. Mr. J. Nelson Ramsay is Geoffrey Wedderburn, the banker, who, although his acquaintance with the audience is brief, creates just the right impression of interest. Mr. H. Tripp-Edgar as Clement Hale, the hero of the piece, gets on the best terms with the audience; and Clemmie's charming sweetheart, Lavender, as represented by Miss Edna Godfrey-Turner, is equally popular. Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner is pleasing as Minnie Gilfillian; and Miss Eugenie Vernie as Mrs. Gilfillian attractively represents the widow. Miss Ethel Verne scores as Ruth Holt. Mr. Charles R. Hann as Mr. Bulger is provided with a part which offers opportunities for the display of dry humour of which he is not slow to take advantage. Mr. E. C. Matthews as Dr. Delaney and Mr. Walter Maclean as Mr. Maw complete the efficient cast. The comedy is preceded by the one-act play, entitled *Lady Fortune*. The management of the theatre, on behalf of Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton, is still in the capable hands of Mr. W. R. King.

ABOUT THEATRE CHAIRS.

CHAT WITH MR. A. LAZARUS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

A comfortable seat in a theatre or music-hall, especially in the cheaper parts, means increased enjoyment to the spectator of the play or the listener to the song. Messrs. H. Lazarus and Son, the well-known chair experts, of 21, Great Eastern-street, E.C., have a patent automatic tip-up seat, the principle of which, we venture to predict, sooner or later, will be in evidence in practically every theatre and music hall of importance in the United Kingdom. The principal advantage of this seat lies in the fact that when not in use it remains elevated at an angle of about 40deg., so that even should the sitter forget that the seat springs up when he rises, it subsides when he goes to sit down, thus preventing the possibility of an accident. Additional benefits accrue from the use of Messrs. Lazarus's tip-up chairs, in that there is a saving of 5in. between rows in complying with the London County Council regulations, the patent contrivance being approved by that body; seats give the utmost space when pressed against for passing by; prevent ladies' dresses being crushed, and as they work by themselves, and require no handling, they save the labour of attendants.

In view of the increased comfort and economy of space to be derived from the installation of the Larazus patent automatic self-rising theatre chairs, the furniture of the firm cannot be too strongly recommended to theatre proprietors. These seats are specially suitable for circles and balconies, where the saving of space is a consider

Photo by Turner & Co.

MR. A. LAZARUS.

ation. The chairs can be made to any design, and carried out according to any particular style or period. Mr. Lazarus states that wherever these chairs have been fixed, the seating accommodation has been increased by 15 per cent. Some of the places of entertainment where they have been supplied are the King's Theatre, Glasgow, the London Coliseum, the Manchester Hippodrome, the Liverpool Olympia, Glasgow Coliseum, Holborn Empire, and Ealing Hippodrome; and orders are now in hand for the Edinburgh Theatre Royal, the Croydon New Palace, the Douglas Palace, and the Fulham Town Hall.

In conversation with Mr. Lazarus we learn that the firm has been in existence for close upon forty years, and for the greater part of that time theatre chairs have been their speciality, no less than 200 theatres and music halls having been by them supplied with seating equipments.

With a dash of humour and a touch of business, Mr. A. Lazarus says, "We have found that experience teaches, and we have learned a good deal in our time. In these go-ahead days we have made it our business to produce tip-up chairs to suit the requirements of all managements. 'Comfortableness, cosiness, and fine in appearance'; yes, that may be put down as our motto. When we turned our attention to theatrical work, one of our earliest patrons and customers was Mrs. John Wood—who had then just had the new Court Theatre built—and we made all the chairs to her own idea, namely, for visitors to sit in or upon in a position that gave the general impression that they were happily settled as in a library chair reading a book, with a foot-rest."

Some of the biggest contracts that Messrs. Lazarus undertook and completed were in connection with the "seating," as the technical phrase is, of the ball-room and the circus of the Blackpool Tower, under the direction of Mr. Frank Matcham, the seats in the car of the Great Wheel, and the seating of the gigantic Empress Theatre at Earl's Court. On the Continent, too, Messrs. Lazarus have done a large trade, and in France and Germany their automatic chairs, which the laws of those countries insist upon, have always been in great demand.

As we chat Mr. Lazarus incidentally remarks that they furnished the Biggarsberg Masonic Hall, Dundee, South Africa, a few months previous to the Boer War. A battle took place in the district, as we all know, but up to the present the building remains intact.

A regular playgoer, Mr. Lazarus has many pleasant reminiscences of past players of prominence, and his genial conversation makes the time fly with agreeable tales and laughter. But he returns to his muttons now and then, although the business of the day has gone to rest with the sun. He has business in his eye and on his hand, and we cannot help appreciating the enthusiastic way in which he expatiates upon the "quality, desirability, and uniqueness" of his wares.

"We have the chairs for all parts of the house, and—shall I quote from the catalogue?—in every shade of velvet, in every kind of wood, nicely furnished and upholstered. Well, but there, you can see for yourself. As I have already remarked, theatrical upholstery is our speciality, though we travel into other departments."

So we travel into other departments, and soon see that every requisite for theatrical use is provided and also for private convenience. Then, too, tableau curtains and proscenium borders are supplied, and also box drapery and curtains. Music stands, conductor's desks, and practically everything that is necessary in any hall or theatre are "on hand."

MR. CHARLES FRY'S revival at the Royal Court Theatre this afternoon of *The Winter's Tale* will have incidental music by Arthur Fox. Mr. Fry will impersonate Leontes, and will be supported by Miss Olive Kennett and Mr. Patrick Munro. This will be the first of Mr. Fry's Shakespearean matinées. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be revived on Saturday next, and *King Richard the Third* on Saturday week, May 19.

"ONLY HUMAN," a play in a prologue and three acts, by W. H. Harrison, was produced for copyright purposes at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, on the 25th ult.

"THE CRIMSON RAMBLER."

A Play, in Three Acts,
by Catherine Clilverd-Young,
Produced at Cripplegate Institute Theatre,
on Saturday Evening, April 28.

Henry Sumners	MR. HERBERT BIRD
Sir Phillip Westland	MR. T. ORTON ROBERTS
Count Alberto Corregia	MR. CHARLES MOORE
Tomkins	MR. C. V. REYNOLDS
Lady Mabel Sumners	MISS INA ROYLE
Dolly Sumners	MISS LALA PELHAM
Hon. Clarice Knutford	MISS BEATRICE CHESTER
Dobson	MRS. FORRESTER
Maid at the Hotel	MISS ELIZABETH SCOTTIE
Mary Spindler	MISS ADELA WEEKES

Even if we were not acquainted with the name of the author of *The Crimson Rambler* it would be perfectly easy to tell that it was the work of a woman. Over and over again it affords evidence of the feminine temperament; but although the play shows considerable weakness in construction, it has some good points, which may be brought out to better advantage after the process of pruning to which Mrs.—or Miss—Clilverd-Young's playwriting effort should most certainly be subjected. There are occasions in the play when the authoress scarcely seems logical, let alone probable. And when, on other occasions, we do feel somewhat inclined to sympathise with her, the incident or the character is not described or drawn with sufficient forcefulness to carry us thoroughly into the situation. But, as we have already indicated, there is something in the play which might be turned to good account.

Henry Sumners is a factory owner, whose wife was at one time a famous society beauty, and even now is not without great personal attractions. As a girl Lady Sumners had had many admirers, but if she did one wise thing in her life it was in choosing Henry Sumners, who proved to her a worthy husband. Latterly her ladyship, who seems rather inclined towards a butterfly existence, has become estranged from her husband. The idea of his being in trade rankles in her mind. A friend of theirs, Sir Phillip Westland, is staying in the house. Sir Phillip was an old worshipper at the shrine of Lady Mabel's beauty, and she now seems to prefer his company to that of her husband. Sir Phillip, however, is really in love with the Hon. Clarice Knutsford, a poor relation of Lady Sumner, and he leaves with her ladyship's daughter Dolly a note to be given to Clarice, requesting the latter to meet him in the garden. Seemingly out of pure mischievousness Dolly hands the missive to her mother—though it passes one's comprehension why the authoress should make the girl act in such a manner—and Lady Sumner accepts the note as if addressed to herself, and, of course, some slight complications ensue between husband and wife. Meanwhile, Dolly, emulating the none too conscientious example of her mother, arranges to elope with one Count Alberto Corregia, also a former courtier of Lady Sumner. Dolly intimates that she yearns to go to London and be a grand lady like her mother, and succeeds in getting away with the unscrupulous Italian, and together they arrive at the Empiric Hotel in the Metropolis. Fortunately, they are closely followed by a maidservant, who has just been discharged by Lady Sumner for having been seen kissing the Count late at night. She warns Dolly of what may happen if she does not set her face resolutely against the Italian's overtures, and the marriage that has been arranged must on no account take place. A little later Lady Sumner and her husband, as well as Sir Phillip Westland and Clarice, make their presence known at the hotel, after a hot chase in a motor-car. Lady Sumner recognises that her own conduct has been responsible for her daughter's faults, and the thought of what her bad example might have resulted in brings her to a realisation of her faithlessness towards her husband, and a reconciliation takes place between the two.

With the exception of two of the ladies all the actors were amateurs—the Forbes-Robertson Dramatic Club—and it must be said to their credit that the play was on the whole extremely well handled. Miss Ina Royal was haughty and imperious as Lady Mabel Sumners, and her acting showed good style and an adequate appreciation of the requirements of the character. Particularly commendable was the Sir Phillip Westland of Mr. T. Orton Roberts, his portrayal of a man who had "roughed it" in other countries being notable for its breezy manliness and easy naturalness. Mr. Herbert Bird was scarcely convincing as Henry Sumners In the first place, he was not "made-up" sufficiently well to give the impression of approaching middle age, and he might have been the sweetheart or husband of Dolly Sumners instead of her father. Nor did he seem able to throw off certain youthful mannerisms which accorded ill with one's ideas of a more settled period of a man's life. Miss Lala Pelham was pleasing and spirited, if hardly childish enough, as Dolly Sumners, and Miss Beatrice Chester submitted a dignified portrait of the Hon. Clarice Knutford, and gave evidence of considerable ability. Mr. Charles Moore is to be congratulated for his amusing and characteristic study of an Italian count, and Miss Adela Weekes furnished a sympathetic interpretation of the rôle of Mary Spindler. Mr. C. V. Reynolds was exceedingly comical as the butler, Tomkins.

The Crimson Rambler was preceded by an amusing monologue, entitled *Married a Month*, by Miss Clare Shirley. It told the state of mind of a young wife whose husband's temporary absence from home leads her to imagine all manner of things are happening. Miss Louise Cordell agreeably acted the part of the wife

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, April 30,
the Operetta, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE DAUGHTER OF JERUSALEM."

The operetta, *The Daughter of Jerusalem*, as essayed by the members of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company on Monday, was in every way a complete success, and reflected great credit on all concerned. A strong chorus rendered the various numbers with admirable effect, and the management displayed their usual efficiency in the mounting and staging of the piece. Madame Zwiebel was a commanding and handsome Tirzah, in which part she used her powerful voice with skill and judgment. Her acting also throughout the progress of the play was in every respect of a high order. Mr. J. Scherman, a great favourite with the audience, distinguished himself by his humorous exposition of Abdon, and, with the capital assistance of Miss Bruh as Macha received great applause for some delightful singing and dancing. Mr. Scheck presented a manly appearance as the shepherd Namo, and gave a vigorous representation of the part; while an artistic character-sketch of the nurse Keturah was given by Mr. Axelrad. Mr. Schapira was entertaining as Prince Maasjuhi, and Mr. Goldsmith showed special adaptability as Azrikom. Good service was rendered by Mr. Katz as a high priest, Mr. Chizick as a heathen priest, and Mr. Landau as a stranger. During the week, satisfactory performances have been given of *The Worst Woman*, *The Jewish King Lear*, *The Hero of Jerusalem*, *Benhador*, and *Mirella Efras*.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—In yesterday's *Era* you ascribe to me a part in *London by Day and Night*, at the Grand Theatre, Islington. I was not playing there, but at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, in *Human Nature*.—Yours faithfully, IRENE ROSS, 23, Kildare-terrace, Bayswater, W., April 29.

SUCCESSFUL DRAMATISTS.

MISS CLOTILDE GRAVES.

My first dramatic work, says Miss Clotilde Graves, whose play *The Bond of Ninon* was produced recently at the Savoy, was a ponderous Egyptian tragedy in blank verse, written at the age of twenty-four, and produced by the generous kindness of the late Sir Augustus (then Mr.) Harris, at Drury Lane, November, 1887. The Christmas following, the late Mr. Blanchard being seriously ill, I wrote the pantomime *Puss in Boots*, and the children's version of the story, which was given away in picture-book form, was also from my pen. I had written most of the lyrics for the previous pantomime, and the choruses for the ballet with which the Empire Theatre of Varieties opened. In 1890, a little one-act play, *Death and Rachel*, was produced at the Haymarket Theatre, under the management of Mr. Beerbohm Tree; and Mr. and Mrs. Kendal produced in the United States, and toured with, a three-act comedy-drama, entitled *Katharine Kavanagh*, adapted by myself and Mrs. Oscar Beringer from a novel of mine, published by Dalziel and Co., entitled *Dragon's Teeth*. In 1893 the late Mr. Augustin Daly produced at Daly's Theatre, New York, a one-act play, of romantic mediæval type, *The Knave*; and that supremely gifted artist, Miss Ada Rehan, honoured me by creating the title-rôle. In November, 1894, Mr. Forbes-Robertson and Miss Kate Rorke produced at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, my three-act comedy, *Dr. and Mrs. Neill*, and Miss Rorke took the piece on tour, Mr. Brandon Thomas playing the part of the doctor. In 1896, my three-act farce, *A Mother of Three*, had a successful production and run at the Comedy Theatre. *A Matchmaker*, written in collaboration with Miss Gertrude Kingston, followed at the Shaftesbury; and, in 1900, *The Bishop's Eye* was a failure at the Vaudeville. In 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, a comedy written by me in collaboration with my friend Lady Colin Campbell, *St. Martin's Summer*, and afterwards toured with the piece. In 1903 my one-act Richelieu play, *A Maker of Comedies*, was produced at the Shaftesbury, Mr. Fred Terry making a big hit in the part of the actor; and the production of *The Bond of Ninon* at the Savoy is the most recent dramatic work that I have done.

My journalistic work has occupied the greater part of my time since, as a girl, I was received upon the staffs of *Fun* and *Judy* by the genial and kindly brothers Dalziel, and for sixteen years I have been a constant contributor of stories to the *World*. For the *St. James's Gazette*, in the palmy days when Mr. Sidney Low edited it, I wrote a great many articles; and the *Lady's Pictorial*, *Sporting and Dramatic News*, *Pall Mall Gazette*, *Sketch*, and *Windsor Magazine* have published a great deal of my work. The March number of the *National Review* contains a one-act drama from my pen, which will shortly, I hope, be produced at a West-end theatre.

GREAT QUEEN STREET THEATRE.

On Friday evening, the 27th ult., Hans Andresen's excellent company scored another success in the three one-act plays by Sudermann, classed under the title of *Morituri*. *Teja*, the first of these, depended largely on the acting power of Franz Schönemann, as Teja, and Else Gademann, as his Queen, Bathilda. The story, which is certainly concise, runs thus: The camp of the Goths is in a state of siege, surrounded by the enemy, their only chance of getting provisions being the arrival of ships, which are expected hourly. According to the Gothic law it is necessary that Teja should take a wife, and he complains bitterly at having to get wed at such a time. A message comes that the ships are lost or captured by the enemy, and Teja declares that the only thing left is to die fighting. After cautioning his men not to see their wives and children, Teja retires to rest. His wife, Bathilda, comes to him with food, which he divides amongst the soldiers, himself sharing a crust with Bathilda, in whom he confides. He tells her of the loss of the ships and the men's resolve to die, and she receives the news bravely. The King learns that his soldiers have disobeyed him, and have told their wives that they are going forth to die; but the women were just as brave as Bathilda, and sent their husbands off with their blessing to death. Franz Schönmann's Teja was an excellent piece of acting, possessing just the right amount of intensity. He was ably seconded by Else Gademann as Bathilda, her modesty and subserviency to the King being indicated with admirable delicacy. The three old warriors, Eurich, Theodemir, and Athanarich, had little to do, but that was done well by Willy Klein, Richard Starnburg, and Ottomar Bloss respectively. The minor characters were well sustained.

Fritzchen, the next play, offered a contrast in the fact that time has passed to the present, and the scene opens on Major von Drosse, a retired officer, and his niece. His son Fritzchen, a young lieutenant, who is manœuvring in the neighbourhood, comes on a short visit. He is secretly betrothed to Agnes, and when questioned by his father as to a scandal recently arisen with regard to a liaison with a Frau von Laski, he tells him that the rumour is true and that he has come to bid his family farewell. Having been found out by Herr Von Laski, a duel is going to be fought, in which the young officer is certain to be killed, as Von Laski is a crack shot. Von Drosse informs Agnes of the contemplated tragedy, and she bids the man she loves good-bye. Fritz promises his unsuspecting mother, who is in a dangerous state of health, that he will shortly return on a long furlough, and then goes out to his fate. Franz Schönemann again scored as Fritzchen, and acted with a nicety that was fully appreciated. Johanna Becker looked charming as Agnes, and her acting was very meritorious. Richard Starnburg, as Von Drosse, added another character to his varied list, and played it in that peculiarly thorough style of his own. Ida Weiss was good as Frau Von Drosse.

Das Ewig-Mannliche, which formed the third of the series, tells of a Queen who, tired of the fulsome flattery of her courtiers, endeavours to fascinate an artist to whom she is sitting for her portrait. Tempted and flattered by the Queen, the artist at length confesses that she is lovely, and she then allows him to kiss her hand; but he tells her he is a man, and will have all or nothing, inviting her to seal the compact with a kiss. The Queen is angry, and the Marshal, who is in love with her majesty, entering at this moment, tells the artist he must fight a duel. It is arranged that in order to test the Queen's love the Marshal shall pretend to be the vanquished one. The plan is carried out; the Marshal falls, apparently wounded, and hears the Queen speak of him in terms of contempt, while pardoning the artist his indiscretion. The Marshal then rises; and the Queen, seeing she has been imposed upon, banishes him from the court. The Marshal is grateful to the artist for disillusioning him, and they go out together, leaving the Court Chamberlain in future to represent the eternal masculine. This piece was delightfully played. Else Gademann acted charmingly as the Queen, the coquetry of the character being cleverly indicated. Franz Schönemann, as the artist, played with an ease and grace that well became him, and Paul Wind looked the Marshal to the life. Two Marquises were made extremely ridiculous by Ottomar Bloss and Georg Baselt.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 30,
the Farce, by Cosmo Hamilton, entitled
"THE MOUNTAIN CLIMBER."

One could not wish to have a better proof of Mr. Huntley Wright's versatility than to witness this popular artist in *The Mountain Climber* and in *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, the characters he sustains being totally dissimilar. In the former piece we see him as we have always understood him to be—a comedian with genuine fun-making powers. In the latter his extraordinary command of pathos takes his admirers quite by surprise and proves him to be a real actor. Mr. Wright appears at the King's this week under the auspices of Mr. Charles Frohman, who was far-seeing enough to retain the services of so brilliant a comedian for a long period, the first appearance under Mr. Frohman's banner being made in *The Mountain Climber*. The fun, mainly owing to the efforts of Mr. Wright in the character of Mr. Montague Sibsey, is fast and furious, and though the farce is built on a slight foundation, it is useful enough to show off his ability to the utmost. The company in support is an exceptionally strong one. Mr. W. R. Staveley makes an excellent Samuel Midgham, and Mr. Montague Elphinstone is good as Dr. Charles Midgham. The Arthur Lydbook of Mr. Eric Maturin is a distinctly clever performance, and Mr. T. McCausland Stewart as the enthusiast, Sidney Ketton, is successful. Mr. J. Sebastian Smith, as the editor, Watson Frimley, plays carefully, and Mr. Leslie Victor as Otto Jones excites laughter. The Swiss guides, Oscar and Sepp Rheinthaler, are exceedingly well rendered by Mr. Algernon Newark and Mr. Leslie Victor. Admirable indeed is the portrayal of Mrs. Montague Sibsey by Miss Kate Mills, a very painstaking actress, and charming performances of Alice and Betty are given by Miss Christine McGill and Miss Dora Barton. Lena is prettily undertaken by Miss Ivy Hertzog, and the maid Mary is brightly represented by Miss Amy Thomas. *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, to which we have before alluded, is a strong and beautiful playlet—one of the best we have seen. In it Mr. Huntley Wright displays marked ability as Père Marlotte, and he is ably assisted by the members of the company. The scenery, dresses, and appointments are most artistic.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

A great treat is provided here this week in the engagement of the great Drury Lane success, *The Prodigal Son*. The company is a powerful one, being, with a few exceptions, the same as that which appeared at the "Lane." It is mounted and staged with all the sumptuousness of the original production as to dresses, scenery, and effects, and its presentation here has created quite a sensation. The title-rôle, Oscar Stephenson, is impersonated by Mr. Norman Partriege, an able actor, whose work is at all times that of a thoroughly practised artist; Mr. Henry Renouf's impersonation of Magnus Stephenson is extremely good, every opportunity being utilised to the full; Mr. Henry George receives due recognition for his skilful performance as Stephen Magnusson, Governor-General of Iceland; Mr. Frank Collins succeeds admirably as Oscar Neilson; and Mr. Fred Grove is no less successful as the Pastor. Miss Lily Hall Caine deserves high praise for an exceedingly sympathetic, restrained, and artistic rendering of Thora Neilson, the trying and difficult scene with her sister in Act 2 being powerfully sustained. Miss Cecil Cromwell capably assumes the characteristics of Helga Neilson, and shares with Miss Caine full honours in the great scene in Act 2. Miss Alma Murray presents an admirable study of Anna, the Governor's wife; and the lighter element introduced by Miss Mima Renouf as Aunt Margaret receives clever treatment at her hands. Other performers who deserve mention are Mr. Phillips, Mr. H. Hewetson, Mr. H. Russell, Mr. B. Daly, and Mr. P. Gromer, all of whom very creditably fill their respective parts.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, April 30,
the Comedy, by Tom Taylor, entitled
"STILL WATERS RUN DEEP."

This week we have again the pleasure of a visit from those popular players Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, who are delighting large audiences by appearing in a series of their most successful plays. On Monday evening it was pleasant to note the warmth of their welcome, and the ovation they were accorded at the fall of the curtain. Tom Taylor's comedy, *Still Waters Run Deep*, was the play chosen for the opening night, and, though it is decidedly artificial in its construction, it nevertheless serves to give Mr. and Mrs. Kendal opportunities of displaying their talents to the utmost advantage. In the character of Mrs. Sternhold we again find Mrs. Kendal at her best, giving one of those finished and artistic performances which have always been so admired. Mrs. Kendal plays with such an ease, that no gesture or effect is attained by any forced acting. From the moment she appears she secures sympathy, and holds it throughout. As John Mildmay Mr. Kendal has a character which suits him excellently, and which he portrays in a finished and polished manner, giving a fine delineation of the quiet, self-possessed man, whose real strength of character is overlooked by those around him. Mr. Bassett Roe is most effective in the part of Captain Hawksley, and his acting leaves a marked impression. Miss Elise Clarens is most charming as Mrs. Mildmay, a somewhat weak woman; and that quaint old gentleman, Mr. Potter, is amusingly embodied by Mr. Ernest Hendrie, who again proves his skill as a character-actor. It is an altogether delightful little portrait. Mr. Metcalfe Wood is decidedly good as the Irishman, Dunbilk; while Messrs. Burnett and Denniston lend valuable assistance as Langford and Markham. Mr. W. M. Rutherfurd and Mr. F. C. Pool complete the cast. During the week, in addition to this play, *The Housekeeper*, *A Scrap of Paper*, *The Elder Miss Blossom*, and *The Ironmaster* have also been presented.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, in Prologue and Three Acts, entitled
"PROOF."

This week Mr. John M. East takes us quite away from the usual English drama when he presents Sir F. C. Burnand's adaptation from the French, produced at the Adelphi some thirty or more years ago as *Proof: A Celebrated Case*. The foreign scenes and costumes come as a welcome novelty and surprise. The career of the unfortunate Pierre Lorance, whom we see in the prologue wrongly accused of the murder of his wife Madeleine, torn from his child and condemned to serve as a convict, until in the last scene his innocence is proved, is followed with intense interest. This is insured by Mr. Ernest Leicester's powerful impersonation. As Madeleine, the distraught wife, Miss Katherine Clarke rouses the audience to excitement by her realistic acting in the struggle with the actual murderer, Lazare. Later, Miss Clarke is seen to advantage as Adrienne, the daughter, and gives a remarkably finished performance. Mr. George Delaforce as Chamboran, the self-appointed guardian of Adrienne, submits a capital impersonation of the faithful, unreasoning servitor. As Lazare, the evil genius, Mr. J. C. Aubrey worthily earns the execrations of the audience, which are fully bestowed on him. Mr. Paige Lawrence, evidently by his reception a favourite here, is effective as Victor. Mr. Harry Crane makes a pompous Duke D'Aubeterre; and Messrs. H. Rhodes, Paul Peters, L. Stanislaus, C. Harrison, and J. C. Thompson, make the most of their respective parts. The experience and talent of Miss Ethel Carllyon as Valentine are very evident, and the character could not be in better hands. The finished acting of Mrs. B. M. de Solla and Miss Daisy England is of great value in the parts of Madame Deprets and the Duchess D'Aubeterre. In the small part of a French maid Miss C. Murray is decidedly chic.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 30,
the Play by the late Wilson Barrett, entitled
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."

Mr. William Greet's No. 1 Company is providing excellent entertainment at the above theatre this week in *The Sign of the Cross*. The dresses, scenery, and general appointments are exceptionally good, and the fall of each curtain was the signal for many recalls, the reappearance of the principals being demanded four times at the end of the third act. Mr. Wm. F. Grant as Marcus Superbus was a picturesque exponent of the licentious patrician, won over to the path of virtue through love of Mercia. Mr. J. Boyd Pearson's portrait of the vacillating Nero was full of skilful touches, revealing the real character of the brutal Emperor. Mr. Charles Aldred gave a clear and concise rendering of a hard Councillor, and Mr. J. Wetherall, if a trifle indistinct, was bluff and soldierlike as the Ædile, Licininus; the bibulous Glabrio of Mr. Frank Wood was always good comedy, and Mr. Harry Jones was an efficient aid as the effeminate Philodemus. Mr. H. Thurston Harris was vehement and realistic as the spy Servillius, and made the character a despicable creature enough; whilst Mr. Bernard Russell well supported him in the same calling as Strabo. Viturius, the Captain of the Guard, found a fine impersonator in Mr. E. Yaldwin; Favius and Titus, the two Christian patriarchs, were impressively rendered by Messrs. Walter Fleet and Geo. Stanton; and as the other Nazarene, Melos, Mr. R. Chapman did his little well. Miss Ivy Millnis made the suffering boy, Stephanus, a pathetic study. The honours of the evening were undoubtedly due to Miss Marie Leonhard, whose sweet presence and air of innocence made even the silent pauses in the part interesting. The merry Dacia and the stately Berenice were cleverly acted by Miss Cissie Carlton and Miss Alma Bolton. The singing of Miss Lillian Dacroy as Mitylene was of a high order, and the dancing of Miss Dorothy Stafford was good. The wanton Ancaria was vividly depicted by Miss Frances Irving; and Mesdames Lillian Gosling, Effie Dane, Beatrice Felstead, and Roberta Pulleyne were well dressed and efficient as bacchanals, slaves, and Christians.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

It is an old saying that "good wine needs no bush," and it is equally true to-day that a good moral drama like the one presented here this week needs no puff. Although the prison system, around which the book was written by the late Chas. Reade, has long since been abolished, the story of the play is so thoroughly interesting, and preaches such a good moral sermon, that at every performance the Shakespeare, from floor to ceiling, has been packed with an appreciative audience. Mr. John M. East has got together a representative company, and their interpretation of the piece is very successful. Mr. W. S. Hartford shows considerable ability in his delineation of the reformed thief, Tom Robinson, and the coolness and resourcefulness of his acting are very pronounced. Mr. Cecil Calvert is a manly George Fielding, his vigorous manner and earnestness being well suited to the rôle. Mr. J. A. Rosier is responsible for a sterling rendering of the Rev. Francis Eden, and his stirring words, delivered with quiet dignity, in the prison scene, evoke considerable applause. Mr. W. P. Sheen is admirably suited as the rascally attorney, Peter Crawley, and his peculiar mannerisms cause much laughter. In the rôle of Mr. Meadows, the corn factor, Mr. Fred Dobell is seen to advantage; and Mr. R. A. Beeton ably depicts the selfish uncle, Mr. Merton. Miss Hettie Chattell, a winsome Susan Merton, acts her part with expression and sincerity, and altogether contributes a pleasing performance. Another good performance is that of Miss Jessica Black as Josephs, her pathetic acting in the prison scene melting many of the audience to tears. Mr. Kenneth Black is thoroughly effective as Isaac Levi, and Mr. W. Goddard does all that is possible with the part of William Fielding. A capital character-sketch of Jacky is given by Mr. Willie Purney, who keeps the house in uproarious laughter by his clever acting. The brutal prison governor, Mr. Hawes, is capably impersonated by Mr George Claremont. Mr. H. H. Young and Mr. T. Adams as the turnkeys, Fry and Evans, are very good indeed; and commendation is due to Mr. C. Clive as Abner, Mr. Tom Ellison as the village constable, Mr. C. M. Thomson and Mr. H. Smith as bushrangers, and Miss C. Edwards as Mary.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Maud Hildyard and Russell Vaun, entitled
"THE GREAT AWAKENING."

Much interest has been aroused by the performance by Miss Maud Hildyard and company of the above-named drama, and good houses have been the rule throughout the week. The chief brunt of the work falls on the shoulders of Miss Hildyard, whose impersonation of Lola Selby is remarkable for a quite unusual degree of power and brilliance. Rarely indeed is it one's good fortune to see the more or less conventional adventuress of melodrama played in the perfectly human and natural, but none the less effective, style adopted by Miss Hildyard, whose expression of sardonic humour and fierce contempt for things in general lend to the character a reality which in less capable hands it might easily lack. Another clever piece of acting comes from Mr. Charles Vivian, whose Guy Rogan is one of the most self-possessed and really admirable stage villains that we have seen for a long time. Mr. Herbert Sidney makes the by no means large part of Richard Wilson stand out by his carefully-thought-out characterisation of the bluff Colonial, who, like everyone else, becomes a tool in Lola's hands. Mr. Bernard Copping cleverly doubles the parts of Sir Henry Merton and Jack Merton, and makes the most of the fine chance afforded him in the mad scene. Miss Doris Digby gives a sympathetic rendering of Molly Merton, and infuses a good deal of sweetness into a somewhat characterless rôle. Mr. A. C. Hardie submits a strong impersonation of James Selby, and Mr. Herbert Evelyn does as well as can be expected in view of the small chance afforded him as Captain Harry Lambert. The low comedy element in the play is liberally catered for, and the efforts of Miss Isa Bellington as Selina and Mr. Willie Scott as Bill Brass in this direction are greeted with hearty and continuous laughter.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by T. Craven, entitled
"THE STOWAWAY."

The members of the talented stock company, who have been doing such good work at this theatre for a long time past, are this week rendering an excellent account of themselves in the well-known drama *The Stowaway*. Mr. Ashley Page, the popular leading man, gives an admirable reading of the part of Tom Ingliss, and the strong regard in which the audience hold him is shown by the cheers which greet his every appearance. Mr. John Sargent, an actor of considerable versatility, gives an excellent character-sketch of the waif Dicky Dials, and he extracts much fun out of the part, especially in Act III. Mr. C. J. Collins gives a powerful impersonation of the villainous Charles Etherington; and Mr. Johnny Chippendale makes the utmost of his few opportunities as the dude Percy Ewart. Mr. H. J. Barrett is excellent as Paul Ingliss. The two rogues, Job Hickey and Sandy Prowse, are well represented by Messrs. C. A. Chandler and E. Morgan respectively. Miss Maud Harris gives another of her pleasing and pathetic representations of child life as the newsboy Chucky, and also sings a good song; Miss Marion Denvil acts with her usual charm and deep feeling as Althea Dale; Miss Mattie Everett is good as Jeffrys; and Miss Georgie De Lara plays sympathetically as the unfortunate Florence Etherington. The scenery and effects are excellent.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, in Five Acts,
by Henry Pettitt and Sir Augustus Harris, entitled
"HUMAN NATURE."

Although this drama has been before the public for twenty years, that it has not lost the ability to attract a large audience is apparent by the crowded house that witnessed it on Monday. Mr. Frank Harding, who is responsible for the production, has engaged a good all-round company. Mr. Albany Ward, as Captain Temple, is a fine example of the British soldier, playing with tact and discretion a most exacting part; a polished and smooth-tongued villain is the Paul de Vigne of Mr. Frank Harding, and he has an excellent accomplice in Matthew Hawker, who is smartly played by Mr. Charles Langley. Stephen Mardyke, an insignificant part, is brought into prominence by the capable rendering of it by Mr. Orlando Daly. Warm praise must be given to Mr. Charles Dodsworth; for a really clever study of Joe Lampkin; Mr. Lytton Grey causes much laughter as Horatio Spofkins, who occasionally breaks forth into poetry; and he is ably seconded in his efforts by Miss Marie Wright, who presents a humorous portrait of Maggie Wilkins. Miss Agnes Imlay as Nellie Temple has a part that suits her admirably, and which she invests with the necessary amount of pathos, eliciting the sympathy of her audience. A pathetic performance of the waif Dick is presented by Miss Irene Ross, her death scene in the last act moving many to tears. Frank, Temple's child, is naturally played by Miss Dorie Mason. The character of Cora is a rather arduous one, but Miss Leah Marlborough is equal to the occasion, and is quite successful in the part. The rôle of Mrs. Lampkin is ably undertaken by Mrs. Stanislaus Calhaem; Miss Cissy Farrell is good as the kind-hearted Mrs. Lulworth. The minor chaarcters are in capable hands. The drama is well mounted, the spectacular effects being worthy of special mention.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, April 30,
the Play, in Five Acts, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The well-known historical play by W. G. Wills, founded on the episode of the divorce of Napoleon and Josephine, is drawing good houses to the Fulham. The rôle of the unhappy Empress is finely played by Miss Edith Cole, who is supported by a capital company. Her rendering of the part has lost none of its delicacy and refinement, and none of its tragic power. She invests the earlier scenes with Napoleon with great charm, and later, when his star is on the wane, she is very successful in portraying the tender and loyal affection which—as represented by the playwright—she still feels towards the husband of her youth. In the fine scene at Malmaison, when Josephine is visited by Marie Louise at Napoleon's command, Miss Cole is afforded good opportunity of showing power and dignity, and she certainly rises to the occasion admirably. Mr. Frank Lister's impersonation of Napoleon is one of great merit. In make-up, appearance, and manner he succeeds in creating a vivid impression of that most remarkable man. Mr. Joynsen-Powell contributes a careful study of the arch-diplomatist Talleyrand, and Mr. St. George Frere and Mr. George Howard as Marshals Murat and Augereau both make stately figures in their handsome uniforms, the latter also showing a pleasant sense of humour. Mr. T. P. Haynes is eminently amusing in his study of the inn-keeper Grimaud, as is also Mr. George Hudson as Bob Royal, a Jack Tar of the period. As the Marquis de Beaumont Mr. G. W. Cockburn displays considerable dramatic power; and Mr. F. Powell as Dr. Corvisart and Mr. P. H. Vernon as Lord Keith fill their parts satisfactorily. The part of Marie Louise is in the hands of Miss Elizabeth Watson, who makes the most of her opportunities. The light comedy of Miss Clara Earle as Stephanie de Beauharnias is bright and natural, and little Miss Marion Ryder is a charming representative of the little King of Rome. Other good studies are those of Miss Irma Foldi as Blanche d'Hervas, Miss Joan Vaughan as Angelique de Varennes, Miss Helena Meadows as Mother Lomas, Miss E. Wilsden as Jeanne la Terrene, and Miss Loyale Frere as the Governess. The play is excellently mounted, the uniforms and dresses being rich and splendid, and the scenery, by W. T. Hemsley, of the best.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by George Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled
"IN THE RANKS."

A revival of the popular Adelphi drama *In the Ranks*, by a company under the direction of Mr. John M. East, is provided for the patrons of the Alexandra this week. As Ned Drayton, Mr. Horace Hunter plays with considerable vigour and power, and manages to secure a fair amount of sympathy for this deeply-wronged hero. As Gideon Blake, Mr. Alfred Harding is duly sinister in appearance and truculent in manner. Mr. Teddy Coleman has the humour of the piece in his safe keeping, and Joe Buzzard, as presented by him, is a prime favourite. Mr. Talbot Homewood is successful as Captain Holcroft, and the hop-picker is well played by Mr. J. P. Dryden. Miss Lily Hammersley is a pathetic Ruth Herrick, and Barbara Herrick is capably presented by Miss Agnes Paulton. As Mrs. Timmins and Mrs. Buzzard, Misses Johnstone and Blanche Stanley respectively do well. The performances of the parts played by Messrs. Harris, George Traverner, E. Godfrey, and Harry Bristowe are deserving of a word of praise. There are many other parts played, with varying degrees of success.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, April 30,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

Although comedy, drama, tragedy, and other forms of stage plays all receive a fair measure of appreciation in Kingston-on-Thames, musical comedy and comic opera have always been the greatest favourites with playgoers in the riverside town; and Mr. Peter Davey, the astute manager, knowing the wishes of his patrons, has arranged for production at the County of practically all the "good things" that have of late achieved success in the West End. The attraction this week, *The Girl From Kay's*, which is being presented by a strong company captained by Mr. George Dance, was welcomed on Monday night by a full house. Miss Beatrice Poole, in the title-rôle, has won a host of friends by her charming and engaging acting; Miss Emily Taylor as Nora Chalmers and Miss Mabel Dent as the maid Ellen also have achieved success in their respective parts. A most capable performance is that of Mr. J. S. Durant, who plays Harry Gordon, and Mr. Reginald Grey scores well in the part of the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle. The low comedy element is admirably sustained by Mr. H. C. Barry as Max Hoggenheimer, and by Mr. Tom Seymour as the porter at the Flacton Hotel. There are a most capable chorus, and an augmented orchestra under the ægis of Mr. Arthur L. Spittle.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, April 30, the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN."

After a long interval the above drama has returned to the Grand, Messrs. Knight and Denham's company being responsible for the production. Mr. Shirley, as a dramatist, is a name to conjure with, and in making this adaptation he has displayed his usual skill, the play always being interesting, and at times really powerful—particularly so in the last scene of the third act. Much interest centred round the appearance of Mr. F. Powell. Mr. Powell is, of course, known throughout the provinces as Jagon and Simonnet in *The Grip of Iron*. He is a clever actor, and presented a most interesting portrait of Captain Galloway, showing artistic restraint in that character. Mr. Harry Scott as Gilbert Galloway gave an excellent performance, using a good delivery with effective results. Mr. George Denham as Battleby, the "good angel" of the piece, submitted a clever reading; Mr. Stanley Bedwell as Siegenberg played the rôle in the conventional way, and gained the usual reception from the cheaper portions of the theatre; Mr. John Brittain as Prebble supplied the welcome comedy relief with great success; and Mr. Harry Agar Lyons as Dunby Whisk was responsible for an amusing study of a man about town. Miss Nellie Fletcher as Marjorie Galloway was quite excellent, scoring most unmistakably with a sympathetic performance; Miss Hilda Baynton as the daughter was also entitled to warm praise for a clever assumption; Miss Mildred Cottell as Olive Lovell contributed a satisfactory rendering of a certain type of lady, her death scene being skilfully enacted. Meedames F. Strickland, C. Hayes, Gwynne Spencer, and D. Denn, and Messrs. L. Howe, G. Child, and Henry Villiers were satisfactory in minor parts. The mounting and dressing of the play were on a very complete scale, and the incidental music by Mr. C. Howard Cole was of value to the production.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 30,
for the first time in London, the Drama,
in Four Acts, by Nita Rae, entitled
"HER LOST SELF."

Wilfred Daventry ....MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM
Norman Esmond .....MR. CHAS. KEAN
Paul Kimberley .....MR. ADRIAN LOVETT
Victor Elsworth .....MR. FRED LILLYWHITE
Abraham Cohen .....MR. L. W. HALFPENNY
Tom Flyaway .....MR. HORACE BUCKLEY
Carlisle Montmorency ..MR. DEVERE LAWRENCE
Chief Warder .....MR. WALTER SEVEN
Snooks .....MASTER JOHNNIE JOHNSON
Dorothy, Lucille .....MISS DORA HAMMERSLEY
Rachael Cohen .....MRS. EDMUND LYONS
Bridget Mahone .....MISS NELL INGRAM
Dorothy Daventry .....MISS MIN JOHNSON
Wardress .....MME. STONY FLINT
Philippine Marcel .....MISS FRANCES DELAVAL

Crime and the camera are again associated in the new melodrama *Her Lost Self*, which was originally produced at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, on Dec. 18, and this week reaches the metropolitan area. The plot of the piece is a little complicated, but the tangled threads are skilfully gathered up to form several striking situations. The large audience on Monday were completely engrossed in the piece, and plenty of brisk humour had the effect of arousing hearty laughter. The lady to whom the title of the play has special reference is Philippine Marcel, who some time before the rising of the curtain had deserted her husband, Paul Kimberley, in favour of his artist friend Norman Esmond. The act so affects Paul that he loses his reason, and wanders about the country seeking his spouse. Meanwhile Esmond has transferred his affections to the virtuous wife of Wilfred Daventry, who scornfully resents his importunities; but circumstances combine to make her husband think Mrs. Daventry is faithless, and in a fit of fury he throttles her and leaves her for dead. The young wife, however, has only fainted, and Philippine, who has grown jealous of Mrs. Daventry, consummates the tragedy by stabbing her to death. At this moment the demented husband of Philippine appears at the door with a camera which he has found, and unconsciously takes a snap-shot of the terrible deed.

The plate remains undeveloped for nine years, a period which elapses between the first two acts, during which Wilfred Daventry, flying from the consequences of his guilt, has taken refuge in America, where he becomes a millionaire. He returns under an assumed name, and meets his little daughter, now grown to womanhood, at a garden party given by Philippine's father, a disreputable Jew, whose speciality is the arranging of marriages. Wilfred is moved to reveal his identity to his daughter, who is horrified to learn from her father's lips that it was he who murdered her mother. The statement is overheard by Philippine, who immediately gives Wilfred in charge; but the tables are turned by the unscrupulous Norman Esmond, who has secured from Paul the photograph recording the murder of Mrs. Daventry, and produces it as proof of Philippine's guilt.

The wretched woman is next seen in the condemned cell in a female prison, where she is awaiting death. She is deserted by her betrayer Esmond, but her forgiving husband, now restored to reason but broken in health, comes to see her, and eagerly accepts Philippine's suggestion that she shall change clothes with him and thus effect her escape. The ruse is successful, and Philippine gets away, but the police are quickly upon her track, and the hunted woman, to escape her pursuers, plunges into a river. She is thought to be drowned, but eventually turns up in the studio of Norman Esmond, who takes her for an apparition. He attempts to strangle her, and imagines he has succeeded; but the woman recovers sufficiently to stab her assailant to death, and then turns the knife upon herself. With the forces of evil thus removed there is no bar to the happiness of Wilfred Daventry and his daughter, who has found a husband in a virtuous young friend of the villain.

The representation of the piece is of a more than usually arduous nature, but it is just to say that the exponents of the various parts acquitted themselves with the greatest credit. Miss Frances Delaval, who heads the company, played the revengeful Philippine in a hard, uncompromising manner that particularly suited the rôle. She was ferocious and passionate as became the part, but there were times when the laughter of the audience was compelled by the grim humour it contained. Mr. Percy Carne Waram gave a resolute and earnest portrayal of the character of the jealous husband, Wilfred Daventry, cleverly working up the poignant situation at the end of the first act. His appearance after his long exile was well in keeping with the character, and the quiet emphasis with which he acted was very telling. Miss Dora Hammersley was a bright and sunny exponent of the dual rôle of Mrs. Daventry in the first act and the daughter Dorothy in the later divisions of the piece, and though she has twice to simulate the agonies of death and to undergo considerable violence, she managed to preserve a charm of manner and a prepossessing appearance which made the part captivating. A pathetic impersonation of the unfortunate Paul Kimberley was given by Mr. Adrian Lovett, whose appearance and delivery were quite in consonance with the part, and won general sympathy. Mr. Chas. Kean, who played the unscrupulous Norman Esmond, had not to portray the customary attributes of the villain, as, beyond his lustful propensities, he seemed to be an ordinary member of society. This view of the character was happily realised by Mr. Kean, whose sang-froid and polished style added greatly to the effect. The fun of the piece was sustained in a large degree by Mr. L. W. Halfpenny, who as Abraham Cohen imparted to the rôle of the conventional stage Jew a flavour of originality. He played the part on broad comedy lines, and exacted a heavy tribute of laughter, a fair share of which was due to the efforts of Mrs. Edmund Lyons, who played the expansive Mrs. Cohen with quaint sprightliness. Mr. Horace Buckley also contributed to the merriment of the evening by his genial assumption of a "tiger" named Tom Flyaway, who sings duets with his sweetheart Bridget Mahone, a young lady vivaciously represented by Miss Nell Ingram. Mr. Fred Lillywhite as Victor Elsworth, alluded to in the programme as "an honest Englishman," quite realised the description by his sincere and gallant bearing and refined style. Miss Min Johnson acted with touching sentiment and rare naturalness as little Dorothy Daventry, the child of the first act, and tiny Carrie Johnson, described as the "smallest comedienne in the world," contributed specialities, which included an imitation of Mr. Harry Lauder in "Stop yer tickling, Jock," and an impersonation of an Irishwoman in a song remarkably like one that used to be sung by the late Pat Feeney.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, April 30,
the Musical Comedy, entitled
"THE EARL AND THE GIRL."

This week musical comedy is again the attraction, and Mr. William Greet's principal company is paying a return visit in the above popular musical piece. Crowded houses have testified that the popularity of *The Earl and the Girl* is in no way diminished. Mr. Percy E. Wright looks hand some as the Hon. Crewe Boodle, and sings capitally, scoring well with his military song, "Here come the Grenadiers"; Dick Wargrave has a sprightly representative in Mr. Percy Carr, who possesses a pleasant voice, and uses it to great advantage in "The Cosy Corner Girl" and "The Mediterranean." Miss Aimee Gray sings sweetly, and makes a girlish little Elphin Haye, her song "In Zanzibar" being much appreciated; Miss Florence Imeson is a fascinating Daisy Fallowfield, and sings "Sammy" with the most successful results; Mr. William Stephens causes roars of laughter by his quaint and natural acting as Jim Cheese, the dog trainer, and soon becomes a great favourite with his audience; his sweetheart, Liza Shoddam, is excellently played by Miss Dot Carey, the "coster" accent being capitally assumed. Downham, the American solicitor, and Talk, a Jewish lawyer, are well-considered character-sketches in the clever hands of Mr. Will Hindson and Mr. J. C. Graves respectively. Mr. George H. Curzon makes a fire-eating Bunker Bliss, and the landlord of the Fallowfield Arms has an appropriate representative in Mr. Fred W. Puttrick. Miss Gladys Fontaine looks the part of Mrs. Shimmering Black to the life, and acts with much spirit. Miss Helen Langton makes a stately Miss Virginia Bliss. There is a large and exceptionally well-trained chorus. The orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Evelyn Baker. The scenery and effects are beyond reproach.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, April 30,
the Drama, in Five Acts,
by Geo. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

Great success attended the presentation of the above touching drama at the Standard last Monday. The reception the piece gained was enthusiastic in the extreme. The scenes were all excellent specimens of brush-work, and the staging left nothing to be desired. The part of George Thornton was admirably portrayed by Mr. William D. Fazan. He made a careful contrast between the tenderness of the loving husband and the harshness that later possesses Thornton. Mr. Sidney Vautier scores a success as Captain Darville; Mr. Dunstan Haye does all that is possible with the part of John Scarth; a capital piece of acting is contributed by Mr. John F. Traynor as Bill Muggins, alias "The Gaffer." He works extremely hard throughout the play, and is well received. He is admirably assisted by Mr. Frank Gordon as Dido Burke and Mr. Fred Archer as the Cough Drop. An intensely pathetic and life-like portrayal of Marion Thornton is supplied by Miss Valerie Crespin, who plays with considerable feeling and is greatly appreciated. Miss F. Russell Spiers does full justice to the rôle of Barbara Scarth, playing throughout with much skill; Miss Muriel Clay is a highly satisfactory Sister Randall; and Miss Marie Pritchard takes advantage of every opportunity offered as Biddy Mullins. The two little vagabonds are most capably represented. As Dick Miss D. Rosslyn Vayne plays with life and vigour, and as Wally Miss May Hollom touches the hearts of all with a performance of exceptional ability.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, April 30,
the Grand Opera, in Four Acts, by Meyerbeer,
entitled
"LES HUGUENOTS."

The members of the Moody-Manners Opera Company are giving the patrons of the pretty Notting Hill Gate theatre a welcome chance of hearing them in their varied répertoire. The performances of this, the first week of their stay, comprise the operas *Les Huguenots*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Tannhäuser*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Carmen*, and *Eugene Onegin* at to-day's matinée and *Maritana* in the evening. The melodious music and tragic story of *Les Huguenots* received ample justice at the hands of the capital company appearing therein, and the augmented orchestra under the direction of Herr Richard Eckhold, and it was well mounted and staged, whilst the chorus are excellently drilled and stage-managed. Mr. Joseph O'Mara sings admirably as Raoul, and also acts well in the somewhat unsympathetic rôle of the young Huguenot leader; especially good is his song of defiance in Act III. and passionate outburst of love in the last act. The fifth act, showing the death of Raoul and Valentine in the streets of Paris, is wisely omitted. Mme. De Vere is in fine voice as Valentine, and sings the difficult music allotted to her quite unexceptionably. Miss Kate Anderson creates a very pleasing impression both by her singing and acting as Marguerite de Valois; Mr. William Dever is a handsome and sweet-voiced Count de Nevers; Mr. Charles Magrath is a dignified and impressive Count St. Bris; and Mr. Charles Manners wins great applause by reason of his splendid singing and distinction of manner as the staunch and robust Huguenot Marcelle. Other minor parts are efficiently rendered by Messrs. G. Lumb, V. Brodo, H. B. Rendle, and others, nor must we forget the highly creditable rendering of the part of the page Urbano by Miss E. Alvord.

THE ELLEN TERRY CELEBRATIONS.

The dominant note in the performance at His Majesty's on the 27th ult. was struck on the appearance of Miss Ellen Terry, who for that night played Mistress Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, in celebration of her jubilee on the stage. Cheer after cheer rang out when the well-beloved actress, radiant with smiles, appeared before the footlights, and the enthusiasm was continued at high pressure throughout the evening. The popular actress was the life of the performance, and enraptured the audience by her charm and gaiety. Mr. Beerbohm Tree entered fully into the spirit of the evening, playing Falstaff with added zest, and contributing in all possible ways to the special significance of the occasion.

The event of the evening came at the end of the play, when a little epilogue, written in verse by Mr. Louis N. Parker, was delivered, to the accompaniment of continuous applause. Its text was as follows:—

MR. TREE: Stop, mistress, stop! Our Will has had his way,
But now you're in my house, and I can say
What Shakespeare never thought of in his play.
Stand here, dear sister-artist, Britain's pride,
The Genius of her stage personified,
Queenlike, pathetic, tragic, tender, merry—
O rare, O sweet, O wondrous Ellen Terry!
For us, your comrades, who unresting give
Our toil to make the plays of Shakespeare live,
What can we do, but bow before the art
Which probes even Shakespeare to his very heart,
And summons to our half-bewildered ken
Ophelia, Juliet, Portia, Imogen,
Beatrice, Katharine, or, with thoughts of death,
The conscience-stricken Queen of grim Macbeth?
Nor in the glittering catalogue let not
The dreams of later authors be forgot:
Ibsen, Dubourg, Wills, Barrie, Bernard Shaw—
You make the bricks as they supply the straw.
Jack Falstaff thrills behind his monstrous mask,
Watching how greatly you achieve your task,
And feels the fragrance that about you clings
From all the roses of your fifty Springs.
Roll, Drums! and flourish, Trumpets! Let the cheers
Many a long day re-echo in your ears!
But, through their clamour, may my whisper move you:
We praise you; we admire you; and—we love you!
[A ticket is sounded and the people cheer.]
[Miss Ellen Terry stands in pretty bewilderment and confusion.]

MISS TERRY: O, Mr. Tree—I—I cannot find a word——
[A dove flies down, bearing a document. A fairy takes the document from the dove's neck and hands it to Miss Terry.]
A FAIRY: Here, Ellen Terry—from a little bird.
MISS TERRY (greatly relieved): Ah—! Thank you!—
Can I trust myself to read?
You know how much indulgence I must need—!
[She reads from the document.]
I want to thank you—all of you—I see
Through tear-dimmed eyes, your love envelop me,
Wrap me as 'twere within a shining cloud,
And I am very humble—very proud—
I want to say—I want to say—alas!
These written words are but as sounding brass
And tinkling cymbals, for at such a time
Silence were better than a puny rhyme.
[To Mr. Tree.]
Shake hands!—I thank you!—Phrases have I none.
I pray you leave me here awhile alone.
[Manager's Stage Direction.—Mr. Tree kisses her hand ceremoniously (as though endeavouring to hide a life-long love), and at a motion from him the others bow and curtsey to her. Then all file out silently, leaving her alone with the audience.]

The stage direction was not followed strictly to the letter, for Mr. Tree had another duty to perform, and that was to introduce a deputation from the Playgoers' Club, headed by Mr. B. W. Findon, who read the following address:—

"For the first time in the history of the Playgoers' Club we find ourselves in the position of being able to publicly make known our appreciation of a great artist.

"The life of the Playgoers' Club is practically co-existent with the brightest days of the Lyceum, that wonderful page in the annals of the English stage of the Victorian Era. With that period is indelibly associated the name of Ellen Terry.

"Even as we dwell lovingly on the memories of such famous actresses as Nell Gwynne, Kitty Clive, Mrs. Bracegirdle, and Peg Woffington, so will future generations take pride in the traditions which will cling around the name and reputation of Ellen Terry.

"You, Miss Terry, stand to-day as the natural and artistic emblem of all that is most captivating in English stage art. Your many and signal triumphs as an actress rightfully claim our profoundest admiration; but, in addition to that, you have won our love as a woman.

"Our tribute to-night is the tribute that men pay to the ideal.

"To us, you are a typical representative of the dramatic art of your period, the veritable Queen of Comedy, the most gracious personality it has been our privilege to encounter.

"The casket which we present to-night we ask you to accept as the souvenir of an affection that neither gold nor silver is adequate to express, and we want you to realise that within its limited circumference there rest the hearts of a myriad playgoers."

The inscription on the casket runs: "A token of affection and esteem from the members of the Playgoers' Club to Miss Ellen Terry, on the celebration of her Jubilee, April 28, 1906."

Miss Terry's reply was to the following effect:—

"When I knew the Playgoers' Club designed to present me with a casket, I naturally reflected upon what I could say in returning thanks for such a distinction. I took down my Shakespeare—always my good genius—and at once I thought of the Casket Scene in *The Merchant of Venice*. The speech over the silver casket has not been spoken since the Bancroft revival of the play at the old Prince of Wales's; and what was the motto of the silver casket? 'Who chooseth me shall have as much as he deserves.' There I saw what was the significance of your gift—it was a prize for good conduct and regular attendance! But indeed you have not 'used me according to my deserts, but ods bodikins, man, much better!' I know that it had been your intention to honour Henry Irving and myself in this year of our common jubilee. That intention has been frustrated, and now I have to receive your gift alone. But I know, and it greatly enhances the value of your gift, that your love and admiration for him is enshrined along with your tribute to me in this casket.".

The house grew still more enthusiastic at Miss Terry's speech, and, after much more cheering, "Auld Lang Syne" was sung by all on the stage, and by many among the audience. Afterwards the curtain descended, but Miss Terry's admirers still clamoured for her, and she had to appear once more before the audience reluctantly dispersed.

The continuation of the festival was made on Saturday, the actual date of the jubilee, when similar demonstrations of public regard took place. In the afternoon the Adelphi Theatre was packed to its utmost, and Miss Terry's entry in the small part of Francesca the nun was the signal for applause that stopped the progress of the play. The lines Miss Terry had to deliver are as follows:—

ISAB.: And have you nuns no farther privileges?
FRAN.: Are not these large enough?
ISAB.: Yes, truly: I speak not as desiring more;
But rather wishing a more strict restraint
Upon the sisterhood, the votarists of St. Clare.
LUCIO (within): Ho! Peace be in this place!
ISAB.: Who's that which calls?
FRAN.: It is a man's voice. Gentle Isabella,
Turn you the key, and know his business of him;
You may, I may not; you are yet unsworn.
When you have vow'd, you must not speak with men
But in the presence of the prioress:
Then, if you speak, you must not show your face;
Or, if you show your face, you must not speak.
He calls again; I pray you, answer him. [Exit.

The enthusiasm of the audience was intense, and, when the curtain had fallen, the famous actress was frantically recalled, and Miss Terry at length came forward and said:—"This afternoon I am in the theatre where I acted when I was a girl in a play by Shakespeare. He was my first playwright. Fifty years ago to-day I spoke his lines for the first time, and on my stage birthday what nicer treat could I give myself than a nice Shakespeare part—although a very tiny one? Thank you, thank you. Those two little words must express the thousand things I feel."

The Court Theatre was the scene of the festivities in the evening, when there was another popular outburst of enthusiasm. Here, as at the other two theatres, the applause was of the most demonstrative character, and Miss Terry's performance of Lady Cicely Waynflete in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* was greeted with continuous cheering. At the close the stage was a mass of blooms, which came from all parts of the house, when Miss Terry, in acknowledgement of the irresistible recalls, came forward and said:—"I did not expect to be asked for a speech to-night, as this is not my official stage birthday; but it would be very ungracious of me not to thank you for having remembered that this is the real day of my jubilee, and for having given me this testimony of your goodwill, and, I should like to say, your affection. Thank you, thank you; good night must be said, but I am very sorry for it, because you all have such nice faces. Good night." In her closing sentence, "you have such a nice face," Miss Terry was referring to a phrase which she has to say frequently as Lady Waynflete.

The cheering still continuing, the curtain rose once more, revealing Miss Terry with the floral shields of her jubilee held before her.

The souvenir programme presented to the audience had on the front page a facsimile of an autograph message from Miss Terry, running as follows:—"This (Saturday) evening, the 28th of April, 1906, is the 50th anniversary of my first appearance upon any stage. On April 28th, 1856, I played the part of the young Prince Mamillius in *A Winter's Tale* at the Princess's Theatre.—ELLEN TERRY."

An address of congratulation, bearing their corporate seal, has been sent to Miss Ellen Terry by the trustees and guardians of Shakespeare's Birthplace, at Stratford-on-Avon, in commemoration of her fiftieth year on the stage. The address was as follows:—

Shakespeare's Birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon,
April 23, 1906.

To Miss Ellen Terry, on the jubilee of her first appearance on the stage:—

MADAM,—On behalf of the trustees and guardians of Shakespeare's Birthplace, we desire to join in the congratulations which our countrymen and countrywomen are offering you on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of your appearance on the stage.

It was in the rôle of Mamillius, in *The Winter's Tale*, that you, while yet a child, gave the first proof of your devotion to Shakespeare, and of your splendid power as interpreter of his work in the theatre.

The noble promise of early days has been most richly fulfilled in more recent years, and your renderings of a wide range of Shakespeare's greatest characters have helped conspicuously to enlarge the ranks of the poet's lovers.

As trustees, in the nation's behalf, of Shakespeare's Birthplace, and of other houses and gardens associated with his life in his native town, it is our duty to encourage the due payment of all honour to Shakespeare's great memory. In you we recognise an ally whose service in the cause of Shakespeare merits a nation's gratitude.

Born in Shakespeare's own county of Warwick, you have especially won the hearts of those living amid the scenes which were familiar to Shakespeare during his lifetime, while the practical interest you have shown in the national memorials of the poet in his native town accentuates the satisfaction with which we view the celebration of your jubilee.

Wishing you all happiness and prosperity, we have the honour to be, in behalf of the trustees and guardians of Shakespeare's Birthplace,

(Signed) SIDNEY LEE,
Chairman of the Executive Committee.
RICHARD SAVAGE,
Secretary and Librarian.

Miss Ellen Terry has sent the following letter in reply:—

215, King's-road, Chelsea, April 28, 1906.

DEAR MR. LEE,—I have no words to express my pride and delight in this address of congratulation from the trustees and guardians of Shakespeare's Birthplace. "It is an honour I dreamed not of," and one that to me must stand as high above all others as Shakespeare stands above all other poets.

If in my fifty years' work upon the stage I have done anything in the cause of Shakespeare, he has done everything for me. No dramatist before or since has ever given us players such opportunities, nor suggested to us such high, brilliant, and varied ways of exercising our art. Every part of Shakespeare has been to me a liberal education.

It was a happy omen for me that I was born in his native Warwickshire—happier still for me that I made my first appearance in *The Winter's Tale*, and since then hardly a year has gone by without my acting in a Shakespeare play.

To my intimate association with Shakespeare I owe much of my happiness. When in the future I summon to the "sessions of sweet silent thought" the many happy remembrances of my fiftieth stage birthday, there will come first in the train of affection and honour this message from Shakespeare's town.—Yours sincerely,

ELLEN TERRY.

FOR THE AUTHOR'S GOOD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—With regard to Mr. Arthur Bourchier's statement that "no play has ever made for the good of its author," &c., which you describe in your interesting editorial of March 31 as "a somewhat sweeping one," quoting the financial success of *East Lynne* to disprove Mr. Bourchier's contention, I beg to say that it appears to me that Mr. Bourchier did not mean "good" in the form of *money*, but "good" in the sense of *esteem of right-minded people*. In this Mr. Bourchier is, I believe, right.—Yours faithfully,

BERTRAM MILLAR.

47, W. 28th-street, New York, April 26.

MR. LAWRENCE DERRICK and Miss Marian Brereton, the well-known musical and dramatic entertainers, were so successful at Victoria Pier, Blackpool (where they appeared on Good Friday and during Easter week), that they received an offer from their manager to prolong their engagement right through the summer season, which, however, they were unable to accept.

THEATRICALS IN INDIA.

CHAT WITH MR. F. W. MILLIS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Mr. F. W. Millis, the well-known ventriloquist and entertainer who, some eighteen months ago, commenced a tour through Australia and New Zealand under the management of Mr. Harry Rickards, and who, in conjunction with Mr. Emile Lazern, subsequently took out a company to India, returned to this country a few days ago. Mr. Millis has not much to say in favour of India from the theatrical point of view.

"Well, Mr. Millis, what are the places in India where you make huge fortunes?"

"I wouldn't like to say that a company of artists could make a fortune at all in that country. In any case, there are only two towns worth mentioning, and those are Calcutta and Bombay."

"And what did you do there?"

"We had a high-class music-hall show. We collected a company of good artists, there being ten of us, including Mr. Lazern and myself. At Allahabad seven of us got the fever, and only three were able to appear, but they gave a full performance just the same at the Station Theatre."

"Any recommendations to make to other artists who may contemplate a tour in India?"

"I advise all performers to keep away from India. It is rightly called the Graveyard of the East, and a graveyard it is, for more professionals have been buried there than in any other country visited in the same short period. You meet cases

Photo. by Talma.

MR. F. W. MILLIS.

of bubonic plague, leprosy, cholera, and smallpox every day. I have seen at Cawnpore over 200 dead bodies huddled together."

"Tell me something about the conditions of living and of travelling in India."

"In the first place, let me tell you that you carry your own bedding, and when you arrive at a dak bungalow or travellers' resting-house, erected by the Government for the convenience of travellers—there being no hotels—you are charged extortionate prices for the accommodation. Sometimes there is an insufficient number of beds—which, by the way, only consist of frames, and you lay on ropes—so that you chance having to sleep on the floor. You have plenty of company during the night, as your body supplies a sort of happy hunting-ground for rats and other animals, while jackals sing at your door."

"And your treatment by the natives?"

"I have never yet come across a native Indian that was not a liar and a thief. I recollect I had a treasure of a boy servant, who not merely contented himself with robbing me, but stole knives, forks, spoons, and other articles from the hotels where we put up. You could not hope to get the best of these people. Let me give you another instance of how ready they are to cheat. Mrs. Millis bought some skins which she was assured were chinchillas. When we got to London we found, to our disgust, that they had once kept some rabbits warm, and had been doctored to resemble chinchilla skins."

"Did you find the fakirs as mysterious and wonderful a set of people as we in England have been led to imagine?"

"We heard a lot of tales from travellers about the way in which they can throw a rope in the air and climb up it, but we never saw it done. Their tricks appeared to me to be very simple. Some of them asked Mr. Lazern to teach them some tricks. We got into 'the hang' of their celebrated mango trick the very first time we saw it."

"And so far as the whites were concerned?"

"India is the greatest land of snobs in the whole world. Your officer who commands our white troops, although he hasn't half the brains of the man who commands the native soldiers, holds the latter officer in the utmost contempt. The man commanding black troops looks down on the Civil servant, the Civil servant looks down on the shop-keeper, who in turn looks down on the clerk; and, as for the theatrical, he is regarded as a pariah."

"A new theatre is about to be erected in Bombay, and a company has been formed for that purpose. The old playhouse, which is run by a native, and bears the name of the Novelty Theatre, is a dilapidated building, consisting of an old shed with an iron roof. The seating in this none-too-inviting establishment is most uncomfortable, and the whole house reeks of an exceedingly unsavoury smell. In Calcutta there is a theatre—the Royal, under the proprietorship of Mr. A. A. Stephen—which is a credit to the town, and is the only theatre worth speaking of in India."

"Generally speaking, in India what do you consider an average night's receipts?"

"£10 is a good house. You see, we have to play half-price to the military, and frequently it happens that one's visitors are entirely soldiers Sometimes the highest ticket is a rupee. The 'tommies' get up to all manner of tricks to pass in free. Even the private soldiers regard us artists with contempt, as they do not believe that good people will go to India.

"India," continued Mr. Millis, "has been pictured as the land of beautiful palms and lovely ladies. I found it all dust, rocks, swamps, and bad smells."

"And you don't feel inclined to return immediately?"

"'Quoth the raven'—you know the rest. I am at present busily engaged devising a new act for the halls. It will be a ventriloquial show without any figures, and I think it will be found to be entertaining."

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—In your notice of the sketch, *My Highland Laddie*, at the Surrey, owing to a mistake of the printers, the wrong name was put opposite the part of Flora McDonald. The character was played, both at the Lyceum and the Surrey, by yours faithfully, HELENE FORBST, 50, Elsham-road, Kensington, W., April 29.

"BOY O'CARROLL."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland;

Produced for the first time on any stage at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Friday, April 27.

Lieut. Brian O'Carroll ....MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Major Yarrington .....MR. C. J. CAMERON
Captain Hebblethwaite ..MR. THALBERG CORBETT
Captain Vere .....MR. ALBERT E. RAYNOR
Lieut. Wylford .....MR. GEORGE COOKE
Lieut. Mollison .....MR. LEONARD CRASKE
Corporal Penray .....MR. REEVE DENBIGH
Rejoice Allman .....MR. P. HEWLAND
Trooper Fisher .....MR. W. HARGRAVES
Paudheen .....MISS N. DE SILVA
Lady Honoria Vere .....MISS KATE RORKE
Lettice Yarrington .....MISS MAUD RIVERS
Win-the-fight-Bubb .....MISS GRACE HAMPTON
Tabitha .....MISS BESSIE ELDER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

It is some three or four years since Mr. Harvey produced here John Rutherford's enormous success *The Breed of the Treshams*, and now he has again favoured Novocastrians by presenting for the first time Messrs. B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland's—who, by the way, now prove to be the authors of the play just mentioned—latest effort. *Boy O'Carroll; or, The Rapparee Trooper*, is a comedy in four acts, and the action takes place about the year 1640, in the Midland Counties, on the outskirts of King Charles's army. The opening act is the Royalist camp, near Ripston-under-Wye, where we meet Brian O'Carroll, a high-spirited young Irishman, who is serving in the King's Army, attended by his horse-boy, Paudheen. O'Carroll is in love with a young, fascinating Irish widow, Lady Honoria Vere, who, however, does not reciprocate his passion, being enamoured of a stolid English officer, Captain Hebblethwaite, stationed in the same camp. Lettice Yarrington is the next character we are introduced to. She comes to the camp, chaperoned by her maid, Win-the fight-Bubb. Lettice has written a letter to her cousin, Walter Morrison, asking him to take her off on some silly lover's escapade, and Morrison is showing this letter in a boastful manner to a brother officer when O'Carroll intervenes, and snatches the letter away from them. He is immediately challenged to fight a duel, but ere this event can take place he is sent off by Captain Vere to take dispatches to Upper Lowcombe.

Brian has evidently mistaken Upper Lowcombe for Lower Upcombe, for in the latter place, which is the scene of Act II., we find him and his horse-boy in the clutches of the enemy, under the command of a blustering old Puritan, one Major Yarrington. Brian is searched, and upon him is found the letter from Lettice Yarrington, the Major's ward, to Mollison. Promptly putting the worst construction on the missive, Yarrington determines that Brian shall marry Lettice immediately, and while the bonds of matrimony are being tied Paudheen manages to escape, and runs off to Lady Honoria for help to save his master. After the marriage ceremony Brian is sent to London, en route for the Barbadoes, and here terminates Act. II.

On the road to London, however, he is lodged for the night at Armitage Manor, where Lady Honoria happens to be staying. In the meantime Captain Hebblethwaite has also fallen into the enemy's hands, and he is put in the same room as O'Carroll and handcuffed to him. Lady Honoria contrives to effect the escape of both prisoners, and it is in this act that O'Carroll learns that her ladyship is in love with Hebblethwaite.

Brian turns up in the fourth act at Marbrook Hall, only to find that Major Yarrington has recaptured Hebblethwaite, also Lady Honoria and Paudheen, the Major having bluffed them into the belief that the house was surrounded by his troops. However, Brian plays the same game, and in turn the Major's party are taken prisoners. A temporary armistice is arranged, the finale seeing Lady Honoria engaged to John Hebblethwaite, and Brian O'Carroll actually finds that he is falling in love with his own wife.

Brian O'Carroll should assuredly take a prominent place in Mr. Harvey's extensive and varied répertoire. Into the character of the Irish hero Mr. Harvey entered heart and soul, and the adventures and escapades of the devil-may-care "bhoy," were followed with the utmost interest. The actor, indeed, may be congratulated on achieving a remarkable and well-deserved success. A well-drawn character is Major Yarrington, as played by Mr. C. J. Cameron, who scored a striking personal success. Mr. Thalberg Corbett handled the part of Captain Hebblethwaite with considerable tact and skill; and Mr. Albert E. Raynor glided easily through the rôle of Captain Vere. We have nothing but praise to award to Miss N. de Silva as Paudheen. Her assumption of this somewhat striking character was life-like and natural, being also at times intensely droll. Miss Kate Rorke was more charming than ever as Lady Honoria, and has seldom been seen to better advantage. Miss Maud Rivers was dainty and winsome as Lettice Yarrington; and Miss Grace Hampton, as the buxom and buoyant Win-the-fight-Bubb won cordial recognition. Smaller but none the less important parts were capably filled by Messrs. George Cooke, Leonard Craske, Reeve Denbigh, and Miss Bessie Elder.

The scenery and costumes were on an elaborate scale, the former being by the well-known artist Mr. G. Dobson, who did such excellent work in Mr. Harvey's *Hamlet* production. At the finish Mr. Harvey came forward, and thanked the audience for the cordiality of the welcome accorded the play. To his company, to Mr. Teale Lingham, and to the staff of the theatre he also expressed his indebtedness for their invaluable assistance. There were also loud cries for the authors, but Messrs. Dix and Sutherland had to leave the theatre before the conclusion of the piece.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

Shakespeare has been holding powerful sway at the Kennington Theatre this week, and Mr. Esmonde Bramley's well-trained company deserve every credit for the earnestness displayed in the presentation of works of our great playwright. On Monday *Richard III.*, with Mr. Cyril Este as that craven king and Miss Millie Ford as Lady Anne was given with great success. On Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice* was billed. Mr. David Beattie was at his best as Shylock, giving a studious and earnest reading of the malignant Jew, his delivery being distinct and powerful. Mr. Cyril Este was thoroughly well suited in the part of Bassanio, showing to especial advantage in the casket scene. The Antonio of Mr. Owen Chambers was a carefully thought out characterisation. Mr. Baliol Holloway gave a pleasant reading of Gratiano; Mr. A. L. Evans was sufficiently poetical and passionate as Lorenzo, his excellent voice proving useful in the two songs which fell to his lot. Mr. Philip Gordon did well as Young Gobbo, and caused not a little amusement; the Prince of Morocco found a good exponent in Mr. Frederick Scarth; Mr. Charles Doyle spoke well as the Duke of Venice; the parts of Salarino and Solanio were safely entrusted to Messrs. Stanley Farbridge and Leonard Cheetham; and the small parts of Tubal and Old Gobbo were creditably sustained by Mr. E. Sisson and Mr. G. Edward Dunstan. Miss Millie Ford won great praise for her meritorious rendering of Portia; Miss Ruth Nightingale was an ideal Jessica; and Miss Maud Garth took advantage of all her opportunities as Nerissa. The incidental music and songs were well rendered under the able baton of Mr. J. H Wilson.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA VIEILLESSE DE DON JUAN."

Comedy, in Three Acts, in verse, by M. Mounet Sully, produced at the Odéon, on April 27.

Isabelle .....MLLE. DUX
Inès .....MLLE. LÉLY
Céphise .....MLLE. REBECCA FÉLIX
Rosita .....MLLE. DIDIER
Francine .....MLLE. DELANGE
Don Juan .....M. MOUNET-SULLY
Don José .....M. CANDÉ
Catalinon .....M. JANVIER
Fabien .....M. SEVERIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, MAY 3.—Molière, and after him others, have shown us the popular figure of Don Juan, but never otherwise than as the dashing, fascinating cavalier, the seducer of women. What induced M. Mounet-Sully to tamper with this hero of fiction and parade him, old and repentant? It was a mistaken idea, and the work proved disappointing. In the piece, Don Juan is fifty years old. Betrayed by his last mistress, he has fought a duel, and has been carried dangerously wounded to the house of Don José, the husband of Isabelle. He is nursed there by his friends, who read him a few moral lectures. They have a young daughter, Inès, brought up in a convent, and engaged to Fabien. The moment she sees Don Juan, whose fame has reached her, she loses her heart to him. But the knight will not pluck the flower that offers itself to him. He thinks of her youth and innocence, and tells her of the crimes and misdeeds he has committed. All to no purpose. Inès loves him because he is handsome, brave, and says pretty things. Then Fabien, Inès' fiancé, becomes jealous, challenges Don Juan, but is no match for the expert swordsman, who knocks the weapon out of his hand. Brave and generous Don Juan advises Inès to marry Fabien, knowing full well that he himself is too old to wed a young girl. Moreover, his wife Elvira is still alive. But when he learns that this lady, whom he treated so ill, has departed this life, all his passion for Inès breaks loose. The girl is still free; and for the first time in his life he knows what love is, but it is too late. And sooner than see Inès belong to somebody else he poisons himself—an unsatisfactory end to an unsatisfactory piece. M. Mounet-Sully, having had to play the principal part in a work from his own pen, was very nervous, but, otherwise impersonated the elderly Don Juan in a masterly manner. Mlle. Dux, whom we were glad to welcome once more on the boards of the Odéon, displayed all her refinement and tact in the rôle of Isabelle. Unstinted praise is also due to Mlle. Lély, Mlle. Rebecca Félix, M. Candé, and M. Janvier.

"LA PATTE D'OIE."

Play, in Three Acts, by MM. René Péter and Robert Danceney,

Produced at the Theatre des Arts on April 27.

Cathérine Arnaud .....MLLE. SUZANNE MUNTE
Blanche .....MLLE. PARYS
Mlle. de Chantreuil .....MLLE. BOYER
Odette Arnaud .....MLLE. J. DE LAGNY
François de Chantreuil .....M. MAURY
Didier .....M. MUFFAT
Le Docteur Couvières .....M. MANGUIN
Jacques de Mondrignon .....M. A. RENEY

IT wanted a certain amount of pluck on MM. René Péter and Danceney's part to show a monstrous situation like the one in their new piece, *La Patte d'Oie*. We certainly were not prepared for it, when, in the opening act, we made the acquaintance of François de Chantreuil, a widower, whose daughter, Blanche, he handed over to the care of his sister, who took charge of her education. François is a man about town, and, when the story begins, the official protector of Cathérine Arnaud, a flighty actress, In fact, his amusements take up so much of his time that he never finds a moment to see his daughter; and probably might have gone on ignoring her if Jacques de Mondrignon had not taken him away from his beloved Paris. Jacques is engaged to Blanche, and he has come to fetch François for their wedding. In the ensuing act Blanche and Jacques have been married six months, and François is staying with them in the country. He has broken off with Cathérine, and has no desire to return to Paris. He, the mundane, has given up all his pleasures to devote himself to his daughter, whom he overwhelms with attentions. But Jacques is not satisfied. He not only is getting tired of his father-in-law, but he is afraid the latter will impart to Blanche his extravagant tastes and his love of pleasure. As François makes no preparations to go away, Jacques proposes to his wife to start on a long journey through Italy, and Blanche, who adores her husband, is delighted with the plan. When François hears of this he is overcome with grief and jealousy, and he discovers to his terror that his love for his child is not altogether paternal. No sooner does this truth dawn upon him than he flies terror-stricken to Paris, back to Cathérine, and dies of brain fever. The terrible secret has killed him. The authors acquitted themselves well of a difficult task, but they hit upon an unpleasant subject; and the work also suffered from an indifferent interpretation. M. Maury was hardly at his best in the part of François; and the other exponents seemed to act in a half-hearted fashion.

AT the Nouveau-Théâtre we had a curious performance, that of *Le Clown*, a collaboration of a millionaire and an ex-tenor. The millionaire was Count Isaac Camondo, and the ex-tenor M. Victor Capoul, responsible for the libretto. The latter gentleman certainly made no great brain effort. The story plays in a circus at the Neuilly Fair. Maxim, a clown, loves Zéphirine, a lady acrobat. Unfortunately Zéphirine has lost her heart to Auguste, a worthless creature, who, out of jealousy, tampers with one of the ropes of the apparatus on which Maxim has to perform, and the poor clown is killed. To this childish story Count Camondo has written some graceful music, which denotes a certain talent on the amateur composer's part. But if the production was not particularly brilliant, the same cannot be said of the cast nor of the audience. Maxim was impersonated by M. Rousselière; Auguste by M. Renaud; and M. Barbezan by the great singer Delmas, from the Opéra, who looked very strange as a proprietor of a second-rate circus. The rôle of Zéphirine was sung by Mlle. Farrar; and Mlle. Margyl and Mlle. Mérentié completed this really splendid cast. As to the audience, the boxes, stalls, and dress-circle were ablaze with diamonds; and even on a gala night at the Opéra we never saw a finer array of beautiful women and costly toilettes. Count Camondo spent his money royally, and he had some satisfaction for it. *Le Clown*, however, is not likely to go down to posterity.

AT the Opéra-Comique M. Carré has started the rehearsals of *La Revanche d'Iris*, by M. Paul Ferrier, music by M. Edmond Diet. The principal rôles will be sung by Mlle. Tiphaine and M. Delvoye.

THE Ambigu have postponed the production of their new piece *Roule-Ta-Bosse* to next week. In the meantime *La Goualeuse* will remain on the bill.

"DOROTHY O' THE HALL," at the New Theatre, now begins at 8.25, instead of 8.15, as heretofore.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—In last week's *Era* your Accrington correspondent allotted the part of Rev. Edward Gray, in *Life's Sweetest Sins*, to Mr. Charles Sewell. The part was played, and has been for the past thirty-nine weeks, by yours faithfully, CLEM HORLOCK, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, April 29, '06.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Queen's gift to Miss Ellen Terry on the occasion of her jubilee took the form of a diamond pendant, which was accompanied by a card, bearing in Her Majesty's handwriting the words: "For Ellen Terry, on her jubilee.—With best wishes from Alexandra." A message from the Princess Royal ran as follows: "Dear Miss Terry,—I hope that you will accept this little remembrance on this interesting occasion, with my very best wishes.—Believe me, yours sincerely, Louise, Princess Royal."

The drama at the Royal Academy is represented by Mr. Richard Jack's portrait of Miss Mabel Love, seated, and fully facing the spectator. She wears a whitish-grey dress with a rose in the bosom. The likeness is excellent. Mr. Steven Spurrier shows us Mr. Lionel Brough in a furnished interior, the expression of the favourite comedian being cleverly caught.—Visitors to the New Gallery will notice four noteworthy theatrical exhibits. A little to the left, as one enters the circular hall, is a beautifully-sculptured bust of Mr. Seymour Hicks, the work of Mr. Albert Toft. In one of the rooms to the right is a portrait of Miss Genevieve Ward, by Mr. Hugh Rivière, a young artist—a son of a celebrated father—Mr. Briton Rivière. It depicts the veteran actress seated in an old-fashioned armchair, looking out at the spectator, her right hand resting upon a table, grasping a partly-opened book. The face wears an expression of sweet serenity. Miss Ward is attired in a purple silk dress, with lace fichus, and a black bonnet with purple feathers. Mr. Rivière's work is admirable in colour and tone. There is also in the exhibition a portrait of Miss Constance Collier, by Sir Philip Burne-Jones. Miss Collier is standing in a position which affords a striking profile, and is attired in a pretty blue velvet tea-gown, with a bunch of red roses at the breast. Her hands are clasped behind her back. Sir Philip has made a very pleasing study of the clever actress. Another likeness of Miss Collier is by Mr. Byam Shaw, and represents the lady in a purple velvet cloak trimmed with ermine, and holding a bouquet of roses.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal will appear as a stockbroker and his wife respectively in *A Tight Corner*, the light comedy by Herbert Swears, which is to be produced at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, on Wednesday. One scene suffices for the action of the play, which takes place in a flat in Mount-street, Berkeley-square. The short cast will be completed by Mr. Ernest Hendrie, Mr. Metcalfe Wood, Mr. F. Chas. Pool, Miss Jessie Moore, and Miss Marie Lohr.

We are glad to announce that £200 has now been received for the purchase of an Actors' Bed at the Sussex Seaside Convalescent Home in memory of the late Mrs. Nye Chart. The bed is in the gift of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and applications concerning it should be made to Mr. C. I. Coltson at the Fund office. The profession are to be congratulated on having secured the prviilege of the use of this bed for the next twelve years for any poor actor or actress who needs rest, good living, and the benefits of a stay at the seaside. *The Era* thanks the contributors to the Nye Chart Fund, and also the Committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund for their munificent donations.

Mr. Beerbohm Tree on Saturday completed the magnificent pageant of plays produced at His Majesty's in honour of Shakespeare's birthday, with *Julius Cæsar*, in which he enacted Mark Antony with the force, dignity, and elocutionary grace which has made the part one of the most notable in his artistic répertoire. Loud calls were given at the end of the play, and in response Mr. Tree came forward and said:—"Our Shakespearean Festival again for a second year has proved a great and encouraging success. Indeed, I think this week is a conclusive answer to those diligent pessimists who are always bewailing the decadence of the drama. It required, as you may imagine, some little courage to suspend the run of a successful play to give this week of Shakespearean revivals; but your enthusiasm has made me realise how justified I was in doing this.

"The result of our six days' work," continued Mr. Tree, "arduous as you may imagine it has been to all concerned, has been again so decisive that I have determined to make this festival an annual feature of the theatre. Next year, indeed, I hope to be able to enlarge its scope. Before that time I fully anticipate presenting other Shakespearean plays, which have not yet been given at this theatre. Lovers of Shakespeare will be glad to know that the entire autumn season will be given up to his plays. As you already know, during my absence on tour, Miss Ellen Terry—whose jubilee it was our delight to celebrate here—will appear in *A Winter's Tale*, and I expect also to produce *Macbeth* and *Anthony and Cleopatra*, and probably shall revive for a short run *Henry IV.* (Part I.), in which Mr. Basil Gill made so excellent a success the other day as Harry Percy. In conclusion, may I say that your generous encouragement in this Shakespearean Festival has fully recompensed my colleagues, my stage-managers, and myself, for the work that this week has naturally meant to us?"

We regret to record the death of Mr. James Harrington, assistant stage manager of Drury Lane Theatre, who died as the result of an accident on the 25th ult., at the age of twenty-two. At the inquest it was shown that the deceased was walking home through Duke-street on the 23rd ult., when some water was thrown from an upper window. Harrington, who was an active young man, immediately endeavoured to climb up the front of the house in order to reach the window from which he imagined the water had come. He fell on to the stone steps and was found there at 6.30 on the following morning by a cabman, who took him to Charing Cross Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

The funeral took place on Saturday, the interment being made at Kensal Rise Cemetery. The body had been removed on the previous day from the mortuary, and rested all night at the theatre, surrounded by a large number of wreaths and floral offerings sent by the friends of the deceased. The funeral procession comprised the floral-laden hearse, four mourning coaches, and a number of private broughams. Mr. Harrington started life as a seller of evening newspapers outside Drury Lane Theatre. Attracting the attention of Mr. Glover, the well-known musical conductor, he eventually employed the bright newspaper lad as his valet. Shortly afterwards he became "call-boy," and eventually assistant stage-manager at the Lane. Mr. Harrington, who had taught himself French, German, and shorthand, was also a musician of some ability.

Mr. Martin Harvey has, in *Boy O'Carroll*, added another success to a brilliant repertory of favourite plays. When produced at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, on Friday of last week, in the presence of the largest audience, with a single exception, which that theatre has ever known, the play was received with whole-hearted delight, and on the occasion of the second performance at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Tuesday, the playgoers of that town were found emulating the enthusiasm of their Newcastle brethren. The new play, of which a full account appears in another column, will be given shortly at the Imperial, where Mr. Harvey begins a four weeks' season on the 19th inst.

The special celebration of Miss Ellen Terry's jubilee will take place at Drury Lane, by kind permission of Mr. Arthur Collins and his co-directors, on or about Tuesday, June 12. Mr. Arthur W. Pinero is the chairman of the committee, which includes Mr. George Alexander, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, the Hon. Stephen Coleridge, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Alfred Courtenay, Mr. Henry Dana, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Sidney Smith, Mr. Bram Stoker, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, and Sir Charles Wyndham. Mr. Acton Bond is the hon. secretary, and Mr. Austin Brereton has undertaken the duties of hon. press manager. Particulars of the programme and prices of admission will be announced shortly, and all applications for seats by letter will be treated in order of priority.

Miss Terry expresses her regret that she is unable to give individual thanks to the many kind friends who have congratulated her on her stage jubilee. The famous actress hopes that they will accept this general, but no less heartfelt, recognition of their remembrances.

Miss Marion Terry, freed from her engagement at the Lyric by the impending withdrawal of *Mauricette*, has been enabled to accept Mr. Tree's offer to create the part of Madame de Florac in the forthcoming production of *Colonel Newcome* at His Majesty's. *Mauricette* will remain at the Lyric up to and including Saturday next.

Mrs. H. T. Craven, widow of the late celebrated dramatist and mother of Tom Craven, attains on Wednesday the venerable age of seventy-nine. Mrs. H. T. Craven (under her maiden name of Eliza Nelson) was in the 'sixties widely known as the successful actress and vocalist. She played in her time with Macready, appearing at the famous tragedian's farewell benefit. She supported the great Little Robson at the Olympia, and tells many excellent stories of that eccentric genius. She was the original Annie White in Craven's masterpiece, *Milky White*, and, indeed, she created many important parts in her famous husband's plays.

Mrs. Craven is the daughter of the song-writer, Sidney Nelson, who composed "Mary of Argyle," "The Pilot," "Madoline," "The flag that braved a thousand years," and hundreds of other pieces, many of which are cherished as standard works, but only brought the gifted composer about a guinea apiece. What would the copyright of such works be worth nowadays? Indeed, how many people remember the poor composer's name—Sidney Nelson? Such is the reward of a life's work! Mrs. H. T. Craven is residing at Brighton, but a few yards from an old fellow-worker, the universally beloved J. L. Toole. They frequently meet, and chat pleasantly of the good old days when they played in stock pieces together.

In the gallery of the Royal Society of British Artists, Suffolk-street, Pall Mall East, there is a picture which has a theatrical interest. It is a water-colour painting of the late Sir Henry Irving's funeral, the artist being Mr. Louis Weirter. Those who were present in the Abbey on that memorable occasion will be inclined to congratulate Mr. Weirter upon his effort. He has treated his subject in a broad way, and truthfully gives us the impression of the general aspect of gloom which, it will be remembered, seemed to take possession of that part of the sacred edifice in which the burial service was held. The first object that catches the eye in the picture is the purple plush-covered catafalque which bore the coffin. The six huge candles are there, one at each corner and in the centre of the sides, their faint glimmering tending to make the scene more weird. Even in the almost all-enveloping mist, long rays of light are seen streaming from the handsomely painted glass of the overhead circular window on to the coffin, accentuating the mystery of the whole scene. In the immediate background a reverent crowd of men and women are seated facing the catafalque, while to the left the surpliced choir is slowly wending its way into the chapel through the cloisters, the massive pillars combining beautiful architecture with stately, if not grim, dignity.

"Shakespeare Sunday" was celebrated this week at Stratford-on-Avon with all the old-time formalities. At the commemoration service in the parish church the mayor and corporation attended in state, with the borough magistrates and representatives of various public bodies, including the Shakespeare's birthplace trustees and the governors of the Memorial Association. The annual Shakespeare sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Tetley, who said there was no possible room for doubt as to Shakespeare's personal grounding in moral and spiritual truth, in "the unerring justice of God, the inconceivable preciousness of every human soul." They could consider, for example, his deep-set sense of conscience, and of its office as a law-giver and a judge. If Shakespeare plumbed the depths of human character, and thereby revealed to his fellow-men themselves, their failings and their faults, it was so that sympathy should be enlisted with the good, and the evil stand forth in all its odious and undisguised reality. Vice was in every form repulsive; virtue, whatever its cost, was the one thing desirable. The clear draught of the poet's work should render inestimable service to an age that regarded him with a reawakened interest.

A tribute to Sir Henry Irving was paid by the preacher, who, at the close, said:—"You will remember that in his *Becket*, Lord Tennyson gives as the last words of the murdered Primate, as before the altar of St. Benedict he was struck by the assassin's sword, 'In manus tuos—in manus tuos.' In such sort would I conclude to-day. Those who have met together on this historic ground, in commemoration of a great man's achievements, will soon be dispersed, in manifold directions, far and near. Whatever may befall us in the way wherein we go—'In manus tuos, Domino' we commend you, brethren beloved, till you pass 'where beyond these voices there is peace,' till there break upon your ears 'that celestial harmony you go to.'"

"Brigadier Gerard" has broadened into an immense success, and the crowds which are drawn to the Imperial supply an added instance of Mr. Lewis Waller's irresistible personality. The superlative excellence of his performance of the intrepid officer enthralls an audience already prepossessed in his favour by many former artistic treats, and the satisfaction of the house is constantly expressed by cheers and repeated recalls. Miss Evelyn Millard's charming rendering of the Comtesse de Roquelaure aids the attractiveness of Mr. Arthur Conan Doyle's piece, and the talented actors and actresses engaged in the representation combine to make an ideal performance which should not on any account be missed.

"Brigadier Gerard" will be transferred to the Lyric on the 14th inst., thus necessitating the withdrawal of *Mauricette*. Mr. H. B. Irving will nevertheless still appear at the Lyric, playing in the matinées of *Othello*, which Mr. Lewis Waller will give during the present season.

Mr. F. W. Purcell who has had the exceptional experience of holding never less than one dramatic licence for over twenty-eight years, concluded on Saturday his management of the Marlborough Theatre, which he erected and opened on October 5, 1903, and is about to take a well-earned rest at Folkestone. It is hardly to be anticipated that such an enterprising manager as Mr. Purcell has proved himself to be will be long before finding a new field for his indefatigable energies.

Mr. Charles Frohman is on a trip to Paris to arrange for the appearance there of a leading English actor in a production of Parisian make. Mr. Frohman also contemplates a special season of English and American artists, including the appearances of Mr. William Gillette in *Sherlock Holmes*, and Miss Edna May in *The Belle of Mayfair*.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell will begin her London season at the Criterion with *The Whirlwind*, the translation by Mr. Harry Melville of Henry Bernstein's play, *La Rafale*. The piece will be preceded by the first act of Mr. W. L. Courtney's *Undine*. Mrs. Campbell has also in contemplation the production of a new romantic costume play by Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, and several revivals, including *Beyond Human Power*.

The Duchess of Sutherland has now taken to "presenting." According to an announcement to hand, she will, on Wednesday evening, at the Grand Theatre, Hanley, appear herself, and "present" the Countess of Lathom and company in the late Clement Scott and B. C. Stephenson's adaptation of *Diplomacy*, in aid of the Potteries Cripples' Guild. The cast will include the Hon. William Goschen and several other honourables. Popular prices will rule, the gallery being 4d. and the pit 8d., while a seat in the orchestra stalls is to be obtained for 4s.

The pupils of the Moody-Manners Academy of Music on tour will give a private invitation performance of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, on Sunday, at the Coronet Theatre. The performance is the outcome of Mr. Manners' scheme of teaching young singers how to act, and a good deal of attention is being paid to this side of the pupils' art in the Moody-Manners Academy. On this occasion the pupils are to be assisted by Mr. Charles Magrath, Mr. Thomas Stewart, Mr. Chas. Moppett, and Mr. Chapman Huston. Mr. Cuthbert Hawley has composed special music for the production, including the setting of the songs, and will conduct the orchestra.

Owing to the indisposition of Mr. Welch the part of Lord Cyril Garston in *The New Clown* at Terry's Theatre was played by Mr. John W. Deverell on Thursday, Friday, and at both performances on Saturday last week.—Mr. Wilfred Noy Blumberg, of Mr. Wentworth Croke's *Christian* company, finding his name a little too cumbersome for professional purposes, will in future be known as Mr. Wilfred Noy.

Important alterations have just been completed at the Pavilion Theatre, Herne Bay, of which Mr. Horace G. Banks is the manager. The stage has been enlarged, and new stock scenery provided. The seating has been renewed, and electric lighting installed throughout, while the comfort of the audience is further secured by an electric fan, which keeps the auditorium perfectly cool. Among other improvements is that of the addition of a balcony, by means of which the money capacity of the house is greatly increased. Bookings for the forthcoming season are now in process of arrangement.

Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer was presented on the stage of the Opera House, Wakefield, on the 25th ult., by Mrs. Sherwood and family, with an embossed silver mirror, as a souvenir of her production of *Hamlet* on the Shakespeare Festival evening. Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, in acknowledging the beautiful gift, thanked Messrs. Sherwood for the magnificent manner in which they had staged Shakespeare's masterpiece. The performance was under the patronage and presence of the Lady Catherine Milnes-Gaskell.

A fatal panic was the result of a slight outbreak of fire in the Olympia Theatre, Barcelona, caused by an electrical short circuit on Sunday. One of the spectators was killed and ten seriously injured, while many others were more or less bruised

Mr. Charles Caffrey, who will shortly conclude a very successful engagement of eighteen months with Mr. Cyril Maude's company in *Beauty and the Barge*, has obtained from Mr. Herbert Darnley the sole rights of *Mr. Wix of Wickham*, the successful musical comedy, which has not been played in England since the late Dan Leno had to relinquish it, owing to his sudden illness. The piece is at the present time doing excellent business in America. Mr. Charles Caffrey anticipates touring it next autumn, and will himself enact the title-rôle, supported by a strong company. The scenery and costumes will be entirely new, and the whole production under the personal supervision of the author.

Mr. O. Silverstone, the manager of *The Swiss Express* company, which is this week playing at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, has received the following testimonial to the healing qualities of the popular play: "Dear Sir,—Some years ago I was suffering from quinsy, and could only open my mouth a quarter of an inch. I went to see *The Swiss Express*, and laughed so heartily that the swelling subsided, and before I left the theatre I was quite well. I thought this might interest you, and I wonder if your company still has this wonderfully amusing and laughable effect.—Yours truly, M. C., Queen's-square, Blackpool, April 30, 1906."

Mr. F. R. Benson commenced on Monday the second week of the Shakespearean Festival at the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, the historical plays of Shakespeare constituting the programme. Mr. William Haviland, who is taking part in the productions, has been associated with Mr. Benson on two previous occasions. They were both playing parts in the late Sir Henry Irving's revival of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Lyceum Theatre many years ago, and in 1901, when Mr. Benson sent his second Shakespearean company on tour, Mrs. F. R. Benson and Mr. Haviland played the leading parts.

Mr. Otho Stuart's production of *The Lonely Millionaires*, a comedy in three acts by Mrs. Henry de la Pasture, is fixed for Tuesday, May 15. The full cast consists of Mr. Oscar Asche, Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Frances Wetherall, Mr. Herbert Grimwood, Miss Lottie Venne, Mr. Alfred Brydone, Mr. Charles Rock, Mr. Gayer Mackay, Mr. Matheson Lang, and Miss Annie Schletter.

"Olf and the Little Maid," a new one-act play by M. E. Francis (Mrs. Francis Blundell), will be put on in front of *The Man from Blankley's* at the Haymarket on Tuesday. The scene is a dairy on a farm in Dorset, and the piece will be represented by Mr. P. L. Julian, Mr. Sydney Valentine, Miss Mona Harrison, Miss Ruth Maitland, and Miss Dorothy Minto. On the same evening *The Man from Blankley's* will reach its fiftieth performance.

Mr. Murray Herriot, general-manager of the Brixton Theatre, has been appointed to the management of the Marlborough, Holloway, with which Mr. Ernest Stevens has become associated. On Saturday last, after the final fall of the curtain on *Sweet Lavender*, Mr. Herriot was presented with a massive 18ct. gold signet ring, on which was inscribed, "From the Brixton Theatre Staff, with best wishes, April 28, 1906." The presentation was made by Mr. R. W. Allum, the assistant-manager, in the presence of the whole of the staff. Mr. Herriot, in returning thanks, said he could not have done so much at Brixton had it not been for the loyalty of the staff, who had lightened his duties in many ways. He would always wear their handsome present, which would ever remind him of the many good friends he had in Brixton.

The usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held last Tuesday, when there were present:—Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Maud Milton and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, A. E. George, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Walter Russell, Algernon Syms, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors reported they had obtained settlement of a member's claim for damages for breach of agreement. Cecil Kinnard was nominated for election. A question as to the alteration of the present method of conducting the proceedings preliminary to the election of members of the Council was again under discussion, and ultimately a committee of three, consisting of Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Arthur Holmes-Gore, and Quinton McPherson, was formed, to which committee was referred the questions involving the alterations of the articles of association rendered necessary if the method now in vogue were changed. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was given. Arbitrators were appointed in a matter referred to the Joint Arbitration Board.

A meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of the Association was held, there being present—Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater (in the chair), A. E. George, Arthur Holmes-Gore, M. R. Morand, C. Aubrey Smith, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Several questions of routine were discussed, and the Secretary received instructions.

Miss Lena Ashwell will on Saturday next replace *The Bond of Ninon*, at the Savoy, with a new play, called *The Shulamite*, the scene of which is laid in the Transvaal. It is in three acts, and has been adapted by Messrs. Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch from the novel of the same name. Only six characters are contained in the cast, which, in addition to Miss Ashwell, will consist of Mr. Henry Ainley, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Eugene Mayeur, Miss Beryl Mercer, and Miss Elsie Chester. *The Bond of Ninon* will be withdrawn on Thursday.

"His House in Order" reached its hundredth performance on Tuesday, when, to celebrate the occasion, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander invited upwards of a hundred friends to supper at the St. James's Theatre after the performance. Eight round tables were grouped upon the stage, which was pleasingly decorated with blooms, and a band played at the back of the dress circle. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander and Mr. Pinero received many congratulations upon the success which the clever piece has attained.

The sudden illness of Mrs. Minna Hocker, who was to sustain the principal part in *Das Blumenboot*, which the German company were producing this evening at the Great Queen-street Theatre, has compelled Herr Andresen to withdraw this play, and Sudermann's *Sodoms Ende* will be substituted at both the afternoon and evening performances. The present German season will conclude on Saturday with two performances (afternoon and evening) for the benefit of Herr Andresen, when Ibsen's *Rosmersholm* will be played.

Miss Jean Grace Crocker, who made her début as a reciter at the Æolian Hall this week, possesses an unmistakable Boston accent, a fairly good répertoire, and the art of dressing effectively on the platform. She said her little pieces—"Aunty Doleful's" skill with the knitting needles being her best bit of business—in a beautiful gown of white chiffon over white silk, embroidered with wreaths, flecked with silver, and chiefly to be admired for the filmy angel sleeves, cleverly arranged to give the appearance of small wings that fluttered with every movement.

Miss Laura Hansen is paying a flying visit to Jersey, having been asked by Mr. Allan Wilkie to act for him for the first three nights of his opening week. Miss Hansen will play Fiordelisa in *The Fool's Revenge*, for which a prologue has been written to strengthen the part. Her appearance in the prologue as the ill-fated wife and mother will involve an effective death scene, and, later in the play as Fiordelisa, Miss Hansen will be enabled to repeat the success already gained in Australia, and last autumn in the provinces with the Allan Wilkie répertoire company.

Madame Kate Flinn's afternoon concert on May 15 at Steinway Hall promises to be highly successful. Of her many pupils, a veritable "garden of girls," she has selected five of the very best to appear. Mrs. Cecil Raleigh and Mrs. Clement Scott will recite. Mr. Louis Bradfield and Mr. Sydney Jarvis will represent—not counting the accompanists—"mere man" on the programme. And Madame Flinn herself is going to sing. The forthcoming concert, the first she has given for nearly four years, was the great topic of conversation at the popular teacher's monthly "At Home" this week, and, judging by the interest it awakened, there is every prospect of the hall being decorated on the 15th with that welcome announcement—"House Full."

Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee, who has just concluded his engagement as Horace Parker in *A Message from Mars*, has been retained to create the part of Horace in Mr. Ganthony's sequel play, *The Thunderbolt*, at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, next week.

The Actors' Orphanage Fête this year will again take place at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park. The date fixed is Friday, July 6, and the Committee are arranging several novel features. Mr. Cyril Maude will be concerned in the production of an "original" play, the three acts of which will be written by a different author. Captain Robert Marshall will set the lead, and the theme will be taken up in the second act by Mr. J. M. Barrie; but the name of the dramatist who is ready to undertake the third has not yet appeared. Each act is limited to four minutes, and as the killing-off of the characters is debarred, the task awaiting the writer of the last act would seem sufficient to appal the most intrepid wielder of the playwright's pen.

Miss Letty Paxton, to whose serious illness we referred last week, is now out of danger, and is, we are glad to say, progressing favourably.

The Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, opened on Monday, under the auspices of the Marlborough Theatre Company, Ltd., which has a list of well-known names on the directorate, all of whom are actively engaged in theatrical management. They consist of Messrs. J. B. Mulholland (chairman), Fred. Fredericks, Fred Karno, S. F. Davidson, Henry Julius Walther, R. C. Buchanan, and Ernest Stevens, the two last-named being managing-directors. Mr. J. Murray Herriot is the new business-manager. The directors have already engaged some of the leading companies to present in rapid succession all the latest West End attractions.

Mr. Clarence Sounes has decided to revise the admission prices at the Prince's Theatre, Poplar, starting from Monday next, when Miss Lilian Dundas will appear in *East Lynne*. This production will be followed by *Peggy Machree*, *The Christian*, and other important pieces. With such powerful attractions, a beautiful theatre, and prices arranged to suit all pockets, the people of Poplar are more fortunate than those in many of the other suburbs.

Mr. Edward Compton, who is appearing at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, this week, had an enthusiastic call after the second act of *David Garrick*, and in response said:—"I don't think we ought to allow this evening to conclude without offering our sincere congratulations to Mrs. Gunn on entering to-night, as it were, into her own again, and wishing her every possible measure of success in her sole responsible direction of the Gaiety Theatre. The name of Gunn is so well known in Dublin, and is linked to your beautiful city with so many memorable and delightful associations, that no words of mine are needed to commend so well-known and popular a lady to you; but at least I may be permitted to prophesy that you will treat her with that kindness and sympathy and appreciation which you always so abundantly bestow on public servants gallantly trying to do their duty, and that I may assure her from you to be of good heart as she and the Gaiety Theatre may confidently count on your generous support in the future as in the past, for I know that you are, all of you, her very good friends and well-wishers."

Mr. Alexander Loftus succeeded in his case against Mr. Ernest Carpenter, of the Grand Theatre, Brighton. Mr. Loftus sued for £105 for breach of contract, which sum Mr. Justice Kennedy awarded him, with costs. Mr. Carpenter paid the amount into Court, but has appealed from the decision.

Mr. Robert Forsyth, who controlled with so much success the band-stand concerts at Clacton for the past six seasons, terminated his lease with the Council last month, the municipal authorities having decided to furnish the concerts in future themselves. This season he is running the pier and band-stand at Bognor, and also one of the most popular band-stands on the East Coast.

"Raffles," which is to be Mr. Charles Frohman's next enterprise, is being energetically rehearsed at the Comedy. The production is fixed for Thursday next.

Mr. C. W. Somerset's *Human Hearts* company opened at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, on Monday last to a large and enthusiastic audience. The play instantly caught the favour of the public, and, being brilliantly acted throughout, secured a great success, the business increasing nightly.

The Easter term of the Academy of Dramatic Art opened on Saturday. The gold medal and judges' prize were presented by Mr. John Hare in the presence of all the students to Miss Mary Barton and Mr. Robert Atkins respectively, who, on account of the excellence of their past work, have also been awarded by the council free tuition for three terms. Mr. Tree has promised to give an additional annual prize. Mr. James Fernandez and Mr. Lyall Swete have joined the staff of the academy, and during this term certain classes will be taken by Mr. John Hare, Mr. George Alexander, and Lady Bancroft.

At Mr. William Bailey's West London Theatre on Monday the attraction will be a new version by J. F. Brandon of *Oliver Twist*. On Thursday evening the annual benefit of Mr. James Sinclair, the popular acting-manager, will take place, when, in addition to *Oliver Twist*, the *élite* of the dramatic and variety professions will appear.

Mr. Robert Minster, who will be remembered by his good work at Drury Lane and lately in the leading part in *Old Heidelberg*, has been engaged by M. Russell Rosse to support Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner in the principal leading rôles of the repertory which the lady will be playing in the principal provincial towns. The pieces will include *The School for Scandal*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Lady of Lyons*, *Marriage of Convenience*, and *La Dame aux Camelias*.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Edward Christian Silverthorne, a gentleman for many years associated with the firm of Messrs. Rothschild, and a well-known figure in amateur musical and dramatic circles, in which he was known under the popular sobriquet of "Teddy Silverthorne." He was greatly interested in the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and was a prime mover in the organisation of the great benefit to the late Miss Nellie Farren, held at Drury Lane Theatre, in March, 1898. Mr. Silverthorne, who died suddenly at Catford on Tuesday, was buried yesterday (Friday) at Ladywell.

Mr. Arthur Rodney has recently concluded an engagement with Mr. Mark Blow's *Under Two Flags* and *A Sailor's Sweetheart* companies as acting-manager, and has returned from Scotland in the best of health. He is now busily engaged in booking two musical attractions for the autumn, and has several important dates under consideration.

At the Liverpool Court of Bankruptcy on Monday, the public examination of Mr. Percy Boucher, an actor recently holding an appointment at the Theatre Royal, Breck-road, Liverpool, as comedian and provider of entertainment, and now engaged there as principal comedian at a salary of £3 a week, took place. The bankrupt, whose liabilities are returned at £509, with no assets, stated that he was formerly a clerk in London, and in 1887, when hardly twenty years of age, he joined the theatrical profession. In August, 1890, he became manager and proprietor of a melodrama entitled *When Rogues Fall Out*, and with this he travelled for about two years, appearing in Liverpool and Birkenhead, and some other places with successful results, but in others at a loss. He had met with difficulty, however, in obtaining consecutive bookings at theatres in towns with a population not large enough to maintain a theatre, and through this cause, and the division of profits with others interested financially in the production of the play, he had lost money.

After that, and up to June, 1903, he acted in various towns on salary, and in June of that year he took a licensed public-house in Great Yarmouth, known as "Barnby's Old House." This was a small business, and, after holding it less than a year, he relinquished it, having in the meantime made "just a living" out of it. He left no liabilities there. In 1904 he returned to London, and got an engagement at a music-hall, and he continued in the Metropolis, acting in various companies, until the end of 1904, when he went to Liverpool to the Theatre Royal, Breck-road. While on tour with *When Rogues Fall Out* he latterly kept no books, as he got disheartened. The examination was adjourned to May 21, in order mainly that the Official Receiver might investigate further the bankrupt's interest in *When Rogues Fall Out*.

Signor Caruso, who is fast recovering from the shock he sustained in San Francisco, is expected to arrive soon in London to sing at the Opera. The eminent tenor's voice is in no way injured. Signor Caruso has an effective method of establishing his identity, which on at least one important occasion has been called into question. He visited a bank, and the cautious manager was dissatisfied with the tenor's assertions that he was Signor Enrico Caruso. So, to convince him, Caruso forthwith burst into song, and the amazed bank manager hastened to apologise for having doubted the singer's word.

Mr. Willie Clarkson will supply all the costumes, armour, swords, horse-trappings, &c., as well as the ship for "crossing the line," at the forthcoming Royal Military Tournament at Olympia.

MISS ELLEN TERRY.

Ellen Terry, whose remarkably successful stage career has extended over the period of half-a-century, was born on Feb. 27, 1848. Her father, Benjamin Terry, was in his early days connected with the Edinburgh stage; but it was while her parents were fulfilling an engagement at Coventry that their daughter Ellen was born. While he was in Edinburgh Benjamin Terry attracted the attention of Charles Kean, and eventually he obtained an engagement at the London Princess's Theatre, where the experienced actor not only played many parts, but became assistant stage-manager to Kean. When the famous series of Shakespearean revivals demanded the appearance of clever children, what was more natural than a conference between Kean and his trusted lieutenant, and the recommendation by the fond father of the engagement of his gifted little daughters, Kate and Ellen? Their services were secured, and at a very early period of their lives they began to make stage history.

It was on April 28, 1856, that Ellen Terry made her first appearance on the stage, at the Princess's Theatre, as Mamillius in *The Winter's Tale*. On the following Oct. 15 she played Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream;* on Dec. 26, 1857, the fairy Golden Star in *The White Cat* pantomime; on April 5, 1858, Karl in *Faust and Marguerite;* on Oct. 18, Prince Arthur in *King John;* on Nov. 17, Fleance in *Macbeth;* and on Dec. 28 of the same year the Genius of the Jewels in the pantomime of *The King of the Castle*. As poor little Mamillius, cursed with a jealous yet respected father, and wondering what the troubles could be that existed between him and his unhappy, deeply-wronged mother, she must have been very sweet. The *Times* of May 1, 1856, remarks: "Miss Ellen Terry plays the boy Mamillius with a vivacious precocity that proves her a worthy relative of her sister Miss Kate." According to her own account of that memorable night—Queen Victoria, Prince Albert, and the Princess Royal were present—she wept bitter tears because the audience laughed when she fell over the rather ridiculous toy cart with which Mamillius was ordered to "go play." She has called it her "first dramatic failure," and she felt at the moment that her "career as an actress was ruined for ever."

Ellen Terry has happier recollections of Puck than of Mamillius, and no wonder, for the part, although trying, is a delightful one. During the two hundred and fifty nights of the performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Princess's (a marvellous run for those days) she "revelled in the impish unreason of 'the sprite,'" and since then she has ever felt the charm of parts "where imagination can have free play, and there is no occasion to observe too closely the cold, hard rules of conventionality, and the fetters of dry-as-dust realism."

Another Princess's experience was her appearance as a diminutive "tiger" page boy in a forgotten farce by Edmund Yates, entitled *If the Cap Fits*, and she confesses to the infinite pride she took in her pair of miniature and rather tight-fitting top-boots. Here again, though in a different way to her Shakespearean representations, success was secured.

Charles Kean's memorable management of the Princess's Theatre came to an end in 1859, and with it terminated the engagement of the Terry family. But the youthful fame of Kate and Ellen was well established, and under the direction of their father a "Drawing-Room Entertainment" was given at the Royal Colosseum, Regent's Park, the whole of the programme being carried out by the clever sisters. It proved so attractive that it ran for thirty nights, and the Terrys toured with this entertainment for two years.

Coming back to London, Ellen Terry secured an engagement at the Royalty Theatre, which had just passed into the hands of a Madame Albina de Rhona, an attractive Parisian actress and danseuse, who had boldly resolved to try her luck as an English manageress. In an adaptation of Eugene Sue's grim romance, *Atar-Gull* Ellen Terry played the part of a young girl named Clementine, who appeared in one appalling scene with a live serpent coiled about her neck and body.

Into this horrible situation, and the opportunity it afforded her, the still childish Ellen Terry put her whole heart, and outscreamed all actresses, whether young or old. It was not one long scream and then collapse. As her terror and agony seemed to increase, shriek succeeded shriek—a shriek for deliverance—a shriek of bodily anguish—and a shriek of hopeless despair. No doubt the effect was startling, and unquestionably it thrilled her audiences. It was all wonderfully done, and the fear of the wretched girl was depicted with almost painful fidelity. But the ridiculous, misplaced, and sensational play made the situation an absurd one.

The engagement at the Royalty was only a stop-gap, and at its termination the wise Mr. Ben Terry took his daughter "to school" in one of the famous stock companies that then existed in all the large provincial towns. It was in the early 'sixties that Ellen and Kate were engaged by James Henry Chute as members of his stock company, the younger sister being then "a girl of fourteen of tall figure, with a round, dimpled, laughing, mischievous face, a pair of merry, saucy grey eyes, and an aureole of golden hair, which she wore, in the words of a modern ditty, 'hanging down her back.'" Ellen soon became a great favourite in Bristol, her popularity being largely due to her performances in two of the Brough brothers' burlesques, *Endymion* and *Perseus and Andromeda*.

One of the company thus writes: "If I had to describe her acting in those days, I should say its chief characteristic was a vivacious sauciness. Her voice already had some of the rich sympathetic quality which has since been one of her most distinctive charms. Although only in the first flush of a joyous girlhood, she was yet familiar enough with the stage to be absolutely at home on it, and in such complete touch with her audiences that she could afford to discard the serious spirit altogether, even when the situation demanded a less frivolous mood. That she made these little subordinate parts in the burlesques not only dominate the stage at the time, but also caused them to live in the memory all these years, is evidence enough of the compelling force and infection of her irrepressible mirthfulness."

In April, 1862, the old Bath Theatre was destroyed by fire, but within a year was rebuilt by James Henry Chute, and on March 4, 1863, Ellen Terry appeared here as Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

In the year 1863 the late E. A. Sothern produced at the Haymarket Theatre an adaptation from the French play, *La Joie de la Maison*, entitled *The Little Treasure*. Ellen Terry had played the part of the sweet young girl, Gertrude, in Bristol; her growing fame had reached London, and she was engaged to represent this important character at the Haymarket. Her success was instantaneous, and Mr. E. L. Blanchard, who was for so many years a valued member of the staff of this journal, wrote a most flattering notice of the young actress, testifying to her "vivacity and intelligence" and the "joyous spirit and deep feeling with which she imbued the impersonation." In due course she supported Sothern as Georgina in *Our American Cousin*, and during her stay at the Haymarket she played Julia in *The Rivals* to the Faulkland of Howe, the Sir Anthony Absolute of Chippendale, the Captain Absolute of William Farren, the Bob Acres of Buckstone, and the Mrs. Malaprop of Mrs. Chippendale. In *Much Ado About Nothing* she appeared as Hero to the Beatrice of Louisa Angell, and when that lady appeared as Letitia Hardy in *The Belle's Stratagem*, Ellen Terry was the Lady Touchwood. Let it not be forgotten that her own bewitching Letitia was destined to be one of the most attractive of her comedy impersonations at the Lyceum.

In the June of 1863 E. L. Blanchard records her appearance at the Princess's Theatre, and her performance of Desdemona to the Othello of Walter Montgomery; but not long after this, to the intense regret of those who were carefully watching the rapid progress of her artistic career, she temporarily left the stage.

However, in 1866, at the age of eighteen, she appeared at the Olympia Theatre, playing Helen to her sister Kate's Julia in *The Hunchback*. This was a special occasion; but in the following year she, to the great delight of the public, entered once more on a regular engagement. This was at the Queen's Theatre, in Long-acre, and it came at the right time. In the August of 1867 playgoers had mourned for the loss of their beloved Kate Terry. In the following October Ellen Terry was at hand to take her place in their hearts. In the previous June she had acted at the Holborn Theatre in a short-lived play by Tom Taylor, entitled *The Antipodes; or, Ups and Downs of Life*, but the piece gave little or no chance to the performers.

It was at the Queen's Theatre, Long-acre, that the new laurels were to be won. When Ellen Terry joined the company at this now defunct playhouse its fortunes were controlled by Alfred Wigan, with Charles Reade for an ally. Reade's drama, *The Double Marriage*, founded on his novel "White Lies," was produced at the Queen's on Oct. 24, 1867, with Ellen Terry and Fanny Addison as the heroines. It was in this play that Lionel Brough made his début on the London stage. *The Double Marriage* did not attract, and soon gave way to a revival of *Still Waters Run Deep*, in which Ellen Terry played to admiration the by no means easy character of Mrs. Mildmay. On Dec. 26 a very interesting event took place. Garrick's one-act excision from *The Taming of the Shrew*, dubbed *Katherine and Petruchio*, was revived, and in it Ellen Terry played for the first time with Henry Irving. In her "Stray Memories," Miss Terry has thus recorded the impression made upon her by Henry Irving in those early days:

"From the first," she says, "I noticed that Mr. Irving worked more concentratedly than all the other actors put together, and the most important lesson of my working life I learnt from him, that to do one's work well one must *work continually*, live a life of constant self-denial for that purpose, and, in short, keep one's nose upon the grindstone. It is a lesson one had better learn early in stage life, I think, for the bright, glorious, healthy career of an actor is but brief at the best."

At the close of her brief engagement at the Queen's Ellen Terry again retired from the stage, and seven years elapsed before she reappeared behind the footlights. During this period she became the wife of Mr. Charles Wardell, who adopted the name of Charles Kelly when, retiring from his position as an officer in a first-class cavalry regiment, he followed his inclinations and took to the stage. In parts of what may be called a stolid type Charles Kelly had, in his day, no rival, and his successes were many.

In the early days of 1874 London theatre-lovers were considerably puzzled as to who an "eminent actress" could be who, "after a long period of retirement," was announced to appear at the Queen's Theatre as the herone of Charles Reade's drama, *The Wandering Heir*, following Mrs. John Wood in the part of Philippa Chester. Until almost the last moment the secret of the vague announcement was well kept, and then, to the general joy, it was discovered that the "dark lady" was Ellen Terry. Her success was complete; and from that date to the present the clever and esteemed actress has remained faithful to the stage. When his tenancy of the Queen's Theatre came to an end Charles Reade took his plays and his loyal little company over Westminster Bridge to "Astley's" of immortal memory, and there Ellen Terry distinguished herself not only as Philippa Chester, but as Susan Merton in the famous *Never Too Late to Mend*.

It was in 1875 that the Bancrofts revived at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, in Tottenham-street, *The Merchant of Venice* with remarkably artistic scenic effects. Charles Coghlan was the Shylock, and in Ellen Terry was found an ideal Portia. This engagement proved to be in some ways the most eventful episode in her stage career. Though heavily handicapped by being associated with an insipid Shylock, the Portia was a never-to-be-forgotten triumph. It at once became apparent that we had amongst us an actress who could play the heroines of Shakespeare in a manner that would vie with her great predecessors in the parts, and that she would endow them with new graces and sweet fancies of her own. Since the night when Ellen Terry first played Portia it has never lost its hold upon the public or its influence upon our stage.

Other notable Shakespearean creations were to follow. To the general regret we have not seen Ellen Terry's Rosalind or Miranda, but she has triumphed as Viola and Imogen, and (though she did not satisfy everyone in the part) has proved that her physical and artistic resources were equal to the portrayal of the passion and sorrow of Juliet. She has shone as Beatrice, Cordelia, Desdemona, Lady Anne, and Ophelia; she had astonished us and excited our admiration as Queen Katherine and Lady Macbeth, and has even made a great personal success as the determined Volumnia. Add to these the Mamillius, Puck, Prince Arthur, Katherine, and other parts of earlier days, and we see what a Shakespearean record has been made.

During her engagement at the Prince of Wales's Theatre she also appeared as Clara Douglas in Lord Lytton's comedy, *Money;* as Mabel Vane in Charles Reade and Tom Taylor's *Masks and Faces;* and as Blanche Haye in one of the many revivals of T. W. Robertson's *Ours*. In each of these characters her peculiar grace and distinction, coupled with tenderness, were apparent, but none of them offered her a chance worthy of her now fully-recognised power.

In 1876 Mr. John Hare secured the services of Ellen Terry, whose husband, Charles Kelly, was already serving under his banner, at the Court Theatre, in Sloane-square. Her first venture in her new home was as Kate Hungerford, the heroine in a comedy by Charles Coghlan, entitled *Brothers*, which failed to attract, and was speedily succeeded by a revival of the charming comedy, *New Men and Old Acres*, in which Ellen Terry played the part of Lilian Vavasour, which was created by Mrs. Kendal in the original production of the piece at the Haymarket Theatre. Early in 1877 a benefit performance was organised on behalf of Henry Compton, the veteran Haymarket comedian, and this was given at Drury Lane Theatre on March 1, when Ellen Terry appeared as Georgina Vesey in Lord Lytton's *Money*. On the production of the same author's posthumous play, *The House of Darnley*, at the Court Theatre, Miss Terry acted with great distinction as Lady Juliet, but the piece did not long hold the stage. She appeared for the first time as Lady Teazle in a performance of *The School for Scandal*, given at the Gaiety Theatre on June 20, 1877, for the benefit of Charles Lamb Kinney.

Mr. G. Wills's beautiful play *Olivia* was produced at the Court on March 30, 1878, and in the title-part Ellen Terry was the idolised heroine of a memorable evening. No wonder that this fascinating Olivia became the rage of the day. Her photographs went like wildfire; the milliners' windows were full of Olivia hats, caps, 'kerchiefs, and other items of feminine adornment; everywhere such dainty trifles were in evidence; and how many little Olivias were christened in 1878 it would be hard to say.

In the early autumn of 1878, before entering upon her all-important Lyceum engagement, Ellen Terry, accompanied by her husband, appeared in some of our leading provincial cities. Everywhere they were warmly welcomed, and the experiment proved so successful that even after her Lyceum duties seemed sufficient to engross all her time and attention, it was, during a period extending over two years, repeated. On the 1878 tour she relied chiefly on her former success as Lilian, in *New Men and Old Acres*, and her appearance in her sister Kate's original character of Dora, in the Tennyson-Reade play of that name. In the same year provincial theatre-goers also had the opportunity of seeing her as Iris in an adaptation by Alfred Thompson of *La Revanche d'Iris*, called *All is Vanity*. In 1879 the Terry-Kelly programme was augmented by the production of a version by Mrs. Comyns Carr of *Frou Frou*, entitled *Butterfly*, with Miss Terry in the name-part. On Sept. 3, at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, she appeared for the first time on any stage as Beatrice, and never was there an actress better fitted to represent the "pleasant-spirited" lady whose charms of face and figure are as irresistible as her verbal daggers. The curtain fell upon an unmistakable popular success which, according to the words of an eminent critic, "it wanted only practice and experience to convert into a paramount artistic victory."

It was indeed a momentous evening in the history of our stage when on Dec. 30, 1878, Ellen Terry first appeared at the Lyceum, playing Ophelia to the Hamlet of Henry Irving. It was no doubt a trying and anxious moment for her, but the true ring in the long and loud welcome which greeted her on the threshold of the home in which she was destined to do so much noble work must have gone to her heart, and assured her that all would be well. Her Ophelia was well described as tender, graceful, picturesque, and pathetic.

The next production at the Lyceum was *The Lady of Lyons*. Miss Terry had already appeared as Pauline at the Princess's Theatre, when she played it for a single performance to the Claude Melnotte of Charles Coghlan, and evoked pæans of praise from the critics, which were now repeated. Next came a revival of the stage version by W. G. Wills of Thomas Hood's *The Dream of Eugene Aram*, in which Miss Terry succeeded Isabel Bateman as Ruth Meadows. Again she followed the same actress as the pathetically-drawn Queen Henrietta Maria, in Wills's beautiful play, *Charles I.*, which was given on June 27, 1879. At the end of this busy season, Miss Terry, on the occasion of her manager's benefit, played Lady Anne to his Gloucester in the first act of *Richard III*. On the following Nov. 1 was revived *The Merchant of Venice*, which, thanks to Ellen Terry's Portia and Henry Irving's Shylock, became one of the greatest of the long series of Lyceum triumphs.

In May, 1880, was presented *Iolanthe*, a version by W. G. Wills of Henrick Hertz's Danish play, *King René's Daughter*, finely acted by Ellen Terry and Irving. On Jan. 3, 1881, Lord Tennyson's two-act drama, *The Cup*—the "great little play," as Miss Terry called it—was produced, and another great victory was gained. Clement Scott considered her acting in this to have been one of the finest of her many inspirations. On April 16, 1881, *The Cup* was preceded by Mrs. Cowley's comedy, *The Belle's Stratagem*, in which Miss Terry played the part of Letitia Hardy with invincible vivacity and perfect grace, and in the costumes of a bygone period looked like a portrait by an old master come to life. For Irving's benefit at the end of the season she played Helen to his Modus in the comedy scenes from *The Hunchback*.

In the season of 1882 came the revival of *Romeo and Juliet*, and Miss Terry as the heroine, although the part did not suit her as well as other Shakespearean rôles she had played, increased rather than lessened her reputation with the public. On Oct. 11, 1882, *Much Ado About Nothing* was staged, and Ellen Terry again proved that the character of Beatrice suited her to perfection. In October, 1883, the Lyceum company sailed for New York, leaving a great gap in the English theatrical world.

We can give only a summary of the remainder of Miss Terry's brilliant performances at the Lyceum. In 1884 she appeared as Viola in the revival of *Twelfth Night*, and in the following year repeated her former triumph as Olivia in the play of that name. Her captivating Marguerite in Wills's adaptation of *Faust* deserves special mention. In 1886 she was the Peggy in the old farce of *Raising the Wind;* and the following year played Josephine in Byron's *Werner* at a special performance. Very charming was her Ellaline in *The Amber Heart*, produced in June, 1887; and on Dec. 29 the following year she first appeared as Lady Macbeth, her acting in this part filling everyone with wonder and admiration. She next appeared as Catherine Duval in a revival of the stirring drama, *The Dead Heart* (Sept. 29, 1889), and she was the Lucy Ashton in *Ravenswood*, produced in September, 1890. In the famous revival of *Henry VIII.* she represented Queen Katherine; and then, as Cordelia in *King Lear*, she rejoiced in a new and striking triumph. Her next original impersonation was that of Fair Rosamund in Tennyson's play *Becket*, followed by Guinevere in the same author's *King Arthur*. In the revival of *Cymbeline* in 1896 she was an ideal Imogen. Later, Ellen Terry was seen as Madame Sans-Gêne in the play of *Edith*, also as the Empress Catherine in *Peter the Great*, as Sylvia Wynford in *The Medicine Man*, as Clarice de Malucon in *Robespierre*, and as Volumnia in *Coriolanus* (April 15, 1901).

As long ago as 1879 Irving had announced his intention of appearing as the noble Roman in company with Ellen Terry as Volumnia. At that time a writer said:—"Some surprise may, perhaps, be felt at the circumstance that it is in contemplation to assign the character of Volumnia to Ellen Terry; but the part is by tradition and by reason of its intrinsic importance the lawful inheritance of the leading tragic actress of the company. It was one of Mrs. Siddons' famous impersonations, though it was complained she had not the good sense to follow Mrs. Woffington's example as to her face, and consequently was on the stage as off, Kemble's sister, not his mother."

When Mr. Tree revived *The Merry Wives of Windsor* at His Majesty's Theatre in June, 1902, Miss Terry's appearance in the rôle of Mistress Page was hailed with the heartiest expressions of delight. She sounded a note of infectious merriment from the time she read Falstaff's letter until the end, and her embodiment was instinct with her usual personal charm and irresistible gaiety of manner. Another memorable event was the appearance of Miss Terry and Mrs. Kendal as Mistress Page and Mistress Ford at His Majesty's; a fine painting of the two popular actresses in those characters by the Hon. John Collier being now on view at His Majesty's Theatre.

In the spring of 1903 Miss Terry opened for a season at the Imperial Theatre, appearing in *The Vikings*, a version in four acts of Henrik Ibsen's *Warriors of Helgeland*, and also in *Much Ado About Nothing*. Later she went on tour with *The Good Hope*, by Hermann Heijermans, translated by Christopher St. John, in which she appeared as Kniertje, the fisherman's widow. In 1904 she created the principal part in J. M. Barrie's *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire* at the Duke of York's.

Miss Terry's undoubted success in the part of Lady Cicely Waynflete in the revival at the Court Theatre of Mr. George Bernard Shaw's play, *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, affords convincing evidence of the lasting vitality of her powers as an actress, and her quick perception of the salient points of a new character.

A summary of Ellen Terry's theatrical career would not be complete without a few lines concerning her visits to America. As already mentioned, Henry Irving and Miss Terry left England for the first time for New York on Oct. 11, 1883.

The following extract from an interview with Miss Terry immediately after her arrival is of more than passing interest: "Do you consider *Charles I.* will present you to a New York audience in one of your best characters?" "No, and I am not very fond of the part of Henrietta Maria either." "What are your favourite characters?" "Oh, I hardly know. I love nearly all I play; but I don't like to cry, and I cannot help it in *Charles I.* I like comedy best—Portia, Beatrice, and Letitia Hardy."

"Not only were the leading professional critics delighted with Miss Terry's acting. She had many flattering proofs of the pleasure which her performances had given to such representative men as Henry Ward Beecher and Oliver Wendell Holmes, and the literary and artistic societies of the cities in which she played vied with one another in doing her honour. The enthusiastic welcome which Ellen Terry received on her first visit to America has been repeated with the same cordiality on the occasions of her most recent visits.

There is no need to enlarge upon the sunny nature and sweet disposition of Ellen Terry, that, in the words of a distinguished contemporary actress, Miss Geneviève Ward, "prompts her to be generous, thoughtful, kind, and considerate to everyone." In conclusion, we cannot do better than quote a significant passage from her own "Stray Memories": "Why is it, I wonder, that pain is so deeply felt at the time, and that its memory fades so quickly, while joy flits by almost unperceived and yet leaves such deep traces behind? At least, that is my experience. It may not be so with most people. They may, perhaps, suffer deeply and remember lightly; enjoy strongly and forget quickly. If so, I pity them with all my heart. When I sit down to write it is not the sad recollections that come crowding before me; it is the bright, joyous moments which shape themselves most distinctly in my mind. 'Oh, what a light, frivolous nature you must have, then!' I hear some grave and reverend signior remark, if any such person ever deigns to read this flimsy chatter. Well, I am ready to plead guilty to the charge. I was made like that, and so Nature is to blame, not I."

The above record of Miss Terry's career is taken principally from the late T. Edgar Pemberton's well-written interesting book, "Ellen Terry and Her Sisters," published in 1902.

Photo by Ellis and Walery.

MISS ELLEN TERRY.

ANTOINETTE STERLING.

Miss Antoinette Sterling, by the pen of her appreciative biographer, Mr. Sterling Mackinlay, in the interesting book published and illustrated in such artistic style by Messrs. Hutchinson and Co., and entitled "Antoinette Sterling and Other Celebrities," gives some amusing reminiscences of the drama. In the chapter devoted to "Theatrical Thoughts," is the following:—

"When Forbes Robertson produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre *The Moonlight Blossom*, an episode took place which is worth recounting. The plot of the play was laid in China, and among other 'properties required was a gin-bottle, for use in a certain scene. After immense trouble, the invaluable Mr. Ian succeeded in obtaining a genuine one, such as was actually used in that country to hold this particular liquor. The casual observer, unstudied in the ways of the Heathen Chinee, would have imagined from its shape that it was simply a graceful vase, spiritual rather than spirituous in design.

If the bowl had been stronger
The tale had been longer,

were the classic lines written concerning the Wise Men who went to sea in that very odd substitute for a boat. In the present case, if the bottle had been more gin-like in appearance,

The tale had been shorter.

"In fact, it would have resembled the Manx cat; there wouldn't have been any tale at all. However, as already stated, the vessel seemed to be that which it was not. When, therefore, during rehearsal one day it was brought on to the stage in triumph, Mrs. Patrick Campbell saw it, loved it, and with happy inspiration said, 'What a sweet vase! Why not have it placed on a table? It would give an opportunity for "business"; I might arrange some flowers in it during one of the scenes.'

"The 'vase' was forthwith annexed for this fresh purpose, and Mr. Ian had to go off to hunt up something else to take its place.

"So far, so good. For some nights all went well; the 'business' was introduced, the flowers were arranged in the 'vase,' and the public admired the effect, being no more learned in this particular branch of Chinese lore than Mrs. Campbell.

"But a day, or rather a night, of reckoning was at hand. The Chinese Ambassador and suite came to see *The Moonlight Blossom*. Throughout the performance the party sat entranced, and applauded vigorously upon the smallest provocation. When the curtain had fallen on the last act, the Imperial representative came round to congratulate the manager. In the most exalted of celestial phraseology, he expressed himself as being delighted with all that he had seen and heard. Then he stopped, looked a little doubtful, and added, 'One thing I did not understand. Why did the beautiful actress place those exquisite flowers in an empty gin-bottle?'

"The rest was silence; but at the next performance it was wisely decided to leave out the touching incident of adorning with floral tributes the vessel which had been dedicated to the specific use of Bacchus. The mention of this recalls the answer made by a boardschool child, who was asked to explain the meaning of 'demagogue,' and confused it with 'demijohn.' 'A demagogue is generally filled with beer or other liquor.'

"Had not Forbes Robertson devoted his principal attention to the drama, there is no doubt that he would have made a leading position among artists. Like Weedon Grossmith and many other actors, he displayed great talent in painting. At the age of sixteen he went to study at Hetherley's, with a view to entering the Academy Art Schools. His father, being so well known as an art critic, he himself naturally moved in artistic circles. Madox Brown took much interest in his work, as also did Rossetti, whose house in Chelsea he used often to visit, taking his drawings with him for criticism. He sat, moreover, for the figure of Love in Rossetti's picture of 'Dante's Dream.' He was very soon admitted to the Art Schools, and here his fellow students included Frank Dicksee, Waterhouse, Gilbert, and Thornycroft.

"Of the fine work of which Forbes Robertson is capable there are many examples. Among his portraits are those of Ellen Terry, Modjeska, and Mary Anderson; while one of his best pictures shows the church scene in *Much Ado about Nothing*, as produced at the Lyceum by Sir Henry Irving. It was through the influence of W. G. Wills that he made his first appearance on the stage in *Marie Stuart*, a play by the painter-dramatist, which was produced at the Princess's Theatre, with Mrs. Rouseby in the title part. From this he went out in a travelling company, of which Ellen Terry was a member. During these months, Charles Reade, the novelist and playwright, who was the organiser of the tour, gave him a commission to do a picture, since he was still keeping up his painting professionally.

"Forbes Robertson is one of the trio who have made Charterhouse the most successful among the public schools in providing the stage with prominent actors, the other two Carthusians being Cyril Maude and Fred Kerr. Eton College makes a good second with Arthur Bourchier and Charles Hawtrey.

"In his schooldays Bourchier spent the greater part of his pocket-money in buying toy theatres, on the diminutive stages of which would be enacted the most thrilling of bloodcurdling melodramas. During the holidays he would pass most of the time in getting up charades and plays. Any boys in the neighbourhood of Newbury who possessed a vestige of talent, or even displayed the faintest interest in the drama, were at once pressed to take part.

"Captain Bourchier had always wished his son to go into the Army. The latter, however, insisted that the drama was the career best suited to his tastes, so the Captain struck a bargain. 'Go to Oxford and take your degree; then, if you still wish it, you shall go on the stage.' 'Agreed,' said his son, and forthwith went up to Christ Church, where he duly graduated.

"The audiences at the Oxford Theatre were fairly rowdy. In the case of musical comedy the excitement increased steadily throughout the week. By the last evening it had worked up to such a pitch that it was difficult to hear any dialogue whatsoever, and the familiar songs were reinforced from the front of the house by an unpaid and unsolicited choir of what could scarcely be termed angel voices. Into such a wild state did the Saturday night 'rags' develop, that notice was eventually given by the authorities, in whose veins must have flowed the blood of 'ould Oireland,' to the effect that, unless the noise raised upon the final evenings were stopped, the companies *would not be allowed to give any last performance at all*, but would in future finish on the Friday evening.

"The Oxford audience must have been a trying one to face. The unfortunate 'small part' ladies and gentlemen, who had one, or, at most, two lines to utter, came off specially badly. In J. M. Barrie's delightful piece, *The Professor's Love Story*, which came up for a week, one of the scenes was laid in the meadows. During the act, a servant had to enter with a picnic-basket, and inquire, 'Where shall I lay the lunch, sir?' These words instantly captivated the fancy of those in front. A mighty roar went up from the assembled undergraduates, 'Bravo! Encore!' This went on for some minutes, and eventually, before the dialogue was allowed to continue, the unhappy man was obliged to repeat his poor little ewe-line three times, amid the most deafening applause."

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"Mr. Arthur Bourchier thinks the list very useful indeed."

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"Your idea seems to me to be a most excellent one. Quite apart from the fact that there is always a difficulty in knowing what titles have been used, there very often arises the question of when and where a play was actually produced—a question difficult to be answered. Actors and authors should alike be grateful to *The Era*."

MR. LOUIS N. PARKER.

"I think your list of plays, produced between 1850 and 1900, will, like the other contents of your

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN,

The Royal Opera opened for the season on Thursday with every promise of a most brilliant season. The grand house was filled with a most distinguished audience, and everything, both on the stage and in front of the house, betokened that the syndicate would not fall short of the glorious traditions of the past. The star of Wagner was in the ascendant, for in place of a hackneyed opera to commence the season, that great work, *Tristan und Isolde*, opened the list of operas, and Dr. Richter, besides conducting two cycles of the *Nibelungen Ring*, also directed the performance of *Tristan*. Great changes are likely to take place in the operatic doings this year, for a revival of the ballet is contemplated, and several old operas are to be played under new conditions. For example, *The Flying Dutchman* is to be played in two acts, and the weird, unearthly appearance of the "phantom ship" is to be arranged after the pattern of the Munich performance which so greatly impressed the audience of that artistic city. *Siegfried* also is to be supplied with a brand new dragon, who will give the hero more trouble to kill him than hitherto. *Tristan*, taken from the old legend of Gottfried von Strasburg, follows the original pretty closely, the greatest change being the substitution of the false Knight Melot for the mischievous dwarf who warns King Mark of the meeting of the guilty lovers at night. The heroine was sustained by Frau Wittich with her customary force and expression, the intensity of her acting being a striking feature warmly recognised by the audience. Herr Burnan, the tenor originally announced, was unable to appear, and Herr Burger, from Berlin, a young tenor who has studied under M. Jean de Reszke, represented the hero with no little intelligence and with considerable vocal skill. If Herr Burger did not always reach the required standard, his average performance proved him to have the artistic qualities necessary to do full justice to the character in the future, when the excitement of a first appearance had been overcome. Mme. Kirkby Lunn made a first-rate Brangäne. Her by-play where Brangäne changes the poison for the love-philtre could hardly have been better. As the rugged but faithful retainer Kurwenal, Herr Braun succeeded; and Herr Knüpfer was dignified as King Mark. The National Anthem was given as usual. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and her daughter, Princess Patricia, headed the brilliant audience, which comprised the chief representatives of rank and fashion at present in London.

FUJI-KO, a Japanese actress, will present in London this season a one-act "dream-play" of Japan, entitled *The Love of a Geisha*, and described as an embodied idea of the doctrine of Nirvana reduced to a popular form. Mystifying illusions have been executed by the Japanese artist Yoshio Markino, the music of Japan has been adapted by Paul Bevan, M.A., F.S.A., hon. treasurer of the Japan Society, and "animated epochs" by Mr. Charles Urban will also be supplied.

HERMANN SUDERMANN'S *Johannisfeuer*, translated by Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Grein, will be produced by the Stage Society at the Scala Theatre on May 13. The play will be staged by Herr Hans Andresen, and the cast will include Messrs. Blake Adams, Leslie Faber, Athol Stewart, Fewlass Llewellyn, Miss Elsie Chester, Miss May Martyn, Miss Suzanne Sheldon, Mrs. Calhaem, Miss Inez Bensusan, and Miss Hope Mayne.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS IRENE ROSS.

Miss Irene Ross was educated in London and Germany, and then studied for the stage for a year under Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe), for whose kindness and help she will always be grateful.

Her first engagement was to play Stephanus in one of Mr. Ben Greet's companies. She acted this part in *The Sign of the Cross* for a year and a half. She was then re-engaged by Mr. Greet to play Micah Dow in *The Little Minister* for two tours. Her next engagement was under Hardie and Von S. Leer's management to play Wally in *The Two Little Vagabonds*. She remained three tours with this company. Then followed a short tour with Mrs. Constance Stuart, Miss Ross playing Milly in *On an Island*, and understudying in *There's Many a Slip*. Her next long engagement was for six months under Mr. W. H. Hallatt's management, during which period she played Tom Yorke in *Two Little Sailor Boys*.

After this came several short engagements under

Photo by J. H. Wilson.
MISS IRENE ROSS.

Mr. Gore Ouseley's management, the young actress playing Martha in *David Copperfield;* under Mr. Yate's management, the Urchin in *One Summer's Day;* and for the third consecutive year she played in pastorals with Miss Telleck's company, Phoebe in *As You Like It*, Myrine in *Pygmalion and Galatea*, Azéma in *The Palace of Truth*, &c. She has also played in pastorals under Mr. Ben Greet's and Mr. Arthur Applin's management.

In the autumn of 1904 Miss Ross was engaged by Mr. Lilford Arthur for the company supporting Mr. Charles Collette, when she played Birdikins in *Jones's Jaunt*. This engagement lasted over several months, and shortly after returning to town she was engaged by Mr. Allan Wilkie for the parts in his répertoire. Last autumn she appeared as Sam Willoughby in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, Henri in *Belphegor*, Pedro in *Don Cæsar de Bazan*, Little Willie in *East Lynne*, and parts in *The Corsican Brothers* and *The Fool's Revenge*.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE Sports Committee have much pleasure in announcing that Miss Irene Vanbrugh has kindly consented to present the prizes to successful competitors at the sports on Whit-Tuesday. At a meeting of the Committee on Thursday night it was decided that teams entering for the tug-of-war competition be weighed on the ground, as dressed to pull, and that a margin of 10lbs. in excess of the maximum weight of 60st. be allowed per team. Mr. J. White, captain of the Dublin team, has been appointed referee to this competition. Mr. White writes that the Empire Dublin team will not compete this year. From reports to hand there are indications of a much larger number of teams taking part than last year. It has been suggested to the Committee that the coach of the teams winning the first and second prize be awarded a medal similar to that presented to the members of the winning team, and it is likely this suggestion will be adopted, and full particulars of the sports, tickets for which will be issued next week, may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

MR. CHARLES JESSON, secretary of the London branch of the Musicians' Union, has been adopted as the Labour candidate for the vacancy in the London County Council for the Division of Walworth, caused by the death of Mr. Russell Spokes. As the Rev. Canon Jephson has resigned, there is a contest for both seats in this division. Mr. Jesson has been adopted by the Southwark Trades and Labour Council, and has every prospect of being elected.

A MEETING of stage employees will be held in Leicester to-morrow (Sunday) evening, at 6.15 p.m., when Mr. William Johnson, general secretary of the National Association Theatrical Employees, will attend and give an address with a view of a branch of that Association being formed in the town.

MR. E. CAPEL, one of the oldest employees of the Alhambra Theatre, died on Saturday last as he was proceeding to his home in an omnibus after the performance. At the inquest the cause of death was stated to be heart failure. The deceased was sixty-eight years old.

THE entries for the annual Theatrical Sports, which take place at the Stamford Bridge Athletic Ground, Fulham-road, on Whit-Tuesday, June 5, close on the 19th inst. Among the many prizes that will be put up for competition will be the Four Miles' Cycling Championship Shield, presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, which before becoming the property of the winner has to be won three times in succession, and the Championship Trophy and medals presented by Mr. C. Aubrey-Smith for the Four Miles Relay Race, in which one man has to walk, one to run, and the other to cycle.

"THE LIGHT THAT FAILED," adapted from the English by Herr Max Behrend, has been successfully produced at the Mainzer Stadt Theatre, Mainz. Herr August Weigert, from Munich, gave an excellent performance of Dick Helder, and will play the part again in Vienna. Fräulein Flora acted sympathetically as Maisie, her conception of the part varying in many ways from the reading of Miss Gertrude Elliott. The translator of George Flemming's clever play, Herr Behrend, is well known to playgoers on this side of the Channel in connection with the German Theatre in London. For six years he was co-director with Herr Hans Andresen, and also supervised *Old Heidelberg* at the St. James's Theatre, and other important London productions.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 7.

AFTER THE BALL.—Warrington.
ARE YOU A MASON?—Grand T., Falkirk.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—T. R., Runcorn.
AT WAR WITH WOMEN.—Gaiety T., Leith.
BANDMANN-PALMER.—T. R., Norwich.
BEAUTY AND THE BARGE.—T. R., Bournemouth.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—Stratford-on-Avon.
BENSON, F. R. (B).—Canterbury and Dover.
BOOM OF BIG BEN.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
BRAMLEY, ESMOND.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—King's T., Hammersmith.
CATCH OF THE SEASON.—New T., Oxford.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE'S).—Crystal Palace Theatre.
CLAUDIAN.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
COMPTON COMEDY.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
COTTON SPINNER.—Queen's T., Manchester.
CURATE, THE.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
DISHONOURED.—Victoria T., Broughton.
DRAMA OF LIFE.—P. O. W., Salford.
DR. WAKE'S PATIENT.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
DUFFER, THE.—O. H., Leicester.
ETERNAL CITY.—Kennington Theatre.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—T. R., Chesterfield.
FACING THE MUSIC.—West Pier, Brighton.
FAITHFUL FRIEND.—Globe Theatre, Deal.
FALSE WIFE.—Lyceum Theatre, Govan.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
FOR LIFE—AND AFTER.—Folkestone.
FREEDOM OF SUZANNE.—Colchester.
FRIVOLITY.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Standard Theatre, E.
GO-WON-GO-MOHAWK.—H. M. T., Barrow.
GREAT AWAKENING.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
HER LOST SELF.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—Junction T., Manchester.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Wolverhampton.
HER WEDDING DAY.—Hull.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
HUMAN HEARTS.—Queen's T., Leeds.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Victoria T., Broughton.
INDIAN MUTINY.—T. R., Sheffield.
IN HOLY RUSSIA.—Prince's T., Bradford.
KENDAL, MR. AND MRS.—T. R., Portsmouth.
KITTY GREY.—T. R., Southampton.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Winsford and Bentham.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—T. R., Bristol.
LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS.—O. H., Barrow.
LITTLE BREAD WINNER.—T. R., Stockport.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—Star T., Liverpool.
LUCK OF LIFE.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
MACOWAN NORMAN.—T. R., Worthing.
MAN AND WIFE.—Alexandra T., Hull.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
MANXMAN, THE.—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
MARTIN HARVEY.—Grand T., Leeds.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Hartlepool.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—T. R., Blackburn.
MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER.—King's T., Glasgow.
MODERN ADVENTURESS.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
MOODY-MANNERS (A.)—Coronet Theatre, W.
MOODY-MANNERS (B.).—T. R., Shrewsbury.
MOUNTAIN CLIMBER.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—T. R., Smethwick.
ONE OF THE BEST.—Empire T., Southend.
ON THE LOVE PATH.—Manchester.
ORPHAN HEIRESS.—T. R., Darlington.
OTTO, THE OUTCAST.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
PASSION'S POWER.—Palace T., Newcastle.
PEGGY MACHREE.—Alexandra T., Stoke Newington.
PLUCKY NIPPER.—Morton's Greenwich.
POWER OF GOLD.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
PRICE OF HER SOUL.—King's T., Cardiff.
PRINCE OF PILSEN.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—T. R., Barnsley.
PRODIGAL SON.—Broadway T., Deptford.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
PUBLIC OPINION (N.).—Borough T., Stratford.
PUBLIC OPINION (S.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
ROGUE'S DAUGHTER.—Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.
ROGUES ON THE TURF.—T. R., Stockton.
ROMANY'S REVENGE.—New T., Aberdare.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—County Theatre, Kingston.
ROYAL DIVORCE (N.).—T. R., Merthyr Tydfil.
ROYAL REVENGE.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
SAILORS OF THE KING.—T. R., Halifax.
SAN TOY.—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
SEE-SAW OF LIFE.—T. R. South Shields.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—O. H., St. Helens.
SINS OF A CITY.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—T. R., Chatham.
SOMEBODY'S SWEETHEART.—New T., Consett.
STILL ALARM.—Theatre Royal, Windsor.
SUNDAY.—H.M. Theatre, Dundee.
SWEET AND TWENTY.—T. R., Exeter.
TEMPTRESS, THE.—County T., Reading.
THRONE OF TERROR.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
TWO HUSSARS.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HAR.).—G. T., Nottingham.
UNDER THE CZAR.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
'VARSITY BELLE.—T. R., Dover.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Queen's T., Keighley.
WALLS OF JERICHO (N.).—T. R., Bolton.
WALLS OF JERICHO (S.).—Marlborough T., N.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
WAY OF THE WORLD.—Londesboro' T., Scarboro'.
WEARIN' OF THE GREEN.—O. H., Blackpool.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Grand Theatre, Woolwich.
WHEN A MAN HATES.—O. H., Burton-on-Trent.
WILKIE, ALLEN, AND CO.—O. H., Jersey.
WILLARD, E. S.—Toledo, London, Canada.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Avenue T., Kettering.
WOULFE T. B. REP.—Grand T., Brighton.
WRECKER OF MEN.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
YOUNGEST OF THREE.—T. R., Plymouth.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
£1000 REWARD.—T. R., Barnsley.

"THE LITTLE CHERUB" has matured, and has now assumed the title of *The Girl upon the Stage*. Under this title Mr. George Edwardes will produce this evening at the Prince of Wales's Theatre what is practically a new piece with a new plot, founded upon the former play. The theatre has been closed for a week for the purposes of rehearsal, and the new music, scenery, and dresses will be supplied on the liberal scale with which the name of Mr. Edwardes is associated. The cast of principals has been strengthened by the addition of Miss Ruth Vincent and Mr. Lionel Mackinder.

MR. WILLIAM LOCKHART, the Towzer in Mr. Louis Calvert's company, was accorded a complimentary benefit at Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle, on the 27th ult. There was a large and enthusiastic audience, and Mr. Lockhart, on coming forward to make a speech at the end of the first act, was received with cheers. He alluded to the time, six years ago, when he was acting-manager of Her Majesty's Theatre, and said there had been great changes since then. The old theatre had been burned to the ground, and in its place they now had a handsome structure which compared favourably with any theatre in the North. He theatre was well filled, because upon that depended the class of engagements that could be secured.

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The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

BALCOMBE.—On May 3, Arthur Balcombe, professionally known as Arthur Herbert (Four Herberts), age 36. His end was peace. Sleep on, dear husband.
HARRINGTON.—April 25, at Charing Cross Hospital, James Harrington, assistant stage manager at Drury Lane Theatre, aged 22.
HILL.—April 23, at Clive-road, West Dulwich, Mrs. Hill, widow of James Philip Hill, of Pengross, Plymouth, South Devon, and beloved mother of Miss Annie Hill. R.I.P.
THOMSON.—April 26, 1906, at Glengariff, Tottenham-lane, Hornsey, Archibald Percy Thomson, well known to many in the circus profession. R.I.P.

IN MEMORIAM.

COLEMAN.—In loving memory of John A. Coleman, who died May 8, 1904, second eldest son of Mrs. Coleman (of the Coleman Family). Deeply lamented by his mother, sisters, and brother.
FREDERICKS.—In loving memory of Mrs. Emily Fredericks, of the Stratford Theatres, who departed this life, April 25, 1901. R.I.P.
HALL.—In loving memory of Robert (Bob) Hall, late Birmingham, Aston, Barrow-in-Furness, &c., who fell asleep May 1, 1901. Never forgotten by his sorrowing wife and children. Sleep on until we meet again.

AN IMPROVEMENT ON "OTHELLO."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Your leader on Mr. Harrison's article in the *National Review* contains the following:—"Does anyone suppose for a moment that if *Othello* had not been written, and it were now published, the play would not be tried on the stage almost immediately by some London manager?" Very curiously, from my own experience, I am, I believe, in a better position to answer this query than anybody else, since I wrote a play after *Othello*, and published it, sixteen years ago. Theatrical journals, to whom I sent out copies for reviews, said they did not notice plays unless performed on the stage; while the others, with the exception of one, evidently could not be bothered with the book, as is usual in such-like cases. As regards the managers, they paid no heed to it. I had sent a first edition of the story in print to Mr. Henry Irving, who wrote me on this occasion that had his hands not been so full he would have put the play through on his stage to see how it came out. I know that these were only civil words, and I did not expect to hear from him again when I published my completed and revised version of the drama. In after years I sent a copy to an actor-manager whose style, I fancied, the leading male part would well suit. He wrote me that he saw in the play the possibility "of a great success"; but he was going off to America.

The only satisfactory notice of my play was contained in a weekly review, in a short criticism, written, I understand, by Mr. Clement Scott, a gentleman I never met, but then the leading dramatic critic in London. He said that, aiming high, I had succeeded as far as it was possible, and that my play was an excellent piece of work. I had sent him a print of my first edition of the story, or, rather, his then employer, Mr. French, engaged in reading unacted plays; and Mr. Scott's written opinion was also in this instance highly favourable, "with profound admiration of the abilities of the author"; but there was no demand whatever for such plays, and not a single bidder in London would be found.

These efforts of mine arose out of an article I wrote in the *National Review*, November, 1885, on "Shakespeare as a Dramatic Model," calling upon authors to bestir themselves, and, studying Shakespeare's methods for high stage successes, place a few new pieces of higher order in the theatre. As Professor Saintsbury says, Shakespeare has produced actors, but no authors. And why? Because they have received no encouragement, but are smothered out of existence, without trial or even enquiry, just as Othello dealt with his Desdemona.

A word or two as to your selection of *Othello* as a play that would instantly commend itself to intelligent managers being a fresh work. I say it would not. Managers write that they cannot judge of the value of a stage-play in MS. or print; and they would instantly discover in *Othello* a want of theatrical display and the sympathetic features which the modern manager looks for. The whole business of the play is mental torture; no sympathy is really due to Othello himself, and our keen interests are centred in the demoniacal mind of Iago. It is a work of the highest genius, and better suited for the closet than the stage, unless with the greatest actors.

In the matter of my play, I took *Othello* for my model, as it is a play of jealousy; but of a woman's, not a man's. Othello played the woman in his ready apprehensions and impulsiveness; but when the character is a woman—in this case a princess—acted upon by circumstances and human villainy, the spectators' sympathies are most easily gained. I believe, too, that in my play there is relief from the close mental combat, and more theatrical display, than in *Othello*.—Yours faithfully,

WM. SPINK.
1, Afton-terrace, Edinburgh, May 1, 1906.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Rex Sugden, the manager of the King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy, was, on the 27th ult., made the recipient of a purse of sovereigns, which had been subscribed to by most of the leading citizens in the town, as a mark of their appreciation. Regret was expressed that the occasion of the presentation meant that Kirkcaldy was to be deprived of one who had by unfailing courtesy and untiring interest in the theatre-going people of the town, endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact. Mr. Sugden, in reply, said that the kindness shown him, not only that night, but during his eighteen months' sojourn in the "Lang Toon" by everyone whom he met, was such that he felt any words of his were inadequate to express his feelings. Whilst thanking his friends for the many kindnesses he had received, he could assure them that he would ever look back on his residence in Kirkcaldy with the greatest pleasure.

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The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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The PUBLISHER,
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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

B. W. T.—*F. Marion Crawford's play,* Francesca da Ramini, *was produced for copyright purposes at the Shaftesbury, Oct. 1, 1901. This play, adapted into French by Marcel Schwab, was played at the Garrick by Sarah Bernhardt and company, June 9, 1902.*

CAM.—*Mr. Charles Warner played Ned Drayton in Sims and Pettitt's* In the Ranks, *at the Adelphi, on Oct. 6, 1883, and throughout the run; and Frank Daryll in Sims's* Last Chance, *at the same theatre, April 4, 1885.*

J. W.—*English copyright lasts for forty-two years, or for seven years after the author's death, whichever period shall be the longer.*

MAC.—*In the Drury Lane pantomime of 1886-87 the principals were Constance Gilchrist (now Countess of Orkney), Edith Blande, M. A. Victor, Dot Mario, Minnie Mario, Edith Bruce, the D'Aubans, Robert Pateman, Harry Nicholls, Victor Stevens, Herbert Campbell, Charles Lauri, jun., Harry Payne, and Paul Martinetti.*

A. D.—*The late Mr. Wilson Barrett revived* The Sign of the Cross *at the Lyceum, Oct. 19, 1899.*

ROBERT.—*The present Richmond Theatre (originally called the New Theatre Royal), was opened by Mr. F. C. Mouflet, Sept. 14, 1899, with* As You Like It, *played by Mr. Ben Greet's company. The first public performance was given on the 16th.*

F. G. TAYLOR. — *Dickie Hook, in* What Would a Gentleman Do? *(originally called* The Man from Australia), *was played by Mr. Louis Bradfield.*

AMATEUR.—(1) *Write to the lady and ask her permission.* (2) Sketches, *founded on* Hamlet, King John, Richard III., *and* The Taming of the Shrew, *have been played in the halls.*

J. L. T.—(1) *H. T. Craven.* (2) *April 13, 1905.*

CHISWICK.—*Covent Garden, Aug. 29, 1872.*

MISS HALL.—The Emerald Isle *was written by Basil Hood and the music composed by the late Sir Arthur Sullivan and Mr. Edward German*

L. NANTON.—*Mr. Lewis Nanton died on April 2, 1871, aged 31.*

J WILLARD.—*As far as we have been able to ascertain, the titles mentioned have not been used.* The Ace of Clubs *was the title of a play adapted from the French by Mr. Arthur Shirley.*

W. NOBLE.—*We cannot remember. Write to Mr. Edgar Bateman, care of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, 142, Charing Cross-road.*

E. MOON.—*We do not know the address; it is not a theatrical society.*

GAIETY PIECE.—*In answer to a correspondent (whose letter has been mislaid), who wrote respecting a one-act play he saw at the Gaiety many years ago, Mr. Lionel Brough writes: "The only piece I can think of is one in which I played for a long time, and is entitled* Man is not Perfect. *I think French published it. I once played* Off the Line *with Miss Johnson. I played the other piece (four characters in it) with Maria Daly, Rachel Sanger, Lydia Thompson, and other ladies."*

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' TEAM v. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES' XI.

Played near Clifton Downs on April 14. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's Team.—Miss Ethel Bowman, goal; Miss Ivy Bowman and Miss Lilla Carter, backs; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), Miss Lillie Belding, and Miss Nellie Bailey, half-backs; Miss Lillie Clayton, Miss Amy Bernard, Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Gracie Leonard, and Miss Bertha Godfrey, forwards.

Miss Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Minnie Hamilton, backs; Miss Lucy Norris, Miss Nellie Lewis (of Cheltenham), and Miss Lillie Coles, half-backs; Miss Ethel Lewis (Cheltenham), Miss Winifred Bradley (captain), Miss Kit Montgomery, Miss Nellie Lawrence, and Miss Alice Mitchell, forwards.

Referee, Miss Gertrude Thomas. Result: Miss Fowler's XI., 1 goal; Miss Bradley's XI., 1 goal. Misses Lillie Belding and Ethel Lewis scored for their respective sides.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' ATHLETIC TEAM v. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S ELEVEN.

Played near Clifton Downs, April 21. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's XI.—Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), (goal), Miss Lilla Carter and Miss Ivy Bowman (backs), Miss Lillie Belding, Miss Nellie Bailey, and Miss Nellie Stevens (half-backs), Miss Gracie Leonard, Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Trixie Maynard, Miss Amy Bernard, and Miss Lillie Clayton (forwards).

Miss Winifred's Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher (goal), Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Minnie Hamilton (backs), Miss Edie Lawrence, Miss Lillie Coles, and Miss Lucy Norris (half-backs), Miss Kit Montgomery, Miss Winifred Bradley (captain), Miss Florrie Hooper, Miss Maudie Burgess, and Miss Nellie Lawrence (forwards).

Referee, Miss Ethel Lewis. Result: Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI. nil, Miss Winifred Bradley's XI. one goal. Miss Lucy Norris scored for Miss Winnie Bradley's team.

SORE THROAT OR HOARSENESS
CURED IN A FEW HOURS.

Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D., the Eminent Throat Specialist, constantly recommended Condy's Remedial Fluid to be diluted and used as a Gargle for speedily curing Sore Throat or Hoarseness.

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FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. JACK LEONARD'S XI.

Played near Bristol on March 31. Miss Gracie Leonard kicked off. In the evening an enjoyable smoking concert was arranged, the following contributing to the programme:—Messrs. Archie Hamlin (violin solos), Harry Edwards (cornet solos), Percy Hewlett (flute and piccolo solos), Walter J. Horton (clarionet solos), Harry Belding, Harry Hare (piano solos), Arthur Cox, Tommy Bryan, Jack Leonard, Harry Clements, Ted Palmer, Frank Russell, Redge Francis, Jack Aubrey, Eddie Bowman, Harry Clarke, and Tom Alway. Mr. Harry Hare presided at the piano, and Harry Hare's Bijou Orchestra played selections from popular musical comedies. In the match the following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.:—H. Belding, goal; A. Hamlin (captain) and A. Mattock, backs; A. E. Bailey, F. Stevens, and S. Carter, half-backs; J. Aubrey, P. Hewlett, E. Belding, H. Edwards, and E. Bowman, forwards.

Jack Leonard's Eleven:—H. Clarke, goal; S. Coombes and R. Francis, backs; F. Russell, F. White, and W. James, half-backs; J. Leonard (captain), T. Bryan, W. J. Horton, T. Alway, and A. Lucas, forwards.

Referee, F. Thorne. Linesmen, H. Hare and E. Palmer. Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., nil; J. Leonard's Eleven, 1 goal, scored by T. Bryan.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. A.F.C. v. JACK LEONARD'S XI.

Played on Clifton Downs, April 14. Messrs. J. Aubrey, A. Cox, J. Leonard, D. O'Connor, and B. Green scored for their respective sides. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.—H. Belding (captain), goal; A. Cox and J. Lewis, backs; S. Carter, A. E. Bailey, and H. Slade, half-backs; J. Aubrey, E. Belding, H. Clements, E. Bowman, and E. Palmer, forwards.

Jack Leonard's XI.—M. Leonard, goal; T. Ferris and B. Green, backs; W. Stevens, F. Foley, and G. Thompson, half-backs; T. Alway, J. Leonard (captain), F. Haskins, A. Lucas, and D. O'Connor, forwards.

Referee, S. Coombes. Linesmen, G. Wilson and C. Worth. Result: Jack Leonard's XI., 3 goals; Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C., 2 goals.

THE King's Theatre, Walthamstow, it is rumoured, is about to be acquired by a syndicate, and an up-to-date playhouse erected on the site. This, it is proposed, will include shops, offices, banking and insurance premises, a social club, and assembly rooms.

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By direction of the Board of Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, Notice is hereby given that an Order is proposed to be made by them after the expiration of one calendar month, to be computed from the first publication of this notice, appointing a Trustee of the above mentioned Charity.
It is proposed to appoint HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE, of Walpole House, Chiswick, in the County of Middlesex, Esquire.
Any objections to the proposed Order, or suggestions for its modifications, may be transmitted to the Commissioners in writing, within 21 days from the first publication of this notice, addressed to "The Secretary, Charity Commission, St. James's, London, S.W."
Dated the 28th day of April, 1906.
R. DURNFORD, Secretary.

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ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Adams, the Late Miss Annie	May 20, 1905.
Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Cooper, Miss Florry	Nov. 11, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	August 12, 1905.
Corelli, Miss Hilda	April 15, 1905.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
Cullen, Mr. James	October 7, 1905.
D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
Daltra, Miss Marie	July 22, 1905.
Daly, Late Miss Maria	Nov. 11, 1905.
Davis, Mr. Tom B.	June 24, 1905.
Denmeade, Mr. and Mrs.	July 1, 1905.
Denton, Mr. St. John	March 18, 1905.
De Rohan, Miss Daphne	September 2, 1905.
Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James K.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry K.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Ellis, the Late Mr. Percy	July 29, 1905.
Emery, Miss Pollie	July 1, 1905
Fanchette, Miss Amy	April 15, 1905.
Flinn, Madame Kate	July 29, 1905.
Forde, Mr. H. Athol	August 26, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1905.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.
Grove, Mr. Fred	March 10, 1906.
Grein, Mr. J. T.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Gunn, Miss Haidee	September 30, 1905
Gwynne, Miss Daisy	October 14, 1905.
Hamlyn, Mr. J. D.	January 20, 1906.
Hansen, Miss Laura	January 20, 1906
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
Harriss, Miss Sonbie	April 7, 1905
Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.
Holloway, Mr. Baliol	April 15, 1905.
Holmes-Dallimore, Mr. A.	Dec. 9, 1905.
Howard, Mr. Frank	April 1, 1905.
Howard, the Late Mr. W.	August 12, 1905.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
Jenoure, Miss Aida	June 24 1905.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
Johnson, Mr. William	December 16, 1905.
Jones, Miss Marie	April 1, 1905.
Jones, Miss Gladys Rose	September 16, 1905.
Juliette, Mdlle.	January 13, 1906.
Karno, Mr. Fred	August 12, 1905.
Kenney, Miss Rosa	July 1, 1905.
Kenney, Mr. Charles	September 23, 1905.
Kinghorne, Mr. Mark	February 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.
Kinnaird, Miss Helen	March 3, 1906.
Klein, Mr. Cecil	March 18, 1905.
Lane, Mr. Matheson	September 23, 1905.
Lathbury, Mr. Stanley	March 11, 1905.
Le Hay, Mr. John	August 26, 1905.
Leggett, late Mr. Richard	February 3, 1906.
L'Estrange, Mrs. Louise	July 15, 1905.
Liddon, Miss Adele	August 26, 1905.
Livesey, Mr. Carter	March 24, 1906.
Loftus Miss Kitty	January 20, 1906.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart	March 11, 1905.
Love, Miss Mabel	December 16, 1905.
Ludlow, Mr. Charles L.	April 1, 1905.
Mackinlay, Mr. Sterling	September 9, 1905.
Winstanley, Lieut.-Col. J. A.	February 17, 1906.
Woolf, Mr. Jack	March 31, 1906.
Zorn Mr. Fritz	February 17, 1906.

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BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1906.

ELLEN TERRY AND "THE SEVENTIES."

The enthusiasm with which the playgoing public have expressed their affectionate loyalty to Miss ELLEN TERRY on the attainment of her Jubilee Year is due to various causes. There is a large proportion of the population which would be quite satisfied if Miss TERRY could be born again, and go on acting her old parts in her young style again and again. But for the educated and elderly patron of the drama Miss TERRY is less an idol of the stage than a pathetic memento of his lost youth. And the youth that is lost is all the more regrettable because of its unconscious simplicity, its high spirits, and its happy ignorance. Art in the Early Victorian period was essentially shallow, cheerful, and contented. Nowadays, people know too much to be happy. In the sixties and the early seventies people laughed, grew fat, and had large families with absolute faith that their brood would laugh and grow fat after them. Mr. Briggs, the Victorian type of John Bull, was fat, with round, apple-like cheeks; Jorrocks was a ruddy man-mountain. The "condition of the people" was far worse than it is at present, yet no one in easy circumstances seemed to bother about it. Education for the masses was heartily ridiculed; and illustrations were issued showing how each individual trade would be corrupted by instruction. Women, it was agreed, had no "rights"; the "under-dog" was ignored; people were not troubled with "nerves"; Mr. Pickwick got drunk in a wheelbarrow; and plays were written without any reference to problems and without any taint of pessimism.

How different is it nowadays we have only to realise by taking the typical leading actresses of the day, and noting their essential characters and the nature of the pieces in which they appear. Miss LENA ASHWELL, though she is now subduing herself to represent the coquettish heroine of a costume comedy, made the deepest impression in *Mrs. Dane's Defence* and *Resurrection*, and her natural "line" is that of bitter, agonised revolt and protest. Miss OLGA NETHERSOLE'S favourite part is Sapho, the heroine of a morbidly realistic novel written with the purpose of warning young men against illicit connections. Mrs. TREE is at present playing a politically-intriguing poisoneress in a drama of grim and distressful destiny; and Miss MARION TERRY has of late always been seen on the stage in desperate and despairing straits not unconnected with the subtle play of human passion and perversity. The fiat has gone forth—to be "in the movement" you must be more or less miserable.

It was not so in the early seventies. "Alas! what days were those, Parmenides!" How we admired *Money*; and how we worshipped Miss TERRY as Clara Douglas! How we applauded that speech of hers: "With my whole heart I say it; be happy, Alfred Evelyn!" (*faints*). Of what people thought and what the Press said of Miss TERRY the following is a sample: "The expression of her face during the reading of the will which gives fortune to Evelyn is supremely beautiful; her moan of anguish as she hears the proposal to Georgina is irresistibly touching; and the final reconciliation is intense in its blissful serenity." And then the writer went on to admire the exemplification of "womanly sacrifice"—one of the most deleterious qualities possible, as Mr. BERNARD SHAW and Dr. IBSEN have fully explained to us. As for *The Lady of Lyons*, we have not the heart to do more than refer to the poor piece. He "hates it, who would upon the rack of 'analytic criticism' stretch it out further."

And then there was *Masks and Faces*, with that absolutely artificial and impossible scene between the two women in the last act, which we all thought "werry capital" in those days and cried over heartily. And, bound up with all these reminiscences, is that of the gracious figure of Miss TERRY, with her simple, exquisite, affectionate art, her sweet voice, and her magnetic personality.

It was a curious sign of the times that on some occasions Miss TERRY was not considered Early Victorian enough. She was too much of an artist, too essentially human for the tinsel parts that she had to play. The critic of a leading daily, discussing her Pauline in '79, said: "It must be confessed that nature portrayed with so much truth is a little out of keeping with the somewhat artificial character of the play. The old and more emphasised style was unquestionably that which was in the mind of the author." In other words, BULWER-LYTTON had to be treated LYTTON-ally.

But the joy of playgoing in the seventies was that we did not realise our deficiencies. There was no Stage Society; and those dreadfully "searching" Frenchmen M. BRIEUX, M. DE CUREL, and M. BECQUE were happily unknown to us. At present, the stage is "struggling between two worlds, one dead, the other struggling to be born." We make an experimental dash into the analytic, then we have a revulsion of feeling for the merely interesting and picturesque—"when in doubt playing" SHAKESPEARE, who can be put to all uses. And here our memories are unmarred by "education," for Miss TERRY'S Ophelia and her Portia are exquisite recollections, as delightful to-day as they were in the unsophisticated seventies. Miss TERRY'S truly feminine charm, her wayward, winning ways, her nervous but not neurotic temperament, her bright, eupeptic, amiable individuality, her fine physical organisation, and her technical excellence are qualities which were commoner in the "seventies" than they are at present, and are growing rarer year by year.

"LITTLE MICHUS" AT DALY'S.

FIRST BIRTHDAY.

Two sweet little maids, "so very devoted, you seldom are likely to see," is a phrase that may aptly be quoted in writing of the success of *The Little Michus* at Daly's, and on their first anniversary, which was celebrated by a very large audience on Saturday last, Mr. George Edwardes may again be heartily congratulated on a production that gives us melody and hearty fun in a dainty setting, and which is presented by a cast that realises with loyal unanimity all the excellent qualities of M. André Messager's score, of MM. A. Vanloo and G. Duval's story, of Mr. Henry Hamilton's excellent dialogue, and of Mr. Percy Greenbank's neat and well-turned lyrics. The success on the first night (April 29, 1905) was great, immediate, and complete, and the ringing cheers which greeted M. André Messager when he took a special call on Saturday (the birthday celebration right) would seem to presage at least another year's run for the work. Not an opportunity has been lost during the twelve months' run of the piece to add to its distinguishing characteristics of gaiety and vim.

Mr. George Graves, who succeeeded Mr. Willie Edouin in the part of General des Ifs after *The Little Michus* had been running four months, is simply irresistible. From his very first entrance in the splendid salon scene one is keenly conscious of the comicality of the creation. The lame hero of Saragossa is indeed as droll a figure as we have seen for many a year, either in comedy or comic opera. Mr. Graves's *cachet* as a comedian is furnished by the uncontrollable laughter of the audiences which crowd Daly's night after night, and such a whimsical perception has he of his responsibilities that nothing could be more exhilarating than his realisation of the pompous General.

Mr. James Blakely may be felicitated on the fact that his talents as a comedian find congenial scope in such a fat part as that of Bagnolet. Mr. Blakely was recognised as a laughter-maker on the halls before he was secured for the theatres, and there is a spontaneity and freedom about his acting which make of his soldier servant a most amusing personage. Mr. Blakely has an excellent number in "The Regiment of Frocks and Frills," to which he does complete justice, being assisted by a cohort of "soldiers," whose most deadly artillery lies in their glances.

Mr. Robert Evett, looking the pink of military smartness, suggests admirably the romantic spirit of the young Captain Gaston Rigaud, who is so hardly hit by Cupid, and of course sings delightfully the pretty solo, "Life is a riddle indeed," which on the night of our visit had to be partly repeated in answer to an insistent encore.

Mr. W. Louis Bradfield, who still plays the part of Aristide Vert, the lovesick shopboy, evinces all those agreeable qualities as a light comedian which make of him such a favourite, and sings a new number, "The lad behind the counter," with rare spirit and dash.

Mr. Fred Emney's quiet methods are effective in realising the character of Pierre Michu, whose colloquy with the general concerning the bath gives rise to the loudest laughter heard during the evening. Mr. Emney never over-accentuates the peculiarities of the character he represents, but always keeps it within the legitimate limits of comedy, and his success is artistic and complete.

Miss Amy Augarde's support as Madame Michu is of considerable value to the representation. Miss Augarde in Madame's flirtation with the General realises that the *boutiquière* is not beyond the age of coquetry, though it is—as the General naïvely suggests—some time since she "nibbled the teething ring," and plays with considerable unction.

Miss Denise Orme is a sweet and winsome representative of Marie Blanche, and gives an impersonation full of girlish grace and maidenly reserve; and we may say exactly the same of Miss Alice Hatton as Blanche Marie, the real heiress of the General. Two of the prettiest numbers in the score are the duets, "Two little maids, so very devoted" and the vocal prayer to St. Valentine. Both are enchantingly rendered by these two young actresses, who so cleverly sound the note of sisterly solicitude. Miss Denise Orme's success is further emphasised in the solo, "I would like to be a grand lady," and in the last act she secures a positive triumph by her newest number, a song with violin obbligato, in the third act. It is a very rare occurrence to hear an actress sing and play her own violin obbligato. The only time we remember it being done was when Miss Pauline Joran made her début at Covent Garden as the boy Beppe in Mascagni's opera, *L'Amico Fritz*, in 1893.

Mr. Willie Warde, who has arranged the dances and the chorus business, is quite amusing as the market man; Miss Watt Tanner is a good-tempered and buxom market woman; Miss Alice Oppitz realises the agreeable nature of the responsibilities of Mlle. Herpin; Miss Elizabeth Firth sings well in her one solo as Madame du Tertre; Mr. Jack Thompson is a smart sergeant; Mr. Lester Morrah an effective corporal; and Mr. Norman Greene a duly magnificent footman. Mlle. Adeline Genée, whose stay is all too short, dances divinely as Mlle. St. Cyr.

It would be difficult to over-praise the early summer beauty of Mr. Joseph Harker's school-garden in the first act, or the magnificence of his salon at General des Ifs' in the second. Mr. Walter Hann has done marvellously good brush-work, too, in his Interior of Michu's Shop. Mr. Barter Johns conducts admirably; and Mr. J. A. E. Malone's stage-management is above reproach. There is still a long career in front of *The Little Michus*, and bigger crowds than ever have been flocking to Daly's during the week.

"THE KNIGHT OF THE BATH."

A Farce, in Three Acts, by Arthur Applin, Produced at Terry's Theatre, at a Matinée, on Tuesday, May 1.

Montague Whyte-Smythe ..... MR. LENNOX PAWLE
Dorothy Whyte-Smythe ..... MISS EILY MALYON
Charles Evered ..... MR. MALCOLM CHERRY
Mary Evered ..... MISS GRACE ARMYTAGE NOBLE
Colonel Jesson Evered ..... MR. D. J. WILLIAMS
Mrs. Jesson Evered ..... MISS MAUD HENDERSON
Robert ..... MR. ALLAN WADE

Mr. Arthur Applin's farce is preposterously improbable; but, to any audience which can make up its mind to swallow his premises for the sake of his conclusions, it may prove riotously amusing. Two couples, the Whyte-Smythes and the Evereds, are living in different flats in a residential hotel. Montague Whyte-Smythe, an absurd and almost idiotic creature, strays by mistake into the Evered flat, talks with Mrs. Evered through a bathroom door without perceiving the voice not to be his wife's, and goes off to take a nap in what he supposes to be his bedroom. Why he does not discover his error from details of furniture, &c., is not explained. Reappearing, wrapped in a bath-towel, he is met by Mrs. Whyte-Smythe, whom he believes to have come from the bathroom, whence Mrs. Evered presently emerges in evening dress. Mrs. Whyte-Smythe scolds jealously, and Mr. Evered, returning home, seizes the "Knight of the Bath," and attempts to strangle him. The next act takes place in the Whyte-Smythe flat, where Mr. Evered, who has quarrelled with his spouse, persuades Mrs. Whyte-Smythe to pretend *pro. tem.* to be his wife, as he is expecting a visit from his father and mother, and wishes to keep up appearances. The elderly pair arrive, and the deception is maintained, in spite of various difficulties, the Whyte-Smythe baby—the Evereds have only been married for a month—being carried across wrapped up in brown paper, and described as a china vase. Whyte-Smythe, when he looks in at his own flat, is persuaded that he is mad, and treated as the husband of Mrs. Evered, who poses as Mrs. Whyte-Smythe. Eventually, the bewildered Whyte-Smythe, wandering about at night with a candle, is grappled with by old Evered, who has lain down to sleep on a sofa, and, after more violent altercations, matters are at last cleared up. The piece was remarkably well played, Mr. Lennox Pawle being extremely comical as Montague Whyte-Smythe, Miss Eily Malyon's Dorothy being full of piquancy, point, and activity, and Mr. Malcolm Cherry being fervently brisk and acutely energetic as Charles Evered. Miss Grace Armytage Noble was refined, dainty, and humorous as Mary Evered; and Mr. D. J. Williams enacted Colonel Jesson Evered with a self-important geniality that was very effective, Miss Maud Henderson doing well as Miss Jesson Evered, and Mr. Allan Wade being efficient as Robert. The piece had a cordial reception from the audience which assembled at Mrs. St. Hill's tenth annual matinée of Our Dumb Friends' League, Mr. Welch lending Terry's Theatre, all the artists generously giving their services, Mr. Lennox Pawle painstakingly "producing" the farce, and Messrs. Lyons good-naturedly lending the furniture. Miss Edyth Olive spoke a prologue by Mr. Applin, in which a dying 'bus-horse described his sufferings from spur and bearing-rein; Miss Marta Cunningham sang two songs quite prettily; Mrs. Cowper-Coles's pupils danced an Irish jig with spirit; and the New Zealand Twins, two young ladies exactly alike, tinted in chocolate-colour, and wearing the simple Maori costume, sang and danced with a frank and buoyant exuberance, and well-deserved the warm approval which they obtained. Mrs. St. Hill, in an interval, spoke a few well-chosen words in gratitude to all who had given assistance.

HAZLITT AND LAMB ON LEAR.

Two great critics, William Hazlitt and Charles Lamb, have given their opinions of *King Lear*, one of the greatest and the least acted of any of Shakespeare's plays. Hazlitt says:—

"We wish that we could pass this play over, and say nothing about it. All that we can say must fall far short of the subject; or even of what we ourselves conceive of it. To attempt to give a description of the play itself or of its effect upon the mind, is mere impertinence: yet we must say something. It is then the best of all Shakespeare's plays, for it is the one in which he was most in earnest. He was here fairly caught in the web of his own imagination. The passion which he has taken as his subject is that which strikes its root deepest into the human heart; of which the bond is the hardest to be unloosed; and the cancelling and tearing to pieces of which gives the greatest revulsion to the frame. This depth of nature, this force of passion, this tug and war of the elements of our being, this firm faith in filial piety, and the giddy anarchy and whirling tumult of the thoughts at finding this prop failing it, the contrast between the fixed, immovable basis of natural affection, and the rapid, irregular starts of imagination, suddenly wrenched from all its accustomed holds and resting-places in the soul, this is what Shakespeare has given, and what nobody else but he could give. So we believe. The mind of Lear, staggering between the weight of attachment and the hurried movements of passion, is like a tall ship driven about by the winds, buffeted by the furious waves, but that still rides above the storm, having its anchor fixed in the bottom of the sea; or it is like the sharp rock circled by the eddying whirlpool that foams and beats against it, or like the solid promontory pushed from its basis by the force of an earthquake.

"It has been said, and we think justly, that the third act of *Othello* and the three first acts of *Lear* are Shakespeare's great masterpieces in the logic of passion: that they contain the highest examples, not only of the force of individual passion, but of its dramatic vicissitudes and striking effects arising from the different circumstances and characters of the persons speaking. We see the ebb and flow of the feeling, its pauses and feverish starts, its impatience of opposition, its accumulating force when it has time to recollect itself, the manner in which it avails itself of every passing word or gesture, its haste to repel insinuation, the alternate contraction and dilatation of the soul, and all 'the dazzling fence of controversy' in this mortal combat with poisoned weapons, aimed at the heart, where each wound is fatal. We have seen in *Othello* how the unsuspecting frankness and impetuous passions of the Moor are played upon and exasperated by the artful dexterity of Iago. In *Lear*, that which aggravates the sense of sympathy in the reader, and of uncontrollable anguish in the swollen heart of Lear, is the petrifying indifference, the cold, calculating, obdurate selfishness of his daughters. His keen passions seem whetted on their stony hearts. The contrast would be too painful, the shock too great, but for the intervention of the Fool, whose well-timed levity comes in to break the continuity of feeling when it can no longer be borne, and to bring into play again the fibres of the heart just as they are growing rigid from over-strained excitement."

Charles Lamb wrote in the *Reflector*:—"The *Lear* of Shakespeare cannot be acted. The contemptible machinery with which they mimic the storm which he goes out in, is not more inadequate to represent the horrors of the real elements than any actor can be to represent Lear. The greatness of Lear is not in corporal dimension, but in intellectual; the explosions of his passions are terrible as a volcano: they are storms turning up and disclosing to the bottom that rich sea, his mind, with all its vast riches. It is his mind which is laid bare. This case of flesh and blood seems too insignificant to be thought on; even as he himself neglects it. On the stage we see nothing but corporal infirmities and weakness, the impotence of rage; while we read it, we see not Lear, but we are Lear; we are in his mind; we are sustained by a grandeur which baffles the malice of daughters and storms; in the aberrations of his reason, we discover a mighty irregular power of reasoning, immethodised from the ordinary purposes of life, but exerting its powers, as the wind blows where it listeth, at will on the corruptions and abuses of mankind. What have looks or tones to do with that sublime identification of his age with that of *the heavens themselves*, when in his reproaches to them for conniving at the injustice of his children, he reminds them that 'they themselves are old!' What gesture shall we appropriate to this? What has the voice or the eye to do with such things? But the play is beyond all art, as the tamperings with it show. It is too hard and stony; it must have love-scenes, and a happy ending. It is not enough that Cordelia is a daughter; she must shine as a lover, too. Tate has put his hook in the nostrils of this Leviathan, for Garrick and his followers, the showmen of the scene, to draw it about more easily. A happy ending!—as if the living martyrdom that Lear had gone through, the flaying of his feelings alive, did not make a fair dismissal from the stage of life the only decorous thing for him. If he is to live and be happy after, if he could sustain this world's burden after, why all this pudder and preparation—why torment us with all this unnecessary sympathy? As if the childish pleasure of getting his gilt robes and sceptre again could tempt him to act over again his misused station—as if at his years and with his experience anything was left but to die."

SOME actors appear to be "cut out" for playing stage villains—Mr. Abingdon at once occurs to the mind, and, in old days, Mr. E. S. Willard—and it is usually found that they are good all-round men, capable and experienced, who happen to possess the appearance, voice, and manner the melodramatic villain demands. Mr. Alfred Harding is a case in point, this being the style of character for which he is usually cast, although he started his career, many years ago, at old Astley's Theatre by playing juvenile lead, and the list of parts includes Mercutio, Cassio, Von Haugh (in *Old Heidelberg*), Sergeant Keller (in *Arizona*), Bill Sykes—a change from the villains of the diamond-cut-diamond order—and David (in *Charlotte Corday*). Living at Wimbledon, Mr. Harding finds his chief recreation in gardening, and naturally prefers London or suburban engagements to touring. His wandering in former days has extended as far as India, when he supported Mrs. Brown Potter in repertoire, and more recently he went to South Africa under the Sass Nelson management. Mrs. Alfred Harding is also upon the stage, her professional name being Miss Bertha Adams.

To pick a few of Mr. Harding's adventures at random, this is what occurred on a certain occasion when his enthusiasm for swimming induced him to take a plunge into the Buffalo River at East London, South Africa. He was accompanied by a friend who, being of a less venturesome nature, preferred to remain in a rowing-boat safely moored to some steps at the edge of the water. Mr. Harding swam well out into the river, not thinking of the swiftness of the current, but very soon discovered that he could not return to the bank. He shouted to his friend, who either did not hear or did not realise his need for assistance, and after a few minutes the unfortunate actor was swept down the river. He no longer wasted his strength in shouting, and it was well for his companion's peace of mind that he could not hear his thoughts. Fortunately, an angler some distance away saw what was happening, and succeeded in checking Mr. Harding's mad career, and obligingly towed him back to the starting point.

ANOTHER of Mr. Harding's experiences—in India this time—promised to be even more annoying. He and his wife, leaving Rangoon at night, hired a boatman to take them to their ship. It was dark and stormy, and they were very thankful when their oarsman pulled up to the dark side of a vessel, although it was a little surprising to find only a rope ladder for the passengers to mount to the deck of a British India steamer. Mrs. Harding ascended first, and found herself surrounded by amazed Chinamen in the most unconventional and "impossible" costumes. It is needless to say that she made a hurried exit by means of the rope ladder, and the Indian boatman, far from apologising for having attempted to put them aboard a Chinese junk, calmly explained that he thought one ship would do as well as another.

AN anecdote concerning Elliston, which appears in the admirable little brochure given last week by Mr. Arthur Carlton as a souvenir of his production of *The Merchant of Venice*, at the Theatre Royal, Worcester, is well worthy of reproduction. The comedian had announced for his benefit "A grand display of fireworks on the stage of Worcester Theatre," a thing, of course, totally impracticable. This Elliston well knew, but he adroitly worked upon the fears of the landlord by hints of the great danger his building would be exposed to if such an exhibition took place, and, as he anticipated, the landlord forbade it, but the announcements were not altered, and the credulous public swallowed the bait and flocked to the theatre in crowds. Without any reference being made to the attraction of the night, the other items of the bill were proceeded with, but soon there arose a murmur which swelled into an uproar for the fireworks. Then Elliston came forward with a stately air. He had made most elaborate preparations for a grand pyrotechnic display, he said, but at the last moment he thought of the great danger, and the number of young tender girls, of respectable matrons, assembled to do him honour, and of the proprietor, one of the worthiest of men, whose property might be thus endangered. "There he is," he added, pointing to the stage box, where he had placed his scapegoat, a very shy, nervous man, who, terrified by the attention he had created, took to flight, "and I call upon him to state himself that he forbade the display." The audience were so glad of their escape that they applauded him heartily.

A GOOD story is also told of T. C. King, the tragedian who became the lessee in 1878. One evening he was playing *Black-Eyed Susan*, and during the performance had to fire a gun. On pulling the trigger, however, there was no report, and it was found that the gun had not been loaded, so the situation was spoilt. At the end of the scene he was naturally very angry with those whose duty it was to see the gun properly loaded. The next evening the "property" man made a point of being in the theatre very early, and carefully loaded the gun, so that the omission of the previous performance should not again occur. A little while after the stage-manager himself took care to put in an extra good charge of powder. By and by the tragedian himself came to the theatre, and in order that the incident of the preceding evening should not be repeated, put in yet another charge. When the situation of the play demanded it, our worthy lessee put the gun to his shoulder and pulled the trigger. There was a loud explosion, and the good man was sent spinning half across the stage. A gentleman who was standing in the wings within a few feet of the action, still has a vivid recollection of the concussion.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. ALFRED BUTT returned to England, home, and beauty on Wednesday, and was at the Palace Theatre soon after his arrival in London on that evening. He has been absent "on the other side" some five weeks, and speaks in glowing terms of the kindness and hospitality shown him on all hands. He has secured some most attractive acts for the house he so ably directs in Shaftesbury-avenue. He made the return voyage across the Atlantic in that magnificent liner the Oceanic.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR has determined upon immediate action in the House of Commons in the interests of musical composers and publishers. No intention being evident on the part of the Government to bring in a measure this Session, Mr. O'Connor as having a Bill drafted, and will introduce it in a few days. Every effort will be made to obtain facilities for its passage through the House, and it is hoped thereby that the Bill, which, it is expected, will have the support of influential members of all sections of Parliament, may become law within the limits of the present year.

MR. GEORGE SCOTT is very enthusiastic over the wonderful Urbanora pictures of the Hackenschmidt-Madrali match at Olympia last Saturday, which are being exhibited nightly at the Alhambra. Finer films could not be seen. They put beyond dispute all points of the struggle, from the entry of the wrestlers and their seconds to the final overthrow of the Turk and the invasion of the arena by the excited crowd. They are, in fact, a veritable *tour de force* of cinematography, and it is the first time that animated pictures taken by artificial light have proved an unequivocal success.

A GREAT many people seem to be under the impression that in consequence of the readjustment of the Coliseum's finances that palace of pleasure must of necessity be closing its doors. Nothing could be further from the actual truth. The Revue being played at the Coliseum is undoubtedly the greatest success in London at the present moment, and that the public appreciate the fact is evident by the crowded houses seen there daily at the 3, 6, and 9 p.m performances. It would be a thousand pities if in the readjustment of its affairs and the publicity given thereto, the Revue should suffer by an impression getting abroad that at any moment its triumphant career should be nipped in the bud. At the worst, all that will happen is that the debenture holders will carry on the business until a new company is floated to buy out the old concern.

THE trustees for the debenture holders took over the management of the Coliseum on Saturday. All contracts with the artists and the staff were declared at an end. New ones were made on Monday with those whom the new controllers desired to retain. Mr. John Donald has been reappointed general-manager, and Mr. Will Bishop now becomes stage-manager. The *Revue* produced by Mr. Stoll is now played three times a day instead of twice as formerly, consequently Mr. Charles Warner and Mme. Alice Esty, who were in the six o'clock bill, are not appearing.

THE secretary of the London Coliseum, Ltd., has convened an extraordinary general meeting, to be held at Cardiff on Thursday next, for the purpose of considering the following resolution:—"That it has been proved to the satisfaction of this meeting that the company cannot, by reason of its liabilities, continue its business, and that it is advisable to wind up same, and accordingly that the company be wound up voluntarily."

THE Modern Milo, the beautiful girl with dreamy blue eyes and a perfect figure, whose chaste and classic poses at the London Pavilion are crowding that house to the doors nightly, has recently come from Australia, where her success at the Tivoli Theatre, Sydney, was unprecedented. She has wonderful grace and charm, and no such lovely realisation of the marble creations of Milo, Phidias, and Praxiteles have ever been seen on the stage. During the preparations for the various pictures the audience is interested and delighted with the political caricatures of Cruikshank, a lightning impressionist of remarkable ability.

MISS DAISY GORDON, the charming young actress, produced her new comedy sketch, entitled *A Practical Joke*, on Thursday last at Barnard's, Greenwich, with great success. Miss Gordon was assisted by Mr. Syd Morton, Mr. Henry Hodgson, Miss May Cornish, and Miss Marjorie Rankin, the latter being very funny as the dude. The sketch was very well dressed, and under the capable management of Mr. Bevan Lorimer.

MESSRS FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER have just placed on the market one of the most important novelties ever conceived, the invention of Valentine Watson and a gentleman named Christmas. It is called "The Perfect Vamping Chart," and by an arrangement, the ingenuity of which is only equalled by its extreme simplicity, anyone unacquainted with music can play pianoforte accompaniments at sight in any key. The novelty, which sells at sixpence, and is unlike anything which has gone before, is the talk of all who have examined and tested it.

KING ALFONSO and Princess Ena, with Princes Leopold and Maurice of Battenberg, and attended by Lord William Cecil and Miss Minnie Cochrane, went to the Hippodrome on Thursday afternoon, the party occupying two boxes. "Dronza," the magic talking head, pleased the King immensely, and when the figure sang "Rule Britannia," the King of Spain moved his hands up and down, beating time, and laughing at the queer voice of the mysterious mechanism. When the royal lovers left the Hippodrome and entered their carriage a dense crowd awaited them, and ringing cheers went up.

THE exterior of the Palace Theatre has reassumed the spick-and-span appearance it bore on the occasion of its first opening, the walls having been cleaned and renovated by the Steam Brush Co.

MR. ERNEST CH. GITTINS' Regal Operatic Quartette will open at the Hippodrome, Hounslow, on Monday, May 14, and will be seen at the Chelsea Palace the following week. The "Prison Scene" from *Maritana* will be the first selection from their répertoire.

MISS JENNIE BELMORE underwent a successful operation on Tuesday, and her friends will be pleased to hear that she is progressing so favourably that she will shortly resume business.

THE usual monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday next, at the York Hotel, York-road.

LAZERN THE MYSTIC, a magician recently brought to this country by Fred W. Millis, the well-known ventriloquist, made a very successful début at the Camberwell Palace on Wednesday. His entertainment is bright, amusing, and decidedly novel, and the audience, to mark their appreciation of his efforts, honoured him with a double recall.

MR. G. H. ELLIOTT, the chocolate-coloured coon, was personally congratulated by Mr. Lyndon Greenwood, manager of the Islington Empire, on behalf of Mr. Walter Gibbons, on his great success at that house during Easter week in his new scena *Caroo*, by Lawrance and Gifford. He had to sing three songs in each house.

MR. GEORGE HARRIS has been appointed acting-manager of the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Belfast.

MR. WILL COLLINS, late manager of the Ardwick Empire, took up his duties on Monday as district manager of the Moss-Stoll Empires in London.

THE s.s. Lugano was discovered to be on fire six miles off Hastings on Thursday, the 26th ult. Mr. Albert Mathams, the manager of the local Hippodrome, at once chartered a motor-launch, and was first out, showing successfully the pictures on the Biograph the same evening.

THE Birmingham Empire gave a grand charity matinée in aid of the local hospitals on Wednesday, when the manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham, was supported in his efforts by companies drawn from the various other establishments in the town, also Wolverhampton and Walsall, in addition to that of the Empire. A large attendance and much enthusiasm prevailed, and some £60 will be handed over as the result.

A SITE has been acquired by Sites, Limited, of 213, Piccadilly, in High-street, West Bromwich, and the plans have already passed the Council, for the erection of an up-to-date hippodrome, which will be one of the largest in the provinces. The hall will be worked on the two performances nightly system. Mr. T. M. Sylvester, of Coventry, and other hippodromes, has been appointed manager. The opening has been fixed for August Bank Holiday.

THE Dover Theatres Company, Ltd., announces that the Theatre Royal will be closed in September, and that after the necessary alterations for its conversion into a Hippodrome it will be re-opened on the two-houses-a-night system.

MR. G. H. CHIRGWIN informs us that he has decided to give a matinée during the week of July 30 in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund and the Music Hall Home. Mr. Chirgwin, who is inaugurating his first season at the Happy Valley, Southend-on-Sea, hopes that his brother and sister artists will rally round him, and make it a big affair. Chirgwin himself will appear at the matinée.

MR. DAN THOMAS, who was appearing at the Accrington Hippodrome last week, recently visited the Accrington Police Station, lamenting the loss of his purse, which had in it two £5 notes, a diamond ring, and a gold stud. To his intense delight and surprise, after he had minutely described the missing valuables, the officer in charge was able to restore them to him. They had been picked up on the Sunday night in Blackburn-road, Accrington, by a boy who, with two companions, at once repaired to the police station and handed over their "find."

A PRETTY incident recently took place at Bidford-on-Avon, at the christening and launching of the "Gaiety" pleasure-boat, so named after the Gaiety Theatre of Varieties, Birmingham. Mrs. Albert Bushell performed the ceremony with her habitual grace and amiability to a crowd of admiring friends and not a few yokels, who seemed to take it as a personal honour. Bidford is becoming quite the place for a day's run out with professionals near Birmingham, and Host Butler, at the White Lion Hotel, is becoming famous for his viands and entertainment.

THE many friends of Mr. C. J. Cawood will learn with much regret that he will sever his long connection with the Empire Palace Theatre, Edinburgh, this week. Mr. Cawood, although quite a young man, has had a long experience of management—nearly nineteen years—the greater part of which has been spent in responsible positions at the Empire. Of modest, unassuming manner, he has earned a name for hard work and integrity of purpose. A testimonial is being organised as a mark of appreciation by several friends. The secretary, Mr. J. Gordon Dickson, 16, Coniston-terrace, Edinburgh, will be glad to receive and acknowledge subscriptions.

THE New Palace of Varieties, Lydd (Kent), was opened on Monday to a crowded house, and seems likely to prove a great success. The Three Cheers top the bill with their *Dick Whittington* scena, introducing a cleverly trained cat. Marie Rosebery is a great favourite, and her song, "Sons of the Silver Fern," appeals to all classes. The Mays make a hit with *The Maniac Child*; Maud Ethelda is a charming serio and dancer; Charles Kay is a popular comedian, his topical song, "The Beautiful Tale of Love," gathering fresh laurels at every verse; and Sybil Franklin and Co. in *A Bachelor's Dream*, and Harry Wallace, coon singer, complete the bill.

PROFESSOR WINGARD, after his performance at Osborne on Friday, the 27th ult., had the honour of being personally complimented by his Majesty the King of Spain, H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg, and others of the Royal Family. The celebrated conjuror caused great fun by apparently breaking up King Alfonso's watch, and afterwards restoring it and returning it whole, greatly to His Majesty's delight. The professor has received a splendid testimonial saying how pleased His Majesty and their Royal Highnesses were with his clever entertainment.

THE eleventh ordinary general meeting of the Belfast Empire was held at 36, College-green, Dublin, on the 27th ult. Mr. Adam S. Findlater, J.P., chairman and managing director, presided. The other directors present were—Messrs. David Dalton, William Findlater, and Alfred Edwards. The report of the directors showed that after the payment of all working expenses, bank interest, income tax, and debenture interest, the loss sustained during the year amounted to £402 6s. 4d. From that amount there was deducted the sum of £81 0s. 5d., the amount brought forward from the previous account, so that there was a debit of £321 5s. 11d. carried forward. On the motion of the chairman, the report was adopted. Mr. David Dalton, the retiring director, and the auditors, Messrs. Stokes Bros. and Pim, were re-elected.

DURING the performance at Portsmouth on Monday night of the Pigmies who were at the Hippodrome last year, one of the women ran amok, and sprang off the stage among the audience. She was apparently annoyed by a boy in the second row who was grinning at her, and before she could be stopped she stabbed him in the face with her spear. The manager of the hall quickly intervened, and dragged her away before she could do any further damage.

A BENEFIT matinée is being arranged to take place at the Leicester Palace on Thursday, May 17th, by kind permission of Mr. Oswald Stoll, in aid of the widow and child of the late Leonard Vidal, who was manager there for upwards of two years. A number of well-known artists, including George Robey, Wilkie Bard, Happy Fanny Fields, Hetty King, and Ray Wallace, have kindly offered their services, and a bumper house is confidently expected. Mr. Vidal's family have been left in very straitened circumstances, and an appeal is being made for subscriptions, which may be sent to Mr. Arthur Barlow, solicitor, 1, High Pavement, Nottingham. No doubt many artists, with recollections of past kindnesses received at the hands of the deceased gentleman, will find it a pleasure to subscribe, and the smallest sums will be thankfully received and acknowledged.

MR. JOSEPH WILSON, who has been one of the numerous victims to influenza, has quite recovered, and returned to his duties at the Tivoli on Thursday.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. Ernest Rees, who, we are given to understand, has just become the owner of an estate in Wales, left to him by a recently deceased aunt. This sudden access of fortune will not prevent the popular comedian continuing his stage career, which has been very successful.

AT the time of going to press we learn that there is a slight improvement in Mr. Edward Swanborough's condition. The anniversary of the Chelsea Palace is to be celebrated on Friday next.

MR. JESSE SPARROW, the manager of the Camberwell Palace, who, as we announced last week, will have a complimentary there on the 22nd, will be succeeded in the management by Mr. P. A. Lennon, who recently held a similar position at the Richmond Theatre.

THE London Pavilion Cricket Club played their opening match of the season at Tufnell Park on Tuesday, the front of the house beating the orchestra quite easily. The respective scores were 205 and 77. The eleven play a staff team from the Apollo on the same ground on Tuesday next.

THE versatility of Rachel Lowe is again demonstrated by the clever turn she is now giving at the Oxford. Attired in a dainty Parisian gown, she is singing praises of "The Gay Bohemian Knights," a song written to the music of a popular instrumental number now being played nightly by the orchestras of every leading hotel and restaurant in London and Paris. Miss Lowe also sings of the adventures of "Stella," who "only was in Paris for a year."

"CONN THE SHAUGHRAUN" is the subject of a capital Irish song scena which Mr. Michael Nolan has introduced this week at the London, Shoreditch. It is by J. P. Harrington and the late George Le Brunn, and is really one of their best endeavours. Mr. Nolan has never been better suited with a character, and he makes of Boucicault's hero a regular broth of a bhoy—racy of the soil. His brogue, too, is quite "iligant." Conn, strange to say, was a favourite character with the late Jenny Hill, who appeared in the character at Easter, 1890, at the South London, at a special matinée, the play being considerably condensed for the purpose.

THE actor playing the bully in *The Fighting Parson* at Olympia, Liverpool, on Monday, was unable to rise after the first punch administered by the "Parson." Some twenty seconds elapsed before Mr. Gray was extricated from the predicament by Mr. Bailey—not Bill of that ilk—who, playing one of the Hooligans, suddenly approached him, saying, "'Ere! d'y'ear! You've shoved my pal out; 'ave a pop at me," and, without more ado, knocked the Parson clean off his feet. Amidst a scene of wild excitement a furious set-to resulted, unfortunately, with black eyes for the obliging Bailey and a damaged hand for the "Parson," who congratulated the actor on his spontaneous saving of an awkward situation.

MR. GEORGE LASHWOOD'S song concerning Paris is one of the specially good bits in the Coliseum *Revue*. He has always owed much of his success to his talent for keeping up to date. This is not difficult for half-a-dozen seasons; but when it comes to a professional career of twenty years, it means that a man must alter his tricks of speech and his style of clothes many times if he means to represent—as George Lashwood certainly does—the ordinary young man of the minute He is a Birmingham man, and toured in his early days with Little Tich and Dan Leno, thinking himself very lucky if he could earn thirty shillings a week by singing almost as many songs a night. Like Little Tich, too, he used to star at the little Marylebone Music Hall (now extinct) in the eighties. Mr. Lashwood is considering an offer he has received to pay a professional visit to America. There is every probability, also, that he will appear as Dandini at the Coliseum next Christmas. He is a keen golfer, and a firm believer in the possibilities for artistic work on the variety stage.

IN our paragraph last week referring to the Strolling Singers' musical scena *My Highland Laddie*, we omitted the name of Mr. Frank Reynolds, who sang the opening of "Eileen Alannah."

M. WITMARK AND SONS are, as usual, well to the front with songs to please the people. The rage of New York at the present time is a peculiar song, entitled "I've got to dance till the band gets through." Miss Maud Raymond has made an enormous success with this song in New York, receiving eight encores for it nightly.

MISS LOTTIE ALBERT is lying at her residence in Ridgmont-gardens seriously indisposed, but every hope is entertained of her speedy recovery.

CHARLES COLLETTE, who a few years ago made a great success as Wilkins Micawber in *Little Em'ly* in London and the provinces, has been specially engaged by Mr. Charles Cartwright to play the same part in his dramatised version of *David Copperfield*, which he will produce on Monday at the Court Theatre, Liverpool. Collette returns to the London Pavilion June 4.

MR. VICTOR STEVENS and his Premier Pierrots, so successful at Scarborough last year, have been secured for the Jersey season, and will appear, by permission of Sir W. H. V. Vernon, in the Springfield Grounds and Pavilion. The Premier Pierrots are a very strong attraction, and should prove successful.

MISS MADGE TEMPLE is meeting with great success at the Hippodrome, Manchester, where she is topping the bill with the "Witmarkian" song "Nola."

MISS AMBER AUSTA has a very catchy, taking song in "Trouble." The quaintness of the idea and the melody of this number, together with its charming rendition by the clever artist, makes it a feature of the Tivoli programme.

A GRAND matinée was held at the Palace Theatre, Belfast, on Saturday last, under the patronage of the Lord Mayor, Sir Daniel Dixon, J.P., M.P. The proceeds were in aid of local charities and the Actors' and Music Hall Benevolent Funds. There was a crowded auditorium, and the programme, which was compiled by Mr. Fred W. Warden, managing-director of Theatre Royal and Palace, Belfast, reflected much credit on that gentleman. The principal artists from the pantomime *Dick Whittington* assisted, comprising Neil Kenyon (who was, as usual, inimitable), Miss Harriet Fawn, Miss W. Preece, Sisters Vincent, and Messrs. O'Malley and Brown. By kind permission of Mr. Adam Findlater and Mr. J. A. Walker, manager, the following artists came over from the Empire Theatre:—Mr. Herbert Shelley, Mr. James Stewart, Mr. Bert Byrne, and Miss Gracie Graham. Mr. Harry Downs, with characteristic courtesy, permitted the following from the New Alhambra to appear:—Mr. Lawrence Barclay, Captain Devereux and his well-trained dogs, and Miss Mary Glen. All the Palace artists assisted. Mr. Fred W. Warden, chairman and hon. treasurer of the Belfast Theatrical Charity Fund, in a short speech, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a large audience, and returned thanks to all who had so kindly assisted. Mr. David Motherwell (hon. sec.) and the members of the committee also deserve a word of praise for their efforts.

AMONG the numerous telegrams and letters containing good wishes received by Mr. Oswald Stoll on Wednesday morning was one from the principal officials of the Coliseum in the following terms:—"We are deputed by your staff to express good wishes for a satisfactory arrangement at the meeting, and at the same time to testify our admiration of your administrative abilities in the conduct of affairs, and to the esteem in which you are held by all in the employ of the company.—(Signed) John Donald, Will Bishop, Will A. Bennet, A. Whitehead, Maurice Jacobi, J. Ballard, H. Mawbey, A. Norris, Arthur Shirley, Walter Slaughter."

AMONGST the artists who left England for America last Saturday was Mlle. L. Raffin, who, with her troupe of performing monkeys, is due at Coney Island for a long summer engagement.

THE Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd., has just published another song sung by Miss Victoria Monks, entitled "Sweet Saturday Night." Miss Monks has the sole and exclusive music-hall singing rights of this and her success, "Moving Day."

MISS GWENNIE HASTO is making a big hit on the Stoll tour with "Wait till the sun shines, Nellie." Al-fresco artistes should write to the Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Co. for this song and other successes published by that enterprising firm.

MISS MILLICENT MARSDEN has been compelled through serious indisposition to resign her rôle of Lola in *Cavalleria Rusticana* at the Coliseum and wishes to thank her many friends for their kind inquiries, and to say that she is gradually gaining strength, and hopes to be soon quite convalescent.

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR opened on Monday at the Olympia, Liverpool, for a twelve weeks' tour of the provinces, and will return to London on August Bank Holiday.

MR. HARRY LAUDER, the popular Scotch comedian, who has been staying at the Crown Hotel, Dunoon, has been on the sick list for the last month. He is now completely convalescent, and will make his reappearance at the Tivoli on Monday.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, the well-known exponent of bloodless surgery and demonstrator of electricity, since he left London has had one continual run of excellent business. Last week he had a record week at the Palace, Blackburn, despite it being the week after the holidays. It was also his seventh visit to the town, and he performed to over £529, his takings on the Saturday night alone amounting to over £163. During the week over 27,000 people paid for admission.

LIEUT. ALBINI has had the following letter from his old friend and partner, Dr. Harley, who has been travelling through the Bush in Australia and also in India:—"Calcutta, April 12, 1906. Dear Albini,—I was very much pleased, in taking up *The Era* of March 3, to see that you advertised. I had lost sight of you, and heard you had gone to America and obtained a second-hand coffin. Whenever I bought *The Era* I missed your advertisement, so I gave credence to the report. Well, I am glad you are alive. Let me have your permanent address. I could do with some good things. Write me a long letter." Dr. Harley, who has always been a great traveller, made his last appearance in London at the Oxford and Crystal Palace in conjunction with Lieut. Albini in an act similar to the one now run by Horace Goldin. Its success lasted five months at the two places.

MISS ALICE HOLLANDER'S artistic and cultured renderings of "My Irish Lily," by Swaffer and Darewski, and Mascheroni's "Ave Maria," have been a source of unadulterated delight to Tivoli audiences nightly, and the artist's efforts have been highly enhanced by Reginald Allan's orchestration and the musicianly handling of his fine band by Mr. De Reeder.

MR. EDGAR BATEMAN on Saturday last, on his lonely roost on Southend Pier, with Ernest Shand's fishing rod for company, completed his third comic song for Mr. Tom Leo. Maurice Scott has again supplied the melody, and the song, which is of a domestic nature, is entitled "Old Mrs. Flack did look black." The young comedian's "Too lazy to live" chorus has shaken the roof of the Palace, Tottenham, nightly during the current week.

AT the annual meeting of the members of the Herne Bay Habitation of the Primrose League, held on Thursday evening, the 19th ult., Mrs. Adney Payne was unanimously elected Dame President.

MR. HERBERT LENTON, the famous Risley acrobat, and formerly head of the Lenton Troupe—very popular in the eighties—has been living a retired life for some time in Newark, but has now determined to take up the acrobatic business again, and will make another start at the Hospital matinée at the Nottingham Empire during this month. Mr. Lenton, who left the variety stage in 1895, entered the acrobatic profession when twelve years of age, and in 1864 went out to South America. He did a great deal of globe-trotting before he made his first professional appearance in England in 1870, when he performed at the New Theatre Royal, Nottingham, the town of his birth. He ran some expensive companies in his time, and when he toured through Spain and Portugal in 1879 he had with him George Chirgwin, the famous "White-eyed Kaffir," the Brothers Dare, Fatma, the Brothers Bellonini (including Walter, the celebrated juggler), and the Girouette Family.

THE 461st meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices in Wellington-street on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Joe O'Gorman (in the chair), Harry Blake, Arthur Carlton, Charles Coborn, Fred Herbert, Charles Pastor, Jeff Vendome, Albert Voyce, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed. A letter was read on behalf of a member who had been censured for being abusive to an agent of the Association, who declined to place his name on the list on a Saturday. It was explained that the agent had allowed others to go on the list on the day referred to, but refused to extend the privilege to the member in question, who hinted that the reason was because he did not patronise the agent's house.

THE secretary reported that the membership had increased during the week by twenty-four, and by his financial statement it appeared that the receipts amounted to £31 8s. and the expenditure to £20 6s. 2d. Mr. Douglas White, the honorary treasurer, presented his monthly and six-monthly statements, the latter showing that the balance in favour of the Association was £1085 11s. 9d.

MR. CHARLES COBORN, in accordance with his notice of a week previous, moved that the minute referring to the censure of a member be expunged. The committee, he said, were placed in a false position by not hearing both sides before passing condemnation. The proceeding had a tendency to belittle the executive, and was one that could not be too strongly deprecated. Mr. Albert Voyce moved the rejection of the resolution on the ground that the member was censured for omitting to place his name on the list in time. The practice was far too prevalent among members, and prompt action should be taken to check it. The motion was lost.

IT seems a pity that the histrionic talent which made Mr. Herbert Darnley one of our foremost comedians, not only in the music halls, but in such important parts as Sir Ormsby in *The School Girl* and Private Jupp in *One of the Best*, should be allowed to lay dormant; but such is the magnitude of his future managerial arrangements that to locate himself in any one production would be to make it impossible for him to attend to the other calls upon his time. Besides this, his vast experience as manager, producer, author, and artist will prove of the greatest value in the work he has mapped out for himself.

IN a few weeks Mr. Darnley will produce his new pantomimic sketch, *The Skirmishers*, to be quickly followed by the clever skit on the old-fashioned diorama, entitled *The Panorama*. In the summer he will superintend the reproduction of *The 'Varsity Belle*, following it in the autumn by the revival of the late Dan Leno's greatest triumph, *Mr. Wix of Wickham*; and, as a fitting climax to 1906 and a brilliant beginning to 1907, Mr. Darnley will stage in the halls a gigantic production, entitled *Bailum and Barmey's, the Thickest Show on Earth*.

THESE will be running concurrently with the present success, *Moving In*, so that Mr. Darnley will have his hands well filled. When asked his favourite occupation, Mr. Darnley answers, "Hard work," and when questioned as to his favourite pastime, replies "More work!"

MANY of our readers will no doubt remember the comedian and singer W. B. Fair, originator of "Tommy, make room for your uncle," late proprietor of the Winchester Music Hall and manager of the Royal Standard and Marylebone Music Halls. We learn that Mr. Fair has established a sawdust business, and having applied for a patent (and obtained provisional protection) for his process of manufacturing "sanitary" sawdust, and having put the same on the market with gratifying results in respect of orders and testimonials, a small private company has been formed under the name of the Sanitary Sawdust Syndicate, Ltd., to work and develop the same, with W. B. Fair as managing director. No prospectus or invitation to the public to subscribe for shares has, or will be, issued, but Mr. Fair will be pleased to forward copy of memorandum and articles of association, &c., to any of his old colleagues, friends, or acquaintances willing to take a financial interest in the syndicate by subscribing for one or more shares of £1 each. Address: W. B. Fair, Sanitary Sawdust Syndicate, Ltd., 5, President-place, Goswell-road, E.C.

MR. GUS ELEN, the well known coster comedian, living at Thurleigh-road, Balham, appeared to a summons on Monday, at the South-West London Police-court, for driving his motor-car at Putney, on April 15, at a speed exceeding twenty miles an hour. Mr. Elen pleaded ignorance of the speed (twenty-seven and three-quarter miles an hour) at which he was travelling at the time, attributing it to the fact that he was cleaning out the spent and dirty oil from the machinery. He said he had driven 15,000 miles in his motor, and it was not his habit to exceed the limit. He always took the greatest care, using his car not for racing, but for pleasure. Mr. de Grey fined him £2 and costs.

BLANCHE and Diacoff, after two years in India, returned to England last week, and opened at the Britannia Theatre on Monday. They are trick cyclists who have perfected the sensational act, introduced to London some years ago by Charlie Jones, of Australia, of riding at full speed at an angle of sixty-five degrees, having gradually reduced the size of their track until it only measures seventeen feet round the top. Miss Blanche is a daring little lady, who made her London début as a cyclist at the Pavilion, a few years ago, as one of the riders in the "Home-trainer" races. Her husband, Mr. Diacoff, has also been connected with the whirl of the wheel for a considerable time. Son of a successful trainer, his first experiences of bicycling were on the race track, first as an amateur and afterwards as a professional rider. Blanche and Diacoff travelled in India with Abell and Hackenback's Zoo. The Maharajah of Mysore was so pleased with their exciting performance that he presented them with three handsome new machines.

MANY Islingtonians have during the week journeyed to the Bedford, at Camden Town, to renew acquaintance with Little Thomas, the famous corner-man of the Mohawk-Moore and Burgess Minstrels, who has been fulfilling an engagement as a single turn, and meeting with his customary success. The voice of the comedian—whose sixty odd summers sit lightly on his shoulders—is as powerful as ever and his songs as droll as of yore.

AT the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge, on Sunday, April 29, the President in the chair, a most important letter was read from Messrs. Cadle Bros., agents, containing the statement of the matter at issue between themselves and two members of the Lodge which was mentioned in last week's report. The letter was discussed at some length, and it was finally carried that, before submitting the matter to a meeting for arbitration, a letter should be written to the two members in question and to Messrs. Cadle Bros. requesting a formal statement from each that they would abide by the decision of this Arbitration committee.

A BROTHER related that he had a contract for two weeks from April 2 at the Pavilion, Glasgow and Greenock. He played Greenock, and then was informed that his Glasgow week was postponed to July 9. The artist pointed out to the manager that he could not accept such an agreement, as at that date he would be on mid-ocean. The manager then declared he had no contract with him at all. The contract was concluded before the hall passed into the hands of the present managers. The artist asked a lawyer's advice in Glasgow, as he knew that there was an agreement between the present and former managers as to the taking over of contracts. Bros. 1365 explained that the Lodge's solicitor had declared that an artist had no claim on the present manager, who did not actually sign contract, but had to sue the manager whose signature he held.

BRO. 1365 also drew attention to the fact that his remarks with reference to this very case were misunderstood and mis-stated in the report of April, wherein he is represented as having said: "It is now established that a manager taking over a house must take over the contracts from the former management." This was entirely a mistake. What he did say was that it is the person signing the contract who is responsible for the salary, and not the manager who takes over the house. Action must be laid against the former manager, and if there is an agreement between him and his successor to take over any or all bookings, then the predecessor can recover from his successor, but the artist has nothing to do with this.

A MEMBER submitted a contract with a Vienna manager and asked advice from the chairman, as he had been threatened with cancellation. The chairman stated that it contained no cancellation clause, but that there were many tricky paragraphs in it, which, if not carefully adhered to by the artist, might be utilised as a means of getting rid of him. He therefore advised the artist to have the contract carefully translated, and to mind all the minor matters contained in it, when he would be safe in going to fulfil the engagement.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE TIVOLI.

The crowded audiences that fill the favourite variety house in the Strand speak eloquently of the success of the policy of Mr. George Adney Payne and his co-directors, who are determined not only to secure the best possible talent, but to retain it. The current bill has quite a cosmopolitan aspect, as artists both from Australia and America add both to its gaiety and its sentiment. Miss Alice Hollander, who is a native of the new commonwealth, is associated with a daring experiment, nothing less than the singing of the "Ave Maria," the musical setting of the Latin prayer to the Virgin being that of Angelo Mascheroni. The solo was listened to with rapt attention on the night of our visit, and the charming vocalist, who sang very artistically and fervently, was several times recalled. The solo immediately precedes a comic entertainment presented by the Poluskis, entitled *The Housebreakers*, in which the humour consists for the most part of a parody of the methods of professional cracksmen. Mr. Will Poluski appears as a second edition of the Spider, and Mr. Sam Poluski parodies the Bill Sikes type of burglar. The humour is at present rather poor, but there are possibilities of working it up. Mr. Harry Randall introduces, with his customary success, his latest dame impersonation, Mrs. Tootles, the better half of a singularly uninspired flute player. He plays *obbligati* to her, though her enjoyment of them is spoilt by constant repetition. If Tootles stays longer at rehearsal than is at all necessary, one can easily understand it, when the "soul of music" no longer appeals to his much-tried partner. Mr. Randall brings out drolly all the amusing idiosyncrasies of the character, and though his voice is somewhat harsh, he possesses the virtue of distinctness. Miss Billie Barlow, who returns to the Tivoli after a lengthened absence, has an amusing song as a Red-Cross nurse, and evokes peals of laughter when she states that she is about to start the B.B.Y.M.R.—the "Billie Barlow Young Men's Rest." Naturally so charmingly vivacious and attractive a "soother" would be sure of an immense number of clients. Early in the evening Mr. Will Van Allen, who assumes the rags of a tramp, emits melodious sounds from all sorts of curious instruments. There is much genuine fun in his turn, as he has a fund of most amusing patter. The sentiment of a love-sick coon is cleverly and artistically realised by Mr. G. H. Elliott, who puts much feeling into his serenade; and as a direct contrast to his story of plantation affection Miss Rachel Lowe follows with a most successful number, entitled "Kettles to mend," with which she scored such a success during her recent brilliant pantomime engagement. Miss Lowe repeats that success with the Tivolians—a proof of the attractive nature of the number. Miss Daisy Dormer is a newcomer to the Tivoli, but that she will return again and again to its boards is a certainty; for her success on the night of our visit must have been exceedingly gratifying, and the young and attractive coon impersonator has every right to be proud of it. As her final item she gives "I'm going—going—gone!" and this is followed by a buck dance which is one of the best and most spirited displays of the kind that we have seen. The interests of mirth are well looked after by the prime minister thereof—Mr. George Robey; Mr. T. E. Dunville is in his best form as a museum attendant; and Mr. Harry Ford's comic logic and argumentative drollery are strong incitements to laughter. Conway and Leland keep the audience in the house while they exploit many whimsical conceits and fulfil their responsibilities as "the merry monopedes"; and American and Dutch comedy is cleverly exploited by King and Benson in a comedy musical act, and by Happy Fanny Fields, who has returned in complete possession of her powers to create hilarity. Other turns in the bill are contributed by Carrie Laurie and her juveniles, and Miss Amber Austa, comedienne, who puts much eccentricity into her song, "Trouble," and is responsible for a clever dance. Mr. Joseph Wilson has been suffering from influenza, but is fortunately much better. During his absence Mr. James Howell has controlled the front of the house with his usual tact and courtesy.

THE MIDDLESEX.

A unique speciality act is that of Mlle. Sylvesto. Attired in a neat white silk athletic costume, she performs various feats with the assistance of silver rings, placing them over her body in all manner of positions. In one posture she contrives to balance a small piece of lighted candle on her forehead while at the same time cleverly manipulating the hoops. She concludes her turn by rolling from one side of the stage to the other partially encased in a barrel. Tennyson and Wallis, dressed as policemen, relate a lot of amusing stories concerned with the life of a gentleman in blue, and a very comical couple they prove to be. Mr. Will Haines submits a capital character-vocalism turn; and the Lurins are a most entertaining comedy duo. Mr. Fred Clements strikes high as a versatile comedian, and this week he has certainly more than satisfied a critical Middlesex audience. Miss Cissie St. Clair has a pretty lyric in "Absence makes my heart grow fonder," which she sings with expression and feeling. Speedwell, the demon painter, sketches with lightning rapidity the portraits of well-known men. Thus we have life-like likenesses of General Booth, Lord Kitchener, Dan Leno, Sir Henry Irving, and other notabilities. Tee and Tee are as bright and lively as ever with their comedy specialities. They are an exceedingly popular couple down Drury-lane way, as in many other places where they have once made themselves known.

The Glenroy Troupe provide an extremely interesting act in their scena, *Lads of the New Brigade*. First the three young ladies make their appearance in kilts and smartly execute some Highland dances. Looking picturesque in Scottish full military dress, they continue their dancing, to the huge delight of the audience. Then two male members of the troupe take possession of the stage, and dance a lively Irish jig, in which they are later joined by the girls. The act is one of the most pleasing features in the programme. Mr. Hamilton Hill has, as everybody knows, a baritone voice of good quality, and he uses it to the utmost advantage in his two songs, one of which is, "I don't want a cosy corner." Miss Amber Austa has "a way with her" that compels the admiration of the house. Dressed in quaint old-fashioned dress and hat, she appears in a sort of scena with an oyster-seller, and she comments on the fact that he has got the ragtime voice. Her business in this as well as in her succeeding item is quite of an original order and her dancing is exquisitely graceful as well as somewhat novel. Mr. Charles Woodward gives his hearers something to laugh at in his song concerning a natural fact, the chorus being "If it wasn't for the men." His succeeding number is of a serious nature, and while singing it he is in military dress uniform, donned for the purpose of giving effect to the praises he voices regarding the gallant Carbineers.

Mr. Gus Harris attempts to teach a moral in his latest creation, *The Synagogue*. The curtain goes up on a Jewish place of worship. A mischievous boy throws a stone and breaks a pane of glass. The rabbi comes out—in the person of Mr. Gus Harris—and begs the boy to consider whether he himself would not feel annoyed if someone threw a stone through a window at the church which the lad himself attended. "Every bird has his nest" is one of the lines of Mr. Harris's song; then he goes on to speak of the indignities to which the Jews have been subjected in Russia, and the kindness the Chosen Race has received from liberty-loving England, etc. The song appears to be to the liking of the audience and Mr. Harris retires amid a perfect thunder of applause. Mr. Frank Seeley is as jocular and rollicking as of yore, and his vivacity and eccentricity call forth intense merriment. "I'll never forget the day" is a song with which he has been popular with the public for some time, and the boys at the Middlesex heartily demonstrate their appreciation of it. By means of the New Bioscope three series of attractive pictures are shown, one depicting an epicure's dream, another a schoolboy's escapade, and a third the days of slavery in South America. Mr. John Lawson and company are responsible for the concluding item, which is the sensational episode entitled *The King's Minister*, in which Mr. Lawson as the Prime Minister, and Mrs. Lawson as the Minister's daughter, work hard to please the audience.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

Mr. John Lawson did a wise thing in arranging with Mr. Cecil Raleigh to supply him with a sensational sketch, for no one was better qualified to furnish exactly the article that was required. *The King's Minister*, which has been the leading attraction in this week's bill at the Islington Empire, is a Drury Lane drama in miniature, with the comic element left out. It is true that the new production does not contain any scene which can be compared to the furniture-wrecking episode in *Humanity*, but, on the other hand, Mr. Lawson is able to present a truer study of character, and the later sketch gains in artistic effect by not being dependent for success upon one ultra-sensational scene. The Prime Minister of England certainly does not display the prudence one might reasonably expect from so exalted a personage in dining alone in a shady Soho restaurant with a woman who admits that she has lost her character. The lady smokes cigarettes, and on the stage that is always a bad sign. But at all events she means well by the Minister, and has obtained for him the compromising letters which a cowardly scoundrel has threatened to make use of to ruin the happiness of his lordship's daughter, Muriel. The brutal murder of the lady left alone in the restaurant is appalling in its grim reality, and the scene is cleverly played by the actor and actress concerned. The interest is well maintained until the close. The interview between the guilty but accusing Italian and the Prime Minister is well worked up to its tragic conclusion, and no details are wanting to render the scene thoroughly effective. Mr. John Lawson, who in appearance recalls to mind a famous statesman of thirty years ago, gives a careful and convincing portrayal of the Minister of the Crown, who shows dignity and restraint even in the presence of the blackmailer. Mrs. Lawson as Lady Muriel has few opportunities for powerful acting, but plays the part with distinction and the requisite degree of earnestness and charm. The rôles of the woman who is murdered, the desperate Italian restaurant keeper, and the young man who aspires to the hand of Lady Muriel are all well played. The production has been very favourably received by Empire audiences, who have given Mr. Lawson a hearty welcome to Islington.

The engagement of the smart juggler known as A Bou-Kou may be regarded as another feather in the managerial cap. He has a couple of comic assistants, who appear as a waiter and a boy in buttons, and the first-mentioned is specially active and amusing. A Bou-Kou's most sensational feat is sustaining aloft a table bearing chairs, &c., the waiter and the boy being seated below. The juggler challenges any person not in the profession to lift the table shoulder high from the stage and place it down again without letting it fall or dropping anything therefrom. A Bou-Kou concludes his interesting performance by neatly juggling with three flaming torches.

The popular comedienne, Miss Katie Lawrence, who opened at this hall on Monday, is no stranger to Islington audiences, who have always accorded her a hearty welcome. This she received on Monday, when she successfully gave three songs, but unfortunately she was not well enough to appear on Tuesday. However, Miss Lawrence was again in the bill the following evening, delighting the audience at each house by her rendering of "My old man" and other of her capital ditties. Mr. Fred Herbert scores with the song "It's a wonder what money will do," and in his "Said John Bull to Britannia" the allusions to current topics have their intended effect. Mr. Fred Poplar has a parody on "Home, Sweet Home," and gets a good reception. Mr. George Newburn continues to display his acknowledged ability as a mimic of well-known comedians of the variety stage; Mueller and Coyne give a variety entertainment, the lady singing while the gentleman affords evidence of his skill as an acrobat; Eugene and Willie win favour as musical performers and acrobats; and the three Sisters Leigh do well as vocalists and smart dancers. A specially attractive feature of the current programme are the pictures on the bioscope of the famous wrestling match between Hackenschmidt and Madrali. Mr. Lyndon Greenwood, the energetic manager here, deserves to be complimented on the excellence and completeness of the arrangements in front of the house. Mr. D'Arcy Salter is the acting-manager.

THE EUSTON.

The current programme at this popular hall is mostly in the lighter vein, and general hilarity—an excellent commander—for the most part rules the proceedings during the two hours' traffic of the stage at each performance. Mr. Harry Tate was for years regarded as our cleverest mimic. He it was who reproduced with the greatest exactitude the mannerisms, voice, and gestures of our popular comedians. There was naturally something mechanical in all this, however clever it may have been, and it certainly possessed qualities to which this adjective may be applied most appositely. But Mr. Tate had higher artistic ambitions than to go down to posterity as a mere imitator, and he has of late years revealed the unsuspected gift of humour. He more than surprised us with his impersonation of the automobilical novice in that now famous sketch, *Motoring*, which at the present moment may be said to be making both hemispheres laugh; but we make bold to say that his personal success is even greater in his sketch, *Fishing*, which is evoking roars of laughter among the Eustonians. The scene is a cool, translucent backwater, and the exploits of Mr. Tate commence with hooking his nether garments and end with the overturning of the punt from which he and his professional companion—a gentleman with a powerful imagination and an infinite capacity for lying—endeavour to tempt the "speckled beauties" that are every now and then "thrown up" to whet the keen sportsmanlike instincts of the piscatorial Johnny, who evidently thinks angling very thirsty work, if we may judge by the imposing array of bottled whisky which is brought on to the stage. But enough of description. Mr. Tate's genuine drollery is displayed in his power of comic expression even more than by the humour of his utterances, and he is intensely amusing. His coadjutors in the trifle give him excellent support, and *Fishing* is a laugh from beginning to end. We should add that it is from the pen of that clever farcical writer, Mr. Wal Pink.

Among the chief attractions of the variety entertainment is Miss Daisy Dormer, one of the daintiest of coon impersonators. Miss Dormer has chic, style, vivacity, and charm. She imparts a freshness and a *cachet* to her work which give renewed life and vigour to the somewhat overdone coon business. Dressed in a pretty scarlet short frock, this smart soubrette scores an enormous success in the smartly-written number by Charles Collins and Harry Castling, entitled "I'm going—going—I'm gone." This is followed by a wonderful dance, which is as unique as it is inspiriting. Miss Dormer thoroughly deserves her success, which is great. Mr. G. H. Elliott, who is known as the chocolate-coloured coon, puts considerable romance into his serenades of a plantation character, which are his special artistic contributions to the programme, and sings with no little intensity of expression a lilting refrain, which may be called "I'm the only coon without a lady." Mr. Elliott is also an excellent dancer, and altogether an interesting personality on the stage. Mr. Arthur Lennard, a firm favourite here as elsewhere, gives genuine pleasure by the admirable way he sings a parody, and also by his Robsonian methods in the clever song—which has done him excellent service—"Mate-mate-mater." The Crown Trio of speciality vocalists are new to us; but their pleasant harmony and agreeable singing should speedily win them favour. The combination consists of two men—one in Gordon Highlander dress, the other in English military uniform—and a pretty girl, costumed as a waitress. The old Scotch song, "Mary," is given successfully as a trio, and the Highlander scores in the very much hackneyed "True till Death." Mr. John Marx, a fine specimen of a cultured athlete—a veritable Hercules—causes great astonishment by the display of his immense strength, especially in the feat where he sustains no fewer than twenty-five men on a platform. The Sisters Hall and Mr. Joe Peterman's comedy extravaganza, in three scenes, entitled *The Belle of the Orient*, are other potent attractions in the bill.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, *Moses and Son*, has proved a strong attraction at the Hackney Empire this week, and the handsome building has been packed with audiences that have expressed approval and delight in no half-hearted manner. *Moses and Son* more closely resembles a modern musical comedy than most of Mr. Fred Karno's previous productions, and no doubt it is only the time limit that stands in the way of the introduction of additional musical numbers. The first scene represents the interior of Moses and Sons' bank in Lombard-street, with a crowd of young ladies sitting with their backs to the audience busily engaged in typewriting. If it were an ordinary musical play these ladies would sing a chorus, but in the absence of this melodious preliminary we speedily make the acquaintance of Perkins, the caretaker at the bank, who is the leading character in the piece. A quaint and highly amusing personage is Perkins, as may easily be imagined when it is said that this part is impersonated by that favourite comedian Mr. Fred Kitchen. In the street outside the bank a pair of horses drawing a carriage, the sole occupant of which is a lady, bolt, but they are gallantly stopped by a son of the banker's, and no damage is done. The lady, however, faints, and is carried into the bank, and on recovering consciousness she finds Perkins by her side, which leads her to suppose that he was her brave rescuer. He does not deny it, and is regarded by everybody as a hero who has risked his life in doing a gallant act. Young Moses, for reasons of his own, does not claim the honour rightly due to him. He has fallen in love with one of the young ladies in the employ of the firm, but when he declares his intention of marrying her his father flies into a rage and bids him quit his presence for ever. Before this happens, however, much fun has been caused by Perkins' comic treatment of the office-boy, and his negotiations with a gentlemen who calls with a leather bag and beguiles the caretaker into purchasing it and its worthless contents. Another funny episode is the visit of a beggar woman, whose tale of woe melts Perkins to tears as he pours gold and bundles of bank-notes into her outstretched apron, telling her to call again "if she should run short."

In the next scene, the Stock Exchange, young Moses is reconciled to his father, and he and his wife invited to the grand ball, which duly takes place at the "Moses" Mansion, Park-lane. This is quite a brilliant scene, the reception of the company being followed by dancing. Here we find Perkins in full evening dress figuring as an American millionaire. But he is wearing borrowed—or, rather, stolen—plumes, and the imposture is discovered and denounced by Mr. Moses, who compels the detected caretaker to take off his coat and vest and divest himself of his rings. All the company turn from him with the exception of the lady who was the heroine of the carriage accident, and is evidently prepared to accept him as her husband.

Mr. Fred Kitchen, with his keen sense of humour and natural ability as a comedian, is extremely well suited in the part of Perkins; indeed, he has never done anything better. His exceedingly funny performance ensures the success of the production. With the exception of Mr. Kitchen the cast consists entirely of Hebrew artists. Miss Leah Morris is a most attractive Rebecca, the lady who shows a partiality for Perkins; and other characters are excellently played by Miss Janet Reeve, Miss Maude Shelton, Mr. Herbert Landeck, and Mr. Anthony Gordon. The music, composed and arranged by Mr. Dudley Powell, is bright and appropriate, and the elaborate staging of the production deserves special mention.

Amongst the general company engaged here this week is Mr. Ben Albert, a capital comedian, who scores with a couple of ditties, one of them dealing with the subject of logic. Mr. Austen Rudd, in his favourite rôle of a policeman, sings "I had to blow my whistle" with comic effect, and he also makes a hit with a good parody on "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you." Mr. Cooke and Miss Rothert appear in what is aptly termed "a typical American mix-up," and their bustling and versatile performance is much applauded. Mr. George Ridgwell, the excellent baritone vocalist, has a most favourable reception; and the Hayden Sisters have a capital collection of songs, "In the shade of the old apple-tree" and "Coming back home again" proving most acceptable contributions to the programme, which also includes George Antill (comedian) and the American bioscope with pictures illustrative of the carnival at Nice. Mr. John Christie, acting-manager, Mr. Kennedy Johnson, assistant-manager, and Mr. Walter Johnson, musical director, continue to fulfil their respective duties with praiseworthy care and efficiency.

RICHMOND THEATRE.

Quite ably does Mr. Kay Draco look after the fortunes of the pretty theatre so dear to Thamesiders. The attendance is still remarkably good, and is evidence that the liberality of the management is appreciated and rewarded. This week there are many good things in the bill. *Place aux dames*. Premier honours go to Miss Nell Richardson, who returns to the scenes of her former triumphs, for as principal boy in the pantomime she won all hearts. On Monday she was accorded quite an ovation as she tripped on to the stage to tell her audience how "Some boys loved one girl." Her second contribution, "Snowflakes," was exquisite, and she "dressed" the part with excellent taste. The Wedburns, who are also on a return visit, are quite amusing in their drolleries, much of their patter being really funny. They are clever instrumentalists too, and their clarionet soli win thunders of applause. The Donnas Trio get through some wonderful trapeze tricks, their balancing ladder feats being really remarkable; nor should Mr. Joe Mack, a comedian of promise, be forgotten, for he is vastly amusing. Dinah Morris and her troupe of Southern Belles enact an extravaganza entitled *The Lost Coon*. The production is a pot-pourri of songs, dances, plantation humours, and other eccentricities. Monday's audience seemed to like it amazingly, and cheered the efforts of the artists to the echo. The Sisters Reno evidence their versatility in some graceful terpsichorean essays, appearing first in a clever *pas de deux*. They then bravely foot it in a characteristic Slav dance; and, going from grave to gay, become a couple of irresponsible coons, and finish up with a duet as Spanish maidens in a whirl of muslin, ribbons, and hilarity. In a word, the Sisters Reno are excellent. A good "doggie show" is always a safe turn, and Mr. C. Gordyn's wonderful bow-wows win favour quite deservedly. Indeed, take them all round, they are quite a lot of jolly dogs. A pantomime scene dealing with the peccadillos of a gallant son of Mars and a lynx-eyed custodian of the peace causes peals of merriment, and, not content with this, Mr. Goodwyn's dogs play football in a way that would suggest there should be cup ties for doggies. The La Fane Comedy Company extract all the fun possible from a sketch entitled *Keep it Dark*. The bioscope, always a feature here, is really wonderfully interesting, and again we owe a debt of recognition to Mr. Norfolk Megone's excellent orchestra for their fine selection from *Véronique*. Encouraged by the success of the last matinée, *The Little Michus* made their début at Richmond Theatre on Wednesday.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

Mr. Frank Travis, who is amusing South London audiences this week with his ventriloquial act, might not inaptly describe his turn as quick-changes of the voice. For "quick-changes" they are. One wonders, indeed, how it is possible to imitate the speech of a man, a boy, and a little girl in the space of time of less than half-a-minute. Even more remarkable is the rapidity with which he alters the make-ups of his dummies. Thus he transforms a golden-haired maiden of six or seven summers to a hoary old Chelsea pensioner in a few seconds. Mr. Travis's business is full of laughable and interesting surprises. The Sisters Wingrove distinguish themselves as duettists and dancers, their vocalism being most delightful, and their dancing exceedingly graceful. Mr. Will E. Haines symbolises a well-known fact when he produces a sovereign from his pocket and refers to it as the golden key that will open any door. His song in connection with this subject is quite a smart number of its kind, and is appropriately rendered. The Misses Fraser and Haley, who call themselves harmonising vocalists, have a couple of enchanting songs. The first concerns the flowers of the different seasons, and the messages these dainty denizens of nature's nursery furnish. Their following effort is "I was only teasing you to find out if you were true." Both the young ladies are to be congratulated on their style and delivery.

Mr. Ernest Montefiore and company appear in the musical and dramatic scena, *The Little Colonel*. It is a pretty, pathetic, and well-written little sketch, and the two principal parts—those of Captain Barton and his daughter Marjorie—are cleverly acted by Mr. Montefiore and the juvenile lady who assists him. The child shows great promise of a histrionic career, and is a pleasing vocalist withal. Her interpretation of "Hear the Pipers calling, Jennie Mine," is particularly commendable, and the audience does not fail to give evidence of its hearty appreciation, both of the small maiden's efforts and of the playlet itself. Strong women are once more to the fore in the persons of Miss Vulcana, and the Misses Gwennie and Maud Atlas. The weight-lifting feats of these women excite general admiration, especially as the said feats are accomplished with grace and ease. The ladies appear in conjunction with Mr. Atlas, whose remarkable physical endowments require no recommendation at this hour. He exercises with 200lb. bar-bells in much the same way that ordinary men are content to run their circulation up with instruments of one-tenth that weight.

Dwarfland, the musical pantomime presented by the Six Brothers Luck, creates any amount of merriment. The scenes in which the action of the pantomime are set are picturesque in the extreme, especially the Magic Well, which brings to our notice the ruins of an old monastery set in the midst of beautiful foliage. The King's Rose Garden in the last scene furnishes another pretty picture, especially when we witness the graceful movements of some thirty good-looking dancers. The Brothers Luck, who take the principal parts in the production, are intensely funny, what with their whimsical remarks and their lively antics. The songs and dances go with a fine swing, and the whole pantomime provides a distinct and most delightful feature of the programme. With Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope we are told the story of Oliver Twist, Fagin, Nancy, Bill Sikes, and the Artful Dodger. The different scenes have been arranged with great care, and with a view of complying with the best ideas as to the novel, and unquestionably they succeed in doing so. We were pleased to see Mr. Frank Weeks, the energetic manager, looking extremely well on the evening of our visit, and attending with his usual strenuousness and care to the interests of his patrons.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The sign of success has been well displayed this week at Mr. Walter Gibbons's elegant hall on Lavender-hill, where houses overflowing in every part have given proof of the immense attractive powers of the current bill. A sensation is presented midway in the programme in the shape of "The Globe of Life," a steel sphere 16ft. in diameter, within which two cyclists perform the most intrepid feats. The performers, who are known as Wizard Stone and Irene Stone, have both won championship honours, the lady claiming to be the fastest female rider in America, to which progressive country the artists belong. Mounted on bicycles, inside their metal cage the pair career round at break-neck speed, rising and falling on the sloping sides with bewildering rapidity. Afterwards, Wizard Stone gets astride a heavy motor bicycle, and riding at the rate of nearly fifty miles an hour, "loops" the globe five or six times in succession—a feat, it is stated, he is the only man in the world to perform. The turn is alluded to as a cycle thrill defying all laws of gravitation, and the description is a perfect one.

Thrills are also contained in the sketch *Satan*, which furnishes an important item of the entertainment. The sketch is remarkable for the life-like impersonation of a gorilla given by Mr. Edward Sillward, who wins well-deserved cheers for his performance. The harrowing situations of the little piece are worked up with unerring skill, and the pathos which comes at the end is genuine and intense. Mr. Sillward is supported by Mr. Creaton Gray as George Golding, by Miss Polly Raim as his wife Mai, and by Messrs. Raymond Thomas and John Wigley in other parts. Fun is the principal ingredient of the duologue *Saucy Maud*, presented by the Brontes. A slighter plot than that contained in the sketch, in which a maid-servant impersonates her mistress and thus secures an offer of marriage from a young army officer, could not be imagined, and it says much for the comedy talents of the couple that they are able to keep the audience in hearty laughter throughout its performance. Miss Bronte's rendering of the resourceful slavey is especially to be praised, the frequent assertiveness of "Saucy Maud" from beneath the lady's disguise causing the utmost laughter.

The heartiest welcome is extended to Miss Nellie Wallace, whose caprices of dress and style seem to reach the height of eccentricity. Her singing of "Three times a day" thoroughly taxes the laughing powers of the audience, which are put to further proof in her song "My pretty maid." The "pretty maid" carries her arm in a sling, and her melancholy mood ill accords with the quaint antics with which she entertains the onlookers, who are convulsed with laughter, and make a resolute endeavour to recall the popular artist. The Two Bees present a pretty episode in *Hiawatha Wed*, which serves as a sequel to their former playlet on Longfellow's dusky hero. Mr. Harry Blake, as Hiawatha, declaims his lines vigorously, and it is a rare tribute to the versatility of the popular couple that an audience who have so often been moved to mirth should be affected to sympathetic silence by the simple pathos of the story of the American Indian and his squaw. Miss Flora Blake sings in her customary tuneful style, and the melodious nature of the duets are thoroughly preserved.

The Imperial Bioscope has a prominent place in the scheme of amusement, the pictures of elephants at work in Burmese forests being highly interesting. The mighty quadrupeds are depicted moving about amid the forest, felling huge trees and carrying them along with their trunks, and the picture forms an instructive lesson in brute force and sagacity. The memorable struggle between Hackenschmidt and Madrali, at Olympia on Saturday, is also shown, the view obtained of the last bout being exceedingly clear and striking. Drawee Frisco and Hambro combine in a juggling entertainment, in which comedy has a prominent place. The various tricks are neatly performed, and a fine collie dog contributes in no small measure to the fun which is made by a "nigger" assistant. Mr. Fred Neiman and his ventriloquial minstrels provide a well-appreciated item of the bill, the figures being cleverly voiced and worked. Miss Edith Courtney secures an irresistible encore with "Come back to Erin," which she sings in cultured style; George Young, the blind collier boy, also wins loud applause by his playing on a Japanese fiddle and for the energy which he imparts to a march on the concertina; and the long and well-selected programme is also contributed to by Mr. Fred Spencer, "expressionist." Mr. H. Ketteman rules with an experienced hand at the Grand Palace, and Mr. A. W. Deer capably performs the duties of acting-manager.

MR. FREDERIC BAUGH'S BENEFIT.

The old Britannia presented quite a unique spectacle on Friday evening, April 27, the occasion of the benefit of Mr. Frederic Baugh, the London district manager of the Macnaghten vaudeville circuit. No manager could wish for a better acknowledgment of his popularity, artists and audience co-operating to make the event an unqualified success. The vast auditorium was packed by means of the early doors, and an excellent programme was gone through. During the evening several gentlemen well known in variety circles, who had formed themselves into a committee, appeared on the stage, and Mr. Harrison, of the Palace, Halifax, on their behalf expressed the committee's desire to congratulate their host. He also apologised for the non-attendance of Mr. Frank Macnaghten, who is at present holiday-making in Japan. Mr. Harrison then made the presentations, which consisted of a cheque value £125, subscribed by a few friends, a handsome cigar case, the gift of Mr. Carl Hamlin, the musical director of the Britannia, and also a novel ornament in the shape of a model of the obelisk which stood at St. George's Circus outside the Surrey Theatre, one of the effects of the late Geo. Conquest, this being the present of Mr. Ernest Cadle, of Cadle's agency. Mr. Baugh bid for this identical article at the "Conquest" sale, but was outbid by the present donor. That famous personage, Ally Sloper, of *Sloper's Half-Holiday*, next presented silver watches each to Mr. Baugh and Mr. James McCarthy (the popular manager of the "Brit"). Mr. Baugh, in acknowledging the presents, said: "It gives me great pleasure to be able to be amongst you. I must thank all who have so generously done so much to show their appreciation of my endeavours. Since Mr. Barrasford has taken over the Britannia we have always tried to follow in the steps of the late Mrs. Sara Lane, whose popularity need not be told. Last winter, with the generosity of Mr. Leonard Mortimer, we were able to provide 7500 dinners for the poor children of Hoxton. The coming winter we shall endeavour to double that number. In conclusion, I must thank the patrons of the Britannia, who have already shown their appreciation. The management, in their turn, will at all times endeavour to give them value for their money." About forty "turns," in addition to the already excellent programme, appeared. Mr. Chas. Bignell, comedian, scored with his "Toodle-oodle-ay"; the Four Cecilias proved themselves a quartette of clever instrumentalists; the audience were loth to part with their old favourite, Mr. Harry Champion, who gave "The old brown hat"; the Four Virginians were recalled again and again with their smart singing and dancing act, *Coon Town Society*; Miss Rose Hamilton, comedienne, was enthusiastically received; Mr. Mansel Fane, actor-vocalist, rendered "Starlight" in excellent style; a favourite comedian appeared in the person of Mr. Will Lytton, who, with his originality and quaintness, is making rapid strides in his profession; the Sisters Albert are a smart pair of duettists and dancers; a flattering reception was accorded Walker and May, the coloured comedy duo; Mr. Joe Mac proved himself a comedian and eccentric dancer of more than ordinary merit; Mr. Chas. Austin, with his "Nursery Rhymes," was a host in himself; Miss Susie Marney won honours for her impressive rendering of "Don't turn the organ man away"; Miss Bessie Spear was well received with "I shan't sing a coon song," and also excelled as a dancer. Among the other artists who appeared were Mr. Fredk. Conquest and company in a dramatic episode, *The Freak's Revenge*; Miss Flo Roult, comedienne; the Chandos, musical speciality artists; the Ringling Trio, comedy sketch artists; Whisper, comedy juggler; Mr. Fred S. Peake and company, in their successful sketch *The Hypocrite*; Miss Lily Le Breton, trapeze artist; the Five Broadway Girls, vocalists, in their speciality, "The Gibson Girl"; Miss Ethel Dunford, character-vocalist; Miss Beattie Bloom, comedienne; Miss May Pritchard, comedienne; Miss Dorothy Clark, vocalist; and Miss Lottie Bell, comedienne and dancer. The entire stage-direction was in the capable hands of Mr. W. Waller, the Britannia's painstaking stage-manager; and Mr. James McCarthy worked hard in securing the comfort of his patrons in "front."

HARRY REYNOLDS' MINSTRELS

IN BRIGHTON.

Some nigger shows may be old-fashioned and dead slow, but there are no flies on this one of Harry Reynolds. It is a show that ought not to be missed. Speaking personally, we ourselves attended the performance expecting a boresome two hours. Instead of this, however, we were regaled with some two and a half hours' really high-class entertainment, and were genuinely sorry when the curtain fell.—*Brighton Standard*, April 26, 1906.

A CLEVER sketch, written by Mr. T. F. Doyle, of the Theatre Royal, Bradford, with music by Mr. Harry Rushworth, was presented for the first time at the Empire Theatre, Bradford, on Friday evening, the 27th ult. The idea of the trifle is effective. A woman with all the instincts of affection and heartfelt joy hails with song the long-deferred return of her husband from distant shores, but her rapture is brief, for news reaches her of the death of the loved one in a railway accident. She swoons, and in a vision sees herself reduced to beggary. When the awakening comes, however, the absent one is safe, and happiness is restored.

MRS. CHARLES LAW ATKINSON, who, as Miss Annie Schuberth, won fame in opera, achieved a signal success in her impersonation of the wife, and the applause which greeted her was enthusiastic. Mrs. Atkinson, who adopts the nom-de-guerre of Miss Veda Royd, was ably supported by Mr. Cannan Dalby and Miss Clara Hall, of Bradford.

MUSIC HALL BENEVOLENT FUND.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The sixteenth annual dinner of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund was held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Sunday evening. The chair was taken by Mr. J. L. Graydon, the President of the Fund, who was supported by Mr. Henri Gros, Mr. Richard Warner, Count Max Hollander, Mr. T. Ernest Polden, Mr. Donald Munro, Mr. Ward, Mr. F. W. Sibley, Mr. J. Coveney, Mr. Joe Davis, Mr. J. Pritchard, and Mr. P. Phillips. The dinner list also included the following gentlemen: Messrs. Frank Weeks (Chairman of the Fund), Tom Pacey, Horace Marriott (Secretary), Chas. Coborn, Lauri Cohen, E. Cadle, J. Sharp, G. W. Brown, F. R. Griffiths, Emlyn Jones, M. Malini, Alf Hurley, Lauri Graydon, Willie Clarkson, G. S. Cohen, A. C. Treadaway, Sam Bury, F. Hubbard, C. Norton, G. E. Aplin, F. Boisset, Jack Harrison, Walter Beard, W. Johnson, C. O'Connor, James Fortune, E. St. John Brenon, C. Douglas Stuart, H. Lazarus, F. H. Pedgrift, J. Harris, H. Cazman, Alderman Bowers, A. Gros, C. Henderson, W. Stevens, John Leopold, Leon Zeitlin, H. Le Forestier, Frank Desprez, Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright, Tom Shaw, George Ellis, Frank Gerald, I. Coltson, George Spencer Edwards, Otto Schuler, R. Haxell, J. W. Craigen, F. W. Oldfield, J. Somers, Frank Boyce, H. S. Hart, M. Gallett, Tom Barrasford, John Hyman, E. De Vere, D. Hart, R. W. Bentley, J. Nathan, H. W. Wieland, E. Cranston, Mark Melford, Angelo Asher, and Tom Barrasford, jun.

After the toasts of the King and Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Royal Family had been duly honoured,

The Chairman, rising to propose the toast of "The Music Hall Benevolent Fund," said:

Gentlemen, the next toast, "The Music Hall Benevolent Fund," is one that I scarcely feel able to do justice to after the many excellent chairmen you have had from time to time, and the masterly way in which they have treated the subject. However, I will do my best. I am sorry to say that for some time past there has been a strong feeling of dissatisfaction expressed by the profession with regard to the administration of the Fund. Whether this expression of dissatisfaction is founded upon fact or fiction I cannot say; but the fact remains that it has done almost irreparable harm to our excellent charity and institution, which has for years done so much good amongst the poor and needy of our vast profession. When I, for the second time, consented to become its president, I little knew how strong the feeling was against us, and the difficulties I had to contend with. However, with a strong determination, and with the loyal assistance of a few staunch friends, I have been able to save the situation for the present, in order that I may be able to challenge those who are wishing to crush the Fund to come forward and openly state their grievances, so that we may know, or, at least, endeavour to find out, any defects that may exist. It is my earnest desire that this should be done with a view to upholding, maintaining, and putting on a sound and proper basis a Fund which hundreds have benefited by in the past, and many hundreds more may benefit by in the future. An institution which has been going on for years may need some reform; but, because this may be so, why try and wipe out its existence? I am not applying this remark to those gentlemen present here to-night, for the very fact of you giving me your support is sufficient proof that you are desirous of my success during my year of office as president. It is easy to find fault, easy to criticise, and very tempting to find fault when by so doing one may find a reason for not subscribing. This, I think, may be applied to many who would rather see the Fund extinguished than lend a helping hand. We are entirely in the dark, as I have before suggested, as to what objections are taken to the committee's work. I only know that they work hard and earnestly. I may tell you, gentlemen, that the pensioners on this Fund have increased from six to thirty during the last few years, and we have buried 110 poor professionals in a like period—in many cases stepped in and saved them from a pauper's grave. One serious matter that I must refer to is that we have lent the sum of £2,146 in various amounts to artists who expressed themselves unwilling to accept charity, but borrowed the money for the purpose, in some cases, to travel to an engagement, or to furnish themselves with costumes and properties for the purpose of carrying out an immediate engagement, and of this large sum (£2,146) only £541 has been repaid, leaving an amount of £1,605 still owing to the Fund. Therefore, the poorer members of the profession have been deprived of this amount by their brother and sister artists who are not honourable enough to repay the loans. Gentlemen, to-night I want you all to put your names down for something, and I must ask you to think of the many who depend upon what we do here to-night; and what we may do here to-night, others may do afterwards, and by that means we may save our Fund from going to the wall. I feel, gentlemen, that you do not desire me to picture to you some of the sad cases we have to relieve. You all know that as some go up others come down, and to those who unfortunately come down we must give our attention. Once more, gentlemen, I ask you to assist us as far as you can, and I now have the pleasure of giving you the toast, "The Music Hall Benevolent Fund."

Mr. St. John Brenon, proposing, in the absence of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, the toast of "The Music Hall Proprietors," said: It was only when I came into the room that I was informed by your secretary that in the absence of Mr. T. P. O'Connor I would be asked to do my best to draw your attention to the merits of the proprietors of music halls. I am afraid that my efforts will be considered rather meagre in your estimation considering that you anticipated the pleasure of hearing so distinguished an orator as my friend Mr. T. P. O'Connor. Nevertheless, I will try my best to tell you what I think, and what I think you ought to think, and what the public thinks of the merits of music hall proprietors. These gentlemen, many of whom you see here this evening, have invested large sums of money in this pleasant and probably lucrative enterprise. It has brought to the banking accounts of numerous speculators large dividends due wholly to the energy and working capacity of the men who run the music halls and the men on the directorate of the various companies. Mr. Graydon, Mr. Gros, Mr. Joe Davis, and others have pioneered the music halls to the exalted position in the estimation of public opinion which they hold to-day. They have striven to purify the variety theatre, and have done their best to make it an entertainment to which your womenfolk and your children can be taken without fear of tainting their understandings. In asking you to honour this toast, I couple with it the name of Mr. Henri Gros.

Mr. Henri Gros, in responding, said: The very fact that the proprietor of a music hall is in the chair of this benevolent fund is sufficient *raison d'être* for the proprietors figuring on your toast list. I do think that Mr. Graydon is right to have expected a little more support from some of our colleagues. He is the honorary secretary to the London Entertainments Association, which numbers thirty-five music halls, and I do hope, if the proprietors and managers of those concerns are not here to-night, that we shall yet find their names on the subscription list. At any rate, proprietors of music halls have in the past done what they could for this fund, and now I am given to understand that this is rather a bar against the future of this fund with the artists. If there be any artists here to-night, let them remember that the proprietors of music halls will continue to subscribe to and attend their annual dinner, and to give as far as their means will enable them. This is essentially an artists' fund. When I, two years ago, sat in the chair that my friend now occupies, Mr. O'Gorman, in his capacity as King Rat, attended, with a large number of artists, and handed me the magnificent sum of £100. I hope they have a similar surprise in store for Mr. Graydon. Mr. St. John Brenon has told you what fortunes are made by proprietors of music halls and the enjoyment in life that they get from them. It is very plain that Mr. St. John Brenon is not a large shareholder in some of our latest ventures. It is also very plain that Mr. St. John Brenon, with his large literary knowledge, has forgotten that there is such an authority as the London County Council, and I would speak of that because it touches the future of the artists. The London County Council have of late thought, and they have given it forth in the Press and elsewhere, that they are the only people who look after the safety of the public, and they have now decided that standing-room is no longer to be allowed. What will that mean to us? It will mean the curtailment of our audiences. It will mean to the public increased prices of admission in all popular parts of the house, or it will mean to the artist possibly a reduction of salary. I know they won't smile at that. But the situation is serious. The evidence of their own chairman (Sir George Fardell) before the Royal Commission of 1892 was to the effect that standing-room afforded a safety valve to the public in getting out as showing the way of egress. The theatres now are better built than ever they were. The Council puts us in a corner and says to us, "This you shall do." We ask them, "What is the law?" They say, "We are above the law. We do not recognise the law. You either take your licence or leave it alone." I can only hope for more wisdom from those who are the licensing authorities.

Mr. Albert Flint, in proposing "The Trustees, Treasurer, and other Officers of the Fund," said: This toast has been placed in my hands at very short notice. It is the toast of the trustees and the other officers of the Fund. Now, as you are aware, the duties of the trustees and other officers are of quite an honorary character. There is no gain in any way bar that gain which they get in knowing that they are doing something for their fellow creatures. I couple with this toast the names of Mr. Walter Beard and Mr. Frank Weeks.

Mr. Walter Beard said: I think Dick Warner ought to have responded to this toast. However, speaking for myself and for those gentlemen who attend to the financial work of the Fund, I thank you. It is to my friend Mr. Weeks and those engaged with him that this toast must now be left.

Mr. Warner said he was extremely obliged to his friend Mr. Beard for having drawn attention to the matter of his name. He had previously informed the Chairman that he did not think he would be present, and for that reason he was not put down as a responder. He pointed out the necessities of the Fund, and earnestly begged for support. As far as he and his fellow trustees and officers were concerned, the Fund was being and would be administered most conscientiously.

At this juncture a telegram from Mr. Sydney Hyman wishing success to the Fund and a letter from Mr. Joe Lyons intimating that he was kept at home by doctor's orders were read.

Mr. Frank Weeks, replying to the same toast, said: As chairman of the committee I beg to thank you on their behalf for the honour you have done them. I think the whole of the profession owe a debt of gratitude to the members of the committee of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. From my position as present chairman of the committee, and vice-chairman last year, when I attended forty-six meetings out of a possible fifty-two, it will show that the work I have done in the past, and am doing in the present, is solid and substantial, like other members of the committee, who are entitled at the least to the full recognition of that devotion to the cause which we all have at heart, viz., that of charity, and a desire to help those who have been overtaken by misfortune. We ask no praise for what we are doing—as an old soldier I am above that. "Duty" has been my password all my life, and will be to the end; but recognition for work done is only right and fair. Most of the gentlemen present know how we administer the funds that are entrusted to our care, and it is deeply to be regretted that statements are circulated by persons who are not in sympathy with us—to me it is inconceivable that such persons should exist; but they do, and have, moreover, done us a great deal of harm—that the cost of the distribution is 13s. or 14s. in the pound, whereas it is only about 3s. or 4s. These statements are repeated broadcast, and so made an excuse for not subscribing. The Fund has also been objected to, because it is said that the committee consists of proprietors and agents, who use their knowledge to depreciate the value of services of those artists who have unfortunately to apply for assistance. Such insulting remarks about the good men and true who have given their time and money need no comment, only this—if these tactics continue, and support is withheld, it will not be long before you have no Fund to help your poor. However, we are thankful that we have been enabled during last year, in addition to our weekly grants, to provide for our pensioners, who have increased from six to thirty in seven years. We also buried during last year ten poor professionals, bringing the number up to 110. In the like period we investigated during the year 1,548 cases. Notwithstanding all this, and that we closely watch the necessary expenditure, we are told we are extravagrant in our administration. Well, gentlemen, let me tell you this, that had we allowed ourselves to have been influenced by these selfish croakers, who possibly disparage our efforts, the good we have already done would never have been accomplished. I may mention that I have asked every manager throughout the Kingdom to get a penny from every one asking for a free pass, and we await the result. In conclusion, I assure the profession and the supporters of the Fund, that the committee, at considerable personal sacrifice, have striven to do their duty, and they trust they have met with the approval of those who know the difficulties of the work they have in hand.

Mr. T. Ernest Polden, in submitting the toast of "The Music Hall Profession," remarked that it was a pleasure for him to be present that evening to propose the toast of the music hall profession. He hoped there would be a hearty response to the request for donations. Let them remember the names associated as president with this Fund. On the illuminated banner at the back of the chairman, the topmost name was that of Sir Augustus Harris, while at the bottom was that of Mr. Graydon.

Mr. Frank Gerald, responding, said: I will endeavour to clear the air, and state what is the artists' view as regards the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. The Fund is not the popular institution it used to be. It has been frequently said that the poorer artist does not care to come before the committee of managers for help for fear that the circumstances surrounding his case should be brought up against him at some future date, when he might be seeking an engagement. But it is not the real reason for the artists' lack and trust and good-fellowship, that existed in of confidence. It is this: The friendly feeling, days gone by between the proprietor and the artist have disappeared. The relations between the two are now so strained that it is impossible for them to work together harmoniously. The artist suffers from various restrictions and bars at the present time. He is harassed in his employment and belittled in his work. A certain proprietor said recently that the advance in the music hall world was due entirely to the proprietors' business acumen and lavish outlay, and that the artist had done nothing to improve the profession. That, I take it, is belittling the artist. If the proprietor would meet the artist in a fair manner, then we should be able to work together.

Mr. Charles Coborn, speaking for Mr. Jack Harrison, gracefully referred to the Press, and

Mr. Frank Desprez and Mr. G. Spencer Edwards suitably acknowledged the compliments on behalf of the Fourth Estate.

The Secretary (Mr. Horace Marriott) announced that the president had collected over £400 during his year of office, and in face of the depression in every walk of life, the difficulties he had had in collecting that amount had been great. Where a man formerly gave ten guineas, he now only gave three, and where a person gave one guinea, he now gave nothing at all.

Mr. Warner gave the toast of "The Visitors," and

Mr. John Pritchard briefly responded.

Mr. Gros proposed the health of the Chairman, stating that that gentleman deserved the sympathy of the whole profession for the painstaking and conscientious manner in which he had worked for the Benevolent Fund. Referring to what Mr. Gerald had said, the speaker pointed out that when the late Mr. Dan Leno sat in the chair at a Music Hall Benevolent Fund dinner, he had the worst support from the artists that any president ever had. He (the speaker) would ask everyone to drink a bumper to Mr. Graydon.

The Chairman expressed his gratitude for the kindly remarks that had been made concerning him.

A capital variety programme, under the direction of Mr. Laurie Graydon and Mr. C. Chapman, was provided. Miss Ethel Walker gave a most pleasing pianoforte entertainment, others who helped to amuse the company being Mr. Gilbert Girard, Miss Hanid Alexander, Mr. Ernest Rees, Malini, Miss Fatmah Diard, the Emlyn-Jones Quintette, Miss Florence Yayman, Mr. Alfred Hurley, Miss Laura Johnson, Mr. Charles Norton, Princess Pauline, Miss Gomez, Mr. Frank Esmond, Mr. Frank Bolger, Mr. Bagnall, and Mr. Jack Lorimer, to all of whom Mr. Graydon asks us to tender his thanks. A delightful selection of music was played during the dinner by Mr. Angelo Asher's Bijou Orchestra.

All the arrangements in connection with the dinner, which proved most enjoyable and successful, were carried out by the energetic and courteous secretary, who had the able assistance of Mr. Laurie Graydon.

AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The readers and the profession generally will be sorry to hear that the illness of Mr. Fred Locke, the well-known pantomime librettist, is of so serious a nature that no hope can be held out of a recovery. He has had two strokes of paralysis since January last, and is now completely prostrated. Though he may linger on for a considerable time, it is quite certain that his literary labours are at an end; and so the income of his wife and family is practically reduced to nothing. The family consists of nine, of whom the three eldest are in situations at small salaries; but the other six, ranging in age from fourteen years down to six months, are at home, and entirely dependent on the exertions of their mother. In these circumstances, an old friend of the family, Mr. J. S. Crichton, of The Hampden, 9, Bridge-street, S.S., Glasgow, has put himself in communication with a number of the profession whose early successes were made in one or other of Mr. Locke's "pantos," and has been successful in relieving the more immediate necessities of the case. An appeal has been made in the Masonic column of a Glasgow newspaper, Mr. Locke being an initiate of the Mother Lodge, Kilwinning, No. O, and an affiliate of the Neptune, Kilwinning, No. 442, and the brethren are bestirring themselves to see what aid can be rendered to the family.

The following sums have already been subscribed, and at once forwarded to Mrs. Locke:—

Richard Waldon	£5	0	0
Robert Courtneidge	2	2	0
J. S. Crichton	2	2	0
S. Y. Paterson	1	1	0
Hector Paterson	0	10	6
C. H.	0	3	6
A. S.	0	2	6
C. F.	0	2	0

—Yours truly, HECTOR PATERSON.

[The Editor of *The Era* will be pleased to acknowledge any further sums sent to Mr. J. S Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, S.S., Glasgow.]

Griff's new act, produced for the first time in London on Monday at the Oxford, is arranged on rather original lines. As the curtain goes up, the famous comedy juggler is seen holding a baby, which he is endeavouring to calm. The scene is a drawing-room at the artist's lodgings, and the period a few minutes before Griff has to start off for his appearance at a music hall. He is anxious to rehearse a few of his tricks, but the baby apparently doesn't want him to do anything of the kind, for it goes into convulsions and screams when he picks up anything. Finally, he succeeds in quieting the infant and puts it in its cradle. Then he turns to the visitors' book in order to see what well-known variety folk have stayed at the same diggings. He reads the name of the "Memory Man," who has put his signature to the statement that he had lodged in the house once before, but had forgotten the date. When Griff turns to his audience and asks, "Is that right, sir?" in the most approved Datas style there is an outburst of laughter. In like fashion he makes amusing references to other artists. Then Griff turns up a paper to discover at what time he is to appear on the Oxford stage. 7.45 is the time. "It is rather an early turn," he says whimsically, "but I'd sooner see the people coming in than going out."

Once more he takes to his juggling, but the baby's howls upset his calculations, with the result that some of the landlady's crockery is smashed. He next proceeds to balance a lighted lamp so that it shall move along a billiard cue held in a horizontal position, and one marvels at his skill and cleverness until the lamp slips from the stick and we discover that it is suspended from a piece of string. Catching oranges on steel points which he grips in his teeth is his concluding feat, but after one member of the audience has caught Griff a nasty "one" in the eye with an orange, the said Griff decides that it is time to retire, which he accordingly does, not before, however, the house has demonstrated its delight at his performance. A novel feature of the act is the baby, which is a most ingeniously contrived mechanical doll. The manner in which it is made to wink, open and shut its mouth, and kick its legs is most laughable. The infant's howls are furnished by Griff's ventriloquial powers. Miss Ethel Milton, who takes the part of the juggler's wife, has a charming personality, and carries herself with grace, and Mr. Harry Castle is capital as a cockney coachman.

Miss Bessie Arthur, the female Harry Lauder, successfully deputised for Miss Marie Loftus last week at the Pavilion, Greenock.

MUSIC HALL BENEVOLENT FUND, AND THE WORK IT DOES.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

One of the pleasantest functions of a newspaper is to watch and chronicle the doings and call attention to the excellent work performed by charitable associations. We, as a theatrical newspaper, are always delighted to give prominence to the noble services rendered by the benevolent funds connected with the profession. It is scarcely necessary for us at this time to say that the Music Hall Benevolent Fund is doing the same work amongst variety artists that the Actors' Benevolent Fund is doing amongst actors.

What has the Music Hall Benevolent Fund done, and what does it do? Here is an instance of one week's work. On Thursday, December 14 last, the committee investigated thirty-six cases of distress, and gave relief to thirty-three of the applicants. That happens fifty-two times in the year, and is only what is known as "weekly relief." Then, during the past year, the Fund buried ten poor professionals; and, then, there are the pensioners, who are receiving, and will receive, a weekly grant until their death. What is there to criticise in a committee which does such splendid work to which the following reports on cases will bear testimony?

(1) "One of the committee visited a case on Sunday; very sad; old professional ill in bed; bitterly cold day; no fire; hardly any bedclothes, and no food. Furniture: one table, two chairs, bare boards."

(2) "Two members of the committee visited a very deserving case of destitution and starvation last Friday—father, mother, and three children. They relieved the case, and reported fully on the following Thursday."

(3) "Sad case of sudden death of an artist. No funds to bury him. Instructions at once given by secretary to the undertaker."

(4) Letter from artist:—"It is with great reluctance that I apply to you, but abject poverty compels me to do so. I have had bad luck for the most part of last year. I walked from —— to London, where I tried to get an engagement, but old age stands in my way. I leave myself in your hands."

We will leave our readers to imagine what must have been the plight, what must have been the sufferings, of the people above referred to. Their cases are typical of many others that the committee is called upon to deal with every week And here let it be said that every applicant is treated with the utmost consideration; his or her confidences are respected in the strictest and most honourable manner. Mr. Horace Marriott, the secretary, take a sympathetic interest in the applications that are brought before him, and with admirable promptitude brings their necessities to the notice of the committee. And when we add that such gentlemen as Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. George Adney Payne, Mr. Henri Gros, Mr. Joseph Lyons, and Mr. J. L. Graydon have all expressed their entire satisfaction with the administration of the Fund, surely there is little room left for criticism.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Douglas White—Sunday, May 6.
Amy Tempest—Monday, May 7.
Charles Carte—Monday, May 7.
Harry Blake—Monday, May 7.
Lilian Beszant—Monday, May 7.
J. Norton Wilson—Monday, May 7.
Eugene Stratton—Tuesday, May 8.
Sophie Harriss—Tuesday, May 8.
Madge O'Neill—Tuesday, May 8.
Mary Jocelyn—Tuesday, May 8.
Arthur Hales—Tuesday, May 8.
J. M. Barrie—Wednesday, May 9.
Dorothea Mapleson—Wednesday, May 9.
Mabel Garden—Wednesday, May 9.
Tom Tinsley—Wednesday, May 9.
May Warden—Wednesday, May 9.
G. D. Fox—Thursday, May 10.
Tom G. Warren—Thursday, May 10.
Sid Cotterell—Thursday, May 10.
Robert Raffin—Friday, May 11.
Fred Durham—Friday, May 11.

MISS KATHLEEN CHIPMAN AND MR. GEORGE GOODES' VOCAL AND DRAMATIC RECITAL.

A large and fashionable audience assembled at the Æolian Hall on Thursday evening, May 3, when Miss Chipman and Mr. George Goodes gave their vocal and dramatic recital, assisted by Mr. Ernest Groom and Mr. Frank Griggs. The programme commenced with a recitation by Mr. George Goodes of Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice*, Act i. sc. 3, in which the characters of Shylock, Bassanio, and Antonio were well defined by Mr. Goodes, who has a fine speaking voice and remarkably clear enunciation. Miss Kathleen Chipman, who was well received, sang "Pietà Signore," by Stradella, and Donizetti's "Convien Partir." Miss Chipman, who has a voice of good compass and rich quality, was heard to great advantage in these airs. She also sang Schubert's "Who is Sylvia?" with much charm, and gained great applause for Clay's "She wander'd down the mountain side," which Miss Chipman rendered in a particularly fine manner. Miss Chipman was also set down for Beethoven's "Ah! Perfido," "O Divine Redeemer" (with organ accompaniment), and Kjerulf's "My Heart and Lute." Other able recitations that were given by Mr. George Goodes included "Tittle-Tattle," by Mark Ambient, "The Parable of Nature," and R. Buchanan's "Ballad of Judas Iscariot"; and later on in the programme "Fra Giacomo" and Shakespeare's *Henry IV.*, Part II. Act iii. sc. 2, in which the characters of Sir John Falstaff, Shallow, Silence, and Recruits appear. Mr. Ernest Groom displayed a fine and well-trained voice in Martin's "Plaisir d'Amour," and "Chanson de Route," by Puget. Two piano solos were given in admirable style by Mr. Frank Griggs, who chose Mendelssohn's Prelude in E Minor and Schumann's Canon in B Minor.

At Bow-street Police Court on Wednesday the Commissioner of Police was summoned to show cause why he should not deliver up to Messrs. Chappell and Co., and other music publishers, 9,300 copies of pirated music and ninety-three blocks from which such music was printed. The blocks and music formed part of the subject matter of the recent prosecution against Willetts (the "king of the pirates") and others for conspiracy to print and publish pirated music. Formal proof of the copyright having been given, Mr. Marsham made an order for the delivery of the blocks and music to the solicitors representing the respective claimants.

Tomps and Wells, in a new musical act, will shortly open in town. The former is a well-known comedian and instrumentalist, and the latter a brother to George Mozart.

Mr. T. Reed Pinaud has just returned to England after a most successful tour of eight months in Germany, Austria, Sweden, and Denmark. During his next extended tour Mr. Pinaud intends covering fresh ground, taking with him a larger répertoire.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

CROYDON EMPIRE PALACE.

A pleasant evening was spent on Friday last week at the Croydon Empire Palace of Varieties, when a number of local people and variety managers turned up to view the new establishment. Mr. Eustace H. Jay, the general-manager, received many of the visitors, and amongst others present were Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. Thos. G. Hales (the proprietor and freeholder), Mr. A. Lazarus, Mr. Charles Relf, Mr. Nelson Francis, and Mr. George Grimsdall.

The new Empire Palace has been erected on the site of the old National Hall and Palace of Varieties, North-end, Croydon. The building, a substantial affair of brick, stone, steel, and concrete, has been about six months in course of erection. The architect is Mr. W. G. Sprague, and, at a total expense approaching £30,000, the elaborate plans have been carried out by Mr. Walter Wallis, of Balham, general contractor, assisted by specialists in lighting, decoration, and upholstery. At the grand entrance in North-end has been erected at a height of 75ft. an ornamental tower of classic design, to be illuminated with powerful electric lights, and on which are allegorical and appropriate figures of "Music" and "Drama," with the dome surmounted with a figure of Mercury. The sculpture hereon was executed by Mr. Arrowsmith, of Clapham. From the doorway there are the tastefully-embellished corridor or passage and easy flights of stairs leading to the grand circle, boxes, and saloons.

The auditorium, which has a domed roof with sliding mechanism, is artistically decorated generally in the classic floral style of groups and festoons of blooms and foliage, in white, gold, and cream, the whole being remarkably effective. This splendid work has been carried out by Mr. De Jong, of Camden Town, who also produced the chaste allegorical group and the Croydon armorial bearings, in gold and colour, over the proscenium. Recurring to the interior, the ground is divided into rows of fauteuils, stalls, and pit stalls, all being upholstered in velvet and satin, in the best style, by Messrs. Waring, of Oxford-street, London, who, as well, have supplied the valuable carpets and tableau curtain. The gallery, designed to hold 800 people, is nicely and comfortably furnished; while the seats are so cleverly arranged that a full view of the stage and performers can easily be obtained from any part. The safety of the public has been well considered in regard to exits, and, although the building is absolutely fireproof, the floors being laid on concrete, extra precautions in the form of a fireproof curtain, iron doors, and numerous hydrants, have been taken. In addition to the foregoing, supplied by Messrs. Strode and Co., there are, by the same firm, the handsome electric light fittings and perfect heating and ventilating apparatus. The electric lighting machinery has been supplied and erected by that well-known firm of electrical engineers, Messrs. W. P. Theermann and Co., of Manchester. The seating for about 2,500 people was entrusted to Messrs. Lazarus and Co., of Great Eastern-street, London.

The stage, by Messrs. Lyons and Co., of St. Mary-axe, is completely fitted with, to the uninitiated, a complicated arrangement of gridiron, flies, floats, sprinklers, flats, traps, rollers, pulleys, and other incidental machinery for quickly changing and working what are technically known as the pictures. Mr. Francis H. Bull, of 4, Lower Bland-street, Great Dover-street, the well-known scenic artist, is the contractor for the scenery. In regard to the glazing, including the roof light of stained glass, that has been done in lead and ordinary glazing with pleasing effect by Messrs. Wootton and Co., of Croydon. The iron and steel work, the massive girders and stanchions, are by the celebrated firm of Messrs. Smith, Walker, and Co., constructional engineers, of Westminster. The construction of the whole has been carefully and vigilantly supervised by Mr. J. Moss, the clerk of the works.

For the future, given the first-class companies and aggregation of talent, as promised, and the genial Eustace H. Jay managing the whole, it may be safely predicted that the enterprise of the spirited proprietor will meet with full and ample reward. The comfort and convenience of the artists have been fully considered in regard to dressing-rooms, &c. The whole has been arranged by Mr. Thomas Gardiner Hales, the freeholder, in conjunction with Mr. Walter Gibbons, who, having so many variety theatres, is in an exceptional position to provide programmes of intrinsic merit.

A good send-off was given on the opening night (Tuesday), when the visitors testified in no stinted manner their appreciation of the comforts of the house. Mr. Jay had a cordial reception, and was complimented upon the generous entertainment provided. After "God Save the King" had been played by the capital orchestra, under the direction of Mr. A. Hully, the ball was opened by Miss Minnie Mace, whose artistic coon ditties and dances were much relished. Mr. Gilbert Girard won applause for his marvellous animal and instrumental imitations; Baker and Balfe's operatic xylophone turn received a well-deserved encore; Miss Mildred de Grey was charming in her clever and novel exhibition of bare-foot dancing; Mr. Billy Hobbs was first rate in coon song "Nobody" and nimble dance; Stanley and Greenop gave an interesting exhibition on banjos; the Aindow Sisters submitted a brilliant musical turn; Collins and Hawley, expert dancers, were unflagging; and a big hit was made by Ferguson and Mack in their grotesque acrobatic act *The Dimple Sisters*. The sketch *Drummed Out* was admirably staged and played by Mr. A. C. Lilly and company.

BOGUS MUSIC HALL AGENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

Sir,—May I trespass upon your valuable space in connection with a matter which is undoubtedly of great importance to many of your readers? I refer to the so-called theatrical, music hall, or concert agent, who, under the pretence of obtaining engagements for aspirants to the stage, induced them, under promises of engagements, to part with money in advance, and without, in many cases, having the slightest chance of obtaining engagements for them.

My object in asking your powerful interest is to let it be known that an association called the Theatre, Variety, and Concert Agents' Association has been formed with the object of protecting the public against the practices referred to above. The Association is composed of all the well-known and established agents, and we are working in close co-operation with the London County Council for the purpose, not only of assisting them in discovering the bogus agent, but for the purpose of protecting artists against their practices. If, therefore, aspirants to the stage would make it their business before dealing with an agent to assure themselves that such agent is a member of this Association, they can, with most perfect safety, rely upon being dealt with in a proper and business-like manner. A list of the members of the Association can always be obtained from the Secretary, The Theatre, Variety, and Concert Agents' Association, 18, Fleet-street, E.C., who will at all times be only too pleased to answer any question or to give any information asked.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE ASHTON,
President Theatre, Variety, and Concert Agents' Association.
38, Old Bond-street, May 1.

LONDON COLISEUM.

Mr. Oswald Stoll, the managing-director, was on Tuesday appointed by the Chancery Court receiver and manager of the London Coliseum, Ltd., at the instance of the trustees for the debenture holders.

Mr. Eve, K.C., in moving for the appointment of Mr. Stoll, said that the matter was one of very great urgency. All the parties concerned were before the Court and consented to the application, which was the outcome of a resolution passed the day before.

The debenture issue was £115,000, and was secured under a trust deed of December, 1902, by a specific charge on the freehold and leasehold property of the company. The interest on the debentures had been paid, but several executions having been issued against the goods of the company, the principal money had become due and payable.

The Sheriff, counsel said, was actually in possession, but had not yet proceeded to sell. The company had no funds wherewith to pay out the executions, and it was not in a position to resist several actions that were pending.

Funds were also required to carry on the performances, which were being given daily, as there was no money to pay the salaries with. His clients, the plaintiff trustees, counsel continued, had to find the wages that fell due last week in order to prevent the house being closed. It was not disputed that the goodwill was a valuable one.

Mr. Oswald Stoll, whom it was proposed to appoint receiver and manager, had been managing-director since the incorporation of the company, and was well qualified to carry on the business. There was an affidavit of fitness to the effect that he was a fit and proper person in all respects to have control of the company's affairs, and there was also an affidavit by Mr. George Edwardes, of Daly's Theatre, as to his capacity for managing the business.

In these circumstances, counsel asked that Mr. Stoll, who held £50,000 debenture stock and a further mortgage, should be appointed with liberty to act at once, the plaintiff trustees undertaking to be answerable for the receipts until security had been given.

Mr. Eve also asked for the usual judgment in a debenture-holders' action.

Mr. Russell, for the company, assented to the proposal.

Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady granted the application, limiting Mr. Stoll's managership to three months, and entered the usual form of judgment in a debenture-holders' action.

The annual meeting was held at the Empire, Cardiff, on Tuesday, Mr. Oswald Stoll presiding.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was useless to dwell on the present position of the Coliseum; regrets were vain, and difficulties had to be made the best of. Every one concerned in the Coliseum had to meet a loss. After giving an account of the origin of the scheme for erecting music halls in the London districts, he said that he had come to the conclusion that the Coliseum was built a couple of years too soon. He wished to tell them that the result last year would probably have been £20,000 worse but for his organisation of the machinery of management. After criticising the London County Council in respect of the restricted licence granted, he said that, if the shareholders did not wish to find the money desired, then liquidation was inevitable. He suggested that a committee of investigation should be appointed, and he assured the shareholders that the directors courted the fullest inquiry.

Mr. Edward Nicholl said Mr. Stoll's explanation was not consoling to the ordinary shareholders, and he moved that the meeting be adjourned, and that a committee of investigation look into the books of the company. He had ascertained that Mr. Brukewich, one of the directors, had sold 100 shares. If the company were wound up, there would be sufficient to pay the debenture holders, Mr. Stoll his £40,000, and the other two directors their £10,000, which they had guaranteed as security. They wanted the statements in the prospectus thoroughly inquired into.

Mr. Brukewich stated that he had sold 100 ordinary shares and purchased 100 preference shares.

Mr. H. S. Medcalf seconded Mr. Nicholl's amendment, and complained that a lack of consideration had been shown in keeping the shareholders in the dark until the last moment.

Mr. H. J. Thomas, representing several shareholders, hoped that they would be able to devise some scheme to prevent the proposed winding-up.

Mr. Nicholl asked if the architect had been paid his commission on the excess of £67,000.

Mr. Stoll: No, sir.

Mr. Molineaux said that the directors had shown a singular want of attention to the interests of the shareholders in respect of the construction of the premises. He asked if Mr. Stoll had made a profit of £30,000 on the purchase of the site. Mr. Stoll replied that he had only made a paper profit in shares.

Mr. Nicholl asked if any register of shareholders had been sent to Somerset House, since January, 1905, and whether it had been purposely withheld so that the shareholders should not see what shares had been transferred.—The secretary replied that there was no obligation to forward the register of shareholders until within fourteen days after the annual meeting.—Mr. Nicholl: Well, has the annual meeting been purposely delayed?—The secretary: Absolutely and distinctly no.

Alderman P. W. Carey, Cardiff, one of the directors, said he had not sold a single share, and he had attended about twenty meetings in London without charging one penny for expenses.

Mr. Stoll stated that he had never received a penny in any shape or form, either by selling shares or for services rendered.

A shareholder suggested that Mr. Stoll should draw £100,000 from his private banking account to meet the present difficulties, and the chairman replied that when the committee of investigation went into the matter they would be astounded at what he had already done. Eventually the meeting was adjourned till May 10, and a committee of inspection appointed to investigate and report.

To commemorate Shakespeare week in Belfast, Mr. Sinclair Neill—the clever Shakespearean actor—and his dramatic students gave a reading of *The Taming of the Shrew* in Crown Chambers, Belfast, on Friday evening, the 27th ult. Mr. Neill's reading of Petruchio was marked by intellectual strength and subtlety, and he was spirited and entirely effective. Miss Mina F. Murphy was the vixenish Katharina to the life, acting with an intelligence that few could surpass. Mrs. J. R. Roberts was graceful and accomplished as Bianca, Mr. W. J. Rea acquitted himself ably as Lucentio, and Mr. J. D. Brannigan's rendering of Hortensio was no less successful. A débutante of much promise—Miss Lilias McBain—furnished a remarkably clever reading.

MISS KITTY RAYBURN essayed this week, with the greatest possible success, at the Royal Standard, a new song by Charles Wilmott and H. E. Pether, entitled "Come and make love to me."

MR. AND MRS. WILL MITCHAM (Miss Maud Ross) have just received the congratulations of hosts of friends on the completion of twenty years of married life.

DEEP sympathy must go out to Mr. Harry Clifford, who has just lost yet another brother—Arthur—from that terrible complaint consumption. This last bereavement makes no less than six deaths in a short space—mother, father, three brothers, and one sister, three having died during the last five months. Truly a sad record for one family.

CHAT WITH PAUL CINQUEVALLI.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Without doubt at the present day the man who stands *facile princeps* as a juggler is Mr. Paul Cinquevalli. Yet it was not in this line of business that Mr. Cinquevalli first made a name in the world of entertainers; in fact, the very event which turned his attention to the art of juggling nearly terminated his career on this planet in any capacity at all. It was during his convalescence while recovering from a trapeze accident which nearly proved fatal that he began seriously to practise those marvellous feats with which he now astonishes and delights audiences in every part of the globe.

Born in Poland, Mr. Cinquevalli was educated in Berlin. So expert was he, even at a very early age, in gymnastic exercises, that he determined to join a circus troupe, and to that end ran away from school. After two years' hard work in Russia and Germany, his company had the good fortune to be commanded to appear before the Emperor William I. in Berlin. On that occasion he scored such a success that his future career seemed fixed and determined. But shortly afterwards, while doing a flying leap from a trapeze, without a guarding net beneath, his hands slipped on an unwiped bar, and he plunged into the arena beneath. For eight months he lay pretty well half-dead, and then began his practice of conjuring tricks, which, as

PAUL CINQUEVALLI,
and the enormous floral trophy presented to him on his opening night in New York.

all the world knows, he has continued up to the present time with such remarkable success.

"And now, I understand, Mr. Cinquevalli, you consider yourself a Britisher?"

"I don't merely consider that I'm a Britisher, but I really am. You see, I'm a naturalised Englishman. Why? do you ask. Well, I have been in practically every country in the world, and I've mixed with every people, and I've now made up my mind as to which is the best. I have a permament home in London, where I shall eventually retire."

"That won't happen just yet, I suppose?"

"I propose to retire from the stage in three years' time—to be precise, on June 29, 1909. That will be the eve of my fiftieth anniversary. You know, I tried to retire once before, about twelve years ago. I 'rested' for one year and ten months, but it wasn't a success. At the beginning of those twenty-two months I was in the habit of wearing a 17½in. collar; at the end of that period I only needed a 15in. collar. In fact, I shrunk terribly all round, and became an invalid. Then a doctor, after carefully diagnosing my case, told me to go back to the stage, and back I went. But I think I shall go for good this time. I was only thirty-four when I retired on the last occasion, and at fifty a man is better prepared to quit the boards provided he has made enough money."

"And how is your next three years made up?"

"I am here at the Hippodrome for eight weeks; then follows my usual Moss and Stoll tour up to October. I have most flattering offers to go to America, but having accepted engagements for the Continent next winter, I must try to cancel them in order to permit of my appearing in the States. If I succeed, I shall be in America until April, 1907, after which I shall return to London. And, before I forget, I would like you to say how much I appreciate the kindnesses I have received from British people in the United Kingdom and its Colonies."

There is one thing upon which Mr. Cinquevalli is to be highly congratulated, and that is the fact that through all the years he has retained the affection and esteem of the public. In his time he must have seen many jugglers come and many jugglers go. He, curiously enough, gains more applause juggling with three balls than another artist with ten. "Try, try, try again" must be the motto of a juggler, and some of those feats with which Cinquevalli has familiarised us have taken years to perfect. For instance, the balancing of the billiard balls on the cue cost a year and a half of hard work before Cinquevalli could keep the balls steady for two seconds, and it was eight years before he was absolute master of the trick.

"My greatest feat," remarked Cinquevalli, "is undoubtedly my billiard-ball feat, and it is one that has not been copied. Do you know, I would never dream of going on the stage without satisfying myself that I could do the balances. It is the last thing I do every night before I leave my dressing-room to make my appearance." This trick consists of balancing two billiard balls on the top of each other and resting on the butt end of a cue, the other end standing on another billiard ball resting on the chin.

"It is a funny thing, but nevertheless true, that I find my nerves far steadier in warm climates; and when I have had anything new of a very difficult nature in hand, I have left over practising it until I went abroad to one or other of the warm countries it has been my custom to visit. I have to practise a trick for months just to see if it is possible."

Physically, Cinquevalli is a splendidly proportioned man, and one of the most muscular men at ten and a half stone in the world. In appearance he is somewhat deceptive, for he does not show his muscles; but really he is extraordinarily strong, as he proves when playing with a 48lb. cannon ball. Catching this ball on the back between his shoulders is Cinquevalli's most dangerous feat, for if the ball should drop a couple of inches on either side it would smash his shoulder blade, while the same distance too high would go far towards breaking his neck.

Mr. Cinquevalli is a most pleasant companion for half-an-hour's chat, for, besides being the greatest of jugglers, he is a courteous and genial man of the world, who has seen and observed much in his travels, and has a fund of pleasant reminiscences. He speaks with ease and fluency nearly all the European tongues, and is a capable musician, playing the violin, piano, and other instruments.

TWENTY-SIX HUNDRED SHILLINGS FOR "THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD'S APPEAL.

Already Announced, 2,605½ shillings.

	Shillings.		
Collected by Papa Brown, 10s.			
Frank Coyle	1	S. Laurel	1
Jem Athlone	1	A. Laurel	1
Hector and Paulus	1	F. Laurel	1
Two Erolls	1	Blanche Holt	1
Coyle, J. E.	1	Papa Brown	1
Collected by Russell Wallett, 20s.			
Russell Wallett	4	W. A. J. S.	1
S. M. T.	1	W. Barnes	1
A. R.	1	X.	1
J. J.	1	Y.	1
W. C.	1	Z.	1
T. Beer	1	A	1
P Black	1	B.	1
W. S. S.	1	C.	1
G. W. M.	1		

AMUSEMENTS IN CAPE TOWN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAPE TOWN, APRIL 9.—OPERA HOUSE (Lessees, Messrs. B. F. Wheeler; Business-Manager for Mr. Leonard Rayne, Mr. Grant Fallowes).—On Wednesday, April 5, Mr. Leonard Rayne inaugurated his 1905 season at this palatial theatre, when he produced for the first time in South Africa the dramatic version of Hall Caine's novel, *The Prodigal Son*. Mr. Leonard Rayne as Magnus Stephenson carried out his task with his usual vigour of style; he is always virile in his impersonations, but the rugged force with which he invested the character of Magnus must be ranked as one of the most convincing studies we have seen out here. Mr. Frank Beresford once more proved himself an actor of no mean ability, ably portraying the cowardice and vacillating weakness of Oscar Stephensen; whilst Mr. G. Clifton Boyne and Mr. Burton Scymour were especially well cast as Stephen Magnusson and Oscar Neilsen respectively. Miss Gertrude Goddart's Helga Neilsen was a first-class piece of work. She depicted the fascinating, dissatisfied woman very cleverly. Miss Maud Stewart Drewry, who made her first appearance in Cape Town, invested the character of Thora Stephensen with infinite charm, scoring especially in the second act, where she accuses her sister of betraying her. An excellent performance was contributed by Miss Annie Leaf as Margaret Neilsen. Miss Freda Godfrey's Elin was a charming piece of natural acting, and she daintily sang a song entitled "Dear Land of the Northern Sea." Miss Ada Barton was admirable as Anna; and the smaller parts were satisfactorily filled. The scenic beauties of the piece excited admiration. A mountain pass in the interior of Iceland, with the sunlit plains beyond, was a genuine triumph for the scenic artist, Mr. Howard Glover. The piece played too long on the opening night; but the fine scenery, wonderful stage effects, and, more than all, the admirable way in which the play was acted, kept a large audience in their seats to close upon midnight. The incidental music was excellently handled by an efficient orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Charles Mercer. There were loud calls for the principals, who were vociferously applauded.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC STUDENTS.

The Royal Academy of Dramatic Students gave on Thursday afternoon the *Hippolytus* of Euripides, translated by Gilbert Murray, LL.D., the gentleman who has won laurels at the Court Theatre by his translations of the famous Greek author. The *Hippolytus* is not the most interesting example of Euripides, but it has been made celebrated by eminent performers, and it served to display in a favourable manner the abilities of the students, who were generally successful in their efforts. The action of the play takes place in front of the Royal Castle of Trozên, where the statues of Artemis on the right and Aphroditê on the left are seen, winning the oblations of the multitude. These statues were beautifully represented by Miss Rosa J. Williamson as Aphroditê, and Miss Vera Cockburn as Artemis; Mr. Cecil Pearson appeared as Theseus, King of Athens, with unquestionable success; and as Phædra, Miss Alice M. Holder acquitted herself charmingly. Mr. Patric Curwen represented Hippolytus effectively, and was much to be commended for his delivery of the lines. The old nurse of Phædra was sustained by Miss Esther Telling, whose dramatic gifts were conspicuous in the great scene where the nurse counsels the flight of the unhappy wife with her lover, Mr. Emile D'Oisly as a henchman; Mr. McNaughton Duncan as an old huntsman, and Miss Leveaux as the leader of the chorus were also entitled to praise; and the chorus of women admirably discharged their duties. The musical accompaniments were composed by Mr. Hubert Bath (Goring Thomas scholar). Miss Rosina Filippi being absent, Miss Magrath took her place as director. The plot of the play is simple. Phædra, the wife of the King, falls in love with Hippolytus, and is tempted to fly with him, but is restrained by the love of her children, the chorus, in accordance with the system of Greek dramas, commenting on the action of the principals. The tone of the play is therefore extremely sombre, and voices of the chorus being frequently heard in lamentations which sounded dismally enough, though the young ladies were quite equal to their task. The entire representation was most intelligent, and reflected great credit on the Academy.

AT the Tivoli, Glasgow, this week the strong card is the company directed by Mr. Sydney Bacon, in a piece called *The Maniac*, in which Mr. Melville Bickford impersonates the title-part. Other good turns include Jock Walker, a clever Scotch comedian; Little Barney, who seems to have drifted into the patriotic line; *Left in Charge* is a merry skit presented by Conway and Garland; the Tricky Trio of young ladies fascinate in an equal degree by smart songs and dances; and the Mozon and Blumenfeld's dogs complete the bill.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Your last week's report of the Waxworks, Dublin, refers to Gravetta and Pave. It should have been yours faithfully, BOSKO AND DILLON, Waxworks, Dublin, May 2, 1906.

CHAS. W. POOLE'S Myriorama has entered upon its second week at the Theatre Royal, Ryde, and packed houses have been the rule. This week extra tableaux are being shown, representing the Battle of Waterloo. An excellent variety company includes Kitty Woodford's canine circus—a clever troupe of dogs; Harry Stewart, a smart change artist; Daisy Graham's birds, who show evidences of careful training; Leonard and Mac, patter comedians; Ariel and Astarte, in a clever performance on the trapeze and horizontal bars; and Little Doretta, acrobatic dancer.

ASSOCIATION OF THEATRE, VARIETY, AND CONCERT AGENTS.

CHAT WITH MR. GEORGE ASHTON.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

One of the newest of the professional protection societies—if protection be the right word to use—bears the title of the Theatre, Variety, and Concert Agents' Association. Its president is Mr. George Ashton, who, probably more than anybody else, has striven to give to the business of agency work a dignity and a respect which for a long time it sadly lacked.

In the course of conversation with Mr. Ashton the other day, we were told how the Association was started. It appears that some of the agents found out that the London County Council in the Bill which they were preparing last year for the proper supervision of servants' registry offices, intended to include the dramatic and music hall agents. A meeting of the latter was called, and steps were at once taken to form an association to oppose the Bill if necessary. A considerable amount of correspondence passed between the L.C.C. and the Association, and Mr. Ashton headed a deputation to the Council on two occasions. The Association came to the conclusion that they would have to fight the proposed Bill, one clause in which provided that every theatre, music, and concert agent should be registered, that he should keep such

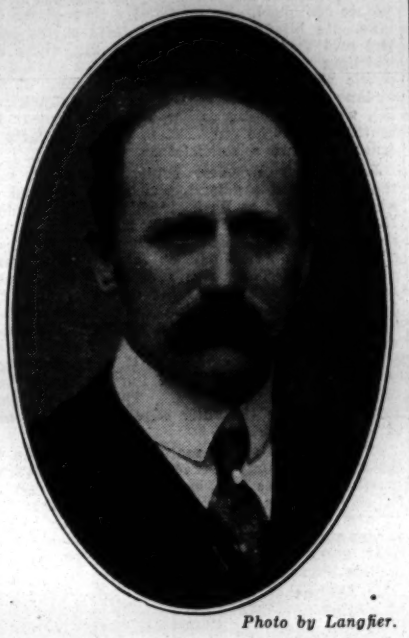

Photo by Langfier.
MR. GEORGE ASHTON.

books as the Council directed, and that his books and offices were to be under the supervision of the officers of the Council. Mr. Ashton and his colleagues thought that to be classed with the keepers of servants' registry offices was nothing less than an indignity. They appeared before a House of Commons' Committee appointed to consider the question, and the members of the Association were able to congratulate themselves on winning the day. The Bill was altered, so that all agents who do not take any registration or preliminary fees were exempt from the provisions of the Act. Since then the Council have welcomed the formation of the Association, for the two bodies have been able to work in co-operation. This means, of course, that the L.C.C. have been gracious enough to recognise the usefulness of the Society, whose members are not required to be registered at all.

Now, so far as the artists are concerned, there is an advantage in dealing with a member of the Association in that an artist can always be sure that he is dealing with a bona-fide agent, and one who does not expect or take preliminary fees directly or indirectly. Mr. Ashton assures us that all the best and most respectable agents have joined the Association. The Association has been able on more than one occasion to assist the L.C.C. in their efforts to prevent persons being imposed on by bogus agents. It was only a few days ago that they heard of a case of a so-called agent imposing on artists, and they at once brought the matter to the notice of the Council, who, in their turn, promptly set Scotland Yard upon the track of the persons. The result was that two men were arrested a few weeks ago. They had started an enterprise, which they called the Empire Agency, at 62, Strand. Another case came before the Association of an agent in the country, who had a printed letter which he sent to artists demanding £1 before he would undertake to do business for them. Mr. Ashton maintains that such a system is obtaining money under false pretences, and the Association cordially invites any artist who hears of an agent who requires a preliminary fee to communicate with the Secretary to the Association, at 18, Fleet-street, E.C. From this it will be seen that the Association lives not only for the protection of its members but also for the protection of artists and the public against fraudulent agents.

Mr. Ashton personally is a popular figure in theatrical and musical circles. He might not inaptly be called the "King's dramatic adviser." For the last twenty-eight years Mr. Ashton has been in personal attendance upon His Majesty at theatres and music halls. The King always sends for him when His Majesty wishes to see a play or visit a variety establishment.

"The King," says Mr. Ashton, "has been a great theatre-goer. I have known him go every night in one week. He very seldom, however, goes to a music hall. He is particularly fond of high-class music, and so far as the legitimate theatre is concerned, he prefers a good comedy better than anything else. The Queen, on the other hand, is very fond of drama.

"It was I who suggested that the late Dan Leno should go to Sandringham. That performance was the first His Majesty witnessed since coming to the throne. On that occasion the theatre was represented by Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss.

And now we get to hear who it is arranges the preliminaries of the performances "by command" at Windsor. Mr. Ashton is responsible for all the details—the printing of the programme, the building of the stage, the accommodation for the artists, their trains, &c., in fact, everything with the exception of the absolute performance itself.

Mr. Ashton started his dramatic and variety agency some two years ago. Last Christmas his firm secured the business of Nathan and Somers, then undergoing a dissolution of partnership. In purchasing the business Mr. Ashton was fortunate in securing Mr. Ben Nathan in the direction of that branch, and Mr. W. Scott Adacker as manager. A very important department of Mr. Ashton's Bond-street business is the supplying of concert and variety artists for private drawing-rooms in London.

MR. JOSH DIXON'S laughable song, "The Indian," by Robson and Hyde, which has been of late exciting the risible faculties of London Pavilion audiences, has been secured by the Charing Cross-road music publishing house.

VARIETY ARTISTS' FEDERATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It would be scarcely necessary for me to inform your readers that I am delighted at the formation and existence of a real music hall artists' association, as many of them know perfectly well that I have been striving for over a quarter of a century to bring about that very thing. Who shall say now that my faith was not justified? We most of us hope and believe that the V.A.F. has come to stay, and that it will grow and prosper and increase in strength and usefulness. We need it, and we have got it, and the next thing is to help it on with all our might. In saying this I may cause some surprise by my next declaration of opinion, and that is, that what is needed *within its ranks* is a loyal, honest, and friendly opposition of the Parliamentary kind. Doubtless there are many who would say that adverse criticism is hardly the way to help an institution forward, but a little reflection and reference to the history of other institutions will convince them that the contrary is often the case, and that many blunders and causes of after regret may be avoided by frank and open discussion of events as they occur. That which is good and right will survive. Secrecy, suppression, and concealment are usually the tools of those who have only selfish ends to serve, and I am quite certain that there is no desire or intention in the minds of those who are engaged in piloting the V.A.F. to success of employing any such unworthy means. A provisional committee (it does not call itself a provisional committee, but it is) has been formed—or rather has formed itself—and considerable progress has been made. A large sum of money has been subscribed, over a thousand members enrolled, a newspaper started, offices and staff engaged, and a manager (or organising secretary) appointed. So far, so good. And now a few words of criticism of the movement up to the present will not be out of place. We may well take breath and reflect here.

Four music hall institutions—namely, the M.H.A.R.A., the International Artists' Lodge, the order of Water Rats, and that of the Terriers—all powerful and worthy in their way—had arrived at the very definite opinion that there were certain abuses in the music-hall business which called loudly for reform. The executive committee of each sent six delegates to a conference of all four bodies, who discussed very fully and temperately the subjects before them. But they did more. They exceeded their powers. The duty of delegates to a conference is to confer, and then to report to those who sent them the result of their conferring, the opinions collectively formed, and the plans suggested, leaving to those whom they represented the duty of putting those plans into execution should they deem it desirable to do so. The first thing they actually did, besides and in addition to debating, was to draft and send out an appeal to the music hall proprietors and managers concerning what is known as the "barring clause." It was a most respectful, temperate, and reasonable document, and I entirely agree with it, but I will venture to ask if it would have carried any less weight had it been issued with the full support and sanction of all the members of the aforementioned bodies duly sought and obtained. I think not. Emboldened by the notice taken of this movement they went further, and, *at the conference table*, formed and established what is undoubtedly a trades union for music-hall artists, gave it a name, collected funds, and made themselves into an executive committee to carry out the plans which they themselves, without consulting their principals, had decided upon. Does any sane man believe that if those delegates had acted as all delegates should, returned to those who sent them, placed results fully before them, explained plans, and told of promised support, that the result would not have been equally satisfactory? To suggest such a thing would be to imply that the delegates could not trust those who delegated them from amongst their members—which would be a very extraordinary state of things. There was no occasion here for a Nelson to put the telescope to his blind eye. No signals were against them. I, for one, believe that their principals—that is to say, the great majority of the members of the bodies who sent them—would have received the outcome of their deliberations with the greatest favour, and acted accordingly. But that does not do away with the fact that they established a very bad precedent, and I fervently hope that such irregular courses will be avoided for the future. If such acts became common, it would not be a matter of delegates not being able to trust their principals, but of the principals not being able to trust their delegates to confine their actions within due and proper limits, and then the whole fabric of government would fall like a house of cards. As it happens, no great harm has been done. It just happens that the principals (as far as we can judge) approve of the newly-formed institution and its objects, but no amount of approval of the result can justify the method by which it was achieved. The maxim, "Let all things be done decently and in order," applies quite as forcibly to our affairs as to anyone else's. I know human nature well enough to be perfectly prepared to find that my remarks will displease some who may be unable, or, worse, unwilling, to see and admit that my desires are wholly and heartily for the good of our new society. I have worked for it since it was started, and intend to keep on working for it. It should be a very great success, and it will not be my fault if it is not, but I have always held the opinion, and see no cause to depart from it now, that fair criticism of observed methods is the very best means of keeping those methods, if they be good, in a right course, as also of preventing the adoption of such as are not really of advantage to the cause in hand. If my opinion is held to be wrong, let it be exposed and controverted, but by all means let it be done right out in the open columns of the press. If it is right, let it be acted upon.—Yours truly,

CHARLES COBORN.

THE first annual banquet, concert, and ball of the Anglo-French Piscatorials took place last Saturday at the Cercle Français, Leicester-square, Mr. Alfred Abrahams, of the Coach and Horses, Wellington-street, being in the chair. The affair was a complete success. At the concert Mme. Charles Gordon made a great impression with her songs; Mme. Clara Dowle also sang well, after which Mr. Walter Norman and his daughter, Miss Daisy Howard, and Mr. Thomas Crook were also appreciated. After the dinner and concert dancing was carried on until the small hours of the morning.

MANY complaints having been received by the London music publishers that a big business was being done in the sale of pirated music in Portsmouth, two experienced agents (Mr. E. Briebach and Mr. John Abbott, both of Mr. David Day's staff) were sent down a few days since, and they were successful in tracing two wholesale depôts. Applications were made for two search warrants, and these were executed by the police and the agents, and thousands of illicit copies were seized. Applications for summonses have been made. The bigger haul was discovered in a house at Portsea, where it was taken care of until wanted. It was then taken to a barber's shop for distribution to the street sellers.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

A case involving points of considerable interest to roundabout proprietors and lessees of fair-grounds was adjudicated upon by the Richmond Borough Magistrates on Monday. Mr. George Beach secured a piece of vacant land on the Richmond side of Kew Bridge, admirably adapted for the purpose of holding a small pleasure fair. This was held during the Easter holidays, to the great delight of the thousands of holiday-makers who went to Kew. The fair, however, provoked the opposition of a few of the residents adjacent to the ground, and some remarks of a condemnatory character were made at the Easter Vestry of one of the Kew churches. This little local feeling spurred the authorities to take action against Mr. Beach. As every care had been taken in view of the possibility of prejudiced opposition from "goody-goody" people by only using soft music, and avoiding all noisy clamour on the ground, it was impossible to object to the fair as being either a source of annoyance or disturbance to the inhabitants. It was then discovered, under an old by-law passed in the year 1892, that action could be taken against Mr. Beach because he had not left a sufficient wide, free space around his machine—a beautiful and costly set of horses and ostriches—which the local authorities, to bring Mr. Beach within the penalty of their by-laws, designated as a whirligig. This, in substance, was the important point that engaged the attention of the magistrates, and although their decision was not challenged, it still remains a most important point, and one that—were this by-law in existence in other places—would need settlement.

Expert evidence was adduced to show that whirligigs were in use fifteen or twenty years ago, but they had been supplanted by the modern steam-driven roundabout, which was free from danger to the passing public, and that whilst the old whirligig had a swinging-out motion in addition to the whirling round of the machine-frame, there is no such whirling-out motion on the modern roundabout, which works entirely within its own frame.

Mr. T. Watson Wright, for the defendant (George Beach), endeavoured to show first that the by-law in itself was *ultra vires*, and contrary to the spirit of English law, inasmuch as it did not give any qualifications or show wherein there was any danger to public safety, and he stated that such a by-law, if proposed to-day, would not have the slightest chance of being sanctioned. His second contention was that even if the by-law was held by the magistrates to be good, that the machine exhibited by Mr. Beach was not a whirligig. He concluded a closely-reasoned argument on these two points by asking the Bench to take into consideration the unfortunate circumstance of the inability, through serious illness, of Mr. George Beach at the time of the alleged offence. He trusted that their decision would be based upon consideration of the fact that, at the time of the erection of the concerns on the fair-ground, the defendant was wholly unable to superintend or to provide for the carrying out of the by-laws.

In the end the magistrates decided that the by-law was a good one, and that, in their opinion, all roundabouts are whirligigs, that Mr. Beach had infringed the by-law, but they would only inflict the small penalty of 1s. and costs.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Alnwick, Dudley, Heckmondwike, Braintree, Chester, Market Bosworth, Colne, Hereford, Soham, Swaffham, Beaconsfield, Farnham, Stamfordham, Stonehouse, Leintwardine, Clun, Spalding, Staines, Renfrew, Rothsay, Kilmarnoch, Penygroes, Brynmawr, Knighton, Monmouth, Abergavenny, Talgarth, Chelmsford, Chertsey, Haslemere, Haverhill, Hertford, Lambourne, Leicester, Long Sutton, Lowestoft, Lymington, Maidstone, Much Wenlock, Pembridge, Sturminster Newton, Stow-on-the-Wold, Wadebridge, Worsted, and Yaxley.

The Agricultural Shows and Cattle Fairs for May are as follows:—Macclesfield, Uttoxeter, Oakham, and Stamford on the 7th. Lampeter, Crawley, and Keighley on the 8th. Soham, Dunstable, Drogheda, Knaresborough, Swaffham, Dewsbury, and Preston on the 9th. Wisbeach, Burgh, Bourne, and Farnham on the 10th. Leicester, Stow-on-the-Wold, Maidstone, Chelmsford, Congleton, Bellingham, and Hertford on the 12th. Barnsley, Huddersfield, Market Weighton, Newark, and Ripon on the 14th. Ipswich on the 15th. East Illsley and Henley-on-Thames on the 16th. Holbeach, Chester, Clitheroe, Dorchester, and the Royal Jersey on the 17th. Leek and Toller Down on the 18th. Ballybaly on the 19th. Beverley Ashbourne, and Reach on the 21st. Tavistock on the 22nd. Belfast on the 23rd. St. Neots and Loughborough on the 24th. Wembley Park on the 25th. Batley, Donnington, and Berwick on the 26th. Alston, Briston, Clones, Armagh, Ely, and Swindon on the 31st.

The fair at Alton (Hants) was entirely in the hands of the local showman, William Matthews, who provided roundabouts, side-shows, throwing games, and other novelties.

Bedford Fair was well maintained by the cinematograph theatre of Thurston and Sons, Ridley's variety show, Harry Hughes's military tournament, Thurston's roundabouts, and other machines by Messrs. Harris and Shaw. There were the usual attendant throng of fair-ground caterers, with minor novelties, throwing games, and stalls.

Mr. Alf. Ball, with his variety theatre and animated up-to-date photography, is doing excellent business at Barking. At the end of last week's performances he gave a series of shows to the school children of the town, and nearly a thousand children formed the queue waiting for their turn to enjoy the capital display of films provided by Mr. Ball.

Wm. Beach, with his fair-ground aggregation, maintained the fair at Heston this week, and is now taking, week by week, his annual round of small fairs in the Metropolitan district.

Mr. Tom Norman, with his new show, has been doing good business at the fair-ground, Old Ford.

At Astwood Bank, Herbert and Son's World's Fair roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, striker, &c., have been the attractions.

The following plays have been performed at Jenning's Alexander Theatre, Evesham:—*The Village Vagabond, The Soldier's Oath, Aurora Floyd, The Female Detective, The Ticket-of-Leave-Man, Alone in the Pirates' Lair* and *Life Among the Hop-pickers.*

At West Hartlepool, on the 21st ult., John Wm. Pearce and Joseph Wallace were charged with assaulting Joseph Beaumont, at the Market Yard. Defendants denied the offence. The assault arose out of a dispute at the cocoanut stall. Witness said Wallace struck and kicked both Mr. and Mrs. Beaumont. A fine of 10s. and costs each was imposed, the Mayor remarking that the Bench were determined to protect the tenants of the market. They paid licences, were respectable citizens, and had a right to be protected. Anyone brought in future on this charge would be severely dealt with. The Market Yard was not going to be the rendezvous of those who went to abuse the people in charge of the stands.

WHAT IS A WHIRLIGIG?

INTERESTING CASE AT RICHMOND.

At the Richmond Sessions House on Monday, April 30, the case of George Beach *versus* the Richmond Corporation came on for decision before Mr. F. G. Humphries (presiding), Mr. F. W. Dimbleby, and Colonel L. G. Powell. Beach was summoned under the local by-laws that he, being a person causing or suffering a whirligig driven by steam power to be used for hire on certain land, he did not cause such whirligig to be so placed that it had a free space around it on every side equal to its greatest height.

Mr. H. Sagar (deputy Town Clerk) prosecuted for the Corporation, and Mr. Watson Wright, of Leicester, solicitor for the Showmen and Vandwellers Protection Association, defended Beach, who, unfortunately, owing to serious illness, was unable to attend, and was represented by his wife.

In opening the case, Mr. Sagar said, that under Section 38 of the Public Health Amendment Act the Richmond Corporation, in the year 1892, prepared and passed by-laws which were approved by the Local Government Board. One was to the effect that no one should cause or suffer any whirligig or swing driven by steam power to be let or used for hire, except it comply with the following regulation:—"That every whirligig or swing shall be placed in a free space equal to its greatest height." The penalty was £5, with other penalties, for every day during which the offence continued. He produced a copy of the by-laws. He briefly narrated the facts of the case, and said that the by-law did not say where the whirligig should be, and it therefore applied to public as well as private land. A copy of the by-laws was given to Mrs. Beach (Mr. Beach was ill), who was acting as her husband's agent. He contended that he only had to prove the facts in order to secure a conviction.

John Henry Brierley, borough surveyor, said that he visited the land, which was situated in what was known as Bush's-road, near Kew Bridge. He saw Mrs. Beach and other representatives, and Mr. Shepherd. The ground was at the back of the King's Arms, and on it were swings and a roundabout. There was a rigth-of-way through Bush-road, though it was not a public road. On April 21 he measured the open space around the roundabout. The greatest height of the latter was 20ft.. The edge of it was within 6½ft. of the corner of a shooting range, 11ft. from the steps of a caravan, 13½ft. from a harness stand, and 16ft. 10in. from the fence. The measurements were made from the outer edge of the platforms of the roundabout.

Cross-examined: The sources of danger due to the space not being observed was people crowding together near the machine, and in case a person fell off the horses. He thought a person might fall off and strike the corner of the shooting range. It was absolutely necessary that there should be a clear space. The object of the by-law was to provide for the public safety.

Mr. Watson Wright: Will you define what is a whirligig?

Witness: No.

By Mr. Sagar: He understood a roundabout to be a whirligig. There was no clause in the by-law defining what a whirligig was.

By Mr. Dimbleby: Sometimes people jumped off the roundabouts before they stopped running.

Alfred Fisher, foreman in the employ of the Richmond Corporation, said that he visited the land on the 11th, and saw there a whirligig. It was part of his duty to inspect those things and see that they complied with the by-laws. He saw Mrs. Beach, and served her with a copy of the by-laws, which he read to her. He spoke to her again, and told her that she was not complying with the by-laws, but they continued to erect and use the whirligig. He confirmed the measurements made by the borough surveyor.

Cross-examined: He saw Mr. Beach, who was ill in bed, and he told him that he did not know what action would be taken. He did not say that a summons would not be issued this time.

George Taylor, sub-foreman in the employ of the Richmond Corporation, gave corroborative evidence. He also said that he rode on the whirligig during the Easter holidays.

Mr. Watson Wright pointed out that, under the Public Health Act, no common informer could lay information leading to a summons, that the authority to complain must be the Sanitary Authority, and that the prosecutor must be an official of that authority, armed for this purpose with a specific resolution of the Sanitary Committee, and that that resolution ought to be in evidence before them.

In the second place, he contended that the by-law was *ultra vires*, repugnant to the general law of the land, and repugnant to the provisions of the Public Health Act. The by-law itself contained no word of qualification, such, for instance, as "the public safety." It did not seek impartially to restrict trade or regulate it, but totally prohibited the exercise of the business of steam-driven machines.

He strongly contended that under the Local Government Act, 1888, and the Municipal Corporation Act of 1882, in framing a by-law it should contain qualifying words, as for example: "Danger to residents or passengers or as being a cause of annoyance to the residents in its immediate vicinity," his contention was that the by-law was bad, and he felt sure that if the Association for which he was solicitor had known of the proposal to pass such a by-law they would have opposed it, and he was confident that on these grounds it would not have been passed.

The by-law had been confirmed by the Local Government Board, but the mere fact of confirmation did not make it a good by-law.

Mr. Dimbleby said that he agreed that confirmation did not necessarily make it a good by-law, but he would like to point out that the proceedings were being taken under the Public Health Act, and not under the other Acts mentioned.

Mr. Watson Wright urged that there should be words of qualification.

Mr. Dimbleby: Do you mean that a by-law cannot be made authorising restrictions unless mention is made of those restrictions in the Act itself?

Mr. Watson Wright: Yes, sir. Continuing, he said that there was not one word in the summons mentioning that the offence was to the danger of the public. The by-law was bad, and the summons at any rate required amendment. Then the machine, the roundabout, was not a whirligig. He believed there were none now. Messrs. Savage and Co., of King's Lynn, who were the makers of all those sort of machines, had not made one for fifteen years. A whirligig was a machine with boats attached by rods which flew out by centrifugal force as it revolved. There was a danger of people being struck by those. If the Bench decided against him on the points raised, he would like to say that at the most Mrs. Beach had committed a technical offence, and if the summons was dismissed on payment of costs, there would be no objection. Those people would not do anything other than comply with the reasonable requirements of the authorities in the future, for they had no desire to fly in the face of the authorities. The machine cost nearly £2,000, and they had their living to get.

The Reverend Thomas Horne said that for the past sixteen years he had been Hon. Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild, a society which included the great majority of the travelling showmen and roundabout proprietors of the United Kingdom, he claimed to be an expert on the question of by-laws affecting the show business, as he had codified the whole body of existing by-laws in counties, boroughs, and cities.

This he had done in order that the showmen might be able to understand the conditions under which their business might be carried on.

In order to accomplish this he had been in correspondence with the officials of all public bodies, and he gave it as his opinion that in only one or two more instances did such a by-law as the Richmond one exist.

In connection with his work as Chaplain to the Guild he had attended all the large fairs in the Kingdom. The machine owned by Mr. Beach was not a whirligig but a set of steam galloping horses, quite a different machine from a whirligig.

A whirligig was one with cars or boats which as it went round swung out from the frame; Mr. Beach's machine was self-contained within the frame, and whilst a whirligig might possibly be dangerous, a set of steam galloping horses was entirely free from danger.

Although he had been for sixteen years past a visitor to the great fair grounds of England he had not seen a whirligig proper during the past ten years.

As an expert he desired to say that the roundabout mentioned in the case was not a whirligig as technically understood on the road amongst the show people.

Wm. Beach, brother of the defendant, and a large proporietor of roundabouts and fairground novelties, said that "there were different kinds of roundabouts, such as switchbacks, galloping and jumping horses, and Venetian gondolas. The machine owned by his brother was a set of galloping horses. It was surrounded by a fixed frame and that people could come up to three inches of the frame without any danger."

Mr. Alfred Ball, proprietor of the Bioscope Exhibition, said that he had travelled as a showman all his life, that he was well acquainted with all kinds of roundabout machines, and that the machine in question was not a whirligig. He knew what a whirligig was, and to his knowledge there were but one or two still in existence, and certainly not one in the metropolitan district.

"A whirligig was a machine that swung out, and the swifter the machine was run, the greater the outward swing of the cars containing the passengers. That kind of machine was a whirligig."

In reply to the Bench, Mr. Sagar said that instructions for the proceedings were received from the Highways Committee, who had such power delegated to them by the Town Council. It had not been hitherto required for the authority to produce evidence at that Court.

The Clerk to the Magistrates said that such authority was required by the Statute and ought to have been before the Court.

Mr. Sagar replied that if it was necessary to produce it he would have to ask for an adjournment.

Mr. Watson Wright, on behalf of his client, waived the point and said that they would rather the case was judged by the Bench upon its merits without raising the point in question.

The Magistrates retired to consider their decision. On returning, the Chairman said that they had dealt with the points raised, and they held that the proceedings had been properly instituted by the local authority; that the by-law was good; and that a roundabout was a whirligig within the maning of the by-law. They understood that the defendant Beach would undertake in future to conform with the by-laws, and if that were so, the penalty would be 1s., and the costs of the court.

Mr. Watson Wright said his client would undertake to meet the requirements of the by-laws in future.

The Alexandra Hippodrome visited Bangor on Tuesday, and had crowded audiences afternoon and evening. Diabelo's sensational cycling acts formed attractive features in a good all-round programme.

The funeral of Katherine Studt, who died after a long and painful illness from cancer, took place at Cardiff Cemetery on Saturday. The remains were interred in the family vault, in the presence of a large number of sorrowing friends. In addition to the various members of the families of John, Henry, and Jacob Studt, the following relatives and friends attended the ceremony: Mr. H. Broxup (husband), London; Mr. and Mrs. C. Broxup (son), London; Mrs. H. Wools (sister), London; Mr. W. Haggar, Mr. H. Scard, Mr. James Dooner, Mr. Richard Dooner, Miss Dooner, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Butlin, Mr. T. Butlin, Mr. James Day, Mr. Danter (representing Mrs. W. Danter), Mr. John Johnson (Victoria Theatre, Tredegar), Mrs. Evans (Pontypridd), Mr. Gibson (representing the Treharne family, Pontypridd), Mr. W. Lloyd (Cardiff), Mr. C. W. Edwards (Cardiff), Mr. Theo Edwards (Cardiff), Mr. Williams (Abergavenny), Mrs. Marise (Whitchurch), Mr. and Mrs. Jones. Handsome floral tributes, in addition to those from the family, came from the Dooner family, Mr. W. Haggar, Mr. H. Scard, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Butlin, Mrs. Eliza Baker, Mr. James Day, Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock (two wreaths), Mr. L. W. Birchley, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Marisco, Letters of condolence were received from friends not able to attend, including Mr. and Mrs. P. Collins and son, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hastings, and Mr. John Lloyd.

The Studt family beg to thank all friends who were present, and also those unable to be there for the expressions of sympathy extended to them in their bereavement.

At Feckenham were Mr. C. Herbert, with roundabouts, park swings, cokernut gardens, &c.; and Mr. E. Herbert's shooting saloons, bottle battery, and Mollies and striker.

Radford Feast was supplied by Mr. Scarrott's amusements and Sorrell's toy bazaar.

Messrs. Herbert's World's Fair is doing splendid business at Eastern Hill, Astwood Bank.

At Tilney's Fair Ground, Abertillery, Mr. W. Hagger's Royal Electric Bioscope still continues to draw crowds nightly, the spacious building being filled to overflowing at each show. The pictures are up to date, and well worth seeing.

Dear Sir,—Can I ask your assistance by opening a subscription list in the columns of *The Era* on behalf of the widow and children of the late John du Humphries, whose sudden and tragic death at Merthyr Tydfil you so ably reported. Humphries had a wide circle of friends—I may say scarcely any enemies—and was always a ready supporter to anything benefiting his fellow travellers, and a ready giver to any deserving case.

This case is well worthy your consideration, as the widow and children are left totally unprovided for; but with a little assistance the home could be kept together and made self-supporting. The societies to which he belonged have agreed to assist, and have promises from many of his and my own friends to subscribe. If you will kindly open a subscription through *The Era* I will send you a first list of subscriptions.—I am, dear sir, yours truly, Arthur Reeves.

We gladly comply with Mr. Reeves' request, and strongly commend this thoroughly deserving case to the members of the circus and show profession, and, indeed, the wider circle of his friends in the variety and theatrical world. We have taken pains to satisfy ourselves of the necessity of the case, and hope that an immediate and generous response will follow Mr. Reeves' appeal. Subscriptions sent direct to *The Era* office may be made payable to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, and will be duly acknowledged.

Bishampton *Fête* will take place on Monday, July 16.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

By the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain to the Showman's Guild.

(Copyright.)

"THE BOMB-SHELL MYSTERY."

Probably no profession in the world is as much subject to the invasion of outsiders as the business of the fair-ground.

This is a source of strength and vitality in most instances, but from time to time it is a source of weakness and misapprehension.

The whole body of showmen are brought under suspicion and public disfavour by the misdoing of someone who, because he has exhibited a novelty for a few weeks or months, claims to be a showman, or because, under the stress of apparent poverty, a man has become for a time attached to a travelling show, he has been dubbed a showman.

One of the strangest mysteries of the road of this character occurred some eighteen years ago, and for a long time it remained an almost unfathomable mystery.

By the death-bed confession of the principal actor in the mysterious crime the truth came to light, some half-dozen years ago.

Piecing together the story as succinctly as possible, it reads as follows:

Blackburn Easter Fair had for its principal novelty Vedrini's phantascope, a concern that for many years held a high position in the big fair-grounds of the country.

It was a beautiful show, both outside and in, and Vedrini travelled a good dramatic company to perform both on the parade at the front and to introduce the ghost on the stage.

Amongst Vedrini's clever people taking part in the show were two compatriots of his from sunny Italy, Phillipi and Eleonora Danzini.

They were remarkably clever in pierrot and pierrette parts, and as pantomimists could have held their own with the very best on any stage in the world.

Whilst the show was building up it was noticed that Danzini himself betrayed considerable alarm and agitation at the evident observation bestowed upon him by a little knot of Italians who were apparently idling about the fair-ground with no other motive than that of the general crowd—to see the shows building up.

Probably Danzini's agitation would have passed unnoticed but that throwing down the pole he was handling so provoked Vedrini that he roundly rebuked him in florid Italian. This flow of epithets at once fixed the attention of the Italian onlookers upon both Vedrini and the agitated Danzini.

These details, insignificant in themselves, were the only clue of any value in the many after attempts to elucidate the mystery with which our story is concerned.

It was the second day of the fair, and the ghost illusion at Vedrini's included a scene in which both the Danzinis appeared, Philipi personating a ghostly pierrot in the oven beneath the stage, and his wife, Eleonora, as pierrette directly on the stage.

At the moment when the ghostly pierrot is thrown upon the stage there came from somewhere in the audience a heavy missile, thrown directly at the ghost.

As soon as the missile struck the sheet of plate glass it was deflected into the well beneath, and a great crack across the face of the glass betrayed the force of the blow; but that was not all. From the oven beneath there came a scream of agony, and Danzini, the pierrot, rose from the well and faced the audience, shouting in his terror, "Fly for your lives! It is death—it is death!"

Before the audience could recover from the horror and surprise of Danzini's words there was a terrific explosion, the stage rocked, and then subsided under the force of the terrific shock. The sheet of plate glass, by a miracle, still remained, cracked though it was, in its frame, and although there was a great deal of crushing and a considerable number of people received serious bruisings and all suffered from the terrible fright, remarkably few people were injured.

In the well beneath the stage terrible havoc occurred; Danzini and the operator were frightfully injured by the bomb which had been thrown by some miscreant in the audience.

Immediately both men were taken to the hospital; both were too injured for speech, and poor Madame Danzini was hysterical to so great an extent that she could give no connected account of her own terrible experiences.

The police made careful investigation, but beyond the fragments of the shattered bomb-shell and the wreckage the terrible engine of death caused, there was nothing for them to go upon.

Vedrini, who should have remembered the incident of Danzini's agitation at the time of building up the show, either did not remember it, or thought it of no moment for police inquiries.

Most of the showmen on the ground grew suspicious of Vedrini on account of his reluctance to interest himself very much in the matter.

When taken to task for this want of interest, he merely shrugged his shoulders and said, "What would you? I cannot tell why it was done; it may be jealousy or it may be political revenge. Danzini, like many of my countrymen, may be a member of a secret society, and so, for my own part, whatever the police may do, I shall take no steps. Besides, the first loss will be the least loss. I would sooner pay for a new stage fit-up than have to lose my business fixtures during the next fortnight. It is altogether a mystery to me; and though I am sorry for Danzini, and hope he will soon be better, I cannot afford to keep my show packed away in order to look after his concerns."

This was considered very callous by his brother showmen, and their unanimous verdict was that that sort of thing might be thought right on the Continent, but it was not the right thing amongst British showmen.

It was quite four months before Danzini was well enough to leave the hospital, and then he was a mere wreck of his former self. In the disfigured and crippled Danzini that left the hospital no one would have recognised the bright and sprightly pierrot of Vedrini's phantascope.

The terrible strain of anxiety and grief had also effected a marked change in Madame Danzini, no longer the charming and beautiful Italian dancer and pierrette, but a haggard, grief-worn and tragic woman.

They found their way back to Vedrini's, and, to his credit, it must be admitted their old master found them employment about the show.

The police, however, were completely baffled in their efforts to trace the author of this dastardly outrage, and it must be confessed that the greatest sufferer, Danzini, gave them no assistance or encouragement. All that he would say was, "It is a terrible blunder, gentlemen. I had no enemy in the world; I was mistaken for someone else, possibly a political enemy of the Nihilists or the Amalfi; but there, I know not. It is a mystery, and I have to suffer for someone else's sin."

The police, however, had their doubts, and for many months Vedrini's show was watched in every town wherein it was located; but all to no purpose, and so ultimately the bomb explosion at the ghost show was relegated to the catalogue of unsolved mysteries.

For many years there was a very good pitch for showmen to winter upon at New Islington, Ancoats, Manchester, and there, two years after the outrage at Blackburn Fair, Vedrini's phantascope took up its quarters between Christmas and Easter.

A little way from the show-ground lies the Italian quarter—Bloom-street—where in its numerous side street and alleys a great number of Italians live.

Padrone Villimimo kept a large lodging-house, and sent out a considerable number of organs in charge of his lodgers day by day. Here in the large kitchen every evening, after their day's work, a score or more of Italian men and women might be found.

The quick and vivacious temperament of the Italian nature found full expression in merry song and in the friendly chatter of the groups into which the Padrone's lodgers divided themselves.

Upon an evening that the Padrone's lodgers will ever remember a frightful crime took place. How the quarrel originated no one ever knew, but there it was—red murder full and terrible, and the work of an instant.

The victim fell prone upon the ground weltering in his blood, and the murderer with the reeking poignard in his hand, was in the strong grasp of two of the lodgers. Women screamed in their terror, and the Padrone, in stern tones, issuing his command—

"Hold the villain securely, go for the police, go for a doctor!" Then, whilst men hurried off in obedience to his behests, Villimimo knelt down, carefully feeling the heart of the stricken man,

He looked up, and gazing round on the affrighted people, said—"He is dead."

Looking at the murderer, he said—"Wretched man, why did you do this?"

The murderer's answer came hissing through his teeth—

"It was a life for a life! He knew why I killed him, but to you and to the world it shall never be known."

By this time the police arrived upon the scene, and the murderer was taken to the nearest police-station; and though subjected to the keenest interrogations of the police-sergeant, absolutely refused to give any clue whatever to his identity.

The Manchester papers, of course, gave very graphic accounts of the terrible murder in the Italian quarter, and broadly hinted at a political solution of the mystery surrounding the crime.

This was much intensified by the discovery made by the police that their prisoner was a female.

This discovery only increased their difficulties, and created in the public mind a widespread sentiment of sympathy for the criminal, the general assumption of the public being that the mysterious woman was impelled by some strong motive of personal injury.

Again the police were baffled—no clue as to the motive for the crime and no evidence as to the identity of the criminal were forthcoming.

From some mysterious source ample funds flowed in to provide the very best counsel for her, and the trial was famous for the brilliant speech made in her defence, and for the compassionate summing up of the learned Judge.

The verdict was "Guilty," but was accompanied by a strong recommendation to mercy, the jury having serious doubts as to the sanity of the condemned woman.

The recommendation to mercy was followed in due course by the clemency of the Crown, and the unknown woman was sent into confinement during Her Majesty's pleasure.

* * * *

Twelve years after the Manchester tragedy a group of three were seen waiting at the gates of one of our female convict prisons, awaiting the coming out of someone whose time of durance had expired.

The three waiting men were Danzini, Vedrini, and the aged Padrone Villimimo.

When the great doors were opened there appeared just one woman, who was seen shaking hands with a female warder and expressing her thanks for the many acts of kindness she had received during her ten years' incarceration.

When the doors swung to behind her she stood for a moment perplexed and dazed, and then recognising the friends waiting to receive her, she rushed forward crying—"Phillipi, my husband, and you, my friends," and then in an instant she was in her husband's arms feeling the warmth and joy of his tender pity, and presently she was shaking hands with the Italian showman and the lodging-house keeper.

And now the secret is out, the avenger of the dastardly outrage and political crime at Blackburn Fair was Eleonora Danzini, the wife of the man who suffered so terribly from the explosion of the bomb, but the true inwardness of the motives prompting the crime only became known some years after.

It was the confession of an Italian, a political spy in the pay of the Government, and in substance it was, that he, in order to justify his continued employment, had invented a story of secret political activity in which he had involved perfectly innocent people like the Danzinis and Vedrini, the showman.

The consummate villainy of the man was shown in the way in which he had played off one political society against another, and for the purpose of proving his usefulness as a political agent had incited individuals to commit crimes for so-called political purposes.

The bomb outrage in the ghost show at Blackburn Fair was one of the devilish schemes of his invention.

With all the fire of her Southern nature Eleonora Danzini determined to be revenged on the man who had wrecked her happiness and nearly killed her husband.

How she got on the track of the villain and ultimately traced him to the Padrone's lodging in Manchester she never divulged, but doubtless in this matter she received from her compatriots considerable assistance.

Shortly after her release Vedrini's show passed over to France, and with it went the Danzinis, the sad sufferers from that most awful pest of human society, the "agent provocateur."

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Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

The May Day Fair at Stockport attracted an unusually large crowd of big concerns. These included Captain Tom Payne's bioscope, Gal. Hague's assault-at-arms, Gibson's temple of mystery, and Haydon's second experts; W. Shaw's fine art gallery completed the show list. J. Hibbert and Sons, the local firm, contributed a set of motor-cars and a farmyard set, with ranges of swings and other novelties. John Collins exhibited two machines, motor-cars and steam yachts; Harrison with slipping the slope and highfliers. Winchester ranges and rifle saloons were provided by Wild, Fletcher, and Jewell. There were avenues of minor novelties, in all occupying 520ft. frontage, the principal caterers being Deekes, Beckett, Smith, Ingham, Turner, Fletcher, Jewell, Chaplin, Beckett, Cordwell, and Lynch.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, APRIL 4.—*Charley's Aunt* has just been revived at the Manhattan Theatre. It was first produced at this house thirteen years ago, and Mr. Etienne Girardot made the hit of a lifetime as Lord Fancourt Babberley. He is playing his original part in the revival, and sending the audience into convulsions of laughter, just as he did in days gone by.

"BEDFORD'S HOPE," a play written by Lincoln J. Carter, has scored a sensational success at several of the "popular price" houses in this vicinity. It tells a story of life in a Montana mining camp, where William Bedford's "Old Pard" mine has lost its "pay streak," and the miners are working day and night to discover the vein again, not only to save the mine, but also its owner, who is in financial difficulties. Their efforts are ultimately successful, and everyone is made wealthy and happy except the villain, Colonel Hooker, who has plotted in vain to obtain possession of the mine, and ruin its owner. The sensational feature of the play is a realistic race between an auto. and an express train carrying rival parties to an auction sale of the "Old Pard" stock, information having been received that the "pay streak" has been discovered. The automobile wins, the audience being worked up to a high pitch of excitement.

"MR. HOPKINSON" has moved from the Savoy to the Lew Fields Theatre, which has just been leased by Mr. James K. Hackett, who has long desired to become the manager of a New York theatre. Mr. Hackett, in conjunction with Mr. Frank Curzon, will produce farces and comedies at his theatre, which will probably be renamed. In the meantime, *Mr. Hopkinson* is expected to run for several months in its new quarters.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN is to have two new theatres in or near Broadway, and according to current report they will be named after Mr. John Drew and Miss Maude Adams.

MR. DE WOLF HOPPER, in *Happyland*, is the reigning attraction at the Casino. In this comic opera, which is far superior to the average musical play submitted to Broadway playgoers, Mr. Reginald De Koven, the composer, has done some of his best work, and the libretto, by the late Frederic Ranken, is equally praiseworthy. As King Ecstaticus Mr. Hopper is exceedingly droll and diverting, and is ably assisted by Miss Marguerite Clarke, a petite comedienne, who is dainty and refined, and a sweet singer, besides being remarkably pretty.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA has been appearing with great success at the local music halls under the management of Mr. Percy G. Williams, and her songs have delighted large audiences. The Country Girl" and "Waiting at the Church" won immediate popularity, but a certain catchy refrain—inseparably associated with the name of Vesta Victoria, and which pervaded New York during her previous visit to this city—was not forgotten by any means, and "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-wow" was sung in response to persistent demands, and received with enthusiastic approval.

FRED KARNO'S London pantomime company in *A Night in an English Music Hall* have fulfilled engagements recently at the principal music halls in New York and Brooklyn, and their success has been most emphatic.

EDWARD J. MORGAN, an actor of English birth, who was very popular in America, died very suddenly in New York on the 10th ult. He was alone in his room at the Belleclaire Hotel when an attack of vertigo caused him to fall to the floor face downwards, and, being too weak to rise, he was suffocated.

NEW YORK, APRIL 18.—*The Social Whirl*, a musical comedy, in two acts, produced by the Messrs. Shubert at the Casino on the 7th inst., met with a very favourable reception, and is likely to prove an excellent summer attraction, the Casino being the one theatre on Broadway that is never expected to close during the hot weather. Messrs. Charles Doty and Joseph Herbert wrote the book, and Mr. Gustav Kerker composed the music of this new offering, which was staged in an admirable manner by Mr. R. H. Burnside, and the result of their joint efforts is a typical Casino "show" that is quite in accord with popular taste. For its title the piece has what is supposed to be the name of a racy society journal, the idea having been suggested by a recent scandal in which a local publication of this description was involved. The journal in question has published a paragraph about a certain gentleman who has taken a trip in a motor-car with a "Broadway favourite." The gentleman's initials are "J. E.," and the complications that create all the fun are caused by the fact that four individuals more or less acquainted with one another have names beginning with the same letters. The representative of the *Whirl* obtains his information from the proprietress of a fashionable manicure parlour, and this place is the scene of the first act, the exterior of a country club house being reproduced with rich pictorial effect in the second act.

Messrs. Charles Ross, Joseph Coyne, and Frederick Bond are the principal funmakers, and to their hearty co-operation the success of the piece is largely due. A very entertaining member of the company is Miss Maude Raymond, who sings an amusing song about "Bill Simmons," a coloured gentleman who had to dance whenever he heard a band. Miss Adele Ritchie, as Violet Dare, the "Broadway favourite," acted the part with her usual vivacity and *savoir-faire*. Miss Mabel Fenton distinguished herself as a society leader; Miss Ada Lewis was capital as a "tough" soubrette from the West; and Miss Blanche Deyo's dancing won well-deserved applause.

"IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT," a farce in three acts, by Edgar Selwyn, was well received at the Savoy Theatre on the 2nd inst. Howard Beasley, in order to keep the allowance which he receives from a rich uncle, invents an imaginary son and gives him the same name as the uncle, Caxton Coulter. The deception is kept up for several years, until Mr. Coulter pays a visit to his nephew, having decided to take his namesake to live with him. Beasley's friend, Jack Dobbins, reluctantly agrees to find a boy, and pretend to be his tutor. A precocious youngster named Archibald escapes from an institution and climbs into Dobbins's room by the window. When the rich uncle arrives with Mrs. Coulter and their daughter Winifred, the boy suddenly emerges from his hiding-place, and in desperation Dobbins introduces him as Beasley's son; much to the surprise of Beasley's wife, who has not been told of the deception. Dobbins and his supposed pupil are installed in Mr. Coulter's home, where Dobbins lays siege to Winifred's heart and makes himself quite at home in the wine cellar. In the complications that ensue, Messrs. Beasley, Dobbins, and Coulter are each accused of being Archibald's father, which causes no end of jealousy and bad feeling. It is ultimately discovered that the boy is the son of an individual named Bill Stubbs, who turns up at the end to be forgiven. Before this happens Archibald calmly accepts each new father with a proper display of affection and an entire absence of emotion. The hit of the performance was made by Master Pincus Lekosky, a fat-faced youngster with an amusing dialect and unlimited assurance, who impersonated the boy Archibald. Mr. Herbert Carr played the uncle, Caxton Coulter, with considerable humour, and made a decided hit. Mr. Edgar Selwyn's Howard Beasley was a clever characterisation, and Mr. Herbert Sleath, as Jack Dobbins, upheld preposterous incidents and situations with an *aplomb* that was most convincing. Miss Louise Closser, Miss Maud Hosford, and Miss Carolyn Lee played prominent parts well.

"THE GREATER LOVE," a four-act play, written by Mrs. Ivy Ashton Root, deals with some of the most interesting episodes in the life of the great composer Mozart. The play has won a fair measure of success at the Madison-square Theatre. The scenes are laid in Vienna and Prague during the period in which *Don Giovanni* and *The Magic Flute* were composed and Mozart's last requiem was finished. Some of the characters introduced in the play are Aloysia Weber, in whose voice the composer was greatly interested; Constanz Weber, who afterwards became his wife; Herr Schikaneder, Mozart's enemy, the manager for whom he wrote *The Magic Flute*, and who subsequently robbed him of his royalties; Signor Bondini, manager of the theatre at Prague, who retrieved his fortunes by producing *Don Giovanni*; Franz Sussmayer, Mozart's pupil and staunch friend; and Albert Lange, the actor who became the husband of Aloysia Weber. The final scene of the play shows Mozart surrounded by his wife and friends, who join in singing the requiem, this being a reproduction of Munkacsy's painting, "The Last Moments of Mozart." The play was extremely interesting. Mr. Howard Kyle gave an intelligent, sympathetic, and highly artistic embodiment of the great composer, and the performance was creditable to all concerned.

MESSRS. SHUBERT BROTHERS, the leaders of the "independent" movement in America, have obtained control of a large number of theatres during the last ten months, and have formed a circuit of fifty playhouses in the principal cities. Several prominent players have lately deserted the "syndicate" managers and signed contracts to appear under the direction of the Shuberts.

MR. TONY PASTOR completed his forty-first year of theatrical management on the 22nd ult., and celebrated the occasion by making his reappearance on the stage of his popular music-hall after a long absence. The house was packed, and Mr. Pastor received an ovation. A reminder of days gone by that was hugely enjoyed by many persons in the audience who were able to remember the old, old songs was Mr. Pastor's singing of "Sarah's Young Man."

NEW YORK, APRIL 25.—Mr. William H. Crane's personal popularity is largely responsible for the success of the farcical comedy, *An American Lord*, by George Broadhurst and C. T. Dazey, in which he is now appearing at the Hudson Theatre, the incidents and situations being mostly far-fetched and absurdly improbable. Mr. Crane has the part of John Breuster, who keeps an hotel in North Dakota, and has an unconquerable aversion to the English nobility. But his daughter falls in love with a nice young fellow who proves to be a lord, and to add to his discomfiture he inherits an estate in England and the title of Lord Breuster. When these honours are suddenly thrust upon him his first impulse is to decline them and stay in his own country, but he thinks better of it, and decides to take up his new responsibilities in order that he may have an opportunity of showing the Britishers "how an American runs things." He puts electric lights in the parish church, pulls down cottages and builds model tenements with all the latest American improvements, and astonishes the natives in other ways. He treads on his neighbours' corns to such an extent that he becomes embroiled in a row with Lord Wycherly, who owns the adjoining property. The two men snarl at each other through the bars of an iron gate in the party wall until the Englishman says something which Breuster takes as "an affront to the entire American nation," and the patriotic Yankee swears to get even with his enemy at every possible opportunity. In the meantime his son falls in love with Lord Wycherly's daughter. The love affairs of the young people, who have none of their parents' prejudices, land them in numerous complications, and Breuster himself is always in hot water. But he sees the error of his ways eventually, is cured of his Anglophobia, and actually helps his son to elope with his English sweetheart. One newspaper announced that Mr. Crane "twisted the lion's tail in three acts," but as a matter of fact he merely gave it a jerk or two. In fact, the feud between the Englishman and the American resolved itself into a mutual admiration conference at the close, with the erstwhile prejudiced Yankee saying all sorts of nice things about the "mother country."

CRICKET.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. II. v. HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND C.C.

Played near Bristol on Good Friday, April 13. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Hare, b Mattock, 2; B. Davies, b Mattock, 0; W. Lloyd, l.b.w, b Mattock, 8; F. Thorne (captain), b Everett, 1; F. White, run out, 0; A. Norman, b Hamlin, 10; F. Morgan, b Everitt, 4; W. J. Horton, c and b Hamlin, 1; E. Taylor, b Hamlin, 1; B. Austin, not out, 13; F. Hodges, b Mattock, 1. Extras, 11. Total, 52.

Harry Hare's Band C.C.—E Bowman, b Thorne, 7; A. Mattock, b Norman, 0; S. Richards, b Thorne, 0; P. Hewlett, c Hare b Thorne, 2; H. Edwards, b Thorne, 19; A. Hamlin (captain), b Norman, 6; L. Hamlin, b Thorne, 1; F. Harrison, c and b Norman, 7; F. Stevens, b Thorne, 0; B. Everitt, b Thorne, 4; Miss Ethel Bowman, not out, 1. Extras, 9. Total, 56.

In the evening a smoking concert was held, the following contributing to the programme:—Miss Minnie Leonard, with "The Fireman" and "The Lifeboat"; Miss Ethel Bowman, with banjo solos; Harry Edwards, cornet solos, "The Lost Chord" and "The Holy City"; Leonard Hamlin, harp solos; Archie Hamlin, violin solos; Alf. Mattock, 'cello solos, "The Broken Melody" and "Simple Aveu"; Percy Howlett, piccolo solos; Harry Hare, piano solos; Frank Thorne, Eddie Bowman, Fred White, Bert Austin, Walter J. Horton, Teddy Poole. Harry Hare presided at the piano. The Bijou Orchestra played selections from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, "Stabat Mater," Mendelssohn's "Songs Without Words," and *Carmen*.

HARRY'S HARE'S ELEVEN v. ST. MICHAEL'S RESERVES C.C.

Played near Bristol on Easter Monday. J. Leonard batted and bowled well for Harry Hare's Eleven. Scores:—

Harry Hare's Eleven.—J. Lewis b Clarke, 4; F. Thorne b Warren, 9; H. Hare (captain) b Warren, 0; H. Taylor b Clarke, 1; J. Leonard b Warren, 32; A. Hamlin, b Clarke, 1; H. Edwards run out, 3; S. Carter b Warren, 9; A. English c and b Clarke, 0; Miss Minnie Leonard b Clarke, 1; Bert Austin not out, 6; extras, 8; total, 74.

St. Michael's Reserves C.C.—G. Foster b Hare, 9; B. Humphries b Leonard, 0; W. Hallett b Leonard, 0; H. Taylor lbw b Hare, 5; G. Warren c Hamlin b Leonard, 2; J. Latham b Hare, 0; H. Clarke b Leonard, 11; E. Edmunds b Leonard, 0; E. Escott b Hare, 14; G. Osborne not out, 4; F. Griffen b Leonard, 0; extras, 13; total, 58.

In the evening an open-air concert and dance was arranged, the following contributing to the programme:—Miss Lillie Belding, Miss Ivy Bowman, Miss Rosie Davies, Miss Lilla Carter, Misses Minnie and Gracie Leonard, and Messrs. S. Carter, J. Leonard, H. Slade, F. Thorne, G. Warren, E. Edmunds, F. Hudson, H. Clarke, J. Lewis, A. English, H. Taylor, H. Hare (piano solos), B. Austin; Harry Hare's Orchestral Band played for dancing, also selections from *The Little Michus*, *Mr. Popple*, and plantation songs (Chambers).

THE Brothers Ashley finish to-night a successful twenty-six weeks' provincial tour at the Palace, Manchester, and open on Monday at the Grand, Clapham.

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WANTED, First-Class Companies, June 11, 12, 13 (three nights), 14, 15, 16 (three nights), and onward. Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for May 21 and June 4; the latter is the Oddfellows' Festival Week at Barrow. June 11, 18, and 25 also open. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, 51, Rue du Ranelagh, Passy, Paris.

WANTED, a First-class Company, for The Empire Theatre, Oldham, May 28.
Wire, DOTTRIDGE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 14, 21, 28, Whit Week, Colchester; also Whit Week, Clacton. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

PIER PAVILION THEATRE, HERNE BAY,
Opens at Whitsun after Extensive Alterations. Stage enlarged; new scenery; electric light throughout; reseated; balcony built. Holds more money than any other building in the Bay.
WANTED, First-class Attractions.
H. BANKS, 366, Clapham-rd., London, S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Musical or other Attraction, June 25, Share or Certainty; open to let the Theatre to responsible party for four weeks, July 2, for Stock Season. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, through disappointment, Pantomime production, for three weeks at Xmas, must be first-class, with well-known principals; also Panto. (second in), for one or two weeks, Feb. 4; vacancies for Dramatic or Musical Attractions, June 11, Aug. 13, Sept. 10 and 17, Nov. 5, Dec. 10 and 17, and various spring dates.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 21 and June 4.
Apply, STANLEY ROGERS,
H. M. Theatre, Carlisle.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, best Companies only, for May 14, 15, 16, on. Seating for about 1,400. Now booking for the Season. PHILLIPS, Proprietor.

WANTED, Big Attractions, May 7, 14, on, Grand, Chorley; also June 4, 11, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday),
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, PRESTON.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, June 4 and 18. Address, SAWYER and WOODRUFF.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 14, Aug. 6, 13, 20, Aug. 1, 22, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, on. Nothing too big. Address, HORNER, Victoria Theatre Burnley.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
May 21, 28, and June 4.
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE, OLDHAM,
under new Management.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 21, 28, June 4, and on. Gen.-Man., WM. EASTWOOD.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for the Royal Pier Pavilion, Aberystwyth.

For vacant Summer Dates apply to J. H. ROWE.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 13, and 20.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant May 21, 28, Aug. 6, 13.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant May 14, 21, 28, June 4.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant May 7, 14, 21, 28.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant May 7, 14, 21, 28.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 14 (Five Night), May 28, Sept. 3, 24.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant May 7, 21, 28, June 11.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 14, June 4, 11, 18.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant May 7, 14, 21, 28.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 5.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN, Managing Director, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Aberdeen and Dundee, May 14, 21, 28, and June 4; Newcastle (Theatre Royal), June 4; Middlesbrough (Grand Opera House), May 14, 21, and 28; Kennington, May 14 and 28.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Sole Proprietor, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.
The recognised and most popular Theatre in the district.
WANTED, First-Class Companies only. Bookings include: "The Earl and the Girl," F. R. Benson, "The Blue Moon," "Duchess of Dantzic," "Prince of Pilsen," "The White Chrysanthemum," "Freedom of Suzanne," "Sergeant Brue," "Public Opinion," "The Toreador," Marie Hall, &c., &c. N.B.—This theatre has the only stage in the town capable of adequately mounting any attraction touring. Address, HENRY BOWMAN, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, May 21 and June 4 (Whit Week).
Address, HARRY YORKE.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Good Attractions, for July 30, Aug. 6 and 13 also Sept. 24.
HARRY FISCHER.

WANTED, Good Musical Show, for June 18, Grand Yorkshire Gala Week.
WADDINGTON, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Comedy Company, July 9, for Scarboro'. Address, WADDINGTON,
Stonegate, York.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.
WANTED, Companies, May 24, 25, and 26, 3 nights only, June 4 (Whit), Sept. 3, onwards. Silence a courteous negative.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, June 4, on, with exceptions, musical preferred. Apply, CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, First-Class Attraction, for May 21. Wire,
DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Musical, May 14, June 4, 11, Grand, Chorley; also June 4, 11, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

STANLEY (DURHAM) NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Good Attractions, May 28 and Autumn.
Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, Good Dramatic Companies, June 4, onwards. WM. B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant dates from Aug 20. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEIGH, LANCS.
Proprietor, Mr. J. W. CRAGG. Under New Management.
WANTED, all Managers holding Contracts for Dates, please forward for confirmation. Good, sound dramas required, May 21 and 28. All communications, HARRY ROUSBY, as above.

WANTED, Companies, May 14, 21, and 28 (three or six nights each).
GRAY, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES,
Lessee, W. E. POTTS.
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK,
Lessees, PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 27, and on (first three days Dumfries, last three Hawick).
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Spa, Whitby.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Nov. 19, Dec. 3, and Xmas.
Certainties to known Attractions.

THE SPA, WHITBY,
All engagements complete.

Bookings include The Yokels, The Hollanders, The Caledonian Boys' Band, Scarlet Mr. E's, Jamaica Native Choir, &c.
Spa Theatre: Mr. Edward Terry, F. R. Benson, "Sergeant Brue," "Public Opinion," "The Country Girl," "Walls of Jericho," "Christian," "Three Little Maids," "On the Love Path," &c.
Address, W. PAYNE SEDDON, Spa, Whitby.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Vacant June 18 (?), July 2, 9, 16.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
Vacant June 25, and July.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

FOLKESTONE and HASTINGS.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
now in the height of success.
June 18, Oct. 22,
Nov. 1 (3 nights), Nov. 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE,
FOLKESTONE,
June 25, July 2, 9,
Oct. 22, 29 (3 nights), Nov. 12, Dec. 3.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND, Theatre, Folkestone.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, June 4, August 6, 13, 20, 27.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Vacant May 21, June 4, August 6, 13, 20.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Vacant June 4, August 6, 13, 20, 27.
Address, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, May 7; also July 25.
Managers can always depend upon doing a good week's business at the Queen's.
Apply, L. CARSON, Keighley.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, Good Attractions, June 4 (Whit.), 11, 18, and on.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager,
May 7, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions only, for Week of
May 21.
Wire, "Hustler," Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for Whit week, to oblige Manager, "One of the Best" Co. Wire or write, KELLY,
8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for weeks commencing May 28 and June 4 (Whit week). Particulars, &c., to
J. C. IMESON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.
WANTED, Good Attractions,
May 28,
June 4,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, H. SHERRIFF HOWARD, General-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Companies, for Aug. 13 and 20. Share or Certainty.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, through transfer,
First-class Attraction for
Whit week
Address, J. F. GRAHAM, as above.

DUNFERMLINE AND DUMFRIES.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday and Onward, High-class Plays, Musical Comedies, Comic Opera, and Shakespearean Répertoire.
Apply to JAS. KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

WANTED, Musical Show, or Comedy, for Aug. 6, Paisley Fair, Holidays and Race Week; also Strong Attractions, Aug. 13 and 20, Paisley and Perth.
Address, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

ELEPHANT THEATRE, LONDON, S.E.
WANTED, June 2 and 9.
Apply, GENERAL MANAGER.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for May 14, 21, June 11, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN

THEATRES ROYAL,
BILSTON AND WEDNESBURY.
WANTED, Good Attractions, May 21, 28, and Whit Week, both Theatres. HARRY BATTERSBY, T. R., Bilston.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company, for June 11, 18 (?), and 25. Terms and copy of day-bill to J. H. CURRY, as above.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD, E.
May 14 and 21 Vacant.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, for the above dates.
FRED FREDERICKS.

THE SPA THEATRE, BRIDLINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for only remaining Open Dates, viz., weeks July 30 and Aug. 6, and 3 nights, Aug. 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, also Sept. 13, 14, 15, and 17, 18, 19. Can fix Flying Matinées. Best connection. Electricity and appointments throughout. Address, Mr. HAGUE, c/o Matcham's Hotel, Newcastle-street, Strand, W.C.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 28, June 11.
E. H. PAGE.

COURT THEATRE, GALWAY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, July 23 (Horse Show week), July 30 (Race week), Sept. 3 (Fair week), 24, Oct. 1, 15, and onwards, with exceptions. For terms please address, P. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Proprietor.

SEASIDE.
BATHS ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LYTHAM.
WANTED, for Whit Week, and during Summer Season, Companies, Dioramas, Gipsy Choirs, Pierrots; Hall to Lease, for season.
MANAGER.

BRIGHTON WEST PIER.
WANTED, First-Class Company (not Drama), for May 28. Apply SECRETARY.

CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM.
WANTED, Good Companies, June and July, with exceptions.
Apply, Mr. CECIL PAGET.

TERMINUS HALL, LITTLEHAMPTON, SUSSEX.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, two or three nights, Whitsun, August Bank Holiday, and several good Season Dates vacant.
Apply, G. E. REDMAN, Manager.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 28, June 4, Sept. 17, Oct. 8.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, June 4, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Nov. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Bruges, Willow-avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Weeks of June 25 and July 2.

Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 4 (?), 18 (to follow Prince's, Bristol), on.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
Aug. 6 (to precede Peckham), 20, on.

CHARLES HARRINGTON, T. R., Halifax.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this Year.
CHALMERS MACKEY,
This, Queen's T., Manchester;
next week, Opera House, Blackpool.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, through Extension of Tour, May 14 (follow Swansea), 21, 28, June 4, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day, Clarence, Pontypridd; next, Star, Swansea.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 2, 30, Aug. 6, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, 22, and Dec. 31.
J. W. CORDINER, P.O.W. Theatre, Grimsby.
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, May 14, North. Wire, May 14.
38th Week of Present Tour. June 18, follow Alexandra, Sheffield.
July 2, precede Stratford, 23, follow W. London Bookings and Re-bookings extend into March, 1907.
FRANK AYRTON, Metropole, Glasgow.

WANTED, "Private Secretary," Open Dates, Sept. 17 and 24, Nov. 1 (3 nights), 12, and Dec. 24, onwards.
Apply, EUGENE C. STAFFORD, c/o FRENCH, LTD., 26, Southampston-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MESSRS. SHINTON & GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Theatres, first vacant date Aug. 27.
All communications to
JOHN B. SHINTON,
King's Theatre, Cardiff.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction, June 11, 18, 25, and on; "Defending His Honour," July 2, 16, 23, Aug. 6. Address, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 10, North or Midlands.
Miss Maud Hildyard and Powerful Company.
Mr. ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire T., Oldham.

"OUR BOYS" and "CASTE," No. 1 Company.
WANTED, June 4, following Prince's, Bristol, also other dates. Exceptionally strong cast, with Mr. Charles Otley as Middlewick and Eccles. Suburban Theatres can be arranged with on equitable terms.
Address, CHAS. OTLEY, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 21 and June 11, to precede Theatre Royal, Bolton.

To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, Alex. T., Birmingham; May 7, Grand Theatre, Islington.

LESTER COLLINGWOOD'S
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS" No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Good Theatre, Sept. 17, '05, for this exceptionally powerful attraction; also a few weeks in the autumn of '07.
LESTER COLLINGWOOD,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

HERBERT BARRS' ATTRACTIONS.
WANTED, June 4, 11, 25 (follow Leeds, &c., "East Lynne," and répertoire), and Aug. 6, on "Aladdin" vacant Xmas and Feb. 4. HERBERT BARRS, Prince's Theatre, Horwich.

Charles Windermere and Co. in the Famous Comedy, "FACING THE MUSIC."
WANTED, June 18 (?), July 12, 3 nights, to follow Harrogate; July 16, Aug. 20, Sept. 27, and on, with exceptions. May 7, West Pier, Brighton.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, May 21 and June 4, Fifth Year of Tour.
Excellent acting and fine stage effects. . . . Splendid series of conjuring tricks performed by Mr. Neville. The tricks were decidedly neat, and showed that Mr. Neville, in addition to being an accomplished actor, is an expert in conjuring.—Exeter Express, May 2.
Special Scenery, Effects, and Printing; Superb Cast.
Mr. Edward Neville as Lucio.
Included in Répertoire, "Nana," and "The Anarchist Terror."
Playing to splendid business at Exeter. Wire to-day, LOVE ESMOND, T. R., Exeter; May 7, Opera House, Ilfracombe.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, June 11 and 18, to follow Bradford, and precede Aldershot.
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

JULIAN MALVERN'S TOUR.
"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 3 and 10 (to follow Walsall and precede Edinburgh); also Nov. 5 and 12 (to follow Alex., Birmingham, return).
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, Victoria, Broughton.

"CALLED BACK" and Répertoire.
Ernest R. Norris and Powerful Company.
WANTED, May 14 and 21. WILTON REED, to-day, G. T., Brighton; Monday, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
Mr. Frank Lindo and full Company.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 13, 20, 27, also Oct. 8.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield (return).

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Enormous Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, and on, with exceptions. Apply,
FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"THE NAVAL DETECTIVE." In Old Madrid.
WANTED, Good Theatres, May 21, 28, North; June 11, follow Mexborough; 25th, precede Scarborough. KIRKE, Theatre, Ashington, Northumberland.

D. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S COS.
WANTED, Theatres for
"THE GRIP OF IRON,"
Aug. 6, and on,
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN,"
June 11, 18, and 25 (London or near).
GEORGE DENHAM, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, owing to Extending a most Successful Tour, May 21 and 28 (North only)
Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, June 4. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be second to none Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18. Can only entertain First-class Theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Companies are beautifully staged, well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident-management, shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Aug. 13, to follow Newcastle, through misunderstanding; also Sept. 3 and Oct. 8. No other Vacant Dates until 1907. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"THE HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Sept. 15, 22, Nov. 26. All new scenery and printing. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, for this Sterling Attraction, Vacant June 18 and 25 (through obliging), Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 8. Splendidly advertised, beautifully mounted, and artistically played. Fifth year of Tour. A solid success.
GRAND T., MIDDLESBRO', May 7.

40th Week of Continuous Tour.
"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE"
Opened here, 8th Visit, to a Splendid House, in spite of 3,000 men out of work, and a Good Week Predicted by the Local Management.
The old "Romany" is Good, Solid Domestic Drama, not "blood and thunder," and will draw money anywhere. Richly staged. Perfectly presented. Cleverly acted by one of the best constituted casts in the provinces.
WANTED, June 11, 18, and 25, to precede Palace, Newcastle. Wire, E. A'DELL,
To-day, Llanelly; next, Aberdare (7th visit).

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Miss Dora Dench as Nurse May.
The Leader says:—Mr. Sidney Dench and his company tackle the work in a most business-like manner. Everything goes like clockwork, and with the precision of a cinematographic exhibition. Mr. Dench as Spider Jack sets a good example to those associated with him. Miss Dora Dench as Nurse May excites the sympathy of her audience at an early stage of the performance.
WANTED, June 4 (follow Met., Birmingham), 11, 18. Letters, DENCH, Century Theatre, Motherwell.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
1906-1907.
WANTED, First-Class Theatre, having large Stage and large holding capacity, for production at Christmas of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Record-Breaking Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA";
"CINDERELLA";
"CINDERELLA";
also vacant
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Jan. 21, and onwards, North;
"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Feb. 4, and onwards, South.
All communications to
Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes by Angels.
WANTED, June 18 and Aug. 6, onwards.
JACK HADDON, Empire Theatre, Oldham.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
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Mr. Jack Haddon, having acquired the sole proprietorship of above Pantomime, which is acknowledged to be one of the finest productions toured, will be pleased to hear from managers of first-class theatres, from Xmas week, and onwards.
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WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 28. This superlative attraction was played for twelve consecutive weeks (and with matinées ninety-seven performances), at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, to record business. Everything carried. LESTER COLLINGWOOD, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Whit. Week, on; Aug. 13, on. A good play. Real artists.
W. J. MILLER, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, Theatres, July 30, Aug. 20, Sept. 3 for D'Arcy Clayton's "Gipsies and their Jester." HENRY J. BILSBOROUGH, Woodville-terrace, Bradford.

"THE NEW WORLD."
WANTED, May 28, precede Manchester, Whit great successes at Metropole, Glasgow; also June 18, on. Wire, WHITE; to-day, Metropole, Glasgow; Monday, North Shields.

Mr. EADE MONTEFIORE'S COMPANY,
"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, June 18, 25, and all July approaching 2000th Performance.
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MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.
WANTED, First-Class Drama dates only for Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 8, and few later.
A superb and costly production.
Production May 14 at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, with one of the strongest companies ever seen in Drama.
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No. 1, "NIGHT OUT," from the Vaudeville.
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EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, May 28, June 4.
Wire, Theatre Royal, Halifax, to-day; afterwards, Brixton Theatre.

"THE KING'S SECRET,"
By Charles Whitlock.
WANTED, July 2 (?), July 9, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct. 8, and on, for this first-class attraction. JAMES STILLWELL, Grand, Newcastle.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 15, 22, and 29. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

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WANTED, First-Class Theatres, for the above Great Success, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Midlands preferred. Address, POLINI, 93, Penge-road, Anerley, London, S.E.

WANTED, Theatres, for Miss Mary Neil and Mr. George Kirk's Co.,
"HER LUCK IN LONDON,"
by Charles Darrell,
Aug. 20, on, with exceptions.
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"SILVER KING" COMPANY.
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"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Aug. 6, 13, 20, Xmas, New Year. FRANCES DELAVAL, to-day, T. R., Stratford; next, T. R., Bath.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, through Extension of Tour, May 28, June 4,
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
A Magnificent Production.

Forty People on the Stage.

Nine Massive Sets of Scenery.

Usual Enormous Business this Week at Leeds. This Attraction can be seen May 7, Standard Theatre, London; 14th, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction; 21st, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

Wire,
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS,
To-day, Theatre Royal, Bury;
next, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
Walter Howard's Latest Success.
Annie Saker,
Alfred Paumier.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, 1907, Feb. 25, May 20, Aug. 5, Oct. 14, Nov. 4.
ALFRED PAUMIER, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Mr. Harry Culienford as Karl.
Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia.
WANTED, Good Theatre, July 16, 23, Aug. 6, 13, and onwards, with exceptions. Sound production guaranteed. Thanks Messrs. Moore and Laidler for contracts. Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury. 270 applicants for vacant heavy part.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Immediate Dates,
Mr. ANDREW MOIR'S COMPANY,
in
a Dual Bill,
consisting of
Miniature Grand Opera,
"THE GAMBLER'S WIFE,"
and Three-Act Farcical Comedy,
"THE MAJOR'S DOUBLE."
F. MARTIN MORRIS,
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MISS FRANCES DELAVAL'S CO.,
"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
Tremendous Success. Miss Frances Delaval as Principe. Mr. Percy Carne Waram as Wilfred.
WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday. To-day, T. R., Stratford; next, T. R., Bath.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever.
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WANTED, a few Autumn Dates for "A Miserable Marriage" Co., in this great attraction. Address, J. NEGUS, T. R., Unesterheid.

Mr. WENTWORTH CROKE'S COMPANY,
in the screaming Farcical Comedy,
"TOO MANY COOKS,"
from the Criterion Theatre, London.
WANTED, Dates, Whit and on.
Apply, 31, Bedford-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, Whit Week, First-Class Theatres, Hippodromes or Public Halls, for The Kellinos "Fête in Venice," and Star Vaudeville Company. Share or Certainty.
All communications,
Vaudeville Club, 98, Charing Cross-road.

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WANTED, for Seaside Stock Season (South), rehearse Tuesday next, experienced Actress for Aristocratic, and Comedy, Char., Old Women, and Chambermaids; also available for Juveniles; must be young and clever. If suitable, ten to fourteen weeks' engagement; must dress well. Summer terms; moderate. Write (with photo.), or wire, THOMSON, Pelham House, Paignton, S. Devon.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Smart, Attractive Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, good appearance and good voices absolutely essential. Apply, personally and immediately, KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Musical Comedy Artists, in all lines, also chorus, young, and good voices; also dancers. C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Autumn Tour, Leading Lady, Cigarette, Comedian, Chambermaid, both sing, dance; Juvenile Gentleman. State height, terms, references, parts played, photos. MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

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SIDNEY BACON'S TOUR.
"THE MANIAC."
WANTED, Powerful Leading Lady, Lowest Terms, Photos., and References.
MELVILLE BICKFORD, 12, Sussex-place, Belfast.

Miss GRACE WARNER'S REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, Char. Comedy Lady, tall, sing a little, also very small child, for Little Willie and Waif. Joint preferred. Send age, height, photos., and last two refs. to Grand, Walsall.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, for above, First-Class Principal Comedian, for "Silas Crump," to rehearse May 21; must sing and dance well. Full particulars in first letter, and address, for two weeks, to J. W. CORDINER, Prince of Wales' T., Grimsby.

WANTED, Powerful Character Actor, about 35, must have pathos; tall responsible gentleman, for special two weeks, May 28 and June 4; rehearse May 21, near London; return fares from London will be paid. Photos. and references must be enclosed, or no notice taken. Address, FRED J. LITTLE, 88, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, for "Her Fatal Past," Autumn, Tours, First-Class Leading Man, Heavy Man, and Heavy Woman. Kindly send full particulars, two well-known references, and photos. if not known, to T. E. WARD, c/o 19, Percy-street, Hull.

WANTED, a Light Comedian, who can play the 'Cello, for a Summer Engagement of twelve weeks certain. Write to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, to open Monday, for Stock, Robust, Heavy, and Character gentleman, willing to undertake responsibles. Wire, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, L. Theatre, Stafford.

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WANTED, Tenors, Baritones, Sopranos, Soubrettes, Light and Low Comedians, and Pianists; all must have knowledge of dancing. Lowest terms, photographs, age, height, and references by letter to WILLIE OSBORNE, 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

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ARTISTS WANTED.

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To Managers and Proprietors.
WANTED, Known, Millis and Lazern's Eastern Entertainers,
Having just returned from an extended tour of Australia, New Zealand, India, and the Far East,
are open to receive offers for
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Fred W. Millis,
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Mlle. Yasiho,
the Charming Soprano, with her Budget of Illustrated Songs, all original and fully protected, and
Emile Lazern,
the Man of Mystery, and Oriental Wonder Worker.
Beautiful Oriental Stage Settings, &c.
Three different kinds of Lithos.
Can do half an hour to two hours' Show.
May 14, THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Vacant Dates, Terms, &c., apply to
FRED W. MILLIS,
Wattle Bloom, Broomwater West,
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WANTED, Engagement, by Mlle. Elena Colonna, full, rich mezzo voice. Has sung with great success in Italy, France, Belgium. Dates open for touring, seaside or town. Address, c/o T. ARTHUR RUSSELL, Concert Director, Sackville-street, W. Also young lady accompanist desires engagement, in conjunction with above artist, where there would be opportunity to study violin. Small premium would be paid. Address as above.

WANTED, Known, Vacant.
Here's to me, as good as I am;
Here's to you, as good as UB;
But as good as I am
And as bad as I BEE,
I'm as good as U, bad as I am.
Height, 6ft.; Actor-Author. Pref. (Army part). Salary per foot.
D., Box 3,200, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to producers of Operas, Musical Comedy, &c.—Experienced Chorus Master, just finished sixth tour No. 1 Company, at Liberty for Summer; highest testimonials, &c. Advertiser holds double diploma solo singing. Box 3,210, "The Era" Office.

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WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes, for '06 and '07, Principal Boys and Girls, Comedians, Dames, and all Lines. Apply by letter, with photos. and all particulars, to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

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WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, High-class Work and Best Materials, at reasonable prices. Large and well-appointed studio. Address, CHARLES J. SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

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WANTED, Theatres, Theatre Tours, Music Halls, Music Hall Acts, &c., &c., requiring Capital, and Capitalists desiring bona fide introductions to working or sleeping partnerships in sound vaudeville enterprises, send fullest possible particulars to Box 3,197, "The Era."

WANTED, good Manager, with small capital, to invest in Travelling Show, Circus, and Varieties; sure big profits; one used to Management, also knows the road. Letters, C. CABAN, North-street, Stamford, Lincs.

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WANTED, by William Penrose, position as Bill Inspector or Advance Manager, at Liberty May 12. Address, 17, Buccleuch-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Situation in Theatre or Music Hall, as Check Taker, Window Biller, or any position of trust, age 24; excellent refs.; Liverpool preferred. Address, T. SMART, 16, St. George's-rd., Stamford Hill, London, N.

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Apply by letter,
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WANTED, First Violin, Flute and Piccolo, Euphonium, and 'Cello Player, commence May 28. W. DIEHL, Malvern Town Band.

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WANTED, for Seaside Hotel, commencing Whit. Monday, Lady Violinist and Ballad Vocalist, combined, good voice, age 22. Reply immediately, enclosing photo. (returned), IMESON, 87, Buchanan-street, Blackpool.

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Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Solo Cornet.

Send particulars and references,
CONDUCTOR, Military Band, Penzance.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, also Drums and Effects, for Clarence Gardens Orchestra, July 16, for nine weeks. A. L. ARNOLD, Tennyson-avenue, Scarborough.

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Apply, stating terms, to R. THORNTON.

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One First Clarionet,
One First Bassoon.
Applicants should apply to
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ADKINS, Armoury, Cirencester.

WANTED, Euphonium, for eighteen days, Yeomanry Camp, commencing May 14. Write or wire, HATTON, Bandmaster, Cheltenham.

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WANTED, Trombone, join May 14, wear uniform, and assist with fittings. Apply, stating age, references, &c., J. R. POOLE, Opera House, Treherbert.

WANTED, Pianist, to travel with Auction Mart; must read at sight; can open at once, good wages and permanent engagement to a suitable man; one who has been in the business preferred. Write, ROWLE, Auction Mart, Winton, near Bournemouth.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

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WANTED, to Open June 4 to Sept. 29, First-class 'Cellist, First Cornet, and Trombone (combine euphonium when required); all must be thoroughly conversant in variety business, and high-class music. State age, experience, refs., and lowest terms, inclusive, to A. PARKER, Musical-Director, Opera House, Burnley.

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Small Orchestras from six to ten performers, in smart costumes.

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Apply, BANDMASTER YEABSLEY, Beaumaris.

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"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Littlehampton."

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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Leigh Lovel, Esq., Theatre Royal, Torquay, till May 12; then, Prince's, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathow's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor, Musical Director, and Leader (Solo), at Liberty. Field End Villa, Worsley-rd., Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director and Violin, Hippodrome or Theatre; thoroughly experienced in both. Address, Box 3,1f6, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor, First Violin or Viola, thoroughly experienced, any business. Good refs. Add., CONDUCTOR, 13, Vincent-st., Bolton.

WANTED, a Summer Engagement, by Leader or First Violin.
JAS. HEAP, Leader, Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Pianist-Conductor (abstainer), Engagement, terminating Panto. Tour, late 9 years, Palace, Portsmouth; also has the finest built 5-octave Portable Organ in existence. Particulars, 744, Oxford-road, Reading

WANTED, Known, George Klee, Leader, Moody-Manners (A) Co., Disengaged May 14. Perm. Address, 130, Hermitage-road, Finsbury Park, N.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Harry Richardson, Conductor Brixton Theatre, Disengaged for Seaside; can provide Band.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader or First Violin; last engagement three years London Theatre; good references. STRANK, 42, Rutland-street, Pimlico.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical-Director, good Variety Hall; experienced; good refs. Address, H. B., 17, Villa-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Leonard Tute, Conductor, Solo Violinist, and Pianist; experienced and expert. Permanent address, 31, Marle Hill-parade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Clarionet, Cornet Drums, together or separate. Address, LEADER, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, young, good Répétiteur, in Theatre or Hall, London or Provinces. Can open at once. Address, Box 3,192, "The Era."

WANTED, an Engagement, either as First or Principal Second Violin, West End experience. H. SANGSTER, 18, Beaufort-gardens, The Drive, Ilford.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violin. combine First or Second Trombone; excellent references. Liberty June 16. LEADER, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, a First-Class Engagement for a First-Class Violinist; present Leader; thoroughly competent; Concert or Theatre. Box 3,184, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co., Summer Engagement; excellent references. Address, LEWIS, Orchestra, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by First Violin, combine Second or Third Clarionet, for Military Band, Engagement; experienced in double-handed bands. Good references. Box 3,160, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, First or Second Violin, experienced, good references.
VIOLINIST, 76, Georgiana-street, Bury.

WANTED, by First French Horn, short Summer Engagement, at Lib. end May, any business. R. S., 4, Aikmonde-square, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violin, Good Refs.
H. SMITH,
14, Prince's-square, Kennington Park, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Gertie Flood-Porter, Violinist, Disengaged for Orchestra. Great experience; solos if required. Address, 17, Formosa-street, Maida Hill, W.

WANTED, Engagement, End of May, as First Violin or Viola. Good refs., reliable, steady, young. Box 3,169, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Violin, thoroughly reliable; experienced; highest references. CHARLES DIBBERT, Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Violinists, any business, together or singly, excellent refs., terms moderate. Address, VIOLINIST, 2, Priory-place, Friars-st., Ipswich.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Second Cornet, strictly sober and reliable, any business. Terms and refs., R. V., 96, Charlotte-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Cornet, Soloist, Engagement, any business; good transposer; good references. Address W. KAYE, 133, Gordon-street, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Season, perm. or dep.; reliable, sober, any business; good refs. FRISWELL, 45, Sydner-rd., Stoke Newington, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Cornet, late Royal Artillery, &c. KING, 1, Ryland-road, Kentish Town, London, N.W.

WANTED, by First-class Solo Cornet, Liberty for theatre or summer engagement. Highest refs. J. BONNER, 82, Millbrook-rd., Southampton.

WANTED, by good First Cornet, Engagement, would be willing to take a position as Second or as a Second Violin; 12 years as an Army Bandsman; total abstainer.
Address,
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WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, Orchestral or Military; also by Double-handed Musician, Viola or Saxhorn. Apply, HUBERT PERKINS, Oadby, Leicester.

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WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced and Reliable Clarionet, from May 12. D. CRAIG, Carl Rosa Opera Co., King's Theatre, Hammersmith, London, W.

WANTED, by Good Clarionet, Engagement, for two weeks, from May 12; would deputise. GEO. E. GODDARD, Moody-Manners Opera Co., Coronet Theatre, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Clarionettist, combine violin; also by good Orchestral Pianist, combine clarionet; together or separate. Address, Box 3,203, "The Era."

WANTED, by Double Bass Player, Engagement or Deputising, in London; steady, reliable, any business. Address, BASS, 13, University-street, Tottenham Court-road,

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement, for Summer only; highest references from First-class Conductors; 8 years in present engagement. BASSOONIST, 26, Moreton-place, S. Belgravia, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Double Bass, theatre, or summer season. GEORGE, 54, Albert-st., Shieldfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, sober and reliable, at Lib. May 14, any business. JACK ALLAN, Colston Hall, Bristol.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, any capacity or dep. BASSO, care of Oldfield, 18, Oakley-place, Old Kent-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Double Bass, any business, sober, best refs., can double bombardon. M. S. ROBINSON, 28, Cliffe-st., Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagement, through Closing, any business, by thoroughly experienced basso. FURNIVAL, Century T., Motherwell; or, 35, Owen-rd., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced and abstainer, engagement, seaside preferred. T. C. TROLLEY, Eynsford, Thicket Crescent, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Double Bass player, four strings, temporary or permanent. Disengaged. Address, BASSIST, Box 3,202, "The Era."

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, Season or permanency; steady, reliable; first-class refs.; experienced. H., 123, Chatsworth-rd., Clapton Park, N.E.

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, long Summer Engagement, excellent refs.; Disengaged May 21. CHARLES GRICE, Band, Norfolk Artillery Camp, Harwich.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, any business; steady and reliable.
TROMBONE, 14, Cliff-terrace, Carlisle.

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WANTED, Engagement, by two First-Class Musicians, Trombone, Violin-Viola, Summer Season; references. MUSICIAN, 8, Ernest-street, Notting Hill Gate.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, for season, disengaged middle of June. Address, COOKE, Trombone, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, Orchestra or Military, twelve years Guards' Band; Yeomanries attended. 32, Belgrave-rd., Abbey-rd., N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by E flat Bombardon, 26 years of age, height 5ft. 10in.; good testimonials; small security if necessary. F. B., Miss F. Ford, Glan Conway, N. Wales.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello. Also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road.

WANTED, Known, Solo and Orchestral 'Celliist, open for engagement. Address, Box 3,198, "The Era."

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WANTED, Engagement, by competent and experienced 'Cellist. Theatre or Variety. T. CATHIE, Theddlethorpe, Louth, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, combine Piano, experienced accompanist and Orchestral Pianist, advertiser well known, London preferred. Box 2.951, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Viola player, combine Piano if required, at Lib. begin June; good references. Box 3,182, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Viola or Second Violin, Engagement, experienced any business; abstainer and reliable; good refs. VIOLINIST, 61, St. Saviour's-road, E., Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violoncello, last shop, leading London theatre, four years. CHARLES SHERWOOD, 8, Albion-grove, Barnsbury, London, N.

WANTED, by Arthur Cowen, Viola, Grand Theatre, Glasgow; Engagement, Viola, or Second Violin; Disengaged May 14. 20, Monteith-row, Glasgow.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Viol, combine Solo Euph. or Viola, experienced, highest references. Box 3,207, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer or Permanent Engagement, by a First-class Oboe Player, late of Carl Rosa Opera Co. Write, GEORGE, 105, Herne-hill-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London; Court Theatre, Liverpool; Britannia Pier, Yarmouth. 49, Haverstock-hill, London.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist, Royal Albert Hall and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mansions, Fulham.

WANTED, Harry Coleby, Solo Harpist, late Moore and Burgess' Minstrels, Engagement, open air, or would join good Vocalist. 16, Effingham-street, Pimlico.

WANTED, by Experienced Oboe, Engagement, Orchestral or Military, late Soloist Royal Marines; excellent refs. G. WILLIAMS, 27, Paisley-street, Hull.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced, Flute and Piccolo, through closing, strictly sober. References. FLAUTIST, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, reliable and steady. Good references.
C. H. COLEMAN, 27, Park-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo Player, at Liberty May 14 through closing; would deputise. Excellent references. RUSSELL, 113, Clare-road, Bootle. Liverpool.

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WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist and Solo Harpist, last three seasons with Rhyl Merrie Men. FRANK HUBBLE, South-avenue, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced in Dramatic and Variety business. L. MAJOR HORNSEY, 26, Frances-street, Woolwich, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Brilliant Pianist, at Lib. Al Fresco and Orchestral, steady and reliable; good refs. E. HAMPTON, Central Hall, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Tympani, Drums, and Effects, Liberty Whitsun; thoroughly experienced: Hours and terms to Box 3,185, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Double Drummer; also Violin or Cornet, through theatre closing, any bus. A. RAYMOND, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lanc.

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Drummer, Theatre or Music Hall, thoroughly accomplished. DRUMS, 49, Manor-st., Chelsea. S.W.

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WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Family Band, two Violins, Bass, Cornet, Piano, Halls, Theatres, &c. Apply, BAND, 19, Mayton-st., Holloway.

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WANTED, by Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Jap. Orchestra, Engagements for Piers, Hotels, Exhibitions, &c.; brilliant Costumes. Apply, CONDUCTRESS, Volthurst, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135. Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

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TUDOR'S CIRCUS, BLYTH.
WANTED, Artists of every Description, May 7 and 14.
Address, as above.

WANTED, for Mrs. E. Pinder, Ord's Royal Circus and Menagerie, Female Equestrienne, or any act suitable for circus ring. All letters address, Perth, Scotland.

WANTED, the Finest Dumb Acts, in all Lines, for Sports, June, July, August. State lowest weekly terms. We pay all travelling expenses from and to Glasgow. Also First-class Menagerie, or any other big sensational entertainment, complete in itself, two weeks, July 9, one town. A good price paid for the right attraction. CALVERTO, Giffnock. Glasgow.

WANTED, June 4 onwards, July 9 onwards, Aug. 6 onwards, big Specialities, Ground and Aerial Acts, Triple Bars, Lady Cyclists, Acrobats, Japanese and Arab Troupes. Terms, lithos., full list of vacancies, GEORGE BURTON, The Gala Expert, 5, Milner's-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, for Galas, Whit. Week, Bristol and District, acrobats, cyclists, comedians, gymnasts, novelties. Terms, lithos., bills, WOOD, Caterer, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Smart Top-mounter, at once, for well-known Acrobats; also Second Mounter, that can catch; used to comedy preferred. F. G. H., Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Young Man or Lad, Tumbler or Second Mounter, for a big Act. Apply, GEO. MANNING, 169, Stamford-st., Lambeth, London, S.E.

WANTED, immediately, Smart Youth, must be good Tumbler and Knockabout, for well-known Comedy Act. Apply, with full particulars in first letter, stating age, height, weight, tricks, and terms, to Box 3,204, "The Era."

WANTED, Diver, Man used to Business, for Season. Apply,
Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

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WANTED, at Liberty, First-Class Circus Company, would do well for Fêtes and Galas, including the best of Clowns, Gymnasts, Manège and Performing Horses, Ponies, and Dogs; in fact a good variety of talent. CROCKETTS, 110, High-st., Sutton, Surrey. Would like to hear from W. Martini.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. Dudley-Smith's Mare, Dainty Lass, won two first prizes at Collingham Show, April 16 last; Mrs. Dudley-Smith also won Riding prize. Address, 39A, Regent-st., Hull.

WANTED, Known, The Spangelettis, Dogs, Pony, and Baboon Circus, at Liberty May 21, onwards, splendid scenery and apparatus. Special Acts for Galas, &c. Address, 23, Mile End, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Triple Bar Act, Liberty May 7, onward. Wire for Monday, Circus, Hull; after, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Sensational Lady Aerial Gymnast, Galas, Galas, 50ft. no net; sensational, sensational. Vacant. 78, Gartside-street, Manchester.

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WANTED, Fêtes, Galas, &c., by Levene and Wilton, the Original Herculean and Flying Gymnasts, refined, sensational attraction, on elegant gilt apparatus; no poles required. Coms., 36, Graham-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, Monday next, Lillian and Clown, greatest Comedy Contortion Act on the Stage. Wire, Britannia, Hoxton, or 65A, Ellen-st., London, E.

WANTED, Known, Alex and Jolly, Smart Comic Triple Bar Act; the Holmars, Comedians and Comedy Acrobats; two first-class speciality turns, Liberty for fêtes and galas. Thanks to Burton, De Barrett, Sylvester, for offers. Address, MANAGER, Jack Almo, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Galas, &c., by Mdlle. Bartenelli, Aerial Contortionist; and The Boultons, Comedy Artists. Poole's Myriorama, Frome.

WANTED, Known, Fred Zarinella, Comedy and Contortion Speciality; elaborate electric fit-up, Liberty May 7, 21, also Galas. Wire, Hippo., Maidstone.

WANTED, Weeks of May 15 and 22, by Les Uniques, electrical gymnastic ladders, just concluded Alhambra, London. Address, 90, Victoria-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, Yetta, the smartest Lady Wire Act before the public, Re-engaged for another week after first performance Monday night at John Henry Cooke's Circus, Aberdeen. Vacant May 14 and 28. Com. as above.

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WANTED, Known, to Gala Secretaries, Swift Trio, Novel and Funny Cyclists, vacant June 4 and 18, onwards. Address, Sadler's Wells Theatre, London.

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WANTED, May 14, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, May 14, onwards, Bristol, S. Wales, Variety Artists and Specialities, and Star Acts, all Lines. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines,
Wanted, Artists, in all Lines.
Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and
Give Full List of Bookings.
Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and
Give Full List of Bookings.

Nothing too Big to Book.
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WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for May 14. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; hall small.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Galas, Day Shows, for immediate and future dates. Lowest terms, WALTER HANN, Amusement Caterer, Bath.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Pierrot, May 10, 12, and after. BRAVIS, 19, Albany-road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, May 28, June 11, 25, July 9; Freaks and Novelties at once. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, May 28, Lancashire Town. Lowest combination terms. Address, RIZON, 50, Britnall-st., Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Inland Spa Gardens, Concert Artists and Specialities; highest refinement; single week and season. SIDNEY LEIGHTON, Oak Mount, Hall Green, Birmingham.

ROYAL PLEASURE GARDENS, BILSTON.
Sole Proprietor, HARRY BATTERSBY.
Lessee, Theatre Royal, Bilston, and Wednesbury.
WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, used to Sketches; also Specialities, commencing Whit week. Previous applicants write again. Photos., age, references, and lowest terms (Earth seekers save stamps), stamped envelope for return photo. Address, W. J. CRANSTON, Manager, T. R., Wednesbury (marked Al Fresco).

WANTED, Artists, for Clempert's Pavilion and Al Fresco Grounds, H.B., pierrots, bioscope preferred, specialities, work high, open air. Apply above address. Wire, CLEMPERT, M'chester.

WANTED, Artists, 14th, 21st, 28th, also First-Class Combinations and good Turns for the North. Wanted to buy, a good Bioscope, complete.

Address, BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Chorley, May 28; Stalybridge, June 18; Artists, in all lines. State lowest to WILL PERCIVAL, Alhambra, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME Co., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager.
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G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

Notice.
WANTED, Known, all Artists holding Contracts for season, 1906, made through any person or persons other than the undersigned, are hereby given notice that such contracts are void, and will not in any way be recognised.
T. P. DUIGNAN, General-Manager.

TIVOLI MUSIC HALL,
SOUTH SHIELDS.

Proprietors, Councillors HALL and SWEENEY.
General-Manager, HARRY BURNS.

WANTED, Known, Artists holding Contracts, Kindly Note, as per Clause 7,
This Hall Closes May 19, '06, and under the Rules all Engagements are Cancelled till
Next Season, Commencing September, '06.

Any Artists holding Dates for May 21, 28, or June 4 weeks, kindly write in at once, and have same altered to later date.
to our
General-Manager,
HARRY BURNS,
Head Office,
Empress Theatre,
Hartlepool.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Proprietors, SMITH and LEE.
WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday next, 2 o'clock, for: Collins and Hawley, Charles Valvo, Annie Cohen, Two Dixons, Stanley and Vandyke, Nipper Anton, Bert Kemble, Evelyn Taylor.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, Absolute Cream of the Variety Profession. All the Biggest Novelties on Earth. Money no object. Any price paid, from £5 to £200, for the right article. Apply, with vacant dates and sample lithos. to T. M. SYLVESTER, 213, Piccadilly.

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WANTED, for West Bromwich Hippodrome, opening August 6, Variety Artists of every description, big Sketches, Spectacles, Pantomimes, Ballets, and big Sensational Novelties, with drawing powers.

First-Class Stage-Manager, must know his business and not afraid of work; good Musical-Conductor, well up in Variety business, to supply an orchestra of not less than twelve performers.

Good Electrician, able to do his own repairs;

and useful men for Stage and Staff generally.

Apply,

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WANTED, Known.—In consequence of the death of Mr. S. L. Urwick, of Leominster, all Contracts made by him for the above Hall are Cancelled unless specially confirmed by the Proprietor, F. W. GREGORY.

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WANTED, Sketch Companies, Specialities, Novelties, Serios, Comedians, Duettists, Dancers, and Star Variety Artists of all Descriptions, to
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All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
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All communications to WILL SLEY,
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Telephone, 09144.

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Stars, Stars, Stars, for
Liverpool, Manchester,
Glasgow, Birmingham,
Oldham, Hanley,
Bolton, Rochdale,
Wigan, Gateshead,
Derby, Stockton,
Stoke, Middlesbro',
Grimsby, Hull,
Sheffield, Preston,
Ashton, St. Helens,
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JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-st., L'pool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

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Can Fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
CADLE'S Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stars, only, May 14, 28. Pantomime Artists write. Acrobatic Dancers communicate; also Flying Acts, for galas. GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Big Stars, Specialities, June 4, onwards; also, for pantomime, Principal Boy (send photo.); two good Knockabout Comedians, Specialities, &c. Send terms, photos., list of bookings, &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, really good and big Turns. Send Bookings. DUNNING, Agent, 106, Loughboro'-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Star Turn, June 2 to 9, or 4 to 9. Apply,
MANAGING DIRECTOR, Pier, Skegness.

WANTED, Star Turn, and good Working Numbers, one week, May 21, near Manchester. Lowest. CULLEN and CARTHY, 1, Wasnidge-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-Class Acts of every description,

Whit week and July, onwards.

Lowest possible terms and full list of Bookings to

GEO. ZALVA'S
Agency,

Hippodrome,
Scarborough.

Telephone, 288. Telegrams, "Zalva."

Novellos sollen address, Telegraphiren, Zwei Contrakt erwarten.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, for May, June, and July, for the following Towns:—
Darlington,
Blyth,
Greenock.
Artists booked North cannot have better break journeys. Good Tops can have immediate dates. Apply at once, with lowest terms, to
WALTER BENTLEY, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E.
Telephone, 12706 Central.
Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London."

WANTED, Monday next, three good Acts. Artists please note, I am running a Picture Show here at cheap prices, once nightly. Quote price accordingly. A good Operator may write. ZALVA, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Acts, in all Lines, to send full list of bookings and lowest terms to MARTINO, Temperance Hall, Merthyr Tydfil.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, for immediate and future dates, the Biggest Acts in the Market, Novelties, Star Comic Acts, &c. Bookings, photos., &c.

WANTED, Known, I can Place the Biggest Acts.
ATLAS, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

CAVILL'S AGENCY,
127, Clapham-road, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Dramatical, London."
WANTED, Star Acts, for the Best Halls.
Top Liners wanted for Early Dates.
Bonhair Gregory, Kramers, Kremo Troupe, please communicate.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Talent all Lines.
Nothing too big.
Wanted, Star, with own Combination, for Seaside, July 9.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1686 Royal.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, for June 4, onwards, July 9, onwards, Aug. 6, onwards, Japanese and Arab Troupes. Triple Bars, Lady Cyclists, Acrobats, Big Specialities, Aerial and Ground Acts. Terms, lithos., full list of vacancies, GEORGE BURTON, the Gala Expert, 5, Milner's-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Blackpool, Morecambe,
and other Seaside Towns,
Whit Week, July 2, and onwards.
Also for
London,
Manchester,
Liverpool,
Leeds,
Glasgow,
Birmingham,
Brighton,
Stockton,
Burnley,
Bolton,
Oldham,
Barrow,
Carlisle,
Warrington,
Hull,
Middlesbrough,
St. Helens,
Accrington,
Stockport,
Rochdale,
Stoke,
Derby,
Grimsby,
Attercliffe,
Hanley,
&c.,
Star Comedians, Star Comediennes,
Big Specialities,
Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel.

Send List of Bookings, Lithos., Terms, &c.,
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, by Perry's Happy Valley Minstrels, Llandudno, First-Class Comedian, to take Corner, useless applying unless thoroughly qualified; Summer Season, open May 28. Lowest terms, GRANTON HOUSE, Llandudno.

ORIGINAL SCARBORO' PIERROTS, 12th season.
WANTED, First-Class Comedian, young, refined, and with good Speciality, fifteen weeks' season; private enclosure and bandstand. Send fullest details, age, répertoire, references, &c., to TOM CARRICK, 84, Archway-road, Upper Holloway, N.

WANTED, light Comedian, young and smart, for Sketch. Money low, but sure. Call to-day, 12-1, 7, Brixton-road.

ATHLETIC SPORTS, CARLISLE.
June 2, 1906.
WANTED, Special Attraction or Novelties, for above date.
Write, with terms and particulars, to
TOM FORRESTER, Lowther Arcade, Carlisle.

WANTED, Good Speciality, for Northampton, June 4, three days, twice daily. Apply by Monday to MCASKELL, 23, Beanland-square, Bradford

PALACE OF VARIETIES, LANCASTER, closed for alterations; re-opens Sept. 3; Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL.

WANTED, Top Liners, nothing too costly; talent and ability required (Bluff dead).

EMPIRE THEATRE,
GREENOCK.
WANTED, Good Variety Combinations, May, June, and July; also
First-Class Vocalists and Society Entertainers,
for Open-air Concerts.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Combinations, Dioramas, Pierrots, share or rental, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe (theatre close), May 7, on. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class Pierrot Troupe or Al-fresco, on shares. CLAYTON, 53, Grosvenor-park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Concert Parties, Sharing Terms, Bognor Pier Pavilion, June 11 and 18. Send full particulars, ROBERT FORSYTH, Bournemouth-rd., Folkestone.

WANTED, Dioramas, Combinations, Pierrots, May 14, on, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, during Theatre Vacation. Share or Rental. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Pierrots, Comedian, Tenor, Baritone, Soubrette, Pianist (must do turn), large répertoire; refinement esential. DOUGLAS, South Fulham Club, Walham Green.

WANTED, good Vocalists, Glee Singers, or good Vocal Combination, to write me re weekly Engagements for Summer. Terms, &c. JOSEPH SAINTON, Crystal Palace Theatre.

WANTED, Vocalist, Baritone, Illustrated Songs, include Sunday Concert, open at once, lowest terms. Call, MANAGER, Palace, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable, and stay depends upon reception. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Good Comic Singer, Open Monday; also Artists, all lines, later dates. Address, WILL ONDA, Theatre, Leigh.

WANTED, Smart Boy Comedians, Dancers, Acrobats, Actors, &c.; must be small and over 14. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Bioscope, with all latest pictures; also Artists, to open next week. Lowest terms, particulars, J. ROLMAZ, Theatre Royal, Shotton, Durham.

WANTED, Bioscope, with Plenty Modern Films, for Palace, Bridlington, Monday, bring own gas. Terms or shares. Wire, BERNARD, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Operator for Animated Pictures; must thoroughly understand Electric and Lime; steady. Lowest terms, BLACK, 47, Villiers-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Several Attractions, Concert Parties and Artists, immediate and future dates. HENRY J. BILSBOROUGH, Woodville-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Babs Lloyd, the smartest child artist and dancer in the world, Vacant a few summer dates, 21st, 28th, June 25; also Nellie Vann, comedy artist and dancer. Thanks to Orton Hayes, Esq., for three return dates. Enormous success, T. H., Merthyr; Monday, Gaiety, Birmingham; May 14, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Barrasford Tour and others booked. GEO. AYTOUN, London.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Gymnast, for stage or aërial. Liberty May 28, onwards. Address, Circus, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, May 14 and 21, by Vesta Whelan, juvenile vocalist. This, Empire, Dudley; next, Palace, Northampton. Wire, Leno House, Eamont Gardens, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, Miss Jessie Marvella, the Charming Young Burlesque, Sand Dancer, and Pianist, open for immediate dates. Good Agent please write. 81, Abbey-buildings, Abbey-street, Bermondsey.

WANTED, Known, Florence and Lillian, in their Artistic Musical Act, Disengaged May 14, through hall closing. Address this week, Empire, Leeds; next, Empire, Newcastle.

WANTED, Known, Lilian Warren, the popular Pictorial Songstress, and the Mysterious Lilith, the greatest mystery of modern times, at Liberty June 4 and 11; undoubtedly two of the finest drawing acts before the public. Communications, 57, Prout-street, Longsight, Manchester. Telegrams, "Magician, Manchester."

WANTED, by Harry Vincent, Versatile Vocal Comedian, Engagement, with first-class Al Fresco Entertainment, for Season. Offers to 6, Verdon-street, Sheffield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known. Wanted, Known,
Mr. Charles Clifford,
the People's Favourite Harpist and Humorist,
having returned from a lengthened Tour,
can accept Engagements in July, Aug., and Sept.,
to give his enjoyable Entertainment
of Humorous Songs and Sweet Music,
introducing his beautiful Large and Small Irish Harps. For terms, address,
15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Harry Kardoc, the Jail Breaker, with his latest sensation, Charles Peace's Prison Cell, Straight Jacket, Challenges, &c., at Liberty May 15, on, with exceptions, with or without grand star combination. This and next, Empire, Cradley Heath. Wire for a certain draw. Splendid printing. Refer, Mr. J. H. Cooke, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement, Bros. Renzo, Handcuff Kings, with their latest and quickest box mystery, great success. Wire or write, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Soros,
The Mystery.

How's it done? Don't know. Once again.

Trade—MACCANN—Mark.
WANTED, May 21 and 28, the Concertina King, greatest of all concertina players, on his patent instruments, value £300. Maccann has imitators, but no equal. Maccann is never stale. 16, Dunkeld-street, Liverpool. Tel., 0.500 Anfield.

WANTED, by Musical Lyndon (Novelty Musical Pattering Act, introducing Aluminium Rattles, Marambaphone, Pine Sticks, Silver Handbells, &c.). May 14, to follow Wakefield, also May 28, June 4, to precede Empire, Dudley; splendid fit-up and stage set. Next, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, James W. Hortin, Descriptive Vocalist, Versatile, Refined, concluding 40 weeks' tour, W. F. Jury's Bioscope. Vacant Monday onwards, Pierrots, &c. King's Theatre, Gainsborough.

WANTED, Known, Will Gay, Eccentric Character Comedian and Speciality Dancer, Lib. Monday, also May 14, Palace, Swansea, Halls or Tour.

WANTED, Engagement, for Troupe, by Light Baritone, descriptive and sentimental songs, could assist as first violinist. POWER, 1, Kirkdale-villa, Kirkdale-av., St. Anne's, near Blackpool.

WANTED, by Fred Alberto, the great Character Comedian and Dancer, May 14 and 21; a sure draw. Address, Temperance Hall, Merthyr, Wales.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, big novelty; also ventriloquist. Wire, 23, Westgate, Barnsley.

WANTED, Known, Robb Gilmore, a really humorous comedian—vide Oswald Stoll, Esq., concludes to-night, Manchester Hippodrome, Vac. Monday next. Wire.

WANTED, by George Chatterton, Eccentric Comedian, Sing, Dance, Patter, Knockabout, Musical. Single, Sketch, or Troupe. 95, Fentiman-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ryder Davis, Comedian, also Eva Ward, Burlesque Artist. Wire for one or both, 41, Cambridge-st., Camberwell.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. PROF. LENTON, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, Known, Ricardo, Renowned Humorous Magician, smart, clever, refined spectacular act, vent. and other specialities, Vac. 14th, for high-class al fresco, pavilions, &c. High-st., Exmouth.

WANTED, May 21, Wanted, May 21, between Gravesend and Dublin. Wire. The Original Kyoto. The Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box. A Contortionist. A Comedy Conjurer and Juggler. Also May Geraldine, chic dancing comedienne. Two distinct and successful acts. Just concluded 14 weeks' Stoll Tour; Monday, returns Grand Theatre, Hanley. Wire for May 21, June 11, 25.

WANTED, Known, the Bohemians (Will and Madge), at Liberty May 21 and 28. Wire, 23, Colnbrook-st., St. George's-rd., S.E., or G. FOSTER.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 14, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality performers. Wire, Victoria Hall, Kettering.

WANTED, Monday next, Arthur Richards, eccentric comedian; Renee Walon, comedienne and dancer; one or both. 5, Wharncliffe-st., Rotherham.

WANTED, May 21, by Andre and Brenton, screamingly funny musical comedy act, "Kitty." Enormous success, Tivoli, Dublin, this week. Letters, 12, Kyotts Lake-rd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday, and May 14, the Lashmars, Comedy Artists, Hand and Head Balancing, Singing, Acrobatic Dancing. Post Office, Troedyrhiw, Merthyr.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, May 14 and 21.
Address, Palace Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Taylor and Danby, a very Popular and Deserving Team of Coloured Artists, in their latest Speciality, "Coal" (Moss and Stoll Tour). No noise. Just merit.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act, meeting with Great Success in Firenze, Italy.

WANTED, next week, out through barring, Allsopp and Bekwith. Wire, Hippodrome, Maidstone; after Sat., 75, Castle-rd., London, N.W.

WANTED, May 14, 21, 28, by Lambert and Glover, for enormously successful farcical duologues, "My Birthday," &c. Address, Hippo., Brighton.

WANTED, May 14 and 21, by Gravetta and Parr, clay and sand modellers, conjurers, and jugglers, pot-pourri. 9, Wolsley-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Moore's Merry Monks, Society Entertainers,
are open for Engagements, for
Piers, Pavilions, &c.
Address, W. H. MOORE, 142, Castle-hill, Reading.

WANTED, by Four Abadaroffs, in great comedy act, "Prehistoric Peeps." Wire, Palace, Bristol; or, 95, Stretford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Carlo's "Toreador, Serenadas," Refined Scena, "On the Bank of Vesuvius," six singers, dancers, instrumentalists. Vacant dates. CARLO, Osborne Theatre, Manchester. Agent, VERNO, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Soros,
The Mystery.

How's it done? Don't know. Still again.

WANTED, Known, Fred Granville, the Great Ventriloquist, Life-sized Walking Figures, everything original. This week, T. R., Workington; next, T. R., Wednesbury. Vacant till Sept. Wire or write, offer.

WANTED, Piers, Al Fresco, &c., Summer Season, at Liberty May 14, on, superb ventriloquial act and illusionist. Book one or both acts. Perm., 32, Courtenay-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Monday next, and onwards, by Gilroy, Vent.; and Boston Bioscope. Wire for Monday, Victoria Hall, Kettering. GILROY.

WANTED, May 14 and 21, for Matt. Wilkinson's laughing success, "The Registry Office," to follow return visit, Empire, Liverpool; also for Miss Violet Beatrice, dainty Irish comedienne. Wire, P., Northampton; next, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, few Bookings, Piers, &c., whole or part programme, salary or share, Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lumley's "Merry Moments," Llandudno.

WANTED, Galas, Halls, Theatres of Note, for the World's greatest Troupe of Trick Clown and High-leaping Hounds, fourteen dog Artists. A show without an equal. LIEUT. CRAIG, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, June 4 (?) (Whit. Week) and 11 (?), and on, for novel variety show, strong specialities. TERRY, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, by the Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, Engagements for exhibitions, hotels, &c., brilliant costumes. CONDUCTRESS, Volthurst, Boundary-road, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, Soros, the Mystery, also Latest Pictures. Monday and few weeks vacant, good Top or Bottom. Wire, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, by a Smart, Experienced Yonng Man, Situation, with Pantomimist or Sketch Co.; willing to make himself generally useful, can tumble a little. Good refs. Address, SCOTT, 285, Walton-lane, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Le Clair's Bioscope and Troupe of Dogs, including the greatest leaping dog in the world. Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagements, Bioscope, Halls, Pavilions, Change of Pictures Weekly; also Illustrated Songs. Terms low. LLOYD, 1, Northumberland-place, Westbourne-grove.

WANTED, Engagements, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Punch and Judy, with Dog Toby. 101A, Penwith-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cinématograph Operator, Lime or Electric, thoroughly competent, steady and industrious. Terms, 30s. JAMES SLADE, Post Office, Boston. Can join immediately, used to shows.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

The Minerva Automatic Co., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London.
WANTED, to thank the many Customers who have placed their Orders for the Ball-punching and other Automatic Machines for Spring Delivery, and would respectfully ask those who contemplate ordering to do so as quickly as possible to prevent risk of disappointment.
Members of the Showmen's Protection Association.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that
T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Automatic Machine Agents, to work a new Sweet Picture Machine; only those collecting from good sites need write. Box 3,180, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Showmen and Travellers Supply Stores. STACEY'S, Settles-street, London, E. Rifle Range supplies a speciality; also Throwing Games.

WORCESTER AND DISTRICT GENERAL TRADES EXHIBITION, PUBLIC HALL, WORCESTER, Saturday, May 19, to Saturday, May 26, inclusive. Admission by Programme, 1d.
WANTED, Full-size Set of Distorting Mirrors, on half shares. If satisfactory, further dates to follow. Add., MANAGER, Exhibition Office, Public Hall, Worcester.

WANTED Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Automatics, Slipping the Slip, Jungle Shooting Range, Helter Skelter, Side Shows of all descriptions. Those who have written before send addresses for seven weeks, July 9, 1906, for Munster-Connacht Exhibition, Limerick, on Hire or Sharing Terms. FREEAR and SON, 39, Dame-street, Dublin.

PROMENADE PIER, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Slot Machines and other Novelties, on Sharing Terms. Apply to Mr. C. A. WILKES, 150, Strand, London.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelties, Open May 7, onwards, shares, position first-class, second week of Ydac, Lock King, and Madame Flo, Tattooed Lady. LEONARD WHITE, Exhibition, Market-place, Dudley.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks, with good Posters, &c., for Glasgow, on Salary. F. BURNETTE, Manager, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, for Monday and future dates; also Tattooist; extra Spaces to Let. MANAGER, Exhibition, 65, Stretford-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, useful people for Tenting Ireland, also Agent and Band, to commence end of May. Mrs. Flexmore please write at once. F. STEVO, 23, Mile End, Liverpool.

WANTED, Parading Clowns, and Agouste, Patter, Performers, &c., for Hodgini's Royal Circus. State lowest terms. Heckmondwike Fairground, Yorks.

WANTED, one or two useful Clowns, for Parading, join at once. Tom Hall send address, letter late, DENNIS, Circus, Garston, Liverpool.

WANTED, two Smart Reliable Auctioneers, for coming season. Particulars to FARR, Central Sale Rooms, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, a Lady Character Delineator; must be thoroughly competent,
for
D'Arc's
Grand Permanent Waxwork Exhibition,
Cardiff.

WANTED, Clever Lady Character Delineator, four months' engagement, share or certainty. SHAW, Harbour House, Margate.

WANTED, at once, two Photographers, used to Stamp Photos and quick trade; situation all the year round to good, handy men. Address, stating age, wages required, &c., to INCE, G.P.O., Bury, Lancs.

WANTED Known, Madame Zeta, Scientific Palmist and Expert Character Reader, just finished York Trades Exhibition, Disengaged for First-Class Exhibitions, Bazaars, Seasides, large and small. Framed Photos., Show Cards, Handbills, Address, 12, Silent-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Doorsman, for any novelty, age 23, total abstainer, just finished 15 months' with Bostock and Wombwell's; can join at once. Address, B. ENGLISH, 13, Rippingham-rd., Withington, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty May 5, James Smith, 4 years with Chas. Thurston's Original Royal Show, Knockabout Comedian, make himself generally useful. Address, JAMES SMITH, c/o Chas. Thurston's Royal Show, Fair Ground, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

WANTED, Situation, Comedian or Descriptive Vocalist and Planksman. Thanks to Bioscope Proprietors for offers. R. W. BURNETT, 147, High-street, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Beach's Grand Carnivals. Parties requiring Ground for my 1906 Tour, I have a few spaces left for suitable people; must be clean, and up to date. Notice.—Great Free Attractions specially engaged for tour: Mons. Almero, high Norwegian mast act; Leoni, the wire king, &c., &c. For particulars, apply,
GEORGE BEACH,
Carnival, Maidenhead.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR MAY, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

May 5. Bramley Carnival	May 12. Yaxley
May 5. Bury	May 14. Arundel
May 5. Cornhill - on - Tweed	May 14. Burwell
May 5. Holmfirth	May 14. Haltwistle
May 5. Ivinghoe	May 14. Hartlepool
May 5. Lewes	May 14. Heytesbury
May 5. Looe	May 14. Newark
May 5. Morpeth	May 14. Nuneaton
May 5. Northallerton	May 14. Richmond (Yorks)
May 5. Oakham	May 14. Stafford
May 5. Pleasley	May 16. Elmley
May 7. Alnwick	May 16. Louth
May 7. Dudley	May 16. Over (Cheshire)
May 7. Heckmondwike Fair	May 17. Amesbury
May 7. Leintwardine	May 17. Brentford
May 8. Braintree	May 17. Earlestown
May 8. Chester	May 17. Newton - le - Willows
May 8. Market Bosworth	May 18. Leek
May 9. Colne	May 19. Ormskirk
May 9. Hereford	May 19. Skegness
May 9 Soham	May 22. Felling
May 9. Swaffham	May 22. Kirkhampton
May 10. Beaconsfield	May 23. Bristol
May 10. Farnham	May 23. Standish
May 10. Stamfordham	May 24. Beverley
May 10. Stonehouse	May 24. Bildesden
May 11. Clun	May 24. Blyth
May 11. Spalding	May 24. Dorking
May 11. Staines	May 24. Kirkby Lonsdale
May 12. Chelmsford	May 24. Loughborough
May 12. Chertsey	May 24. Mirfield Feast
May 12. Haslemere	May 24. Newbury
May 12. Haverhill	May 24. North Walsham
May 12. Hertford	May 24. Orpington
May 12. Lambourne	May 24. Skipton Fair
May 12. Leicester	May 24. Wigan
May 12. Long Sutton	May 26. Cowes
May 12. Lowestoft	May 26. Littlehampton
May 12. Lymington	May 28. Bridgnorth
May 12. Maidstone	May 28. Hindon
May 12. Much Wenlock	May 28. Kirkby Stephen
May 12. Pembridge	May 28. Spilsby
May 12. Sturminster Newton	May 29. Bodmin
May 12. Stow - on - the Wold	May 29. Epsom
May 12. Wadebridge	May 29. Iron Bridge
May 12. Worsted	May 29. Thorpe (Surrey)
	May 30. Crowle
	May 30. Messingham
	May 31. Alston (Cumb.)
	May 31. Briston

SCOTLAND.

May 5. Hawick	May 16. Langholm
May 8. Renfrew	May 17. Paisley
May 8. Rothsay	May 25. Berwick - on - Tweed
May 12. Kilmarnock	
May 14. Jedburgh	May 25. Inverness
May 15. Alyth	May 29. Airdrie.

WALES.

May 5. Crickhowell	May 12. Monmouth
May 5. Llanidloes	May 12. Abergavenny
May 10. Penygroes	May 12. Talgarth
May 12. Brynmawr	May 19. Risca
May 12. Knighton	May 24. Llanelly.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.
WANTED, Known, the South Shore Fair Ground is the only place of Outdoor Entertainment and Attraction in Blackpool, situated at South Shore, next the Promenade; the electric trams run right to it; finest position in the town. The Grounds face the sea, and have a frontage of over 500yds. The permanent Attractions now installed include the River Caves of the World, the Maxim Flying Machine, Helter Skelter, &c.
Room for new Attractions next season, commencing at Easter.
Good Tunnel Railway Wanted.
Native Village Wanted.
Enclosure now being erected for same.
Good Shooting Jungle or Side Show Wanted for new building, 30ft. by 30ft.
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EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
The Cragg in "Billy," Lizzie Daniels, George Brooks, Fred Russell, Maud Courtney, Bioscope, Horace Wheatley, Sisters Jonghmann, Ernie Mayne, W. F. Frame, Goltz Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Tom Costello, Bioscope, Dorrells, New Macs, Forest and King, Hoppit, Tony, and Terry, Watson's Dogs, Marlo and Dunham Trio, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Dora Lyric.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Carlton, Bros. Egbert, Bioscope, Lily Esplin, Fred Bronte, Lennie and Hast, Reed Oetzmann Troupe, Vandykes, Three Rubies, Amy Russell.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Lemprière Pringle, Bioscope, Marie Collins, Lios Alfas, Bros. Corcoran, Lady Fauntleroy, Edwin Barwick, Lilian Elfrida, Rose Calvert, Geo. C. Doughty and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Darnley's "Moving In," Fred Lincoln, Harding and Ah Sid, Belle Braham, Mdlle. Olive, Bernar's Fantoches, Celeste, Florence Deighton, Derenda and Green, Florence and Lillian.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
R. A. Roberts, Alice Maple, "Dreamland," Bros. Harrison, Mackweys, Chas. Lilburn, J. Alexander and Co., Lilian Payne, Bioscope, Sutcliffe Family.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Mike S. Whallen, Jack Theo Trio, Walter Munroe, Morgan Sisters, Chris Richards, Max Yorke's Dogs, Olympian Stars, Labakans, Mariano Sisters, Dumond Minstrels.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Johnson and Dean, La Tostia, Jake Friedman, Stuart Quartette, Harry Sloan, Hetty King, Baker and Lynn, Albert Whelan, Spry and Monti, Aurora Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Alexandra Dagmar, Walter Stanley, Mignonette Kokin, The Howards, Galetti's Monkeys, Lily Langtry, Trapnells, Harry Weldon, The Raies, Guy Ryder, Warsaw Bros.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Mattie Wilks, Fred E. Terry, Wille Bros., Howard and Collinson, Bioscope, Haydas Troupe, Clown Barker, Terley, Ray Wallace.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
John Lawson and Co., Arthur Gill, Bioscope, Jessie Merrilees, Rinaldos, Jack Crawley, Morton and Elliott, Lukushima Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
J. C. Piddock and Schofield, Bioscope, Gracie Grahame, Matt Wilkinson and Co., Barowsky Troupe, Helene and Emilon, Bert Byrne, Ten Genis, Herbert Shelley, Ferraris, Constance Bellamy, David Poole.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
George Gray and Co., Bioscope, Dainez' Circus, Ian Colquhoun, Bros. Damm, Tacius, Daisy Mayer, James Stewart, Kauffmanns, Le Berat, Damm Brothers.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"High Jinks," Prof. Vox, Cole De Losse Duo, Johnny Gilmore, Chas. Austin, Flem and Brok, Stella Troupe, Nellie Young, Josh Dixon, Baker and Balfe.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
"Moses and Son," Ben Albert, Austin Rudd, Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Little Tich, Marie Kendall, Steven McCarthy, Fielding and Hull, Ella Retford, Stave, Leah Arden, Johnson and Bert, Jordan and Harvey, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Hackenschmidt, Mark Sheridan, Sisters Chester, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Belloni's Cockatoos, Frank and Free, Odeyne Sparke, Francis and Alfred, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Ancellote and Pilu, Edouin and Edwards, Norman and Leonard Troupe, Marba and Verity, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Chinko, Uessems, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Tom Edwards, Ross and Grayson, Starr and Leslie, Esta Stella, Beatrice Willey, Finney and Sister, Frank Leslie, De Lucca Troupe, Seeley and West.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Burke and Andrus, Allisons, Melot Hermann, Conn and Conrad, Grell and Gray, Serenaders, Hardinis, Lilian Doreen, Allan Hanbury, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
"Diamond Express," Rezene and Robini, Harry Conlin, Walter Bellonini, Ernest Heathcote, Rosie Coleman, Andos Troupe, Sam Soda, D'Arc's Marionettes, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Fred Storey and Co., Madge Carlyle, Ethel Ra Leslie, Four Skandias, Unthan, Violas, Northern Troupe, Bioscope, Brown and Le Clerq.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Jacques Inaudi, Will Musgrave, Frank Seeley, Hamilton Hill, Jake Lane, Leslie Race, Lilian Warren, Kitty Rayburn, Dot Hardy, Brett and Orford, Rappo and Ella, King and Benson, Three Juggling Geraldes, Mabel La Blanche, F. S. Peake and Co., Pictures, Sisters Slater.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
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Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

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WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
Victoria Monks, in her great song, "Moving Day," Jessie Preston, Millie Lindon, Alice Hollander, T. E. Dunville, the Korries, Conway and Leland, Carina Sisters, Imperial Bioscope, Clark and Hamilton, Gotham Quartette, Sanford and Lyons, Spry and Austin, Nat Clifford, Captain Taylor's (late Lockhart's) Elephants.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

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MILE-END-ROAD, E.
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Manager, CHARLES BERCHAM.

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EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
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Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

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Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

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KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
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Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.
Call for Monday, May 7.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Nina Elmo, ? Youllzee? Allen and Hart, the Florodora Girls, Max Waldon, Lalla Selbina, W. J. Churchill.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, May 7, 1906.
Rehearsal at 12 noon.
Edwin Boyde, Dan Thomas, Holloways, Vincent, Wallau, Dale and O'Malley, Ruth Lytton, Three Celtics, A. J. Gamble, Sable Fern.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m.
Haydees, Herbert Madden, Lorne and Rene, Essman, the Lynches, Lily Flexmore, Harry Glynn.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists are requested to send words and music in advance, so that permanent Ladies' Choir may learn them.
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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 7, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Forbes and Co., Larry Lewis, Will Farrell, Alf Brookes, Sisters Varley, Millie Howell, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Prince of Monte Carlo, Tom Parker, Sterling and Love, Lade Henderson, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, Dobito and Buxton, Sisters Marion, Florrie Pickering, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Fred Southern and Co., Hessey Soloists, Arthur Stacey, Marie Neilson, G. B. Dace, Sisters Hula, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Dr. Walford Bodie, Ross and Lewis, Jack and Evelyn, J. P. Ling, Lillie Lassah.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Arthur Reece, Frances Haskoll, Harry Briggs, Mersano, Mantell and Oval, Edna Latonne, Rozare Boleros, Rastus and Banks, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
Prince Kokin, Janet H. Reynolds, Tatten Hall, Bliss and Bliss, Motramos, Will Lytton, Stewart and Morgan, Beattie and Blanch, Goldini Trio, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
"Casey's Court," Sisters Hall, May Fallowfield, Harry Zetter, Virto, Smythsons, McCann's Dogs, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL
Four Burnells, Lola Patey, Grace Merton, Grant and Allen, Warden-Reed and Co., Leo Fallowfield, Bernard and Weston, Schiavonis, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Lil Hawthorne, Lambert and Hands, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Chas. Faning, A Ba-Be, Morris and Morris, George Prince, Drum and Major, Pichel Troupe, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Matinée Thursday.
Moule, Nicholls, and Co., Ray Royal, Barrington, Saxo, Derbyshire Dan, Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

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LYCEUM THEATRE.
Yags and Mary Trio, Raymond's Bioscope, Fatmah Diard, Baddow, H. Russell and Co., Lottie Stone Sextette, Leah Kloet, Fred Conquest and Co., Vickey Delmar, Nat Watkins, Halter and Ray.

THE BRITANNIA.
Telephone, 7285 Central.
Matinées, Monday and Thursday.
Burg, Haud, and Wise, Raymond's Bioscope, Jock Lorrimer, Smaun Sing Hpoo, Louisa Peach and Co., Blarney and Kennard, Young Vento, Ghita Corri, Prince Bendon, Carlotta De Yonson and Co.

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Matinées Monday and Thursday.
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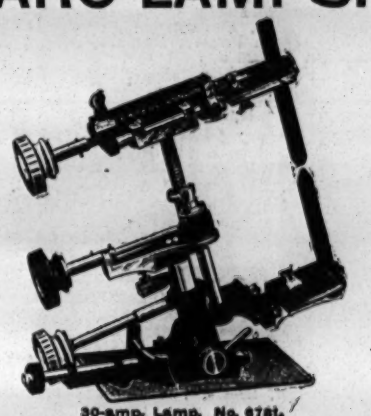

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Hepwix

DICK TURPIN'S RIDE TO YORK.

No. 1026.

This film closely follows the historical tale, and has been carried out with a reckless daring almost equal to that dare-devil ride. The photographic quality is of the very best, and we can with pleasure present to all our patrons once again a phenomenal success.

The scene opens with Dick and Tom King taking a glass outside the "Jack Falstaff" Inn, and as soon as they disappear inside to settle the account, the landlord is seen to betray them, anxious to share the reward of £300 offered. Dick, with the assistance of his confederate and a pretty barmaid, however, after a desperate struggle, manages to escape on his favourite horse, Black Bess. He is followed by the attorney, chief constable, and doctor on horseback, and a hot chase commences, numbers of people joining in the running; one rather eager man who endeavours to bar the way of the outlaw meets his death from Dick's pistol. The chase proceeds at high speed through country and village, the highwayman exacting whenever he can tribute from the lips of the fair sex. In one village he unfastens the latticed window of a house by standing on his horse, enters a bedroom, and demands toll from the lips of a young lady; while, with his pistol, he subdues the irate mother, who gladly seeks protection beneath the bed-clothes. Dick is able at one inn, by the aid of a friendly ostler, to obtain refreshment for himself and his horse, whom he rubs down in great haste. The chase gets hotter and hotter, as his pursuers ride up to change horses, and Dick escapes from the back while the man is parleying with his enemies.

Dick, meeting an old woman, just past the gallows, where her son hangs (and which he has saluted), is requested by her to bear a package to Sir Luke, to which he consents. Turpin proceeds on his way as fast as his steed can take him. He rides out and stops the York Coach, which is passing along the road, and demands to know where he can find Sir Luke. After obtaining the desired information, he rides on. The coach is again stopped, this time by the pursuers, and they add another to their number. They press on with the chase. Dick's way is seen to be apparently stopped by a five-barred gate, but master and horse treat the matter lightly, and clear the gate in fine manner. riding on for dear life. The "hounds" not being quite up to the "fox" in skill, have to dismount, and, after some delay, follow on. Dick Turpin and horse are seen at the end of their journey to struggle on, both hard spent, the poor animal almost dropping as Dick delivers his precious packet to Sir Luke.

Thus, Dick's kind mission is accomplished, but at great cost, the death of his best friend, Black Bess, with which the picture closes.

HEPWORTH MANUFACTURING Co LTD CINEMATOGRAPHERS,

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TO SHOWMEN ENTREPRENEURS, AND CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW EXPLOITERS.

A CINEMATOGRAPH SHOW.

THE

"CRUISE OF THE OPHIR."

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS

FOR

TWENTY-FIVE SHILLINGS.

TO THE PUBLISHER, "THE ERA."

Sir,—

It may possibly interest you to learn that a Quarter-Column Advertisement in "The Era" (One Insertion) resulted in over £1,000 Bookings for an Entertainment with which I was connected some little time ago. The Entertainment was entitled

"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

Cinématograph Show, and the Bookings were effected within a week.

Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON,
Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
London, May 19, 1904.

IN case of the non delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers with the time of delivery marked upon them.

STILL BOOMING!

DICK TURPIN'S

LAST RIDE TO YORK.

BRIMMING OVER WITH EXCITEMENT.
AS FULL OF GOOD POINTS AS "BONNIE BLACK BESS."
NO PADDING. NO FAKED SCENERY USED.
TAKEN AT DICK'S FAVOURITE HAUNTS.
EVERY HORSE A GOOD 'UN (no cab-horses used).
EVERY ACTOR AN ARTIST.

MAGNIFICENT DEATH SCENE OF "BLACK BESS"

(By courtesy of G. GINNETT, Esq.).

SCENE I.—The London Coach is stopped on Hampstead Heath. Dick makes a good haul. "Good night, ladies."
" II.—A poor beggar craves alms from Dick. His appeal is not in vain.
" III.—Dick arrives at his favourite hostelry, "The Spaniards," Hampstead.
" IV.—Inside "The Spaniards." "I'm trapped like a rat." Escape by the window. The Bow Street Runners break in the door too late to effect their long-desired capture. Betsy is as far off her £100 as ever she was.
" V.—Dick's thrilling leap from the window (*no dummy used*).
" VI.—Dick makes a dash for liberty from "The Spaniards" on his faithful "Bonnie Black Bess."
" VII.—Helter-skelter, ding-dong, hell-for-leather chase. "Gad, boy, how he rides!"
" VIII.—The old toll gate. Nothing stops Dick's wild flight. His bonnie black mare rises like a bird.
" IX.—Alas! Poor Bess is badly lamed and injured. With a last fond kiss for her master, she lays on the road side and expires. Capture of Dick by the runners.

TO TYBURN.

" X.—A sorry end for such a pluck'd 'un, although a highwayman.

We beg to acknowledge our indebtedness to H. Greer, Esq., for the facilities and assistance afforded us at his famous house, "The Spaniards."

Superb Photography. Absolutely Steady on the Screen. Tinted Night Effect.

Length **500ft.** Price **£12 10s.** (usual discount). Code Word, "TURPIN."

There are other Turpin Films, we hear. See them all, then see ours, and carefully compare.

What we do to-day, others do to-morrow

P.S.—Any representation of Turpin WITHOUT the death of his famous "Black Bess" is like playing "Hamlet" with the Prince of Denmark left out. Kindly note we have not padded our picture out with a lot of useless chasing. We have produced INCIDENTS.

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Do you know that we have been allowing a Discount of 20 per cent. from all Film Prices since Jan. 1st, 1906?

TERMS: CASH WITH ORDER.

EARTHQUAKE IN SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Our Special Photographer, who was in the Far West at the time of the Great Disaster at San Francisco, cables us that he has secured a marvellous series of pictures of this terrible event. Further particulars next week. Authentic Films now on the way to England.

*1816. **THE LOST COLLAR BUTTON.**
A SCREAMING COMIC. Length 400ft. Price **£10.**

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Showing the Burning Crater, Streams of Lava Overwhelming Villages, and Damaging Railways, &c., the Religious Street Procession, Gathering and Burying the Corpses of Victims, &c., &c. Length 200ft. Price **£5.**

*3126. **ARRIVAL OF KING EDWARD AT PIRÆUS AND ATHENS TO OPEN THE OLYMPIAN GAMES AT ATHENS.**
A Splendid Photographic Series. Length 200ft. Price **£5.**

★1819. **THE GREATEST ATHLETIC CONTEST OF THE CENTURY.**

THE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD

Contested for by the "Russian Lion" and the "Terrible Turk,"
At OLYMPIA, APRIL 28th, 1906.

HACKENSCHMIDT
V.
MADRALI.

Absolutely the only genuine Picture of a great Wrestling Match ever taken by Artificial Light, showing every detail of the TWO FALLS WON BY HACKENSCHMIDT FROM BEGINNING TO END; preceded by exclusive Pictures of Madrali and the Victor while Training, &c., for this Contest.

Vide LONDON PRESS.—"Many pens have written of, and much controversy has arisen over the Hackenschmidt-Madrali match at Olympia last Saturday, but the "URBANORA" Pictures at the ALHAMBRA put all points of the struggle beyond dispute by presenting every evening a clear and comprehensive record of the entire contest, from the entry of the wrestlers and their seconds, to the final overthrow of the Turk and the invasion of the arena by the excited crowd, with all the interesting accessories of action. It is a veritable *tour de force of cinematography, and the first occasion of animated pictures taken by artificial light proving an unequivocal success.* Additional Films taken immediately before the match, afford a striking exhibition of the respective muscular proportions of the athletic giants."

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TO DO BOTH AND INSTRUCT IS BETTER

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THE MOST PERFECT, UP-TO-DATE, EXCLUSIVE MOTION PICTURE EXHIBITION IN THE WORLD.

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Telegrams: "Wielders, London."

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines.

ABADAROFFS, FOUR, Great Comedy Act, "Prehistoric Peeps." Coms., 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

ABDULLAH ARABS, THE TWELVE, Vacant, Dec 31, 1906, Jan. 7, 28, April 1, 1907. May 7, Gaiety, Chatham.

ABEL and WELSH, England's Greatest Grotesque Eccentrics, Palace, Bow.

ACHMED IBRAHIM'S ARABS, Ten in number. World's Greatest Tumblers. Apollo Theater, Dusseldorf.

ALBANO TROUPE, Resting. 38, Macdonald-street, Wavertree, Liverpool.

ALBERT, MISS LOTTIE, The Bright Comedienne. All Coms., Perm. Address, 91, Ridgmount-gardens, Gower-street, W.C.

ALBINI and his Mysterious Lady in Black, Novelty; Chelsea Palace nightly. Agent, Tom Shaw and Co.

ALEXANDER, HANID, The Cambridge. Perm. address, 2, Warrington-gardens, Maida Vale.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company. Palace, Hull.

ALFONZO, Foot Equilibrist, on Tour. Thanks for offers for Panto, 1906-7. Still Vac. All Coms., 38, Balaclava-rd., Sheffield.

ALMO BROS., First-class Comedy Three Bar Act. Liberty for fêtes. Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

ALVANTEE, King of the Slanting Wire, opens Monday at Transfield's Hippodrome, Dartford. Liberty May 14 England or abroad.

ALWYNE and ALWYNE, Eccentric Acrobats, DORE and TOTLEY, Comedy Boxing Act. Open for Galas. 16, Claro-ter., Leeds.

AMERICAINES, LES BELLES, This week, Bolton; next, Manchester. Agent, H. Day.

ANDRE and BRETON'S Latest Screamer. "Kitty." Tivoli, Dublin; vac. May 21. 12, Kyott's Lake-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

ANTILL, GEO., Enormous Success, Hackney Empire. Starting eight weeks' Tour Parthenon, Liverpool. With my latest winners.

ARCHBUTT, GLADYS, Comedienne and Dancer. This week, Pal., Cork. Vacant, May 7 and 14. Wire.

ARIZONA TROUPE, Acrobatic Tumblers, Jugglers, Foot Equilibrists, and Japanese Top Spinners. Alhambra, Attercliffe.

ASHDOWN, PERCY, Author, Composer, and Arranger Par Excellence. 1, Holland-street, Brixton, London, S.W.

ASHLEY, BROS. "Next, Please." Palace, Manchester. 7th, Grand, Clapham. Fortune and Granville and G. Barclay.

ATHLONES, THE, This, The Bedford. At Liberty May 7 and 14.

ATLAS, the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, and MISS GWENNIE ATLAS, "the Society Athletes." Camberwell Palace.

ATTWOOD, HAPPY, the Laughing Hit of Manchester. This, Hippo., Queen's Park; Next, Grand, Chorley.

AUBREY, STAN, Comedian (late of Bennett and Martell). This, Paddington, Liverpool; May 7, Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne.

AUSTIN, RUMBO, The Comedy Sensation. May 7, Tivoli, Leeds.

AVON, EDWARD, & ETHEL CREST, On Tour. All Coms., 38, Thornhill-road, London, N.

BADDOW, Ventriloquist, Monday, The Lyceum, London.

BANCROFT, HARRY, Terrific Success, Alhambra, Belfast. Monday next, Tivoli, Dublin.

BANDON, SID, The Bedford.

BANDONI, One Man Band and Original Concertina King, Monday, Return, Palace, North Shields.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agent. Telephone, 84 Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, "Are We Downhearted? No." Westminster, Liverpool, or Tom Shaw.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS, (VIOLET and DAISY), the Smart and Refined Pair. May 7, Hippo., Grimsby.

BARTLETT, ROSIE, Empire, Birmingham. Address, 12A, Hill-street, Woolwich.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 145, Balham Hill, Balham, S.W. 'Phone, 1178 Battersea. Tels., "Orderless, London."

BAZLEY, SYD, the "Peculiar" Comedian. This, T. R., Wednesbury. Next, Muncaster T., Bootle. No Vacancies.

BEATRICE, SISTERS (NELLIE and MAY), Duettists and Dancers, Vacant Monday, and on. 35, Florence-street, Islington.

BELFORD and MARS, Comedy Artists. Always Something New, Public Hall, Belper.

BELL, CHARLES H. (late Karno's Co), is "Moving In" Nightly, next week, at the Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BELLONINI, WALTER, Empire, Leicester.

BELROSE and DE VELIN (GEO. and MAUD), Speciality Duettists and Soloists. Queen's, Gateshead. Liberty, Monday. Wire.

BENET, MR. HARRY, Proprietor Alhambra, Sandgate. Artists communicate Fred Durham's Agency.

BENSON, BESSIE, In a Refined Singing and Dancing Act. This, Palace, Carlisle; Next, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

BENT, HARRY, the Mimic; Also Carlotta Lunn, on Tour. Address, 14, Paternoster-row, City, London.

BENTLEYS, MUSICAL, Full up for Summer. Al Fresco Pavilion, Frizinghall, Bradford.

BENTLEY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London." 'Phone, 12706 Central.

BERNARD, GEO., Vocal Entertainer, Can only be seen by appointment. Verb. sap. Monday, People's Palace, Bridlington.

BERT and DORA, Hippo., Wakefield. Wanted, May 7 and 14. Wire, above. After Sunday, 24, Brook-av., Levenshulme, Manchester.

BEST, CHAS. F., as MacBunker, the Mountebank. Hippo., Liverpool.

BISHOP, LITTLE, Clown and Agouste, with Trick and Comic Entrées. At Lib. for summer. 13, Fairfield East, Kingston-on-Thames.

BLANCHE and DIACOFF, This week, Britannia Theatre. Next week, Royal Albert, Canning Town.

BLISS and BLISS, Monday, Palace, Blackburn. G. and F. Peel.

BLYTHE, MARIE, The Successful Girl. May 7, Empire, Bristol. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Ltd.

BODEY BROS., the American Comedy Triple Bar Performers. Re Dates, 10, Fillwood-rd., Bristol. A thrilling performance.

BODIE, ALBERT EDWARD, The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

BODIE, DR. WALFORD, Address, 163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumentalists and Comedy Artists. This, Duchess, Balham; next, Collins's.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Tivoli Theatre, Cape Town. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET and his Wonderful Bosanquephone, May 7, Hippodrome, Preston; May 14, Duchess, Balham.

BOSWELL, A. P., The Furniture Shifter. Shifting them at Wakefield. Vacant Monday. Wire 14th, Wigan.

BOULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI, Poole's Myriorama, Frome. Vacant Summer for Galas and Piers.

BOYLE, MAROUS, "My Bonny Boy," Prince's Theatre, Preston, second week.

BRADY, JAMES, a Comedian with a New Style. Vacant May 14, 28. Monday, Return, Westminster Palace, Liverpool.

BRAY, LOTTIE, Livermore Tour. Coms., G. H. Bray, P., Aberdeen, or Rosen & Bliss.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Comediennes and Expert Dancers. This, Circus, Blyth; May 7, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. Usual Success, Middlesex, May 7, Al., Brighton.

BROOKS'S, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency. 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BROWN, PAPA, Agent, 8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-road, S.W. Telegraph address, "Jibbers, London."

BUDDEN, EDGAR, May 7, Palace, Camberwell.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE, "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Britannia, Hoxton, London.

BURTON'S AGENCY, Sheffield. Al Fresco Artistes send for the great comedy song, "Seaside Louise." A certain winner.

BUTT, BESSIE, May 7, Hippodrome, Hastings. Great Success of my sole right song, "Scarecrow."

CABAN'S Marvellous Twelve Performing Ponies, Donkey, and Dogs. Hippodrome, Stamford, Lincs.

CADLE'S AGENCY, 105 and 106, Strand. Telephone No. 1975, Gerrard.

CAINE, ANDIE, Next, Gaiety, Birmingham. No Vacancies. Summer, Filey.

CARL and CARR, Refined Comedians and Dancers. Thank Arthur Carlton for panto. Still vacant. Pier, Penarth, S.W.

CARLTON, HENRY, Comedian, in his latest Novelty, "The Window Cleaner." Westminster, Liverpool (third return).

CARMEN, HARRY, Polyglot Comedian; DAISY LANE, Chic Comedienne. Finish Tonight Hippo., Stockton. Mon., Empire, Wrexham.

CARR and ROSE, Depicting Domestic Drawbacks, Displaying Decidedly Droll Dialogues. A deluge of delight. E., Hartlepool.

CASEY, GEORGE, Enormous Success, Dame, "Casey's Court," on Tour. Palace, Bath. Mon., Palace, Halifax.

CASS'S, RICHARD, AGENCY. Artists New to London Required. 30, Maiden-lane, Strand. 6704, Central, and 213 Deptford.

CEE-MEE, H., Tivoli Barrow-in-Furness. R. Warner and Co.

CELLOS, THE TWO, Musical Entertainers, Scala Theatre, Holland.

CHARNLEYS, THE (ANNIE and EDIE), Dainty and Clever Duettists and Dancers. Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

CHESTER & LEE'S MARIONETTES, On own Tour. Address, Back-walk, Tything, Worcester.

CHESTER'S AGENCY, LIMITED, 13, Oxford-street, Manchester. 'Phone 08904. Wires, "Amusements, Manchester."

CHEVALIER, MISS FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne, Disengaged for Pantomime. Monday, Circus, Bury.

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly. London Nightly.

CLARKE'S NIPPERS Finish To-night Hippodrome, Accrington; next week, Theatre Royal, Warrington. Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

CLEMENT TRIO, Refined Comedy Stage-Flying Trapeze Act. Address, Clement Trio, Hollydene, Hall Green, near Birmingham.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, Big Success in "A Trial Trip," Empire, South Shields. Next, Empire, Belfast.

CLIFF and KEAN, Usual Hit this Week, Central Palace, North Shields. Monday, Aquarium, Scarborough.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Humorist, on Tour. 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

COLLINS, GEO., the Quaint Comedian, Tremendous Success, Birkenhead. Monday, Gaiety, Birmingham. Geo. Barclay.

CONROY, OLIVER, Comedian. Monday, Hippodrome, Ipswich. Vacant May 21 or later.

COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian. Vac. May 14 through obliging. Address, Kursaal, Southend.

COOLVILLES, THE (NANCY and EDIE), Usual Success, Gaiety, Oldham. Next, Hippodrome, Bury.

CORELLIES, THE TWO (LILL and NELL), Grand, Gravesend; big success of Scena by S. G. Kane.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, Hip., Colchester. Next, Hip., Boscombe.

COSGROVE and BURNS, Scottish-American Comedy Duo. This, Palace, Aberdeen; next, Barnard's Chatham.

COTTERELL, SID, and CO., in the Greatest of all Comedy Successes, "The Substitute." P., Leicester; next, P., Northampton.

COUNSELL and MILLS, Musical Playlets. Communications, Somers and Warner.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Care of "The Era."

CRAY, MIKE, and dog Dooley. Eccentrique Comedy Juggler. This, Queen's, Glasgow. Next, Tivoli, Glasgow.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., May 7, London Hippodrome.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY, Terrific Hit, E., Rochdale; Hippo., Norwich. Vacant May 21, Wire.

CUMBERLANDS, THE FIVE, Enormous Success, Palace, Cork, Ireland.

CURRAN, FRED, Parodies, old and new. Monday, Albert Hall, Jarrow. Geo. Foster.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. Address, 10fh, The Royalty, Sunderland. Next, Palace, Cork.

CYCLUMINA, The Only Electrical Cycle Act, Big Success, See other Advt. Bentley's Agency.

DAINEZ, E. R., Donkey, Ponies, and Dogs. Free June 11, 18, 25. Address, Smiler's, Pitsea, Essex.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Gipsy and Character Duettists. Hip., Bury; Mon., Hip., Preston.

DALE and D'ARGAN, in a Novelty Comedy Act. Empire, Cradley Heath.

DALE, JOE, the Popular Singer of Chorus Songs. This week, King's Theatre, Nottingham; next week, Palace, Belfast.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Wanted, Big Acts of all Kinds, 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DALY, MADGE, Empire Theatre, Rochdale. "Bridget," by Fred W. Leigh; a great success. Monday next, Alhambra, Belfast.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Clean, Clever, Negro Versatile Act. Vacant Monday. Wire, Palace, Sheerness. Wire, Wire.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Cyclists (Monarchs of the Wheel). Palace, Walthamstow.

DAVENTRY, SISTERS (DOLLY and MAY), Harmonising Duettists. This, Palace, Attercliffe; next, Palace, Derby; vacant May 14, 21.

DAVIS, RYDER, and EVA WARD, Usual Success, Standard. Lib. Monday, Wire, 41, Cambridge-st, Camberwell. See Wanteds.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, May 7, resting. Address, 32, Manchester-street, Southampton.

DE DIO, MDLLE., The Originator of the Fire Dance. Wintergarden, Berlin. Manager, P. H. Boggis.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Phenomenal Marvellous Painter and Cockatoos. 3, Highgate-st., Edge Hill, Liverpool.

DELEVINES, THE, New Act, "Flipp and Flopp." Empire, South Shields.

DENERENNE Requires Immediate engagement. Nail Walker and Balancer, the Mystery. Care of "The Era."

DENHAM, MILLIE, The Sprightly Burlesque Actress. Mon. next, Barnard's Palace, Woolwich.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet open on Sundays.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., the Lady Foli; J. H. HAWTREY, Actor-Vocalist. Hippodrome, Hull.

DE VENA, MDLLE., Unique Lady Juggler. Mon., Empire, Greenock. Aberdeen to follow. June 10, Opens at Christiania.

DE VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, His Wonderful Educated Pony. Resting through an Operation. All coms., Grand, Stockton.

DIABLO, LE, in the Devil's Wheel, Riding Inside and Outside. Touring Continent. Letters "Era."

DILLONS, BOUNCING. Managers and Agents See Us. Bedford Music Hall, London.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, All Letters, 69, Roan-st., Greenwich, London, S.E.

DOBITO and BUXTON, Duettists. This, Pav., Leicester; Mon., Palace, Lincoln.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, Park Palace, Liverpool. By special Request of Fred. Willmott, Esq.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Factory Nightingales. Starring Palace, Bradford. Monday, Palace, Lincoln, return.

DOM E, the Original Comedy Clay Man. London Pavilion.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, Is a coming comedienne.—Vide Press. Gigantic success, Empress, Brixton.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, This Week, Gaiety, Chatham. Next Week, Alhambra, Brighton.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Patter Comedians and Dancers. Next week, Queen's T., Gateshead. Vacant May 21 and 28.

DUNCAN (CORA) and BRASQUE (ALBERT). Vacant, July 16. Address, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

DUNCAN and MORTON, "Ain't we Popular?" Pier Pavilion, Lytham.

DUNLOP, FRANK, and SYDNEY WALLACE, Authors and Composers, Songs, Concerted Pieces, &c. 45, Gloucester-st., Cardiff.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness; the Idiotic Dude. Next, Tivoli, Leeds. Coms., Macdermott and Sheldon.

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, Great success Paragon nightly. Letters, 106, Loughboro'-rd, Brixton, London, S.W.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Hippodrome, Scarborough. Next Week, May 7, City Varieties, Leeds.

DYSON, MISS LAURA, May 7, for Six Nights, Lyceum Theatre, London.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Sisters. Novel Instrumental Dancing Act. Corn Exchange, Frome.

ELDINES, LES, in Musical Scena, "Little Drudge" and the Latest Novelty, Barefoot Dancing. Lib June 4. C/o "The Era."

ELGARS, THE, Operatic Soloists and Speciality Duettists. Monday, Empire, Stockport.

ELLA'S, MISS, Best existing Lion Show. Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Dunville's "Nurse"; Reece's "Weazie." Latest for Sheridan, Leonards. 90, Vassall-rd, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. May 7, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

ELMO, NINA, Comedienne, Glasgow postponed through illness. Middlesbrough Empire, May 14.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY. Next Week, Palace, Chelsea. Still true to my promise.

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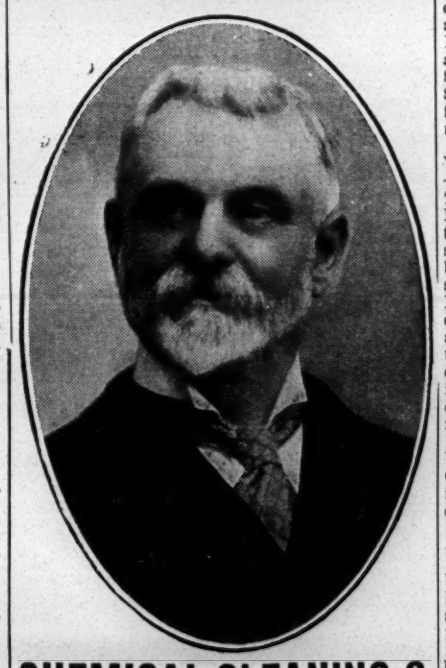

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AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Humphreys.—With the visit this week of Mr. Harry Fischer's company in *The Scottish Bluebells*, Glasgow playgoers are afforded an opportunity of passing judgment upon yet another musical play. All round the company is a strong one, and the tokens of appreciation were frequent, several encores being accorded during the performance. Mr. Peter D. Bermingham supplies a humorous study as ex-Bailie Maie, and his business is very amusing; Mr. Arthur Cartwright acts and sings with effect as Guy Chalmers; the Montague of Mr. Leon Simkin is very funny and entertaining; Prince Ivan is admirably taken by Mr. Clifford Morgan; Miss Hettie Gale pleasingly portrays the part of Maisie Maie; Mrs. Elspeth Maie is charmingly played by Mme. Kate Sherry; Miss Lillie Hales's impersonation of Kirsty is very good—she obtains much fun from the part. Other parts were well looked after by Misses Elsie Steadman, Kitty Clinton, Edythe Carlyle, and Mr. Dan O'Connor. The scenery, representing views in Edinburgh, was very effective.

ROYALTY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. M. Downie.—A good house accorded a hearty welcome to the new comic opera, *The Girls from Utah*, which is given here by a company under the direction of Mr. Walter McEwen. The music, which is by Mr. Walter Wadham Petre, is bright and tuneful, and contains several numbers which caught the fancy of the audience at once, notably the madrigal in the first act, the serenade in the second, and the stirring patriotic song and chorus, "Our King and Queen." Mr. Fred Eastman is most amusing as Brewgood, the innkeeper and matrimonial agent, and infuses lots of fun into the part in his own quaint style; as Alphonse, Mr. W. H. Powell gives a clever bit of eccentric comedy, and has some clever songs; Mr. Harrison Brockbank as Terence Rainford was in excellent voice, and made a picturesque figure as the mine manager; his songs are all good items, and were received with enthusiasm. Miss Nora Brocklebank as Mildred made a pretty and sympathetic heroine, and sang several songs with taste and expression; Miss Florence Parpey (better known now in Glasgow as Mrs. Dickson Moffatt) received a hearty welcome, and made a decided hit as the energetic and managing widow, Mrs. Bumble; Miss Kate Vesey, as Suza, again showed her skill as a dancer, and acted with brightness and animation; Mr. Howard F. Cropton as Billy, Miss Seymour Hodges as his wife, and Miss Lillian Pollard as Deborah completed an able caste. A large and tuneful chorus gave due prominence to the concerted music, and Mr. George M. Saker conducted with ability.

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Mascard.—Mr. Charles Hermann, with a talented company, are here this week playing *The Octoroon*, in which Mr. Hermann gives an effective rendering of Wah-no-tee, the Indian chief; Miss Florence Tench as Zoe, the Octoroon, give a charming rendering of the part; while Miss Hettie Ferguson makes a pleasing Dora. Miss Amy Corelli give a spirited representation of the boy Paul; and Mr. Harry Leander is excellent as the talkative old negro, Pete. Mr. Frank Woodville as the brutal Jacob M'Losky depicts the evil qualities of the character powerfully; while Mr. W. H. Palmer gives a fine delineation of the hero, George Peyton. Mr. Charles Freeman as Salem Scudder acts the typical Yankee to the life; and Mr. I. P. Millar as Sunnyside is also effective. Miss Annie Duncan is quietly natural as the widow, Mrs. Peyton; Miss Nellie Shannon, Miss Dunmore, and Miss Gertie Walters as negro slaves give local colour to the cast.

KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company is here this week giving a spirited performance of the romantic play *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. The part of Elizabeth Philipse is undertaken by Miss Cynthia Brooke, who depicts the varying moods of the imperious young heroine with complete success; the Mistress Williams of Miss Leonora Braham is a charming bit of comedy, the maid Molly being pleasingly represented by Miss Phyllis Back; Mr. Frederick Victor plays the hero Captain Harry Peyton in admirable fashion, imparting to the character a chivalrous quality that is very convincing; as Major Colden, Mr. Elliot Ball acts with strong dramatic effect; Mr. Sidney Young's Valentine is a finely finished character-sketch; in the part of Edwards, Mr. A. Carlaw Grand gives a good account of himself; Mr. Donald Young is a smart Sergeant Carrington; and as the black servants Sam and Cuff, Mr. Tom Taylor and Mr. J. Thomas fill their parts well. The play is preceded by the new comedietta *Domestic Bliss*.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdock.—Miss Violet Maitland and company, in *By Tempest Tossed*, provides the entertainment here. Mr. Harry Glenney as Jasper Marsden is good as the bibulous longshoreman; Mr. H. Macdonald has some clever touches as the old salt, Ben Ingleby; but most interest centres in the part of Pete, his son, vigorously depicted by Mr. Herbert St. Clair. Miss Violet Maitland as Nance Kingston acts with quiet grace; and the acting of Miss Rénee Selbit as Ben's wife is of the opposite order, as befits the character. Mr. F. Sidney as Jack Harper, the disappointed son of the sea, enlists sympathy, and in Act 3 is seen at his best. The domestic interest of the piece is well sustained, and the nautical flavour is not overdone. Mr. Edwin Frith, Mr. W. May, Mr. Tom Chester, Mr. F. L. Harold, Mr. T. Watson, Miss L. Wright, and Miss Phyllis St. Clair essay the minor parts. Miss Nellie Saker is worthy of notice as Davy, a fisher lad. The drama is suitably staged.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—*The Power of Gold* is being given here this week by a company headed by Mr. Frank Ayrton, who himself fills the part of Sammy Smudge with considerable humour. Miss Lilla Wilde give a strong performance as Lady Brandon; and her companion in villainy is well played by Mr. Charles Whitlock as the Melay doctor. Miss Georgina V. France as Meg Judson makes a sympathetic heroine; and Mr. Richard Oliver does well as Paul Judson. Humour, song, and dance are contributed by Miss Madge Seymour, who brightens the play considerably thereby. The piece is well staged.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden.—For the concluding week of the season Govan patrons are this week interesting themselves in the fortunes of *A False Wife*, as presented by Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company. Miss Florence E. Florence gives an excellent rendering of the part of Lady Mansfield; and good support is given by Miss Ellen Armor, Miss Judith Ansell, and Messrs. George Langham, W. Howard Barlow, Frank Strickland, Owen Edwin, and Elton Morgan. The play is well mounted, and several of the incidents are thrilling in the extreme.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Tom Costello pays a welcome return visit. This versatile comedian always gives of his best. He was equally successful in pathos and comedy; his humorous song about a ten pound note, and a pathetic song regarding an old clown, were exceptionally well received. The Mario and Dunham Trio give a very smart and humorous horizontal bar act; Watson's dogs provide a very interesting display of animal training. Other acceptable terms are given by Forrest and King, "two pieces of elastic"; the New Macs, clever patter comedians and dancers; Hoppitt, Toney, and Terry, coster comedians; the Derrells, duettists and dancers; Dora Lyric, a clever comedienne; and a funny sketch, entitled *Two Up a Tree*, by the Albert and Edmunds' Troupe.

ZOO-HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Carlton tops the bill here, and this clever comedian, with his smart card tricks and the amusing patter that accompanies them, keeps the audience in roars of laughter all the time. The Three Rubys give an excellent trapeze and balancing performance; Bros. Egbert, "the happy dustmen," again give their wonderfully clever knockabout turn; Amy Russell, comedienne, has several good songs; and in a more eccentric line, Lily Esplin shows her skill. A cleverly arranged turn is that of Lennie and Hast, in their *Sea Nymph* sketch. Lindon Vandeville Company also give a neat turn in their *Monks at Play*; Fred Bronte, comedian; Conway and Garland, in a vocal and comedy act; and the Reed-Oetzmann Troupe, in a knockabout pantomime, complete a varied and attractive bill.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Edwin Boyde is the chief attraction this week. All his songs are very humorous, and every point is cleverly brought out by this smart comedian. Dale and O'Malley strike an original vein in the cross-talk business, and their reception must have been most gratifying to these two clever artists. Wallan, the expert juggler, is as interesting as ever; Dan Thomas makes a great hit with his funny songs and eccentricities; Sable Fern sings her songs well, and is a big favourite; the Great Vincent does some startling somersaults from great heights; the Holloways are wire artists of a high order; the Original Celtics are full of fun, besides displaying good vocal abilities; A. J. Gamble, Scotch comedian, and Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedienne, also provide good turns.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Crowded houses twice nightly is the rule here, the special draw being Arthur Roberts and his clever company in *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*. This lively sketch, written by Harry Pleon, fairly bristles with opportunities for the versatile comedian, and Mr. Roberts never misses a point. Miss Ruby Celeste and the other members of the cast give able support. W. J. Churchill comes armed with several smart songs, and his turn is a popular one. Lalla Selbina shows her ability and dexterity in juggling and trick bicycling and excels in both. The Florodora Girls are a popular trio, and sing and dance well. Max Waldon ranks high as a female impersonator, and his make-up is wonderful. Fred Howard, ventriloquist, takes exceedingly well, and Allen and Hart, eccentrics, complete a first-rate programme.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—The programme submitted here this week is of a high standard, and attracts large houses. Lempriere Pringle and company occupy the place of honour, and in their musical sketch, *Highwayman Hal*, make a favourable impression. Marie Collins, comedienne, is also marked out for special approval. Other interesting turns include Roze and Calvert, the clever comedy artists; Edwin Barwick, the popular comedian; Lios Alfa Sisters, trapeze artists; Lilian Elfrida, mimic; Doughty's sketch company, in *Captain Cupid*; Lady Fauntleroy, ventriloquist; Bros. Corcoran, instrumentalists; and the bioscope, with a series of interesting pictures.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—A splendid bill of fare is provided here this week, the chief attraction being the engagement of Kate Carney, coster comedienne, in her latest scena, entitled *The Sunday Promenade*, introducing clever up-to-date coster life, songs, and delineations, all of which are well received by the audience, Miss Carney being repeatedly called before the curtain. A clever sketch is contributed by James Willard and company, introducing the specially-trained mastiff dog Tiger; while the efforts of Ted Karno's troupe affords much merriment. Miss Rose Elliott continues a great favourite; her songs, being sung in first-class style, ensure her a hearty reception. The other members of the company include Temple Trio, operatic vocalists; Grace McCartan, ballad vocalist; Hayman and Franklin, sketch artists; Shean, Fox, and Shean, comedy boxing act; Mike Cray, comedy juggler; George Bendon, "the white coon"; and Tivoli bioscope, with up-to-date pictures.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

SYDNEY, APRIL 3.—*Paul Jones* was revived by Mr. J. C. Williamson's Royal Comic Opera Company on March 31, at Her Majesty's Theatre. This time the hero is enacted by Miss Florence Young, whose excellent voice and handsome face and figure well fit her for the part. Mr. George Lauri was again the "rorty, naughty" Bouillabaisse. Miss Alma Barker was Yvonne, her naïveté and crisp singing winning general approval; and Miss Ivy Evelyn Scott was one of the successes of the evening as Chopinette, and Miss Nellie Wilson fully met the requirements of the rôle of Malaguenas. Mr. Claude Bantock's Old Bicoquet was an artistic effort; Mr. W. S. Percy made Petit Pierre intensely laughable; Mr. Haigh Jackson sang the music of his part extremely well; Mr. Gerard Coventry was responsible for the completeness of Mr. Williamson's revival. The Radium Ballet was loudly applauded.

MR. WILLIAM ANDERSON has produced a new version, by Mr. Edmund Duggan, of *Lady Audley's Secret*. Miss Eugenie Duggan has made one of the greatest hits of her career as Lady Audley. The other characters were given by Miss Ada Guildford, Miss Mabel Lane, Miss D. Douglas, Miss Marian Buckley, Mr. Lawrence Dunbar, Mr. H. S. Willard, Mr. Edmund Duggan, Mr. Temple Harrison, Mr. J. H. Munroe, Mr. Max Clifton, and Baby Seaton.

"DR. WAKE'S PATIENT" still amuses and interests audiences at the Criterion, and there appears to be no need for change for the rest of the season.

AT the Tivoli additions were made last week by Mr. Harry Rickards in the persons of Miss Pearl Livingstone, a clever serio-singer and dancer; Baby Sutton, a child performer; Miss Alice Raymond, a very good cornetist and bugler; and Miss Kitty Denton reappeared.

WIRTH'S CIRCUS returned to the Prince Alfred Park on Saturday with a full list of popular artists.

THE Victor Dale matinée, to assist the widow of the dead poet, was an enormous success. Mr. William Anderson gave his theatre and company. Mr. Williamson, Messrs. Brough and Flemming, and Mr. Harry Rickards sent contingents. Mr. George Rignold recited, and Miss Eileen Boyd led the chorus and ballet *Off to the Rio Grande*.

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Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Messrs. Durward Lely's and William Mollison's company is here this week in *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. Mr. Mollison plays with all his customary skill as Lachlan Campbell, the outstanding character of the play; and Mr. Allen Thomas gives a capital portraiture of the "pawky" old Doctor Maclure. "Wee Posty" and Tammas Mitchell are capably represented by Mr. Alec F. Thomson and Mr. Kendall Chalmers; and the part of Flora is successfully portrayed by Miss Evelyn McKay. Miss Alice Francis is equally at home as Kate Carnegie; while Mr. Lely is cordially received as the Rev. John Carmichael.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Madame Ada Colley, the celebrated Australian vocalist, makes a brilliantly successful appearance; and the feats of Lady Flora, an ape which displays almost human ingenuity, prove singularly interesting. The Ladderites are warmly applauded in their gymnastic act; Koose shows himself to be an acrobat of rare skill; the Three Zaracs also make a decided hit as gymnasts; and the Keats appear successfully in an amusing sketch, *The Detective and the Lady*. Among the other artists whose turns are appreciated are Miss Vera Mayne, a sprightly comedienne; Mr. George Rapley, Hans and Lux, and Mr. George Westland.

COOKE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—The programme is, as usual here, highly attractive. In addition to the daring and graceful feats of horsemanship, one of the most highly appreciated items is a sketch, *Japanese and Russians*, in which an incident of the recent war in the East is graphically depicted. Mlle. Zetto is as successful as ever in her wire-walking feats; and Eli Raglus highly amuses the audience by his exceedingly deft manipulation of an indiarubber ball. Among other sensational features of the performance is a realistic representation of a steeplechase; and the evening concludes with a capital presentation of a mirth-provoking sketch, *Courtship under Difficulties*.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Robert Ayrton's company is appearing here this week in *The Gambler's Wife*. Mr. Ayrton gives a lifelike portrayal of Desmond Dare; Mr. A. Saunders plays the part of S. Solomon with skill; John Grant is well acted by Mr. R. Pitt; and Jack Grant is a very careful study by Mr. V. Millard. Miss Adria Hill deserves special mention for her rendering of the dual rôle of Mildred and Mirian Grant; and Miss Lizzie Cook is well cast as Carmen Lancho.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker.—Regan and Ryan top the bill here this week; J. H. McCann, roller-skate dancer, is a good turn; Lulaine Darrell must be complimented on a smart show; Patty Yole is a good vocalist and dancer; Jack Hilton is a quaint and amusing comedian; and Shawlene is a clever whistler; the Hippodrome pictures are interesting; Lillian, trick cyclist, deserves praise.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—*A Life's Story* is being presented here this week by Mr. Fred Benton's company. Mr. Fred Benton, wro portrays Tom Berry, is supported by Miss Harrison-Tate, who works hard as Zeika; Miss Cora Linda is an acceptable Beatrice; and Miss Ruby Belasco does well as Rosa. *A Marriage of Vengeance* was presented by the same company on Friday.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The melodrama, entitled *The Woman Who Gambles*, is being presented here this week. Mr. Edwd. E. Ashby as Count Steinbach has a stirring part, and plays with intensity; the Countess Natalie is well portrayed by Miss Gertrude Hunt; Miss Florrie Hall plays the part of Mlle. Zila in a sprightly manner; Mr. Horatio Sinclair scores as the villainous Baron; Mr. R. Fox shows capacity and power as Lieut. Karl.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme here includes Wee Monro, comedienne and top-boot dancer; the McDonalds, with their "Musical Garden"; Tennyson and Law, character duettists; Gertrude Mason, who sings pretty melodies, which are illustrated on the screen; Fred Pollard, versatile comedian; Monotti, on the cycle track; Han Aubrey, legmania dancer; the Emilions, Greener, the Salford Pit Lad, vocalist, and the Bioscope pictures.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—This week's attraction here is provided by Miss Marie Menzies' company in the drama *A Rogue's Daughter*. Mr. Roy Gordon as Sir George Mynard justifies his selection for the part; an admirable performance is given by Mr. F. D. Fenn as Frank Tyler; villainy finds a strong exponent in Mr. Richard Ferris as Colonel Foster; Mr. A. Hall-Menzies is the source of much mirth as John Gibbs (Ercules); the comedy part of Ebenezer Dunnem is well played by Mr. T. Taylor, ably assisted by Miss Marie E. Robertson as Priscilla Jenkins; Miss Madge Devereux is good as Lottie Grey; and Miss Violet Leader is to be commended in the part of Dickie (a waif).

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—A strong bill is presented here this week. Miss Katie Marsh is pleasing in her refined and original act *Grave and Gay*; Mr. Ernest Montefiore and company receive hearty and deserved applause in their scena, entitled *The Little Colonel*; Mr. Will Percival, pedestal dancer, provides an acceptable turn; Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures are acceptable; the Arizona Troupe of staircase performers give a smart show; Francisco is a clever equilibrist and juggler; Miss May Moodie, piccolo soloist, is excellent; and Mr. Walter Wallis is a robust comedian.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod are presenting *The Prodigal Parson* here this week. Mr. W. V. Garrod in the title-rôle shows considerable ability; Enoch Jaggins is powerfully enacted by Mr. A. Northway; Mr. Frank Dallas does well as Ben Jaggins; Mr. E. W. Avery is responsible for a good deal of laughter; and Miss Bertha Kingston gives a sympathetic rendering of Fern Godley.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Hoey.—Mr. Jasper Redfern is providing a capital variety entertainment here this week. The chief attraction is Dr. Carl Hermann, hypnotist, electrician, and scientist; the programme also includes Phillips and Merritt, in a comedy duo; Miss Frederica's terriers; and Dot, the cake walk pony; the Three Bostonians, in their singing and dancing act; Hyam Long, comedian and dancer; Wild, Willie, and West, in a comedy acrobatic scene; Professor Holt, ventriloquist; Arthur Gilbert, with his rational songs; and the Sisters Spark, comediennes and dancers.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company in *Life's Sweetest Sins* is here this week. He himself, as the hero, Capt. Harold Marston, is an unquestionable success, and the villainous Dr. Colbrooke is ably portrayed by Mr. Oswald Douglas, who is well seconded by Mr. Robert Swain as Kimberley Coutts and Mr. Clem Horlock as the Rev. Edward Grey; Mr. Percy Meads is a capital Mr. Burrows and Miss Mary Ainslie is a winning Fay Colbrooke; Miss Marie Daventry as Doreen Rivers, the heroine, plays powerfully and sympathetically; and Miss Sarah Dudley as Bess Grayson and Mr. Edgar Morgan as Bob Tanner make good comedy characters.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert-Routledge.—*Wep-Ton-No-Mah* is occupying the boards here this week. The title-rôle is cleverly portrayed by the well-known Indian actress Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, who is well supported.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The Three Renards top the bill here this week in a gymnastic act of a daring nature; the Four Charles, transformation jugglers and equilibrists, are a clever quartette; Miss Minnie Wren is a cultured ballad vocalist; Arthur and Ashby are paying a welcome return visit; Yorkshire Tom gives a capital turn as an animal mimic; and the Newport Brothers are droll in their ring and trapeze act.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—Another melodrama, with a "woman" as the central figure, entitled *Her Lost Self*, is staged this week. Miss Frances Delaval gives a graphic impersonation of the heartless Philipine Marcel; Mr. Percy Carne Waram makes a manly Wilfred Daventry. As the unprincipled Norman Esmond Mr. Charles Keene is quietly effective; Mr. Adrian Lovett enacts the absent-minded Paule Kimberley with pathetic sincerity; Miss Dora Hammersley cleverly doubles the rôles of Dorothy and Lucille. The comedy element is principally sustained by Miss Nell Ingram and Mr. Horace Buckley as Bridget Malone and Tom Flyaway. Others who deserve mention are Mr. Fred Lillywhite (Victor Elsworth) and Mr. L. W. Halfpenny, and Mrs. Edmund Lyons (Mr. and Mrs. Cohen). Tiny Carrie Johnson, a youthful comedienne, wins many encores for her introduced songs and dances.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—Keen disappointment has arisen through the inability of Dr. Walford Bodie to carry out his engagement here this week on account of sudden serious illness, and the management are therefore to be congratulated upon being able at quick notice to put on an excellent programme, which includes the new mimic, J. P. Ling. A young trio of musicians, who exhibit sound training combined with ability, are the Colberg Family; Fascinating Lillie Lassah is on a return visit, and she sings and dances with even greater gaiety than ever; laughter predominates while Jack and Evelyn occupy the stage in their act *Come into the Office*; equally successful are Ross and Lewis in *Tom-Foolery*, the gentleman's eccentric dancing and amusing business, together with his lady partner's piano and trombone playing, winning the clever duo a hearty recall; the Gilbert Girls sing and dance themselves quickly into the good graces of the audience; Andy Burn, comedian and dancer, is well received; Raymond's Bio-Tableaux exhibit some capital films.

BATLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Whitty.—*A Sister's Devotion* is here. Mr. Sidney Ernest gives a portraiture of the villain of the play which is clever, clear, and convincing; Mr. Barney Doreen does good work; Miss Fannie Harvie is natural in her work; Miss Connie Arden possesses a useful soprano voice, and sings with taste and expression; and Miss Edie Desmond is an earnest and conscientious actress.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—There was a capital house on Monday to greet that accomplished comedian Mr. Edward Compton, who appeared in the title-rôle in *Davy Garrick*, a polished and finished impersonation. A charming picture of Violet Gresham was presented by Miss Mackenzie; and Mr. H. Crocker's admirable interpretation of Alderman Gresham was much appreciated. Mr. A. B. Imeson was seen to advantage as the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut; and excellent impersonations of Mrs. Rumbelow and Selina were furnished by Miss M. Hassell and Miss Muriel Meek. The parts of Rumbelow, Sowerby, and Simkins were in the safe hands of Messrs. Herbert Pigot, Arnold Lucy, and G. W. Johnston; and other rôles were efficiently portrayed by Messrs. Reg. E. Besant and H. Armstrong. The one-act comedy *The Desperate Lover* proved to be a most acceptable curtain-raiser. On Tuesday evening Mr. Compton presented, with unqualified success, the new and fantastic play *To-morrow*. On Wednesday evening *Money* was played; and on Friday night Mr. Compton took his benefit, when *New Men and Old Acres* was performed.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The leading attraction is provided by Mr. Wal Pink and Jeff Vendome's company, who present with every element of success their capital sketch *The Daybreakers*. A feature of the bill is the military equilibristic performance by Marquis J. Sonye. Cline and Clark, the black and white comedy duo, gain much applause; the Twin Sisters Anderson appear in their marvellous skipping-rope dances; and Miss Tiny Arnold is a decidedly clever young comedienne and dancer. Also appearing are Little Don, Miss Marie Stroud, Miss Helen Charles, and Mr. Herbert Rule, a capital comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Chas. Baldwin's comedians and pantomimists head the bill with their absurdity *The Bank Clerks*. A capital performance has been submitted by Hayes and Suits, their vocalism and dancing being clever; and much merriment has been created by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Furden, in the comedy sketch *Two to One*. Miss Elsie Robey, a charming comedienne, gives her sketch *The Slavey at Home*; and Rich and Rich are capital comedians. Also appearing are Miss Venie Clements, a delightful comedienne; and Mr. Harry Maynard, comedian.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Mr. Sydney Bacon and company head the bill, appearing in their exciting episode entitled *The Maniac*. Paul Vandy, juggler, executes difficult feats with marvellous dexterity; and Ray and Calden appear in their amusing act *Peculiarities*. The new pictures exhibited by the Alhambra Bioscope are an acquisition to the programme. And also appearing with success are Mr. Jack McCormack, Scotch comedian; Miss Mamie Iris, a dainty comedienne and dancer; Mr. Russell Hatton, character impersonator; and Mr. Johnny Worman, a first-class comedian.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr. Bert Albert Rutley is here with *An English Belle*. He cleverly impersonates Squire Hardacre. Around the Squire are four pantomimists, Messrs. Will Redmond, J. Purcell, W. E. Matthews, and Dan Whitney, who embark in all kinds of absurdities and comicalities to keep the game and the piece alive. Miss Jessie De Grey is a fine figure for the part of Jack, and Miss Gerty Wasley acts and sings satisfactorily as Alice. Miss S. Sanger does well as the landlady, Oldfield.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Arnold Bell's company opened here on Monday in *Ben-my-Chree*, a drama with a good reputation in this town. Mr. Bell appeared to advantage as Dan Mylrea, a rôle to which he did full justice. Mr. W. G. Gregory was a good Thorkell Mylrea; Mr. Cuthbert Imrie was impressive as the Bishop; and Mr. John Belton was well-suited as Ewan Mylrea. Miss Frances Campbell gave a fine rendering of Mona; and remaining characters were, without exception, efficiently represented. During the week *The Shaughraun*, *The Octoroon*, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* have also been produced.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—A capital combination is headed by Mr. George Lashwood, the popular comedian, and Mr. Bransby Williams, in his Dickensonian entertainment, and it is needless to say that crowded houses are the rule. Mr. Ellis Barrieton, double-voiced vocalist, is an acquisition; and supporting an excellent programme are also Alliss and Cassatti, variety artists; Mr. Ernest Rees, comedian; Mr. Thomas E. Finglass, coon vocalist; Miss Nelly Farrell, Irish comedienne; Mr. Frank Bertram and his company, in the amusing sketch *The Chaperone*; Miss Rose Tilley, comedienne; and the bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. PhilipRodway.—*Oliver Twist* suffers no diminution in interest on its second visit with Mr. Tree's company. Mr. William Mackintosh again convinces all with his graphic delineation of the craft, subtlety, and ferocity of the Jew, Fagin; Miss Hutin Britton also repeats her intensely dramatic and pathetic portrayal of the unfortunate Nancy; Mr. Cecil A. Collins reveals the brutal character of Sikes with grim realism; Mr. Tom Macfarlane invests the Artful Dodger's rôle with the requisite humour; and Mr. Edgar J. Coyne as Charlie Bates; Mr. Ben Lewin as Mr. Brownlow; Mr. Ashton Pearse as Monks; Mr. Somers Bellamy as Bumble; Mr. Clifford Brown as Mr. Grimwig; Miss Hilda Dick as Rose; Miss Elsie Carew as Miss Maylie; and Miss Betty as Mrs. Bumble, join in the success. Miss Gertrude Lang adorns the rôle of Oliver Twist with much sweetness and grace.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—Mr. Chas. Frohman presents Mr. Huntley Wright here in *The Mountain Climber* and *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, an engagement which has produced lively anticipations and abnormally heavy bookings. As the latter, Mr. Wright draws on our sympathy with exquisite feeling and art, while in the former his admirable drolleries put the audiences into a high state of glee. Miss Kate Mills as the hero-loving wife, Mrs. Sibsey, acts in the best refined comedy style; and the Misses Christine McGill and Dora Barton as the daughters, Alice and Betty, are charming; Miss Ivy Hertzog as Lena, and Miss Amy Thomas as Mary, both act cleverly; and Mr. Eric Maturin as Arthur Lydbook; Mr. W. R. Staveley as Samuel Midgham; Mr. M. Elphinstone as Charles Midgham; Mr. Algernon Newark as Oscar Rheinthaler; Mr. Leslie Carter as Sepp Rheinthaler; and, indeed, several others, shine in this exceptionally entertaining and brilliant cast.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*Sowing the Wind*, by the excellent stock company retained here, continue to attract in its second week, and Miss Edith Turner's charming and perfectly natural embodiment of the heroine. Rosamund, is admired more and more. On Saturday last Mr. Maurice Pollack, jun. (son of our leading local musical critic, Mr. Oscar Pollack), appeared in selections as Hamlet and Romeo, while his study of Chatterton was really a striking performance. An interesting re-entre was that of Mrs. F. W. Humphreys, the Marie Longmore of "The Golden Days," who fairly gripped the audience as Mrs. Angel; and Mr. T. Foden Flint, jun., Miss Mabel Collingwood, and Miss Kathleen Timmins were most helpful. For Friday a new curtain-raiser was announced, written and played by Miss Edith Turner, entitled *Daddy's Birdie*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The London Fireman* is an old favourite here, and the favourable verdict recorded on its production, which, in its present form took place at this theatre, has, on its return with Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company, been endorsed by crowded and enthusiastic houses. Mr. Edward L. Garside in his engrossing and truly powerful acting of the elder Curtis, really emphasises his former success in this rôle; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as Hal Curtis has moulded the part into splendid proportions; Mr. Oliver Birrell adds to the interest with his well-considered acting as Viscount Fleming; Miss Nelly Waddington acts the Countess in good style; Miss Nelly Garside renders the coster girl with the finish of a practised artist; and the Misses Nellie Shirley and Florence M. Daly imbue the rôles of Ida and Grace Curtis with much charm. Messrs. C. A. Preece, W. Burgess, and W. Wilby are also conspicuous.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville.—*Honour Thy Father* furnishes the text of this week's play, which is rendered with telling force by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company. Mr. W. M. Cameron acts with much strength and character as Gabriel Garth; Mr. Clavering Craig acquits himself excellently as Duncan Bly; Mr. D. B. Watson is praiseworthy as Jack Holyard; Mrs. Clavering Craig gives effective aid as Mrs. Garth; Miss Mabel Coleman as Lilian acts with fine pathos; Miss Winnie Donovan personates Mercy Merry with every success; and Miss Maud Grey acts in an estimable manner as Violet Wilfred. Mr. Frank Eden as Dr. Sleek; Mr. C. Merton as Job Merry; Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned; Mr. Sinclair Holden as Mike; and Miss Lizzie Morley as Poppy also do good work in this interesting play.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—The Ediscope and Barnum Electric Animated Pictures top a big variety bill here, which comprises the Two Ver-Vains, coon singers and buck and rag-time dancers; Phil Rabey, a clever versatile comedian; Vic Zerney, the marvellous silfleur; the Cedrics, in a smart comedy speciality; Lyons, a clever Irish ventriloquist; Velva, in a hurricane wire act; Queenie Vane, a dainty comedienne and a deft big-boot dancer; and Lulu, an accomplished lady instrumentalist, in her illuminated garden scene.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Blind Foundling* appeals here, where its attractions, so ably portrayed by Messrs. Chas. H. Phelps and Harry Tilbury's company, has crowded the theatre nightly. Mr. Phelps, in his cleverly drawn and interesting rôle of Gerald Dalton is cordially recognised; Mr. Alfred Geo. Fry submits a clever picture of the adventurer, Mark Redman; Miss Belle Tilbury as the false wife and woman, Isabel, scores frequently with her well-phrased acting; Miss Mabel Hall elicits desirable sympathy in the character of Fairy, the foundling; Mr. Bernard Webb is successful as Squire Waterford; and Mr. Frank Harvey as Parson Ray; and Miss Amy Dalby as Viola Waterford, act in a pleasing manner. Mr. Harry Tilbury is truly comic as Dick Dobbins, being ably supported by Miss Millie Doris as Winnie, with songs.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Wilkie Bard is making a big impression by his quaint mannerisms; and the Wille Bros. have an exceedingly clever balancing act. Ray Wallace causes quite a furore by her imitations of popular artists; Howard and Collinson present their absurdity *The Porter and the Parcel*; Clown Barker and Miss Roysika and their dogs are well received. Other good turns are Nellie Stratton; the Haydas, comedy acrobats; Terley, in a novel plastic entertainment; Fred E. Terry, comedian; and Mattie Wilkes, creole vocalist.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Joe Elvin, in his latest sketch *Obedient Billy*, provides many opportunities for laughter; John Terry and Mabel Lambert are a pair of American comedy artists who sing and act well; Johnny Holland and company have an amusing sketch *The Millionaire*; George Collins, Woodhouse and Wells, Harry Maxam, Howe and Ardie, and Mars and Macleod, are all entertaining comedians. Baby Lloyd, Andie Caine (a clever mimic), and Clemart (in his ventriloquial act) complete the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Frank Bernard and company, in their absurdity *Hello*, is the big attraction here. The Vernon troupe are responsible for a good xylophone entertainment; Lillie Soutter is loudly applauded; Mephisto is an expert contortionist; a capital mimic is found in Tom Stuart; Mons. Slippere, a blind pianist and baritone, is highly appreciated; Adams and Ward, Myles and May, the Two Cabracs, the Lurins, and F. V. St. Claire are all popular turns.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—John Lawson is attracting crowded houses here with his well-known episode *Humanity*, and *The Monkey's Paw*, which is new to Birmingham, is also in the bill. Jack Crawley is a clever mimic; the Lokushimas, Japanese jugglers, are received with applause; Morton and Elliott are expert paper tearers, while their musical and vocal entertainment is far above the average; Jessie Merrilees has some pleasing songs; the Rinaldos (equilibrists) and Arthur Gill complete the programme.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. and Mrs. Chalmer Mackey's company is here this week in the Irish musical costume play entitled *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr. Mackey is very successful both as actor and singer in the part of Barney O'Hea, whilst Mrs. Chalmers acquits herself with credit as Norah McGrath; Mr. Charles Homer essays the rôle of Shamus McDermott and is heard to advantage in several old Irish songs; Miss Nana Flansberg (Biddy) sings and dances well; and Messrs. David McFarlane and Haughton Macaulay as the Sheriff and Agent respectively are also to be commended for their work.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*A Doll's House*, played by Mr. Harold V. Neilson and company is the fare provided here this week. Mr. Courtenay Thorpe gives a capital impersonation of Torvald Helmer, and Mr. Neilson presents a careful study of Nils Krogstad; Nora Helmer is played with decided ability by Miss Amy Sangster; and Dr. Rank has a capable exponent in Mr. Lionel Atwill.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Queen and Le Brun's company tops a capital bill here this week in the sporting sketch *The Cockney Huntsman*. Other enjoyable turns are supplied by Charles Vincent, comedian; Dan Robans, vocalist; Edie Gray and her white coons; the Three Prestons, sketch artists; Gilbert Rogers, comedian; Counsell and Mills, sketch artists; and Elverton, the spinning marvel.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The new lessee reopened on Monday night with an excellent variety company, which included Capt. Maximilian Cruber, who introduced his wonderful performing animals; Fred Cumminger, sand dancer; the Four Jennels, in a refined musical act; Marie Weston, banjo, song, and dance artist; the Gregson Trio, with a pleasing act, entitled *The Dummy*; Fred Hallam, eccentric comedian; Zara and Armo, novelty bar performers; Beattie Kent, comedienne; and Tom Collins, vocal comedian.

THE HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—The bill here is headed by the Wulfrunas in a high-class acrobatic act; the Valdos Bros. and the Seltinas appear in a classical vaulting act; and Tudor's performing ponies continue to draw.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company (under the management of Mr. Silvanus Dauncey and Mr. M. V. Leveaux) is this week presenting the successful play *The Walls of Jericho*. Mr. Herbert Bunston excellently takes the part of Jack Frobisher; Miss Florence Jackson displays much histrionic ability as Lady Alethea Frobisher; Mr. George A. Brandram gives a pleasing representation of Hankey Bannister; Mr. Sydney Hamilton cleverly sustains the thankless part of Harry Dallas; Mr. Lawrence Hanray is capital as the Marquis of Steventon; Miss Molly Carton submits a smart rendering of Lady Lucy Derenham; and Miss Lydia Busch is good as Lady Westerby.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A good variety company is appearing at this hall, comprising Sam Elton, juggler, "the man who made the Shah laugh"; Miss Lucretia, burlesque artist and speciality dancer; Charles J. Johnson, "the black diamond"; the Venola Bros., comedy gymnasts; Harry Levaine, quaint comedian; the Clarkes, banjo duettists; Violet Morgan, lady impersonator; Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers; Wal Robbins, black and white musical comedian; Miss Blanche Marion, comedienne and dancer; the Ergotti and King Luis Troupe of Risley performers; Brady and Johnson's company in their screaming absurdity, *Turning the Tables*; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson.—This week we have Mr. Fred A. Marston and company in *The Silver Cross*. Miss Lilian Rignold is a sweet Ida Adams; and Mr. Fred Marston gives a powerful and finished rendering of Ben Adams. The part of Philip Frewin is in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Danson; and Mr. Luis Lingard is seen to advantage as Arthur Merton. Miss Ada Hender deserves credit for her able rendering of the part of Laura Beechcroft; the comedy element is entrusted to the care of Mr. Sid Bazley as Tomkyns, and Miss Cissy Cleveland as Sally. On Thursday night, the courteous and respected manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson, took his benefit.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. L. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Phil Ray is delighting his audiences here this week with his funny patter and songs; some effective dancing is given by Miss Effie White; Will Cornish contributes an unique musical bell turn; Frazer and Mac are amusing in "Musical Mixtures"; Russell Cave, the military ventriloquist, causes much laughter; Frank Dunlop, comedian, and the Sisters Melba, vocalists and dancers, are other enjoyable items. The ever-popular Hippodrome pictures portray the latest subjects.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Cyril Maude's company opened here on Monday night in that successful farce *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Harry Ashford is a rollicking Captain James Barley; and an excellent little bit of low comedy is provided by Mr. J. Wheatman as John Dibbs. Lieut. Seton Boyne has a good representative in Mr. Percival Knight; and Mr. Charles Goold is amusing in the small part of Tom Codd. Miss May Fairclough is a sprightly and charming Ethel Smedley; while Miss Mary Griffiths as Mrs. Baldwin, and Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite as Mrs. Porter, are responsible for much hearty laughter. Mr. Walter Pemberton, Mr. C. Caffrey, Mr. Percy Marmont, Miss Ethel Stalman, and Miss Mary Pemberton also lend efficient aid.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—We have a triple bill here this week, the main feature being the sparkling comedy *Lucky Miss Dean*, which is admirably staged, and charmingly acted by Mr. Eugène C. Stafford's company. Miss Dora Gray in a convincing performance of the part of the pretty heroine of the story achieves success, and there is much brightness and humour in Mr. W. E. Ashcroft's acting as the impecunious husband Frederick Ware; Mr. Vivian Gilbert as the dude Horace Chaney, and Mr. Cyril Price-Evans in a caricature of the hypochondriac Wilfred Ashmole also accentuating the fun greatly; as the worldly Lady Ashmole Miss Estelle Despa is excellent; and Mr. W. T. Elworthy fills the part of the scheming Percival Chaney capitally. *My American Admirer* serves as a curtain-raiser, in which Mr. Elworthy is well supported in his excellent assumption of the Pennsylvanian Petroleum G. Hooker. *Under the Old Name* is the concluding play, in which Mr. Elworthy is again prominent in an excellent effort as the stern father, Squire Thorogood—a striking contrast to his previous impersonations—and he has able support from Mr. Gilbert as Dick, from Miss Beth Elliott as Madge, and Mr. Price-Evans as the warm-hearted Drake.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—No production of its type has aroused greater interest here for some time than Miss Lillian Clare Cassidy's stirring drama *In Holy (!) Russia*, which Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's clever company is this week presenting with marked success.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Miss Hetty King is seen to advantage in a series of clever and artistically embodied male-impersonations; La Tostia's mandoline solos are again received with favour; another welcome appearance is made also by Jake Friedman with his humorous "One Man Uproar"; Spry and Monti submit a capital comedy sketch; the cycle "teacup track" riding by the Aurora troupe is daring; and the comic juggling of Sloan, the "cigar-box king," causes much amusement. A bright and attractive turn is that of the Stuart Quartet; Baker and Lynn provide mirth with *The Electric Boy*; Johnson and Dean, "the coloured fashion-plates," give a smart coon turn; and the Bioscope is substituted for a turn by Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, who is unable to appear.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—There is a good bill here this week. Mr. Arthur Reece submits some acceptable vocal comedy; Harry Briggs supplies the novelty of a triple voice; some eccentric acrobatic work and knockabout cycle business is humorously gone through by Mantell and Oval; clever sleight-of-hand tricks with coins and cards are accomplished by Mersano; on the triple bar Rozare Bolleros are clever and humorous; Frances Haskoll illustrates her songs successfully; in dainty style Edna Latoune renders her well-chosen numbers; and in their lively entertainment *The Major and the Maid* Rastus and Banks, American comedy entertainers, are smart and amusing. Some fine films are shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The promenade concerts, by the Royal Viennese Band, under the conductorship of Herr Winternitz, are attended by large audiences. Mr. Albert Mackelvin, a very amusing Scottish humorist, causes great delight by his smart patter and singing of parodies of popular songs.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Kitchingman.—Mr. George Burnard and his variety company are appearing here this week, and present a good programme. Sabino, a clever instrumentalist, gives a talented performance on a large variety of instruments; Curtis Leo and his smart little Piccannini are very amusing in their magical feats; Gilroy gives a good ventriloquial turn; Stanert and Yondi are well received in their American vaudeville performance; and Miss Louie Lantz gives a good turn as a comedienne and dancer. Mr. George Bernard's song scenas are remarkably well acted; and the animated pictures are a source of great amusement.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—In aid of the local charities the Brighton and Hove Operatic Society opened a week's engagement here on Monday with an admirable performance of the Gilbert and Sullivan opera *Patience*. At Thursday's special London matinée the entire Haymarket Theatre company appeared in the comedy *The Man from Blankney's*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Mr. John P. Preston's company is here this week with *Lady Godiva*. Mr. F. B. Woulfe is distinctly successful as Tom of Coventry, and Miss Josephine Colona displays dignity and grace as Lady Godiva; Miss Gwen Stewart's Lady Aldyth, and Mr. Ernest Lodge's Leofric are admirably played; while the villains, Algar and Unwolfson, are ably represented by Mr. James Duncan and Mr. Ernest Hamilton respectively. The humorous element is capitally sustained by Mr. Harry Benson, as Robin Shackleton, and Miss Edith Loraine, as Elfrida.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A varied and attractive programme is submitted here this week. The Ten Loonies are intensely funny; Herbert Lloyd, "the Diamond King," is a capital comedian; the Smart Set Entertainers submit a good turn under the direction of William George; Yamamoto and Koyoshi are clever Japanese equilibrists; Anthony performs some capital conjuring; Lambert and Glover contribute a good farcical duologue; Rose and Archer, at the piano, give excellent impersonations of well known artists; Frank Leon, clog dancer, is well received; Dave O'Toole, comedian, and C. Williams, comedian and big boot dancer, win well-deserved applause, and the entertainment concludes with Animated Pictures.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. Young Colossus and L'Homme Miniature submit an interesting turn;

are marvellously clever. Les Frasettis, musicians; Corbin's dogs; A. E. Clifford, vocalist; Royal Best, impersonator; Flo Chevalier, vocalist; and Ada Parker, coon singer and dancer, are all good turns. The Ottograph pictures show the Cup Final.

HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Broadhead, jun.—A capital show is given here. Gustave Fasola, an Indian magician, is undoubtedly a fine turn; Charles Bignell, comedian; Fred Mason, whistling and singing comedian; Fiels and Lewis, in a burlesque act; Cribb and Cribb, comedians; Coolvilles, comediennes and dancers; Howard and Townsend, duettists; and Little Rose Pink, comedienne, are all good.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—*The Night of the Party* is the attraction here this week. The company is under the management of Mr. George Stephenson, and he is also successful in his rendering of Frank Frayne. Mr. Leslie Holland is admirable as Mr. Crosbie; Mr. Fred Rolph gives a delightful impersonation of Mr. Flambert; Mr. George Sade, in his original part of Mr. Roundie, is equally convincing. Miss Evelyn Howard plays Lady Hampshire very nicely, as does Miss Eve Erskine Gipsy Vandeller. Miss Vera Vere is excellent as Paulina; and Mr. H. V. Surrey gives a first-class rendering of Mr. Bogle. Mr. Allen Cunard plays Sir Charles Hampshire exceedingly well.

CANTERBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Canterbury Répertoire Company; Manager, Mr. H. Michael.—During the first three days of this week Mr. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company has been appearing in *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Macbeth*, and *The School for Scandal*. On Monday night, when the first-named piece was produced, there was an excellent attendance. Mr. Henry Herbert made a great success of the character of Petruchio, whilst Miss Dorothy Green thoroughly justified her selection for the difficult part of Katharina; Miss Kate Turner made a charming Bianca, and Mr. Bernard Limbus admirably impersonated Lucentio; the part of Baptista was creditably taken by Mr. Lionel Bevans; Mr. Montague Wigan was an excellent Gremio; whilst the entertaining characters of the servants of Petruchio were ably sustained by Mr. R. Merrivale, Mr. Hodgskins, and Mr. Barber. As Tranio and Biondello both Mr. James Annand and Mr. Alfred A. Harris were good, whilst a special word of praise is due to Mr. Ross Shore for his amusing interpretation of the rôle of Grumio.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—The ever-green comedy *Our Boys* is being presented here by Mr. Charles Otley's company. Mr. Otley appears in the part of Perkyn Middlewick, and gives an extremely good representation of the character; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart as Sir Geoffrey Champneys is particularly well suited; and Mr. W. Besley Beltran as Talbot Champneys is excellent. Miss Olive Palmer as Violet Melrose, and Miss Edith Heron Brown as Mary Melrose, are successful; Miss Phyllis Manners as Clarissa Champneys creates considerable merriment; and Mr. Herbert Robinson as Charles Middlewick shows much skill. Mr. Fitzpatrick as Kempster and Miss Marie Jonquil as Belinda render substantial assistance. The piece is preceded by *A Case for Conviction*.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman.—The Russian drama *The Price of Her Soul* is the *pièce de resistance* here, capitally staged by Messrs. J. B. Shinton and Alex. Greenwood's company. Mr. Shinton enacts the part of Lord Rolf Mandeville with much ability; Major Skoboloff has a capital exponent in Mr. Annesly Hely; and Mr. Edwin Coates does well as Hon. Algy Fraser. Miss Mona Gray submits a powerful delineation of Olga Lanovitz; and an exceedingly attractive heroine is Miss Ada M. Ryder as Countess Inez. Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy works hard, and deserves the popularity his comedy brings him

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—The Boisset Troupe are here with their amusing sketch *The Bricklayers*; the popular May Henderson is also largely responsible for the good business. The Anartos evoke much applause for their excellent musical entertainment; the Seddons create uproarious laughter in a juggling act; Walter King, the doleful comedian, fairly brings down the house; and the interesting bioscope pictures of the championship wrestling match caused quite unusual excitement. Cora Caselli, in a Spanish dance; Vernando, the ventriloquial barber; Charles Gardiner, in popular ditties; and the Sisters Bosanquet, operatic vocalists, complete the list.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—A version of that much debated play, *Sapho*, is proving a strong attraction here, and as played by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's competent company thoroughly deserves its success. Miss Ada Abbott, who appears in the title-rôle, has made a careful study of the part, gaining sympathetic approval for her pathetic acting in the last two scenes; Mr. Ernest R. Abbott makes effective use of his many opportunities as Jean Gaussin; Uncle Cesaire as impersonated by Mr. Douglas C. Phelps, is a most amusing character; Lucy has a charming representative in Miss Kathleen Stewart; and Miss Marjorie Tennant's Mme. Hettema is a humorous and much-appreciated piece of work. Miss Louise Gilmore as Aunt Divoune, Mr. W. H. Garbois as Henri Dukelette, Mr. C. Douglas as Flamant, and Mr. John Lester as Caoudal contribute excellent performances, and a clever character sketch of Old Legrand by Mr. Weedon Ross meets with cordial acknowledgment. Edwin Keen also appears in his humorous musical sketch, entitled *Animated Pictures*.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The evergreen G. W. Hunter, who is here this week, is a big favourite; Bennett and Martell are clever dancers and knockabouts, and their sketch, *The Shipwreckers*, is well worked; the Alskarno Trio combine clever Risley work with excellent comedy; and the Crystals are successful as song and dance artists. The difficult feat of balancing a dogcart on the chin is one of the chief items in the clever equilibristic performance of Les Henris. Some astounding leaps and somersaults by Tate and Tate, smart trampolin tumblers, bring down the house. The Bros. Webb, the musical clowns, are appearing here for the first time. Vernon's Bioscope concludes an excellent entertainment.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Mr. J. B. Elliot's company of stars has met with such success that the visit has been prolonged for another week. The Musical Savonas are creating quite a furore with their performance, and the Cycling Elliotts are popular favourites. New-comers include the Wally-Hoste Trio, acrobats and head-to-head jugglers, who meet with a flattering reception; the Rizarelis on the revolving trapeze are much appreciated, as also are the Recars. The Hippodrome Pictures are very good.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow's company opened on Monday in *At Cripple Creek*. Mr. Hilliard Vox does excellent work in the rôle of the hero, Joe Mayfield; Messrs. Walter Thornton and C. Douglas Carlyle are picturesque and convincing as the Terror and the Bully of the Creek; Mr. A. D. Leyland is a striking figure as Wahketah, and his acting is both dignified and effective; Mr. Albert Rogers gives an amusing study as Ben White; and Mr. Will Hook as Reggie Harwood from Boston affords further comic relief. Miss Daisy Carlton, a clever and vivacious little actress, does capital work as Maggie Mason; Dynamite Ann is represented with a good deal of power by Miss Vera Fordyce; Miss Lily Beagle looks pretty and speaks nicely as Belle Gordon; and Little Freda, a very bright child artist, neatly plays the part of Tatto.

CHESTERFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company is this week paying a return visit with *The Face at the Window*. Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale again submits a vigorous portrayal of Le Loup; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe shows dramatic power in the rôle of Paul Gouffet; Mr. Alfred Warne plays capably the part of Henry de Brisson; Mrs. Gilbert Hall is good as Lucian Cortier; Miss N. Thorne-Hallam scores in the character of Marie de Brisson; Miss Elaine Grant cleverly interprets La Pinau; Mr. C. Alan Hineson (Peter Pottlebury), and Miss Gwynne Warren (Babette) provided the humorous element.

CHORLEY.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé.—Another variety programme is submitted here this week, including Hardeen, the Handcuff King; Mr. Martin Conway, of "Walk Round Martin" fame, evokes applause; Earle and Melville are entertaining comedians; Mr. J. P. Carrol, the military tambourinist, earns a cordial reception; Marie Gibson is a pleasing comedienne; the diminutive Happy Attwood is full of merriment; the King's College Boys give an enjoyable turn; Mr. Charles Matthews, the jumper, is also an interesting turn.

COATBRIDGE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Coatbridge Theatre Company; Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Commins.—Mr. Charles March and company occupy the boards here this week with *The Gamester of Metz*. Mr. March, who plays several parts, delights the audience with his clever impersonations, his leading character being Paul Baldot; Mr. John B. Murray provides an excellent sketch of Capt. Badaire; and Louis Badaire is cleverly portrayed by Mr. W. G. Dudeney. Miss Una Lane sympathetically portrays Lucie Baldot; Miss Eva Lyndhurst makes an able Countess Baldot; and Babette is capitally delineated by Miss Violet Robinson.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—The more expensive parts of this house were well filled on Monday night, the attraction being Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in *The Freedom of Suzanne*. The play was preceded by *Two in a Trap*, an episode in one act, in which Miss Violet Ley and Mr. Townsend Whitling appeared to great advantage. Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox's comedy was much liked, and as Suzanne Miss Beatrice Lindley kept the audience in a ripple of laughter throughout the evening. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley played the husband in capital style; Mr. Harley West, Mr. Townsend Whitling, and Mr. Archie Selwyn were well placed as Suzanne's admirers, and the untimely gaiety of Uncle Harding caused much amusement. Miss Emily Patterson was a mother-in-law of the stereotyped order, and Miss Violet Ley a charming Lady Isobel.

THE HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot and Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—The star turn this week is Tom Davies' trio in the sensational aerial motor-cycling act; Rosie Reval is accorded a good reception; Harry Cotton is an amusing eccentric; D. W. Watson performs capitally on the cornet; the Sisters Vincent are entertaining in their smart duets and dances; R. C. Note scores as a vocal comedian; and Amy Neild is a creditable comedienne.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—Mr. W. H. Kirby and company are here in the popular comedy play, *Somebody's Sweetheart*. Mr. Percy Maitland gives an excellent portrayal of Stephen Leverton; and as Stanton Ashleigh Mr. E. H. Bertram does well. Miss Dora Condor is a lively Freddy Ashleigh; the parts of Lem Lee and Old Joe are well filled by Mr. J. Pyne Warburton and Mr. Geo. P. Lecke respectively. Miss Gibson is good as Norah, and as Zora Miss Cordelia Knight gives entire satisfaction. Miss Dot Reeve in the title-rôle sings and dances in a charming manner; Mr. W. H. Kirby as Martin Blabbs is a host in himself. Mr. Vincent Exley is an accomplished pianist and an efficient conductor.

CORK.—PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble; Stage-Manager, Mr. Lewis Tolano.—The bill of fare here includes Mentekel, or the Magic Board, which was recently seen at the London Hippodrome. Percy Curry, comedian, is good; the Sisters Petram present a unique exhibition of fantoches; Captain Devereux introduces a troupe of trained dogs; the Sisters Lylle, vocalists and dancers, are entertaining; and Garden's Royal Quintette, vocalists and international dancers, contribute a pleasing turn; Carl Lynn, mimic, does well; the Fimans appear in a musical comedy act; and Ben Holdsworth scores as a humorous entertainer and ventriloquist.

COVENTRY.—THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—On Monday night good houses gathered to witness a varied programme. The Sleedes give a clever performance, entitled *The Mysterious House;* George D'Albert is successful; Milner Verren is well received; Miss Rae Rosenthal is an able descriptive vocalist; Messrs. Harman and Langton give an amusing sketch, entitled *Oh, What a Night;* Roma and Romani are clever musical speciality artists; and Ellis and Watts are capital patter comedians.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Mr. John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy company provide a variety entertainment here this week. The Lizzette troupe of lady acrobats head the bill; the Musical Keiths show their skill on numerous instruments; and the Florida Girls, vocalists and acrobatic dancers, are clever and smart; Elsie Rubina is quite at home on the wire; Fred McLean affords satisfaction as a comedian; and Evie Lynn is a pleasing skirt dancer. The Meister Glee Singers provide an acceptable turn; and Bert Allen and Sam Paul also appear as comedians.

CROYDON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is giving general satisfaction in *The Christian*. Mr. Frank Tennant contributes a consistent performance as John Storm; Mr. Charles Hill is good as Parson Quayle; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe renders sterling service as Father Lamplugh; Mr. Charles E. Dering is equal to the responsibilities of the rôle of Archdeacon Wealthy; Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood acts carefully as Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Jackson Wilcox plays Horatio Drake in the best possible manner; Mr. Bert Conway is excellent as the Faro King; Mr. Oswald Marshall makes a suitable Mr. Lorimer; and Mr. Wilfred Blumberg speaks his lines with effect as Brother Paul. Miss Grace Chalmers deserves congratulations on her accomplished rendering of Glory Quayle; Miss Vasht Wellborne plays with a sympathetic touch as Polly Love; Miss Molly Hayden affords valuable aid as Mrs. Callander; Miss May Weir is creditable as Aggie Jones; and Misses Bella Moody, Dorothy Clifton, Edith Huntley, and Lottie Chesterman, make the most of their opportunities as Betty, Netty, Letty, and Liza.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The boards here are occupied by Messrs. E. H. Knight and George Denham's company, in *The Boom of Big Ben*. Mr. Fred Powell's Captain Joe Galloway is boldly drawn; Mr. Harry Scott is well placed as Gilbert Galloway; Mr. George Denham's efforts are rightly directed as Tom Battleby; Mr. Stanley Bedwell gives a vivid impersonation of Henry Siegenback; Mr. John Brittain is amusing as Tony Prebble; Mr. Harry Agar Lyons ably sustains the part of Danby Wisk; and Messrs. Leonard Howe and George Child deserve a word as Dr. Forbes and Inspector Denter. Miss Hilda Baynton puts in good work as Marjorie Galloway; Miss Nellie Fletcher is excellent as Judith Galloway; and Miss Mildred Cottell is commendable as Olive Lorette.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Mr. W. Reuben Payne's company is here this week with the interesting play *The Orphan Heiress*. Mr. Henry Willis as Lord Ainsley is admirable. Mr. Charles Boult as his lordship's Confidential Clerk proves acceptable; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle is an excellent Laurence Gordon. The comedy parts in the hands of Mr. T. H. Solby and Miss Cora Duncan evoke uproarious laughter. The part of the Rev. E. Ayrton is in the able hands of Mr. George Handel; Miss Rosalie Heath as the Heiress is charming; Miss Constance Medwyn is quite at home as the Housekeeper to Lord Ainsley. Other parts are well played by Mr. Albert Brasque as a Circus Proprietor; Mr. Fred Sutcliffe as Butler; and Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh as Lady Ainsley.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company is here this week with Wilson Barret's play, *Lucky Durham*. The title-rôle is successfully filled by Mr. Edward F. Kennedy, whose performance is as finished as it is effective; as Lord Mountfallon Mr. Benson North plays with the greatest acceptance, and thoroughly sound is the rendering of Mr. Vallerton by Mr. A. E. Walker; while Mr. Arthur Leigh is capital as the Hon. Reginald Steighton. Miss Louise Gourlay very capably personates Mrs. Durham; Miss Phyllis Relph is a charming Helen Vallerton; Miss Florence Dulhunty gives a refreshing depiction of the Hon. Meg Steighton; and Lady Mountfallon is well played by Miss Frances Wolviston. Other parts are creditably accounted for by Misses Mabel Bishop and Katie Evelyn, and Messrs. Geo. Jervis, W. F. Clitherow, John Hartt, Sydney Bancroft, Chas. Phipps, Geo. Lake, Eric Wynne, and Bert Gunter.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—A sensational star turn is provided here this week in the person of Arthur Kenny, a trick cyclist. He is undoubtedly clever; the Pender Troupe of Pantommists appear in their absurdity, entitled *Hands Up*, and cause roars of hearty laughter; Caselli and James are smart banjoists, and their numbers are all cleverly rendered. Chas. Tempest is a well-deserving comedian; Sisters Daventry are pleasing coon vocalists; Mozzetto, juggler, is eminently successful; and the Continental Stilt Walkers are another diverting turn. The Palace Bioscope concludes a good all-round programme.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. George Edwardes' company is paying a return visit here with the musical play, *Lady Madcap*. Miss Marie Studholme, in the title-rôle, again appears with success; and Trooper Brown is in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur Longley. Miss Nina Sevening is all that can be desired as Gwennie Holden; and Mr. E. Stratham Staples is highly amusing as Corporal Ham. Mr. J. Robert Hale well sustains the rôle of Bill Stratford; and Miss Mabel Russell makes the most of the part of Susan. Posh Jenkins has an able exponent in Mr. Oliver J. Rounds; and Miss Ettie Griffies is satisfactory as Mrs. Layton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. Mouillot's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday in *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Cyril Austin Lee plays the part of Horace Parker in a capable manner; and Miss Lily Morrell is charming as Minnie Templar. Mr. William H. Brougham is successful as the Messenger from Mars; and Miss Flora Hastings as Miss Parker, Miss Peggy E. Yeoman as Bella, Miss Joan Meredith as Mrs. Clarence, are good in their respective parts. Mr. Bruce Lindley is capital as the tramp; and the rôles of Arthur Dicey, Dr. Chapman, and Sir E. Vivian, are well filled by Messrs. Edgar Stevenson, Percy Tyler, and Eustace Ffrench.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. Roy Jackson's company opened here on Monday in the sensational drama, *The Hand of Iron*. Mr. Roy Jackson cleverly enacts the part of the mysterious individual who appears in four different rôles; and Miss Kittie Douglas effectively portrays the part of Marie Durogue. Mr. Edwin Beverly does well as Edmund Singleton; and Miss Violet Lesborough is acceptable as May Sutherland. Mr. Henry Deanes ably fills the rôle of George Sutherland; and Miss Florrie Hayes as Nell Swift, and Miss Bella Richardson as Mrs. Hiram, are both creditable in their respective rôles. On Tuesday night *Trilby* was successfully played, and *Oliver Twist* is also billed.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George A. Marsh.—Neil Kenyon, Scotch comedian, heads the bill here this week, and is encored nightly; Kitts and Windrum's sketch, *The Cuckoo*, causes much laughter; and Gwennie Hasto is as charming as ever. The Jagoes, duettists and dancers, score a success; and Drew and Alders are capital comedians. Booker and Narbis, in a comedy episode, *The Interviewer*, meet with appreciation; and the Three Cape Girls sing and dance in good style. Colby and Way, the ventriloquist and the girl, and the Empire pictures, complete the programme.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The bill of fare this week is an excellent one, the chief item being Miss Belle Davis and her precocious Pick-Chicks, who meet with a cordial reception. Captain and Miss Julie Maynard, in their rifle shooting act, elicit applause; as do the Arleys, in an amusing sketch, entitled *On the Benches in the Park*. The Three Sisters Warbana, lady jugglers, are warmly received; and the Ettenas, globe speciality artists; Harry Bancroft, actor vocalist; Gilroy and Gross, comedy artists; Tony Iveson, piano entertainer; Emma Amies, comedienne; and London Cameron, in a series of magical marvels, also contribute successfully.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company, in *Sergeant Brue*, opened on Monday. Mr. Arthur Reynolds acts in robust and manly style as Sergeant Brue; Mr. E. Percy Rogers puts heart and soul into the part of Michael; Miss Eva Weigh is refreshingly sweet as Aurora Brue; and Miss Eliza Earle deserves praise for a piquant rendering of Daisy. Mr. Charles McLagan is a distinct success as Crookie Scrubbs; and a charming personage is Miss Lily Lingard as Lady Bickenhall.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Deputy Acting-Manager, Mr. Rhodes Wells.—Large audiences are appreciating the excellent singing of Brown and Robinson, the bricklayer and labourer, also that of the Two Kays (Madeleine and Fedora), who, in their well-staged and dressed scenas "The Nightingales" and "A Friend Indeed," are most charming. A smart and amusing turn is that of York, Mac, and York; J. G. Aitken, comedian, keeps the house convulsed with laughter; and the Sisters Hypatia, duettists and dancers, are also well received. The Empire pictures complete an enjoyable programme.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—That delightful play, *Sunday*, is here on its initial visit. Mr. Louis Calvert has sent an exceedingly clever company. Miss Emelie Colini, an actress of great ability, is very successful in the title-rôle; Mr. Leonard Pagden is impressive in the part of Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas makes a fine study in the part of Tom Oxley; Mr. Cecil Duncan as Arthur Brinthorpe carries out the scene with Sunday in convincing fashion; Miss Rosalind Ross gives a clever impersonation as Mrs. Maresby; and Miss Muriel Hope as the nun is quietly effective. The four boys, Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky, are in the capable hands of Messrs. William Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, T. Norman Walter, and Arthur Vezin respectively.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The Three Romas once more introduce their clever muscular acrobatic act with great success; Mr. Fred Collins is a clever Scotch comedian; Otto and Olga, in *Mirth, Music, and Mock Opera*, present a clever act; Gracie Lawn sings well, and executes a neat dance; Vowles and Bryan create great mirth; Johnny Walker, Scotch comedian, is a frequent visitor here; and a clever turn is contributed by Harry Cattenach. Zingala and Birtoni appear with success in their operatic statuary act, *Galatea*, deputising for Bob Stephenson. Vernon's Pictures complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Mr. Gilbert Payne and company present a musical comedy, entitled *The Show Girl*. Mr. Payne, as usual, succeeds in his mirth-making efforts; Mr. Jack Henri, in a Scotch comedy part, creates great hilarity; and Mr. Harry Farrow as the Dame is also well to the front in the general fun-making. Miss Lola Patey is successful with her song, "Over a cup of tea."

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The British Empire Animated Photo Company is located here this week. The variety turns include Miss La Clair, a pleasing vocalist, whose illustrated songs are greatly enjoyed. Professor Lehmann scores with a smart shadowgraphic show.

EASTBOURNE.—FLORAL HALL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Trigg.—On Monday evening Mr. Theo. Ward took his annual benefit. The audience was a large one, and the entertainment excellent. Master Max Darewski was most cordially received for his playing and conducting; Miss Clare Hamilton sang her songs with great effect; Mr. Sidney Gandy was very amusing in his ventriloquial contribution, and various items were supplied by the Municipal Orchestra. A storyette contest proved an interesting item.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and Co. are appearing here in *The Adventures of Lady Ursula*. Miss Beatrice Wilson contributes an extremely interesting and attractive performance, and she is a charming Lady Ursula; Miss Sibyl Ruskin is a very effective Dorothy Fenton; and Miss Hilda Gregory is good as Mrs. Fenton; Mr. Norman V. Norman does well as Sir George Sylvester; excellent, strong, and commendable work is done by Mr. Brember Wills as Mr. Dent; Mr. Francis is a highly amusing Dr. Blimboe, and Mr. Dennis Cleugh is a satisfactory Hassenden. Mr. Norman Leslie is an efficient Castleton; and smaller parts are in good hands. *Nell Gwyn* and *David Garrick* are billed for the later part of the week.

THE HIPPODROME.—General Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Mr. Joe O'Gorman is in great evidence as an Irish comedian; as a comedian Mr. J. W. Rickaby takes a full share in providing laughs; Doody and Wright please the audience very much with songs, dances, and patter; the Wilton Heriot Trio have a well-acted sketch; Miss Jessica Grace, beautifully gowned, is assisted by two smart boys who excel in step-dancing; Mr. W. H. Downes is in great favour as a coloured tenor, and Miss Edie Anderson delights the audience in song and dance.

EDINBURGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—After a short interval the distinguished American actress, Mrs. Russ Whytal, who recently appeared here in *'Twixt Axe and Crown*, has returned with her company to play a week's engagement in Tom Taylor's romantic historical play, *Lady Clancarty*. Mrs. Russ Whytal of course appears as the heroine, a part in which she gets the fullest opportunity of displaying her gifts as an emotional actress. She is well supported by an excellently chosen company. Mr. Charles Combe does ample justice to the somewhat trying part of King William, and Mr. Leslie Palmer acts admirably as the Earl of Portland; Mr. Claude King proves himself a true lover and Irishman in the dashing part of Lord Clancarty; and Lord Woodstock and Lord Charles Spencer are well presented by Messrs. Arthur Hardy and Edward Beecher; Mr. C. A. White as Hunt, the landlord of the Hurst, and Miss Ada Marius as Mother Hunt, give capital character studies; pleasing representations of Princess Anne, Lady Betty Noel, and Susannah are given by Miss M. Garth, Miss Mabel Knowles, and Miss Lena Flowerdew.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—The boards of the Lyceum have been occupied during this week by the Southern Light Opera Company, an amateur combination. The programme comprised *The Mikado* and *Merrie England*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—*The American Heiress*, presented here this week by Mr. Arthur Branscombe's No. 1 Company, has given a great deal of pleasure to large audiences. Mr. Frank Barclay's impersonation of Lord Stoneyhurst stands out with admirable distinctness, and the actor sings with dramatic expression. Mr. John Wilkinson fairly revels in the part of the Scottish solicitor; while Mr. Paddy Dupres gives an invigorating performance as Captain O'Reilly, and his brogue is irreproachable; Mr. Walter Westwood is a spirited Jack Grey; and Little Tony gets a good deal of fun out of the part of the Hon. James FitzJames; Miss Margery Gray in the title-rôle acts with grace and charm, and sings with great effect; and Miss Gipsy Touseau and Miss Minnie Walsh are full of vivacity in their respective parts; Miss Dolly Doyle's singularly pleasing dancing is a feature of the performance; and Miss A. G. Strathdee is another dancer who wins loud applause.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. Finch Hutton.—With the Craggs in their nautical sketch of *Billy*, the success of the Empire programme for the current week may be said to be assured. But there are plenty of other excellent turns. Mr. W. F. Frame, the popular Scotch comedian, is a host in himself, and supplies much honest mirth; Horace Wheatley, too, with his clever singing and dancing, holds the fixed attention of the house during his performance; Miss Maud Courtney sings a collection of American folk-songs with much feeling and expression; as a comedian Miss Lizzie Daniels is a great favourite; and Mr. George Brooks makes a successful appearance as singer and dancer; an excellent exhibition of ventriloquism is given by Mr. Fred Russell, and the Bioscope shows films of a number of recent sporting events. Other good turns are given by Mr. Ernie Mayne, humorous vocalist; the Goltz Trio, jugglers and slack wire balancers; and the Jongman Sisters, vocalists.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Chairman and Managing-Director, Dr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—That charming comedy *Sweet and Twenty* is having a most successful run here this week, being presented by Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood Ingram's company. Miss Ethel Weyburn filled the rôle of Joan Trevelyan with excellent taste and considerable ability; as Douglas, Mr. Lionel Glenister appeared to much advantage; Mr. Stephen Wentworth as Eustace gave a clever and realistic piece of acting; Mr. Gus Wheatman as Prynne was especially funny; Miss Isabel Grey as Ellen was a capital parlourmaid; and both Miss Dorothy Carrington as Mrs. Trevelyan and Mr. Drelincourt Odlum as the Hon. and Rev. James Floyd, deserve commendation. *In the Strand* proved a smart curtain-raiser.

FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This is the last week of the theatre for the season, and a better draw than the three-act farce *Are You a Mason?* could not have been conceived. It is presented by Chas. Macdona's company, in whose hands it is skilfully treated. The Masonic subterfuge of the "late birds" is worked with rare effect by Mr. E. H. Paterson as Amos Bloodgood and Mr. H. Langdon Bruce as Frank Perry; Mr. Allan Pollock as George Fisher takes the part capitally; Miss Adelaide Grace sustains the part of Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood very cleverly; and as Eva Miss Mabel Younge is pretty and delightfully trustful; the other characters are all well taken. *A Bad Penny* is the title of a touching curtain-raiser, beautifully acted.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Miss Hettie Jeffries and Co. are this week paying a visit with *The Curate*. As the Rev. John Audley, Mr. Arthur Mervyn gives a capital performance; Mr. Clifford Spencer as Simon Peter Muggs is responsible for the humorous element, and his efforts meet with the approval of the audience; Miss Hettie Jeffries makes a delightful Dick, her performance throughout being of a very vivacious character; Miss Rosa Mervyn gives a sympathetic representation of Mabel Verner. As Katinka Vodsky, Miss Winifred Stuart has a part which she plays to perfection. Mr. Claire Vera is responsible for a powerful performance as Gilbert Westwood.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company, in *For Life—and After*, forms the attraction here this week. Mr. Vernon Sansbury as Richard Grey plays in a powerful and realistic style; Mr. Frank Harrison is excellent as Rube Hexham; Mr. Arthur E. Melborne makes an impressive Dr. O'Neil; Mr. Henry Hare fills the double part of Jack Huggett and Jim Huggett very successfully; Mr. Chris Mason supplies good comic relief as Joe Grimper, and is assisted by Miss Evelyn Shaw, who is an amusing Mrs. Grimper; Miss Grace Heywood as Marion Grey sustains the rôle with commendable ability; Miss Muriel Dean is a sweet Dora Grey; Jenny Huggett has a good representative in Miss Ethel Kingston; Miss Emil Leslie is natural and pleasing as Loo Hexham; and Miss Bissie Murdoch gives useful support as 'Liza Jones.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*Under the Czar* is being played here by Mr. Fred Jarman's company. Mr. James Hare acts the hero, Nicholas Yeroslaff, with much force and earnestness; Mr. W. H. Riley proves adequate in the part of Zakhar Zovesky, the comedy parts are in the capable hands of Mr. Louis Weston as Paul Ignat and Mr. Lawrence Brien as Alexis Petroff; Miss Cathleen Cavanagh achieves success as Sonia Gregorovitch; Miss Linda Riley is amusing as Siomoka, and receives good support from Miss P. Carewe, who plays Zara Bhura.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Ben Harris's Nippers top the bill here, and provide an exceptionally interesting turn; C. Emlyn Jones and his quartette of ladies submit a pleasing vocal interlude; Cordite, the champion lady rope-spinner, has a turn which is original; Maxford and O'Neil are smart repartee comedians; Horton and Linder, grotesque gymnasts, are clever; and Louis Kerno, coon vocalist, and Gertrude Moore, comedienne, make up an excellent bill; the King's Bioscope is also showing some good films.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Starring here are Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers; Ernie Myers, a favourite comedian, makes a huge hit; Miss Lily Lonsdale, a ballad vocalist, is a popular turn; Arthur Slater, "the man in white," is a first-class mimic; the Sisters Russell, low comedy artists, cause much laughter; Doyle and Gibson, comedians, have plenty of "go"; and the American Bioscope terminates the show.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. D. S. Cooper; General-Manager, Mr. Roy Cochrane.—The attraction this week is another variety company, and the following artists contribute to a good programme: Zodac, handcuff manipulator; Miss Francis Holt, juggler; Edward Beauchamp, a smart conjuror; Little Uno, comedian; Hugh Dempsey, in Hibernian songs; Walla Sanger, with illustrated songs; Tom Johnstone, who scores with his descriptive songs; Garland and Kennedy, a clever comedy couple; and new pictures by the Bioscope.

GLOUCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—Miss Edith Isabelle's company in *The Girl from the Halls* is appearing this week. Miss Isabelle plays Minnie Weston in charming manner; Mr. C. Ross as the Rev. Hezekiah Twinkle gives a capital impersonation, as does Miss Ida Fane as Mrs. Twinkle; Jack Weston has a smart and lively representative in Mr. George Elsworth, and the Hon. Richard Graham is well played by Mr. Cecil W. Parke; Miss Lilian De Vere and Miss Connie Laurie are an amusing pair as the Hon. Frederick Humphum and Janey Twinkle; Mr. Cliffe Owen is humorous as John Dobbs and Edna June is smartly acted by Miss Bertha Hall; Miss Nellie Loft makes a capital Penelope.

GRAVESEND.—GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. David Hart.—Hall and Wilson in their American novelty, introducing an exciting bicycle race, and J. W. Hall, who gives a

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Ella Shields has charmed the Tivoli audiences as much by her engaging manner as her rich voice. She has an extensive répertoire of good songs. The musical turn by Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice is greatly appreciated. The gentleman is a skilled harpist, whilst the lady is an expert performer on the soprano saxophone. Comedy is provided by Harry Rogerson, who also introduces eccentric tumbling; Billy Williams, Australian comedian, and Amy Anderson's Co. in a sketch, *The Banana Queen*. Mystery Gauze is a capital female impersonator; the Redferns give a vocal and dancing performance, and an acrobatic speciality is presented by the Bros. Huxter.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—The Burmese Gong series of illusions, presented by Max Stirling, has completely mystified visitors to the Palace. An especially popular feature is the introduction of the magic kettle, which distributes free drinks of various kinds. As an impersonator of female character Russell Wallet has scored a success, his songs being all acceptable. Clever imitations of various artists are given by Miniature Marie, whilst another popular turn is Harris Bell and Lily Pearl's amusing sketch, *A Bit of String*. An excellent acrobatic display, combined with comedy, is given by the Four Louberts, and others who appear include the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; H. Pawson, a smart shadowgraphist; Ouda and Leon, horizontal bar gymnasts, and Percy Farrimond, the singing collier.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*Sailors of the King* is the attraction here this week, and is being presented by Mr. Chas. Harrington's company. Mr. F. Vernon Travers takes the rôle of the rascally naval chaplain excellently; Lieutenant Dick Drake has a worthy exponent in Mr. Harry Douglas; and Mr. Chas. Harrington depicts with fidelity the honest veteran, Admiral Drake. Miss Maud Digby is a shrewd Rebecca Brosby. The piece has some wonderful mechanical effects.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's *East Lynne* company opened here on Monday. The Archibald Carlyle of Mr. Alfred Beaumont is good, and wins high praise throughout; a fine Francis Levison is seen in Mr. Eric Mayne; Mr. Alfred Tate infuses plenty of funny business into the character of P.C. Bullock; Miss Julie Kennard is at her best as Lady Isabel, as is Violet Thorold as Barbara Hare.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Ed. Harrison.—The Midget Mimes, May Fallowfield, Virto, McCann's Performing Dogs, Harry Letter, Sisters Hall, and the Smythsons are in the bill here this week, and one and all are popular.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Chas. Howard.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's company is paying a visit here in the evergreen drama *The Streets of London*. Mr. William Rokeby as Badger is a huge success; Mr. Joe Bracewell is seen as Puffy, and his portrayal is as vigorous as ever; Mr. Henry Moxon is an admirable Gideon Bloodgood; Miss Edyth Goodall as Lucy makes the most of the part; Miss Marion Armitage as the boy Dan is well placed; Alida finds a capable representative in Miss Octavia Noel; Miss Helena Rugby as Puffy's wife puts plenty of work into the part; Mr. Douglas Cottell is successful as Mark Livingstone; and the Paul Fairweather of Mr. Reginald Palgrave is a praiseworthy performance; as Little Johnny Miss Dolly Lancaster is excellent; the Four Fiorellas sing and dance cleverly.

GRAND, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Harry Lamore is paying his initial visit this week in his wonderful turn upon the slack wire, which is both exceedingly clever and humorous; the Phillipi Bros. in their acrobatic sketch *Shunting* are exceptionally smart; Zarmo juggles admirably, and is appreciated; Farley, Rennie, and Farley in their absurdity perform some clever feats; Kyoto, the Japanese juggler, provides an interesting turn; Dorothy L. Clark scores successfully in her songs; May Geraldine sings and dances well; and George Prince is a comedian of merit; the pictures are always up-to-date and well worth seeing. On Wednesday evening and Thursday (matinée) the Countess of Lathom and company appeared in *Diplomacy*. The performances were in aid of the Potteries Cripples' Guild.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—At the head of the list this week is Chas. R. Whittle, whose drollery is finding favour; Victoria Dagmar wins applause for her remarkably neat gymnastic performance; Anna Kenwick is charming as an exponent of coon song and sand dance; and Leonard Gorney does some graceful international dances; Carr and Rose play an amusing sketch; Flo Hilton, a smart male impersonator; the St. Johns are heard in an entertaining musical act; and the Bioscope presents a change of pictures.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company is here with *Two Little Vagabonds*, which is played with conspicuous success. Mr. W. T. Harris is stage-manager, and also acts capably the small part of the Footman; Mr. William D. Fazan fills the rôle of George Thornton with good effect; Miss Valerie Crespin as Marion Thornton is very winning; Miss D. Roslyn Vane as Dick and Miss I. Beltram as Wally well sustain their rôles and secure much sympathy; Mr. John F. Traynor gives a vigorous performance of the Gaffer, and Bunce and the Coughdrop are well enacted by Mr. Frank Gordon and Mr. Fred Archer respectively; Biddy Mullins is cleverly presented by Miss Marie Pritchard.

HIPPODROME. — Resident and General Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—The programme this week includes Miss Marie Cleveland, who proves herself an excellent comedienne; the comic effusions of Parker and Parr are much enjoyed; Miss Bessie Butt is an attractive soubrette and dancer; a laughable turn is given by the introduction by Mr. Claude Ginnett, jun., of four highly trained horses; Mr. Will Freedo, comedian, amuses by his droll sayings and manner; the character of Jane Shore is pathetically depicted in an original scena by Miss Edith Finlay; very novel and diverting is the speciality act given by Francis and Melli.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. Harry Reynolds's troupe of coloured minstrels are attracting good audiences this week.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—Mr. Herbert Barrs is paying a return visit here with *Life*. Mr. Barrs as Jack Lockhart gives a fine manly performance; Mr. Arthur Pringle succeeds in making Sir Horace Lester a deep-dyed scoundrel; and Mr. Herbert Fuller's Zao Krabbe is a very amusing character; Miss Dorothy Oswald's portrayal of Ruth Thorpe is excellent; Miss Agnes Collier's rendering of Beatrice Ferrers is good; Miss Maudie Vincent plays Jess, a London waif, in capital style.

HUDDERSFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are playing *A Wrecker of Men*. Mr. Watson Mill plays well as Jim Burley, a burglar with a touch of sentiment and an inconvenient conscience; Miss Rosalind Tate submits a powerful interpretation of the villainess, Risca; Mr. Milner Noble makes a weird Egyptian of Pharosaphus; Mr. Alfred Maurice is a manly Guise Strange; Miss Cissie Podmore a lovable Doris Melville. Miss Kitty Melville a comic slavey; and Mr. Henry Rutland as the dual representative of Isaacs, the Jew money-lender and fence, and Karnaphus, the Mummy, is decidedly versatile.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The entertainment is provided here by Miss Ella and her lions; Vasey and Ramsey, duettists; Boy Glen, a good singer and humorous story teller; Ryder Slone, with a couple of good songs; Sidney Lee, an expert in pure sleight of hand; Miss Vi Carlyle, comedienne; Deane Tribune and his clever little company in a diverting sketch, entitled *Applicants*; and new pictures on the Biograph.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Proof* is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Maclaren's company. Mr. Gerald Kennedy sustains the rôle of Pierre Lorance with marked ability; Mr. Wm. Dexter as Lazare plays in a skilful and effective manner; Mr. St. Vincent Beechey is a courtly and dignified Duke D'Aubeterre; Mr. G. Gurney-Dayne is very good as Victor; and Mr. Wilford Bailey imparts a considerable amount of broad humour into the part of Chamboran; Miss May Grimshaw scores a distinct success as Valentine; Miss Lucy Prittie-Tydd as Adrienne acquits herself admirably; Miss Phena Powell as Madame Desprets is excellent; Miss Dorothy White makes a satisfactory Duchess D'Aubeterre; and Miss Ellen Morris contributes a capital representation of Julie.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is here this week with *Charley's Aunt*.—Mr. Stanley Cooke is exceedingly clever and humorous as Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. Hastings Lynn makes a capital Jack Chesney; Mr. Richard B. Mason gives a praiseworthy representation of Charley Wykeham; Mr. Walter Beaumont as Stephen Spettigue is successful; Mr. James Beamish is commendable as Colonel Chesney; and Mr. Sydney Compton does well as Brassett; Miss Lena McNaughton makes an excellent impression as Donna Lucia.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. George Morton.—A most successful attraction is being provided at this theatre by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in the sensational melodrama *Her Wedding Day*. Mr. S. Herbert Humber gives an effective embodiment of Harold Saxby; Mr. Augustine Knight plays in most convincing fashion as Weedon Kenyon; Miss Ward is a big success in the trying rôle of Madge Conway, and good work is also accomplished by Miss Eva Bertram as Dora; Mr. T. Edward Ward as Seth Mayson is also successful; and the humorous element is provided by Mr. Fred Yarnold as Caccles, Mr. Morris Maud as Jordan P. Jessop, Miss Ettie Spalding as Mrs. Caccles, and Miss Beatrice Sinclair as Dolly Klink.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr. C. E. Parlato's animated pictures and vaudeville company have now entered upon their closing week, and the capital programme submitted by capable artists continues to attract good houses. Mr. Parlato as a facialist is really excellent, and this week he gives impersonations of well-known local men. The pictures have also been considerably varied, and now include the Hackenschmidt-Madrali wrestling match.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The company of Miss Ada Wallis is here this week in *The Major* and *Sweet Marie*. *The Major* was seen on Monday night, the title-rôle being entrusted to Mr. T. C. McQuire, who did well; Miss Wallis herself gave a suitable rendering of Angelina Touchemup; Miss N. Carlton created a good impression as Grace Gampney; and Mr. Victor Silvernie scored as George Goodman; Mr. Harry Vernon worked assiduously as Jeremiah Stoney; and Miss B. Vernon deserved praise for her impersonation of Mrs. Emma Gampney. The dancing of the Sisters Carlton was especially good.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. C. Jennings.—*A Royal Revenge* has been played here this week by Mr. J. H. Clyndes' company. The chief character, the Marquis of Santiago, is finely impersonated by Mr. Clyndes, who receives able support from Miss Enid Edone, whose acting of Inez Alveraz is warmly appreciated. Miss Aimee Grattan-Clyndes proves herself an accomplished actress, and the same may be said of Miss Grace Jones, as the Mother Superior. The Muleteer is played with spirit by Mr. Wilfrid E. Brandon; Mr. Herbert King and Mr. A. F. Dudley are also of great assistance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—One of the chief items of an attractive programme is the return visit of Will H. Fox; Monnie Emerald contributes some pleasing songs and graceful dances; Hector and Paulus display much strength and agility as hand balancers; a sensational turn is supplied by Carlton, termed "4 ? ? ? ?"; his illusions are remarkably startling. Other artists include Morny Cash, who scores with his songs; Troba, a neat and expert juggler; Oliver Conroy, comedian; and Grey and Welford, in a boxing act.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Messrs. Arthur Whittaker and Clifford Stacey's company is here with the powerful drama entitled *The Hindoo's Revenge*. Mr. Cyril W. Mackay is a manly Captain Bruce Glenister and Mr. Frank Ridley plays the part of Captain Stephen Glenister with force; Mr. A. Willerby is well placed as Dr. Ulysses Murphy; Mr. Clive Ross gives an able rendering of Major-General Sir Victor Strong; Miss Lilyan Lait is good as Diana Strong; and Miss Daisy Snowden is quite at home in the part of Sylvia Glenister; Miss Ethyle Murray submits a life-like rendering of the rôle of Zephan the Hindoo.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—Manager, Mr. L. F. Sanderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Wallace.—The following artists are appearing here:—Mr. Fred Curran, character comedian; Miss Lily Foy, comedienne; Carl Howard, the Crazy Conjurer; Ada Parker, vocalist; Clive Watts, raconteur and dancer; Frank Coyle, comedian; Mlle. Ada Gatley, slack wire artist and juggler.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's company opened here on Tuesday night in *The Fool's Revenge*. Mr. Allan Wilkie as Bertuccio proved himself a powerful actor; Mr. George Lambton, who has a fine stage presence, played excellently as Manfredi; Mr. R. Seath Innes appeared successfully as Malatesta; Mr. Clifford Rean ably undertook the part of Serafino Dell'Aquila; Miss Barbara Pigot did well as Ginevra; Miss Laura Hansen was a pathetic and convincing Fiordelisa; and Miss Ine Cameron looked sweet as Francesca, and won the sympathy of the audience.

KEIGHLEY. — QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company in *The Village Blacksmith* is proving very attractive. Mr. Sam Livesey is well suited in the character of John Strong; Miss Laura Walker is altogether charming as Kate Strong, and scores heavily; Mr. Joseph Carter's representation of Captain Leo evokes the hisses of the "gods"; Mr. Ed. Maydew is good as Lucas Marlow; Mr. George V. Campbell is an amusing Billy Twigg; Miss Maggie Edwards is an effective Ruth Parkins; and Miss Bertha Hanbury is a clever child actress.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—*The Shaughraun* was given here by Mr. Bannister Howard's company the first half of this week. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson showed his versatility by investing the title-part with all the Irish vivacity that is expected; the Claire Ffolliott of Miss Edith Anton Laing was spirited; and Miss B. Doyle made a fascinating Moya. Mr. W. H. Rotherham submitted a good study of Harvey Duff, as did Mrs. Gerald Gordon of Corry Kinchella. Mr. H. K. Aycliff made a soldierly Captain Molyneux; and Miss G. Hastings Walton as Arte O'Neill and Miss Mildred Gilbert as Mrs. O'Kelly did well. On Thursday *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* occupied the boards.

LANCASTER. — ATHENÆUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hy. Wilkinson.—The Provincial Syndicate, with *The Prodigal Son*, is the attraction this week. Mr. F. Dudley does exceedingly well as Sir John Fanshaw; Mr. W. A. Buckstone is seen to advantage as Captain Harry Fanshaw; and Mr. J. P. McBride, in the rôle of Jack Fanshaw, the prodigal son, gives a fine rendering. Mr. John Bryce is a characteristic Ralph Marsden; and the comic element is cleverly introduced by Mr. John S. Chamberlain as Larry M'Gehan. Miss Marion Forrester renders the part of Margaret Marsden in admirable style; and the rôle of Nellie Burke is in the safe keeping of Miss Nora Bedford.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Ed. Cadman.—This week's visit of Mr. Martin Harvey has long been pleasurably anticipated, largely by reason of the fact that we are to see the accomplished actor's interpretation of *Hamlet*. The company opened on Monday with *The Breed of the Treshams*. As the roystering swashbuckler, Lieutenant Reresby, Mr. Harvey contributed a picturesque and artistic piece of acting; Miss N. de Silva was very successful as the faithful Batty; and Miss Coleridge acted with charm the sympathetic rôle of Margaret Hungerford. Francis Tresham was admirably presented by Mr. Percy Anstey; the cowardly and villainous character of Colonel Hungerford received an effective interpretation from Mr. Charles Glenney. *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, *Eugene Aram*, and *Hamlet* are also in the week's répertoire.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Mr. Harry Starr and company are here with *Otto the Outcast* and *Carl the Clockmaker*. Mr. Starr evinces great ability and versatility in the leading characters.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—*Human Hearts* is being played here by Mr. C. W. Somerset's company. The portrayal of Tom Logan by Mr. George Silver secures demonstrative recognition; Mr. W. H. Sams as the villain Fred Armsdale is convincing; Mr. Stephon Langton and Mr. A. Estcourt as Titus Eels and Richard Markham respectively realise their numerous opportunities; Miss Winifred Pearson is prominent amongst the ladies with a fine impersonation of Jennie Logan; and Miss M. Silvestre is also admirable in the rôle of Ruth Western.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Chris Richards is having a very successful time here; and the efforts of Walter Munroe also receive due appreciation. Max Yorke has an interesting dog show; the Four Olympian Stars are a quartet of charming lady vocalists and dancers; and the Mariano Sisters display ability and agility on the trapeze. Skilled musical contributions by the Dumond Minstrels meet with hearty recognition; the Labakans are winning success with eccentric acrobatic business; and the Jack Theo Trio, in feats of strength, and the Morgan Sisters, duettists and dancers, are also in the bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Managers, Messrs. Chas. Weldon and Claude Shayler.—Tom Craven and Stephen Adeson are the chief actors in an amusing comedy sketch, *The Lady in Red*, which is a very successful item here; the Herald Comedy Four combine good vocal work with clever fooling; Lawrence Barclay and Rumbo Austin are entertaining comedians; the acrobatic work of the Akimotos, a quintet of expert Japs, is a novel and interesting feature; Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene and company are seen in a clever comedy sketch; the comic element is also supplied by Tom Dunmore and Robbie Roy; an entertaining comedy act, by Wyndham and Waters, goes strong; and at the bottom of the bill are the Lowenwirth Brothers, smart Hebrew comedians.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Charlene and Charlene are submitting an attractive drawing-room entertainment; J. S. Pleasants is a comedian with a novel style; the Sivronis are amusing in burlesque comedy business; that accomplished blind musician, Henderson, delights his audience as usual; Stanley's Urchins, a party of clever juveniles, sing well; and Ted Waite, comedian; Fred Horsfall, mimic; and Mlle. du Roche, a charming vocalist, are also amongst the most successful in the programme.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas. — The decorations and re-carpeting in front of this theatre having now been completed, it presents a most charming and artistic appearance, the good taste displayed by the new proprietors evoking the admiration of the patrons. They are determined to bring the whole building into line with the best theatres, and, during the summer vacation the auditorium is to have special attention paid to it. Many innovations quite new to theatrical management in Leicester have been made, and altogether the advent of Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton as proprietors of this premier theatre cannot but be welcomed. Mr. Henry Dundas, the business-manager, is untiring in his efforts to see that the comfort of the patrons is well looked after, and, by his courtesy, is making many friends. The attraction is provided this week by a first visit of Mr. Louis Calvert's company in the successful comedy *The Duffer*. In the name-part Mr. E. H. Wynne scores a conspicuous success; Mr. F. Pennington-Gush as Charles Chester is also to be highly complimented; Mr. Whitford-Kane is good as Paul Martin; Miss Mabel Taylor plays delightfully as Mary Hillier; Miss Nellie Griffen is amusing as Miss Bide; Miss Florence Adale gives a capital performance as Miss Phyllis Wade; and Miss Margaret Montrose is excellent as Lady Amelia Gainshays. Others whose efforts call for praise are Mr. P. Warringay as Richard Stamp, R.A., Mr. W. Fordlace as Mr. Raleigh, Mr. Kingsford Pearce as James Beuth, and Miss Dorothy Cousen as Miss Montgomery.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The boards are held here this week by Mr. E. Oswald Brooks's No. 1 company, in the sensational drama *The Trail of the Serpent*. The thrilling sensation of a woman suspended 15ft. in the air, and lowered into a furnace, is most realistically depicted in the third act. Miss Marjorie May as Ethel Maynard, the heroine, and Mr. Hobson Asche as Gerald Kingston, the hero, are both to be complimented on excellent embodiments; Mr. Wilford Cheetham does well as the evil genius, Ralph Hammond; Mr. Vincent Kelway as William Higgins is popular and amusing; Miss Gladys Newcombe is an attractive Rose Wilson; Miss Ethel Stuart makes a capital Rachael; and Mr. Booth Conway does well as Gipsy Jake.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The premier attraction this week is Mrs. Clement Scott's company, in the bio-drama, *The Diamond Express*, in which Mrs. Bennett gives a fine piece of acting as Maggie Lee; D'Arc's Marionettes are remarkably life-like; Rezene and Robini are as mirth-provoking as ever; Walter Belloni gives a smart juggling performance; Harry Conlin, an excellent comedian, renders his songs in a manner which creates hearty laughter; the Andos Little Japs are skilful jugglers and clever gymnasts; Ernest Heathcote, comedian, is well received; Sam Soda is a clever rhymster; Rosie Coleman is an admirable sand-dancer; and the American Bioscope is also an attractive item of the programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—After a week's absence, Forbes, Murray, and company return, and are presenting the dramatic episode, *Man's Enemy*, and the tragic sketch, *The Mouse-Trap*. Larry Lewis, an exceptionally clever comedian, is making a big success; Millie Howell, comedienne, renders her songs in good style; the Sisters Varley are excellent duettists; Alf. Brooks, character comedian, is good; Will Farrell, the express comedian, is funny; and Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope is retained.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst.—Variety is again the attraction here this week. The Bros. Onda, triple bar comedians, make a decided hit in their novelty, *The Motor Maniac*; Miss Bessie Willows, ballad vocalist, sings her songs in good style; the Silbon's vaudeville circus meets with deserved success, the animals being capitally trained; Gillin, ventriloquial humorist, brings down the house with his witty sayings; Messrs. Milstead and Bell are greatly appreciated for their refined vocal scena; Mr. Will McIver, vocalist, sings with good taste; and *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* is shown on the bioscope.

LEITH. — NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—The management is this week giving a special production, on an elaborate scale of the domestic play *East Lynne*. Miss Rosamund Mayne Young has been engaged to play the hapless heroine, and her great talent as an emotional actress enables her to present all the delicate light and shade in the rôle of Lady Isabel. Mr. G. Beresford Innes is the Archibald Carlyle, and enacts the part with much quiet force; while Mr. Edward Sorley is an excellent Levison. Mr. John Darlison, the resident-manager, makes a creditable appearance as Richard Hare; and the other gentlemen of the cast, Messrs. J. Barker, E. Bulwer Pitt, Montague Corri, and Will Simpson, all play capably. Miss Lily Roselle is an effective Barbara Hare; Miss Macintyre develops amusingly the humours of Cornelia Hare; and Miss Corri, Miss Helen Alston, and Miss Marion Craig fill smaller parts in creditable fashion. A word of praise should be given to the affecting performance of Willie Carlyle by little Rose Meredith.

LINCOLN.—PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Harry Roxbury's company heads another big bill in *The Prince of Monte Carlo*; the Sisters Marion are talented juvenile duettists; Tom Parker entertains with a couple of songs; Lade Henderson is an actor-vocalist of ability; and Sterling and Love repeat the good impression they made on their last visit as vocalists and instrumentalists. The bright little turn of Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Factory Nightingales, is amongst the best things in the programme; and a warm welcome is extended to Dabito and Buxton, costume duettists. Florrie Pickering, a local juvenile, makes her professional début, and sings and dances charmingly; Raymond's Bio-tableaux complete the programme.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Notwithstanding the fact that adaptations from the works of Dickens, particularly that of "David Copperfield," have been numerous and varied, it is clear that the creations of the great Victorian novelist still possess a hold on the theatre-going public. Evidence of this was especially shown here this week, when Mr. Charles Cartwright and his London company presented *Dan'l Peggotty*. In a word, the production was an artistic treat, and the general opinion of crowded audiences was that the true spirit of the principal characters in "David Copperfield" was never so amply shown through histrionic art as during the present week. Lovers of Dickens, and there were many present, were delighted at seeing Micawber, Peggotty, Emily, Betsy Trotwood, and others moving across the stage, just as if they had stepped out of the pages of "David Copperfield." Then, again, the costumes and dresses of the Early Victorian period lent an added charm to the play, while the scenery, particularly that showing the interior of Peggotty's boathouse, was eminently satisfactory. The unvarying and methodical "swish" of the sea on the shingle outside the house was as fine a sample of stage illusion as could possibly be provided, and this realistic feature was particularly noted by the delighted auditors. A fine picture of the rough, warm-hearted fisherman Peggotty was presented by Mr. Charles Cartwright, pathos, passion, and simplicity being evinced with keen intensity; Mr. Charles Collette charmed everybody with his exquisite Micawber; a more finished idea of the sneaking Heep could hardly be given than that of Mr. Ivan Berlyn; Mr. Alfred Woods admirably supported Mr. Cartwright as the bashful, honest Ham; Little Emily, as rendered by Miss Molly Pearson, readily endeared herself to the audience; the Steerforth of Mr. Arthur Royston was an excellent piece of acting; Mr. Humphrey Warden did well as Copperfield, although the character did not hold a place of much importance in the plot; Miss Mary Smith truly realised the spirit of the complaining Mrs. Gummidge; Mr. Ernest Mozar, both in make-up and demeanour, afforded every satisfaction as Littimer; and the remainder of the cast also displayed high accomplishments. These included Mr. H. Carter Bligh (Mr. Wickfield); Miss Maud Williamson (Mrs. Steerforth); Miss Edith Cartwright (Rosa Dartle); Miss Mabel Luxmore (Betsy Trotwood); Miss Gordon Walker (Agnes Wickfield); Miss Scott-Lauder (Martha); and Miss Ruby Wyndham (Mrs. Barkis). The singing of "Believe me, if all these endearing young charms," by Mr. Mozar, accompanied on the harp by Miss Walker, was loudly applauded. At the close of each act the curtain had to be raised several times.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The enterprise of the management of this house in booking *Peter Pan* for three weeks has been fully justified. Success has resulted, and in this—the final—week a matinée, in addition to the advertised two, had to be given, so great was the demand for seats. Altogether twenty-five performances of Barrie's charming play have taken place, a record in the theatrical annals of Liverpool.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—Mr. Lingford Carson's capital drama *A Modern Adventuress* has done good business here this week. Mr. Harry C. Rutland made an excellent William Delby; the part of Pietro Donelli was in the good hands of Mr. Leonard Aardale, Miss Kate Froude gave a powerful rendering of the notorious Violet Meredith; a pathetic Vinette Delby came from Miss Alice Defoe; Mr. Louis Edmonde proved acceptable as Harry Delby; and the comedy was well handled by Mr. Leonard Montgomery as the Yorkshireman Crompton and Miss Ivy Chandos in the character of Sally Hodges.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Alec Hurley holds the premier position in an entertaining and popular programme, and his various items—particularly the vocal scena *The Coster's Friendly Lead*—are loudly applauded, the gallery boys cheering to the echo. Dolly Harmer's mimicry and singing are greatly enjoyed; Stylo has always some new trick with his hoops; Smith and Johnson are great favourites; the Three San Remo Girls are agile dancers; Zelda is undoubtedly a clever musician; and Walker and Lake have some clever and up-to-date patter.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—A well-presented drama entitled *The Love That Women Desire* has proved a strong attraction at the popular Star. The author, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, brought his own company, and the scenery was picturesque. As Frank Hardy, the outcast, Mr. Wallace played with much dramatic force; Mr. D. G. Noble, as Philip Carnaby, was an excellent lover; Miss Lalla Stanhope proved a delightful Sybil Thorburn; Mr. J. O. Stewart was an able Squire Abingdon; Mr. Hugh Newburn made an acceptable Richard Abingdon; and Miss Clarissa Bamford did well as Marquinha, the Indian maiden.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—Owing to its successful run here, Mr. Carson's own company remains another week, and, by special desire, put up in capital style the ever-popular *Octoroon*. In the title-rôle Miss Hettie Senior was particularly fine; Mr. Ernest Fare's idea of Jacob McCloskey was powerful and telling; as George Peyton Mr. Harry Wren proved a strong support to the play; the impersonation of Wah-no-Tee by Mr. Morley Carroll was excellent; and Mr. Charles Draycott submitted a fine picture of Salem Scudder. Specialties were introduced by the Perkins troupe of coloured vocalists and dancers, which included Jake Euston, Louise Perkins, Annie Washington, William White, and George Perkins.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Here this week are Johnnie Schofield and J. C. Piddock and company, with the musical comedy *Missing; or, The Light o' Day*; Matt Wilkinson and company present the humorous *Registry Office*; an acrobatic playlet, *In the Woods*, comes from the Barowsky Trio; the Ten Genis give an excellent Risley performance; and others in the bill are Bert Byrne, comedian; Helene and Emilon, in an equilibristic act; Grace Grahame, vocalist; Herbert Shelley, actor-vocalist; the Ferraris, dancers; Constance Bellamy, vocalist; and David Poole, ventriloquist.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford. — Lottie Lennox heads a capital bill here this week, and has had a gratifying reception for her smart songs; Foreman and Fannan (Percy and Harold), "the millionaires," cause laughter with their witty sayings; the Eight Lancashire Lads are an admirable combination of singers and dancers; some daring work is done on the trapeze by Sibb and Sibb; T. B. Fayme is a quaint comedian; as a manipulator of the musical glasses Silvo wants a lot of beating; the Sisters Cora are a couple of charming vocalists; some remarkable acrobatic cycling is performed by the Cumberland troupe; Alf Gibson keeps his audience in a merry humour; Mr. C. F. Best gives a clever and funny burlesque of the menagerie showman; and L. B. Athol does well as a comedian.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—George Antill, a very quaint comedian, is top here this week; the Lannons (Will and May) receive loud applause for their excellent dancing; Kendrick and Laura give a refined drawing-room entertainment; Madge Winters sings and dances with taste; Frances Drew has some taking songs; and Alf Foster possesses a good voice.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*The Pleasures of London*, by Harold Whyte, is an interesting ten-tableaux sketch being played here this week by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher is the Jacob Worth; Mr. Harry Tresham makes an excellent Godfrey Dunmore; as Silas Screwman Mr. Cecil Ravenswood is particularly good; Miss Nina Nazeby acquits herself creditably as Ethel Dunmore; and good support is received from Mr. Herbert Cecil, Mr. E. D. Allen, and Miss Beryl Ravenswood.

PADDINGTON PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A smart dramatic sketch entitled *Comrades* heads the bill here this week; the Mannikins, with their automatic theatrical show, are interesting; Kitty Kearns, a Liverpool girl, shows talent as a comedienne and dancer; the Therrys are capable duettists and dancers; Little Dot Pardy does well as a comedienne; and Ned Winton has some good songs.

PARK PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palaces, Liverpool, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Bensley Evans's sketch company is amusing everyone with *Sally's Dilemma*; Cliquot gives a remarkable turn as the human arc lamp; Sidney Dolf has several funny songs; Hilton, the Scottish ventriloquist, submits an acceptable show; Hecto and Sultan have a capital comedy acrobatic act; and others are John Ross, double-voiced vocalist; Akbar, with the silver rings; and Bella Leaburn, comedienne and vocalist.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—George Ripon, a local favourite, tops the bill here this week; a pretty act as equilibrists and athletes is gone through by Craig, Rose, and Craig; Renson and Waite are smart comedians; J. C. Jacques renders several songs in good style; clever comedy juggling comes from Ray and Miles; and Little Violet, for a child, sings pleasingly.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Barrett and Knowles, smart patter comedians, are top here this week; Henry Carlton, with his comedy team, gives his latest trifle, *The Window-Cleaner*; James Brady sings funny songs in a funny style; Miss Nellie Adrienne whistles in a most able manner; Nancy Renshaw is pleasing as a negro comedienne and bone soloist; and others who appear are Joe Conway, the pocket comedian; and Sive Sele, with his mysterious Indian temple.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—George Gray and company put in a second week here, producing *The Road to Ruin*. La Berat, the mystic fire maiden, has a smart dance; as the tramp at the piano James Stewart is very funny; the Kaufmann troupe of lady cyclists have a pretty and clever turn; Dainez has some well-trained dogs and ponies; George Tacius, the double-voiced vocalist, sings in good style; and others on the programme are Damm Bros., with their "impossible bar act"; Ian Colquhoun, baritone; and Daisy Mayer, comedienne and dancer.

LUTON.—GRA

virile rendering of Duburg, and Mr. Stephen Crossley is excellent as Sterling. As Judy Miss Florrie Groves is of course entirely admirable. Others who play very well are Mr. J. Tilly Dillsen as Jim, Mr. Tyrone Power as Giddles, and Miss Ada Roscoe as Blake.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Miss Mary Austin and company, under the direction of Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, are delighting patrons of this house by their performance of *The Cotton Spinner*. Miss Austin's impersonation of Mary Prescott is entirely pleasing, and a manly delineation of Northbury is given by Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds. Mr. Charles F. Wilton is forcible as Foster Cunningham; Miss Enid Ross presents a telling delineation of Constance Harrington; Mr. John S. Haydon is lifelike and sympathetic as the cotton spinner, Prescott; and much amusement is caused by Mr. Ernest C. Edwards as the Major and Miss Bella Power as Lady Charlotte Needy.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Rhodes Parry.—The programme here this week is good all round. The Meister Glee Singers head the bill, and meet with a very flattering reception. George Bastow, a first-rate comedian, makes a big hit with three capital songs; and a series of character impersonations from famous plays are presented with great success by V. L. Granville. Little Zola, eccentric comedian, provides a very funny turn, and is well received; Wat Tyler, character-vocalist, sings well; Harrigan and Holt are amusing comedians, with good patter and dance; the New York Nippers are entertaining in their *Bedtime* sketch; Fred Harrison, the funny Chinese, is good; Mack Ollive is a splendid whistler; and Nellie Martell dances nicely.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An elaborate and successful performance of *Rip Van Winkle* by Mr. Fred Storey and company is the big item here this week. The acting is very good, and the scenery most effective. Brown and Le Clerq give their old favourite *Black Justice* with success; Madge Carlyle is a pleasing vocalist; Ethel Ra Leslie is heard to advantage in a costume song; the Four Skandias are a clever quartet of gymnasts; Unthan, the armless man, does wonderful things with his feet; the Violas give a startling second sight act; the Northern troupe of dancers are extremely accomplished and pleasing; and the bioscope depicts a series of entertaining pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—The top star here this week is George Leyton and company in *The Phonograph Girl*, a very pleasing sketch. Popular also is Queenie Leighton, a favourite here, in her latest song successes. Capital turns are added by Alma, Abdullah, and La Superbe, in a brillant spectacle called *Electra's Bower*; Geoffreys and Benson in *Spoofed*; the Mannings, smart equilibrists; Harry Carsdale, mimic; Gladys Mavius, a clever Canadian girl; who dances well; the Mezettis, in a very fine bar act; and two items by the choir.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The star attraction here this week is Lottie Collins, the popular comedienne. Laurie Wylie and his mannikins present acceptable impersonations of well-known stars. Good turns are given by Peggy Fame, comedy artist; Harry Wright, a smart extemporaneous comedian; Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist; Bert Bowden, a quaint comedian; Hettie Lee, soubrette and dancer; Nell Richardson, vocalist and comedienne; Rosetti, the musical girl; and Harry Phydora, the popular comedian.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The principal item here this week is Charles Majilton and company in a screamingly funny sketch, entitled *Helter-Skelter*, which causes no end of amusement. Farr and Farrland render an excellent selection on the banjo, and are well received; the Three Rayners are clever acrobats and contortionists; and Charles Rowen is an amusing comedian. "A Spanish Bull-Fight" is realistically depicted on the bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The chief attraction here this week is *McKenna in Love*, a musical farcical sketch, excellently presented by Edwin Garth and company, and which proves very interesting and humorous. A smart comedy turn is given by the Goodfellows; Minnie and Harry Groves are clever in a novel ring exhibition; and Tokio is an excellent Japanese mimic. H. J. Kisbey, "the call boy," is a pleasing comedian; the Sisters Allen are smart international dancers; and Jacko, the man-monkey, is clever. The bioscope pictures are good.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The big turn here this week is given by the Seven Leitners, Tyrolean singers and acrobats. The Six Brothers Luck are seen in their famous sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*. Capital business is submitted also by the Vekeys, banjoists; H. O. Wills, comedian; Arthur Croxon, a resourceful comedian; Raynor and Reece, in a comic pot-pourri; Rose Finlay, comedienne and rope-dancer; Leo Trainor, a smart comedian; Young Igo, character-comedian and clog-dancer; and Tait, eccentric.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Charles North.—A capital al fresco programme here includes Jack Lennol, comedian; Jim Pullin, character artist; Rose Alderman, soprano vocalist; Elsie Carlisle, soubrette; Charles North, baritone; Arthur Rogerson, pianist; and Will Rowley, tenor vocalist

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Jennings.—Variety again holds sway here. Sardou, illusionist, succeeds in completely mystifying his audiences; the Maros give a fine exhibition on the triple bars; Rex and Ford submit an amusing turn; Dan Noble, comedian, is quite successful; Marie Rivers is greatly appreciated for her singing; Marie Yorke, serio, is acceptable; and Arnetti, in a musical act, and the Bioscope are other attractions.

MARGATE.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The attraction here this week is the equestrian production by Mr. Fred Ginnett and company, *Turpin's Ride to York*. In this Mr. Ginnet sustains the rôle of the famous knight of the road, Dick Turpin, and introduces his marvellously trained mare, Bess. Another equestrian sketch, *Rejected Remounts*, by the same company, is amusing; a clever turn is contributed by Dandy George, the society clown, with his canine companion, Rosie. The other contributions to an entertaining programme include Evelyn Desa, banjoist and dancer; Pete and Juno, coloured comedians and dancers; Beattie Mayer, comedienne and dancer; George Adams, baritone; the Olive Trio, vocalists and dancers; and the Hippodrome pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is again here in *A Royal Divorce*. Mr. Frederick Moyes, as Napoleon, submits a masterly performance; Miss Lilian Dundas presents a fine embodiment of the Empress Josephine; Miss Muriel Thompson is an effective Marie Louise; Miss Gertrude Entwistle a bright and vivacious Stephanie; and Miss Gracie Kendrick a very intelligent King of Rome; Mr. H. Gray Dolby does excellent work as Talleyrand; Mr. Henry Ludlow plays the Marquis de Beaumont with commendable judgment; Mr. C. Lionel Brocknor is well placed as General Angereau; and Mr. Dennis Bryan, as Grimaud, is responsible for much humour. The drama is most artistically staged, the dresses of the ladies being very pretty.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Charles Imeson.—The Middlesbrough Amateur Dramatic Society, under the able conductorship of Mr. Dickon Wilson, gave their first performance here this week since the formation of the society. The opera presented was *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—The late Wilson Barrett's dramatic version of Hall Caine's *The Manxman* is this week's attraction. In the rôle of Pete Mr. Alfred B. Cross is a distinct success; Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Cregeen makes a decidedly good impression; Mr. Sidney Kearns as Philip Christian is exceedingly good; and Miss Nancy Mitchell as Nancy leaves little to be desired.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—Miss Nellie Wallace heads the bill here this week. The audience is kept in a continuous roar of laughter with her funny songs. A sketch, entited *Cockie*, by Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright, goes capitally, roars of laughter greeting their efforts; Signor Pepi proves himself smart in his quick-change act; and Virginia and Coons are clever singers and dancers; Ted Saunders, Les Voces, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Alaska also contribute to an excellent programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week. *Casey's Court*, which is the star turn, is a distinctly funny juvenile sketch, and its reception is most gratifying. A wonderful exhibition of whirlwind dancing is given by Wolkowsky's Russian Troupe; the Revell Troupe also provide some clever dancing; and the Sisters Brenton sing well. Other turns are Ford Williams, Hughes and Eilliot, and Will Souls.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Julian.—The Court Comedy Company, under the direction of Mr. Fred Adderley, opened here on Monday for a season, and on that occasion presented *The Little Intruder*. Darnley and Bruce's cleverly contrived farcical comedy. The company is an excellent one in every respect, and audiences have been delighted with the performances. Mr. Ernest Percy is excellent as Professor Pemberton, playing with all the requisite go; Mr. Percy Yorke is the impetuous Captain Sandy to perfection; and Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., creates much amusement in the part of Allan McTavish; Mr. Grahame Herington is capital as the servant, and he has a sterling helpmate in Miss Ella Daincourt as the maid Martha. Messrs. Stanley Harrison and Mr. Adderley have suitable parts; and the ladies deserving special mention are Misses Mabel Durrant, Lilian Revell, and Mary Wymond. There is a pretty curtain raiser, *The Fairy of the Glen*, which is charmingly presented by members of the company.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. W. Davies.—Mr. Sydney Dench's company in *The Rich and Poor of London* opened here on Monday. Mr. Robert Hall is a manly and convincing Dr. Morton; Mr. Walter Fortess is commendable as Mark Stanley; Mr. Sydney Dench is highly successful as Spider Jack; as May Braithwaite, Miss Dora Dench is decidedly good; Little Seadrift has an apt exponent in Miss Ethel Denville; and mention should be made of Miss Lillian Arlis as Polly Philpot.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*San Toy* is the attraction here this week. A charming exponent of the title-rôle is found in Miss Fanny Dango, who sings the several numbers allotted to this part in excellent fashion. The quaint dronleries of Mr. Frank Danby as Li result in continual merriment; and popular Mr. John Humphries is the same stately and humorous mandarin as of yore. Mr. Dennis Drew's fine voice is heard to the utmost advantage as Bobby Preston; and Sir Bingo is a fussy little personage in the hands of Mr. W. J. Manning. Miss Louie Collier is again well to the fore as Chu Sun; her singing of the duet in association with Mr. Frederick Hobbs (Fo Hop) receiving a big encore. Miss Maud Darling does excellent work as the maid Dudley; and the Poppy of Miss Rhoda Gordon is characterised by much charm. Others worthy of favourable notice are Mr. Jocelyn Hope, as Sing Hi; and Mr. George Taylor, as Lieut. Tucker. A pas de seul by Miss May Gould is also a noteworthy item in the performance.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—This week *Jeannie Deans* occupies the boards. Mr. John Clyde, whose portrayal of Scotch characters is well known, doubles the part of the Duke of Argyll with that of the eloquent counsel who defends Jeannie Deans. His conception of both parts is excellent. Miss Nelson Ramsay, as Jeannie Deans, is very womanly and sympathetic; while Miss Iso Falconer acts in quite a touching manner, the ability of both being marked. Miss Florence Lambeth gives a clever impersonation of the half-witted Madge, and varies her performance by singing charmingly "Ye banks and braes." Mr. William Lowe as the Laird is exceedingly good, and provides a not unwelcome change to the general tone of the play. Mr. Charles R. Bickell gives a capital rendering of the part of Reuben Butler; while Mr. Hugh Carmichael and Miss Clara Hunt sustain the rôles of Geordie Robertson and Marjory Murdocheon in a manner which at once proves them to be artists of no small merit.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Arthur Shirley's play, *Passion's Power*, is presented here this week, and proves a great attraction. The leading lady is Miss Conyers Radcliffe, a native of Newcastle, and in a rôle at once difficult and exacting acts with much refinement and dramatic power. Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan, as an aristocratic scoundrel, plays with ability; the remaining parts are held by Mr. Wm. Clayton, Mr. Frank Radcliffe, Mr. Henry Howard, Mr. Walter Roberts, Mr. Frank Gardner, Miss Stella Carmichael, and Miss Lowe Dare.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company is appearing here this week in the drama entitled *The Branded Woman*, the principal rôles being successfully undertaken by Mr. J. Stillwell and Miss Renee Glendower. The drama is intermingled with acceptable comedy, Mr. Becket Bould and Miss Kittie McPherson being the successful exponents.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—An attractive programme is being submitted here this week, chief honours falling to Herbert Darnley's company of merry comedians in the screaming absurdity, *Moving In*. Florence and Lilian need no introduction to a Newcastle audience, and their refined and talented musical act is again accorded the applause it so thoroughly deserves; a very pretty and clever juggling exhibition is submitted by Mlle. Olive; and as Indian club manipulators and jugglers, combined with wholesome comedy, Derenda and Green will be hard to beat. Flo Deighton's contribution as a vocalist is singularly successful; and a similar remark applies to Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress. Bernar's Fantoches are worked in a particularly clever manner; Celeste, in a tight and slack wire act, displays remarkable balancing powers; Harding and Ah Sid, eccentrics, prove enjoyable; and Fred Lincoln, comedian, does well with a solo effort.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—The centre of attraction here this week are Kelly and Gillette, who again submit their well-known billiard-table speciality, with the usual success. As wire performers, the Four Harveys stand out in a class by themselves; Sam Mayo, "the inimitable comedian," is an immense favourite; and charming Carlotta Levey, handsomely begowned, is exceedingly popular with her moral songs. Fyne and Hurley introduce some very witty patter into their act; Queenie May is a young serio of exceptional charm; and Will Vay's abilities in a scena, illustrative of slum life, are cordially recognised. Other successful contributions emanate from Grace Langley, comedienne; Ethel Loftus, the comedy girl; and the Barrascope.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton.—This large and beautiful building again re opened its doors on Monday evening, when the *pièce de résistance* was Dare Devil Schreyer, whose wonderful and daring cycling ride and dive into a tank of water thrilled the large audience present; and the applause that greeted the daring rider was enthusiastic in the extreme. A capital variety entertainment precedes the Komical Komedy company being the principal contributors.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Frank Weathersby's company is playing *Shall We Forgive Her?* here this week to enthusiastic houses. Grace West is well taken by Miss Frances Ruttledge; Oliver Twist is represented by Mr. Frank Liston in a capable manner; and James Stapleton's mother is successfully portrayed by Miss Clara Nicholls. Mr. A. Levison Lane well sustains the character of Paul Elsworth; Mr. Claude Agnew makes an excellent villain of Neil Garth; Mr. Fred Bell appears successfully as James Stapleton; Miss Emily O'Reilly is a capital Joanna Lightfoot; and an interesting subsidiary love-story is brightly presented by Miss Helena Millars and Mr. Percy Goodyear. Mr. Edward Mervyn impersonates Dr. McKerrow in real Scotch style.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Tom Edward, a really clever ventriloquist, who heads the bill here, is responsible for much merriment; a sparkling turn is that of Ross and Grayson; Starr and Leslie combine good singing with clever club manipulation; and James and Elsie Finney provide an interesting aquatic turn; Miss Esta Stella, who presents a dainty appearance, dances well; Seeley and West, musical comedians, give a fine exhibition of cornet playing; and Miss Beatrice Willey sings sweetly in a medley of old flower songs. Frank Leslie won applause for his successful song, "The Curbstone Millionaire," and the De Lucca Troupe of Gymnasts also entertain.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Mr. Milton Bode has retained the services of an excellent company for the interpretation of *Master and Man*, the first drama performed by his stock company, under the guidance of Mr. Harry Esden. Mr. Wm. Matthews as Jack Walton plays with appreciative manliness and vigour; Mr. Fawcett Lomax gives a clever reading of Humpy Logan, although the part was studied by him at short notice owing to the illness of Mr. Cecil Clayton, who had been cast for the character; Mr. Lomax's character-acting in the Forge scene is exceptionally good. Mr. Frederick Harker is most effective as Robert Carlton, and Mr. Louis Hector contributes some good work as Jem Burleigh. Mr. Harry Esden makes an ideal Inspector Willett; Miss Florence Creagh as Hester Thornbury infuses the character with grace and sympathy. The comedy rôles are played with marked ability by Messrs. Edward Swinton (Tom Honeywood), Robert Entwhistle (St. Jones), and Miss Daisy Stone (Letty). Miss Rosie Dane prettily accounts for the part of Little Johnny; Mr. Tom Reynolds is good as Joe Robbins; and Mr. James L. Power is satisfactory as Lerano. The realistic Forge scene is well painted and staged, and is the work of Mr. Ernest Howard, the resident scenic artist.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors and Managers, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—A programme of excellent variety is submitted here this week. The Four Athos are responsible for some clever and entertaining acrobatic feats, while their manipulation is smart; Miss Marie Elsie, the French Flirt, is most successful in her songs; Sid Cotterell and company are here again with their funny sketch, *The Substitute*, as are the Bros. Zampah, one-legged leapers; Albert Ventnor, comedian; Vesta Whelan, serio; and Margaret Radcliffe, vocalist also contribute to the programme; and the Palace pictures, as usual, form an interesting finale.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee. The attraction here this week is *The New World*, which is presented with success by Mr. Will White and company. Mr. Juan Di Alberte, as Jack Harley, gives an excellent account of himself; Mr. Will White enacts the rôle of Colonel Bijch Clayton wtih satsifactory results; as Jim Rawlings, Mr. W. S. Stevenson is responsible for an interesting representation; Mr. W. H. Burton is well suited as Jose Alvarez; Mr. Willie Hicks, as Pete, causes hearty laughter; Mr. Duncan Bell is good as Brutas Brown; and Mr. Stapleton Roche makes the most of Sam Smart. As Jenny Williams, Miss Beatrice Moore displays conspicuous ability; Miss Maude Leslie, as Samantha, is smart; and Miss Evelyn Robson is clever as Mary Watton.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Here we have the Hugo's troupe of acrobats, who are loudly applauded; Selby and Myers, comedians, are, as usual, warmly welcomed; and Lack and Ford, comedy acrobats, come in for a hearty reception; Signor Bandoni, the one man band, goes well; Mlle. Lois Bolko, soprano, is popular; and Miss Mabelle May, vocalist and dancer; Mr. Harry Barker, comedian; and the Bio-Photoscope contribute successfully.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mrs. Bandmann Palmer's company is here this week with *Mary Queen of Scots, Sapho, Jane Shore*, and *Hamlet*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Amongst the attractions here this week are the Frantz Troupe of acrobats, in a capital show; the Brothers Artois are also clever in their entertainment; Lily Morris is a prime favourite; the Raymond Trio are pleasing banjo soloists; Haidée Lee and Wallace Kingston are amusing in their sketch, *Practical Joking*; Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley are very funny in their turn; Leslie H. Murray is accomplished in his tricks; and Marie Winsome is a pleasing male impersonator. The Hippodrome Bio pictures of the recent contest between Hackenschmidt and Madrali are excellent.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Sweet Lavender* is being played this week by an excellent company, under the direction of M. Russell Rosse. Mr. Foster Courtenay has to the full the necessary qualifications for the rôle of Dick Phenyl, and is adequately supported by Mr. H. Tripp-Edgar as Clement Hale; Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner realises in a very clever manner the light-hearted Minnie Gilfillian; and the Lavender of Miss Edna Godfrey-Turner cannot be spoken of too highly. Ruth Holt finds an admirable exponent in Miss Ethel Verne; and Miss Eugenie Vernie takes the part of Mrs. Gilfillian very successfully. Messrs. Charles Hann and Mr. Arthur Marshall as Bulger and Mr. Maw respectively, do all that is required of them very well; and Mr. Robert Minster as Horace Bream causes a good deal of amusement. Mr. J. Nelson Ramsey skilfully impersonates Mr. Wedderburn; and Mr. E. C. Matthews is good as Dr. Delaney. The piece is preceded by the one-act play *Lady Fortune*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—A return visit of Mr. Charles Harrington's company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has been welcomed with acclamation. Mr. J. Carr essays Uncle Tom in an intelligent and acceptable manner; Mr. Stanley Howard plays St. Clair with expression and care; and a forcible portrayal of George Harris is given by Mr. Leslie Beaufort; Mr. J. H. Renney is capital as the mild Phineas Fletcher; and Mr. John Gibson does well as Wilson. Miss Hettie Johnson supplies an attractive and sympathetic representation of Eliza Harris; and a dainty Eva is seen in Little Minnie. The peculiarities of Topsy are humorously drawn by Miss Annie Watson; and Miss Jennie Malcolm offers an entertaining sketch of Aunt Ophelia. Specialities by May Vincent, W. H. Nott, Ikey Jones, Walter Langford, and Rowe and Holden are well rewarded.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—A couple of amusing playlets, entitled *The Battle of the Belles* and *That Dreadful Detective* are capitally given by Messrs. Fred Moule, E. D. Nicholls, Courtnay Robinson, and Misses Ada Lucelle, Madge Trevelyan, and Ada Frank. As a skilful player of musical instruments, Saxo gains the readiest applause, and another smart exponent is seen in Barrington; Ray Royal scores as a vocalist; and the mimicry of Derbyshire Dan provokes hearty laughter. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux supply a number of interesting pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The conjuring of Hermann Melot is a marvellous entertainment; the Serenaders submit a number of excellent songs and duets that win deserved applause; another agreeable musical item is provided by the Allisons, in duets; the Hardinis gain general favour by their skilful playing of musical instruments; Conn and Conrad add to the mirth in a quaint item; and the smart gymnastic display of Grell and Grey gives pleasure; Burke, Andrus, and Frisco maintain the fun at a high pitch with the sketch *In Trafalgar Square*; Lilian Doreen sings with commendable taste; and Allan Hanbury submits a humorous song.

NUNEATON.—P.O.W. THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. A. F Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Miss Grace Warner and Co. are here in *The Scarlet Clue, The Little Widow*, and *East Lynne*. In *The Scarlet Clue* Miss Warner undertook the part of Scarlet Sal with her customary success; as Michael Stanton Mr. George Gordon gave a capital impersonation; Mr. Leighton-Leigh, in the dual rôle of Jack and Harry Esmond, was well placed; Mr. John Camplin as Edward Croker was successful; and Mr. Jack Clarence did well as Sir Desmond Lisle. Miss Kathleen Cranston was well suited to the part of Mother Scrooge; Little Edith Rutland won applause as Little Polly; deservedly prominent were Miss Esther Dean as Musette; Miss Mowbray as Mary Smith; and Miss Lizzie Palmer as Elsie Dove.

WHIMSICAL WALKER, with a good company, and the International Hippodrome and Novelty Circus, opened at Nuneaton last week, and are still drawing good houses.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Hulme.—This week Mr. Jack Haddon's company occupies the boards in *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Jack Haddon takes the part of Captain Demetrius in a forcible manner; Ivan is well played by Mr. Cecil A. Melton; and Michael, the villain, is well portrayed by Mr. Bernard Mervyn. Mr. Hal Forde as Peter creates a good impression; Mr. Charles Liddon as Wolf Marischla is very good; Miss Marie Rayner is seen to advantage in the part of Luke Marischla; and Miss Elaine Vanburgh does well as Vera. Much humour is introduced by Mr. Fred Haming as Alexis, ably assisted by Miss Agnes Howard as Ogarita. Mr. George Herbert is a good General Romanoff; Mr. W. Wilson is effective as Colonel Souraroff; and Mr. Wm. Rivers is adequate as Dr. Keroff.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. J. Ball; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Morice Prendergast's company with *A Woman of Pleasure* is here this week. Miss Theodore Henries gives a capital rendering of the Countess; Mr. Jerrold Ord is effective as Lord Carlingforth; Mr. H. T. Wood as the Rev. Luke Goddard is very impressive; and the heavy part of Major Burrows is ably taken by Mr. Arthur Gilroy. Mr. Fred Norburn is a good Commandant Dench, and Mr. Deane Cliffe as Bobby Bumpwell, and Miss Dolly Gilroy as Dolly Dimple provide the comedy. Miss Carlotta Blondin also assists as Mrs. Bumpwell.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo Piccaninnies head the bill here, and they dance well; Mlle. Lumière's Fairy Grotto is a charming act; the Strolling Players give a good entertainment with piano, singing, dancing, &c.; Nellie Adams in her latest successes is highly appreciated; the Wilfords are marvellous in their turns as Herculian equilibrists; Charles Norton is a good mimic; and Rowland Hill is very funny in skirts. Davis and Davis are a pair of good comedians, and George Hyam completes the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The De Breans give a skilful turn in their Japanese entertainment with shadowgraphy; Picitt and Lizette present *The Demon Chef*, and are well received; the Two Romeres are highly succesful in their vocal scena, *Comrades in Arms*; the Black and White Zouaves give a good show of wall scaling and drill; Vosper is a good facial mimic; and Gracie Bard is a clever juvenile character artist. Joe Oliver, a local turn, takes well with his coon songs, and the Final for the English Cup is presented by the Dottoscope.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr. Charles Frohman is presenting *The Catch of the Season*, a production superbly mounted and dressed, and interpreted by a large and most capable company. Mr. Frank Lincoln is wonderfully good as the Duke; excellent and full of quiet humour, too, is the Lord Dundreary of Mr. E. H. O'Kelly; Mr. Julian Cross does well as Sir John Crystal; and Master Grata, as the page, is exceedingly diverting. Lady Crystal and her daughters find charming and capable representatives in the Misses Ida Mann, Alice Lethbridge (whose clever dancing is keenly appreciated), and Miss Hettie Muret; Miss Belle Napier is well suited as Lady Caterham; Miss Maie Ash has captured all hearts here by her exquisite singing, charming acting, and altogether captivating performance of Angela.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. J. W. Morton's company is here with *The Rajah of Ranjapore*. As Ernest Travers, Mr. S. Lockridge achieves a decided success; Mr. Harry Sinclair is seen to advantage as Horatio Chicks; Mr. Jas. Stirling is sufficiently repulsive as Capt. Hertage; and Mr. Fred Hart is easy and natural as Mr. Stubbs. Mr. Hall Eldon makes the most of Ted Perkins; and Mr. Gyp. Lester does well as Thistle. Miss Maggie Sinclair infuses considerable life into the piece as Eliza; and Miss Nell Ascott gives a tasteful rendering of Primrose. Miss Minnie Blackmore enacts the small part of Edith commendably.

PAISLEY.—EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—A capital programme is being submitted here this week, contributed by the following:—The Four Brothers Bain, wrestlers; Vint and Vent, in a smart double-act comedy; Flo Leo-Ville, lady jester; Little Rudolph, diminutive comedian; Sisters du Barrie, top-boot dancers; Ted Curtis and his clever Piccaninnies; and Miss Cloe.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Sparkling wit, smart repartee, with a touch of pathos characterise Mr. H. F. Matlby's production, *The Youngest of Three*. The author gives a vivid portrayal of George Wendover; Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves, as Gerald Wendover, undertakes a part requiring most careful treatment in a manner deserving the highest commendation; Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver scores as Philip Radford; Mr. W. R. Favell, as Luke, gives an amusing representation of a country yokel. Miss Mabel Mellor is a comely Anne Dulley; Miss Mara Maltby, as Florence Dulley, gives a capable representation; Miss Beatrice Marsden, as Lucy Dulley, quite justifies this important part being committed to her care. The curtain-raiser, *Hounslow Heath*, is noticed in another column.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr. A. Carlton; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Miss Winifred Chalmers' company is here with *A Woman's Revenge*. Mr. Elmore Frith is a capable villain as Jephtha Grimwade; and Mr. Henry L. Osmond gives a good embodiment of Frank Drummond. Mr. J. Gallagher contributes some capital songs; and Miss Chalmers scores as Mary Lonsdale.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Livermore; Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Dan Crawley is No. 1 turn, and creates much fun by his catchy ditties and eccentricities; Mioza Ezzedin, the Persian magician, performs some remarkable feats of legerdemain; and the Musical Palmers are well received. The Australian Lady Meister Singers submit a high-class turn; and the Wedburns have plenty of comic patter. The remaining attractions are Lilian Bishop, comedienne; Hill and Lane, in an original speciality act; and Vernon's Pictures.

PORTH.—POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—Messrs. Poole Bros. are introducing the following variety company here this week: Monty, comedy juggler; the Bonanzas, wonderful hand balancers; Queenie West, a dainty vocal comedienne; Mlle. Florizel, the "flexible lady aerial beauty"; the scena *Naples by Night*, introducing the Lyglos Sextet of Serenaders; Davies and Roberts, clever street dancers; O'Malley and Brown, in their original comedy act; Will Daniels, eccentric comedian; and the Brothers Zano, triple bar performers.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and their capable company opened here on Monday with *The Ironmaster*. Mrs. Kendal impersonated the proud, sensitive, and self-willed Claire de Beaupre with her customary charm; Mr. Kendal as Philippe Derblay played in a powerful manner; Mr. Bassett Roe acted the Duc de Bligny in excellent style; Octave de Beaupre was well taken by Mr. Reynolds Denniston; and Athenais was ably undertaken by Miss Violet Lewis. The Marquise de Beaupre was portrayed with becoming dignity by Mrs. A. B. Tapping; and Miss Elise Clarens acted Suzanne Derblay very prettily. During the week *The Housekeeper* and *The Elder Miss Blossom* will be given.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Horace Stanley and company are here with *The 10.30 Down Express*. The part of Jack O'Malley is admirably taken by Mr. Charles Burdon; James Inderwick is ably sustained by Mr. George Arthur; Mr. Tom Roydan acts the broken-down gamekeeper Seth Coombs in a capital manner; and Sam Wagstaffe, A.B., is played by Mr. Horace Stanley in the most breezy and jolly fashion, Miss Kate Kilpack ably assisting him as Peggy Potts. Miss Elsie Capell is an excellent heroine; and Miss Evelyn M. Walton creates much amusement as Letitia Leigh.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A good all-round programme is the order for the week at this house. N. T. Kioto, a Japanese artist of the highest class, shows wonderful nerve and skill in most difficult feats of equilibrism. Collins and Rice, comedy speciality artists, meet with approval; Arabella Allen, the Dickens Girl, gives several very artistic impersonations; Kelly and Ashby, with a novel and grotesque acrobatic act, are to be greatly commended; Tom Lloyd is a smart character comedian; Tee and Tee, musical eccentrics, are most amusing; the Sisters St. Julian, expert dancers, contribute a pleasing item; Maud May Murray, kaleidoscopic danseuse, is responsible for some pleasing effects; and Walter Curtis, the humorous entertainer, and Payne's Bio-Photoscope, with some fine new pictures, are other attractions.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—*The Other Man's Business*, presented by Mr. Frank Grans, has met with a cordial reception here this week. Anthony Bloggett has a genuinely humorous representative in Mr. Frank Stanmore; Mr. G. W. Anson gives a lifelike impersonation of Mr. Ratilechip; Mr. G. W. Elton as the lively Horatio creates much amusement; Mr. Frank E. Petley acquits himself well as William Simpson; Mr. A. Hornby Warburton is a mirth-provoking Henry Hill; Miss Nina Osborne suitably fills the part of Matilda Bloggett; Miss Adie Boyne, as Emma, evokes hearty laughter; and Miss Lilian Hubbard is clever and captivating in the rôle of Topsy Temple. The farce is preceded by a one-act play entitled *Monsieur the Marquis*.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Bosanquet's wonderful playing on the violin and bosanquetphone is the chief feature in this week's programme. A capital farcical absurdity, *Spiff! Spaff! Spoof!* is presented by Mr. Walter Howard and company; the Violet Whitworth cycling girls appear in a novel competition act; Miss Georgina Leonard scores with her up-to-date songs; the Pom Poms provide a really good Pierrot entertainment; Horace Sade is an able exponent of top-boot and clog dancing; Miss Beatty Foster sings some excellent songs in low comedy character; Mr. Wallace Whitney's witty patter creates hearty laughter; the Dainton Girls are pleasing gipsy and character duettists; and realistic views of the race for the Grand Prix are shown on the Bioscope.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—*The Two Hussars* has this week been

Three Schoffers, gladiatorial acrobats; Miss Ida Ross, comedienne and vocalist; G. W. Foster, comedian; Les Rollis, "The Artist and the Monkey"; Starr and Jerome, singers and dancers; Lestree, juggler; Flo Warner, character comedienne; Martini and Son, singers of illustrated songs; the Five Zerbinis, in the musical fantasia, *Fairyland*; and Frank Keegan and company in an absurdity, *The Every-day Bicyclist*.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Leet and Hargreaves.—A strong programme is submitted here. Evelyn Laylor, comedienne, contributes pleasing songs; Collins and Hawley, as singing and dancing experts, are heartily applauded; other enjoyable turns include Charles Volvo, ventriloquist; Annie Cohen, comedienne; the Two Dixons, baton swingers; Stanley and Vandyke, in comedy act; and Nipper Anten, boy comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves. — Leoni Clarke and his 200 cats, monkeys, rabbits, canaries, &c., head the bill here; Tom Foy and company create roars of laughter in a most amusing sketch; Morritt, described as the "King of Magicians," is well known here, and contributes some capital conjuring and other tricks; Primavesi, juggler; Brothers Obo, comedians; the Five Foys; Walker and May, coloured comedians; Nellie Navette, burlesque actress; and the Empire Bioscope complete the programme.

ROTHERHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr. Holbery Hardy.—Mr. Edward Ranier and company are providing the entertainment here this week. *The Bank Robbery* and *The Pride of All* are excellently portrayed by Messrs. Henry Watson (Stephen Craig); Edward Ranier, as John Morley; Tom Wilson, as Allan Blake; and Miss Alice Maude is a sprightly Dick. Specialities are introduced by Miss Kitty Rhodes, serio and dancer; Rhide and Pealdo, shadowgraphiste; Alice Maude and Co., in the amusing comedy, *Let to Two*; and Preston Holmes, musical expert. Special mention must be made of Messrs. Playfair and Nichola, the popular paper makers, and Mr. Walter Payne's Biograph.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—Mrs. R. A. Cuthbert's company is this week presenting the domestic drama *The Black Bishop*. In the part of Vaughan Rejainee Mr. J. Kingsley Roydan gives a clever rendering, and in the dual rôles of Marian Strathcoat and Kate Marleigh Miss Jeannie Marquise displays exceptional ability and meets with a most enthusiastic reception. Miss Isabel Norman as Ruth Oldbury quite wins the sympathy of the audience by her able and pathetic exposition, and as Little Ruth Miss Madge Turner is excellent. Mr. H. J. Butler as Simeon Strathcoat scores a great success, and Mr. Chas. Coventry as Captain Keilcrift is very good. Miss Madge Turner as Hannah Bruttlebut, Mr. Frank Hudspeit as Brank Bruttlebut, and Mr. Frank Milne as Joshua are all well placed.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Drama of Life*, by Lingford Carson, wears well under the general management of Mr. Edward Van Biene, and on Monday there was a good house who followed the play with evident satisfaction. Mr. G. M. Newall successfully sustains the trying rôle of Harry Beech; Miss Kate Hallam's Sylvia Beech is a good piece of work; villainy is well presented by Mr. E. M. Hamilton as Walter Beech; Mr. M. Payne as Jack Lawton and Mr. S. Fiennes as Dave Crane; Detective Brenton and the Count de Foi are in the capable hands of Mr. Walter Steele and Mr. Edward Van Biene; Miss N. Birchenough makes a good study of Betty Black, and Master Robert Beech has a clever representative in little Miss Elsie May; Mr. H. Roberts as Sir Dobson Wilde and Miss Florence French as Lady Wilde contribute genuine comedy.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The child actress, Jenny Hartley, gets much applause for her really clever singing and dancing; Coram, the ventriloquist, makes a great hit; Viviana shows some marvellous dancing in various characters; and other good turns include Welda and Wynne, jugglers and expert sand dancers; Hetty Leo, low comedy artist; James Lawrey, the singing furnaceman; Edwards and Espinosa, instrumentalists; Millie Dixon, ballad vocalist; the Sages, burlesque artists and dancers; and the Five Casino Girls, vocalists and instrumentalists.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth — Hinton and Wood have a novel act, "Football on Bicycles," which gets much appreciation; a good ventriloquial performance is given by Bert Williams; *Other People's Babies* is a comical sketch by Harry Marlow and May Manton; and the programme is also contributed to by Marti and Julietta, excellent equilibrists; Dagollets, comedy entertainers; Ada Marjutti, contortionist; Alex Leo, comedian; Leo Tell, clever musical mimic; the Three Clements, in a smart trapeze act; and Emma Don's Black and White Entertainers.

SCARBOROUGH.—LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Waddington and Son; Manager, Mr. J. T. Carpenter.—This week *The Way of the World* is here. Miss Sidney Crowe takes the leading part, which she plays with grace and ease; Mr. Herbert Skardon as Capt. Slade is interesting; as Mlle. Bellini Miss Marie Fontaine gives a sympathetic rendering; and Mr. Augustus Hammond as a broken-down swell handles the rôle well; Mr. Arthur Chrisholm as the circus-rider Cecil Montague is sincere; and Mr. Clarence Temple is quite at home in the part of a clergyman.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM. — Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Fred Elton is here this week with his sketches at the piano entitled *On Board an Ocean Liner*, and secures a flattering reception. Cliff and Kean are excellent vocalists and dancers; Miss Ada Clare is an attractive coon singer and dancer; E. W. Telman has a good supply of original patter; Miss Ivy Gallard is very successful; the Inons sing and dance in a spirited way; Gus Balsyer is a negro instrumentalist of ability; the Vernon Biograph still retains its popularity; and Mr. A. Candler, musical director, gives selections of up-to-date music.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—A popular variety show and up-to-date pictures are the features of the programme here this week. Will Godwin sings songs of his own composition which are quickly taken up by the audience; Sheila McNeil on a welcome return visit is popular; and Johnson and Pelham give an interesting exhibition of ball-punching. An excellent film is presented of the Association Cup Final at the Crystal Palace.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The delightful humour and sweet sentimentality of *Dr. Wake's Patient* gave much pleasure to an appreciative audience on Monday. The members of Mr. Louis Calvert's company all did good work. Miss Olive Terry was quite the incarnation of innocent, lovable girlishness as Lady Geranis, and she soon won her way to the hearts of the sympathetic Sheffield public; Miss Amy Fanchette was a comely Mrs. Wake; and Miss Ina Pelly submitted a clever sketch of aristocratic dignity as the Countess of St. Olbyn. Mr. Herbert Ross acted with amusing nonchalance as Duff Winterdon; Mr. Douglas Vigors was a characteristic and sympathetic young medico as Forrester Wake; Mr. Arthur Willoughby's Earl of St. Olbyn was a good impersonation; Mr. Alfred Wellesley several times moved the house to applause by his natural and unaffected acting as Andrew Wake; and other well-studied character sketches were Mr. Cecil Yapp's Bishop of Salby; Mr. Henry Marton's Antony; and Mr. H. P. Owen's Mr. Murdock.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Mr. Frank Burditt's company is playing here to excellent business in the popular military drama *The Indian Mutiny*. All the characters are effectively represented, and the thrilling episodes are loudly applauded.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay. —Mr. Frank Lindo was cordially welcomed by a large audience on Monday, when he began a welcome return visit in the domestic drama, *Home Sweet Home*. As Stephen Armitage Mr. Lindo acted with his usual distinction and sound elocutionary method; Miss Marion Wakeford repeated her graceful and sympathetic impersonation of Joan; Mr. J. W. Henson's old Armitage was a good piece of character-acting; Miss Daisy Rochefort is a pretty and engaging Dora; and other characters were acted with discretion by Messrs. C. H. Lester, George Overs, Lawrence Doyle, Gerald Gambier, Sydney Bryant, and Miss Hetty Webster, who made a vivacious music-hall serio-comic.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A generous programme was submitted to a packed audience on Monday, the star turn being the handsome and stately Miss Alexandra Dagmar, who gave her mimetic and vocal description of a typical music-hall show; Miss Mignonette Kokin, with some wonderful dancing, brought down the house; Mr. Harry Weldon caused hearty laughter; Miss Lily Langtry carried all before her with her irresistible verve and cockney vivacity; the Warsaw Brothers did a smart musical act; the Trapnells were successful in their elegant and agile acrobatic display; and others who appeared and gave wholesome enjoyment were the Raies, two charming and graceful young ladies; the Howards, musical entertainers; Mr. Walter Stanley, comedian; and Mr. Guy Rider, whistler.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Mr. Fred Southern's dramatic company, including Miss May Emery, appeared on Monday in *A Waif from the Seas*. Others who contributed to the gaiety of Westbar were the Sisters Hula, duettists and dancers; Miss Marie Neilson, serio; the Hesseys, soloists; Mr. Arthur Stacey, vocal comedian; Mr. G. B. Dace, humorous entertainment; and the Pallister Bioscope.

CENTRAL HALL.—Animated pictures continue to be the *pièce de résistance* here, but a smart variety concert is submitted this week, the artists being Mr. W. W. Walton, the original remarkable man, in new songs and o'd favourites; the Camerons, comic sketch artists; Miss De Voy, burlesque actress; and Mr. Jim Fitzroy, comedian.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The Moody-Manners Opera Company is here this week, their répertoire including *Faust*, *Lohengrin*, *Carmen*, *Maritana*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. *Faust* was admirably represented on the opening night. Mr. Albert Bowyer sang with ease and acted with ability as Faust, Mr. George Nielson was in fine voice as Mephistopheles; Mr. Frederic Erle as Valentine was most artistic; Mr. L. Alexander merited praise as Wagner; Miss Rosina Beynon as Siebel used her rich voice to advantage; Miss M. Godwin impersonated Martha with care and success; and Miss Ethel Cadman was graceful and talented as Marguerite. The powerful and well-balanced chorus and capital staging were in keeping with the production.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*Napoleon the Great* is being presented here by Messrs. Granville and Thorn's company Mr. Hugh Montgomery is a characteristic Napoleon; Mr. Bartlett Garth is good as the Polish fanatic; Mr. Henry Earlesmere acts with well-studied effect as Lavarannes; and Mr. Phil Harper as Jules Meuron gains much applause. Miss Maud Russell is graceful in the rôle of Léonie Marbœuf; Miss Leslie Warner distinguishes herself as Marie Walewska; and Mr. C. W. Spencer as Sergeant Choupin, Mr. G. Acton Dix as Monsieur Fouché, and Miss Florence Thorne as Mère Dumont all do well. Mr. Frank M. Thorne is exceedingly humorous as Pierre, and Miss M. Harcourt makes a droll Marcelle.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton. — Mr. C. St. John Denton's company is this week appearing in the popular musical comedy *Kitty Grey*, with Miss Hilda Guiver, a great local favourite, in the title-rôle. Miss Marie West is a dainty Lady Binfield, and Miss Nellie Lauraine is very successful as Mrs. Bright. Mr. H. E. Garden is droll as Lord Plantagenet, and Mr. Lauri Lisle funny as the King of Illyria.

PALACE — Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell. —A Ba-be's picture postcard album, a pretty and artistic novelty, meets with great success; Mr. and Mrs. Lucas score in their scenas from Dickens; Lil Hawthorne looks well in boy's dress, and sings a number of songs in good style; Morris and Morris are a droll couple; Drum and Major excel as duettists; and the Pichel troupe of acrobats are successful. Others who prosper well are Lambert and Hands, Chas. Faning, and George Prince. The famous Besses o' th' Barn band gave a very successful matinée here on Saturday last.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell. — The principal attraction her is Harry Tate's company in *Fishing*, which is productive of hearty laughter. The New York Comedy Four score a huge success, and the Marconis, electric wonders, are well received. The Jackley Trio, the Dunlops, Sisters Aindow, Elsie Earle, and T. G. Callaghan also contribute.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, The Southend Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. George Conquest; Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Charles Steuart's able company is presenting the world-famed farcical comedy entitled *Our Flat*. As Reginald Sylvester, Mr. Charles Steuart gives a capital portrayal of the unsuccessful dramatic author; Mr. Percy Foster is suited as Clarence Vane; whilst Mr. McCullum is well played by Mr. J. B. Gordon; Miss Daisy Atherton is entrusted with the rôle of Margery Sylvester, giving a capital characterisation; she is ably assisted by Miss Empsie Bowman as Lucy McCullum; Clara Pryent is an amusing character, well taken by Miss Maggie Bowman; Miss Pollie Emery's efforts as the servant Bella win for her repeated applause. The comedy is preceded by the farcical episode entitled *Thomas Trotter*.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless. —The management are to be congratulated upon their securing for this week the Native Choir from Jamaica, who are giving really first-class entertainments in a most successful style, under the direction of Mr. T. Ellis Jackson. The choir give their renderings from an exceptionally long list, and contribute Jamaica songs and plantation choruses, classical glees and choruses, camp meeting selections, national songs, &c., and each item meets with well-deserved applause.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS. —Proprietors, The Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—The Ian MacLaren Shakespearean répertoire company on Monday gave a capital interpretation of *Hamlet*. The title-rôle was undertaken by Mr. Ian MacLaren with strong artistic effect; Mr. Gordon Phillott presented an excellent study of Polonius; Miss Gertrude Gilbert skilfully and characteristically portrayed the part of Ophelia; the King of Denmark had a good representative in Mr. Aubrey Mather; Mr. F. Stafford Dawson submitted a commendable impersonation of the first gravedigger; Miss F. Glossop Harris depicted the Queen of Denmark with distinct success; and the other characters in the play had all able representatives. During the week, *As You Like It*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *David Garrick*, and *Romeo and Juliet* were presented.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Foremost amongst the excellent combination of variety artists engaged here are the Wakeman Quartette of Vocalists, who contribute a high-class entertainment; another good turn is supplied by James Austin and Annie Hartley, in their marvellous barrel act. The programme also includes Sam Dalton, comedian; Les Sprays, Continental dancers; Ena Richards, comedienne and dancer; the Kanes, musical comedy speciality; Jan Rudenyi, Austrian violinist; Miss Lilian Travellic, American soubrette; and the Three Seymons, equilibrists and jugglers.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The attractive programme submitted here this week is headed by the Six Æolians, who give a clever entertainment in song and dance; the turns include Maggie Grimshaw, juvenile male impersonator; Harry Morris, character comedian and mimic; Elton and Elma, in their knockabout triple-bar act; Satsuma, Japanese magician; Barbara Babbington, comedienne and mimic; the Mozondos, eccentric speciality artists; Julian Mack, comedian; and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—The boards are occupied this week by Mr. Henry Bedford and company in *The See-Saw of Life*. Mr. Bedford was seen advantageously in the part of Matt Marston; Miss Bessie Bedford was pleasing and sympathetic as Lawrie; and Miss Jennie Risley smartly represented Liz Allen. *Gipsy Jack* was staged on Friday night.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Haley's Prize Juveniles in their carnival, and supported by Dot and Spot, are being enthusiastically received, their singing and dancing being exceedingly charming; Edgar Forrest and company are excruciatingly funny in a sketch; Joe Holmes, actor-vocalist, submits good songs; and the Delevines, in a comedy trifle *Flipp and Flopp*, are keenly appreciated; a good sketch, *The Naughty Professor*, is contributed by Amann and Hartley; the remaining turns are Leoni Dixon, the Sisters Lunelle, and the popular Bioscope.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Mr. F. Everard and company still occupy the boards of this theatre this week with *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* and *The Streets of London*. In the former piece Mr. Francis Everard enacts the part of Robert Brierley in an able manner; Mr. Edwin Turner is highly successful as James Dalton; Hawkshaw is in the capable hands of Mr. T. Arthur Ellis; and Mr. Alfred Burrows makes a typical Melter Moss. Miss Phylis Atherleigh is a clever and pathetic May Edwards, and as Mrs. Willoughby Miss Violet Bra-Weaver is well placed.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundhill.—A two-houses-a-night variety programme is being enjoyed immensely here. Mlle. Florence, globe walker, is an established favourite; Abex, the miniature Hercules, performs some marvellous feats of strength; Lieut. Chard and his dogs are applauded heartily; and Eve Freere, vocalist; Fred Baldwin, descriptive vocalist; Will Lindsay, patter comedian; the Orchids, duettists; Ormonde, speciality artist, are pleasing turns. Charlie Green, champion heavy-weight wrestler, is meeting a number of local combatants.

ST. HELENS. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—A popular engagement this week is Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Sin of Her Childhood*. As the much-wronged Mary Haysel Miss Ruth Sheppard acts with power and feeling; Mr. Fred Lloyd is a capable exponent of Captain Thornton; Mr. Charles Fancourt achieves success as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes gives a carefully-studied impersonation of Stephen; little Dot Moss as Hannah Spry is natural and unaffected; and Mr. Hugh Brady as Barney and Miss Annie Megson as Muggins are responsible for the comedy element.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, W. Sley, and F. Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell. — Occupying the place of honour here this week is Mr. George Formby, comedian; the Villion troupe of trick cyclists provide a marvellous turn; Miss Madie Scott scores well as a comedienne; the Lang Bros. are a droll pair; as are the Two Neros, tumblers and comedians. Other excellent turns are Sydney Carden and Miss Lulu Zach, Australian society entertainers; Mr. F. S. Hulme, a pleasing vocalist; and Weisker's pictures of the football Cup match.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill. — Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is appearing here this week in *The Little Bread-winner*. Lord William Dorrington has a capable representative in Mr. Frank Denis; Richard Laurence is pleasingly presented by Mr. David Gordon; Mr. Scott Leighton makes an effective Joseph Prior; and a genuine comedian is Mr. Allen Charles, who as Charles Prior causes an abundance of merriment. Miss Maud Buchanan acts sympathetically as Kate Cherry, and Miss Emmie Lichfield meritoriously fills the part of Ruth Cherry. Miss Mary Fulton is most charming as Margaret Daventry; Miss Jenny Bostock acts creditably as Bridget O'Flanaghan; Miss Lissa Young is successful as Bobby Trott; and Meg, "the little bread-winner," is delightfully portrayed by little Emmie Thomas.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —Miss Cissie Carlette was the star on the bills for this week, but this clever lady was unable to fulfil her engagement owing to the death of her father. The Bros. Etherien deputised, giving a series of amusing burlesques. Sammy Shields, Scotch swell comedian, caused plenty of laughter; and the Snow Family, appearing in their skating act, *A Night on the Ice*, added their full share of mirth. The Elgars, able operatic duettists, were accorded a gratifying reception, and the clever juveniles, Elsie Jordison and Dolly Cullen, vocalists and dancers, were heartily applauded. Among others contributing to the evening's entertainment with satisfactory success are Les Heures, jugglers; the Katos, Komical Kidgets, in their automatic theatre; and Geo. French's troupe of acrobatic comedy cyclists.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Grenville; Manageress, Miss L. H. Dale.—*Rogues of the Turf* is here this week. The company includes Miss Madge Nelson as Nellie Flaxman, and Mr. Preston himself takes the rôle of Captain Dudley Clifton. A realistic setting is given the piece, and a stud of race-horses is also included. The play has been well received.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Fred Karno's *Jail Birds* tops the bill here this week. The Waldrons are good in their comedy act; Payne's Little Vagabonds, in their sketch, *Old Daddy Watchman*, provide some excellent singing and good fun; Mark Merry makes a good impression; Halma, juggler; Wal Croft, Scotch comedian; and the Haros, in their ladder act, are all well received.

HIPPODROME THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—The Eskimo Troupe give some idea of life in *Lapland*, in their scene of the land of the Midnight Sun; Tom Owen, the Real Welshman, is excellent; Fred Cleveland's comedy company, in *Swank versus Talent*, causes roars of laughter; Miss Agnes Molteno possesses a good voice, and her new song, "The Shamrock and the Rose," has caught on; Little Barney, comedian; Edie Endon, sand dancer; Volp and Volp, musicians; and Harry Bickley complete a really good programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Lafaille Troupe head the bill in their marvellous balancing performance; Hicks's Clerks provide a happy turn, their singing and dancing being admirable; Ryde and Beeman are smart acrobats and contortionists; Zeta Gray and company are seen in the capital sketch, *A Lancashire Lass*; Will Driscoll dances admirably; the Sisters Poole sing nicely; Clarice Netta renders her numbers successfully; and J. S. James contributes bone solos.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Director and Manager, Mr. Charles E. Machin.—Mr. George Musgrove's *Prince of Pilsen* company is a strong attraction here this week.—Mr. Edwin Adeler in his original part of Hans Wagner is a host in himself; Mr. Stuart Alexander does justice to the title-rôle; Mr. G. Villiers Arnold's interpretation of Lieut. Tom Wagner is all that can be desired; and Mr. Alfred Selby is also exceedingly good as François. Miss Nelly Cozens brings acumen and experience to bear on her admirable rendition of Mrs. Madison Crocker; Miss Ruby Verdi creditably interprets the part of Nellie Wagner; and as Sidoni Miss Connie Leon is to be congratulated. Mr. Lawrence Wensley cleverly enacts the rôle of the Earl of Shrimpton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway. —The draw of this home of melodrama is Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. F. C. Somerfield's *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* (?) company. Mr. Fred C. Somerfield ably sustains the part of Will Maynard; in the dual rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon Mr. Cyril Grier is admirable; Mr. T. G. Vane is good as Leonard Vimbart; and Mr. Wm. Heilbroun and Mr. W. Barrie are excellent as Harold Kingston and Peter Miles respectively; Mr. Chas. E. Warne enacts the part of James. Miss Marie Dagmar as Elinor D'Arville shows great histrionic ability and power; Miss Cherry Vecheyne successfully represents Phœbe; and Miss Amy Yaughton does well in the part of Florette de Vere.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stringer.—An average bill is headed by Lew Lake and company in *The Bloomsbury Burglars*. Albert Le Fre is a favourite comedian; George Reeves is another popular turn; Lanos and Monteo contribute a smart acrobatic act; Frank Stafford is a clever whistler and mimic; Sinclair and Parr are entertaining in their vocal entr'acte *Keeping an Appointment*; and Maude Vera is acceptable as a descriptive vocalist. Vernon's pictures of "Another Crime" complete the programme.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Local playgoers have anticipated with keen interest the first visit to this town of Mr. William Maclaren's *Claudian* company, and on Monday a large and appreciative audience gave it a hearty reception. A powerful company is headed by Mr. William Maclaren, whose clever study of the title-rôle is worthy of the highest praise, and he is ably supported by that talented actress Miss Lily C. Bandmann, who submits a telling and graceful impersonation of Almida. Mr. Wilson Howard must be very highly commended for his earnest work as Thariogalus, and Mr. George R. J. Austin makes every attainable point as Agazell; while Mr. Weston Hubbard is seen to marked advantage as Alcares. The lighter parts are safe in the hands of Mr. Charles C. Challoner as Belos, and Miss Carlotta Anson, as Edessa.

TON-Y-PANDY.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ridgwood Barrie.—Mr. R. H. Adair's company prove a strong attraction this week in *The Luck of Life*. Mr. R. H. Stephenson does well as George Stanhope, and Simon Stanley is made an agreeably funny personage by Mr. G. Davis. Michael Basilovitz's villainies are forcibly represented by Mr. Roland York; Rêné Basilovitz is successfully undertaken by Miss M. Dawson; and Miss Gertrude Bonser does well as Countess Vlame.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood & Co.—*For Better or Worse* is being presented here this week. Mr. George Edward Clive gives a good rendering of Captain Hilliard; Mr. Wilson Coleman ably depicts the part of Major Crawshaw; Mr. H. C. Lovell proves successful as Lieut. Hector Dalrymple; and Mr. Willie Black provides much humour as Horatio Ranter; Miss Chrissie Dunbar, as the heroine, Olive Heathcote, plays charmingly; Miss Amy Vennimore gives an admirable performance of Belle Baverstock; Miss Annie Lovellie makes a dainty and effective Dollie Delaney; and Miss Eva Reed is pert as Melinda Lovell.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—A pretty illuminated scena, entitled *A Japanese Tea Garden*, is charmingly presented by Miss Marie Santor and company; Mr. Arthur Royce delights in a musical turn; Messrs. Clifton and Gibson are amusing comedians; the Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists, are smart; and other items include Frank Lyndon in a musical novelty act; Mr. Alf. Levarne in a wire act; and Miss Georgie Beaufort, vocalist.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd; General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The bright American couple, Barton and Ashley, head the bill here this week and meet with a hearty reception. The programme also includes Rex King, "The One-Man Programme"; Lloyd Morgan, vocalist; Marguerite Ismay and Pics., in her Indian scena, *Rickapoo;* Marguerite Broadfoote, comedienne; the Jurgens Trio; and Datas, the Marvellous Man of Memory. The American Bioscope gives some capital pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Harold Neyner presents Ian Maclaren's company in the drama, *The Prince of Rogues*.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Charles Carey's company in the musical comedy *After the Ball* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Walter Ringham scores as Halliwell Menit and Mr. Victor Widdicombe as Colonel Joseph Menit is amusing; Mr. Buckstone Clair submits a clever study of Martin and Mr. Norman Bowyer does well as Dick Seymour; Miss Florence Smithers as Nancy meets with success and Miss Nellie Groves as Nellie Mather sings charmingly; Miss May Florence is good as Ruth Gay; and a dainty Kitty is Miss Nellie James.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Downs and Langford, comedians, top the bill here this week; Tom Haig and Millie Novel cause laughter with their acrobatic act; Charlie's Nippers are to the fore with their boxing, ball-punching, and dancing; James Newry is a smart comedian and little Rennie a clever child vocalist; the Brothers Gilbert are good on the tight wire and the Sisters Graham are charming duettists. The Royal Bioscope is also an attraction.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Professor Inman Hocking is here this week with highly appreciated hypnotic and electrical performances. He is ably assisted by the following artists:—Miss Nellie Ventnor, comedienne; Mr. Fred Granville in his ventriloquial entertainment; the Sisters Vallie, banjoists and dancers; and the Monckton, in *A Woman's Curiosity*. The Bainton Bioscope is also an attraction.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, under the direction of Mr. James Willard, is this week appearing in *The Midnight Mail*. As Harry Steyne Mr. Geo. Harvard has abundant displays of histrionic talent; and a capital piece of character acting is presented by Mr. Fred G. Ivison as Billy Brewer. Miss Grace Lester as Mary Steyne renders the part with naturalness.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The Four Burnells are once more appearing in their screamingly funny musical sketch *On the Links;* the Five Schiavonis, comedy acrobats, are responsible for an amusing and intrepid performance; Worden, Reed, and company are here again with their welcome sketch, *Married; or, Photographed;* and Grant and Allen, amusing in song and patter, are also on a return visit; Bernard and Weston, comedians, please the house immensely; and Grace Murton, The Street Singer, has a capital voice; the jodel songs by Lola Patey are well rendered; and Leo Fallowfield, comedian, and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are also included in the bill.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Messrs. Wm. Fraser-Brunner and Gilbert Heron's company is here this week in that extremely funny comedy *The Superior Miss Pellender*. Miss Jessie Danvers gives an interpretation of Mrs. Pellender which is full of artistic touches; Miss Alice E. Belmore's impersonation of Miss Pellender is worthy of the highest eulogy; Miss Jessie Ramsey gives a quaint rendering of Edith; Nancy is charmingly portrayed by Miss Alice Bowes; it would be impossible to speak too highly of Mr. Gilbert Heron's Mr. Lister; and Mr. George Belmore greatly distinguishes himself by a clever delineation of Noel. The piece is preceded by a one-act play, entitled *Kit's Atonement*, in which Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner's fine acting is much appreciated.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Millar Anderson's company in *When Woman Hates* was accorded a hearty reception on Monday night. Mr. Chas. Herberte gave a fine impersonation of old Gen. Sir H. Rokeby; Mr. Jerrold Heather was an able Lieut. Fred Rokeby; the part of P.C. Patrick O'Brien was played with true Hibernian spirit by Mr. F. Litchfield; Mr. J. G. Maine as Col. Hiram K. Vancutson represented the cynical Yankee in good style; Mr. Millar Anderson as Godfrey Lawton and Miss Mabel Mannering as Cora Daintry were admirable; Mr. Ch. H. Hughes, Miss Eleanor Papera, and Miss Bessie Frank caused hearty amusement; Mr. R. Fitzherbert scores as Bill Smasher; Marie Rokeby and Nellie Rokeby were well represented by Miss Maud Townsend and Miss Violet Leal; Miss Gladys Lloyd is seen to advantage as the heart-broken Edith Rokeby.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick. — Miss Florence Baines, assisted by a capable company of artists, has delighted large audiences during the week in the farce, with music, entitled *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, by S. Sydney. Miss Baines plays the part of the unsophisticated Lancashire lass admirably. Miss Jennie Hallworth possesses a fine soprano voice, and sings very effectively; Miss Pattie Groves as Bridget Thompson plays the Irish character as to the manner born; and Miss Mabel Clinton fulfils well all that is required of her as Bertha. Mr. David Donaldson takes the part of John Higgins; Mr. Robt. Turley as Harry is responsible for some excellent tenor songs; Mr. Rd. Hicks is very humorous as the solicitor; and Mr. Will Casey makes a typical butler.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Lady Mansell and her boys and girls give a very acceptable turn in song and dance; Violi plays a number of musical instruments with skill; Speedwell is an exceedingly clever portrait painter of celebrities; and Atroy performs some pleasing feats as a juggler and hoop manipulator. Fred Carey, eccentric comedian, is nightly recalled; the Westwoods, as trick cyclists, are excellent; the twin Bros. Dean are very good dancers and whistlers; and Millie Payne a droll and clever comedienne. The Haverleys, in illustrated American songs, and Joe and Louie Love, coons and dancers, complete the list.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. Le Warde.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here in S. Buchanan Rogerson's play, *Darkness*, founded upon Guy Thorne's novel, "When It Was Dark." Mr. T. A. Shannon is a distinguished and convincing Rev. Basil Gortre, and Mrs. Morton Powell is very delightful as Helen Byars. As Gertrude Hunt Miss V. St. Lawrence gives a powerful impersonation, and Mr. Bonhote Wilson as Constantine Schawbe and Mr. Edward Valentine as Sir Robert Llewellyn were successful as the villains. Other parts capably filled are Rev. Mr. Byars (Mr. Hy. Heller), Hon. Charlie Gayfly (Mr. Arthur Lenville), Harold Spence (Mr. Ernest R. Allen), Mr. Ommaney (Mr. Forth), Nunc Wallace (Mr. Frank Etheridge), Ionides (Mr. D. M. Stormont), Ali-Al-Murad (Mr. Leslie Stanhope), Grac

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

JEAN MAYEUX, Princess's, May 12, 1894.
JEANNE D'ARC, Her Majesty's, June 23, 1890.
JEANNE DUBARRY, Charing Cross, May 15, 1875.
JEANNE, JEANNETTE, AND JEANNETON, Alhambra, March 28, 1881.
JEANNETTE'S WEDDING, Princess's, Oct. 9, 1861.
JEANNIE DEANS, Standard, Sept. 22, 1862.
JEAN ON LA REPUBLIQUE, Sadler's Wells, Oct. 28, 1882.
JEDBURY JUNIOR, Terry's, Feb. 14, 1896.
JENKINSES, THE, Lyceum, Dec. 6, 1852.
JENNY LIND AT LAST, Lyceum, 1851.
JENNY THE BARBER, Bristol, December 10, 1891.
JERRY AND A SUNBEAM, Strand, Sept. 26, 1898.
JERRY-BUILDER, Prince of Wales's, Southampton, June 13, 1892.
JERRY-BUILDER SOLNESS, St. George's Hall, July 10, 1893.
JERRY'S WAGERS, Theatre Royal, Manchester, Aug. 3, 1874.
JESMOND DENE, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, Oct. 9, 1890.
JESS, Adelphi, March 25, 1890.
JESSAMY'S COURTSHIP, Philharmonic, April 12, 1875.
JESSIE BROWN, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Nov., 1858.
JESSIE FARLEIGH, City of London, Feb. 9, 1863.
JESSIE THE MACHINE GIRL, Theatre Royal, Northampton, Feb. 17, 1868.
JESSIE TYRRELL, Victoria, March 3, 1866.
JESSY VERE, Britannia, Feb. 4, 1856.
JEST, Criterion, Nov. 10, 1898.
JEWELLER OF ST. JAMES'S, Opéra Comique, Feb. 17, 1862.
JEWEL MAIDEN, Forest Hill, Dec. 13, 1899.
JEWELS AND DUST, Crystal Palace, May 18, 1886.
JEWELS, THE, Shanklin, Aug. 31, 1893.
JEWESS, Shaftesbury, June 27, 1899.
JEWESS AND CHRISTIAN, Britannia, April 2, 1877.
JEW OF CONSTANTINE, Victoria, June 9, 1855.
JEW'S DAUGHTER, Strand, Jan. 5, 1857.
JEW'S EYE, Victoria Hall, June 4, 1889.
JEZEBEL; OR, THE DEAD RECKONING, Holborn, Dec. 5, 1870.
JEZEBEL'S HUSBAND, Theatre Royal, Middleton, Dec. 1, 1893.
JILTED, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, June 18, 1877.
JILT, THE, Elephant and Castle, May 13, 1885.
JIM BELMONT, Camberwell, Oct. 1, 1900.
JIM DRAGS THE DRAYMAN, Liverpool, May 26, 1870.
JIMMY WATT, Elephant and Castle, Aug. 1, 1890.
JIM THE PENMAN, Haymarket, March 25, 1886.
JINGLE, Lyceum, July 8, 1878.
JO, Globe, Feb. 21, 1876.
JOAN, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Aug. 31, 1878.
JOAN LOWRIE, Theatre Royal, Blackburn, Feb. 11, 1878.
JOAN OF ARC, Strand, March 29, 1869.
JOAN; OR, THAT LASS O' LOWRIES, Theatre Royal, Coventry, July 8, 1878.
JOCHEN PASEL WOT BIST FOR'N ESEL, St. George's Hall, Feb. 16, 1900.
JOCKEY CLUB, Sanger's, Dec. 26, 1892.
JOCKEY, THE, Walthamstow, Oct. 22, 1894.
JOCONDE, Lyceum, Oct. 25, 1876.
JOE STERLING, Victoria, Nov. 7, 1870.
JOE THE MINER, Theatre Royal, Margate, June 12, 1893.
JOE THE WAIF, Greenwich, April 24, 1876.
JOHN-A-DREAMS, Haymarket, Nov. 8, 1894.
JOHN AND ANGELINA, Kilburn, April 16, 1890.
JOHN AND JEANNETTE, Town Hall, Cheetham, Sept. 23, 1885.
JOHN AYLMER'S DREAM, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, Sept. 6, 1886.
JOHN BULL ABROAD, St. George's Hall, Oct. 15, 1888.
JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN, Strand, May 3, 1897.
JOHN JASPER'S WIFE, Theatre Royal, Ipswich, Jan. 12, 1876.
JOHN MARTIN'S SECRET, Woolwich, Sept. 30, 1895.
JOHN SMITH, Strand, Jan. 13, 1862.
JOHN THURGOOD, FARMER, Globe, June 26, 1893.
JOHN WHARTON, Queen's, Manchester, Oct. 5, 1868.
JOHN WOPPS, Surrey, Oct. 15, 1860.
JOINT HOUSEHOLD, Steinway Hall, March 13, 1891.
JOKER, THE, Avenue, Nov. 13, 1894.
JOKING GIRL, Gainsborough, March 9, 1899.
JOLLIBOY'S WOES, Olympic, Dec. 26, 1878.
JOLLY DOGS OF LONDON, Britannia, July 30, 1866.
JOLLY JOE, Alexandra, Nov. 21, 1868.
JOLLY MILLER OF STRATFORD, Oriental, July 5, 1869.
JONATHAN WILD, East London, July 13, 1868.
JONATHAN WITHOUT A DAVID, Clacton-on-Sea, July 19, 1894.
JONES, New Theatre Royal, Bury, Oct. 16, 1891.
JONES AND CO., Croydon, Feb. 4, 1893.
JONES' NOTES, THE, Gaiety, July 12, 1886.
JONES THE AVENGER, Olympic, Nov. 24, 1856.
JOSEPH CHAUVIGNY, Adelphi, May 11, 1857.
JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART, Vaudeville, March 8, 1888.
JOSHUA HAGGARD, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, May 19, 1879.
JOSIAH'S DREAM, Strand, May 21, 1896.
JO THE WAIF, Rotunda, Liverpool, July , 1881.
JOURNEY'S END, Ladbroke Hall, June 11, 1891.
JOURNEY'S END IN LOVERS' MEETING, Daly's, June 5, 1894.
JO V. JO, Surrey, Sept. 25, 1876.
JOY IS DANGEROUS, Drury Lane, Feb. 9, 1871.
JUANA, Court, May 7, 1881.
JUANITA, Liverpool, April 2, 1872.
JUANNA, Opera Comique, April 16, 1890.
JUBILATION, Prince of Wales's, May 14, 1887.
JUBILEE NOTES, St. George's Hall, April 14, 1887.
JUDAEL, Olympic, May 14, 1885.
JUDAH, Shaftesbury, May 21, 1890.
JUDAS MACCABÆUS, Novelty, March 30, 1896.
JUDGE, Terry's, July 25, 1890.
JUDGE LYNCH, Theatre Royal, Brierley Hill, June 10, 1897.
JUDGMENT, Standard, Sept. 19, 1885.
JUDGMENT OF PARIS, Lyric, Oct. 30, 1897.
JUDGE NOT, Pavilion, Aug. 13, 1888.
JUDGE'S EYE, Wolverhampton, Dec. 19, 1898.
JUDICIAL SEPARATION, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, Oct. 10, 1885.
JUDITH SHAKESPEARE, Royalty, Feb. 6, 1894.
JUDY, Prince of Wales's, May 15, 1899.
JUGEND, St. George's Hall, March 10, 1900.
JUGEND VON HEUTE, Comedy, Nov. 30, 1900.
JUGENFREUNDE, Comedy, Oct. 12, 1900.
JUGGLER OF PARIS, Pavilion, Sept. 10, 1866.
JULIA, Manchester, March 28, 1898.
JULIE, Lyric, June 30, 1898.
JULIUS CÆSAR, Olympic, April 16, 1892.
JULIUS SEE-SAW, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, March 29, 1869.
JUMP A LITTLE WAGTAIL, Bower, Dec. 26, 1868.
JUMPING AT CONCLUSIONS, Vaudeville, Nov. 23, 1892.
JUNIOR PARTNER, Northampton, April 21, 1837.
JUNIUS; OR, THE HOUSEHOLD GODS, Princess's, Feb. 26, 1885.
J.P., Opera Comique, March 16, 1897.
J.P.; OR, GAY BOULOGNE, Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, March 22, 1897.
JURA, Theatre Royal, Leeds, Oct. 30, 1868.
JUSTICE, Westminster, May 12, 1893.
JUSTICE NELL, Lyceum, May 2, 1899.
JUST IN TIME, Avenue, Nov. 12, 1884.
JUST LIKE A WOMAN, Gaiety, Nov. 22, 1879.
JUST LIKE ROGER, Adelphi, April 15, 1872.
JUST MY LUCK, Lyceum, Oct. 29, 1877.
JUST ONE WORD, Opera Comique, May 31, 1873.
JUST RETRIBUTION, Bedford, Oct. 27, 1893.
KAFFIR WAR, Sanger's, April 26, 1879.
KANGAROO GIRL, Folkestone, July 12, 1897.
KARIN, Vaudeville, May 10, 1892.
KARL; OR, LOVE THAT WINS, Standard, June 23, 1884.
KATAWOMPOS, Brighton, Nov. 24, 1896.
KATE PAYTON'S LOVERS, Queen's, Dec. 20, 1873.
KATHARINE AND PETRUCHIO, Her Majesty's, Nov. 1, 1897.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 7,
the Drama, entitled
"THE ETERNAL CITY."

When *The Eternal City* was produced at His Majesty's Theatre on Oct. 2, 1902, its chief weakness was found to be the diffusiveness of the dialogue, more particularly that put into the mouth of his Holiness the Pope. But considerable revision has taken place since then, and the drama has been well received this week at the Kennington Theatre, where it was last witnessed over two years ago, it being then played by Mr. Tree's company. Mr. Bannister Howard has brought an excellent combination, and the piece is staged in a manner that meets with the full approval of the audience. Mr. Henry Deas puts plenty of vigour and spirit into his embodiment of David Rossi, and he meets with a good reception. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp gives a careful study of Baron Bonelli, and success rewards his efforts. Mr. W. O'Flynn makes good use of his opportunities as Bruno Rocco. Mr. L. St. G. Lowther does well as the Chief of Police, and the rascally spy has an able exponent in Mr. Herbert Legerton. Mr. Richard Walsh gets some fun out of the part of Tomasso. The rôle of Donna Roma, originally played by Miss Constance Collier, is powerfully represented by Miss Marie Polini, whose acting merits warm commendation. Miss Mary Mannering does excellent work in the part of Rossi's wife, and all the minor characters are carefully sustained. The songs which are introduced are well rendered by Miss Ethel Percival and Miss Alice Dunn.

DEATH OF MISS OLGA BRANDON.

We regret to record the death on Tuesday last of Miss Olga Brandon, who some years ago held a prominent position in the profession. She had been in ill-health for a considerable time, and had come up to London from a nursing home at Ramsgate with the intention of staying for a few days, but her illness from consumption assumed an acute form, and she died suddenly at 97, College Green, Camden Town.

Miss Brandon, who for the last ten or a dozen years has done very little stage work, was born in Australia in 1865, and was educated in a convent at Geelong. She made her début at the Madison-square Theatre, New York, on September 29, 1884, as Edith in *The Private Secretary*. She was afterwards seen in New York as Mrs. Smith in *In Chancery*, Minnie in *England*, and Lydia Haversack in *Twins*. Her first appearance in London was made at the Royalty on January 27, 1887, as Grace Goldring in *Modern Wives*, also appearing later at the same theatre in *Ivy* and as Mrs. Mudford Merry in *A Tragedy*. Returning to America, she toured with J. S. Clarke in old English comedy. During this tour she also played Ophelia and Pauline Deschapelles. On her return to England in 1888 she joined the Kendals for provincial tours, appearing as Rhoda in *The Weaker Sex*, and Mrs. Molyneux in *A White Lie*, playing this part when the piece was produced at the Court on May 25. At the Shaftesbury on April 5, 1890, she appeared as Mrs. Lisle in *Dick Venables*. On May 21 following, she played Vashti in H. A. Jones's *Judah*, one of her best performances. At the Adelphi on August 2, 1890, Miss Brandon played Ethel Kingston in *The English Rose*, and she also appeared there as Lucy in a revival of *The Streets of London* on May 7, 1891. Other parts in which she was seen in London were Una Dell in *The Crusaders* at the Avenue Theatre (1891), Florizel in *A Visit* (1892), the title-rôle in *Nadia* (1892), Clare O'Mara in *Strathlogan* (1892), the Duchess de Vervier in *The Broken Melody* (1892), Gertrude in *The Maelstrom* at the Shaftesbury (1892), Esther in *Caste* (Criterion, 1889), Mrs. Cuthbert in *Cyril's Success* (Criterion, 1890), Mary Melrose in *Our Boys* (Criterion, 1890), Mary Blenkarn in a revival of *The Middleman* at the Shaftesbury in 1890, Ruth in *Hypatia* (1893), and Lady Hilda in *An American Bride* (1893). The funeral of the deceased actress took place at the Roman Catholic Cemetery, East Finchley.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

The third bi-monthly meeting of the members was held in the saloon of the Actors' Association, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, on Thursday last, when the following ladies and gentlemen attended:—Cecil Barth, Arthur Bawtree, Acton Bond, F. Rawson Buckley, Cyril Cattley, John R. Collins, Burton Cooke, Blanche De Lorme, Fredk. H. De Quincey, A. E. Drinkwater, Lucie Evelyn, Gladys Ffolliott, Hampton Gordon, Teresa Haynes, Agnes Imlay, Quinton McPherson, Robert Milsted, Helen Mosley, Rose Vernon Paget, Katherine Parry, Joan Pereira, Langford Reed, Miss Stanley Ronalds, Adele Roze, Edith Savery, J. E. Savery, A. M. Seaton, Lucy Sibley, Adnam Sprange, Chas. A. Stephenson, Blanka Stewart, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary).

Mr. Cecil Barth was voted to the chair. The minutes of the second bi-monthly meeting having been read and confirmed, the secretary read a letter from Mr. Ernest St. John, setting forth various views of the policy of the Association, and suggesting certain schemes for extending the usefulness of the organisation. Several members having spoken on the subject, it was ultimately agreed that Mr. Ernest St. John should be asked to formulate a scheme. A member present promised to support him in his enterprise, and would endeavour to induce others to do so.

The consideration of the proposition brought forward by Miss Vera Leslie was unavoidably postponed, owing to the absence of that lady. As it was felt there was no immediate hurry for a decision in the matter, it was agreed that it might remain in abeyance until such time as Miss Leslie might be able to attend at some future bi-monthly meeting, so as to give the members the benefit of her views on the subject.

Mr. Robert Milsted proposed "that the post of secretary to this Association shall not last for a term of more than three years, but that at the end of that time the late secretary be eligible for re-election if he cares to stand; other candidates must be members of the council, and must have been on the council for at least one year. That the secretary be elected by general ballot of members." Mr. F. Rawson Buckley seconded the proposition.

Several members spoke upon this subject. Mr. Acton Bond pointed out what he considered to be the objections to the adoption of such a measure; and Mr. Cecil Barth having also spoken against the proposition, it was put to the vote and declared to be lost, five voting in favour of the resolution and nine against.

Miss Joan Pereira proposed that the council should consider the establishment of dramatic debates in connection with the Association, and Mr. Adnam Sprange having seconded the proposition, it was put to the meeting, and carried. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL.

Great interest was taken in Mr. F. R. Benson's production at Stratford-on-Avon last week of the trilogy of *King Henry VI.*, consecutive performances of which were given at the Memorial Theatre in celebration of Shakespeare's anniversary. Part III., which was staged on Friday, the 4th inst., is specially notable from the reason that it has not been seen in its original form since the Restoration, and the opportunity of witnessing the play in actual representation was taken full advantage of by a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Benson, who had made some judicious cuts in the text, sustained the part of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, and portrayed with much subtlety the hard and unscrupulous nature of the ambitious nobleman. Mrs. Benson added another success to those already achieved by her performance of Margaret, acting the rôle with striking dramatic force and queenly dignity. A most favourable impression was created by Mr. Cyril Keightley, who came within reach of perfection in the part of Suffolk. Mr. George Buchanan gave a rendering of Henry VI. instinct with regal dignity and artistic resource. Mr. Stanley Howlett and Mr. H. O. Nicholson were admirable exponents of the Prince of Wales and Edward IV. respectively. An agreeable touch of sweetness was imparted to the play by Miss Olive Noble, who impersonated Lady Grey with rare grace and delicacy; and Miss Leah Hanman infused much pathos into her rendering of the unfortunate young Earl of Rutland. A vigorous and outspoken Lord Clifford was found in Mr. Philip Sanders; Mr. Clarence Derwent made the best use of his opportunities as the Duke of York; and Mr. Reginald Davis as the Duke of Clarence, and Mr. B. A. Pittar as the Earl of Warwick, were suitably placed.

At the close of the performance, Mr. Benson was heartily recalled, and made in acknowledgment a short speech, in the course of which he said that he had just heard one of the stage-hands remark, as the curtain fell, "Thank goodness, there's another confounded king dead!" This feeling, he suggested, might perhaps be shared by the audience; but it was something to say that in the consecutive performance of these histories the Memorial Theatre had done what no other theatre in the world had attempted.

"A TIGHT CORNER."

A Light Comedy, in Three Acts,
By Herbert Swears, produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, On Wednesday, May 9, 1906.

Jack Hyacynth ..... MR. KENDAL
Samson Quale ..... MR. ERNEST HENDRIE
Barrington Skews ..... MR. METCALFE WOOD
Bangham ..... MR. F. CHAS. POOLE
Postern ..... MR. ARROWSMITH
Mrs. Pertwee ..... MISS JESSIE MOORE
Clara ..... MISS MARIE LOHR
Mrs. Hyacynth ..... MRS. KENDAL

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal had a most hearty reception on Wednesday evening, when they produced for the first time Mr. Herbert Swears's comedy, entitled *A Tight Corner*. The incidents of the three acts take place in the drawing-room of the Hyacynths' flat in Mount-street, Berkeley-square. In the first act we find Samson Quale, a solicitor of the old and prim school, telling his friend, the easy, happy-going Jack Hyacynth, of his wife's goings on with several male friends, whom, with his entire concurrence, she invites to what she calls her "aviary," and dubs them her "birds." Quale suggests that people are talking about it, and that Jack shall write an effusive letter to a lady of the upper flat, a Mrs. Pertwee, already known to the wife as having a liking for Jack, and place it where his wife can find it. Jack eventually falls in with his friend's idea, and duly writes the letter. They retire to the dining-room, and Mrs. Jack, who is going for a motor-drive with one of the "birds," comes in, looking for her key, discovers the letter, and, finding it unfastened, reads it; but, having unbounded confidence in her husband, sees through the whole thing, and laughingly, after sealing, sends the missive up to Mrs. Pertwee.

In the second act we find Jack is in a highly nervous condition about meeting Mrs. Pertwee, and blames his friend, but Quale makes light of the matter, and says it is easy to get out of it by telling Mrs. Pertwee the note was only written to amuse himself, but unfortunately got placed in an addressed envelope that should have contained an invitation to dinner. Quale retires to the kitchen, Jack telling him, as he has got him in a tight corner, he must see him through. Mrs. Pertwee duly keeps the appointment, and, after some intense love-making on her part, to the great discomfort of Hyacynth, Jack tells her what the letter really meant, and that it was a mistake, whereupon she promptly faints. Quale returns at this crisis, and the two proceed to rouse her. Quale suggests it is only a sham, and gets her round very easily. At this juncture Mrs. Hyacynth is heard coming with her escort, and Mrs. Pertwee hides in an old oak chest which is to be sent to the auctioneers' for sale later on. Mrs. Jack comes in, and soon finds out the box trick, and the act ends with the workmen carrying out the chest.

Act 3 is devoted to unwinding the tangle, and after Mrs. Pertwee has had a rough time, and the two friends, Jack and Quale, have been thoroughly frightened, the comedy ends by Mrs. Hyacynth showing the meddlesome Quale and Mrs. Pertwee the door.

Mrs. Kendal is such a consummate actress that it is a pleasure to watch her performance, and her entire absence of effort made the part of Mrs. Jack Hyacynth quite delightful to witness. Mr. Kendal played the open-hearted, straightforward stockbroker, Jack Hyacynth, in the free and easy style of which he is a past-master; his trepidation at meeting the love-sick Mrs. Pertwee and his anger with his friend Quale were admirably depicted. Miss Jessie Moore, in the part of Mrs. Pertwee, played with great judgment and tact. Samson Quale, the intruding friend of Jack, was a very excellent character-part sustained by Mr. Ernest Hendrie with conspicuous success, his portentous utterances being given with immense gusto. Barrington Skews, one of "the birds," was safe in the experienced hands of Mr. Metcalfe Wood. Miss Marie Lohr played Clara carefully and well.

The comedy went with a swing from the beginning, the applause being very frequent and evidently sincere. There were numerous calls at the end of each act, and at the fall of the curtain the applause was most pronounced. The author was called and bowed his acknowledgments.

AN ACTOR IN MISFORTUNE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In reply to the letter in behalf of Mr. Gordon Wilson which you kindly inserted in your last issue I have received the following subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
E. D. Walker, Esq., J.P., Darlington	3	0	0
J. Wilmore	1	1	0
The Crooked Spire Lodge, R.A.O.B., Chesterfield	0	10	0
Mr. Earnshaw, Stockton	0	10	0
One Out of Engagement	0	2	0
B. Mercer	0	1	6
Mr. James De Voye, Hippodrome, Hull	0	1	0

We hope to raise something substantial, as when Mr. Wilson comes out of the hospital he will, it is feared, be unable to earn his own living, and owing to his long struggle he has been unable to save anything against a rainy day. Further subscriptions will be gratefully received by,

Yours faithfully,
MATTHEW ARNOLD.

39, High-street, Watford, Herts.
May 4, 1906.

THE definition of a stage play according to the police was given at Hayward's Heath on Wednesday, when George Leslie was summoned for acting a stage play in an unlicensed building, the Public Hall, on May 7. Defendant pleaded not guilty. The police evidence was to the effect that *A Royal Divorce* was played, defendant being dressed as Napoleon, and numerous others taking part in character dress, including women and "soldiers with swords." All seemed to be very careful that only one person spoke in each scene. That day defendant had failed to get a licence for the hall, because sufficient notice had not been given.

WHEN the police entered the hall the defendant asked, "Is this all right?" "No," came the reply; "it is a play, and a licence is required." Defendant said, "Oh, I thought that if only one spoke at a time it was not a stage play," and the police-sergeant answered, "They are living characters and make gestures, which constitutes it a play. Defendant told the Bench that although the theatrical party paid the rent, the hall was closed on Tuesday night, and over three hundred people, who had come to hear singing only, were turned away. They could not get their rent back, could not give entertainments, and were stranded. Already they had had bad luck in other towns. The Bench held that technically the party were performing a stage play, but under all the circumstances the case was dismissed.

OWING to the death of her mother, Miss Constance Stephens has been unable to take up her part in *The Eternal City*, at Kennington Theatre this week.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Peggy Famo was presented at the Tivoli, Manchester, on Wednesday, with a cameo gold ring, by Miss Lucia Collins.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

BERLIN.

April 4. *Die Zauberwurzel*, three-act volksplay, by F. Hartl-Mitins (season of the Schliersee company)—New Royal Opera.
„ 7. *Hochparterre-links*, musical burlesque-farce, by MM. Kren and Lippschitz—Thalia.
„ 10. *Hille Bobbe*, three-act comedy, by Adolph Paul—Kleines.
„ 10. *Die Jago ume Leben*, melodrama, in eight scenes, by J. Fox—Carl Weiss.
„ 15. *In der Sommerfrische*, four-act play, by MM. Rauchenegger and Dreber (Schliersee company's season)—Berliner.
„ 27. *Die Schwarze Nina*, opera, in three acts, by Alfred Kaiser—Komische Oper.
„ 28. *Liebeskunst*, three-act comedy, by MM. Xanrof and Carré—Residenz.
„ 28. *Arme Mädchen*, play, in three acts, by Adolf Philipp—Deutsch-Amerikanisches.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 7, the Drama, in Four Acts, Adapted from Charles Dickens's novel by J. F. Brandon, and entitled
"OLIVER TWIST."

This week *Oliver Twist* has been a great attraction in Marylebone, Mr. Bailey's commodious theatre being packed with a contented audience on the night of our visit. Mr. W. S. Hartford enacts Bill Sikes in a vivid and realistic way, the impersonation being most praiseworthy. The Mr. Bumble of Mr. Fred Dobell is a clever character-study of that self-important personage; Mr. George Claremont plays in his usual finished style as Mr. Brownlow; Mr. J. F. Brandon is decidedly good as Mr. Grimwig; Mr. A. G. Lytton scores as Mr. Monks; Mr. Johnny Leoni and Mr. Herbert Boyle do exceptionally well as the Artful Dodger and Charlie Bates respectively; whilst Mr. W. R. Sheen sustains the rôle of Fagin with much ingenuity and force, his impersonation leaving but little to be desired. As Nancy, Miss Lily Hammersley plays with a great amount of force and expression; Miss Hettie Graham does well as Noah Claypole; Miss Adeline Montagu is effective as Mrs. Corney; Miss Ella Seton is painstaking as Rose Maylie; and Miss Bertha Baker makes the pathetic figure of Oliver Twist a very lovable one by reason of her artistic methods. The other members of the long cast all do well, and the whole production is worthy of high commendation.

MR. CHARLES FRY'S RECITAL.

The resumption of Mr. Charles Fry's Shakespearean matinées, which are this year being given at the Court Theatre, attracted a large audience on Saturday afternoon, when *A Winter's Tale* was revived, the stage being draped in the fashion usual with Mr. Fry's recitals. To what extent the veteran elocutionist and actor is responsible for the popularity into which Shakespeare has sprung in recent years it is impossible to say, but there can be no doubt that such artistic representations as those provided for many years past by Mr. Fry in association with Miss Olive Kennett are bound to have a stimulating influence on public taste and to exercise an important bearing in the dramatic education of the people. The representation of Shakespeare's tearful comedy on Saturday was thoroughly enjoyed, constant applause and four or five curtain calls at the end of the piece giving complete evidence of the satisfaction of the audience. Mr. Fry, whose reading of Leontes is already well known, declaimed the lines with his usual power and emphasis, and by his well-varied gesture and dramatic resource gave a striking representation of the conflict of emotions to which jealousy gives rise. Miss Olive Kennett was again a stately Queen, full of dignity, delivering her lines with a deep pathos that was very affecting. Her "statuesque" scene was remarkably well managed, and created a profound impression. A captivating Perdita was supplied in the person of Miss Dora Keith, who charmed by her grace and delicacy, and rendered her lines with deep feeling and a true appreciation of their worth. Her love scenes with Florizel, gallantly enacted by Mr. Hughes Jones, were not the least agreeable features of the performance. Autolycus, the rogue, was played by Mr. Patrick Munro, who availed himself of every opportunity of creating mirth, of which there was no lack while he was on the stage. His fine voice was employed admirably in the songs which fall to him and in the trio with the two shepherdesses, the success of which was shared by Misses Helen Lynden and Marion Stenner, who acted merrily as Mopsa and Dorcas respectively. Mr. C. Francis added appreciably to the fun of the piece by his droll delivery and quaint antics as the clown, and in the part of his father Mr. W. J. R. Cane submitted a creditable assumption of the aged shepherd. A courtly Camillo was found in Mr. Stanley Leverton, who acted with a convincing earnestness that added significance to the part, and Mr. Vincent Nello gave a thorough exposition of the chivalry and kingliness of Polixenes. Miss Jessie Cowen acted naïvely and with sweet ingenuousness as the boy Mamilius, Miss Winifred Rae was a sympathetic Paulina, Mr. Ernest Beharold did well in the rôle of Antigonus, Mr. Arthur Broughton impersonated Time, and the chorus and the various subsidiary parts in the long cast were adequately filled. The songs and incidental music are the work of Mr. Arthur Fox, the orchestra was capably led by Mr. Cuthbert Kelly, and the rustic dance was under the direction of Miss Lily Sturman.

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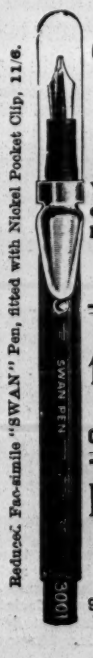

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 7,
Play, by Mr. Alfred Sutro, entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

There is so much in *The Walls of Jericho* to fascinate and attract the attention of the public, that it was no surprise to find a big house assembled on Monday to welcome Mr. Bourchier's company on its return visit. Although there are several changes in the company, very able substitutes have been found, and the attractiveness of this enjoyable "smart-set" piece is fully maintained. Mr. Edward A. Warburton's Jack Frobisher is a wonderfully natural embodiment, particularly interesting, and, withal, so human. As Lady Alethea Frobisher, Miss Amy Ravenscroft perfectly realises the author's conception of the part, displaying great discrimination in portraying the various moods of the lady; a very clever study, alike excellent in its humour and its touches of pathos. Mr. Alfred S. Barber repeats his fine piece of acting as Hankey Bannister; and Mr. Cecil Brooking is still seen to great advantage in the character of the Marquis of Steventon. It would be difficult to find a better exponent of this character. Mr. A. W. Tyrer as Harry Dallas invests the part with all the cleverness needed to make it as effective as the author desires. Praise is due to Messrs. V. Wilcox Cadogan, Joseph Herbert, and Wilfred S. Lane for their acting as Bertram Hannaford, the Hon. Wilfred Renton, and Lord Marchmont respectively. Lady Westoby is ably undertaken by Miss Helen Haye. Miss Jean Harkness repeats her skilful impersonation of Miss Mornington, and Miss Mary Weigall capably sustains the part of the Duchess of Skye. A pert and piquant Lady Lucy Derenham is Miss Nona Wynne; and Miss May Brooke (Lady Porchester) and Miss Florence Harcourt (Miss Wyatt) are well cast. Messrs. Walter Newcombe, W. L. Jenkins, W. Littlejohns, J. Morris, and Miss Edith Warburton are satisfactory representatives of minor parts. The company well deserved the numerous recalls they received on Monday. The management are to be congratulated on the manner in which the production is staged, the scenery being admirable, and the general stage setting could hardly be improved upon. A word of praise might fittingly be extended to the musical-director, Mr. Charles Elcock, for a most enjoyable selection of music, and to the new business-manager, Mr. J. Murray Herriott for carefully looking after the comfort of those in front.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 7,
Shakespeare's Play, entitled
"RICHARD III."

Something in the nature of a Shakespeare festival is being held here this week, during which Mr. Esmond Bramley's Shakespearean company has been appearing here in a round of the Bard's most popular works, which are most carefully staged. The company, taken all round, is decidedly good. On Monday evening *Richard III.* was the play chosen for presentation. Mr. Cyril Este undertook the rôle of the Duke of Gloucester, and gave a good reading of the part, being careful to bring out all its craftiness. Mr. Este's acting showed great earnestness and careful study. A striking performance was that of Lady Anne, as presented by Miss Millie Ford, who, possessing a very musical voice, played the part with much pathos. Mr. Baliol Holloway appeared as the Duke of Clarence, giving a fine rendering of the part. In the latter part of the play he contributed an excellently drawn portrait of Henry, Earl of Richmond, the combat which brings the play to a close being excellently managed. Mr. F. O. Chambers was good as Buckingham; and Lords Stanley and Hastings were in the safe keeping of Messrs. Doyle and Fred Scarth Miss May Beatrice and Miss Ruth Nightingale were to be commended for their playing of the two young Princes. Miss Maud Garth delivered the lines allotted her as Elizabeth in a dignified manner; and Mrs. Bernard Parkin was responsible for an acceptable rendering of the Duchess of York. Messrs. Evans and Gordon were distinctly good as the Murderers, playing their short comedy scene with much tact and skill. Mr. G. E. Dunstan was impressive as the Bishop of Ely; Mr. Leonard Cheetham was successful at Ratcliffe; and Mr. A. L. Evans was seen to advantage as Catesby. *Hamlet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *Romeo and Juliet* have also been staged during the week.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, May 7,
the Play, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

A notable novel, turned into a strong play by the author, and well acted by capable artists, forms the admirable bill of fare at the above theatre this week, and the strong situations of the piece have provided food for thought for the gratified audiences. The earnest and devoted cleric, John Storm, is powerfully acted by Mr. F. Rawson-Buckley. He is seldom off the stage, and his good work is recognised and rewarded by hearty applause. Mr. Harry Colbeck looks an ideal priest, and carefully portrays the characteristics of the Rev. Father Lamplugh. The fine presence of Mr. Colin Johnston gives reality to the worldly Archdeacon Wealthy; and Mr. Percy Johnson is good in the small part of Parson Quayle. Lord Robert Ure, the evil genius of the play, is excellently rendered by Mr. P. Gedge Twyman, who both looks and acts well; and Mr. Duncan Yarrow as the hero, Horatio Drake, adds greatly to the success of the production by his convincing ardour as the lover of Glory. Mr. Anthony Rawles as the raffish Faro King is appropriately debonair; and Mr. John Hames gives a clever, though none too flattering, portrait of the music-hall manager. Mr. Charles Stafford is well suited as Brother Paul, the assistant at the mission room; and Mr. George Moon makes a burly linkman, or "chucker-out." Miss Grace Murielle is quite at home as Glory Quayle, either as the simple island maiden or as the variety star in London. Her dresses are very becoming, and her acting is of a high order. The kindly Mrs. Callander is well impersonated by Miss Violet Vivian, who assumes the Scottish dialect admirably; Miss Florence Radcliffe invests the part of Polly Love with much charm, and secures the sympathies of all; Liza, Glory's maid, is a clever little sketch in the hands of Miss Cicely Oates; and Mesdames L. Kingston, Phyllis Leslie, and Eileen Barry give colour to the fellow artists of Glory. Miss Aggie Royal, as the reclaimed Aggie Jones, gave a clever dance in the second act, which was much applauded. The scenery is appropriate, and calls before the curtain on Monday were numerous.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 7,
the Farce, entitled
"WHAT THE BUTLER SAW."

Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche have been drawing good houses here this week with the above-named farce, and "laughter holding both his sides" has indeed been the order of the day. The rôle of Mrs. Barrington suits Miss Ada Blanche so remarkably that it might really have been specially written for her. Miss Blanche throws herself whole-heartedly and light-heartedly into her work, with the result that her characterisation of the part is as charming as it is refreshingly natural. Mr. Lionel Rignold is also thoroughly in his element as Pink, the butler, and keeps his audience in a continual ripple of laughter with his amusing acting and clever facial expression, to say nothing of his quaint, but decidedly original, delivery of his lines. Mr. Charles Fawcett plays Jack Barrington, the fly-away Irishman, with an easy eloquence and an unforced gaiety that are delightfully in character. As Sir Charles Foden Mr. Reddick Anderson acts neatly and effectively, submitting his best work in the one or two tender passages in the play. Miss Marie Daltra is eminently successful as the whimsical, but good-natured, Miss Foden; and Miss Grace Richardson does her best with the decidedly colourless part of Nora. Mr. Harry H. Rignold is amusingly Hebraic as Abraham Weinstein; Mr. George Ascott is sufficiently peppery as General Dunlop; and Miss Annie Goward evokes a good deal of laughter as Mrs. Hake. The smaller parts are capably handled, worthy of especial mention being the Professor Shale of Mr. Roy Byford, who not only looks the part, but, in a few words and with fewer gestures, submits a character-study which is, in its way, as near perfection as may be

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, May 7,
New Version, by Herbert Shelley, of Mrs. Henry Wood's Novel, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

A successful appeal to the playgoers of Poplar has been made this week by Miss Lilian Dundas's company in a new version of the popular novel named above. The piece has been judiciously modernised without impairing in any way the dramatic excellences of the powerfully-told story, and the sorrows of Lady Isabel have been set forth in a way that engrosses the audience from first to last. The arduous part of Lady Isabel falls to Miss Ethel Royale, who displays dramatic gifts of a high order. She presents the pathos of the rôle with irresistible feeling, and the emotional tones of her voice lend additional effect to the conception. There is room, perhaps, for more passion and power in her denunciation of the unscrupulous Levison, but her management of the difficult scene at the end is very poignant and impressive. Mr. George Mitchell is the Archibald Carlyle, and his portrayal of the husband whose manhood is crushed by an injustice beyond repair is quite complete. Mr. Mitchell's appearance is well in keeping with the part, to which his vigorous delivery gives added significance. Miss Leslie Dane is a winsome Barbara Hare, acting with sincerity and well-studied emphasis, and compelling the sympathy of all. A sound performance of Lord Mountsevern is given by Mr. Adam Alexander, who acts with rare delicacy in the affecting scene with the betrayed Lady Isabel, and Mr. James Jarrett cleverly affects the roving characteristics of Richard Hare. A polished rendering of the heartless Captain Levison is given by Mr. Hamilton Stewart, who impersonates the refinement of villainy, and his insidious tempting of his intended victim is combined effectively with the bitter malevolence which he has later to assume. The lighter element of the piece remains in the hands of Miss Corny Carlyle, a part in which Miss Esther Carthew develops a rich vein of drollery. She is an actress of great experience, and every humorous point in the part is made to tell. Assistance in the provision of fun is derived from Mr. Trueman Towers as the splenetic Justice Hare. He is skilfully made-up, and so well is the character acted that an explosion on the part of the worthy judge seems for ever imminent. Mr. Arthur G. Brown presents an amusing travesty of Lawyer Dill, and is responsible for much laughter; and as Obadiah Stiggins, the provision merchant, Mr. Angus Alexander reveals an aptitude for low comedy. Miss Jessie Dunbar is a neat and comely Susanne, speaking her lines piquantly, and Miss Jessie Goodman is vivacious and well-spoken as the maid Wilson. Miss Florence Melville brings out to distinct advantage the sentiment of the part of the devoted Joyce, and the Afy Halijohn of Miss Kathleen Maitland is also commendable. Willie Carlyle is prettily impersonated by little Mabel May, and little May Darling gives an engaging impersonation of the youthful Isabel. Mr. E. Richard Mansfield is the John Halijohn, Inspector Johnson is played by Mr. W. J. Mitchell, and the cast is completed by Mr. James Bowen and Mr. C. F. Jameson.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 7,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

The attraction here this week is the popular comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*, which is admirably presented by Mr. E. St. Alban's opera company. The acting and singing throughout are of a very high order, and the approval of the audience on Monday evening was expressed in hearty cheers. Mr. E. St. Alban quickly impressed the audience by his powerful delineation of the miser Gaspard. Bringing his ripe experience to bear on the part, Mr. St. Alban acquitted himself with great success, and his acting in the château scene was the leading feature of the play, arousing the audience to great enthusiasm. Mr. Geo. A. Fox as the Marquis de Corneville gave a very natural representation, and delighted the audience with several songs, which fully earned the applause that greeted them. The talents of Mr. William Everard are fully employed in the rôle of Grenicheaux, a fisherman, and his excellent voice was heard to much advantage in his duet with Germaine. Mr. Fred Dark gave an excellent picture of the bumptious Bailie, and kept the audience in continuous merriment throughout. He was ably seconded by Mr. Richard Martin as Gobo. An ideal Germaine was seen in Miss Marion Ayling, who played the part with pronounced success. Possessing a beautiful voice, Miss Ayling rendered her songs with great expression, and altogether contributed a pleasing performance. Miss May Bradbury was an exceedingly vivacious Serpolette, and her singing and acting gained much applause. Miss L. Rhodes was thoroughly satisfactory as Christophe; and the Misses Seymour, Humphries, Carmens, St. Clair, Templeton, and Smithson were excellent as "village girls." Much of the success of the play was due to the efficient chorus, whose rendering of the concerted pieces left nothing to be desired, and reflected great credit on the musical director, Chevalier Legrand. Mr. J. Capell is the courteous acting-manager for Mr. E. St. Alban.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 7,
Charles Gounod's Opera,
"FAUST."

This is the second week of the Moody-Manners Opera company's visit to Notting Hill Gate, and it is gratifying to record that they have been received with intense enthusiasm, and crowded houses have been the order of the day. Let us hope equal success will attend their enterprise in the summer season at the Lyric. The performance of Gounod's charmingly melodious opera of *Faust*, in which the roses of romance, scattered broadcast, relieve the dull grey tints of tragedy, proved most delightful and engrossing, and repeated encores testified to the approval of the audience. Mme. de Vere is a most graceful and charming Margarita, and contributes a very beautiful and moving embodiment of the hapless girl. Her high notes are deliciously clear and bell-like, and her lower compass remarkably powerful, proving the wonderful range of her voice. Her rendering of the "Jewel Song" provoked tumultuous applause; her love duets in the garden scene, and her passionate outburst in the prison scene were gems of melody. Mr. Wilson Pembroke, as Faust, not only sings exquisitely—his rendition of "Oh, dwelling pure and lowly," among others, being superb—but he acts with artistic fancy and dramatic fervour. Mr. Charles Manners is a magnificently imposing and saturnine Mephistopheles, with his mocking laugh and his haughty mien, and his singing of the drinking-song in Act II., and the serenade in Act IV., stamp him as a finished actor as well as a fine singer. Mr. Lewys James is an exceptionally good Valentine, acting with dramatic power, and singing delightfully; and Miss Olive Westwood is a most engaging Siebel, and sings her two songs very sweetly and sympathetically. Miss Alexander is well in the picture as Martha; and Mr. G. King is good as Wagner. So excellently was the spirited soldiers' chorus given in Act IV., that it had to be repeated. Mr. Cuthbert Hawley conducted. On Tuesday Mme. Fanny Moody and Mr. Wilson Pembroke appeared in *Lohengrin*, *Il Trovatore* (Mme. de Vere and Joseph O'Mara) on Wednesday, *Carmen* (Mme Zelie de Lussan) on Thursday, *Eugene Onegin* (Mme. Fanny Moody, and Messrs. Wilson Pembroke, Lewys James, and Charles Manners) on Friday, and to-day's matinée *Tännhauser* (Mme. de Vere, Messrs. Joseph O'Mara, and Wm. Dever) and evening *The Bohemian Girl* (Mesdames Kate Anderson and Olive Westwood, and Messrs. John Child, Lewys James, and Charles Manners). Mr. Chapman Huston is the genial general-manager of the company, of which he is justly proud, and Mr. J. H. Batson is a most efficient stage-manager.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 7,
the Operetta, in Four Acts, by J. Lateiner,
with Music by Fridzel, entitled
"GABRIEL."

The Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company presented on Monday evening Lateiner's operetta of *Gabriel*, which had a fine reception from a well-filled house, the audience following with keen interest the story in its many stages of progression. Although the piece is somewhat impressive, it gives many opportunities for acting of the highest order, of which the members of the company are fully capable. The music is bright and tuneful, and the well-drilled and large chorus give ample evidence of careful rehearsal; while the scenery and mounting, together with the picturesque Austrian dresses, all help towards making the play one of the most successful given during the present engagement. Mme. Rose Waxman wins great favour as Dinele, her forcible, clever impersonation being most effective, and gaining warm appreciation. Mr. Marinhof gives a vivid and stirring portrayal of Herzog Albricht the First, whose scheming adviser Adrian is ably interpreted by Mr. J. Fineberg. The comedy of Mr. J. Scherman is bright and unforced, and by his characterisation of the Court jester Fritz creates much merriment. Mr. M. D. Waxman scores a great success as Gabriel, his strong, manly exposition meeting with warm approbation. Miss Bryh imparts plenty of humour into the part of Chinke, and Mr. S. Schilling is amusing, although slightly tedious, as Pinke. A capital character-study of Dr. Abrahams is given by Mr. Shtreng, and a vigorous and handsome Ralf is seen in Mr. Raitz; while the necessary dignity as the Judge is well expressed by Mr. Katz. Good performances of *Benhador*, *The Broken Hearts*, *The Hero of Jerusalem*, *The Jewish Hamlet*, and *Sulamith*, have been given during the week.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, May 7,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, by Patrick Bidwell, Composed by Clarence Lucas and K. Ernest Irving, entitled
"PEGGY MACHREE."

Peggy Machree is paying a return visit to the Alexandra this week, the company being under the direction of Mr. Charles E. Hamilton. Since the opera was last seen here, with Miss Marie Dainton and Mr. Denis O'Sullivan in the principal parts, it has undergone considerable alteration and revision. The opera is played in three charming scenes, and the picturesque and handsome dresses add materially to the production. Miss Claudia Lasell now appears in the title-rôle, and, judging from the applause bestowed upon her, evidently plays the part to the entire satisfaction of her audience. Mr. Vernon Davidson makes a picturesque and romantic hero of Barney Trevor, and sings adequately. Mr. Ralph Lynn succeeds in extracting a fair amount of humour from the part of Sir Lawrence Borthwick; and a sound and amusing performance of the piper Michael comes from Mr. Dan Fitzgerald. The singing of Mr. John Morley as Sergeant Bampton is among the most agreeable features of the production, and he scores with every musical number that is allotted to him. The uncanny Scot, Alexander M'Dougall, of Mr. Milroy Cooper is an artistic and clever performance; and Mr. Marc Macdermott imparts the necessary domineer and swagger to Captain de la Cour. Miss Blanche Astley plays, sings, and dances with considerable vivacity as Molly; and as Mme. de la Cour, Emily Pryor, and Moira, Misses Doris Kelvey, Dorothy Garden, and Madge Avery do satisfactory work. The chorus and musical arrangements are under the direction of Mr. K. Ernest Irving.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Drama, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

The company from the Scala Theatre is appearing here this week in this powerful play, which continues to command good houses. Thanks to the general excellence of the artists and the effective staging of the play, Kingston playgoers have had the opportunity of seeing it at its best. The part of the Emperor Napoleon, around whom the interest chiefly centres, is played by Mr. Frank Lister, who not only looked "le petit caporal" to the life, but gave an exposition of the part that would have satisfied the most exacting students of the character of that great man. Miss Edith Cole appears as Josephine, of whose conception of the part it is almost impossible to speak in terms of too high praise—praise that was unstintingly bestowed upon her by the onlookers. Another successful bit of acting was that of Miss Clara Earle as Stephanie; and Miss Elizabeth Watson acquitted herself well in the part of Marie Louise. Commendation was also earned and bestowed upon Miss Irena Ford, Miss Joan Vaughan, and little Miss Marion Ryder, the latter of whom made a very creditable appearance as the boy King of Rome. The success of the play was materially assisted by Mr. T. P. Haynes as Grimaud, the innkeeper; by Mr. Geo. W. Cockburn as the Marquis de Beaumont; and by the Misses Edith Wilsden and Helena Meadows, and Messrs. George Howard, St. George Frere, and Frederick Powell, who ably filled subordinate parts.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, May 7, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Miles Wallerton and Frances Gilbert, entitled
"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."

Mr. Harry Foxwell and company are presenting the above drama this week, it being the first visit to this theatre. The authors have been content to construct a drama built on conventional lines, which will doubtless commend itself to that large section of the playgoing public who derive enjoyment from this class of play. A good company has been engaged by Mr. Foxwell. Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon (the title-rôle) gave an intense and faithful portrayal of an unpleasant type of woman, and was the recipient of much applause. Eleanor Dean, the heroine, was sympathetically depicted by Mrs. Foxwell, who made much of the part. Miss Ruby Romer as Sally Sloper was responsible for the lighter element in the play, and was very successful in her efforts to amuse. Mr. Harry Foxwell as Captain Seaton gave a bold and manly impersonation of the much-tried hero, his acting making a favourable impression. Mr. G. Gormley as Seaton's father acted a small part very commendably. Mr. J. Buller as Phillipe Malvoisin gave a capital performance. Mr. Norman Morris as Pierre and Mr. Nelson Ford as Robert Saunders were adequate in small parts. Mr. Russell Boyne as Paddy Boyle was amusing in an Hibernian rôle; and Mr. Fred Park as Sammy was a valuable ally in provoking hilarity. The remainder of the company were satisfactory, and the scenery and mounting on an exceptionally lavish scale. A fairly good house witnessed the performance, and extended a cordial reception to the play and players.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 7,
the Drama, by Sutton Vane, entitled
"THE SPAN OF LIFE."

This week we have a return to exciting melodrama in Mr. Sutton Vane's well-known piece *The Span of Life*. The production is admirably played by Mr. Arthur Carlton's company, and proves greatly to the taste of the audience. Mr. Sanderson Moffat gives a manly and convincing portrait of the hero, Richard Blunt, and meets with a deservedly favourable reception. Mr. R. S. Trelawney submits a capital impersonation of Dunstan Leech, a villain of the deepest dye; Mr. Walter Dale supplies a welcome element of comedy as Nutty Brown, and is responsible for much merriment. He also introduces a capital song. Mr. Edwin T. Kisby gives a neat character sketch as the lighthouse-keeper, Joshua Gurnet; Messrs. Fred Almo, John Almo, and Alix Almo made the most of the parts of Dismal Brown, Tipton Brown, and Dapper Brown respectively, and arouse the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm in the third act when they form "a human bridge" to enable the heroine to escape over the chasm. Miss Phyllis Hamilton plays well as the hapless Kate Heathcote, thoroughly enlisting the sympathy of the audience by the excellence of her acting; Miss Kitty Russell is lively and amusing as the faithful Shrove Tuesday; Mrs. H. Russell is a dignified Mrs. Jelf; Miss Phyllis Graham proves herself a clever child actress as Cecil Jelf; and Miss Mary Moffatt presents a pathetic picture as little Cecil Blunt. Neat character sketches are given by Mr. Bob Bogan as Inspector Ferguson, and Mr. J. Petersfell as Ayrek. The scenery and effects are quite beyond reproach.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 7,
the Play, in Four Acts, Adapted by Birkett Winning, from Alphonse Daudet's Novel, entitled
"SAPHO."

The play at Fulham this week is a new stage-version of Daudet's famous novel, specially prepared by Birkett Winning, in which Miss Annie Bell and her company are appearing. Miss Bell assumes the title-rôle, and does well enough in this difficult and exacting part, bringing out the complex character of the woman with much care. Mr. Pringle Roberts as Jean Gaussin, the young man from the country who falls into her toils, supports her ably, putting plenty of spirit into the scenes of love and jealousy. As Father Legrand Mr. Oswald Lingard scores a success, and raises many a laugh. Mr. G. Antley is to be congratulated on a highly finished performance of Cesaire, his impersonation of Jean's gay uncle being as clever a piece of work as anything in the whole play. Mr. H. Langford as Flamant, Mr. R. A. Greene as Caoudal, and Mr. Lawrence Kingley as Déchelette, are all satisfactory, particularly the last-named. Little Miss Doris Graham as the child Joseph acts with spirit and ability; and Miss Florence Graham acquits herself well as Machaume.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 7,
the Drama, by Arthur Jefferson, entitled
"LONDON BY DAY AND NIGHT."

A play full of thrilling incidents, relieved by occasional flashes of humour, cannot fail to be appreciated, and therefore this week's drama at the Lyric is being played before large audiences with great success by the stock company. The part of Richard Thorneycroft (one which requires careful handling) is excellently acted by Mr. C. F. Collings. Admirable, too, is Mr. Bert Morley as Captain Edgar Thorneycroft. Miss Ida Taylor as Dick, the boy waif, acts with great pathos, and quite wins the hearts of the onlookers. A very fine piece of acting is given by Mr. Lewis Gilbert, in the character of Gideon Snake, a solicitor of shady reputation. He is ably assisted by Miss Marie Clavering, as Gideon's wife. The humour is supplied by Mr. Harvey White, who, as Nicodemus Sneezer, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; and Miss May Seton, who, in the part of Marie Pink, causes much amusement. Miss Madge Morley is a pathetic, yet charming, Beatrice Thorneycroft; while Mr. A. P. Kane deserves great praise in his rôle of her sailor lover. In the hands of Mr. J. E. Manning and Mr. Fred Waller are placed the parts of the Governor and Warder of Portland Prison; they give them an excellent rendering. A word of commendation is due to Mr. George Ellis, who is responsible for two or three of the smaller characters, and also to Messrs. Ashton Winslow, Albert Sumner, and Misses Bertha Baker, Nell Gilmore, and Julie Adams, who, in minor parts, give able assistance.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 7,
the Moral Play, by Nita Rae, entitled
"THE SINS OF A CITY."

Miss Winifred Maude and company, under the direction of Mr. Victor Du Cane, presented on Monday evening, at the Dalston Theatre, the play entitled *The Sins of a City*. The performance was repeated on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and at the Thursday matinée. Miss Winifred Maude, known first in the play as Seaweed and subsequently as Norah, proved to be one of the most interesting—if not actually the most interesting—personage in the piece. Her acting gained for the worthy woman she represented the sympathy and goodwill of the audience. Miss Marie Lyons played Lesbia with good effect; Miss Jessie Mason made a typical Scotch fisherwoman; and Miss Jenny Hackett cut a quaint figure as Midge, an eccentric maid-servant. She embellished her impersonation with a song and dance. Mr. Royce Carleton was quietly effective as Sandy McDonald; Mr. Edward Smith was Donald McIvor; and Mr. Norton Shields appeared first as Joe Woodleigh and subsequently as Jasper Woodleigh, his twin brother, representing the second-named character with the requisite force. Mr. Austin Milroy as Ralph Blackwater, and Mr. Victor Du Cane as Isaac Levi respectively embodied the concentrated villainy and comicality of the play, Mr. Du Cane being at times quaintly diverting as the Jew. The second piece played during the week has been the musical comedy drama, by Tom Craven, entitled *The Stowaway*.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, May 7,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by Wilson Barrett entitled
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."

Considerable interest has been aroused this week at the Standard by the performance by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' company of the above exciting and heart-touching drama. The majority of the hard work falls upon the shoulders of Mr. Beresford Whitcomb as the Rev. Frank Thornhill. This part suits him admirably, and his presentation of it is much appreciated. Mr. Joseph Rowlands, a droll Samuel Peckaby, raises many a hearty laugh by his humour. A better portrayal of Michael Severn could not be wished for than that supplied by Mr. J. Milne Taylor. The callous nature of the man is effectively pictured, and Mr. Taylor's whole performance is a conspicuous success. Mr. Graham Winsford ably depicts the rascally Greek adventurer, Peranza; and Mr. Harry Belford is well placed as Jim Dixon. Mr. T. Lionel Ellis has but a short part in that of Mr. John Grant, but does all that is possible with it. A careful character-study is contributed by Mr. Edward McLean as the Yorkshire manufacturer, Noah Learoyd; Mr. Eric Thompson is a satisfactory Rao; Mr. Hartland Rowe fittingly portrays Lieut. Valnois of the French Navy; Captain Jackson finds a capable exponent in Mr. Frank Martin; and Mr. Stephen France speaks his lines clearly and well as the Rev. W. Stanley. Miss Eva Moss scores a success as Lilian Grant; Miss Nellie Graham provides plenty of amusement as Mrs. Peckaby; Miss Teresa Haynes plays with energy and skill as Mrs. Dixon; Victoria Alexandra Peckaby is humorously portrayed by Miss Jessie Gillette; and a charming performance is provided by Miss Holly Haslewood as Lily.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, May 7,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE PRODIGAL SON."

The first visit of Mr. Arthur Collins's company in the famous Drury Lane production is proving very attractive. The piece is admirably acted by an exceptionally strong cast, and is meeting with a most flattering reception at each representation. Miss Alma Murray as Anna gives a powerful and highly artistic rendering of the part, and her ability is warmly recognised. Miss Lily Hall Caine plays the dual rôle of Thora and Elina (mother and daughter), being particularly good as Thora. Miss Cecil Cromwell is an excellent Helga; Miss Mima Renouf plays Margaret well; and Miss Emily Grove is very good indeed as Marta. Miss Fisher as Madame Pandher and Miss Kathleen Kellie as Gudrun are both well placed. Mr. Henry George as Stephen plays in his usual powerful and incisive style, and makes an excellent impression. The same remark applies to Mr. Henry Renouf, who is responsible for Magnus. Mr. Renouf has a high reputation among the frequenters of this theatre for the sterling work he has done. Mr. Norman Partriege presents a clever and attractive portrait of Oscar Stephenson; Mr. Frank Collins is very good indeed as Oscar Neilson; Mr. Howard Russell as Dr. Olsen is excellent; as is Mr. Fred Grove as the Pastor.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 7,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by R. C. Carton, entitled
"PUBLIC OPINION."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company, in *Public Opinion*, is this week paying a first visit to Stratford, and the highly amusing situations which arise out of Pansy Bligh's love affairs are being keenly enjoyed by local playgoers. Mr. George Giddens, in his original part of Horace Wibsey, brings much ability to bear upon a rôle which suits this clever comedian immeasurably. Mr. William Hargreave's ripe experience enables full justice to be done to the part of Mr. Mulley; and Mr. George Mallett makes the most of his opportunities as Sir Babbington Mulley. A capital performance comes from Mr. Ernest Ruston as the blustering, peppery Spencer Traughton; Mr. Harold West smartly enacts Viscount Poffley; and Lord Percy Kilgour is very appropriately played by Mr. Andrew Jones. Miss Emma Hutchison plays with fluency and distinction as Lady Diana Colonshaw; and Miss Lilian Hallows is always vivacious and pleasing as the coquettish Pansy Bligh. Miss Mary Mallalieu makes a charming and graceful Phyllis Dagenham; and Miss Alice Burnett does well as the servant, Charlotte. A comedietta, in one act, entitled *The Strategem*, serves admirably as a curtain-raiser, the characters in which are capitally undertaken by Miss Lilian Hallows as Angela Pinker; Mr. Harold West as Lord Bernard; Mr. Templar Powell as Mr. Rennell Paton; Mr. C. J. Barker as a butler; and Mr. C. B. Wentworth as a chauffeur.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 7,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Fred L. Connynghame and Frank Price, entitled
"A MOTHER'S LOVE."

With a tender title like *A Mother's Love*, it is only to be anticipated that a story of domestic interest is unfolded rather than the portrayal of sensational incidents, and this popular theme proved much to the liking of those present at the Stratford Theatre Royal on the night of our visit. The piece is well written and cleverly contrived, though one rather discordant note is the somewhat crude presentment of a complete grave in the churchyard scene, which could with advantage be modified by having the grave reversed, as the scene has also to do duty for a comic interlude. Mr. Arthur Rose plays with expression and conviction as the Rev. Paul Wingate; and Mr. Charles Draycott portrays the villainous Geoffrey Mannering in light, cynical style which is very galling to the occupants of the gallery. Mr. Fred L. Connynghame as the ubiquitous tramp, Mat Ruddock, has abundant scope for his drollery, and keeps the audience in the best of humours. Miss Violet Macaree contributes an entirely sympathetic and resourceful performance as the much-wronged Winnie Wingate; and Miss Laurie A. Pardy very charmingly enacts Ellaline Mervin. Mr. W. Barrett makes a smart and alert Joe Jackson; and the subsequent Mrs. Joe Jackson has a bright and amusing exponent in Miss Dorothy Monkhouse. A very intelligent performance as the child Marjorie comes from Miss Bertha Christobel, and minor parts are well played.

THE BRIXTON.

On Monday, May 7,
Shakespeare's Tragedy, in Five Acts, entitled
"OTHELLO."

Devotees of Shakespeare are attending in large numbers this week at the Brixton, where Mr. Edmund Tearle and his capable company are appearing in a round of Shakespeare's plays. On Monday evening *Othello* was presented, Mr. Tearle giving an admirable rendering of the title-rôle, speaking his lines with telling effect. The Iago of Mr. Wm. Gunning was a realistic interpretation and the audience frequently paid a well-deserved tribute to his clever performance of this difficult character. Mr. V. O. Crabtree gave an excellent rendering of Cassio; Mr. Spencer Geach was an ideal Roderigo; Mr. T. W. Benson must be congratulated on his spirited performance of Brabantio; the Duke of Venice was well represented by Mr. J. A. Keogh; and the Montano of Mr. John Victor merits great praise. A very charming portrait of Desdemona was presented by Miss Esther Tearle, who cannot be too highly commended for the delightful manner in which she presented one of the finest of Shakespeare's heroines. The Emilia of Miss Mary Campbell is another fine performance which won abundance of applause. Amongst the other artists who call for mention are Miss Mary Cleveland; Miss Clare Armitage as a messenger; Mr. Herbert Tawse as Lodovico; Mr. Saxon Thomas as Gratiano; and Mr. Richard Melton as Antonio. The scenery and dresses were elaborate, and the staging meritorious. On Tuesday *Macbeth* was produced, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday *The Three Musketeers* formed the bill, and for to-day's matinée *Julius Cæsar* is announced.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Friday, May 4,
Wagner's Opera, in One Act—Four Scenes,
"DAS RHEINGOLD."

Wotan	HERR BRAUN
Froh	HERR NIETAN
Loge	HERR JORN
Alberich	HERR ZADOR
Mime	HERR LIEBAN
Fasolt	HERR KNUPFER
Fafner	HERR RABOTH
Fricka	FRAU REINL
Freia	FRAU KNUPFER-EGLI
Erda	MME. KIRKBY LUNN
Woglinde	MME. AGNES NICHOLLS
Wellgunde	FRAULEIN BURCHARDT
Flosshilde	FRAULEIN GRIMM

The first performance of the first cycle of *Der Ring der Nibelungen* was given on Friday, May 4, in the presence of a large audience. In the mystical opening scene at the bottom of the Rhine the music of the Rhine Maidens was delightfully sung by Mme. Agnes Nicholls, Fräulein Burchardt, and Fräulein Grimm; while Mme. Kirkby Lunn's fine voice gave distinction to the part of Erda, Frau Knüpfer-Egli and Frau Reinl appearing to great advantage in the characters of Freia and Fricka. Herr Braun, who possesses a voice rich in quality and of ample power, undertook the part of Wotan in place of Herr Whitehill, and a newcomer, Herr Jörn, as Loge, gave a striking picture of the God of Fire, although his voice required greater flexibility to do full justice to the character. Herr Lieban again made a most effective Mime, and Herr Zador, aided by a powerful voice and fine presence, as well as an admirable make-up, made a dramatic and excellent Alberich. The ponderous music of the giants, Fasolt and Fafner, was well rendered by Herr Knupfer and Herr Raboth; while the splendid orchestra, under the watchful care of Dr. Hans Richter, did full justice to the imaginative music.

Saturday, May 5, Wagner's Opera
"DIE WALKURE,"
in Three Acts.

Siegmund	HERR KONRAD
Wotan	HERR WHITEHILL
Hunding	HERR KNUPFER
Brünnhilde	FRAU REINL
Sieglinde	FRAU KNUPFER-EGLI
Fricka	FRAULEIN GRIMM
Gerhilde	FRAULEIN BURCHARDT
Ortlinde	MISS GLEESON-WHITE
Waltraute	MME. RENARD
Helmwiege	MME. AGNES NICHOLLS
Siegrune	MISS EDNA THORNTON
Grimgerde	MISS EDITH CLEGG
Rossweise	MISS WINIFRED LUDLAM

There was a disappointment for the early comers at Covent Garden on Saturday afternoon last, when *Die Walküre*, the second performance of the first cycle of the Ring, was given. It appeared that Frau Wittich was indisposed, and a substitute had to be found, and Frau Reinl undertook the part of Brünhilde. Although the absence of Frau Wittich was severely felt, justice must be done to Frau Reinl, who sang the music well, and acted with great intelligence. Herr Konrad, from the Cologne Opera, was the Siegmund, and made a successful first appearance, although showing a tendency to force the voice at times; his rendering of the character was manly and dramatic. The fine portions in the second act, where Siegmund is informed by Brünnhilde of his impending fate, were given with great expression, but the beautiful dawn duet in the first act suffered by the artist unduly striving after power. The pathetic part of Sieglinde was admirably realised by Frau Knüpfer-Egli, and Herr Whitehill, though not in his best voice, gave great dignity to the part of Wotan, his finest effort being made in the last act. Herr Knüpfer also proved a capital Hunding. Fräulein Grimm as Fricka and Mme. Agnes Nicholls as Helmwiege were thoroughly satisfactory, and the choruses of the Valkyries were given in a most brilliant manner. The stage effects reached the high standard to which the syndicate at Covent Garden has accustomed its patrons, and this year a great improvement has been made in the scenery of the second act. Throughout the evening the orchestra, under Dr. Richter, were in their finest form, the perfect balance of tone in the stormy passages and the delicate portions of this fine score being worthy of great praise.

Monday, May 7, at 5,
Wagner's Opera, in Three Acts,
"SIEGFRIED."

Brünnhilde	FRAU WITTICH
Erda	FRAULEIN GRIMM
Waldvogel	MME. AGNES NICHOLLS
Mime	HERR LIEBAN
Der Wanderer	HERR WHITEHILL
Fafner	HERR RABOTH
Alberich	HERR ZADOR
Siegfried	HERR KONRAD

On Monday evening *Siegfried* was given at Covent Garden, in the presence of a very large audience. Although musically *Siegfried* is the least fascinating in its earlier portions than the other dramas of the Ring, yet this only serves to enhance the extreme beauty of the forest music and the brilliant and majestic last act. Dramatically *Siegfried* contains many striking features, such as the forging of the magic sword and the famous fight with the dragon. One feature of Monday's performance caused some surprise—the auditorium remained lighted after the curtain was raised. No doubt this was done at the wish of a certain number of subscribers, who object to the Bayreuth traditions; indeed, a special notice has been put in the programme that "Owing to numerous complaints members of the audience are requested not to use electric lamps during the performance." The auditorium was, however, darkened during the third act. The performance on Monday was of all-round excellence. Herr Konrad, as the young hero, acted in a manly and effective manner, even if his vocal abilities did not reach any great height, while as Brünhilde Frau Wittich was brilliantly successful in the beautiful love duet. Herr Whitehill, as before, appeared to great advantage as Wotan, while seldom has a more fierce and dramatic Aberich than that of Herr Zador been seen at Covent Garden. Herr Lieban again won golden opinions for his excellent performance of the malicious Mime, and Mme. Agnes Nicholls sang charmingly as the Bird, Fräulein Grimm being equally good in the part of Erda. The stage manager may also be heartily commended, for his dragon proved the best ever produced. With fiery jaws, flaming green eyes, and smoke or steam issuing from its nostrils, it was indeed a "fearful wild-fowl," and its fight with Siegfried proved a most realistic and effective affair. The fire-girt rock in the last act also deserves praise. The fine orchestra, under the care of Dr. Richter, did full justice to the beautiful music *Siegfried* contains.

Wednesday, May 9, at 4.30.
"DIE GOTTERDAMMERUNG."

Siegfried	HERR BURGES
Gunther	HERR WHITEHILL
Hagen	HERR RABOTH
Alberich	HERR ZADOR.
Brünnhilde	FRAU WITTICH
Gutrune	FRAULEIN BURCHARDT
Waltraute	MME. KIRKBY LUNN
Woglinde	MME. AGNES NICHOLLS
Wellgunde	FRAULEIN KNUPFER-EGLI
Flosshilde	FRAULEIN GRIMM
1st Norn	FRAULEIN GRIMM
2nd Norn	FRAU KNUPFER-EGLI
3rd Norn	MME. AGNES NICHOLLS

On Wednesday afternoon *Götterdämmerung*, the majestic closing drama of the Ring, was given at Covent Garden. *The Dusk of the Gods* has one drawback, that of extreme length, the prologue and first act lasting two hours; but the solemn grandeur of the final scenes in the Ring and the beauty of the music, containing such fine passages as the funeral music attending the death of Siegfried, and the grand closing scene where Brünnhilde casts herself on the hero's funeral pyre, as well as the delightful song of the Rhine Maidens, make *Götterdämmerung* indeed a colossal work. A fine performance was heard on Wednesday, the superb orchestra under Dr. Richter giving every detail of the difficult score with the utmost finish, and all the resources of the stage-management of Covent Garden employed to make the scenic effects as perfect as possible. It was unfortunate that Herr Konrad was unable to appear owing to indisposition, as his place had to be taken under somewhat short notice by Herr Burges, and considering that Herr Burges had sung the part of Tristan the night before, it would be obviously unfair to severely criticise his performance of Siegfried. Frau Wittich did ample justice to her great vocal powers in the character of Brünnhilde, and Mme. Kirkby Lunn succeeded admirably in the part of Waltraute. Herr Whitehill appeared as Gunther, and sang with great intelligence, although it was evident that the artist was not in his best voice. Herr Raboth made a dramatic Hagen, if not quite vocally equal to the task, and Fräulein Burchardt proved a fairly efficient Gutrune. Herr Zador again made a striking Alberich; and the minor characters were effectively undertaken by Mme. Agnes Nicholls, Fräulein Knüpfer-Egli, and Fräulein Grimm.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."

A New Farcical Musical Play, in Three Acts by Fred Locke, Produced, for the First Time on any Stage, at the Paisley Theatre, on Monday, May 7.

Silas Slim	MR. DICKIE CLARE
Peter Pettitoe	MR. JAMES CHIPPENDALE
Paul Pettitoe	MR. LEONARD MAITLAND
William Biffins	MR. WILLIE REID
Barnaby Blatherwick	MR. A. W. THOMPSON
The Judge	MR. GEO. MINTO
Tompkins	MR. JAMES QUINN
P.C. McGurke	MR. BERT COLLINS
Marie Pettitoe	MISS BELLE RUSSELL
Virginia Blatherwick	MISS MADGE LOCKE
Eliza Bird	MISS GERTIE DOUGLAS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

For the first time on any stage there was produced at the Paisley Theatre on Monday a new farcical musical play, in three acts, under the above quoted title. The author is Mr. Fred Locke, of pantomime fame, and although the situations are at times pantomimical, the fun is not too boisterous. It, nevertheless, proves of a mirth-provoking character, but the quality depends quite as much upon the interpretation given to the various parts as on the subject matter itself. There is no story to speak of. Peter Pettitoe, a lawyer, possesses a servant in the person of Eliza Bird, who is heiress to a considerable fortune when a certain condition made in her uncle's will has been fulfilled. That condition is that she marries either before his death or within six months thereafter, and it is on the close of this six months that Pettitoe sees in his son Paul a way of securing the fortune. Unfortunately, the latter has formed an attachment for a brother lawyer's daughter, and, refusing to break it, Silas Slim walks in and scoops the pool as it were. At this point, however, it is discovered that Paul also has been left money, and so the scheming parents are left to be their own consolers. The scene opens in two villas up the Thames, and is entitled "A Nice Peaceful Afternoon." That it is eminently so is apparent when Blatherwick (the lawyer's) gardener, proceeds to skimp work by disposing of clods over into the neighbouring garden. Mr. Pettitoe happens to be the sole recipient, and the gardener having decamped, Blatherwick himself has to bear the brunt of the ensuing trouble. Matters are complicated by the substitution of other characters, and the fun waxes fast and furious till the curtain falls. In Act II. a breach of promise on the usual burlesque court lines is the attraction. Biffens, the gardener, has played havoc with 'Liza's heart, not knowing that there was a fortune with it, of course, and as defendant he succeeds in covering himself with glory as the mirth-provoker. The witness, Paul Pettitoe (the lawyer's son), who is one of the favourite dude characters, is also one of the amusing characters of this scene; whilst the judge himself is so irrelevant as to be extremely funny in his attempts to even up admiration for the pretty plaintiff with his notions of law. Act III. represents the Hotel Pomme de Terre, Dover, whither Slim and Eliza, and Paul and Virginia Blatherwick (the lawyer's daughter), have eloped. The irate parents arrive on the scene, but with a little manipulation and interchange of characters they are baffled, and the two couples are happily united in wedlock; Biffins, the gardener (now waiter), being meanwhile "biffed" into the bargain, after all his levying of tips for information.

Miss Gertie Douglas takes the title-rôle in a vivacious and thoroughly interesting manner. Her general air of knowingness is well suited to the part, and in her solos she had to respond with encores. Miss Madge Lock as Virginia Blatherwick, likewise took her part in a manner that showed careful study, and though of a different nature from the upholder of the title-rôle, her songs were infectious from a gallery point of view. Mrs. Pettitoe, the lawyer's wife, was played by Miss Belle Russell in approved old lady fashion, the tyrannising over old Pettitoe being hugely enjoyed. Mr. Dickie Clare was very successful in his rendering of Silas Slim. The part called for a good deal of innate humour, but it was capitally rendered. As Peter Pettitoe, a lawyer, Mr. Jas. Chippendale acted cleverly, and displayed considerable humour. Mr. Leonard Maitland impersonated the flaccid and idiotic Paul Pettitoe, the son, with considerable brilliancy. His perception of a dude's part was very clever, and called forth symptoms of the keenest appreciation. Mr. Willie Reid had the low comedy part of Biffins, into which he managed to put a good deal of humorous knockabout work. In the second and third acts he proved extremely funny, and was given a most appreciative reception. Mr. A. W. Thompson as Barnaby Blatherwick was on a par with Peter Pettitoe. He impersonated the crusty old gentleman with great ability, and in the various situations sustained the fun admirably. Other minor parts were well rendered, and the Astor trio of vocalists and dancers completed a cast which brought the merits of *Lucky 'Liza* before the public in a most effective way.

"LE ROI AVEUGLE" is the title of a two-act musical play brought out at the Opéra Comique, Paris. M. Hugues Le Reux, the librettist, was inspired by a Scandinavian legend, and shows us an old blind king seated on the rocks by the side of Hilda, his daughter. She sings to him, and whilst he is listening to her chant a Viking, charmed by her beautiful voice, scales the rocks and carries the girl off. Whilst the king is lamenting the loss of his child, the Viking reappears, holding Hilda in his arms, offering her to go back to her father or to stay with him. Hilda does not hear her father's voice nor his supplications. Her arms are round the neck of the handsome youth, and the two disappear for ever. To this story M. Février has written some appropriate music. Some of the numbers, especially "The voices of the sea," were much applauded, and the orchestration is in every way excellent.

THEATRICALS IN AUSTRALIA.

CHAT WITH MR. ALFRED DAMPIER.
(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

When a man has travelled in one country for thirty years, whatever he has to say about that country should surely be looked upon in the light of *ex cathedrâ* statements. Mr. Alfred Dampier, the well-known Australian actor and manager, tells us that he is acquainted with practically every plot of the ground between Port Elizabeth and the Gulf of Carpentaria. There is hardly a theatre in the wide region indicated that he has not played in.

And now Mr. Dampier is on one of his few-and-far-between visits to this country, bringing with him his wife and son and daughter. It is nine years since he was last here.

"Do you see much change, Mr. Dampier?"

"Scarcely any in the theatres, though of course some new ones have been built within a comparatively recent period. But take the actors—I still see the old faces. There is Henry Neville, looking as sound as ever; James Fernandez, with whom I had an engagement just before I left for Australia; and my old friend Edward Terry. No; it seems to me that in England the older the actor gets the more popular he becomes with the public. Even the managers appear to prefer the established favourites, so that the actors who have the good fortune to get into London can stay here."

"But in Australia the people like our prominent players?"

"Artists who have made a name in England may be sure of a welcome there. It is a curious thing that although Australia is such a young country and has such a small population, yet everyone goes to the theatre."

"I suppose you don't intend to settle down in England?"

"Well, I promised to go back to Australia, and would like to keep my word. Still, if anything turned up whereby I got an opening in England for one of my Australian plays I should be only too pleased to stop awhile. Although I have taken the trip over here by my doctor's orders, all the same, I do not want to rush away again without having done anything."

"You have not yet entirely given up acting, Mr. Dampier?"

"I was acting up to just before Christmas, and then had to relinquish it in consequence of ill-health. I travel with my own company throughout Australia, taking the theatres as I want them. If you ask me to mention one theatre in particular, I should say that I have been mostly associated with the Criterion, Sydney. My répertoire consists of drama and Shakespearean pieces, among them being *Robbery Under Arms*, *The Bush King*, *The Power of Wealth* (a dramatisation of Marie Corelli's 'Vendetta'), *Monte Cristo*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Hamlet*, and *Othello*. My son, Alfred Dampier, jun., is a comedian, and both he and my daughter and wife take part in my plays.

"The Australian theatres? They are quite equal to anything we have here—magnificent places, even in New Zealand. The leading manager in the colony, as far as drama and musical comedy go, is Mr. J. C. Williamson, who holds the best theatres. Mr. Harry Rickards is the principal vaudeville manager. He and I are great friends, and I understand you will see him over here again in April. Up to the time of my sailing affairs theatrical were very bright. But I can assure you that anything which is well done in Australia is bound to prove remunerative. Managers there only run the successful London pieces, and they don't buy failures.

"'Australia,' says Mr. Dampier, 'is the land of romance.' He realises that in the bush and backblocks of Australia one might meet men of a type of character seldom seen elsewhere—shearers, station hands, boundary riders, shepherds, and the rest. Taking one remarkable instance, he mentions a mysterious recluse who had buried himself in the solitude of a station away in the back districts of New South Wales, on the banks of the Murray, and resolutely shut up his life's history in a sealed book. When the actor and his friend, the owner of the station, drove out to visit him one day, he was not at home, "but within the humble hut," says Mr. Dampier, "I noticed a complete set of Bohn's Classical Library, while on the table, lying open, face downward, was a well-thumbed edition of Homer." Nobody knew who this stranger was, hidden away in the solitudes, surrounded by his books, and making a livelihood by catching "love birds" and parrots, and sending them to the Sydney market for sale. The names in the books had been carefully erased, but there was enough to show that at one time he had occupied a higher and far different position in the world. Some years afterwards he was found lying dead in the bush, with his head on the stump of a tree, and his beloved Homer lying open on his breast. The man's history was never revealed, and no one knew even his name.

"And this is only one of many such instances. A little volume of Shakespeare, containing 'Macbeth' and 'Romeo and Juliet,' was once given me which had been found in the midst of a heap of bones away in the Northern Territory, in a desert. The poor fellow had probably died of thirst, and the only thing left to tell his story was this little book. What he was doing in that trackless waste nobody knew, but into that desert region he had taken his Shakespeare. All the interest of Australian life is not confined to bushranging stories merely. A friend once asked me 'What is there in the Australian bush to write about, where everything is so new?' My reply was simply that he should just go and see it, and come within the influence of its fascination. It is quite true that in the Old World you have an immense mass of material for the dramatist—you have the Napoleonic period, for instance, which has exercised so much influence upon dramatists and novelists—but I believe that Australia has its romances also."

Just before Mr. Dampier left Australia he was made the object of a popular demonstration on the part of playgoers and actors, a testimonial matinée being organised in his honour at Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney. A huge crowd attended this "send-off" performance, and a big list of attractions was presented. Upwards of three hundred ladies and gentlemen associated with the Sydney theatres offered their services, among them being Mr. Harry Rickards' Tivoli Theatre company, Mr. W. Anderson's pantomime company, Mr. C. Holloway's dramatic company, and Mr. J. C. Williamson's Royal Opera company. Mr. Williamson, in a speech on the stage, stated that the idea of the matinée arose from the spontaneous desire of the leading Sydney managers to recognise in cordial fashion the departure from their midst of a highly esteemed colleague. The co-operation on the part of artists, musicians, and theatrical staffs had been unanimously hearty.

I HEAR from Vienna that a new drama, by Adolf Schwager, was produced at the Bürger Theatre in that city with the best results. It is another play written round a senior grammar-school boy, and dealing with the woes of early youth, of which type of piece we have been overdosed of late. The construction of *Die Sittennote*—the name of the drama—is reported to be particularly skilful, and the development of the plot interesting. At the Carl Theatre, Vienna, Hugo Kobler's new operetta, *Der Rosenjüngling*, met with a very cordial reception, the music being bright and melodious.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE LUSTIGE WITTWE."
Operetta, in Three Acts, by Franz Lehár,
Produced at the Berliner, May 1.

Baron Mirko	HERR DEUTSCH
Valencienne	FRAULEIN CONTI
Graf Danilovitch	HERR MATZNER
Hanna	FRAULEIN OTTMANN
Camille	HERR KUTZNER
Cascada	HERR CARLO
St. Brioche	HERR PIETSCH
Bogdanovitch	HERR BURMESTER
Sylvana	FRAULEIN BRAUN
Kromow	HERR FUCHS-LISKA
Olga	FRAULEIN GERSTE
Poutschisch	HERR SCHUTZ
Praskowia	FRAULEIN M. SCHUTZ
Njegus	HERR WALTERS
Lolo	FRAULEIN HOFFMANN
Dodo	FRAULEIN RENER
Frou-Frou	FRAULEIN WURR
Ein Herr	HERR BEER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, May 10.—This is one of the best things in operettas we have heard for some time. It has been given for months past, both in Hamburg and Vienna, and it was reserved for the Hamburg Carl Schultze Theatre Company—under the management of Herr Monti—to introduce it to Berlin. Lehár's music is always pleasing and never trivial. There is a good deal of originality in *The Lively Widow*, as well as delightful melody, and there is not a dull moment from start to finish. The plot is hardly sufficient for three acts, but what there is of it is above the average. Hanna Glawari is the gay young widow of the title. She comes from the mystic land of Pontenegrin, and is at present in Paris to recruit herself with the twenty million francs her union with the aged Glawari has brought her. Hanna's experiences and adventures in the French capital are many. Baron Mirko Yeta, the Pontenegrin Ambassador, has orders to see that the native millions do not permanently leave—so to say—the land of their birth, and his diplomatic powers are tried to the utmost. Fortunately, however, Hanna comes across her former lover, Count Danilo Danilovitch—one of the secretaries at the Pontenegrin Embassy at Paris—and their whilom relations are gradually renewed. Danilo had not been able to marry Hanna when she was a penniless girl, and she fears that it is only her millions that attract him now; but after various tests of affection—through which Danilo comes out victorious—she accepts him, to their mutual happiness, and the chagrin of all the remaining suitors. Woven in between are plenty of amusing little episodes, and the fun never ceases. The interpretation was first rate, Fräulein Ottmann giving a delightful account of the name-part, while Herren Gustav, Matzner, and Kutzner proved themselves tenors of unusually good quality, and Herr Deutsch—an old favourite here—evinced his customary broad humour in the rôle of Baron Mirko. The mounting was exceedingly tasteful; all in all the evening may be written down a huge success. Herr Lehár conducted, and, together with artists and manager, received unbounded applause, a number of floral arrangements and laurel leaves being handed up.

ANOTHER operetta—the term burlesque is rightly added—has been produced at the Central. It is entitled, without any reason whatever, *Das Narrenhaus* (the madhouse), and is in three acts. The author and arranger is Herr F. Hopp, who has conceived the astonishing idea of wedding an utterly impossible book with music, after motives by Johann Strauss, sen. Were it not for the charming melodies of the "Waltz King," the work would have fallen terribly flat, for there is neither point nor fun in the libretto. An old curmudgeon of a guardian shuts up his young ward—whom he wants to marry—in his tumble-down house, from which she, of course, escapes. Fräulein Mia Werber—our original Geisha—scored her usual success in the chief rôle, and the remaining characters were mostly adequately sung, acted, and danced respectively.

AT the Deutsches one of Goethe's earliest plays has been revived with good results—*Die Mitschuldigen*, a one-act comedy, written with all the precocity of youthful genius, which Goethe, at a riper age, did not disclaim. It was capitally acted by Fräulein Höflich and Herr Engels, and Von Winterstein in the chief parts, and warmly applauded. The shorter play was followed by Molière's *Tartuffe*, which made a less favourable impression. Herr Frank Wedekind gave the name-part with as scant success as he acted in his own enigmatical play, *Hidalla*, at the Neues some months ago. *Tartuffe* itself has not escaped the ravages of time, and the character acted by Herr Wedekind was thoroughly uninteresting and unsatisfactory. Fräulein Wangel, too, played her rôle less naturally than usual; the best rendering of the entire cast was that of Dorine by Fräulein Heims. The piece met with a cordial reception, but the audience did not applaud it so heartily as they did Goethe's work.

SIGNOR SILVANO ISALBERTI, of the Scala Theatre, Milan, has been giving a very short season at the Theatre des Westens. He commenced his four performances with Giordano's opera *Fedora*, giving the part of Count Loris Ipanoff with quite exceptional fire and temperament. The young artist's voice is a powerful and well-trained tenor, the upper tones being particularly pleasing. Some of the German musical critics place Isalberti in the same rank with Tamagno and Caruso. He met with enthusiastic applause, which was only a just tribute to his admirable impersonation. The remainder of the cast sustained their respective rôles in a praiseworthy manner, the rôle of Princess Feodora Romazoff being especially well rendered by Miss Noxy King. This talented singer hails from South America, but she has studied here, and sings the language like a native. Miss King is the fortunate possessor not only of a beautiful voice, but a handsome face, and what is known as a good stage presence. Her career bids fair to be one of much success.

THE Royal Schauspielhaus is indulging freely in "guests." The latest is Fräulein Ria Ressel, a young actress of a good deal of promise, who has appeared in the rôles of Juliet and Gretchen to the satisfaction of public and critics. In the latter part she made the greater hit, and if appearances do not deceive, Fräulein Ressel will join the Royal Schauspielhaus company before very long.

A YOUNG English lady, Miss Helena Hartley, made a very successful début here recently, playing the part of Ophelia at the Berliner Theatre to Ferdinand Bonn's Hamlet. It was a matinée performance, and the large house was crowded, the audience proving very appreciative. Miss Hartley, who has studied with Fräulein Lindner—one of the leading actresses of the Royal Schauspielhaus—gave the rôle with much sympathetic expression and distinct histrionic talent. Her voice is thoroughly English in its well-rounded musical tones, and her appearance exceedingly pleasing. When one remembers the difficulties of what Mark Twain calls the "awful German language," the fact of a young English woman acting Ophelia in that tongue, faultlessly and intelligently, is alone worthy of comment.

HERR GEORG ENGEL'S latest play is a three-act comedy entitled *Die Hochzeit von Poël*. It has been accepted by Herr Schmieden, the new manager of the Neues, and will be simultaneously produced at the Deutsches Schauspielhaus in Hamburg.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your notice of the Gaiety, Dundee, in last week's issue, you said the part of Dick Spencer was played by Lois Patey. It should have been—Yours faithfully, PATTIE FAIRLEY, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

THE AUSTRIAN EXHIBITION.

Earl's Court has been once more called into life and gaiety by the opening of the newest exhibition, in which all the principal features of Viennese and Tyrolese life are depicted. The exhibition was opened in state on Saturday by the Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by the Lady Mayoress. Arriving shortly before noon, the Lord Mayor was greeted by the Committee of Reception in the vestibule of the Warwick-road entrance; and, after proceeding to the Imperial Court, where the formal ceremony of inauguration took place, the civic party, with several distinguished visitors from abroad, made a partial tour of the grounds. The weather was all that could be desired, and large crowds availed themselves of the opportunity of making acquaintance with the Austrian Tyrol, the picturesque beauties of which have often been enlarged upon. Mountain, valley, and waterfall have all been realistically reproduced, and the jodelling and dancing of the mountaineers are everywhere to be heard and seen. The scenery is remarkably beautiful and well executed, the panoramas being the work of the Brothers Kautcky and the Brothers Rottenara. A salt mine and a brine lake are also available for exploration.

A panoramic description of the battle of Isel Mountain—the famous fight by Tyrolese Volunteers in defence of their country against French and Bavarian invaders in August, 1809—is graphically presented in the Western Gardens. Another formidable attraction is provided in the Cavern of the Sirens, where visitors are to be spellbound by a vision of beauty. The great lake on which peasant maidens propel home-made boats is sure to become popular, and by the Great Wheel, which stands in its customary position, visitors may still rise to dizzy heights. A bust of the Austrian Emperor stands in the Ducal Hall, and both here and in the Prince's Hall there is an extensive and imposing display of Austrian art, products, and manufacture which is sure to command interest and admiration. The food section includes a Vienna model bakery and a shop where sausages are made.

A Burlesque Operetta, entitled
"VIENNA BY NIGHT,"
Was produced at the Summer Theatre, on Wednesday afternoon.

Minna Violetti	FRAULEIN HERMINE FERRY
Micherl	HERR ADOLF KRAUS
Comtesse Mizzi	FRAULEIN POLY KOSS
Jean	HERR CARL TUSCHL
Graf Niki Nikelburg	HERR HUBERT NEUMANN
Baron Rudi Zeiselburg	HERR WILLY HELFER
Lux	HERR LUDWIG GOTTSLEBEN
Draesike	HERR EUGEN GUENTHER
Daxelmeier	HERR OTTO WOLF
Tini	FRAULEIN EMMY SCHOPPER

The production of this operetta by Herr Gabor Steiner's company should entice a goodly crowd of visitors to the Summer Theatre at Earl's Court. The music, arranged by Herr Joseph Hellmasberger, formerly orchestra leader of the Vienna Imperial Opera House, is of the most tuneful and lively order; we get catchy typical Viennese songs and most sprightly and enchanting dances.

The scene shows us an elegant Vienna night-resort, in which guests of all classes, and especially Viennese laundry girls, are passing the time in singing and dancing. When the guests have departed the proprietress, Minna Violetti, and her manager sing a charming love-duet, after which Lux, a private detective, comes in search of a runaway couple. In a short prose scene he asks the proprietress to point out some place in the establishment from which he can see all that goes on. Later, Countess Mizzi and her footman Jean appear, and in a spoken scene we learn that Mizzi has decided to go on the spree and have a good time with a stranger prior to her engagement. So it is to this night resort that her footman has secretly brought her. The young Count Niki, who has been for some time following the Countess without becoming aware of her identity, also turns up. The Count has no idea that he is in the presence of the bride who has been selected for him, and falls in love with the Countess. After Mizzi has sung a song characteristic of the peculiarities of Vienna ladies, fresh guests enter, among them being a gay spark, Draesike, who is also desirous of passing a lively evening. Of course, after a great deal of merry-making, all ends as it should do. The Countess throws off the mask before the Count, and gives him her hand in lasting troth, the curtain falling to the strains of Johann Strauss's waltz, "The Blue Danube."

Fräulein Ferry leaves a very pleasing impression with her performance of Minna, and her duet, "Seit ich dich geseh'n," with Herr Kraus, who takes the part of the manager, is a particularly delightful vocal effort. Then we have a very tuneful whistling performance by Herr Georg Tramer, who succeeds in putting character into his work, which, by the way, forms the accompaniment to a very attractive dance executed in smart fashion by fourteen young ladies attired in old-fashioned Vienna costume. Fräulein Koss is extremely vivacious and light-hearted as the Countess, and Herr Tuschl makes one laugh with his whimsicalities as the footman Jean. The duet, "Mizzi und der Jean," sung by these two artists, furnishes an agreeable vocal item, and is amusing withal. Another happy feature of the operetta is the rendering of "Nimm mich mit" by three good male voices. The dresses worn by the ladies are both beautiful and picturesque, and the scene from time to time affords an exceedingly pretty spectacle. For an hour's bright entertainment we can heartily commend *Vienna by Night*.

"HOUNSLOW HEATH."

Drama, in One Act, by H. F. Maltby, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, on Monday, May 7.

Cadbury	MR. H. F. MALTBY
Lindley	MR. ERNEST NOBLE
Pagley	MR. REGINALD FAVELL
A Traveller	MR. A. E. WYN WEAVER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The above dramatic curtain-raiser went exceedingly well on its production at Plymouth on Monday. The rising of the curtain reveals the interior of a wayside inn on Hounslow Heath in the eighteenth century, and the conversation of the occupants—Lindley, the host, and Pagley, a hanger-on—turns upon the questionable exploits of the notorious highwayman, Cadbury. Soon after, amid a storm of wind and rain and the creaking of the gibbet chains outside, Cadbury arrives, and tells the tale of his early life. He nurses a bitter hatred against his whole family, with the exception of his twin brother, for whom he has the warmest affection on account of bygone kindnesses. During the conversation, when the storm is at its height, a well-dressed stranger seeks shelter at the hostelry. Cadbury, whose cupidity is excited, picks a quarrel with him, and a fight ensues. The stranger is killed, and, by a birthmark on his arm, Cadbury recognises his twin brother. The finish was well worked up by the performers, who deserve every credit. Mr. H. F. Maltby acted the highwayman with conspicuous feeling and sincerity; the brother was played with delicacy and finish by Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver; and Messrs. Ernest Noble and Reginald Favell played the other parts admirably.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

THE flower of the theatrical profession will unite in the testimonial performance to Miss Ellen Terry, which is definitely arranged to take place at Drury Lane on Tuesday, June 12. All the members of the family bearing the honoured name will appear in the second act of *Much Ado About Nothing*, Miss Terry, of course, playing Beatrice. Mr. Beerbohm Tree will appear as Benedick, Mr. George Alexander as Claudio, Mr. Hermann Vezin as Leonato, and Mr. H. B. Irving as Don John, while many of the most prominent jeune premiers of the London stage will take part in the dances.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM, supported by a "star" cast, will appear in scenes from *The School for Scandal*, and another interesting item will be *Trial by Jury*, which will be given by permission of Mr. W. S. Gilbert and Mrs. Carte. Mr. Gilbert has also undertaken to stage-manage the performance and to appear in the part of the Associate. Mme. Melba has kindly consented to sing during the afternoon. The prices of seats are as follows: Private boxes, 10 to 100 guineas; stalls, 5 guineas; grand circle, 2 to 3 guineas; first circle, 1 to 2 guineas; balcony, 7s. 6d. to 1 guinea; pit and amphitheatre (unreserved), 5s. and 2s. 6d. The box-office will be opened on the 21st inst., and in the meantime applications for seats by letter will be dealt with in priority of application.

EXAGGERATED statements have appeared in certain papers with respect to the last days of Miss Olga Brandon, whose death took place at Camden Town last Tuesday. Miss Brandon had somehow fallen "out of the running" in her profession, and had been for long out of engagement; but in her last years she was helped and comforted by many loving and faithful friends, and her suffering was not from want, but from the pangs of disease, which she bore with heroic fortitude.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE has finally settled upon Monday, May 21, for the production of *Shore Acres* in conjuction with the Messrs. Shubert. Mr. Maude will be supported by Messrs. Edmund Maurice, Frank Mills, Cooper Cliffe, W. Cheeseman, Wm. Calvert, F. Percival Stevens, Owen, Edmund Lea, Masters Walter Cross and Reggie Andrews, and Misses Mary Rorke, Augusta Haviland, Edith Barwell, Kate Harwood, Betty Green, Maisie Richardson, Dolly Stamp, Francis Welstead, and Alice Crawford.

The scene of the popular American play is now laid in Cornwall. The commissariat department is an important one, realism being secured at the Waldorf by the inclusion in the "properties" of a hot roasted turkey, with equally genuine cranberry sauce and vegetables, which will be served to the company in one scene. An electrical cooking apparatus has been specially installed for the purpose.

THE secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund gratefully acknowledges the receipt of £2 10s. from the Misses Davies Webster and Rose Cazalet, that sum having been devoted to the Fund from a collection made at a private dramatic and musical entertainment promoted by the above-mentioned ladies in their desire to assist the theatrical charities.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER has given his reasons for advocating the abolition of the shilling gallery at morning performances. "I think matinée audiences," says Mr. Alexander, "are drawn from people who go to the pit and gallery and could afford to pay a great deal more. I would not on any account raise the price of the gallery at the evening performance. It is then that the workers come. They cannot afford to pay more than a shilling for their enjoyment." Mr. Alexander favours the opinion that the pit should be abolished in favour of the American plan of arranging the floor seats in theatres. "The whole floor should be given up to the more expensive seats," he said. "In American theatres the floor seats are often at a uniform price, and whenever back rows are sold at less than the front rows the difference in price is not very great. Some such plan as that, I think, should be adopted here."

MR. LENNOX PAWLE who, by the exigencies of his part in *The Little Cherub* and *A Girl on the Stage* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, has had to appear in wet clothes, as the result of a plunge into the water, carried out the incident realistically on Tuesday. He was out at Hendon, and a fence at the water's edge against which he was leaning gave way, and the popular comedian fell in. Mr. Pawle was not fished out with a boat-hook, as report says, but did his own swimming and floating; and after pulling himself out he lost no time in getting dried. Curiously enough, only a few hours before he started for Hendon it was arranged at the theatre that the wet clothes' incident should be omitted.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE will produce Mr. Michael Morton's new play, *Colonel Newcome*, at His Majesty's, on Tuesday, the 29th inst. The principal characters will be played by Mr. Tree, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. Hubert Harben, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and Mrs. Tree. The run of *Nero* will terminate on the 26th, and during the intervening days the theatre will remain closed.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER will occupy the chair at the sixty-first annual dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, which will take place at the Hôtel Métropole on the 24th inst. The Church will on this occasion become associated more closely than usual with the stage, the toast of "The Drama" being entrusted to the Bishop of Ripon. Sir Squire Bancroft will respond, and other speakers will include the Marquis of Granby, Mr. J. Comyns Carr, and Mr. Edward Terry. This old-established fund, one of the most beneficent of all public institutions, deserves the hearty support of the theatrical profession at large, and it is to be hoped that this year's function may establish a record.

MR. JAMES WELCH has happily recovered from his recent indisposition, and will go on tour on Monday, starting at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle. A new play by C. H. E. Brookfield, entitled *Dear Old Charley*, will be produced, preceded by *The Lady Burglar*. Mr. Welch's tour, which will embrace Sheffield and other towns in the Midlands, will last about seven weeks.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S annual London season, which commences at the Imperial Theatre on Saturday with the production of *Boy O'Carroll*, is strictly limited to four weeks. Subsequently the favourite actor will take a well-earned holiday, prior to the commencement of his lengthy autumn tour of the provinces, a feature of which will be an elaborate revival of *The Corsican Brothers*.

MR. W. D. FORSDIKE, the managing-director of the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, asked the Plays Committee at the Annual Licensing Meeting recently if they would remove the restriction prohibiting smoking in theatres. The committee considered the matter, but stated that they could not see their way to grant the concession asked. Mr. Forsdike, however, made another appeal, and at a meeting of the City Council on Wednesday the chairman of the Stage Plays Committee stated that the committee had unanimously agreed at a meeting that day to reconsider the question.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. H. J. W. Dam, who will be well remembered as the author of *The Shop Girl*, the forerunner of many musical comedies produced by Mr. George Edwardes at the Gaiety. Mr. Dam, who also wrote several other pieces for the American stage, was a Californian by birth, and died at Havana from cancer. He married, in 1892, Miss Dorothy Dorr, an American actress, who, with two sons, survives him.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Thursday, before Mr. E. L. Hough, Official Receiver, the first meeting of creditors was held under a receiving order made in the case of G. H. W. Burroughs, theatrical lessee, carrying on business at the New King's Theatre and the White Horse Tavern, Pitfield-street, Hoxton. The debtor attributed his insolvency to falling off in the theatre takings owing to competition, also to losses in other theatrical enterprises, and in a wood-pulp venture. He stated that the New King's Theatre held 1,500 persons, the following being the prices:—Gallery 2d., pit 3d., balcony 4d., and circle 6d. A statement of affairs was not lodged, but the liabilities were estimated at from £1,300 to £1,500, and the chairman said he feared that it was a hopeless case for creditors. The debtor consented to an adjudication, and the matter remained in the Official Receiver's hands.

MR. EDWARD TERRY has accepted from Mr. Julian Rochefort a new farcical comedy, entitled *The Good Old Firm*, the production of which he has in view during his autumn tour. Mr. Terry will be seen in the character of a highly respectable country solicitor, who is thrust by fate into the midst of a race meeting, where the misadventures which befall him are of the most mirthful description.

MR. CHARLES FRY will give the second of his series of Shakespearean matinées at the Court Theatre this afternoon, when *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be presented. The programme for next Saturday will consist of *King Richard the Third*.

Two important premiers are underlined for this evening, which will witness the production at the Savoy by Miss Lena Ashwell of *The Shulamite*, the cast of which was given in this column last week. The play, it may be added, will be produced by Mr. Edward Sass. The other novelty, particulars of which have already been given here, is that of *Raffles*, the successful American play, which will make its first appearance in England at the Comedy to-night.

THE Princess Louise has been primarily instrumental in organising four amateur dramatic performances in aid of the Regimental Homes and Benefits Agency, of which Her Royal Highness is president. The first two take place at Aldershot on Tuesday, and the next will be at Daly's Theatre (by kind permission of Mr. George Edwardes), on Thursday, followed by a matinée at Windsor on Friday. The programme on each occasion will consist of Mr. Alfred Sutro's duologue, *A Marriage Has Been Arranged*, and Justin H. McCarthy's comedy, *My Friend the Prince*. At the matinée at Daly's Theatre Miss Adrienne Augarde, Miss Zena Dare, Miss Edna May, Miss Olive May, Miss Olive Morelle, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Denise Orme, and Miss Ruth Vincent have kindly promised their services in the selling of programmes.

THE King was present at the Royal Opera on Tuesday evening, and listened to part of the performance of *Tristan und Isolde*. This was His Majesty's first visit to Covent Garden this season.

MR. H. B. BRANDRETH has been appointed by Mr. Robert Arthur acting-manager of his Kennington Theatre. Mr. Brandreth has had a varied experience, his record including sixteen years with Mr. William Greet, stage-manager to Sarah Bernhardt, general-manager at the Bouffes Parisians, and considerable service under Mr. Tom B. Davis.

MISS RUTH VINCENT, who made her appearance at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Saturday in *A Girl on the Stage*, the new version of *The Little Cherub*, was so overpowered by the excitement consequent upon the new production that she fainted on the stage. The popular young actress was just about to begin in the last act her song "Laughter and Love," for which the stage had been cleared, when she was seen suddenly to sway to and fro and fall to the ground. Willing assistance was promptly forthcoming, and the lady was carried to the wings. Miss Vincent, who had scored quite a triumph in her new part, speedily recovered, and was able to reappear before the end of the play, when she received a sympathetic ovation. "Laughter and Love" has since been sung by Miss Vincent with her customary charm.

SHAKESPEARE in the school was the subject of the conference held under the auspices of the London Shakespeare League, at University College, on Saturday afternoon. Dr. Kimmins, chief inspector of the Education Department of the London County Council, who presided, said he thought it was of extreme importance that they should take carefully into consideration the marvellous natural romantic instinct of young children, and see how best they could take advantage of it. It was a melancholy fact that in many cases the first introduction which a boy or girl had to Shakespeare in the school was that of reading up a play, together with copious notes, for examination purposes. An amusing and instructive address was given by Professor Israel Gollancz, who said the question which they had to consider was how Shakespeare could best be made a real living and happy possession of all the boys and girls who attended school. He read a letter from a teacher in a secondary school who said that he knew of a master who always set his imposition in Shakespeare, and the boys spent their wet evenings in writing out *Macbeth*, and sold the manuscript to their comrades at 1d. per hundred lines. There could be no doubt about it that too often the text of Shakespeare's books became a mere pretext for wasted learning. Every school ought to have its yearly Shakespeare festival.

DR. W. H. CUMMINGS, principal of the Guildhall School of Music, presided on Saturday at the third annual conference of the Girls' School Musical Union, the object of which is "the advancement of music in secondary schools for girls throughout the British Empire and the discussion of matters connected therewith." The meeting, which was a representative one, was held at the Guildhall School. Mr. W. H. Hadow, who was unable to be present, was re-elected president for the ensuing year. Dr. Cummings, dealing with the question of "The Training of Taste," which was to have formed the subject of Mr. Hadow's presidential address, observed that taste was a matter of education and environment, and must be entirely influenced by what people were accustomed to. In cultivating taste it was necessary to take the best and acknowledged models of the past and study them. The modern product should be measured by these standards. Mr. Plunket Greene delivered an address on "The Choice of Songs," in the course of which he said that there were a number of institutions producing splendid musicians who had to starve or give the British public the shoddy it required. The British public did not want good music.

MME. KIRKBY LUNN, the English artist, made a great success in *Tristan und Isolde* on the first night of the opera season at Covent Garden. Mme. Lunn is a pupil of that celebrated teacher Mr. Albert Visetti who is Professor of Singing at the Royal College of Music.

AN Elizabethan Fair and Fête is to be held under Royal patronage in Lincoln's Inn great hall and grounds from the 23rd to the 25th inst., in aid of King's College Hospital. A feature of the fair will be a reproduction of Cheapside as it appeared in the days of Elizabeth, and the stall-holders and assistants will be dressed in the costume of the period. There will also be processions in costume, with old English and Maypole dances. The tobacco stall at the fête will be in the charge of Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Mrs. Cyril Maude, Lady Burnand, Miss Ellaline Terriss, Miss Adrienne Augarde, and Miss Lena Ashwell. "Ye Boke of ye Fayre" stall will be brightened by the presence of Miss Viola Tree. Mrs. Geo. Alexander, Mrs. and Miss John Hare, Miss Lyell, Mrs. F. H. Mellor, Mrs. Nigel Playfair, Miss Playfair, Miss Audrey Playfair, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh will share in the supervision of the Antique and Modern Art Stall.

MR. W. S. GILBERT will act in his own play of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*, the cast of which will include Capt. E. Marshall, Mr. Wyndham Birch, Mr. George Skilbeck, Mr. Leo Trevor, the Hon. Rosamund Tufton, Mrs. Charles Crutchley, and Miss Gertrude Kingston. A new play by Maeterlinck, translated by Mr. Sutro, will be produced under his direction, with Miss Rosina Filippi in the principal part. Another play, entitled *Hero and Heroine*, by Herbert Swears, will be given by Mr. Arthur Playfair and Miss Kate Cutler. Miss Constance Collier will sing some 17th century love lyrics, and among other people who have promised their assistance are Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss May de Sousa, Mr. Willie Edouin, Mons. George Malini, and Mr. Huntley Wright. An old English dance, arranged by Mme. Katti Lanner, will also figure among the attractions.

THE matinée in aid of the funds of the Seaside Convalescent Hospital, Seaford, will be held at the Coronet Theatre, by the kindness of Mr. Robert Arthur, on Thursday, the 24th inst. A new comedy in one act, by Mr. Forbes Dawson, entitled *Her Grace*, will be included in the programme, Miss Kate Phillips appearing in the title-rôle. Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Miss Carrie Moore, who will be heard in "The Sandow Girl" song from *The Dairymaids*, aided by the Symmetrion Girls from the Apollo Theatre, Madame Alice Esty, Mr. George Robey, Mr. Charles Capper, the well-known whistler, Miss Margaret Cooper, and Mr. Frederic Pedgrift have been added to the list of those who have definitely promised to assist.

MR. LOUIS CALVERT has taken the New Theatre for the autumn season, and will produce a new musical play there early in August. This will be the first production of a musical nature at this theatre, and it is hoped that the introduction of such a popular form of entertainment will well repay the enterprise of Mr. Calvert, whose experience, both as actor and manager, is wide and comprehensive. The new piece, which is by Mr. Frederick Fenn, is in two acts, and recalls the days of the early Egyptians.

MR. CHARLES J. CAMERON, who successfully created the part of Major Yarington in *Boy O'Carroll* at Newcastle, has been retained by Mr. Martin Harvey to play the part in his forthcoming production at the Imperial Theatre.

GOLF is enthusiastically taken up by the members of Mr. Frank Grans' *The Other Man's Business* company, no fewer than eight devotees of the game being included in the combination who play every day, be it wet or fine. The nimble golf ball sometimes takes peculiar directions in its flight, and often proves disastrous to the feathered tribe. Playing on the Stockton racecourse two weeks ago, a ball driven by Mr. Grans struck a small bird and broke its wing, and last week at Southport Miss Lilian Hubbard and Mr. Grans played at Birkdale, when Miss Hubbard drove a ball into the rough, and it was eventually found in a lark's nest side by side with the broken eggs.

MR. S. A. COOKSON—who is to appear as the Duke in Mr. Waller's matinées of *Othello*, at the Lyric—has just been engaged to support Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Irving in their forthcoming provincial and American tours. Miss Ada Mellon (Mrs. Cookson) will also be a member of "H. B.'s" excellent company. Oddly enough, Mr. Cookson and his wife have never before had the opportunity of acting together. Miss Mellon was with Sir Henry Irving, off and on, for six years, and will resume many of her old parts. It will, however, be her first visit to the United States, for it was always agreed between herself and Sir Henry that any contract she made with him did not include American journeys, as she would not leave home for so long a period. Mr. Cookson was ten years at His Majesty's, and played King Henry IV. during Shakespeare Memorial week on the anniversary of the day Mr. Tree first saw him in the same part at Manchester, and offered him an engagement that proved so satisfactory on both sides.

THE annual meeting of the Royal Liver Friendly Society is taking place this year in Jersey, there being at present about three hundred delegates and officials in the island. On the 4th inst. the members of the Society attended the Opera House to hear the celebrated Besses o' the Barn Band, which is appearing there.

MR. J. DEWHURST, who is retiring from the position of lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal, Leigh, after eighteen years' service, will have a complimentary benefit at that theatre on Monday and Tuesday next.

AT the Royal County Theatre, Bedford, on Wednesday last, before a crowded house, at the end of the second act of *Brother Officers* the members of the Bedford Amateur Dramatic Society presented Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon with a handsome silver rose-bowl as a token of their appreciation of his services on their behalf.

SIGNORA ELEANORA DUSE is, unhappily, still ill, and will probably be obliged to cancel all her engagements. After undergoing a fortnight's cure at Champel-les-Bains for nervous prostration, she has now gone to Milan, accompanied by a nerve expert.

THE DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND duly appeared in her rôle of theatrical entrepreneur on Wednesday, when a crowded audience was drawn to the Theatre Royal, Hanley, at popular prices, to witness a performance of *Diplomacy*, produced under the management of her Grace. All the furniture used was brought from Trentham Hall, and the dresses worn by the amateur actresses were magnificent. Countess Zicka was admirably played by the Countess of Lathom, and the Hon. William Goschen distinguished himself in the part of Count Orloff. The play, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the Potteries Cripples' Guild, met with an enthusiastic reception.

MR. HENRY A. LYTTON, who lately has been playing in *The Little Michus* at Daly's Theatre, is now sustaining Lionel Mackinder's part in *The Spring Chicken* at the Gaiety Theatre. He undertook the rôle at two days' notice.

BABY BETTY, now rehearsing at the Waldorf for Mr. Cyril Maude's production of *Shore Acres*, has been re-engaged by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr. Mark Blow for the autumn of 1906 and spring of 1907, with the option of retaining her services till the end of 1908. Baby Betty will resume her part of the child in their American play *At Cripple Creek*.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL will begin her season at the Criterion Theatre about May 22 with *The Whirlwind*, an adaptation by Harry Melvill from the French of Henry Bernstein, which was recently tried at Birmingham. In addition to Mrs. Campbell herself, the cast will consist of Messrs. Frank Worthing, Charles Groves, Denis Eadie, A. G. Poulton, George Bealby, C. B. Vaughan, and Robert Entwistle; Miss Kate Wingfield and Miss Mabel Beardsley. A few days after the production of *The Whirlwind* it will be preceded by the first act of Mr. W. L. Courtney's *Undine*. Mrs. Campbell has also in contemplation the production of a new romantic costume play by the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton, entitled *The Macleans of Bairness*.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN will swell the sum-total of this month's productions by presenting *The Lion and the Mouse* at the Duke of York's Theatre on May 22. The play, which deals with the power of finance in the United States, will be presented in London by a company of English and American performers. Mr. Charles Klein, the author of the piece, is in London superintending the production for Mr. Frohman. *All of a Sudden Peggy* will be given for the last time at the Duke of York's on Saturday evening, after which Miss Marie Tempest will take a short rest.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES will produce, at the Lyric, Hammersmith, on Monday, a new drama, *As Good as Gold*, which he is sending on tour in the autumn. The play is written by Fredk. S. Jennings, author of the sketch *The Power of Music*, which created such a sensation on its production at the Tivoli on May 5.

MISS LUCY WILSON, who goes touring in *The New Magdalen*, will shortly be seen in a prominent part in a new play to be produced at an early date in one of the West End theatres.

THE second annual benefit of Mr. James Sinclair, Mr. William Bailey's courteous acting-manager, at the Royal West London Theatre, was a great success in every way on Thursday evening last. Sandwiched between the acts of *Oliver Twist*, many of the leading lights of the music-hall world lent their generous aid. Foremost was Mr. George Robey, who was in his best form, and gained a rousing reception. One Billy Farrell made a big hit with his inimitable dancing; Mr. Austin Rudd convulsed the audience with a witty parody on "The Little Wooden Hut," rendered in his own peculiar way; Mr. Charles Pastor made the house rock with merriment at his antics; and Edward Cranston and company pleased all in a cleverly-acted sketch, *True to His Trust*. Miss Amy Clevere sang with tasteful effect; Miss Maud Nelson renewed her pantomime triumphs in two well-chosen ditties; Miss Alice Sinclair sang and danced with much graceful ability; and little Dolly and Madge McCalla received several encores for their spirited efforts. Space will not permit mention of all who appeared, but each one individually did his or her best towards making the evening the most enjoyable in Marylebone for some long time past.

THE fourth installation of the Green Room Lodge was held with great success on Friday, the 4th inst., at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent-street. Mr. Herbert Leonard was installed as the Worshipful Master in a most impressive manner by his predecessor, Mr. Gerald Maxwell, after which Mr. Leonard appointed and invested his officers for the ensuing year as follows:—Messrs. Akerman May, S.W.; H. Nye Chart, J.W.; W. S. Penley, P.G. Treas., treasurer of the Lodge; Charles C. Cruikshanks, Ass. G. Std. Br., secretary; E. H. Bull, S.D.; Charles Macdona, J.D.; Hubert Willis, I.G.; James W. Mathews, D.C.; Edward Jones, organist; J. H. Ryley, 1st S.; Stanley Pringle, 2nd S.; Blake Adams, 3rd S.; Luigi Lablache, 4th S.; and Samuel Ellis, Tyler. The meeting was a highly representative one, and Mr. Herbert Leonard is to be congratulated upon being selected to rule as the Master of such a successful Lodge, which, although in its infancy, numbers many prominent men amongst its members.

AT the conclusion of interesting ceremonies in Lodge, the members dined together, and were entertained with a fine programme of music under the direction of Mr. Edward Jones. The customary toasts were honoured, and during the evening Mr. Herbert Leonard, in a well-chosen speech, on behalf of the Lodge, presented Mr. Gerald Maxwell, the outgoing Master, with a very handsome Past-Master's jewel, which was accepted and acknowledged in very graceful terms. Many visitors attended, and received a hearty welcome from the Worshipful Master, officers, and members of the Lodge, and at an advanced hour a memorable gathering was brought to a close.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO" will re-visit the King's Theatre next week with the same company which recently played the piece at The Hague and in the chief Royal and State theatres of Holland. The visit is for one week only, with a matinée on the Thursday, and the big auditorium of Mr. Mulholland's theatre should be crowded at every performance. It is interesting to recall that considerably before Mr. Sutro came into his kingdom in the West End, Mr. Mulholland produced one of his plays, a farce in three acts, entitled *Arethusa*, at the King's.

MR. J. MURRAY HERRIOT, who is leaving the Brixton Theatre to take up the management of the Marlborough, was the central figure of a select gathering of prominent residents of the district on Thursday, when he was made the recipient of a token of the warm esteem in which he is held. The presentation, which took place in the foyer of the theatre, was made by Mr. Albert Kendal, who said Mr. Herriot's many good qualities and very marked efficiency as a manager had resulted not only in his securing friends, but in making the habitués of the Brixton Theatre comfortable, and giving them the best theatrical fare. Another strong feature of his undeniable success had been with regard to the many touring companies that had visited there, the managers of which had personally expressed their high appreciation of his kindness, forethought, and courtesy. The presentation of a substantial purse of gold was only from his most intimate, personal friends, who felt that Brixton's loss would be another district's gain.

MR. HERRIOT, in reply, said he was no orator, and hardly knew how to put his feelings into words. They all, moreover, knew how awkward it was for a Scot to say "Thanks." He was both surprised and grateful at the compliment paid him, and the very substantial proof of their esteem. He felt there was more than a friendly spirit actuating that acknowledgment of his services, and it really seemed incredible that his leaving Brixton should have caused regret, and that he had made so many good friends during his three years among them. He could assure them all that his work in Brixton had been an absolute pleasure, and he was proud indeed to find he had made so many real friends. The success of the Brixton Theatre was not alone due to his efforts, but to the loyal support always received from his successor, Mr. R. W. Allum, and every individual member of the staff. He asked them kindly to receive his very grateful thanks, and although it was rather a stereotyped phrase, they would believe him when he said "this is the happiest moment of my life." Mr. E. V. Page, who was associated with both the Brixton Theatre and the neighbouring Empress, was present, with Mrs. Page, at the pleasing ceremony.

A MEETING of the special committee of the Actors' Association was held on Saturday last. There were present Messrs. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Clarence Blakiston, C. Hayden Coffin, Arthur Holmes-Gore, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). A question as to actors' rights in personal photographs was discussed, also matters connected with payment by photographers of fees to sitters. Other subjects affecting artists' rights were considered, and the secretary reported arrangements for the reception of a deputation from the committee by the executive of the Professional Photographic Association.

THE usual meeting of the council was held on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Miss Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Algernon Syms, Spencer Trevor, Frank Vernon, and Charles Cruikshanks (sec.). The hon. solicitors reported that they had advised several members, and they were requested to brief counsel to appear at the trial of an action to recover damages for alleged breach of contract. A case of alleged bogus management was under consideration, and the secretary received instructions. The report of the finance and general purposes committee was received; also the report of the special committee. A former member was nominated for reinstatement. The suggestion-book was considered and an entry made. Cecil H. Raymond, Eric Maturin, and Lionel Bevans were nominated.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, there being present Messrs. Arthur Holmes-Gore (in the chair), M. R. Morand, C. Aubrey Smith, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Several questions of routine were discussed, and the secretary received instructions.

MESSRS. WALTER AND FREDERICK MELVILLE have added to their numerous enterprises by the purchase of the following dramas, which emanated from the pen of the late F. A. Scudamore:—*Dad*, *A Beautiful Avenger*, *Is Life Worth Living?* *Dangers of London*, *Nature's Nobleman*, *Settling Day*, *The Destroying Angel*, and *A Bad Character*. Most of the above pieces will be included in Messrs. Melville's list of plays for stock seasons, odd weeks, touring, &c., controlled by these energetic entrepreneurs.

THE beautiful Marlborough Theatre has started most auspiciously under the new control. Mr. Mulholland, who is more than any other man responsible for the wonderful development of the suburban theatre as we know it, is chairman of directors, and has sole control of the bookings. As will be readily understood, the latter is of the first importance, and practically all the chief attractions have already been booked.

MR. G. BRYDON PHILLIPS will stage *Our Boys* for Mr. W. Bailey at the Royal West London Theatre next week, and has secured Messrs. E. Story-Gofton, J. G. Grahame, jun., C. Herbert Hewetson, Fred Grove, also Mesdames Blanche Stewart, Christine Stuart, Lucie Evelyn, and Alice Brookes to interpret the comedy.

AT the Ilkeston Theatre, on Tuesday, an explosion occurred, resulting in serious injuries to a boy named Edmund Aldred. Joseph Aldred, the father, who works the limelight, had placed a retort on a stove under the stage, and suddenly a loud report was heard, when it was found that the retort had exploded, and had injured the boy, who was standing near. The boy was immediately removed to the Borough Hospital, where he lies in a critical condition from burns and shock to the system. The accident is a mysterious one, as the plant was new in August last, and has worked well since.

MR. PERCY PITT, who was appointed to direct the first representation in London of Herr Edward Poldini's *The Vagabond and the Princess* on Friday, is the first Englishman for many years to conduct an opera at Covent Garden. Mr. Pitt was born in London in 1870, and when he was sixteen he went to Leipzig, where he studied under Jadassohn and Carl Reinecke. Three years later he proceeded to Munich to receive instruction from Rheinberger. In 1892 he returned to London. His compositions attracted the attention of Mr. Henry J. Wood, and when the Promenade Concerts were started at Queen's Hall in 1894, a suite written by Mr. Pitt was played with great success. Later he was appointed organist and pianoforte accompanist to these concerts, and since then he has been steadily winning popularity and fortune. A few years ago he became associated with the staff at Covent Garden, and one of his duties now is to visit the Continental opera houses to discover singers for the management.

THE theatrical profession in America has contributed generously towards the relief of the sufferers by the San Francisco disaster. Mr. Charles Frohman gave the entire receipts of the 200th performance of *Peter Pan* at the Empire, Miss Maude Adams added 1,000 dols., and every person employed contributed the night's salary or wages, even the ticket offices and speculators adding their profits. The result was a sum of 3,500 dols., which was promptly forwarded. Other managers and performers were no less generous. George Cohan sold papers in the streets, paid 1,000 dols. for the first copy and turned in over 1,441 dols. Marie Dressler opened a department store in the Gilsey House. Every article was given, and prices ranged from 25 cents to 2,500 dols. Klaw and Erlanger wired a large donation direct. Mrs. Herman Oelrichs and other society ladies organised an entertainment that netted 31,500 dols., the boxes and stalls selling at from 100 dols. to 500 dols. each.

DAVID BELASCO telegraphed funds and arranged for a joint benefit. James H. Hackett and Mary Mannering gave a Sunday night benefit at the Tremont Theatre, Boston. Manager Lawrence, of the Madison Square, contributed the receipts of three days' performances. Tony Pastor diverted the proceeds of the annual vaudeville benefit for the Actors' Fund to the relief of stranded performers, Daniel Frohman, president, concurring. Elsie Janis arranged for a benefit at the Metropolitan Opera House, and Jules Murry's companies all agreed to give benefits on tour. The English players in America were equally liberal, a special fund being raised under their auspices.

"MISS ANGEL," a new comedy, founded by Miss Averil D. Furniss and Miss Mildred D. Gibbs on Miss Thackeray's well-known novel of that name, was produced at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Thursday. The performance was given in aid of the Christ Church, Oxford, Mission, and of the Mother Cécile Memorial Fund, and it is anticipated that a substantial sum will be realised. The authors have done their work well, and have constructed an interesting piece, in the story of which such notable personages as Dr. Johnson, his faithful follower Boswell, David Garrick, and Sir Joshua Reynolds figure. The love story of the accomplished and beautiful Angelica Kauffmann has received sympathetic treatment, several strong scenes with the false Count de Horn being provided. The play was produced by amateurs, Miss Alice Leigh, Miss Mildred Gibbs, Major Sellar, Captain Browning, Colonel Simpson, Mr. Frank Morris, the Hon. Walter Fremantle Gaunt, and Miss Mary Malone taking the chief parts.

"A GIRL ON THE STAGE."

Revised Version of "The Little Cherub."
Book by Owen Hall, Music by Ivan Caryll, and Lyrics by Adrian Ross.
Presented at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, on Saturday, May 5.

Lord Congress .....MR. LIONEL MACKINDER
Algernon Southdown .....MR. LENNOX PAWLE
Shingle .....MR. W. H. BERRY
Ethelbert .....MR. GEORGE CARROLL
Captain Hereward .....MR. SPENCER TREVOR
Mr. Grimble .....MR. RALPH ROBERTS
Alderman Briggs .....MR. COLIN COOP
Crumm .....MR. F. J. BLACKMAN
Sir George Monteith .....MR. EDMUND COOPER
The Earl of Sanctobury ....MR. WILLIE EDOUIN
Lady Isabel Congress .....MISS ZENA DARE
Lady Dorothy Congress ....MISS GABRIELLE RAY
Mrs. Briggs .....MISS KITTY HANSON
Letty .....MISS DORIS DENE
Miss Marion Vanblane .....MISS M. ERSKINE
Miss Kitty Cranbourne .....MISS HILDA CORAL
Miss Florence Rochester..MISS DOROTHY DUNBAR
Miss Baby Ducross .....MISS MABEL MUNRO
Miss Gertie Macclesfield ....MISS AMY WEBSTER
Miss Olive Manderville....MISS BLANCHE THORPE
Miss Molly Montrose .....MISS RUTH VINCENT

Mr. George Edwardes has "overhauled" *The Little Cherub*, and the result is a much pleasanter, funnier, and more attractive piece. When English authors choose French plays of the Palais Royal sort for the foundations of their librettos, they should always remember that the great paying public prefers clean and honest fun. Sir F. C. Burnand's adaptations were most successful when, taking the situations of the original, he boldly purged his adaptation of all that was unsavoury, indecent, and suggestive. *The Cuckoo*, an almost literal reproduction of *Decoré*, was a failure at the Avenue. Now that the "cocotte-ish" element has been ejected from *The Little Cherub*, that the Rajah of Calcutta has been removed from the list of personages, and that Miss Molly Montrose merely flirts with the Earl of Sanctobury in order to secure his consent to her marriage with his son, the result is more, and not less, amusing than before. In *A Girl on the Stage* Mr. Edwardes has given his patrons an entertainment full of fun, frolic, gaiety, and beauty.

There have been some important changes made in the cast since *The Little Cherub* was produced at the Prince of Wales's last January. The part of the Earl of Sanctobury, originally performed by Mr. Fred Kaye, is now in the hands of Mr. Willie Edouin, a comedian of such ripe and certain accomplishment that everything he does is certain of success. Mr. Edouin's cool confidence and quaint individuality are strong factors of this favourable result, and the almost boyish elation of the Earl when, for the first time, he embarks upon a perfectly harmless "spree," is irresistibly amusing. The rôle is not less funny, but much funnier, than in the original version; and Mr. Edouin's acting in the scene in which the adventurous Earl has a "row" with the Alderman, and is taken off to the police-station, is intensely comic, his trouble about his lost collar-stud being a detail of the most diverting kind. Mr. Edouin makes the part of immense importance, and his contribution to the general result is very valuable indeed. Miss Ruth Vincent plays Molly Montrose quite in the key of the new version, and her rendering is full of grace, ease, and refinement. She is an excellent vocalist, and she treats that exceedingly clever song, "Experience"—either a French chanson or a wonderful imitation of one—with a delicate tact which makes it doubly effective. Her rendering of the ditty is encored again and again. Mr. Lennox Pawle as Algernon Southdown bears the burden of sustaining a character whose connection with the plot is rather hazy; for, of course, the life-saving incident, which is significant in the French piece, is quite superfluous in the English version. However, it gives Mr. Pawle an opportunity of appearing in a suit of clothes that is too small for him, and of creating a vast amount of merriment by his clever depiction of stolid—and solid—stupidity. Mr. W. H. Berry, the representative of the valet, Shingle, has a light touch and an excellent method, and his topical song in the last act goes as well as ever, being redemanded with enthusiasm. Mr. George Carroll is quaintly comical as Ethelbert, and his vivacious impudence appeals to the audience very strongly. He and Miss Doris Dene, a dainty dancer and a pleasing and expressive actress, make themselves immensely popular. Mr. Spencer Trevor repeats his very praiseworthy performance as Captain Hereward, and Mr. Ralph Roberts contributes a really clever little character-sketch as Grimble; Mr. Colin Coop being irreproachable as Alderman Briggs, and rendering his song in the second act with all the necessary "swagger" and self-importance. Mr. Edmund Cooper does creditable work as Sir George Monteith, and Mr. Lionel Mackinder's Lord Congress is just what the *jeune premier* of a musical play should be—well-groomed, well-dressed, active without effusiveness, and alert without being fidgety. His "Supper Girl" song again delights his audience to the extent of enthusiastic encores. Miss Zena Dare and Miss Gabrielle Ray, as the Earl's daughters, bring down the house with their duet with comic business, "I should so love to be a boy." Miss Dare is the ideal of healthy English girlhood, and Miss Ray's appearance as Cupid can only be described as bewitching. Miss Kitty Hanson is in every way satisfactory as Mrs. Briggs, and the bevy of pretty ladies who embody the actresses from the Dunbridge Theatre do most adroitly the dances and chorus business so skilfully arranged and invented by Mr. Willie Warde and Mr. Sydney Ellison.

The spectacular part of the production "beggars description." The groupings and arrangements of the chorus in some of the scenes are dreams of exquisite colour harmony and contrast. Every dress is a work of art, every dance a thing of dainty delight. It is a mistake to suppose that the patrons of the musical play demand Palais Royal impurity or gay and cynical expositions of Parisian vice. What they really like is a slight, amusing story of a simply farcical sort, plenty of droll incidents, and a liberal supply of mirth, melody, and beauty. These they are certainly offered in *A Girl on the Stage*, and the rapturous delight with which they accept them is the best proof of Mr. Edwardes' skill and judgment.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG, Princess Ena, Prince Leopold, Prince Maurice, and suite, witnessed the performance of *The Bond of Ninon* at the Savoy Theatre, on Saturday evening.

A NEW drama, adapted by Mr. George R. Sims from his novel, "For Life—and After," will be produced at the Fulham Theatre on Monday.

"OLF AND THE LITTLE MAID."

A Comedy, in One Act, by M. E. Frances (Mrs. Francis Blundell), produced at the Haymarket Theatre on Tuesday, May 8.

Olf Joyce .....MR. SYDNEY VALENTINE
Farmer Inkpen .....MR. P. L. JULIAN
Annie Inkpen .....MISS MONA HARRISON
Maggie Fry .....MISS RUTH MAITLAND
Kitty .....MISS DOROTHY MINTO

There is quite an idyllic flavour about Mrs. Blundell's little first-piece. It disarms criticism by its simplicity and its unpretentiousness; and, as it is remarkably well acted and mounted, it forms a very pleasing prelude to the still successful *Man from Blankley's*, which is going better than ever. Olf (or Alfred) Joyce, a poor farm labourer, draws a thousand pounds in a lottery; and having been snubbed by two country girls, Annie Inkpen and Maggie Fry, he proposes marriage to a little "workhouse girl" called Kitty, who does the drudgery at the farm, in Dorset, where the incidents occur. He finds, however, on investigation, that the lottery is a "swindle," but Kitty is still willing to wed him, and they make a match of it. There is no attempt to idealise rustic views of life. Kitty frankly states that she marries chiefly to escape from scrubbing other people's floors; and Olf's method of courtship is extremely primitive. Withal, there is a feeling of tenderness and truth about the little play which makes it agreeable and interesting; and Mrs. Blundell should be very grateful to the interpreters of her work. Mr. Sydney Valentine plays Olf Joyce with remarkable ease and naturalness, making every characteristic point very cleverly, and endowing the rustic with all the necessary sincerity and a touch of pathos. Mr. P. L. Julian is admirably stout and sturdy as the farmer; and Miss Mona Harrison and Miss Ruth Maitland are bold and buxom representatives of the two country girls. A very sweet and winning reading of the rôle of Kitty is given by Miss Dorothy Minto, whose quaint unconsciousness and gentle naïveté prove winning and agreeable. Mr. Bruce Smith has painted a pretty farmhouse scene, with a charming landscape-distance. *Olf and the Little Maid* had a quite cordial reception.

MOODY-MANNERS ACADEMY.

PERFORMANCE OF "TWELFTH NIGHT."

The Coronet Theatre was pretty well packed on Sunday evening, when a private performance of *Twelfth Night* was given by pupils of the Moody-Manners Academy of Music, assisted by Mr. Charles Magrath, Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, Mr. Thomas Stewart, and Mr. Chapman Huston.

During an interval Mr. Charles Manners came before the curtain and delivered an interesting address. "We are here," he said, "as amateurs for the future of the National English opera—or, rather, of the national opera in English—for I hope we will have the composers to give us national English opera. I feel sure that it is in a certain measure necessary to come before you. If someone does not do something, then we shall still keep on in that benighted way in which I am afraid we have been, and are still, continuing. On the Continent there are over 350 opera companies, and they are often all playing the same night. We in this country have four—two of my own, the Carl Rosa, and Mr. Turner's. Now, with certain exceptions, everyone you have seen on the stage this evening sings every night in the chorus. Those exceptions are Mr. Charles Magrath, who is my popular principal bass; Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, one of the conductors of this company; Mr. Thomas Stewart, the treasurer; and Mr. Chapman Huston, the manager, who are all very kindly giving their help this evening to help on others. Now I would like to tell you that every day some ten or fifteen people sing for me, and the difficulty I have is to make them understand that they must commence their profession at the very beginning. The cost of joining this academy of music is £50. Most of this amount is paid to the masters; but if there is anything left out of the £50, after paying railway fares, &c., then I return it to the pupils. I really want to try and get good voices. So far I have been able to select one out of sixty or eighty. That one is a baritone, and he has appeared in *Lohengrin* and *Faust*. Some people say that once they get in the chorus they cannot get out of it. Now every year six of my people leave the chorus to become principals. It is to my advantage to take them out of the chorus if they are good enough, because I am thereby saved the expense of heavy salaries."

The performance last Sunday of *Twelfth Night* did one thing—it gave evidence of the careful training which the pupils receive from this touring academy. There can be no doubt that even chorus work teaches the novice the first elements of the actor's art. It shows him how to conduct himself on the stage, and by closely watching the principals in the company he learns how to make a physical as well as a vocal expression of passion. Considering that the performance under review was the work of amateurs, and, moreover, that it was described as a private performance, it would scarcely be fair to hold forth too high a standard in criticising their efforts Taking all the circumstances into consideration—Mr. Manners informed us that there had been four full rehearsals—the play was on the whole creditably presented. Some exquisite music had been specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Cuthbert Hawley, and the running accompaniment to some of the scenes and the selections played during the intervals were a delightful feature of the production. As to the acting, we had as Malvolio Mr. Charles Magrath, and very skilfully did that gentleman depict the comical conceit and absurd dignity of the officious and self-impressed steward. Mr. W. M. Chapman Huston was effective as Orsino, the agreeable and courtly manners of the Duke being interpreted in good style. Miss Norah Jenkin as Olivia gave us a most engaging personage, her easy charm of demeanour combining with clear enunciation. Miss Hilda Grundy submitted a capital presentment of Viola. She was irresistibly vivacious and light-hearted, and her work gave some evidence of considerable histrionic ability. The fantastic sayings and doings of the weak-minded Sir Andrew Aguecheek were made the most of by Mr. George King, who can be congratulated upon what was a clever piece of acting. Mr. E. Glynn-Renshaw furnished an admirable performance of the mischievous and bibulous Sir Toby Belch, and Mr. Frank Rowe appeared to advantage in the rôle of the manly and virile Sebastian, and gave an admirable rendering of the verses, "O, Mistress Mine." The quips and cranks of Feste were delivered in lively manner by Miss Margaret Carter, whose impersonation of the clown received great favour with the audience. Mr. Thomas Stewart proved himself a capable exponent of the rôle of the bold and vigorous Antonio, and Miss Nellie Child was piquant and merry as Maria. Miss Nora Long, who appeared as Curio, enchanted the house with her singing of "Come away, death," and "When that I was." Mr. J. W. Knight did good service as stage-manager.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS" is to be the attraction at the Brixton next week. The theatre will then close for a few weeks to enable the usual renovations to be carried out.

THE REHEARSAL CLUB.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The St. James's Theatre presented an animated appearance on Tuesday afternoon at the annual general meeting of the Rehearsal Club. Every part of the house was taken up by well-dressed folk, ladies, of course, predominating, while the stage was occupied by well-known theatrical and society people. Sir Squire Bancroft took the chair, and additional interest was lent to the proceedings by the presence of their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and Princess Victoria. A bouquet was presented to Princess Christian by Miss Pamela Maude, and another to Princess Victoria by Miss Lilian Braithwaite's little daughter. Among others seated around the chairman were Viscount Halifax, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. A. W. Pinero, Miss Constance Collier, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mrs. Cyril Maude, Miss Carlotta Addison, Mrs. J. T. Grein, the Countess of Bective, Lady Dorothy Nevill, Lady Trevelyan, Hon. Mrs. Henry Corry, Mrs. Philip Walker, Mr. Augustus Spalding, Mrs. Mayne (hon. treasurer), and Mrs. George Marjoribanks (hon. secretary).

The report of the committee was as follows:—

In presenting their report for 1905, the committee have to record with deep regret the loss they have sustained in the death of their eminent patron, Sir Henry Irving, whose generous and personal patronage was a sufficient guarantee for the usefulness of the Rehearsal Club.

The committee, in issuing their fourteenth annual report (with duly audited accounts), deem it almost unnecessary to dwell upon the need for such an institution, since the keen appreciation of its advantages displayed by the members must be a proof of its supplying a real want.

The club was founded in 1892 with the view of furnishing a quiet retreat to which minor actresses might resort between the hours of rehearsals and matinées and the later ones of evening performance. Many of these actresses live too far from their work to admit of their returning home during the interval; and, in such cases, warm, cheerful rooms where rest and shelter from inclement weather can be obtained, together with refreshments at moderate charges, must be an invaluable boon.

Among those accustomed to view the theatre only from the auditorium and to derive pleasure from the gay scenes on the stage, few perhaps realise the amount of hard work involved in the rehearsal of an important piece, or can imagine the strain on nerves, brain, and body often necessary to produce the precision of "ensemble" and brilliancy of effect which they have so much admired. It has been the endeavour of the Rehearsal Club to afford the much-required repose and shelter to those for whom health means livelihood.

Is it not the duty of each and all of us to assist the hardest-worked members of a hard-worked profession by endeavouring to make their lives less difficult; remembering that their exertions have often helped to distract our minds from our own cares and anxieties?

It must be evident to all that the Club never can be self-supporting, and that a central position is an imperative necessity and a costly one; so the committee are obliged to depend on outside help.

The members' subscription is 2s. per quarter. The club is open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and contains comfortable reading and refreshment rooms, the former well supplied with papers, magazines, and games. Anyone who would like to see the club and its arrangements would be gladly shown over by one of the committee or by the matron

The annual subscribers' meeting was held on May 23, in St. James's Theatre, when a letter was read from H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein regretting her inability to be present.

Again the committee have gratefully to acknowledge Mr. George Alexander's courtesy in lending his theatre for the purpose, and also that of Mr. Arthur Bourchier in presiding. Their sincere thanks are due to Mr. George Alexander, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Lady Dimsdale, Mr. Grein, Miss Annie Hughes, Miss Eva Moore, and the Rev. Russell Wakefield, who all spoke warmly of the great benefits conferred by the club. In the absence of Mr. Welch, who was to have seconded the vote of thanks to Mr. George Alexander, Sir Squire Bancroft kindly took his place at the last moment.

The club is much indebted to the kindness of Lord Burnham and the Hon. Harry Lawson for a daily copy of the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper; and warm thanks are tendered to all those who by special gifts have shown personal interest in the club.

Subscriptions and donations may be paid to the hon. treasurer, Mrs Mayne, 101, Queen's-gate, S.W.; or into the Victoria-street Branch of the London and Westminster Bank, "to the credit of the Rehearsal Club."

THE CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, said:

I am sorry my first note must be a sad one, but I feel you would not like the occasion to pass without my mentioning that since the last meeting held here we have lost our dear Irving. Of his untiring help to all his brothers and sisters, big and little, every word has been eloquently spoken, every thought has been generously uttered. I will only add we miss him very much. The printed report of the Rehearsal Club, which is in your hands, leaves little need for a long speech from me, especially as you will have the privilege of listening to far more interesting, far sweeter voices. My remarks, however, if brief, will be sincere. The theatrical profession—alluring, enchanting, I grant—is among the most arduous. In no other calling, perhaps, are there so few prizes and so many blanks. It is on behalf of the young and struggling in a trying life that I ask for your sympathy and your help; for bright and hopeful girls who do not live always in the glare of the limelight, and who have a hard fight of it in the simple homes which are often miles away from the stage door—a fact which makes it necessary for our club, however admirably and economically managed it may be, to serve its purpose and be of real use to have its home in the heart of theatre-land, and there, you know, rents are very high. We were recently face to face with a difficulty. Our lease was fast expiring, and I had the pleasure to be of a little use in turning towards our faithful friend and honorary solicitor, Mr. George Rowe, owing to whose great interest and kindness—not forgetting the kindness of the landlords—we are now safe for another twelve years, on terms for which we are much and truly obliged. You will be glad to hear that in the last twelve months forty-nine new members have joined the club, coming from different theatres, including Drury Lane, His Majesty's, the Garrick, Wyndham's, Daly's, the Lyric, the Vaudeville, and the Empire. I must, however, ask you to remember—and a pleasant duty I find it—that the little Rehearsal Club is only a baby, and cannot yet be trusted to run alone. The baby, though, has many delightful nurses, some of whom you see around me now. One, who is, unfortunately, absent—my wife—was unable to get up from the country in time to be here; but Lady Bancroft is very much attached to this baby. My message to all the dear nurses is, as Hilary Jesson, under this roof eight times every week, says so charmingly of sweet women, "God bless 'em!" But the nurses have a large family of theatrical children to look after, and they want you to help them with this little fellow. He is a deserving little chap, believe me, and cheerfully does his best to help himself, so any presents you may give these dear ladies for him later on will not be thrown away. If I might venture to tell you what would be the most valued gift of all—because it does not readily wear out—I would say an annual subscription, however small; for instance, just the cost of two tickets at a theatre—of two stalls, if you like, or even of two seats in the pit. Our devoted honorary treasurer, Mrs. Mayne, would thank you for them with every beat of her warm heart. Do something of this sort for our struggling girls, that I may say to you with Shakespeare, "Here are none but friends."

VISCOUNT HALIFAX, in proposing a vote of thanks to H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, said: The great obligations under which this club lies, both to Sir Squire Bancroft and Mr. George Alexander, are increased to-day by Sir Squire Bancroft's willingness to take the chair, and by Mr. George Alexander's readiness to place his theatre at the disposal of the members of the club for the purposes of this meeting. There is one other matter which it would ill become me to forget on the present occasion. Since the last general meeting the club has lost its eminent patron, Sir Henry Irving. Members of the club, and all who are concerned in the welfare of the theatrical profession, will long remember with gratitude his generous patronage.

MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE, in seconding, said: I am here this afternoon in the humble capacity of understudy to Miss Lena Ashwell. The final rehearsals of her forthcoming production preclude her being present, and she sends her regrets and apologies. As one of the profession for the benefit of whose members the Rehearsal Club was founded, I speak with the greatest gratitude of the interest her Royal Highness takes in the institution. Her interest is not confined to honouring us with her presence to-day. Not so long ago her Royal Highness made a visit to the club and had tea with the girls. I have been asked to tell you, madam (addressing her Royal Highness) that the girls constantly speak with delight of your visit to the club, and it will always be remembered with pride in the annals of the club. I thank you most gratefully and sincerely for the interest you have displayed in the club; and most heartily I second the vote of thanks to her Royal Highness for her presence here to-day.

MISS CONSTANCE COLLIER, in proposing a vote of thanks to the committee, said that the good ladies of the committee were responsible for this most excellent institution, which was the outcome on their part of kindness, energy, and instinctive sympathy.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in seconding said: I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by Miss Constance Collier, and I would also take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude of her presence. I am sure that the work of this club is done very well, and the balance sheet is one that will always bear the strictest investigation. I have just been casting my eye around this theatre, and I may tell you that I know exactly how much money would come if everyone of you had paid for his or her seat. I have counted the number very carefully, and I shall be very much disappointed if I do not see a very good sum of money lying in the boxes at the door. I will read a letter I have received from Lady Bancroft. She says: "I wish I could have been at the meeting to-morrow, for I am deeply interested in the Rehearsal Club, and I know how earnestly you will be all pleading for it. If eloquent appeals from the charming ladies who are to speak will be of great value, I know you will have success. Pray present my humble duty to her Royal Highness." Now, Lord Halifax mentioned the name of an old actress named Miss Woolgar. In her prosperous days Miss Woolgar was sensible enough to invest some of her money in the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and in consequence of her wisdom she now, in her old age, has a competence which saves her from living on her friends. I mention this because it is so necessary that my brother and sister artists should act on this intimation, and without delay become members of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. I have now much pleasure in asking Mrs. Tree to tell us what the committee have been doing during the year.

MRS. TREE, in responding to the vote of thanks, said: My committee asked me to say that any work they have done for the Rehearsal Club—and some of them have really toiled hard in its interests—has been a labour of love. And they asked me also to express their gratitude to the theatrical profession for having shown so much sympathy and interest in the club in a way that has immensely forwarded its prosperity. It is a matter of the greatest gratification to us that the numbers and the attendances of the members have shown a tremendous increase. And it is very pleasant to the committee and to Lady Louisa Magenis, who first founded the club fourteen years ago, to know that the influence of the club is extending. They wish to express their great gratitude to the members of the Press who have given us such a helping hand. Quite recently I decided to make an experiment with the club myself; so I went to a butcher—I found him a most delightful man—and purchased a chop, determining to take it with me to the club after I had enacted all the tragedy and woes of Agrippina. Well, one Saturday afternoon I set forth from the theatre, but I had not proceeded very far when I was touched by someone. "An autograph, I presume?" I said to the stranger. "No, madam," was the reply; "you have dropped your chop." And so I had; it was useless to deny it. Later I found myself at the Rehearsal Club, where the excellent matron (Mrs. Burns) had already prepared for my visit. I took two girls with me. We had capital mutton chops for 4½d., and altogether the meal for the three only cost two shillings. I advise all young ladies who belong to the profession to join the Rehearsal Club. I thank you for the vote of thanks.

MR. EDWARD TERRY, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. George Alexander for the use of the theatre, said: I am sure we are all delighted to hear of the success of the Rehearsal Club. I am particularly pleased to hear of it, because I was almost at the birth of this club-baby. I had just assisted at the burial of a moribund fund, and I was glad to be at the birthday of this new one. I think there should be branches of this Rehearsal Club spread over the country in such large centres as Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, and Manchester, where they want it very badly; and if I can, in my humble way, bring forward the subject in those places, I shall be pleased to do so. Your secretary is indefatigable in good work. On the present occasion my duty is to thank Mr. George Alexander for lending the theatre on this occasion. I think it must be every year since the inception of the club that Mr. Alexander has rendered us a similar service.

MRS. JOPLING-ROWE, in seconding the vote, said how charmed she was with a visit she paid to the Rehearsal Club. There was plenty of fresh air and every possible convenience. She suggested that there should be a room where the young ladies could see their fathers and brothers, and even their sweethearts.

MR. A. W. PINERO, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, said: I have the privilege of proposing a vote of thanks to Sir Squire Bancroft for his characteristic kindness in presiding here this afternoon. It is a great mistake to suppose that Sir Squire Bancroft's retirement from the stage means rest. In his case retirement meant giving up working for himself in order that he might work for others. I venture to say that there is hardly a day in the week, hardly an hour in the day, in which Sir Squire is not occupied upon some scheme for benefiting those who are struggling along the road he has travelled so triumphantly and so prosperously.

MRS. CECIL RALEIGH seconded, and the chairman's acknowledgments brought the meeting to a close.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 10.—The Théâtre du Palais Royal has followed the example of the Grand Guignol and the Capucines, and has given us what is called here "Un spectacle coupé"—several small plays in one act. Two of these are intensely funny, and had a great success. One is called *Les Grenouilles*, and is from the pen of M. Max Mauray. Alice, a young, pretty woman, has made the acquaintance of Hector, and has accepted his invitation to dinner in a restaurant. After dinner she has brought him to her house; but once there she suddenly feels ill, and declares that the frogs they have eaten have upset her. At her request, her maid, a respectable elderly woman, fetches a doctor, and at the same moment someone calls with a receipted bill for 500fr. Alice being too unwell to attend to the matter, Hector reluctantly puts his hand in his pocket and pays the money. The doctor comes. He informs Hector that the lady wants absolute rest, whereupon Hector, who had hoped to spend a pleasant evening, departs grumbling. When he is gone the doctor kisses the patient, who is his wife; and the respectable servant takes off her white apron. She is Alice's mother. Alice is well and hearty, and has invented this ingenious trick to make 500fr. without being unfaithful to her husband.

LESS peppery, but equally funny, is *Gonzague*, by M. Pierre Veber. M. and Mme. Mouchel have invited some friends to dinner. At the last moment three couples send word they cannot come, and Mme. Mouchel discovers that they will be thirteen at table; whereupon the master of the house settles the difficulty by inviting the piano tuner, Gonzague, at work on the instrument in the drawing-room. Gonzague is delighted, for not only will he receive 10fr. extra, but he will have a good meal—a rare event with him. Among the guests are a M. Brizard and his wife. The husband looks furious and madame is trembling with fear. And no wonder. Brizard has found a letter proving that his wife has a lover. The letter, typewritten, is signed "X.," and Brizard wants to know who is the mysterious "X." who wrote to Mme. Brizard that he would meet her that evening at the Mouchel dinner. Brizard scans the guests, and suspects them all, with the exception of his bosom friend, La Chambotte, who happens to be the guilty party. When Brizard sees Gonzague—who has been introduced to the company as the Marquis de Gonzague—he thinks he has found the villain. And his suspicions become a certainty when, having asked Gonzague for his card, he sees that the man's Christian name is Xavier. Dinner is announced, but Mme. Brizard, sick with fright, asks to be allowed to remain for a while in the drawing-room. This reduces the number of guests again to thirteen, whereupon M. Mouchel tells poor Gonzague that he cannot come to the table. Brizard wants to kill the man who has the audacity to remain behind with madame. Fortunately, a silly, romantic girl confides to Brizard that Gonzague passes himself off as a piano-tuner in order to be able to meet her occasionally, as he is too bashful to declare his love. La Chambotte, moreover, promises Gonzague a large sum if he acknowledges that he is in love with the romantic young lady. The piano-tuner is only too delighted to do as he is told; and thus secures a nice income and a pretty little wife in the bar gain.

"LA PITIE."

Play in Three Acts, by M. Maurice Leblanc, produced at Antoin's on May 7.

Jacques .....M. CAPELLANI
Robert .....M. LEON BERNARD
Jean .....M. VERMEIL
Germaine .....MLLE. VAN DOREN
Marie Anne .....MLLE. DE VILLIERS

The author has portrayed in his new piece the misfortunes of a littérateur, a man of talent, to whom marriage has become a curse because his wife's love for him has turned her brain. Jacques is a writer of talent who could make a great name for himself. But he married Germaine, and from that moment he has no longer been able to work. Germaine is jealous—jealous of his friends, of everybody who approaches him. It is a repetition of what M. de Porto Riche has shown us in *Amoureuse*; but Jacques suffers more because Germaine is foolish and wicked. She prevents him from working; she burns one of his manuscripts; and she ruins the marriage prospects of Marie Anne, Jacques's young cousin. Why, then does Jacques not leave her? It is because he pities her. Her wickedness is the outcome of excessive love, and the husband hopes that by kindness he may yet be able to tame this shrew. Human patience, however, has its limits; and Jacques's patience has been superhuman; and it is almost with a feeling of relief that we see him walk out of the house, unheeding his wife's entreaties, curses, and threats. In trying to prove too much, M. Leblanc has proved nothing. If Germaine had been only jealous we might have watched with interest the husband's hesitations, whether, under these conditions, he was justified in leaving his wife. In making Germaine needlessly wicked, the author did not pose a problem. The woman's place is in a lunatic asylum, and Jacques's misplaced kindness is as exasperating as his wife's evil disposition. It was excellently played by Mlle. Van Doren, who made us think of Hedda Gabler; by Mlle. de Villers, and by M. Capellani.

THE Théâtre Molière has given us *Nos Salariés*, a piece in five acts and six tableaux, by Mme. Tola Dorian, a society playwright. With every respect to the fair sex, it must be said that even if the work had not been signed we would have known that it emanated from the pen of a woman. When describing love on the stage ladies go gently to work; but the moment they touch upon social questions they become violent, and blindly hit at everything that comes their way. The story, moreover, is most intricate, full of long-winded speeches that generally miss their mark. According to Mme. Tola Dorien, there is a justice for the poor and one for the rich. Ernest Verneuil, a young cavalry officer, has shot his mistress, and is arraigned before a court-martial. Being the son of a State Minister and highly connected, he is acquitted. His father and his friends agree with this verdict, but not so Thérèse Maltet. Thérèse, who has been brought up by old Verneuil—and very badly too—has advanced opinions on all questions of the day. She consider Ernest's acquittal an abominable miscarriage of justice, and for once we agree with her. When Ernest returns home he is embraced by his family, whilst Thérèse greets him with the remark that his place is under the knife of the gullotine. Thérèse altogether is sick of the "upper classes," to which she belongs; and, although rich, has engaged herself to a young farmer. The family, however, and especially her cousin, the cavalry officer, are strongly opposed to the marriage. We assist at a dispute between the farmer and Ernest, ending in a duel, wherein the officer is killed; and the farmer, committed for trial, is sentenced to ten years' transportation. There was sufficient material for a good play, but Mme. Tola Dorian missed her opportunity.

IN *Le Paradis de Mahomet*, an operette in three acts by Robert Planquette, the principal rôles will be sung by Mlle. Méaly, Mlle. Jeanne Saulier, Mlle. Diéterle, M. Baron, M. Max Dearly, and M. Henri Defreyn.

PRESENTATION.—Mr. Willie Carson, the acting-manager of the Queen's Theatre, Keighley, was last Saturday the delighted recipient of a handsome cigarette case from Miss Florence Baines, of the *Miss Lancashire, Limited* company.

THE AGENCY FRAUDS.

At the Central Criminal Court, on Saturday, May 5, before the Recorder, Charles Henry Houghton, 40, salesman, and Hedley Howard, otherwise Gays, 38, dealer, were indicted for conspiring together to cheat and defraud such persons as should apply to them in response to advertisements for persons seeking theatrical and music-hall engagements. Other counts in the indictment charged the prisoners with obtaining money by false pretences.

Mr. Charles Mathews, Mr. Arthur Gill, and Mr. Arnold Ward appeared for the prosecution; Mr. Vaughan Roderick defended Howard; Houghton conducted his own defence.

The hearing of the case was begun on Thursday, the 3rd inst., and was concluded on Saturday. It was alleged by the prosecution that the prisoners had conspired to defraud persons by professing to be able to find them theatrical and music-hall engagements. In December, 1905, Houghton was carrying on business as a dramatic agent in Waterloo-road. Miss Ribler, a Rumanian, called at his place of business in response to an advertisement which she had seen, and asked him if he could get her an engagement on the stage. He replied that he would do so if she paid him a fee of £2 10s. She demurred to paying so large a fee. He told her that she would get 30s. a week salary. Miss Ribler suggested that he should keep the £2 10s. out of her salary, but he declined to do that. Houghton informed Miss Ribler that he would get her an engagement in a sketch called *My Wife*, to be produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, and that she would have to play the part of a Russian princess. Miss Ribler paid Houghton £2 10s., and he gave her the part of the Russian princess to learn. The sketch, he said, was to be produced after the termination of the pantomime, and he remarked that he would return the £2 10s. to Miss Ribler if, after she got on the stage, she did not like the profession. Miss Ribler, however, did not get the promised engagement, and it was stated that Houghton had no authority to engage players for the Shakespeare Theatre, and that no sketch entitled *My Wife* was to be produced there. In March last the prisoners began business at 62, Strand, as dramatic agents, under the style of the Empire Dramatic, Variety, and General Agency Company. They inserted an advertisement in a theatrical paper of March 15, in the following terms:—"Wanted, 24 chorus ladies and gentlemen for leading West-end music hall and suburbs. Ten weeks' engagement. Also ladies and gentlemen for dramatic parts. Call or address, Empire Dramatic and Variety Agency Company, 62, Strand, London." Forms of contract were printed, at the bottom of which were the words, "No play, no pay." Gays was stated to be the managing director of the agency, and Houghton the assistant manager. Evidence was given by several witnesses as to having called at the offices of the agency in response to the advertisement and paid the prisoners sums varying from 15s. to 30s. as fees for engagements which Houghton said he could get them. It was stated that the prisoners had no authority to engage players for the Palace Theatre or music halls mentioned by Houghton.

Mr. Percy Murray, an actor and sketch producer, said that in March he told the prisoners that if they had a lady who would suit him they could send her to Woolwich, where he was playing in a sketch. He also asked them if they had any choristers. He said that, subject to his seeing them and approving and his conductor hearing their voices, he would engage them. The prisoners had no authority from him to engage any players for the Palace Theatre, the Metropolitan Music Hall, or the Royal Music Hall. The witness was not about to produce a sketch at those establishments. The prisoners had no authority to make any definite engagement with any player until he had seen the player.

Detective-inspector Dew gave evidence as to arresting the prisoners. They denied the charge and Houghton said that everything was quite straight. A book was found at their office containing a number of names and addresses. The witness said that he found nothing which, in his opinion, indicated that a business was being carried on.

Houghton said that there was a large number of orders at the office for players.

Inspector Dew said they were not there when he called.

At the conclusion of the evidence for the prosecution,

Houghton addressed the jury for his defence. He had, he said, been in the dramatic agency business since he was a child, and he read out a long list of persons for whom he had obtained engagements, and produced testimonials as to his success and his business capacity. The agency which he and Howard started in the Strand in March was a perfectly genuine and *bond-fide* business.

Howard was called as a witness in his own defence, and said he had carried on business as a naturalist and had also had a goldfish breeding farm. He explained that Houghton, whom he had known for some time, suggested to him the idea of starting a dramatic and variety agency, and, after consulting an expert in the matter, as to the business prospects of such an agency, he started the agency in the Strand in March. Houghton was to be a servant and to receive at first £1 a week and 2½ per cent. on the turnover. He believed that if the money was found by him for the agency Houghton had influence to find engagements for players. The business was a perfectly honest one. He denied that the name of the Palace Theatre was ever inserted in the contracts. The sums paid by the persons complaining in this case only amounted to a total of about £6, whereas he was £50 out of pocket over the business.

The Recorder said he understood that Howard's counsel had withdrawn from the case.

On Saturday Howard called a witness for his defence, and he also called his solicitor to speak to his good character.

Addressing the jury in his defence, Howard said he had the misfortune to have a fire at the premises where he carried on business as a naturalist, and he and his son succeeded in escaping from the burning building dressed only in their trousers. They afterwards returned to the premises and rescued as many of the animals as they could. He was not insured, as insurance companies would not insure live stock. Houghton suggested to him that they should carry on business as dramatic agents. He did not know anything about the theatrical business himself. He found the money for starting the agency, and believed that Houghton, from his having been in business as a dramatic agent so long, was able to find persons engagements at theatres and music halls. He denied emphatically that it was a bogus agency. It was a perfectly genuine and *bond-fide* business.

The jury found the prisoners guilty.

Inspector Dew said that he had made inquiries, and had learnt that Houghton had been carrying on some sort of a theatrical and music-hall agency business for twenty-five years. He had done some genuine business, but it was alleged that he had been concerned in this sort of thing for some time. In 1900 he obtained premiums from several persons for pantomime, but they were left stranded at Dorking. A short time ago he sent a company down to Wolverhampton, and they were left stranded also. The prisoner Gays' goldfish farm consisted of a seven-room cottage near London, in the garden of which five holes had been dug, which had been coated with cement. Gays had advertised for a partner for his goldfish business.

The Recorder, in passing sentence, said that, so far as this case was concerned, it was a mere swindle, and he had no doubt it would have gone on for some time if the police had not stopped it so promptly. He sentenced the prisoners each to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour.

ALLEGED AGENCY FRAUDS.

At Bow-street Police-court, on Tuesday, before Mr. Marsham, William Cecil Watson, a young man described as an elocutionist, was charged, on remand, with obtaining money by false pretences in connection with the Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate (Limited), 63-64, Chancery-lane. Mr. Williamson, who prosecuted for the Treasury, said the prisoner would be further charged with conspiring with a man named Dawson, otherwise Blackburn, to cheat and defraud. Dawson had not yet been arrested. Miss Nita Lebrun, of Streatham-hill, said she answered one of the syndicate's advertisements, which was to the effect that ladies and gentlemen without experience were required to take small parts in a new London production. On March 29 she had an interview with the prisoner. She asked him whether he thought she would do, and he said she would do nicely, and that he would give her the part of Dora Sunnyside in *The Octoroon*, which was to open at Redditch on April 16. She was to pay a fee of £8 for coaching and dresses, and her salary would be £3 10s. a week. A few days afterwards witness paid the £8, and Watson gave her a book of the words of *The Octoroon*, and instructed her to learn her part. The next day she told him that she did not think she could manage it, and said she would be willing to take a part which merely involved "walking on." Dawson, who was present at this interview, said, "You must do that part; I want you for it. You must learn it." She promised to try, and the next time she called the prisoner said, "You will be all right. If you don't do in this company, I will give you something in a musical comedy at New Brompton." Subsequently witness was told that the production of *The Octoroon* had been postponed until April 23 or 30, when it was to be played at Hastings. After this she called at the office three or four times, and went through her part, which consisted of forty or fifty lines. Eventually Dawson said another young lady had been engaged, at a very high salary, to play her part for a week, during which time she was to study under her. Witness felt annoyed at this, and prisoner said, "You had better come and have a cup of coffee." She replied, "I don't want any coffee; I want my money back." Dawson was then "kind of rude," saying, "Do you want the earth? Do you want to be a star right away?" She repeated that she wanted her money back, and she then went away and consulted her solicitor.

In answer to the magistrate, witness said she had received no money back—nothing except a cup of coffee for her £8.

Albert Macintyre Dorrow, a law writer, of Colebrooke-road, Islington, also gave evidence as to going to the prisoner in response to the same advertisement that attracted the previous witness. Watson, he said, told him that he had two parts to offer him, one that of Dr. Manette in *A Tale of Two Cities*, the premium for which would be £2 2s. and the salary £2, and the other that of Captain Howard in a sketch called *Diamond Cut Diamond*, the premium for that being £5 5s. and the salary £3. The sketch was to tour the London halls for six months. Witness chose the part of Captain Howard, and handed five guineas to the prisoner, who gave him a receipt in the following terms: "Received from Mr. McDorrow the sum of £5 5s. for the part of Captain Howard in sketch *Diamond Cut Diamond*, and coaching for same." Witness memorised his part, but when he commenced to repeat it in the presence of the prisoner and Blackburn (the name by which he knew Dawson) he was stopped at the third line by Watson, who said he must throw more light and shade into his words. That was practically all witness received for his money.

Answering Mr. Doherty, witness denied that he paid the five guineas for elocution lessons. He paid it to get a part.

Charles Hawkins, a vocalist, of Northwood-road, Highgate, said he paid the prisoner £3 3s. on being offered the part of Frederick in a play called *The Jew*, which he was told was to be produced in the North of England. Witness repeated his part on several occasions to the prisoner and a young lady, a Miss Milner, who was employed in the office.

Cross-examined, witness said that undoubtedly he was a fool; he saw it now, but he didn't then. He considered that he was as capable of catering for the British public as a good many.

Mr. Doherty: You haven't a very high opinion of the actors and actresses of the present day, have you?—Witness: Of some.

You think you are capable of taking any part?—No, but since leaving Watson I have taken part in a play, and I was told I was a fool to have paid any money for lessons.

Leonard Walter, a young man, said he "assisted his mother in the public line"—in other words, he was a barman at the Eagle Tavern, New-road, Gravesend. He answered one of the syndicate's advertisements, which stated, among other things, that "refinement is more essential than experience. Splendid opportunity to enter the profession." Prisoner offered him a part in *The Octoroon*, saying he would have to pay £10 for costumes, and would receive a salary of £3 10s. a week. Eventually, witness paid Dawson £7, but shortly afterwards he found that Watson had been arrested, and the office was closed. Witness's part was a "thinking" one. He was the auctioneer's clerk, and, according to the stage directions, he merely had to sit at his master's feet. The prisoner was again remanded in custody.

The proposed Shakespeare Memorial was discussed at a conversazione given by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, at the Mansion House, on Wednesday evening, to meet the members of the London Shakespeare League and the Memorial Committtee. The guests numbered 900, and included the United States Ambassador, the Lord Chief Justice, Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., and Sir Francis Burnand. Professor Gollancz made a statement as to the present position of the proposed Shakespeare memorial in London. The competition for the design would shortly be thrown open to artists throughout the world on terms to be announced by the Advisory Committee of experts, Mr. Richard Badger's extra donation of £1,000 being assigned for prizes. The designs would be exhibited next year. The movement would, it was hoped, be not merely national, nor yet confined within the broader limits of the Empire and America, but would be truly international. The city of Venice had asked to be permitted to contribute, and other foreign municipalities would follow its example. The memorial should be an accomplished fact by 1916, the tercentenary of the poet's death.

Makes the Skin as Soft as Velvet.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Invaluable for the Complexion, Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHPLACE.

The annual meeting of the trustees and guardians of Shakespeare's Birthplace was held on Monday afternoon in the Trustees' Room at the birthplace ticket-office, Stratford-on-Avon. This was the first time that the trustees had met in the new Board-room, which is a large chamber, with a lofty timber-beamed roof, on the first floor of the restored cottages in Henley-street, which Mr. Carnegie presented to the trust some years ago. Mr. Sidney Lee presided; and among others there were present Lord Hertford, the Mayor of the borough (Mr. W. Pearce), Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Lionel Cust, and Mr. A. D. Flower.

The annual report of the Executive Committee stated that during the year 33,587 persons had paid for admission to the Birthplace, of whom 25,205 also paid for tickets to the museum and library, 18,335 visited on payment Anne Hathaway's cottage, 512 the museum and foundations of New Place, and 27,196 persons signed their names in the visitors' album at the Birthplace. The balance-sheet showed that the expenditure had amounted to £1,932 14s. 11d., and the income to £1,911 16s. 6d.

In moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, the Chairman said that they were offering the nation, in whose behalf they acted as trustees, an account of the manner in which they had sought to fulfil the dignified obligations that had been cast upon them, of guarding the only existing memorial that was truly national of the greatest poet and dramatist of the world. It might well become London, the capital city of the Empire, to erect a national monument to Shakespeare, the national poet. They would all rejoice if due success attended the recently revived effort to carry out such a design. But the public ought not to forget that the Birthplace trust was itself already a national memorial under the authority of an Act of Parliament.

Death had robbed them last October within a single week of two of their most honoured colleagues, the late Lord Leigh and the late Sir Henry Irving. Lord Leigh had been connected with the trust in his official capacity for just fifty years, and his name and fame would always be cherished by them. Sir Henry Irving had been a trustee for nineteen years, in virtue of his services to Shakespearean drama. One of his last acts in life was to send a small subscription to their funds and a banker's order for an annual subscription, which had been destined not to take effect. But the circumstance that his dying hand should have been uplifted in the support of the trust would not be easily effaced from their memories. In the course of the year Lord Leigh's place as *ex-officio* trustee in right of the office of Lord Lieutenant had been filled by the appointment by the Crown of Lord Hertford, an appointment especially welcome in Stratford, where he already filled the office of High Steward of the borough. Sir Henry Irving's vacant seat had been filled by their own choice of Mr. F. R. Benson, who had done as much in the way of spreading a knowledge of Shakespeare throughout England as any man living. Mr. Benson took his seat at their Board for the first time that afternoon. They hoped he might long join in their counsels.

In the internal affairs of the trust, continued Mr. Lee, they had entered on a period of peace, during which all their energies and attention might be concentrated exclusively on their great purpose of maintaining and improving the efficiency of the trust. The Executive Committee had finally carried out the directions given it for adapting the Horneby cottages—the gift to them by Mr. Carnegie—to the improved administration of the trust. He hoped that provision might be made in their new Board-room under proper precautions, such as were adopted at the Bodleian Library or the British Museum, and under fitting supervision, for the study of their books and papers by serious and responsible persons. There had been a gratifying increase in the number of paying visitors to the Birthplace, the Birthplace Museum, and Anne Hathaway's Cottage. The average receipts from the sale of tickets during the six preceding years had been £1,547; it now exceeded £1,820. Some 3,000 more American citizens visited them in the year than ever before. He regarded that fact with great satisfaction. The expenditure of the trust during the past year had been unusually high. The restoration of the cottages with the furnishing of the Board-room and the ticket-office proved rather more costly than was anticipated. But that was capital expenditure, though it had been wholly drawn from income, and seemed likely largely to increase their revenue. They had had to pay the somewhat heavy costs of their rejected appeal to Quarter Session in support of the certificate of exemption from local rating granted them by the Registrar of Friendly Societies. The case had gone against them, but a thorny question, which had to be decided one way or the other, was thereby settled. All these exceptional charges had been paid to the last farthing without drawing anything from their reserve fund. They had been unable to add much to their collections during the last year, but by the courtesy of the Duke of Rutland they had secured a new and interesting illustration of Shakespeare's biography. The Duke had permitted them to procure photographic reproductions of the newly-discovered entry concerning Shakespeare in a household book at Belvoir Castle kept by one of the Duke's ancestors. The Duke's ancestor paid Shakespeare and his great friend and acting colleague, Richard Burbage, on March 31, 1613, a sum of money for designing a sort of heraldic badge, which the Earl of Rutland displayed on his shield at a great tournament at Court. At the time, as far as they knew, Shakespeare was living in comparative retirement at his house, New-place, in Stratford, of which the site was their property. The discovery, though not much in itself, indicated that there were depositories of Elizabethan documents hitherto unexplored and imperfectly examined, where facts that might fill gaps in their knowledge of Shakespeare's life might yet come to light. In conclusion, Mr. Lee said they were anxious to get from the public all the assistance in their power, moral and material, in carrying out the purposes of the trust, and in the way of improving their collections. He thought they might fairly ask for more outside assistance than they at present enjoyed. Since he had been chairman he had endeavoured to render more operative Clause 6 of their Act, which authorised them to receive devises, bequests, donations, and subscriptions, annual or other, of land, buildings, money, books, pictures, and so forth. He feared they could not hope without such assistance to improve their collections very conspicuously or very rapidly.

Mr. A. D. Flower seconded the motion, and it was supported by Mr. F. R. Benson, who expressed his gratitude for the great honour conferred upon him in electing him as a trustee. Only a few days before his death Sir Henry Irving was in correspondence with him as to coming to the Shakespeare Memorial Festivals in order to act in the place from which he drew so much of the inspiration of his great life and work.

The motion was passed.

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ENGLISH and AMERICAN
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80, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, LONDON, W.
Late of 202, Regent-st., W. Established over 23 Years
American Gold and Porcelain Crowns and Filling, &c
Absolutely Painless Extractions, 2/6
Special terms to the Profession.
Ici on parle Francais. Man Spricht Deutsch.
Qui si parla Italiano.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 14.

After the Ball.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Are You a Mason?—H. M. T., Carlisle.
At Duty's Call.—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
At the World's Mercy.—Athenæum, Lancaster.
Beauty and the Barge.—T. R., Plymouth.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Benson, F. R. (B.).—Folkestone.
Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush.—Dundee.
Bramley, Esmond.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Catch of the Season.—County T., Kingston.
Christian, The (Croke's).—New T., Ealing.
Claudian.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
Compton Comedy Co.—Court T., Liverpool.
Cotton Spinner.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Curate, The.—Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Dishonoured.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Drama of Life.—King's T., Manchester.
Dr. Wake's Patient.—T. R., Bradford.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Attercliffe.
Facing the Music.—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
False Wife.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
Fight for Millions.—Grand T., Southampton.
For Life—and After.—Grand T., Fulham.
Frivolity.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Golden Ladder.—Shakespeare T., Clapham.
Go-Won-Go-Mohawk.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Great Awakening.—Grand T., Islington.
Grip of Iron.—Empire T., Southend.
Her Lost Self.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Sunderland.
Her One Great Sin.—King's T., Cardiff.
Her Wedding Day.—Standard Theatre.
Honour Thy Father.—T. R., Chesterfield.
Human Hearts.—Grand T., Blackpool.
In Holy Russia.—T. R., Barnsley.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Boness-on-Windermere.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—O. H., Wakefield.
Little Bread-Winner.—T. R., Ashton.
London Fireman.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Love That Women Desire.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Luck of Life.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
Macowan Norman.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
Man and Wife.—Standard Theatre.
Man's Enemy.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Manxman, The.—Royalty T., Barrow.
Martin Harvey.—New T., Oxford.
Midnight Mail.—Stockton.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Hyde.
Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
Modern Adventuress.—T. R., Birkenhead
Moody-Manners (B.).—O. H., Crouch End.
Mountain Climber.—T. R., Brighton.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Bolton.
Norman V. Norman.—Pier Pav., Eastbourne.
On the Love Path.—Cambridge and Oxford.
Orphan Heiress.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Otto, the Outcast.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Passion's Power.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Plucky Nipper.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Poor Must Live.—Junction T., Manchester.
Power of Gold.—Gaiety T., Leith.
Price of Her Soul.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Prince of Pilsen.—Empire T., Oldham.
Prodigal Parson.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
Proof.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Public Opinion (N.).—Coronet Theatre.
Public Opinion (S.).—Grand T., Woolwich.
Queen of Villainy.—Queen's T., Longton.
Rogue's Daughter.—T. R., Chester.
Rogues of the Turf.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Romany's Revenge.—T. R., Gloucester.
Royal Divorce.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Royal Divorce (N.).—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
Royal Revenge.—O. H., Burton-on-Trent.
Sailors of the King.—Court T., Wigan.
San Toy.—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
See-Saw of Life.—Palace T., Newcastle.
Sign of the Cross.—Broadway T., Deptford.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Court T., Warrington.
Sins of a City.—Pier Pav., Southend.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—Avenue T., Sunderland.
Still Alarm.—Grand T., Brighton.
Sunday.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
Temptress, The.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Throne of Terror.—Miner's T., Ashington.
Traitor Prince.—T. R., Sheffield.
Two Hussars.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Har.).—Queen's T., Swindon.
Under the Czar.—Grand T., Byker.
Village Blacksmith.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Walls of Jericho (N.).—T. R., Halifax.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—King's T., Hammersmith.
Warner, Miss Grace.—T. R., Aston.
Way of the World.—Lyceum T., Eccles.
What the Butler Saw.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
When a Man Hates.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Wilkie, Allen, and Co.—O. H., Jersey.
Willard, E. S.—Princess's T., Toronto.
Woman of Pleasure.—H. M. T., Barrow.
Woman's Past.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Woulfe T. B. Rep.—T. R., Croydon.
Wrecker of Men.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Youngest of Three.—T. R., Bournemouth.
10.30 Down Express.—T. R., Bath.
£1000 Reward.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

J. Massenet—Saturday, May 12.
Lytton Grey—Saturday, May 12.
Clara Earle—Saturday, May 12.
Dennis Harvey—Saturday, May 12.
Adelina Mercandalli—Saturday, May 12.
Henry Masterman—Saturday, May 12.
Vesta Tilley—Sunday, May 13.
Wilfred Draycott—Sunday, May 13.
Lieut. F. Albini—Sunday, May 13.
Nellie Ross—Sunday, May 13.
Hilda Brandon—Sunday, May 13.
Frank Gillmore—Monday, May 14.
Carl Hertz—Monday, May 14.
Sir Squire Bancroft—Monday, May 14.
Hall Caine—Monday, May 14.
Hilda Spong—Monday, May 14.
Maude Western—Tuesday, May 15.
Mrs. Brown Potter—Tuesday, May 15.
Ida Rene—Wednesday, May 16.
Auguste Van Biene—Wednesday, May 16.
Frank Thornton—Wednesday, May 16.
George Howard—Wednesday, May 16.
Shaun Glenville—Wednesday, May 16.
Alfred Poynton—Wednesday, May 16.
H. Naylor Grimson—Thursday, May 17.
Frank Cumminger—Thursday, May 17.
Ellis Jeffreys—Thursday, May 17.

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. W.—The Burglar and the Judge, *a farce in one act, was first played at the Haymarket Theatre on Nov. 5, 1892, with Messrs. C. H. E. Brookfield and Cyril Maude in the title parts. Mr. Brookfield was part author with F. C. Philips.*

Gratiano.—*When* The Merchant of Venice *was produced at the old Prince of Wales's, in April, 1875, Shylock was played by Charles Coghlan; Bassanio, E. H. Brooke; Duke, Charles Collette; Prince of Morocco, S. B. Bancroft; Lorenzo, Herbert Standing; Gratiano, Lin Rayne; Launcelot Gobbo, Arthur Wood; Old Gobbo, F. Glover; Antonio, Frank Archer; Salanio, A. M. Denison; Salarino, H. H. Teesdale; Nerissa, Miss Carlotta Addison; Jessica, Miss Augusta Wilton; and Portia, Miss Ellen Terry.*

Windsor.—*Mme. Cornelie D'Anka made her first appearance in London in* Fal-sac-ca-pa *at the Globe in April, 1870. She subsequently appeared at various theatres in comic operas and musical pieces.*

A. Williams.—*The cast of* What Will He Do With It? *produced at the Surrey Theatre on Oct. 24, 1859, was as follows:—Guy Darrell, Mr. T. G. Drummond; Jasper Loseby, Mr. Basil Potter; William Loseby, Mr. Vollaire; Lionel Haughton, Mr. J. Fernandez; Vance, Mr. W. Vernon; Lorenzo Rugge, Mr. Shepherd; Cults, Mr. Clarke Allen; Caroline Lindsey, Miss Edith Herand; Saphy, Miss Sarah Thorne; Arabella Crane, Miss Johnstone.*

Alfred Marks.—*We have failed to trace the production of the society play you mention.*

Frank Willson.—*On referring to* The Era *Almanacks, we find that the Trevor dropped out of the list of London music-halls in 1875; but the Sun remained in the list until 1882.*

N. James.—*Too late; should have been sent to us last week.*

W. E. W.—(1) *We have no record of her career before she appeared in the plays you mention.* (2) *As her name does not appear in our Birthday Book, we are unable to inform you.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Street.—May 3, Mrs. Fred Street (Rosie Cousins), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Tibbles—Laurie.—May 9, 1903, at Barrow-in-Furness, P. T. Tibbles (née Selbit, magician) to Renée Laurie, of "Three Little Britons" Co.

DEATHS.

Brandon.—Tuesday morning, May 8, Olga Brandon, at 10 a.m., at 97, College-place, Camden Town. Aged 40 years.

Dam.—April 26, at Havana, Cuba, from cancer of the stomach, Henry J. W. Dam, dramatic and miscellaneous writer.

Thomson.—April 26, 1906, at Glengariff, Tottenham-lane, Hornsey, Archibald Percy Thomson, well known to many in the circus profession. R.I.P.

Waite.—On April 18, 1906, Edward Willighby Waite (late flautist Empire, Stratford, also of Cheltenham, Plymouth, &c.).

Wallett.—At Liverpool, on April 21, after a week's illness, Edgar, youngest son of J. W. and Ellen Wallett, aged 23 years.

Bosco.—April 22, at his residence, Reade's-avenue, Blackpool, Bosco, magician, aged 72.

In Memoriam.

Bute.—In ever-loving memory of Olive Bute, who entered into her rest May 15, 1900. Ever missed by her loving friend Violet Ellicott.
"Until the day break
And the shadows flee away."

Giles.—In loving memory of Thomas Gilleno Giles, who died May 14, in Bangkok, Siam. Never forgotten by his loving wife and family.

Harcourt.—In loving memory of Sidney Harcourt, who passed away May 11, 1905.

Leonard.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Charles Leonard, who departed this life May 14, 1904. Though lost to sight to memory dear.

Manders.—In loving memory of my dear, beloved husband, John Manders, who died at Ashby, May 23, 1905, aged 67 years.
A year has passed, and still we miss him,
Friends may think the wound has healed;
But they little know the sorrow
That lies within our hearts concealed.
I think of him in silence,
No eyes may see me weep;
But dear within my heart
His memory I will keep.

Paver.—In loving memory of my dear husband, who died April 30, 1905. Though gone, never forgotten by his loving wife and children.

Toft.—In affectionate remembrance of May Toft, who departed this life May 10, 1905, at her residence, Oxford Lodge, Ranelagh, Dublin. Never forgotten by her sister, niece, and nephew.

Toft. — In affectionate remembrance of our dear mother, May Toft, who departed this life, at her residence, Oxford Lodge, Ranelagh, Dublin, May 10, 1905. "Thy will be done."

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Ball, Mr. W. H.
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FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. A.F.C. v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, April 21. Jack Aubrey and Joe Lacey scored for their respective sides. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Belding (captain) (goal), A. Cox and F. Stevens (backs), A. E. Bailey, H. Slade, and S. Carter (half-backs), E. Palmer, J. Aubrey, H. Clements, E. Belding, and L. Clayton (forwards).

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls (goal), E. Denton and J. Tyley (backs), J. Lacey, T. Neagle (captain), and W. Hinder (half-backs), R. Cullen, P. Reardon, W. Meadows, F. Hansford, and H. C. Douglas (forwards).

Referee, H. Edwards; linesmen, H. Hare and A. Hamlin. The result was a tie, each side scoring one goal.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. A.F.C. v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, April 28. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.: H. Belding (captain), goal; J. Lewis and A. Cox, backs; F. Stevens, A E. Bailey, and S. Carter, half-backs; J. Aubrey, R Cullen, E. Belding, H. Clements, and E. Palmer, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.: F. B. Nicholls, goal; J. Tyley and E. Denton, backs; T. Neagle (captain), W. Hinder, and J. Lacy, half-backs; W. Meadows, F. Hansford, P. Reardon, H. C. Douglas, and F. Boyce, forwards.

Referee: H. Slade. Linesmen: D. O'Connor and E. Bowman.

Result: Bristol X.L.C.R., nil; Music Halls, 2 goals. Messrs. J. Lacy and J. Tyley scored for Music Halls A.F.C.

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' ATHLETIC TEAM v. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES' ELEVEN.

Played near Clifton Downs, on April 28. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's XI.: Miss Ethel Bowman, goal; Miss Ivy Bowman and Miss Edie Francis, backs; Miss Cecilia Fowler (captain), Miss Nellie Bailey, and Miss Lillie Belding, half-backs; Miss Amy Bernard, Miss Trixie Maynard, Miss Bertha Godfrey, Miss Minnie Leonard, and Miss Gracie Leonard, forwards.

Miss Bradley's XI.: Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Minnie Hamilton and Miss Alice Gibbs, backs; Miss Edie Lawrence, Miss Lillie Coles, and Miss Lucy Norris, half-backs; Miss Winnie Bradley (captain), Miss Kit Montgomery, Miss Alice Mitchell, Miss Maude Burgess, and Miss Nellie Lawrence, forwards.

Referee: Miss Rosie Davies (of Miss Fowler's team).

Result: Miss Fowler's XI., nil; Miss Bradley's XI., 2 goals. Misses Lucy Norris and Kit Montgomery scored the goals.

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	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	noon	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Liverpool-street, depart ..	8.40	9.45	10.20	11. 5	12. 0	2.35	4.15	4.30	5.15	8.26			
St. Pancras, " ..		..	9.45	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10	..	5. 7	..		
Newmarket, arrive....	10.33	11.45	12.18	12.50	2.20	4.43	6. 5	6.19	7.17	10.18			

Up Trains.	D	D	B*	A†								
	a.m.	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Newmarket, depart ..	8. 3	8.59	10.42	12.30	3.57	4.10	4.15	5.30	5.50	6.15	7.47	
St. Pancras, arrive....	10.23	11.15	..	2.43	6.10	6. 0	..	7.35	8. 0	8.35	..	
Liverpool-street, "	10.15	11. 8	12.40	2.47	6. 3	..	6. 51	7.25	7.45	8.28	9.57	

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Adams, the Late Miss Annie	May 20, 1905.
Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown, Mr. Frank	May 27, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Callan, Late Mr. H. J	June 17, 1905.
Carlton, Mr. Arthur	Nov. 11, 1905.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Castleton, Mrs. Robert	July 15, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Cooper, Miss Florry	Nov. 11, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	August 12, 1905.
Corelli, Miss Hilda	April 15, 1905.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
Cullen, Mr. James	October 7, 1905.
D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
Daltra, Miss Marie	July 22, 1905.
Daly, Late Miss Maria	Nov. 11, 1905.
Davis, Mr. Tom B.	June 24, 1905.
Denmeade, Mr. and Mrs.	July 1, 1905.
Denton, Mr. St. John	March 18, 1905.
De Rohan, Miss Daphne	September 2, 1905.
Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James E.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry E.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr. Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Ellis, the Late Mr. Percy	July 29, 1905.
Emery, Miss Pollie	July 1, 1905
Fanchette, Miss Amy	April 15, 1905.
Flinn, Madame Kate	July 29, 1905.
Forde, Mr. H. Athol	August 26, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.
Grove, Mr. Fred	March 10, 1906.
Grein, Mr. J. T.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Gunn, Miss Haidee	September 30, 1905
Gwynne, Miss Daisy	October 14, 1905.
Hamlyn, Mr. J. D.	January 20, 1906.
Hansen, Miss Laura	January 20, 1906.
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
Harriss, Miss Sophie	April 7, 1905.
Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.
Holloway, Mr. Baliol	April 15, 1905.
Holmes-Dallimore, Mr. A.	Dec. 9, 1905.
Howard, Mr. Frank	April 1, 1905.
Howard, the Late Mr. W.	August 12, 1905.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
Jenoure, Miss Aida	June 24, 1905.
Jerrard, Late Mr. J. F.	April 28, 1906.
Johnson, Mr. William	December 16, 1905.
Jones, Miss Marie	April 1, 1905.
Jones, Miss Gladys Rose	September 16, 1905.
Juliette, Mdlle.	January 13, 1906.
Karno, Mr. Fred	August 12, 1905.
Kenney, Miss Rosa	July 1, 1905.
Kenney, Mr. Charles	September 23, 1905.
Kinghorne, Mr. Mark	February 10, 1906.
Kingston, Miss Bertha	February 24, 1906.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1906.

THACKERAY AND THE THEATRE.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE'S forthcoming production of a dramatic version of "The Newcomes" will be the second recent instance of a masterpiece of WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THACKERAY'S being presented on the stage. Fresh in the memory and admiration of all is Miss MARIE TEMPEST'S appearance as Becky Sharp; and now Mr. TREE is to show us how effective on the boards a practised dramatist like Mr. MICHAEL MORTON can make another novel of THACKERAY'S. The great novelist would have hailed with delight the appearance of his work before the footlights. He was always a lover of the theatre; and, as a small boy, played Fusbos in *Bombastes Furioso* in a performance promoted by some of his schoolfellows at the Charterhouse. "Do you remember, dear M——, oh, friend of my youth," he writes in "Vanity Fair," "how, one blissful night five-and-twenty years since, *The Hypocrite* being acted, ELLISTON being manager, DOWTON and LISTON performers, two boys had leave from their loyal masters to go out from Slaughter House School, where they were educated, and to appear on Drury Lane stage, amongst a crowd which assembled there to greet the King?" Many years later, he asked a friend if he loved "the play," and was answered "Ye-es; I like a good play." He retorted, "Oh, get out! I said *the* play. You don't even understand what I mean." When he was in Germany he went with an actor to Erfürt to see *Die Räuber*, admired DEVRIENT'S fine performance as Franz Moor, and was afterwards introduced to him. From Paris he wrote home ironical accounts of Mademoiselle GEORGES and the number of crimes he had seen her commit on the stage, and laughed at *Kean*, in which drama DUMAS introduced Lord "Melbourn," "Sir Brougham," and "Sir Hardinge," and derided a shipwreck of the Medusa, in which officers in the English navy were represented wearing light green coats and top-boots. He thus summed-up the state of the French stage of the late thirties: "While the drama of VICTOR HUGO, DUMAS, and the enlightened classes is profoundly immoral and absurd, the drama of the common people is absurd, if you will, but good and right-hearted."

Most of the characters in his novels are playgoers. In "Vanity Fair," Cuff, who is thrashed by Dobbin, visits the opera, and knows the merits of the principal actors, preferring Mr. KEAN to Mr. KEMBLE. George Osborne, on the eve of his departure for Belgium in 1815, goes off at half-price to see KEAN as Shylock; and Dobbin, on his return from India, treats himself to a seat at the Haymarket. The interior of the Brussels Opera House, Mrs. O'Dowd thought, was not as fine as the theatre in Fishamble-street, Dublin; but at Brussels it was that Mr. and Mrs. George Osborne, Dobbin, and Mrs. O'Dowd occupied a box facing another in which were Mr. and Mrs. Rawdon Crawley and General Tufto. Becky had her box on the third tier of the opera house in London, and was cut in the "crush-room" by Lady Bareacres and Lady de la Mole. Her appearances in the private theatricals at Gaunt House must be well remembered by all readers of "Vanity Fair"; and it is supposed that, later on, she made a *fiasco* under the name of Madame Rebecque at Strasburg, in the opera of *La Dame Blanche*, in 1830.

Then there was the Pumpernickel Staats-Theater, where Amelia and her boy George, Dobbin, and Jos heard "those many unassuming, dear old operas in the German towns, where the noblesse sits and cries, and knits stockings, on the one side, over against the *bourgéoisie* on the other; and His Transparency the Duke and his Transparent family, all very fat and good-natured, come and occupy the great box in the middle, and the pit is full of the most elegant, slim-waisted officers, with straw-coloured moustachios, and twopence a day in full pay." And who is not familiar with the theatrical scenes in "Pendennis"—with Bows the first violinist, with Mrs. Dropsicum, who takes the money at the door; with Miss "Milly." Fotheringay; and with Bingley, who played the Stranger in light pantaloons and Hessian boots, and let his little finger quiver out of his cloak adorned with an imitation diamond ring which had belonged to QUIN. The hero of "Esmond" goes with Lord Castlewood to the Duke's Playhouse in Lincoln's Inn Fields, and sees Mrs. BRACEGIRDLE in a play of WYCHERLEY'S; and George Warrington, in "The Virginians," makes his first attempt in the dramatic style" in a tragedy called *Carpesan*, which is put very elegantly on the stage by Mr. RICH at Covent Garden. THACKERAY himself tried his hand at playwriting, and, in 1854, sent to BUCKSTONE at the Haymarket and to WIGAN at the Olympic a comedy entitled *The Wolves and the Lamb*. Both managers refused it with decision. "I thought I could write a play," said THACKERAY, "and I find I can't." So, very wisely, he altered it into a novel under the title of "Lovel the Widower." As soon as it was made into a book, someone proposed to turn it into a play. Hearing of this, THACKERAY wrote to the intending adapter, mentioning that he—THACKERAY—had written the book originally as a drama, and was going to have a private representation of the piece. In this performance, THACKERAY appeared with a cigar as the clerical father, and blessed the actors and the audience in dumb show at the fall of the curtain. In the cast were HERMAN MERIVALE, Sir CHARLES YOUNG, the author of *Jim the Penman*, and MORGAN O'CONNELL, son of the great Irish orator. *The Diary of C. Jeames de la Pluche, Esq.*, was dramatised by Mr. F. C. BURNAND, and produced by Mr. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD at the Gaiety Theatre in 1878. *The Rose and the Ring* was adapted by Mr. SAVILE CLARKE, set to music by Mr. WALTER SLAUGHTER, and presented at a matinée at the Prince of Wales's in 1890; and Mr. J. M. BARRIE'S version of "Vanity Fair" was tried at Terry's in 1893, with Miss JANET ACHURCH as Becky Sharp, Miss ANNIE HUGHES as Amelia, and Mr. EDMUND MAURICE as Jos Sedley. The dramatisation of "Esmond" has been attempted at least three times.

THACKERAY'S view of the stage was that of an indulgent but rather contemptuous patron. He had only a superficial acquaintance with its inner life, and no knowledge of its intimate trials and tragedies. Like DICKENS, he chose to describe the absurdities and pettinesses of fourth-rate provincial theatres, as they were in his youth. The dignity and estimation to which the drama has attained in the present epoch, the large sums invested in theatrical speculation, and the intellectual and social advance of the profession generally, he could not possibly foresee. But he had a genuine love for the stage, and in his treatment of it in his novels he was always friendly, kindly, and humorous.

MR. CHARLES KLEIN, the author of *The Lion and the Mouse*, who is at present in London, has views upon the American stage, which he declares is in a period of transition, converging towards the metaphysical. "The public," he says, "are tired of plays that do not appeal to their intelligence as well as their sense of humour. In London the attitude of the upper classes seems to be rather apathetic; and only the people in the more popular parts of the theatre apparently take the drama seriously. I don't know if this difference is due to the fact that in London the play is given after dinner. There seem to be so many 'class audiences' in London; whereas in America all classes go to the same theatre. Possibly that is why any new development in dramatic taste is more quickly apparent over there.

"THIS trend towards the metaphysical," continues Mr. Klein, "is, I think, the direct result of the American mind being concentrated on self-development. Everything in America is converging towards the metaphysical—as in mechanics, wireless telegraphy, and telephones. We no longer believe in the ideal hero," adds Mr. Klein. "He has to have failings; he must be human. That makes it difficult to establish contrasts, as it was formerly the villain who was supposed to have weaknesses of character or positive vices. Then, the injured heroine no longer creates the sympathy that she used to create. People to-day merely shrug their shoulders, and say she deserved a great deal of what she got. That is why playwrights have to turn to new backgrounds, new ideas, and new treatment for their plays. There are only thirty-seven dramatic situations in existence, you know, and they have all been used so many times that you cannot copyright one of them."

MR. CHARLES SANTLEY, the eminent vocalist, was one of the speakers at the Catholic Demonstration against the Education Bill at the Albert Hall on Saturday. Mr. Santley, who was enthusiastically received, spoke with great earnestness, and his magnificent voice, which has so often sounded in the hall in the rendering of ballad and cantata, easily reached the confines of the immense auditorium, his speech being heartily cheered.

IN honour of the coming visit of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London to open the new Grand Pavilion and Parades at Bridlington, Herr Sigmund Winternitz, the talented conductor of the Royal Viennese orchesta, has composed a march entitled "L'Entente Cordiale," dedicated by permission to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

The report of the committee of shareholders of the London Coliseum was presented at the adjourned meeting at Cardiff on Thursday, over which Mr. Oswald Stoll presided.

The committee reported that they had ascertained that the present receipts, unless several economies were effected, were not sufficient to justify the expenditure, as the loss in working up to March 31 was very considerable. Since the debenture-holders stepped in the management had effected many economies in various ways, and the *Revue*, which was a very attractive performance, was being run now three times daily. There was no other building of its kind which would compare in any way with the Coliseum in magnificence, but experience proved that it was unsuitable for the class of entertainment which had hitherto been run. The committee was of opinion that after allowing for depreciation of fixtures, scenery, &c., payment of debenture interest, and a fair proportion of preliminary expenses, the net profit amounted to £4,000.

It had come to the conclusion that Mr. Brukewich's dealings in the shares had generally been to benefit himself, with very little regard to the company. Mr. Carey was justified in his remark that he had never bought or sold a share other than his original purchase on starting. Mr. Stoll had 3,100 shares; he now possessed 3,270 Ordinary Shares. Mr. Stoll's holding in the company at the present moment was £31,965 Debenture Stock, £5,000 Preference, and £16,350 Ordinary. Mr. Stoll's profit on the sale of the Coliseum site to the company was £30,000. The actual liabilities on March 31 were: Debenture capital, £114,088; guaranteed by directors, £53,813; various creditors, £35,741; total, £203,642. At the last meeting most shareholders understood that the directors had not received any remuneration for their services. The committee found that Mr. Brukewich and Mr. Carey had received £400 in fees, besides travelling expenses.

Mr. Stoll was correct when he said he had not received any remuneration for his services.

Mr. Stoll was of opinion that the the Coliseum would be made to pay after what it had passed through, and the experience gained in working, but the committee were of opinion that they must liquidate the present undertaking, and the same committee would look after the various interests of the shareholders. In the meantime, the committee proposed that the *Revue* should continue, and stated that Mr. Stoll had consented to act with other directors, to be appointed later, who would render him more assistance than he had hitherto received. By this means and economies which it was proposed to immediately effect Mr. Stoll was of opinion that the place would pull through its present difficulties and become of some benefit to the shareholders. The most optimistic must admit, however, it was stated, that they would have to raise additional capital.

The committee recommended that the resolution for voluntary liquidation by the directors be adopted, and that Messrs. R. H. Gillespie and H. S. Metcalf be appointed joint liquidators.

Mr. Matcham, the architect, said he was not responsible for the whole of the difference between the cost of the building and the original contract. A portion of the work was taken out of his hands entirely. He was responsible for £115,000. Mr. Stoll appointed an electrical engineer for certain work, and he carried it out. Mr. Matcham added he had not made any claim for commission on the excess work. The commission was disputed.

Mr. Carey said that the company's solicitors had taken counsel's opinion, but it was of such a nature that they felt they could not proceed with the claim.

Mr. Stoll said it was a matter of deepest regret to him that anyone should have lost money over a company of his, but no one could be a greater loser than himself. He had used his resources to the advantage of the company instead of to his own advantage. Neither time nor energy nor financial sacrifices had been spared by him to keep the ship afloat until it could keep itself and go into smooth water. He neither lacked confidence nor persistence even now.

Mr. H. J. Thomas said if the company was wound up voluntarily the control would still be in the hands of the committee, and further investigations might give them an opportunity of making suggestions to the shareholders.

The resolution for voluntarily winding-up was carried. The committee recommended that the liquidators should have power to add to their number, and they proposed to add Mr. Stoll. This was carried unanimously.

MUSIC-HALL CONTRACTS.

In the King's Bench Division on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Kennedy and Mr. Justice A. T. Lawrence, the appeal case of Jones v. Wakefield Hippodrome raised important points in music-hall contracts. The appeal was by Mr. W. C. Jones, proprietor of the troupe known as the American Comedy Four, against a decision of Judge Addison, at the Southwark County Court, who had entered judgment for the defendants.

Mr. W. Paine appeared for the plaintiff in support of the appeal, while Mr. Doughty opposed it on behalf of the defendants.

The question in dispute was the right of the defendants to cancel a contract by which the plaintiff and his troupe were engaged for four weeks, at £30 a week, to appear at the Wakefield Hippodrome. The contract was dated Feb. 28, 1905, and the engagement was to begin on Sept. 4 following. A condition of the contract was that the plaintiff was not to make any engagement within ten miles of Wakefield until after the date of the performance mentioned in the contract. It was further provided that in the event of the defendants closing the hall "through damage by fire or other unforeseen circumstance or in consequence of any strike of workmen in the district, or from any reason whatever, in their own absolute discretion," the contract should be null and void.

The plaintiff's case was that soon after the contract was made the hall was closed. Arrangements were made with Mr. Selwyn, of the Lyceum, London, to take over the Hippodrome, and in August the defendants notified by advertisement that the hall would not be opened by the Wakefield Hippodrome (Limited), and that the artists must make new contracts with Mr. Selwyn. Though Mr. Selwyn took over a number of the contracts, he could do nothing for the plaintiff and his troupe.

The plaintiff then brought his action against the defendants, and the county court judge held on the contract that the company discontinued to carry on the hall in May owing to a strike, which caused the collieries in the district to work only two days a week, and thus deprived the hall of the support of the colliers, on which it relied for success. Therefore, he said, the plaintiff's engagement was at an end, and Mr. Selwyn was in no way acting for the defendants.

The plaintiff now contended that the conditions of his contract as to strikes only referred to the week for which his troupe was engaged, and there was no obligation on the part of the defendants to keep the hall open at any time before Sept. 4. For the defendants it was argued that they were not liable under the terms of the contract.

Their lordships upheld the decision of the county court judge, and dismissed the appeal, with costs.

THE following subscriptions have been added to the fund instituted on behalf of Mr. Fred Locke:—Regan and Ryan, £1 1s.; Wal Croft, £1 1s.; M. R. S., £1 1s.; N. C., 10s.; J. Miller (219), 5s.; W. A., 2s. 6d.; W. G. Paterson, 2s. 6d.; A Friend, 1s.; J. B. Gordon, 10s. 6d.; Edwin Barwick, 5s. Mr. J. G. Crichton has the fund in hand.

"THE EXPRESS BABY."

Sketch, by Campbell Rae-Brown, produced for the first time in London at the Middlesex, On Monday, May 7.

Algernon Rippleton ..... MR. FRANK ESMOND
His Aunt ..... MISS KITTY DEASE
Flossie Rippleton ..... MISS EDITH EVELYN

Mr. Campbell Rae-Brown has taken the idea for his sketch from *The Little Stranger* at the Criterion. One Algernon Rippleton has been brought by his own and his wife's extravagance to the verge of bankruptcy. He could be made fairly well-to-do if he only had a son, for his aunt Alexandra has promised him the sum of £5000 as soon as an heir is born to him. Now Mrs. Rippleton is more fond of kittens than of the human baby. But, even if they haven't got a child, they must have money. A plan occurs to Algernon's none too conceptive brain. He will get Clarkson to make him a baby similar to that which is performing such good service at the Criterion Theatre, the scheme being, of course, to deceive what the impecunious couple consider to be a miserly old aunt. The baby arrives in due course from the costumier's, and the aunt arrives also. Algy has not informed his wife as to the bogus baby, the reason for this reticence on her husband's part being, as he explains it, that she simply detests children. One wonders, indeed, why the lady married at all. However, she has a remarkable affection for the lower animals. Her prize Persian has just been delivered of three kittens, so that when she arrives home one afternoon, and hears the aunt talking delightedly about the new arrival, she thinks that the old lady is referring to the kittens. Confusion inevitably ensues. Seeing her husband fondling a baby, Mrs. Rippleton threatens it with instant destruction, and the aunt snatches up the supposed infant and rushes out of the room with it. Then Algy, who has already secured the £5000, makes his wife a partner in the secret. During her progress downstairs the aunt slips, and the baby is somewhat battered when she returns it to its loving "parents." Algy announces its death, with expressions of grief, and Alexandra is so overcome that she offers to furnish any further sums of money they may require.

Miss Edith Evelyn, as the extravagant Flossie with a partiality towards the feline tribe, acts extremely well, and with easy naturalness simulates the character in all its phases. Mr. Frank Esmond enacts in capital style the rôle of the happy-go-lucky yet deceptive Algy; and Miss Kitty Dease submits quite a characteristic study of an old maiden lady.

"THE BURGLAR'S DOG."

Sketch, by R. A. Roberts, produced at the Cambridge, on Monday, May 7.

The Jeweller ..... MR. ARTHUR GOODMAN
His Daughter ..... MISS MAY
The Burglar ..... MR. MICHEL BRAHAM
His Dog

This sketch seems intended in large degree to show the cleverness of a dog called "Royal York," son of "Crawford King" and "Lady Lucy." Royal York is a fine specimen of a bull terrier, and we are informed that it has taken over three years to train him for the stage. The result of Mr. Braham's teaching, so far as the trifle produced at the Cambridge is concerned, is decidedly successful. The story is this. A jeweller has been entrusted by a rich lady with her case of diamonds. She thinks the jewels are safer in his unostentatious house than they would be in her mansion, especially as she is about to go upon a journey. She arranges with him to bring the case to her at five o'clock one morning. The jeweller shows the diamonds to his daughter, and while the latter is gazing at them a man and a dog look through the window and then disappear. The girl puts the case into a china cupboard, and she and the old man retire to bed. Then—enter the burglar, and also enter his dog. Once in the room the animal performs all manner of interesting feats. At his master's bidding he shuts the doors, and, indeed, seems to understand every order given. The burglar discovers the jewels, and places them in his coat pocket. Then, after partaking uninvited of some refreshment, he falls asleep. An alarm clock, regulated so as to arouse the jeweller at a certain hour, gives its warning, and the dog tries to awaken its master. The jeweller and his daughter come downstairs, and in a few seconds the unwelcome visitor is awakened. Fearing the dog more than the man, the jeweller shoots at it, but misses the animal and fatally wounds its master. The dog caresses the burglar, whose dying words are a request for kindly treatment of the faithful brute. In the playing of his part Royal York displays remarkable intelligence, and one may congratulate its trainer. Mr. Michel Braham gives us a characteristic study of a cockney burglar, and Mr. Arthur Goodman submits a capital presentment of an old man in the rôle of the jeweller, while Miss May is graceful and pleasing as the daughter.

"TAMING A HUSBAND."

This lively and amusing sketch has been delighting audiences at the Britannia during the present week. Frank Marlow has been wedded three months to a wife who carefully studies his likes and dislikes, and who is most attentive to him in every way. To his way of thinking she is too obliging, too considerate. The Marlows are visited by a friend, Colonel Adams, and the devoted Mrs. Marlow, with feminine curiosity, desires to learn what her husband has to say about her to their military visitor. So she hides behind a screen while the two men converse. Marlow tells the Colonel that his wife, though extremely charming in many ways, is rather boring at times. For a bit of a change it is suggested that the Colonel and he take a night out, and this they decide to do. When they have temporarily left the room Mrs. Marlow arranges a plan of revenge. The nice tea she has prepared for her husband shall be made nasty. She keeps the chop on the fire until it is as black as a cinder and about as tasty, and the addition of pepper and salt to his teacup will, she considers, impart to that hitherto delicate blend of beverage a flavour which her carping husband will scarcely appreciate. Nor does he. More than that, when he returns he is assailed in what to him is a most inexplicable manner. What does his good lady mean by bumping him down on his chair and forcing the tea-cosy on his head? What does she mean by threatening him and the Colonel with the poker, the tongs, and chasing them round the room with a murderous-looking knife, which a Red Indian of another day would have been proud to employ on the scalp of some hated paleface? The gallant Colonel would sooner have faced a hundred Afridi warriors than this ferocious female. However, after thoroughly convincing her husband that she is not, after all, such an extremely obliging wife, she departs, only to return a few minutes later. But her demeanour is changed. Her madness has vanished, and once more she is the sweet and complaisant mistress of the house. Would they like to take her to the opera? There is wonderful unanimity in their affirmative—for, has she not tamed her husband?

Miss Louisa Peach acts with much vivacity and forcefulness in the rôle of Mrs. Marlow, and the methods she employs to express her outraged feelings create intense merriment. Mr. Wellesley Draper depicts in capital style the disgust, surprise, and even terror of the man at the antics of the wife he had come to regard as the gentlest, the most amiable, and the most attentive helpmate. The part of Colonel Adams has an able interpreter in Mr. Conrad Clarke, who enters into the spirit of the thing with considerable zest.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Miss Vesta Tilley made her appearance at the Colonial Theatre, New York, on Monday, April 30, before a house packed from floor to ceiling with a representative society audience, and was received with immense enthusiasm. She sang five songs, "Lovers' Lane," "A Policeman's Duty" (her natty appearance as an English policeman tickling her audience), "The Royal Artillery," "The Seaside Sultan," and, in response to loud calls, "Following in father's footsteps." At the end of this song Miss Tilley was thrice recalled, and the curtain lowered for the next act, but the audience insisted upon her coming before the curtain again.

After repeated bows she was forced to say a few words, and in a feeling little speech thanked her audience for their appreciation, promising to produce several new songs during her six weeks' engagement with Manager Williams. She was cheered and cheered again, and eventually had to sing "Algy" before the house would settle down to the rest of the entertainment. The booking at the Colonial is phenomenal, and has beaten all records, so that Miss Tilley looks like adding further laurels to her already brilliant record in the States, and this in spite of the hot weather prevailing just now.

Mr. Malcolm Scott, who is figuring successfully in the London Pavilion programme as "the woman who knows," will leave England on Saturday, June 2, for South Africa to fulfil his first engagement out there with Messrs. Hyman. His brother, Percy Scott, has also been concerned with "engagements" in South Africa.

The coming of age of the Paragon Theatre of Varieties, Mile End-road, is to be celebrated on Thursday evening next. In a specially prepared and admirably compiled souvenir issued by Mr. George Adney Payne to mark the interesting event, the history of Mile End in general and the Paragon in particular is traced from the time of Wat Tyler's rebellion in 1381 to the present day.

The Eagle Tavern, upon the site of which the theatre stands, was probably erected in the reign of Elizabeth—about 1590—and the Eagle Gardens were opened as Lusby's Pleasure Gardens, December 4, 1673. Lusby's Summer and Winter Palace, which opened on April 2, 1877, was acquired by Messrs. Crowder and Payne on July 8, 1878, and was destroyed by fire on January 20, 1884. The new Paragon, which was opened on May 21, 1885, was incorporated with the Canterbury on June 17, 1887. The souvenir is illustrated with some excellent portraits of past and present managers and proprietors.

Mr. Alfred Butt, the manager of the Palace Theatre, has just returned from America, where he has secured several good turns, which will shortly be presented at the Palace Theatre. The first of these will be introduced on Monday, when Rose Stahl, the well-known theatrical star, will appear in *The Chorus Lady*, which has had an enormously successful run on the variety stage in the States. On the same evening Eltinge, who has created a furore in America, will appear for the first time in this country, and a great surprise is promised in connection with this turn.

Mr. Spencer Barry, the new stage director that has been appointed to the Empire, has been some years with Mr. J. C. Williamson in Australia, and has had a varied experience as a producer of Gilbert and Sullivan operas and dozens of musical comedies. He has recently been associated with a successful production of *Véronique*.

There will shortly be produced at the Palace Theatre a new Japanese play, dramatised by Mr. Cecil Newton from a short story by Sir A. Conan Doyle. The score has been specially written by the brother of Maurice Hewlett, the well-known author of *The Forest Lovers*, Mr. H. W. Hewlett, composer of the music to Maurice's fairy fantasy *Pan and the Young Shepherd*, recently produced at the Court. Mr. Cecil Newton will appear in the play, which is, we believe, something very novel in its particular line.

Londoners generally have no idea of the dual purpose of Mr. Frank Parker's great water spectacle, *The Flood*, at the London Hippodrome. Now that the summer is upon us, a real benefit to the public occurs. Firstly, the purification of the air in the building twice daily by the rainstorm, involving the descent of 10,000 gallons of water, which not only causes a vacuum, carrying away all odours and foul elements, should there be any, but, it may be explained, fulfils a most beneficent sanitary purpose in flushing the public drains by half a million gallons of water weekly, thus helping the local authorities to keep the neighbourhood sweet and wholesome, to the advantage of everybody.

Mr. Joseph Wilson after a few days spent at Mr. George Adney Payne's delightful home at Herne Bay, has come back to the Tivoli strenuous and strong, having entirely recovered from an indisposition that kept him away from his duties for ten days.

The London Pavilion Cricket Eleven are already showing excellent form. On Tuesday, at Tufnell Park, they scored a hollow victory over the Apollo Theatre team, scoring 235 runs to the 75 of their opponents. Of these G. Clegg, of the Pavilion orchestra, scored 120, and also took four wickets for 54, Mr. William Cobbett, the popular assistant-manager, securing five wickets for 30.

"The Power of Music," a romance in one scene, produced at the Tivoli on Saturday afternoon, tells a story of jealousy and revenge, revolving round the rival lovers of a beautiful girl. One of them is a violin player, whose prized instrument is broken by the other. The slight plot reminds the older playgoer of that graceful little piece, François Coppée's *Le Luthier de Crémône*, which has been several times translated for our stage—once by Jerome K. Jerome under the title of *Fennel*, and performed at the Novelty Theatre on March 31, 1888. In *The Power of Music* the clever and pretty Miss Dora de Winton, and her husband, Mr. John Saunders, appeared in conjunction with Jan Rudenyi, who won hearty applause for his violin solos.

Mr. Alf Abrahams, of the Coach and Horses, Wellington-street, Strand, brother of Fred and Michael Abrahams, of the Queen's, Poplar, had a record day on Tuesday fly-fishing in Hertfordshire, taking in two hours nine trout weighing 12½lb., the largest being 2lb. 9oz.

Mr. Charles Clifford, the clever harpist, is in town, after having fulfilled a long and successful provincial tour.

Mr. C. W. Adams, the resident-manager of the Holloway Empire, has just received a letter from his brother-in-law, Ted E. Box, the well-known comedian, who was in San Francisco at the time of the terrible earthquake. He is glad to be able to inform Mr. Box's numerous friends that the comedian and his wife are safe and sound, although they have undergone terrible sufferings, narrowly escaping being crushed to death in their hotel. They have lost everything, and, together with thousands more, are living on charity. Mr. Box, however, is not the person to be daunted even by earthquakes, and as soon as his nerves are somewhat recovered hopes to recoup all his losses, as his bookings for America are very big. He returns to England in August, en route for South Africa under contract to Mr. Edgar Hyman.

The news that the directors of the New Alhambra, Belfast, are prepared to receive offers for that old-established hall, has caused quite a mild sensation in Belfast. Our readers will remember that some few years ago the present directors purchased the hall from Mr. W. J. Ashcroft ("the Solid Man"), and immediately started the arrangement of two houses nightly—in fact, they were the pioneers of this system in Belfast.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten's Leicester Pavilion Theatre of Varieties presented a most animated appearance on Friday evening, May 4th, when, by the kind permission of Mr. Macnaghten, the two performances were given in aid of endowing two cots at the Children's Hospital on behalf of the licensed victuallers of the town. The pretty and cosy hall presented a charming appearance, and altogether the evening's entertainment was thoroughly enjoyable.

Mr. Frederic Baugh, Mr. Macnaghten's London manager, was present, and purchased the first programme sold at the price of two guineas. The acting-manager, Walter Lapworth, and the stage-manager, Joe Lawrence, rendered excellent service. Mr. J. Noble returned thanks on behalf of the licensed victuallers to Mr. Frank Macnaghten and Mr. Frederic Baugh for their kindness.

The hospitality of the Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was generously extended to the officers and about 150 members of the crew of the Japanese battleship Kashima on Friday evening, the 4th. Accompanying the sailors were the Mayor and Mayoress of Newcastle, the former sitting with the officers in the front row of the grand circle, whilst the Mayoress, members of her family, and a number of Japanese gentlemen occupied one of the boxes. The act of the Craggs family of acrobats and comedians delighted the visitors. The other turns, too, were keenly followed, the mental arithmetic of Jacques Inaudi being very heartily applauded. At a convenient opportunity the Mayor returned thanks on behalf of the guests for the entertainment provided. At the close there was a thrilling little scene. Mr. Richard Thornton, bearing the Japanese standard, and Lieutenant Sosa, proudly carrying the Union Jack, appeared on the stage, being greeted with continued cheers.

Mr. Walter Johnson, the musical director at the Hackney Empire, is responsible for the music of a scena presented by the Stella Troupe at that house this week. The scena has taken well since its first introduction. It has light, colour, and plenty of movement. The swing-time song rendered by the girls has a decided fascination about it. The music is most tuneful, and engenders the hope that still further evidence of Mr. Johnson's abilities as a composer and arranger may be forthcoming.

Mr. Leslie Reed, the well-known comic singer and song writer, has now become mine host of the Cremorne Tavern, Great Yarmouth, with which he has been associated for some time. Indeed, Mr. Reed is very popular in Bloatertown, having been with Mr. James Chappell at that veteran caterer's concerts for no fewer than sixteen consecutive seasons, and being re-engaged for the coming one. He will be pleased to see all professional friends.

The third annual Charity Carnival and Sports were held on Wednesday on the Bristol Rovers' ground on behalf of the Bristol Royal Infirmary. It was an extremely popular event, and the gloomy weather scarcely deterred spectators. The co-operation of Messrs. J. M. Chute (Prince's Theatre), Ernest Carpenter (Theatre Royal), Horace Livermore (Palace Theatre), B. Pearce Lucas (Empire and Hippodrome) had been obtained. These gentlemen were among the judges, the "bench" being enforced by Miss Lelia Roze, Miss Florrie Forde (who collected a goodly sum), and Miss Fanny Fields. There was a football match between a licensed trade team and Harry Freeman's team. Miss Florrie Forde gracefully kicked off at the commencement of the second half.

Fun was in the ascendant throughout the day. *The Life of a Showman* company from the Theatre Royal, attired in novel garments, provided the people on the gasworks side of the ground plenty of excuse for hearty laughter. Charles Coverdale, from the People's Palace, in a policeman's uniform, carrying a shillelagh, a motor-horn, a policeman's whistle, and an insinuating manner, enjoyed himself immensely and contributed to the crowd's hilarity—much accentuated by the quaint performances of the "McPhearson Band." Other comedians appearing in the local halls who helped in the afternoon's pleasure were the Danbys, one of whom appeared as a fat Tired Tim, and went through a series of William Tell operations with Coverdale. Mr. John L. Shine also acted in a most amusing manner as a Gilbertian judge who had to decide on the winner of the band competition for £10,000.

We regret to learn that Dr. Walford Bodie has been seriously ill. Last Saturday night, at the conclusion of his performance at the Hippodrome, St. Helens, he collapsed. Dr. J. H. Dow, St. Helens, was sent for, and found Dr. Bodie completely run down, and ordered him rest. He should have opened with Mr. Macnaghten at the Palace, Bath, but was unable to fulfil his engagement. This is the first time in eight years that Dr. Bodie has been compelled to abandon his work through illness, and it is a strange coincidence that St. Helens was the scene of his last serious indisposition. He has gone to his beautiful Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff, and is now enjoying the ozone from the Moray Firth. He is recovering rapidly.

Miss Cissie Curlette, who was to have starred at the Stockport Empire this week, has been unable to fulfil her engagement owing to the death of her father. In her bereavement the popular little lady has received much sympathy.

Mr. W. F. Frame recently had a great week in Edinburgh. His new song, "Dinni Man, Donal' Man," fairly tickled the Hielan' men in "Auld Reekie."

Mr. Henry Kemble, manager of the Palace, Cork, takes his second annual benefit on Wednesday, when a special programme of twenty-five turns will be given.

Miss Agnese and Mr. Arthur Lynch have been compelled to cancel immediate dates in consequence of the serious illness of the lady, but they hope to be able to resume on Monday.

Miss Lil Hawthorne made her initial bow to a Southampton audience this week at the Palace. Her artistic and cultured renderings of her latest songs by Lawrance and Gifford, "My cosy caravan" and "Don't cry, little girl," met with the heartiest approval, the audience singing them with evident delight.

Mr. James de Voye, who is the proud possessor of the calculating and arithmetical pony Billy, has sufficiently recovered from his operation to resume business.

The engagements of Miss Fanny Fields, the South-American comedienne, have had to be postponed on account of serious illness. The lady's health for some time past has given her friends anxiety.

The directors of Collins's have decided to run that hall on the two-houses-a-night system, beginning in August next.

The licence of the Cambridge has been transferred from Mr. Charles Hector to Mr. T. G. Richards.

A further reminder to our readers that Mr. Jesse Sparrow, who is resigning his position as general-manager of the Camberwell Palace, will take a complimentary benefit at that house on Tuesday, May 22. There will be a good muster of the Terriers, of which friendly organisation the popular Jesse is president.

Mr. Wal Pink's "workmen" have been adding to their reputation at Mr. Walter Gibbons' Clapham hall, where *Repairs* has been nightly received with roars by huge audiences. Mr. Pink is well represented as an author on the Gibbons circuit this week, as, in addition to *Repairs* at Clapham, played by his own company, Mr. Harry Tate is presenting *Fishing* at the Duchess, Balham, Miss Minnie Hunt and Mr. Rhys Thomas play *Her Birthday* at the Holborn Empire, and Mr. Joe Elvin's No. 2 company at the new Croydon establishment submits the evergreen attraction, *'Appy 'Ampstead*.

Mr. Wal Pink is still busy scribbling, and bids fair to be as prolific as Sardou. Mr. Harry Tate is busy rehearsing *Gardening*, Miss Hunt and Mr. Rhys Thomas promise us *The Wire and The Liar*, and the genial Joe Elvin has just arranged to produce a new sketch at Whitsuntide—all from the same Pink pen. This wonderful industry proves conclusively that, despite reports to the contrary, the author does not spend *all* his time fishing.

Miss Kitter Rayburn, who has been winning golden opinions at the Granville, Walham Green, this week in an excellent song, "Come and make love to me," by Charles Wilmott and H. E. Pether, has a decided gift for comedy, and is most elegantly gowned. The accomplished soubrette, we should say, would shine in parts of the Lottie Venne type.

Mr. Alfred Butt has again secured Mr. Louis Bradfield for a new scena at the Palace, and that capital light comedian and agreeable singer will make his reappearance at the only variety theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue in the company of a cohort of pretty and beautifully-gowned girls. Mr. Bradfield, who is appearing as Aristide Vert in *The Little Michus* at Daly's, will not relinquish that part, but will just step out during the second act to delight the Palace patrons.

The following artists will leave Southampton per the Walmer Castle on Saturday to fulfil engagements with Messrs. Hyman at the Empire, Johannesburg, and the Tivoli, Cape Town: Mlle. Alexia (assisted by M. Orfeo), Boyd and Gilfain, Miss Kathleen Gray, Miss Yoland Noble, and Collins and Hawley. Amongst those arriving home on the same day will be Walter Emerson, the Strolling Players, the Borellis, the Bensons, and Miss Leonan Anderson.

Mr. Tom Woottwell is leaving town for the first time for thirty-five weeks for his annual Moss Tour, for which he has been engaged every summer since Messrs. Moss and Thornton joined hands. He has made arrangements whereby he will parcel out each year of the next four as follows: Six months with the G. A. Payne syndicate; three months on the Moss circuit; and three months in pantomime, with the exception of Christmas, 1907, when he will escape the rigours of an English winter by one more visit to South Africa, from November to Easter, 1908.

The Terriers have arranged their annual summer river outing to take place on Sunday, June 17. They will journey by train viâ Paddington to Reading. At the Berkshire riverside town they will board the steam launch La Burgoine, and come down the silver Thames, through forty miles of beautiful scenery, to Staines, travelling thence by train homeward. The secretary, Harry Lester, informs us that early application for tickets is necessary, as the great demand for them compels him to limit the number.

Miss Millie Legarde, who has deserted musical comedy for her old love the halls, is exclusively engaged at the Tivoli, and opens on Monday night with two new songs, "Entre Nous" and "The Storyette," by J. W. Tate, of which report speaks most highly. Miss Legarde appears in a chic shepherdess dress, voted by the ladies "a dream." Another new comer is Mr. Edward Lewis (comedian), with songs new and funny, whose success on the stage has been largely spread over musical comedy.

Mr. Harry Lauder had a great reception on Monday at the Tivoli on his reappearance after his month's absence through illness. A large crowd of his admirers had assembled to welcome him, and the cheering which commenced when his number went up was redoubled on his making his entrance, he being unable to start his song for several minutes. Among the new turns appearing on Monday at the Tivoli is the wonderful American soprano, Miss Edith Helena, who claims to have the greatest vocal range in the world To appear as leading prima donna in grand opera between two music hall engagements is, we believe, an unique experience for a music hall artist, but it happened to Miss Helena, who, after a three weeks' engagement at the Palais d'Eté, Brussels, was engaged to sing the part of Violetta in *La Traviata* with the French Grand Opera Company there.

Mr. Frank Lynne speaks in glowing terms of his trip to America. He is rebooked to return for a long tour in November next. Mr. Lynne opens at the Palace Theatre on Monday.

Mr. Paul Courtney's condition shows a slight improvement, but it will be some time before he will be able to resume business. Mrs. Courtney desires to thank Bella and Bijou, Mr. Tom Costello, Mr. Sam Barnard, Miss Gracie Grahame, Mr. and Mrs. Wisper, and all friends for their timely assistance.

Mr. Cyril Vernon will present at the Bedford on Monday night a new and original sketch, entitled *A Marriage Broker*, by C. P. Coughlan.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas have just concluded a most successful provincial tour, having been rebooked by every manager. Their scenes from "Martin Chuzzlewit" have proved most successful, and they open on Monday at the Duchess, Balham.

Miss Maude Mortimer has just accepted a new song for immediate production, entitled "When you're in love with somebody." This song will shortly be published by the Shapiro Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie to-night finishes a tour of twenty-six weeks. This is her sixth year with the Moss and Stoll circuit, and she has signed another tour for next year. Miss Ra-Leslie commences her London season on Monday at the Cambridge and Middlesex.

Miss Kitty Malone, a charming Irish girl, who will shortly appear in town, made her first appearance on the stage in the child's part in *La Cigale*, when that charming opera was toured by the Chevalier Scovel. She has some good original songs, and will be gowned most elegantly.

The fiftieth performance of the Coliseum *Revue* was celebrated on Wednesday evening by a supper on the stage, given by Mr. Oswald Stoll to all those associated with the success of that brilliant production and to a number of gentlemen connected with journalism. It was some time after the witching hour of midnight that Mr. John Donald, the popular manager of the house, led the way to the supper-room, which scenically looked like the vast arena of some Roman amphitheatre devoted to the combats of gladiators.

The chair was occupied by Mr. Tom Honey, vice-chairs being filled by Mr. John Donald and Mr. Will A. Bennet, the chief of the Press Bureau at the St. Martin's-lane house. The toasts were intermittent—in fact, quite regular in their irregularity—but they were cordial and impulsive. Mr. Tom Honey made a genial and popular chairman, and, besides the loyal toasts, proposed "The health of Mr. Oswald Stoll," "Success to the *Revue*," and "The Ladies." Mr. Arthur Shirley responded in a few graceful sentences for the weaker sex, and Mr. Will A. Bennet spoke sympathetically of absent friends, referring especially to Mr. Walter Slaughter, who was away at Brighton in consequence of indisposition, and to M. Victor de Cottens, the French author of the *Revue*. Mr. John Donald and Mr. R. A. Northcott also spoke.

In the course of the proceedings Mr. R. H. Douglass, the well-known monologue entertainer, who has lately joined the cast of the *Revue*, playing the characters of Mr. Buggins and the Marquise, was brought to his feet. He related an amusing anecdote concerning the Lyceum and its production of *Coriolanus*. A scene-shifter who, with some of his mates, was looking at the announcement outside the famous house, read in contemptuous tones: "Sir Henry Irving as Coriolanus; music by Sir Arthur Sullivan; scenery by Sir Alma Tadema. Three blooming knights, and that's about all I give it." The guests had a "whirling" time both during and after supper, for Mr. Will Bishop initiated a "revolution" of the stage, and there was dancing of a very spirited kind. A Nestor of the Press asked for the privilege of dancing with a bonnie, bright-eyed British beauty of the ballet, and footed it merrily in a waltz. The happy party did not break up till after daylight.

The supper, supplied by J. Uccelli, of the Hotel Boulogne, 27, Gerrard-street, was excellently served, the two special dishes, "Cailles de vigne à la Moss"—a culinary compliment to Sir Edward—and "Bombe en surprise en Revue"—an iced creation—coming in for warm commendation. In the words of the menu, we "need not here dilate on their excellence." The spirit of Bohemianism prevailed, and the brothers of the pen will long remember the gaiety and jollity of a happily improvised function.

Among those present were:—Tom E. Murray, Billie Burke, Harry Corner, George Lupino, Harry Russon, Queenie Essex, Annie Braddan, Godwynne Earle, Rose Temple, Tilly Cunningham, Nellie Bowman, William Morgan, Charles Trevor, Dolly Corke, Beatrice Grenville, Dora Grattan, Rosa Bennett, Tessie Grattan, Norah O'Kelly, Violet Hope, Edie Stewart, Sybil Lonsdale, Dora Kennedy, Decima Chatteris, Violet Grazia, Ada Bishop, R. H. Douglass, Arthur Shirley, Will Bishop, Roland Carse, Harold Warren, Maurice Jacobi, R. A. Northcott, John Donald, Campbell Gray, Will A. Bennet, Isaac Seaman, Wallis Healy, Charles Berte, and H. Belcham.

Mr. Gus Garrick is to be seen in an extremely laughable new "act" at the Middlesex this week. We get a few jokelets and entertaining patter to begin with, and then he proceeds to imitate the various styles of comic singers. Standing in the centre of the footlights, and gazing at the conductor in a ludicrously dreamy manner, he depicts what he calls the Sam Mayo, or lazy sort of comedian. After singing a verse or two appropriate to the character, we are shown a comic singer of the rollicking, the Harry Champion order—vocalisation at express speed, hands and feet and body "on the move" at a suitable accompanying rate. A wonderfully quick change from frock dress to Highland costume, and we see a comedian of which Harry Lauder is the prototype. The audience laughs consumedly as Mr. Garrick whisks about the stage in his kilts as he sings "Oh, Sandy," and the effect is, to say the least, most comical.

Another change—this time into glaringly-coloured feminine attire—and we are entertained with an exceedingly grotesque burlesque of a famous Spanish dancer. The turn is one of the funniest things that have been seen at the Middlesex, and certainly forms a very popular feature of the programme. Even as he takes his wig off at the end Mr. Garrick secures a laugh, for the removal of the luxuriant female tresses reveals the fact that time has not dealt kindly with Mr. Garrick's topmost natural adornment.

Messrs. Francis and Day's twenty-fifth Song Annual will be published on June 18, and also the Dance Album, which has been co-existent a like number of years. To mark the occasion of the "quarter-century," many very special numbers will be included in each volume. To further accentuate the importance of the occasion, Mr. Sidney Kent, the well-known artist, has designed special titles and showbills symbolical of "The silver wedding of John Bull and Columbia," and furthermore the books will bear for the first time the famous firm's new and permanent New York imprint.

The contents of the Song Annual will include, among other popular numbers, "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you," "My Irish Molly O," "Rainbow," "In the shade of the old apple tree," "Molly, I love you" ("Molly, the jolly little lady"), "Who said 'girls'?" "Ain't yer gwine to say 'How do'?" "Don't cry, little girl," "My little buttercup," "Furniture on hire," "Little glow-worm," "My silent sweetheart," and "When the boys go marching by."

Some of the plums in the Dance Album comprise the "Casino" Lancers (Warwick Williams), "San "Sebastian" waltz (dedicated by its composer, Samuel Dodwell, to the King of Spain, by his Majesty's special permission), "Aldwych" quadrilles and "Hear the pipers calling" barn dance (Karl Kaps), "Enchantress" waltz (Chas. Coote), "Victoria Cross" military two-step (Gustav Howig), and "Rainbow" waltz (H. E. Pether).

Little Zola has produced at the Palace, Manchester, this week, an original song, entitled "Who ever would have thought it?" which proved an immediate success. The words are by Fred Murray and Walter Hilsbury, and the music by Orlando Powell.

Mr. Walter Slaughter has now recovered from his recent illness. He has been staying for a time at Brighton, and will return to work at the Coliseum on Monday.

Miss Fanny Robina and Miss Florry Cooper have been specially engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll to return to Glasgow, May 21, after only three months' absence.—Miss Emma Don, with the Black and White Comedy Quartette, returns to town, Monday, May 14, opening at the Chelsea Palace and the Ealing Hippodrome, after a seven months' tour in the provinces.—The Gilbert Girls, now on tour, have won considerable reputation by their brightness and vim in the song, "Wouldn't you like to spoon with me?"—Miss Constance Moxon opens on Monday at the Palace, Blackpool.

"Coppelia," the romantic ballet to be given at the Empire on Monday night next, is the second ballet—*not* the second work—composed by Delibes, following on *La Source*, and preceding *Sylvia* (June 14, 1876). It is generally considered his best. As now produced, it will be in two scenes, both painted by Harker, with accessories and costumes by Wilhelm to ensure correct Hungarian surroundings. In *Coppelia* Mlle. Genée made her debût as a première danseuse at the Opera House, Munich, and more recently danced in it at Copenhagen before the late King of Denmark and our Queen Alexandra. On this occasion her Majesty congratulated the dancer after the performance, and expressed a wish to see the ballet in London. It was owing to this gracious expression of the Queen that Mr. Alexander Genée was led to suggest its reproduction to the directors of the Empire.

It is in two scenes—the first, a Market Place in Hungary on the occasion of the presentation of a bell to the burgomaster and his wife at their golden wedding. Delibes' music in this ballet is well known, the most charming numbers in the first scene being a divertissement mazurka, the "Ear of Corn," based on Slavonic melodies and a Hungarian finale. The second scene takes place in the old doll-maker's house, where Svanilda takes the place of Coppelia—the doll—to the mystification of her lover Franz. The principal part, that of the village maid Svanilda, who is jealous of her lover, will be taken by Mlle. Adeline Genée; Coppelius, the doll-maker, by Fred Farren; Franz by Miss D. Craske; a vendor of mechanical toys by Mr. P. Sundberg, the clever Danish dancer; and Irma, his sweetheart, by Miss E. Clerc, the doll, Coppelia, being impersonated by Miss E. Collier. The ballet is produced under the direction of Mr. George Edwardes.

Mlle. Ghita Corri has been engaged by Mr. Frederic Baugh to reappear at the Lyceum from Monday next in her new and highly successful quick-change vocal scena, *Waiting*. This will make her third re-engagement at the house within five months. In this connection it is interesting to note that Mlle. Corri, among artists now on the variety stage, enjoys the perhaps unique distinction of appearing concurrently in grand opera, on the Halls, and in oratorio. During the past ten weeks she has given her fifth annual opera season at the West Pier Theatre, Brighton, appeared in London and the provincial theatres in her scena *Waiting*, and also rendered the soprano music of the *Messiah*, *Samson*, and *Stabat Mater*.

The 461st meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices in Wellington-street on Tuesday, when Mr. Fred Herbert was elected to the chair. There were also present Messrs. Charles Coborn, H. Griff, Geo. Preston, Arthur Rigby, Albert Voyce, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and passed, questions arising out of them were dealt with. Instructions were given to the secretary in the case of a member who had repeatedly ignored applications for payment of a certain claim, and in that of a member who had refused to pay an excess fare due to a railway company it was decided to reimburse the company, and charge the amount to the member. It was agreed that all complaints with regard to railway companies' servants must be made direct to the committee.

The secretary reported the change of address of the agency at Rhyl, which would in future be in the hands of Mr. Harry Hunt, at the Mona Hotel; and the transference of the agency at Edinburgh to Mr. Frank Wilkinson, of the local Empire, was approved. A donation of two guineas was voted to a railway orphanage which did not participate in the annual distribution. The weekly statement was submitted showing that forty-one new members had joined, and the financial account of receipts and expenditure and the statement of receipts by the hon. treasurer were read and passed. Mr. Coborn commented upon the smallness of the attendance at the committee meetings, and the secretary was instructed to address a circular letter to the members of the executive informing them that Rule 23 would in future be enforced.

Eugenie Fougere, the French soubrette, who was found guilty of theft at the Clerkenwell Sessions on Thursday, was the defendant in an action brought at Westminster County Court on Monday by a firm of dramatic agents in respect of commission due for procuring contracts. It was arranged that the plaintiffs should take judgment for the sum of £5, with costs.

At the Palace Theatre, on Sunday, May 20, a concert will be given, by permission of the directors, in aid of the Charing Cross Hospital, Covent Garden, fund. The following artists have generously promised their services: Mr. H. Anning and Mme. Miro, Miss Margaret Cooper, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Charles Copland, Mr. Rohan Clensy, Mr. Tom Clare, Mr. Harry Dearth, Mr. Harry Fragson, Miss Gleeson-White, Miss Margaret Halstan, Miss Carrie Moore, Miss Alice Pierce, Mr. Arthur Prince, Mr. Robert Radford, Mlles. Eugenie and Virginia Sassard, Miss Carmen Sylva (the child soprano), Mr. Charles Saunders, Mr. William Short, Miss Evelyn Tyser, Les Trombetta, and Miss Ruth Vincent. The hospital is in urgent need of funds.

Mr. Herbert Blackmore writes from 11, Garrick-street, under date May 11, as follows:—"In *The Era* of last Saturday you publish a statement made by Mr. George Ashton, president of an association composed principally of music-hall and concert agents, which might lead the general public unacquainted with theatrical business to believe that only those agents who are members of the association over which he presides are fit and proper persons to whom novices should apply. This business has been in existence since 1869, and I have been personally connected with it since 1873, which gives me, I think, the right to state that, although I have no intention of joining the association in question, I am a fit and proper person for people to apply to for engagements on the stage. I have made countless engagements for all the most prominent members of the theatrical and music-hall profession, and this, together with the fact that I have the honour to be secretary to the Theatrical Managers' Association, makes me think it advisable, in my own interest, to ask you to be good enough to publish this letter, it being well known that this is the oldest theatrical agency, and the first one to do business on business lines."

The late Harry Diamond has left a little daughter totally unprovided for. The child, who is living at 3, Henry-street, Brighton, with her grandmother, an elderly widow without means, should certainly be got into an orphanage, and it is hoped that the friends of the late comedian will take the case up. Mr. John Gunn, of 143, South Wellington-street, Glasgow, is interesting himself in the little one's welfare.

Miss Violet Crossley, who, by the way, is not the lady of the same name who has played at Wyndham's Theatre, is to be thanked to a great extent for the prosecution of the heads of the Empire Theatrical Agency, who are now serving their sentences. It was Miss Crossley who informed the manager of the Palace that she had paid a fee to the agency in consideration of a promised engagement at that theatre. The assistant-manager, Mr. Fitzroy Gardner, followed up the case, and, having collected evidence, placed it in the hands of the Public Prosecutor, the Earl of Desart, Miss Crossley frankly undertaking to apply for the warrant.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The Urbanora pictures bring the world before us day by day, and who shall say that they do not—in an infinitesimal measure, perhaps—by their enlightening influence make for international peace and amity by familiarising us with the joys and sorrows of other nations, and thus broadening the parochial outlook and making it Imperial? The wonderful enterprise that enables the Londoner to witness, within a few hours of their happening, occurrences in far distant lands, has, however, already been praised at length in these columns; and what we are particularly concerned about at present is the latest development of that enterprise—nothing less than the presentation of animated pictures that have been successfully taken by artificial light. The subject chosen is one that has absolutely engrossed the world of athletics for the last few weeks—viz., the contest between Hackenschmidt, the Russian lion, and Ahmed Madrali, the Terrible Turk, which took place at Olympia on April 28. The struggle between these two gladiators was undoubtedly genuine. The only disappointment about it was its extreme brevity, which robs it entirely of the right to be called Homeric. Nevertheless, it was an event that roused the hemispheres, and as it possesses no little historic significance, its reproduction in such an effective and telling manner is a triumph for the camera that should not be lightly passed over. The pictures, indeed, put all points of the struggle beyond dispute from the time the combatants enter the arena and spar for an opening until the victorious Hackenschmidt is seen playing the rôle of "upper dog" with the once formidable Oriental securely pinned beneath him. The display of wrestling craft, by force of circumstances, is not great, but the magnificent tactics by which the Slav giant turned the tables on his opponent in the second round is shown in interesting detail. Additional films, taken immediately before the match, afford a striking exhibition of the respective muscular proportions of the athletes. The man with the better brain undoubtedly won. Other interesting pictures in the current Urbanora series are the arrival of King Edward at Piræus, with a view of decorated ships at anchor, and the interesting doings of his Majesty at Athens during the recent Olympian games. A capital comic film is "The Lost Collar Button," a subject that appeals with direct force to the mind of the mere male. Altogether, the Urbanora pictures supply a highly appreciated interlude in the Alhambra entertainment, which Mr. George Scott is keeping up to the high artistic standard that has been the distinguishing feature of his management of the historic home of ballet.

A welcome return was made on Monday evening by Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, who have but lately returned from a most successful tour of Australia with the distinguished entrepreneur Mr. Harry Rickards. The trio manage to make their show of magical problems and illusions not only interesting, but humorous. Indeed, the lightsome spirit of mirth enters largely into their plan of entertainment, and this is largely the reason of its success—which on the night of which we are now writing was immediate and complete. One of the tricks, in which the three are concerned, may be called the inexhaustible saucepans, from which are extracted a whole yard of poultry. A most amusing illusion, too, is that in which the imperturbable Bosco *apparently* transposes the head of a duck and rooster, the hybrid fowls afterwards perambulating the stage, to the intense amusement of the audience. Following a clever exhibition of coin manipulation by Mdlle. Talma, that lady and her two partners have "larx" with some astonished spectators in front, from whose pockets they extract coins and cards. The lady carries on her amiable depredations in the stalls, Le Roy "filches" with cool imperturbability in the circle, and Bosco pursues his nefarious practices in the gallery. As a conclusion to their amusing and interesting entertainment the feat of levitation is performed, with Mdlle. Talma as the medium. Her sudden disappearance is a clever trick, that brings a most interesting and popular interlude to a conclusion.

The eccentric acrobatic performance of Keen and Waller is keenly enjoyed, and nothing in the way of animal training can surpass the performance of Richard Braatz's four-legged acrobats and pantomime performers. They share in a very amusing rally caused by the invasion of the privacy of the bedroom of a domestic canine couple by an interfering companion, who makes his entry by the chimney. The alarm is given by the violent barking of the disturbed pair at an upper window, and then there is a pretty to-do over walls, through traps, and round revolving doors. The dogs perform without any directions from their trainer, who takes a special call at the conclusion of the turn.

The Yiulians Family are responsible for the latest development of the Risley business. This consists of feet-to-feet balancing, while the adult performer, with soles uppermost, lies prone on the back of a companion, assisting at the same time a clever youth in the accomplishment of some difficult feats. The shoulder tumbling of the crowd, too is both intrepid and smart. Other attractions in the fine bill are Signor Armando Lecomte, a baritone from the opera houses, Italy, who sings in cultured style to the excellent accompaniment supplied by the band under the able direction of Mr. George Byng; a "scene in Holland," in which appear the Voldam Bros., the clever and whimsical Dutch eccentrics; and the *Parisiana* ballet.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The state of affairs at this place of amusement may be accurately summed up in one word—flourishing. The old Royal was always a popular resort, but its essentially up-to-date successor is far more attractive in every respect. In the current programme there are several items that are characterised by the charm of novelty, at least so far as London audiences are concerned. One of the turns, indeed, Miss Mollie Malone, on Monday made her first appearance not only in the metropolis, but in England; and the compiler of the programme poetically describes her as "a branch of merriment from the sparkling tree of comedy." Anyhow, the young lady from the Emerald Isle made a very favourable impression by her excellent rendering of a couple of Irish songs.

A cordial reception also awaited Mount and Corelli, who gave their new musical duologue, entitled *The Master and the Maid*. The lady resuming the character she formerly played in *The Belle of New York*, sings a song from that popular musical comedy, concluding with a smart dance. The gentleman, seated at the piano, gives a convincing evidence of his ability as a vocalist and mimic. The couple are recalled, and then the gentleman sings a ballad, in which he is joined by a boy seated in the gallery, whom, he informs the audience, he discovered in the streets of Liverpool. The lad then appears upon the stage, and the duet is brought to a conclusion amidst loud applause. Another little musical piece, called *Her Birthday*, is brightly presented by Miss Minnie Hunt and Mr. Rhys Thomas. The lady plays the part of a wife who believes she has reason to be jealous of her husband, her suspicions having been excited by a present which he has purchased, and which she suspects is intended for a rival. The innocent husband brings a counter charge against the lady, who is foolish enough to worry herself without any real cause; but the matrimonial sky is quickly cleared when on her birthday the present is placed in her hands.

Messrs. C. St. John Denton and George Rowlands have brought here their company of children in the scena entitled *The Punch and Judy Girl*. We have already borne testimony to the excellence of the entertainment given by these youngsters, whose training has evidently been of the most thorough description. Their dancing is remarkably good, particularly that of the clever little girl Marjorie Lawrence, whose performance evokes quite a storm of applause. It is the first appearance of this juvenile company at this hall; it is not likely to be their last. The Four Rambos, in a new comedy trapeze act, also meet with a good reception. They represent a couple of tourists, a red-headed yokel, and a monkey; and in this guise they give a performance marked by great skill, and well garnished by comic business which excites hearty merriment. A stout tourist is always getting in the way and being knocked down by his companions as they swing from bar to bar. The comic countryman already mentioned is very prominent, and the agility displayed by the four performers never fails to excite general admiration.

Mr. Joe Peterman's company is here in the musical extravaganza *The Belle of the Orient*. In this Mr. Peterman himself causes much laughter by his broadly comical embodiment of a Jew, and he has the support of a thoroughly capable company. The Mayvilles, the well-known Lilliputian performers, are also here again, and meet with their usual success. Mr. Alf Chester's policeman presents no exaggerated features, but all the same he makes a palpable hit by his telling rendering of "I wonder if the sergeant knows." Miss Edith Courtney, a cultured ballad vocalist, sings "Come back to Erin" in admirable style; George Young, the blind musical collier boy, plays with skill selections on the concertina; other contributors including Miss Kitty Wager, a popular comedienne; Miss Cris Cross, serio; and Tom E. Hughes, comedian. Lux's poodles give an interesting performance; and pictures of the recent eruption of Vesuvius are shown on the bioscope. The entertainment opens with a selection played by the orchestra under the direction of Mr. James Sale, and Mr. Claude E. Marner ably discharges the duties of manager.

THE LYCEUM.

One naturally associates the Lyceum with productions of a tragic type; and the sketch entitled *The Freak's Revenge*, which is one of the leading items in this week's programme, is sensational enough to tickle the most jaded theatrical appetite. The first scene represents the exterior of an old-fashiond country inn, at which arrives a party consisting of Captain Vulcan, a naval officer, his wife, and adopted daughter, Netta. They learn from the landlord that a menagerie has arrived in the neighbourhood, and that one of its attractions is a freak who is known as the man-monkey. This unfortunate creature possesses the intelligence of a human being, but has an ape-like head and features. He is known as Esau. The news alarms the captain, as years ago he ran away with the wife of a man answering the description of Esau, and he has every reason to fear his vengeance should they meet. The runaway wife died, leaving her daughter Netta in the care of Vulcan. The captain makes hurried preparations for immediate departure, but encounters the man-monkey, who recognises him as the destroyer of his domestic happiness. The hour of his revenge is at hand. The freak has found a faithful companion in a gorilla that travels with the menagerie, and shows wonderful intelligence in understanding and obeying the wishes of the man-monkey. Believing that the captain's wife is in one of the upper rooms at the inn, Esau, having plied the gorilla with whisky, the effect of which is to make the animal very savage, it makes its way up the side of the house, and, opening a window, disappears. Esau then learns to his horror that Mrs. Vulcan is not in the room, but that his own daughter is there. He hurriedly follows the gorilla, and is only just in time to prevent the animal murdering her, but it turns on the newcomer with savage fury, and Esau has to defend himself from its attacks. A fight to the death follows. The man-monkey kills the gorilla, but is himself fatally injured in the fierce struggle, and dies in the presence of Vulcan, who begs for and obtains his forgiveness for the wrong done him years ago. The sketch is played by a combination some of the leading members of which belonged to the old stock company at the Surrey Theatre when that house was under the management of Mr. George Conquest. Mr. Fred Conquest gives a clever and telling embodiment of the freak, and Mr. Leon Dubois is also successful in a very realistic rendering of the gorilla. Mr. Dick Cruikshanks submits a capital character-sketch of Caleb Calvin, the manager of the travelling menagerie; Mr. Ainslie Burton is amusing as the landlord of the inn; and Mr. Harry McClelland does well as Captain Vulcan. Miss Kate Olga Vernon gives able support as Mrs. Vulcan; and Miss Laura Dyson plays Netta in good style.

Baddow is a clever young ventriloquist, who, reclining on a couch, carries on a conversation with his single figure, which is seated on an adjacent table. He smokes a cigarette and also drinks from a glass while talking with "Tim," who also obliges with a song. Baddow's technique is decidedly good. An important engagement is that of the Yags and Mary Trio of trick cyclists ,who appear in a startling act called "Le Cycle a Travers Les Aps." Their performance is one that should not be missed, more particularly their cycle-somersaulting in mid-air. Reco, a comedy acrobat, is responsible for a very funny act. His burlesque acrobatic feats are cleverly done, and cause much merriment Miss Vickey Delmar is a smart little drummer girl, who also displays grace and agility as a dancer. Hatter and Ray, American artists, are well received in a brisk comedy act; and Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of lady vocalists and dancers are also greeted with applause. By means of a rapid change of head-gear, they represent costers and their sweethearts out for a holiday, coons, and other characters. Miss Fatmah Diard is an operatic vocalist, whose charming and cultured singing is greatly enjoyed. The laughable sketch *Bink's Blunder*, is excellently played by Mr. Harry Russell as Binks, Mr. Alec Newland, and the musical comedy artist, Miss Verna Reed. Mlle. Kloët is seen in her Continental speciality, entitled *Les Poses Pittoresques*, which includes her latest creation, "La Penetance," illustrating the story of Jane Shore. Mr. Nat Watkins, character comedian, with an eccentric song and dance, meets with success; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are illustrative of "A Bad Boy's Diary." Mr. Frederic Baugh looks after the front of the house, and Mr. Alfred Dove is the conductor of the orchestra.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Full well they laugh, but not "with counterfeited glee" at *Motoring*, which occupies a prominent place in Mr. Jack Edgar's current scheme of amusement at the Edgware-road palace. The sketch, since it was first seen—now some years ago—has been introduced with and without permission into many pantomimes, but to thoroughly enjoy its many drolleries one must witness Mr. Harry Tate as the amateur chauffeur, who starts so gaily on his journey, determined to do the distance between London and Portsmouth in half-an hour. It is a sketch to be seen more than once, for Mr. Tate's comedy is quite refreshing, and one is not easily tired of it. The youth who affects the giddy schoolboy is an effective introduction since the first performance, and the *gamin* who shows such a close and profound interest in the doings of the enraged owner of the motor is a most amusing little cuss.

A turn that is, comparatively speaking, new to London, is that presented by Drawee, a particularly neat juggler, who is blessed with funny assistants in a nigger and a collie. The dog goes for the black every time he attempts a trick, and pushes him over. He is a most sagacious creature, and is quite as anxious, apparently, to get his laughs as his human companions. Drawee is decidedly clever with plates, and accomplishes the trick of supporting and balancing a tumbler filled with a cooling drink on a tripod of straws. He is also deft in his manipulation of a hat and an umbrella, and, generally speaking, his entertainment is one of the most attractive of its kind. The Tally-Ho Trio term their variety act of singing and comedy *The Three Buttercups*. Naturally, each of them desires the companionship of "Daisy," and each in turn meets with assault and battery from that lady's more favoured suitor. Solos are most expressively given, and the voices of the trio blend in excellent harmony. They are genuinely popular with their attractive entertainment.

One of the chief comedians of the bill is Mr. Fred Spencer, termed an "expressionist," who keeps the house amused while, in a dame's song, he sings of an elderly maiden's desire for a husband, and patters of a lover's interview with her mother. Mr. Spencer possesses an unctuous style, and entirely avoids the pitfall of vulgarity into which so many female impersonators fall. Mr. George French puts a good deal of extravagant absurdity into his burlesque of the militiaman, the song accompanying it being blessed with no little humour. His second song is a peculiar mixture of seriousness and sarcasm, the verses setting out in some detail the debt of the Empire to the working classes, who not only build gaols but fill them. They are also responsible for valuable inventions; and the extension of an Empire on which the sun never sets is in a large measure due to their fighting qualities and their self-sacrifice as soldiers. Mr. French raises a storm of applause by the rendering of the song.

Any exhibition of skill in boxing or wrestling is always a certain draw at the Metropolitan; and a new exponent of the art of jiu-jitsu, Diabutsu by name, has been affording audiences some excitement by his contests with English competitors. On the night of our visit he found a tough opponent in Hewett, a wrestler from Bermondsey, who lasted ten minutes ere he was defeated. At the conclusion of the bout opinions were freely expressed that Hewett had not been treated fairly, and eventually the timekeeper and cicerone of the Jap gave the Londoner a sovereign, which was certainly earnt by a very strenuous tussle that caused considerable feeling. Heartiness and jollity distinguish the acrobatic comedy and dancing of Conway and Leland, who make light of the misfortune of losing a leg each. They finish up a most enjoyable interlude by a burlesque of wrestling. Terry and Bentley keep the audience engrossed while they present a mixed entertainment of singing, dancing, and acrobatism. The lady has a cultured style of singing. Expert high kicking is agreeably displayed by the lissome Sisters Casselli; Miss Alma Gray is a capital step-dancer; Mr. Johnny Fuller is responsible for a neat performance on the wire as a feline, his movements being very cat-like; Messrs. Tennyson and Wallis are droll in their cross-talk; and Burley and Burley justify their title of quaint Scotch comedians.

Miss Winifred Hare is a special favourite with West Londoners, many of whom remember her pantomime triumphs at the Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill Gate. She is a decided acquisition to any variety programme, her beauty, grace, and charm being undeniable. She also sings admirably, and is altogether a clever burlesque actress. Other turns in a most attractive bill are Nat Travers, the Jalvans, Mr. Will Poluski, jun., Miss Kitty Wager, Mr. Pat Rafferty, and Mr. Fred Poplar.

EALING HIPPODROME.

It would be difficult to imagine a more popular engagement than that of Miss Florence St. John, and the appearance here of this fascinating actress and singer has proved how completely, by her attractive personality, she has won the affections of her innumerable admirers. On such an occasion memories of Madame Favart and the old days at the little house in the Strand must arise; but, alike to those who knew her in the past delightful days and to all who see her for the first time in *My Milliner's Bill*, a rich banquet of mirth and melody is provided. Ever tuneful, always charming, Miss St. John has lost none of that witchery of style by which, with "I am such an artless thing" and the "Nun" songs, she first captured the admiration of a London audience, and won a foremost place upon the stage. As the debt-besetted Mrs. Merridew the popular actress at once enlists our sympathies, and the reference to the serpent who tempted our first mother having been a dressmaker was received with much merriment. Her song, "You said you loved me, Johnnie," was rendered with all her well-known charm of manner. Miss St. John is ably supported by Mr. C. B. Bedells, in the dual character of husband and broker's man, and the comedietta went with a merry swing from start to finish, and at the fall of the curtain both artists were the objects of repeated recalls.

A novelty, entitled "Song Sketching," is presented by Mr. Rossi Ashton, "England's lightning cartoonist." As usual with these representations, the stage is occupied by a line of frames containing blank pasteboards, upon which, with the rapidity of thought, Mr. Rossi Ashton proceeds to sketch a series of pictures depicting the subject matter of various songs whose titles are placed at the head of each frame, amongst others, "Pansy Faces," "Maisie in the Corn," and "Bill Bailey is Home." A very pleasing feature, and one that adds an excellent finish to the turn, is that while each picture is figuring out under the clever pencil of the artist, the band renders the appropriate music for each song. Mr. Rossi Ashton was loudly applauded. Mr. Billy Hobbs is successful in introducing something new into the coon business. His two numbers, "Ain't yer got a cosy corner in your heart for me" and "Nobody," have a quaint and melodious catchiness most pleasing to the ear. The Sunrays—eight dainty lasses in pretty costumes—form a combination very much after the fashion of the Palace Girls, and are not far behind them in skill and grace. Their two songs—first, the well-known "Won't you come and spoon with me?" and a second to the tune of "La Mattchiche"—were given very melodiously. With a quick change of dress into Spanish costumes, the "Eight Rays" form a beautiful sun-picture, and their appearance was all too short.

Mr. Harry Anderson's two numbers, "My new pal is my old gal" and "Home without a mother is a chair without a seat," strike a sympathetic chord in the hearts of the audience, and a moment of silence is followed by a genuine outburst of applause. All the wonders of modern stage bicycling are surpassed in the wonderful display of the Selbinis, and sensational is but a poor term to employ, for in trick riding the seemingly impossible is realised. Trick follows trick with bewildering rapidity; to ride a machine in the ordinary way seems widely removed from the Selbini programme, and they appear more at home head to head than feet to feet; but they are always fearless, graceful, and daring, and the great feat of the somersaulting bicycle from the swing board is witnessed with breathless interest. Miss Lalla Selbini, the sole lady member of the troupe, is the equal of her brothers in skill and daring, and her change of costume, made while balanced upon the pedals of her machine, is a triumph of graceful audacity. In the phenomenal show of the Selbinis trick-riding and acrobating would seem to reach its apotheosis. Karr and Koony are two uncommonly funny patter-singers, and their parody of "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" is exquisitely comic. The Montague Bros. present, for the first time on the variety stage, an entirely new and sensational creation entitled *The Sculptor's Dream*. The brothers claim to be the most perfectly-formed athletes ever seen on the stage, and for beauty of figure they might place themselves in competition with some of the finest examples of Greek art and not suffer by the comparison. In a dream a sculptor sees some of his aspirations realised, and the statues, upon which his chisel has been engaged, stepping from their pedestals, exhibit in a series of living pictures the perfect symmetry of their red modelled figures. Miss Alma Gray is a sweet singer, and her tuneful song, "My little bush girl," was associated with some remarkable double step-dancing. The dainty barefoot display of Miss Mildred de Grey has lost none of the dainty novelty which so distinguished it on her first appearance at the Tivoli. Exquisitely dressed, and aided by every resource of scenic art, the beautiful dancer certainly completes a most enticing stage picture. Miss De Grey's graceful person lends itself admirably to her unique performance, and a crowded house testifies its appreciation most ungrudgingly.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

For the moment philanthropy looms largely in the local eye of Walthamstow, five nights of the week at the Palace being devoted by Mr. Arthur J. Barclay to a "ticket benefit," organised by the Wood-street Philanthropic Society, in aid of deserving charities. But, apart altogether from these special claims, the programme submitted for the week is quite sufficient to attract large and enthusiastic audiences, being characterised by nearly every feature that goes to make up popular success.

Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires, seem to expend some of their superfluous millions on their electric display, the stage being one blaze of brightness and colour. The musical attainments of the two, on many weird and wild instruments, are productive of unbounded delight, and the clever impersonation of various famous composer-conductors (including "General" Booth), ranging from Wagner to Sousa, each cleverly made-up, is capital. Mr. Bert Brantford contributes an amusing song, "I didn't know what to say," with much acceptance. The Five Julians, a quintette of charming young ladies, sing admirably, and dance with combined grace and vigour. An enthusiastic reception is given to Mr. John Grün Marx, "the modern Hercules," whose deeds of strength and weight-lifting are simply marvellous. Marx goes through his performance with as much elegance and muscular power, and his "turn" is among the most loudly applauded of the evening. Miss Daisy Dormer is a coon impersonator of more than usual neatness, her pretty singing being only excelled by her juvenile dancing. Miss Hanid Alexander, the juvenile pianist, appears in a musical scena "Home from School," in which she sings, recites, and dances cleverly, while giving a brilliant rendering on the piano of "Alice, where art thou?" with variations. The young lady is an immense favourite. The Daunton-Shaw troupe, Australian trick cyclists, rouse the spectators to enthusiasm with their really astonishing manœuvres on bicycles, over which they exercise a control that is almost breath-catching. The very machines seem to answer to the calls made upon them, as if they were endowed with intelligence, and desirous of proving themselves equal to that nearly obsolete animal the horse. The Daunton-Shaws score every moment they are on the stage. Cruikshank, "the fool of the family," repeats a clever and amusing entertainment, that has secured popularity for him before now on these boards. He has, this week, much droll "patter," always up to date, which, in conjunction with his sweet singing and artistic instrumentalism, keeps his audience in a constant state of laughter and applause. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope has some capital films to show, of which those representing the recent match between Hackenschmidt and Madrali rouse the greatest enthusiasm.

For more solid fare an interesting sketch, *No Man's Land*, is produced by Mr. Henry Herne and his company. This proves to be a melodrama in small compass, devoted to treasure-hunting, mutiny at sea, and realistic tropical downfalls of "real rain." The story is interesting and straightforward, considering the difficulties attached to compressing into the space of thirty minutes or so a plot that might be elaborated into four acts. Mr. Henry Herne gives a manly interpretation of Harry Oaklands, and is well supported by Miss Ida Millais as Mary Bathurst; Mr. T. F. Pitt as the ultra-wicked mate, Mat Marsden; Messrs. S. H. Norton, Alf. Byron, and F. Dennis. The stage-management of the whole evening, in the hands of such an expert as Mr. John Grant, leaves nothing to be desired.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The system of two houses a night, which has proved so remunerative in recent years, is being applied with satisfactory results at the old-established hall at Poplar. It has now come into the possession of Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams, and enjoys the personal supervision of the veteran Fred Abrahams, who is not above administering a severe rebuke *coram populo* on the slightest indication of a turbulent spirit in the gallery. The hall has undergone a thorough transformation, and is handsomely decorated, new scenery and lighting effects adding to the brightness of the house, which now possesses many of the features of a West End establishment. Mr. Jack Woolf, than whom no more popular personage exists in the East End, is putting his best endeavours into the management of the hall, and the excellence of the programme and the smartness with which it is presented render the enjoyment of the crowded audiences complete.

A magnetic attraction of the current bill is Miss Gipsy Woolf, who makes her first appearance in London since her return from the Continent, where she brought the playgoers of many of the European cities to her feet in her scena, entitled *Fun in a Forest*, in which she has the assistance of the Six Sunbeams. The scena has caught the Continental flavour on its travels abroad, and is now a prettier and more finished spectacle than ever. Miss Woolf, who appears as a gipsy girl, sings in cultured style and dances bewitchingly, her song of "The Bungalow in Borneo" being delivered in captivating manner, the agile movements of the bevy of comely maidens dressed in picturesque Romany costumes, who supply a tambourine accompaniment to their mazy dance, giving added beauty to the scene. The handsome dresses, which are a feature of the production, were made by another clever member of the family, Miss Lily Woolf, of Great Portland-street. Miss Gipsy Woolf, who has had many tempting offers from Italy, Spain, and other European countries, is enthusiastically applauded, both for her pastoral selection and for her song of "My Irish Lily," in which she is also assisted by her Six Sunbeams.

A powerful draw is also supplied by the sporting sketch, *The Winner*, presented by Mr. Brien McCullough's company, in which Epsom Downs is represented, with real racehorses, and all the life and movement of a racecourse. Mr. McCullough's playlets, while appealing to the popular taste, are never without a literary finish, which make them acceptable to the more cultured among the audience, and the result is that all parts of the house take pleasure in their performance. Mr. McCullough, whose name is a power at Poplar, is admirably suited in his part of Bill Winner, the ne'er-do-well, who has spent five-and-twenty years in looking for work. His make-up is a study, and his droll rendering of the part is productive of continuous laughter. Competent artists take part in the performance of the piece, Mr. Algernon Syms, for many years the idol of playgoers at a neighbouring theatre, appearing in the part of Frank Noble. Mr. Syms is gallant and courteous in the part of the gentlemanly owner of race-horses, and acts in finished style. Miss Bernice Fielding embodies the intrepid Lois Winner with her customary dramatic excellence and skilful emphasis; and Miss Nellie Nelson as Polly Primrose helps valuably in the comedy department. Mr. Gilbert Vernon as Lord Swindell is a capable villain, and Mr. Stafford Smith is a lifelike trainer.

A sketch of another kind is provided by the Elvio Comedy Four in *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, the title-rôles in which are impersonated by two comedians, whose eccentricities give rise to much anxiety on the part of their mistress. All sorts of knock-about antics are indulged in by the comic couple, who are also expert dancers, and the house is kept in constant laughter throughout their turn. The Sisters Desmond, old favourites in the East End as elsewhere, sing a duet in which the utility of the motor-car and the homely pony-trap are contrasted, to the manifest advantage of the latter. In their second selection the clever artists dilate respectively on the virtues of the upper classes and the lower, in the course of which the popular ear is completely caught by the references showing that charity and pluck are almost exclusively the property of the masses.

Clever balancing on horseshoe-shaped rings is submitted by the Sylvines Trio, who also submit a skilful act on the triple trapeze, on which some expert passing from hands to feet is done. The show, in which electrical effects are used, is loudly applauded. Miss Ida Kathrena provides a novel and pretty scena in her *Carnival of Toys;* the New Bioscope exhibits an interesting series, including a thrilling film in which an attempt to wreck a train is heroically frustrated; and Miss Connie Milton, comedienne, and Mr. Harry Martell, comedian, also appear. The orchestra, which has been largely augmented, is carefully directed by Mr. B. Conroy.

CHELSEA PALACE.

We were pleased to hear from Mr. Berlin, who is acting as *locum tenens* for Mr. Edward Swanborough at the Kings'-road Palace, that the genial Teddy has made further progress towards recovery. Hundreds of the popular manager's intimates will be glad to hear the good news. During his residence in Chelsea Mr. Swanborough has made many friends among the frequenters of the Palace, and frequent and anxious have been the inquiries concerning him during his indisposition both from his humble admirers in the gallery and his more aristocratic chums in the stalls and circle. The programme this week is of a most interesting nature, and in the two hours or so traffic of the stage figure two sketches. *Who is Guilty?*—practically speaking a monologue—is presented by Mr. Theo Bouwmeester, a Dutch actor of considerable ability, who in a court scene presided over by a *juge d'instruction*, plays the part of various witnesses who give evidence concerning a case of suspected arson. Considerable scope is given to the actor, who not only portrays with unmistakable power the mental anxiety of the guilty one, but is equal to the touches of comedy that are required in some of the other rôles. In *Nana*, the other sketch on the bill, we discover a strong resemblance to the younger Dumas' *La Dame aux Camélias*. The Count de Vaville figures as one of the lovers of the heroine, who has given her heart to Armand. We have also the interview between her and Armand's father, in which Nana announces her intention of giving up the man she adores. Miss Dolly Elsworthy, who hitherto has been associated for the most part with parts of a pronounced low comedy type, is scarcely strong enough for the titular character, and her impersonation lacks charm and subtlety, the management of the voice leaving much to be desired. Mr. Adderley Howard does not avoid the staginess that always seems to afflict the representatives of Armand's father; and the other parts are conventionally represented.

In the early part of the evening Mr. Alix Lukos presents his entertainment of recitative and song entitled "Faces in the Fire," and in a series of verses pays glowing tributes to the wise statesmanship of Beaconsfield and the impressive and reckless valour of the Light Brigade at the Charge of Balaclava. The chief comic star of the bill is Mr. Will Evans, who manages to make comic capital out of his parody of Tommy Atkins, under the title of "The Invasion of 1910." He drills an awkward squad in a way that is extravagantly absurd, and provides a most hilarious interlude.

Lieutenant Albini has the rare faculty of being able to amuse with equal success the occupants of stalls, circle, and gallery by his patter during the time that he puzzles them by the clever illusion,—"The Lady in Black." Miss Marie Gautier, plays the part of this mysterious and attractive personage, who while her hands are bound tightly to a post behind her with calico bands manages to accomplish all sorts of seemingly impossible feats—such as making a cigarette and smoking it, firing shots from a revolver, &c. Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, has a very successful number in his pretty coon serenade, which is entitled "Caroo." He sings it with much expression, and his success is shared by a young lady, who possesses considerable vocal ability. Mr. Elliott also dances admirably. Tennyson and Wallis as a couple of bobbies rouse the audience to hilarity by their patter ,and evoke applause in a song the sentiment of which is impeccable. Miss May Moore Duprez admirably fulfils her mirthful mission as the "jolly Dutch girl"; and Terry and Bentley present a successful entertainment, entitled *The Hunt*, in which the lady sings with no little charm "Chéri." Mr. Angelo Asher directs the musical forces here, and invariably secures an admirable ensemble.

HORACE WHEATLEY
at
EMPIRE, EDINBURGH.

The Scotsman: Mr. Horace Wheatley, one of the most popular comedians on the circuit, greatly pleased the audience by his amusing patter, fine vocal efforts, and neat step-dancing.

The Dispatch: An old Empire favourite who met with a warm reception was Horace Wheatley, and last night he sang and danced with all his old charm, and his racy stories kept the house in constant amusement.

HERR SACCO, who on the 8th inst. completed the twenty-second day of his thirty-two days' fast, at the Regent Theatre, Salford, appeared to be doing well, although the loss he then had sustained in weight was 34lb. He commenced with 202lb. on April 17, and on the 27th he had reduced it to 181lb., i.e., 21lb. loss. On the 1st inst. his weight stood at 175lb. with a loss of 27lb. Since then the reduction has been an average of 1lb. per day, leaving him to commence on the 9th inst. with 168lb. weight.

A CURIOUS incident occurred at St. George's Hall on Wednesday afternoon during the performance of Mr. Devant's thought-reading trick with his sister, Miss Dora Devant. It will be remembered that Mr. Devant blindfolds that lady, and then asks half a dozen persons in the audience to suggest some action that they would like her to do. The suggestions are whispered to Mr. Devant, who then silently communicates his thoughts to his sister. On Wednesday afternoon a man asked that Miss Devant might take the purse out of his wife's bag, and hand it to him. Miss Devant took the bag, put her hand into it, shook it, but found no purse. This was the first intimation that the owner of the bag had that the purse had been either lost or stolen. The lady and her husband immediately left the hall, and subsequently informed Mr. Devant by telephone that the purse had been left on the counter of a shop, and had been recovered.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Arundel, Burwell, Haltwistle, Hartlepool, Heytesbury, Newark, Nuneaton, Richmond (Yorks.), Stafford, Elmley, Louth, Over (Cheshire), Amesbury, Brentford, Earlestown, Newton-le-Willows, Leek, Ormskirk, and Skegness. In Scotland we have Jedburgh, Alyth, Langholm, and Paisley; and in Wales, Risca.

FROM the North round we have news to hand of several fairs, notably Morpeth, where the fair was well maintained by Millar's cinématograph theatre, Mack's freak exhibition, Murphy's switchback, and shooting concerns by Messrs. Toogood and Millar. The other entertainers with minor novelties and side-shows were Messrs. Cooper, Slater, Lilborne, Newsome, Millar, and Toogood.

FROM Stockton-on-Tees we hear the following concerns were present for the May fair: Chipperfield's menagerie, Cottrell's coliseum of varieties and cinématograph, Pain's cinématograph, Professor Stewart with boxers and athletes. The machine list included gondolas by Richardson Bros., Ltd., switchback by Murphy, motor-bicycles by Wingate, and steam horses by H. Cariss; a capital array of shooting concerns provided by Robinson, Twilley, Sheeran, Hancock, and Cariss, who also were responsible for throwing games and minor novelties.

NORTHALLERTON Fair had for its entertainments Chipperfield's menagerie, Randall Williams' (Monte Bros.) cinématograph, and Captain Tom Payne's bioscope. Richardson's, Ltd., switchback, galloping horse sets by Shipley and Crowe; Culline exhibited steam horses, highfliers, Winchester range, bottle battery, and Emma sheet. The other minor novelties were provided by Warrington, Crowe, and Connor.

READING May fair attracted a representative crowd of showmen, amongst whom were Andrew Purchase, with menagerie; Biddall Bros.' concern and Andrews' freak show, and Elliott with boxing booth; C. Feltham with assault-at-arms; and side-shows and novelty booths by J. Edwards, W. Irvine, and J. Pitt; Symonds, with gondola switchback; and G. Baker, W. Wilson, and J. Thomas with galloping horse sets. The minor varieties included bottle battery by Edwards, and throwing games by Castle, Owen, Bunce, Smith, and W. Irvine.

AT the recent fair at Derby, and also at private business on the Market-place, the following concerns have been exhibited: Bostock's menagerie, Sedgewick's wild beast show, and the cinématograph theatres of Arthur Twigdon and John Proctor. A. Twigdon has also provided gondolas, switchbacks, bicycles, and steam horses. Other entertainments were those of Harry Cox with galloping horses, P. Collins, jun., with steam swings, Burton with highfliers, swings, and throwing games, Hall's shooting concerns; Santa, Mansill, Warwick, and Proctor with throwing games and varieties.

FROM time to time we publish for the use of our showmen readers a list of cattle fair and other market days. The usefulness of this list has been demonstrated in a return which we have just received from the superintendent at the market ground at Chesterfield, who informs us that, although there is now no large pleasure fair, the following shows and minor novelties have pitched upon the market and done good business: Bostock and Wombwell's, Mander's, Chipperfield's, Sedgewick's, and Buffalo Bill's menageries; Twigdon's, Proctor's, Randall Williams', Crighton's, Holland's, Farrar's, and Relph and Pedley's cinématographs; Ling, Brown, and Fletcher with fine art shows; Tomkinson's, Hastings', and North's freak exhibitions; boxing and athletics by Gess, Wilson, and Hughes; novelty concerns by Boscoe, Making, Lemere, Ruby, Cady, and Cottrell's swimmers; gondolas by Twigdon and Whiting; motor-cars, steam horses, and swings by Hall; and whirling the whirl by Holland; shooting concerns and throwing games were provided by Messrs. Hall, Quinton, Case, James, Law, Derry, Smith, Peters, and Farrer.

THERE is a capital round of Yorkshire feasts and fairs, under Mr. William Murphy's control, that we give for the benefit of our Yorkshire readers:—Skipton Whitsuntide Fair, June 24 and 25; Menstone Feast, July 21, 23, and 24; Hunslet Feast, Aug. 4, 6, and 7; Stanningley Feast, on the same dates; Milnsbridge Feast, Aug. 11, 13, and 14; Horsforth Feast, Aug. 18, 20, and 21; Halton Feast, York-road, Leeds, Sept. 1, 3, and 4; Holbeck Feast, Sept. 8, 10, and 11; Chapeltown Feast, Sept. 15, 17, and 18; Woodhouse Feast, Sept. 22, 24, and 25.

IN connection with the interesting and important case we chronicled last week—Richmond Corporation v. George Beach, roundabout proprietor and fair-ground lessee—we give the bye-laws in full, so that showmen may know what they have to do if they open business in the Richmond district.

FOR PREVENTION OF DANGER FROM WHIRLIGIGS AND SWINGS, WHEN SUCH WHIRLIGIGS AND SWINGS ARE DRIVEN BY STEAM POWER.

A person who shall cause or suffer any whirligig or swing driven by steam power to be let or used for hire, shall comply with the following regulation: that is to say, he shall cause every such whirligig or swing to be so placed that it shall have a free space around it on every side, equal at least to its greatest height; he shall cause every such whirligig or swing to be firmly and properly fixed and erected so that it may be used for the purpose for which it is intended, without danger to any person; he shall cause every such whirligig or swing to be under the management and control of not less than two competent persons during the whole time that it may be driven by steam power, and he shall cause one of such persons to be exclusively occupied in taking charge of the apparatus by which such steam power is applied to the whirligig or swing. He shall not cause or suffer a greater number of persons to use such whirligig at any one time than the number for which sitting accommodation is provided therein or thereon. He shall not cause or suffer such whirligig or swing to be at any time worked at a greater speed than shall be consistent with the safety of every person riding on or in, or using the same.

A person who shall ride on or in, or who shall use a whirligig or swing used by steam power, shall not do any act whereby his own safety or the safety of any other person may be endangered.

The person having control of the apparatus by which steam power is applied to a whirligig or swing, immediately on his becoming aware that any person in, or on, or using such whirligig or swing is ill, or desires to dismount therfrom, shall cause such whirligig or swing to be brought to a standstill as speedily as may be practicable.

Section VII. sets out the penalties for breach of the bye-laws.

Every person who shall offend against any of the foregoing bye-laws shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of five pounds, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty of forty shillings, for each day after written notice of the offence from the sanitary authorities.

This section also provides that the magistrates may reduce the penalty to any sum that in their judgment meets the justice of the case.

GOOD business all round rewarded the efforts of the showmen at Oswestry May Fair, the star attraction being Mrs. F. Collins's coliseum of varieties (late Wall's phantoscope); the other Collins concerns were one set of motors, one set of racing cockerels, and P. Collins, jun.'s, steam yachts; Hutin's temple of magic; and shooting galleries by Wright, Turner, Dobson, Pilling, Cordwell, and Kempe; throwing games and varieties by Wright, Dobson, Turner, and Kempe; stalls and minor novelties by Humphries, Fletcher, Harrison, Fossett, Greatorex, Kempe, Dobson, and Pilling.

OSWESTRY is well served by the London and North-Western, the Great Western, and the Cambrian railways. These lines pour into the town at the fair time large crowds of eager sightseers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Showmen's Guild: Per Mr. S. Forrest—W. Elliot, 5s.; T. Bolesworth, 5s.; J. Sandars, 5s. Per Mr. Wm. Mitchell—W. M. Kay, 5s. Per Mr. Ashington—J. Joy, 5s.; H. Ashington, 5s.

THE principal shows and machine novelties at Heckmondwike Fair were Ashington's cinématograph, Hogini's circus, J. W. Waddington's motor-cars, G. Redfern's flying motors, W. Waddington's farmyard set. There was also a big display of minor novelties provided by C. Blake, Vanner, Bassett, Joy, Houldsworth, Seed, Walker, Blackburn, and others.

WILL the correspondent, "E. S." or "E. L.," who sent a communication to Mr. Fred Bibby, of Manchester, write direct to the Secretary of the Showmen's Guild, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.?

THE Guild secretary wishes it to be clearly understood that it will greatly facilitate the society's work and save time if all matters of business are sent at once to the office of the Guild, and not to individual members of the committee.

FOSSETT'S CIRCUS was at Todmorden on Tuesday, and gave two performances in the Holme Field. The evening entertainment was crowded, although wretched weather prevailed. A clever performance on the high trapeze was given by Sivardo, and Mlle. Emmie, with a highly-bred horse, proved what careful training can do. Robert Fossett, jun., and Thomas Fossett are both clever artists, the latter bringing down the house with his lightning speed riding. Mr. Roberts introduced Topsy, an intelligent performing elephant, and the performance concluded with Cezar, the fire horse.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHRIES.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns last week, draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphries and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphries was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

First list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* and made payable to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift will be acknowledged week by week.

MITCHAM FAIR.

It is a matter of very grave concern to London showmen that one of their oldest fairs is threatened with extinction. Rumours of the possibility of this happening have been current for some time past in more or less well-informed quarters.

With a view of testing the accuracy of the rumour the executive of the Showmen's Guild communicated by letter with the local authorities, but no answer was sent. After waiting a reasonable time for an answer, two of the executive officials of the Guild went down to Mitcham and made inquiries of a thoroughly exhaustive nature, with the result that a very alarming state of affairs was revealed.

In the first place, the people of Mitcham are threatened with the abolition of their fair rights, without as much as by your leave or any consideration or advantage whatever being given them for the deprivation of their old-time local holiday and charter fair.

One result of the enquiry on the spot was to the effect that the great body of the workers were afraid to openly protest against the high-handed proceedings of a small knot of well-to-do residents who wish to do away with the fair, the dread being that they would suffer loss of employment if they ventured to oppose the will of their employers. This local fear was very widespread and most evident.

Whilst the showmen have the hearty good wishes of the great bulk of the shopkeepers and small traders of Mitcham, who, together with the showmen, stand to lose by the abolition of the fair, yet here again fear of the powerful knot of abolitionists held them tongue-tied.

It will be seen that under these difficult conditions it is next to impossible to organise successfully any demonstration locally against the abolition of the fair, the workers being afraid of losing their employment and the shop-keepers a certain amount of their trade and custom.

There are other elements in the matter which tend to complicate the solution of the difficulty. The fair rights, as exercised for centuries by the Lords of the Manor of Mitcham, passed some years ago by purchase into the hands of a showman named Sweetlove, who, in his turn, sold the fair rights to the late Frank Bailey, so long and honourably known on the London circuit, and now we understand that his widow, Mrs. Bailey, has sold the fair rights to a gentleman of Mitcham. The local opinion concerning this transaction is that the purchase was made in order to facilitate the abolition of the fair.

It is quite certain that if the fair rights had passed either to an individual showman or to a group of showmen, the most powerful argument against the abolition of the fair, as destroying a valuable property, would have been available for its defence, and we regret that this consideration did not have the attention it deserved.

The Showmen's Guild has entered into negotiations with the present owner of the fair rights, who is also chairman of the Board of Conservators of the Mitcham Common lands, with a view to transferring the site of the fair to a more commodious piece of ground on the common, and perpetuating its existence under better conditions.

Nothing definite has been determined, although various suggestions are being considered in a friendly spirit by both sides. The Guild is not without hope that something may be arranged, and the fair continued.

The proposal to abolish one of the oldest charter fairs in the kingdom against the wishes of the vast majority of the inhabitants is another glaring example of the way in which the trade and business of the travelling showman suffers loss and injury at the hands of public bodies, whose powers are used by small knots of puritanical fanatics and faddists, or land speculators and builders, who imagine that the presence of a fair on the village green will depreciate their villa property or the residential exclusiveness of their prospective tenants.

This is notably the case in districts like Mitcham, where the City man resents the proximity of the fair to his country house, and where the land speculator considers not the interests of the great body of the inhabitants of the old town he is opening up as a new suburb of London, but the value of the property he is building, in order to attract tenants from London, to whom, perhaps, the attractions of a popular fair are not the necessity that they are to the poorer inhabitants.

We consider that to deprive the people of Mitcham of their old-time fair is an act of the gravest injustice, and we deeply regret that the fear of loss of employment if they move at all against the ruling factor is so serious that a meeting against the abolition of the fair would be no indication of the real state of the public mind.

Under these circumstances, and with a view of strengthening the business claim of the showmen for the continuance of the fair, the Showmen's Guild has forwarded the following petition to the Home Secretary:—

To the Right Honourable Herbert Gladstone, M.P., Principal Secretary of State for Home Affairs:—

Whereas, the Showmen's Guild is a trade society interested in the business of providing popular amusements at our fairs and national and local holidays, it follows that any proposal to abolish such fairs is a matter of serious concern to its executive officers and members.

The old Charter Fair at Mitcham is, we understand, under your consideration, and we regret that, although its abolition would inflict serious loss upon a large body of our members, the local authorities have not thought it their duty to specifically acquaint us with the fact that they were moving in the matter with a view to the abolition of the fair.

We respectfully submit that to abolish the fair will inflict serious business loss upon us, as traders and amusement caterers, and ask that the fair be retained.

We are willing to admit that the present site on which the fair is held is too small, owing to encroachment upon the ground for widening the public roads, and we submit that the local authorities provide a new and suitable site for the fair, which they are well able to do upon the Common Lands under their control.

Signed, on behalf of the executive,

GEORGE SANGER, President.
THOMAS HORNE, Hon. Chaplain.

The following official reply is to hand from the Home Secretary:—

HOME OFFICE, *May* 10, 1906.

SIR,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and to say that the same shall receive due attention.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, M. D. CHALMERS.

The President, The Showmen's Guild.

FROM Brussels comes news of a tragic scene which occurred in a menagerie at Braine le Comte. A spectator desired to stroke a lion, but the animal seized his arm, and it looked as if the man would lose the limb. Fortunately a hay-fork was near at hand, and a youth in the audience seized it and attacked the lion. The beast was loth to release the arm, but was finally compelled to slink back into his cage. The man's arm is terribly torn.

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MUSIC-HALL SICK FUND.

Mr. Frank Weeks presided at the monthly meeting of the Committee of the Music-Hall Sick Fund held at the York Hotel, York-road, Lambeth, on Wednesday afternoon. Other members present were Messrs. Frank Heath, G. Desmonti, W. J. Wainratta, Tom Carney, H. E. High, H. Griff, and W. West.

The income and expenditure account for the year ending Dec. 31, 1905, which has been audited by Messrs. Tilly, Brown, and Peet, chartered accountants, was submitted. It showed that the sick payments for the twelve months amounted to £101 and the death payments to £20. The total expenditure amounted to only £52 5s. 10d., and the balance in the hands of the bankers was £1358 15s. 8d. General satisfaction was expressed at the financial position of the fund, and it was resolved that further steps should be taken to bring the society under the notice of members of the variety profession by having framed printed bills placed in the dressing-rooms of music-halls, &c.

On the motion of Mr. Wainratta, seconded by Mr. High, the secretary (Mr. R. T. Baines) was instructed to write a letter of condolence to the widow of the late Frank Coyne, who was a member of the fund at the time of his death. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, who expressed his willingness to do all in his power in furtherance of the interests of the society.

FROM the North Round we have news to hand of Stockton Hirings. The shows were—Payne's cinematograph theatre, Chipperfield's wild beast menagerie; Wingate's airship headed the machine list, which included Wm. Murphy's motor-cars, Carr's jumping horses, and Carrise's gallopers. The other entertainers were Robinson, Sheeran, and others, with throwing games, stalls, &c.

WELSHPOOL FAIR this week was well maintained by Baker's circus, Wright's up-to-date peepshow, and Greatorex's novelty booth. The machines were Marshall and Hill's gondolas, steam horses by Farrell Greatorex, swings, &c., by Connell and Greatorex. A capital array of shooters, batteries, &c., by Wright, Turner, Cartwright, Farrell, and Greatorex; photo booth by Turner; and stalls by Kemp, Curry, Hill, Newsome, Greatorex, Douglas, Cartwright, and Connell.

THE May Fair at Leominster attracted a capital crowd of fairground novelties on this round. These included Baker's circus, Wadbrook's cinematograph, Mander's waxworks, Reader's exhibition, Signor Sidonia's performing birds, Prince Samonda's temple of magic, Studt's motor-cars, Strickland's gallopers, and swings and minor varieties by North, Fletcher, and Stevens.

WE draw our readers attention to the important meeting of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union advertised this week.

MAUD and Sidney Wood, promising scions of the house that has given the variety stage the Misses Marie, Alice, and Rosie Lloyd, and Miss Daisy Wood, open in London on Monday at a West End hall.

MR. GORDON WILSON, the well-known composer of ballads, who has been ill for three years, and is now lying in the Stockton-on-Tees Hospital, has received several letters of sympathy from friends in the profession, in response to the paragraph we inserted in our Variety Gossip a week or two since.

THE combination of music hall and theatre at Richmond which Mr. George Dance runs so successfully, is unique in that it is the only "hall" in Great Britain that presents successful flying matinées at regular intervals. The following are recent pieces that have appeared: *Leah Kleschna, The Walls of Jericho, Lady Madcap, Véronique,* and *Little Michus.* The last three were presented by Mr. Dance's own principal companies. On Tuesday, May 17, Richmond matinée audiences will have an opportunity of witnessing Mr. Frank Curzon's original Criterion Theatre company, including Master Edward Garrett, in *The Little Stranger.*

MISS NINA GORDON, the clever mimic at the piano, returned to the Palace Theatre this week, after a lengthy provincial tour. Her latest success is an imitation of Miss Connie Ediss in *The Spring Chicken.* Miss Gordon keeps to the simple frocks and schoolgirl manner on the stage that are so suitable to her youth and vivacity. She made her welcome reappearance in a chiffon dress of the faintest pink, trimmed with narrow ribbon of the same tint, a little wreath of shamrock in her hair, and one pink rose tucked into her folded silk belt.

MR. HARRY CARLO, who was the advertising-manager for the successful pantomime at the Brixton, has been appointed in a like capacity by Mr. Martin Harvey for his forthcoming season at the Imperial Theatre.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 6, Tavistock-street, W.C.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 10.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
May 28, June 18, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 13, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 18, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
June 25, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 14, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
June 18, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, Xmas Week, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 6, Nov. 12, 19, 26, Dec. 10, Xmas week, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
June 18, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, 28, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, on (six nights each).
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Huddersfield, June 18 and Xmas Week; Reading, May 28 and June 18; Chester, June 25; Theatre Royal, Leicester, June 18; Northampton, Xmas Week. Wolverhampton, June 4, Whit. Week. Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, May 21, 28 (Wire), June 4, July 2 and 9. METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, July 30, Aug. 13. Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON; May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug 6, onwards, with exceptions. Bedford Vacant Whit. Week. E. GRAHAM FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, May 28 and June 4. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, June 11, 12, 13, Luton; 14, 15, 16, Bedford. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Dramas, May 7, 14, and Whit. Wire. Address, HERBERT VERE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for May 14, Aug. 6, 13, 20, Aug. 1, 22, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 11, on. Nothing too big. Address, HORNER, Victoria Theatre Burnley.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, for Whit Week, to oblige Manager, "One of the Best" Co. Wire or write, KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

GRAND THEATRE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for May 21 and 28. Apply, T. SERGENSON.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, Good Companies, 21st, and June 4. Apply, STANLEY ROGERS, H. M. Theatre, Carlisle.

THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED (to oblige John F. Preston), sound Dramatic Attraction, for May 21. Wire, MACHIN, Avenue, Sunderland.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, for May 21 and June 4; the latter is the Oddfellows' Festival Week at Barrow. June 11, 18, and 25 also open. Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

THEATRE ROYAL, GOOLE.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, August, onwards, with exceptions. Address, JOHN E. TOMLINSON.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for May 21, Whit week, Colchester; also Whit week Clacton. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Companies, June 4, 18, July 2, 16, and 23, Aug. 6, 1906. Address, CULEEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for June 11, Aug. 27, Oct. 8 and 15, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, and 17. Address, FRANK KING.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday). Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Lessee and Manager, FRANK MUNDILL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 13, Sept. 10. Note.—This Theatre under my Management is taking money. Refer H. G. Griffin, Esq., "Monte Cristo," J. Arnold, Esq., &c. A few dates open, Dec. and Jan. FRANK MUNDILL.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Good Attractions, for July 30, Aug. 6 and 13 also Sept. 24. HARRY FISCHER.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 28 and June 4. Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

WANTED, Companies, for June 7, 8, 9, July 9, 10, 11, July 16, for Grand Theatre, Llandudno; holds £165. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Creekside, East Molesey.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, for Aug. 20, share or certainty. Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant May 21, 28, Aug. 6, 13.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant May 14, 21, 28, June 4.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant May 14, 21, 28, June 4.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant May 17 (3 nights), 21, 28, June 4.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant May 28, Sept. 24, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 10.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant May 14, June 4, 11, 18.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant May 14, 28, June 4, 11.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Sept. 15, Nov. 5.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES,
Lessee, W. E. POTTS
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK,
Lessees, PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Aug. 27, and on (first three days Dumfries, last three Hawick).

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Nov. 19, Dec. 3, and Xmas. (Certainty).
Wanted, Good Pantomimes for 'Derry, Loughboro', Dumfries, and Hawick (New Year).
Address, W. PAYNE SEDDON, Spa, Whitby.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN, Managing Director, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Strong Musical Attraction, for Bank Holiday (Aug. 6), and onwards, with exceptions. Also to be Let, on Rental, during the months of May and June, to Companies not Dramatic. Address, THOS. SWINTON.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attractions, June 11, July 2 and 9. E. H. PAGE.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday and Onward, High-class Plays, Musical Comedies, Comic Opera, and Shakespearean Répertoire.
Apply to JAS. KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED a Good Company, Monday, May 14, 6 nights. Wire, "Carlton, Worcester."

EDEN THEATRE BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Drama or Musical, for August Bank Holiday, Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 8, on.
R. ADDISON, LIMITED.

WANTED, Good Pantomime, Jan. 28, Feb. 4 or 11. Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, First-class Companies, June 4, 18, 25, Several August, September, October, November dates open. MORTON, Theatre, Cradley.

WANTED, Best Companies only, for May 21, 22, 23, onwards. Now booking for the season. For vacant dates, apply, PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Preston, First-class Attraction for Whit Week. Address, STEPHEN PRITT.

WANTED, Opera House, Cheltenham, through alteration of tour, first-class musical play, or comic opera, Whit. Week, Whit. Week. Wire or write, H. OSWALD REDFORD, as above.

GLOBE THEATRE, DEAL.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, May 31, June 14 (three nights); also Autumn, 1906. Address, MANAGER.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTHEND.
WANTED, for Weeks June 18 and 25, First-class Attractions only, musical preferred. No dramas. Address, GEORGE CONQUEST.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, May 21, 28, and June 4 (?), vacant through obliging; also various autumn dates, August, on. ALBANY WARD.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for June 11, 18, 25, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

THEATRE ROYAL, RUNCORN.
WANTED, Companies, Whit Week, June 4, and onwards. Address, CADDICK.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH. Vacant June 18, July 2, 9.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS. Vacant June 25, and July.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, May 7; also July 25.
Managers can always depend upon doing a good week's business at the Queen's. Apply, L. CARSON, Keighley.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, June 14, 15, 16 (3 nights), 28, 29, 30 (3 nights), July 5, 6, 7 (3 nights), 12, 13, 14 (3 nights). Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Musical or other Attraction, June 25, Share or Certainty; open to rent the theatre to responsible party for four weeks, July 2, for Stock Season. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, through disappointment, Pantomime production, for three weeks at Xmas, must be first-class, with well-known principals; vacancies for Dramatic or Musical Attractions, June 11, Aug. 13, Sept. 10 and 17, Nov. 5, Dec. 10 and 17, and various spring dates. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, Good Attractions, June 4 (Whit.), 11, 18, and on. Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General-Manager, May 14, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, June 4 (Whit week), Aug. 20 and 27. Address, HARRY YORKE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aberdeen and Dundee, May 21, 28, June 4; Newcastle-on-Tyne (Theatre Royal), June 4; Middlesborough (Opera House), May 21, 28. Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 28, June 4, 11, 18, and 25. Mr. Moody would be pleased to hear from companies that have not visited Blyth previously.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.
WANTED, Companies, May 24, 25, and 26, 3 nights only, June 4 (Whit), Sept. 3, onwards. Silence a courteous negative.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant dates from Aug. 20. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, owing to Transfer, to oblige Mr. Dance, a First-class Musical Attraction, for Oct. 8; also for Sept. 10, Musical. SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport.

DUNFERMLINE OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August 20, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

STANLEY, DURHAM. NEW ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, Attractions, May 28, and Autumn. Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, Good Companies, May 21 and 28 (three or six nights). GRAY, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, for Immediate Dates, Dramas, Sketches, Musical Comedy, and other companies, for run, one house nightly, on shares. Address, BARNEY M. ARMSTRONG, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Attractions. June 4, Grand, Chorley; also June 4, 11, Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Grand, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
WANTED, Good Company, Whit Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED (to oblige John F. Preston), good Drama for May 28. Wire, BUCHANAN, Grand, Glasgow.

PANTOMIME.
WANTED, two weeks, Jan. 21 and 28, 1907, First in for First-class Production. Booked by Milton Bode, Esq., for four weeks at Christmas, and also for another of his theatres later in season. Address for particulars, BRYDON PHILLIPS, Royal West London Theatre, Edgware-road, London, W.

PAVILION THEATRE, ST. LEONARDS
(the West End Theatre of Hastings).
WANTED, good Companies, for two or three Summer Dates. Apply, Mr. ELVEY THOMAS, as above, or Mr. J. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly, S.W. Telephone 6534 Gerrard.

ST. JULIANS, GUERNSEY.
WANTED, Attraction, for June 4 (3 nights). Apply, PERKINS, Opera House, Jersey.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Companies, May 28, Whit Week, also July, onwards, musical preferred. Wire for May 28 to CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

WANTED, High-Class Companies and Attractions. For dates apply, W. ALEC MILLWARD, Victoria Hall, Llandrindod Wells (Health Resort, Summer Season).

RYDE PIER PAVILION. Season 1906.
WANTED, Known, that, with the exception of Aug. 6 Aug. 9 (three nights each), Mr. J. Herbert Jay's bookings are now complete, and include The Gaieties, The Follies, The Scarlet Mr. B.'s, The Yokels, The Serenaders, The Roman Singers, The Sabots, The Londoners, "In the King's Service," Jury's Imperial Bioscope, &c., &c. For Aug. 6 and 9 (the best dates in the season) apply 10, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13. WALTER MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20. WALTER MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 1. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 28, June 4, Sept. 17, Oct. 8. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted. Theatre, June 4, Sept. 24, Oct. 1. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Nov. 26. DOUGLAS BRUCE, "Bruges," Willow-avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala production, weeks of June 25 and July 2. Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
WANTED, June 4, 18, 25. DENCH, Century, Motherwell; next, O. H., Southport.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, owing to Extending a most Successful Tour, May 28 (North only). Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, June 4. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production which will be second to none touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain First-Class Theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Sept. 15, 22, Nov. 26. All new scenery and printing. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 4 (?), 18 (to follow Prince's, Bristol), on.

"SAILORS OF THE KING."
Aug. 6 (to precede Peckham), 20, on. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Court Theatre, Wigan.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY'S CO.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Known, no Vacant Dates this Year. CHALMERS MACKEY, This, Opera House, Blackpool; then, Vacation till Autumn.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 2, 30, Aug. 6, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, 22, and Dec. 31. J. W. CORDINER, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour. Miss Dora Price as the Woman.
WANTED, May 28 (follow Metropole, Birmingham), June 4, and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire for May 28 and June 4. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, Star, Swansea; next, New T., Aberdare.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part), and Strong Company, in above success, Aug. 6, Oct. 22, Nov. 5 and 12. Re dates, EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY" TOUR.
Eugene C. Stafford's Company.
WANTED, Nov. 1 (three nights) and 12, Dec. 3 and 24, also Spring, 1907. Apply, care of FRENCH, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres, Miss Minnie Palmer, in "MY SWEETHEART," Supported by First-class Company, including Mr. Chas. Fisher (Tony). Can negotiate for Whit. Week. Address, Westwood Lodge, Wood-lane, W.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, May 28 (follow Woolwich), June 4, only vacant dates till August. Special scenery and printing. Superb cast. Crowded with Mystic Effects. "Nana" and "The Anarchist Terror" also in Répertoire.
Wire to-day, LOIS ESMOND, Opera H., Ilfracombe. May 14, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever.
E. CARTER LIVESEY, T. R., Sheffield.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.,
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED, Dates, from July 9, on, with exceptions.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, Criterion Theatre, London.

JULIAN MALVERN'S TOUR.
"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, good Theatres, Sept. 3 and 10 (to follow Walsall and precede Edinburgh); also Nov. 5 and 12 (to follow Alex., Birmingham, return)
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

"THE NAVAL DETECTIVE."
"IN OLD MADRID."
WANTED, good Theatres, May 28 (follow Longton), June 11 (follow Mexboro'), 25 (precede Scarboro'). FRED KIRBE, Theatre Royal, York.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, June 18, July 2, Aug. 6. Bookings include H. M., Aberdeen and Dundee, Acton, Smethwick, Chesterfield, N. Shields, Gateshead, Newcastle, West Hartlepool, &c., &c. Address, STUART CLEVELAND, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part), and Strong Company, in above success, Aug. 6, Oct. 22, Nov. 5 and 12. Re dates, EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

"A MISERABLE MARRIAGE" CO.
WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, and on, for the above up-to-date sensational Attraction. Address, J. NEGUS, Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 10, North or Midlands, Oct. 1 and 15. Miss Maud Hildyard and Powerful Company. Mr. ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire T., Oldham.

CHARLES WINDERMERE AND CO., in
"FACING THE MUSIC."
WANTED, June 11, 21, July 12. May 14, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Whit Week, on, Aug. 13, on. 29th week of tour. W. J. MILLER, this, Seaham, next, Ashington.

ROBERT PERRIS'S CO.
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
WANTED, Aug. 13, 20, and 27 (South preferred), Sept. 10, 17, and 24. Thanks Mr. John Hart and Robert Arthur for contracts. Address, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, June 11, 18, 25. Cast and Scenery second to none touring. Eighth visit here, and business better than ever. Refer Z. Andrews, Esq. Wire, E. A'DELL, to-day, Aberdare; next, R., Gloucester (R.).

"EAST LYNNE," "LIFE," &c.
WANTED, June 4, 11, 25, all July, Aug. 6, 20, Powerful Company, Magnificent Printing.
HERBERT BARRS, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, June 4, Yorks. or Lancs. 39th week of Present Tour. June 25, between Blackburn and Bristol; July 23, follow West London; and various on; Oct. 1, 8, and 29, Lancs. Bookings and Re-bookings extend into March, 1907.
FRANK AYRTON, Gaiety Theatre, Leith.

WANTED, May 21 and Whit, for "Our Boys" company. Includes Messrs. Story-Gofton, J. G. Graham, jun., C. Herbert Hewetson, Fred Groves, Mesdames Blanche Stewart, Christine Stuart, Lucie Evelyn, and Alice Brookes. Address, BRYDON-PHILLIPS, Royal West London Theatre, Edgware-road, London.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Xmas, Dec. 31, a few Autumn, and Spring, '07, open. FRANCES DELAVAL, Metropole, Devonport.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
Head Office, Metropole, Glasgow.
Assistant, Geo. Gordon Jefferson.
Tours Booked. Engagements negotiated.
Plays and Sketches read,
advised upon, written, and produced.

WANTED, Dates, Aug. 6, onwards, "Orphan Heiress," "World's Verdict," "Queen of Villainy," "In Sight of St. Paul's," "Saints and Sinners," "Middleman."
Suburban London Managers supplied with complete, perfect production during the off season at a reasonable inclusive certainty. Fit-up rights of "Orphan Heiress," "World's Verdict," and "London by Day and Night," for Disposal, Sale, Royalty, or Fixed Fee.
"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON,"
accepted and booked by
Moss' Empires, Ltd.
Address, Ivanhoe Hotel, Bloomsbury-street, London.
Wires, "Jefferson, Redgauntlet, London."
Business Interviews by Appointment only.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
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Mr. Eade Montefiore's Company now approaching 2,000th performance, and after five years' rest returning to old bookings and proving itself, what it always has been, a sound and delectable attraction. More so, as it comes as a new drama to the rising generation. Last week at Bradford "The Streets of London" opened on Monday to £35 15s. 2d., and closed on Saturday night to £93 6s. 3d.

WANTED, June 18, 25 (North), all July (Midlands preferred), and certain Autumn dates (South).
Eade Montefiore,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
1906-1907.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, having Large Stage and Large Holding Capacity, for Production at Christmas of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Record-breaking Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Also Vacant,
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Feb. 11 and 18, Lanc. or Yorks.
All communications to
Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."

WANTED, Best Theatres, for this Sterling Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 8. Splendidly advertised, beautifully mounted, and artistically played. Fifth year of Tour. A solid success. Royalty, Barrow, May 14.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,"
"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,"
the Most Successful Play produced during the year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.

WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 15, 22, and 29. Wire or write, W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."

WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part), and Strong Company, in above success, Aug. 6, Oct. 22, Nov. 5 and 12. Re dates,
Edward Marris, T. R., Grantham.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."

WANTED, Aug. 13, to follow Newcastle, through misunderstanding; also Sept. 3 and Oct. 8. No other Vacant Dates until 1907. Address, L. Carson, Keighley.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
by Walter Howard.
ANNIE SAKER.
ALFRED PAUMIER.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for remaining vacant weeks, 1907.
Alfred Paumier, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."

WANTED, for this Enormous Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, and on, with exceptions. Apply,
Fred Granville, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

MR. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."

WANTED, Good Theatres, for few Autumn Dates still vacant. Managers are invited to witness the production during the week of May 14, at Lyric, Hammersmith. Address, re dates, F. S. Jennings.

WANTED, by J. Bannister Howard, for "The New Magdalen." Good Theatres, May 21, 28, and Whit Week.
3, Bedford-street, Strand.

MR. AND MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.
"A SISTER'S SIN."

WANTED, June 11 and 18, to follow Bradford, and precede Aldershot.
F. G. Kimberley,
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

MR. HARRY GRAHAM'S
PANTOMIMES.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE"
and
"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD."

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Christmas Productions. Everything done to ensure success. Fifty artists travelled. All coms., John S. Graham, 2, Inver-ter., Upper Clapton, London, N.E.

LESTER COLLINGWOOD'S
"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS" No. 1 CO.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Sept. 17, '05, for this exceptionally powerful attraction; also a few weeks in the autumn of '07.
Lester Collingwood,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. ANDREW MOIR'S COMPANY,
in Three-Act Farcical Comedy,
"THE MAJOR'S DOUBLE"
and
Miniature Grand Opera,
"THE GAMBLER'S WIFE."

WANTED, Whit Week, also June 18 (precede King's, Glasgow), July 2 (precede Lyceum, Edinburgh), and various dates onward.
Wire, F. Martin Morris,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate, W.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S COS.

WANTED, Theatres for
"THE GRIP OF IRON,"
Aug. 6, and on.
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN,"
June 11, 18, and 25 (London or near).
George Denham, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," May 21 and 28. Wire to-day, Charles Clifford, T. R., York. Monday, Grand, Walsall.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."

WANTED, for above Sterling Attraction, May 28 (between Swansea and Lancaster), June 23 (North), Sept. 10 (Lancashire). Fred L. Connynghame, this, Stratford; next, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, May 28, "Golden Ladder." Can be seen this week Standard, London; Next week, Shakespeare, Clapham Junction.
Wire,
Edmonds, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."

WANTED, Aug. 9 (3), South Coast, Aug. 27 (week). Frank G. Baily,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.

WANTED, May 28, June 4, onwards.
Wire,
Brixton Theatre.

GRAND OPERA, LTD.

WANTED, Dates August, and on, also July 23 (to follow Royal Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth), Arthur, 434, Strand. 'Phone, 7279 Gerrard.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."

WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part), and Strong Company, in above success, Aug. 6, Oct. 22, Nov. 5 and 12. Re dates,
Edward Marris, T. R., Grantham.

THEATRES WANTED.

Success! Success! Success!
MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Saturday, May 5, packed from floor to ceiling. Refer W. Broadhead, Esq. Re-booked by Messrs. Broadhead for return in six months to both theatres.
Re-booked by Wm. Morton, Esq., Hull, for return in twelve months.
Re-booked by E. H. Page, Esq., Blackburn, for return in six months.
Re-booked by H. Masterman, Esq., Castleford, for return in four weeks.
Date offered by J. F. Elliston, Esq., for return in five months.
Other bookings include:
Alex., Sheffield; Grand, Blackpool; T. R., Lincoln; G., Derby; T. R., Leicester; T. R., South Shields; O. H., St. Helens; T. R., Sunderland; Q., Liverpool; Wigan; Prince's, Bradford; T. R., Barnsley; T. R., Middlesbrough; T. R., Chatham; T. R., Smethwick; T. R., Aston; Grand, Nottingham. Thanks for offers of Rotunda, Liverpool; P. O. W., Grimsby; and Prince's, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 20, and few Autumn dates vacant, for really good Theatres, that can hold money. Rapidly booking 1907. Managers are invited to forward Autumn vacancies to
George Kirk,
this, Junction, Manchester; next, T.R., Sunderland.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.

WANTED, May 28, June 11, 18, and on, for "THE NEW CLOWN,"
"THE NEW CLOWN,"
"THE NEW CLOWN,"
by arrangement with
Messrs. James Welch and Silvanus Dauncey.
With complete production from Terry's Theatre, including the famous donkey.
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."
Vacant Nov. 26, only vacant date this year.
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER,"
Vacant Aug. 20, Oct. 22, and various on.
"THE CHAPERONE,"
This week, Argyle, Birkenhead;
next week, ALBERT HALL, SOUTHPORT.
Only vacant dates Spring, 1907.
Address all communications,
Eugene Bertram, Gilmore-road, Lewisham.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl.
Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia.

WANTED, Good Theatres, July 23 (precede Alex., Hull), Aug. 6, 13, 20, Sept. 10, onwards. Bookings include Bradford, Hull, Derby, Sheffield, Luton, Swansea, Mexbro', Dewsbury, Scarbro', St. Helens, Walsall, Liverpool, Lincoln, &c., and a host of pencillings. Mounted in first-class style. Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

LESTER COLLINGWOOD'S "BLUE BEARD" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 28. This superlative attraction was played for twelve consecutive weeks (and with matinées ninety-seven performances), at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, to record business. Everything carried. Lester Collingwood,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Theatres, "McKenna's Flirtation," Mr. Edwin Garth and his Popular Company in the screamingly funny Musical Comedy. At Liberty June 4, and onward. Good offers invited. Address, Wallace Childs, this, Queen's Park; next, Hulme, Hippo., Manchester.

"THE ASSASSIN," by E. Hill-Mitchelson.

WANTED, Oct. 29, to oblige Broughton. Augustine Knight, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Good Theatre, in Fashionable Resort, for third week of tour of a new comedy by leading author, star actor in principal part, supported by an exceptionally strong cast. Theatre must hold at least £150 nightly. Wire or write, Richard Maynard, Ballivor, Co. Meath, Ireland.

WANTED, Dates, from Whit Week, on,

"THE GAZEKAS,"
a First-Class Comedy Concert Company
of five performers

Latest Songs,
Latest Lyrics,
Latest Sketches,
Latest Illusions,
Latest Conjuring,
&c., &c., &c.

For terms and vacant dates apply to
Herbert Jay, 10 and 11, Jermyn-street.

Share or Certainty.

Splendid printing.

Good Fit-up.

WANTED, Whit week, First-Class Theatres, or Hippodromes, for the
KELLINO'S "FETE IN VENICE,"
and STAR VAUDEVILLE COMPANY,
Share or Certainty.

Communications, Olympia Circus, Bury.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Smart, Attractive Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, good appearance and good voices absolutely essential. Apply, personally and immediately, Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

"A TRIP TO THE HIGHLANDS."

WANTED, to Rehearse July 2, Open July 16, for Summer and Autumn Tour, Ladies and Gentlemen, to Complete Cast. Smart Soubrette, with speciality; Tall Lady, for character part; Gentleman, for Lord Lackington, baritone; must be tall. Height, references, photos., and lowest terms. Silence a polite negative.
Harry Fischer,
Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOUR,
"THE NEW CLOWN."

WANTED, to open 28th inst., Artists for Title-role and Strong Man; those who have played parts previously preferred.
Eugene Bertram, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham.

WANTED, Full Company, Whit Week, Brighton, "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace." Lowest terms, photos., &c., W. T. Elworthy, Royalty, Glasgow.

WANTED, Full Company, for Short Stock Season. Apply immediately, Ernest Plumpton, Stage-Manager for Sherwood and Company, Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, a Juvenile Lady, for Stella in "Capt. Swift" and Violet in "Bunch of Violets"; must be pretty, able to sing and play. Photos. imperative. Rehearse May 16. Lovell, 7, Arundel-street, Piccadilly.

WANTED, First-class Leading Man, Powerful Aristocratic Old Man, Heavy Lady, and Comedian for Autumn. E. Hill-Mitchelson, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Mark Desmond, grave, sympathetic Juvenile Lead, first-class actor. Kindly address, with photos., references, &c., to T. E. Ward, Standard, E.

WANTED, Juvenile Gent., ditto Old Men, preference those doing turn; young, steady, used to portable. Breamer, Alexandra Theatre, Cinderford; after Mon., Ledbury.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Eccentric Light Comedian, for Bertie, "Woman Who Gambles," rehearse May 28; also first-class Juvenile Leading Actor, for high-class play. Lowest summer terms and references. Morton Powell, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, a Light Comedian, who can play the 'Cello, for a Summer Engagement of twelve weeks certain. Write to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Gentleman for Binks, Cockney Char., Juvenile for Dr. Morton. "Rich and Poor of London." Rehearse at once. Dench, O.H., Southport.

WANTED, Aristocratic Old Man, robust, rehearse Tuesday; also Juvenile Lady. Photos., terms, Somerfield, Rotunda, Liverpool.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Early Autumn Tours, Chorus Ladies; must be young, pretty, and for one tour, petite, and good voices. Also Artists in all Lines for Musical Comedy. Apply any morning, 11 o'clock, to C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, at Once, First-class Troupe of Acrobatic Dancers and Singers, Ladies, not less than Eight, for Continent. Fares paid out. Month's engagement, with option longer. Wire lowest terms to Dietrich, 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Attractive young Ladies requiring Engagements, Musical Comedy and Pantomime. No premiums or Agency fees. Manager, 34, Stockwell Park-road.

Trial Matinée.

WANTED, Applications from Artists desirous of taking part in a Matinée Performance of a new Drama to be produced at a London Theatre next month. Write, stating qualifications, to Concert Director (Ltd.), 41-43, Maddox-street, W.

WANTED, Known, Manager of Recognised Touring Company has several Vacancies for Aspirants; splendid opportunity for those wishing to succeed. Terms, small premium, or aspirants must give two months' services. Addressed envelope for reply. Lisle, The Institute, Lingfield.

WANTED, Known, The Audition Co., Ltd.,
10, Bedford-chambers,
Covent Garden, W.C.
Capital, £1,000.
Bankers, London and County Bank.

Formed for the express desire
of discovering and assisting genuine talent,
arranging trial performances,
producing plays for copyright, &c., &c.

For particulars,
enclose stamped addressed envelope.
Only to be seen by appointment.

Few good professionals write in.
No preliminary fees for procuring engagements.

WANTED, Sopranos and Baritones, with powerful voices, for Al Fresco Concerts. Send lowest inclusive terms. Bandmaster, Town Hall, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

To Managers and Proprietors.
WANTED, Known, Millis and Lazern's Eastern Entertainers,
Having just returned from an extended tour of Australia, New Zealand, India, and the Far East,
are open to receive offers for
Top, Bottom, and Middle of Bill, viz.:—
Fred W. Millis,
the World-famed Ventriloquist.
Mlle. Yasiho,
the Charming Soprano, with her Budget of Illustrated Songs, all original and fully protected, and Emile Lazern,
the Man of Mystery, and Oriental Wonder Worker.
Beautiful Oriental Stage Settings, &c.
Three different kinds of Lithos.
Can do half an hour to two hours' Show.
May 14, THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Vacant Dates, Terms, &c., apply to
Fred W. Millis,
Wattle Bloom, Broomwater West,
Teddington, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, by Mlle. Elena Colonna, full, rich mezzo voice. Has sung with great success in Italy, France, Belgium. Dates open for touring, seaside or town. Address, c/o T. Arthur Russell, Concert Director, Sackville-street, W. Also young lady accompanist desires engagement, in conjunction with above artist, where there would be opportunity to study violin. Small premium would be paid. Address as above.

WANTED, by Flora Macdonald (A.L.C.M.), Soprano Ballad Vocalist, Engagement with First-Class Al Fresco or Concert Party. 56, Drayton-road, Harlesden, London.

WANTED, Known, Miss Gertrude Skinner, Contralto and Violinist, Disengaged. Note change of permanent. Tennyson-road, Bognor.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contralto, experienced very large répertoire; can play Piano. Address, Marjorie Irvine, care of Mrs. Lavender, Brent-street, Hendon, N.W.

Piers and Pavilions.
WANTED, Known, Mr. Lawrence Derrick and Miss Marian Brereton, Musical and Dramatic Entertainers, now booking Summer Season. Finish Victoria Pier, Blackpool, April 28. Address, Derrick, Actors' Association, London.

WANTED, by Young Italian Tenor, Singing in Italian, French, English, Berth, with board, lodging. Tuition in exchange for services. Offer to Gagliardi Roger, 6, Upper James-street, Golden-square, W.

WANTED, by Quartette of Ladies, combine Singing, vacant May 20. Great Success on Present Tour. Madam Smith, Guildhall, Londonderry.

WANTED, the Bradfield Ladies, Trio, Quartet, or Quintet Summer Engagement; excellent Répertoire. Apply, Miss Millicent Bradfield, 111, Holland-road, W.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

LITTLE AND DARCY'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Comedians, for Dame, Baron, Page;
Principal Boy, for "Sinbad," Second Boy, for "Riding Hood," Specialities, for Palace Scene, Knockabout Comedians.
All must send full particulars, and where can be seen working the next two weeks.
Address,
Fred J. Little,
2 and 3, Arthur-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes, for '06 and '07, Principal Boys and Girls, Comedians, Dames, and all Lines. Apply by letter, with photos. and all particulars, to Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for Touring, Pantomime, Christmas, Principal Boy, and Knockabout Comedians. Terms, photos., Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artists, Principal Boys, Girls, Seconds, Comedians, Fairy Queens, Knockabouts, Chorus Ladies. Valentine's Agency, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and second-hand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, Theatrical Contracts, Fit-ups, Repainting, Touching-up, &c., experienced, quick; moderate terms. Henry, 5, Homer-house, Rushcroft-rd, Brixton.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery, High-class Work and Best Materials, at reasonable prices. Large and well-appointed studio. Address, Charles J. Sayer, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, engagement, or contract, refs. excellent.
Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Engagement or Contract, High-class Work only,
by Davies-Massey, Scenic Artist,
4, Princess May-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Managers to Note Address of the First and Original Manchester Scenic Factory (20 years' reputation), Bostock, Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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WANTED, immediately, Lady or Gentleman, with about £250, to Finance First-class Concert Party opening permanently in the West-End. Address, Manager, 10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, Director for established and successful Music Hall. Apply, Messrs. Stanhope and Co., Ltd., 63, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, First-class Billposter; good references indispensable. Apply, Rockley's, Ltd., Talbot-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Poster Writer.
Good Opening for
Smart, Up-to-date Man.
Send Samples and Wages Required to
Sheffields, Ltd.,
Birmingham.

WANTED, Smart Poster Writer; none but steady men need apply. Permanency. Worswick and Sons, Billposters, Wigan.

WANTED, immediately, smart, strong, useful Young Man, wear uniform, knowledge of Electricity, travel with First-class Act. Fares paid. Director, Zerbinis Troupe, Theatre R., Preston.

WANTED, Engagement, as Manager or Secretary of Pier Pavilion; experienced in Theatrical and Variety Business. Address, Box 3,222, "The Era."

WANTED, by Chas. J. Cawood, late Manager, Empire, Edinburgh, 13 years, engagement, as acting-manager or treasurer, resident or touring. Address, 22, West Preston-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Situation, by Stage-Manager and Carpenter; excellent references. C. S., 55, New-street, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, Position, Manager, Small Hall, 14 years' experience, own bookings, can include bioscope, large stock films, good accountant. Box 3,221, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Acting-Manager (experienced all departments), now engaged large theatre principal city, seeks offers from proprietors. Terms low; references A1. Box 3,238, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting or Assistant Manager (26), good experience, references, Provinces preferred. Write, James, Box 3,244, The Era."

WANTED, Known, David Tyler, at Liberty, not Advance Director or Advance Manager, but Advance Agent, the man who knows the work, and does it. 140, Renfrew-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by J. B. Chandler, as Carpenter, Resident or Tour, good references. Address, 42, Walcot-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by H. Leeding, as Carpenter, resident or good company, own tools, late Maskelyne and Devant's. Good refs. 11, Little Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, 22, has great desire for the stage, willing to learn and be useful. Apply Box 3,183, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, smart young Musical Director (single), for Music Hall Sketch; open Monday. Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Violinist (lady), Hotel Trio, Dublin, good soloist, sight-reader, 30s. Send refs., &c., Conductress, 40, Northumberland-av., Kingstown.

WANTED, Violinist, well experienced in the Variety business. State lowest terms and references to T. W. Moyes, Palace T., Grimsby.

WANTED, Violinist, experienced, good accompanist on piano; shop or join partner for season. Llewellyn Tyler, Paradise Cottage, Romney-place Maidstone.

EMPIRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, to open Monday, May 28; must have first-class references.
Apply, stating terms, to R. Thornton.

WANTED, Good Cornet, thoroughly experienced in Variety Business. Terms and refs. to Chas. P. Fox, Musical Director, Hippodrome, Hastings.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, NEAR CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Cornet or Bombardon Player preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to the Superintendent at the Asylum.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Season, commencing June 2, must be First-Class Performer, steady, reliable. A. Collinson, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, Clarionettist or Solo Cornet, join advertiser, Touring Seaside; able to sing Open soon for season. H., Trafalgar House, Barnstaple.

WANTED, good Trombone, Deputise two weeks, Variety, from May 21 to June 2. Write, wire, Styles, 30, Fitzroy-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Solo Euphonium, Council Military Band, June 25, ten or twelve weeks. Good salary to competent man. Bellerby, Deneholme, Ilkley.

WANTED, for Training, with 3rd West Riding Regiment, Euphonium, Cornet, Trombone. Particulars to Bandmaster, Depôt, Halifax, Yorks.

WANTED, Good First French Horn, First and Second and B-flat Clarionets, Solo Flute and Piccolo, Bassoon, Solo Trombone, and Double B-flat Bombardon, ten to twelve weeks, seaside, July 1. Can put good Cavalry Horn Player in for Yeomanry Training also, May 30 to June 13. None but steady and reliable musicians need apply. Apply, with references and past experiences,
Bandmaster,
Box 3,242, "The Era."

WANTED, Flute, for Empire, Ashton, open May 21; Leader, for Junction, Manchester, open May 21.
Apply, enclosing copy of last reference, to Percy B. Broadhead, The Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Flautist and Piccolo, for Bridlington (five months' season), at once, through illness; only excellent player and soloist of good appearance need apply. Conductor, Parade Band, Bridlington.

WANTED, Flute and Bombardon, for 10 weeks, commencing July 2, to complete Military Band at Redcar and Saltburn, twice daily, including Sunday. Lowest terms to G. B. Robinson, Appleton-road, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Pianist, for Beach Work. Apply, with age and terms, to
Claude North, Dudley-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, at Once, Pianist and Singer, used to tents, sober man, good wages. West's Auction Tent, Uppermill, near Oldham.

WANTED, Pianist, one week, May 21, also June 4, 11. Lowest terms, references, first letter. Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, for Ramsgate, Long Engagement, Leader (First Violin), Second (combine Viola), Piano (combine Violin), 'Cello, Basso (4-string), Flute (Piccolo Solos), Clarionet, First Cornet (Solos), Second Cornet, Trombone (combine Euphonium), Drums and Effects (combine Zolephone. Michael Connelly, Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and 'Cello; must be single, and not over 30 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Violins, Violas, Oboe, and Cor-Anglais, Bassoon, Horn, Euphonium, June 2 to Sept. 30. Applications, with particulars of experience, references, and salary required for one or two performances daily, to J. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Pianist, immediately, for Minstrel Tour. Wire, Manager, Minstrels,
T. R., Waterford.

WANTED, Full Military Band, May 21 to end of September, play four hours daily. No Sunday playing. References, testimonials, and lowest terms, Bandmaster, Town Hall, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Competent Trio Lady Musicians, Piano Violin, and 'Cello, for Animated Pictures, Variety and Dancing. Open May 21, for Season. Address, terms, &c., Manager, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Small Ladies' Band, of three or four performers, to play four-and-a-half hours daily in Café. Lowest terms and references to Box 3,243, "The Era."

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

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"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Leigh Lovel, Esq., Theatre Royal, Torquay; then, Prince's, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathow's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor, Musical Director, and Leader (Solo), at Liberty. Field End Villa, Worsley-rd., Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Pianist-Conductor (abstainer), Engagement; just terminated 24 weeks' pantomime tour, 9 years Palace, Portsmouth; also has the most powerful 5-octave portable organ in existence (marvel), patent. Particulars, Brookwood Park-rd., Kenilworth, Warwick.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Conductor (Violinist), six years last appointment; highest references; Theatre or Music Hall. Conductor, 35, Claybrook-road, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Leonard Tute, Conductor, Solo Violinist, and Pianist; experienced and expert. Permanent address, 31, Marle Hill-parade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady Violinist.
Address, A. E. R., 66, Church-street, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Amateur Violinist, First or Second, used to Theatre, Variety and Quadrille. Any Business considered, or deputising. Shelton, 99, Brook-street, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist and Pianist, shortly disengaged, Concert Party, Orchestra, Quartette; brilliant Soloist; good rép. and refs. Box 3,220, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Solo Violinist wants an Engagement or Deputising, used to any business, splendid references. Write, J. H., 51, Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co. Excellent testimonials. Could join now. Address, Matthew Lewis, Waterlooville, Hants.

WANTED, Short Engagement, First or Second Violin, any Business, Disengaged May 19. Present Leader. Address, Chambers, Grand T., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagement as Violin, can combine Clarionet, for Military Band; good refs. H. Smith, 14, Princes-sq., Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Lady Violinist, just concluding second winter Engagement. Dis. May 26. Violinist, Palace Restaurant, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as First or Second Violin, in theatre. Excellent testimonials. John Burnett, 8, Palmer's-villas, Spring Well, Gateshead.

WANTED, by Good Violinist, Lady, Experienced, re-engagement, accompanist on piano. Good refs. Miss Katie Husband, 4, Lansdowne-st., Hove.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, combine Trombone, late Buxton and New Brighton Orchestras, Liberty June 16. Address, Leader, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist, experienced in Dramatic or Variety business; good references. Apply, D. Nicoll, G.P.O., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Clarionet, Cornet, Drums, together or separate. Address, Leader, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violinist; experienced Drama, &c.; references. Violinist, 76, Georgiana-street, Bury.

WANTED, Engagement, as First Violin, can combine Second or Third Clarionet, for Military Band; last season Hastings; good refs. Box 3,235, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, two Ladies, Cornet and Violin, from July 12 until Aug. 3, experienced. Address, Miss Conolly, Town Hall, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Season, perm. or dep.; reliable, sober, any business; good refs. Friswell, 45, Sydner-rd., Stoke Newington, London, N.

WANTED, First-Class Military Band Engagement, as First or Second Cornet Player, for Summer Season; well experienced in First-Class Military Band work; Army references. Zealley, 3, Hartington-terrace, Brighton.

WANTED, by First-class Solo Cornet, Theatre or Summer Engagement; highest references. J. Bonner, 82, Millbrook-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Solo Cornet, any Business. Can open at once. Immediate offers invited. Capron, 16, Woodhurst-rd., Acton.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet, any business; abstainer; reliable.
T. Mitchell, 7, Kilbain-street, Greenock.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Solo Clarionet Player, with First-Class Testimonials, open to accept permanent or Seaside Engagements. Apply, Box 3,216, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet. Address, 1, Beaufort-buildings, Pittville, Cheltenham, Glos.

WANTED, Engagement, Clarionet or Saxhorn, steady and reliable; refs. W. WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings, Sussex.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, Four-string, by steady and reliable man. Now open. J. DELL, 137, Northwold-road, Upper Clapton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Double Bass, any business, sober, best refs., can double bombardon. M. S. ROBINSON, 28, Cliffe-st., Nelson.

WANTED, by Double Bassist, few Lessons, by Orchestral Musician. Terms, refs., &c., J. C. H., 43, Forburg-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Double Bass player; steady, reliable; at Liberty. PETER JONES, 5, Great Norwood-st., Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any Business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Trombone; steady and thoroughly reliable.

Address, TROMBONE, Yeomanry Camp, Cirencester.

WANTED, Engagement, with Tenor or G Trombone; any business. Address, Box 3,230, "The Era."

WANTED, by Trombone, Short Summer Engagement, experienced. Address, TAYLOR, Trombone, Palace Theatre, Bath, Som.

WANTED, Engagement for Trombone, good; steady and reliable; any business. TROMBONE, 14, Clift-terrace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Trombone or Painist; also Violinist, any business; experienced. KENT, 12, Cardiff-grove, Luton.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, Orchestra or Military; twelve years' Guards' Band. E. MASON, 16, Belgrave-road, Abbey-road, N.W.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, Engagement; excellent refs.; at Liberty May 21. CHARLES GRICE, Band, Norfolk Artillery Camp, Harwich.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Euphonium; reliable. A. F., 4, Rydon-crescent, Rosebery-avenue, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, by E flat Bombardon, 26 years of age, height 5ft. 10in.; good testimonials; small security if necessary. F. B., Minn Ffordd, Glan Conway, N. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Bombardon, any Business; steady and reliable. L., 45, Arundel-street, Holderness-road, Hull.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon, steady and competent; good references. HOSKING, Adelaide Cottage, Penzance.

WANTED, by E Flat Bombardon, Season's Engagement or Permanency; highly experienced; good refs.; disengaged Saturday. Address, BOMBARDON, 9, All Saints' Green, Norwich.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello. Also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent and experienced 'Cellist, Theatre or Variety. T. CATHIE, Theddlethorpe, Louth, Lincolnshire.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement. References from well-known Conductors; highly experienced. 'CELLO, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, experienced and reliable. OTTO THIELE, 50, Howland-street, Tottenham Court-road, London, W.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement or Deputising, thoroughly experienced; in London. Start at once. 'CELLIST, 29, Oakley-crescent, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, by Experienced 'Cellist, Deputising, any business. FLETCHER, 100 Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

WANTED, Known, an Excellent Orchestra 'Cellist seeks situation. Address, Mr. ASICOVITSH, 203, Oxford-street, Stepney, London, East.

WANTED, Known, Solo and Orchestral 'Cellist, open for engagements. Address, Box 3,237. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, young, excellent Orchestral and Solo Player; 4 years' experience; highest references. KATHARINE PAGE, 17, Lower Mount-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Viola, combine Piano, experienced accompanist and Orchestral Pianist, advertiser well known, London preferred. Box 2,951, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, for the Summer Season, by Second Viol, Piano, 'Cello, Double Bass. Open June 1. FRITZ PREISICKE, Musical Director, Café Minerva, Hamburg.

WANTED, Engagements as Oboist, also Drummer; high reference; good experience in Grand Opera and Variety; young man. T. SPARANO, 14, Stanhope-street, London, W.

WANTED, by First-class Oboist, also Clarionettist, Engagement, any Business, London preferred. OB, 43, Overbury-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by experienced Oboe, Engagement, Orches. or Mil., late Soloist Royal Marines; excellent refs. G. WILLIAMS, 27, Paisley-st., Hull.

WANTED, by Oboist, experienced in any capacity; good refs.; late Grand Theatre, Glasgow. STUART BARR, 130, York-drive, Glasgow.

WANTED, Season Engagement by First-Class Oboe, late of Carl Rosa Opera Company. GEORGE, 105, Herne Hill-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboe or Double Bass, any business; good refs.; season or permanent. J. CRABTREE, 10, Bethesda-st., Hanley.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c. Theatre Royal, Belfast, till May 28.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement or Deputy, any business, Flute (Piccolo soloist), well known; Military, String. MUSICUS, 27, Thistlewaite-road, Lower Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, experienced and steady. C. H. COLEMAN, 27, Park-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Frank Roland, Flute and Piccolo, at Liberty June 4, summer, or permanent engagement. Address, c/o QUILLIAM, 92, Picton-rd., Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo. Address, A. WILLIAMS, Canham View, Summerhill-road, St. George's, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist, through closing, any business; experienced; refs.; can open at once. RUSSELL, 113, Clare-rd., Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Flautist, Liberty through closing, permanent Engagement or Deputising. C. HOLDING, Miners' Arms, Scout Bottom, Waterfoot, near Manchester.

WANTED, Good Summer Engagement, by experienced flute and piccolo. Orchestral or Military. FLAUTIST, 35, Pentney-rd., Balham.

WANTED, Engagement by Flute and Piccolo, used to Theatre or Variety, or any line of business. FLAUTIST, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo (Soloist), summer or permanent, experienced any business, always reliable. LEX WATSON, 45, St. Mungo-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, Shortly, competent, steady, gentlemanly, experienced, all lines. PIANIST, 95, Greame-st., Moss Side, Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Pianist (good), Engagement, experienced in Orchestral playing; Hydro or Pier preferred; gentlemanly and reliable. S., 7, Ramsgate, Louth, Lincs.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced in variety and dramatic business. L. MAJOR HORNSBY, 26, Frances-st., Woolwich, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Pianist, Orchestral or otherwise; good sight reader and accompanist. STONE, 52, Winstead-street, Battersea Park.

WANTED, Known, John B. Richardson, Pianist, late Mus. Dir., Queen's Varieties, 7 years, Open Permanency or Season. Can combine Second Cornet. Highest references. 61, Kingsboro'-terrace, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Miss Marie Sheldon, pianist, vocalist, and mandolinist, at Liberty for high-class concert party, or orchestra. 1, Manchester-st., Huddersfield.

WANTED, Engagements, by smart young Pianist, just concluded successful season; excellent accompanist; quick reader and transposer; brilliant soloist; self or Orchestra; good refs. 58, Ham Park-road, Stratford.

WANTED, Engagement by good Orchestral Pianist (combine Clarionet); also by good Clarionettist (combine Violin); together or separate. Address, Box 3,236, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Orchestral Drummer, Music Hall or Theatre, experienced. DRUMS, 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, The Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, at Liberty for Piers, Exhibitions, Hotels; brilliant costume, large repertoire. CONDUCTRESS, Volthurst, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Dodsworth's Northern Military or String Bands, from 12 upwards. Neat uniform. For terms, apply, DODSWORTH, 9, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Family Band, two Violins, Bass, Cornet, Piano, Halls, Theatres, &c. Apply, BAND, 19, Mayton-st., Holloway.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Vrasatzka Band or English, Salon, Orchestra, three performers upwards; music especially arranged. 348, Kilburn-lane, Maida Hill.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Garner's Elysée Band, Disengaged May 21; or First-Class Orchestral Pianist, large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS, BLYTH.

WANTED, May 14, last week of Tudor's Circus. Big Specialities for the Ring; also useful Artists to take part in "Turpin." Add. as above.

WANTED, Equestrian Acts, all Kinds, Male and Female Riders, Clowns, Specialities. HENRI CAZMAN'S Agency, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.

WANTED, Full Circus Company, Ring Acts, &c., for Open-air Gala, July 28. Would Claude Ginnett write in? HORATIO BEACH, care of Mr. Crouch, Wonderland, Glasgow.

WANTED, May 21, First-Class Animal Act, or Clever Comic Bar Show, must be new to Oldham. Fullest particulars, PARDOE'S Theatre, Middleton, Lancs.

WANTED, for Galas, Bristol, Whit week; also July and later dates; also near Sheffield, Aug. 13 (week), Acrobats, Novelties. WOOD, Caterer, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Trick Cyclists, Wire Walkers, and Artists, in all lines, for galas. WILL TEMPLE, Amusement Contractor, Meadows, Nottingham. Telephone, 248X5.

WANTED, Hand Balancer and Gymnast, also Good Amateur for Aërial Act, one day only, June 4. Lowest terms and particulars, Box 3,241, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Top Mounter at Once, for Well-known Acrobats; also Second, that can Catch; used to Comedy preferred. F. G. H., Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, Good Top, May 21, Darlington, wire; also Good Comedy Acts, June 11, 18, 25. Write at once, with lowest terms, to WALTER BENTLEY, 169, Stamford-street, London, S.E. Telephone, 12,706 Central. Telegrams, "Yeltneb, London."

WANTED, Smart Youth; must be good Hand Balancer and Tumbler, for well-known Comedy Act. Apply, with correct list of tricks, lowest terms, age, height, and weight, to Box 3,239, "The Era."

WANTED, Hand-balancer, light-weight preferred, good on the hands and in the hands. State tricks and salary. Box 3,223, "The Era."

WANTED, Comedy Posturer, and Legmania, at once, for troupe. State height and terms. Address, FRANK ATHOL, G.P.O., Manchester.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman Swimmers, and first-class attractions and novelties. Write, RUBINI, Agencé, 12, Boulevard du Temple, Paris.

WANTED, Parachutists, Ladies and Gentlemen, to undertake occasional Engagements for Lieut. Lempriere, the reliable Aëronaut; best of apparatus provided and best prices paid. Address, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Dominos Two, Clown and Donkey; not a common, stupid moke, he went through Oxford and Cambridge. See him at Hippo., Nuneaton.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Three-Bar Act. Success, Hippo., Mansfield; next, Albert Hall, Jarrow. Free 21st, 28th. Thanks STEBBINGS for contracts.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Aerial Gymnast, 50ft. high, no net, Sensational, Galas, Galas; challenge all. Add., 78, Gartside-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Great Triple Bar Act, Vacant May 21, 28. Apply, 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot Pourri Acts; free 21st, 28th. Address, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Conversational Comedy Triple Bar Act; vac. May 21 and 28. Address, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Known, to Fête and Gala Secretaries and Agents, the Sisters Martini, the Flying Wonders, the only two ladies doing this most marvellous and sensational Flying Trapeze Act, conclude their performance by a daring descent on the wire of 250ft. long, suspended by the neck, at Liberty for Whitsun week and August Bank Holiday week. All coms. to SISTERS MARTINI, 203, Gladstone-avenue, Noel Park, Wood Green.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, the World-renowned Pareni, high wire artist, free for galas. 10, Alberta-street, Penton-place, Kennington, London.

WANTED, Monday, Arizona Troupe, Acrobatic, Jugglers, Japanese Top Spinning; Will Percival, Dancer. Wire, 50, Britnall-street, Attercliffe.

WANTED, Galas, &c., by Mdlle. Bartenelli, Aerial Contortionist; and The Boultons, Comedy Specialists. Address, Poole's Myriorama, Taunton.

WANTED, Known, Knotella, Comedy Contortionist, Liberty Fêtes, Galas. 103, Church-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, in a Comical and Clever Acrobatic Staircase Cycling Act. Next, Aq., Scarboro'; big for Galas; free 21st, 28th, June 11.

WANTED, Known, good Bearer and Catcher, concluding two years' engagement with John Leopold's "Frivolity," at Liberty May 20. Coms., W. SKELLY, Theatre, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Known, good Catcher, Second Mounter, Tumbler, and Risleyist, at Liberty. Apply or write, H. N., 7, Surrey-square, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Strong Hand-to hand Balancer, also little Tumbling and Second, Comedy or Straight. Box 3,231, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Young Man, with Good Knowledge of Gymnastics, Rings, and Trapeze, would like to join troupe. Box 3,215, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Man, Engagement, in good gymnastic show, aërial preferred, or would join partner. Apply, Box 3,214, "The Era."

WANTED, by strong young man, Engagement with Acrobats as improver; knowledge of bearing, also hand-balancing. W. G., 7, Owen's-row, E.C.

WANTED, Secretaries, to Engage Lieut. Lemprière, the popular, reliable, scientific Aëronaut, for Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents. Address, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagements by Lieut. Lemprière and his charming Lady Puipls, for Parachute Descents, together or separate. LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for West Bromwich Hippodrome, opening August 6, Variety Artists of every description, big Sketches, Spectacles, Pantomimes, Ballets, and big Sensational Novelties, with drawing powers.

First-Class Stage-Manager, must know his business and not afraid of work; good Musical-Conductor, well up in Variety business, to supply an orchestra of not less than twelve performers.

Good Electrician, able to do his own repairs;

and useful men for Stage and Staff generally.

Apply,

SITES, LTD.,

T. M. SYLVESTER, Managing-Director, 213, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Known, Call for Coventry Hippodrome, rehearsal at one o'clock sharp, for Harry Tate's Company, "Motoring," Peggy Pryde, Curtis and Vanity, Bob Hutt, Nelly Farrell, Lloyd Morgan, Lillie Lassah, Bob Gilmore, and the Hippodrome Pictures.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, for present and future dates, Variety Artists of every description, all the best and greatest turns in the country are required for the above Hall; nothing too big, any price paid for the right class of talent. It is the intention of the Coventry Hippodrome Company to continue running the old Hippodrome as well as the new, so from twenty to thirty Artists will be required each week, for Coventry alone. Artists will be booked in conjunction with Halls under the management of Sites, Limited. Wanted, something to follow Miss Marie Lloyd, Marie Loftus, Nelly Wallace, Tom Costello, Austin Rudd, Tom Leamore, Neil Kenyon, Stalley's Great Transformation, Julia Mackay, J. W. Rickaby, Tom Edwards, Michael Nolan, Collinson Combination, "The Bloomsbury Burglar," the Lancashire Lads, George Bastow, the Dunedin Troupe, Woodward's Seals, Fred Earle, Tom Lloyd, Feggy Pryde, "The Lady in Red," the Sleedes, Lady Mansell's Juveniles, Arthur Rigby, the Mackweys, "The Days of Nelson," Alf Gibson, Atlas and Volcana, George d'Albert, the Three Brags, Dinah Morris, Harry Tate, D'Arc's Marionettes, Jackson Family, and a host of other stars too numerous to mention. Apply to T. M. SYLVESTER, Managing-Director, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly, W.

KING'S, GATESHEAD.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, Big Tops and Bottoms, and Specialities of all Kinds. Nothing too Big to Book.

Apply, JOE MAY, General-Manager.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, June 11 and 18, near London. Lowest Combination Terms. ZASMA, 66, Alver-road, Portsmouth.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, May 21, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Big Tops, Whit., onwards, South. Family performers, pianist, serios, write. Particulars, 41, Gunnersbury-lane, Acton, W.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, May 28, June 11, 25, onwards. Good Living Freak Open at Once. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for May 21. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small.

WANTED, Known, Artists can Book Direct. Send full list of bookings, lowest terms. Must be new to Southend. Entertainment Department, Kursaal, under the management of the SOUTHEND KURSAAL, LTD.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Galas, Day Shows, for immediate and future dates. Lowest terms, WALTER HANN, Amusement Caterer, Bath.

WANTED, Artists, male and female, Doubles doing Singles, Musical, Vent., any Act, Al Fresco; open Mon., on. NOBLE, Gardens, Durham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, to open Monday, big turns, on shares second week. HUGH DEMPSEY, Hippodrome, New Brompton, Kent.

WANTED, Artists, Serios, &c., Monday next, Bacup, for Armino's Combination. Wire, Sharing or lowest terms. MANAGER, 9, Mountford-street, Burslem.

WANTED, Full Troupe of Al Fresco Artists (experienced), for Scotland; rehearse May 28. Photos. GEORGE S. MELVIN, Theatre, Arbroath, N.B.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Wanted, Artists, in all Lines. Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and Give Full List of Bookings. Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and Give Full List of Bookings.

Nothing too Big to Book. Nothing too Big to Book.

Call at once, Call at once, HARRY S. HART, Speciality and Variety Agent, Star Palace Varieties, London, S.E. 'Phone, 1048 Hop. Telegrams, "Hart, Star, Bermondsey."

WANTED, Star Artists, Novelties, &c., for leading Music Halls, send list of bookings; also First-class Artists for Al-fresco Pavilion, well up in Concerted Music, Sketches, Gags, all must be ladies and gentlemen on and off, attentive to business. Photos., lowest terms, &c. YATES' Agency, Church-avenue, Weaste, Manchester.

WANTED, Open-air Artists, Idle Carnival, June 16, '06, Terms, &c., not later than May 17, to A. SMITHIES, Idle, Bradford, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Fêtes, Garden Parties, June, July, August. LONGSTAFFE, 47, Jenner-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, May 21. J. G. ANDERSON, Empire Variety Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, First-Class Al Fresco Artists, all Lines for Pleasure Gardens, Northenden (six miles from Manchester), Whit week, on. JOHN WALTERS, 78, Warley-road, Blackpool.

ARBORETUM, WALSALL.
Lessee, FRED RAMSDALE.
Manager, WILKIE HESKETH.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, May 28, onwards. Refs., terms, photos. (essential), WILKIE HESKETH, G.P.O., Walsall.

WANTED, May 21, on, Refined Comedy Sketch Artists, doing single turns, musical, and other specialities. Summer terms. MANAGER, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Artists, High-Class Performances. Edwin Drew, Editor, "Amusement" Manager. See him or "Amusement," 6d., post 7d. 7, Whitefriars-street, E.C.

WANTED, Artists of all descriptions. Send or call, with full particulars, J. W. JOHNSON, Variety and Speciality Agent, 86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
Proprietors, SMITH and LEE.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, Monday, 2 o'clock, for Six Clevelands, Mahatma, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, Peggy Fame, The Fimans, Vandinoff, Merton and Rydon.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, JARROW-ON-TYNE.

WANTED, Known, Artists holding Contracts please notice that the above Hall closes on Saturday, May 26, 1906. All Contracts after that date are cancelled. Signed, L. F. SANDERSON.

WANTED, Known, Palace of Varieties, Lancaster, closed for alterations, Re-opens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Anything with Drawing Power Required.

WANTED, Known, Garrison Varieties, Colchester, closes on Saturday, June 2, 1906. Notice of re-opening will be given. J. LEWIS, Manager.

WANTED, Clients keep me posted. ATLAS, Agent, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, All the Greatest Stars in the Profession, Acts New in Dublin for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland, Direct or through Agents. All communications to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, May 14, 21, 28, onwards, Stars, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Birmingham, Oldham, Hanley, Bolton, Rochdale, Wigan, Gateshead, Derby, Stockton, Stoke, Middlesbrough, Grimsby, Hull, Sheffield, Preston, Ashton, St. Helens, Warrington, Accrington. JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Variety Stars, Specialities, June 4, on. Terms, bookings, lithos., EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars, on Share; also Pierrots, Tenors, Baritones, Sopranos, Serios, Comedians. Lowest terms, photos. essential. J. ROLMAS, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED.—Henri Cazman's Agency requires Stars, Specialities, the best only, for the best London and Provincial houses. Artists for Pantomime write. Artists wanted for my own companies, June 18, 25, July 2, at Liverpool; July 9 at St. Helens; July 16 at Warrington; July 23 at Accrington; July 30 at Pier, Dover. Must all state when and where last in these towns; Combination salaries; splendid chance to have Acts seen. HENRI CAZMAN'S Agency, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.

HIPPODROME THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, MANSFIELD.
Proprietors, MORRELLA and JENNINGS.
THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, CHESTERFIELD.
Managing-Director, J. MORRELLA.
EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES, HULL.
Managing-Director, J. MORRELLA.

WANTED, Talent, all Branches, for Present and Future Dates. Address, MORRELLA, Beech House, Beech-avenue, Nottingham.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, May 21, big Speciality, Comedian, Troupe of Dancers, Animal Show. Call, Monday, May 14:

Tatma,

J. A. Cassels,

The Lynches,

David O. Leara,

Harry Maynard,

Rappa and Ella,

Four Charles,

Lillian and Vera.

WANTED, Refined and Novel Speciality Acts (no vocalists); must be refined, for class audiences, or useless. State where can be seen next few weeks. For the Bradford Al-fresco Pavilion. Terms, &c., in first instance, to W. SCOTT BENTLEY, 9, White's-view, Bradford.

WANTED, Acts, in all Lines, to send full list of bookings and vacancies to MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for immediate and future dates, the Biggest Acts in the Market, Novelties, Star Comic Acts, &c. Bookings, photos., &c.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Four Good Acts, Monday next Wire lowest, ZALVA, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

CAVILL'S VARIETY AGENCY.

WANTED, Big Drawing Numbers, with odd weeks vacant, to communicate, 127 Clapham-road, London, S.W. Telegrams, "Dramatical, London."

EMPIRE THEATRE, GREENOCK.

WANTED, Good Variety Combinations, May, June, and July; also First-Class Vocalists and Society Entertainers, for Open-air Concerts. H. L. SKIVINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Lessee and Manager, FRANK MUNDILL.

WANTED, First-class Combinations; must have Strong Top Liners, or no use. Also Single and Double Turns, Sketch and Duologue Artists, May 28, June 18, July 30, Aug. 6 and 20. Lowest terms and photos., if possible, to FRANK MUNDILL.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Combination, for Hippodrome, Bury, May 28. WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, for Scotland, Pierrot Combination of five or six, refined and well up in Musical Numbers. KRISS, Comedian, Leven, Fife.

WANTED, for May 21, 28, and June, onward, Good Combinations, for Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow. Share or salary. Address, BARNEY M. ARMSTRONG, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Artists to Note that the above establishment closed Saturday, April 21, 1906, and is now to let for First-Class Combinations; rental only. Address, C. ALGIE.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
WESTMINSTER MUSIC HALL, LIVERPOOL.

WANTED, Good, Sound Numbers, for above. All communications, JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Henri Cazman's Agency, Sensational Head Line for June 4, London. H. CAZMAN, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.

WANTED, Dumb Show, for Chorley, May 28. Address, WILL PERCIVAL, 50, Britnall-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Diorama, Pierrot Troupe, May 14, 28, Queen's Hall, Radcliffe, Theatre Vacation. Share or rental. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Conjurers, Musical Turns, &c., for Beach Concerts. Apply, with lowest terms, to CLAUDE NORTH, Dudley-road, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Whit Monday Fêtes, Japanese Troupe and Novelties of every description, for above. Lowest terms (rail fares paid), specimen lithographs, letters only, SYLVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, a few Good Singers, for Minstrel Tour, immediately. Wire, MANAGER, Minstrels, T. R., Waterford.

WANTED, young gentlemanly Pierrot, talent, with good numbers. Address, HENRI WESTON, Post Office, Norwich, with particulars.

WANTED, Smart Serio and Dancer, at once; also refined Comic Vocalist, and a young, rich, powerful Contralto, of good appearance, who can sing Irish songs. Apply, SINCLAIR'S Agency, between 10 and 5, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Lady Vocalist, for Al-fresco; must be young, dress well, and dance. Photo. to WILSON, 2, Depôt-street, Newport.

WANTED, Short Girl (14), Amateur, for Scena, to sing, dance, and learn a little tumbling. Salary when proficient; must reside in London. Write, E., 90, Vassall-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Blackpool, Morecambe, and other Seaside Towns, Whit Week, July 2, and onwards. Also for London, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Glasgow, Birmingham, Brighton, Stockton, Burnley, Bolton, Oldham, Barrow, Carlisle, Warrington, Hull, Middlesbrough, St. Helens, Accrington, Stockport, Rochdale, Stoke, Derby, Grimsby, Attercliffe, Hanley, &c., Star Comedians, Star Comediennes, Big Specialities, Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts, in fact, anything that is New and Novel.

Send List of Bookings, Lithos., Terms, &c., WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09144.

QUEEN'S PALACE, RHYL, N.W.
General Manager, HOWARD LEES.

WANTED, Star Comedians, Star Comedians, Star Comediennes, Star Comediennes, Star Comediennes, Big Specialities, Big Specialities, Big Specialities, anything that is New and Novel.

Send list of bookings, lithos., terms, &c., HOWARD LEES, Queen's Hotel, Rhyl.

MELVIN AND TAYLOR'S AGENCY.
434, Strand, W.C.
Telephone 7279 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Impromptu, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Known, that Charles Melvin (late of Lord George Sanger, J. G. Transfield, Esq., and the Marlborough Theatre, N.) knows an Act when he sees it, and also its value to Proprietors; therefore please send actual lowest terms and complete list of bookings, with sample lithos. (if any), and actual lowest terms to above Agency. No Preliminary Fees.

WANTED, Wanted, Star Comedians and Serios. Wanted, Big Animal Acts. Wanted, Sensational Sketch Companies. Wanted, Illusionists, Gymnasts, Cyclists. Wanted, Novelties of all descriptions.

WANTED, to Open immediately in Big Production, Knockabout Comedians, Quartette of Ladies, Chorus Ladies, Single and Double Comedians, also Speciality Acts. Address, BARNEY M. ARMSTRONG, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Knockabout Pantomime Comedian. Refs., &c., RICHARD PAKENHAM, this week, R.A. Theatre, Woolwich; next, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, smart Boy Comedians, Dancers, Acrobats, Actors, &c.; must be small and over 14. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Youth; must be good contortionist and knockabout, for comedy act. State all particulars, age, height, weight, terms, &c., to Box 3,240, "The Era."

WANTED, at Once, Comedy Posturer, Legmania, state height, for troupe. Address, FRANK ATHOL, General Post Office, Manchester.

WANTED, those wishing to enter the Music Halls to put their business in my hands. No preliminary fees. Dancing taught (triple time, &c.). BOB GRAHAM, Raleigh, Salford-road, Streatham Hill.

WANTED, Good Bioscope, with Hackenschmidt, Madrali, old or new film, and operator, to open Monday. Public Hall, Erith. Wire, DEMPSEY, Hippo., New Brompton.

WANTED, Bioscope Operators, one gas, two electric, competent, steady men. Mention previous engagements. Address, Box 3,234, "The Era."

WANTED, for Dog Troupe, strictly sober groom, who can mind his own business, to load and unload; no extra hands engaged Saturday. Patent leather, wrap me in lavender guys don't apply. SHARMAN, 41, East-lane, Bermondsey. B.Clarke write.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Babs Lloyd, the Smartest Child Artist and Dancer in the world, was presented with a handsome silver watch at the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, May 9, 1906. Next week, Hippodrome, Wakefield. A few summer dates Vacant, May 21, 28. June 25. Also Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist, Barrasford Tour Booked, and others. Also Vacant for Pantomime, Red Riding and Dame. Agent. AYTOUN.

WANTED, May 14, 21, and 28, Luie O. Bright, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer; the turn that pleases everywhere; also Little Venus, the smartest juvenile Character Vocalist on the Stage; both open for Summer Engagements, Al Fresco, Piers, Pavilions, &c. Offers to Care of JOHNSTONE, 220, Hope-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known. Wanted, Known.
Mr. Charles Clifford,
the People's Favourite Harpist and Humorist,
having returned from a lengthened Tour,
can accept Engagements in July, Aug., and Sept.,
to give his enjoyable Entertainment
of Humorous Songs and Sweet Music,
introducing his beautiful Large and Small Irish Harps. For terms, address,
15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

WANTED, Monday, and on, by Jack Sheppard, the world's greatest handcuff king and prison breaker, assisted by Mlle. Rozinia. Sure draw. 6, Oakden-street, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Rumbo Austin, in his New Budget of Comicalities. First you laugh, then you roar, finally you scream. At Liberty May 21.
Monday next,
Hippodrome, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Ernest Warriner Kirby, the great violin virtuoso and marvellous mandolinist, May 14, and onwards. A wonderful musician. —Vide Press. Perm., 31, Villa-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Clifton Hall, Vocalist, May 21. Next week, Hippodrome, Wakefield; wire or write. Also vacant June 4, Glasgow district.

WANTED, May 21 and 28, by Allan Hanbury, Eccentric Patter Comedian. Wire or write, This, Empire, Nottingham; next, Empire, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next, by Jimmy Shields, Comedian.
Wire, 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday and 21st, Jean Seul.
Wire, Public Hall, Belper, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Known, Lib. Mon., onwards, Archer Gibbon, 74in. Boy Comedian, Composer, Arranger; Halls or Tour. 72, Clarence-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Neddy Vokes, Comedy Musical, and Patter Comedian, funniest Single Act before the Public. Cooke's Hippodrome, Aberdeen. Engist write.

WANTED, Monday, Cambo, the Musical Monkey; also Ventriloquist, Al Fresco, &c. Wire, Floral House, Bardon Mill, Northumberland.

WANTED, by Will Knight, Knockabout Pantomimist and Comedian, steady and reliable, to join well-known Sketch Troupe. All letters, 16, Bury New-road, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Young Man, Good Knockabout and Comedy Posturer, speak lines, wishes to join sketch. Box 3,212, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Learto and dog Babs, Comical. Clean, Clever, Musical Absurdities, Liberty May 21, 28. Coms., 2, Regent's-road, Dalston, London.

WANTED, June 11, 18, to follow Tower, New Brighton, Palette. Lightning Artist, and Clever Dog Max. Beautiful electric fit-up. Monday, Palace, Swansea.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. PROF. LENTON, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, May 14 and 21, Jay Noble, with his novel tramp conjuring scena. Yorkshire Evening Press, May 8, says:—The dexterous palming and sleight of hand of Jay Noble, whose attire favours the latest tramp fashion, went down "extra" well, although conjuring has so many exponents. Wire, Hippo., Mansfield.

WANTED, Monday next, May 14, and 28, by The Gelders (Van and Li-Li), great Magicians and Mystifiers; Lillie Hustler, Dainty Soubrette and Expert Speciality Dancer. Hippodrome, Dewsbury (our eighth return). Wire quick, Hippo., Dewsbury. Good Agent communicate.

WANTED, May 21, by the Great Original Kyoto, and May Geraldine, two distinct acts. Enormous success, Grand, Hanley. Monday, Grand, Gravesend.

WANTED, Dates, Piers, Pavilions, &c, Mr. Lawrence Derrick and Miss Marian Brereton. Musical and Dramatic Entertainers. Weeks settled. June 4, 11, Aug. 13, 20, 27. Address, DERRICK, Actors' Association, London.

WANTED, Known, Musical Bohemians (Will and Madge), vacant May 21 and 28. Wire, 23, Colnbrook-street, St. George's-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Dobito and Buxton (Flora and Fred), unexpectedly vacant Monday, Refined Duettists and Soloists. Wire, P., Lincoln.

WANTED, May 21, 28. Bob Pearson, Vocal Comedy Humorist, Lily Pender, Speciality Singing Comedienne. Two refined numbers. Wire, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, May 21, 28, June 4, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, Popular Songstress. Monday next, E., Stockport.

WANTED, Monday next, also 21st, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers; distance no object. Wire, Crispin Hotel, Kettering.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, May 21. July, 9. 16.
Perm. address, 4 Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act, meeting with Great Success in Firenze, Italy.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey. Roars of laughter. Tudor's Circus, Blyth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Season, Al Fresco, &c., by Langston and Cardiff, in new Act; both work Singles; smart appearance. Wire or write, Care of J. GARTLAND, Esq., King's Head Hotel, Watford.

WANTED, by Lambert and Glover, May 14, 21, 28, June 4, for their enormously successful Farcical Duologue. Wire, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, Monday next only, by Gravetta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Conjurers, and Jugglers, Pot-pourri Act. 13, Lower Buckingham-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, to all this might concern, that Los Granadas, after May 28, 1906, will be known as Brothers Dazul.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Dazul,
Electrifying, Bounding Dazzlers.

WANTED, May 28, by Los Granadas, Up-to-date, Comedy Trampolin Bounders. Monday, Hippodrome, Maidstone. Dazul, Dazul, Dazul.

WANTED, Known, the Wulfrunas (four Ladies, three Gentlemen), Comedy Acrobats, "Fun in a Café." After Proprietor saw our Act Monday night, engaged us for one week longer. Liberty May 28. Address, Hippo., Blyth.

WANTED, Known, the Two Ds (Dizart and Destarte), world's novelty handcuff kings and magicians, Vacant May 21, on. 12, Blakehouse-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Fontain's Marionettes and De Roys, Conjurers, Monday next, and on, with exceptions, one or both acts. Prince's Theatre, Preston.

WANTED, Monday, by Arizona Troupe, Acrobatic Jugglers; also Will Percival, Comedian, Dancer. Wire, 50, Britnall-street, Attercliffe.

WANTED, by Four Abadaroffs, Big Comedy Act, Monday, also May 28 and Whitsun. Palace, Bristol; or 95, Stretford-rd., Manchester.

WANTED.—Geo. Gulliver returns to England shortly, after a twelve months' engagement in Egypt and India, and can accept summer engagement, or good tour. Address, Derngate, Northampton, to be forwarded.

WANTED, Known, Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist, New One-figure Act, only Vacancies, May 14, 21. Secure a certain draw. Wire, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Garland, Vent. and Conj., Vac. June and July. Thanks Mr. Price, Merthyr, for return double money. Sure success. This and next, 137, Argyle-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy (Vent.) and Boston Bioscope, two sure draws; also Al Fresco; offers invited. Wire for Monday, Palace, Bridlington.

WANTED, Known, Carlo's "Toreador Serenaders," Original Scena, "On the Banks of Vesuvius." Costly Scenery and Costumes; six Artists. Vacant June, July. Next, T. R., Preston. Agent, VERNO, Liverpool.

WANTED, Few Bookings, June and later, piers, &c., whole or part. Mr. HARRY LISTON and Miss LUMLEY, Egyptian Hall, Llandudno.

WANTED, Monday, also 21st, for "The Registry Office," and Violet Beatrice, Comedienne. Wire, MATT WILKINSON, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday and May 21, Andre and Brenton's screamingly funny Musical Comedy Act, "Kitty." 12, Kyotts Lake-rd, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Dates, Juvenile Military Spectacle. "Russo and Japan." Everything carried. Good pictorial posters. A sure draw. CLARKE, Tudor's Circus, Blyth.

WANTED, Wanted, Galas,
Chard's Dog Circus.
Theatre, Maesteg, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos, vacant May 14 and 21. Wire. 6, Ashbrook-road, Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED, immediate Engagements, Halls, &c., for the most interesting and greatest draw in England, the Amazon Dahomey Warriors, sixteen men, women, and children. Note.—This renowned Troupe parade daily if required. Shares or salary. Wire, TOM NORMAN, Proprietor and Lecturer, 3, Wick-lane, Old Ford, London.

Proprietors and Managers of Piers, &c.
Do you Cater for your Juvenile Visitors?
If not, why not?

WANTED, Known, Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy, Marionettes, and Bioscope Entertainments, open for Seaside Engagement. 101A, Penwith-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Le Clair's Bioscope and Troupe of Dogs, including the greatest leaping dog in the world. Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, for First-class Animated Photograph and Concert Company, including Latest Sensational Picture, Great Wrestling Match at Olympia, and Six Drawing Turns. Vacant May 28 and June 4. Six to hundred sheet pictorials. Wire, LISLE, P.O., Tisbury, Wilts.

WANTED, Known, Bioscope, Vacant June, July, Gaumont's Professional Up-to-date Pictures, good Lecturer; also Illustrated Songstress, Biunial Lantern, Dissolving Effects, whole or part Entertainment, Halls or Al Fresco. BIOSCOPE, 10, Hichisson-road, Newlands, Peckham Rye.

WANTED, Engagements, Bioscope, Halls, Pavilions, Change of Pictures Weekly; also Illustrated Songs. Terms low. LLOYD, 1, Northumberland-place, Westbourne-grove.

WANTED, Engagements, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Punch and Judy, with Dog Toby. 101A, Penwith-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Cinématograph, Large Stock Pictures, Vacant June 4, on, willing al fresco. MARTIN, 166, Roslyn-rd., Avenue-rd., South Tottenham.

WANTED, by Young Operator, for Cinématograph, mechanic and electrician, re-engagement, understands every kind of machinery. A., 13, Gosfield-st., Portland-st.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, that a Special Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on Tuesday next, May 15, at 2.30 p.m.
Business of importance.

All members are requested to attend.

Signed,
T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. All kinds of repairs done. Write for free samples, and see our quality for yourself. Special line.—Portable petrol plants. Absolutely reliable.

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WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, that Mr. J. Wentworth, of London, Managing-Director in England for Messrs. Ch. Marenghi et Cie., Organ Builders, of Paris, has just completed the erection of another splendid Ideal Orchestra, specially built for Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, of the West.

The noble Work of Art was opened for the first time at Exeter for the Easter Holidays on a large field belonging to General Buller, and of course the concern was well patronised by the better class of the West of England.
Once again this proved that with a good tool easy and good work can be done.

Mr. Wentworth will also erect another additional carved front to the concern of Messrs. Wm. Haggar and Son, of South Wales. The future lot is to be completed within a few days, and it will certainly bear the inspection and criticism of all the public in general, as this will be the only uniform concern in England at present.

Mr. Wentworth also wishes to inform his customers that on account of rapid success of his firm he has been obliged to secure another building, adjoining the Agricultural Hall. The second place is now undergoing alterations, and will most likely be open in a month, where Messrs. Ch. Marenghi et Cie's. capable men will be able to do anything in the way of organ repairing, &c.

Remember, Mr. J. Wentworth's address is always 29, Gibson-square, Islington, London, N. He has come to stay.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that
T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
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Several on View,
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WANTED, Good Side-show, Novelty, Quick-showing, season Crystal Palace. Share or rent. To Buy, Giant Rat, Automatic Pianos. 5, Denning-road, N.W.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties, open May 14, Shares, to follow The Diamonds, Knife-throwers. LEONARD WHITE, Exhibition, 238, Market-place, Dudley.

WANTED, now and onwards, good Novelties, Freaks, and Living Wonders, for American Museum, Glasgow. Write, A. E. PICKARD, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, at Once, Good Novelties, for two or four weeks. Apply,
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WANTED, Quick-Showing Novelties, with Paintings or Posters. Apply,
W. BROOKS, Exhibition, Keighley.

STEVO'S CIRCUS, TENTING, IRELAND.
WANTED, Cheap Novelty. Mrs. Flexmore and Joe Thompson write. Address, STEVO, 23, Mile-end, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Lady Character Delineator; must be thoroughly competent,
for
D'Arc's
Grand Permanent Waxwork Exhibition,
Cardiff.

WANTED, Lady Palmist,
for American Museum.
Apply, A. E. PICKARD, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, an Experienced Planksman, for Bazaar and Auction Tent; must be singer, and thoroughly understand the business. Will Theo Daniels please write to
Mrs. GRANT, Klondyke Bazaar, Newtownstewart, Co. Tyrone, Ireland?

WANTED, a competent Phrenologist and Palmist, man preferred; reference required if not known. Address, J. T. HAWTHORN, 77, Langney-rd., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Two Smart Young Ladies, for Illusions, covered building, South Shore, Blackpool, pianist or soloists preferred. Box 3,219, "The Era."

WANTED, Two Lady Wrestlers, for Whit Week; used to Fair Business. Photos., W. V. JONES, The Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Two Smart Doorsmen, for Blackpool; must be willing to assist with illusions, open June 1, one able to do a turn preferred. Box 3,218, "The Era."

WANTED, Auctioneers, to Work on Good Commission.

Apply,
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WANTED, a Watchmaker, to travel with Auction Mart; must be steady and reliable. Apply, R. WILLIAMS, Auction Mart, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire.

WANTED, Engagement, Planksman, Comedian, and Handseller, or as watchmaker. HARRY LYNTON, 3, Besson-st., New Cross-rd., New Cross, London.

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WANTED, to Let,
Ground for the Whitsun Holidays,
Welsh Harp, Hendon,
commencing June 1,
and following week,
Roundabouts, Shows,
and all kinds of Amusements.
Terms reasonable; nothing barred.
Permanent address,
HASTINGS and WHAYMAN,
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GREAT FETE AND GALA,
WHIT. MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

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WANTED, to Let, Spaces,
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suitable for Side-shows;
also
one or two
Good Shops
in the Arcade.

Apply to
HOWARD LEES,
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WANTED, Known, Few Stall Spaces, Gorleston Sea Exhibition, for Season. Low rentals to good attractions. ATHERTON, High-street, Gorleston.

WANTED, Known, all Parties requiring Ground for Redruth, Whit. Monday, other Fairs to follow, apply, W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Fair Ground, St. Blazey, Cornwall. Saturday next (private address), Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

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Unique grounds beautifully laid out,
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Large Ball-room, &c.
Magnificent Collection of Beasts,
Birds,
and Reptiles,
under the
Sole Director and Proprietor of
Zoological Department,
W. Simpson Cross, F.Z.S.,
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WANTED, to Let,
a few Spaces,
from Whit Saturday, June 2
(shares or rental),
for First-class Side-shows,
Novelties,
Jungle Shooting Range, &c.,
for the whole Season,
ending September.
No notice taken
of applications for space
unless accompanied by a full and complete description for what required.

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Silence a polite negative.

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WANTED, to Let, Land, on Blackpool Sands,
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Already let: Pierrots, Tunnel Railway, Aërial Flight, Hobby Horses, Cycle Roundabout, Over-Boats, Throwing Games, Gipsy Camp, Punch, &c.

Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary,
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WANTED, Showmen and Other Travellers to Know that I have Good Grounds
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Oldbury, May 18 to 22;
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Tamworth, Bloxwich Fête and Gala,
and numerous others
to follow.
All applications to
COLLINS, Gondola Works,
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Telegrams, "Gondola, Walsall."
Telephone, No. 80 Walsall.

TREHERBERT ANNUAL FAIR
(late Treorchy Fair),
June 9, 11, and 12, 1906.
WANTED, Known, all applications for Forms and Terms for Ground Space to be made to W. M. DAVIES,
Station-street, Treherbert.

WANTED, to Let, Ground at Chingford Mount, Whitsun Holidays, for Steam Roundabouts, Shows, Swings, Cokernuts; splendid position; tram terminus. Write, PRINT'S Steam Circus, Snakes-lane, Woodford.

WANTED, to Let (through illness), splendid Stand for Season, Palmistry; high-class seaside (Wales). Mrs. FISHER, The Grove, Wolstanton, Staffs.

WANTED, for season commencing Whit Monday, Seaside, Margate preferred, Space on Front, for Native Village, Share or Rental, or would accept Certainty from Management of recognised Gardens or Place of Amusement in good town. Distance no object. Wire or write, T. C., 1, Walton House, Thane Villas, Seven Sisters-road, London, N.

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WANTED, Attractive Slot Automatic Machines and Novelties, on Shares; splendid positions; also Automatic Pianos or Polyphons, for Bars. Season opens May 21. Address, MANAGER, Palace, Bridlington.

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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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WANTED, to Sell, complete, nearly new, Cinématograph Outfit, Reliance Model, 1904, Paul, Lime and Electric fittings, with 2,000ft. of Splendid Films, £30 the lot, cost £70. Box 3,225, "The Era."

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WANTED, Known, Scenery for Sale, of all Descriptions and Sizes, New and Secondhand. Town Halls and Amateurs supplied. State wants. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

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Scenery by
Hawes Craven, Banks, and Egerton.
SAM DUCKWORTH,
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WANTED, to Sell, Serio and Boys' Dresses, at very low prices. Can be seen any time. GORDON, 124, Albany-street, Regent's Park, London.

WANTED, to Sell, cheap, the finest Property Motor Car ever made, condition as new, electric battery fitted.
Full particulars on applying,
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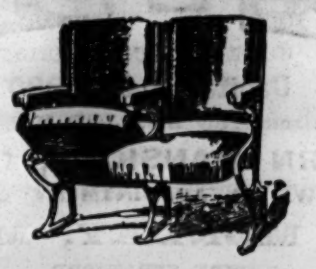

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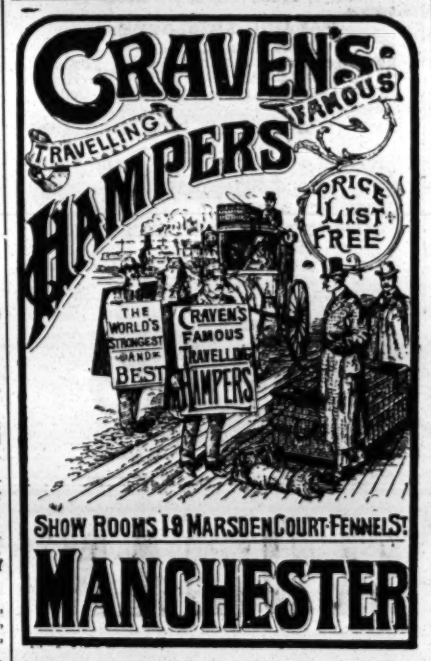

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Menetekel, Helen Ford, Amann and Hartley, Jas. H. Cullen, Bernar's Fantoches, Leonie Dixon, The Delevines, Lunelle Sisters, Spry and Monti, Bros. Harrison, Nelson's Newsboys.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Millie Hylton and Decima Brooke, Bioscope, Fred Russell, Horace Wheatley, Hayes and Suits, Clement Trio, Sisters Jonghmanns, Booker and Narbis, Lios Alfa Sisters, Baldwin's Bank Clerks.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Bioscope, The Findens, Ian Colquhoun, Violas, Menotti, T. E. Finglas, "Dick Dare, M.P.," Mulvey and Mirian, Florence Watson, Seeley and West.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Bella and Bijou, Bioscope, Ben Hur, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Unthan, Four Skandias, Maud Courtney, Barowsky Trio, Brown and Le Clerq.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harmony Four, Labakans, Edgar Forrest and Co., Harry Carsdale, Dumond Minstrels, Bioscope, Jack Theo Trio, Four Olympian Stars, Mariano Sisters, Alexandra Dagmar.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Florence Deighton, Mignonette, Kokin, Guy Ryder, Albert and Edmunds, Fred Lincoln, The Raies, Ernie Mayne, Warsaw Bros., Harry Weldon, Galletti's Monkeys.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
R. A. Roberts, Northern Troupe, Harry Sloan, Lily Langtry, Tom Woottwell, Mackweys, Bioscope, Allan Hanbury, J. Alexander and Co., Sutcliffe Family.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Kaufmanns, Chas. Lilburn, Max Yorke, Morgan Sisters, James Stewart, Gracie Grahame, Herbert Shelley, David Poole, George Tacius, "Casey's Court."

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
John Lawson and Co., Nellie Martell, New York Nippers, Eily Adair, McConnells, Jake Friedman, Klos Sisters, Howard and Collinson, Clown Barker, Ray Wallace.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Alec Hurley and Co., in "The Coster's Beanfeast," Bioscope, Daisy Dormer, Bros. Damm, Billy McClain's Sextette, Sam Soda, Chris Richards, Baker and Lynn, Three Rubies, The Auroras.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
La Berat, Bioscope, Rex King, Dainez' Circus, Walter Stanley, Ten Genis, Albert Whelan, Johnson and Dean.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Rodgers, Rigg, and Ryder, in "Brighton Beach," Bioscope, Lennie Hast, Gwennie Hasto, Marie Collins, Drew and Alders, Marlo and Dunham Trio, W. F. Frame, Oetzmann Reed Troupe, Lady Fauntleroy, Kitts and Windrum, The Jagos.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Paul Martinetti and Co., Bioscope, Colby and May, Capo Girls, Marguerite Broadfoote, Bros. Cocoran, Jurgens Trio, Wille Bros., Ryder Slone, Boy Glen.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
G. H. Chirgwin, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Frank Seeley, Henry Taylor Trio, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Belle Davis and Piccs, Classicum Quartette, Bioscope, Oswald Williams.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Edouin and Edwards, Prof. Vox, Johnnie Gilmore, Chas. Austin, Cole de Losse Duo, Flem and Brok, Baker and Balfe, Stella Troupe, Josh Dixon, Ancillotti and Pilu.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Moses and Son," Ben Albert, Austin Rudd, Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Three Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Little Tich, Marie Kendall, Steven McCarthy, Fielding and Hull, Ella Retford, Stave, Leah Arden, Johnson and Bert, Jordan and Harvey, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Mark Sheridan, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Sisters Chester, Belloni's Cockatoos, Frank and Free, Odeyne Sparke, Francis and Alfred, Hackenschmidt, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
"Moving In," Norman and Leonard Trio, Marva and Verity, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Chinko, Lilian Warren, The Uessems, Bioscope.

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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
The Boissetts, Anartos, Cora Caselli, Chas. Gardiner, Walter King, The Seddons, Vernando, Sisters Bosanquet, May Henderson.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Boswell's Circus, Bessie Featherstone, Lancashire Lassies, Morton Trio, Canary Co., Holles Trio, Bioscope, Harry Bedford, The Maples.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Machnow, Tom Edwards, Ross and Grayson, Starr and Leslie, Esta Stella, Beatrice Willey, The Finneys, Frank Leslie, De Lucca Troupe, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Melot Hermann, Burke and Andrus, The Allisons, Conn and Conrad, Rosie Lloyd, Grell and Gray, The Serenaders, Hardinis, Lilian Doreen, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Three of a Kind," Bioscope, Gracie Moore, Lilian Elfrida, Andos Troupe, Ernest Heathcote, Walter Bellonini, Bert Byrne, Constance Bellamy, Bros. Egbert.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"The Daybreakers," Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Abdullah Arabs, Harry Conlin, Rosie Coleman, Rezene and Robini, Ferguson and Mac, Piddock and Schofield.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Programme for 3 o'clock, 6 o'clock, and 9 o'clock Performances :—
"The Revue." Tom E. Murray, Billie Burke, The Price Troupe, The Dandies, Arthur Conquest, The Trumpeting Girls, The Rocking Girls, George Lashwood, R. H. Douglass, Godwynne Earle, Charles Trevor, &c.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
George Gray and Co., Beattie Worth, Pictures, Elsie Robey, Shipley, Venie Clements, Rich and Rich, Marco.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Tom Costello, Dora Lyric, New Macs, Dorrells, Edwin Barwick, Forest and King, Amy Russell, Roze and Calvert.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Closed for Cleaning and Re-decoration.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Hetty King, Fitzroys, Leo Stormont, Alice Maple, Dusty Rhodes, Pictures, Fred Elton, May Gibson, Driscoll and Beattie Co.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Harding and Ah Sid, Bioscope, Celeste, Gladys Mavius, Mlle. Olive, Park's Eton Boys.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Harry Tate, Harry Ford, J. H. Crew, Alf Chester, George Collins, Dan Crawley, Will Dalton, Maud Marlow, Florrie Gallimore, Rachel Lowe, Gracie Taylor, Sisters Carina, Kitty Clover and Co., Burg, Haud, and Wise, Marstro and Mlle. Oretta, Walton and Lester, Baroux and Bion, Two Bees.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Dan Crawley, Jack Lane, Will Dalton, George Collins, Marstro and Mlle. Oretta, Lawrence Barclay, Maudie Forde, Rose Archer, Three Sisters Slater, Jessie Preston, Akimoto Troupe, Three Missouris, Spry and Austin, Six Brothers Luck, in "Hotel Grande," Leslie Brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Pictures.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements Cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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"Bit o' Blarney."
"Fairies."
"I'll Meet You at the Bodega."
"Would You Care?"
"Give My Regards to Leicester Square."
"Is London Like It Used To Be?"
"My Bungalow in Borneo."
"Bonnie Mary o' Glengary."
"Good-bye, Sweet Marie."
"Wait Till the Work Comes Round."
"The Cowslip and the Cow."
"My Little Turtle Dove."
"I Wonder if the Girl I'm Thinking Of."
"Suzannah's Long Stocking."
"Good-bye, Dear Old London Town."

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RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS

All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows :—

MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL, AND DISTRICT.
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EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, NEWCASTLE, AND DISTRICT.
MR. S. GETHING,
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MR. T. GERALD MORTON,
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BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, AND DISTRICT.
MR. HATTON WHARTON,
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SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.
MR. W. LEA,
Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

Co-operative Offices :
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTS (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday at 12.30 o'clock.
George Robey, Fred Karno's Company, Harry Randall, Harry Tate, Gus Elen, Clark and Hamilton, T. E. Dunville, Winifred Hare, The Poluskis, Margaret Ashton, Ernest Shand, Rachel Lowe, Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, Brett and Orford, Arthur Lennard, Fred Earle, the Casino Comedy Four, Flo Gaillimore.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Harry Lauder, Edith Helena, George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, the Poluski Bros., Millie Legarde, My Fancy, Edward Lewis, Lee and Bentley, Madoline Rees, Rachel Lowe, Harry Ford, Victoria Monks Duncan and Godfrey.
Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
Victoria Monks, Gus Elen, Clark and Hamilton, James Fawn, Gotham Comedy Quartette, Nat Clifford, Arabella Allen, Duncan's Collie Dogs, Margaret Ashton, Fred Eustace and Company, Terry and Bentley, Imperial Bioscope, Spry and Austin, W. Poluski, jun.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARACON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artists are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 2 o'clock.
Yukio Tani, the famous Japanese wrestler, and his Troupe of Wrestlers; Spry and Austin, The Korries, Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' Company, in "The Battle of the Belles," A Bo-Kou, Pete and Juno, Lottie Govell, G. H. Elliott, Sandford and Lyons, Charles Vincent, The Sandwinas, Bijou Russell, Lily Lena, The Imperial Bioscope, George Robey.
Manager, CHARLES BERCHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Victor Travers, Nadji, Datas, Syd May, Sisters Carina, Madoline Rees, the French Troupe Cyclists, the Snow Family Skaters, Ruffell's Bioscope, Donaldson Bros., and Ardell.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Harry Randall, Daunton Shaw Troupe, Sisters Julian, the Poluskis, Rita and Roma, T. E. Dunville, Casino Comedy Four, Bert Brantford, Kitty Beresford, Harry Maxam.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.
Mlle. Lorraine, Rauschle, Bijou Russell, Fred Eustace, Millie Lindon, Austin Walsh, Lil Hawthorne, Kloof and Ramsay, King and Benson, Wal Pink's "Repairs."
Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 o'clock.
Ten Loonies, Clive Watts, Frobel and Ruge, Five Julians, Dan Crawley, Bioscope, Athas and Collins, Bros. Lang, Whit Cunliffe, Lottie Govell, Punch and Judy Girls.
Manager, H. KEITHMAN.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
Matinées, Mondays, at 2.30.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
George Robey, Jessie Preston, Bert Weston, Bros. Ashley, "Battle of the Belles," Ernest Rees, Verno and Voyce, Zaros, Bioscope, Gotham Comedy Quartette.
Manager, LYNDON GREENWOOD.

DUCHESS PALACE,
HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Two Performances Nightly, 6.45 and 9.18.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
Telephone, 58 Balham.
Will Evans, Harry Cliffard, Edith Courtney, Bosanquet, G. H. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, Fred Spencer, The Brontes, Bioscope, the Jees.
Manager, G. L. WILSON.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Special Engagement. The Great Harry Lauder, Ethel Dunford, Richard Finberg, Frank Lynne, Josie Collins, May Mars, the Two Dixons, Alf Chester, Les Four Papillons, Diamond and Beatrice, Blanche Holt, G. W. Hunter, Brown and Kelly Co., Pictures, Chas. Ommanney and Co.
Secretary and Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,
WALTHAMSTOW.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6.30 and 9.
Band Rehearsal, which all Artists must attend, Mondays, at 3 o'clock.
Fred Ginnett and Co., in "Turpin's Ride to York," Phil Ray, The Bohemians, Bros. Kroney, Sisters Wingrove, Ruby Norton, Bert Woodward, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

EALING HIPPODROME
THE BROADWAY, EALING,
Two Performances Nightly, 6.45 and 9 p.m.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
"Little Stowaway," Fred Earle, Sisters Caselli, Childie Stuart, Ella Shields, Musical Markie, Emma Don, Resuas Trio, Ted Cowan, Metropolitan Operatic Quartette.
Telephone, 1056 Ealing. Manager, E. W. JAMES.

CROYDON EMPIRE PALACE.
Rehearsal Monday, at 12 o'clock.
"Mumming Birds," Harry Anderson, Arthur Pearl, Espinosa and Neilson, Les Sprays, Sisters Meredith, Minie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, Bioscope, Montague Bros., Leonard Mortimer.
Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

Are particularly requested to read their Contracts carefully, especially the Clause as to barring, which will be strictly enforced. Any Alteration thereof can only be effected by Special Agreement, in writing, with the Managing-Director. For Engagements at the Duchess Palace, Balham; Islington Empire; Grand Palace, Clapham Junction; Ealing Hippodrome; Croydon Empire Palace; and Holborn Empire, address, Mr. WALTER GIBBONS, 1, Durham House-street, W.C. Telephone, 6,825 Gerrard. For Engagements at the other Halls, address, Mr. G. ADNEY PAYNE, Managing-Director, Oxford, Limited, 1, Durham House-street, W.C. Office Hours, 10 to 4. Telephone No. 2,035, Gerrard.

THE METROPOLITAN,
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Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Yukio Tani, Harry Tate, in "Motoring," Winifred Hare, Donaldson Bros., and Ardell, Jock Whiteford, Will English, Billie Barlow, Godwynne Earle, Lottie Govell, Drawee, Tennyson and Wallis, Geo. French, Alma Gray, Conway and Leland, Will Poluski, jun., Nat Travers, Burley and Burley.
Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
E. Rousby's "Paris in London," Mattie Wilkes, Andie Caine, Emma Don and Co., Zarmo, Chas. Vincent, Marie Blythe, Burley and Burley, Harry Sims, Mark Melford and Co. in "A Regular Plant."
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THE PALACE, GLASGOW.
TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance.
Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.
Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.
Call for Monday, May 14.
Lottie Lennox, Susie and Protti, Jack Henri, Barlee and Smith Rebla, Twin Andersons, Grace Langley, J. L. Barrett, John Ridding's Co.

GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, May 14, 1906.
Rehearsal at 12 noon.
Miss Ada Colley, Charles Williams, A. J. Rebla, Arthur Slater, Harry and May Kent, Lalla Selbins, W. J. Churchill, Lorne and Rene, Harry Bancroft, Emmie Amea, Michael Nolan.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m.
Virginians, Lannons, Clarence Raynor, Tate and Tate, Bioscope, Will Goodwin.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists are requested to send words and music in advance, so that permanent Ladies' Choir may learn them.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General Manager.

O'CONNOR and BRADY'S VAUDEVILLE CO.
GRAND THEATRE, DONCASTER. Rehearsal 1 p.m., May 14.
Gertie Gitana, The Hulines, Fields and Lewis, Animated Pictures, The Dunlops, Bessie Travers, Lillian Sivado, O'Connor and Brady.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
PETER-STREET, MANCHESTER.
Director, GROSVENOR H. HAMILTON.
CALL for Monday, May 14. Rehearsal 11, prompt for following Artists: Clyo and Rochelle, Mike L. Traynor, Mdlle. Lillie Le Breton, Dan Kirton, Singing Pictures, The Sivanes, Buchanan Bros., Bioscope. Will Friends of Grosvenor Hamilton write?

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 14, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene, May Fallowfield, Elgars, Arthur Stacey, Paragon Trio, Lily Sharplin, Harry Briggs, Pallister's American Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Bonnie Goodwin and Piccaninnies, Dorothy Porter, Rors and Lewis, Bernard and Weston, Harry Zetter, Barrington, Arthur Reece, McCann's Dogs, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Fred Southern and Co., Davis and Davis, Mersano, Hallam and Stanton, Drum and Major, Pallister's American Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
The Sleedes, Lade Henderson, Bros. Redmond, Marion Scott, Fred Cary, Virto, Marie Santoi and Troupe, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Jack and Evelyn, Kit Keen, Lola Patey, Frassettis, Yorkshire Tom, Will Lytton, Sisters Varley, Frances Haskoll, Æolians, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
Four Burnells, Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, May Moore-Duprez, Leo. Fallowfield, Grant and Allen, Rowland Hill, Daisy Morell, Tom Lowen, Maurin's Fountains, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
Scheavonis, Allis and Cassati, Grace Merton, Tatten Hall, Rozare Boleros, Bishop and Hanlon, Bliss and Bliss, Will Van Allen, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Radford and Valentine, George Rapley, Lily Black, Continental Stilt Walkers, Chas. Norton, Joe Oliver, Edie Gray and Coons, Pender Troupe, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Tally Ho Trio, Helm and Couzens, J. P. Ling, W. H. Rawlins and Co., Harry Champion, Saxo, Ray Royal, Ten Dixie Girls, Larry Lewis.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Matinée Thursday.
Forbes Muray and Co., G. B. Dace, Marie Neilson, Will Farrell, Millie Howell, Hessey Soloists, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
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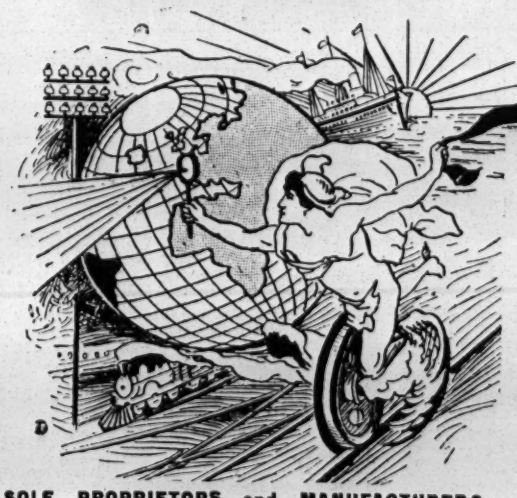

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ABDULLAH ARABS, THE TWELVE, Vacant. Dec 31, 1905, Jan. 7, 28, April 1, 1907. May 14, Hippodrome, Oxford-st., Manchester.

ABEL and WELSH, England's Greatest Grotesque Eccentrics. Macnaghten Tour. 8, Colnbrook-st., Southwark.

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ALFONZO, Foot Equilibrist, on Tour. Thanks Offers Panto., 1906-7. Still Vacant, Sure Draw. 38, Balaclava-road, Sheffield.

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ALVANTEE, King of the Slanting Wire, at Liberty May 21 and 28. Address Transfield's Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent. Hatton, write

ALWYNE and ALWYNE, Comedy Contortionists; DORE and TOTLEY, Boxing Act; open for Galas. 16, Claro-terrace, Leeds.

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ATHLONES, THE, At Liberty May 14. 8, Union-street, Woolwich.

ATLAS, the Beautiful MISS VULCANA and GWEN and MAUD ATLAS. Free, 14th, for London. 17, Waterford-rd, Fulham.

AUSTIN, RUMBO, Vacant, May 21. May 14, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

AYTOUN, "LORD" GEORGE, Variety Agent, 22, Wilson-rd., Camberwell, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

BADDOW, Ventriloquist, Finish To-night, Lyceum, London. Coms., 19, Gately-road, Brixton, S.W.

BALSIGER, GUS, Vocalist and Trick Musician, Liberty Monday next. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough.

BANCROFT, HARRY, Terrific success this week Tivoli, Dublin. Monday next, May 14, Pavilion, Glasgow.

BANDON, SID, Empire, Portsmouth.

BANDONI, One Man Band and Original Concertina King. Liberty May 14, 21, 28. Palace, North Shields.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agent. Telephone, 84 Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Coon Speciality Artist. This, Gaiety, Oldham. Vac. Mon. Offers invited 3, Greengate, Salford, Manchester.

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BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS, Tuneful Duettists and Dainty Dancers. P., Grimsby; May 14, P., Attercliffe.

BARTLETT, ROSIE, Address, 12A, Hill-street, Woolwich.

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BAYNE and HOPE (RONALD and EVELYN) in "An Emperor's Divorce." Return visit to Palace, Manchester.

BEATRICE, SISTERS, Duettists and Dancers, are at liberty Monday next. Wire or write 35 Florence-st, Islington, N.

BELL, CHARLES H. (late Karno's Co), is "Moving In" Nightly, next week, at the Empire, Cardiff.

BELLONINI, WALTER, Empire, Manchester.

BELROSE, GEO., and MAUD DE VELIN, Speciality Duettists and Soloists. At liberty 14th and 21st. Wire Pav., Newcastle-on-T.

BENET, MR. HARRY, Proprietor Alhambra, Sandgate. Artists communicate FRED DURHAM'S Agency.

BENSON, BESSIE, in a Refined Singing and Dancing Act. This, Tivoli, Barrow; next, Palace, Blackpool.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic, New Imitations. Also CARLOTTA LUNN. Monday, Royal, Warrington. Ernie Leech write.

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BEST, CHAS. F., as MacBunker, the Mountebank. Hippo., Brighton.

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BLISS and BLISS, Palace, Halifax. G. and F. PEM.

BLUNT, ARTHUR, Disengaged for Sketches. Refs., Fred Karno and Herbert Darnley. Perm., 36, Forest-road, London, N.E.

BLYTHE, MARIE, the Successful Girl. May 14, Chelsea Palace. Agents, S. M. HYMAN, Ltd.

BODEY BROS., Comedy Triple Bar Act. Perm. address, 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

BODIE, ALBERT EDWARD, The Manor House, Macduff, N.B.

BODIE, DR. WALFORD, 163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumentalists. This, Collins's and Hammersmith; Next, P., Walthamstow.

BOLTON, MR. JUDGE (Mrs. Crusoe). Permanent address, 41, Princes-road, Hull.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Tivoli Theatre, Cape Town. Agents, T. SHAW and Co.

BOSANQUET, Hippodrome, Preston. The talk of the town. May 14, Duchess, Balham.

BOSWELL, A. P., Hippo., Wakefield. Re-engaged at an increase. Return Monday Hippo., Wigan. Vacant 21st. Wire, Wigan.

BOULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI, Poole's Myriorama, Taunton. Vacant for Galas, &c.

BOYLE, MAROUS, "My Bonny Boy," On Tour.

BRADY, JAMES, a Comic Singer, Thanks George Aytoun for 26 weeks' contract Moss and Stoll Tour.

BRAY, LOTTIE, The Versatile, Usual Success, Livermore Tour.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Duettists and Expert Dancers, Usual Success, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Monday, Tivoli, South Shields.

BREWSTERS, THE, Novel Speciality Act. Casino, Buenos Aires, South America.

BRIGGS, HARRY, the Wonderful triple-voiced Vocalist. This week, Pal., Bradford; next, Grand, Sheffield. Good Agent required.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. This, Brighton; May 14, Hippo., Dewsbury.

BROOKS'S, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency. 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BROWN, PAPA, Agent, 8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-road, S.W. Telegraph address, "Jibbers, London."

BROWN and ROBINSON, May 14, Empire, Portsmouth. Vacant May 28, June 4.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE, "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Granville, Walham Green, London.

BURTON'S AGENCY, Sheffield. Al Fresco Artistes send for the great comedy song, "Seaside Louise." A certain winner.

BU-VAL, CHARLES, Dutch Act, Concertinacalities. Success. This, Hippo., Maidstone. Vac. May 14, 21 54, Netherton-rd., N.

BUXTON, FREDERICK, Proprietor, Pierrot Village, Douglas, I. of M. Artists and Specialities write in.

CABAN'S Marvellous Sixteen Performing ponies, donkeys, and dogs. All coms., North-st., Stamford.

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CEE-MEE, H., 57, Station-road, South Shore, Blackpool. R. WARNER and Co.

CELLOS, THE, This, Scala Theatre, Holland. Next two weeks, Casino, Rotterdam. Amsterdam to follow.

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CHARNLEYS, THE (ANNIE and EDIE). Big Success, Return, Albert H., Jarrow. Monday, Tivoli, Grimsby.

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CHIRGWIN, London Nightly. London Nightly.

CLEMENT TRIO, Refined Comedy Stage-Flying Trapeze Act. Address, Clement Trio, Hollydene, Hall Green, near Birmingham.

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CONQUEST, ARTHUR. An ideal cat, vide Daily Mail. Coliseum until further notice.

CONROY, OLIVER, Comedian, Big Success, Hippo., Ipswich, Monday, Hippo., Norwich. Vacant May 21, or later, 1906

CONWAY and GARLAND, Big hit last week Tiv. and Queen's. Ditto this. Hippodrome, Glasgow. Next, Varieties, Leeds.

COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian, Promenade Concerts, Kursaal, Southend. Vacant Panto.

COOLVILLES, THE (NANCY, EDIE). Usual success, Bury. Next week, Hippodrome, Preston.

CORELLIES, THE TWO (LILL and NELL). Many thanks to David Hart, Esq., for Contracts. Next week, Gaiety, Chatham.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. This Week, Hippo., Boscombe; next, Hippo., Southampton.

COSGROVE and BURNS, (JACK and ETHEL), Scottish American Comedy Duo. Chatham; next, The Bedford, N.W.

COUNSELL and MILLS, Musical Playlets. Palace, Blackpool. SOMERS AND WARNER.

COVENTRY, LUCY, Comedienne and Dancer. May 13, London Music Hall, Shoreditch. Perm., 37A, Church-street, Stoke Newington.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Care of "The Era."

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., May 14, London Hippodrome.

CROSS, JOLLY CRISS, The Popular Girl. Sole Agent, Mr. TOM CLAXTON.

CROXON, ARTHUR, Originalities, assisted by Himself. This, Hippodrome, Manchester; next, Palace, Plymouth.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY, Big Success, Hippo., Norwich, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

CURRAN, FRED, Portrayor of Parodies. Ah! but what Parodies Grand, Bolton. GEO. FOSTER.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. Big hit this Palace, Cork. Next, Alhambra, Belfast.

CUSTANCES, THE, in Their Bright and Sparkling Comedy Duologue, "A Game for Two." Com. re Dates, 104, Salisbury-st., Bedford.

CYCLUMINA, Wonderful Electric Cycle Act. Patent 21,207. May 14, Tivoli, Dublin. SLEY or BENTLEY.

DACE, G. B., This, Grand, Sheffield; next, King's, Nottingham. Thanks Fred Baugh, Esq., for Contracts.

DALE and D'ARGAN, In their Novelty Comedy Act. Royal Albert, Canning Town.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Gala Acts of all Kinds Wanted. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

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DARTIGAN, as Diablo, Riding Revolving Wheel Inside and Outside. Continent.

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DEVERENNE Requires Immediate engagement. Nail Walker and Balancer, the Mystery. Care of "The Era."

DE VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, the celebrated Horse, the Marvel. Success everywhere. Next week, Empire, Wolverhampton.

DEWICK, DAWSON, Comedian and Vocalist. May 14, Palace, Attercliffe.

DILLONS, BOUNCING, May 7, Topping Bill, Bedford, London. May 14, Albert Hall, Southport.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, All Letters, 69, Roan-st., Greenwich, London, S.E.

DOBITO and BUXTON, Soloists and Duettists, Palace, Lincoln. Wire for Monday.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, V. A. F., Very Artful Fellow, V. A. F. May 14, Tivoli, Grimsby.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Factory Nightingales. Starring Palace, Lincoln; Monday, Palace, Blackburn, Return.

DOME, The Original Comedy Clay Man. London Pavilion.

DOMINOS, TWO, Clown and Educated Donkey. Always successful. Nothing like it on stage or ring. New Hippodrome, Nuneaton.

DON, EMMA, and her Black and White Quartette, 5½ years without one week out. Chelsea P. and Ealing. Panto. settled. No vac.

DONNAS TRIO, Sensational Ladder Trapeze Equilibrists. Vacancies, RICHARD CASS'S Agency. 6704, Central.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Chic Comedienne.—Vide Press. London Nightly.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, This Week, Alhambra, Brighton. Next Week, Alhambra, Belfast.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Patter Comedians and Dancers, Queen's, Gateshead; next, Gaiety, Dundee. Vacant May 21 and 28. Wire.

DUNCAN and MORTON, "Ain't we Popular?" We Repeat "Popular." Pier Pavilion, Lytham.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness, the Idiotic Dude, Tivoli, Leeds. Coms., MACDERMOTT and SHELDON.

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DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., City Varieties, Leeds. Next Week, May 14, Grand, Hanley.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Sisters Youthful. Novel Instrumentalists, Dancers. Liberty July. Public Hall, Taunton.

ELDINES, LES, in Musical Scena, "The Little Drudge." Lib. June 25. Letters, c/o "Era."

ELGARS, THE, Vocal Entertainers. Monday, Pavilion, Leicester.

ELLA'S, MISS, Best existing Lion Show. Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Dunville's "Nurse"; Reece's "Weazle." Latest for Sheridan, Leonards. 90, Vassall-rd, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. May 14, Public Hall, Jarrow.

ELMO, NINA, Comedienne, Barrasford and Graydon Tour Postponed, through Indisposition. Coms., DAY'S Agency.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY. Next Week, Lyceum, London.

ELTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act, Big Success this week Pav., Southport. Monday, Opera House, Burnley.

ELY, SISTERS, the Pretty, Talented Duettists, new songs in study. Vac. June 4, 11, 18. Perm., 61A, Langsdale-st., Liverpool.

EPLETT, KATIE, FRANK ZARA, Comedienne, Dancer; Comedian, Raconteur. Lib. Monday. 17, Booth-street East, Manchester.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Coms., 15, Harford-street, St. James's, Bristol.

ESDALE BROS., Novelty Comedians. This, Palace, Bow. Next, Britannia, London. Vacant June 4, through mistake.

EUSTACE, FRED, May 14, Canterbury and Holborn Empire. "Lights of the Harbour" and "The Amber Light."

FAIR, W. B., Sanitary Sawdust Syndicate, Ltd. 5, President-place, Goswell-road, E.C.

FAME, PEGGY, Girl in Grey Without a Smile. Tivoli, Manchester. Complimented by everyone. Monday, Hippodrome, Rochdale.

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FIMANS, THE, "In the Fire Station." This Speciality stands alone. Result, Fully Booked.

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FLORADORA GIRLS, Successful Everywhere. Panto. settled with E. Carpenter, Esq., for Brighton. Monday, Pav., Newcastle.

FLORIZELL, Original, Stands Alone. At Liberty May 21, 28, Great Speciality for Panto. All Letters, Opera House, Porth.

FONTAINBLEAU, ALICE, and Marvellous Troupe of Dogs. Dates, Red Lion Hotel and Tea Gardens, Coleshill, Birmingham.

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FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company. Great Success, Empire, South Shields. Monday, Empire, Newcastle. Vacant May 21.

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FREDRICKS, CARL, and YA PYN KETO FAMILY, Fredricks and Carlton Concert Controls. Pier Pavilion, Lytham.

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GILMORE, BARRY, Comedian, Essence of Refinement. "Killin' 'em stone dead."—Vide Caretaker. Pierrot Pavilion, Northwich.

GIRLS, THE GILBERT, Lady Vocalists and Dancers. Perm. address, 69, Wiltshire-road, Brixton, S.W.

GLENN, MARY, the Premier Vocalist. Vacant Monday, and 21st. Wire, 170, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

GLENNIE'S MARIONETTES, Liberty May 28. Address, c/o "Era" office.

GRAHAM, Human Marionettes. Few Dates Vacant for Summer Tour. Address, 28, Chaucer-road, Brixton.

GRAHAM, J. O., "George and Dragon," Market-place, Ashton-under-Lyne. Profes. house. Billiards. Pleased to meet all friends.

GRAHAM'S, DAISY, Performing Birds, Gorgeous Electric Fit-up. Vac. July. Poole's Myriorama Co., Crystal Palace Theatre, London.

GRANADAS, LOS, Monday, Hippodrome, Maidstone. Agent, TOM SHAW.

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GRAPHO and JACKSON, Burlesque Actors, "In a Restaurant." Empress, Hartlepool. Fast Booking 1907.

GRAY, GEORGE, Stoll-Moss Empires. Stoll-Moss Empires.

GREEN, GORDON, and GREEN (Tom, Nellie, Jennie.) 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

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HALLAM and STANTON, Refined Entertainers, in "A Broken Journey." Grand, Sheffield.

HANBURY, ALLAN. Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq.: The new comedian with new ways. This, E., Nottingham; next, Empire, Leeds.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE, The Golfer and the Maid, The London, Shoreditch.

HARLAND and ROLLISON, Back again, Central Hall, Sheffield. Vacant May 28. Sail for New York, June 6.

HARRIS and WORTH, Thanks Day, Offer of Chatham, Next Week, Fishing, Dry Plates. 5, James-st., Scarborough.

MR. PERCY RHODES,
Disengaged now, and for Autumn.
54, St. Maur-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON Concluded Nine Months with Mr. Geo. Edwardes. Disengaged. 133, Lavender-sweep, Lavender Hill, S.W.

MR. FRANK RIDLEY,
Disengaged.
Address, 34, Gorst-road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Weinstein and Stage Management, "What the Butler Saw," New Theatre, Oxford.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD.
Stage-Management, Apollo Theatre, W.
Address, 34A, Aldis-street, Tooting, S.W.

MR. WALTER RINGHAM,
At Liberty.
50, Curzon-street, Mayfair, W.

MR. WALTER ROBERTS
Will be disengaged Shortly. May 21, T. R., Rochdale, Six Nights.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON,
Lead.
43, New Oxford-street, W.C.

MR. G. STAPELTON ROCHE,
Light Comedy, &c. Disengaged for Autumn. Add., Belmeath, Upper Dorset-rd., Bexhill-on-Sea.

MR. ARTHUR RODNEY,
at Liberty, Acting-Management, Heavies. Character. Perm., 2, Grenville-st., Russell-sq., W.C.

MR. BASSETT ROE,
At Liberty until September.
Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS,
Address all communications,
124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

MR. HOWARD RUSSELL, Disengaged until July; Re-engaged by A. Collins, Esq., for Autumn. 88A, Queen's-rd., Lavender Hill, S.W.

MR. J. OLIVER RUSSELL,
Comedian, Pantomimist.
Summer settled. Letters, c/o "The Era."

MR. STEPHEN E. SCANLAN,
Disengaged June and July.
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT, Miss Maud Hildyard's "Great Awakening" Co. Dis. June 11, also Panto. Eden Theatre, Brighton.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Vacation. Disengaged June 9.
1, Claverton-street, S.W., or A. A.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES SEWELL
(Miss Sara Dudley). Light Comedy. Offers invited. Address, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and Character, Disengaged June 9, "Freedom of Suzanne," Opera House, Blackpool (two weeks).

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor, Thanks for Many Offers. Engaged by Hill and Ayrton, T. R., Wakefield.

MR. GEO. M. SLATER,
Manager and Producer,
39, Upper Gloucester-pl., Dorset-sq., London, N.W.

MR. STAFFORD SMITH,
At liberty.
Address, 57, Woodbury-street, Tooting, S.W.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY,
Manager for Mr. Robert Courtneidge,
Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. FRANK STANLEY,
Acting-Manager,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. E. STANTON-SHARP,
Julian Gray, in "The New Magdalen."
May 21, Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

MR. W. R. STAVELEY,
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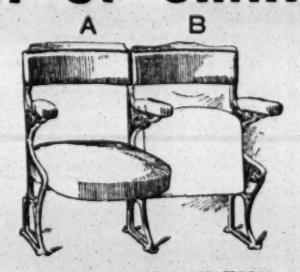

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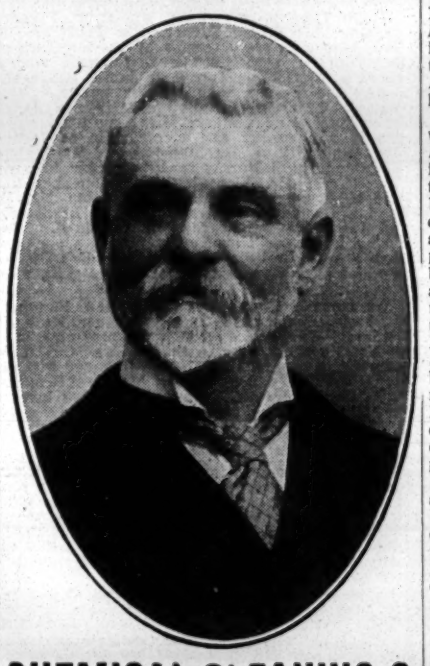

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals, a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual appears once more in its familiar binding, a compendium of information and amusement for all who are interested in theatrical affairs. In the calendar will be found an array of anniversary dates, some recent, some recalling memories of old times and actors and actresses long passed away. The summary of new plays produced during the past year is admirably done, its value being increased by the alphabetical list which is appended. Well-known actors and actresses contribute stories in accordance with a custom justified by its success.—Daily Telegraph, Jan. 18, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present isue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual for 1906, 1s. 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. This useful little work, which brings nearly up to date the calendar of dramatic events which is so excellent a feature, is, as usual, full of stories over the signature of prominent stage lights. To those interested in the business of the theatre the work has become a necessity by reason of its valuable record of the progress of the drama.—Financial Times, Jan. 22, '06.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, APRIL 25.—Miss Florence Roberts, an actress new to this city, has made a decidedly favourable impression at the Liberty Theatre, in a play called *The Strength of the Weak*, the authors of which are Misses Alice M. Smith and Charlotte Thompson. The play tells the story of a young woman who, at a tender age, has been ruined by a middle-aged man who subsequently poses as her guardian. Having a gift for literature, she writes a book into which she puts her own experiences, and eventually falls in love with and is loved by the son of the man who has wronged her. The woman does not know of this relationship, of course, and when the disclosure comes in the moment of what promises to be her greatest happiness, nothing remains for her but to end her sorry existence. And this she does by shooting herself off the stage in Hedda Gabler fashion.

MISS MARGARET ANGLIN appeared recently in a new play entitled *The Sabine Woman*, by William Vaughan Moody. Excepting the last act, the scenes are laid in the West, and the principal characters are a sensitive, high-bred young woman from the East, and a big, manly Westerner. One night, whilst the young woman is alone in her cabin, three men invade her home and shake dice for possession of her. She takes the most manly of the three aside and promises to marry him if he will save her from the others. The man is under the influence of liquor, and, like his companions, has come to the place with brutal intent. But the woman is saved, and the marriage takes place Her abhorrence and the awakening of his manhood are depicted, her Eastern prejudices conflicting with his Western ideas at every turn. But the man proves worthy of her, and conquers these prejudices in the end, and the couple become man and wife in heart as well as law. Mr. Charles Dalton as the husband shared the chief honours with Miss Anglin; and Mr. J. R. Cranford distinguished himself in a prominent rôle. The play was received with marked approval.

MISS ANNIE RUSSELL has scored a success in Boston in a new play by Paul Kester, entitled *Friend Hannah*. In the earlier scenes Miss Russell impersonates a charming young Quakeress, and in the last act she is seen as an aged woman. According to the local papers Miss Russell sinks her identity in a remarkably clever manner.

MR. FRANCIS WILSON, the favourite comedian, whose name was inseparably associated with *Erminie* and other comic operas for so many years, is appearing for the first time in a serious rôle—that of Père Marlotte in *The Little Father of the Wilderness*, this one-act comedy having been introduced as a curtain-raiser to *The Mountain Climber* at the Criterion Theatre. For Mr. Wilson to completely obliterate all of his droll mannerisms would be a superhuman achievement, but the critics have awarded him no little praise for his portrayal of the Jesuit priest, and it is not at all unlikely that Mr. Wilson will some day decide to play Hamlet.

"THE FREE LANCE," a comic opera in two acts by John Philip Sousa and Harry B. Smith, has made a big hit at the New Amsterdam Theatre. Mr. Sousa's latest march "On to Victory" is introduced at the close of the first act. It is a stirring composition, and is bound to become widely popular.

IN memory of the late Mrs. G. H. Gilbert, a stained-glass window is to be placed in the New York church which she regularly attended, and in order to increase the fund now being raised for that purpose a matinée performance was given at the Knickerbocker Theatre last week under the direction of Mr. Daniel Frohman, at which the sum of 3,500 dols. was realised.

MISS JOHNSTONE BENNETT, who appeared with great success for a long period in the title-rôle of the farce comedy *Jane*, and was afterwards seen at the London music halls in a protean sketch called *A Quiet Evening at Home*, died on the 15th inst. of tuberculosis after an illness of more than two years.

NEW YORK, May 2.—*The Optimist*, a comedy in four acts, by Sydney Rosenfeld, has just had a brief run at Daly's Theatre. Miss Charlotte Walker and Mr. Thomas A. Wise distinguished themselves in some capital comedy scenes, and the play was sufficiently entertaining to move an audience to frequent laughter and applause, but it failed to win critical approval. The author consoled himself, however, according to the custom of the hour, by addressing the audience more than once during the week, his remarks being received in such a manner as to convince him, he said, that his play was a success in spite of the newspapers. The story runs as follows:—Alice Wendell discovers in her brother's best friend and adviser, Norman Grey, a sweetheart of former days, whom she had dismissed because she believed him to be responsible for the downfall of another woman, whose baby daughter he had adopted at the mother's death. Alice had asked for an explanation, which he declined to give unless she would first consent to be his wife. This she refused to do, and they parted. Grey had taken the matter philosophically, and adopted as his motto "It's all for the best," becoming known among his associates as "the Optimist." Jack Wendell is jilted by his betrothed, who stuns him with the announcement of her marriage to another. The young fellow is heart-broken at this outcome of his first love affair, and Grey, in endeavouring to teach him the philosophy of life and forgetfulness in the harmless joys of existence, has to contend with the bitterness and suspicion of Jack's sister. Grey introduces the youth into a Bohemian set, and a young actress of much vivacity and charm, who has had several love affairs of her own, effects the cure which Grey has set about to accomplish. Alice surprises her brother at a moment when he is enjoying himself as much as the rest of the party, and insists on his returning home at once, but he refuses, and the optimist's good intentions are entirely misunderstood. Alice accuses Norman Grey of exerting an evil influence over her brother, and although her old sweetheart protests that he still loves her, they appear to have drifted apart for ever, when a mutual friend relates the true story of Grey's devotion to the child of his dissolute brother, and brings him and Alice together before the curtain falls.

"JEANNE D'ARC," a drama in four acts and nine scenes, by Lawrence Marston and R. E. H. Greene, was produced in a sumptuous manner by Mr. F. F. Proctor, at his Fifth-avenue Theatre, last week. The first act shows the exterior of the home of Joan of Arc. She has visions, which appear to her in the trunk of a tree, and her mission is revealed to her. In the second act she has an interview with King Charles, and is given permission to proceed with the work which she has begun. The progress of the war is shown, and there is a battle scene as a climax. The coronation of King Charles in the cathedral of Rheims, with Joan receiving splendid honours, forms the final tableau of the third act. Then the trial and condemnation of Joan are depicted, the final picture showing her execution at the stake. The love interest is created by the attachment of Thibaut, a young farmer, whose offer of marriage is tearfully rejected, but who follows the heroine through all her campaigns. The title part was played alternately by Miss Amelia Bingham and Miss Isabelle Evesson, and Mr. James Young appeared as Thibaut.

BERNARD SHAW'S comedy, *Arms and the Man*, has been revived with considerable success at the Lyric Theatre by Mr. Arnold Daly, who is appearing for the first time as Captain Bluntschli. Miss Crystal Herne enacts the rôle of Raina Petkoff, and the other parts are distributed as follow:—Major Petkoff, Mr. Dodson Mitchell; Major Sergius Saranoff, Mr. Aubrey Boucicault; Nicola, Mr. John Findlay; Catherine Petkoff, Miss Isabelle Urquhart; Louka, Miss Bijou Fernandez. The comedy is admirably acted, and has been received with emphatic approval.

MRS. FISKE gave a series of matinée performances last week at the Manhattan Theatre, and produced for the first time a comedy in one act, called *Dolce*, by John Luther Long. The little play is a love story that begins amid the poverty of the Italian quarter of a big city and ends in a sunlit studio in Florence. A young American artist befriends a little Italian singing girl, and paints her portrait. He has grown to love her when she is taken away from him, and for fifteen years he only hears of her occasionally, the letters he receives telling him that she is living in Florence. He seeks her there, and the Contessa di Cassal comes to his studio and tries to buy the picture of the singing girl. But the artist refuses to sell it, and tells her the story of Dolce. And by and by he learns that she (the Contessa) is Dolce. He has saved all her childish belongings, and at her request he gives them up to her. But she wants something more, and when she kneels down and puts her arms around him he understands. Mrs. Fiske's Dolce was an exquisite bit of acting, and Mr. John Mason gave an excellent impersonation of the artist. *Dolce* was preceded by Mrs. Fiske's comedy *The Eyes of the Heart*, the title and principal incident of which were suggested by an Italian comedy, in two acts, by Gallina. The central figure is Monsieur d'Ancelot, an old blind man, whose shrewdness is more than a match for the eyes of all his friends. Mr. George Arliss assumed this character, and gave a vivid and moving portrayal. The third offering in the programme was Mrs. Fiske's serious little play, *A Light from St. Agnes*, in which Mr. John Mason gave a remarkable display of versatility, appearing as Michael Kerouac, a character as far removed from the one which he assumed in *Dolce* as could well be imagined.

MISS LILLIAN RUSSELL intends to renounce comic opera in favour of legitimate comedy. She will appear next season in an English adaptation of *Le Bonheur des Dames*, entitled *The Happiness of Women*.

AMUSEMENTS IN NEWCASTLE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred. C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Lewis Waller's company, in *Miss Elisabeth's Prisoner*, has been appearing here this week. The part of Elizabeth is undertaken by Miss Cynthia Brooke, an actress of undoubted ability, who at once proves her worth by a particularly clever portrayal. Miss Phyllis Back has ample opportunities as Molly; Miss Leonora Braham creates considerable merriment as Mistress Williams; and Captain Harry Peyton is a picturesque and soldierly figure in the hands of Mr. Frederick Victor, whose style is well-suited to the rôle. Mr. Elliot Ball thoroughly justifies his selection for the heavy part of Major Colden; and Mr. Sidney Young submits a carefully-drawn character-study as Valentine. Mr. A. Carlaw Grand as Edwards, Mr. Donald Young as Sergeant Carrington, and Mr. Tom Taylor and Mr. J. Thomas as two black servants do excellent work in their respective parts. A new comedietta, entitled *Domestic Bliss*, precedes the play.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—This week Mr. James Welch and company are a great attraction. On Monday *The New Clown* was staged. In the title-rôle, Mr. Welch is excruciatingly funny, and is the life and soul of the piece. Mr. Geo. F. Tully as Captain Jack Trent gives a buoyant and breezy interpretation; Mr. G. H. Snazelle submits an excellent study of the good-natured circus master; Mr. E. Dagnall as the legitimate clown proves himself an artist of ability; and Mr. Gordon Tomkins as the landlord, Mr. Leopold Profeit as Mr. Pennyquick, Mr. Leonard Buttress as Billy the strong man, Mr. C. Entwhistle as a constable, and Master Jack Frost as the boy, each takes his part in a praiseworthy manner. Miss Estelle Winwood as Rosie Platt is graceful and winning; and Miss Gladys Mason and Miss Helen Massey as the sisters are charming. In a curtain-raiser, *The Lady Burglar*, Mr. Henry J. Ford and Miss Dido Drake give a neat little entertainment. *The New Clown* will be repeated on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday, a new farce, *Dear Old Charley*, by Charles H. E. Brookfield, was to occupy the boards.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Henry Bedford and company are drawing crowded houses here with *Gipsy Jack* and *The See-saw of Life*. In the title-rôle of the former piece, Mr. Bedford is admittedly a great success. He is admirably supported.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*Under the Czar* is being presented here this week by Mr. Fred Jarman's company. Mr. James Hare plays the part of Nicholas Yeroslaff in a capable manner; and Mr. W. H. Riley submits a thoroughly convincing portrayal as Zakhar Zovesky. Mr. Louis Weston as Paul Ignat and Mr. Laurence Brien as Alexis Petroff are responsible for some clever comedy. Miss Kathleen Cavanagh enacts the part of Sonia Gregorovitch with much ability; and Miss Linda Riley is a humorous Siomoka.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—An especially popular feature in this week's programme is the Harmony Four, whose clever vocal and musical act is greatly appreciated. Stately Alexander Dagmar's songs and stories are much enjoyed; an emphatic success has been scored by the Dumond Minstrels, comedy musicians, a violin solo by one of the members being an artistic treat; Harry Carsdale supplies a clever entertainment as an animal mimic; particularly smart do the Jack Theo Trio prove themselves as equilibrists; and the Labakans, acrobatic comedians, not forgetting their dog Folly, win favourable comment. The Four Olympian Stars are a charming bevy of vocalists and dancers; an amusing trifle is served up in approved style by the Edgar Forrest Combination; the Mariano Sisters give a good account of themselves on the breakaway trapeze; and the bioscope is responsible for a picture of the rocent wrestling match, Mr. Frank Howard, who was M.C. at Olympia, giving a graphic illustration of the various incidents during the match.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Edwin Boyde, who is starring here this week, is an old favourite, and his success has again been emphatic; Sable Fern returns to Newcastle after a somewhat long absence, and proves as clever as ever in a budget of new songs; Tom E. Hughes, a local comedian, does himself full justice in a cleverly-written masher song; and Max Waldon's clever female impersonations are as good as anything we have in this line. As a delineator of character-studies, Tom Stuart supplies something out of the ordinary; the Florodora Girls are a vivacious and sprightly troupe of singers and dancers; Maud Vera is an accomplished vocalist and dancer; and other successful contributors to the bill are Robbie Roy, with Scotch melodies and dancing; the Vernon Troupe of musicians; Herbert Madden, comedian; and the ever-popular Barrascope.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton.—Dare-Devil Schreyer continues to be the attraction here, and crowded houses are the rule nightly.

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES' ATHLETIC TEAM v. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES' XI.

Played near Clifton Down on May 5. The following were the teams:—

Miss Fowler's Team.—Miss Fowler (captain), goal; Miss Ivy Bowman and Miss Edie Francis, backs; Miss Nellie Bailey, Miss Lillie Belding, and Miss Gertrude Stephens, half-backs; Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Lillie Clayton, Miss Amy Bernard, Miss Bertha Godfrey, and Miss Rixie Maynard, forwards. Miss Bradley's XI.—Miss May Fisher, goal; Miss Alice Gibbs and Miss Rosie Davies, backs; Miss Lillie Coles, Miss Lucy Norris, and Miss Edie Lawrence, half-backs; Miss Nellie Lawrence, Miss Florrie Hooper, Miss Maudie Burgess, Miss Alice Mitchell, and Miss Winifred Bradley (captain), forwards. Referee, Miss Ethel Bowman. Result, Miss Bradley's XI., 2 goals; Miss Fowler's team, nil. Misses Rosie Davies and Lucy Norris scored the goals.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. L. Andrews.—The attraction here this week is Mr. W. A. Armour's company in *What a Woman Did*. Mr. Edward Rawlinson as the hero, Conrad de L'Orme, is a success; Mr. W. A. Armour gives an excellent portrayal of Raffaelie Duroc; Mr. Jim Woods wins favour as Fritz; Mr. Fred Rignold as Peter creates roars of laughter; Mr. Chas. Earle makes the most of his part as Pitou; Miss Dora Price as Elsie de L'Orme proves herself to be a powerful actress; Miss Amy Ellam is decidedly good as La Papillon; Miss Bertha Clifton as Nannette is amusing; and Miss Tina Shaw as Fanchon is worthy of special praise.

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—*A London Actress* is being presented here this week by Miss Emma Litchfield's company. Miss Litchfield acts with great power as Hilda Mannering; and Mr. John Hitchins as Pat Maloney, Miss Nelly Fern as Biddy Maloney, and Mr. George H. Doyle as Moses Mendoza also do their part in making the piece a success. Miss Maud Steeple makes a pleasing appearance as Phyllis Crawford; and Mr. Richard Vane gives a natural portraiture of Lieutenant Kingston, R.A. Other leading parts which are well represented are those of Sergeant-Major Clive, by Mr. Stuart Cleveland; Captain Mannering, by Mr. John Worth; and Police-constable Lewis, by Mr. George Young.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The Lew Lake Comedy company act with much success in *The Bloomsbury Burglars*; and the Davis and Gledhill Trio appear in some novel and striking bicycle and motor-paced races. Miss Gracie Lawn sings sweetly and dances gracefully; Mr. Jock Walker is appreciated as a Scots comedian; Vowles and Bryan put in some good work as vocalists; and Zingari and Bertini appear in a clever statuary act. A number of excellent pictures representing the Hackenschmidt-Madrali wrestling contest are shown by the Bioscope.

COOKE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—The attractive and ever-varying programme continues to draw large audiences to this excellent entertainment. Miss Ernestine Rosa and Mr. Leicester Alfred Cooke, the Indian Voltigeurs, and Signor Leon contribute some remarkable riding feats; while among the most recently arrived artists are Alec Aubrey, a gymnast of singular strength; Marie de Carteret, an extremely skilful dancer; Mlle. de Vena, a first-class juggler; and Verno and Lambert, a couple of highly amusing comedians. The other turns, of course including that of Neddy Vokes and Mr. Frank Anderson, are all extremely enjoyable. The admirable orchestra is as usual conducted by Lieut. Harry Wamba.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—*Sapho* is on a return visit here, Miss Annie Bell and company giving performances throughout the week, with a matinée underlined for Saturday. On Tuesday afternoon and evening a talented military amateur theatrical company gave an excellent performance of *My Friend the Prince* in aid of charity.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—A domestic drama *The Little Bread-Winner*, of which Mr. J. A. Campbell is the author, is being presented here this week, with Mr. Campbell in a leading rôle, supported by a well-organised company. The character of the supposed degenerate son is well assumed by Mr. David Gordon; and the confidential secretary of the old Quaker is cunningly conceived by Mr. Scott Leighton. His villainy is well hidden under a mask of apparent virtue. Miss Mary Fulton excites the strong sympathies of the audience as the heroine; Little Emmie Thomas as Meg wins the affections and applause of the audience by her winning ways.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—An exceptionally good "bill" has been provided at the Empire this week. One of the chief features is a farcical absurdity, *Spiff! Spaff! Spoof!* (written by Mr. Walter Howard), the principal character being sustained by Mr. Howard as Terence O'Flannagan, supported by an excellent company. Another great attraction is the Leitner troupe of musical acrobats, whose tuneful warblings and expert acrobatic dancing are the delight and wonder of full houses. Tokio, the famous Japanese mimic, also takes a front place in the programme; and the Violet Whitworth cycling girls give a unique performance. Mannon's Merry Maids, in *A Motor-Bus Outing*, furnish much fun, and much merriment results from the novel ring act of Minnie and Harry Groves. Horace Sade is an expert character artist; and Frank Whiteley a good comedian and bone-soloist. Jacko is a good Simian impersonator.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—This week brings a return visit of Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company in the exciting drama *The Face at the Window*, the principal features of which are admirably brought out by Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale (Lucio Delgardo), Mr. T. W. Dunscombe (Paul Gouffet), Mr. Alfred Warne (Henry De Brisson), Mr. Gilbert Hall (Lucian Cortier), Mr. C. Alan Hineson (Peter Pottleberry), Mr. George Phytian (Le Blanco), Miss N. Thorn Hallam (Marie De Brisson), Miss Gwynne Warren (Babette), and Miss Elaine Grant (La Pinau).

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting - Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant - Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—This week's programme is furnished by the following—Mr. Harry Morris, mimic and comedian; the Gregson Comedy Trio, in a pleasing and mirthful interlude, entitled *Dummy*; Mr. E. C. Clayton's interesting pictures; Miss Mabel Kessler, cornet, post-horn, and bugle soloist, and vocalist; the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; Mr. Dawson Dewick, comedian; Beever's Comiscope; and Miss Amy Anderson and company in her coster scena *The Banana Queen*.

BACUP.—NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—There is an excellent combination of variety talent here this week. The programme is headed by Armino, who displays some wonderful feats of strength; Peter Dwight and Son, scientific dancers, are smart at their business; Hylda Lyle contributes some good songs; Billy Benton, eccentric comedian, is good; and others who meet with a favourable reception are George Le Wist, ventriloquist; Charles Bowers, character comedian; Henry Rew, conjurer; and Billy Kelly and Co., American speciality.

BARNSLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. A. C. Mitchell.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's No. 1 Company in *In Holy (?) Russia*, is here this week. Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy (the authoress) plays the part of Renee Rubinoff in an efficient manner. Much humour is displayed by Mr. J. Rice Cassidy as Mickey Nolan; Count Gregori Petrolski is admirably enacted by Mr. Tom G. Warry; the villainies of Michael Natolski are skilfully represented by Mr. Louis Norman; Mr. Arthur Stratton makes a diverting Col. Richard Forrest.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Hoey.—A smart variety entertainment is submitted here by Mr. Jasper Redfern this week. Witty Watty Walton, in new songs, quaint sayings, and old favourites, heads the bill; Saledo and Voue are successful vocalists and ragtime dancers; Playfair and Nichola score in a clever paper-tearing speciality act. Other artists are Preston and Holmes, in a musical act; Miss Nellie Adrienne, vocalist; Louis Lenoir, shadowgraphist; Kitty Rhodes, serio and dancer; and the Two Wiltons, coon experts.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and company are here with *The Manxman*. He himself as Pete is highly successful; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns is effective as Prilip Christian; and the Kitty Creyeen of Miss Minnie Watersford is full of charm and pathos.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. Morice Pendergast's company with *A Woman of Pleasure* is here this week. Mr. Gerrold Ord as Lord Carlingforth gives an exceptionally good portrayal; Mr. H. T. Wood as the Rev. Luke Goddard makes an ideal clerical lover; Mr. Arthur Gilroy displays ability in the character of Major Burrows; Miss Theodora Henries gives an exceedingly clever impersonation of the Countess; Miss Dollie Gilroy makes a charming and amusing Dolly Dimple; and Little Flo Florence is sweet in the rôle of Lord Arthur Selwood.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whitney.—The Riogoku Family, the Japanese troupe, are the special turn here this week; they are a wonderful troupe of the juggling and Risley performance, being quite of a sensational character. Lieut. Albini is very well received on his return visit; Smiler Lee is a quaint comedian with a style of his own; Agnes Molteno sings in a charming manner; and Dan Gregory gives a good show as an eccentric acrobatic musician.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—*The* 10.30 *Down Express* has met with a good reception here this week. Mr. Horace Stanley (whose company it is) gives an original and humorous study of Sam Wagstaffe; and others who also make plenty of hilarity are Miss Evelyn M. Walton, as Letitia Leigh; and Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts; Mr. Charles Burdon and Miss Elsie Capell, as the hero and heroine, Jack O'Malley and Bessie Leigh, win the approval of the house; the "evil man of the story," James Inderwick, finds an unflinching representative in Mr. George Arthur; Mr. Francis Serle has a favourite rôle in Huntley Mason (from Scotland-yard); Cuthbert Leigh is well sustained by Mr. Alaric Burton; a good character-sketch is given by Mr. Tom Roydan as Seth Coombes. The big sensational scene of the train with its massive engine in Act III. is accorded thunders of applause.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Charles Schubert.—One of the most original interludes that has ever been staged locally, is that of the Sleedes, in their act, *The Mysterious House*, a delightful scena is that presented by Marie Santoi and her pretty and merry associates in *A Japanese Tea Garden*; an eccentric comedian that supplies a feast of fun is Fred Cary, his success being very pronounced; the Bros. Redmond create plenty of laughter, and gain much applause as acrobatic comedians; Virto, in his smart musical performance, is well received; Marion Scott, comedienne, adds considerably to the enjoyment of her hearers; as does Ladi Henderson, a character comedian with a good voice and style. Raymond's Bio-tableaux retain their high level of excellence.

BATLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. J. Edward Whitty.—We have a change from the drama to lighter fare this week. The boards are occupied by Miss Brenda Leslie's Popular Pierrots, in songs, scenas, and sketches. The infinite variety includes Animated Pictures and an enjoyable entertainment is presented.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager; Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Russell Rosse's company. On Monday evening *She Stoops to Conquer* was presented. Mr. Henry Hampton cleverly depicts the character of Sir Charles Marlow; Mr. A. T. Hilton makes an excellent Old Hardcastle; Mr. Robert Minster achieves success as Young Marlow; Mr. Frederick D. Daviss is good as Hastings; and Mr. Charles R. Hann causes much amusement as Tony Lumpkin. Miss Eugenie Vernie as Mrs. Hardcastle, Miss Lilian Locke as Miss Neville, and Miss Sybil Wise as the maid, ably fill their respective parts. Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner makes a charming Miss Hardcastle. On Wednesday *The School for Scandal* was given, and on Friday and Saturday *The Lady of Lyons*.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—The first Grand Shakespearean Revival (under distinguished patronage) commenced here on Monday, when *Romeo and Juliet* was presented on a scale of magnificence hitherto unprecedented here, and it is gratifying to state that the revival of this immortal love play met with a striking success. What a wonderfully sweet conception of Juliet is presented by that charming actress Miss Hardie Gunn! Her lovely figure and beautiful voice considerably enhanced her delightful impersonation, and we are sure the part has had few such engaging representatives. Mr. Milton Rosmer also shared the honours by his decidedly clever impersonation of Romeo. In the balcony scene his acting was very fine, and he was deservedly accorded an ovation at the conclusion of the act. One could not desire a better impersonation of Mercutio than that furnished by Mr. Eric Blind; and Mr. Ernest Griffin's acting as Tybalt left nothing to be desired. Mr. Richard Fielding played the rôle of Paris perfectly; and Miss Barbara Fenn's impersonation of the Nurse was convincing. Miss Alice Nazzoni appeared to much advantage as Lady Capulet; and most capable impersonations of Benvolio and Friar Lawrence were furnished by Mr. Jas. Taylor and Mr. Kenyon Musgrave. Mr. Arthur Chesney was responsible for the rôles of Peter and the Apothecary, which he played excellently; and other parts were capably presented by Miss Lilian Revell, Miss Eddie Victor, and Messrs. Sydney Arnold, C. Brandon, John Burton, &c. The play was produced under the able supervision of Mr. Fred W. Warden. The music was specially composed by Mr. Yorke Sheffield, and the powerful chorus and augmented orchestra were cleverly conducted by Mr. S. P. Swanton. On Monday the management presented a handsome souvenir of the production to every lady in the audience (gallery excepted).

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—A great sensation has been created here by Wizard Stone, who, in conjunction with Miss Irene Stone, is appearing in "The Globe of Life." Mounted on a motor-cycle, Mr. Stone loops the inside of the globe at a speed calculated to be fifty miles an hour, a feat which certainly created much excitement among the large audience on Monday. Foreman and Fannan, eccentric comedians and big favourites here, take immensely, and deservedly so; and Mr. Dan Thomas, an eccentric comedian with a capital style, speedily makes himself a favourite. The Five Casino Girls are graceful dancers and talented instrumentalists; and also here are Miss Sadie Seymour, serio and dancer; Miss Rose Hamilton, comedienne; Mr. Couch, who furnishes several capital imitations, and the Palace pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Tom Costello heads the bill, and this clever comedian has been most successful with his latest songs, including his scena *The Old Clown*. Miss Ivey Roze and Mr. Frank Calvert appear to advantage in their decidedly entertaining comedy act; and Miss Amy Russell is a delightful balladist. Mr. Edwin Barwick upholds his reputation as one of our leading character impersonators; and the New Macs, knockabouts, are very funny. Forest and King, in their comedy dancing act, are exceedingly smart; and also appearing are Miss Dora Lyric, a charming comedienne; and the Dorrells, duettists and dancers.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Sarnthaler troupe head the bill, and delight all with their clever rendering of Tyrolean songs; their dances have also been enthusiastically received. Miss Ethel Dove is a charming comedienne with good songs; and Mr. Charles Morritt has created quite a sensation with his illusions. Much amusement has been caused by the eccentric Sileys, in their absurdity entitled *On the Benches in the Park*. Mr. Percy Curry is a smart comedian with good songs. And also here are Mr. Johnny Walker, character comedian; Gilroy and Gross, comedy artists and dancing experts; the blind man with the memory, introduced by Mr. C. Morritt; and the Alhambra Bioscope.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—A variety company is in possession of these boards with Professor Inman Hocking, hypnotist, electrician, and scientist, at their head; the Sisters Valli are clever dancers, and skilled in the playing of banjos, mandolins, &c.; Gus Granville and Mark Lee, comedians; Nellie Ventnor, comedienne; Fred Granville, ventriloquist; the Monckton, sketch artists; Syd Bazley, the "Peculiar Comedian," also contribute; and the Bainton Bioscope is no small attraction.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pelly.—Mr. Lingford Carson's company, in *A Modern Adventuress*, is creating a favourable impression here. Miss Kate Froude gives a highly finished and effective rendering of the somewhat exacting rôle of Violet Meredith, and the important part of Pietro Donelli is ably undertaken by Mr. Leonard Aardale. John Crompton, a Yorkshireman, is successfully represented by Mr. Leonard Montgomery; Mr. Louis Esmonde is a capable Harry Delby. William Delby being well played by Mr. Harry C. Rutland; Miss Alice Defoe is an interesting Vivette Delby, and Miss Ivy Chandos creates much amusement as Sally Hodges; and Mr. Sydney Grant is an efficient Wallace Dalton.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Mr. Niel Kenyon, the popular Scotch comedian, is fulfilling a return engagement with great success; Mr. George D'Albert, comedian, is also a leading attraction; and Johnny Holland and his company, in the entertaining sketch *My Friend Boots*, afford infinite amusement. The Ergotti and King Luis troupe of Risley performers accomplish some remarkable feats; and Miss Katie Butler, comedienne; Miss Nell Richardson, a talented balladist; Cline and Clark, black and white artists; Miss Blanche Gerrard, speciality vocalist, and the bioscope complete the programme. Miss Nelly Farrell, a really clever Irish comedienne, completed a most successful engagement last week.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—A three weeks' season of orchestral promenade concerts, the second annual of its kind, was inaugurated here on Monday, by arrangement of the management with Mr. Max Mossel, Mr. Landon Ronald being secured for us again as conductor. Mr. F. Weist Hill is principal first violin.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Dan't Peggotty*, the newly-produced adaptation by Kellett Chalmers of "David Copperfield," was presented here on Monday by Mr. Chas. Cartwright and company with every mark of success. First and foremost, Mr. Charles Cartwright received flattering marks of approval for his pathetic and almost impassioned portrayal of the simple true-hearted fisherman Dan'l. Mr. Charles Collette presents a Micawber of exquisite humour; Mr. Ivan Berlyn realises the sleek and sly methods of Uriah Heep to perfection; Miss Mollie Pearson presents a Little Em'ly of endearing charms; Mr. Alfred Woods engages ready sympathy by his clever acting of the bashful but honest Ham; Mr. Arthur Royston acts with conspicuous ability as Steerforth; and Miss Mary Smith as Mrs. Gummidge, Miss Mabel Luxmore as Betsy Trotwood, Mr. Ernest Mozer as Littimer, Miss Gordon Walker as Agnes, Mr. Humphrey Walker as Copperfield—and indeed all the members of the cast—evince a painstaking regard and ability for their parts. The mounting also is most adequate.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Profligate* is given here with every success by the members of Mr. Turner's stock company, foremost among whom is Miss Edith Turner as Leslie Brudenell, a part she endows with infinite pathos. Miss Irene Rooke plays the rôle of the injured Janet in an interesting manner; Miss Laura Laurence acts in a charming and clever style as Irene; Miss Annie Hill as Mrs. Stonehay and Mr. Arthur Soames as Hugh Murray contribute ably towards the success; Mr. Vincent Clive undertakes the part of Dunstan Renshaw with ability; Mr. E. Vanderlip makes a powerful Wilfred Brudenell; and the other parts are well sustained. On Friday last week Miss Turner played a one-part piece written by herself, entitled *Daddie's Birdie*, in which she showed much constructive skill, with rare acting ability.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*The Prince of Rogues* is presented here by Mr. Harold Reyner, with Mr. Ian Maclaren's company in charge. Mr. George Rammell gives a highly coloured and engrossing picture of Geoffrey Flint, the forger; Mr. Sydney Fairbrother invests the rôle of Hyram Harwood with many good points; Mr. James Fox scores as Dick Harwood; Mr. Alec W. Wynne is successful as Frank Farrell; Miss Dorothy Riddell acts in a natural and winsome manner as Winnie Harwood; Miss Georgina V. Thomas gives due prominence to the rôle of Rita Congreave; and the humour of the play is well conveyed by Mr. Harry Talbot as Josh Buggins and Miss Chrissie Bickerstaff as Sally Dibbs. A rôle of many disguises, that of the detective, is exceedingly well played by Mr. Henry B. Neurs.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Trail of the Serpent* has been followed with much favour on its appearance this week with Mr. E. Oswald Brook's company. Mr. Hobson Asche presents the hero, Gerald Kingston, in a manly style that begets him much popularity; Miss Marjorie May wins her way to sympathy as Ethel Maynard; Mr. Wilford Cheetham makes a truly formidable character of the "serpent," Ralph Hammond; Miss Ethel Stuart gives an extremely clever sketch of the gipsy Rachel; Mr. Booth Conway is conspicuous for his good acting as Gipsy Jake; Mr. Geo. Harris is successful as Ben Chucks; and a clever vein of comedy is presented by Mr. Vincent Kelway as William Higgins, "Hesquire," and Miss Gladys Newcombe as Rose Wilson.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Variety again holds sway here, with the Ediscope and Barnum Electric Animated Pictures, which include "the world's history day by day," and a number of new and comic subjects. The varieties include the Two Vervains, in their clever coon singing and buck dancing; Phil Robey, comedian; Vic Zerney, a marvellous whistler; the Cedrics, Continental comedy artists; Lyons, Irish humourist and ventriloquist; Vela, in a hurricane wire act; and Queenie Vane, big boot dancer.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Scarlet Clue* provides the attraction here, with Miss Grace Warner and company. Mr. George Gordon impersonates the male villain, Michael Stanton, with excellent effect; Miss Grace Warner, in her vivid impersonation of Sal Scarlet, holds the audience fascinated; Mr. J. Leighton Leigh stamps the twin rôles of Jack and Harry Esmond with much individuality; Miss Lizzie Palmer gains esteem for Elsie Dane; and Miss Kathleen Cranston gives a stirring representation of Mother Scrooge.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Alec Hurley and company, in *The Costers' Beanfeast*, are entertaining crowded houses. Another excellent turn is Billy McClain's Coloured Sexette, who put plenty of "go" into their entertainment; the Aurora troupe are expert trick cyclists; Chris Richards is a most amusing comedian; and the hand-balancing feats of the Three Rubys are loudly applauded.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The principal item this week is the dramatic episode *The Gambler's Secret*, which is presented in excellent style by the Collinson combination. The Eugene family of acrobats display some daring feats; Lady Mansell's Juveniles appear in *The Concert Rehearsal*; Florence Esdaile is highly appreciated; and the Sisters Hall, Dale, and Vale, Fred Hallam, Bates and Clifford, Griff, Mezzetti and Mora, and Cowan and Doyle come in for a large share of applause.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Herbert Lloyd can make his audience laugh; and Will Pouls, T. B. Fayme, and Charles R. Whittle are all smart comedians. Zeta Grey and company present *The Lancashire Lass*. The Two Kays have a successful vocal scena; the Holloways are far above the average, in a sensational wire act; the Society Quartette are clever and attractive juvenile dancers; Vincent displays some daring acrobatic feats; and Rumbo Austin is a favourite.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Albert Whelan and Rex King are attracting large audiences this week. Johnson and Dean are clever entertainers; the Dainez Comedy Circus is watched with much interest; Walter Stanley is a droll comedian; La Berat has a bright dancing speciality; and the Ten Genis are fine acrobats.

BLACKBURN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Miss Florence Baines and company are here in *Miss Lancashire, Ltd.* As Mary Ellen Thompson, Miss Baines shows conclusively that despite her long absence from the town she has not forgotten how to speak the Lancashire dialect; her laughing songs are also cleverly rendered. Miss Hallwarth plays well as Eva Lancashire; and Mr. Payne Fletcher as the father of Mary Ellen is excellent.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Arnold Bell and company in a répertoire of plays are drawing crowded houses. They opened on Monday with *Ben-my-chree*, which will be repeated on Thursday and Saturday; on Tuesday *Called Back* was presented; on Wednesday *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was played; while on Friday *The Shaughran* occupied the programme.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—An excellent show here includes the Four Burnell's in their clever comedy act *On the Links*; May Moore-Duprey, the jolly Dutch girl, in dainty dances; Tod Gowan, comedian; Daisy Morell, vocalist; Geo. Fallowfield, comedian; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singing factory girls; Rowland Hill, comedian; Grant and Allen, burlesque artists; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux with new and interesting pictures.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Charles Carey's company is here this week, and the fare submitted is *After the Ball*. Miss Florence Smithers quickly establishes herself a huge favourite as Nancy, her singing and acting being equally clever. Mr. Walter Ringham as Halliwell Menit and Mr. Victor Widdicombe as Colonel Menit also play their parts exceedingly well and provide a fund of fun; Miss Nellie Groves makes a charming Nellie Mather; Miss May Florence (Ruth Gay) sings nicely; and Miss Nellie James (Kitty) shines as a dancer. Messrs. Buckstone Clair as Martin and Mr. Norman Bowyer as Dick Seymour also deserve favourable mention. The chorus is good, with the "Gibson Girls" as a special feature.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*Human Hearts* is the attraction here this week, and all the characters without exception are in hands of capable artists. Virtue is represented by Mr. George Silver as Tom Logan; villainy by Mr. William H. Sams as Fred Armsdale, patience and long-suffering by Miss Millie L'Estrange as Mrs. Sam Logan; and many other virtues or vices with which the numerous other characters are associated are cleverly exhibited by Messrs. Ben McDale, Arthur Estcourt, Sidney Sarl, Stephen Langton; and Misses Winifred Pearson, Millie Silvestre, Rena Robertson, and Barbara Bateman, who scores a great success as Limpy Logan.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The programme is supplied here this week by Jack Rae, gymnast; Barrett and Knowles, comedian; Fraser and Haley, vocalists; Harry Rogerson, comedian; Constance, Moscow, vocal comedienne; Bessie Benson, singer and dancer; Billy Farrell, coon delineator; the Rinaldo Trio, acrobats; the Wakeman Quartet of vocalists; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. C. Moody.—Mr. W. Reuben Payne's company is on a visit here with *The Orphan Heiress* from the pen of Mr. A. Jefferson. In the part of Lord Ainsley Mr. Walter Brasque left nothing to be desired; Mr. Charles Boult as Douglas Kingston was prominent; the Laurence Gordon of Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle was a vigorous performance; Mr. T. H. Lolly as Ginger and Miss Cora Duncan as Betsy created much amusement; and in the name-rôle Miss Rosalie Heath played with acceptance.

THE HIPPODROME.—Mr. Tudor closes his season here this week, and has given a capital representation of *Dick Turpin's Famous Ride to York*.

BOLTON.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—The attraction here this week is Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company in the romantic drama, *Napoleon the Great*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery admirably takes the part of Napoleon; Mr. Frank M. Thorne (the author of the drama) appears with much success as Pierre Pomponnet; Col. Jules Meuron is in the capable hands of Mr. Phil Harper; Miss Leslie Warner gives a conscientious rendering of the character of Marie Walewska; and Miss Maud Russell is good as Mlle. Léonie Marbœuf.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A strong company here is headed by Casey's Court Midget Mimes; other turns in the programme are Janet H. Reynolds, vocalist; Harry Hayton, comedian; Roose in his chair speciality act; Smith and Johnson, coloured duettists; Walter Munroe, Irish comedian and dancer; the Howards, musical speciality artists; Fred Curran, comedian; the Lurins, in their screaming travesty, *The Abode of Love*; Tiny Arnold; George Antill, comedian; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, in their funny musical duologue, *Getting Even*; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager. Mr. H. Ball.—An excellent programme is provided for this house this week. Leo Dryden, the popular actor-vocalist, is giving his latest successes. The Marconis contribute an interesting and instructive turn including a demonstration of wireless telegraphy; the Jackley Wonders, comedy acrobats, including "George," the whistling comedian, are irresistibly funny; Orpheus, in a musical melange, plays many instruments in a capable manner; Walter Wade, comedian and mimic, is another prime favourite. *The Burglar's Dog* is given by Michael Braham and Co. Minnie Mace is a sweet comedienne, and dances daintily. Elsie Earle, comedienne, completes the list.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—*The Youngest of Three* was presented on Monday by Mr. F. Maltby's company. As George Wendover, Mr. H. F. Maltby made the most of a part which gave him little opportunity to display his undoubted talent. He was most ably supported by Mr. W. H. Hargreaves, Mr. A. E. Wyn Weaver, Mr. Ralph Hutton, Mr. Ernest Noble, Miss Mabel Mellor, Miss Mara Maltby, Miss Beatrice Marsdene, and Miss Nancy York.

BRADFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Messrs. W. Gayer Mackay and Robert Ord's charming comedy, *Dr. Wake's Patient*, which was presented for the first time here on Monday by Mr. Louis Calvert's company had a hearty reception. Miss Olive Terry played winsomely as Lady Gerania Wyn-Charteret; Mr. Douglas Vigor's Dr. Forrester Wake was a virile and effective performance; the irrepressible Duff Wynterden was an entertaining effort by Mr. Herbert Ross; the bluff old farmer Andrew Wake was an admirable character-study by Mr. Alfred Wellesley; Miss Amy Fanchette was a motherly Mrs. Wake; Mr. Arthur Willoughby bore himself with dignity as the Earl of St. Olbyn; and there was the required stateliness in Miss Ina Pelly's assumption of the Countess.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Interest abounds here this week in *Rogues of the Turf*, the stirring sporting drama which is so cleverly and realistically staged by Mr. John F. Preston and Miss Madge Nelson, one of its features being a stud of racehorses. Captain Dudley Clifton is effectively represented by Mr. J. J. Hooker; the adventuress has a clever exponent in Miss Hilda Shirley; tenderness and sympathy mark Miss Nelson's assumption of the trainer's daughter; and Mr. Preston acts with power the character of Joe Flaxman. The comic relief is good, and for this Miss Madge Palmer as Phyllis Wurzel, Mr. H. Woodin as Sam Flaxman, and Mr. H. Macio as Moses Solomons are responsible.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig. — Features of a novel kind are presented here this week in a programme of all-round excellence. *Casey's Court* is a turn full of animation, illustrating court life among the poor. Thirty smart juveniles sing, act, dance, and make merry in rousing style, and they are heartily applauded. The Sisters Morgan are attractive vocalists and dancers. As a double-voiced vocalist Geo. Tacius is unique; a welcome return visit is being paid by the actor-vocalist Herbert Shelley; James Stewart, "the tramp pianist," provides a diverting burlesque; an acceptable comedy turn is provided by Charles Lilburn; Gracie Graham, comedienne, contributes songs in taking style; a smart and clever turn is furnished by David Poole, ventriloquist. Great applause greets the Kauffmann Troupe of lady cyclists; and Max York's dogs are put through a wonderful performance.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—This week's programme is full of merit, and Will Lytton heads it with originality and genuine humour as a comedian. Yorkshire Tom follows with some clever mimicry; the Sisters Varley harmonise charmingly in their duets; repeated encores reward the clever Æolians for a pot-pourri act of song and dance; Kit Keen is a capital coon comedian; and in a burlesque on palmistry Jack and Evelyn are smart; Lola Patey is a dainty comedienne with a sweet voice; a clever and artistic musical entertainment is submitted by Les Frasettis; Frances Haskell with new illustrated songs is retained; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some interesting new films.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Charles Frohman's company is here this week with *The Little Father of the Wilderness* and *The Mountain Climber*. In the former Mr. Huntley Wright imparts great tenderness and emotion to his enactment of Père Marlotte, and is ably supported by Mr. W. B. Staveley (Frère Gregoire), Mr. Eric Maturin (Louis XV.), and Mr. Leslie Carter (Chevalier de Fontenac). In the latter piece Mr. Huntley Wright keeps the house rippling with laughter by his clever and highly amusing portrayal of Montague Sibsey. Miss Kate Mills is admirably suited as Mrs. Sibsey; Miss Christine McGill and Miss Dora Barton are charming representatives of Sibsey's step-daughters, Alice and Betty, whose lovers find capital exponents in Mr. Montague Elphinstone (Dr. Charles Midgham) and Mr. Eric Maturin (Arthur Lydbrook). Others deserving praise include Mr. W. B. Staveley (Samuel Midgham), Mr. Algernon Newark (Oscar Rheinthaler), Mr. Leslie Carter (Sepp Reinthaler), Miss Ivy Hertzhog (Lena), and Miss Amy Thomas (Mary). Both pieces are enthusiastically received.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs. Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company opened here on Monday with *The Still Alarm*, which was splendidly staged. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville gave a masterly impersonation of the hero, Jack Manley; and Miss Maud Warburton was charming and convincing as the heroine, Elinore Fordham. Mr. Cecil du Gue, as the villainous Jack Bird, acquitted himself admirably; Miss Hettie Zilwood was very successful as Carrie Wilber; Mr. Fred Osmond's Doc Wilber was well played; and Mr. Lewis Gordon was entertaining as Joe Jones. Other parts were ably filled by Mr. Tom Beasley (Willie Manley

Kimberley Boys, eccentric comedians, obtain appreciation; and the performance concludes with a display of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA, LTD — Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company is here with *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Miss Lizzie Montagu makes a great impression in the principal part of Lola Delaspierre; Dick Delver is well played by Mr. George C. Doughty; Miss Ida Mackay capably sustains the part of Doris Fane; Abney Stone is well played by Mr. Archie Halsley; and Mr. Will Skelton as Simkins, Mr. Frank Davies as the mad actor, and Miss Alice Mattin as Peggy are entrusted with the comedy business. Mr. Herbert J. Walton cleverly portrays Adonis Tightfit; and Harold Trevelyan and Horatio Fane are in the capable hands respectively of Mr. Edward E. Louis and Mr. A. Balfour Mackay.

BURNLEY.—VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Empire Vaudeville company continues to attract good houses here this week, and the pictures are fully as entertaining as last week. Miss Violet Ashcroft has had a flattering reception for her songs; George Edney is a good descriptive vocalist; and Elton and Elma, comedy bar performers, are very clever; Mlle. Von Etta gives a pretty and mysterious quick-changing performance.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The most sensational turn here this week is that of Juno Salmo, the "Golden Mephisto," who is on a return visit. The Matweef Hugoston Troupe of Russian singers and dancers are very acceptable; Ruby and Laws in a sketch, *Cora's Visitors*, cause merriment; as also does Mat Wilkinson's comedy sketch, *The Registry Office*; Master May, boy soprano, is warmly encored for his very tasteful singing; the Sisters Lytton, duettists, sing charmingly; and Violet Beatrice, vocalist, is well received.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Culcen; General-Manager, Mr. Jas. E. Culcen.—There are good attendances here to witness Mr. Will White's company in a Western drama, *The New World*.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—Mr. J. H. Clyndes is presenting *A Royal Revenge* to appreciative audiences. As a soldier of fortune and afterwards Prime Minister of Spain, Mr. Clyndes proves himself an actor of much ability. Mr. John Foxhill as Nicholas Vargas, and Mr. A. F. Dudley as Azan Ben Musid, are well placed; the King of Spain is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Herbert M. King; and Mr. Ellerslie Pyne also does well as Manuel Mondega. Mr. Wilfrid E. Brandon and Miss Celestine Brandon are responsible for some genuine fun; pathetic and gentle is Miss Enid Edoni as the much-wronged wife of Estevan Alvarez; Miss Annie Grattan Clyndes is effective as Cosa Casilda, a gipsy dancing girl; and Miss Grace Jones plays with intense feeling as Mother Maria Teresa.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—*Darkness* is being presented here this week by a strong company. The difficult character of Gertrude Hunt is admirably played by Miss V. St. Lawrence; Constantine Schwabe, the villainous millionaire, is capitally acted by Mr. Bonhote Wilson; Mr. T. A. Shannon is quite equal to the requirements of the Rev. Basille Gortre; and Mrs. Morton Powell is winsome in the part of Helena Byars.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The Kellinos head the bill here, and their performance, *A Fête in Venice*, is marvellously clever. Other turns include the Primrose Quartet, male vocalists; the Twin Brothers Dean, clever double dancers; Akbar, ring gymnast; Carl Muller, singer and dancer; the Brothers Ethairien, in a humorous sketch; Bella Leaburn, vocalist; and the Lovelaces, song illustrators.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—Mr. Frederick Ireland and "Enigmarelle" are here. Other items are Halma, juggler; the Brothers Lilian, acrobats; Stephen Blythe, actor-vocalist; Tennis and Lanne, character vocalists; Davis and Roberts, vocalists and dancers; and Cytosa, an artist's model. The usual pictures close a capital show.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company appeared here on Monday night in *On the Love Path*. Mr. Percy Hutchison was well suited as Arthur Taunton; Miss Lilian Earle is always welcome here, and as Charity Concannon she was most successful; Miss Hilda Honiss made a good Norah Concannon; Miss Margaret Marshall scored as Mary Concannon; Mr. George Mudie gave an excellent rendering of John Gupleigh; Mr. Towns end Whitling was capital as Denbigh Thrayel. The comedy was preceded by the laughable comedietta, *Why Women Weep*.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robt. Redford.—*The Night of the Party* is presented here this week by Mr. Geo. Stephenson's company. Mr. Leslie Holland, in the rôle of Crosbie, gives a satisfactory impersonation; Mr H. V. Surrey as Mr. Bogle is most diverting; Mr Geo. Stephenson makes an admirable Frank Frayne; Mr. Fred Rolph is exceedingly amusing as the dignified Flambert; Roundle is capably impersonated by Mr. George Sade; Mr. Alan Conard does well as Sir Charles Hampshire; and Mr. Coningsby Brierley, in the character of the City Alderman, acquits himself with much credit. Miss Vera Vere's bright and vivacious rendering of Paulina makes that little lady a tremendous favourite; Miss Evelyn Howard as Lady Hampshire presents a capable delineation; and Miss Evie Erskine (Gipsy Van) and Miss Maisie Jones (Mrs. Young) are two excellent exponents of their parts.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Bateman.—Mr. Lewis Gilbert's sensational drama *The Penalty of Crime* is staged at the King's this week by Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. L. Jackson's company. The production has been entrusted to a good all-round company, headed by Miss Lydia Donovan, who gives a powerful rendering of Elsie Norris, the convict's daughter. The accessories are very effective, and the staging seems particularly good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—Attracting full houses are Herbert Darnley's comedians, in the screaming skit on domestic derangement entitled *Moving In*. A clever equilibristic performance is that of the Messems; Chinko, the smart boy juggler, gives an entertaining turn; the Norman-Leonard trio provide a high class musical sketch, styled *The Itinerant*; Will Vokes proves a quaint eccentric dancer; and Morbay and Verity are remarkably smart in whirling dances. Lilian Warren, with her beautifully illustrated songs; Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, with their well-trained intelligent mule; and the bioscope, also contribute to the programme.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—*Are You a Mason?* is paying a return visit this week. Mr. Charles Maclona, who is again responsible for the production, has brought a capital company. Mr. H. Langdon Bruce is successful as Frank Perry; George Fisher is in the safe hands of Mr. Allan Pollock; Mr. E. H. Paterson contributes a comical sketch of Amos Bloodgood; and Mr. Percy Bell's Hamilton Travers is no less amusing. The mother-in-law is cleverly depicted by Miss Adelaide Grace; Mrs. Perry is delightfully played by Miss Mabel Younge; Annie and Lulu have two charming representatives in Miss Rita Ward and Miss Mabel Jowett; and the minor parts are particularly well placed. The piece is preceded by W. Lestoco's interesting little drama, *A Bad Penny*.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—A capital programme delighted an overflowing audience here on Monday. The chief attraction is Miss Nellie Wallace, whose quaint and curious "make-up," sparkling vivacity, and eccentric style create roars of laughter; no less successful is Mr. Julian Mack, a comedian refined, humorous, and distinctly witty; the Wilfords contribute a turn which is correctly described as marvellous; as a comedy juggler Frank Silvo is hard to beat, constant laughter greeting his every trick; Mr. Arthur Gill combines humour with a sweet voice; London Cameron contributes a smart spectacular magic act; and Henry Carlton, as Billy Shine in the successful sketch *The Window Cleaner*, is supported by a capable company. Vernon's Bioscope, with new pictures, concludes the bill.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Mr. R. Sylvester's Animated Pictures are drawing unusually large audiences here this week.

CASTLEFORD.—ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Cr. Hy. Masterman.—One of the smartest musical bills seen here is *The Major*, which is being cleverly played by Miss Ada Wallis's company. Mr. T. C McGuire gives a droll portrayal of the Major; Mr Harry Vernon is singularly happy in his clever conception of Jeremiah Stoney, his singing and dancing being exceedingly good; Mr. Victor Silverine is capital as George Goodman; Mr. George Whitney as Ezekiah Stoney pleases greatly, his quaint humour proving highly diverting. Miss Ada Wallis's smart and clever acting and good vocalisation in the rôle of Angeline Touchemup are very marked; Miss Lizzie McQuire as Mrs. Emma Gampney is effective; while Miss B. Vernon makes a charming Grace Gampney.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley. The Royal's audiences are being thrilled nightly by the many stirring incidents included in the story of *At Cripple Creek*, which is being staged here by Miss Ida Molesworth's and Mr. Mark Blow's company. Mr. Hilliard Vox is a great favourite as Joe Mayfield; Mr. Walter Thornton is powerful as Martin Mason; Mr. Will Hook is an amusing Reggie Harwood; Miss Daisy Carlton works hard as Maggie Mason; and Miss Vera Fordyce is a popular "Dynamite" Ann; while Little Freda shines as Little Tatto.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The most amusing turn here is that contributed by Ike Scott and Son, their skit upon life in the Navy being very popular; the Four Jumels score in a musical act; and Geo. Young, a blind collier musician, knows how to play upon the concertina; Lottie Siegenberg is back again in her quick-change entertainment; E. J. Sheldon scores with *The Language of the Whistle*; while Dorothy Veld, comedienne; Morris and Dalvere, in a speciality act; and Lambert and Hands complete the company.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Capt. H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Roars of laughter are created by the Wally Hoste Trio, who are assisted by a cleverly trained dog; other canine performers appear with Jimson, in his sketch, *The Burglar's Surprise*; the Dark Town Quartette are proving one of the finest coloured turns seen here for many a day; also in the bill are Lillian Travelle, soubrette; Chas. Sloman, comedian; and the Two Correllies.

CHESTERFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is appearing here in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. W. M. Cameron plays with force the character of Gabriel Garth; Mr. Clavering Craig gives a good account of himself as Duncan Bly; Mr. D. B. Watson is good as Jack Holyard; Mrs. Clavering Craig is effective as Mrs. Garth; Miss Mabel Coleman shows pathos as Lilian; Miss Winnie Donovan is a success as Mercy Merry; and Miss Maud Grey is an effective Violet Wilfred.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Sante.—Among the artists engaged here are the Comedy Four, in a sketch entitled *Matrimonial Bliss*; the Musical Lindsays; Miss Dora Leslie, baritone; and Burton and Trent, comedy duettists. The Bioscope also supplies a number of interesting pictures.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Charles H. Aguzzi is here this week with his company in *An Irish Honeymoon*, a piece containing many varieties, including the "La Scala" troupe of dancers. Possessing, as he does, a very clear tenor voice, Mr. Lyall Grant is well placed as Lord Bellville, a like remark applying to Miss Lillian Mayne, as Molly Molly, and these two sing some smart duets in capable fashion. Mr. Charles H. Aguzzi himself undertakes the part of the duelling Count, whilst the humour of the piece is ably sustained by Mr. E. E. Giles, jun., as Spinks, the valet; and Miss Madge Dunbar, as the chambermaid.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen. — The bill this week is capitally varied, some of the turns being of a distinctly novel type. The Eight Sunrays are a big draw; Hall and Wilson, treadle racing cyclists; Mlle. Cordite, lariat manipulator; and Fred Gilbert, musical equilibrist and ladder artist, are three most interesting items. Irene Meldon, dancer and comedienne, is dainty and extremely popular; and Fred Harrison, with his Chinee songs and make-up, is highly diverting. The pictures this week depict the humorous side of French conscript life.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Mouillot's company played here on Monday *A Message from Mars*. Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee as Horace Parker acted the part capitally; the messenger was impressively presented by Mr. William H. Brougham; Minnie Templer, in the hands of Miss Lily Lorrell was a delightful character; and the tramp was played by Mr. Bruce Lindley in finished style. *The Thunderbolt*, a sequel to *A Message from Mars*, by the same author, was to be played on Thursday.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble; Stage Manager, Mr. Lewis Toland.—The programme here this week is capital. Rappo and Ella, equilibrists and acrobats, contribute a clever turn; Harry Maynard, comedian, is well received; Lillian and Vera, as rifle and pistol shooters, gain hearty applause; Cussac Talma, assisted by Mlle. Ivonne de Forge, as illusionists, are most entertaining; the Everiton-American Spinning marvel is the best seen here for some time; and the Four Charles's, as jugglers, and in a pot pourri act, are clever artists; the Sagers, in a comedy act; and David O'Leary, Irish jig dancer, also contribute. The popular manager took his benefit on Wednesday night.

COVENTRY.—THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—An excellent programme here includes: Peggy Pryde, who is very popular; Bobb Hutt is an excellent eccentric comedian; Harry Tate's company gives the laughable interlude *Motoring*; Miss Nellie Farrel is well-received as a singer of Irish songs; Miss Lilly Lasser is a capital comedienne; Lloyd Morgan, descriptive vocalist, Curtis and Vanity (American Comedy Duo), and Rob. Gilmore, comedian, also contribute, and an exellent set of animated pictures is a further attraction.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—A great attraction this week is provided by a visit of the Ian Maclaren Repertoire company. It would be difficult to give too much praise to Mr. Ian Maclaren for his fine rendering of the title rôle in Hamlet. He is supported by an excellent company, chief amongst whom are Mr. Aubrey Mather as Claudius, King of Denmark, Mr. Gordon Phillott (Polonius), Mr. Francois Cellier, jun. (Laerteo), Mr. Wilton Ross (Horatio), Miss Glossop Harris (Gertrude, Queen of Denmark), and Miss Gertrude Gilbert (Ophelia). *As You Like It* was given on Tuesday, *The Merchant of Venice* on Wednesday, *Othello* on Thursday, and *Romeo and Juliet* on Friday

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—This week we have Berg's Dramatic and Variety Company here. One of the principal items is an episode entitled *Found Faithful*, by Will T. Burgess and company. Mr. W. T. Burgess takes the parts of Walter Lee and Ernest Scot very successfully; Mr. H. Shaw impersonates Mr. T. Fairchild in a natural manner; and Mr. W. F. Rogers makes a good Detective Jones. In the variety part of the show there are several capital turns, notably Unity Vezzy's cake-walking poodles and performing dogs, and Jesse Ricardo in his comedy conjuring feats; Alf Berg is the star of the show in his weight-lifting performance. He is ably supported by Grin and Bearit, the Quarrelsome Couple, who cause lots of fun; Clara Urwin, who dances prettily; Alec Alexander, who has a good voice; Mlle. Ena, Miss Gertrude Martine, and Wambo.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Variety is again the order of things here this week. Will Onda and company, acrobatic comedians, are a draw in their novelty turn, *The Motor Maniac*; Achilles gives a marvellous performance of heavy-weight lifting; Gillin, ventriloquial humorist, is witty and smart; Will McIvor, vocalist, sings in excellent style; Wallace Whitney, eccentric and character comedian, is appreciated; Publo and Cropp, sand dancers, are a good turn; and others in the bill are Beattie Foster, low comedy artist, and Wee Jessie in a song and dance. *Dick Turpin's Ride to York* is shown on the Edison Bioscope.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—*Claudian* is being creditably staged here this week. Miss Lily C. Bandmann wins sympathy as Almida; Miss Gladys Frank Harvey speaks her lines with dramatic effect as Sabella; Miss Rose Webster is sincere as Serena; Miss Carlotta Anson is a vivacious Edessa; and Miss Marie Florence does well as Hera. Mr. William Maclaren is quite suited to the rôle of Claudian; Mr. Wilson Howard acts with force as Thariogalus; Mr. Chas. T. Chaloner is very droll as Belos; Mr. George R. J. Austin gives a powerful rendering of Agazil; Mr. Weston Hubbard is good as Alcares; Mr. Edmund Grogan scores as Theorus; and Mr. A. G. Carr's impersonation of the Holy Clement deserves praise.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. John F. Preston's company opened here on Monday in *Lady Godiva*. Miss Josephine Colona gains much sympathy in the title rôle; Miss Gwen Stewart is excellent as Lady Aldyth; Miss Edith Loraine is commendable as Elfrida; Mr. Clifford Marle deserves a good word as Leofric; Mr. James Duncan does justice to the rôle of Algar; Mr. Ernest Hamilton is clever as Unwolf Unwolfson; Mr. J. Monkhouse is amusing as Robin Shackleton; Mr. Leslie Lingham is admirable as Edgar; and Mr. F. B. Woulfe acts with much resource as Tom of Coventry.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—An attractive programme is giving general satisfaction here. Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas are warmly received in the neat sketch, *Her Birthday*; the Montague Bros. are smart in an acrobatic act, *The Sculptor's Dream*; the Sisters Meredith, duettists and dancers, create a furore; Leonard Mortimer's combination in the sketch, *The Final Scene*, makes a big hit; Harry Anderson is a pleasing vocalist; Arthur Pearl is a quaint comedian; Fred Karno's company bring down the house in the sketch, *Mumming Birds*; and Fred Herbert, vocalist, and Les Sprays, dancers, are also billed.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The clever variety company here included Captain Max Gruber, with his wonderful performing elephant, horse, and pony; Carl Mysto, the Handcuff King, was another star turn; Frank Cumminges gave a neat sand dance; Harry Nelson, the Tyneside comedian, fairly convulsed the audience; the Revell troupe, in their pantomime absurdity, *Mischief*, are clever; Tom Collins, comedian; Beatie Kent, comedienne; and Zaro and Arno, in their comedy bar act, also contributed.

DARWEN. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robinson.—Miss Gwennie Harcourt and company are appearing here this week in *Current Cash*. Miss Harcourt presents a fine portrayal of Delia Challis; Mrs. F. Brewster is capital as Grace Milton; as is also Miss Ducie Sanderson as Sybil; Mr. Chas. Seguin is excellent in the dual rôles of Mark Milton and One Eye; Mr. John Macfarlane is good as Major Gordon Challis; and Mr. Richard Sullivan gives a capital impersonation of Harry Chafferton.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company is paying a welcome return visit here this week with *Sergeant Brue*. In the title-rôle Mr. Arthur Reynolds is highly successful. A remarkably clever and humorous performance is that of Mr. Charles McLagan, as Crookie Scrubbs, and Mr. E. Percy Rogers is first-rate as Michael Brue, the sergeant's son, his acting, singing, and dancing being all good alike; Mr. Arthur Stroud, as Gerald Treherne, is as successful as ever, and uses his admirable voice with good effect; Miss Lily Lingard gives a charming presentment of Lady Bickenhall; and Miss Eva Weigh is a delightful Aurora Brue; Mr. Henry Chichester is capital as Mr. Crank; and Miss Eliza Earlo is a vivacious Daisy. Other characters are creditably accounted for by Miss Aileen Macdonald, Miss Violet Ward, Miss Vera St. Clair, Miss Haidee Heath, Mr. Charles Sims, Mr. Clarence Napier, Mr. Arnold Webster, and Mr. J. F. Leighton.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—The Burmese Gong, presented by Max Sterling, the illusionist, is the attraction here this week; the turn is a truly wonderful one, and meets with hearty approbation. Harris L. Bell and Lily Pearl are paying a return visit with their successful vaudeville, *A Bit of String*, and are as cordially received as ever; Katie Marsh, in her original pot-pourri of drama and song, entitled *Grave and Gay*, is eminently successful; Sandy and Carl, comedians and dancers, are smart and attractive; Herbert La Martine is an entertaining comedian and novel dancer; Alberto, Australia's deceptionist, succeeds in mystifying his audience; and the Sisters Poole are charming vocalists and dancers. The Palace Bioscope is responsible for an amusing film entitled "The Servant Girl Problem."

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—Dr. Carl Herman, the renowned scientist, holds the boards here this week, and good business is the rule. Arthur Gilbert has quaint songs; Phillips and Merrit are full of smart sayings; Hyam Long is quite an old favourite; Miss Frederica's terriers show evidence of being well trained; Prof. Holt, ventriloquist, is good; and the Three Bostonians, juvenile artists, show much style. The Hermascope has several interesting films.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. G. Weldon.—The bill here is a strong one. The Zaracs top the programme, and their act is decidedly good; Arthur Royce is amusing, and the Sisters Brookland have much dash; the Ladderites add to their success by new tricks; and the Four Watsons are quaint; J. C. Morris, comedian; Willie Quinn, vocalist; the Venola Brothers, gymnasts; and the Harriscope are all attractive features.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—A variety combination is the attraction here. Lilian Gwado, lady gymnast, is pleasing, and a refined entertainment is provided by the New Hulmes, musical clowns; Miss Bessie Trams scores as a lady ventriloquist; O'Connor and Brady, Yorkshire comedians, are well received; and special importance attaches to the engagement of Miss Gertie Gitana, comedienne, who has already an enviable reputation here; Fields and Lawes are highly successful as comedy artists; the Dunlops do well as comedy cyclists, and a series of animated pictures conclude the programme.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company is here in *The Two Hussars*. Mr. Wilson Benge as Harry Alford submits a clever impersonation; Mr. Fred J. Webb shows ability in the rôle of Paul Villiers; and the same may be said of Mr. J. Stuart as Harry Maythorne and Colonel Manners. Mr. Louis Nanton as Robert Bunn makes use of many opportunities; Mr. G. Paradise wins approbation for his capable rendering of Sergt. McFinnie. Miss Lallah Price is a smart and captivating Mollie Cutts; and Miss Danvers-Smith scores a success in the rôle of Maria.

PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—On Sunday and during the week concerts have been given by Mr. G. H. Snazelle and party. Mr. Snazelle has proved himself a thorough artist, and in song, sketch, and story has won unanimous encores.

THE EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace Co.; Secretary, Mr. Chas. R. Stanfield; Manager, Mr. P. G. Wraith.—A capital programme is submitted here this week. Miss Ethel Dartford, a refined and cultivated artist, renders several items tastefully; J. H. Milburn gives a highly successful turn; Kitty Gresham sings prettily; a descriptive song is given in capital style by Bert Lytton; Nellie Navette, well dressed as usual, contributes several charming songs; Kitty Lytton, comedienne and dancer, is deserving of a special word of praise; and mention must be made of Jennie Hunter's smart and agile skipping-rope dance. A dramatic sketch, *Her Choice*, is well played by J. and Ethel Storey; and Lack and Ford, comedy acrobats, are favourably received.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The successful comedy, *The Lady of Ostend*, was presented here on Monday night by Mr. Laurence Brough's company. Mr. Laurence Brough's clever impersonation of Le Baron de Longueville won for him hearty applause, and Miss Daisy Cook displayed conspicuous ability as the Lady of Ostend; Mr. Henry Hampson as Dick Whortles was distinctly good and Miss Kate Milford was effective in the rôle of Dorothy Whortles; Mr. H. Gower May cleverly enacted the part of Toby Krockitt and Miss Eleanor Gilbart was a careful study as Matilda Carbury; Mr. Charles Groves, jun., made a decided hit as Joseph Cadbury and Miss Evelyn Ormonde was successful as Millie Grace. The curtain-raiser, *Margaret's Stratagem*, preceded, and was well received.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The three weeks' grand musical festival opened here on Monday night, when an excellent programme was presented. Miss Amy Castles, the Australian soprano, sang her vocal numbers with much expression and feeling; Mr. Charles Saunders, tenor, sang several items which met with warm appreciation, as did Miss Mabel Braine's rendering of popular songs; the reed band of the Royal Irish Rifles played some excellent selections.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—The boards are occupied here this week by Miss Hettie Jeffries' company in the military comedy drama, *The Curate*. The rôle of Dick the Trumpeter is played in a creditable manner by Miss Hettie Jeffries, and the part of Gilbert Westwood is ably portrayed by Mr. Whitmore Ledger; Miss Rosa Mervyn is successful as Mabel Verner and Mr. Arthur Mervyn is capital as the Rev. John Audley; Miss Winifred Stuart, as Katinka Vodsky, and Miss Agnes D'Argon, as Mrs. Muggs, are decidedly good; and the parts of Sergeant Snipe and Simon Peter Muggs are well played by Mr. Frank Stuart and Mr. Clifford Spencer.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—The Medleys are providing an interesting programme here this week, entitled "Mirth, Mimicry, and Music." Mr. J. H. Campbell's humorous sketches are well enjoyed and Miss Ada Cleveland executes some difficult pianoforte solos, which merit applause; Mr. Harry Reynolds is a capital baritone vocalist, and Miss Edith Blanchard sings several ballads in an accomplished manner. Mr. George Blackmore's sketches create a favourable impression, and the Bioscope pictures are also good.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The attraction here this week is Mr. George Gray and company in their sketch, *The Fighting Parson*. Rich and Rich, cross-talk comedians, are as popular as ever, and Elsie Robey's sketch, *The Slavey's At Home*, is well received; Fred Walker is a smart comedian, and Marco displays ability as a conjurer; Mr. Brian O'Sullivan's songs obtain considerable appreciation, and Venie Clements is a versatile artist of more than ordinary merit; the Empire pictures are up to the usual standard.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Here we have Sydney Bacon's combination in an exciting episode entitled *The Maniac*; Ray and Calden, in their amusing act, *Peculiarities*, score a success; as do also Stanley and Greenop, international banjoists; Harry Carmen, vocal comedian; Phinas and Aida, equilibrists; Madge Daly, comedienne; Johnny Worman, eccentric comedian; Cyclumina, in a cycle act; Daisy Lane, comedienne; and Jack McCormick, Scotch comedian.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The great Britt-Nelson boxing contest for the world's championship is portrayed here this week on the Bioscope. The picture runs for one and a half hours. The variety turns include Johnny Gamble, funny Scotch comedian, who has a budget of new songs. A comedy sketch is given with success by Doyle and Gibson; and the bill is completed by Dene and Dawson.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. William Mollison and company are again here with *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*. Mr. Mollison's fine character study in the part of Lachlan Campbell has ripened with repetition and holds the audience enthralled with its dramatic intensity. Miss Evelyn McNay is a sympathetic Flora Campbell; Miss Alice Francis is an excellent Kate Carnegie, Miss Josephine Woodward is to be commended for her acting as Margett; Miss Edith Blair Staples as the dairymaid Annie is successful; Mr. Alec F. Thomson is amusing in the part of the Postie; Mr. Allan Thomas gives a fine impersonation of Dr. McLure; Mr. Kendal Chalmers creates great amusement as Tammas; Mr. F. M. Paget is a dignified Lord Kilspindie; and the rôle of Lord Hay is in the capable hands of Mr. D. Chappell. Mr. Durward Lely is seen in the part of the Rev. John Carmichael.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—George Strenge, the Berlin Hercules, is challenging all comers here this week in wrestling. Allan, of Aberdeen, is also on the bill; Lady Julia, the remarkable ape, is seen in an interesting performance; Fred Howard is a ventriloquist of no mean ability; Kate Gourlay is a remarkably fine exponent of rag-time dancing; Isa Stirling, vocalist, is heard in a number of songs; J. D. Hayworth, Scotch comedian, scores with a funny recitation; Amy Bell, vocalist, and Vernon's Animated Pictures complete the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The British Empire Animated Photo Co. continues to attract. The pictures are very clear and are cleverly worked. Miss La Clair continues to be a strong favourite with her illustrated songs. A clever juggler is seen in the person of Chuko, who contributes a smart performance.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Albert Chevalier, assisted by a capital company, gave a matinée performance here.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Wentworth Croke's company is appearing here in the drama *The Christian*. Miss Grace Chalmers has the natural attractions which particularly fit her for the part of Glory Quayle, and in a long and trying part she attains much success. Miss Vashti Wellborne is a sympathetic Polly Love; Miss Molly Hayden makes a pleasing Mrs. Callander; Miss May Weir is an excellent Aggie; and the smaller parts are played by capable ladies. Mr. Frank Tennant works hard and well as John Storm; Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood gives a capable and polished performance of Lord Robert; and similar praise must be given to Mr. Jackson Wilcox as Drake. Mr. Charles E. Dering is a realistic Archdeacon Wealthy; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe an impressive Father Lamplugh; Mr. O. Marshall a lively Mrs. Lorrimer; and Mr. Bert Conway an effective "Faro" King.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Yamamoto and Koyoshi give a wonderfully clever balancing act; *Jane Shore* is well staged, Miss Edith Finlay's singing and acting being well received; Messrs. Parker and Parr are equally clever as singers and comedians; Zanfretta and Napio give askilful eccentric musical act; Mr. Walter Curtis evokes much laughter as a comedian; Miss Nellie Dunbar has a pleasing turn as a singer and dancer; Mr. Woolmer Young is in favour as a descriptive vocalist; Miss Doris Lind is an acceptable refined vocalist; and the pictures conclude the bill.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead. — Assuredly many comic operas, heralded by much praise, have come to Edinburgh without a tithe of the merit of *The Girls From Utah*, which Mr. Walter McEwen's company is presenting here this week. The music, by Mr. Walter Wadham Petre, is full of melody, the choral work being specially noticeable, and the story is of sufficient interest to give genuine entertainment to an audience. Mr. Fred Eastman as the landlord of The Miners' Rest, plays with great drollery, and contributes, as Jacob Henry Brewgood, another successful portrait to his amusing character studies. Mr. Harrison Brockbank uses his fine voice with much effect as Terence Rainford, and acts with force and passion; Mr. W. H. Powell's impersonation of Alphonse, Comte de Beaucoup, is an excellent piece of quaintly humorous acting; and Mr. Arthur Stigaine's portrayal of the pompous Sir Joseph Pickles is vigorous and breezy. Mrs. Bumble is played by Miss Florence Parfrey in a bright, exuberant style; and Miss Nora Brocklebank is very charming as Mildred, and sings with taste and expressiveness. Miss Kate Vesey as Suza acts in buoyant fashion, and dances with exceeding grace; and Miss Seymour Hodges and Miss Lilian Pollard are capital in smaller parts. Mr. Howard F. Crofton, too, deserves mention as Billy; his voice is of much service in the delightful quartette in the second act. Mr. Geo. M. Saker is a skilful conductor.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Messrs. Howard and Wyndham are presenting this week the romantic play entitled *A Queen Without a Crown*. The leading part, that of the Countess Mercedes Melrosa, is very capably taken by Miss Ruth Mackay. She has a fine presence and dignified carriage, which are of the greatest assistance to her in realising the character. As Queen Theresa Maria Miss Geraldine Olliffe is also most suitably cast, and brings out with much force and point the character of the royal lady. Miss Emma Rainbow, Miss C. Moore, and Miss Kate Kearney fill smaller parts with credit. The rôle of Rudolph, the young King of Balkoria, is played with a charmingly light touch by Miss Helen Grenville, who receives excellent support from Mr. Wellesley Smith as Dr. Daly, the King's Irish tutor; Mr. Eric Hudson, Mr. T. Holding, and Mr. S. Creagh Henry are also worthy of mention.

GRAND THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Fischer.—The popular success of *The Scottish Bluebells* has induced the management of the Grand to bring the piece on a return visit to Edinburgh. Mr. Peter Bermingham remains a tower of strength to the piece in his lively impersonation of Bailie Male; and Mr. Leon Sinkin, Mr. Harry Stuart, and Mme. Kate Sherry ably second his efforts. Miss Hettie Gale, Mr. Arthur Cartwright, and Mr. Clifford Morgan act and sing with their customary dash. After the performance on Saturday the theatre will close for the summer vacation.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hutton.—The programme here this week is of an agreeably diversified character. As a novelty in the mystery line the Mene-Tekel exhibition by Mr. and Mrs. Berob-Konovah is entitled to be regarded as the leading feature of the entertainment. Mr. James H.

Woman Hates. Miss Mabel Mannering gives forcible expression to Cora Daintry; Mr. Miller Anderson gives able assistance as Godfrey Lawton; Mr. C. Jerrold Heather as Lieut. Fred Rokeby makes a fine manly hero; Mr. Charles Herbert as Sir Henry Rokeby plays the old soldier effectively; Miss Maud Townsend as Marie Rokeby acts the afflicted wife with pathos; and Miss Violet Leal, in the child part of Nellie Rokeby, is pleasing; Miss Gladys Lloyd as Edith Rokeby being also good. The merriment of the drama is kept going by Miss Bessie Frank as Sally Potts, Miss Eleanor Papera as Mrs. Potts, and Mr. Frank Litchfield as Patrick O'Brien. A fine character, excellently played by Mr. J. C. Maine, is that of the American tourist, Colonel Hiram K. Vancutson.

Metropole, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—*The Branded Woman* is this week being presented by Messrs. J. Stillwell and Paul E. Teulon's company. In the rôles of Philip Maurice and Zarks, Mr. J. Stillwell is very clever and displays much energy; the part of Marie, as played by Miss Katherine Barnett is a pleasing and painstaking effort; Mr. Edward Fryer as Leon Baron Hawber plays with appropriate intensity; as Louis Duroc Mr. Paul E. Teulon is prominent. Much amusement is supplied by Mr. Beckett Bould as Dick Brown and Miss Kitty McPherson as Jacqueline; Miss Zana St. George as Geneviève Laroche is meritorious; and Miss Hilda Townsend acquits herself well as Rudolph.

Empire.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Millie Hylton gives a charming turn here, assisted by a dainty little girl, Decima Brooke; Charles Baldwin's company provides lots of fun with the knockabout sketch, *The Bank Clerks;* the Lios Alfa Sisters give a first-rate trapeze performance; Horace Wheatley dances with neatness and agility, his patter being also full of quaint touches; and Hays and Suits, American dancers; Fred Russell, ventriloquist; the Clement Trio in a smart trapeze and comedy turn; the Sisters Jonghmans in vocal selections; and Booker and Narbis in a comedy sketch complete a well diversified bill of fare.

Zoo Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Maxwell and DuCane's company in a dramatic sketch, entitled *Dick Dare, M.P.*, is responsible for an attractive performance; and Seeley and West, instrumentalists; Otto Menotti, "the Stockholm Wonder," on a travelling wire; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Findon in a comedy duologue, *Two to One;* the Violas, in a performance of second sight; Mulvey and Miriam, in a comic sketch, *In the Studio;* Ian Colquhoun, a pleasing baritone; Amy Nelson, soprano; Bessie Arthur, comedienne; and T. E. Finglass, coon songster, are also among the attractions.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Ada Colley, the Australian prima donna, with the phenomenal voice, is delighting the audiences here with her wonderful singing; Michael Nolan's happy and tuneful ditties make him a big favourite; Lallah Selbini's bicycling and other feats are neatly and cleverly done; W. J. Churchill, with a smart style in song and patter, is highly successful; Arthur Slater makes a hit in his whistling selections; Lorne and Rene contribute a clever duet; Emma Ames takes well with her "Big Ben" Song; Harry and May Kent give an eccentric comedy turn; Harry Bancroft's descriptive songs go well; and Charles Williams, Scotch comedian, completes an attractive bill.

Palace.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The favourite comedienne, Lottie Lennox, was unable to appear here on Monday, and the management engaged Mr. John Tiller's Cocktails, eight ladies, who were very successful; John Ridding, Sidney Clifford and Co. are seen to advantage in a nautical musical scene; the sketch, entitled *A Rehearsal,* by Barlee and Smith, is amusing; Jack Henri, comedian, is a favourite; the juggling feats of Rebla border on the marvellous; and other members of the company inlcude: J. L. Barrett, vocalist; the Twin Sisters Anderson, singers and dancers; Grace Langley, serio; and Susie and Protti, dancers; new animated pictures are also shown.

Coliseum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—A strong programme is submitted this week. Miss Maude Courtney, a charming American girl, sings well; Lizzie Daniels is a clever comedienne; Brown and Leclerq give their humorous sketch, *Black Justice;* the Barowsky Trio are exceptionally clever gymnasts; Unthan, a performer without hands, draws and writes with cleverness; and Bella and Bijou, the Four Skandias, gymnasts; Ben Hur, strong man; and George Brooks, comedian, complete a most satisfactory programme.

Tivoli.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The programme here includes several artists of note, among them being Blanche and Powell, in a high-class musical comedy act; Miss Rose Elliott, vocalist, has a good reception; and other contributors are the Royal Temple Trio, vocalists; Fred Collins, comedian; Senor Diaz and his performing donkey; Stanley and Vandyke, sketch artists; the Three Prestons, comedy artists; Will Letters, vocalist; the Waldrons, burlesque artists; Clark and Cambridge, comedians; Dolly Berry, vocalist and dancer; Johnny Watson and performing dogs; and the Bioscope.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Mr. Chas. Majilton's company, in *The Trippers,* is here this week. Mr. Chas. Majilton as the Mystery causes endless mirth, and fills the stage in more senses than one. Mr. Jim Bond as McChuckle, a Scotchman, shows ability both as a comedian and dancer; Mr. Herbert Ashmore as Quinton Quibble makes a good lawyer; Mr. Fred Wilson is successful as Algie, a dude; Mr. Ben Storey, in the dual rôles of Slamit and Bill Bloggins, is amusing; Mr. Frank Majilton as the station policeman gives a good impersonation; Miss Nora Christie is excellent as Alice; and Miss Louie Stewart is noteworthy as Daisy. Miss Carrie Foy as Maud sings with much acceptance; and Miss Lena Wier is diverting as Lavina.

GLOUCESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea. —Messrs. A'Dell and Chabot's company in *The Romany's Revenge* is here this week. Mr. Evelyn A'Dell enacts the part of John Hope in a capable manner; Mr. Harry C. Robinson as David Renard is deserving of praise; Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Zamet the gipsy boy enlists sympathy by her clever acting; and Miss Eva Elwes is satisfactory as Lilian Hope, and also as Elspie, a gipsy; Mr. David Hamilton as Bobbie Bloom proves a popular comedian; and Polly Pluck is a prime favourite in the hands of Miss Fanny Wallace; Mr. Fred Green is capable as Archibald Heath; and Mr. Alfred Harvey is good as the callous prison governor, Caleb Kral; Mr. Chas. Leicester is effective as Warder Stone.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—An excellent company is presenting here this week the romantic play, *A Heart's Desire,* and the mystic drama, *The Sorrows of Satan.* In the first-named Arthur Hinten is effective as Lord St. Ives; Eric May is well played by Mr. Gerald Byrne; Mr. Graham Arthurs is admirable as the Hon. Bertie Beresford; and Luke Forrest and Davis McCullock, two Beechcombers, are capitally depicted by Mr. Travis Green and Mr. Frank Brunell. Gwendoline Ross is charmingly enacted by Miss Lydia Andre; the Hon. Elsie Beresford is sympathetically played by Miss Florence Zillwood; and Miss Leila Zillwood cleverly represents the half-caste Oiya.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—After some years' absence *The New Barmaid* is revisiting us. Mr. Alexander Loftus is now seen as Bertie White, and extracts the maximum of fun out of the character; Mr Frank Melroyd also creates much laughter as William White; the new and old barmaids, Ethel Joy and Brenda Louth, are charmingly played by Miss Maisie Ellinger and Miss Maude Nichols; Miss Violet Osmund makes a vivacious Dora Heather; Mr. Leslie Austin takes the vocal honours as Captain Lovebury; and the attractiveness of the comedy is added to by the pretty dances of Miss Lottie Stone's trio.

Curry's Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—George Bastow's mimicry of rural humour is very entertaining; Muir and Bartlett appear in a tabloid comedy *The Collar Stud,* which is very laughable; Sidney Lee shows especial skill in card manipulation; and the barrel performance of James Agustin and Annie Hartley is popular, the lady doing some remarkable somersaults. Others who contribute to a good programme are W. H. Clemart, ventriloquist; Ossi Souplessi, a smart contortionist; the Sisters Charnley, dainty dancers; and Sidney Dolf, a vocal specialist.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Harriett Vernon has fully maintained her popularity here. She has presented a budget of new songs, and her floral costumes have been greatly admired. Something novel in the way of spectacles has been exhibited by Alma, Abdullah, and Superbe. Their speciality *Electra's Bower* is an entrancing vision of illuminated effects, the special scenery employed adding greatly to its beauty. Smart equilibristic work has been performed by Francisco; and a musical and dramatic scena *The Little Colonel,* has been favourably received, as presented by Ernest Montefiore's company. Others taking part in the programme have been Walter Wallis, a lively comedian; May Moody, a brilliant piccolo soloist; Millie Payne, a vivacious comedienne; and Chris. Masters, a singer of nautical ballads.

GUERNSEY.—St. Julian's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robt. Perkins.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's répertoire company presented *The Fool's Revenge* on the 11th inst. That charming actress, Miss Laura Hansen, did well as Fiordelisa; Miss Ine Cameron displayed high-class histrionic ability as Francesca; and Miss Barbara Pigot ably portrayed Ginevra. Mr. A. Wilkie as Bertucco is responsible for real good work; Mr. G. Lambton merits warm praise for his Manfredi; Mr. R. S. Innes handles Malatesta cleverly; Mr. C. Rean submits an admirable conception of Serfino; Mr. J. Willoughby (Ascolti) and Mr. A. Gray (Ordelaffi) are excellent.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's talented company is here in the latest "smart set" play *The Walls of Jericho,* which is arousing much interest locally. A striking personality is Jack Frobisher, a character finely drawn by Mr. Herbert Bunston; the Marquis of Steventon is delineated in an admirable manner by Mr. Lawrence Hanray; Mr. Sydney Hamilton is an acquisition as Harry Dallas; as Lord Drayton Mr. E. F. Meads does sterling work; while Mr. George A. Brandram submits a clever study of Hankey Bannister. The Bertram Hannaford of Mr. George Percy is all that could be desired; while the rôle of the Hon. Wilfred Renton is in the excellent keeping of Mr. Douglas Heywood. The ladies in the cast contribute greatly to the success of this piece; Miss Florence Jackson makes a fine Lady Alethea Frobisher; as Lady Lucy Derenham Miss Molly Carton has a very congenial rôle, which she succeeds in portraying in good style.

Grand Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—Mr. Chas. Price's No. 1 company is paying a first visit with *The Shop Boy,* a rollicking farce, which allows plenty of scope for that versatile comedian. Mr. Harry Pleon, in the part of the supercilious shop boy, Sarsaparilla Smith.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten. — This week the Five Schiavonis, comedy acrobats; Rozare Bolleros; Allis and Cassati, comedians; Grace Merton, street singer; Bliss and Bliss, comedians; Tatten Hall, burlesque comedian; Bishop and Hanlon; and Will Van Allen, the marvellous tramp musician, constitute a good bill here.

HANLEY. — Royal, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Chas. Howard.—Adrian Hill and Robert Ayrton's company opened here on Monday with *A Gambler's Daughter.* Miss Adrian Hill as Mildred scores a distinct success, playing the part with telling effect; Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe is a most successful heavy man, his interpretation of Brand being most praiseworthy; Mr. Victor Millward is seen to advantage in the dual parts of John Grant and his son Jack; as Desmond O'Dare Mr. Ayrton is excellent; Solomons is well played by Mr. Alfred Sanders; as the American capitalist Mr. E. Kenyon Gray excels himself; and Miss Sanders as the dancing girl is well placed. Carmen Sancho finds a capable exponent in Miss Lizzie Gordon; and Mrs. Loyall does well as Aunt Zeb. The mounting is good.

Grand, Ltd. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—The management is to be congratulated upon the excellence of this week's programme. Chanti is a quick-change artist with very few rivals, and his dancing also being worthy of note; the Strolling Players contribute a turn which is both clever and refined; the Four Harveys, in their wire performance, are daring and clever; Stanley's Urchins provide an interesting performance; Monsieur Albany is a capable lightning cartoonist; Mlle. Du Roche sings well; and Nancy Renshaw is a capital bone soloist. Sam Mayo also entertains. The Madrali and Hackenschmidt wrestling match is shown by Urbanora, and is much appreciated.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Monday Mr. Norman Macowan and his excellent company opened here a return visit with a highly-finished performance of the costume play *Monsieur Beaucaire.* Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Norman Macowan for his presentment of the title-rôle; in action, look, voice, and gesture it was admirable; the austere character of the Lady Mary Carlisle was excellently sustained by Miss Marguerite Cellier; Mr. Murray Hathorn (Duke of Winterset), Mr. Arthur Somers (Major Molyneux), Mr. P. Ramsey Forman (Capt. Badger), Mr. Leonard Laurence (Beau Nash), and Mr. Hans Schlesinger (Marquis de Mirepoix), were all praiseworthy. On Tuesday *A Soldier of Fortune* was played for the first time in Hastings, and was well received.

Hippodrome, Theatre of Varieties.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Matham.—Mr. Russell Carr, the society ventriloquist, is highly amusing; the Wilton Heriot Trio is another much appreciated turn; the coloured vocalist, Mr. W. H. Downes, possesses a good voice; Miss Jessica Grace, burlesque actress, scores a success; Mr. Joe O'Gorman is a special favourite; and a remarkably realistic scene of Hampstead Heath is introduced by Mr. Joe Elvin's company, with all the laughable and interesting incidents of a Bank Holiday Miss Edie Anderson also entertains.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter. — Mr. Thomas Sidney and company are appearing in *Leah Kleschna.* The criminal Kleschna is finely embodied by Mr. Sidney; Leah finds an ideal representative in Miss Aimée de Burgh; Mr. Percy Rhodes is a manly Paul Sylvaine; Schram is well taken by Mr. Cecil Klein; General Berton is a dignified performance by Mr. Charles Pitt; and Mr. Ernest Owttrim as Raoul Berton submits a capital character-sketch.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—A drama with the somewhat lurid title *The Price of Her Soul* is here for the week, played by Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company. There are some strong situations to which full justice is done by Mr. John B. Shinton as the resourceful Lord Rolfe Mandeville; Mr. Annesley Hely as the scheming Ivan Skoboloff; Miss Mona Gray as the jealous Olga Lavonitz; and Miss Ada M. Ryder as the much-tried Countess Inez Steinmetz. The humour is judiciously contributed by Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy; Miss Tina Frank as Polly; Mr. Wilfred Compton as Algy Fraser; and Miss Ada Arnott as Lady Jemima.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson. —The bill is headed by the clever and energetic Ben Mohamed troupe of Arab tumblers. Also here are Miss Florence Hill, serio; the Cestrian male quartette of glee singers; Atroy, juggler and hoop manipulator; Viola, lady instrumentalist; Frank Leon, comedian and a clog dancer of the highest capability; Miss Lizzie Kirk, comedienne; Mr. Chas. Vandyke's company, in the laughable sketch *Sensations;* and the Hippodrome pictures.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Junius Booth, supported by a powerful company, under the direction of Mr. H. G. Griffin, is here this week with an excellent adaptation of Dumas' story, *Monte Cristo.* Mr. Booth is the Count of Monte Cristo, a character for which he is admirably suited. He is ably seconded by Mr. E. Howard Templeton, who enacts the dissimilar rôles of M. Nortier and the Abbé Faria with equal success; the crafty Baron Dangiers is cleverly presented by Mr. Alfred Terris; and Mr. Walter Uridge as M. Villefort is also responsible for some good work. A forcible rendering of Fernand Mondego is given by Mr. Laurence Grove; whilst Mr. Chancey Morris as Caderousse, and Mr. A. T. Gullifer as Lieut. Albert de Morcef, are adequate representatives. The ladies parts are efficiently played by Miss Joan Ellis as Mercedes, Miss Doris Regan as Sophie Dangiers, and Miss Kate Maynard as La Caronte.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*East Lynne,* presented by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company, opened the dramatic season at this theatre on Monday night, when the smoking licence, which was granted a short time ago, was taken advantage of for the first time. Miss Julie Kennard gives an artistic portrayal of Lady Isobel, and plays with all the necessary passion and pathos; Mr. Alfred Beaumont creditably acquits himself as Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Eric Mayne gives an excellent representation of Francis Levison. Mr. Spencer Goodwin is a capable Lord Mountsevern; Mr. C. C. Gratton is good as Justice Hare; as also is Mr. Campbell Goldsmid as Richard Hare; and Mr. Cyril Hayward makes a capital Lawyer Dill. Miss Ethel Russell is seen to advantage as Lady Mountsevern; Miss Violet Thorold is very successful as Barbara Hare; and Miss Ethel Hardacre is quite at home in the part of Cornelia Carlyle; the character of P.C. Bullock is rendered by Mr. Alfred Tate in most amusing style.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. George Morton. — *Man's Enemy* is being played here this week by Mr. John Power's company. Mr. Norman A. Overton cleverly fills the leading rôle of Harry Stanton; and the part of Sarah Drake is admirably taken by Miss Daisy Halling. Mr. Power contributes a sound performance as Tom Drake; Mr. Cecil Vernon Proctor looks and acts well as the Rev. Father Lisle; Mr. Edgar Thorne is a commendable General Stanton; Miss Amy Rudd makes a pleasing Grace Lisle; and Miss Clara Reid is smart and amusing as Polly Harris.

The Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Mike S. Whallen tops the bill here, and makes himself a big favourite; Harry Weldon also hits the taste of the audience; Guy Ryder, boy whistler, makes a success; Mignonette Kokin is a new turn that is likely to become popular; Ernie Mayne and Fred Lincoln provide humour; Flo Deighton is a lady with a good voice; the Raies dance with good effect; the Warsaw Brothers are an excellent turn; and also appearing is the Albert and Edmunds troupe.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—The Eight Lancashire Lads provide an excellent singing and dancing act; great fun is caused by Harry Tate's golfing company; and Fyne and Hurley are big favourites. Billy Williams is smart; Sibb and Sibb are good in a gymnastic act; the Sivrons are clever entertainers; and other turns include Mlle. Haydee, in a miniature vaude ville entertainment; and Flo Hilton, male imper sonator.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—A variety company is in possession this week. Fred Millis, ventriloquist, with his entertainment entitled *Laughter Land* is a great success; Lazern, the illusionist, is rewarded with a good reception; Gertrella, gymnast, in an act entitled *In Cupid's Garden* exhibits marked ability; the Stavordale Quintette gain well-earned applause for their clever musical act; Miss Jessie Yashio uses her well-trained voice with much effect in a series of song pictures; Marion Wills presents a humorous comedy fantasy in good style; Minnie Dorina, singing and dancing drummer; and Alfred Thomas, mimic and comedian, also give satisfaction.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Jennings.—*Facing the Music* has been played here during the week by Miss Dorothy Cacey's company. The chief character, John Smith, is in the capable hands of Mr. Charles Windermere; Mr. Wentworth Fane as the Rev. John Smith is very impressive. Other parts are well filled, including Mr. Knox Orde as the peppery Colonel; Mr. Harry Averell as Dick Desmond; and Mr. Henry Nelson as the detective. The principal female parts are impersonated by the Misses Clare Mansfield and Dorothy Casey, who both show themselves to be accomplished actresses. A word of praise is also due to Miss Mildred Hodson and Miss Evelyn Shelley in their respective characters.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—One of the most attractive turns of the week is the appearance of the Frantz troupe of acrobats, whose neat and clever feats are rewarded with unstinted applause; Cullen, Carthy, and Cluley contribute an amusing comedy sketch; Leslie H. Murray gains much applause as an up-to-date magician. Other items include the Sisters Marion, duettists; the Raymond Trio, musical artists; Haidee and Wallace Kingston in a knockabout sketch; Lily Morris, comedienne; and the Bioscope Pictures.

JERSEY.—Opera House.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's company is appearing here this week in *Two Orphan Girls.* Mr. Allan Wilkie is excellent as Pierre, whose big, bullying brother Jacques is finely interpreted by Mr. George Lambton; Mr. Clifford Rean gives a capital presentation of La Frochard; Mr. Alfred Gray is admirable as the Chevalier de Vaudray; whilst Mr. George T. Grieg as Picard is the cause of constant mirth; Mr. James Willoughby is decidedly good as the doctor; the two orphans, Henriette and Louise, are artistically impersonated by Miss Ine Cameron and Miss Laura Hansen.

KEIGHLEY.— Queen's Theatre.— Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—Mr. G. Carlton Wallace's company is here presenting the capital play *The Love That Women Desire.* Mr. David G. Noble is a conspicuous success; Mr. Hugh Mewburn capitally sustains the part of Richard Abingdon; Mr. J. O. Stewart is a good Squire Abingdon; Mr. G. Carlton Wallace sustains the part of Frank Hardy in good style; Mr. Hugh Wallace acts ably as the Rev. Frank Gathorne; the eccentric humour of Mr. John Hignett creates roars of laughter; Miss Lallah Stanhope effectively portrays Sybil; and Miss Alice N. Livesey is an attractive Madge Abingdon.

KING'S LYNN.—New Royal Theatre.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Herr B. Pareezer.—Mr. Bannister Howard's company completed its stock season here this week by presenting *The Colleen Bawn* during the first half, and *The New Magdalen* and *The Shaughraun* during the latter half of the week. Mr. A. Clifton Alderson in the rôle of Myles-na-Coppaleen in the first-named play imparted the humour and pathos which are so closely blended in that character; Mr. H. K. Ayliff made a dignified Hardess Cregan; the Danny Mann of Mr. W. H. Rotherham was a carefully conceived piece of character-acting; in the title-rôle Miss E. Anton Laing was successful; Miss G. Hastings Walton did well as Mrs. Cregan; and Miss B. Doyle made a fascinating Anne Chute.

LEAMINGTON. — Theatre Royal. — Lessees, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Through the kindness of the lessees, the permanent staff were allowed the free use of the theatre on Monday evening, when they had a benefit concert. There was a good house, and an excellent programme, which was contributed to chiefly by local talent, was submitted.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Ed. Cadman. —Mr. J. L. Shine and company occupy the boards this week, their programme consisting of the comedy sketch *Hogmanay,* and the diverting farce *The Member for Slocum.* In the former, Mr. Shine is very entertaining as the benevolent Scotch uncle, whilst his portrayal of Slocum's long-suffering and henpecked M.P. is diverting to a degree. Mr. Robert Grey, as the irrepressible Bill Smith, renders good assistance; Miss Nellie Clyde is successful as the nagging wife; Miss Maud Henderson does well as Mrs. Jeffs, the mother-in-law with convictions; Miss Betty Castle, Miss Blanche Colmer, and Mr. Alec Crichton are other clever members of the company.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—A very interesting drama, *Life,* is staged here twice nightly, and proves a strong attraction. The author of the piece, Mr. Herbert Barrs, is in the cast as Dick Lockhart, and gives a convincing personation of this important part; whilst able support is given by a good company, Mr. Arthur Pringle, Mr. Herbert Fuller, and Miss Maude Vincent being particularly prominent.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company is engaged here in the presentation of the powerful drama, *Proof.* The persecuted hero, Pierre Lorance, has an able representative in Mr. Gerald Kennedy; Mr. William Dexter acts with great power the villainous Count de Laval; and Mr. Wilford Bailey is no less effective as Chamboran. A charming heroine is forthcoming in Miss Lucy P. Tydd; a clever personation of Valentine goes to the credit of Miss May Grimshaw; Mr. H. Vincent Beechey acts the rôle of Count D'Aubeterre to the general satisfaction; whilst Mr. Terence Nerrey, Miss Phena Powell, Miss Dorothy White, and Miss Ellen Morris are also good in leading parts.

Empire Palace.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—In the attractive programme here the clever Protean actor, R. A. Roberts, heads the bill in the episode *Dick Turpin.* The Sutcliffe Family are expert in acrobatics and speciality dancing; and the Northern Troupe are also worthy exponents of the terpsichorean art. Tom Woottwell, the popular comedian, is having a successful week; a comedy sketch by John Alexander and company is well received; Sloan has a capital eccentric speciality; and Lily Langtry, liveliest of comediennes, scores a distinct success at every appearance. The Mackweys are to the fore with riotously funny acrobatic work; and Allan Hanbury, comedian, also appears. The Bioscope is a popular feature of the bill.

Tivoli.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Managers, Messrs. Chas. Weldon and Claude Shayler.—The popular comedian, Arthur Roberts, is here with a comic sketch, the presentation of which arouses much merriment. The billiard table pair, Kelly and Gillette, present the usual turn; Carlotta Levey, comedienne, finds great favour with a host of admirers; A. G. Spry is a clever comedian with an original style; Bishop and Vale are doing well with comic acrobatics; and the Cabiacs are also clever in a similar line. An accomplished actor-vocalist is seen in Alix Lukos; Nancy St. John, Queenie May, and Jenny Hartley are each entertaining with vocal items; and H. Brown, a coloured comedian, completes the bill.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Tom Foy is on a return visit, and backed by a clever company, submits a comedy sketch with huge success. Conway and Garland also make a big hit with smart business; the Katos have a novel automatic show, which is well received; the Sisters Kilner are smart in song and dance; entertaining comic duets are the speciality of the Brothers Karney; a pantomimic absurdity by the Five Foys arouses merriment; and success is also achieved by Vasey and Ramsey in an eccentric dancing act. Will Driscoll, comedian; and James Shingleton, vocalist.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—Mr. Beerbohm's Tree's company is presenting here *Oliver Twist.* Mr. William Mackintosh's impersonation of Fagin is a masterly performance; as Nancy, too, Miss Hutin Britton is to be highly complimented; Miss Gertrude Lang enacts the part of Oliver in pathetic and convincing style; Mr. Cecil A. Collins makes a realistic Bill Sikes; and Monks is well played by Mr. Ashton Pearse; Mr. Tom Macfarlane is very good as the Artful Dodger.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—*A Woman's Past* is being presented here on a return visit by Mr. A. Hamilton Warden's company. Miss Maisie Hanbury is particularly good in the part of Bessie; and others who also do well are Miss May Dallas as Dorothy Heath, Miss Gertrude Harrison as Clara Darrel, Mr. Horace E. Herbert as David Heath, Mr. Charles V. Sandford as Frank Delannoy, Mr. A. Hamilton Warden as Clement Harper, Mr. T. Oswald Cray as Uriah Craven, and Mr. T. Edward Evans as Bloater.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Hermann Melot, who tops the bill here this week, submits a conjuring turn of exceptional merit and deftness; Grell and Grey, the lawn tennis comedians, give a smart gymnastic display; the Hardinis are clever and entertaining in their musical act; Burke, Andrus, and Frisco create merriment with their novel turn *In Trafalgar Square at 4 a.m.;* the Serenaders, in song and dance, are smart; Con and Conrad, the quiet burglars, score a success; the Allisons, duettists, are good; Lilian Doreen is a successful vocalist; the Bioscope is depicting the wrestling match between Hackenschmidt and Madrali; and Rosa Loader, "the Slavey at the Piano," secures a gratifying reception.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The chief item in this week's programme is the playlet, entitled *His Birthday,* in which Mr. and Mrs. R. Royston-Dene and company well deserve the applause bestowed. The Elgars, speciality duettists, are very good; Lily Sharplin's mimicry of well-known people is well done; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is again to the front with some up-to-date films; Harry Briggs, triple-voiced vocalist, is a success; the Paragon Trio of speciality vocalists are well received; Arthur Stacey is a smart top-boot dancer; and May Fallowfield, soubrette, also entertains.

Pierrot Pavilion.—Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth are responsible for quite a new idea in providing amusements in Leicester by erecting a large tent in a field at the junction of Aylestone and Welford roads, where the Bohemians commenced their season on Monday evening last. The entertainment is a refined and enjoyable one, and is contributed to by Arthur Bearle, society jester; Charlie Neary, a favourite comedian; Edith May, a charming soubrette and vocalist; Ernest Hildred, descriptive and baritone vocalist; Gertrude Lytton, comedienne; and Marguerite St. Barbe, pianist and accompanist, all of whose efforts are heartily appreciated. The tent is prettily decorated with palms, lanterns, and flags, which gives it a most inviting appearance.

LEIGH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Dewhurst.—The first two nights of the week were allotted to Mr. and Mrs. J. Dewhurst for a farewell benefit. A long and varied programme was submitted, the artists including Mr. T. Pass, bone soloist and musical glass manipulator; the Misses Maddocks, singers and dancers; Professor R. Horrocks, ventriloquist; Messrs. A. Lee, T. Ward, F. Sumner, Bert Guest, vocalists; Mr. R. Tyldesley, comedian; Mr. J. Clark, elocutionist; Mr. L. Daintith, flute soloist; and Mr. W. Darlington, pianist.

LEITH. — New Gaiety Theatre. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Darlison.—An excellent company is here this week with an interesting musical drama entitled *The Betrayer.* The leading rôle of Murtough Renard is well played by Mr. Harry Harold; and the principal lady's part, Deela Kingston, is pleasingly filled by Miss Mollie George; Mr. Jack Houghton appears to advantage as Jack Reynolds, the hero; Mr. Mark Practice, in the character of Martin Doyle, a rollicking Irishman, contributes several songs; and shares with Miss Kathleen Russell, as Peggy Maloney, the musical honours as well as the fun of the lighter scenes in the drama. Miss Maud Elliott as Nellie Grey completes the cast so far as the ladies are concerned, and the additional male performers, all of whom give able support, include Mr. Norman Martin and Mr. Horace Mosely as Brian Feathersby and Lord Kenny, Mr. Maurice Jones as Ranesby, the smuggler, and Mr. H. Darnay as George Kingston, with Messrs. Percy Haigh, Thomas Hall, and Frank Clyde in the respective rôles of Inspector Keen, Dave Raleigh, and Paul Draga.

LINCOLN.—Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur. —This week's bill is one of the strongest of the season. Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies, sing and dance with a vigour and skill that evoke loud applause; Arthur Reece, comedian, makes a hit; and Bernard and Weston introduce merry patter and smart dancing; Harry Zether is another amusing comedian; and Barrington, musician, add to the interest of the programme with some trick and pianoforte playing. One of the big successes of the evening is Dorothy Porter, juvenile comedienne; McCann's Irish terriers and leaping dogs present a marvellous entertainment; Ross and Lewis introduce some amusing business; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux project interesting pictures.

LIVERPOOL.—Royal Court Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—The Compton Comedy Company have been here this week, with a round of charming pieces. Often as Mr. Compton visits the city on the Mersey, his welcome is always a hearty one, for the public are assured of refined and finished dramatic fare. The opening night saw the popular *Garrick* produced, with Mr. Compton in the title-rôle, and lapse of time would seem to have even improved the favourite actor's rendering of the part. Miss Mackenzie was a delightful Violet Gresham, acting with a grace and sweetness which earned much sympathy for the love-sick maiden; Mr. H. Crocker's interpretation of the Alderman was excellent; an admirable representation of the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut came from Mr. A. B. Imeson; and valuable support was given by Messrs. Arnold Lucy, G. W. Johnston, Herbert Pigot, and the Misses H. Hassell and Muriel Meek. *A Desperate Lover* was the curtain-raiser. The other plays of the week were *The School for Scandal, To-morrow, New Men and Old Acres, Money,* and *She Stoops to Conquer.*

Shakespeare Theatre.—Lessees, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—The distinguished American actress, Mrs. Russ Whytal, has been here during the week, with her capital company, playing *Clancarty,* the well-known work of Tom Taylor. The historical episodes of the troublous times of 1696 were set forth with dramatic effect, which held the attention of the audience to the end, while the scenery and dresses were in perfect keeping with the period represented. Mrs. Whytal, who was the main support of the play, exhibited a high degree of histrionic power in the rôle of Lady Clancarty, and earned cordial recognition. As the outcast, Clancarty, Mr. Claude King acted with a force and grace which contributed largely to the success of the drama; the Cardell of Mr. J. J. Bartlett brought out the excellent qualities of the able actor; Mr. Charles Combe provided a finished and telling portrait of William III., his general appearance and accent being well in accord; Miss Mabel Knowles caused a deal of amusement with her jealous Lady Beatty Noel; credit is due to Mr. C. A. White for his Robert Hunt and Clink, and to Miss Ada Marius who represented Mother Hunt; as Lord Woodstock, Mr. Arthur Hardy afforded satisfaction; and Mr. Leslie Palmer is to be congratulated upon his Earl of Portland. On Thursday a matinée was given in aid of the San Francisco Fire Fund, when *'Twixt Axe and Crown* was staged, besides a number of outside artists providing a concert.

Rotunda Theatre. — Manager, Mr. M.

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—Principal here this week are Paul Martinetti and company, with *A Terrible Night*, which is a particularly funny pantomimic sketch; Willie Bros. are clever acrobats, and perform some daring feats on the bamboo poles; Colby and May, the ventriloquist and the dancing doll, provide a novel and amusing entertainment; some capital long-boot dancing is given by the Three Cape Girls; a performance both clever and neat, on the rolling globes comes from the Jurgens Trio; Miss Marguerite Broadfoote sings several songs very sweetly; the Boy Glen is a juvenile raconteur with some good points; a novelty harmony duo are the Bros. Corcoran, the "musical shipbuilders"; and Ryder Slone has some good comic songs.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—*Sweet and Twenty* is being presented here this week by Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood Ingram's company. The Hon. and Rev. James Floyd is well played by Mr. Crelincourt Odlum; as Eustance Mr. Stephen Wentworth gives a very fine interpretation; Douglas is finely acted by Mr. Lionel Glenister; Mr. Gus Wheatman as Prynne is exceptionally droll; Miss Isabel Grey is a capital parlourmaid; Miss Ethel Weyburn in the character of Joan Trevelyan deserves to be commended. *In the Strand* is the curtain raiser.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. H. Gattey.—After a closure extending over three weeks the Theatre Royal reopened its doors on Monday, when the Royal Pierrots opened an engagement. Noteworthy amongst the company are the Granville Sisters, duettists and dancers; Geo. Raper, in some quaint songs; the Robin Sisters, coon duettists; and Crane and Crane, in a petite comedy. Macograf animated pictures are interesting.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. Howard Watson.—The following are the chief attractions here: Roma and Romani, clever instrumentalists; Los Granadas, with their bouncing speciality; Tom York, coster comedian; Ryder Davis, vocalist; the Evalos in a burlesque conjuring and juggling act "Mr E.," a smart raconteur, and Miss Rita Bell, Dutch comedienne.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra.—The latest visit of *Charley's Aunt* to Manchester, which occurs here this week, is notable more for the fact that the cast includes the author, Mr. Brandon Thomas, in the cast, than from any particular novelty in the performance. That the play is still popular, however, is self-evident, and the present company certainly manages to keep the fun going merrily as of old. Mr. Brandon Thomas plays Sir Francis Chesney with distinction. Mr. Stanley Cooke also must be praised for his accustomed high spirits in the rôle of Lord Fancourt Babberley. Others who distinguish themselves are: Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. Richard B. Mason as the companion undergraduates; Mr. Walter Beaumont as Spettigue; Miss Lena McNaughton as Donna Lucia; Mr. Sidney Compton as Brassett, a capital character-part; Miss Marion Ripley as Kitty; Miss Dorothy Deacon as Amy; and Miss Gladys Storey as Ella; all of whom deal briskly with their opportunities. The farce is preceded by *A Highland Legacy*, in which Mr. Brandon Thomas, the author, is seen in his original part of Tammy Tamson.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—A pleasant and picturesque performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Mendelssohn's music, was given here on Monday by Mr. Leigh Lovel and company. The long cast has been well chosen, and it is headed by Mr. Leigh Lovel, who presents a most acceptable rendering of Bottom, the weaver. Miss Mary Lovett, as Hermia, is a sufficiently attractive personality to justify the attention of Lysander and Demetrius, both well and passionately depicted by Mr. Alfred Goddard and Mr. Francis Chamier; while Miss Octavia Kenmore gives a pleasing impersonation of Helena. The remainder of the company contribute to the graceful movement of the play. Mr. Michael Connolly efficiently conducts the orchestra.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—The attraction here this week is Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company in *Lucky Durham*. In the title-rôle Mr. Edmund Kennedy is seen to great advantage; Mr. Arthur Leigh makes a decided hit as the Hon. Reginald Steighton; and good work is also done by Messrs. Benson North, A. E. Walker, George Jervis, W. F. Clitherow, and John Hartt. Miss Louise Gourlay is particularly well placed, and gives a most impressive performance as Mrs. Durham; Miss Phyllis Relph is a delightful Helen Vallerton; Miss Florence Dulhunty plays nicely as the Hon. Margaret Steighton; and Miss Frances Wolviston, as Lady Mountfallon, is good.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey present here this week G. Carton Wallace's successful drama *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey scores a great success as John Strong, and is supported in excellent style by Miss Laura Walker as Kate Strong, against whom the villainy of Captain Leo, in the person of Mr. Joseph Carter, is directed. Mr. Edwin Mayden is very good as Lucas Marlow, and Mr. Thomas E. Marshall and Mrs. T. C. Livesey work well together as Mr. and Mrs. Levey Parkins. Miss Maggie Edwards plays Ruth with sympathy; Mr. George V. Campbell displays comic gifts as Billy Twigg; and a remarkably clever child-actress is Miss Bertha Hanbury as little Harry. A capital wrestling exhibition is given in the last act by Messrs. Sam Livesey and Joseph Carter.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Gustave Fasola, the Indian magician, gives a remarkably weird turn here this week; and Leo Tell, the wonderful mimic, presents a capital show. Hinton and Wootton are seen in a novel act, Football on Bicycles, which is very smart; Wee Mona, juvenile comedienne and dancer, is popular; Alex Leo is an acceptable comedian; Raynor and Reece sing and dance well; and other good turns are Georgina Leonard, comedienne; Greener, character and dramatic vocalist; and the Brothers Sheppard, two smart young comedians. The Bioscope depicts the race for the Grand Prix.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Miss Emily Huby and company present here Augusta Tulloch's sensational musical comedy-drama *The Convent Bell*. A very good performance is given, Mr. Howell Webb, as Pickle Pods, being especially prominent. Miss Emily Huby is vigorous and successful as Christine Valgrave; Mr. Richard Harris cleverly realises Casella, the steward; Mr. Ross gives a manly depiction of Philip Vautier; and equally satisfactory work is added by Mr. L. Clements as Jean; Miss Dot Russell as Suzette; and Miss Lily Basley Clarke as Marguerite. The action is much enlivened by clever vocalism and dancing, and nothing is lacking in the way of scenery and accessories.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent performance of *The Poor Must Live* is given here this week by Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's principal company. This includes Mr. Herbert Clifton, whose impersonation of Dick Sully gives him chances to exhibit his wonderful imitative vocalism; and Mr. Shaun Glenville, a popular and clever comedy actor, who presents a very funny delineation of Hooker-Holdsnitch. Mr. Harold C. Macartney is fine as the heroic Captain Harding (and afterwards as Donald Marshwood) and in the corresponding rôle of Dorothy, Miss Violet Hammersley is equally successful. Mr. Geoffrey Fulton is sufficiently sinister as the villainous Clifton Manville; and others who act cleverly are Mr. Charles O'Connor as the Earl; Mr. Arthur Trail as Sam Sully; Miss Marguerite Thorne as Sal; Miss Alice Buckland as Moya; and Miss Olive Fulton as The Vengeance.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. C. Watson Mill and company are here this week in the picturesque melodrama *A Wrecker of Men*. The story is that of a modern Delilah, and is consistently well told by its author, Mr. C. Watson Mill, who is seen in the strong character-part of Jim Murley, the slogger and burglar. The central rôle that of Risca Mallison, a woman with a past, is played admirably by Miss Rosalind Tate. Mr. Alfred Maurice and Miss Cissie Podmore sustain respectively, and with distinction, the heroic parts of Guise Strange and Doris Melville; and Mr. Milner Noble affects the villain, Pharosaphus by name, with vigour and skill. Among the minor parts, Mr. Henry Rutland's efforts as the Mummy and the Jew, and Mr. Norman B. Cannon's depiction of Eric Melville, are to be noted.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Rhodes-Parry.—George Lashwood, the well-known vocal comedian, tops the bill here this week, and proves a big attraction. The Four Kweeries present a startling illusion-act; Dent and Harris make a big hit in their burlesque comedy-act *Mary and the Squire;* Bayne and Hope present their excellent episode *An Emperor's Divorce*, and are well received; N. T. Kioto, a marvellous Japanese equilibrist, contributes a highly-finished performance; Mdlle. Elder appears in a series of beautiful and artistic poses; Keith and Merson are clever and amusing in their acrobatic absurdity; Charles J. Johnson, the Black Diamond, dances well; Daisy Mayer is good in characteristic coon songs and dances; and the Palace Pictures, as usual, are good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Principal honours are divided here this week between Ethel Arden and George Abel and company in their mirthful sketch *Three of a Kind*, and the Bros. Egbert, "the hapy dustmen," who give thpeir back-garden sketch in capital style. Ando's Happy Little Japs provide a wonderful acrobatic show; Walter Bellonini exhibits extraordinary skill in juggling; Constance Bellamy sings a ballad in very tasteful and accomplished fashion; Ernest Heathcote, comedian, is eccentric and amusing; Gracie Moore is heard pleasantly in a couple of illustrated songs; and Bert Byrne is quite a success as a character comedian. On Monday night, Rosie Coleman, a clever sand-dancer, appeared in the place of Lilian Elfreda, mimic. The pictures on the Bioscope are excellent as usual.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Johnnie Schofield and J. C. Piddock, and a capital company, head the bill here this week in a delightful musical comedy, entitled *Missing, or The Light of Day*, and are greatly appreciated. Another successful and laughable turn is provided by Wal Pink and Jeff Vendom's company in that dumb show absurdity *The Daybreakers*. The Hadj-Abdullah Troupe of Arabs go through a sensational acrobatic performance; Ferguson and Mack are first-rate eccentric comedians; and good turns are also offered by Rezene and Robini as the Policeman and the Baby; Rosie Coleman a neat sand-dancer, and Harry Conlin, comedian, with smart patter. Mr. Thomas grandly sings "Hello. All right. Good-bye," an illustrated song, aided by the choir, who also render Dudley Buck's "Hymn to Music" excellently. The Bioscope Pictures are amusing.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The bill is headed here by Bransby Williams, whose histrionic expositions of character are marvellously well done, and hold the audience spell-bound. In quite a different view, Dale and O'Malley, comedians, are also notably popular. The Crystals dance cleverly together; Blanco White, comedian, gives an acceptable turn; Fanny Erris, character comedienne, displays agreeable talent; R. W. Heney provides a clever burlesque entertainment at the piano; Ray Maskett, comedienne, sings and dances well; Mark Merry, comedian, makes a hit with his examples of mirthful melancholy; and a sketch called *Counsel's Opinion* gives opportunity for Clarisse Heney (a child-actress), to exhibit a most engaging and graceful talent for comedy.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. *The Drama of Life* is presented here this week in place of the usual variety show. Mr George M. Newall, as Harry Beech, has a difficult rôle to play, but he does it with marked success; Mr. Edward M. Hamilton is good as Walter Beech; and Messrs. H. Maxwell Payne, Walter Steele and Edward Van Biene give intelligent support. Miss Kate Hallam in the trying part of Sylvia Beech is excellent; Miss Marie Pardy plays Master Robert Beech nicely; and also, incidentally, sings very sweetly; and Miss Nellie Birchenough makes a capital character-study of Betty Black a lodging-house keeper. Mr. Harwood Roberts, as Sir Dobson Wilde, is responsible for most of the comedy, and assisted by Miss Florence French, as Lady Wilde, is most amusing. The scenery is much above the average. Between the acts some capital animated pictures are shown.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*Codology*, a burlesque, and exposure of hypnotism is given here this week by the "Great Hughes," who succeeded in amusing his audience, and gains hearty applause. The Boston Twins are successful in their singing and patter; Stylo is a clever hoop manipulator; Tait is a quaint comedian; Leo Trainor, a rollicking comedian, is well received; Silvester and Sansome Trio give a farcical sketch, entitled *The Maiden and the Tutor;* Ada Cleveland sings pleasingly; the Dainton Girls render duets acceptably; Harry Lee sings well; and some exceptionally good pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME (HULME). — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*McKenna in Love* is the chief attraction here this week, Edwin Garth and Joe English being particularly successful. Charles Bignell is well received in up-to-date songs, and H. J. Kisbey, the "Call boy," gives a good turn; clever banjo solos are contributed by Farr and Farland; Paul De Lil is a neat sleight-of-hand performer; Gertrude Mason is a sweet-voiced vocalist; and Chas. Hulbert is a popular ventriloquist. The Bioscope pictures "The Young Tramps" are very funny.

RUSHOLME AL-FRESCO PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Leslie's Comedy Cadets are the attraction here this week, and include the following capable artistes: Helena Cecile, a smart entertainer; Iris Banfield, soubrette and neat dancer; Arthur Hickman, who sings well; Walter Gordon; Charles Browne; Sidney Leighton, a capital mimic and ventriloquist; and last but not least, Jim Pullin, a favourite comedian.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—Marie Elsie, who tops the bill here, finds admirers; King Leo, ventriloquist, is applauded; Jay Noble, the original tramp, causes much amusement; Magna, in her classical poses, gives an interesting turn; the Rushforths in their illustrated songs, are appreciated; and Roden, comedian and cyclist; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope are also attractions.

MARGATE. — HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—There is another very good variety show here this week, the contributors to which include Flo Somers, comedienne and dancer; Chas. Woodward, character comedian; the Dunlows, clever acrobats and equilibrists; the New York Four, pleasing comedians and vocalists; Frank Dunlop, patter comedian; and Frazer and Mac, in their *Musical Mixtures*. The Hippodrome Pictures are, as usual, very good.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—*Sergeant Brue*, presented by Mr. E. Lockwood's capable company, is attracting large audiences here this week. Mr. J. Harold Carson keeps the house in continual good humour in the title rôle, and Miss Gertie Fawcett is capital as Aurora Brue. The quaint humour of Crookie Scrubbs is well brought out by Mr. Albert James; Michael Brue has an able exponent in Mr. Frank Wilson, and Miss Heydon Dallas makes a delightful Lady Bickenhall.

METHIL.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Mr. Hamilton opened this week with the powerful drama *Drink*. Mr. C. E. Hamilton gave a capital rendering of the trying part of Coupeau; Mr. J. Hamilton was a crafty and callous Lantier; Mr. W. Henderson made the most of his opportunities as Gouget; and able assistance was given by Messrs. A. Ashton (Mes Bottes), J. Broadfoot (Basil, and André), and N. Moore (Pierre Colombe). As Gervaise, Mrs. Loydall was earnest and sympathetic; Miss E. Dukinfield played Virginie with considerable power; Miss A. Hamilton, and Mrs. Carrack were well suited as Fanchette and Phœbe; and Master J. Hamilton made quite a winsome Nana. The programme was changed nightly during the week.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. A. Melton.—Messrs. Alf. Northway and W. V. Garrad's company is this week presenting *The Prodigal Parson*. Mr. W. V. Garrad gives a highly capable rendering of the Rev. Tom Godley; Mr. Alf. Northway submits a vigorous interpretation of Enoch Jaggins; Mr. Frank Dallas supplies a capable study of Ben Jaggins; while Mr. Percy Dawsone is an interesting and humorous Phil Drive. Miss Bertha Kingston presents a sympathetic and cultured portraiture of Fern Godley; Miss May Grayce is successful in the rôle of Gretchen van Craus; the Radium Girls are graceful and pleasing dancers.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson. — Mr. Edmund Tearle's company is visiting Middlesbrough. *Virginius* was the attraction on Monday. In the title-rôle Mr. Tearle was seen to great advantage; Miss Esther Tearle as Virginia and Miss Mary Campbell as Servia were especially pleasing; Mr. Spencer Geach was exceedingly good as Claudius. *Othello, The Three Musketeers, Hamlet, Julius Cæsar*, and *Richard III.* are also in the répertoire.

OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*The New Magdalen* is being presented here by a company of accomplished artists, among whom Miss Lucy Wilson attains special distinction in the rôle of Mercy Merrick. Mr. Stanton Sharp gives a fine impersonation of Julian Gray; and Miss Jessie Winter is excellent as Grace Rosberry. Miss Mary Morrison does well as Lady Roy; and Mr. Austin Melford, jun., is effective as Horace Holmcroft.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. Rembges.—Tom Lenmore, the star turn here, has a great reception; Geoffreys and Benson are very successful; Jas. Willard and company's sketch *Did He Deserve It?* keeps the audience convulsed with laughter; the Great Haydas are clever acrobats; and Lily Flexmore, the flexible girl, is good. Daisy James, a smart and clever comedienne; and Mina Elmo also contribute.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf Graham.—A unique exhibition of ball manipulation is given by the Four Athos, a talented troupe of jugglers; the programme also includes Mason and Bart, an amusing pair of gymnasts; Chas. Serra, in feats of strength; Carr and Rose, a couple of clever vocalists; Mlle. de Rose, the lady baritone; and other popular entertainers.

MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. W. Davis.—A special production of *East Lynne* is the final attraction of the season here, the theatre afterwards closing for the summer vacation. A quiet and dignified Archibald Carlyle is found in Mr. G. Beresford Innes; Leveston, the evil genius of the play, is capably rendered by Mr. Edward Sorley. In the rôle of Lady Isabel Miss Rosamond Mayne Young proves herself to be an emotional actress of ability. Miss Macintyre as Cornelia Carlyle is exceedingly droll, and is ably supported by Mr. J. Barker as Justice Hare; Joyce is in the capable hands of Miss Corri; and little Willie is prettily played by little Rose Meredith.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sydney Cooper.—Mr. Frank Weatherby's company is this week playing *The New Magdalen*. Miss Frances Ruttledge, who impersonates Mercy Merrick, is an actress of considerable emotional power; Mr. Levison Lane plays with sincerity Julian Gray; and Miss Daisy Scudamore, as Grace Roseberry, is effective; Mr. Frank Liston does well as Horace Hulmcroft; and Miss Emmie O'Reilly makes a sympathetic Lady Jane Ray.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—The great attraction here is the American Bioscope, showing, among other pictures, the "Hackenschmidt *v.* Madrali" contest. Boswell's stage circus includes some clever ponies; Harry Bedford scores with his taking songs; and Bessie Featherstone is highly successful with the "Latest London Betting." The Holles and Goldman Trio are responsible for a bright little sketch, *The Little Charwoman;* the Morton Trio provide a good turn; the Six Lancashire Lassies give a clever exhibition of clog dancing; the Canary company create much merriment with their pantomime; and the Maples are successful in *How to Treat a Burglar*.

NORTHAMPTON. — OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—The second week's production of Mr. Milton Bode's Stock company is *The Unknown*, which is capably performed and staged. Mr. William Matthews is a capital Harold Merrybright; Mr. Scott Turner is excellent as the faithful Jack Salt; Mr. Frederick Harker in the rôle of Arnold Tyson is again well-placed, as is Mr. Fawcett Lomax as Dr. Brinkton; Albert Stormking is agreeably depicted by Mr. Louis Hector; Mr. Edward Swinton is an amusing Pat Mahony, and Mr. Harry Esden's pourtrayal of a Whitechapel rough is clever; Mr. Florence Creagh is charming as Bessie Merrybright, and Miss Daisy Stone is a pleasing Louise. The stage management under the control of our resident manager leaves nothing to be desired.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Mr. J. W. Hall is paying a return visit, and is again a popular success. Dora Martini is a graceful gymnast. Martine and Son, interesting song illustrators, are well applauded. Other contributors include Minnie D'Aubyn (burlesque artist), Jack Pleasant (comedian), The Danbys (vocalists and dancers), D. W. Watson (cornet and post-horn soloist), and Kittie Corrie (comedienne and dancer).

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*An Abandoned Woman* is the attraction here this week, and is being presented with great success by Mr. Harry Foxwell's capable company. Mr. Wolston Foster appears as Captain Seaton, and gives a capable rendering of the part; Mr. Bernard J. Leill does well as Phillipe and Malvoisin; and Mr. Nelson Ford is responsible for a careful study of Robert Saunders; Mr. George Gomley puts in some good work as Sir Marmaduke Seaton; Mr. Russell Bogue is clever as Paddy Boyle; and Mr. Darcy Kelway scores as Sammy Sharp; as Ninon Malvoisin, Miss Georgette Thierry is worthy of the highest praise, her excellent acting being greatly admired; Miss Lily Addison as La Celeste acquits herself in good style; Miss Ruby Romer as Sally Sloper is smart; and Miss Kathleen Magree does justice to the part of Eleanor Dean.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—Another good bill of fare is headed by Mr. Ben Harris's Nippers, who introduce a very clever act; the Three Darrells, society entertainers, have also made a great hit; and Mr. Cutris Leo, conjurer and juggler, is loudly applauded; Mystery Gauze is an excellent entertainer; the Rizarelis, lady gymnasts, perform some clever feats; the Recars, eccentric acrobats, have made a hit; and the Bio-Photoscope meets with its usual success.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION. — Proprietors, the Royal Pierrots Co.; Manager, Mr. Arthur Smethurst.—The Pierrots are still "booming," and the Pavilion is packed nightly. Miss Ada Hamilton, soprano, is very successful in her selections; Miss Madge Allan retains her popularity with her winsome presence and charming singing; Mr. H. Crossley is well received in his descriptive songs, and joins Miss Hamilton in a pleasing little sketch; Sabino, instrumentalist, affords the greatest satisfaction with his clever playing; Happy Atwood, a great favourite here, reappears this week, and, along with Barry Gilmore, has kept the audiences in an uproarious state of mirth with their quaintly refined humour. Mr. Glanmore Jones has proved himself as acceptable as ever in his new songs.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is this week presenting Sutton Vane's drama, *The Span of Life*. Mr. Sanderson Moffat as Richard Blunt obtains warm sympathy from the audience; and Mr. Walter Dale scores as Nutty Brown; Mr. R. S. Trelawny ably represents the part of Dunstan Leech; Miss Phyllis Hamilton is excellent as Kate Heathcote; Miss Kitty Russell is pleasing as Shrove Tuesday; and the Almo Trio, in their comedy three-bar act give a skilful performance, and their "human bridge" is much appreciated.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—Lily Burnand heads the bill, and success attends her songs; Mabel La Blanche is a pleasing ballad vocalist; J. M. Hamilton, tenor singer, has a capital reception; Oliver Conroy is an amusing character comedian; the Three Menriques are first-rate acrobats; and the four juggling Geraldos exhibit an astonishing performance; Abdy's canine hippodrome is an attractive item; Mlle. Marvelle also introduces her troupe of cockatoos and parrots. The Hippodrome Bioscope is especially interesting this week.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—*Sunday* was presented on Monday by Mr. Louis Calvert's company. Miss Emilie Polini essayed the name-part, and gave an admirable representation of this child of nature. The four sturdy, kind-hearted backwoodsmen, were ably interpreted by Messrs. William Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, T. Norman Walter, and Arthur Vezin; whilst Mr. Ernest A. Douglas sustained the part of Tom Oxley with credit; Mr. Cecil Duncan had charge of the rôle of Arthur Brinthorpe, and succeeded in giving a capital impersonation of the good-for-nothing spendthrift; Mr. Leonard Pagden seized all the opportunities afforded him as Colonel Brinthorpe, and rendered a good account of them; and Miss Rosalind Ross made an excellent Mrs. Naresby; Miss Muriel Pope looked and acted to the life the part of a nun. The cast is completed by Mr. Ernest Harrison as Abbott.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—A capital reception was given *The Streets of London* on Monday night. The rôle of the villainous banker, Gideon Bloodgood, was strongly and convincingly portrayed by Mr. Henry Moxon; sympathetic studies of Lucy and Paul Fairweather were given by Miss Edyth Goodall and Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie; a creditable interpretation of the miserable Mark Livingstone was supplied by Mr. H. Douglas Cottell; and Mr. Reginad Palgrave made the most of his opportunities as Captain Fairweather; Miss Octavia Noel embodied the unscrupulous Alida Bloodgood with marked ability; and the Puffy family were finely depicted by Miss Marion Armitage, Miss Helena Rigby, and Mr. Joe Bracewell; Mr. William Roxeby deserves congratulations for his quaint and amusing impersonation of the Badger, which he played in characteristic style. The piece was further lightened by the singing and dancing of the Four Fiorellas.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghton; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—There are two capital little playlets, entitled *Man's Enemy* and *The Mousetrap*, that serve to bring out the talent of Misses Nellie Murray, L. Sinclair, Winnie Hope, and Messrs. Alec Forbes, Graham, Woods, Frank Dalton, and Percy Lincoln, both pieces being received with much favour. The vocalism of Millie Howell is particularly pleasing; and Marie Neilson earns hearty applause for her dainty dancing. An interesting instrumental item, by the Hesse Soloists, is awarded praise; Will Farrell proves a popular comedian; and the patter of G. B. Dace keeps the fun moving; Pallister's American Bioscope is also an attraction.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Continuous laughter follows the ventriloquial sketch of Tom Edwards, than whom no more gifted exponent of the art has appeared here; the Russian Giant, Machnow, makes his appearance this week, rousing the keenest curiosity; a dainty and clever aquatic performance by the Finneys adds much to the pleasure of patrons; and the De Lucca Troupe of acrobats accomplish their difficult feats neatly; Beatrice Willey makes an attractive figure as she sings her charming flower songs; and Esta Stella vocalises spiritedly in coon songs; Starr and Leslie contribute an admirable exhibition of club juggling; and the "turn" of Ross and Grayson is remarkable for the marvellous piano-playing of the gentleman; Frank Leslie, comedian; and the American Bioscope complete an all-round excellent programme.

NUNEATON. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS COMPANY, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan. — This week a rich musical treat is provided by the United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert. *Faust* was chosen for the opening night. The title-rôle was well rendered by Mr. Gilbert, his numerous solos being enthusiastically received; as Valentine, Mr. David Fuller played and sang with good effect; Mr. Kneale Campbell's portrayal of Mephistopheles was largely responsible for the success of the opera; and the Marguerite of Miss Kitty Brownless was exceptionally striking, the intense feeling infused in the rendering of the "Jewel Song," and "The Prayer," in the last act, completely holding the audience; Miss Vere Visard was a charming Siebel; and Mr. H. Davis, as Wagner; and Miss Doris Gilbert, as Martha, deserved praise. *The Daughter of the Regiment* was presented on Tuesday; *Maritana*, Wednesday; *Il Troyatore*, Thursday; and *The Bohemian Girl* on Friday.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—This week Mr. George Musgrove presents *The Prince of Pilsen*, with a strong company. Mr. Edwin Adeler is a great success as Hans Wagner; Mr. Villiers Arnold is good as Tom Wagner; Miss Nelly Cozens, as Mrs. Crocker, leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Stuart Alexander plays the Prince in manly fashion; Miss Ruby Verdi does well as Nelly Wagner; Mr. Lawrence Wensley is good as the Earl of Shrimpton; and Miss Nell Emerald is a capable Sidonie; Miss Mildred Baker is satisfactory as Edith Adams; and Miss Meg Hamilton is a praiseworthy Jimmie.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Fred Granville's company in *For Better or Worse* is presented for the first time, and is being well received here. Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh plays the part of Ned Earnshaw in an energetic manner, being ably assisted by Miss Grissie Dunbar, who wins favour as Olive Heathcote, and Miss Annie Lovell, who sustains the part of Dolly Delaney; Miss Cissie St. Elmo, in the heavy rôle of Belle Baverstock, is most effective; Miss Eva Reed is well placed as Melinda; and Miss Leslie Cudd is successful as Aunt Gertrude. Mr. G. Edwin Clive makes the most of the part of Captain Hilliard; Horatio P. Ranter is well played by Mr. Willie Black, who, with Mr. H. C. Lovell as Lieut. Dalrymple, keeps the house in merriment.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Nat Clifford is starring here this week; J. W. Rowley, an old favourite, is also here with good songs and patter; Mollie Wolstenholme is a charming operatic vocalist; the Brothers Artois provide a funny comedy bar act; Hayman and Franklin are amusing in their skit; Wal Robins is a good musical turn; the Three Braggs, novelty acrobats, are also good with their living bridge; J. H. McCann is a capital roller skate dancer; and Tom Moy, comedian, deputised for Ruth Lytton on the evening of our visit.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The Arthur Saxon Trio are appearing at the top of the bill with feats of strength. Bird and Arnold, with illustrated songs, are successful; Ailsa Douglas proves a dainty singer; the Phantom Ship is a good comic novelty; Angeline is a skilful lady juggler; and Percy Hannon, American baritone; and Cliff Dover, eccentric comedian; also appear. The Dottoscope is showing the latest films.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Martin Harvey is paying us a most welcome visit this week, appearing with signal success in *The Breed of the Treshams*, which met with a tremendous reception from a full house on Monday. Mr. Harvey's performance of the Rat held his audience with a grip right through the play, and after his great scene in Act 3, the curtain had to be raised half-a-dozen times in response to the applause that rewarded his wonderfully intense acting. Mr. Percy Anstey gave a most interesting performance of Cornet Francis Tresham, while nothing could be better than the support afforded Mr. Harvey by Mr. C. J. Cameron as Viscount Dorsington. Mr. C. Glenney in the disagreeable part of Colonel Hungerford, Mr. A. E. Rayner as Colonel Curwen, Mr. F. Wright, senr., as Colonel Bagshaw, and Mr. R. Denbigh as Captain Stanhope. Miss Coleridge gave a most sympathetic and interesting rendering of Margaret Hungerford, Miss Francis Ivor was a capital Mrs. Bagshaw, Miss Bessie Elder a good Helena Pierrepoint, and Miss N. de Silva a most natural and effective Batty. The scenery and dresses were superb, and minor parts all well played. On Wednesday a matinee was given, in which Mr. Harvey appeared in *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager. Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. Harold Webb's company is appearing here with *The Girl from Chicago*. Mr. Harold Webb gives an easy and natural portrayal of General Boomer, and Mr. Arthur D. Anderson is capable as Ananias Hussell. Mr. Oliver Rogers makes a capital Percy Montmorency; Mr. Leslie Digby is good as Billy McGuffin; and Mr. W. C. Bland makes the most of Brother Obadiah Caccles. Miss Ida Kessanly is a vivacious and effective Flora Boomer, and Miss Agnes Webster is successful as Lucretia Flatfoot. The Alhambra Trio of Speciality Dancers considerably enhance the success of the entertainment.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—There is being presented here this week *A False Wife*, by Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company. The leading character, Lady Mansfield, is powerfully played by Miss Florence E. Florence; the Jean Beraud of Mr. Frank Strickland is skilfully handled; Mr. Howard Barlow distinguishes himself by an excellent embodiment of Lieut. George Mansfield; a capital portraiture of Sir Colin Mansfield is submitted by Mr. George Langham; Mr. John Cecil essays with considerable success the part of Zorak; and Mr. Harry Dunham is efficient as Inspector Fulton. Amusing and highly humorous studies are furnished by Mr. Elton Morgan as Ben Rattler, Mr. Owen Edwin as Archibald Brown Tee, and Miss Nita Imeson as Bessie Blazer. Sweet and winsome is the Agnes Weyland of Miss Ellen Armor; Miss Judith Ansell acts intelligently and successfully the part of Sarah Bernstein; and Mr. Fred Levine is capital as William Marlow.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—Contributing to an excellent programme here this week are La Belle Hélène, kaleidoscopic danseuse; A. G. Edwardes, drum-major; Dorothy Ingledew, coon vocalist and dancer; Wal Dooley, descriptive vocalist; Hal Warde, rifle and pistol expert; Katie la Blanche, serio and dancer; Jack Brindall, comedian and dancer; and La Belle Sylvia, bender and club performer.

PERTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Aldridge.—After a fortnight's interval Perth is fortunate this week in being favoured with Mr. Dickie Clare's company in the musical farcical absurdity, *Lucky 'Liza*. Miss Gertie Douglas is charming in the title-rôle, and is notably a favourite; while Miss Madge Locke comes in for a good share of success as the romantic Virginia Blatherwick. Miss Belle Russell, too, is prominent in her clever impersonation of Marie P

Mr. G. W. Foster's comic songs create hearty laughter; and Lestre deserves special mention for his clever juggling.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill here this week are the six Brothers Luck in *The Demon of the Cellar*. Little Rose Pink is an excellent comedienne and dancer; Marti and Julietta give a clever and daring acrobatic display; the Four Emilions appear in a capital balancing act; Ada Marjutti is a graceful contortionist; the Toreadors in their bull fight cause roars of laughter; and other successful turns are Fred Mason, whistling comedian; the Coalvilles, comedians and dancers; and the Brothers Brookes in a comedy act. Bioscope pictures illustrating cricket teams complete the programme.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman. — Excellent business has been done here during the week, the programme being filled with a fine exhibition of biograph pictures and a bright variety entertainment, the show being produced by Mr. Gerald Hunt, who has become quite a favourite with local audiences, and can always rely on a hearty reception. Mr. Henry Bowman is also to be congratulated on the success of the engagement. The animated photographs exhibited are of an interesting and up-to-date character.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller. — After a week's closure, this theatre opened on Monday with an excellent variety show. Martin Melia, comedian and clog-dancer, met with a cordial reception; Queen Leslie, the singing mill girl, gave some songs in charming style; Miss Lill was successful in her songs and dances; and the same can be said of Miss Torr (a daughter of Sam Torr), who made a decided hit. Tom Wison excelled as a buck dancer; and other dance artists were Miss Vesta Redfern, the Reeves, and Dan Ashcroft.

READING. — ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. J. D. Hunter's company is here this week in the drama *The Ruby Ring*. The characters are all well enacted, the leading parts being taken by Mr. A. B. Tapping, who plays very powerfully as Alphonse Leloir, and Miss Alice Farleigh, who gives an excellent impersonation of the heiress Helen Neville. Mrs. Patrick Campbell appeared at a special flying matinée on Wednesday, supported by a first-class company, in *The Whirlwind*.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*His Majesty's Guests* is in possession of the boards here this week. Mr. George Hestor, who appears as Sergeant Lightning, creates roars of laughter with his drollery; Mr. Walter Purvis makes the most of Lord Easem; Mr. Chas. Usher ably portrays the part of Mr. Miffin; Mr. Fred Rigby in the part of Bunker does some clever acrobatic work; Mr. E. C. Lilly as Mr. Minks is all that can be desired; Miss May Vernon makes a charming Dolly Miffin; Miss Daisy Hestor is a typical new woman as Miss Manley; and Miss Lenora Castelle enacts with artistic taste the part of Lady Maud.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee.—The Cleveland Burlesque company keeps audiences here in merry humour with a capital turn of dancing and comedy juggling; Mahatma performs some clever conjuring and other tricks; and Miss Nellie Gannon, vocalist; Harry Wright, character comedian; the Fimans, in a vaudeville act; Nellie Merton and George Rydon, vocal speciality artists; Vandinoff, lightning picture painter; and Miss Peggy Fame, burlesque actress, complete the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Hargreaves.—Some old favourites appear here this week. Tom and Marie Motramo in their comedy musical act create genuine amusement; Farley, Rennie, and Farley in *Fun at a Railway Station* afford endless fun; Les Voces render some excellent vocal music; and other turns include Fred Horsfall, vocalist and mimic; Ford Wiliams, Welsh basso; Ella Dean, soubrette; Flo Viller, burlesque actress; Beatty and Blanche, duettists; and the Empire Bioscope.

RUNCORN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Caddick.—This week we have a return visit of John H. Tomkinson's No. 1 Royal Gipsy company. The star turn is provided by the Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats. The Musical Keiths excel as musicians; the Florida Girls, vocalists and dancers, meet with much success; Elsie Rubina, wire dancer, is clever; Fred McLean, comedian, makes a hit with his funny patter; Miss Evie Lynn is a pretty comedienne and clever dancer; Molly Augarde pleases as a descriptive vocalist; Miss Minnie Richardson (violinist) proves herself to be a skilful artist. The company also includes Miss May Jones, contralto; Annie Knowles, trombone soloist; La Petite Carlina, quick-change artist; Mabel Fernandez, contortionist; Sam Paul, comedian; Bert Allen, Lilliputian comedian; and Frank Power, tenor.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Prodigal Son*, under the acting-management of Mr. W. A. Buckstone, was welcomed on Monday by a good house. Mr. J. P. McBryde sustains the title-rôle in good style; Mr. John S. Chamberlain as Larry McGehan keeps the house in excellent humour, in which he has the assistance of Miss Maud Weston as Mary; Miss Marion Forrester as Margaret Marsden, Miss Nora Bedford as Nellie Burke, and Miss Nellie de Lacy as Dick, do excellent work. The villainous Ralph Marsden is well presented by Mr. John Bryce; and Sir John Fanshaw, Captain Harry Fanshaw, and Bill Burke are respectively in the capable hands of Mr. F. Dudley, Mr. W. A. Buckstone, and Mr. Guy Morville.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Marie Lloyd is required to oblige several times before the house is satisfied; Alf Gibson is also encored; Morimura is a smart Japanese illusionist. Other good turns include Charles Ashdowne, legmania dancer; Marie Weston, banjoist and clog-dancer; Ella Lane, comedienne; Hilton and Hilton, comedy horizontal bar performers; Tom Taylor, vocalist; and the Wade Trio, in *Watch the Chalk*, a comic sketch.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth — Sixteen performing lions are put through some clever performances here by Herr Charles Prinz, assisted by Mlle. Marcella; H. O. Wills, comedian, makes a great hit with his songs; the McDonalds, in their musical garden, are well received; and the other items of the bill are Howard and Townsend, characteristic duettists; Hess and Lisbon, amusing roller skaters; Sisters Allen, International dancers; Goodfellows, American comedy duo; Fred Pollard, comedian; and Carson Hicks, sand dancer.

SCARBOROUGH. — PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The Three Brothers Huxter provide the star turn here this week, and give an excellent acrobatic display. Aldro Luko, the man-monkey, submits a good turn; Doris Mydleton is a juvenile comedienne of ability; Pauletti, acrobatic leaping cyclist, does some daring tricks; Alf Maynall is a quaint comedian; the Paulo Brothers cause merriment as comedy acrobats; Harris and Worth have always a capital supply of up-to-date patter; the Weirs as sketch artists execute their dances with much vigour; and Vernon's Bioscope still retains its place in a popular programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—Florry Bray is always a favourite with Scarborough audiences, and this week she is as popular as ever. A number of sketches are also given, and the rest of the programme is composed of animated pictures.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—An agreeable change is provided here this week by the engagement of Messrs. Poole's Myriorama, Bioscope, and Varieties. Houston, a Chinese magician, heads the bill in variety turns; Learto, a musician, and his wonderfully trained dog, "Babs," contribute an enjoyable and amusing turn; Harry Dowsett is also a successful comedian.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. P. Reymond.—A capital combination of talent here includes The Clancy Girls, duettists and coon impersonators, who are favourably received; Joe Long, negro comedian, submits an amusing turn; Elsie Paul, comedienne and dancer, gains a hearty reception; the Two Daniels, high-stilt performers and dancers, are greeted with applause; Fred Frampton, comedienne, and Mamie Walsh, comedienne, also successfully contribute.

SHEFFIELD. — LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. John Hart's company opened here on Monday in the tuneful and amusing musical comedy *San Toy*. Mr. Hart has been fortunate in securing the services of several local favourites, notably Mr. Frank Danby, who acted with his usual drollery as Li, and kept the house in roars. In the title-rôle the delightfully chic and talented artist Miss Fanny Dango was quite successful, and her graceful acting and cultured vocalism delighted her numerous admirers Miss Maud Darling made a smart and attractive Dudley; Miss Rhoda Gordon as Poppy, and Miss Louie Collier as Chu-Sun were both excellent; and Miss May Gould's elegant dancing was deservedly applauded. Mr. W. J. Manning repeated his clever impersonation of Sir Bingo Preston; Mr. Alfred Clarke was a humorous Emperor; Mr. John Humphries caused general laughter as Yen-How; and Mr. Dennis Drew as Captain Bobbie Preston, Mr. G. Taylor as Tucker, and Mr. Frederick Hobbs as Fo-Hop, were all good.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—A spectacular drama replete with exciting incidents is *A Traitor Prince*, which is being acted here this week by Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Mr. G. M. Montacini makes a picturesque representative of Prince Dalmarez; and Miss Nita Langford, a dazzling picture as Vashti the snake-charmer, acts with dramatic power.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C.W.Ramsay. The popular American-Indian actress Go-Won-Go-Mohawk and company began a return visit on Monday in the stirring frontier drama *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. The spacious auditorium of the Alexandra was packed, and, animated by the enthusiasm, all the artists worked with admirable *esprit de corps*. Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk acted with great dash and spirit as the mail-carrier; Miss Minnie Goepil was pretty and interesting as Nellie Stockton; Mr. Edward Leroy was a typical "greaser" as the "bad man" Lopez; and a contrast to this despicable character was the frank, manly personality of Colonel Stockton, represented by Mr. C. W. Charles. Mr Dan Ryan created great mirth as Garry Cullen; and Miss Dorothy Melville was a characteristic Matilda Shuffles.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—The following artists are in the bill here this week: Mr. John Lawson and company, in the abbreviated version of the Surrey drama *Humanity*; Miss Ray Wallace, in her refined mimetic entertainment; the New York Nippers, in a diverting act; Howard and Collinson, whose funny sketch is very successful; Miss Eily Adair; the McConnells; the clever Klos Sisters, in a graceful performance; Miss Nelly Martell; Clown Barker, an amusing droll; and Mr. Jake Friedmann, with his humorous skit *The One-Man Opera*.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Mr. Fred Southern's clever dramatic troupe, including the pleasing artist Miss May Emery, are delighting good houses this week in a sensational sketch called *A Woman's Crime*. Mons. Mersano is a smart coin and card manipulator; and Davis and Davis, comedians; Drum and Major, two clever performers; Hallam and Stanton, variety entertainers; and Pallister's Bioscope, make up the programme.

CENTRAL HALL.—The animated pictures are this week supplemented by the two Vol Becques, in pleasing comedy duets; Harland and Rollinson, the well-known laugh-makers and instrumentalists; and Hans and Lux, comedy merchants.

SHREWSBURY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The famous Besses o' the Barn Band delighted music-lovers here on Tuesday.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Blind Foundling* appeals with powerful effect to audiences here. The piece is most capably handled, several of the impersonations being considerably above the average; Mr. Chas. H. Phelps gives an interesting account of an exacting part—that of Gerald Dalton; Mr. Frank Harvey acts with his accustomed skill as Parson Ray; Mr. Alfred George Fry makes an accomplished adventurer as Mark Redman, and a welcome vein of comedy is introduced by Mr. Harry Tilbury as Dick Dobbins. He is ably assisted by Miss Millis Doris, as Winnie, with songs; Miss Belle Tilbury, as the false wife, frequently scores; Miss Mabel Hall elicits sympathy in the title-character. Mr. Bernard Webb is successful as Squire Waterford; and Miss Amy Dalby, as Viola Waterford, acts in a pleasing manner.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, The Southend Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest.; Acting-Manager. Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Messrs. E. H. Knight and George Denham's company is here this week with *The Grip of Iron*. Mr. Fred. Powell undertakes the part of Jagon, alias Simmonet, with marked success; Mr. George Denham as Loustalot, the Smiler, gives a capital portrayal; Cora Simmonet is ably represented by Miss Mildred Cottell; and Miss Nellie Fletcher as Sophie Blanchard plays with feeling and skill.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Miss Winifred Maude and company are giving some excellent programmes for this week to appreciative audiences. *The Sins of a City* presented on Monday proved intensely interesting. Sandy McDonald found in Mr. Royce Carleton an able exponent; Mr. W. E. Simplon was decidedly good as Donald McIvor; Mr. Norton Shields in his double rôle of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh was very successful; Mr. Austin Milroy was responsible for a clever portrayal of Ralph Blackwater; Isaac Levi was well interpreted by Mr. Victor Du Cane; and Mr. Wilbraque made a capable judge. Miss Marie Lyons gained considerable praise in her character of Lesbia; Miss Jennie Hackett as Midge won golden opinions; and Miss Winifred Maude was seen to every advantage in her dignified and pleasing interpretation og Seaweed. *The Stowaway* was presented on Thursday.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The artists appearing in the theatre here are Bessie Neilson, character vocalist; Harry Bently, eccentric; Nellie Featherstone, burlesque artist; Dandon, contortionist; Sisters Rosedale, duettists and dancers; and Professor de Vine, a smart magician. In the Hippodrome those contributing are the Baroffs, handcuff manipulaters; Little Steve, coloured clown; Robert Gilbert and his cleverly trained dogs; and Syd Penner, instrumentalist.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. Sidney Dench's company is this week presenting the realistic drama, *The Rich and Poor of London*. Miss Dorah Dench depicts the part of May Braithwaite very cleverly and effectively; Miss Ethel Denville plays Seadrift with commendable skill; Polly Philpot has a good representative in Miss Lilan Artis; Mr. Sydney Dench submits an admirable impersonation of Spider Jack; Mr. Roberts Hall is a capital exponent of Dr. Leonard Morton; Mr. Walter Foster is well placed as Mark Stanley; and the other characters are ably represented.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—A capital all-round programme was submitted here on Monday evening. The contributions included the Five Olracs, acrobatic comedians; Wyndham and Waters, high-class comedy vocalists, in their laughable drawing-room act, entitled *The Professor and the Pupil*; Miss Sadie Simpson, comedienne; Mr. Charles Pastor, comedian; Miss Edie Endon, comedienne; Mr. Alec Kennedy, actor vocalist; Miss Maude Mortimer, vocal comedienne; and the Bouncing Dillons, in their novel aërial stage act.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—An attractive combination of variety artists are engaged here this week, the principal item being contributed by Mr. Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian; and another prominent turn is that of Barton and Franklin, the Scottish princes of music. The programme also includes Miss Beatrice Cookson, a popular juvenile soprano; Onda and Leon, conversational gymnasts; Thornley Dodge, entertainer; Dot Stephens, comedienne; Jack Hylton, comedian; Anthony, the mysterious man in white; and the bio-tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—An excellent attraction is provided in *Passion's Power*, presented by Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds' company. Mr. William Clayton is well-placed as the heroic Prince Ilandos; Miss F. Conyers Radcliffe is charming as Zorah Varno; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan renders excellent support as the villain Michel; Mr. Walter Roberts appears to advantage as Rudolph Laski; Mr. Frank Radcliffe interprets powerfully the part of General Zuran; and the Countess Delaunay of Miss Stella Carmichael is a pleasing delineation.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—Some clever bicycle tricks are shown by Madame Marcella; Walker and McGill, two young men, formerly caddies, are well received in a musical and dancing turn; and the rest of the performance is entirely devoted to the great Britt-Nelson fight, depicted by the American bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—F. Warden Reed and company, in their farcical duologue, *Married or Photographed*, create a good impression; a good horizontal bar and rope act is presented by Victoria Dagmar and comedy clown; Wallau, a clever young juggler, is loudly encored; the Sisters Brenton, duettists and dancers, are well received; Anna Kenwick gives a good exhibition of American comedy singing and dancing; and Leonard Gorney pleasingly submits different styles of dancing.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—A company of variety artists, organised by Mr. Harry Burns, and touring as the No. 1 Vaudeville Company, occupies the boards this week. Mr. Charles Matthews displays wonderful skill as a jumper; the Hugo Troupe contribute a novel but at the same time a very clever and interesting turn; a sextette of boy vocalists, "the King's College Boys," appear to great advantage in selections from Grand Opera; Happy Attwood and Martin Conway are a couple of amusing comedians; Miss Marie Gibson, soprano, delights the audience by her rendering of a couple of favourite pieces; and the Tyneside comedian, J. C. Scatter, is also well received.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill.—The Elster-Grime Opera company is billed here for the week, the répertoire including *Maritana*, *Faust*, *La Fille de Madame Angot*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. There was a matinée on Monday.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Revill.—*Carl the Clockmaker* is not new to patrons here, but nevertheless the popular musical play has been a capital attraction this week. Mr. Harry Starr, as Carl Conrad, is as clever and versatile as ever. As the villain, Maurice Hilmore, Mr. Edward Firth acts the character with much ability, and as Arthur Attwood, Dr. Fred W. Graham is distinctly pleasing. Mr. Charles Cabe ably fills the part of Hans Conrad, and Mr. Will Hee makes a satisfactory Count Ivan Neiklevitch; Miss Kate Norris impersonates Lena Harrigan with charming effect; Miss Madge Blundell acts creditably as Madge Ryder.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—An abundance of varied talent is appearing here this week, headed by the Three Renards, whose aerial gymnastic act has been greeted with genuine applause. Mons. Henri and Mdlle. Sardou introduce their mystic cabinet illusion with great success, and Mdlle. Lucretia, burlesque artiste, meets with gratifying appreciation. Very entertaining is Mdlle. Alice Lorette with her statue dog Ben; whilst the Pichel troupe of acrobats are exceedingly clever. Denby and Dent, in their comedy act, were amusing, as also was Harry Bickley, eccentric comedian; and others commanding success are Lilian Neville, ballad vocalist; G. H. Keith, actor-vocalist, and Marie Riviers.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Grenville; Manageress, Miss L. H. Dale.—*The Midnight Mail* is being presented here by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company, under the direction of Mr. James Willard.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Fred Karno's comedians remain another week here, and are giving the sketch *Early Birds*; Will Vay's Juveniles, in their comedy scena *Life in the Slums*, are an attractive number; Nash and Noel are good comedians and dancers; the other turns are Percy Farrimond, the singing collier; Dave McNeil, comedian; Lily Turner, vocalist; and Bert Williams, ventriloquist.

HIPPODROME THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Ainsworth.—At the top of the bill is Richard Sawade, with his tigers, lions, polar bears, and dogs. The performance is remarkable, and audiences are held spellbound. Cliff Ryland is a good storyteller; Fee Lung proves interesting as an illusionist; the Two St. Johns provide a good musical turn; Benson and White are entertaining; and Lillian Victoria, quick-change artist; Hettie Lee, dancer; and the Pictoscope, complete a good programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The programme here this week includes Miss Ella, who introduces her highly-trained lions, and the performance is most interesting; Mr. Russell Wallett scores a distinct success in his female impersonations; Mozzetto is a juggler of real merit; Henri Bekker and Mlle. Maie perform some smart illusions; Howe and Andie give a capital trapeze performance; Maude Beaumont sings her songs in good style; and Herbert Rule is a capable comedian. The animated pictures are good.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Manager and Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—Mr. W. H. Kirby's *Somebody's Sweetheart* company is appearing here. Mr. Percy Maitland is effective as Stephen Leverton; Mr. E. H. Bertram scores as Stavin Ashleigh; and much of the success rests upon the shoulders of Mr. W. H. Kirby in his side-splitting impersonation of Martin Blabbs. Mr. J. Pyne Warburton creditably sustains the part of Lem Lee; Miss Dot Reeve submits an acceptable impersonation of the rôle of Lulu; and Miss Cordelia Knight is interesting as Zora.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemmingway.—Mr. Geo. Kirk and Miss Mary Neil are presenting *Her Luck in London* to the usual packed houses here. Mr. Chas. A. Leicester plays with vigour the part of the Hon. Fitzgerald O'Connor; Mr. Alfred D. Adams sustains the heavier rôle of Richard Lenowen with the necessary power; Mr. Charles Digby is good as Algie Kircumbrie; Miss Mary Neil proves herself a strong emotional actress; Miss Florrie Groves admirably enacts the part of Maud Gladys Shovepenny; and Miss Ada Roscoe is well-suited as Madame Gabrielle. Miss Frances Waring is commendable as Lilian Harborne; and Miss Pamela Hodson deserves a word of praise as Angelina. Mr. Tyrone Power and Mr. Douglas Tremayne are good as the Rev. L. Strong and Stephen Harborne respectively; and Mr. J. Telly Dillsen as Jerry, and Mr. Bruce Clapham as Archer, are both adequate.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stringer.—The bill this week is headed by Miss Kate Carney, who has a very flattering reception; the Haytors, in their clever comedy gymnastic act, also occupy a prominent place, their amusing yet clever eccentricities causing much hearty laughter. The programme also includes Viviana, dancer; George Westland, Scotch comedian; Otta and Olga, in mirth, music, and mock opera; Maybele May, comedienne; Coram, ventriloquist; and Vernon's Bioscope.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Clayton; General Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—Mr. Coleman Davis is here this week, the company appearing in the comedy-dramas, *No Escape* and *Money Makes the Man*, on alternate nights. On Monday *No Escape* was played. In the dual rôles of Major-General and Sergeant Arlington, Mr. T. S. Brooke acts in convincing style; Mr. Terry Davies as Vandyke Collodion gives a manly performance; and Mr. Coleman Davis creates much merriment as the irrepressible policeman, Grip O'Grady; Miss Evelyn Clare as Ethel Arlington and Miss Nelly Austin as Betty Guzzle also appear with success.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—That popular old play *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is paying this town another visit this week, being efficiently presented by Mr. Charles Harrington's company. The part of Uncle Tom is ably and naturally undertaken by Mr. J. Carr, and that of Phineas Fletcher is excellently sustained by Mr. J. H. Renney, while Mr. Leslie Beaufort must be commended for his good work as George Harris. Miss Annie Watson, as Topsy, is distinctly clever and amusing throughout, and Mr. Walter Langford is the cause of considerable fun in his delineation of Marks; Miss Jennie Malcolm is remarkably successful as Aunt Ophelia; a pleasing Eva is found in Little Minnie, and Miss Hetty Johnson is seen to striking advantage as Eliza Harris. The Plantation Festival is particularly strong, a long list of skilful and entertaining variety turns being introduced.

TON-Y-PANDY.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—Mr. Fred L. Connynghame and company are here this week in *A Mother's Love*. Mr. Arthur Rose is thoroughly well suited as the Rev. Paul Wingrate; and Mr. Charles Draycott is good as the scheming Geoffrey Mannering; Mr. F. L. Connynghame as Mat Ruddock displays pathos, and yet can provoke laughter in a quite unobtrusive manner; Winnie Wingate is sympathetically treated by Miss V. Macaree; and Miss M. Murray does well as Ellaline Mervin.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell.—Mr. John Leopold and company in *New Frivolity* are having a successful return visit. Mr. John Leopold, jun., as the English student, and Mr. Tom Leopold as the schoolmaster, are largely responsible for the success of the piece, and are well supported by Mr. Wilfred Vaughan as the deserted husband, and Mr. Barry Lupino as his dunce of a son; while Mr. Willie Leopold is a remarkably agile page; and Mr. Joe Leopold figures actively among the students. Mr. Watson Hume gives a humorous study of the stockbroker. Miss Marie Ault as the principal of the seminary, and Miss Annie Hall as the daughter of the stockbroker, are prominent among the ladies; while on this side of the company good work is done by the Misses Gertie Winter, May Gordon, Queenie Brontie, and Winnie West.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company is here this week in the drama, *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. T. Arthur Jones is excellent as Captain Harold Marston; Mr. Oswald Douglas is capable as Dr. Colbrooke; Mr. Robert Sawin gives a good performance as Kimberly Coatts; Mr. Clem Horlock does well as the Rev. Edward Gray; Mr. Fred Stephens is capital as Sergeant Bates; and Mr. Frank Thornton is satisfactory as Captain Rawlins. Miss Marie Daventry gives a charming rendering of Doreen Rivers; Miss Mary Ainslie is admirable as Fay Colbrooke; and Miss Sara Dudley makes a dainty Bess Grayson.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The bill this week comprises the Five M.P.'s, in a clever musical act; Mr. Bensley Evans and company, in a humorous sketch, entitled *Sally's Dilemma*, in which Miss Olive Lanty is excellent; Babs Lloyd, a smart juvenile artist; Percy Johnson, an amusing comedian; Nellie Vann, comedienne; the Dunvilles, in a comedy musical turn; Clifton Hall, baritone; and Miss Daisy Palmer, dancer.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—That droll comedian, Wilkie Bard, leads the fun here; Celeste, the marvel on the wire, is good; Mlle. Olive, the lady juggler, is well received; an amusing turn is given by Harding and Ah Sio; Park's Eton Boys prove a great attraction; and other pleasing items are contributed by Gladys Mavius, comedienne and dancer; Nellie Stratton, comedienne; and the American Bioscope.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clifford's company is here this week in the drama, *On Circumstantial Evidence*. Mr. Clifford is a capable actor, and in the character of Captain Hamilton earns unstinted praise; as Jack Ogilvy Mr. Wilson Brash gives an admirable interpretation of the hero; and Sir Lawrence Kinlock is in the capable hands of Mr. A. M. James. Miss Maud Camfield (Mrs. Clifford) displays great ability as Violet Ogilvy; the humorous element is in capable hands; Mr. Newton Pearce as Jeremiah Tobin, and Miss Amy Stewart, as Polly Smithers; Miss Hilda Hatton, in the dual rôle of Olga Brandoni and Mary Brandoni, is well placed.

WALTHAMSTOW. — PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting - Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—*Turpin's Ride to York* is being successfuly played here by Mr. Fred Ginnett and company. Mr. Fred Ginnett is still the daring, dashing knight of the road, playing with his accustomed spirit; Mr. George Jennings is excellent as Tom King; and Mr. Gubby a picturesque Luke Rookwood. Mrs. F. Ginnett plays with much sweetness and power as Susan Truelove. The other items of the programme are, generally speaking, excellent in their various lines. Miss Ruby Norton is a life-like Lancashire Lass; the Bros. Kroney are capital as London's laziest coalmen; the Sisters Wingrove are versatile and vivacious; Mr. Bert Woodward is popular as a cycling coon; Mr. Phil Ray is funny, as usual; and the Bohemians (Will and Madge) once more prove themselves *facile princeps* as instrumentalists; Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company in *The Sins of Her Childhood* is the attraction here this week. Miss Ruth Sheppard as Mary Haysel acts with power, and little Dot Moss as Hannah Spry is an accomplished juvenile. A clever character sketch of the Drunken Maria Haysel is submitted by Miss Jenny Douglas Hicks; Miss Annie Megson is a vivacious Eliza Muggins; Little Edith scores in the dual rôle of little Mary and Eric Dugdale; Mr. Gordon Roby is well placed as Thomas Haysel; and as the callous Stephen Haysel, Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes acts with force. Mr. Charles Fancourt is a typical specimen of the true-hearted cleric, the Rev. Alan Gray; and Mr. Frederick Lloyd scores as Captain John Thornton; and Mr. Hugh Brady is funny as Barney O'Reilly.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Another excellent company is here. Maidie Scott is a charming comedienne; two clever knockabouts are Regan and Ryan; Mlle. Zelda plays on a variety of novel musical instruments; Patty Yole is a refined comedienne and dancer; Tony Iveson as the tramp at the piano is very amusing; and the Two Neros are smart tumblers. Harry Bint, mimic; Lottie Lunn, comedienne; John Ross, vocalist; and the Royal Bioscope pictures complete a capital programme.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. I. Cranston.—The engagement of Mr. Bert Albert Rutley's company in the musical comedy burlesque, entitled *An English Belle*, is proving an excellent attraction here this week. Miss Jessie De Grey's impersonation of Jack Trenant is warmly appreciated; the important rôle of Alice Oldfield is characteristically portrayed by Miss Gertie Wasley; Mr. Albert Rutley renders valuable assistance as Squire Hardacre; and the part of Captain Surf is ably played by Mr. J. Purcell. A humorous interpretation of Sunny Jim is given by Mr. Will Redmond; Miss Clara Vincent is well suited to the rôle of Will Hatchett.

WEST BROMWICH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—*The Black Bishop*, as presented by Mrs. R. A. Cuthbert's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. J. Kingsley Ryan gives a good rendering of the title-rôle; Mr. Charles H. Gallier does well in the part of Simeon Strathcoat; Mr. Charles Coventry is an admirable Captain Keilcrift; and Mr. Frank Hudspeit is good in the character of Bruttlebut. Miss Jeanie Marquise submits a clever rendering of Marian Strathcoat; Ruth Oldbury is well played by Miss Isabel Norman; and Miss Maggie White as Hannah Bruttlebut and Miss Madge Turner as the child Ruth also score.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—Mr. John Gerant and company are here with *At Duty's Call*. Mr. Gerant himself appears with marked success in the rôle of Harold Allison. Interesting characters are made of Capt. George Allison and Dora Drummond by Mr. Leonard Williams and Miss Edith Knight; Mr. Harry Ugar, as Terry O'Halloran; and Miss Harlington, as Mary, are responsible for the humorous relief; and a good sketch of General Gordon is drawn by Mr. Ernest St. John; and Miss Edith Wallis does well in the rôle of Salema.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—*The Bold, Bad Highwayman*, a laughable absurdity, as presented by the Pender troupe of pantomimists, is provocative of side-splitting laughter. The concerted pieces by Edie Gray and her white coons are much appreciated; Radford and Valentine's juggling causes hearty merriment; acceptable numbers are contributed by Joe Oliver, the singing coon; and Geo. Rapley, burlesque comedian; and some interesting football films are seen on the Bioscom. Charles Morton, mimic, gives clever impersonations of artists; Lily Black is dainty in her songs; and the Continental stilt-walkers cause laughter.

HARTLEPOOL EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The Marvellous Cragg Family, who may be described as the emperors of acrobatism, are placed top of the bill this week. They are being received most enthusiastically in their new sketch *Billy*, into which they introduce their marvellous display of tumbling and some side-splitting comedy. The scena *Indian Pastimes*, presented by Ara, Zebra, and Vora, is briskly worked, and includes an exhibition of tumbling and illusions. Lachie Thompson's "Top-weights" are two young nippers possessing athletic abilities of an exceptional character; Ruby Dahls' Merry Mannikins are quite a surprise; E. J. Wilkes and his dog give a pleasing turn; Grapho and Jackson are old favourites; Little Tina is charmingly precocious; and Bioscope pictures complete the bill.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Arthur Branscombe and company are here this week in the musical plays, *The American Heiress* and *Morocco Bound*. In *The American Heiress* Mr. Frank Barclay gave a

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

KATHLEEN MAVOURNEEN, Bowery, New York, 1868.
KATIE'S BIRTHDAY, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, Feb. 21, 1873.
KATTI, Strand, June 27, 1891.
KATTI, THE FAMILY HELP, Princess's, Glasgow, Sept. 30, 1887.
KEELEY WORRIED BY BUCKSTONE, Haymarket, June 5, 1852.
KEEN BLADES, Theatre Royal, Sheffield, May 22, 1893.
KEEP TO THE RIGHT, Theatre Royal, Leeds, Aug. 7, 1899.
KEEP YOUR DOOR LOCKED, Adelphi, Aug. 29, 1866.
KEEP YOUR EYE ON HER, Olympic, Sept. 30, 1876.
KEEP YOUR OWN COUNSEL, Terry's, Jan. 14, 1895.
KEEP YOUR PLACES, St. George's Hall, Feb. 15, 1886.
KEEP YOUR TEMPER, Strand, May 5, 1862.
KEEREDA AND NENA SAHIB, Victoria, Nov. 18, 1857.
KENILWORTH, Strand, Dec. 27, 1858.
KENNETH DUNBAR, Manchester, March 29, 1893.
KENSINGTON GARDENS, Strand, May 12, 1851.
KENYON'S WIDOW, Comedy, May 10, 1900.
KEPT IN, Queen's Hall, Feb. 25, 1895.
KERRY; OR, NIGHT AND MORNING, Terry's, Jan. 9, 1893.
KEVIN'S CHOICE, St. George's Hall, Dec. 2, 1867.
KEY OF THE STREET, Surrey, March 20, 1866.
KEY TO KING SOLOMON'S RICHES, LD., Opera Comique, Dec. 24, 1896.
KHARTOUM, Sanger's, March 14, 1885.
KICKS AND HALFPENCE, Lyceum, Sept. 1, 1858.
KIDDLE A WINK, Victoria, Jan. 30, 1864.
KIDNAPPER, THE, Victoria, Nov. 13, 1865.
KILLARNEY, Oriental, Aug. 29, 1872.
KILLIECRUMPER, St. George's Hall, March 30, 1891.
KIMBERLEY MAIL, Blackburn, April 8, 1892.
KIND HEART WITH A ROUGH COVERING, Pavilion, July 3, 1875.
KINDRED SOULS, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Feb. 4, 1884.
KIND TO A FAULT, Strand, Nov. 11, 1867.
KING AND THE COUNTESS, Matinée, July 9, 1897.
KING ARTHUR, Haymarket, Dec. 26, 1863.
KING COFFEE; OR, PRINCESS OF ASHANTEE, Southport, Dec. 8, 1873.
KING DAVID AND KING SAUL, Standard, Dec. 7, 1895.
KING DOO-DAH, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1900.
KING FOO, Philharmonic, Dec. 26, 1873.
KING FOR A DAY, Newcastle, Feb. 20, 1893.
KING GEORGE'S SHILLING, Grecian, April 28, 1879.
KING HENRY THE SEVENTH, Conway, Nov. 28, 1900.
KING INDIGO, Alhambra, Sept. 24, 1877.
KING JAMIE, Queen's, Manchester, Sept. 15, 1879.
KING JOHN, Her Majesty's, Sept. 20, 1899.
KING KLONDIKE, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1898.
KING KODAK, Terry's, April 30, 1894.
KING KOFFEE; OR, ASHANTEE WAR, Theatre Royal, Hanley, March 16, 1874.
KING KOKATOO, Theatre Royal, Leeds, March 4, 1872.
KING KOOKOO, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1884.
KING LEAR, Lyceum, Nov. 10, 1892.
KING LIBERTY, City of London, Sept. 29, 1851.
KING MAKER, Adelphi, April 15, 1882.
KING MAKER, THE, Victoria, Oct. 4, 1873.
KING OF DIAMONDS, Surrey, April 12, 1884.
KING OF FOOLS, Grand, Sept. 25, 1899.
KING OF KENT, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, Oct. 28, 1881.
KING OF STEEL, Preston, Dec. 12, 1898.
KING OF TERRORS, Theatre Royal, Dover, July 24, 1899.
KING O' THE CASTLE, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1893.
KING OF THE MINT, Victoria, Feb. 17, 1873.
KING O' SCOTS, Drury Lane, Sept. 26, 1868.
KING OF THE MERROWS, Olympic, Dec. 26, 1861.
KING OF TRUMPS, Victoria, Dec. 24, 1873.
KING QUEER, Strand, April 9, 1855.
KING RENE'S DAUGHTER, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Oct. 2, 1873.
KING SOLOMON, Novelty, April 2, 1896.
KING, THE RING, AND THE GIDDY YOUNG THING, Elephant and Castle, April 8, 1882.
KING'S BANNER, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Dec. 6, 1872.
KING'S BEGGAR, Princess's, Edinburgh, March 15, 1873.
KING'S COMMAND, Lowestoft, Sept. 7, 1893.
KING'S CURE, Warrington, Dec. 19, 1892.
KING'S DEATH TRAP, Britannia, Nov. 25, 1867.
KING'S DRAGOONS, Theatre Royal, Manchester, Nov. 1, 1880.
KING'S FAVOURITE, Court, Liverpool, Aug. 31, 1885.
KING'S GUARDSMEN, Princess's, Edinburgh, Jan. 31, 1876.
KING'S HIGHWAY, West London, Aug. 24, 1896.
KING'S MAIL, Britannia, June 18, 1866.
KING'S OUTCAST, Camberwell, April 24, 1899.
KING'S PASSWORD, Liverpool, May 21, 1900.
KING'S PLEASURE, Gaiety, April 12, 1870.
KING'S PLEDGE, Queen's, Barnsley, Jan. 3, 1870.
KING'S SECRET, Theatre Royal, Bilston, June 20, 1878.
KING'S SWEETHEART, Camberwell, March 7, 1898.
KISMET, Theatre Royal, Hull, Feb. 20, 1888.
KISSI KISSI, Opera Comique, July 12, 1873.
KISSING CUP'S RACE, Ealing, April 20, 1891.
KISSING, KISSING, Dover, Nov. 13, 1873.
KISS OF DELILAH, Drury Lane, Nov. 27, 1896.
KISS, THE, Royalty, March 4, 1892.
KITCHEN BELLES, Standard, Feb. 27, 1869.
KITCHEN GIRL, Taunton, Oct. 26, 1899.
KITCHEN LOVE, Olympic, Sept. 29, 1888.
KITCHEN TRAGEDY, Sanger's, May 21, 1887.
KIT MARLOWE, Shaftesbury, July 4, 1890.
KITTENS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, April 4, 1887.
KITTY, New Theatre, Richmond, Feb. 25, 1891.
KITTY CLIVE, ACTRESS, Royalty, Dec. 11, 1895.
KITTY GREY, Vaudeville, April 25, 1900.
KLEPTOMANIA, Southsea, April 30, 1888.
KLONDIKE RUSH, Britannia, May 30, 1898.
KLONDYKE NUGGET, Walsall, Dec. 5, 1898.
KLU KLUX KLAN, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Oct. 20, 1876.
KNAPSACK, THE, Elephant and Castle, April 14, 1884.
KNAVES AND FOOLS, Theatre Royal, Leeds, June 9, 1899.
KNIGHT AGAINST ROOK, Gaiety, July 23, 1886.
KNIGHT ERRANT, Lyric, Nov. 14, 1894.
(K) NIGHT IN ARMOUR, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Aug. 5, 1895.
KNIGHT OF THE GARTER, Gaiety, Dec. 7, 1882.
KNIGHT OF THE ROAD, Queen's, Dublin, April 27, 1891.
KNIGHTS OF THE ROAD, Marylebone, April 13, 1868.
KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE, Haymarket, May 20, 1854.
KNOWLEDGE, Gaiety, May 8, 1883.
KNOWN TO THE POLICE, Portsmouth, Dec. 10, 1897.
KOLAF; OR, THE FROZEN GIFT, Sanger's, April 1, 1876.
KRIEG IM FRIEDEN, Opera Comique, Oct. 9, 1894.
KYNGE LEAR AND HIS THREE DAUGHTERS QUEER, Britannia, March 20, 1871.
L'ABBE CONSTANTIN, Royalty, Oct. 15, 1888.
L'AIDE, Theatre Royal, Croydon, June 19, 1876.
LA BA KAN, Shoreham, June 7, 1869.
LA BEARNAISE, Grand, Birmingham, Sept. 27, 1886.
LA BELLE CLARISSE, Ladbroke Hall, March 9, 1891.
LA BELLE HELENE, Gaiety, Oct. 23, 1871.
LA BELLE NORMANDE, Globe, Jan. 26, 1881.
LA BELLE RUSSE, Princess's, Edinburgh, June 26, 1882.
LA BOHEME, Covent Garden, Oct. 2, 1897.
LA BOULANGERE, Globe, April 16, 1881.
LABOUR OF LOVE, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Oct. 22, 1875.
LA CAMOMILE, Coronet, Oct. 22, 1900.
LA CARTE FORCEE, Gaiety, June 15, 1883.
LA CERAMIQUE, Royalty, March 2, 1888.
LA CIGALE, Gaiety, July 3, 1883.
LACKEY'S CARNIVAL, Duke of York's, Sept. 26, 1900.
LA COMETE, Theatre Royal, Croydon, April 22, 1878.
LA CORDE SENSIBLE, Royalty, Nov. 5, 1888.
LA COSAQUE, Gaiety, Hastings, April 7, 1884.
LA DAME AUX CAMELIAS, Gaiety, June 11, 1881.
LADDER OF LIFE, Theatre Royal, Croydon, March 3, 1884.
LADDER OF WEALTH, Guildford, Oct. 23, 1899.
LAD FROM THE COUNTRY, Olympic, June 4, 1863.
LADIES' BATTLE, Olympic, May 7, 1851.
LADIES BEWARE, Princess's, 1857.
LADIES' CHAMPION, Haymarket, May 18, 1868.
LADIES' IDOL, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, March 28, 1895.
LA DOCTORESSE, Royalty, Jan. 11, 1886.
LA DOULOUREUSE, Lyric, June 28, 1897.
LADY AND THE MAGISTRATE, Bexhill, July 20, 1897.
LADY ANNE'S WELL, Britannia, July 20, 1868.
LADY AUDLEY'S SECRET, St. James's, Feb. 28, 1863.
LADY AURORA, Opera House, Chatham, Nov. 19, 1894.
LADY BARBARA'S BIRTHDAY, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Feb. 12, 1872.
LADY BARTER, Princess's, Feb. 28, 1891.
LADY BOOKIE, Terry's, Nov. 9, 1898.
LADY BOUNTIFUL, Garrick, March 7, 1891
LADY BROWNE'S DIARY, Strand, June 28 1892.
LADY BURGLAR, Theatre Royal, Kilburn, May 3, 1897.
LADY BY BIRTH, Theatre Royal, Cardiff Jan. 9, 1893.
LADY CLANCARTY, Olympic, March 9, 1874.
LADY CLARE, Globe, April 11, 1883.
LADY CLERK, Forest Gate, Oct. 27, 1899.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. HAL COLLIER.

In reply to a question as to his career, Mr. Hal Collier replied cheerily: "Oh, yes; I've clowned in a circus, produced sketches in the ring, led the circus procession in each town we visited garbed in the costume of a State trumpeter, and trumpeted right merrily when the circus band was not playing. I was not the only trumpeter though, for every now and then the elephant would chime in and drown all other sounds. Tenting with a circus is quite a novel experience, and a pleasant one, too, if you happen to have a living carriage; if not you must be up at three or four each morning and take your seat in one of the carriages, or pay your own fare to the next town. Some time ago I had a very funny experience. You must know I write dramatic and comedy plots and sketches for several cinématograph firms, and produce and play in them. I was impersonating a policeman in one of these sketches, and was nearly run in by a real "Robert" for appearing in the streets in police uniform and attempting to arrest a burglar who is escaping from the first floor window of a suburban villa. In the struggle with the 'cod' burglar I was ducked in a horse trough while the burglar escaped in a purloined horse and trap followed by yours truly on a bike which I could not ride. The real Simon Pure came up at the time, and seeing a rival on his beat he immediately seized me, and would have run me in had not the cinématograph manager explained matters by a generous donation which made Robert beam with delight.

"Began young? Rather. I started by playing children's parts in the officers' A.D.C. at Woolwich, then I tried a change as drummer, bugler,

[*Photo by Sims.*

MR. HAL COLLIER.

and fifer in the Queen's Westminster Volunteers. An engagement at Sanger's Amphitheatre, Westminster, followed, then a tour with the late Henry Loraine in the legitimate, Mr. Collier playing Polonius, the Gravedigger, and other comedy parts in the répertoire. Next, a tour of Devonshire and Cornwall with Sidney Herbert Basing's pantomime of *Humpty Dumpty* as stage-manager, Dame, and Clown; a long tour with *Forbidden Fruit*, under the management of Capt. John Gordon and Henry Franck; and a tour with *Michael Strogoff*, Mr. Collier playing the part of the French Correspondent. Three stock seasons of eight months each as stage-manager and principal comedian at the Aquarium, Scarborough, with Mr. W. Morgan, the present Mayor of Scarborough, followed. At Scarborough they played three dramas and two farces weekly, and had in the company such well-known artists as Fred B. Marshall, George Edwards, Frank Abel, E. D. Allen, Miss Adele Liddon &c.

Mr. Collier then ran his own sketches in the music halls for a period of twelve years, playing the following répertoire: *The Rajah*, *The Lunatics* (both these titles have since been used by others), *Uncle's Legacy*, *The Wrong Man*, *The Queen of Sunny Creek*, *Borrowing a Husband*, *The Crimes of London*, *In Deadly Peril*, *Taken by Storm*, &c. Then, going back to the theatres, he was engaged by Mr. Oswald Brand for a stock season at the Grand Theatre, Islington. This engagement extended over two years, during which Mr. Collier played, among many other comedy parts, the following: Shaun-the-Post, *Arrah-na-Pogue*; Conn, *The Shaughraun*; Myles-na-Coppaleen, *The Colleen Bawn*; Barney O'Toole, *Peep o' Day*; Tom Dossiter, *The Harbour Lights*; Reuben Armstrong, *The Bells of Haslemere*; Tom Bassett, *Hands Across the Sea*; Peter Fly, *The Union Jack*; Dicey Morris, *After Dark*; Peter Crawley, *Never Too Late to Mend*; Bullock, *East Lynne*; Chamboran, *Proof*; Chadband, *Bleak House*; Joe Grimper, *The Woman From Gaol*; Patsy Brannigan, *The Bushrangers*; Barnaby Bright, *Mankind*; Perkins, *The Woman From Nowhere*; Josh Martin, *Bridge of Sighs*, and many others. A nine weeks' pantomime at the Grand followed; then he went back to the music halls with his own sketches for a few weeks, followed by a twelve weeks' tour as Reuben Armstrong in *The Bells of Haslemere*. Mr. Collier has also played special engagements at most of the London theatres and at nearly every metropolitan and provincial music hall in his own sketches.

THE LATE MADAME SHERRINGTON.

Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, the eminent operatic artist, whose death took place last week at Brussels, in her seventy-second year, was born of English parents at Preston in 1834, and came of a musical family. While still a child she went to Rotterdam accompanied by her mother. There Miss Sherrington had a course of study before going to the Brussels Conservatoire in 1852. In the April of 1856 she made her first appearance in London, and a year later married Chevalier Nicholas Lemmens, who died in 1881. Madame Lemmens-Sherrington appeared in English opera in 1860. Later she was associated with the Italian stage, her répertoire including Macfarren's *Robin Hood*, *The Amber Witch*, *Helvellyn*, *L'Africaine*, *Norma*, *Le Domino Noir*, *Martha*, and *Fra Diavolo*, as well as *The Huguenots*, *Robert the Devil*, and *Don Giovanni*. A notable event in the career of the deceased vocalist occurred in 1864. In January of that year *Faust* was presented in English at Her Majesty's by Mr. Mapleson. Madame Florence Lancia was the Siebel; and Marguerite was allotted to Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, who was warmly praised for her admirable impersonation. Subsequently she did a great deal of operatic, oratorio, and concert work, both in London and the provinces, during her later years in this country, and was a favourite figure in a combination which included Mr. Nelson Varley as the tenor.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD."

Drama, in Four Acts, by Fredk. S. Jennings, Produced for the First Time at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, on Monday, May 14.

Mark Williams .....MR. H. H. BARRINGTON
Lieut. Jack Stanton .....MR. C. F. COLLINGS
Sir Richard Wharncliffe ..MR. LEWIS GILBERT
Horatio Spanker .....MR. E. HARVEY WHITE
Timothy Nias .....MR. F. THORPE TRACEY
Jacob Simpson .....MR. A. P. KAYE
James Walters .....MR. GEO. ELLIS
Capt. D'Arcy James .....MR. BERT MORLEY
Mammett .....MR. ERNEST TRESNER
A Cabman .....MR. GODFREY DEGARTER
A Policeman .....MR. WALTER SIMPSON
A Detective .....MR. RICHARD WILLIAMS
Kate D'Arville .....MISS FLORENCE DALTON
Anna Nias .....MISS NELL GILLMORE
The Kipper .....MISS IRENE ROSS
Madge Merry .....MISS MAY SEATON
Norah Williams .....MISS MINNIE GREY

Dynamite and the drama are effectively associated this week at Hammersmith, where the latest piece by Mr. Fredk. S. Jennings, the new manager of the Lyric Theatre, revealed itself to admiring eyes on Monday. The author has not attempted the impossible by essaying to present an entirely new set of melodramatic characters, but a familiar theme has been freshly treated, and situations of striking sensation provided. Puns of the most primitive character are perpetrated, but there is a plentiful supply of wholesome humour, which delighted the large audience, who gained equal pleasure out of the strong sentiment contained in the piece. The forces of villainy have only one representative; but he is a sturdy champion of vice, and the havoc created by Sir Richard Wharncliffe, Bart., is amply sufficient for the purposes of four long acts. The unscrupulous baronet has cast his net so tightly round a country gentleman, named Mark Williams, that the latter has been prevailed upon to mortgage his estate to a moneylender, who puts a man in possession until the interest overdue on the loan is paid. Wharncliffe offers to avert the threatened calamity if Williams will give him the hand of his daughter Norah. That young lady, however, has already promised to become the bride of Lieut. Jack Stanton, an officer in the Scots Guards, who has just been ordered abroad on active service. Wharncliffe determines to remove so dangerous a rival from his path, and induces a woman named Kate D'Arville, with whom he has gone through what he believes to be a mock marriage, to declare that Jack Stanton has betrayed her. Moved by a certain occult influence which Wharncliffe exercises over her, Kate supports the acusation against Jack, who goes off to the war without having time to prove his innocence.

The villain's purpose is not, however, achieved, for Norah remains faithful to her lover, and Mark and his daughter are duly turned out of their home. They obtain lodgings with a besotted individual, who had officiated in the capacity of broker's man, and Norah endeavours to get a living for her father and herself by typewriting at home. She has obtained work from an elderly foreign gentleman, who has begun to pay her marked attentions, and finally invites her to his house to get particulars for more work. The foreign gentleman proves to be Sir Richard Wharncliffe, who, on the arrival of Norah, locks the door of his dining-room, and endeavours to prevail upon her to stay to supper. The girl indignantly declines, and Wharncliffe is becoming aggressive, when Jack Stanton, who has returned from abroad, and is guided to the house by an ex-clergyman named Horatio Spanker, appears on the scene, and saves the situation.

An elaborate scheme of revenge is then arranged by Wharncliffe, who has reinstated Williams in his old home, and pretends to be penitent. By means of a fictitious letter, he gets Stanton to visit the rooms of Kate D'Arville, who, still acting under Wharncliffe's influence, makes passionate love to the young soldier. The villain's purpose is to estrange Jack and his betrothed, and he accordingly fetches Norah to witness the interview, but by a violent effort Kate casts off the malign influence, and declares that Jack's honour is unblemished. As a last resort, Wharncliffe determines to blow up the house, and, after drugging Jack and despatching him in a box to the West Indies, he lays a train connected with dynamite from the cellar to the room above. Both Kate and her son, a boy who had been cast off by Wharncliffe, his father, effect their escape, locking the door after them, and when the villain lights the fuse, he finds his way barred. Ere he can force open the door, the explosion occurs, walls collapse on every side, and he is buried in the débris.

The last act takes place during a carnival at Monte Carlo, the merry-making of which is effectively represented. Wharncliffe persuades Norah that her husband is dead, and gets her to marry him; but it is proved that his wedding with Kate D'Arville was a genuine one, and in an attempt to shoot his wife the villain kills himself. Jack, having escaped from his box, reappears, the lovers are united, and virtue is finally triumphant.

All the members of Mr. Samuel James's company had a hearty reception in their several appearances, and by their subsequent efforts fully merited their welcome. Mr. H. H. Barrington who played the ill-advised Mark Williams, gave a striking impersonation of the brandy-drinking old man, his haggard face and debilitated appearance after a long course of dissipation being artistically simulated. Mr. C. F. Collings was an earnest and painstaking hero. He delivered his lines with fire and energy, and reached a high position in the favour of the audience. Norah Williams, his betrothed, was gracefully played by Miss Minnie Grey, whose gentleness and dramatic fervour were marked attributes of a performance of great merit. Miss Florence Dalton was a passionate and impulsive Kate D'Arville, and created a great impression by her acting in the scene where the scoundrelly baronet exercises his malign influence over her. Sir Richard was played with deep intensity by Mr. Lewis Gilbert, an actor of wide experience, who made a striking change of appearance as the elderly foreigner, both accent and gesture being in accord with the character. At least half-a-dozen of the cast were employed in the interests of fun, one of the prime movers being Mr. E. Harvey White, who had to present an ex-clergyman travelling in the interests of an encyclopædia. Mr. White, though not altogether happy in his snatches of song, acted in buoyant and merry fashion, and kept the audience in the highest spirits throughout. A large share of the laughter fell to Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey, an admirable comedian, who managed to conjure up a most original expression as Timothy Nias. This personage is a broker's man, who is at the mercy of his termagant wife, and his scenes with that lady, cleverly played by Miss Nell Gillmore, caused endless mirth. Further food for merriment was supplied by Mr. A. P. Kaye, who played in rollicking style as a gardener; and the low-comedy acting of Miss May Seaton as Madge Merry, his sweetheart, resulted in loud laughter. Mr. Ernest Tresner was a comic butler, and a good word should be given to Mr. Bert Morley for his rendering of an army captain. Miss Irene Ross excited genuine sympathy by her pathetic acting as the Kipper, Wharncliffe's discarded son; and the other parts were ably filled. Repeated applause throughout the evening confirmed the success of the piece, the author of which was loudly cheered at the close.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE THUNDERBOLT."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Richard Ganthony, Produced for the first time on any stage at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Thursday, May 10.

Horace Parker .....MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE
The Rev. Mr. Timmons .....MR. PERCY TYLER
Mr. Buchanan .....MR. LESLIE TYLER
Mr. Dicey .....MR. J. EDGAR STEVENSON
Mr. Haberley .....MR. JAMES FRANKLIN
Mr. Powers .....MR. LIONEL GADSDEN
Mr. Fielding .....MR. FREDERICK RAWSON
Thomas .....MR. CHARLES PARRIS
Dobbs .....MR. BRUCE LINDLEY
A Messenger from Mars MR. WILLIAM H. BROUGHAM
Miss Minnie Templar .....MISS LILY LORRELL
Miss Parker .....MISS FLORA HASTINGS
Mrs. Clarence .....MISS CONSTANCE GROVES
Bella .....MISS PEGGY YEOMAN
Minnie Dobbs .....MISS ELSIE HALSTAN
Jennie Johnson .....MISS ISABEL VIVIAN
Molly .....MISS DOROTHY HAWKES
Betty .....MISS MARY BROUGHAM

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Thunderbolt, produced for the first time on Thursday, the 10th inst., is from the pen of Mr. Richard Ganthony, and is a sequel to the same gentleman's well-known play, *A Message from Mars*. The author is to be congratulated on his successful and brilliant work, which was excellently played by Mr. Mouillot's company. There was a large and fashionable audience present, and the first night's performance went off without a single hitch.

In brief, the story is this—Horace Parker, having been in the first play effectually weaned from selfishness by the ghostly Martian, has now developed a prospensity for a cynical, disconcerting smartness. He flings callous epigrams about, and has a disheartening thing to say for almost every phase of human optimism—in friendship, in love, in honourable ambition—so the vigilant man from Mars determines that Horace is a fit subject for taking in hand again. He comes to earth once more, equipped with all the weird Martian forces which he employed to such purpose in the first play. Parker—who has obviously dined on lobster salad, is confronted—in his dream, of course—by the spectral giant, as before. In his dream humour Parker is not dismayed at this; he is, indeed, rather amused, and remarks glibly to his visitor that "the universe seems a small place after all." He also does not forget his former coinage "Marsey," as an easy pet name for the Mars man. But "Marsey" is in no humour for trifling. He makes the misguided earthman squirm by his stores of electric energy. He also, in sepulchral periods, acquaints him of the purpose of this second mission, and dilates on Parker's fresh besetting fault. Parker, in his bantering mood, rather discounts this, but he is soon given lurid proof of the point of the Martian's philosophy. The consequences of a whole series of callous, unconsidered trifles, which have escaped his lips in the first act, are depicted by the same ingenious means as that adopted in *The Message from Mars*. For this a succession of dream episodes is enacted at the back of the stage.

As in the first play, so in this, Parker hears some pointed home truths talked about himself. But most interesting and amusing of all is where the "Messenger" strikes palsy into Parker's tongue, and he is made to feel—among his own gay clubland coterie—the horrors of inability to speak. Scandal is talked, and—horrible fate—he cannot take part in it. After three successive doses of this powerful medicine "Marsey" deems his mission fulfilled, and soars away back to the purer meads of the ruddy planet.

Then Parker awakes from his bad dream. He is found clutching his throat in vivid memory of his palsied tongue. But amazing again is the efficacy of the lesson from Mars. Parker is now a sweet-spoken gentleman who has kindly words of encouragement for all human enterprises and hopes. Before his dream he had by his idle words chequered the course of true love between his exemplary but rather elderly aunt and an eligible oleaginous curate. But now he adroitly retrieves the situation. He lures the love-birds into a conservatory, and there the broken melody is patched and an engagement clinched once and for all And similarly with other deplorable consequences of his unregenerate past. He is now, in short, a paragon of unselfishness and charity in speech, and the accession of virtues makes him a dispenser of sweetness for all.

In this merry, trifling way the play works to its close. It bears all through unquestionable evidence of a gifted literary pen, an accurate dramatic perception, and, above all, a keen sense of humour and of where to use it. In the first act the audience is too long getting into touch with a distinct current of action. The episode of Parker's search for the shuttle is unduly spun out, other episodes do not move argumentatively, and the ultimate goal held in view is too long obscured. However, the second act, with its odd dream tableaux, lifts the interest immensely, and this one act is well worth going to the theatre to see. The club tableau is particularly well displayed.

Mr. Cyril Austen-Lee is an actor of excellent abilities, and his reading of Horace Parker was particularly fine, winning hearty applause; Mr. William H. Brougham appeared as the Messenger with his accustomed success; and Miss Lily Lorrell, who has a most pleasing presence, gave a charming impersonation of Minnie Templar, acting the part in a most effective manner. Miss Flora Hastings as Miss Parker acquitted herself with merit; and Mrs. Clarence was cleverly enacted by Miss Constance Groves. Mr. Percy Tyler displayed considerable ability in his impersonation of the Rev. Mr. Timmons. As the poor inventor Dobbs Mr. Bruce Lindley acted with feeling, making the most of his part; Mr. Buchanan was ably played by Mr. Leslie Tyler; Miss Peggy Yeoman gave satisfaction as Bella; and the remaining parts were all creditably sustained.

At the conclusion of the performance loud cries of "Author! Author!" were continued for several moments. At last Mr. Mouillot came before the curtain amidst great applause. He said he was very sorry to state that he could not find Mr. Ganthony. He had looked for him all over the theatre without avail. His modesty he (Mr. Mouillot) was sure had made him leave the house. From the appreciation which the audience had manifested of the piece, he was confident they would wish the author a success equal to that which he had scored in *A Message from Mars*.

A COINCIDENCE IN CATS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Recent announcements in the Press make it clear that one more must be added to the already long list of dramatic coincidences. Some years ago I finished the libretto of a comic opera in two acts, dealing with the early Egyptians. In the development of my plot an important part is played by a sacred cat, and I also make considerable use of mummies. It is now stated that Mr. Louis Calvert will produce in August a two-act light opera in which all these three factors occur: the period is the early Egyptian, a sacred cat figures prominently in the story, and the piece will probably be called *The Egyptian Mummy*.

It will be admitted that this is a remarkable and interesting coincidence; but, apart from this, I trust you will be able to afford space for my letter in order that when my own piece is produced I may not fall a victim to the charge of plagiarism.

—Yours faithfully, W. GUNN GWENNET.

19½, The Grove, Hammersmith, W., May 15.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 14,
the Comedy, by Alfred Sutro, entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

A pleasant feature about Mr. Sutro's play is that it well repays a second visit, and one can honestly say that there is as much pleasure to be derived thereby as on its original appearance. On Monday evening at the King's the audience was entirely of the one mind, namely, that in the comedy's satire on the modern manners of the "smart set" it was eminently enjoyable, and after each act the curtain had to be raised again and again. The frequent denunciations of the sins of the fashionable ones by Jack Frobisher in strong outspoken language were provocative of loud applause, and many smiles were evoked by the bridge matinée in Lady Alethea's boudoir. As Jack Frobisher Mr. Ernest A. Warburton scores with an exceedingly able presentation. His rugged style is eminently fitted for the portrait of a man who has had to "rough it." Mr. Alfred S. Barber is likewise capital as Hankey Bannister. An enjoyable rendering of the effete aristocrat, the Marquis of Steventon, is given by Mr. Cecil Brooking, and Mr. W. L. Brisco Owen as Lord Drayton is good. The dilettante Harry Dallas is satisfactorily played by Mr. A. W. Tyrer; and Mr. V. Willox Cadogan well illustrates the "small-talker" Bertram Hannaford. The Hon. Wilfred Renton and Lord Marchmont are capably represented by Mr. Joseph Herbert and Mr. Wilfred S. Lane. Miss Amy Ravenscroft makes a brilliant success as Lady Alethea Frobisher, and in the few sympathetic moments of the play scores highly. The Lady Lucy Derenham introduces a charming ingénue in the person of Miss Nona Wynne. Miss Helen Haye is a delightful Lady Westerby; and Miss Jean Harkness is a typical smart-set girl. The Duchess of Skye is vividly realised by Miss Mary Weigall. Miss May Brooke displays tact as Lady Parchester; and Miss Florence Harcourt dances well in the small part of Miss Wyatt. The scenery, dresses, and appointments are most elaborate, and quite in accordance with the fitness of things associated with the energetic management of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 14,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled
"WHAT THE BUTLER SAW."

What the Butler Saw made its first appearance here on Monday, and considering its glowing reputation, it was not at all surprising to find a capital house on the opening night. The play is presented by Miss Ada Blanche and Mr. Lionel Rignold, who also undertake the two most important rôles. They are assisted by an admirable cast. Mr. Lionel Rignold infuses considerable humour into his excellent portrayal of the butler, Pink. Mr. Rignold knows the value of each minutest piece of by-play, of which he is a past master, and his highly-humorous efforts are quickly recognised. Miss Ada Blanche acts throughout delightfully, and is responsible for a good deal of amusement as the masquerading widow. Miss Blanche gives an excellent performance, marked by easy grace and finish. Great praise is due also to Mr. Chas. Fawcett for his natural performance of the happy-go-lucky Jack Barrington. Mr. H. H. Rignold, besides the arduous duties of stage-management, gives a good character-sketch of Abraham Weinstein; and Mr. George Ascott is excellently cast as the peppery General Dunlop. Mr. George Beale (Sydney Clifford), Mr. Roy Byford (Professor Shale), and Mr. Henry James (Dr. Clayton) are equally good in minor parts. Mr. Reddick Anderson's performance of Sir Charles Foden is full of clever detail—a very praiseworthy portrayal indeed. Miss Marie Daltra has a share in the general success as Miss Foden; and Miss Grace Richardson undertakes Nora, the part suiting her admirably. Miss May Hart as the "forward" child, Sophonisba Hake, plays the part to the life; and Miss Phyllis Gibson (Miss Clarissa Dunlop), Miss Minnie Willett (Miss Selina Dunlop), Miss Edith Blanche (Mrs. Fleming Smythe), and Miss Annie Goward (Mrs. Hake), visitors at the Hydro, likewise contribute excellent work. As the two maids, Maria and Emily, the Misses Dorothy Garth and Violet Gould are perfect. The effective scenery and accessories are among other strong points of an excellent performance.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by G. R. Sims and Wilson Barrett, entitled
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."

It is evident that genuine melodrama, which for some time has been rather neglected, is coming back strongly into public favour again, and Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett is to be congratulated on his enterprise in arranging for a return visit this week of G. R. Sims's and Wilson Barrett's play *The Golden Ladder*. Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds have got together an excellent company, and their interpretation has been followed at each performance with keen interest by large crowds. The piece is admirably staged. Miss Eva Moss as Lilian Grant has a thorough grasp of the character, and quickly wins favour by the sincerity of her acting; Mr. Beresford Whitcomb is to be congratulated on a manly and convincing impersonation of the Rev. Frank Thornhill. Another good performance is that of Mr. J. Milne Taylor as the villain, Michael Severn. He is well supported by Mr. Graham Winsford, who creditably sustains the part of the Greek adventurer, M. Peranza. Some welcome touches of humour are contributed by Mr. Joseph Rowlands as Samuel Peckaby and Miss Nellie Graham as Mrs. Peckaby, and their clever acting provokes roars of laughter. Mr. T. Lionel Ellis is thoroughly efficient as Mr. John Grant, a banker; and Mr. Edward McLean gives a meritorious representation of Noah Learoyd, a Yorkshire manufacturer. Some excellent work is put in by Mr. Harry Belford as Jim Dixon, and Mr. William Clarke is thoroughly satisfactory as Brunning; Mr. Eric Thompson is responsible for a clever character study of the Malagasy servant Rao; and Mr. Hartland Rowe as Lieut. Valnois, and Mr. W. Chambers as Dr. Lemair, of the French Navy, prove highly capable exponents of their respective parts. The kind-hearted prison wardress, Mrs. Dixon is played by Miss Teresa Haynes with pronounced success; and commendation is due to Miss Violet Houghton as the Matron of the Prison. Miss Kate Haslewood as Prisoner No. 2 causes much amusement by her clever acting in the prison scene; and Miss Janet Wakeling is all that can be desired as Rosemary. Miss Jessie Gillette as Victoria Alexandra Peckaby and Miss Holly Haslewood as Lily act their parts with a naturalness that is very praiseworthy. Mr. J. Milne Taylor is manager and Mr. Edward McLean acting-manager for the company.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"HER WEDDING DAY."

An excellent reception was accorded to the performance by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company of *Her Wedding Day* here on Monday. The piece was mounted and staged in a manner worthy of warm praise. Mr. S. Herbert Humber portrays Harold Saxby with manliness and vigour; as Weedon Kenyon Mr. Augustine Knight carefully depicts the callous nature of that villain, playing with ease and skill, and supplies a delineation of unquestionable ability. As Seth Mayson Mr. J. Edward Ward plays with power and skill; Mr. Fred Yarnold portrays with considerable humour the part of Caccles, the sexton; and is capably assisted by Miss Ettie Spalding as Mrs. Caccles. Jordan P. Jessop is suitably portrayed by Mr Morris Maud; Miss Beatrice Sinclair does all that is possible with the part of Dolly Klink; Miss Eva Bertram performs all that is required of her as Dora; and Miss Ward enacts with pathos the part of Madge Conway.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

An agreeable change from the ordinary dramatic fare was made at the Crystal Palace Theatre this week, when the Chas. W. Poole Myriorama presented an interesting entertainment. Large audiences have been secured, and many new effects and dioramic changes in the pictures and a good all-round variety company combined to give the utmost pleasure. Messrs. William Stewart and Alfred Leonard were the guides, as far as the tableaux were concerned, and their interesting details and topical references went far towards adding to the delight of the audience. Always up to date, Messrs. Poole present telling pictures of Vesuvian eruptions, Natal native risings, &c., whilst the series of Nelson pictures and the very realistic Trafalgar scenes provoked rounds of hearty applause. Interspersed with the myriorama were Miss Daisy Graham, with cleverly-trained birds; Little Doretta, who charmed all by her Dutch song and sabot dance; Mr. Harry Stewart, who concealed beneath his ordinary dress some six or seven costumes, which he quickly changed in sight of his audience, an appropriate song being given for each impersonation; the Avondale Quartette, four gentlemen with well-sung glees and a comedietta; Messrs. Leonard and Mac, Irish back-talkers; and Miss Kitty Woodford's canine circus and orchestra. In addition were presented some excellent animated pictures. Messrs. Poole bring their own orchestra with them, and this was heard to considerable advantage.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Charles Reade, entitled
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

A revival of Charles Reade's drama, *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, is this week presented at the Alexandra by a company which includes Miss Hetty Chattell and Mr. Ernest Leicester, the production being under the direction of Mr. John M. East. Mr. Leicester gives a breezy and genial performance of Tom Robinson, and succeeds in imparting life to the scenes in which he is concerned. Miss Chattell makes the utmost of Susan Merton, though the part is not one that affords the actress many opportunities of displaying her talents to the best advantage. Mr. W. P. Sheen is amusing as the rascally lawyer Peter Crawley, and almost every word uttered by Mr. J. A. Rosier as Mr. Eden, the prison chaplain, calls forth a round of applause. Mr. Willie Gurney works hard and successfully as the aborigine Jacky; and Mr. Horace Hunter does well as George Fielding. Mr. George Claremont succeeds in getting the tyrannical governor of the prison, Mr. Hawes, thoroughly detested by the pit and gallery. One of the best things in the piece is the pathetic performance of the waif Josephs by Miss Jessica Black; while other parts are suitably filled by Messrs. Kenneth Black and Fred Dobell, and Miss C. Edwards.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 14,
the comedy, by Stanislaus Stange, entitled,
"THE SCHOOL FOR HUSBANDS."

Miss Jessie Millward and her company from the Scala Theatre are presenting here this week the new play by Stanislaus Stange, *The School for Husbands*, which is being well received. It is an amusing comedy of the period of the early part of the last century, and though it cannot be denied that it is somewhat thin in places and hardly strong enough to fill the four acts, nevertheless the excellent manner in which it is acted quite compensates for such trifling shortcomings. The story is of one Lady Manners, a neglected wife, who, coming into a fortune unknown to her husband, determines to go out into society, play him at his own game, and so teach him a lesson—which she does with every success. Miss Millward as Lady Manners gives a most engaging portrayal of the character, impersonating it in excellent style and with a delightful sense of comedy. The pathetic moments are also well marked. It is a part in which the well-known and popular actress has a real chance to display her well-trained gifts to considerable advantage, and her success is very marked. Miss Millward is surrounded by a first-class company. Lord Foppington, as played by Mr. T. Wigney Percyval, is a most finished picture of a dandy of the period, and is played with fine humour and great polish; Mr. A. Scott Craven is excellent as the jealous husband, Sir John Manners; and Mr. Philip Cunningham is a most dignified Prince Assam, an amorous lover, whose continual appeals to "Allah" create much amusement. Mr. A. E. Greenaway makes a dashing Captain Lovell; Clarissa Huntleigh is brightly played by Miss Maud Noel, who is very charming and acts in a bright and spontaneous manner which suits the part excellently; Miss Mona K. Crane gives a clever sketch of Lady Airish; and Miss Emma Chambers as Lady Speakill and Miss Maud Leslie as Lady Tattle are vastly amusing as a couple of society scandalmongers. Mr. J. T. Manning is good as Lord Drinkwell, and Mr. George Unwin is seen to advantage as Lord Playmore. Betty, the maid, is capitally embodied by Miss Maud Abbott; and Mr. Cyril Wolesely does well as Roger. The play is beautifully staged, and the costumes are elaborate in the extreme and most tasteful. The stage-management is in the capable hanks of Mr. G. Unwin, and Mr. J. F. Wagner is the manager for the company.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, May 14,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, by Patrick Bidwell, composed by Clarence Lucas and K. Ernest Irving, entitled
"PEGGY MACHREE."

The lively, the tuneful, the pretty, the merry *Peggy Machree* has received high favour from Poplar playgoers this week. The company is Mr. Charles E. Hamilton's, and a very capable one it is. There is a most engaging and winsome heroine in Miss Claudia Lasell, who enchants with her singing, charms with her acting, and quite catches one's fancy with her dancing. Particularly pleasing is her rendering of such numbers as "There's a home in my heart for you," "The Emerald Isle," and the "Colleen" duet sung in conjunction with her stage-lover. In the part of the latter the spirit of romance comes in sympathetic fashion from Mr. Vernon Davidson, who possesses the qualities of a fine actor and a voice which gives evidence of strength and character. His interpretation of "Star of my life" is a specially commendable effort. Then from Miss Blanche Astley we have as sweet and attractive a Molly as ever flaunted a green ribbon, or tripped an Irish jig, or lured a gallant to the altar. Her performance of "The old oak tree" is an extremely effective bit of vocalism. As an 'unco' guid" specimen of an old Scottish retainer, anxious for the moral welfare of his young mistress, Mr. Milroy Cooper is to be commended for his representation of Alexander McDougal. Those of us who hail from the land where "parritch" is eaten and where the liquid "r" is pronounced most liquidly will have recollections of his type, and it can scarcely be said that for the purpose of the play Mr. Milroy Cooper exaggerates the stolid imperturbability of his "major-domo." His song concerning the country of phenomenal wiseacres is rendered with a due regard for the satirical humour of the lines. Mr. Ralph Lynn submits an amusing picture of the absurdly effeminate Sir Lawrence Borthwick; and Mr. Marc Macdermott is good as the scheming and cadaverous-looking Captain de la Cour. Mr. John Morley reaches a high standard with his singing, and his representation of the manly and boisterous Sergeant Bampton provides us with a capital piece of acting; Mr. Edgar Ashwin enters with zest into the comicalities of Michael, and his vocal item, "My place," demonstrates what an entertaining comedian he can be; in some of his laughable situations he is greatly assisted by Miss Madge Avery, who, as the rather aged sweetheart, Moira Cafferty, indulges in all the wiles and arts of a flirting minx of eighteen; Miss Doris Kelvey is seen to advantage as the unassuming and ladylike Madame de la Cour; Miss Leilia Gordon appropriately sustains the hauteur of the Hon. Emily Prior; while Miss Florence Hayden as Aline and Mr. Fred Charles as the lawyer acquit themselves creditably.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 14,
Shakespeare's Play,
"RICHARD III."

True to his policy of catering in turn for all possible tastes among his patrons, Mr. Sounes made a popular booking for this week when he secured Mr. Esmonde Bramley's Shakespearean company. This talented company's répertoire is a very full one, the plays chosen for presentation at this theatre being *Richard III.*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *As You Like It*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Hamlet*. On Monday *Richard III.* was given, and Mr. Cyril Este, in the title-rôle, had an opportunity to submit his particularly clever study of one of the best-drawn of Shakespeare's earlier characters. Mr. Este thoroughly appreciates the subtle characterisation, and never misses the chances afforded the actor by the dramatist's fine lines and situations. As Lady Anne Miss Millie Ford was able fully to enlist the sympathies of the audience with the misfortunes of this unhappy woman; and Miss Maud Garth gave full effect to the several fine speeches which fell to her lot as Elizabeth. Mrs. Bernard Parkin acted with dignity as the Duchess of York; and Miss May Beatrice and Miss Nightingale made the most of the few opportunities afforded them as the Princes Edward and Richard respectively. Mr. Baliol Holloway successfully doubled the parts of Clarence and Richmond, and made a decided hit with the former's speech in his cell descriptive of his dream. Mr. F. Owen Chambers worked hard as the Duke of Buckingham; Mr. C. Doyle made an impressive Stanley; and Mr. Frederick Scarth was effective as Hastings. The smaller characters were well cast and capably handled, worthy of especial notice being the Sir Richard Catesby of Mr. A. L. Evans.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 14,
A Story of Waterloo, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

Miss Edith Cole and company, as recently appearing at the Scala Theatre, are at the Coronet this week with the late W. G. Wills' Napoleonic play *A Royal Divorce*. The last act has been rewritten by George Gervaise Collingham since the original production in 1891, whilst the exceedingly realistic and life-like tableau of the battle of Waterloo and the overthrow of Napoleon at the close of Act 4 call for special commendation. Miss Edith Cole repeats her well-known graceful and impassioned embodiment of the Empress Josephine, the anguished consort of the tyrannous Emperor, of whose divorce the story tells. Mr. Frank Lister gives a capital portraiture of "le petit caporal," his moody, sinister plotting, his autocratic bearing, and his fierce resentment, lit by brief flashes of kindliness and genuine feeling, being ably indicated. He also gives us some idea of the masterful manner in which Napoleon could win over the sympathies of his victims to his most selfish schemes of arrogant ambition. Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell is distinctly good as the crafty, smooth-tongued minister Talleyrand; Mr. George W. Cockburn does well as the Marquis de Beaumont; Mr. George Howard is a capable General Augereau; Mr. T. P. Haynes supplies some laughable low comedy as Grimaud, the drunken inn-keeper of Genappe; Mr. Frederick Powell as Dr. Corvisart and Mr. George Hudson of H.M.S. Bellerophon, who deftly executes a hornpipe in Act 5, do good service; Miss Clara Earle is a bright and vivacious Stephanie de Beauharnais; and Miss Elizabeth Watson acts with the necessary acrimony and vehemence as Marie Louise of Austria, Napoleon's second wife. Miss Marion Ryder makes an engaging little King of Rome; and Misses Irma Foldi, Joan Vaughan, and others are well in the picture.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 14,
the Musical Comedy, by Seymour Hicks and Cosmo Hamilton, entitled
"THE CATCH OF THE SEASON."

Good houses have been the rule at the Kingston playhouse, this week, to witness this successful musical play, which is being presented by a capable company under the management of Mr. Charles Frohman. Miss Maie Ash plays the part of Angela and wins a host of admirers for the grace and charm of the impersonation; Mr. Frank Lincoln appears as the Duke of St. Jermyns, a rôle that he invests with an interest that is refreshing and amusing; the part of Lord Dundreary is filled by Mr. E. H. Kelly with every satisfaction; and Mr. Julian Cross gives a good account of himself as Sir John Crystal. In the part of Lady Crystal Miss Ida Mann scores a distinct success; Miss Hilda Stewart makes an admirable Duchess of St. Jermyns; and Miss Alice Lethbridge and Miss Hettie Muret both deserve commendation for their excellent portrayal of the parts of her two daughters, the Hon. Sophia and the Hon. Honoria Bedford. There are a numerous and well-trained chorus, and an augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr. Ernest Vousden.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama in Four Acts,
by Maud Hildyard and Russell Vann, entitled
"THE GREAT AWAKENING."

Miss Maud Hildyard and company are paying a first visit to Islington with the above drama, an excellent house being present on Monday to welcome the lady, who has made herself immensely popular with the local playgoing public. The drama in which Miss Hildyard has collaborated is a good specimen of its class, possessing an interesting story and excellent situations. A very capable company has been engaged for the production. Miss Hildyard herself as Lola Selby is happily placed in a rôle that exactly suits her. In her experienced hands the vindictive nature of the woman finds full expression, and yet withal there is an abundance of dry humour throughout that causes a great amount of hearty laughter. Miss Hildyard's reception is cordial in the extreme, many calls being accorded her during the evening. Miss Doris Digby as Molly Merton is a sympathetic and womanly heroine, acting pleasantly and making a good impression. To Miss Isa Bellington as Selina Worts thanks are due for a most amusing comedy performance. Mr. A. C. Hardie as James Selby gives a vigorous and clever performance that is well received. Mr. Bernard Copping as Jack Merton and Sir Henry Merton submits a dual impersonation of great value. The parts are quite distinct in character, and his portrayal of the mad scene in the third act is exceptionally well done. Mr. Charles Rogan as Vivian plays the heavy rôle in the usual way, but a little more force would much improve his reading. Mr. Herbert Evelyn as Captain Lambert gives a manly and satisfactory performance in the heroic part. Mr. Willie Scott as Brass makes one of the hits of the night in the comedy rôle, loud laughter greeting his efforts. Mr. Herbert Sidney is good as Wilson, and Mr. Tracy Barron submits a smart and humorous study of a French waiter, the remaining smaller parts being all in good hands. The scenery by Mr. Egerton is a good example of this gentleman's skill, and the incidental music by Mr. E. Reeves is appropriate. The dresses and appointments are on a lavish scale, and everything seems to have been done to ensure a satisfactory performance. A word is due to Mr. Tracy Barrow for his efficient direction of the stage.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 14,
the Comic Opera, entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

The bells of Corneville are ringing a merry peal this week at the Crown, Peckham, and the many haunting melodies which abound in Planquette's ever-green opera have, as might have been expected, delighted large audiences. The production is most worthily staged and interpreted by Mr. E. A. St. Albans' clever company. Mr. St. Albans portrays the strongly-drawn character of the old miser Gaspard, the part originally created by the late Mr. Shiel Barry. Mr. St. Albans scores a distinct triumph, and is seen at his best in the great scene at the end of the second act, when the Marquis returns to claim his own and the evil-doing of the old miser is exposed. Mr. George A. Fox makes a dignified Marquis, and his fine baritone voice is heard to much advantage in various vocal numbers. Miss May Bradbury proves herself a vivacious and fascinating Serpolette, making a great success in her taking song, "Look at that and look at this," in the scene at the hiring fair. Mr. Fred Dark is drily humorous as the pompous Bailie, whose eccentric clerk Gobo is amusingly enacted by Mr. Richard Martin. Miss Marion Ayling acts charmingly and sings delightfully as Germaine, rendering her tuneful songs with much expression. Mr. William Everard as the fisherman Grenicheux is the possessor of a pleasing tenor voice; Miss L. Rhodes is good as Christophe. The chorus is thoroughly efficient, and the same remark applies to the orchestra, ably led by Cavalier Legrand.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 14,
the Play, by Sharkonsky, entitled
"A FATHER'S SACRIFICE."

The success that has attended the Pavilion during the engagement of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company shows no sign of diminution, large and enthusiastic audiences being present at every performance given by this clever company, in which Mr. J. Fineberg is an indefatigable stage-manager and Mr. F. Staub an accomplished musical director. On Monday evening Sharkonsky's fine play *A Father's Sacrifice* was given, and enjoyed the advantage of a capital representation, being throughout extremely interesting, and containing many powerful scenes affording opportunity for forcible acting. A graphic picture of Father Poulus was presented by Mr. J. Fineberg, who secured a distinct and deserved triumph for his powerful playing in the second act; while Benedictus found an able exponent in Mr. Axelrad. Mme. Kayzer's individuality of style and artistic vocalisation gained her a hearty welcome; and the fine voice of Mr. Gusofsky was heard to great advantage in his spirited portrayal of Bartella. Mr. J. Scherman caused much amusement as Diego; and Miss Rubenstein was diverting as Franzisko. Mr. Katz (made up as Henry VIII.) was satisfactory as the King; and Messrs. Raitz and Markowitz displayed talent as the Jews Mnashe and Shleime. The scenery and uniforms were in the best possible taste, and a change of programme has been given nightly throughout the week.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 14,
the Romantic Play, by Wm. P. Sheen, entitled
"THE TEMPTRESS."

Those who prefer entertainment in the form of sensational incident are deriving full satisfaction at the Dalston Theatre this week in witnessing representations of *The Temptress*. Fun, villainy, and even murder are so mixed that the audience become comparatively used to the exciting combination, even in the first act, with the result that all through the piece they are looking for more. They are not disappointed. The eligible young man of the play is Philip Welford, of Fordyce's Bank, and he finds a good representative in Mr. George D. Daiper. Mr. Fredk. Ross appears as Lucas Denbigh, an ex-circus performer, previously known as Nemo, the Mesmerist, who continues his influences to the discomfort and confusion of certain other characters. Mr. W. H. Hallatt represents Pedro Gonzales, a lion tamer, and sustains the part with effect. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Bob Tanner, an ex-clown, and Mr. Allan Carruthers as Francis FitzFluke, of the Horse Guards Blue, provide the major portion of the fun, being aided by Mr. Oscar Power, who represents an amorous butler. Mr. Claude Ashworth appears during the first act as Sir Oswald Fordyce. The Temptress, known in the play as Lady Fordyce, is impersonated by Miss Blanche Steele, to whose forcible rendering of the part much of the sustained interest is due. Miss Mabel Scudmore as Marion Fordyce elicits admiration for a neat representation of a sweet character.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 14,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by H. J. Byron, entitled
"OUR BOYS."

Comedy is somewhat of a novelty in Marylebone, so consequently all the more welcome, and certainly Mr. Bailey deserves every success for his enterprise in booking such a clever little company as Mr. Brydon Phillips's turned out to be. The delightful old butterman, Perkyn Middlewick, finds a most realistic exponent in Mr. Fred Grove, who fairly revels in the part, bringing out all the varying phases of the character with marked effect. As Sir Geoffrey Champneys, Mr. E. Story-Gofton presents a life-like portrait of that county magnate, his playing denoting that easy finished style and bearing only found in an actor of experience and pronounced ability. Mr. J. G. Grahame, jun., enacts Talbot Champneys in a most amusing way, much to the West Londoners' delight; and Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson does exceedingly well as Charles Middlewick. Miss Blanche Stewart gives a graceful and winning impersonation of Violet Melrose; Miss Christine Stuart is equally pretty and engaging as Mary Melrose; Miss Lucie Evelyn is distinctly good as the warm-hearted Clarissa Champneys; whilst Miss Alice Brookes sustains the important rôle of Belinda with vivacious energy and expression. The piece is preceded by *A Pair of Lunatics*, by W. R. Walkes, in which Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson and Miss Blanche Stewart are very amusing.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by G. R. Sims and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

A return visit this week is being paid by Hardie and Von Leer's company in *The Two Little Vagabonds*. The piece was received with the usual enthusiasm by a crowded audience. It is performed by a capable company, and is admirably staged. A powerful performance of George Thornton is presented by Mr. William D. Fazan. Mr. Sidney Vautier plays well as Captain Darville; Mr. Dunstan Hayne is good as John Searth. Three excellent character studies of Bill Mullins the Gaffer, Dido Bance, and the Cough-drop are respectively given by Mr. John F. Trayner, Mr. Frank Gordon, and Mr. Fred Archer; and they must be individually praised for their realistic impersonation. Marion Thornton is sympathetically undertaken by Miss Valerie Crespin; and Barbara Scarth receives good treatment at the hands of Miss F. Russell Spiers; and a gentle Nurse Randall is that of Miss Muriel Clay; warm praise must be extended to Miss Marie Pritchard for her really good representation of Biddy Mullins; the two vagabonds, Dick and Wally, are well played by Miss D. Rosslyn Vayne and Miss Josie Beltram; the boisterousness of the light-hearted and good-natured Dick is in direct contrast to the poor consumptive and weakly Wally. The smaller characters, Leeson, Hargitt, the landlord of The Chequers, Dr. Lynn, Joe Gargoyle, Whiffin, a constable, and a footman and maid-servant are well represented by Mr. F. G. Kent, Mr. Marston Moor, Mr. T. Blakman, Mr. Hugh Holliman, Mr. Henry Buckland, Mr. W. T. Harris, and Miss Lena Vernon, who do justice to their respective characters.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, May 14,
Shakespeare's Tragedy, in Five Acts, entitled
"HAMLET."

The members of the stock company who have now been here since the middle of January have this week set themselves an arduous task in portraying Shakespeare's tragedy of *Hamlet*. Let it, however, at once be said that they came most creditably out of the severe ordeal. This is the first time that the work of the immortal hand has been produced at the Rotherhithe theatre, but its favourable reception at the hands of large audiences has been very gratifying to the popular acting-manager, Mr. Will T. Taylor. The part of Hamlet was naturally entrusted to Mr. Ashley Page. Mr. Page presented us with a Hamlet full of youth and full of fervour. He won the sympathy of the audience from the first, and by his art and pathos achieved a highly creditable success in the part. Mr. Page was seen to, perhaps, the greatest advantage in the Play scene in the third act and in the scene of Hamlet's death at the end of the play. Miss Marion Denvil made a sweet and sympathetic Ophelia, and scored a great success in the "mad" scene in the fourth act. Mr. John Sargent invested the rôle of King Claudius with great dignity, and delivered his lines with much intelligence. The famous "King's prayer" was excellently given. Mr. H. J. Barrett was appropriately senile as Polonius; and Mr. Alfred Harding as the Ghost was most impressive. Miss George de Lara was excellent as Queen Gertrude, though perhaps she looked somewhat too young for the part; Mr. James Chippendale made a humorous Shakespearean clown as the first gravedigger; Mr. Edwin J. Collins was a shapely and impassioned Laertes; and the faithful Horatio was capitally played by Mr. Fred Morgan; Mr. Frank Vincent was good as the foppish Osrick; and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern were safe in the experienced hands of Mr. C. A. Chandler and Mr. Simon Ord. Other parts were adequately rendered by Miss Maggie Lindsay and Messrs. Hayward, Henry Russell, Frank Wilson, H. Benwell, E. C. Alfred, and Henry Bassett. The scenery and effects were excellent, and some appropriate music has been specially composed and arranged by Mr. Alexander Humphreys.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts,
by Arthur St. John, entitled
"DISHONOURED."

The return visit of this piece was welcomed by an appreciative audience at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday night, and the many exciting situations and stirring incidents were vociferously applauded. Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is well-balanced and capable, and the piece is admirably mounted. Mr. Percy Ballard makes a manly and outspoken Philip Cunningham; and Mr. Jackson Hayes plays with all the necessary vindictiveness and malevolence as Captain Peyntland. Sir William Cunningham has a dignified representative in Mr. Geoffrey Broughton; and Mr. Walter T. Hybert plays capitally as Captain Cholmondeley. Mr. Val. Gully is a very diverting Jem Stokes; Mr. Charles M. Julian contributes a clever sketch of Mike Farthing; and Mr. A. Raymond Shaw acts very convincingly as Azurkin. Miss Violet Cranford plays with sympathy and charm as Leslie Maynard, and the part is in much favour with the audience; Miss Jessie Merrick plays Sybil very appropriately; Miss Walton is a natural Lady Cunningham; and Miss Polly Denville makes a bright and vivacious Ann Maria. Remaining parts are all undertaken with intelligence and care.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frederick Melville, entitled
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."

Those playgoers who like their dramatic fare served "hot and strong" are finding this week's engagement at the Borough Theatre much to their liking, and the popular parts of this spacious playhouse are being well filled nightly. Rapt interest is maintained in the central figure of the piece, a woman prepossessing in all else but that nature has endowed her with a face so repulsive that she is bound to appear in a veil enveloping her head, and it is therefore a matter for general satisfaction when ere the conclusion of the piece this facial disfigurement disappears. Miss Beatrice Homer is eminently suited in the name-part, her fine stage appearance and excellent diction readily enlisting the sympathies of the audience, and the final discarding of the veil is greeted with great applause. Mr. Philip Darien makes a buoyant and virile Jack Merriman; and Mr. Leyton Cancellor submits a vigorous embodiment of the callous Hubert Gold. Mr. Charles French plays in quiet, effective style as Antonio Luchesi; Mr. Allan Devonport makes the most of his opportunities as Tom Redvers; and Mr. William Wallace plays smartly as the hooligan Raggles. Miss Nell Oliver supplies an incisive and very convincing portraiture of the scheming Rose Courtenay; and Miss Margaret Watson plays with much intensity and power as Morita. The "comic relief" is in the safe hands of Mr. Tubby Edlin, who makes of Herrick as quaint and amusing a personage as could be wished for. He is ably assisted in the fun-making by Miss Nellie Jackson, always bright and engaging as Aggie Brown. Other parts are all in capable hands, and the scenery and mounting of the piece is very appropriate.

MISS WOOLGAR'S PENSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your issue of the 12th inst. you report Mr. George Alexander to have said, in reference to Miss Woolgar, "In her prosperous days she was sensible enough to invest some of her money in the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and in consequence in her old age has a competence which saves her from living on her friends."

I think this is somewhat inaccurate. Miss Woolgar was a member of the old Covent Garden Fund, now merged into the General Theatrical Fund, hence her claims on that association.

I may add that, as the widow of Alfred Mellon, she receives a substantial pension from the Royal Society of Musicians. Long may she continue to enjoy it.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM H. CUMMINGS,
Hon. Treas. of the Royal Society of Musicians.
The Guildhall School of Music,
Victoria-embankment, E.C.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday, May 10, Gounod's Opera,
"FAUST."

Marguerite ..... MLLE. DONALDA
Siebel ..... MLLE. DAS
Marthe ..... MME. PAULIN
Mephistopheles ..... M. JOURNET
Valentin ..... M. SEVEILHAC
Wagner ..... M. FRANK ARTHUR
Faust ..... M. ALTCHEWSKY

As a contrast to the storm and stress of the *Ring* Gounod's ever-popular *Faust* was given at Covent Garden in French on Thursday night, May 10. Mlle Donalda repeated her former success as Marguerite, and deepened the already good impression this singer made at Covent Garden last season by the beautiful quality and pure intonation of her voice and the intelligence of her acting. A new Faust appeared in the person of M. Altchewsky, a tenor from the Brussels Mounaie. M. Altchewsky possesses a voice of light and pleasing quality, and sings without exaggeration; there is much charm in the artist's method, even if there is not any great dramatic power. M. Journet was a robust and effective Mephistopheles, and M. Seveilhac again submitted his familiar impersonation of the character of Valentin. As Siebel Mlle. Das met with approval, singing her solo in the Garden scene with no little charm. The Marthe of Mme. Paulin and the Wagner of M. Frank Arthur were clever and intelligent performances, and the orchestra under M. Andre Messager gave an able rendering of the familiar work, in which little fault could be found.

Friday, May 11, at 8.30,
"DER VAGABUND UND DIE PRINZESSIN,"
By E. Poldini.
First Production in London.

Der König ..... HERR BRAUN
Der Prinz ..... HERR JORN
Die Prinzessin ..... FRAULEIN BURCHARDT
Der Astrolog ..... MR. FRANK ARTHUR
Der Gesandte ..... HERR NIETAN
Conductor ..... MR. PERCY PITT

Followed by
"DER BARBIER VON BAGDAD."
First Production at Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

Nureddin ..... HERR JORN
Abul Hassan, Ali Ebn Bekar ..... HERR KNUPPER
Mustapha ..... HERR NIETAN
Der Caliph ..... HERR ZADOR
Margiana ..... FRAULEIN BURCHARDT
Bostana ..... FRAULEIN GRIMM
Conductor ..... DR. HANS RICHTER

New Scenery has been specially painted for these Operas by Harry Brocke.

Two new operas of a lighter character, and forming a great contrast to the Ring, were produced at Covent Garden on Friday, May 11. The first, founded on Hans Andersen's fairy tale of "The Princess and the Swineherd," is entitled *Der Vagabund und die Prinzessin*, was first performed at Buda Pesth in 1904, and served to bring to the front its composer, Edward Poldini, a Hungarian musician hitherto chiefly known by his chamber music. The story relates how a young prince is enamoured of a charming princess, and in making a proposal to the king for his daughter's hand sends as a present a fine rose-bush covered with roses. The ambassador of the young Prince is well received by the King, who approves of the match, as also does the Court Astrologer, and the Prince, disguised as a minstrel, sings some verses of his own composition in praise of the Princess, but that young lady turns up her pretty nose both at the rose-bush and the verses of her admirer. After the Court retire, and when the Ambassador and the Prince are alone, the latter vows he will revenge the insult and punish the Princess. The Princess and her maids of honour return, and are playing blind man's buff when sounds of music are heard; it is the hurdy-gurdy played by the Prince, who this time, disguised as a showman, is wheeling a barrow on which is a small stage with puppets. The Princess at once commands a performance, and she is so pleased that nothing will content her but the purchase of the entire show. The Prince will, however, take no money, and only consents to give up the show on receiving a hundred kisses from the Princess. The Princess at first scouts the idea, but afterwards consents, and while the maids of honour are counting the kisses and seeing fair the King suddenly appears, is scandalised at the way his daughter is going on with a common showman, casts her off, saying she is no daughter of his. On the King leaving the Prince reveals himself, informing the Princess that his love is turned to scorn. The unhappy Princess, deserted by all, breaks off a flower from the rose-bush and slowly goes out of the gate as the curtain descends. M. A. F. Seligmann is responsible for the adaptation, and an English version of the book has been written by Mr. Alfred Kalisch and Mr. Percy Pitt. The music the composer has fitted to this quaint story is graceful and pleasing without being in any way ambitious; there is a charming minuet and gavotte, while the orchestral scoring for the music that accompanies the marionettes is decidedly clever. The action of the opera takes place in The Gardens of the Castle. Herr Braun's fine voice was heard to great advantage in the small part of the King, while Herr Jörn's pleasing tenor voice did full justice to the part of the Prince, Fräulein Burchardt making a charming Princess; and the other parts of the Astrologer and the Ambassador were ably filled by Mr. Frank Arthur and Herr Nietan. Mr. Percy Pitt, well-known as a clever composer, admirably conducted the orchestra.

In *Der Barbier von Bagdad* Peter Cornelius, the composer, has produced a work of considerable merit, and owing to the interest Franz Liszt took in the composer (who was born in 1824 and died in 1874), *The Barber of Bagdad* was first heard at Weimar in 1858; but the reception of the work was unfavourable, and the opera underwent a complete revision by Felix Mottl, and this version was the one given by the students of the Royal College of Music in 1891 at the Savoy Theatre, and on Friday night, where it was heard for the first time at Covent Garden. The libretto is founded upon a story from "The Arabian Nights," which is slight, but lively and amusing, and made more important by the clever music written by Cornelius for the chief performers. The story relates how one Nureddin is in love with Margiana, the daughter of a Cadi, who, however, intends her to wed a certain Selim; but this does not meet the lady's ideas, as she much prefers Nureddin, and while her father, Mustapha, is away she sends Bostana to inform him that her mistress will receive him. The delighted Nureddin at once sends for a barber to shave and make him smart for the coming interview; but, unfortunately for the young lover, the barber who arrives, one Abul Hassan, though professing to take the greatest interest in the young man's welfare, turns out a most unmitigated bore, and so hinders the shaving operations by his remarks on astrology, history, and songs in praise of Margiana that the lover is in despair of losing his appointment. However, at last released, he arrives at the lady's house, but in the middle of a duet Bostana rushes in and informs the lovers that Mustapha has returned and is just beating a slave. Nureddin is about to retire, when it appears that the meddlesome barber, Adul Hassan, overhears the cries of the slave, thinks Nureddin is being killed, and getting up a relief party, causes such a disturbance that Nureddin has to hide in a large chest. Hassan declares that his young friend has been killed and the body locked in the chest. Mustapha says the whole is a plan to rob him, and sends for the Caliph, who, when the trunk is opened and Nureddin discovered, advises Mustapha to give his daughter's hand to Nureddin. The music accompanying this little plot is both charming and melodious, and although the composer does not attempt any great amount of Eastern colouring, certain touches, such as the call of the Muezzin given in the second act, give all the needful local tone to the work, which is indeed a musical comedy of the best kind. Herr Jörn proved a capital Nureddin, while Fräulein Burchardt and Fräulein Grimm were equally successful in the characters of Margiana and Bostana. As the interfering barber Herr Knüpfer revelled in the comic situations, giving in the shaving scene some delightful comedy touches, which were aided by his fine voice, the part where the barber pauses in his shaving of Nureddin and indulges (shaving brush and razor in hand) 'n shakes, runs, roulardes, and cadenzas of such length and fluency, would have gladdened the heart of an old operatic impressario. Herr Nietan also gave a capital performance of the Cadi, Mustapha, and the chorus sang crisply and with much intelligence. The two scenes in the *Barber* and the scene in the first opera had been specially painted by Mr. Harry Brooke. *The Barber* also had the advantage of being conducted by Dr. Richter. There was not a large house, but the performance was honoured by the presence of His Majesty the King and the Prince and Princess of Wales.

The first Italian performance of the present season was heard on Tuesday night, when Verdi's opera *Rigoletto* was given to a crowded house. Much of the enthusiasm was no doubt due to the fact that two famous artists in the cast, Signor Caruso and Signor Scotti, had recently gone through some awful experiences in the recent San Francisco earthquake. All fears on behalf of the great tenor were soon allayed, as Signor Caruso was in splendid voice, although indulgence on the part of the audience was claimed for Signor Scotti on the score of a cold. Both artists received the heartiest welcome from the large audience. In the part of the Duke, Signor Caruso repeated many former triumphs, singing and acting throughout with the utmost vigour, and being of course encored in "La donna e mobile." Signor Scotti gave great dramatic intensity to the part of Rigoletto, rousing the audience to great enthusiasm by the fine duet in the second act. Mlle. Donalda made a charming Gilda, and sang the music of the part with great purity of intonation and fluency of voice, being particularly successful in "Cara Nome." M. Journet proved a capital Sparafucile; and M. Gilibert an excellent Monterone. The part of Maddalena was taken with much ability by Mlle. Siva, and it is needless to state the great quartet in the last act made its customary effect. The conductor, Signor Campanini, was successful in getting good results both from chorus and orchestra.

Some changes have been made in the cast for the second cycle of the *Ring*; that fine artist, Herr Van Rooy, appearing as Wotan both in *Das Rheingold* and in *Die Walküre* on Monday; while Fräulein Ternina again gave her splendid impersonation of Brünnhilde; the pathetic character of Sieglinde being undertaken by Frau Wittich. Herr Konrad, as in the first cycle, took the part of Siegmund; Herr Knupper again making an admirable representation of Hunding.

"A WINDOW INTO YESTERDAY."

A Play, in One Act,
by Jack Edwards and J. Hedley Drummond,
Produced for the First Time at
the King's Theatre, Covent Garden,
on Wednesday, May 16.

Cardinal Piero Boromeo ..... MR. TOWNLEY SEARLE
Frau Lauro ..... MR. SAVILL FOSTER
Giovanni Besanto ..... MR. VERNON SHAIRP
Paolo Besanto ..... MR. SIDNEY LORIS
Contessa Della Ravia ..... MISS NELLIE LEGGETT

The curiosities of dramatic literature were added to on Wednesday by the production at the King's Theatre, Covent Garden, of a one-act play with the above perversion of His Majesty's English as a title. It deals with an episode in the life of an Italian Cardinal, and proved to be a dreary waste of words surrounding an improbable story. The "window into yesterday" is situated in the apartments of Cardinal Boromeo, who is on a mission in Milan, and every time the Cardinal gazes through it he sees the retrospect of his past life, which includes an error of his early youth, when, as a young soldier, he had won the love of a high-born maiden. His suit was opposed by the young lady's parents, and they arranged to run away and get married. The lovers eloped, and spent the night together, but on the morrow the youth was called to join his regiment, and the marriage could not take place. On his return he sought for the girl in vain, and for twenty years the young soldier, who entered the church and became a Cardinal, has kept the secret locked in his heart. He reveals it at length to his confessor, and after protesting that he did all in his power to make restitution, implores absolution. Soon afterwards an audience is demanded of the Cardinal by the Contessa Della Ravia, who requests His Eminence to intercede with the Duke of Milan to prevent the union of her daughter with a dissolute young soldier. The Contessa also has a secret of old standing which she relates to the Cardinal, who realises that the lady is none other than his affianced bride of a score of years ago, and that the daughter referred to is their child. Without revealing his identity, the Cardinal gives the required undertaking, and, going again to the window, gazes with chastened feelings into "yesterday." Ere the curtain fell on Wednesday a tremulous voice might have been heard singing what on the authority of the programme was an "Ave Maria" specially composed for the occasion. To us it sounded like the wailing of the wind. The chances of success for this gloomy piece were not enhanced by the acting. Mr. Townley Searle revealed some dramatic aptitude and a good speaking voice as the Cardinal, but why he should make up his face with two patches of red like a clown in the harlequinade is a mystery. Mr. Savill Foster, who played the part of a monk and also favoured the rouge-stick, gave the impression that he would have shone better as a low comedian. Miss Nellie Leggett had few chances in the part of the Contessa, and made still less of them; and Mr. Sidney Loris's efforts to play a swashbuckling soldier were not happy. Mr. Vernon Shairp displayed an intelligent appreciation of his part of the young priest's clerk, and seemed to have learned his lines—a statement which could not be made with regard to all the members of the cast. The authors were called at the end of the piece and lavishly applauded by an indulgent audience. *A Window Into Yesterday* was to have been followed by Mr. R. C. Carton's comedy, *Lady Huntworth's Experiment*, but it was announced from the stage that the author had refused permission for it to be played in London, and that a concert would be given instead.

A DISCLAIMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

DEAR SIR,—My attention has been called to an announcement in your last issue of my marriage to Miss Renée Laurie, of *The Three Little Britons* company. I take this opportunity of saying that Miss Renée Laurie is not related to me in any way.

P. T. SELBIT

(Joad Heteb, Wizard of the Sphinx).

THEATRICAL BOOKS.

CHAT WITH MR. T. SEALEY CLARK.

The latest addition to the somewhat limited list of theatrical publishers is Mr. T. Sealey Clark, of Racquet-court, Fleet-street, E.C. Mr. Clark has had the enterprise and, it may be added, the courage to produce the first really creditable, if not quite exhaustive, biographical directory of the stage, the Green Room Book, which we reviewed in a recent issue. This "Who's Who of the Stage" has, as no doubt many of our readers are aware, long been talked of, but it was very much "in the air" until Mr. Clark purchased the copyright last September, and, in face of difficulties which need not be particularised, succeeded in bringing out the book six months later. Before this Mr. Clark had made himself well known in the publishing world by the splendid "Phil May Folio," for the production of which he was mainly responsible, and by several dainty children's books, as well as the Kingsway Series of popular novels.

Having so recently reviewed the Green Room Book, it is needless now to refer to the contents beyond saying that it is an excellent and promising first issue of a theatrical annual, which should be indispensable to all who are directly or indirectly interested in stage matters. A chat with Mr. Clark himself demonstrates that he intends to largely widen the scope and increase the general utility of the volume.

"I am well satisfied," he says, "with the reception accorded to the Green Room Book by the Press and the profession. Of course, there were bound to be omissions in the first issue, and a due sense of proportion and regard to the relative importance of individuals will be more carefully

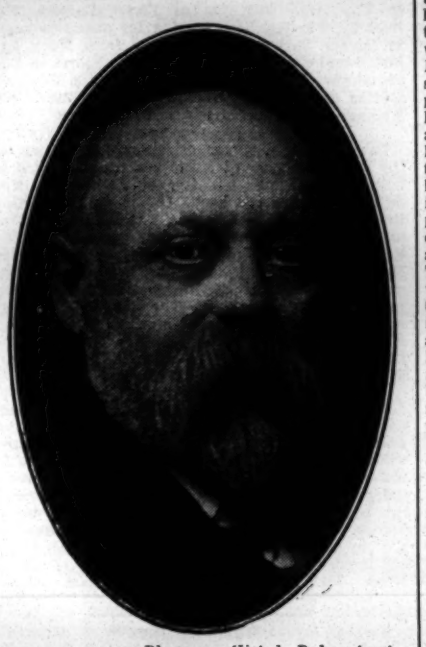

Photo by Histed, Baker-street.

MR. T. SEALEY CLARK.

borne in mind in future. I intend to encourage and assist those who are on the lower rungs of the ladder, and who display the ability and energy which entitle them to look for greater success to come.

"I want my book," he continues, "to contain succinct and accurate accounts of the professional careers of those included in its pages, together with a few interesting personal details. We all like to know something about the personal tastes, the amusements, and the literary, artistic, or other achievements of our stage favourites. It is the penalty, and a small one, which they pay for the prominence they have attained in their interesting and delightful professsion. But the greatest care will be taken not to give pain or offence, or go beyond that which is dictated by good taste and good feeling, and I therefore trust that less trouble will be experienced in the future in securing data which go to make up really valuable as well as interesting biographical notices. In this respect actors, managers, and others, both in London and the provinces, can greatly aid me by applying for forms and filling in the necessary particulars. I wish it to be understood, however, that such notices are not inserted by way of advertisement or in return for payment, that no one can claim inclusion in the book as a right, and that the selection of individuals will be, as far as possible, made on the basis of merit and public acceptance. By this means I hope to build up an annual volume of dramatic reference which will be regarded as the 'Debrett' of the profession. I shall also largely augment the appendices of the volume, and shall include in it an annual review of the drama, and shall endeavour to increase the scope and utility of the legal section, while I propose to supply a directory of addresses."

Mr. Clark purposes to dissociate the musical from the dramatic section, and publish a separate work for the benefit of the former profession, as he feels that there is ample room and scope for both books. He has already made arrangements with one of our most artistic photographers, who is renowned for his portraits of musical celebrities, and he trusts to be able shortly to bring out a very beautiful as well as useful book. At present it is not quite possible to separate the vaudeville or variety from the ordinary stage, as in a very large number of cases the artists are interchangeable; but he has this question also in view.

Mr. Clark has another theatrical book "on the stocks." It is a tale, he informs us, dealing in an amusing and graphic way with the experiences, the joys and the sorrows, of touring. The novel is written by Miss Ina Rozant, and bears the title of "An Actress's Pilgrimage." It will be published in good time for the holiday season. If rumour speaks truly, it will find a large number of interested readers both inside and outside the profession.

The subject of this sketch is a Somerset man, and has been associated with the publishing business all his life. After being a bookseller in Yeovil for some time, he came to London twenty-two years ago, and was connected for the greater portion of that period with the well-known firms of F. V. White and G. P. Putnam's Sons. On his own account he has published the works of numerous famous authors, and he has a reputation for producing his books in first-class style, with good readable type, even in the case of the cheapest editions.

THE Theatre Royal, Margate, is at present being entirely reseated by Deans, of Birmingham, with tip-up chairs, which will not only make it as comfortable as any theatre in the kingdom, but will incidentally greatly increase the holding capacity. The stock company has already made its mark in Margate, and Mr. Michael has secured an excellent list of bookings, principally musical, for the coming season.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"TRAGOEDIE DER LIEBE."
Play, in Four Acts, by Gunner Heiberg,
Produced at the Kleines, May 7.

Karen ..... FRAULEIN FEHDMER
Kruse ..... HERR LETTINGER
Hadeln ..... HERR ABEL
Johannes ..... HERR LORENZ
Das Mädchen ..... FRAULEIN KOENIG
Alte Frau ..... FRAULEIN VON LORER
Bauernfrau ..... FRAULEIN WERNER
Junge ..... HERR WOLF
Postillion ..... HERR BERNHARD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, May 17.—The piece is by a Scandinavian writer who, like most of his countrymen, imitates Ibsen without the latter's genius. A gloomy, unnatural tone prevails; most of the characters are—to use an Americanism—cranks, and the plot is morbid and unhealthy without any originality. The audience followed the play with patient attention, but displayed no enthusiasm, although the author was called and applauded by a minority at the close. The heroine, Karen Kruse, has been married a year to Erling Kruse, who loves his wife genuinely, but with less of the passionate evidences than she would like. He goes about his estate, managing his woods and looking after things generally with the ardour of an agriculturist, and Karen is jealous of the trees that he loves. She has understanding for nothing outside herself and her own love; and when she has made herself believe she is the typical neglected wife, she is ripe for anything that may come along. The poet Hartwig Hadeln comes along; he has a way of turning up and talking enigmatically on the subject of love and "Weltschmerz," and similar absorbing themes. Karen receives him—figuratively at first—with open arms, pouring out her woes as a misunderstood and forsaken wife into Hadeln's willing ear. A good understanding is speedily established between them, and Kruse surprises them in a close embrace. Karen confesses her guilt—confesses more than she is guilty of—and then stabs herself. Hadeln, whom we have long suspected of being afflicted with more than the harmless idiosyncrasies peculiar to a poet, relapses into madness, and commits suicide by throwing himself down a mountain. The piece is in parts extremely wearisome by reason of its long discourses upon love and psychological problems, and even its best passages fail to gain sympathy. The interpretation was uneven. Fräulein Fehdmer was at first weak and obscure—more so than even the character demanded—but her rendering grew in merit from act to act. Herr Lettinger gave a satisfactory account of Kruse, but Herr Abel might have given a much better impersonation of the mad poet than was the case. The evenings are becoming too warm for heavy pieces of this description, and *Love's Tragedy* will scarcely hold the boards much longer.

THE summer season has begun at the New Royal Opera, and will in all probability do good business. The grounds attached to the building (formerly known as Kroll's Establishment) are so pretty and extensive that, provided as they are with a first-rate military band and refreshment tables, they form a most agreeable place in which to pass the lengthy entr'actes. Consequently, almost any summer company is bound to succeed. *Martha* was given on Monday evening with an admirable cast, Fräulein Bonani singing the name-part. A new tenor, Herr Wildbrunn, proved himself worthy of the rôle of Lyonel, and the Plunkett of Herr Lordmann was highly satisfactory. Kapellmeister Grosskoff conducted with much circumspection.

HERR JOSEF KAINZ is studying a new rôle—that of Mephisto in Goethe's *Faust*. The famous actor has entirely recovered from his recent illness, and will go on tour in the summer. He will come to Berlin for a brief season, and will play, in addition to Mephisto, the title-rôles of *Richard the Third* and *Nathan der Weise*.

AT the Music Exhibition now being held in the Philharmonie many interesting things are to be seen. In the so-called "Blaue Saal" the original manuscripts of all Mozart's operas—with the exception of *Don Juan*—are shown, as well as those of Beethoven's *Fidelio* and the Ninth Symphony, Bach's Passion Music, and the Mass in B mi

OSCAR WILDE'S four-act play *Ein Idealer Gatte* will be produced at the Kleines Theatre to-morrow evening. The translation into German has been done by Herren von Teschenberg and Paira; the adaptation for the German stage by Herr Welisch. Fräulein Fehdmer is cast for the part of Lady Chiltern and Herr Walden for that of Lord Goring.

OFFENBACH'S delightful work *Orpheus in der Unterwelt* was produced at the Neues on Sunday, being the last novelty under the management of Herr Reinhardt. When the scanty vocal talent of the company is taken into consideration, it is wonderful that so much success could be achieved. This was due to the two or three excellent singers engaged for the occasion, to the broad humour of the regular artists, and to the first-rate conductorship of Herr Oscar Fried. The charming music was very finely interpreted as far as the orchestra goes, while the singing of Fräulein von der Osten as Eurydice could hardly have been better. Herr Engels was, of course, perfectly irresistible in the part of Jupiter; it was a pity that his singing powers were so feeble. The exponents of Orpheus and Pluto—Herren Eckert and Moissi—were equally humorous; and other rôles were well sustained by Herr Pagay and Fräulein Heims. Herr Pserhofer is responsible for the modernisation of the book, which is full of wit and funny topical allusions. How up-to-date the "milieu" is may be gathered from the fact that Pluto drives an automobile. The mounting of the piece was brilliant, and applause was spontaneous and hearty, culminating in repeated calls for manager and conductor. A lengthy run—despite the failing above-mentioned—may safely be prophesied.

THE Stern Conservatorium gave its annual operatic performance at the Theatre des Westens last week, proving once again how well the students are trained under the surveillance of Herr Rothmühl. The work selected for performance was Méhul's well-nigh forgotten musical drama *Moses in Egypt*. This classical composition, full of beautiful harmonies as it is, is well worth listening to. It disappeared from the Royal Opera repertory with the retirement of the famous tenor, Niemann, and, to the best of my knowledge, has not been heard here since. It was admirably rendered by the students on the whole, and Professor Gustav Hollander, the director of the Conservatorium, conducted with wonted skill. The prologue and several scenes from Leoncavallo's *Bajacci* preceded the longer work. Fräulein Hempel, by the way, who sang so finely at the last public performance of the Conservatorium, has been engaged for Bayreuth this year.

DIRECTOR BRAHM is planning a cycle of Ibsen's plays for next season, which will mean a tremendous strain on the powers of the Lessing company, accustomed as these distinguished artists are to Ibsen. The plays—thirteen in number—will be given in chronological order, from *Der Bund der Jugend* to the great dramatist's "epilogue," *Wenn wir Toten erwachen*.

THE laughable farce *Loulou*, by MM. Soulié and Gorffe, in the German adaptation by Benno Jacobson, has reached its hundredth consecutive performance at the Trianon, and is still high in popular favour.

"DIE LUSTIGE WITTWE" is filling the bill exclusively at the Berliner. It was witnessed on Sunday by the Crown Prince and a numerous suite. H.I.H. received the manager of the Hamburg Operetta Company—Herr Monti—in his box, and expressed his pleasure at the performance.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"ROULE-TA-BESSE,"
Play in Six Acts and a Prologue,
by Jules Mary and Emile Rochard,
Produced at the Ambigu, May 11.

Roule-Ta-Besse ..... M. ETIEVENT
Gargousse ..... M. VILLA
Louis ..... M. LIBERT
Duc de Senoncourt ..... M. VOLNYS
Gaspard de Mauléon ..... M. GREY
Le Docteur Essenard ..... M. CHAMPDEB
Bastienne ..... MLLE. MAGGIE GAUTHIER
Marquise de Mauléon ..... MME. BRINDEAU
Hélène ..... MLLE. CHAPELAS
La Mère Cacatois ..... MME. VICTORIN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 17.—For the first time in many years the Ambigu has been able to lay its hands on a real melodrama. It was a fortunate selection, and M. Grisier, the enterprising manager of that popular playhouse, will not have to change his programme for a long time to come. The pretty prologue takes place in 1870, during the Franco-Prussian war. Roule-Ta-Besse, a fourteen-year old waif, who earns his living by turning somersaults on the high road, has adopted Bastienne, a little girl of six, whose grandfather, her sole protector, was killed by the Germans. Roule-Ta-Besse's history is a sad one. His father, an acrobat, broke his neck because a scoundrel cut the rope of the trapeze on which he performed, and the boy's mother died from grief. He is a brave lad. He not only befriends little Bastienne, but in the shed where he sleeps he hides the Due de Senoncourt, a "franc-tireur," for whom the Prussian soldiers are searching. There is, however, a man he hates, and that is Gaspard de Mauléon, the villain of the piece. It was Gaspard who cut the rope of the trapeze to avenge himself on Roule-Ta-Besse's mother, who repelled his advances. The boy saw the deed done; but he dared not denounce the man, for he knew full well that no one would have taken a little vagabond's word against that of a nobleman. And then a great misfortune befalls Roule-Ta-Besse. The Marquise de Mauléon, Gaspard's aunt, a rich widow, adopts Bastienne. The boy knows that the child's future is now assured; but she is all he has in the world, and when she departs he is heart-broken.

As the curtain rises again twelve years have elapsed, and we are in Paris in the wineshop of La Mère Cacatois, the headquarters of Gargousse's gang, all of them burglars. Gargousse is their chief, but he is not an ordinary housebreaker; he has principles and puts them into practice. He appropriates what does not belong to him, but he will not have any bloodshed; and, in order that his men shall not be tempted in any way he does not allow them to carry arms. Moreover, he keeps a careful account of the results of the operations, and does not—like many of his colleagues—pocket the lion's share. Whilst Gargousse and his men are discussing their affairs, the door opens and Gaspard enters. The noble Gaspard has come on a rather peculiar errand. He has watched the gang break into the house of one of his friends; and as he is very short of cash he asks Gargousse to let him have a sum of money, failing which he will inform the authorities. Gargousse, with a keen eye to business, not only pays the money but offers the blackmailing aristocrat a share in the profits if he will give the gang occasional information as to where they can operate. Gaspard gladly consents, and at once tells them that as the Duc de Senoncourt is absent from Paris a good haul can be made at that gentleman's house. At that moment a shriek is heard, and someone calls out that a man had jumped into the river. Gargousse at once plunges after him, and is fortunate enough to rescue him. The man is hiedous, his face all seams and scars. And when he is alone with Gargousse he says that his name is Roule-Ta-Besse, that he was serving on board a steam barge, and that these scars are caused by the bursting of the boiler. He saved the crew; but, being disfigured and not finding any work, he decided to put an end to his life. Moved by this story, the good-natured Gargousse promises to assist him, without, however, letting him know anything about the profession wherein he is engaged.

We then assist at the attempted burglary at the Duc de Senoncourt's, where the gang is disturbed and take to flight. Roule-Ta-Besse alone is caught, and the Duc is on the point of giving him into custody, when, in the course of their conversation, he recognises the acrobat who, during the war, saved his life. The Duc, convinced that Roule-Ta-Besse does not belong to Gargousse's gang, takes him in his employ, and informs him that he is engaged to a pretty young girl called Bastienne. Roule-Ta-Besse trembles when he hears that name; but the girl is not to know that her former friend has become a monster, and he begs the Duc to introduce him to her as M. Brusquet. And, under that name he continues to befriend her, for when the wicked Gaspard, anxious to prevent her marriage with the Duc, tries to kidnap the girl, Roule-Ta-Besse comes to the rescue and stabs the villain.

The work is well played. In the prologue Mlle. Hélène Royé created a great impression by the pathetic manner in which she impersonated Roule-Ta-Besse as a boy. It was M. Etiévent who showed him to us as a grown-up man, and he dealt fairly well with the rôle. M. Grey imparted the right note to Gaspard, the villain; and M. Villa was an ideal Gargousse. He scored a huge success.

"LE TOUR DE MAIN,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. F. de Croisset and A. Tarride, produced at the Gymnase
On May 16.

Jeanne de Chanluce ..... MLLE. MARTHE REGNIER
Marquise de Chanluce ..... MME. HENRIET
Hortense ..... MLLE. FRANQUET
Fraulein ..... MLLE. E. ANDREE
Gérard de Chanluce ..... M. F. HUGUENET
René de Chanluce ..... M. MAGNIER
De Prière ..... M. PIERRE ACHARD

"LA TOUR DE MAIN" was written some eight years ago, and M. Frances de Croisset had asked M. Tarride to collaborate with him because he hoped that this clever actor would also be able to interpret the chief rôle therein. As things turned out, M. de Croisset's wish was not gratified, and it was M. Huguenet who impersonated Gérard de Chanluce. The moral of the piece is that domestic happiness can only be maintained if certain peccadillos are kept secret; and that circumstances can arise when it is better to suppress truth, if truth is likely to work mischief. The Marquis Gérald de Chanluce has never been very faithful to his wife; but as this good lady knows nothing of his pranks, she is perfectly happy. If this nobleman's conjugal interior is most serene, the same cannot be said of that of his son René, married to Jeanne, a loving spouse but a highly frivolous little person. René is writing a historical work, and is helped by Hortense de Randier, a widow whom René loved when she was a young girl. When Jeanne sees that her husband has transferred his affections to the widow she informs that lady that her presence in the house is no longer wanted. René defends his intellectual companion, whereupon the irate Jeanne at once gives herself to a silly young fellow, Pierre. René repents his folly, and is anxious to become reconciled to his wife; but the latter is now placed in a rather difficult position. Her conscience tells her that she must confess everything to her husband. "No," says her father-in-law, the Marquis, "this is a thing that must be concealed." What is sauce for the Marquis gander is sauce for the daughter-in-law goose. And Jeanne and her husband become reconciled, and René—like the Marquis's wife—remains in ignorance of "certain things," which, if he had known them, would have made him most unhappy. It was well played by M. Huguenet, Mlle. Marthe Regnier, and Mme. Henriet.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MRS. BEERBOHM TREE, Miss Esther Palliser, and Mr. George Grossmith contributed to a programme of a concert given on the afternoon of the 10th inst. at Stafford House, in aid of the Maternity Charity and District Nurses' Home, Plaistow, E. It was hoped that the proceeds would amount to about £250.

MR. E. S. WILLARD will close his American tour in Montreal on May 30, and will sail for Liverpool the next day on the Allan Line steamer Ionian. The eminent actor will be accompanied by the English contingent of his company, which includes Mr. Frank Dyall, Mr. W. Sauter, Miss Mabel Dubois, Mr. Ivan Simpson, Miss Ruth Barry, Mr. J. W. Laurence, Mr. W. Edmunds, and Mr. H. Cane. This has been a remarkably successful season with Mr. Willard, the best, in fact, for several years. He has had particularly good results with *The Man Who Was*, his Austin Limmason having produced the greatest effect of anything in his répertoire since his original season with Cyrus Blenkarn.

MR. WILLARD, too, has had a very marked success, both financially and artistically, with his performance of *The Fool's Revenge*, but the tax upon his voice has been much greater than was anticipated, and in self-defence he feels compelled to put aside the work for the present. The popularity of the play led Mr. Willard occasionally to put it in his bill three or four times a week, with the result that his voice suffered an injury, from which he has only now thoroughly recovered. Mr. Willard's plans for the future have yet to be learned, but it is hoped that London playgoers, who have too long been deprived of the opportunity of witnessing the work of a popular favourite, will shortly be favoured with another glimpse of his sterling talents.

MR. H. CECIL BERYL has sent £2 5s. 3d. to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, being the result to date of a small tax imposed by Mr. Beryl upon professional admission to the Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY'S welcome reappearance at the West End will be made this evening at the Imperial Theatre, when he will assume the rôle of Brian O'Carroll, the hero of the new comedy, in four acts, entitled *Boy O'Carroll*, by B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland. Mr. Harvey will be supported by Miss N. de Silva and Miss Kate Rorke, and by Messrs. C. J. Cameron, Thalberg Corbett, Albert E. Rayner, George Cooke, Leonard Craske, Reeve Denbigh, P. Hewland, and Hargraves, and Misses Maud Rivers, Grace Hampton, Bessie Elder, and M. Fabian.

"THE SWARN" is the title of the monologue by Maeterlinck, translated by Mr. Sutro, which Miss Rosina Filippi will give at the Elizabethan Fair and Fête in Lincoln's Inn grounds on May 23 to 25. The incidental and accompanying music has been written by Mr. Hubert Barth. Miss Vane Featherstone will be seen in a monologue, entitled *Ninette*, which has been specially written for her by Mr. John Cutler, K.C., one of the Masters of the Bench of Lincoln's Inn. The organizers are working on novel lines, and the fact that all "fancy prices" are strictly forbidden should take many bargain-hunters to Lincoln's Inn. The committee have drawn up stern rules for the aid of stall-holders, and among the most worthy of these is that "no goods shall be carried about the Fair for sale on any pretence whatever." Apart from the attractions on the stalls and the entertainments in the theatres, there will be many free entertainments.

MR. LEWIS WALLER, who concluded on Saturday night his active management of the Imperial Theatre, was presented with a silver flask by the members of the company and the staff. The feature of the presentation was that every subscriber had contributed the same amount towards the testimonial, which was given in acknowledgment of the esteem and affection in which the popular actor is held.

THE Ellen Terry festival at Drury Lane on June 12 is attaining phenomenal proportions. In addition to the attractions already referred to the programme will be embellished by a Christy Minstrel show, similar to that which used to be such a popular feature of London entertainments. Mr. Seymour Hicks will be the interlocutor, and the semi-circle will be composed of eminent comedians, including Messrs. Willie Edouin, Johnny Danvers, Arthur Roberts, Edmund Payne, Arthur Williams, Harry Fragson, George Grossmith, jun., G. P. Huntley, Farren Soutar, Huntley Wright, Louis Bradfield, Harry Grattan, Fred Wright, and George Graves.

ORCHESTRAL selections, consisting of the overture from *Becket*, by Sir Charles V. Stanford; the overture from *Ravenswood*, by Sir A. Mackenzie; the overture from *King Lear*, by Meredith Ball; and dances from *Henry VIII.*, by Sir Edward German, conducted by the various composers, will be a memorable feature of the occasion. In the course of the evening there will be a reception scene, opened in a few words by Lady Bancroft, in which all the leading actors and actresses who are not otherwise taking part in the performance will be received by Miss Terry on the stage.

THE banquet in honour of Miss Terry will take place at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday, June 17, when an art souvenir of the occasion will be presented to everyone present. An announcement will be made at the banquet as to the sum which has been subscribed to the "Ellen Terry Jubilee Fund," and also as to the form which it is proposed that the presentation should take.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE has decided to prolong her visit to America until the end of May, and will, therefore, be unable to produce *The Labyrinth* in London this season, as she had anticipated doing. Miss Nethersole's series of performances in Paris will begin on June 7, when she will appear in six or seven plays of her répertoire, including *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, *Sapho*, *Carmen*, *Magda*, and *Camille*. The theatre at which Miss Nethersole will make her Parisian début is not yet decided upon.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL has finally selected Wednesday next for her production at the Criterion of *The Whirlwind*, the cast of which has already been given. *The Whirlwind* will be preceded by the first act of Mr. W. L. Courtney's *Undine*, in which Mrs. Campbell will also appear, in association with Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. C. B. Vaughan, Mr. A. G. Poulton, and Miss Louie Emery.

THE success achieved in the country by Geo. R. Sims' play *For Life—and After* was fully confirmed by the reception accorded it on Monday night at Fulham. Great enthusiasm was manifested by the audience, especially at the end of the third act, when there were no less than seven "calls." The performance, which went without a hitch, was punctuated throughout by hearty applause and laughter. Mr. Hardie and Miss Von Leer are to be felicitated upon having secured a property which bids fair to rival even the success of their famous *Two Little Vagabonds*. Three companies, by the way, will again tour with the latter play in the autumn.

MR. J. B. MULHOLLAND has arranged with MRS. BROWN-POTTER for the first production of a new play, entitled *Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots*, at the King's Theatre next week. This is described as "a romance in four acts," founded on certain episodes in the early life of that ill-fated Queen, written by Reginald Kennedy-Cox, whose play, *The Chetwynd Affair*, was produced at the Royalty last year. The music has been specially composed for the production by Herbert Smith, whose music for *Du Barri* at the Savoy Theatre was warmly eulogised, and the song sung by Rizzio in Act 3 is believed to be an original melody composed by himself. The action of the play embraces the period from 1561 to 1567. The scenic production will be on the most elaborate scale, and the première at the King's promises to be an extremely interesting occasion.

MRS. BROWN-POTTER will again be seen in the rôle of the unfortunate Mary Stuart, and will be supported by Messrs. Edward Sorley, Alec Frazer, Godfrey Tearle, George Ide, Frank Deane, Edmund Baker, Robert Alliston, C. Croker-King, John Cabourn, Charles Payne, William Wynne, and Harold Carfax, and Misses Vera Carfax, Thalma Archer, Dora Maitland, Kate Worth, Lilian Tweed, and Sara de Groot. Mrs. Brown-Potter's visit is for one week only, with a matinée on Thursday.

"COLONEL NEWCOME," the adaptation from Thackeray by Mr. Michael Morton, is to be produced at His Majesty's on Tuesday, 29th inst. The cast is a long one, and, besides Mr. and Mrs. Tree, will include Miss Marion Terry, Messrs. Basil Gill, Norman Forbes, Lyn Harding, S. Hubert Harben, J. Fisher White, Sydney Brough, S. Yates Southgate, James Hearn, E. Egerton Hine, Eric Warwick, Robert Atkins, W. H. Day, David Powell, Robert Farquharson, L. Race Dunrobin, Reginald Owen, E. Ouston, Master Herbert Browne, and Misses Lilian Braithwaite, Bateman (Mrs. Crowe), Marie Lohr, Helen Robertson, Hilda Moore, and Mrs. E. H. Brooke.

AT Bow-street Police Court on Tuesday, William Cecil Watson, described as an elocutionist, was charged, on remand, before Mr. Marsham, with obtaining money by false pretences in connection with the Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate, Limited, Chancery-lane. It was alleged that the prisoner accepted fees from many persons who were desirous of going on the stage, and failed to keep his promise to find them engagements at various theatres he was said to have specified at the time the money was parted with. Mr. W. W. Kelly stated that he was the sole owner of the copyright of a drama called *A Royal Divorce*, and he had never given the Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate permission to produce it. In cross-examination, the witness said the play had been produced without his permission.

MR. CECIL RALEIGH, who also gave evidence, said he was the author and owner of *The Great Ruby* and *Hearts are Trumps*. He had never given the Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate permission to place those plays on their notepaper. He had never heard of his plays being pirated, and he thought there was very little pirating done in the theatrical profession. Detective-Inspector Dew gave evidence as to letters, &c., found by him at the office of the syndicate, and said there was little or no evidence of a genuine business having been carried on. The prisoner, who reserved his defence, was committed for trial. Bail was fixed at two sureties in £250 each and the prisoner in £500.

A DECISION of importance to theatrical managers was given at the Salford County Court on the 11th inst., when Jesse Bradburn and his wife, of that town, sued the Regent Theatre and Assembly Rooms, Ltd., for £75 damages for personal injuries sustained by the female plaintiff. The latter said that she went to the afternoon performance at the Regent Theatre on Dec. 5. When she entered the gallery she was told to go to the other side, where there was sitting room. The lights had been turned down, the performance being in progress, and in the darkness she fell down four steps, with the result that her ankle was broken. She said there was no light at all near the place.

IT was stated on behalf of the defendants that there was ample lighting from two windows, and it was urged that no negligence on the part of the defendants had been proved. People entering a place which must at times be in darkness ought, if the lights were down, to wait until they were turned up, he said. Judge Parry said he thought the mishap was due to Mrs. Bradburn's carelessness. It seemed to him she ought to have waited for the lights being turned up. If she moved about in the darkness she did so at her own risk. His Honour accordingly found for the defendants, who made no application for costs.

MR. WILLIAM F. OWEN, an actor of English birth, who was associated with the late Augustin Daly's enterprises for many years, and often appeared with Miss Ada Rehan, died in New York on the 4th inst., of Bright's disease. Mr. Owen was one of the best-known of the "old-time" actors, his Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night*, Sir Anthony Absolute in *The Rivals*, and Touchstone in *As You Like It* being highly artistic portrayals.

ROYALTY has been busy among the theatres recently. The King, the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck, and Prince Francis of Teck were present at the performance of *The Princess and the Vagabond* and *The Barber of Bagdad* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, on the 11th inst. On the following evening His Majesty the King visited the performance of *Das Rheingold*. The Prince and Princess of Wales and suite were present at the Aldwych Theatre on Saturday to witness *The Beauty of Bath*; on the same evening Prince Christian, the Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein, and suite saw *His House in Order* at the St. James's Theatre; and also on Saturday evening Princess Christian, Princess Victoria, Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, and Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck honoured the first performance of *The Shulamite* at the Savoy.

ON Monday the Prince and Princess of Wales were present at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and witnessed the performance of *A Girl on the Stage*; Wednesday evening saw Princess Henry of Battenberg and Princess Ena at the performance of *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville; on the same evening Prince and Princess Alexander of Teck were present at the performance of *Siegfried* at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden; and on Thursday the King and the Prince and Princess of Wales listened to *La Bohème* at Covent Garden.

MISS EDITH COLE, who was playing at the Coronet Theatre this week with her usual success in *A Royal Divorce*, takes the troubles of the Empress Josephine as much to heart as she did on the first night of playing the part. She rarely leaves the stage without tears in her eyes, and yet it is comedy, even more than tragedy, that makes the strongest appeal to her as an actress. She is fond of serious books, long rambles in the country, quiet days, and lively parts. After playing at the Camden Theatre next week *A Royal Divorce* company goes to Ireland. Mr. Frank Lister is one of the best Napoleons with whom Miss Cole has played. Her long list of Emperors includes Mr. Murray Carson and Mr. Julius Knight.

MR. WALTER SLAUGHTER is taking drastic steps towards the suppression of illicit trading in music. Acting on legal advice, Mr. Slaughter, on Tuesday afternoon, in Upper-street, Islington, seized a couple of dozen copies of his melodies that were being offered for sale and tore them up. The "pirate" was profuse in abuse, but in view of Mr. Slaughter's physical proportions remained only a passive resister.

JUSTLY indignant, Mr. Slaughter said to an interviewer: "I have scarcely received a penny in royalties during the past two years, and my blood boiled when I saw the most successful numbers of my music now being played at the Coliseum Revue selling like hot cakes at a penny a copy. My solicitors are of opinion that members of the public may help themselves to copies of pirated music free of charge, and without incurring legal responsibility. If the public will do this the rout—yes, slaughter if you will—of the pirates will be complete." The number of copies of pirated music seized by the Musical Publishers' Association since 1902, it is stated, has amounted to no less than six millions. The ranks of the pirates are estimated at 3,000 and the summonses made annually at 700.

MR. F. R. BENSON'S C company concluded a highly successful spring tour at St. Albans on Saturday last. The next tour will begin on August Bank Holiday, Cromer, Bridlington, Whitby, and other seaside places being visited in turn.

MISS EMILY SHERIDAN will produce at the Empire Theatre, Oldham, on June 4, and tour through the principal provincial towns a new French revolutionary play, called *A Prince of the People*. She has secured the services of Mr. F. Rawson Buckley, who will star as Victor Lafond. Mr. Buckley, who has been touring for over two years as Horace Parker, in *A Message from Mars*, has just completed a short tour as John Storm in *The Christian*. The part of Victor is a very fine one, written somewhat on Claude Melnotte lines. Mr. William H. Broughton is also in the cast.

THE Charles Mortimer prize for composition at the Royal Academy of Music has been awarded to Susan Spain-Dunk, a native of Folkestone. The adjudicators were Messrs. G. Jacobi, Hamilton Robinson, and Lionel Tertis. The Louisa Hopkins prize for pianoforte playing was gained by Hilda Rekas, a native of West Horsley, Surrey, Myra Hess being highly commended. The examiners were Messrs. Ernest Fowles and Harold Macpherson, and Miss Lily West. The Sterndale Bennett scholarship (all branches of music) fell to Francis Hutchens, a native of Leeston, New Zealand. The adjudicators were Messrs. Josef Bláha, Septimus Webbe, and F. Corder.

THE Thalberg scholarship (pianoforte playing) has been awarded to Dorothy A. Chilton Griffin, a native of London. The examiners were Messrs. Sydney Blakiston, Alfred E. Izard, and Thomas B. Knott. The Barepa-Rosa scholarship (female vocalists) has been secured by Harriett Amelia Franklin, a native of London, Esther E. Unwin being highly commended, and Winifred Lowe, Eva M. Colton, and Martha A. Rowlands Jones all being commended. The examiners were Messrs. Frederic King, Arthur Thompson, and William Shakespeare.

MESSRS. ALFRED NORTHWAY AND W. V. GARROD'S tour of *The Prodigal Parson* is proving so successful that they have decided to continue it uninterruptedly throughout the summer. The bookings embrace all the principal drama theatres, and extend as far as eighteen months ahead. The play has been revised and brought up to date since last toured, many new features being added.

MISS LYDIA DONOVAN'S numerous friends will be pleased to hear that her arm is so much better that she is now able to fulfil her engagements. She is at present appearing as Grace in *Her One Great Sin*, which will be at the Grand Theatre, Islington, next week.

THE Royal Carl Rosa Company, which is the oldest and one of the best operatic companies in this country, has just finished the most successful tour it has ever had, meeting with a most cordial reception in all parts of the country. Mr. Walter Van Noorden, the manager, is of opinion that the most enthusiastic musical audiences are to be found in Manchester, Bristol, and Glasgow. He considers, however, that Londoners are beginning to appreciate high-class opera far more than they have ever done before, but this is due to the fact that the operas are now being presented in all the full splendour they deserve. From a ballot taken throughout the country, lovers of music seem to greatly appreciate *Faust* and *Tannhäuser*, and there is a decided liking for *Fidelio*, which the Carl Rosa Company revived with so much success.

THAT the company were received so cordially is not to be wondered at when they were able to present such distinguishd artists as Miss Hanna Mara (Royal Opera, Breslau), Miss Doris Woodall (Court Opera House, Mecklenburg-Strelitz), Miss Elizabeth Burgess, Miss Grace Nicholl, Miss Anna Hope, Miss Ina Hill, Herr Julius Walther, Mr. Arthur Winckworth, Mr. Charles Victor, Mr. Dillon Shallard, and Mr. E. Davies. Much of the hard work of such ambitious productions devolves upon the conductors, Messrs. Walter Van Noorden and Eugene Goossens. In the tour were included *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser*, and all the finest works. Mr. Ernest C. Gittins, the acting-manager, is likewise a musician and composer.

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES ESDALE had a providential escape from being killed in a motor accident last week. They were driving through Silverhill, Robertsbridge, on the 10th inst. when the chauffeur swerved aside to allow a cyclist to pass, but in recovering itself the car, which was going twelve or thirteen miles an hour, turned over on its side. Mr. and Mrs. Esdale were thrown out, the former sustaining three broken ribs and being so injured that he could not be moved, and had to spend the night at a neighbouring cottage. Mrs. Esdale received severe wounds on the head and face, but the chauffeur escaped with a severe shaking.

NOVEL circumstances surrounded a performance given at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, on the 4th inst., for the benefit of the San Francisco sufferers. The entertainment lasted from eleven o'clock in the morning until midnight, and more than 25,000 people tried to gain admission to the theatre, which holds considerably less than one-fifth of that number. But, during the afternoon the first comers were asked to vacate their seats and give those who were waiting outside an opportunity of enjoying part of the performance. Tickets for the benefit were honoured at a dozen other theatres in order to accommodate the "overflow." The proceeds amounted to about 35,000 dollars.

MR. H. G. DUDLEY BENNETT has arranged for a return visit of Mr. Edmund Tearle, supported by Miss Kate Clinton and a specially selected company, to the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, on Monday, opening with *Macbeth*, which will also be given on Wednesday. *Othello* will be played on Tuesday and at Thursday's matinée, and Friday evening *The Merry Wives of Windsor* will be staged. *The Three Musketeers* will figure in the programme for Thursday and Saturday evening, and on Saturday afternoon a performance, specially designed for scholars, will be given of *Julius Cæsar*.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, there being present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, Kate Phillips, and Saba Raleigh, Messrs. Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, Wm. Devereux, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Fewlass Llewellyn, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Walter Russell, Algernon Syms, Spencer Trevor, Frank Vernon, Fredk. Volpe, and Charles Cruikshanks (sec.).

THE secretary reported the result of the third bi-monthly meeting of the members, held on the previous Thursday. The secretary also reported the result of an arbitration which had been referred to the Joint Arbitration Board, the award having been published in favour of an artist as against a manager, and further that the amount awarded for damages and costs had been paid. The hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. George Fitzgerald and William Griffin were nominated for election. The Suggestion Book was considered, and an entry made.

MR. ARTHUR HOLMES-GORE, as a member of the Special Committee, reported that on May 11 the deputation of the Actors' Association (consisting of Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Clarence Blakiston, and himself) was received by the committee of the Professional Photographers' Association at the premises of the Royal Photographic Society, 66, Russell-square. The deputation was cordially and courteously received. Mr. Holmes-Gore, having explained the constitution of the Actors' Association, proceeded to read, with explanatory comments, the suggestions which the Special Committee had approved. The chairman, Mr. Bridge, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. Mackie joined in a discussion, which was replied to by Mr. Hayden Coffin, who elicited the information that none of the Rotary Company were members of that Association except a works manager at West Drayton. The deputation was assured that the suggestions, though presenting a novel aspect of the relations of photographer and actor, should have the earnest and careful consideration of that committee, and that they would endeavour to answer five queries which were left for their private discussion. The result of their conference they would communicate to the Actors' Association at a later date.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting last Tuesday, the chair being occupied by Mr. M. R. Morand, the other members present being Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Arthur Holmes-Gore, and Chas. Cruikshanks (sec.). The secretary received instructions in several matters of routine.

MR. STERLING MACKINLAY will give his twenty-fifth recital on Monday afternoon, May 21, at Bechstein Hall, under the patronage of the Duchess of Sutherland. Among those assisting will be his pupil, Miss Pauline Potter, late of Terry's Theatre: Miss Dorothy Bridson, the violinist who studied under Sevcik; and Miss Dorothy Wren, who will make her début at the concert. This young singer, while yet quite a child, was heard by Mr. Santley, who at once advised her to be trained for the musical profession. An interesting feature will be in the form of recitations by that talented young actress Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay, of St. James's Theatre. Mr. Sterling Mackinlay, we may recall, has written a book of reminiscences, which was published by Messrs. Hutchinson early in April under the title of "Antoinette Sterling and Other Celebrities."

THE numerous friends of Miss Rita Trekelle will be glad to learn that she has recovered from the severe operation for appendicitis which she underwent some few weeks ago, and is now recuperating at Bournemouth.

A REMINDER may be given of the Royal General Theatrical Fund Dinner, which is to be held in the Whitehall Rooms at the Hotel Metropole, on Thursday. The Bishop of Ripon will propose "The Drama," and Sir Squire Bancroft will reply. The Marquis of Granby, Mr. Comyns Carr, and Mr. Edward Terry will also speak.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN, who is playing Col. Brinthorpe in *Sunday*, doubled that part with Arthur Brinthorpe at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Wednesday night, at less than two hours' notice, the gentleman who plays the latter being called away suddenly on account of illness. Mr. Pagden was gracefully congratulated and thanked by the management at the conclusion of the performance.

"CASTLES IN SPAIN" is to give way to the French play season at the Royalty Theatre. The tuneful piece, which has proved abundantly successful at the pretty little house in Dean-street, will on Thursday be transferred to Terry's Theatre.

MME. JANE HADING is again to pay a visit to London this year with the members of her Paris company, and will begin a season of French plays at the Coronet Theatre on Monday, June 11. The programme for the first week will consist of *Le Demi-Monde* on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday evenings; *Le Maître de Forges* on Wednesday afternoon and Friday evening; and *La Chatelaine* on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and at the Saturday matinée.

MESSRS. VEDRENNE AND BARKER will give a flying matinée of *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* at Brighton on Thursday, with Miss Ellen Terry and the company from the Court Theatre. On that evening Miss Ellen Terry will not play at the Court Theatre, and the part of Lady Cecily Waynflete will be sustained by Miss Madge McIntosh.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN'S revival of the late Wilson Barrett's greatest creation, *Claudian*, which has had a most successful provincial tour, will be at the Dalston Theatre next week.

"THE LION AND THE MOUSE," the American play which involves the combination of English actors with those of the United States, is due at the Duke of York's on Tuesday. The cast will consist of Miss Louise Sydmeth, Mr. J. W. Macdonald, Miss Henrietta Cowen, Miss Helen Rous, Miss Elene Foster, Mr. Walter Allen, Mr. Frank Burbeck, Mr. William Postance, Miss Margaret Illington, Mr. Richard Bennett, Mr. Gilbert Hare, Mr. Arthur B. Murray, Mr. Harry Harwood, Miss Nanette Comstock, Miss Marguerite St. John, Mr. Edmund Breese, and Miss Atherton Hinton.

A SOCIETY for the suppression of the matinée hat has been formed in Paris by ladies, headed by the Countess Greffuhle. It took practical shape in a sale on Tuesday of small hats expressly made for the theatre, and so designed as not to obscure the view of those sitting behind the wearers. The exhibition was a great success, the proceeds of the sale being devoted to charity, and the Small Hat League has gained many adherents. Theatrical managers here ought to breathe a fervent prayer that the League may find its way to London!

THE new opera *Petronella* is announced for production at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Saturday next. Miss Marie Ault, who is cast for Dossama, has had a very busy time of late. As her existing contract with Mr. J. Leopold does not expire until to-night, she has had, during the past fortnight, to pay flying visits to London daily for rehearsals, her journey last week being from Woolwich, and this week from Tunbridge Wells, returning in time for the performance.

THE Shakespeare Commemoration at Stratford-on-Avon was concluded on Saturday night with a performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the Memorial Theatre. A crowded and enthusiastic audience assembled, and at the close a number of beautiful bouquets were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Benson and the leading members of the company. Mr. Flower, chairman of the Memorial Association, spoke of the gratifying success of these annual celebrations in Shakespeare's town, and said that from small beginnings, twenty-seven years ago, they had assumed not merely a national, but an international character. All Shakespeare's plays had been staged. The leading actor-managers and actresses in London had expressed a desire to co-operate in next year's celebration.

MR. BENSON, who was enthusiastically greeted, said it was a very happy moment for his wife and himself to have had the honour of being instrumental in putting the finishing touches on the second chapter of the history of the theatre. They accepted with great pride, pleasure, and gratitude the kind words, in behalf of themselves, the company, and those artists who had been good enough to help them, among them the daughter of a distinguished actress, who a few years ago was remembered as having produced plays there—Miss Wallis. He hoped the third chapter would be adorned with some capital letters which possibly they had not seen before, and still receive the help of that eloquent and silent voice, which enabled them to realise the object of the Festival.

THE popular actor dwelt eloquently upon the inspiring spirit of Shakespeare, which, he said, was always speaking in that place, but the force that helped very materially to make the plays a success was represented by their friends in front. He did not think they could possibly realise how much the sympathy, the encouragement, the kindness of audiences were helping the work that had been achieved on that stage. No one could guess what the silent voice of a crowd was to persons like themselves, when across the footlights came a message of hope and encouragement. It was the most eloquent message ears could ever listen to.

MR. MILTON ROSMER, who has been engaged by Mr. Fred Warden for the production of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, has made a great success in the part of Romeo, his performance being described as a "revelation of the love and tragedy of Romeo."

MR. KLAW, one of the leading lights of the American "trust," is now in London, and declares managers where he came from used to complain of bad business until they "combined and established an economic and sensible system for producing plays and booking attractions for the whole country. The saving is enormous, and profits can now be made every year." Mr. Klaw is of opinion that the "star" system is better, for America at least, than the actor-manager system, and as he thinks that America possesses a greater number of actresses who can draw audiences than we do, he naturally favours the method obtaining in America, "because," he says, "it gives the actress an equal chance with the actor."

LOOKING towards the future, Mr. Klaw expressed the conviction that in the supply of plays, serious and light, American authors are coming on quickly. "I believe," he added, "that before very long England will take more plays from America than America will take from England. Our people are young and full of ideas, and if they send good plays here your managers won't refuse them."

MR. FRANK GRANS, we are informed, will produce at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, on Monday, May 28, a new farcical comedy, entitled *The Other Man's Business*, with Mr. G. W. Anson and Miss Lilian Hubbard in the cast. A play called *The Other Man's Business*, also with Mr. Anson in the cast, was given its London production at the Metropole Theatre, Camberwell, in the autumn of 1900.

MR. ROBERT GANTHONY, who has provided so many bright evenings by his clever humorous recitals, gave an entertainment at the Freemasons' Hall, Richmond, on Wednesday, when a full and fashionable audience thoroughly enjoyed the clever items submitted. Mr. Ganthony was as amusing as ever in new and old selections, and Miss Nellie Ganthony rendered musical sketches in her own inimitable way. The programme also included Miss Violet Cowles, pianist and vocalist.

MR. FRANK LINDO, who will terminate his successful spring tour of *Home, Sweet Home* at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, Whit-week, has arranged with the directors of the Victoria Theatre, Manchester, to run a stock season there, opening on June 18. His répertoire will consist of such plays as *The Corsican Brothers*, *The Fool's Revenge*, *David Garrick*, &c., and he will also produce, on an elaborate scale, *The Merchant of Venice*, playing Shylock to the Portia of Miss Marion Wakeford.

MISS MARY MOORE will appear at the Coronet Theatre during the week of June 4, playing her original part in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. The cast will also include Miss Marie Illington, in her original part, and Mr. Yorke Stephens. After a week at the Camden Theatre the piece will be sent on tour under the direction of Mr. Thomas McKenzie.

MISS HELEN MAR, the American story-teller, whose piquant Yankee yarns have won her wide celebrity in this city, will give her annual dramatic and musical recital at Steinway Hall on Monday afternoon. Miss Mary Moore, Miss Edna May, and Miss Marie Dainton are included in the programme, and many other well-known artists are announced to appear.

MR. HARRY YORKE, by arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman, will present on Monday next, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, his principal company, including Mr. Henry Renouf, in *Sherlock Holmes*. As is customary with Mr. Yorke's productions, no expense has been spared to ensure a first-class representation of this remarkably fascinating play. The company are booked to shortly appear at the Grand, Leeds, the Grand, Hull, and the Theatre Royal, Bradford, and will certainly command large audiences in these towns.

MR. IVAN BERLYN, whose successful impersonations of Quilp and Fagin will be pleasantly remembered, has, according to general report, presented a worthy addition to his Dickensian studies in *Uriah Heep*, which he is playing for a few weeks with Mr. Charles Cartwright's *David Peggorty* company.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN gave a special performance of *David Garrick* at Eastbourne last week, the house being filled to its utmost capacity. There was a scene of great enthusiasm, the curtain being raised six times at the end of the famous drunken scene. This was the twelfth visit paid by Mr. Norman to Eastbourne with this play.

MR. CHARLES ADESON has been engaged by Mr. Alexander Loftus to play Bertie White in the tour of *The New Barmaid*, to which new songs are being added. Mr. Adeson will make his first appearance in the part on Monday evening at the Theatre Royal, Hull, in which town he is a great favourite. Miss Violet Osmund is back from Monte Carlo, and is once more playing her old part of the Lady Journalist in the same piece, which is going as successful as ever.

"THE SHULAMITE."

A Play, in Three Acts (for the first time), by Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch Produced at the Comedy Theatre, on Saturday, May 12.

Simeon Krillet .....MR. NORMAN MCKINNEL
Robert Waring .....MR. HENRY AINLEY
Jan Vanderberg .....MR. EUGENE MAYEUR
Tante Anna Vanderberg ....MISS ELSIE CHESTER
Memke .....MISS BERYL MERCER
Deborah Krillet .....MISS LENA ASHWELL

M. Hilaire Belloc, in a recent article in the *Independent Review*, describes the effect of the Desert on its inhabitants; and, somehow, one fancies that the South African veldt has a spirit which commands its denizens, which evokes primitive passions and engenders thoughts stern and deep, and prompts actions wild and tragic. One can almost feel the power of the thunderous heat in the second act of *The Shulamite*, and the awesome influence of the vast plain, and the cloudless, pitiless sky. The story is morbid, feverish, overstrung. Messrs. Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch have added a new character-life to drama—the "dour," Presbyterian-like Boer, a true Old Testament personage, consistently cruel to his Kaffirs, consistently tyrannical over the wife he loves in his way, and referring every difficulty of principle and conduct to "the Book." Simeon Krillet's second wife is so beautiful that he applies to her the descriptions given by Solomon in his "Song" of the Shulamite. According to Krillet's doctrine, the wife was made to obey the husband; and, acting up to his principle, he punishes disobedience in her by flogging "till the blood comes." In order to spare herself the degradation of a beating which he is about to inflict on her for reading Shakespeare, Deborah tells Krillet that she is *enceinte;* and the elderly husband is in raptures at the unexpected tidings, and exults in his prospective fatherhood. Deborah grows to hate her tyrant, and to love Robert Waring, a young Englishman who is learning farming from Simeon. Waring is a married man, having left behind him in London a wife who is a hopeless drunkard. Then we have the struggle of the wretched pair against their fate. Waring almost conquers his; he departs from the place of temptation, only to be driven back to it by a lightning-stroke which kills one of the horses in his waggon. He carelessly leaves behind him a diary in which he has set down all his passion for Deborah; and this book falls into the hands of Krillet, who, believing the worst, bids Deborah prepare for death. Waring returns, and in self-defence shoots the Boer, whose body is carried by Waring and Deborah to the place where the horse was killed, so that it may appear that the farmer was struck dead by lightning.

Krillet is buried, and the manner of his death is unsuspected. But the lovers are none the less miserable. Waring learns that his wife is dying, and determines to return to England. Frantic with jealousy, and mad at the thought of losing him, Deborah betrays to the dead man's sister the manner of his death; and then, with a revulsion of impulse, bribes the woman to silence with all Krillet's hoard. Tante Anna, however, will only consent to spare Waring on condition that Deborah swears on the Bible to part from him for ever; and so, when the man's good resolutions at last break down, and, with passionate energy, he swears to stay and live with Deborah, he is met by her unalterable refusal, and departs, leaving her, with her hand on the Bible, praying for strength to keep her oath.

The Shulamite is one of those plays that hold the audience in a pincer-like grip, that wring the heart and strain the nerves so that they find relief in frantic applause at each descent of the curtain. In a piece of this kind Miss Lena Ashwell is at her best; and few, if any, actresses on the English stage could have so well rendered the indignant revolt, the mad passion, and the intense agony of the unfortunate Deborah Krillet. We hardly know in which Miss Ashwell was the finer; in the stern and terrible stress at the conclusion of the second act, or in the third, when the nerves of the wretched woman are worn out by all she has undergone, and, mastered by her impulses, she loses all self-control. Miss Ashwell's creation of the character, as a whole, was superb; and the way in which the power of her performance grew and culminated was as admirable as the sustained and collected intensity of the conception. Mr. Norman McKinnel gave a grandly simple and nobly rugged impersonation of the stern, cruel, deeply serious Boer, Simeon Krillet, the gloomy serenity of the character being only broken by the one powerful outburst when Krillet discovers, as he thinks, his wife's infidelity. Here Mr. McKinnel was deeply impressive, and acted with tremendous fervour and intensity. Mr. Henry Ainley gave Robert Waring just the needed touch of ironic bitterness, and showed the quick, sensitive nature of the Englishman very cleverly. In the scenes of passion in the last act he quite rose to the occasion, and took full advantage of all his opportunities. It was a difficult part to play, and Mr. Ainley has added to his reputation by the way in which he rendered it. He might, perhaps, reconsider his make-up. Mr. Eugene Mayeur enacted Jan Vanderberg in a homely, sympathetic style that was quite appropriate; and Miss Elsie Chester put a surprising amount of spirit and energy into her rendering of the rôle of Tante Anna Vanderberg, her work in the scene between the two women in the last act being especially praiseworthy. Miss Beryl Mercer contributed a neat and natural rendering of the Kaffir girl, Memke. Mr. Clement Barnes' scenery was just what was required to suggest the veldt environment, and Mr. Edward Sass's production of the play ensured the smoothness of the performance in every detail. *The Shulamite* was received with the most enthusiastic expressions of approval, and loud applause demonstrated the intense delight of the audience.

ANY of our readers who may desire to qualify for the business side of amusement may like to know that the Head Master of the Select British School of Private Secretaries, 97, New Bond-street, grants special terms to all who have been and are connected with the stage. He has daily applications from professional and commercial employers seeking the services of intelligent and trained pupils in shorthand, correspondence, typing, &c. At the school shorthand is guaranteed to be taught in one-fifth of the time occupied in most institutions, and clients are placed, when competent, in money-bringing capacities. A post-card will bring all particulars post free.

MR. FRANK LISTON writes to say that Oliver West, not Oliver Twist, is the character played by him in *Shall We Forgive Her?*

"THE LONELY MILLIONAIRES."

A Comedy, in Three Acts, by Mrs. Henry de la Pasture, Produced at the Adelphi Theatre, on Tuesday, May 15.

Thomas Frankland .....MR. OSCAR ASCHE
Christina .....MISS LILY BRAYTON
Miss Moreton .....MISS FRANCES WETHERALL
Signor Luigi Peretta ..MR. HERBERT GRIMWOOD
Lady Medwin .....MISS LOTTIE VENNE
Dr. Macpherson .....MR. ALFRED BRYDONE
Joseph Lipscombe .....MR. CHARLES ROCK
Lord Frederick Herewid..MR. W. GAYER MACKAY
Sir Charles Ducarel, Bart...MR. MATHESON LANG
Maria .....MISS ANNIE SCHLETTER

The production of *The Lonely Millionaires* at the Adelphi Theatre, on Tuesday evening, laboured under the disadvantage that the actors were far too good for the play. They were all, as they write of racehorses, "going well within themselves," and the representatives of the leading characters were never "fully extended." We are by no means inclined to accept the loud disapproval of a portion of those present on Tuesday evening as a reliable prophecy of the fate of Mrs. Henry de la Pasture's piece. The paying public is much less sophisticated than the first-nighters; and, with all its simplicities and conventionalities, we should not be surprised to see *The Lonely Millionaires* "catch on." For, despite its *naïveté* and the demands it makes upon the indulgence of an intellectual audience, it never "drags." The action is continuous, and the comedy, without being brilliant, passably amusing. That the piece does not pretend to depth or realism will be rather a recommendation of it to many playgoers.

The "millionaires" of the title are Thomas Frankland—a widower and retired cotton-spinner—and Sir Charles Ducarel, who has made a large fortune in Buenos Ayres. Cleddon, the estate owned by Frankland, was formerly the property of the baronet, who returns from South America and takes, *incognito*, the position of Frankland's private secretary in order to be near Lady Medwin, a widow of twenty-three with whom Sir Charles was in love before her marriage with Sir George Medwin. Her ladyship, who is *chaperone* to Frankland's daughter Christina, is a cool and sedate personage, the antipodes in character of Sir Charles, who is very violent and impulsive. Finding his old love indifferent to him, the baronet becomes enamoured of Christina, a stalwart, self-willed young minx, who fancies herself in love with her drawing-master, an Italian scamp named Peretta. Frankland is far from being a happy man. His manners are rough and his accent uneducated, and he finds himself isolated by his wealth, and surrounded by sycophants and sinecurists. He cannot govern his daughter, who is absurd enough to ask him to give her Peretta as a husband for a birthday present. The millionaire indignantly refuses, and proceeds to buy the drawing-master off with £5000, a consideration for which Peretta promises to leave the country, and signs a paper to that effect. Frankland shows the document to Christina with the object of disgusting her with her foolish choice; but the girl persists in believing in her lover, follows him on his departure, and calls at his garret in London, where she is confronted by Mrs. Peretta, who is the mother of a fine family. Christina is hidden behind an easel when Peretta dashes in with the £5000 cheque and revels in anticipations of future happiness. His raptures are cut short by Christina snatching the cheque from him and tearing it up; and Sir Charles, who has followed the young lady in a special train, protects her from Peretta's threatened violence, and takes her home to her father. The end is easily foreseen. The supposed secretary declares his love; but Christina refuses to marry him unless he will promise not to touch any of her father's money, a vow which the rich man from Buenos Ayres is, of course, quite ready to take. Sir Charles's identity is made known, and Frankland, after accepting him as a son-in-law, pairs off with Lady Medwin.

The superiority of the principals to their parts lent an agreeable ease to their performances, Mr. Oscar Asche giving full weight to Thomas Frankland's solid gravity and good-natured repose, and putting plenty of feeling into his depiction of the millionaire's distress under the infliction of his daughter's vagaries. The quiet humour of Mr. Asche's interpretation was not its least merit, and certainly the part, such as it was, could not have been better played. Miss Lily Brayton developed with skill and success the self-willed side of Christina's character, the resolute obstinacy of the young lady being very vigorously emphasised. It seems improbable that a young person capable of appreciating the merit of the baronet could have been beguiled by the "bounder," but in the matter of men there is no accounting for feminine tastes, and Signor Luigi Peretta's plausibility was certainly considerable. The part was well played by Mr. Herbert Grimwood, who elaborated very effectively the suave eloquence and florid gestures of the oily Italian rascal. His acting in the scene of negotiation with Frankland was very clever indeed. Miss Lottie Venne embodied Lady Medwin with her wonted demureness and drollery, and made the most of her moderate opportunities; and Mr. Alfred Brydone contributed a clever and characteristic impersonation of the sententious Scotch physician, Dr. Macpherson. Mr. Charles Rock's butler was a very diverting study, the make-up being especially excellent; and Mr. W. Gayer Mackay's Lord Frederick Herewid was an up-to-date comedy creation of real artistic merit. Mr. Matheson Lang treated his rôle of Sir Charles Ducarel with a quiet power that told immensely, and gave an admirably-balanced and always active and energetic rendering of the part, handling it in a manly, straightforward style that carried conviction. A particularly clever embodiment of the passionate and jealous Maria was furnished by Miss Annie Schletter, who played the Italian wife in just the ornate, intense, and fervent style which was appropriate. Mr. Joseph Harker was responsible for the very handsome library set which was twice shown in the course of the evening; and Mr. Oscar Asche's superintendence of the production ensured for it all the requisite smoothness and spirit. The mixed reception which was given to *The Lonely Millionaires* was certainly caused by the high anticipations raised by recent productions at the Adelphi. Mr. Otho Stuart and Mr. Asche have taught their patrons to expect an entertainment a great deal less conventional and more intellectual than the present attraction, which is nevertheless a good piece of its class, well constructed, ably written, and containing some very pleasant scenes of comedy.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"RAFFLES,"
THE AMATEUR CRACKSMAN.

A Play, in Four Acts, by E. W. Hornung and Eugene W. Presbrey. Produced at the Comedy Theatre on Saturday, May 12.

The Earl of Amersteth ....MR. FREDERICK VOLPE
Viscount Crowley .....MR. COURTENAY FOOTE
A. J. Raffles .....MR. GERALD DU MAURIER
Curtis Bedford .....MR. DION BOUCICAULT
Harry Manders .....MR. GRAHAM BROWNE
Crawshay .....MR. LAURENCE IRVING
Goldby .....MR. HORTON COOPER
Merton .....MR. JAMES FRANKLIN
Lady Melrose .....MISS HILDA THORPE
Lady Ethel .....MISS LETTICE FAIRFAX
Gwendoline Conran .....MISS JESSIE BATEMAN
Mrs. Vidal .....MISS SARAH BROOKE
Marie .....MISS FLORENCE SINCLAIR

Deep lies the love of melodrama in the human breast. You may improve the Adelphi and close the Princess's, but the longing for strong situations, alarms and excursions, and all the stock-in-trade of the clever craftsman well-practised in the art of excitement will come flying back though driven out with the oft-quoted Horatian fork. When we get our melodrama in condensed form, with all the accessories of modern civilisation, it is certain to give satisfaction. Messrs. E. W. Hornung and Eugene W. Presbrey have concocted an entertainment of thrilling interest, the leading character of which possesses all the romantic glamour which attaches to the abnormal, the extraordinary, and the distinguished. The hero of *Captain Swift*—and *Raffles* belongs to the same *genre*—is a simple ex-bushranger masquerading as a blameless citizen; but A. J. Raffles, the amateur cracksman, is—of all things!—a "champion" cricketer who suffers from kleptomania. When this "interesting burglar" goes a-burgling he does so not for lucre chiefly, but *pour l'amour de l'art*. If he steals a famous gold cup from the British Museum he sends it to Windsor Castle as a Jubilee gift. Still, he reserves sufficient of his spoils for his personal wants, on the principle that the artist must live. His cricketing prowess admits him to the best society, and he is an honoured guest at Milchester Abbey, the country house of the Earl of Amersteth, where the lovely Miss Gwendoline Conran falls in love with him, much to the chagrin of Raffles's friend, Harry Manders, who is hopelessly enamoured of the young lady. A professional burglar, Crawshay, now crosses the path of the amateur. Crawshay, in collusion with Marie, Lady Amersteth's maid, plans to rob her ladyship of her splendid diamond necklace; but when the maid brings the jewels down into the hall of Milchester Abbey Raffles snatches them from her hand and grapples with Crawshay, who is given into custody, but escapes from the rustic constable and is again at large. Curtis Bedford, a detective who is trying to discover and capture the mysterious "amateur cracksman," is misled into believing that a certain Viscount Crowley is the thief of the necklace, and Mrs. Vidal, a grass-widow with an unreasoning passion for Raffles, and who is aware of his identity, will not now betray him. To help Manders to pay a debt of honour, Raffles bets Bedford that he will not find the diamond necklace within twenty-four hours. In the third act Crawshay turns up at Raffles's chambers in the Albany and claims a share in the "swag." The house is surrounded by Bedford's myrmidons; and, after various exciting incidents, Raffles assists his professional rival to escape by a window, tying himself up and taking chloroform, so that when the police break in he appears to have been Crawshay's victim. Bedford does not succeed in finding the necklace within the given time; but Mrs. Vidal, whose love is scorned by Raffles, agrees to "give him away," and he has to admit his guilt, restore the gems, and disillusionise Gwendoline. He gets off en route for Australia in an ingenious manner, going into an inner room, firing off a pistol in order to make believe that he has committed suicide, and, as the police burst into the room, escaping through a "practicable" grandfather's clock which stands against the wall of the outer chamber and has been supplied with a movable back to meet such an emergency.

Extravagant as this plot may read in type, it has quite a different effect when enacted by such a capital all-round company as that which Mr. Charles Frohman has assembled at the Comedy. Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, with his sharply-cut features and firm, decisive style, is just the artist to represent the keen and polished amateur burglar and champion cricketer; and the serious way in which he takes his task does much to carry a conviction which the ultra-romantic conception of the character is inclined to endanger. Mr. Dion Boucicault as the not too clever detective who is pitted against the cool and crafty "cracksman" acts with his usual nice sense of proportion and easy, fluent emphasis. Mr. Frederick Volpe as the Earl of Amersteth could hardly have been improved upon, so full was his reading of the necessary solid dignity and British *bonhomie* and sturdiness. Mr. Courtenay Foote hits off with a free hand the harmless young Viscount; and that always efficient and ever reliable actor, Mr. Graham Browne, does some excellent emotional acting as Harry Manders. Mr. Laurence Irving is exceptionally well adapted for the part of Crawshay, and depicts the coarse and brutal "professional" with remarkable earnestness, energy, and power. Mr. Horton Cooper contributes a well-defined character-sketch as Goldby, and Mr. James Franklin is an irreproachable butler of the "aristocratic-household" order. Miss Hilda Thorpe does valuable and conscientious work as Lady Melrose, the hauteur and repose of the personage being well indicated; and Miss Lettice Fairfax's bright and pleasant style and "pretty ways" make her a delightful exponent of the character of Lady Ethel. Miss Jessie Bateman's depiction of the varied emotions experienced by the much-troubled Gwendoline Conran is very expressive, her facial play at certain points being commendably subtle and various; and Miss Saran Brooke plays Mrs. Vidal with all the necessary polish, a charming individuality, and a complete absence of exaggeration. Miss Florence Sinclair's Marie has real merit, and with brief opportunities she contrives to make her mark very decidedly. Mr. Bruce Smith's Milchester Abbey set is admirably planned and built, and to Mr. Dion Boucicault's careful production of the piece the remarkable smartness with which the business was done may be attributed. *Raffles* is, indeed, mounted, dressed, acted, and stage-managed with praiseworthy care and skill. The piece got hold of the "house" at an early period of the evening, and at the end of the performance the audience gave the fullest proofs of their satisfaction with the entertainment.

THE LYRIC.

On Thursday Afternoon, May 17, Revival of "OTHELLO."

Othello .....MR. LEWIS WALLER
Iago .....MR. H. B. IRVING
Brabantio .....MR. HENRY NEVILLE
Cassio .....MR. HENRY AINLEY
Roderigo .....MR. A. E. GEORGE
Duke of Venice .....MR. S. A. COOKSON
Montano .....MR. OWEN ROUGHWOOD
Lodovico .....MR. FRANK WOOLFE
Gratiano .....MR. TOM HESELWOOD
Messenger .....MR. SHIEL BARRY
First Senator .....MR. ERIC SCOTT
First Gentleman .....MR. J. H. IRVINE
First Officer .....MR. JOHN BYRON
Emilia .....MISS EDITH WYNNE MATTHISON
Bianca .....MISS SARAH BROOKE
Desdemona .....MISS EVELYN MILLARD

There are few plays of Shakespeare which are so difficult to reconcile to modern theatrical taste as *Othello*, and it is a tremendous tribute to the power of Shakespeare that, in this drama of his, he compels contemporary admiration. To the twentieth-century playgoer, so informed and so urban, Othello's simplicity seems impossible. To a Northerner his violence, the effusiveness of his wrath, and even his picturesque eloquence are almost absurd. Accustomed as we are to associate aristocracy with the repression of emotion and strength with reserve, we can hardly admire the African exuberance, the overpowering, unbridled passion of the Moor. There is a good deal of truth in Mr. Bernard Shaw's remark that Shakespeare's plays suffer on account of the change that has taken place in the outlook on life since they were written; and, though most of us do not go as far as the author of *Candida* in considering jealousy "either an egotistical meanness or a specific mania," yet the convenience of the Divorce Court has a tendency to make marital revenge seem superfluous. *Othello*, ethically, is out of date; but it is so superb, constructionally and dramatically, that it "takes us by the collar" and forces us to be thrilled and interested in spite of our educations.

All that could be done to reconcile the play to a modern audience was done at the matinée at the Lyric on Thursday. It was really a treat to witness this revival, so artistic, so painstaking, and so excellent in every way all round. It speaks volumes for the amount of contemporary ability that such a cast for *Othello* could have been collected for the purpose of a few morning performances. Mr. Lewis Waller was an ideal representative of the Moor. His features were admirably suited to the part, and he played it with a large and gracious virility, a simple, resolute force, and a passionate vigour, which deserved the most enthusiastic praise. Every speech, every situation was treated with bold confidence and keen appreciation. There was nothing "stagey" about this Othello, and there was nothing feeble. Mr. Waller neither "ranted" nor posed, but, with sound judgment, allotted to every line and to his share in every scene the due amount of restraint or emphasis. Mr. H. B. Irving's Iago was a masterpiece of subtle characterisation—polished, acute, and incisive. The way in which every detail of the picture was worked in was wonderful, and the whole conception of the character proved the high intellectual calibre of the artist. One of the finest performances of the afternoon was Mr. Henry Neville's Brabantio. The old Venetian noble, so grandly indignant and so manly in his distress, was represented in a manner which can hardly be over-commended. Mr. Henry Ainley, who goes on improving with startling rapidity, was a capital Cassio, and showed very sound judgment in his treatment of the drunken scene—a severe test of a young actor's intelligence. Mr. A. E. George gave to Roderigo just the necessary touch and no more of comedy, and played the part effectively and discreetly; and Mr. S. A. Cookson showed real talent in his brief appearance as the Duke of Venice. Mr. Owen Roughwood as Montano, Mr. Frank Woolfe as Lodovico, and Mr. Tom Heselwood as Gratiano sustained those characters with irreproachable care and undeniable ability; and a word of praise is due to Mr. Shiel Barry for his clear distinctness of delivery as the Messenger. Miss Edith Wynne Matthison's Emilia had just the needed touch of rebelliousness and humour; and Miss Sarah Brooke's Bianca was delightfully easy and natural. Miss Evelyn Millard's Desdemona was a delicate and noble depiction of chaste and tender womanhood, and her command of technique was a very valuable factor of her success. There was nothing of a "scratch" nature about the revival, and Messrs. E. G. Banks, W. T. Hemsley, R. McCleery, and T. E. Ryan's scenery was of the most artistic and elaborate excellence. The whole production, under Mr. Herbert Jarman's supervision, was thorough and complete; and the deep attention and hearty applause of the audience eloquently expressed their delight and satisfaction.

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

The British Empire Shakespeare Society, which was formed in 1901 for the purpose of promoting greater familiarity with Shakespeare's works among all classes in the British Empire, as well as to form Shakespeare clubs and reading societies, arranged a pleasant evening's entertainment last Sunday at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock-place, when a dramatic reading of *The Tempest* was given. The play was arranged and rehearsed for the occasion by Mr. Acton Bond, who is the honorary general director of the dramatic readings promoted by the Society; and Miss Margaret Parker read the stage directions on the evening in question. Mr. Acton Bond's enunciation of Prospero's lines was what one would have expected from such an accomplished actor, and Mr. J. Fisher White gave us the husky and savage tones and ferocious imprecations of Caliban in admirable style; although, forsooth, our Caliban was in modern evening dress and didn't look the least bit hideous. Miss Nellie Bowman's sweet and expressive voice was heard to good effect in the part of Ariel, and from her we got an exquisite rendering of "Come unto these yellow sands," "Where the bee sucks," and "Full fathom five." Mr. Reginald Owen's delivery of Ferdinand's speeches was full of character, and Mr. Frank Lacy submitted an excellent vocal interpretation of the jests of Trinculo. Miss Beatrice Irwin spoke well and clearly as Miranda, and Mr. J. Henry Twyford's reading of the part of Sebastian was vigorous and manly. Mr. Yates Southgate imparted the correct intonation to the words of Gonzalo, and Mr. Clive Curtis appropriately drawled out the sentences of the drunken Stephano. Mr. Charles Myers and Mr. Devil Powell, as Alonzo and Antonio respectively, acquitted themselves to everyone's satisfaction, and Miss Patricia Plowman, who made an acceptable Juno, gave an expressive and tuneful rendering of "Honour riches."

"MIDSUMMER FIRES."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Hermann Sudermann; Faithfully Rendered in English by Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Grein; Produced at the Scala Theatre on Sunday, May 12, and repeated at a Matinée on Monday, May 13.

Vogelreuter .....MR. BLAKE ADAMS
Gertrude .....MISS MAY MARTYN
Ploetz .....MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN
Mrs. Vogelreuter .....MISS ELSIE CHESTER
George Von Hartvig .....MR. LESLIE FABER
Marikke .....MISS SUZANNE SHELDON
Haffke .....MR. ATHOL STEWART
Nanni .....MISS INEZ BENSUSAN
A Servant .....MISS HOPE MAYNE
A Gipsy Woman .....MRS. CALHAEM

Sudermann's *Johannisfeuer*, which has already been played at the German Theatre in London, was first produced at the Royal Schauspiel-Haus, Berlin, on Oct. 5, 1900. It was not altogether a success, certainly not the success anticipated by the great dramatist's admirers. The first and second acts were well received, but then a reaction set in, and the final act was hissed by a dissatisfied portion of the audience. Though distinguished by some clever character-drawing, the play was not found to contain the qualities to ensure sustained popularity. The first act is admirably written, but the promise of the opening is not fulfilled. The author no doubt placed dependence upon his third act, but in actual representation this was found to be disappointing. The verdict of Berlin audiences regarding the merits of the piece has not been reversed by playgoers who have witnessed *Midsummer Fires* in London either in the original German or the faithful English translation.

There are four acts, but only one scene—an interior. Vogelreuter is a landowner living on his estate in East Prussia, and the family consists of his wife, his daughter Gertrude, and an adopted daughter Marikke. The last-mentioned is the child of a gipsy woman of disreputable character, a slovenly, unkempt creature given to drink and thieving. The Vogelreuters took pity on the much-neglected little girl and brought her up as one of their own family. As she grows into womanhood she repays their kindness by becoming her foster mother's principal assistant in the discharge of the household duties. When the play opens we find that the gipsy woman, who has already undergone a term of imprisonment for theft, has been seen again in the neighbourhood, much to the annoyance of Vogelreuter, and is being watched by his bailiff Ploetz. George Von Hartvig, an architect and the landowner's nephew, is engaged to Gertrude, a simple, innocent girl, who is still a child in manner and feeling, and the nuptials are about to be celebrated. Marikke, who has been very busy in preparing the new home for the reception of the bride and bridegroom, discovers in a bookcase a little diary belonging to George, and containing verses which reveal the fact that four years ago he was in love with Marikke. The girl admits to George that she has read the verses, and also that she has hitherto concealed her real feelings towards him, believing that he would never dream of marrying the daughter of a drunken gipsy woman. However, it is too late to remedy the mistake, and matters must take their course. Marikke has recently discovered that the gipsy hag is her mother, but when at her own desire she meets her face to face she shrinks from the wretched creature in disgust. The old woman asks for brandy, apparently her favourite tipple, takes from her daughter the silk apron she is wearing, and steals some linen which she finds lying about. However, Marikke hands her a gold coin, compels her to restore the stolen goods she has in her possession, and bids her begone. Von Hartvig shows a spirit of independence which aggravates his uncle, and they have a rather violent quarrel, which, however, in view of the approaching marriage is patched up for the time being. On Midsummer Night it is the custom of the peasants to light bonfires on the hills, and these are watched by the family from the open door, while Haffke, the young curate, who has recently come to the village, improves the occasion by a brief address, followed by George, who expresses his views in language that his uncle candidly admits he does not in the least understand. Then, when the remainder of the household have retired to rest, a long interview takes place between George and Marikke. The thought of the fires that have now burnt out and the stillness of the moonlight night have a potent effect upon the gipsy blood running in the girl's veins, and she gives way to the passion that consumes her. Her mother is a thief, she cries, and she will be a thief too. But her theft is of a different kind, and more far-reaching and serious in its results. In the last act George proposes to Marikke that they shall die together or confess their secret, but the gipsy girl will not agree to either of these courses, but declares her intention of leaving the village for ever and gaining her livelihood in some distant spot. They must not bring misery upon the home which has sheltered her so long; and so George, who cannot but see the force of her reasoning, pairs off with poor little Gertrude, leaving one in grave doubts as to his future happiness as a married man. The curate Haffke is also grievously disappointed, for Marikke had consented to become his wife; but this has now become impossible, and though the story finishes with a wedding it can scarcely be termed a happy ending.

Miss Suzanne Sheldon gave a carefully-studied and impressive embodiment of Marikke, expressing with fidelity and force the emotions which sway the passionate gipsy nature. Equally satisfactory was the George Von Hartvig of Mr. Leslie Faber, who showed intensity and real feeling in his representation of the young architect, and acted with consistent power throughout. Miss May Martyn was a pretty and dainty exponent of the character of the artless, confiding, almost childish, but lovable, Gertrude, who is gay at one moment, tearful and pathetic the next. Mr. Blake Adams was well placed at the austere, autocratic landowner Vogelreuter, whose wife was ably embodied by Miss Elsie Chester. Mr. Athol Stewart deserves praise for his neat and lifelike sketch of the curate Haffke, the preachy tone adopted being quite in keeping with the character. Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn ably depicted the bailiff Ploetz, and Miss Inez Bensusan was quite successful as the garrulous housekeeper Nanni. Mrs. Calhaem was sufficiently repulsive in appearance as the old gipsy woman, and played the part admirably, and Miss Hope Mayne as a maid-servant completed the cast. The German play was produced by Herr Hans Andresen, which was a guarantee of completeness so far as the staging was concerned.

MADAME DORINA NATALIA (the celebrated South African contralto) appeared at the Criterion Restaurant last Sunday evening, and gave the audience a fine rendering of seven songs. The excellent Criterion orchestra accompanied her in Bemberg's "Nymphes et Sylvans" and "Carmens," She accompanied herself at the piano in "For love of you," "Printemps Nouveau," "Spring is here," and "Allerseelen." Unbounded applause greeted each song, and at the conclusion the management handed Madame Natalia a magnificent bouquet of Leander roses.

DURING the London season of Mme. Jane Hading, organised by Mr. Robert Arthur, a flying matinée will be given at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on June 1, when the talented artist and her entire Parisian company will appear in M. Georges Ohnet's play *Le Maître de Forges.*

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

STANDING ROOM.

On the reception of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee's report, Mr. Yates, the Chairman, in reply to Mr. Edwin Smith, said that the Council's solicitor was not yet ready with his report as to the Council's control over the Albert Hall, respecting which a question was asked at the previous meeting. The Committee were considering the whole question of standing room in licensed places of entertainment, but were not yet prepared to submit a report on the subject.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered a drawing, submitted by Messrs. F. Matcham and Co., showing a new engine-room proposed to be erected at the Holborn Empire. They recommended that Messrs. F. Matcham and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by them with regard to the proposed new engine-house provided the following conditions be complied with—(1) That arrangements be made for the work to be executed without causing obstruction to the exits; (2) that the engine-room be separated from the other parts of the music hall to the satisfaction of the Council; (3) that the ventilation of the new building be so arranged as to prevent an accumulation of escaped gas in the engine-house or the producer room, and that the ventilating arrangements be to the satisfaction of the Council; (4) that the frontage of the old engine-room be set back as much as possible, so as to improve the width of the exit in Little Turnstile; (5) that the old engine-room be not used for any other purpose without the sanction of the Council being first obtained; (6) that if it be intended that the engines shall be the only source of supply of power for the dynamos used in lighting the building, the plant be arranged with everything in duplicate; (7) that the arrangements in connection with the installation of the engines be to the satisfaction of the Council; and (8) that plans showing how it is proposed to connect the existing circuits to the engines and dynamos in their proposed positions in the new engine-room be submitted to, and approved by, the Council before the work of transferring the engines is commenced.

Agreed to.

OLYMPIA.

The Committee reported that they had considered drawings submitted by Mr. F. H. Payne, showing the proposed arrangements at Olympia, Addison-road, Kensington, during a motor exhibition to be held in the autumn. They recommended that Mr. Payne be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawings submitted, provided the following conditions be complied with—(1) That the cross gangway, opposite the Hammersmith-road entrance, be increased in width to 10 feet; (2) that all moving machinery be protected with wire guards of an approved pattern, previous to the opening of the exhibition; (3) that no thin wood lining be used in the construction of the stands, and that any material used for draping be rendered non-inflammable; and (4) that the arrangements for the storage of petrol and charging the cars be to the satisfaction of the Council.

Approved.

SHAKESPEARE FIRST.

The Education Committee reported that they had had under consideration the annual revision of the prize list for public elemenetary schools. This list comprised 1,142 books, and it appeared that of the volumes of poetry requisitioned in 1905 Shakespeare stood at the head of the list with 298, Tennyson being a very good second with 296, followed by Longfellow with 281. Amongst the works of fiction, the most popular were "Grimm's Stories and Tales," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "Robinson Crusoe."

FREE TUITION IN MUSIC.

The Education Committee reported that the Council on December 19, 1905, had under consideration a letter from the secretary of the Trinity College of Music, London, asking if an offer from that institution to provide free tuition in music to a number of selected and approved scholars from the schools would be entertained by the Council. The Council decided that if such an offer were submitted it would be prepared to consider it favourably. The Board of Trinity College had now submitted definite proposals on the subject, and the Committee recommended that the offer be accepted.

Carried.

MADAME KATE FLINN'S CONCERT.

At Steinway Hall on Tuesday afternoon Madame Kate Flinn gave a highly successful concert. Mme. Flinn was assisted by Mr. Sydney Jarvis, Miss Maud Aldis, the Ladies' Salon Quartet, and a large number of her pupils, who greatly distinguished themselves. The concert began with Dvorák's quartet "Bagatellen," cleverly played by the Ladies' Salon Quartet; following this a very talented pupil of Mme. Flinn's, Miss Barbara Battishill, sang "Sognai," by Schira, in a manner that reflected great credit on the clever training the young lady has received. Miss G. von Taysen, another clever pupil possessing a fine rich mezzo-soprano, sang Alma Goetz's "Mélisande in the Wood" with real dramatic feeling. Mme. Kate Flinn, who was warmly received by the large audience, gave a French song by Grissart, "Chanson Brésilienne," with great brilliancy, and for the inevitable encore the artist responded with "Just her way," which was charmingly rendered. Miss Hebe Dennes, another young lady who studied to great advantage under Mme. Flinn, sang with considerable fluency R. Batten's somewhat difficult song "April Morn," the clever student being heartily applauded at the close, and Miss Ruby Cobbett, also a pupil of Mme. Flinn, sang Giordani's fine song "Caro mio ben" with great effect, and later in the concert gave a "Land of Roses," by Teresa del Riego, and "In my Garden," by S. Liddle, the latter song gaining the lady great applause. A clever performance of De Beriot's violin "Concerto" was given by an extremely young performer named Stanelli, aged eleven years, who on this occasion made his first appearance in London, with every promise of future success. Mr. Sydney Jarvis got ample effect out of Maud V. White's spirited song "King Charles," and was also heard to advantage in the pathetic "Crossing the Bar." Miss Maud Aldis was heard in two violin solos, "Aria" (1750), Mondouville, and "Poéme Hongroise," Lederer, played with good tone and expression. Mme. Kate Flinn, to the manifest delight of the audience, sang two Swedish songs, "King Hakon's Cradle-Song," by August Ekenbery, and "Old Bridget," by Vilhelm Peterson-Berger, and "Philosophy," by David Emmell, given by special request and accompanied by the composer, which being sung with delightful humour, Mme. Flinn had to repeat the last verse as an encore. A clever and very youthful pupil of Mme. Flinn's, Miss Elaine Hawkins, gave a song and dance, entitled "The Carnival of the Toys," which was well received; and another pupil, Miss Lucy Webling, greatly amused the audience with some humorous recitations, one of which, giving a description of blacking the baby, caused much amusement. The concert concluded with a duet, "I wish I were a tiny bird," sung by Miss Hebe Dennis and Miss Ruby Cobbett. The accompanists were Mr. Harold Grimston, Miss Alyce Kent, and Mr. David Emmell.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 21.

After the Ball.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
At Duty's Call.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
At the World's Mercy.—Queen's T., Workington.
Beauty and the Barge.—O. H., Leicester.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Assembly Rooms, Malvern.
Benson, F. R. (B).—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush.—Court T., Liverpool.
Boom of Big Ben.—West London Theatre.
Bramley, Esmond.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Christian, The (Croke's).—Prince's T., Poplar.
Claudian.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Compton Comedy Co.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Cotton Spinner.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—O. H., Harrogate.
Dishonoured.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Drama of Life.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Rotherham.
Facing the Music.—T. R., Worthing.
False Wife.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
Fight for Millions.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
For Life—and After.—Grand T., Woolwich.
Golden Ladder.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
Go-Won-Go-Mohawk.—T. R., Leicester.
Great Awakening.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Her Lost Self.—Grand T., Swansea.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Jarrow.
Her One Great Sin.—Queen's T., Longton.
Her Wedding Day.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Honour Thy Father.—T. R., Attercliffe.
Human Hearts.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
I Defy the World.—T. R., Bristol.
In Holy Russia.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Bowness-on-Windermere.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Little Bread-Winner.—Grand T., Nottingham.
London Firemen.—Prince's T., Preston.
Love That Women Desire.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Luck of Life.—O. H., Porth.
Macowan Norman.—Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.
Man and Wife.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Man's Enemy.—Court T., Warrington.
Manxman, The.—Royalty T., Chester.
Midnight Mail.—Grand T., Halifax.
Midnight Wedding.—T. R., Lincoln.
Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner.—Shakespeare T., L'pool.
Moody-Manners (B.).—O. H., Crouch End.
Napoleon the Great.—Palace T., Newcastle.
New World, The.—Grand T., Nelson.
Otto, the Outcast.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Passion's Power.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
Peggy Machree.—Prince's T., Bristol.
Penalty of Crime.—Grand T., Islington.
Plucky Nipper.—Bedford and Luton.
Poor Must Live.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Power of Gold.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
Price of Her Soul.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Prince of Pilsen.—T. R., Nottingham.
Prodigal Parson.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
Proof.—Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
Public Opinion (N.).—Kennington Theatre.
Public Opinion (S.).—Cork.
Queen of Villainy.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Rogue's Daughter.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Rogues of the Turf.—T. R., Sunderland.
Romany's Revenge.—O. H., St. Helens.
Royal Divorce.—Camden Theatre.
Royal Divorce (N.).—T. R., West Bromwich.
Royal Revenge.—O. H., Coventry.
Sailors of the King.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
See-Saw of Life.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Sin of Her Childhood.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Sins of a City.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
Somebody's Sweetheart.—T. R., West Stanley.
Still Alarm.—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
Sunday.—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
Temptress, The.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
Throne of Terror.—New Theatre, Conseth.
Two Hussars.—Globe Theatre, Deal.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Birkenhead.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Har.).—T. R., Bournemouth.
Under the Czar.—T. R., North Shields.
Unwedded Wife.—T. R., Batley.
Village Blacksmith.—Junction T., Manchester.
Walls of Jericho (S.).—Broadway T., New Cross.
Warner, Miss Grace.—T. R., Smethwick.
Way of the World.—Theatre Royal, Glossop.
What the Butler Saw.—New Theatre, Oxford.
When a Man Hates.—T. R., Stratford.
Wilkie, Allen, and Co.—O. H., Jersey.
Willard, E. S.—Princess's Theatre, Toronto.
Woman of Pleasure.—Prince's T., Accrington.
Woman's Past.—Theatre Royal, Middlesboro.
Woulfe T. B. Rep.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Youngest of Three.—Pier Pavilion, Hastings.
10.30 Down Express.—Metropole T., Devonport.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

Miss Lena Ashwell wears her simple gowns as Deborah in *The Shulamite* at the Savoy with infinite charm. She appears in the first act in a quaint floral muslin, without ornamentation—simply drawn into the waist with a lilac ribbon; at the neck, which is slightly open, and without any collar, is knotted also a ribbon sailor fashion, and a picturesque lilac linen sun-bonnet. Afterwards, in the third act, this is changed for an equally simple gown. Black alpaca composes the skirt, which is braided with a soutache, the silken muslin bodice being open at the throat.

The dresses in *Raffles*, at the Comedy Theatre, are tasteful and elaborate. Miss Jessie Bateman, in the second act, wears an exquisite summer frock of palest maize batiste. The bodice is tucked horizontally, and arranged with a dainty little Valenciennes chemisette with tiny maize bows down the centre; the skirt is trimmed with two bands of lace, and the deep waist-band and the buckle which fastens it are made of the batiste. A lovely evening frock is worn in the third act. Of white chiffon over satin, it is trimmed with mother-of-pearl embroidery, passing in a key pattern straight down the centre of the gown in front, and continued round the skirt a few inches above the hem.

Miss Lettice Fairfax wears a charming Empire gown of white embroidered linen. The skirt has three flounces of the white linen bordered with Valenciennes lace, while the bodice is finished with an embroidered linen collar run with blue ribbons, and at the back of the waist there is a big bow with sash-ends of the blue ribbon; blue ribbons are also prettily tied round the elbow sleeves. The pink tulle evening gown worn by Miss Fairfax in the last act has a low bodice fully gathered and caught in front with a bow of silver tissu shot with pink and fastened with a paste buckle.

Dyed tussore silk is the striking feature of Miss Sarah Brooke's smart little frock of blue tussore, much tucked and stitched; the bodice has a little chemisette of soft white batiste and Valenciennes, and a black silk cravat completes the effect. Miss Brooke also has an Empire gown. It is a lovely evening frock of pale grey net sewn with pearls and glittering with silver embroidery. The net is made up over silver tissue, and touches of shot pink and silver tissue trim the bodice.

PLAY-WRITING AS A PROFESSION.

Under this title Mr. Horace W. C. Newte contributes an interesting article to the April number of the "Grand Magazine." Taking it for granted that "every other person one meets has written a play, it may not be amiss," he thinks, "to describe the conditions that obtain, not only in securing production, but also as regards pecuniary reward. The haziest notions prevail about these matters. It is as frequently assumed that any well-written play will secure adequate and immediate production, as that such production spells unlimited wealth to the author."

Mr. Newte, who has had considerable experience in writing for the stage himself, proceeds to demolish this optimistic view by pointing out "that such success is quite exceptional, and is always the result of years of profitless toil." The possession of a dramatic instinct he regards as the Alpha and Omega of the difficult business of the playwright. "Without this, the rarest of intellectual endowments, he would be engaged upon a task more futile than that of ploughing the sands."

Granted, then, that he has this necessary qualification, he requires, along with other minor qualities, "a knowledge of stagecraft, a sense of construction, creative power, a strong eye for character, humour that will 'carry across the footlights,' the power of writing terse, telling dialogue, invention, imagination, ability to tell a story by means of conversations, self-criticism, infinite patience, vast power of application, and a keen business instinct. In addition, he must be an essentially practical man, for a crank, or one who essays to write a type of play foreign to that applauded by the public, would be better employed in selling bootlaces in the gutter, so far as making a living goes. I should add, too, that a knowledge of foreign languages, which will enable our author to study the methods of foreign playwrights, would prove most helpful to him. Then, if he exercises these qualities for a period of from three to seven years, he should be in a fair way to the writing of a play that, adequately produced, *may* command success.

"He will have employed some of this probationary period wisely if, to acquire familiarity with the exigencies of stagecraft, he has played small parts at a theatre, or, failing this, with amateur dramatic societies. But—and this is essential—once he has obtained this technique, let him resolutely turn his back upon player-folk and the existence of the stage, and set himself to study life completely remote from every association with the theatre; otherwise he will repeat in his writings obsolete theatrical devices and well-worn types of stage character to such an extent, that, if ever his work be produced, it will be condemned as 'artificial,' and, therefore, unconvincing."

Having plainly pointed out that, "for a person to 'set up shop' as dramatic author without capital, or at least some light occupation that will provide the necessaries of life, is to invite starvation," and touched upon the writing of one-act plays, for which there is a yearly decreasing demand, Mr. Newte continues:—"But I assume that our author elects to storm the managerial citadel with a three- or four-act play. If the writing of this play is an effort, it is the veriest child's play as compared to 'placing it'; though, if the author possesses a powerful 'friend at court,' it will save much of his time. Submitted in the ordinary way, he might wait months for its return, and it might never come back at all. Beyond getting the play read quickly, the 'friend at court' is of small use, however, as in every case the ultimate decision rests with the manager, provided he is master in his own house." Mr. Newte advises the aspiring dramatist, while "vigorously producing new work, to submit his earlier play to the actors or actresses he thinks his leading part may appeal to. Here he will still be subject to the heartbreaking delays that attended his appeal to the managers. But there is a bare possibility that one of these persons will be sufficiently interested in the part to produce the play, perhaps at a London theatre, more probably at a provincial or suburban playhouse. Suburban productions are attended by the minor critics, but rarely, if at all, by any of the managers who count. For such a production the author would receive little in respect of fees, and but very brief notices in the daily papers; but he would gain the invaluable experience of seeing his play produced. There are still, of course, the managers who tour the provinces; but as these principally deal with London successes, the prospects of production in this direction are remote. If he should secure acceptance, his play would be included in a 'repertory,' and he might obtain a pound for each occasion on which the piece was represented.

"And this brings me to the main point of this article, which is, that under present theatrical conditions it is next to impossible—and it is becoming increasingly difficult—for a dramatic author to secure a production for his work. Fifteen years back things in this respect were otherwise. There were managements both in London and the provinces who were eager to give a trial to promising plays. But the economic conditions under which theatres are now managed have changed all that.

"Theatres that could then be rented at £60 a week are now let for four times that amount; rates and taxes have proportionately increased, as have the salaries of the attenuated list of actors and actresses who are qualified to be entrusted with leading parts. Consequently, whereas a few years ago a manager risked the loss of a thousand pounds in a play's production, he now stands to lose many times that amount. Moreover, many English playhouses are leased to men who are not managers, but merely theatre-brokers, occupying a theatre in order to secure a profit-rental from tenants. Rarely, if ever, do these theatre-brokers speculate in a play; they rely upon an actor or author to 'put up' the money."

Mr. Newte concludes by saying that, "in the vast majority of instances, playwriting, like honesty, is its own reward. The prizes are so considerable, the market so limited, the competition so relentless, the cost of production so excessive, managers such indifferent judges of plays (witness the hundreds of thousands lost in theatrical speculation) that, granted an author possesses every attribute that makes for success, it is luck—the interplay of forces over which he has no control—that determines his fate.

"Should these lines give pause to the aspiring but ignorant playwright, they may save him months of barren labour and many bad quarters of an hour of grievous disappointment, and, in that event, have not been penned in vain!"

UNITED GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The entertainment at Queen's Hall on Monday for the above institution proved most successful. The programme opened with a concert, in which a ladies' orchestra was heard in an overture by Garlett. A song by Massenet, "Ouvre tes yeux bleues," and "Ständchen," by Strauss, were agreeably given by Miss Ella Pollock. "Kathleen Mavourneen" was sung with expression by Miss Florence Ettinger. A scene from *The Rivals* followed. By kind permission of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. O. B. Clarence appeared and recited the two characters of Sir Anthony Absolute and Captain Absolute brilliantly. Miss Nora Nicholas gained hearty applause in two violin solos. Miss Lucia Fydell selected two songs from *Carmen*, and sang them creditably. Mr. Lewis Casson recited from the recent Court Theatre success, *Prunella*, and "Laurence Housman," both by Joseph Morat. He appeared by kind permission of Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker. Miss Emily Owen sang "Home" and "O dry those tears," by Teresa del Riego, with great ability. The entertainment concluded with *L'Enfant Prodigue*, adapted by Mr. Charles Allan, and played entirely by children trained by his gifted wife. Master Desmond Urwick represented the hero with the greatest possible success. He has been a pupil of Miss Edith Gibbs, the well-known teacher of elocution. The young gentleman as the younger Pierrot had no occasion for elocution, but his dumb show was most expressive. Mlle. Phrynette was played by Miss Muriel Eve with great skill, and the Baron by Master Geoffrey Françon Davies was another decided success. He also, in the absence of Master Walter Cross, represented the elder Pierrot. As the black servant, Master Jack Scharlied scored brilliantly. The dances in the second act arranged by Miss Evie d'Egville gave unqualified pleasure, Miss Muriel Eve, by her clever dancing, winning hearty applause. Miss Mabel Norman led the amateur orchestra and Miss Edith Matthews assisted at the pianoforte. Mr. Allan has slightly altered the original play to make it more suitable for his juvenile company, but he has kept the interesting incidents untouched. The costumes, by Miss Winter, were everything that could be desired, and the youthful wearers were to be warmly commended all round for their intelligence and gestures, which were surprisingly expressive. Mr. Allan and his wife were called for at the conclusion. The entire entertainment was in aid of the funds of the Girls' School Settlement, and was well attended.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The committee of the General Operative Sick and Benefit Society wish to tender their thanks to the employees of the following theatres and music halls for their kindness in supporting the case of Mr. W. Townsend, one of the members of the Society, who was in great need of the assistance afforded. The subscriptions received were as follows:—Alhambra staff, £2; Apollo, 17s. 9d.; the Society, 15s.; Wyndham's, 13s.; Duke of York's, 12s. 6d.; Royalty, 11s. 3d.; Criterion, 10s. 6d.; Comedy, 9s.; Savoy, 3s. 6d.; Mr. Parr, 5s; Two Friends, 1s. 6d.; total, £6 19s.

The recent death of Mr. Bretherton, the electrical engineer at Drury Lane Theatre, has been followed by the demise of Mr. Chris Hambleton, the electrician at the Duke of York's. Mr. Hambleton lost his only son from typhoid fever, and was himself struck down by the same disease. Mr. B. Major, who was Mr. Hambleton's assistant, and was recently in charge of that department with one of the Duke of York's Theatre companies on tour, has been promoted to the position of electrician in charge.

The Theatrical Sports Committee beg to remind intending competitors that all entries must be delivered by Monday next at latest. Prizes have been received or promised by Lady Bancroft, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, Mr. George Alexander, and *The Era*, which has kindly presented a challenge shield for the tug-of-war competition. This shield will be a perpetual trophy to be held by the manager of the theatre represented by the winning team for six months, and be at the disposal of the Sports Committee the remaining six months.

Donations to the Prize Fund have been received or promised as follows:—Mr. G. H. Dyball, £1 1s.; Mr. Dion Boucicault, £1 1s.; Mr. William Greet, £1 1s.; Mr. Martin Harvey, £1 1s.; Mr. Charles Hawtrey, £1 1s.; Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, £1 1s.; Mr. Sidney Jones, £1 1s.; Mr. Cyril Maude, £1 1s.; Mr. W. A. Pinero, £1 1s.; Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, £3 3s.; Mr. and Mrs. Kennerley Rumford, £1 1s.; Mr. Oswald Stoll, £1 1s.; Miss Ellen Terry, £1 1s.; Mr. Edward Terry, £1 1s.; Mr. C. Thorogood, £1 1s.; Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, £1 1s.; Messrs. James Buchanan and Co., £1 1s.; Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, £1 1s.; the Palace Theatre Co., £1 1s.; Messrs. Elms-Lester Bros., 7s. 6d.; Messrs. Whitbread and Co., £1 1s.

It is anticipated that there will be a larger muster of teams for the tug-of-war competition. Among the establishments expected to be represented are the Borough (Stratford), the Empire (Dublin), the Alhambra, the Waldorf, the Gaiety, the St. James's, the Crown, the Imperial, the Holborn Empire, and the Duke of York's. As has already been announced, the weight of the teams is limited to 60st., with a maximum excess of 10lb. The Empire team will only contain two men who competed last year, and the maximum weight of the team is stated to be 59st. 4lb. The contest this year will be on more equal terms than at any previous meeting.

Full particulars, entry forms, and tickets may be obtained from the hon secretary, at 29, Wellington-street, Strand; or from the following representatives of the Committee:—Alhambra: Mr. P. Thomas, electricians' department; Apollo: Mr. Woolcott, master carpenter; Aldwych: Mr. Goodridge, electrician; Borough: Mr. G. Saunders, master carpenter; Broadway: J. H. Ashburner, master carpenter; Comedy: Mr. A. Palmer and Mr. T. Morgan; Crown: Mr. P. Sheridan, electrician; Coronet: Mr. Hollis-Davies, master carpenter; Canterbury: Mr. North, electrician; Chelsea Palace: Mr. F. Raper, electrician; Collins' Music Hall: Mr. G. Lawrence, stage-manager; Daly's: Mr. A. Cordier; Drury Lane: Mr. John Cunningham; Duke of York's: Mr. H. Mather; Duchess: Mr. A. Barbey, stage-manager; Empire, New Cross: Mr. A. Staughton, stage-manager; Gaiety: Mr. G. P. Applebee, electrician; Grand, Croydon: Mr. G. Fuller; Garrick: Mr. C. King, property master; Grand, Fulham: Mr. R. Kenney, treasurer; Grand, Islington: Mr. A. George; Hippodrome: Mr. Ed. Baptist; Haymarket: Mr. H. Boorer, master carpenter; Lyric: Mr. W. McKenzie, master carpenter; Prince of Wales's: Mr. H. Powell, property master; New Theatre: Mr. G. Bailey, master carpenter; Pavilion: Mr. J. Hands, master carpenter; Paragon: Mr. A. Earnshaw, electrician; St. James's: Mr. J. Cullen and Mr. H. Kimpton; South London Palace: Mr. W. Seaman, stage-manager; Tivoli: Mr. G. H. Dyball, stage-manager; Terry's: Mr. W. G. Farrell; Vaudeville: Mr. G. W. Wilton, property master; Waldorf: Mr. T. Sheridan, electrician; Wyndham's: Mr. Wall.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

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As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

Alexander.—On 16th inst., Princess Lulu, wife of L. Alexander, of a son. 119, Lorrimore-road, Kennington, S.E.

Kellino.—May 13, Mrs. Will Kellino (Miss Bella), of a fine son. Both doing well. Foreign papers please copy.

Tracy.—May 14, at 6, Haling Down Estate, Brighton-road, Croydon, Mrs. Howard L. Tracy, of a son.

In Memoriam.

Levey.—In cherished remembrance of my dear husband, Joseph Levey (Sanger's), who passed away May 21, 1899.
To live in hearts is not to die.

Roberts.—On March 25, at Maitland, N.S.W., Lily Roberts, formerly with the Pollard Opera Company, aged 19.

MISS JULIE MACKEY'S SONG.

Miss Julie Mackey, the music-hall artist, having lodged an appeal from the judgment entered against her by Mr. Justice Bigham, in an action for libel brought against Mr. George Edwardes last January, Mr. Edwardes applied on Tuesday to the Court of Appeal that she should be ordered to give security for the costs of the appeal.

The libel complained of, which Miss Mackey claimed had interfered with her engagements, was contained in the following letter sent by Mr. George Edwardes, through his solicitors, to the managers of the Oxford and Tivoli, where Miss Mackey was fulfilling concurrent engagements:—

The attention of our client, Mr. George Edwardes, has been drawn to the fact that the song, "Under the Bamboo Tree," the performing rights of which for Great Britain and the Colonies have been acquired by him, is being performed at your theatre. Doubtless you are unaware that this song, which is now being performed in *The Girl from Kay's*, belongs to Mr. Edwardes, and we shall be glad to hear from you that it will not in future be sung at your music hall. Kindly let me have an answer to this letter in the course of to-morrow."

Miss Mackey claimed that the publishers of the song, Messrs. Jos. Stern and Co., of New York, had given her verbal permission to include it in her répertoire. As a result of the defendant's letter, Miss Mackey was stopped from singing the song at the Oxford and Tivoli, hence her action. At the trial the jury found that there had been no libel, and judgment was accordingly entered for the defendant, and the costs as against the plaintiff were taxed at £183 4s. 3d.

Mr. R. J. Willis (instructed by Messrs. Slark, Edwards, and Co.) now stated that the costs had not been paid, and execution was issued against the plaintiff's goods, but it proved abortive. Plaintiff was wholly without means, and could not pay the costs of the appeal in the event of it failing.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams pointed out that Mr. Pickwick, in his action, did not pay the costs, but that did not show he was wholly without means. (Laughter.)

Mr. Willis said his client did not claim at the trial the right to interfere with the lady singing the song; it was merely a question whether his letter to the managers was defamatory.

Lord Justice Moulton: You admit that you had no right to interfere with her singing it?

Mr. Willis: We did not go quite so far as that. It is one of those curious cases where, so far as one can tell, nobody had a right to sing it.

Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton: Then, if nobody had a right, what is the use of your saying you had a right?

Mr. Willis: We paid a sum to the American publishers for assigning to us what right they had.

Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton: You did not defend your right, and no injunction was granted.

Lord Justice Stirling: I must say I think the lady had something to complain of as regards the result, having regard to these circumstances.

An affidavit was put in in which the manager of the Tivoli said he forbade the singing of the song on the ground that he did not want litigation with Mr. George Edwardes.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: If and in so far as the lady is insolvent, even now you could restore her capacity for earning money by writing a letter to her admitting that the claims you made had no foundation. Then she need have no difficulty in earning plenty of money to pay the costs.

Lord Justice Stirling: Perhaps if you will consent to an admission being made of her title to sing being put in the order, we might hear no more of this appeal.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: I do not think we shall help you if you are not disposed to do that.

Mr. Willis pointed out that the lady had allowed three months to pass before giving notice of appeal.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: Perhaps she did not at first appreciate the really bad position of hardship that she was placed in by your having made a claim which had no foundation. In the result it looked as if you had some right, which you clearly had not, under your own admission. She struggles along, and takes some time to find out the extent of the injury done to her.

Mr. Willis: She was earning a living without singing this song.

Lord Justice Fletcher Moulton: If so, she can probably pay the costs.

Mr. Willis: She says she cannot.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams (to Mr. Elsley Zeitlyn, counsel for Miss Mackey, instructed by Messrs. Cohen and Cohen): Are you disposed to make an end of this appeal on the terms of a statement being introduced into the order negativing the rights of Mr. Edwardes in this song?

Mr. Zeitlyn: I am afraid I must get the instructions of my client. She has been put to an awful amount of expense, and her health has been affected.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams: Then I do not think we ought to make any order for security.

Mr. Zeitlyn: I ask for the costs of this application.

The Court assented, and dismissed the motion with costs (such costs, of course, to be set off against the costs due to the other side in the ordinary way).

In the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday, the case of Edward George Saunders, theatrical-manager, residing at Marlborough-road, St. John's Wood, came before Mr. Registrar Linklater, in connection with the public examination of the debtor, whose statement of affairs showed liabilities amounting to £10,279 12s., of which £3,818 7s. 8d. were expected to rank, and an estimated surplus in assets of £21,563 8s. It appeared that the debtor had been concerned in many theatrical ventures, and he stated that his present position was due to depreciation in the value of his shares, particularly in Saunders's Theatres (Limited), and subsequently to losses in respect of the Waldorf companies and in financing the scheme of the Waldorf Hotel. The Deputy Official Receiver said that the accounts would require amendment, and the hearing was adjourned until June 19.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. ROWLANDSON.—*Your best course is to apply to a local music-hall manager for a trial turn.*

J. F.—*Mrs. Langtry made her début as Lady Clara in* A Fair Encounter *at the Town Hall, Twickenham, and soon afterwards appeared at the Haymarket as Blanche, in* Ours, *Dec. 15, 1881.*

W. K. G.—*In October, 1879, Mr. and Mrs. Kendal were playing at the St. James's Theatre, then under the management of Messrs. Hare and Kendal.*

J. C. T.—*When* Engaged, *by W. S. Gilbert, was produced at the Haymarket Theatre in October, 1877, the part of Angus Macalister was played by Mr. Fred Dewar.*

CARDIFF.—Quality Street *was produced at the Vaudeville on Sept. 17, 1902. The play was produced in New York about a year previously, with Miss Maude Adams as Phœbe.*

E. A. S.—*Oliver Wendell Holmes's novel, "Elsie Venner," was dramatised in America, the play being produced at the Boston Theatre in 1865, but it proved a complete failure.*

P. B.—*Mrs. Langtry made her stage début at the Town Hall, Twickenham. Her first London appearance was a few months later, at the Haymarket, in* She Stoops to Conquer, *Dec. 15, 1881.*

PALL MALL.—*The present Standard Theatre, Shoreditch, entirely rebuilt with the exception of the outer walls, was opened on Boxing Day, 1897.*

A. D. G.—*Gounod's* Faust *was first presented in English at Her Majesty's Theatre by Mr. Mapleson, on Jan. 23, 1864.*

DAN.—*When* Dandy Dick *was produced at the Court, Jan. 27, 1887, the cast consisted of Messrs. John Clayton, Edmund Maurice, Kerr, H. Eversfield, W. H. Denny, W. Lugg, and Arthur Cecil; Misses Laura Linden, Marie Lewis, Rose Norreys, and Mrs. John Wood.*

T S. T.—Rouget de L'Isle, *a revised version of* An Old Song, *was produced at the Prince of Wales's, May 15, 1900, and ran about a month.*

J. L. KING.—*Possibly the song you refer to is "The Starlight Queen," which was sung in* The Casino Girl.

DOROTHY.—*Miss Florence Dysart was the original Lydia Hawthorne in* Dorothy *when that piece was produced in 1886.*

J C. FRANCIS.—*We have not received any information with reference to the subject of your letter.*

NETTIE CARPENTER.—*The company you refer to is appearing in* The Girls from Utah *(formerly called* The Gold Diggers*) at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, this week.*

J. A. HYBERT.—*So far as we are aware, the title has not been used.*

E. R. TAYLOR.—*Vol. 69 began Sept. 2, 1905.*

ESPOIR.—*The Actors' Benevolent Fund; offices, 8, Adam-street, Adelphi; secretary, Mr. C. I. Coltson. An annual subscription of not less than 10s. gives an actor or actress not only a first claim upon the Fund for assistance, but it also enables them to recommend any deserving case that may be brought under the notice of the committee, which meets every Thursday.*

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for THE ERA by Messrs. Hughes and Young, Patent Agents, 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all matters relating to the patenting of inventions:—

18652/05. Mme. C. G. Devrient, 20, Abbey-gardens, Abbey-road, N.W. Improvements in theatrical and photographic make-up devices. This invention refers to luxuriant eyelashes, intended for theatrical purposes, living pictures, fancy balls, and similar occasions, and also to lend artful aid to fair sitters to the photographer. An edging of silk gauze material is made coated with an adhesive, which is moistened and placed to the eyelid, one each to the upper and lower lids, and fixes in less than half a minute, the only necessary precaution being to keep the skin free from grease, such as lard, cold cream, or grease paint.

MR. CHARLES HANNAN was the defendant in an action for libel brought on Thursday, in the Court of King's Bench, by Mr. C. M. S. McLellan, the well-known dramatic writer, for alleged libel contained in a letter published in the *Stage* newspaper. The letter complained of contained the intimation of a claim by Mr. Hannan to priority of copyright in the play *Leah Kleschna*, in virtue of his published novel, and copyrighted play of the same name, "The Coachman with the Yellow Lace." It was stated by Mr. McLellan's counsel that the idea of the play was suggested by an incident to which Mr. McLellan's attention was called in Paris, in which an elderly man appeared to be coercing a young woman into doing some crime against which she rebelled. From this Mr. McLellan gradually evolved the scheme of a play in which the chief figure, Leah Kleschna, a female burglar, was brought up amongst criminals. The play, *Leah Kleschna*, was read in Court, and the novel, "The Coachman with the Yellow Lace," was about to be similarly treated when the case was adjourned till Monday.

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Wilton, Miss Jessie
Woodroffe, Mr. Percy
Woodward, Mr. Geo. E.
Wykeham, Mr. R.
Yaldwyn, Mr. L.

CRICKET.

AT Birmingham, on the 12th inst., an enjoyable afternoon's sport was afforded to those who witnessed the match between the representative teams of Mr. Beerbohm Tree's *Oliver Twist* company and Mr. Chas. Frohman's *Mountain Climber* company. "Monty" (Mr. Huntley Wright) was the life and soul of his party, but he and his intrepid "mountaineers," owing to lack of condition and practice, were outpaced by the "Monty" of the opposing team, Mr. Montesole, who distinguished himself both in batting and bowling. Following are the scores:—

Mountain Climber Co.—1st Innings.—Stewart, b Montesole, 2; Maturin, c Taylor, b Edgard, 5; Carter, lbw, b Montesole, 0; Southworth, run out, 0; Huntley Wright, c Tooley, b Edgard, 0; Elphinstone, b Montesole, 4; King, c McFarlane, b Montesole, 8; Newark, run out, 0; Delves, b Collins, 6; Reynolds, not out, 0; Benson, b Montesole, 0; extras, 6; total, 31. 2nd Innings.—Stewart, b Collins, 2; Maturin, run out, 6; Carter, b Montesole, 3; Southworth, b Collins, 0; Huntley Wright, b Collins, 0; Elphinstone, c Coyne, b Brown, 3; King, c Coyne, b Collins, 1; Newark, c and b Edgard, 1; Delves, run out, 29; Reynolds, c McFarlane, b Brown, 4; Benson, not out, 2; extras, 12; total, 63.

Oliver Twist Co.—1st Innings.—Collins, b Carter, 11; Lewin, b Maturin, 2; Bellamy, run out, 6; Edgard, b Elphinstone, 5; Montesole, c Newark, b Maturin, 9; McFarlane, b Maturin, 0; Brown, c King, b Maturin, 19; Braban, b Maturin, 0; Coyne, b Stewart, 3; Taylor, b Maturin, 11; Tooley, not out, 1; extras, 5; total, 72. 2nd Innings.—Collins, b Elphinstone, 7; Bellamy, b Maturin, 4; Edgard, run out, 24; Montesole, not out, 83; extras, 6; total (for three wickets), 124.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S XI. V. EASTBOURNE.

Played on the Saffrons, Eastbourne, on May 9.

Eastbourne.—G. Osborne, c Fraser-Brunner, b Ashley, 1; H. Martyn, retired, 102; G. W. Cancellar, c Elton, b Wilkinson, 51; G. H. Marsh, b Norman, 1; R. S. Pringle, c Cassy, b Brunner, 38; W. M. Martin, b Norman, 14; C. A. Chaplin, not out, 17; extras, 13; total, 247. A. G. Wade, G. H. Henty, R. Kemp-Welch, and F. G. Wagener did not bat.

Norman V. Norman's XI.—Alex Cassy, b Wade, 1; G. Lawrence, c Wade, b Marsh, 34; W. Elton, c Chaplin, b Marsh, 12; W. Gainsford, c Martin, b Marsh, 0; W. Fraser-Brunner, b Wade, 27; Gordon Starkey, c Henty, b Pringle, 15; W. H. Ashley, not out, 7; Samuel Wilkinson, b Pringle, 0; Chris Curtis, c Wagener, b Pringle, 0; W. R. Marshall, b Pringle, 0; N. V. Norman, c Wagener, b Pringle, 7; extras, 19; total, 122.

MESSRS W. AND F. MELVILLE have purchased the following plays written by the late F. A. Scudamore, and most of them will be included in their list of plays to be let for stock seasons, odd weeks, &c.:—*The Dangers of London, Dad, The Beautiful Avenger, A Bad Character, Settling Day, The Destroying Angel, Nature's Nobleman,* and *Is Life Worth Living?* Messrs. Melville's rights in the last-named piece are subject to Mr. W. H. Hallatt's rights.

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Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.
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NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Adams, the Late Miss Annie	May 20, 1905.
Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown, Mr. Frank	May 27, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Callan, Late Mr. H. J	June 17, 1905.
Carlton, Mr. Arthur	Nov. 11, 1905.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Castleton, Mrs. Robert	July 15, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Cooper, Miss Florry	Nov. 11, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	August 12, 1905.
Corelli, Miss Hilda	April 15, 1905.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
Cullen, Mr. James	October 7, 1905.
D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
Daltra, Miss Marie	July 22, 1905.
Daly, Late Miss Maria	Nov. 11, 1905.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
Davis, Mr. Tom B.	June 24, 1905.
Denmeade, Mr. and Mrs.	July 1, 1905.
Denton, Mr. St. John	March 18, 1905.
De Rohan, Miss Daphne	September 2, 1905.
Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James E.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry R.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1903.
Earnshaw, Mr Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Ellis, the Late Mr. Percy	July 29, 1905.
Emery, Miss Pollie	July 1, 1905
Fanchette, Miss Amy	April 15, 1905.
Flinn, Madame Kate	July 29, 1905.
Forde, Mr. H. Athol	August 26, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.
Grove, Mr. Fred	March 10, 1906.
Grein, Mr. J. T.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Gunn, Miss Haidee	September 30, 1905
Gwynne, Miss Daisy	October 14, 1905
Hamlyn, Mr. J. D.	January 20, 1906.
Hansen, Miss Laura	January 20, 1906
Harris, Mr. Thomas	February 24, 1906.
Harriss, Miss Sophie	April 7, 1905
Hastings, Miss Nora	March 10, 1906.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1906.

THE BUSINESS OF THE STAGE.

A great deal of literature consists in the establishment of Theories. In the "Pickwick Papers" we read of a "Theory of Tittlebats" in connection with the Hampstead Ponds; and we have theories of banking, of currency, and of social government. But the basis of a just theory is information; and it is this absence of information that makes it so difficult to form any ideas in connection with theatrical finance. At the best, an attempt to do so is but a speculation about speculations. Now and then a manager lifts a corner of the veil, and gives us a glimpse of his finance; but in the case of Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES'S latest pronouncement, the difficulty is only increased by the confidence. Mr. EDWARDES'S point is that the natural course of business is interfered with by amateur *entrepreneurs*. "Nowadays," says Mr. EDWARDES, "it is the portly, respectable, middle-aged stockbroker, with an office in Throgmorton-street, and a family at Muswell Hill, who finds the cash. Why? Merely that he likes playing manager and giving away private boxes. He is not there, observe, to make money. He plays theatres just as he plays golf. Chequebooks buttress rubbish; and the impresario with a genuine production cannot compete with these wealthy amateurs."

Let us analyse these statements, and consider what they imply. Theatrical business, like any other business, is a case of supply and demand. Production of all sorts is subject to fluctuations. When the boot-manufacturers make too many boots, "over-production" ensues, the market is over-stocked, and trade is what is called "slack." Men are thrown out of work, the weaker "houses" become bankrupt, and the stronger ones lose money. This goes on until the over-plus boots have been worn out, or a period of renewed national prosperity sets in, so that people have more money to spend on footgear. Then we have another period of brisk trade; and so on, and so on.

The entertainment business, however, is much more complicated than others. Theatre-going is not a necessity of life; boots are. People are not obliged to go to the play; they have to be tempted there by curiosity and hope of enjoyment. There are other methods of amusement; and amusement itself is not absolutely indispensable. When there is a very bad year for champagne, less of that wine is drunk, and more of other wines; and when there has been a number of "failures" in the way of plays, people visit the theatre less, and spend more money in other ways.

Any approach to a theory of theatrical business reduces itself, it would appear, to this. London is the place where theatrical experiments are tried; and they are practically subsidised by the provinces and America. A London success is a "big" success. The cost of producing a modern play with a moderate cast is often recouped in the first week of its run. Then, supposing it keeps on for a couple of hundred nights, the whole difference between the current expenses and the receipts is profit, and amounts to a large sum. Successes, however, are the exception, and failures, or quasi-failures, are the rule. It is therefore obvious that for the business to be carried on without bankruptcies there must be some sort of subsidisation.

This is contributed by the provinces, America, and the Colonies. After a disastrous season, a popular manager makes a "progress" round the country, gathering capital for a new venture; or if he has a following in America, he crosses the Atlantic, and performs the same operation. We have known a manager's country companies to be bringing in a handsome income, while his London attraction was being "run" at a loss. And there is one advantage in provincial touring. Its monetary success—and it is with the view of making money, not of acquiring fame and reputation, that most London managers go on tour—is governed chiefly by the condition of local business, and not by caprice. When there is "no money in a town" there is no theatre-going. When business is "booming" the lower and middle classes have cash to spend, and much of it finds its way into the coffers of the playhouse. In London, enterprise is more experimental. A piece may be an actual loss or a little gold mine; there is no knowing which. A play may be performed to half-empty houses for weeks, and then suddenly "pick up" and blossom into a "great success." London theatrical business is simply a gamble, with the provinces and America for the unlucky players to fall back upon in the case of serious loss. In Mr. JOHN DAVIDSON'S drama, *The Theatrocrat*, the actor-manager and his wife are represented as coolly preparing for suicide in case of the failure of their coming production, and their "guarantors" withdrawing their names. In real life, they would, if it were absolutely impossible to "go on" any longer in the West End, have gone to America or the provinces, and returned to the arena with renewed resources.

To the other form of subsidisation—that of the middle-aged stockbroker who "plays at theatres"—there is the objection that, by his readiness to run his theatre at a loss, he unfairly handicaps the manager who is working for money. On the face of it, it would seem that the stockbroker manager, who simply dabbles in theatres as a pastime, would not stand a ghost of a chance when pitted against an experienced and able *entrepreneur*, with all his energy and knowledge and with his heart deeply in his work. Syndicates, however, have their uses. One of the few managers who have unbosomed themselves to the public was Mr. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD. He wrote:

I went into the Gaiety Theatre with £200, and in eighteen years I had £120,000 out of it. I soon parted with my initial syndicate by mutual consent and on friendly terms. During the eighteen years I received and paid away in and upon the dramatic profession about one million and a quarter sterling.

At the start, however, he was assisted by a "little friendly syndicate," who subscribed £5000, and called itself "The New Theatres Company, Limited." But HOLLINGSHEAD did not play at managing the Gaiety. He worked at it heart and soul.

Theatrical business is subject to the same laws as other businesses; and if there has been over-production in theatre-building—if, in short, there is not enough public money to "go round"—one of two results must follow: either a number of theatres will be closed *pro. tem.*; or the prices will have to come down to the pre-BANCROFT-ian scale—a resource so extreme that we cannot contemplate it seriously. But "lean years" have their advantages. The tendency of a lowered scale of profits is to drive out of a calling those who have followed it from mercenary motives only; and when the "Muswell Hill stockbroker" described by Mr. EDWARDES eventually becomes tired of the game, or finds it too expensive, his departure from the scene of action will not be an entire misfortune. The whole matter of theatrical finance is, however, "wropt in mist'ry"; and we should be glad to have the opinions of any experienced correspondents who may be able to add to our stock of information on the subject.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 14,
the Drama, by George R. Sims, entitled
"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER."

The fame of Mr. George R. Sims as a dramatist drew a crowded audience to the Fulham Theatre on Monday, when a play from his pen founded on his lately-published novel of the same name was introduced to London. The piece, which was fully dealt with on its recent production at Reading, bears the stamp of the gifted dramatist's art on every act, and the situations and dialogue are such as lovers of real and hearty melodrama will welcome with delight. The story deals with the unjust conviction, on circumstantial evidence, of the heroine, who is sentenced to penal servitude for life. The lady obtains her release after fifteen years' imprisonment, and is able completely to prove her innocence. The play is entrusted to the worthy hands of Mr. Hardie and Miss Von Leer's company, and that every justice is done to it is assured. The tribulations of Marion Grey, the falsely-accused, are borne with fortitude by Miss Grace Heywood, whose gentleness and tender solicitude for her child render an object of general sympathy. It is a fine performance, and is thoroughly appreciated. Mr. Vernon Sansbury plays Richard Grey, the vacillating husband, skilfully, appearing to especial advantage in the scene in which he has to simulate an attack of delirium tremens. Dora, the heroine's daughter, is played with insinuating charm and agreeable innocence by Miss Muriel Dean, and the lover Gilbert O'Neill has a virile and earnest exponent in Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne. Mr. Henry Hare gives a vivid exposition of the part of the ruffianly Jim Huggett, and Rube Hexham, his coadjutor in crime, is capably impersonated by Mr. Frank Harrison. A Punch and Judy man, who is effective in the working-out of the plot, also supplies the bulk of the comic relief, and as Joe Grimper Mr. Chris Mason exacts a heavy tribute of laughter for his quaint assumption. Miss Evelyn Shaw also supplies comic material in the part of the showman's wife; and Mr. H. G. Wright as Zeke and Mr. Mayor Cooke as Pilcher render adequate aid. Miss Emil Leslie plays the unfortunate Loo Hexham with tact and discrimination, and a sound and well-considered rendering of Dr. Shand is given by Mr. H. F. Wright. The play is mounted with elaborate care, and elicited such cheers after every act that the curtain had to be lifted again and again.

MR. GEORGE R. SIMS, who has every right to speak, has made a profession of faith in melodrama. "I stand by melodrama," he is reported to have said; "and to talk of it as if it were dead is worse than absurd. That it has not been well treated by those who ought to know better I freely admit, but it only requires a little care, a kindly word now and then, some well-considered nursing, to bring it round to health again. The public really love it, and it will recover its position again. There is more bed-rock morality in one act of a sound English melodrama than there is in a half-dozen modern society comedies.

"A MELODRAMA," Mr. Sims went on, "must be moral. The public that wants this class of stage play does not believe in a gentleman who is a hero one hour and a villain the next. The primitive—not the complex—human emotions are what we must put into melodrama. If you make a success you do so by healthy methods. You never get a laugh in drama with a sneer, but you can always depend on pleasing your audience with honest sentiment. Its two essentials, apart from pathos, are human and animal spirits. No; that form of entertainment cannot die, despite the onslaughts made on it. After all," concluded "Dagonet," with a hearty laugh, "melodrama is the beefsteak of the entertainment world."

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"THE TRAVELLER RETURNS."

A Melodrama, in One Act, by C. Hamilton, produced at the New Palace Theatre, Brighton, on Friday, May 11.

Johannes ..... MR. HENRY DOUGHTY
Martin ..... MR. W. A. DUNLOP
An Old Peasant Woman .. MISS A. LLOYD-DESMOND
Anna ..... MISS CICELY HAMILTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This short play was utilised as a "curtain-raiser" to *The Barrister*, performed during the week by Mr. Henry Doughty's company. The story is intensely weird and tragic, and the incidents take place in a wood-cutter's hut in the Black Forest. When the curtain rises Johannes and his wife, Anna, are deeply lamenting the loss of their baby child, whose death has resulted from want and hunger. The poverty-stricken parents are broken-hearted; but it is soon evident that another cloud hangs over them, and that they regard the death of their little one as a punishment inflicted upon them for a crime they have committed. From their remorseful utterances it is gathered that one stormy night a young woman, possessing a few pieces of gold, sought refuge in the hut. In their wretched distress, Johannes and Anna determined to murder the stranger, and while the wife kept watch the husband fatally stabbed the sleeping woman. Frenzy and despair seize the guilty pair; but they are aroused by the entrance of Martin, a young peasant, who, three years before, had left them to join the army. Martin, deeply moved, tells the story of his love for a village maiden, who had returned his affection, and had promised to leave her home and join him with her savings. He had anxiously and in vain awaited her arrival; and then, in a dream, he saw the form of his sweetheart with a knife plunged into her breast. He was confident she had been murdered, and he had traced her to the neighbourhood of his old home. He was determined to find out the murderers and revenge himself upon them. Again uttering threats of vengeance, Martin retires to his bedroom, and the curtain falls as Johannes exclaims, "It is his life or ours." The conclusion of the melodrama was not satisfactory, for a more striking situation might have been evolved from the intensely dramatic surroundings. Mr. W. A. Dunlop gave a forcible and impressive impersonation of the deeply-distressed Martin; and the frenzy and agony of the wood-cutter and his wife were powerfully portrayed by Mr. Henry Doughty and Miss Cicely Hamilton. The minor character of an old peasant woman was satisfactorily undertaken by Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond.

MR. CHARLES FRY'S RECITAL.

The second of Mr. Charles Fry's present series of Shakespearean matinées, given in conjunction with Miss Olive Kennett, was equally well patronised as the first, the Court Theatre on Saturday being filled with an audience whose appreciation was very marked. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was the piece chosen, and though naturally the lack of scenery impaired the continuity of the story, the fun of the piece proved irresistible. Nothing that might make for life and gaiety had been suppressed, and Falstaff's many misadventures were presented almost in full. Mr. Fry made no more pretentious selection than that of Dr. Caius, but the part was made to stand out conspicuously by the thorough manner in which every detail was presented. Mr. Fry assumed the airs and graces of the ferocious Frenchman with laughable effect, accent and gesture being throughout irresistibly comic. Mr. Patrick Munro was the Falstaff, and nobly bore the burden of the cumbersome knight. Mr. Munro's physical proportions lend themselves admirably to the making-up of the character, which he made quite a commanding figure, while his resonant voice, perhaps a little too deliberately employed, gave added distinction to the droll lines of the part. Miss Olive Kennett played Mrs. Ford with a lightness of touch that was very agreeable, and showed her to be a comedy actress of varied resource. She revelled in the gaiety of the part, and her vivacity and high spirits were very refreshing. Mistress Page was played by Mrs. Thouless, whose otherwise flexible voice was impaired by an evident cold. She acted nevertheless in light and agreeable style and a fitting appreciation of the character. A happy selection was made in that of Mr. Lewis Casson for Mr. Ford, whose refined and polished methods were invaluable in the difficult rôle. The stern visage of the jealous Ford gave an exact index to the character, and Mr. Casson's delivery of the passionate sentences and his well-defined action were quite successful in perfecting the part. Miss Pauline B. Isaacs made of Anne Page a sweet and engaging maiden, and Mr. Vincent Nello as Fenton not only looked the tender lover to the life, but delivered his lines with elocutionary grace. Mr. Arthur Durand played Sir Hugh Evans in a comically doleful way, though the Welsh accent was not always apparent; but the humour of the part was striking, and the song that falls to him was rendered in the same droll strain. Mr. Jack Dale's humour as the Host of the Garter Inn was robust and assertive; Mr. W. J. R. Cane made of Slender quite a modern "Johnny" in Elizabethan dress; and a clever portrayal of senile glee was furnished by Mr. Arthur Fayne in the part of Justice Shallow. Mr. J. K. Maclean, though none too vigorous in delivery, made a good appearance in the part of Page, and was earnest in his acting; and Miss Winifred Rae gave an admirable conception of Mistress Quickly. Falstaff's followers were picturesquely played by Mr. H. A. Rourke as Bardolph, Mr. Ernest Yorke as Pistol, and Mr. N. C. Wetherilt as Nym. Simple and Rugby were adequately enacted by Messrs. C. Francis and T. M. Cottam, and the minor parts were well sustained. The chorus in Windsor Park was tunefully rendered, and elegant and appropriate costumes enhanced the attractiveness of the performance.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

WE wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Edwin Helm—Saturday, May 19.
Mme. Melba—Saturday, May 19.
Elsie Capell—Saturday, May 19.
Dorothea Baird—Sunday, May 20.
T. B. Thalberg—Sunday, May 20.
Chas. M. Julian—Sunday, May 20.
Arthur Prescott—Monday, May 21.
C. Douglas Stuart—Monday, May 21.
Morny Cash—Monday, May 21.
F. Kemble Cooper—Tuesday, May 22.
Dion Boucicault—Wednesday, May 23.
J. K. Murray—Wednesday, May 23.
Dallas Welford—Wednesday, May 23.
John F. Traynor—Wednesday, May 23.
Ada Mansfield—Wednesday, May 23.
"My Fancy"—Wednesday, May 23.
Kate Maynard—Thursday, May 24.
Charles Stanford—Thursday, May 24.
Joe O'Gorman—Thursday, May 24.
Joseph Knight—Thursday, May 24.
Gertie Sinclair—Thursday, May 24.
A. W. Pinero—Thursday, May 24.
May Howard—Thursday, May 24.
Gerald Mount—Thursday, May 24.
James Leo—Thursday, May 24.
Lady Mansel—Thursday, May 24.
Gertrude Vere—Thursday, May 24.
Edmund Baker—Friday, May 25.
George Miller—Friday, May 25.
Edward Cranston—Friday, May 25.
Amy Fanchette—Friday, May 25.

"A JAPANESE DANCE."

At the Chiswick Town Hall on Tuesday evening Miss Davies Webster and Miss Rose Cazalet presented an interesting and enjoyable entertainment programme. The pretty Hogarth Hall was comfortably filled by an attentive audience, who gave evidence of their pleasure at the different items. A feature of the bill was the production of

"A JAPANESE DANCE,"
a New Sketch by W. G. Hyde Lees.

O Toya San ..... MISS VIOLET CECIL
Dulcie ..... MISS DAVIES WEBSTER
Miss Mamie Drucker ..... MISS ROSE CAZALET
Donald Guthrie ..... MR. T. IREBY CAPE

The author has not much of a story to tell, but, such as it is, it was well interpreted by the representatives of the various characters. The scene is a room in a Japanese house, O Toya San's, whose friend, Donald Guthrie, has requested to be allowed to bring his wife and an American lady of his acquaintance. While Donald is temporarily absent, his wife begs O Toya San to perform a Japanese dance. O Toya San says that Japanese ladies give up dancing after marriage, but she breaks the custom at the pleading of her visitor. Dulcie admires the Japanese dress so much that her hostess suggests she should attire herself similarly just for the novelty of the thing. So in a few minutes Dulcie reappears in a handsome kimona. Miss Mamie Drucker, the American lady, who, by the way, is writing a book on Japanese customs, requests the transformed Dulcie to show her a Japanese dance, and Dulcie, in attempting to imitate what she has seen O Toya San do, makes a rather ridiculous exhibition of herself. Later, Donald Guthrie returns, and Dulcie, in a fit of jealousy, denounces him for what she alleges is his affection for O Toya San, but after he has explained how silly and unfounded are her beliefs, she asks to be forgiven, and all ends happily. Miss Violet Cecil charmed everybody with her delightful impersonation of O Toya San, and her exquisitely graceful dancing. Miss Rose Cazalet admirably enunciated the Yankee twang, and otherwise gave a pleasing performance of Mamie Drucker. Miss Davies Webster, in her acting of the part of Dulcie, showed spirit and good style; and Mr. T. Ireby Cape ably fulfilled the requirements of the rôle of Donald Guthrie.

As to the other artists, that finished elocutionist, Mr. Hermann Vezin, recited the poem, "A Spanish Mother," with tragic power and feeling, and, upon a recall, and by way of a contrast, he gave us a little joke about the mistaken notion some persons had as to the pronunciation of the word "ham." Miss Ulrikka Wiley enchanted her audience with her delightful rendering of several songs, including "The Kashmiri" and "The Temple Bells." Miss Constance Lindermann furnished unquestionable evidence of her skill with the violin in a Sonata from Handel; and Mrs. Paul Zeidler made a praiseworthy effort on the 'cello with Godard's "Berceuse Jocelyn." Miss Rose Cazalet again distinguished herself in an amusing character-sketch, *Merrimee Jeanne*, concerning a shrewd female who is endeavouring to bring about a match for a lady friend, who has promised her as the reward for success a new dress. In Edward Granville's dramatic sketch *'Enery Brown*, Miss Davies Webster and Miss Edith Bottomley portrayed in commendable fashion the character-studies of 'Liza Jane and Amelia Amaryida respectively. Miss Violet Cecil came to the fore once more in a lightsome and dainty tambourine dance; and Mr. T. Ireby Cape won applause with a humorous monologue. The trio of instrumentalists, Miss Eugenie Caverhill Shiels (pianoforte), Mrs. Paul Zeidler, and Miss Constance Linderman, entertained, from time to time, with well-executed selections. The acting-manager for the evening was Miss Harriet Greet.

THE LATE MR. BARTON BAKER.

The remains of Mr. H. Barton Baker, in his early days an actor of note in the provinces, later an author and journalist, were on Monday cremated at Golder's Green, Finchley. He had died a few days prior at Tonbridge. Born at Bristol in 1836, Henry Baker was the only son of a tragedian, professionally known as Barton. The father migrated to America, where he coached Charlotte Cushman for her profession, and ruined himself by building a huge theatre at New Orleans. Returning to England he remained many years a professor of elocution in Bristol. Designed for the church, the son, soon after his father's death, attached himself to the stage, first appearing under the Chutes in his native city. There he acted with Macready, James Wallack, and Marie Wilton, when a child. Later, he attained great success as a juvenile tragedian under Beverley at Darlington; Charles Dillon, when lessee of the Sheffield Theatre; and with Belton at Exeter. Baker, from a boy, had been an omnivorous reader. It fostered literary taste and sympathy. While still engaged on the stage, in the early 'seventies, he sent an article on Mirabeau to *Temple Bar*. So pleased was Richard Bentley with the essay that he asked the writer for further contributions on the same lines. A series followed, and the graphic and readable articles were afterwards republished under the title of "French Society from the Fronde to the Great Revolution." So highly did Bentley esteem the literary talent of his fresh contributor that he earnestly advised Baker to abandon the stage, and devote himself to literature. Baker followed the counsel. From that time to within a month of his death he continued a clever and indefatigable author. Sympathy with his old profession, added to considerable historical knowledge, gave him the cue for an immense number of articles contributed to *The Gentleman's Magazine*, *Temple Bar*, and the *Graphic* newspaper. Many were gathered together as "Our Old Actors" (in two volumes), and much incorporated in "A History of the London Stage," of which a second and enlarged edition appeared three years since. The last-named work contains chronicles of all the metropolitan playhouses, those vanished, and every existing one up to the date of the book. The history, too, conserves the memories and achievements of all our great players, from Richard Burbage to Henry Irving. Barton Baker was likewise a prolific writer of short stories and novels, the most noticeable of the latter being "Margaret Grey," "Robert Miner, Anarchist," and "A Great State Secret." The deceased gentleman was a prominent and popular member of the Oasis Club, when its leading spirits were Christie Murray, Francillon, Gowing, and Eugene Barnett, and also of the Urban Club, where, in May, 1903, he delivered a scholarly and eloquent address on the genius of Bulwer Lytton, whose centenary the members commemorated. Mr. Barton Baker has left a widow, having in her possession a number of his unpublished tales and essays.

AT the Carl Weiss Theatre, Berlin, a play, entitled *Aus altem Geschlecht*, drawn from a novel of the same name, by A. Genke, was produced on Saturday with scarcely satisfactory results. The story ran in a daily paper, and presented good opportunities for dramatising, but Dr. Karl Wendt—who has adapted it for the stage—has managed to leave out the finest points for some reason best known to himself. Nevertheless, the audience proved grateful for the remnant offered them, and applauded with distinct cordiality. The interpretation was less good than is usually the case at this painstaking theatre.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

It should be of interest to our readers to note that the portrait of a lady on the variety stage is this year, for the first time on record, exhibited at the Royal Academy. The portrait in question is that of Miss Elsie Molloy, and hangs in No. 1 Room. It is the work of St. John Hare, and is a full-size picture.

Mr. Harry Lauder was to have been the chief attraction at a matinée at the Tivoli on Wednesday next; but his throat is still weak, and his medical adviser has forbidden him to add to his present work. The matinée has therefore been abandoned. Mr. Lauder appeared at the Alhambra on Tuesday, but was unable to answer to his number at the Tivoli on Thursday.

The three clever pen-and-ink drawings of Mr. Tom E. Murray—two as he appears in the *Revue* and one as himself—to be seen at the Coliseum, are the work of the popular comedian's only son, Mr. Frank Murray, who was formerly a student at Professor Hubert von Herkomer's art school at Bushey. Murray *fils* has exactly caught the characteristic smile of Murray *compère*.

Mr. Walter Slaughter, whilst walking along Upper-street, Islington, during the week, came across a hawker selling pirated copies of two of his compositions, namely, "The dear homeland" and "Gondola dreams," the latter of which is so great a "hit" in the Coliseum *Revue*. The justly incensed *maestro* instantly seized all the copies, and tore them to atoms, and then walked away, after first giving the fellow a piece of his mind. Other composers please copy.

The sketch *Aunt Matilda*, which lately concluded a most successful two weeks at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, is written by Alban Atwood and Russell Vaun, the authors of *Oh, Susannah!* and many other well-known plays.

Mr. Bransby Williams's new house at Selsey-on-Sea is finished, and the accomplished Dickens impersonator and his family find it a delightful experience to spend therein week-ends and holidays. The house has been christened "Elsinore," and it has splendid views of the sea. Mr. Williams goes to New York in August, and returns in time for pantomime under the Wyndham management at Glasgow.

La Milo, the beautifully-formed poseuse at the London Pavilion, will introduce a new series of statues at that house on Monday. They will include the following "gems from the galleries":—Andromeda, Sappho, the poetess, Diana, Canova's Venus, and Œnone, the Phrygian nymph of Mount Ida.

Mr. Sydney M. Hyman received a very gratifying cable from Johannesburg on Tuesday, that the opening ceremony of the magnificent New Empire in the capital of the Rand on Monday was an unprecedented success. The whole of the seats in the auditorium were booked before the doors were open. Miss Ada Reeve, who heads the bill of a very strong company, which also includes Mr. John E. Coyle, sang as many as six songs. The building, it is stated, has cost close upon £60,000, and is the finest ever erected in any part of Britain beyond the seas. There was a private view on the previous Saturday, which was attended by most of the Government officials at présent in Johannesburg.

An unauthorised turn not in the bill was given at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on Wednesday, when a party known by the name of Buller stood on the staircase leading to the circle, demanding contributions for the benefit of the Ealing Cottage Hospital. So well did he supplicate for help that many coins were dropped into his box by the Empire patrons. Since he started this form of collection Buller has added over £32 to the fund, and he will still go on collecting. Buller is a regular beggar of a dog belonging to a well-known Ealing tradesman, who during the time was enjoying himself inside the hall.

The third edition of that bright and brilliantly-mounted production the *Revue* will be presented at the Coliseum on Monday. With such excellent comedians and clowns as Mr. Tom E. Murray, Mr. R. H. Douglass, Mr. Arthur Conquest, and Mr. George Lupino, we need hardly say that new gags and business have been introduced night after night, and fun now is a constant quantity. New songs have also been introduced; and success is a certainty for another new number assigned to Mr. Harry Corner, who will give it for the first time on Monday. It is entitled "What has the moonlight to do with the girl?" and is a satire on love-sick youths in drawing-room ballads whose plaints of passion are garnished with both astronomical and meteorological commonplaces. They follow in the wake of that ideal lover Romeo, who swore by "the inconstant moon."

By the way, revues are not the very modern idea on the London stage that they are supposed to be; for was not that facile and graceful writer of fairy plays in verse, J. R. Planché, responsible for a "review" called *The Drama's Levée; or, A Peep at the Past*, produced at the Olympic on April 16, 1838?

In answer to several anxious correspondents, who are members both of the Variety Artists' Federation and the International Artists' Lodge, we desire to state that though the management of the Tivoli, Cape Town, at one time contemplated running that establishment on the two-houses-nightly principle, the idea has for the present, at any rate, been abandoned. In the report of the meeting of the I.A.L. on Sunday Paragraph 17 of Messrs. Hyman's contracts seems to have been misread. In that clause the management simply sets out that an artist shall perform as many times *during the same performance* as shall be desired. If the words in italics had been "during the same evening" they would have foreshadowed more than one house nightly.

"Short and musically sweet" is the happy catch phrase associated with a series of violin sketches, written by Edgar Dereve and specially composed by Clarence C. Corri, of the London Hippodrome. The first of these, aptly named "Heartstrings," has been successfully produced at the Richmond, and opens on the Moss and Stoll tour on June 18 next. Lovers of really good music—and they are many—will appreciate to the full these little episodes—particularly as they introduce one of our most talented violinists, Miss Gladys Hooley, a young lady whose abilities are most highly thought of in the very best musical circles.

"Rorke's Drift," Mr. Fred Ginnett's latest production, stirred the patriotic pulses of audiences last week at the Hastings Hippodrome. It is an exciting playlet, and is splendidly staged. A series of effective and patriotic incidents culminates in "Saving the Colours." Mr. Ginnett's splendidly-trained horse, "Shamrock," is a notable feature of the production.

"The Masked Lady" is a new sketch, written by Mr. Frank Dix, that will be produced at the Lyceum on Monday. Mr. Adeson will be supported by Mr. Bert Lloyd and Miss Clara Bernard. The music of the sketch has been composed by Jullien H. Wilson.

Mr. Charlie Jerome, comedian, was on Sunday initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Association, Terrier Spot being in the chair. Mr. G. P. R. Burgess has recently been elected honorary solicitor to the popular fraternity.

The directors of the Glasgow Pavilion, Ltd., have declared an interim dividend of 10 per cent., which must be as gratifying to them as it is creditable to their energetic general-manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.

An island site in that popular seaside resort Great Yarmouth is for sale. All four sides abut upon public roads, and the land is freehold, without any restrictions. This is an excellent opportunity for music hall entrepreneurs.

Mr. William Eastwood, acting-manager of the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, for a number of years, has been appointed general-manager of the above. The position became vacant on the death of Mr. J. Ball. Mr. Eastwood has been at the theatre for upwards of eighteen years, having risen by sheer merit from the bottom of the ladder.

The members of the staff of the Edinburgh Empire Palace Theatre met in the Melville Hotel on Friday evening of last week, and presented Mr. Chas. J. Cawood with a case of pipes and Mrs. Cawood with a silver tea service on the retirement of Mr. Cawood from the post of acting-manager. Mr. Harry Stuart made the presentation in a felicitous speech, in which he alluded to the pleasant relationship that all along existed between Mr. Cawood and the staff. Mr. W. F. Frame, the Scotch comedian, who presided, proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Cawood in a humorous speech, to which Mr. Cawood feelingly replied.

As was stated in this column a short while back, considerable stir is taking place in Coventry in connection with the erection of variety theatres. One company has purchased a site for the erection of a permanent hippodrome, and the property which was standing upon the land has now been razed to the ground. In addition to this, the Coventry Corn Exchange is to be converted into a theatre of varieties. Plans providing for these alterations have already been submitted to the local authority, and the place will be capable of holding two thousand people. According to present arrangements, it will be open by August Bank Holiday. About £10,000 is being spent on the alterations and furnishing. The Corn Exchange was built fifty years ago, and the price paid for the building by the present owner, Mr. William Bennett, was £15,500.

Mr. H. Ford's magnificent new Palace Theatre and Gardens, Clacton-on-Sea, opens its doors on Whit Saturday, June 2, when an unusually attractive programme will be set before the public. One of the chief permanent turns engaged for the season will be The Scarlet Pompoms, in an entirely new and original pierrot entertainment, written, composed, and produced by Mr. Jack McLaren, who, together with Miss Marjory Lytton, Miss Maud Willey, and Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, will appear daily. The Scarlet Pompoms' best item is a twenty minutes' travesty of the now fashionable revue, which is a positive scream from start to finish, and which is certain to be heard of in London in the autumn. Mr. Edgar Curtis has charge of the front of the house.

Miss Lelia Roze, who, in answer to the request of the committee, travelled specially from London to be present at the recent Charity Carnival at Bristol, was delighted with her courteous reception at the station on her arrival in that town. Mr. Fred Leighton, the genial manager of the Empire, was waiting with a huge bouquet of beautifully-arranged flowers, of which he begged Miss Roze's acceptance on behalf of the Licensed Trades Committee.

After this pretty ceremony Miss Roze was escorted by Mr. Leighton and gentlemen of the committee to an open carriage drawn by four handsome greys. While driving through the crowded streets to the Charity Sports Miss Roze was immediately recognised, notwithstanding her long absence from Bristol, and was compelled to bow her acknowledgments again and again in answer to the cheers which greeted her everywhere.

Mr. James P. Moore, of the Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, has fallen into line with the De Frece Circuit, and is transforming his theatre into the Alcazar Hippodrome, opening in July next with a powerful combination on the two-shows-nightly system. This will be the only permanent hippodrome in the town.

Mr. Herbert Shelley, the actor vocalist, on Monday will produce at the Palace Theatre, Bordesley, an interesting dramatic song-scena of the period of 1787, with all the dresses of that date. The story is well worked out and powerfully constructed.

Mr. Charles Urban has extended the enterprise of his Trading Company to the North of England. He has just established a branch office at Manchester-chambers, 46, Market-street, Manchester, where under the direction of Mr. John G. Avery there is a complete equipment of projectors, cameras, and all accessories, and also the very latest films on the market.

Dr. Walford Bodie is rapidly recovering from his recent severe indisposition, and will resume work on the 28th, opening at the Hippodrome, Liverpool, for two weeks. This will make his fourteenth visit to the Mersey city, and his fourth visit within twelve months. He also holds another date this year for Liverpool, and two other dates for the Argyle, Birkenhead. The doctor has been carefully nursed at his beautiful Highland home, the Manor House, Macduff, N.B., by Princess Rubie (Mrs. Bodie), who has been untiring in her devotion. During his three weeks' illness the doctor has given his company and staff a holiday, paying full salaries. He wishes to thank his many friends through *The Era* for hundreds of letters and telegrams of sympathy.

Mr. E. Leslie Conroy, resident-manager of the Empire Theatre, Newcastle, has received the following letter:—"I am in receipt of a letter this morning from Captain Ijichi, of His Imperial Japanese battleship Kashima, stating how delighted the members of his crew and officers were with the entertainment you so kindly provided for them, and asking me to particularly thank you for the same.—Yours very truly, J. Baxter Ellis."

An interesting item in the programme at the Central Hall, Sheffield, last week was a new and original comedy by Miss Maud Randford, entitled *Husbands Beware*, which was cleverly sustained by Miss Frances Ferina and Mr. John Hitchins. The sketch, which abounds in mirthful situations and witty dialogue, was well received and highly appreciated. The authoress is the wife of Mr. J. Lacy Lyne, of the Palace, Attercliffe.

The Belgravia Society Entertainers—an excellent musical organisation composed of artists recently serving under the banner of Mr. Geo. Dance—have appeared at the Pier Pavilion, Worthing, this week, submitting a really high-class programme, under the musical direction of Mr. Sydney Shaw, the well-known conductor. Mr. Walter Champney, principal comedian, has scored heavily, and Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy's vocal contributions have proved an enjoyable feature nightly. *Sons of the Sea*, a nautical operatic scena, introducing the National Glee Singers in the persons of Messrs. E. Batting, R. Connolly, W. Coltman, and L. Wilson, has been rapturously received. Miss Adela Rane as Nancy Lee has made a most bewitching belle of the Fox and Goose hostelries; and the screaming absurdity, *Tit-for-Tat*, in which Mr. Walter Champney and Mr. J. H. Goldsworthy appeared, has fairly brought down the house.

Mr. Jesse Sparrow announces an excellent list of attractions at his complimentary benefit on Tuesday at the Camberwell Palace, which will also mark his retirement from the management there. His photograph will be presented to every member of the audience in all parts of the house.

At the moment of going to press the Alhambra is entertaining the German oberburgermeisters, burgermeisters, and councillors, who, after their reception at Buckingham Palace by His Majesty the King, are being regaled with a grand gala performance at the variety house which has played so conspicuous a part in international hospitality.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, the indefatigable manager of the Walthamstow Palace, is, we regret to learn, suffering from indisposition, brought on by a too assiduous attention to his duties. He has been ordered away for a short rest, which he is taking among the invigorating breezes of Herne Bay. Sea-baths, "to be taken every few hours," are already having a beneficial effect, and Mr. Barclay hopes to be back at the post of duty some time during the ensuing week. In the meantime the arduous responsibilities of management are being ably and agreeably filled by his "second in command," Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.

In the Companies Winding-up Court on Tuesday Mr. Justice Buckley dismissed a petition by the Sturtevant Engineering Company, Limited, for the compulsory winding-up of the London Coliseum, Limited. The petition, it appeared, was filed before the voluntary winding-up decided upon on the 10th inst., and counsel said a large number of creditors appeared to oppose. In the circumstances he thought it better not to press for an order if the company would pay the costs. This course was agreed to, and the petition dismissed accordingly.

Herr Sacco concludes at 6 p.m. to-day (Saturday) the thirty-second and last day of his "Sacco im Hungerhaus" at the Regent, Salford. On the twenty-ninth day of his fast he had lost 38lb. weight, and the bulletin said he was well, though feeling tired. After an interval of ten days for the purpose of recovering and feeding up, Sacco starts another fast at the Tower, New Brighton. Chester's Agency, Limited, Manchester, who are Sacco's sole agents, have succeeded in obtaining another Continental fasting man, "Beauté," who will commence fasting for a period in Blackpool in competition with Sacco in New Brighton.

Miss Margaret Ashton, whose charming song scena *Winter* has been one of the features of the Oxford programme, has this week been singing, among others, the stirring march song, "The Bugler of the Dragoons." The charming American cantatrice has in preparation another new military song, entitled "Marjorie," published by the Shapiro, Von Tilzer Music Co., Ltd.

"Smart" is the word that best describes the dresses to be seen in the present programme at the Alhambra. The second edition of *Parisiana* can truly be called an edition de luxe; the *Scenes in Holland* are just as effective in a different style—like moving pictures from the brush of Mr. Tom Brown, R.I. The Yiullians Family, whose eccentric Risley act is equally daring and original, appear in up-to-date morning clothes, after the fashion of the Pantzer Brothers. Tumbling and acrobatic tricks, however, seem hardly in keeping with frock coats and silk hats. The lady of the party looks very pretty in a silk frock of brightest cerise, trimmed with silver bands, and full sleeves of a paler shade of chiffon. Mlle. Talma, of Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, appears in black, with a big rosette in her hair of Malmaison pink. The simplicity of her dress is an excellent contrast to the scarlet costumes of her assistants on the stage.

The question of the appointment of a Receiver of the Lyceum (1903), Limited, was mentioned before Mr. Justice Joyce on the 11th inst. on the application of a debenture holder for £100. Mr. Ward Coldridge, for the applicant, stated that Mr. Gatey, who appeared for the trustee for the debenture holders, and for £34,900 out of the issue of £35,000 debentures, agreed that Mr. Law, a gentleman appointed receiver out of court, should be continued in that position by his lordship. His lordship thereupon appointed Mr. Law to be receiver.

On Friday, the 11th inst., the owner of the public house at the corner of the pit entrance to the Lyceum, asked Mr. Justice Buckley for an interim injunction to restrain the management of that theatre from causing a nuisance and obstructing the passage which leads both to the public house and the pit. The passage is part of the Lyceum Tavern property, and three stalwart commissionaires stood at the entrance of the passage and shouted out: "This way to the pit! Ninepence to the pit stalls! Just going to begin!" The defendant said he would see that nothing was done to prejudice the plaintiff if the matter stood over.

Miss Louisa Peach, who is at Hammersmith this week with her sketch *Taming a Husband*, was the recipient last Saturday night, at the Britannia, of a large floral horseshoe and bouquet. Miss Peach is at the Hippodrome, Coventry, next week, and is booked at the Cambridge with her other sketch, *Peggy and the Curate*, on May 28.

Mlle. Roza, with her canine hippodrome, has returned to town for five weeks, after a most successful four months' provincial run, opening at the Ealing Hippodrome on Monday.—Mr. Jack Binns and Miss Rosie Lewin have returned to town from a successful provincial tour, and are at present rehearsing their comedy sketch, entitled *The Specialist*.—The Brewster Troupe, now performing at the Circo de Casino, Buenos Aires, have been re-engaged for two months longer, and expect to be back in England at the latter end of August.

The latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1⅞; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅛; Empire (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion Ord., 4⅛; ditto Pref., 4⅞; London Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss Empire, 4⅛; ditto, Pref, 3⅞; Oxford, 6⅞; Palace, 9s.; Tivoli, 5⅞; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 14s.

Mr. Henry Herne and Miss Ida Millais, whose tabloid drama, *Blackmail*, is such a popular production, have followed that startling water sketch with another, entitled *Mavourneen*, which has met with such a flattering reception at the Bedford this week that it will be presented for the first week of their fortnight's stay at the Queen's, Poplar, commencing Monday next.

Out of the fund publicly subscribed last year for the late Walter Howard, for many years the chief comedian and banjoist of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, it is proposed to erect a memorial stone on his grave at East Ham Churchyard. The Rev. Reginald Morrow, of North Woolwich, has the matter in hand.

Mr. Arthur Elvy has been specially engaged for the opening week at the New Empire at Woolwich to produce his sporting scena, *The Up-to-Date Tipster*.—Mr. Billy Tucker will shortly produce in town a sketch entitled *The Boxing Lady*, written by J. F. Lambe.—Mr. Tom Carney and Mr. Chas. West, both names to conjure with at Yarmouth, open on June 9 at the Pavilion, Gorleston, for the season with a specially-selected troupe of entertainers.—Mr. Henry Carlton, the popular young comedian, is going to his native village in Lincolnshire for three weeks' rest by his doctor's orders. He will resume business on Monday, June 11.

The new agency established by Messrs. Melvin and Taylor at 434, Strand, has already gained the confidence of the best proprietors. Mr. Charles Melvin's experience with Lord George Sanger and Mr. T. G. Transfield has stood him in good stead in the circus variety world, and at the Marlborough Theatre, where he was lately in office, exceptional opportunities offered of finding talented artists.

The dog has been a familiar figure in drama on the regular boards for many a day, and various actors playing Bill Sikes have introduced intelligent canines of various breeds into adaptations of "Oliver Twist"; but no animal, we venture to say, has given such a complete exhibition of histrionic aptitude as Mr. Michael Braham's Royal York, one of the finest and largest bred bull terriers in England. We recently noticed his wonderful performance in the clever sketch *The Burglar's Dog*, produced by his master at the Cambridge, and such a distinct novelty should prove a most powerful drawing card. It is attracting big audiences at the Hippodrome, Boscombe, this week.

Walton and Lester, "the world's worst wizards," who have set all London laughing at their latest "Magic Muddle," leave town for a nine weeks' tour, opening on Monday next at the Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

The name of Miss Ethel Dove was accidentally omitted last week from our notice of the entertainment given at the Brighton Alhambra. The omission was the more regrettable as Miss Dove was one of the most popular artists on the bill.

Our readers will remember the sad fatality a few months since at Basle, Switzerland, which ended the life of William Bloomfield, professionally known as the Great Hermann and also as Herr Bosco, while he was performing the bullet trick. The deceased conjurer has left a widow and three young children, and for these a benefit concert is being organised at the new Town Hall, High Wycombe, on Wednesday, May 30. Contributions will be thankfully received by Mme. Bloomfield, 31, Queen's-road, High Wycombe.

The Palace Theatre programme for next week will include, among the principal turns, Toledo and Price, a couple of refined contortionists, whom Mr. Butt discovered recently in America. On Monday, the 28th, Rosario Guerrero will return to the Palace with a new and elaborately-mounted pantomime sketch, and, needless to say, a wardrobe replete with new "creations."

Miss Mollie Seymour's pretty number, "I want my little Golliwog," by Nat Clifford and Medley Barrett, has been purchased by Mr. David Day.—Miss Daisy Dormer, the new coon impersonator, scored a big success last week at the Paragon, where she deputised for Miss Fanny Fields, making her reappearance there after only one week's absence.—Miss Elsie Earle, chorus comedienne, returns to town on May 28, after a successful provincial tour.

Messrs. O'Malley and Brown, who are meeting with great success in the provinces with their original comedy sketch, are both married to the daughters of well-known artists, whose names were household words in the last generation. Mr. Fred O'Malley is the husband of Miss Agnes Feeney (daughter of the late Patrick Feeney) and Mr. Billy Brown is married to Miss Dulcie Lloyd, daughter of the late Arthur Lloyd, and at present a member of the Arthur Lloyd Trio. A coincidence worth recording is that Mr. Fred O'Malley, as a youth of 15, had the pleasure of teaching the late Katty King (Mrs. Arthur Lloyd) a step dance, which Mrs. Lloyd and Mr. O'Malley performed with great success in pantomime at the Shakespeare Theatre, Glasgow.

"The Fish and the Net" is the name of a sketch that will shortly be produced by Mr. Fred Eustace and Co.—Mount and Corelli, in their new musical duologue, have successfully deputised for Miss Victoria Monks at the Canterbury.—Great Scott, after a successful engagement at the Palais d'Eté, Brussels, returns to town on Monday, opening at the Queen's, Poplar.

Messrs. Stanley Damerell and Cecil Rutland produced on Monday, at the Bedford Palace, a very laughable and entertaining musical farce in one scene, entitled *Mixed Bathing*, written by the gentlemen named. The different parts were essayed by a capable company, including Mr. Geo. Warriner, Mr. Cecil Rutland, Miss Violet Walter, Miss Florence Radcliffe, Miss Marion Storey, Miss Maud Hope, Miss Ethel Clifford, and Miss Eva Dagmar.

"Dr. Harley's Experiment" is the name of the new and original farce that Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant will produce at St. George's Hall on Monday.

An exciting scene at the Empress, Brixton, had a sequel at Lambeth Police-court on Tuesday, when Nicholas Macdonald, 24, costermonger; Herbert Higgins, 22, carman; and James Costello, 19, costermonger, were charged with assault. It is alleged that the defendant and others created a great disturbance in the gallery. One of the attendants who endeavoured to restore order was bitten on the hand, while another is in the hospital with his jaw broken in four places. The magistrate remanded the prisoners.

The members of the Stockwell Angling Society (the club which numbers amongst its members many prominent professionals) on Tuesday evening assembled in force, at their headquarters at Brixton, to listen to a paper on "Fly-fishing for Coarse Fish," by Mr. Willie Warde, of Daly's Theatre.

The magnificent sign on Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's window in Charing Cross-road advertising *The Belle of Mayfair* is the work of Mr. Robert Coan, the celebrated worker in aluminium, whose foundry in Clerkenwell is ever an orderly jumble of parts of airships, torpedoes, and submarines. Mr. Coan, who is no mean song-writer, divides his time between London and Clacton.

The 463rd meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices in Wellington-street on Tuesday. There were present Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), Harry Blake, A. Borrelli, Chas. Coborn, Wal Pink, Arthur Rigby, George Preston, Harry Tate, Albert Voyce, Douglas White (hon. treasurer), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising out of them dealt with. It was decided in the case of two members who had ignored the committee's repeated applications that Rule 15 should be put into operation.

The resignations from the committee of Mr. Pat Rafferty and Mr. Wm. Lee were accepted with regret. In respect to another member of the executive who had announced his intention of resigning owing to his engagements in the country precluding his attendance at the meetings, it was decided that the resignation, having been tendered under a misapprehension, be not accepted. Cases of refunds and insurance were considered, and instructions given. The secretary's financial statement for the week ending May 12 showed that thirty-nine new members had been added to the list, the receipts for the period alluded to amounting to £36 19s. 6d. and the expenditure £15 8s. 10d. The hon. treasurer's statement was also received and passed. The appointment of Mr. Robert Abel and Mr. Pat Carey, the two members next in order, to fill the vacancies on the committee, was approved.

Miss Alice Corisa, the latest recruit from musical comedy, made her début on Monday at the Metropolitan, and at the conclusion of her musical scena, *The Toy Shopgirl*, was immediately secured for a series of dates for both the Metropolitan and Chelsea.

Admiral Togo, the "Nelson of Japan," has sent an autographed letter of thanks to Mr. Frank Honey for a copy of his "Togo Barn Dance," which Mr. David Day has just issued.

Miss Millie Legarde's quaintly humorous number, "Nurseryettes," with which this charming artist is scoring such a signal success at the Tivoli nightly, has been accepted for publication by the Monte Carlo Publishing Co., and forms No. 27 of their "Sixpenny Successes" series. It has been specially written and composed for Miss Legarde by two members of the firm, Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate.

Miss Annie Purcell has in active rehearsal, and will next week produce, on the Stoll tour, Messrs. George Arthur's and Kenneth Lyle's tuneful song "Good-bye, my little Flo," published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, which song she will also specially "feature" during her forthcoming Tivoli engagement.

A specially fine number from the pen of Mr. Joseph Tabrar, author and composer of many hundreds of successful songs, with the quaint title "I must trouble you to pack your trunk to-night," has just been acquired by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company for publication, and that "pushful" firm has already made arrangements with one of our foremost lady coon singers to exploit this taking number at all her engagements

Miss Florrie Gallimore, who has just produced with unqualified success Messrs. Harrington and Tate's new chorus song, "Old Calabar," which is one of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's "Sixpenny Successes," has this week accepted from the same author and composer yet another new song, entitled "It isn't the money that makes the man," which will in the near future also be published by the same firm.

George Lashwood, who appears at the Hackney Empire next week, was not always the prosperous well-groomed star comedian he is to-day. In the early days of his career two other well-known music-hall celebrities and himself constituted themselves a "concert party" in the market place at Kidderminster. There every market-day they took it in turn to sing songs from 11 a.m. till 8.30 p.m. As during that time each was called upon to render eighteen or nineteen songs, it naturally followed that sometimes one particular number would be repeated. One day an old farmer, asked to contribute something, declined, saying: "They fellers be frauds. Whoi, yon with the curly hair he can sing only one tune. When Oi comes here this forenoon he be a-singin' 'Tommy, mak room for ee ooncle,' when Oi cooms back arter dinner he be a-singin' 'Tommy, mak room for ee ooncle' agen, and, dang me, if he doan't sing 'Tommy, mak room for ee ooncle' just now for a third go! When 'ee can sing more nor one song, laad, I'll gi' a penny, not before—no, no. I likes value for my money, I do, an' I sees that I get it."

Chirgwin is a prominent figure in the programme at Holloway Empire next week. The first appearance of this popular favourite was at the age of six, his father being at that time a famous circus clown. Twenty-seven years ago Chirgwin blossomed forth as the "White-eyed Kaffir" at the old Oxford. He was engaged for a fortnight, and stayed on for fourteen consecutive months. Chirgwin recently worked a splendid "gag" in connection with his favourite number, "My fiddle is my sweetheart." The chorus was amended as follows:

"My fiddle was my sweetheart,
But she's a broken toy;
Instead of her I far prefer
My little baby boy."

As the White-Eyed Kaffir sang the last line his little son Jim, aged one year and ten months, walked on to him, and the delight of the audience was expressed in enthusiastic applause.

At the Tivoli, Manchester, on Monday, was produced a grand military fantasia, by Frank J. Smith, on the famous song, "Let me like a soldier fall." The piece is respectfully dedicated (by permission) to Lieut.-General Sir H. M. Leslie Rundle, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief, Northern Command. It is a very vigorous and graphic piece of work, quite clear in outline, and combining the sentimental and the martial with pleasing and impressive effect. The transitions are so smooth and natural that the whole fantasia hangs together like one piece, and the arrangement is done with musicianly skill and judgment. This piece is, in fact, rather ambitious, and is well worthy of being widely heard.

Mr. Edgar Le Brun (Brown) of Le Brun and Irene, has received, through the kind offices of the *New York Clipper*, most satisfactory news concerning his sister, Miss Adèle Purvis Onri, who was at San Francisco at the time of the catastrophe. The *New York Clipper* writes, under date May 5: "We have just received word from Miss Adèle Purvis Onri from Chicago to the effect that herself and associates escaped from the San Francisco fire, and saved all their property." Miss Onri is also sister to Mr. Frank Brown, of Buenos Aires.

The old-established theatrical and variety agency of George Sinclair and Co., hitherto carried on at Walcot-gardens, has been removed to more convenient premises at 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

At the meeting of the members of the I.A.L., on Sunday, at the Hotel Provence, there was a long discussion on internal affairs of great interest to the members. The secretary read announcements with reference to the new and better system of keeping the accounts of the death assessments due from members. Attention was also drawn to the fact that the Lodge prints normal contracts in three languages—German, French, and English—and that the same can be had at the rate of about 4d. each at the offices of the I.A.L.

Bro. 1377 opened a discussion on the conditions of contracts for South Africa, which till now had been for one show a night only. Next year, he said, they were to be altered to two shows a night. Performers were being written to this effect, and Paragraph 17 in the contracts was being referred to in support of this. The paragraph says that "the performer shall appear as often as the management shall desire." The chairman was of the opinion that this referred to one evening only. Bro. 382 said the alteration to two shows a night only referred to Cape Town. Bro. 1377 had had a letter, with a blank slip for signature attached, which said: "I agree to take Paragraph 17 as meaning that there will be two shows a night." Bro. 1356 maintained that asking for an affirmation of willingness to work two shows a night constituted another contract. Under the old contract, as it stands, performers could not be forced to work the two shows.

A brother related a curious experience of his. He had left some large photographs with an agent, and at the same time had taken a receipt for them which explained that they had only been lent. Upon the performer applying to the agent for the return of the photographs, he only received a bill for storage. The meeting decided that this matter might be laid before the Legal Committee.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Grant and Grant, the American Octoroons, have an exceedingly smart and lively act in *A Georgia Flirtation*. Two black people, a man and a maid, make love to one another in their own characteristic way, and their duologue and duets are very delightful. The lady is vivacity itself, and both she and her partner dance in a sprightly manner, and the singing of "A Yankee-doodle Boy" provides an agreeable item in the turn. Miss Lily Gaston distinguishes herself as a male impersonator, her studies being all extremely well conceived, added to which she is a capable top-boot dancer. George and Edwards furnish plenty of merriment of the rollicking order with their knockabout comedy. There is plenty, too, to provoke mirth in the sketch *Binks' Blunder*, presented by Mr. Harry Russell and company. The story mainly concerns a squabble between husband and wife. The former brandishes a revolver and says he will commit suicide. So he and the servant Binks repair to the garden, where the terrible tragedy is to be enacted. A shot is heard, and immediately afterwards Binks returns to the lady of the house and says his master has scattered his brains on the cabbages. But the loving wife says that "her devoted spouse never had sufficient brains to scatter even on one cabbage." However, apparently she is assured that the deed is done. But the "dead" man returns and drinks what is supposed to be rat poison. Of course, he has been shrewd enough to change the glass containing the poison for another holding milk, and after causing temporary mental anguish to his better half, he confesses all, and the little act ends pleasantly. Mr. Harry Russell gives us an absurd character as Binks, whom he contrives to present in his most farcical manner.

Mr. Victor Travers is excruciatingly funny in his witty patter, his laughable solos and his quaint antics. His burlesque, coon, and other styles of business are exceedingly entertaining. Mr. Nat Watkins, too, is a successful merry-maker, whose whimsicalities cannot fail to arouse one's risible faculties. Miss Hulo Hodgson, Mr. Harry Lowther and company appear in their extremely amusing episode *Barmaids*, and there is not a dull moment while they occupy the stage. Mr. Harry Freeman gives us of his latest, and that, be it said, finds great favour with the audience. His songs, "Keep on doing it" and "Share it among the lot," are crowded with humorous points, which are made the most of in Mr. Freeman's skilful way. A gymnastic pot-pourri act is what the Arleys have to offer. These artists are assisted by some remarkably clever performing dogs who, along with their trainers, execute somersaults, leaps, and other athletic feats. For smartness and agility the Arleys and their terriers are to be highly commended, and the whole performance is one which excites a good deal of admiration if not wonderment. Nowadays the cinematograph must not be left out of reckoning, and in this respect Raymond's Bio-Tableaux holds an important position in the world of animated pictures. This week at Sadler's Wells we are being shown, among other novelties, a fine series of pictures bearing the title of "The Jealous Husband," which provide an interesting story in themselves.

Hearts of Oak is a latest sensational episode presented by Mr. Arthur St. John and his Britannia Sketch company. Sensational it is, and it fails not to excite the feelings of the galleryites. There is a brutal Moorish slave-owner who finds pleasure in ill-treating a slave-girl of English parentage. There is also a German Secret Service agent, who is conspiring with Muhamed Elsisis, the slave-owner, to destroy a British man-o'-war stranded on the coast of Morocco. In command of the vessel is Lieutenant Reginald Ferneaux, who, along with Midshipman Jack Bowler, comes on shore and intervenes between Muhamed and the slave-girl, and succeeds in bringing about a temporary cessation of the tortures to which the girl is subjected. Muhamed, of course, resents this interference, and later on seizes the opportunity of carrying out part of the German's evil designs by taking the Lieutenant prisoner and treating him to the bastinade as a gentle prelude to other atrocities, including a lingering death, which are prepared for the officer. However, the bluejackets from the ship are called up in time to prevent the worst happening. Mr. Arthur St. John acts with dramatic forcefulness in the rôle of the manly and gallant lieutenant, and Miss Ida St. John displays tragic intensity in the pathetic part of Stella, the slave-girl. As the scheming German Secret Service agent, Mr. Powell James furnishes a capital characterisation, his broken English being well sustained. Mr. Archie Grant portrays in vivid style the villainous propensities of the slave-owner; Miss Kitty Bennett is alert and lively as the midshipman, and Mr. Walter Clarke ably represents a Moorish donkey boy.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

Quite the biggest novelty in the current programme at the Holloway Empire is the performance of "the thought-reading dog," Pilu. This intelligent little animal was recently one of the principal attractions at the Empire in Leicester-square, and is now, with his owner and trainer, M. Ancillotti, on the Moss and Stoll tour. According to his master, it has taken no less than twelve years to educate Pilu; and it is a sad fact that the canine thought-reader has reached advanced years. He is seventeen; and that, alas! is old age for a dog. Senility is indicated by his slow walk and gravity of demeanour; but advancing years have not robbed Pilu of his intelligence. A row of cards bearing numbers are placed on the stage facing the footlights. The dog's owner, having made his way from the stage to the stalls, asks a young lady seated in the front row the number of her residence, and Pilu, with quaint deliberation, picks out the two cards which give the correct number. In similar fashion the little dog, after gazing intently at a gentleman, reveals his age; but when one of the fair sex inquires how many years will pass before she is married Pilu solemnly indicates a card bearing a nought. A more serious question is—"How long is the lady likely to live?" But Pilu knows, and the figures, a three and an eight, are shown. A gentleman is informed how much money he has in his pocket, and other questions of a similar kind are accurately answered by the canine wonder, who seems quite delighted when his task is over, and his master bids the audience good-night.

A Bachelor's Dream is quite a model music hall sketch. It is just the right thing for a bright variety programme. The bachelor dreams that he is married to some half-dozen ladies who represent different nationalities, and cause him no end of worry as they appear in quick succession and produce their certificates of marriage, the Spanish lady with a pretty little dagger in her right hand being by far the most formidable of the lot. The awakening is of course a happy experience. The playlet owes much of its popularity to the admirable manner in which it is played by Miss May Edouin and Mr. Edwards. The first-mentioned cleverly represents the several wives; and also gives her laughing song with much vivacity and artistic effect. Mr. Edwards submits a decidedly humorous embodiment of the bachelor who has a bad dream.

The Cole de Losse Duo are applauded for an exceedingly clever performance on the wire, one of them balancing the other upon his shoulders in a marvellous manner. The same artist also mounts and rides a bicycle placed on the wire; while his companion enlivens the proceedings with some comic business. Mr. Charles Austin as a comedian comes under the description of eccentric, and he manages to score all the time. The Stella Troupe of Vocalists and Dancers open with a pretty swing song. All of them are seated in swings, and melody and motion go together. They also distinguish themselves as acrobatic dancers, and their performance evokes much applause. The lady and gentleman known as Baker and Balfe win distinction as remarkably expert xylophone players, with some well-chosen selections. The gentleman also scores as a smart dancer. Mr. Josh Dixon, comedian, appears to have founded his style and methods on the model of the late Mr. Dan Leno; and sings a ditty in the character of the keeper of an asylum. He also appears as a smartly dressed dame with a ditty entitled "Archie," and concludes with a brisk dance. Flem and Brok, aerial pugilists, and Johnny Gilmore, comedian, are also in the bill, and a clever little girl with a song and dance has also appeared as an extra turn. Under the careful direction of Mr. C. W. Adams, the management of affairs in front of the house is quite satisfactory, and Mr. Henry W. May is still in charge of the orchestra at this hall.

THE LYCEUM.

A happy return to London has been made this week by Miss Gipsy Woolf, who at the fine variety house in Wellington-street is nightly evoking manifestations of applause, which are the guerdon of real ability and smartness. As her front name would suggest, Gipsy is a handsome brunette. She possesses a voice of good quality, a chic style, and any amount of enthusiasm for her work. With six little maids, she animates with her brightness and charm a pretty woodland glade, and appears as the queen of a caravan to be seen in the foreground. It is an ideal camping ground for the dark-skinned Romany boys and girls, who are regaled with a most exhilarating vocal description on the part of Miss Woolf of "My bungalow in Borneo." This is followed by a dance that is absolutely infectious in its exhilaration. Miss Woolf is called and recalled, and must be very gratified at the success of one of the most tastefully-mounted scenas that we have seen for many a day. The singing honours of the excellent programme fall very properly to Miss Ghita Corri, the famous operatic prima donna, whose fine and well-cultivated voice fills the magnificent house. Miss Corri calls her scena *Waiting*, and as an English girl costumed in the fashion of 1770 she sings Millard's song of that name, and sings it with wonderful verve and entrain. Her second number, "Carmena," is given in the dress of a Spanish cigarette-maker of to-day, and the difficulties of the song are easily surmounted by this well-endowed and cultured vocalist.

Mr. Charles Coborn, who is one of the most finished comedians to be seen on the variety halls, submits some excellent character-studies in his first number. He delineates with many an artistic touch the peculiarities of the soldier, the sailor, the policeman, and the coster, and does so without a red rose, baggy trousers, or an exaggerated make-up. He accentuates his success by his rendering of "Four fingers and a thumb," a well-written number, which should be capable of indefinite extension. It is a refreshing experience to find a comedian who does not stoop to blatant methods scoring so gratifying a success.

The Prince of Monte Carlo, a merry musical comedietta by Paul Knox and Harry Roxbury, has just sufficient plot to justify the introduction of some catchy musical numbers and a very droll duel scene. Mr. Harry Roxbury, who has played Sergeant Lightning for nearly a thousand times with Mr. Fred Karno's *Dandy Thieves* company, appears as Archibald Longfellow, who comes from Scotland Yard in answer to a telegram from Lady Carr—very desirous of unmasking a couple of adventurers who are her guests. On his arrival the detective is taken for the Prince of Monte Carlo, and that nobleman, nothing loth, assumes the rôle of criminal investigator. Archie accuses a fire-eating Count of cheating at cards, and that shady frequenter of Continental gambling saloons, being a most successful duellist, insists on a meeting. This is an exceedingly funny farcical scene, which puts the success of the sketch beyond any possible shadow of doubt. Mr. Roxbury is a genuine comedian, and his best credentials are the shrieks of laughter that are to be heard all over the house at his droll sword-play and still droller remarks. Miss Ethel Bryant makes a graceful and fascinating Lady Carr; Miss Vashti Wynne puts real dramatic force into her rendering of Denise; and the other members of the company give excellent support, especially the actor who plays the Count. The sketch is in three scenes, and the gardens at Monte Carlo and the illuminated grounds at the Casino are excellent sets for which Mr. Fred Boden is responsible. The lyrics and music, written and composed by Mr. Paul Knox, are bright and inspiriting.

The dramatic attraction of the bill is *Right's Right*, a combination of mirth and sentiment that in its day has done excellent service at the provincial theatres. It is presented in tabloid form by Mr. Adderley Howard and company, and its principal importance is derived from the fact that Miss Dolly Elsworthy, a young actress with a decided bent for low comedy, is seen in the part of Venus—a girl who has been kidnapped in her childhood and brought up among thieves. She is a strange mixture of good and evil. Indulging in paroxysms of anger and amusing bits of irritability, she is yet open to the influences of affection, and her heart melts under the influence of sisterly devotion The various facets of the character give Miss Elsworthy great opportunities, of which she makes the very most, and the house is at once delighted by her clever humorous touches and impressed by her softer shading of the character. The support is good, Mr. Adderley Howard being responsible for a characteristic rendering of the good-hearted farmer, John Mayne.

An eccentric acrobatic and contortionist act is contributed by Abel and Welsh, whose knockabout business and table tricks are heartily laughed at. Miss Gladys Whitton, in the early portion of the programme, sings with expression "In the dear homeland"; Miss Stafford, from North America, is responsible for some well-executed buck-dancing; and Raymond's bio-tableaux include some excellent films; and Miss Ada Parker entertains with success as a comedienne and dancer. Mr. Tom Barrasford, jun., is a most courteous acting-manager, and his urbanity is reflected in the attendants.

A SITTING for public examination was held last week at the Bankruptcy Court in the case of Humphrey Ellis Brammall, described as of Piccadilly-circus-mansions, W. The accounts showed liabilities £2,611, of which £2,101 was returned as unsecured, and no available assets. Debtor said since 1900 he had been engaged at the Crystal Palace and elsewhere in the production of pantomimes, theatrical and circus performances, and variety entertainments.

AT the date of the receiving order he was producing a pantomime and a circus at the Crystal Palace, and was also under agreement to provide entertainments at the Kursaal, Southend, but that agreement had been determined. He had also been connected with a music-hall and dramatic agency in Shaftesbury-avenue, for the purpose of which he provided about £200. His present position was chiefly due to the costs of various actions, executions, and bankruptcy petitions, estimated at £1,000; to loss on the production of pantomimes at Sheffield and Sunderland at Christmas, 1904-5, also about £1,000; and to his expenses during the past year having exceeded his receipts. The sitting was adjourned.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

CHAT WITH MR. G. DE GRACIA.

The clever elephant act, presided over by Mr. G. de Gracia, now to be seen at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, has created a good deal of admiration from visitors to that house. One wonders how much patience and ingenuity have to be expended before these animals reach that degree in their education which permits of their performing on the stage.

We question Mr. de Gracia. "One of the most difficult things to teach an elephant," he says, "is to get them to stand on their hind legs and on their heads. But the cylinder trick performed by my three elephants entailed an enormous amount of hard work on my part before it could be called by any means perfect. It was teaching, teaching, teaching and practising twice daily for six months. They like their work now, and seem to put their heart and soul into it. Now, the cricketing business also took a long time to teach. I could not at first get the the animals to grip the bat. They are extremely nervous animals, and very sensitive about their trunks. Trouble? I am constantly having trouble with them. For instance, I am compelled to keep a man in their stable every night, or the animals would get frightened and make a noise. In fact, the elephants have now become so accustomed to seeing a man in their stable, whom they regard as a certain preventative agent against rats, that they would scream out if the keeper were absent."

Mr. de Gracia says that it is difficult to say what is the life of a performing elephant. "It might be alive to-day and dead to-morrow. One trouble we have with them is that we cannot give them medicine when they require it. If you put it into their food they detect it and will avoid it. Put sugar around it and they will eat the sugar and leave the medicine."

Mr. de Gracia, whose elephants were seen at the Palace last year in a successful two months' engagement, is remaining at the Shaftesbury-avenue place of entertainment for three or four weeks longer. His wife, by the way, was the one-time celebrated lady equestrienne, Mlle. le Blonde. The subject of this interview started in the profession as a circus rider at the age of six, doing, in addition, acrobatics. He continued in that line until 1902, when a severe accident, which occurred in Bombay, made it impossible for him to continue the equestrian performances. He was years ago considered one of England's cleverest bareback

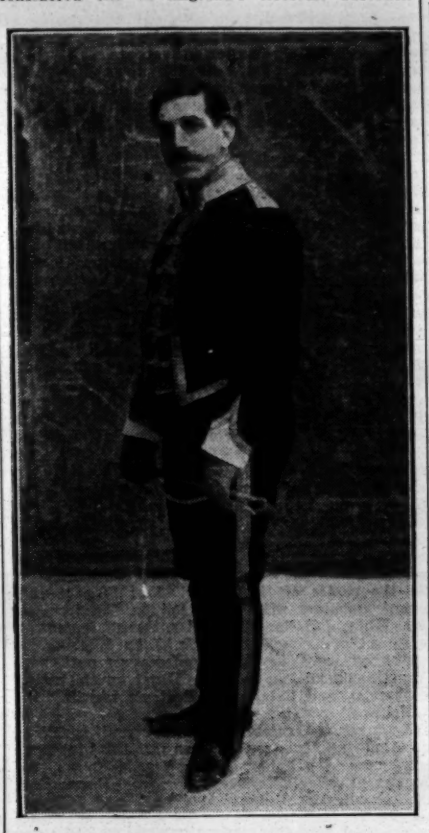

Photo by Bustin.

MR. G. DE GRACIA.

somersault riders, and he tells us that he found no one to compete with him as an all-round equestrian. He went over to America and Australia, and challenged performers in those countries, but no one appeared inclined to enter into a contest. During the time he was laid up at the hospital recovering from his accident referred to, the house-surgeon, Colonel Boyd, and a personal friend of Mr. de Gracia, advised him to enter another profession, because the following of an acrobatic career was now out of the question.

"Having been so many years in the circus, and having trained ponies, horses, and elephants, I again took to the latter animal. The first elephants I got were a couple from Rangoon. One died, and the other is still with the circus in India that my mother-in-law has charge of. I then purchased three more and started training them, for you must remember that they were quite wild. It was a long and tedious job. However, after some travelling about, we reached Poona. Then there was a wait of three months for reliable weather, which finally came, and we had a most delightful trip to England. I have been in this country now three years this summer."

It is a rare and a lengthy number of notabilities that Mr. de Gracia has performed before. In India he was quite a popular personality, and his show received high favour from all classes. His father, William Batty Harmston, had a circus in the North of England for a great many years, and older members of the profession will doubtless easily call him to mind.

A MOVEMENT is afoot among the prominent song-writers of London to present Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sansum, of the Royal George, Charing Cross-road, with a tangible recognition of regard and regret on the occasion of their forthcoming retirement from the management of the famous hostelry, which is known throughout the profession as The Song-writers' Arms. The popular couple, who succeeded Mr. James Kirk—the purchaser of a short lease of the Oxford in October, 1890, for £27,100—are proceeding to another sphere of usefulness.

JACQUES INAUDI, who gave a séance of phenomenal calculation at the Hotel Cecil on Thursday afternoon, was giving on one occasion a demonstration of his powers before M. Bourgeois, the Minister of Public Instruction in France, when M. Poincarré, a well-known mathematician, thought to disconcert him by setting him a problem which was incapable of solution, but Inaudi detected it at once, and in solving a problem from an advanced text-book he gave a result which did not tally with that set out in the text-book. The triumph of having given him a poser was short-lived, for on a careful examination the man of figures was found to be correct. M. Inaudi is one of the principal attractions at the London Hippodrome.

"COPPELIA."

A Romantic Ballet in Two Scenes,
by Ch. Nuitter and A. Saint Leon,
Music by Léo Délibes, with additional numbers
by C. J. M. Glaser.
Produced, and Dances arranged,
by Alexander Genée, at the Empire,
on Monday, May 14.

Swanilda	MLLE. ADELINE GENEE
Franz	MISS D. CRASKE
Coppélius	MR. FRED FARREN
Coppélia	MISS E. COLLIER
Laszlo	MR. P. SUNDBERG
Irma	MISS ELISE CLERC
The Burgomaster	MR. A. YOUNG
His Wife	MISS M. PASTON
Innkeeper	MISS SHEPHERD

Coppélia, the most charming production of Délibes, has taken thirty-six years to reach London, having been produced on May 25, 1870, at the Paris Opéra, where the composer held the position of accompanist and second chorus master (under Victor Massé). Having been commissioned to compose the ballet of *La Source* (Nov. 12, 1866) in collaboration with the Polish musician Minkous, he displayed such a wealth of melody as a composer of ballet music, and so completely eclipsed the composer with whom he had as a favour been associated, that he was at once asked to write a divertissement called *Le Pas de Fleurs*, to be introduced into the ballet of his old master, Adolph Adam, *Le Corsaire*, for its revival in October, 1867. Previous to his success in writing ballet music Délibes had been responsible for the scores for several short comic operas for the Théâtre Lyrique, and a number of operettas for the Folies Nouvelles, the Bouffes-Parisiens, and the Variétés. He gave up his position at the Opéra in 1872 on his marriage with the daughter of Mlle. Denain, a former actress at the Comédie Française; but he returned to it, and produced there a grand mythological ballet *Sylvia*, which confirmed his superiority in dance music.

The work, as now produced with that lavishness and beauty which have made the name of George Edwardes world-famous, is in two scenes, both painted by Joseph Harker, who realises the picturesque beauty and warmth of atmosphere in a village on the borders of Galicia. Herein we are introduced to the heroine of the pretty story—Swanilda, a Slav maiden. Her jealousy is excited by the manifest attentions paid by her lover Franz to a flaxen-haired beauty to be seen seated in the window of Coppélius, a doll-maker, whose ingenuity and inventive power have apparently excited some uncanny suspicions among the ignorant Galician folk. Swanilda has her suspicions as to the identity of her rival, and with a number of her girl friends follows her sweetheart—who climbs through the window—into the workshop of the doll-maker. There she discovers, to her delight, that Coppélia is a manufactured beauty, dependent for movement upon wires and springs and clockwork. Her innate love of mischief prompts her to take the place of the elaborate piece of mechanism. The old doll-maker is at first extremely puzzled, but his mystification gives way to transports of delight as he watches what he thinks is his masterpiece execute the most elaborate dancing. He soon discovers his mistake, however, but his disappointment and rage are appeased by the gift of a purse of money by the burgomaster and his wife, the curtain falling on the reconciliation of Franz and Swanilda.

A striking number in the first scene is the waltz, and another that reflects the true Slav spirit is the melody entitled, we believe, "The Ear of Corn," which is the basis of a mazurka. In the second scene is a quaintly original theme that accompanies the movements of the automata manufactured by the eccentric Coppélius. The score was written in no haste, and bears the signs of very careful polish, the result being a sweet and melodious work.

It was in Coppélia that Mlle. Genée made her début as a *première danseuse* at the Opera House, Munich, and more recently danced in it at Copenhagen before the late King of Denmark and our Queen Alexandra. It was perhaps partly due to Her Majesty's expressed wish on this occasion that led Mr. George Edwardes to produce it; but a more probable reason is the presence at the Empire of the prima donna assoluta who is absolutely an ideal representative of the heroine. Mlle. Genée's personal success on Monday evening was secured ere a note of Délibes' score was played, for she is one of the most popular artists in London; but great as have been her artistic triumphs hitherto, she far surpasses any of them by her delightful performance of Swanilda. She has the stage to herself in the Galician heroine's opening waltz, in which her energy and grace are unsurpassable. The Slav theme and variations, in which the incomparable Adeline leads the ballet in a series of slow movements, enable her to show the perfection of her grace and rhythmic movement. Into the automaton dance in the second scene she imparts a touch of sly humour which proves that had not Terpsichore claimed her for her own Thalia would have welcomed her as one of her votaries. At the conclusion of the ballet she came to the footlights carrying a basket of lovely flowers that had been presented to her behind the scenes, and later she dragged on Mr. George Edwardes, who may here be congratulated on an unmistakable success. Mr. Fred Farren has no solo dance, and his part of the doll-maker, though significant, is small. He shows himself, however, to be a clever comedian by the "business" he introduces. Mr. P. Sundberg, whom we have but recently seen as a courtly dancing master of the Fragonard period, is now a Slovak pedlar, with an agility in the national csárdás that is positively amazing. He receives the very best aid possible from Miss Elise Clerc. Nor should we forget the clever work of Miss D. Craske as Franz, nor that of Miss E. Collier as Coppélia. Misses E. Badham, B. Hill, L. Osmond, E. Shaw, and Bosetti are also brilliant examples of the rare efficiency of the Empire corps de ballet. The dresses by Wilhelm have all the brilliancy of colouring that one looks for in Czech and Tsigane costumes; but the colour scheme is never garish or obtrusive, but always a delight to the eye. During the entr'acte Délibes' celebrated march "Les Cloches," with its pretty bell effects, was played by the orchestra under Mr. Sydney Jones, who conducted the ballet with his cusomary effectiveness.

One of the most artistic contributions to what may be termed the strictly variety portion of the programme is Mme. Miette, who is responsible for three pretty chansons, to which she plays her own accompaniment on the guitar. Miette appears as La Cigale, and sings with charm, point, and rare expression. Another artist who receives much deserved encouragement is Ludwig Amann, who realises by facial expression and various wiggings some of Europe's leading statesmen, past and present. Bismarck, Gladstone, and Beaconsfield represent European politics of the past, and the Count de Witte, M. Delcassé, the Kaiser, and Edward VII. are world-famous celebrities of the present. M. Amann is not always quite clear in his announcements, but to his likenesses the adjective "striking" can be most appropriately applied. Simms and Simms are clever humourists as well as musicians. The Great Lumars finish up a clever and eccentric acrobatic show of ground tumbling and a table performance by a brilliant electric display, the incandescence being mostly in evidence on the dress of the lady—a very attractive performer, who is rapidly whirled round a bar held aloft by her two male partners. Morris Cronin and troupe, who have a special scene, perform some wonderful club juggling; and other turns include Bert Earle and the Bros. Martine.

CHELSEA PALACE ANNIVERSARY.

One note of regret was struck at the celebration of the third anniversary of the opening of the Chelsea Palace, and that was at the unfortunate absence, through illness, of the veteran manager, Mr. Edward Swanborough. In the latter's place Mr. J. Norman Berlin, the acting-manager, looked after the interests of the house and the audience with conspicuous ability. A distinct feature of the programme was provided by Mr. Angelo Asher, the talented musical director of the Chelsea Palace. Mr. Asher himself appeared on the stage, and played in excellent style a violin solo consisting of a fantasia on Irish melodies arranged by him. A pleasing performance was that of little Ray Phillips, a girl of fourteen, who gave an exquisite rendering of an Irish lyric, "Nora." Miss Phillips, who, by the way, is a protégé of Mr. Swanborough, also delighted the house with her step-dancing. Mr. Will Evans was as comical as ever with his *1910 Invasion*, and Lieut. Albini appeared in his agreeable conjuring and illusion act. A youngster who made her début on the stage on this occasion was Little Alice, whose dancing spoke of considerable latent ability. Mr. Adderley Howard and his company presented the first scene of the sketch *Nana*, Miss Dolly Elsworthy's impersonation of the title-rôle being given with her accustomed vigour. Lytton and Bland treated the house to a lesson in love, in which the male woos his fair lady in a series of characterisations. Mr. Malcolm Scott came on as "the woman who knows," and everyone voted him a most ludicrously fantastic female. Miss Winifred Hare interpreted in her exquisite fashion some dainty English songs, and Mr. G. H. Elliott submitted an entertaining coon ditty. Miss Amba Austa was seen and admired in songs and dances, in which she had the assistance of a clever little coon; and the Bros. Brooks were extremely happy in their burlesque duets. Mr. Edward E. Ford caused much merriment by his facial contortionism, and Miss Daisy Jerome rendered in charming manner a character song. Mr. Gus Garrick provided some of his latest laughter-making business, and May Moore Duprez was heard to advantage in "Coax me" and her patter. Others who assisted were Tennyson and Wallis, Baby Betty, Terry and Bentley, Alix Lukos, Mabel Sinclair, MacGovan and MacGovan, Rose Hamilton, Spencer and Marks, Agnes Hanson, Frazer and Haley, and My Fancy.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently, draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the uregent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Total	£19	3	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

MISS LELIA ROZE IN BRISTOL.

PRESENTATION AT THE EMPIRE.
SPEECH BY MISS LELIA ROZE.

It is some years since Miss Lelia Roze won signal popularity in successive Bristol pantomimes. Far too rarely has she appeared on the music hall stage in this city, and on those occasions the enthusiastic reception accorded her by crowded houses marked her as one of Bristol's favourite musical artists. It is not surprising, therefore, that an announcement made as late as yesterday afternoon by the enterprising management of the Empire Music Hall that Miss Roze would appear at the evening performances attracted large attendances.

In the course of the first performance last evening Mr. Fred Leighton, the resident-manager, went on the stage, and, after introducing Miss Roze, addressed the audience. He said he felt sure they would agree with him that for a lady to go to great personal inconvenience to come to Bristol that day and assist in the Charity Sports as Miss Roze had done deserved some recognition at their hands, as well as at his. (Hear, hear, and applause.) She was too well known in Bristol for him to say much about her, but as an old friend he might say how they looked upon her as the embodiment of success, of the progress of the profession, and as one who was upholding things bright and good. (Applause.) He asked Miss Roze to accept the gift of a bouquet of roses and his best thanks for the services she had rendered that day in the cause of charity. (Applause.)

The bouquet, which was exquisite in design and appearance, contained the word "Empire" displayed in roses of varied colours. The recipient, after thanking Mr. Leighton for the gift, plucked a rose and presented it to him. Addressing the audience, Miss Roze said she had not been among them there for a good many years, and since she was there last she might say she had travelled a good part of the world over. Although it was so long ago, she must say that she had never forgotten her old Bristolian friends. (Cheers.) She had been now in some of our largest cities—and hoped she had not appeared without the smallest success anywhere—but she had never met with a heartier reception in her life than she had from them. She had appeared on the old Empire stage before, and now it was very much improved, and indeed charming. She hoped to come back among them again. (Applause.)

Mr. Leighton said he would like to say that Miss Roze was expected to come there in about three weeks' time, when she would appear on that stage in her new scena. (Applause.)

Miss Lelia Roze was also present at the second performance.—*Bristol Daily Mercury*, May 10, 1906.

MISS VIOLET WILTON (Mrs. Frank Coyne), at one time a favourite comedienne on the variety stage, is running a successful millinery and costume business at Burlington House, Leeds, and at present she is very busy executing orders for the latest models from Paris and Berlin.

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THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

Mr. Geo. White's spring holiday carnival is now in its fourth week at the show grounds, Torry, Aberdeen. The attractions include Mr. White's new electric racing motors and his touring empire of cinématography and vaudeville company, among which are the Royal Magical Jester, Mr. J. C. Oliver; Miss Minnie Leslie, the Scottish contralto; the Freeman Family; little Miss Fanny Newsome, international dancer; and Jolly Lewis (son of the famous Little Levite)). The side shows are Mlle. Jeanetta, queen of handcuffs; Mme. Herculine, strong woman; and Faulkner's modern exhibition. Mr. James White has the Venetian gondolas and tunnel railway; also on the grounds are Kay's galloping horses, Howard's steam swings, and the usual shooting galleries, swings, Emmas, Alpine railway, and a hundred and one minor attractions. Altogether the carnival can be pronounced a financial success.

The fairs ahead for next week are:—Felling and Kirkhampton on the 22nd; Bristol and Standish on the 23rd; Beverley, Bildesden, Blyth, Dorking, Kirkby Lonsdale, Loughborough, Mirfield Feast, Newbury, North Walsham, Orpington, Skipton Fair, and Wigan on the 24th; Cowes and Littlehampton on the 26th. In Scotland we have Berwick-on-Tweed and Inverness on the 25th, and, in Wales, Llanelly.

Birstall, near Leeds, keeps its Feast in the middle of May, and is always well supported by the best concerns on the Yorkshire Round, being within easy access of large towns like Leeds and Bradford. Good business rewards the efforts of Yorkshire showmen. The principal shows were—Harry Ashington's theatre of animated photography and marionettes, Testo's living pictures, and Kelso's variety empire. The machine list—always a big one at this feast—included Goldthorpe Marshall's motor-cars, T. Harniess' motors and swings, Corrigan's steam swings, and similar concerns by Blake, Bentley, and Rodney.

The minor novelties included throwing games, variety stalls, and all the fun of the fair by Houldsworth, Mitchell, Bassett, Slater, Corrigan, Jameson, Bentley, and Blake. Blake, the novelty king, introduced his new game "The Lairs." We are told that this machine is a variation of the old punching-machine, and that when the player strikes successfully he receives a novelty package. Birstall is the centre of a thriving industrial population, and has upwards of 7,000 inhabitants, is situated on the London and North-Western Railway, and is within two miles of the city of Leeds, whose busy workers throng the fairground by road and rail.

The great fair at Hereford brought in crowds of eager sightseers by the three great trunk lines serving this cathedral city—the North-Western Great Western, and the Midland. The fair itself has for its entertainment Baker's well-known circus and three high-class cinematograph theatres, Wadbrooke's electrograph, Jacob Studt's coliseum of varieties, and Mander's animated photography. The side shows included Prince Samouda with temple of magic, Reader with freak exhibits, and Professor Taylor's school of boxers. Jacob Studt exhibited two large machines—a motor-car set and the galloping-horse set; Henry Studt and Son exhibited their new motor-car machine, and Hill, steam horses and swings. The other fairground caterers with side shows and throwing games were Graham, North, Stanley, Stephens, and Butler.

Our Leicester correspondent writes:—Leicester May pleasure fair, which opened on Thursday, the 10th, and terminated on Tuesday, the 15th, has proved a source of enjoyment to thousands of pleasure-seekers. The standard of the exhibitions has been well maintained, and altogether the removal from the centre of the town to the Belgrave-road site on the Ross's-walk has not proved the disastrous affair that was at one time predicted by the busybodies, who used every endeavour to secure its abolishment. The lease has several more years to run, and Mr. Collins, of Walsall, is to be heartily congratulated on the enterprise he has displayed in securing so admirable a site.

Among the numerous attractions present were Sedgwick's wild-beast show, an excellent exhibition, in which the fearless tamer Lorenzo puts his lions through a smart performance in a perfectly cool and graceful manner, at the termination of which he is deservedly awarded rounds of applause. Other animal trainers who also elicit hearty appreciation are Mlle. Rosina (who does a serpentine dance in the den), Alfonzo, and Olga. The cinematograph exhibition of Mr. Kemp (a gentleman well known in Leicester, of which town he is a native), the front of whose show is a masterpiece of workmanship, was also well patronised. Other leading shows were Arthur Twigdon's cinematograph, a first visit of Hastings' prodigies, Professor Cullis's boxing exhibition, Williams's Continental exhibition, White's living novelty exhibition, and numerous others. The concerns of Messrs. J. and P. Collins provided endless amusement, and combined with the innumerable stalls, &c., the fair presented a most animated appearance, which bodes well for its future success.

Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd., paid a one-day visit to Shrewsbury on the 14th inst, and their fine shows afternoon and evening were attended by a vast concourse of people. The midday procession was interesting, and a notable feature was the excellent appearance of the wild beasts and well-cared-for horses. The performances were clever, and the tenting arrangements particularly smart. The chief items included "British Tars at Practice," a capital turn; the Fondants, musical and eccentric wire turn; scenes from the Boer War, by some finely-trained elephants; the jockey acts of M. Roberts; Pimpo's dogs; the Flying Airlees; Hoffmann's intelligent pony; a fine spectacle, entitled "Nero; or the Sports of Ancient Rome"; Miss Lina's riding on a beautiful horse; the Maro Troupe of acrobatic equestrians; and the clever driving of four horses by the "Courier of St. Petersburg." The efficient band was conducted by Mr. Clem. A. Lawrence.

Newark Fair, on May 14 and 15, was, as usual, crowded by the vast throng of visitors from this great agricultural district.

The shows were of the usual high-class order taking this Round, and included Farrer's electric coliseum, Proctor's up-to-date filmograph, Chrichton's animated photography, Harry Hughes with military tournament, athletes, and boxers, and the No. 2 concern, the novelty booth. Amongst the machines were Aspland's motor-cars, Holland's whirling the whirl, Baker's steam yachts, Richard's ships in the air, and Price's swings. Throwing games and novelty stalls in excellent variety were provided by Messrs. Young, James, Smith, Farrer, Price, Bishop, and local caterers.

Continuing our record of Shropshire Fairs, we have Much Wenlock, a town of under 3,000 inhabitants, with a station on the Great Western line, and in the heart of an agricultural district. The fair appears to be mainly in the hands of local showmen, the principal machine being Shepherd's gondolas, and its only show Wright's fine art gallery. Norry's juvenile horses and throwing games; Wright's Winchester range, rifle saloons, and cokernut sheets; and Reynolds' and Shepherd's park swings complete the story of the amusements of Much Wenlock Fair.

South country showmen will remember the vigorous defence of the old fair at Wooburn, and the great part taken in the defence of the fair by Mr. Councillor Williams. We have received from Mr. Williams a notice of the fair to the effect that the pleasure part of the fair was very large, the fair-green being entirely covered with vans and shows, which were well patronised on both days of the fair. The new fairground charges arranged by the Parish Council came into operation for the first time this year, and all seems to have gone off with the utmost satisfaction.

Hillingdon Fair, one of the few remaining old Charter fairs in Middlesex, was held on the 16th, and well patronised by large crowds of visitors from Uxbridge, Southall Green, and the adjacent villages. The principal attractions were William Beach's well-known aggregation of novelties, headed by his composite set—motors and galloping horses. Mr. Beach also provided swings, shooting gallery, and throwing games; and with him was associated Holloway, with miniature horses and other varieties.

Chertsey Fair attracted a great crowd of London showmen. The roundabouts were those of Manning, Gale, Andrews, and Thomas. The rifle saloons and bottle-smashers were provided by Messrs. Hewitt, Gilham, and Andrews. The big show was Purchase's menagerie, and the No. 2 concern the cinematograph; and with them was Professor Gilham, with boxing booth.

The fair at Clun was entirely in the hands of the local caterer, Farrell, of Chester, who provided galloping horses, flying ostriches, and high-fliers and swings. The shooting concerns were by Turner.

Showmen will do well to make a note of R. W. Paul's new cinematograph film, "The Visions of an Opium Smoker," a novel trick and mystic subject depicting the fantastic dreams of an European in a Chinese jaunt. As the European sinks into semi-consciousness under the influence of the drug the vision of an Indian girl appears, changing as he approaches her into a cigarette. Other ladies appear, and also change their form.

A Moorish palace is then revealed, a lady being seen at the window smoking a cigarette and throwing kisses to him. She lowers a rope-ladder, and the dreamer runs up it, appearing among the clouds surrounded by all kinds of cigarettes, cigars, and so forth which float in the air. He jumps on a large pipe which floats away with him, and as he flies through the air he encounters a large tobacco-jar bearing a grotesque face; the mouth slowly opens, and man and pipe disappear inside.

His next adventure is in the land of poppies, where the poppy queen presents him with great wealth. Taking the box of gold, he mounts the pipe and rides away, but loses his balance and falls through immense space in the air, landing in the bowl of the pipe. The concluding scene shows the ashes being knocked out on the tray, and the original opium den, in which the Chinaman is rousing the dreamer.

The textile trades at Rawtenstall have mutually agreed upon a change in the annual summer holidays. In place of the third week in August they will start on the fourth Saturday in July, and continue the whole of the following week.

Our readers will remember the big fight made by the organised showmen to save the old charter fair of Leicester town. The struggle was long and severe, but in the end the fair was saved, very largely owing to the persistence of the Brothers Collins, A. Twigdon, and other local showmen. The impossibility of retaining the old site of the fair in the Humberstone Gate was recognised, and by mutual arrangement between the Corporation and the showmen a new fairground away from the heart of the town was provided.

Our correspondent at the fair tells us that this year there has been a record attendance, the new ground being visited by more people than ever attended the old fairground in Humberstone Gate. At the head of the show list was Sedgewick's menagerie, and the cinematograph concerns were Kemp's palace and Twigdon's varieties, both of whom did record business. The minor concerns included Hasting's two ground booths and Harry Cullis with schoool of boxers.

The Collins' machines were, as usual, in great force and number, and included Patrick Collins with three large sets—the gondolas, the motors, and cockerells, John Collins with four abreast gallopers, and P. Collins, jun., with steam yachts. The other machines were Twigdon's switchback, Wilson's big wheel, and gem horses by Chaplain and Neal. A big array of shooting concerns, including Neal, Dobson, and others, with Winchester ranges, and Harris and Whyatt with rifle saloons. The throwing games and variety stalls were mainly provided by Powell Bros., Gran, Houldsworth, and Whyatt Bros.

We have an interesting note of Glossop Fair and its show novelties; these included Captain Tom Payne's bioscope, George Green's cinematograph, Walter Shaw's fine art gallery, Green's motor-cars, steam yachts and galloping horses by John Collins, Shaw's steam swings, J. Hibbert's Newmarket riders, and Leskie's big wheel. The minor novelties were swings by Hibbert, shooting concerns by Cornwell, and throwing games by Whatmore, Sutherland, and others.

Church Stretton kept its annual fair on the 14th, and large crowds of eager sightseers patronised the shows and other fairground novelties. Chipperfield's cinematograph and Wright's fine art exhibition were the principal shows; Marshall Hill's gondola set, Herbert's steam horses and highfliers, Gottheimer's galloping horses and park swings, Hill's steam yachts, Marshall's steam swings, and Turner's big boats; the Winchester ranges by Herbert, Turner, and Wright, who also exhibited rifle saloons, bottle batteries by Woolcroft and Kemp, throwing games by Cartwright, Taylor, Jameson, Humphries, Hopkins, and Herbert.

Cardick, the handcuff king, created a great sensation at this fair by the marvellous way in which he extricated himself from various manacles. After being secured by twenty-four pairs of handcuffs and two pairs of leg-irons, he was tied up in a sack and the cords sealed; it was from this extraordinary confinement that the handcuff king liberated himself.

Guild subscriptions: Per Mr. Mitchell, J. Dearden 5s., Mrs. Henshaw 5s.; per Mr. Ashington, H. Testo 5s., J. Joy 5s.

At Inkerrow are Messrs. C. Herbert and Son's roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, &c., and Sorrell's toy bazaars.

At Jennings' Alexandra Theatre, Evesham, this week the following plays have been performed, viz., *The Gipsy Heir, Evesham Abbey in Ye Olden Times, Jealousy, The Colleen Bawn, The Steam Forge Hammer*, and *The Octoroon*.

Coming events include a Foresters' fête at Flyford, Worcester on May 21; a fête at Offenham, Evesham on May 29; Evesham Regatta, Kidderminster sports, fête at Campden, sports at Studley, Foresters' fête at Worcester on June 4; a fête at Redditch on June 5; a flower show at Badsey, near Evesham, on July 26; Evesham sports on Aug. 6.

Mr. Gustave Roselle's Merry Zingaras have been giving some excellent performances at Alcester and Studley.

CONGLETON NEW FAIR GROUND.

Amongst the many hindrances to the development of the fair ground business, it is exceedingly pleasant to notice from time to time the development of a progressive and sound business policy on the part of corporations and public bodies. An instance of this is to hand this week, in the account forwarded to us by Mr. Hurst (the secretary of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union and the Showmen's Guild) of the new fair ground, Congleton, Cheshire.

The ancient fair rights of Congleton are contained in a charter granted by Henry VI. The charter reads as follows:—"By charter dated at Gloucester, 1430, the King concedes, and gives his licence that there shall be an annual fair in the town of Congleton, namely, in the vigil and feast of the Apostles Philip and James, and on the morrow of the feast, besides the one other fair held there at the feast of St. Martin in the winter. These being witnesses:—The Venerable Fathers John, Archbishop of Canterbury, &c., Chancellor H. Winton, our Brother, and H. Sarum, our treasurer, Edward Duke of York, John Earl of Somerset, and others."

The first-named fair, now held on May 12, for the sale of horses and cattle, is the principal one of the year, and the only one recognised as a pleasure fair, which is kept up for three or four days. For many years the pleasure fair had been held in West Field, behind St. James's Church, the ground being taken by one showman, and then sublet to many others. The horse and cattle fair has been held on Swan Bank and in West Street also for many years, and still continues to be held there, but a change is to be made this year in the pleasure fair, which will be transferred to a new ground off Market Street.

The land has been purchased from the Lord of the Manor (Sir Walter Shakerley) for £550, and is three acres in extent. In order to make it a suitable fair ground it has been taken in hand by the town authorities, and thoroughly drained and levelled. It is admirably situated for its purpose, and has easy access from the High-street, Market-street, Norton-street, and other converging thoroughfares.

The land being slightly on the incline, the borough surveyor has arranged a series of terraces for the use of the roundabouts, so that they will be made absolutely safe, every convenience and arrangement for the comfort of the van-dwellers has been provided, and, although the closing of the old fair ground in Westfield will occasion loss of business to the tradesmen in that locality, it is confidently expected that the town itself will greatly benefit by the up-to-date enterprise of the authorities, and the greater facilities that the new ground affords for the amusements of the people.

The order and arrangement of the fair is entirely in the hands of Mr. Bursiam, borough surveyor. The chief entrance from Market-street will be kept quite clear, no stalls being allowed in the street proper. "Cheap jacks" will not be allowed on the new ground and its approaches, but must confine their energies to the horse and cattle fair. The pleasure fair will form a square, the main entrance to which will be on the right of Market-street, the first space being reserved for agricultural implements and photographic booths, the left side, with its back to Market-street, and the Drill Hall, will be allocated to throwing games and varieties. At the bottom of the ground will be the principal exhibitions, consisting of Relph and Pedley's cinématograph, Clark's coliseum, Proctor's circus, and Style's and Gould's home of mystery.

Continuing round the ground on the side nearest to Eaton Bank, there will be cokernut sheets, Harrington's football game, minor attractions, and the children's corner—a special feature of this fair, where, removed from the crowding of the larger machines, will be found gem or miniature hobby-horses, gem swings, overboats, and revolving wheel, with toy stalls and other children's delights. In the centre of the ground, four large roundabout machines will be erected on the terraces, Mr. Edmund Holland (an old native of the town), with set of flying horses: Mr. John Whiting, so well-known at Congleton Fair for years past, with Venetian gondolas; Mr. T. Hurst, with racing cockerels; and Relph and Pedley's whirling the whirl.

Amongst the caterers of fair-ground novelties, stall-holders, &c., well known at this fair, we must name Mr. Robert Dixon, Mrs. Mulherne, and Messrs. Rowley, Norman, Marsden, Harrington, Massey, Barker, Sedgewick, Jewell, and Dillon.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Total	£19	3	0

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The United States of America Life Motion Pictures and Variety Confederation are paying a visit to the Public Hall, Redditch, this week.

An invention of an invaluable kind has been perfected by Mr. George R. Beaumont, late manager of the Alhambra, Sheffield, and now of Bournemouth. It is called the Solar Kinematographe, and is an instrument which allows sufficient daylight to pass through its optical system and the photographic ribbon to display a moving scene clearly on a screen placed in the shade in broad daylight. The machine can also be used indoors at night with an artificial illuminant. Patents have been applied for.

Maidstone Fair was visited by thousands of people during the annual May Fair. The principal concerns on the ground were Sir James Pettigrove and Sons' switchback, and galloping horses, with a host of fair novelties, the American Bioscope and Theatre of Varieties, Nicholas, the strong man, Mlle. Estelle's Troupe of Lady Wrestlers, Adam's Assault-at-Arms and Athletic Exhibition, and Mlle. Amelia, Barnum's Beauty. The grounds were under the management of the sole lessee for many years, Sir James Pettigrove.

PARAGON ANNIVERSARY.

The Paragon Theatre of Varieties has attained its majority, and to celebrate this coming of age a special programme was arranged on Thursday night. Flags, bunting, electric, and other decorations, inside and outside the theatre, made it apparent that something unusual was happening, and it seems hardly necessary to say that the house was packed from floor to ceiling. Among well-known professional people present were Mr. George Adney Payne, Mr. Fred Miller, Mr. Frank Weeks, Mr. C. Meggy, Mr. H. H. Wells, Mr. Horace Marriott, Mr. Walter Gibbons, Mr. Charles Beecham, Mr. Worland S. Wheeler, Mr. Tom Pacey, Mr. Fred Higham, Mr. Fred Reeves, Mr. A. A. Simmons, and Mr. Edgar Granville.

Later in the evening Mr. Fred Miller appeared on the stage and made a short speech. "I trust," he said, "that many of you will still rally round the old place, and support it in the way you have done in the past. I only regret that our managing-director, Mr. George Adney Payne, has been called away rather hastily to-night, otherwise he would have appeared before you and thanked you for your presence here this evening. I am quite sure by the souvenir that has been issued that you will be able to gain all the information you would like to know concerning the Paragon's history from its inception. Of course, very great things are happening all around us in the variety world at the present moment, and I assure you that it is only by the strenuous efforts of Mr. Payne and his directors that we are able to cope with the tremendous competition. But I may tell you that, in spite of the opposition, the Paragon has gained prestige against all comers in the variety world. I thank you for your kind indulgence to-night, and for the appreciation you have shown towards the artists, on whose behalf let me express gratitude."

Probably the principal feature in the programme was item No. 23, described as "George Robey (of Millwall and elsewhere) *v.* Yukio Tani (the famous Japanese wrestler), on this occasion only, in a great wrestling match." For once Yukio Tani was beaten, and George Robey is now the "champion" after a stiff contest lasting, the timekeeper told us, five hours thirty-six minutes. The match can be better imagined than described. The audience simply shrieked with laughter the whole time. Then we had Mr. Robey again as the comical, talkative beadle, and very comical he was, too. King and Benson gave their amusing singing and dancing act; Miss Arabella Allen interested the house with her Dickens impersonations; Mr. G. H. Elliott provided a delightful entertainment with his coon business; Yukio Tani again appeared in a—this time serious—wrestling match, and came out victorious; A Bo-Kou showed what a smart juggler he was; Mr. W. Poluski, jun., had an amusing parody on "My Irish Molly"; Miss Rose Pareezer was heard to advantage in "Dear Heart"; and others who assisted in the general merry-making were Margaret Ashton, Clark and Hamilton, Nat Clifford, Doyle and Nasse, Duncan's collies, James Fawn, the Gotham Quartette, Winifred Hare, Chas. King, the Korries, Lily Lena, Victoria Monks, The Battle of the Belles by Moule and Nicholl's company, Pete and Juno, Poluski Bros., Ruffell's bioscope, Bijou Russell, the Sandwinas, Sanford and Lyons, Spry and Austin, Harry Tate's company in *Motoring*, Tennyson and Wallis, Terry and Bentley, and Charles Vincent.

The pleasing floral display was arranged by Mr. Samuel Joseph, of Charing Cross Station, and Mr. A. T. Earnshaw attended in his capable manner to the special electric light effects. Every member of the audience was presented with an artistically got-up souvenir, dealing with the history of the Paragon, and containing portraits of well-known gentlemen who have been and who now are associated with the house.

VESTA TILLEY IN NEW YORK.

Vesta Tilley's salary during her present American engagement—the fourth of a series—has "astonished the natives," which is saying a good deal in a land where salaries run high as well as skyscrapers. The bills on which the announcement is made that Vesta Tilley is to receive "ten dollars a minute" are appropriately large, and they strike the eye very frequently in the neighbourhood of the Colonial Music Hall, which, be it remarked, is "up-town" in New York, and is very far from being thinly populated. Those who stood in the lobby of this popular theatre on the opening night of Vesta Tilley's engagement and saw the crowd of people that were unable to obtain admission had this fact brought home to them in a forcible manner, and the wonderful results achieved by the triple combination of a big attraction, a big salary, and a big poster were sufficiently demonstrated. What with the carriages, the flowers, the handsome gowns, and the blaze of diamonds, and other evidences of wealth and luxury that marked this for a different audience from those usually seen at the vaudeville houses, one was almost tempted to rub one's eyes and wonder if this were not the first night of the season at the Metropolitan Opera House.

It is safe to say that there were a great many people in that brilliant audience who had come to see Vesta Tilley, and were not particularly interested in the other features of an excellent programme. When their patience was rewarded, and the "London Idol" stood before them, they uncorked their enthusiasm and gave her a reception that she will long remember. Then everyone settled down to hear those delightful songs and study the inimitable expression and grace of movement of this wonderful artist. A leading newspaper says that "Vesta Tilley wears men's clothes more gracefully than most men," and that sums it up exactly. Some of the songs were new and some of them were old, and, as usual, the latter were the more popular, those old favourites, "The Seaside Sultan" and "Following in Father's Footsteps" being applauded as heartily as ever. To say that Vesta Tilley sang "Algy" is an entirely superfluous piece of information. If she retired without singing it I believe that half the audience would want its money back. Moreover, this audience was mindful of its responsibilities. It was distinctly stated in the bills that the amount which Vesta Tilley would receive as her weekly salary, being calculated according to the length of time she occupied the stage, "would depend on the number of encores she received." Perhaps this was a little misleading, and buoyed up the audience with false hopes, for if Vesta Tilley had responded to all the encores that she would have undoubtedly "received" if the would-be donors had been given the opportunity, she would have sung herself hoarse and ruined the management. Suffice it to say, then, that the audience did its best for her and its worst for the treasury, and doubtless everyone was satisfied.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional contributions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, for the "Fred Locke" Fund:—

R. C. Buchanan	£1	1	0	Lodge Kenmair, 570.	1	0	0
H. Cecil Beryl..	1	1	0	B. W.	0	2	6
Neil Kenyon ..	2	2	0	Fred Evans	0	10	0
Lawrence Barclay	0	10	0	J. W.	0	1	0
George Hestor	0	10	0	T. Smith	0	5	0
Angus Campbell, Solicitor	0	10	0	W. Forrest	0	5	0
Councillor Scott Gibson	0	10	0	J. R.	0	2	6
				C. Nicol	0	5	0

THE PALACE.

Mr. Alfred Butt has been to America, and has secured for the Palace Theatre entertainments Miss Rose Stahl. This engagement by itself was worth the voyage, for Miss Stahl should certainly be the sensation of the London season, and we shall be much surprised if Society does not crowd the fine house in Shaftesbury-avenue more than ever to see her in *The Chorus Lady*, a one-act comedy of stage-life that has served as a vehicle to display her rare gifts in every vaudeville theatre of importance in the States. She is what the old playgoer would term Robsonian in her methods—that is, she is comic and tragic by turns. Miss Stahl is the heroine of the playlet mentioned, by name Patricia O'Brien, with the accent on the last syllable, but familiarly known as "Pat" in the Royal English Opera House—why English Opera House, Mr. Butt, when the piece is Yankee in its "atmosphere," every line of it? To Pat's dressing-room comes the Hon. Mrs. Frederick Montague, who, in her infatuation for the leading tenor, De Lara, has even gone so far as to secure the good offices of a friendly property man in order to go on as one of the chorus, so that she may be near the object of her adoration. Pat is introduced to her unlooked-for visitor, and not only entertains her during the process of make-up with stories of wonderful bargains in coiffures, blouses, hats, and skirts, but rouses her curiosity by retailing some of the tattle of the theatre. Mrs. Montague learns that her passion is flouted and sneered at by De Lara, who is "kinder stuck" on Pat, and sends her the flowers that are lavished on him by his *inamorata*. Suddenly the voice of De Lara is heard at the door of the dressing-room. He has brought a bouquet for Mlle. O'Brien; and Pat in triumph throws into Mrs. Montague's lap the very roses that an hour before she herself had sent to the tenor. The conscience-stricken woman, inflamed with jealousy, breaks out into an exclamation that reveals the whole situation to Pat. The warm-hearted girl is unreproachful and sympathetic. Kneeling to her, she urges the wife and mother to go back to husband and child. The advice is taken; and Mrs. Montague returns to love and duty.

Miss Stahl is a positive genius, and acts throughout with surprising freshness and unconventionality. Her vehemenco—accentuated by unnecessarily strident tones in her opening speech before entrance—is her only concession to the conventions of the theatre; but it strikes a false note, in a double sense, and this is quite a mistake in a "chorus lady." After this opening outburst, however, we begin to enjoy Miss Stahl's acting. She prattles humorously, engagingly, and without the slightest striving after effect, of Pat's ambitions and disappointments; and she makes us readily understand that the unfortunate person who offended Miss O'Brien, the "dead straight chorus girl," would experience a very warm time indeed. But Pat has her softer moods, and when in gentle tremulous tones the painted and powdered chorus girl points out the path of duty to the frivolous and fashionable society women, and pleads for husband and child, Miss Stahl's triumph is complete. Mr. Jack Denton gives excellent support as Tommy Noonan, and Miss Elma Morris is highly capable as the Hon. Mrs. Frederick Montague. Miss Stahl was very heartily received on the night of our visit, and at the conclusion of the playlet the curtain was raised several times.

Another new American turn making a first appearance on Monday was "Eltinge," who, it was anticipated, would create a sensation. Though preliminary puffs surrounded his turn with an air of mystery, there is really nothing mysterious about him. With an effeminate face and an adaptable figure, he wears the short skirts and evening bodice of the soubrette of musical comedy with considerable grace, and without a trace of vulgarity. He is decidedly clever, and has quite an air of dainty coquetry both in song and dance. Female impersonators in this country scarcely ever reach the first rank as artists, but Eltinge is certainly entitled to do so. Will Rogers, the cowboy lassoist, brings something of the wild, breezy life of the prairies across the footlights in his act, which is quite unique in its way. He loops his mounted quarry—another Texan, apparently—quite easily, and then leashes both horse and rider with a double throw. He whirls the cord round himself with such wonderful regularity that it has the appearance of the framework of a crinoline. It is a remarkable show, and is not likely to have imitators.

Les Trombettas, Italian artists, who are on a return visit to Shaftesbury-avenue, present a series of most amusing impersonations; and it says much for the comicality of these creations that they are heartily laughed at, even though the language used is understood by only a few among the audience. The lady is chic and attractive, and the gentleman has a fund of business that is essentially droll. Miss Nina Gordon, who plays her own accompaniments at a grand piano, gives impersonations that make a more direct appeal to the Cockney mind, as she mostly chooses the stars of the variety stage for her subjects, an exception being, however, made in favour of Miss Connie Ediss, who is represented singing a well-known number from *The Spring Chicken*. Mr. Gus Elen, Miss Vesta Victoria, and Mr. Harry Lauder are other popular people of whom Miss Gordon gives imitations, the peculiarities of the last-mentioned Scotch comedian being so successfully delineated on the night of our visit that the lady at the piano added Lauder's famous song "Stop yer ticklin', Jock." Miss Daisy Jerome has developed considerably her gift of comedy since we last saw her, but must beware of grimacing. She strikes the pathetic note in her recitation as a wastrel who is watching a rich crowd dining in Park-lane. Mr. Frank Lynne, who has just returned from America, has a quaint "history" song that already possesses some most amusing verses, and that should work up into a positive triumph for the comedian. Fräulein Hansl Schön, an accomplished and brilliant vocalist, sings with considerable charm of style "Maria, Mari," by Di Capua, and also shows rare command of technique in a vocal mazurka. Miss Jennie Johns has an attractive number in the story of the maiden and the curate; and Miss Ethel Negretti, comedienne, is fascinating. Mr. Louis Bradfield could not make much of the song "The lady chauffeur," even with a winsome chorus of lady chauffeuses. Other turns include Fred Frampton, burlesque entertainer; Carola Jordan, an accomplished trapeze artist; De Gracia's elephants, who play cricket with pachydermatous pertinacity; and the Bioscope. Mr. Herman Finck ably conducts selections of music, which are always an attraction at the Palace. Mr. Alfred Butt, who is looking very fit after his trip across the "pond," may be congratulated on an excellent bill.

Ever studying the convenience of their patrons, the Charles Urban Trading Co., Ltd., have opened a branch office, with a full stock of their latest films and instruments in Manchester-chambers, 46, Market-street, Manchester. The establishment of this branch will enable many showmen operating in the Northern counties to personally select the latest film productions by seeing them exhibited on the Bioscope in the rooms of this enterprising firm. Mr. John G. Avery, who has been associated with Mr. Urban for many years, has charge of the Manchester branch, and will take delight in showing the many latest urban wonders, which can be thus secured with much saving of time and expense.

Mr. Arthur Whittaker has been engaged by Mrs. Patrick Campbell as her general-manager during her season at the Criterion.

CARL HERTZ IN SAN FRANCISCO.

SIR,—Having received a cable informing me of my father's severe illness in San Francisco, accompanied by my wife I sailed on April 7 on the ss. St. Paul for New York, where I arrived on April 15, after a very stormy passage. We stopped in New York till Tuesday afternoon, April 17, and then took the train for San Francisco viâ Chicago, where we arrived at 4 p.m. the next day, and had a few hours to wait. Going into the town, the news of the earthquake at 'Frisco first reached us, the newsboys shouting the terrible news. You can imagine my feelings, as all my sisters and relations live there as well as my father. The first report said that nearly the whole town was destroyed by earthquake, and what was not destroyed by earthquake was destroyed by fire. I sent telegram after telegram, but could get no reply from my people, so at last we took the train and started for San Francisco.

All along the line the reports of the calamity grew more serious, and the anxiety and suspense of those four days in the train from Chicago to San Francisco I shall never forget. At last we arrived in Oakland on the Saturday. That was as far as the authorities would allow passengers to go. Oakland is across the bay, from 'Frisco about seven miles. We tried to get a room in Oakland, but this was impossible, as every hotel and house in the place was full; even the churches, halls, shops, and every conceivable place were fixed up with cots to accommodate the refugees from the doomed city, as 150,000 flocked over to Oakland to save themselves when the fire broke out. People were sleeping in tents, on the grass, in tram cars, and the get-ups of some were so comical you could not help but laugh, even under the sad circumstances. Imagine women walking about with overcoats and top hats, or anything they could get hold of! As the earthquake and fire happened at five in the morning, when everybody was asleep, people had no time to dress, but took the first thing they could and rushed out of their houses to save themselves.

I obtained a special pass from the Chief of Police to go over to San Francisco, which I reached on Sunday morning (April 22), and commenced the search for my people. I shall never forget the sight I gazed on when I got in San Francisco as long as I live—the fire still blazing, and not a building standing for ten square miles. I walked over acres of bricks and stones to try and get to the district where I knew my people had lived. All along the route I took were brick walls cracked and fallen. I passed the collapsed Majestic Theatre, the finest San Francisco had. The streets strewn with masonry, the lips of the cable car slot jammed together, and the billows in the pavement, showing where the ground had lifted and fallen, told the story of destruction. I had to pick my way, avoiding the dangerous proximity of the buildings, which intensified the sense of strangeness and calamity. At last I reached that portion of the city that had been saved. All the people here were huddled in the front of their houses afraid and chattering, their nerves unstrung. Men started at the mere rumble of a wagon, and showed in haggard faces what they had gone through. When the earthquake and fire occurred thousands were in a panic to get somewhere—anywhere! Some carried blankets, others pillows. Women with bird cages, dogs, parrots, and bundles slung over their backs; some were dragging trunks after them; some pulled sewing machines. Hatless and scantily dressed, they watched with burning eyes the blazing mass that was once a great city. Husbands became separated from wives; mothers from their children; old people were left to take care of themselves. The Militia, police, and troops issued orders, and every man was compelled to help and assist, and anyone who refused was shot on the spot.

The loss is something terrible. Men who were millionaires the day before were penniless to-day; the poor man with a roof over his head was rich. After walking six hours I reached the house where my people lived and found them all safe, thank God! They had a terrible time, having only returned to the house after being out on the hills for three nights in the open, the police having ordered them to leave on account of the close proximity of the fire, which stopped within two streets of their house. When the danger was over they returned. Luckily they lost nothing by the fire, but the walls and plastering and every bit of glass and china ware in the house were broken by the earthquake. My father, who was so ill, had to be put on a stretcher and carried from one street to another as the fire got nearer. At last he was taken out of the city limits for safety and put under a tent for three nights, and then brought back home, where he now lies in a precarious condition. Altogether this has been an experience that I never want to see again, and one I shall never forget.—Yours faithfully,

CARL HERTZ.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

TO-DAY (Saturday) will witness the initial performance in the grounds of the Alexandra Palace, of the troupe of *al fresco* entertainers known as Dave Hall's Geisha Boys, and the octet—which includes Mr. J. W. Ellison, Mr. Dick Sutherd, and Mr. Will Powell, the well-known dancer, who narrowly escaped winning the championship at Bow—will specially feature, in common with very many other troupes, Mr. Tom Leo's comic song "Too lazy to live," just published in music form by Mr. David Day. The song will be issued as a "Sixpenny Pop" on June 1. Mr. Dave Hall will also run a similar entertainment at Ramsgate during the season.

MRS. PHILLIPS, a dressmaker, sued John Patterson, whose stage name is Professor Duncan, at the Bow County Court last week for £100 damages on the ground that when she visited defendant's house one of his performing dogs, a Scotch collie, bit her hand. The defence was that the dog, which rescues a baby on the stage, was of a most docile description. It had appeared at Buckingham Palace, where the Queen patted it and the young Princes made a great fuss of it. Judge Smyly, K.C., ordered a non-suit, but granted leave to appeal.

JESSE BRADBURN and his wife, Mary Jane, of Claremont-street, Salford, sued the Regent Theatre and Assembly Rooms, Ltd., at the Salford County Court, on Tuesday, for £75 damages for a broken ankle, sustained by the female plaintiff. Judge Parry said he thought the mishap was due to Mrs. Bradburn's carelessness. It seemed to him she ought to have waited for the lights being turned up in the gallery. If she moved about in the darkness she did so at her own risk. He accordingly found for the defendants, who made no application for costs.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

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ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 1, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 10.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
June 18, Oct. 22, Nov. 19, 26.
Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 13, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17.
Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 18, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
June 25, Oct. 8, 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
June 25, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, Christmas week, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
Aug. 27, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, Dec. 20, 3 nights, Christmas week, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
June 18, Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, 28, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Huddersfield, June 25, Xmas Week, on,
Reading, June 18.
Chester, June 25;
Theatre Royal, Leicester, June 18;
Northampton, Xmas Week.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
July 2 and 9.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATEHEAD,
July 30, Aug. 13.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30,
Aug 6, onwards, with exceptions.
Bedford Vacant Whit. Week.
E. GRAHAM FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, June 11, 12, 13, Luton; 14, 15, 16, Bedford.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Drama or Musical Attractions, Whit week; wire also Aug. 20. HERBERT VERE.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Under the Direction of Mr. Edward Michael.
WANTED, High-class Company, for Whit. Week, June 4. Liberal terms given to really big attraction. Also open Sept. 20, 21, 22.
The T. R., Margate, has been renovated and re-seated throughout, and its holding capacity considerably enlarged.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, June 28, 29, 30 (3 nights), July 5, 6, 7 (3 nights), July 12, 13, 14 (3 nights).
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Dramatic or Musical Attraction, June 11, June 11, June 11, June 11.
Open to rent the theatre to responsible party for four weeks, July 2, for stock season. Address T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Whit week, (through misunderstanding), June 11, and July 25. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. Apply, L. CARSON, Keighley.

WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Company, June 11 and 25.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for June 11, 18, 25, and intermediates, on. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, May 28 and June 4.
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

WANTED, First-class Musical Show, for June 18, Great Yorkshire Gala Week; also June 11. Apply, WADDINGTON and SONS, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Companies, for Grand Theatre, Llandudno, June 7, 8, 9, June 18 (?), July 9, 10, 11, July 16. Address,
HALDANE CRICHTON, Coronet Theatre, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, First-class Company or Variety Combination, Monday next, May 21 (necessary printing can be obtained locally), vacant through company closing. Wire, ALBANY WARD.

THEATRES ROYAL, BILSTON and WEDNESBURY.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, May 28 and Whit Week Wire, HARRY BATTERSBY, T. R., Bilston.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 10, 24, Dec. 3, 10.
Address,
STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

WANTED, Big Attractions, June 4 (last week of Season), Grand, Chorley; also June 4 (Fri., Sat., Holiday); June 11 (Mon., Tues., Holiday), Grand, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Radcliffe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, Companies, May 21 (Monday next) and May 28. Wire. ALBANY WARD.

WANTED, for Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd, First-class Musical or other Attractions, June 11 and 18. This week, "Royal Divorce"; next week, "Sergeant Brue." For dates, apply, WILL SMITHSON, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

PRINCE OF WALES', GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company for June 18 (?), also July 2, 9, and 23. Copy of bill and all particulars to J. H. CURRY, as above.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON.
Managing-Director, JAS. W. HAWORTH.
Acting-Manager, J. FRED WATSON.
WANTED, Companies, for July 16, 23, and 30; also Strong Pantomime, for various early spring dates.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 13, 20.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant May 21, 28, Aug. 6, 13.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant May 21, 28, June 4, 11.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant May 7, 14, 21, 28.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant May 21, 28, June 4, 11.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 3, 24, Nov. 5, Dec. 3.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant May 21, 28, June 11, 18.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant June 4, 11, 18, 25.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant May 21, 28, June 4, 11.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 5.

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
WANTED, for June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 23 30, Highest Class of Dramatic or Comedy Companies. Autumn vacancies Oct. 8 (?), Nov. 12 (?), 19 (?), 26 (?), Dec. 3 and 10. Spring now fast filling. Wire for Summer Dates.
BROOKS, GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.

NOTA BENE.—Edward Brooks has now been Resident Lessee at Swansea for eighteen months. Should any Manager now be in doubt as to the money-taking capabilities of the Swansea Grand, he is referred to any one of the following Proprietors:—Madame Sarah Bernhardt, George Dance, Weedon Grossmith, H. Beerbohm Tree, Silvanus Dauncey Chas. Frohman, Chas. Macdona, Wentworth Croke, Louis Calvert, W. H. Rendal, William Greet, Frank Curzon, Wm. Mollison, H. Armitage, Chas. Manners, &c., &c., The only High-class Theatre in South-West Wales. We draw from four shires—Radnor, Brecon, Pembroke, & Glamorgan.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, June 4 (Whit week), Aug. 20 and 27.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Strong Musical Attraction, for Bank Holiday (Aug. 6),
and onwards, with exceptions.
Also to be Let, on Rental, during the months of May and June, to Companies not Dramatic.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-Class Attraction for week of July 9.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Drama or Musical Comedy, June 11, June 11, June 11.
E. H. PAGE.

AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Sole Proprietor, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.
The Recognised and Popular Ramsgate Theatre.
Visited by all the Leading Attractions.
WANTED, First-class Companies, 1907. onwards.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN, as above.

WANTED, Companies, for Paisley and Perth Theatres, Aug. 6, 13, and 20 (?).
Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Perth Theatre.

WANTED, Companies, Aug. and on, with exceptions, for New Grand Theatre, Mansfield, and King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.
Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.
WANTED, Companies, May 24, 25, and 26, 3 nights only, June 4 (Whit), Sept. 3, onwards. Silence a courteous negative.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant dates from Aug 20. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

DUNFERMLINE OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August 20, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, for June 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, onwards; now booking season dates. Apply, PHILLIPS.

WANTED, Society Play, for special fortnight; short cast.
Miss MAY, Simonside, South Shields.

ATHENÆUM HALL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS.
WANTED, Applications, for few remaining autumn and spring dates. C. H. NUNN, Manager

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 11, 25, July 2, and Oct. 1.
Bookings include
Mr. William Mollison in "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "The Earl and the Girl," "The Christian," "The Cingalee," "The Geisha," "The Greek Slave," Mr. Lawrence Brough in "The Lady of Ostend," "The White Chrysanthemum," "Floradora," &c.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager, May 21, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, High-class Musical Comedy, or London Production, for 1906. Only Vacant Dates, Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, probably Nov. 12 and Dec. 3. A few spring, 1907, dates left, and five autumn, 1907, still vacant. All communications, CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
Vacant July 2, 9.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS,
Vacant June 25, and July.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
WANTED, Companies.—The Directors are prepared to Lease the above Magnificent Theatre for a Summer Season of from Two to Three Months, at a Fixed Weekly Rental, with the Use of all Scenery, Properties, and Appointments. Population of Leith, 80,000; whilst its close proximity to Edinburgh enables any special attraction to draw from the capital. Applications to
Mr. R. C. BUCHANAN, Managing Director,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Aug. 13, 20, Oct. 8, 22; also required, good pantomimes, Jan. and Feb. Dates.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Vacant Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 3, 17, for best dramas, new to town.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 8, musical or other high-class attractions only; no dramas.
Share or Certainty at any Theatre.
Re dates, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, May 28, June 4, 21, July 12, 16, 23. Wire for May 28.
CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 27, Sept. 3 and Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Dec. 10. Apply to Owner and Manager, JAMES KIERNAN.

PIER THEATRE,
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First-class Company, June 11 (week), (through disappointment), Musical Play or good Comedy preferred, not Drama.
Address, G. HAYES, Manager.

TERMINUS HALL, LITTLEHAMPTON, SUSSEX.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, two or three nights, Whitsun, August Bank Holiday, and several good season dates vacant.
Apply, G. E. REDMAN, Manager.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

WANTED, High-Class Companies and Attractions. For dates apply, W. ALEC MILLWARD, Victoria Hall, Llandrindod Wells (Health Resort, Summer Season).

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, May 28, June 4, Sept. 17, Oct. 8.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted. Theatre, June 4, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, June 25 (?), July 2, on.

"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
Aug. 6, 27, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID!"
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, through extension of Tour, May 28,
June 4,
June 11, and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire for May 28 and June 4.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
to-day, New T., Aberdare; next, Met., Birmingham.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 2, 30, Aug. 6, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, 22, and Dec. 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Opera House, Harrogate.
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Watty Walton (in his original part), and strong Company, in above success, Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5.
Re dates,
EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

MESSRS. SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1, 8. All communications to
JOHN B. SHINTON, Theatre Royal, Aston.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, June 4, June 4.
Wire, EDWARD SURREY,
to-day, Prince's, Portsmouth;
next, Bedford (3), Luton (3), return.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, June 25, July 23, 30, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever. Thanks T. W. Rowe, Esq., Offer, Palace, Newcastle.
E. CARTER LIVESEY, GRAND, GRAVESEND.

MR. JAMES WELCH AND COMPANY,
in a New Farce, in Three Acts,
"DEAR OLD CHARLEY,"
by Charles H. E. Brookfield.
WANTED, Theatre, May 28.
Address, J. GRANT ALLEN,
May 14, T. R., Newcastle;
May 21, Lyceum, Sheffield.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction, June 18, 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, Vacant owing to extending a most successful tour through summer. "Defending His Honour." Vacant July 2, 23. Re dates, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, for "Throne of Terror," June 4, on, Aug. 13, various on. A Sterling, High-class Drama. MILLER, Theatre, Corsett.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, owing to Extending a most Successful Tour, May 28 (North only). Address, L. CARSON, Keighley

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, July 9 and 16, to follow Chatham. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production which will be second to none touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain First-Class Theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Sept. 15, 22, Nov. 26. All new scenery and printing. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
WANTED, to follow Blackpool and Southport, June 11 (also South preferred), 25, and Odd Dates in July for
"THE NEW CLOWN,"
"THE NEW CLOWN,"
with Entire Production from Terry's Theatre, including Clever Donkey, "Ping Pong."
Address, EUGENE BERTRAM,
Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Best Theatres for this Sterling Attraction, vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 8 and 15. Splendidly advertised, beautifully mounted, and artistically played.
Mr. Cross's study of Pete is a delightful bit of character drawing. Still the same pathetic, often quaint, but at all times powerful reading; and last night's house was delighted, moved, and affected by it. Miss Minnie Watersford achieved a triumph as Kate. Always passionate, real, and womanly, she exaggerated nothing.—Barrow Daily Mail. Royalty T., Chester, May 21.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S
PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S
TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
By WALTER HOWARD.

No Vacant Dates this year.
Only a few open 1907.

ANNIE SAKER.
ALFRED PAUMIER.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Theatres, for this acknowledged Sterling Attraction, 1907.
A. PAUMIER, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Watty Walton (in his original part), and strong Company, in above success, Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5.
Re dates,
EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
Mr. FRANK LINDO and CO.,
in the Great Dramatic
Success.
21 return dates this year alone,
WANTED, Good Theatres,
Aug. 13, 20, and 27,
also Oct. 8.
Lancashire and Yorkshire preferred.
Address, FRANK LINDO,
Prince's, Portsmouth (return).

"THE NEW WORLD."
WANTED, July 2, 9, 16, 23, extending Tour. Splendid Cast, Specialities, Big Variety Scene, booked at best Drama Theatres. Wire or write, WILL WHITE: to-day, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley; Monday, Grand, Nelson.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 10, North or Midlands, Oct. 1 and 15.
Miss Maud Hildyard and Powerful Company.
Mr. ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire T., Oldham.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Enormous Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, and on, with exceptions. Apply.
FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, June 18, 25, and July.
EADE MONTEFIORE,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

Mr. JERRARD GRANT ALLEN'S COMPANY, including Mr. Leon M. Lion, in
"THE NEW BOY."
WANTED, Whit Week, and onward, with exceptions. Address, J. GRANT ALLEN, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, June 11 and July 1.
Thanks Samuel James, Esq., for four contracts.
Managers refer Wm. Morton, Esq.
HARRY FOXWELL, Grand Theatre, W. Hartlepool.

MILLAR ANDERSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
"Camillo," "Leah the Forsaken," "A Bachelor of Arts," &c.
WANTED, June 25, to follow O. H., Harrogate, July 2, to precede Grand, Swansea. Cast includes Miss Mabel Mannering. Address, MILLAR ANDERSON, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"A MOTHER'S LOVE."
WANTED, May 28. May 28, (Between Swansea and Lancaster.)
Also vacant Sept. 10, Nov. 5.
Wire FRED L. CONNYNGHAME, To-day, Tonypandy.
Next, STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA.

WANTED, Theatres, for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Vacant Aug. Bank Holiday, 27, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 22, Xmas. FRANCES DELAVAL: to-day, Met., Devonport; next, Grand, Swansea.

"THE NAVAL DETECTIVE."
WANTED, for Above, or "In Old Madrid," May 23, Agent, Printing ready. Wire, KIRKE, T., York. Monday, Q., Longton.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, July 23 and 30, South. Only summer dates open. Thirty-ninth week of Present Tour. Sept. 3, 10, and 17, on. Bookings and re-bookings extend into March, 1907. Cast, scenery, and printing A1.
FRANK AYRTON, Gaiety Theatre, Leith, N.B.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Watty Walton (in his original part), and strong Company, in above success, Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5.
Re dates,
EDWARD MARRIS, T. R., Grantham.

Pantomime.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for "Robinson Crusoe," Edward Marris's smart and up-to-date Production, First-class in every Detail. Dec. 31 (to follow T. R., Preston), Feb. 4 and 11; also "Dick Whittington," open for Production and Run, Big Theatre only.
Managers with Panto. Arrangements not complete, communicate,
EDWARD MARRIS,
Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Herbert Jay is now doing bookings for several theatres on the South Coast. Managers with vacant summer or autumn dates please apply, 10, Jermyn-street, London. Telephone 6534 Gerrard.

"£1000 REWARD."
WANTED, Good Theatre, August Bank Holiday,
Aug. 6, Aug. 6, Aug. 6.
PITT AND HALLING, T. R., Huddersfield.

"LUCKY 'LIZA."
WANTED, June 11, between Shields and Hull.
Refer J. H. Savile, Esq.
DICKIE CLARE, Gaiety, Dundee

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
Head Office, Metropole, Glasgow.
Assistant, Geo. Gordon Jefferson.
Tours Booked. Engagements negotiated.
Plays and Sketches read,
advised upon, written, and produced.

WANTED, Dates, Aug. 6, onwards, "Orphan Heiress," "World's Verdict," "Queen of Villainy," "In Sight of St. Paul's," "Saints and Sinners," "Middleman."
Suburban London Managers supplied with complete, perfect production during the off season at a reasonable inclusive certainty. Fit-up rights of "Orphan Heiress," "World's Verdict," and "London by Day and Night," for Disposal, Sale, Royalty, or Fixed Fee.
"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON,"
accepted and booked by
Moss' Empires, Ltd.
Address, Ivanhoe Hotel, Bloomsbury-street, London.
Wires, "Jefferson, Redgauntlet, London."
Business Interviews by Appointment only.

Success! Success! Success!
MISS MARY NEIL and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
Junction Theatre, Manchester, on Saturday, May 5, packed from floor to ceiling. Refer W. Broadhead, Esq. Re-booked by Messrs. Broadhead for return in six months to both theatres.
Re-booked by Wm. Morton, Esq., Hull, for return in twelve months.
Re-booked by E. H. Page, Esq., Blackburn, for return in six months.
Re-booked by H. Masterman, Esq., Castleford, for return in four weeks.
Date offered by J. F. Elliston, Esq., for return in five months.
Other bookings include:
Alex., Sheffield; Grand, Blackpool; T. R., Lincoln; G., Derby; T. R., Leicester; T. R., South Shields; O. H., St. Helens; T. R., Sunderland; Q., Liverpool; Wigan; Prince's, Bradford; T. R., Barnsley; T. R., Middlesbrough; T. R., Chatham; T. R., Smethwick; T. R., Aston; Grand, Nottingham; Rotunda, Liverpool; Col., Oldham.
Thanks for offers of P.O.W., Grimsby; Prince's, Portsmouth; Victoria, Broughton; Grand, Swansea; and Gaiety, Burnley.

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27 and few Autumn dates vacant for really good Theatres that can hold money. Rapidly booking 1907. Managers are invited to forward Autumn vacancies to
George Kirk,
this, T. R., Sunderland;
next, T. R., Jarrow.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
1906-1907.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, having Large Stage and Large Holding Capacity, for Production at Christmas of
JAMES KIDDIE'S
JAMES KIDDIE'S
Record-breaking Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
"CINDERELLA,"
Also Vacant,
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Feb. 11 and 18, Lanc. or Yorks.
All communications to
Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,"
"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,"
the most successful Play produced during 1905.
Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and
Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-Class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 15, 22, and 29. Wire or write, W. W. Kelly, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, May 28 and June 4,
Special Scenery and Printing.
Mr. Edward Neville as Prince Lucio.
Superb Cast; crowded with Mystic Effects.
also included in Répertoire,
"NANA" and "THE ANARCHIST TERROR,"
forming a Magnificent Holiday Attraction.
Wire to-day, Loie Esmond, Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare. May 21, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR,
"THE CONSCRIPT."
WANTED, Aug. 6 (follow Alex., Hull), 13, Sept. 10, 17, onwards, with exceptions.
Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl. Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia, supported by a Star Cast. Thanks Messrs. Eastwood, Flanagan, Goulden Morgan, and Robertson for Contracts. Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes by Angels.
WANTED, June 18 and Aug. 6, onwards. Jack Haddon, Theatre Royal, Hanley.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
Mr. Jack Haddon, having acquired the sole proprietorship of above Pantomime, which is acknowledged to be one of the finest productions toured, will be pleased to hear from managers of first-class theatres, from Xmas week, and onwards.
Address as above.

"MONEY MAKES THE MAN," "NO ESCAPE."
WANTED, May 28, June 4. Company, scenery. Printing, First-class. No Trouble. Refer Everywhere. C. Davies, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 4, 11, 25, July 2, 9, 16, August 6, 13, on, with exceptions. Thanks Messrs. W. B. Broadhead, Andrew Melville, W. D. Forsdike, Walter Melville, William Peacock, W. H. Melton, R. Flanagan for contracts. Henry L. Osmond, Torquay. Next, T.R., Exeter.

"TOO MANY COOKS,"
the Screaming Farcical Comedy.
WANTED, Dates, for Mrs. Walter Lonnen's Autumn Tour, Aug. 6, and onwards.
All communications, Mr. Leslie Fairfax, 36, Agate-road, Hammersmith, W.

"BILLY'S LITTLE LOVE AFFAIR."
WANTED, Aug. 9 (3), Aug. 27, Sept. 10.
Frank G. Bayly,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate, W.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 4, 11, 18.
Miss Dora Dench,
Supported by First-class Company of Artists.
Splendid reception and business at Southport.
Wires, Dench, Opera House, Southport.

"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, June 11, through mistake, for above, only vacant date, to follow Bradford and precede Coventry. Kimberley, Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"LIFE," "EAST LYNNE," &c.
WANTED, June 4, 11, 25, on. Powerful Company and Advance Agent. Six Musical Numbers. Wires, Herbert Barrs, T. R., Leeds. May 21, Grand, Hull.

PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Theatres, two weeks, Jan. 21 and 28, 1907, first in for first-class production. Booked by Milton Bode, Esq., for four weeks at Christmas, and also for another of his theatres later in season. Address for particulars, Brydon Phillips, Royal West London Theatre, Edgware-road, London, W.

WANTED, Whit. Week, "Our Boys." Company includes Story Gofton, J. G. Grahame, jun., Fred Grove, Blanch Stewart, Allen Brookes, &c., &c. Could possibly arrange to open Saturday previous. Address, Brydon Phillips, Royal West London Theatre, London, W.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Xmas week, on, with exceptions.
Fred. Bulmer (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, June 4, onwards.
Address, to-day, T. Royal, Middlesbro'; afterwards, Alexandra, Stoke Newington.

MR. ANDREW MOIR'S COMPANY,
in Three-Act Farcical Comedy,
"THE MAJOR'S DOUBLE"
and
Miniature Grand Opera,
"THE GAMESTER."
WANTED, Whit Week, also June 18 (precede King's, Glasgow), July 2 (precede Lyceum, Edinburgh), and various dates onward.
Wire, F. Martin Morris,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate, W.
See Companies Column for Cast.

THEATRES WANTED.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatres, for Witty Watty Walton (in his original part), and strong Company, in above success. Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5.
Re dates,
Edward Marris, T. R., Grantham.

Pantomime.
WANTED, First-class Theatre, for "Robinson Crusoe," Edward Marris's smart and up-to-date Production, First-class in every Detail, Dec. 31 (to follow T. R., Preston), Feb. 4 and 11; also "Dick Whittington" open for Production and Run, Big Theatre only.
Managers with Panto. Arrangements not complete, communicate,
Edward Marris,
Theatre Royal, Grantham.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY" TOUR.
Eugene C. Stafford's Company.
WANTED, Nov. 1 (three nights) and 12, Dec. 3 and 24, also Spring, 1907. Apply, care of French, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London.

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S COS.
WANTED, Theatres for
"THE GRIP OF IRON,"
Aug. 6, 13, 27 (North).
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN,"
June 11, 18, and 25 (London or near).
George Denham, West London Theatre.

WANTED, Dramatic and Variety Theatres, for the Colley-Dryden Co., including Miss Ada Colley, Mr. Leo Dryden, Mr. Ed. E. Ford ("The Australian Sundowner"), and company of First-class Artists. Share or certainty.
Coms., Leo Dryden,
Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, Bookings for Summer Tour of "The Gazekas," a Concert Party on original lines, under the personal direction of Mr. George Graves, of Daly's Theatre. Unique attractions. Novel printing. Herbert Jay, 10, Jermyn-street, London. Telephone 6534 Gerrard.

WANTED, Good Theatres, for First-class Variety Co., June 4, onwards, including the great and original Arthur Saxon Trio. Apply, Saxon, address (perm.), 56, Upper Brook-st., Manchester; next, Palace, Cork.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED for Autumn, Musical Comedy, Prima Donna Contralto, must be young, good appearance, and exceptional voice; also Principal Baritone, must be a good actor; and Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies, must be young and have good voices and appearance. Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

"HOME FROM THE HONEYMOON."
WANTED, Artists for following lines: Low Comedy Burglar (disguise as female servant, short, slim), Com. Char. Burglar (free and easy swell mobsman), Peppery, Fiery old Indian Colonel, also Lady for small showy part, and good responsible Carpenter and Baggage, capable of small parts; principals must have had sound farcical comedy experience, and be prepared to dress parts "up to date." If at present engaged say where can be seen; otherwise state age, height, recent refs., enclosing photo. (if possible), and definite terms. Twice nightly and matinées if necessary. Address, A. Jefferson, Metropole, Glasgow. Mark envelopes "Sketch."

Paumier and Howard's Tours.
THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING.
About 40 weeks' Tour.
Commencing August Bank Holiday.
WANTED, Artists for probable Vacancies. Apply, W. S. Hardy (Manager for Messrs. Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard), Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

"THE BAUBLE SHOP"
(by arrangement with Henry Arthur Jones).
WANTED, Company, for Short Summer Tour, open May 28, rehearse Monday next, Croydon. Address with photos., references, and lowest summer terms (no interviews except by appointment). F. Douglas Wentworth and Charles A. Johnston, 19, Laud-street, Croydon.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, Sound Character Actor, Pathetic Old Man, Frenchman, also double Captain must have good voice and dress part well. Rehearse Rotunda, Liverpool, May 22. Age, height, build, and latest references, to Bateman, King's Cardiff.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED, Known, Several Important Vacancies in above Tour, commencing Aug. 6, rehearsals week previous. Address (letters only), Frank E. Burdett, 161, Chesterfield-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, Hybert's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co. Various Vacancies for Long Tour, starting August. Useful Scenic Artist, Make and Paint, can Commence Shortly. J. A. Hybert, Dolphin Hotel, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, for "I Defy the World," fourth Year of Tour, Commencing in July, Entire Company, including Good Robust Leading Gent. Address, with Lowest Terms and References, Julian Malvern, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

WANTED, for Sketch, Gentleman (tall), King Charles, ditto Buckingham, and Character Old Woman (Mother Gwyn) to combine duties Wardrobe Mistress. Photos., age, height, full particulars (no interviews without appointment), Adderley Howard, 14, Kingsdene, Vassall-road, Brixton, S.W. Rehearse June 4.

WANTED, for "Her Lost Self." Juvenile Lady and Heavy Gentleman. Full particulars, photos., refs., Frances Delaval, to-day, Met., Devonport; next, Grand, Swansea.

WANTED, Char. Com., Lady tall, to sing a little; also very small child, for Little Willie and Waif, joint pref. Photo., last two refs., Miss G. Warner, Sat., T. R., Aston; Mon., Smethwick.

"OUR CURATE."
WANTED, Lady, to play Lady Hastings, also Character Actor, May 28, London. Terms, letters only, F. Eustace, 3, Evandale-road, Brixton.

"THE LITTLE BREADWINNER."
WANTED, powerful Aristocratic Old Man, Quaker part; must be tall and slim, strong voice, capable of declamatory power. State fullest particulars and enclose photos. to J. A. Campbell, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY,
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, for above, through releasing, Gentleman for Aristocratic Old Man, to Double Light Comedy, rehearse May 24; both parts small but important. Full particulars in first letter to J. W. Cordiner, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, First-class, Experienced Comedian, tall preferred, sketch, rehearse May 28, London; also Soubrette, good voice essential. McKenzie, Grand, Walsall.

WANTED, Comedian, Baggage, speak lines, "Throne of Terror"; also Wahnotee, Salem, Mrs. Peyton, 3 nights, Durham, May 31. Miller, Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, immediately, for Musical Comedy Sketch, London Halls, Character Comedian, tall. Singing Juvenile Gent.; must be recognised Artists. Letters, Fred Lawrence, 38, Gordon-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Child Actress, for Little Eva, in Small Sketch, open Tottenham, Monday. Wire lowest terms and address, to-day, to Manager, Hippodrome, Hounslow.

WANTED, for Special Week, May 28, rehearse next Wednesday, Child (must be small) with Mother or Attendant, for small part. Photos. and all particulars, Ernest Carpenter, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, for a Long Engagement, Clever Children; must be able to sing and dance, and as small as possible. Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Dramatic Aspirants (either sex). Tour; experience unnecessary. No premium. Salary, travelling expenses paid. Stamped envelope. Box 3,257, "The Era."

WANTED, for Musical Comedy, good Tenors and deep Basses, also small part Gentlemen, Sopranos and Contraltos, must be young and of good appearance. Apply immediately, between 11 and 1. Fred Darrell and Co., 415, Strand.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Known, Vacancies for First-Class Concert and Vaudeville Artists in
"The Gazekas"
(under the direction of George Graves, Esq., Daly's Theatre).
Call or write in at once. Apply Audition Co., Ltd., through whom all Artists are booked.
Artists appearing at these Auditions may bring their own or other Agents. All Agents invited to attend.
Sole booking Agent for "Gazeka" Tour (only), Herbert Jay, 10 and 11, Jermyn-street.
Managing-Director, J. Wellesley Lynn.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Engagement, G. Brooks, responsibles; E. Brooks, juv. lead and chambermaids; sing and dance. Join on wire. Address, 47, Braithwaite-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Experienced Contralto, Engagement, in concert party, summer, seaside, refs., can accompany. M. N., 17, Melton-rd., West Bridgford, Notts

WANTED, Known, well-known Tenor at Lib. Summer Engagement, Piers, High-Class Al Fresco; fine voice, good rép.; good accompanist. Address, Box 3,265, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Gentleman, with Good Powerful Baritone Voice, Engagement, at seaside. Terms moderate. J. B., Cleeve House, 4, Napier-avenue, Fulham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

FRED GRANVILLE'S
POPULAR PANTOMIMIC PRODUCTIONS.
"THE FORTY THIEVES" and
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
WANTED, Principal Boys and Girls, Funny Comedians, sing and dance; Knockabouts (Ruffians and Policemen), Second Boys and Girls (Variety Ladies, Sisters), Fairy Queen, Demon (baritone), Seventy Tall, Handsome Chorus Ladies, 5ft. 3in. minimum, good voices; two Pantomime Conductors (piano); 8 weeks certain, probably longer. Mention part applying for. Photo. (ladies in tights), references, lowest terms, permanent address, and where can be seen working, to J. L. Barry, General Representative for Mr. Granville, 5, Mortimer-st., Birkenhead.

"CINDERELLA." "WHITTINGTON,"
"GIANT KILLER."
WANTED, First-Class Principal Boys and Girls, and really good Comedians, for the above Pantomimes. Really good Vocalists for Father Time, Emperor, Demon King, Fairy Queens.
Contracts waiting for the right people
State fullest particulars, terms, &c., also where can be seen working the next few weeks.

Sidney Dooley, 55a, Booth-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, First and Second Girl, for Pantomime. Lowest terms, particulars, and where working. Fred Barlow, 3, Richmond-st., Newtonheath, Manchester.

WANTED, Tall, Handsome Chorus Ladies, for Pantomime.
Address, E. Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Little Zola, Comedian, late of Drury Lane, Vacant for Panto. For terms, write or wire, 38, Hackford-road, Brixton.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, start immediately, near London, really good, smart, quick and reliable Scenic Artist, with own brushes. Terms, age, and references, Henry Chattell, Malden Cottage, Watford.

WANTED, Assistant Scenic Artist, must be thoroughly competent, one fond of working to music (hornpipe tunes) preferred. Terms and references. J. F. Elliston, Bolton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. Leete and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and second-hand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, Theatrical Contracts, Fit-ups, Repainting, Touching-up, &c., experienced, quick; moderate terms. Henry, 5, Homer-house, Rushcroft-rd, Brixton.

GRAND THEATRE SCENIC FACTORY,
STALYBRIDGE.
WANTED, Contracts, large or small, best work and materials only. Send for estimates.
Frank Mundill.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Advertiser, age 27, wishes to learn Scenic Painting; would pay small premium and work hard; or would join Scenic Artist with view to partnership. Appyl, C. G., 3, Heath-street, Hampstead, N.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, an Assistant-Manager to a New Hippodrome about to Open in the Provinces. Successful applicant would be required to take up £500 10% preference shares in the company, more as a guarantee than as an investment. Salary to commence £200 per annum. Only bonâfide applicants able to comply with the above need apply. Full particulars by appointment. Address in first instance, Box 3,268, "The Era."

WANTED, an Assistant Acting-Manager for the North of England. Apply, stating age, experience, salary required, with copies of testimonials, to Frank Allen, Cranbourn-mansions, London, W.C.

WANTED, good Practical Electrician, able to do own Repairs, understand Stage Work and Gas Engine. Terms and references to Frank Mundill, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, from July 1, to make Pantomime Costumes; possible eight months' engagement (not touring) for experienced and capable person, whose terms are reasonable. Full particulars respecting ability, experience in Pantomime work, lowest terms, &c., Box 3,256, "The Era."

WANTED.—Frank Sephton at Liberty for Acting Management or Agent in Advance, home, or abroad (preferred).

Reference, G. T. Minshull, Esq.,
General Manager, Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Situation, by Stage-Manager and Carpenter; excellent references. C. S., 55, New-street, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Assistant Acting-Manager, Engagement, Theatre, Music Hall, or Pier, &c.; experienced, abstainer; can open now or later. Address, Box 3,247, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Manager, Secretary, or Trustworthy Position. Reference, Messrs. Barnard, Theatre Royal, Woolwich. Box 3,259, "The Era."

WANTED, a well-known London Manager, Disengaged in a week's time, is open to accept an engagement in a similar capacity in town or country. Many years' experience in the booking of artists and every other branch of the variety business. Address A.M., Douglas House, Boutflower-road, Wandsworth Common.

WANTED, by J. B. Chandler, as Carpenter, Resident or Tour, good references. Address, 42, Walcot-square, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, to Managers and Proprietors, Alf Grey, the Real Live Working Bill Inspector and Billposters' Foreman, advance Manager, or any line in the advertising department. I am an advertising medium. Who will have me? Address, GRAND T., WOOLWICH.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow, First-class Leader, start May 28; must be fine player; abstainer preferred. Terms, experience, refs., Howard Galpin

WANTED, for Pavilion Variety Theatre, Greenock, to start Monday, Leader and Flautist. Wire lowest terms to Galpin, Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, First-class Musical Director (Pianist essential). Gentlemen engaged for Autumn need not apply. Tour, Whit to December. References, &c., Edward Marris, T. R., Grantham.

WANTED, Good Lady Violinist, as Leader, 18 weeks, no Sundays. Apply, with terms, &c., Macdonald, 4, Sefton-street, Southport.

WANTED, First-class Violin, for Seaside, 18 weeks. Terms, and references (which will be applied for), Conductor, 25, Nettleton-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for R.N. College, Dartmouth,
a good Violin Player,
to combine Cornet or Clarionet,
to perform the duties of Cadet Servant,
Army or Navy man preferred.
Apply,
Commander, R.N. College.

WANTED, good, steady Violinist, Flautist, 'Celloist, Douglas, Summer, evenings only. Lounge, comfortable Engagement. Chance of fixing day engagement. Lowest terms, particulars, Crabtree, 11, Duckworth-lane, Bradford.

WANTED, Lady Violinist and Lady 'Cellist, for small Band, at Highbury, two hours daily (afternoons). Bowen, 58, Mildmay-park, N.

WANTED, June 2, Sept., Good First Violin, to combine French Horn or Second Clarionet; also reliable Pianist, for orchestra, transposer, accustomed to accompany vocalists. Lowest terms and refs., Musical Director, 19, Division-st., Sheffield.

LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM, COLNEY HATCH, NEW SOUTHGATE, N.
WANTED, a Musician Attendant; must be a good solo performer on the cornet; candidates must be single, and from 22 to 30 years of age. Wages commence at £29, rising £1 per annum to £35, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform; also (after passing three months' probation), 10s. per quarter good conduct money, and about £3 a year band money. Weekly leave, 1½ days. Annual leave: First year (after completion of probation), 6 days; second year, 12 days; third and successive years, 14 days. Forms of application can be obtained from the Medical Superintendent, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Good Solo Cornet. Apply, stating age, salary, and references, to F. Camp, Mus. Dir., Gaiety Theatre Varieties, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Cornet, Permanency.
Write, stating age, experience, references,
B. T. Little, Theatre Royal, Hull.

WANTED, Good Clarionet, or Flute and Piccolo Player, as an attendant in a County Asylum, salary commencing £34, increasing to £48, all found.

Apply, with testimonials as character and ability,
W. Grainger,
County Asylum, Stafford.

WANTED, E flat Clarionet, season of four months; instrument can be provided, if required. Particulars to Conductor, Military Band, Penzance

WANTED, for Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, good Solo Trombone and E Flat Horn. Terms, 30s.; to join at once. Apply to E. Cook, B.M. Saturday, Cartmel; Monday, Ulverston, Westmorland.

WANTED, a good Trombone; must be steady, of good appearance. References and lowest terms to Seebold, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, Flautist, to commence May 28, in London. Apply, stating age, salary required, with copies of testimonials, to Oswald Stoll, Cranbourn-mansions, London, W.C.

WANTED, Brilliant Lady Pianist (Vocalist preferred), High-class Hotel Engagement, Seaside, Orchestral work. Terms, &c., S. Phipps, 27, Lower Mount-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Pianist, used to Variety Business, to open Mon., May 28. Lowest terms and references. T. A. Edwards, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Pianist, to combine Second Violin or Viola. Open Monday, May 28. Lowest terms and references, T. A. Edwardes, Grand Theatre, Derby

WANTED, Good Pianist, also Good Tenor Vocalist, 4 months, seaside. Good amateur tenor write. Hastings, 194, Roberts-st., Milford Haven.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Gentleman, for small building, South Shore, Blackpool, and to assist with Illusions, Season if suitable; open June 1. Box 3,263, "The Era."

WANTED, Really Good Pianists, for Al Fresco Concerts. Photo., height, age, lowest terms, Willie Osborne, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S HIPPODROME, ABERDEEN.
WANTED, Double Drummer, with all effects, to open May 28. References and lowest terms to Lieut. Harry Wamba.

WANTED, for Military Band, Holiday Resort, June 2 to Sept., Solo Clarionet, Solo Cornet, Flute and Piccolo, Bombardon, Double Drums, Trombone (to combine Euphonium), Tenor Horn (to combine Second Cornet or Piano), Second Cornet (to combine Piano), Second Clarionet (to combine French Horn). State age, refs., and terms (which must be low), Musical Director, 19, Division-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, a Violin (Leader), Flute, Double Bass, Cornet, and Drums, to open Monday (matinée); must be used to Variety Business, and Competent, or useless applying; for small London Music Hall (Woolwich).
Apply personally, between 1 and 3 o'clock, or wire to Conductor, 26, Gresham-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, for Littlehampton, from July 28, for five weeks, a Band, also Concert Party of four or five, separately or combined, ladies or gentlemen, good vocalists or quartette party, send lowest terms for the whole or part of the above mentioned time to M. W. Shanly, 33, King Henry's-road, South Hampstead.

WANTED, Lady Orchestral Players, Experienced, first violin, flute, double bass, 'cello, clarionet, for six months' engagement in Paris. State lowest terms, Conductress, Volthurst, Newbury.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

COUNTY ASYLUM, WHITTINGHAM, PRESTON.
WANTED, Musician Attendants, First Violin and 'Cello; must be single, and not over 30 years of age. None but competent players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £55, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the Medical Superintendent.

LINCOLN ART & INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.
Nov. 19 to 24, 1906.
WANTED, a Ladies' Band, of four or five performers, for the above week.
Send particulars to
R. A. MacBriar, Hon. Sec.,
Corporation Offices, Lincoln.

WANTED, Musicians, for Military Band, from May 28 to end of Sept. References, testimonials, and lowest terms, Bandmaster, Corporation Band, Aberystwyth. Those gentlemen who applied last week shall hear in due course; date unavoidably postponed.

WANTED, Full Military Band, end of May to Sept., play four hours daily. References, lowest terms, Bandmaster, Town Hall, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, First-Class Orchestra of twelve performers, at Liberty, any business. Address, Peter Conroy, Conductor, 18 Offley-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A Grateful Musician.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, Philip Germann, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the Publisher
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Victoria Theatre, Ramsgate. Address, Leigh Lovel's Co., Southport, till 26th.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathow's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Leader, First-class Orchestras only. No pitching. Box 3,254, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Nat Young, Pianist-Conductor, at Liberty for season, any business, seaside. Address, 15, Florence-st., Hightown, Manchester

WANTED, Known, Mr. Louis Laval, Musical-Director and Solo Pianist of "The Follies," will be disengaged June 11, for Musical Comedy or Concerts. Midland Hotel Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Conductor, could supply Band, any business, sixteen years Conductor Wisbech Volunteers; good references. Maddison, 1, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, by Musical Director (Pianist), Engagement, Tour or Resident; thoroughly reliable; excellent refs.; capable composer.—George Ess, 38, Parliament street, Harrogate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Leonard Tute, as Conductor, Violinist, or Pianist; smart, sober, and satisfactory. Perm. add., 31, Marle Hill-parade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Johannes Tomscha, Musical-Director and Solo Violinist, great solo repertoire, tour, resident, or seaside, first-class testimonials. 10, Biddulph-mansions, Maida Vale.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Edgar Haines, Conductor (Violinist), Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Prince's Theatre, Manchester, for Panto. 1905-6, at Liberty the end of June. Address, Gaiety, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement for Violin, combine Clarionet, for Military Band. Good refs. H. Smith, 14, Prince's-square, Kennington Park, London, S.E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady Violinist.
Address, A. E. R., 66, Church-street, Croydon.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement by Young Lady Violinist, Soloist or Orchestral, Tour or Permanent. Good appearance. Box 3,252, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co.; excellent testimonials; now at Liberty. Address, Matthew Lewis, Waterlooville, Hants.

WANTED, by experienced Violinist, Engagement, through disappointment, Seaside or Town. For terms, refs., address, T. B., 16, Benwell-road, Holloway.

WANTED, by Violinist (young), Engagement, in hall or theatre, first or second. Good refs. Violinist, 20, Colvestone-crescent, Dalston, N.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Violinist, at Liberty May 26.
Leader, Royalty, Glasgow.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Lady Violinist, just concluding second winter engagement. Dis. May 26. Violiniste, Palace Restaurant, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, Two First Violins, leader and repetiteur, together or singly, excellent refs., terms moderate, can open at once. Address, Violinists, 78, Birstall-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist, experienced in dramatic or variety business. Good references. Apply D. Nicoll, G.P.O., Lowestoft.

WANTED, by First Violin, combine Second or Third Clarionet, for Military Band, seeks Engagement. Last season Hastings. Good references. Box 3,258, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, combine Trombone, late Buxton and New Brighton Orchestras, Liberty June 16. Address, Leader, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Lady Violinist and Pianist, shortly disengaged, Concert Party, Orchestra, Quartette; brilliant Soloist; good rép. and refs. Box 3,220, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Solo Violinist, Orchestral, Eng. for summer, own compositions, abstainer, leader or first; can open at once. Box 3,245, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, Violinist, Oboist, Hornist, Drummer, together or single; experienced in Opera and Variety; high references. 14, Stanhope-street, N.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First Violin, Viola, Bass, Clarionet, Cornet, and Drums. Address, Leader, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, First-Class Military Band Engagement, as First or Second Cornet Player, for Summer Season; well experienced in First-Class Military Band work; Army references. Zealley, 3, Hartington-terrace, Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Season, perm. or dep.; reliable, sober, any business; good refs. Friswell, 45, Sydner-rd., Stoke Newington, London, N.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by good Cornet, strictly sober and reliable, any business. Terms and refs., R. V., 96, Charlotte-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly Experienced Solo Cornet, string or military, good refs., can open at once. TYLER, 33, Thomson-st., Stockport.

WANTED, by Competent Solo Cornet, Engagement, theatre, or summer engagement, experienced all lines. Highest refs. J. BONNER, 82, Millbrook-road, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, good Cornet Player (comb. Viola), Open to Accept good Engagement for Season. E. FRITZ, 47, East-street-buildings, Baker-street, W.

WANTED, by Experienced Solo Cornet, abstainer, reliable, good refs., engagement, any business, good concert soloist. Write, O., 10, Thomas-st., Bristol.

WANTED, by Professional Clarionet, Permanent or Season Engagement, any business; four years present appointment; good references. H. S., 24, Dorset-road, Harehills-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, summer or permanent, steady and reliable, experienced. J. BATEMAN, Hascombe, Godalming, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, any business, abstainer, reliable. T. MITCHELL, 36, Lockington-road, Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Solo Clarionet Player, with First-Class Testimonials, open to accept permanent or Seaside Engagements. Apply, Box 3,216, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, reliable and experienced Clarionet, disengaged. Address, 71, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by good Double Bass, sober and reliable; satisfaction guaranteed; at Liberty May 28. J. ALLAN, Tredegar Hall, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass, four string, any business; good references. T. JONES, 52, Hollier-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass Player, four strings; steady and reliable. At Liberty. PETER JONES, 6, Great Norwood-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experience, Engagement or deputising, any Business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Double Bass, Disengaged May 19. G. RICHARDSON, Poole's Myriorama, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Billet in Staff Band, excellent testimonials, at Liberty August 1, immediate offers invited. CPL. P., c/o Bishop, stationer, Union-rd., Stonehouse, Devon.

WANTED, by Double Bass (combine Bombardon), Engagement, any Business. At Liberty end of May. Write, BASSO, 45, Arthur-road, Holloway.

WANTED, by Trombone, Short Summer Engagement. Excellent refs. Address, CHAS. TAYLOR, Darlington-road, Bathwick, Bath, Som.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombonist, late military, will be disengaged shortly, for season. Apply, COOKE, Trombone, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement, for Trombone, good, any business, steady and reliable, &c. CHAS. TOPPING, 14, Clift-terrace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Trombonist, orchestral or military. Address, GEO. STEWART, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon, Seaside or Tenting; steady and reliable; can open at once. A. BLUNT, 36, Forest-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Season Engagement, by highly experienced E flat Bombardon. Good refs. Address, BOMBARDON, 9, All Saint's-green, Norwich.

WANTED, Engagement, Good Bombardon, reliable and sober, with good references. A. C. HUNT, 19, Oldfield-road, Stoke Newington, N.E.

WANTED, Short Summer Engagement as French horn. Address, J. SWINDIN, Beckingham Mill, Gainsborough.

WANTED, Engagement, French Horn, Experienced, orchestral and military. Good refs. FRENCH HORN, 15, Century-road, Walthamstow, N.E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello. Also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, Deputising, any business. FLETCHER, 100, Bishopsgate-st. Without, E.C.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by First-class 'Cellist, Disengaged from Whit. Week. ARTHUR HOWARD, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Experienced Lady 'Cellist, evening engagement, in London, during summer months, Sundays excepted. GEORGE, 118, Elgin-avenue, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, used to any business; would like an engagement, town or seaside. Write, 51, Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, for the Summer Season, by Second Viol, Piano, 'Cello, Double Bass. Open June 1. FRITZ PREISICKE, Musical Director, Café Minerva, Hamburg.

WANTED, by Violoncellist, Engagement, any business, well up in opera. 'CELLIST, 5, Lyndhurst-grove, Vestry-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Viola, any Engagement, reliable and experienced. W. H. BOWER, 14, Maude-terrace, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement by First-Class Oboe, late of Carl Rosa Opera Company; splendid refs. GEORGE, 105, Herne Hill-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Oboist, Summer Engagement, experienced, sober, and reliable. OBOE, 12, Eldon-parade, Eldon-road, Wood Green.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c. Theatre Royal, Belfast, till May 28.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M. Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions, Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, by Lady Harpist, Summer Engagement, Solo and Orchestral. Box 3,253, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Well-known Harpist, combine violin, any business, or would join good violinist, lady or gent., for hotels, &c. HARPIST, 4, Tanner's-lane, Soham, Cambs.

WANTED, by Flautist, at Liberty through closing, Engagement, can open at once, any business; refs. RUSSELL, 113, Clare-rd., Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Summer Engagement, by Experienced Flute and Piccolo, orchestral or military. Good refs. Apply, FLAUTIST, 35, Pentney-rd., Balham.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, military or string, good refs., can open at once. EDWARD PAYNE, 18, College-buildings, Gloucester.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, good, Engagements as Deputy or any business. Disengaged May 29. R. W. THRIDGOULD, 47 Heatherley-street, Clapton.

WANTED, Seaside Season, Engagement, Flute (Piccolo Soloist). Military, String, thoroughly reliable, or Theatre, &c., Deputy. PENFOLD, Alexandra Theatre, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Experienced Flute and piccolo, any business, reliable and steady. Good refs. C. H. COLEMAN, 27, Park-rd., Bolton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Good Flautist (Piccolo Soloist). Address, HANCOCK, New Theatre, Cambridge.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo (Soloist), summer or permanent, experienced, any Business; always reliable. LEX WATSON, 45, St. Mungo-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, by John Brierley, Pianist, any Business. Wire, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

WANTED, by Orchestral Pianist and Accompanist, Engagement, good refs. Address, THOMPSON, 42, Holsworthy-square, Gray's Inn-rd, W.C.

WANTED, by Pianist, Summer Engagement, good accompanist, thoroughly experienced in Variety business; young, reliable. JAS. ALEXANDER, 170, Cambridge-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, by N. Robinson, any business, Orchestral or Self; exper.; Al Fresco, Var., Drama business; steady, reliable; good refs. Add., Post Office, Brigg.

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Pianist, combine viola, theatre or seaside, thoroughly experienced in dramatic and variety business. Box 3,255, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, summer, or perm. Highest refs., from theatres, music halls, orchestra, opera, or al fresco. COULTON, 116, Fowler-st., Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Ena Craven, Pianiste, at Liberty, just finished six months' tour, sight reader, and MS., orchestral preferred. 73, Adderley-road, Saltley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engs. (Musicians), Pianist-Vocalist, Dis.; steady and competent; can conduct and arrange; A1 refs. COMPOSER, 96, Greame-st., Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist, Solo or Orchestral, any business; highest references; just concluded season as Pianist-Conductor with Poole's Myriorama. Wire, CHARLIE THORNE, Public Hall, Redditch.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced in variety and dramatic business. L. MAJOR HORNSEY, 208, Eglinton-rd., Plumstead.

WANTED, by Experienced Pianist, Summer Engagement, brilliant soloist, sketches at piano, straight part sketches, also produce concerted items. Excellent refs. Address, PIANIST, 68, Victoria-st., Nelson.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, all effects, orchestral, military, thoroughly experienced, sober and reliable. Offers, terms, HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Orchestral Drummer, Engagement, accomplished, Theatre or Music Hall. D. D., 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Dodsworth's Northern Military or String Bands, from 12 upwards. Neat uniform. For terms, apply, DODSWORTH, 9, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Garner's Elysée Band, from three performers or first-class Orchestral Pianist; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, by Family Band, Brilliant Solo Violinist, concert party if required, seaside preferred. J. TURNER, Aston-st., Owen-rd., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable Family Band, two Violins, Bass, Cornet, Piano, Halls, Theatres, &c. Apply, BAND, 19, Mayton-st., Holloway.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. Hunt's Ladies' Small Orchestra, open for engagement. For terms apply 73, The Grove, Hammersmith, or 4, Lansdowne-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS ON TOUR. General-Manager, GEO. SCOTT.

WANTED, Tenting, Couple of Useful Numbers Can Open Immediately. Good Bar Performer and Posterer may write.
State Lowest Terms and Full Particulars in First Letter. Address,
12, Charles-place, Hotwells, Bristol.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Canadian Circus, now Touring Ireland, Smart Aerial Show, also Good Troupe of Acrobats, to open at Once; also good, steady, reliable Tent-master write. Please allow four days for reply. Address, HANNEFORD, 10, Goldsmith-street, Dublin.

WANTED, for Whit Week, July, Aug. 6, on, Cycle Polo Teams, Acrobats, Bars, Startling Novelties for Galas. Send lithos., memos., bookings, vacancies, terms per day and week, GEORGE BURTON, 5, Milner's-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED. Complete Menagerie, or a few strong Animal Acts, two weeks, July 10; also First-Class High Rope Acts. CALVERTO, Giffnock, Glasgow.

WANTED, June 4, all July and August, Specialities, Trapeze and Wire Acts, and Acrobats, and Cyclists. Lithos., memos., GANNON, Westgrove, Bristol.

WANTED, Catcher for renowned Flying Trapeze Act, must be single, no amateur need apply, must be able to catch doubles and twisting tricks; also must do some horizontal bar work. State age and previous experience, and send photo. Address, J. W. E., 11, Blagdon-st., Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Top Mounter at Once, for well-known Acrobats.
F G., Palace West Hartlepool.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Performing Lions, best in the profession. Vacant Monday next, for Midlands, share or fixed; also June 11, onwards, with exceptions.
Apply,
Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Tudor's Four Champion Ponies, five acts; also Riding Goat and Turpin Mare, at Liberty. Address, Blyth.

WANTED, One Week, June 11, to follow Morecambe, by Billy, the Educated Horse, the marvel of the world, first vacancy in two-and-a-half years. Particulars, JIMMY DE VOYE, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Caban's Marvellous Sixteen Performing Miniature Ponies, Donkeys, and Dogs, at Liberty May 21, 28, June 4, for Halls, Fêtes, Galas, &c. Wire for Monday. North-street, Stamford.

WANTED, Known, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Barebacked Equestrians and Clown, own Horse, Liberty, home, abroad. 21, St. Luke's-street, Hull.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, Pigeon Charmers, and Foot Equilibrist, at Liberty Whit Monday, with own Ring Horse. Address, IRVIN, 144, High-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical and Acrobatic Eccentric, appearing nightly at the Tivoli, Barrow. Monday, May 21, Circus Varieties, Bury.

WANTED, Known, Stebbing Bros., Acrobats, Vacant Nov. 12, 19, 26, two acts. Address, 3, Waveney-road, Walthamstow, London.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Osticers, Flying Ring and Bar Performers, Liberty for Galas. Wire, 76, Westmoreland-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Galas, Circus, Variety, or Al Fresco, Managers and Agents note, Turie and Turie, renowned Comic Gymnasts, Lib.; two distinct Acts. Wire, 5, Wood-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Conversational Comedy Triple Bar Act, Vacant May 21 and 28. Wire, Pier, Southport.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Marvellous Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Act. Communications, Hippo., Dartford, May 21, week.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Queen of the Air, the most daring and sensational Lady Aerial Act in England; Galas, Galas; 50ft. high, no net. Sensational. 78, Gartside-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Galas, &c., by Mlle. Bartenelli, the best aërial contortionist; also the Boultons, speciality artists. Address, Poole's Myriorama, Bridgwater

WANTED, Known, Knotella, Comedy Contortionist, Liberty, Fêtes, Galas. 103, Churchstreet, Chelsea.

WANTED, John Irvin, Foot Equilibrist, Liberty Whit Monday and on, Big Turn for Galas. Address, IRVIN, 144, High-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Sylverto, Up-to-date Juggler, open to join circus. Offers to
83, Lewis-street, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Prof. Phillips, Madame Lestrange, High Divers, Swimmers, Tank Performers, Open for Eng., home, abroad. 4, Lyceum-bldgs., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Known, Catcher, Middle Tumbler, and Risleyist, Liberty May 26. Wire or write, FRED LEON, 7, Surrey-square, Old Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Hand-balancer, also knowledge of tumbling, and second mount, comedy or straight. GRAHAM, 65, Warden-rd., N.W.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, First-Class Variety Artists of every description, Big Spectacles and Startling Novelties, with drawing power, Big Comedy Sketches, Ballets, Pantomimes, &c., all the greatest turns in the country required; nothing too big, in fact, the bigger the better. Mr. Sylvester is now booking for the New Hippodrome, Hall-street, which opens early in Nov. Address, stating full particulars of turns, with salary required, to T. M. SYLVESTER, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, for the New Hippodrome, West Bromwich, Aug. 6 and onwards, the absolute cream of the Variety profession; all the greatest Stars in the country; must be new to the abovementioned town, or state when and where last appeared. Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly, London.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.

WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, all Lines, for immediate dates. Please state in first instance absolutely lowest terms, to save correspondence. Messrs. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 63, Regent-street, W. Telephone, 6070 Gerrard. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists, for week commencing June 11, and onwards. One house nightly. Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artists, June 4, onward. Terms, bookings, &c., to SIDNEY DOOLEY, 55A, Booth-street, East Manchester.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, May 28, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Casino Theatre, Aston, Birmingham, opening Whit. Monday. Apply,
WHITTINGHAM,
354, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 4, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Wanted, Artists, in all Lines.
Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and Give Full List of Bookings.
Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and Give Full List of Bookings.

Nothing too Big to Book.
Nothing too Big to Book.

Call at once,
Call at once,
HARRY S. HART,
Speciality and Variety Agent,
Star Palace Varieties, London, S.E.
'Phone, 1048 Hop.
Telegrams, "Hart, Star, Bermondsey."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Required photos. for office. Letters only. YATES, Central Agency, Lyric House, Carrington-st., L'pool. My only address.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Lancashire, June 11 and July 2. Lowest terms and full particulars to K. FORDE, G.P.O., St. Helens.

WANTED, Artists of every description, for Lancashire towns. May 28, June 4 and 11. MCCLARNAN, 7, Eastham-street, Preston.

QUEEN'S PARK, CASTLEFORD.
Grand Fête and Gala in July.

WANTED, Artists, for open-air performances. Apply,
Stating terms, to
J. W. SHOOTER, Sec., Subscription Prize Band, Church-street, Castleford.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for May 28. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, May 28, June 11, 25, onwards. Good Living Freak Open at Once. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Sittingbourne, Artists all Lines, with odd weeks, double acts, Hall Small. MANAGER WIGHAM, 120, Victoria-dwellings, Clerkenwell, London.

WANTED, Artists, of all Descriptions, for
London,
Country,
Continent.
Write or call, with full particulars.
Dagmar and Clown please write.
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety and Speciality Agent,
85, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, June, July, and August. Full particulars, lowest summer terms, address G. A. BAKER, Hexthorpe Flats, Doncaster.

WANTED, Immediately (Pierrots), First-class Artists, in all Lines. Send lowest terms to FRED PARR, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines. H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, the absolute Cream of the Variety Business, for
First-Class Seaside Establishments,
First-Class Seaside Establishments,
First-Class Seaside Establishments,

Blackpool,
Blackpool,
Morecambe,
Morecambe,
Douglas,
Douglas,
Southport, &c.
Southport, &c.

Big Star Acts required for
Whit Week (June 4), and onwards.
Whit Week (June 4), and onwards.
Whit Week (June 4), and onwards.

Communicate immediately.

Big Stars and Refined Acts
Big Stars and Refined Acts
Big Stars and Refined Acts
of every description

Wanted for May 28, June 4, on.

Send Full List of Bookings, Terms, Printing, &c.

JAMES FIONI'S Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."

Telephone, 1686 Royal.

Gladenbecks, Chas. Russell, Lord, Murray, Lord, wire addresses.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists all Lines, June 4, 11, and 18, on. North. Address WILL ONDA, P. O., Mansfield.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, STALYBRIDGE.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Tops, Bottoms, Middles, Single and Double Turns, Sketch Artists, any turns that can draw money. Lowest terms, vacant dates, to FRANK MUNDILL.

WANTED, First-class Artists, those in Manchester district preferred, Saturday evening only, June 2, for my Benefit. Address all communications, with absolute lowest terms, to FRANK DENMAN-WOOD, New Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Artists, week July 2, Yarmouth, Sketch, Illusion, Illustrated Songs. Communicate particulars, lowest terms, ERIC CALCOTT, 6, Finlay-street, Fulham.

WANTED, Artists, Entertainment, Series for "East End Unemployed." EDWIN DREW, Editor, "Amusement," 7, Whitefriars-street, E.C. Journal 6d., post 7d.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Immediately. Wire particulars, lowest terms,
MANAGER, 45, Horninglow-street, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, Artists for Al Fresco, good Pianist to do turn. Artists in all Lines write, NORMAN, 17, Fernshaw-rd., Fulham-rd., S.W.

WANTED, Artists, for Clempert's Pavilion, H.B., in all Lines, Combinations, shares or rental; also for Sunday Concerts, Pierrot Troupes, Bioscope. Wire, CLEMPERT, Manchester.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME Co., LTD.

WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager.
T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager.
G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

WANTED, Artists booked for Hippodrome, Mansfield, June 4, please forward bill matter, &c., at once to T. JENNINGS, as above.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for Alterations; reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL; big drawing tops write.

WANTED, Artists holding Contracts with Wilder Bros., Fête Agents, Gt. Francis-st., Birmingham, for Whit-week, to write in for instructions as to where they appear, at the same time send list of vacant dates.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday, 1 o'clock, for "The Collar Stud," Soros, Little Don, Carney Bros., Whizzing the Whirl, Sisters Merridew, &c. Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday, May 21, at 1 o'clock, for Houston (Chinese Conjurer), Minnie Moran, Ward and Wylie, Frank Lindon, Hackenschmidt and Madrali Bioscope Show, Bob Downs (comedian), The Danbys, C. W. Poole's Animated Pictures, and Los Granadas. Signed, WILL SMITHSON.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, all Artists to note the above Hippo. Closed Sat., May 21, '06 and was duly advertised two weeks before. To let for good combinations, picture shows, minstrels, &c. Rental only. Gas and Electric. Address C. ALGIE.

WANTED, Artists to note that the Tivoli, Grimsby, closes from June 9 until the first or second week in Sept., and that all Contracts for dates during that period are therefore cancelled. If the Artists in question will forward their vacancies, Sept. onwards, other dates will be arranged in lieu of those cancelled.
Signed, JOSEPH H. CURRY.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Variety Stars, Specialities, June 4, on; also Pantomime Artists. Terms, lithos., &c., EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED.—Henri Cazman's Agency requires Stars, Specialities, the best only, for the best London and Provincial houses. Artists for Pantomime write. Artists wanted for my own companies, June 18, 25, July 2, at Liverpool; July at St. Helens; July 16 at Warrington; July 23 at Accrington; July 30 at Pier, Dover. Must all state when and where last in these towns; Combination salaries; splendid chance to have Acts seen. HENRI CAZMAN'S Agency, 138, Denmark-hill, S.E.

WANTED, May 28, and Whit. Week, Stars, Specialities.
Pantomime Artists, all lines.
Pierrot Comedians. Gala Acts.
GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.
Wires, "Antics," London. 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, For Immediate and Future Dates.
Send full particulars, terms, bookings, &c., to
JESS VERNO,
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, for Doncaster, Whit Week, good funny turns; those able to work singles and doubles preferred; outside show. Lowest terms, ACHILLES, Coronation Hotel, Market-place, Manchester.

WANTED, May 28, Strong Speciality or Variety Turn, to introduce in Drama. Terms must be low. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, immediate and onwards, the Greatest Acts in the Business.

Full List of Bookings
and Absolute Lowest,
First Instance,
or no Notice taken of Application.

HARRY BURNS'S Agency,
Sole Proprietor, HARRY BURNS.
Established 1895.

Head Office,
Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

Telephones, 0231 and 0231A.

Also at London and Manchester.

Bookings Include every Hall of Note in England.
Also Booking for Germany and America.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU.
15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for immediate and future dates, the Biggest Acts in the Market, Novelties, Star Comic Acts, &c. Bookings, photos., &c.

WANTED, June 4, Bristol, South Wales, Variety Acts, all Lines, including top of bill. Lithos., Memos., GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, First-Class Acts, for Principal Towns and Seasides. Send list of bookings, terms, &c. Also best of Artists for Al Fresco Pavilions, open Whit Week, must be well up in Concerted Items, Sketches, Gags, &c. Send photos., lowest terms for season. Will Carl Herman, Aguzzi, Will Letters, write? YATES' Agency, Church-avenue, Weaste, Manchester.

WANTED, for Present and Future Dates, First-class Acts, of all kinds; but must be good. ALVANTEE'S Agency, New Park, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Four Good Acts, Variety or Specialities, Monday next.
Wire, ZALVA, Scarborough.

MELVIN AND TAYLOR'S AGENCY,
434, STRAND, W.C.

WANTED, the Best of Variety Talent, Immediate and Future Dates.
State lowest terms. Send lithos., bookings, &c. Sole Bookings for New Hippodrome, Dover; Mr. Transfield's Hippodrome, Dartford; and can arrange best tours for anything good.
No preliminary fees.
Telegrams, "Impromptu, London."
Nat. Telephone, Gerrard 8102.
Will Permane's Animal Act communicate?

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.

WANTED, Star Turn, Big Draw, with own Combination (Eight Turns), Whit Week (June 4), two houses nightly; smoking permitted. Address, HARRY YORKE.

MARTINO'S AGENCY,
125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Attractions in all Lines, also for Pantomime: Three Principal Boys, three Principal Girls, two pairs of Comedians, for Ugly Sisters and Ruffians, Smart Comedian for Idle Jack, and Dancing Speciality, Lady and Gentleman; must be first-class, and known to me.

Forward photos., lithos., and
actual lowest terms.

WANTED, Varieties, all Lines, except Sketches (unless good single turns as well), for tour, twenty weeks. Particulars, lowest possible salary, photos., &c. (which will be returned), by letter, in first instance, MANAGER, 3, Norton-street, Liverpool.

EMPIRE THEATRE,
GREENOCK.

WANTED, Good Variety Combinations, May, June, and July; also
First-Class Vocalists and Society Entertainers, for Open-air Concerts.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, May 22-29, Good Combination, Cinématograph, or Useful Artists, on shares. Fifth week here. EVANS, Drill Hall, Amble.

DEVIL'S DYKE CAFE CHANTANT.

WANTED, for the above, commencing Whit. Monday, and during the season, High-class Entertainments or Combinations, complete in themselves; must be refined, and play about an hour; share or rental. Motor train service every hour. Address, Mrs. M. BARRASFORD, Hippodrome, Brighton.

WANTED, Wanted, First-Class
Tops of Bills,
Specially Wanted,
Four
Big Specialities,
weeks of Sept. 10 and 17.
Quote lowest terms, full bookings.
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
Hippodrome,
Scarborough.
Telephone 288.
Telegrams, "Zalva."

WANTED, Clients to keep me posted. Dates, terms, &c.,
ATLAS Agent, City Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, for Macclesfield, Drawing Specialities, on share; also balladists, tenors, baritones, serios. Lowest terms, photos., J. ROLMAZ, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Troupe of Entertainers, for Seaside.
Apply with full particulars to
R. JOHN HUGHES,
Council Offices, Penmaenmawr, North Wales.

WANTED, Smart Concert Party, Sharing Terms, through disappointment, June 11, Pier Pavilion, Bognor. Apply, ROBERT FORSYTH, Bournemouth-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, for Whit Week, all July, Aug. 6, on, Cycle Polo Teams, Acrobats, and Novelties for Galas. Send lithos., terms, &c., per day and week. GEORGE BURTON, 5, Milner's-chambers, Fargate, Sheffield.

WANTED, First-Class Singing Vent. or other Speciality, good voice, used Sketches, Al Fresco, Pav., Bilston; open Whit. Photo. to CRANSTON, T. R., Wednesbury.

WANTED, Society Humorists, Vocal Comedians, Smart Serios and Dancers, Young Rich Contralto. Apply, SINCLAIR'S Agency, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Vocalists, all Lines, Pierrots, Good Amateurs write; also Acts for Fêtes. FRED LE BRUN, 15, Faraday-road, North Kensington, W.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Acrobatic Dancers (ladies), Pantomimists, Comedians, Clever Boy, Knockabout, or Acrobat, music hall scena, immediately. TREVOR, 164, New King's-road.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Troupe, Continental Engagements, singer, and good step-dancer. Write, including photo., or call between 3 and 5 o'clock, MARY, 34, Walcot-square, Kennington.

WANTED, Young Ladies, with good voices, for Living Liliputians, and assist with Illusions, small building, South Shore, Blackpool; Season if suitable; open June 1. Box 3,262, "The Era."

WANTED, Comedians, Specialities, Quartette of Ladies, Single and Double Turns, of all kinds, to open immediately in big productions. Artists having a few weeks vacant for immediate dates, wire or write. BARNEY M. ARMSTRONG, Tivoli Palace, Glasgow. Will Sandy and Carl wire address?

WANTED, funny refined Comedians, sing well, Concerted Numbers, Sketches, &c., rehearse May 30 at Aberystwyth. Lowest terms, HARRY COLLINS, Rhyl.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
for Blackpool, Morecambe,
and other Seaside Towns,
Whit Week, July 2, and onwards.
Also for
London,
Manchester,
Liverpool,
Leeds,
Glasgow,
Birmingham,
Brighton,
Stockton,
Burnley,
Bolton,
Oldham,
Barrow,
Carlisle,
Warrington,
Hull,
Middlesbrough,
St. Helens,
Accrington,
Stockport,
Rochdale,
Stoke,
Derby,
Grimsby,
Attercliffe,
Hanley,
&c.,
Star Comedians, Star Comediennes,
Big Specialities,
Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts,
in fact, anything that is New and Novel.

Send List of Bookings, Lithos., Terms, &c.,
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

QUEEN'S PALACE,
RHYL, N.W.
General Manager, HOWARD LEES.

WANTED, Star Comedians
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Star Comediennes,
Big Specialities,
Big Specialities,
Big Specialities,
anything
that
is
New
and
Novel.

Send list of bookings,
lithos., terms, &c.,
HOWARD LEES,
Queen's Hotel, Rhyl.

WANTED, First-class Comedian, young, good appearance, refined, for very High-class Al-fresco Entertainment, covered in. Apply, stating répertoire, terms, photos., &c., to WELLING, 137, Radnor-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Comedians, versatile, refined, and funny, well-up in Al-fresco; also Lady Artist, ditto. Season's engagement. No fancy prices. Open Monday. Wire, NOBLE, Gardens, Durham.

WANTED, Smart Young Conjurer, Entertain, for smalls; also a trick bull terrier dog. STANTON, care Post Office, Loftus, R.S.O.

WANTED, immediately, Smart Tumbler and Knockabout, for Comedy Act. Apply, with correct list of Tricks, terms, &c. to Box 3,260. "The Era."

WANTED, smart Boy Comedians, Dancers, Acrobats, Actors, &c.; must be small and over 14. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Clever Children (14-17), Singers, Dancers, Instrumentalists, Specialities, refined al fresco, Blackpool season, rehearse May 28. Age, height, photo., to MANAGERESS, 84, Caunce-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Gent., to work Illusion on Stage; must not be afraid of work. Small salary to start; constant employment; premium to learn business required. ALPHA, 2, Tennyson-road, Kettering.

WANTED, Bioscope Operators, one gas, two electric, competent, steady men. Mention previous engagements. Address, Box 3,234, "The Era."

WANTED, Efficient, Steady, and Reliable Operators. Enclose reference, state experience and salary expected, to TETLOW, Philharmonic Hall, Cardiff.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Managers, Agents, and everyone concerned in booking Tip-Top Turns, to see the Acme of Womanly Perfection,
Mlle. Von Etta,
the World's only Lady Illusionist.
A Creation. A Surprise. A Sensation.
Specially engaged this week as Star performer at Opera House, Burnley.
Next week, Starring, Lyric, Liverpool.
An Artistic Success; a Sure Draw.
Introducing a Grand Transformation Fit-up,
"The Palace of Electricity."
A Scene of Costly Splendour and Dazzling Brilliancy.
Vacant June 18, July 9, and all Sept. Address, T. M. PAUL, Business-Manager, Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED, 21st, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist; also Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist. Hippodrome, Wakefield; after Sat., B158, Witton-rd., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Lilian Warren, the popular Pictorial Songstress, and Mysterious Lilith. Liberty June 4 and 11. All coms., Empire, Swansea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Maud Digby, Male Impersonator, Sketch Artist, Marionette Worker; good voice, experienced. Pleasant Cottage, Station-road, West Malling, Kent.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Beatrice, Nellie, and May. Duettists and Expert Dancers. Vacant Monday. Wire or write, 35, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Sisters Lyndon (Lora and Peggy), instrumentalist and serio, engagements, for season, high-class al fresco or pier. Public Hall, Neston, near Liverpool.

WANTED, Known. Wanted, Known. Wanted, Known.
Mr. Charles Clifford,
the People's Favourite Harpist and Humorist,
having returned from a lengthened Tour,
can accept Engagements in July, Aug., and Sept.,
to give his enjoyable Entertainment
of Humorous Songs and Sweet Music,
introducing his beautiful Large and Small Irish Harps. For terms, address,
15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical and Acrobatic Eccentric, appearing nightly at the Tivoli, Barrow, with Success. Monday, May 21. Circus Varieties, Bury. At Liberty May 28.

WANTED, Known, Will Gay, Eccentric Character Comedian and Dancer, Liberty Monday, any business. Wire or write, Penarth Pier, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Thomas, Entertainer, has June 11 week vacant, only vacancy till Sept. 17. This, T. R., Ilkeston; next, O. H., Buxton.

WANTED, Engagements, Monsieur Réne Dubois, French Tenor. Champion Yodelist and Tyrolaise Call of Australia. Splendid répertoire. "Marseillaise" in French. Press notices. Terms moderate. Address, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, June 4 or Later, also Panto., 1906-7, Funny Comic Songs Wanted. T. R., Darlington.

WANTED, Monday next, by Clifton Hall, vocalist. Big success, this week, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Wire quick for a certain success.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, and 28th, by Allan Hanbury, eccentric patter comedian.
Wire, Empire, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday next (only), George Ritter, vocal, musical comedian, pianist, &c. Summer booked. Wire for Monday only, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Shawlene,
Vacant 21st, 28th, June 4.
Address, Empire, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Little Zola, late of Drury Lane Vacant for Summer Season, evening dress, if required. Write or wire, 38, Hackford-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Refined Musical Act, eight instruments, splendid fit-up, vacant June 4. CARL LENTO, 16, Great Charlotte-street, Blackfriars, S.E.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. PROF. LENTON, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, Monday next, May 21, by Henri Bekker, comedy conjurer. Always a sure success. Wire, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Hulbert (Ventriloquist) and De Lil (Illusions), July, offers invited, two sound acts. Monday, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by W. Villroe, Champion 9st. Wrestler and Heavy Weight Lifter of England. Address, 2 Court, 7 House, Allen-st., Sheffield.

WANTED, May 21. Wire, Grand, Gravesend, until Saturday. Kyoto, Japanese versatile act; May Geraldine, dancing comedienne. Any distance. Wire.

WANTED, Monday next and May 28, Sardou's Illusionists, the marvellous Mystic Lady, Hit of every Programme; also Marie Riviers, Popular Songstress. Wire, quick. E., Stockport.

WANTED, Monday, on, Ethel Gale, marvellous blind comedienne, totally unassisted; Harry Carter, comedian; also double turn. 26, Brown-st., Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Musical Bohemians, Vacant Monday next, May 14, also 28th. Hit of programme. Wire, Palace, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, Lillie Dene and Chas. Dawson, "Stage Aspirants," cleverest Comedy Act before the public, fully protected. Success, Gaiety, Dundee

WANTED, by the St. Johns, Musicians and Speciality Dancers, June 18, onward, following 42nd week continuous tour. Gaiety, Birmingham.

WANTED, by the Two Ds (Dizart and Destarte), the world's novelty handcuff kings, May 28, on. 12, Blakehouse-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, Musical Grimaldis, May 21, July, 9, 16.
Perm. address, 4 Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act, meeting with Great Success in Firenze, Italy.

WANTED, by Doyle and Gibson,
Patter Comedians and Dancers,
Monday, May 21. Wire, Gaiety, Dundee.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer, Comedians, in Comic Sketch "Murphy's Birthday," introducing Wonderful Performing and Wrestling Donkey. 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, 21st, and June 4, by Gravetta and Parr, clay modellers, jugglers, &c. 13, Lower Buckingham-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey. Roars of laughter. G.P.O., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, the Brothers Connolly (the essence of refinement) are at Liberty, Aug. 6 and 13. Perm. Add., 14, Sackville-st., Reading.

WANTED, Known, Brothers McLean Henry, open for School Holiday engagement, July and August. Highland, International, Japanese, and Cake Walk Dancers. Winners of over 30 Prizes. Youngest Boy Dancers in Scotland, ages 10 and 6 years. Offers invited. HENRY, 18, Cairddrive, Partick, Glasgow.

WANTED, by The Gelders, Magicians and Wonder Workers, May 28, between Wakefield and Dudley. Wire quick. Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, May 28, Hippodrome, Maidstone. The Star Turn is provided by Los Granadas. Their performance is very clever and amusing.—Kent Messenger. Monday, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, Known, Merry Moore's Monks, Society Entertainers, have a few open dates for Piers and Pavilions.
Address,
W. H. MOORE, 142, Castle Hill, Reading.

WANTED, Mon., First, also 28th, by the Fordyces, Singers and Dancers Extraordinary. Wire, 44 Morton-st., South Shields. Panto. settled.

WANTED, Known, Carlo's "Toreador Serenaders," Original Scena, "On the Banks of Vesuvius." Six Artists. Vacant June 11, 18. Agent, VERNO, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Three-bar Comedians. This, Albert Hall, Jarrow; next, Palace, North Shields. Liberty 28th, June 11, 18.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope. Manager without money running coms. save stamps. Mon., Effingham-st., Rotherham.

WANTED, Few Bookings, June and later, piers, &c., whole or part. Mr. HARRY LISTON and Miss LUMLEY, Egyptian Hall, Llandudno.

WANTED, Dates, Juvenile Military Spectacle. "Russo and Japan." Everything carried. Good pictorial posters. A sure draw. CLARKE, G.P.O., Blackpool.

WANTED, One Week, June 11, to follow Morecambe, by Billy, the Educated Horse, the marvel of the world, first vacancy in two-and-a-half years. Particulars, JIMMY DE VOYE, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, the largest and smartest lady's Troupe in Europe, including the Masterpiece of Training, "The Goalkeeper."
Grand Finale, Electrically Illuminated Spectacle,
"Over the Garden Wall."
Open for Piers, Garden Fêtes.
First Vacancy July 16. Com., Hippo., Ealing.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Troupe of Human Dogs, acknowledged to be the finest and most original troupe that have visited Cork, at Liberty May 21 and 28. Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Novel Dog Show, one of the finest hits on any programme, Liberty Monday. Wire, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Few Summer Dates, Chard's Great Dog Circus.
Opera House, Treherbert, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, The Spangelettis, Dogs, Pony, and Baboon Circus, at Liberty May 21, 28, June 11, Big Act, including Riding Machine and Spinning Table. 23, Mile End, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, recognised Magician desires to manage or exhibit Magical Act for any leading illusionist; highest possible credentials, unequalled references. Advertiser is admitted by the Profession to be the finest performer in his speciality. Box 3,248, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagements, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Punch and Judy with Dog Toby. 101A, Penwith-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Dane's Marionettes, at Liberty July, offers invited for piers, galas, &c. Communications, Poole's Myriorama, Metropole Theatre, Abertillery, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, May 28, onwards competent bioscope operator, lime or electric alternating or direct, steady, reliable. SOMERS Garrick Theatre, Hereford.

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, ten years' experience, abstainer, own bioscope if necessary. Wire, TRAVERS, 91, Totterdown-street, Tooting, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Week, Season, or Tour, by Bioscope Operator, with up-to-date machine, complete outfit, gas or electric, with over 10,000ft. films, up-to-date comic trick, &c., no filling up or dud stuff, Hackenschmidt, &c.; satisfaction guaranteed. References given and required, if not known. G. TOBLER, 20, Richmond-gardens, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Operator, just finished four years Empire, Bristol, can join at once. ROSENTHAL, 7, Glo'ster-place, Bristol.

WANTED, by Young Operator, for Cinématograph, Mechanic and Electrician, Re-engagement, understands every kind of Machinery. R., Gosfield-street, Portland-street, W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. All kinds of repairs done. Write for free samples, and see our quality for yourself. Special line.—Portable petrol plants. Absolutely reliable.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known, that Mr. J. Wentworth, of London, Managing-Director in England for Messrs. Ch. Marenghi et Cie., Organ Builders, of Paris, has just completed the erection of another splendid Ideal Orchestra, specially built for Messrs. Anderton and Rowland, of the West.

The noble Work of Art was opened for the first time at Exeter for the Easter Holidays on a large field belonging to General Buller, and of course the concern was well patronised by the better class of the West of England.

Once again this proved that with a good tool easy and good work can be done.

Mr. Wentworth will also erect another additional carved front to the concern of Messrs. Wm. Haggai and Son, of South Wales. The future lot is to be completed within a few days, and it will certainly bear the inspection and criticism of all the public in general, as this will be the only uniform concern in England at present.

Mr. Wentworth also wishes to inform his customers that on account of rapid success of his firm he has been obliged to secure another building, adjoining the Agricultural Hall. The second place is now undergoing alterations, and will most likely be open in a month, where Messrs. Ch. Marenghi et Cie's. capable men will be able to do anything in the way of organ repairing, &c.

Remember, Mr. J. Wentworth's address is always 29, Gibson-square, Islington, London, N. He has come to stay.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that
T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars.
Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO.,
120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Travellers, &c., Stacey and Co., Settles-st., London, E., Specialities for Shooting Saloons, Throwing Games.

NATIONAL FIRE BRIGADE UNION CAMP,
SHALFORD PARK, GUILDFORD,
July 2 to 6, 1906.

WANTED, Special Outdoor Attractions.

Particulars and terms,
ROBT. BRYETT, Hon. Sec.,
97, High-street, Guildford.

WANTED, for Hancock's Electric Palace, for two weeks, commencing Whit Monday, good Dumb Show, Strong Men and Contortionists save stamps; no fancy prices; money sure; also Wanted, Pianist, one used to Show business preferred; long engagement to a suitable man. Apply W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Mon., Post Office, Chard; Tues., Post Office, Honiton; Wed., Post Office, Exeter; Thurs., Fri., and Sat., Launceston.

WANTED, Quick-showing Novelties, to Open May 21. Shares. LEONARD WHITE, Exhibition, 238, Market-place, Dudley.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelty, for Side Show, for Whit Week. Lady Wrestlers preferred. JONES, Old Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Good Freaks and Novelties to follow Madame Herculine, Prof. Elba, Glennie's Marionettes, &c. Can book you two months certain. Terms, salary, FRED BURNETTE, New Permanent Exhibition, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Freaks and Novelties, May 28, and onwards, eight weeks' engagement. Lena South and Bunce write. STEWART'S WAXWORKS, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, Suitable for Waxwork Entertainment. Wire for Monday, all Old and New Novelties. Write, CARTER'S Waxworks, Belfast.

WANTED, for Anderton and Rowland's Grand Empire, on Tour, a Lady Singer, one used to singing to Slides and used to Show Business, long engagement to suitable person; also wanted, Good Doorsman, one not afraid of making himself useful; Shirley write if disengaged. Can also do with good Musical Act; must be used to show business. State lowest terms and full particulars in first letter. Address, ANDERTON'S Grand Empire, The Modern Show, Recreation Ground, Falmouth, Cornwall.

WANTED, Stalls, Games, Swings, Camera Obscura, Shows, Pierrots, Automatics, Photographer, Amusements, &c. Apply Managing Director, Rathbone House, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, at once, for John Proctor's Royal Bioscope, two Young Ladies, from 16 to 20, for first-class parading, must be new to the show business; also two good Knockabout Comedians. Comedians I mean. Good salary to suitable people. Note.—Six months' engagement sure. Address, Newark Sat.; Hucknall Torkard Mon., Tues., and Wed.; after Orton's Waggon Works, Burton-on-Trent.

WANTED, for Chas. Thurston's Original Royal Show, Knockabouts and Paraders, and to make themselves generally useful about Show; Young, Single People, used to Fair Business, preferred. Winter and Summer Job for Suitable People. Lowest Terms First Letter.—CHAS. THURSTON, 60, Ketts-hill, Norwich.

WANTED, for Bostock's Continental Menagerie, presently touring Belgium, several steady Insidemen, used to the business. Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, good Waxworks or Mechanical Exhibition, on Shares, or would Let Shop for three months. Apply, CAPT. DANDO, Barrowstrand street, Waterford, Ireland.

WANTED, a competent Phrenologist and Palmist, man preferred; reference required if not known. Address, J. T. HAWTHORN, 77, Langney-rd., Eastbourne.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Phrenologist and Character Reader, lady or gentleman, three shops to work in. Apply, PERCY SHARPE, Exhibition, Kingstown, Ireland.

WANTED, four Good Doorsmen, used to Aerial Flights and Toboggan Slides; state lowest salary. Apply Proprietor, Rathbone House, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, Planksman, funny and sober, Handseller preferred. Joey Gormley write. Must be good singer. WEST, Auctioneer, Atherton, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Good Doorsman and Pianist, tall, and good appearance. SHOWMAN, c/o Roby, 3, Prudoe-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, a Doorsman, for a side show; would join good novelty as partner. C. MAXWELL, 44, Penrose-st., Walworth-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Re-engagement, as Watchmaker and Planksman, on auction mart, steady. HARRY THORNE, Fern Cottage, Duffryn, Merthyr Tydvil.

WANTED, by Auctioneer, smart and capable Jewellery Salesman, Season's Eng.; must settle at once, several offers in hand. E. W., 217, Newhall-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Punch or Marionettes Open for Engagements, with Drum and Pipes.
T. DUFFY, 10, Rich-street, Limehouse, E.

QUEEN'S PALACE, RHYL, N.W.
WANTED to Let, Spaces,
Wanted, to Let, Spaces,
Wanted, to Let, Spaces,
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Wanted, to Let, Spaces,
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Wanted, to Let, Spaces,
suitable for Side-shows;
also
one or two
Good Shops
in the Arcade.

Apply to
HOWARD LEES,
Queen's Hotel,
Rhyl.

WANTED, Showmen, Roundabout Proprietors, Stall Holders, First-class Side Shows, Novelties, &c., to tender for Spaces (on about 1½ acres of ground) at the above Fête, to be held in the Hanley Park, on Wednesday and Thursday, July 4 and 5 next. Average attendance over 60,000.

Further particulars may be had on application to the undersigned.
No notice taken of applications for space unless accompanied by a full and complete description of what required.

Tenders Sealed and Endorsed,
"Tenders, Fair Ground,"
Addressed,
The Chairman, Horticultural Committee,
must be sent in on or before
Thursday, the 24th inst.
WM. POULSON, Secretary,
Town Hall, Hanley.

Important Notice.
THE CASINO THEATRE (4,000) AND
PLEASURE GROUNDS (5 acres),
Opening Whit. Monday, June 4, 1906,
Under the Direction of A. L. N. BRADY,
General-Manager.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Side Shows, Novelties, Stalls, Automatics, &c.
Wanted, Big Attractions, Helter Skelter, Flying Boats, Slipping the Slip, Roundabouts, Shooting Range, &c.
N.B.—The Casino Theatre and Grounds adjoin the famous Aston Villa Football Grounds. Birmingham and surrounding district population over 1,000,000. 1d. Fare Electric Birmingham to Aston Cross. Trams pass the door. Apply, J. WHITTINGHAM, Sec., 354, Victoria-rd., Aston, Birmingham.

PONTYPOOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
GREAT FETE AND GALA,
WHIT. MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

WANTED, Known, Grounds
to Let,
for
Roundabouts,
Shows,
Stalls, &c.

MARSHALL HILL,
Coaley, Dursley, Glos., or Craven Arms, Salop.

WANTED, to Let,
Ground for the Whitsun Holidays,
Welsh Harp, Hendon,
commencing June 1,
and following week,
Roundabouts, Shows,
and all kinds of Amusements.
Terms reasonable; nothing barred.
Permanent address,
HASTINGS and WHAYMAN,
Exhibition, Castle Hotel, Brentford, Middlesex.

TREHERBERT ANNUAL FAIR
(late Treorchy Fair).
June 9, 11, and 12, 1906.
WANTED, Known, all applications for Forms and Terms for Ground Space to be made to W. M. DAVIES,
Station-street, Treherbert.

WANTED, to Let, Ground, Chingford Mount, Whitsun Holidays, for Roundabouts, Swings, Shows, Cokernuts. Write, COL. PRINT, Steam Circus, Greenhill-grove, Manor Park, Essex.

WANTED, Space to Let, for Small Side Show, sharing terms; also for slot machines. MANAGER, New Japan Exhibition, Kilbirnie, N.B.

August Bank Holiday Fête, at the County Cricket Ground Southampton, Military Band, Sports, Fireworks, &c.
WANTED, Known, Offers are invited for admission of Roundabouts, Swings, &c., with the right to sub-let, for side shows (subject to the approval of the committee). Offers to be forwarded on or before the 24th. Mr. C. S. FUIDGE, 6, College-terrace, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, Treharris First Annual Midsummer Fair will be held on the New Athletic Grounds (centre of town) on June 23, 25, 26. Space to Let for roundabouts, bioscope shows, side shows, coker-nut sheets, swings, flannel dealers, stall owners, &c. Nobody barred. Apply DAVIS, Auctioneer, Treharris, Glam.

Special Notice.
WANTED, Known, all Parties requiring Ground for Whit. Monday, Redruth, and other fairs and holidays, to follow, apply W. C. and S. HANCOCK, St. Austell, Cornwall, until Wednesday next.

WANTED, Spaces in Exhibitions or Seaside Resorts for High-class Side-shows. Box 3,238, "The Era."

WANTED, Space, First-Class Side Shows and Smart Men, ready; open to purchase Novelties. V. VIDRON, 129, Drayton-rd., Portsmouth.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, a complete Shooting Jungle, suitable for an International Exhibition.

Send particulars and price to
Box 3,249, "The Era."

PROMENADE PIER, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, Slot Machines and other Novelties on Sharing Terms. Apply to Mr. C. A. WILKES, 150, Strand, London.

WANTED, to Hire, or Purchase on easy terms, a Traction Engine, must be in good condition. Write, COL. PRINT, Steam Circus, Greenhill-grove, Manor Park, Essex.

FINE ART EXHIBITION.
WANTED, to Sell, Splendidly Carved Front 24ft. front, 30ft. back, Organ, by Gavioli; also Engine, to drive same; Rail Waggon, one load. No further use to owner, who is giving up the business. No reasonable offer refused. Apply Mrs. HOLBORN, Crown Yard, Crown-rd., Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Light Road Living Waggon, with skylight, grained, fitted up for use. Letters only, SORRELL, Astwood Bank, Redditch.

WANTED, to Sell, Set of Secondhand Swinging out Motor Cars, for Roundabout. STAGG and ROBSON, LIMITED, Selby.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, two Sets of Galloping Horse Roundabouts, one four abreast and one three abreast; both centre loads, to travel by rail.
Can be seen on application to
R. TIDMAN and SONS,
Bishop Bridge Iron Works, Norwich.

WANTED, to Sell, One 4-abreast Set of Gallopers, for road or rail, complete with waggons; one 3-abreast set of gallopers, with waggons, complete for rail; also one ordinary machine, complete, with waggons, for road. Can be seen working. All the above are equal to new. WALKER, Roundabout Maker, Tewkesbury.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Slot Machines, Genuine Bargains. Largest stock in the trade, new and second-hand, cards all kinds. MASON, Settles-st., London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, for the Best and Cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887, same address.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Cards, Eye, Hair, Astrology, Fortune, Husband, Wife, Baby, 5s. 1,000; Love Letters, 9s. LESLIE CO., 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, to Sell, Seat Scale Weighing Machine, with brass weights, fittings, and measure stand. Take £7. R. WATSON, 1, Winfred-terrace, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Sell, a Toboggan Slide and Mirror Show at Kursaal, Southend, for Season. A splendid opportunity for a man with £60. Write, LARCHER, 30, Pimlico-road, S.W.

WANTED, to Sell, Beautiful Barrel Organ, with drums, cymbals, suitable for roundabouts, cinématograph show. JAMES BERRY, Red Rock Hotel, Red Rock-st., West Derby-rd., L'pool.

WANTED, to Sell, 50,000ft. of Films, just received from the Myrioramas, majority good as new, from 1d. per ft.
POOLE, Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, a Rail Living Wagon, door opening on side; must be in good condition. Write, stating full particulars where it can be seen. RUBY, G.P.O, Colchester.

WANTED, to Buy, Set of Swinging Boats, new or secondhand. Price, particulars, cash. KING, Showman, 116, Church-st., Chesham.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906. "The Era" Almanack and Annual ("Era" Office, 1s.), a copy of which lies before me, is an invaluable publication for those who wish to have stage records by them. It contains a dramatic and musical calendar, lists of new plays and important revivals produced at the London and suburban theatres during 1905, and also of plays produced in the provinces. Further, we have lists of the new plays and revivals produced at the principal Paris and Berlin theatres. "The Era" Almanack has been regularly issued since 1868, when is was compiled by Edward Laman Blanchard, a comedian whose fascinating life was recorded by Clement Scott. The Almanack closes with an illustrated list of those members of the profession who died during the course of last year, headed, naturally, by Henry Irving. Amongst the other names are those of William Rignold, Frank Celli, Ada Neilson, and Minnie Mario. There is an added pathos in the deaths of those who were so long bodily before the public, and the ringing down of the last curtain seems to have added significance.—T. P.'s Weekly, Jan. 25.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, MAY 21, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Flood," Paul Cinquevalli, Leslie Brothers, Morton and Elliott, McPhee and Hill, Ober Steirer Troupe, Inaudi, Les Bastiens, Staley's Transformation, Bioscope, Spessardy's Bears, Goltz Trio, Trapnells, Alexandre and Hughes, O'Gust.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Harmony Four, Mlle. Olive, Harding and Ah Sid, Arthur Gill, Tom Owen, Belle Braham, Gladys Mavius, Harry Carsdale, The Findens, Derenda and Green, Celeste, Florence and Lilian, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Nelson's Newsboys, Fanny Robina, Bioscope, Florrie Cooper, Chas. Adeson, Frank Couch, Lena Brunton, Amann and Hartley, Chanti, Wille Bros., Brandon and Wylie.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Arden and Abel Co., in "Three of a Kind," Bioscope, Eadie and Ramsden, Jas. Brady, Lunelle Sisters, Brown and Leclerq, The Delevines, Leonie Dixon, Chas. Ouseley.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Prinz' Lions, Bioscope, Horace Wheatley, Jas. H. Cullen, Bernar's Fantoches, Jonghmann Sisters, Constance Bellamy, Empire Comedy Four, Stine and Evans, Bros. Harrison.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Bioscope, J. Alexander and Co., Northern Troupe, Mackweys, Spry and Monti, Rex King, Ferguson and Mac, Harry Sloan, Sutcliffe Family.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Johnson and Dean, Nellie Martell, Sisters Klos, Tom Woottwell, McConnells, Eily Adair, Clown Barker, Lily Langtry, Howard and Collinson, New York Nippers.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Hackenschmidt, Florence Deighton, Warsaw Bros., Gracie Grahame, Galletti's Monkeys, Harry Weldon, Mignonette Kokin, The Raies, Guy Ryder, Alexandra Dagmar.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ray Wallace, Ernie Mayne, Drew and Alders, Three Cape Girls, Colby and May, Gwennie Hasto, Jurgens Trio, Daisy Mayer, Bert Byrne, Albert and Edmunds Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Bloomsbury Burglars," Morgan Sisters, Chris Richards, Stuart Quartette, Claire Beasy's Cats, Chas. Lilburn, Athas and Collins, Bioscope, Lilian Payne, Barowsky Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Geo. Gray and Co., in "The Fighting Parson," Bioscope, Jake Friedman, James Stewart, Lilian Elfrida, Lady Fauntleroy, Reed Oetzmann Troupe, Max Yorke's Dogs, Mons. Albany, Kaufmanns.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
The Craggs, Bioscope, Herbert Shelley, George Tacius, Kitts and Windrum, Marie Collins, The Jagos, Marlo and Dunham Trio.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Millie Hylton and Decima Brooke, Bioscope, Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, Geo. Walker, Abdullah Arabs, Ted and May Hopkins, Violas, Automatos, Four Skandias, Hays and Suits, Bros. Egbert.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Casey's Circus, Bioscope, Watson's Dogs, Hoppit, Tony, and Terry, Fred Russell, Booker and Narbis, Unthan, Bosanquet Sisters, "Dick Dare, M.P.," Diabuku.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Mark Melford and Co., Florence Esdaile, Sanford and Lyons, Will Musgrave, Jack Lane, George Lashwood, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, Madge Osmond.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Chirgwin, Frank Seeley, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Henry Taylor Trio, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Classicum Quartette, Belle Davis, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Ancillotti and Pilu, Prof. Vox, Johnny Gilmore, Chas. Austin, Cole de Losse Duo, Flen and Brok, Baker and Balfe, Stella Troupe Josh Dixon, Edouin and Edwards, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Moses and Son," Ben Albert, Austin Rudd, Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Three Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Little Tich, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Fielding and Hull, Ella Retford, Stave, Leah Arden, Johnson and Bert, Jordan and Harvey, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Mark Sheridan, Sisters Chester, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Belloni's Cockatoos, Frank and Free, Odeyne Spark, Francis and Alfred, Bros. Damm, J. H. Milburn.

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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
"Moving In," Norman and Leonard Trio, Marba and Vertiy, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Chinko, Lilian Warren, The Uessems.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
The Boissetts, Anartos, Cora Caselli, Chas. Gardiner, Walter King, The Seddons, Vernando, May Henderson.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Bessie Featherstone, Boswell's Circus, Lancashire Lassies, Harry Bedford, The Maples, Morton Trio, Canary Co., Holles Trio, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
R. A. Roberts, Tom Edwards, Ross and Grayson, Esta Stella, Marguerite Broadfoote, Beatrice Willey, The Finneys, Frank Leslie, De Lucca Troupe, Seeley and West.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Melot Hermann, Bioscope, David Poole, Conn and Conrad, Serenaders, Flo D'Orville, Grell and Gray, Hardinis, Duse Mahomed and Co., Remingtons.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Machnow, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, Anna Kenwick, Lindon's Vaudevilles, Lios Alfa Sisters, Fred Lincoln, The Allisons, Aurora Troupe.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

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EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Tom Costello, Dora Lyric, Edwin Barwick, Pictures, Roze and Calvert, Amy Russell, Forest and King.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Serpentello, Edith Evelyn and Co., Princess Pauline, Bioscope, Albert Chapman's Quartette, Sisters Kellner, Wee George Wood, Alice Maydue.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Starr and Leslie, Lizzie Daniels, Jack Theo Trio, Bioscope, Labakans, Four Olympian Stars, Mariano Sisters, George Brooks.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
George Mozart, Jack Heath, Ernest D'Almaine, Andy Caine, Albert Whelan, Bert Brantford, Daisy Silcott, Maud Beaumont, Emma Don and Co., Katie Marsh, Pictures, Rezene and Robini, Smythsons, Spry and Austin, Leotard Bros., Trik and Triksie, Bennett and Martell.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
George Robey, Harry Conlin, R. H. Douglass, George Newburn, Cyclo, Billie Barlow, Sisters Caselli, Florrie Gallimore, Ethel Ra Leslie, Pictures, Tally Ho Trio, Leotard Bros., Five Bogannys, Zeta Gray and Co., Two Bees, "Gay Parisienne."

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre. Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements Cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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"Is London Like It Used To Be?"
"My Bungalow in Borneo."
"Bonnie Mary o' Glengary."
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"Wait Till the Work Comes Round."
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Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

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Rehearsals on Monday at 12.30 o'clock.
George Robey, Fred Karno's Company, Harry Randall, Harry Tate, Gus Elen, Clark and Hamilton, T. E. Dunville, Winifred Hare, The Poluskis, Margaret Ashton, Ernest Shand, Rachel Lowe, Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, Brett and Orford, Arthur Lennard, Fred Earle, the Casino Comedy Four, Flo Gallimore.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Harry Lauder, Edith Helena, George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, the Poluski Bros., Millie Legarde, Edward Lewis, Lee and Bentley, Madoline Rees, Rachel Lowe, Harry Ford, Victoria Monks, Duncan and Godfrey, Camilla D'Alberg and Co. in "La Main."
Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
Victoria Monks, Gilbert Gerard, A. Bo-Kou, James Fawn, Gus Elen, Margaret Ashton, Pete and Juno, Lily Lena, Clark and Hamilton, Sylvia Du Barry, Imperial Bioscope, Moule and Nicholls' Co. in "The Battle of the Belles," Sylvia Cavalho and Company in "Lulu."
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artists are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 2 o'clock.
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Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 21, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Fred Southern and Co., Mersano, Davis and Davis, Marie Neilson, Sisters Varley, Pallister's Pictures,

PALACE, LINCOLN.
The Schiavonis, Jack and Evelyn, Lola Patey, Helm and Cozens, The Elgars, Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene, Drum and Major, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Forbes, Murray and Co., Barrington, Lily Sharplin, Will Farrell, Bliss and Bliss, Paragon Trio, Pallister's Pictures.

PALACE, BATH.
Florrie Forde, Theresa and May, Tom Parker, Lee Laurens, Kit Keen, Harry Zetter, Four Burnells, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Radford and Valentine, Grace Merton, Edie Gray and Coons, Daisy Morell, A Ba-Be, Grant and Allen, Rowland Hill, Will Van Allen, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
George Bastow, Harry Briggs, Pender Troupe, Geo. Rapley, Stilt Walkers, Bishop and Hanlon, Les Frasettis, George Grogin, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Allis and Cassati.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
Six Bros. Luck, Lily Black, Arthur Reece, Hessey Soloists, Dolly, Agnes and Maud, Joe Oliver, Chas. Norton, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
May Moore-Duprez, Kitty Wager, Rozare Bolleros, Fred Poplar, Janet H. Reynolds, Gray and Welford, Tatten Hall, Otto and Olga, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
Harry Roxbury and Co., in "The Prince of Monte Carlo," Bros. Redmond, Marion Scott, Marie Santoi Troupe, Martin Henderson, Fred Cary, Woodhouse and Wells, Jack Lorimer, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Matinée Thursday.
Ed. Ranier and Co.

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"Face at the Window."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
"Honour Thy Father."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
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LYCEUM THEATRE.
Frank Gerald in "The King's Highway," Lily Lassah, Andie Burn, "Mrs. Newlywed's First Cake" by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Gus Harris, The Arleys, Hercat and Fairfax in "Her House in Disorder," May Marton, Will Lytton, Mr. C., The Woods, Martin Adeson and Co. in "The Masked Lady."

THE BRITANNIA.
Telephone, 7285 Central.
Matinées, Monday and Thursday.
Vaudeville Dramatic Co. in "The Lonely Man," Marie Blythe, Three Sisters Thurban, Harley and Hardon, Zeta Grey and Co. in "The Lancashire Lass," Nelson and Thomas, Millie Denham, "Mrs. Brown's Bad Luck" by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Harry Freeman, Terry and Lambert.

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Matinées Monday and Thursday.
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Matinée every Monday.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
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All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
N.B.—All Billing Matter and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit must be addressed to "King's Chambers, Angel-street, Sheffield."

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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Arthur Roberts and Co., Two Erolls, Jenny Hartley, J. B. Preston, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Queenie May, M. and S. Wood, Pictures, Haley's Juveniles.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
The Midget Mimes, Nancy St. John, Professor McCann, Alix Lukos, Lillie Soutter, Susie and Protti, Barlee and Smith, Pictures, Lancashire Lads.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
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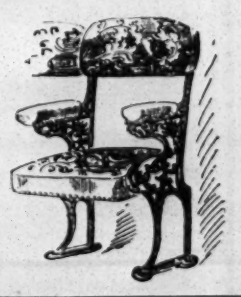

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The boy and the rifle. A shot at the candle. The willing helper. Breaking an egg with disastrous results to the boy underneath. A paper target is now made and pasted, and laid on a seat while the pot of paste is put away. Old gentleman sits on seat, and the target sticks to the seat of his trousers. Bending down to do a bit of gardening, he gives a full view of the target, and a boy scores a bull's-eye on it. Capture and punishment of the wrong scorer. About 164ft.
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The scene opens with Dick and Tom King taking a glass outside the "Jack Falstaff" Inn, and as soon as they disappear inside to settle the account, the landlord is seen to betray them, anxious to share the reward of £300 offered. Dick, with the assistance of his confederate and a pretty barmaid, however, after a desperate struggle, manages to escape on his favourite horse, Black Bess. He is followed by the attorney, chief constable, and doctor on horseback, and a hot chase commences, numbers of people joining in the running; one rather eager man who endeavours to bar the way of the outlaw meets his death from Dick's pistol. The chase proceeds at high speed through country and village, the highwayman exacting whenever he can tribute from the lips of the fair sex. In one village he unfastens the latticed window of a house by standing on his horse, enters a bedroom, and demands toll from the lips of a young lady; while, with his pistol, he subdues the irate mother, who gladly seeks protection beneath the bed-clothes. Dick is able at one inn, by the aid of a friendly ostler, to obtain refreshment for himself and his horse, whom he rubs down in great haste. The chase gets hotter and hotter, as his pursuers ride up to change horses, and Dick escapes from the back while the man is parleying with his enemies.

Dick, meeting an old woman, just past the gallows, where her son hangs (and which he has saluted), is requested by her to bear a package to Sir Luke, to which he consents. Turpin proceeds on his way as fast as his steed can take him. He rides out and stops the York Coach, which is passing along the road, and demands to know where he can find Sir Luke. After obtaining the desired information, he rides on. The coach is again stopped, this time by the pursuers, and they add another to their number. They press on with the chase. Dick's way is seen to be apparently stopped by a five-barred gate, but master and horse treat the matter lightly, and clear the gate in fine manner, riding on for dear life. The "hounds" not being quite up to the "fox" in skill, have to dismount, and, after some delay, follow on. Dick Turpin and horse are seen at the end of their journey to struggle on, both hard spent, the poor animal almost dropping as Dick delivers his precious packet to Sir Luke.

Thus, Dick's kind mission is accomplished, but at great cost, the death of his best friend, Black Bess, with which the picture closes.

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Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.

London, May 19, 1904.

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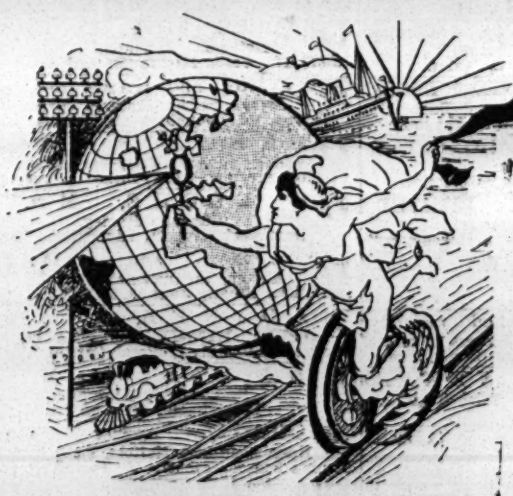

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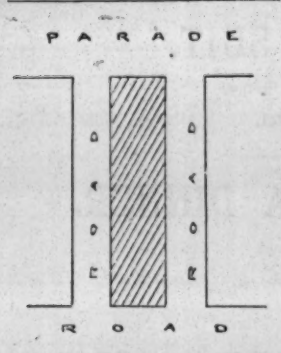

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B OULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI. Vacant for Piers and Galas. Poole's Myriorama, Bridgwater.

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C ULLANE'S, FRED, COMEDY TRIO, Bottom of Bill, Canning Town; Next Week, Standard.

C ULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY. Terrific hit, Hippo., Ipswich; Lyceum T., Eccles.

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D E VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, the celebrated Horse, the Marvel. Success everywhere. Next week, Hippodrome, Wigan.

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D INAH (SID) and LLOYD (MADGE), Refined Comedy Artists. Sole Agent, JOE LAWRENCE, 17, Brook-st., Lambeth.

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D OLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Factory Nightingales. Starring Palace, Blackburn. Monday, Palace, Halifax, return.

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D URHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

D U ROCHE, MDLLE., Grand, Hanley. Next week, May 21, Hippodrome, Hull.

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E LLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. May 21, Public Hall, Jarrow.

E LMO, NINA, Comedienne. Resting through Indisposition. Barrasford and Graydon Tour postponed.

E LSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY. Next week, Surrey. Now and always the same.

E LTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act, Thanks Mr. Parker, Pier, Southport, for returns. Monday, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

E LVY, ARTHUR, "The up-to-date Tipster," Monday next, Empire, Woolwich, Specially Engaged. Barrasford Tour to Follow.

E PLETT, KATIE, FRANK ZARA, Comedienne, Dancer; Comedian, Raconteur. Monday, Cambridge Music Hall, London, E.

E SDALE BROS., Comedians. Enormous Success, Britannia, London. Next Week, Alhambra, Sandgate.

E USTACE, FRED. May 21, Paragon and Camberwell. "Lights of the Harbour" and "La Belle Parisienne."

F AME, PEGGY, Concludes Rochdale Monday, Tivoli, Dublin. "The girl in grey without a smile." London Shortly. West End Halls.

F ARRIMOND, PERCY, the Original Lancashire Singing Collier. May 21, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

F AWN, ADA, Thanks Proprietors for postponing Dates, also friends for kind inquiries. 32, Devonshire-st., All Saints, Manchester.

F IELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park-Keepers, Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. 115, Hope-street, Salford.

F IMANS, THE, "In the Fire Station." This Speciality stands alone. Result, Fully Booked.

F IONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1,586 Royal.

F ITZROYS, THE, Society Gymnasts, Fourth Week, London Pavilion, Piccadilly.

F LORADORA GIRLS, Enormous Success. This Week, Pav., Newcastle. Monday, Tivoli, Leeds. Panto. settled. Agent, E. DE VERE.

MR. and MRS. A. CARLAW GRAND (Miss Rollo Deas). Disengaged June 4. Address, May 28, Prince of Wales' T., Birmingham.

MR. ARTHUR GRENVILLE. At Liberty. 20, Kenyon-mansions, West Kensington, W.

MR. FRED GROVE, Disengaged. Note new address, 50, Gresham-rd., Brixton, S.W.

MR. CHARLES GROVES, Jun., Carbury, "Lady of Ostend." Opera House, Cork. Dis. shortly.

MR. CLARENCE HAGUE, At Liberty. Address, 78, St. George's-road, S.E.

MR. HUBERT HARBEN, Engaged by Mr. Tree. His Majesty's Theatre.

MR. A. C. HARDIE, Theatre Royal, Chatham, 28th, Miss Hildyard's Co. Dis. June 9.

MR. FRANK HARDING, Address all Coms., 21, Argyll-mansions, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W. T. No. 2077, Ken.

MR. W. S. HARDY, Father Gerard and Business-Manager, "The Midnight Wedding." June, July. Address, Ludlow.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER, Robert Carlton, "Master and Man," Dalston Theatre, N. Dis. Shortly.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY, Spencer Traughton, "Public Opinion" (South). 10, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C. Dis. May 21.

MR. W. S. HARTFORD, at Liberty. Lead. Large répertoire. 47, Godolphin-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY, Dr. Watson, "Sherlock Holmes." May 28, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. R. CALVERT HAWS, "Castles in Spain," Terry's Theatre, W.

MR. T. P. HAYNES, Disengaged. Address, Care of "The Era."

MR. JERROLD HEATHER, Lead. Dis. Autumn. Starring with Mr. Millar Anderson's Répertoire Co. Queen's, Dublin.

MR. HORACE E. HERBERT, Leading Business, Mr. O. Hamilton Warden's Company. Grand Theatre, Derby.

MR. FRANK HILL, Old, Modern, Musical, Farcical Comedy. Dis. 15, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell.

MR. A. T. HILTON, Sir Peter Teazle, Hardcastle, Damas, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD. All Business communications to be made direct to Mr. CECIL BARTH, 8, Melina-place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE, Rev. Mr. Blimboe, "The Adventure of Lady Ursula." Disengaged Shortly. T. R., Bournemouth.

MR. FRANK HOWARD, Hon. Bertie Bray, "The Woman Who Gambles," Mr. Morton Powell's Co. May 28, T.R., Stockport.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD (Miss Clara Earle.) May 28, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Six Nights.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD (Miss Carlotta Anson), Disengaged shortly. "Claudian" Co. Grand Theatre, Southampton.

MR. ERIC HUDSON, At Liberty Summer and Autumn. May 28, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, 6 nights.

MR. S. HERBERT HUMBER and B. SINCLAIR, Star Lead and Com., "Her Wedding Day." Dis. Sum. and Aut. King's, Cardiff.

MR. REGINALD A. HUNT, Producer and Stage-Manager, "Claudian." Engaged by Mr. Tree for Stage-Management.

MR. JAMES P. E. HUSSEY, Lieutenant David Cairn in "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace." West Pier, Brighton, Whit Week.

MR. A. B. IMESON, Three Years Leading business Compton Comedy Co. May 28, O. H., Leicester. Dis. June 16.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES (Miss Minnie Rayner, Contralto), Disengaged, Character Com. 52, Crowndale-rd., N.W.

MR. JAMES JARRETT, Richard Hare, "East Lynne. Offers invited for aut. May 28, Broadway Theatre, New Cross, S.E.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Compton Comedy Co. Disengaged June 16. May 28, Opera House, Leicester.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES, Touring the Success, "Life's Sweetest Sins." Address, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES, at Liberty. 101, Sugden-road, S.W.

MR. THEO. JONES and ADA MANSFIELD, touring "Jack Sheppard." Offers invited for autumn. King's, Longsight, Manchester.

MR. F. JOYNSEN - POWELL, "Royal Divorce" Tour, Scala Production. Disengaged Autumn. 49, Waldemar-avenue, S.W.

MR. WHITFORD KANE, Disengaged shortly. Address, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

MR. OGILVY KEITH. Address, Charlmont, Western Parade, Southsea.

MR. and MRS. EDGAR KENT (Miss Ada Clarke), Goldfinch and Lucy, "A Pair of Spectacles," T. R., Exter. Dis. for Autumn.

MR. CLAUDE KING, Disengaged for Juvenile Leading Business. May 28, Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. CECIL KINGSLEY, Address, Garrick Theatre, W.C.

MR. and MRS. FRED KNIGHT (Miss Louie Tinsley), Disengaged now and for Autumn. Address 132, Camberwell New-rd., S.E.

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MR. GEO. F. LEICESTER, Disengaged Autumn. Hippodrome, Manchester.

MR. LEWIS LESLIE, Dis. June 4. Offers invited Summer and Autumn. Musical Comedy or Drama. Next, Empire, Middlesbrough.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Disengaged. Address, 100, Earl's Court-road, S.W.

MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON, Address, 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. G. H. LIOT, Disengaged. 8, Cornwall-street, St. George's-square, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTER, Disengaged. 47a, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON, Compelled to rest through illness. Pleased to see any friends. 311, Kentish Town-rd, N.W.

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MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, Disengaged. 28, Chelverton-road, Putney.

MR. EDWARD LLOYD, At Liberty Autumn. Manor Hotel, Dousland, Dartmoor.

MR. FREDERICK LLOYD, Every Evening, Court Theatre, Sloane-square.

MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH, Lead and Character with F. Bateman, Esq. May 28, Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE, Disengaged for Autumn and interim productions. Address, 7, Bridson-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES L. LUDLOW (Agnes St. Clair)), Disengaged. 64, Hove-avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW, Thanks W. W. Kelly, Esq., for engagement To-day, T. R., West Bromwich; next, A.A.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG, Lord Bellingham in "The Beauty of Bath." Aldwych Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY. Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green." En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

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MR. G. M. MONTANINI, Address, New Theatre, Consett.

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MR. & MRS. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS (Marie McAulay), Offers invited Autumn. The Blorenge, Taunton.

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MR. H. ADAIR NELSON, Riversdale, Lynmouth.

MR. JOHN NESBITT, Concluded Season's Engagement with Mr. Charles Frohman, in America. At Liberty. 10 King-st., W.C.

MR. DAVID G. NOBLE, Lead or Heavy Lead. At Liberty, June 11. Permanent address, 48, Agate-road, Hammersmith.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY, Heavy Lead, "The Prodigal Parson." May 28, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MR. & MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM (Dorothy Carington), "Sweet and Twenty." Disengaged shortly. May 28, Cheltenham.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON, Lead, "Man's Enemy." Star Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. GUS OXLEY, Daly's Theatre, W.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN, with "Sunday." Re-engaged for autumn. May 28, O. H., Northampton.

MR. F. M. PAGET, Third "Bonnie Brier Bush" Tour. Dis. for autumn. Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE (Mabel Syringa). Disengaged. Address, 10, Ospringe-road, N.W.

MR. POPE PAX, Journalist and Dramatic Critic, Address, 18, Trinity-road, Birmingham.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE, Disengaged. Per. Add., 65, Redcliffe-road, South Kensington.

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MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN (Miss Florence Le Clercq), Mr. Wheeler's Comedy Co., Cape Town, South Africa; or A.A.

MR. EDWARD S. PETLEY, at Liberty for Juveniles, Heavies, or Character. Torquay Villa, Arlington Park, Chiswick, W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY (Miss Gertrude Price), Leading Business, Dis. June 11. May 28, Grand Theatre, Fulham.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP, General-Manager, Disengaged, through Misunderstanding Coms., c/o "The Era."

MR. WILLIAM PIMM, Isaacs, "A Rogue's Daughter," T. R., Jarrow.

MR. FELIX PITT, Disengaged June 18, until August. 172, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

MR. CYRIL PRICE - EVANS, Wilfred, in "Lucky Miss Dean." Mr. Eugene C. Stafford's Co. T.R., Hull.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR, Disengaged, Summer only, for Bus. Mangt., Heavies, Juv. Lead. 108, Gloucester-rd., N.W.

MR. RANDOLFE READE, as Charlie Middlewick, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh. At Liberty May 28. Address A.A.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF, S.R., "Sunday" Co. Disengaged June 11, for five weeks. Stock or Sketch. O. H., Northampton.

MR. PERCY RHODES, Disengaged now, and for Autumn. 54, St. Maur-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON Concluded Nine Months with Mr. Geo. Edwardes. Disengaged. 133, Lavender-sweep, Lavender Hill, S.W.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD, "What the Butler Saw," Theatre Royal, Portsmouth. At Liberty June 9.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD, Stage-Management, Apollo Theatre, W. Address, 34a, Aldis-street, Tooting, S.W.

MR. WALTER ROBERTS Disengaged for Autumn. T. R., Dewsbury, May 28, Six Nights.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON, Note new Address, 44, Lamb's Conduit-street, W.C.

MR. G. STAPELTON ROCHE, Light Comedy, &c Disengaged autumn. Add., Belmeath, Upper Dorset-rd., Bexhill-on-Sea.

MR. BASSETT ROE, At Liberty until September. Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS, Address all communications, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

MR. and MRS. R. ROYSTON-DENE, "His Birthday," Peerless, Pretty-Pathetic Playette. Palace Theatre, Bradford.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT, Miss Maud Hildyard's "Great Awakening" Co. Dis. June 11, also Panto. Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN, Tommy Keston, "The Freedom of Suzanne," Disengaged June 9. Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES SEWELL (Miss Sara Dudley), Light Comedy. Disengaged June 2. Crown T., Peckham, S.E.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and Character, Disengaged June 9, "Freedom of Suzanne," Opera House, Blackpool (six nights).

MR. JAMES SKEA, Character Actor. Engaged by Hill and Ayrton, "The Gambler's Daughter." T.R., St. Helens.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY, Manager for Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. FRANK STANLEY, Acting-Manager, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. E. STANTON - SHARP, Julian Gray, in "The New Magdalen." May 28, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

MR. W. R. STAVELEY, "Little Father of the Wilderness" and "Mountain Climber." Address, c/o "The Era."

MR. and MRS. W. S. STEVENSON (Miss Evelyn Robson) May 28, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING, Lead, Heavies, Disengaged June 11. 60, Wouldhave-street, South Shields.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN, General Gordon, in "At Duty's Call." Palace Theatre, Newcastle. At Liberty soon.

MR. GEORGE STONE, Resident-Manager (Twelfth Year), Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY-GOFTON, At Liberty, Recitals, Productions, Parts, &c. Address, care of "The Era."

MR. WALLACE STRANACK, Mr. John Hart's new production. May 28, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. EDWARD SWINTON, Tom Honeywood, "Master and Man," May 28, Dalston Theatre, Six Nights.

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MR. TAPPING. Address, 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. JAMES C. TAYLOR, As Benvolio in "Romeo and Juliet." Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE (Louise Hampton). New King's Theatre, Pitfield-street, Hoxton, N.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER, Disengaged June 30 for Autumn and Christmas. Hotel de Notre Dame, Rue de Malte, Paris.

MR. ALLEN THOMAS Concludes year's contract as Dr. Maclure. Disengaged from June 10. 75, Marlboro-flats, Walton-st., Chelsea.

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MR. FREDERICK VICTOR, Lead "Elizabeth's Prisoner," Prince of Wales T., Birmingham. Disengaged, June 11.

MR. DOUGLAS VIGORS, Disengaged. 8, Bridge-avenue, Hammersmith, W.

MR. A. E. WALKER, Mr. Vallerton, "Lucky Durham" Co. This, T. R., Hyde; next, T. R., Bradford.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM, "Her Lost Self." T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

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MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY, Disengaged Shortly, To-day, Camden Theatre; May 28, T. R., Belfast.

MR. C. A. WHITE, at Liberty for Whit Week, also Summer and Autumn. Address, Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S., Touring "The New World." This, G., Nelson; next, New Prince's, Blackburn.

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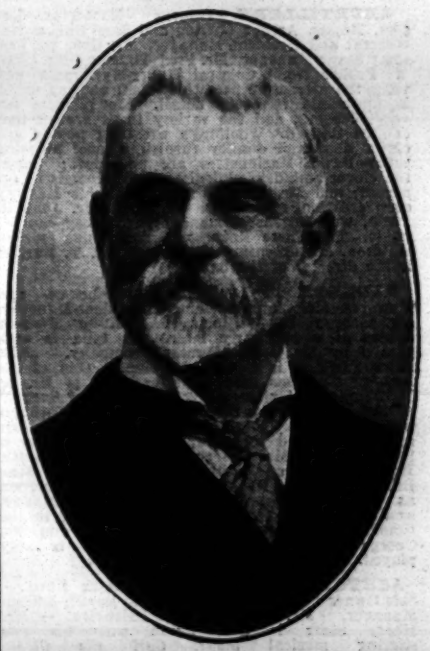

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—The play this week is *The New Magdalen*, a melodrama of the good old-fashioned type, which is founded on Wilkie Collins's novel of the same name. Miss Jessie Winter plays powerfully as Grace Rosebery and Miss Lucy Wilson is successful throughout in the part of Mercy Merrick; Miss Mary Morison acts with the necessary dignity as Lady Janet Roy; Julian Gray, the curate, is well represented by Mr. E. Stanton Sharp; and Mr. Austin Melford, jun., is highly capable as Horace Holmcraft. Other characters that receive justice are Captain Arnault, a French officer, by Mr. K. P. Symons; M. Surville, an Army surgeon, by Mr. E. Stidwell; a German military surgeon, by Mr. W. Graham; Max, the latter's servant, by Mr. Morton; a detective, by Mr. Ledits; and a domestic servant, by Mr. W. Marsden. The scenery and other accessories of the drama are specially good.

Palace Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—A remarkable exhibition of wrestling is given this week by Strenge, "the Berlin Hercules," who pits himself against all comers; Sinclair and Parr, who are warm favourites here, appear with great success in a medley act, *Keeping an Appointment*; Mr. Fred Howard is clever as a ventriloquist; Lorne and Renee are good as vocalists; and Ewart and Bryan are seen to advantage in *An Interlude of Hebrew Humour*. Among the other favourites are Miss Kate Gourley, Miss Amy Bell, and Mr. Bob Stephenson, while a number of Bioscope pictures illustrative of the recent Olympic Games are viewed with much interest.

Cooke's Hippodrome.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—The principal item in the programme this week is an elaborate representation of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, which is received with the utmost enthusiasm. Mr. Leicester Alfred Cooke takes the part of Dick; Miss Ernestine Rosa Cooke appears in a series of statuary classical poses so skilfully as almost to defy criticism; Messrs. Hinton and Wooton contribute a remarkably smart turn as expert cyclists; Mr. Frank Anderson and others add greatly to the gaiety of the audiences; and all the other parts of the business are keenly relished.

ABERTILLERY.—Theatre Metropole.—Lessees, Messrs. Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr. Geo. W. Ventom; Stage-Manager, Mr. Fred Thomas.—Mr. Chas. W. Poole's No. 1 Colossal Hyper-Myriorama provides the attraction here this week, and, as usual, is up-to-date in every detail. The pictures are very pleasing, and the variety turns are all that can be desired. Woolford's wrestling ponies and clever dogs and donkey furnish a most amusing turn; Daw's Marionettes are up-to-date; Coma, the clever ambidexteriologist, evokes rounds of applause; and Mr. Harry Raymond, in his Mexican coon creation, gives much pleasure. Mr. John R. Poole, who is general manager, is a very capable guide. The Three Rochesters, marvellous musical children, are exceptionally clever. Mr. T. Furniss is the director of the band.

ALDERSHOT.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. George E. Williams.—*The Ruby Ring*—a drama of a peculiarly interesting type—is well played by Mr. J. D. Hunter's company. Miss Alice Farleigh is clever as Helen. One of the best personations of the performance is Mr. A. B. Tapping's Alphonse Leloir. Mr. Fred Sargent gives a talented representation of Cuthbert Vaughan; Mr. George Mudie, jun., is excellent as Lynton; and some capital comic business is introduced by Mr. George Thorne, jun., and Mr. Harry Collier as Jenkins and Tagg, and Miss Blanche Bayley (Mary). Miss Edith Watt is good as Mother Hicks, and Miss Clarissa Selwynne, as Jane, does well. Mr. Horace Pollock in the thankless rôle of Reginald is capable, and Mr. George C. Murray's Colonel Clethorpe is ably played.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr. Harry Starr is here again with his two stirring musical plays, *Carl the Clockmaker* and *Otto the Outcast*. He opened with his well-selected company on Monday with *Carl the Clockmaker*, the author again amusing the audience with his delineation of the singing and whistling Dutchman. His company includes Mr. Fred W. Graham, a smart comedian, who is good in the character of Arthur Attwood. The villain, Helmore, is well played by Mr. Edwin Firth. Mr. Geo. Cooke and Mr. W. Miller are suitably cast as Hans Conrad and Narky Nabbs. Miss Madge Blundell as the persecuted victim of the villain plays with force and feeling. Miss Katie Norris is full of vivacity as Lena Harrigan; and the part of Jerusha Jane Picklefinch is safe with Miss Ella Crossley.

Empire Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The principal features of this week's "bill of fare" are two comic sketches, *McKenna in Love* and *The Toreadors*. The former piece is presented by Mr. Edwin Garth and a first-class company of comedians. The "Dolly Quartette" give a clever representation of dolls; Phedona, a pretty young lady, is applauded for her musical act; Charles Bignall, comedian, is well received; the Brothers Sheppard are smart young comedians; the Toreadors appear in a funny sketch; Great Hughes presents a burlesque of the well-known mesmeric entertainments; and the Bioscope drama, *A Prodigal Son*, concludes a good programme.

ATTERCLIFFE.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—A hearty welcome from a large audience on Monday evening greeted Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in a return visit with the emotional drama, *Honour thy Father*. The exacting part of Gabriel Garth is skilfully played by Mr. Walter M. Cameron; Mr. Clavering Craig renders good service as Sir Duncan Bly; Mr. Douglas B. Watson is excellent as Jack Halyard; Mr. Claude Merton in the dual rôles of Job Merry and George Bloggs is well placed; Miss Mabel Coleman is good as Lilian Garth; Mrs. Clavering Craig a distinct success as Gertrude Garth; and Miss Lizzie Morley pleasing as Poppy Cornleigh. Other parts are well undertaken by Mr. W. H. Melrose as Ned Pennycomquick; Mr. Sinclair Holden as Mike Copplestone; Mr. Frank Eden as Dr. Sleak; Miss Maud Grey as Violet Wilfred; and Miss Winnie Donovan as Mercy Merry. Mr. Frank Eden is the general business manager of the company.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—A strong and varied "bill," evidently to the public taste, is presented here this week. The Daunton-Shaw Troupe give a cycling act which for skill and daring is positively unique; the "Woelhaffs" are well received in a pleasing comedy turn, in which singing, dancing, and acrobatic work is pleasingly blended; Mlle. Haydee's Mannikins are a capital feature, and the stage setting is of a novel character; the Palace "Attergraph" is still an attractive item under the direction of Mr. E. C. Clayton; the Sisters Pool are smart entertainers and dancers; Marlow and Manton (lady and gentleman) provide a laughable sketch entitled *Other People's Babies*; Mr. Jimmy James is excellent as a banjoist and bone soloist; and Mr. Charles Ray is a good comedian.

BACUP.—New Court Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Richard Nightingale.—There is an excellent combination of variety talent here this week. The programme is headed by Prof. Hocking, who gives a clever and amusing entertainment as a hypnotist; Fred Granville is a master in the art of ventriloquism; Nellie Norale plays the mandoline with taste; the "Empress," as a manipulator of handcuffs, gives a startling exhibition, and completely mystifies her audience; and others who meet with a favourable reception are Brine Brookes (comedian) and Mark Lee (characteristic vocalist.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Royalty Theatre and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company is appearing this week in *Sapho*. Mr. John Davidson give considerable distinction to the part of Jean Gaussin; Dechelette is well drawn by Mr. Ivan Gore; Mr. V. Widdicombe hits off the humours of Uncle Césaire admirably; and Miss Ada Abbott distinguishes herself by a picturesque portrayal of Sapho. Miss Annie Stone gives a clever impersonation of Lucy.

His Majesty's Theatre.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—*A Sister's Devotion*, musical comedy-drama, is occupying the boards here this week. Mr. Barney Doreen as Larry O'Malley gives a clever character study; Mr. Wallace Muirhead sings himself into favour; Mr. Erksholme E. Clive, as Captain Dornton, makes a plausible villain; Miss Fanny Harvey, as Edith Saunderson, is humorous; and Miss Florence Toomy is sweet as the heroine.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Miss Sable Fern, who tops the bill here, is sustaining her well-earned reputation; *The Little Colonel*, a capital sketch, is well presented by Ernest Montefiore and company; Little Lilian Rose is an actress and vocalist of much promise; Harry Bickley, comedian, has a style of his own; Frances Haskoll gives a good vocal turn; Williams and Williams are clever banjoists; Winona and King expert rifle shots; and the Sisters Edwards, pleasing dancers and drummers.

BATH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—A revival of *East Lynne* has once again proved a strong managerial card. It is given by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Miss Julian Kennard submits an admirable study of Lady Isabel; Mr. Eric Mayne could hardly be excelled as Francis Levison in his stage rascality; Mr. Alfred Beaumont is excellent as Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. C. C. Gratton as the excitable Justice Hare, and Mr. Cyril Hayward as Lawyer Dill are both amusing. Perhaps the most popular personage is Mr. Paul Belmore as P.C. Bullock, laughter being heard whenever he is on the stage; Miss Ethel Hardacre makes much of the character of Cornelia Carlyle.

Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—For race week the management has been fortunate enough to secure Miss Florrie Forde as the leading attraction, and that popular lady has been honoured with double encores; the Four Burnells supply a hilarious time in *On the Links*; Happy Tom Parker, eccentric, in response to a recall, gives a smart clog dance; Theresa and May, singing protean artist, received cordial approval; Les Laurens present a statuary act of no little merit; Kit Keen is on a return visit with new songs and dances, and Harry Zetter, comedian and dancer, is appearing with his usual success. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux unfold some interesting films.

BEDFORD.—Royal County Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company in the comedy drama, *The Plucky Nipper*. Mr. Fred Rivers cleverly depicts the villain, Richard Vanbrugh; and Mr. George D. Knight satisfactorily represents the character of Colonel Fenwick; Mr. Claud Kingston as Henry Paget is quite a success; and Captain Frank Leslie finds a capable exponent in Mr. Edward Stream; Mr. E. Surrey makes an excellent Bill Burgess; Mr. Douglas Campbell as Tommy Atkins proves to be the life of the piece; Miss Bonwin Carlton impersonates with vigour the rôle of Polly Hithard, the Plucky Nipper. *The Idler* is billed for the last three nights of the week.

BELFAST.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, which we noticed last week, is still being played at this theatre with much success, Mr. Milton Rosmer and Miss Haidee Gunn appearing as the young lovers.

Palace Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The chief attraction here is provided by Mr. John Lawson, who, supported by his capital company (including Miss Lilian Herries), produced on Monday *The Monkey's Paw*, in which Mr. Lawson's acting as the father met with unqualified success. The Indos troupe (Happy Little Japs) surprise all with their acrobatic juggling; and Curtis and Vanity appear to the utmost advantage in their marvellous dancing act; the Willfords are aptly described as marvellous herculean equilibrists; and "Mr. C." furnishes a good entertainment, his imitations being excellent. Also appearing are Wisper, the smart comedy juggler; Mr. Arthur Boyne, comedian; and Miss Beattie Bloom, comedienne.

Empire Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walker.—The star here this week is the popular Scotch comedian, Mr. W. F. Frame, who has been as usual most successful. A capital reception has been extended to Miss Maud Courtney, the American girl; Mr. Walter Munroe, an old favourite here, evokes unbounded enthusiasm by his capital Irish songs; and Frank Bertram and company appear to advantage in their refined and humorous sketch *The Chaperon*. Also appearing are Marco, the marvellous manipulator of cards and coins; the New Macs, comedians and dancers; and the Dorrells, duettists and dancers.

New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The star here this week is Miss Dorothy L. Clark, who has been successful with her delightful rendering of several songs. Stanley and Greenop are clever banjo performers; and the fine voice of Mlle. de Rose has been heard with pleasure in several songs. The gymnastic feats of Phinas and Aida have caused quite a sensation; and the new pictures exhibited by the Alhambra Bioscope are a big attraction. Mr. Harry Carmen is a droll comedian with good songs; and others appearing are Miss Daisy Lane, comedienne; the Harlem Brothers, speciality acrobats; and Mr. Will Montgomery, the local comedian, who is always successful here.

BILSTON.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—That interesting drama *The Silver Cross* is being presented here by a good average company. Mr. Frederick A. Marston in the character of old Ben Adams deserves to be complimented on his powerful acting. He is ably supported by Miss Lillian Rignold as Little Sunshine. Mr. J. Hennessy plays the Rev. Nicholas Frewin effectively; Mr. Harry Danson depicts well the heartless scoundrel Philip Frewin; Mr. Hal Lowe as Tomkyns is amusing, and is capitally assisted by Miss Cissy Cleveland.

BIRKENHEAD.—New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—The interesting play *Two Little Vagabonds*, ably represented by Hardie and Von Leer's company, is the attraction here. The production is creditably staged, and much interest centres in the troubles and trials of Marion Thornton, a character admirably depicted by Miss Valerie Crespin. The two little vagabonds are effectively represented by Miss D. Rosslyn Vayne and Miss Josie Beltram. Bill Mullins is capably played by Mr. John F. Traynor; and his confederates, Dido Bunce and the Cough Drop, are amusingly portrayed by Messrs. Frank Gordon and Fred Archer.. Mr. William Fazan is good as George Thornton; Mr. Sidney Vautier makes the most of his opportunities as Capt. Darville; Miss Marie Pritchard is worthy of special commendation as Biddy Mullins; and Miss F. Russell Spiers is an efficient Barbara Scarth.

Argyle Theatre of Varieties.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Miss Nellie Wallace, an accomplished and taking comedy artist, is a prominent attraction; as also are Brown and Robinson, the singing bricklayers. The Comic Arleys, bicycle comedians, have made a hit; and a strong programme is also supported by Mr. Bert Williams, a smart ventriloquist; Mr. Charles Pastor, the laughing philosopher; Miss Maud Mortimer, comedienne; Mr. Harry Rogerson, comedian; Miss Jenny Reeves, serio; and the bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.—Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—The promenade concerts now in vogue here are proving a rare treat for "musical Birmingham," which shows its appreciation by its presence and applause. Mr. Landon Ronald receives ovations nightly for his graphic interpretations of the great masters. Mr. Philip Rodway's share in the good work is perceived in the conversion of the spacious pit into a flower decked promenade, wherein smoking is graciously permitted. The orchestra, which frequently has to rise to the applause, is composed of members of the London Symphony Orchestra, the Residentia Orchestra (Hague), the Queen's Hall Orchestra (London), the Hallé Orchestra, the Scottish Orchestra, and others.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*San Toy* appears here in a new and up-to-date dressing, and the various members of Mr. John Hart's talented company are being regaled with the heartiest of receptions. Miss Fanny Dango presents a bewitching impersonation of the heroine, and the merry humours of the artful Li are accentuated to the nicest point of discretion by Mr. Frank Danby. Mr. John Humphreys increases the humour as Yen-How; Mr. W. J. Manning wins a high place as the choleric Sir Bingo; Mr. Alfred Clarke acts with benevolent unction as the Emperor; and Messrs. Dennis Drew, Frederick Hobbs, and G. Taylor act and sing the parts of Capt. Bobbie, Fo-Hop, and Tucker respectively with excellent energy. The Misses Maud Darling, Rhoda Gordon, and Louie Collier diffuse a dainty charm, and Miss May Gould is popular for her choice dancing.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—A one-act piece, adapted by Miss Edith Turner from a story by R. Harding Davis, and entitled *His Bad Angel*, in which the adaptress and Mr. Arthur Soames sustain the rôles of a gay widow and bachelor respectively, has preceded popular representations here of *East Lynne*. Miss Irene Rooke limns the erring and anguished Lady Isabel with much art; Mr. Vincent Clive depicts the heartless villainy of Capt. Levison in convincing tones; Mr. Arthur Soames makes a well-favoured Archibald Carlyle; Miss Annie Hill scores as the assertive Cornelia; and Miss Lorna Laurence as Barbara Hare, acts with finish. Miss M. Treadaway is successful in the rôle of Joyce.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*Her Wedding Day* is attracting excellent houses here, where Miss Ward's acting of the bride is accepted at the highest valuation, and applauded accordingly. The company, for which Mr. T. Edward Ward is responsible, is a capable one all round. Mr. S. Herbert Humber acts as Harold Saxby with commendable vigour and manliness; Mr. Augustine Knight reveals the villainous character of Weedon Kenyon with unerring ability; Mr. T. Edward Ward appears with marked success as Seth Mayson; Mr. Fred Yarnold strikes a rich vein of humour as the sexton; and Miss Ettie Spalding, Mr. Morris Maud, Miss Beatrice Sinclair, and Miss Eva Bertram enact rôles of much responsibility with the utmost success.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*What a Woman Did* has been retailed here with every measure of success by Mr. W. A. Armour's company. Miss Dora Price as the woman, Elise de L'Orme, acts her part with power and pathos; Mr. Edward Rawlinson acquits himself as the husband to the audience's complete satisfaction; Mr. W. A. Armour contributes a well-thought-out exposition of the villain's rôle; Mr. Chas. Earle acts the part of Piton in a noteworthy manner; Miss Amy Ellam as La Papillon has irresistible charm; Mr. Jim Woods is favourably regarded for his effective acting as Fritz; Miss Tina Shaw scores as Fanchon; and much laughter and applause follow the efforts of Mr. Fred Rignold as Peter, and Miss Bertha Clifton as Nanette.

Carlton Theatre, Saltley.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*The Danites* has been received with much heartiness on its visit here this week with Mr. Jas. P. Moore and company. Mr. George Gaisford has, with his careful acting as Sandy McGee, excited much interest and applause; Mr. James P. Moore acts a well-appreciated rôle in the parson; the Danites, otherwise Ezekiel Carter and Bill Hickman, are adequately represented by Messrs. Ernest Hartington and Robert Gilbert; and the heroine, Hulda Brown, is pleasingly personified by Miss Daisy Meynard; Miss Ethel Bracewell is signally successful in a dual rôle, and Messrs. Albert Parke, A. Langford, Sidney Dean, and Miss Muriel Humphreys are popular in the lighter parts.

Theatre Royal, Aston.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Price of Her Soul* has reached a high figure of popularity on its appearance this week with Messrs. Shinton and Greenwood's company. The large audiences have been specially pleased with Mr. John B. Shinton in his finely-acted part of Lord Rolfe Mandeville; Mr. Annesley Hely, as the plotting Ivan Shobaloff, proves of commanding interest; Miss Mona Gray exercises her fascinations effectively as Olga Lavonitz; Miss Ada M. Ryder inspires sympathy as the tried and true Countess Inez Steinmetz; and much clever humour is subscribed by Mr. Will Percy as Pat Murphy; Miss Tina Frank as Polly; Miss Ada Arnott as Lady Jemima; and Mr. Wilfred Compton as Algy Frazer.

BLACKPOOL.—Her Majesty's Opera House.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Lilian Dundas's company is here with *East Lynne*, in which Miss Ethel Royale ably impersonates Lady Isabel; Mr. George Mitchell gives a good account of Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Hamilton Stewart faithfully presents Captain Levison.

Grand Theatre.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—The Court comedy repertoire company is in possession here this week. The piece de resistance submitted on Monday was *Caste*, with Mr. Ernest Percy as Eccles; Mr. Stanley Harrison as George D'Alroy; Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., as Capt. Hawtree; Mr. Graham Herington as Sam Gerridge; Miss E. Nolan O'Connor as Polly Eccles; Miss Mabel Durrant as Esther Eccles; and Miss Mary Wymond as Marquise de St. Maur; all of whom took great pains with their work. *The Little Intruder* was played on Tuesday and Thursday, and *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is billed for Saturday. *The Prince and the Lady* is the title of the curtain-raiser which has been played each night.

Palace.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—By far and away the most popular item of the programme here this week is Bransby Williams, in monologue and mimicry. In grave or gay, lively or severe, he is equally at home and unrivalled. Other attractive turns are Sadie Simpson, comedienne and coon artist; Seven Wulfrunas, in a clever acrobatic sketch; E. I. Wilkes, with his wonderfully intelligent dog; Frank Harwood, actor-vocalist, in a dramatic scena; the Strolling Players, in song and dance; Cussac Talma, a clever illusionist; Ruby Dahl, with her merry mannikins; and Nell Richardson, a pleasing vocal comedienne. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope is here, and the pictures shown are of exceptional merit.

BLYTH.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The management here has provided a change in the class of entertainment by engaging a good variety company. Mr. T. C. Callaghan as a character comedian is responsible for a good turn; Miss Lily Currie in a choice selection of songs has a hearty reception; as cross talkers and dancers the Brothers Hayes provide an amusing interlude; the Five Casino Girls are really capital instrumentalists; Irish comedy has a droll exponent in Joe, the One Mac; wit and humour are furnished by Ray and Calden; Florrie St. Clair finds favour as a comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Claude Ginnett, assisted by several very good artistes, introduces his well-trained horses in *Rejected Remounts*. The Royal Animated Picture Company show some good and amusing films.

BOLTON.—Theatre Royal, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—The domestic drama, *The Streets of London*, was presented here by Mr. Rade Montefiore's company on Monday evening. Mr. William Rokeby as Badger is the life and soul of the piece, and displays considerable humour; Mr. Joe Bracewell is good in his old character of Mr. Jonas Puffy; Miss Marion Armitage plays well the part of Dan Puffy; Miss Helena Rigby scores as Mrs. Puffy, and Miss Edyth Goodall is pathetic as Lucy Fairbrother. The Four Fiorellas appear in the drama in dance and song.

Grand Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—A powerful company is engaged here, including Tom Grave in his sensational cycling feat, "Flying the Revolving wheel"; Will Driscoll, swell comedian and dancer; Agnes Kremsber, lady juggler; Tom Taylor, baritone vocalist; Gus Balsiger, vocalist and trick musician; Farley, Rennie and Farley, in their novelty comedy act, *Fun at a Railway Station*; Miss Frederica's marvellous terriers; Walter Stanley, comedian; Florence Wood, serio; the Eugene Family in their refined aerial gymnastic stage performance, and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

BOOTLE.—Muncaster Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson.—*The Rich and Poor of London*, played here this week by Mr. Sidney Dench and company, is full of interesting incidents. Mr. Robt. Hall is a capable Dr. Morton; Miss Dora Dench, a pleasing May Braithwaite; Miss Ethel Denville (Seadrift) and Mr. Bert Dench (Dixie) are well received; villainy has able exponents in Mr. Edward Avinal (Mark Standing), Miss Violet Lyton (Ruby Redgrave), and Mr. Templar Ellis (Mathew Grabbam), the comic element being well sustained throughout by Mr. Sidney Dench (Spider Jack) and Miss Mollie Hackett (Polly Philpot).

BOSCOMBE.—Hippodrome.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Joe Elvin and company top the bill here this week. They get a great reception nightly, in their new sketch, *Obedient Billy*, which is genuinely funny. A delightful turn is that of Gold and Sterling in a refined musical comedy-scena, *The Welsh Girl and the Artist*. Ernie Williams, vocal comedian, gains much applause for his catchy songs; Mezzetti and Mora give a smart comedy triple-bar performance; the Sisters Redfern play the banjo and dance charmingly; Rosie Bartlett is a pleasing comedienne; and Frederic Neiman concludes a good programme with his original animated ventriloquial minstrels. The Hippodrome Pictures include Hackensmidt v. Madrali at Olympia.

BOURNEMOUTH.—Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin*, presented by Mr. Charles Harrington's company, continues to maintain its hold upon the public. Mr. J. Carr's sympathetic rendering of Uncle Tom is good; and Mr. J. Renny makes a capital Phineas Fletcher; while Mr. John Gibson, as Legree, imparts the necessary brutality belonging to the part; Miss Zerlina Zerbini, as Cassy, gives a capable impersonation; and Miss Annie Watson, as Topsy, merits the applause she receives. Miss Mary Vincent, Ikey Jones, W. Langford, Ben Row, W. H. Nott, Shortley May, and Rowe and Holden are amongst the speciality items in a popular entertainment.

BRADFORD.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Edward Compton and his comedy company on Monday presented *Davy Garrick*, in which the famous comedian completely won the hearts of his audience by his fine impersonation of the title-rôle. The support was admirable. Miss Mackenzie impressed her audience greatly by the tenderness and earnestness of her acting as Violet Gresham; as Alderman Gresham Mr. H. Crocker was excellent; Tom Tallyhaut was an able and amusing effort on the part of Mr. A. B. Imeson; Rumbelow, Sowerberry, and Limkins were capital character studies by Messrs. Herbert Pigot, Arnold Lucy, and C. W. Johnson respectively; and Miss M. Hassell as Mrs. Rumbelow and Miss Muriel Meeke as Selina were diverting figures in the famous scene at the Alderman's house. A capital curtain-raiser, *The Desperate Lover*, preceded the comedy. On Tuesday evening Mr. Compton gave his finished performance of *Charles Surface*.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—On Monday Mr. Morton Powell's company appeared for the first time here in *The Woman Who Gambles*. The valiant Count Steinbach is well played by Mr. E. Ashby; Miss Gertrude Hunt evinces power in the part of the Countess; Baron Cratzlaw is a forcible effort on the part of Mr. Horatio Sinclair; the Lieutenant Ctzarteryski of Mr. Reginald Fox is full of conscientious work; Cora is represented with spirit by Miss Violet Sims; and good comedy relief is found in Mr. Chas. Calvert's Hon. Bertie Bray.

The Empire.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—The Albert and Edmunds troupe, with *A Trip to Boulogne*, are responsible for much hearty laughter; Erine Mayne tickles the audience with some funny songs; a welcome return visit is made by Colby and May, "the ventriloquist and the dancing doll"; and Ray Wallace, the mimic, once again delights her admirers; Drew and Alders are screamingly funny with their acrobatic "bill sticking" sketch; Bert Byrne contributes an acceptable comedy turn; a bright interlude is contributed by the Three Cape Girls, expert long-boot dancers; the "all round" act on the rolling globes by the Jurgens Trio is distinctly clever; a spirited song and dance turn is presented by Daisy Mayer; and Gwennie Hasto charms with her expert dancing.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—Radford and Valentine are eliciting roars of laughter here this week in a screamingly funny juggling act; Will Van Allen, "the tramp musician," is responsible for some delightful solos on string instruments; some pretty posing is done by "A Ba Be" in a postcard album turn; Grant and Allen introduce novelties into their comedy turn; and there are some acceptable contributions to the programme by Edie Gray and her White Coons; Grace Merton, the original street singer; Rowland Hill, comedian; and Daisy Morell, comedienne. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are also an attraction.

BRIDLINGTON.—Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Miss Emily Waddington, whose well-trained, pure soprano voice has been heard to advantage at Herr S. Winternitz's promenade concerts, concluded a successful engagement on Sunday evening. This week Mr. Fred Rome, a humorist of ability, is the extra attraction at the concerts in the Floral Pavilion.

The Palace.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—This popular place of entertainment was opened for the season on Monday, under the management of Mr. Hubner. The series of animated pictures are well up to date, and Miss Lola Vereker, whose songs are illustrated by the cinematograph, possesses a voice of good quality and power. Mr. Hubner is giving nightly a humorous magical turn, taking the audience into his confidence, and showing them "how it's done." The Monckton, in their comedy sketches, *A Woman's Curiosity* and *Tithe Lady and the Burglar*, give a clever rendering of these amusing sketches. Mr. Hubner is to be congratulated upon the success of the opening of his season at the Palace.

BRISTOL.—Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*Peggy Machree* is the attraction here this week. The opera is prettily staged, the chorus is strong and efficient, and the work of the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr. K. Ernest Irving, is well done. Miss Claudia Lasell scores a decided success in the title-rôle, her style is pleasing, and she sings her various songs artistically; Miss Blanche Astley makes a vivacious Molly, is successful with her songs, and dances cleverly; Miss Madge Avery makes a capital character part of Moira Cafforty; Mr. Vernon Davidson is an intelligent and dashing Barry Trevor; Mr. John Morley does well as Sergeant Bampton, his vocal abilities being far above the average; Mr. Ralph Lynn is entertaining as Sir Lawrence Borthwick; and the comic parts of Alexander McDougall and Michael are rendered in amusing style by Mr. Milroy Cooper and Mr. Edgar Ashwin. The remaining characters are carefully played by Miss Doris Kelvey, Miss Leila Gordon, Miss Flora Hayden, Mr. M. Macdermott, and Mr. Fred Charles.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Miss Blanche St. Alban and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is here with the military drama *Dishonoured*, the play being staged in excellent style. Both Mr. Percy Ballard and Miss Violet Crawford act cleverly in the leading parts of Captain Philip Cunningham and Leslie Maynard; Mr. Jackson Hayes displays considerable power as Captain Peyntland; Miss Jessie Merrick is pleasing as Sybil; Mr. W. T. Hybert is successful as Captain Cholmondly; and Mr. G. Broughton is sufficiently stately and impressive as Colonel Sir William Cunningham.

Palace.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Bella and Bijou are here for the week, their clever specialities obtaining enthusiastic appreciation from all parts of the house; the Three Sisters Sprightly, comediennes and dancers, present a pleasing entertainment; Coram, ventriloquist, is decidedly clever in his line; Ada Whitton sings well and makes a smart male impersonator; the Three Delaries do good work on the trapeze, &c.; Mabel Hind is pleasing as a vocalist and dancer; E. R. Dainez's comedy circus is appreciated; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Alaska do a neat comedy acrobatic turn; Marcus Boyle, patter comedian, obtains applause; and Vasey and Ramsey score in their eccentric comedy dancing act. The performance concludes with Vernon's animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred Leighton.—Joe Elvin and company are here with the amusing production in two scenes, *'Appy 'Ampstead*. The realistic sketch is staged remarkably well, and there are about 150 auxiliaries. Joe O'Gorman, Irish comedian, has some good songs and patter, and is popular with all parts of the house; Harry Mier, comedy juggler, does a good turn; the Sisters Belmont score as duettists and dancers; Jessica Grace, assisted by two step-dancers, presents a pleasing speciality; Selvini, a clever juvenile, plays the saxophone in good style; Walter Hast and Peggy Lennie have a smart vocal spectacle, *The Sea Nymph*; Parker and Parr, singing comedians, obtain applause; and Carrie Joy, comedienne, presents an acceptable turn. The performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures projected by Buffell's Bioscope.

BROUGHTON.—Victoria, Ltd.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—A good house on Monday welcomed a return visit of the Elster-Grime Opera Company in *Maritana*. Don Cæsar de Bazan was well presented by Mr. Payne Clarke, and Miss Marie Elster did good work as Maritana; Miss Madge Sullivan sang sweetly as Lazarillo; Mr. Michael Kemble worked hard as Don Jose; and the King had an excellent exponent in Mr. Gilbert King; Mr. Charles Howitt was comical as the Marquis; and Miss Constance Russell fittingly presented the Marchioness. *The Lily of Killarney*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Les Cloches de Corneville*, *Carmen*, and *La Fille de Madame Angot* are also in the répertoire.

BURNLEY.—Victoria Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—For the third week the New Empire Animated and Vandeville Company is entertaining excellent houses. Entirely new pictures are projected. Chief amongst them are "San Francisco after the earthquake," vividly showing the terrible devastation, and "Life and Scenes in India," a beautiful and interesting film. Barney Stuart, a mimic of exceptional ability, thoroughly amuses the audience; the Lugio Sextet of Serenaders, in their scena, sing delightfully; and Edward Ind is an acceptable vocal comedian.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—The Three Braggs, neat and clever acrobats, are among the chief items here this week. The Villions display some exceedingly smart cycling feats; Speedwell, in "Art in a Hurry," produces some clever portraits of celebrities; Jas. Agustin and Annie Hartley in their barrel jumping receive loud applause; Bensley Evans and company ably present a smart sketch, *Sally's Dilemma*; Nash and Noel are good dancers; Ford Williams, Welsh basso, has a good voice; and the Urbanora pictures add much interest to the programme with "The Tragedy of Vesuvius," &c.

Gaiety Theatre.—Proprietress, Mrs. T. Culcen; General-Manager, Mr. Jas. E. Culcen.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is playing to good houses the dr

Rosie Rapid, singing and dancing with agreeable vivacity; and Mr. Michael Madden also scores with a smart parody.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Keilinos, who top the bill here with their Risley act, *A Fête in Venice*, are recalled again and again; the Motramos have also made a big hit in their musical comedy act; Will McIvor sings with excellent effect; Jack Rae's eccentric juggling and comedy ring work meets with well-deserved success; and Ethel Dunford, comedienne; Madge Carlyle, a charming vocalist; the Sisters Lytton, in popular duets; Beaty and Blanche, vocalists and dancers; and the ever-popular pictures by Vernon's Bioscope complete a capital programme.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Mr. R. Sylvester's animated picture and variety company continues to draw large audiences, and a continual change of programme meets with well-merited appreciation.

CASTLEFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr. Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Mr. Henry Masterman.—Mr. John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy company opened here on Monday. The Lizette troupe of lady acrobats are received with marked success; the Musical Keiths are clever; Mr. Fred McLean causes much fun; Miss Elsie Rubina is an expert as a slack-wire balancer; the Florida Girls are excellent vocalists; Miss Minnie Richardson, a violinist, is responsible for a pleasing turn; Mr. Frank Power wins favour as a vocalist; Miss Molly Augarde is applauded for her vocal efforts; and Miss Lottie Poole is clever in song and dance.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley. —*Lady Godiva* forms the attraction at the Royal. The company is toured by Mr. John F. Preston, and is under the direction of Mr. F. B. Woulfe, who gives a powerful representation of Tom of Coventry; Miss Josephine Colona creates a favourable impression in the title-rôle, while other parts are creditably undertaken by Mrs. Gwen Stewart (Lady Aldyth), Miss Edith Loraine (Elfrida), Mr. Clifford Marle (Leofric), Mr. James Duncan (Algar), Mr. Ernest Hamilton (Unwolf), Mr. J. Monkhouse (Robin), and Mr. Leslie Lingham (Edgar).

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The leading turn here is provided by the Paulasto Troupe in a capital display of acrobatics, entitled *Frolics in the Café Garden*; Hillman and Russell meet with every mark of approval in their vocal duologue, entitled *The Somnambulist*; Lade Henderson scores with "Sweet Daisy Bloom"; while other variety items are Horace Sade, dancer; the Brontes; Jimmy Shields, comedian and one-legged dancer; the Davenports, a couple of neat palmists; the Three English Roses, vocalists and dancers; roars of laughter are created by the comic pictures projected by Mr. Lacey's Erascope.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor Capt. H. B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank J. Donne.—Here we have Winnie Wentworth, comedienne; Keane Harker, comedian; Edie King, a very attractive little singer and dancer; the Rinaldo Trio of nimble gymnasts; George Reeves, with a successful ditty, "Satisfied with Life"; Gracie Taylor, a lively serio; and pictures by the Edisonograph; while special mention must be made of *The Costers' Beanfeast*, enacted in amusing style by Alec Hurley and company.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—After a week of Shakespeare, Mr. George Stephenson's company, on Monday evening, renewed our acquaintance with farcical comedy, presenting *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Leslie Holland, as the inimitable Crosbie, is a host in himself; Mr. Fred Rolph admirably impersonates that doyen of the social circles of Flunkeydom, Mr. Lambert; Mr. Roundel, footman, is smartly represented by Mr. George Sede; Miss Vera Vere cleverly and brightly studies the part of Paulina; Bogie, the hall porter, finds a capital exponent in Mr. H. V. Surrey; Mr. George Stephenson contributes a pleasant study as Frank Fayne, as does Miss Evelyn Howard as Lady Hampshire; Miss Eve Erskine acts with great spirit as Gipsy Vandeller; and Miss Gertrude Manners does well as Baby Hastings.

CHESTERFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.— Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Miss Marie Menzies' company is this week presenting *A Rogue's Daughter*. Mr. Roy Gordon is well fitted for the part of Sir George Maynard; Mr. F. D. Ferm makes a favourable impression as Frank Tyler; villainy is strongly portrayed by Mr. Richard Ferris as Colonel Foster; Mr. A. Hall-Menzies causes much amusement as John Gibbs (Hercules). The comedy parts are well filled by Mr. T. Taylor as Ebenezer Dunnem, and Miss Marie E. Robertson as Priscilla Jenkins; Miss Madge Devereux gives a good portrayal of Lottie Grey; Miss Violet Leader is commendable in the rôle of Dickie (a waif); and Miss Marie Manzies is seen to great advantage as Lady Maynard.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Sante.—At the head of the programme this week is Armino, the strong man, who gives some marvellous exhibitions. Miss Sheela McNeil is a pleasing comedienne; Le Wist is a favourite ventriloquist; Henry Remo performs some capital conjuring tricks. The other turns include Bros. Robinso, musician; Billy Renton, eccentric comedian, and the Ashleys, comedy entertainers.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—The attraction for this week is Mr. W. F. Jury's Bioscope, supported by an amusing vaudeville company, and on Monday the audience was delighted with the capital pictures given, and showed their appreciation in an unmistakable manner. The visit is under the management of Mr. G. Egerton Burnett.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—Lottie Stone's troupe, known as the "Six Hippodrome Girls," head this week's bill, and prove themselves an extremely popular sextet; Robb Gilmore secures an ovation on account of his drolleries; Geo. M. Schilling, the globe-trotter, gives a popular and brief illustrated lecture; Luis Hardt, the mighty atom, gives an exhibition à la Sandow; Edie Rivers and Dorothy Veld are two charming comediennes; Jomps and Wells are an amusing pair of musical eccentrics; and a series of exciting pictures on the Bioscope concludes the programme.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance. —Mr. Wm. J. Miller and his company are here this week with the French romantic play, *The Throne of Terror*. In the rôle of Robespierre Mr. Wm. J. Miller is exceptionally good, whilst Mr. Roy Milton is an able Eugenie de Lisle; Mr. Frank Fuller is acceptable as the Comte de Roqueforte; and the comedy element is well looked after by Mr. Bert Ellis as Joujou, with Miss Eva Norman as Peppletta; Miss Katherine Maud Davies infuses a deal of pathos into the part of Marguerite de Roqueforte; and Miss E. Lanyon Maude scores as Victorine D'Almonte.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Percy Hutchison's company in the comedy *Cousin Kate* opened a week's engagement here on Monday. The title-rôle was admirably played by Miss Lillias Earle; Mrs. Amy Coleman was a capital Mrs. Spencer; Miss Margaret Marshall caused much laughter in the part of the servant Jane; Mr. Percy Hutchison, in the character of Heath Desmond, gave a capital interpretation; Mr. George Mallett played the Rev. James Bartlett admirably; and Mr. S. Irwin Barrett as Bobby Spencer was clever and painstaking. The play was preceded by a one-act piece entitled *Two in a Trap*.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Henry Kemble.—This is the closing week here for the season, and the programme is capital. The principal turn is given by Mendel, a blind musician, whose selections on the piano from the great masters are artistic, and his powers of memory and improvisation are remarkable. The Arthur Saxon trio of strong men are well developed; H. Jennings, comedian, is a success; Vandinoff, painter, is loudly applauded; Gilroy and Gross are well received in their comedy act; Fred Walker is a capital comedian; Martinengo pleases in his song and 'cello solo; and the Four Emilions are clever acrobats.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Bennett.—Mr. J. H. Clynde's company is here with *A Royal Revenge*. Mr. Clyndes shows considerable ability as an actor, and his portrayal of Pedro de Castro is excellent.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John H. Morton.—This week we are favoured with a visit from Dr. Seaton's Animated Photograph and Concert company. Dr. Seaton gives a good entertainment as illusionist, plate and dish manipulator, &c. He is followed by the Watson Society Entertainers, four accomplished instrumentalists, vocalists, dancers, &c. Another good turn is Miss Margaret Lisle, who possesses a powerful voice; as also does Mr. Tom Walton, whose songs are well received; Miss Enid Fane wins rounds of applause by her graceful dancing.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Mr. E. Oswald Brooks' company in *The Trail of the Serpent* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Henry P. Kenn creates a favourable impression as Sir Gerald Kingston, and Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly gives a finished rendering of Gerald Kingston; Mr. Wilford Cheetham as the villainous Ralph Hammond acts with much dramatic power; Mr. Booth Conway is good as Gipsy Jake; and Mr. Vincent Kelway is responsible for the humorous part of William Higgins. Miss Marjorie May is particularly successful as Ethel Maynard; Miss Ethel Stuart makes an admirable Rachael; and Miss Gladys Newcombe is commendable as Rose Wilson.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The boards here are occupied by Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company in Arthur Law's farce, *The New Boy*. Mr. Leon M. Lion is the cause of much amusement as Archibald Rennick; Mr. A. Corney Grain is admirably fitted for the rôle of Doctor Candy; Mr. A. Talbot Homewood is quite up to the mark as Felix Roach; Mr. Harold Weston is just suited to the part of Theodore de Brizac; Mr. Stanley Logan makes the most of Bullock Major; and Mr. M. A. Scott is good as Stubber. Miss Maud Magrath is an enchanting Nancy Roach; Miss Margaret Fareleigh a neat Susan; and Miss Katherine Harrington deserves all praise for her excellent rendering of Mrs. Martha Rennick. The curtain raiser is *The Borrowed Uncle*, in which Mr. Leon M. Lion gives a fine character sketch of Timothy Filby; Mr. A. Corney Grain makes a suitable John Grimn; Mr. Harold Weston acts with sincerity as Arthur Wakefield; and Miss Margaret Fareleigh is a charming Lucy Winwood.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. H. H. Barrington's company is here this week in *The Ticket o' Leave Man*. Mr. C. F. Collings scores as Robert Brierly; Mr. H. H. Barrington is great as James Dalton; Mr. Leonard Booker is capital as Hawkshaw; Mr. Ashton Winslow is creditable as Mr. Gibson; Mr. H. W. Monte makes capital out of the rôle of Melter Moss; Mr. E. Harvey White causes keen enjoyment in the character of Green Jones; Miss Hettie Graham is praiseworthy as Sam Willoughby; Miss Nell Gillmore is well placed as Mrs. Willoughby; Miss Effie Bartlett wins approval as Emily St. Eyremonde; Miss Madge Morley is commendable as May Edwards; and Messrs. Ernest Tresaner, James Johnson, and Edward Green lend useful aid.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—Visitors are delighted with the bill of fare provided here. The Darktown Entertainers are a comedy vocal quartette of ability; Rauschle is heartily received in his impersonations of great men, past and present; William Gourley is a clever comedian; the Columbia Trio submit an excellent humorous vocal turn; the Eight Sunrays, vocalists and dancers, are enjoyed; Bosanquet gives an exquisite performance on the violin and Bosanquephone; Thos. E. Finglas is clever in coon song and dance; the Phantos bring down the house in their comic novelty, *The Phantom Ship*; Fred Herbert, vocalist, gains applause; Nina Martino sings her way into favour; and the one act comedy, *The Garter*, is admirably enacted by Messrs. Ernest Leicester, William Garvey, Joseph Brandon, and Misses Sophy Shenton and Kate Walbran. Mr. Jay is being cordially congratulated upon his able management of this house.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A variety company is again the attraction at the above house. Addie Dorina tops the bill in her original duologue, *How it was Done*, in which she impersonates six distinct characters; another good turn is the Karno Trio, in the funny sketch, *The Traveller's Rest*. *The Dummy*, by the Gregson Comedy Trio, goes well; the Two Whites are clever comedy artists; Oliver Conroy, character comedian, is pleasing; and other turns are the Lorrisons, eccentrics; Agnes Molteno, a charming vocalist; Arthur Croxton, mimic; and the Bellograph Pictures.

DEAL.—ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—A fantastic extravaganza, entitled *A Trip to Nodland*, was given here on Tuesday, under the direction of Miss Solley. Miss Ada Band played the part of Rupert the Jester nicely; Miss Annie Job as the dwarf was commendable; the success of the evening was Miss Dorothy Dixon, who took the part of the maid of all work.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company is here this week with a melodrama called *A Queen of Villainy*. Miss Edith Blande as Cora Granville well sustains her artistic reputation; as Stephen Fancit, Mr. Edward Heanley submits a capable embodiment; and Mr. Ernest Carlton is successful as Sir John Desborough. Mr. E. G. Batley gives a manly depiction of Alec; and Mr. Lawrence Stevens is in every way commendable as Kit. Mr. Charles Sterling is very good as Dick Lemster; Miss Shirley Dalton makes an acceptable Rose Dalmayne; and Mr. Arthur E. Maskel as Reuben Hawk, and Miss Amy Rose Clyde as Sally Chimes, are both well deserving; whilst fun is provided by Mr. Chas. Rodgers as Timothy Kodac, and Miss Jessie Crammonde as Mollie Maggs.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor. —The bill is headed this week by the Four Juggling Geraldos, who give a capital exhibition of their art. Russell Wallett, who poses as "The Woman in Black," creates plenty of amusement with his songs and patter. Other commendable turns are provided by Mabel La Blanche, a pleasing burlesque actress; Walter Adams, an entertaining comedian; Picitt and Lizitte, who figure accept ably in a mystifying sketch, *The Demon Chief*; Victor Newman, an actor mimic of exceptional ability; and the Four Lamberts, smart comedy acrobats. On Thursday Mr. Taylor, Mr. Edwardes's manager here, was to take a well-merited benefit.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week Miss Winifred Maude and company are delighting large houses by an admirable performance of *The Stowaway*. As Dicky Dials, Mr. Victor Du Cane has a strong part, which he renders full justice to. Miss Maude as Althea Dale, depicts this rôle with commendable power. Mr. Royce Carleton is well placed as Tom Inglis, and Mr. Austin Milroy could hardly be improved upon as Charles Etherington.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES. — General-Manager, Mr. G. Weldon.—The Olympian Quartette, with their excellent songs are a great draw here; Silly Billy Elliott, well known in this district, is a smart comedian; Oakdene, ventriloquist, is clever; and Bird and Arnold, song illustrators, are pleasing; Cara Magda, lady gymnast, and Louis Murray, actor vocalist, do well. TheHarriscope serves up an excellent variety of pictures.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—A clever company of variety artists is here this week, including Nipper Anten, the boy comedian and mimic; Elton and Elma, in their knockabout triple bar act; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; the Walleys, comedy and expert jugglers; Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope, in their illustration of a scene in the life of Napoleon; J. H. McCann, acrobatic dancer on roller skates; the Mazondos, in a comedy act; and Mr. Joseph B. Montagu, with popular songs.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—A large audience was present here on Monday to witness the performance of *Are You a Mason?* by Mr. Charles Macdona's company. Mr. E. Paterson as Amos Bloodgood, and Mr. H. Longdon Bruce as Frank Perry are both highly amusing in their respective parts; and George Fisher has a capable exponent in Mr. Allan Pollock. Miss Ploonsgains is decidedly good as Franchon Armitage; and the part of John Halton is in the able hands of Mr. Richard Purdon. Miss Adelaide Grace is creditable as Mrs. Caroline Bloodgood; and Mr. Percy Bell is well suited as Hamilton Travers. Miss Mabe Younge is an admirable Mrs. Perry; and Miss Alice Raynor plays the part of Lottie with much success. The drama in one act entitled *A Bad Penny* precedes.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Moullot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The second week of the grand Musical Festival was entered upon here on Monday night, when an excellent programme was presented to a full house. The place of Mr. Ben Davies, who was unable to appear, was creditably filled by Mr. Dever, whose vocal items were cordially received. Miss Grace O'Brien executed her pianoforte solos with much grace and finish; Mme. Blanche Marchesi, who sang an air from *Trovatore* and valse from *Mireille*, was loudly encored; and Miss Mabel Braine, a charming contralto, achieved a distinct success. Mr. R. J. Forbes accompanied, and the band of the Cameron Highlanders played several selections during the evening. On Tuesday evening Mr. Ben Davies appeared, and met with a flattering reception.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Miss Kate Vincent's company is appearing here this week in Boucicault's drama *The Streets of London*. Mr. Edward Beverley gives a good representation of Gideon Crawley; and Miss Kate Vincent acts remarkably well as Alida Crawley. Mr. Robert Lawrence as Captain Fairweather is eminently successful; and the same may be said of Miss Bella Richardson as Lucy Fairweather. Mark Livingstone is ably sustained by Mr. Earle Clifton; and Miss D. Cameron is excellent as Mrs. Puffy.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—At this popular resort we have the Harlquin's company of variety artists, whose varied programme of character songs, ventriloquism, and music is exceedingly interesting. The bioscope pictures are also amusing.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Tom Costello is the attraction here this week, and proves as big a favourite as ever; Mme. Sylvia's electric vocal tableaux receive well-merited applause; and Amy Russell is a pleasing ballad vocalist. Ivey Roze and Frank Calvert, the comedy couple, evoke much merriment; and Edwin Barwick is a clever character comedian. The Brothers Corcoran, musical shipbuilders, meet with success; as does also Forrest and King, in their comedy dancing act, and Dora Lyric, comedienne. The Empire pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—Mahomed Ben Mahomed's troupe top the bill here this week, and meet with a cordial reception; the Sarthaler troupe of Tyrolean vocalists and dancers make a welcome reappearance; and Harry Russell's company in the sketch *Bink's Blunder* is responsible for much laughter. Other turns which win approbation are Allsop and Beckwith, comedy artists; Ethel Doyle, comedienne; Nellie Gannon, descriptive vocalist; Percy Curry, comedian; Alberto, Australian magician; Peggy Fame, comedienne; and Harry Wright, a smart vocal comedian.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Mr. Brandon Thomas's No. 1 company in *Charley's Aunt* is paying another welcome visit here. Mr. John Beamish is successful as Colonel Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Walter Beaumont is highly amusing as Spettigue; Mr. Hastings Lynn puts plenty of "go" into the part of Jack Chesney; Mr. Stanley Cooke keeps the house in a roar as the Aunt from Brazil. Miss Lena McNaughton acts with charm and ability as Donna Lucia; and Miss Marion Ripley and Miss Dorothy Deacon as Kitty Verdon and Amy Spettigue respectively are vivacious in their parts; Miss Gladys Storey's Ela Delahay is a prettily-played part.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Deputy Acting-Manager, Mr. Rhodes Wells.—Cliff Ryland, comedian and vocalist, and the Dunlops, in an acrobatic balance act, are the chief items in the programme this week. Both turns are much appreciated. Bert and Dora are lively and smart comedy artists; Leslie Murray, magician, introduces some new and entirely mystifying tricks; Marie Winsome is a male impersonator of ability; D. W. Watson, cornetist and coach-horn artist, is also well received; Alf Brookes, character comedian, has some good songs. The Empire Pictures still prove interesting.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—Dickie Clare's comedians are here with *Lucky 'Liza*. Miss Gertie Douglas, in the title-rôle, has a bright, vivacious manner. Mr. Dickie Clare makes a successful appearance as Silas Slim, and Mr. Leonard Maitland creates hearty laughter as Paul Pettitoe; Miss Madge Locke sings "Remember me to mother dear" in good style; Mr. James Chippendale gives a capital impersonation of Peter Pettitoe; Mr. Willie Reid is quaint in the part of William Biffins; Miss Belle Russel is an excellent Marie Pettitoe, and specialities are introduced by The Astor Trio and Miss Madge Brownie.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe. —*A London Actress* is the title of the play produced here this week by Miss Emma Litchfield's company. Miss Litchfield gives a clever portraiture of Hilda Mannering; Miss Maud Steeple is well suited with the part of Phyllis Crawford; Miss Millie Hayward is seen to advantage in the part of Rosie Blyth, and Miss Nelly Fern is a quaint Biddy Maloney; Mr. Stuart Cleveland is a vigorous, manly Clive Crawford; Mr. Richard Vane an excellent Lieutenant Kingstone, Mr. John Worth an effective Captain Mannering, Mr. John Hitchine a humorous Pat Maloney, and Mr. George H. Doyle a capital Moses.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—Davis and Gledhill are very interetsing in road and track cycle racing; Belrose and De Velin please the audience with their duets; Harris, Scotch comedian, creates hilarity with his patter and comic songs; Doodey and Wright, Australian comedians, keep the house in good humour; Walter Anderson has a fine voice; and Jack Easy, comedian, is listened to with the greatest pleasure. Vernon's Animated Pictures are as attractive as ever.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The British Empire Animated Photo Co. continue to attract crowds nightly. The pictures shown are greatly enjoyed. A strong attraction is the Troupe of Gipsies in a well-arranged performance of their national songs and dances. Miss La Clair and Little Doris are heard to advantage.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—The Tarantula Amateur Dramatic company gave a performance here on Monday of *The Brixton Burglary*, which was preceded by an original comedietta, entitled *Second Thoughts*.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Norman Macowan and his company are appearing here during the week in *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Soldier of Fortune*. The latter was staged on Tuesday evening, when as Rupert Clive Mr. Macowan attained considerable success. A strong, incisive, and clever performance was given by Mr. Murray Hathorn as the Earl of Annandale; Mr. Arthur Somers made a picturesque Sir Stephen; and Mr. Leonard Laurence was an efficient Dr. Thorn; Mr. A. Conybeare Gough proved to be an effective Phineas Sturge; and other parts were in good hands. Miss Marguerite Collier was a sweet and attractive Lady Phyllis; Miss Annie Windsor a satisfactory Grace; and Miss C. Howard Medley a good Mistress Cullen.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—A capital bill is being offered the patrons here this week. Miss Harriet Vernon is deservedly a great favourite and a sweet voice, beautiful dresses, and a pretty scene are aids to the artistic success that she attains. Mr. Frank Elliston, assisted by a lady and gentleman, appears in an extremely well-acted sketch, *Aunt Matilda*; Burnetti and Cowie are clever comedy jugglers; Cosgrove and Burns are a couple who sing, dance, and patter to the delight of the audience; the Raymond Trio are pleasing musicians and expert dancers; Miss Rose Archer is an attractive lady, whose mimicry is excellent; Mr. Russel Carr is highly amusing as a ventriloquist; and Mr. Charles Ashdown as a singer and dancer is well received.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—This week we are having a change from the usual dramatic production by the appearance of a variety company. Messrs. Cullen and Carthy and Little Cluley occupy the star positions, and give an excellent account of themselves. The Dunlops supply a clever turn as comedy cyclists and skaters; Dolly Cullen and Elsie Jordison achieve a great success with their tricky songs and dances; Mr. Ronald Banks, a vocalist of considerable merit, sings some good songs; the New Hulines are successful in their comical musical act; the Sisters Volbecque are good as comedy duettists; Miss Emilene Dunscombe is a lady ventriloquist and pianist of considerable merit; Miss Lillian Savado is a graceful trapeze artist; and Martin Conway, the quaint comedian, keeps the house in a roar all the time he occupies the stage. The Bioscope concludes a good all-round show.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Mr. Sydney Bowkett's pleasant comedy *Lucky Miss Dean* is being presented here this week by Mrs. Eugene C. Stafford's company. Miss Dora Gray's impersonation of the title-part is full of good work; and that capable and entertaining comedian, Mr. William H. Ashcroft, in the character of Frederick Ware, distinctly adds to his reputation by his skilful, bright, and easy acting. A notably clever character-sketch is given by Mr. Cyril Price-Evans as the dyspeptic dude Wilfred Ashmole; and Mr. W. T. Elmworthy, Mr. Vivian Gilbert, and Miss Estelle Despa complete an efficient cast. The comedy is preceded by the farce *My American Admirer*, which mainly owes its success to a broad portrayal of a somewhat improbable Yankee millionaire by Mr. W. T. Elworthy, and to the droll acting of Miss Estelle Despa as Mary Ann Stubbs.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. George T. Minshull.—Mr. Thomas Thorne and company, under the direction of Mr. M. Russell Rosse, are appearing this week in *Our Boys*. Mr. Thorne, with whom the part has been identified for many years, is Perkin Middlewick, and it is sufficient at this time of day to say that his representation of the retired butterman has lost none of those qualities of ripe, rich comedy that have made the part a kind of modern theatrical classic. Mr. Norman Clark makes an excellent foil as the aristocratic Sir Geoffrey; and the two sons, Talbot and Charles, have capital representatives in Mr. Rex B. Foote and Mr. Randolph Reade. Mr. A. Harding, too, shows ability in the small part of Kempster. The ladies' parts are also well cast, Miss Elsie Howard Ross and Miss Eva Lonsdale being pretty and vivacious as Violet and Mary Melrose; Miss Bessie Harrison is sufficiently dignified as Miss Champneys; and Miss Edith Hesketh makes a typical lodging-house slavey of Belinda.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting - Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—The programme here is rich in variety this week. The Harmony Four are an unmistakable success, alike by reason of their clever fooling and admirable singing; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, in a smart sketch, *Two to One*, act with finish and humour; and Florence and Lilian evoke vehement applause by their delightful playing and singing. Mr. Arthur Gill, in a turn descriptive of a countryman's experience at a concert, proves himself an able mimic of various kinds of voices; and Mr. Harry Carsdale is, as usual, excellent in his imitations. Miss Gladys Mavius, in two dashing male impersonations, is exhilarating; Mr. Tom Owen, Welsh comedian, raises the laughter of the audience by his drollery; and Belle Braham gives pleasure by her capital rendering of picture songs. Harding and Ah-Sid (American eccentrics), Mlle. Olive (juggler), Celeste (baton manipulator and tight and slack-wire artist), and Derenda and Green (juggling comedians) are all distinctly individual in their respective lines.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Miss Winifred Chalmer's company is appearing here this week in the drama, *A Woman's Revenge*. Mr. Henry L. Osmond plays the part of Frank Drummond, the hero, in a manner which evokes much applause; the acting of Miss Winifred Chalmers as Mary Lonsdale, the heroine, is all that could be desired; Mr. Alexander Haviland as Robert Overstone well portrays the villain; and Mr. Frith is good as Jeptha Grimwade; Miss Phyllis Vaughan ably sustains her part of Mabel Wentworth, an adventuress; Mr. Harry Cooke as Dick Chilton, and Miss Mabel Tremere, as Lottie Bromley, introduce the humorous element into the play. During the week *The Master Criminal* has also been successfully presented.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H.W. Rowland.—Messrs. Wm. Fraser-Brunner and Gilbert Heron's company is appearing here this week in *The Superior Miss Pellender*. Miss Jessie Danvers is full of life as Mrs. Pellender; Miss Alice Belmore in the title-rôle scores a great success; Miss Jessie Ramsey as Edith does the part full justice; Miss Alice Bowes is a dainty and girlish Nancy; Mr. George Belmore causes amusement as Noel; and Mr. Gilbert Heron's rendering of Mr. Lister leaves nothing to be desired. The comedy is preceded by a play, entitled *Kit's Atonement*, which meets with approval.

LEA'S PAVILION.—Mr. A. Litter.—Miss Dorothy Boselle is paying a return visit here this week, and sings in good style; Mr. Joseph Blashcheck, humorist, receives well merited applause; the Ladies Blue Salon Band plays at intervals, and the animated pictures are excellent.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—*The Branded Woman* is being presented here with considerable success. Mr. James Stillwell displays fine histrionic powers in the dual rôles of Philip Maurice and Zarka; Mr. Edward Fryer is responsible for a clever impersonation of the villain, Baron Hauber; Mr. Beckett Bould is a big favourite as Dick Brown; Mr. Paul E. Teulon depicts Louis Duroc with considerable skill; Miss Zana St. George is highly successful as the villainess, Genevieve Larouche; Miss Katherine Barnett invests the part of Marie with the necessary amount of pathos; Miss Kitty McPherson shows much vivacity as Jacqueline; and Miss Hilda Townsend is deserving of special mention for her clever interpretation of the part of Rudolph.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—A first-class entertainment is provided here this week. Capt. Max Gruber's elephant, horse, and pony form the star attraction, and they certainly reflect great credit upon their trainer; the Dumond Minstrels, a trio of clever instrumentalists, make the "hit" of the bill; Blanche and Powell, musical comedy artists, provide an excellent turn; the Three Romas, described as gladiatorial marvels, score a success; George Ripon is a comedian of merit; Miss May Belle May is a dainty comedienne; Lee Lung is a clever young Chinese magician; Gracie Lawn is a charming singer and dancer; Harry and May Kent are successful in a comedy act; and the King's pictures conclude the entertainment.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—"Starring" here is Dr. Carl Hermann, hypnotist, electrician, and scientist; Harry Nelson is a local comedian, who scores; Yorkshire Tom is a finished minnie; and also appearing are Wallau, juggler; Violet Ashcroft, ballad singer; the Three Bostonians in a musical act; and Downey's living pictures.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—The visit of Mr. Charles Cartwright's company in *Dan'l Peggotty* gives local playgoers an opportunity of again seeing some of Dickens' most famous characters in a very touching episode represented on the stage with a fidelity and care that deserves high praise. The Peggotty of Mr. Cartwright is a realisation of the character that must appeal strongly to all, and is an impersonation of outstanding merit. Mr. Humphrey Warden's Copperfield also comes very near the original, and is altogether a fine conception of the part. The gallant airs and easy bearing of Steerforth are depicted with considerable art by Mr. Arthur Royston; Mr. Chas. Collette hits off the grandiloquent manner of Micawber splendidly; the "umble eccentricities of Uriah Heep are cleverly portrayed by Mr. Ivan Berlyn; as the bashful young sailor Ham, Mr. Alfred Woods looks and acts the part well; Mr. H. Carter Bligh is good as Mr. Wickfield, and to the part of Littimer, Mr. Ernest Mozar gives character, and during an interlude sings one of Moore's songs with admirable effect. As Little Em'ly, Miss Molly Pearson's acting is graceful, and tender to a degree. Strong dramatic effect is given to the characters of Mrs. Steerforth and Rosa Darth by Miss Maud Williamson and Miss Edith Cartwright respectively; Miss Gordon Walker gives a charming idea of Agnes Wickfield; Miss Mary Smith makes a capital Mrs. Gummidge, and other parts are well filled by Miss Mabel Luxmore, Miss Scott-Lauder, and Miss Ruby Wyndham.

ROYALTY. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. M. Downie. —Mr. Henry Doughty's company are presenting here this week the farcical comedy *The Barrister*, which was very smartly played. Mr. Henry Doughty, as Arthur Maxwell, proves an able exponent of the part. Mr. E. W. Thomas, as Major Drayton, causes plenty of merriment. The Captain Arthur Walker of Mr. W. A. Dunlop is played in a forcible manner. A winning assumption of Mrs. Maxwell is submitted by Miss Vera Leslie. Mr. A. C. Thornhill, as Jack Rodderick, gives a character-sketch of merit. Miss Beryl Graham as Kitty Drayton and Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond as Jane do good work, and Miss Cicely Hamilton as Miss Foster and Miss Edith Coleman as Mrs. Ellen Fayre do justice to their parts. The new one-act drama, *The Traveller Returns*, forms an admirable curtain-raiser.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch. — A very enjoyable play is *Current Cash*, given here this week by Miss Gwennie Harcourt's company. Miss Harcourt acts with much humour and cleverness as Delia Challis. Mr. Charles Seguin makes a strongly dramatic hero, as Captain Milton. Mr. John Macfarlane makes a duly cynical villain as Major Chellis. Mr. Tom Conway as a talkative soldier, afterwards a moucher, keeps the fun going briskly. Miss Florence Brewster acts with distinction and pathos as Grace Milton, and her daughter Sybil, is well played in the first act by a tiny little girl, Baby Gwen, who speaks her lines in fine style; later, the part is taken with excellent effect by Miss Ducie Sanderson. Mr. W. Burgess-Barratt as a bashful curate, Mr. Richard Sullivan as a more energetic and up-to-date lover, and Mr. Rudolph Kloss and Mr. Norman Craigh in other parts, complete a well balanced caste. The play is finely staged.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Good houses are assembling here to welcome Mr. Charles March and his company in

Zoo Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires and R. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—*Three of a Kind* is one of the most amusing sketches ever presented to a Glasgow audience. It is in the hands of a highly capable company headed by Mr. George Able and Miss Ethel Arden; Brown and Le Clerq give their laughable turn entitled *Black Justice*, and are very well received; the Delevines are great favourites, and in their comedy sketch, *Flipp and Flopp*, provoke much laughter; another good turn is given by Eadie and Ramsden in their comedy and musical act; James Brady is highly successful with his funny songs; Chas. Ousley dances well; Leonie Dixon sings and dances in an acceptable manner; and the dancing of the Lunelle Sisters is much appreciated.

Pavilion, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Lottie Lennox is here once more, and her tuneful choruses catch on immensely, the audience joining in with a will; George Gilbey's eccentricities prove highly popular, and all his songs and impersonations have humour and freshness to recommend them; the Three Prestons appear in addition to the advertised programme, and their turn is one of the biggest hits of the evening; the Five Musical Palmers give a most enjoyable instrumental entertainment, including both classical and popular items; C. Emlyn Jones and company give a clever series of international songs; Grace Langler has some popular songs; the Lannons are a clever couple, their clog and slab dancing being wonderfully neat; Dave O'Toole gets a hearty reception; and Florence Watson gives a clever serio turn.

Palace.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—George D'Albert, who tops the bill here, is one of the special turns, and made a capital impression, his singing being greatly appreciated; Miss Lottie Lennox, comedienne, also shared the honours, singing in her best style; while the entertainment provided by the Donaldson Bros. and Ardel was responsible for much laughter; other notable turns include Tom Stuart, dramatic impersonator; Bishop and Vale, comedians and dancers; Vernon Troupe, Xylophone experts; Tiny Arnold, comedienne and dancer; Nora Emerald, serio comedienne; Maudie Vera, coon singer and dancer; and the Animatograph with a capital selection of pictures.

Colisæum.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—An exceptionally high-class variety company is booked here this week, the chief attraction being the engagement of Prinz's forest-bred lions. The lions go through all manner of tricks, and show the high perfection of training which is needed to keep them under control, the performance being much enjoyed; Horace Wheatley, comedian, is as great a favourite as ever; while the turn submitted by Bernar's Fantoches is marvellous. In the place of Oswald Williams the management secured the services of the Empire Comedy Four, and this well-known quartette had a rousing reception, their singing being a special feature of the evening's entertainment. A clever sketch entitled *Wanted, a Divorce*, is contributed by Stive and Evans; and the Sisters Jonghmann excel in harmonised songs. The other members of the company include Bros. Harrison, comedians; James H. Cullen, "The Man from Chicago"; Constance Bellamy, vocalist; and the American Bioscope in a new series of pictures.

Tivoli.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The Matweef Hugoston troupe of Russian singers, dancers, and acrobats are the leading turn at this popular house, and their well-known performance is deservedly well received. A clever juggling and club performance by Mlle. De Vena and a gymnastic display, including heavy ball manipulation, by Alec Aubrey are both worthy of special remark; while the balancing of the Three Aindows is remarkably daring and clever; Charles Mildare whistles as sweetly as ever, his imitations of birds securing him a recall; Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedienne, and Sam Thomson, in Scotch humorous songs, find favour, as do Dunlop and Gould, pattering comedians and dancers; "True till Death" is well sung by Clarice Raynor, who is prettily attired; Waldron's turn may be described as one of the funniest on the stage. On Monday evening a new piece by Mr. R. F. Morrison and Barney Armstrong, entitled *Bertie's Birthday Party*, was staged, which proved to be one of the most pleasing sketches seen for a good period. The juvenile element predominates, and Mr. Armstrong has discovered some clever talent in sweet voices, pretty children, who dance excellently, and two boys, as "street arabs," in several duets, had a good reception. In Farmer's Nursery Rhymes eight others, prettily dressed, made a big hit. Percival, as Bertie, is excellent, and his pianoforte playing artistic; Little Barney is humorous in many disguises, while Jack Chambers, as Horace and Badger secures a hearty recall for some eccentric singing and dancing. Miss Amy Percival, as Mrs. Badger, is quite successful as Bertie's mamma.

GLOSSOP.—Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—Miss Sidney Crowe and Mr. Montague Beaudyn's company is here this week with *The Way of the World*. Mr. H. B. Lewis as Cecil Montague acts with sincerity and force; Mr. Pat Quinn as Silas Montague, and Mr. Frank Stanley as Ned Montague, achieve success; Mr. Herbert Skardon as Capt. Fred Slade displays ability; Mr. Clarence Temple is worthy of special mention as Matthew Ma'yon; Mr. Fred Mace is good as Sir John Slade; and Mr. Augustus Hammond gives a humorous interpretation of Horatio Bluff. Miss Sidney Crowe is most effective in the part of Adela de la Roche; Miss Cissie Bellamy gives a good delineation of Kate Montague; and Miss Violet Ingram acts particularly well as Marian Fanshaw. The comedy parts, Polly Bell and Joe Sparrow, are amusingly played by Miss Marie Fontaine and Mr. Dick Sedden.

GLOUCESTER. — Theatre Royal. — Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr. Rea.—A capital company, headed by Mr. Chas. Otley, is this week playing *Our Boys* and *Caste*. On Monday the former was staged, Mr. Otley acting the part of Perkyn Middlewick in the drollest manner possible; Sir Geoffrey Champneys was rendered in dignified and clever style by Mr. Stephen T. Ewart; Miss Marie Jonquil as Belinda was thoroughly successful; Mr. W. Besley-Beltram as Talbot Champneys, and Mr. Herbert Robinson as Charles Middlewick, were each excellent in their respective rôles. Miss Olive Palmer was charming as Violet Melrose; and a similar compliment is deserved by Miss Edith Heron Brown for her acting as Mary Melrose. Mr. Fitzpatrick was good as Kempter; and Miss Phyllis Manners was decidedly effective as Clarissa Champneys.

GRAVESEND.—Grand Theatre of Varieties, Ltd. — General Manager, Mr. David Hart. — A capital programme has been provided for this week. Direct from the Palace Theatre, London, Messrs. Livesey and Roseberry present their new sketch *Would-be Actors*, meeting with considerable success. Marie Kean, comedienne, puts the audience on good terms with themselves; Charles Sloman, comedian, is highly amusing; Ellis and Watts provide a wholesale amount of fun, and the Sisters Ford as character and comedy duettists are voted admirable entertainers. In Bijou Russell, who is stated to be the lady champion buck dancer of America, we have a really clever artist.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Royal Aquarium.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones and company are here this week with *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. Jones gives a manly rendering of the rôle of Capt. Harold Marston; Doctor Colbrooke and his confederates, Kimberley Coutts and the Rev. Edward Grey, are effectively portrayed by Mr. Oswald Douglas, Mr. Robert Sawin, and Mr. Clem Horlock. Mr. Edgar Morgan is capital as Bob Tanner; and Mr. Bertram Lee contributes a clever character sketch as Martin. Miss May Ainslie is excellent as Fay Colbrooke; Miss Sara Dudley is vivacious as Bess Grayson; and Miss Marie Daventry charming and sympathetic as Doreen Rivers.

GREENOCK. — Pavilion Theatre. — General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A capital company is engaged here this week, including Ben Hur, athlete; Fox and Melville, American song illustrators; Twin Andersons, George Antill, Milsted and Bell, Charlie Williams, and the American Bioscope.

GRIMSBY.—Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—The dramatic version of Dumas' *Monte Cristo*, played by Mr. Junius Booth, has admirably realised the main features of this great novel. Mr. Booth himself has appeared as Edmund Dantes, and his conception of the various emotions which influence this wonderful man from time to time was most impressive. He was well supported by a numerous company. The conspirators Fernand and Danglars were suitably represented by Mr. Lawrence Grove and Mr. Alfred Terris; whilst the unscrupulous Villefort found a capable exponent in Mr. W. Uridge. Miss Joan Ellis was good as Mercédes; and Mr. A. T. Gullifer was equal to the part of Albert de Morcerf. Special mention may also be made of Mr. E. Howard Templeton for his work as Noirtier.

Curry's Tivoli.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Harry Roxbury's sketch, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, which includes a burlesque duel scene, has proved extremely laughable. The company which presents it numbers over a dozen, and several capital musical items are introduced. Mack Olive's whistling dialogue is very smart; Astley's miniature circus is popular; the Westwoods give a daring cycling act; and others who contribute are Jack Pleasants, a comedian with a particularly droll style; John Ross, double-voiced vocalist; and Jessie Merrilees, comedienne. A capital Bioscope picture of the great wrestling match between Hackenschmidt and Madrali is shown.

The Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Marie Lloyd, who paid her first visit to Grimsby this week, has attracted crowded audiences nightly. Unbounded delight has been expressed with Miss Lloyd's dainty style and vivacious songs. She was supported by a strong company, including the Tom Davies Trio, whose sensational feats of motor cycling on a suspended miniature track have occasioned much wonder. Smart gymnastics were displayed by the Itrams; Vosper exhibited facial impersonations of notabilities; and others appearing were Dawson Dewick, burlesque orator; Will Letters, comedian; Henry Morris, comedian; and Ella Lane, comedienne.

GUERNSEY.—St. Julian's Hall.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robt. Perkins.—Mr. Allan Wilkie and company reappeared here on the 18th inst, in *The Orphan Girls*. Mr. A. Wilkie again displayed ability as Pierre; Mr. R. S. Enner handled the Count de Liniers with conspicuous success; Mr. George Lambton was an ideal Jacques; the La Frochard of Mr. Clifford Rean deserves special mention; Mr. Malcolm Tearle (Marquis de Presles), and Mr. G. T. Greig (Picard), were both admirable; as was Mr. J. Willoughby, as the Doctor. The orphans were realistically and sympathetically portrayed by Miss Ene Cameron and Miss Laura Hansen; Miss F. Powell (Julie) and Miss L. Maddock (Countess de Liniers) complete an excellent cast.

HALIFAX.—Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—Mr. Buchanan Rogerson's successful play, *Darkness*, founded on Guy Thorne's novel, "When It was Dark," occupies the stage here this week. Mr. Morton Powell's company has many capable artists. Mr. Bonhote Wilson is seen to advantage in the rôle of Constantine Schwabe; Mr. T. A. Shannon does well as the Rev. Basil Gomtne; a word of praise is due to Mr. Ed. Valentine, who plays effectively as Sir Robt. Llewellyn; and Miss V. St. Lawrence cannot be too highly commended for her portrayal of a Prying Poll.

Grand Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—This week *The Midnight Mail* is being presented by Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's company twice nightly. As Billy Brewer Mr. Fred G. Evison makes an excellent impression; Mr. George Harvard makes a typical Hy. Steyne; and Miss Grace Lester as the much wronged wife, does well.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—The top position here is held by the Six Bros. Luck in *The Demon of the Cellar*. The song "Has your Mother any More Like You?" sung by Miss Lily Black, is much enjoyed; Chas. Morton is clever and entertaining as a mimic; Joe Oliver meets with a good reception; Arthur Reece is quite successful; and some sweet singing is submitted by the Dolly, Agnes, and Maud Mill Girls.

HANLEY.—Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Charles Howard.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company is paying a visit in the interesting drama, *Under the Russian Flag*. Miss Marie Rayner shows exceptional ability in the part of Luka; Miss Elaine Vanburgh is distinctly successful in her rôle; as also is Miss Agnes Howard as Ogarita; Mr. Jack Haddon makes a manly Captain Demetrius; Michael finds a capital representative in Mr. Bernard Mervyn; Mr. Cecil Mellon scores as Ivan; Poluski, in the hands of Mr. Hal Forde, is well placed; and Mr. Fred Haming's Alexis is a performance of merit.

Grand, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Parks' Eton Boys head the bill this week, and score their usual success; Desmonti and Mora, in their triple bar turn, contribute a wonderful gymnastic display; Charles Serra, an equilibrist of much merit, has deputised for Phil Ray, who on Monday was unable to appear through indisposition; the Ferrares are capital dancers; Regan and Ryan are a most amusing pair, their patter and dancing being first-class; Bromley and Fontein are seen in a capital sketch, *A Musical Birthday*; Nellie Randall sings and dances admirably; and the Sisters Stratton, in their big boot dance, are well received.

HARROGATE.—Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock.—The theatre reopened on Monday evening with a return visit from Mr. Henry Swinerd's company in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. In the title-rôle Miss Dorothy Desmond is graceful and dainty, and her singing is no small feature; as Ruth Montrose, Miss Ethel M. Darsley is also seen to advantage; the comedy of Mr. Will Brereton as Silas Crump is smart and clever.

HARTLEPOOL. — Empress. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The strong programme here is headed by the Riogoku Family of (seven) Japanese artists in a fine display of balancing and tumbling. Ike Scott and Sons are popular in the sketch, *The Blind Coster*; Mozetto is an artistic juggler; and local favourites are seen in J. C. Scatter, comedian and dancer; the Sisters Brenton, vocalists and dancers; Lilian, the acme of grace, in trick cycling; and Smiler Lee, with crisp patter. Interesting films depict incidents in the everyday routine of police duty.

HASTINGS.—Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland. Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt. On Monday the F. R. Benson company, in a Shakespearean répertoire, opened a week's visit here with an excellent production of *Hamlet*. Mr. Henry Herbert submitted a carefully studied impersonation of the Danish Prince, and achieved an artistic success. Great histrionic ability was also shown by Miss Dorothy Green, whose Ophelia was excellent. The garrulous Polonius had a capable exponent in Mr. Ross Shore, and Laertes a stalwart and acceptable representative in Mr. G. Ames, who at short notice was substituted for Mr. B. Limpus. Mr. Alfred A. Harris gave an adequate rendering of the King, as also did Miss K. Turner of the Queen. *Twelfth Night, Macbeth, Taming of the Shrew, She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* are also in the répertoire.

Hippodrome, Theatre of Varieties.—Resident and General Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—An interesting programme is opened by the charming soubrette, Miss Nellie Dunbar; the skating experiences of Mr. H. E. High are exceedingly quaint and funny; the Sisters Melba are excellent vocalists; Mr. Sid Bandon, comedian, is popular; the Singing Navvy, Mr. Harry Coates, is popular; an amusing sketch is given by Adams and Rouse; Miss Annie Purcell is much applauded for her cultured singing; and some up-to-date films are shown by the Hippodrome Bioscope.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—*The Youngest of Three* was successfully performed here the early part of the week by Mr. H. T. Maltby and company. Mr. H. F. Maltby gave a fine manly rendering of George Wendover; Gerald Wendover was equally well portrayed by Mr. W. H. Hargreaves; Mr. Wyn Weaver, as Philip Radford, presented a capital character study; Mr. Ralph Hutton was highly amusing as Samuel Johns; Mr. Ernest Noble, in the dual characters of Paul and Joshua Pynne, won favour; Mr. Reginald Favell was very good as Soke; and Hickey was well taken by Mr. George Mortimer. Miss Beatrice Marsdene made a charming representative of Lucy Dulley; Miss Mabel Mellor and Miss Mara Maltby were graceful exponents of Anne and Florence Dulley; and Jane was naturally taken by Miss Nancy York. For the last three nights of the week a one-act musical comedy entitled *Fannikin* was to be presented for the first time on any stage.

St. Leonard's Pier Pavilion.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—During the first part of the week the boards here were occupied by the musical comedy-drama entitled *The Sporting Girl*, of which Mr. T. Gilbert Perry is the author, and Mr. Alfred Sugden the composer. It is entirely a sporting piece in its characteristics, with some good songs and dances interspersed. Mr. Penton Hook, of Chicago, is capitally played by Mr. Harry Sinclair; Jack Garling has an admirable exponent in Mr. Horace Lionel; and Gerald Haynes is well represented by Mr. Charles Philips. There is a true clerical cut about the Rev. John Bunyan as given by Mr. Fred Hart; Mr. Hall Eldon acts cleverly as Marco; as the bogus money-lender, George Drewitt, Mr. Jas. H. Sterling presents an excellent character sketch. In the title-rôle Miss Maggie Sinclair is handsome and dashing; Miss Minnie Blackmore and Miss Nell Ascott do full justice to their respective parts; Miss Gladys St. Leger acts naturally as the cook. For the remainder of the week *The Rajah of Ranjapore* was announced.

HORWICH.—Prince's Theatre.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. C. M. Neville; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—The Western Canadian Cinématograph Company is providing the attraction here this week. *Canada*, as exhibited by the Bioscope, provides an instructive spectacle; the Musical Lindsays are an exceptionally smart turn; Miss Dora Leslie uses a remarkable voice to advantage; Burton and Trent, comedy duettists and dancers, are amusing; the London Pierrot Party provides plenty of fun; and the Comedy Four, in *Matrimonial Bliss*, add to the success of a good programme.

HUDDERSFIELD. — Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company is playing what is described as a new and revised version of the play, entitled *The Prodigal Parson*. The principal parts are capably presented by Mr. W. V. Garrod as the Rev. Tom Godley; Mr. Alfred Northway as Enoch Jaggins; Mr. Frank Dallas as Ben Jaggins; Mr. Percy Dawsone as Phil Drive; Miss Gladys Conover as the distressed Myrtle Godley; and Mrs. May Grayce as the warm-hearted Gretchen von Craus. In the second act there is introduced a variety performance, in which the Radium Girls show skill as dancers.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—There is a good bill here, headed by Richard Sawade with his highly interesting exhibition of animal training. Other turns are contributed by Miss Dot Stephens, a dainty singer of good songs; Les Kyasyas, in a novel turn in weight-lifting by means of the teeth and hair; Mason and Bart, a couple of brilliant gymnasts and excellent comedians; Fred Horsfall, mimic; Walton and Lester in a screamingly funny burlesque of the modern illustionist; Miss Bonnie Goodwin and her troupe of real Piccaninnies, whose dancing is tip-top, and the Hippodrome pictures.

HULL.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Charles Edwardes this week presents Mr. Alexander Loftus and company in the popular musical comedy *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Charles Adeson in the rôle of Bertie White scores a decided success; Mr. Loftus is prominent as William White; Mr. Leslie Austin sings well as Captain Lovebury; Mr. James Grant makes an excellent Colonel Claymore; Mr. W. E. Chewd proves an effective representative of Mons. Bonsor; and Mr. Frank Melroyd is smart and clever as Braddy. In the title-rôle Miss Maisie Ellinger is charming and graceful; Miss Violet Osmund, an attractive Dora Heather, contributes some clever dances; Brenda Louth is well played by Miss Maude Nicholls; and Miss Winifred Preston is a capable Lady Moulton. Speciality dances are introduced by the Star Trio, and a Scotch dance by Miss Queenie Bell is much applauded.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Life*, a comedy drama, is being given here by Mr. Herbert Barrs's company. Jack Lockhart is well undertaken by Mr. Barrs, who gives a capital impersonation; Mr. A. Pringle portrays the villain, Sir Horace Lester, in a thoroughly convincing manner; Mr. Herbert Fuller's performance as Zac Krabbe deserves special praise; Mr. Willis Collins as Joe Pippett is good; and Mr. H. Edwin is a creditable representative of Peter Thorpe. Miss Maudie Vincent makes a big hit with her singing and dancing; Miss Dorothy Oswald acquits herself admirably as Ruth Thorpe; and Miss Agnes Collier as Beatrice Ferrars is well placed.

Alexandra Theatre.—Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Resident-Director, Mr. George Morton.—*When Woman Hates* is being presented by Mr. Millar Anderson's company this week. Miss Mabel Mannering as Cora Daintry gives a powerful portrayal; Mr. Jerrold Heather is capital as Lieut. Rokeby; Mr. Millar Anderson shows ability as Godfrey Lawton; Miss Maud Townsend acts well as Marie Rokeby; and Miss Gladys Lloyd as Edith Rokeby is also successful. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr. Frank Litchfield as Police-constable O'Brien; Mr. Charles H. Hughes as Alphonso Picolet; Miss Eleanor Papera as Mrs. Potts; and Miss Bessie Franks as Sally Potts.

The Palace.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Johnson and Dean top the bill here, their singing and dancing being well received; Lily Langtry is as popular as ever, she having to respond to prolonged applause; the New York Nippers provide an entertainment unique of its kind, their efforts meeting with much approval; the McConnell Trio give a capital musical sketch; and the Klos Sisters shine in a smart athletic act; Howard and Collinson appear in a merry trifle, *The Porter and the Parcel*; Nellie Martell and Lily Adair are comediennes who are popular, and a good programme finishes with Clowa Barker's Circus.

The Hippodrome.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Harry Tate's company is entertaining for a third week, and on Monday presented *Fishing*, in which there are many funny ideas; Les Carbiacs, French acrobats, perform some novel and daring tricks; Mlle Du Roche is a soprano vocalist with a cultured voice; the singing and dancing of the Sisters Hula make them big favourites; Dandy George makes a welcome return with his clever dog, Rosie; the Four Athos introduce some new acrobatic tricks, and Stanley and Tichbourne, vocal duettists and patter comedians, complete an excellent bill.

The Circus.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—The Globe Animated Picture company entertains with a series of films which are brimful of humour and pathetic interest.

HYDE.—Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—Large and fashionable audiences have this week accorded a hearty welcome to Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company, appearing here in *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy portrays with artistic finish the rôle of John Durham; and a graceful and charming impersonation of Helen Vallerton is found in Miss Phillis Relph. Miss Louise Gourlay as Mrs. Durham gives a most intelligent interpretation to her lines; Miss Florence Dunhunty plays very prettily the part of the Hon. Margaret Steighton; and Miss Lilian Mason is all that can be desired as Lady Mountfallon. Lord Mountfallon finds a capable and painstaking exponent in Mr. Benson North; Mr. A. E. Walker does well in the rôle of Mr. Vallerton; and Mr. Arthur Lee extracts plenty of humour out of his part as the Hon. Reginald Steighton. A capital character-sketch is submitted by Mr. W. F. Clitheron as Ben Verstein.

ILKESTON. — Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—A company consisting of local ladies and gentlemen has appeared here in *The Magistrate* for three nights, in aid of the funds of the Ilkeston Ambulance Corps.

Queen's Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Knightall.—Mons. Henri Sardou presents a capital illusionist show, with the assistance of Mlle. Sardou. Heath and Heather impart pleasure as comedy and character duettists; Dan Leslie, Anglo-Dutch comedian and pedestal dancer, is smart at his work; Marie Riviers, songstress; Ethel Gale, blind comedienne; Fanny Robson, serio; and Harry Carter, comedian, also provide genuine amusement.

IPSWICH.—Lyceum Theatre.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Jennings.—*Sweet and Twenty* has been played here during the week by Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company. Miss Ethel Weyburn portrayed the emotions of Joan Trevelyan with remarkable earnestness and pathos; Mr. Drelincourt Odlum was a dignified clergyman; the two brothers were ably impersonated by Mr. Stephen Wentworth and Mr. Lionel Glenister respectively; the blacksmith Trehearn found a capable representative in Mr. W. Wood Ingram; and others that gave excellent assistance were Mr. Walter Cranch, Mr. James Vincent, Miss Dorothy Carrington, and Miss Zeta Russell. The piece was capitally staged.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The enterprising management of this popular place of entertainment is being rewarded by good audiences. The current week's programme includes the names of Miss Lily Burnand and Mr. Arthur Rigby, both well-known stars of the metropolitan halls. The lady soon won the good opinion of the audience by her spirited and catchy songs. Mr. Rigby's contributions were varied. At one time he impersonated a female advocate of woman's rights, and an enjoyable feature of his entertainment was "The March of the Married Men." Another attractive item was the appearance of Abdy, who not only proved himself a marvellous imitator of various song birds, but also a clever trainer of dogs. Other turns included Mlle. Marvelle, with her docile and quaint parrots and cockatoos; Mr. J. Hamilton, who claims to be "Scotland's greatest tenor"; Nellie Chandos, a sprightly singer and dancer; the Henriques, a trio of clever acrobats; and Burley and Burley, a grotesque pair of contortionists.

JARROW.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerrold E. Reed.—This week Mr. Kirk's company is here with the drama, *Her Luck in London*. Mr. Chas. A. Leicester makes a manly Hon. Gerald FitzGerald O'Connor; Mr. Alfred D. Adams plays forcibly as Richard Lenowen; to the part of the Rev. Lionel Strong full justice is done by Mr. Tremayne; and Mr. Tyrone Power is quite at home in the character of Stephen Harborne. Miss Mary Neil is a charming Nellie Harborne; Miss Frances Waring as Lillian Harborne is all that can be desired; and Miss Florrie Groves makes the most of her opportunities as Maud Gladys Shovepenny.

Royal Albert Hall.—Manager, Mr. L. F. Sanderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Wallace. — The Seven Savonas are here with their brilliant and finely-staged musical show—an immense attraction. Miss Cora Patey, the "singing tea girl"; Bros. Paulo, in a comedy bar act; J. A. Cassels, Scotch comedian; Senorita Elvina, in a wonderful aerial act; Martin Conner, the quaint comedian; Miss May Nevill, comedienne; Pulo, the man monkey; and the world-famous Elliotts, in a wonderful cycle act, are the other attractions in an interesting programme.

KEIGHLEY.—Queen's Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—Mr. Lingford Carson's own company is here this week in *The Heart of a Hero*. Mr. Charles Draycott plays Jem Resdale in capital style; Mr. Ernest J. Fare gives an excellent performance of Wilfred Marl, an unscrupulous schemer; Mr. S. Cranston displays much ability as Jack Collinson; Mr. Arthur Byron revels in the part of Timothy Heighno; and Miss Daisy Norman renders good support as Susie Slack. Mr. Harry Scratchard, a local favourite, ably undertakes the part of George Winson, a miser; Mr. J. D. Clyde and Mr. Morley Carroll are good in their respective impersonations; Miss Laurie Pardy deserves much praise as Nell Resdale, and Miss Hettie Senior is a charming May Ryder.

LANCASTER. — Athenæum. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Henry Wilkinson.—Muir and Bartlett with a strong variety company are this week occupying the boards. Muir and Bartlett appear in the *Collar Stud* and *A Clerical Complication* with distinct success. Soros, illusionist, has a great reception; the Carney Bros., comedians, come in for applause; *The Hangman's Daughter* is well-played by Arthur Wallis and Co., and the Sisters Merridew (duettists), Little Don (comedian), and the Bioscope complete the bill.

LEEDS.—Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—An accomplished young actor new to Leeds, Mr. Harold V. Neilson, is presenting Ibsen's *The Pillars of Society*. Mr. Neilson's Consul Bernick is a sterling effort, convincing in its every phase, and it rivets the attention of his audience from start to finish. The breezy character of Lona Hessel is a most excellent delineation by Miss Mary Raby, whose associate (Mr. Lionel Atwill), the manly Johan, is equally effective. The artistocratic loafer Hilmar is cleverly conceived and presented by Mr. W. Lemmon Warde; the scholastic moralist Dr. Rorlund, by Mr. Halliwell Hobbs, is very satisfactory; Miss Amy Sangster evinces considerable histrionic ability in her portrayal of the wayward Dina Dort; and Mr. J. F. Fox as the shipyard foreman Aune depicts the part with fidelity. Miss Kitty Carew, Miss Katherine M. Romsey, Mr. C. M. Doyle, and Mr. Roy Lorraine are also effective.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*The Poor Must Live* is attracting good patronage here, and the many thrilling incidents with which the piece abounds are received with acclamation. The powerful central figure of the piece, the Earl of Marswood, provides Mr. Charles O'Connor with many opportunities, of which he is not slow to avail himself. Mr. Harold C. Macartney makes a popular hero; and the unscrupulous scoundrel Clifton Manville is effectively interpreted by Mr. Walle Spinner. Miss Violet Hammersleigh's Dorothy is a creation of exceeding charm; and other parts are capably handled by Mr. Arthur Trail, Mr. Herbert Clifton, and Miss Marguerite Thorne.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Benton have a capital company here with the new society drama *A Marriage of Vengeance*, and the piece is being well received by full houses. Miss A. Harrison-Tait is playing the part of Stella Burgon, her original creation, and her work is warmly applauded. Mr. A. L. Baron acts the rich banker Earnscliffe with force and discrimination; Paul is effectively presented by Mr. Chas. E. Linney; Mr. Fred Benton employs his sterling abilities in a fine conception of Max Rheinhardt; and the villain Geoffrey Vannock is well exploited by Mr. Max Coutts. Of the ladies, Miss Alicia Wood, Miss Ruby Belasco, and Miss Cora Linda are amongst the most prominent; and Mr. Seymour Perry, Mr. Arthur Plummer, and Miss Lizzie Burgess also help the success.

Empire Palace.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—Hackenschmidt, the champion of champions among wrestlers, is the big attraction this week, and many strenuous bouts have been seen as a result of the challenges issued. The popular comedienne Alexandra Dagmar is entertaining her admirers with clever new items; Gracie Grahame is also a pleasing lady artist; Flo Deighton finds ready acceptance for some smart new numbers; the Warsaw Brothers are a source of much merriment in a musical extravaganza; Guy Rider whistles like a bird; Harry Weldon, a rising comedian, is enjoying success; Galetti's Monkeys give a remarkably intelligent entertainment; the Raies, with clever speciality dancing, are popular; the same remark applies to Mignonette Kokin, a pleasing comedy artist.

Tivoli.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Managers, Messrs. Chas. Weldon and Claude Shayler.—The Tivoli programme is a feast of fun this week, Alf Gibson leading the way in inimitable style. Willie Churchill is vastly amusing; and Billy Williams and Max Weldon also score successes. The Florodora Girls are seen in an up-to-date song and dance speciality; Fyne and Hurley are an amusing pair; more enjoyable comedy is subscribed by Herbert Madden; and F. Bernard and company, in a clever sketch, *The Two Kays*, with an excellent quick-change vocal act; and Ethel Loftus, comedienne, also add to the attractiveness of the bill.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Atlas and Vulcana are again starring here, their fine athletic act arousing great interest and enthusiasm. Cline and Clark submit clever speciality dancing; Johnny Holland and company's comedy sketch arouses much merriment; Roxborough and Wright score a success in a comical farce; Hector and Paulus combine comedy and acrobatics in an entertaining manner; Fentoni has a novel speciality turn; Minnie Wren is a successful comedienne; and a pair of smart comedians, Herbert Rule and Dave McNeil, are also appearing.

LEICESTER.—Royal Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—A return visit is being paid here this week by Mr. Cyril Maude's company in *Beauty and the Barge*. As Capt. James Barley Mr. Harry Ashford is mirth-provoking; Mr. Percival Knight is capital as Lieut. Seton Boyne, and also adds to the fun as the mate of the barge; Mr. Walter Pemberton is well suited to the part of Major Smedley; Mr. Charles Goold makes a good impression as Tom Codd; Mr. Percy Marmont is good as Herbert Manners; Mr. J. Wheatman is a success as John Dibbs; Miss May Fairclough gives a delightful impersonation of Ethel Smedley; Miss Mary Griffiths is amusing as Mrs. Baldwin; and Miss Ethel Stalman renders good service as Mrs. Smedley. A one-act play, entitled *That Brute Simmons*, precedes, in which Mr. J. Wheatman as Thomas Simmons, Miss Harriet Trench as Mrs. Simmons, and Mr. Fred Paul as Bob Ford appear with success.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A special visit of the American-Indian actress Go-won-Go-Mohawk and company in *Wep-Ton-No-Mah* is the attraction here. Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk plays the name-part, an Indian carrier, in a dashing manner, and is very popular; Mr. C. W. Charles makes an excellent impression as Colonel Stockton; Miss Minnie Goepel is capital as Nellie Stockton; Mr. Edward Leroy does well as Manuel Lopez; Mr. Dan Ryan is mirth-provoking as Garry Cullen; and Mr. Guy D. Hackney as Sam White, and Miss Dorothy Neville as Miss Matilda Shimes are also commendable.

Palace Theatre, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—At the top of this week's list of clever artists is R. A. Roberts, the remarkably smart protean actor, who is scoring in *Dick Turpin*; Tom Edwards, ventriloquist, is meeting with a gratifying reception; Seeley and West, musical comedians, are very good; Esta Stella both sings and dances in a vivacious manner; the Finneys give their well-known display of fancy swimming, &c., in the crystal tank; Beatrice Willey, daintily costumed, and possessed of a good voice, sings a flower song to the delight of all; the De Lucca Troupe of drawing-room gymnasts give a finished performance; Marguerite Broadfoote scores her usual success; Ross and Grayson, in *The Professor and His Pupil*, furnish good entertainment; and Frank Leslie, light comedian, sings a droll song.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The principal attraction this week is Fred Southern and company, including Miss May Emery (Mrs. Southern), in *The Blind Mother* and *We Must Win*. The smart coin and card speciality act of Mersano is popular; Marie Neilson is a clever comedienne and dancer; Davis and Davis, comedians and dancers, are most entertaining; Barrington, in a musical act, is well applauded; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is a popular feature.

Temperance Hall.—The St. Louis animated pictures, including the novelty of talking and singing pictures, by the aid of Gaumont's chronophone, opened a fortnight's engagement here on Monday evening. The pictures

of Ben Bradford (Mr. Edwin Kneene), Marjory Crib (Miss Marjorie Tennant), and Little Frank (Miss Elsie Jones).

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—Crowded houses have been the rule here this week, the attraction being *Proof*, presented by Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's capable company. Mr. Gerald Kennedy was a fine Pierre Lorance, acting with considerable pathos and dramatic force; Mr. William Dexter made a sufficiently villainous Lazare; Mr. St. Vincent Beechey afforded every satisfaction as the Duke D'Aubeterre; Miss May Grimshaw presented a sweet Valentine; Miss Lucy Prittie-Tydd was the Madeline and Adrienne; and Victor Laugney was undertaken by Mr. G. Garnet-Vayne; and a humorous Chamberan submitted by Mr. Wilford Bailey.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A number of good things are included in this week's list. At the top are the Holloways, who go through a marvellous wire act; Kelly and Gillette are always a big attraction with their smart work on the billiard table; in consequence of his great success George Leyton remains another six nights, pleasing everyone with the military scena *Boys of the Chelsea School*; a smart comedy turn is given by the Sivronis; Cherry Lass sings and dances agreeably; Gertie Gertana pleases with her scena *Home from School*; as vocalists, comedians, and dancers the Society Quartet appear with distinction; Halter and Ray have an able comedy act; and others who appear are Carlotta Levey, comedienne; Dan Thomas, "he of the laughs"; and Myles and May, "the merry huntsmen."

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—Heading an attractive bill here this week is Jack Hylton, who pays a welcome return visit. Charles Santon, male soprano and double-voiced vocalist, provides a turn which is much appreciated; the musical and farcical duologue, *Semi-detached*, presented by Ada and Jack Meynotts, provokes continuous laughter; J. H. Wakefield, with his lively plantation songs and dances, puts in a second week; some pleasing character songs are given by Carrie Lorrison; Marie Dane acquits herself well as comedienne and dancer; and Kittie Kearns, a Liverpool girl, shows considerable talent as a comedienne. The Tuesday matinées at this popular house continue to be extremely popular.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The "Royal" stock company is this week presenting an interesting sketch, entitled *A Life's Story*. Mr. Percy Boucher is a humorous Tony Cremonini; the Captain Jack Temple of Mr. Harry Tresham is full of dramatic strength; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood handles the double part of Frank and Max Clifford with much ability; Mr. Herbert Cecil makes an excellent Count Bergen; and the Tom Berry of Mr. E. D. Allen is satisfactory. Miss Lena Nazeby plays sweetly as Beatrice; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood holds the rôle of Zeika with credit. Some interesting moving pictures shown by the Bioscope are a pleasing feature of the evening's entertainment.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A sensational five-tableaux sketch entitled *The Devil's Hand* is here this week, played by Mr. J. Wright Aitken and company. James Lowrey, the singing furnaceman, is loudly applauded for his taking songs; Sandes and Vincent provide an agreeable turn with their singing, dancing, patter, and knockabout work; Miss Blanche De Verne possesses a sweet soprano voice, and uses it with effect; Will Saunders, eccentric comedian, is good; and Miss Gertie Cunningham is a serio with a taking style. The Bioscope projects attractive pictures.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Here this week are Stewart and Morgan, accomplished vocalists, with their capital scena *Leaving Ireland*; as a mimic of leading music-hall stars Miss Ruth Molloy is above the average; the Ladderites perform some clever and daring equilibristic acts; Will Jennings, buck and wing dancer, has a good turn; the Three Zaracs present a smart comedy bar act; Lottie D. Abbey is a refined vocal comedian and character mimic; and Toney Iveson provokes much merriment with his "A tramp at the piano."

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—At the top of the bill here this week is W. H. Lee with his dramatic episode, *A Soldier's Return*. Hector and Sultan create great laughter as comedy acrobats and burlesque boxers; Edie Endon sings several smart coon songs, and does some neat acrobatic dancing; a capital turn is given by Walker and Lake, comedians and cross-talkers; Bert Holmes has some acceptable descriptive songs; and Adelina Yhole renders popular ballads in good style.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Heading a capital programme here this week is Little Ganty, whose patter, songs, and antics keep this audience in a merry mood; Spencer and Marks have a comedy act, entitled *The Stage-Struck Waifs*; Miss Adey Spencer has some attractive songs; Arthur Royce, eccentric character comedian at the piano, is particularly acceptable; as comedy and expert jugglers Peatman and Walsh give an excellent show; and others who appear include Madge May, comedienne; and Kisbey, "the call boy."

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—A lengthy and diversified list of artists is presented here this week. Foremost is Casey's Circus, which has provoked endless laughter; Fred Maxwell, Miss Lois Du Cane, and company appear in a capital dramatic episode entitled *Dick Dare, M.P.*; Watson's dogs go through a clever performance; an acrobatic and equestrian number, *The Coster's Circus*, submitted by Hoppit, Toney, and Terry, has been followed by screams of laughter; Unthan's "feet writing" is watched with interest; the Bosanquet Sisters sing several pleasing numbers; Diabutsu, the Ju-jitsu wrestler, proves a strong attraction; Fred Russell introduces his amusing ventriloquial figure, "Coster Joe"; and much merriment follows the comedy duologue *The Interviewer*, given by Booker and Narbis.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—The Royal Pierrots and Marcograph company are still with us, and their popularity is increasing. Eva Barlow, a vocalist of considerable talent, sings various popular ballads with acceptance; Little Eugene is enthusiastically received; Crane and Crane, in the sketch *The Lady and the Lord*, are both clever and amusing; Kilpack and Cobby, in illustrated songs, meet with approval; Taylor Snowball, in some eccentric songs, convulses the audience; Claire Destrail as a balladist is successful; and the Sisters Robin and the Truro Sisters are well received. Beautiful Lima, in kaleidoscopic dances, is one of the features of the performance.

MAIDENHEAD.—TOWN HALL.—Secretary, the Town Clerk.—Mr. Albert Chevalier is always welcome here, and was greeted on Wednesday by a very crowded and enthusiastic audience. Newer selections from his répertoire, together with some of the old favourites, were listened to with rapt attention, and recalls were numerous. Mr. A. H. West, both as accompanist and soloist, is as good as ever, and Miss Ethel Walker delighted everyone with her musical sketches. The sketch *The Goose with the Golden Eggs* was smartly played, and caused great amusement

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. H. Watson.—The chief turns here this week are given by Miss Peggy Pryde, a clever comedienne who is receiving a well-deserved ovation nightly. E. J. Sheldon has some good speciality songs and patter; Frank and Violet Payte appear in the successful racing sketch, *Also Ran*; Miss Dot Hardy is a popular comedienne; Simosa San is a clever juggler and equilibrist; and other attractions in the bill are Fred Clayton, comedian; Miss Connie Langford, dancer; and the Hippodrome pictures.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmundstone Shirra.—Mr. Harry Yorke presents here this week *Sherlock Holmes*, a very fair interpretation of which is given by a company headed by Mr. Henry Renouf in the title-part, which he renders in acceptable style. Mr. W. F. Sterling gives a forcible depiction of Moriarty; Miss Violet Lewis is notably good as Madge Larrabee; Mr. Walter Hicks is capital as Billy; and others who contribute to the dramatic effect of the whole are Miss Vera Longden as Alice Faulkner; Miss Rosalie Notrelle as Terese; Mr. Philip Renouf as Sidney Prince; Mr. Francis Hawley as Dr. Watson; Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood as Forman; and Mr.. Ernest Gray as James Larrabee.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Acting Manager, Mr. George Lee.—An excellent rendering of *Niobe* is given here this week by Mr. Harry Paulton and a clever company. Mr. Paulton's work as Peter Amos Dunn is admirable, and as Niobe, Miss Annie Esmond gives a highly commendable delineation of a part by no means easy to play. Mr. Harry Paulton, Jun., is amusing as Griffin, and Miss Agnes Paulton shows excellent talent in the rôle of Hattie; while as Helen Griffin, Miss Mary Vilpack is all that could be wished, and Mr. C. Stafford provides a clever impersonation of Philip Innings. Other parts are well played by the remaining members of the company, and the company is as bright and entertaining as ever.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—The stage here is occupied by that clever character-actor, Mr. Arnold Bell and company in a repertoire consisting of *Hoodman Blind*, *Called Back*, *The Octoroon*, and *Ben-my-chree*. The first-named was presented at the beginning of the week for three nights, and was very well received by an audience which showed great interest in Mr. Wilson Barrett's play. As Jack Yeulett, Mr. Arnold Bell was, of course, excellent; and Miss Frances Campbell displayed her accustomed cleverness and charm in the dual rôle of Nance and Jess. Among others, Mr. Cuthbert Imrie and Mr. John Belton acted with distinction. All the plays are very well-staged.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—*The Love that Women Desire* is staged here this week by Mr. G. Carlton Wallace and his company. Mr. David G. Noble is seen to considerable advantage as Philip Carnaby, and Miss Lalla Stanhope makes a charming Sybil Thornton. Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, the author of the play, is very successful as Frank Hardy, the outcast, and the villainy of the action is well brought out by Miss Alice N. Livesey as Madge Abingdon, Mr. J. O. Stewart as Squire Abingdon, and Mr. Hugh Mewburn as Richard. A trio of laughter-makers are Mr. John Hignett as O'Rourke, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson as the constable, and Miss Maud Stuart as Pattee. The staging is excellent.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A good programme here comprises Harry Tate's *Motoring*, a very popular sketch; the Violet Whitworth Cycling Girls, in a remarkable racing act; Tom White's Arabs; Ada Cleveland, a pleasing vocalist; the Four Abaradoffs, in their comic "prehistoric peeps"; Fred Pollard, versatile comedian; Farr and Farrland, comedians and banjoists; the Three Seymons, in a clever juggling act; and Bert Weston, the swell comedian.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—An old favourite is here this week in the shape of *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, with Mr. John Wainwright in his familiar rôle of Tom Robinson. Mr. Wainwright is really excellent in his part, and his efforts are worthily supported by the company he has got together. Mr. Alfred E. Calver is a manly George Fielding, whose sweetheart Susan is nicely depicted by Miss Frances May; Mr. W. R. Weldon acts well as Mr. Merton; Mr. W. R. Wilson figures effectively as Mr. Hawes; Mr. Charles F. Johnson is good as the Rev. Francis Eden; and Miss Florrie Ferguson makes a capital Josephs.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's attraction at the Royal Osborne Theatre, *The Village Blacksmith*, played by Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, is staged here this week to good houses.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is playing here this week *The Sin of Her Childhood*, a powerful and interesting drama. Mr. Frederick Loyd plays Captain John Thornton with the requisite manly spirit, and Miss Ruth Sheppard is admirably sympathetic as the repentant Mary Haysel. As the villainous Stephen Haysel, Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes acts with decided skill, and among others of a thoroughly capable cast Little Dott Moss, as Hannah Spry, contributes clever songs, dances, and banjo-solos, and Mr. Hugh Brady provides amusement as a lively Irishman.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Sam Elton, the famous comedy juggler and plate breaker, and Tom Foy as "the Yorkshire lad in London," are the chief attractions here this week, and their efforts are received with roars of laughter. Another good turn is that of the Five Foys in their screaming absurdity, *The Excursion Depot*, which causes no end of amusement. Lady Mansel's Juveniles are clever little people, and their speciality *A Concert Rehearsal*, is decidedly entertaining. Other items of interest are Jean Priver's Royal Six cyclists, vocalists, and dancers; Harry Champion, the quick and quaint comedian; Rob Hutt, comedian; Fred Carran, comedian; the Sisters Hall, vocal comediennes; and a series of capital animated pictures portraying the latest events.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—Top of the bill here this week is Hermann Melot, whose conjuring entertainment is exceptionally deft and amusing. Prominent also is Duse Mohamed, an Egyptian actor-author, who appears in his tragedietta, *The Jew's Revenge*, a rather ill-flavoured episode of the fifth century A.D. The most novel turn of the evening, however, is that of Conn and Conrad, "the quiet burglars," whose act develops into a sensational performance on a swinging bar. In addition to these, David Poole is highly successful in his ventriloquial business; the Serenaders give a tuneful turn; Gull and Grey give a comic lawn-tennis interlude; the Hardinis display fine talent on the violin; the Remingtons prove themselves smart acrobats; and Flo D'Orville shines as a comedienne.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Machnow, the Russian giant, is proving a "big" attraction here this week, the house being packed at every show. A wonderfully clever performance is given by the Aurora Troupe of Cyclists, who do some absolutely unique tricks, and are deservedly applauded. Lindon's Vaudevilles are heard to advantage in a novel and pleasing act; and an exceptionally graceful trapeze performance is that of the Lios Alfa Sisters; Anna Kenwick, comedienne, dances very well; Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, in their Trafalgar Square incident, are vastly amusing; and good turns are also contributed by the Allisons, duettists, and Fred Lincoln, comedian. The choir render "Night, Lovely Night" nicely; Mr. James Foy sings, "Oh, what a Lovely Dream," to pictures, and "The Lost Collar Stud" is shown on the American Bioscope.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—The programme here this week is excellent. Tom Leamore, the popular eccentric comedian, tops the bill, and makes a hit with his capital songs. Another fine turn is Daisy James, the chic comedienne, who scores in several songs. Frank Lawton is a first-rate whistler, dancer, and bone-soloist, and is well received, as are also Margaret Ruby and Ernest Laws in a pleasing quick-change musical comedy-sketch, *Cora's Visitors*. Mani Reeves is a delightful comedienne; Edna Cragge, burlesque artiste, is good; and other enjoyable items are those of the Reays, gymnasts and equilibrists; Tom Odlin, comedian; Alice Digby, comedienne and dancer, and Raymond's Vivagraph.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Menotti, the Stockholm wonder, presents a clever and sensational novelty here this week, that of riding a bicycle at the rate of forty miles a hour on a single wire. Mons. Slippere (assisted by Miss Ramsay), the blind novelty pianist and baritone vocalist, appears in an enjoyable vocal and musical act; Walter Curtis is an amusing comedian; and Hess and Lisbon, in their grotesque roller-skating speciality, are the cause of much laughter. Good turns are also provided by Little Rose Pink, a juvenile comedienne and dancer of merit; Can and Rose, in extracts from an extensive repertoire; Frank Whiteley, comedian and bone-soloist; the Dainton Girls, character-duettists; and the Three Wades, in a novel comedy-skit. Weary Willie and his Motor, depicted on the Bioscope, is good.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A laughter-provoking sketch, entitled *The Demon of the Cellar*, is offered here this week by the Six Brothers Luck, and achieves much success. Theodore Jones and company present an original scena, entitled *Jack Sheppard*; and the Bollingers concoct effective pictures very cleverly out of bits of different coloured rags. The Brothers Zano are good comedy-bar performers; the Bonanzas are neat hand-balancing acrobats; Carson Hicks sings and dances in a satisfactory way, as does also Jessie Jukes, a smart juvenile artiste; and Frances Lyric adds a pleasing song and dance. On the occasion of our visit an extra turn that merited and received much applause was given by Moon and Morris, comedians and dancers. Animated Pictures complete.

HIPPODROME (HULME). — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Enigmarelle, the marvellous automaton, which walks, rides a bicycle, and writes its name on a blackboard, is the attraction here this week. A brisk, clever, and highly appreciated turn is provided by Kiel's Pom-Poms, society entertainers of merit. The smart tumbling of the Four Hearnes also finds much favour; and Raglus, a novelty burlesque juggler, is particularly good. Very successful are Wallace Whitney, character comedian, and Tokio, the famous Japanese mimic. The neat dancing of the Sisters Allen is well received, and entertaining turns are contributed by Beattie Foster, character artiste, and Georgina Leonard, comedienne. Animated Pictures complete.

MANSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Under the management of Mr. T. Jennings.—A good programme is provided here this week. Will Rain and company, in their funny sketch *The Motor Maniac*, cause much laughter; Learto and his dog Babs create quite a furore; Marie Yorke gains applause for her singing; and Mr. Walter Lake also does well. The Brothers Onda give a clever and amusing turn on the triple bars; Fred Willis is appreciated for his singing; Pearce and Ward give an entertaining turn; and the Edison Bioscope exhibits a good series of amusing pictures.

MARGATE. — HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—This week Neil Kenyon, the Scotch comedian, is at the top of the bill, and a speciality turn is Effie White in her kaleidoscope dance, "The Spirit of the Cave," which is a good feature of the show. Other contributors include Elsie Earle, comedienne; Geo. Collins, quaint comedian; Arthur Goodman, the American tramp juggler; Johnny Fuller in a unique speciality, *The Cat on the Wire*, and the Hippodrome pictures, as interesting as ever.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Varieties provide the attraction here this week, the premier position being held by Houston, a clever Chinese magician; Minnie Moran is a smart comedienne; Ward and Wylie are a diverting pair of eccentric comedians; Frank Lyndon supplies a novelty musical entertainment; Bob Downs pleases with his humorous songs; the Danbys give an amusing performance; Los Granadas, a couple of clever acrobats, perform their feats with especial smartness, and a capital display of animated pictures complete an excellent programme.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. John Gerant and company are this week presenting *At Duty's Call*. Mr. John Gerant is prominent with a fine impersonation of Harold Allison; Mr. Leonard Williams gives a powerful rendering of Capt. Allison; Mr. Ernest St. John submits a well-studied portraiture of General Gordon; Miss Edith Knight plays with grace and charm the rôle of Dora Drummond; Miss Edith Wallis is acceptable in the character of Salema; Mr. Harry Ugar (Terry O'Halloran) and Miss Harlington (Mary) prove delightful in the comedy scenes.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. A. Hamilton Warden and company in the drama, *A Woman's Past*, is here this week. Hamilton Warden, in the character of Clement Harper, is exceedingly good; Miss Maisie Hanbury gives a realistic study of Bessie; Mr. Frank Hayling as Scrubby, and Mr. Wilson Munroe as Spriggings, are amusing; Mr. Horace Herbert acts with distinction as David Heath; and Mr. Charles Standford as Frank Dellannoy leaves nothing to be desired. Miss May Dallas displays dignity and grace as Dorothy Heath, and Miss Gertrude Harrison does well as Clara Darrel.

OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Mr. Sidney Bacon's combination is supplying a good miscellaneous entertainment here. Mr. Arthur Jefferson's dramatic work, *The Maniac*, is a thrilling episode, in which Mr. Melville Bickford takes the leading rôle; the Huge Troupe give an excellent tumbling display; Little Violette proves herself a clever singer and dancer; and the other turns are provided by the Hare Trio, Leonard Gurney, and Rubie Ray.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. G. Rembges.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. Miss Lina Verdi in her delightful impersonations of well-known artists takes the house by storm; the ludicrous antics and acrobatic feats of Kelly and Ashby are heartily enjoyed; Griff presents a clever and amusing juggling turn; the Elvio Trio find favour in their comedy act; the gymnastic display of Sibb and Sibb is much appreciated; and other good "turns" are provided by Les Belles Americaines, dancers; Brull and Hemsley, comedy artists; and Tod Rowen, comedian.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf Graham.—Crowded houses are the rule here this week, the programme being of a really enjoyable character. One of the most successful turns is that of Ross and Lewis, a pair of clever Yankees, with some amusing patter and dancing; A. J. Kebla is also funny in his comic juggling act; Percy Farrimond, tenor; Casseli and James, banjoists; and Minnie Cunningham, a dainty comedienne, also contribute.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—*A Queen Without a Crown* is the title of the romantic play Messrs. Howard and Wyndham are presenting to their patrons this week. Miss Ruth Mackay undertakes with conspicuous success the leading rôle of the Countess Melrosa, and the part of Rudolph is enacted in a natural and boyish manner by Miss Helen Granville; Miss Geraldine Oliffe presents the part of Queen Theresa Maria with point and distinction; Mr. Wellesley Smith invests the character of Dr. Daly with genuine Irish humour, which proves highly acceptable; and other prominent characters are adequately portrayed by Mr. Eric Hudson, Mr. T. Holding, and Mr. S. Creagh Henry. The scenery and appointments deserve special mention.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Tearle Lingham.—Crowded audiences have greatly enjoyed the comic opera, entitled *The Girls from Utah*, which is being presented here this week for the first time by Mr. Walter McEwen's company. Included in the cast are some established favourites, notably Mr. W. H. Powell, whose quaint style and irresistibly funny mannerisms elicit much laughter. Mr. Fred Eastman creates many a laugh with his droll impersonation of the landlord, and another prominent fun purveyor is Mr. Arthur E. Stigant as Sir Joseph Pickles; the fine voice of Mr. Harrison Brockbank is heard to advantage in the numbers allotted to the rôle of Terence Rainford; Miss Florence Parfrey gets through a lot of work in excellent style as Mrs. Bumble; and Miss Kate Vesey is a sprightly Suza, both singing and dancing with refinement; Miss Nora Brocklebank is a bright and attractive Mildred; the chorus and orchestra do admirable work under the control of Mr. Geo. M. Saker. The famous French actress, Mme. Jane Hading, and company paid a flying visit here on Friday afternoon and presented *Le Maitre de Forges*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Messrs. Granville and Thorne's company are presenting here this week the romantic drama, entitled *Napoleon the Great*. Mr. Hugh Montgomery realises to a nicety the popular character of Napoleon; Mr. Frank M. Thorne (the author) submits a carefully thought out study of Pierre Pomponnet; and Mr. Phil Harper impersonates the character of Col. Jules Meuron with distinction. The leading feminine rôles, namely, Marie Walewska and Leonie Marbœuf, allow Miss Leslie Warner and Miss Maud Russell respectively ample scope to show to advantage. Able support is forthcoming from Mr. Henry Earlesmere, Mr. Bartlett Garth, Mr. C. W. Spencer, Miss Marie Harcourt, Miss Florence Thorne, and Miss Adelaide Cromer.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—An especial attraction is appearing at the Byker Theatre this week, namely, Mr. John Clyde and company in the ever-popular play, *Jeannie Deans*. The company is the same that appeared at the Theatre Royal a fortnight ago, and all the artists confirm the good opinions we then expressed of them.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy. There is an excellent company here this week, chief honour falling to that popular comedian and raconteur, Mike S. Whallen. The Sutcliffe Family give a good account of themselves as Scottish pipers, and also appear to advantage in a Risley act. Vastly entertaining do Spry and Monti prove themselves with some acceptable comedy, and the Northern Troupe score heavily as speciality dancers. The Mackneys are responsible for some boisterous fun on the wire; Rex King is a clever character mimic; Ferguson and Mack contribute a speciality act successfully; Johnny Alexander and company win favourable comment for their comedy sketch; and as a comedy juggler Sloan is distinctly funny. The programme concludes with a very funny picture by the Bioscope, entitled "The Dream of a Rare Bit Find."

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—A noteworthy feature in this week's programme is the overture, entitled "Pavilion," dedicated to the genial manager, Mr. Boardman, and composed by the musical director, Mr. H. Elliott Smith. Casey's Court is a clever act, wherein a number of juveniles disport themselves in song and dance; the Eight Lancashire Lads receive rapturous applause for their singing and dancing; notwithstanding the previous visits here of Lind, this clever female impersonator continues to mystify part of the audience; Alex Lukos supplies a treat with his descriptive songs; the performing dogs introduced by Professor McCann show wonderful intelligence; Susie and Protti are highly effective speciality dancers; Barles and Smith, in an episode entitled *A Rehearsal*, gain a capital reception; Lillie Soutter, character comedian, and Nancy St. John, comedienne, both achieve success; and the Barrascope is always a pleasing item.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Miss Mary Austin and a capable company are playing *The Cotton Spinner* here this week. Miss Mary Austin as Mary Prescott give a really fine portrayal of the cotton spinner's daughter; Mr. John S. Haydon submits a delightful character-study of the homely cotton spinner, John Prescott; Mr. E. Vivian Edmond as Arthur Norbury plays with realistic power; and Mr. Edwin Fysher does well as Lord Northbury. Miss Enid Ross makes a dignified Constance Harrington; Lady Charlotte Needy is capably portrayed by Miss Bella Power, who with Mr. Ernest Edwards as Major Stratton adds to the success of the piece by their quiet comedy; and Mr. Chas. Milton as the villain Foster Cunningham, is successful. Minor parts are well sustained by Miss Ethel Inwood, and Messrs. Albert Cooper and Frank Storey. An exhibition of animated pictures precedes the piece each evening.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll—The chief attraction here is the Boisset Troupe in their sketch, *The Bricklayers*; May Henderson is quite a favourite; the Anartos are musical comedians of a high order; Walter King does well as a singer; and the Seddons provide a clever juggling turn. Fernando is responsible for much amusement with a barber's saloon; Cora Caselli produces striking effect by her skirt dances on a darkened stage, and Charles Gardiner contributes a couple of songs in good style.

NORTHAMPTON. — OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—*The Octoroon* is this week presented by Mr. Milton Bode's Stock company, and the old piece is still received with favour from the popular parts of the house, and is well staged and capitally acted. Miss Florence Creagh's impersonation of Zoe is excellent, and throughout evinces a careful study of a trying part. Mr. Louis Hector, as Wah-No-Tee, is impressive; Mr. Frederick Harker is good as the ultra-villainous Jacob McCloskey; Salem Scudder receives a clever portrayal at the hands of Mr. William Matthews; Mr. Edward Swinton is really funny as the favourite Nigger Pete; Mr. Fawcett Lomax does full justice to the part of the genial Mr. Sunnyside; Mr. Harry Esden makes a typical Captain Ratts. Miss Daisy Stone is capital as the boy Paul, and other parts are well filled by Messrs. Monson Thorpe (George), Henry Hammond, A. C. Tor, Scott Turner, Misses Violet Temple (Mrs. Peyton), Sybil Hare (Dora), and Lily Wainwright (Grace). Songs are contributed by Miss Daisy Stone and Miss Lily Wainwright, the dances of the former being prettily executed.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Frank Sylvo is at the head of affairs this week, and keeps the house merry with his quaint juggling. Veronica Brady and company are successful in their musical comedy sketch, *The Rag-time Queen*. Bass and Guinness are smart eccentrics and dancers. Grace Abbott (the winner of a singing competition here a fortnight ago) is a pleasing vocalist. The Palace Pictures, as usual, are interesting, and amongst the other contributors are Fred Dunston (in song, parody and patter), Daisy Ray (comedienne and dancer), and Rose Tilley (versatile artist), all of whom command attention and applause.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr. Fred Jarman's company, with *Under the Czar*, which has had a cordial reception Mr. James Hare as Nicholas Yeroslaff, proves himself to be an artist of great ability; and Mrs. W. H. Riley gives a capital impersonation of Zakhar Zovesky. Mr. Louis Weston as Paul Igmah, presents an able portrayal of the character; Mr. Laurence O'Brien makes the most of Alexis Petroff; and Mr. J. Leicester does justice to the rôle of Egar Gregorovich. Mr. A. C. Cresswell is good as Nikon; and Mr. Philip Jowett is a satisfactory Count Neneldorf. As Zara, Miss P. Carew sustains the part in a capable manner; Miss Kathleen Cavanagh is an effective Sonia Gregorovich; and Miss Linda Riley is well placed as Sismoko.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The bill here is headed by Miss Daisy De Roy, comedienne, who is cordially received. The Maros, triple bar comedians, are smart; the Lynches, with their American picture songs, are as popular as ever; and Mr. Tom Fancourt and Miss Jennie Rubie, in *Out of Barracks*, are well received. Mr. George Bernard, actor-vocalist, is a great favourite; Musgrove, speciality artist, is clever; and the bio-photoscope is greatly relished.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—Mr. Alf Berg's vaudeville company is this week occupying the theatre here. Wambo, a clever trick cyclist, brings down the house with his marvellous performances on the wheel; Miss Clara Urwin sings and dances in a charming manner; Mr. Alf Berg receives well-merited applause for his exhibition of weight-lifting; Mr. Alec. Alexander, actor-vocalist, displays ability of a high order; Miss Gertrude Martine possesses an excellent soprano voice; Leo Selwyn, although secured by numerous handcuffs, and locked in a box, escapes with a rapidity which is amazing; Jesse Ricardo is a skilful conjurer; an excellent sketch entitled *Found Faithful*, and played by Messrs. W. T. Burgess, H. Shaw, and W. F. Rogers, is accorded a hearty reception.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Royal Pierrot Co.; Manager, Mr. Arthur Smethurst.—Another attractive programme is provided this week. Miss Evelyn Barrie, soprano, sings sweetly; Miss Mabel Ashton, vocalist, also receives a hearty welcome; Miss Nellie Stuart and Mr. Teddy Worth, the comedy pair, are meeting with excellent receptions; and Mr. Glanmore Jones again sings with his usual telling effect. Comedy is well represented by Mr. Jim Pullin, who is encored; and Happy Atwood, all smiles and jokes, is retailed another week. Barry Gilmore, now in his fourth week, seems to grow in popularity.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company in *Sergeant Brue* is here this week. Mr. Arthur Reynolds as Sergeant Brue creates much fun; Mr. E. Percy Rogers is equally humorous as Michael Brue; Mr. Arthur Stroud is a good Gerald Treherne; Mr. Chas. McLagan deserves praise as Cookie Scrubbs; Mr. Henry Chichester ably portrays Mr. Cranks; and Mr. Chas. Sims as Matthew Habisham, Mr. Clarence Napier as Inspector Gorringe, Mr. Arnold Webster as Mr. Lamb, and Mr. J. F. Leighton as Capt. Bay ably fill their respective parts. Miss Eva Weigh most charmingly fills the part of Aurora Brue; Miss Eliza Earle does admirably as Daisy; and Miss Lily Lingard is an attractive Lady Birkenhall.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is being presented here this week. J. P. Long gives a successful comedy monologue; Mr. Charles Parker's Six Æolians have a capital reception; Louis Counsell and Oscar Mills are amusing in their comedy, *On the Stage*; the Dagodets submit a good turn; Tate and Tate as trampolin acrobats are smart; George Carney and Frank Armstrong prove amusing in their sketch, *The Pro. and the Baggage Man*; the Sisters Marion are pleasing duettists; W. H. Downs displays ability as a ballad vocalist; and Harry Mansfield, in *Dreamland*, scores a success. The Hippodrome Biograph is very entertaining.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The brightness, fun, and rousing choruses of *The Prince of Pilsen* gained the heartiest appreciation of Monday's audience, and Mr. George Musgrove's company deserves every congratulation. Mr. Edwin Adeler is the life and soul of the play as the Cincinnati brewer, his amusing sayings and clever business evoking the utmost merriment; Mr. G. Villiers Arnold uses an agreeable voice with skill and spirit; Mr. Stuart Alexander acts effectively as Carl Otto; and the vacuous Earl of Shrimpton is well depicted by Mr. Lawrence Wensley; the excitable and volatile François has a capable exponent in Mr. Alfred Selby; and the liveliness of Sidoni is cleverly shown by Miss Nell Emerald; Miss Nellie Cozens sings with considerable taste the music allotted to Mrs. Crocker; and Miss Clara Stanton, as a Gibson girl, makes a specially interesting figure in one of Miss Cozen's songs; Miss Ruby Verdi impersonates the brewer's daughter with a daintiness and grace that win the warmest admiration; and Miss Mildred Baker enacts Edith Adams in a thoroughly accomplished manner.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. P. Cooke.—A drama of absorbing interest, *The Little Breadwinner*, is presented this week by an excellent company, touring under the auspices of the author, Mr. J. A. Campbell. The title-rôle is ably sustained by Little Emmie Thomas, whose sweet singing quite captivates the audience. Mr. J. A. Campbell is a finished actor, and his dignified assumption of the part of the Quaker, Lord William Dorrington, is a fine piece of work; Mr. David Gordon commands much sympathy by his manliness under oppression, as Richard Lawrence, whilst the utmost detestation is evinced for the villainous Prior, well depicted by Mr. Scott Leighton; Miss Mary Fulton has every opportunity for good work as Margaret Daventry. The comedy side of the piece is well cared for by Mr. Allen Charles as Charles Prior; Miss Jenny Bostock as Bridget O'Flanaghan; and Miss Lissa Young as Bobby Trott; Miss Maud Buchanan has all the necessary "go" for the villainess, and a charming little Quaker servant is found in Miss Emmie Litchfield.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—A smart little episode, entitled *The Bank Robbery*, shows the dramatic capabilities of Messrs. Edward Ranier, Henry Watson, Tom Wilton, Alf. Knight, Arthur Barnes,

are clever whistlers and dancers; La Martine is a smart baton manuipulator; Flo Viller, male impersonator, is successful; and Frazer and Mac also appear.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The Musical Schafers have a very good turn in *The Garden of Melody*; the Brothers Zampah, one-legged marvels, are well received in their jumping feats; Florrie Bray is a capable comedienne; and Zaro and Arno give a novel comedy bar act. Wat Tyler, in his latest successes, is good; Winnie Scott, soubrette; and Will Ellerslie, comedian, are also in the bill; and the Dottoscope, as usual, has some up-to-date pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche's company has been delighting visitors up here for the Eights Week with a charming representation of *What the Butler Saw*. Mr. Charles Fawcett gives a delightfully free and natural performance of Jack Barrington; Mr. R. Anderson is excellent as Sir Charles Foden; General Dunlop, Weinstein, Clifford, de Bogyas, and Professor Shale all find capable exponents in Messrs. G. Ascott, H. R. Rignold, G. Beale, A. Alves, and R. Byford; while Mr. Lionel Rignold keeps his audience in high good humour right through the play by his intensely droll performance of Pink the butler. Miss Ada Blanche is bright and effective as Mrs. Barrington; and the other ladies' characters are well sustained by the Misses Marie Daltra, Grace Richardson, Phyllis Gibson, Minnie Willett, Edith Blanche, Annie Gerrard, and May Hart.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. J. P. Kennedy's variety company is here. It includes Miss Rosie Ascot, serio; Miss Grace Rosaire, ballad vocalist; and Mr. Frank Florence. La Rola dances artistically; and Mr. Jack Shepherd gives an exhibition of handcuff tricks. The farce *Muldoon's Picnic* is played by members of the company.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—Mr. Herbert St. Clair and Miss Violet Maitland's company is in possession here this week in *By Tempest Tossed*. Mr. Herbert St. Clair submits a sterling impersonation of Peter Ingleby; while Miss Violet Maitland plays with histrionic ability the part of Nance Kingston. A capital portraiture is that of Jasper Marsden by Mr. Harry Glenney; as is also that of Ben Ingleby by Mr. Hugh Macdonald. Mr. Fred Sidney plays with conspicuous success the part of Jack Harper: Horatio Jones is made a very funny and humorous character as presented by Mr. Sam Allen; and clever are the assumptions of Benson by Mr. W. May, Simon Trueman by Mr. Tom Chester, Captain Meredith by Mr. F. Harboard, and Lieutenant Stone by Mr. T. Watson. Miss Flo Stansfield acts capably as Mrs. Kate Ingleby; Miss Doris Brandon as Sally is highly amusing; Miss Phyllis St. Clair as Little Nellie Ingleby plays intelligently; and Miss Nellie Saker is to be commended for her embodiment of Davy, a fisher lad.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr. J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr. Delno Fritz.—This house closed for the season on Monday night, when a special programme was submitted, on the occasion of Mr. Fritz's annual benefit. Quite a host of artists contributed to the programme.

PLYMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Langdon Lee. The first visit of Mr. Charles Frohman's company in *Leah Kleschna* drew a crowded house on Monday, and the audience was rewarded with a rich dramatic treat. Mr. Robert Pateman, as Kleschna, tendered a magnificent representation of a man of indomitable will and determination; Mr. S. Graeme Cambell was equally convincing as the firm yet generous Paul Sylvaine; Mr. Cyril Harcourt, as the contemptible Raoul Berton, evinced a close study of Parisian fast life, and Schram (Kleschna's assistant) was carefully depicted by Mr. E. H. Brook. Miss Haidee Wright earned rapturous applause by her impersonation of Leah Kleschna, the scenes in which she was associated with Kleschna and Sylvaine being models of dramatic art; the other feminine parts are comparatively small, but what had to be done was well done by Miss Haidee Hemsley (Clair Berton), Miss Ethel Marryat (Madame Berton), and Miss Dorothy Sidney (Sophie Chaponnière).

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr. A. Carlton; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—Horace Stanley's company pays a return visit in *The 10.30 Down Express*, a piece well known and very popular locally. There is plenty of romance, exciting incident and humour, to which full justice is done by a very capable company.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Livermore; General-Manager, Mr. S. Field. — Richard Corbin's wonderful comedy and acrobatic dogs evince marvellous canine sagacity; Dale and O'Malley, patter comedians, strike out a distinctly original line; the Five Astleys obtain plenty of music and fun out of farm implements; Les Valdos have a humorous sketch entitled *The Eccentric Motor-Bus Man*, in which they introduce a clever acrobatic turn, and Frazer and Haley are an accomplished pair of lady vocalists; Louis Kerno (comedian), Evie Hamilton (soubrette), and Vernon's Pictures complete the programme.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. John Higson.—A smart little variety company, called the Roman Singers, occupies the platform this week. The various members remain incognito, but one lady is possessed of a fine soprano voice far above the average. Amongst the male members there is a rich tenor, and an exceptionally good baritone. The company have drawn large audiences all the week.

PORTH.—POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Bynorth.—Mr. Reginald H. Adair's company opened on Monday to an excellent house in *The Luck of Life*. Mr. R. H. Stephenson gives a capital rendition of George Stanhope; Mr. Roland Yorke satisfactorily portrays the villainous Michael Bazilovitz; Count Petroff is ably presented by Mr. Leonard Thackeray; Mr. H. Hesslegrave does good work as Bahadur, and Ivan Polowski has an able representative in Mr. Albert Cuthbertson. Miss Mary Dawson gives an excellent account of herself as René Bazilovitz; Miss Gertrude Beneers deserves complimenting on her impersonation of the Countess; and Miss Kate Perowne is good as Mlle. de Beaudyn. The lighter parts are meritoriously played by Mr. George Davis as Simon Stanley, and Miss Dora Huggett as Laura.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—*Lady Clancarty*, with the distinguished American actress, Mrs. Russ Whytal, in the title-rôle, is the attraction at this house for the week. It is many years since the piece was played in Portsmouth, so, in a sense, it is like a new production. Mrs. Whytal gives a very successful and well balanced portrayal of the high-spirited and much tried Lady Clancarty; Lady Betty Noel is played by Miss Mabel Knowles in a sprightly and charming manner; Mother Hunt is also admirably depicted by Miss Ada Marius; Mr. Claude King as Donough Macarthy, "Earl Clancarty," is excellent, the impersonation being well sustained; Cardell, "Scum Goodman," is capitally taken by Mr. J. J. Bartlett; Mr. Leslie Palmer is convincing as the Earl of Portland; and Lord Charles Spencer and Lord Woodstock are ably acted by Messrs. Edward Beecher and Arthur Hardy.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate. —Mr. Frank Lindo and company are here for the week, in the domestic drama, *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr. Frank Lindo ably impersonates the manly young fisherman, Stephen Armitage; David Armitage is well taken by Mr. J. W. Henson; and Mr. Charles H. Lester, as the unscrupulous Lucas Lyle, is most successful. Miss Marion Wakeford as Joan acts sympathetically; Dora is prettily taken by Miss Daisy Rochefort; Miss Hetty Webster and Miss Mary Denver with Messrs. Sydney Bryant and Ernest E. Owens are responsible for the lighter side of the drama.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Topping the bill here for the week are Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, with their kindergarten act. Sauteron, the jumping expert, gives an exhibition of his quality; Lottie Siegenberg with her musical sketch is a success; Lambert and Hands, operatic vocalists, are distinctly good; Newco and Sullo are a pair of grotesque dancers; Minnie D'Aubyn, burlesque artist, is smart; the Lyons Trio of pantomimists score heavily; and also appearing are Martinette and Wallace, coloured musical comedy artists; and E. W. Selman, comedian and dancer. Payne's Bio-Photoscope, with new pictures, is also an attraction.

PRESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—The variety fare provided by Fred Karno's No. 1 vaudeville company has been a strong attraction here this week. The three popular sketches, *Early Birds*, *Gaol Birds*, and *Mumming Birds*, keep the audience in continuous laughter. Datas illustrates his wonderful power of memory by instantly giving the dates and full details concerning important events named by members of the audience; Woolmer Young, comedian, renders his songs in good style; the Marblesque Trio appear in various effective poses; the Two Eltons display remarkable agility in their comedy bar act; Harry Leybourne scores a success with his mimetic vocalism; Alec Kendall's funny songs and stories evoke hearty laughter; and the duets and dances of the Sisters Tinsley gain loud applause.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—This week Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company is presenting *The London Fireman*. Miss Nellie Shirely as Ada Curtis leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Oliver Birrell ably sustains the difficult rôle of Viscount Fleming; Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as Hal Curtis is an ideal hero; Mr. Edward L. Garside shows great dramatic ability in the part of Ratty; Miss Nellie Garside as Polly Bramble, and Mr. Charles A. Preece as Nixy Stinger, keep the audience in mirthful mood.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Lockhart's Elephants figure as the chief attraction here this week, and under the direction of Mabelle they give a remarkably clever performance. Alex. Leo and Leo Trainor are smart comedians; Sam Jesson's Little Merrymakers sing and dance very pleasingly in a musical sketch, "Minnie's Birthday"; Gertrude Mason contributes some taking songs; Tennis and Laune are clever character duettists; Mannon's Merry Maids create hearty laughter in *A Motor 'Bus Outing*. Fields and Lewis are capital burlesque artists; Bioscope pictures complete an enjoyable programme.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jas. Boothman.—A strong variety company is occupying the boards here. It includes Hardeen, the King of the Handcuffs; Master Nat Blair, an expert violinist and pianist; Marie Gibson, vocalist; J. P. Carroll, the military tambournist; the King's College Boys, singing septette;; Herbert Jackson, clog dancer; Rich and Reilly, knockabouts; Fred. Keeton, comedian; Halma, society juggler; and Charles Matthews, jumper.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. H. Bowman.—*A Fight for Millions*, a drama full of exciting incidents, has this week been staged here by Mr. Robert Perris's company. There have been good houses and appreciative audiences, the various clever situations and the acting of the principals being warmly applauded. Mr. Jack Armitage makes an excellent Tom Manley and Miss Eva Purcell a charming Pearl Rivers; Mr. J. G. Beresford is an effective Hudson Rivers; and the fun of the play is in the capable hands of Mr. N. Conway (Harold Hobbs) and Miss Lottie Pearce (Betty Brady).

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE — Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—This week we have a visit from the New Empire Animated Photo and Vaudeville Co., which opened on Monday. Miss Carlotta Lunn quickly gained the appreciation of the audience with her excellent musical contributions. Mr. Harry Bent was successful in keeping the house convulsed by his clever mimicry; Dwight and Son gained applause for their dancing; and Miss Molly Doon was decidedly dainty. Shawlene, a siffleur of exceptional ability, brought down the house with his solos. The animated photos were charming.

READING. — ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. B. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—*A Sister's Sin* is being presented this week by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Miss Violet Langley as Minnie Hastings, Miss Isa Lyndon as May Raymond, and Miss Dorothea Vivian as Jack all meet with approval; Mr. William Vane acts with power as the hero, Harold Raymond; and the comic element is well provided for by the humorous acting of Mr. Horace Custins as Larry Murphy; and the rival sweethearts, Floss Perks and Nell Stubbs, cleverly represented by the Misses Edie Macklin and Alice Glanville.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague. —*Passion's Power* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Wm. Clayton acts with power the part of Prince Kandos; Mr. Frank Radcliffe, as the bluff, honest General Zuran, is lifelike in his impersonation; Mr. Walter Roberts plays well as Rudolph Laski; Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan cleverly depicts the villainous Michel Laski; and Mr. Henry Howard appears as Patrice, a journalist. Miss Stella Carmichael has to be credited with a well-acted portrayal of Countess Delaunay; and Miss F. Conyers Radcliffe fascinates the audience as Norah Varno.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee.—Pringle's North American Animated Pictures are here once again. Variety turns are interspersed by the Bouncing Dillons; Mr. Ben Holdsworth, mimic; the Katos, Komikal Kidgets; and Mr. H. Kirk, comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Good business is being done here this week. J. W. Rowley is a popular comedian, with his witty patter and songs; Bert Woodward performs all kinds of tricks on his bicycle; the Arizona troupe give a good turn of juggling and foot balancing; Vardon and his caddie submit an amusing ventriloquial turn; other artists contributing to the programme include Billy Burns, vocalist; Frank Hartley, the juggling schoolboy; Albert Brady and company, sketch artists; and Will Percival, dancer.

RUGBY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—This week the United English Opera Company, under the direction of Mr. F. S. Gilbert, is appearing. On Monday *Faust* was presented. Mr. F. S. Gilbert, in the title-rôle, was a great success; Mr. Kneale Campbell as Mephistopheles was artistic; and as Valentine Mr. David Fuller displayed marked ability. Mr. H. Davis was good as Wagner. The Marguerite of Miss Kitty Brownless left very little to be desired, her rendering of the part throughout meeting with much appreciation. Miss Vera Vizard as Siebel was an undoubted success; Miss Doris Gilbert as Martha was excellent. During the week *Maritana*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment* were down for performance.

SCARBOROUGH. — PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The variety company here includes the popular comedian Witty Watty Walton. Miss Violet Beatrice sings her Irish songs with success; Leo Fallowfield is both quaint in his songs and get-up as a comic singer; the Recars give a good acrobatic exhibition; the Rizarelis score as lady gymnasts; T. E. Johnstone, with popular songs, receives deserved applause; Matt Wilkinson's sketch company are also here in *The French Woman* and *The Registry Office*, and are well worth seeing; and Vernon's bioscope still retains its popularity with up-to-date pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Geo. Zalva.—A capital bill of fare is again provided here this week. The turn of Wild, Willie, and West in the *Bricklayers* contains a great deal of variety. The Lovelaces, with their American song illustrations, are favourably received. Chief amongst the cinematograph pictures, which are still the leading feature in the programme, is "Life of a New York Policeman."

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—The entertainment for the current week is provided by Miss Brenda Leslie's company of pierrots, and some animated pictures. Prominent amongst the artistes are Charles Bradford, a clever humorist; Bert Rolfe, a double-voiced vocalist, whose singing is much appreciated; Millie Legrand, a charming soubrette; Katie Dudley, a pleasing soprano; Lawrence Wright, a skilful instrumentalist; Vera Wedburn, a smart dancer; Lena Dudley, a powerful soprano; Trixie Toole, a successful serio and dancer; and others. A laughable sketch, *The Woman in a Trance*, is given by members of the company. The Crown Trio of lady dancers also contribute a clever turn. Miss Brenda Leslie in American picture songs is distinctly pleasing. The animated pictures include some films of the French mining calamity at Courrières.

(*Continued on page 27.*)

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

LADY COUNCILLOR, Liscard, April 2, 1900.
LADY CYCLIST, Luton, April 24, 1897.
LADY DAISY, Great Grimsby, Feb. 12, 1896.
LADY D'ARCY, New Theatre Royal, Bristol, May 25, 1870.
LADY DEADLOCK'S SECRET, Theatre Royal, Windsor, Nov. 28, 1883.
LADY DEANE, St. George's Hall, May 26, 1887.
LADY DEDLOCK'S SECRET, Opera House, Aberdeen, April 3, 1874.
LADY DETECTIVE, Hanley, March 13, 1899.
LADY DI'S VISIT, Opera House, Chatham, April 26, 1897.
LADY DOROTHY'S SCHEME, Newcastle-on-Tyne, June 24, 1895.
LADY FLORA, Court, March 13, 1875.
LADY FORTUNE, Globe, Sept. 18, 1887.
LADY FROM THE SEA, Terry's, May 11, 1891.
LADY GLADYS, Opéra Comique, May 7, 1894.
LADY GODIVA, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, May 5, 1873.
LADY GODIVA AND PEEPING TOM, Sanger's, Dec. 27, 1875.
LADY GUIDE, Terry's, April 15, 1891.
LADY HATTON, Theatre Royal, St. Helens, Sept. 3, 1883.
LADY HUNTWORTH'S EXPERIMENT, Criterion, April 26, 1900.
LADY INTERVIEWER, Theatre Royal, Richmond, Dec. 14, 1896.
LADY ISABEL, Holborn, Jan. 16, 1873.
LADY JANE GREY, Britannia, May 25, 1874.
LADY JEMIMA, Whitstable, Aug. 29, 1888.
LADY JOURNALIST, Steinway Hall, July 4, 1893.
LADY KILLER, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, July 13, 1885.
LADY LAURA'S ARCADIA, Bayswater, July 10, 1897.
LADY LAWYER, Garrick, March 8, 1897.
LADY LILLIAN, Opera House, Huddersfield, June 15, 1885.
LADY LILIAN, Pavilion, March 29, 1880.
LADY LOVINGTON, Athenæum, June 28, 1888.
LADY OF BAYONNE, Opera House, Cheltenham, Feb. 9, 1897.
LADY OF KILDARE, Queen's, Salisbury, March 4, 1872.
LADY OF LONGFORD, Covent Garden, July 21, 1894.
LADY OF LYONS, VERY LATEST EDITION OF, Strand, July 11, 1859.
LADY OF LYONS, Adelphi, Feb. 9, 1898.
LADY OF LYONS, Burlesque, Imperial, April 23, 1879.
LADY OF LYONS MARRIED AND CLAUDE UNSETTLED, Royalty, Glasgow, Sept. 27, 1884.
LADY OF LYONS MARRIED AND SETTLED, Gaiety, Oct. 5, 1878.
LADY OF OSTEND, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, June 19, 1899.
LADY OF QUALITY, Ladbroke Hall, March 7, 1896.
LADY OF THE LAKE, New Royalty, Sept. 8, 1866.
LADY OF THE LANE, Strand, Oct. 31, 1872.
LADY OF THE LOCKET, Empire, March 11, 1885.
LADY OR THE TIGER, Elephant and Castle, May 7, 1888.
LADY PHILOSOHPER, Heaton Moor, March 4, 1898.
LADY SATAN, Openshaw, June 28, 1897.
LADY SLAVEY, Opera House, Northampton, Sept. 4, 1893.
LADY'S MAID, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, April 17, 1893.
LADY VOLUNTEERS, Parkhurst, July 13, 1896.
LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN, St. James's, Feb. 20, 1892.
LADY WITH A TEMPER, 1857.
LADY WRANGLER, Duke of York's, March 4, 1898.
LA FEMME DE CLAUDE, Daly's, July 17, 1894.
LA FIGLIA DI BOBY, Crystal Palace, Aug. 4, 1898.
LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT, Philharmonic, Oct. 4, 1873.
LA FILLE DU REGIMENT, St. James's, June 19, 1854.
LA FILLE DU TAMBOUR MAJOR, Alhambra, April 19, 1880.
LA FILLEULE DU ROI, Criterion, June 7, 1875.
L'AFRICAINE, Covent Garden, July 22, 1865.
LAGGARD IN LOVE, Trafalgar Square, April 27, 1893.
LA GIOCONDA, Covent Garden, May 31, 1883.
LA GITANA, Pavilion, April 15, 1876.
L'AINE, Royalty, Oct. 26, 1887.
LA JOI FAIT PEUR, Royalty, June 30, 1891.
LA JUIVE, Drury Lane, April 11, 1893.
LAKME, Gaiety, June 6, 1885.
LALLA ROOKH, Lyceum, Dec. 24, 1857.
LA LOCANDIERA, Lyric, May 30, 1893.
LA LUCE DELL'ASIA, Covent Garden, June 11, 1892.
LA MAIN, Coronet, Oct. 22, 1900.
LA MARJOLAINE, Royalty, Oct. 11, 1877.
LA MASCOTTE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Sept. 19, 1881.
LAMED FOR LIFE, Royalty, June 12, 1871.
LAME EXCUSE, Prince of Wales's, April 19, 1869.
L'AMICO FRITZ, Covent Garden, May 23, 1892.
L'AMI DES FEMMES, St. James's, Nov. 10, 1890.
L'AMI FRITZ, Royalty, June 25, 1891.
LA MEGERE APPRIVOISEE, Opêra Comique, May 30, 1892.
LA MORT CIVILE, Her Majesty's, March 7, 1884.
LA MORT DU DUC D'ENGHIEN, Royalty, Feb. 4, 1889.
LANCASHIRE LIFE, Pavilion, May 15, 1875.
LANCASHIRE SAILOR, Terry's, June 6, 1891.
LANCASHIRE WEAVER LAD, Manchester, Oct. 10, 1877.
LANCASHIRE WITCHES, Lyceum, July 17, 1858.
LANCELOT AND ELAINE, Alexandra Palace, July 23, 1898.
LANCELOT THE LOVELY, Avenue, April 22, 1889.
LAND AHEAD, Theatre Royal, Hull, March 4, 1878.
LAND AND LOVE, Globe, May 26, 1884.
LAND AND THE PEOPLE, New Cross, Oct. 16, 1893.
LANDLADY, THE, Shaftesbury, April 4, 1889.
LANDLORD, THE, Theatre Royal Sunderland, Feb. 8, 1886.
LAND OF DIAMONDS, Sadler's Wells, June 2, 1884.
LAND OF GOLD, Elephant and Castle, Feb. 25, 1888.
LAND OF HEARTS' DESIRE, Avenue, March 29, 1894.
LAND OF NOD, Theatre Royal, Lincoln, May, 24, 1897.
LAND OF PIE, Leicester, Jan. 17, 1899.
LAND OF THE LIVING, Prince of Wales's, Grimsby, March 16, 1889.
LAND RATS AND WATER RATS, Surrey, Sept. 5, 1868.
LANSDOWN CASTLE, Cheltenham, Feb. 7, 1893.
LANTERN LIGHT, Elephant and Castle, Feb. 15, 1873.
LA PART DU DIABLE, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, May 7, 1870.
LA PETITE MADEMOISELLE, Alhambra, Oct. 6, 1879.
LA PETITE MARIEE, Opéra Comique, May 6, 1876.
LA PERICHOLE, Princess's, June 27, 1870.
LA PETITE FADETTE, Royalty, May 17, 1897.
LA POULE AUX ŒUFS D'OR, Alhambra, Dec. 23, 1878.
LA POUPEE, Prince of Wales's, Feb. 24, 1897.
LA PRIMA DONNA, Avenue, Oct. 16, 1889.
LA PRINCESSE LOINTAINE, Daly's, June 17, 1895.
LA PROMISE, St. James's, June 12, 1854.
LARA, Her Majesty's, Jan. 31, 1865.
LA REGINA DI SCOZIA, Folies, July 14, 1883.
LA REINE DE LA GLACE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Nov. 18, 1897.
LA REINE DES NAIDES, King's Cross, April 30, 1870.
LA REINE JUANA, Drury Lane, July 10, 1893.
LA REVANCHE DES CIGALES, Matinée, April 17, 1897.
LARKINS' LOVE LETTERS, New Holborn, Oct. 6, 1866.
LARK IN THE TEMPLE, Alexandra, Nov. 5, 1866.
LARKS, Southport, Feb. 22, 1886.
LARKS IN LONDON, Hammersmith, July 17, 1899.
LA ROSIERE, Shaftesbury, Jan. 14, 1893.
LAST MOMENT, New East London, Oct. 26, 1867.
LA SECONDA MOGLIE, Lyceum, May 12, 1900.
LA SERENTA, Prince's, Manchester, June 18, 1888.
LA SONNAMBULA, Britannia, Nov. 28, 1859.
LA SOUPIERE, Gaiety, June 23, 1882.
LA SOURIS, Comedy, June 24, 1886.
L'ASSOMMOIR, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, Aug. 16, 1879.
LA STATUE DU COMMANDEUR, Prince of Wales's, June 11, 1892.
LA SULAMITA, Standard, Nov. 30, 1895.
LASS OF RICHMOND HILL, Theatre Royal, Richmond, April 12, 1893.
LASS THAT LOVED A SAILOR, Folkestone, May 22, 1893.
LASS THAT LOVES A SAILOR, Theatre Royal, Great Grimsby, Sept. 17, 1883.
LAST ACT, St. Andrews, Nov. 2, 1899.
LAST APPEAL, Britannia, July 4, 1859.
LAST CALL, Liverpool, April 1, 1895.
LAST CAUSE, Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool, March 25, 1868.
LAST CHANCE, Adelphi, April 4, 1885.
LAST CHAPTER, Strand, Sept. 4, 1899.
LAST DAYS OF POMPEII, Queen's, Jan. 8, 1872.
LAST EXPRESS, East London, June 19, 1871.
LAST FEAST OF THE FIANNA, Dublin, Feb. 19, 1900.
LAST HOPE, Lyceum, Feb. 16, 1859.
LASTING LOVE, Britannia, July 15, 1878.
LAST LIFE, Greenwich, Feb. 9, 1874.
LAST LILY, Kilburn, Feb. 23, 1886.
LAST LINK OF LOVE, Britannia, Feb. 25, 1867.
LAST MAN, Bradford, Feb. 26, 1897.
LAST OF THE BARONS, Strand, April 18, 1872.
LAST OF THE LATOUCHES, Theatre Royal, Croydon, Dec. 3, 1877.
LAST OF THE LEGENDS, Charing Cross, Sept. 1, 1873.
LAST OF THE PALADINS, Gallery of Illustration, Dec. 23, 1868.
LAST OF THE PIGTAILS, Strand, Sept. 6, 1858.
LAST OF THE RACE, Astley's, Oct. 21, 1871.
LAST OF THE WELSH BARDS, Bridgend, April 21, 1873.
LAST ON THE PROGRAMME, Ealing, Sept. 24, 1892.
LAST RECRUIT, Acton, Dec. 6, 1900.
LAST SACRIFICE, Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth, Oct. 12, 1874.
LAST STRAW, St. George's Hall, March 3, 1888.
LAST STROKE OF MIDNIGHT, Grecian, March 18, 1879.
LAST TEMPTATION, Novelty, April 5, 1897.
LAST TRAIN, Richmond, May 7, 1898.
LAST WORD, Lyceum, Sept. 19, 1891.
LATEST EDITION OF BLACK-EYED SUSAN, New Royalty, Nov. 29, 1866.
LATEST FROM NEW YORK, Adelphi, June 29, 1857.
LATE LAMENTED, Court, May 6, 1891.
LATE LOVE, Theatre Royal, Reading, Jan. 7, 1886.
LATE MR. CASTELLO, Comedy, Dec. 28, 1895.
LATE RALPH JOHNSTON, Royalty, Feb. 26, 1872.
LATEST YARN OF THE CRUSOE CREW, Opera House, Ashton, July 16, 1883.
LA TOSCA, Lyceum, July 9, 1888.
L'ATTAQUE DU MOULIN, Covent Garden, July 4, 1894.
LAUGHING PHILOSOPHER, Ladbroke Hall, Nov. 11, 1889.
LAUGHS, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, June 30, 1894.
LAUNDRY BELLE, Gaiety, Dec. 5, 1883.
LAURA; OR, LOVE'S ENCHANTMENT, Novelty, June 20, 1888.
LAURETTE'S BRIDAL, Britannia, Nov. 26, 1866.
L'AUTOGRAPHE, St. James's, Nov. 3, 1890.
LA VALSE, Royalty, Jan. 31, 1889.
L'AVENTURIERE, Princess's, May 23, 1870.
LA VIE, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Sept. 17, 1883.
LA VIE PARISIENNE, Holborn, March 30, 1872.
LA VITA PER LO CZAR, Covent Garden, July 12, 1887.
LA VIVANDIERE, Queen's, Jan. 22, 1868.
LAW AND PHYSIC, Terry's, April 20, 1888.
LAW AND THE MAN, Woolwich, July 30, 1900.
LAWLESS WITNESS, Lyceum, Sunderland, March 7, 1871.
LAW, NOT JUSTICE, Surrey, July 27, 1882.
LAWYERS, THE, Lyceum, May 19, 1853.
LAWYER'S LOVE, A,
LAY OF A LADY, Kennington, May 14, 1900.
LAZY LIFE, New Cross Public Hall, Oct. 12, 1882.
LEADER OF MEN, Comedy, Feb. 9, 1895.
LEADING LADY, Gaiety, May 15, 1896.
LEADING STRINGS, Olympic, Oct. 19, 1857.
LEAF IN THE LIFE OF OUR AMERICAN COUSIN, Theatre Royal, Reading, Nov. 22, 1871.
LEAH, Opera House, June 25, 1892.
LEAH, Burlesque, Southminster, Edinburgh, June 15, 1868.
LEAH, A HEARTY JOKE IN A CAB-AGE, Gallery of Illustration, Jan. 23, 1869.
LEAH HOWARD, Atheneum, Boston, U.S.A., Dec. 9, 1862.
LEAH; OR, THE JEWISH MAIDEN, Opéra Comique, April 27, 1897.
LEAP FOR LIFE, Hebburn, April 2, 1898.
LEAP YEAR, Haymarket, Jan. 15, 1850.
LEAP YEAR'S COMEDY, Bootle, Oct. 23, 1899.
LEATHERLUNGS THE GREAT, Adelphi, July 1, 1872.
LEAVE IT TO ME, Surrey, Dec. 26, 1870.
LEAVENWORTH CASE, Theatre Royal, Halifax, Feb. 9, 1885.
LEAVES OF SHAMROCK, Sadler's Wells, June 22, 1891.
LE BAL MASQUE, Parkhurst, May 16, 1898.
LE BARON ET LA DANSEUSE, Crystal Palace, Aug. 4, 1898.
LE BONHOMME JADIS, Royalty, Jan. 31, 1889.
LE BOSSU; OR, I AM HERE, Surrey, June 27, 1863.
LE CANARD A TROIS BECS, Globe, July 13, 1872.
LE CAPITALISTE, Royalty, Jan. 31, 1889.
LE CHALET, Covent Garden, July 8, 1899.
LE COMPOSITEUR TOQUE, Lyceum, April 4, 1870.
LE COUSIN EDGARD, Royalty, Jan. 31, 1889.
LED ASTRAY, Gaiety, July 1, 1874.
LE DEMI MONDE, Drury Lane, June 19, 1893.
LE DEPIT AMOUREUX, Drury Lane, June 24, 1893.
LE DEPUTE DE BOMBIGNAC, Royalty, March 2, 1888.
LE DOMINO NOIRY, Covent Garden, Feb. 20, 1861.
LE FILIBUSTIER, Drury Lane, June 17, 1893.
LE FILS DE CORALIE, Gaiety, June 8, 1881.
LEGACY, THE, Bedford, Dec. 18, 1879.
LEGACY LOVE, Vaudeville, Dec. 7, 1873.
LEGACY OF HONOUR, Standard, June 25, 1860.
LEGAL IMPEDIMENT, Olympic, Oct. 28, 1861.
LEGAL WRECK, Ladbroke Hall, Aug. 13, 1888.
LEGEND OF MAB'S CROSS, Theatre Royal, Wigan, April 20, 1883.
LEGEND OF NOTRE DAME, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Sept. 25, 1871.
LEGEND OF THE HEADLESS MAN, Adelphi, Nov. 16, 1857.
LEGEND OF VANDALE, Grand, Sept. 1, 1890.
LEGEND OF WEHRENDORF, Britannia, Dec. 16, 1878.
LE GENDRE DE M. POIRIER, Royalty, July 3, 1891.
LE GENTILHOMME PAUVRE, Royalty, Nov. 5, 1888.
LEIDA, Comedy, June 2, 1893.
LEILA, Covent Garden, April 22, 1887.
LE JUIF POLONAIS, Royalty, Nov. 7, 1887.
LELAMINE, Gaiety, Hastings, Feb. 14, 1889.
LELA'S LOVE LETTERS, St. George's Hall, May 31, 1888.

LELIO, Olympic, Aug. 15, 1885.
LE LUTHIER DE CREMONE, Drury Lane, June 23, 1893.
LE MAITRE DE FORGES, Royalty, Jan. 8, 1885.
LE MALADE IMAGINAIRE, Drury Lane, June 12, 1893.
LE MARIAGE DE FIGARO, Royalty, March 12, 1888.
LE MARI A LA CAMPAGNE, Gaiety, June 30, 1882.
LE MARQUIS ST. VALERY, Town Hall, Reading, Jan. 20, 1876.
LE MARRIAGE AUX LANTERNES, New Royalty, Jan. 18, 1862.
LE MONDE OU L'ON S'ENNUIE, Royalty, Oct. 18, 1884.
LENA, Lyceum, July 9, 1889.
LE NABAB, Gaiety, June 27, 1883.
LENDING A HAND, Strand, Jan. 22, 1866.
LEND ME FIVE SHILLINGS, Haymarket.
L'ENFANT PRODIGUE, Prince of Wales's, March 31, 1891.
LEONA, Sadler's Wells, June 20, 1892.
LEONARD; OR, SECRET OF TWENTY YEARS, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Aug. 21, 1876.
LEONIE THE SUTLER GIRL, Sadler's Wells, Feb. 9, 1863.
LEONORE, Ladbroke Hall, May 11, 1892.
LEONTINE, Theatre Royal, Bath, Nov. 7, 1870.
LEO THE TERRIBLE, Haymarket, Dec. 27, 1852.
LE PANACHE, Royalty, Oct. 23, 1876.
LE PATER, Opéra Comique, Oct. 27, 1893.
LE PAUVRE PETIT, Royalty, May 28, 1897.
LE PERE DE MARTIAL, Gaiety, June 20, 1883.
LE PETIT CHAPERON ROUGE, Royalty, May 27, 1892.
LE PETIT FAUST, Lyceum, April 18, 1870.
LEPRACHAUM, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Feb. 19, 1877.
LE PRE AUX CLERES, Covent Garden, June 26, 1880.
LE PRECAUZZIONE, Lyceum, March 22, 1871.
LE PRINCE ZILAH, Gaiety, June 8, 1885.
LE PROCE'S VEAURADIEUX, Royalty, Dec. 14, 1885.
LE RAW CAROTTE, Theatre Royal, Margate, Sept. 19, 1873.
LE REVE, Covent Garden, Oct. 29, 1891.
LE ROI CAROTTE, Alhambra, June 3, 1872.
LE ROI L'A DIT, Prince of Wales's, Dec. 12, 1894.
LE SPHINX, Princess's, May 11, 1874.
LES AMANTS DE VERONA, Covent Garden, May 24, 1879.
LES AMOURETTES, Dublin, April 14, 1885.
LES AMOUREUX DE BOULOTTE, Charing Cross, March 7, 1871.
LES AMOURS DE CLEOPATRE, Royalty, May 31, 1897.
LESBIA, Lyceum, Sept. 17, 1888.
LESBIA THE VESTAL VIRGIN, Opera House, Torquay, June 13, 1881.
LES BREBIS DE PANURGE, Prince of Wales's, May 24, 1886.
LES CENT VIERGES, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Oct. 17, 1874.
LES CHARBONNIERS, Gaiety, June 8, 1883.
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE, Folly, Feb. 23, 1878.
LES DANICHEFF, St. James's, June 17, 1876.
LES DEMOISELLES DE ST. CYR, Royalty, Jan. 28, 1889.
LES DOMESTIQUES, Royalty, Dec. 4, 1884.
LES DRAGONS DE VILLARS, Gaiety, June 24, 1875.
LES EFFRONTES, Drury Lane, June 16, 1893.
LES FAUZ MENAGES, Gaiety, June 1, 1882.
LES FEMMES NERVEUSES, Royalty, March 1, 1889.
LES FOURBERIES DE SCAPIN, Royalty, June 30, 1891.
LES GEORGIENNES, Philharmonic, Oct. 2, 1875.
LES INVALIDES DU MARIAGE, Royalty, Dec. 11, 1884.
LES MOUSQUETAIRES, Globe, Oct. 31, 1880.
LES PANTINS DE VIOLETTE, Princess's, June 27, 1870.
LES PATTES DE MOUCHE, Royalty, Nov. 17, 1884.
LES PETITS OISEAUX, Royalty, June 18, 1891.
LES PLAIDEURS, Drury Lane, June 12, 1893.
LES PRECIEUSES RIDICULES, Drury Lane, June 17, 1893.
LES PREMIERS ARMES DE PIERROT, Royalty, May 31, 1897.
LES PRES ST. GERVAIS, Criterion, Nov. 28, 1874.
LES RANTZAU, Gaiety, June 28, 1882.
LES REVOLTES, St. James's, Nov. 3, 1890.
LES ROIS, Daly's, July 2, 1894.
L'ESSAI, A, Prince of Wales's, July 3, 1888.
LES SCELLES, St. George's Hall, May 25, 1883.
LESSON, THE, Haymarket, Nov. 26, 1881.
LESSON FOR LIFE, Lyceum, July 18, 1860.
LESSON IN ACTING, Sadler's Wells, June 9, 1883.
LESSON IN LOVE, St. James's, Dec. 22, 1864.
LESSON IN MAGIC, R.A., Woolwich, April 27, 1883.
LESSON IN MANNERS, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, Oct. 25, 1897.
LESSON OF LIFE, Marylebone, Dec. 5, 1877.
LESSONS IN HARMONY, St. George's, June 26, 1875.
LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, Royalty, April 16, 1888.
LESSON TO LANDLORDS, Strand July 10, 1888.
LES VIEUX GARCONS, Princess's, June 25, 1870.
LES VOLTIGEURS, Gaiety, July 23, 1881.
L'ETE DE LA ST. MARTIN, Drury Lane, June 29, 1893.
LE TESTAMENT DE CESAR GIRODOT, Royalty, Oct. 15, 1885.
LET NOT YOUR ANGRY PASSIONS RISE, Royalty, June 22, 1881.

THE PIONEERS.

THREE NEW PLAYS.

In the selection of the three new plays which were produced under their auspices last Sunday at the Royalty Theatre the Pioneers have given evidence of sounder judgment than was displayed at the inaugural performance of the society last December. This time they have been wise in introducing the works of young authors who have already won their spurs in one branch of literature or another. Unquestionably the best thing in Sunday's evening's programme was

"COMPROMISING MARTHA,"
A Comedy, in One Act, by Keble Howard.

Martha .....MISS FLORENCE HAYDON
A Neighbour .....MISS MARIANNE CALDWELL
Monica .....MISS JUNE VAN BUSKIRK
The Curate .....MR. A. VANE TEMPEST

Mr. Keble Howard is one of the most brilliant of our younger writers of light literature. In a recent novel, "The Smiths of Surbiton," he contrived to make characters of what some authors would regard as an almost characterless community. *Compromising Martha* is cleverly conceived and cleverly written, and Martha herself is a faithful embodiment of a type of fretful, gossiping old dame every one of us has come in contact with. In her prettily-situated cottage, Martha is engaging most vigorously in the occupation best fitted for a lady of eighty-seven years. Her slumbers are undisturbed by the entrance of the village curate, and Monica, the squire's daughter. Could two lovers who desire to avoid the scandalmongering propensities of the villagers have a more convenient trysting-place, or could the curate and Monica have a worthier object on which to bestow, in the one case, moral ministrations, and, in the other, creature comforts, than dear old Martha? The fact that they happen to visit the cottage at the same time ought surely to be construed as an accident. But there is a talkative neighbour in the clothes-washing line who doesn't construe it in that wise. While the curate and Monica are hiding in separate rooms in Martha's house the talkative neighbour gives vent to her suspicions. But Martha won't hear of them. The curate is such a nice young man, and Monica is such a sweet girl. She is sure they would not bring intrigue into her cottage. The neighbour leaves the old woman with an uneasy feeling that something is going on which should not go on, and somehow Martha fancies she hears an unaccustomed noise. She pretends to be asleep, and snores loudly, as an indication that her sweet forgetfulness of life is quite *bond fide*. Out come the curate and Monica. They relieve their pent-up agonies by a kiss. Something tells them that Martha is shamming to be asleep, and that she has seen their lips meet; and Martha confirms their belief. Wrathfully she informs them that there shall be no scandal in her cottage. She has lived in the village for well-nigh ninety years, and has never allowed a male creature to kiss her! The curate removes the reproach, and makes his exit, after having begged that she will keep silence on the subject of their visit. Martha is very much inclined to carry the matter further, but Monica pleads with her. Has she never been young herself? Would she wreck the lives of two sweethearts? Gradually the old body relents. Monica turns her head as she is leaving the room, and sees Martha in tears.

It was a wonderful characterisation that Miss Florence Haydon gave us in the part of Martha. It seemed too real, too lifelike, for a mere simulacrum—it was flesh and blood, and a fine touch of human nature. Martha, with all her adipose tissue, sat before us, grumbled about her ailments, and croaked out her animadversions upon all the villagers who, she imagined, complained that she had been in the world too long. It was the goodliest bit of acting throughout the whole evening. Mr. A. Vane Tempest submitted a capital portrayal of the curate fallen head-over-heels in love; and Miss June van Buskirk played with naturalness as the affectionate and engaging Monica; while Miss Marianne Caldwell gave an amusing study of a rustic housewife.

We are sorry we cannot pass so whole-hearted an eulogium upon

"OUT OF SIGHT—"
A Comedietta, by Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce.

Ralph Aird .....MR. ATHOL STEWART
Billy .....MR. CECIL ROSE
Footman .....MR. EWAN BROOK
Mrs. Avon .....MISS MABEL BEARDSLEY
Margot .....MISS DAGMAR WIEHE

This is little more than a duologue. As a play—even as a one-act play—it lacks "point," strength, and fulness, and we know that the authors are capable of better work. Ralph Aird, after an absence from England of two years, spent in making a fortune abroad, returns home. During the period of separation from his sweetheart, his affection for her, and hers for him, has waned, and apparently each has someone else in view. But, face to face once more, the old love is renewed. Miss Dagmar Wiehe was delightfully charming and winsome as Margot; and Mr. Athol Stewart furnished an effective and finished presentment of the lover who had roughed it abroad, and returned to share his fortune with the sweet heart of former days.

The melodramatic element in the evening's entertainment was represented by

"DAUGHTERS OF SHEM,"
A Play, in One Act,
Adapted from Mr. Samuel Gordon's Story of the same name,
By Samuel Gordon and Carmel Goldsmid.

Anschel Markovitch ..MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
Zilla .....MISS MADGE MCINTOSH
Golda .....MISS ALICE ARDEN
Commissioner of Police
MR. E. HARCOURT WILLIAMS
Enoch Gontaller .....MR. BERTRAM FORSYTH
Yeiteles .....MR. MORRIS HARVEY

Messrs. Gordon and Goldsmid have an extremely interesting—indeed, thrilling—story to tell; but for a one-act play there is too much of it. They have sufficient material to build up a three-act drama, and, provided a little more attention were paid to the writing and construction, we think they would have no reason to regret the trouble entailed in giving to their present effort the greater scope and dignity of the lengthened work. Now as to the play as it stands. Anschel Markovitch has chosen, according to an old Jewish custom, a husband for his eldest daughter Zilla. The latter has given her heart to the local commissioner of police, a Christian, who once saved her life. A violent scene ensues between father and daughter. She declines Enoch Gontaller, the husband selected by her father, and arranges to run away with the police commissioner the same night. Her younger sister Golda prevents the carrying out of the scheme by keeping Zilla locked in her mother's bedroom, and telling the commissioner that her sister has asked her (Golda) to meet him for the purpose of telling him that she releases him. Golda hints at what would happen in the event of children being born of the union of Zilla and the commissioner. No, Zilla must marry one of her own race, and she must carry out the wishes of her father.

It was, indeed, a superb performance of the part of Anschel Markovitch that we got from Mr. Michael Sherbrooke. He showed us how the homely Jewish father, in his moments of happiness, forced the pace of merriment in others, and when he was angry, one shuddered to think of what he would not be capable of doing. It was excellent acting. Tragic intensity marked many of Miss Madge McIntosh's utterances as Zilla, and the rôle was cleverly handled. Mr. E. Harcourt Williams carried out the authors' ideas so far as the police commissioner was concerned; and Miss Alice Arden was a suitable Golda.

"LEAH KLESCHNA" IN THE LAW COURTS.

In the Court of King's Bench, on Tuesday, judgment was delivered in the action for libel brought by Mr. C. M. S. McLellan, the author of *Leah Kleschna*, against Mr. Charles Hannan, the writer of a letter which appeared in the *Stage* newspaper on May 18 of last year. The letter complained of was as follows:—

"LEAH KLESCHNA."

Sir,—Will you allow me, without prejudice to the various issues and interests concerned, to state that I have intimated to Mr. Charles Frohman and Mr. McLellan, and other parties interested, my claim to priority of copyright in respect of the play *Leah Kleschna*, in virtue of my published novel and previously copyrighted play of the same name, *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*, and that I have requested the immediate withdrawal of the play, *Leah Kleschna*, from public performances, and further, that in my letters upon the subject to Mr. Frohman and others, I have incorporated a clause of the following natdre:—

If, however, you desire to continue or promote performances of the play *Leah Kleschna*, then I hereby intimate to you that you may do so solely on the condition that my charge to you (independent of my claim on other parties) shall be £— per performance, the performance to be held in law in every case as full proof of the interest and liability involved, and as an agreement on your part to pay me the said sum or sums.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

CHARLES HANNAN.

London, May 15, 1905.

The plaintiff contended that this letter charged him with plagiarising from *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*.

The defendant denied that the words complained of bore the construction put on them by the plaintiff, and contended that they were true in substance and fact. He counter-claimed for damages against Mr. McLellan and Mr. Charles Frohman for the alleged infringement of his rights in *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*, and for an injunction.

The case, which was begun last week, when *Leah Kleschna* was read in court, was resumed on Monday, a portion of the morning being taken up by the reading of *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*.

Mr. McLellan was called, and said he had written about fifteen plays. In the autumn of 1901 he was staying in Paris. He and his wife were accustomed to take walks in the afternoons on the Paris boulevards. They met a certain young woman on several occasions who attracted their attention, because she was refined in appearance and very pretty. One day they met her in the company of a man, a very strong, uncompromising villain in appearance. The man was talking to her very violently, and she replied in the same way, both of them being apparently unconscious that they were attracting the notice of the passers-by. During the next few days plaintiff said, he took up the subject as a dramatic possibility, on the lines of a pretty girl committing a crime under strong influence. He did not at first see how he could make it attractive to an English audience. One morning, a fortnight afterwards, however, his wife said: "I dreamt last night that I saw a woman burglar in my bedroom." Instantly the girl of the boulebards came to his mind, and he seized on the incident as suitable for the play.

Mr. McLellan stated that it was in 1901 that the idea of the play came to him, and in 1902 he wrote it in the form of a scenario. He began to write the play in November, 1902. He did not commence it before as he was engaged on *The Jury of Fate* and *Glittering Gloria*. At the beginning of 1903 he discussed *Leah Kleschna* with Mr. Robert Taber, and a complete synopsis was prepared for Mr. Taber and Miss Lena Ashwell in March of that year.

The synopsis was typewritten from the original scenario, to which he had added. He received it on March 11, and sent it to Mr. Taber. On March 12 or 13 he discussed it, at lunch, with Mr. Taber and Miss Ashwell, with a view to a contract. At that time he was engaged on the third act of the play. He finished the two last acts at Geneva; he should think it was finished in June. He then sent it to Mr. Taber.

In reply he received the following letter from Mr. Taber:

"I've read and re-read the play with profound interest, and have given it the best consideration that I'm capable of. We've always been very frank with each other, so I'm going to speak now just what's in my mind—for, if I know you, I'm sure you wish it that way. I consider the play to stand thus: First act, admirable; second act, most admirable; third act, enormous; fourth act, absolutely wrong; fifth act, good. You must appreciate that it is a very trying position for me to assume—sitting up, as it were, in judgment and criticising in a short letter a work that you have given your heart and soul to, and months of untiring labour—but I'm looking at it as one of your audience, and they in the end will decide the fate of your piece. . . Miss Ashwell has read it, without having heard any criticism from me. I particularly wanted to have her unbiassed judgment, and she has arrived at practically the exact opinion that I hold. That, I know, is an important and suggestive fact. . . . Ever faithfully yours, ROBERT TABER."

After the receipt of that letter he re-wrote the fourth act.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hume Williams, K.C., defendant's counsel: Is not the main idea of the play to show a girl who is sent by her father to rob the house of a man whom she is in love with?—It is not indicated at first. But she has been dreaming of him.

Would that not indicate love?—Well, that may be so, but I wished to keep out the idea of love—something deeper I wanted to suggest. I had to introduce the subject of love later to make the play attractive

She bought a photo?—Yes, if that is love.

Mrs. McLellan corroborated her husband's statement as to the inception of the play, and said she had never talked about the play with her brother-in-law.

Miss Gladys Unger gave evidence, and said she saw the original scenario.

Miss Lena Ashwell said the play was submitted to Mr. Taber and herself. She did not see any resemblance between the two plays.

Cross-examined by Mr. Williams, she said she did not think Leah in *Leah Kleschna* was in love with Sylvaine. She had not studied the part in that light. In studying the part she had looked upon the girl as a dreamer, who didn't know what was before her.

Counsel: Sylvaine was a hero.—He had done something brave, and she was interested.

She had bought his photograph, and dreamt about him. Is not that something on the road to love?—I did not feel so.

Mr. J. T. Grein was called, and gave evidence. He said he thought this was a case for arbitration. Often an idea for a play occurred to two minds at the same time. He proceeded to instance one in the history of the French stage, but was interrupted by his Lordship, who said he did not think the matter was relevant. Proceeding, Mr. Grein then gave as his opinion that the two plays were as unlike as chalk from cheese.

Mr. George McLellan, examined, said in February, 1903, he took a flat belonging to the defendant, and the defendant asked him to read his play. Witness read only a few pages, and concluded that it would not do for him. He gave the defendant an introduction to Mr. Warren. Witness did not mention the play to his brother or discuss it with anybody. After *Leah Kleschna* was produced the defendant came to witness's office and said that it resembled his play. Witness suggested that he should go and see it, after which Mr. Hannan wrote to him.

Mr. Charles Warren said that in consequence of Mr. George McLellan's introduction he received the defendant's play. He sent the play to America. He never discussed the play with plaintiff.

Mr. Walter Frith said there was a superficial resemblance between the two plays in respect to the characters; but the plays in general did not resemble one another

Cross-examined by Mr. Williams, he said that given certain material, two authors in working on it would proceed in one direction. In a play one could not have the husband dominate the heroine; that would be uninteresting, and for the same reason the brother could not dominate her.

Mr. Williams: And so by a process of elimination we arrive at the fact that the fathers must always dominate the heroines.

Mr. Charles Frohman, who gave evidence on Tuesday, said he did not remember *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace* ever having been sent to him, though he recollected one or two plays being sent to him by Mr. Hannan. He certainly did not show it to Mr. McLellan.

Mr. Hume Williams: You represent a good number of theatres in London?—Not very good. Mr. Frohman added that Mr. Lestocq was his reader; he did not remember Mr. Lestocq reporting to him that he had read *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*. He encouraged Mr. Hannan considerably in his work, and wrote to him telling him to go on with it.

Counsel for the defendant submitted that there was no case for the jury.

The Lord Chief Justice: I can't possibly withdraw the case from the jury.

In opening for the defendant, counsel said the case of a girl being sent to steal from the man she loved was the very essence of Mr. Hannan's play. He submitted that whether or not the jury came to the conclusion that Mr. McLellan had voluntarily or involuntarily appropriated Mr. Hannan's ideas, there was another point which was sufficient to entitle the jury to give a verdict for the defendant. That point was that there was substantial identity between the two plays in question. If the jury came to that conclusion, and believed that the play *Leah Kleschna*, as produced, contained the germ of the other play, however innocent Mr. McLellan might have been, the result was an infringement of Mr. Hannan's rights.

The Lord Chief Justice: Are you going to allege that Mr. McLellan is not the author of *Leah Kleschna*—that he took the substantial part of the play from *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*?

Mr. Hume Williams: I am going to allege that there is substantial identity between the plays. Continuing his address to the jury, Mr. Hume Williams said it was precisely because such things as that might occur that the copyright law existed, and a man was entitled to protect the copyright in his idea, whether in a play or an invention. Mr. Hannan had produced many plays. Early in 1898 he conceived the idea of writing a book, the main incidents of which should be that thefts should be committed by a girl who was under the direction of her father; and that she should be sent by her father to commit a robbery from a man with whom she had fallen in love, without knowing that the things she was going to steal were his property. Having discovered that she has robbed her lover, the girl at once renounces the life of crime. In 1898 Mr. Hannan accordingly wrote a book called "The Coachman with the Yellow Lace," and shortly after commenced writing a play founded on the book. The book was published on Oct. 31, 1902. Shortly before, he wrote a short one-act play on the book, for the purpose of obtaining copyright. It was produced at Glasgow on Sept. 11, 1902. By November, 1902, Mr. Hannan had completed his four-act play. On Jan. 23, 1903, he sent it to Mr. Lestocq, and in May, 1903, sent it to Mr. Frohman himself. In March, 1903, it was in Mr. George McLellan's possession. Early in 1905 Mr. Hannan read a criticism of *Leah Kleschna*, and discovered that there was a most extraordinary resemblance in the main plot of the two plays. In conclusion, Mr. Hume Williams urged that Mr. Hannan was at any rate entitled to a share in the large profits which Mr. McLellan had made out of *Leah Kleschna*.

Mr. Hannan, who then entered the witness-box, said he commenced his dramatic work by collaborating with Mr. Wilson Barrett fifteen years ago. He dramatised *The Cigarette-Maker's Romance*, and had written a good many other plays.

The Lord Chief Justice, during the examination of the defendant, addressing Mr. Hume Williams, said it must be clearly stated whether defendant charged the plaintiff with stealing ideas from *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*.

Mr. Hume Williams, after consultation with his client, said: We are at one, my lord, in thinking that the proper course is not to suggest that the plaintiff has stolen the defendant's ideas, but to ground our action on innocent coincidences.

The Lord Chief Justice: The way I have put it on my notes is that the defendant's counsel says that he would not ask the jury to find that the story of *Leah Kleschna* was suggested to the plaintiff by perusal of or information given to him as to the play *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace*.

Defendant, continuing, said that in his view there was substantial similarity between the two plays, which in certain respects were worked out in the same way.

Cross-examined as to whether he did not endeavour to make what he wrote true to life, defendant replied, "Not necessarily—sometimes I write quite absurd things."

In cross-examination, the defendant said: *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace* had never been produced. He denied that it was a comic piece from beginning to end.

The Lord Chief Justice: There have been some plays where the people wept at the comic incidents and laughed at the tragic ones.

Mr. Rufus Isaacs, K.C., plaintiff's counsel: And there was actually a piece written as a tragedy, which was put on as a farce, and was a huge success.

Mr. Isaacs: Is not the idea quite general that if you invent a thief for stage purposes, she should be regenerated at the end?

Defendant: Not at all. I should expect her to go down—down—down, and finally, in some big scene, take to drink.

Mr. Isaacs: That seems rather late.

Defendant added that he did not think it always desirable that a play should end happily—he believed that if the woman went down and down, and ended up in a great mad scene, the play would coin money.

Then why didn't you write it?—Because I took the opposite view.

There is nothing novel in a heroine saying, "Put up your swords, for my sake!"—No.

In the case of the duchess, she goes to find the property, for which she understands there is no rightful owner, whereas in the other case Leah Kleschna goes out to steal things which she knows belong to people who are living?—There is a rightful owner, but she does not know he exists.

That is the whole point I am putting to you. When you are presenting a play on an English stage it is rather desirable, is it not, that your heroine should be pure?—Yes. They do not seem to think so nowadays.

Defendant was questioned by Mr. Isaacs as to a play which he produced some years ago at Brighton. One paper, said Mr. Hannan, dealt with the production in parallel columns, comparing the play with *Mice and Men*. Defendant wrote to that journal, pointing out that his play was written thirteen years before. On another occasion he pointed out that a play being produced at the Pavilion was founded on the same lines as a play which he (defendant) was writing on one of his novels. The play was called *The Criminal Judge*, and he wrote asking for its immediate withdrawal.

The Lord Chief Justice: A very proper request

Mr. Isaacs: In substance, this claim is the same as in the present case, except that your fee is £50 per night, as against £25 in the former case?—In this case I hold the copyright; in the other I did not.

In the end, they went on producing the play, and you did nothing further?—That is right.

Mr. Hume Williams: You tried to stop what you believed was an infringement of your book? That was the whole point?—That is so. The author's profits on a play amounted to between 7½ per cent. and 10 per cent. of the gross receipts per night.

The plaintiff also was questioned on this point. He said 10 per cent. was a very large profit. The profit was usually on a sliding scale, rising gradually.

Mr. Hume Williams proceeded to address the jury.

Mr. Isaacs, who followed, mentioned the case of *The Three Musketeers*, two different versions of which were produced in London at the same time. They were based on the same words, but that did not give one playwright the right to say, "You have no right to make a play of it, because I have." The law said, "You must not make a colourable imitation of another man's work, or copy his work." He did not see how Mr. Hannan, who had failed to get *The Coachman with the Yellow Lace* produced, could claim damages.

The Lord Chief Justice, in summing up, said this was an unusual and very interesting case. He was not aware that he could point to any instance where a similar issue had been tried before a jury. There was no doubt that the defendant did mean to say more than that there was an infringement of the copyright, because he had put in a denial that the plaintiff was the author of *Leah Kleschna*. He was glad that any suggestion against Mr. McLellan's honour and honesty had been withdrawn. In this case the jury had to decide whether, looked at substantially, the pith and marrow of Mr. Hannan's play play had been taken by Mr. McLellan. His lordship said he must direct the jury, in face of what Mr. Hume Williams had said, that ideas were not the subject of copyright, unless they were embodied in written words, music, painting, or sculpture. It was rather remarkable that whereas on the plaintiff's behalf there was a body of testimony by critics and experts, who said they saw no plagiarism in *Leah Kleschna*, on the other hand, they only had the defendant's view.

After retiring for forty minutes' deliberation, the jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff, finding that he had not infringed defendant's copyright. They assessed the damages at £25.

POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL OF ELOCUTION.

The 150th open night recital of the School of Elocution of the Regent-street Polytechnic was celebrated on Tuesday evening, when the Grand Hall was crowded with an appreciative audience. During the course of the evening Mr. and Mrs. S. Hasluck, the directors of the School, were presented with an address by the president, Mr. J. E. K. Studd, on behalf of the students. The address read as follows: "Mr. and Mrs. Hasluck,—We, the undersigned, past and present students of the Polytechnic School of Elocution, welcome this occasion—the 150th open night recital—to present you both with this piece of plate as a token of our affectionate esteem, and trust you may be long spared to carry on with your unrivalled abilities your work here. We also wish to express our regard for the kindness, friendship, and attention you have always shown to us, and your deep interest in our class work."

Mr. S. Hasluck made a humorous and feeling speech in response, adding, "The beautiful silver tray you have given us we shall always prize; but more valuable is the address, which breathes the affectionate sympathy you, our students, have for us in our work, and however strong and sincere they may be, it is most deeply reciprocated."

Mrs. Hasluck, who was received with an ovation, said their work in the elocution school was a labour of love, for they learnt to look on their students not only in friendship but in love, and although through ever-changing years their students went forth in all parts of the world, their ties never seemed to sever, and their family had been ever faithful. "We are both very happy," concluded Mrs. Hasluck, "and we thank you all in the name you have so lovingly remembered this evening."

Mrs. Hasluck read congratulatory letters and telegrams from Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. Benson, Mr. Geo. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Maude, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and Sir Charles Wyndham.

The entertainment provided by the past and present students was worthy of all praise. Miss Alice Mellish gave an admirable impersonation of Jo, in "Bleak House," and was well supported by Miss Alice Cronin as Lady Dedlock. Miss Allison Botting appeared as Barnaby Rudge; Miss Bessie Wenmoth as Nell Gwynne; and Miss Maud Drew gave a sketch from "Jonas Chuzzlewit and His Wife"; Miss Rita Gallally and Mr. Bloye Higgs appeared in a scene from *King Henry the Fifth*; Miss Clara Hubbard, in Inglelow's "The High Tide"; Miss Daisy Browne in Andersen's "The Red Shoes," with music by Mr. Walmsley-Little; Miss Alice Bailey as Lady Macbeth in the Sleep-walking scene; Mr. Percival Reed in Matheson's "The Wail of the Banner Bearer," excellently rendered; Mr. Charles Mooney in Buchanan's "Fra Giacomo"; and Mr. Arthur Foxon in Kipling's "Fuzzy Wuzzy." Miss Amy Porter skilfully executed a 'cello solo; and the farcical episode, *The Ladies' Club*, was capitally sustained by Misses Laura Godfree, Evelyn Heepe, Lillian Church, Nancy Tripp, Fanny Barrington, Alice Isaacs, and Mrs. Sweasey, all of whom displayed brightness and vivacity; the evening's entertainment closing with the "Lamentable Comedy of Pyramus and Trisbe," from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the characters in which were humorously depicted by Messrs. Herbert Langston, Douglas Mathews, W. Mervyn Ward, Henry Middlemas, Henry W. Reed, Ernest Wellbeloved, William Faulkner, Edwin Barnes, Bower-Codling, George Maurice, Francis James, Misses Ethel Chandler, Grete Hahn, Florence Coiley, Isabel Arrowsmith, Bessie Skuse, Edith Tomkins, Florence Woolf, Edith Baker, Emily Gould, Ada Hatchwell, Blanche Browne, Gladys Ely, Isabel Frost, Frances Gallally, Gertie Heaton, Violet Purry, Clara Reed, Winnie Reed, Addie Sandwell, Alice Skuse, and Mabel Tranter.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

ACTORS' DAY.

AN APPEAL TO THE PROFESSION.

The arangements for an "Actors' Day" throughout the country, on the basis that, on one night in every year, actors should combine to make provision for their funds and charities, have now been completed by the Council of the Actors' Association, who have been working on them for nearly a year. We print below a copy of the appeal which is being made to every actor, actress, and manager in the country to support this excellent idea.

ACTORS' DAY.

"It has long been felt that actors and actresses, as members of a self-respecting profession, should make more substantial provision for a day of need; that, independently of the charitable public, they, as a body, should be in a position to alleviate the sufferings of their fellow-players, whose cases are often as deserving as they are desperate.

To do this a large income must be available.

With this end in view the Council of the Actors' Association, being the only organised body representing the profession, have determined to bring the matter to a practical issue; and they earnestly ask for your help to carry out what cannot fail to be an enormous benefit to actors individually, and to the profession as a whole.

An organising committee, whose names appear below, has been appointed by the Council. After careful consideration, and conference with their president and vice-presidents, they propose:—

That in every theatre in the United Kingdom, on one night in every year, actors should combine to make provision for their funds and charities.

That the date shall be the third Thursday in October.

Actors and actresses, wherever acting, are asked to give their services for this one night without salary.

Authors are invited to allow their plays to be acted for this one night without fee.

Managers are invited, for this one night, to give their total receipts.

This is our scheme. It has been cordially accepted, and is earnestly commended to all actors and managers throughout the land.

Upwards of forty authors have promised to give up their fees.

Upwards of 1,200 actors, actresses, authors, and managers have promised their support.

The following gentlemen have undertaken to act as trustees:—

Sir George Lewis, Bart.,
Sir Squire Bancroft,
George R. Sims, Esq.

The sum total of all contributions will alone be made public. The contributions from each theatre will be known to the trustees only, each such contribution being sent in one sum, and no details of individual salaries will be given.

All who are not playing on Actors' Day are asked, if they are in a position to do so, to send a proporticnate contribution direct to the trustees.

The names of all actors who are willing to give their services will be registered; and, if unhappily misfortune should overtake them, they can claim as a right, and not as a charity, some share of what they have themselves accumulated.

The proposals of the Committee, as far as they have gone, have met with the keenest interest and approval. If those they have not yet had an opportunity of consulting are equally enthusiastic, the result will be that once a year managers, actors, and authors throughout the kingdom will help to accumulate a fund which, for all time, should place our calling beyond the need of charitable appeal.

Actors will work for actors on one night in every year.

Extract from letter:

'17, Stratton Street,
Piccadilly, W.

I am certainly with your Committee in their admirable proposal to set apart in all theatres one performance a year for the benefit of theatrical funds and charities.

Very truly yours,
Henry Irving.

The Council of the Actors' Association wish it to be clearly understood that they are merely supplying the machinery to establish Actors' Day. Every actor and actress, whether a member of the Association or not, is equally interested, and will benefit equally by the result.

We appeal to every member of the profession.

Acton Bond,
A. E. Drinkwater,
Norman McKinnel,
Cecil Raleigh,
Brandon Thomas,
} Organising Committee appointed by the Council of the Actors' Association.

All who are willing to assist in the work of organisation are invited to send in their names to the Committee."

The following are copies of the two forms in the appeal, one for actors and the other for managers:—

Form A.

To be signed by Actors.

I approve of the proposal, and undertake to give my services this one night without salary.

Date.	*Signature.*	*Permanent Address.*

Form B.

To be signed by Managers.

To the Organising Committee of the Actors' Day.

I approve of the proposal, and undertake to forward my receipts for the one appointed night, each year, to the Trustees of the Actors' Day.

Date.	*Signature.*	*Permanent Address.*

The programme at each theatre to be whatever is then being played at that theatre.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS TO THE COMMITTEE.

I will do all in my power to help the project.
Squire Bancroft.

A noble scheme.
Marie Effie Bancroft.

Use my name by all means as being in hearty sympathy.
Charles Wyndham.

I entirely approve of the scheme for all managers in the United Kingdom setting apart one night's proceeds for theatrical charities, provided, of course, all concerned give their services. I, for one, should certainly support such a scheme.
John Hare.

I entirely approve of the suggestion to devote one night's performance once a year in all theatres in the United Kingdom to theatrical funds, and I heartily commend my fellow actors and managers to adopt the sound proposal to give up their salary and receipts on Actors' Day, as by this means we shall be able to establish a fund worthy of our profession, and rid ourselves once and for all of the necessary and undignified proceeding of having to appeal to the public whenever one of our members breaks down in health.
Arthur Bourchier.

I shall be glad to fall in with any scheme determined upon to raise funds for the charities.
H. Beerbohm Tree.

Nothing in the world could possibly be better for our profession than the institution of this proposed Actors' Day, and we most earnestly trust it may be cordially supported by all.
Cyril Maude.

I certainly think the idea of an Actors' Day for our charities a most desirable one, and I hope it will have the assistance of every actor and manager throughout the Kingdom.
Edward Terry.

If we can carry through the Actors' Day, what a blessing! It will stop the "benefits" that have gone on too long.
C. Hayden Coffin.

Most heartily do I approve of the scheme.
Ed. S. Willard.

Quite willing to assist in the way you suggest.
A. W. Pinero.

We shall be delighted to help you all in our power.
Julia Neilson,
Fred Terry.

The scheme meets with my cordial approval.
J. M. Chute.

I am quite in sympathy.
Catherine Compton.

I shall be very pleased to give my support.
F. R. Benson.

Of course, I am only too delighted.
Henry Neville.

I think the scheme is good. I have great pleasure in giving you permission to use my name.
Arthur Collins.

I shall be very pleased to surrender my fees for the special day.
J. M. Barrie.

I need hardly say how pleased I shall be to help in the sensible course proposed, and have much pleasure in asking you to add my name to those willing to assist in a deserving work.
William Bourne.

The scheme looks well. I shall be pleased to give it my support.
Robert Arthur.

I have the greatest possible pleasure in adhering to your scheme.
Louis N. Parker.

I promise the fees of one performance a year.
G. Bernard Shaw.

I shall be pleased to give you my support for all it is worth. It is a great scheme. Every member of the company accepts it with enthusiasm.
H. A. Saintsbury.

In principle I am with you entirely. Put me down on the list.
J. F. Elliston.

Shall be pleased to fall in with the proposal each year, as far as the rent of the Apollo Theatre is concerned.
E. Aschersberg.

I am quite with you in every way. I send paper signed by every member of *The Christian* company.
Wentworth Croke.

I shall be only too pleased to set apart the proceeds of a performance once a year. It has my fullest sympathy.
Jonathan Dewhurst.

Ours was only a small crowd, but they did their best; they all signed, and agreed with me that the scheme was great.
Henry Renouf.

I willingly add my name to the list. I wish the scheme every success.
John Worswick.

I consider the idea excellent.
Beatrice Homer.

Please add my name; only too delighted to help.
Florence St. John.

Certainly worthy of sympathetic support of all managers. I will do all in my power to assist both at our Brighton and Bristol theatres.
Ernest Carpenter.

I am in complete sympathy . . . will do whatever I can to advance the excellent object.
R. C. Carton.

I heartily subscribe to it. Best wishes for success of so admirable a scheme.
George Mudie.

I will help the scheme with pleasure.
Millicent Bandmann-Palmer.

I have every sympathy with the scheme. I will do all I can to further it.
H. Cecil Beryl.

The following have already promised their support:—

Abingdon, W.; Adair, Mabel; Adams, Blake; Addison, Carlotta; Addison, Victoria; Adye, Oscar; Aickin, Elinor; Ainley, Henry; Alderson, A. Clifton; Alexander, Adam; Alexander, Angus; Alexander, George; Alexander, John; Alexander, Molly Allison; Allen, A. Hylton; Allen, H. Marsh; Allen, Jerrard Grant; Allison, Barbara; Annand, James; Anning, James; Anson, R. F.; Antey, Percy; Applin, Arthur; Ardale, Hugh; Armitage, Harry; Armytage, Bessie; Armstrong, Jennie; Arnold, Sydney; Arthur, Paul; Arthur, Robert; Asche, Oscar; Ascherberg, E.; Ash, Maie; Ashcroft, William E.; Ashdown, William; Ashley, George K.; Ashley, W. H.; Ashwell, Lena; Atherley, Frank; Atherstone, Weldon; Attlay, Holiday; Atwood, Alban.

Back, Phyllis; Bailey, Gordon; Bailey, William; Ball, Elliott; Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.; Bantock, Leedham; Barker, Granville; Barker, J.; Barford, Harry; Barnes, J. H.; Barnett, Orlando; Barrett, jun., Oscar; Barrie, J. M.; Barrington, H. H.; Barry, Shiel; Bartlett, J. J.; Barton, Dora; Barton, Mary; Barton, Naomi; Barwell, Edith; Bascomb, A. W.; Bateman, Jessie; Batley, Ernest G.; Bayley, Blanche; Bayly, Frank G.; Beauchamp, J.; Beaumont, J. H.; Beaumont, Lucy; Beaumont, Muriel; Becket, Paul; Beckingham, Arthur; Bedells, Charles B.; Bedwell, Stanley; Beecher, Edward; Beet, Alice; Begbie, Alex. A.; Bell, Arthur; Bellamy, George E.; Belmore, George; Benson, F. R.; Benson, Mrs. F. R.; Bensusan, Inez; Bentley, Hubert J.; Bently, Walter; Beresford, Cooke; Berlyn, Ivan; Berton, Paul M.; Beryl, H. Cecil; Besant, Reginald; Bessle, Mary; Beveridge, J. D.; Beverley, Edwin; Bioletti, Pascoe; Bird, Miriam J.; Bishop, Alfred; Blake, Gus W.; Blakeley, James; Blakiston, Clarence; Blow, Sydney; Bloxam, F. E.; Blumberg, W. Roy; Blythe, Coralie; Blair-Stapies, Edith; Boaz, Thos.; Boddy, Edward; Bond, Acton; Booth, Junius; Boully, Louie; Boucicault, Dion; Bourchier, Arthur; Borune, William; Bown, Clifford; Bowyer, Fred; Boyce, Katherine; Boyne, Leonard; Bradley, Alexander; Bradley, Mrs. Campbell; Braithwaite, Mrs. J. W.; Braithwaite, Lilian; Brand, Tita; Brayton, Lily; Brema, Marie; Brennard, Lillian; Brereton, S. B.; Brewer, John H.; Brierley, Coningsby; Brodie, M.; Brodie, Matthew; Brooke, E. H.; Brooke, May; Brooke, Minnie; Brooke, Sarah; Brooking, Cecil; Brough, Carlton; Brough, Lionel; Brough, Sydney; Brown, C. E. M.; Browne, Graham W.; Bruce, T. Arthur; Bryan, Dennis; Bryant, Charles; Bryant, Sydney; Brydone, Alfred; Buchanan, George; Buckle, Jennie; Budd, Herbert; Buffum, Ele; Bunston, Herbert; Burney, Gwendoline; Burnaby, G. Davy; Burton, Langhorne; Busch, Lydia; Buss, Harry; Bussé, Margaret; Bue, Henry; Butt, W. Lawson; Byron, John.

Cabourn, John; Cadogan, V. Willcox; Caffrey, Charles; Cairns, John; Calhaem, Fanny; Callisn, Betty; Calton, Shelley; Calvert, Alexander; Calvert, Leonard; Calvert, Louis; Calvert, Wm.; Caine, Hall; Cameron, Charles J.; Campbell, J. M.; Chancellor, Leyton; Cardiff, Maggie; Carlyle, Vincent W.; Carpenter, Ernest; Carpenter, Spencer; Carr, J. Comyns; Carr, Philip; Carroll, George; Carter, Leslie; Carton, Molly; Carton, R. C.; Carvill, H. J.; Caryllon, Ethel L.; Casson, Lewis; Castle, Betty; Castleton, Robert; Catterson, Blanche; Cattley, Cyril; Cecil, F.; Cellier, jun., Francois; Chalmers, Grace; Chambers, C. Haddon; Charnier, Frances; Chart, H. Nye; Chart, Mrs. H. Nye; Chase, Pauline; Cheeseman, W.; Cheetham, Leonard; Chenery, May; Cherry, Malcolm; Chesney, Arthur; Chester, Elsie; Chester, Ruby; Chisholm, Arthur; Chudleigh, Arthur; Chute, James Macready; Clarence, O. B.; Clark, G. F. Hannam; Clark, Huller; Clayton, Julia; Cleather, E. Gordon; Clement, Elfrida; Clement, Laura; Cliffe, H. Cooper; Clifford, Camille; Clifton, Dorothy; Clive, Frederick; Clyndes, Aimée Gratton; Clyndes, Evelyn Shannon; Clyndes, J. H.; Cochran, Howard; Coffin, C. Hayden; Cohen, Isaac; Cole, Edith; Cole, E. W. Maule; Coleman, Amy; Coleman, Thomas; Coleman, Wilson; Coleridge, Aimée; Collier, Constance; Collings, C. F.; Collins, Arthur; Collins, Frank; Compton, Edward; Compton, Ethel; Compton, Katherine; Congdon, May; Conti, Italia; Conway, Bert; Conway, Mary; Cooke, Barton; Cooke, George; Cooke, Stanley; Cookson, S A.; Cooper, Frank; Copeland, Kathleen; Copping, Bernard; Corbett, J. D. Thalberg; Cornish, A.; Cosham, Ernest; Cottel, Harry; Courtenay, Foster; Courteney, Blanche; Coutts, Compton; Cowper, Vernon; Craig, Edith; Crane, Harry J.; Craske, Leonard; Crawford, Alice Lindsay; Cremlin, F.; Crocker, Henry; Croke, Wentworth; Croker-King, C. H.; Crowe, C. William; Cruikshanks, Charles; Cunningham, Phillip; Currie, Clive; Curtis, Arthur; Curtis, Christie J.; Curtiss, George; Curzon, Frank; Cushing, Roy.

Dagnall, E.; Daincourt, Ella; Dallas, G. D.; Dalton, Florence; Daly, Charles; Daly, Orlando; Damer, Margaret; Dana, Henry; Danby, Francis H.; Dance, Reginald; Dane, Essex; Daniels, J. E.; Dansey, Herbert; Danvers, Charles; Dare, Zena; Darnley, J. H.; Dauncey, Sylvanus; Davenport, Allan S.; Davey, Peter; Davis, Fay; Davis, Tom; Davis, Reginald; Day, W. H.; De Burgh, Aimé; De Lara, Frederick; Delph, C. Lillford; Denbigh, Reeve; Dene, Mervyn; Denis, Frank; Dennison, Stuart; Denton, C. St. John; Denton, Frank H.; Dering, Charles E.; Derrie, Isabel; Derwent, Clarence; Desmond, Amy Lloyd; Desmond, George; De Vere, Fred; Deverell, Edith; Deverell, John W.; Deverell, Mary E.; Devereux, Wm.; Dewhurst, Jonathan; Dick, Hilda; Dicker, Maitland; Digan, Patrick E.; Dixon, Ella; Dolby, H. Gray; Domville, David; Doncaster, Clarrie; Doran, Charles A.; Dorincourt, Ella; D'Orme, Alice; Douglas, Kenneth; Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan; Doyle, B. E.; Doyle, D. Lawrence; Doyle, Kathleen; Drinkwater, A. E.; Druce, Duncan; Dudgeon, Elspeth; Dudley, George; Dukes, Alice; Du Maurier, Gerald; Duncan, Albert C.; Duncan, Cecil; Duncan, F. Stafford; Dunrobin, L. Race; Dyall, Frank.

Earle, Lloyd; East, Charles A.; Edgar, Tripp; Edgard, Lewis; Edmonds, Claude; Edoni, Enid; Edwardes, George; Edwin, Louisa; Edwin, Walter; Egan, Donald; Egerton, Beatrice; Elder, Bessie; Ellery, John; Elliott, Gertrude; Ellis, Geo.; Ellis, M. E. (Miss); Elliston, J. F.; Elphinstone, Montague; Elsmore, Arthur; Emerson, Miss; Emery, Winifred; Emney, Fred; England, Daisy; Entwistle, Gertrude; Epitaux, Frederick; Esmond, H. V.; Esse, Mary; Essex, Arthur; Evans, Arthur Llewellyn; Evans, Rothbury; Evelyn, Lucie; Evett, Robert; Ewart, Stephen T.

Faber, Leslie; Fagan, J. B.; Fairbrother, Sydney; Fairclough, May; Fairfax, Lettice; Fairleigh, Alice; Falcon, E. Graham; Fane, James R.; Farbridge, Stanley B.; Farkoa, Maurice; Farrell, Cissie; Farrington, Helen; Faulkner, Robert; Fayne, Arthur; Fenn, Barbara; Fenton, Eric; Fernandez, James; Fernie, Loring; Ferrers, Helen; Ffolliott, Gladys; Fielder, Lewis; Fielding, Robert; Filippi, Rosina; Findlay, Ethel; Finney, Viola; Fitzgerald, Arthur; Fletcher, Hilda; Flynn, Madge; Forbes, Norman; Fordham, King; Fordyce, Vera; Forest, Helene; Forster, Mildred; Fortescue M.; Foster, Wilfred; Frame, Margaret; France, Charles V.; France, Frank H.; Franks, Wilfred; Fraser, J. Edward; Fraser, Keith; Fraser, Leah Marlborough; Fredericks, F.; Freeman, H. A.; Freer, Charles Casson; Freer, Loyale; French, Florence; Frohman, Charles; Frost, Shad; Fulton, Charles.

Gadsden, Lionel; Gallon, Tom; Gambier, Gerald; Ganthony, Richard; Garden, E. W.; Garden, Mabel; Gardner, Pearla; Garfield, Arthur; Garnet, Vayne Isla; Gaytie, Fred A.; Geoghegan, Dolly; George, A. E.; George, Henry; Gelderd, James; Grant, Ernest; Gerrard, Douglas; Gibbon, H. B.; Giddens, George; Gilbart, Eleanor; Gilbert, Gertrude; Gilbert, Vivian; Gill, Basil; Gillions, Francis C.; Glenister, Lionel; Glenney, Charles; Godard, Winifred; Goddard, Alfred; Godfrey, Annie; Goldie, Gladys; Goodhart, Charles; Goodsall, Arthur; Goold, Charles; Gordon, Douglas; Gordon, Edith; Gordon, Kitty; Gordon, Phillip; Gore, A. Holmes; Gott, Barbara; Gough, A. Conybeare; Grace, Adelaide; Graham, Frank; Graham, J. F.; Graham, Lena; Grahame, J. G.; Grahame, J. Lynward; Granby, Maude; Grand, Eva; Grant, Lawrence; Grant, William; Granville, Charlotte; Graves, George; Gray, Dora; Gray, Ernest; Green, Evie; Grenville, Alfred; Grenville, Arthur; Greville, Geraldine; Greville, Herbert; Grey, Lytton; Grey, Robert; Grieve, Richard; Griffiths, Mary; Grimwood, Herbert; Groome, Reginald; Grossmith, George; Grossmith, George, jun.; Grossmith, Lawrence; Grossmith, Weedon; Grove, Fred; Grove, Lawrence; Groves, Charles; Grundy, Lily; Gunn, Haidie; Gwenn, Edmund.

Hackney, Mabel; Hagen, Julius J.; Hague, Clarence; Haines, W. A.; Hall, Evelyn; Halliday, Lena; Halstan, Margaret; Hamblin, Eva; Hamilton, Georgina; Hammersley, Lily; Hampden, Walter; Harben, L. Hubert; Harding, D. Lyn; Harding, J. Rudge; Hare, John; Harkness, Jean; Harris, Alfred H.; Harrison, Frank; Harrison, Frederick; Harrison, Stanley; Harvey, Forrester; Harvey, J. Martin; Harwood, Rob; Hatchman, Henry W.; Hatteras, Richard; Haviland, Augusta; Hawker, Chrales H.; Hawtrey, Charles; Hawtrey, George P.; Hayden, Molly; Haye, Helen; Headsworth, B.; Hearn, James; Heather, Jerrold; Hedda, Violet; Helmesley, Chas. T. H.; Henderson, A. F.; Hendrie, Ernest; Henry, S. Creagh; Herbert, Gwynne; Herbert, Henry; Heries, Lilian; Heriot, Wilton; Heron, Dalziel; Heslewood, Tom; Hewland, Philip; Hicks, Richard C.; Hicks, Seymour; Hicks, Walter; Hill, Cathcart; Hignett, H. R.; Hilton, A. F.; Hilton, Robert; Hobbes, John Oliver; Hocking, Edgar L.; Hodges, Horace; Hodges, Seymour; Hodson, Mildred; Hoffe, Monckton; Hole, Dora; Holles, Alfred; Hollins, Frank; Holloway, Baliol; Holthoir, Nicholas; Homer, Ada; Homer, Beatrice; Homewood, Gertrude; Homewood, Talbot; Hood, John L. C.; Hope, Anthony; Horgan, John; Horton, Robert; Houghton, Richard; Howard, Evelyn; Howard, Walter; Howlett, A. Stanley; Hubert, W.; Hudspeth, Marie; Humphrys, Trissie; Hunter, Horace; Hunter, J. D.; Huntley, J. P.; Huntly, Edith; Hussey, James, Huston, W. Chapman; Hutchison, Percy; Hutton, Ralph; Hylton, Alleyn M.

Illington, Marie; Imeson, A. B.; Imeson, Ernest E.; Imlay, Agnes; Inescourt, Elaine; Inda, Helene; Ingelow, Helen; Ingham, Winifred; Innes, Stuart; Irvine, J. Harry; Irving, Ethel; Irving, Frances; Irving, H. B.; Irving, Laurence.

Jacobs, W. W.; Jacques, Fc.; Jay, Isabel; Jeffreys, Hilda; Jenaur, L. Fred; Jennings, Mary; Jensen, Christine; Jervis, George; Johnson, Katie; Johnstone, G. Wallace; Johnstone, Madge; Jolivet, Rita; Jones, Henry Arthur; Jones, Seph; Jones, Winifred Arthur; Jordan, Gerald.

Kane, Whitford; Kay, Ethel; Kaye, A. P.; Keightley, Arthur; Keightley, Cyril; Kelly, E. H.; Kelsey, F.; Kelston, Beatrice; Kemble, William H.; Kendal, Harry W.; Kendal, Madge; Kendal, W. H.; Kendrick, Alfred; Kenmore, Octavia; Kennaird, Cecil; Kennaird, Julie; Kerin, Eileen; Keston, C. B.; Kevill-Davies, Lilian; Kildare, Marie; King, Cecil; King, Murray; Kinghorne, Mark; Kingsford, Vera; Kingston, Gertrude; Kingston, Frank; Kingston, Thomas; Kinnaird, Cecil; Kinnaird, Helen; Kirby, Elizabeth; Kirkwood, J. Poole; Kirkwood, Thomas; Kitts, Henry; Knight, Fred; Knight, Percival; Knox, Philip F.

Lablache, Luigi; Lacy, Frank; Lake, Fred; Lambert, Douglas; Londeck, Ben; Lane, Charles Leveson; Lane, Guy; Lane, Horace; Lascelles, Frank; Lathbury, Stanley; La Trobe, Charles; Laurence, Leonard; Law, Arthur; Lawrence, Gerald; Lawrence, Ida; Lawrence, Paige; Lawrence, Sydney; Laws, Christie; Lawton, Alf; Le Clercq, Florence; Lee, Algernon W.; Lee, Auriol; Le Hay, John; Leicester, Ernest; Leigh, Ernest; Leigh, Guy; Leigh, J. H.; Lennon, Lizzie; Leonhardt, Enid; Leslie, Hilda; Leslie, Ivan; Leslie, Jessie; Leslie, Lewis; Leslie, Maude; Leslie, Norman; Leslie, Victor H.; Leslie, Wiseman; Lester, Fred; Lestocq, W.; L'Estrange, Julian; Leveaux, A. H.; Leveaux, M. V.; Leverton, Charles; Levettez, Emily; Levis, Dora, Lewes, Miriam; Lewis, Eric; Lewis, Arthur; Lewis, Mary; Lewis, Tom; Leyton, Laurence; Lind, Marion F.; Linden, Maud; Lindo, Frank; Lion, Leon M.; Lister, Frank; Littlewood, Gertrude; Llewellyn, Fewlass; Locke, Lilian; Lockhardt, William; Lodge, Ernest; Loncrain, Ruby; Long, Harvey; Longden, Vera; Loraine, Robert; Lovel, Leigh; Lovell, Florence; Lovell, Leila; Lovell, W. J.; Lowe, Trevor; Lowell, Mollie; Lowenfeld, Henry; Lowne, Charles M.; Lowther, F. Wilson; Lucas, Thos.; Lucy, Arnold; Lugg, William; Lupino, Barry; Lupino, George; Luxmore, Mabel; Lyndal, Percy; Lysons, Arthur C. F.

MacCarthy, Dan; MacCarthy, Justin Huntley; MacCarthy, Lillah; Macdona, Charles; MacDonald, Ean; MacDonald, J. W.; MacDonald, R.; McEwan, Walter; MacFarlane, Tom; MacIntosh, Gordon; Mackay, J. L.; Mackenzie, Kythie; Mackenzie, Viola Compton; Mackie, Ralph; McKinnel, Norman; Mackintosh, Madge; Maclaren, Ian; MacLean, Archibald; MacLeod, Gordon; MacLaughlin, Millicent; McLellan, C. M. S.; MacNaughton, Lena; McRae, Duncan; Mailey, James; Maitland, Lilian; Majilton, Alfred H.; Mallalieu, William; Mallet, George; Maltby, H. J.; Malvern, Gerard; Mancini, Maurice; Mannering, Moya; Manners, Phyllis; Manning, Ambrose; Manning, James; Mansfield, Alfred; Mansfield, Alice; Mansfield, Wilfred P.; March, Viola; Marion, Kitty; Markham, Daisy; Marler, Nellie; Marmont, Percy; Marrable, Evelyn; Marriott, G., jun.; Marsh, Wilton; Marshall, Oswald; Marshall, Robert; Marshall, W. Roberts; Martin, Edie; Martin, Ernest; Martin, Rolands; Marthèze, Evelyn; Martyn, May; Mason, Gladys; Mason, Harry G.; Mason, Richard B.; Masters, Mary; Mather, Aubrey; Matthews, A. E.; Matthews, J. W.; Maude, Arthur; Maude, Charles F.; Maude, Cyril; Maundy, Gregory T.; Maurice, Edmond; Maxwell, Evelyn; Maxwell, Gerald; Maxwell, Walter; May, Beatrice; May, Eleanor; May, H. Gomer; Maynard, Kate; Mayne, William M.; Measor, Adela; Medrow, Mabel; Melford, Austin; Melford, A. Gambier; Melrose, Frank; Mercanton, Louis; Mervyn Beatrice; Mervyn, Violet; Millais, Helena; Millard, Evelyn; Miller, Douglas; Milner, Lucie; Mills, Kate; Milsted, Robert; Milton, Arthur; Milton, Maud; Milton, Minnie Mulvey; Milward, Dawson; Mollison, William; Montelli, Annie; Montrose, Margaret; Moody, Bella; Moore, Bertha; Moore, Decima; Moore, Eva; Moore, Jessie; Moore, Mary; Moore, Mabel; Morand, Cecil; Morand, M. R.; Morgan, Fred; Morgan, Herbert; Morland, F.; Morley, Bert; Morris, Gwladys; Morris, Sylvia; Morrison, Arthur; Morse, Harold K.; Moss, Lottie; Mouillot, Frederick; Mouillot, Gertrude; Mudie, George; Mulholland, J. B.; Mulvey, May; Munro, Douglas; Murray, Ethyle; Musgrave, Kenyon.

Nairn, Ralph; Nelson, Henry; Neilson, Julia; Neilson, Naomi; Neville, Henry; Nicholls, Clara; Nickolls, H. O.; Noble, Grace Armytage; Noble, Olive; Nock, Gordon; Nolan, John; Nordblom, J. H.; Nordblom, Therèse; Norman, Percy; Norman, Norman V.; Norman, Thyrza; Norman, A. W.; Norris, Ernest; Northam, Bertha; Norton, Irene B.; Norton, Richard; Nye, Chart H.; Nye, Mrs. Chart.

O'Connor, Maurice; Olive, Edyth; O'Neill, Frank B.; Oram, Mona K.; Ord, Simon D.; Orme, Phyllis; Osborne, Kate; O'Sullivan, Dennis; Overs, George; Owen, W. Briscoe; Oxley, Gus.

Pagden, Leonard; Page, Norman; Paget, Edward; Paget, F. M.; Paget, Molly; Pakenham, Richard F.; Palfrey, May; Palling, Arthur; Palmer, Ada; Palmer, Edwin; Parker, Leslie; Parker, Louis N.; Parker, Margaret; Parkin, Lucie B.; Partridge, Norman; Pateman, Bella; Pateman, Robert; Paterson, Ernest H.; Paul, Fred; Paulton, Harry; Paumier, Alfred; Pauncefort, Claire; Pawle, Lennox; Payne, H. Maxwell; Pearce, Walter; Pearse, Ashton; Pearson, Molly; Pemberton, Walter; Permain, Fred W.; Percy, Esmé; Pheasey, Clifford; Phelps, Douglas C.; Phillips, Arthur; Philips, Ida; Phillipson, Eva C.; Pigot, Herbert; Pigott, Mostyn T.; Pilling, William; Pinero, Arthur W.; Pitt, Felix; Pittar, B. A.; Plate, E. Taylor; Playfair, Arthur; Plummer, Lambert; Pollard, Lilian; Pollock, Horace; Porter, Caleb; Potter, Ada; Poulton, A. G.; Pounds, Courtice; Pounds, Louie; Powell, F. Joynsen; Powell, Templer; Price, Nancy; Prickett, F. C.; Purdey, Percy J.; Pyott, Rule

Quartermaine, Charles; Quartermaine, Leon.

Radcliffe, Stanley; Raiemond, George; Rainbow, Emma; Raleigh, Cecil; Raleigh, Saba; Ravenscroft, Amy; Ray, Ruby; Raynor, Albert E.; Raynor, J. Pelham; Raynor, Minnie; Redfern, A. B.; Reed, Langford; Rees, Rosemary; Reeves, H. Sims; Reeves, W. W. L.; Regan, Doris; Renouf, Henry; Renouf, M.; Revell, Lilian M.; Reynolds, E. Vivian; Reynolds, L.; Rhodes, Percy; Richmond, Ellen; Riego, J. A. del; Rigby, Edward; Rignold, Dora; Rignold, Lionel; Risque, W. H.; Rivers, Alfred; Rivers, Fred; Rivington, Kenneth; Rivington, Reginald; Roberts, Dorris; Roberts, Ralph; Robertshaw, Gerrold; Robertson, Constance; Robertson, J. Forbes; Robertson, Leonard Forbes; Robertson, Marie E.; Robinson, H. P.; Robson, E. M.; Rock, Charles; Roe, Bassett; Ronalds, Stanley, Miss; Rorke, Kate; Rorke, Mary; Rose, Cecil; Rosmer, Milton; Ross, F. Clive; Ross, Herbert; Rosse, M. Russell; Rotheram, W. H.; Roughwood, Owen; Row, A. H.; Rowlands, Arthur W.; Rowlands, Joseph; Royce, E. W., jun.; Royce, Julian; Royston, Arthur; Ruskin, Sybil; Russell, Kathleen; Russell, Walter; Ryley, Madelaine Lucette.

St. Audrie, Stella; St. George, Robert; St. John, Florence; St. Leger, Henry; Saintsbury, H. A.; Saker, Annie; Saker, Mrs. E.; Sanders, Phillis; Sargent, Fred K.; Saruya, S.; Saumarez, Cissie; Saunders, Jno. D.; Savery, Edith M.; Savery, J. E.; Saxon, Edwin F.; Sayers, Edmond T.; Scott, Eric; Scott, Gertrude; Seager, G. A.; Searle, Willis; Seaton, A. Morrice; Sefton, T.; Selwynne, Clarissa; Serjeantson, Kate; Serville, Georgette; Seton, May; Shannon, T. A.; Shapland, Dee F.; Shaw, G. Bernard; Shelley, Herbert; Shelton, George; Sherbrooke, Michael; Shinton, John B.; Shirley, Arthur; Shirley, Clarice; Silva, N. de; Silver, Christine; Silver, George; Simpson, Will; Sims, George R.; Sinclaire, Mabel; Singleton, George; Slaughter, Walter; Sleddall, Elaine; Smith, C. Aubrey; Smith, Mary E.; Smith, Wellesley; Somerset, Agnes Russell; Somerset, C. W.; Somerset, Geraldine; Sounes, Arthur; Sounes, Clarence; Souper, Gerald K.; Soutar, T. Farren; Sparling, Herbert; Stacey, A. Gifford; Stafford, Emily; Stallard, Ernest; Stalman, Ethel; Standing, Percy; Starkey, Gordon; Staveley, W. R.; Steer, Bertram; Stein, E. T.; Stephens, Hilda; Stephens, Yorke; Stephenson, Henry; Sterling, W. F.; Sternroyd, Vincent; Sterroll, Gertrude; Stevens, F. Percival; Stevens, Rosie; Stevenson, J. Edgar; Stevenson, James; Stiles, Leslie; Stirling, Marion; Stirling, Sydney; Stone, Charles R.; Storey, Fred; Stranack, Wallace; Stratton, George; Strickland, Edward; Stuart, Alexander; Stuart, Athol; Stuart, Hilda; Stuart, Otho; Sturge, Howard, Suffield, R.; Sutro, Alfred; Swete, E. Lyall.

Talbot, Harry; Tapping, A. B.; Tate, Alfred; Tate, Gertrude; Taverner, Kathleen; Taverner, May; Tearle, Conway; Templeton, E. Howard; Tenaur, Fred; Tennant, Barbara; Tennant, Frank; Terric, Charles; Terriss, Ellaline; Terry, Fred; Terry, Marion; Terry, Ellen; Terry, Horace C.; Terry, Marion; Terry, Minnie; Therval, Laurence; Thomas, Agnes; Thomas, Alec F.; Thomas, Allen; Thomas, Amy; Thomas, Brandon; Thomas, Dorothy; Thomas, E. W.; Thorpe, Courtenay; Thurgate, Minnie; Titheradge, George; Titheradge, Madge; Tomkins, Rita; Tonge, H. Asheton; Tours, Frank E.; Towers, Harry P.; Traill, George; Tree, H. Beerbohm; Tree, Mrs. Beerbohm; Tree, Viola; Trekelle, Rita; Trevelyan, Hilda; Trevor, Leo; Trevor, Spencer; Trevor, Vaughan; Trollope, George; Tully, George F.; Turnbull, John R.; Twyford, J. Henry; Tytler, Helen

Vanbrugh, Irene; Vanbrugh, Violet; Vane, Charles; Vane, Sutton; Vaughan, Frances; Vaughan, Hilda; Vedrenne, J. E.; Verne, Ethel; Vernie, Eugenie; Vernon, Frank; Vernon, Percy H.; Vezin, Arthur; Vezin, Hermann; Vibart, Henry; Vigors, Douglas; Vincent, Agnes; Volpe, Frederick; Vox, Hilliard; Vyse, Maud; Vyvyan, Herbert.

Waddy, Harold E.; Wade, Allan; Wakefield, Marion; Waldegrave, Lilias; Walker, Chris; Wallace, George; Waller, Edmund; Waller, Lewis; Waller, Mrs. Lewis; Waller, Maud; Walter, Edmund; Walter, Herbert; Walter, Reginald; Walters, Gissing; Warburton, A. Hornby; Warburton, Edward A.; Ward Mrs. Humphry; Waring, Herbert; Warner, Charles; Warner, H. B.; Warren, Henry W.; Warren, T. Gideon; Warriner, Geo. A.; Warwick, Annie; Watson, Alexander; Watson, Henrietta; Watson, Horace; Watson, Malcolm; Watson, Sidney; Watson, Thomas E.; Watts, Frederick James; Webb, Mary; Webb, Richard; Webling, Lucy; Webster, Margaret Davies; Weighton, Louis; Weir, Charles; Weir, George R.; Welch, James; Welford, Dallas; Wellesley, Eugenie; Wentworth, Stephen; Westwood, Waiter; Wheatman, Augustus; Whitby, Arthur; White, J. Fisher; White, J. Harvey; Whittaker, A.; Wicklow, Walter; Widnell, Victor; Wiehe, Dagmar; Wigley, Alfred; Wilcox, Jackson; Wilde, Edwin; Wilde, Henry T.; Wilkie, Allen; Wilkinson, Sam, jun.; Willard, Edward S.; Williams, Arthur; Williams, Aylmer; Williams, D. J.; Williams, E. Harcourt; Williams, Henry; Williams, Herbert; Willis, Edward Vivian; Willis, Hubert; Willmer, Ella; Willoughby, James; Willoughby, Lewis; Wilson, Beatrice; Wilson, Charles; Wilson, Harry L.; Wilson, Lucy; Windermere, Charles; Wingrove, Charles; Winter, Jessie; Wintour, Ernest; Winwood, Estelle; Wood, Arthur; Worley, Joseph W.; Worsick, John; Wright, Fred., sen.; Wright, Harry Fred.; Wright, Helsby; Wright, Huntley; Wright, Marie; Wright, Mrs. Theodore; Wyndham, Sir Charles; Wynne, Cybel.

Yates, C. D.; Yates, F. Danvers; Yorke, Oswald; Yorke, Percy; Young, Rosamund Mayne; Young, Sidney.

Zangwill, Israel.

A TOUR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

In the Court of King's Bench on Monday was begun the case of Bruce v. Welton and Trevosper, in which Mr. Harry Bruce claimed the sum of £374 for money lent, salary, and expenses, and damages for wrongful dismissal from the defendants, Mr. Thomas Abercrombie Welton, who was alleged to have financed the enterprise, and Miss Marguerite Trevosper (Mrs. Macpherson), the nominal proprietor of the company.

It was stated on behalf of the plaintiff that he had been an actor and dramatic author for fourteen years, and he claimed nineteen weeks' salary as manager of the defendants' tour in South Africa, £190 for money lent, and £34 13s., the amount of his return fare home. Defendants denied liability, and Miss Trevosper alleged that she dismissed the plaintiff because of drunkenness and personal violence towards herself. She counterclaimed for the return of the MS. of four stage plays—*Knight in Armour*, *The Distant Shores*, *The Two Hussars*,

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"KAMERADEN,"
Comedy, in Four Acts, by August Strindberg, produced at the Lessing, May 18.

Axel ..... HERR JARNO
Bertha ..... FRAULEIN REMOLT
Abel ..... FRAULEIN MAYER
Willmer ..... HERR MORA
Starck ..... HERR VICTORIA
Frau Starck ..... FRAULEIN KLAUS
Oestermark ..... HERR LAUDA
Frau Hall ..... FRAULEIN BLEISTREU
Amalie ..... FRAULEIN GERNOD
Therese ..... FRAULEIN VON SUPPE
Magd ..... FRAULEIN GIESRAU
Modell ..... HERR KORN

BERLIN, Thursday, May 24.—Herr Strindberg is a proverbial woman-hater, and has repeatedly expressed it as his opinion that woman was intended by nature to minister to superior man's comfort, and nothing more. Against woman as a worker and against her efforts to compete with man's intelligence, Strindberg has always set his face, and in his present drama he has poured out all the vituperation of a lifetime upon poor Bertha, leaving her not one single redeeming feature. He does not go to work on broad lines, but drives his stings and pin-pricks home with a malicious pleasure that is self-evident. Bertha and Axel are painters; they are a married pair, but we are not told their other name. He is what the Germans term a "hero of the slipper," whose affection for his wife is shamefully abused in every way. She is a perfect monster—a man-woman, who drinks and cheats, and betrays the man who has paid for her education in art and married her. Both now send a painting to the Salon, but only the one bearing Bertha's name is accepted. She flaunts her triumph with unwomanly coarseness before her husband, and to humiliate him still further causes the rejected picture to be brought into the studio and unpacked before a crowd of visitors. Her triumph is short lived. Axel, fearing her painting would not be taken, had changed the names, and it is thus his picture that graces the walls of the Salon. This is the end; Axel's patience has been tried too far, and he determines on a separation. All Bertha's wiles have no effect on him, so she manages her best to get what she can in the way of settlements. Both go their own way, and Axel has a lady friend waiting to comfort him for all he has undergone. A wife should not be a comrade, but only a woman, he declares; "Kameraden" are for the café, not for the home. Strindberg has introduced another woman or two on which to vent his feelings; they are also plunderers of the poor victim man, and the impersonation of all the vices. The interpretation of the piece was not as even as might have been wished, Herr Jarno giving the only absolutely satisfactory rôle. The reception on the whole was cordial, but a new piece is already announced. It must be stated that the real Lessing Company under Dr. Brahm are on tour, and the theatre is occupied by Herr Jarno's company from Vienna. Herr Jarno—an actor of much talent and versatility—was the author, it will be remembered, of *Der Raubenvater*, the amusing farce which had so long a run both here and in England. The summer season at the New Royal Opera is thus far decidedly successful. Leo Blech's new three-act opera, *Menschenfeind und Alpenkönig*, produced a few nights ago, has every prospect of becoming very popular. It is the work of a skilful musician, who has had the courage to employ plenty of melody of the good old sort—genuinely melodious melody, if sometimes sentimental. After the recitative musical dramas of which we have had such a number, it is refreshing to the majority of opera-goers—particularly in the summer—to listen to a work of this kind. The plot is fantastical. The "menschenfeind," or misanthrope, is Rappelkopf, a man whose great wealth makes him suspicious that everyone is cheating him. He is suspicious of even his wife and family, and finally he becomes unbearable to all around him. Half crazy he flees into the solitude of the mountains, where he implores the Alp-King to aid him. His Alpine Majesty is kind; he takes upon himself *pro tem.* Rappelkopf's form, and lends the misanthrope that of his own brother-in-law. In this guise Rappelkopf returns home and speedily learns that all whom he suspected are innocent of evil, and have a sincere affection for himself. More than this, his eyes are opened by the Alp-King—who is disguised as Rappelkopf—to see how much he has sinned himself, and he vows to do better in future. It is a changed and happy man who regains his old self again, and everyone else is happy in consequence. The opera was very well acted and sung, the mounting was effective, and Kapellmeister Kunwald conducted with consummate skill. The composer was unfortunately absent, but artists, manager, and conductor were all warmly applauded.

Wolzogen's tragi-comedy, *Das Lumpengesindel*, having played its turn successfully upon many of our stages, has now arrived at the Schiller N., where it met with such a hearty welcome as to warrant a lengthy stay. The cast was a capital all-round one, the amusing rôles of the literary Bohemians being especially well given by Herr Rolan and Herr Ziegel, while Frau Gundra and Herr Kirschner played their parts with equal humour.

The second performance at the Théâtre des Westens by the students of the Stern Conservatorium brought more than one embryo artist to light. The programme consisted of scenes from *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Faust*, Lortzing's *Czar and Zimmermann* and Goldmarck's almost forgotten opera, *Die Königen von Saba*. Herr Max Begemann, who sang the rôle of the Czar in Lortzing's delightful little opera, proved himself to be in possession of an exceptionally beautiful baritone with a great range. He sang, for instance, in the famous aria in the third act the high A flat with perfect ease. The young singer's voice has been well trained, and when he has gained a little more experience there is no doubt that he will take a high place among operatic artists. Other students who should do well are Fräulein Rensch—who sang Santuzza—and Herr Herper, who distinguished himself vocally as Alfio, while his acting needs a good deal of attention. Professor Hollander again conducted, and the evening was altogether a thoroughly enjoyable one.

Signor Caruso has signed a contract to sing on six—at least—evenings at our Royal Opera within a short time. The famous tenor sang twice—it may be remembered—at the Théâtre des Westens last year.

Frau Marie delle Grazie, a talented Austrian authoress, has written an interesting drama, entitled *Ver Sacrum*, which was produced with success at the Volks Theatre, Vienna, a few nights ago. The play is reported to be admirably constructed; its plot is of the "soul-problem" order of which Germans and Austrians are so fond. It depicts the horror of a young girl at discovering her mother is faithless to her marriage vows, the weight of the secret proving so depressing that the girl dies in the end. The authoress was called and warmly applauded, but a few among the audience expressed their dissatisfaction in the customary manner.

Der Glückliche Jack is the title of a new three-act operetta by Ferdinand Grade, to which Herren Lipschitz and Okonkowsky have written the text. It will be the next novelty at the Central Theatre, and Fräulein Mia Werber will sing the chief female parts.

Fräulein Maria Pospischil, an actress of tragic and classical rôles—an old favourite here—will give a season at the Berliner in June with her own company. Sophocles' *Electra*—in the translation by Wilbrandt—and Goethe's *Iphigenie* (in each of which Fräulein Pospischil plays the title-rôle) are to be included in the repertory.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS ADELAIDE ROSS.

Miss Adelaide Ross is one of the few remaining members of the profession who may be classed as of the old school, she having graduated under some of our best managers. Coming of a non-theatrical family—she being the granddaughter of Sir Charles Hewitt, Bart.—she became, when quite a girl, a pupil of Mrs. W. West (a sister of the great George Frederick Cooke), then in her seventieth year. Under her careful training, and with numerous amateur performances, she gained considerable knowledge of stagecraft. On one occasion, at the little theatre at King's Cross, she appeared as Emilia to the Othello of Alfred Dampier, now a well-known Australian manager, and on another as Lady Audley to the Robert of Mr. Walter Joyce. She then took to the provinces, and, together with her sister, Miss Kate Ross, she worked hard through some rough but valuable experience. Eventually she secured an engagement at the old theatre in Marischall-street, Aberdeen, under the management of Mr. Alexander MacLein. Having purchased a version of *Leah* under the title of *Hagar, the Outcast Jewess*, she opened the season in Aberdeen in this part, and so immediate was her success that the piece ran for twelve nights—a very unusual thing in those days of quick changes.

For two years she remained a popular favourite with the Aberdonians, playing leading parts to all the stars who visited the theatre. Here she met Miss Heath and Mr. Wilson Barrett, and played Romeo to that lady's Juliet. Then came the great tragedian, Mr. G. V. Brooke, with whom she had the honour of appearing as Virginia, Desdemona, Margaret Elmore, &c.

She then came south, and joined Mr. George Melville's Bristol and Cardiff circuit. Here she met and supported Mr. John Wilson and Miss Amy Sedgwick, playing Mrs. Montressor in *The Unequal Match*. Then came the gifted French tragedienne, Mlle. Beatrice, and a heavy task was given to Miss Ross when she was cast for Elizabeth of England; but she attacked the part bravely, and so successful were her efforts that she received unstinted praise from Mlle. Beatrice. During this engagement she met Mr. Edward Terry, and here she had the unique experience of playing Gertrude to the Hamlet of Mr. George Melville, who rendered the part in French. From this she went to Cheltenham under the management of Mr. George Hudson, where she met Mr. Neil Warner and Mr. J. L. Toole. After this she revisited Scotland under the management of Mr. Alexander Wright, of Greenock. Here she met and was married to Mr. T. W. Ford, with whom she subsequently fulfilled several joint engagements. She then came to London, and played for twelve months at the Britannia Theatre, starring as Hagar the Jewess, &c. Following this, she fulfilled a special engagement at Dublin, supporting Mr. Barry Sullivan as Lady Macbeth, Mrs. Beverley (*The Gamester*), &c. Then came an offer to appear as Hamlet in the old theatre in Liver-

MISS ADELAIDE ROSS.

pool. On this occasion the part of Guildenstern was played by a young actor, who made his first appearance in that part, and who afterwards became known to fame—the late handsome and gifted Osmond Tearle. She then joined Mr. E. D. Davis, of Newcastle and Sunderland, where she was contemporary with Messrs. Leonard Boyne, George Titheridge, H. Kemble, Sam Honey, Mrs. John Pritchard (now Mrs. Oscar Barrett), &c. After this she toured with her own company in a version of the *Wandering Jew*, entitled *Sybil, the Hunchback*. It was produced at the old Marylebone Theatre, then under the management of Mr. Joseph Cave.

For some time after this Miss Ross retired almost into private life, only appearing occasionally at matinées. In 1883 she went with her husband to America to fulfil an engagement with Mary Anderson, on several occasions (at matinées) appearing in place of the gifted tragedienne. Before concluding her engagements, she accompanied Miss Anderson to the great Shakespearean Festival at Cincinnati. Miss Ross was the only English actress in the programme. At the end of the tour Miss Ross received many flattering offers to remain in the States, but being somewhat of a home-bird, she decided to return to England, which she did, and toured with her own play, *The Monarch of the World*, for two years. Then her husband returning to America, Miss Ross appeared in a starring engagement, viz., a special month at Southampton, appearing as Lady Clancarty, Margaret Arkwright, and Mary Tudor in *'Twixt Axe and Crown* to the Princess Elizabeth of the beautiful Mrs. Rousby. She was then engaged for Lady Macbeth in the first Shakespearean production at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester; then to play Julia in *The Hunchback* at the opening of the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool; and again to appear in the same part at the Theatre Royal, Sunderland. On this occasion she was the recipient of a gift in the shape of a beautifully bound volume of Tennyson's poems. Then followed a long, important engagement with Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer to support that talented lady as Queen Elizabeth in her production of *Mary Stuart* at the Grand Theatre, Islington. After a series of engagements of more or less importance, Miss Ross practically left the stage to conduct a dramatic class in Birmingham, and afterwards in London.

When Miss Ross is not acting she is mostly writing either prose or verse. She has recently completed a poem, entitled "Victoria," being a record of the reign of that beloved monarch. King Edward has graciously accepted a copy. In private life she is Mrs. J. W. Ford. She has two daughters, Miss Mary Ford (Mrs. Charles Howitt) and Miss Minnie Watersford (Mrs A. B. Cross).

MISS ALICE CHAPIN.

Miss Alice Chapin hails from New England, and is descended from the old Puritan stock. There was strong opposition when she announced her determination to become an actress, but "where there's a will there's a way," and when her family removed to Brooklyn, New York, Miss Chapin became so popular as an amateur performer that she was chosen, from some 30 or 40 aspirants, to play Juliet in a special performance of *Romeo and Juliet*, given at the Brooklyn Theatre. Her next step was to become a student at the New York Dramatic College, where she had the inestimable advantage of studying with David Belasco.

Shortly after leaving the college Miss Chapin came to England, so that practically all her experience has been gained in this country. Mr. Hermann Vezin gave the stranger a hearty welcome upon her arrival on these shores, and Miss Chapin has most grateful recollections of cosy

MISS ALICE CHAPIN.

chats, interspersed with Shakespearean readings, in his delightful little flat, while Mr. Vezin dispensed tea and good advice with strict impartiality. After a first appearance as Virginia at a matinée at the Globe Theatre, Miss Chapin went on tour as the American Widow in *Aunt Jack*. A short engagement to play Minna in *Fauntleroy* followed. Last summer Miss Chapin again resumed acquaintance with this play, but this time she played "Dearest" to her little daughter's Cedric.

Miss Chapin's first engagement with *Fauntleroy* was terminated by a long and serious illness. When restored to health a special engagement to play Volumnia in the performances of *Coriolanus* at Stratford-on-Avon was speedily followed by a long engagement with Edmund Tearle, when Miss Chapin played such rôles as Lady Macbeth, Emilia, Queen Elizabeth, Woodville, and, what has always been a favourite character with her, Queen Gertrude. During the next few seasons Miss Chapin portrayed many heroines or villainesses of melodrama, with occasional incursions into Shakespeare, for which she has always had a marked predilection. One interesting experience was the playing (Closet Scene only) of Queen Gertrude to a girl Hamlet, in the music halls.

Out of many rôles which Miss Chapin has acted may be mentioned Marguerite Gautier; Sylvie in *Le Passant* (which she played in French); Virginie, in *Drink*; Princess Claudia, in *The Red Lamp*; Heavies, in *The Power and the Glory* and *Defender of the Faith*; the heroine, of *A Mother's Love*; and, best of all, Mrs. Erlynne in *Lady Windermere's Fan*. She also enacted La Tisbe in her own adaptation of Hugo's *Angelo*. Miss Chapin has also tried her hand at writing. Some of her short plays have found favour with the critics, and she hopes soon to produce a more ambitious work in a West End theatre.

MR J. T. MACMILLAN.

Mr. J. T. Macmillan, as his name implies, hails from "ayont the Tweed," and has had many years of varied experience, principally in comic opera, musical comedy, and pantomime, with occasional lapses into drama. He commenced his career as utility man in the stock company at the Theatre Royal, Greenock, where he also played his first pantomime under the management of Alexander Wright. This was followed by stock and panto-

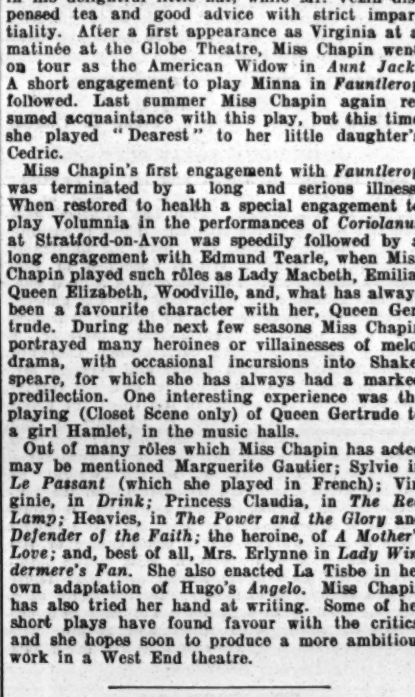


Photo. by Langfier.

MR. J. T. MACMILLAN.

mime engagements at Dundee, Middlesbrough, and Torquay. Then came a long spell of useful experience with the late Andrew Melville in Bristol, Newport, and Swansea. He then joined the *Billie Taylor* opera company, in which he played Ben Barnacle throughout the United Kingdom and also on a short tour in France. Afterwards he toured with Miss Kate Bateman (Mrs. Crowe) as principal comedian in *Leah*, *Mary Warner, and His Wife*. This was followed by engagements as Weasel in the comic opera *Nell Gwynne*, the Baron in *Randolph the Reckless*, and Cerberus in Sir Augustus Harris's *Orpheus and Eurydice*.

Mr. Macmillan played Bill Berkley, the comic convict, in *Man to Man*, and his performance of this part led to two pantomime seasons at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool. He also played Dominie Sampson in *Guy Mannering*, and other parts with Mr. Sims Reeves and Mr. J. W. Turner. He was then engaged by Mr. R. D'Oyly Carte to play the McCrankie in *Haddon Hall*, King Paramount in *Utopia, Limited*, and Bedford Rowe in *The Vicar of Bray*.

On the termination of his contract with Mr. Carte he was secured by Mr. Wm. Greet to create the part of Honeycomb in *The Gay Parisienne*; afterwards he toured as Uncle Matt in *La Cigale* under the same management. Then came a pantomime engagement at the Prince's, Manchester, where he played Will Atkins. From Manchester he went to the Princess's Theatre, Oxford-street, to play the principal low-comedy part in the production of *The Star of India*. On the conclusion of the run of this piece he was again engaged by Sir Augustus Harris to take part in the original production of *The Telephone Girl*. After that he joined Mr. Arthur Roberts to play the General in *Don Quixote*, and was the Mayor in that gentleman's production of *Milord Sir Smith*, and also took part in the skit on *The Three Musketeers* at the Comedy Theatre. Then came a tour as the Scotch solicitor in *An American Heiress*, followed by a pantomime engagement at the Borough, Stratford.

Mr. George Dance then had his eye on him for Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, which part he played for two years in the provinces and for eight months at the Strand Theatre. After leaving the Strand he went to the Gaiety, Dublin, for pantomime, returning to London to play Milford, "the nightshirt hero," in *The Worst Woman in London* at the Adelphi Theatre.

On the withdrawal of the "Worst Woman" Mr. Macmillan turned his attention to the music halls, and "did" the Barrasford tour with Mr. Walter Summers' *Sultan of Ranogoo*. Finding the music halls pleasant and congenial, he decided to work "on his own," and has, since the conclusion of his pantomime engagement, been appearing in the halls as a Scotch comedian.

For the last two seasons Mr. Macmillan has been the Scotch comedian in Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's pantomimes at the Theatres Royal, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

MISS MARGUERITE CELLIER.

Miss Marguerite Cellier is a daughter of Mr. François Cellier, for so many years musical director of the Savoy Theatre, and niece of Mr. Alfred Cellier, the composer of *Dorothy*, &c. She commenced her stage career by walking on in Sir Henry Irving's company in his entire répertoire. Then she went as understudy in Mr. Flanagan's production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and next took part in Mr. Courtneidge's production of *As You Like It* at the Prince's, Manchester. She understudied Celia, and it was Mr. Courtneidge who offered Miss Cellier her first chance. He

Photo. by Arbus and Bernardi.

MISS MARGUERITE CELLIER.

gave her a trial at a matinée, and also arranged for her to play at all subsequent matinées, at the same time offering her an engagement to go to Australia with a Shakespearean company he was taking out for Mr. Musgrove. She accepted and remained in Australia over a year, and also visited New Zealand, playing Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Phœbe in *As You Like It*, besides understudying Viola and Olivia in *Twelfth Night* and playing Milly in *On 'Change*. On her return from Australia she joined Mr. Waller's *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* company to play in the prologue and understudy Elizabeth. On the second tour of this play Miss Cellier was engaged for Molly and to create the part of Lucy in a new first piece, *The Borrowed Uncle*. She had the opportunity of playing Elizabeth at a moment's notice, and on her third tour sustained the same rôle. Miss Cellier's only brother, François Cellier, jun., is also on the stage, and has successfully played Clement Hale and numerous other parts in Mr. Edward Terry's répertoire.

MR. STERLING MACKINLAY'S RECITAL.

Mr. M. Sterling Mackinlay, who has been before the public for some years as a popular teacher and vocalist, gave his only recital this season at Bechstein Hall on Monday to an overflowing audience, chiefly ladies. Mr. Sterling Mackinlay, who was assisted by Miss Dorothy Wren, Miss Pauline Potter, and Miss Dorothy Bridson, was heard first in Vulcan's song from Gounod's *Philemon et Baucis*, Brahms' "Sapphische Ode," and a refined and artistic rendering of Hatton's song "To Anthea," which was given by request. The concert giver, who has received his principal training under the famous teacher Señor Manuel Garcia, was also heard, and much applauded, in Schumann's "The Two Grenadiers," "Maid of Athens," by Gounod, and "Medjè," by the same composer. Other songs given by Mr. Mackinlay were "Der Erlkönig," Chaminade's "Berceuse," and "My Song is of the Sturdy North," by Ed. German. Great refinement characterised the singing of these by Mr. Sterling Mackinlay. Miss Dorothy Wren gave two pretty songs, "Grew a Rosebud" and "A Song of Sunshine," accompanied by the composer, and, later in the programme, Tosti's "La Serenata"; and Miss Dorothy Bridson's skilfully-executed violin solos, "Elfentanz" (Popper-Halir), and "Air," by Tenaglia, were warmly greeted by the audience. Miss Pauline Potter (a pupil of Mr. Mackinlay's) made a promising *début* in two songs, "Le Baiser" (Goring-Thomas) and "Vainka's Song" (Whishaw), the latter being encored. Relief was afforded to the vocal items by a clever recitation of "The Frenchwoman's Story," by Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay, who appeared by the courtesy of Mr. George Alexander. Mr. Herbert Bunning and Mr. Walter German Reed presided at the pianoforte.

"MARY STUART, QUEEN OF SCOTS."

A Romantic Play, in Four Acts,
by Reginald Kennedy-Cox,
Produced at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, on Monday, May 21.

Lord James Stuart ..... MR. EDWARD SORLEY
Lord Darnley ..... MR. ALEC FRAZER
Earl of Bothwell ..... MR. GODFREY TEARLE
Earl of Huntly ..... MR. GEORGE IDE
Lord George Gordon ..... MR. FRANK DEANE
Sir John of Findlater ..... MR. EDMUND BARKER
Sir Adam Gordon ..... MASTER ROBERT ALLISTON
Lord Ruthven ..... MR. C. CROKER-KING
Mr. Secretary Maitland ..... MR. JOHN CABOURN
David Rizzio ..... MR. HAROLD PAYNE
Father Lesley ..... MR. WILLIAM WYNNE
M. d'Amville ..... MR. HAROLD CARFAX
Duchess of Argyle ..... MISS VERA CARFAX
Mme. d'Oysel ..... MISS THORA ARCHER
Livingstone ..... MISS DORA MAITLAND
Seton ..... MISS KATE WORTH
Fleming ..... MISS LILIAN TWEED
Beaton ..... MISS SARA DE GROOT
Mary Stuart ..... MRS. BROWN-POTTER

The romantic story of the unfortunate Mary Stuart has not of course escaped the attention either of the novelist or the dramatist. Sir Walter Scott in his well-known historical novel, "Kenilworth," told the story in his own masterly style; and Mary, Queen of Scots has figured in numerous other romances. Mr. Kennedy-Cox has founded his play on certain episodes in the early life of the unhappy Queen, the action extending over the period from 1561 to 1567. The evil genius of the play is the Lord James Stuart, Mary's bastard brother, in whom, unfortunately, she places implicit trust. He proves utterly unworthy of it; but does not reveal his true character until the poor Queen is completely at his mercy. All his plans are laid with Machiavellian subtlety and skill, and he plays with the leading characters in the piece as though they were so many human chessmen. The early scenes take place in the Courtyard of the Palace in Loraine, and the Council Chamber at Holyrood. The Earl of Bothwell is in love with the fair young Queen, but when he declares his passion she banishes him from her presence. Then comes the gay and gallant Lord Darnley, and in the hall at Wemyss a stately dance takes place, led off by his lordship and the Queen. At the suggestion and with the connivance of James Stuart, a secret marriage between Darnley and Mary is solemnised, the plotter listening to the wedding service with evident satisfaction. Darnley soon surrounds himself with boon companions, and neglects his young wife. The young Italian poet and musician, Rizzio, becomes her frequent companion. This gives James Stuart another opportunity of working mischief. In the presence of Lord Gordon and other courtiers he speaks of Rizzio's intimacy with the Queen, and more than hints that Darnley is not the father of the child she has borne. In his rage, Darnley flies at the speaker, threatening to kill him, but is held back by his companions, who, however, on being appealed to, do not deny the truth of James Stuart's statement.

The next scene is the Queen's supper-room at Holyrood. Dismissing her attendants, Mary admits Rizzio, who sings to her a song, which, according to the programme, is supposed to be an original melody composed by the Italian. The Queen complains bitterly of the neglect of her husband, who, as the sounds of noisy revelry testify, is drinking with his gay companions. Then a knock is heard at the chamber door. Rizzio, at the bidding of his mistress, blows out the wax lights and conceals himself behind some curtains. Lord Gordon enters, and, setting the Queen at defiance, searches her private apartments. Rizzio is of course discovered; he is seized by armed men, dragged from the room, and assassinated. When Darnley appears, the Queen heaps reproaches upon him for being the instigator of the murder of her faithful servant. In the last act, Mary discovers the treachery of her brother, when he asks her to sign a document which virtually condemns her husband to death. She refuses, and thereupon James reveals the game he is playing. It is his ambition to rule as King of Scotland, and he warns her of the dangerous position in which she stands. Upon this scene between brother and sister the curtain falls.

Mrs. Brown-Potter played with intensity and power the part of the unhappy Queen. She succeeded in presenting a pathetic picture of the unfortunate young woman who becomes the victim of Court intrigue, and the duplicity of her own near relative. The dignity of the young Queen was well maintained throughout, and at the conclusion of each act Mrs. Brown-Potter was enthusiastically recalled for her admirable impersonation of the leading character. Mr. Edward Sorley depicted the despicable Lord James Stuart with carefully-studied effect, and the portrait of smooth, calculating villainy was complete in every detail. Mr. Alec Frazer proved to be an excellent exponent of Lord Darnley, and made good use of his opportunities. Mr. Godfrey Tearle played with earnestness and feeling as the Earl of Bothwell; and Mr. Frank Deane was bluff and soldierly as Lord Gordon. Mr. Harold Payne was well-placed as David Rizzio; he looked the part, and his rendering of the song in the third act was admirable. Mr. John Cabourn and Mr. William Wynne gave able assistance as Mr. Secretary Maitland and Father Lesley, other minor rôles being assigned to Mr. George Ide as the Earl of Huntly, Mr. C. Croker-King as Lord Ruthven, Mr. Edmund Barker as Sir John of Findlater, Master Robert Alliston as Sir Adam Gordon sang a song in the first act. Mary Stuart is the only important female character in the play. Miss Vera Carfax appeared as the Duchess of Argyle, Miss Thora Archer as Mme. d'Oysel, and Miss Dora Maitland as Livingstone. Special care has been bestowed upon the scenery, and the music has been composed for the production by Mr. Herbert Smith. The new romantic play was most favourably received, the author being accorded the compliment of a call at the conclusion.

MISS MARGERY DALE'S DRAMATIC RECITAL.

Miss Margery Dale gave a well-attended dramatic recital at Steinway Hall on Tuesday afternoon, May 22. Miss Dale was assisted by Mrs. Percy Walters (pianist) and Miss Byam-Yates (contralto). Miss Dale's first recitation was C. Kingsley's "Lorraine, Lorraine, Lorrée," followed by the humorous "Paddy's Courting," by W. A. Eaton, in which the Irish dialect was most effectively given by Miss Dale. Shakespeare's scene from *King John* (where Constance realises how the marriage of the Dauphin to Blanch will affect her and her son Arthur) enabled the reciter to give an example of the more serious side of her art; indeed, the recitation; "King Robert of Sicily," with appropriate music by Dr. Walmsley Little, admirably played by Mrs. Percy Walters, was Miss Dale's most successful effort, being warmly applauded. Other recitations were "Pour la Couronne," by François Coppée (English version by John Davidson), and a scena from Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*; also, later in the programme, "The Death of Minnehaha," and the dramatic and Bret Harte-like sketch "Lasca," by F. Desprez. Piano solos of Brahms' "Rhapsodie," Schumann's "Romanze," and Chopin's "Ballade in A Flat," were skilfully played by Mrs. Percy Walters, and three songs were given by Miss Byam-Yates.

H.R.H. PRINCESS CHRISTIAN and suite witnessed the performance of *Dorothy o' the Hall* at the New Theatre on Saturday evening.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 21,
the Comic Opera, entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

Played by Mr. E. St. Alban's Opera Company, this still poplar comic opera has formed the attraction at the Marlborough this week. This remains one of the very few productions of its own class which has withstood the ravages of age. Twenty-nine years have passed since *Les Cloches* was produced in Paris at the Folies Dramatiques, while the first performance of the piece in England dates back to February 23, 1878. That theatre was the now defunct Folly, afterwards Toole's, with Miss Violet Cameron as Germaine, Miss Kate Munroe as Serpolette, Mr. Shiel Barry as Gaspard, Mr. W. J. Hill as the Baillie, and Mr. Chas. Ashford as Gobo. The late Mr. Barry, it may be mentioned, played the part of the Miser considerably over 3000 times. The tuneful comic opera is done justice to by the members of Mr. St. Alban's company. Miss Marion Ayling is a charming representative of Germaine, and sings the music of the part with admirable effect. A pleasing and vivacious Serpolette is seen in Miss May Bradbury, who cleverly represents the awkwardness of the village maiden who suddenly finds herself a lady of title, much incommoded by a long train. Miss Bradbury also sings and dances in a style that gains for her abundance of applause. Mr. Geo. A. Fox cuts a gallant figure as the Marquis de Corneville; and Mr. William Everard not only plays well as Grenicheux, the young fisherman, but sings admirably. Mr. E. St. Alban scores a decided success in the part of Gaspard, the scene in the old château where the miser gloats over his bags of gold being in his experienced hands extremely telling. As the decrepit, feeble old man in the last act he also makes good use of his opportunities. Mr. Fred Dark as the Bailie faithfully and effectively carries out the traditional business of the part; and the same remark applies to the Gobo of Mr. Richard Martin. Miss L. L. Rhodes as Christopher and Miss F. Smithson as Marie fill minor rôles in satisfactory style; and the village girls are represented by a number of good-looking young ladies. The band is excellently conducted by Chevalier Legrand, and the opera is most effectively staged.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, May 21,
Bizet's Opera, entitled
"CARMEN."

A most successful engagement has been effected this week, and lovers of music have crowded to excess to welcome the visit of the Moody-Manners Opera Company in a répertoire of operas. *Carmen* was performed on Monday night. Mlle. Zélie de Lussan in the title-rôle, it is quite superfluous to state, was excellent, and the house fully appreciated her fine acting and beautiful voice. Don Jose was undertaken by Mr. Maurice Paul, whose fine voice fully compensated for a little stiffness in his acting. Mr. Marshall Vincent as Escamillo was splendid. He was heartily encored in "The Toreador's Song." Il Remecdado, the Smuggler, was well represented by Mr. R. Brookes, and with Mr. S. Lansdale as Il Dancairo caused some amusement. They were heard to advantage in the quartet with Carmen and Don Jose. The parts of Morales and Zuniga were well filled respectively by Mr. G. Gorst and Mr. Van Lachterop. Miss L. Coleman and Miss M. Jeffries undertook creditably the parts of Frasquita and Mercedes, two Cigarette girls. A considerable amount of the success of the performance is due to Miss Nora Long, who made a sweet Michaela. The choruses and ballets were well rendered by a powerful company, greatly assisted by a largely augmented orchestra under the capable bâton of Mr. Joseph Sainton.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 21,
the Play, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

After a short season at the Scala Theatre that very popular play *A Royal Divorce* is again touring with its usual brilliant success, and is meeting with great appreciation this week at the Camden. Mr. W. W. Kelly's company, with that clever actress, Miss Edith Cole, at the head, give a very fine performance. The part of the unhappy Josephine is a part with which Miss Cole will always be associated, for she plays it in such a striking manner, so gentle, and yet so resolute, while her emotional acting is splendid. The scene in which the ex-Empress meets her supplanter Marie Louise, Miss Cole played magnificently. Napoleon is admirably portrayed by Mr. Frank Lister, who is to be congratulated on his make-up, and his acting leaves nothing to be desired; it is a thoughtful study of this much-debated character in history, and Mr. Lister presents it realistically and with force. That interesting figure, Talleyrand, is well embodied by Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell, who acts with great dignity and reserve. Mr. G. W. Cockburn is seen to every advantage as the Marquis de Beaumont; and Mr. George Howard makes a capital General Augereau. Miss Clara Earle is a very vivacious Stephanie, and she cuts a smart figure when she dons the uniform; Miss Elizabeth Watson depicts the cold and haughty Marie Louise in a finished manner; the King of Rome is effectively played by Miss Marion Ryder, a youngster of promise; Mr. T. P. Haynes is very amusing as the innkeeper Grimaud, a clever piece of comedy acting; Mr. Frederick Powell is good as Dr. Corvisart; and Mr. Bob Hudson is breezy as Bob Royal of the Bellerophon, his dancing of the hornpipe deserving mention. Messrs. Langford, Orme, and Vernon, and the Misses Helen Richmond and Joan Vaughan also lend valuable assistance. Mr. R. E. Warton stage-manages with marked success. The tableau of Waterloo is very cleverly done, and most effective. Mr. Walner Gregory is the acting-manager for Mr. W. W. Kelly.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 21,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Geo. R. Sims,
entitled
"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER,"

Messrs. Hardy and Von Leer's company has been drawing good houses here this week with the above-named drama. For the representation of this, the latest play from the pen of Mr. Geo. R. Sims, an excellent company has been got together, and the dramatist is to be congratulated on the fact that his characters are interpreted by experienced players who are thoroughly up to their work. Miss Grace Heywood—who is remembered at this theatre in a part less suited to her talents—is particularly well cast as Marion Grey, her finished acting and well-modulated tones making her performance a most satisfactory one from all points of view. Miss Muriel Dean is delightfully natural as Dora Grey, her refined style adding additional charm to her impersonation. As Loo Hexham, Miss Emil Leslie submits a convincing study of the poor girl of the people, who does her best to "run straight." Miss Marion Fawcett acts well as Jenny Huggett; and Miss Evelyn Shaw is amusing as the showman's wife. In Richard Grey, Mr. Vernon Sansbury is provided with a strong part, which he plays admirably, outlining the main characteristics of the broken actor with a firm touch, and filling in the details with the acumen of the true artist. Mr. Arthur E. Melborne gives a quiet, well-considered rendering of Gilbert O'Neil, his self-restrained manner and curt speech being admirably characteristic of the London doctor. Mr. Henry Hare doubles the parts of Jack Huggett and Jim Huggett, and, in the latter rôle, submits an amusing, but, withal, realistic, portrayal of the "lady-killer" in low life. Mr. Ernest K. Nelson gives a consistent rendering of Rube Hexham, the murderer. Mr. Chris Mason is responsible for a good deal of laughter as Joe Grimper, the latter's struggles with his afternoon tea being especially amusing. The smaller parts are all in capable hands, and are undoubtedly made the most of.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 21,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Sutton Vane,
entitled
"THE SPAN OF LIFE."

Mr. Arthur Carlton's company is meeting with a great reception at the Shakespeare Theatre this week in its representation of Sutton Vane's drama *The Span of Life*. The play is excellently staged, and the members of the company do the piece full justice. Mr. Sanderson Moffat gives a manly impersonation of Richard Blunt, and altogether acquits himself with success. The villainous Dunstan Leech is in the safe hands of Mr. R. E. Trelawnee, who contributes a sterling performance. In the rôle of Nutty Brown Mr. Walter Dale scores a decided hit, and his clever acting keeps the audience in roars of laughter throughout. Mr. Edwin T. Kisby does all that is possible with the part of Joshua Gurnet, and Mr. Bob Bryan as Inspector Ferguson and Mr. J. Petersfell as the Arab Azrek are both satisfactory in their respective parts. The Almo trio of acrobats, who form the human bridge over which the heroine escapes from the Arabs, are, in the third act, seen in several exceedingly clever acrobatic feats, which are warmly applauded. An ideal heroine is found in Miss Phyllis Hamilton, who gives a natural representation of the sorely-tried Kate Heathcote, and is accorded sympathetic applause. Miss Kitty Russell cleverly assumes the part of Shrove Tuesday, and her clever comedy acting is deserving of the warmest praise. Mrs. H. Russell is seen to advantage as Mrs. Jelf, and acts her part with ability. Miss Phyllis Graham's impersonation of the young boy Cecil Jelf is one of the leading features of the play, and it would be difficult to speak too highly of her acting.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, May 21,
the Play by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr. Hall Caine's play is full of strong situations and romantic episodes, and admirably staged with an exceptionally strong cast is proving a powerful attraction at this theatre. As Glory Quayle Miss Grace Chalmers is excellent. She displays dramatic gifts of an exceptional quality, and is equally at home in the part of the village heroine or the variety star in the Great City. Miss Molly Hayden is well placed as Mrs. Callander, and enacts the part of the Highland lady as to the manner born. In the character of Polly Love, Miss Wellborne does admirable work, and speedily wins the affections of her audience; and Miss Lottie Chesterman could not be bettered in the part of Liza. Mr. Frank Tennant makes a manly clergyman as John Storm, and emerges triumphantly from the ordeal of a difficult part. As Archdeacon Wealthy, Mr. Chas. E. Dering looks and acts the character admirably; and Mr. Stanley Radcliffe ably portrays the characteristics of the Rev. Father Lamplugh. Parson Quayle finds an admirable representative in Mr. Charles Hill, and as Lord Robert Ure Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood is seen to great advantage. Horatio Drake is well played by Mr. Jackson Wilcox, who makes an ideal lover. His acting is well received, and he wins hearty applause for his representation. Mr. Oswald Marshall presents a successful picture of the music-hall manager, and Mr. Bert Conway as the Faro King is highly successful. As Brother Paul Mr. Wilfred Blumberg is well placed. Mr. A. E. Kingston as the Linkman, and Miss Bella Moody, Miss Dorothy Clifton, Miss Edith Huntley, and Miss May Weir all do well in minor characters. The incidental music is under the able direction of Mr. Stephen Blythe, and the courteous manager, Mr. Herbert Leonard, is to be congratulated on an excellent entertainment.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 21,
the Comedy, by J. M. Barrie, entitled
"WALKER, LONDON."

Though it has been "on the road" so long, Mr. J. M. Barrie's clever and amusing riverside comedy, *Walker, London*, has not before been staged in the riverside town. Kingston playgoers, however, have had opportunities of making acquaintance with it in the neighbourhood. A thoroughly capable company appeared in the play at the Royal County Theatre on Monday evening, and a numerous audience gave it a most cordial reception. Mr. Blake Adams filled the rôle of Jasper Phipps, and kept the house in the best of good humour whilst he was on the stage; Mr. E. Coventry, under whose direction the comedy was produced, played capitally as Andrew McPhail; Mr. Orlando Daly was successful as Kit Upjohn; and Mr. Wylie A. Thompson as the schoolboy "W. G." and Mr. Stanley White as Ben were also decidedly effective. Equal honours were earned by, and accorded to, Miss Dolores Drummond as Mrs. Golightly; Miss Victoria Addison as Bell Golightly; Miss Irma Foldi as Nanny O'Brien; Miss Ethel Ramforth as Sarah Rigg; and Miss Hope Willoughby as Penny.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 21,
the Drama, in Four Acts, adapted by Arthur Shirley from *Le Porteur aux Halles*,
entitled
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN."

A powerful company was brought to Marylebone this week by Messrs. E. H. Knight and Geo. Denham, and the West Londoners, who dearly love a realistic drama well acted, were duly appreciative. Mr. Fred Powell has veritably "a grip of iron" on the part of Captain Joe Galloway, which he interprets in a masterly way, much to the delight of his old admirers at the Church-street house. As Gilbert Galloway, Mr. Harry Scott plays in an easy, natural style; Mr. George Denham is responsible for a painstaking and thoughtful rendering of Tom Battleby; Mr. Stanley Bedwell does well as Henry Siegenback; and Mr. John Brittain is full of life and go as Tony Prebble. Miss Nellie Fletcher is pathetically tender as Judith Galloway; Miss Hilda Baynton is delightfully engaging as Marjorie; Miss Alice Francis and Miss Francisca Strickland are well suited as Baby Frill and Lottie Leverett; and Miss Mildred Cottell sustains the important rôle of Olive Lorette with much force and passion, her acting in the strangling scene sending a shudder through the house by reason of the realism of her varying expressions. The play, capably produced by Mr. George Denham, and staged and mounted in a lavish way, deserves every success.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 21,
the Drama, by Lewis Gilbert, entitled
"PARTNERS IN CRIME."

Lewis Gilbert's drama is attracting large audiences to the Lyric this week. It is a play such as the patrons of this theatre love—full of exciting scenes and humorous incidents—and they show their appreciation at the final fall of the curtain by rounds of applause. It is a fortunate coincidence that the author is taking the leading part. Mr. Gilbert is an actor of experience, and is able to present powerfully the character of Noel Cranford. The part of Aaron Moss is acted with great skill by Mr. F. Thorpe Tracy, who gives us a really masterly study of this worst type of East-end Jew. Though his rôle is one of villainy, yet his occasionally droll sayings give happy relief to an otherwise serious part. Mr. C. F. Collins, in the character of Ben Halliday, makes a dashing lover, full of fire and pluck. He is ably assisted by Miss Marie Clavering as Gladys Davenport, who presents this unfortunate, yet high-spirited, lady in a pleasing and natural manner. The grace and pathos thrown into the part of Jessie Davenport by Miss Minnie Grey deserves special mention, her acting being much admired. Mr. Geo. Ellis gives an original rendering of Tennyson Burns, portraying the mad poet to the life. He causes much merriment, and, together with Mr. A. P. Kane, as Jack Cartwright, and Miss May Seton as the latter's sweetheart, is responsible for most of the fun. Praise is due to Miss Irene Ross for her successful acting of Jim the waif; and mention must be made of Mr. A. G. Lytton and Mr. A. J. Robbins, both of whom give much assistance in minor parts.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, May 21,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Wm. P. Sheen, entitled
"THE TEMPTRESS."

Mr. John M. East has for this week secured Mr. W. H. Hallatt and company in *The Temptress*. The piece was presented on Monday to a large audience, who were thoroughly interested throughout. Mr. Fredk. Ross gives a thoroughly well-studied representation of the scheming villain Lucas Denbigh. During the play Mr. Ross shows a thorough grip of the character, and his quiet, but impressive, acting is a feature of the performance. Mr. G. D. Daiper submits a manly portrayal of Philip Welford, the young hero, who, with his much-wronged affianced wife, Marion Fordyce—excellently impersonated by Miss Mabel Scudamore—fully earns the sympathies of the house. Mr. W. H. Hallatt as Pedro Gonzales is responsible for a powerful rendering of the character; Mr. Robert Wilton makes an effective young clergyman, Austin Dale; and Mr. Claude Ashworth is a dignified Sir Oswald Fordyce. There is comedy in abundance, and it is in quite good hands. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Bob Tanner, and Mr. Allan Carruthers as Francis FitzFluke, prove themselves to be resourceful and clever comedians when paying their attentions to Rhoda Brown, a maid servant, excellently played by Miss Lizzie Chambers. Their patter and by-play keep the house in roars of laughter. Mr. Oscar Power as John Gregory also contributes to the fun. A fine piece of acting is supplied by Miss Florence Palmer as the mad wife of Lucas Denbigh. Mr. Forbes Harrison is successful as Caleb Blake, a yokel in Denbigh's employ. Miss Blanche Steele, in the title-rôle, is seen in a strong part, and thoroughly realises the character of the infamous woman. Mr. G. Drew as Rev. Thomas Finch, Mr. E. I. Brunton as Kenyon Dare, Mr. Horace Newtown as Sergeant Brough, and Miss Dorothy Greaves as Keziah Blake, fill the parts entrusted to them with distinction.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, May 21,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Frank E. Thorne,
entitled
"HER ONE GREAT SIN."

Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company is paying a first visit to Islington in this drama, which has attained considerable success in the provinces. There is nothing in Mr. Thorne's drama that calls for particular comment, it being a typical specimen of this class of stage work. The company is a good one, and the members all work hard for the general success. Mr. Sam Arthur as Reuben Warhurst acts with sincerity, his delivery, however, is scarcely distinct enough; Mr. Arnold Thornhill as the villain acts with vigour and success; Mr. Fred Hodson, in a comedy rôle, deserves special commendation, his acting in the third act being very humorous. Mr. Charles E. Lambert as Dan Hundle submits a neat character-study; Mr. Sam Roberts, as Dan's son, also deserves a word for a good performance; Mr. F. Morton Wright as Barkley gives a sympathetic portrayal of the innkeeper; Miss Phyllis Damian as Charlie is excellent as a street arab; and Miss Maudie Lambert gives a pleasant and clever performance of the child, which is well received. Miss Nellie Lambert as the maid is humorous; and Miss Louie Walton submits a distinctly effective study of a virago. Miss Lydia Donovan is well cast as Grace Warhurst, acting with power and pathos. The scenery and mounting are excellent, and the drama was accorded a good reception.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 21,
the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE JEWISH MINISTER."

A large audience was present on Monday evening at the Pavilion, when the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company gave an admirable performance of *The Jewish Minister*, which is a very dramatic and effective play, with many touches of human nature. The characters were depicted with the skill which has been an outstanding feature during this engagement. As Izabella, Mme. Zwiebel displayed talent of a very high order, her expression of passion and tenderness being of unusual excellence, while her admirable vocalisation created quite a furore, her participation in a concerted number with Mr. Gusofsky and chorus at the close of the first act being quite worthy of grand opera. Mr. J. Fineberg is a capital actor, and scored heavily as La Rosh; while a strong melodramatic portrayal of Mendes was given by Mr. Katz. The impersonation of Cinq Santes by Mr. Schapira was marked by evidence of intelligent study and much ability; and special praise is due to Mme. Kayzer for her charming and spirited rendering of the Queen. Mr. J. Scherman, looking exceedingly handsome in his court dress, was very amusing as Picolo; and a sprightly Julia was found in Miss Bruh. Mr. Schilling was appreciated for his playing of Tobios; and Mr. Axelrad must be congratulated on his clever acting of Andre. Mr. Gusofsky was heartily applauded for his fine singing and artistic representation of Abarbanel. The chorus was above the average, and the dresses were rich and picturesque. Successful performances during the week have been given of *The Viceroy*, *A Father's Sacrifice*, *Ben Hador*, *The Wise Man*, *The Jewish Hamlet*, and *Princess as Beggar*, and Mr. and Mrs. Natanson, from New York, met with a hearty reception on their appearance here on Friday.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 21,
the Comedy, in Four Acts, by Stanislaus Stange,
entitled
"THE SCHOOL FOR HUSBANDS."

The School for Husbands, in which Miss Jessie Millward and a full London company are playing at the Fulham Theatre, is not a remarkably strong play, but it is, at any rate, brightly written and sufficiently entertaining. Miss Millward plays the leading rôle, that of Lady Manners, a neglected wife, who is enabled, by the aid of a timely fortune and the sound advice of her friends, to teach her errant husband a much-needed lesson. Her performance is an admirable mixture of vivacity and tenderness, and she well-deserves the applause showered upon her. Miss Maud Noel contributes an amusing study of the designing maiden of the period; Miss Maude Leslie is effective as Lady Tattle; Miss Emma Chambers plays Lady Speakill, a society scandal-monger, with a capital sense of humour; and Miss Mona K. Oram acts cleverly as Lady Airish, the fashionable widow. Miss Maud Abbott acts brightly as the maid Betty. The part of Sir John Manners is taken by Mr. Scott Craven, who is very successful in portraying the indifferent husband roused to love and jealousy, embodying the part with much power and spirit. Mr. A. E. Greenaway cuts a manly figure as Captain Lovel; Messrs. J. T. Manning and George Unwin act and look well as Lords Drinkwell and Playmore; as Lord Foppington, Mr. T. Wigney Percyval is highly amusing; and so is Mr. Philip Cunningham as the lovesick Indian Prince, Assam. Mr. Cyril Wolseley is satisfactory as the servant Roger. The play is handsomely mounted, and the costumes—of the attractive Georgian period—are rich and tasteful.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 21, the Play, by the late Wilson Barrett, entitled
"CLAUDIAN."

The revival of *Claudian*, which is being played this week at the Dalston Theatre, provides an opportunity for an excellent company to represent interesting characters. The play is received with every mark of approval; music and dancing adding to its success. The harvest solo and chorus (composed by Sir J. Benedict) sung during the first act evoke an encore. Miss Amy Hardcastle's cymbal dance, which is introduced during the second act, is applauded to the echo. Mr. William Maclaren appears as Claudian, a rich nobleman of Byzantium, and the way in which he presents the contrasts of that character is decidedly impressive. His rendering of the part is interesting throughout. Miss Lily C. Bandmann, as Almida, admirably sustains the character; Mr. A. G. Carr as Holy Clement also does well in the prologue. Others who appear in the prologue only are Mr. Edmund Grogan, an artistic Theorus; Miss Rose Webster, an admirable Serena; and Messrs. Arthur St. Aubyn, Harold Hargreaves, W. Boulding, George Best, A. Nuttall, and G. F. Floyd. Mr. Wilson Howard as the Tetrarch, Mr. George R. J. Austin, as Agazil, a blacksmith; Mr. A. Cotton Holmes as an officer, and Miss Dora Frank Harvey as Clia, a peasant girl, help to sustain the general interest. Mr. C. T. Chaloner as Belos and Miss Carlotta Anson as Edessa provide the humour.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, May 21,
the Drama, entitled
"MYSTERIES OF LONDON."

The management of this popular theatre must be congratulated this week upon their foresight in securing the above exciting play for the delectation of their patrons. *Mysteries of London* is just the sort of strong dramatic fare to appeal to the pit and gallery. Mr. Leyton Cancellor presents a polished study of villainy as the murderous foreigner Victor Levigne; Mr. Philip Darien appears to much advantage in a dual impersonation, first as Sam Conway, and then as the broad-minded young parson, the Rev. Philip Conway. That favourite low comedian, Mr. Tubby Edlin, is soon a prime favourite as the jovial coster, Dick Coppem; and Mr. Fred de Vere as Robert Best, described as "a poetical policeman," ably seconds him in the fun-making. Miss Rosemary Rees scores a great success by the sincerity and feeling of her acting as Lena North; Miss Nellie Jackson is humorous as Dick's donah, Liza Stumps. Mr. Fred Terriss supplies an able character-sketch as Levigne's catspaw, Bill Rawson; Miss Katie Walfred is powerfully intense as the old hag Charity Rawson; and Miss Nell Oliver makes a distinct success in the rôle of the adventuress Sybil Grey, afterwards known as La Saleska. Reuben North is done full justice to by Mr. Thomas Henry; and Franz Muller is well rendered by Mr. Allan Davenport. The scenery and effects are quite adequate.

THE CORONET.

Mr. Esmonde Bramley's Shakespearean company are this week appearing at the Coronet, under the direction of Haldane Crichton. *Richard the Third*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Twelfth Night*, *Othello*, *Hamlet*, and *The Merchant of Venice* are among their répertoire plays. Mr. David Beattie as Shylock, in the last-named play, is a robustious kind of Hebrew, full of revengeful malice and greedy avarice. Mr. Cyril Este acts carefully and discreetly as Bassanio. Mr. F. Owen Chambers is distinctly good as Antonio, both in deportment and delivery of his lines. Mr. Baliol Holloway is a promising Gratiano, and in manner and appearance is suited to the part of the rakish roysterer. Mr. A. L. Evans is an excellent elocutionist. Miss Millie Ford is a gentle and pleasing Portia, somewhat lacking in dignity and force, but very charming withal. Miss Ruth Nightingale is a pretty and winsome Jessica; and Miss Maud Garth does well as the pert maid Nerissa. The part of young Gobbo is rendered by Mr. Philip Gordon satisfactorily; and Mr. George Jackson as old Gobbo does all that is required of him. Mr. Frederick Scarth is the swarthy monarch from Morocco, who woos fair Portia in vain. Messrs. Stanley Farbridge, E. Sisson, Charles Doyle, Leonard Cheetham, and others do minor parts creditably enough. The songs, "Gaily the troubadour" and "Sigh no more, ladies," are well rendered by a young lady whose name does not appear on the programme

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 21,
the Drama, in Five Acts, by G. R. Sims and
Wilson Barrett, entitled
"THE GOLDEN LADDER."

This week we have a return visit from Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's excellent company in the popular melodrama, *The Golden Ladder*. There is, as Mr. Vincent Crummles would say, plenty of "tears, cheers, and laughter" in the play, and it proves exactly to the taste of the good folks of Peckham. Some realistic scenes of prison life are shown, and there is a good deal of humour in the play, which plainly reveals the hand of the popular "Dagonet." Mr. Beresford Whitcomb makes a manly and earnest parson hero as the Rev. Frank Thornhill, the part which was enacted by the late Wilson Barrett. That experienced comedian, Mr. Joseph Rowlands, brings all his ripe humour to bear upon the part of Samuel Peckaby, and the result is much hearty laughter. There is a trio of villains in the play, one of them, who possesses some redeeming qualities, is admirably enacted by Mr. Harry Belford, whose Jim Dixon is a very clever character-sketch. His companions in crime, Michael Severn and the Greek adventurer, M. Peranza, are excellently played by Mr. J. Milne Taylor and Mr. Graham Winsford respectively. Miss Eva Moss is most pathetic as the heroine Lilian Grant, and shows to much advantage, especially in the prison scene. Mr. Edward McLean gives a good character-sketch as the Yorkshireman, Noah Learoyd; and Miss Kate Haslewood, as an unruly prisoner, nicknamed "The Teaser," causes roars of laughter in the fourth act. Mr. Lionel Ellis is adequate as the banker John Grant; and Mr. Eric Thompson is good as Rao. Miss Jessie Gillette plays with humour as Victoria Alexandria Peckaby; while her mother, Mrs. Peckaby, is amusingly enacted by Miss Nellie Graham. The scenery and effects are excellent, especially the representation of the exterior of the Mission House in Madagascar by moonlight.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

The current week at the Alexandra Theatre is devoted to a series of Shakespearean revivals and a version of *The Three Musketeers*, presented by Mr. Edmund Tearle and his company. On the opening night of the engagement *Macbeth* was performed, with Mr. Tearle as Macbeth and Miss Kate Clinton as Lady Macbeth. *Othello* formed the attraction on Tuesday night, Mr. Tearle appearing as the Moor and Mr. Wilson Gunning as Iago. Mr. Tearle presents a bold, vigorous, and powerful rendering of the jealous soldier, his reading of the part growing on one as the play proceeds. In the final scene he is seen at his very best. Mr. Wilson Gunning's performance of the crafty Iago evinces much thought and care, and he fully deserved the applause awarded at the end of each act. A charming and girlish Desdemona was found in Miss Esther Tearle; and Emilia was admirably played by Miss Mary Campbell. The Cassio of Mr. V. O. Crabtree had many good points; and the Roderigo, if a little modern, was satisfactorily played by Mr. Spencer Geach. A sound performance of Brabantio came from Mr. T. W. Benson, and the cast was well completed by Messrs. John Victor, J. A. Keogh, Herbert Tawse, Saxon Thomas, and Richard Melton. *Julius Cæsar* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* are the other plays billed for presentation.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, May 21,
Shakespeare's Tragedy, in Five Acts, entitled
"HAMLET."

A most interesting production of Shakespeare's great tragedy at this famous East-end theatre on Monday drew an excellent audience, many of them curious to see that favourite actor, Mr. Ashley Page, in his rendering of the melancholy Dane. His impersonation showed the result of careful study, and his declamation and acting were of considerable excellence, proving him to be an actor of resource and ability. The passionate speeches were delivered with artistic restraint and well-controlled energy, and never failed to make a deep impression. High in public esteem, too, was Miss Marion Denvil as Ophelia. Her reading of the rôle was an exceptionally fine piece of work, and well-deserved the highest praise. She was particularly good in her "mad scene," and played throughout with much intensity. Mr. John Sargent submitted a capital picture of Claudius, and was everything that could be desired. Mr. H. J. Barrett rendered a good account of himself as Polonius; and Mr. Edwin J. Collins was an eminently successful Laertes. As Horatio, Mr. Fred Morgan found favour. Mr. Alfred Harding succeeded in making his portrayal of the Ghost a weird and awe-inspiring performance; the first and second actor were adequately represented by Mr. E. C. Alfred and Mr. Henry Bassett respectively; the first and second gravediggers being humorously portrayed by Mr. Johnny Chippendale and Mr. Milton Frances. Miss Georgie de Lara appeared somewhat young for the part of Gertrude, the Queen, but nevertheless played with credit. The staging and mounting of the tragedy were on a scale of great magnificence.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, May 21,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Alfred Sutro,
entitled
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company, under the direction of Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, is proving a great attraction here this week. The artists are all excellent and well fitted to their respective parts. Mr. Edward A. Warburton plays Jack Frobisher admirably, and wins general approval; Mr. Alfred S. Barber is very good as Hankey Bannister; Mr. Cecil Brooking is a dignified and aristocratic Marquis of Steventon; and Mr. W. L. Briscoe Owen a manly and convincing Lord Drayton. Mr. A. W. Tyrer gives a capital performance as Henry Dallas; Mr. Wilcox Cadogan as Bertram Hannaford, Mr. Joseph Herbert as the Hon. Wilford Renton; Mr. Wilfred S. Lane as Lord Marchmont; Mr. Walter Newcombe as Peter; Mr. W. L. Jenkins as Simpson; Mr. W. Littlejohns as James; and Mr. James Morris as William, are all very good indeed. Miss Amy Ravenscroft presents an admirable portrait of Lady Alethea Frobisher, and proves herself by this performance to be a finished and clever actress; Miss Mona Wynne as her sister Lady Lucy Debenham is very good; Miss Helen Haye is a pleasant Lady Westerly; Miss Jean Harkness a clever Miss Mornington; Miss Mary Weighall is a capital Duchess of Skye; Miss May Brooke is well fitted to the character of Lady Porchester; as is Miss Florence Harcourt to that of Miss Wyatt; and Miss Edith Warburton does all that is possible with the part of Mary. The dresses, scenery, and appointments are all handsome and appropriate.

MISS HELEN MAR'S RECITAL.

Miss Helen Mar, the charming American raconteur, gave her annual dramatic and musical recital on Monday afternoon at the Steinway Hall. There was an excellent attendance of well-dressed folk, and the hall, with its floral and other decorations—not to mention the hats of the ladies, behind which many a poor male creature struggled to get a view of the platform—presented a pretty and picturesque appearance. And as to the programme—well, there was not an uninteresting moment during the afternoon.

In her easy, natural, and expressive manner, Miss Mar told a number of stories, some amusing and light, others thoughtful and pathetic. But the charm of them all lay as much in the delightful telling as in what she told. A couple of magnificent bouquets were presented to Miss Mar during one of her repeated recalls. Mr. Arthur Bleackley submitted some capital impressions of modern actors and actresses. Thus, we had an effective imitation of Mr. Lewis Waller as Monsieur Beaucaire, Mrs. Patrick Campbell in *The Butterfly*, Miss Ellen Terry in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, Mr. Tree and Mr. Arthur Roberts rehearsing together, and Mr. George Alexander. In each impersonation he gave evidence of marvellous powers of mimicry, and the scene between Mr. Tree and Mr. Roberts was extremely amusing. Miss Ada Davies exquisitely rendered the beautiful lines of "Ave Maria," to the accompaniment of violin, piano, and organ; and Miss Margaret Cooper enchanted her audience with her sweet and vivacious singing of "My heart's at your feet." Miss Edna May, who looked as graceful and engaging as ever, sang "Love's Memory" and "A girl like me." Both numbers were treated in her customary good style, and with the first she had the advantage of the composer's accompaniment. Mr. Robert Michaelis afforded an agreeable few minutes with his interpretation of "Quand l'amour" and "Kissing is no sin"; and Miss Cora Belle Knight executed a pianoforte solo (Sinding's "Rustle of Spring") with expression and skilfulness. Mr. Rohan Clensy's work with the violin was greatly admired, the clever artist treating us to Moskowski's "Serenade" and Bazzini's "Ronde des Lutins." The dateful Datas supplied further proof of his powers of memorisation; and Mr. J. Dumayne imparted tune and tone to his whistling solo. Mr. Percy French entertained with a humorous art sketch; and Dr. F. Byrd-Page set one wondering with his feats of magic; while Mr. Alfred de Grey, in his singing of "Violets" and "Kisses and kisses"; and Mr. Andrew Betts, in his own special line, assisted in making a success of the recital. Good service was rendered at the pianoforte by Messrs. Stanley Hawley, Victor Marmont, Thomas Beecham, Claude Russell, and Arthur de Lissa, Mr. Arthur Coke acting as stage-manager.

MR. FRANK GRAN'S company is occupying the boards of the Theatre Royal, Brighton, this week with a farce, *The Other Man's Business*, and, on Monday evening, an elderly gentleman leaving his stall, said to Mr. Gran's representative in front of the house, "Which is Mr. Tree's part?" After a few minutes' explanation, the gentleman discovered he had mixed up Mr. Tree's production of *Business is Business* with *The Other Man's Business*. The gentleman left the theatre to think the matter over.

"THE WHIRLWIND."

A Play, in Three Acts, translated by Harry Melvill from the French of Henry Bernstein, Performed for the First Time in London at the Criterion Theatre, on Wednesday, May 23.

Earl of Ellingham .....MR. GEORGE BEALBY
Sir Henry Langham .....MR. A. G. POULTON
General Brandon .....MR. JULIAN ROYCE
Captain Carysfort .....MR. C. B. VAUGHAN
Hugh Carlton .....MR. FRANK WORTHING
Joseph Locksley .....MR. DENIS EADIE
Mr. Leonard .....MR. T. MOWBRAY
Grove .....MR. HUGH ROBERTS
Countess of Ellingham..MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL
Lady St. Anstell .....MISS KATE WINGFIELD
Lady Langham .....MRS. C. BRADLEY
Mrs. Guy Ruscliff .....MISS MABEL BEARDSLEY

M. Henry Bernstein's drama *La Rafale*, which was produced at the Paris Gymnase in October last, is a variant on a gruesome theme which has been several times used in England, but seldom with success—the sale by a woman of her honour to save the life of the man she loves. Poetic justice demands that the sacrifice shall be unavailing; and it is so in *La Rafale*, the title of which is more correctly translated as the "hurricane" or the "squall"—the sudden crisis which sweeps at times over the lives of folk, carrying them away irresistibly. Mr. Harry Melvill has followed his original so closely that the plots of the two pieces are practically identical. In *The Whirlwind*, the Countess of Ellingham has been married by her father, Sir Henry Langham, to a titled fool, and has taken to herself as a lover, Hugh Carlton, a desperate gambler. When the action opens, he has not only lost £20,000 at cards, but has paid the debt of honour with money belonging to his friend Gregson. Carlton determines to commit suicide; but Lady Ellingham resolves to find the money, and save him. The rest of the play consists in her struggles to do so. She applies to her old adviser, Joseph Locksley, who proposes that she shall sacrifice her honour to him as the price of his assistance. Rejecting this offer with scorn, she tries her father; and, after a scene which culminates in desperate violence, succeeds in extracting from him a promise to advance the sum, but only by revealing her adultery and threatening to elope with Carlton. Sir Henry, however, insists that he shall have an interview with the gambler, and make conditions; and this Lady Ellingham refuses to allow. Rather than permit it, she goes to Locksley, and pays the shameful price of his help. But the sacrifice comes too late; Carlton commits suicide before she can bring him the money.

The "atmosphere" of the play is decidedly unwholesome, and the story and the characters are extremely unpleasant; but it must be owned that the theme, such as it is, has been worked out with considerable power. The father who condemns his daughter to a life of married misery, the daughter who consoles herself with her lover, and the mean and sensual scoundrel who purchases the embraces of the woman he once loved, belong, morally, to a very "low set"; and the inane husband and the gambler lover are not much better. Still, to give M. Bernstein his due, there is dramatic force in the scene between the father and daughter. In this decency and pretence are put aside, and the pair deal with each other with nakedly cynical frankness. It is a question, however, if the dramatic effect of the play will atone for its baseness.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell gave a harrowing representation of the agony and passion of the wretched Lady Ellingham, the nervous tension of her performance being very acute. Mr. Frank Worthing's reading of the rôle of Hugh Carlton was, perhaps, a little too formal; but he must be credited with some excellent acting in certain passages. Mr. A. G. Poulton played Sir Henry Langham with a quaint and realistic mixture of comedy and intensity; and Mr. Denis Eadie supplied a very telling and effective representation of the harsh and repulsive Joseph Locksley. The remaining personages, who performed the thankless office of "furnishing the stage" in the first act, were all ably interpreted. *The Whirlwind* was preceded by Mr. W. L. Courtney's dream play, in one act, performed for the first time in London, and entitled

"UNDINE."

Count Hulbrund of Ringstetten .....MR. JULIAN ROYCE
Father Heilmun .....MR. C. B. VAUGHAN
Fisherman .....MR. DENIS EADIE
Fisherman's Wife .....MISS LOUIE EMERY
Undine .....MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL

Everyone remembers the fantastic "notion" of "Undine," the child of the waters, who, falling in love, receives the gift of a soul, and suffers accordingly. Mr. Courtney has caught the "eerie" spirit of Motte Fouqué's work; but he only gives us a preliminary bit of the story, his action ending when Undine, accepting, for love's sake, the burden of a soul, is married by Father Heilmun to Count Hulbrund of Ringstetten. The rush of the storm round the hut of the fisherman, the splashing of the waves, the songs of the water-spirits, and the surroundings generally were carefully and liberally supplied, and the fairy incident was depicted with appropriate feeling by the artists engaged. Mrs. Patrick Campbell was a very picturesque and poetic Undine, and played the part with the air of weird mystery which she so easily assumes. Mr. Julian Royce ably enacted the Count Hulbrund; and Mr. C. B. Vaughan's Father Heilmun was a careful, well-considered, and capable performance. *Undine* was so pretty and fanciful, and so pleasantly presented, that it made us—as Mr. Weller's valentine was intended to make the pretty housemaid—"wish there was more of it." But there is not much that is dramatic in the German narrative, hardly enough to furnish more than an act.

"ONLY HALF-WAY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It has come to my notice that an incident used in the play, *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*, is practically identical with one employed by me in my piece called *Only Half-Way*, produced on Nov. 7, 1905, at the Theatre Royal, Dunfermline.

The incident I refer to in Mr. Sutro's play is this:—Through the breaking down of a motor-car, a man and a woman are compelled to remain all night at a country inn, thus causing the lady to be compromised. Such coincidences often occur, but sometimes one is accused of plagiarism, and to avoid this when my piece is played in London, I should be obliged if you would give publicity to this letter.—Yours faithfully,

STANLEY COOKE.

Theatre Royal, Manchester, May 19, 1906.

"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Charles Klein, Performed for the First Time in London at the Duke of York's Theatre, on Tuesday, May 22.

Eudoxia .....MISS LOUISE SYDNETH
Rev. Pontifex Deetle ....MR. J. W. MACDONALD
Jane Deetle .....MISS HENRIETTA COWEN
Mrs. Rossmore .....MISS HELEN ROUS
Miss Nesbitt .....MISS ELENE FOSTER
Judge Rossmore .....MR. WALTER ALLEN
Ex-Judge Stott .....MR. FRANK BURBECK
Expressman .....MR. WILLIAM POSTANCE
Shirley Rossmore ....MISS MARGARET ILLINGTON
Jefferson Ryder .....MR. RICHARD BENNETT
Hon. Fitzroy Bagley .....MR. GILBERT HARE
Jorkins .....MR. ARTHUR B. MURRAY
Senator Roberts .....MR. HARRY HARWOOD
Kate Roberts .....MISS NANNIE COMSTOCK
Mrs. John Burkett Ryder .....MISS MARGUERITE ST. JOHN
John Burkett Ryder .....MR. EDMUND BREESE
Maid .....MISS ATHERTON HINTON

It is surprising that the fame of Mr. Charles Klein's play has not preceded it to England. Possibly the author, in planning his piece, "builded wiser than he knew." Possibly, also, the "story" of the drama obscures its ethical interest. Consciously or unconsciously, *The Lion and the Mouse* is an awesome indictment of American life. "They say there is only one thing which it is useless to fight; and that is Money," says the brave little heroine. In this particular case, money is fought and beaten; "the gods come," as Rémonin says in *L'Etrangère*. But, supposing they had stopped away; supposing that Judge Rossmore had not had a clever, resolute daughter, who was a realistic novelist—what is the inference contained in the story? Obviously, that, under an omnipotent democracy Money is able to work what iniquities it pleases. It buys senators, it buys English noblemen, it buys truth and honesty. And if it should happen that an upright judge refuses to be bought, then it simply drops upon him with all its weight, ruins him, "bashes" him, and leaves him for dead. The inference is sufficiently depressing.

But this is the cleverness of *The Lion and the Mouse:* it is not merely a satire on Society. The people in it are real people; and the drama, apart from its ethics, is deeply interesting and most amusing. This is the story:—A combination of capitalists has planned a "job" in connection with a railway speculation; and, in the exercise of his duty, Judge Rossmore has prevented the proposed robbery. The coalition resolves to ruin and disgrace him; and it does so by allowing it to appear that he has received certain shares as a bribe. Suspicion is cast on the judge, he is removed from his post, and impeached; and as the question is to be made a party one, and the capitalists control the party in power, it is almost certain that he will be condemned. His heart is broken; he is crushed, and is likely to die. His daughter Shirley, a bright, courageous girl with a knack of novel-writing, has met, on board ship, Jefferson Ryder, the son of John Burkett Ryder, a great financier, and the leader of the gang of speculators who are killing her father. She resolves to save him, and there is the better chance of her doing so as his son has fallen in love with her, in spite of the fact that he is under his father's orders to marry Kate Roberts, the daughter of an influential senator.

Shirley goes to New York and writes a novel, the principal character in which is a "speaking likeness" of Ryder. His curiosity is excited; and in her character of "Miss Green," the authoress of the book, she has an interview with him at his house. She charms him by her wit and courage, and is asked to stay with Mrs. Ryder on a visit. Ryder has in his possession certain letters which would supply strong evidence of Judge Rossmore's innocence; and Shirley gets Jefferson to steal them from a drawer in his father's desk. Ryder is aware of his son's love for the daughter of Judge Rossmore; and he is so much pleased with "Miss Green" that he actually asks her to bewitch his boy and marry him, so as to save him from the Rossmore girl. In the end, the strain on Shirley becomes too great. Indignant at Ryder's callous cruelty, she proclaims her identity, pours upon him the vials of her contempt, refuses to marry into a family with such a head, and prepares to leave his house.

Ryder's supreme self-satisfaction is shaken; and, in the last act, he is completely conquered. He throws the immense weight of his financial influence into the political scale in Judge Rossmore's favour, assents to Shirley's marriage to his son, and goes with her to Washington to make her father's rehabilitation certain.

The Lion and the Mouse is a very "full" piece, and one of its many merits is the scrupulous care with which every bit of the canvas is worked over, even down to the character of a rebellious servant. An excellent all-round performance was given. Miss Marie Illington supplied a very strong and natural embodiment of Shirley Rossmore, exactly realising the cool, bold, and clever American girl who fights her father's battle so acutely and bravely. Miss Illington rose to passion and power in the third act, when Shirley refuses with scorn any connection with the rascally Ryder, who was represented with great vigour and emphasis by Mr. Edmund Breese. A delightfully youthful and suave interpretation of the rôle of Jefferson Ryder was supplied by Mr. Richard Bennett; and Mr. Gilbert Hare was unimpeachably polished and pompous as the Hon. Fitzroy Bagley. Ex-Judge Stott was pleasantly played by Mr. Frank Burbeck; and Mrs. John Burkett Ryder had an expert interpretress in Miss Marguerite St. John. Miss Nannie Comstock was bright and agreeable as Kate Roberts; Mr. Harry Harwood was a typical Senator; Mr. J. W. Macdonald and Miss Henrietta Cowen were amusing as two conventional visitors, and Miss Helen Rous characteristic as an effusive one. Miss Louise Sydneth made a comically mutinous servant; and Mr. Walter Allen suggested admirably the utter dejection and innate refinement of Judge Rossmore, Mr. William Postance being efficient as the Expressman, Mr. Arthur B. Murray satisfactory as Jorkins, and Miss Atherton Hinton commendable as the maid. The scenery by Joseph A. Physioc was effective and appropriate; and the piece held the attention of the audience firmly, and was applauded with great warmth and energy.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—In your notice last week of *The Betrayer* company, you mention Mr. Mark Practice as playing the principal comedy part. It should have been yours faithfully, J. W. FORREST, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

"SHORE ACRES."

A Play, in Four Acts, by James A. Herne, Performed, for the First Time in London, at the Waldorf Theatre, on Monday, May 21.

Martin Barron .....MR. EDMUND MAURICE
Nathaniel Barron .....MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Sam Warren .....MR. FRANK MILLS
Mr. Blake .....MR. H. COOPER CLIFFE
Farmer Jago .....MR. W. CHEESMAN
Young Nat .....MASTER WALTER CROSS
Bob .....MASTER REGGIE ANDREWS
Mr. Hunkin .....MR. WM. CALVERT
Captain Ben .....MR. F. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Dr. Pollard .....MR. OWEN
Tim Hayes .....MR. EDMUND LEA
Ann Barron .....MISS MARY RORKE
Mrs. Hunkin .....MISS AUGUSTA HAVILAND
Mrs. Pollard .....MISS EDITH BARWELL
Lyddy Ann Nye .....MISS KATE HARWOOD
Millie .....MISS BETTY GREEN
May .....MISS MAISIE RICHARDSON
Mandy .....MISS DOLLY STAMP
Mary Kate .....MISS FRANCIS WELSTEAD
Helen Barron .....MISS ALICE CRAWFORD

Shore Acres is an ingenious and effective combination of a strong sensation scene and an interesting drama of rural life. One can imagine Mr. James A. Herne hitting upon the "notion" of the interior of a lighthouse for his "big set," with a struggle between two men as to whether the lantern shall be lighted to warn off a passing vessel. But a good many authors would simply have "carpentered" up a story round this idea, and the result would have been the common or garden "nailed-up" drama. Mr. Herne, on the contrary, has given us a real play, full of simple fun, tender and *naïf* sentiment, passion, and character. The personages of the drama are not lay-figures, but types, and interesting ones "at that." The contrast between the two brothers Barron—Martin, the stern keeper of a Cornwall coast lighthouse and owner of a farm on the sea-shore, and Nathaniel, an old Crimean veteran, with a kindly heart and a quaint, humorous nature, is striking. Martin is tempted by a land speculator named Blake to mortgage his farm, and sell it to a company for building purposes. This course is strongly opposed by Nathaniel, who reminds Martin that their mother's grave lies in the best plot of the proposed estate, and does not want to disturb the old associations of the farm. Thus, from the first, the contest is between cash and sentiment, and—as usual on the stage—sentiment wins. Martin's daughter, Helen, is in love with Sam Warren, an intellectual young doctor, who finds himself quite out of place in the Cornwall village, and is hated by Martin for his Darwinian theories. Martin wants Helen to marry Blake, while Nathaniel, of course, is on the side of Warren. The scene in the lighthouse is led up to thus:—Helen elopes with Sam on board an outgoing vessel. A storm rises. The two brothers are in the lighthouse, when the lamp goes wrong, and there is a danger that the ship containing the lovers may be wrecked for want of warning. Martin, in his revenge, insists that it shall be. Nathaniel protests, and there is a struggle, ending in Nathaniel being thrown down senseless, Martin going out exultant. Nathaniel recovers, and, as the drop descends, is seen going up to attend to the light.

In the last act. retribution falls on Martin for his hardness and avarice. The land company is a failure, and Martin is in danger of ruin; but Sam Warren and Helen return from America, rich enough to save him, and a well-timed legacy from an old Crimean officer enables Nathaniel to assist in the relief. The development of this story involves a vast amount of homely humour and pathos, the feasting of country cronies, the oddities of a rural matron, and the introduction of a pack of happy, merry children, who play various pranks, appear in their nightdresses, and generally give the piece a sweet, fresh, and simple tone. One scene, in which an immense turkey is dismembered and devoured by a gathering of rustics in the farm kitchen, almost brings the scent of the gravy across the footlights. Add to this that Mr. Hawes Craven has painted a very pretty Cornish coast scene, that Mr. Walter Hann has supplied one of his most picturesque interiors, and that Mr. T. Hemsley has excelled himself in his lighthouse set, and the triumphant success of *Shore Acres* at the Waldorf on Monday is easily accounted for, especially when the admirable acting is taken into consideration.

Mr. Edmund Maurice's Martin Barron was the acme of stern, strong, passionate egotism, and the intensity and vigour of his rendering were worthy of the warmest praise. Mr. Cyril Maude gave a wonderfully natural, amusing, and pathetic impersonation of Nathaniel Barron. The quaint old fellow, with his odd, half-shrewd, half-simple ways, his extraordinary attire, and his gentleness and kindliness of spirit, was represented by Mr. Maude in a manner which proved his artistry pre-eminent. There was a scene of droll realism, in which Nathaniel was concerned in the cooking of a turkey, which was irresistibly winning and propitiating in its influence on the audience. Mr. Maude put plenty of power into his work in the lighthouse act; and his final exit in the last one, when Nathaniel sadly and soberly destroys the plans of the ill-fated "building estate," and with a sigh of relief betakes himself to bed, was very telling and significant. Miss Mary Rorke played a genial farm-mistress, with a trick of repeating her final sentences, in her usual accomplished style; Mr. Frank Mills gave a thoroughly sound and artistic embodiment of Sam Warren; and Miss Alice Crawford as Helen Barron showed real emotional power, especially in the second act. Mr. H. Cooper Cliffe made the most of the rôle of Mr. Blake, which was certainly well within that excellent actor's powers; and distinguished success was won by Mr. Edmund Lea, who created hearty laughter by his broadly comical business of feeding a timid and pallid child. The minor parts, hardly distinctive enough for separate description, were all admirably filled by artists of reputation. *Shore Acres* had a warmly-enthusiastic reception, and is likely to be a sustained success.

IN reference to a letter which appeared in our last issue, under the heading of "A Coincidence in Cats," Mr. W. Gunn Gwennet writes:—"I have a line from Mr. Calvert to the effect that the piece he is handling was written four years ago, but my own opera was completed several years previous to that."

"THE GARTER," a comedietta, in one act, by Sidney Lewis-Ransom, was produced, for copyright purposes, at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, on the 18th inst.

THE King was present at the performance of *Die Walkure* at Covent Garden Opera on Tuesday.

"BOY O'CARROLL."

Comedy, in Four Acts, by B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland, Produced, for the First Time in London, at the Imperial Theatre, on Saturday, May 19.

Major Yarrington .....MR. C. J. CAMERON
Captain Hebblethwaite..MR. THALBERG CORBETT
Captain Vere .....MR. ALBERT E. RAYNOR
Lieut. Brian O'Carroll ....MR. MARTIN HARVEY
Lieut. Wylford .....MR. GEORGE COOKE
Lieut. Mollison .....MR. LEONARD CRASKE
Corporal Penray .....MR. REEVE DENBIGH
Rejoice Allman .....MR. P. HEWLAND
Paudheen .....MISS N. DE SILVA
Lady Honoria Vere .....MISS KATE RORKE
Lettice Yarrington .....MISS MAUD RIVERS
Win-the-fight-Bubb .....MISS GRACE HAMPTON
Tabitha .....MISS BESSIE ELDER

It is well that Mr. Martin Harvey should occasionally give his numerous London friends a chance of seeing him in the West-end, for audiences there remember him by much artistic work, and recognise his claim to rank as one of the first actors of the day, and as one who is proud to own that his highest ambition is to prove himself worthy of the great traditions of his departed chief, under whose banner he so gladly served in his earlier youth. Mr. Harvey opened his four weeks' season on Saturday at the Imperial with a play new to London, though it has won some considerable favour in the provinces since its production at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on April 27. It is entitled *Boy O'Carroll*, and is from the pen of the authors of *The Breed of the Treshams*, B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland. There was a large house to welcome the accomplished actor on Saturday evening, and the cordiality of his reception, which interrupted the progress of the piece in its early moments, must have been grateful music to his ears. It was indeed a testimony of popularity of which a Prime Minister would have been proud.

It is obvious that the piece with which Mr. Harvey elected to open has been written for the provinces; but it has all the essentials of life and movement, and its romanticism is allied to comic situations which appeal with real force to the mass of playgoers. Its interest is cumulative, and as the story progresses towards an inevitable happy ending, it keeps the listener engrossed. The hero, Boy O'Carroll, is a young lieutenant of horse in the army of Charles the First, and is encamped with his regiment near Repton-under-Wye—a pretty upland, admirably painted by Mr. G. Dobson, whose brushwork is excellent. Good-natured, impulsive, reckless, brave, and chivalrous, Brian readily recommends himself to any audience, and it is his championship of weak woman that forms the *clou* of the play. Lettice Yarrington, the young heroine, the niece and ward of the sour Puritan Major Yarrington, has written to her cousin, Lieutenant Mollison, a perfectly innocent letter, arranging for a meeting that he may give her safe conduct. Mollison boasts of a conquest, and shows the letter to his brother officers. One does not quite see why O'Carroll should interfere, but he does, and snatches the letter from one of them. The indignation that results is responsible for no less than three challenges; but O'Carroll, who is spoiling for a fight, is hurried away by his captain to take dispatches to Upper Lowcombe. O'Carroll, we should add, is in love with a bewitching Irish widow, Lady Honoria Vere, who has, however, given her heart to Captain Hebblethwaite, an obtuse, unimaginative, unimpressionable Englishman.

In the second act, our hero is discovered at the Hall, Yarrington Grange, Lower Upcombe. He has evidently mistaken this village for Upper Lowcombe, and has been taken prisoner accordingly, as the former place is in the occupation of the Parliamentarians, under command of Major Yarrington. The dispatches have been taken from O'Carroll by that stern, unbending Roundhead, and also Lettice's letter, which the Irish "bhoy" had intended to return. Old Yarrington jumps to the conclusion that the missive has been addressed to O'Carroll, and puts the worst construction upon it. "There was nothing further from your mind than marriage," shouts the uncle. O'Carroll of course assents. That settles his fate. The major bundles off his niece and O'Carroll to the parson, and in a few minutes they return man and wife. After the marriage ceremony, Brian is sent to London en route for the Barbadoes, and Lettice is packed off to a strict aunt.

For the purposes of the plot it happens that the hero and heroine—now man and wife—come together again in the next act, in the wardrobe-room, Armitage Manor. Here we find also Lady Honoria Vere, who, hearing a faint cry from beneath the lid of an oak chest, opens it, and releases the terrified and tearful Lettice. To Armitage Manor O'Carroll is brought by a troop of Roundheads, and with him, as fellow captive, is his rival, Captain Hebblethwaite. The two are handcuffed together, and naturally, both remembering their former quarrel, are in no amiable mood. Reconciliation, however, comes about through the Lady Honoria, who, after confessing to O'Carroll her love for his rival, is responsible for the sending of a loaf. The prisoners fall to, but O'Carroll speedily discovers that he is munching a piece of paper, which he hastily peruses to discover therein instructions as to the means of escape that are close to his hand. A rope is at the bottom of a hair-trunk, and the key to the handcuff is inside the loaf. "Have ye swallowed the key?" cries O'Carroll to Hebblethwaite, as the latter starts a violent fit of coughing. "If you have, I will cut you open to get it out." But no such drastic measure is needed. The key is found, and the handcuff removed. The rope, too, is discovered; but only one can escape by it. Which is it to be? Each would sacrifice himself for the other. In the end it is Hebblethwaite who is lowered from the window; but O'Carroll luckily discovers some window-curtains, tears them into strips, and by this means escapes from duresse.

In the fourth act Brian turns up at Marbrook Hall, there to find that Major Yarrington has recaptured Hebblethwaite, also Lady Honoria, and his horseboy Paudheen, the major having bluffed them into the belief that the house, where Lettice is also hiding, was surrounded by his troops. However, Brian, who arrives through the latticed window, plays the same game, and in turn the major's matchlock-men are taken prisoners. A temporary armistice is arranged, the curtain falling on Lady Honoria's engagement to Captain Hebblethwaite, and on Brian O'Carroll's discovery that he is falling in love with his own wife, through whose kindly offices he has been again enabled to escape the clutches of the brutal Parliamentarian.

Mr. Martin Harvey's impersonation of the title-rôle is a triumph of versatility. Those who have been deeply impressed by the dignity and tragedy of his Sydney Carton—and who has not?—will be the first to admire his embodiment of the devil-may-care Irishman. He positively glows with buoyant juvenility, and his acting seems to be guided by a thorough knowledge of the Irish temperament. His readiness of repartee is often coloured by a most welcome tinge of romance, and it is in such passages that Mr. Harvey is at his best. The success of the love scene in the first act between O'Carroll and the Lady Honoria Vere is shared by Miss Kate Rorke, who gives delightful emphasis to a character that goes far to justify the writing of the piece. Miss Rorke, who has oft beguiled us of our tears in the parts of suffering heroines, is the very personification of graciousness. Miss N. de Silva, in the part of Paudheen, makes an admirable boy, and the long and quickly-delivered speech in the third act which falls to the faithful but irrepressible gossoon is quite a *tour de force* in the way of elocution, and Miss de Silva's delivery of it is perfect. Mr. C. J. Cameron sufficiently accentuates the intolerant and unspeakably tyrannical mood of Major Yarrington, the dour Puritan leader; Mr. Thalberg, with no easy task before him, manages to interest us in the fortunes of the not very wide-awake Captain Hebblethwaite, who is about as sharp in an *affaire de cœur* as our old friend Modus; Mr. Albert E. Raynor makes an interesting martinet of Captain Vere; Mr. George Cooke's Lieutenant Wylford is most effective; Mr. Leonard Craske does well as Lieutenant Mollison; Mr. Reeve Denbigh puts a droll touch into his acting as Corporal Penray; and Mr. P. Hewland is adequate as Rejoice Allman. Miss Maud Rivers is a sweet and winsome heroine as Lettice Yarrington—an impersonation that reminds one of an April day, tears and sunshine. Miss Grace Hampton makes the most of her opportunities as Win-the-fight-Bubb; and Miss Bessie Elder as the serving-woman Tabitha, with a bad cold, is decidedly funny.

DEATH OF HENRIK IBSEN.

Henrik Ibsen, who died on Wednesday last, was born at Skien, on the south-eastern coast of Norway, on March 20, 1828. His parents were of mixed Danish, Scotch, and German blood. He was apprenticed in 1844 to an apothecary in the seaport town of Grimstad. In the winter of 1848-49 he composed his first drama, the three-act tragedy of *Catilina*, in blank verse. *Catilina* was refused at the Christiania Theatre. After this Ibsen wrote a second play, *The Viking's Barrow;* this was accepted and played. In 1851 Ibsen was appointed manager of the theatre at Bergen, and spent five months of the summer and autumn of 1852 in studying the practical arrangements of the playhouses in Copenhagen and Dresden. His third play, the romantic comedy of *St. John's Eve*, was put on at the Bergen Theatre in 1852. In 1856 Ibsen produced his drama of *The Feast at Solhoug*. Another work of his, *Olaf Liljekrans*, was played at Bergen in January, 1857. In the next summer he resigned management, and came up to live in Christiania, where he was appointed stage-manager to the Norwegian Theatre. He remained until 1862, and produced two historical dramas, *Madam Inger at Oesteraad*, which he had written at Bergen in 1857, and *The Warriors at Helgeland*. In 1858 Ibsen married Susanna Daae Thoresen, the step daughter of the novelist, Magdalene Thoresen. In the summer of 1862 his theatre became bankrupt. At this time he published *Love's Comedy*, a satire in dramatic rhyme. In the following year he was appointed "adviser" at the Old Christiania Theatre. His saga-tragedy, *The Pretenders*, was published at the close of 1863. In 1864 the Council of State granted him a travelling-stipend, and his *Pretenders* was put on the stage. In April, 1864, Ibsen left Christiania, and went to Trieste and Venice. In June he was in Rome, and at Christmas, 1865, he finished his poem of *Brand*, which was published in Copenhagen in March, 1866. He was saved from impending want by a pension, and spent the summer of 1867 in Italy at work on *Peer Gynt*.

In the autumn of 1868 Ibsen went to Dresden, and wrote his political drama, *The League of Young Men*. It was acted in the three Scandinavian countries, but was "damned" in Christiania. On his return to Dresden in 1870 he began the drama called *Emperor and Galilean*, which he finished in 1873. In the autumn of 1874 he settled in Munich, and in October, 1877, *The Pillars of Society* was published. It was not acted in Norway for some time, but in Germany it immediately achieved success. In 1878 it was played in over a score of German theatres at one time. Ibsen spent the winter of 1878 in Rome, and most of 1879 at Amalfi, where he wrote *A Doll's House*. It was performed in all the principal towns of Scandinavia and Germany, and from this moment his fame commenced.

While on a visit to Sorrento in 1881 he wrote *Ghosts; An Enemy of the People* was finished at Gossensass in the summer of 1882; and two years later came *The Wild Duck*, which was written in Rome in the summer of 1884. In the winter of 1885 his annual play was *Rosmersholm*, in 1888 *The Lady From the Sea*, in 1890 *Hedda Gabler*, in 1892 *Master-Builder Solness*, in 1894 *Little Eyolf*, in 1896 *John Gabriel Borkman*. *When We Dead Awaken* did not appear until Christmas, 1899, and was the last of Ibsen's dramas. In 1902 he collected his "Works" in two volumes, adding two juvenile dramas, *The Viking's Barrow* and *Olaf Liljekrans*, which had not been hitherto published.

For the last three years of his life he was forbidden by his physicians to do any mental work, and he became unconscious of the passage of events. Ibsen received many decorations from his own and other Monarchs. His likeness is preserved in the colossal bronze statue by Sinding in front of the Norwegian National Theatre.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The concert on Wednesday evening given by the students of the Guildhall School of Music commenced with duet, harp, and piano of Rossini's "Prayer" from *Mosé in Egitto*, arranged by Thomas, the executants being Miss Edith Harndeh and Miss Jenny Hyman. Mr. Darcy Woolfven sang "The Colleen Bawn," by Benedict, with good effect; and Miss Marjorie Mackay was much applauded in her solo pianoforte, "Paraphrase de Concert" (*Eugéne Onegin*), Tchaikowsky-Pabst. Miss A. E. Richardson, who has a fine contralto voice, and is a most promising pupil of Mr. Albert Visetti, might have chosen less hackneyed music than the scena, "My heart is weary," from Goring Thomas's *Nadeschda*. In the "Flower Song" from *Carmen* Mr. J. H. Callen displayed a well-trained and pleasing tenor voice, although showing a slight disposition to drag the tempo; and Miss Aggie Melville showed ability in the French song, "Les filles de Cadiz" (Chanson Espagnole), Délibes. "The Castilian Maid," by Lehmann, was neatly sung by Miss Louie Guthrie; and Verdi's "Eri In" from *Un Ballo in Maschera* was so remarkably well rendered by Mr. T. H. Watts that he should on a future occasion give the Aria in Italian. Several good instrumental items were included in the programme, Miss C. M. Fawcett playing her violin solo, "Romance sans Paroles" of Wieniawski, with much facility; and Miss Dadine Sutherland displaying a firm touch and fairly finished execution, unusual in so young a performer, in Chopin's pianoforte solo, "Allegro de Concert" in A. One of the most successful piano solos was that of Miss Minnie T. Crouch, A.G.S.M., who showed great talent in her playing of Chopin's Nocturne in F sharp, and in the difficult and clever "Study for the left hand only," a paraphrase of "The Last Rose of Summer," composed by Willem Coenen; and Miss Winifred Johnson produced a good tone with neat execution in De Bériot's violin solo, "Andante and Finale" from Concerto in G, the concert concluding with the vocal duet "Zigeunerlied," Brahms, sung by Miss Millie and Miss Louie Guthrie. Miss Jenny Hyman ably performed the duties of accompanist, and Mrs. Charles Smith superintended the appearance of the young ladies on the platform.

MR. WILLIAMSON, of Sydney, has purchased the Australian rights of the successful play, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, from the authors, the Baroness Orczy and Montagu Barstow, for immediate production there.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P., gave notice on Thursday night that on Monday next he would ask leave to bring in a Bill to deal with the question of copyright in music. The Bill will be a short one, consisting practically of only two clauses. It has been drawn up by eminent counsel, and after several drafts have been prepared, has been finally reduced to this brief form. It is believed that it will be an effective weapon against the villainy still possible to the music pirates. Mr. O'Connor has been already promised the assistance of Mr. Balfour, leader of the Opposition, Mr. John Redmond, leader of the Irish Party, and Sir Alfred Thomas, leader of the Welsh Party; and hopes to have the assistance of several other prominent Parliamentarians when the Bill is introduced. As the question of musical piracy seriously affects the interest of both the dramatic and music-hall professions, we feel sure that every member of these professions will wish Mr. O'Connor every success in his attempt to obtain effective legislation on a subject of such immense importance.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has settled upon Tuesday evening next for the production of *Colonel Newcome*. Despite the malicious article, manifestly designed to provoke discussion hostile to the eminent actor, which recently appeared in a contemporary, Mr. Tree's assumption of the part of the lovable colonel is awakening the most agreeable expectations. Mr. Michael Morton has based his version of Thackeray's great story upon a series of incidents in the career of the chief character, and endeavoured to preserve throughout the piece the atmosphere and spirit of the book. In his choice of the subject, it may be added, Mr. Morton was influenced by the conviction that the character would suit Mr. Tree admirably, and wherever it has been found expedient the novelist's own words have been retained.

FOUR hundred per year, it is said, is the number of plays received by Mr. George Alexander, and all are gone through religiously by himself and Mr. C. T. Helmsley, his manager. "The literary quality of the plays sent us is better than it used to be," said Mr. Helmsley. "It is often surprisingly good. But, then, literary excellence is not a very important feature in dramatic work, and the construction and characterisation are generally very feeble." One of the most curious plays ever heard of was that once offered to the late Wilson Barrett by a Parsee gentleman. It consisted of ten acts, each containing a heavy set scene and several smaller tableaux; there were ninety-seven speaking parts, and the dialogue filled nearly three hundred typewritten pages. Inclusive of the necessary waits, it would have played for about thirteen hours.

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS, who will be director of the stage for the Ellen Terry Matinée, has already devoted a great deal of his valuable time in order to emphasise the success of this momentous occasion. Mr. Sidney Smith and his helpers at the box office have had a huge task in dealing with the applications for seats. Many great occurrences have taken place at "Old Drury," but no event has ever reached the phenomenal booking attained by that associated with the jubilee of the great actress. So great has been the demand for places, that no reserved seats may now be had under three guineas.

THE executive committee for the matinée consists of Mr. Arthur W. Pinero (chairman), Mr. Geo. Alexander, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Hon. Stephen Coleridge, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. Alfred Courtenay, Mr. Henry Dana, Mr. Tom B. Davis, Mr. George Edwardes, Mr. Charles Frohman, Mr. Stephano Gatti, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Frederick Harrison, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Cyril Maude, M. André Messager, Mr. J Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Sidney Smith, Mr. Bram Stoker, Mr. Otho Stuart, Mr. Ed. Terry, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr James Welch, and Sir Charles Wyndham. The hon. Press manager is Mr. Austin Brereton, and the hon. secretary Mr. Acton Bond.

THE complete cast for the first act of *Much Ado About Nothing* will consist of Messrs. Fred Terry, H. B. Irving, J. Forbes-Robertson, H. Beerbohm Tree, Hermann Vezin, Henry Neville, Edward Gwenn, Oscar Asche, Norman Forbes, and Laurence Irving, and Miss Marion Terry, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Minnie Terry, and Miss Kate Terry (Mrs. Lewis). Mr. Gordon Craig, who has designed the scenery, has also invented a masked dance for the close of the act, in which all the members of the Terry family and others will appear. The wonderful programme, to many items of which we have already referred, has been rendered still more remarkable by the inclusion of the names of M. Coquelin and his son, who will appear in a scene from *Le Mariage Forcé*, and Mr. Willard's kind offer of assistance has also been accepted.

THE comedians who are to figure in the minstrel "first part" will, it is understood, wear evening dress, but will be made up as the various characters in which they are appearing at the date of the matinée. In the scene from *The School for Scandal*, which is one of the chief features of the afternoon, Sir Charles Wyndham will appear as Charles, Mr. Bourchier as Sir Oliver, Mr. George Alexander as Careless, Mr. Cyril Maude as Trip, Mr. Edward Terry as Moses, and Mr. Ben Davies as Sir Harry Bumper, with song.

TABLEAUX vivants, the figures of which are to be filled in by popular actresses, will be a striking feature of the performance. Those selected for presentation will include "The Rival Beauties," arranged by Sir Alma Tadema from his own picture, the scene painted by Mr. Joseph Harker, and the characters embodied by Miss Constance Collier and Miss Maxine Elliott; "The Ladies Waldegrave," arranged by Mr. Luke Fildes, the scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith, will have Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Julie Opp, and Miss Fay Davis for its exponents; a Watteau picture, arranged by Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, the scene painted by Mr. Walter Hann, will be impersonated by Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Sarah Brooke, Miss Ellis Jeffreys, and Miss Gertrude Elliott; and a scene from Rossetti's poem "The Blessed Damozel," arranged by Mr. Byam Shaw, painted by Mr. Walter Hann, will be portrayed by Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Viola Tree, Miss Margaret Halstan, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Dorothea Baird, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Mabel Hackney, Miss Dagmar Wiehe, Miss Lettice Fairfax, and Miss Jessie Bateman.

A SCENE from the life of Joan of Arc, arranged by Mr. Percy Macquoid, scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith, will be realised by Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Beryl Faber, Miss May Palfrey, Miss Nora Lancaster, Miss Beatrice Irwin, Miss Dorothy Minto, Miss Hazel Thompson, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Beatrice Beckley, and Miss Iris Hawkins; and Miss Edna May will appear in Albert Moore's picture "Blossoms," arranged by Mr. A. L. Baldry, the scene painted by Mr. McCleary. Another Albert Moore picture, arranged by Mr. Baldry, will be represented by Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Nancy Price, and Miss Eva Moore; and further tableaux, including one by Sir James Linton, are being prepared, in which Mrs. Langtry, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mrs. Brown Potter, Mrs. Tree, Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Kate Rorke, Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Winifred Emery, and Miss Ellaline Terriss will take part.

MR. LIONEL BROUGH supplies the comforting assurance that the reports which have been current during the last few days that he was seriously ill, are not true. How greatly exaggerated were the reports is shown by the statement, made on Mr. Brough's own authority, that he is "perfectly well."

"BRIGADIER GERARD" is to remain in possession at the Lyric until July 14, after which Mr. Lewis Waller will take a short rest previous to going on tour with the piece three weeks later. The tour will begin at Douglas, Isle of Man, and visits will be paid to Bristol, Dublin, Newcastle, Leeds, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Liverpool, and Birmingham. Mr. Waller returns to the Lyric in November, when the new play, written by Henry Hamilton and William Devereux round the adventures of Robin Hood, will be produced.

THE Lyric will, in the interval, be devoted to a season of grand opera in English, which will be supplied by the Moody-Manners company. The opera season will begin on Saturday, July 21, and is arranged to last five weeks. There will then remain a month or more before Mr. Waller's return, a gap which might well be filled by extending the opera season. Mr. Charles Manners' indefatigable efforts in the cause of music on his last visit to the West End must surely have borne fruit in some degree, and the number of those who are able to appreciate the delights of grand opera, should be equal to supporting a first-class enterprise for more than the space of a month.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY, who has inaugurated his season at the Imperial most auspiciously, announces that from Thursday, May 24, *Boy O'Carroll* will commence at 8.30 instead of 8.15, as the comedy now plays much closer.

THE secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund has received £1 from Mr. Mark Ambient, per Mr. Cecil Beryl; £1 from Mr. Douglas Vigors; and £2 2s. from Mr. Robert Courtneidge. Mr. George Alexander has also sent a further sum of £1 12s. 6d., which he has collected in half-crowns in exchange for his autograph; and Mr. Tree is daily sending on postal orders from the same source.

THE stage has been well represented this week at the Elizabethan Fair and Fête, held in Lincoln's Inn hall and grounds in aid of the removal fund of King's College Hospital. What with theatrical costume performances and theatrical ladies selling at the stalls, the profession fully justified its olden reputation for good heartedness in the cause of charity. On Wednesday, when the fair was opened by H.R.H. the Princess Christian, in the theatre there were three performances of a well-known Elizabethan travestie, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*, by Mr. W. S. Gilbert. The brilliant author appeared as King Claudius of Denmark, Captain Robert Marshall as Hamlet; while Mr. Leo Trevor as Rosencrantz and Miss Gertrude Kingston as Queen Gertrude contributed largely to the general hilarity.

THE second day (Thursday) saw an even greater assemblage of artists. Mr. Herbert Swears' burlesque melodrama, *Hero and Heroine*, was played by Mr. Arthur Playfair and Miss Kate Cutler, while in the cast of *Amelia* we had Mr. Nigel Playfair, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, and Miss Bramleigh. Appropriately enough, Miss Constance Collier recited "Elizabethan Love Lyrics," by Sir Walter Raleigh; Miss May de Sousa gave a delightful rendering of "Love the Tyrant" and "The sweetest story ever told"; Messrs. Cole and Johnson treated the visitors to a selection of songs of their own composition; and Miss Ella Dixon introduced a monologue, entitled "Her Debut at Court," by Mr. John Cutler, K.C. Among the other well-known theatrical folk who contributed to the entertainments were Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Eva Baron, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Vane Featherston, Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Mabel Love, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Carrie Moore, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Denise Orme, Mr. Willie Edouin, Mr. Fred Chester, Mr. George Graves, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Walter Kirby, Mon. Malini, Mr. Huntley Wright, and Mr. A. Corbett Smith. Yesterday many of these artists again rendered goodly service, a special feature of the programme being the recital by Miss Rosina Filippi of a monologue by Mr. Maurice Materlinck, entitled "The Swarm."

SOME of our popular actresses were gracious enough to take charge of a few of the stalls. Thus, pipes and tobacco and cigars, smokers' cabinets and jars and many nick-nacks dear to the heart of the devotees of My Lady Nicotine were being vended by Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. Arthur Bourchier, Mrs. Cyril Maude, Lady Burnand, Miss Ellaline Terriss, Miss Adrienne Augarde, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Maud Wynter, Miss Dagmar Wiehe, Miss Maud Cresswall, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Sybil Carlisle, and Miss Pauline Chase. Mrs. Cyril Maude was attired in a pretty and becoming Elizabethan costume of blue brocade and silver trimmings, with a turned-back rose du Barry velvet cap. At Mrs. William S. Playfair's stall, where specimens of antique and modern art were being much sought after, the assistants were Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mrs. George Alexander, Mrs. and Miss John Hare, Mrs. Nigel Playfair, Miss Playfair, and Miss Audrey Playfair. Some of these ladies were attired in mediæval costumes of brown red-shot silk, Winsey petticoats, sleeves lined inside with crimson silk, white net ruffs with gold edging, and brown velvet Henry VIII. caps with red feathers.

MOST of the special period dances, including the Maypole, were arranged by Madame Katti Lanner, and everybody commented on the exceedingly skilful and pleasing manner in which they were performed. During the progress of the Fair, Miss Sylvia Parkyns was seen in a particularly graceful solo dance "invented" by Madame Lanner, with music composed by Mr. Hubert Colegrave, and congratulations are also due to Madame Lanner for the efficient training of the twelve dancers who went by the name of the Folies. The amount collected inside the grounds was considerably augmented by the sale by auction of tickets giving admission to West End theatres. The managements of Covent Garden Opera House, the New Theatre, the Garrick, the Alhambra, the Court Theatre (for Miss Ellen Terry in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*), the Palace, all gave a box, while the New Royalty sent a couple of tickets for boxes for Madame Réjane's season. Before leaving the subject of the Fête, we would like to express our admiration and gratitude—in which we are sure we shall be joined by other newspaper people—for the kindly consideration and attention so charmingly afforded members of the Press by Mrs. George Curnock.

"THE THIRD TIME OF ASKING," a new "rustic comedy," by H. E. Francis (Mrs. Blundell), will be produced at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Arthur Bourchier will appear in the play and will assume the character of a Lancashire lout. The little piece is intended to precede the fascinating *Mr. Vanderveldt* at every performance.

MR. CHARLES FRY'S concluding performance of his series of Shakespearean matinées was given on Saturday at the Court Theatre. Apart from the necessary curtailments, the play was given strictly according to Shakespeare's text, which, except in Sir Henry Irving's great revival, is not usually done. Mr. Fry added the scene between Queen Elizabeth, the Duchess of York, and the little Duke of York (Act II. sc. 4), to the episode with the two Princes, which, to the best of Mr. Fry's belief, was played for the first time.

"CASTLES IN SPAIN," supported by Mr. Harry Fragson and Miss May De Sousa, was removed bodily on Thursday to Terry's Theatre, where it was received by a large audience with all the evidences of popularity which it obtained during its recent run at the Royalty. The piece, which has been embellished by new and attractive songs, is admirably in tone with the pretty theatre in the Strand, and has adjusted itself perfectly to its new surroundings. There is an engaging air of novelty about the piece which prepossesses it in favour, and it went as merrily as ever on Thursday, securing ready laughter and enthusiastic cheers.

THE first encore of the evening was conferred on the dainty "Nightingale and Lark" song sung by Mr. Fragson and Miss De Sousa, the fresh, young voice of the charming comedienne being utilised with the utmost delicacy and grace. Miss Sousa's love ballad was also rendered with rare feeling and exquisite intonation, and a song called "How was I to know?" was vocalised with charm and point. Mr. Fragson obtained a most determined redemand for the remarkably clever song of the travels of a tragedy, his imitations of celebrated actors being an added delight. The enthusiastic reception of the lyric brought forth a novelty, a song in French, entitled "Adieu to Granada," which proved a most entertaining lilt, and was in turn succeeded by a nigger song, in which Mr. Fragson showed himself admirably qualified to take part as a minstrel in the best "circles."

MR. JOHNNY DANVERS'S ripe humour and resourceful byplay is invaluable in his impersonation of the American millionaire, whose accent is realistically caught. Mr. E. Dagnall succeeds to the part of the eccentric Spaniard, Señor Terraro, and plays it in the drollest style, ensuring many hearty laughs. The song in which he is described as a "Jolly good fellow" is quaintly rendered, invaluable assistance being derived from his three satellites played in the oddest manner imaginable by Messrs. Espinosa, Francis Howard, and Roger Alwyn. The smart and dapper Jenkins is dryly presented by Mr. Hubert Willis, who cleverly emphasises the humour of the part; and the imperturbable Charles is enacted with comic effect by Mr. Thornton Wynne. Miss Mabel Nelson exercises the fascinations of the Spanish senorita Chiquita to considerable purpose; and Miss Maud Millais plays Manuela in her customary artistic style.

MISS DENNY FITZHERBERT undertook last week, at a moment's notice, the part of the Actress in *Facing the Music*. Arriving in Ipswich from London at 6.30, perfectly strange to both the piece and part, she went through the performance the same night letter perfect, and was highly complimented by the management.

PAST and present members of the Benson company have been accustomed for some years to meet at dinner, and celebrate their connection with that justly famous company, and this year they will gather at the Trocadero on the night of June 10, under the genial presidency of Mr. H. O. Nicholson. Mr. H. Jalland being absent abroad, the secretary for the committee is Mr. F. Percy P. Soper, of Theydon Towers, Epping, who will be pleased to send particulars of the dinner to any Bensonian.

MR. PHILIP ASHBROOKE, the well-known voice producer, sang three new German songs at the Steinway Hall on the 14th inst. The songs, which were in manuscript, were written by Miss Marguerite Radclyffe-Hall, and were sung in cultured style by Mr. Ashbrooke, who won warm praise.

MR. ROBERT PATEMAN, who, this evening, at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, finishes a most successful tour of thirty-three weeks as Kleschna in *Leah Kleschna*, has been specially engaged by Miss Olga Nethersole to play Schwartze in *Magda* for a short season in Paris early in June.

IN order to distinguish himself from others who bear, or have borne, the name of Lander, Mr. Charles Lander will in future be known by his full name of C. Oram Lander.

MR. J. F. ELLISTON, of Bolton, has just parted with a scenic artist who preferred to paint while whistling selections of serious music. Mr. Elliston, desirous of a change, now advertises for an assistant scenic artist, who must be thoroughly competent; and fond of working to music (hornpipe tunes) preferred.

MISS LUCY BEAUMONT (Mrs. Douglas Vigors), we regret to learn, is in Surgical Ward 4 of Charing Cross Hospital, where she is to undergo an operation for gastric ulcer. Much sympathy will no doubt be felt for Miss Beaumont in her affliction, and all will wish her a speedy recovery.

"THE GEISHA" may be expected at Daly's Theatre in a month's time, when the peerless musical comedy is sure of a reception as cordial as that which greeted it throughout its first phenomenal run. Miss Marie Studholme will be the Mollie Seamore, and the rôle of Juliette Diamant will be given to Mlle. Mariette Sully, a singer and comedienne of the highest popularity in Paris. The cast will also include Mr. George Graves, Mr. Fred Wright, jun., Mr. Robert Evett, Mr. Louis Bradfield, and Mr. Gordon Cleather.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES has again gone to a foreign source in his search for novelty, and accordingly his next production at the Prince of Wales's Theatre will be an adaptation of *La Troisième Lune*, a Chinese comedy in three acts and four tableaux, by Madame Fred Grésac and M. Paul Ferrier, with incidental music by M. Charles Cuvillier, brought out two years ago at the Paris Vaudeville. The adaptation of the work, which is to be entitled *The Third Moon*, and is due in a few weeks, is dependent upon the able pen of Mr. Charles Brookfield, while the music is entrusted to the dainty muse of Mr. Sidney Jones.

"THE LONELY MILLIONAIRES," the production of which took place at the Adelphi on the 15th inst., will be withdrawn on Friday, and *The Taming of the Shrew* will be revived on the following day. Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton will resume their former rôles of Petruchio and Katharine, and the company will be practically the same as before, with the exceptions notably of the exponents of Lucentio and Bianca, which parts will be in the hands of Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Francis Dillon respectively.

MISS LILIAS WALDEGRAVE, who has been called "the lucky understudy," because of her many opportunities to play big parts, is engaged to appear as Isobel, in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, at the Coronet and Camden Theatres, opening on June 4. The company will also include Miss Mary Moore, in her original part, Miss Illington, and Mr. Yorke Stephens.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE will inaugurate her season in Paris early next month, opening at the Vaudeville Theatre there on June 7. Miss Nethersole will present *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*, *Sapho*, *Magda*, *Carmen*, and *Camille*, and will be supported by the company that has just concluded a long tour with her in America.

MR. FRANK GRANS will produce *The Other Man's Business*, at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, on Monday. Mr. C. W. Anson, Mr. Frank Stanmore, and Miss Lilian Hubbard will be in the cast.

MR. GEORGE ARLISS has returned from America, and will remain in England for several months.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, William Devereux, Arthur Holmes-Gore, Norman McKinnel, M. R. Morand, Algernon Syms, Brandon Thomas, Spencer Trevor, Frank Vernon, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

THE Hon. Solicitor reported that a claim of a member against a manager had been satisfactorily settled, and that in another case amicable arrangements had been made as a consequence of their intervention. They also reported that a case set down for trial would be before the court during the week, and that in another action the hearing had been, at the request of the defendant, postponed until the end of next month. A member attended before the Council, and having given her version of a certain matter, the Council determined that it was a question which should be referred to arbitration.

THE Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from the Theatrical Managers' Association, agreeing to receive a deputation from the Actors' Association, to discuss a question of considerable importance to the profession, and he received instructions to summon a meeting of the "Special" Committee for the purpose of appointing delegates. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received, and the Secretary received instructions to summon a special meeting, for the purpose of considering a scheme proposed by Mr. Cecil Barth, Elsie Howard Ross and Montague Elphinstone were nominated for election, and two former members were nominated for re-instatement. An alleged case of bogus management was under consideration, and the Secretary received instructions.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting last Tuesday, when there were present Mr. M. R. Morand (chairman), Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Arthur Holmes-Gore, C. Aubrey Smith, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). Several matters of routine were discussed, and the Secretary received instructions.

MR. EDGAR CHARLES ASHLEY, assistant stage-manager for Miss Olga Nethersole—who has just completed her American tour—was this week the recipient of the following genial letter, which explains itself:—"Boston, Mass., May 7, 1906. My Dear Ashley,—Don't be offended, but when a man has shown himself so utterly disagreeable and so hopelessly incompetent as you have done during this tour, we think he ought to be paid in his own coin. So a few of us have put our heads and our ha'pence together, and the result is this little souvenir, which we hope will not only 'keep you up to time,' but remind you of our thorough appreciation of your unquestionable ability, your unswerving loyalty, and your untiring efforts in behalf of every production, and, in fact, the general good. Wear it in remembrance, and may 'good luck' go with it and you. —Cicely Richards, Louise Moodie, Hubert Carter, Charles Quartermaine, Hamilton Revelle." The missive was accompanied by a handsome gold watch.

MR. ARTHUR GREENAWAY, after a successful tour of Australia, and latterly with Miss Nance O'Neil in America, is now supporting Miss Millward in *The School for Husbands*, which is this week securing great success at the Fulham Theatre.

MRS. BROWN POTTER will appear at the Marlborough Theatre next week with her new play, *Mary Stuart Queen of Scots*. An extended notice of the piece, which was produced at the King's Theatre on Monday, is given in another column.

MR. LEONARD SHEPHERD, who recently made such a hit in the States by his characterisation of Trivulzio in Mr. Harrison Grey Fiske's production of *Monna Vanna*, has now scored another success by his creation of Grivet in Mr. Fiske's dramatisation of Zola's *Thérèse Raquin*. Mr. Shepherd and his accomplished wife, Miss Helena Head, sail from New York at the end of the month, and are due to arrive in London early in June.

VISITORS to Mr. Robert Arthur's Kennington Theatre will much appreciate the open-air summer promenade which Mr. H. B. Brandreth, the new manager, has provided for the patrons on the spacious balcony leading from the grand saloon. Fitted with a protective awning, and embellished with floral decorations, the promenade will prove a cooling and refreshing retreat "between the acts" during the summer months.

THE matinée of *Captain Swift*, given at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday, will benefit to a considerable extent the funds of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road, which needs a larger building and new furniture. The performance was under the patronage of the Princess Christian, and there was a crowded and fashionable audience. A great dramatic treat was afforded by Mr. Tree's impersonation of the ex-bushranger, and Mrs. Tree's emotional fervour and graceful acting in the part of Mrs. Seabrook were agreeably pronounced. Miss Sybil Carlisle gave a charming rendering of Stella; and Mr. Holman Clarke as Marshall, Mr. Lyn Harding as Mr. Gardiner, Mr. J. Fisher White as Mr. Seabrook, Miss Lettice Fairfax as Mabel, and Mrs. Cecil Raleigh as Mrs. Staunton furnished perfect renderings of their respective parts.

MISS MARGARET ILLINGTON, who plays the part of Shirley Rossmore in *The Lion and the Mouse* at the Duke of York's Theatre, is in private life the wife of Daniel Frohman, the American manager, brother of Charles Frohman.

MR. FRANK BERTRAM will commence a short summer tour of *The New Clown*, by arrangement with Messrs. Silvanus Dauncey and James Welch, at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Monday. Mr. Ernest Spalding will play the part of Lord Cyril Garston, and Miss Celestine Bertram Rosie Platt. The cast will also include Messrs. Gerald Clarke, C. Poole, Cyril Vernon, Douglas Payne, G. Ellis, Miss Connie Merton, and Miss Alec Flood. Among the towns visited will be Southport, Yarmouth, and Southend.

AN illuminated address is to be presented on Tuesday to Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett, the popular managing director of the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, the occasion being the first anniversary of his taking over the management of the theatre. The presentation will be made by the Mayor of Stoke Newington, supported by an influential committee of local gentlemen.

MISS EMMA HUTCHISON AND MR. PERCY HUTCHISON'S companies will provide strong and suitable attractions for the Whitsuntide holidays. At Birmingham Miss Hutchison and Mr. George Giddens will appear in *Public Opinion*, at Harrogate *The Freedom of Suzanne* will be played, and the South company of *Public Opinion* will make its first visit to Jersey. For the great Show Week at Swindon Mr. Percy Hutchison is producing three of the most popular plays, namely, *On the Love Path*, *Cousin Kate*, and *A Country Mouse*. It will thus be seen that these enterprising entrepreneurs still depend on plays that appeal to a laughter-loving audience, and that their selection should please holiday-makers is assured. All the autumn tours of the comedies start again in August, nearly all the seaside towns being booked for the summer months.

THERE was a large attendance at the tenth annual meeting of the Actors' Orphanage Fund, which took place at the Garrick Theatre in the afternoon of the 18th inst. Mr. Cyril Maude, chairman of the fund, presided, and there were also present Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. George Alexander, Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Winifred Emery, and Miss Carlotta Addison. In moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman said that day could be considered as a red-letter one in their annals. They were entitled to greet themselves in a Chinese fashion by cordially shaking hands with themselves, for the orphanage fund had now been in existence for ten years. The good work it had been able to do could not be doubted. They had taken under their protection the sons and daughters of their late brothers and sisters in the profession.

MR. MAUDE said he felt some diffidence in addressing them as president, because he was following one whose name was breathed with reverence by all in the profession. The calls upon the late Sir Henry Irving were many, but there was always a ready response to the appeals made to him to assist the fund. The loss they had sustained was irreparable, but the good precepts which Sir Henry set before them should act as an incentive to them to help the institute. Mr. Maude paid a warm tribute to the founder and hon. secretary of the fund, Mrs. C. L. Carson, who had been compelled to retire through ill-health.

THE receipts, continued the Chairman, amounted to £2,752, and the expenditure was £1,178, thus leaving a credit balance of over £1,500 for the year. The annual garden party would be held in July at the Royal Botanic Gardens, and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales would in all probability visit the garden fête. They hoped that all would support the institution in the coming year, added the Chairman, for they did not wish to touch their little capital. All the children were well looked after. There were Roman Catholics, and special attention was paid to their instruction in the faith. Were they Church of England, Congregationalist, or Baptist, they were all watched and carefully tended, and brought up in the way their departed fathers and mothers would have them.

MISS EVA MOORE moved a vote of thanks to the Executive Committee, and paid a hearty tribute to Mrs. C. L. Carson for the excellence with which she had discharged the work for the children of actors and actresses. The Chairman announced that the good work of Mrs. Carson was not to go without a permanent recognition, for a proposal was on foot to endow a bed, in an institution, bearing the lady's name. A vote of thanks to Mr. Bourchier for the use of his theatre was unanimously passed, and replied to.

AT the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday, before the Common Serjeant, William Cecil Watson, described as an elocutionist, was indicted for conspiring with Harry Dawson, otherwise Blackburn, to defraud persons applying to them in response to advertisements offering theatrical engagements. Mr. Charles Mathews, counsel for the prosecution, stated that the man Dawson had not been apprehended. The prisoner was charged with obtaining money from seven different complainants in connection with what the prosecution said was a bogus business he had carried on at 63-64, Chancery-lane, known as the Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate, Ltd. A typical case was that of a Mr. Bertram Parker, a draper's assistant, whose attention was attracted by an advertisement which read:—"Stage.—Ladies and gentlemen required immediately, without experience, for small parts in new dramatic production; also for touring companies. Good salary. Long tour.—By letter, with envelope for reply, Secty., Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate, Ltd., 63-64, Chancery-lane. No agents."

PRISONER, who described himself as the general manager of the syndicate, offered Parker a part in a play called *The Jew*, which he represented was being toured by a company with which he was connected. Parker paid a fee of £2 2s. for tuition, and was given a penny book of the play, and told to learn the part of Frederick. Subsequently prisoner offered him what he said was a better part in a sketch called *Diamond Cut Diamond*, which he represented was to be produced for a fifty-four weeks' tour. Mr. Parker paid a further fee of £5 5s., and the next step was a suggestion by the man Dawson that as Parker had "a South American voice," he should join a company which was to play *The Octoroon*, to do which it would be necessary to pay more money. At this prosecutor became suspicious, and went to the police. Evidence having been given, the hearing was adjourned.

The Era, it would appear, is read by all sorts and conditions of men, as the following copy of a communication recently received by an advertiser would testify:—"Dear Sir,—In strictest confidence. Twelve months or so ago, I saw you playing Artful Jimmy in *Shadows of a Great City*. I now notice your advertisement in *The Era*, announcing that you have taken premises in Birmingham wherein to store scenery, wardrobe, &c. Can we do business together? Although I do not know you personally, I have sufficient confidence in you to know that you will not give me away. I want somewhere central in which I can deposit articles of various kinds for a time. You would run no risk, and I could afford to treat you *very* liberally. If you are disposed to entertain my offer, please reply, c/o *The Era* letter-box, and I will arrange an appointment.—Yours, &c., NAMELESS."

MR. OWEN DACROY, general-manager for Mr. Carey's *After the Ball* company, terminates his engagement to-night, being re-engaged by Mr. Edward Marris for *The Dandy Doctor* tour.

MISS EDNA GODFREY-TURNER, who has recently been playing the title-rôle in *Sweet Lavender* with Mr. Russell Rosse's company was, on Tuesday last, the occasion of her birthday, the recipient of some charming presents. Mr. Rosse's Classic Comedy Company (of which Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner is the leading lady) gave her a handsome writing portfolio, and Mr. and Mrs. Rosse presented her with an excellent edition of Shakespeare's works. Many other presents were sent, and telegrams from all parts reached the little lady wishing her many happy returns. Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, in honour of the event, invited all the members of the company to supper at the Bull Hotel, Cambridge, where they have been playing this week.

MR. H. G. DUDLEY BENNETT has arranged for the appearance of Mr. E. St. Alban's comic opera company in the ever tuneful and popular opera, *Les Cloches de Corneville*, at the Alexandra Theatre next week. The favourite opera, it is interesting to note, has been played by this company over 5000 times.

MR. TOM HERMAN, an old actor of the Grecian, Britannia, and Surrey Theatres, is lying seriously ill at his lodgings after undergoing two operations, and he would be pleased to hear from his brother and sister artists. His address is 28, Lamb-pit-street, Wrexham.

MR. HENRY C. CAVANAH, who some six years ago succeeded his father, the late Mr. John Cavanah, as manager for Mr. Robert Arthur at Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, has recently been appointed auditor of the Aberdeenshire Rifle Association. This preferment sufficiently attests Mr. Cavanah's good standing in the profession of chartered accountant, which he successfully combines with that of theatre manager.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.

ANNUAL DINNER.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier presided over the sixty-first public dinner of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, held in the Whitehall Rooms of the Hotel Metropole on Thursday evening. The function, from every point of view, was a most successful one, the immediate pecuniary result being that the Fund benefited to the extent of £1,000. Mr. Bourchier was supported by a number of distinguished gentlemen, including the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Ripon, Canon Sheppard, the Marquess of Granby, the Earl of Cork, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. Edward Terry, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., Mr. Comyns Carr, Mr. Anthony Hope, Sir Eyre M. Shaw, Col. Sir H. Hozier, Mr. A. Farquhar, and Mr. Augustus F. M. Spalding. Among others whose names figured on the table list were—Dr. Allchin, Sir W. Avery, Mr. C. Ayer, Mr. J. Ayer, Mr. G. P. Bancroft, Mr. P. Birkett, Mr. E. Blake, Mr. C. Bogler, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. C. Breese, Mr. A. Bruce-Joy, Mr. E. A. Bull, Mr. S. Butler, Mr. A. R. Butt, Mr. W. Clarkson, Mr. W. A. Collins, Mr. C. I. Coltson, Mr. F. Cooper, Mr. C. Copeland, Mr. R. Courtneidge, Mr. D. Croker, Mr. C. Cruickshanks, Mr. W. F. Curry, Mr. Charles J. Davies, Col. Newnham-Davis, Mr. F. Denny, Mr. Walter J. Ebbetts, Mr. G. S. Edwards, Mr. A. H. Elliott, Mr. F. Evill, Mr. H. Evill, Mr. C. N. Foreman, Mr. W. Ganz, Capt. A. Garland, Mr. G. W. Garrick, Mr. J. W. Gilmer, Mr. H. J. Greenwood, Mr. A. Haines, Mr. A. Hamilton, Mr. B. Harris, Mr. Reginald Harrison, Mr. G. Hast, Mr. Bourchier Hawksley, Mr. S. Heilbut, Mr. W. Hogg, Mr. R. Howard, Mr. H. Hughes, Mr. A. Jones, Mr. J. Kershaw, Mr. A. E. Langford, Mr. H. Le Forestier, Mr. H. Le Blanc, Mr. J. H. Leigh, Mr. W. Lumley, Mr. Alan Mackinnon, Mr. F. MacNicol, Mr. E. D. Maddick, Mr. H. Marriott, Mr. F. C. Marshall, Mr. H. W. Marshall, Mr. T. Marshall, Mr. D. L. Mathias, Mr. J. F. Maunder, Mr. W. A. Metcalf, Dr. Middlemist, Mr. W. Millwood, Mr. M. R. Morand, Mr. J. S. Morrison, Mr. H. Turner Newton, Mr. J. W. Noble, Mr. P. Noble, Mr. J. A. Partridge, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. H. Rabbetts, Mr. A. Sargeant, Mr. J. Sargeant, Mr. J. O. Schuler, Mr. T. Stephany, Mr. F. Stringer, Mr. Louis Roche, Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. A. G. Warren, Mr. N. H. Wild, Dr. Wilson, Mr. W. Clifford Weblyn, Mr. E. de Witt, Mr. Gordon Young, and Mr. G. W. Younger.

The loyal toasts given by the Chairman included "The King" and "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the other Members of the Royal Family." The National Anthem was sung by Mme. Alice Esty and a chorus, as well as the grace, "For these and all Thy mercies."

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The CHAIRMAN, rising to propose "The Royal General Theatrical Fund," said:

My lords and gentlemen, — I have now the honour of submitting the toast of the evening, "Success and continued prosperity to the Royal General Theatrical Fund." Since the toast was last proposed the Fund has lost one of its trustees and most generous supporters, Sir Henry Irving. He took the chair at the annual dinner on four occasions, and was ever keenly interested in the Fund, which owes much of its present prosperity to his fine advocacy and open-handed charity. His loss is indeed irreparable, alike to the art he adorned so nobly and to the various schemes for the relief of those of our profession who have fallen by the wayside, and, personally, I feel that our best tribute to his memory to-night would be a bumper subscription and donation list. On one occasion (if my memory serve me right, it was at a banquet in aid of this Fund), Sir Henry, with that felicity of phrase which distinguished all his speeches, alluded to the drama as the "Cinderella of the Arts," and at that time the description was as true as it was happy. We have advanced a good deal since those days, and Cinderella can no longer say that she is neglected, either by the powers that be or by the public in general. Perhaps, indeed, she is sometimes in danger of receiving too much attention. Just before I came into this room I was reminded by a candid friend—bless him!—of the old adage, "Brevity is the soul of wit." I disclaim all intention of being funny in the few remarks I am going to make to you to-night, but I would be witless indeed, if, in return for my advocacy of our cause, I did not beg you to mark *my* brief with a heavy fee! Let me now point out to you in a very few words the objects of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, and the advantages to be gained at a very trifling cost to those who are members of it. The aim of the Fund is to raise a sufficient sum of money for making a provision, by way of annuity, for aged and sick members, and also for the defraying of general expenses when such necessity may arise. All persons who practise the art of acting, dancing, or singing, as well as acting-managers, stage-managers, treasurers, scenic artists, and prompters, are eligible as members, after being engaged in such professions for three years, provided that their income does not exceed £250, and it can honestly be claimed for this Fund that it offers more advantageous terms than any other life insurance office. As an instance, let me quote the provision of an annuity of £120 for a member who has reached the age of sixty. If he joins the Association when he is twenty-five, he will only pay a quarterly sum of £2 2s. 4½d., against £4 6s. 5½d. charged by the life insurance offices; if he joins at thirty, he will pay £3 0s. 9d., against £5 2s. 10d.; at thirty-five he will pay £4 11s. 10½d., against £7 11s. 3½d.; at forty he will pay £7 19s., against £10 11s. It is worthy of note that a certain actress who only paid £138 in all received £2500, and many of our annuitants have left money to the Fund. Once more, as an illustration for the relief of the sick, the Fund offers better terms than the insurance companies, for any member of seven years' standing, on becoming incapacitated by accident or infirmity from exercising his or her duties, is entitled to receive such annuity for life as the annual available income of the Association can afford, such annuity, of course, being calculated according to the class of subscription which the member has paid. Now, gentlemen, when you consider the many advantages which our Fund offers to subscribers, you may be surprised to hear that in the large body of people connected with the stage, which number some thousands and embraces the leading man and the chorus lady, there are only eighty-seven regular subscribers. Why this should be I know not. It certainly is not the fault of our energetic secretary, Mr. Davies, nor of our hard-worked treasurer, Mr. Edward Terry, both of whom are always devising ways and means to extend the operations of the Fund; but there is the plain fact, and we have to face it. Last year's subscriptions only amounted to £730 odd, while we paid away over £2300 to annuitants, and, but for the generosity of friends who remember the Fund in their wills, our finances would be in a parlous state indeed. Heaven helps those who help themselves, and I am convinced that if the mass of those engaged in the theatrical profession could be brought to realise that, by giving a tithe of their salaries every quarter, they would be ensuring for themselves a pension in their old age, the subscription list would increase by leaps and bounds. In coming upon the Fund they ask for no charity, for no favour; they simply reap what they have sown. We appeal, too, to the prosperous members of our profession, whose lines have been cast in such pleasant places that they are never likely to require assistance from the Fund. In sending us a few golden pieces from their store, they will always have the satisfaction of feeling that they have brought some measure of comfort to their less-fortunate brothers and sisters. Gentlemen, it was said that every private in Napoleon's army carried a field-marshal's baton in his knapsack, and I believe that every actor aspires to play "lead" in a West-End theatre. It is not given to every soldier to command an army and win popular applause, but those unknown heroes who have broken their teeth on the camp bread in many a campaign have always had our sympathy; and the actor who, in a long and arduous career, has served faithfully in the ranks, adding his tiny lustre to increase the brightness of the star, deserves the consideration and appeals to the generosity of all who love the theatre when old age creeps upon him and he can play no more. Formerly we used to have an annual benefit for this Fund, but it has been discontinued, and we content ourselves with a dinner, which, in the first place, gives the chairman an opportunity of seeing his good friends, and, subsequently, enables us to increase the number of our annuitants. But it has long been felt in our profession that our various charitable funds should be self-supporting and housed under one roof, and that we should not be obliged to appeal to the public for their support. It may not, therefore, be out of place if I touch upon the proceedings of the Actors' Association, now under the presidency of our good friend Sir Squire Bancroft, to whom the stage owes so much—so very much—of its present position, and who is never weary of well-doing on behalf of his fellow-actors. About this time last year I was the humble instigator at a little informal meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association held at the Garrick Theatre, of a proposal that one evening every year should be set apart for theatrical charities. On that evening, to be called Actors' Day, every person connected with every theatre in the kingdom, from the manager to the call-boy, should give his or her services free, and the entire receipts of the performance, which would be just the ordinary performance of that night, should go towards the common fund. Gentlemen, that proposal has not been shelved; *it is going through*, and when the necessary arrangements have been made, we shall have such a sum of money that in a few years, maybe, we shall be able to dispense with all appeals to the public. Surely we can reasonably hope that the day is not far distant when we shall be able to grant our good-service pensioners a cosy cottage and a bit of garden—if not three acres and a cow! In the meantime, for a little while longer, we must take things as they are, and, if I am not mistaken, your presence here to-night is proof of your belief in the efficacy of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. I have the less hesitation in appealing to your generosity because you know how gladly the members of the theatrical profession respond to every call made in the name of charity. May I ask you to think only of the countless pleasurable hours you have spent in theatres—hours during which the petty cares of life have been dissipated by the make-believe of the players. May I ask you to remember that the life of the player is full of changes and chances, of failure as well as success; the race is not always to the swift nor the prize to the most deserving. William Ernest Henley, dramatist, critic of art and letters, and writer of some verse which the world will not willingly let die, reminds us in one of his ballads of the ups and downs of the player's career:

> "The curtain falls, the play is played—
> The beggar packs beside the beau;
> The monarch troops, and troops the maid;
> The thunder huddles with the snow.
> Where are the revellers high or low?
> The clashing swords? the lovers' call?
> The dancers gleaming row on row?
> Into the night go one and all."

Gentlemen, when the curtain falls for the last time on the player, the Royal General Theatrical Fund ensures him the comfort he so richly deserves in his old age. I ask you, therefore, to drink with full hearts and full glasses to its success and prosperity.

A BISHOP ON THE DRAMA.

The Right Rev. the BISHOP OF RIPON, in submitting the toast of "The Drama," said: Mr Chairman, my Lords and Gentlemen,—I think it will be within the recollection of some of you that a certain picture appeared in a popular journal some few months ago, or perhaps a year ago, in which there was depicted the inmate of a lunatic asylum, and when he was asked what he was he quietly informed the enquirer that he was a poached egg, and that he was looking for a bit of toast in order that he might be able to sit down. If I had been the inmate of that lunatic asylum and I had been speaking to you about our experiences to-night, I should have said, "I am a drop of water and I am looking for a sponge." You have all heard in the education controversy of the importance of atmosphere. I venture to think that you have had an illustration of it to-night. Now, I really must make apologies for commencing in that strain when I have a serious subject in hand, and I am rather afraid lest I should bring myself within the arm of the law in the person of your Chairman. But I am quite sure that Shylock will let me off, and will not demand the pound of flesh, and, certainly, as there is entrusted to me so interesting and so important a toast as the subject of the drama, I am quite persuaded that you will bear with me and forgive the imperfections of my acquaintance with the drama, and allow me at any rate to claim that I have this right to speak—that I have the greatest veneration for the drama of nearly all lands, and I will yield to none in what I may call the patriotic admiration which I have for the British drama. I venture rather to join issue with one dramatic critic who I think has remarked that it would be a small loss to England if all the plays since Sheridan and Goldsmith were swept away. I am inclined to think that that is taking rather a pessimistic view of the dramatic art of England. I do not for a moment suppose that we are anticipating, even in the twentieth century, the birth of a new Shakespeare, and I am not at all sure whether it would be an advantage to the world at large if we had another Shakespeare. We are quite content that in the possession of Shakespeare we have set before us a wonderful and marvellous ideal of workmanship, and it is a noble thing and an inspiring thing to every man engaging in this class of literature to know that he is writing in the language that Shakespeare wrote. But may I plead for one thing—that the drama should be treated as a serious art? It is quite true, as your Chairman has said, that Sir Henry Irving designated the dramatic art as the Cinderella of arts, but I am not sure whether Sir Henry Irving was not, at the time he gave expression to that definition, under the influence of that depressing atmosphere which I am told surrounds every artistic temperament. May I put before you the suggestion—which does not come from myself, but from one man pre-eminent in another art, the art of painting—which was given utterance to by Lord Leighton, in his address to the students of the Royal Academy, in regard to that oft-debated question of the relations of morals to art? He entered upon the discussion as to whether art for art's sake, apart from all moral purpose or end, was to be considered as a true dictum. In my judgment he gave an eminently judicious conclusion, but into that it is not my purpose to enter. In the course of his speech on the subject he pointed out this simple fact: That if you take what many people will describe as the very queen of arts, the art of music, you meet a representative interest. You must cheer your entertainment with music, and so every art, whether it be the painter's art, or the sculptor's art, or the poet's art, is obliged in its turn to ask for musical assistance, and therefore music holds a unique position in the circle of the arts. Lord Leighton pointed out that you might take every phase of music, and you would be obliged to ask at the end, "Has it been able to teach directly any moral truth?" And you would be bound to answer that it has not. There is nothing in the music which could convey direct moral teaching. He said that the simplest homily, if it only be sincere in spirit and lofty in tone, had more moral efficacy than all the works of the most pious painters and sculptors from Giotto and Michael Angelo, or from the passion music of Bach, because it was reserved for art which finds its expression in words to give direct moral teaching. I am not quite sure that every one of us who employs words for the inspiration and instruction of others must recognise that by the utterance of words we have the power at our command of directly appealing to the moral nature of man, and in that regard the dramatic art stands high. It has potency in it. It remains infallibly true that moral power resides in the hands of the man who has the capacity and the opportunity of using words. There is a resemblance between the profession of the actor and the profession of the clergyman in this respect: That too often each is regarded as a profession that is good enough for those who have failed elsewhere. Here lies the source of our popularity and of our weakness. We are believed to have our doors open to the derelicts of life. I would venture, in the interests of the dramatic calling, to say that that is an unworthy aspect on the part of the public. This profession should be treated with all seriousness, and if that is the case, may I point out that there is a way in which what I may call the moral force of the dramatic art and the moral force of the preacher's art run, generally speaking, in different lines. It is the duty of the preacher, I imagine, to speak straight to men. You, if I may venture to speak

[*Photo by Sarony.*

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.

so familiarly, would resent it if I were to speak otherwise than directly concerning the moral questions, and the great spiritual aspirations and needs of human nature. That man forsakes the dignity of the duty of his office who does not deal directly with the moral questions which affect mankind. Now, the dramatic art does not approach moral questions in a direct method. I am inclined always to think that the novel with a purpose is not always a success. That is my own personal opinion. People say that the book ought not to smell too much of the lamp. I am sure that it is not wise that we should be treated too much to what is called the problem novel, because, after all, do we not ask, in these works that are given to us to relax the severer moods and moments of life for something that will amuse us and carry us on, something that shall help us along the road of life? It seems to me that the force of the spoken word, as far as the dramatic art is concerned, lies in the indirect method, and that method is the most powerful. If I understand rightly, the most indirect and the best method of stimulating and helping the moral forces of mankind is through the suggestions that arise out of delineated characters. Life is an education, and it is a test of character. The man who delineates character is always dealing with the moral forces if he deals with them truly, because he cannot touch them without touching those aspects and conditions which are continually bringing out the moral aspects which constitute the moral force of character. Professor Moulton, in his study of Shakespeare as a dramatic artist, points out that the critics have said what an inconsistent character, for instance, Lorenzo is. Lorenzo gives us that beautiful soliloquy in the moonlight. Yet Lorenzo is what Professor Moulton would describe as a light character. Well, Lorenzo may be dull as night and his affections dark as Erebus, but, as Professor Moulton points out, the value of the character lies in the fact that it is exactly a sort of character that you so often meet with, a gentleman who is so susceptible to the emotional side of life that for that very reason he is the man who looks upon the practical side of life as not having for him any solid interest. Well, we have escaped from the period of violent contrasts. We do not put a villain on the stage as scowling and black and badly dyed in character as the heroine is an angel without any fitful ebullitions of character, because we try to put men and women as they are. We try to see truth as it is. There is a demand for serious treatment of dramatic art, and it does seem to me that it would be a great gain to every profession, and not less to that important profession which is associated with the drama, if there could be a recognised definite method of such training as would teach people that it is a serious profession, that they might not go away with false dreams, and the lad and the lass, who, because they happened to learn the soliloquy of Hamlet at school as a task, must not feel that they can immediately tread the boards and beat Sir Henry Irving hollow. I do think that it is important for the public itself, as well as for the members of the dramatic profession, to recognise that the drama does demand serious consideration, and that it is not an occupation into which a man may jump unprepared; and just as we may protect the pulpit from the person who comes along with the happy gift of guilelessness, so you may desire to protect the dramatic profession from anything like the intrusion of those who might split the ears of the groundlings and break the hearts of the critics. I will ask you to drink to the toast of "The Drama," by which I suppose we mean to drink to the health of those who in any way have helped to keep the drama as a lofty profession in the eyes of man. I am not associating with the drama the pantomime or the evening amusement: I am proposing the toast of "The Drama," and that means the drama in its dignity, in its historic association, which we feel should always be present to the man who writes and the man who acts, and to the man also who hears; and, in proportion as one realises what the drama might be as an educational force in the nation, just in that proportion do I plead that all who are interested in it should regard it as being a serious and noble profession. I have to associate with this toast a very honoured name. It is the name of one who has occupied the leisure he has so well earned by putting his services and his talents at the disposal of the public; who has done much for charities by his own exertions, who has drawn back our thoughts to the name of Dickens, and has made us laugh and weep over the Christmas carol. I should lose caste if I were to speak otherwise of Sir Squire Bancroft, and it therefore needs no diplomacy on my part to commend this toast to your acceptance.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT'S REPLY.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT, in responding to the toast, said: My Lords and Gentlemen,—Never have I been so anxious to get behind a speech, to be divorced, as it were, from the poor words I have to offer in response to the eloquence to which we have just been treated. First, let me assure our Chairman of my most cordial sympathy with what he has said about Actors' Day, and I promise that no work shall be too hard for me to bring about the achievement of so desirable a project. Mr. Bourchier has reminded us that to-day is a revered anniversary, and on an occasion like the present it will not be out of place if I venture to remind you that it also chances to be the birthday of a brilliant author to whom lovers of the stage for five-and-twenty years have owed so much. And long may his house be in order! For, my lords and gentlemen, while such plays are so written, while such plays are so acted, we may stop our ears to the cuckoo cry which has haunted us from childhood that the drama is dead. No, gentlemen, the drama is undying, like the majestic creature that reigns for ever as its master; it is not for an age, but for all time. Thinking over what I should say this evening, I was, of course, reminded by the honour we were to enjoy of the Bishop of Ripon's presence. I, too, felt with his lordship that in a sense there is a resemblance between preaching and acting. Their chief exponents not only give the world inspiring sermons, but when they quit the pulpit or the stage finally, their charm, their animation become mere memories. The personality of John Knox or Martin Luther is but a mystery, and what more is left of David Garrick and Edmund Kean, or Sarah Siddons and Dora Jordan? Reynolds and Lawrence with others of their day have told us all they could about them, and, while we are grateful for their glorious gifts, we envy them the enduring renown which rests to-day upon the walls of our National Gallery, surrounded by the mighty works of immortal comrades, the last addition to their splendour being the much-discussed Velasquez masterpiece. Although the actor's fame may perish quickly, his living influence is supreme, taking its proper place among the arts which in their varied and sweetly-laden branches so nourish the world. There is a beautiful saying no doubt well-known to you, my lord, in the Mohammedan faith. It is that a man's true wealth hereafter is the good he has done in this world to his fellow-men. When he dies, people will ask, "What property has he left behind him?" But the angels will ask, "What good deeds has he sent before him?" My Lord Bishop, with the assurance of our great respect, in the name of this company, in the name of the drama which we all here love, we thank you for this great deed. We thank you for stretching out with your warmheartedness a kind hand to help those of the drama's followers who need our aid; and we thank you for this splendid link so generously afforded between Church and Stage.

The MARQUESS OF GRANBY, in proposing the toast of "The Chairman," said: My Lords and Gentlemen,—There is an old saying that a man is known by his friends. I have always had some considerable doubt in my mind as to the exact application of that saying. If a man is known by his friends, looking at it from one point of view, in what character is he known? Let me put it to you that way. And in what character would you like to know our host to-night? You have known him in a good many. I have known him, not to go back too far, in the guise of a bishop. Furthermore, to show that there was no ill-feeling on the subject of religion, I have known him more recently as Shylock. I think those two parts might be eminently brought in at the present juncture of political affairs, because, at any rate, upon one much-discussed matter the two characters would be able to join hands. That is upon the educational question. I do not think that our Chairman has in any respect gone in for any educational establishment such as Mr. Tree's, provided or non-provided. Our friend the Chairman has appeared in so many instances in various uniforms in so many branches of the British army that I almost hesitate to mention them, and I shall confine myself to saying that in this particular line he has generally appeared as rather a down-trodden officer who by sheer force of merit has invariably come to the top. That is a very satisfactory characteristic and a very satisfactory force of character to have obtained. His more recent characterisations have been somewhat in the guise, in the first instance, of the rough, true-hearted and extremely warm-hearted child of nature. He also has carried his point by sheer good humour and good temper Without going very far, I may say that our Chairman has delighted us on so many occasions in past years in so many distinctly varied representations that I think we all of us are very much indebted to him for the lightening of our lives by the excellence of his dramatic art. We are deeply indebted to him for his admirable portraits of various kinds of people on the stage. I think I would rather drink to our Chairman in that character which he is so admirably fitted to fill, namely, to our Chairman to-night. Mr. Bourchier, I drink to your health; and I can only wish to say one thing further—that your remarks in respect of this great Fund to which we have to render what assistance is possible in our power this evening, and your remarks on the insurance scheme have deeply touched me, who am an insurance director myself. I would point out that there is nobody, director of any insurance company or not, who has a more sincere and hearty good feeling towards the objects of this Fund than the humble individual who is now addressing you. I give you, with all the honours, the toast of our Chairman, Mr. Arthur Bourchier.

After the toast had been drunk with musical honours,

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the compliment, said: I cannot thank Lord Granby sufficiently for the kind words in which he has proposed this toast. I am sure that in the many ambitious moments of my career I have never aspired to such honour as I have been paid to-night in being surrounded by such a distinguished assembly—distinguished in every sphere of life. The Bishop is almost the cause of my becoming a cousin derelict. I once had the honour of listening to his Bampton lectures at Oxford. That made me determined to go into the Church; but I could not pass. Had his lordship chosen this profession instead of his own I should have been very jealous indeed. I would like to take this opportunity of saying that I have just received a letter from Mr. Beerbohm Tree enclosing a cheque for ten guineas, and regretting that the production of *Nero* prevents his attendance here, and Mr. Alexander has written similarly.

MR. TERRY ON THE FUND.

MR. EDWARD TERRY, in replying to the toast of "The Fund," said: Mr. Chairman, my Lords, and Gentlemen,—It is now my duty, as honorary treasurer of the Fund, to thank you for the favours already received. But before proceeding with the little effort that I have to make, I should like to be permitted to take the liberty of thanking the Bishop of Ripon for his presence here this evening, and for the most eloquent and admirable speech that I think I have ever heard. I am sure had it not been in his mind that he was assisting a good cause we should not have had him here. I have discovered, as treasurer of the Fund, that one good point is that the recipients of our annuities never seem inclined to die. Some of our annuitants are ladies whose portraits I remember tinselling as a boy. I could not at first believe it was possible that these ladies were still in existence. Fortunately they are, and the Fund is certainly doing a great deal of good when it conduces to the longevity of our profession. But what we want is an influx of young members, and I am very pleased to say that there has been a notable improvement in this direction during the past year. As the old ones leave us, so we wish the young blood to come in. It is really a very admirable Fund, for we grant annuities to the extent of £115 each. Lots of once young folks in our profession have said, "Oh, we shall never want it!" Later on in life they regretted that they did not take advantage of the Fund. If they had done so, many of the cases that I see before me every Thursday at the Actors' Benevolent Fund would not be there, and it is only right that our young folks should look to the future, and not imagine that everything is going to be cosy in this very precarious profession. The public forget you very soon, and though we may remember the names mentioned to-night, the general public after about thirty or forty years of us get a bit tired, and want something fresh. We sustained a great loss in the death of our dear president, Sir Henry Irving, and it required a great deal of care and thought to find a successor. We did succeed in finding a very worthy one in the person of Sir Squire Bancroft. We are also fortunate in retaining all our friends. The firm of Rothschild has been very generous to us. They teach us to invest our money in the most marvellous fashion. I would like regretfully to say that we have lost a dear friend in the person of Mr. Silverthorne, who always had a good feeling towards this Fund. I now take pleasure in informing you that the total subscriptions this evening amount to no less a sum than £1000. I am sure you will join me in congratulating our chairman on the very happy result of his chairmanship this evening.

Mr. COMYNS CARR, in proposing "The Musical Artists," made a humorous speech, in which he said he considered that this toast was the toast of the evening. They had listened to some most charming music, and he asked them to drink heartily to the health of the artists who had entertained them so ably, coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Gantz.

Mr. WILHELM GANTZ, in responding, remarked that for thirty years he had had the pleasure of assisting at the musical entertainments at the dinners of the Royal General Theatrical Fund. He had never had the slightest difficulty in bringing forward the most distinguished artists, and on their behalf tendered thanks for the appreciation shown.

A high-class concert programme formed a delightful feature of the function. Mlle. Zelie de Lussan gave an exquisite rendering of "Habanera," from *Carmen*, and Somerville's "Kisses"; Mme. Alice Esty enchanted the company with her beautiful interpretation of the Jewel Song from *Faust;* while other clever artists whose efforts won high praise were Miss Florence Monteith, Mlle. Rosa Olitzka, Mr. Gregory Hast, and Mr. Charles Copeland, the Chevalier Wilhelm Ganz acting as conductor.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Mme. Melba made her first appearance this season on Thursday, May 24, in Puccini's delightful opera, *La Bohème*. A large and fashionable audience, headed by His Majesty the King, and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, filled every part of the theatre. The charming story of Henri Murger, so pathetic in its alternations of joy and sorrow, combined with such artistic and melodious music, would always make Puccini's work welcome, without the additional attraction of having Mme. Melba and Signor Caruso, two of the most brilliant operatic stars, in the cast. The part of Mimi has ever been a favourite with Mme. Melba, and the lovely music in the first act was sung by the great prima donna with all the purity and freshness this fine artist has for many years made opera-goers familiar with. Signor Caruso also was in fine voice, and gave the passionate solo and duet in this act with great intensity, wisely declining a strong attempt at an encore. Signor Scotti again made an excellent Marcello, and Mlle. Parkina a charming Musetta; while the other characters of Collini and Schannard were skilfully interpreted by M. Journet and M. Gilibert, Signor Rossi doubling the parts of Benoit and Alcindoro. The chorus was intelligent, and the scenic effects well up to the Covent Garden standard; while the orchestra, under Signor Campanini, gave a spirited performance of the clever score.

At Covent Garden on Tuesday night an extra performance of *Die Walküre* was given, Fräulein Ternina undertaking the part of Sieglinde for the first time for years. Fräulein Ternina's great capacity as an actress was manifest in many scenes of the drama, and even if her voice has lost some of its earlier strength, her artistic phrasing reveals all its former beauty, while her every gesture is significant. Herr Van Rooy was again an excellent Wotan, and Herr Knüpfer's Hunding deserves praise, while Herr Anthes' impersonation of Siegmund had many features of interest, although it is a pity the music of this part was not more frequently sung instead of declaimed. Brünnhilde was admirably undertaken by Frau Gadsky, and Frau Runt's Frica was a meritorious performance. The fine orchestra under Dr. Richter gave a splendid rendering of the elaborate score.

THE Life of St. Paul has been dramatised and produced at the theatre in Erfurt, under the patronage of the rulers of the Thuringian States. Infinite care has been bestowed on the decoration, scenery, and the dresses, and over 200 persons assist in the representation. The play, which is the work of Robert Falke, the well-known literary pastor, gives the leading scenes from the life of St. Paul, and the most gorgeous of its scenic effects are "Paul in Athens" and "The Rome of Nero" previous to the martyrdom.

"PETRONELLA; OR, A ROYAL ROMANCE," the new comic opera to be produced at the Great Queen-street Theatre to-night, by Mr. Harold Payne, is composed by W. T. Gliddon, the book being by Mr. Montague Turner, with additional lyrics by Miss Stafford M. Smith. The scene is laid in Spain at the period of the Carlist rebellion, and the action centres round the intrigues of a Spanish Don Juan, in which Queen Casilda is involved. The cast includes Miss Zoe Gilfillan, Miss Alma Allen, and Mr. Harold Payne. The comedy element will be chiefly sustained by Mr. Broughton Black and Miss Marie Ault, and "The Arosa" Troupe of Spanish dancers have been specially engaged. Mr. Howard Crispin is the business-manager.

"HIS HOUSE IN ORDER" is being played in Milan under the title of *La Casa in Ordine*. The piece has secured, at the Theatre Manzoni, as brilliant a success as that achieved in London, and the greatest praise is given to Mlle. Gramatica for an exquisite creation of the part of Nina.

FRITZ STAVENHAGEN, a German dramatist of much promise, has just died at the early age of twenty-nine. His plays, *Der Lotse* and *Juergen Piepers*, achieved considerable success on the Berlin stage, and he was a novelist of much merit. Herr Stavenhagen was a native of Hamburg.

THE BUSINESS OF THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It is with great pleasure I notice in your last issue that you have dealt with the question of theatrical finance, as it would certainly appear necessary—bearing in mind the recent failures and frauds in the line which tend to kill the market—that champions should come forward to support a profession which (to use your own words) "is subject to the same laws as other businesses."

There is no business, trade, or profession workable without capital, and there can be no doubt whatever that, in every direction, your remark, "Syndicates, however, have their uses," is good, in fact, excellent, for syndicates, both private and public, have been for many years the basis of all the best concerns conceived in the London money markets. For instance, if I, as a worker, see a piece of land (which I know to contain diamonds, gold, or valuable mineral) going cheap, and my means will not permit me to purchase it, can it be asserted that I am acting wrongly if I approach richer people with the idea of forming a syndicate to purchase the land, to subsequently re-sell to a larger company at a fair profit? Such, it would appear, is the *modus operandi* of the worker in any business, and the argument applies to the theatrical manager whose mine is a play, the concert agent whose mine is a musical genius, the musical hall manager whose mine is novelty, and so on. Thus the whole argument resolves itself in one direction, namely, the partnership of capital and labour.

You cite the case of the late Mr. John Hollingshead, who "went into the Gaiety Theatre with £200, and in eighteen years had £120,000 out of it." This is only one of the hundreds of modern business schemes, and I may refer to the case of the late Mr. D'Oyly Carte, who was supported at the onset by several friends. These two gentlemen alone demonstrate the solid fact that real, practical hard work, combined with an affection for a specific occupation, *never fail in their mission*, and capitalists who discover the conscientious worker should invariably make it their duty to assist him forward, as "character" is the foundation of the world's commercial stability. It is a truism well worth noticing that the sound, practical man seldom requires large sums to commence operations—he is almost, without exception, the embodiment of economy. It is the sharks of the financial arena who slaughter the goose with the golden eggs, by their exorbitant demands and their ignorance of the smaller details which constitute the only firm footing of true enterprise.

In my letter headed "Theatrical Finance," and signed "Optimist," which you honoured me by publishing in your issue of April 14 last, I declared that theatrical business "is as stable, lucrative, solid, and firm as any other," and I defy anybody to prove otherwise, providing always that the said theatrical business is managed by a man who knows "the ropes." In support of my contention, I have drawn up, and now append, a list of those limited liability enterprises which enjoy the control and guidance of ripe experience. Let he who is sceptical of the entertainment money market compare this list with tea-shop companies, newspaper companies, sundry commercial undertakings, &c., &c., and I am confident his opinion will be changed towards a profession in which there is a lot of money to be made if the trick is diligently acquired. The public will always give cash for excellent value, and the experienced manager knows exactly what the public require, and acts accordingly, and is never rash in expenditure at the onset.

Name of Concern.	Dividends paid on Ordinary Shares.									
	1900		1901		1902		1903		1904	1905
Alhambra Company	17	—	—	—	7½	—	10	—	10	—
Barnum and Bailey	—	10	—	10	—	10	—	6	—	—
Birmingham Gaiety Theatre of Varieties	—	7½	—	7½	—	7½	—	7½	—	5
Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co.	—	7½	—	7½	—	10	—	2½	—	—
Camberwell Palace of Varieties	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	8
Canterbury and Paragon	—	5	—	5	—	2½	—	5	—	—
Empire Palace	56	—	40	—	40	—	33	—	10	—
Empire Palace of Varieties, Middlesbrough	—	—	—	—	—	2½	—	3	—	—
Gaiety Theatre Co.	—	20	—	20	—	20	—	20	—	15
Granville Theatre of Varieties	—	8½	—	8½	—	6	—	—	—	2½
Hanley Theatre and Circus	—	—	—	5	—	3½	—	7	—	—
Howard and Wyndham	—	10	—	10	—	15	—	20	—	7½
Leicester Palace	—	—	10	—	12	—	10	—	5	—
London Music Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
London Pavilion	9	—	10	—	13	—	11	—	9	—
Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Manchester Palace of Varieties	—	5	—	5	—	5	—	6	5	—
Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties	10	—	10	—	10	—	10	—	10	—
Moss Empires	12½	—	12½	—	12½	—	12½	—	10	—
New Tivoli	—	17	—	12	—	13	—	10	—	6
Oxford	—	12	—	10	—	12½	—	12½	—	12½
Palace Theatre	—	20	—	10	—	15	—	12	—	12
Robert Arthur Theatres Co.	—	5	—	10	—	10	—	—	—	—
Theatre Royal Co., Manchester	—	5	—	4	—	4	—	3	—	3
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane	—	15	—	15	—	20	—	10	—	—
Tivoli, Manchester	—	6	—	8	—	10	—	10	—	4
United Theatres Co.	—	10	—	5	—	10	—	—	—	5

Can a person, with the slightest elementary knowledge, express unfavourable opinions on the entertainment market as an investment after a perusal of the above list? Can such a person calmly aver his money is safer in "Africans," "Australians," some new table water scheme, a provision merchant, or what not? Look at the steady Gaiety results! the Palace, the Oxford, Howard and Wyndham, Drury Lane! And all ye people connected with the entertainments professions put your money into similar enterprises. Look out for your managers of repute and character, and do not hesitate to back them.—Yours faithfully,

WAT. W. ESSPEA.

London, May 21, 1906.

MISS WOOLGAR'S PENSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Dear Sir,—In the letter which appeared under the above heading in your last issue, Mr. W. H. Cummings is mistaken in supposing Mr. George Alexander's statement to be "somewhat inaccurate."

Mrs. Alfred Mellon was not a member of the Covent Garden Fund, but has for years been a subscribing member of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, from which, since her retirement from the stage, she has drawn the annuity to which she is entitled.

I would like to take this opportunity of stating that the Fund is greatly indebted for its present prosperity to the energy and disinterested support it has for years received from both Mr. Alexander and Mr. Edward Terry.—Yours faithfully,

ALFRED B. TAPPING.

Green-room Club, Leicester-square, W.C.
May 23.

"WHICH AND WHY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In reading the report of Mr. Hannan's case, I observe Mr. Hannan stated that he had produced a play in Brighton a short time ago entitled *Which and Why*.

I presume a one-act play, written by himself—entitled *Richard Wye*, which I myself produced in Brighton a couple of years ago is the one referred to.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN V. NORMAN.

West Pier, Brighton.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

"DEAR OLD CHARLEY."

A New Farce, in Three Acts, by Charles H. E. Brookfield, from the French of MM. Labiche and Delacour,

Produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, May 17.

Charley Ingleton ..... Mr. James Welch
Gabriel Peploe ..... Mr. Fred Lewis
Thomas Dumphie ..... Mr. John W. Deverell
Colonel Fishbourne ..... Mr. George F. Tully
Purkitt ..... Mr. Henry J. Forde
Agnes ..... Miss Estelle Winwood
Mrs. Fishbourne ..... Miss Helen Vicary
Reeves ..... Miss Ethel Hollingshead

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

If vociferous applause, loud laughter, and enthusiasm are any criterion of success, then it can safely be predicted that the new farce, *Dear Old Charley*, produced for the first time at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, on Thursday night, will be assigned a foremost place in that category. Mr. Charles H. E. Brookfield, who is the author of this latest trifle, has supplied Mr. James Welch with a cleverly written farce, the dialogue being bright and witty, and throughout tends to the display of pure, unadulterated fun. It is always a difficult thing to minutely describe a work of this kind, complication following complication, but in a rough detail we find that Charles Ingleton has, added to the business qualifications of a stockbroker, the ability of not only making himself particularly fascinating to married ladies, but also of ingratiating himself to the extent of popularity with their husbands. Coming to the state of matrimony himself, he finds that these accomplishments, however pleasant they may have been in his days of bachelorhood, have laid the foundation of a vast amount of unforeseen trouble and complications. With the wives of the ingenious Gabriel Peploe and Thomas Dumphie, Charles was on such terms of intimacy as led to the writing of affectionate and compromising letters, and these were stored in a box, which he afterwards found difficult to retain. Mrs. Dumphie dies and Charles finds himself being continually troubled with the attentions of her melancholy husband. Mrs. Peploe does not die, and continues to make Charley's married life anything but pleasant by continuing the correspondence, and his misery is increased by the continuous presence of Peploe himself. Charles, in Peploe's opinion, is "one of the best," and acts as a sort of adviser-in-chief to the Peploe family, he having to engage the Peploe cooks and choose the Peploe wallpaper. The presence of the mother and father-in-law, Colonel and Mrs. Fishbourne, also tends to make the existence of the guilty Charles almost unbearable, but our hero is ultimately saved from his too-affectionate friends, by the plea of poverty.

The title-rôle, in the hands of Mr. James Welch, was the chief cause for the hilarity with which the house continually resounded. A prominent feature—a particularly droll rendering of a dramatic recital, convulsed the entire audience, and throughout his long and arduous part Mr. Welch never deviated from his purpose of creating merriment, and the applause that greeted the popular comedian at the end of each act was cordial and spontaneous in the extreme. Mr. Fred Lewis was an entirely effective impersonator of the sentimental Dumphie, and lent excellent support throughout. The Gabriel Peploe of Mr. John W. Deverell was an impersonation worthy of the highest praise; and Mr. George F. Tully more than justified his selection for the rôle of Colonel Fishbourne. Miss Estelle Winwood characterised the part of Mrs. Ingleton with much attractiveness and charm; and Miss Helen Vicary presented a good sketch of Mrs. Fishbourne. Others who participated in the success were Miss Ethel Hollingshead and Mr. Henry J. Ford, who both did justice to their respective parts. A particular word of praise may be accorded the dresses, which are admirable creations of the costumier's art.

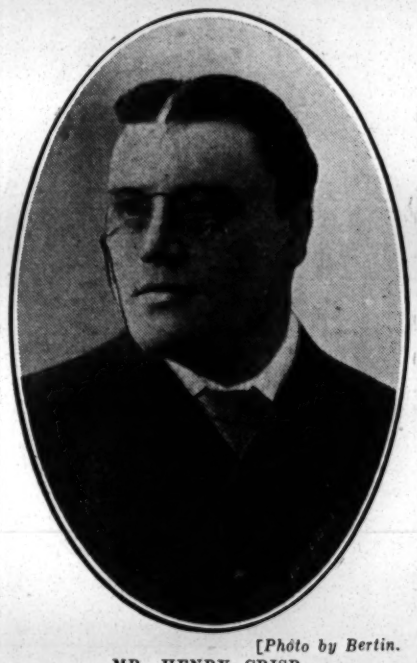
NATIONAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

At Portman Rooms on Tuesday evening, May 22, the National College of Music gave a concert, at which Miss Bertha Bird, the Australian soprano, and other distinguished artists appeared. The warden, Dr. Tindall, A.T.C.L., made a few remarks before the concert began on the great need there was at the present day of a proper method of voice production. In the course of Dr. Tindall's short address he stated that the only true and perfect means of training the voice was the old Italian system. Miss Bertha Bird, who was assisted by Mr. T. Bennett-Griffin, Miss B Pearce, and Signor Louisè Bioletti, was first heard in David's couplets, "Du Mysoli" (from "La Perle due Brésil"), which gave Miss Bird a fine opportunity for displaying the wonderful compass of her voice, almost an octave above any other vocalist, and, unlike many light sopranos, giving no trace of falsetto, but a pure and bell-like tone to the very highest top note. Miss Bird was most ably supported by Mr. F. Bennett in the flute obbligato. Miss Bird was also heard in Verdi's cavatina, "Tacea la notte Placida" (from *Il Trovatore*), and a pretty song, "All for you," by Guy D'Hardelot, in which the fine resonant quality of the lower register of her voice was shown to great advantage. After singing "Spring," by Tosti, Miss Bird responded to a unanimous encore with "Annie Laurie." Mr. T. Bennett-Griffin, the fortunate possessor of a most musical and pleasing tenor voice, gave Blumenthal's "Evening Song" with good effect, and for the encore "Sally in Our Alley"; and Mr. F. Bennett also received a recall for a clever flute solo, "Chanson Suisse," of his own composition. Violin solos, "Andante Religioso," by Thomè, and Raff's charming "Cavatina," were given by Signor Louisè Bioletti, and two pianoforte solos by Miss B. Pearce. Mr. T. Bennett-Griffin later in the programme sang L. Kellie's "Love Nocturne," and joined Miss Bird in Chaminade's duet, "In Woodland Dell." After the concert an award of diplomas, certificates, prizes, and medals was handed to the successful candidates of the recent London examinations by Miss Bertha Bird and the Warden.

DEATH OF HENRY CRISP.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Henry Crisp, of *Charley's Aunt* fame, which took place at Westminster Hospital, on Saturday last, at the age of fifty-three. Mr. Crisp, it will be remembered, had the misfortune to lose the use of both his eyes. His sad affliction commenced in the January of 1904, when he began to suffer from inflammation of the left eye. After being an inpatient of the North Staffordshire Infirmary for six weeks he lost the sight of his left eye, which was removed and a glass one put in its place. For a time his vision with the remaining eye appeared to improve, and he resumed his part of Stephen Spettigue, in *Charley's Aunt;* but one morning, while appearing at Eastbourne, he found he could not see across the room. In the beginning of November a bed was obtained for Mr. Crisp in the Westminster Hospital. After five weeks he came out, though but in a small degree improved, and some weeks later visited the South London Ophthalmic Hospital, where he remained only a week. Mr. Crisp was totally blind after January, 1904, and, as the funds at his command were exceedingly limited, we invited the co-operation of the profession in an appeal on his behalf, the result being over £300.

Mr. Crisp had a most interesting stage career. He entered the ranks of the profession just after he had attained his majority, thirty-one years ago. After some useful experience gained in stock seasons at Norwich, Cambridge, Greenock, and elsewhere, as well as in a few trifling engagements, he joined Miss Jenny Lee's company in *Jo*, to play the part of Mr. Chadband, a character Mr. Crisp sustained for 1500 performances. After appearing with Mrs. Scott-Siddons for some time he became a member of Mrs. Langtry's company, playing with that lady for a couple of years in



[*Photo by Bertin.*
MR. HENRY CRISP.

America, and for a similar period at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, the pieces produced being *Pygmalion and Galatea, The Unequal Match, The Hunchback, She Stoops to Conquer, &c.*, in which Mr. Crisp played comedy and old men's parts. Later on he was for a couple of years with the Vaughan and Conway comedy company, who opened at the Haymarket Theatre, and toured through the provinces. When Mr. William Farren severed his connection with this enterprise, Mr. Crisp took his place. He then travelled with Mr. Beerbohm Tree's company in *Captain Swift*, enacting the rôle of Seabrooke. This was followed by three tours with Mr. E. S. Willard's *Middleman*, in which Mr. Crisp appeared as Chandler, and, in addition, attended to the stage-management. He was next seen with the Charles Dickens company, personating such characters as Micawber, John Browdie (*Nicholas Nickleby*), and Sampson Brass. On Feb. 29, 1892, he opened at Bury St. Edmunds with Mr. Penley in *Charley's Aunt*, and after that date he was with Mr. Penley nearly all the time, taking the part of Stephen Spettigue.

Presentation.—On Saturday last, on board the ss. Frederica, during the passage from Guernsey to Jersey, the members of Mr. Allan Wilkie's répertoire company, who are playing in the Channel Islands, presented Mr. George Lambton, one of the principal artists, with a handsome cigarette-case, holder, and matchbox, suitably inscribed. Mr. George T. Greig, the stage-manager of the company, made the presentation, and referred to the esteem in which Mr. Lambton was held by his fellow-artists, "not only as an actor, but as a man," a place he had held in the regard of his brother players ever since the days long gone by, when he supported the late Barry Sullivan. Mr. Lambton responded in a few well-chosen words.

It is Mr. William H. Brougham—not Broughton—who is engaged for the tour of *A Prince of the People* with Miss Emily Sheridan. Mr. F. Rawson Buckley is playing the leading part of Victor Lafond, and Mr. Douglas Munro has been engaged for the comedy rôle. The production is fixed for June 4, at the Empire Theatre, Oldham.

Miss Florence Smithers has been re-engaged by Mr. Edward Marris for her original part of Jane in *The Dandy Doctor*, and opens at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Whit Monday. She has just concluded a most successful engagement with Mr. Charles Carey's *After the Ball* company.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Kenneth Black—Saturday, May 26.
W. Travis Green—Saturday, May 26.
Hilda Foster—Saturday, May 26.
Beatrice Western—Saturday, May 26.
Marie Kildare—Saturday, May 26.
Robert Hyett—Saturday, May 26.
Edith Cole—Saturday, May 26.
Maude May Murray—Sunday, May 27.
J. W. Cragg—Sunday, May 27.
Harry Starr—Sunday, May 27.
Reginald Payne—Sunday, May 27.
Lottie Venne—Monday, May 28.
James Fernandez—Monday, May 28.
H. T. Brickwell—Monday, May 28.
John L. Shine—Monday, May 28.
H. Gomer May—Monday, May 28.
Bessie Harrison—Monday, May 28.
Winifred Ord—Monday, May 28.
Henry C. Ward—Monday, May 28.
James E. Thurlow—Tuesday, May 29.
Walter Curtis—Tuesday, May 29.
Maude Vera—Tuesday, May 29.
Chas. Wood—Tuesday, May 29.
Will Evans—Tuesday, May 29.
Kittie Rayburn—Tuesday, May 29.
Sybil Thompson—Tuesday, May 29.
Georgie Wright—Tuesday, May 29.
Ernest E. Norris—Wednesday, May 30.
Queenie Wallace—Friday, June 1.

ON THE ROAD, MAY 28.

Are You a Mason?—New T., Cambridge.
At Duty's Call.—Palace, Newcastle.
At the World's Mercy.—Royal, Sunderland.
Barrister.—T. R., Preston.
Beauty and the Barge.—T. R., Nottingham.
Bell Arnold.—G. T., Hull.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs F. R.—New T., Oxford.
Benson, F. R. (B).—D. P., Eastbourne.
Benton, Mr. and Mrs.—G. T., Nelson.
Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush.—P. T., Manchester.
Blind Foundling.—Clarence, Pontypridd.
Boom of Big Ben.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
Bramley, Edmond.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Claudian.—G. T., Southampton.
Compton Comedy Co.—O. H., Leicester.
Cotton Spinner.—Newport.
Cousin Kate.—Queen's T., Swindon.
Current Cash.—O. H., Coventry.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Barnsley.
Darkness.—T. R., Rochdale.
Dishonoured.—Metropole, Devonport.
Drama of Life.—Metropole T., Manchester.
East Lynne.—Metropole, Glasgow.
Face at the Window.—T. R., Leicester.
Facing the Music.—Royal, Torquay.
False Wife.—Rotunda, Liverpool.
Fight for Millions.—T. R., Dover.
For Life—and After.—P. T., Poplar, E.
Freedom of Suzanne.—Blackpool.
Frivolity.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Geoffrey Langdon's Wife?—T. R., Glossop.
Girl from the Halls.—T. R., Worcester.
Golden Ladder.—G. T., Croydon.
Go-Won-Go Mohawk.—A. T., Birmingham.
Great Awakening.—T. R., Chatham.
Her Lost Self.—T. R., Ashton-on-Lyne
Her Luck in London.—Q. T., Liverpool.
Her Majesty's Guests.—E., Oldham.
Her One Great Sin.—A. T., Sheffield.
Her Wedding Day.—K. T., Cardiff.
Honour Thy Father.—Royal, Halifax.
Human Hearts.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
I Defy the World.—Metropole, Devonport.
In Holy Russia.—T. R., Chester.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Grasmere and Millorn.
Lady Godiver.—A. T., Hull.
Life's Sweetest Sins.—Crown T., Peckham.
Little Bread-Winner.—P. T., Bradford.
London Firemen.—T. R., Hanley.
Love that Women Desire.—J. T., Manchester.
Luck of Life.—Gaiety, Burnley.
Lucky Liza.—P. T., Glasgow.
Lucky Miss Dean.—T. R., Hull.
Macowan Norman.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Man and Wife.—R. T., Cardiff.
Man's Enemy.—Star T., Liverpool.
Manxman, The.—Lyceum, Newport.
Master Criminal.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Midnight Mail.—O. T., Manchester.
Midnight Wedding.—G. T., Doncaster.
Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner.—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—O. H., Southport.
Money Makes the Man.—Wedgewood, Burslem.
Monte Cristo.—T. R., Lincoln.
Moody-Manners (B.).—O. H., Crouch End.
Napoleon the Great.—P. O. W., Grimsby.
New World, The.—New Prince's, Blackburn.
Norman V. Norman.—T. R., Bournemouth.
No Wedding Bells for Her.—T. R., Barrow.
Oliver Twist.—Terriss's, S.E.
On the Love Path.—Swindon.
Orphan Heiress.—G. T., W. Hartlepool.
Other Man's Business.—G. T., Fulham.
Otto, the Outcast.—P. T., Accrington.
Our Boys.—Prince's, Bristol.
Passion's Power.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Peggy Machree.—G. T., Swansea.
Penalty of Crime.—A. T., Sheffield.
Plucky Nipper.—Q. T., Longton.
Poor Must Live.—P. T., Portsmouth.
Power of Gold.—P. O. W., Mexboro'.
Price of Her Soul.—T. R., Smethwick.
Prodigal Parson.—T. R., Leeds.
Proof.—Aquarium T., Yarmouth.
Queen of Vengeance.—T. R., Rugby.
Queen of Villainy.—G. T., Walsall.
Rajah, The.—Amphi., Ramsgate.
Rogue's Daughter.—T. R., Jarrow.
Rogues of the Turf.—T. R. North Shields.
Romany's Revenge.—T. R., Attercliffe.
Royal Divorce.—T. R., Belfast.
Royal Revenge.—Osborne, Manchester.
Sailors of the King.—G. T. Woolwich
See-Saw of Life.—Theatre, W. Stanley.
Shadow of Crime.—Pier Pavilion, Hastings.
Sherlock Holmes.—G. T., Leeds.
Silent Witness.—G. T., Rawtenstall.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Huddersfield.
Sins of a City.—C. T., Reading.
Still Alarm.—Empire, Southend.
Sunday.—O. H., Northampton.
Sweet and Twenty.—O. H., Cheltenham.
Temptress, The.—C. T., Kingston.
Throne of Terror.—Olympia, Murton, Durham.
Traitor Prince.—New T., Consett.
Two Hussars.—T. R., Edmonton.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Llandudno, Colwyn Bay.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Har.).—W. London Theatre.
Under the Czar.—Cambridge, Spennymoor.
Village Blacksmith.—Metropole T., Gateshead.
Warner, Miss Grace.—G. T., Islington.
Warning to Women.—L. T., Eccles.
Way of the World.—St. James's T., Manchester.
What a Woman Did.—T. R., Croydon.
What the Butler Saw.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Wilkie, Allen, and Co.—Gaiety, Dublin.
Willard, E. S.—H. M., Montreal.
Woman of Pleasure.—P. T., Preston.
Woman's Past.—G. T., Derby.
Youngest of Three.—Cambridge and Buxton.
Woulfe, T. B.,—A. T., Hull.

CRICKET.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Music Halls C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Saturday, May 12. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R.—H. Belding (captain), b O'Connor, 7; F. Stevens, b O'Connor, 1; A. Hamlin, b Tyley, 0; H. Hare, c Neagle, b O'Connor, 0; E. Palmer, b Tyley, 16; A. Cox, run out, 1; A. G. Bailey, b O'Connor, 5; P. Hewlett, b O'Connor, 0; J. Aubrey, b O'Connor, 1; H. Edwards, b O'Connor, 3; E. Belding, not out, 5; extras, 9; total, 48.

Music Halls C.C.—F. Hansford, b H. Belding, 0; R. Cullen, b Belding, 4; P. Reardon, b Belding, 9; T. Neagle (captain), b Bailey, 0; E. Denton, b Belding, 0; W. Hinder, b Belding, 2; D. O'Connor, b Belding, 7; J. Lacey, c Aubrey, b Hare, 4; J. Tyley, b Belding, 19; J. Stuart, b Hare, 0; F. B. Nicholls, not out, 14; extras, 7; total, 66.

Mr. Editor,—Sir,—In your report of last week for Gaiety, Dundee, it said "A comedy sketch is given with success by Doyle and Gibson"; it should have been your truly, Dene and Dawson (*Stage Aspirants*).

The following additional amounts have been received by Mr. Matthew Arnold for the Gordon Wilson (G. W. Glennie) Benefit Fund:—Dr. J. Rivington Fothergill 10s., G. G. Hoskins, Esq., 10s. 6d., "Auld Reekie" 1s.

At the Wrexham Empire this week the following have provided a capital programme:—Mr. Percy Johnson, comedian; the Boston Twins, speciality comedians, in their amusing act, *Screams;* U. C. Ugo, the man of mystery; the Sisters Daventry, coon vocalists; and the electric animated tableaux.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. J. T.—*Mr. Edward Righton appeared as Joe Bangles in* Randall's Thumb *when that play was produced at the Court Theatre in January, 1871.*

K H.—For Sword or Song *was first produced at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Sept. 18, 1902.*

Cockney in Preston.—*When* The Blue Moon *was produced at the Lyric Theatre on Aug. 23 last, Miss Billie Burke appeared as Evelyn Ormsby.*

T. B.—Fine Feathers, *a comedy-drama, in a prologue and three acts, by H. J. Byron, was first performed at the Globe Theatre, on April 26, 1873, with H. J. Montague as Harry Greville, H. Compton as Signor Rumbalino, E. W. Garden as Daniel Dole, and Rose Massey as Ethel Carlingford.*

G. Kitson.—*Miss Nellie Farren's last professional appearance at the Gaiety was at the late Meyer Lutz's matinée, April 6, 1891, when she played Nan in* Good for Nothing, *and sang the "Street Arab" song.*

F. Cochrane.—*As far as we are aware the novel you mention has not been dramatised.*

M. R.—(1) A Message from Mars *was first produced at the Avenue, Nov. 22, 1899.* (2) *The Alhambra was burned down Dec. 7, 1882.*

MATINEE BENEFIT AT THE CORONET.

A special matinée entertainment, organised by, and under the personal direction of Mr. Richard Mansell, in aid of the funds of the Seaside Convalescent Hospital, Seaford, Sussex, was given at the Coronet Theatre, Notting-hill Gate, on Thursday.

The long programme contained two new productions, the first being a Dream, in one act, by Lauderdale Maitland, entitled

"NEW YEAR'S LESSON."

Dick Graham ..... Mr. Joseph Millaine
Frank Hargreaves .. Mr. Lauderdale Maitland
Nellie ..... Miss Gertrude Valentine

Frank Hargreaves is a young artist who, instead of steadily following his profession, has got amongst bad company, to the grief and despair of his loving young wife, Nellie. He returns home one evening considerably the worse for drink, and falling sound asleep, has a bad dream. First of all he sees his old friend Dick Graham making a futile attempt to induce Nellie to leave her home and her husband. Then he himself enters the room, half drunk, and invites Graham to play game of cards. He at first refuses, but ultimately consents to play on one condition, that if he loses he hands over to Hargreaves his fortune of £60,000, but if he wins he takes Nellie and her child away from him. The men cut the cards three times, and Hargreaves is the loser. Graham, however, foregoes his claim on Frank solemnly promising to lead a new life. At this point the sleeper is awakened by his wife; Dick Graham, who has just returned from abroad, makes his appearance, and Frank is about to relate the curious dream he has had as the curtain descends. Mr. Joseph Millaine did well as the young painter; Mr. Lauderdale Maitland, the author of the piece, acted with earnestness as Frank Hargreaves; and Miss Gertrude Valentine played with feeling as Nellie.

The second novelty was a comedy in one act by Forbes Dawson, entitled

"HER GRACE."

Doctor Jack Carruthers .. Mr. William Calvert
Mrs. Ethel Carruthers ..... Miss Bashford
A Hunting Groom .... Mr. Howard Cochran
The Duchess D'Orray ..... Miss Kate Phillips

Dr. Carruthers is carrying on a not very prosperous practice at a small town in Leicestershire. The place is so healthy that his patients are few and far between. However, he and his wife, despite their genteel poverty, are very happy together; but the lady, given to day-dreaming, pictures what they would do if her husband became a fashionable physician in Harley-street. Then arrives upon the scene the Duchess D'Orray, in hunting costume; her horse having cast a shoe, she asks for shelter at the doctor's house. In Mrs. Carruthers she recognises an old schoolfellow. The Duchess has been left a wealthy widow, and does not quite know what to do with her money; so she invites her old schoolfellow to take a trip with her abroad, telling her husband that it will do his wife a lot of good. He reluctantly consents, and draws a cheque to cover the expenses; but finding that the couple are devoted to each other and that to part them even for a short time would be an act of cruelty, the Duchess acknowledges she has made a mistake, and offers instead to buy the doctor a practice in Harley-street. Mr. William Calvert was easy and natural as the country doctor; and Miss Bashford was pleasing as Mrs. Carruthers. Miss Kate Phillips gave a smart portrayal of the sporting, good-hearted Duchess, who smokes cigarettes; and Mr. Howard Cochran, as a hunting groom, completed the cast.

The one-act play, *Time is Money*, by Lady Bell and Arthur Cecil, was admirably acted by Mr. Charles Hawtrey as Charles Grahame, Miss Florence Sinclair as Mrs. Murray, and Miss Mona Harrison as the French maid Susan. In Mr. Charles Brookfield's comedietta *The New Regimé*, Mr. Frank Cooper and Miss Lottie Venne as the husband and wife who disagree, delighted the audience with their finished acting, and were most cordially received. So, too, was Miss Gertie Millar, who early in the afternoon gave her popular scena "Rotterdam," from the *Spring Chicken*, and also, to save a wait, sang "Little Mary" with her usual charm of manner. Miss Carrie Moore, accompanied by the Symmetrion Girls from the Apollo Theatre, sang "The Sandow Girl" and was recalled. Both Mr. George Robey and Chirgwin gave great delight to their hearers, the latter interpolating into one of his songs some happy lines commendatory of the Home. Mr. Robey appeared as the pro.'s ambitious dresser. Miss Winifred Hare, who sang "One little lonely star," was well received; Miss Sybil Arundale sang "The cinnamon tree"; Miss Margaret Cooper, "My heart's at your feet" and "Just her way"; Mr. Charles Capper gave a whistling solo; Miss Lily Elsie sang "On the stage"; Miss Mabel Love recited "The pride of Battery B"; and Miss Louie Pounds gave "The little Irish girl." Mr. Courtice Pounds sang "I'll sing thee songs of Araby" and "I'm Irish too"; Mr. G. H. Snazelle recited "The whistler" and sang "Drake's Dream"; Miss Topsy Sinden and Mr. Bert Sinden gave a song and dance; and Mr. Arthur Ricketts and Mr. Geo. W. Hooper also contributed. The musical directors were Messrs. Henry A. Harrison, Arthur Wood, and Jacques Greebe; Mr. Herbert Van Fleet and Mme. E. Hastings Warren acted as accompanists. The stage-managers were Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn and Mr. Charles Hargrave; and the acting-managers Messrs. Edward Lytton, Wynne Penwyn, and W. H. Griffiths.

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As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

ABBOTT.—On May 12, at the residence of her father, Franklin White, Franklin House, Lincoln, the wife of Frederick Fant Michael Abbott, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE.

DOONER—WADBROOK.—On Whit. Tuesday, June 5, Station-road Church, Brynmawr, by Rector Griffiths, Richard Dooner, of bioscope fame, son of James Dooner, and Nelly Wadbrook, of Wadbrook's Electrograph, S. Wales.

DEATHS.

CLARENCE.—On May 20, 1906, at 3, Adventure-place, Hanley, of phthisis, James Clarence, aged 35 years, late Clarence and Bell.

CRISP.—On May 19, at Westminster Hospital, S.W., Henry Crisp, actor, of "Charley's Aunt" fame, of 86, Kennington-road, aged 53.

ELLIOTT.—May 22, at Jarrow-on-Tyne, suddenly, J. B. Elliott, father of the Elliott Family (bicyclists) and The Savonas (musicians).

IBSEN.—May 23, at Christiania, Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian dramatist, aged 78.

PAULO.—At 28, Newnham-terrace, Lambeth, Lizzie, beloved wife of Harry Paulo, sen., suddenly, aged 45. R.I.P.

RYAN. — May 19, 1906, at 10, Canterbury-street, Liverpool, Margaret Ryan, aged 55 years. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

THRELKELD.—May 16, at Cheltenham, Agnes Mary, the dearly-loved sister of Augustine Knight.

ELLIOTT.—May 22, 1906, James Bedford Elliott, aged 60, beloved husband of Maggie Elliott, and father of the Elliotts and Savonas, suddenly, at Jarrow.

IN MEMORIAM.

ISACCHI.—In ever-loving memory of my beloved husband, Louis Francisco Isacchi, who died in Leipsic, May 26, 1903, of pneumonia and heart failure.

Can I forget, when winter snows lie deep
Above the place where you, my loved one, sleep,
And I no longer madly, wildly weep?
No! in my aching heart there ever lies
A place hid deep from mortal eyes,
Where dwells the love that never dies,
Nor can forget.

MAYHEW.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Henry Mayhew, who fell asleep May 26, 1900.
"To live in the hearts of those we love is not to die."

TAPPENDEN.—In ever loving memory of William Tappenden (father of Lizzie Melville), who died May 24, 1894. Gone, but not forgotten by his wife and daughter.

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LITTLE	Matinée Every Saturday,	MICHUS
LITTLE	at 2.30.	MICHUS
LITTLE		MICHUS

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanac and Annual for 1906, is not only a valuable collection of information and a history of the dramatic and musical year. It is also a very amusing and entertaining shillingsworth It contains contributions from many well-known actors and actresses. Mr. Frank Desprez, the editor, contributes a delightful story about an actress who sold her collection of Press notices in order to help a colleague in distress. There are numerous portraits. The lists of English, French, and German plays produced during the year are very useful. Altogether, "The Era" Almanack is indispensable to all interested in the stage.—The Star, Jan. 24, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present issue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "'Boy Bob' at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions of the metropolitan, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

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ANNUAL THEATRICAL SPORTS,
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Application for tickets must reach Mr. H. LAWRENCE HARRIS, at 23, Whittingstall-road, Fulham, by first post on Monday next, 28th inst.

A General Meeting
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Will be Held at 3.30 p.m.,
on
THURSDAY, MAY 31, 1906,
in the
GEORGIAN HALL, GAIETY RESTAURANT, STRAND.
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ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Abrahams, Messrs. F. & M.	March 31, 1906.
Adams, the Late Miss Annie	May 20, 1905.
Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1906.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr. Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown, Mr. Frank	May 27, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906.
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Callan, Late Mr. H. J	June 17, 1905.
Carlton, Mr. Arthur	Nov. 11, 1905.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11, 1905.
Castleton, Mrs. Robert	July 15, 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24, 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9, 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1906.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4, 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Cooper, Miss Florry	Nov. 11, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	August 12, 1905.
Corelli, Miss Hilda	April 15, 1905.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr. H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
Cullen, Mr. James	October 7, 1905.
D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
Daltra, Miss Marie	July 22, 1905.
Daly, Late Miss Maria	Nov. 11, 1905.
Dampier, Mr. Alfred	May 12, 1906.
Davis, Mr. Tom B.	June 24, 1905.
De Gracia, Mr. G.	May 19, 1906.
Dewick, Mr. Dawson	April 22, 1905.
Dixon, Miss Ella	July 22, 1905.
Dobson, Mr. E. H.	August 12, 1905.
Donegan, Mr. James E.	May 20, 1905.
Duff, Master Harry E.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13, 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr. Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Ellis, the Late Mr. Percy	July 29, 1905.
Emery, Miss Pollie	July 1, 1905
Fanchette, Miss Amy	April 15, 1905.
Flinn, Madame Kate	July 29, 1905.
Forde, Mr. H. Athol	August 26, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
Gibbs, Miss Edith	March 3, 1906.
Grace, Miss Amy	January 13, 1906.
Gray, Miss Dora	January 13, 1906.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1906.

MR. TREE AND COL. NEWCOME.

Everyone must sympathise with Mr. BEERBOHM TREE after the unwarrantable attack made upon him by a writer in a daily contemporary with reference to Mr. TREE'S production at His Majesty's Theatre, on Tuesday, of an adaptation of "The Newcomes." In colossal type, the author asked the absurd question, "Should Mr. TREE be allowed to play Colonel Newcome?" and then went on to deny the manager of His Majesty's Theatre the ability to play "any part owing nothing to adventitious aids and costume. THACKERAY'S bones," the assailant continued, "would almost burst their cerements at the news of the proposed production."

What is most objectionable in this article is the attempt to prejudge and injure in advance a performance of the merit of which it is impossible to form any previous opinion. It "puts into the heads" of the pit and gallery, on the first night, ideas which in all probability would never have entered spontaneously. With an exaggeration of reverence for the work of a dead novelist, it discourages and defames a living actor.

The penalty of success in any particular line of business is a strong presumption against achievement in any other department. In producing an adaptation of "The Newcomes" at His Majesty's, Mr. TREE is making one of his bold, but usually successful, experiments. As this "move" is in the direction of high and simple art, it should be encouraged in every way. The real difficulty is the presentation to the patrons of His Majesty's of a comedy of character and manners immediately after a spectacular tragedy in blank verse. But this eclecticism has always been Mr. TREE'S characteristic. By his excursions into IBSEN and into MAETERLINCK Mr. TREE has shown a desire to "break new ground" whenever possible, and to vary his successes in parts like Wilding and Svengali with more intellectual and eccentric impersonations. "The Newcomes" is a satire on society and a pathetic story of sentiment. Its essence is the triumph, in a certain phase of progress, of the modern commercial spirit over the ideals of the feudal system—personal courage, truth, and love. The former is embodied in Barnes Newcome, the mean and base, but able and unscrupulous, man of business, who comes into opposition with Colonel Newcome, with his old-world notions of honour, just as Clive Newcome, the artist and lover, is opposed in his passion for Ethel Newcome by Society as expressed in the character of the worldly-trained young woman, and embodied in the crafty and relentless Lady Kew. There is a genuine drama in "The Newcomes," and it only remains to be seen if the adapter of "Resurrection" has been as happy in his treatment of THACKERAY'S book as he was in TOLSTOY'S. There is certainly not in THACKERAY'S book any inherent obstacle to its being made into a good play, and the author, if he were alive, would be the last to object to his work being presented in dramatic form. He would be much more likely to "burst his cerements" after reading the article.

Colonel Newcome himself offers no particular difficulty to an experienced actor with a suitable physique. The character is the essence of simplicity. It is not a question of the study of complex emotions, or of a subtle and elaborate analysis before the actor can grasp the part. It cannot be made a "big" one—it belongs to the category of Mr. TREE'S triumphs as Triplet, the Abbé Dubois in *A Village Priest*, and the honest doctor in *An Enemy of the People*. But it is absurd to talk as if the character of the Colonel were one of those tremendously deep and difficult ones which cannot be properly presented on the stage. We cannot easily imagine a modern Iago, because the absence of soliloquy—tabooed by inexorable custom—would make the workings of the villain's mind incomprehensible. An individual like IBSEN'S Brand is too intellectual, too psychological for the brisk traffic of the boards. But it is absurd to make so much fuss about the embodiment of an elderly officer in the army in a drama of domestic life, and to talk as if there were something sacro-sanct about it, or the novel in which it is contained.

Still more presumptuous is it to assert that an actor of Mr. TREE'S calibre cannot adapt himself to the nature of such a rôle. For the most part, the personages of the drama are of the theatre, theatrical. Mr. TREE at his commencement took the stage as he found it. He had to learn his business, just as in other walks of art, IBSEN, WAGNER, and BALZAC learnt their respective trades—*i.e.*, by doing tentative studies. Mr. TREE'S impeccable representations of rôles like Prince Malleotti in *Forget-me-Not*, of Baron Hartfeld in *Jim the Penman*, and of Svengali in *Trilby*, won for him the fame and position which have enabled him to try so many experiments. Many men would never have thought of trying them. Only an artist, with an artist's ambition and an artist's love of adventure, would have taken the risks which Mr. TREE has taken, and have been impelled to face the uncertainties and the opposition which are always met with by those who try to attain their own ideals instead of remaining satisfied with those of their admirers. It is the natural instinct of the artist to do the very highest work of which he is capable; and no one knows what that is until he tries. When Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM was the recognised exponent of "agreeable rattles" in English adaptations of Palais Royal farces at the Criterion, who would have imagined that he was capable of Captain Drew? When Mr. PINERO was doing—and doing admirably—his series of farces for the Court Theatre, how many people expected him to become the author of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*?

It may be argued that in this very article we are discussing in advance the merit of the piece which we are to witness on Tuesday evening. But we submit that we have only dealt with possibilities, and that we have dealt with them in an encouraging and not a discouraging spirit. The round of applause which greets an "old favourite" when he appears for the first time in the evening is surely excusable. It gives him confidence, heart, and spirit. We can hardly say the same of the premature detraction—the journalistic "boo"—which bears in every line the mark of prejudice, and shows an animus which it is difficult to account for by any supposition which is not disagreeable.

A SUCCESSFUL reading of *The Tempest* was given by members of the Belfast branch of the British Empire Shakespearean Society, at the Medical Institute, Belfast, on the 17th inst. Sir William Whitla, M.D., J.P., president of the society, presided. Miss Florence Smith's assumption of the rôle of Miranda was highly creditable; and not a little of the success of the reading was due to Mr. Sinclair Neill for his skilful interpretation of Prospero. Mr. R. A. Leighton was an amusing Stephano; and Miss May McTear's Ariel was a most agreeable feature of the performance. More than ordinary praise is due to Mr. S. Bulloch for his capital conception of Caliban. During the course of the piece songs were admirably rendered by Miss Annie C. Kemp, Mme. Dorothy Bagley, and Mr. C. D. Patterson.

"ABELARD AND HELOISE," a blank-verse play in five acts by Hélène Gingold, was produced for stage-right purposes at the new Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, on Saturday. The work will shortly be published by Messrs. Greening and Co. His Majesty, the King of Greece has graciously accepted the dedication of the book.

THE report and balance-sheet of the Bath Theatre Royal Company, Limited, just issued, states that the gross income for the year was £621 16s., this sum including £4 16s. unclaimed dividends for the year 1902, which have been forfeited in accordance with the Articles of Association. The expenditure amounted to £459 2s. 8d., of which a sum of £23 was spent on No. 6, St. John's-place in structural repairs and in providing three new windows overlooking the space formerly occupied by the old gallery staircase, thereby giving light and air to rooms which previously only had small skylights. A balance remains of £236 18s. 5d., out of which the directors propose to pay £200, reducing a loan to £100, and to carry forward to next year's account £36 18s. 5d. The directors who retire by rotation are Messrs. Haddy, Mundy, and Stone, and they, being eligible for re-election, offer themselves accordingly. The general meeting of shareholders is fixed for the 30th inst.

MUSICAL masterpieces of all ages figured among the works performed since October last up to the 17th of this month by the municipal orchestra under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth. Beethoven was the composer most largely drawn upon; while Mendelssohn, Mozart, Dvorak, Brahms, and Bach also figured extensively in the list. Out of a total of 238 compositions performed, forty-one were by English composers, twenty-four of them being new. Sir A. Mackenzie, Mr. Edward German, Dr. F. Cowen, and Mr. Coleridge Taylor were among the composers who conducted their own works.

M. FRANCIS THOMÉ, the composer of the new ballet which is to be produced at the Alhambra, is of course well known in England. His "Simple Aveu" and other piano pieces, some of his songs, and his "Andante Religioso" for violin have become popular. Born in 1850, M. Thomé has written several ballets, operettas, a sacred work, entitled "L'Enfant Jesus," and other compositions.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'ETRANGE AVENTURE,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. L. Gleize, produced at the Odéon on May 21.

Mme. Auffroy	MLLE. G. SERGY
Mme. de Baulant	MLLE. H. DORVILLE
Mme. de Nourgay	MLLE. LEO RENN
Eugénie	MLLE. FARNA
Auffroy	M. PAUL PLAN
Jacques	M. LAUMONIER
Derbel	M. JEAN DAX
De Baulant	M. CAZALIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, May 24.—When, at the dress rehearsal of *L'Etrange Aventure* the curtain fell on the second act, all the critics looked at one another in astonishment and whispered the words: "The admirable Crichton!" For, curiously enough, M. Barrie's play is the only English work with which all the Paris critics are well acquainted, it having been produced here by Mr. Frohman's company a few years ago. After the first night the outcry grew louder, and M. Gleize was somewhat severely taken to task. To these attacks the French author replied that he certainly had seen *The Admirable Crichton*, but that at the time the English play was first produced in London, his own manuscript had already been for over six months in the hands of M. Samuel, manager of the Variétés. The latter has confirmed M. Gleize's statement, so that the affair, instead of having been cleared up, has now become more mysterious than ever. And, to make things still more lively, other authors, among whom are MM. Albin Valabrègue, and Georges Feydeau, announce to the world that they, too, have plays ready for production of which the plot is the same as that of M. Gleize's piece. In the work just given at the Odéon a number of Society idlers have started on a yachting tour. One of them, the pretty Mme. Auffroy, is flirting with Derbel, the bachelor of the party, but she has also noticed that Jacques, one of the sailors, a handsome youth, casts very admiring glances at her. A fearful storm breaks out, and a portion of the passengers are shipwrecked on a desert island. But for Jacques they all would have perished. He is their saviour, and they all obey him and recognise in him their master. And Mme. Auffroy is on the point of dropping in the handsome sailor's arms when a vessel turns up which takes them away from their island. Jacques again becomes an ordinary sailor, and Mme. Auffroy returns to Paris forgetting all about him. It is the identical plot of M. Barrie's play.

"CHAINE ANGLAISE,"
Comedy in Three Acts, by M. Oudinot, produced at the Vaudeville on May 23.

Thérèse Herbault	MLLE. GABRIELLE DORZIAT
Mrs. Davis	MLLE. CECILE CARON
Winnie Davis	MLLE. HENRIETTE HARLEY
Lord Brandon	M. LERAND
Le Duc d'Azay	M. LOUIS GAUTHIER
Eric Davis	M. ANDRE BRULE
Pfeiffer	M. BARON FILS
Fesseuse	M. MONTEAUX
Davis	M. JOFFRE
Gustios	M. VICTOR BOURCHIER

The author of *Chaine Anglaise*, an inexperienced writer, asked M. Abel Homant Hermant to give him the benefit of his able advice; and it is a pity the piece was not altogether written by this clever dramatist, whose touches are discernible in many of the scenes. In the first act we are in a fashionable hotel in Salso Maggiore, where we meet an extraordinary cosmopolitan crowd, among whom are the millionaire Lord Brandon, and the Davis family, composed of the father, the mother, and their son and daughter, Winnie and Eric. The most important personage, however, is Thérèse Herbault, a beautiful girl, the mistress of the Duc d'Azay. For some unexplained reason Mrs. Davis asks all these people to visit her on her return to England, and in the next tableau they are the guests in M. Davis's country house on the banks of the Thames. Gustios, the artist, paints Winnie's portrait; Fesseuse, the novelist, takes copious notes; the Duc d'Azay makes love to Winnie, and Lord Brandon, Davis senior, and his son Eric try their luck with the fascinating Thérèse. The latter, however, keeps them all at a respectful distance, so much so that young Eric jumps into the river to drown himself, but, being an expert swimmer reaches land again in safety. Davis senior then takes Thérèse roughly in his arms, and we do not know what might have occurred if this brutal scene had not been interrupted in a comical manner by the sudden arrival of a number of tourists come to visit the historic castle, open to visitors on certain days. And, to crown it all, Thérèse catches the Duc d'Azay in the act of kissing Winnie. Deeply hurt, Thérèse leaves the house, and accepts Lord Brandon's hospitality. The old nobleman asks her to become his wife, and whilst she is weighing the matter in her mind young Eric rushes into the room and throws himself at her feet. Thérèse loves the handsome youth, and feels tempted to give herself to him; but she sees the folly of it, and explains to him that she will be compelled to leave England, and that they will never meet again. But Eric throws his arms round her neck and says that he sees a way to arrange everything. "How?" asks Thérèse. "If you marry Lord Brandon," replies Eric. And this is the not very moral ending of the piece. It was fairly well acted. Mlle. Dorziat impersonated Thérèse in a very intelligent manner, without, however, imparting to it the required charm. M. Lérand supplied an amusing sketch of old Lord Brandon, and M. Brulé was excellent as the amorous Eric.

M. Antoine's appointment as director of the Odéon in succession to M. Ginisty has given general satisfaction. M. Ginisty clearly was not fitted for the post; and the decline of the Odéon became more apparent every day. M. Antoine, a revolutionist in questions concerning dramatic art, will no doubt surprise the world. He has brought with him some five-and-twenty works, with their scenery and costumes, acquired for the Théâtre Antoine, and which he intends to produce at the Odéon. Altogether, we will see a new order of things. M. Antoine's intimate friends, however, are somewhat surprised at the step he has taken. In the little theatre that bears his name he was absolute master. The undertaking was most profitable; in fact, a little goldmine, patronised by the best class of Parisians, and no playhouse could give a manager less trouble than this small theatre in the Boulevard de Strasbourg. Instead of this, M. Antoine will now have to take orders from the Director of Fine Arts. His responsibility will increase tenfold, and, from a financial point of view, it is not likely that for the present he has bettered himself. Why, then, did M. Antoine take this step? It either is a case of megalomania, or, possibly, he wanted to get even with M. Ginisty, whom he owed a grudge, since, after a violent quarrel, he and M. Ginisty parted company at the Odéon. Be it as it may, M. Gémier, the actor who succeeds M. Antoine, has come in for a good thing. He has but to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor to make the concern pay, and, as he himself is a splendid actor and a great favourite with the public, he stands a good chance to succeed. As to M. Ginisty, he has been appointed Inspector-General of Historic Monuments. M. Ginisty will find that position less exciting than that of the manager of the Odéon.

The Nouveau-Cirque has breathed its last. It was virtually dead when a Franco-Russian gentleman tried to restore the old circus to its former splendour. It will now be turned into a theatre, and an enterprising lady is already anxious to take over the management if she finds the necessary capital. Thus far, however, the money has not yet turned up.

THE Brothers Webb have been re-engaged for five weeks at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

"GREYSTEEL" AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The Moody Manners Operatic Company deserve the thanks of all lovers of opera for the energy they display in their support of English opera. Money and talent of the highest kind are freely given for the purpose, and Mr. Manners is a real benefactor to native composers. During his recent campaign at Sheffield he produced on March 1st an opera the text of which was written by Mr. R. Gatty and the music by Mr. Nicholas Gatty, already well-known as a composer of popular songs. The cast at Sheffield included Miss Crichton and Messrs. Carter, Lachterop, Vincent, Neilson, and Mr. Harrison Frewin, a musician of ability, was the conductor. *Greysteel* has a subtitle, *The Bearsarks come to Surnadale*, and Mr. Gatty has evidently taken a hint from Wagner's *Seigfried*, for there is a magic sword which greatly affects the progress of the story. The Bearsarks, like the Vikings, are sea robbers who land on the coast of England (then defenceless), and carry off the cattle of the farmers, and sometimes their wives and daughters. The opera, which is in one long act, is based on Sir George Dasini's translation of the Icelandic Saga of *Gisli the Soursop*. The story relates how Ari, the owner of a farm at Surnadale, has a brother Gisli, who is secretly in love with Ingibjorga, Ari's wife. Bjorn, the Black, chief of the Bearsarks, arrives accompanied by his followers, and demands Ari's wife, but gives him the offer of an ordeal by combat, the survivor to possess the lady. Ari agrees, and his wife wishes him to take the magic sword Greysteel, made by her thrall Kol; but he refuses, and goes to fight the chief on an island set apart for such contests. While this is taking place, Gisli, Ari's brother, arrives, and after hearing the reason of his brother's absence, declares his love for Ingibjorga, who comes out of the house anxious to learn the result of the contest; sounds of fighting are heard, and Gisli rushes off. The curls presently appear bearing the dead body of Ari. Gisli swears to be revenged on the robber chief, and after some persuasion from Ari's wife consents to use Kol's magic sword. Bjorn arrives to claim his bride, but is challenged by Gisli; they fight, Bjorn falls mortally wounded, and the curtain descends as Kol is made a freeman amidst general rejoicing. The music, principally recitative, follows on strictly Wagnerian lines, consisting chiefly of themes and motifs that are worked out with considerable skill, such as the finale to the fourth scene, where the body of Ari, carried by attendants bearing torches, is brought on after the combat. Some of the love music between Gisli and Ingibjorga, although somewhat lengthy, is tuneful and imaginative, but Gisli's long soliloquy over the dead body of his brother certainly would bear curtailment. The chorus on the whole was most effective, showing that the opera had been most carefully rehearsed, and the orchestra rendered the score admirably under the able conductorship of Mr. Harrison Frewin. The one scene of the farmstead of Surnadale in North Macren and the stage management generally reflected the greatest credit on Mr. Charles Manners. The heaviest work of opera fell to the share of Miss Enriqueta Crichton, the soprano, who undertook the part of Ingibjorga, and aided by a fine voice she most ably sustained the character, her gestures and dramatic action generally being clever and convincing. Miss Crichton was well supported by Mr. Charles Carter in the tenor part of Gisli, who at times had an arduous task. The character of the truculent Bjorn was cleverly played and sung by Mr. George Neilson, who greatly distinguished himself in the realistic fight with Gisli in the last scene. The baritone part of Ari was vigorously performed by Mr. Hendrick Van Lachterop, and the part of Kol cleverly undertaken by Mr. Marshall Vincent. At the fall of the curtain the principals were heartily applauded, and there were also loud calls for the author.

ENGLISH COSTUME.

By DION CLAYTON CALTHROP. London: Adam and Charles Black.

All who take an interest in the manners, customs, and costume of our ancestors will find in this volume much information of an instructive and entertaining character. The author, Mr. Calthrop, has set himself the task of describing early English costume, the period covered being from the Conquest until the reign of Henry the Third. The book is fully illustrated, both by coloured pictures and small engravings, this important portion of the volume being also the work of the author. Mr. Calthrop has devoted himself entirely to civil costume, leaving others to deal with clothes which are but the symbols of various trades and professions. He writes: "I have taken the date of the Conquest as my starting-point, and from that date—a very simple period of clothes—I have followed the changes of the garments reign by reign, fold by fold, button by button, until we arrive quite smoothly at Beau Brummell, the inventor of modern clothes, the prophet of cleanliness. I have taken considerable pains to trace the influence of one garment upon its successor, to reduce the wardrobe for each reign down to its simplest cuts and folds, so that the reader may follow quite easily the passage of the coat from its birth to its ripe age, and by this means may not only know the clothes of one time, but the reasons for those garments. To the best of my knowledge such a thing has never been done before; most works on dress try to include the world, from Adam to Charles Dickens, lump a century into a page, and dismiss the ancient Egyptians in a couple of colour-plates."

Mr. Calthrop claims that the series of paintings contained in his work are "a valuable addition to English history," and the assertion which follows, that he has made an exhaustive study of his subject from his own point of view, is not likely to be disputed by any reader of this carefully-compiled volume. He continues: "Of course, I do not suggest that the ordinary cultured man should acquire the same amount of knowledge as a painter, or a writer of historical subjects, or an actor; but he should understand the clothes of his own people, and be able to visualise any date in which he may be interested."

The question of correct costume is one of decided importance to the actor and actress, and, should he or she be engaged to appear in a play in which the characters belong to a remote period of English history, a reference to Mr. Calthrop's book will give full information as to the costume of the time. The accompanying illustrations, both coloured and plain, display artistic merit of a high order, and most valuably supplement the lucid descriptions of the clothes worn by the Englishmen and Englishwomen of a by-gone age.

MISS MILLIE LEGARDE has this week accepted from Messrs. Harrington and Tate, author and composer of her successful "Nurseryettes" song, a new number, entitled "Forgetfulness," which she is producing immediately.

MME. MELBA has discovered a wonderful contralto, Miss Irene Ainsley, a young singer from New Zealand, in whom she has such faith that early in July she will give a concert to introduce the newcomer to the London public. Miss Ainsley, who is a thorough musician, has a rich voice, with a wide range, and very sympathetic in quality. For the last two years Mme. Melba has guided her studies, and predicts a great future for her young New Zealander.

MR. CHARLES WILLIAM KLOOF, of Kloof and Ramsey, was initiated into the mysteries of the Terriers' Association on Sunday, Terrier Spot performing the ceremony.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P., gave notice on Thursday night that on Monday next he would ask leave to bring in a Bill to deal with the question of copyright in music. The Bill will be a short one, consisting practically of only two clauses. It has been drawn up by eminent counsel, and after several drafts have been prepared, has been finally reduced to this brief form. It is believed that it will be an effective weapon against the villainy still possible to the music pirates. Mr. O'Connor has been already promised the assistance of Mr. Balfour, leader of the Opposition, Mr. John Redmond, leader of the Irish Party, and Sir Alfred Thomas, leader of the Welsh Party; and hopes to have the assistance of several other prominent Parliamentarians when the Bill is introduced. As the question of musical piracy seriously affects the interest of both the dramatic and music-hall professions, we feel sure that every member of these professions will wish Mr. O'Connor every success in his attempt to obtain effective legislation on a subject of such immense importance.

IN contradiction to certain reports that have been published, we may state on the most reliable authority that Mr. Harry Tate's sketch company opened at the Orpheum Theatre, San Francisco, on the Sunday before the earthquake, for a two weeks' engagement, and, of course, were there when the great earthquake took place. They lost everything they had—props, &c., and were walking about the streets all day, eventually escaping from the city at night, by going on the ferry-boat to Oaklands. They opened at Los Angeles the week after the earthquake, with Mr. Keith, of New York, whose tour they were on.

THE gaiety of the metropolis will be enhanced in a day or two by the arrival in town of Miss Vesta Victoria, she having sailed from New York on the 23rd inst. per s.s. Baltic for England. A cable on that date from a New York correspondent on the subject of a projected music-hall trust mentioned Miss Victoria's song "Waiting at the church" as being the hit of the season in that city.

A SMART advertising "notion," emanating from the brain of Mr. William Francis, acted in an eminently satisfactory manner in letting New Yorkers know who were the publishers of the famous song. Open envelopes—or what appeared to be such—were picked up on the side-walk, and on the portion of the note apparently protruding were printed the words, from the chorus, "Can't get away to marry you to-day. My wife won't let me.—Obadiah." Mr. William Francis bosses the printing department of Messrs. Francis and Day's American branch. Few songs have attained so great a popularity with our Transatlantic cousins as has this ditty, which is by Fred W. Leigh and Henry E. Pether.

LONDON managers are not inclined to devote any serious attention to the proposed American variety theatre trust, which is to "absorb or force an alliance with one of the principal English variety combinations." Mr. George Adney Payne says the thing is not feasible. He knows little of the American trust, and cares less. He has no faith in it. His views reflect the opinions of other London managers.

MR. J. L. GRAYDON, under date May 21, writes to us from the Middlesex as follows:—"I regret to repeat that the artists are conspicuous only by their absence at the meetings of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. The sub-committee met very recently and fully discussed the question of effecting economies with regard to the administration of the fund, with the result that Mr. Marriott, the secretary, was good enough to suggest that he would do the work gratuitously from now until the end of the present financial year—about four months. By that time we shall be in a position to know the results of the matinée at the Palace Theatre, which is to take place at the end of June, and of the Sports that are now being organised. If these two functions are successful, I do not see why the Fund should not regain its former prosperity, and continue to do the good work that it has done in the past, in spite of the ill-feeling and dissatisfaction that have been expressed, and which have evidently been set afoot by those who know nothing whatever about the matter.

"THOSE gentlemen on the committee who constantly attend, and there are but few, should receive the thanks of the profession generally for the interest they have taken in order to keep the Fund afloat. The committee has resolved to take immediate steps for the recovery of outstanding loans, which, if you remember, I referred to in my speech at the dinner as being considerably over £1,000. If the greater portion of this money were repaid many more urgent cases for relief could be dealt with."

THE United Varieties Syndicate was registered on May 19 with a capital of £48,000. The object of the company is to acquire the leases of certain sites in High-road, Tottenham, and at the junction of High-street North and Burgess-road, East Ham; to adopt an agreement with G. Adney Payne, J. Davis, Henri Gros, and Henry Tozer, and to carry on the business of theatre and music-hall proprietors, &c. The gentlemen named are the first directors.

REHEARSALS at the Oxford have been long and exciting this week. *The King of Sahara*, due on Monday night, is the most important and elaborate production at the popular hall since Mr. Arthur Robert's skit on *Nero*. His Majesty of Sahara, who will be attended by a crowd of gaily dressed supers, and will make his appearance in effective stage settings, will be played by Mr. Edward Lewis, a comedian who has played a number of Mr. Willie Edouin's parts on tour. Mr. Ernest Leicester, a former leading man at the Surrey Theatre, will play the part of Lord Leenham; and others in the cast are Lulu Valli, Gladys Ward, and Lauri de Frece, who have all done excellent work in musical comedy. The music is by Mark Strong, and the lyrics are by W. Sullivan. The sketch is in three scenes, and in the second of these, Mr. Jack Donald will sing "Dreams" and "William Henry," by Harry Wellmon, the American song writer.

MISS BERTHA DUCKETT has now quite recovered from her recent illness, and has gone to Rhyl, North Wales, for change of air. She hopes to start work again in a couple of weeks.

THE Dickens Fellowship has been taking a keen interest in the work of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lucas. Several of the members went to see their performance at Balham last week, and sent Mrs. Lucas a lovely bouquet in appreciation of her careful and sincere impersonation of Nancy and Poor Jo. It is, perhaps, in a selection from "Martin Chuzzlewit" that Mr. Lucas and her husband are making their biggest hit, for it would be hard to find a wider contrast of character than there is between old Martin, Mercy Pecksniff, and Jonas Chuzzlewit. It is only two years since these two clever Dickensonians tried their luck, with such good results, on the variety stage. They sail for South Africa at the beginning of July, opening their tour in Johannesburg. Mr. and Mrs. Lucas will be accompanied by their little daughter, Edna May, who is to play Tiny Tim in selections from "A Christmas Carol."

MR. J. W. CRAGG, the veteran head of the popular Cragg troupe of acrobats, is very proud of the following communication to him on a postcard:—"Many thanks for your great kindness to me during our stay in the Tyne; I was very pleased with your entertainment. When I go back to Japan I shall be very pleased to send a postcard.—I am, yours respectfully, KISHIMOTO. On board his Imperial Japanese Majesty's ship Kashima." The performance witnessed by this young Jap officer was given at the Empire, Newcastle, early in the month.

THE Blackpool Hippodrome opens for the coming season on Monday. The inaugural bill will be the great American Living-Picture Show, the Britt-Nelson fight for the championship of the world. The film is the largest one known, being almost 6000ft. in length. The new management has made engagements with some of the principal artists in the kingdom, and Mr. T. P. Duignan, late of Belfast, expects a record season.

MR. DAN THOMAS has been unanimously elected a member of the Bellahouston Harriers. He was proposed by J. McGough, Scottish champion, and seconded by D. Copland. This club undoubtedly numbers amongst its members the cream of Scottish athletes, such as Stark, Kitson, and Anderson, who represented Great Britain at Athens.

MR. THOMAS ALLAN EDWARDES, of Derby, who for about two years has been the lessee of Stoke Hippodrome, has now become the owner. On Wednesday he completed the purchase of the theatre from Mr. D. H. Mountford, who originally built it. The figure at which this popular house of entertainment has changed hands is a considerable one, and the transaction is interesting as indicating the change in its fortunes. Mr. H. F. Miller, the businesslike manager, some time ago embarked upon a scheme of reorganisation which recognised the possibilities of the nimble sixpence, and since then the Hippodrome has enjoyed such prosperity as has warranted its purchase by Mr. Edwardes. His other ventures include the New Grand Theatre and the Palace of Varieties, Derby; the Palace, Attercliffe; and the Palace, Grimsby.

THE Stage Plays committee of the Sheffield City Council has again considered the question of permitting smoking at the Alexandra Theatre. Mr. W. D. Forsdike attended before the committee on Monday with a plan for the improvement of the gallery stairs, and, after considerable discussion, the committee decided to grant the licence to the Alexandra Theatre, without any prohibition as to smoking, on an undertaking being given that the alterations to the gallery stairs should be carried out forthwith.

MR. LEW LAKE was as cool as a cucumber last Sunday. While travelling from Aberdeen to Sheffield the truck carrying his scenery caught fire through a spark from the engine while near Preston. His "Bloomsbury Burglars" put the local (Central and Butler Street) fire brigades in the shade by uncoupling the truck, and saving all the props. and house-baggage. It is a question whether the local fire brigade knew anything about the happening until they saw it in the local paper. "The Burglars" worked the Empire, Sheffield, on Monday, as if nothing had happened. They fortunately were able to make use of a duplicate set of scenery.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY scored an instantaneous success at the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, on Monday in his new costume scena of 1787, entitled *Dan the Outlaw*. A feature of the production is some beautiful Irish music. A copyright performance of the scena, which is founded upon an episode in the reign of George the Third, was given at the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Bradford, on the 18th inst. Mr. Shelley, who plays no less than seven different characters, is well supported by Messrs. Percival Craig, James Stewart, Charles Lockwood, and Misses Ivy Dene and Rhoda Larkin.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, after a three weeks' rest in the far North, has now fully recovered from his recent severe indisposition, and will open on Monday next at the Hippodrome, Liverpool, for two weeks. After a short tour, he will start his annual Scotch season. He will leave Macduff on Saturday night for Aberdeen, journeying on Sunday to Liverpool.

MISS FLORRIE FORDE achieved an instantaneous success with Messrs. Harrington and Tate's new song, "The Curate Saw," at the Palace, Bath, where she also "scored" with the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's popular publication, "Any old place where the sun shines."

VERSATILITY is none too common on either the variety or dramatic stage. Therefore the turn of Mr. Rex Fox, who, by accounts to hand of his performance, has demonstrated in the provinces his right to be called "the one-man programme," should soon be heard of in London. If energy and ability count for anything he is bound shortly to make his way to the front.

MR. LAURI WYLIE writes to us from Wigan under date of the 24th inst. as follows:—"In your last issue you mention a picture which you allege is the first portrait of a lady on the variety stage exhibited in the Royal Academy. A portrait of my wife, Rosa Rosetti, 'The Musical Girl,' was exhibited there in 1902. It was by the well-known lady artist Miss Jessie Macgregor."

MR. CHAS. J. CAWOOD, late acting-manager of the Edinburgh Empire Palace Theatre, was the guest of the evening at a smoking concert held at the Carlton Hotel on Friday of last week. There was a large gathering of Mr. Cawood's friends, including many of the artists from the various theatres in the town. In the course of the evening Mr. and Mrs. Cawood's health was proposed by Convener Barton, who took the opportunity of presenting Mr. Cawood with a cheque for £75 from his well-wishers, and to Mrs. Cawood a brooch and bouquet of choice flowers. Mr. Cawood, in his reply spoke of the happy years which he had spent in Edinburgh, and of the many kindnesses which he had received both from the staff of the Empire Palace Theatre and from the general public.

A CAPITAL programme was carried through, selections being given by, amongst others, Mr. Harrison Brockbank, Mr. Arthur Stigant, Mr. Howard F. Crompton, and Miss Florence Parfrey, of *The Girls of Utah* company; Mr. Clifford Morgan and Mr. Peter D. Bermingham, of the *Scottish Bluebells* company; and by the Delevines, Harrison Brothers, and Mr. J. H. Cullen, Empire Palace Theatre. Mrs. Cawood also sang with much charm, and Mr. Cawood contributed a violin solo. Mr. Geo. Burnley, conductor of the Theatre Royal orchestra, and Mr. Davidson, of the Empire Palace Theatre, were efficient accompanists.

MME. FOUGÈRE, the café chantant artist, who was found guilty recently of stealing articles of clothing from the shop of Messrs. Lewis and Allenby, Regent-street, was again before Mr. Loveland-Loveland, K.C., on Wednesday. Mr. Loveland-Loveland decided to state a case on points raised by Mme. Fougère's counsel, and to again liberate the accused on bail until July. Mr. Richard Warner and Mr. Walter Gibbons offered themselves as security after several hours' delay, and the French soubrette left the court with her husband.

FOR Mr. Edward Swanborough a benefit matinée is being organised at the London Pavilion by Mr. Henri Gros and his co-directors of the Chelsea Palace, where the veteran manager is held in such high esteem. The latest report regarding the invalid is that he is slowly improving.

MR. JOSEPH WILSON, who returned too soon to his work at the Tivoli after a severe attack of influenza, has been spending the week in the delightful village of Chideock, near Bridport, Dorset, and is returning to the Strand house this evening.

MR. JESSE SPARROW was presented on Thursday evening, at the Granville, with a handsome salad-bowl and servers and a biscuit-box—all in dark oak and silver mounted—subscribed for by the staff of the hall. Mr. Robert Duce, who made the presentation, spoke in cordial terms of his old manager, and voiced the general regret felt at his resignation.

MR. HARRY MASTERS, who has been recuperating at Eastbourne, has entirely recovered from his severe illness, and will resume his duties with Mr. George Adney Payne on Monday.

AT the London Hippodrome on Monday will be exhibited for the first time in England *The Three Olympiers*, who will become living replicas of some of the most beautiful bronze groups by great masters. The idea of the representation is to show the public at large the world's famous art gems in as perfect a form as possible. These men are superb specimens of humanity, trained purely by a system of physical culture, and their nude bodies are, by a secret process, coated with a preparation of bronze. Some of their poses are of the most difficult character, there being "The Messenger of Victory from Marathon," after Max Kruse; "The Hercules Group"; "The Atlas Group," after Wenk; "The Quoit-Thrower," after the antique; and other equally classical and much admired groups.

OLYMPIA, at Christmas, will be the scene of a gigantic international fair and carnival. Whilst all the popular features of the old English fair will be retained, every effort will be made to make the undertaking of a cosmopolitan character, and travelled visitors will find much to remind them, not only of the Ginger Bread Fair in Paris, but the big shows of Coney Island—Luna Park and Dreamland. The stalls will be arranged to represent celebrated Continental thoroughfares and an American avenue. Other attractions will be a circus, with many up-to-date features, and a production of *Mazeppa*, a pantomime in the annexe, and a wrestling tournament in another part of the building. The gentlemen interested in the enterprise are well known on both sides of the Atlantic.

MR. JAMES WATSON WILKINSON, who has just joined the H. W. Wieland Agency, was for very many years connected with the late Westminster Aquarium. In 1888 he was appointed secretary to the company, and from that time until it was sold to the Methodist body, he held the licences for the establishment and was part of the management. With such an experience, embracing all kinds of public entertainment, he can scarcely fail to be an acquisition to the agency named. Mr. Wilkinson for three years was a member of the late Westminster Vestry, and for thirteen years a volunteer in the City of London Artillery, where, after acquiring the rank of sergeant-major, he accepted a commission in a Rifle Corps.

MR. GUS GARRICK was responsible for a smart piece of work last week. On Monday he received a wire from Mr. Harry Day at 4.30 at his address, Brixton. Mr. Day asked the comedian if he would open that night at Bristol for him. Garrick had to get his stage luggage from the Middlesex, which he succeeded in doing, and caught the 6.30 from Paddington. He was in ample time to take his turn at the Empire, and made a most gratifying hit.

WE regret to learn that Miss Wynnie Darrell, the talented wife of Mr. Geo. F. Slatter, of the Walthamstow Palace, and herself well known on the variety stage, is on the sick list, and on Monday last was obliged to undergo a surgical operation. According to latest accounts Miss Darrell not only came successfully through the trying ordeal, but is now making satisfactory progress.

MR. LOUIS BRADFIELD has been specially engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll to play the part of Compère in the Coliseum Revue at the 6 to 8 p.m. performance daily, to the commère of Miss Godwynne Earle, who has understudied Miss Billie Burke. As at present Mr. Tom E. Murray and Miss Billie Burke will take these leading parts at the 3 to 5 p.m. and 9 to 11 p.m. houses. It will be interesting to watch the results obtained respectively by each set of leading characters, for Mr. Bradfield and Miss Earle have *carte blanche* to work their own business, and to introduce topical allusions. Needless to say that Mr. Tom E. Murray and Miss Billie Burke have taken full advantage already of the like permission.

MISS MARGARET ASHTON, who this week concludes a successful six weeks' engagement at the Oxford, has been singing the delightful "L'Ardita" waltz, which is greatly appreciated. While at the Canterbury the charming American *cantatrice* has been appearing in her delightful winter scene, besides introducing a tuneful melody in her new song, "Close Those Dreamy Eyes." The popular American lady, who for the second year in succession heads the list in the opening week of the *Pelican* competition, begins on Monday the Moss and Stoll tour at the Empire, Hackney. Later in the year she will fulfil her engagements at Leipzig and Vienna.

MR. "SIXPENNY POPS" SMITH is adding, during next week, three numbers to his already extensive catalogue of Mr. David Day's renowned series of cheap editions of his firm's musical copyrights, bringing the total up to 279. They are Mr. Tom Leo's "Too Lazy to Live," Mr. Whit Cunliffe's "It's a Different Girl Again," and the popular ditty known as "In the Parlour with the Lights Turned Low." Mr. J. W. Ellison's charming song, "The Sweetest Singer of All," by Charles Collins (who, in conjunction with Tom Mellor, was responsible for that great success, "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you"), will be added to the "Sixpenny Pops" in the course of the next few days.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company has just accepted from Messrs. Mellor, Lawrance, and Gifford two new songs, which they will issue at an early date, viz., a strikingly original march song, entitled "When the band played the ——" and a pretty idyllic number, the title of which will transpire in due course.

IT is a matter of the highest satisfaction to the Alhambra directorate that the public taste in ballet has reverted to the strictly classical, and the forthcoming artistic production at that house—now in full rehearsal, though still unnamed—will be of this nature. It has been written and arranged by Mr. Charles Wilson from a scenario by Mrs. Hay-Ritchie which tells a story of ancient Egypt. M. Francois Thomé will write the music, the dances have been composed by Signor Alfred Curti, and the costumes will be by Alias. The production will introduce two new dancers, Signorina Maria Bordin, ballerina of La Scala, Milan, and Signorina Enrica Varasi, ballerina of the Opera House, Vienna. The latter artist has recently achieved an enormous success as Svanilda in Délibes' ballet of "Coppelia" in New York.

MR. KARL KAPS, renowned in the world of dance music, was honoured on Wednesday with a letter from Kensington Palace, which read as follows:—"Miss Minnie Cochrane is desired to inform Mr. Karl Kaps that Princess Ena will have much pleasure in accepting the dedication of his valse, entitled 'Castile.' Mr. David Day has the waltz in the press.

THE springs of laughter have been touched to considerable purpose this week at the London, where Mr. Tom Craven, son of the late celebrated dramatist, is appearing in the new sketch *The Lady in Red*. He is responsible for a most original conception of the part of William, the man-servant in the household of the gay Mr. Johnson. The plot of the little piece, which deals with a storm in a domestic teacup, is of the scantiest kind, but Mr. Craven has materials for creating fun of which he makes the most, and his impersonation of the stolid valet, deliberate in speech, slow in movement, but decidedly comic in method, is effective in making the house constantly hilarious. Mr. Craven is excellently supported by the other members of the little company. Mr. Stephen Adeson realises completely the embarrassment of the resourceful husband, who imagines his wife's sister, dressed entirely in red, is no other than a lady similarly attired with whom he had a flirtation on the previous evening. A striking appearance is made by Miss Marie Shields in the part of Cora, the scarlet-clad lady; and Miss Nita Tomkins acts impressively as the fair but inexorable young wife.

MESSRS. BERT DELMAR AND GEORGE BURTON have just published with the Monte Carlo Publishing Company their tuneful number, "Zing! Zing! Zing!" which will be extensively "featured" by different pierrot troupes this season. The song will be included in the popular Berners-street firm's "Sixpenny Successes."

IT is now six years since Mr. Edwin Brett and Miss Emmeline Orford gave their first duologue on the music-hall stage, and they have been forging ahead ever since. Starting with a racing sketch called *A Ten to One Chance*, they did not find it necessary to alter their bill for several seasons, when the discussion on mixed bathing gave Mr. Brett—who is his own composer, author, and producer—an idea for a second little piece, to which he gave the name *On the Quiet*. Their present success, *The Two Lovebirds*, in which they are appearing at the Oxford will carry them through a forthcoming engagement of fourteen weeks with Moss' Empires, to be followed by another appearance in London, and a Stoll tour—the second this year. Miss Orford makes a point of her smart dresses, wearing a different one nearly every evening. On Monday she appeared in pale blue and fawn with bronze shoes, on Wednesday her frock was carnation pink, covered with tiny tucks and frills, and with a trellis-work design of cerise satin ribbon on the skirt and full little bodice. On Saturday she made yet another change, playing the lady lovebird in a white silk short dress, trimmed with écru lace.

MISS EMMELINE ORFORD has been on the stage nearly all her life. She is a Londoner, her home having been on the spot where the Apollo Theatre now stands, and she made her first appearance next door at the Lyric Theatre. The title-rôle in *Mam'zelle Nitouche* was, perhaps, the most important of her engagements on the regular stage, and she has also appeared at the Court, Terry's, the Duke of York's, and the Strand Theatres. Miss Orford makes a vivacious principal boy, having made a hit as Aladdin at Brixton last Christmas. That she started her varied professional career well equipped is shown by the fact that she studied elocution under Allen Beaumont and singing under Edwin Holland. Mr. Brett, who makes several lightning changes of make-up and costume in the ten minutes' sketch at the Oxford, is a comedian who has played such parts as Gentleman Joe and Orlando Dando.

MR. EDWIN E. GILES, late manager of the Battersea Empire, sued the Surrey Vaudeville Company (Limited) on Tuesday, in the City of London Court, for £83 as damages for wrongful dismissal. The plaintiff was engaged at a salary of £4 10s. a week, and was told he would have a benefit. After he had attended at the Surrey during one week to ascertain his duties, and had been introduced as manager, the defendants said they had changed their minds. It was not true that he was directed to attend on Sunday to take over his duties and the cash. Mr. Fred Baugh, defendants' managing-director, said the plaintiff was only a weekly servant, and the £9 paid into Court was for one week's salary in lieu of notice. He told the plaintiff to attend on Sunday; as he did not do so someone else was employed. Managers always had to work on that day, as the scenery, &c., came in, and arrangements must necessarily be made for starting the house on Monday. Judge Lumley Smith held that the plaintiff was only entitled to a week's notice, and found for him for £9. As this had been paid into Court with a denial of liability, the defendants must pay the costs of the issue.

THE 464th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices in Wellington-street on Tuesday, when the chair was occupied for the greater part of the proceedings by Mr. Fred Herbert, and, subsequently, by Mr. Charles Coborn. There were also present Messrs. R. Abel, who took his seat in the room of a member recently resigned, Harry Blake, A. Borelli, W. H. Clemart, Harry Freeman, Frank Gerald, Bob Leonard, Paul Martinetti, George Preston, and C. Douglas Stuart, secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed. Mr. Pat Carey, who had succeeded to the committee by virtue of being next in order at the last general meeting, attended, and intimated that he preferred not to serve. Mr. Fred Neiman, the next on the roll, was accordingly added to the executive. A letter was read from Mr. Harry Freeman, who had been asked by the committee to reconsider his resignation, saying that, as it had been tendered under a misapprehension, he would withdraw it. Two members, together with one assistant, who had ignored the committee's applications for refunds, were ordered to be dealt with under rule 39. The attendance of the committee was under discussion, and it was decided that the rule must be enforced without exception.

THE establishment of a branch office in Liverpool was suggested, and after various schemes had been outlined, the proposal was left over for further consideration. A member who attended before the committee on a question of the renewal of cards, preferred the complaint that an application made by him to the committee some considerable time ago, had been suppressed, and the secretary promised to bring up for examination correspondence showing that the matter was laid before the executive then in office, and dealt with in order. Correspondence involving cases of refunds and insurance was taken, and the financial statement for the week ending May 19 was read, showing an increase of membership by 38. The receipts for the week amounted to £39 1s., and the expenditure to £10 19s. 10d.

ROSARIO GUERRERO, the great Spanish dancer and pantomimist, returns to the Palace Theatre on Monday evening, opening with a little pantomime play which has never yet been seen in this country, entitled *A Daughter of the Mountain*. It is somewhat more ambitious as a production than anything she has done yet in the way of a sketch.

AL FRESCO artists who have not yet had Shapiro, Von Tilzer's budget of songs should write in at once, and thereby secure sure successes for the seaside.

WHEN Mr. Joe Elvin was ten years old, he made his first professional appearance at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, under Mrs. Nye Chart, in *Hop o' My Thumb*. Soon afterwards he was playing in the halls as a comic singer and clog-dancer. He undertook a small part in a sketch, and that led Mr. Crowder, of Crowder's Varieties, Greenwich, to suggest to his dad, the late Mr. Keegan, that father and son should have a farcical sketch written, in which they could appear regularly together. The advice was acted upon, and so began the career of a sketch company. Their first sketch was *Old Trotter's Way*, followed by *The Two Smiths* and *Sport*. A great hit was made with *The Tinker's Holiday*, with six extra members of the company; and similar successes were scored with *A Dreadful Tragedy* and *The Clock*.

THE sketch which placed Elvin at once in the front rank of comedians was *The Hansom Cabby*. From the very first this farce took hold of the public, and the "Cabby" soon won his way into their affections. Following on *The Bookie*, another screaming farce of a sporting turn, were the Oxford productions, *Over the Sticks*, *On the Flat*, *The Wrong House*, *A Day's Sport*, *'Appy 'Ampstead*, and *The Hidden Treasure*.

"A DAY'S SPORT," to take an instance, was one of the biggest things in the way of productions ever put upon the stage. It employed hundreds of supers, and five principals, in addition to Elvin himself, who was of course the pivot on which the whole affair turned. He seldom left the stage for more than an instant, and was more than ordinarily successful in his impersonation of a gentleman who had laid a wager that he would engage in five different sports in five different counties on one and the same day. Among the sports indulged in were skittles, a game of cricket at Lord's, a motor-car drive, the finale being the Derby at Epsom, run by six thorough-breds. Joe has fought his way upward from small beginnings, from small parts and small sketches, till he has come to be recognised as one of the finest farcical comedians of the day. He is at the Stratford Empire next week.

DALTON'S Agency, which in the past has introduced many new turns, has placed Miss Ruby Dahl, with her human mannikins, with Mr. Oswald Stoll for thirty-four weeks, including a long engagement at the Hippodrome, London. This is a very novel act, and the enterprising firm, of which Mr. Will Dalton is the proprietor, has Miss Dahl already booked for a long Continental tour.

So great in Australia has been the success of and requests for the songs "Starlight," by Madden and Marse, and "Walking home with Angeline," by Totten Smith and J. C. Rundback, that Messrs. Allan and Co., of Melbourne, who act as Australian agents for Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, have had to reproduce large editions to satisfy the demands of the trade at the Antipodes.

MR. CARTER LIVESEY and Miss Lilian Rosebery, with *The Would-be Actors*, are due at three halls next week, viz., Middlesex (a return within eight weeks), Canterbury, and Paragon, and are booked to return to the Palace in September and the London Pavilion at Christmas.

"THE PLAYERS," who, in these columns, recently received favourable comment on their dramatic sketch, *Her Last Chance*, will, on Monday, produce at the Richmond Theatre a new farcical sketch by George Unwin, entitled *Touched Up!* The cast consists of the Misses Violet Ellicott and Rose Temple (Mrs. John Donald) and Messrs. Lewis Sealey and Fred Conyers.

THE following is a specimen of what has been held to be "fair criticism" by an American court of law. The writer of the notice is giving his opinion on the performance of three sisters. He says:—"Nellie is an old jade of fifty summers, Jeanie a frisky filly of forty, and Maisie, the flower of the family, a capering monstrosity of thirty-five. Their long skinny arms, equipped with talons at the extremities, swung mechanically, and anon waved frantically at the suffering audience. The mouths of their rancid features opened like caverns, and sounds like the wailings of damned souls issued therefrom. They pranced around the stage with a motion that suggested a cross between the danse du ventre and fox-trot—strange creatures with painted faces and hideous mien."

MISS IDA GLADSTONE is now on board the splendid Cunard liner Carmania en route for New York, to fulfil a forty-three weeks' engagement in the States. She thanks Mr. Alfred Butt and pantomime managers for offers, and sends kind regards to friends.

THE contortionist is rarely found now in the programmes of variety halls, not because such an act is not attractive, but because those who practise it are few and far between. Serpentello, who is presenting his hair-raising interlude at the pretty Richmond Theatre this week, concludes a really marvellous performance by the dislocation of his neck. This unique demonstration evokes loud applause.

Princess Pauline, in dainty dresses and amusing song, has been delighting her hearers at the Richmond Theatre this week with a description of "Sunny Spain." Her elocution is decidedly good, and she dramatically conveys to the hearer something of the realism of a Spanish bull-fight, rounding off her success with a funny allusion to the garlic-loving propensities of the Spaniards.

AT the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge on Sunday, May 20, at the Hotel Provence, there were present Brothers 1329, 1340, 1101, 487, 1377, 432, 1211, 403, 1356, 461, 1311, and one guest. A discussion took place on the powers of the English executive committee, during the course of which the president pointed out that the executive committee in London was in reality a sub-committee.

THE attention of the meeting was called to the fact that the name of a recently-convicted felon was being boldly featured on the bills of certain variety theatres. The meeting felt that this was discreditable to the profession, and appealed only to the low tastes of a certain section of the public. If people wanted to see such persons they should go to Madame Tussaud's. It was finally resolved "That this meeting is strongly of the opinion that it is contrary to the best interests and the good name of the music hall profession that a convicted felon should be boldly advertised as taking part in public entertainments." It was also agreed that this resolution be sent to all the leading daily, weekly, and professional papers.

THE president, while regretting that the members of the V.A.F. had not very frequently attended the I.A.L. meetings, took the occasion to comment on the difference in the rules for eligibility to the I.A.L. and V.A.F. It was pointed out that the I.A.L. did not admit minors as members, nor ladies to the meetings. Therefore, it was decided to write a letter to the V.A.F. expressing the pleasure the I.A.L. would always have in welcoming any members of the V.A.F., with the exception of ladies and minors.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

Mr. Frank Glenister is presenting La Milo in a new series of classical poses this week, and that beautifully-formed girl with the forget-me-not blue eyes—who owns to a 26in. waist and is proud of it—is packing the house nightly. She mounts the pedestal first as the statue of Andromeda, who was saved from the snares of a sea-monster by the intrepid Perseus, and afterwards became a star. As Œnone, the nymph who became the wife of Paris, and committed suicide when she saw his dead body, the natural beauty of La Milo's perfect proportions is seen to the greatest advantage; and the charming *poseuse* succeeds in investing every statue with the modesty of nature. The late George Du Maurier declared in his novel "Trilby" that there was nothing so chaste as the nude, and this dictum receives emphatic confirmation every evening at the London Pavilion. Cruickshank, the clever lightning caricaturist, is varying his series of political portraits with rapid impressions of famous cricketers, and the lineaments of A. C. Maclaren, the famous Lancashire bat, and Lord Hawke, the popular Yorkshire captain, are greeted with loud applause. As a matter of course, the greatest enthusiasm is reserved for "Joe"—otherwise Mr. Chamberlain—who is represented with the familiar monocle and orchid.

Mlle. Renée is a newcomer to the Piccadilly circus house, and her refined turn as an instrumentalist should secure for her great popularity. She is very versatile, playing with a sweet and soft tone both on the coach-horn and bugle. She also is quite successful in a solo with variations on the piano, and other instruments of which she is mistress include the cornet and concertina. She has an attractive personality and a gracious style. Her accent betrays her American origin. From the States also come Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker, who are responsible for the singing of some taking negro melodies. The lady, Miss Whitaker, also plays the harp, accompanying her partner in a whistling solo, "Down by the Swanee River," and as a wind-up to a most successful interlude tells a story in song of an old Negro preacher, who besought his congregation to stand up and sing "Hallelujah!" The best and most artistic singing of the evening is contributed by Mr. Arthur Aldridge, a *tenore robusto* with a warm, impassioned style, a perfect intonation, and a power of voice which is never forced at the expense of sweetness. On the night to which we are now particularly alluding Mr. Aldridge sang "Nirvana," the popular song by Stephen Adams, and in response to an encore gave Airlie Dix's fine ballad "The Trumpeter."

Mr. Malcolm Scott, "the woman who knows," is much more than a mere patterer, though no one would wish to discount the amusing nature of his topical references or the cleverness of his satire. He is a comedian with a power of expression that will one day, we hope, be appreciated in a comedy part that will give him the requisite opportunities. Mr. Scott leaves us shortly, to find, we trust, appreciation for his humorous abilities in the land of gold—Transvaal. He will be much missed in London. Mr. George Mozart, who has been here for some months, has dropped his tea-girl skit, and is heard nightly in his amusing number, "Bertie, M.C.," in which his waltz with a gigantic partner is so funny. His interlude "Hats" has been wonderfully improved since we first heard it, and is heartily laughed at. Mr. Ambrose Thorne, in his singing of "The practical, tactical, nautical man," to the success of which we have already referred in these columns, has the aid of the Pavilion Girls, who present early in the evening a most attractive terpsichorean entertainment, in which our national games are prettily and gracefully suggested by dancing and posing.

An entertainment of a type that is rare is presented by Dome, the clay modeller, who presents a number of portraits in high relief which do credit to his artistic as well as to his comedy powers. Mr. Marriott Edgar, "the man in red," is a comedian with a style of his own. He copies no one, and his originality, exploited in really good songs, evokes loud applause. Mr. Jock Whiteford has been a favourite at this house from the time during the spring of last year that he journeyed "frae the North" to give a taste of his quality. It was found to be excellent, and he has now a drawer full of contracts. As a Scotch comedian he is hard to beat. Mr. Whit Cunliffe is a great success with "It's a different girl again," and also in a second number, wherein he rises superior to Nuttall, and gives new meanings to well-known words. Mr. Maynard Dakin is responsible for a wonderful medley; Miss Lilian Lowe is a sweet ballad-singer; and the Three Laurels are responsible for an acrobatic act that is as smart and intrepid as anything of its kind to be seen on the London boards. The show has also the saving grace of humour. Miss Alma Gray, the little Australian dancing girl; the Fitzroys, gymnasts; and the Jalvans, comedy jugglers, are also in the bill. Mr. Bond Sayers has an excellent orchestra; and Mr. William Cobbett makes a popular assistant-manager.

THE CANTERBURY.

The value of variety is thoroughly apparent in the current bill at the Canterbury, where a pleasant evening is assured by the judiciously-assorted company arranged under the direction of Mr. George Adney Payne, and presented in smart style by the general-manager, Mr. Fred Miller. Two sketches are contained in the bill, the first being that of *The Battle of the Belles*, which makes all for fun, and well succeeds in its purpose. The climax of the playlet is furnished by the travesty of a fight between two ladies, in which nails and teeth are used vigorously. There is a lack of gore in the struggle, but otherwise the realism is perfect, and arouses the greatest excitement. Messrs. Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company exert themselves indefatigably throughout, the gentleman who plays the resourceful husband presenting a comedy impersonation of a decidedly novel character.

Pathos enters largely into the composition of the romantic episode, entitled *Lulu*, played by Miss Sylvia Cavalho and company. Miss Cavalho plays the part of an actress, who, like a similar heroine of the dramatic stage, gives herself up to a man of whose love she imagines she is the sole possessor. He is a theatrical manager, and Lulu, by her talents, wins him fame and fortune in the provinces, afterwards preventing a fiasco by taking up her part in London at an emergency. Between the acts she meets the wife of her idol, and learns that his love is only fleeting. She is on the point of throwing up her part, when an appeal is made for the employees of the theatre, who would be thrust out of work if the play was stopped, and for their sakes she goes on with the piece. Out of these materials some stirring situations are effected and admirably performed. Miss Cavalho plays with sustained power and real dramatic strength as Lulu, and the sentiment of the rôle is made very touching. The fascinating influence of Hector Montcalm is well exercised by Mr. Clifford Pembroke, who looks a handsome and dashing theatrical manager; a graceful and refined appearance is made by Miss Gertrude De Burgh, who speaks and acts with agreeable delicacy as the wife; Mr. Harry Carr plays well as the agitated stage-manager; and Miss Emma Chambers appears as Lulu's dresser.

The jovial James Fawn preserves his popularity in his song of "Girl," which he sings with added zest, and his recital of the sorrows of the "Henpecked Jossers' Club" is made to the accompaniment of continuous mirth. Mr. Gus Elen comes late in the programme, but finds a numerous contingent of admirers eager to welcome him. His song in which he offers an extraordinary solution of the unemployed question was his only offering on Monday night; but it served to keep his hearers thoroughly amused. Mr. Elen seldom, if ever, adopts the spoken word, but from the rising of the out-of-work navvy from his lowly cot to his lying down thereon, his actions are truly eloquent. The interval is filled in with irresistible comicality, his low obesiance to the diploma of the "Sons of Rest" which adorns the wall, his horror at the bare contemplation of a labourer at work, and his fatherly care of the beer-bottle, being silent but expressive evidences of feeling, at which the audience roars itself hoarse with laughter.

A specially hearty welcome is reserved for Miss Victoria Monks, who favours the house with another hearing of the popular "Give my regards to Leicester-square," the refrain of which is taken up vigorously. "Moving Day" affords Miss Monks an opportunity of appearing in her favourite rôle of a lady coon, who sings of the woes of removing. The scena is cleverly written and arranged, and is thoroughly well sustained by Miss Monks, who mournfully trills her lay as the procession of workmen take out the furniture, and finally lead the lady in tears from the empty house. Miss Hanid Alexander, a prepossessing young lady of many accomplishments, introduces herself as a maiden home from school, whose joy is overflowing. Subsequently she plays an elaborate arrangement of "Alice, where art thou?" at the piano, supplementing it with a recitation about two street arabs, in which pathos has a large part. Miss Alexander in a song of "Sister Cissy" proves herself a finished comedienne, and her dancing is also of the neatest and best. Miss Margaret Ashton exercises a fine voice to advantage in a lullaby addressed to a baby, and afterwards appears with charming vivacity as "The Winter Girl," who frolics amid a realistic snowstorm, which seems to have no ill-effect on her tuneful top-notes. Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, dance with wonderful precision and alertness; Clark and Hamilton win mirth by their comedy act; Miss Sylvia Du Barry, the South American soprano, selects a Toreador song from *Carmen* with which to charm the ear; and other items of the programme consist of Miss Lily Lena, comedienne; and A-Bo-Kou, juggler, and the latest pictures on Ruffell's Bioscope.

A novel competition, instituted by Mr. Gilbert Girard, aptly described as "the human harp," is a feature of the week's bill. Prizes are offered for the best amateur impersonation of Mr. Girard, the final being fixed for Friday last. The first competitors appeared on Monday, after Mr. Girard had submitted his clever imitations, and caused unlimited amusement.

THE GRANVILLE.

At the Walham Green Theatre of Varieties this week a good all-round programme is presented by Mr. Duce, tending to dispel dull care, and drive away fits of "the blues," which the unseasonable weather engenders. Chief among the purveyors of mirth is George Mozart, an alert comedian, who in his quaint, unforced humour, at times reminds one strongly of the late lamented King's jester, Dan Leno. His ditty, "Hats, any old hats," is a fitting vehicle for the exploitation of his lightning silhouettes of typical oddities, and very divertingly he portrays them. In his second song, "Bertie, the dandy M.C. of the old bob hop," he is immensely droll, and his "business" is excruciatingly funny. He gets valuable assistance from his fair and gigantic partner in the mazy waltz. Mr. Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, is a good all-round man, who also rejoices in the possession of a quiet, unobtrusive method. He does not think it necessary to put on his trousers the wrong way round, or bawl at his audience, in order to make them appreciate the joke. His whistling is artistic, he is a good raconteur and comic singer, as witness his ballad of "The clergyman hunter and the bear," and a quaint musical expositor. He gives a fine imitation of Chirgwin.

Spry and Austin submit a good turn, the lady of the duo being a very bright soubrette, with a taking way of singing, and some good songs, *e.g.*, "Patsy O'Brannaghan's ball," and the duet in which they join forces, concerning "The girls of England" (to the tune of "Boys and girls, come out to play"), is a good example of its kind. Katie Marsh is a versatile and clever little lady who possesses considerable talent, and her little scena from *East Lynne* is very well done indeed; but she should avoid a parrot-like way of repeating her verses illustrative of her performance. Ernest D'Almaine, the tenor vocalist, sings two pleasing love songs in excellent voice, his selections being "When your love grows cold" and "My heart is yours, if your heart is mine," this latter a very sensible suggestion of give and take.

The Smythsons have a laughable sketch, known as *Lucy Norman*. It seems that Jack has been putting a bit on a horse, or, rather, a filly, of that name, and on the strength of his friend Brown's good opinion concerning its chance, he counts his chickens to the extent of ordering a suite of furniture and a new hat for his wife, on his prospective gains. His wife reads his ecstatic effusions concerning Lucy, and also intercepts a telegram saying that "Lucy doesn't go to-day," and, thinking it is a lady referred to, she gets mortally jealous. Hubby thinks he has lost his last fiver, till another wire comes to say that Brown has put it all on "The Weaver," which has romped home at 40 to 1 (Good man, Brown! Wish we knew him!), and all is joy and excitement as the curtain falls. The piece is well acted, especially by the exponent of Floppy.

Daisy Silcott is a lively and shapely comedienne, who has a good word to say for the men, and then tells us, in boy's costume, that she "wants to be a soldier." Anyhow, she *enlists* our sympathies and kind regards. Bennett and Martell are a pair of eccentric knockabouts, with amusing antics and patter to match. Maud Beaumont is a comely comedienne, with a robust voice and figure, who sings "Will you come back to Donegal?" (delighted, I'm sure) and "I've got a bungalow in Borneo." Trik and Triksie are a quaint and comical musical duo, Triksie being a good dancer, and Trik an excellent musician. Bert Brantford is funny in his songs, "I wouldn't mind taking his place" and "I didn't know what to say." Emma Don and company give a little scena illustrative of "Jack's return" from Australia, after having made the pieces, with song, "Telling the same old tale." Rezene and Robini are well-known and always appreciated as trapezists and eccentric knockabout comedians; Leotard Brothers do the "hat trick," or, rather, all sorts of tricks with hats, very adroitly; and Vernon's bioscope shows us "A wig chase," "Chasing a leg of mutton," and "Moose hunting in Canada."

THE BRITANNIA.

The Macnaghten management gain deserved success here by providing an entertainment that is equal in quality to that presented at any West End hall. This week's company is quite up to the usual high standard, and large audiences are the result. As in the earlier days of the old Britannia, melodrama holds premier position; and the Vaudeville Dramatic Company is presenting an elaborate production of *The Lonely Man*, a sketch written round an unrecorded episode in the life of the notorious Charles Peace. Mr. Herbert Pearson is seen to advantage as Francis Durham, M.P.; Mr. Ernest Wengfield ably sustains the character of James Chesterfield, a Liverpool detective; and great praise is due to Mr. Fred Lawrence (a stock comedian of the old Britannia days) who at a moment's notice undertook the character of Charles Peace. His powerful acting and excellent make up made him unrecognisable, though as recently as last Christmas in the successful pantomime here he renewed a memorable and agreeable acquaintance with his old admirers in Hoxton. Herman Krutz, a villain of a dangerous type, has an able representative in Mr. Weldon Atherstone; and the Misses Marguerite Trevosper and Helena Waldron give an excellent account of themselves as Edith Durham and the "Faded Lady" respectively. The scenery and effects are most attractive, the entire production being in the capable hands of Mr. Ernest Wengfield, who also officiates as stage-manager.

The Three Sisters Thurban present a successful musical speciality act consisting of selections on various instruments. It is seldom one has the pleasure to enjoy such a piece of genuine comedy as that presented by Terry and Lambert, whose character studies are purely works of art. Mr. Tom Terry makes good use of his vocal powers, and the facial expression of Miss Mabel Lambert is most apt. The favourite comedian, Mr. Harry Freeman, appears in some of his latest successes, including "That's him" and "I'm going again to-night," each number being well received. Miss Marie Blythe, a pleasing comedienne with a rich contralto voice, warbles pretty melodies to the immense satisfaction of an attentive audience; and Hanley and Hardon are an amusing pair of patter comedians, although their dialogue is somewhat "crusted." They nevertheless score with their smart dancing. After an absence of a few weeks we have a return visit of Miss Zeta Grey and company in their musical comedy sketch, *The Lancashire Lass*. Miss Grey is to be complimented on her artistic rendering of "Alice, where art thou?" Nelson and Francis, the comedy duo, appear in an amusing sketch *On the Ra Ta*, and Miss Millie Denham is a vivacious comedienne. Some good pictures are shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, especially the earthquake at San Francisco. The destruction wrought by the late catastrophe is well realised in a series of pictures projected for the first time in this country. Mr. Carlo Hamlin leads his orchestra in some good selections, and the untiring efforts of Mr. James McCarthy, acting-manager, wins for him unbounded popularity.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Mr. E. H. Dobson, the able manager of Mr. Stoll's establishment at Shepherd's Bush, can congratulate himself upon a continuance of that hearty support which in the early history of the house some people cast doubt upon. This week, for instance, he has had excellent audiences, attracted, of course, by an excellent programme. Little Tich, for whom a new title has been found, namely, "the Napoleon of the army of fun," is increasing the local store of merriment. As "one of the stay-at-home brigade," he is as comical a miniature "soldier" as one could imagine. It was in the thick of the fight, he tells us, and he was faced by fierce foes. "Did I shout for assistance? No! Did I run away? Yes!" And then we have him as a dainty little damsel in a white silk dress. The little damsel, it must be admitted, is not an altogether unsophisticated creature, for she understands what it means to "have been in the sun." At least, the condition of her sweetheart prompts her to apply the remark to him. Little Tich, in schoolgirl's attire, with a red flower on his feminine wig, is in himself something to laugh at; but his quaint antics and the manner in which he delivers his lines make the low comedy of the turn irresistibly absurd.

The Hebrew dialect frequently draws a laugh even when it is mimicked by the ordinary man in the street, but when it is given, accompanied by appropriate expressions and movements, by such accomplished comedians as Jordan and Harvey, the effect is simply ludicrous. And Jordan and Harvey, if they do not, indeed, belong to the chosen race, certainly seem to have studied that distinctive type of Jew one sees in the precincts of Middlesex-street. The conversation of these two artists keep one's risible faculties constantly at work while they hold the stage, and for an exceedingly mirth-provoking act Jordan and Harvey's business stands high. Tuneful medleys are always welcomed in the halls of dance and song, and the efforts of Fielding and Hull in this particular line are heartily appreciated. A charming and talented vocalist appears in the person of Miss Leah Arden, whose entire performance is most commendable. Miss Ella Retford also accounts for herself in a pleasing fashion. Her songs, "Borneo" and "Say, Mr. Johnson," are rendered in bright and merry style, and she is a sprightly dancer withal. As an entertaining comedian and speciality dancer, Mr. Steve M'Carthy proves exceedingly popular.

We can always be sure of a good "show" from Miss Marie Kendall, and her name adds distinction to any bill of fare. This week she is delighting her suburban admirers with a couple of ditties which certainly do, as the programme says, "get right there." Curiously enough, if we are correct in our assumption, the titles of her songs are somewhat similar, one being "Take them away," and the other, "Come away." Both are interpreted in Miss Kendall's merry and lively way, and both, it need hardly be said, are followed by boisterous applause. Johnson and Bert are, indeed, a queer couple. They are amusing, and they are astonishingly athletic. The catching of a hat while turning a somersault is an exhibition of agility, alertness, and precision; while a good deal of fun is made with the assistance of a property dog. In addition, we are treated to much humorous and original patter. Stave distinguishes himself as the "musical Kaffir," and furnishes some merry moments; and from the American Bioscope we have an admirable series of pictures, interesting and attractive in every detail.

THE CRAGGS

IN BIRMINGHAM.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Acrobatic performances are usually relegated to a secondary place in the modern music-hall entertainment, but the Craggs Family is a troupe of exceptional ability, and the leaders having had the enterprise to adapt their turn to the times are enabled to claim the premier position in the bill at Bordesley Palace. The "turn" has been elaborated into a sketch entitled *Billy, the New Steward of the Channel Queen*, which provides endless mirth, in addition to affording scope for some clever acrobatic feats.—*Birmingham Daily Mail*, May 22, 1906.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—This hall was packed last night. A grand programme has been arranged for the week. The Craggs Family are the chief attraction. This is one of the few professional families in which the old tradition that every member of the family must become an acrobat is faithfully observed. They appear in *Billy, the New Steward of the Channel Queen*, and while what they do is smart, it is also genuinely funny.—*Birmingham Daily Post*, Tuesday, May 22, 1906.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — *The New Steward of the Channel Queen* is Billy—and Billy is one of the Craggs, who crack the sides with laughing almost at the Bordesley Palace this week. The acrobatic foolery is most ludicrous, and, as a sort of by the way, very smart, and dexterous body flinging winds up the sketch.—*Birmingham Gazette and Express*, Tuesday, May 22, 1906.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—The Craggs provide a wealth of fun at the Bordesley Palace. They are clever entertainers, with a reputation which they fully sustain in their present show.—*Birmingham Evening Despatch*, Tuesday, May 22, 1905.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—With reference to Mr. Fred. Peake's sketch *The Gambler*, the part of Gordon Locksley is not played by Edith Carlyle, but by Yours faithfully, ELLIS D. CARLYLE.—Barnard's Palace, Woolwich.

MR. JESSE SPARROW'S BENEFIT.

An association of long standing was severed at the Camberwell Palace on Tuesday, when Mr. Jesse Sparrow took his farewell of the hall of which he has been the manager since its opening, close upon seven years ago. A crowded and enthusiastic house testified to the esteem in which Mr. Sparrow is held, and artists of the highest class attended in force to show their goodwill, by contributing to the programme, or by remaining in readiness to appear should time permit. At a convenient hour of the evening, when managers, agents, and people connected with the variety profession had found their way to Camberwell Green, the bioscope was turned on, and displayed a picture of the beneficiaire smiling and bowing to the audience, who responded with hearty cheers. The curtain was then raised, revealing Mr. Sparrow in the centre of a vast crowd of friends and admirers. Forth from this group stepped Mr. Harry Barnard, who said: "Ladies and gentlemen, I have a very pleasant duty to perform. I have to present our worthy manager, Mr. Jesse Sparrow, with a very handsome testimonial, in the form of a cheque subscribed to by managers, all agents in the profession, and artists, including the members of the Terriers' Association." This agreeable function completed, Mr. J. J. Fruin, said he had another pleasant duty to perform, that was to offer Mr. Sparrow a little present from the staff of that hall, with an expression of sincere regret that they were going to lose him. He had been their manager for six-and-a-half years, and had become popular with the whole of the staff, who expressed the belief that a better manager they could not find. The staff's present consisted of a pin, the letter "J," made up of pearls, while underneath was a small bird, composed of diamonds, aptly expressive of the beneficiaire's name.

Mr. Sparrow, who was warmly cheered, said in reply: "Ladies and gentlemen, friends all, I have made a few speeches from this stage, and have always found it very difficult to express my gratitude. To-night I find it all the more difficult, because I am not only tendering thanks, but saying farewell. During my stay here as manager I have striven my hardest, with sincerity and integrity, to promote the interests of the company whom I have served. Certain circumstances, however, have occurred to cause me to tender my resignation. The action is not forced upon me, but is a perfectly voluntary one on my part, and I leave with the good wishes of the directors, but my departure is not made without a tinge of regret. I tender my most hearty thanks to the subscribers to the testimonial which has been presented to me, and I shall always treasure the memory of this night in my heart. I also thank the staff for their very handsome present. My thanks are also due to the Terriers' Association, who have again honoured me by making me their president this year, for being present, and for the kindly and sympathetic sentiments expressed. Allow me now to introduce my successor, Mr. P. A. Lennon, who has served under me with credit at the Palace, Croydon. I know that you will accord him the same patronage as you have done me. In conclusion, I thank all connected with this testimonial, the band, staff, everybody. If I have forgotten anyone, believe me, it is not intentionally. All that I have in my heart to say, I feel I cannot find proper words to express. I thank you, one and all. God bless you!"

The programme, which attained enormous proportions, was contributed to by many popular artists. A hearty welcome was secured by Mr. Sam Mayo, who rendered one of his quaintest selections; Miss Victoria Monks left her mark on the house with "Moving Day," the chorus of which was constantly recurring throughout the evening; Mr. Gus Elen's latest character proved irresistibly comic; and Mr. George Robey made the house ring with mirth as "The Dresser." Late in the evening Mr. Harry Randall rewarded his expectant admirers with his song of "Mr. Tootles"; and Mr. Laurence Barclay followed quickly after, cutting a grotesque figure in "Trousers," or the lack of them. A pretty woodland scena, submitted by the Arcadians, a trio of pretty maidens and a youthful comedian, was greatly appreciated; Miss Constance Moxon fascinated all as a Bluecoat boy, with a whistling song; and Mr. Ernest Ball as the "Miser" acted with his customary power. Mr. Harry Ford was among the most effective mirth-provokers of the evening; and others who appeared included the Leotard Brothers, Miss Tandy, Miss Jane Clark, Sisters Caselli, Josh Izart, Dan Kennedy, Cyclo, Baby Atlas, Malcolm Scott, Charles Lemont, Tally-Ho Trio, Harry Conlin, Fred Earle, Flynne, Ern. Rees, Ethel Ra-Leslie, Tom Packer, the Two Bees, George Newburn, Kitty Raeburn, Tots Davis, Walter Tilbury, Spry and Austin, and the Fred Eustace sketch company in *The Gay Parisienne*.

The various sections of the variety profession were thoroughly represented, among those to be seen in the course of the evening being Messrs. Frank Allen, Nelson Francis, E. V. Page, G. E. S. Venner, E. E. Giles, W. Broadbridge, E. De Vere, Felice Napoli, Dave Cohen, Tom Pacey, Geo. Barclay, Fortune and Granville, E. Edelsten, Burroughs Smith, Tom Pavilio, Tom Claxton, G. Aplin, Geo. Pearson (of Pearson's Agency), Bentley, Frank Elliott, Laurie Cohen, Harry Lester, Chris. Davis, Frank Nilsen, and Gerald Burgess; while there was a formidable list of stewards, drawn principally from the Terriers' Association.

"LEFT."

A New and Original Sketch, by John Tresahar,
Played for the first time at
the Hippodrome, Margate, on Friday, May 18.

Howard Appleton .....MR. SIDNEY HOWARD
Vanderbilt C. B. Q. Blount ..MR. O. P. HEGGIE
Lancelot Baron de Marengo.MR. JOHN TRESAHAR.
Miss Sophinisca Appleton ..MISS DAISY THIMM
Janette .....MISS LILIAN ROGERS

In this amusing and up-to-date sketch, or farce, Appleton has, it is early made clear, inserted an advertisement for the disposal of his motor-car, and has used the initials "M. N." meaning "Motor Notes." His sister, a spinster of uncertain age and of far from attractive appearance, has advertised in the same paper under the initials, "M. N.," in her case the letters standing for "Matrimonial News." Replies have been received, and the prospective purchaser and the ardent wooer are both expected, the coming of each being known only to the recipient of the replies. The lover, in the person of the susceptible Baron, is the first to arrive, and is seen by the brother instead of the sister. Appleton's talk of "her" capabilities somewhat shocks the Baron, who imagines the description of her as "fast," the body being without blemish, the fact that she has had a good wash every day, that he can look her all over, and other such talk of the enthusiastic motorist, refers to his charmer. When the motor-purchaser, an American named Vanderbilt Blount, arrives, the nervous Sophinisca gets the maid, Janette, to temporarily take her place, thinking it is her would-be lover. The motor talk shocks Janette as much as it has astonished the Baron. In the end the Yankee purchaser agrees to buy the car, but the flighty Baron takes on with the maid, and when Appleton says he will take them all four for a spin, "What about me?" asks the ancient spinster. "Left!" is cried in chorus, and poor Sophinisca is disconsolate.

The little trifle is well played, Mr. John Tresahar doing excellently as the volatile Baron; Mr. Sidney Howard was good as Howard Appleton; and Mr. O. P. Heggie made the most of the part of Vanderbilt C. B. Q. Blount. Miss Daisy Thimm did capitally as Sophinisca Appleton, her make-up being wonderfully fantastic; and Miss Lilian Rogers was a pert and piquant Janette.

THE COLISEUM REVUE.

"One of the most beautiful and brilliant productions of which the London stage can boast," was the general verdict on the first production of the Coliseum Revue, and now that all the excellent people in the cast have been allowed a free hand in the introduction of amusing business and up-to-date gags, the attractions of Mr. Oswald Stoll's splendid spectacle have been much enhanced. To quote a line of one of Mr. Roland Carse's lyrics, "merriment and mirth abound." Mr. Tom E. Murray is now very much more at home in the rôle of compère of 1710—otherwise the friend of our youth, Robinson Crusoe, who re-visits the earth to accompany on a round of gaiety charming Miss Billie Burke—a more than sufficient excuse for his resuscitation. Though youthful and debonair, and not without an occasional touch of racy humour, Defoe's romantic figure has quite a spotless reputation, and on his tour of observation in London and Paris conducts himself with a propriety that is not even excelled by a German burgermeister. Mr. Murray has nothing much in the way of songs, but he indulges in a number of droll gags, which keep the house amused whenever he is on the stage, and is always accentuating the fun of any situation that is conceived in the lighter vein. Robinson leaves his "wooden hut" to see a lot of variety, and his endeavours to spice it with fun are quite successful. Miss Billie Burke, in a succession of lovely gowns, gives elegance, *chic*, and an alluring grace to the rôle of commère, and is quite at home in the part, to which she gives a welcome touch of comedy. A new importation since the first production is Mr. R. H. Douglass, who takes the part of La Marquise, the belle of Mayfair, in the scene of the lady socialists' meeting at Bethnal Green. Mr. Douglass gives way to gag, and raps out a succession of puns without a blush. The scene goes with immense spirit, animated as it is by the mischievous fun of Miss Nellie Bowman as the rude boy Herbert, and by the comic behaviour of Mr. Fred Zeitz as Biddy, Mr. Harry Gardner as Mickey, and Mr. W. Paulo as Swillington.

We have also some most welcome fun in the Zoo between Mr. Harry C. Lupino as the gorilla, and Mr. Harry Russon as a schoolboy, who rejoices in the fact that he has been locked in the Gardens. The scene is admirably worked up between the two comedians, who make a clever exit to the accompaniment of considerable applause. Mr. Arthur Conquest as the British bulldog, and Mr. George Lupino as the French poodle, extract a deal of amusing capital out of the canine *entente cordiale*; and the former gentleman is again seen to great advantage in his clever make-up and business as Coco Cocktail, a gigantic parrot at the Zoo. This is an exquisite scene, with its wonderful lady parrots on the perch.

Miss Annie Braddan as Miss Fashion and the Reine des Halles, give all the brightness demanded to those characters, and her impersonations are instinct with comedy. Miss Queenie Essex shares the success of the pretty number. "The Rose and the Pomegranate," with Mr. Henry J. Corner, who is seen in such widely-dissimilar parts as a coster and a French soldier, and always manages to score. Mlle. Mady has one of the most successful numbers in the piece, "Gondola Dreams," introduced into the delightful Earl's Court scene, and her fine voice does full justice to Mr. Walter Slaughter's pretty melody. Into the Frocadero scene, with its rocking girls and its theatrical supper party, Mr. George Lashwood introduces a song concerning "Gay Paree," that he sings with immense energy and vim. Signorina Galimberti dances in the true Italian style; the famous Price Troupe of Parisian pantomimists add to the fun and variety of the Earl's Court and the Paris scenes; and the trombone girls play with genuine enthusiasm. The Decorations of Nations (Scene VII.) is a prelude to the magnificent scene, The Jubilee of the Victoria Cross, which winds up a spectacle that should be enjoyed by everybody. Mr. Will Bishop in the stage, and Mr. Walter Slaughter in the musical, direction, are entitled to warm compliments for their excellent work in two such important departments.

ROYAL ALBERT.

This week's ordinary programme is, as usual, full of good things. There are the Sisters Cora, the sprightly dancers and talented vocalists. It is a very bright performance we get from them in "The ladies' soldiers' band," for in smart fashion they march about the stage and deport themselves as military folk should do. They have an attractive number, too, in their duet, "I want no other." Another pleasing and engaging comedienne comes along in the person of Miss Edith Manley, who gives evidence of no little versatility. We get a charming lyric from her in "Dear little Dora Daly," and then, as a violent contrast to that light and dainty theme, Miss Manley appears as a boxing-woman, who tells us that when she "dots" her husband with her right, the poor man requires no other intimation of wifely authority. The Francis Harrold company interest everybody with their artistic society sensation, entitled *A Great Judge*; and the Chandos have an exceedingly entertaining item in their eccentric musical act. Mr. Ryder Davis takes high place as an actor-vocalist and comedian; and Miss Eva Ward demonstrates to the satisfaction of the audience her abilities as a burlesque artist.

In Hector we have a remarkably clever wire-walker. What seems to be his most difficult and most daring feat in mid-air is his resting with one knee on the wire, and picking up a handkerchief with his teeth. Previous to his wire performance, however, he treats the house to a clever exhibition of hoop-rolling, and one wonders how he contrives to "induce" the wooden rings to return to him after he has sent them in one direction. Surely, the boomerang principle comes in here. Dale and Dale are extremely vivacious young ladies, who indulge in duets and clog dances. Extremely tuneful is their rendering of "Maisie, the belle of Tennessee," while their rag-time motions are executed in graceful and lively manner. Williams and Warden furnish any amount of fun with their comedy cross-talking, and they prove great favourites with the Canning Townites. Lytton and Bland offer an admirable comedy act in *In Lesson, In Love*. It deals with the love of a young music-hall artist for a sister artist. They have been aranging some sort of "turn" together, which they are to appear in the variety theatres. He wants her to marry him, but she says she has had offers from three noblemen, who are to call that day. The three "noblemen" do call—one a Scotsman, one a London Johnnie, and the third a German with an Irish name. In one case the lady refuses the offer of marriage, in the other two she herself declines. Then her own sweetheart returns to her in his ordinary garb—for he has been impersonating the three noblemen all along—and the girl accepts him, and they dance together. The little sketch is well acted. Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope gives us some clear and well-defined impressions of what San Francisco looked like after the recent earthquake.

HORACE WHEATLEY
at
COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Horace Wheatley, an old favourite, was the object of a flattering reception and once more delighted his Glasgow admirers by his Irish mannerisms.—*The Record*, May 22.

Horace Wheatley is still to the fore, and had, as is usual with him, to respond with his encore dance.—*The News*.

An old favourite appears in Horace Wheatley. The Irish comedian was warmly received, his fine dancing being encored.—*The Herald*.

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT.

St. George's Hall admirably fulfils its place in the amusement world as the arcana of mystery, and offers very much greater advantages than the now defunct Egyptian Hall to that doyen of magicians, Mr. J. N. Maskelyne, in the presentation of his scientific and other problems. The current programme is judiciously varied, and is one of the strongest and most attractive of its kind that has been enjoyed by Londoners since they found their way, some thirty years ago, to the Home of Mystery in Piccadilly. The chief novelty presented on Monday was

"DR. HARDLY'S EXPERIMENT."

Dr. Hardly .....Mr. Charles Glenrose
James .....Mr. F. W. Arnold-Mussett
Giles .....Mr. Herbert Booth
Jubileena .....Miss Cassie Bruce

This new magical farce, the scene of which is the doctor's consulting-room, is an ingenious concoction written round what may be called the "decapitation trick." The Harley-street specialist to whom we are introduced has invented a rotary lancet. With this instrument he can cut off a limb so quickly that the patient is not aware of what has happened. A country bumpkin—an embodiment of bucolic fatuousness, who belongs to a "stiff-necked generation"—comes to be treated, and the doctor proceeds to operate on some of the neck muscles with his new lancet. Unfortunately an accident happens. The lancet slips, with the result that Giles's head becomes "detached." He is naturally much "cut up." So are the doctor's page-boy and parlour-maid, who have grounds for believing that they are partly responsible for the catastrophe, and their terror when they see the countryman's body separated from the head—which is still talking—causes roars of laughter. The little play, which of course ends happily for the whole of the dramatis personæ, serves to introduce one at least of Mr. Maskelyne's most wonderful specialities. It is amusingly presented by Mr. Charles Glenrose as Dr. Hardly, Mr. Herbert Booth as Giles, Mr. F. W. Arnold-Mussett as James, the page-boy, and versatile Miss Cassie Bruce as Jubileena, the parlour-maid.

Another novelty in the bill is "The Problem of Diogenes," for which Mr. David Devant is responsible. Mr. Devant's knowledge of Greek history is quite equal to telling us that the famous Cynic was once asked by Alexander if he could get into his tub when both ends were closed up with marked papyrus. Diogenes, who was banished from his native Sinope for coining false money, and was therefore the first "smasher" known to history, declared that he could. Mr. Devant is at the pains of showing us that the sage, who was probably a notorious liar, for once spoke the truth. Going among the audience, Mr. Devant procures two rough sketches—portraits—which he first draws boldly on two large sheets of paper. These he firmly secures at each end of the barrel by means of two missing hoops. He has no sooner done this than, by means of an electric light inserted through the bung-hole, we observe the shadow of the philosopher stroking his beard. Immediately afterwards, when he breaks through the fragile security of one of the doors of his temporary dwelling, we see an aged figure, who looks a cross between Father Time and King Lear in the storm scene. The mystery is exceedingly well presented, and Mr. Devant's remark on the selfishness of the old gentleman making his exit from the stage without even telling anybody how it is done is only one of his many humorous observations. Another new trick of his is called "The Homing Bells." Four silver bells disappear from Mr. Devant's hand, one after the other, and find their way invisibly to the ends of four pieces of coloured ribbon suspended in the centre of the stage. Members of the audience are allowed to choose, in each case, to which particular ribbon each bell shall become attached as soon as it leaves the "operator's" hand.

Mr. J. N. Maskelyne has a short interlude, in which he presents a new and extraordinary effect, entitled "The New Page." A youth of small stature is strapped tightly to an iron structure, which is placed in a hastily improvised receptacle, in which it is apparently impossible that he should move. A diminutive doll, which is a very small replica of the page, is then turned head downwards, and in this position is the page found when the cabinet is opened. How *do* these things happen?

Humour at the piano is a form of entertainment that had its greatest exemplar at the old St. George's Hall.

How doth the busy Corney Grain
Delight to satirise
The short, the slim, the stout, the plain,
With endless enterprise?

was written some years ago as an appreciation of one of the most genial entertainers of the nineteenth century. Mr. Barclay Gammon is not so good as Corney Grain—he would be the very first to admit it—but he is very good indeed. We are not quite in sympathy with his chawbacon, who is supposed to give a comic description of the performance of an oratorio—it is too far fetched; but his rapid patter upon things in general and nothing in particular is decidedly amusing, and he is positively great in his imitation of mixed melody, which is supposed to result from the joining together of scraps of pianola "records." Another excellent item is the skit on a Handelian chorus. Mr. Gammon is a decided acquisition to the St. George's Hall entertainment. So is Mr. John Warren, who not only exploits the Burmese gong—"a perpetual round of strange, mysterious change"—but does some capital tricks with coloured handkerchiefs and a cone, and likewise presents an amusing ventriloquial entertainment with his figure Marmaduke. Mr. C. Tamamoto is a graceful performer on a fixed rope, which he climbs with prehensile activity by means of his toes. Other very much appreciated items of the entertainment are Mr. David and Miss Dora Devant's experiments in mental magnetism, and *The Mascot Moth*, which finishes the series of wonders to be seen at St. George's Hall. Mr. E. A. Maskelyne, who plays the part of Max Hardy in this illusory sketch, is the courteous and attentive acting-manager. For a couple of hours' or so of light, refined, humorous, and agreeable entertainment we should recommend Londoners to place themselves in the care of Messrs. J. N. Maskelyne and David Devant at St. George's Hall.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional contributions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow, for the "Fred Locke" Fund:—

Sir John Ure Primrose, Bt.	£0	10	0	Mater, Southampton	0 5 0
Archd. Lauder..	2	2	0	J. P. F.	0 5 0
W. F. Frame..	1	1	0	W. Gibson	0 2 6
T. Y. Paterson (second sum)	1	1	0	A. S.	0 3 0
Carlton Club Concert (per Mrs. Dickson-Moffatt)	0	15	0	A.	0 2 6
				Mother Lodge, Kilwinning — No. 0	5 5 0

We regret to announce that Mr. Kennedy Johnson, the energetic and popular assistant-manager at the Hackney Empire, who has been in failing health for some months past, has now completely broken down. He has been ordered change and rest. Mr. John Christie, who has indeed proved himself a veritable friend in need, has not left a stone unturned to secure for Mr. Johnson every little comfort during his illness.

CHAT WITH MR. ARTHUR CONQUEST.

(By our own commissioner.)

Mr. Arthur Conquest, who is at the Coliseum at the present moment, playing the parts of the parrot and the bulldog in the *Revue*, has practically devoted all his professional career to the study of animal characterisations. Mr. Conquest is the son of the late George Conquest, for many years associated with the Surrey Theatre, and who was the greatest animal impersonator of his day; so, as Miss Vesta Tilley would say, Mr. Arthur Conquest is following in his father's footsteps. Under the latter's management the subject of this interview played in eleven pantomimes at the Surrey, and, as a matter of fact, learned all his business at that establishment. For about five years Mr. Conquest has appeared annually in the Drury Lane pantomime. It is not often that an artist who has made a study of animal impersonations is called upon at pantomime time to undertake the principal comedian's part, but this is what happened in the case of Mr. Conquest during the run of Mr. Arthur Collins's production of *Humpty Dumpty*. Mr. Dan Leno was the the Queen in the pantomime, but being obliged to keep to his house through illness for a few nights, Mr. Conquest successfully undertook the great comedian's rôle, and was personally complimented by the management and by Mr. Leno.

"You, of course, Mr. Conquest, make a special study of the different animals you from time to time represent on the stage?"

"Certainly. In the past I have been a frequent visitor to the Zoo. Now, when I had been engaged to personate a wolf, I sat for two or three hours beforehand before the wolves' cage in Regent's Park."

"Is there one animal that more than another you prefer to represent on the stage?"

"Really, I don't think there is. The goose and the parrot, and the cat and monkey are all very much like one another, so far as the work of imitating them is concerned."

"But surely there must be one animal which you find most difficult of all to characterise?"

"Then it is the chimpanzee or the monkey. You see, it is not the easiest thing in the world to climb with the aid of one's bare feet up and down a rope or a pole. And that reminds me of an incident which happened at the Palace Theatre, Bath, last September. The Pygmies were giving receptions at the local Town Hall, and one Saturday night their manager, Mr. Hoffman, brought them to the Palace to witness my performance as a chimpanzee. Apparently they thought I was the real article as they had seen in wild in their own country, for it took Mr. Hoffman all his time to prevent them throwing their assegais at me." This speaks volumes for Mr. Conquest's impersonation, and he tells us that on this occasion the Pygmies would not leave the theatre until they had had an opportunity of seeing him as an ordinary man.

When Mr. Conquest is not appearing in pantomime he is to be seen on the halls in the sketch entitled *The Sioux*, in which he plays the part of a man-monkey. He is, by the way, engaged for next year's Drury Lane Christmas production. Talking about Drury Lane, he is reminded of a very pleasant and profitable engagement in

Photo by Nops, Ltd.
MR. ARTHUR CONQUEST.

America. After *Humpty Dumpty* was taken off the London stage, Mr. Conquest went with it to the States, where it ran for six months in New York, two months in Philadelphia, and a similar period in Boston. In America he introduced his celebrated star-trap scene. His record in this line—and it is, of course, *the* record—is the catching of a ring 17ft. 3in. above the stage after having been shot out of the star-trap and turned three complete pirouettes.

"Had any bad accidents?"

"I experienced a rather disagreeable one in America. One night, while performing the star-trap act, I came down on my back somewhat heavily, and was laid up for a week. Then once, at a Drury Lane rehearsal, I fell off the circle into the pit, and had a few ribs pushed in. I have to be very careful at the ordinary performances when running round the circle, because sometimes old ladies and children try to catch hold of me."

Is it easy to portray animals on the stage? Mr. Conquest assures us that, while it may seem so, the work requires a special gift, a great amount of study and practice, added to which it is necessary to keep oneself always physically "fit." It is interesting to learn that the animals' skins he wears are made on the same pricipal that a wig is made, every hair being put in singly and knotted. These make-ups, he considers, are a work of art; "but," he remarks, "no one who has not worn a mask of this sort can realise how very trying it is in the hot or even in the cold weather."

Mr. Conquest's hobby is yachting. He has a box on the Solent, where every year he spends a month or two with his wife and little daughter. From his boyhood he has been a keen follower of different kinds of sports, and has won a great number of prizes for running, jumping, and cycling. He holds the five-mile championship of the profession, given by the late Sir Henry Irving, as well as the one-mile championship prize—a massive silver punch bowl—presented by Mr. George Edwardes.

Mr. Harry Crocker, the popular stage-manager of the Liverpool Olympia, has been appointed stage-manager of the London Coliseum by Mr. Oswald Stoll. Mr. Crocker, although a young man, has had a very brilliant career, and was stage-manager at the Lyceum during the first part of Mr. Barrasford's proprietorship there.

It was Mr. C. J. M. Glaser, the chef d'orchestre of the Empire, who was responsible for the musical production of the beautiful ballet *Coppélia* at that house, and not Mr. Sydney Jones.

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

Mr. Arthur J. Barclay was born at Alphington, Devon, and is the youngest son of the late Capt. George Keith Barclay. His first start in life was in the direction of art, as a pupil of the late Mr. Rimbault in his studio at Dane's Inn. He studied as a draughtsman and engraver, and was engaged for seven years on the *Illustrated London News*, the *Art Journal*, the *Engineer*, and *Engineering*, besides the works of Mr. Fairholt and others. The close application, however, began to tell, as he had often to work from eight in the morning until past midnight. So, after a severe illness Mr. Barclay had to seek more active employ-

Photo. by Wright.
MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

ment. This being so, it is not strange he should turn to dramatic work, having taken part in it since the age of twelve as an amusement. During some years of touring town halls and piers he played hundreds of parts, the best being perhaps Pete in *The Octoroon*, Nathaniel Glover in *Our Flat*, the Softy, Rip, &c. His last appearance on the legitimate stage was with Mr. Robert Pateman's company, when Geo. R. Sims's *City of Pleasure* was produced at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham.

Mr. Barclay then turned his attention to management, and had a successful engagement with Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., the well-known Bond-street firm, and with one of the greatest showmen of modern times, Imre Kiralfy, at Earl's court, as superintendent of entertainments and sideshows at the Victorian Era Exhibition, 1897. In the following year he left the exhibition company and started in the variety world at the National Palace, Croydon. During his stay he was able to show a marked development in the returns. On the Granville Theatre of Varieties being opened he took over the management, which during over four years that he was there paid a steady dividend of 8½ per cent.

Mr. Barclay has taken considerable interest in Freemasonry in West London, being P.M. of the Kensington Lodge, and secretary and one of the founders of the Hammersmith. On his resignation of the latter post he was presented with a very handsome silver kettle as a slight acknowledgment of his sixteen years' services.

On leaving the Granville Mr. Barclay managed Mr. St. John Denton's pantomime at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, *Cinderella*, which opened Mr. Mulholland's successful enterprise. After a summer season as secretary to the Folkestone Pier management, Mr. Barclay joined Mr. G. Adney Payne on the opening of the Walthamstow Palace on Dec. 28, 1905. Although the people of Walthamstow looked rather with disfavour on the opening of a theatre of varieties in their midst, Mr. Barclay has scored another success, packed houses being the rule. Mr. Barclay's varied experiences have stood him in good stead at Walthamstow, and, although it is the last theatre added to the Varieties Consolidated, it has rapidly advanced to the front, and reflects great credit on all associated with the enterprise.

DAMAGES AT BELFAST.

As a consequence of the recent disturbance at the Palace, Belfast, an action was brought in the Belfast Recorder's Court on Friday, May 18, before his Honour Judge Fitzgibbon, by Messrs. Warden, Ltd., who claimed £20 compensation for damage done to the Palace Theatre of Varieties on Feb. 2 last, on the occasion of the visit of Mr. Ahrensmeyer, described as "The Cowboy Hypnotist."

Mr. Wm. M'Ildowie, who appeared for the claimants, said the damage was done when Ahrensmeyer, a hypnotist, was giving a performance, which excited a good deal of interest and curiosity. Between nine and eleven o'clock what was called the "second house" was going on. When Ahrensmeyer was giving his performance some sections of the audience, who were evidently organised, commenced to show their disapprobation to such an extent that they smashed some 260 electric globes, which were placed along the top of the balcony. They broke some ornamental elephants' heads, and did other damage, using belts and sticks for the purpose. The attack was such that the performance had to be stopped, and the police had to be sent for, fifty of them clearing the house.

Fred Wilby, stage-manager, gave evidence as to the rowdyism. For the hypnotic performance it was necessary that fourteen or fifteen people should leave the audience and go on to the stage. When these went on a further section of the audience, to the number of about forty or fifty, started to climb to the stage also. They were refused permission, and the remainder of the audience shouted, "Let them on," and "If they don't let you on kill him." (Laughter.) Then they broke the footlights, and the crowd on the gallery smashed the lights and ornaments.

Mr. Spiller (for the Corporation): Didn't the audience consider this man a fraud?—Well, I could not say.

Wasn't this attack on the hynotist and not as against the proprietors?—It was not against the proprietors.

Mr. F. W. Warden (managing-director), Mr. Conway, the Palace electrician; and Mr. Jansen, a scenic artist, were examined as to the extent of the damage and cost of the repair work.

Mr. Spiller said it was a question whether this was a malicious injury within the Act. There was no malice proved against Mr. Warden. It appeared there was a performance, pretending some kind of hypnotism.

Mr. M'Ildowie: You have no right to say that.

Mr. Spiller: Well, alleged hypnotism. I don't know anything about it myself, but some people thought it was all humbug, and made an attack on the performer. At all events, he (Mr. Spiller) contended that all the claimants were entitled to was the actual amount of damage.

His Honour granted £10 3s. 3d.

DEATH OF MR. J. B. ELLIOTT.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the painfully sudden death of Mr. James B. Elliott, father of the well-known Elliott family of trick cyclists, who have also won a high artistic reputation as the Savonas, musicians. The deceased gentleman on Tuesday afternoon was standing on the landing-stage of the Tyne General Ferry Company at Jarrow, when he became very ill, and died in a few minutes. Dr. O'Neill was summoned, but when he arrived very shortly afterwards, Mr. Elliott was dead.

The family of the deceased gentleman were present, and were naturally very much distressed at the tragic occurrence. A stretcher was obtained, and the body was removed to the North-Eastern Hotel, where Mr. Elliott and his company were staying. They had opened with very great success on Monday at the Albert Hall, Jarrow.

Mr. J. B. Elliott had an active connection with the variety profession for over forty years, during which time his talents as an inventor were displayed in various directions. Born at Middlesbrough some sixty years ago, he became in the days of his youth a champion bicycle rider on the track. The "safety" was not then in vogue, and his feat of riding nearly one hundred miles a day for seven days on one of the old high machines was a triumph of strength and endurance. In 1882 Mr. Elliott caused a great sensation in Madrid by undertaking to ride a bicycle against a horse. The jockey made the animal gallop, thus infringing the rules of the contest, which the intrepid cyclist therefore won. He was victorious a few days later in a second race of a similar character.

The deceased gentleman used to tell the story of his making a small bicycle for his eldest son, and on this machine the rest of the family learned to ride. Indeed, they became so expert that the "pater" set to work and arranged a programme for them, at length feeling bold enough to seek an engagement at the old Alhambra. The late Mr. Charles Morton, then the manager of the Leicester-square house, referred Mr. Elliott to his brother, Mr. W. Morton, who was then manager of the Royal, Holborn, where the Elliott children fulfilled a month's engagement, and the late Mr. C. S. Crowder afterwards secured them for his variety house at Greenwich. Since then they have never looked back. They made a big reputation on the Continent with their cycling acts on a revolving-table.

Perhaps one of the most exciting periods in the history of the family was when the members of it formed part of the Greatest Show on Earth in Madison-square Garden, New York, and the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children had Messrs. Barnum, Bailey, Hutchinson, and Elliott arrested for refusing to discontinue the cycling performances in which the Elliott children were engaged. The case, of course, ended triumphantly for Mr. Elliott.

The world-wide success of the family in their famous musical act—in which they are known as the Savonas—was largely due to the creative genius of the deceased gentleman. It was he who invented the gigantic combined organ—a beautiful example of the pianoforte maker's craft both as to finish and musical effect. From the time Mr. Elliott handed the drawings to the makers to the

Photo by Barton.
MR. J. B. ELLIOTT.

time the instrument was completed a period of eighteen months elapsed. It was on Monday, November 27, last year, that Mr. Elliott scored a triumph at the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, with his wonderful realisation of "The Palace of Orpheus," which justified its claim to be a veritable realisation of an "Arabian Night's" dream of beauty, colour, and effect. The electrical illumination alone was a triumph of taste and invention. Our correspondent, in his notice of this remarkable musical entertainment, said:—"Three of the performers (the Savonas) preside at the organs, and a volume of sound floods the whole of the auditorium. The rendering of the overture to 'William Tell' (Rossini) was accompanied by very impressive stage effects. As the selection progressed, the blaze of dazzling light gradually disappeared, the whistling of the wind, with peals of thunder, and vivid flashes of lightning, were introduced, and eventually these gave place to the twittering of birds as the darkness disappeared and the morning broke." Mr. Elliott was one of the most hard-working men in the profession or out of it, and he was rightly proud of the fact that the troupe whose fortunes he so tactfully guided consisted of members of his own family. To them we tender our sincere condolences in their irreparable loss. A kindly, genial soul, Mr. Elliott's death will cause widespread regret in a profession of which he was a conspicuous ornament.

Mr. H. Leslie Bell, who next week will be tieing *A Bit of String* at the Cambridge and Collins's, will shortly produce no less than three new vaudevilles, entitled *Are You a Gentleman? The Understudy*, and *The Dream That Came True*.

The Oxford directors report that up to April 30 last the net profit earned for the twelve months, after providing for interest on the debentures, amounts to the sum of £18,501 19s. 3d. In November last an interim dividend of £4 per cent. (less income-tax) was paid; and they now recommend the payment of a further dividend of £6 per cent. (less income-tax) for the half-year ended April 30, together with a bonus of 3s. per share (free of tax), equal to 13 per cent. for the year. After payment of this dividend and bonus the directors propose to deal with the surplus by applying £6,000 to the general reserve fund, making £40,000 to the credit thereof, and carrying the sum of £3,624 10s. 7d. to the current year's accounts. The fourteenth annual meeting of shareholders will be held at the hall on Tuesday next, at 2.30. Happy shareholders!

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(from our own correspondent.)

SYDNEY, April 10.—*Paul Jones*, with Miss Florence Young as the hero and Mr. George Lauri as Bouillabaise, will run until the 12th, and on Easter Eve Mr. J. C. Williamson will revive *The Cingalee*. *The Little Michus* is in full rehearsal.

"Lady Audley's Secret" will play out Mr. Wm. Anderson's season at the Royal, and on Easter Eve Mr. Bland Holt will begin his year's tenancy with *Besieged in Port Arthur*, a spectacular drama dealing with the late Russo-Japanese war.

West's pictures and the Brescians fill the Palace Theatre to overflowing every night, and Mr. Edwin Geach and Mr. West have arranged to show at both the theatre and the Town Hall in Easter week.

At the Tivoli Mr. Rickards has added Tambo and Tambo to his already overloaded bill of fare, which now includes Barnard's marionettes, the dancing Gilberts, Mlle. Nada Moret, Miss Alice Raymond, Mr. John Kurkamp, the Three Tees, and Harry Clark's Radium Girls.

Wirth's Circus has a great change of programme. The list includes the Gus Leon Family, the St. Leroy Sisters in an aerial act, Miss Phillipina in horseback somersaults, Miss Stella and Little May in a high wire turn, comical Gustave (clown), the Brothers Walhalla, and Gus Leon. Mr. Phil Wirth introduces seven well-trained horses in haut ecole; Professor Cormack does high diving; and the doings of the Flying Herberts, trapezists; Eric, a balancer; August, on the camels and goats, add attractiveness to a long and interesting show.

The annual theatrical carnival came off at the Sydney cricket-ground on the 7th. Twenty thousand people went, and £1,000 was raised for the fund.

SYDNEY, April 17.—Eastertide is in full swing in Sydney, every bed in every hotel and boarding-house having been booked weeks ahead. A plenteous season, in spite of droughts and disastrous bush fires, is just over, and the country folks come for amusement to the Commonwealth's metropolis. In spite of a large number of Good Friday celebrations in the churches and some chapels, and increased attendance thereat, there were 60,000 who attended jumping matches at the Royal Agricultural Show.

"The Cingalee" was revived at Her Majesty's on Easter Saturday, with Miss Florence Young as Lady Patricia. Another distinct success for her. Miss Margaret Thomas, Mr. George Lauri, Mr. Haigh Jackson, Mr. Claude Bantock, and Miss Rose Musgrove were all in their own respective parts cordially received. Mr. J. C. Williamson will revive *The Orchid* next, when it is hoped that Miss Clara Clifton will have recovered her voice.

Of *Beauty and the Barge* enjoyable performances have been given, Mr. Herbert Flemming, as Major Smedley, strengthening the cast, the Misses Emma Temple, Bessie Major, Winifred Fraser, Kate Gair, and Gordon Lee, keeping the fun going all the while. Mr. E. B. Payne is clever as Captain Barlow. To-night Mr. Herbert Flemming plays the Abbé in *The Village Priest*, Mrs. Brough being the Countess and Miss Beatrice Day the blind lady. Mr. Allan Hamilton has left the management, to look after his own ventures, and Mr. Claude H. Whaite is business-manager.

Mr. Bland Holt returned to the Theatre Royal on Saturday night, opening in *Besieged in Port Arthur*, a military play, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane. The usually strong company had all the characters wisely distributed amongst Miss Frances Ross, Mrs. Bland Holt, Messrs. Walter Baker, Albert Norman, Arthur Styan, and Bland Holt, with satisfactory results. Incidents of the Russo-Jap war were depicted with startling completeness, the scenery being particularly fine.

The Tivoli saw the return, after ten years, of Mr. Slade Murray, who was warmly welcomed. The Two Bells and the Eight Primroses also came back to their old popularity. The Radium Dance, Miss Alice Raymond, Tambo and Tambo, Fanny Powers (the clever mimic), Mlle. Nada Moret, and Miss Florrie Henderson and her performing dogs are all in Mr. Rickards' plethoric bill.

West's Pictures and the Brescians, under Mr. Edwin Geach's direction, are filling both the Palace Theatre and the Town Hall, the latter catching "non-theatre-goers," as Mr. Geach tactfully puts it.

J. W. Winton, the ventriloquist, has organised a series of entertainments at the Centenary Hall, the assisting attractions being Miss Marie Dunoon, Mr. Leslie Forest, Mr. Howard Hall, and a series of biographic pictures.

The Hippodrome, so-called because no horses are employed, gives melodramatic plays in complete style at popular prices, the last being *Coo-ee! or Wild Days in the Bush*, written by the ex-Minister for Works, Mr. E. W. O'Sullivan, M.L.A. The play deals with bushranging, and all those incidents so dear to the Australian soul which hates police, law, and order.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently, draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the uregent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
Total	£22	18	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

Mr. A. Hubner, who has had a long experience of the business, has just become manager of the Palace, Bridlington. He introduced himself to a crowded audience on Monday evening, and briefly set out the various improvements he hopes to make for the comfort and pleasure of the patrons of the house. One of the great features will be the animated pictures, which will be illuminated by the electric light, a new installation having been put in. There are to be special matinées, and an amateur night once a week in order to exploit any new vocal talent, sentimental or humorous.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

NEW MEMBER.

To fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Timothy Davies, M.P., the Theatres and Music Halls Committee recommended that Mr. Edmonde Browne be appointed a member of the committee.

Agreed to.

INSPECTION.

In connection with the alterations made on Feb. 13 last in the arrangements for the inspection of theatres and other places of public entertainment, the Theatres Committee reported that they thought it desirable that the existing authorities for entering and inspecting licensed premises should be cancelled, and that new ones should be issued to the officers engaged upon the work. At the present time forty officers are provided with authorities, but in view of the arrangements which have been made for co-ordinating the work of inspection, it will be possible to reduce this number to thirty. The form of authority now in use was approved on June 4, 1889; but the committee were of opinion that this might conveniently be condensed, and it is proposed that the new authorities shall be in the form, which, with certain slight modifications, has been suggested by the solicitor.

Approved.

FIRE-RESISTING SCENERY.

With reference to this subject, the Theatres Committee presented the following important report:—

"The Council on March 1, 1904, included in the rules to be observed by licensees of premises licensed by the Council for public entertainments, one requiring that 'All scenery, wings, sky borders, cloths, draperies, gauze cloths, floral decorations, properties, hangings, curtains, &c., whether on the stage, in the auditorium, or in other parts of the premises, must be rendered and maintained non-inflammable.' The Lord Chamberlain subsequently issued a similar rule with regard to the theatres in his jurisdiction. Before March, 1904, it had only been necessary to render fire-resisting the hangings, curtains, and draperies used in places of public entertainment, and not the scenery. It was hardly to be expected, in view of the considerable trouble and expense which it occasions theatre managers, that the rule made in March, 1904, would at once meet with general acceptance, and, until recently, the reports made to us by the chief officer of the fire brigade of non-compliance with the rule were very numerous, more especially in the case of scenery brought into theatres by touring companies. The practice which is generally adopted for complying with the rule is to dip the lighter fabrics in a solution made from one or more of the chemical salts technically known as 'antipyrenes' (ammonium phosphate, borax, alum, &c.), and, as regards the scenery generally, to brush over the back of the canvas and woodwork with this solution.

"The method adopted by the Council's officers for testing whether the scenery is fire-resisting, is to obtain samples, selected at random in the presence of the manager, from the scenery to be tested, and to subject these samples at the headquarters of the fire brigade to the flame from a plumber's portable lamp, the temperature of the flame being about 1,000deg. Fahr. If when subjected to this test the samples do not support flame, the scenery is deemed to possess the requisite degree of resistance to fire. Complaints have been made from time to time to the Council and the Lord Chamberlain that the superficial treatment of the scenery with fire-resisting solution is of little, if any, use in making it fire-resisting, and it has been urged that only scenery formed of wood and canvas which has been thoroughly impregnated with fire-resisting solution should be allowed to be used in theatres and music halls.

"We have accordingly given careful consideration to the question whether it is necessary and practicable to insist upon the adoption of some more thorough method than is generally employed for rendering scenery fire-resisting, and, to assist us in arriving at a decision on this point, we arranged for the chief officer of the fire brigade to submit in our presence to the usual test imposed by him samples of materials which had been treated with fire-resisting solution, and similar portions of materials which had not been so treated. In all, thirty-three tests were made, the articles tested consisting of scenery cloth, profile boards, wooden scenery battens, artificial flowers and palms, hay, straw, gauze cloths, muslin, chintz cloth, flannelette, and linen.

"As a result of the tests, we are of opinion that the degree of fire-resistance obtained by dipping light fabrics in the fire-resisting solutions usually employed is quite satisfactory, and that as regards the scenery generally, the degree of the safety that is attained by brushing over the back of the canvas and the woodwork with fire-resisting solution is all that can reasonably be required. It is therefore, in our opinion, unnecessary to insist that the woodwork and canvas of scenery which has been so treated should be thoroughly impregnated with fire-resisting solution.

"It appeared to us probable, however, that as regards the canvas and woodwork of scenery which has only been treated superficially, the efficacy of the treatment might be impaired when the scenery was in constant use; but we are not in a position to form an opinion as to the extent of the deterioration likely to take place, or, consequently, as to the frequency with which scenery in constant use should be re-treated. We have therefore instructed the chief officer of the fire brigade to collect evidence on this point, and report to us thereon in six months' time. We report the course taken for the information of the Council."

The report was received without comment.

BRO. J. W. MATHEWS
(I.P.M. Chelsea Lodge, 3,098.)

COUNTY COUNCIL AND STANDING ROOM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—It is satisfactory to learn, from the letters which have recently appeared in the newspapers, that the public are taking notice of the threatened curtailment of their privileges as to standing in certain parts of our places of entertainment, by the action of the London County Council.

Under these circumstances, the views of music hall proprietors upon this question may be of interest.

Their grievance is that there is no finality to the requirements of the Council, although at the Parliamentary enquiry of 1892 it was distinctly recommended that there should be finality, and that when once the requirements for rebuilding or alterations had been complied with, there should be a period of rest.

Many music halls have been altered, and new halls have been built, in accordance with plans approved by the Council. Halls built ten years ago, with, say, a capacity to hold 550 people in some part of the seating auditorium, and a total holding capacity of between 700 and 800 seating and standing, will, by the new regulations, only be allowed to admit 500 persons to that part, in spite of the fact that the two staircases are capable of allowing seven or eight people abreast.

The enforcement of this new regulation upon every hall must result in the curtailment of the entertainment or increased prices of admission; but if the L.C.C. regulations were framed in such a manner as to apply to houses of entertainment to be built in the future, they would meet with no opposition from the London Entertainments Protection Association.

It is manifestly unfair that proprietors who have built halls within the last few years, and have complied with all the L.C.C. requirements, should now be called upon to limit the numbers admitted to certain parts of their halls, and be informed practically that the certificate issued to them by the Council at the first will no longer suffice, and this, too, at a time when scenery and draperies have been made fireproof, and there is every precaution for safety.—Yours faithfully,

J. L. GRAYDON, Hon. Sec.

UNTHAN'S DRAWING POWERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your paper of the 19th, your Glasgow reporter states that I draw and write with cleverness at the Coliseum. I certainly do remember drawing a horse on a "Northerly landscape" at the age of eleven or so; but as that was pronounced by almost everybody as a "camel in an Egyptian desert," I have never since been guilty of a similar offence.

Furthermore, I can scarcely write with a pencil at present, having caught some water in the knee in my tour through the mild climate of Italy.

I shall hasten to show the gentleman at Glasgow what I really do do by returning to the Empire, Aug. 20.—Faithfully yours,

C. H. UNTHAN.

Olympia, Liverpool, May 21, 1906.

MASONS AT FRASCATI'S.

The Chelsea Lodge of Freemasons, which was established twelve months ago in the interests of members of the theatrical and music hall professions, held its installation meeting at Frascati's Restaurant, on Friday, the 18th inst. A special dispensation from the Grand Lodge was read permitting the Lodge to be held at this restaurant instead of their regular meeting-place—the Chelsea Palace. On the completion of the usual formal business the W.M., Bro. James W. Mathews installed as his successor in the chair Bro. Albert Le Fre, the ceremony being impressively performed. The new W.M. then appointed Bro. Mathews, I.P.M. The other officers were invested as follows:—Mr. T. Serpentello, S.W.; Mr. H. Baroni, J.W.; Mr. W. S. Lyon, treasurer; Mr. C. J. Doughty, secretary; Mr. Walter H. Hitch, S.D.; Mr. Harry Bawn, J.D.; Mr. Fred Clay, D.C.; Mr. W. F. K. Walton, I.G.; Mr. Angelo A. Asher, organist; Mr. George H. Dyball, first steward; Mr. Bert. A. Bigny, second steward; Mr. L. G. Sharpe, third steward; Mr. E. T. R. Lester, fourth steward; and Mr. J. H. McNaughton, Tyler. The W.M. afterwards referred to the unavoidable absence, through illness, of the acting Past Master for the past year, Bro. Edward Swanborough, and, on behalf of the Lodge sent, by special messenger, a Past Master's jewel, together with a letter expressing hopes for his speedy recovery.

Dinner was afterwards served, the brethren present numbering seventy-eight. The loyal and Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, the W.M. proposed the toast of "The Grand Officers," and said he was delighted to be honoured by the presence of three Grand Officers on the night of his installation. Bro. Harry Nicholls was an honorary member, while Bro. Times had always taken a great interest in the lodge. He had received nothing but kindness from all the Grand Officers he had ever met. All seemed willing and anxious to further the interests of the craft in every way that lay in their power.

Bro. Nicholls said that he felt hardly equal to the occasion, and he felt the responsibility of his position very much. He gave way to none of the Grand Officers in his respect to the Craft, but he must say he thought he could sing a comic song better than make a dignified speech. Mr. Nicholls concluded by saying that the variety profession—the sister of the dramatic profession—was becoming more strong every year, and he was glad to see was reaching its proper place in the world of amusements.

Bro. Henry James also replied, and said that it was the first time he had visited the lodge, and he assured the members that he was not paying empty compliments when he said the installation ceremony could not have been more perfectly rendered.

The toast of "The W.M." was proposed by Bro. Mathews, I.P.M., who said: Our W.M. has this evening proposed several toasts; he has had the quantity, but I feel that I have the quality, for I have the pleasant duty to propose that of the Worshipful Master. I am sure he must feel delighted that he has taken up the reins of office. Bro. Le Fre is a member of my mother lodge—1319—and was initiated only six years ago, which is a short period for him to have reached the high office which he now adorns. He should be greatly flattered to occupy the chair of this lodge, formed as it is to bring vocal artists and actors together. We all know that he is as well known as an actor as he is as a singer. I prophesy a very good year of office for him, and I am sure the officers will assist him as they assisted me in my year of office.

The Worshipful Master, in his reply, said he thanked the I.P.M. and Lodge heartily for the kind manner in which they had drunk his health. He hardly thought he deserved all the kind words which were said by the I.P.M., but he hoped he would be able to follow the footsteps of the I.P.M., and at the expiration of his year of office, when he had done the work of the year, that the members would be satisfied that he had worked to the best of his ability.

The toast of "The I.P.M." was then felicitously proposed by the W.M., and responded to by Bro. Mathews, who thanked them most heartily for the handsome cup which had been presented to him. If there was a regret in saying farewell it was sweetened by the thought that Bro. Le Fre would be the next Master. In announcing that the lodge would in future meet in the Chelsea Town Hall, Mr. Mathews thanked the directors of the Chelsea Palace, especially Mr. Henri Gros, for the accommodation and kindness which had been offered the lodge.

The toast of "The Visitors" was acknowledged by Colonel Landon and Mr. W. Lestocq, the former referring gracefully to the services actors as soldiers had rendered during the recent South African war.

Mr. Lestocq spoke eloquently on the subject of Masonry, his words making a deep impression. The atmosphere of the Chelsea Lodge, he said, was one of attention and earnestness. "If we don't bring heart to it," said Mr. Lestocq, "if we don't think about it, if we don't gather some good from it, then Masonry is of no good to any of us. As artists, we know there is only one way to attain perfection, and that is, 'rehearse, rehearse! rehearse!'"

While the dinner was in progress a reply was received from Mr. Swanborough, and this was read out. Mr. Henri Gros made sympathetic reference to Mr. Swanborough's state of health, and announced that he and his co-directors were arranging a benefit matinée for Mr. Swanborough, which would shortly take place at the London Pavilion.

Among members present at the installation were Bros. Albert Le Fre (W.M.), James W. Mathews (I.P.M.), T. Serpentello (S.W.), H. Baroni (J.W.), Wolfe S. Lyon (treasurer), C. J. Doughty (secretary), Walter H. Hitch (S.D.), Harry Bawn (D.C.), Angelo A. Asher (organist), W. T. K. Walton L. G. Sharpe, Geo. H. Dyball, and B. A. Bigny (stewards), J. H. McNaughton (Tyler), Henry G. Neville (P.A.G.D.C.), J. Percy Fitzgerald (P.G.Std.Br.), Harry Nicholls (P.G.Std.Br.), Henri Gros, F. Clay, Hal Chapter, Valazzi, Primavesi, F. H. Pedgrift, W. Scott Adacker, Geo. Gilbey, Fred Winn, Mike Morris, H. R. Mayville, G. H. Hill, J. B. Helm, E. T. R. Lester, E. W. Brett, A. Nickler, Herbert Austin, Douglas White, Jimmie Prior, K. T. Hooper, Chas. King, H. F. Bingham, W. H. Atlas, Albert Christian, A. Cloeteus, Frank Hardie, George Grahame, J. G. Ellis, A. Felino, W. C. Jeapes, Spot, C. E. Chapman, and G. H. Hopwood. Included among the visitors were Bros. Henry Times (P.D.G.D.C.), Chas. Cruickshanks (A.G.Std.Br.), W. Lestocq, Colonel W. F. B. Landon, Colonel H. Walker, G. E. Seabright, R. F. Campbell, V. H. Lanyi, R. Cobley, Chas. Macdona, Herbert Chenery, G. H. Radford, J. Venner, Henri de Neut, A. C. Girard, W. H. Stephens, S. A. Weedon, T. W. Rumble, N. S. Lyon, L. Carson, G. Burgess, S. Grogan, J. W. P. Mark, E. T. Steyne, J. E. Nash, Jesse Sparrow, G. Percy Wright, F. Jennings, Fred Kitchen, A. Borelli, D. M. Trytel, and Max Rose.

MR. CARL HERTZ writes to us from San Francisco to inform us of the loss of his father, who passed away in that city on May 2. There is no doubt that the exposure and the continual moving of the invalid from one place to another on the night of the great earthquake and fire, acting on an already enfeebled constitution, hastened his end. The popular magician will have the sincere sympathy of his many friends in the profession in his sad bereavement.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK, MAY 9.—Mr. John Philip Sousa's new military comic opera, *The Free Lance*, for the book and lyrics of which Mr. Harry B. Smith is responsible, has two scenes, the first being laid in the garden of the Emperor's palace in Braggadocia. The Emperor is in financial straits, and so is the ruler of the neighbouring republic, the Duke of Graftiana; but each believes the other to be possessed of unlimited wealth, and a marriage between Yolande, the Emperor's daughter, and Prince Florian, the heir apparent of Graftiana, is arranged by these monarchs, with the one object of borrowing money from each other. But the young people have never met, and the plan does not receive their approval. Yolande escapes from the palace, and changes clothes with a goose-girl named Griselda; while Florian dons the garments of a goatherd called Siegmund Lump, who has been a brigand. Rather than have their plans frustrated, the two monarchs substitute the goose-girl and the goatherd for their children as the contracting parties. It happens that Siegmund and Griselda are already husband and wife; but as each is to receive a goodly sum, and an extra wedding can do them no harm, they keep this fact to themselves. Siegmund, however, cannot conceal his disappointment when he lifts the lady's veil to kiss her for the first time and discovers that she is his own wife. "Just my luck!" he exclaims; "the first time I'm invited out to dinner I get just what I've got at home."

In the meantime Prince Florian and Princess Yolande, attired as peasants, meet, and fall in love with each other. Then the Emperor and the Duke discover that they have been deceived, and war is declared, the scene of the second act being the border line between Braggadocia and Graftiana. The rival armies are encamped with only a hedge to separate them, and this close proximity is responsible for much of the humour of this part of the performance, particularly laughable being the various excuses offered by each monarch for not making an attack on the other. Lump, the ex-brigand, has been bereft of his strength and courage through losing his hair; but a sorceress presently appears to give him back his flowing locks, and becoming brave and strong again, he ends the struggle between the two monarchs by proclaiming himself ruler of both countries.

Mr. Joseph Cawthorne, as Siegmund Lump, has a capital comedy part, and he makes the most of it; Miss Jeannette Lowrie sings her "Goose-Girl" song with so much animation, and this number has such a catchy refrain, that it has won an immediate popularity; Miss Nella Bergen, who plays Yolande delightfully, has a voice of rare sweetness and charm; Mr. George Tallman, who appears as Prince Florian, is a fine tenor; and another excellent singer is Mr. Albert Hart, who is very amusing as the Duke of Graftiana. Sousa's new march, "On to victory," rendered in fine style at the close of the second act, is repeatedly encored. Many so-called comic operas have been misnamed, but *The Free Lance* is the genuine article, being, as the song says, "funny without being vulgar," and having music worth listening to

Photo by Turnbull.

BRO. LE FRE.
(W.M. Chelsea Lodge, 3,098.)

AMUSEMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND.

WELLINGTON, MARCH 26. — OPERA HOUSE.—Mr. R. G. Knowles opened here to a packed house in a monologue entertainment, which was very largely biographic, we might almost say autobiographic. One is bewildered to see Mr. Knowles in the part of descriptive guide while one roams via the bioscope through Africa and the Orient, he the while garbed in the evening dress of civilisation, whilst we have only known him in the frock coat and duck trousers. These he resumes towards the end of the evening, to the audience's intense delight. His peregrinations were interspersed with songs and stories and songs again, all vastly appreciated. The entertainment was leavened by two banjo solos by Mrs. Knowles, a very fine banjoist.

APRIL 3.—Mr. Stephenson's Musical Comedy Company opened here to-night, chiefly remarkable as introducing *The Moorish Maid*. Described on the programme as a "comic opera," it is interesting as being the work of two New Zealanders, Messrs. J. Y. Birch and Arthur Hill. It is valuable as the first local expression of this particular art form; unfortunately one is unable to judge the libretto as presented; the music, very light and tuneful, beyond a quartette for mixed voices does not follow the comic opera form, but rather that of musical comedy, and the comedians heartily abet this tendency. On the whole much may be expected in the future from these gentlemen, who are to be congratulated.

APRIL 7.—Messrs. Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie have "pitched their tent" here, and are delighting huge crowds of town and country folk.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

DURBAN, APRIL 20.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler's New London Comedy Company produced *The Freedom of Suzanne*, Mr. Cosmo Gordon-Lennox's new play, at the Theatre Royal yesterday. This was the first production of the play in Durban, and the representation thereof was highly creditable to the company. The staging of the comedy was excellent, and the costumes admirable. Miss Housley imparted much life and spirit into the title-rôle, the recital of her adventures in the first act being an exquisite piece of acting. Mr. Wilfred Payne as Charles Trevor made the most of his character, and filled the rôle remarkably well, his love scenes being acted in a very natural manner. Miss Gertrude Le Sage was an ideal interfering mother-in-law. The part of the family solicitor was ably performed by Mr. A. S. Homewood; and Mr. Herbert Greyville was responsible for a fine piece of acting in the part of the uncle. All the minor parts were in suitable hands.

JOHANNESBURG, APRIL 30.—HIS MAJESTY'S.—During the last five weeks, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler have been presenting the D'Oyly Carte company. The principal comedian, Mr. C. H. Workman, has been earning many laurels as the Duke in *The Gondoliers*, Ko-Ko in *The Mikado*, the Lord Chancellor in *Iolanthe*, &c. Miss Nancy Freene, the prima donna, is immensely popular, her voice and acting captivating everyone. Miss Jessie Rose started as a firm favourite, and has kept her position throughout the season. Mr. Albert Kavanagh, who is now on his third tour through this country, is as popular as he was on his first appearance, and proves himself a capable actor in everything he does. Mr. Pacie Ripple, as the tenor of the company, has a capital voice, which he uses to its best advantage; and Mr. Leicester Tunks shows that he is a first-class baritone. Last, but not least, comes the old Savoy favourite, the one and only Billington, the original Sergeant in *The Pirates*, which part he played last week with all his old success. The orchestra, which cannot be too highly praised, is under the direction of Mr. François Cellier. The well-balanced chorus is by far the best Johannesburg has heard for some time.

THE EMPIRE.—On Monday last the new half-company opened at this popular pleasure resort. At the top of the bill are De Witt, Burns, and Torrance, in an act new to this country, called *The Awakening of the Toys*. Stuart, the male Patti, sings soprano songs in a marvellously clear voice; Mr. Fred Land is described as a quaint comedian, and fully keeps up his character; Miss Claire Romaine is as popular as she could wish with a "Soldier"; Douglas and Ford appear as duettists and dancers; Mountford and Walsh give a very fine, breezy turn, keeping the house in roars of laughter; and Meier and Mora are popular with their singing, dancing, and ball-punching. Mr. Dave Foote directs the orchestra.

BENEFIT TO MRS. LEONARD VIDAL.

By the kind permission of Mr. Oswald Stoll, a benefit matinée took place at the Leicester Palace Theatre on Thursday afternoon, May 17, in aid of the widow and child of the late Mr. Leonard Vidal, who was for upwards of two years the acting-manager of that hall, and whose painfully sudden death caused so much regret. A most attractive programme was submitted, and the house was packed. We are pleased to record that the widow will be the richer by nearly £200.

The staff, both front and back, gave their services, including the orchestra, and Willsons', of Leicester, the well-known theatrical printers, supplied the printing free, and Rockley's and the Universal bill-posting firms displayed the posters on their hoardings gratis.

During an interval Mr. E. Catlow appeared on the stage, and on behalf of Mrs. Vidal thanked everybody concerned in making the benefit such a gigantic success. He also thanked Mr. Stoll for his generosity in allowing the use of the theatre, the artists, the local management, and the orchestra for the very generous manner in which they gave their services.

The following artists, many of whom travelled considerable distances, and who would not accept a single penny towards their expenses, appeared, and it is needless to say were rewarded for their generosity by rounds of applause:—George Robey and Hetty King, who came from London; Ray Wallace, from Sheffield; Wilkie Bard, from Birmingham; Tom Edwards, Starr and Leslie, Beatrice Willey, and Frank Leslie, from Nottingham; Hermann Melot, Grell and Grey, the Hardinis, the Serenaders, the Allisons, Rosa Loader, Conn and Conrad, and Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, who were appearing at the hall.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR JUNE.

ENGLAND.

June 1. Kirkburton
June 1. Maryport
June 1. Rugeley
June 2. Bilston
June 2. Caistor (Lincs.)
June 2. Carlisle
June 2. Clayton-le-Moors
June 2. Coventry
June 2. Darlington
June 2. Egremont (Cumb.)
June 2. Malton
June 2. North Shields
June 2. Redruth
June 2. Rothbury
June 2. Runcorn
June 2. Southwell
June 2. Stagshawbank
June 2. Sutton (Scarsdale)
June 2. Tyldesley
June 2. Wellington
June 4. Amersham
June 4. Appleby
June 4. Biggleswade
June 4. Birkenhead
June 4. Blockley
June 4. Brierfield
June 4. Cartmel
June 4. Castleford Feast
June 4. Cheltenham
June 4. Clevedon
June 4. Cockermouth
June 4. Coltishall
June 4. Dalton-in-Furness
June 4. Doncaster
June 4. Evesham
June 4. Flyford
June 4. Garston
June 4. Great Harwood
June 4. Helston
June 4. Hinckley
June 4. Horbury Fair
June 4. Jarrow-on-Tyne
June 4. Kenilworth
June 4. Lichfield
June 4. Malvern
June 4. Morecambe
June 4. Nantwich
June 4. New Brighton
June 4. Newcastle-on-Tyne
June 4. Newmarket
June 4. Normanton Feast
June 4. Northampton
June 4. Norwich
June 4. Oundle
June 4. Oulton Feast
June 4. Portsmouth
June 4. Preston
June 4. Reigate
June 4. Richmond (Surrey)
June 4. Rushden
June 4. Ryde
June 4. Salford (Trinity Market)
June 4. Southport
June 4. South Shields
June 4. Stafford
June 4. St. Ives (Hunts)
June 4. Taunton
June 4. Thornaby
June 4. Torksey
June 4. Tunbridge Wells
June 4. York Fair
June 5. Alford
June 5. Bognor
June 5. Camborne (Cornwall)
June 5. Cambourne
June 5. Fakenham
June 5. Halesworth
June 5. Hitchin
June 5. Leighton Buzzard
June 5. Long Milford
June 5. Longton
June 5. Melton Mowbray
June 5. Methley Feast
June 5. Penrith
June 5. Sheffield Summer Fair
June 6. Askham - in - Furness
June 6. Barnard Castle
June 6. Barrow - in - Furness
June 6. Bedworth
June 6. Bolton
June 6. Broadway (Worcester)
June 6. Broughton - in - Furness
June 6. Chislehurst
June 6. Truro
June 6. Workington
June 7. Adwalton Feast
June 7. Bacup
June 7. Bingham
June 7. Birmingham
June 7. Buckingham
June 7. Ely
June 7. Southrapps
June 7. Tiverton
June 7. Ulverstone
June 8. Chipping Camden
June 8. Deptford
June 8. Derby
June 8. Haslingden
June 9. Ashford (Derby)
June 9. Brackenfield
June 9. Grimesthorpe
June 9. Kendal
June 9. Keswick
June 9. Mickelton
June 9. Prescot
June 9. Richmond (Yorks)
June 9. Snowshill
June 9. Wooley
June 11. Bidford-on-Avon
June 11. Cranbrooke
June 11. Hounslow
June 11. Millom
June 11. Ossett Feast
June 11. Pool
June 11. Southampton
June 11. Southwold
June 12. Fiskerton
June 12. Hayle
June 13. St. Anstell
June 16. Astwith
June 16. Astwood Feast
June 16. Hardstaff
June 16. Outwood
June 16. Staveley
June 16. Staveley (Woodthorpe)
June 16. Taunton
June 18. Tetney
June 18. Thorne (Yorks)
June 20. Cinderford
June 20. Coleford
June 20. Lambert Castle
June 20. Maidstone
June 21. Kidderminster
June 21. Rawtenstall
June 22. Chepstow
June 22. Newport Pagnell
June 22. Penzance
June 22. Selby
June 23. Cambridge
June 23. Coal Aston
June 23. Farnham
June 23. Handley
June 23. Marbury Park
June 23. Mexboro' Feast
June 23. Norbriggs
June 23. Shipton - on - Stour
June 23. St. Just
June 23. Tideswell
June 23. Unston
June 23. Willersey
June 25. Bridgwater
June 25. Bromsgrove
June 25. Newcastle - on - Tyne
June 26. Halifax Fair
June 26. Pershore
June 26. Yeovil
June 28. Bolton-by-Bol land
June 28. Folkestone
June 28. Saltash
June 29. Andover
June 29. Bicester
June 29. Fareham
June 29. Reedham
June 30. Ashover
June 30. Barlboro'
June 30. Belper
June 30. Brampton
June 30. Conisboro' Feast
June 30. Duckmanton
June 30. Earby Feast
June 30. Eckington
June 30. Edensor
June 30. Elmton
June 30. Northedge
June 30. Penistone -
June 30. Stainsby
June 30. Tibshelf
June 30. Winster

SCOTLAND.

June 12. Alyth
Race Week. Hawick
June 16. Largs
June 27. Fraserburg
June 29. Renfrew
June 30. Perth

WALES.

June 2. Caerphilly
June 2. Carmarthen
June 4. Flint
June 4. Mold
June 4. Newport (Mon.)
June 5. Denbigh
June 6. Cardiff
June 8. Merthyr Tydvil
June 9. Llandovery
June 9. Treorchy
June 12. Brynmawr
June 14. Ferndale
June 16. Llangefeloch
June 16. Porth
June 16. Usk
June 25. Lydney
June 30. Tony Pandy

THE fairs ahead for next week are—Bridgnorth, Hendon, Kirkby Stephen, Spilsby, Bodmin, Epsom, Iron Bridge, Thorpe (Surrey), Crowle, Messingham, Alston (Cumb), and Briston. In Scotland—Airdrie.

HASLEMERE (Surrey) Fair was mainly supported by local showmen. The exhibitions were—Hammond's fine art gallery and R. Wall's freak show, Wall's steam-horses and swings, Smith's hand roundabout and highfliers, Matthews' rifle saloon, swings, and cokersheets, Emmett's, Verney's, Wall's, and Smith's shooting concerns. Variety stalls, throwing games, and striking machines, football frames, pannam stalls, and toy stalls by Messrs. Carter, Matthews, Smith, Deaking, Davis, Emmett, Hammond, and Matthews.

CONTINUING our record of the Shropshire fairs, we have the story of Knighton Fair held this week. Here were Manders' menagerie, Chipperfield's show, and Manders' and Chipperfield's cinematographs, Hutin's, the mystics, Buckley's trained birds, Val Hague's boxers, Chipperfield's ground booth, and Wright's fine art gallery. The machine list included the well-known concerns of Marshall Hill, Shepherd, Gottheimer, Jerrison, Herbert, and Hill. Novelty providers and stallholders included Messrs. Dobson, Turner, Wright, Humphries, Cartwright, Manders, Taylor, Jerrison, Herbert, and others.

LEEK still maintains its well-won reputation as one of the best fairs in the Black Country. There is no surer test of the drawing power of a fair than that of the first-class concerns that take it upon their round. Here for the fair were—Relph and Pedley's electric cinematograph, Kemp's Anglo-American combine, Style's and Gould's theatre of illusions, Relph's distorting mirrors, and Rowley's fine art exhibition. Turning to the machine list, we had for the first time on any fairground John Whiting's jubilee motorcars, Relph and Pedley's whirling the whirl, and Holland's two machines—the steam horses and the electric flying-machine. Bates provided a number of the minor novelties, Winchester range, bottle battery, and park swings. The other amusement providers were Rowley, Jewell, Beckett, Ormrod, and Whiting. The fair was admirably set out by the Market Inspector, Mr. J. Maskery.

SEDGWICK'S American Menagerie is giving an excellent show at Alcester and Feckenham.

AT Flyford Flavel has been Mr. Thomas Scott, with galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, and other attractions.

TILLER'S mechanical mannikins and bioscope exhibition have been paying a visit to Market Harborough, and the performances were highly appreciated.

AT Desborough, Tiller's mannikins and bioscope are on a short visit, and giving a capital show.

BOSTOCK'S show, which arrived at Hoboken from Antwerp, on the 13th inst., had an exciting passage. Among the beasts on board were eighty lions, forty-five bears, a herd of elephants, twelve hyenas, five chimpanzees, a dozen mongooses, a drove of camels, twenty-five pumas, performing horses and ponies, a sacred white bull, dogs, kangaroos, and deer. During a storm on May 3 a wolf escaped, and got on the main deck. The official in charge of the animals and a dozen keepers went after the brute. He was chased round the deck several times, and then evaded capture by leaping into the sea. Almost at the same moment two lions, Victor and Madame, began a fight. Keepers with steel-tipped prods tried to force them apart, and in the process one of the men had a piece bitten from his leg. Victor killed Madame, and the lioness was thrown into the sea. Then a puma got loose and attacked a little elephant. The elephant, however, looped its trunk round the puma and hammered it on the deck, afterwards trampling it to death. The trainers were only able to obtain a few hours' sleep for six days of the voyage.

AT Builth Mr. T. Clarke gave a benefit, which resulted in the handsome sum of £11 19s. 3d. The money will be devoted towards providing a season band for the town.

AT Headless Cross we have Mr. C. Herbert's world's fair, roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, &c.

AT Redditch good business should now be done, as the cycle trade and the needle industry are very brisk. Showmen and others should make a note of this progressive town. New cycle works are being erected. Redditch is sixteen miles from Evesham, six miles from Bromsgrove, and seven miles from King's Norton. The show ground is in the centre of the town, and the recreation ground is let to large circuses, &c.

AT the Recreation Ground, Redditch, we have had Sedgwick's American menagerie, with the great tug-of-war contest, elephant versus forty men; also several animal performances. At the Royal Hotel Yard, this week, the International Circus and Hippodrome are giving high-class performances.

SANGER'S CIRCUS visited Bilston on the 16th inst., in wretched weather. The performing elephants proved a strong attraction, and the Maro troupe of acrobatic equestrians were also good.

THE excellent pictures that are now being produced in the cinématograph line reflect great credit on the management who undertakes their production. Mr. Tom Green, the well-known comedian and stage-manager, is busy at his studio, 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon, in supplying some of the principal firms in London with their latest sensations.

DEATH OF MRS. NORTH.

A sad feature of Congleton fair was the death of a well-known show woman, Mrs. Bess North.

The immediate cause of death was heart failure following kidney trouble.

She had been under medical treatment at Manchester and at Knutsford during the May carnival, and had had every possible care and attention in her living carriage, although following the fairs from Knutsford to Congleton, where she expired somewhat suddenly.

Her exhibition was well known on all the fairgrounds of the kingdom, and she ever idenitfied herself with the best work of the road.

Her kindly heart and open-handed generosity will be missed by the large circle of her friends and acquaintances.

The funeral took place at Leicester, in the Welford-road Cemetery. The chief mourners were Mr. J. Pearson and Mrs. E. Pearson (brother and sister), Mr. Edmund North and Mr. George Kemp, Mrs. Kemp (niece), Miss Jones, Miss Richards, and Mrs. Austin.

Amongst the "in memoriam" wreaths were beautiful floral tributes from Mr. and Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. E. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. H. Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. T. Relph, Mrs. George Kemp, Mrs. Sketchlay, Mr. and Mrs. W. Pedley, Mrs. Austin, Miss Richards, Miss Stones, and Miss Jones.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
Total	£22	18	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

"HUMANITY" JOHN'S better half, Cissie Lawson, is resting for a few weeks, but will tour after July 16.

THE Haverleys (American song illustrators), now on a ten weeks' provincial tour, open at the Palace, Blackpool, on Monday. Mr. James Haverley, in addition to a rich baritone voice of good compass, possesses the rare gift of a pure soprano voice of good range and quality. This novelty (which is exercised during the act) will, we feel sure, be highly appreciated by Blackpool audiences.

THOSE doughty members of the Stockwell Angling Society, Messrs. Willie Warde and W. Eyke, had a day's fishing together recently with disastrous consequences to the trout. Several members of the club also have been enjoying the sea fishing at Southend, a form of sport which Dr. Forbes Winslow says is one of the finest rests for mind, body, and brain it is possible to enjoy.

CONGLETON FAIR.

THE old fair upon the new ground at Congleton has proved an immense success. Everything that could have been thought of or contrived to secure that success has been done by the Corporation. Special praise is, however, due to Mr. Randal Burslam, the Borough Surveyor, for the success of the detail arrangements.

There was an official recognition and opening of the Fair. This interesting ceremony took place upon the platform of Relph and Pedley's novel machine, whirling-the-whirl. The Mayor was accompanied by the Mayoress and Miss Lucas, Councillors Brereton and Hodgkinson, the Town Clerk (Mr. Plant), the Borough Surveyor (Mr. Randal Burslam) and Miss Burslam, Chief-Constable Watson, Sergeant-Major Pentland, and Messrs. Bowe, Alcock, Taylor, Barton, Relph, and Pedley.

The Mayor, in his opening remarks, said he was proud of the fact that during the present year, which he thought could be rightly called a year of progress, one of his duties had been to open the new fairground. The Corporation had spent some £800 in the purchase and outfit of the ground for market and pleasure-fair purposes, and it was the desire of all—and particularly of the children—that it should be one of the pleasantest Fairs ever known here. As long as he could remember, the May Fair had been located at the other end of the town, and it had been long thought that it would be better and more convenient if it were held nearer the centre. When the Corporation found that they could purchase the site, they thought it would be better to do so, in order to provide for any necessary extension of the market, but more particularly for the pleasure-fairs. They had to thank the officials of the Corporation, especially the Borough Surveyor, for the excellent arrangements of the fairground. He had also to thank the gentlemen who came there to provide entertainments for the people of the town, though doubtless they came hoping to get some profit by so doing. He had also great pleasure in announcing that the owners of the roundabouts had placed them at his disposal, to give all the children of the town of school age a free ride in commemoration of the opening of the new fairground, which he had now great pleasure in declaring open.

The children then rushed to the various roundabouts to receive their free ride, the Mayor and Mayoress adding to the pleasure of the occasion by joining the youngsters in their merry-go-round. The Mayor and Mayoress and Miss Lucas, the Town Clerk, the Borough Surveyor, the Chief-Constable, and several Councillors and ladies and gentlemen, had a ride, first on the whirling-the-whirl, then on the gondolas, the cocks and hens, and the galloping horses.

Commenting on the Fair, the Congleton and Macclesfield *Mercury* says:—

As we said last week, there is a great transfiguration in the showman world. There is an absence of the old-fashioned catch-penny booths, which are replaced by palaces of innocent pleasurable entertainment, consisting of Messrs. Relph and Pedley's Cinematograph, Colonel Clarke's Cinematograph, Proctor's Circus, Relph and Pedley's Side-show of Mystery, Relph's Hall of Laughter, the smallest pony in the world, and Mrs. North's show, which, through the death of the proprietress, remained closed throughout the fair. Mr. E. Holland had his galloping horses, swings, and other things; Mr. John Whiting his gondolas, gem horses and swings; Mr. Hurst his farmyard; and Messrs. Relph and Pedley their whirling the whirl, an admirable roundabout, comfortably arranged. It is reached by substantial staircases on each side, and you step in as if entering the deck of a steamer. Seats are provided like those on the top of a tramcar, and when the machine is set in motion it resembles a steamer rolling in a heavy sea. The whole is lighted from the ceiling with hundreds of variegated electric lights. Mrs. Marsden came once more with her shooting gallery, and Mrs. Jewell was also present with her gallery. Both these ladies have been coming to Congleton for forty years or more. Mrs. Mulhearn, with her gingerbread and nut stall, has been to Congleton Fair for forty-six years. Mrs. Massey with swings and stalls, Mrs. Harrington with Aunt Sallies and football amusement, are also old visitors. Barker's photographic studio has also been familiar for very many years, and beside it was Gumthorpe's studio. There were very many more old faces, such as Johnny Gavin, with his "brandy-snap," too numerous to mention.

Messrs. Relph and Pedley had a most magnificent structure, to describe which is baffling, for we can scarcely do it justice. The front is one huge stage, entered at each side by a staircase more than large enough to drive a carriage and pair up. On the lower part between the stairs is an apt quotation, "To Amuse and Entertain is Good. To Do Both and Instruct is Better." The centre is occupied by one of the largest, gorgeous, and most expensive organs manufactured. A work of art, an orchestra in itself, and studded with over 1000 electric lights, which at intervals change colour, making a charming effect. Two life-size statues beat drums, whilst dancing figures and a conductor complete the group. To view the organ from the back displays a work which is truly marvellous. Swinging from the lofty ceiling of the front are ten large electric arc lamps of thousands of candle-power. At each side of the organ are two beautiful entrances of polished mahogany and stained glass. The interior is well seated and lighted, and holds 700 to 800 people. As to the entertainment, the name of Relph and Pedley is quite sufficient. It is like a certain local advertised article "the hall-mark of purity." For some years they have pleased and astonished Congleton audiences with their high-class living pictures, but never more so than this time. There was no flickering, every picture was perfectly steady, and the choice of subjects was excellent. Some very clever and expensive films were exhibited.

The life history of the Relph and Pedley families in the show world would be intensely interesting. They had also a very good side show, in which some clever conjuring and a box trick similar to Maskelyne and Cook's was introduced. Mr. Relph had also a show containing amusing and distorting mirrors. Colonel Clarke is an old and respected showman with new ideas. He is up-to-date in everything he touches. A man of fine and gentlemanly physique, he comes of a generation of showmen, of whom he is justly proud. *The Era* of March 3 has his interesting life history, together with his portrait. He aims at the best. He allows nothing the least suggestive or vulgar to enter into his entertainment, and thereby reaps the reward of a truly honest and worthy exhibition, in which the public show the appreciation of his efforts. His fit-up is gorgeous in every respect of the word. The interior is adorned in red and gold, comfortably seated and lighted throughout with electricity. the motive power of which is driven by a powerful engine. Of the show itself we cannot speak too highly, sufficient to say it is far in advance of the living pictures shown at all the great music-halls. In fact it stands alone. The pictures are mostly coloured, and so excellently produced that one could fancy he was viewing a magnificent transformation scene in pantomime. "The Hen with the Golden Eggs" is an excellently clever set of pictures, the films for which are most costly, and all the other subjects are on the same magnificent principle.

A cinematograph entertainment intensely mystifying and interesting, the show has been crowded at every performance. On Tuesday, when the Fair was getting slacker, people flocked to see the "Passion Play," produced in the same exquisite coloured pictures. Two long performances were given, and so full was the building, which holds seven to eight hundred people, that many could not gain admission.

Proctor's Circus attracted large crowds, who were immensely pleased with the performance, the honesty and straightforwardness of which is commendable.

THE King visited the Imperial-Royal Austrian Exhibition, Earl's Court, on Saturday afternoon. His Majesty thoroughly enjoyed his visit, laughing heartily at the passengers on the chute and the voyagers on the flying machine. His Majesty made several purchases in the Queen's Palace, and subsequently lunched at the Vienna Restaurant. Among the ladies and gentlemen in the Royal party were Prince Francis of Teck, the Duchess of Devonshire, and Count Mensdorff-Pouilly-Dietrichstein.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

By the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain, the Showman's Guild.

(Copyright.)

"THE DWARF'S STRATAGEM."

Sixty or seventy years ago no big fair was reckoned complete without the presence of a waxwork exhibition. As the older generation of showmen will remember, these waxwork shows travelled as many as eight or nine caravans, and the principal concerns were those of Ewin, Batty, Manders, Williams, Purchase, and Turnbull. Turnbull's exhibition toured the Scotch fairs; but upon one or two notable occasions made excursions into England, and even penetrated into the principality of Wales.

A curious story is told of this visit of Turnbull's to Wales.

Cardiff at that time was a very second-rate town, and was more given to the iron and coal industries (and these industries were only just beginning to thrive) than to the shipping trade, which is now its chief source of wealth.

Turnbull's waxwork was located upon a piece of ground at the junction of Mary-street and Castle-street, and as shows of this magnitude were rare visitors to Cardiff, very good business was done.

The exhibition contained two immense double carriage groups, one representing the then Royal Family of England, and with them, grouped in the outer circle, were the crowned heads of Europe and many notable characters of both English and foreign celebrity. This group formed one side of the show; on the opposite side the double wagon load was taken up with a Scriptural group, admittedly the finest of its kind then on the road—Daniel in the lion's den.

This was a moving group, and the mechanism was of the most startling and life-like character. There were twelve full-sized lions crouched or standing, their great heads moving, eyes turning, tails lashing their sides, and their massive jaws opening and displaying their terrible teeth and lolling tongues. So naturally had the artist contrived the action of the group that most people, when the lions were set in motion, shrank back, expecting that the powerful beasts would spring upon them. The figure of Daniel, with hands uplifted in prayer to God, was most majestic, and formed a striking contrast to the affrighted visage of the troubled King, seen at the extreme end of the cave looking down upon the prophet of God in the lion's den.

Of the other features of this show little need be said; there were the usual figures of celebrated or notorious characters, the national heroes by land and sea, and of course the inevitable chamber of horrors.

Travelling with the show was an extraordinary freak, the dwarf known as Peter Piper. Although the total height of the little man—and he was a full-grown man, and not a child freak—was but forty-two inches, quite twenty of these inches were taken up by his extraordinary head. In fact, he seemed to be all head and arms, for without any difficulty, standing erect, these powerful arms nearly reached the ground. Of course, such a freak of nature as this would scarcely be considered fit for exhibition in these days, so utterly out of proportion were the component parts of the little man's anatomy. But, despite the poverty of his inches and the misshapen contour of his body, a bold heart and a clever brain, with ready wit and the most exuberant good humour, were the characteristics of Peter Piper, the dwarf.

Piper was also the mechanic of the show, and most of the ingenious contrivances to give action to the models were the invention of this little genius. Although he was exhibited with the rest of the show, when the describer went the round of the caravans his principal work was on the parade where, decked with an enormous turban and his long arms in a wide-sleeved Turkish tunic, and his small legs and body hidden away in a crimson cushion, he was brought out and exhibited as the living head without a body, and was, of course, a great draw.

Now it chanced that the success of the show at Cardiff had excited the cupidity of three of the local thieves, who determined that they would wait their opportunity and try to rob the showmen of their earnings. Of course, in those far-away days banking facilities for showmen did not exist, and very often, after a run of good business, a considerable sum of money was carried in the cash-box securely packed away in the locker of the living carriage.

Fate seemed to favour the burglars' design, for the Brothers Turnbull, the proprietors of the show, received word of the death of their sister in Scotland, and this of course meant that they would have to journey to Greenock, where she would be buried, and that in the meantime, for four or five days necessary to accomplish their pious object, the show would be closed.

The closing of the show was soon noticed by the burglars, and, watching their opportunity, they entered the concern late one night, but, unfortunately for them, their felonious entry was not effected without the knowledge of Peter Piper, the dwarf.

Peter was quite alone, and had been the most of that day, for, not suspecting the least danger, and having a mechanical experiment to make which his clever brain had been busy with for months past, he had gladly undertaken to look after things whilst the other two resident members of the staff had gone off on their own pleasure bent.

The dwarf's mechanical invention was of a vocal character; in fact, it was to put a voice into the lions' bodies that they should roar as well as move.

When the burglars entered the show it was by removing the skirting-board under the Royal group, and there they stood in the darkness, bewildered for a moment or two which way to turn in order to reach the living carriage from the inside of the show.

The dwarf, as we have said, heard them, and, peering out round the corner of the curtain of the lions' group, he saw the three burglars hesitate, and then one of the trio lit a shaded lantern and proceeded to take the bearings of the living carriage. This was the moment when the quick, clever brain of the dwarf determined on the stratagem to outwit the burglars. With his powerful arms he pulled up the curtain of the group, and then, turning the crank that set the mechanism in motion, he utilised for the first time his own vocal device and made the lions roar.

The creaking of the machinery, the bellowing of the mighty lions, and the horrible effect of a huge man's head minus a body gazing fiercely upon them, completely paralysed the would-be thieves. So fascinated were they by the weird and horrible effect that they could not realise that these things were anything but horribly real and terribly natural, and in fact, one of the trio fell down in a dead faint at the feet of his two astounded and paralysed accomplices.

The bellowing of the lions not only paralysed the burglars, but it attracted the attention of the night constable, who by good fortune was passing the show at the time. Springing his rattle, he was speedily joined by two other guardians of the public peace. Rapidly circling the show, they noticed the broken shutter through which the burglars had made their entry. Quickly passing inside, the police were almost as much startled as the wonder-struck burglars; but their astonishment was quickly brought to an end by the powerful, commanding voice of the dwarf telling them: "Constables, these men have entered this show to rob it; I give them in charge." Thus called upon to their duty, the constables speedily handcuffed the still astounded and dazed thieves.

Little more remains to be said, except and only that the brave dwarf became the hero of the moment, and that the Welshmen thronged into Cardiff to see the brave Peter Piper, whose ready wit had circumvented the thieves' plot to rob Turnbull's living carriage.

Peter Piper's clever strategy was taken up by the Press, and wherever the show went the story had to be told how the little dwarf single-handed had met and baffled the burly ruffians of Cardiff town.

THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND SHOWMEN.

AT the beginning of the Parliamentary Sessions the County Council of Middlesex introduced a Private Bill for various public purposes. Amongst other powers sought under the Bill, Clause 31 proposed to enact as follows:—"If and whenever the Council, on the application of the local authorities of any district shall, by resolution, so determine the following provisions shall have effect in the district of such local authority (that is to say)—

"(1) No owner of land shall cause or suffer any such land within one hundred yards of any street or of any dwelling-house to be occupied so as to cause annoyance, injury, or disturbance to residents in the neighbourhood by any tent dweller, squatter gipsy, or other person dwelling in a tent or van or other similar structure.

"(2) No tent dweller, squatter gipsy, or other person shall use as a dwelling place, so as to cause annoyance, injury, or disturbance to residents in the neighbourhood, any tent or van or other similar structure placed on any land situated within one hundred yards of any street or of any dwelling-house.

"(3) Every person who shall offend against either of the foregoing enactments shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5."

The Executive Council of the Showmen's Guild, apprehending that local authorities might use these powers if given them to hinder and even prohibit show business within their borders, determined to petition against the Bill. This was done, and negotiations opened up at the same time with the County Council with the view of protecting trade interests of showmen.

It was recognised that additional powers as against gipsies and squatters might be necessary, but that showmen carrying on their business at local fairs might be seriously interfered with under the provisions of the Bill unless it was clearly set up that the proposed enactments did not apply to travelling showmen.

Not only was the petition duly lodged, and all necessary preliminary steps taken, but counsel was retained, the brief prepared, and witnesses brought to the Committee Room of the House of Commons, when the Bill was introduced.

Mr. T. Watson Wright, Parliamentary solicitor, and Mr. F. Millar, Parliamentary agent, instructed the Hon. Ewen Charteris, Parliamentary barrister, to appear and to plead the cause of the organised showmen before the Private Bills Committee.

Then it was that the Middlesex County Council recognised that the showmen had to be reckoned with, and a conference took place between the Parliamentary agents, solicitors, and counsel with a view to arranging a settlement agreeable to both sides.

The difficulty of course was to clearly define the business of the showman and to separate it from any confusion with gipsies dwelling in vans or tents and travelling hawkers trading in vans.

The following amendment to the objectionable clause was finally agreed upon:—

"This section shall not apply to any person dwelling in a tent or van or other similar structure who is a showman or roundabout proprietor or stallholder—not being a pedlar or hawker. Nor to any landowner who suffers any land to be occupied by such persons in such manner aforesaid."

Having thus safeguarded the interests of amusement caterers and fairground traders in full, the Executive of the Showmen's Guild withdrew their petition against the Bill.

Thus practically the Parliamentary work of the Showmen's Trade Defence Society was brought to a successful conclusion for the present Session of Parliament.

During the past six or seven years we have been asking: Is it possible for the wit of man to devise a form of words that should effectively abate the nuisance and danger to public health of gipsy and squatter settlements and yet be free from harm and danger to the business interests of travelling showpeople?

We rejoice greatly that the Middlesex County Council has been the first to recognise the fundamental difference between the business of the showman and the itinerant gipsy. Committees of the House of Commons dealing with Private Bills have repeatedly thrown out clauses aiming at bringing the gipsy under local government as regards sanitation and police matters.

The opposition to these clauses has been carried on entirely by the organised showman, in order to compel local authorities to recognise the essential differences between the trade of the showman van dweller and the avocations more or less dubious of the travelling tinker and squatting gipsy.

The Committee dealing with the Middlesex Bill recognised that showmen ought to be exempt from the sanitary and settlement clauses, and the Chairman informed Mr. Watson Wright that the Committee were quite satisfied that showmen ought to be exempt, and that they needed no further evidence on the question. They would reject Clause 39 in its present form, for they thought that even the gipsy was entitled to more consideration and less drastic treatment than that proposed in the Bill. They were willing, whilst rejecting the present clause, to accept a milder form of words, and they trusted that on the report stage of the Bill such amended clause would be put before them for final decision.

There are several considerations of great interest to showmen arising out of this last victory of theirs in the Parliamentary arena. The first and most important is—that for the first time in Private Bill legislation a clear and understandable definition of fairground trader, whether he be showman, roundabout proprietor, or stallholder, is set out in an Act of Parliament.

Up to the present time no such definition has been embodied in legislation, and its accomplishment marks another upward step in the status and public recognition of the showman's avocation in life. Hitherto draughtsmen of Parliamentary Bills have refused to recognise any difference whatever in the classes of people using tents or vans.

In season and out of season we have pleaded for the recognition of the showman separate and apart from other classes of people using tents and vans, and it is to us an occasion of great satisfaction, that what we have so persistently advocated has been at length obtained.

Without doubt the exemption clause in the Middlesex Bill will be a precedent in all future Private Bill Legislation, and we congratulate the Showmen's Guild and its Parliamentary Executive on the great success that has rewarded their strenuous efforts. A word of special praise is also due to Messrs. Alfred Ball, George Beach, J. Beach, and Lorenzo, who have been in attendance as witnesses at the Parliamentary Committee.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Frank Grans' company is achieving great success here this week in *The Other Man's Business*. Mr. Frank Stanmore is intensely amusing as Anthony Bloggett; Mr. G. W. Anson gives a masterly enactment of the amorous uncle, Mr. Rattlechip; Mr. G. W. Elton's Horatio Bloggett is a good character-study of a precocious schoolboy; Mr. A. Hornby Warburton as Henry Hill and Miss Adie Boyne as Emma submit very droll comedy; Miss Lilian Hubbard makes a bright and pleasing Topsy Temple; Miss Nina Osborne is a refined and attractive Mrs. Bloggett; and Mr. Frank E. Petley is well suited as the peppery William Simpson. The farce is preceded by *Monsieur Le Marquis*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—Miss Maud Hildyard and company opened here on Monday with *The Great Awakening*. Miss Maud Hildyard gave a very fine impersonation of Lola Selby; Mr. Bernard Copping, in the dual representation of Jack Merton and Sir Henry Merton, was distinctly successful; Mr. Herbert Evelyn made a manly Capt. Harry Lambert; Miss Doris Digby was charming and sympathetic as Molly Merton; Mr. Herbert Sidney's Richard Wilson and Mr. A. C. Hardie's James Selby were admirably played; Mr. Charles Vivian was forcible as the villainous Guy Rogan; and the comedy element was capitally sustained by Miss Isa Bellington as Selina Worts, Mr. Willie Scott as Billy Brass, and Mr. Tracey Barron as Antoine.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. James Holden's mannikin entertainment is clever and amusing; Charlene and Charlene (Charlie and Lily) give a capital juggling and musical turn; Mark Leslie is a pleasing coon comedian and dancer; Geoffreys and Benson are very funny in the comedy sketch *Spoofed;* Lupino Lane, boy comedian, singer, and eccentric dancer, is well received; Mlle Cordite is an expert with the rope and lariat; the Netherlands present Dutch pastimes very neatly; Sadie Lawrence is a capital ballad vocalist; and Harry Cotton is an eccentric comedian. The Alhambrascope pictures are interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. Dan Crawley is enthusiastically applauded for his humorous songs; the Four Harveys are clever and sensational in their wire act; Harry Brown, coloured comedian and dancer, wins hearty applause; Verno and Voyce are smart vocal comedians; Adams and Ward are amusing in their acrobatic speciality; Will Souls, the laughing comedian, is very entertaining; the Four Jumels sustain an excellent musical act; Milner Verren is an artistic tenor vocalist; T. B. Fayme is warmly appreciated in his latest successes; V. L. Granville's character impersonations merit warm praise; Mons. Vincent, acrobatic table expert and lightning Arab tumbler, is skilful; and the Barrascope pictures are pleasing.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and company are here this week with *Count Hannibal*. Mr. Norman gives an artistic and convincing portrayal of Count Hannibal; and Miss Beatrice Wilson is charming and graceful as Clotilde de Vrillac. Mr. Brember Wills presents a capital dual enactment of Charles IX. and M. La Tube; Mr. Norman Leslie is well suited as M. de Montseven; and Miss Sybil Ruskin's Mme. St. Lo, Miss Hilda Gregory's Mme. Carlat, and Mr. Dennis Cleugh's M. de Tignonville also merit praise. The programmes for the week also include *David Garrick*, and *Cut off with a Shilling*.

LIEUT. ALBINI terminates to-night a successful provincial tour at the Theatre Royal, Oldham, where his success has been very marked. He returns to London next week to give a show to London managers of his long-promised novelty, *The Queen of Sheba*.

A CHARMING Indian romance, by the writers of "Navaho," entitled "Shining Star," has been secured by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter. Miss Florence Esdaile is making a big hit with the *morceau*.

THE first set of cinematograph films of the appalling disaster which lately overwhelmed San Francisco reached the Alhambra on Monday, and have been included in the "Urbanora" turn at that theatre. Graphic and terrible as the journalistic accounts of the ruin of the Golden City have been, mere words pale before these "scenes in motion" of the razing of the Queen of the Pacific to mere heaps of ashes.

THE Glenroy Troupe of Dancers, who have just concluded a most successful seven weeks in town, will now go on tour for three weeks, returning to London on June 18.

THE Crystal Palace Company has appointed Mr. Gerald Fitz-Gibbon, late of St. George's Hall, as their Press manager. Mr. FitzGibbon also acts as literary adviser to the Carl Rosa Opera Company, Madame Tussaud's, &c.

THE latest quotations of music-hall shares are as follow: Alhambra, 1⅛; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. paid), 1⅛; ditto (10s. paid), 1⅛; London Pavilion Ordinary 4, ditto Preference 4⅜; London Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss Empire 4½, ditto Preference 3⅜; Oxford, 7⅜; Palace, 10s.; Tivoli, 5⅜; Variety Consolidated Theatres, 15s.

THIS week is a notable week in the history of the Royal Albert Music Hall. On Thursday evening Mr. Walter Leaver, who has presided in his gilded throne over the entertainments at Canning Town for the last forty-three years, and is the last chairman, took his twenty-sixth benefit. Appropriately enough the event had been advertised, in addition to the usual posters on the local hoardings and elsewhere, by W. Payne's Bio-photoscope, giving the necessary brief particulars, along with a sketch of Mr. Leaver's famous mallet. On Thursday, of course, the popular Walter refrained from wielding this mallet, it being arranged that the chair should be occupied at different periods during the evening by well-known gentlemen, including Councillor Hayday, Mr. Fred Baugh, Mr. Bob Van, and Mr. J. Watkins.

MISS NELLIE COLEMAN, the first woman to make the face up funny, and the only lady low comedian on the variety stage, has invented a new dance that, when produced, will be a startler.

THE curtain was rung up at seven o'clock—an hour earlier than usual—and among those who, apart from the regular company engaged for the week, kindly offered their services were:—Charles Ridgewell, George Victor, Louie Hurman, Jack Foley, Bella Harcourt, H. E. High, Rose Tree, Frances and Melli, Daisy Reed, the Two Whites, Vernon and Burdell, Elliott and Warne, the Three Sisters Thurbain, Gus Daniels, Charles Russell, Lottie Swinbourne, F. W. Wilkinson, Daly and Collins, Leo West, the Sisters Rosedale, Charles Chard, Edith Manley, Hettie Leave, the Sisters Selwyn, Ted Denham, Marie Joyce, Major Miles, Joe Lelly, Patsy Lloyd, Sparks and Vesta, Charles Lloyd, Lottie Bell, Jack Roberts, Grace Tyrrell, Rose Harvey, Will Burton, Dan Pedley, Dome, Pat Carey, Winnie Brugger, Master Sydney, and Annie Casey.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 10.*)

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—The return visit of *A Modern Adventuress* is attracting good audiences here. Mr. Lingford Carson's company includes Mr. Leonard Aardale, who makes a favourable impresion by his impersonation of Pietro Donelli; Violet Meredith has a forcible exponent in Miss Kate Froude; Miss Alice Defoe carefully sustains the pathetic rôle of Vivette Delby; the comedy element is acceptably presented by Mr. Leonard Montgomery as John Crompton and Miss Ivy Chandos as Sally Hodges; and Mr. Harry C. Rutland as William Delby, Mr. Louis Edmonds as Harry Delby, Mr. Sydney Grant as Wallace Dalton, Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner as Walter Beal, and Mr. Frank Orchard as Steve Meredith acquitted themselves creditably in their various characters.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Much amusement is evoked by the pantomime absurdity *Nicodemus*, with special trick scenery and effects, as presented by Charles Vandyke and company. Sammy Shields, Scotch comedian, is clever in his football sketch; Madge Daly makes herself a great favourite with her songs. Other successful turns are given by Arthur Slater, siffleur and mimic; T. Claver, juggler; the Vetter Brothers in *The Page's Recreation;* the Brooklands, duettists and dancers; the Four Balsamos, amusing bar performers; Johnny Worman, eccentric comedian; Sadie Seymour, serio and dancer; and Florence Hill, comedienne and dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth—Gustave Fasola, an expert illusionist, obtains much applause; Wee Mona, juvenile comedienne, is responsible for some smart dancing; Fred Mason, whistling and singing comedian, does well; *A Promising Pupil*, as produced by Ben Harris and his Nippers, goes well; and the programme also includes Stylo, who does some smart work with hoops; Raynor and Reece, with comical singing and dancing; and Harry Lee, comedian and mimic.

SHEFFEELD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. James Welch made himself very popular in Sheffield in *The New Clown*, and on Monday his appearance at the Lyceum in the new farce, *Good Old Charley*, proved a thoroughly successful function, applause and laughter alternating in rapid succession. Mr. Welch as a good-natured man ever in hot water is of course quite at home, and admirers of this clever comedian will easily picture how mirth-provoking are "Old Charley's" attempts to battle with the mishaps that beset him. Mr. Welch is loyally supported by Miss Estelle Wynwood, Mr. J. W. Beverell, Mr. Fred Lewis, Mr. G. F. Tully, and Mr. Leonard Buttress. The curtain-raiser was a pleasing little play called *The Lady Burglar*. Both pieces were mounted in Mr. John Hart's accustomed artistic style.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—*The Price of Pleasure* met with a cordial reception here on Monday. Miss Emily Huby was first-rate as Biddy O'Flannigan; Miss Dot Russell made a vivacious Polly Wilson, her songs and dances being a pleasing feature; Mr. Howell Webb was "firm" as Sir James Featherstone; and other characters were adequately represented by Miss Ivy Blanche, Miss Mara Collings, Miss Lily Clarke, Mr. Charles E. Howell, Mr. B. H. Ross, Mr. Larr- Clements, Mr. C. Bennett, Mr. Richard Harris, and Mr. Ben Fletcher.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—On its first visit to Sheffield, Walter Melville's powerful drama, *A Girl's Cross-Roads*, created a great impression, and the theatre was crowded on Monday, when the piece was again played by the author's strong company. Miss Beaumont Collins gives a wonderfully realistic impersonation of the degraded dipsomaniac, Barbara Wade; Mr. Charles Franmore as old Farmer Meadows submitted a capital character-sketch; Miss Nannie Meade was again successful; and good work was done by Mr. John Brookes, Mr. Frank Robertson, Mr. Roy Fortescue, Mr. Fred Ingram, Miss Elsie Saville, and Miss Lena Delphine.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—This spacious and luxurious theatre was packed twice on Monday, when the following artists contributed to the enjoyment of the audiences:—Mr. Lew Lake, assisted by Mr. Harry Lavers and a smart company of pantomimists, in the screaming absurdity, *The Brixton Burglary;* Athas and Collins, comedians; the Barowsky Trio, in their speciality act, *In the Woods;* Mr. Chris Richards, a lively comic; the Stuart Quartette of charming lady vocalists; the Sisters Morgan, duettists; Miss Claire Beasy and her well-trained cats; Mr. Charles Lilburn, vocal comedian; Miss Lillian Payne, vocalist; and the bioscope, with the Hackenschmidt-Madrali wrestling bout, and other films of a popular nature.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—Appearing at this cosy hall are the Forbes-Murray dramatic company, in a thrilling sketch; Mr. Will Farrell, vocal comedian; Bliss and Bliss, the favourite humorists; the Paragon Trio, in a diverting act; Miss Lily Sharplin, mimic; Henderson and Pallister's Biograph, which continues highly popular. The 19th inst. was a great night here, for the members of the immortal Sloper Family came down from London, and made presentations to Mr Fred Southern (it being his farewell benefit), and to Mr. George Dickenson, the genial and hard-working manager.

CENTRAL HALL.—Some new animated pictures are delighting the patrons of this hall, and the efforts of Mons. Primavesi, a clever juggler; Miss Adrienne, vocalist; Mr. W. E. Long, ventriloquist; and Mr. Hyam Long, comedian, are fully appreciated.

SHREWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business-Manager, Mr. W. C. Dornton.—The original American Photo Co.. is responsible for a varied and interesting show of "Electric Animated Pictures," relieved by a capital variety entertainment in which the following appear: The Ver-Vains, a clever pair of coon singers and dancers; Phil Rabey, a versatile comedian; Vic and Yerney, a capital whistler; The Cedrics, talented comedy artists; Lyons, a capable and amusing Irish ventriloquist; Vela, with a smart "Hurricane Love Act"; and Lulu, a talented lady instrumentalist.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Miss Grace Warner brings her company here this week in a small repertory. For the first three nights the well-known drama *The Scarlet Clue* held the boards, and a revival of *East Lynne* was promised for Thursday and Friday. In the former play Miss Warner, in her vivid impersonation of Sal Scarlet, holds the audience fascinated; Mr. George Gordon impersonates the male villain, Michael Stanton, with excellent effect; Mr. J. L. Leigh stamps the twin rôles of Jack and Harry Esmond with much individuality; Miss Lizzie Palmer gains esteem as Elsie Dane; and Miss Kathleen Cranston gives a stirring representation of Mother Scrooge. Much merriment is caused by Mr. V. T. Raymond, as "Billy the Rotter," a burglar, whose songs are much appreciated. He receives good assistance from Miss Esther Dean, as a French maid. Little Edith Rutland is well placed as Littie Polly.

SOUTHAMPTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—Good houses assembled to witness the performance of *The Still Alarm*, by Messrs. H. Glenville and F. Osmond's company. The piece is full of excitement, and the interest never flags. The scenery is effective, the turn-out of the fire brigade being very smartly done.

PALACE—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. William Trussell.—A company of exceptional excellence is seen here, the principal attraction being Mr. Harry Roxbury and company in a musical sketch, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, which is well staged and produced. Mr. Harry Roxbury is very humorous as P.C. Longfellow of Scotland Yard, and laughter reigns supreme during the time he occupies the stage. Two Southamptonians also successfully appear—Miss Vashti Wynne (Denise) and Mr. Fred Davenporte, who is a dignified Prince. Miss Ethel Bryant is an admirable Lady Carr; and the other parts are well played. Miss Marie Santoi and her lady singers and dancers score a triumph in *A Japanese Tea-Garden by Night;* the cross-talk of the Brothers Redmond causes roars of laughter; Woodhouse and Wells are a clever pair of comedians; Martin Henderson, a blind musician, plays the concertina superbly; Jack Lorimer and Fred Cary excel as comedians; and Marion Scott is a charming artist.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold P. Howell.—Antonio Pierri's wrestlers, including Ahmed Madrali, form the principal attraction here; Chas. Baldwin's comedians evoke applause with their pantomimic sketch, *The Bank Clerks;* Leo Dryden is scoring with his well-known character studies; and Helen Charles is responsible for a versatile and refined turn. Frank Dunlop, comedian; Orpheus, instrumentalist; Walter Wade, comedian; and Rosie Reval, comedienne, also contribute to the evening's enjoyment

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Owners, The Southend Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Bert Rutley's company is here this week with the musical burlesque, *An English Belle*. Miss Jessie de Grey as Jack gains abundant applause for her perfect representation of the part; Miss Gerty Wasley as Alice Oldfield is also very good; Mr. Albert Rutley as Squire Hardacre is a success; and Sunny Jim, a travelling pedlar, and Consul, his companion, characters that are played by Mr. Will Redmond and Mr. Dan Whiteley respectively, create roars of laughter. Mr. W. E. Matthews is also amusing. The Louis Roi quartet of dancers are an acquisition.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clifford are presenting here the four-act military play, entitled *On Circumstantial Evidence*. Mr. A. M. James as Sir Lawrence Kinloch, M.P., is well suited; and Jack Ogilvy is in the capable hands of Mr. Wilson Brash, who gives an excellent portrayal. Mr. Chas. Clifford as Captain Hamilton plays the villain with success; Mr. J. Keane is a smart General Garibaldi; Mr. Newton Pearce provides much merriment as Jeremiah Tobin, being well supported by Miss Stewart as Polly Smithers. Miss Hilda Hatton in her double rôle of Olga and Mary is versatile; and Violet Ogilvy finds in Miss Maud Camfield (Mrs. Clifford) a pleasing and clever exponent.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—In the theatre, Miss Florrie Farren pleases as a serio and dancer; Fred Field is heard to advantage in his songs; Cliff Harley is a clever electric automaton; and Cavern and Cave provide good sketches. In the Hippodrome, Peter Gotz gives wrestling exhibitions; and turns are presented by August and Lillian, smart acrobats; Little Steve, the coloured comedian; and Mme. Savairo, speciality artist. Other attractions include entertainments in the Café Chantant, "Slipping the Slip," and the Mystic Galatea.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Company; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—Mr. Leigh Lovel's company is this week presenting an admirable interpretation of Shakespeare's comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Miss Ethel Beckwith depicted the part of the singing Fairy with charming verve and artistic vocalisation; Miss Alys Rees undertook the part of Oberon very successfully, alike in a dramatic and vocal sense; Puck had a volatile and clever representative in Miss Mary Bessle; the attendant fairies were admirably impersonated by the Misses Sybil Glynn, Lilian Corbett, Della Rosa, and Gladys Glynn; Mr. Leigh Lovel scored a notable success in his humorous portrayal of Nick Bottom; Miss Octavia Kenmore and Miss Mary Lovett as Helena and Hermia respectively did well; and Mr. Michael Connolly effectively conducted Mendelssohn's music.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—A capital programme was presented at this popular variety hall on Monday evening, the most prominent item being contributed by Helena and Emilon, talented gymnasts, who gave an astonishing and graceful performance. Other turns were supplied by Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes; Miss Cissy Paris, the Crystal Palace pantomime favourite; Mr. Frank Leon, eccentric character comedian and dancer; the Crystals (Nita and Rosa), vocalists and speciality dancers; Howard and St. Clair, American comedy artists; Miss Lizzie Kirk, comedienne and dancer; and Mr. Georgé Adams, the eminent New Zealand baritone.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The favourite comedienne Jenny Johns, who heads the bill here this week, has met with a good reception, her rendering of "The Seaside Girl"—a song composed by Mr. J. H. Mertz, the popular manager of the Pavilion—being loudly applauded. The programme embraces the Bensons, in their great comedy act; Geo. H. Keith, versatile actor-vocalist; Rappo and Ella, equilibrists and acrobats; Mr. Charles Parker's Komedy Koncert Ko., including Miss Eileen Hope, Miss Rita Vincent, Miss Ethel Lonsdale, Mr. G. Le Butt, Mr. Arnold Richardson, and Mr. H. Flocton Foster; Sidney Dolf, vocal trickster; Dobito and Buxton, refined vocalists; Bert Harrow, the rum comedian; and the bio-tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Large audiences are keenly appreciating *A False Wife*, a drama full of sensation, and presented by Mr. F. Marriott Watson's company. Miss Florence E. Florence is suitably cast as the adventuress, Estelle de Lussan, her admirable treatment of the part meeting with deserved applause; Mr. F. Strickland ably represents the cool and sinister villain, Jean Beraud; Mr. W. Howard Barlow speaks his lines boldly and effectively as the hero, Lieut. George Mansfield; Miss Ellen Armour is satisfactorily placed as the heroine, Agnes Weyland; Mr. Elton Morgan capitally renders the comic sailor, Ben Rattler; Mr. John Cecil ably sustains Zorak.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Jos. Sweeney.—The bill here is headed by Ara, Zebra, and Vora in *Indian Pastimes*, a successful novelty which is much appreciated; Warden, Reed, and company present a good dramatic episode entitled *The Right Road;* a ventriloquist of ability is Cavalli, with his Tyneside doll; the Dunvilles give an up-to-date act as musicians, vocalists, and dancers; other items are Harry Morgan, a smart coon artist; Earle and Melville, comedians and dancers; and Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—Mr. Henry Bedford's company is paying a visit to Spennymoor this week, and is delighting local audiences by the presentation of two pleasing dramas, *Gipsy Jack* and *The See-Saw of Life*. The week's entertainment commenced with the former piece, in which Mr. Bedford gives a clever impersonation of the title-rôle. Miss Bessie Bedford's May Harvey is bright and vivacious; and Miss Violet Alwyn displays capabilities as Dorothy Dexter; Mr. Cecil B. Churton as the Curate presents a decidedly good study; Messrs. Walter H. Domoney and Alex. Alexander as Mr. Skinner and his son Gerald submit capital portrayals of a couple of unscrupulous scoundrels. Miss Jenny Risley and Mr. Sid Bedford as Jennie Huggins and Joe Banks provide plenty of fun.

STAFFORD.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Mr. Francis Everard and company are still occupying the boards here, and continue to attract good houses. *The Shadows of a Great City* was the attraction for the first three nights, and for the remainder of the week *The Streets of London, Sorrows of Satan*, and *Ticket of Leave Man* were billed. In the first-mentioned piece Mr. Francis Everard, as Jim Farren, and Mr. Edwin Turner, as Tom Cooper, sustained their parts with great ability, and Mr. Hyland Shea gave an amusing study of Abe Nathan. Miss Mabel Marte was successful as Biddy Roonan, and Miss Phyllis Atherleigh was a clever and vivacious Nellie Standish. The Sisters Valli, musicians and dancers, had a flattering reception.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill.—This week there are variety attractions, headed by John Higgins, the champion jumper; T. W. Barrett, the nobleman's son, retains much of his humorous vitality; Violi, a lady instrumentalist, is remarkably clever; Miss Bessie Willows, burlesque actress, sings some capital songs; Miss Nellie Merton and George Rydan, duettists, cause much amusement; and Gillan, ventriloquial artist; Atroy, juggler; and a number of animated pictures are also among the attractions.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—This week we have a return visit of Messrs. A. O. Dell and Chabot's company in the *Romany's Revenge*. Mr. A. O. Dell is the John Hope, and a better rendering of the part it would be difficult to imagine. As David Rennard, Mr. Harry C. Robinson fully realises the polished, cynical man of the world; Miss Ethel Ashleigh is well suited as Zamet, playing throughout with confidence and skill; Mr. A. Harvey's impersonation of Caleb Krai is in every respect excellent; and Miss Eva Elwes does well in the dual rôles of Lilian and Elskie; Mr. D. Hamilton and Miss Fanny Wallace cause much merriment as Bobie and Polly.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, W. Sley, and F. Willmott; Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—Undoubtedly the star turn here is the Geni Family, ten in number, who, assisted by three ponies, give a clever, neat, and elaborate Risley act; Mr. H. O. Wills, comedian, repeats his success; Mlle. Zelda again scores as an instrumentalist; Barrett and Knowles create plenty of fun; Miss Marion Weston scores as a dancer and banjoist; Miss Blanche Marion is effective as a coon singer and dancer; Wyndham and Waters are well received in a sketch; and the Bioscope, with new pictures, pleases all.

STOCKPORT.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Revill.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company in *In Holy (!) Russia* has interested appreciative audiences here this week. Renée Rubinoff is gracefully and effectively played by Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy, and as Michael Matolski, Mr. Louis Norman acts with power. Genuinely funny is Mr. J. Rice Cassidy as Micky Nolan, and Mr. Frank Copeland is impressive as Sir Harry Beresford. Very amusing is Mr. Arthur Stratton as Colonel Richard Forrest, and Mr. Carl Rovinelli acts capably as Laurice Stragoff. Mr. Joe Cuthbertson impersonates the character of Baron von Pleve admirably, and Miss Alice Marsden as Madame Matolski, and Miss Annie Dudley as Mrs. Richard Forrest are both excellent.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Madge Gray in her Lancashire dialect songs has quite suited the tastes of large audiences here. Among others engaged are Correza and Keith in a clever equilibrist display; Ormond Penstone, an entertaining conjurer; Hughes and Elliott, ragtime vocalists and sand dancers; the Sisters Brand, delightful comediennes and dancers; the Jansons, in a talented gymnastic act; Mike Cray, an amusing juggler, and his dog "Dooley"; Tom Moore, a comedian of undoubted merit; Mona McDonald, vocalist, and the Brothers Brooks, in a pleasing comedy-act. A particular feature of the programme is the Hackenschmidt v. Madrali wrestling match on the Bioscope.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Royal Tokio Troupe head the bill this week in their foot balancing, &c., which is both clever and interesting; Miss Millie Payne is successful in her songs, which are enthusiastically encored; Harris L. Bell and Lily Pearl are seen in a capital sketch entitled *A Bit of String;* Mabel Kessler contributes solos upon the cornet and post-horn in a masterly manner; George Prince scores a success in his humorous items; Lanton and Lane are capital comedians; Peakman and Walsh, comedy jugglers, provide a turn of interest; and the Sisters Bartholomew are smart duettists and dancers. The Bioscope shows several capital pictures.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—A special stock season commenced here on Monday with *The Octoroon*. Mr. S. S. Gordon gives a strong impersonation of Jacob M'Glosky; Mr. Albert Sember is seen to advantage as Salem Scudder; Mr. G. Antley is amusing as Pete; Miss Nina Vaughton gives an excellent rendering of Zoe; and other parts are ably filled.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Sunderland Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—The animated pictures of the Britt-Nelson fight are drawing crowded houses here this week. In addition there are some variety turns.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Stringer; Treasurer, Mr. A. Browne.—The place of honour is this week held by Yukio Tani, the Japanese wrestler; Foreman and Fannan, grotesque comedians, also figure prominently; Nowles and Byran, patterers and duettists; Vera Mayne, comedienne; Jock Walker, Scotch comedian; Lady Julia, billed as the ape with the human brain; Billy Hobbs, dancer; Rose Elliott, vocalist; and Vernon's bioscope, complete the programme.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Captain Clayton; General Manager, Mr. Edward Gray.—*The Crimson Club*, excellently played by Miss Evelyn Moore's company, is the attraction this week. As the wrongfully-accused Richard Fenton, Mr. Clifford Wright does some good work; the Sir Philip Garside of Mr. Fred Kay is played in forcible style; as Adolphus Garside, Mr. Percy Shaw achieves much success, and his whistling solos greatly please his audience. Miss Florence Delmar plays a heavy part as Julia Marsden, and scores well.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr. Fred. Lucas.—Mr. Char. Harrington's company, under the general management of Mr. Gerald Alexander, in *The Sailors of the King*, is the attraction here. Mr. Charles Harrington greatly distinguishes himself as Admiral Drake, being strongly supported by Mr. Harry Douglas, who makes a decided hit as Dick; Mr. Walter Farnsworth does good work as Rufford Dent; Miss Gertrude Sterroll is distinctly pleasing as Daisy Dent; and Miss Sylvia Stella and Miss Hero Hathaway work creditably in their respective parts; Miss Maude Digby, as Rebecca Crosby; and Mr. F. Vernon Travers, as Orrel Drake, are seen to advantage; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Barnet Fair, is the cause of considerable amusement.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. J. Gunnell—Mr. Arthur St. John and company are appearing in *Black-Eyed Susan*. Miss Marie Jones gives a charming impersonation of the nautical heroine; and Mr. St. John scores as William the sailor; Mr. F. Walters as the Admiral and Mr. W. J. Mackersey as the Captain are excellent studies; Mr. W. Clarke infuses much humour into the part of Jacob Twig; and Mr. Smith is excellent as Lieut. Pike. Miss Jessie Elvin as Dolly Mayflower should also be commended; and other members of the company who do good work include Messrs. Archie Grant, W. Foster, E. Bennett, W. Langdale Thompson, and Bert Elvin. A farce, *The Spectre Bridegroom*, is well received as a curtain raiser.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company occupies the stage this week, in the drama, *The Gambler's Daughter*. Mr. Robert Ayrton gives a capital impersonation as Desmond O'Dare; and Solomon Solomons finds an apt exponent in Mr. Alfred Saunders. Mr. Richard Pitt makes the most of his opportunities as John Grant; Mr. Victor Millard is good as Jack Grant; Mr. A. Kenyon Gray scores as Ralph Gillam; Miss Adria Hill gives a refined and pathetic rendering as Miriam Grant; Miss Sanders is well placed as Carita, a Spanish girl; and Miss Ida Fane is admirable as a negress.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Mr. F. V. St. Clair, vocalist, heads the bill this week, and scores a hit; Cinizelli, the silent jester, gives a smart turn; Flo Hilton is a dashing male impersonator; the Gelders, conjurers, are clever. Other items include Miss Lillie Husker, a dainty dancer; Miss Gracie Logan, baby mimic; Freddie Bentley, comedian; and Mlle. Henrietta, in a pleasing musical scene.

WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manger and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—George Brooks, the sailor, heads the bill here this week. The Four Olympian Stars give a capital turn; the Labakans and their dog Folly, acrobatic eccentrics, give a meritorious performance; the Sisters Mariano, in their breakaway trapeze exhibition, are successful; Jack Theo Trio also score as equilibrists; Lizzie Daniels, comedienne, is much admired; Starr and Leslie, comedy artists, add greatly to the interest of the programme; and the American Bioscope give some capital pictures.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Charles Price's company is the attraction here this week in *The Shop Boy*. Mr. Harry Pleon as Sarsaparilla Smith is delightfully humorous. The following specialities are introduced:—White and Jerome, comedy singing duo; Celia Kent, expert dancer; Chris. V. Bern, banjo speciality; and the Alexander Troupe of lady dancers. The drama is preceded each evening by the sensational episode *The Club Raid*.

WALTHAMSTOW.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Slatter.—Mr. Dudman Bromwich and company are appearing here in the playlet *In Old Madrid*. The scene in the torture-chamber is thrilling in the extreme. Mr. Dudman Bromwich plays with vigour as Frank Lyndhurst; and Messrs. Harry Walker and Mr. Geo. Dalroy, Miss Katie Neville, and Miss Marie Pearl lend adequate aid. The other sketch of the week is a weird episode, *The Freak's Revenge*, in which Mr. Fred Conquest is most impressive as Esau; and Leon Dubois gives a marvellous impersonation of the gorilla. The Carisa Sisters, in a musical *mélange*, are remarkably clever; Mr. Will Dalton is a comedian with ability; Tee and Tee, eccentrics, provoke merriment; the Ten Dixie Girls sing and dance with abundant spirit; those tried and popular favourites, Signor and Madame Borelli, just returned from abroad, repeat a performance that is already familiar to Palace audiences, but is no less enjoyable on that account; the Italian, French, and German imitations of Madame Borelli are excellent. An interesting wind-up is supplied by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

WEST BROMWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. P. Moore.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company opened here on Monday to a crowded house with the historical drama *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Lillian Dundas gives a talented rendering of Josephine; Miss Muriel Thompson submits an effective embodiment of Marie Louise; Miss Gertrude Entwistle makes an acceptable Stephanie; Miss B. F. Stewart does well as the gouvernante and Blanche; and the young King is ably played by Miss Gracie Kendrick. Mr. Frederick Moyes, in the rôle of Napoleon, gives a rendering which is received with the heartiest applause. Mr. H. Gray Dolby is good as Talleyrand; Mr. Henry Ludlow as the Marquise de Beaumont is well placed; and Mr. C. Lionel Brocknor's General Augereau is capably played.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*An Abandoned Woman* is this week paying a return visit. Miss Georgette Thierry endows the character of Ninon with dramatic intensity; Mr. Bernard Leill does well in the rôle of Philippe Malvoisin; Mr. George Gormley plays the part of Robert Saunders in good style; Mr. Wolston Foster is a manly Capt. Herbert Seton; and Miss Kathleen Magee wins the sympathy of the house by her portrayal of Eleanor Dean.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—May Moore-Duprez, who makes her first appearance here, gives sparkling freshness to song and dance; Otto and Olga in *Mirth, Music, and Mock Opera* convince all of their abilities as musicians; imitations are capitally done by Mr. Fred Poplar; some smartly executed acrobatic feats on the triple bars are contributed by Rozaro Bolleros; Grey and Welford, in patter and comic boxing, are amusing; the Roman Emperor song as done by Tatten Hall is about the funniest thing that has been seen here for some time; Kitty Wager, comedienne, contributes a pleasing

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WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for June 18, 25, and intermediate, onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

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WANTED, Company, June 18, July 9 and 23. Copy of bill and particulars,
J. H. CURRY, as above.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedies, Burlesque preferred. Vacant dates June 18, 25, onwards. Apply, A. C. MOODY.

WANTED, Dramatic or Musical Attraction, June 4. Write or wire, SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe. Now booking Autumn, Radcliffe and Chorley.

WANTED, Musical Comedy or Dramatic Company, to play hour or 1¼ hours, Saturday night, June 2, Sante's Benefit. Full particulars, lowest terms, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Good Attractions, July 30 and Aug. 6 (only vacant dates this year).
HARRY FISCHER.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 6, 12, 20.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant May 28, Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 5.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant May 28, June 11, 18, 25.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 13.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant May 28, June 4, 11, 18.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 5.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES.
Lessee, W. E. POTTS.
This Theatre will be entirely renovated, and open in August, under the management of W. PAYNE SEDDON.
First three days of week, Dumfries; last three, Hawick.
WANTED, Big Attraction, to open Aug. 13 or 20, also Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 10, 24, and New Year.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant Nov. 19 and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Good No. 1 Attractions, Drama or Musical, wanted for Aug. 6, 13, 20, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 8, on.
R. ADDISON, Limited.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, July 2, 9, Aug. 6, 13.
E. H. PAGE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
WANTED, First-class Company, June 4. Address,
STANLEY ROGERS.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday), and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant dates from Aug. 20. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

DUNFERMLINE OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August 20, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 27, Sept. 3 and Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Dec. 10. Apply to Owner and Manager, JAMES KIERNAN.

THEATRE ROYAL, ILKESTON.

Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. ROGERS.
WANTED, Companies, Vacant June 4 (Whit), Sept. 3 (Musical Show required), onwards. Silence a courteous negative.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd, June 18; and Theatre Royal, Merthyr, June 18 and 25, and later. For dates apply,
WILL SMITHSON, Merthyr.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for June 4 and onwards, for Suburban Theatres.
Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st., S.W.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Musical or Farcical preferred, onwards, with exceptions. Now booking season dates. Seating about 1,400. PHILLIPS, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Companies, June 21, 22, 23, July 2, on, with exceptions, 3 nights each town. CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

SEASIDE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, LYTHAM.
WANTED, Good Attractions, through cancelling, for Whit week and on, Companies of Dioramas, Gipsy Choirs, or Varieties, Pierrots, &c.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

WANTED, High-Class Companies and Attractions. For dates apply, W. ALEC MILLWARD, Victoria Hall, Llandrindod Wells (Health Resort, Summer Season).

COMPANIES WANTED.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 11, 25, July 2, and Oct. 1.
Bookings include:—Mr. William Mollison in "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "The Earl and the Girl," "The Christian," "The Cingalee," "The Geisha," "The Greek Slave," Mr. Lawrence Brough in "The Lady of Ostend," "The White Chrysanthemum," "Florodora," &c.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN,
General Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only, June 4 (Whit week), Aug. 20 and 27.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Attraction for week of July 9.
Wire,
"Hustler," Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH.
Vacant July 2, 9.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
Vacant June 25, and July.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

PLEASURE GARDENS T., FOLKESTONE.
WANTED, High-Class Companies, June 14 (three nights), 25, July 9, Oct. 22, Nov. 1 (three nights).
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, June 4, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, Oct. 22, Nov. 5.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatre, June 4.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Nov. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
"Bruges," Willow-av., Edgbaston, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,"
The Most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-Class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatre, July 9, on, with exceptions.
"SAILORS OF THE KING."
Wanted, Aug. 27, on, with exceptions.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Grand Theatre, Wcolwich.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID!"
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, June 4, June 11, and onwards, with exceptions.
Enormous success at Metropole, B'ham, this week.
Refer Andrew Melville, Esq.
Wire for June 4 (Whit Week).
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
to-day, Met., Birmingham; next, T. R., Croydon.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 2, 30, Aug. 6, 27, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, 22, and Dec. 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY" TOUR.
Eugene C. Stafford's Company.
WANTED, Nov. 1 (three nights) and 12, Dec. 3 and 24, also Spring, 1907. Apply, care of FRENCH, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London.

Mr. GEORGE E. MUDD'S TOUR of
"A BUNCH OF VIOLETS" CO.,
from the Haymarket Theatre, London.
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 9, 23, and 30, also Aug 6 (South preferred). Mr. Norman Partriege as Sir Philip Marchant. All new scenery and properties carried. Absolutely as West End production. Re dates, apply, GEORGE E. MUDD, Resident Business-Manager, Grand T., Nelson.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Various, onwards,
"ORPHAN HEIRESS,"
"WORLD'S VERDICT,"
(Double Bill).
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
"SAINTS AND SINNERS,"
"MIDDLEMAN."
(Double Bill).
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, July 23 and 30, South. Only summer dates open. Fortieth week of Present Tour. Sept. 3, 10, and 17, on.
Booking and re-bookings extend into March, 1907.
Cast, scenery, and printing A1.
FRANK AYRTON,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Mexboro'.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Enormous Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, and on, with exceptions. Apply,
FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING."
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Theatres, for remaining vacant weeks 1907.
PAUMIER and HOWARD, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

MISS MURIEL GODFREY-TURNER in Classic Comedy Répertory.
WANTED, June 18, to follow Tyne Theatre, Newcastle. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, June 18, 25, July 2, 9.
Terms must be equitable.
EADE MONTEFIORE, Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Monday, wire, "Busily, London."

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, June 25, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever.
E. CARTER LIVESEY, New, Consett.

"TOO MANY COOKS,"
the Screaming Farcical Comedy.
WANTED, Dates, for Mrs. Walter Lonnen's Autumn Tour, Aug. 6, and onwards.
All communications, Mr. LESLIE FAIRFAX, 36, Agate-road, Hammersmith, W.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Xmas week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

WANTED, for "Throne of Terror," Good Theatres, June 18, on, Aug. 13, various, on.
W. J. MILLER, New Olympia T., Murton, Durham.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, July 9 and 16, to follow Chatham. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre; several dates vacant Autumn. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production which will be second to none touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain First-Class Theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

"THE HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Sept. 15, 22, Nov. 26. All new scenery and printing. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, Good Theatres, for "The Heart of a Hero," "The Octoroon," and "The Ticket of Leave Man," June 11, and onwards. Can arrange for three plays in one week. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 10, 17, and Oct. 1. L. CARSON, Keighley.

Miss EMMA LITCHFIELD'S PLAYS.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, for "A London Actress." June 18, July 9, Aug. 6, on.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
Everything carried, including a horse.
Vacant for Big Theatres, Oct. 22, on.
Big Success at H. M. Theatre, Dundee.
This is a fine, bold, compelling melodrama, played in a hearty and emotional way.—Dundee Advertiser
At the conclusion of the performance Miss Litchfield was presented by the Edinburgh University Artillery Volunteers (who had booked the entire stalls) with a beautiful bouquet.
Address,
STUART CLEVELAND,
Theatre Royal, Aston (return).

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes, by Angels.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10, 24, onwards. JACK HADDON, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
Mr. Jack Haddon, having acquired the sole proprietorship of above Pantomime, which is acknowledged to be one of the finest productions toured, will be pleased to hear from managers of first-class theatres, from Xmas week, and onwards.
Address as above.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT."
Mr. Harry Cullenford as Karl, Miss Violet Carlyle as Nadia, supported by a Star Cast.
WANTED, Aug. 6 (follow Alex., Hull), 13 (precede Jarrow), Sept. 17 (precede Lincoln), and Spring Dates. Thanks Messrs. Culeen, Manners, and Mitchell for Contracts. Tour starts Whit at Dewsbury. Address, Avon Cottage, Dewsbury.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, June 11, between T. R., Middlesbro', and T. R., Chatham. Wire, wire, wire.
EDWARD SURREY, to-day, Grand, Luton (return); next, Queen's, Longton.

MIDLAND SYNDICATE DRAMAS.
WANTED, June 11 (?), 25 (follow Hull, return visit in three weeks), all July, and Aug. 6, 20, for "Life," "East Lynne," Musical Versions, &c.; First-class Co., magnificent printing. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, G. T., Hull; Mon., Hip., Mansfield.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH," by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Aug. 6, 27, to follow return, Met., Birmingham; Sept. 10, Oct. 22, Xmas, New Year; splendid successes. FRANCES DELAVAL, T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 10, North or Midlands, Oct. 1 and 15.
Miss Maud Hildyard and Powerful Company.
Mr. ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire T., Oldham.

"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, June 11, through mistake, for above, only vacant date, to follow Bradford and precede Coventry.
KIMBERLEY,
Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatre, June 11, follow Met., Birmingham; June 25. OSMOND, Queen's, Manchester.

"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, June 25, July 23, on, June 25, July 23, on. Acknowledged one of the finest played and staged Dramas Touring. Refer McLeod Loader, Esq. Wire, E. A'DELL, to-day, O. H., St. Helens; next, T. R., Attercliffe.

WANTED, Theatres for the Elster-Grime Répertoire Opera Co. of 35 Artists, to follow Weymouth, July 2, 9, 16, and 23, also Aug. 6, and on, South preferred. Can arrange separately for "La Fille de Madame Angot." Refer Managers. C/o E. GRIME, Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super Mare, May 28. Choristers wanted, open June 4, Plymouth.

"THE NEW CLOWN."
"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, June 11, and 25, July 9.
EUGENE BERTRAM, to-day, Lewisham; next week, Grand, Blackpool.

WANTED, Theatres, for "The Assassin." Oct. 29, Oct. 29.
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, Theatres, for Oct. 15 and 22, for "The Earl and the Girl," between Cheltenham and Keighley. Wire, ALEXANDER TELFORD, Lyric Theatre, W.

MIDLAND SYNDICATE'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Autumn and Spring Dates, for Important Revival of the Great Money-maker, "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab." Splendid pictorials, powerful Co.; real cab travelled for street parade. For dates, HERBERT BARRS, Hip., Mansfield.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
WANTED, June 18 (follow Queen's, Manchester) and 25. DENCH, Bootle; next week, Met., Birmingham.

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, June 4, 11, 18, July 2, could arrange few weeks' stock, Drama or Comedy. A., Yarmouth; next, Peckham.

WANTED, June 4, for "Money Makes the Man" or "No Escape," everything sound and good, no trouble. Wire, DAVIES, King's, Cardiff; next, Theatre, Burslem.

C. AND F. RENAD'S PANTOMIME.
"PUSS IN BOOTS."
New Version, by Stanley Rogers, Esq.
WANTED, Important Theatre, for Two Weeks, Feb. 4 and 11.
Company of Seventy Artists.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, for "Circumstantial Evidence," June 4. Wednesday's receipts double Monday. Complimented by Mr. Angless, Pier, Southend, on the show. Wire for June 4 and 11, CHARLES CLIFFORD, to-day, 15, Lancaster-gardens, Southend; Mon. Col., Oldham (return).

WANTED, July 12 (3 nights), follow Harrogate, July 16, Aug. 20, for Charles Windermere and Co., "Facing the Music." Address, Opera House, Torquay.

GRAND OPERA, "BIJOU," LTD.
Double Cast of Principals; full Chorus, Orchestra, &c.
WANTED, July 23, to follow Aquarium, Great Yarmouth. Wire, YOKEFELLOW, London. Telephone 7279 Gerrard. ARTHUR, 434, Strand.

THEATRES WANTED.

J. M. BARRIE'S COMEDY,

"WALKER, LONDON,"
"WALKER, LONDON,"
"WALKER, LONDON,"
"WALKER, LONDON,"
"WALKER, LONDON,"

Revived at the
Royal County Theatre,
Kingston-on-Thames,

This week with great success.
This week with great success.

The Comedy
produced in the best possible style,
with a West End Company,
and
a New and Elaborate Scene,
especially made and painted for the revival.

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Mr. Peter Davy
is open to
negotiate for Summer Dates
negotiate for Summer Dates
in
First-Class Theatres only.
First-Class Theatres only.

to bring the Entire Company and Production,
everything as at Kingston.

Managers cordially invited
to see the Show at Kingston this week.

WANTED, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 8, 22, 29, few later,
for
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S
Magnificent Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."

Extracts from the London Press:—
Daily Express:—
An instantaneous success.
Lloyds:—
An exciting melodrama, full of powerful situations. The explosion is most realistic and startling.
People:—
There are some cleverly devised situations and dramatic incidents in "As Good as Gold." It is a melodrama of a stirring nature. It was picturesquely staged.
News of the World:—
Was produced with considerable success. . . . is handled by the author in quite a skilful fashion. A hearty reception was accorded the production, which was well staged.
Chiswick Times:—
There is a startling episode in the third act. . . . even more so than when the earthquake used to so astound playgoers in Wilson Barrett's "Claudian."

N.B.—Every scene and property carried.
One of the most complete Productions ever Toured.
Address, re dates,
F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

Success! Success!! Success!!!
Miss MARY NEIL and Mr. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
Bookings include
Junc. and Osborne, Manchester (R.); Alex., Hull (R.); P., Blackburn (R.); T. R., Castleford (R.); T. R., Bolton; Alex., Sheffield; Grand, Blackpool; T. R., Lincoln; G., Derby; T. R., Leicester; T. R., South Shields; O. H., St. Helens; T. R., Sunderland; Q., Liverpool; Wigan; Prince's, Bradford; T. R., Barnsley; T. R., Middlesbrough; T. R., Chatham; T. R., Smethwick; T. R., Aston; Grand, Nottingham; Rotunda, Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Thanks for offers of P. O. W., Grimsby; Prince's, Portsmouth; Victoria, Broughton; Gd., Swansea; Gy., Burnley; Gd., Brighton; T. R., Bristol; Alex., Birmingham; Grand, Islington.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, and few Autumn Dates vacant for really good Theatres that can hold money. Rapidly booking 1907. Managers are invited to forward autumn vacancies to GEORGE KIRK, this, T. R., Jarrow; next, Queen's, Liverpool.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres for this Sterling Attraction. Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 17, and few later. Splendidly advertised, beautifully mounted, and cleverly acted. A solid success. Present bookings:—Newport (third), Chester (2), G. Swansea, Brixton (2), R. Cardiff, S. Shields, Sunderland, G. Croydon, Wolverhampton, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Broughton, Rochdale, Ashton, Newcastle, Birmingham, &c., &c. Now booking 1907. LYCEUM, NEWPORT, May 28.

MR. ANDREW MOIR'S COMPANY,
in Three-Act Farcical Comedy,
"THE MAJOR'S DOUBLE"
and
Miniature Grand Opera,
"THE GAMESTER."
WANTED, Whit Week, also June 11 (precede Theatre Royal, Brighton).
Wire, F. MARTIN MORRIS,
21, Kensington-place, Notting Hill Gate, W.
See Companies Column for Cast.

"JANE."
WANTED, Whit. Week, to follow Palace Pier, Brighton. Wire, "Yokefellow, London." Telephone, 7279 Gerrard. ARTHUR, 434, Strand.

WANTED, Jan. 7, for Charles S. Kitts' and Somers Bellamy's Grand Christmas Production, "Cinderella," 1906-7. A fine all-round sparkling Pantomime. Bookings include Londesboro', Scarboro', O. H. York, Spa, Bridlington, O. H. Harrogate, &c., &c. Jan. 7 (Lancs. or Yorks.). Communications, Empire T., Sheffield.

MISS ALICE CHAPIN'S CO.,
in
"A PANTOMIME REHEARSAL."
WANTED, June 11, 12, 13, June 18, July 16, EDGAR J. COYNE, c/o "The Era."

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro. From the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED, Dates, July 16, to follow Eastbourne; Aug. 6, 20, and 27, to precede Brighton.
Only vacant dates in 1906.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, Criterion Theatre, London.

FRED GRANVILLE'S "FORTY THIEVES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for above First-class Show, Jan. 14, and on, with exceptions, to follow production, 3 weeks, Grand Theatre, Derby, specially selected by T. A. Edwards, Esq., after seeing the show. Splendid company, full chorus (40), gorgeous costumes and scenery. Cast on application. FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

Moving Pictures of the
Great Fight,
Battling Nelson v. Jimmy Britt,
for the
Light-weight Championship of the World.
One-and-a-half Miles of Film.
Every incident and blow is shown in the Pictures, which are as clear as crystal and interesting as a triumph of photography, as well as a lifelike record of the
Greatest Fight of Modern Times.
The Film occupies 1½ hours, and, with the addition of a good variety company, makes a First-class Show for First-class Theatres.
Refer as to Business done to
Olympia, Newcastle; South Shields; Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, &c., &c.
WANTED, a Few Early Dates.
London Booking Agent,
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Telegrams, "Cockaigne, London."

WANTED, Whit Week, First-Class Theatres, or Hippodromes, for the
KELLINO'S "FETE IN VENICE,"
and STAR VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
Share or Certainty.

Communications, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, July, August, onwards, First-class Theatres, Piers, Pavilions, &c., for Walter Payne's up-to-date picture exhibit, unparalleled success everywhere. Circus, Hull, packed nightly. Complimented by Mr. Emerson. Everything done to ensure success. Rent, share, or certainty. Particulars, 346, Brixton-road, London.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED for Autumn, Musical Comedy, Prima Donna Contralto, must be young, good appearance, and exceptional voice; also Principal Baritone, must be a good actor; and Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies, must be young and have good voices and appearance. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

Special Production, One Week Only, Probable Tour to Follow.
"LOLA."
WANTED, Artists.—A Lady, tall, and of commanding appearance, for a strong, emotional, intense character, for the part of Lola; must be an artist of undoubted ability. Also a Gentleman, to play a strong military part of Captain Foster; also Character Actor, who can speak broken English, brutality with intensity; and a good Coster Character Comedian, one with a London reputation preferred; also a Petite Juvenile Lady, small but showy part, for a special week in London. References, which will be applied for, stating age, experience, and lowest inclusive terms, together with photos. essential, addressed to GEORGE WAY, 121, Long-acre, W.C. No interviews.

ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.
Stock Season.
WANTED, First-class Leading Juvenile Gentleman, Character Actor, Robust Old Man, Low Comedian, Young Leading Lady, Tall Heavy ditto, and Pretty Chambermaid, Lady for Old Women with Child, also good quick Scenic Artist. Rehearse June 4, Liverpool. Photos., lowest summer terms, and references, M. MONTGOMERY, Theatre Royal, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-Class Juvenile Leading Lady and Gentleman, Heavy Gentleman, Dramatic Sketches, London, open June 11; no joint engagements. Letters only, photo., actual lowest, references, FRED BROOKE, 55, Ridley-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady, Heavy and Char. Gents., one week, Sketch. Full particulars, JESSIE ELVIN, 12, Tomlin's-grove, Bow, E.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, Known, Probable Important Vacancies will occur for Autumn Tour of above. Good reliable Carpenter, capable of small parts, write; must be tall. J. M. THORNE, P. O. W., Grimsby.

"THE LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, First-class Romantic Leading Man; must be powerful, tall, young, and of good appearance; good engagement to the right man. Photos. (essential) and full particulars, to G. CARLTON WALLACE, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, First-class Actor, Detective for the above, impersonating Irish woman and comedy waiter. Apply, absolute lowest summer terms, height, age, latest references, and photo., FRANK BATEMAN, King's, Cardiff.

WANTED, Actor, to play Lead and Stage-Manage; also Lady and Gentleman Novice. Photos., &c., to FRANCOIS MACMAHON, Court T., Mountshannon, co. Clare.

L. CARSON'S "DRAMA OF LIFE" COMPANY.
WANTED, good Leading Man, also good Responsible; rehearse May 28. L. CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, end July, Juvenile Gentleman Comedian (nigger part), Acting-Manager. State terms, height, references, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

WANTED, Capt. Ratts, Pointdexter, for "Octoroon," 3 nights, Durham district, May 31. Rehearse Tuesday. W. J. MILLER, Olympia T., Murton, Durham.

WANTED, Known, to Amateurs, a few vacancies occur in No 1 Touring Company for smart young ladies and gentlemen, for Autumn Tour; small premium required. Parts and salary. Apply first instance by letter.
N., Box 3,278, "The Era."

WANTED, Amateur Gentleman, for a West End Production in the Suburbs; those having ability for Comedy communicate at once. Box 3,287, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductor and Choristers, all voices, Grand Opera Party, for Summer months. Write, stating last engagement, to ARTHUR, 434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Soloists for Grand Opera Quartette, to play twelve minutes, original Operatic Sketch, London Halls. MANAGER, 3, Stockwell Park-road.

WANTED, Six Dancing Girls, good figures and voices; long engagement. Letters to "Engagement," c/o "Das Programm," 40 Lisle-street, Leicester-square, W.

WANTED, for inland, High-Class Al Fresco, Humorist, with répertoire of Piano Sketches and Songs, open immediately. Lowest terms to RICHARDS, Red Lion Hotel, Luton.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, by Gentleman, Strong Baritone, age 32, immediate seaside engagement. Terms moderate. A. B., Cleeve House, 4, Napier-avenue, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Child Actress, 14, three years' speaking parts in Drama, London refs. CHRISTOBEL AFTED, 93, Euston-road, King's Cross.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, Principal Boys, First Girl, really humorous Comedians, man for donkey, sing and dance, knockabouts, fairy queen, tall, handsome chorus (experienced). Photo., references, lowest terms, where working, to J. L. BARRY, 5, Mortimer-street, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Tall, Handsome Chorus Ladies, also First-class Comedians, for
Hassarac and Will Atkins,
for Pantomime.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Tall, Handsome Chorus Ladies, for "Sinbad" Pantomime," good voices. SINCLAIR'S Agency, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, for "Sinbad" Pantomime, Artists all Lines. Terms, refs., photo.
SINCLAIR'S Agency, 118, Kennington-road, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, able to make Sketches. Send Specimens.

WOMERSLEY, Bazaar Fitter, Leeds.

Scene Painters.
WANTED, practical man, capable of carrying out a large scene; open air position; previous experience necessary. Write terms,
Box 3,276, "The Era."

WANTED, good Scenic Artist for Theatre Royal, Coatbridge special six weeks.
Address,
stating lowest terms and references, to
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and second-hand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o Waterloo Hotel, Liverpool.

WANTED, by A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract; refs. excellent.
Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, with First-class London and Provincial References. Offers for Permanency, now or autumn, on moderate terms. Address, first instance, Box 3,283, "The Era."

WANTED, Theatrical Contracts, Fit-ups, Repainting, Touching-up, &c., experienced, quick; moderate terms. HENRY, 5, Homer-house, Rushcroft-rd, Brixton.

WANTED, Managers to Note Address of the First and Original Manchester Scenic Factory. BOSTOCK, Rumford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Smart Young Man as Acting-Manager, at established Variety Theatre and Al Fresco Show. Premium £25; small salary; would entertain partner. Full particulars, ref., photo. (if possible), to Box 3,292, "The Era."

WANTED, a Shorthand Writer and Typist, to combine box office duties. Reply, stating salary required, age, references, &c., to MANAGER, Shepherd's Bush Empire.

WANTED, Good All-round Billposter; must be strictly sober, and used to horses. Apply, A. C. MOODY, New Theatre Royal, Blyth, Northumberland.

WANTED, First-class Billposter, good references indispensable. Apply, ROCKLEY'S, LTD., Talbot-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Billposter, steady High-ladderman. Apply, giving references, RICHEY and Co., LTD., Clayton-street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, two Lithographers (high window billers), for few special weeks, in London. Apply, D. P. COOPER, Alexandra Palace, N.

WANTED, Known, A. Levison, Business Representative, at present engaged Cook's Hippodrome, Aberdeen, Dis. shortly. Write quick. C/o GAIRNS, 55, Belmont-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement, Music Hall, S.M., or Carpenter, resident or tour, own tools; good ref.; nine months' Gaiety, Leith; vacant owing to vacation; join June 2. NICKLING, Gaiety, Leith.

WANTED, Employment, gentleman (40), well educated, book-keeper, correspondent, Linguist, Typist, thoroughly competent managerial duties, front or stage; expert cinematograph operator, electrician. Excellent references; 14 years' professional experience. Box 3,284, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage Management, Assistant Management, or Secretary, by young gentleman (23); 5 years' experience; excellent refs. ENTERTAINMENT AGENCY, 17, Bishop's-av., Newcastle.

WANTED, Engagement, by qualified Electrician; thoroughly experienced electrical work and repairs; sober, reliable. Address, PENDER, 41, Ann-st., Greenock, Scotland.

To Managers.
WANTED, Known, that Alf George, Master Carpenter, is Open for an Engagement after 9 years at the Grand Theatre, Islington. P. A., 3, Remington-street, City-road, London, E.C.

WANTED, Known, to Managers, a thoroughly practical Electrician desires Engagement, capable of any branch, lighting motors, &c. W. DENT, Newton-street, Burton-on-Trent

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WANTED, Known, First-Class Wardrobe Mistress shortly at Liberty, good references.
Care of "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Maid to Professional Lady; good refs.; thoroughly domesticated; age 25. K., 6, Loughborough-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
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WANTED, excellent First Violin, for Seaside, four months' engagement, High-class String Orchestra, must be thoroughly experienced in high-class Concert Music; only real excellent players of good appearance need apply. State full particulars and reference. Box 3,293, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, for Ladies' Bands, apply Conductress, Volthurst, Newbury. Flautist, 'Cellist, Cornettist, required from June 3 to 9; must be Soloists and used to Variety.

MACNAGHTEN VAUDEVILLE CIRCUIT.
WANTED, immediately, Good First Violin and Clarionet. Wire, lowest terms, MURGATROYD, Palace, Halifax. Deacon, late of West Hartlepool, wire.

WANTED, First-Class Violinist, for Seaside, June 2 to 9; used to Variety, as Leader, £2 15s. 14, Lindum-street, Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Solo Cornet. Terms 30s.; join at once. Saturday, Redditch; Monday, Bromsgrove. WHITEHURST, Leader

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WANTED, to Open June 3, Solo Cornet, Second Cornet, Clarionet, Trombone; good terms, long engagement. MICHAEL CONNELLY, Pavilion T., Ramsgate.

WANTED, Good Solo Cornet, for Town Band. Terms, shares; permanent. PHILLIPS, 11, Market-place, Southend-on-Sea.

WINDERMERE STEAM YACHTS AND PAVILION ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Young Clarionettist, June 1, till Sept. 15. Age, refs., to T. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, ex-Army Clarionet, Militia Training, July 2, Aug. 25; must enlist; free discharge at end if required. Silence polite refusal. BANDMASTER, The Castle, Monmouth.

WANTED, Second Clarionet, Eight Days, Whitsuntide; also later engagements.
Box 3,296, "The Era."

WANTED, for Grand Opera Tour, First or Second Horn, First and Second Oboe, Second Bassoon, Double Bass, and must be subject to Conductor's approval. Send full particulars at once, and salary required, to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, at Once, E flat Tenor Horn, also E flat Bombardon, pitching, shares. RICE, 2, Gillmore-cottages, Ashfield-place, Ashley-road, Bristol.

WANTED, 'Cellist (good), also Drums and Effects, seaside, eleven weeks, 4½ hours daily, fares paid; experience and lowest terms. CONDUCTOR, 12 Coverdale-road, London, W.

WANTED, Whit Week only, Oboe, Clar., Cornet, 'Cello. CONDUCTOR, 9, Myrtle-street, Whitegate-drive, Blackpool.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, or Violin;
combine other instrument preferred.
For Permanent Staff (Yorks), D.Y.O., R.G.A. (M.).

Apply,
ADJUTANT,
Yorkshire Artillery, Scarborough.

WANTED, Piccolo Solo, B flat Clarionet, Cornet, Euphonium, for pitching, in London. Terms, shares. BANDMASTER, 28, Lisson-st., London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy occurs for a Pianist, at once, for pictures and variety show, one who is willing to assist in any way, good shop, salary £1 10s. per week. Address, VINCENT ROBERTS, c/o 18, Hannah-street, Rochdale-road, Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, to open Monday, Young Lady Pianist, sight reader, quick, experienced. Wire lowest, refs., J. ROLMAZ, T. R., Macclesfield.

WANTED, for Wadbrook's Electrograph, a good Pianist; must be used to Fair Business. Address, P.O., Llanelly.

WANTED, Pianist, Open Whit., used to variety, as deputy, long engagement, London suburban hall. Letters only, interview, COLLINI, Palace, Tottenham, N.

WANTED, ex-Army Bandsmen, for the Royal Anglesey Royal Engineers' Militia. R. YEARSLEY, Bandmaster, Beaumaris.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, at Lib. Address, 51, Fairland-road, Mathow's Park, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., for Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Edgar Haines, Conductor (Violinist), Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Prince's Theatre, Manchester, for Panto. 1905-6, at Liberty the end of June. Address, Gaiety, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Mr. S. C. Richardson, Musical Director of Mr. E. C. Hedmondt's "Queen's Jester" Opera Co., at Liberty for Tour or Permanency. Formerly Royal Carl Rosa and Moody-Manners Opera Co., &c. Box 3,275, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Thomas C. Poyser, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, now at Liberty. Exceptional references. Address, 49, Cowper-street, Leeds.

WANTED, by Bandmaster-Leader, Auguste Renard, Engagement, with his Orchestra, fourteen First-Class Musicians (eight Soloists), in elegant Hussar Uniform dress, immediately or later. Terms moderate; great répertoire. Café Restaurant Electric, Scheneningen, Holland.

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WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director, First Violin or Viola, theatre or seaside. Exceptional references; steady and reliable. SMITH, 13, Vincent-st., Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Conductor, could supply Band, any business, sixteen years Conductor Wisbech Volunteers; good references. MADDISON, 1, Inver-road, Clapton.

WANTED, Engagement as Musical Director (Violinist); good Variety Hall; experienced; good refs. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 17, Villa-place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Conductor (Violin), thoroughly experienced in variety business, best refs., can open at once. Address, CONDUCTOR, 20, Woodhouse-st., Hyde Park, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Louis Laval, Musical Director and Solo Pianist, of the Follies, will be disengaged June 11, for musical comedy or concerts. Midland Hotel Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, reliable London Variety Musical Director, Violinist, and Pianist, London only. Address, Box 3,297, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Solo Violinist, Classic Répertoire (memory), and Baritone Vocalist, with Contralto Vocalist and Guitarist, combine in vocal and instrumental duos. Refs. given and wanted (two people only). D'ALBY'S, 14, Upper Newington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, a First-Class Violin (Leader) requires Re-engagement, Theatre preferred, but accept Summer Engagement. Box 3,277, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First Violin, can combine Second or Third Clarionet, for Military Band, Disengaged. Last season, Hastings. Good references. Box 3,282, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, good sight reader, any business. State terms, 22, Greville-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, in Ladies' Orchestra, as Second Violin; experienced. Miss HELEN IZETT, 18, Albion-place, Hanley.

WANTED, Engagement, as Violinist, South Coast preferred. FRANK AUGARDE, Leader, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells. Reference, CAREY, Esq., Lessee, as above.

WANTED, by Lady, Violinist and Mandolinist, summer engagement, experienced any business. A. MELVILLE, 19, Mayton-street, Holloway.

WANTED, Eng., Violin, Piano, Cornet, Double Bass (four-string), combine Trombone, Double-handed. Theatre, finishing. Wire, POWELL, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Season's Engagement, for Violin and Harp (vocalist if required), boat business preferred. CHRIS HANCOX, 7, Temple-street, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company; excellent testimonials. Now at Liberty. Address, MATTHEW LEWIS, Waterlooville, Hants.

WANTED, Summer, or Permanent Engagement, by violinist, first violin, or leader, theatre and variety experience. Refs. MORRIS, Palace Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Violinist, combine Clarionet, any business, first-class refs. W. F., 20, Methley-st., Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by really First-class Violinist, combine Piano; excellent refs., library, &c. LEONARD TUTE, 31, Marle Hill-parade, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Lady Violinist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced; excellent refs.; just concluded eight months' engagement. VIOLINIST, 172, Penton-place, Kennington.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violin (combine First or Second Trombone), Lib. June 16; excellent refs. LEADER, New T., Oxford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement by First Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Clarionet, and Cornet. Address, LEADER, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist and Double Bass, together or separate; good references. Apply, VIOLINIST, 3, Castle-terrace, Church-street, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violin, Theatre and Variety experience, age 28; total abstainer; disengaged May 28. H. PHIPPS, 83, Todmorden-road, Bacup.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by First or Second Cornet, Theatre or Seaside preferred. Terms and refs. Box 3,281, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Summer Season, Solo Cornet, at Liberty; sober, reliable. Wire or write, LESLIE, Empire Palace, Dudley.

WANTED, by good Cornet, Engagement for Whitsuntide, including fares; any business. Write, O., 10, Thomas-street, St. Paul's, Bristol.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet, experienced and reliable, season or permanent, from June 2. WILLIAMSON, Band, Yeomanry Camp, Cirencester.

WANTED, First-Class Military Band Engagement, as First or Second Cornet Player, for Summer Season; well experienced in First-Class Military Band work; Army references. ZEALLEY, 3, Hartington-terrace, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, good Cornet Player (comb. Viola), Open to Accept good Engagement for Season. E. FRITZ, 47, East-street-buildings, Baker-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced First or Second Cornet, any Business. Can join at once. C. BURROWS, 7, Stone-street, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Miss Adeline Parkyn, Cornet, Disengaged from July 16, onwards.
Care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly Experienced Solo Cornet, string or military, good refs., can open at once. TYLER, 33, Thomson-st., Stockport.

WANTED, by Clarionet and 'Cello, for Yeomanry Training, or any other engagement. Excellent refs. IRWIN, 37, Badlis-rd., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, Orchestral or Military; open at once. Apply, HUBERT PERKINS, 6, Beaumont-street, Oadby, near Leicester.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement; steady and reliable; good refs; could join at once. HARRY HARE, 21, Station-square, Harrogate.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Double Bass, at Liberty for permanent Engagement; first-class refs. LYND, 170, Drakefell-rd., Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Theatrical or Music Hall Engagement; 4 years last; good references. CONTRA BASS, 22, Church-street, Leominster.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass; sober and reliable; good refs. J. ALLAN, 1, Buckland-street, New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombonist, late military, will be disengaged shortly, for season. Apply, COOKE, Trombone, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, by good Trombone, Seaside Engagement, Orchestra preferred, or Deputising. TROMBONE, 11, Como-road, Forest Hill, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Trombone, at Liberty after Sat., June 2, any business. Excellent refs. Add., this, Yeomanry Camp, Tunbridge Wells; or, HILL, 93, Florence-rd., New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, with Tenor or G Trombone; any Business.
Address, Box 3,230, "The Era."

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, long summer engagement, excellent refs., can open at once. CHARLES GRICE, 184, Waterloo-rd., Norwich.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon, Seaside or Tenting; steady and reliable; can open at once. A. BLUNT, 36, Forest-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced E Flat Bombardon; good refs.; reliable. Address, J. NOONAN, 9, All Saints'-green, Norwich.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, deputising; any business.
FLETCHER, 100, Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, well up in Opera.
'CELLO, 3, Lyndhurst-grove, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced 'Cellist; good references; Seaside. Address, W. D. KNUSSEN, 65, Clare-road, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Birmingham or district, by experienced Viola; good references. WHITE, c/o Rev. Hall, Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola or Violin; good references; any business. F. W. ESKE, 29, Falcon-grove, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, by Arthur Cowen, Viola, Grand T., Glasgow, Engagement, Viola or Violin. Now at Lib. Address, 20, Monteith-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Oboist, Engagement, end of May; good references. Address, J. PRITCHARD, Oboist, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FRANK FIELD, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, good Engagement by First-Class Oboe, late of Carl Rosa's Opera Company; splendid refs. GEORGE, 105, Herne Hill-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c.—49, Haverstock-hill, London, N. W.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, Flute and Piccolo Soloist. Military or String; good references; can open at once. PAYNE, 18, College-buildings, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flautist, summer or permanency, through reduction of orchestra, competent and reliable. Good refs. RATCLIFFE, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute (Piccolo Soloist), well known, any business, orchestral or military, reliable. P., 27, Thistlewaite-rd., Lower Clapton, London.

WANTED, good Summer Engagement, by experienced Flute and Piccolo (Piccolo Solos), Orchestral or Military, Theatre or Variety; good refs. FLAUTIST, 35, Pentney-road, Balham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement (together), by Two Musicians, flute and harp, sight readers, boat preferred. Address, FLAUTIST, 26, King-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist-Conductor, Poole's Myriorama, any business. Highest references. Wire offers for Monday to THORNE, Garrick Theatre, Hereford.

WANTED, by Orchestral Pianist and Accompanist, Engagement, good refs. Address, THOMPSON, 42, Holsworthy-square, Gray's Inn-rd, W.C.

WANTED, by Pianist (good), and Composer, highly cultured in judgment of eminent authorities, Engagement. W., Saracen's Head Hotel, Loughboro'.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Pianist, soloist and accompanist, combine violin or viola; excellent testimonials. CRAMER, 27, Lewes-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by First-Class Pianist, Re-engagement, any business, Al Fresco, Orchestral, &c. sight reader, transposer, young. CAMPBELL, 45, Edward-street, Bury.

WANTED, Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, ever reliable Pianist, disengaged, or with his marvellous monster powerful portable organ. 744, Oxford-rd., Reading.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Al Fresco or Concert, as accompanist, by energetic gent.; also give help, secretarial, or any other useful capacity. Box 3,271, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Frank Gifford, Pianist or Portable, Vocalist; also George Hedge, Violinist (both sight-readers), Al Fresco or any business; late Hastings Minstrels. Apply, 16, Liverpool-street, King's Cross, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement by N. Robinson, Pianist, exper. in Al Fresco, Var., Drama business; good reader, Orch. or self; steady, reliable; excel. refs.; any dis. Add., Post Office, Thorne.

WANTED, by Lady, as Pianiste, Accompaniste, Engagement, Orchestral or otherwise. M. ASHON, Post Office, West Park, Harrogate.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects, any Business; experienced and reliable. Offers, terms, W. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Orchestral Drummer, an Engagement, competent, theatre or music hall. D. D., 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. Hunt's Ladies' Small Orchestra, open for engagement. For terms apply 73, The Grove, Hammersmith, or 4, Lansdowne-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by the Excelsior Military Band, from twelve performers upwards, neat uniform. J. WOODS, 3, Agnes-street, Grantham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, the Bradfield Ladies' Orchestra; three performers, upwards; excellent Soloists; music specially arranged. 111, Holland-road, Kensington, W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Garner's Elysée Band, from three performers or first-class Orchestral Pianist; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable Family Band, Two Violins, Bass, Cornet, Piano. Halls, Theatres, &c. Apply, BAND, 19, Mayton-st., Holloway.

WANTED, Engagement, Trio of Ladies (Greek Costume, Blue and Gold), Pianist, Violinist, and Bass, Restaurants, Cafés, &c. COOPER, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Dodsworth's Northern Military or String Bands, from 12 upwards. Neat uniform. For terms, apply, DODSWORTH, 9, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

BOSCO'S TENTING CIRCUS.

WANTED, to open at once, for long and comfortable Season, Circus Artists in all Lines, Lady and Gentlemen Equestrians, Animal Shows, Strong Acts, Novelty Numbers, &c., &c.; useful families. Write, stating lowest terms and particulars of Acts. Allow two days for reply. Address, Bosco, 20, Joy-street, Belfast.

GLASGOW FAIR.

WANTED, for July 12, for nine days, an entire Menagerie, a full Circus Company, or any good big Attraction, suitable for open air or large covered Stage.
Will Buff Bill, Chipperfield, or Biddall's Circus write?
Apply,
GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Jugglers, Athletes, Comedy Acts, Sat., June 2, Sante's Benefit. Address, with lowest terms, Theatre, Radcliffe. Glad to hear from old friends.

WANTED, for Whitsuntide and Season, for Pavilion, New Brighton, Aerial Flight or Wire Rope, or any other Novelty. Share or rental. Apply immediately THE MANAGER, Palace, New Brighton.

WANTED, Pongo Monkey Act on the Perpendicular Rope, Whit Tuesday Fête. Lowest terms, fares paid. SYLVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, immediately, smart Tumbler, for Comedy Act. Write, with correct list of Tumbling Tricks, lowest terms, age, height, weight, &c., to
Box 3,294, "The Era."

WANTED, Trapeze Act, double preferred, four days, Northampton, June 4. Lithos. No fancy price. MC ASKELL, New Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, for Whit Week, Crystal Palace, really Funny Clown (Agouste style), to work between variety turns. WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Fête, Whit. Monday, close London, thoroughly experienced grotesque gymnast, for rings, &c., understanding outdoor rigging. Particulars and lowest, Box 3,289, "The Era."

WANTED, Catcher for renowned Flying Trapeze Act, must be single, no amateur need apply, must be able to catch doubles and twisting tricks; also must do some horizontal bar work. State age and previous experience, and send photo.
Address,
J. W. E., 11, Blagdon-street, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Smart Youth, must be good tumbler; also a Girl, contortionist or tumbler; for Comedy Sketch. State age, weight, height, tricks, wages, live in, good home. Grand Chance.
Address, Box 3,288, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Tumbler and Gymnast, able to patter well, aged fifteen to twenty. Apply with photo., REZENE, Holloway Empire.

WANTED, good steady Circus Stud Groom. Send particulars, references, &c.
B. TAYLOR, Post Office, Dublin.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Best Existing Lion Show, Vacant June 11, 25, onwards, with exceptions, share or fixed; also Aug. Bank Holiday, Gala or Fête.
Communicate,
Palace Theatre, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Caban's Marvellous Sixteen Performing Miniature Ponies, Donkeys, and Dogs, at Liberty May 28, June 4, 11, for halls, fêtes, galas, &c. Wire for Monday, North st., Stamford.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, bareback equestrians, pigeon charmers, and foot equilibrist, at Liberty Whit. Monday, with own ring horse. Address, IRVIN, 145, Evesham-st., Redditch.

WANTED, Known, Neddy Vokes, Comedy Musical Comedian, talking knockabout clown, liberty summer season, home or abroad. Address, Cooke's Royal Hippodrome, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Galas, Al Fresco, Circus, &c., Turle and Turle, renowned comedy gymnasts, two acts, Vacant Whit. 5, Wood-st. East, Manchester.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, &c., Alex and Jolly, Comic Triple Bar Act; The Halmars, Acrobatic Comedians, &c. Address, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Cara Magda, Queen of the Air, Galas, Galas. The most daring and sensational lady aërial gymnastic gala act in England, 50ft. high, no net, June 4 and 5, Pontefract Gala, Lib. June 11, onwards. Com., 78, Gartside-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, Two Acts, Acrobats and Comedy Triple Bars. Wire, FOUR ROSAIRES, Palace, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known, the Ostieers, Flying Ring and Bar Performers, Liberty for Galas. Wire, 76, Westmoreland-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, June 11 and 18, Mons. Savarro, simeur and equilibrist, one or two turns. Address, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Staircase Leaping Cyclist, free June 11, 18, July 20, onwards; big Act for Galas. 106, Bigland-st., Salford.

WANTED, Known, Swimmers, Divers, Teachers, Bath Managers, Water Artists, Professor Phillips, Madame L'Estrange, open for engagement, home, abroad. 4, Lyceum-buildings, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, by Good Catcher, Second Mount, Tumbler, and Risleyist, straight or comedy, engagement. LEON, 7, Surrey-square, Old Kent-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Known, Edwin Stebbing, Bearer, Second Mount, and Tumbler, Liberty to join Good Troupe. Apply, 3, Waverley-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by young man, Engagement as Improver; good bearer, little hand-balancing. Pocket-money to start. W. G., 7, Owen's-row, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement, Stud Groom and Breaker, tenting, or Hippodromes. A. JAMESON, 2, Drumdryan-street, Edinburgh.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists all Lines, nothing too big, all turns known to me and Mr. Syd Herman write in; terms, shares. Those who have written me before write again and keep me posted. Next week return to the Hippodrome, Sittingbourne. Letters and wires to H. KARDOC, Hippodrome, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, Casino Theatre, Aston, Birmingham, opening Whit. Monday. Apply,
WHITTINGHAM,
354, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, June 4, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, June 4, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, June 18, 25. Best theatres; sharing terms only.
DALE, Hippodrome, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Variety Artists, for Combinations, Monday (North), also June 4, Bristol. Salary or Share. ALEXANDER'S Agency, Theatre, Lancaster.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Wanted, Artists, in all Lines.
Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and Give Full List of Bookings.
Quote absolute Lowest Terms, and Give Full List of Bookings.

Nothing too Big to Book.
Nothing too Big to Book.

Call at once,
Call at once,
HARRY S. HART,
Speciality and Variety Agent,
Star Palace Varieties, London, S.E.
'Phone, 1048 Hop.
Telegrams, "Hart, Star, Bermondsey."

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for June 4. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now, on. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

HIPPODROME, REDDITCH.

WANTED, for the Above, Artists, in all Lines, Circus and Variety, for Monday next June 4, wire; also Wanted, to Buy, V's and Brackets. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double turns, two weeks, June 25, July 9, 23, good Living Freak can open at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists all Lines for June 4, and onwards, for Saxon's Variety Company; good Sketch or Troupe of any kind doing two or three turns; also Bioscope; on Shares.
All letters,
ARTHUR SAXON, 56, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Sittingbourne, Artists, all Lines, with odd weeks, Double Acts (Hall small). Manager, WIGHAM, 120, Victoria-dwellings, Clerkenwell, London.

WANTED, Pierrot Artists, all Lines, well up in Concerted Numbers, Sketches, and have big répertoire. Lowest terms, G. SAPHRINI, 110, Great Thornton-street, Hull.

WANTED, all-round Al Fresco Artists, also Specialities, Pianist-Vocalist, own portable, write. Open Sat., June 2. Address, GALLAGHER, 13, Queen-street, Rugeley, Staffs.

WANTED, June 18 and Aug. 16, Artists in all Lines, suitable for outdoor; those doing two Acts write, send lithos., and lowest terms, to
LEMPRIERE and GREEN,
170, Holloway-head,
Birmingham.

WANTED, First-Class Al Fresco Artists, open Whit, for a well-known money-making Seaside Town, must be refined, talented, big répertoire. Terms, shares profits and expenses. Photos., full particulars to Box 3,291, "The Era."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Comedians, Bottlers, Vocalists. Full particulars, terms, photo., to open Monday, BENSON, 19, Tillotson-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, June 4, and on.
H. A. JORDISON,
St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, Concerts, "Unemployed"; Dickens' Night, June; "Amusement" Dinner, June. "Amusement," 6d.; post, 7d. EDWIN DREW, 7, Whitefriars-street, E.C.

WANTED, Artists of all Descriptions, Immediate Dates, for
London and Provinces.
Send or call, with full particulars,
J. D. JOHNSON,
Variety and Pantomime Agent,
86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists to Know, Santé's Seventh Annual Benefit, Saturday, June 2. Those in vicinity address, lowest terms, SANTÉ, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Clients to keep me posted.
ATLAS, Agent,
17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, those on my books keep me posted. FRED NEIMAN, of NEIMAN'S Agency, Central Hotel, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for Alterations; reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted, strong Top Liners.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, First-Class Concert and Vaudeville Artists to communicate, also clever Amateurs; personal interview necessary. Call for "Gazeka," Whit week: Messrs. A. Telford, Cyril Dane, Morris Harvey, Wellesley Lynn, Misses Florence Wix, Thelma Wylie, Frances Kapstown, and Mollie Gwynne. N.B.—Wanted, Agents to note that the Audition Co., Ltd., supply first-class Artists all Lines.

Next Audition Monday, 11 to 1,
Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer-street.

Agents invited to attend.

All communications must be addressed to
MANAGER,
10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C.
Telephone, 10231 Central.

WANTED, Known, Call, Coventry Hippodrome, Monday next, Rehearsal at 1 o'clock:—Jackson Family, D'Arc's Marionettes, Johnny Holland and Company, Harry Phydora, Hanlon Trio, Ena Richards, E. J. Sheldon, Charles Woodward, Dolly Anderson, and Hippodrome Pictures.

WANTED, Artists to note that the Tivoli, Grimsby, closes from June 9 until the first or second week in Sept., and that all Contracts for dates during that period are therefore cancelled. If the Artists in question will forward their vacancies, Sept. onwards, other dates will be arranged in lieu of those cancelled.
Signed, JOSEPH H. CURRY.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME,
CARLISLE.

WANTED, Artists to Note, the above Hippo. closed Sat., May 21, 1906, and was duly advertised two weeks before that date. To Let for Good Combinations, Picture Shows, Minstrels, &c. Rental only. Gas and electric. Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, Big Stars and Novelties, with or without own Companies, on sharing terms, for town in Midlands, 100,000 population, Aug. 6, on. Apply,
FRED NEIMAN, Central Hotel, Hastings.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Whit Week, Big Stars, all Lines. GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, Stars, for immediate and future dates.
Send full particulars, bookings, terms, &c., to
JESS VERNO,
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.

WANTED, Star Turn, Big Draw, with own Combination (Eight Turns), Whit Week (June 4), two houses nightly; smoking permitted.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

Established 1886.

WANTED, Wire, Wanted, for eight nights, open June 1, good Double Turns doing Single, Sisters, Vent. doing Conjuring Act, six miles from Glasgow. Terms must be low. Wire or write DREW BAYLEY, Agent, 170, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, immediate and onwards, the Greatest Acts in the Business.

Full List of Bookings
and Absolute Lowest,
First Instance,
or no Notice taken of Application.

HARRY BURNS'S Agency,
Sole Proprietor, HARRY BURNS.
Established 1895.

Head Office,
Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

Telephones, 0231 and 0231A.

Also at London and Manchester.

Bookings Include every Hall of Note in England. Also Booking for Germany and America.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAU,
15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, the biggest Comic Acts in the Market for June 4, always immediate vacancies. Send lithos., absolute lowest terms, &c. Singualees Troupe wire.

WANTED, three good Acts, Variety or Specialities, Monday next.
Wire, ZALVA, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Acts in all Lines, also Chorus Ladies. Send photos., &c.
MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

MELVIN AND TAYLOR'S AGENCY,
434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Numbers, for Immediate and Future Dates,
Tops and Bottoms of all Descriptions.
Send full list of bookings
and lowest terms, with lithos.
Full up for Small Acts.

No preliminary fees.

Telephone, 8102 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Impromptu, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,

A Solid Attraction, June 11 (North).

Silence a polite negative.

G. and F. PEEL,
Granville House,
Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for the New Hippodrome, West Bromwich, Aug. 6 and onwards, the absolute cream of the Variety profession; all the greatest Stars in the country; must be new to the abovementioned town, or state when and where last appeared. Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, Tops (Shares), Artists all Lines, Bioscope, Pavilions near London, June 11, on; Band Pianist, open Whit. 41, Gunnersbury-lane, Acton.

WANTED, First-class Musical Speciality, for Whit Week. Lowest to HOWARD STEVENS, Clare Hall Gardens, Halifax. Will Henriette write in?

WANTED, Companies, Artists, Specialities, &c., booked. Send vacant dates, terms, and particulars to THE WOOROY VARIETY AGENCY, 5, Regent-road, Altrincham, Cheshire.

WANTED, Good Variety and Pierrot Companies, complete, for open-air stage, in private grounds, large town, Midlands. Box 3,290, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Penmaenmawr Urban District Council, at thei rmeeting on June 12, will consider offers for providing Summer Al-fresco Entertainments, from the middle of July. Site provided free; no guarantee. B. JOHN HUGHES, Surveyor, Council Offices, Penmaenmawr.

SUTTON BRIDGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WANTED, Known, the Committee invite tenders for two hours' evening entertainment, in Oddfellows' Hall, Wednesday, Aug. 1, one or two artists preferred. Apply, stating terms, A. BEAVAN, Hon. Sec.

WANTED, Smart Concert Party, Bognor Pier Pavilion, June 11, one week. Sharing terms, two-thirds. R. FORSYTH, Bournemouth-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, Refined, Attractive young Ladies, Musical Sketch, Chorus, London Halls, experience unnecessary; dresses found; no premiums or agency fees. Rehearse immediately. MANAGER, 3, Stockwell Park-road.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, open Monday, May 28, Ballad or Serio, also for Illustrated Songs, one knowing "Anona," "Tollers," or "Absence" preferred. Wire, ALEXANDRA, Athenæum, Lancaster.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Young Lady, for Flying Lady Illusion, one able to do a singing turn preferred, comfortable shop, and season, if suitable. LESTER, 16, Victoria-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Young Pretty Girls, for Song and Dance Troupe; good voices and good figures. Permanency under very favourable terms. Apply personally, daily, from 11 to 12, Swiss Club, 74, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, W.

WANTED, Dancers, singly or in pairs, Ladies or Gentlemen; also Foot Equilibrists, for outside Cinématograph Show. Six months certain; open at once.

Address,
Box 3,274, "The Era."

WANTED, Baritone, Comedians, Soubrette, Dancers, Gentlemanly Heavy, Specialities, July 12, few weeks. Miss Burman write. Terms, references, JARMAN, Theatre, Torquay.

WANTED, for Al-fresco, Comedians, gentlemanly; big répertoire; long season; open at once. Photo., terms, ALLNUTT, 46, Middlegate-st., Hartlepool.

WANTED, Comedians, Monday and on, shares or salary, well up in al-fresco. Cannot answer all. Wire, BARNEY NOBLE, Gardens, Durham.

WANTED, Comedians, Vocalists, Instrumentalists, Specialities, Al Fresco Pierrot Troupe, seaside season, open Monday. Terms, photos., BENSON, 19, Tillotson-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Comic Singer, Good Sister Turn, and Speciality, June 4 and 11. WILL ONDA, 49, Walmsley-street, Stalybridge.

WANTED, Young Lady, capable playing of two or more instruments; also Boy Apprentice, for first-class musical act. Costumes, home, fares provided. Photo., terms, ZERBINI'S TROUPE, 47, Oxford-st., Wellingboro'.

WANTED, a reliable Operator, for Cinematograph, to also work Electric Switchboard, at the Palace Variety Theatre, Glasgow. Terms, age, references, to H. MCKELVIE, Acting-Manager.

WANTED, First-class Operators, for Walter Payne's Biophotoscopes, well up in lime and electric; must know their business. 346, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Open Monday, North, Good Effect Workers. Wire, MANAGER, Animated Pictures, Victoria Hall, Southsea.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, 28th, by Dollie Denver, the Australian Comedienne and Dancer. Success, Bedford Palace. Wire, 29, Stockwell-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist, Liberty May 28; also Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist. Wire, B., 158, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next and Whit Week, by Florrie Claribell, Tyrolean Songstress, Serio and Top-boot Dancer. Wire, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, by Sisters Adair, Vocalists and Expert Dancers, June 10, 17, onwards. Post Office, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, Grosvenor Sisters (three), harmonising vocalists, Disengaged until July 7. Offers invited. Handsome costumes. 39, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Whit. Week, on, Darnton Sisters, young, pretty, and refined serio-operatic and harmonising duettists. W. TICE, Agent, 23, Raikes-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Four Sisters Sligo, Irish Musicians and Vocalists. Mandolines, Banjoes, Four Sets of Sleigh Bells (harmonised), at Lib. Whit Mon., onwards. This week, 11, Circus-street, Greenwich, S.E.; next, Empire Pal., Dover.

WANTED, by Alfred Thomas, the Popular Comedian, May 28 and June 11. This, Opera House, Buxton. Perm., 68, Truro-rd., Wood Green, N.

WANTED, Monday next, by Yorkshire Tom, the Great Mimic, without fail, Best on the Road. Wire, Queen's Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, June 18, onward, Halls or Al-fresco, by Jimmy Shields, Novel Comedian. Fred Maitland write. Coliseum, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, on, by Alf. Hey, smart Vocal Comedian, Halls or Al-fresco. Communicate, Greyhound Hotel, Vicar-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Albert Stern, of Stern and Stern, will in future be known as Albert Kail. Open Monday, Happy Valley, Llandudno, on my own.

WANTED, by Jack Hyder, Engagement with Al Fresco Troupe, Humorist, Patterer, and Sketch Artist; Share or Salary. 23, Hepburn-road, Bristol.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, also Ventriloquist, Al Fresco, &c. Wire, Drill Hall, Amble, Northumberland.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, June 4 and later, 1906; also Pantomime, 1906-7. This week T. R., Darlington; Mon., T. R., Blyth.

WANTED, by J. S. James, Comedian, Tambourinist, Banjoist, Trick Juggling, Bone Solo Expert, seven weeks, commencing June 25. Write, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, Monday next and June 4, by Allan Hanbury, Eccentric Patter Comedian. Great success, Stoll tour. Wire, 32, Unity-grove, Harrogate.

WANTED, Known, Little Zola, Refined Comedian, Vacant for summer season, al fresco, play in sketches. Thanks for offers. Wire, 38, Hackford-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, John Irvin, Foot Equilibrist, Liberty Whit Monday and on, Big Turn for Galas. JOHN IRVIN, 145, Evesham-street, Redditch.

WANTED, Known,
House full! How's that? Oh, they have booked Soros,
the Mystery.

WANTED, Known,
How's it done? Don't know. Still again, Soros,
the Mystery.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. PROF. LENTON, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, Engagement, by W. Villrae, Champion 9st Wrestler and Heavy-weight Lifter of England. Address, 2, Court, 7, House, Allen-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Lewis' Celebrated Picture Songs, Disengaged for concerts, varieties, exhibitions, summer resorts, &c. For terms, 25, Gloucester-st, E.C.

WANTED, June 11, 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6 13, by the Great Kyoto, the original comedy mysterious Japanese Box; also May Geraldine, Dancing, Chic Comedienne; just concluded sixteen weeks enormous success Stoll Tour, Grand, Hanley, Grand, Gravesend. Chronicle says: A most amusing man is Kyoto, the popular Japanese comedy juggler, whose silent humour never fails to tickle his audiences. Besides being an apparently boneless contortionist, he possesses a box of a mysterious kind. Monday, returns Tivoli, Dublin; Belfast to follow.

WANTED, Monday, on, Ethel Gale, marvellous blind comedienne, totally unassisted; Harry Carter, comedian; also double turn. 13, Northgate-street, Ilkeston.

WANTED, Whit Week, &c., Bob Pearson, Vocal Comedian, Lily Pender, Brilliant Comedienne and Pianiste. Strictly refined. Address, Theatre Royal, Peterborough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, also Whit week, Arthur Richards, Comedian; Renée Walon, Comedienne, Dancer; one or both. 31, Union-st., Stalybridge.

WANTED, Monday next and June 4, Sardou's Illusionists; also Marie Riviers, vocalist. Wire, Queen's, Ilkeston. Wire.

WANTED, by the St. Johns, Musicians and Speciality Dancers, June 18, onward, following 42nd week continuous tour. City Varieties, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday first, also June 4, by the Fordyces, singers and dancers extraordinary. Wire, Albert Hall, Jarrow; or, 44, Morton-st, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Webb, Re-engaged for Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Vacant July 9, 23, and 30.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, in their Astronomer Act, meeting with Great Success in Firenze, Italy.

WANTED, 28th, June 4, precede Bury, Bass and Guinness, Comedians, Patterers, Dancers. Wire, Palace, Northampton; after, 1, Trinity-street, Bury.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward, Comedy Artists, vacant Monday, two distinct Comedy Acts. This, big success, Hippodrome, Mansfield, Notts. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Lack and Ford, Classical Comedy Acrobats, vacant May 28, June 11, 18, and 25, also Aug. 6; a Big Act for Galas. 1A, Loughboro'-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Monday, also June 11, 18, the Maros, funniest three-bar act. This, Palace, North Shields, wire. 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, meeting with great Success
in
Milano, Italy.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Gelders, the Marvellous Mystifiers, Lillie Hustler, Dainty Soubrette and Clever Dancer. Complimented by all on our acts, which are clever, clean, and novel. Wire quick for two successes. Hippodrome, Wakefield. Dudley to follow. Wire.

WANTED, June 4 and 18, Abadaroffs (Four), Great Comedy Act, Halls, Fêtes, &c. Hippo., Bury; or, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Hamiltons, Revolving Statuary Act, Four in Number, elaborate fit-up and props., vacant Monday next and Whit Week. Wire, Prospect Cottage, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, Vacant May 28, June 11, for theatres, galas, or sports, no fixings required. Wire, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, a star comedy trampolin act, own scenery, Moss and Stoll Tour. Oct. 8, 238, Victoria-rd., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, June 11, 25, Piers, &c., by The Middies, refined Concert Party, three ladies, three gentlemen. LE BRUN, Faraday, North Kensington, W.

WANTED, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist; and De Lil, Illusionist, July. Offers invited for two sound acts. Monday, Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, for "The Collar Stud," June 4 (Whit.), all scenery carried, four artists; also Muir and Bartlett's well-known duologue, "A Clerical Complication," and Arthur Wallis, American Monologue Artist. One turn, or all three. Monday, Royal Albert, Canning Town, E.

WANTED, Bookings (few), June, onwards, piers, &c., whole or part programme, Liston and Lumley's "Merry Moments" (registered), North Pier, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, the Wonderful Selbinis, in their Sensational Somersault, Man and Bicycle in Mid Air;

this in addition to their already wonderful Bicycle Pot-Pourri.

At Liberty whole of June for
Fêtes, Galas, or Halls; only weeks vacant.

Address, 193, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, the largest and smartest lady's Troupe in Europe, including the Masterpiece of Training, "The Goalkeeper."
Grand Finale, Electrically Illuminated Spectacle, "Over the Garden Wall."
Open for Piers, Garden Fêtes.
Vacant June 25. Com., Granville, Walham Green.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Human Dog Show, the Greatest Draw of any Act of its Kind. Liberty Monday. Wire, 9, Shelmerdine-st., Wigan.

WANTED, Few Summer Dates, Chard's Dog Circus, and world's greatest troupe of high-leaping hounds. Opera House, Perth.

WANTED, Engagements, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Punch and Judy, with Dog Toby. 101A, Penwith-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Dave's Marionettes, at Liberty July, for Gardens, Piers, &c. Communications, Poole's Myriorama, Public Hall, Rhymney, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, with Hypnotist or Illusionist; good subject and clairvoyante. ROSALIE ARNOLD, 496, Wandsworth-road, Clapham, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Brandon Medland, Oldest English Exhibitor Cinematograph, finest Films; also Liquid Air Magic Kettle. 44, Lorrimore-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, May 28, Bioscope Operator, electric or lime, alternating or direct, reliable and efficient. Wire, SOMERS, Garrick Theatre, Hereford.

WANTED, Engagement, Operator, ten years' experience leading shows, lime or electric, direct or alternating, good electrician and mechanic, own apparatus if required. Box 3,285, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, Operator, Electrician, direct current, can do steering, drive. Burrell Traction, or Portable Stationary. Apply, Box 3,286, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Bioscope Operator, Lime or Electric; best refs. E. J. AMPHLETT, 50, Portland-road, Nottingham.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Important, that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the Holcrofts, The Bright Eye Hotel, Wigan, on Tuesday next, May 29, at 2.30 p.m., for the transaction of important business.

All Members are requested
to attend.

Signed, T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. All kinds of repairs done. Write for free samples, and see our quality for yourself. Special line.—Portable petrol plants. Absolutely reliable.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that
T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

Bristol-street, Birmingham.

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Write Sole Agents for particulars.
Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
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Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
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WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-rd., Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, good Waxworks or Mechanical Exhibition, on Shares, or would Let Shop for three months. Apply, CAPT. DANDO, Barronstrand-street, Waterford, Ireland.

WANTED, for July, Portable Helter Skelter, Tobogganing, or Bumping the Bumps, or estimate to erect such in South of Ireland. CALVERTO, Giffnock, Glasgow.

WANTED, Attractive Side Shows, Novelties, open June 1, great Nice Carnival, Crystal Palace, 100,000 expected daily; Whitsun, Sharing. MANAGER, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, suitable for waxworks entertainment, with good drawing powers, for Monday, and future dates. Wire or write, CARTER'S Wonderland, Belfast.

FANCY FAIR AND CARNIVAL, KIDWELLY.
WANTED, all Sorts of Novelties Suitable, gold wire work, confetti, advertising dodges, &c. Wanted, to hire, good hand power organ, fancy costumes, &c. MORGAN, Sec., Kidwelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, Big Novelties, on shares or cert., June 4, on, for Arnold's Company. This, O. H., Treherbert; next, O. H., Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, Novelty, to work Double, for Whit Week (best week in the year). LEONARD WHITE, Exhibition, 238, Market-place, Dudley.

WANTED, now and onwards, Good Novelties, Freaks, and Living Wonders, for American Museum, Glasgow. Write, A. E. PICKARD, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Punch and Judy and Dog Toby, one day Gala, June 16, 1906, Yorkshire.

Send lowest terms, full particulars,
DALTON'S Agency,
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Punchinello, Ventriloquists, Pianists, seaside season. Full particulars, photos., terms, BENSON, 19, Tillotson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, for Alexandra Palace Fair Ground, Whit Week and onwards, with Paintings, Second Sight, or any quick Showing Novelty. Terms shares. SALVA, 1, Buckingham-road, Wood Green, London, N.

WANTED, suitable people for Parade on Show, Jugglers, Hand-balancers, Dancers, or any suitable Act for Show Front. Lowest terms in first letter; long Engagement to suitable people. Apply, RANDALL WILLIAMS, Howcrofts Works, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, for Anderton and Rowland's Portable Empire, a Lady Singer, used to singing to Slides; also good Doorsman, one able to do a turn when required; can also do with good Musical Turn; long engagement and money sure; all to open Monday. Should like to hear from some good Circus Pros. that know the game. Address, ANDERTON'S Modern Show, Falmouth Sat., Redruth Mon.

WANTED, Capable Doorsman, one who can Lecture inside preferred; also Agent, who can also door if required; also good Operator, for Cinématograph Exhibition.

Only those used to Fair Ground Business apply.

GREEN, Farringdon Park, Preston.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope Exhibition, a First-Class Lecturer or Doorsman; can join at once. Good wages and a permanent situation to a suitable person. Kindly state age, previous experience, and lowest wages required. Silence a polite negative. Apply, J. DOONER and SON, Bioscope, Rhymney until May 31; Brynmawr to follow.

WANTED, Lady Character Readers, able to work up connections; commence immediately, fashionable resorts. C. WILSON, 22, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, Lady Character Delineator, for American Museum. Apply, A. E. PICKARD, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, subjects for Hypnotic Exhibitions; those with experience preferred. Write, PROF. JACKSON, 20, Rockmead-rd., South Hackney, N.E.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, also Traction Engine Driver, also Steady Young Woman, to look after shooting saloon. Mr. G. PRUETT, Post Office, St. George's, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, The Wongos, Indian Jugglers, Balancers, and Plate Manipulators, Liberty Whit Week. 18, Tower Hamlets-road, Forest Gate, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Professor Carl Whyte, Liberty Whitsun, Up-to-date Shows, Lady in a Trance, Conjuring and Knife-throwing. Paintings, posters, shares or certainty. Exhibition, Mountain Ash, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Harry Gordon, handseller and planksman, comedian. Saturday, 1st, Address, c/o Auction Mart, Gortion, County Tyrone.

WANTED, Engagement as Tank Performer one used to the business. Address, LIZZIE HOLLOWAY, Post Office, Rawtenstall, near Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements to play Drum and Pipes, with or without Punch and Marionette Shows. T. DUFFY, 10, Rich-st., Limehouse, E.

WANTED, by Smart Lad, Employment with Auctioneer; been with Bazaar and Hand-selling the last four years; good refs. RYAN, 42, Park-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, to Let, for Whitsuntide and Season, space, 20 by 38, in the Palace, New Brighton, First-class Position, suitable for a Good Novelty. Share or rental. Over 100,000 persons visited the Palace Easter Week. Apply, immediately, THE MANAGER, Palace, New Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Stalls, Games, Amusements, Palmistry, &c., Promenade, Portobello. Henderson's Marionettes wire. PROPRIETOR, Rathbone House, Promenade, Portobello.

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THE CASINO THEATRE (4,000) AND PLEASURE GROUNDS (5 acres).
Opening Whit. Monday, June 4, 1906,
Under the Direction of A. L. N. BRADY,
General-Manager.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for Side Shows, Novelties, Stalls, Automatics, &c.
Wanted, Big Attractions, Helter Skelter, Flying Boats, Slipping the Slip, Roundabouts, Shooting Range, &c.
N.B.—The Casino Theatre and Grounds adjoin the famous Aston Villa Football Grounds. Birmingham and surrounding district population over 1,000,000. 1d. Fare Electric Birmingham to Aston Cross. Trams pass the door. Apply, J. WHITTINGHAM, Sec., 354, Victoria-rd., Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Let, Shop, New Spa, Bridlington, suitable for jewellery, embroidery, Jerusalem goods, toys, presents, novelties, &c. Rent, £8, clear; centre shop. £10. Great attractions, and thousands of visitors. HAGUE, General-Manager, The Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, to Let, a Large Shop, good position, for Novelty Shows.
Apply, J. MORRIS, Auctioneer,
166, Union-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, to Let for the Season, Spaces for Gold Wire Working and Palmistry. Best position. Apply, P. SHERMAN, 81, Albion-road, Gt. Yarmouth.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Cam Sports,
Cinderford Fair,
Coleford Fair,
Chepstow Fair,
Lydney Fair,
Ruardean Sports,
Miners' Demonstration, Speech House,
Dursley Fête,
Newent Fête,
Cairncross Flower Show,
Bruton Flower Show,
Evercreech Flower Show,
Frome Flower Show,
Shepton Mallet Show,
Glastonbury Fair,
Gloucester Fair,
Marlborough Mop,
Salisbury Fair,
Warminster Fair,
also one week at Chippenham,
also one week at Trowbridge,
en route.
Apply for dates and particulars to
W. SYMONDS, World's Fair, Swindon, Wilts.

WANTED, Known, Kidwelly Fair Field to Let, cheaply, Williams' Auction Mart just moved out; cinématograph show would do well, short season; every convenience; Colliers and Tin Works now going well. MORRIS, Cowpark, Kidwelly.

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WANTED, to Sell, 7-horse Traction Engine and set of Galloping Horses, in good working order. Apply, J. C., 26, Yard, Bath-road, Holbeck, Leeds.

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must be an abstainer;
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Apply by letter,
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WANTED, the Beautiful and Sensational Illusion, "The Sailor and His Lass," with dresses, music, portable cabinet, patent releasing rich plush curtains, cases, and everything complete, ready for showing; also Dr. Harley's and Albini's invention, the wonderful mechanical talking head, Dantzic. Price £100. ALBINI, 41, Torriano-avenue, Camden-road, London.

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"A BEAUTIFUL FIEND."
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WANTED, Artists to note that the Tivoli, Grimsby, closes from June 9 until the first or second week in Sept., and that all Contracts for dates during that period are therefore cancelled. If the Artists in question will forward their vacancies, Sept. onwards, other dates will be arranged in lieu of those cancelled.
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"The Flood," Paul Cinquevalli, Brothers Leslie, Trapnell Family, Morton and Elliott, McPhee and Hill, Jacques Isaudi, Ober Steirer Troupe, Les Bastiens, Staley's Transformation, Spessardy's Bears, Alexandre and Hughes, Lavater Lee, Three Olympians, O'Gust, Goltz Trio, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Harry Lauder, Four Olympian Stars, Dumond Minstrels, Labakans, Hermann Melot, Jack Theo Trio, Maud Mortimer, Harry Sloan, Mariano Sisters, Edouin and Edwards.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Harmony Four, Bioscope, Celeste, Belle Braham, Duse Mahomed and Co., Henry Helm, Conn and Conrad, Tow Owen, Alexandra Dagmar, Mons. Albany.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Empire Comedy Four, Bioscope, Dorenda and Green, G. W. Walker, Theo Bouwmeester and Co., Avolos, Sterling and Gold, Arthur Kingston, Ferguson and Mac.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Casey's Circus, Bioscope, Harding and Ah Sid, Mdlle Olive, Glady's Mavius, Ernest Tilbury in "Illustrated Song," Florence and Lillian, Jimmy Shields, Manning's Entertainers, Newhouse and Ward.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Machnow, Lizzie Daniels, Warsaw Bros., Mignonette Kokin, Harry Weldon, Galletti's Monkeys, The Raies, Tom Woottwell, Bros. Harrison, Guy Rider, George Brooks.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Carl Hermann, Jagos, Claire Beasy's Cats, Arthur Gill, Alice May and Co., Bioscope, Will English, Athas and Collins, Two Bostonians, Barowsky Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Wille Bros., Nellie Martell, McConnells, Clown Barker, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Ernie Mayne, New York Nippers, Eily Adair, Sisters Klos, Ray Wallace.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
John Lawson and Co., Florence Deighton, Booker and Narbis, Hayes and Suits, Venie Clements, Alf Holt, Bioscope, Leonie Dixon, Automatos.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Casino Comedy Four, Fred Lincoln, Kitts and Windrum, Three Cape Girls, Howard Bros., Nellie Wallace, Max Yorke, Bioscope, Gracie Graham, Kaufmanns.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Hackenschmidt, The Violas, Morgan Sisters, Colby and Way, Four Skandias, Abdullah's Arabs, Daisy Mayer, Chas. Lilburn, Bioscope, "Bloomsbury Burglars."

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Bros. Egbert, Unthan, Jurgens Trio, Fred. Russell, Gwennie Hasto, Bert Byrne, Bioscope, Drew and Alders.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Dinah Morris and Co., Bioscope, Bros. Artois, Johnmann Sisters, Burt Shepard, George Lucas, Roze and Calvert, Edwin Barwick, Forest and King, Edgar Forrest and Co., Amy Russell, Tom Costello.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Chas. Fisher and Co., in "Maritana," Bioscope, Eloise Brinsmade, Dora Lyric, Kate Traill, Johnson and Dean, Lios Alfas, Stine and Evans, Mary Merry, "Pilu."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Four Figaros, Margaret Ashton, Flo D'Orville, Alix Lukos, Nancy St. John, Will Cornish, Pit and Cute, Tribune Trio, Alfred Hurley.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
George Lashwood, Florence Esdaile, Sandford and Lyons, Jack Lane, Will Musgrave, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, Remingtons, Bioscope, "The Motorists."

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Chirgwin, Frank Seeley, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Henry Taylor Trio, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Classicum Quartette, Belle Davis and Piccs., Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Joe Elvin and Co., Prof. Vox, Johnny Gilmore, Chas. Austin, Cole de Losse Duo, Baker and Balfe, Stella Troupe, Nellie Young, Josh Dixon, Flem and Brok.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Moses and Son," Ben Albert, Austin Rudd, Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Three Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
The Uessems, Norman and Leonard Trio, Marba and Verity, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Lilian Warren, Madge Grey, Bioscope, Chinko.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
The Boissetts, Anartos, Cora Caselli, Chas. Gardiner, Walter King, The Seddons, Vernando, Sisters Bosanquet, May Henderson, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Boswell's Circus, Lancashire Lassies, Harry Bedford, The Maples, Morton Trio, Canary Co., Holles Trio, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"The Freak's Revenge, Seeley and West, Bioscope, Starr and Leslie, Beatrice Willey, Marguerite Broadfoote, Frank Leslie, The Delevines, De Lucca Troupe, Tom Edwardes.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Geo. Gray and Co. in "The Road to Ruin," Bioscope, Illustrated Song, The Finneys, Ross and Grayson, Esta Stella, Lennie and Hast, Sutcliffe Family, Carney and Armstrong, Dronza.

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THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Karno's "Mumming Birds," Jake Friedman, Walter Stanley, Syd May, Harry Conlin, Percy Hannon, Slade Murray, Ethel Ra Leslie, Sisters Warner, Vokey Gaylor, Edie Rivers, Ruth Doris, Roza's Dogs, Poluskis, Bordina Trio, Juno Salmo, The Paytes, Lannons, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Poluskis, Jake Friedman, Chas. Vincent, Fred Earle, Chas. Dillon, Sisters Pine, Maud Beaumont, Sisters St. Julian, Kittie Corrie, Atroy and Violi, Swift Trio, "An Emperor's Divorce," The Cubas, Hughes and Elliott, Collard's Dogs, Pictures.

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Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

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IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

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ARTISTS (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday at 12.30 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, Clark and Hamilton, The Poluskis, Winifred Hare, Ernest Shand, Fred Earle, Brett and Orford, Sisters Wingrove, Fraser and Haley, Francis Kaptowe, Rachel Lowe, and Peterman's new Burlesque Sketch, "The King of Sahara."
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Paul Mill and Co., "The Courtiers," Edith Helena, George Robey, Harry Randall, T. E. Dunville, the Poluski Bros., Millie Legarde, Lee and Bentley, Madoline Rees, Rachel Lowe, Harry Ford, Victoria Monks, Duncan and Godfrey, the Sandwins, Camilla D'Alberg and Co., in "La Main."
Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11 o'clock.
Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, Herbert Sparling and Co., in Sketch by Arthur Shirley, "Under the Influence," Carl Lynn, Lilian Lowe, Wilson Hallett, Imperial Bioscope, Boy Glen, Dora Martini, Daisy Davidson, Ernest French, Clark and Hamilton, Hooker and Davis, Maudie Ford, Madge Yates and Co., in comedy Sketch, "Betsy Mine," Victoria Monks.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARACON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artists are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 2 o'clock.
Will Evans, Hanid Alexander, Gilbert Gerard, George Power and Co., in "Matrimonial Bliss," Pete and Minnie Lee, Lilian Doreen, Ruby Norton, Raglaff, Hooker and Davis, Sylvia du Barry, George Robey, Carlyn, Ruffell's Bioscope, Bessie Archer, Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery, in successful skit, "Would-be Actors Rehearsing a Drama."
Manager, CHARLES BERCHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Leonard Mortimer and Co., Herbert Cyril, Will Dalton, Harry Leybourne, Kitty Beresford, The Jalvans, The Two Ashers, The Korries, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Fred Eustace and Co., "Our Curate," Hanid Alexander, A. Cruikshank, The Harvey Boys, Lilian Lowe, Stavordale Quintette, Terry and Bentley, Lottie Govell, Great Scott.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.
Fred Karno and Co. in "The Thirsty First," Amy Clevere, Bessie Arthur, Bioscope, Harry Brown, Menetekel, Onda and Artell, Spry and Austin, Resuas Trio, Mdlle. Lorraine.
Manager, CLAUDE E. MARNER.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 o'clock.
Eugenie Fougère, Five Bon Bons, Tatten Hall, Alice Yorke, "Battle of the Belles," Duncan and Godfrey, Bioscope, Jessie Preston, Tom Stuart, Geo. Bastow.
Manager, H. KEITEMAN.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
Matinées, Mondays, at 2.30.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
Carrie Laurie, Hudson Powell Troupe, Frank Cass, Drawee, Whit Cunliffe, Daisy James, Chas. Morritt, Harrigan and Holt, Bioscope, Gus Elen.
Manager, LYNDON GREENWOOD.

DUCHESS PALACE,
HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Two Performances Nightly, 6.45 and 9.18.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1.30.
Telephone, 58 Balham.
Ten Loonies, Kloof and Ramsey, Alma Grey, The Smythsons, Bros. Ashley, Walter Stanley, Oliver Twist (Bioscope), Blind Collier Boy, Walter Clyde, Punch and Judy Girls.
Manager, G. L. WILSON.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Special Engagement. The Great Harry Tate, Geo. Mozart, The Kings, Daisy Davidson, Fred Moule and E. D. Nichols, Pictures, The Swickards, Eileen Sudbury, Wilson Hallett, Spry and Austin, Geo. Power and Co., San Toy and Co., Will D'Alton. Seventh Grand Anniversary, June 29.
Secretary and Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,
WALTHAMSTOW.
Two Performances Nightly, at 5.30 and 9.
Band Rehearsal, which all Artists must attend, Mondays, at 3 o'clock.
Will Evans, James Fawn, Millie Lindon, Margaret Parker and Co., French's Bicycle Troupe, the Snow Family, Bros. Bright, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.
Manager, ARTHUR J. BARCLAY.

EALING HIPPODROME
THE BROADWAY, EALING.
Two Performances Nightly, 6.45 and 9 p.m.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
"Casey's Court," Clive Watts, Lily Lenora, Lilian Lea, Borghetti Troupe, Columbia Trio, Four Esmeraldas, Bioscope, Lottie Govell, Sisters Meredith.
Telephone, 1056 Ealing. Manager, E. W. JAMES.

CROYDON EMPIRE PALACE.
Rehearsal Monday, at 12 o'clock.
"Rejected Remounts," Bioscope, Tray and Rich, Kitty Clover and Co., Sisters Sprightly, Joe Archer, Bertha Winder, Edith Courtney, Rastus and Banks, King and Benson.
Manager, EUSTACE JAY.

Are particularly requested to read their Contracts carefully, especially the Clause as to barring, which will be strictly enforced. Any Alteration thereof can only be effected by Special Agreement, in writing, with the Managing-Director. For Engagements at the Duchess Palace, Balham; Islington Empire; Grand Palace, Clapham Junction; Ealing Hippodrome; Croydon Empire Palace; and Holborn Empire, address, Mr. WALTER GIBBONS, 1, Durham House-street, W.C. Telephone, 6,825 Gerrard. For Engagements at the other Halls, address, Mr. G. ADNEY PAYNE, Managing-Director, Oxford, Limited, 1, Durham House-street, W.C. Office Hours, 10 to 4. Telephone No. 2,035, Gerrard.

THE METROPOLITAN,
EDGWARE-ROAD, W
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1 o'clock.
Fred Ginnett and Co., in "Turpin's Ride to York," Grais's Baboons, Jock Whiteford, Nadji, Albert Whelan, Ambrose Thorne, Harry Conlin, Olive Trio, Queen and Le Brun, Frank Maura, Lily Foy, Sisters Wood, Ida Katherena, Mamie Iris, Sisters Edwards.
Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 o'clock.
Harry Tate in "Motoring," Ada Alexander and Co. in "The Mason," Duncan's Collie Dogs, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Jose Collins, Reuben Hill, Frazer and Haley, Fred Dunstan, Florence Schuberth, Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten.
Manager, EDWARD SWANBOROUGH.

For Engagements at the Metropolitan or Chelsea, address, the Managing-Director, Mr. HENRI GROS, at the Metropolitan, 267, Edgware-road, W. For times, address the Manager of each Hall, to whom also all Billing Matter must be sent Two Weeks in Advance.

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, MAY 28, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
J. G. Johnson and Co., Grant and Allen, Henri Bekker, Clara Sefton, The Lessors, Edna Latonne, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Radford and Valentine, Kit Keen, Pender Troupe, Lily Sharplin, Charles Norton, Stilt Walkers, Paragon Trio, Four Burnells, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Harry Pleon, Helm and Cozens, Ray Royal, Harry Briggs, Sisters Ford, Madge Morley and Co., Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
"Prince of Monte Carlo," Lola Patey, Two Bostons, Haydee's Marionettes, Martin Henderson, Mephisto, Will Van Allen, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Astley's Circus, Allis and Cassati, George Rapley, Lily Black, Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene, Fyne and Hurley, Barrington, Dent and Harris, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
Six Brothers Luck, Ted Farrer, Sisters Varley, Grace Merton, Dan Conroy, Fred Bronte, Lily Esplin, Otto and Olga, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
Lee and Kingston, Lily Morris, Fred Poplar, Tennyson and Wallis, A Ba-Be, Kitty Wager, Nash and Noel, Jack and Evelyn, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
"Casey's Court," Ross and Lewis, Hessey Soloists, Bishop and Hanlon, Mersano, The Elgars, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"Right's Right," Harry Zetter, Dolly and Madge McCalla, Baroni and Kemp, Les Laurens, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Theresa and May, The Schiavonis, E. Rousby's "In Paris," Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Matinée Thursday.
Ed. Ranier and Co.

THEATRE ROYAL, ROTHERHAM.
"A Sister's Sin."

THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
"The Romany's Revenge."

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
Grand Variety Company.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
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Vaudeville Sketch Co., Harry Thurston, Andy Fagan, Selby and Myers, Nelson and Thomas, Lacey's Erascope, Andie Burn, Society Quartette, Dante Bently and Co., Gus Harris.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
Florence Yaymen, Wal Croft, R. Ganthony, Hercat, Raymond Bio-Tableaux, Edith Evelyn Co., Dunbar Co., The Modern Girls Quintette, The Gitis, W. H. Rawlins and Co., Lloyd Morgan, Achmed Idrahim Troupe of Arabs.

THE BRITANNIA.
Telephone, 7285 Central.
Matinées, Monday and Thursday.
John Tiller and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Lilly Lassah, Walter Emerson, St. John and Co.,

FORESTERS.
Telephone, 5954 Avenue.
Matinées Monday and Thursday.
Rozel, Lottie Lennox, Grant and Grant, George and Edwards, Harley and Harden, Three Sisters Thurban, Ether Phillips and Co., The Arleys, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Rita and Rema.

SADLER'S WELLS.
Telephone, 5890 Central.
Matinée every Monday.
Blarney an d Kennard, Geo. Newburn, Fred Hallam, Abel and Welsh, Fred Southern Co., Smaun Sing Hpoo, Barton and Ashley, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Joe Oliver, Percy Galleno.

SURREY THEATRE.
Telephone, 1460 Hop
Matinée every Monday.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.
Larry Lewis, Reilly and Taylor, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Percy Murray and Co., Edith Sylvesto, Neil Kenyon, Tom Lloyd, Tom Craven and Co., Hulo Hodgson and Co., Chas. Coborn.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.
N.B.—All Billing Matter and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit must be addressed to "King's Chambers, Angel-street, Sheffield."

THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS for MONDAY, MAY 28, 1906.

REHEARSAL EVERY MONDAY AT ALL OUR PLACES AT 12 NOON.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
Arthur Roberts, Two Kays, Marion Scott, Two Erolls, Austin and Cowan, Fred Cary, Les Cabiacs, Bros. Redmond, Sisters Cora, Pictures, Leo. Dryden.

TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Geo. Gilbey, Myles and May, Wallau, Rowland Hill, Sable Fern, Adams and Ward, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Halter and Ray, Daisy Morrell, Dan Crawley.

PALACE, GLASGOW.
Grand Variety Company.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Dr. Bodie, Herbert Madden, N. and S. Wood, J. B. Preston, Vernon Troupe, Dandy George, Barlee and Smith Society Quartette, Sidney Dolf, Pictures, The Holloways.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINCHAM.
George Leyton, Sisters Tinsley, Dan Thomas, Ethel Loftus, Four Harveys, Carlotta Levey, Floradora Girls, Arthur Elvy, Pictures, Kelly and Gillette.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Donaldson Bros. and Ardel, Nora Emerald, Edna Groves, Rebla, Australian, Twin Andersons, Herald Comedy Four, Bishop and Vale, Tiny Arnold, Pictures, Foreman and Fannan.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Bros. Griffiths, Harry Allister, Donatos, De Biere, Jackleys, Pauline Bert, Pictures, Ford and Barris, John Tiller and Co.

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Grand Variety Company.

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LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.
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All Artists must carry Band Parts for Full Band.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, May 28, 1906.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. sharp.
Marie Lloyd, Prince Kuroki, Barbara Babbington, Stanley and Greenop, Ella Lane, Clark's Nippers, George D'Albert.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m.
Will Godwin and Co., Billy Williams, Pueblo and Cropp, Pictures, Robb Gilmore, Barton and Franklin, &c.
ALBERT HALL, EDINBURGH, let next three months.
HIPPODROME, HAMILTON, open in Autumn.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists are requested to send words and music in advance, so that permanent Ladies' Choir may learn them.
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Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.
Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

Call for Monday, May 28.
Haley's Juveniles, Prof. McCann's Dogs, Beattie Bloom, Five M.P.'s, Cline and Clark, Arthur Reece, Merton and Rydon, Wisper, Claire Greta, Lillie Soutter.

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IN THE SUMMER TIME.

No. 1046.

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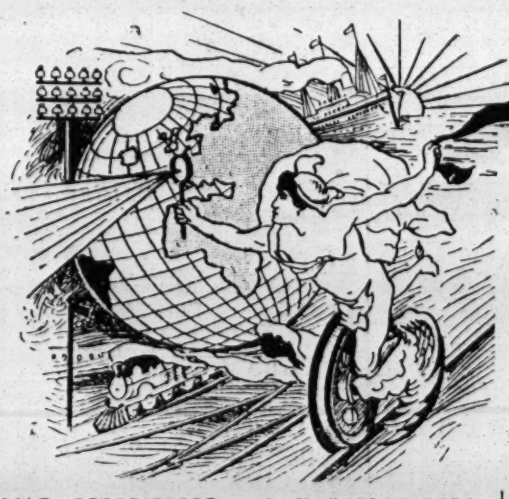

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BODIE, DR. WALFORD, Address, 163, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E.

BODIE, WM., Address, 56, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Instrumentalists. Vac. Mon. next. 23 Colnbrook-st., St. George's-rd., S.E., or G. Foster.

BOLTON, MR. JUDGE (Mrs. Crusoe). Permanent address, 41, Princes-road, Hull.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Canterbury and Paragon. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, This week, Empire, Croydon. Success as usual. May 28, ALHAMBRA, BRIGHTON.

BOSTOCK, N. C., NELLIE ELLIENE, Two Star Singing Turns, with Ralph Pringle's Grand Picture Show, Victoria Hall, Portsmouth.

BOSWELL, A. P., the Furniture Man, Shifted them at Hippo., Wigan. Return, Monday, Park Palace, Liverpool.

BOULTONS, THE, and MDLLE. BARTENELLI. Vacant for Piers and Galas. Poole's Myriorama, Trowbridge.

BOUNCING DILLONS, Comedy Gymnasts, with a Great Drawing Novelty. May 28, Return, Hippodrome, Wigan.

BOYLE, MARCUS, "My Bonny Boy," Palace Theatre, Plymouth.

BRADY, JAMES, Moss and Stoll Tour. Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

BRAY, LOTTIE, London. All Coms., 17, Leopold-street, Vauxhall.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Expert Dancers. Enormous success, Empress, Hartlepool; May 28, Pier Pav. Southport.

BREWSTERS, THE, Circo de Casino, Buenos Aires, Usual Success, Re-engaged Two Months Longer.

BRIGHT, LOUIE (late Bright and Bright and Ivy Leafe). Panto settled. Ugly Sister. May 28, Albert Hall, Southport.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. This, Regent, Salford. Next, Alhambra, Belfast.

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BROWN, PAPA, Agent, 8, Cleveland-house, Hackford-road, S.W. Telegraph address, "Jibbers, London."

BROWN and ROBINSON, Vacant Monday next, also June 4, Wire, 14, Broadway, Deptford.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE, "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Palace, Southampton.

BURNETT, CADE, Actor-Vocalist. Oct. 1 to 22 wanted, also Nov. 19. Coms., Burn's Agency, or 23, Oldgate, Morpeth.

BURTON'S AGENCY, Sheffield, Require Sensational Gala Acts all Lines, July, Aug. 6, onwards. Send Lithos, Memos, Terms.

BUXTON, FREDERICK, Proprietor, Pierrot Village, Douglas, I. of M. Artists and Specialities write in.

CABAN'S Marvellous Sixteen Performing Miniature Ponies, Donkeys, and Dogs. Open for galas. All com., North-st., Stamford.

CADLE'S AGENCY, 105 and 106, Strand. Telephone No. 1975, Gerrard.

CAINE, ANDIE, Sylvan Villa, Filey, Yorkshire. Summer Show in Active Preparation.

CALVERTO, Giffnock, Glasgow. First-class Attractions Write. "Calverto, Glasgow." 'Phones, 26 and 203X7, Clarkston.

CARL and CARR, Refined Comedians and Dancers, May 28, Palace, Portsmouth (second week), What a Success! Liberty Panto.

CARR and ROSE, Champion Chanting Comedy Couple, Conveying Character Creations, Classy and Concise. Hippodrome, Salford.

CARVERS, THE, Late Read and Wright. Monday next, Alhambra Palace, Sandgate.

CEE-MEE TROUPE, Empire, Middlesbrough. R. Warner and Co. A few Vacant Dates this Year.

CELLOS, THE, Tremendous success and second week Casino Varieties, Rotterdam; Amsterdam to follow.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS and World's Greatest Troupe of High Leaping Hounds, Opera House, Perth. Few Open Dates.

CHARNLEYS, THE (ANNIE & EDIE), Dainty Duettists and Dancers. Vacant Monday. Big Success this Week, T. R., Sunderland.

CHESTER & LEE'S MARIONETTES, Monday, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge. No Immediate Vacancies.

CHESTER'S AGENCY, LIMITED, 13, Oxford-street, Manchester. 'Phone 08904. Wires, "Amusements, Manchester."

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly. London Nightly.

CLEMENT TRIO, Refined Comedy Stage-Flying Trapeze Act. Address, Clement Trio, Hollydene, Hall Green, near Birmingham.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, in "A Trial Trip," Monday next, Empire, Bradford.

CLIFFORD, CHARLES, C.D.D., the Renowned Harpist and Humorist, on Tour. 15, Priory-gardens, Highgate, London, N.

CLYDES, THE (AMY and QUEENIE), Trumpeter Girls. "Revue." Coliseum, London.

COLLARD'S, MADAME, Boarhounds, Imitating lions and tigers with big success, Camberwell Palace. Open for June 11, 18.

COLLINS, GEO., the Quaint Comedian. Hippodrome, Boscombe. Geo. Barclay.

CONLIN, HARRY, and ROSIE COLEMAN. 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

CONROY, OLIVER, Comedian, Vac. June 4, and later, 1906. This week T.R., Darlington. Monday, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian. Vacant Panto. Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

COOPER, DENBIGH, the Only English Buffo Singer, wants a Sole Influential Agent, London and Provinces. Address Llandudno, Warner.

CORA, SISTERS, Hippodrome, Brighton. Latest success "Sweethearts" and "The Lady's Soldier Band." Panto. settled.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. May 28, commence Stoll Tour at E. Hackney.

COSGROVE and BURNS, Scottish-American Comedy Duo. This, Hippo., Eastbourne; next, Hippodrome, Hastings.

CRAGGS, THE, in New Act, "Billy." This, Palace, Bordesley, Birmingham; next, Her Majesty's, Walsall.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Care of "The Era."

CREEBAR, G. H., The Talkative Fiddler, More Gags for Mr. Pincher.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., May 28, London Hippodrome.

CULLANE'S, FRED, COMEDY TRIO, Starring, Standard, Pimlico. Usual great success.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY, Enormous Success of Combination, Eccles, Haymarket, Liverpool.

CULLEN, DOLLY, and ELSIE JORDISON, Dainty Little Vocalists and Dancers, Terrific Success, Lyceum, Leeds.

CULPITT, England's Premier Comedy Magician, This Week, Star, Bermondsey; next week, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. At Liberty, Monday, May 28. Wire, Tivoli Theatre, Dublin.

CUSTANCES, THE, in Their Bright and Sparkling Comedy Duologue, "A Game for Two." Re Dates, 104, Salisbury-street, Bedford.

CYCLUMINA, Electrical Cycle Act, Patent No. 21,297, Going Strong. See other Advt. Sley and Bentley.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Gipsy and Character Duettists. Big Success, King's, Longsight. Mon., Hippo., Hulme. Vacant June 11.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Big Success Windsor. Vacant June 4. Next, Hippodrome, Sittingbourne.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Wanted, Acts for Fêtes and Galas. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Novel Negro Versatile Speciality performers and Expert Dancers. Dis., Wire, Bk. 63, Sherbourne-rd., Birm'm.

DARTIGAN as Le Diabelo, Flying Devil's Wheel, Riding inside and out. Touring Continent. Letters c/o "The Era."

D'AUBYN, MINNIE, the Successful Singer, the Middlesex. Few immediate open on account of Halls closing.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Cyclists (Monarchs of the Wheel). May 28, Palace, Derby.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Alhambra, London.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Phenomenal Marvellous Painter and Cockatoos. 3, Highgate-st., Edge Hill, Liverpool.

DELEVINES, THE, in New and Original Comedy, "Flipp and Flopp," Ardwick Empire.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet open on Sundays.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., the Lady Foli, and J. H. HAWTREY, Actor-Vocalist. Tivoli, Dublin.

DEVERENNE Requires Immediate engagement. Nail Walker and Balancer, the Mystery. Care of "The Era."

DE VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, the celebrated Horse, the Marvel. Success everywhere. Next week, Royal, Oldham.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, wish to thank A. Bushell, Esq., Gaiety, Birmingham, for kindness.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, "The Man in the Grey Dress Suit." Hippodrome, Liverpool.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Factory Nightingales. Starring Palace, Halifax. Monday, Grand, Stockton.

DOME, The original Comedy Clay Modeller. London Pavilion.

DOMINOS, TWO (Clown and Donkey). Domino will Talk any other Donkey Horse. Hippodrome, Redditch.

DONNAS TRIO, Sensational Ladder Trapeze Equilibrists. Mon. next, Empire Palace, Portsmouth. Cass's Agency, 6704 Central.

DORRETTA, LITTLE, the Only Juvenile Dutch Comedienne and Acrobatic Sabot Dancer. Next, King's T., Hammersmith.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH. The chic comedienne.—Vide Press. Monday, May 28, Granville, Walham Green.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL. Tivoli, Dublin. Agent, Tom Claxton, Esq.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Patter Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Monday first, also June 4. Wire, 4, Harvey-street, Newcastle.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Comedienne and Dancer. Coms., E. Stebbings, Manchester. 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, next week, Concerts. Letters, 106, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Hippodrome, Hull. Next Week, May 28, Gaiety, Oldham.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Youthful Instrumentalists, Dancers; Poole's Myriorama, P.H., Trowbridge. Lib., June 18, 25.

ELDINES, LES, (ELLA, MINNIE, GRACIA), in Musical Scena, "The Little Drudge." Coms., c/o "Era."

ELGARS, THE, Vocal Entertainers. Monday, Palace, West Hartlepool.

ELLA'S, MISS, Best existing Lion Show. Palace, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

ELLERTON, Author Dunville's Nurse Sheridan's Mottoes, Tich's Twenty-third, Lynne's School Teacher. 90, Vassall-rd, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbro'.

ELTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act, First Vacant Date, May 27, 1907.

EPLETT, KATIE, FRANK ZARA, Comedienne, Dancer; Comedian, Raconteur. Lib. Monday. 41, St. Mary's-square, Kennington.

ESDALE BROS., Comedians. Vacant June 4. Fishing with Count Falcon. This, Alhambra, Sandgate. Next, Tivoli, Grimsby.

EUSTACE, FRED, May 28, The Euston, "Our Curate."

FAME, PEGGY, Last Turn but One Tivoli, Dublin. A truly legitimate Success, Manager says so. Monday, Alhambra, Belfast.

FARRIMOND, PERCY, the Original Lancashire Singing Collier, May 28, Empire, York.

FAWN, ADA, Thanks Proprietors for postponing Dates, also friends for kind inquiries. 32, Devonshire-st., All Saints, Manchester.

FIELDING, ANNIE, & BERT HULL, Shepherd's Bush and Walham Green. Monday, Empire, Cardiff.

FIELDS and LEWIS, the Celebrated Burlesque Artists. Next, Hippodrome, Ashton. Thanks for offer of Macnaghten tour.

FIMANS, THE, "In the Fire Station." This Speciality stands alone. Result, Fully Booked.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." 'Phone, 1,586 Royal.

FITZROYS, Society Gymnasts. 5th to 11th, London Pavilion. Free Aug. 6.

FLORADORA GIRLS. This Week, Tivoli, Leeds. Monday, Hippo., Birmingham. Panto. settled, Brighton. Agent, E. De Vere.

FLORIZELL, Original, Stands Alone. At Liberty May 21, 28. Great Speciality for Panto. All Letters, Opera House, Porth.

FORD and BARRIS, Huge Success, Alhambra, Paris. Coms., Thos. Barrasford, jun.

FORD and HANSON, The American Musical Millionaires. No Vacancies. Address, Midland Hotel, Hull.

FORD, SISTERS, Character and Comedy Duettists. Conclude to-night G., Gravesend; Monday, G., Sheffield.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company. Monday, Empire, Liverpool Vacant June 18, 25. Agent, Barclay.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams "Waggishly." 'Phone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FRASER and HALEY (REGGIE and EDITH). This week, Plymouth. Next week, Oxford and Chelsea. Sole agent, Tom Claxton.

FREDRICKS, CARL, and YA PYN KETO FAMILY, Fredricks and Carlton Concert Controls. Pier Pavilion, Lytham.

GALE, ETHEL, Blind Comedienne; HARRY CARTER, Comedian. Lib. Mon., on. Coms., 13, Northgate-street, Ilkeston.

GALINO, PERCY, Refined Musical Comedian, thanks Melvin and Taylor (the coming agents). 45, Crayford-road, Holloway.

GANNON, NELLIE, HARRY WRIGHT. Four Ovations Nightly, Tivoli, Dublin. Monday, Alhambra, Belfast.

GILMORE, ROBB, A really humorous comedian.—Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq., Pavilion, Greenock. G. Foster.

GLENN, MARY, the Premier Vocalist. Vacant, Monday, and June 4. 170, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

GLENNIE'S MARIONETTES, Dates Wanted at Home or Abroad. Address, c/o "The Era" Office.

GRAHAM, Human Marionettes. Few Dates Vacant for Summer Tour. Address, 28, Chaucer-road, Brixton.

GRAHAM'S, DAISY, Performing Birds, On Tour, with C. W. Poole's Myriorama Co. King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

GRANADAS, LOS, 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham. Agent, Tom Shaw.

GRANTLEY, CHARLES, and LILLIE COLEMAN. T., Whitehaven. June 4, Doncaster.

GRAY, GEORGE, Stoll-Moss Empires. Stoll-Moss Empires.

GREEN, MR. TOM, The Original Inventor and Producer. The Studio, 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

GREEN, MRS. TOM, (Miss Nellie Gordon.) 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

GREEN, MISS JENNIE, Tragedy and Comedy Combined. 106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

GROVES, THE WALTER, SKETCH CO., "Artful Jim" (Poor Pink), fully protected. Agents, R. Warner and Co., Ltd.

HAIG and NOVEL, Comedy Act. Next Week, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

HALL, CLIFTON, Vocalist. No Vacancies till September. Coms., "Era" Offices; or, Donald's Agency.

HALLAM and STANTON, Refined Entertainers, in "A Broken Journey." Standard, Pimlico.

HALTER and RAY, Hebrew Character, Comedian and Singing, Soubrette. May 28, Tivoli, Leeds.

HARLAND and ROLLISON, Sail Wednesday, May 30, on the American Line s.s. Westernland for America. It's best.

HARRIS and WORTH, Hippodrome, Hull.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Rushcroft-rd., Brixton. Tele., 116, Brixton.

HART, HARRY S., Variety and Speciality Agent. Star, London, S.E. 'Phone 1048 Hop. Tel., "Hart, Star, Bermondsey."

HARTLEY, FRANK, the Juggling Schoolboy. Pocket Cinquevalli. Big success this week at Empire, Rochdale. Next, Bradford.

HARTLEY WONDERS, Jumping Speciality. MAGGIE WALSH, Singing Mill Girl. Two Acts. Folie Marenge, Paris.

HAVERLEYS, THE, American Song-Illustrators. Monday next, Palace, Blackpool. Coms., 15, Albert-sq., Clapham. See other ad.

HAYDE, Palace, Bath.

HEARNES, FOUR, including the Black Nugget: the Funniest Acrobat in England. Monday, Hippo., Preston. Vacant, June 18.

HENDERSON, LADE, Character Vocalist, Usual Success, Barnard's, Chatham. All Coms. to Billy Henderson.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR, Pavilion, Newcastle. Whit Week, Tower, Blackpool. Vacant June 11.

HERCAT and FLORRIE FAIRFAX, Screaming Absurdity. "Her House in Disorder." Barrasford's Lyceum, London.

HILL, ROWLAND, Tivoli, Leeds, Pantomime Settled. Thanks Mr. Jordison and Mr. Little for Offers.

HILTONS, THE THREE, in New and Novel Act, Liberty, Monday; also June 11, 18. Per., 47, Nuttall-street, Liverpool.

HINTON and WOOTON, Second Week, Cook's Circus, Aberdeen.

HONRI, PERCY, Communications, 357, Holloway-road, N. Telegrams, Honri, London. 'Phone, 1,063, North.

MR. H. LAWRENCE LEYTON,
Disengaged 18th inst.
A.A.

MR. SYDNEY LEYTON,
Returned from South Africa.
7, Arundell-street, Piccadilly, W.

MR. G. H. LIOT,
Disengaged.
8, Cornwall-street, St. George's-square, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTER,
Disengaged. Offers invited for autumn.
47a, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON,
Lead, Heavies. Disengaged June 11, and Autumn. 4th, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.

MR. and MRS. SAM LIVESEY,
"The Village Blacksmith" Co.,
Opera House, Middlesbrough.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
Disengaged.
28, Chelverton-road, Putney.

MR. EDWARD LLOYD,
At Liberty Autumn.
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH,
Lead and Character, with Frank Bateman, Esq., June 4, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
Disengaged for Autumn and interim productions. Address, 7, Bridson-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES L. LUDLOW
(Agnes St. Clair). Liberty June 18.
C. L. L., Paddy Molloy, Borough, Stratford.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW,
at Liberty for Autumn.
C/o Canon Corfe, Truro.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG,
Lord Bellingham in "The Beauty of Bath."
Aldwych Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY.
Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lanca.

MR. GERALD MALVERN,
Engaged by Walter Maxwell, Esq.
June 4, County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER,
At Liberty.
Address, 18a, Harlswood-road, Wendell Park, W.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
"The Major's Double."
June 4, T. R., Belfast.

MR. ALFRED MARTIN,
Advance Manager, at lib. June 4 for a few weeks. Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Address,
June 4, County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. HENRY W. MAY.
All Kinds of Music Composed and Orchestrated. Pantomimes, &c. Add., C/o "The Era."

MR. QUINTON McPHERSON,
Criterion Theatre,
Piccadilly.

MR. CHARLES MEDWIN,
at Liberty, Character, Comedy.
Address, 17, Brunswick-square, W.C.

MR. ERIC G. MERRIE,
Dis. June 11, A. M., Comedy, Character.
Stock or Tour. Prince's T., Poplar, E.

MR. GEORGE MILLER,
Disengaged.
Address, 409, Edgware-road, W.

MR. J. ELLIS MILLER,
At Liberty shortly.
Concluding Fifth Year, G. T., Rawtenstall.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR MERVYN,
Juvenile Leading Business.
Offers invited for Autumn. H. M., Barrow.

MR. G. M. MONTANINI,
Business-Manager, "A Traitor Prince."
148th Consecutive Week.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY,
MARIE HARCOURT, Napoleon and Marcel, "Napoleon the Great" Co., Prince's T., Blackburn.

MR. & MRS. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS
(Marie McAulay). Joint offers invited, Aut.
The Bloreenge, Taunton.

MR. FRED MORGAN,
At Liberty June 11.
6, Ardville House, Rushcroft-rd, Brixton.

MR. ARTHUR B. MURRAY,
Address,
Duke of York's Theatre.

MR. H. ADAIR NELSON,
Riversdale,
Lynmouth.

MR. JOHN NESBITT, Concluded
Season's Engagement with Mr. Charles Frohman, in America. At Liberty. 10 King-st., W.C.

MR. DAVID G. NOBLE, Lead or
Heavy Lead. At lib. June 11, on. Perm., 48, Agate-rd, Hammersmith.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
Heavy Lead, "The Prodigal Parson."
June 4, Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. & MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
(Dorothy Carington), "Sweet and Twenty."
Dis. shortly. June 7, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. ERNEST OWTTRIM.
Thanks for Offers. Disengaged till August.
Address, 33, Grove-lane, Camberwell, S.E.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN,
with "Sunday."
June 4, T. R., Bournemouth.

MR. F. M. PAGET,
Third "Bonnie Brier Bush" Tour. Dis. for autumn. Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE
(Mabel Syringa). Disengaged.
Address, 10, Ospringe-road, N.W.

MR. POPE PAX,
Journalist and Dramatic Critic,
Address, 18, Trinity-road, Birmingham.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Hugh Ardale, in "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray." Whit Week, T. R., Blackburn.

MR. & MRS. WALTER PEMBERTON,
Disengaged June 9 for summer and autumn.
Mr. Cyril Maude's Co., Hastings.

MR. F. PENNINGTON - GUSH,
Disengaged.
18, Bernard-street, W.C.

MR. and MRS. FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Mr. Wheeler's Comedy Co., Cape Town, South Africa; or A.A.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY
(Miss Gertrude Price), Leading Business,
Dis. June 11, June 4, D. P. T., Eastbourne.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP,
General-Manager, Disengaged, through Misunderstanding Coms., c/o "The Era."

MR. WILLIAM PIMM,
T.R., Seaham. Disengaged June 16.
Offers Invited Summer and Autumn.

MR. & MRS. FREDERICK POWELL,
at Liberty now and Autumn. Address, 256, Penton-place, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

MR. CYRIL PRICE - EVANS,
Wilfred, in "Lucky Miss Dean," Theatre Royal, Portsmouth. Dis. June 15 for few weeks.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR.
Specially engaged by Mr. Frank Weathersby, Jim Stapleton, "Shall We Forgive Her?" At l.'b.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF,
Disengaged for 5 Weeks from June 9.
Stock or Sketch. T. R., Bournemouth.

MR. PERCY RHODES,
Disengaged now, and for Autumn.
54, St. Maur-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. S. C. RICHARDSON, Musical
Director. E. C. Hedmondt's "Queen Jester" Opera Co. Dis., Musical Comedy, &c. C/o "Era."

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON Concluded
Nine Months with Mr. Geo. Edwardes. Disengaged. 133, Lavender-sweep, Lavender Hill, S.W.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Char. and Stage-Man., "What the Butler Saw." Dis. June 9. P. G. T., Folkestone.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD,
Stage-Management, Apollo Theatre, W.
Address, 34a, Aldis-street, Tooting, S.W.

MR. WALTER ROBERTS
Dis. June 11, owing to term of tour. June 4, T. R., Halifax (six nights).

MR. LEONARD ROBSON,
Note new Address,
44, Lamb's Conduit-street, W.C.

MR. G. STAPELTON ROCHE,
Light Comedy, &c. Disengaged autumn.
Add., Belmeath, Upper Dorset-road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

MR. BASSETT ROE,
At Liberty until September.
Address, 10, King-street, Covent Garden.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS,
Address all communications,
124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

MR. HOWARD RUSSELL,
Re-engaged for Autumn by Arthur Collins, Esq. Dis. until then. 88a, Queen's-rd., Battersea.

MR. FREDERICK SANDY
as Wallace Danton (heavy), "A Modern Adventuress" Co. Next, P., Accrington.

MR. WILLIE SCOTT, Miss Maud
Hildyard's "Great Awakening" Co. Dis. June 11, also Panto. Theatre Royal, Southend.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN,
Tommy Keston, "The Freedom of Suzanne," Dis. June 9. June 4, Harrogate (3); Buxton (3).

MR. and MRS. CHARLES SEWELL
(Sara Dudley). Dis., Character, Light Com.
Thanks for Offer. 15, Connaught-rd., W. Ealing, W.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and
Character, Disengaged June 9, "Freedom of Suzanne." Theatres, Harrogate and Buxton.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor. Engaged by Hill and Ayrton, "The Gambler's Daughter." Carlton, Saltley.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY,
Manager for Mr. Robert Courtneidge,
Apollo Theatre, W.

MR. FRANK STANLEY,
Acting-Manager,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. E. STANTON - SHARP,
June 4, Bonelli in "The Eternal City."
Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

MR. GORDON STARKEY.
All arrangements for Autumn complete.
Address, 1, Mercatoria, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

MR. W. R. STAVELEY,
Disengaged.
239, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. T. S. McCAUSLAND STEWART.
Disengaged.
Address, 1, Farquhar-road, S.E.

MR. CHARLES STIRLING,
Lead. Heavies.
60, Wouldhave-street, South Shields.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN,
General Gordon, "At Duty's Call."
Theatre Royal, Jarrow. At liberty shortly.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (Twelfth Year),
Royalty T. and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. STORY-GOFTON,
At Liberty, Recitals, Productions, Parts, &c.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
Engaged by Mr. Chas. Macdona
for Management. Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS, Dis.
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Disengaged for Good Tour, Leading Business. Perm., 3, Springdale-road, Clissold Park, N.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Almanac and Annual for 1906, is not only a valuable collection of information and a history of the dramatic and musical year. It is also a very amusing and entertaining shillingsworth It contains contributions from many well-known actors and actresses. Mr. Frank Desprez, the editor, contributes a delightful story about an actress who sold her collection of Press notices in order to help a colleague in distress. There are numerous portraits. The lists of English, French, and German plays produced during the year are very useful. Altogether, "The Era" Almanack is indispensable to all interested in the stage.—The Star, Jan. 24, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
The thirty-ninth issue of "The Era" Annual has just appeared, and once more it supplies a useful record of the theatrical year. An editorial note reminds us that among the contributors to the first number, that of 1868, were E. L. Blanchard (its editor), Charles Mathews, T. W. Robertson, Andrew Halliday, H. J. Byron, Watts Phillips, and Dion Boucicault—a brilliant band indeed. The contributors to the present issue are almost exclusively actors rather than literary men, but upon the whole they make a very fair show; while the lists of plays produced in London and the provinces, and in Paris and Berlin during the twelve months under review are distinctly useful. There are a number of photographs including an exceedingly fine one of the late Sir Henry Irving.—Pall Mall Gazette, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual, 1906, is welcome as containing carefully compiled lists of the pieces produced during the past year in London, the suburbs, and the provinces, in Paris, and in Berlin. The rest of it is curious and entertaining reading. There is the almanack with its "memorabilia of theatrical events occurrences, &c." There are besides a score of stories and other articles contributed by theatricals a very good one being Miss Louie Freear's set of verses, "Boy Bob" at Sea," which has humour, feeling, and swing. The book contains many theatrical portraits. As a book of reference the Annual is of great use and value, and while some of its contents doubtless appeal more keenly to the professional than to the outsider, any thoughtful person may derive from its study much amusement and no little insight into the conditions, the magnitude, and the complexity of the English theatre of to-day.—Morning Post, Jan. 22.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual appears once more in its familiar binding, a compendium of information and amusement for all who are interested in theatrical affairs. In the calendar will be found an array of anniversary dates, some recent, some recalling memories of old times and actors and actresses long passed away. The summary of new plays produced during the past year is admirably done, its value being increased by the alphabetical list which is appended. Well-known actors and actresses contribute stories in accordance with a custom justified by its success.—Daily Telegraph, Jan. 18, 1906.

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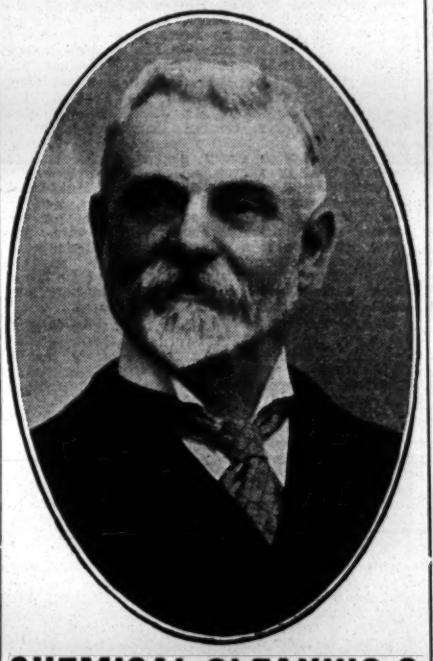

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT
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ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
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ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).
Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.
Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr. Albert A. Strong's new work, entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr. Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee.
Published at "The Era" Buildings,
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are moving with the Times, and are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements in time to reach the office on Thursday.

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AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, APRIL 24. — PRINCESS'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson).—The ever-popular opera, *La Fille du Tambour Major*, was again witnessed by a crowded audience on Saturday evening. Signor A. Rebottaro made his reappearance in the part of Captaine Robert, and sang in excellent style. The opera is admirably played by Mr. Anderson's company, and the mounting is on a lavish scale.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Business-Manager, Mr. Geo. Tallis).—The romantic drama, *Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall*, has evidently captivated Melbourne playgoers, the theatre being packed nightly. The piece is excellently mounted, and the comedy business is most diverting. Miss Tittell Brune is a charming Dorothy Vernon; while Mr. Kingston as Sir John Manners has a part which suits him admirably. Miss Susie Vaughan makes a dignified Queen Elizabeth; and Mr. Athol Wood, Mr. Stavely, Mr. Mervale, Miss Ferguson, and others, acquit themselves well.

OPERA HOUSE (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon). — An excellent programme is now being presented at this popular place of amusement. The Miles-Stavordale quartet party are the premier attraction at present, their remarkably clever manipulation of the banjo and harp nightly evoking great enthusiasm. Martinetti and Grosse give an amusing turn; the Scottish Meisters render some charming part songs; the Carmos give a sensational juggling act; Mlle. Omega astonishes all with her clever wire-walking; and the rest of the company contribute pleasing turns.

THEATRE ROYAL (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant).—A large audience witnessed the stirring melodrama, *The Midnight Mail*, on Saturday evening. The play abounds in striking situations, and a number of excellent tableaux are presented during the performance.

GAIETY THEATRE (Lessee, Mr. Frank Clarke).—There was a complete change of programme on Saturday evening, the company including Miss Amy Blackie, Miss Lucy Levina, May Marlowe, Andy Roberts, Will Renton, and Zeno and Hall. Vulcan, the handcuff king, made his appearance, and obtained a cordial reception.

SYDNEY, APRIL 24.—*The Cingalee* is a trump-card for Mr. J. C. Williamson's Royal comic opera company, and it is an extra attraction now, strengthened as it is by Miss Florence Young as Lady Patricia. Then, again, it was the production in which Miss Margaret Thomas made her first theatre appearance, much to our enjoyment and her profit. On the 28th Mr. Williamson will revive *The Orchid*, and Miss Clara Clifton will make her reappearance after a long period of throat trouble.

"BESIEGED IN PORT ARTHUR," as served up by Mr. Bland Holt, is a savoury dish for the Royal's playgoers, who, so far, have shown no desire for a change of menu. Every incident and patriotic speech, for whichever side it is made, evokes a round of applause, and Mr. Bland Holt and his industrious wife keep the fun furiously going.

THE Brough-Flemming Comedy Company gave its final performance—*Quality Street*—on Thursday, the theatre being closed on the Friday on account of the death of Mr. Robert Brough. The company opened last night in Brisbane, Mrs. Brough and Miss Emma Temple remaining behind.

MESSRS. CLYDE MEYNELL AND JOHN GUNN brought a company to the Criterion on the 21st to give us an ultra-transpontine drama called *The Fatal Wedding*. Miss May Congdon and Mr. Charles Vane are the principals, and Miss Maisie Posner is engaged to play the ten-year-old girl, who unravels the plot and confounds most villainous villainy at the steps of the altar. These three are first-class artists. A troupe of street children indulging in varied antics in a gentleman's drawing-room adds interest, the singing of a hymn being the creditable outcome of the tuition of Miss Chambers, sister of Haddon, of dramatic fame. Miss Doria Cooper is an all-destroying adventuress in gorgeous costumes; and Mr. Herbert Leigh helps on all things evil until the child averts them all. Miss Amy Singleton and Mr. Tom Cannam have the comedy entrusted to them, and crime and comedy are dear to a Sydney audience. Mr. Olly Deering and Mr. C. R. Stanford, who also stage-manages, have minor but necessary characters. *The Fatal Wedding* is a veritable "boom," and justifies the two managers in their catering for our public

MR. HARRY RICKARDS' already plethoric bill was further fattened on Saturday by the coming of Miss Rose Cabani. This lady became at once an immense favourite, the audience joining in the chorus of her songs. Larola also came, and kept laughter and astonishment battling for the mastery all through his turn of song and acrobatics. Miss Alice Raymond is more popular every night, and flowers in abundance are handed to her. Slade Murray, the Two Bells and Eight Primroses, Harry Hart, Baby Watson, Fanny Powers, the Three Lees, the Dancing Gilberts, Fred Benett, Kitty Lenton, Clive Cooke, Harry Sadler, and Florrie Henderson all appear. On the 28th Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeley will appear in their comedy, *Hooked by Crook*.

WEST'S PICTURES and the Brescians turn money away every night from the Palace, and Mr. Edwin Geach has arranged for seven nights at the Town Hall after he finishes here on the 27th.

MR. GEORGE STEPHENSON opens at the Palace on the 28th with a new comic opera, *A Moorish Maid*, composed by Alfred Hill, the New Zealand musician.

WIRTH'S CIRCUS is having a good season. Albeit a long way out of town, and Martini's Buck-jumpers show no diminution of patronage, the tent having been nightly crowded for some months now.

COLE'S HIPPODROME is playing a bushranging drama written by the Hon. E. W. O'Sullivan to large audiences at most popular prices.

J. W. WINTON concluded his series of entertainments "for non-theatre-goers" at the Centenary (Wesleyan) Hall on Saturday night.

MR. HUGH J. WARD arrived on Saturday ready for the Willoughby-Ward season at the Palace.

MR. TOM FITZGERALD, the remaining brother of the two who owned the great circus, died recently at Burmah in India. Dan died last year, and both were most highly respected as straight-going managers and men.

THE San Francisco earthquake concerned the theatrical world here most seriously. Mr. J. C. Williamson had the Collier Dramatic Company and the tenor, Reginald Roberts, just about to leave the Californian capital; Miss Tittell Brune had a husband managing a bank in that city; Kubelik coming out for a tail season was there; and the Nellie Stewart company was somewhere thereabouts. Cablegrams have announced the safety of all these, and many visitors from this part of the world.

THE Marquis de Leuville is presenting Miss Ellen Terry with one of his pistol-target pictures containing a portrait of the gifted actress in one of her most queenly characters, and an equally excellent likeness of the late Sir Henry Irving. The picture has a green velvet mount and a frame of simple but artistic workmanship and original classic design. The initials, "E. T.," in silver are over the drawing, and there are one or two crests and escutcheons engraved and chased inside the frame. Sir Henry Irving possessed a large water-colour drawing by the Marquis, which was presented to the Municipality of Lyons, as it was a view in the neighbourhood.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin* is being played this week by Mr. Charles Hermann's company. Eliza is acted with good effect by Miss Florence Trench; Mr. Charles Freeman gives a manly representation of George Harris; and Legree is sufficiently brutal in the hands of Mr. Frank Woodward. Mr. Hermann plays with marked ability as Phineas Fletcher; while Marks and Uncle Tom are capably interpreted by Mr. J. F. Millar and Mr. Harry Leander. Miss Cissie Carter shows much intelligence in the part of Eva, and Miss Nellie Shannon is an admirable Topsy.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The greatest interest is taken this week in the Ju-jitsu turn of Yukio Tani, the Japanese wrestler, and contests take place nightly. Among the other artists who are well received are the Lyons Trio, pantomimists and dancers; the Henderson-Stanley Quartette in a vocal, instrumental, and dancing act; Miss Nell Hawthorne, a clever dancer and sweet singer; and Millstead and Bell in an extremely humorous and highly original interlude depicting the wooing of an Arizona maid by a British sailor. Included in this company is Mr. H. C. Catternach, a baritone vocalist of high merit.

COOKE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Henry Cooke.—The principal attraction this week is the sensational equestrian Indian spectacle *The Scalp-Hunters*. Mr. Leicester Alfred Cooke appears in his smart historical act *Rob Roy*, and Miss Ernestine Rosa Cooke continues to charm the audience by her representation of a number of classical poses. Du Cailon shows much agility on the ladder, while Fynn and Haddie contribute some clever fooling with their automatic machine. Hinton and Wooton repeat their wonderfully expert bicycle act, and the Grovini Family evoke unstinted applause in their remarkably smart acrobatic turn.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—Mr. Harry Starr is here this week with two of his musical plays, *Carl, the Clock Maker*, and *Otto, the Outcast*. The author gives a clever and amusing delineation of Carl; Mr. Fred W. Graham plays Arthur Attwood in capable style; the heavy part, Maurice Helmore, is well played by Mr. Edwin Firth; Mr. W. Miller can be highly complimented on his Narkey Nabbs; Mr. Charles Cabe is suitably cast as Hans Conrad; Miss Madge Blundell is a distinct success as Madge Ryder; Miss Kati Noris gives a pleasing performance of Lena Harrigan; and Miss Ella Crossley is good as Jane Picklefinch.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—A first-class entertainment is provided here this week, including the Villions, a smart troupe of acrobatic cyclists; Lottie Lunn is well received; Renson and Waite merit applause for their clever patter and good singing; Bernard and Weston are amusing; the Two Neros are excellent; Miss Violet Morgan scores with her impersonations; Frances Heskoll gives an interesting electric illusory novelty; another good turn is Harry Bent; and the Bioscope completes the bill.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—*The Night of the Party* is an emphatic success as played here by Mr. Geo. Stephenson and company. Mr. Leslie Holland's impersonation of the irresistible Crosbie is excellent; Mr. Fred Rolph's clever acting as Flambert is greatly appreciated; Mr. George Stephenson displays pronounced dramatic ability as Mr. Frayne; Mr. H. V. Surrey contributed to the fun as Bogle; Mr. Geo. Sade is capital as Roundle; Mr. Allan Cunard as Sir C. Hampshire is equally successful; and Mr. Ernest Cresten does well as Hargen. Miss Vera Vere gives a bright and animated impersonation of Paulina; Miss Evelyn Howard is an excellent Lady Hampshire; the Gipsy is effectively rendered by Miss Evie Erskine; and Mrs. Young is ably played by Miss Maisie Jones.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Audiences have expressed their appreciation of the good points in the play entitled *Her Lost Self* presented here this week by Miss Frances Delaval and company. In the rôle of a woman whose nature has been warped by the betrayal and duplicity of a base scoundrel whom she trusted Miss Delaval is intensely dramatic and effective; Mr. Chas. Keene is cool and callous as the villain; Mr. Percy Carne Waram is impressive and pathetic as the husband of a minor heroine in the play; Miss Dora Hammersley is touching in her simplicity and innocence as the much-wronged wife, and afterwards as the daughter. Adequate interpretation is also given to minor rôles by Messrs. Adrian Lovett, Fred Lillywhite, L. W. Halfpenny, and by Mrs. Lyons, and others. The humorous element is admirably sustained by Miss Nell Ingram and Mr. Horace Buckley. Little Miss Johnson is also good as the child.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—This week the sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*, by the Six Brothers Luck, is the big feature of the bill. Field and Lewis, another "star" turn, score with their burlesque of melodrama, mimicry, and daring; the Sisters Allen, international dancers, have made a favourable impression; Farr and Farland, a couple of young artists, are successful as banjo duettists; Rayner and Reece are a good turn; Fred Mason, coster comedian and whistler, is well received; Stylo, the hoop juggler, gives a marvellous performance; Frances Lyric is a tuneful vocalist and high-kicker; and Little Rose Pink is a clever child singer and dancer.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—Messrs. E. A'Dell and Fred Chabot's company is appearing here this week in *The Romany's Revenge*.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—The programme presented here this week is headed by Miss Ella and her troupe of eight lions, a sensational and interesting item; Langton and Lane are seen in a mirth-provoking speciality act; Mr. Chris Masters, a singer of sailor songs, is successful; Mr. E. C. Clayton has an excellent selection of pictures; a welcome return visit is paid by the Brady and Johnson company in *Turning the Tables*; Queenie West finds favour as a comedienne; the Bonanzas give a clever act as hand-balancers and staircase performers; and the Bros. Zarno present an eccentric triple bar performance.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company in *No Wedding Bells for Her* is here. Mr. George G. Doughty does exceedingly well as Dick Delver; Mr. Stuart Lomath, as Frank Hatherley, has a congenial rôle; as Harold Trevelyan Mr. Edward E. Louis is convincing; and Doris Fane is winningly played by Miss Doris Lorraine. Miss Lizzie Montague draws a powerful character sketch of Lola Delaspierre; and Mr. Will Skelton, as Simkins, and Mr. Herbert J. Walton, as Adonis Tightfist, are humorous.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge. — Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge are presenting the Furness Academy of Dramatic Art in the American comedy *A Night Off* at this theatre. The production is an excellent one, the students being exceedingly clever in their respective rôles. The performance is enthusiastically received, and the principal (Mrs. Calvert Routledge) must feel very proud of the society's first attempt.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—An excellent bill here includes the Kellinos, in their speciality act *A Fête in Venice*; Cherry Lass, comedienne and dancer; George Barron, eccentric comedian; Anthony, the mysterious gentleman in white; Girboy and Cross, in a comedy act; Will Driscoll, swell comedian and dancer; and Daisy Dormer, coon impersonator.

BATH.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—The chief item of the bill here is the musical mélange *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, with the popular comedian Harry Roxbury in the diverting rôle of P.C. Longfellow. Excellent support is given by Miss Vashti Wynne as Lady Carr, and a strong chorus of energetic associates. The other turns are all paying welcome return visits, and include Mlle. Haydn's well-equipped miniature theatre; Will Van Allen, the smart tramp musician and raconteur; Mephisto, contortionist; the Two Bostons, in their well-known act as novelty showmen; Martin Henderson, the blind concertinist; and Lola Patey, the pleasing comedienne; Raymond's Bio-Tableaux conclude the entertainment.

BEDFORD.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. F. Douglas Wentworth and Mr. Charles A. Johnston's company in Henry Arthur Jones's play *The Bauble Shop*. Mr. T. W. Rawson submits a powerful rendering of Lord Clivebrook, and Mr. Leonard Booker makes an admirable Earl of Sarum. Mr. Raymond Thomas as Mr. Stoach, M.P., leaves nothing to be desired, while the Hon. Charles Teviot is capably represented by Mr. Hubert Dickeson. Mr. Wm. E. Passmore excellently portrays the part of Matthew Keber; Miss Lisa Coleman proves quite a success in her rôle of Lady Kate Hennell; Miss Lily Bertram charmingly depicts the trials of Jessie Keber; and Miss Muriel Barrington and Miss Mary Musden as Lady Bellenden and Gussy Bellenden respectively do justice to their parts.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—*A Royal Divorce*, presented by a competent company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Frederick Moyes furnishes a remarkably clever study of Napoleon, his make-up and acting being in the highest degree effective. It would indeed be difficult to equal Miss Edith Cole's delightful impersonation of the Empress Josephine, and with Mr. Moyes she deservedly bears the honours of the piece. In the rôle of the villainous Marquis de Beaumont Mr. George W. Cockburn plays admirably, and Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell is the crafty scheming Talleyrand to the life. Miss Elizabeth Watson's acting as Marie Louise of Austria is all that could be desired, and Mr. Alfred Wellesley is amusing as the drunken innkeeper Grimaud. Miss Clare Earle is a charming and vivacious Stephanie, and Mr. George Howard's impersonation of General Augereau has much to commend it. Other rôles are well portrayed by Miss Helena Meadows, Miss E. Wilsden, Miss Loyal Frere, Miss Maggie Cardiff, and Messrs. St. George Frere, Dennis Bryan, G. Hudson, T. O'Brien, &c. On Friday night a complimentary benefit was accorded Miss Cole.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. De Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—Mr. Charles Majilton and his comedy company top the bill and present with every degree of success the musical comedy sketch called *The Trippers*. A sensation has been created by Theo Hardeen in his well-known handcuff performance, and the Three Romas, described as gladiatorial marvels, furnish an artistic and clever performance. Miss Belle Harcourt is a delightful comedienne; Mr. Harry Luck, a capital comedian, is well received; and other good turns are provided by Miss Gracie Lawn, comedienne and dancer; Vincent, acrobatic table expert; and the Palace Pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Nelson's Newsboys top the bill and have been most successful with their capital vocalism and smart dancing. Much amusement has been created by the comedy sketch *The Professor and His Pupil* presented by Amann and Hartley, and Bernard's Fantoches provide an exceptionally attractive entertainment. Mr. Jas. H. Cullen is a clever comedian, and the dashing Sisters Lunelle delight the audience with their catchy songs and smart dancing. The Brothers Corcoran, "the musical shipbuilders," furnish a capital musical act; and also here are Miss Agnes Hanson, comedienne and dancer, and the Bioscope with new pictures.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The Waldrons top the bill, and have been most successful with their comedy act *The Silly Burglar*. A fine reception has been extended to Harry Russell and company in their amusing skit *Bink's Blunder*, in which Miss Verna Reed appears to much advantage. Mr Sydney Garden and Miss Lulu Zesch, Australian vocal entertainers, do well, and Mr. Harry Wright upholds his reputation as one of the best of comedians; Miss Nelly Gannon is a delightful comedienne with good songs; and also appearing are Miss Peggy Fame, comedienne; Allsop and Beckworth, the comedy duo; Alberto, magician; the Brooklands, vocalists and dancers; and the Alhambra Bioscope.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company are meeting with considerable success. On Monday and Tuesday *A Wife's Triumph* was presented, with Mr. Abbott as Frank Wilson, a rôle which he portrays with incisiveness and effect; Mr. W. H. Garbois gave an excellent rendering of Ellis Jordan; Julius Hartman was well impersonated by Mr. Weedon Ross; and the humour of Mr. Ben Bradford, the village constable, was admirably depicted by Mr. Edwin Keene. The heroine, Bessie Dewhurst, was finely played by Miss Ada Abbott; Alice Wilton was efficiently represented by Miss Kathleen Stewart; Miss Marjorie Tennant was a sprightly Margery Cribb; and Miss Elsie Jones displayed considerable intelligence as Little Frank. Mr. Douglas C. Phelps gave a fine rendering of Robert Dewhurst, J.P. During the week *Trilby* and *Sapho* have also been produced.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Mr. George Abel, Miss Ethel Arden, and company in the entertaining sketch *Three of a Kind* are prominent in an excellent company. Mr. Wal Pink, a comedian of infinite resource, is also a favourite turn; Mr. Jack Lorimer, a capital Scotch comedian, is on a welcome return visit; Miss Sadie Simpson is an accomplished burlesque artist; and Miss Florrie Moore, serio, has many admirers. Barrett and Knowles, amusing patter comedians, are an attraction; and Mr. Chris Richards, a versatile comedian, and Mr. Arthur Slater (the man in white) also strengthen the programme. Mr. Ernest Denny is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Phillip Rodway.—The promenade concerts here grow more and more popular every week. The season closes to-night.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnson.—*Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* has enjoyed a hearty reception on its return here this week with Mr. Lewis Waller's clever company. Miss Cynthia Brooke as the mettlesome Elizabeth has won the unqualified praise of all by her excellent grip of the character; Mr. Frederick Victor as Captain Peyton has risen to all exigencies; Mr. Sidney Young has impressed all with his finely drawn picture of Valentine; Mr. Elliott Ball fills the rôle of Major Colden in dramatic style; Miss Leonora Braham acts with fine comedy as Mistress Williams; and Mr. A. C. Grand as Edwards, Mr. Douglas Young as Carrington, Mr. Tom Taylor as Black Sam, Mr. J. Thomas as Cuff, and Miss Phyllis Back as Molly all do well. *Domestic Bliss* precedes the above.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Three Musketeers*, by H. A. Saintsbury, has here proved a most popular and highly creditable production. Mr. Saintsbury undertakes the rôle of the gallant D'Artagnan in fine style, and his congeners are played with capital spirit by Messrs. Henry Bute, Vincent Clive, and Ernest Allen. Miss Irene Rooke portrays the cunning of Miladi with a fascination that has added immensely to her reputation; Miss Edith Turner charms the house by her sympathetic acting as Constance; Miss Lorna Lawrence acts in a coquettish style as Kitty; and Miss Annie Hill, Mr. George Steel, Mr. Milton Rosmer, Mr. E. Vanderlip, Mr. Arthur Soames, and Mr. H. M. Vanderfelt play their rôles with distinction.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*Wep-Ton-No-Mah* once more reveals here the talented and popular Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk in her dashing assumption of the brave young Indian carrier.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Rich and Poor of London* has elicited excellent support on its representation here this week by Sidney Dench's company. Miss Dora Dench proves a highly pleasing May Braithwaite; Mr. Sidney Dench pervades the drama with his rich humour as Spider Jack; Mr. Robert Grahame is much admired as Dr. Morton; Miss Ethel Denville wins much favour as Seadrift; Mr. Edward Arinall avails him of his opportunities as Mark Stanley to the utmost legitimate effect; and Mr. Temple Ellis as Mathew Grabbam, Miss Violet Lytton as Ruby Redgrave, Mr. M. R. Gascoigne as Gussie, Mr. H. C. Gilpin as Billy, and Miss Molly Hackett as Polly secure popularity.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*A London Actress*, by Miss Emma Litchfield and company, under the direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland, fills the boards here with much success. Miss Litchfield's appearance in her well-known and cleverly-drawn character of Hilda Mannering is most cordially recognised; Mr. S. Cleveland for his well-studied acting as Clive Crawford has a like reception; Mr. Richard Vane is applauded for his agreeably natural performance of Lieut. Kingston; Mr. Jno. Worth scores as Captain Mannering; Miss Maud Steeple acts in a pleasing way as Phyllis Crawford; Miss Milly Hayward shines as Rosie Blyth; and Mr. John Hitchins, Mr. G. H. Doyle; and Miss Nelly Stern are clever in their rôles.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Georg Hackenschmidt is exhibiting his skill as a wrestler to crowded houses this week. Lew Lake and company present their absurdity, *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, which is most amusing; the Hadj Abdullah Troupe of Arabs and the Four Skandias are expert gymnasts; the Violas have a second sight act, which is highly interesting; Colby and May, a ventriloquist and dancing doll, are loudly applauded; the singing and dancing of the Sisters Morgan are much appreciated; while Daisy Mayer and Charles Lilburn are encored for their songs.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—The Royal Tokio Troupe of Equilibrists head the bill here; the Paulastro Troupe are smart; Ernest Montefiore and company present a musical scena, *The Little Colonel*; Tom and Marie Motramo have a scena which is far above the average; the Sisters Caselli sing and dance in their usual happy manner; other prominent turns are the Three Delaires, Fanny Erris, Beaty and Blanch, and Bert Brantford.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—George Leyton is starring here in his latest military scena, *The Scamp of the Regiment*; Carlotta Levey has made a big hit with her songs; Kelly and Gillette have a smart billiard table act; the Four Harveys are daring in their wire act; Ethel Loftus is a dainty comedienne; the singing and dancing of the Sisters Tinsley and the Floradora Girls are most attractive; Dan Thomas and Arthur Elvy, comedians, add to the mirth of the audience.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—The Brothers Egbert are delighting large houses this week with their *Happy Dustmen* sketch; Gwennie Hasto has had a big reception; Drew and Alders keep the audience in a continual roar of laughter; Fred Russell, in his ventriloquial act, is humorous; Bert Byrne, the Jurgens Trio, Unthan, and the Bioscope complete a capital programme.

BLACKBURN. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—Walter Howard's drama *Under the Russian Flag* is the attraction this week, Mr. Jack Haddon's company giving an excellent representation of the play. Mr. Haddon himself showed exceptional ability as Captain Demetrius, and he was ably supported by Miss Marie Rayner, who acted finely in the rôle of Luka; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh was a sympathetic heroine; Mr. Fred Hanning was amusing as Alexis Skopolopki. The other parts are also well played.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank McNaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—An excellent entertainment is provided by the Six Brothers Luck in their pantomime sketch *The Demon of the Cellar*; Grace Merton, the original street singer; Fred Bronte, actor vocalist; Ted Farrar, comedian; the Sisters Varley, duettists; Dan Conroy, comedian; Lily Esplin, comedienne; Otto and Olga, comedy instrumentalists; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Will White's company, in the American drama *The New World*, is drawing crowded houses here.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company is paying a return visit here this week with *The Freedom of Suzanne*. Miss Beatrice Lindley has previously proved her exceptional capabilities for the part of Suzanne Trevor, and her embodiment of the character this week could not easily be improved upon. Mr. Herbert J. Bentley does well as Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstans is well placed as Fitzroy Harding; Mr. William Mallalieu suits the rôle of Sir Horace Hatton; Miss Violet Ley makes a charming Lady Bury; and other parts are also in efficient hands.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*The New Clown* is once again proving a good attraction here, and the various members of the company (Mr. Frank Bertram's) are thoroughly acquainted with their work; Mr. Ernest Spalding scores a success as Lord Cyril Garston; and Mr. Alec Flood gives a capital representation of Mr. Dixon. Thomas Baker finds an able exponent in Mr. A. M. Moore; Mr. Cyril Vernon cleverly enacts Captain Jack Trent; sweet and charming are Miss Celestine Bertram as Rose Platt; Miss Connie Merton as Maude Chesterton; and Miss M. E. Ellis as Winnie Chesterton. *My Lady Help* is the curtain raiser.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—A capital programme is provided here this week by Harry Tate's company in *Fishing*; Lena Dudley, comedienne; Master Ralph Moore, aptly described as the boy Patti; Charlie Jerome in a vocal scena; Sinclair and Whiteford in a sketch, entitled *Getting Even*; the Haverleys, song illustrators; Lady Mansel and her juveniles in their comedy speciality, *A Concert Rehearsal*; Marie Reeve, comedienne; Mlle. Lumière's fairy grotto, and Vernon's imperial bioscope.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Variety is again being provided here by the energetic manager who has got together an attractive combination, which includes the Pasquali Bros., head-to-head balancers; the Karno trio, in an amusing sketch, *The Traveller's Rest*; Addie Dorina has an interesting duologue, *How It Is Done*; Ida Ross, Tyrolean vocalist; Maud Vera, coon songstress; Starr and Jerome, vocalists and dancers; Oliver Conroy, comedian; Natalie and Diana, aerial gymnasts—all of whom come in for a most enthusiastic reception.

TUDOR'S CIRCUS.—Under the management of Messrs. George and Edwards.—Strenge, the Berlin Hercules, supported by a strong variety company, have drawn good houses. Allan also displays wonderful powers as an athlete; George and Edwards, old favourites, give a good turn; Amy Bell, Ewart and Bryant, Bob Stephenson, Fred Howard, and the Bioscope complete a capital programme.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke and company opened here on Monday with *In Old Madrid*, for three nights. Miss Annie Brunotte was good as Violet Lyndhurst; the part of Lola was effectively played by Miss Loui Fontaine; Mr. Fred J. Kirke gave a manly representation of Frank Lyndhurst; and Mr. Frank Beaulieu was responsible for a good performance of Fernando; the Sisters English gained hearty applause by their refined songs and dances. *Our Sailor Lad* was billed for three nights by the same company, commencing on Thursday.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Charles Baldwin's Comedians and Pantomimists in an up-to-date absurdity entitled *The Bank Clerks* are providing a merry entertainment here this week. A dainty tune is that of Helen Charles, her whistling being particularly good; Victor Travers causes laughter with his quaint sayings and dancing; Pete and Juno's sand dancing gains for them a hearty recall. Other turns include Johnny Fuller, the cat on the wire, and Flo Somers, comedienne and dancer. The Hippodrome pictures are excellent, as usual.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Norman V. Norman's répertoire company, which is paying a return visit, opened on Monday with *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*. Mr. Norman, as Sir George Sylvester, plays the part in fine dashing style, vigorous, manly, and tender, as occasion requires; the Lady Ursula Barrington of Miss Beatrice Wilson is a finished study of the wayward lady, and her scenes with Sylvester are capitally played; to Mr. Brember Wills must be accorded a special word of praise for his excellent rendering of Mr. Dent; and others who deserve mention are Mr. Francis Hope as Mr. Blimboe, and Mr. Dennis Clough as the Earl of Hassenden. Other productions during the week are *David Garrick* and *Nell Gwyn of Drury Lane*.

BRADFORD. — THEATRE ROYAL — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—A large audience on Monday greeted with applause Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's production of the late Wilson Barrett's play, *Lucky Durham*. Mr. Edmund Kennedy in the rôle of John Durham has just the required repose and restraint; Miss Phyllis Relph is a charming and convincing Helen Vallerton; Mr. Benson North's Lord Mountfallon is an able performance; and as the Hon. Reggie, Mr. Leigh is particularly entertaining; Mr. W. F. Clitherow in the rôles of Ben Verstein and Mr. Lubenham, does conscientious work; Mr. Vallerton is capably played by Mr. A. E. Walker; Miss Louise Gourlay's Mrs. Durham is a performance brimful of tenderness and feeling; Miss Frances Wolviston is excellent in the part of Lady Mountfallon; and a winsome performance of the candid and artless Hon. Margaret Steighton is submitted by Miss Florence Dalhunty.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Considerable interest is centred here this week in *The Little Breadwinner*. Little Emmie Thomas is entirely successful as Meg, the little provider; Miss Lissa Young is capital as Bobby Trott; the author is impressive in his assumption of the Quaker, Lord William Dorrington; and Mr. David Gordon commands sympathy as Richard; Joseph Prior has an effective exponent in Mr. Scott Leighton; and Charles is well played by Mr. Allen Charles; Miss Mary Fulton acts with power and feeling as the unfortunate Margaret Daventry; Miss Maud Buchanan is effective as the wayward Kate Cherry; Miss Emmie Litchfield plays Ruth acceptably; and Miss Jenny Bostock is good as Bridget O'Flanagan.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Solbrig's Automata provides a very exhilarating and clever turn here this week, and there is a capital exposition of American song and dance by Hays and Suits, a smart pair; Leonie Dixon is a bright and pretty soubrette; Mr. John Lawson is once more stirring the pulse with his realistic and dramatic sketch, *Humanity*; and Venie Clements is bright and winsome; Flo Deighton is heard to advantage in ballads; in *The Society Burglar*, Booker and Narbis are entertaining; Alf. Holt is a clever mimic, and some capital films are shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—In a comedy act, *Mary and the Squire*, Harry Dent (an old favourite) and his partner, Harris, provide amusement; Barrington is vastly entertaining as a musical expert; Lily Black makes a welcome re-appearance. In *His Birthday*, Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene are eminently successful; Allis and Cassati submit an amusing turn; George Rapley's burlesque comedy, with scenic effects, finds favour. In their turn as coster and dude, Fyne and Hurley are entertaining; Astley's American circus, with its riding platform and quaint trick mule, "Sloper," elicits hearty laughter; and Raymond's bio-tableaux show some highly entertaining films.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—The distinguished American actress, Mrs. Russ Whytal, and company opened here on Monday with *Lady Clancarty*. Mrs. Russ Whytal gave an impersonation of Lady Clancarty which was marked by graceful acting and dramatic fervour; and Mr. Claude King achieved complete success as Earl Clancarty. Mr. Charles Combe was impressive as King William III.; Mr. J. J. Bartlett submitted a capital character study as Scum Goodman; Mr. Leslie Palmer's Earl of Portland; Mr. Arthur Hardy's Lord Woodstock; and Mr. Edward Beecher's Lord Charles Spencer were sterling representations; and Miss Mabel Knowles made a vivacious and charming Lady Betty Noel. The remaining characters were ably sustained. At Thursday's special London matinée Mr. Martin Harvey and his Imperial Theatre company, including Miss Kate Rorke, appeared in *Boy O'Carroll*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*How London Lives* occupies the boards here this week, and is doing good business. Miss Daisy Halling is artistic and sympathetic as the heroine, Gladys Ferrers; and Mr. Ronald Adair is manly and popular as the hero, Jack Ferrers. Mr. Paul Barry Lewers, as the villainous Stephen Grainger, is forcible and convincing; Miss Lydia Mannington is capitally suited as Lady Ferrers; and excellent acting is submitted by Mr. H. C. Lanceley, as Col. Sir George Ferrers; Miss Lily Grey, as Maudie de Lacy; and little Miss Bella Finlay, as Kate Maxwell. The comic element is admirably sustained by Mr. George H. Asquin, as the Microbe; Miss Lucy Murray, as Molly Crockett; Mr. Sam T. Pearce, as Bertie; and Mr. Charles Henley, as Gus.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard. — A varied and attractive bill of fare is presented here this week. J. W. Rowley, the original "Over Rowley," wins hearty applause with his latest successes; Jordan and Harvey, American Hebrew comedians, are amusing; Russell Carr is distinctly effective in his clever ventriloquial entertainment; Syd Gregory sings himself into favour, and is a smart mimic; the Sisters Slater are well received in their singing, dancing, and banjo-playing turn; the Marlo and Dunham Trio are in the front rank as bar and trapeze performers; James Prior, comedian, is as entertaining as ever; Marie Blythe is a charming comedienne; Bosanquet, the violin virtuoso, is very successful in an illuminated scena, in which he introduces the singing violin, and his novelty instrument, "Bosanquephone"; and the Alhambrascope pictures are, as usual, interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Arthur Roberts and company provide unbounded fun in the sketch *The Importance of Being Another Man's Wife*; Leo Dryden, the actor-vocalist, submits a turn which is warmly appreciated; the Brothers Redmond, acrobatic comedians, are clever and humorous; the Two Errolls introduce some wonderful somersaults in their interesting leaping act; the Cabiacs, acrobats, execute some difficult feats; the Two Kays, in a trick-change scene, contribute some pleasing songs; Marion Scott, comedienne, is well received; Austin and Cowan are able vocal entertainers; the Sisters Cora are attractive duettists and dancers; Fred Cary is a good comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER. — Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Miss Ina Royle and company opened here on Monday with *One Summer's Day*. Miss Ina Royle makes a charming Maysie; Mr. Arthur Goodsall gives a capital enactment of Major Dick Rudyard; Mr. Percy Goodyer is an amusing Tom; Mr. Arthur Curtis is successful as Theodore; Master Cyril Bruce is well suited as the Urchin; and the gipsy parts are very cleverly sustained by Mr. Eric Mason, Miss Katherine Stewart, and Miss Ada Potter. The programmes for the week also included *The Merchant of Venice*.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Mr. Henry Austin's company opened here on Monday with *Jane*. Miss Cicely Wade gave a delightful impersonation of Jane; Mr. Fred Inwood was very entertaining as the bachelor Charles Shackleton; Mr. Henry Austin achieved great success as Mr. Kershaw; Mr. F. Morland made a capital William; Mr. Gerald Henson was a smart Claude; and effective acting was displayed by Miss Grace Clifton (Mrs. Chadwick), Miss Violet Lytton (Lucy), Miss Clare Elstob (Mrs. Pixton); and Mr. Herbert Dickeson (Pixton). The farcical comedy was preceded by *Cupid's Dream*.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry De Groot.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. Mr. William Kingsley is an expert performer on the hand-bells; Dr. Seaton is a very smart conjurer and illusionist; Miss Margaret Lisle displays charming vocalisation; Miss Enid Fane wins well-deserved applause for her transformation and serpentine dances; and the animated pictures of the wrestling match between Hackenschmidt and Madrali, and incidents in the Russian War, are very interesting.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Charles Otley's company is here with *Our Boys*, the comedy being staged in an effective manner. Mr. Charles Otley presents a careful and amusing exposition of Perkyn Middlewick; Mr. Stephen T. Ewart is sufficiently dignified and aristocratic as Sir Geoffrey Champneys; Talbot Champneys and Charles Middlewick are carefully taken by Mr. W. B. Beltram and Mr. Herbert Robinson; Violet Melrose and Mary Melrose have pleasing exponents in Miss Olive Palmer and Miss Edith Heron Brown; Miss Phyllis Manners is amusing as Clarissa Champneys; and Miss Marie Jonquil makes a clever character study of Belinda. The performance commences with the curtain-raiser *A Case for Eviction*, which is smartly played by Miss Edith Heron Brown, Miss Maxim, and Mr. Herbert Robinson.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Here we have the old favourite, *East Lynne*, satisfactorily staged, and well played by Messrs. Armitage and Leigh's company. Miss Julie Kinnaird presents a stately and sympathetic study of Lady Isabel; Mr. Alfred Beaumont is decidedly good as Archibald Carlyle; Mr. Eric Mayne plays Levison on historic lines, and is throughout effective; and the remaining characters are all very carefully and satisfactorily taken by other members of an efficient company.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Herbert Darnley's company is here with the amusing sketch *Moving In*; the Five Astleys obtain applause for their speciality *The American Musical Farmers*; George Prince, comedian, is appreciated; as also are Dale and O'Malley, comedians; Wright and Elton do a good speciality turn of song, dance, &c.; the Brianos amuse with their acrobatic monkeys; Clemart is an expert ventriloquist; and Teresa De Sylva, comedienne, sings in pleasing style. The performance concludes with a good display of Vernon's animated pictures

ences. Mr. Harry Nelson, the Tyneside comedian, is appearing this week, and meets with a good reception.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley.—The Royal's attraction this week is the drama, by Miss Hildyard and Russell Vaun, entitled *The Great Awakening*, the leading character, Lola Selby, being represented in powerful style by Miss Hildyard herself.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Nellie Dunbar, a serio with plenty of life and confidence; the Two Leslies, juvenile serios; Bonette and Corri, in an eccentric juggling act; Will Souls contributes some laughing songs; a flattering reception is awarded G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon; Zangrette and Napio, musical eccentrics; and pictures by Mr. Lacey's Erascope afford pleasure, while the tit-bit of the evening is the appearance of Mr. and Mrs. Ed. H. Lucas in cleverly enacted representations of characters from David Copperfield.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor Capt. H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Captain Davis' bill of fare includes Harry Phillips, comedian; Ada Twibell, burlesque artist; the Kimberley Boys, comedians and patterers; trapeze and feats on the slack wire by the Rhoda Bros.; Ted Young, comedian; Miss Florence, who appears with much success as the Jolly Dutch Girl; and Pictures by the Edisonograph. Mr. Alec Hurley and Co. are in their second week, giving in lively style *The Coster's Friendly Lead*.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company is here in *Sweet and Twenty*. Miss Ethel Weyburn is well suited as Joan Trevelyan; Mr. Gus. Wheatman presents an acceptable and laughable study of Prynne; Mr. Stephen Wentworth's acting as Eustace Floyd is quite admirable, and is well contrasted with Mr. Lionel Glenister's equally clever presentation of Douglas; Mr. Drelincourt Odium plays with individuality and dignity as the Rev. James Floyd; Miss Isabel Grey is a comely and "comfortable" Ellen; and little Miss Zeta Russell is delightfully childlike, pretty, and graceful as the boy, Chris. Two neat and well-defined studies are the Blacksmith of Mr. Gus. Wheatman and the Mrs. Trevelyan of Miss Dorothy Carrington. The play is preceded by *In the Strand*.

MONTPELLIER GARDENS.—Manager (for Cheltenham Corporation), Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—Mr. Paul Mill's party of Olympian Entertainers has possession of the pavilion this week.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé.—Another variety company is here this week. The Arizona Troupe are clever acrobatic tumblers and contortionists; Witty Watty Walton causes much amusement in his latest funniosities; Sisters Clive, duettists and dancers, are well received; Mr. Will Percival, comedian and pedestal clog dancer, provides an acceptable turn; another bright and attractive turn is that of the Royal Quintette, dancers and vocalists. The remaining attractions are Mons. de Ora, in his clever aerial act; Dea Karo, equilibrist; Walter Levalle, coster comedian; and Miss Nellie Belmore, comedienne.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—On Monday evening Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen presented his company in that successful farce *The New Boy*. The title-rôle was in the hands of Mr. Leon M. Lion, and he played the part capitally, keeping his audience in a ripple of laughter throughout the evening. Mr. A. Corney Grain well sustained the part of Dr. Candy, whilst the rôle of Felix Roach was effectively portrayed by Mr. Talbot Homewood. Mr. A. Weston showed himself a capable student of French mannerisms in the character of Theodore de Brizac, and Mr. Stanley Logan was decidedly forcible as Bullock Major. Miss Katherine Harrington was a graceful Martha; and the parts of Nancy and Susan were capably depicted by Miss Maud Macgrath and Miss Margaret Farleigh respectively. The farce was preceded each evening by the one-act sentimental comedy, entitled *The Borrowed Uncle*.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—Pat Rafferty heads the bill this week. Orpheus, in a musical mélange, is a great success; the Paolias prove themselves efficient in hand-balancing and gymnastics; the Sisters Reno are clever transformation dancers; whilst a distinctly popular item is the acrobatic dancing of Florrie St. Roy. Amy Elcock gives a smart exhibition of heel-and-toe dancing; and the bioscope concludes the programme. Quite a feature is the applause accorded the orchestra, who this week are rendering overtures and selections composed by the popular conductor, Mr. James Hargreaves.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Lawrence Brough's company in *The Lady of Ostend* opened here on Monday. Miss Kate Milford as Dorothy Whortles was satisfactory; the part of Matilda Carbury was well filled by Miss Eleanor Gilbert; Mr. Lawrence Brough as Baron de Longueville was decidedly clever, and caused much laughter; as Dick Whortles Mr. Henry Hampson was most successful; as was also Mr. Charles Groves as Joseph Carbury; and Mr. H. Gomer May was a formidable Toby Krockitt. *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* was billed for Thursday night.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The attraction here this week is the play, entitled *Current Cash*. Miss Gwennie Harcourt has a very good company (under the direction of Mr. R. Sullivan). On Monday evening Miss Harcourt, in the part of Delia, had an excellent reception; Mr. Tom Conway is humorous as Private Booles; Mr. Chas. Sequin appears as Capt. Mark Milton; and Miss Ducie Anderson as Sybil. The other characters are well sustained, and the scenery is specially deserving of mention.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—An entertaining variety programme here is headed by the Revell Troupe in their absurdity *Mischief*, wherein their antics create continuous laughter. The Howards, mystifiers, are clever; Fanny Robina is heard to advantage in her songs; Arielello, the mystic maiden, gives a sensational performance; Billy Bint, character comedian, has several taking songs; Florry Cooper, the possessor of a very fine voice, is much appreciated; Gravetta and Parr do some smart work, introducing sand pictures, clay modelling, and impersonations of celebrities; and good turns are also provided by the Fountains, marionettes; the De Roys, comic conjurors; the Two Dinias, American comedians and acrobats; Harry Bickley, comedian; and Zaro and Arno.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds's company is staging here, in a creditable manner, *The Golden Ladder*. Mr. John Clyde acts with much earnestness as the Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr. Joseph Rowlands is a whimsical Samuel Peckaby; Mr. J. Milne Taylor is of sterling service as Michael Severn; Mr. Graham Winsford is well placed as Mr. Peranza; Mr. Harry Belford is adequate in the part of Jim Dixon; and useful aid is rendered by Messrs. T. Lionel Ellis, Edward M'Lean, William Clarke, Eric Thompson, and Frank Martin in smaller rôles. Miss Eva Moss plays with skill and ability as Lilian Grant; Miss Nellie Graham touches the right note as Mrs. Peckaby; Miss Teresa Haynes is convincing as Mrs. Dixon; Miss Kate Haslewood is applauded as The Tearer; and Misses Jessie Gillette and Holly Haslewood are natural as Victoria Alexandra Peckaby and Lily.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The musical drama, *What a Woman Did*, is being successfully played here by Mr. W. A. Armour's company. Mr. William A. Armour is satisfactory as Raffaelle Duroc; Mr. Fred Rignold humorously entertains as Perfect Peter Pippin; Mr. Jim Wood is well received as Fritz von Hoegitheim; Mr. Charles Earle cleverly enacts the part of the hunchback, Pitou; and Mr. Edward Rawlinson powerfully represents the chracter of Conrad de L'Orme; Miss Dora Price is commendable as Elise de L'Orme; Miss Amy Ellam is rightly placed as La Papillon; and Misses Tina Shaw and Bertha Clifton charmingly enact the characters of Fanchou and Nannette. Mr. Charles Herrick, acting manager, is always attentive to visitors.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The amusements here are excellent. Very funny is the sketch, *Mr. There's Hair*, as played by Kitty Clover, R. Courtney, and Conn Allister. The Three Sisters Sprightly are merry and sparkling comediennes; Joe Archer is a humorous patterer; Bertha Winder, an inimitable dancer; King and Benson are great in their comedy act; Rastus and Banks meet with a grand reception in *The Major and the Maid*; Edith Courtney, ballad vocalist, is appreciated; Tray and Rich, black and white comedians, have some excellent patter; "The Snow Sports in Switzerland," on the Bioscope, are good; Claude Ginnett and company are amusing in the sketch, *Rejected Remounts*; and Mr. A. Huly capably leads his orchestra.

DARWEN. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting Manager, Mr. F. J. Robinson.—A capital variety show this week is headed by Chung Ling Soo, the great Chinese magician, whose clever manipulation astounds everyone; Frank Keegan and company provide ample fun with their laughable absurdity, *Everyday Cyclists*; the Five Zerbinis, in the musical fantasia, *Fairyland*, are an undoubted success; the Three Schaffers are a fine troupe of gladiatorial acrobats; Lestree is a smart juggler; Cissie Curlette a clever mimetic comedienne; and Lilian Trevelli, vocalist; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; and Sam Dalton complete the programme.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. A. Hamilton Warden's company in *A Woman's Past* occupies the boards here this week. Miss Maisie Hanbury plays Bessie with a restrained power and gentle pathos; Uriah Craven is extremely well presented by Mr. Oswald Gray; David Heath is in the capable hands of Mr. Horace E. Herbert; the adventuress Clara Darrel is impersonated with success by Miss Gertrude Harrison; and Mr. Chas. V. Sandford is in every way acceptable as Frank Dellanoy, being ably supported by Miss May Dallas, a bright and vivacious Dorothy Heath. Mr. A. Hamilton Warden enacts Dr. Clement Harper satisfactorily, and efficiently combines with this the duty of stage-manager. The play is exceptionally well mounted.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—The Daunton Shaw trick cyclists are the star turn here this week. Their performance is exceedingly clever. Janet Howard-Reynolds, a pleasing vocalist, deserves special mention, and the same may be said of Billy Burns, the singing pit lad, whose vocal qualifications are duly recognised. The Woolhaffs are amusing vaudeville artists; Arthur and Ashby are clever in *Fantasies of the Fiz*; Harry Hayton is a diverting comedian; the Katos, with their automatic theatre, are entertaining; and the Palace Bioscope is responsible for several amusing films.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Midnight Wedding* was well received here on Monday. Paul Valmar was capably embodied by Mr. Alfred Paumier, and able assistance was afforded him by Mr. Frederick W. Freeman as the Crown Prince Leopold, and Mr. Sydney Lynn as Lieut. Eugene Von Strelsburg. Suitable recognition was accorded Mr. Clinton Bardsley in his assumption of Capt. Rudolph Von Scarsbruck. Mr. Arthur Radford was clever as sub-Lieut. Kulmann, and Mr. W. S. Hardy's presentation of Father Gerrard was excellent. Kathie, of the Golden Dragon, was daintily played by Miss Ada Champion, who with Miss Prudence Laurance as Marie, and Miss Florence Hunt in the rôle of Rozel, alias Satanella, was well received. Miss Annie Salter was powerful in the dual rôles of Second-Lieutenant Karl Helsbury and Princess von Strelsburg.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—A large audience was present here on Monday night to witness *The Merchant of Venice*, as presented by Mr. Allan Wilkie's company. It is difficult to speak too highly of the charming and finished performance of Miss Haidee Gunn as Portia, her acting throughout being of the highest order of merit. Mr. Allan Wilkie gives an effective rendering of Shylock; Mr. George Lambton gave a humorous impersonation of Gratiano; and Miss Ine Cameron was commendable in the rôle of Jessica; the Duke of Venice was played in good style by Mr. B. Sullivan, and Miss Lizzie Maddock was successful as Nerissa. The part of Antonio had an able exponent in Mr. George T. Creig; and Miss Grace Townsend was acceptable as Stephano; Mr. James Willoughby made a capital Prince of Morocco; and Bassanio, Salinio, Salarino, and Lorenzo were well sustained by Messrs. Clifford Rean, Malcolm Tearle, Martin Sanas, and Alfred Gray respectively. On Tuesday evening *The Corsican Brothers* was produced, and was well received. *Othello*, *The Lady of Lyons*, *The Fool's Revenge*, and *The Merchant of Venice* are also billed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The last week of the musical season opened here on Monday, when an interesting programme was presented. Mr. Mark Hambourg gave some charming pianoforte selections; Miss Evangeline Florence, soprano vocalist, rendered her songs in a most artistic manner; and Mr. John Coates also sang in finished style; Mr. R. J. Forbes accompanied, and the band of the 11th Hussars supplied the orchestral music.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—Mr. Miller Anderson's company is appearing here this week with the domestic drama, *When Woman Hates*. Miss Mabel Mannering's rendition of Cora Daintry is a creditable performance; and Mr. Charles Herberte acquits himself well as General Sir Henry Rokeby; Miss Maude Townsend is seen to advantage as Marie Rokeby; and Mr. Frank Litchfield gives a humorous impersonation of Patrick O'Brien; Godfrey Lawton is in the able hands of Mr. Miller Anderson; and Miss Gladys Lloyd is effective as Edith Rokeby; Lieutenant Frank Rokeby is played in a capable manner by Mr. Jerrold Heather; and Miss Violet Leal is excellent as Nellie Rokeby.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—The So and So's variety company is appearing here this week. Miss Maude Sandemann executes some difficult dances which meet with approbation; Mr. Harold Johnson and Mr. Will Jordan's humorous songs are a feature of the programme; and Miss Dorothy Grandorff and Miss Maude Davis contribute their vocal numbers in an admirable manner. The Bioscope is, as usual, attractive.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Topping the bill here is Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas in a musical absurdity, *Her Birthday*. W. F. Frame sings his songs in his usual quaint style, and the Dorrells, duettists and dancers, have many admirers; the New Macs, Irish comedians and dancers, cause roars of laughter; and Miss Maud Courtenay, comedienne, scores a success; Frank Bertram and company's sketch, *The Chaperon*, is highly amusing; and Walter Munroe is as popular as ever; Puldow, Dublin's athletic marvel, is deservedly successful, and the Empire pictures are up-to-date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Miss Dorothy Clarke, comedienne, who achieves a distinct success; the sensational acrobatic act of the Pichel Troupe merits applause; and Mlle. De Rose sings in a pleasing manner; Wyndham and Waters, comedy vocalists, are well received; and May Geraldine is an excellent comedienne and dancer; Harlem Brothers are versatile artists, and Ted Cowan is a smart comedian; the De Breans, sciographists, supply an interesting turn; and Mr. C., comedian; and Kyoto, in a Japanese act, complete the programme.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here:—Eric Thorpe, humorist and banjoist; Harry Cookson, descriptive vocalist; Mlle. Dorothy, vocalist and elocutionist; and Teddy Lennon, comedian and dancer.

DUDLEY.—EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Deputy-Acting-Manager, Mr. Rhodes Wells.—Helene and Emilon are the principal attraction here this week, and receive well-merited applause for their astonishing act; Hall and Wilson, trick cyclists on rollers, give a clever turn; the Guyons act in a powerful manner in their sketch *His One Great Sin*; the Sisters Grenville, vocalists and speciality dancers, are well received; Nellie Adrienne, burlesque artist and whistler, is always sure of a welcome; and Veronique is a dainty juvenile vocalist and dancer; George Raper is a good character comedian.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—That fine old play *The New Magdalen*, founded on Wilkie Collins's powerful story, is drawing good houses here this week. Miss Lucy Wilson plays the character of Mercy Merrick as only a great actress can; Miss Jessie Winter is exceptionally good as Grace Rosebery; and Miss Mary Morrison is a dignified and sympathetic Lady Janet Roy. Mr. E. Stanton Sharp gives an impressive rendering of the part of Julian Gray, the broad-minded clergyman; Mr. Austin Melford, jun., plays well as Horace Holmcroft; and Mr. D. Marsden submits a fine study of a servant.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The principal attraction here this week is Princess Lucie, who claims to be the heaviest girl in the world; Charles Williams has made a big hit as a coon comedian; Helen Duncanson and Marie Gibson both sing well; J. K. Macfarlane, Charles Ousley, and Earle and Melville are good comedians; Cavallini, a smart ventriloquist; and Beaufort, a wonderful contortionist, are also successful; while the pictures shown by Vernon's bioscope are up to the usual standard.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Kingston Dramatic Company is appearing here this week in a round of popular pieces. *Robert Burns* was produced on Monday evening, the title-rôle being very powerfully played by Mr. A. W. B. Kingston. The part of Soutar Johnnie gives Mr. Harry Egan unlimited scope for the display of his quaint humour; while Mr. J. T. Dale as Tam O'Shanter adds much to the enjoyment of the audience by his fine singing of Scottish ballads.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The chief item on the bill of this popular house is the W. F. Jury Imperial Bioscope, presenting a fine series of pictures; Peter Bermingham, fresh from his musical comedy triumph; and Charles Valvo, the military ventriloquist, are also well received.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. S. Triggs.—Mr. F. R. Benson's company is appearing here in a number of Shakespearean plays. On Tuesday evening *Hamlet* was staged in a complete and satisfactory manner. As Hamlet, Mr. Henry Herbert deserved the lavish praise he obtained, and his performance was delicate, thoughtful, and impressive; Mr. Alfred A. Harris was a capital Claudius; Mr. Ross Shore a diverting and skilful Polonius; Mr. Lionel Bevans a pleasing Horatio; Mr. Darch a satisfactory Laertes; and Mr. C. Francis and Mr. Plinge did excellent work as Rosencrantz and Guilderstern, Mr. Montagu Wigan being a very good Osric. Mr. Gerald Ames made an efficient First Player, and the parts of the Gravediggers were well taken by Messrs. Ross Shore and Henry Morell. Mr. James Annand was a dignified ghost, and smaller parts were well played. Miss Dorothy Green was a sweet, appealing Ophelia, Miss Kate Turner a conspicuously successful Queen of Denmark, and Miss May de Launey a praiseworthy Player Queen. *Twelfth Night*, *As You Like It*, *Macbeth*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *the Merchant of Venice*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *She Stoops to Conquer* were to be played during the week.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Esmond Bramley's company is appearing here during the week in a round of standard plays. On Monday evening *Richard III.* was played, and as the Duke of Gloucester Mr. Cyril Este worked hard and well. Mr. Baliol Holloway made an interesting Duke of Clarence and Earl of Richmond; Mr. F. Owen Chambers was an able Duke of Buckingham; Mr. Frederick Scarth an animated Lord Hastings; Mr. David Beattie an excellent Henry VI., and Mr. C. Doyle and Mr. A. L. Evans were very good as Stanley and Catesby, Mr. Phillip Gordon being responsible for capable work as the Lord Mayor and Second Murderer. Miss Maud Garth is to be highly commended for her admirable Elizabeth; Miss Millie Ford was a most successful Lady Anne, and Miss Bernard Parkin gave good help as the Duchess of York; Miss May Beatrice and Miss Nightingale did very well as the young Princes.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—Miss Annie Purcell is gifted with a very fine voice, and she renders her songs in a delightfully artistic manner. Mr. Frank Elliston and company remain from last week, and appear in a cleverly-played costume sketch, *My Lady Betty*. Mr. Luis Hardt gives a neat exhibition of strength and muscular development. Adams and Rouse have a novel and funny singing duologue; Mr. Culpitt is clever and diverting as a conjurer; the Sisters Melba sing and dance in good style; Mr. Nat Watkins dances and sings in an original manner; and the pictures conclude the programme.

EDINBURGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Whitehead.—It is no small praise to say that in *Dan'l Peggotty*, the adaptation of *David Copperfield*, which Mr. Charles Cartwright and company are playing here this week, Mr. Kellett Chalmers has preserved much of the flavour of the original. Mr. Charles Cartwright makes a fine study of Dan'l Peggotty. The rough exterior of the man with his underlying tenderness and innate nobility of disposition are shown with consummate art. Mr. Charles Collette hits off, with happy humour, the glibness and geniality of Mr. Micawber, and Mr. Ivan Berlyn's study of Uriah Heep is exceedingly good, alike in make-up and acting. Mr. Arthur Royston is an effective, if rather meto-dramatic, Steerforth, and Mr. Humphrey Warden is a capital David Copperfield. Mr. Alfred Woods gives a powerful rendering of Ham. The reading of the letter telling of Em'ly's flight is extremely well done. Mr. Ernest Mozar as Littimer and Mr. H. Carter Bligh as Mr. Wickfield are distinctly clever. Miss Molly Pearson, a young Edinburgh lady, who has made a rapid advance in her profession, looks the part of Little Em'ly to the life, and plays with sweetness and pathos; Miss Maude Williamson is forcible as Mrs. Steerforth, and Miss Mabel Luxmore, as Miss Trotwood; Miss Gordon Walker, as Agnes Wickfield; Miss Mary Smith, as Mrs. Gummidge; Miss Scott Lauder, a pathetic Martha, and Miss Ruby Wyndham, as Mrs. Barkis, are all excellent. Miss Edith Cartwright attains distinction in her impersonation of Rosa Dartle. The appearance of the actress is as if the character had stepped from the pages of Dickens's work, and perfect finish pervades her intelligent performance.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. G. T. Minshull.—*Charley's Aunt*, with its author, Mr. Brandon Thomas, in his original rôle of Colonel Chesney, and Mr. Stanley Cooke in his old part of Lord Fancourt Baberley—admirable impersonations both—is once more providing mirthful entertainment at this theatre. The two undergraduates, Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham, are smartly represented by Mr. Hastings Lynn and Mr. R. B. Mason, who help to keep the fun going furiously through the three acts of the play. All the feminine rôles are in good hands; Miss Lena McNaughten appearing as Donna Lucia, with Miss Dorothy Deacon as Amy, Miss Marian Ripley as Kitty, and Miss Gladys Storey as Ella. Spettigue is capitally played by Mr. Walter Beaumont; and Mr. Sidney Compton gives a good character-sketch of Brassett, the college scout. The very enjoyable little play, entitled *A Highland Legacy*, also the work of Mr. Brandon Thomas, is put on as a curtain-raiser.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting - Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—Mr. Harry Lauder is the bright particular star at the Empire this week. The clever Scotch comedian is always a safe draw, and overflowing houses have marked his present visit. The programme has many other entertaining features. Miss May Edouin and Mr. Fred E. Edwards act brightly in a sketch entitled *The Bachelor's Dream*; Mr. Harry Sloan gives a smart and amusing juggling act; and Mr. Hermann Melot mystifies the audience with his conjuring tricks. The Jack Theo Trio of Acrobats perform several daring feats; the Labakans and their clever little dog "Folly" contribute a droll and dashing act; the Mariano Sisters are brilliant trapeze performers; Miss Maud Mortimer sings tastefully; the Dimond Minstrels play and sing with much effect, and the Four Olympian Stars dance very neatly.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edward J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr. John A. Thomson's No. 1 Modern and Costume Comedy Répertoire company is appearing here this week. On Monday *David Garrick* was played, the title-rôle being well taken by Mr. Hamilton Deane; Miss Margaret Watson sustained the part of May Golding in a capable manner; Mr. Edgar Kent made a capital City merchant. *A Pair of Spectacles*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *The Ticket o' Leave Man* are included in the répertoire.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Variety holds sway here this week, and it is a welcome change from the usual run of drama. The American Pierrott Troupe provide a capital turn with their sketch *On the Sands at Brighton*. Kavados is a clever juggler and cannon-ball worker; the Brothers Hannaway are responsible for a good turn as comedians and dancers; Miss Lottie Holland sings some excellent illustrated songs; Tom Hulme is a funny comedian; Miss Violet Rivers meets with success as a male impersonator; the Marvellous Pardoes in their turn do a little of everything and cause roars of laughter, their acrobatic work being very smart.

FLEETWOOD. — QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. Snelson commenced his summer season on Monday with a good stock company, who appeared in *The Streets of London*. The villains of the play have able representatives in Mr. Aylmer J. Williams as Gideon Bloodgood and Mr. Herbert Lewis as Badger. Mr. Harwood Cooper did full justice to the rôle of Captain Fairweather and Mr. F. Wilson Lowther to that of young Fairweather. Mr. H. J. Snelson was an admirable Mark Livingstone, and Mrs. Snelson sustained the part of Mrs. Puffy very well. Mr. J. Carle Lyle and Mr. Bert Albert were amusing as Mr. Puffy and his son Dan. Miss Effie Crawford was pathetic as Lucy Fairweather and Miss Olive Lloyd appropriately haughty as Alida Bloodgood.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Norman Macowan's company in *Monsieur Beaucaire* and *A Soldier of Fortune* is here this week. In the first-named piece Mr. Norman Macowan is seen to the greatest advantage in the title-rôle; Mr. Murray Hathorn as the Duke of Winterset acts well; Mr. Arthur Somers as Major Molyneaux gives a good rendering of the part; Mr. Conybeare Gough is an amusing Mr. Rakell; Mr. P. Ramsay Forman is well placed as Captain Badger; and Mr. Hans Schiesinger cleverly doubles the parts of Marquis de Mirepoix and Francois. Miss Marguerite Cellier acts with tenderness the part of Lady Mary; Miss Annie Windsor charmingly portrays Lucy Rellerton; and Miss Mabel Adams renders able assistance as Miss Mabsley.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Packed houses have been the rule here nightly, the attraction being the return visit of *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr. Sam Livesey enhances his already big reputation with a powerful depiction of the brawny "smith." Another noteworthy performance is that of little Miss Bertha Hanbury, whose portrayal of the child receives unstinted praise. Mr. Joseph Carter plays with unbounded vigour as Captain Leo; Mr. Edwin Maydew is satisfactory as Lucas Marlow; Mr. Geo. V. Campbell as Billy Twigg creates a great deal of laughter; Miss Laura Walker is a charming Kate Strong; a capital interpretation of Ruth Parkins comes from Miss Maggie Edwards; Mrs. T. C. Livesey as Sal Parkins, Miss Edith Giddens as Martha Mopps, and Mr. T. E. Marshall as Jeremiah Parkins do well in their respective parts.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—A strong variety company occupies the boards here. Heading the bill are Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams in the scena entitled *Fun in a Forest*, which is well suited to the popular taste. Doody and Wright are seen to great advantage in some excellent fooling; Frank Sherlock and Jean Van Dalle give an amusing sketch, *The Mummy and the Undergrad.*; the cycling and motoring exhibition of Davis and Gledhill are an interesting feature; Ray and Calden are comedy artists of the first order; very entertaining is Florence Watson, a dainty comedienne; Linton is a clever performer on the tight wire; Scotch humour of the best quality is admirably portrayed by Jock Walker; Franz A. Crisp is a pleasing vocalist; and the King's Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Starring here is Mr. Sidney Bacon's excellent company in the sensational episode *The Maniac*. In the title-part Mr. Melville Bickford achieves a triumph and receives capital support from the other members of the company. J. A. Cassels, a clever Scotch comedian, is very entertaining; Lachie Thompson's "top-weights" contribute a capital gymnastic act; Halma is a young juggler of considerable promise; also appearing are Fred Horsfal, mimic; J. T. Scatter, comedian; and Winnie Scott, coon impersonator. Downey's Pictures conclude the entertainment.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—An attractive programme is offered here this week by Mr. M. Russell Rosse, his company appearing in *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The School for Scandal*, *A Marriage of Convenience*, and *The Lady of Lyons*. On Monday a pleasing performance was given of the first-named play, with Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner in the part of Miss Hardcastle, in which character this charming actress is seen to advantage; Mr. A. T. Hilton was the Hardcastle, and gave a characteristic and convincing rendering of the part; Mr. Robert Minster proved an acceptable exponent of the part of Young Marlow; in the rôle of Hastings Mr. Frederick D. Daviss acted with considerable spirit; while the boisterous humour of Tony Lumpkin was well depicted by Mr. Charles R. Hann; Mr. Norman Clark made a dignified Sir Charles Marlow; and the parts of Diggory, Stingo, and Rodger were ably sustained by Messrs. A. J. Harding, Ernest W. Mason, and Henry Martin respectively. Miss Eugenie Vernie gave an excellent portrayal of Mrs. Hardcastle; Miss Lilian Locke was a satisfactory Miss Neville; the part of the maid being adequately filled by Miss Sybil Wyse. The comedy was preceded by *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, in which Mr. Rex B. Foote and Miss Elsie Howard Ross appeared with success.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich. Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—Hearty and continuous laughter was evoked by the amusing situations in *Lucky 'Liza*, the new farcical play, written by Fred Locke, and played by Mr. Dickie Clare's company. Miss Madge Brownie makes a charming 'Liza Bird, acting with sprightly humour, and singing her songs with good effect. Mr. Dickie Clare as Silas Slim ably helps the fun along, and with Miss Brownie, gives a topical song; Mr. Willie Reid is intensely fanny as the gardener Biffins; Miss Madge Locke makes an attractive Virginia Blatherwick, and receives hearty recalls for her various songs; Miss Belle Russell acts with quiet effect as Marie Pettitoe; Mr. James Chippendale cleverly hits off the eccentricities of Mr. Pettitoe, whose son, as played by Mr. Leonard Maitland, is an amusing study of the inane dude type. Mr. A. W. Thompson as Blatherwick, Mr. George Minto as the amorous old judge, and Mr. James Quinn as the Court Usher, all add their quota to the fun.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—The Harmony Four top the list this week, and give a high-class entertaining blend of vocal harmony and side-splitting fun. Alexandra Dagmar gives graphic illustrations of different kinds of singers, and some witty patter, which keeps the house in a titter; Celeste twirls his glittering bâton with dazzling rapidity; Henry Helm is a French baritone, who sings with such dramatic effect that one longs to listen to him again; Conn and Conrad begin their turn as two noisy burglars, but end as very clever trapezists; Tom Owen is an entertaining Welsh comedian; Duse Mohamed and his company act a powerful scene called *The Jew's Revenge*; Mons. Albany gives clever illustrations of sleight-of-hand and ventriloquism. From the overture at the beginning to the final Bioscope the time passes pleasantly.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Mr. Theo Bouwmeester gives a clever sketch entitled *Who is Guilty?* and his impersonations of the various witnesses whose evidence leads to the dramatic finale, are wonderfully good; Ferguson and Mack give a lively patter and knock-about turn; the Avolos, with their upright bar performance, prove a distinct novelty, and do extremely well; the Empire Comedy Four are clever vocalists, and their funny business helps to make the turn a most enjoyable one; the Three Prestons give their amusing sketch *The Liftman's Rise*: Gold and Sterling contribute a smart singing and painting novelty turn; Derenda and Green are neat in their club-swinging feats; G. W. Walker and Arthur Kingston are vocalists of much ability: and the Bioscope gives some thrilling pictures of the San Francisco ruins.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A big hit has been made here by securing Marie Lloyd, after a long absence from Glasgow, as the star this week, and the popular comedienne comes provided with clever new songs, and also gives as a special item, "The Coster's Wedding." Clark's Nippers contribute a smart turn, introducing dancing, boxing, and ball punching, and prove themselves clever juveniles; another enjoyable item is the song and dance turn of the Virginian piccaninnies; Stanley and Greenop, expert banjoists, give both classical and popular selections; George D'Albert's happy style catches the public fancy at once, and his songs are much enjoyed; Barbara Babington is a sweet-voiced vocalist; Kuroki, illusionist in some mystifying feats; and Ella Lane, serio, with some smart ditties, complete a first-rate programme.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—There is a really varied programme here. Prof. McCann's dogs display the acme of canine training; Haley's juveniles please everyone; Lillie Souter is a smart comedienne; juggling of a "travelling" nature is the principal item of a good performance by Wisper; and the Musical Palmers repeat their artistic and refined musical show. Clare Greta sings and dances charmingly; Merton and Rydon in song and dance dispel dull care; Arthur Reece is a favourite comedian; Beattie Bloom has many admirers; and the black and white business of Cline and Clarke is also most enjoyable.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—In the excellent programme here, the Casey Circus is the principal draw; another interesting turn is that of Mlle. Olive, juggler; Harding and Ah-Sid, American eccentrics, also make a highly-creditable appearance. Other notable turns include Newhouse and Ward, daring trick cyclists; Manning's Entertainers, in an amusing sketch; Florence and Lillian, clever instrumentalists; Ernest Tilbury, vocalist; Jimmy Shields, comedian and dancer; Gladys Mavius, comedienne and dancer; and the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The chief attraction here is an amusing sketch entitled *Bertie's Birthday Party*. The cast includes such

GRAND, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Sam Elton heads the bill this week, and is as amusing as ever; Diamond and Beatrice, in their refined musical act, contribute a most acceptable and pleasing turn; the Haytors in their comedy sketch are most diverting; Miss Elsie Roby, as the "comedienne at the piano," is most successful; James Howard and Fanny St. Clair have a smart sketch; Rich and Rich on their return are heartily welcomed; Mr. F. Terry is appreciated; and Charles Whittle mets with success. The pictures are most enjoyable.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock.—On Monday evening Mr. Arthur Branscombe and Chevalier Scovel's company commenced a six nights' engagement. For the early part of the week the attraction was the new musical comedy *The American Heiress*. As Lord Stonyhurst Mr. Frank Barclay rendered his various numbers admirably; Mr. Paddy Dupres as the Irish Captain O'Clancy provided abundance of mirth; Mr. Walter Westwood's Jack Grey was a clever portrayal, his automatic figure dance in Act 2 being undoubtedly the hit of the piece; Stuart McNab as played by Mr. John Wilkinson was also smart; Little Tony was well to the fore as the Hon. James Fitz-James; Mr. E. O. Freshwater proved his ability as Colonel Windbag; Miss Margery Gray sang and acted admirably as Sadie Brooklyn; as Cora Brooklyn Miss Minnie Walsh looked the part; Mrs. Strongmynde was well placed in the hands of Miss Gipsy Touzeau; and as Marie the French maid Miss Dolly Harcourt danced gracefully. The chorus is large and well trained, and reflects great credit on the conductor, Mr. Herbert Simpson. For the latter part of the week *Morocco Bound* is the attraction.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager and Musical Director, Mr. C. L. Naylor; Assistant-Manager and Secretary, Mr. F. R. Yeulett.—Mr. Fred Dale's English Opera Singers are with us once more, and are daily delighting the audences with their bright and clever entertainment. A novel and welcome side-show is provided by the Kodak Exhibition.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The programme here this week includes Lambert and Hands, vocalists; the Bros. Obo, exceedingly funny in a laughing song; Mack Olive, whose abilities as a whistler are indisputable; W. J. Churchill, who, in a style quite his own, perpetrates patter; the Bros. Lillian, with a performance on the silver chains; the Emlyn Jones Quintette of Welsh singers; and Curtis and Leo, in a cleight-of-hand exhibition. The pictures on the Bioscope are exceptionally good.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt. This week we have a visit from Messrs. Wm. Fraser-Brunner and Gilbert Heron's company in *The Superior Miss Pellender*. The comedy part of Mrs. Pellender is amusingly sustained by Miss Jessie Danvers, and the title-rôle is successfully embodied by Miss Alice Esther Belmore. The misunderstood Mr. Tister is well played by Mr. Gilbert Heron; and the other members of the Pellender family are ably presented respectively by Miss Jessie Ramsey (Edith), Miss Alice Bowes (Nancy), and Mr. Geo. Belmore (Noel). The comedy is preceded by *Kit's Atonement*, the dramatic incident being finely sustained by Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brunner in his impersonation of Kit Denver; Marie is pleasingly played by Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner; Mr. George Belmore is a manly Dick Russell; and Mr. W. H. Gainsford is the conventional Boer officer.

HIPPODROME. — Resident and General Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—A capital programme is opened here this week by a pleasing singer and comedienne, Miss Theresa Moore; Mr. Walter Wallis is a genuine comic singer; a contralto possessing an excellent voice is found in Miss Gladys Whitton; the films shown by the Hippodrome Bioscope are very attractive; the dancing of the Two Sprays is quite a feature; Harry Lawson, comedian, does well; a sketch by Cosgrove and Burns is delightfully piquant; and a ripple of merriment always accompanies Fred Neiman's troupe of black figures and his clever ventriloquism.

ST. LEONARD'S PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Harry Sinclair's No. 1 Musical Comedy Company is appearing here in *The Octoroon*. Mr. Hall Eldon enacts the part of George Peyton with quiet decision; Jacob McClosky is remarkably well delineated by Mr. James Stirling; Pete is naturally impersonated by Mr. Fred Hart; Miss Maggie Sinclair as Paul submits an admirable performance; Mr. Harry Sinclair's is a good piece of acting as Wah-no-tee; Miss Gladye St. Leger does justice to the rôle of Mrs. Peyton; Miss Lottie Kendal's representation of Zoe is interesting; Miss M. Blackmore plays the part of Dora Sunnyside with much intelligence; and Mr. Horace Lionel deserves commendation as Salem Scudder.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—Mr. G. H. Le Wist's exceptionally good variety combination is the attraction this week. It includes Mons. Armiors, strong man, whose weight-lifting forms a very attractive feature; the Melias, vocalists and dancers; Le Wist, in a smart ventriloquial entertainment; Harry Albery, whose songs and dances receive well-merited applause; Miss Sheila McNeil, a Scottish comedienne; Miss Lill in some good contralto songs; Henry Reno in a conjuring performance; Staffo, the comedy butcher boy juggler; and Tom Ashley, Irish comedian and dancer.

HUDDERSFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's company is playing here this week his drama *The Sin of Her Childhood*. The leading parts are filled by Miss Ruth Sheppard as Mary Haysel, the repentant sinner of the title; Mr. E. St. Clair Forbes as the callous brother Stephen; Mr. Charles Fancourt as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr. Hugh Brady as O'Reilley; and little Dot Moss as Hannah Spry.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The bill includes the Regal Operatic Quartette in a judicious selection of the most popular numbers from *Maritana*; Miss Lena Verdi, a clever lady mimic; Tom Hughes, comedian; Albert German, baritone; Queenie May, juvenile serio; Verno and Voyce, duettists; Collins and Rice, a comedy couple; Jack Truman, tenor vocalist; the Three Merrills in a daring and clever cycling act; and the Hippodrome Pictures.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—Mr. Morton has not resorted to the use of a "boomster," to use Fredk. Ware's clever definition in *Lucky Miss Dean*, which is so successfully holding the boards of the Paragon-street playhouse. Nor will it, for the matter of that, need any booming to secure its full share of recognition. To the charm of the comedy must be added some delightful acting by a capable company, headed by Miss Dora Gray, whose impersonation of the lucky little lady is delightfully natural, whilst in her boomster companion, with whose efforts in that particular line so much of the play is concerned, Mr. W. E. Ashcroft has a rôle for which, in every sense, he is admirably adapted. The character of Lady Ashmole is one for which Miss Estelle Despa is very happily cast. In the rôle of the uncle, Mr. W. T. Elworthy finds abundant opportunities. With lesser calls, Mr. Vivian Gilbert and Mr. Cyril Price-Evans add to the comedy's interest. *Lucky Miss Dean* is preceded by an amusing one-act farce, *My American Admirer* in which in addition Messrs. Elworthy and V. Gilbert, Miss Estelle Despa and Miss Beth Elliott, attain success.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Local-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—After a lapse of years, *Hoodman Blind* figures on a local playbill, due to the visit of Mr. Arnold Bell and his capital company, who are playing a répertoire which includes, in addition to the first-named, *Called Back* and *The Ticket-o'-Leave Man*. The efficient manner in which *Hoodman Blind* has been presented adds no little to the interest of the revival, both the staging and mounting reaching a high standard. The rôle of Jack Yeulett, upon which so much depends, is invested with heroic qualities by Mr. Arnold Bell; Miss Frances Campbell plays the dual rôle with fine effect, and whether as the nurtured gentlewoman or the wandering gipsy the artist is ever apparent; the comedy of Miss Violet Campbell as Polly Chibbles and Mr. John Belton as Ben Chibbles is a pleasant foil to the more tragic side; villainy has excellent exponents in Mr. Frank Carlile (Kridge) and Mr. Cuthbert Imrie (Lezzard). A pleasant touch is given to the two juvenile parts by Miss F. Maddock (Kit), and Miss L. Vyner (Tom Tit).

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is playing répertoire here, and with plays as diverse as *Jane Shore*, *Lady Godiva*, and *Nell Gwynne* enough variety is provided. It was with *Lady Godiva* that the engagement opened on Monday, and all the company met the demands made upon them, specially suitable being Mr. F. B. Woulfe's Peeping Tom. The Lady Godiva of Miss Josephine Colona was in keeping with tradition, and full of dramatic force. Miss Gwen Stuart successfully represents the sister, whilst Miss Edith Lorraine is a capital Elfrida.

THE PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Dr. Carl Hermann in his electricity healing and mesmeric act is a popular turn here; Arthur Gill, a man of many voices, is a favourite. Other artists appearing include the Jagos, duettists, dancers, and bâton manipulators; Alice May and company, in a sketch entitled *Tranquillity*; Will English, who is very funny; Athas and Collins, amusing comedy artists; the Bostonians, singers and dancers; and the Barowsky Trio.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—A capital top turn is that of the Smart Set, vocal entertainers; Alf. Gibson is a big favourite in some popular songs; Edie Gray and Covas in some harmonious songs make a hit; Jack Pleasants is a popular comedian; May Fallowfield sings some smart songs; Angeline is a clever lady juggler; and Harry Cotton and Gus Le Clerq contribute to the comic element.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—A capital series of animated pictures are being shown here.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensée and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The United English Opera Company, directed by Mr. F. S. Gilbert, occupies the boards here. On Monday was presented *Maritana*. In the title-rôle Miss Kitty Brownless displayed much ability; Don Cæsar de Bazan was cleverly played by Mr. Gilbert himself; Miss Vera Vizard was an attractive and successful Lazarillo; Mr. H. Brindle was well placed as the King of Spain; and Mr. H. Blagrave as the Marquis de Montefiore, and Miss Kate White as the Marchioness were effective. As Don Jose Mr. J. Kneale Campbell acquitted himself well. *Il Trovatore*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Faust* have also been billed.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Knightall.—Monti Santos heads the bill here with a polished juggling show; English and Edwards give a clever duologue; Renee Walon sings and dances with much effect; Arthur Richards is a comedian of merit; Nellie Clarke pleases as a serio; and Arthur Edwards, vocalist, and Miss May English, serio, also provide good turns.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Jennings.—*Sergeant Brue* was presented on Monday by Mr. E. Lockwood's company. The humour of the eccentric sergeant is in the capable keeping of Mr. Arthur Reynolds; Crookie Scrubbs is capitally acted by Mr. Charles Maclagan; Miss Lily Lingard is an accomplished and attractive Lady Biekenhall; Miss Eva Weigh a charming Aurora Brue; and other characters have efficient representatives.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A strong and varied programme is being provided here. A turn of exceptional merit is that of the Six Æolians, whose quartettes, solos, and duets are received with every sign of appreciation; an artist of special merit is Mr. E. P. Ling, who scores heavily as a mimic; another attractive turn is that of the Glenroy troupe of dancers, whose Scotch reels, Irish jigs, &c., evoke a storm of applause. Other items include Prince Bendon, a clever ventriloquist; W. H. Downs, a coloured vocalist; Tate and Tate, agile tumblers; and Counsell and Mills, who cause much merriment.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Miss Marie Menzies' company is here this week with *A Rogue's Daughter*. The title-rôle is caerfully handled by Miss Menzies; Mr. Roy Gordon gives a good account of Sir George Mynard; Mr. F. V. Fenn is an excellent Frank Tyler; and Mr. Richard Ferris a satisfactory Colonel Forster, being ably assisted by Mr. William Pimm as Isaac Isaacs. Mr. T. Taylor is very good indeed as Ebenezer Dunnem; Mr. A. Hall Menzies causes amusement as John Gibbs; Miss Madge Devereux is well placed as Letty Grey; and Miss Violet Leader is quite at home as Dicky. Miss Marie E. Robertson is a capital Priscilla Jenkins.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General Manager, Mr. R. S. Kendall.—Mr. Lingford Carson's répertoire company is this week seen to advantage in that sterling play *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Charles Draycott ably portrays Bob Brierley, and Mr. Ernest J. Fare's Hawkshaw is a powerful performance. James Dalton is in the capable hands of Mr. J. Dobson Clyde, Mr. Arthur Byron is well placed as Walter Moss, and Mr. Sidney C. Cranston's Green Jones is very amusing. Sam Willoughby is ably played by Miss Daisy Norman, Miss Laurie Pardy is a charming Emily, Miss Hettie Lemon plays with grace and ability, Mr. Morley Carrol and Miss Louise Millward complete an excellent cast.

LANCASTER. — ATHENÆUM. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hy. Wilkinson.—Another variety programme is presented this week. At the head is Scottie's Waifs and Strays in a humorous ballet *Whilst London's Sleeping*, which has a capital reception. Miss Nellie Nora is very clever with the banjo and other instruments, and Watty Griffen is justly described as the flexible marvel; Soros, the great mystifier, is staying another week, and fairly baffles the audience; and Whizzing the Whirl is another attractive item. Miss Marie Foster, comedienne, King Alexander, raconteur, and animated pictures complete the bill.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Cadman.—Mr. Harry Yorke brings a talented company with the thrilling detective drama *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr. Henry Renouf plays the resourceful detective to the life; the vengeful Moriarty is effectively portrayed by Mr. W. F. Stirling; Dr. Watson has an able interpreter in Mr. Francis Hawley; Mr. Ernest Gray does excellent work as the villainous James Larrabee, whose female confederate in crime, Madge Larrabee, is a very fine effort by Miss Violet Lewis; Miss Vera Longden makes a sweet and charming Alice Faulkner; Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood as John Forman acquits himself with distinction; Mr. Philip Renouf submits a clever study of Sid Prince; the ubiquitous Billy is in the capable hands of Mr. Walter Hicks; and other leading parts are ably interpreted by Mr. Milo M. Loomis; Mr. Chas. Gray, and Miss Rosalie Notrelle

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—*The Prodigal Parson*, a powerful dramatic story, is well played this week by Garrod and Northway's company, and good business is being done. Mr. W. V. Garrod presents the title-part in a style which leaves little to be desired, and he has good assistance from Mr. A. Northway as Churchwarden Jaggins and Mr. Alfred Dallas as Ben Jaggins. Some welcome humorous relief is afforded by Mr. P. Dawson and Miss May Grayce. Miss Bertha Kingston displays ability in her portrayal of the prodigal's wife, and other prominent members of the company are Miss Gladys Conover and Mr. Walter Vincent.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—This is a Shakespearean week at the popular Queen's, Mr. Ian Maclaren with a talented all-round company presenting a répertoire of the Master's plays to enthusiastic houses. Mr. Maclaren's Hamlet is amongst the best we have seen here, and his audience on Monday evening was stirred to demonstrative appreciation by his fine work. Miss Gertrude Gilbert is a promising leading lady, her portrayal of Ophelia being very well done. An effective impersonation of the king is to be credited to Mr. Aubrey Mather; Polonius has a capable representative in Mr. Gordon Philliott; and the parts of Laertes and Horatio are well handled by M. Francois Cellier and Mr. Wilton Ross. Much good work is also done by Miss F. Glossop Harris, Mr. Claude Haviland, and Mr. Stafford Dawson. *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, and *Othello* have also been presented.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex Galley.—Those fine athletes and acrobats the Wille Brothers are a leading feature in the week's bill here, their marvellous feats arousing great enthusiasm. A striking athletic turn by the Klos Sisters is also vociferously applauded; a musical comedy sketch by those accomplished artists the McConnell Trio proves a very popular item; the New York Nippers are again presenting their vocal entertainment; good success attends the efforts of Ernie Mayne, comedian; and a pair of charming comediennes, Eily Adair and Nellie Martell, are in the bill; Ray Wallace succeeds admirably in vocal mimicry of star variety artists; and an intelligent dog show is engineered by Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika.

TIVOLI. — Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; General-Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—Star comedians again predominate here, Dan Crawley and George Gilbey being particular favourites. Sable Fern scores her usual success with vocal contributions; Halter and Ray are a clever comedy couple; that expert pair of equilibrists Yamamoto and Koyoshi are again doing wonderful feats; Wallau, the clever juvenile juggler, is successful; Adams and Ward find favour and entertaining turns are also submitted by Daisy Morrell, comedienne, Rowland Hill, comedian, and May and Miles, the merry huntsmen.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—An exceedingly attractive programme is headed by Wal Pink's company in the farcical sketch *Repairs*, and the presentation arouses uproarious merriment; Stewart and Morgan have a high-class musical and vocal entertainment, which is much enjoyed; that popular comedian Frank Coyle is very successful; as also are the St. Johns with clever patter and neat dancing; and Vosper, facial mimic; Agnes Krembser secures plaudits for a clever juggling act; and Polly Heath and Mollie Doon are each successful with comedy items.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; General and Business Manager, Mr. Henry Dundas.—On Monday a fine reception awaited Mr. Edward Compton in the part of Davy Garrick. At the end of the second act, in response to loud calls, the popular actor-manager spoke a few words of thanks. He said: "You and I are old friends, but I cannot help feeling that there is an added warmth in your reception to-night, which is due to the fact that this is my first appearance in Leicester since I became, in company with Mr. Milton Bode, part proprietor and manager of your beautiful Opera House. We shall use our utmost endeavours to merit, and I am sure we shall receive, your warm encouragement and support, for, be assured, that in every respect, 'Our true intent is all for your delight.'" Mr. Compton's remarks were punctuated by frequent outbursts of applause. Miss Mackenzie was in every way charming as Violet Gresham, and high praise must be accorded Mr. H. Crocker as Alderman Gresham. Mr. A. B. Imeson made an excellent Hon. Tom Tallyhaut; and both Miss H. Hassell as Mrs. Rumbelow, and Miss Muriel Meek as Selina, filled their parts admirably. Mr. Herbert Pigot as Rumbelow; Mr. Arnold Lucy as Sowerby; and Mr. G. W. Johnson as Simkins, did justice to their respective parts. The one-act comedy, *A Desperate Lover*, preceded. On Tuesday evening Mr. Compton made his 913th appearance as Charles Surface in *The School for Scandal*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A return visit is being paid here this week by Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company, in *The Face at the Window*. Mr. E. Hoggan-Armadale repeats his powerful impersonation of Le Loup; Mr. T. W. Dunscombe, as Paul Gouffet, is most effective; Mr. Alfred Warne is well placed as Henry de Brisson; Mr. Gilbert Hall makes a good impression as Lucien Cortier; Mr. George Phythian displays ability as Le Blanco; Miss N. Thorn-Hallam is clever as Marie de Brisson; and Mr. C. Alan Hineson arouses hearty laughter as Peter Pottlebury; Miss Gwynne Warren does well as Babette; and Miss Elaine Grant is effective as La Pinau.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Wilkie Bard's infectious humour keeps audiences here in continued roars of laughter; Boswell's stage circus, in which ponies, dogs, and a donkey are introduced, provides a clever and amusing entertainment; the Morton Trio, comedians and vocalists, are responsible for a popular turn; the Holles and Goldman Trio are a success in their versatile musical comedy mélange, *The Little Charwoman*; the Maples create hearty laughter in *How to Treat a Burglar*; the Canary Company presents an entertaining comic pantomime, of which juggling is a prominent feature; Miss Bessie Butt, who takes the place of Nellie Stratton, is a sparkling soubrette and delightful dancer; the Six Lancashire Lasses are smart clog-dancers; Harry Bedford is an excellent comedian; and the American Bioscope is showing a new series of subjects.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The leading attraction here this week is Mr. J. G. Johnson and company with *Loyal Hearts* and *In An Old Country Lane*. Grant and Allen are entertaining comedians; the Lessors excellent vocalists and dancers; Henri Bekker does some smart conjuring tricks; Edna Latonne is a vivacious vocalist; Clara Sefton dances in an attractive manner; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope throws on the screen the usual up-to-date films.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—The following artists are contributing to a refined and pleasing entertainment here: Dan Lyndon, the well-known Pierrot comedian; Arthur Bearle, society jester; Edna Grey, soprano; Syd Carlton, descriptive vocalist; Frances O'Reilly, soubrette (of Geo. Dance's opera company); and Jeff Lytton, pianist and musical director.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Rousby.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr. Fred L. Connynhame's company in the powerful drama entitled *A Mother's Love*. Mr. Connynghame gives an exceptionally good rendering of Mat Ruddock; Mr. Geo. Child plays with much force the part of Geoffrey Mannering; Mr. Arthur Rose does full justice to the rôle of Paul Wingate, Miss Violet Macaree gives a creditable study of the somewhat trying rôle of Winnie Wingate, Ellaine Mervin is capitally portrayed by Miss Marjory Murray, and Marjorie Wingate is pleasingly played by Miss Bertha Christobel.

LINCOLN. — ROYAL. — Sole Owner, Mr. Frank King.—Mr. Junius Booth, as Edmund Dantes, in *Monte Cristo*, is once again proving his ability; the part could hardly be better played. Mr. Alfred Terris, who plays Danglars, is responsible for an incisive piece of work; Mr. E. H. Templeton as Noirtier, and Mr. Laurence Grove as Mordego, also act effectively; Mr. W. Uridge is satisfacotry as Villefort; and Miss Joan Ellis is a praiseworthy Mercédes.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Radford and Valentine, jolly jesters, at the head of the bill, are funny; the Pender Troupe appear in a droll acrobatic sketch; the Four Burnells are good knockabouts; Kit Keen sings and dances smartly; Lily Sharplin and Charles Norton each excel in mimicry; the Continental stilt-walkers present a merry entertainment; and Raymond's Bio-tableaux provide an attractive entertainment.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—The new comic opera with the title *The Girls from Utah; or, the Gold Diggers*, made its first appearance in Liverpool this week. Laughter held sway throughout the three acts, the artiste principally responsible for such a happy state of things being Mr. Fred Eastman, whose troubles while filling the worrying rôle of a matrimonial agent get him into many ludicrous scrapes. Miss Kate Vesey sang sweetly, and danced gracefully as Suza; Miss Florence Parfrey showed much capability in the rôle of Mrs. Bumble, the match-making widow; an exceptionally good character is that of Terence Rainford, submitted by Mr. Harrison Brockbank; Miss Nora Brocklebank's Mildred proved exceedingly acceptable; and the fun of the evening was largely contributed to by Mr. W. H. Powell as the amorous greengrocer, Alphonse. Mr. Brockbank's songs were given with pleasing effect, and the several choruses by the widows, wives, and gold miners were harmonious and delightful.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Lessees, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Another play new to this city has occupied the stage here this week. *A Queen Without a Crown*, presented by Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's company, met with unmistakable success on Monday. Miss Geraldine Olliffe, as Theresa Maria, and Miss Ruth Mackay in the part of the unfortunate Countess Melrosa, acted with such distinction as to win unstinted applause. Both ladies showed high dramatic power. Gracious and charming was Miss Helen Grenville as the young king; Mr. Wellesley Smith as the droll Irish tutor, Dr. Daly, was eminently good; Mr. T. Holding handled the part of Colonel Michael with much satisfaction; Mis Emma Rainbow was acceptable as Ilga Branski; the General Dominica of Mr. Eric Hudson was a well-filled rôle; and Mr. Wallace Stranack did justice to the character of Petrofski.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—*A False Wife* paid its first visit to the popular north-end house this week, and attracted large audiences. The piece was presented by Mr. F. Marriott-Watson's company. Miss Florence E. Florence assumed her original rôle of Estelle de Lussan, playing with dramatic effect; Mr. Frank Strickland was a particularly villainous Jean Berand; a manly Lieutenant Mansfield came from Mr. W. Howard Barlow; Miss Ellen Armor was pathetic as Agnes Weyland; Mr. Elton Morgan was a rollicking Ben Rattler; Mr. Owen Edwin as Constable Tee, and Miss Nita Imeson in the character of Jessie Blazer, made the most of the comedy; and Mr. George Langham presented a good study of Sir Colin Mansfield.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—Tom Foy and company top the bill here this week with the funny sketch, *The Lancashire Lad in London*. Sam Mayo is a favourite here. The Five Foys in "The Excursion Depot" are funny, as are Bennett and Martell, comedians of no mean merit; the songs rendered by the Steinway Quartette are greatly enjoyed; the Three Zaracs are amusing in their sketch; the Ladderites are good, as are the Cecilias; and Jenny Johns receives due recognition.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Mr. John Power's capable company have this week been playing here the drama *Man's Enemy; or, the Downward Path*, which has afforded much satisfaction. Mr. Norman A. Overton played with sound discretion as Harry Stanton; the Tom Drake of Mr. John Power was a capital piece of acting; praise is especially due to Miss Marie McAuley for her portrayal of Sarah Drake; General Stanton was well presented by Mr. E. W. Bretton; Mr. Cecil Vernon Proctor gave every satisfaction as Fred Lisle; the Isaac Barnett of Mr. J. Newton-Cowling proved very humorous; Miss Clara Reid was a winsome Polly Harris; and Mr. Harold White handled the part of Count Lanski with discretion.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred. L. Arthur.—A third play new to Liverpool has been staged here, and witnessed by delighted audiences. *Her Luck in London* is an admirable drama, well staged and well acted, the company bright. Mr. George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil being eminently capable. As the unfortunate Nellie Harborne, Miss Mary Neil displayed her histrionic accomplishments to the fullest degree; Mr. Charles A. Leicester, an actor of undoubted ability, submitting a fine portrait of the Hon. O'Connor; Mr. Alfred D. Alams was effective as the villainous Richard Lenowen; Miss Florrie Groves was particularly amusing as Maud Shovepenny; a deal of humour was provoked by Mr. Charles Digby as Algia Kircumbrie; and Miss Ada Roscoe played with much feeling as Madame Gabrielle.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Dr. Walford Bodie, who always attracts enormous audiences in Liverpool, opened a fortnight's stay here on Monday night, and had a big reception, the vast Hippodrome being filled in all parts. In addition to this expensive engagement was a long list of excellent turns. The Holloways repeated their remarkable wire act, for which they were loudly applauded; the Vernon Troupe of xylophone players, vocalists, and dancers were eminently satisfactory; some funny Scotch songs came from Mr. J. B. Preston; Barlee and Smith provoked considerable laughter with their duologue, *A Rehearsal*; as duettists and dancers, M. and S. Wood were a particularly good line; Dandy George and his dog proved interesting; and the list included Herbert Madden, comedian, and Sidney Dolf, the "vocal trickster."

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—This cosy little hall continues to enjoy a good measure of public patronage. Foremost this week are Frank and Alice Lurins, who, for the first time here, present a smart trifle, *The Curate's Dilemma*, which was much enjoyed; as comedy artistes and clever dancers Gilroy and Gross distinguish themselves; some comedy juggling of more than average merit is supplied by Peatman and Walsh; James Lowrey, the singing furnaceman, has several popular songs; Bertha Collins presents some good character-pieces; and George Liston is a comedian and dancer who affords much satisfaction. Some charming coloured moving pictures shown by the Bioscope are a feature of the evening's entertainment.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—*Secrets of Paris* is the seven-tableaux dramatic sketch being played here this week by the "Royal" Stock company, headed by Mr. Percy Boucher, who undertakes the part of Jacques. Mr. Harry Tresham plays ably the rôle of Paul; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood makes an impressive Sabritache; as Gaston, the panther, Mr. Sydney Grant has a part which suits him well; Miss Sara Blumenthal, an experienced actress, affords every satisfaction as Therese; Miss Nina Nazeby shines as Demise Dumaresq; an excellent Juan Mimos comes from Mr. E. D. Allen; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood acquits herself as Lucille la Franche. The Bioscope shows some interesting pictures, and during an interval, Miss Minnie Fenton, specially engaged, renders Scotch songs.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred. Willmot.—The big line here this week is a five-tableaux dramatic sketch, *An Oath of Vengeance*, presented by Mr. J. Wright Aitken and company, including Miss Una Wright. The work has proved acceptable. Maidie Scott displays much ability as a comedienne; Marion and Byrne, coon vocalists and speciality dancers, are loudly applauded, and the Bioscope has several attractive pictures.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Wilmot.—Los Rupertos, smart equilibrists, are at the top of the bill this week; an especially pleasing exhibition on the tight wire is submitted by the Gilberts; some pretty songs and dances are introduced by Cissy Astbury and Miss Lillian; an uncommon turn comes from A. P. Boswell, a black-face burlesque actor, and furniture balancer; Jennette Latour sings several sweet soprano songs; as an eccentric comedian Jack Hylton makes everybody laugh; Walker and Lake keep their audience in a merry mood with their patter; and Mlle. Eldee has a beautiful and artistic turn in posing.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Cullen and Carthy, a popular couple of comedians and dancers, top the bill here; the remarkable whistling of Shawlene, along with his eccentricities, earn for that artiste much applause; the Sisters Hall are neat vocal duettists and dancers; some smart work as a contortionist is done by Pablo Diaz; as a juvenile coon vocalist and dancer Miss McNab shows much promise; and Joe Dale renders several acceptable descriptive songs.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Miss Mabel Thorne, a favourite lady in Liverpool, is paying a return visit here with her latest songs; J. H. Wakefield finds favour for his coon ditties and dancing; Sandes and Vincent, vocalists, dancers, knockabouts, etc., are an exceedingly lively pair; smart and bewildering conjuring is performed by Godfrey; Myra Love shows herself to be a dainty comedienne; Will Saunders, comedian, raises many a laugh; and Will Jennings has an acceptable turn as a buck and wing dancer.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—An attractive programme is arranged here this week, the principal item being the thought-reading dog "Pilu," introduced by Ancillotti. Johnson and Dean, the coloured "fashion plates," pay a welcome return visit; much merriment has followed *Wanted, a Divorce*, an absurdity provided by Stine and Evans; Charles Fisher and company have come in for a cordial reception by reason of the admirable manner in which they give excerpts from *Maritana*; Mark Merry aroused much laughter; a graceful trapeze performance is gone through by the Lios Alfa Sisters; some well-rendered picture songs are given by Eloise Brinsmade; Katie Traill, seated at the piano, gives several delightful numbers; and Dora Lyric, comedienne, also appear. The destruction of San Francisco, shown by the Bioscope, is an interesting picture.

LLANDUDNO.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—On Monday the season opened at this theatre, which has been thoroughly renovated from floor to ceiling by the new lessee and manager, Mr. Chaplin. The boards were occupied for the first three nights by Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company in *Two Little Vagabonds*. Mr. William Fazan as George Thornton was capital, and was well supported by Miss Valerie Crespin as Marion Thornton; Mr. John F. Traynor as Bill Mullins evoked much laughter; the Misses D. Rosalyn Vayne and Josie Beltram as Dick and Wally sustained their parts admirably. On Thursday and Friday Perry's Minstrels, including the old favourite Billy Richardson, appeared.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—A noteworthy feature in this week's programme of the Royal Pierrots is the inclusion of Miss Mattie McNicol, a remarkable vocalist; Eva Barlow, vocalist, is a general favourite; and Marjutti, "the Flexible Venus," is greatly appreciated. Marti and Julietta contribute a speciality act successfully; Little Eugene is encored; Taylor Snowball is as funny as ever; and Arthur Crane in character sketches is entertaining. Illustrated songs by Kilpack and Cobley are well received; the Sisters Robin, in refined duets, are good; and a comic sketch by the company brings the entertainment to a close.

MAIDENHEAD.—PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS. —Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gude.—The nightly entertainments by the Cadets continue to attract good audiences. A commodious marquee has been erected round the stage, so that the show is not dependent on the weather. Mr. Chris. Baker has joined the troupe this week, and bids fair to be an attraction; and the high-class contributions of Miss Adelaide Twort are thoroughly appreciated.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. H. Watson.—Appearing here are Nelson Hardy and Miss Grace Moore, in a ventriloquial sketch, *The Deputy*, which is cleverly worked; Newham and Lattimer, duettists; Arthur Goodman, who causes great laughter with his tramp juggling; Eugene is a clever musician; Miss Lillie Lassah is a smart dancer; Miss Ettie Cinders, comedienne; Walmer Young, comedian, and the bioscope, are also included in the bill.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmondstone Shirra

Beatrice Willey, a charming vocalist, in a medley of old flower songs. The Bioscope is interesting, as usual.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Dronza, the wonderful talking head, is one of the attractions here this week, and causes quite a sensation; another big attraction is George Gray and company in *The Road to Ruin*; the Sutcliffe family of Scottish pipers, acrobats, and dancers, provide an entertaining turn; Ross and Grayson at the piano are successful; and Esta Stella, a dainty artist, makes a big hit in some tricky dancing; the Finneys (James and Elsie) give their clever tank performance; Lennie and Hast are good in a poetic phantasy, entitled *The Nymph*; and very amusing are Carney and Armstrong, comedians. Mr. F. J. Headlam, supported by the choir, sings an illustrated song, "Will you love me in December?" the choir render a madrigal in fine style, and some pictures of local interest are shown on the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Signor and Madame Borelli head the bill here in their popular, humorous, and musical Tit-Bits; and Katie Butler, a talented comedy artist, scores in several capital songs, particularly one, "A Tale of Woe." Clifton and Hartman are good in an eccentric musical sketch; the Sisters Kilner are smart acrobatic dancers; and enjoyable items are those of Edward Ind, comedian; Simosa San in juggling and balancing act; Fred Erick, comedian; Flo Velma, comedienne; and Raymond's Vivagraph. On the occasion of our visit Miss Alma Jones, the well-known contralto, did not appear, owing to indisposition, her place being taken at the second performance by Rena Grahame, serio.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent programme is provided here this week, including *The Demon Chef*, presented by Picitt and Lizette, with success; Theodore Jones and company in *Jack Sheppard*; Sam Jesson's clever little merry-makers in a musical sketch, *Minnie's Birthday*; and Mannon's Merry Maids in *A Motor 'Bus Outing*. Other good turns are those of the Bollingers, artists in rags; the Two Whites, American comedy artists; and the Three Seymons, equilibrists and jugglers.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Here this week a clever legerdemain performance is given by Gustave Fasola, who receives well-deserved applause; George Martinengo, baritone and 'cellist, contributes a pleasing scena; Tennis and Laune sing pretty duets in a delightful way; the Marsumas are able and amusing trick cyclists; and Will Harvey, novelty comedian; J. Hughes, Lancashire baritone; and Alex Leo, comedian, give satisfactory turns. In addition, interesting and diverting sketches are capably played by Harry Glynn's comedy company, and by Ben Harris and his famous Nippers.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead. The Sarnthalers, who are the top star attraction here this week, entertain with melodious singing and Swiss national dancing; and Moon and Morris, patter comedians and eccentric double dancers, are highly successful; Wee Mona, in song and dance, is greatly appreciated. A distinct success is scored by Greener, the Salford pit lad, who renders his songs in good voice and style. Other entertaining turns are given by the Violet Whitworth Cycling Girls, in a novel racing act, open to competition by local amateurs; Harry Lee, comedian and mimic; the Three McDonalds in a musical act; Carson Hicks, vocalist and buck and sand dancer; the Three Wades in a comedy skit; and the Dainton girls, character duettists.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Arthur Randall's Middies and Maids, in their sparkling and up-to-date entertainment, are proving a big attraction here this week, the show going with a rare swing from start to finish, and encores being very frequently demanded. The company includes Arthur Randall, light comedian and raconteur; Nellie Taner, soprano; Millicent Davies, contralto; Walter Forder, sketch and monologue artist; Vere Mathews, baritone; J. E. Sutton, entertainer; and Bert Williams, laughing and whistling comedian.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Under the management of Mr. T. Jennings.—Mr. Herbert Barr's company presented here on Monday and Tuesday the evergreen play *East Lynne*. Miss Dorothy Oswald played the part of Lady Isabel with great pathos and artistic effect; Archibald Carlyle was in the capable hands of Mr. Herbert Barr; Lord Mount Severn was admirably portrayed by Mr. George Beal; Miss Maudie Vincent played the character of Joyce with credit, and sang several songs, to the evident delight of the audience. Miss Agnes Collier in the part of Barbara Hare charmed the audience with her singing of "When other lips." On Wednesday night *The Sorrows of Satan* was presented, and on Thursday the comedy-drama *Life* was the attraction.

MARGATE.—HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The contributors to this week's programme include Little Salvino, a clever juvenile musician; Agnes Hazel, comedienne; Walter Wade, mimic; Max Duffek, musical contortionist; Rose Reval, a smart young character comedienne; and Mezetti and Mora, comedy triple horizontal bar performers.

METHIL.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Mr. Hamilton's Alhambra Company opened on Tuesday with *The Corsican Brothers*. Mr. Charles Edgar effectively doubled the parts of Fabien and Louis; Mr. J. Hamilton made a capital Renaud; Mr. J. Broadfoot was excellently suited as Montgiron; Mr. A. Ashton played well as Colonna; and capable support was given by Messrs. Will Henderson (Martelli and Maynard) and J. Jessamine (Orlando). Miss E. Dukinfield was a stately Savilia; Miss Ellen Collins was satisfactory as Emilia; Mrs. J. Carrack as Marie and Domino did well; and Miss Agnes Hamilton was a pleasing Griffo. *East Lynne*, *Jane Shore*, *Titus the Tipster*, and *The Stave Hunt* are also in the week's bill.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company are playing here this week in *The Power of Gold*. Mr. Chas. Whitlock is prominent with a skilful interpretation of Hadji Zambra; Mr. Richard Oliver submits a thoughtful rendering of Paul Judson; a vigorous Mark Harley is found in Mr. Albert Sefton; Miss Lilla Wilde, in the rôle of Lady Brandon, acts with dramatic skill; and Miss Georgina V. France is an excellent Meg Judson. Comedy is cleverly supplied by Mr. Frank Ayrton (Sammy Smudge) and Miss Madge Seymour (Norah Donnelly).

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—The Provincial Syndicate presents its military melodrama, *The Prodigal Son*, here this week. Good audiences are the rule, and the play is much appreciated. Mr. J. P. McBride, as Jack Fanshaw, the prodigal, is decidedly successful; Mr. John S. Chamberlain, as Larry M'Geham, is amusing; and Mr. F. Dudley's Sir John Fanshaw leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Nellie De Lacy gives a fine impersonation of Dick; Mr. Guy Morville, as Bill Burke, does well; Miss Marion Forrester pleases as Margaret Marsden; and Mr. J. Ballard, as Webster; Mr. Ernest Lovatt, as Corbett; Mr. John Brice, as Ralph Marsden; and Miss Maude Western, as Mary, are good.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*The Sleigh Bells*, a play which the late Sir Henry Irving made peculiarly his own, is being presented here this week. Mr. Ellerslie Pyne, who appears as Mathias, has a most exacting rôle, but acquits himself admirably; Miss Grace Jones, as Annette; and Miss Josephine Leigh, as Catharine, are exceedingly good. Mr. Arthur Mills is most effective as the mesmerist; and Mr. Norman Tracy does well as Christian. Mr. Frank Nelson gives a fine impersonation of the Judge; and Mr. Robert Grahame is excellent as the Doctor.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges.—An exceptionally good programme is provided here this week. Lonnen, Meadows, and company, in an amusing sketch, heads the bill; Harry Champion and Herbert Rule are excellent comedians; the Cee-Mee troupe are exceedingly clever in their aerial stage act; and Hayman and Franklin are most amusing in their skit, *A Suit for Divorce*. The Mayvilles and Fred Clements and Francis and Melli also contribute to the programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Alfred Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. L. Griffiths.—An interesting programme is being submitted here. Carl Mysto heads the bill, and is well applauded for his smartness with the handcuffs; Joe Mac creates roars of laughter by his comic songs; and the Eight Lancashire Lads provide an excellent singing and dancing entertainment. The Mezzettis contribute a clever gymnastic act; and Keith and Merson are interesting in their absurdity, *The Meet*. Marie Collins, comedienne; and Shirley and Ransom, comedy artists, also contribute.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—The Court Comedy Company has during the present week presented Tom Taylor's *Ticket-of-Leave Man* in excellent style. Mr. Yorke Hatton has been admirable as Bob Brierley, his dialect being excellent; Mr. Ernest Percy has given a good interpretation of James Dalton; as Melter Moss, Mr. Grahame Herington has scored heavily; Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., has made a capital Hawkshaw; and Mr. Stanley Harrison's Gibson has been a careful piece of work. Miss Mabel Durrant has been much appreciated for her study of May Edwards; and Miss Mary Wymond has been a sufficiently garrulous Mrs. Willoughby. Miss Ella Daincourt has made an excellent Sam Willoughby. *Scare the Skunk*, by E. Nolan O'Connor, which has preceded the drama, depicts an episode during the Boer War, Mr. Stanley Harrison and Miss E. Nolan O'Connor taking the characters. The piece was produced for the first time on any stage and was well received.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—A welcome return is made to the boards of the Royal this week by Mr. George Musgrove's company in the bright and mirthful American musical comedy *The Prince of Pilsen*. In this typically Yankee production, with its many eccentric and quaintly-amusing characters, the part of the Cincinnati brewer travelling abroad is ably played by Mr. Edwin Adeler, a sound comedian; Mr. Stuart Alexander, the real prince, sings with capital effect; while as the French concierge, an English tourist, and a United States lieutenant, Mr. Alfred Selby, Mr. Lawrence Wensley, and Mr. G. Villiers Arnold all give able interpretations of their parts. Daintily and tunefully is the part of the daughter of the Cincinnati brewer capitalist played by Miss Rubi Verdi; and others deserving mention as able contributors to the success of the piece are Miss Nelly Cozens and Miss Nell Emerald. In addition the company is especially strong in dancing, and the chorus is an excellent one.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—The military drama, entitled *At Duty's Call*, opened a week's visit here on Monday, and is submitted by an able company under the direction of Mr. John Gerant, who again enacts with all his own skill the part of Harold Allison. Mr. Leonard Williams gives a most intelligent interpretation as George Allison; and Mr. F. R. Gwyn Richardson was a humorous exponent of Jack Spence. Miss Edith Wallis and Miss Edith Knight sustained with credit the leading feminine rôles.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The popular musical comedy-drama, *Somebody's Sweetheart*, has been presented here this week with considerable success by Mr. W. H. Kirby and company. As Martin Blabbs Mr. Kirby proves irresistibly droll; Mr. E. H. Bertram successfully sustains the rôle of Stavin Ashleigh; and Mr. J. Pyne Warburton proves an able exponent of Lem Lee. Miss Dot Reeve is a dainty and fascinating Lulu; and Miss Cordelia Knight is a stately and impressive Zora. The musical specialities introduced are highly acceptable.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—The "big" item in this week's programme is the Russian giant Machnow, whose enormous height has astonished large audiences here this week. One of the cleverest comedy musical acts we have had here is contributed to by the Warsaw Brothers, whose success is well deserved; George Brooks rattles off funny songs in his own funny style; and Tom Woottwell is decidedly amusing with a ditty entitled "In the little shirt that mother made for me." As a siffleur Guy Ryder is as clever as ever; the Harrison Brothers are a pair of diverting comedians; Mignonette Kokin is a talented soubrette and dancer; Harry Weldon creates much hilarity with his patter and skit on the coon singers; Galletti's monkeys evoke vehement applause; the Two Raies, speciality dancers; and Lizzie Daniels, comedienne and dancer, are received with evident approval.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Donaldson Brothers and Ardell keep the fun going fast and furious with their merry absurdity depicting scenes at the Zoo; Foreman and Fannen are a pair of excruciatingly funny patter comedians; the Australian Twin Sisters Anderson would be hard to beat as speciality and skipping-rope dancers; and the Herald Comedy Four harmonise their singing with pleasing effect. Geoffreys and Benson, in a smart duologue, act with finish and humour; Tiny Arnold, comedienne and dancer, creates a good impression; as a comedy juggler Rebla contributes a clever act; Nora Emerald, serio, is very smart; Bishop and Vale and Edna Groves are also prominent in the bill, which concludes with some vivid scenes of the effects of the earthquake in San Francisco on the Barrascope.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross's company in *The Manxman* is paying a return visit here. Mr. A. B. Cross plays Pete with simplicity and sincerity; Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Creegen wins sympathy; and Miss Nancy Michell's Nancy is a bright piece of acting. Mr. David Phillips capably depicts the hard-hearted Ceazer Cregeen; Miss Mona Spearing makes a dignified Miss Christian; and Mr. Sydney C. Kearns does well as Philip Christian.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Madge Grey's dialect songs are popular; the Wessems perform some clever feats of head balancing; Lilian Warren sings a couple of melodious songs, illustrated by dissolving views; and the Norman-Leonard Trio provide a clever sketch. Chinko, the boy juggler, performs some very difficult tricks; Will Vokes, an eccentric dancer, is popular; and Marba and Verity give some whirling dances. Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, with their mule, are responsible for much amusement; and the Bioscope shows some good pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—*Sunday* is this week's welcome attraction. Miss Emilie Polini now plays the title-rôle, in which she is both natural and convincing; Mr. Leonard Pagden is admirable as Colonel Brinthorpe, acting throughout with tact and finish; Mr. Ernest A. Douglas gives a fine touch to the part of Tom Oxley; Mr. Cecil Duncan as Arthur Brinthorpe is very good; Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky are consistently portrayed by Messrs. Wm. Lockhart, Sidney Rennef, T. Norman Walter, and Arthur Vezin; Mrs. Naresby is capitally played by Miss Rosalind Ross; and Miss Muriel Pope makes an impressive Nun.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Amy Anderson and company take the premier position here this week, and are very amusing in their coster sketch, *The Banana Girl*. Another capital turn is that supplied by Maxford and O'Neil, whose efforts are rewarded by hearty applause. Other interesting items are provided by Mark Lane (comedian), Vesta Fay (male impersonator), Bert and Dora (comedy artists), Mantell and Oval (acrobatic knockabouts), and the Three San Remo Girls (comediennes and speciality dancers), which, with the popular Palace pictures, make up a varied programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—*A Modern Adventuress*, presented by Mr. Lingford Carson's company, has attracted good houses here this week. As Pietro Donelli Mr. Leonard Aardale plays the part with much finish; Mr. Louis Edmonde gives a satisfactory portrayal of Harry Delby; Mr. Leonard Montgomery is well suited as John Crompton; Mr. Frank Orchard submits a good impersonation of Steve Meredith; Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner is capital as Walter Beal; and Mr. Harry C. Rutland makes the most of William Delby. Miss Kate Froude as Violet Meredith presents an effective interpretation of the character; Miss Alice Dofoe is an admirable Vivette Delby; and Miss Ivy Chandos makes quite a hit as Sally Hodges.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. William Mould.—The stars here are Messrs. O'Malley and Brown, comedians and dancers, who have made a great success; Messrs. Caselli and James, banjoists, are enthusiastically received; Miss Elsie May, descriptive vocalist, is greatly relished; and the Five Casino Girls, in their musical act, have made a great hit. Miss Clara Victor, soprano; the Paulo Brothers, speciality artists; Mr. Aldro Lukos, perch performer; and the Bio-Photoscope also meet with favour.

NORTHWICH.—CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs. S. Golden.—Mr. Alf Bery's No. 1 Vandeville company is going strong, and this week there is an entire change of programme. Miss Gert Martine sings in an attractive style; Mr. Alec Alexander, actor vocalist, presents a highly appreciated turn; Walter Shenley, grotesque, is extremely humorous; the Bradleys, in their refined speciality act, met with a hearty reception; Gilroy and his happy family submit a good ventriloquial entertainment; Wambo, trick cyclist, is clever; and the Baltimore Sketch Company presents a laughable farce. The Animated Pictures bring an enjoyable entertainment to a close.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Royal Pierrot Co.; Manager, Mr. Arthur Smethurst.—The Royal Pierrots continue to attract good houses. Several of the old favourites have gone, but they are replaced by others who promise to become as popular as their predecessors. Miss Mabel Ashton sings in an attractive and fascinating manner; Miss Evelyn Barrie possesses a sweet soprano voice; Mr. Glanmore Jones's songs are as popular as ever; Mr. Alf Bishop is an amusing comedian of the diminutive order; Mr. Will Netta and Miss Dot Netta's duets are decidely above the average; and Mr. Phil Rees, a double-voiced vocalist, is a departure from the usual run of pierrots.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan. Closed.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is presented this week. Mr. Arthur Rigby is very successful with his "March of the married men"; Simms and Simms give a clever exhibition as banjo and mandoline duettists; the Balsamos, comedy gymnasts, are much appreciated; the Greys, operatic vocalists, are well received; Poole and Poole amuse as a comedy couple; Herbert La Martine is successful in his songs, dance, and bâton manipulation; and the Will Vay's Juveniles, in a comedy scene, *Life in the Slums*, are a good turn. Burley and Burley, with quaint acrobatic conceits, are well received. On Monday evening the first performance was under the patronage and presence of Lieut.-Colonel Sir Kenneth Kemp, Bart., and the officers of the 3rd Battalion Norfolk Regiment of Militia, who are now under camp here, and at their expense the whole regiment was present. Much enthusiasm was aroused when the portrait of the commanding officer was shown on the screen.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—The company of Mr. Cyril Maude is paying another visit this week with *Beauty and the Barge*. Mr. Harry Ashford as the amorous James Barley provokes the audience to unrestrained merriment; Mr. Walter Pemberton well simulates the peppery and irascible Major Smedley; the juvenile lovers are capitally played by Miss May Fairclough (Ethel Smedley) and Mr. Percival Knight (Lieut. Seton Boyne); Mr. Percy Marmont (Herbert Manners) and Miss Mary Pemberton (Lucy Dallas) are responsible for a lot of humour; the phlegmatic John Dibbs has an able exponent in Mr. J. Wheatman, whose love passages with Miss Mary Griffiths (Mrs. Baldwin) are highly humorous. Mr. Charles Goold contributes to the fun as Tom Codd; and Miss Ethel Stalman is entirely successful as Mrs. Smedley. Mrs. J. W. Braithwaite submits a cleverly-drawn portrait of the village landlady; and the landlord of Mr. Charles Caffrey evokes hearty merriment. Mr. Forrester Harvey, as the love-lorn Augustus, makes a truly laughable figure.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*A Soldier's Revenge* fulfils all the requirements of an up-to-date drama, being well provided with sensational incidents. Mr. Montague Beaudyn displays artistic merit and judgment in his portrayal of Ironhand; Mistress Judith is demurely played by Miss Gloria Hill; the malevolent energy of Sir Marsden Mardyke is strongly accentuated by Mr. Robertson Foulis; good work is done by Mr. Howard Hardy as Matthew Mardyke; and Mr. Jack Gray submits a satisfactory impersonation of Walter Clifford. Miss Irene Munroe gives an impressive and refined impersonation of Ruby Avondale; and praise is also merited by Misses Jane Massey, Annie Glunn, and Messrs. Edward Carter, T. R. White, and Harry Momber.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—*Sweeney Todd*, a drama of striking interest, and a pathetic little playlet *A Father's Love*, are being presented here by Mr. Edward Banner, who is capitally supported by Mr. Arnold Palmer, Mr. Tom Wilton, Miss May Roberts, and Miss E. Mayne France. The company of Miss Alice Maude supplies a side-splitting comedy entitled *The Sleep-Walker*; and Vera Mayne proves a mercurial comedienne. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux create roars of laughter.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The premier place on the bill here is occupied by the Boisset Troupe, who contrive to show remarkable agility while provoking roars of laughter by their oddities; the musical ability of the Anartos is greatly appreciated, and the comedy element deservedly rewarded; Walter King, who styles himself the doleful comedian, adds to the merriment by a humour all his own, his patter being exceedingly smart; the juggling of the Seddons is carried out with skill, neatness, and comicality; the Sisters Bosanquet render duets in a spirited manner; and the ventriloquial item by Vernando is capitally done. The vivacity of May Henderson evokes applause; Cora Casselli, comedienne and dancer; Charles Gardiner, comic singer; and the American Bioscope, with local films, add to the general enjoyment.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS' CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr. John Leopold's company is here on a return visit with *New Frivolity*. The piece has been replenished with new songs, new dresses, and pretty scenery, and is proving as attractive as ever. Mr. Watson Hume makes a good Oliver Buckwheat, and Mr. Barry Lupino produces roars of merriment by his comicalities in the rôle of Sammy. The Leopolds are as popular as ever. As a curtain-raiser, *The House* proves an exceptionally good one, and a coon song and dance in the second act by Miss Amy Hall and Mr. John Leopold, jun., is deserving of praise.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—Mr. Fred Karno's comedians, in the musical farce, *His Majesty's Guests*, occupy the boards this week. Mr. George Hestor keeps the merriment going as Sergeant Lightning; Mr. Walter Purvis is a capital Lord Easem; Miss L. Castelle plays Lady Maud in an excellent manner; Mr. Charles Usher is very good as Mr. Miffin; Harry is well played by Mr. Jack Melville; Miss May Vernon does effective work as Dolly; and Miss Manley is ably portrayed by Miss Kitty Brunton. Mr. S. Bolton makes the most of the part of Mr. Minks; Mr. Fred Rigby as Bunker is very good; and Mr. T. Manardo is a capital Selina.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Clifford and company in the military drama, *On Circumstantial Evidence*, opened here on Monday. Jack Ogilvy is represented in manly fashion by Mr. Wilson Brash; Mr. A. M. James is good as Sir Lawrence Kinloch; Mr. Chas. Clifford is successful as the villain Captain Hamilton; Mr. J. Keane makes a good General Garibaldi; Mr. Newton Pearce and Miss Amy Stewart as Jeremiah Tobin and Polly Smithers provide the humour; Tim, as played by Miss Gladys Clifford, is pathetic; Mrs. Clifford is clever in the rôle of Violet Ogilvy; and Miss Hilda Hatton does well as the twin sisters, Olga and Mary.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—An excellent programme is submitted to the patrons of this popular house this week. The Three Renards are starring here in their aerial act; another capital turn is provided by James de Voyes' educated horse Billy; the Bensons are well received in their comedy act; Ford Williams is a melodious basso; and Smith and Johnson, the coloured duo, are also good. Fred Peake and company are highly successful in the sketch, *The Hypocrite*; Bert Woodward is a smart cycling coon; Mlle. Kloet is very neat in her Continental speciality; and Fred Curran, comedian, also appears.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—The Three Richards as the Giddy Golfers are capital comedy acrobats; Les Louberis are smart in their comedy act, *Uninvited*; Mabel Kesslet takes well in her cornet and post-horn solos; Stanley's Urchins have a good reception in their refined harmony and dancing; Florence Wood is a pleasing comedienne; Mlle. du Roche, operatic vocalist, sings her songs in a finished manner; and Charles Ulrick is neat in his barrel act. The Dottoscope is presenting an interesting series of pictures.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson are paying their welcome annual visit, and are nightly experiencing the heartiest of welcomes from full houses. They opened on Monday with *Twelfth Night*. On Tuesday *Richard II.* was finely acted, Mr. Benson in the title-rôle delighting his numerous admirers beyond measure; the King's uncles were done ample justice to by Messrs. B. A. Gittar and H. O. Nicholson; Mr. Philip Sanders was an admirable Northumberland; and Mr. Clarence Derwent played Bolingbroke with a vigour and earnestness that carried the house with him. Miss Tita Brand gave a powerful and sympathetic rendering of the Queen; and the remaining parts were all in safe hands. The week's bill includes *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Hamlet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Henry V.*, and *Macbeth*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. Hugh Dempsey's *Stars of the Night* company is appearing here this week. Mr. Hugh Dempsey is accorded a hearty reception for his Irish songs and dances, including a Hungarian dance; Walla Sanger is also well received with her songs and kaleidoscopic dances; Fred Terry is a skilful conjurer and illusionist; the Saker Harlows, Continental grotesques, and Les Geraldos, pot-pourri artists, contribute some highly successful and clever performances. The Walter Daw's comedy company is responsible for the farce *A Warm Reception*, in which the characters are all well sustained.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The play staged this week by Mr. Herbert St. Clair and Miss Violet Maitland's stock company is *The Ticket of Leave Man*. In the title-rôle Mr. St. Clair takes a sympathetic part, and plays it admirably, while Miss Maitland's May Edwards is finely and effectively rendered. Mr. Harry Glenney, as Jim Dalton, acts with ability; as Melton Moss, Mr. Harry Rich submits a characteristic portraiture; Mr. Fred Sidney essays with considerable success the part of Mr. Gibson; Maltby is ably impersonated by Mr. Jack Mentis; Mr. Sam Allen scores in his depiction of Hawkshaw; and Mr. W. May, as Brunton, is to be commended; Miss Doris Brandon is exceptionally clever as Sam Willoughby, and as Mrs. Willoughby Miss Flo Stansfield is distinctly good.

PORTH.—POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr Walter Bynorth.—Messrs. Poole have arranged for a fine variety company to appear here this week. The programme includes the following:—Charlie Green, heavy-weight wrestler; Eva Frere, vocalist; Abex, the miniature Hercules; Mlle. Florence, globe-walker; Louie Dallas, serio; Hugh Lister, comedian; Lieut. Chard, with his cleverly trained hounds; Will Lindsay, patter comedian; and Edie Bracewell, comedienne and dancer.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Lionel Rignold and Miss Ada Blanche and their excellent company are here this week in the successful farcical comedy, *What the Butler Saw*. Mrs. Barrington is charmingly personated by Miss Ada Blanche; Mr. Lionel Rignold, as Pink, the Butler, has a part that suits him to a nicety; the genial Irishman, Jack Barrington, has a capable exponent in Mr. Charles Fawsett; Mr. Reddick Anderson, as Sir Charles Foden, makes the very best of his part; the excitable General Dunlop is capitally taken by Mr. George Ascott; Mr. Harry H. Rignold submits an excellent character-sketch of Abraham Weinstein; Miss Marie Daltra as the exacting maiden lady, Miss Foden, is extremely good, and Miss Edith Blanche plays Mrs. Fleming-Smythe very successfully.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Broughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's principal company, with the popular drama *The Poor Must Live*, opened here on Monday. Miss Olive Fulton's impersonation of Olga D'Eyncourt, known as The Vengeance, is an exceedingly capable one, and shows great dramatic power; Mr. Charles O'Connor gives an able delineation of the aged Earl of Marswood; Mr. Harold Macartney shows histrionic ability as Donald; Mr. Walter Spinner, as the society blackguard Clifton Manville, is clever; Sam Sully, a loafer, is well played by Mr. Arthur Trail, and Hooker Holdsnitch has a good exponent in Mr. Shaun Glenville; Miss Violet Hammersley sympathetically embodies Dorothy Murdock; Mr. Herbert Clifton, as Dick Sully, and Miss Alice Buckland, as Moya Darling, a lavender girl, are successful in their respective parts.

—EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—A capital bill is submitted here for the week. Edie King, a pleasing comedienne and graceful dancer, has had a flattering reception; a clever gymnastic balancing act on the horizontal bar is given by the Donnas Trio; Tom Yorke, character-coster comedian, meets with approval; Frank Dunlop is a mirth-provoking patter comedian; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians and dancers, are favourites here; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, give an amusing turn; the Royal Six, a bevy of smart lady bicyclists, vocalists, instrumentalists and dancers, have had a cordial greeting; Sauteron, the jumping expert; the Two Roses, duettists and acrobatic dancers, and Payne's Bio-Photoscope complete the programme.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—Capital programmes are submitted, consisting of Bioscope exhibitions and a variety entertainment. Chief among the variety turns is that of Gillin, the ventriloquist; Eddie Clay, tramp musician, is a favourite; and the Three Sisters Grosvenor, refined vocalists, add considerably to the attractive character of the bill. Little Zola is a wonderfully droll comedian; and Percy Victor's dog orchestra gives evidence of much canine cleverness.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—Mr. F. H. Neville's company opened here on Monday with a fine performance of the sensational drama *A Silent Witness*. As Jan Vedder, Mr. F. H. Neville was very effective, giving a powerful impersonation; Mr. Bradford Crosby as Philip Meredith showed great ability; Miss Glory Clarence displayed talent of no mean order as Estelle Meredith; Miss Mildred Monteath as Anita gave a vivacious interpretation, and introduced some well-rendered songs. Miss Fanny James was excellent as Polly Lockwood; and the same can be said of Mr. F. Kelland as Joe Jorum, &c. Mr. H. Claremont was a thoroughly capable Dandy Dick, and had excellent support from Mr. A. Carrington as Tom Lockwood. *The Octoroon* is billed for Thursday and Friday evenings.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Miss Winifred Maude and Co. are appearing here in *The Sins of a City* and *The Stowaway*. Miss Maude is the leading lady, and takes the principal part in each play very effectively. She is well supported by Mr. Victor du Cane, Mr. Royce Carleton, Mr. Norton Shields, Mr. Austin Milroy, Miss Jenny Hackett, Miss Manie Lyons, Miss Lily Mason, and Miss Jessie Mason.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*Darkness* is the title of the play presented for the first time here this week. It is well staged, and has many thrilling situations. Mr. T. A. Shannon is powerful in his portrayal of the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. Bonhote Wilson as Constantine Schwabe is prominent with a clever delineation of the evil genius; Mr. Edward Valentine is a very acceptable Sir Robert Llewellyn; and Mr. Louis Lingard does well as Harold Spence. Mrs. Morton Powell feelingly enacts the part of Helen Byars; Miss V. St. Lawrence is exceptionally good as Gertrude Hunt.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Lee.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company continues a second week's engagement here with a change of views. Variety turns are submitted at intervals by the Spanish Goldinis, with carpet spinning; Sill and Silicott, sketch artists; and others.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—Augustin and Hartley present here a novel and daring turn of somersaults in barrels, backward and forward, and blindfolded; the Bros. de Wynne have a cordial reception, their equilibrist act being cleverly executed; and other items on the programme include:—Jack Ross, double voiced vocalist; Will Letters, comedian and patterer; W. G. Webber, basso; May Levey, comedienne; Gus Balsiger, trick vocalist; and the Empire Bioscope.

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—This week Mrs. Walter Bentley and company are presenting *A Queen's Vengeance*. Mrs. Bentley as Queen Eleanor has a part well suited to her abilities; Miss Lilian Deane as Fair Rosamund is well placed; and as Janet Jessop Miss Adele Harvey is quite successful. Mr. Arthur Chisholm as Henry II. is dignified and effective; as Sir Rupert Warriner Mr. J. D. Stevenson gives a rendering full of energy; and Mr. B. Croucher as Gilbert Ormonde is very good. The Court Fool, as represented by Mr. A. Trieve, causes much amusement; and Mr. M. A. Kealey as Rafe Rudolphe is also responsible for laughter.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*The Trail of the Serpent*, by F. Marriott Watson, is being played here by Mr. E. Oswald Brooks' company. Gerald Kingston was well presented by Mr. A. Campbell-Kenny; Miss Marjorie May made an excellent Ethel Maynard; Miss Ethel Stuart successfully portrayed Rachel; Mr. Wilford Cheetham succeeded in his endeavour to show the evil nature of Ralph Hammond; and Gipsy Jake was very well played by Mr. Booth Conway. The comedy element was well sustained by Miss G. Newcombe as Rosie Wilson; and Mr. V. Kelway as William Higgins; and Sir Gerald Kingston was in the capable hands of Mr. Henry P. Ken

Cuckoo, admirably played by the Kitts-Windrum company, was provocative of great hilarity; those expert banjoists, the Howard Bros., were enthusiastically applauded for a capital rendering of Von Suppé's "Poet and Peasant" Overture; the Three Cape Girls did some good big-boot dancing; and other clever artists were Mr. Max Yorke, Miss Gracie Grahame, of "Come to me, Charlie," fame; the Casino Comedy Four, in a novel vocal entertainment; Mr. Fred Lincoln, comedian; &c.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Mr. Harry Pleon and his company head the bill this week; and other artists are Helms and Cozens, in a laughable skit, *The Doctor*; the Sisters Ford, vivacious comic duettists; Miss Ray Royal, vocalist; Mr. Harry Briggs, and Miss Madge Morley and her company, in a bright little farcical sketch; Pallister's Bioscope continues up-to-date.

CENTRAL HALL.—In addition to the animated pictures, there are appearing Leon and Leoni, in "Music, Mirth, and Dance"; Preston and Holmes, speciality artists; and Playfair and Nicholls, in a novel entertainment.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—A capital programme is being submitted heredaily by the Dagonets. Miss Mildred Wrighton, in her soprano selections, gains considerable applause; Miss Lily Beaton renders her contralto ballads with much charm; Mr. Henry Stockwell is heard to advantage in his tenor solos; a capital baritone is Mr. Robert Hyett; Mr. Reginald Mountfield is a humorist at the piano who pleases immensely; and Mr. Joseph Blascheck also makes a refined droll.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Last week's diversified programme is being almost exactly repeated, and amongst the special favourites is Fred Field, who sings in capital style, his songs being illustrated with pictures on the Bioscope. The sketches are well depicted, and gain well-earned merit. Wrestling matches are one of the chief attractions, whilst "slipping the slip" causes much amusement. The Café Chantant also has a good programme of vocal and instrumental selections.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, the Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Company, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—A capital entertainment is provided here this week by the special engagement of Miss Florence Baines's company in *Miss Lancashire, Limited*. As Mary Ellen Thompson Miss Florence Baines is charmingly vivacious; Miss Pattie Groves submits a clever portraiture of Bridget Thompson; Mr. David Donaldson is a commendable representative of John Higgins; Mr. Payne Fletcher characteristically impersonates the farmer William Henry Thompson; and Mr. Robert Turley as Harry, Miss Jennie Hallworth as Eva Lancashire, and Mr. Allan M. Servington in the part of Moses Goldberg present good character sketches.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—The excellent programme submitted here this week is headed by the Musical Schafers in *The Garden of Melody*. The turns include Ralph Moore, the boy Patti; Messrs. Hector and Sultan, acrobatic comedy grotesques; Ike Scott and Son, in comedy; Harry Bickley, eccentric comedian; James Stewart, tramp pianist; Les Voces, duettists; the Sisters Hula, expert dancers; and Millie Payne, comedienne.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The premier attraction at this hall of varieties is supplied by Mr. Walter Curtis, the popular humourist, described as the "merriment merchant"; a dainty turn is given by Little Ada Merry, comedienne and dancer; the programme also includes Hesketh Meade, basso; Tom Moore, comedian; the Sisters Brenton, comediennes and dancers; York, Mac, and York, with *Widow Mac's Troublesome Boys*; Ned Graydon, musical entertainer; Lavelle Bros., comedy acrobats; and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson. — Mr. Charles March and company are here in *The Gamester of Mets*. Mr. March, who acquits himself capitally in the arduous part of the hero, Paul Baldot, is well received; Miss E. Lyndhurst favourably enacts the Countess Baldot; and Miss Una Lane creditably sustains Lucie. Mr. Fred Aldworth ably handles General de Monparasee; the villainous Captain Badaire of Mr. J. B. Murray is exceedingly good; the Curé D'Artis is represented with becoming dignity by Mr. P. Wentworth.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. F. Thompson.—That popular comedian and raconteur Mike S. Whallen is very popular here; Spry and Monti appear to advantage in comedy; and Rex King proves to be a smart character mimic. Amusing sketches are submitted by the J. Alexander's Pantomimic Company, and Mr. and Mrs. Finden in *Two to One*; Lily Langtry, comedienne, is as popular as ever; and the dancing of the Northern Troupe of International Dancers arouses enthusiasm. The Bioscope, with interesting films, concludes a good bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney.—King's College Boys, in excerpts from grand opera, give a refined entertainment, meeting with well-merited applause; Mazzetto, a clever juggler, has a cordial reception; and the Musical Keiths score heavily. The Coolvilles are successful in coon songs and dances. Other turns contributing to the general enjoyment are Master Nat Blair, pianist, and Herbert Jackson, vocalist and dancer.

STALYBRIDGE.—GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill.—An excellent combination is appearing this week, comprising Will Rain and Co. in a novelty sketch, *The Motor Maniac*; Chester and Lee's Marionettes; George Hilton, light comedian; the Sisters Volbecque, duettists; Miss Violet Beatrice, a dainty delineator of Irish melodies; Brothers Onda, grotesque gymnasts; Matt Wilkinson's Co. in a laughable sketch, *The Registry Office*; Edison Bioscope, &c. A benefit was announced for Thursday on behalf of the sufferers from the recent floods.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company in *A Gambler's Daughter* occupies the boards here this week. In the dual rôle of Mildred and Miriam Grant, Miss Hill shows considerable ability, and as Desmond O'Dare Mr. Ayrton is a distinct success; Mr. Alfred Saunders as Solomon Solomons is excellent; Mr. Richard Pitt gives a good performance as John Grant; Mr. Victor Millard does well as Grant's son; Mr. Harry Barham is advantageously placed as Dick, the Weasel; and others deserving of mention are Miss Saunders, as Carita; Mr. James Skea, as Ralph Gilman; Mr. L. Calthorpe, as Stephen Brand, and Mr. George Vinning, as Tom Brand.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic Carnell.—Miss Hettie King is paying a return visit here, and is proving more attractive than ever. Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in "Indian Pastimes," present an original and clever turn. Les Belles Americaines, a quartette of vocalists and dancers, win enthusiastic applause; Regan and Ryan convulse the house with their comicalities, and others in an excellent programme include Miss Patty Yole, Miss Lily Lonsdale, Mr. Ernie Myers, Haig and Novel, and Weisker's Bioscope.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Revill. — Mr. Morton Powell's company is appearing here this week in *The Woman who Gambles*. Mr. Edward E. Ashby gives a manly impersonation of Count Otto Steinbach; as Baron Cratzlaw, Mr. Horatio Sinclair acts with power; Mr. Reginald Fox impersonates the character of Lieutenant Karl Ctzarteryski ably; and Mr. Charles Calvert is pleasing as the Hon. Bertie Bray. Miss Gertrude Hunt infuses much feeling into the part of Countess Natelie Steinbach; and Miss Violet Sims acts delightfully as Cora Gouldhart.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black.—Mr. George Chanti, who is the "star" here this week, has well deserved the hearty plaudits greeting his interesting quick-change act; Silbon's miniature circus is entertaining; Tony Iveson as the "ragman at the piano," is a distinct success; Dave McNeill, comedian, gives clever imitations; and Wallace Whitney, character comedian, is amusing. Beattie Foster is a versatile artist; Mons. Detil an expert card manipulator; Marie Weston a pleasing vocalist, banjoist, and dancer; Rappo and Ella accomplish some marvellous balancing feats; and Professor Hulbert's ventriloquial entertainment is an acceptable one.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—The Matweef-Hugostan Troupe, who top the bill this week, are an exceptionally clever turn. J. W. Rickaby is still the same old favourite; Conan and Doyle are capital vocalists and dancers; Bonnie Goodwin and her piccaninnies do well; the Henres present a good juggling act; Dolly, Agnes and Maud, the "Factory Nightingales," who sing songs and perform their work of making boxes, are a pleasing turn, and Will McIvor possesses a good voice.

HIPPODROME THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. William Ainsworth.—Mr. Nat Clifford evokes hearty merriment; Lillian is an exceptionally clever turn, with her cycle tricks; Spencer and Marks, speciality comedians, are good; Kisbey, as the "call boy," is well received; Craig, Roze, and Craig, gymnasts, make a notable hit; Flo Warner, vocalist; Adey Spencer, speciality artist, and Ray and Miles, eccentric jugglers, complete a good programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Max Sterling heads the bill with his wonderful illusions; the Four Geraldos are jugglers of much merit; Marlow and Manton's sketch *Other People's Babies* is very amusing; H. B. Raven sings admirably; Walter Adams is a capital comedian; and Mabel La Blanche is successful. J. K. Reynolds and Miss Maud Yarrell are seen in a good sketch, *The Bigamist*.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—This week the Bath and West of England Counties Agricultural Show is being held in this town, for the first time, and Mr. Manners must be highly complimented on his enterprise in securing Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's comedy company, under the business direction of Mr. Sandon Perkins, to entertain local playgoers and the numerous visitors. On Monday was presented that interesting comedy *Cousin Kate*. Mr. Percy Hutchison's conception of the part of Heath Desmond is admirable in all points, and Miss Lilias Earle's study of the title-rôle is particularly fine, these talented artists fully deserving the applause showered upon them throughout. They are strongly supported by Miss Hilda Honiss, remarkably pleasing and earnest as Amy Spencer; Miss Amy Coleman, natural and convincing as Mrs. Spencer; Mr. George Mallett, very effective as the Rev. James Bartlett; and Mr. S. Irwin Barrett and Miss M. Marshall doing good work in smaller parts.

TON-Y-PANDY.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Carlton and Duckworth; General-Manager, Mr. Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie.—Mr. E. Lockwood's company is here in *Sergeant Brue*. Harold Carson as the sergeant is extremely amusing, and is ably seconded by Miss Amy Vivash as Daisy, the servant. Miss Reydon Dallas is eminently successful as Lady Bickenhall. The parts of Michael Brue and Aurora Brue are safely entrusted to Mr. F. Wilson and Miss Gertie Fawcett. Crookie Scrubbs is played in a masterly manner by Mr. A. James, and Mr. F. Laceby does well as Mr. Crank, the magistrate.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. — OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Charles Carey; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gunnell.— Mr. J. D. Hunter and company are appearing this week in *The Ruby Ring*. The parts of the two valets are admirably played by Mr. J. D. Hunter and Mr. A. B. Tapping; Miss Alice Farleigh gives a sympathetic rendering of the heroine, Helen Neville; and Mr. Frederick Sargeant as the Squire of Collingwood Manor, Mr. Walker Selby as the Family Solicitor, Mr. G. C. Murray as the Colonel; and Mr. H. Pollock (the Colonel's cousin) all submit capital interpretations. Miss Farleigh is also well supported by the Misses Bayley, Miss Clarissa Selwynne, Miss Edith Mott, and Miss Bella Parkin.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—An admirable performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is given here this week by Mr. Leigh Lovel. Messrs. T. A. Shannon and Francis Chamien ably fill the respective rôles of Lysander and Demetrius. Mr. Leigh Lovel gives a clever and effective rendering as Bottom; Mr. Wilfred Beck is good as Theseus; Miss Mary Lovett is a charming Hermia; and Miss Octavia Kenmore highly successful as Helena. Miss Alys Rees is an imposing Oberon and sings well; Miss Mary Bessle is capital as Rick; and Miss Gertrude Tate delightful as Titania.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. A. Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—The Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, head the bill this week, and display excellent vocal ability; the Schallers (Arthur and Pain) contribute a clever gymnastic turn; and the Deroneys, comedy sketch artists; Mr. P. J. Durney, globe walker; Wyman, trick skater; the Lovelaces, song illustrators; Dan Noble, comedian; and Miss Marie Yorke, comedienne, fill an attractive programme.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The Craggs, in their comedy sketch, *Billy*, head the bill here this week, and are well received; James Brady is highly successful with his funny songs; Mr. Harry Carsdale is excellent in his imitations; Ian Colquhoun is a good baritone; Constance Bellamy wins great favour as a vocalist; Farley, Rennie, and Farley present their comedy act, *Fun at a Railway Station*; Howard and Collinson in a novel absurdity create much laughter; and the American Bioscope displays some interesting films.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company is here in *A Queen of Villainy*. Mr. Ern Carlton does well as Sir John Desborough; Mr. Ernest G. Batley scores as Alec; and Miss Edith Blande displays ability in the part of Cora Granville. Other characters are well sustained, and the piece is excellently staged.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. Charles Edwardes's company is here this week with *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Leslie Austin, the possessor of a well-trained voice, enacts Captain Lovebury in excellent style; as Colonel Claymore Mr. James Grant does well; and a dignified personage is made of Lady Moulton by Miss Winifred Preston; Mr. Charles Adeson submits a humorous rendering of Bertie White; and Mr. Alexander Loftus as William White is all that can be desired. Mr. W. E. Chewd scores as Bonsor, dancing excellently; and Mr. Frank Melroyd is well placed as Braddy. Miss Violet Osmund delineates the lady journalist Dora Heather with much cleverness, and Miss Maisie Ellinger displays ability as Ethel Joy. Miss Maude Nichols deserves commendation for her Brenda Louth. The cake walk by Miss Violet Osmund and Mr. Frank Melroyd is very popular. Mr. Michael Dwyer is the conductor.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmott.—George Formby is one of the quaintest comedians who has been seen here for some time; the Sisters Marion are charming duettists; and Professor MacCann's concertina entertainment is a musical treat. Blanche Marie, comedienne, is successful; and the Zampi Brothers, with their potpourri act, Randi and Carl, knockabouts, and Dolly Harmer, who wins all hearts by her excellent songs, are also entertaining. The Bioscope pictures are a delightful assortment.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*The Orphan Heiress* is here again, and is being favourably received. Mr. Charles Boult, in the heavy title-rôle of Douglas Kingston, exhibits unmistakable talent; the Rev. Edward Ayrton is played with naturalness by Mr. George Handel; Mabel Ainslie is effectively portrayed by Miss Rosalie Heath; and other characters have able exponents.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The drollery of the eccentric novelty, *Casey's Court* is indescribable. The youngsters—some thirty in number—are one and all clever artists. Ross and Lewis, in Yankee Tomfoolery, are exceptionally clever; Mersano is an adept at card and coin manipulation; fun is kept going fast and furious by the Elvio Comedy Trio in an act, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*; an instrumental entertainment by the Hessey soloists is charming; the Elgars make a big hit as vocal entertainers; and the bio-tableaux are especially novel and interesting.

WESTON - SUPER - MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—The Elster-Grime Opera Company is here this week, and on Monday presented *Maritana*. Miss Marie Elster was excellent in the title-rôle; and as Lazarillo Miss Madge Quilliam did good work; Mr. Gilbert King acted and sang artistically as the King; Mr. Payne Clarke made the most of Don Cæsar de Bazan; and Mr. Frank Land was decidedly good as Don José; Mr. J. Partridge did well as the Captain; as did Mr. E. C. Howitt as the Marquis and Miss Constance Russell as the Marchioness. The week's bill includes *Faust, Carmen, The Bohemian Girl*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Henry Bedford and company are paying a return visit with *Gipsy Jack* and *The See Saw of Life*. *Gipsy Jack* was produced on Monday night. Mr. Henry Bedford, who appears in the title-rôle, is an old favourite here. Mr. Skinner and Gerald Skinner are finely portrayed by Mr. W. H. Domoney and Mr. Alex. Alexander; Mr. C. B. Churton is capital as Francis Harvey; Mr. Sid Bedford and Mr. J. H. Damer are able representatives of soldier and sailor characters; Miss Violet Alwyn embodies the part of Dorothy Dexter in a charming manner; and May Harvey is admirably portrayed by Miss Bessie Bedford. The part of Hagar, the gipsy, is in the able hands of Miss Frances Foley; Mr. Geo. H. Hewitson gives a fine impersonation of Sir John Dexter; Miss Jennie Risley as Jennie Huggins causes much laughter; Miss Ada Antley scores as the forsaken gipsy girl, Nan.

WEXFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. Ronan.—Mr. Roy Jackson's company is here this week with a good selection of dramas, and is meeting with success. *Trilby* was presented on Monday before an appreciative house. Mr. Roy Jackson gave a powerful character-study of Svengali; Mr. Edwin Beverley made a sympathetic Taffy; and Mr. E. Lynn, as Sandy, was also good. Mr. Clifton Earle's impersonation of Little Billie was all that could be desired; Mr. A. Beaufort made an amusing Rev. Mr. Bagot; Mr. Henry Deane was an efficient Gecko; and Miss Kittie Douglas an ideal Trilby, her singing and dancing being thoroughly enjoyed; Miss Florrie Hayes was very chic as Madame Vinard, and Miss Doris Cameron made the most of the part of Mrs. Bagot. *Oliver Twist, The Bells*, and *The Lyons Mail* have also been staged during the week.

WHITEHAVEN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. Clark; Acting - Manager, Mr. Fred Clark. — After a long absence, the popular play, *The Curate*, is being presented here by Miss H. Jeffries' company, under the direction of Mr. Whitmore Ledger. Mr. Ledger appears as Gilbert Westwood, and submits a smart performace; Mr. Arthur Mervyn as John Audley (the Curate) is very good; and Mr. Sydney Clarvon is funny as Simon Muggs. The character of May Verner is pleasingly acted by Miss Rosa Mervyn; and the part of Dick has a clever exponent in Miss Hettie Jeffries.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company, including Miss Zana St. George is presenting the romantic drama *The Branded Woman*, by F. Wybert Clive. Mr. James Stillwell enacts capably the dual part of Philip Maurice and Zarka, and Miss St. George fills ably the title-rôle—Geneviève Larouche. Mr. Beckett Bould as Dick Brown, Miss Kitty McPherson as Jacqueline, Miss K. Barnett as Marie, and Miss M. Parry as Rudolph acquit themselves creditably.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Pringle's North American animated pictures, with scenes of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, form a large part of this week's programme. The Bouncing Dillons are a great attraction, and the Sisters Williams, duettists; Miss May Young, ballad vocalist, and Ben Houldsworth, Yorkshire comedian and mimic, complete the bill.

WORKINGTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—On Monday Mr. Horace Moseley's company presented *The Betrayer* to a good house. Mr. F. S. Bromley was successful as the hero; as Lord Kenny Mr. Moseley displayed ability; Mr. John Soden was satisfactory as Renard; Mr. J. W. Forrest delighted his auditors with his songs and his portrayal of the character of Doyle; Mr. H. Martin was vigorous as Brian; Miss M. George was graceful as Deela; Miss Ella Forrest made a capital Nellie; and Miss Alice May a suitable Peggy.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Bert Albert Rutley's company is here this week, presenting *An English Belle*. Miss Jessie de Grey is good as Jack Trenant; Mr. Dan Whitley deserves high eulogy as Consul; Mr. A. Rutley ably fills the part of Squire Hardacre; Miss Gerty Wasley is winsome as Alice Oldfield. The remaining characters are well placed. On Thursday Mr. J. Bannister Howard's No. 1 Co. appeared in *Florodora*.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following are appearing here:—The Bensley Evans Sketch Company, in a funny act, entitled, *Sally's Dilemma*, with Miss Olive Lanty as Sally; Mr. T. B. Talbot, a favourite comedian; Koe and Koe, singers, who introduce some clever dancing; Mr. Charles Moore, an eccentric comedian and dancer; and Miss Carrie Leslie, a refined comedienne; while the animated tableaux has proved a pleasing feature.

YORK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Miss Emily Huby's company is here in *The Price of Pleasure*. Gilbert D'Armand is well played by Mr. H. B. Ross; Mr. Howell Webb's Sir James Featherstone is sufficiently villainous to be effective; and Mr. Charles E. Howell appears as Charles Mordaunt; Mr. Larry Clements as Tatters is a comedian of merit; Miss Emily Ruby fills the rôle of Biddy O'Flanagan from Ould Ireland with touches of Irish humour, and Lilian has a clever exponent in Miss Lily Barley Clarke; Miss Mara Collings as Alice Rivers is a great favourite; Miss Dot Russell as Polly Wilson introduces a song and some pretty dancing.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—The programme this week is headed by Phil Ray, a comedian of an original style of humour; Mr. Bert Williams is a ventriloquist of considerable ability; Harry Grey causes laughter by his female impersonation; Miss Olive Armadale, a dainty comedienne, wins favour with her singing; the Sisters Stratton's singing and dancing are much appreciated; the singing of Brothers Mellot is well received; and Mr. Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire singing collier, uses his voice to great advantage; Mlle. Von Etta's transformation fit-up is very clever, and her quick changes are marvellous. The programme is brought to a close by some humorous Bioscope pictures.

THE DRAMA IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, MAY 29.—Since my last correspondence we have had two performances in this city of the "Meiningers," this far-famed dramatic company having been on tour through the Netherlands. These two performances were given on off-nights at the Grand Theatre, the programmes being respectively Schönthan's comedy, *Countess Guckerl*, and Sudermann's powerful play, *Johannisfeuer*. The "Meiningers" were seen to their best advantage in *Countess Guckerl*, the parts fitting the members of the company now on tour like a glove, and the entire comedy being acted with great animation and spirit. The honours of the evening were carried off by Jenny Nachbaur in the title-rôle, and by Kurt Grösser as the dashing officer, both artists being very happy in their interpretations.

MESSRS. VAN LIER'S Dramatic Company of Amsterdam gave a special performance at the Tivoli Theatre last week, the play being a version of Sardou's *Fernande*. Messrs. Van Lier have reorganised their company, which is now a strong one. The leading attraction of the company is Mrs. Van Lier, one of the best emotional actresses of the Dutch stage, who enacted the rôle of Clotilde and brought out all the strong and telling phases of the character with force and intensity of expression. Mr. De Vries was very efficient and earnest as Pomerol; and Mrs. Erfmann sympathetic and winning in the touching part of Fernande.

THE regular season at the Grand Theatre being now virtually at an end, Manager Van Eysden has not put on any new production, these last two weeks being devoted to a revival of this year's successes, such as *De Referendaris Titularis, Het Duel*, and *Haar Terugkeer* (the Dutch version of *Le Bercail*). The first-mentioned play, *De Referendaris Titularis*, is an original Dutch comedy which was a decided go when it had its initial production, the authoress being Cornélie Noordwal, a popular novelist and writer in this country.

THE professionals of this city, and particularly those of the younger generation, betook themselves one and all to Amsterdam last Thursday, the 24th inst., the occasion being the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the career of Mr. S. J. Bouberg Wilson as director of the Dutch Dramatic Conservatory. Of course the entire theatrical profession was represented, as also the leading managers, critics, and literary persons of note, Mr. Wilson being a man of repute and standing, not only for the work he has achieved as director of the Conservatory, where he has fostered and encouraged all the young actors and actresses who have had their schooling and preparatory instruction there, but for his own personal merits and literary capacity. The festivity in honour of his silver jubilee went off in a very informal and delightful manner. The large class-rooms of the Conservatory were thronged with friends, pupils, ex-graduates, and admirers, all bent on making the day a memorable one for the hero of the occasion. Speeches were made, presents and floral offerings of all sizes and shapes were tendered, and as a fitting conclusion of the event, the Nassau order was handed to Mr. Wilson, this high distinction having been conferred on him by Her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina. Of course all present manifested their unmistakable approbation by loud cheers and applause, the whole affair winding up to everybody's satisfaction, and reflecting great credit on the committee under whose auspices it was carried out. The members forming this committee were Mesdames Holtrop and Tartaud, and Messrs. Smith and Van Der Horst, all four ex-graduates of the Conservatory, and at present among the most prominent and popular representatives of the Dutch stage.

"A WARNING TO WOMEN."

A Romantic Drama, in Four Acts, by C. Watson Mill,

Produced at the Lyceum Theatre, Eccles, May 28.

Dr. Marcus Dread .....MR. C. WATSON MILL
Shaun .....MR. HENRY LONSDALE
Fergus McNaughten ..MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE
Lord Eversleigh ....MR. N. CARTER SLAUGHTER
Squire Kennion .....MR. HENRY RUTLAND
Rev. Emmanuel Wallace
MR. NORMAN B. CANNON.
Mike McQuade .....MR. GEORGE SCULLY
Ferdinand de Joules ....MR. PALLISER ADCOCK
P.C. Merlin .....MR. GEORGE AVERY
Henty Curran .....MR. H. STIFFORD
John Forgie .....MR. STANLEY WOODS
John Colley .....MR. PERCY GOODWIN
Lord Dermont .....MR. B. W. DAVIES
Sir John Harkaway ....MR. JOHN WILLERTON
Sir Thomas Riding .....MR. ARTHUR HALLEY
Myles O'Moore .....MISS EDITH RUTLAND
Sheila Kennion .....MISS EMMIE BARTON
Molly O'Moore .....MISS ELLEN BEVERLEY
Hildred .....MISS IDA FANE
Lady Colner .....MISS PHYLLIS BROOK
Salome Sheldon .....MISS MURIEL AVERY
Balrice .....MISS DAISY BEAUMONT
Hellena .....MISS SADIE HILTON
Moira Kennion .....MISS ROSALIND TATE

The scene at the opening of the drama is laid at Squire Kennion's country house in Ireland, where the bluff old man and his two pretty daughters keep open house to all the country around. Moira, the eldest girl, is about to be married to Fergus McNaughten, a young neighbouring squire, who is secretly beloved by the youngest daughter, Sheila. Moira is the victim of morbid fancies and depression, and is heartily tired of the country and sea, and longs for the city life, with all its artificial gaieties. To relieve her of these fits of depression she takes drugs, and is gradually becoming a slave to morphia. A stranger whom she has been warned of by the "Wise Woman" of the village, appears in the person of Dr. Marcus Dread, who has been sent for to tend a crippled child. It is soon apparent that he is a cynical woman-hater. He discovers Moira's secret, and having himself suffered from the sins of his own mother, and being embittered against the world in general, he conceives the idea of dragging her down to degradation, with the object of being able to point to her as "a warning to women." He informs her that he has discovered that her mother was a dipsomaniac, a fact afterwards admitted by her father, and on the eve of her marriage with Fergus warns her against the awful and hideous consequences of such a union. The girl, incensed by his taunts, seizes a bottle of vitriol from the doctor's medicine chest and hurls the contents at him. Her lover, however, coming between them, receives the discharge in the face and is blinded. Distracted, the poor girl leaves her home, and temporarily resides with a peasant woman, endeavouring to forget her miseries in morphia. Here the doctor pursues her, and finally succeeds in persuading her to accompany him to London, where the work of destruction begins, and is carried on until the third act, when Moira is released by the death of the doctor. Throughout Moira's troubles she has a constant friend and lover in Shaun, an Irish minstrel, who comes at times to her assistance, and the two are united. Fergus McNaughten recovers his sight, and marries Sheila, who has tended him with loving care throughout his blindness, and thus the drama terminates happily.

Mr. C. Watson Mill, as Dr. Dread, made a fascinating character of the villainous type, and played the part impressively and with a certain amount of power. He was well supported by Miss Rosalind Tate, who showed marked ability in the trying part of Moira. Mr. Henry Lonsdale was manly and vigorous as Shaun; and Mr. Wingold Lawrence did well as Fergus McNaughten. The Squire Kennion of Mr. Henry Rutland was a sound performance; and Mr. N. Carter Slaughter was amusing as Lord Eversleigh. Other characters which should be mentioned are Miss Emmie Barton as Sheila Kennion, Miss Ita Fane as Hildred, Miss Edith Rutland as Myles O'Moore, and Messrs. Norman B. Cannon, George Scully, and W. Palliser Adcock. The scenery was most elaborate, and all the characters were in good hands. The drama was well received by a large audience, who were at times roused to a high pitch of enthusiasm by the various sensational incidents.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican*.

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun*.

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times*.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News*.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star*.

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era*.

CLERICAL CRITICISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—After reading the article in a Manchester weekly contemporary by the Rev. H. W. Webb-Peploe, giving the reasons why he shuns the theatre, one was inclined to question whether one was awake, or dreaming bad dreams of the bad old times, when uncharitableness and intolerance with regard to the stage were the vogue, and when such unsupported statements became "confirmation strong as proofs of holy writ."

The views expressed are so amazing and so contradictory that, but for the position occupied by the reverend gentleman, it would not be necessary to point out the absence of logic, of fact, and, above all, of charity, evidenced thereby.

One may pass over the opening sentence, "It is not a question what benefit or injury I, as a clergyman, might receive by going to see a theatrical performance," although, taken in conjunction with "I do not stay away from theatres because I might suffer from what I should see and hear," it savours somewhat of the pharisaical. But what follows in both cases is remarkable:—"It is when you reach the back scenes of some theatres that you understand why Christian people who know of the details do not care to visit such places, because we realise that while we continue to give them our countenance we are injuring the lives of many of our brothers and sisters." To which he adds:—"Think of your brother, think of your sister, and in every way possible seek their deliverance from danger."

It will be observed that no hint is vouchsafed as to where or how the information was obtained on which this wholesale condemnation is based; for, although the words 'It is when you reach the back scenes of some theatres" imply personal knowledge, this naive cleric afterwards says, "Not since 1854 have I entered a playhouse"! He might well have preserved silence on a subject of which he admits hopeless and persevering ignorance. What, for instance, would be said of a critic of the Army who had not even seen a regiment of soldiers since the Crimea?

Hearsay evidence is proverbially unreliable; it is inadmissible in any Court. Yet, on the strength of mere hearsay—which has obviously reached him through devious channels and prejudiced channels—the Prebendary has published a gross libel upon an entire profession. An individual would have redress, a class is denied such. "I am told," (!) proceeds the article, "that in many cases the robing and disrobing of women is carried on behind the scenes under conditions which cannot do otherwise than lower the tone of modesty and morality." But, as anyone with the least knowledge of the playhouses is well aware, there is not the faintest foundation for what the reverend gentleman has "been told," and—of course—believes. Furthermore, in support of his "indictments," he only advances (except in one instance) vague and reckless generalisations—of all methods of attack the most cowardly.

The one instance is where it is gravely stated that "in no other profession are the number of divorces so large as in the theatrical." Now, what are the facts? For the period 1900-1904 the annual average of divorces is:—Gentlemen and esquires, 85.2; engineers and architects, 37.8; soldiers and naval seamen, 34.4; physicians and surgeons, 22.5; actors and musicians, 21.8. This information can be supplemented by referring to the "Civil Judicial Statistics" made up to 1904. Seemingly the Rev. Webb-Peploe has, in common with so many others, been misled by the prominence given in certain journals to anything which will permit of an "Actress" or "Actor" headline.

What can one say to "You will never see such a grouping of sin and all its encouragement as you see near to the theatre centre of London"? It is well known that the class here referred to does not attend the play, where intervals are few, the audience held by continuity of interest, and where there are no facilities for promenading. There are no "playhouses" in Regent-street, for instance.

The report of "a missionary" is merely further hearsay, and vague at that. But the curate's story, so graphically told, of the gentleman who shamefacedly admitted that he was the manager of a theatre in London, is deserving of some attention. "'And,' said the curate, 'are your three daughters whom I have met engaged upon your stage? The gentleman's reply must be taken as terrible evidence in support of my case. Closing his fist, he answered, with great earnestness, 'Sir, I would cut off this right hand of mine before I would allow one of my girls to go behind the scenes in my own theatre.'" This is obviously a traveller's tale—a picturesque invention by someone who, evidently aware of the sort of thing which was acceptable, promptly provided it. Not wishing, however, to be either uncharitable or dogmatic, if only by way of contrast, the present writer will pay twenty-five guineas to any charity the Rev. Webb-Peploe will name if the truth of the story can be substantiated as meaning what is clearly intended.

It will be observed that, while turning his own back upon "our brothers and sisters," and advising "Christian people" to do so likewise, this Christian teacher liberally besprinkles his libel with "charity," "tenderness," "courage," and so forth. But where is the charity? Even if the conditions were as he describes them, surely his plain duty would be to help this legion of the lost, instead of permitting it to pursue the broad road to perdition. The "courage," however, will be readily admitted—courage which so boldly departs from the Master's teaching, who said:—"They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick; I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." And "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." "The disciple is not above his Master."—

Yours faithfully, J. B. MULHOLLAND.

May 22, 1906.

BRUCE v. WELTON AND TREVOSPER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—We see from your report in last week's issue you state judgment was given for defendants on the claim and counterclaim. This is incorrect. Quoting from the judgment

"THE SHADOW OF A CRIME."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Nita Rae,
Produced at the Pier Pavilion, Hastings, on Monday, May 28.

Harry Bullington ....MR. W. RUDDLE BROWN
Sir Edward Bullington..MR. JOHN H. MANLEY
Ralph Esmond .....MR. JUAN DI ALBERTI
Jim Murdock .....MR. STEPHEN CROSSLEY
Tom Brown .....MR. E. W. AVERY
Jim Todd .....MR. W. E. RICHARDS
John .....MR. A. E. BARNET
Judith Bullington .....MISS NELLIE MOORE
Mrs. Thomas Brown .....MISS MAY ROSINA
Stimetza .....MISS CONNIE STOW
Priscilla .....MISS G. DOUGLAS
Gwendoline .....MISS N. CHRISTIE
Ailsa .....MISS ELSIE JOEL
Rosalind .....MISS MAISIE BELL
Samantha .....MISS DORIS GROVES
Wilfred Maud .....MISS ROSIE MAY
Sarah .....MISS BERTHA ST. RUTH
Loyale Norman .....MISS NELLIE HOWITT

This powerful and attractive drama was performed here on Monday night for the first time on any stage, by Mr. Fred Darcy and Mr. Fred J. Little's company. A better all-round combination could not be desired, and the play was well received by a large audience, who testified their appreciation by frequent applause. The new production has many bright and amusing moments, and is very well acted. There is little doubt that the piece will suit the popular taste, its humour is so sparkling and its pathos so delicate and effective.

The first scene represents the parlour at the back of a chandler's shop. Everything is in disorder, as Mr. Brown and the servant-maid Sarah are busily packing up boxes, preparatory to Mrs. Brown taking the children for a fortnight to Margate. Mr. Brown, a thoroughly henpecked and submissive individual, has a friend named Todd, who suggests to him that, during the absence of his wife, they shall take a trip to Dover, to which Brown agrees. Lodging with the Browns is Loyale Norman, secretly married to Ralph Esmond, who has lost the third finger of his left hand. He, it appears, set his affections upon Judith, the daughter of Sir Edward Bullington, and to remove the legal obstacle in the way of his marriage with her, he makes an unsuccessful attempt to murder his wife. In the next act we make the acquaintance of Jim Murdock, a young fisherman, whose sister Winnie has, some eighteen months previously, been murdered in a smuggler's cave at Dover. Certain marks on the dead girl's neck indicated that the murderer had apparently lost the third finger of his left hand. Jim swears to have revenge should he discover the man who committed the dastardly crime. Jim is also the brother of Sarah, the Browns' maid-servant.

Harry Bullington, a naval officer, has fallen in love with Loyale, and asks her to marry him. She informs him that she already has a husband, but refuses to say any more. Harry does his best to warn his father, Sir Edward, against Ralph; but the old man, being kind-hearted and unsuspecting, will not believe Esmond to be a bad character. Jim acts as conductor of a party to the smugglers' cave, which they explore, and he gives an account of the murder of his sister Winnie. All leave the cave except Loyale and Ralph, who, after confessing that he was the murderer of Winnie, attempts to strangle Loyale, leaving her, as he believes, dead. Jim then enters, discovers Loyale, and also picks up a left-handed glove with a finger padded. Loyale is missing, and is supposed to have been washed out to sea. Ralph receives a note from Jim Murdock, asking him to meet him, upon which Ralph tells Sir Edward Bullington that he has to leave by the midnight train. Jim Murdock and Ralph meet on the cliffs over the cave where Winnie was murdered. A desperate encounter ensues, Ralph in the end hurling Jim over the cliff, the fall causing fatal injuries. Harry suddenly appears, and claims Ralph as his prisoner; but he manages to escape. In the fourth act, a month later, Jim dies; but before his death the events of the awful night are recalled to his mind, and he dictates a letter to Sir Edward Bullington accusing Ralph of murder. Loyale, who has been all the time an inmate of Jim's cottage, and suffering from brain fever, is restored to health through the devoted nursing of the kind-hearted Sarah. Her principal object now is to discover Ralph, and bring him to justice. The final scene takes place in the conservatory of Sir Edward Bullington's house in London. It is the wedding-day of Judith and Ralph Esmond. The party are about to depart for the church, when a strange event happens. Loyale, disguised as an old woman, forces her way into the house, exclaiming that she must see Judith, it being a matter of life and death. Ralph is about to have Loyale removed from the premises, when, to his dismay, Harry makes his appearance and protects the intruder. Judith, in her bridal dress, appears. At first sight Harry thinks he is too late; but, finding he is not, at once forbids the wedding, and announces to the bridal party that he witnessed Ralph hurl Murdock over the cliff. Loyale, throwing off her disguise, declares that Ralph is her husband, and she has come to prevent Judith from entering into a false marriage. Sarah then informs those present that Ralph was the murderer of her brother and sister, handing to Sir Edward Jim's letter, written on his death-bed. Ralph then commits suicide by stabbing himself; and Loyale cheers Harry's spirits by informing him that she will be waiting for him at the end of his next voyage.

Mr. W. Ruddle Brown is very natural in his impersonation of Harry Bullington; as Sir Edward Bullington, Mr. John H. Manley is dignified and aristocratic; Mr. Juan di Alberti as Ralph Esmond does the villain's part ample justice, acquitting himself admirably; Jim Murdock as played by Mr. Stephen Crossley is a true and manly young fisherman; Miss Nellie Moore plays the character of Judith Bullington in a charming manner, and showing conspicuous ability throughout; Miss Nellie Howitt amply justifies her selection as the heroine by the force and grace she exhibits; the part of Loyale Norman could scarcely be more sympathetically played than it is by this accomplished actress. Mr. E. W. Avery is an excellent representative of the henpecked husband, Mr. Brown's differences with his wife evoking much laughter; Jim Todd is a part well acted by Mr. W. E. Richards; Miss May Rosina as Mrs. Thomas Brown plays with dash and freedom, and acts throughout with bright and merry humour. A brisk and vivacious representative of Sarah is found in Miss Bertha St. Ruth.

The scenes of Dover are an especially realistic feature, and include the Promenade Pier, with the noble old castle in the background; whilst the conservatory of Sir Edward's is most picturesque, and quite a charming artistic achievement.

A DINNER was given on Sunday at the Star and Garter Hotel, Liverpool, to Mr. Fred Holliday, the popular musical director of the Queen's Theatre. In the course of the evening a silver cigarette case, subscribed for by the members of the orchestra, was presented to him by Mr. Fred Arthur, the manager.

MR. EDITOR.—SIR,—Referring to your favourable notice of Mr Edmund Lea's performance in *Shore Acres*, at the Waldorf Theatre, I shall feel obliged if you will state in your next issue the part of Farmer Jago was played by yours faithfully, W. CHEESMAN, Green Room Club, 46, Leicester-square, W.C., May 26.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS MARGARET ILLINGTON.

Miss Margaret Illington, the American actress who made her English *début* on Tuesday, May 22, at the Duke of York's Theatre in *The Lion and the Mouse*, was born nearly twenty-five years ago in Bloomington, Illinois, not far from Chicago. She has been on the stage nearly five years, though not playing constantly. Early determined to earn her own living, she studied at a dramatic school in Chicago for two years, and, at the end of her term, she won the Joseph Jefferson diamond medal for her proficiency and success in Shakespeare. She came to New York to seek an engagement, and applied directly to Daniel Frohman, the manager of a splendid stock company—a company which produced plays by Pinero, Jones, Grundy, Jerome, and other English as well as American writers. She was given a small part—the French maid—in Grundy's *Frocks and Frills*. Afterwards she appeared in the part of a gipsy in *The Pride of Jennico*, a dramatisation of Egerton Castle's novel. She was soon promoted to the second rôle, and afterwards the leading part. Her next engagement was with E. H. Sothern, with whom she played in McCarthy's *If I were King*, made popular here by George Alexander at the St. James's Theatre. In this play she appeared as the Abbess, and afterwards as the Princess, playing nearly two seasons with Mr. Sothern.

On the production of *A Japanese Nightingale* in

Photo. by Fowler.

MISS MARGARET ILLINGTON.

New York, a drama based on the novel of that name, she was engaged for the leading rôle—that of a Japanese girl. Her success in this part was so gratifying that she was "starred" in the piece subsequently At the conclusion of its season, she decided not to travel, and remained in New York city, appearing in special parts in local productions. She created the leading part last season in Pinero's *Wife Without a Smile*, and her success in the rôle was so complete that she was selected by Augustus Thomas, the well-known author, to play the comedy rôle, Mrs. Leffingwell, in *Mrs. Leffingwell's Boots*, during its long New York season, under Charles Frohman's management.

She has also appeared in the States in her present rôle in *The Lion and the Mouse*.

Miss Illington a little over two years ago became the wife of her first manager, Mr. Daniel Frohman.

Miss Illington as an actress has not only temperament, but art. She has a pulsating, vibrant, emotional quality, which in great moments stirs and arouses an audience, and, from the occasional touches of comedy in her part in the present play, she is doubtless a clever comedienne as well.

"FANNIKIN."

A Musical Comedy in a Nutshell.
Book and Lyrics by H. F. Maltby, Music by Katherine Barry and H. F. Maltby,
Dances Arranged by Mr. Wyn Weaver.
First Performed on any Stage at the Pier Pavilion, Hastings, on May 24.

Hon. Harcourt Herrington ....MR. WYN WEAVER
Archibald Thwaites .....MR. H. F. MALTBY
Otto .....MR. ERNEST NOBLE
Fannikin .....MISS MARA MALTBY

The scene opens in the grounds of the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Bathtown, of which Archibald Thwaites is the proprietor. The plot mostly revolves round the Hon. Harcourt Herrington, who has held somewhere abroad the position of a diplomatist, but, being so clever, he was thought too intelligent for the post. Taking Thwaites into his confidence, Herrington tells him that he is in an awful stew—a state of things most agreeably illustrated in a capitally-sustained song and dance—and that he is engaged to a lady now about twenty-one years of age, whom he has not met for seven years, not, in fact, since she was a schoolgirl of fourteen. He now boasts of a moustache, a fact which makes him afraid that she will not recognise him. In their more juvenile days her pet name for him was Pansy, whilst his for her was Fannikin. This charmer eventually arrives at the hotel, and sings a song entitled "When I was about fourteen." Her fiancé, Herrington, fails to recognise her, but whilst waiting for someone to introduce them falls desperately in love with her. He nevertheless realises his difficult position, as Fannikin seven years ago was engaged to him, and now an apparent stranger has taken possession of his heart. During her absence Herrington speaks to the confiding Thwaites of his hopes and fears; but the period of doubt and difficulty ends upon Fannikin's reappearance, minus hat, and with her hair hanging down her back. Herrington at once recognises his old sweetheart. He is terribly afraid that his moustache will spoil matters, but this fear is dispelled, and Thwaites anticipates a wedding breakfast from the engaged pair, but in this he is doomed to disappointment. They have come only for the waters, a piece of news that is capitally told in the harmonised quartette called "The Hydropathic Cure."

The plot is thin and in some parts forced, but the lines are in many cases smartly written. Other musical numbers which are introduced are a trio and a dance by the three comedians, which find great favour. Fannikin and the Hon. Harcourt have also a brightly-sung duet, "May I say 'Yes'? You may."

Mr. Wyn Weaver admirably delineated the Hon. Harcourt Herrington; as the hotel proprietor, Archibald Thwaites, Mr. H. F. Maltby was quite at home; Otto as the foreign Englishman could not be in better hands than those of Mr. Ernest Noble; and Miss Mara Maltby was a graceful and pleasing representative of Fannikin.

"THE SCARLET CLUE."

A New Drama, in Four Acts,
by St. Bernard Wyntour,
Produced for the First Time in London, at the Grand Theatre, on Monday, May 28.

Michael Stanton .....MR. GEORGE GORDON
Harry Esmond .....
Jack Esmond .....} MR. J. LEIGHTON LEIGH
Jack Croker .....MR. J. CAMPLING
Sir Desmond Lisle .....MR. JACK CLARENCE
Billy the Rotter .....MR. VICTOR T. RAYMOND
Crazy Jim .....MR. J. TOMLINSON
Cockney Evans .....MR. EDGAR BRUCE
P.C. 96 .....MR. J. MAGRATH
Johnson .....MR. REYNOLDS
A Fireman .....MR. PETER PARSONS
Reggie Carstairs .....LITTLE PHILLIS MASSEY
Elsie Dane .....MISS LIZZIE PALMER
Mother Scrooge .....MISS KATHLEEN CRANSTON
Miss Tabitha Esmond..MISS LOTTIE WENTWORTH
Mary Smith .....MISS MOWBRAY
Musette .....MISS ESTHER DEAN
Little Polly .....LITTLE NELLIE
Sal Scarlet .....MISS GRACE WARNER

The Scarlet Clue, which was produced at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, on March 30, 1905, is frankly sensational, as its title would lead one to suppose, with sharp contrasts of character, and a story strongly impregnated with vice and crime of the most lurid kind. The leading character is Sal Scarlet, better known as Scarlet Sal, and the mistress of Michael Stanton, a gentleman who lives in luxuriously-furnished chambers in Warwick Mansions, and gets a living by card-sharping and in other dubious ways. One of the victims of "Flash Mike" is young Harry Esmond, who, hoping to recover recent losses at gambling, robs his maiden aunt, at whose house he resides, with his twin brother, Jack. Revisiting Stanton's rooms, and playing for high stakes, he again loses, and leaves the house without a penny, vowing vengeance against the man who has ruined him. Elsie Dane, a Sister of Mercy, who has been exposed to the odious attentions of Stanton, pays a visit to a house in Houndsditch, where Scarlet Sal lodges with an old hag called Mother Scrooge, to offer her services as nurse to Sal's sick child; but Stanton declares that the young woman has followed him there. This excites the jealous rage of Sal, who is only prevented from doing Elsie Dane serious injury by the entrance of Harry Esmond. He in turn is savagely attacked, and, at the instigation of Stanton, Sal stabs him to the heart. The crime is witnessed from an open window by Crazy Jim, a waif, who, it appears, has been driven to the verge of madness by directions of his uncle, Michael Stanton. The youth's property has not only been fraudulently seized by the villain, but on Jim's bare breast is an ugly-looking red weal, caused by a savage cut from Mike's whip. Sal wears, according to her usual custom, a red gown, and when the murder of young Esmond is committed, Jim manages to secure a strip of the dress and get away with it. At the same time he bears the unconscious Elsie to the residence of Miss Tabitha Esmond, and she and her nephew Jack learn of the murder of Harry. Discovering that she has been robbed of £1,000, his aunt accuses Jack of the crime, which he, to shield the memory of his dead brother, admits, and is banished the house. Crazy Jim entrusts him with the scarlet clue, and Jack, disguised as a Jew old-clothes man, obtains the torn dress from Sal; but she and Stanton then take their departure for Monte Carlo, the woman assuming the name of Madame Lune. A series of sensational events occur at the Hotel Splendide, Monte Carlo, Stanton adding to his crimes by the murder of his accomplice, Jack Croker. Mike is denounced by Sal as a sneak and a coward, and after Elsie Dane has had another narrow escape of falling a victim to her jealous hate, the play closes with a sensational fire scene, and the death of Sal after rescuing her child from the flames.

In the leading character of Sal Scarlet Miss Grace Warner presents a clever study of a woman whose bringing-up and vicious surroundings have made her what she is. Sal's love for the villain Michael Stanton, and the fierce jealousy which his attentions to another woman excite, are expressed with much power. Scarlet Sal, as depicted by Miss Warner, is a desperate, dram-drinking, vicious creature, who, however, has not quite lost the natural instincts of the mother. In the thieves' kitchen scene, in the first act, Miss Warner gives an excellent rendering of the convivial song, "Woman and Wine," which on Monday was greeted with much applause Michael Stanton belongs to the gentlemanly type of villain—good-looking, always well groomed, and suave of manner; but ever ready for a desperate deed. This man, known amongst his associates as Flash Mike, has an admirable representative in Mr. George Gordon, who succeeds in showing that the gentlemanly exterior and the quiet, easy manner, conceals an evil nature that has not even its redeeming feature in the shape of pluck; for Flash Mike, like most bullies of his type, is a coward at heart. Upon Mr. J. Leighton Leigh devolves the task of impersonating the twin brothers, appearing first as the reckless young gambler, Harry Esmond, and, after his murder, as Jack, who is remarkably like his dead brother in form and feature, but a complete contrast to him in disposition. Mr. Leigh proves quite equal to the work assigned him, cleverly distinguishing the characteristics of the twin brothers, and meeting with success all through. Mr. J. Campling is good as Jack Croker, who, because of Stanton's knowledge of his past life, finds himself compelled to obey the villain's orders. Mr. J. Tomlinson gives an impressive embodiment of Crazy Jim, the victim of Stanton's brutality. Mr. Jack Clarence ably represents Sir Desmond Lisle; and Mr. Edgar Bruce graphically depicts Cockney Evans. Mr. Victor T. Raymond puts much vigour into his representation of Billy the Rotter, a burglar who beguiles his leisure moments by singing songs. These include "Then he shifted lower down," "A pal of mine," and "Hello, little girl," in which he is assisted by the Misses Dean, Massey and Little Nellie. Miss Lizzie Palmer makes good use of her opportunities as Elsie Dane, the kind-hearted Sister of Mercy, who innocently excites Sal's jealousy. Miss Lottie Wentworth plays naturally and effectively as Miss Tabitha Esmond, aunt to the twin brothers; Miss Esther Dean is a lively representative of Musette, Sal's French maid; and Miss Mowbray is well-placed as Mary Smith, a maid-servant. Miss Kathleen Cranston scores as the repulsive old hag, Mother Scrooge; Little Phillis Massey is a smart Reggie Carstairs, an Eton boy; and Little Nellie wins sympathy as Sal's child, a flower-girl, cruelly treated by Mother Scrooge. In minor rôles commendable work is done by Messrs. J. Magrath, Peter Parsons, and Reynolds.

"THE MARRIAGE TRAP," a new four-act romantic drama, by Myles Wallerton, will be produced at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, on Monday.

MISS ELLEN TERRY and the company playing *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*, at the Court Theatre, paid a highly-sucessful visit to Brighton on the afternoon of the 24th ult. Miss Terry's part for that evening was played by Miss Madge McIntosh.

"OTHELLO," at the Lyric Theatre, is such a pronounced success that Mr. Lewis Waller and Mr. H. B. Irving announce two extra matinées for Tuesday and Thursday next.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. ALEX. ALEXANDER.

Mr. Alex. Alexander was originally intended for a lithographic artist, his apprenticeship being served with Mackenzie and Co., theatrical printers, of Glasgow, portrait work being his speciality. But having a strong inclination for the stage, his first appearance was in *The Span of Life*, under the stage-management of Mr. Allen Thomas, understudying Mr. Thomas's part, Joshua Gurnet, which he had an opportunity of playing for four weeks; and, considering it was a first attempt, was very successful. Then followed a series of "fit-up" tours with the Alexander Dramatic Company, Mr. Alexander playing such parts as Nick Vedder in *Rip Van Winkle*, De Cou-Cou in *The Grip of Iron*, Crispin St. Jones in *Master and Man*, George Peyton in *The Octoroon*, Mark Livingstone in *The Streets of London*, the swell in *My Sweetheart*, Paul Judson in *The Power of Gold*, Lucien Cortier in *The Face at the Window*, Tom Cooper in *The Shadows of a Great City*, Louis Muscarot in *The King of Crime*, the Rev. Nathaniel Hope and Old Joe in *In The Shadow of Night*, &c. A stock season with Mr. T. Morton Powell, juvenile business, was followed by a tour of forty weeks with Mr. Horace Stanley as Seth Coombes in *The 10.30 Down Express*. His recent engagements have been:—February, 1904, was engaged by Mr. Henry Bedford for the Rev. Francis Harvey in *Gipsy Jack* and Sandy Macpherson in *Mafeking*, a summer tour with Miss Winifred

Photo. by Langfier.

MR. ALEX. ALEXANDER.

Maud, juvenile lead in *The Sins of a City*. Mr. Alexander was re-engaged for the autumn tour, heavy lead in *Gipsy Jack* and juvenile lead in *Mafeking*; appearing also as Capt. Molineaux in *The Shaughraun*. He created heavy lead in Arthur Shirley and Henry Bedford's play *The Straight Game*. Mr. Alexander, under Mr. Bedford's stage-management, excellent tuition, and example has gained invaluable experience. He is now on tour playing the heavy lead in Arthur Shirley and Henry Bedford's successful drama *The See-Saw of Life*, and Gerald Skinner in *Gipsy Jack*.

"OLIVER CROMWELL."

An Historical Drama, in Five Acts, by John SUMMERS. London: The International Copyright Bureau, Ltd., 34, Norfolk-street, Strand.

Mr. John Summers's five-act drama, written in blank verse, gives the history of the Commonwealth until the accession of Charles II. The play is written in a plain, unaffected style, without any attempt at fine writing, and might indeed serve the purposes of a poetical school history for the period of the eleven eventful years, beginning 1649 and ending 1660.

The play opens with a discussion between Sir Harry Vane, Sir Thomas Fairfax Marten, and Oliver Cromwell, who expresses himself in favour of the dissolution of Parliament; but his proposal finds no support from the other members of the party. After Oliver's departure, Sir Matthew Hale, who has joined the others, complains that Cromwell has taken upon himself too much of late, but admits that their thanks are more due to him than to any of them for what he has done in their cause.

The first scene of the second act is the Council Chamber, where Cromwell makes a bitter attack upon Parliament, alleging that it has done nothing but promise all along, while home affairs are almost at a deadlock, and there is no excuse for it all. Sir Harry Vane speaks warmly in defence of Parliament, attributing to the war the retardment of business. At the mention of the word "progress," Cromwell exclaims: "What of the progress now, when nothing's done?" Vane: "We make it by divisions." Cromwell: "Ay, divisions! Fifteen divisions on a petty bill! And thus the time is frittered all away." This quotation may be regarded as peculiarly appropriate at a time when a proposal to amend the present system of taking divisions in the House of Commons is under discussion

Cromwell takes a firm stand, exclaiming:—

Well, gentlemen, I will have done with you
Till in the Parliament we meet together,
When, bear in mind, I'll prosecute my purpose,
And take strong measures to attain it, too.
I will exhaust all means I can conceive
To bring the present Parliament to end.
Keep to your line, and I will keep to mine,
And stand both to my promise and my ground.

The famous historical scene, where Cromwell calls in a number of musketeers and dissolves Parliament, compelling Mr. Speaker to quit his seat, is introduced in the third act. Sir Harry Vane, who has all along shown strong opposition to Cromwell and his policy, cries:—

This outrage is beyond all precedents,
All sense and reason, and all toleration.
No action of the late beheaded King
Went half so far as this ungallant act.
What! have we slain a king for despotism
To suffer one of our own commoners
To play the tyrant with us in his stead?
It shall be answered, yea, and acted on;
But since we can do nothing here and now,
Come, let's away.

Cromwell is duly proclaimed Lord Protector of the Commonwealth, and in the last act we see the great leader on his death-bed. A storm is raging without; and ere Cromwell draws his last breath, he nominates his son Richard to succeed him as Lord Protector

The drama concludes with a spectacular scene, showing the arrival of King Charles II. at Whitehall, the Royal procession being received with the joyful ringing of bells and the shouts of the populace. The characters in the play include Prince Rupert and other distinguished members of the Royalist party. A mild form of comedy is introduced by the courting of a handsome Puritan maid by two young men who are rivals for her hand.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAS LEBENSFEST,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by Ernst Roessler,
Produced at the Lessing May 26.

Landsberg .....HERR GODAI
Von Landsberg .....HERR MORA
Ziehmann .....HERR BERNAUER
Dahlke .....HERR LEHNDORF
Bachte .....HERR DAPPER
Von Dellar .....HERR MUHLBERG
Centa .....FRAULEIN MAYER
Rosa .....FRAULEIN KLAUS
Schorner .....HERR MEINHARD
Lulu .....FRAULEIN LANGE
Roderich .....HERR FISCHER
Marina .....FRAULEIN GERNOD
Wirthin .....FRAULEIN PETERS
Gerichtsvollzieher .....HERR HOFFMANN
Chauffeur .....HERR WAGNER
Brieftraeger .....HERR SCHULTZ
Borowsky .....HERR TUCHER

BERLIN, THURSDAY, MAY 31.—The newest play presented to us by our Viennese guests met with a very cordial reception. It is more of a farce than a comedy, its characters all verging on caricature, but it is possibly intended as a satire upon the hyper-"modern" Bohemian life, as we are led to believe exists in Munich and Bavarian artist circles. With the exception of a few drawn-out scenes—which should be shortened—and some exaggerations of language—which might be omitted with advantage—the piece is entertaining and amusing, as the frequent applause and calls for the author proved. The painter, Richard Landsberg, who has dropped his proper prefix of "von," is in love with a fellow-artist named Centa, who for some occult reason will have none of him, either platonically or matrimonially. Yet we know she loves him all the time in secret, and her indignation when Landsberg engages himself to another is therefore quite unjustified. Properly speaking, however, the young man was caught in a weak moment by the elderly daughter of a Berlin magnate, who is as eager to bestow his daughter's hand upon anyone as she herself is. Fräulein Lulu has not been successful with the men in her native city, so she is fishing in Bavarian waters, and Landsberg proved the victim. He fights against his fate with might and main, and during the banquet with which the betrothal is being celebrated he shakes off his fetters. His heart belongs to Centa, and life-long separation from her is too great a price to pay for a thoughtless kiss. So Lulu goes a-fishing again, and finds another artist willing to take her, and after the danger of losing her lover is over Centa confesses her affection for him, her words on this occasion being more spontaneous and hearty than refined. We are, however, in Munich art circles, and must not be squeamish. The padding of this thin plot is amusing, if coarse at times, and the acting was particularly bright. Herr Hans Fischer was so smartly humorous that all his old admirers here regretted more than ever his removal from our midst. This clever actor was for many years a member of the Deutsches company. Excellent renderings, too, were those of Fräulein Lange and Herr Meinhard, one of the directors of the company.

THE summer opera season at Krolls—the new Royal Opera—is doing well in both a business and artistic sense. Herr Hofrat Koebke is the director again this year, and he has got together a thoroughly good all-round company with a star or two into the bargain. Herr Koebke has been very fortunate in gaining the services of Dr. Kunwald (of Frankfort), who has the musical management, and who proved himself to be a conductor of unusual skill at the recent Philharmonic concerts. Ambitious works are not attempted at this theatre, neither are they desired, the public during the summer months being quite satisfied with the lightest of opera. Blech's musical work, *Alpenkönig und Menschenfeind*, has given place this week to Verdi's *Maskenball* and Suppé's *Boccaccio*, the former being the better interpreted. Herr Werner Alberti sang the part of Manrico in *Il Trovatore* on Sunday, earning much applause. *Der Fledermaus*, Strauss's merry little opera, is announced for Saturday evening.

IN connection with the Grand Review—always more or less a public holiday here—a performance of Lortzing's opera, *Der Waffenschmied* ("The Armour-bearer"), will take place at the Royal Opera. This has been specially selected by the Kaiser, who will be present with the Kaiserin, the Crown Prince, and a number of distinguished guests. It is so-called "théâtre paré"—a modification of the gala nights of still more important occasions.

HAUPTMANN'S fantastic play *Und Pippa tanzt* has now been produced at Vienna and Hamburg. In neither city has the success been anything like equal to that obtained by the work here.

OUR most enterprising East-End theatre, the Carl Weiss, changes its bill with astonishing rapidity, pandering to the taste of every portion of its audience. The latest piece is one calculated to wring the heart-strings of an emotional spectator, and its reception was one bordering on the enthusiastic. The title is *Der Weg des Märtyrers*, the author is Horst Rolf, who has drawn his five-act play from a novel by Konrad Remling. A few words will suffice for a sketch of the plot. Erich Steinert, a business man, is wrongfully accused of defraudations; the evidence is against him, he cannot prove his innocence and is sentenced to penal servitude. On coming out of prison he endeavours to hide his disgrace by removing to another town, but a so-called former friend levies blackmail. Not all the devotion of Steinert's noble wife can console the persecuted man, who, driven to desperation, shoots the blackmailer and is again sentenced. His final act is to take his own life. The play is skilfully written, and, being adequately acted, will certainly attract good audiences for some time.

OSCAR WILDE'S play *Ein idealer Gatte* is occupying the boards of the Kleines Theatre to the exclusion of all else, and judging from appearances will continue to do so. The Lord Goring of Herr Harry Walden is a good piece of acting, the only one in the cast to which no exception can be taken. All the remaining rôles are unsatisfactorily rendered; while the "ensemble" conveys anything but the right impression of London society.

AT the Schiller O. Wilbrand's comedy *Jugendliebe* has been revived with best possible results. It is but little known, and undeservedly so, its pleasant dialogue and harmless humour being really refreshing. The plot is a kind of modern "taming of the shrew," the shrew being a spoiled child of fortune. Both acting and mounting were capital. The laughable farce, *Dienstboten*, by the ever-popular Benedix, concluded a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and a large audience testified its appreciation by much applause and frequent calls for artists and manager.

DAS NEUE SCHAUSPIELHAUS, the handsome new theatre in Nollendorf Platz, W., is making enormous strides towards completion. Director Hahn has now definitely decided to open the New Schauspielhaus with Shakespeare's play, *The Tempest*. The costumes—which are exceedingly beautiful—have been specially designed by Professor Leffler, and are to be exhibited at Vienna during the summer. Professor Humperdinck is writing the incidental music.

LELIAR'S operetta, *Die lustige Witwe*, is being attended with so much success at the Berliner that the season of the Hamburg Company will be prolonged until the middle of June. Other novelties that were planned will have to be discarded in favour of this popular work.

THE Royal Opera and Royal Schauspielhaus close on June 14 and 17 respectively for the summer holidays. The Opera House will reopen on Aug. 15, the Schauspielhaus three days later.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

Mr. Mulholland announces the present week's entertainment as a bold experiment, and it certainly is a decided innovation. Whether it will be altogether welcomed by the regular patrons of the King's, who are for the most part firm adherents of musical comedy, is open to question, and it would be interesting to know if the results are as satisfactory as anticipated by the management. Of course, no fault can be found with the entertainment, we only speak as to its fitness for an important theatre. Poole's Myriorama is in the nature of an education, taking us all over the world, and giving pictorial and instructive glimpses of places of which we hear, but very rarely see. The old-fashioned panorama is not improved by the introduction of the modern animated pictures, but they seem to intrude everywhere nowadays. The pictorial representations of the different countries of the globe, together with "Trafalgar, 1805," and "Japan Sea, 1905," are very creditably realised. At various times in the evening various artists appear, all of whom give satisfaction, namely, Miss Daisy Graham, with her trained birds and dog; Little Doretta, vocalist and dance artist; Mr. Harry Stewart, an exceedingly clever protean artist; the Avondale quartette, with some excellent part songs; Miss Kitty Woodford, who introduces the latest American illustrated songs, and possesses a comical canine orchestra and chorus; and Messrs. Leonard and Mac, eccentrics. The guides, Messrs. William Stewart and Alfred Leonard, ably describe the pictures and events.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, May 28,
the Romance, in Four Acts, entitled
"MARY STUART, QUEEN OF SCOTS."

The engagement for the present week of Mrs. Brown Potter in the romantic story of the unfortunate Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, is crowding the Holloway Theatre, and the audiences have reason to be well pleased with the powerful acting and elaborate scenery. A heavy responsibility rests upon the shoulders of Mrs. Brown Potter, whose study of the unhappy Queen is forcible without being overdrawn, and sympathetic without being too sentimental. Her performance elicits the warmest and heartiest applause, especially in her strong scene in the last act, where she discovers the treachery of her brother, in whom she had placed her entire confidence. Mrs. Brown Potter is ably supported by Mr. Edward Sorley, who gives an excellent embodiment of the treacherous Lord James Stuart. Mr. Alec Frazer is also conspicuous for a capital study of Lord Darnley; and Mr. Godfrey Tearle is good as the Earl of Bothwell. Mr. George Ide furnishes a realistic impersonation of the bluff Earl of Huntley; and in the minor parts of Lord George Gordon, Sir John Findlater, and Sir Adam Gordon, Messrs. Frank Drane, Edmund Barker, and Master Robert Alliston are well placed. Mr. C. Croken-King gives a successful assumption of Lord Ruthven, and Mr. John Cabourn is to be commended for his Mr. Secretary Maitland. Mr. Frank Dunn, who represents David Rizzio, renders his song in Scene II. of Act III. in capital style. Miss Vera Carfax is well placed as the Countess of Argyle; Miss Thalma Archer, Miss Dora Maitland, Miss Kate Worth, Miss Lilian Tweed, and Miss Sarah de Groot are all capable in minor parts, Miss Kate Worth gaining a host of admirers for her fascinating old-time dance in Act I. The large audiences that have patronised the theatre during the week have had courteous attention from Mr. J. Murray Herriott.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, May 28,
Shakespeare's Tragedy, in Five Acts, entitled
"OTHELLO."

Mr. Edmund Tearle and Miss Kate Clinton, with a specially-selected company, are, during the present week, delighting large audiences at this theatre with a répertoire of legitimate plays, including *Othello*, *Macbeth*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *The Three Musketeers*. *Othello* was chosen for the opening night, and a well-filled house followed the performance with keen discrimination and testified their interest by loud applause at each fall of the curtain. Mr. Edmund Tearle was seen to great advantage in the title-rôle, to which his fine presence and commanding manner are well suited. Speaking his lines very distinctly, and faithfully portraying the varying moods of love and jealous rage, Mr. Tearle scored a decided success, and was accorded a great reception. Another good performance was given by Mr. Wilson Gunning, who displayed considerable ability in his impersonation of Iago, fully impressing the audience with the sincerity of his acting. Mr. V. O. Crabtree was satisfactory as Cassio; and Mr. Spencer Geach did all that was possible with the part of Roderigo. Mr. John Victor as Montano, Mr. Richard Melton as Antonio, Mr. Saxon Thomas as Gratiano, and Mr. Herbert Tawse as Lodovico were all thoroughly efficient in their respective parts. Brabantio had an excellent representative in Mr. T. W. Benson; and Mr. J. A. Keogh was a dignified Duke of Venice. Miss Esther Tearle acted with quiet feeling and delicate pathos in the part of Desdemona, and acquitted herself with great success. Miss Mary Campbell was excellent as Emilia, favouring the audience in the last scene with an exceptionally fine piece of acting.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, May 28,
the Play entitled
"SAPHO."

This week Miss Annie Bell and company are appearing in a version of Alphonse Daudet's novel, the play having been adapted in this instance by Mr. Birkett Winning. Miss Annie Bell appears as Fanny Legrand, and gives a forcible delineation of the character; Jean Gaussin is capably played by Mr. Pringle Roberts; Jean's uncle, Cesaire, is capitally portrayed by Mr. G. Antley, who is quite amusing in the rôle, and causes many a laugh by his clever acting; little Miss Doris Graham is greatly applauded for her natural acting of Joseph, a turbulent young person; Mr. Oswald Lingard presents a neatly-sketched picture of Father Legrand, a drunken cabman, who is extremely diverting without being in any way objectionable; while Miss Florence Graham is very good as Legrand's wife, Machaume. Paul Dechelette is carefully played by Mr. Laurence Kingsley; and Caoudal is well embodied by Mr. R. A. Greene. There are a few other minor characters, which are suitably filled. The play is adequately staged. Mr. James Bell is the general-manager for the company, and Mr. R. A. Greene is responsible for the stage-management.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Rokove, entitled
"THE WISE MAN."

On Monday evening, Rokove's drama, *The Wise Man*, was played at the Pavilion, and although the action of the piece is often delayed by the superabundance of talk, yet the interest and sympathy of the audience were throughout well maintained, and the efforts made by the members of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company rewarded by an enthusiastic reception. At the same time, due honour must be given to the management for their enterprise in providing good plays with such admirable casts, and with such excellence in effects, scenery, and mounting. The well-known American Yiddish actor, Mr. Natansohn, sustained the character of Alfee, the wise man, and, although somewhat deliberate, gave a performance of sterling merit which was more remarkable for power than subtlety. Mr. Schapira was as satisfactory an Abraham Maibloom as could be wished; and equal praise must be awarded to Mr. J. Scherman for his rendering of Motel. Mr. Schoor gave prominence to the part of Zemach Lamden; and Mr. Gusofsky was spirited and energetic as Brunin. Mr. Schilling, badly made-up, was well suited as Mordchy, and extracted all the fun possible out of the opportunities, and caused roars of laughter whenever he was on the stage. Too much praise cannot be given to Mme. Natansohn for her capital portrayal of Sopia; while an admirable exponent of Chaie is found in Mme. Kayzer. Mme. Goldstein acquitted herself well as Zelde; and Mr. Katz was a competent Rudnik. During the week success has attended the performances of *Ben Hador*, *The Viceroy*, *Mrs. Tartakoff's Revenge*, *Uriel Acosta*, *The Jewish Minister*, *The Emigrants*, and *The Princess as Beggar*, which have been played to large audiences on account of the Jewish holidays.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama, entitled
"THE SAILORS OF THE KING."

This week melodrama again holds the boards at this theatre, and the exciting adventures and hair-breadth escapes of *The Sailors of the King* and their friends, as portrayed by Mr. Charles Harrington's company, have been followed with much interest. As Felicia Phrynne Miss Sylvia Stella submitted a careful and refined rendering of the young heiress, and was notably successful in the dream scene in the third act, and again in the final struggle in the last act. Miss Maud Digby was well suited as the housekeeper, Rebecca Crosby, and skilfully delineated the feline ferocity of the woman culminating in a perfect frenzy of revengeful passion when all seems lost. Miss Gertrude Sterroll gave a touching rendering of Daisy Dent, and easily enlisted the sympathy of the audience with this poor girl's troubles and her brave attempt at reparation. As Penelope Penn Miss Helo Hathaway acted in the vein of true comedy, and was worthy of more opportunity for the display of her talents. Mr. Charles Harrington played Admiral Drake in a quiet, easy style which was very acceptable, and delivered several long speeches with the skill of the practised actor. In the rôle of Orrel Drake Mr. F. V. Travers both looked and acted the character admirably. Mr. Harry Douglas had comparatively little to do as Dick Drake, but played the part in commendably straightforward virile fashion. Mr. Walter Farnsworth submitted a clever character-study of Rufford Dent; Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., was amusing as Barnet Fair; and Mr. Fred Owen was responsible for a good deal of laughter as Harris Wilkinstein. The drama is particularly well staged, the scene showing the deck of H.M.S. Storm being realistic to a degree.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama, in Six Acts, by Charles Reade, entitled
"DRINK."

The estimation in which Mr. Charles Warner is held by playgoers in all parts of the metropolis is being fully proved by the large audiences which have assembled to greet him during the suburban tour on which he is at present engaged. Kennington has this week been given an opportunity of witnessing Mr. Warner's impersonation of Coupeau, in *Drink*, and crowded houses have testified by enthusiastic cheers their admiration of one of the most remarkable portrayals in the gallery of dramatic art. Mr. Warner has achieved distinction in many memorable rôles since he first created the unfortunate hero of Charles Reade's famous adaptation from the French; but his impersonation remains as vivid and as striking as ever. The sunny humour of the part is brought out by Mr. Warner with his customary skill, and the scenes of sentiment with the child are treated as tenderly as of yore. The passion of the part has perhaps grown in intensity with the lapse of years, and the actor's denunciation of his enemies waxes fiercer, while the delirium scene, which perfects the assumption, is still as artistically presented, the haggard face and frenzied appearance of the drunkard, worn out by illness and distraught by pain, being fearfully real. The audience at Kennington has been thrilled again, and the curtain has had to be repeatedly raised, in acknowledgment of the recalls in all parts of the house. Mr. Warner's support is of the strongest, each character being carefully allotted. Miss H. Grœme is well in sympathy with the part of Gervaise, presenting the rôle effectively. Her gentleness and natural grace fit her admirably for the part, and her rendering of the lines has a ring of sincerity which makes a thorough appeal to the hearts of all. Miss Mary Allestree is a prepossessing Virginie; but of her vindictiveness and spite there is no doubt, while the vulgar tone of the character is well caught by clever inflections of the voice. The unscrupulous Lantier is moulded in realistic fashion by Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson, who skilfully assumes the callous nature of the part, and plays with a lightness and *sang-froid* that adds to its effect. The Gouget of Mr. Norman Wrighton is presented in straightforward fashion, and is well varied in expression and gesture. A droll conception of Mes Bottes is furnished by Mr. Alfred Phillips, a comedian of proved ability, who arouses continuous laughter by his droll exposition of the part. A comely Phœbe Sage is found in Miss Frances Day, who enacts the cheery cantatrice with agreeable vivacity and humour. Little Nana possesses all the charm of juvenility as played by Miss Flossie Hale Davies, who speaks prettily, and acts with unusual intelligence and care. Miss Ada Ray gives a good character impersonation as the superintendent of the washhouse; Mr. G. Coutry deserves praise for his impersonation of Bibi; Mr. A. Dubourg is an acceptable landlord of a wine shop; and other characters are adequately rendered by Misses Davies, Somers, and Chambers, and Messrs. Charles Schmidt, Roland Daniel, Routledge, M. A. Smailes, and M. Cartinge.

GRAND, FULHAM.

On Monday, May 28,
the Farce, by G. W. Elton and E. S. Petley, entitled
"THE OTHER MAN'S BUSINESS."

The attraction at the Fulham is a very favourable specimen of its kind. The main idea of the plot lies in the endeavour of a young man to deceive his rich and overbearing uncle by the process of borrowing a tobacconist's shop and passing it off as his own business. Complications ensue from the facts that the owner's leave has not been obtained, and that the police have occasion to execute a raid upon a club held in the room over the shop, and run in the owner, the pseudo-owner, and his uncle at one fell swoop. The piece does not put too violent a strain on one's credulity, but is kept within the bounds of reasonable probability. Mr. Frank Stanmore enacts the deceitful nephew with considerable success. He is not exactly the accomplished and imperturbable stage liar that Mr. Hawtrey is wont to show us; but, still, he lies with great spirit and frequency. Mr. G. W. Anson is well suited with the part of Ratilechip, the uncle. Mr. Anson is an actor of wide experience and established reputation, and his performance as the irascible uncle is delightfully funny. Mr. G. W. Elton is a great success as Horatio Bloggett, a refreshingly slangy and quite incorrigible schoolboy. Mr. Frank E. Petley plays the part of the choleric and jealous Simpson with great energy and success; while Mr. A. Hornby Warburton, as his assistant, Henry Hill, is also very amusing in a quiet way. The representatives of "the force" may also be congratulated on the smart and effective way in which they carry out their raid. Of the ladies, the chief honours go to Miss Lilian Hubbard as Topsy Temple, an exceedingly modern young lady, who brings her elderly lover to book with great skill. Hers is a brightly humorous performance of exceptional merit. As Emma, the Bloggetts' servant, Miss Adie Boyne shows a good sense of humour, and acts cleverly; while the quiet charm of Miss Nina Osborne as Bloggett's wife is in effective contrast to the more plebeian humour of the other characters. Miss G. Price is satisfactory in the small part of Miss Challow. Altogether it is a bright and amusing piece, well written, and ably presented. *The Other Man's Business* is preceded by a sketch by George Sheldon, entitled *Monsieur le Marquis*. It is just a simple little study of a woman's love and a man's nobility, set in the effective framing of the period of the Reign of Terror. In this the parts were satisfactorily taken by Mr. Petley as the Marquis, Mr. E. T. Preston as a Deputy, with Miss G. Price as a Norman fisherwoman, and Miss Hubbard as her daughter.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, May 28,
An Adaptation of Charles Dickens's Novel, entitled
"OLIVER TWIST."

A capital rendering of Charles Dickens's immortal story is to be seen at the Messrs. W. and F. Melville's popular theatre. The novel is very closely followed, and the leading events of the chequered career of the poor little waif, Oliver Twist, are cleverly brought to the footlights. There is only one drawback to *Oliver Twist*, and that is, it possesses no love interest; but this defect is counterbalanced by its many exciting incidents, and its quaint and clear-cut characterisations. Miss Minnie Waller makes a pathetic Oliver, and thoroughly realises the character of the forlorn little orphan, as drawn by the author. Mr. John Nolan causes laughter as the pompous Bumble—the individual who assures us that "the law is a hass." Mr. Leyton Canceller contributes a most powerful character-sketch of the villainous Jew "fence," Fagin, and is especially effective in his dream scene. Mr. Tubby Edlin is so amusing as the young rascal, the Artful Dodger, that his abundant humour almost makes us forget the depravity of the scamp. Bill Sykes is capitally played by Mr. Eric Campbell, who looks the burly ruffian to the life. He does not spare himself in his presentment of the brutal aspect of the character, and his scene where he murders the unfortunate Nancy thrills the house with its realism. Miss Nell Oliver gives an excellent and pathetic representation of the wayward but devoted Nancy, the cockney accent being well maintained. Miss Flora Macdonald is a sweet and interesting Rose Maylie; and Miss Nellie Jackson an amusing Mrs. Bumble. Mr. William Wallace scores well as the eccentric Mr. Grimwig; and the benevolent Mr. Brownlow is well looked after by Mr. Frank Denis. The sneaking Noah Claypole is an effective character-sketch in the competent hands of Mr. Allan Davenport; and Mr. Fred Terriss makes all that is possible out of the character of the gloomy villain Monks.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, May 28,
the Play, in Four Acts, by G. R. Sims, entitled
"FOR LIFE—AND AFTER."

Appreciative audiences have been the rule at Poplar this week, the attraction being a sterling good drama of the Adelphi type, presented by an excellent company, got together by Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer. Marion Grey, the sorely-tried heroine, is ably represented by Miss Grace Heywood, who is especially good in the finale of Act 3, where Marion refuses to give up her child to her husband. Of the daughter, Dora Grey, Miss Muriel Dean presents a winsome and delightful portrait; Miss Marion Fawcett is well placed as Jenny Huggett; and Miss Emily Leslie does good work as Loo Hexham, a trying part. As Mrs. Grimper, Miss Evelyn Shaw causes much amusement; Mr. Vernon Sansbury, a capital Richard Grey, gives a polished performance of the weak-willed man, cursed with the drink craving; Mr. Ernest K. Nelson makes a forbidding and crafty villain of Rube Hexham; and as the surgeon, Gilbert O'Neil, Mr. Arthur E. Melborne can scarcely be bettered. Mr. Henry Hare doubles the parts of Jack and Jim Huggett, both characters being exceedingly well presented; as the old showman, Joe Grimper, Mr. Chris Mason is excessively amusing, and presents a delightful study of the kindly old man. The character of Zeke is in the safe hands of Mr. H. G. Wright. Mr. Stanley Field, Mr. Mayor Cooke, and Mr. H. Munro make three very effective "mysterious musicians," and the smaller parts are all in capable hands.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, May 28,
the Comic Opera, in Three Acts,
by H. B. Farnie and R. Reece,
Composed by R. Planquette, entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

The ever-popular *Les Cloches de Corneville* is this week paying a welcome return visit to the Alexandra. The company which Mr. E. St. Alban has organised for the presentation of the opera is in every way a capable one, and in their hands this delightful work, which has for so many years given pleasure to playgoers, loses none of its attractiveness. Mr. St. Alban himself appears as Gaspard, and gives a finished study of the old miser, his playing in the big scene at the conclusion of the second act reaching a very high level of excellence. Mr. Geo. A. Fox is a handsome and imposing Marquis de Corneville, and bears himself gallantly throughout. The music allotted to the rôle of Grenicheux is admirably rendered by Mr. William Everard; and Miss L. Rhodes is a smart and alert Christophe. To Messrs. Fred Dark and Richard Martin, who appear as the Baillie and Gobo respectively, falls the task of providing the bulk of the humour of the piece, and if the material provided for them be now a little old-fashioned, every credit is due to them for the amount of fun they manage to extract from it. Miss May Bradbury infuses a considerable amount of brightness and vivacity into her impersonation of Serpolette, working with unflagging energy. A dainty and engaging Germaine is found in Miss Marion Ayling, who sings and acts with equal charm. There is a large and useful chorus, the musical arrangements being under the direction of Chevalier Legrand.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, May 28,
the Romantic Play, in Four Acts,
by William P. Sheen, entitled
"THE TEMPTRESS."

Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company is appearing at the Royal County Theatre this week in this stirring play, which, on its production on Monday evening, had a most favourable reception from a well-filled house. Miss Blanche Steele, who plays the title-rôle, gives evidence of dramatic powers of more than ordinary merit; Mr. George D. Daiper makes a capital Philip Welford, thoroughly ingratiating himself into the sympathies of the audience; Mr. Fredk. Ross as Lucas Denbigh is a typical villain; and Mr. W. H. Hallatt wins approval for an earnest and convincing impersonation of the part of Pedro Gonzales. The low comedy of the play is ably sustained by Mr. Tom E. Sinclair as Bob Tanner, and by Mr. Allan Carruthers as Francis Fitz-Fluke. The parts of John Gregory and of Rhoda Brown are ably filled by Mr. Oscar Power and Miss Lizzie Chambers. A clever portrayal of the persecuted Marion Fordyce is given by Miss Mabel Scudamore; and Miss Florence Palmer plays effectively the part of Madge Denbigh.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama, by George R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled
"MASTER AND MAN."

Most effective renderings of the interesting drama *Master and Man* are being given this week at the Dalston Theatre, and are attracting fairly good houses, despite the near approach of the Whitsun holidays. The play is produced under the personal direction of Mr. Harry Esden. Mr. William Mathews plays cleverly as Jack Walton, a young engineer, whose fortunes are allied with Hester Thornbury (a village schoolmistress, who becomes his wife), this character being effectively sustained by Miss Florence Creagh. Robert Carlton, an ironmaster, is capably represented by Mr. Frederick Harker; Humpy Logan is admirably embodied by Mr. Harry J. Crane. "Humpy," thus designated owing to a deformity caused by an accident, is a vindictive creature, who, however, is not proof against the shafts of Cupid, and the way in which Mr. Crane impersonates his varying moods of love and hate proves him to be a capable actor. Mr. Louis Hector as the rugged forgeman Jem Burleigh presents a capital character-sketch; and Mr. Monson Thorpe is amusing as Crispin St. Jones. Mr. Tom Reynolds as Joe Robins is entertaining; Mr. Edward Swinton as Tom Honeywood gives an amusing sketch of a jealous lover; and Miss Daisy Stone does well as Letty Lightfoot.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts,
by Hall Caine, entitled
"THE CHRISTIAN."

Mr. Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company, in Hall Caine's *The Christian*, has been secured by Mr. J. M. East to fill the programme this week. A strong play and an exceptionally good company combine to make a great attraction, full houses being the result. The chief interest of the piece is centred upon, and is most adequately sustained by, Miss Grace Chalmers as Glory Quayle, and Mr. Frank Tennant as the Hon. John Storm. In many stirring scenes wherein the young priest endeavours to persuade Glory that she has adopted the wrong life listeners are much affected, and so much are the efforts of these two appreciated that at the end of each act they are recalled again and again. Polly Love is pathetically played by Miss Vashti Wellborne; Miss Molly Hayden makes a capital Mrs. Callander; as the maidservant Liza Miss Lottie Chesterton is very successful. Mr. Stanleigh Radcliffe acts in a convincing way as Father Lamplugh, his robust lines being excellently delivered, and well deserve the loud applause with which they are greeted. Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood lends distinction to the part of Lord Robert Ure, and makes the character just sufficiently repulsive; Mr. Jackson Wilcox is eminently successful as Horatio Drake; Mr. Wilfred Blumberg, as the young priest Paul, plays effectively; Parson Quayle and Archdeacon Wealthy are well placed in the hands of Mr. Charles Hill and Mr. C. F. Derring; while Mr. Bert Conway and Mr. Oswald Marshall make the most of their opportunities as the Faro King and Mr. Lorimer. Minor characters are quite safe in the hands of Mr. A. E. Kingston, Misses Bella Moody, Dorothy Clifton, Edith Huntley, and May Weir. A word of praise should be given to the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. J. Nurnberger, which very ably supplies the necessary incidental music.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama, Adapted by Arthur Shirley from
"Le Porteur aux Halles," entitled
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN."

Drama always appeals to the patrons of the Lyric, and the successful production of *The Boom of Big Ben* this week is proving no exception to the rule. Perhaps the name of Mr. Harry Scott on the bills as Gilbert Galloway is stirring up the less-frequent visitors; at any rate, the house is being filled each evening with an audience which appreciates his clever acting. One of the finest characters is Captain Joe Galloway, taken by Mr. Fred Powell, who portrays the old salt to the life. The rôle of Henry Siegenbach is given to Mr. Stanley Bedwell, who does full justice to an extremely difficult part. Special praise is due to Miss Mildred Cottell for her clever study of Olive Lorette, a woman of pleasure, the death scene being rendered with decided power. Miss Hilda Baynton makes a charming, yet pathetic, Marjorie Galloway; Mr. Geo. Denham in the part of Marjorie's lover is full of gallantry and spirit; Mr. John Brittian as Tony Prebble evokes much laughter; Miss Nellie Fletcher makes a gentle and winning Judith Galloway, playing with much feeling; Miss Alice Francis and Miss Florrie Palmer as Baby Frill and Lottie Leverett deserve a word of commendation for their useful aid; Dandy Wisk is played with ability by Mr. Harry Agar Lyons; and Messrs. Leonard Howe, George Child, and Henry Villiars, together with Misses Gwynne Spencer and Dorothy Dean, give capable assistance.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, May 28,
the Play, in Five Acts, adapted from
Mrs. Beecher Stowe's Novel, entitled
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

On its return visit to Marylebone Mr. Charles Harrington's company was warmly welcomed at Mr. Bailey's comfortable Church-street house. Uncle Tom finds a most capable exponent in Mr. J. Carr, whose voice, gestures, and methods combine to make the impersonation a most realistic one. Mr. J. H. Renney does exceedingly well as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Stanley Howard enacts Mr. St. Clair with great earnestness; Mr. Leslie Beaufort is impressive as George Harris; and Mr. J. Henry Rogers is vigorously stern as the slave-owner Legree. The pathetic rôle of Little Eva is sustained by Little Minnie in a natural, easy way; Miss Hettie Johnson is refined and gentle as Eliza Harris; Miss Jennie Malcolm is most emphatic as the straight-laced Aunt Ophelia; Miss Zerlina Zerbini is imposing and dignified as Cassy; whilst Miss Annie Watson scores a big success as Topsy by reason of her quaint characteristic utterances. The rest of a long cast all do well, and everything runs with ease and smoothness. Mr. Charles Harrington, jun., is the courteous general-manager.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama, entitled
"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."

The attraction here this week is Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company in the above popular drama. The play is full of exciting incidents, but the chief sensation is the sinking, and the subsequent raising to the surface, of a submarine boat, an episode which is very cleverly managed. Mr. T. Arthur Jones makes a manly and sincere sailor hero as Captain Harold Marston; Mr. Oswald Douglas gives a powerful rendering of the character of the unscrupulous Doctor Colbrooke, whose companions in crime, the Rev. Edward Grey and Kimberley Coutts, are done full justice to by Mr. Clem Horlock and Mr. Robert Sawen. Mr. Charles Sewell gives a good character-sketch of the weak-minded Ernie Wodstone; Mr. Edgar Morgan is amusing as Bob Tanner, and introduces successfully a song and dance; Mr. Bertram Lee also contributes to the comedy of the piece as the old salt Martin; Miss Marie Daventry presents a forcible reading of the wayward but true-hearted heiress, Doreen Rivers; Miss Sara Dudley is vivacious and amusing as Bess Grayson; and Miss Mary Ainslie was excellent as the guardian angel of the heroine Fay Colbrooke.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, May 28,
the Four-Act Comedy, by Stanislaus Stange, entitled
"THE SCHOOL FOR HUSBANDS."

After many years' absence from the metropolis, Miss Jessie Millward reappeared at the Scala Theatre in *The School for Husbands*, a comedy which conjures up visions of Sheridan and Goldsmith, and a hundred romantic plays of the dandy period, and, above all, it treats essentially of "that great duel of sex, that ancient strife, which is the very central fact of life." Miss Jessie Millward as the devoted wife, Lady Manners, whose timely inheritance of a fortune determines her to play Sir John at his own game, and win back his lost love by arousing his jealousy and chagrin, and who betters her instruction in the success which she achieves socially and in domestic rehabilitation, acts with delightful archness and *naïveté*. Her sudden assumption of all the inconsequent gaiety and insincerity of a woman of fashion, and the way she sets everyone by the ears with her woman's wit and resource, are admirably depicted by Miss Millward. Mr. A. Scott Craven as the dissolute, but good-hearted, Sir John Manners, plays the part with just the necessary touch of exaggerated bravado and impetuosity, and puts in many telling little touches of his own. Miss Maud Noel is very charming and lovable as the *ingénue* Clarissa Huntleigh, and acts with a freshness and spontaneity that carry conviction. Mr. Philip Cunningham as the mystic Prince Assam (Nawab of Calicut), with his constant rapturous invocation of Allah, invests the part with a certain subtlety, and makes it not only amusing, but characteristic. Miss Mona K. Oram does well as the fashionable widow lady, Airish, whose pride of coquetry experiences such a bad fall, and she hits off very cleverly the idiosyncrasies of the spiteful, backbiting devotee of fashion. Mr. T. Wigney Percival is intensely funny as the self-sufficient, over-weeningly conceited Lord Foppington (the glass of fashion and the mould of form), whose inordinate vanity places him in such dire straits. Miss Emma Chambers and Miss Maud Leslie as gossiping women of fashion, whose names speak for themselves, do good service as Lady Speakill and Lady Tattle; little Hazel Weeks is funny in dumb-show as my lady's Ethiopian page, Jocks; and Mr. J. T. Manning as Lord Drinkwell and Mr. A. E. Greeraway as the staunch and loyal friend of Lady Manners, Captain Lovel of the Royal Guards, are well-in the picture. The part of Betty, the maid, is satisfactorily played by Miss Maud Abbott; and Messrs. Cyril Wolsely, Albert Goddard, and Stephen Woodward enact minor rôles. The piece was very well received, and should have some success "on the road."

THE CARLTON, GREENWICH.

On Monday, May 28,
The Drama, in Three Acts and a Prologue, entitled
"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."

In this interesting piece Mr. Edward Neville appears with considerable success as Prince Lucio Rimanez, and is supported by a good company, who all do their very best, and with excellent results, to make the play a success. Mr. W. H. Wilson gives an admirable interpretation of the character of Geoffrey Tempest; Mr. J. Le Fleming is very good as the Earl of Elton; Mr. J. Nelson Turner is a clever and amusing Morris; Mr. R. Hope is excellent as Amiel; and Mr. Cumming is well suited to the character of Mr. Bentham. Miss Rosie Neville is a bright and charming Mavis Clare; Miss Lina Chesney makes a typical American heiress; and Miss C. Byrne is capital as the lodging-house keeper, Mrs. Grimbes. Miss Flora Leslie gives an attractive and powerful representation of Lady Sybil Elton; Mr. Gus Bowerman is good as Lord Lynton. *The Anarchist Terror*, played by the same company, was billed for Friday.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, May 28,
the Play, in Five Acts, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

Miss Lilian Dundas is paying a very welcome return visit, and is, as usual, winning golden opinions for her artistic and powerful rendition of the rôle of Lady Isabel. Miss Dundas is an altogether admirable representative of Mrs. Henry Wood's popular but most unhappy heroine. Miss Leslie Dane is an attractive and clever Barbara Hare; Miss Esther Carthew is an amusing Corney Carlyle; Miss Florence Melville is well-placed as the faithful Joyce; Miss Sara Alleyn is a bright and vivacious Suzanne; Miss Lilian Adelle is a pleasing Affy Halijohn; and Miss Jessie Goodman is all that can be desired as Wilson. Little Mabel May plays very naturally and prettily as Willie Carlyle; and the same may be said of Little Jessie Goodchild as little Isabel. The Captain Francis Levison of Mr. Hamilton is an artistic and finished portrait; in this kind of part Mr. Hamilton Stewart has few equals. Mr. Trueman Towers is very good as the hot-tempered Justice Hare; and the Lawyer Dill of Mr. Arthur G. Brown is excellent. Mr. Adam Alexander is a dignified and imposing Lord Mountsevern; Mr. James Jarritt does all that is possible with Richard Hare; as Archibald Carlyle Mr. George Mitchell is manly and earnest; the remaining male parts are in competent hands.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The chamber concert given by the students of the Royal College on Friday, May 25, began with Tschaikowsky's Quartet for strings, in E flat minor, the third movement, Andante Funebre, being the most successful effort of the young performers. The executants were Mr. Arthur Beckwith, Mr. William Armstrong, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Charles Warwick-Evans. Miss Daisy Turner sang two songs of Albert Mallinson, "O, thank me not" and "Eleanore"; but the music did not do justice to her evident ability as a vocalist. Of the two songs, "Eleanore" was the best. In Clementi's delightful Sonata in E flat, for the piano, Miss Lucy Polgreen was entirely successful in her rendering of the work by the fine old master. Miss Polgreen at the close was heartily greeted by the audience. Mr. B. Merlin Davies sang two songs, "Neugierige" and "Ungeduld," by Schubert, in an artistic manner; and Miss Beatrice Jones and Miss Winifred Gardiner bravely attacked R. Strauss's Sonata for violoncello and piano, producing a full, rich tone, and fairly-successful execution, considering the difficulties of the work. "Home" and "I love the jocund dance," by Walford Davies, sung by Miss Theresa Lightfoot, and the organ solo, Toccata and Fugue in D minor, by J. S. Bach, played by Mr. Stanley G. Stubbs, concluded the concert. Miss Clara Smith and Mr. Harold Howell acted as accompanists

A determined attack upon the matinée hat has been organised by a Paris newspaper, which on Friday arranged a plebiscite among playgoers. Audiences at the principal theatres were invited to answer the three following questions: "1. Are you in favour of maintaining the *status quo*—that is to say, the large hat at theatres? 2. Do you prefer the small hat? 3. Are you in favour of the complete suppression of the hat?" We await the issue breathlessly.

ACTORS' DAY.

INDEPENDENCE FROM CHARITY.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

It is a very commendable enterprise to which the Council of the Actors' Association are now giving their attention. To set apart one day in the year as an Actors' Day, a day on which actors and actresses shall give their services free, authors waive their fees, and managers give their total receipts, not merely in the cause of Sweet Charity, but in the sounder and less humiliating cause of independence, is of course an ambitious undertaking; but it is not an impossible undertaking. Looked at from the point of view of mere sentiment, the scheme is a noble one; looked at from the point of view, as the Americans say, of a business proposition, it is a scheme that no member of the profession should hesitate to support; while looked at through the spectacles of commonsense, it is wholly admirable.

And the scheme, so far as it has already been formulated, is simplicity itself—"that in every theatre in the United Kingdom, on one night in every year, actors should combine to make provision for their Funds and Charities." You give up your salary for one night. You give it up for your own benefit, if need be, for, having given your services in the manner indicated, you can claim as your right, and not as charity, in the event of misfortune overtaking you, some share of what you have yourself helped to accumulate. There will be no question of the amount of your salary becoming known to anyone connected with the management of the Actors' Day Fund, for only the total receipts of the night's performance will be sent to the London offices, the sum total alone of all contributions being made public. The sums of money sent from each theatre will be known to the trustees only, and no details of individual salaries will be furnished. And those who do not happen to be playing on Actors' Day can, if they are in a position to do so, send a proportionate contribution to the trustees, and secrecy will be maintained as to the amounts forwarded.

The precise manner in which the Fund is to be administered can only be decided at a mass meeting of members of the profession, which it is intended shall be held when affairs in the preliminary organisation of Actors' Day have progressed sufficiently. As it is, some fourteen hundred actors, actresses, authors, touring and resident managers, have signified their approval of the proposals of the committee of the A.A., and have expressed their willingness to co-operate towards the desired end. The organising committee, appointed by the A.A., consists of Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater, Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, and Mr. Brandon Thomas, all of whom are at present devoting themselves strenuously to the work in hand. But, conscientious and whole-hearted as these gentlemen are in what cannot but be regarded in their case as a labour of love, it must not be presumed that they can do everything. They ask that brother and sister artists shall lend a helping hand. Who will volunteer to assist in the distribution of the booklets containing the early proposals as to the establishment of Actors' Day? We trust there will be a good response, and here it may be mentioned that all communications respecting the Fund should be addressed—The Organising Committee, Actors' Day, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C..

In the gentlemen who have undertaken to act as trustees, several branches of the profession are represented—actors and managers in Sir Squire Bancroft, authors in Mr. George R. Sims, and the legal aspect of affairs in Sir George Lewis. The fact that Sir Squire Bancroft is a retired actor-manager, and that he would therefore be a thoroughly disinterested party in matters of doubt that might arise in the management of the Fund, makes him particularly well qualified to sit in impartial judgment in the disposition of what will undoubtedly be an enormous sum of money.

It cannot be too strongly pointed out that, when Actors' Day becomes a permanent institution, the revenue available will be more than sufficient not only to meet, and meet generously, all emergency claims from actors and actresses who are in immediate want, but to provide pensions for those who have had their names regularly registered in the books of the Fund. It is impossible to precisely detail how the annual income resulting from Actors' Day will be distributed; but it may be taken for granted that the existing theatrical funds will not be left out of the reckoning, and, according to their respective requirements, these institutions, which have done such good work in the past, will undoubtedly receive favourable treatment under the new scheme.

There is an old saying about help being afforded those who help themselves. The truth of the saying has been illustrated in practical form over and over again in the life-stories of thousands of men and women, and it will unquestionably be illustrated, perhaps to a greater extent than you imagine, if not in your own case, in the case of brother and sister players who have recognised the wisdom of making what is really the insignificant sacrifice—considering the ulterior object, it is scarcely right to use the word sacrifice—involved by this admirable scheme of insurance against the vicissitudes of life. The dramatic profession is undeniably to many of its disciples an exceedingly precarious means of livelihood and, that being so, it is all the more necessary to take precautions well in advance, so that should a dark cloud make its unpleasant advent you will feel secure in the knowledge that at any rate it has something in the nature of a silver, if, indeed, not a golden, lining.

Let it be understood that what we have here set down partakes not of the character of an appeal for charity. You are invited to enter into a kind of insurance scheme, the yearly premiums attached to which are ridiculously small, and the benefits to be gained exceedingly great. And you have the pleasurable satisfaction of knowing that you are not begging or even accepting the charity of the public, but are making provision for the future in the honourable and dignified way in which the self-respecting members of a self-respecting profession can only take delight in doing. The institution of Actors' Day will be a goodly Fellowship of Players—a Fellowship which bears its own burdens, and proudly asserts its independence in the eyes of the world.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Whilst being entirely in sympathy with the idea for an "Actors' Day," I fear that the scheme as proposed by the Council of the Actors' Association will be found unworkable, for the simple reason that the committee in inviting managers for one night to give their total receipts are asking far more of the resident-manager than they are of the actor. I will say nothing of the travelling-manager, who may or may not be quite willing to give up his share of the receipts. He receives, according to his attraction, anything from 45 per cent. to 70 per cent.; and of course if the artists give their services for this one night, and the authors and composers go without fees, the loss to the travelling-manager would not be great. But in the case of the resident-manager, besides finding theatre, gas, limelight, &c., he has to pay orchestra, and all the staff before and behind the curtain, and as these matters of local expense, together with advertising, &c., will have to be paid for, how can he reasonably be asked to give up the total receipts?

On looking over figures, I see that during the last ten years, by a strange coincidence, I have on the particular date—the third Thursday in October—for three years had the same attraction, the Scottish national drama, *Rob Roy*, and the Thursday nights' receipts have been respectively £55 7s. 8d., £66 2s. 10d., and £58 9s. 6d., averaging £60 total nights' receipts. The travelling company in this case received 60 per cent., leaving me £24, to get which, however, I had to be at the outlay of between £12 and £13 the one night's local expenses.

I do not wish anyone to imagine that the figures I have quoted are the receipts always to be expected at the Paisley Theatre. We have our good and our bad times, and unless it is some special outstanding attraction, about £27 might be taken as a fair average third Thursday in October, and I daresay the touring company share would average about 57½ per cent., leaving the theatre at 42½ per cent. (£11 9s. 6d.), with local expenses for the one night anything from £11 to £12, or £13 to £14, according to the drawing power of the attraction playing, and especially whether musical or otherwise. Under all the circumstances, can the resident-manager be expected to approve of the proposal to give up his total receipts? If so, the committee, I say, are asking far more of the manager than of the actor, as the one night's salary of the latter is as nothing to what is expected from the former.

I am in sympathy with the idea of the profession combining to do something for our funds and charities, and I quite agree that all actors and actresses in employment the date fixed should hand over their night's salary; but as never in my fondest dreams my one night's salary, either as an actor or a manager, has ever approached what may reasonably be expected to be taken as the total receipts at either of my theatres any Thursday in October, I am afraid it can only be a proportionate contribution that can be looked for from yours faithfully,

JOHN HENRY SAVILE.

Paisley Theatre, May 29, 1906.

THE AVENUE THEATRE ACCIDENT.

In the Court of Appeal on Tuesday, before Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Stirling, and Moulton, came up the cases of Gordon-Lennox *v.* Curzon and Scott and another *v.* Gordon-Lennox. These two actions, which were tried together, were brought by the respective plaintiffs to recover rent of the Avenue Theatre, which was destroyed in December last by the fall of the roof of Charing Cross Station. Mr. Justice Lawrance decided in favour of the plaintiffs, being of opinion that the clause in the lease and sub-lease respectively, which the defendants pleaded rendered the rent not payable in the circumstances—as the theatre was "closed by order of a superior authority"—did not apply The defendants appealed from that decision, and the Court on April 25 reserved judgment.

Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, in giving judgment, said that these two cases arose out of damage done to the Avenue Theatre by the fall of a portion of Charing Cross Railway Station. Since the date of the accident the theatre had been closed, and had not been opened for any theatrical representation. The question in each case was whether by the leases of Sept. 28, 1894 (Leaks and others to the Theatrical Syndicate, Ltd.), and of July 1, 1899 (Lennox to Curzon) respectively in the first case, and the sub-lease of Scott to Gordon-Lennox in the second case, the payment of the rent reserved had been suspended by the proviso in the clause referred to. Mr. Curzon was a sub-lessee, and he had granted a further sub-lease to Mr. Cyril Maude; but the latter's liability for rent was not before the Court.

Reference was then made by his lordship to the clause in the leases, which was to the effect that if, and whenever, during the term the theatre and premises should be closed by order of any superior authority, or be destroyed by fire, or so damaged by fire that the same could not continue to be used as a theatre, the rent should as from the date of such closure, or from the day following such fire, be suspended. Another covenant in the leases provided that the costs of structural alterations ordered by the London County Council should be borne by the lessors. There was in fact no order closing the theatre by the London County Council. Indeed, it seemed that they had no power to close such a building, except on the ground that it was structurally defective; but steps were at once taken by them before the magistrate to get an order to pull down the walls as being a dangerous structure, and after the theatre was rebuilt, a certificate of fitness would have to be obtained before performances could be given there. It was contended by the apellants that in the circumstances the magistrate's order constituted a "closing" by a public authority that relieved them by reason of the proviso from the liability to pay rent. Mr. Justice Lawrance did not take that view, and he gave judgment for Mr. Gordon-Lennox in the first case for £1,210 and costs, and for Mrs. Scott against Mr. Gordon-Lennox for £750 and costs. Both defendants appealed.

In his lordship's opinion, in the events which had happened there had been by the magistrate's order a closing by a superior authority, and therefore the payment of rent by the defendants was suspended. The appeal would, therefore, be allowed.

Lords Justices Stirling and Moulton gave judgment to the same effect, and both appeals were accordingly allowed, with costs.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students' concert of Wednesday evening began with a piano solo, "La Truite," by Heller, played by Miss Daisy Walker; and Mr. William Lee had a fair amount of success in his song, "To Anthea." Uncertain intonation somewhat marred Miss Wynnie L. Rumsey's 'cello solo, "Wiegenlied," by O'Zapff; and Miss Edith Ellis would have done greater justice to her executive ability if she had played Mendelssohn's pianoforte solo, "Caprice in A Minor," with a lighter and more elastic touch. Miss Eveline Hill was heard in two songs by Couldery, but she would do well to try and avoid a tendency to *vibrato*. In Gounod's valse ariette, "La Messagera d'Amore" (*Mirella*), Miss Dorothy Cummings acquitted herself admirably, and gained hearty applause. Two violin solos were neatly executed by Miss Edith Clapham, who chose Weiniawski's "Romance" and Popper-Halir's "Elfentanz"; and Mr. H. A. Petty used an agreeable tenor voice with skill in "I seek for thee in every flower," by Ganz; but Miss Frances Langton was hardly equal to the difficulties of Mozart's recit. and aria, "Non mi dir," from *Don Giovanni*. She, however, had a pleasing voice and style. Miss Florence Jones showed great facility in her piano solo, "Menuetto Capriccioso and Rondo," from Sonata in A flat of Weber. As a pleasing contrast, Miss Violet Coombs (a clever pupil of Mr. Allen Beaumont) greatly distinguished herself in a recitation of Nesbit's, "The Singing of the Magnificat." The last two items of the concert were a pretty song by Adela Verne, "For Me," remarkably well sung by Miss Muriel Clark, the possessor of a fine mezzo-soprano voice; and a lively orchestral selection, "Cloches de Corneville," arranged by Frederick Grix, and played on mandolines by the pupils of Mme. Waldahoff, who conducted. Miss Kate Richards was the accompanist.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

A CHAT WITH MR. EADE MONTEFIORE.

"I have not had a summer holiday since 1892. I have directed seventeen stock seasons, produced over one hundred plays, and thereby found summer employment for over ten thousand people. I was not handed down from the old stock days, but as 'a man of forty' I am sure there is not a manager in the three kingdoms with a similar record."

Thus speaks Mr. Montefiore, whose telegraphic address "Busily" is typical of this quick-speaking, volatile, and hard-working manager. We asked for his views on stock seasons, and if he believed in them.

"Yes and no," was the answer. "If you can gather around you a band of enthusiasts who will work for the glory of the work, the love of experience, with an eye to the future—yes! a hundred times; for they will communicate their enthusiasm to their audiences and will be followed and admired by still susceptible playgoers; but if the manager is supported by the actor-man-who-knows-all-about-it-dear-boy-before-you-were-born and actually sells his Art at the commensuration of a summer salary, then no! a thousand times; for one would have a perfunctory performance, which, in the meagre time at disposal for rehearsal, is bound to fall short of organised touring performances."

"But Mr. Montefiore, do you think theatre-goers appreciate stock seasons?"

"Yes, under certain conditions; but I abjure

MR. EADE MONTEFIORE.

the word 'stock': it enjoys an ominous reputation in nowaday management; it suggests the old free-from-fee plays that did duty before I was born ('a man for forty')—the old scenery—in stock; the old properties—in stock; in fact, any old thing, because, forsooth, it is the summer. Now, that system I consider distinctly ruinous, and at the bottom of many an ill-starred venture. In fine, we many times sicken a theatre audience and, willy-nilly, drive them to the empires of variety. Give the playgoer reasonable value for his money—tell him so, too—and he will support effort even in the dog-days, with a little wet."

"What is your panacea for this dramatic sickness?"

"Make every play a production—that is the word—and if at the outset you do play to 'the wood family' principally, remember that the faithful few have an unequivocal right to your best in return for their money, however little, unhappily, the combined total may be. It may be demoralising, but one must not weary. Have the word 'thorough' streamered in capital letters in your cabinet of memory; beg, borrow, or steal, but have your mise-en-scène reasonably in keeping, be it a palace, a drawing-room, or a parlour. Do not allow a butler to play a duke, nor a sonsy (Scotch) lassie to die in the streets of London. Hard, doubtless, to avoid in répertoire, but have thought for the morrow when you start out."

"And your artists—do you have much difficulty in getting the work done, the continual changes carried out, by young actors experienced only in long runs?"

"Well, I must admit, speaking as a provincial manager dealing primarily with provincial people, that I prefer the younger school. They try: they make surer provision for the detail of the thing. The old actor, of course, is admirable when he can rise to modernity, but the 'all right on the night' method is harassing. On such bases it never is 'right,' especially on Mondays and Saturdays. But by encouragement and hard work, it is wonderful, with the lack of training, how well the difficulties are surmounted. And my first rule—a golden one—is to have no prompter: if the performer falls, he must pick himself up, and I find that that dependence upon self has much virtue."

"And what about the commercial side of these summer seasons?"

"Often heart-breaking, if one is earnest. Your pet production possibly scorched by azure skies, mown down by annual flower shows, rivalled by leviathan picnics, and upset by moonlight bicycle rides. But, considering that custom—a dangerous taskmaster—closeth the Temple of Thespis often three months in the year—alas, for the mummer and myrmidons!—I do, on the whole, consider that the chances of *reducing* the standing rent is worth the worry. And, then, are we not philanthropists to the actor—and to ourselves, when it rains on a Saturday night? Taking one consideration with another, a manager's lot is not a happy one in the summer; but through the kindly help of many old actors and the joyous optimism of many young ones, I have been able to present much goodly fare to many summer audiences, from *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *As You Like it*, to pantomime, burlesque, and farce; from Drury-lane drama, with its multitudinous and elaborate paraphernalia, to *Good for Nothing* in its humbleness. And when one can see arising many of our best young actors to-day from a provincial servitude under my banner, when I can number amongst them an Irving, a Terry, and many a one that now adorn the London theatres, I can but rejoice that though sorrow is oft endured in the night of a summer season, joy cometh in the morning of after years."

SENTENCE of eighteen months' hard labour was passed at the Central Criminal Court on the 24th ult. on William Cecil Watson, who was convicted of obtaining various sums of money by fraud. The prisoner was alleged to be the manager of the "Northern Dramatic Touring Syndicate," and the evidence showed that he had for many months, under pretence of finding engagements for aspirants to theatrical fame, been guilty of heartless frauds, in some cases upon young women who were almost without money for the necessaries of life.

PRESENTATION TO MR. DUDLEY BENNETT.

To mark the first anniversary of Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett's management of the Alexandra Theatre, a presentation was made to him on Tuesday evening, subscribed for by a number of residents of Stoke Newington and neighbourhood.

The presentation took place on the stage at the end of the second act of *Les Cloches de Corneville*, which is being played at the Alexandra this week.

Dr. Montague Miller, as chairman of the committee, said that their intention was to show their appreciation of Mr. Dudley Bennett's worth by making him, on the first anniversary of his management of the theatre, a small presentation. Mr. Bennett had done good service by allowing the free use of the house for a benefit performance on behalf of the Metropolitan Hospital, in Kingsland-road, by which the sum of about £100 was raised. He had also granted the use of the theatre for a special entertainment in aid of the Metropolitan Police Orphanage. He would now call upon the Mayor of Stoke Newington to make the presentation, which took the form of an illuminated address, inscribed on vellum, and handsomely framed.

Mr. W. H. Savery, J.P., Mayor of Stoke Newington, said that a rumour reached him about a year ago that there was a prospect that the Alexandra would close. If this had happened it would have been a bad thing for Stoke Newington, not only because the inhabitants would have been deprived of much excellent amusement, but also because the lessee of the theatre was one of the largest ratepayers in the borough. The Mayor then read the address, which was as follows:

"H. G. DUDLEY BENNETT, ESQ.

"Dear Sir,—A number of residents of Stoke Newington and neighbourhood, representing, it is to be believed, the feeling of all theatre-goers in North London, desire to mark the first anniversary of your management of the Alexandra Theatre by conveying to you on this special occasion their sincere congratulations upon the result of your exertions during the past year. It is felt that the brilliant way in which you have sustained the reputation of this popular theatre, and the zeal you have exhibited to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of the public, deserve some recognition. We therefore trust that you will accept this illuminated address, not only as a mark of our appreciation of your work in the past, but also as a token of our best wishes for your future prosperity.—Yours sincerely,

"Committee—F. Montague Miller, L.R.C.P. Lond., M.R.C.S. (Chairman), H. Gee Moore, L.D.S. Dublin (Hon. Treasurer), Henry Woodcrson (Hon. Secretary), B. Dardenne, W. Herbert Bishop, Henry Dean, H. Sheffield, H. Dacres Smith, W. Dunks Sievey, J. R. Spratling."

The address was also signed by the Mayors of Stoke Newington and Islington, Messrs. T. Hart-Davis, M.P., Claude G. Hay, M.P., Alderman W. B. Trick, and many others.

The Mayor of Stoke Newington, in making the presentation, complimented Mr. Bennett upon having so well sustained the reputation of the theatre. It was considered that he deserved some recognition for what he had done; and they desired him to accept this illuminated address as a mark of their apreciation, and also as a token of their best wishes for his future prosperity.

Mr. Dudley Bennett, in reply, said he was afraid he was not able adequately to thank them for this magnificent testimonial. In it he recognised the kindly and generous expression of their appreciation of his work during the past twelve months. All he could say was that he should endeavour to maintain, and if possible, to raise the high standard to which the Alexandra had attained. A working man was useless without his tools, and a theatrical man could do little without a good staff. He was pleased to say that his staff was one of the best in London, and had greatly assisted him in the management of the theatre. More particularly did his remarks have reference to his hard-working manager, Mr. T. J. Robinson, whom he desired to personally and publicly thank for his loyal and energetic support. Having mentioned several important engagements which he had made for the coming season, Mr. Bennett expressed his obligations to the Mayor of Stoke Newington for his attendance, which, by reason of his office, had added dignity to the proceedings. One could not command success, but he could promise to do his best to deserve it; and he relied upon their generous patronage in the future.

"CUPID'S DREAM,"

A Fifteen Minutes' Interlude, by Henry Austin,
Produced at the New Palace Pier Theatre,
Brighton, on Monday, May 28, 1906.

Edwin ..... MR. HENRY AUSTIN
Christina ..... MISS CICELY WADE

The scene is laid in a flat in Mayfair, occupied by Edwin, a bachelor. Edwin is engaged to Christina, an actress at the Loyalty Theatre, and they are to be married next day. As the curtain rises Edwin is seen getting his things together, but he is soon agreeably surprised to receive a visit from Christina. He had fallen in love with the young actress while she was playing in *Cupid's Dream*, and Christina wishes him to go to the theatre that evening to see her final appearance in the piece. Edwin refuses, and Christina makes a bet with him of £50 to a farthing that she will make him see her "act" for the last time. They part, and Edwin soon afterwards hears a knock at the door. He is short-sighted, and cannot find his glasses, Christina having taken them away with her. His visitor is a French dancer (Christina in disguise), who makes him flirt and drink brandy. Another knock is heard at the door, and the dancer says her husband, a German officer, has come to demand satisfaction. Christina pretends to hide in the lift, but rushes from the room, appears again disguised as the husband, and, fighting a duel with Edwin, is defeated and apparently wounded. On the sham husband's retreat Edwin is further surprised by a smart messenger boy (Christina once more disguised), who brings a note from Christina telling him all is over between them, as she has heard that he has revived his old habits of flirting, drinking, and fighting. Edwin finds his glasses, which Christina has brought back. He realises that he has been duped, and that he has seen his intended "act" for the last time. Christina wins her bet, and all ends happily.

The interlude proved very interesting and amusing. Mr. Henry Austin gave a capital portrayal of Edwin, and Miss Cicely Wade displayed great skill in her treatment of the character of Christina.

MR. FRANCIS H. BULL, a clever scenic artist, who during the last few years has made rapid strides in his profession, has opened a new department in theatrical and music-hall advertising, and is able to supply managers with beautiful and original art posters (pictorial or letterpress) for London or provinces. These posters (transparent if necessary) may be changed weekly at reasonable rates by contract. The new department is under the direction of Fredk. H. Strachan, to whom all applications should be addressed at 289A, Brixton-road, S.W. Mr. Bull's head office and the painting rooms are at 4, Lower Bland-street, Great Dover-street, S.E.

"EAST LYNNE" will be the Whitsuntide attraction at the Fulham Theatre. A powerful and carefully selected company includes Miss Lillian Dundas.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE MARI DE LOULOU."

Farcical Comedy in three acts,
By MM. Maurice Soulié and Henry de Gorsse,
Produced at the Nouveautés, on
May 26.

Loulou de Croix-Marie ..... MLLE. MILO DARCYLLE
Simone Herbelot ..... MLLE. SANDRY
Mme. Caillebotte ..... MME. JENNY ROSE
Virginie ..... MLLE. GENSE
Mme. Morillon ..... MME. DE SALLE
Vicomte Prunier ..... M. GERMAIN
Albert Mérivel ..... M. TORIN
Herbelot ..... M. COLOMBEY
M. Camus ..... M. LANDRIN
Jerome ..... M. LAURET

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, May 31.—The Nouveautés have produced a farcical comedy which, during the summer months, may please strangers and provincials visiting the capital, whilst the good Parisian has fled the hot city and is cooling himself in the country or at the seaside. The somewhat complicated story could have easily been condensed into one act, but the authors have spun out the plot in order to enliven it with the necessary quid pro quos and imbroglios. Simone Herbelot, a pretty woman, has run away with Mérivel, her chauffeur, and her husband is after her. Unfortunately, the runaways' motor-car breaks down, and Simone and Mérivel put up at a country inn, where they find themselves in the midst of a wedding. It is not a country wedding, and has been brought about in rather a strange manner A certain Vicomte Prunier, a ruined nobleman, advertised for a heiress, who, in exchange for his title, would bring him her money. The lady who offered herself is Mlle. Loulou de Croix-Marie, a pretty girl, possessed of a big fortune, and of a first-class family. But she accepted the Vicomte because, being stage-struck, she wanted to marry a gentleman to whom she would give the disposal of all her money provided he would let her do as she pleased. The Vicomte having accepted all her conditions, it was further agreed that once married he would let her depart at once without trying to see her again. As to claiming marital rights, there could be no question of such a thing, as, immediately after the marriage ceremony, the bride would disappear for ever. It so happens that Simone Herbelot and Loulou are old friends, but they have no opportunity to exchange many confidences, inasmuch as both are terribly excited, one by the dread of seeing her husband turn up, and the other because it is her wedding day. For all that, Loulou finds time to save her friend. Her marriage will only be a legal formality, for the Vicomte has even promised not to raise her veil after the ceremony.

At Loulou's suggestion Simone therefore, dons the former's bridal dress, and when Herbelot arrives he does not recognise his wife with her face hidden behind the thick veil. He even offers to act as the Vicomte's best man. It is further arranged that Mérivel will wait with his motor at the door of the town hall, and whilst pretending to carry off the bride it really is Simone whom he brings back to her home, where her husband will find her in the next act. The story might well finish here; but there are many amusing incidents that fill the next two acts. Everything ends happily. Herbelot thinks his wife a paragon of virtue; whilst Loulou's madness for the stage having considerably abated, she is delighted to live with her husband, who turns out to be a clever, amusing man, likely to make her happy. It was brightly played by M. Torin, an ideal chauffeur; by M. Colombey, the mystified husband; by Mlle. Milo d'Arcylle, a sweet Loulou; and Mlle. Gense, intensely funny as the good-natured woman with a tendency towards flirtation

"LE REFORMATEUR,"

Play in three acts, by M. Edouard Rod,
Produced at the Œuvre, on May 28.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau ..... M. CAMILLE BERT
Le Professeur Montmolin ..... M. JEHAN ADES
D'Ivernois ..... M. J. MAREY
Moultou ..... M. TRAMONT
Daniel Muller ..... M. LUGNE-POE
Le Colonel de Pury ..... M. MARC ROLAND
Thérèse Levasseur ..... MLLE. DASTY
Isabelle d'Ivernois ..... MLLE. CARMEN DERAISY

In this fearlessly written play M. Rod asks us to solve the problem whether we are justified in condemning a man who does not follow the precepts he preaches. M. Rod had already published a volume dealing with the same subject, called "L'Affaire Jean-Jacques Rousseau." Compelled to leave France, despite the protection of the Duc de Luxembourg, Jean-Jacques hoped he would be safe in the Republic of Geneva. But the authorities there became alarmed at the advanced ideas expressed in "Emile" and "Le Contrat Social," and the unfortunate author was obliged to seek refuge in Motiers, which belonged to the King of Prussia. It is from there that in his "Lettres écrites de la Montagne" he replied to the Geneva authorities. But a clique attacked him and drove him to Saint-Pierre, whence he had to go to England and seek protection from his friends in London. In his play M. Rod shows us Jean-Jacques Rousseau at Motiers in 1765. Everybody thinks he has been leading the life of a saint and that he was slandered by his enemies. Thérèse Levasseur, however, knows better, and in a terribly painful scene she reproaches him with being a hypocrite. He passes her off as his servant, and she has been his mistress for over twenty years. He advises mothers to nurse their own children, and he has sent his five children to the Foundling Hospital. Thérèse does not want to make these facts known, which would injure his reputation; but the parsons, and Voltaire, Rousseau's inveterate enemy, undertake the work. This conflict between Rousseau's teachings and the life he led constitutes the interest in the piece, but this interest is potent. We are deeply moved when we hear the great man replying to the reproaches levelled at him by the indignant Thérèse, and listen to his answer to Daniel Muller and to the infuriated mob who besiege his house. "Do not think of me," he says, "but of my works. Ah! do not condemn them. They will guide your sons, and prevent them from falling into the same errors that spoiled my life. My books will dispel the darkness kept up by fanaticism and superstition, they will open a new road to the future generations." But the multitude cannot make the subtle distinction between the morality of an author and the morality of his work. Rousseau is obliged to flee, but Rod, the author, gives him his absolution. "Alas!" he says, "when we see great men compromise their ideas by their actions; when we see their faults exposed to the world; we can only pity them . . . and love them nevertheless." The work, which created a deep impression, was admirably acted.

The Palais-Royal have added to their nightly programme a little one-act "revue," by MM. Rip and Paul Ardot, which raised roars of laughter. A young nobleman writes to his family that he has been sent to prison for one month for having resisted the police during the church inventories manifestations. The truth is that he spends a quiet four weeks with Mlle. Liane. And we assist at a conversation in which the Roosevelt marriage, King Alfonso's wedding, the 1st of May incidents, the new plays, &c., are passed in review. It is intensely funny, and met with a deserved success.

"THE YOUNG LIEUTENANT," a new comic opera (music by R. A. Smith, jun., and libretto by Herbert Dawson), was produced by amateurs at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Monday.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR. J. L. TOOLE is lying seriously ill at Brighton, but a reassuring telegram received from his nephew on Friday stated that there is no immediate danger. Mr. Toole, who has for some years past suffered severely from trouble with his eyes, sought a return to health both at Margate and at Brighton, and up to recently was frequently to be seen taking a ride in his bath chair on the parade of the latter seaside resort. The veteran comedian undoubtedly felt the loss of his life-long friend, Sir Henry Irving, very acutely, and in his present illness he will have the heartfelt sympathies not only of his professional comrades but of the British public in general.

ALTHOUGH various strictures have been passed by some of our contemporaries upon the L.C.C. Theatres Committee, no spirit of resentment has been manifested by that body to the profession at large. Proof of this statement may be found in the fact that the chairman was among those present at the dinner given in aid of the Royal General Theatrical Fund on the 24th ult., at which Mr. Arthur Bourchier so ably presided. The sum of £1,000, the amount realised by the dinner, is a magnificent contribution to the Fund's resources, and a tribute alike to Mr. Bourchier's personal popularity and the generosity of his supporters.

MR. E. S. WILLARD has brought to a close his brilliantly successful tour in America and Canada, and sailed on Thursday from Montreal for England, being timed to arrive in Liverpool on Saturday next. Audiences throughout his tour have been large and demonstrative, and social honours have been literally showered upon the eminent actor, whose services as a lecturer were eagerly sought after by the leading schools and colleges in the States.

THE matinée of *Captain Swift*, given by Mr. Beerbohm Tree at His Majesty's Theatre on the 22nd ult. in aid of the Royal Free Hospital, resulted in a sum of over £1200 being added to the funds of that institution. Mr. Tree not only, with all the other artists, gave his services, but also placed his theatre, entirely free of expense, at the disposal of Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, and the ladies' association of the hospital, by whom the entertainment was organised.

THE Ellen Terry Matinée, at which the King and Queen have promised to be present, is assuming such vast proportions as to threaten to extend from mid-day until far into the evening. To the phenomenal list of attractions already announced in this column, other unique features have been added, including the representation of *Trial By Jury*, in which the twelve good men and true will be impersonated by leading dramatists, with Mr. A. W. Pinero as foreman. The bridesmaids will include Misses Louie Pounds, Adrienne Augarde, Kate Cutler, Zena Dare, May de Sousa, Agnes Fraser, Gertie Millar, Mollie Lowell, Gertrude Kingston, Olive Morrell, Denise Orme, Florence Smithson, Gabrielle Ray, Olive May, and Ruth Vincent.

BY Miss Terry's express wish Madame Melba will sing the Mad Scene from *Lucia*, and Madame Clara Butt and Signor Caruso, accompanied by the Maestro Tosti, will also take part. Madame Duse has wired, saying that within the next two or three days she hoped to arrange to appear.

THE souvenir programme is to be of a permanent character, and takes the form of a book which could be included in any library. It will be under the art editorship of Mr. W. Nicholson, who will design the cover. A number of reproductions will be given from pictures and sketches of the well-known characters in which Miss Ellen Terry has appeared, namely, "Imogen," by Sir Alma Tadema, R.A.; "Lady Macbeth," by Mr. John Sargent, R.A.; "Olivia," by Mr. Edwin Abbey, R.A.; "Beatrice," by Mr. Bernard Partridge; "Nance Oldfield," by Mr. James Pryde; the "Much Ado About Nothing" dance, by Mr. Byam Shaw; "Lady Teazle," by Mr. William Orpen; and "Mamilius," by Mr. W. Nicholson. The title page and the headings of the various items will be designed by Mr. Walter Crane. A biographical sketch, giving in sequence the many parts Miss Terry has played, is supplied by Mr. Austin Brereton.

THE Executive Committee would like it to be known that this tribute of the dramatic profession to Miss Ellen Terry is being entirely arranged by them, and, therefore, would suggest that Miss Terry should not be personally applied to, as it is impossible for her to answer the very large number of letters she receives.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER has kindly lent the Garrick Theatre for the annual Charterhouse matinée, on Monday, June 25. Mr. Alan Mackinnon is supervising the entertainment, which will include Mr. Bourchier as Shylock in the Trial Scene from *The Merchant of Venice* and Mr. Forbes Robertson in a short scene from *Hamlet*. Mr. Cyril Maude will appear as Dr. Pangloss, and in an excerpt from *The Clandestine Marriage*; and among other items will be the first public representation of a one-act play entitled *Gran'fer Coquesne*, by Mr. Aubrey Smith, who will appear in the principal part.

MISS MARY MOORE has just returned from a short rest on the Continent, and will make her welcome reappearance in her original part of Mrs. Gorringe in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*, at the Coronet Theatre, on Monday, to be followed by a week at the Camden Theatre. Miss Moore will be supported by Miss Marie Illington, Miss Lilias Waldegrave, and Mr. Yorke Stephens in the part originally played by Sir Charles Wyndham.

MR. EDWARD TERRY has been elected Upper Warden of the Turners' Company. We are unable to discern any immediate connection between the art of turnery and that of the stage, but Mr. Terry has many social activities apart from the practice of his profession, and each position he successfully adorns.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER'S production of *His House in Order* at the St. James's is so greatly successful that an uninterrupted run until the end of the year may be anticipated. Mr. Pinero's play will be followed by a new dramatic version by Mr. Stephen Phillips of *Faust*, in which Mr. Alexander will play the title-rôle.

MISS FAY DAVIS and MR. GERALD LAWRENCE were married on Tuesday at Dorchester, Massachusetts, U.S.A. The wedding took place at the home of Miss Davis' sister, and was witnessed only by members of the family. On the following day Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence sailed for the Mediterranean.

THE bride, who is an American by birth, established herself as a favourite in London at the Criterion, where she made her appearance in *The Squire of Dames* on Nov. 5, 1895. Shortly afterwards she went to the St. James's, to take up the part of the foreign girl in *The Princess and the Butterfly*. Subsequent appearances were made in *The Prisoner of Zenda*, *The Tree of Knowledge*, and *Old Heidelberg*; while her performance in *Iris*, which constituted her last assumption at the St. James's, may be numbered amongst her most brilliant achievements. Mr. Lawrence will be well remerbered for his excellent work at the Haymarket and His Majesty's. For some years past he was leading man for Sir Henry Irving, and played the King in *Becket* on the night the great actor died

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR introduced his Bill to amend the law relating to musical copyright in the House of Commons on Monday, when it received its first reading. The Bill provides that every person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale, any pirated music, shall be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction, and be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for one month, or to a fine not exceeding £5, or on a subsequent conviction, to two months' imprisonment, or a fine not exceeding £10. Any constable may take into custody, without warrant, any person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession, for sale, any pirated music. The remarkable feature about the proposed measure is the unanimity with which it is supported in all parts of the House. The Bill has been favourably received in both Ministerial and Opposition circles, and is backed by Mr. Balfour, Mr. J. Redmond, Sir Alfred Thomas, Mr. J. W. Crombie, Mr. Enoch Edwards (chairman of the Trade Union group), Mr. Keir Hardie (chairman of the Labour Party), and Mr. T. W. Sloan. The second reading is provisionally fixed for Thursday next.

THE Musical Publishers' Association, whose efforts towards securing this necessary reform have been unceasing, are doing all in their power to assist the passing of the Measure. "The Government are favourable to the Bill," said one of the officials of the Association, "and, though they could not see their way to make it a Government measure, they will do what they can to facilitate its progress through Parliament. In the event of the Bill being blocked by some obstinate member who is opposed to it, a deputation will wait on the Premier, and urge him to adopt the measure as a Government one. So strong is the feeling in the House in favour of this Bill that I believe he would agree to the deputation's request. Let us hope, however, that the Bill will not be blocked."

MISS BATEMAN (Mrs. Crowe) found her dressing-room full of flowers on the first night of *Colonel Newcome* at His Majesty's Theatre. Some of the most beautiful were sent by past and present students at the Academy of Dramatic Art, who chose this charming way of welcoming Miss Bateman back to the scene of her many triumphs.

THE Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund has received from Mr. Beaumont, of the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, the sum of £1 18s., being the amount collected in the Fund's box at that theatre. Miss Ellen Terry has forwarded a further sum of five pounds, which she has collected by means of her autograph, and Mr. Lewis Waller a further amount of £3 16s. 3d. from the same source.

MESSRS. SCHUBERT have obtained from Mr. William Greet and Miss Lena Ashwell the American and Canadian rights in Messrs. Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch's successful play, *The Shulamite*, now being performed at the Savoy. Miss Ashwell is to appear, under the Messrs. Schubert's management, in the part of Deborah Krillet throughout the United States, and will sail for America towards the end of September, after a limited tour with the piece in the principal provincial towns.

AMONG the successful pupils of Miss Kate Flinn who are achieving fame at the present time are the Misses Hebe Dennis and Ruby Cobbett. Mrs. Lane-Joynt, who will be remembered as having played in the Drury Lane pantomime, has recently joined Miss Flinn's Academy.

MESSRS. SHINTON AND GREENWOOD conclude, at the Royalty Theatre, Chester, next week, a tour of forty-five consecutive weeks with Mr. Wm. Hibbert's successful military drama, *The Price of Her Soul*. The autumn tour opens at the Grand Theatre, Brighton, on August Bank Holiday.

"COUNT HANNIBAL," the powerful historical play, adapted by Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge from Stanley Weyman's novel of the same title, is meeting with the greatest success as presented by Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson. Last week at Brighton the house was crowded at every performance, and the play was greeted with great enthusiasm on all sides.

MR. F. R. BENSON and his No. 1 company will be the Whit week attraction at Tunbridge Wells Opera House. This is now an annual visit, and every year the business is increasingly satisfactory.

PERHAPS the most successful primary tour of any unknown musical comedy will come to an end at Aldershot next week, when Mr. Carey calls in his No. 1 *After the Ball* company. The piece is to be still further improved by reducing the number of acts to two instead of three, and new dresses and scenery will be provided. Managers who have booked this production will find themselves in luck.

MISS ADA REHAN, who was to have sailed for England from New York last Saturday, was prevented by sudden indisposition. Happily, the celebrated actress's illness is not serious, and the doctor anticipated that she would not be confined to the house more than a week.

MR. HUNTLEY WRIGHT will be the principal comedian of the new Chinese comic opera which Mr. George Edwardes has now in rehearsal for early production at the Prince of Wales's Theatre. The cast will also include Miss Adrienne Augarde, Miss Denise Orme, Mr. Fred Emney, Mr. W. H. Berry, and Mr. Maurice Farkoa.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM AND MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P., were among the distinguished company present at the reception given on Tuesday by the Society of Women Journalists, at 47, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, the beautiful home of Mrs. Bland Sutton. Mrs. T. P. O'Connor (president), Mrs. Charles Greenwood (vice-president), and Mrs. H. T. Bulstrode (hon. secretary) assisted the hostess in receiving the guests.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR, who has just completed booking Mr. Bert Coote's autumn and spring tours of *The Fatal Wedding*, has been re-engaged by him for business-management for another year. This makes Mr. Raynor's eighth engagement with Mr. Coote.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY, who made a most successful first appearance as Hamlet at the Coronet Theatre last Saturday night, may claim to be one of the youngest leading men in the profession, having but lately turned twenty-three years of age. Commencing at the age of sixteen, Mr. Holloway has since played close upon 140 parts.

MR. FREDERICK JARMAN'S new musical comedy, entitled *The Lucky Girl*, will be produced at Weymouth on July 12, with a short tour to follow. The music is by Mr. Harry Richardson and Chevalier Legrand.

MR. HILLIARD VOX will tour *Alaska* in the autumn, commencing Aug. 6 at the Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees. *Alaska*, which has made a great success in America, has a startling volcanic effect in Act III. Mr. Vox has selected an excellent company, chosen for their knowledge of American drama, and has a capital tour booked. Mr. Albert Rogers will produce and stage-manage the piece.

MR. H. N. WENMAN, who has just concluded a successful tour in America with Richard Mansfield, sailed from New York on Wednesday last by the ss. Teutonic for a brief visit home. Mr. Wenman played in San Francisco only the night before the terrible earthquake; the hotel in which he resided being completely devastated only a few hours after his departure.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY has arranged several flying matinées of *Boy O'Carroll* during his brief season at the Imperial, and the first of these took place on Thursday, when the company journeyed to the Theatre Royal, Brighton, returning to London in time for the evening's performance. Brighton theatre-goers, who up to now have only seen the more serious and dramatic side of Mr. Harvey's acting, were curious to learn how so different a character as that of the witty, boisterous young Irishman would suit him, and the ovations at the end of each act soon showed that there was no doubt as to the verdict. Mr. Harvey and his company will take a trip to the Richmond Theatre on Wednesday next, and a week later the Crystal Palace Theatre will be similarly favoured. As originally announced, the season at the Imperial will terminate on June 16, in order to allow Mr. Harvey to take a holiday before starting on his autumn tour. *Boy O'Carroll*, it is announced, now commences every evening at 8.30 instead of 8.15.

"DOROTHY O' THE HALL" registered its 50th performance at the New Theatre on Monday, and, judging by the enthusiastic applause that greeted the piece, it is likely to rival its predecessor, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, in popularity. Mr. Fred Terry is an ideal lover, brave, reckless, and convincing, whilst Miss Julia Neilson's performance is characterised by all the beauty and charm with which she is so well endowed.

AN amusing incident occurred at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Monday evening, when the new play, *The Scarlet Clue*, was presented by Miss Grace Warner and company. At an exciting moment in the second act, when the hero is falsely accused of theft, a tabby cat walked on the stage with an inquiring air, as if asking for information as to what all the trouble was about. The audience laughed, but the cat, who exhibited no signs of stage fright, walked deliberately across the boards and made a dignified exit on the prompt side.

MR. JOHNNIE DANVERS, who is playing with much success the part of Paul P. Stanford, the American millionaire in *Castles in Spain*, at Terry's Theatre, will, by permission of Mr. Arthur Collins, appear in a special rôle in the Christmas pantomime of *Mother Goose* at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, but will return to Drury Lane the following season

MME. ALICE BARTH, the veteran operatic vocalist, who for six consecutive seasons has stage-managed the musical recitals at the Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, will take her farewell benefit on her retirement from that position at the Victoria Hall on Thursday evening, June 7. A feature of the performance will be the production, in operatic form, of Sterndale Bennett's cantata, *The May Queen*. Selections from *Faust* and *The Daughter of the Regiment* will also be given, and a concert, which will include Dr. Reid's overture to *The Tempest*, will be contributed to by many well-known vocalists and instrumentalists.

MR. WILLIAM HAVILAND sails for South Africa to-day by the Kildonan Castle, and will open at Cape Town on July 9 for a twenty-four weeks' tour. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Haviland (Miss Edyth Latimer), and Mr. Louis Mercanton, who will join Mr. Haviland as stage-manager. The company, which includes Mr. Kenneth Rivington, Mr. Edmund Waller, Mr. Cecil Calvert, Mr. J. Hampton, Mr. Cecil Brooking, and Miss Lola Duncan, will sail for Cape Town a fortnight later.

THE towns to be visited are Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, and Pretoria, and the plays presented will include Mr. Comyns Carr's version of *Oliver Twist* and Mr. Kinsey Peile's adaptation of *The Man Who Was*, revivals of *Macbeth* and *Othello*, and the production of a new play of the Restoration period, specially written by Mr. G. R. Sims. On Mr. Haviland's return to England, in the early part of next year, he intends to tour Mr. Sims' play in the English provinces.

MR. FRANK WITHERS has been engaged by Mr. Charles Macdona as business-manager for the autumn tour.—We are asked to state that *The Dean's Dilemma*, the little play recently performed at the Garrick, was taken, with the consent of the author, from a story by Mr. Halliwell Sutcliffe.—Mr. Fred Knight has been engaged by Mr. Charles Steuart to play his old part of Mr. McCullum in *Our Flat* at the Kennington Theatre during Whit-week.

MR. ARTHUR VEZIN has been engaged by Mr. Leonard Pagden to play Simeon Strong in the *Idler* at Brighton, commencing June 17, after which he will rejoin Mr. Louis Calvert's *Sunday* company, playing his old part of Jacky.

MISS EDNA MAY, who was out of the cast of *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville for a few days last week owing to a severe cold, resumed her rôle on Monday, and received a hearty greeting. A new scenic arrangement has been provided for one of Miss May's songs in the first act, the balcony of a summer-house now being utilised for its delivery. The second act contains a new scene for Miss May, who now also takes part in the song, "I know a girl."

MISS ITALIA CONTI has arranged an entertaining programme for the dramatic and musical recital which she will give at Stafford House on Thursday afternoon, July 5, by permission and under the special patronage of the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland. Miss Marie Tempest, Madame Irma Saenger-Sethe (violinist), Mr. Harry Fragson, Madame Marie Brema, and Mr. Haydn Gunter, the Welsh violinist, will appear, and the programme will include a new duologue by Mrs. Craigie, in which Miss Conti and Mr. Graham Browne will take part; and a masque, entitled *The Princess and the Stranger*, written by Lady Alix Egerton, with music by E. Overbeck. The cast of the latter production will comprise Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Miss Pattie Hornsby, Miss Evelyn Marthèze, Mr. Harcourt Williams, and Mr. Henry Ainley.

MR. EADE MONTEFIORE is to introduce his "summer seasons" in Suburbia, having entered into arrangements with Mr. Robert Arthur to supply the programmes for the Camden, Coronet, and Kennington Theatres, commencing on June 18. Mr. Montefiore will organise three companies to present Drury-lane and other spectacular plays in sequence at each theatre. The headquarters of the enterprising entrepreneur will be at the Kennington Theatre, where letters to him should be addressed. This year completes Mr. Montefiore's twentieth summer season, and it is to be hoped that his work may earn general encomiums, and reap a rich reward.

THE King honoured the performance of *Madama Butterfly* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, on Saturday night, and on Monday was present with Princess Christian, Princess Victoria, and Princess Louisa Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, at the performance of *Tannhäuser*, this making His Majesty's eighth visit during the current season.

MR. ALFRED SMYTH-PIGOTT, general-manager of the F. R. Benson companies, and London manager of the Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd., who has been booking the attractions at this theatre for the past eighteen months, has now relinquished this work, owing to the fact that the directors have appointed a resident general-manager in the person of Mr. Leonard Grey. The directorate have congratulated Mr. Smyth-Pigott on having introduced to Ipswich so many excellent attractions during his connection with the theatre.

THE honour of a State funeral was conferred upon Ibsen, whose interment was arranged to take place yesterday (Friday), King Haakon being present. The King of Denmark was to be represented by a special envoy, the British Government by Mr. S. Leech, the Chargé d'Affaires, and Sweden by the well-known author, M. Geijerstam, and the famous Shakespearean and Ibsen actor, M. Lindberg. The funeral cortège was to proceed from the Church of the Trinity, beautifully decorated for the occasion, to the Church of Our Saviour, in the graveyard of which the remains will rest. A memorial representation of three acts of *Peer Gynt*, with a prologue especially written by M. Collett Vogt, was announced for the evening in the National Theatre.

IN the Storthing at Christiania on the 25th ult., before the business on the paper was entered upon, the President made the following statement:—"Since the last sitting of the House our country has suffered a great loss by the death of one of her best sons, Henrik Ibsen. The people of Norway will ever feel deeply grateful to him for all he has given and taught us, and for the world-wide honour which through him has descended upon our country. In agreement with the Premier, I propose that Henrik Ibsen shall be buried at the expense of the State." The motion was unanimously carried.

BUSINESS and pleasure are to be agreeably combined this summer by a number of well-known players, who have organised a "commonwealth" with the object of touring Captain Robert Marshall's fantastic comedy, *His Excellency the Governor*. The company, which will start on June 11 at the Kennington Theatre, will include Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Loring Fernie, Mr. H. Marsh Allen, Miss Janet Alexander, and Miss Ethel Matthews. It is interesting to learn that Mr. Mackinder, after such a long career as a Gaiety "hero," will play a "straight" part. After a week at the Coronet the company go to the Theatre Royal, Brighton, and in the course of the itinerary a new one-act play by Mr. Gerald Du Maurier will be produced. Mr. Arthur Bertram is the manager for the tour.

MR. MARSH ALLEN, who is one of the members of the "commonwealth," could not make up his mind, in the days of his boyhood, whether he would be a professional cricketer or an actor. That he was wise in choosing the latter profession is shown by the fact that he does not have to wait for the season to play, but keeps in work nearly all the year round. Although he had acted in London before, it was his appearance in Mr. Edward Terry's *Sweet Lavender* company, in the character of Clement Hale—a character created, by the way, by the popular draughtsman, Mr. Bernard Partridge—that made Mr. Allen's name as a really young juvenile lead. He has been called "the ideal stage lover."

MR. LENNOX PAWLE, another member of the enterprising little group, tells a good story against himself. Years ago, when he was the favourite comedian at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, he invited some friends from what Mr. Arthur Law calls "the only end of London"—the West End—to travel east to see him play. After the performance, as he took the ladies to their carriage, a small crowd of the patrons of the "Pav." gathered round and gave him a cordial greeting. Mr. Pawle smiled graciously, and accepted his friends' congratulations on his popularity with becoming modesty. As the carriage door closed, however, a shrill voice was heard from the middle of the crowd: "Good-night, ol' puddin'-face!"

A NEW thrill was added to the exciting episodes of *Sherlock Holmes* at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, on Monday, when a slight accident occurred which momentarily placed the daring detective in the power of his arch-enemy Moriarty. Mr. Henry Renouf was playing the part of Holmes, and while toying with his revolver in the scene with the "Professor" the weapon fell heavily upon the table and thence on the floor close to Moriarty. Holmes got his foot upon it, but had Moriarty chosen he could easily have seized the revolver and overpowered the detective; but Mr. W. F. Stirling, who impersonated the Professor, obligingly refrained from seizing his chance, and the situation was saved.

MR. HUGH FLEMING, who completes to-day his ninth year's engagement as advance director with Mr. George Musgrave's *Belle of New York* and *Prince of Pilsen* companies, returns from a brief recuperative visit to the Austrian Tyrol to take command of Mr. Frank Lawton's concert tour.

MR. FRANK LASCELLES, who has now thoroughly recovered from his long and serious illness, has found time, in spite of his engagement as Mr. Tree's understudy—by virtue of which he has played Nero with much acceptance—to continue his portrait-painting and sculpture, and is now at work on a bust of Lady Forbes of Inverernan in Coronation robes. Mr. Lascelles has recently completed a fascinating presentment of Miss Ethel Irving as Millamant in Congreve's *The Way of the World*, and his beautiful "Portrait of My Mother" in last autumn's exhibition will be remembered by many. Mr. Lascelles, who played Laertes to Mr. Tree's Hamlet in Shakespeare Week, is an old Oxford man and an enthusiastic rider and golfer.

"A GENTLEMAN OF ENGLAND," the romantic play by Ernest E. Norris and Fewlass Llewellyn, originally produced at the Elephant and Castle, is to be toured again in the autumn by Mr. Bernard J. Liell and Mr. F. C. Berridge. It may be remembered that this play had a successful tour of the suburbs last autumn, visiting, amongst other theatres, the Camden, the Grand, Fulham, &c.

CHIEF among the attractions at the Grand Bazaar which will be held in aid of the Great Northern Central Hospital at the Royal Albert Hall on June 26 and 27 will be the stall presided over by Mrs. Beerbohm Tree and Mrs. George Alexander. These ladies will sell hats and tulles, and will be assisted in their generous efforts to assist the hospital by Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Dorothea Baird, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Edna May, Miss Lillian Braithwaite, and Miss Mary Moore.

MISS MARGUERITE CELLIER is just concluding a tour with Mr. Norman Macowan's company, in which she has been playing Lady Mary Carlisle in *Monsieur Beaucaire* and Lady Phyllis in *A Soldier of Fortune*.

MR. CLARENCE BURNETTE, who died on the 24th ult. at Salford Hospital, of Bright's disease, and was buried on Monday at Salford Cemetery, belonged to an old school of actors fast dying out, who were associated in their younger days with the stock company system. He was a member of the old Marylebone Theatre company, subsequently joining Mr. Arthur Vaughan's company in the well-known drama *Under Two Flags*. Mr. Burnette was the author of *The Gambler's Wife*, *When a Man Hates*, *A Man in a Thousand* (produced at the Royal, North Shields, Aug. 11, 1890, and first staged in London at the Surrey Theatre on March 7, 1892), and other plays with which he toured the provinces. Mr. Burnette was an excellent actor, and by reason of his kindly, genial disposition he was very popular with the members of his own profession.

MR. ADDISON BRIGHT died at Lucerne on Tuesday. One of the kindliest and cheeriest of men, an excellent critic, and a bright and attractive writer, he will be greatly missed in London theatrical circles, where he was very popular.

MR. CHARLES MACDONA, one of our most enterprising managers, is entering upon his autumn campaign in the country with a determination to succeed with his latest acquired piece, *Mr. Popple of Ippleton*, and (in addition to the special engagement of Mr. G. P. Huntley) has arranged for Miss Millie Legarde to appear as La Bolero. Other members of the cast are Miss Eva Kelly and Miss Nellie Hodson The latter artist, who has recently been starring in *The School Girl*, is the niece of Mrs. Labouchere (Miss Henrietta Hodson), who will be remembered by many present-day playgoers. Not only will this very strong cast be toured with the piece next autumn, but the entire London production has been secured, and will go on the road with them.

TWO companies of *Mr. Popple* will tour next autumn, and in addition to these there will be two companies of *Three Little Maids*, one company each of *Mr. Hopkinson*, *The White Chrysanthemum*, *A Country Girl*, *The Toreador*, *A Chinese Honeymoon*, *Are You a Mason?* and *The Gay Parisienne*. The entire production from the Criterion of *The White Chrysanthemum* will be travelled, and those who remember the beautiful scenes in this charming musical piece will have many opportunities of renewing their acquaintance with this delightful and most entertaining attraction. With such a batch of contributions to the "gaiety of the provinces" Mr. Charles Macdona will make a bold bid for public support.

A MAGNIFICENT week's business was done by the Moody-Manners Opera Company last week at the Crystal Palace. 10,560 people paid for admission to witness these performances, and hundreds were turned away last Saturday evening, when Mr. Charles Manners was called before the curtain to say a few words. Mr. Howard's spring season has now terminated, and it is a good omen that it should have finished with such splendid business after the successful opening by Sir Charles Wyndham. During the summer months it is Mr. Howard's intention to give one or two special flying matinées, the first being that of Mr. Martin Harvey and company on Wednesday, June 13th. The autumn season will commence in September.

MISS IRENE ROSS, the clever little actress whose physique and versatility enable her to play all sorts and conditions of boys' parts, has just been making a hit at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, in the new melodrama, *Good as Gold*. Her part is called the Kipper, and she makes up most realistically—pale, shabby, woe-begone, with little grimy hands and bare feet. Irene Ross as herself is so unlike Irene Ross as the urchin in *One Summer's Day*, or Wallie in *Two Little Vagabonds*, that it is hard to believe it is the same person. She is gentle and diffident, but very ambitious and determined in her work. Her brother, Mr. Clive Ross, is travelling with *Sherlock Holmes* company.

MESSRS. VEDRENNE AND BARKER have achieved sufficient success with *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* to justify them in carrying on the run for an extra four weeks, so that Mr. Bernard Shaw's piece will now be played until Saturday, July 7. Miss Ellen Terry will appear at all performances in the part of Lady Cecily Waynflete

MISS MARY NEIL, who has been so successfully playing the star part in Mr. George Kirk's *Her Luck in London*, met with what might have resulted in a very serious accident on Wednesday at the Queen's Theatre, Liverpool. While taking a fourth call after a very trying act she came close to the footlights, and before warning could be given the act drop had descended on her head. The blow, however, was not so serious as it appeared, owing to the curtain being on a frame, and Miss Neil, after a few minutes, was able to reply to the repeated calls of the audience and to convince them that she had received no serious injury.

MR. ANDREW MOIR is taking a company on tour with a farcical comedy and a miniature grand opera, *The Major's Double*, in three acts, and *The Gamester*, composed by Aiulf Hjovard. A strong company has been engaged for the comedy, including Messrs. J. B. Gordon, Percy Marshall, James Danvers, W. B. Freear, Charles Hanbury, Misses Eily Helene, D. Roberts, Lilian Hallows. For the opera, which will be personally conducted by the composer, who is relinquishing his London season engagements for this purpose, Messrs. Andrew Ray, Charles Cautley, and Miss Dorothy Southgate have been secured. The tour, which is under the direction of F. Martin Morris, commences on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, after which Cork, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Hull, and Brighton will be visited.

A PROFESSIONAL matinée of *The Whirlwind*, preceded by *Undine*, will be given at the Criterion on Tuesday, and applications for seats should be addressed to Mr. Arthur Whittaker. Mrs. Patrick Campbell has started rehearsals of the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton's new play, *The Macleans of Bairness*, a romantic drama dealing with the Young Pretender, which is shortly to be produced. Mrs. Campbell's part will be that of an Italian girl.

THE vexed question of the moral character of Shylock has been taken up by Mr. Richard Mansfield, the eminent American actor, who has contributed to the discussion raised in a New York paper. "Shylock," says Mr. Mansfield, "was probably—presuming him to be an actuality—a good man and an honest merchant. He was all that until the wrongs suffered by his tribe in Venice and the personal abuse offered him warped his nature and engendered the desire for revenge. He then determined to square accounts with Antonio if he could. It becomes his one idea, his object in life, and when Lorenzo steals his daughter and, at the same time, robs him, and he falls, stunned by the magnitude of the disaster, this desire for revenge becomes thereafter a madness."

CONTINUING, Mr. Mansfield said: "Shylock is practically the only 'man' in the crowd. Antonio borrows money from the Jew and despises him whom he has wronged and reviled, but refuses to abide bravely by the terms of his contract. Shylock is Shakespeare's type and embodiment of revenge, and was so intended by him, just as Othello is his embodiment of jealousy, Macbeth, the murderer, and Romeo, the lover.

IN the Divorce Court on Monday, Mrs. Annie Field, otherwise Warner, an actress, asked that her marriage with Thomas Sutcliffe Field should be declared null and void. Plaintiff stated that she was married according to the Scottish law at the Royal Hotel, Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, when she had only been five days in Scotland. She said she was on tour with Mr. Kiddie's *Bonnie Boy Blue* company, and met Mr. Field at Blackpool in 1895. After touring the North of England, they arrived at Coatbridge with a pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, and plaintiff eventually consented to go through a form of marriage at the Royal Hotel, on Feb. 15, 1896. She was under the impression that she had been lawfully married till last year, when she came to this Court to ask for a judicial separation, and was informed that the ceremony was not lawful. A petition was then filed in order to get the question settled. Mr. Robert Campbell, a member of the Bars of Scotland and England, expressed the opinion that as the parties had only been in Scotland for five days when they went through the form of marriage, it would be null by Lord Brougham's Act. There was no defence, and Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane pronounced a decree of nullity, with costs.

"COLONEL NEWCOME."

A Version, in Four Acts, by Michael Morton, of Thackeray's Novel "The Newcomes," Produced at His Majesty's Theatre, on May 29.

Colonel Newcome ..... MR. TREE
Clive Newcome ..... MR. BASIL GILL
Sir Barnes Newcome ..... MR. NORMAN FORBES
Fred Bayham ..... MR. LYN HARDING
Arthur Pendennis ..... MR. HUBERT HARBEN
James Binney ..... MR. J. FISHER WHITE
Lord Farintosh ..... MR. SYDNEY BROUGH
Lord Kew ..... MR. S. YATES SOUTHGATE
Sir Thomas de Boots ..... MR. JAMES HEARN
Nadab ..... MR. E. EGERTON HINE
Bowkins ..... MR. ROBERT ATKINS
Martin ..... MR. WILLIAM H. DAY
Bank Messenger ..... MR. DAVID POWELL
Little Fred ..... MASTER HERBERT BROWNE
Captain Sparke ..... MR. L. RACE DUNROBIN
Captain Hallock ..... MR. REGINALD OWEN
Major Maddison ..... MR. EDWARD OUSTON
Ethel Newcome ..... MISS LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
Lady Kew ..... MISS BATEMAN
Madame de Florac ..... MISS MARION TERRY
Mrs. Mackenzie ..... MRS. TREE
Rosey Mackenzie ..... MISS MARIE LOHR
Mrs. Mason ..... MRS. E. H. BROOKE
Lady Fareham ..... MISS HELEN ROBERTSON
Maria ..... MISS STUCKEY
Nurse at Greyfriars ..... MISS HILDA MOORE

Mr. Tree has scored yet another triumph; this time, not only over the difficulties of his task, but over adverse prophecies and hostile objections. His production of Mr. Michael Morton's version of "The Newcomes" at His Majesty's on Tuesday was an unalloyed success. Of course, in transforming the novel into a drama, the feelings of those to whom the book is an old familiar friend were certain to be wounded; but the majority of playgoers, not so reverent, will be able to take the play on its merits.

Into four acts is divided the phases of the Colonel's life. In the first he is flourishing in prosperity, rich in the possession of shares in the Bundlecumb bank, and surrounded by friends and flatterers. In this act, Clive Newcome's love for Ethel Newcome and his rivalry with the rich Lord Farintosh are "exposed"; and in it also takes place the episode of the Colonel singing "Wapping Old Stairs," and of Clive's indignant insult to Farintosh—who, in this case, takes the place of Barnes Newcome in the book. In the second act, at a ball at Lady Fareham's, Ethel, influenced by Lady Kew, refuses Clive; and Barnes Newcome, who has lied to the Colonel in order to keep his sister and Clive apart, announces her engagement to Lord Farintosh. The Colonel sternly reproaches Barnes with his treachery, calls for his carriage, and departs in dudgeon, Ethel fainting as the drop descends. The third act is concerned with the bank failure, and Clive's marriage with Rosey; and the fourth shows the martyrdom of the Colonel under the tyranny of Mrs. Mackenzie, Clive's mother-in-law. In the second scene of this act, in the courtyard of Greyfriars, the Colonel dies. Each of these acts is adorned with scenery which, elaborate as it is, is never excessive or obtrusive. Mr. G. Sackmann's interiors and Mr. Joseph Harker's ball-room and Greyfriars Courtyard are marvels of "building up"; but there is in them all an admirable harmony between the solid and the superficial, which gives a vivid sense of reality. In short, while nothing has been left undone to add to the effect of the production, there is no tendency to spectacle for spectacle's sake. All is in keeping with the general idea.

The same may be said of the acting all round. Mr. Tree's Colonel Newcome was an unanswerable reply to the anticipatory detractions which had appeared in print. *Solvitur ambulando*—the ability is proved by the performance. Our ideas of the Colonel's personal appearance are formed from the steel-plate illustrations to the early edition of "The Newcomes." Mr. Tree might have walked out of one of these, so exactly had he assumed the exterior of the personage. His fine reading was not without the touch of kindly humour with which Thackeray described the old warrior's character. The use of a picturesque bandana handkerchief, the dreadful seriousness with which the Colonel went through a set of the lancers, and other trivial touches, were admirably introduced; but these details never detracted in the least from the beauty and dignity of the embodiment. The keynote of the reading was a noble simplicity and elevation; and these were never so marked as in the pathetic scenes towards the close of the play. Irresistibly affecting was Mr. Tree's acting when the Colonel is harassed by the terrible "Old Campaigner"; and, in the concluding scene, in which he answers in imagination the call of the school-bell, the poignancy of sympathy created was almost painful in its intensity. The main merit of Mr. Tree's reading is its absolute freedom from caricature or "point-making." It is an absolutely natural creation; and in it Mr. Tree abandons every mannerism and every idiosyncracy. His Colonel Newcome is essentially and entirely artistic. To select any particular passage for special praise would be injudicious. It was the sustained "tone" of the picture that told—the unity and harmony of the conception that were precious. With all Mr. Tree's past achievements, his Colonel Newcome was a genuine revelation to his warmest admirers. Mr. Norman Forbes's Barnes Newcome had all the hard, base acuteness of the character of the novel, and was played with an effective emphasis and a deliberate decision which inevitably made their mark. Added to these qualities was a clever touch of pinchbeck dandyism, suggesting Barnes's attempt to imitate the exquisites with whom he mixed, and a venomous energy which was occasionally allowed to break through the surface polish of the worldling. Mr. Forbes had a critical task, and performed it with striking skill. It was a happy thought to entice Miss Bateman from her retirement to depict Lady Kew; and the performance which resulted was in every way admirable. The "precision of attack," which is one of the best virtues of the old school of acting, joined with the innate power of the artist, made her Lady Kew as strong, sharp, and cruel as could be desired. It was an embodiment not easily to be forgotten. Mr. Sydney Brough was cleverly cast as Lord Farintosh, and the rude exuberance of the stupid young nobleman was both sharply and amusingly emphasised. Miss Lilian Braithwaite treated the rôle of Ethel Newcome with delicate tact and just the necessary amount of feeling; and Mrs. Tree's Mrs. Mackenzie was very comical in the earlier acts, and very base and offensive later on when the real character of the mincing sycophant comes out. Miss Marion Terry's Madame de Florac was full of charm—sweet, gentle, and finely bred; and Mr. Lyn Harding's Fred Bayham was as boisterous, burly, and good-natured as the individual of the book. The remaining personages, more or less subordinate to the general interest, all had good representatives. Mr. James Hearn was duly overbearing and ill-tempered as Sir Thomas de Boots; and Mr. J. Fisher White gave a brisk embodiment of the Scotch surgeon, James Binney. Miss Marie Löhr enacted Rosey Mackenzie with marked intelligence; Mrs. E. H. Brooke was excellent as Mrs. Mason; and Miss Helen Robertson was a handsome and imposing Lady Fareham. One of the best performances of the evening was Mr. Basil Gill's Clive Newcome, full of youthful ardour, sentiment, and impulse; and Mr. William Day distinguished himself as Martin. There was great enthusiasm at the conclusion; and Mr. Tree, who was urgently summoned, said, "I do not make speeches on first nights as a rule. I will only say that I feel we have won." The audience heartily agreed with him.

"PETRONELLA," or, "A ROYAL ROMANCE."

A Spanish Comic Opera, by Montague Turner, Composed by W. T. Gliddon, with Additional Lyrics by Miss Stafford M. Smith, Produced at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Saturday Evening, May 26.

Captain Phillipe Bravadura.. MR. HAROLD PAYNE
Duc de Caceida ..... MR. FRED HILL
Don Sebastian Salutia .... MR. HARRY GRIBBEN
Marquis Circumvita .. MR. ALFRED H. MAJILTON
Sergeant Bodega ..... MR. BROUGHTON BLACK
Corporal Posada ..... MR. IVOR HARVEY
Salvados ..... MR. W. BENSON
Queen Cassilda ..... MISS ALICE RENE
Petronella ..... MISS ZOE GILFILLAN
Inez ..... MISS ALINE GOLDSMITH
Paquita ..... MISS ROSINA EFFINGHAM
Balasco ..... MISS M. BYRON
Dolores ..... MISS NETTA NEVILLE
Loretta ..... MISS ADELA CRISPIN
Step-Annie Flooretta Dossano.. MISS MARIE AULT

We are informed by one of the leaflets issued in connection with *Petronella* that it is a "royal romance" on an up-to-date Spanish subject. We presume that this is a reference to the marriage of King Alfonso with Princess Ena, though we are bound to confess that, so far as the story of the play under review is concerned, it has but slight relationship, and can scarcely be said to have any bearing whatever on the Royal wedding in Madrid.

At the time of our witnessing the production the piece was suffering from the disabilities of a "first night," and perhaps all the members of the company have by now got into the hang of their parts, and that the author has seen fit to condense and make alterations in the play. On that assumption, this comic opera should attain a fair measure of success in the provinces.

Petronella, the daughter of the Governor of Fernando, is in love with Captain Phillippe Bravadura, of the Royal Dragoons. In the charge of the Governor is a prisoner of State, one Duc de Caceida, who is kept in custody in consequence of the suspicion that he is a Carlist leader. Captain Bravadura enables the Duc to escape from the fortress, and his efforts in this direction incur the serious displeasure of the Governor, who fears that when the Chief of the Secret Police asks for the prisoner, and finds that the latter has escaped from custody, he (the Governor) will be ruined. So, in order to save his fiancée's father from shame and disgrace, the gallant captain dons hat and cloak after the style of the recently-departed Duc. In that rôle he appears before and converses with the Marquis Circumvita, the chief of police. But the good Queen Cassilda has evinced an interest in the prisoner, and has further intimated her intention of visiting him at the fortress, one of her objects in so doing being, apparently, to induce him to realise the wickedness of the Carlist way. Well, of course she does not see the real Duc, but the disguised Dragoons captain. However, they get on very well, though it should be mentioned that the good Queen is herself acting in a somewhat similar manner, for she is hiding her identity while masquerading as the Duchess of Madrid. Later, they meet at the Royal Palace of Parragua, where all deceptions are revealed and all disguises thrown aside, and—all ends well.

Miss Zoe Gilfillan was graceful, affectionate, and vivacious in the rôle of Petronella, and two at least of her songs, notably "All My Life" and "The Old Moon," seemed to secure the wholehearted appreciation of the audience. Miss Marie Ault, as Step-Annie Flooretta Dossano, an "imported 'general' from a London 'ome," gave us a touch of Louie Freear, and tickled one's fancy immensely with her absurd antics and comical remarks. Her song, "An extra turn," was quite funny, and was rendered in good style. Mr. Broughton Black also brought humour into the play with his acting in the part of Sergeant Bodega, and his singing was distinctly meritorious, especially in the duet "All for the best." Mr. Harold Payne lacked—on the opening night, at least—those qualities of virility, youthful heartiness, and vigour which are required in the interpretation of such a part as that of Captain Bravadura. Possibly, however, by this time a better acquaintance with the character has conduced towards an improvement in Mr. Payne's representation. Mr. Payne has a tuneful, though not strong, voice, and he made a very fair attempt with "Shine on, night star," and in a duet, "Nothing," sung with Miss Alice René, who looked pretty, graceful, and majestic as the Queen. Mr. Harry Gribben gave us an admirable character-study in the part of the somewhat aged Governor of Fernando; and Mr. Fred Hill and Mr. Alfred J. Majilton suitably enacted the rôles of the Duc de Caceida and Marquis Circumvita respectively. The Four Arosas, described on the programme as a troupe of Spanish dancers specially engaged for the occasion, tripped the boards lightly and brightly and sprightly—the principal dancer being Miss Beatrice Ford—during the progress of the play, and there was a capable chorus. The mounting and dressing of the piece are praiseworthy.

MR. STEPHEN FISKE, the well-known dramatic critic, has contributed an interesting retrospect of the New York Stage in the Forties to the fiftieth anniversary number of *Town and Country*, a popular American periodical. An illustration of Madison Cottage, upon the site of which now stands the imposing Fifth-avenue, in Broadway, gives an excellent idea of the primitive state of New York City at that period. Since that time, says Mr. Fiske, "the prices at the theatres have crept up from seventy-five cent stalls and a sixpenny gallery to two dollar stalls and fifty cents in the family circle. Everything else has increased in price proportionately, and theatres are relatively no dearer than before, though they pay playwrights and actors much more liberally. The pit, to which English managers still adhere—giving the best part of the theatre at the lowest price—did not long survive outside the Bowery. I tried to introduce the all-stalls system at the fashionable St. James's Theatre, London, but the public and the Press protested."

AT Marlborough-street Police Court, on Saturday, James Preston, aged 51, a fruiterer, of Blackfriars-road, was charged, on remand, with having fraudulently obtained 1s. 6d. and 1s. 3d. in return for bogus tickets purporting to admit two persons to the New Theatre. Mr. Garrett, the manager of the theatre, said that five cases of the kind had come under his notice. The "tickets" were made from notepaper stolen from the theatre and cut down. A detective-inspector said that the prisoner was sentenced in January to a term of imprisonment for attempting to obtain theatre tickets by fraud. He declined to say how he became possessed of the theatre notepaper. Seven of the tickets had been sold. Mr. Kennedy passed sentence of six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

MRS. JORDAN'S letters, to the number of about 335, were sold at Sotheby's on Saturday for £335, just a sovereign apiece. Nine Shakespeare quartos, belonging to Mr. E. W. Hussey, made £2,086. "The Merchant of Venice," 1600, with the Roberts imprint, brought £460 against £315 for the finer Domville copy in 1897; "King Lear," 1608, the second edition, £395; and the "Midsummer Night's Dream," 1600, £280.

A NEW song entitled "John Bull's Babies," words by David James and music by Dr. Osmond Carr, will be introduced into the *New Barmaid* on Monday, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. The song will be sung by Mr. Leslie Austin.

A CHAT WITH CYRIL MAUDE.

It was only the other day, it seems, that everyone was wishing Mr. Maude well about his enterprise at the Avenue Theatre. Then down came the roof of Charing Cross Station on the theatre and the scheme, and Mr. Maude was immediately stricken with disappointment and heavy expenses. But, as he puts the finishing touches to his personal appearance as the kindly old Crimean in *Shore Acres*, at the Waldorf, he seems as cheerful and contented as if there were no such things as accidents.

"I am half Irish, you know," he remarks with a genial grin.

"Then you never suffer from nervous depression?"

"Oh, yes I do, sometimes. But it doesn't last long. Besides, you know, on the whole, I am lucky."

"You can say so, even after the Avenue accident."

"Yes, but mark what followed. Immediately after it occurred I was offered by the Waldorf management for my season here a handsome salary—I mustn't mention how much—and a liberal percentage on the receipts. Don't you call that luck? How I should have 'grizzled' if I had been walking about doing nothing."

[*Photo by Lafayette.*

MR. CYRIL MAUDE.

"Then there was my marriage. Wasn't that a piece of luck?"

"And there was your Haymarket success, when *Under the Red Robe* ran for 250 nights. And then there was *The Marriage of Convenience*, too—another success?"

"In which William Terriss played so splendidly. Poor Terriss. He had one peculiarity that is not generally remembered. He was very fond of lying in his dressing-room between the shows in a state of absolute nudity. Possibly his splendid health was partly attributable to these 'air baths.'"

"You had a good many successes at the Haymarket. There was *The Little Minister*, for instance."

"Yes—how well that went. We nearly killed poor Barrie at rehearsal. He and I were sitting as usual on a sort of little platform, built on to the front of the stage, from which we conducted the rehearsal. Unfortunately the railing that surrounded the platform was not of the strongest, and Barrie, who is fond of lolling about on chairs in extraordinary attitudes, leant heavily against it with his seat tilted up. Smash went the railing, and over he went with a crash, falling six or seven feet into the orchestra. We picked him up apparently lifeless, dismissed the rehearsal, carried him into my office, and laid him on the sofa. Happily he soon revived, and suffered no ill-effects. Hardly had this happened when we were visited by the reporter of an enterprising evening paper. 'I hear, he began, 'that Mr. Barrie has met with an accident.' 'Oh, it's nothing,' I replied, cheerily, 'only a severe shock.' 'What!' exclaimed the disappointed emissary, '*no blood!*'

Mr. Cyril Maude gives rather an amusing description of his first theatrical performance. When he was a lad of eighteen his family took a house at Dieppe for six months, and he was sent every day to study French with one Monsieur le Pasteur.

"One day, when I had been working with him for three or four weeks, he asked me what I was going to make my profession.

"'Comédien,' I replied.

"'Comment! Comédien? Etes-vous fou? I am sure you have not the slightest idea how to act!'

"Of course I felt piqued, and as I walked home that evening I just wondered if there were not some way by which I could show the old man that I *could* act if I chose.

"The Pasteur had a resident pupil of the name of Bishop, a nice young fellow, and to him I related my indignation.

"'Of course you can act,' he said; so between us we concocted the brilliant idea that I should dress up as Bishop's aunt and go and call upon the Pasteur, with the ostensible view of sending another nephew to his excellent establishment. Overjoyed at the scheme I ransacked my mother's wardrobe, and finally dressed myself up to resemble a somewhat lean, cadaverous English old maid.

"I walked down the street to the house, and to my joy the servant did not recognise me. The old man received me with great cordiality and politeness. I told him in very bad French, with a pronounced Cockney accent, that I was thinking of sending another of my nephews to him if he had room. At this suggestion the Pasteur was delighted, took me upstairs, showed me all the rooms, and made quite a fuss over me.

"For two days I kept up the joke. Then it became too much for me, and as we were busily working at French verbs, in the curé's study, I changed my voice and returned to the old lady's Cockney-French intonations. The Pasteur glared at me, and then, clapping his hands to his head and bursting into laughter, he exclaimed:

"'Mais c'était vous, c'était vous la tante de Bishop?'

"It turned out he had written that morning to Bishop's real aunt, accepting her second nephew as a pupil, and arranging all the details of his arrival. How surprised the good lady must have been!"

FRENCH PLAYS AT THE ROYALTY.

Mr. Gaston Mayer, in his scheme for giving a summer season of French plays at the new and enlarged Royalty Theatre, will place upon the stage of that popular house a number of representative French pieces, and with them actors and actresses who have become famous therein. The répertoire of M. Coquelin *aîné*, who has in this country almost as large a following as Sarah Bernhardt or Réjane, is an extensive one, and, though the choice of pieces for his opening night on Monday was scarcely the best that might have been made, the programme, nevertheless, gave considerable pleasure to the famous comedian's many admirers. M. Coquelin first drew a warm tribute of admiration from Monday's large audience in the character of Noël, the faithful and tactful servitor in Madame Emile de Girardin's artless one-act drama, *La Joie Fait Peur*, which was adapted into English many years ago under the title of *Joy is Dangerous*. The idea of the little piece is to gradually break the joyful news to a doting mother that the sailor son she has mourned as dead is alive and well. He discovers himself to his sister and to the ancient servitor, who, with the help of his affianced bride, resort to a series of amiable stratagems to conceal the truth from his mater, who eventually discovers it for herself. Overcome with happiness, she finds relief in tears, but exclaims "Joy never kills!" The superb finish of M. Coquelin's art as a comedian, which is displayed in such plenitude in the part of Nöel, fully justified the revival of the old-fashioned play. Such a combination of humour and pathos is rare, and the performance was invested with a fidelity and naturalness that are entirely beyond praise. Mlle. Kerwich as the devoted sister Blanche was full of brightness and sympathy; Mmes. Bouchatal and Suzanne Devoyod were seen to advantage as the fond mother and the fiancée; and good support was forthcoming from MM. Maxime Capoul and Lefaur as Adrien and Octave.

Les Romanesques, the comedy, in three acts, by Edmond Rostand, was produced at the Comédie-Francaise on May 21, 1894, and established the fame of the author as a dramatist, whose brilliant gifts were recognised more fully later in his *chef d'œuvre*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*. *Les Romanesques*, it will be remembered, was adapted by "George Fleming," and produced at the Royalty on May 29, 1900, by Mrs. Patrick Campbell. The plot, briefly told, runs somewhat as follows:—Two middle-aged widowers, Bergamin and Pasquinot, who have been friends since boyhood, are next-door neighbours in the country, a hedge being the only separation between their estates.

One has a son, Percinet, the other a daughter, Sylvette, who seem to be made for each other, and their fathers have long since decided that the match is to take place. Being a very wideawake pair, however, the two chums come to the conclusion that, as the young people are "romanesque," like all of their age, they will probably kick against the marriage if it be forced upon them by their parents. So they devise a crafty plan of introducing the romantic element into the arrangement. When Percinet comes home from college, and Sylvette from her convent school, they find a wall built up in place of the hedge, and, to their further surprise, learn that Bergamin and Pasquinot have become bitter enemies.

Hitherto the youngsters had paid little attention to each other, but no sooner do they perceive that a feud as savage as the hostility of the Montagues and Capulets exists between their parents, than they take it into their heads to play Romeo and Juliet themselves. Perched on the wall, they fall in love, and roundly abuse the authors of their being, who laugh in their sleeve, while continuing to act the mutual hate business very naturally. To complete the stratagem, the old tricksters arrange an abduction, which will enable Percinet to reveal his heroism. An exactor called Straforel, with whom times are hard, is bribed to make a show of carrying off Sylvette, with the aid of a gang of ruffians, whereupon Percinet jumps over the wall, puts the ravishers to flight, fancies he kills their leader, and rescues his lady-love. The girl's father is so overcome by the young man's gallantry that he consents to give him his daughter, and becomes reconciled with his enemy.

In the second act the wall has been knocked down, both families live in the closest intimacy, and naturally soon begin to see rather too much of each other. Bergamin and Pasquinot resume the even current of their old friendship during the preparations for the marriage, but they tire before long of their reciprocal defects, fall out, and become enemies in earnest. Their animosity reaches such a pitch that they reveal to Sylvette the imposture of the pretended abduction, and the young girl, who has begun to be irritated by the dashing airs which her lover has given himself since that bold feat, is not sorry to tell him that it was all humbug. They fall out, and Percinet goes off in quest of amorous adventures to satisfy his taste for the romantic.

In the third act Straforel, who has not received payment of his little bill, sets matters right. The wall is being rebuilt, and he comes, disguised as a mason, to make fierce love to Sylvette, pretending that he is a nobleman, ready to carry her off. She is charmed with the prospect at first; but his protestations of passion take such an alarming form that she screams for Percinet, and her lover, who has been reduced to sad straits and rags by his romantic adventures, comes to her aid in the nick of time. Their marriage will take place immediately, and the two old friends will not fall out again. The piece is delightfully gay, sparkling with pleasant incidents, and highly entertaining, and is told in exquisite style.

As the actor-adventurer Straforel—a part originally created by M. de Ferandy—M. Coquelin swaggered with just the requisite air of bounce, and completely realised the comedy of the situations, especially in the last act. M. Jean Coquelin and M. Chabert made excellent comic capital out of the parts of the two fathers; Mlle. Fanny Aubel, who has quite a pretty way with her, won all hearts by her coquetry as Sylvette; and Percinet found an efficient exponent in M. d'Auchy.

Wednesday afternoon was devoted to Molière, the pieces selected being *Tartufe* and *Les Précieuses Ridicules*. M. Coquelin was seen once more in his favourite characters of Tartufe and Mascarille. He received excellent support from his son Jean, and from Mesdames Suzanne Devoyod, Bouchetal, and others.

Notre Jeunesse, the four-act comedy by Alfred Capus, was presented on Wednesday evening, with the following cast:—

Monsieur Briant ..... M. COQUELIN AINE
Lucien Briant ..... M. JEAN COQUELIN
De Clénord ..... M. DESJARDINS
Chartier ..... M. LEFAUR
Serquy ..... M. MAXIME CAPOUL
Davenay ..... M. D'AUCHY
Liverdon ..... M. CHABERT
Un Domestique ..... M. PERSON
Hélène Briant ..... MLLE. SUZANNE DEVOYOD
Laure de Roine ..... MME. BOUCHETAL
Lucienne ..... MLLE. GUERRAZ
Aline de Bernac ..... MLLE. KERWICH

The plot of *Notre Jeunesse* can be told in a few words. Lucien Briant, a rich manufacturer in Besançon, has accepted an invitation, with his young wife, Hélène, and his father, to spend a month at Trouville with Chartier, a bachelor, and Chartier's widowed sister. During their visit Lucienne, a young girl, comes to ask Chartier's assistance. Her mother, recently dead, always spoke of this friend of the girl's father as a good fellow, and Lucienne has come for advice. She tells him her story, and Chartier learns that she is the natural daughter of Lucien Briant, who has never seen the child. She must, however, be provided for, and Lucien consults his father as to what arrangement should be made. Briant *père*, who rules the household, arranges that a suitable allowance shall be made the young person if she will return to her native village. Lucienne is a charming girl, seventeen and sensitive. She refuses assistance so ungraciously offered, and decides to accept a berth in South America. Hélène Briant, Lucien's wife, who is tired of the torturing tyranny of her father-in-law, forces her husband to give his daughter a hearing. The girl's youth and sweetness conquer him, and with sincere emotion he folds her to his heart. Lucienne will henceforth brighten the home that has been so darkened by the influence of the elder Briant, who is henceforth powerless, and departs. M. Coquelin played the elder Briant—the disagreeable and tyrannical father-in-law—with his customary finish; M. Jean Coquelin was successful in his impressive study of the undecided Lucien; a powerful presentation of Hélène came from Mlle. Suzanne Devoyod; and of the well-intentioned and benevolent widow Laure de Roine, Mme. Bouchetal furnished a good study. As the heroine of the comedy, Lucienne, Mlle. Guerraz was bright and winsome; and Mlle. Kerwich made a charming Aline de Bernac.

As a matter of fact we should state *Notre Jeunesse* was first produced at the Comédie Française on November 16, 1904, and presented for the first time in London at the Shaftesbury on June 9 last year.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

On Thursday, May 24, instead of the second performance of *The Barbier von Bagdad*, a work that has aroused considerable interest, the syndicate gave the second and third acts of *Faust*, followed by *Pagliacci*. In Gounod's opera a newcomer, Mlle Frances Alda, from the Brussels Opera House, appeared as Marguerite. Mlle. Alda sang the music with sympathy and acted intelligently, but her voice proved unequal to the task of filling so large a theatre. For the rest, M. Journet once more gave a familiar rendering of Mephistopheles; and M. Altchevsky as Faust increased the good impression this artist has already made. Signor Caruso, in splendid voice, appeared as Canio in Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*, and seldom has the part been so magnificently sung. His solo at the close of the first act aroused a perfect storm of applause. Hardly less successful was Mlle. Destinn, who made her first appearance this season as a powerful exponent of the part of Nedda, the cast being completed by that fine artist M. Scotti, in the character of the revengeful Tonio, M. Seveilhac as Silvio, and Signor Zucchi as Beppe. The chorus acted with intelligence, and the orchestra was thoroughly efficient under the bâton of Signor Campanini, who conducted both operas.

The first performance of Wagner's *Die Meistersinger* this season was given on Friday, May 25, before a very large audience. The representation of Wagner's comic masterpiece was in many respects superb. The splendid overture was grandly played by the fine orchestra, under the control of Dr. Richter, and all concerned took the utmost pains to render the occasion a memorable one. Herr Van Rooy again impersonated the genial and humorous cobbler-poet, Hans Sachs, in his unrivalled style. Another fine performance was the fussy Sextus Beckmesser of Herr Geis, played in the true comedy spirit and without undue exaggeration. Herr Anthes bore himself with distinction as Walter, but his vocal method in the Preislied was not entirely acceptable. Frau Gadsky, although giving the impression of a mature Eva, sang the music in a pleasing and agreeable manner; and Fraulein Grimm was satisfactory in the small part of Magdalene. Herr Sicwert as David, Herr Knupfer as Zeit Pogner, and Mr. John Harrison as Balthazar Zorn, were all thoroughly efficient. The chorus acted with more than the average ability, and the difficult finale to the second act went extremely well. Dr. Richter, as a tribute to the general excellence of the performance, was heartily cheered on taking his place at the opening of the last act.

Madama Butterfly was produced for the first time this season at Covent Garden, on Saturday last. The popularity of Puccini's charming work has increased since its first production last year, and its performance on Saturday was witnessed by an audience which filled every part of the house, and was further honoured by the presence of His Majesty the King. Mlle. Destinn again impersonated the heroine in her incomparable manner, giving a perfect picture of the poor little wife who is so basely deserted. Both in her acting and singing Mlle. Destinn captivated her hearers, and the tragic ending of the opera was given with intense pathos. As the contemptible Pinkerton, Signor Caruso's beautiful voice was heard to the greatest advantage in the lovely music of the first act; and Signor Scotti was again excellent as the kind-hearted Consul, Sharpless. Mme. Gilibert-Legrune impersonated Suzuki with ability; and the other characters of Kate Pinkerton, Goro, and Il Principe Yamadori, were intelligently filled by Mme. Paulin, Signor Zucchi, and Mr. Horatio Connell. The scenic effects and stage-management generally were excellent, and Signor Campanini again proved a most able conductor. The composer, who was in the house on Saturday night, was called on the stage at the close of the second act, and received, along with the principal artists, the warmest congratulations from the large audience.

Tannhäuser, one of Wagner's earlier operas, was performed on Monday night, and, if not resulting in a perfect representation of this most exacting opera, allowance must be made on the score of the enormous amount of work done since the opening of the season. The music also requires the greatest efforts of the vocalists, and the opera is one that demands the utmost care in mounting. The impression left by the performance on Monday was that more rehearsals were needed. Herr Anthes as the hero did not display any great vocal gifts, nor appear to be in good voice; but Herr Van Rooy again proved excellent in the part of Wolfram; and Fraulein Ternina made a sympathetic Elizabeth, even if her voice was not entirely satisfactory. Mme. Agnes Nicholls was heard to advantage in the character of Venus, singing with ample power and expression; and the "Shepherd's Song" was charmingly sung by Miss Gleeson White. Herr Knupfer appeared with success as Hermann; and the other parts were well filled by Herr Neitan, Mr. John Harrison, Herr Braun, and Herr Raboth. The chorus singing in the scene of the Hall of Song was somewhat rough and uncertain; but the finale was finely-rendered, and the orchestra, under Dr. Richter, achieved good results.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT has added to the list of her thrilling experiences that of a railway smash. A special train, carrying the famous actress and the members of her company, who have been performing in America, was wrecked on the afternoon of the 25th ult., near Mankato, in Kansas. The accident was caused by the tender of the engine leaving the metals. The succeeding carriages likewise left the line, and the train was partially wrecked. Mme. Bernhardt, who was taking a bath at the time, was thrown out by the sudden jerking of the carriage, but was practically unhurt. Fortunately, another train on the same track was stopped whilst still one hundred yards distant from the wrecked locomotive, otherwise it would have dashed into the special car occupied by Mme. Bernhardt. Much excited, and dressing very quickly, she left the train, demanding a fresh engine, and asking for an explanation of the cause of the accident. A new engine was eventually procured, and the journey resumed.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

L'ETOILE DU NORD, Drury Lane, Feb. 26, 1855.
L'ETRANGERE, Haymarket, Jan. 3, 1876.
LETTER BOX, Steinway Hall, May 27, 1895.
LETTER, THE, Theatre Royal, Gateshead, May 6, 1891.
LETTERS ADDRESSED HERE, Shaftesbury, Feb. 14, 1893.
LE VILLI, Manchester, Sept. 24, 1897.
LE VISPE COMARI DI WINDSOR, Covent Garden, July 14, 1877.
LE VOYAGE DANS LA LUNE, Alhambra, April 15, 1876.
LE VOYAGE EN SUISSE, Gaiety, March 27, 1880.
L'HOMME AUX POUPEES, Coronet, Oct. 22, 1900.
LIAR, THE, Royalty, July 9, 1896.
LIARS, THE, Criterion, Oct. 6, 1897.
LIBERTINE'S BET, St. James's, Jan. 23, 1857.
LIBERTY, Elephant and Castle, June 14, 1879.
LIBERTY HALL, St. James's, Dec. 3, 1892.
LIBERTY; OR, THE DHU COLLEEN OF BALLYFOYLE, Victoria, Sept. 25, 1876.
LIBRARIAN, THE, Limerick, May 22, 1885.
LIFE, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Oct. 7, 1873.
LIFE AND DEATH, Grand, Aug. 16, 1886.
LIFE AND DEATH OF CHATTERTON, Liverpool, July 31, 1885.
LIFE AND DEATH OF JO, Theatre Royal, Coventry, May 15, 1876.
LIFE AND HONOUR, Elephant and Castle, Dec. 18, 1893.
LIFE AS IT IS, Victoria, May 21, 1866.
LIFE BUOY, Theatre Royal, Swansea, May 12, 1869.
LIFE CHASE, Gaiety, Oct. 11, 1869.
LIFE DOWN SOUTH, Britannia, June 15, 1874.
LIFE FOR A LIFE, Manchester, July 10, 1899.
LIFE FOR LIFE, Lyceum, March 6, 1869.
LIFE FOR THE CZAR, Comedy, Manchester, July 9, 1888.
LIFE IN AUSTRALIA, Olympic, Feb. 21, 1853.
LIFE IN NEW YORK, Standard, Sept. 24, 1896.
LIFE IN THE COAL-PITS, Victoria, Feb. 26, 1867.
LIFE: ITS MORN AND SUNSET, Britannia, Oct. 2, 1872.
LIFE: ITS MORN AND SUNSHINE, Britannia, Oct. 1, 1879.
LIFE OF AN ACTRESS, Adelphi, March 1, 1862.
LIFE OF A POTTERY LASS, Hanley, March 9, 1869.
LIFE OF A SHINGLER, Adelphi, Coatbridge, Dec. 2, 1870.
LIFE OF A WOMAN, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, May 19, 1879.
LIFE OF PLEASURE, Drury Lane, Sept. 21, 1893.
LIFE POLICY, Terry's, July 20, 1894.
LIFE PRESERVER, Queen's, Manchester, May 22, 1876.
LIFE RACE, Alfred, Feb. 19, 1872.
LIFE SIGNAL, Britannia, April 25, 1867.
LIFE WE LIVE, Princess's, April 16, 1892.
LIFE'S BATTLE, Victoria, Aug. 3, 1878.
LIFE'S BONDAGE, Marylebone, May 12, 1890.
LIFE'S DEBT, Royalty, Chester, Nov. 17, 1887.
LIFE'S DEVOTION, East London, Nov. 2, 1870.
LIFE'S HANDICAP, Pavilion, Sept. 10, 1900.
LIFE'S HARVEST, Nuneaton, Feb. 25, 1891.
LIFE'S MISTAKES, Princess's, Glasgow, July 27, 1885.
LIFE'S PERIL, Queen's, Barnsley, Jan 19, 1874.
LIFE'S PARTING WAYS, Parkhurst, Sept. 9, 1893.
LIFE'S RANSOME, Lyceum, Feb. 16, 1857.
LIFE'S REVENGE, Grecian, Oct. 11, 1858.
LIFE'S REVERIE, Elephant and Castle, Aug. 28, 1900.
LIFE'S SARCASM, Matinée, May 6, 1898.
LIFE'S TRIAL, Haymarket, March 19, 1857.
LIFE'S TROUBLES, Effingham, Aug. 13, 1866.
LIFE'S VICTORY, Theatre Royal, Oxford, July 16, 1885.
LIGHT, Gaiety, Nov. 3, 1877.
LIGHT AHEAD, Surrey, Nov. 23, 1891.
LIGHT AND DARK, Victoria, Longton, Oct. 30, 1871.
LIGHT AND SHADE, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Nov. 9, 1877.
LIGHT AS AIR, Albion, Crewe, Sept. 1, 1870.
LIGHT AT LAST, Theatre Royal, Oldham, Sept. 7, 1874.
LIGHT FANTASTIC, Folly, Nov. 20, 1880.
LIGHTHOUSE, Sadler's Wells, Aug. 10, 1857.
LIGHTHOUSE, THE, East London, April 29, 1871.
LIGHTHOUSE ON THE CRIXSON ROCK, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, May 14, 1883.
LIGHT IN THE DARK, New Greenwich, March 11, 1867.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH, Princess's, Edinburgh, June 5, 1871.
LIGHT O' DAY, Gaiety, Burnley, June 18, 1888.
LIGHT OF HIS EYES, Opera House, Bury, Feb. 22, 1895.
LIGHT OF LOVE, Effingham, Feb. 25, 1867.
LIGHT OF OTHER DAYS, Middlesex County Asylum, Nov. 14, 1889.
LIGHT OF PENGARTH, Opéra Comique, Dec. 17, 1891.
LIGHT OF THE ISLES, Queen's, Dublin, Aug. 21, 1876.
LIGHTS OF HOME, Adelphi, July 30, 1892.
LIGHTS O' LONDON, Princess's, Sept. 10, 1881.
LIGHT THAT FAILED, Royalty, April 7, 1898.
LIKE AND UNLIKE, Adelphi, April 7, 1856.
LIKENESS OF THE NIGHT, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1900.
LILI, Gaiety, June 4, 1883.
LILIES; OR, HEARTS AND ACTRESSES, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Nov. 10, 1884.
LILINE AND VALENTIN, Gaiety, Sept. 13, 1875.
LILY, Greenwich, Feb. 4, 1878.
LILY DALE, Amphitheatre, Leeds, Jan. 12, 1869.
LILY OF FRANCE, Booth's Theatre, New York, Dec. 16, 1872.
LILY OF KILLARNEY, Covent Garden, Feb. 10, 1862.
LILY OF LEOVILLE, Grand, Birmingham, May 3, 1886.
LILY OF THE FIELD, Ayr, Nov. 6, 1896.
LILY'S LOVE, Pavilion, Aug. 17, 1872.
LIMBS OF THE LAW, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Aug. 18, 1879.
LIMITED, Hammersmith, April 18, 1896.
LIMITED LIABILITY, Theatre Royal, Stratford, May 4, 1888.
L'IMPRESARIO, Crystal Palace, Oct. 18, 1892.
LINDA DI CHAMOUNI, Burlesque, Theatre Royal, Bath, Feb. 20, 1869.
LINDA GREY, Theatre Royal, Margate, June 9, 1885.
LINDA OF CHAMOUNI, Gaiety, Sept. 30, 1869.
L'INDECIS, Royalty, Nov. 10, 1887.
LINDOVE'S ABBEY, Theatre Royal, Dundee, March 27, 1877.
LINENDRAPER, THE, Comedy, April 17, 1890.
LINE OF FATE, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, March 26, 1894.
LINE OF LIFE, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, Oct. 28, 1871.
LINK BY LINK, Surrey, Oct. 8, 1870.
LINK OF LOVE, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor, July 18, 1882.
LINK o' GOLD, Opera House, Sheffield, April 6, 1882.
LINNETT'S LARK, Park, Sept. 14, 1878.
L'INTRUSE, Opéra Comique, March 25, 1895.
LION AND THE UNICORN, Her Majesty's, Dec. 27, 1864.
LION AT BAY, 1869.
LION LIMB, Britannia, Sept. 25, 1867.
LION QUEEN, Victoria, Sept. 6, 1852.
LION SLAYER, Haymarket, Nov. 22, 1860.
LION'S DEN, Victoria, July 22, 1871.
LION'S HEART, Parkhurst, July 25, 1892.
LION'S LOVE, Grecian, July 16, 1866.
LION'S TAIL, THE, Globe, June 16, 1877.
LISETTE, Opéra Comique, April 26, 1873.
LITA, New Cross, Jan. 7, 1888.
LITERARY NEPHEW, Amateur, Feb. 6, 1868.
LITTLE AMY ROBSART FROM A COMICAL POINT OF VIEW, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, April 22, 1872.
LITTLE BARONET, Edinburgh, Oct. 14, 1897.
LITTLE BEN BOLT, Gravesend, June 24, 1879.
LITTLE BEN BOLT, Burlesque, Theatre Royal, Colchester, Aug. 2, 1880.
LITTLE BILLEE CARLYLE, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, April 18, 1881.
LITTLE BO-PEEP, Haymarket, Dec. 26, 1854.
LITTLE BOY BLUE, Shoreham, May 17, 1875.
LITTLE CARMEN, Globe, Feb. 7, 1884.
LITTLE CHANG, Tyne, Newcastle, May 6, 1872.
LITTLE CHANGE, Haymarket, July 13, 1872.
LITTLE CHAP-CURLY AND BROWN, Kilburn, Jan. 29, 1895.
LITTLE CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, Lyric, Oct. 10, 1893.
LITTLE CINDERELLA, Tyne, Newcastle, June 25, 1887.
LITTLE COQUETTE, Widnes, July 31, 1899.
LITTLE CRICKET, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 11, 1878.
LITTLE CULPRIT, Folkestone, Nov. 19, 1897.
LITTLE DAISY, Haymarket, Nov. 16, 1863.
LITTLE DINNER, St. George's Hall, April 14, 1884.
LITTLE DOCTOR FAUST, Gaiety, Oct. 13, 1877.
LITTLE DON CÆSAR DE BAZAN, Gaiety, Aug. 26, 1876.
LITTLE DON GIOVANNI, Prince of Wales's, Dec. 26, 1865.
LITTLE DON QUIXOTE, Theatre Royal, Cheltenham, April 9, 1883.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

ARRANGEMENTS for the theatrical sports are now completed, and, given a fine day, there is every prospect of a larger gathering than in previous years. The entries exceed those of last year, being over 460, the competitors representing most of the London and suburban theatres and music halls.

THE relay teams will include the Alhambra, Coronet, Crown, Duke of York's, Daly's, Holborn Empire, Grand, Fulham, Grand, Croydon, London Pavilion, St. James, and the Vaudeville. The tug-of-war teams include the Alhambra, Crown, Waldorf, Canterbury, Royal (Stratford), Holborn Empire, the Borough (Stratford), and the Empire (Dublin).

THE judges are Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. Horace Chambers, Mr. Frank Shorland, Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, Mr. Sam Fredericks, Mr. Fred Fredericks, Mr. Cecil Paget, Mr. F. W. Parker, and Mr. C. Aubrey Smith. The Reception Committee is represented by Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. Robert Horton, Mr. C. A. Smith, Mr. H. R. Kimpton, Mr. James Cullen, and Mr. William Johnson.

PRIZES have been presented by Lady Bancroft, Sir Squire Bancroft, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, and Dr. Bodie. Subscriptions have been received, in addition to those already announced in this column, from Mr. W. S. Penley £1 1s., Mr. Dion Boucicault £1 1s., Mrs. Tree £1 1s., Mr. A. Sutro £1 1s., Mrs. Raleigh £1 1s., Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox £1 1s., Miss Compton £1 1s., Miss Adrienne Augarde £1 1s., Mr. H. B. Tree £1 1s., Miss Tita Brand 5s., Mr. Fred Terry £1 1s., Miss Jessie Bateman £1 1s., Mr. Arthur Chudleigh £1 1s., Mr. Gerald du Maurier £1 1s., Mr. Robert Horton 10s. 6d., the Empire Theatre Company (Dublin) £1 1s., the Central Catering Company £1 1s., Messrs. Strode and Co. £1 1s., Mr. Cecil Paget 10s. 6d., and Dr. Bodie £3 3s.

ADMISSION to the ground may be obtained for 6d., and seats in the stand for 6d., 1s., and 2s. extra. Refreshments at moderate charges will be available at five refreshment rooms. Programmes may be obtained at the office of the committee to-day.

MR. ELMS-LESTER has had some correspondence with the Lord Mayor of the City with reference to the properties used in the Lord Mayor's Annual Show. The reply received intimates that, from enquiries made, "very few properties are used which are made abroad," and that while "foreign manufactures can be purchased at a much lower rate, they do not appear to give such satisfaction as the home products." The dress and properties were made in London for the last show, although some of the goods were supplied by foreign firms.

THE ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

THE Special Committee of the Actors' Association held a meeting on Saturday last, there being present Mrs. Cecil Raleigh (in the chair), and Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, Arthur Holmes-Gore, M. R. Morand, C. Aubrey Smith, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The committee discussed the line of argument to be adopted at the next meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association, and Mrs. Cecil Raleigh and Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, M. R. Morand, and C. Aubrey Smith were appointed delegates to attend, and the secretary was directed to be present and to ask Sir Squire Bancroft, as President, to introduce the deputation. Messrs. Arthur Holmes-Gore and Clarence Blakiston reported the result of the conference with the committee of the Professional Photographic Association

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Kate Bishop, and Kate Phillips, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, Lawrence Grant, Norman McKinnel, M. R. Morand, Algernon Syms, Spencer Trevor, Frank Vernon, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary).

It was agreed that in future no member be entitled to legal or medical aid until his or her subscription for the current year be paid. The secretary reported the names of the delegates appointed to attend the next meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association, and further that Sir Squire Bancroft, as President of the Association, had agreed to introduce the deputation and open the proceedings, the matter to be discussed being one of general interest to the entire profession. The hon. solicitors were requested to take proceedings, if necessary, to enforce payment of a member's claim for salary, and the result of an action recently tried, in which a member was awarded substantial damages for breach of contract, was reported.

A member of the Association attended before the Council, and having stated the nature of his claim, the hon. solicitors were requested to write to the person against whom the claim was made, demanding payment, and, if necessary, suggesting arbitration. Another member attended before the Council, and, having agreed to arbitration, the secretary was instructed to make the necessary arrangements. The secretary reported that the claim of a member under a policy of insurance had been paid in full. Mesdames Fyfe Alexander and Ruth Nightingale and Mr. Fredk. C. Berridge were nominated for election.

A MEETING of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was held on Tuesday last, Mr. A. E. Drinkwater occupying the chair, supported by Messrs. M. R. Morand, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (the secretary). An interesting scheme for the tabulation of correspondence, suggested by a member of the Association in order to facilitate the delivery of letters, was under consideration, and ultimately referred to the sub-committee appointed to deal with the clerical duties of the staff and official routine. The secretary reported that, in accordance with custom, the offices of the Association would be open on Bank Holiday (Whit Monday) from 10 to 7, as on all other week days.

MR. EDWARD ROCHELLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I feel sure that many of your readers will regret to hear of the continued very serious illness of Mr. Edward Rochelle. After undergoing several severe operations, he is now informed by his doctor that it is essential he should go into a hospital at once to undergo a further operation. A few of his friends have interested themselves on his behalf and made arrangements that he shall be received into a hospital, at which he will have to pay a certain sum per week. Unfortunately, his long illness in the past has drained his resources, and he is now in very great need of some practical assistance to enable him to meet certain pressing liabilities, and to pay the hospital fees. I therefore feel assured that I may on his behalf make an appeal to those who know him; and shall be glad to receive and acknowledge any amounts that they will kindly forward to

Yours faithfully,
JAMES W. MATHEWS.

Duke of York's Theatre, June 1, 1906.

MR. F. R. BENSON'S North Company, which has been playing to excellent and enthusiastic houses in the South of England, finished a most successful tour at the Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, this week. The autumn tour starts on Aug. 27.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 4.

AFTER THE BALL.—Aldershot.
AT DUTY'S CALL.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
AT THE WORLD'S MERCY.—T. R., Peterboro'.
BARRISTER.—New Theatre, Oxford.
BEAUTY AND THE BARGE.—Gaiety T., Hastings.
BENSON, MR. AND MRS. F. R.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
BENTON, MR. AND MRS.—T. R., Darwen.
BESIDE THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH.—T. R., Hull.
BLIND FOUNDLING.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
BOOM OF BIG BEN.—Grand T., Woolwich.
CHRISTIAN, THE (CROKE'S).—T. R., Birmingham.
CLAUDIAN.—Pier Pav., Eastbourne.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—T. R., Nottingham.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Artillery T., Woolwich.
DISHONOURED.—Lyceum T., Pentre.
ETERNAL CITY.—Ramsgate.
FACE AT THE WINDOW.—Colosseum, Oldham.
FACING THE MUSIC.—Runnacleave, Ilfracombe.
FALSE WIFE.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
FLORODORA.—Grand T., Blackpool.
FOR LIFE—AND AFTER.—T. R., Ashton.
FREEDOM OF SUZANNE.—Harrogate.
FRIVOLITY.—Manchester.
GEOFFREY LANGDON'S WIFE?—Court T., Warrington.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
GO-WON-GO MOHAWK.—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby.
GREAT AWAKENING.—Empire T., Southend.
HER LOST SELF.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
HER LUCK IN LONDON.—Grand T., Nottingham.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—T. R., Attercliffe.
HER WEDDING DAY.—Grand T., Luton.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Grand T., Walsall.
HUMAN HEARTS.—Grand T., Southampton.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Theatre Royal, Norwich.
IN HOLY RUSSIA.—Theatre Royal, York.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Millom and Grange.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—Crown T., Peckham.
LITTLE BREAD-WINNER.—O. H., Leicester.
LONDON FIREMEN.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
LOVE THAT WOMEN DESIRE.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
LUCK OF LIFE.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
LUCKY MISS DEAN.—T. R., Portsmouth.
MACOWAN NORMAN.—T. R., Dover.
MAN AND WIFE.—Grand T., Luton.
MANXMAN, THE.—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
MARTIN HARVEY.—Imperial Theatre.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—T. R., Huddersfield.
MIDNIGHT WEDDING.—Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.
MONTE CRISTO.—Theatre Royal, King's Lynn.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
NEW WORLD, THE.—P. O. W., Salford.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—T. R., Bournemouth.
NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER.—T. R., Sunderland.
OLIVER TWIST.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
ON THE LOVE PATH.—Queen's T., Swindon.
OTHER MAN'S BUSINESS.—The D. P. Theatre, Eastbourne.
OTTO, THE OUTCAST.—Wedgwood T., Burslem.
PASSION'S POWER.—Theatre Royal, Halifax.
PEGGY MACHREE.—T. R., Cardiff.
PLUCKY NIPPER.—Theatre Royal, Middlesbro'.
POOR MUST LIVE.—Grand T., Derby.
POWER OF GOLD.—Royalty T., Barrow.
PRICE OF HER SOUL.—Royalty T., Chester.
PRINCE OF PILSEN.—O. H., Blackpool.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Palace T., Newcastle.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
PUBLIC OPINION (N.).—Birmingham.
PUBLIC OPINION (S.).—Jersey.
QUEEN OF VILLAINY.—County T., Reading.
ROGUE'S DAUGHTER.—Seaham Harbour.
ROGUES OF THE TURF.—Queen's T., Manchester.
ROMANY'S REVENGE.—Theatre Royal, Rugby.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
ROYAL REVENGE.—Osborne T., Manchester.
SAILORS OF THE KING.—T. R., Bath.
SEE-SAW OF LIFE.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
SHADOW OF CRIME.—T. R., Bristol.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
SILENT WITNESS.—Albert T., Brighouse.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—O. H., Kidderminster.
SINS OF A CITY.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
STILL ALARM.—Broadway T., Deptford.
SUNDAY.—Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.
TEMPTRESS, THE.—Lyceum T., Newport.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Victoria T., West Stanley.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS.—Queen's T., Leeds.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HAR.).—Pier Pav., Southend.
UNDER THE CZAR.—Grand T., Halifax.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Grand T., Middlesbrough.
WAY OF THE WORLD.—Grand T., Stalybridge.
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW.—Pleasure Gardens T., Folkestone.
WOMAN OF PLEASURE.—T. R., Hyde.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Theatre Royal, Torquay.
YOUNGEST OF THE THREE.—Herne Bay and Deal.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—T. R., Exeter.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled,

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

The return visit of Mr. Walter Melville's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads* is proving a strong attraction to the patrons of the popular parts of the Borough Theatre, and rapt interest is maintained in the lurid story of a girl's downfall through the drink evil. Miss Beaumont Collins depicts the misguided Barbara Wade with startling realism and intensity albeit handling the part with admirable restraint. Miss Nannie Meade portrays the callous nature of Nellie Meadows with much fluency and skill, and Miss Elsie Saville is a pleasing exponent of Constance Cornell; Mr. Charles Franmore, in the dialect part of the old Yorkshire farmer, John Meadows, plays in rugged, natural style, and in entire sympathy with the character; Mr. Frank R. Robertson makes a brisk and manly Jack Livingstone; and Mr. Roy Fortescue contributes a powerful embodiment of the villainous Cuthbert Lumley; Mr. Fred Ingram is a very amusing Toby Turvey (who has a "drink" scene all to himself); and is ably assisted in the "comic relief" by Miss Lena Delphine, bright and engaging as Tilly Vane. The remaining parts are all carefully played, and the piece is capitally mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, May 28,
the Drama in a Prologue and Four Acts, by Frank Adair, entitled,

"A HEART'S DESIRE."

Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are fulfilling the second week of their fortnight's engagement at the Stratford Theatre Royal with *A Heart's Desire*. The piece, which is new to Stratford, is well contrived, and diverges somewhat from the beaten track by relying for success at the hands of popular audiences on a story of strong domestic interest rather than upon the portrayal of sensational mechanical effects, and this welcome change met with the emphatic approval of those present on Monday night. Mr. Arthur Hinton handles the rôle of Lord St. Ives with considerable skill, his easy diction and excellent stage presence adding distinction to the part. Mr. Travis Green contributes a well-defined sketch of Luke Forrest, and a capital performance as David McCulloch comes from Mr. Frank Brunell. Mr. Gerald Byrne acts very incisively as Eric May; the Hon. Bertie Beresford is smartly portrayed by Mr. Fred Tenaur, and a quaint embodiment of Coombs comes from Mr. Pleons Gains. Miss Leila Zillwood plays with much dramatic power as Olga, and in the more tender passages her acting has the true ring of pathos. Miss Florence Zillwood is a very prepossessing and graceful exponent of Elsie Beresford, and Miss Lydia Audrey is a vivacious and charming Gwendoline Ross. The rest of the parts are portrayed with intelligence and care.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WILLIAMS. — *The cast of* Kiddle-a-Wink, *produced at the Victoria Theatre, on Jan. 30, 1864, was as follows:—Sir Anthony Trevillian, Mr. J Howard; Evelyn Trevillian, Mr. George Rose; Eugene Waldron, Mr. Brownlow Hill; Ivan Rone, Mr. Basil Potter; Mat of the Mine, Mr. F. Villiers; Wild Robin, Miss M. Daly; Alice, Miss Bowering; beerhouse keeper, Mr. George Yarnold; his wife, Miss E. Farren.*

H S.—*When* Aladdin *was revived at the Strand in September, 1888, Miss Alice Atherton played the name-part.*

BEN.—*Several "Comic Dialogues" are published at French's. Try also Francis, Day, and Hunter, 142, Charing Cross-road.*

ANGELO A. ASHER.—*The Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, was opened in the year 1829, under the direction of Messrs. Wyatt and Farrell. The first Pavilion was burned down in 1856 and immediately rebuilt. During the time that Mr. Morris Abrahams was the proprietor the house was reconstructed.*

CASH.—*We regret that we cannot make any personal recommendations, but would advise you to be very careful in your selection.*

BOGEY.—*We cannot say. Write to Mr. Edgar Bateman, care of Francis, Day, and Hunter, 142, Charing Cross-road, London.*

W. L. K.—The Palace of Truth *was first produced at the Haymarket, Nov. 19, 1870. The cast consisted of Messrs. J. B. Buckstone, W. H. Kendal, Rogers, Everill, Clark, and Braid; Misses Madge Robertson, Fanny Wright, Fanny Gwynne, and Caroline Hill, and Mrs. Chippendale.*

C. R.—*Samuel Phelps's last performance was at the Imperial Theatre in 1878, under the late Miss Litton's management. He broke down while playing Cardinal Wolsey in* Henry the Eighth, *and never acted again. He died Nov. 6, 1878, aged seventy-eight.*

MIDDLEWICK.—Our Boys *was revived at Terry's July 26, 1898.*

L. T. K.—*The Vaudeville Theatre was opened April 16, 1870, with* For Love or Money, *comedy, by Andrew Halliday; and* Don Carlos; or, the Infante in Arms, *burlesque, by Conway Edwardes.*

BRIGHTON.—*Mr. Tree revived* Julius Cæsar *at Her Majesty's Jan. 22, 1898, and played Marc Antony himself. Julius Cæsar was represented by Mr. Charles Fulton.*

DOLLY HADLOW.—*We regret that we have no information.*

W. HARRISON.—*Born March 12, 1832.*

TOM.—The Lights of Home, *by George R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, was produced at the Adelphi, July 30, 1892.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

LAWSON. — May 29, at Edendale, Binfield-road, Clapham, to John and Cissie Lawson, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

LAWRENCE—DAVIS.—May 29, at Dorchester, Massachusetts, U.S.A., Gerald Lawrence, actor, to Fay Davis, actress.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE.

DOONER—WADBROOK.—On Whit. Tuesday, June 5, Station-road Church, Brynmawr, by Rector Griffiths, Richard Dooner, of bioscope fame, son of James Dooner, and Nelly Wadbrook, of Wadbrook's Electrograph, S. Wales.

DEATHS.

BRIGHT.—May 29, at Lucerne, Addison Bright, dramatic critic.

BURNETTE.—May 24, at Salford Hospital, of Bright's disease, Clarence Burnette, actor.

FREEAR.—May 22, at Elm Villa, Serpentine-avenue, Sandymount, Dublin, Charles Thomas Wood Freear, aged 59; deeply regretted by his sorrowing wife and family. Interred at Mount Jerome Cemetery, Dublin, on May 25.

PENTLAND.—At the Cottage, Trinity, Edinburgh, on the 29th inst., Young Pentland, the father of Mr. Nicol Pentland and Mr. Frank Worthing. American papers please copy.

STAFFORD (ALFRED CORLEVI, of 39, Evans-square, Hull, died May 26, 1906. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, MAUDE STAFFORD.

IN MEMORIAM.

GOURIET.—In loving memory of my darling wife Maggie, who died June 8, 1904. Never forgotten by her loving husband—VICTOR GOURIET.

RELF.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, Robert S. Relf, who entered into rest May 31, 1905.

Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
The sound of a voice that is still.

STANLEY.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, Jean Stanley, who fell asleep at Leigh-on-Sea, May 31, 1904. From his sorrowing wife, Lilian.

WALTON.—In loving memory of our dear Lottie, who left this world of sorrow June 4, 1904. Never forgotten and ever missed by her father, mother, sisters, and brothers, and her little son. When all the world is bright we are sad. She was one of God's great gifts that gave us light.

Peace, perfect peace.

FOR SYMPATHY.

ELLIOTT.—Mrs. J B. Elliott and family wish to thank all kind friends for their letters and telegrams of sympathy in their great loss.

IN view of the increased prominence lately taken in the public mind by the question of Woman Suffrage, the coming performance of Mr. Swinburne's *Atalanta in Calydon*, on June 7 and 9, at the Crystal Palace, will be very apropos. The story of *Atalanta*, it will be remembered, is that of the earliest advocate of woman's equality with man. The music has been specially composed by Miss Muriel Elliott, and, in accordance with the author's intention, only women's voices are heard in the choruses. Among the audience at the Crystal Palace will be the veteran conductor, Mr. August Manns, under whose bâton Miss Muriel Elliott made her first public appearance as a pianist, and H.R.H. Princess Louise has given her special patronage to the performance, which, it should be added, is in aid of the Society for Waifs and Strays.

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CRICKET.

F. R. BENSON'S XI. v. MALVERN C.C.

Played at Malvern May 21, and ending in a draw. Scores:—

F. R. Benson's XI.—G. Hannam-Clarke, b Orr-Ewing, 38; C. Warburton, lbw., b Charsley, 13; J. P. Wilson, b Meade King, 21; G. Lane, b Garner, 23; G. Buchanan, c L'Estrange, b Meade King, 1; L. Woodhouse, c Graham, b Meade King, 10; F. G. Worlock, not out, 24; H. O. Nicholson, c Meade King, b Garner, 5; C. Keightley, b Meade King, 1; S. Howlett, not out, 15; extras, 25; total, for eight wickets (innings declared closed), 176. F. R. Benson did not bat.

Malvern C.C.—H. Gillmore, b Lane, 20; P. H. L'Estrange, c Lane, b Woodhouse, 1; C. Watson Smythe, b Woodhouse, 6; J. Cartman, c Hannam Clarke, b Woodhouse, 21; G. W. Charsley, b Lane, 25; P. Meade King, c Clarke, b Lane, 9; J. Graham, not out, 6; W. H. Orr-Ewing, not out, 22; extras, 5; total, for six wickets, 115. R. T. Powers, T. E. Thwaite, and J. D. Gardner did not bat.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS" CO. *v.* CENTRAL POLICE.

Played at Sheaf House, Sheffield, on May 22.

A Girl's Cross Roads Co.—F. Robertson, b Nicholson, 1; J. Trickett, b Nicholson, 0; W. Binney, b Nicholson, 0; F. Ingram, b Lord, 0; R. Bush, b Lord, 6; C. Bellenden, b Nicholson, 4; W. Johnson, c Fretwell, b Lord, 1; B. Sedger, b Nicholson, 0; P.-c. Crow, run out, 3; B. Hammond, c Walker, b Nicholson, 1; E. Henderson, not out, 0; extras, 6; total, 22.

Central Police.—Haird, b Bush, 0; Baker, b Bush, 7; Skelton, b Robertson, 6; A. F. Winby, c Binney, b Bush, 18; Nicholson, b Bush, 26; Lord, c Binney, b Bush, 11; Swallow, run out, 9; Spencer, b Johnson, 3; Fretwell, b Ingram, 5; F. Walker, b Ingram, 1; Pass, not out, 1; extras, 4; total, 91.

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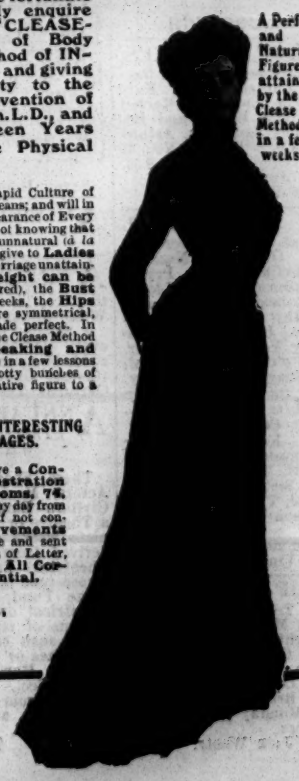

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By A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

INDEX.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
Actions for Deceit	3	Injunct'ns, Disobey'g	40
Actor, Illness of	11	,, Interim	40
,, Incompetence of	17	,, irrespective of Contract	40
Advertisement of Artist's Name may be a Libel	81	Injunctions, not granted where previous compromise	39
Agents	2	Injunction only granted where injury irreparable	38
,, cannot appoint other Agents	2	Injunctions party applying must have performed his part	35
Applicat'n for Theat'l Licence	53	Injunctions, there must be a negative clause	34
,, ,, Music and Dancing Licence	61	Injunctions to restrain Libel or Slander	40
Apprentices, Contracts with	31	Injunctions to restrain Nuisance	40
Ballet d'Action	52	Injunctions to restrain Performance	40
,, Divertissement	52	Letters, Contract made by	2
Band Music	74	Libel	77
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., to Lord Chamb'l'n	54, 150	,, restraining	40
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., Form of	150	Licence, Effect of Want of	4, 55
Booth, when Licence Required for	50	Licence, Excise	63
Breach of Promise to Marry	41	,, ,, by whom granted	63
Children, Licence to Employ	32	Licence, Music and Dancing	58
Children's Dangerous Performance Act, 1879	32, 95	Licence, Music and Dancing, Application for	61
Closing Times	53	Licence, Music and Dancing, Penalties on Breach of	62
Commission Payable to Agent	28	Licence, Music and Dancing, when required	59
Consideration, Meaning of	2	Licence, Theatrical	1
Conspiracy to Damn a Piece	43	,, Theatrical, Application for	53
Contract, Definit'n of	7	Licence, Theatrical, Application, Evidence on	53
,, Form of Theatrical	5	Licence, Theatrical, Granted Subject to Conditions	53
,, General Rules as to	1	Licence, Theatrical, Granted to Manager of Theatre only	52
,, Grounds for Determination of	3	Licence, Theatrical, Penalties on Breach of	55
,, in Writing or Verbal	1	Licence, Theatrical, when Required	49
,, Made by Agent	2	Licence to Employ Children	33
,, Made by Letters	2	Liquidated Damages	39
,, must have a consideration. no consideration necessary where under seal	2	London County Council, Regulations of	120
,, Setting aside	3	Lord Chamberlain, Bond Required by	54-150
,, Stamp on	3	Lord Chamberlain, Fees of	55
,, Variation of Written	2	Lord Chamberlain, Jurisdiction of	52
,, with Apprentice	31	Lord Chamberlain, Licence, Form of	150
,, with Infant	31	Lord Chamberlain, Regulations of	146
Copyright	66	Malicious Enticement to break Contract	31
,, Assignment of	67	Management and Audience	43
,, Duration of	67	Manager, Jurisdict'n of, subject to Court	19
,, Infringement	76	Misrepresentation in Contract	3
,, International	73	Mistake in Contract	3
,, Meaning of	66	Music, Licence for	58
,, Mode of Registration of	66	,, Hall Act, 1752	58, 93
,, Musical	69	,, Copyright in Sheet of	69
,, Plays performed Abroad	69	Music and Dancing Licence (see Licence, Music and Dancing)	
,, Remedies for Infringement of	76	Musical Copyright	69
,, Act 1842	67, 100	,, Compositions Act, 1882	70, 123
,, (Musical Compositions) 1887 Act	70, 123	Musical Compositions Act, 1888	70, 125
(Musical Compositions) 1888 Act	70, 125	Novel, Dramatising a	74
County Council	52, 61	Nuisance caused by Crowds	47
,, ,, Discretion of as to granting Licence	53	Opera, Copyright in	71
,, Jurisdiction of	53	Order on Programme libellous	81
Criticism	43, 77	Owner of Unlicensed Premises liable	51
,, must be honest	43	Partnership in Unlicensed Theatre cannot be enforced	5
,, Right to	43, 77	Payment and no Room	46
Crowds may be a nuisance	47	Payment not essential to necessity for Licence	59
Custom of the Profession	2, 22	Penalties under Excise Acts	65
Damages	34	Penalties as to Music and Dancing Licences	62
,, for Breach of Contract	41	Penalties as to Theatrical Licences	55
,, for Breach of Promise to Marry	41	Penalty on Unstamped Agreement	3
,, for Tort	41	Pianoforte Arrangement	71
,, Measure of	41	Plans of Theatre	52
,, must not be too remote	42	,, Music Hall	61
Dancing, Licence for	58	Playwright	55, 68
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897	32, 97	Principal and Agent	2
Defamatory Words	77	Public Health Act, 1890	59
Disorderly Conduct in Theatres, &c.	43	,, House	61
Dramatic Copyright Act, 1833	98	,, Performance	50
Dramatic Piece, What is a?	71	,, Place	68
Dramatising a Novel	74	Re-engagement, Meaning of	28
Drunkenness no Excuse	17	Remedies for Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Duologue, when a Stage Play	52	Remedies for Fraud in Contract	3
Evidence on hearing of Application for Licence	53, 61	Representation, Right of	68
Excise Licence (see Licence, Excise).		,, Registration of Right of	68
Fame a Consideration in Contract	23	Retaining a Seat	48
Fines and Forfeits must be reasonable	18	Rinking requires a Licence	59
Fraud in Contract	3	Riot	43
"Hire" defined	55	Room, Performance in	51
Hissing an Actor	43	Season, Meaning of	26
House, When Licence required for	50	Seat, Right to Retain	48
Illness of Actor	11	Services, Specific Performance of	34
,, ,, Clause in Contract as to	16	Slander	77
,, Manager may prevent Actor from performing	15	Song, when a Dramatic Piece	71
,, ,, when it excuses	11	Song, when a Musical Composition	71
Infringement of Copyright	76	Stage Play, Meaning of	51
,, Remedies for	76	Stage Play, must be duly Licensed	54
Injunctions	34	Starring	31
,, Acquiescence will prevent	40	Sunday Act	65
,, conduct of party applying must be fair and honest	40	,, Performing on Theatres Act, 1843	49, 57
Incompetence of Actor	17	Theatre, Patent	50
Infants	31	,, Unlicensed	4, 55
,, Contracts with	31	Theatrical Licence (see Licence, Theatrical).	
,, Licence to employ	33		

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1906.

A BISHOP ON THE DRAMA.

The Royal General Theatrical Fund dinner last week was one of the most successful of the banquets which have been given by that excellent institution; and an agreeable novelty was given to the list of speeches by the admirable oration of His Grace the Bishop of RIPON. The Bishop was particularly earnest in his protest against the opinion of a dramatic critic that it would be small loss to England if all the plays since GOLDSMITH and SHERIDAN were swept away. He testified to the value of modern plays; and he pleaded strongly that the drama should be treated as serious art. Everyone of us who employs words for the inspiration and instruction of others, said the Bishop, had the power at command of directly appealing to the moral nature of man. The dramatic art, however, did not approach moral questions in a direct method. The force of the spoken word, as far as the dramatic art was concerned, lay in the indirect method, and that method was the most powerful. The best way of stimulating and helping the moral forces of mankind was through the suggestions which arose out of delineated characters.

We do not think that, as a rule, either actor or playwright are aware of the immense importance of their work, of the intense reality which is attached to the acted and spoken play by the young, unsophisticated, and the impressionable. But if everyone will cast back his memory to his first visit to the theatre, and to those which immediately followed it, he will remember what a powerful impression it made on his mind. It is true that the dramatic art does not speak directly to the individual auditor. But the implied sermon is much more powerful and impressive than the stated one. You cannot have a play which is non-moral. No matter how carefully the writer avoids anything didactic, the work will have a subtle tendency called "tone," which is as strong as it is insidious. We cannot hear a piece like *The Merchant of Venice* played without imbibing an admiration and a love of noble sentiments, and a hatred and contempt for those which are base. What we are made to admire and what we are made to laugh at is far more important than what we are told we ought to do. It is not necessary to inveigh against a principle; one has only to make it repulsive or absurd on the stage to preach a lesson much more effective than any homily.

For, as the Bishop says, it is the indirect appeal which tells. In *The Merry Wives of Windsor* the theme is the attempted seduction of two country ladies by a town rake. But the laugh is against the rake, and the husbands are let off with a little harmless raillery. How easily a different kind of author would have turned ridicule on Page and Ford, and made Falstaff one of the lively seducers who have so often embellished French comedy.

And if evil may be so easily imbibed from the indirect appeal of the stage, good can with equal ease be inspired. We ought, therefore, to congratulate ourselves that our English drama is so clean and so pure as it is at present. Who could witness Mr. BEERBOHM TREE'S beautiful version of "The Newcomes" at His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday without feeling himself elevated above the mean and common things of life? Who could see *The Man from Blankley's* at the Haymarket without assimilating a sermon against snobbishness, hardness, and purse-pride; and a sympathy with the gentle, the simple, the kindly, and the courteous? And, in the defeat of the "fascinating" Mr. Vanderveldt at the Garrick, is not each of the audience, in being amused, insensibly elevated? What sermon of the direct order could be stronger than that contained in *His House in Order*, which Mr. ALEXANDER presents at the St. James's? And though, in pieces like *Dorothy o' the Hall* and *Brigadier Gerard*, there is no intentional moral aim, still the tone of the works, with their affectionate devotion, their honest courage, and their true lovers, makes for the best sort of righteousness, that which is full of energy and health. In *The Lion and the Mouse* at the Duke of York's, in *The Shulamite* at the Savoy, and in *Shore Acres* at the Waldorf, there is still the same intrinsic spirit of virtue; not an obtrusive or pedantic spirit, but one which steals into the heart unconsciously, and moulds and influences without the knowledge or realisation of the witness. On the English stage, evil of any kind is usually imported; it is not an article of home manufacture. It is pleasant to notice that, just now, there is so much on the boards that is native, and therefore healthy and honest. And even in the case of that very painful play *The Whirlwind*, at the Criterion, we do not find any offence, only horror and wholesome terror. No one is likely to be tempted to evil, many may be deterred from it, by the spectacle of the mental tortures of the wretched woman who, in circumstances which palliate her fault, has sinned against the Seventh Commandment. The "indirect" preaching of the English drama at the present time is as pure as it is powerful. Night after night from these theatrical pulpits come insinuated sermons; sermons not in one or two "stock" subjects, but on all that are concerned with the life of man. No wonder the Bishop of RIPON called the profession of an actor a serious one. To be one of the means by which the morals of a nation are moulded, the ideas of the rising generation formed, and the good feelings of their elders confirmed and encouraged, is, indeed, to be "seriously" employed. For there is nothing so important as the conduct of life; and that is just what the drama teaches.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—
Ben Webster—Saturday, June 2.
Frank Coyle—Saturday, June 2.
Alexander Fay—Saturday, June 2.
Mrs. Charles Sugden—Sunday, June 3.
Clo Graves—Sunday, June 3.
Tom Vine—Sunday, June 3.
Marion Herbert—Sunday, June 3.
F. L. Arthur—Monday, June 4.
May Seton—Monday, June 4.
James Fawn—Monday, June 4
John M. Davidson—Monday, June 4
Adeline Lester—Monday, June 4.
Annie Lenton—Monday, June 4.
Egerton Gray—Monday, June 4.
E. P. Morgan—Wednesday, June 6.
Leo Dryden—Wednesday, June 6.
Walter Buccleuch—Wednesday, June 6.
Bella Terry—Wednesday, June 6.
Empsie Bowman—Thursday, June 7.
Charles Brady—Thursday, June 7.
E. T de Banzie—Thursday, June 7.
Harry Freeman—Friday, June 8.

PRE-SHAKESPEAREAN comedies and moralities, sent over from Ireland, will figure in a sale to be held at the end of next month, at Sotheby's. Among the "Enterludes," as they are described, are the *Triall of Treasure*, printed at the Signe of the Lucrece, by Thomas Purfoote, 1567; *Darius, Pythie, and Pleasaunt*, taken from the Book of Esdras, 1577; John Bale's *Johan the Evangelyst, Lusty Juventus, Jacob and Esau*, 1568; "A pretie Enterlude called *Nice Wanton*," 1560; *Welth and Helth*, Thomas Ingelend's *The Desobedient Child*, 1565; the "Tragicall Comedie of *Apius and Virginia*," 1575; John Heywoode's *The Playe of the Weather*, Thomas Preston's "lamentable tragedie mixed with plesent mirth, *The Life of Cambises, King of Percia*," 1570; and a 1575 imprint of the famous "A Ryght Pithy, Pleasaunt, and Merie Comedie: Intityttled *Gammer Gurton's Nedle*: Played on Stage not longe ago in Christes Colledge in Cambridge," the first edition of the second English comedy written, and ascribed by some to John Still, afterwards Bishop of Bath and Wells.

THE MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

MR. O'CONNOR AND THE PIRATES.

The following is the text of the Musical Copyright Bill, which Mr. T. P. O'Connor introduced in the House of Commons on Monday:

A
BILL
To amend the law relating to Musical Copyright.
Presented by Mr. T. P. O'Connor,
supported by
Mr. Balfour, Mr. John Redmond,
Sir Alfred Thomas, Mr. Enoch Edwards,
Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. Crombie,
and Mr. Sloan.

Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. Every person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any pirated music shall (unless he proves that he acted innocently) be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction in manner provided by the law in force in that part of the British Islands where the offence is committed, and shall be liable to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding *one month* or to a fine not exceeding *five pounds*, and on a second or subsequent conviction to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding *two months* or to a fine not exceeding *ten pounds*. Any constable may take into custody without warrant any person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any pirated music.
2. Any constable authorised by an order of a court of summary jurisdiction made under section one of the Musical (Summary Proceedings) Copyright Act, 1902, to seize pirated copies of any musical work, may, between the hours of six of the clock in the morning and nine of the clock in the evening, enter any house or place named in such order, and, if necessary, use force for making such entry, whether by breaking open doors or otherwise.
3. In this Act the expression "pirated music" means any musical work written, printed, or otherwise reproduced without the consent lawfully given by the owner of the copyright in such musical work.
4. This Act may be cited as the Pirated Music Act, 1906, and shall extend to the British Islands.

"THE THIRD TIME OF ASKING."

A Rustic Comedy, by M. E. Francis,
Produced at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday, May 30.

Bob Leatherbarrow ..... MR. BOURCHIER
David Allcock ..... MR. WALTER PEARCE
Joe Lovelady ..... MR. ARTHUR WHITBY
Catty ..... MISS PAMELA GAYTHORNE

This new rustic comedy by M. E. Francis (Mrs. Blundell) was produced at a matinée on Wednesday in front of *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*. It is founded on a short story by the author; and the scene is laid in a Lancashire village. The courtship of Catty Lovelady becomes naturally a matter of local importance. Bob Leatherbarrow is not the ordinary rustic lover. He carries things with a high hand. Having quite made up his mind to wed the pretty country maid he allows "nowt" to interfere with his intention. He does not go about his courting in the usual way, and appears to take it for granted that the lady is quite willing to become Mrs. Leatherbarrow. Catty's father, however, has his doubts on the subject, and in plain language tells Bob that he is not going the right way to attain his object. To the girl's astonishment and indignation the ardent swain has actually had their names "called" in church without her consent. Moreover, Bob, a big burly fellow, will not permit anybody else to pay homage to the girl he has chosen as his wife. David Allcock, who is in the milk trade, and is quite a "masher" in his way, is inclined to pay court to Catty. Her father has given Bob sundry hints in the art of courtship as practised in his young days, and has suggested that Bob should bring the girl some "falrals" as one of the obvious means of winning her favour. Bob takes the hint, but when he returns with the presents, which are of a cumbrous nature, he, on looking through the open window, sees his rival, David, seated on the couch with Catty, and evidently on very good terms with the young lady. Bob threatens dire vengeance, slowly takes off his coat, and, suggestively rolling up his shirt-sleeves, says he can wait. The milkman is evidently seriously perturbed at the idea of encountering the pugilistic Mr. Leatherbarrow, and endeavours, with the aid of Catty, to slip out unperceived. But Bob catches him, and at once proceeds to carry him to the village horse-pond and duck him. Having thus summarily disposed of his rival, Bob returns with his parcel of presents for his lady love. These include a showy-looking coal-scuttle, a hearth-rug, a table-cloth, a tea service, and other useful articles. But Catty, though evidently interested in the "falrals," is not so easily captured, and makes effective use of a woman's favourite weapon—tears. Of course, if she must not look at any other swain in the village there is no other course open to her but to wed her persecuting admirer. Bob, however, intimates that he has no wish to force the girl into a marriage, and with a melancholy expression of face sets about packing up the presents; finally bursting into tears. This is too much for Catty, who is really fond of her uncouth but generous lover, and a reconciliation is speedily brought about, to the huge delight of Mr. Joe Lovelady, who is by no means indifferent to the fact that Mr. Leatherbarrow's worldly position is infinitely superior to that of the gentleman in the milk business.

Mr. Bourchier represented with genuine humour and artistic merit the part of Bob Leatherbarrow, who is so very anxious to fight for his bride. The shy awkwardness of the rustic lover was very cleverly and comically depicted. Mr. Walter Pearce cut an amusing figure as the chicken-hearted David Allcock; and Mr. Arthur Whitby gave an admirably natural and effective embodiment of Joe Lovelady. Miss Pamela Gaythorne also deserves warm praise for her delightful impersonation of coquettish Catty, who all the time has an eye to the main chance and never intends that her determined lover shall seek a wife elsewhere. The new piece was well received, and Mr. Bourchier led forward the author in response to a call. In a note on the programme Mr. Bourchier expresses his obligations to Mr. Sidney Valentine for assistance in the production of the new piece.

MME. JANE HADING, who, with the members of her French company, is paying a round of flying visits to sundry provincial theatres before commencing her London season, gave a matinée performance at the Edinburgh Lyceum on Saturday last. The play was Ohnet's *Le Maître des Forges*, with Mme. Hading in her original part of Claire de Beaulieu, and the reception accorded to the distinguished actress was cordial in the extreme. On Tuesday Mme. Hading paid a flying visit with the same play to the Palace Theatre, Belfast, and the triumph scored by the celebrated French actress quite justified the enterprise of Mr. Fred W. Warden, the managing-director of the theatre.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor's Bill to amend the law relating to musical copyright, which was introduced into the House of Commons on Monday, contains the very necessary provision that "any constable may take into custody, without warrant, any person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any pirated music." This is treating the "music pirate" in the same way as the pickpocket—a proviso that is entirely equitable. The full text of the Bill is given in another column. It is backed by Mr. T. P. O'Connor, and supported by Mr. Balfour, Mr. John Redmond, Sir Alfred Thomas, Mr. Enoch Edwards, Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. Crombie, and Mr. Sloan.

Mr. Harry Rickards, the leading Australian variety impresario, in consequence of pressure of business, has had to postpone his departure for the old country, and will not sail by the s.s. Himalaya, as previously stated, but by the India, arriving in London on Saturday, June 23. Business on the Rickards circuit is excellent.

Mr. Tom McNaughton, who arrives in London to-day (Saturday) from South Africa, after a most successful time in Johannesburg and Cape Town, in conjunction with his charming wife, Miss Alice Lloyd, has just cabled the Monte Carlo Publishing Co. (in which, by the way, Mr. McNaughton is an energetic partner) that they may expect him at Berners-street with a bundle of agreements he has entered into with South African music-sellers to exploit that rapidly-growing publishing house's "Sixpenny Successes." Mr. Edgar Hyman has arranged to have copies of these sold nightly in his places of entertainment all the year round.

Owing to the serious illness of Mr. Edward Swanborough the directors of the Chelsea Palace and the directors of the London Pavilion are organising a matinée benefit to take place on Thursday, June 28, at the London Pavilion, kindly placed at the disposal of the committee. Among those who have volunteered to assist on the general committee are Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Francis Burnand, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, and Mr. George Edwardes.

Miss Vesta Victoria, fresh from her American triumphs, makes her reappearance at the Tivoli on Monday with new songs; and Mr. Gus Elen, after his triumph at the Law Courts, will be seen in his screamingly funny scena, *The Unemployed*. Mr. John Ford, the marvellous dancer from America, will also appear.

The London County Council is preparing to serve a notice on the owners of the Canterbury, requiring such drastic alterations as to amount to a practical reconstruction of the building. The work is to be begun in three months and completed in six. The subject is being much discussed in music hall circles in a spirit of sympathy with Mr. George Adney Payne.

In the Canterbury and Paragon £12,000 have already been spent to satisfy the requirements of the Council. During an experience of twenty years at the Canterbury Mr. Payne has never had an accident. He is as anxious to secure the safety of the public as the London County Council, and has taken every means to do so. The notice which hangs over his head by a thread he regards as an attempt to restrict the attendance of the public in the Canterbury balcony and gallery.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council, in a report upon the case of the Canterbury, points out that "the owner can apply for an arbitrator to be appointed by the First Commissioner of Works to determine whether the Council's requirements are reasonable or not. The arbitrator's decision in such a case is final, and, in the event of the requirements not being upheld, the Council will be relieved of any responsibility for the safety of the public, so far as it may be affected thereby."

Quite a party from London of well-wishers will visit the Happy Valley at Southend to-day (Saturday), to give Mr. George Chirgwin's venture a good send-off, it being the initial performance of the season of the al-fresco entertainers, who, under the experienced lieutenancy of Chas. Osborne, will beguile the visitors for the next sixteen weeks or so. The genial "Kaffir" will himself appear at the afternoon show, and the entire proceeds will be given to a deserving local object—the Lifeboat Fund probably. Gus Elen, Charles Coborn, and Hamilton Hill have volunteered their services.

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Oxford, Ltd., was held at the Oxford on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Henry Tozer (chairman of the company) presiding. The secretary (Mr. Ilford Ibbetson, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditor, the chairman proposed "That the directors' report and accounts for the year ended April 30, 1906, recommending a dividend of 6 per cent., less income-tax, for the half-year ended April 30 last, also a bonus of 3s. per share, free of tax, together equal to 13 per cent. for the year, placing £6,000 to the general reserve fund, and carrying forward the sum of £3,624 10s. 7d. to the current year's accounts, be, and are hereby, adopted." Mr. G. Adney Payne (managing director) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Miss Constance Moxon (Mrs. Tom Craven) has had a rare streak of luck, and the many friends of that charming burlesque artist will be glad to hear that she is now a landed proprietress, having been willed by a deceased uncle who settled in Canada some years ago a well-cultivated farm in that fine country. Miss Moxon will not give up her stage career, and will remain in England.

In consequence of the unsettled weather Mr. Alfred Butt has arranged, at a short notice, to give a special matinée performance of the full evening programme on Whit Monday at 2 p.m.

Since the first performance of *The Daughter of the Mountain*, in which La Guerrero has admittedly scored a considerable success at the Palace Theatre, the piece has been judiciously "cut," and Mr. Bertram Steer has been specially engaged for the part of the Spanish captain, who rescues Marquita from the brigands.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair, who has been spending a few days at his place on the shores of Lake Windermere, did a record week's business with the publishers last week, selling them no less than nine songs. One of the most original and one of the best he has ever written is named "The Courtship of the Shamrock and the Rose." It has been secured by Arthur and Co., of Rathbone-place. The air to this song is by Bowker Andrews, and there is already a big demand for it. It is a free song.

"The Belle of Barcelona; or, The Mummer and the Maid," will be produced by Mr. Jack Mackenzie and a carefully-selected company of comedians and a full chorus at the Surrey on Monday. The production has been secured by Mr. Fred Baugh for the whole of the Macnaghten circuit.

The latest quotations of Music Hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1½; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. paid), 1¼; Ditto. (10s. paid), 1; London Pav. Ord., 4; Ditto. Pref., 4¾; London Coliseum, ½; Metropolitan, ⅞; Moss Empire, 4⅞; Ditto. Pref., 4; Oxford, 6¾; Palace, 9s.; Tivoli, 6¾; Varieties Consolidated Theatres, 14s. 6d.

Mr. Edwin Leslie, who made such a success of the Hippodrome, Southampton, and the Palace, Belfast, has been appointed district and touring representative for the De Frece Circuit.

To-day (Saturday) is a day to be marked with a white stone by the good people of Clacton, the magnificent Palace-by-the-Sea being opened for the first time, Mr. Geo. R. Sims performing the ceremony of declaring the building and grounds open. The fine band of twenty-seven picked instrumentalists, it is satisfactory to note, will be under the experienced direction of a British conductor, to wit, Mr. G. S. Thomas, late chef d'orchestre of Collins's. A special half-day trip for three shillings return leaves St. Pancras on Monday at 11.32, reaching Clacton at 1.58, and returning therefrom at 8.5 p.m.

The Leeds Tivoli will close from Saturday, June 16, onward, for a period of six weeks, during which the auditorium will be entirely remodelled and redecorated, reopening on August Bank Holiday under the same management, with an alteration in the name to the Leeds New Hippodrome.

The Coliseum, Leeds, was bought some years ago by Taylor's Drug Co., Limited, that firm's intention being to turn it eventually into a warehouse; but we are given to understand that the place is in the market, and various reports are afloat as to its reinstatement as a place of entertainment. No definite information, however, is to be obtained concerning any new enterprise.

Messrs. Pollard and Coventry open the Marina Hippodrome, Ramsgate, on Monday, June 18, for the season. This makes Mr. Pollard's twelfth season at Ramsgate. Al-fresco entertainments will also be given daily by their Scarlet and Blue Pom-Poms.

Some months ago it was announced in *The Era* that the Empire Theatre, Liverpool, was to be converted into a two-houses-per-night concern. The scheme, however, fell through for the time being. Two months back an application was made to the Licensing Bench for permission to introduce the system, "because it had been found necessary to go with the times." The Bench declined to allow the drink licence to be continued if the proposed change was effected, and also pointed out that the new condition of things would entail large crowds of people waiting outside for the second house, which could not be allowed. At all events, if the Excise licence was continued for a two-houses entertainment the other variety theatres would ask for a similar privilege. The application was thereupon withdrawn; but on Thursday was again renewed, and permission granted to have two performances nightly without a drink licence.

It was mentioned by the solicitor representing Moss' Empires, Ltd., that if they decided to revert again to one show per night they expected the liquor licence to be renewed. In fact, the Excise privilege would be brought forward at the annual Sessions next year. Regarding the people waiting for the second house, Messrs. Moss intended to utilise some extensive property they owned adjoining the theatre for waiting-rooms, so that the street traffic would not be obstructed. The present outside queue system would cease, and a new exit be added to the building. Two waiting-rooms to be opened would accommodate 700 people.

Thus every variety theatre in Liverpool will be on the two-houses-per-night principle. When the change was previously announced there was some considerable feeling expressed among the public, and it was regarded as a reflection upon the city that at least one hall could not be maintained for a full evening's entertainment. Competition, however, has become so keen in Liverpool, and such success has attended the cheap two-hours' system, that a variety theatre charging ordinary high prices may in future experience great difficulty in holding its position.

The struggle will be further increased when the new Tivoli, situated a short distance from the Empire, opens its doors in a few months. This place, which occupies the ground where Sam Hague's St. James's Hall stood, is rapidly approaching completion, but there seems little likelihood of its being ready for occupation on August Bank Holiday, as previously announced. It is situated in a principal thoroughfare, and promises, if properly managed, to receive a large measure of public patronage. There is a belief that the one-house-per-night system will now be adopted here. The property belongs to the Liverpool Palaces, Ltd., of which Mr. Walter de Frece is managing-director. Then, again, there are rumours of new developments in other parts of the city, so that the future will see a stiff competition among owners of theatrical enterprises.

The directors of the old-established Alhambra Theatre, Belfast, have decided to run a stock season of some weeks, commencing on the 11th inst., producing various well-known dramas with a competent cast. Rehearsals take place in Liverpool on Monday next. The experiment will doubtless be watched with much interest.

Mr. Otto C. Culling, general manager of the Theatre Royal and Circus of Varieties, Bury, took his tenth annual benefit in the theatre on Tuesday. The house was packed. Mr. Culling in a speech thanked everybody, and to prove his appreciation of the kindness shown to him, presented £10 to the Bury Cinderella Club and £10 to the Bury Ragged School.

The Liverpool Food and Betterment Association, an excellent institution which provides free meals for the poorest school children and arranges court concerts during the summer evenings, has benefited to the extent of £141, a sum resulting from the "pick of the pantomime" entertainment provided by artists engaged in Liverpool last January.

A most successful matinée was given in the Palace Theatre, Glasgow, on Tuesday, by kind permission of Mr. Richard Waldon, the proceeds being devoted to the building fund of the Convent of the Good Shepherd, at Dalbeth, Glasgow. The artists included Miss Marie Lloyd, Mr. George D'Albert, Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, and many others, in addition to the fine company appearing at the Palace. The house was crowded, and the entertainment was worthy of the excellent object and the artists assisting.

"The Masked Lady," a sketch which was so successfully produced at the Lyceum last week by Mr. Martin Adeson, was immediately booked for the Empire, Holloway, this week as a star turn; and by Messrs. Moss and Stoll, for their circuits.

Members of the Variety Artists' Federation and all bonâ-fide music-hall artists are invited to attend a meeting at the Horns (Lower Hall) to-morrow (Sunday) at 8 o'clock.

Dalton's Agency, in addition to arranging 34 weeks with Mr. Stoll for Miss Ruby Dahl and her Human Mannikins, has induced this gentleman to book the Narow Bros. This is the act that created such a furore recently in London, where their visit was unfortunately too short. Mr. Stoll has booked it for 53 weeks for the Moss-Stoll Tour through Mr. Will Dalton. This gentleman seems to discover new acts very often, and during the last seven years has placed and made a market for turns such as Tom Edwardes, Coram, &c., besides doing a deal of provincial booking for the "toplight" foreign acts.

The Whitsuntide novelty at the Canterbury will be *The Smoking Concert*, produced recently by Mr. Fred Karno at the Oxford. Since the first performance the sketch has been considerably strengthened, and has now become a bright and merry concoction.

Mr. Percival Spencer, the well-known aeronaut, has hit upon an original cure for those who are suffering neurotically, and each prescription costs £20. He asserts that a thirty-hour balloon trip anywhere will do more to restore the nervous system if run down than all the tonics in the world. Miss Godwynne Earle, now taking the part of Commere in the Coliseum revue, at the six o'clock performance, tried his cure last Sunday, taking an aerial trip with a lady friend and an aeronaut.

The voyagers ascended from the grounds of Mr. Spencer's Highbury balloon depot shortly before 6 a.m. Nothing more was heard of them until 11 a.m. on Monday, when Miss Earle stepped out of a train at Charing Cross, having made an aerial trip to Carteret, in Normandy, returning thence by train and boat.

In the holiday programme at the Standard a chief place will be found for Miss Peggy Pryde, who has now completely recovered her health. Other turns will include Miss Daisy James (the "Gibson Girl"), Mr. T. E. Dunville, Rosie Lloyd, Eadie and Ramsden, Vivian's Arcadians, Harry Leybourne, Selby and Myers, Crown Trio, Zampah Brothers, Calile and Walker, Harding and Preston, Harry Cook, the Clarion Trio, Dorothy Vell, and Fred Walker.

Mr. T. S. Lonsdale, of the Empire Palace, Portsmouth, whose novel composite picture of hundreds of faces of famous variety artists, past and present, has been in great demand by members of the profession and others, has now written and composed a song to which he has given the same name, "Faces Past and Present." The cover is a reproduction of the original picture. The song is a suitable one for those who can impersonate Eugene Stratton, Arthur Roberts, Harry Lauder, Joe Elvin, or Marie Lloyd. A parody on the well-known ballad, "Eileen Alannah," which is now being sung by Arthur Reece, is also included.

By the way, Mr. Lonsdale is the composer of such well-known songs as "Tommy make room for your Uncle" for W. B. Fair, "If I were only long enough" for Mr. Arthur Roberts, "We are a merry family," and numerous others.

Mr. Bert Clark (of Clark and Hamilton), who is appearing at the Holloway Empire, and is often hailed as a Yankee, was intended for the musical profession, and studied at the Royal College of Music and the Guildhall School, being regarded at both establishments as likely to take a very high place as a pianist. He gained the first-class certificate of the Society of Arts. However, he astonished everybody by suddenly "turning it up" and running off to America, where he came in contact with those well-known athletes, A. B. George and Cæsar Young, the latter being the famous sportsman in connection with whose death Nan Patterson was thrice tried for her life. Cæsar Young laid the foundation of his big fortune, Mr. Clark says, by utilising his great powers as a runner. He was thus able to get very rapidly between the different pool rooms, and so obtain better prices for the customers who had entrusted him with commissions. Mr. Clark himself used to be a fine athlete, and when quite a youth was well known in amateur athletic circles as a good hurdler and long-distance runner. He was a good 4.28 man for the mile not so very long ago.

The most exciting experience that has befallen Mr. Clark occurred one hot day at Pago Pago, in the Mediterranean. He got up at six o'clock one morning, and concluded to bathe from the ship's side. After he had been swimming about for awhile, there was a yell from the deck, and, with a dim feeling that something must be wrong, he made all haste aboard. When he reached the deck he was shown a school of sharks sleeping on the surface of the water a little distance away, and allowed that he had had a pretty close call.

Princess Pauline leaves London to-day to fulfil engagements in the United States. Serpentello, her business representative, accompanies her. Serpentello, or "Serp," as he is familiarly known to a large number of the profession, starts from Waterloo station this day at 10 a.m. He will join the fine s.s *St. Paul* at Southampton. Quite a large number of friends are expected at Waterloo Station to wish him bon voyage and a safe return.

Mr. Harry Leamar (late of the Cee Mee Trio) has opened a musical, dramatic, and variety agency, at 157, Strand. Mr. Leamar has had considerable experience on the Continent and in the British Isles, and possesses the energy and business nous that are so essential at the present day in the promotion of the interests of variety clients.

Mr. Charles Collette, after appearing with the greatest success as Micawber in the principal provincial cities, in Charles Cartwright's dramatised version of "David Copperfield"—*Dan'l Peggotty*, returns to London, to reappear on Monday at the London Pavilion, in his street patter monologue, *Broke*.

"La Milo," now performing at the Pavilion to crowded audiences, is in real life Miss Pansy Montague. She was born in Australia, and is the daughter of an English Army officer. She is descended from a well-known county family.

Messrs. C. St. John Denton and Rowlands are presenting this week at the Duchess Palace, Balham, quite a novel entertainment in the way of a children's singing and dancing scena, entitled *The Punch and Judy Girl*. This clever turn made its first appearance in London on Feb. 12 at the Tivoli, and is booked at all the principal halls. This shows that our much-maligned managers know a good turn when they see it.

The crowd of pretty girls who surround the King of Sahara in the new sketch at the Oxford are very smartly dressed in the opening scene in up-to-date frocks of faint and effective tints, one costume of deepest violet adding just the right finishing touch to the tout ensemble. It is hard to choose the prettiest dress when all are so charming, but perhaps a white satin, sequined with silver, and worn with a big white tulle hat with a handful of big pink roses under the brim is one of the most attractive, although it has a rival in a sky-blue chiffon gown, with tiny puff sleeves.

Another of the girls looks very handsome in cream-coloured soft silk, with handkerchief sleeves of écru lace, and a hat of a deeper shade, with bunches of cherries and foliage. A tall blonde is all in pink, sparkling and glistening from head to foot, an excellent contrast being found in a dress worn by a brunette—coffee-coloured lace, strips of brown velvet, and an elaborate design on skirt and bodice of flowers in old gold. A little white chiffon frock, worn by one of the principals, has dainty wreaths of small roses on the fluffy skirt and a soft folded satin belt, another of the leading ladies of the little company appearing in black and gold. Carnival costumes are the order of the night in the last scene of *The King of Sahara*, so the stage is thronged with follies, vivandières and dancing girls, perhaps the prettiest dress being a rainbow-coloured chiffon, worn with pink shoes and stockings.

Link, the latest simian wonder, was on view to his distinguished descendants on Friday at the Hotel Cecil, where he entertained a number of journalists to luncheon. He has attained the age of three and a half years, and has already visited Berlin and Paris, where his intelligence and *savoir faire* have created much curiosity and interest. He will be the principal novelty at the Hippodrome on Whitsun Monday.

During the journey to and from Epsom, in glorious weather, on Wednesday, the melodies that caught the ear everywhere were those of "In the shade of the old apple-tree" and "Put a little bit away for a rainy day," both popular numbers issued by the celebrated firm of Francis, Day, and Hunter.

Meier and Mora are rejoicing in a very gratifying success at the Empire, Johannesburg, with their new show, which introduces beautiful scenery, novel effects, and a remarkable musical dancing novelty.

Mr. John Leopold will produce next week at Manchester an entirely new and original sketch, entitled *The Houseboat*, by John Leopold and Wilfred Vaughan. The cast will be an exceptionally strong one, including the original Leopolds and a specially selected company of comedians.

John Lawson, who is appearing at the Bradford Empire, was agreeably surprised on Tuesday morning to receive a wire informing him that he was the father of a bonnie girl. Mrs. Lawson and the baby are progressing splendidly, and the "King's Minister" has received shoals of telegrams congratulating him. The event was announced in the Bradford papers on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Lawson had a fine reception from two crowded houses.

Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. have arranged to publish "Amelia Snow; or, The Jealous Coon," with which Miss Bessie Butt has been making such a success. The words are by A. E. S. Davis, and the music by H. E. Darewski, jun.

Mr. Reginald Payne is leaving the dramatic stage in order to enter the variety profession. Mr. Payne is admitted to be a "good singer of good songs," and as such artists are always welcome to the music-hall, his success seems to be assured.

Messrs. Gus Elen, Harry Tate, Hamilton Hall, and Charles Coborn are giving their services at Mr. G. H. Chirgwin's opening matinée at the Happy Valley, Southend-on-Sea, on Saturday next.

The "hit" of South Africa is undoubtedly Lawrence and Mellor's popular song, "I've built a bamboo bungalow for you," which has been sung by Miss Alice Lloyd at every performance both in Johannesburg and Cape Town, and has taken these towns by storm.

"Bertie's Birthday Party," a musical sketch written and arranged by R. F. Morrison and Barney M. Armstrong, is now billed for the third week at the Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow. Altogether there are thirty people taking part in the trifle. The cast includes Messrs. J. T. Macmillan, well-known in the provinces by his clever impersonation of Ebenezer Honeycombe in *The Gay Parisienne*, and Percival, Miss Lena Brunton, Little Barney, the Brothers Gardner, Mr. Jack Chambers, the Gaiety Sextette, &c.

Encouraged by the success of the above sketch, Mr. Armstrong will follow it by the production of *Sandy and the Sultan*, in which almost the same cast will take part. The scenery and dresses for the latter have cost close upon £1000, and it will be one of the biggest things ever seen on a variety stage. Mr. Armstrong intends giving the comedians plenty of chances for comedy. The two sketches are to be toured, and we may expect to see them in town before long.

Gratifying success attended the production at the Islington Empire on Friday, May 25, of *Bertie's Adventure*, written by Messrs. F. L. Webber and Stewart D. Wright. The company presenting the bright and amusing trifle—on which, by the way, the authors were highly complimented by the manager, Mr. Lyndon Greenwood—included Mr. Edward Morgan, as Brown, the waiter; Mr. A. T. Henden, as Harry Spoofem; Mr. Leslie Martin, as the Hon. Bertie; and Miss Cecile Rivers, as Mrs. Clara Spoofem.

Mr. J. Airlie Dix, the composer of "The Trumpeter," has been playing great havoc during the current week with the trout in Yorkshire.

Messrs. Lee and Arden have added still another place to their list of al-fresco enterprises in the West of Scotland, the Kilmarnock Town Council having granted them the use of Howard Park for their entertainments during the summer season.

Mr. Syd Cotterell and company, in the comedy success *The Substitute*, are proving a great draw in the country. The production is entirely void of anything bordering on vulgarity.

Mr. C. W. Poole's Myriorama has scored a decided success at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, this week. The pictures are quite up-to-date, and the variety portion of the programme is excellent. Undoubtedly the most popular turn is the clever troupe of dogs introduced by Miss Kitty Woodford, a charming little lady, who possesses a fine stage appearance. The animals go through a regular circus performance, representing ponies, donkeys, &c., whilst the doggy orchestra hugely delights the juvenile members of the audience as well as their elders.

Mr. Syd Bazley, the peculiar comedian, has been re-engaged by Mr. Lester Collingwood to play principal comedian in his next year's production of *Blue Beard*; and also by Mr. Harry Battersby for the season at his new al-fresco pavilion at Bilston, Staffs.

At the London meeting of the International Artists' Lodge in London, on Sunday, it was decided that the meeting to-morrow shall begin at six o'clock, in the hope of completing its business in such time as to allow members to attend the meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation. There was a discussion, without formal expression of opinion, on the amalgamation of Keith and Proctor. The liability of performers to income-tax was the subject of some comment. The president expressed the opinion that any grievance in respect of income-tax is personal, and cannot claim the assistance of the legal committee. In Bremen, the president remarked, four per cent. is deducted from artists' salaries in consideration of a licence to perform, which is much the same thing as taxing income. The Lodge has so far been unsuccessful in its endeavours to upset this impost.

A member drew attention to the re-engagement clause appearing in the contracts of the Empire, London, which he said was a little vague in respect of the date. An artist might conceivably be requisitioned for the Empire when he had arranged to appear elsewhere. The president thought the difficulty would be overcome by inserting the words "if disengaged." There was a long discussion as to the dilatoriness of some managers in the return of confirmations. It was held that contracts should be remitted to the artist by return of post. The secretary of the Variety Artists' Federation informed the meeting that his employers were taking legal advice with regard to the repudiation of contracts by the Coliseum.

Genuine versatility is none too common on either the variety or dramatic stage. Therefore the turn of Mr. Rex King, who, by accounts to hand of his performance, has demonstrated in the provinces his right to be called "the one-man programme," should soon be seen on the London variety stage. If perseverance in the upward climb to artistic perfection and considerable natural ability count for anything, this young and clever artist is bound shortly to make his way to the front.

Application was made on Saturday before Mr. Justice Phillimore for perpetual injunctions to restrain three music hall artists from breaking their contracts by performing within a radius of twenty miles of the Tivoli, Manchester. The artists were Jake Friedman, who is known as the "one-man opera"; Miss Lilian Doreen, a ballad vocalist; and Miss Ada Martine, a comedienne. Interim injunctions had been obtained previously, and his lordship now granted perpetual injunctions with costs.

Dr. Walford Bodie, who has now fully recovered from his severe indisposition, opened on Monday night at the Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool, both houses being packed to the doors, over 8,000 paying for admission. He had a great ovation, being cheered again and again on making his appearance. He introduced a large number of his cures treated by him on previous visits, one being the son of Police-constable Chesters, 94, D Division, who was cured by him last February after being discharged from two of the leading hospitals. He wore double irons, which he has now presented to the Doctor.

On Monday he publicly refuted some reflections that had been cast upon his cures by a London detective in a court of law, and stated that he had written to the Home Secretary on the matter, as well as to the judge before whom the case was heard, and to a local Member of Parliament. He denied the truth of the detective's statement, and offered to give a handsome sum to the hospitals if it could be found other than false.

England has long lacked a seaside attraction such as is possessed by America in the form of Coney Island, and it will be interesting to note whether the blank will be filled by Mrs. M. Barrasford, until recently manageress of the Lyceum, who has now taken possession of her new property, "The Devil's Dyke," near Brighton, where it is intended to erect a small garden city. This year, however, numerous entertainments have been organised, and the first of these will take place on Whitsun Monday. A café chantant has been erected, where pastoral plays and variety entertainments will be held. Three military bands will be in attendance all day; a series of Old English sports and pastimes will occupy the attention of visitors; and a "go-as-you-please" race from the Brighton Hippodrome to the Dyke is causing much local excitement, the competitors for the silver cup being extremely numerous. The variety programme includes the names of Les Fedoras and Mlle. Sylvia du Barry.

Mr. Arthur Bright, who manages four of Mr. Montague's pierrot companies, opened with one of his troupes on Saturday last, and achieved such an enormous and instantaneous hit with two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Co.'s "Sixpenny Successes," viz., Mr. J. F. Lambe's "Widow Doolin" and Messrs. Lawrence and Mellor's "Bamboo Bungalow," that he has sent the Berners-street firm a most gratifying letter, in the course of which he states that during the thirteen or fourteen seasons he has worked outdoor entertainments, he cannot call to mind any songs that have caught on so enormously the first time of being introduced as these two have done.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Co. last week accepted from Mr. J. F. Lambe a charming new number, entitled "My Queen of Old Samara," which Miss Lil Hawthorne has arranged to "feature" at an early date. The same delightful artist is shortly producing Mr. H. K. Hamilton Field's quaint coon song, "That's your cactus over there," published by the same energetic firm at an early date.

Mr. Harry Nation's London concert party opens to-day (Saturday) at Mitchell's Athletic Grounds, Herne Bay. An extremely ingenious throwaway has been devised by Mr. Nation, and executed by Willsons, of Leicester, and not only Herne Bay visitors but the inhabitants of surrounding districts have not been permitted to escape or forget the fact of the existence of the merry crowd.

The Gardner-Brown vaudeville companies' popular variety combinations touring the East have won such favour recently that their operations will be considerably extended. They have a five years' reputation, and some of their engagements with artists originally for a few months have run into years. Particulars of salaries, &c., may be obtained by writing to the Manager, the Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies, care of Messrs. Soundy and Co., agents, Bombay.

Hercat, the humourist and illusionist, has produced at the Lyceum this week, with much success, a sketch entitled *His House in Disorder*.—Mr. Geo. Collins, the quaint comedian, returns on Monday to the Palace, Belfast, after only nine weeks' absence, and opens in London on Monday, June 11, for a fortnight.—Mr. Frank Coyle has this week produced a song entitled "The Two Flags," a comic descriptive ditty, by that well-known writer Mr. Albert Hall.

The Stanford Quartette and Concert Party (under the direction of Mr. Lloyd Stanford) start their summer tour to-day (Saturday), at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, where they have been specially engaged by Mr. Standen Triggs to appear in the Floral Hall as his special Whitsuntide attraction, thus making their third visit to Eastbourne since February last.

The 465th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Tuesday, when Mr. Joe O'Gorman occupied the chair. Messrs. Harry Blake, Charles Coborn, Frank Gerald, Fred Herbert, Michael Nolan, Geo. Preston, Cliff Ryland, C. D. Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer) were also present. The minutes of the previous meeting having been passed, questions arising out of them were dealt with. Correspondence regarding the case in which a member alleged that a complaint addressed to the committee had been suppressed, was submitted in proof that the matter had been duly dealt with by the executive then in office, and the secretary's explanation was accepted by the present meeting as thoroughly satisfactory.

A letter was read informing the committee of the decease, some time since, of Mr. H. Bennett Baily, the hon. medical officer for Streatham, and his name was ordered to be removed from the list. Mr. Jabez Barber, of the Poplar Inn, Ilkeston, was appointed agent for the Association in that town. The hon. treasurer's financial statement, showing that the amount standing to the Association's credit was £1,179 1s. 6d., was read and passed. The secretary's statement for the week was read, the additions to the roll of membership being forty-nine, the receipts £48 6s., and the expenditure £11 6s. 1d. The question regarding the institution of an office in Liverpool again came up for discussion, and it was agreed that it was a matter that should be left for the annual general meeting.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE SURREY.

On Monday evening was produced here a new one act dramatic episode, by Percival H. T. Sykes, entitled

"THE LAST OF THE FOPS."

Colonel Fobes .....MR. CHARLES FROME
Captain C. Georges .....MR. ERNEST LAYTON
William Macky .....MR. FRANK CLINTON
Major Frank Perry .....MR. CHARLES HENDIN
Lord Bertie Furgeson .....MR. PERCY MURRAY
Lady Biddy .....MISS ADA MURRAY
Hanah .....MISS MAY RIGHT
Lady Rose White .....MISS LENA PENROSE

The story opens in the garden of Lady Biddy's mansion on the afternoon of a reception given by her ladyship in honour of Lord Bertie Furgeson, who has been appointed to carry out a most important diplomatic mission, and who is to receive his despatches that afternoon from the hands of the Cabinet Minister's daughter, Lady Rose White. Lord Bertie has the reputation of being a vain and affected fop; but his intimate friends know that under the thin veneer of the dandy lie all the latent strength and courage of a high-bred English gentleman. Captain Georges, an unscrupulous officer, being hard up, and closely pressed by creditors, has accepted a secret commission from the Turkish Government to secure a copy of the despatches to be entrusted to Lord Bertie. As a reward for his treachery he is to receive £5,000. Captain Georges overhears Lord Bertie telling Major Perry that he is to receive the despatches that afternoon, and is determined to gain possession of them. Lady Biddy, in a quiet chat with her niece Lady Rose, hints that it is possible Lord Bertie will ask her to be his wife, and strongly advises her to accept him, but Lady Rose tells her aunt that she has an utter contempt for a "fop," whose dandified manners are the jest of Society, and discloses the fact that his lordship's friend, Major Perry, is her ideal of a man. When all the guests are assembled, Lady Rose lets her friends see that she prefers the attentions of the major to that of his friend; but Frank Perry is loyal to Lord Bertie, and sings his praises, recounting brave deeds of his that are only known to his intimates. After the reception Lord Bertie declares his love to Lady Rose, and begs her to marry him. She tells him that another has won her heart, and asks him to let them still be as before, "friends." She also takes from her bodice the despatches, and hands them to Lord Bertie. Captain Georges, who has been in hiding, comes forward, and demands them, remarking that he means to have the papers "by fair means or foul." Lord Bertie hands the documents back to Lady Rose. This incenses the captain, who, drawing a revolver, fires at Lord Bertie, and switching off the lights, rushes towards Lady Rose. Her screams bring in the guests, and when the lights are turned up Lord Bertie is found to be fatally wounded with the despatches firmly grasped in his hand. Lady Rose explains what has occurred, and is filled with remorse at her treatment of Lord Bertie, who drops dead at her feet.

In the title-rôle Mr. Percy Murray gives an admirable character-study of the dandy, Lord Bertie, and both in his love passages with Lady Rose, and his encounter with the traitor Captain Georges, is full of artistic resource and power. As my Lady Biddy Miss Ada Murray gives a delightful impersonation of an aristocratic dame, and endows the character with womanly gentleness and dignity. Miss Lena Penrose, in the rôle of Lady Rose, is charming, though a little lacking in feeling. As the peppery old Colonel Fobes, Mr. Charles Frome is remarkably good; Mr. Ernest Layton as the traitor Captain Georges is careful to invest the part with all the necessary villainy; Mr. Frank Clinton as the valet Macky has little to do, but does that little thoroughly and well; and the same may be said of Miss May Right as the maid Hanah. A special word of praise is due to Lady Margaret, who sang charmingly a verse of "Dear Heart" in the drawing-room scene. This scene also deserves the highest meed of praise, for rarely has a more elegant and complete set been seen on the variety stage. On the whole, *The Last of the Fops*, with its pretty incidental music, is a very vivid and interesting production.

In direct contrast to the above, Messrs. Tom Craven and Stephen Adeson, with a clever company, are provoking unlimited mirth in their miniature comedy, *The Lady in Red*. Briskly and amusingly played, Messrs. Craven and Adeson's untiring efforts are loyally supported by Miss Rita Tomkins as the angry wife, and Miss Marie Shields as her pugilistic sister. Almost on the same lines is the farcical episode *Barmaids*, admirably played by Miss Hulo Hodgson, Mr. Henry Lowther, and an energetic company. Fun and sentiment are illustrated in a most entertaining manner by Raymond's Bio-Tableaux in two films, "Mrs. Brown's Bad Luck" and "True to Her Trust." Time has dealt kindly with that evergreen versatile comedian, Mr. Charles Coborn. His typical character-sketches are most artistic, while his topical ditty, "Four fingers and a thumb," brings down the house. Reilly and Taylor, Dutch comedians; Frank Cumminger, whose sand and buck dancing is a revelation of hard work and skill; Mlle. Sylvesto, a pretty and graceful contortionist; and Larry Lewis, comedian, also contribute to the long and well-varied programme.

THE DUCHESS.

Admirers of the pretty Duchess at Balham are constant in their devotion, and Mr. Walter Gibbons may well regard the hall as among the most prosperous of his enterprises. Mr. George L. Wilson, the popular manager, has worked hard to maintain the prestige of what is manifestly the only place of amusement in the busy suburb, with the consequence that select audiences, representative of the best people in the district, are attracted. A flavour of novelty is given to the present week's bill by the inclusion in the programme of the Ten Loonies, whose description of insane instrumentalists is well borne out by their manipulation of all sorts of articles from which music may be extracted. Laughter as well as melody is made in their sketch entitled *Dotty*, the significance of the title becoming fully apparent. One performer does some clever tricks on a pianoforte, and all the members of the troupe give selections, very brief, but sufficient to show that they are talented musicians.

Eccentricity in the musical art is also displayed by Kloof and Ramsay, who play a banjo solo between them. The impedimenta of the tea-table is also brought into requisition, tunes being extracted from cups and saucers, and from the interior of a plum cake. The lady afterwards sings a pretty ballad, to which an obbligato is supplied by her companion, who uses his partner's picture hat for the purpose. The item is skilfully presented, and wins well-deserved appreciation. A pathetic turn is given to the programme by the appearance of the Blind Collier Boy, who is stated to have come from the coal-pit to the stage. He plays "Alice, where art thou?" on the Japanese fiddle, and a popular selection from *Belphegor* on the concertina, and is rewarded with the heartiest and most sympathetic cheers.

An animated scene is furnished by C. St. John Denton and Geo. Rowland's company, introducing the Punch and Judy Girls, and consisting of about a score of dainty maidens, who join blithely in song and dance. They are marshalled by an itinerant showman, who leaves his box to direct the entertainment presented by the juveniles. Two wee lassies supplement a duet about "Old Man Moon" with a little dance, in which some clever pirouetting is done; and another pretty mite sings of a "coon baby," and adds a clever little dance. The interlude is smartly executed, and gives evident pleasure. The Brothers Ashley create abundant amusement with their sketch, *Next, Please*, enacted in a barber's shop, the owner of which is indefatigable in his efforts to create mirth. There is a lively bout between a bully and a prize-fighter, in which the services of the ex-7st. 4lb. champion are engaged, and the way in which he administers "punishment" to his adversary, who is finally "knocked out," is quite exciting.

Dancing is the chief recommendation of Miss Alma Gray, an Australian young lady, who appears in the picturesque costume associated with the land of the kangaroo. She also sings remarkably well about "My little bush girl," and her dancing possesses a neatness and novelty which well-deserves the applause evoked. Mr. Walter Stanley cuts a comic figure as a little boy who yearns to get "as old as father," and later rouses enthusiasm by the clever verses attached to the refrain, "I'm glad I live in England," the grotesque steps with which he embellishes the song being well done. The all-embracing cinématograph has now taken hold of poular novels for illustration, that for this week being Dickens's famous story, "Oliver Twist," of which the most interesting portions are depicted. A feature of the exhibition has also been the representation on the Imperial Bioscope of the race for the Derby, which was announced to be presented on the very evening of the event. The Smythsons are seen in a comedy sketch, entitled *Love Germs*, which is provocative of considerable laughter; and the programme is also contributed to by Mr. Walter Clyde, tenor vocalist. Mr. B. Ross is the new acting-manager of the Duchess, the orchestra being carefully controlled by Mr. Chas. Longmaid.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

The shouts of laughter that rang through the house when Mr. Will Evans tumbled on to the stage on Monday evening served as a tribute to the popularity of that comedian in Walthamstow. He is in the best of spirits this week, and simply keeps his hearers in fits of laughter every moment he occupies the stage. After a lot of amusing "chaff" and song, he introduces the audience to that terrible forecast of "The 1910 Invasion," which simply makes people rock in their seats. It is but fair to add that Mr. Evans is really cleverly supported by his un-named "army." Mr. Arthur J. Barclay is always sure of a safe card when he plays Will Evans. Mr. Geo. French's troupe of acrobatic cyclists richly deserve the applause and the laughter that are awarded their clever and amusing act. The Brothers Bright make a great success in their graceful gymnastic performance, their exhibition of strength being only equalled by the elegance with which it is all accomplished. Mr. James Fawn is too old a public favourite to require repeated adulation, but his two songs, that of the policeman, "What would you do with me?" and "The Henpecked Jossers' Club," prove that his powers show no falling off. The Snow Family are loudly applauded for their grotesque skating, the exploits of at least three of their members being things to remember. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, with new films, still retains its place as one of the most popular features at this house. The principal place, both in artistic excellence and in actual time, is occupied by an entirely new "dramatic playlet," entitled *Under the Seal*, written by Mr. William Felton, and played by Miss Margaret Parker and her company. The "seal" in this case is that of the confessional, and, although many persons may object to the exhibition on the stage of the variety theatre of the most sacred symbols, there is little in this "playlet" that can reasonably offend the sensibilities of the most fastidious. The story is a strange combination of low-comedy and high-tragedy, and these two diametrically opposite ingredients are well displayed in the part of Bet, "a gutter brat," played by Miss Margaret Parker. This young lady has evidently in her the grit of which great actresses are made, and we should not be surprised if she came rapidly to the front. The alternating moods of tragedy and comedy are cleverly shown, and the audience watches with amusement the playfulness of he faithful servant girl, her boisterous, spirits, her nervous tension, and the pathos of her death scene. Miss Parker's success is undoubted. Mr. Herbert Harden is calm, dignified, sonorous, as the conscience-stricken priest, Father David; Mr. Morrice Seaton is strong and emphatic as the murderer; and Mr. E. J. Woolley is more than usually realistic as P.C. 147. The scene is laid in Father David's living-room, and is a well-arranged set. *Under the Seal* has been received with well-earned applause.

BARNARD'S, GREENWICH.

As is the rule at this popular hall, the programme is of the most liberal kind, both in quantity and quality, and the comfort of the visitor is well looked after by the courteous manager, Mr. Bert Dent. On the night of our visit the first item on the programme after the well-played overture was the turn of Mr. Percy Dalton, the clever young comedian and dancer, who was very warmly received. Next came Mr. George Scott, refined ballad vocalist and humorist, with a capital recitation, entitled "Chinese Labour," and an excellent song, "Something missing." Miss Frances Manners followed with two well-rendered numbers, entitled respectively, "Good old days," and "When the blue moon shines." Calvin Clarke's company appeared with success in their dramatic sketch, in three scenes, *In London's Heart*. Great credit is due to everyone concerned in this clever contribution. Miss Ivy Galland made a most successful appearance, and delighted all by her singing of "Kitty" and "Get away back home." She was followed by the Original Passmore Brothers, whose quaint style and smart patter caused much amusement in their entertainment known as *Soldiers and their Maids*. Next came Selman with a humorous rendering of "The Man in the Moon" and "Dreaming." The Moretons were responsible for much laughter in a well-acted trifle of farcical type, entitled *The Downfall of Julia*. Mabel Sinclair, the popular lady ventriloquist, gave a bright little entertainment, aided by her little coster boy; and last, but not least, among the artists appearing was the much-talked-of French comedienne, Eugene Fougère, who contributed some well-sung characteristically French songs. The evening's bill was brought to a successful close by the exhibition on Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope of some new and interesting pictures, including "The Race for the Derby."

RICHMOND THEATRE.

This charming little theatre has been filling well during the week, during which variety lovers have been able to witness quite an excellent programme. The Sisters May win considerable favour as vocalists and dancers, being especially expert exponents of the art of Terpsichore. A novel and refined turn is given by the Four Cecilias, clever instrumentalists, who are equally at home as violinists, pianists, or trombonists, the *Faust* selection being really admirably rendered. There is no lack of fun in Welda and Wynn's act. To note the former devouring confectionery with the appetite of a Gargantua is a most amusing experience; and their balancing "business" is also good, one of the twain getting a lot of fun out of the "shedding" of innumerable waistcoats.

The Players are responsible for the presentation of a new farcical sketch, entitled *Touched Up*, which has been most favourably received. This merry little skit further illustrates the vagaries of Cupid. Sir Charles is jealous of his wife, who is sitting for a portrait to an impecunious artist; but the hero of the palette is enamoured of the Baronet's daughter. The usual obstacles stand in the way; but in the end the painter wins the consent of his future mother-in-law to his marriage, and at the same time teaches the jealous Baronet a lesson in love-making while that unfortunate gentleman is filling the rôle of a lay figure posed on a gas stove! Of course, all ends happily, and there is a general explanation and wedding bells. Bob is admirably played by Mr. Fred Conyers; Mr. Lewis Sealey is sufficiently irascible as Sir Augustus Swearer; and Miss Rose Temple is a dainty Dolly. Quite charming, too, is the impersonation of Lady Swearer by Miss Violet Ellicott. The Melody Four sing in tune and harmonise quite sweetly, richly deserving the applause showered on them. Mr. Cunningham's "deputy" proved an acceptable one; and Harry Roxbury's company in *The Prince of Monte Carlo* provided a highly diverting item. This musical mélange is superbly mounted, the dresses by Morris Angel and Son being beautiful. Mr. Paul Knox's lyrics are graceful, and the music is tuneful. The honours of the production fall to Mr. Jack Nightingale, who, as a bibulous, babbling member "of the force," keeps the house in a state of hilarious merriment. Lady Carr is capably enacted, and the rôle of the adventuress is also cleverly sustained. Vernon's bioscope is also an attraction. Norfolk Megone's orchestra contributes a capital selection from *A Princess of Kensington*.

AN ABANDONED SPECTACLE.

A proposed grand spectacle, entitled *Balaclava*, was the cause of an action against the London Coliseum, Ltd., on Monday. The plaintiffs are professionally known as the "Maxadelers," and are Mr. Harry Bruce, Mr. Eric Clarke, and Miss Ivy Alberto. In addition to the famous charge of the Light Brigade, there was to be a hand-to-hand sword fight between a beautiful English woman and a burly Cossack. As adjuncts to the stirring scene, it was proposed to put on the stage one hundred soldiers, twelve galloping horses, and four field guns, besides mortars and bombs.

This was the proposal the Maxadelers put before Mr. Oswald Stoll, managing-director of the Coliseum, the spectacle to be adapted from a play in the possession of the plaintiff, Mr. Harry Bruce, entitled *The Two Hussars*. The following letter had been written to Mr. Stoll:—

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to bring to your notice the great military spectacle *Balaclava*, of which we hold the entire rights. This production should be of great interest to you, being, as it is, an incident of the Crimean War, and allowing scope for the employment of any number of supernumeries, the third and last scene depicting the Charge of the Light Brigade, a most realistic battle scene, with real horses, and containing one of the finest sword fights ever attempted on the stage. This last scene has always aroused the audience to a great pitch of enthusiasm when done on a small scale, and we feel sure that, with your resources, it would prove a sensation that would be the talk of London in a week. We should be pleased to call upon you at your convenience to discuss the matter more fully, and submit you sketches of the striking tableaux of the spectacle. Hoping for the favour of a reply, yours truly, MAXADELERS.

The plaintiffs, after hearing from Mr. Stoll, said they proceeded to make models, &c., on which they expended £1,500. When everything was put into trim, however, the defendant company said the "proposal was impossible." The plaintiffs now sued for damages for breach of an alleged contract, or, alternatively, for remuneration for work done. The latter was put down at £1,500, and, in addition, £400 was claimed for the invention of the spectacle.

The defendants denied that there was any contract, or that the work was done at their request.

After hearing some evidence for the plaintiffs, his lordship held that there was no evidence of a promise to pay for any work done, and finally judgment was entered for the defendants, with costs.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently, draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the uregent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
George Wyman	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
Total	£2	13	6

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

ROSARIO GUERRERO, the famous Spanish dancer, has returned to the Palace Theatre, and in the pantomime called *The Daughter of the Mountain*, in which she makes her reappearance with Philippe Dufarre as a bandit chief, is as graceful and fascinating as ever.

AT the Royal, Oldham, on Monday, Mr. Dottridge intends presenting a new turn, viz., Harwood's Juveniles in a scena, *The Children's Christmas Night*, of which great things are anticipated.

A CORRESPONDENT writes, apropos to the Coliseum, as follows:—"It is certain that there is ample value in the land and buildings to cover all the liabilities disclosed by the directors' last report. The land, over an acre in extent, was secured on very favourable terms, the actual cost being under 4s. 2d. per square foot ground rent. Land in Shaftesbury-avenue was recently let by public auction at over 7s. per square foot, and in Aldwych 9s. per square foot was offered—the land in both instances being required for places of public entertainment. A site adjoining Trafalgar-square should be as valuable for a place of entertainment as one near the Law Courts. On this hypothesis the Coliseum site, as vacant land, would realise sufficient to pay everybody in full."

"THE KING OF SAHARA."

Burlesque Sketch, Book by Joe Peterman, Music by Mark Strong, Lyrics by W. Sullivan, Additional Numbers by Harry Wellmon, Produced at the Oxford, on Monday, May 28.

Count Nobandy .....MR. EDWARD LEWIS
Lord Denham .....MR. ERNEST LEICESTER
Hermann Zimmerman .....MR. LAURI DE FRECE
Millicent Chetwynd .....MISS LULU VALLI
Phyllis Durrant .....MISS GLADYS WARD
Isie Ikestein .....MR. JOE PETERMAN

It seems Mr. Joe Peterman's mission in life—always for a consideration, *bien entendu*—to present himself on the stage as a Jew of the cunning, and, in a sense, amusing type, and, after scraping up a few crude notions of ancient pantomime and traditional musical comedy, to weave round himself the semblance of a plot. He then attaches thereto songs and choruses, and calls the mixture a burlesque sketch. The best thing about *The King of Sahara*, for which Mr. Peterman claims the chief responsibility, is the chorus, which includes number of attractive and tastefully-dressed young ladies—among them the Eight Boulevard Girls, who look exceedingly handsome in the costumes specially designed by Jack Harrison, of Leicester-square. There are two special numbers by Harry Wellmon—"William Henry," sung by Miss Lulu Valli, a bright, pleasing, and refined musical comedy actress, and "Dreams," introduced by Mr. Jack Donald into the second scene. The melody of the latter will be better appreciated when matters go smoother than they did on Monday evening. The central idea of the sketch is to burlesque M. Lebandy, who figured in Paris a year or so since as the Emperor of the Sahara. In the production he is known as Count Nobaudy, and buys from Phyllis Durrant, an adventuress, through the agency of Messrs. Ikestein and Zimmerman, for the trifling consideration of a quarter of a million, the Sahara Desert, it being suggested that the remaining portion of Africa belongs to the Jews. Flattered naturally at the idea of becoming an absolute ruler over a trackless waste, the Count starts for his kingdom, and appoints Ikestein his General-in-Chief, the post of Admiral of the Fleet being given to Zimmerman. They charter a vessel to take the Count to his kingdom, and are shipwrecked off the coast of Africa, where a timely rescue is effected by Lord Denham, who takes the entire party in his yacht to Monte Carlo, on condition that the King will relinquish his claim to the hand of his (Denham's) fiancée, Miss Chetwynd. Phyllis, unable to obtain money from Ikestein, threatens to give the show away to the Count, but is checkmated by the wily Jew, who wriggles out of the situation, and the curtain falls, leaving the Count perfectly satisfied that, although he has not become the King, he has certainly seen life. There is humour of a kind in the discussion of the terms of an agreement between the shady financiers and the Count, and a further attempt to force laughter by the introduction of a game of poker, with the downy Hebrew partners in the rôles of card-sharpers working some stale pantomime business. Mr. Edward Lewis, a comedian who has had much provincial experience in leading parts, does all that is possible with the lines of the Count, and is resourceful in humorous business; but he has to make bricks without straw. Mr. Ernest Leicester, who has done excellent work both at the Surrey and with Mr. George Alexander at the St. James's, is absolutely wasted on such a part as Lord Denham. Mr. Lauri de Frece has decided ability as a comedian, and will no doubt work up the part of Zimmerman. Miss Gladys Ward is fascinating and effective as the adventuress; and of Miss Lulu Valli we have already spoken. Mr. Peterman has the trick of caricaturing the Jew that became popular in the drama of thirty years ago. Personally, we have no objection to any Israelitish actor presenting his own race in a contemptible light; but we are glad it is not done by a Gentile. *The King of Sahara* must be worked up considerably if it is to have a run. The performance on Monday owed much to the stage-management of Mr. George Womack and the musical direction of Mr. W. Burgess. Mr. Ernest Jones is responsible for some capital scenery.

To the variety portion of the programme, Mr. Fred Earle makes an early—no pun intended—contribution, and the reception given to him has all the cordiality that is meted out to old favourites. At the other end of the programme is Mr. T. E. Dunville, who is called "the funny man" on the programme. To justify such a description, Mr. Dunville must get a more humorous number than his song and patter concerning a museum guide. Miss Emmeline Orford and Mr. Edwin Brett present with well-deserved success their excellently-written and cleverly-conceived duologue, *The Two Lovebirds*; Miss Frances Kapstowne has a song of the farmyard, in which she introduces imitations of animals; the Sisters Wingrove, indifferently made-up, indulge in an old-fashioned style of duet which is not likely to advance their reputation: Mr. Ernest Shand scores his customary success in "Bachelors" and "What curious weather we're having"; the Poluskis have excellent reasons for being satisfied with their burlesque of the song and dance business; Mr. Harry Randall's down-trodden dame who has married a flute-player is as funny as ever; Clark and Hamilton are as popular as usual as the tramp pianist and the New York belle; and that bright and fascinating soubrette, Miss Rachel Lowe, who scored so many triumphs at this house as the slavey in the farcical sketch, *A Private Séance*, is now demonstrating her histrionic capabilities in a couple of bright and catchy numbers. Other popular contributors to the excellent programme engineered by Mr. Albert Gilmer are Mr. George Robey, Miss Winifred Hare, and Fraser and Haley.

MR. HORACE WHEATLEY IN BRISTOL.

Bristol Evening News, Sept. 18, '05: Horace Wheatley, the celebrated Irish comedian and dancer, has a budget of popular songs and some amusing patter, which kept people in a continuous roar while he was on the stage.

Evening Times, Sept. 18, '05: Horace Wheatley, an Irish comedian, is irresistible; his songs, patter, make-up, and accompaniments all contribute to this, and heartier laughter has not been heard for a good long time. His McIntyre's opera will take a lot of beating for the real mirth it excites. His step-dancing, in neatness and style, is an eye-opener, and the gallery, which can judge, gives a decided verdict in his favour.

Evening Echo, Sept., '05: Horace Wheatley, the celebrated comedian and dancer, the original McIntyre, is always certain of a hearty welcome wherever he goes. His Irish songs and patter are as good and as fresh as ever.

FANNY ROBINA, Billie Bint, and Harry Revell's great combination company, at the Lyceum Theatre, Crewe, has been meeting with great success, and it is a long time since such a talented company has visited the house.

MISS MAY EDOUIN and Mr. Fred Edwards, who for some years past have been performing *A Bachelor's Dream* with great success in England, America, and the Colonies, have purchased a new piece, *La Bella Chiquin*, by Frank Rogers. It is Miss Edouin's intention to shortly perform single turns, but she will, however, appear at all times in the same halls as Mr. Edwards, who has engaged for the title-rôle of *La Bella Chiquin* a well-known West-End actress.

THE HIPPODROME.

One may easily "hae his doots" about the correctness of Robbie Burns's dictum that Nature "Her prentice hand she tried on man, And then she made the lassés O!" when one is face to face with such fine specimens of manhood as the Three Olympiers, who came to the Hippodrome on Monday with a statuary entertainment. They pose in the nude, and their artistic realisations of bronze groups are admirable. They are fine, powerful, muscular young fellows, and their exhibition is both novel and interesting. The groups which have been chosen and represented precisely as prescribed and executed by the greatest sculptors of ancient and modern times are realised most perfectly, the illusion being aided by a secret process whereby the naked bodies of the performers are coated with a preparation of bronze. On the curtain rising a second curtain of royal purple, embroidered with gold, is revealed, forming a background to the Olympiers, who pose on a massive-looking gilt plinth. The subjects realised by the "living bronzes" are mostly classical. Among the finest of the studies are "The Messenger of Victory from Marathon"—a swift runner bearing the news to the city of Athens, ten miles away, of the great victory of Miltiades over the Persian hosts—in which the solitary figure is the perfection of alertness and grace; and "The Fighting Brothers," by Socco. The latter was "encored," if we may use that much-abused term—a similar fate being in store for the "Atlas Group," after E. Wenk, and "A Battle Scene." Considerable enthusiasm was aroused by the final group, "A la Patrie," a beautiful and a stirring realisation of the sentiment expressed in the sentence, "Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori." Other groups included, "Mucio Scævola," after the antique; "The Spring," by Heuer; "The Iron Age," after Lançon; and "Ajax with the body of Patroclus," after the antique. The training of the young athletes must have been long and tedious, for even the strongest muscles could not be made to preserve such iron rigidity in a few weeks. This rigidity greatly enhances the effect, as the figures look not merely as though they were coated with bronze, but as if actually cast from it. The illusion, indeed, is perfect.

A very remarkable performance of its kind, and one that is a novelty to London, is the paper manipulation, or, rather, paper tearing, of Morton and Elliott, who, while they are duetting in the much-hackneyed "Alice, where art thou?" produce remarkable and fantastic pyramids of paper, as well as beautiful "open work" designs, resembling patterns of the richest lace curtains. Such exquisite creations, secured by such apparently simple means, are certainly entitled to the enthusiastic applause which greets them nightly. Staley's transformation act has been seen before in London, and the lightning change from a cooper's workshop, with harmonious "tub thumpers" in working attire, to a fashionable modern drawing-room graced by a couple of musical gentlemen in faultless evening dress and a lady dancer, is one of those things that "no fellow can understand," as Lord Dundreary would say. Just as quick is the change back from the salon to the workshop. The musical selections are decidedly good; but something more modern than the "Miserere" scene from *Il Trovatore* might be chosen by the violinist of the party. Every musical combination selects it. Alexandre and Hughes seem to be chartered libertines in the matter of jest, and their colloquies with Mr. Otho Twigg, the ring master—a capital "feeder," are heartily enjoyed. When not joking the pair play extremely well on mandolines and guitars. Lavater Lee has become quite indispensable at the Hippodrome, and revives recollections of the best traditions of arenic clowning. The jesters of an earlier period were trained in every form of "ring craft," and one easily discovers that Mr. Lee is not only a capital humorist, but a fine acrobat. His act with his performing donkey also adds to the attractiveness of his stay. O'Gust is a French clown with a capital series of animal imitations; and Spessardy's educated bears are gentle, harmless creatures, who readily obey their trainer, and cause considerable laughter by their good-humoured readiness to do tricks for which nature has scarcely fitted them.

Inaudi, the marvellous calculator, can discover by mental process the square root of four places of figures, and gives on the instant the day of the week of dates given by the audience. Nicety of calculation, wonderful delicacy of balance, and marvellous manipulation are shown by Paul Cinquevalli in his juggling performance with every conceivable kind of object. There is only one Cinquevalli, and he is as brilliant and as perfect and as graceful as ever. Die Obersteirer Tyrolean Troupe bring the freshness of their native Alps across the footlights, and delight us with the music of the merry Swiss boy. The perfection of athletic prowess and gymnastic grace is found in varying degrees in the revolving globe act of the Goltz Trio, the equestrian acrobatism of Les Bastiens, the horizontal bar act of McPhee and Hill, and the tumbling show of the Trapnells. The Leslie Brothers combine music and fun very happily in their well-conceived, clever, and eccentric act. *The Flood*, with its wonderful storm and deluge, is a spectacle that can be enjoyed during the hottest summer day, the atmosphere of the arena being rendered delightfully cool by the marvellous realisation of the "bursting of the tarn."

MISS VESTA TILLEY IN NEW YORK.

Miss Vesta Tilley is repeating her former triumphs, and is attracting huge audiences, comprising the best society people in New York, at every performance at which she appears. Miss Tilley is not appearing at the Sunday night performances, Mr. Percy G. Williams announcing that he makes this exception in Miss Tilley's engagement, owing to the number of songs she is compelled by her admirers to sing at each performance. At the Colonial, where Miss Tilley made her first appearance, the entire house was sold out for the two weeks she was billed to appear before she opened her engagement, and, as Mr. Williams increased the prices of admission during Miss Tilley's stay, owing to the very large salary he is paying her, the record for this house is safe in Miss Tilley's keeping, notwithstanding the fact that she plays only six nights in the week. Again, at the Orpheum, one of the largest vaudeville houses in New York, the entire house is sold out for every performance at increased prices, and this is the only house playing to capacity in greater New York during the present hot spell, with the glass registering 90deg. Miss Tilley plays the Alhambra, New York, for one week, May 28, and a farewell week at the Colonial, June 4, sailing for England per SS. Celtic, June 15. Negotiations were opened with Moss' Empires, Ltd., for a postponement of the dates held by Miss Tilley with this firm to allow her to remain a further thirty weeks in America, Messrs. B. F. Keith, Kohe and Castle, the Orpheum Circut, and Mr. P. G. Williams, offering her $2,500 (£500) per week for thirty weeks; but Mr. Stoll cabled his regret that he could not postpone Miss Tilley's engagements in England. Miss Tilley will return to American in 1907 to fulfil a brief engagement with Mr. Williams, at a salary working out at $10 (£2) per minute for every minute she occupies the stage, and again in 1908, to play thirty weeks with the combined managers.

MR. ALFRED APPLEYARD (the well-known Terrier), who has for so longed helped the profession in their legal troubles, has changed his address from Chancery-lane to that of Messrs. J. B. Roberts and Co., solicitors, of 312, Regent-street, W.

THE HEPWIX FILMS.

MESSRS. HEPWORTH'S PRIVATE VIEW.

A private view of some of the most celebrated Hepwix Films were given by the Hopworth Manufacturing Co., Ltd., early on Wednesday morning, in the firm's exhibiting room, at 15, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, W.C. The assemblage of spectators was a very small one, but, withal, a very select one, and if the opinions that were expressed as to the excellence of the pictures in every respect could be taken as an indication of their future popularity, then the success of these latest series is assured. Those who were not able to accept Messrs. Hepworth's invitation for Tuesday night may be glad to know that a similar exhibition will be given this afternoon at Cecil-court, after the usual theatre matinées.

A couple of striking new sets of pictures deal with the stories of "Dick Turpin's Ride to York" and "The Babes in the Wood." The former film is 1,000ft. long. The picture opens at the Jack Falstaff, Kilburn, the famous hostelry from which Dick Turpin started on his wonderful ride. Dick, with his friend Tom King, is seated at a table drinking, and, when finished, they go inside to settle the account. The landlord, anxious to secure the big reward which has been offered for Dick's capture, betrays him, and a terrific struggle ensues, in which Tom King is badly hurt, and Dick, after a hand-to-hand fight, manages to make his escape on his favourite horse, Black Bess. He is followed by the attorney, chief constable, and doctor on horseback, and a hot chase commences. In one village he unfastens the latticed window of a house by standing on his horse, enters a bedroom, and demands toll from the lips of a young lady, while with his pistol he subdues the irate mother, who gladly seeks protection beneath the bedclothes. The chase gets hotter and hotter as his pursuers ride up to change horses, and Dick escapes from the back of the inn while the man is parleying with his enemies. Dick meets an old woman just past the gallows where her son hangs, and is requested by her to bear a package to Sir Luke. Then he proceeds on his way as fast as his steed can take him. He stops the York coach, which is passing along the road, and demands to know where he can find Sir Luke, and, after obtaining the desired information, he rides on. Dick Turpin and horse are seen at the end of their journey to struggle on, both hard spent, the poor animal almost dropping as Dick delivers his precious packet to Sir Luke.

The film which gives the story of "The Babes in the Wood" is an exceptionally clear and vivid one, the various scenes having been, as far as possible, based on the beautiful pictures by Caldicott. The moonlight scene—the last of all—is particularly effective. Then we have an episode of the Derby, both tragedy and comedy being well represented. "The Professor's Dream" is one of the most elaborate productions ever staged for the cinématograph. A student of osteology is discovered eagerly examining a number of bones which have just been drawn up from some excavations. He finds the matter so engrossingly interesting that he insists upon being immediately lowered into the earth himself. Overcome with the intoxicating joy of scientific research, he falls into a deep sleep, in which he dreams of the original owners of the bones, meets with weird and uncouth monsters—dinosaurs, diplodocci, ichthyosauri, and other ungainly monsters whom it would puzzle any paleontologist to classify. The pictures are extremely amusing and cleverly conceived.

"Rescued by Rover" is a film with which many of us are already familiar, and here it may be of interest to say that the gentleman and the lady and their little daughter and faithful collie dog are all members of Mr. Hepworth's family. These scenes need no recommendation at this time. The Festiniog Railway is the subject of another series of fine views. The Festiniog is the pioneer of all light railways. The photographs in this case were taken from the window of one of the rear carriages, and we are introduced to some most wonderful scenery as the rolling stock runs round sharp curves, along narrow viaducts, and skirts deep precipices. "What the Curate really did" and "Alice in Wonderland" are also artistic cinématographic works. Altogether, to use a common phrase, the Hepworth Manufacturing Company have an exceedingly fine "show."

MISS LOUISA PEACH IN "PEGGY AND THE CURATE."

A sketch which is this week amusing visitors to the Cambridge Music Hall is that entitled *Peggy and the Curate*, presented by Miss Louisa Peach, supported in able fashion by Mr. Wellesley Draper and Mr. Conrad Clerke. The story can be told briefly. One Mr. Chudleigh and his daughter Peggy are about to be visited by a curate, whose friendship they feel they do not wish to cultivate. So they prepare a strange reception for him. He duly arrives, and is much startled by being saluted by a kiss from Peggy. Then the father appears on the scene, attired as a kind of Blue Beard, with rather vicious tendencies; in short, the curate feels that his life is in imminent danger, and, like a wise man, makes for the door. But Peggy frustrates the carrying out of that intention. She forces him upon a seat, on which she has previously placed a pin; she snatches his hat, and crumples it up and flings it on the floor; and she brandishes a murderous-looking dagger and invites the curate to personal combat. All this while the fun is fast and furious, but everything ends well when it is found out that the girl and her father have played their tricks upon the wrong curate, and then their affection and consideration for him is boundless. Miss Louisa Peach is extremely vivacious and lively in the rôle of Peggy, and gives evidence of considerable ability as a burlesque actress. Mr. Wellesley Draper treats us to an exceedingly laughable picture of an absurdly meek-and-mild curate, and the rôle is cleverly and skilfully handled. Mr. Conrad Clerke portrays, in commendable style, the character of the father, and in the earlier portion of the sketch furnishes a very interesting and lifelike study of an irritable old parent.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow :—

	£	s.	d.
Edward Lewis	1	1	0
John McLean	1	1	0
Mrs. J. Cole, Sutton, Surrey	1	0	0
Larry Lewis	0	10	6
A. T. Hilton	0	10	6
Ex-Councillor Hugh Caldwell	0	10	0
J. Cramb, Port Glasgow	0	10	0
A. Tait, Banker, Gourock	0	5	0
Mrs. Dickson, Gourock	0	5	0
Miss Dickson, Gourock	0	2	6
J. Falconer	0	5	0
A. Campbell	0	3	0
A. L.	0	2	0

MESSRS. JOSEPH WILLIAMS have acquired the sole rights for Great Britain and the Colonies of the new French dance, "La Kraquette," composed by Justin Clerice, which is at present the rage of Paris. The well-known firm is also about to publish a march which was accepted by King Alfonso. It is composed by Mrs. Louisa Goffrie, of West Hampstead, and was performed on Thursday at the Royal marriage festivities.

FUNERAL OF MR. J. B. ELLIOTT.

On Sunday, amidst signs of deep sorrow and much respect, the mortal remains of Mr. James Bedford Elliott, of whose career we gave a sketch in our last week's issue, were interred at Middlesbrough. The funeral of the father of the world-renowned cycle troupe and musicians was from the house of deceased's eldest brother, Mr. Ralph Elliott, of 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough. The first part of the funeral service was conducted at St. Paul's Church by the Rev. J. W. E. Walker, B.A., Vicar of the parish. The following artists, who were fulfilling engagements in the district, acted as bearers: Griff, Arthur and Frank Haytor, Ted Cowen, Tom Hughes, James Elvis, James Caselli, and Baron Davis. Among those present were the family of deceased; Mr. Ralph Elliott (brother) and family, Mr. Joseph Elliott (brother) and family, Mrs. B. Robson (sister) and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bedford Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Rand, Miss K. Ferguson, Mrs. J. Conning, Mr. J. W. Thompson, Mr. Tom Thompson, Mr. A. Winterbottom (Chief Constable), Councillor R. Everton, Councillor J. E. Johnson, Messrs. J. F. Rhodes, A. Aydon, Jos. Hicks, A. Stonehouse, R. Rudd, T. Gill, Wm. Tonks, and others. Managers and proprietors were represented by Messrs. C. Rembges, of the Empire, Middlesbrough; T. Griffiths, of the Oxford, Middlesbrough; W. Batty, of the Grand Theatre, Stockton; W. Ainsworth, of the Hippodrome, Stockton; Harry Burns, of the Empress Theatre, Hartlepool; Wm. Tudor, proprietor of the Circus, Blyth; W. Greenfield, conductor of the Empire, Middlesbrough; and S. Sangster, of the New Bioscope Empire, Middlesbrough. Miss Minnie Cunningham and other lady artists, with Griff, the Brothers Haytor, Ted Cowan, Tom Hughes, Jas. Elvis, and Jas. Caselli represented the profession. A profusion of lovely wreaths ornamented the coffin, and an open landau laden with beautiful floral tributes, many of them designed as musical instruments, followed the hearse. Nine of them came from the family of the deceased. Others were sent by Mr. and Mrs. R. Elliott and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Elliott and family, Mr. and Mrs. B. Robson and family, Mr. D. J. Clarke, proprietor of the Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead; Mr. W. C. Horner, proprietor of the Empire, Burnley; Mr. Albert Bushell, manager of the Gaiety, Birmingham; Messrs. Bolam and Bacon, lessees, Metropole, Gateshead; Mrs. E. P. Veitch and Mr. C. Algie, of the Circus, Carlisle; Mr. and Mrs. B. Smith and family, Mr. and Mrs. C. Temperley, Mr. and Mrs. W. Bradshaw, Mr. and Mrs. C. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. A. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. J. Potter and family, Pete Bishop and Ada Recardo, Mr. Tom Thompson, Mr. J. H. Thompson, Mr. J. Charnley, a few friends from Hartlepool, members of the orchestra of the Empire, Middlesbrough, members of the staff at the Empire, Middlesbrough, artists at the Empire and Oxford, Middlesbrough, and Wm. Berry and Co., of Bradford.

DR. BODIE'S PROTEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—There has recently appeared in the Press a report of a case heard at the Clerkenwell Sessions on the 22nd ult. During the trial a certain Detective Ratcliffe explained that the prisoner, Ernest Miller, had been in the employment of our client, Dr. Walford Bodie; that our client went on music hall stages and pretended to cure crippled people; and that the prisoner was one of the people employed to deceive the audiences by pretending to be cured. Our client instructs us to say that he has no recollection of the prisoner, Ernest Miller, and that he has never attempted to deceive the public by any bogus case, but, on the contrary, he has cured many cases, of which he has kept a record, and he is prepared to submit to anyone so desiring hundreds of unsolicited testimonials from rich and poor certifying to the good he has done. As the statements made by Detective Ratcliffe have been widely published, and are calculated to do our client much injury, we think it only right that, pending investigation by ourselves as to the identity of the prisoner, Ernest Miller, and an explanation by Detective Ratcliffe, for which we have written, the same publicity should be given to our client's denial as to the serious allegations themselves.—Your obedient servants,

J. R. ROBERTS & CO.,
Solicitors for Dr. Bodie.

312, Regent-street,
London, W.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

NEW YORK, MAY 23.—*The Embarrassment of Riches*, a comedy in three acts, by Louis Kaufman Auspacher, in which certain phases of life on the "East side" are reproduced with photographic accuracy, has been well received at Wallack's Theatre. The cast includes Miss Charlotte Walker, Mr. Bruce McRae, Mr. Stanley Darke, and Mr. John Bunny, who has made the hit of the piece as Ted Phelan, a typical Bowery politician.

"MISTAKES WILL HAPPEN," a farce-comedy in three acts, by Grant Stewart, now running at the Garrick Theatre, deals with the trials of a secretly wedded actor and actress, whose marriage is discovered by the manager of the Morality Theatre, whose contracts forbid matrimony. Summarily discharged, Tom Genowin, the actor, with little money and a rejected play, has to face poverty and a dressmaker's bill for several hundred dollars, incurred by his wife, Dorothy Mayland. Hunter-Chase, the wealthy owner of the boarding-house where the couple are staying, becomes infatuated with Dorothy, who seizes the opportunity to try to sell her husband's play to him. Meanwhile, Mrs. Hunter-Chase has engaged Tom Genowin to coach her in his play. Each couple, unknown to the other, plans for a rehearsal in the carriage-house, where Linda Kurz, the boarding-house "slavey," has gone to call upon the coachman. In trying to avoid each other the couples hide in the loft, behind horse blankets, in a handy coach, and in the oat bin, but are finally discovered. In the last act the complications are straightened out, and Hunter-Chase agrees to "star" Tom Genowin in his own play. Miss Edna Aug appears as the "slavey," who reminds everybody that she "iss Cherman and not Dutch, for there iss a difference," and is very amusing. Mr. Charles Harbury as Hunter-Chase, Mr. Tom Dickson as Tom Genowin, and Miss Rose Eytinge as the boarding-house mistress are very successful in their respective rôles.

"BROWN, OF HARVARD," the reigning attraction at the Princess Theatre, is a lively and interesting play, dealing with college life at Harvard. Brown is a high-principled young fellow, who strives to keep a weak youth in the straight and narrow path, and secretly helps another student, who is poor, to obtain his education. In the eyes of the latter, however, Brown is not a benefactor, but the villain who has wronged his sister, Brown sacrificing himself in order to screen the real culprit, who ultimately confesses and makes reparation. The various characters are cleverly drawn, and the excitement that prevails during an international boat-race is depicted in a realistic and stirring manner. The play was written by Miss Rida Johnson Young, and is her first effort. Mr. Henry Woodruff, a popular favourite, has scored a decided success in the title-rôle.

"THE PRINCESS BEGGAR," a comic opera in two acts, has been well received "on the road." The book is by Edward Paulton and the music by Alfred G. Robyn. The first act is laid in the throne-room of King Otto's palace, and the second at a hermitage on the Island of Ferns. Miss Paula Edwardes as Elaine, a girl of the woods, has scored a personal success in the new opera.

CHAT WITH MLLE. RENEE.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER).

"The Greatest Ocarina Player in the World."

Such is the position which Mlle. Renée, who has been recently delighting Pavilion audiences with her refined drawing-room entertainment, seems justly enough to hold. And the position, let it be said, has not been won in a day, or a week, or even a year. Miss Renée has been known to the stage for ten years, though, as a single turn, her connection with the halls is comparatively recent. She is the daughter of the well-known musician, Virto, and began her musical career at the age of seven years. Her first appearance was made at the Empire Theatre, Sheffield, then quite a recently-opened establishment, ten years ago. At that time she assisted her father in his act, accompanying him on the pianoforte to a clarionet solo. Since then she has appeared in conjunction with her father at all the principal variety theatres in Great Britain, with the exception of the period she spent at school in London and Paris. Mlle. Renée is a native of New York City, and came to this country at the age of two.

The engagement which is, perhaps, most vividly impressed upon the young artist's memory is one which took her and her father to Australia, under Mr. Harry Rickards' management. This was in 1899, the tour lasting for six months, and a highly-successful and enjoyable one she tells us it was. The little party arrived in Sydney Harbour at

Photo by Charles and Russell.
MLLE. RENEE.

twelve o'clock one day, and opened at the matinée performance at the Tivoli the same afternoon—a smart piece of work. In the evening the hall was packed, many of her fellow-passengers taking seats. She recollects, too, that on that occasion she was presented with two of the largest bouquets she has ever received. Curiously enough, on the Monday following the Saturday which terminated their engagement at the Sydney Tivoli, the house was destroyed by fire. From that town they went on to Melbourne, where, at the Bijou Theatre, she and her father performed for nine weeks, this being followed by a fortnight at the Cremorne Gardens, Perth. At Sydney, by the way, where she stayed for thirteen weeks, her performance was witnessed and admired by Earl Beauchamp, the Governor of New South Wales. Of Australia and of Australian audiences Mlle. Renée speaks in the highest praise. She thinks the country is simply delightful. The only things that worried her were the mosquitoes and flying beetles, and if these creatures could only see themselves as others see them, and realise what a nuisance they are, perhaps they would tumble off the earth, or cease breeding, and then Australia would have to be re-named Paradise.

But the lady has other agreeable recollections. Some eight years ago, when she was of course much smaller than she is now, she was appearing at Birmingham, Mr. W. Welsh, the then Mayor of Douglas, I.O.M., happened to be seated in the stalls, and was so delighted with the child's masterful fingering on the pianoforte that he sent half-a-sovereign round to her. That piece of gold was not spent in buying chocolates, nor even a pinafore, nor an ostrich feather. No, it was carefully mounted and preserved, and anyone who wishes to see this very material recognition of latent talent can do so at the present time. And at Leicester, shortly afterwards, she was the recipient of a gold medal.

"My father," says Mlle. Renée proudly, "is the greatest post-horn player that ever lived." So you see there is no professional jealousy between the two. And Mistress Renée should know, for has she not accompanied him on the concertina, the pianoforte, the ocarina, and the bugle? And, in addition to these instruments, the young lady herself is an expert executant on the saxophone, the cornet, and the post-horn.

Which is the most difficult to play? "Well," answers the interviewee, "I experience the hardest work with the cornet. Of course, the blowing is good for the lungs, and I have never suffered from chest troubles. In fact, I think cornet exercise is an admirable health preserver."

Mlle. Renée, who made her début as a single turn at the Metropolitan Music Hall a few months ago, plays, among other compositions, Mascagni's "Intermezzo" and Sullivan's "Lost Chord" on the concertina; and lighter music, such as Leslie Stuart's works, on the saxophone; while for the ocarina polkas have been specially written for her.

The subject of this interview has a great admiration and affection for the rural parts of England, and she and her mother, who travel together, take an interest in places and buildings of historic interest. Miss Renée says she would like to have a theatre in the country; but it is absolutely imperative that the theatre be prettily situated, surrounded by green fields—a forest preferable—beautiful foliage, dainty rivulets, and picturesque glades. Why not? Why not——

Under a spreading chestnut tree
The ocarina plays.
The player blows a melody——

Ah! but then the birds would go on strike, and the yokels wouldn't work! And, furthermore, Our Own Commissioner is *not* a poet.

IT is doubtful whether, since the days when "The Bogey Man" drew nearly all London to the Mohawk Minstrels' place of entertainment at Islington, such a song on similar lines has been written, and one calculated to arouse as much interest, as the one just acquired by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, and entitled "Hush, little girl." It is by A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott.

THE BILLING OF GUS ELEN.

The action of Mr. Gus Elen against the London Music Hall (Limited) and Mr. Charles Hector for damages for libel, which occupied the attention of Mr. Justice Grantham and a special jury for a couple of days, was decided on Thursday in favour of the famous coster comedian.

Mr. McCall, K.C., and Mr. Hugh Fraser (instructed by Messrs. Gibbs, White, and Strong) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Duke, K.C., and Mr. Whately (instructed by Messrs. Amery, Parkes, and Co.) represented the defendants.

It was contended that, following County Court proceedings in which Mr. Elen secured damages for wrongful dismissal against the defendants respecting an engagement at the London, his name, instead of being "starred" on Collins's bills, appeared in an insignificant position in small type. It was contended that this was done to repay him for the success of his action in the County Court, and that Mr. Elen's professional reputation had suffered accordingly. The various sections of the music-hall world were well represented in court.

Mr. Elen, in the course of further examination, said that, following his action to recover damages against the defendants, on September 18 last, he began an engagement at Collins's. At first his name was properly displayed on the bills, but on Saturday, September 23, he saw a bill which had been printed for the ensuing week. On that bill Mr. Bert Gilbert's name was at the top, and his own was in very small type. "It might have been the price of admission from the size of it," added Mr. Elen. He went to Mr. Leslie, the defendant's assistant manager at Collins's, and asked what was the meaning of billing him in that manner. The manager went outside and had a look at the bill, remarking that it must be a printer's error. Plaintiff quite thought it would have been put right, but it was allowed to remain.

Questioned as to various artists, including Happy Fanny Fields, whose name appeared in larger type than his own, Mr. Elen said that Happy Fanny Fields was a prominent artist. He did not know what her salary would be.

Is she more prominent than you are?—I would not like to boast of myself. His salary at the time was £20 a week; but, of course, he was at liberty to appear at other houses and increase it. On the bill for the week beginning October 9 there was a very slight alteration, his name being in somewhat larger type. When he appeared at Collins's in April, 1906, his name was properly starred.

Mr. McCall said that bill was now produced to show, by comparison, what ought to be done.

Mr. Duke: If you managed our business.

Mr. McCall: If you managed your own business properly. (Laughter.)

Mr. Duke: Do they always put the best names at the top of the bill?—Not always.

There is no obligation upon them to bill you at all, is there?—They are not bound to, but it is the custom.

Mr. Justice Grantham remarked that in some cases as many as half a dozen counsel were engaged, but the names of some of them appeared very small. (Laughter.)

Mr. Duke: Yes, my lord, and I have often seen the names of counsel and interesting cases left out altogether. Why, I do not know. (Laughter.)

Mr. Duke produced a bill for the week commencing September 18—after the County Court proceedings—to show that the defendants had not been actuated by malice. The bill was headed "A very attractive programme," and Mr. Gus Elen's name appeared in large type at the top.

"Very nice," assented the plaintiff, amid laughter.

Do you really intend to suggest they were billing you improperly out of spite? By the second week the local public had had a week of your entertainment.—Yes, but they were not displeased with it. They wanted it just as much the second week as the first.

Was it not the fact that Mr. George Gray could not appear, and that Mr. Gilbert appeared in his place?—Probably it was because of the disgraceful way they billed him. (Laughter.) The damage done by such bills was that managers all over the country saw them, and said to themselves, "Gus Elen is coming down."

Percy Murray is a star?—I never heard of him.

Mr. Duke (reading from one of "Collins's" bills): "Special and expensive return engagement of Percy Murray and powerful company in the beautiful sketch, *The Last Temptation*. (Laughter.) It would be very damaging to Mr. Murray to hear that you said you had not heard of him?—I do not wish to say anything detrimental to him, but I have never heard of him. There were a great many such names he had passed over—they must have been printed too small. (Loud laughter.)

Mr. Duke: You are feeling more at home in the witness-box?—I would rather be on the stage. (Laughter.)

Mr. Justice Grantham: You must not grumble at Mr. Duke's opportunity. This is his stage, you know. (Laughter.)

The first of a string of music-hall celebrities who had been waiting to give evidence in support of Mr. Gus Elen's case to enter the box was Mr. T. E. Dunville, whose dry humour convulsed the court with laughter.

"Are you a music-hall comedian?" formally asked Mr. McCall.

Mr. Dunville: Alleged, sir. I have been accused of it. (Laughter.)

Mr. McCall: I didn't catch what he said.

Mr. Duke: He is somewhat nervous. (Laughter.)

Continuing, Mr. Dunville said he would expect to find a name like that of Mr. Gus Elen starred on a bill. The publication of his name in the way complained of would do him a great deal of injury.

Do they star you in the bill?—Occasionally.

Are you what is called a star?—I could not tell you. I think I am a little too earthly. (Laughter.)

I may call you a star without offence?—You may if you like.

You and Mr. Gus Elen together would be——

Mr. Justice Grantham: They would make a constellation. (Laughter.)

Witness: I should say we could make anything. (Laughter.)

If you were billed together, which would take the top place?—I could not say. They would bill us alike, I suppose.

You leave it to the music-hall manager, who thinks he can manage his own business better than you can?—He thinks. (Laughter.)

It is a pity a music-hall manager should think?—I think so. (Laughter.)

He ought to leave it to the artist, and it would run better?—Better for us. (Laughter.)

They always star you, I suppose?—Not always.

What do you do when they don't?—I kick up a row about it. (Laughter.)

How many times have you done so?—Once—up to now—at the Canterbury.

Mr. Duke (reading a bill): "T. E. Dunville," in small green type. What do you think could induce these people to commit such an outrage as that? (Laughter.) Had you any quarrel with them?—No.

Well, there you are, in that poster?—There I am not, it appears to me. I can hardly see my name. I hired a telescope to see it myself. (Laughter.)

You have not brought a county-court action against them?—Not yet. It is warming. (Laughter.)

Mr. Bert Gilbert said he appeared at Collins's on Sept. 25 last for a week. His name appeared at the top of the bill, Mr. Gus Elen's being in very small type. He considered that that was calculated to injure the plaintiff's reputation.

Mr. George Chirgwin, asked how many years' experience he had had, replied, "All my life."

Mr. Justice Grantham: You are something like a lady, then. You do not like to state your age. (Laughter.)

Witness said he had had over forty years' experience. The publication of Mr. Elen's name in the way complained of would injure him in his profession.

Mr. Harry Randall also was briefly examined, expressing similar views.

Mr. Justice Grantham: That will do, thank you. Sorry we have not had a performance from you. (Laughter.)

Mr. Whately, in opening the defendants' case, said the charge against his clients was most serious. He contended that it was idle to say that the publication of the bill in question had injured the plaintiff in any way.

Mr. William Henry Burney, one of the directors of the London Music Hall, said he gave no orders that Mr. Elen's name was to be put in an inferior position on the bill. He left the matter in Mr. Hector's hands. There was no foundation for the suggestion that he wished to injure the plaintiff. They tried to arrange a fresh programme every week and to put forward fresh attractions if possible. Twenty pounds per week was not a remarkable salary on the music-hall stage—many artists received more. There was no custom as to "starring" an artist unless he had a contract which entitled him to be starred.

Besides Mr. Burney, Mr. Charles Hector (manager of "Collins's" and the London Music Hall at the time the bills in question were issued) and other gentlemen prominent in the management of music-halls gave evidence in support of the contention that no injury had been done Mr. Elen, and that managers have the right to exercise their own discretion as to who should be "starred."

In summing up, Mr. Justice Grantham held that there was a custom which gave the music-hall artist the right to have his name printed on music-hall bills in certain type. It had been held, not only by him, but by the Court of Appeal, that it was a libel to print the name of such a performer in a different type and position to that to which the artist was entitled.

After a short deliberation, the jury returned a verdict for Mr. Gus Elen, assessing the damages at £35. Judgment was entered accordingly.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens.

THE CANTERBURY.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported as follows:—The Council on Nov. 24, 1905, granted a licence for music and dancing to Mr. George Adney Payne for the Canterbury Music Hall, Westminster Bridge-road, subject to an undertaking that certain approved proposals with regard to the exits, or such alterations as might be determined to be necessary by an arbitrator appointed under Section 11 of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878, should be executed without delay, and that until the necessary works had been completed the number of persons admitted to the balcony and gallery should be limited to 500 in each part. The reasons which made it necessary to endorse such an undertaking on the licence were dealt with very fully in the report which was submitted on Nov. 24, 1905. This undertaking has not been signed by Mr. Payne, nor has the work required by the Council been begun, and we think therefore that a notice under Section 11 referred to, embodying the requirements of the Council which have not been complied with, should be served on the owner of the premises. On the service of this notice, the owner can apply for an arbitrator to be appointed by H.M. First Commissioner of Works to determine whether the Council's requirements are reasonable or not. The arbitrator's decision in such a case is final, and in the event of the requirements not being upheld, the Council will be relieved of any responsibility for the safety of the public, so far as it may be affected thereby. On the other hand, in view of the fact that a sealed notice with regard to the premises was served by the Metropolitan Board of Works in 1883, and having regard to the decision of Mr. Justice Channell in the case of the St. James's Hall Company *v.* the London County Council, the owner may be able to obtain an injunction to restrain the Council from acting on the notice. In such an event, however, the question whether the requirements deemed necessary by the Council in the interests of public safety were reasonable or not would not be affected, and the Council, when sitting in its capacity of licensing authority, would have to seriously consider whether it could take the responsibility of granting a licence for a building which it did not consider reasonably safe in the event of fire or panic. Until the Council has served a notice under the Act of 1878, it cannot be said to have used its structural powers to the fullest extent, or to have given the owner an opportunity of having an independent opinion as to the necessity for the Council's requirements. The Committee therefore recommended that a notice under Section 11 of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878, be prepared by the solicitor, containing the requirements with regard to the premises known as the Canterbury Music Hall, Westminster Bridge-road. These requirements included the following: That all wood, linings, ceilings, partitions, &c., be removed from all parts of the music hall, and that wherever wood construction is exposed by so doing, plaster on metal lathing be substituted therefor; that means of escape be provided from the prompt side fly to the satisfaction of the Council; that additional exit accommodation be provided from all parts of the music hall to more nearly approximate to the standard now adopted by the Council; that the two lowest flights of the gallery stairs on the prompt side be reconstructed to the satisfaction of the Council; that all gas brackets be raised out of the headway; that the gangways and the spaces between the seating of the area be re-arranged in accordance with the regulations of the Council of July, 1901; that all gas taps, exit notices, and automatic fastenings be made to comply with the Council's regulations.

That such notice do specify three months as the time within which the works are to be commenced, and six months as the time within which they are to be completed.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

The Committee reported that they had had before them a drawing submitted by Mr. A. Blomfield Jackson, showing how it is proposed to comply with a requirement made by the Council for the provision of increased headway over the steps from the amphitheatre seating to the corridor at the Shaftesbury Theatre, and recommended that Mr. Jackson be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the drawing submitted by him.

Agreed to.

AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—My late friend and partner, Mr. James Clarence, who passed away on Sunday, April 20, left a widow and two children in need of assistance.

Any subscription to this deserving case will be gratefully acknowledged by Mrs. Clarence, 3, Adventure-place, Hanley, Staffs. Trusting that the many friends of "Poor Jim" will give what little assistance they can.—Yours faithfully,

JOE BELL.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The very full report we were able to give last week of the proceedings of the Private Bills Committee of the House of Commons dealing with the Middlesex County Bill must have been of great interest to our showmen readers. There are, however, several points of great importance that we were not able to deal with last week, for the very good reason that the final revision of the clause in the Bill that the showmen objected to was not completed until Friday afternoon.

The discussion of the clause, apart from the agreement between the Showmen's Guild and the County Council, opened up many points of serious consideration for showmen. To begin with, it is gratifying to notice the entirely different standing allowed to showmen now compared with their position ten years ago. As recently as eight years back neither the Home Office nor the Local Government Board would consider the trade claims of travelling showmen as being separate and apart from the interests of travelling gipsies. All this is now changed, and the work of the past ten years has been to build up a series of precedents by the Parliamentary action of the Guild, and these precedents are recognised by both the Home Office and the Local Government Board as governing all possible legislation.

It is extremely interesting to find the officials of the Home Office and the L.G.B. calling attention of the Private Bills Committee to former decisions affecting the interests of showmen. It came out in the course of the discussion of the Middlesex County Bill that the Home Secretary for several years past had refused to sanction drastic by-laws against van and tent dwellers, because the showmen had met such proposals in Private Bills with successful opposition, and the Home Office refused to grant sanction to by-law proposals that had been thrown out by the Private Bills Committee.

This altered mind of the Home Office is seen in the fact that prior to 1903 no fewer than ten local authorities in the county of Middlesex had obtained sanction to extremely drastic and oppressive by-laws submitted by them for approval to the Home Secretary.

It was used as an argument by the Counsel acting for the County Council that the additional powers their Bill sought to obtain had been already granted by the Home Office to ten local bodies within the county area.

The answer of the Home Office official was clear and conclusive. He said "that the Home Secretary had refused all such applications made to him for several years past; in fact, ever since they had been opposed by the organised showmen."

It appears to be quite a settled policy now of both the Home Office and the Local Government Board to oppose all such drastic regulations as those submitted by the Middlesex County Council, on the broad humanitarian principle that even the poor gipsy has a certain right to live out his own life, and to claim the protection of the law afforded to every British subject.

This, of course, is entirely separate and apart from the admittedly unanswerable case of the travelling showman. To quote the words of the chairman of the Committee, "even the poor gipsy has a right to live, and is, however strange it may seem to some people, not only a fellow-creature, but also a fellow-subject of the King."

It did one good to hear a pronouncement of such even-handed justice in the high places of authority, but it must never be forgotten that the entirely altered frame of mind and the condition of public opinion is owing to the unceasing work of the Showmen's Guild.

For sixteen years past this work of instructing and guiding public opinion along right lines has been carried on by the Guild executive officials, and the altogether satisfactory results of the discussion in the Committee Room in the House of Commons is owing to the consistent and persistent manner in which the work of educating public opinion has been carried on.

Even the poor gipsy is not now without friends, for the proposals of the Middlesex County Council, as affecting gipsy encampments, have been considerably modified, and instead of being practically prohibitory, have been made humane and reasonable, whilst taking every care for public health.

If the proposals of the County Council had been carried through as originally introduced, it would have been practically impossible for the poor gipsy to set up his tent or to peddle his wares in the county of Middlesex. This, upon broadly humanitarian grounds, is altogether satisfactory, but our object is to emphasise the fact that but for the eminently successful Parliamentary work of the showmen this protection and consideration for the gipsy would not have been afforded. Of course, it is not our purpose either to minimise the danger to public health or to extenuate the free foraging proclivities of the worst kind of gipsies; we recognise that these are matters well within the purview of Local Government.

We do object to by-laws being passed for the purpose of securing public health when endangered by insanitary gipsy encampments being used by local bodies to drive out showmen and to stop local fairs within their borders.

We have already alluded to the fact that, before the work of opposing these regulations was undertaken by the Showmen's Guild, ten local authorities within the county of Middlesex had obtained by-laws of a drastic and prohibitory nature against gipsies, and we are told by local showmen that in every one of these areas the by-laws have been used to prevent their business being carried on, and to stop local fairs. The injustice of this is manifest, and the great misfortune is that, having once obtained these powers, it is practically impossible to get them rescinded.

The result is that in ten of the districts in the county of Middlesex the old bad law still remains, but in the rest of the county the new conditions will be the law under which shows, roundabouts, and stalls trading at fairs will be exempt from the restrictions sought to be imposed upon gipsy and squatter encampments.

Of course, the most important advantage obtained by showmen in their opposition to the Middlesex County Council Bill is the embodiment in an Act of Parliament of an exemption clause to the effect that the penalties imposed by the Act and intended to apply to gipsies shall not apply to any showman, roundabout proprietor, or stallholder, and, further, that no landowner letting ground for a fair or for private show business is to be subject to the penalties imposed by the Act.

There is, however, another very great advantage, and one that in our opinion marks the beginning of the better mind of Parliament towards the show business, and that is that in the amended clause the word "annoyance" is struck out and the word "disturbance" is coupled with "injury," so that in any action taken under the Act injury as well as disturbance must be proved by the complainants.

The striking out of the word "annoyance" as a penal offence is a tremendous step in advance. The chairman of the Committee very wisely remarked that "annoyance" was a very illusory and misleading word, and ought not to be made subject to special penalties. The very sight of a van or a tent might be an "annoyance" to some fastidious person, but he did not think that such person ought to have the power to penalise people simply and only because he felt annoyed; he was strongly of opinion that injury to public health ought to be the only reason for putting the by-law into operation.

PRINCIPAL agricultural shows and cattle fairs for June:—Edinburgh, Darlington, Driffield, St. Ives (Hunts.), and Sleaford, on the 4th; Huntingdon, Nottingham, Alford, Melton Mowbray, Newark, Thurles, on the 5th; Shrewsbury, Kettering, Clonmel, East Ilsey, Leek (Staffs.), and Royston, on the 6th; Ipswich and Ripon, on the 7th; Derby, on the 8th; Stow Bridge, on the 9th; Ingham (near Stalham) and Oakham, on the 11th; Stow Green, Bromsgrove, and Portsmouth, on the 12th; Appleby, Morpeth, Drogheda, Whittlesea, Redruth, Scotstown, Brentwood, and Leicester, on the 13th; Chester and St. Neots, on the 14th; Richmond (Surrey), on the 15th; Bradford, Stamford, and Boroughbridge (Yorks.), on the 18th; Northampton, on the 19th; Harleston and Maidstone, on the 20th; Horncastle and Aldborough, on the 21st; Macclesfield, on the 22nd; Farnham (Surrey), on the 23rd; Cambridge (Butt's Green), Halifax, and Rugby, on the 25th; Boughton Green (Northants) and Spalding, on the 26th; Blandford and Clones, on the 28th; and Yeovil, on the 29th.

THE fairs ahead for next week are:—Amersham, Appleby, Biggleswade, Birkenhead, Blockley, Brierfield, Cartmel, Castleford Feast, Cheltenham, Clevedon, Cockermouth, Coltishall, Dalton-in-Furness, Doncaster, Evesham, Flyford, Garston, Great Harwood, Helston, Hinckley, Horbury Fair, Jarrow-on-Tyne, Kenilworth, Lichfield, Malvern, Morecambe, Nantwich, New Brighton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Newmarket, Normanton Feast, Northampton, Norwich, Oundle, Oulton Feast, Portsmouth, Preston, Reigate, Richmond (Surrey), Rushden, Ryde, Salford (Trinity Market), Southport, South Shields, Hampstead Heath, Wormwood Scrubs, Blackheath, and Wanstead Flats, Stafford, St. Ives (Hunts.), Taunton, Thornaby, Torksey, Tunbridge Wells, York Fair, Alford, Bognor, Camborne (Cornwall), Cambourne, Fakenham, Halesworth, Hitchin, Leighton Buzzard, Long Milford, Longton, Melton Mowbray, Methley Feast, Penrith, Sheffield Summer Fair, Askham-in-Furness, Barnard Castle, Barrow-in-Furness, Bedworth, Bolton, Broadway (Worcester), Broughton-in-Furness, Chislehurst, Truro, Workington, Adwalton Feast, Bacup, Bingham, Birmingham, Buckingham, Ely, Southrapps, Tiverton, Ulverstone, Chipping Camden, Deptford, Derby, Haslingden, Ashford (Derby), Brackenfield, Grimesthorpe, Kendal, Keswick, Mickleton, Prescot, Richmond (Yorks.), Snowshill, and Wooley.

IN Wales we have Flint, Mold, Newport (Mon.), Denbigh, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydvil, Llandovery, and Treorchy.

FOLLOWING the fair at Hereford, there was a capital gathering of fair-ground novelties at Pembridge Fair. The principal roundabout concerns, consisting of gondolas, galloping horses, and steam horses, were exhibited by the Studts, Hill and Sons, and Strickland. Baker's well-known circus and Colborne's cinématograph theatre were the shows. There were the usual large variety of fair-ground novelties, throwing games, swings, rifle saloons, pannum and toy stalls.

AT Craven Arms, for the fair on May 25, were Mander's menagerie, Chipperfield's circus, and the annexe, Chipperfield's cinématograph. Wright's fine art gallery, Buckley's exhibition, Manders' boxers and athletes, and Manders' novelty booth. The machine list included Marshall Hill's gondola set, Mrs. Shepherd's switchback, Herbert's steam horses and steam swings, Gottheimer's galloping horses, steam yachts, and big boats, Marshall's steam ships in the air, Taylor's and Dobson's steam swings, Hill's big boats, and park swings and high fliers by Humphries, Taylor, and Dobson. The shooting concerns, in great variety, were provided by Messrs. Wright, Herbert, Turner, Dobson, and Taylor. Throwing games, cokersheets, and varieties, by Messrs. Cartwright, Dobson, Herbert, Taylor, and Humphries

THE enterprising Tom Norman is booming his remarkable troupe of Dahomey warriors. He has opened at the Marseilles Exhibition with a troupe of these African braves, and good business is confidently anticipated.

WITH another section of the Dahomey warriors, under the management of Mr. B. T. Burnett, successful business is being done at the Lecture Hall, High-street, Deptford.

WEST'S EXHIBITION of Animated Pictures, illustrating scenes in the life of our Army and our Navy, both at home and abroad, is attracting large audiences to the Theatre Royal and Opera House, Merthyr Tydfil, this week. The pictures are both instructive and amusing, and have been much appreciated.

ON Friday, May 25, John Sanger and Sons', Ltd., circus visited Bath, but inclement weather greatly interfered with its usual success. The outdoor procession had to be abandoned on account of the rain.

LLANELLY GREAT FAIR was held at the end of last week, and, despite the bad weather, was well attended. The array of shows and stall-holders, &c., was greater than ever. Messrs. H. Studt and Son had, in addition to their great Venetian gondolas and gallopers, their new machine, the motor-cars, which created quite a sensation. Haggar and Sons' electric bioscope was, as usual, to the front, and a very fine front it is, too. Wadbrook's electrograph, with its strong outside parade and Miss Russell's charming songs, is most successful. Baker's Circus, Prince Samonda's Temple of Mystery, and Testo's Marionettes and Cinematograph, a very interesting exhibition, complete the list of shows. North's, Boswell's, Day's, Evens', Jones', Danter's, and numerous other shooters, cokernut shies, and mollies filled up the field completely.

WE regret to learn that Mr. H. Studt, sen., has been, and is still, very ill, but is, we are told, on the road to recovery. We wish him a speedy restoration to his usual health.

SEDGWICK'S Great American Menagerie has paid a very successful visit to the Recreation Ground, Redditch. Some excellent performances were given by Alphonzo, a daring lion tamer, who entered a cage containing the untamable forest-bred lion Spitfire; Lorenzo and the educated lions; Aralgo, with educated bears and wolves; Rosina, with performing Siberian wolves, and serpentine dance in a cage of lions; and a performing elephant and tug-of-war contest, elephant v. forty local men.

AT Bromsgrove Sedgwick's American Menagerie is giving high-class performances.

MR. SAMUEL SHEPHERD, with his Newmarket galloping horses and grand orchestrion, park swings, shooting saloons, and cokernut gardens, are among the attractions at the Priory Field, Studley, this week.

AT Alvechurch, Birmingham, this week, are Herbert's roundabouts, park swings, bottle battery, cokernut sheels, &c.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

By the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain, the Showman's Guild.

A SECRET WITNESS.

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The story of Peter Piper, and the strategem by which he outwitted the burglars at Cardiff, recalls the story of a yet more remarkable dwarf, Ivan Yanowski. To the student of the ingenious and marvellous, Yanowski is better known as the living agent who supplied the brains to the celebrated automaton, the Mechanical Chessman.

The automaton chessman was for many years an inscrutable mystery, perplexing the greatest mechanical experts and astounding mathematicians and astute chess-players by the superhuman skill he displayed even when matched against the best brains of Europe. This wonderful figure was exhibited in all the great capitals—London, Paris, Berlin, Budapesth, Vienna, and St. Petersburg—and all alike went mad over the inscrutable mystery of this supernatural figure.

Of course it was not until after the death of the remarkable dwarf Ivan Yanowski that the secret of the motive power of the automaton leaked out, and when the reason for secrecy no longer existed, Professor Ventimore, the clever showman exhibitor of the doll, told many deeply-interesting stories of the wonderful ability and brain power of the dwarf Ivan.

Ventimore explained how he came into possession of the wonderful doll. "I was," he says, "at the celebrated gingerbread fair at Christmas-time in Paris exhibiting my troupe of life-size marionettes, and was doing fairly good business, when one day I received a mysteriously worded note, asking me to call upon a M. Yanowski, of the Rue St. Honore, to examine a mechanical doll which the writer of the letter had invented.

"I went to the place indicated, but instead of M. Yanowski I was received by a dear old lady, who introduced herself to me as the mother of the inventor of the doll; furthermore, she said that the inventor wished me to examine the automaton and test its powers to the full, and then to submit to her any proposals of a business nature I might have with regard to the hire of the machine."

As all the world knows, the machine was a figure nearly life-size on a pedestal, and before it just a little raised was placed a chessboard with a complete set of chessmen.

Chess had always been a favourite pastime of mine, and although not an expert player, I knew enough of the game to thoroughly test the mechanical possibilities of the figure. I was more than astounded. All my showman instincts were aroused, and forgetting all about my concern on the fairground, I stayed for many hours, and thoroughly examined the figure and the pedestal.

Then came the curious part of the matter, as a first preliminary to the engagement of the marvellous doll, I had to bind myself by a most solemn oath to keep inviolate the secret of its mechanism, which, as a matter of business, would have to be told to me. This of course I very readily undertook to do, and the most amazing development of all was when Madame Yanowski, screening the pedestal for a few minutes, withdrew the screen, and there, in front of the automaton, I saw the extraordinary freak of nature Ivan Yanowski, the brains and living motive-power of the mechanical chessman.

Ventimore, in that interesting *brochure*, "A Cosmopolitan Showman," tells the story of his wonderful tour through Europe with the automaton chessman, and more than once alludes to the extremely narrow escapes that the dwarf had in the eminently difficult work of keeping his existence a secret from all the world except his mother and Ventimore, the exhibitor.

The most remarkable of these adventures, and one that nearly led to the discovery of the dwarf, occurred in Vienna. They were exhibiting in the great hall of the Reich Platz, and were doing phenomenal business. So great was the curiosity of the crowd and so unscrupulous the methods of some of the investigators of the mystery, that Ventimore had to employ four of the city police to guard the cabinet containing the figure on its way to and from the hotel, to which after each performance the mysterious box and its exhibitor had to be conveyed.

Now, it chanced at the time there was great political ferment in the Austrian capital. A Prince of the Royal House had caused great anxiety to his Royal parents by certain escapades of an extremely dangerous though not political character. The racial difficulty in the Austrian Empire, the problem of reconciling the German, the Magyar, and the Czech, was even greater then than it is to-day. A consequence of this was that the political groups then hotly at war with one another, were ever ready to combine to throw opprobrium upon a member of the Royal House.

Prince Casper, the Royal youth in question, had fallen in love with a remarkably beautiful and charming lady, but unfortunately the lady was not of noble birth, hence the complications that led up to the grim tragedy of which Ivan the dwarf was the silent witness.

It had come to the knowledge of one of the extremist groups of politicians that the secret rendezvous of the Royal Prince and the lady of his ardent affections, was the very hotel in which Ventimore had taken up his residence. Ventimore's suite of rooms, four in number, adjoined the apartments of the Royal favourite and the so-called spare-room of the showman suite (the one that in reality domiciled the dwarf) was next door to the room occupied by the mysterious and charming lady.

Here, in fact, were two mysteries, the dwarf in one room, a mystery to all the world except his mother and the showman, and in the next room the beautiful lady who had won the heart of a Royal Prince, and was lying perdu, supposed to be only known to and accessible by her Royal lover. It was under these conditions as regards its scenario that the tragedy developed itself.

The dwarf's only chance of recreation was in the lonely watches of the night, and, amongst other things, Yanowski was a great reader; all the papers of the day had to be sent in for his perusal. He was also well in touch with the political thought of Europe, and took a keen interest in the struggle of the people for political freedom.

Without suspecting the intrigue of the Royal Prince and his beautiful inamorata next door, he had read of the grave condition of affairs at the Austrian capital, and was therefore able to give an intelligent appreciation to the eminently serious problem in which he played so great a part. In the first place, his suspicions were aroused by the use made of his room by the conspirators, who evidently knew that the apartment was supposed to be a mere boxroom for the showman's fit-up. To this chamber the conspirators came to perfect their schemes for the abduction of the Prince. This daring idea was to hold the favourite son of the King as hostage until their demands for political power were granted.

Here was the dwarf's dilemma. Unless Ventimore came to his room, and also came in the absence of the plotters, he was powerless. Time was evidently of the very essence of the scheme. They had made sure of Ventimore's absence (as he soon gathered from their conversation), and they also intended to wait in that room until the moment for the carrying out of their plans.

There he was, cribbed, cabined, and confined in the pedestal. How could he get word to the Prince or to the lady to warn them?

"Well," said Ivan, "I can do one thing. I can watch them, and fix their features so clearly upon my brain that I shall be able to picture the whole scene"

Carefully were the plans laid for the abduction.

"What of the woman?" said one of the conspirators.

There was a dead pause, and no one ventured a reply, save a significant observation from the leader, "We cannot allow a witness."

Then, to the immense relief of the dwarf, the word was given: "To the balcony; the Prince may be here in a moment."

As soon as the room was empty, out of his hiding-place came Ivan.

"What am I to do? How can I warn the Prince, and yet remain unseen?"

That was a tangle that even the quick brain of the great Yanowski could not unravel.

"I must act, but what am I to do?"

Then inspiration for the emergency came to him. He rushed to the writing-table, and hastily wrote these words:—"*Prince, fly for your life, nay, for the sake of the lady you love, stay not, but fly. A plot against you by determined men.*—A SILENT WITNESS."

This the dwarf, risking chance discovery, took and slipped carefully under the door of the next room. Back again into his own room, the dwarf set to work, and drew from memory a sketch of the scene he had witnessed—the plotters in conference. Each face was distinctly and cleverly drawn, so lifelike that, with its aid, identification of the conspirators would be quite easy. This he placed within the automaton, and for a few brief minutes, his clear mind all alert and ready for coming events, he waited.

"At last, at last," he murmured, as he heard the rapid step of the young Prince on the corridor. "I do hope he will not fail to see the warning note at his feet as he enters the room."

Two minutes of fateful silence, then the dwarf heard ominous sounds in the next room, a woman's voice in earnest entreaty—"Go, dear Casper, at once. It is a warning from a friend; take it."

"No," cried the young Prince, "let the cowards come. I am warned, that is enough, I am ready."

Then the conspirators made their rush, and with that the next step in the dwarf's counterplot. He rushed to the near end of the corridor, where the fire alarm bell was hung, and, seizing the rope, gave it tongue, and sped back again to his own room, only just in time to escape discovery.

Up the stairs came a crowd of the servants, and so quick was their advent that the conspirators had to fly, without taking with them their prize, the body of the young Prince, stricken down after heroic effort in the struggle with the overwhelming numbers against him.

It was a terrible sight that the horrified servants beheld in that ill-fated room. The unfortunate lady, in her brave effort to help and shield her Royal lover, had evidently provoked the fiendish rage of the conspirators. There her body lay, bearing the marks of the fierce struggle—done to death for the sake of the man she loved.

The police, in order to save a Royal scandal, quickly and secretly removed the Royal Prince to his own residence, where his wounds, of a somewhat serious nature, were attended to. This having been done, the police, acting under instructions from the King himself, proceeded to invent a sufficiently plausible reason to account for the tragedy at the hotel. In the careful examination of the room, undertaken by the police, the mysterious message penned by the dwarf was found, and this considerably amazed the authorities.

In the meanwhile, Ventimore had heard the whole story from the dwarf, and, urged by the brave little man to make some effort to bring the conspirators to justice, he took the sketch made by Ivan to the Chief of the Police, and, as the occasion was of sufficient moment to warrant the secret of the automaton being divulged, told the story as the dwarf had told it to him. With this clue to the mystery, the police were speedily upon the track of the conspirators, and the brave little dwarf had the satisfaction of knowing that the punishment their crime deserved was sternly meted out to them.

Ventimore, the showman, persuaded by the Chief Commissioner of Police, took the wonderful automaton, and, of course, its hidden brains, to the Royal Palace, and Ivan the dwarf was not only complimented by both King and Queen for his daring and original scheme to warn the young Prince of impending danger, but he had the further satisfaction of receiving the warm thanks of the Prince himself.

Of the further adventures of this remarkable freak I may have more to say; but as regards this episode the only thing that remains to be said is that one of the treasures that the dwarf preserved was a star set in brilliants, presented to him by the Queen Mother for his heroism in the terrible events centred round the tragedy of which he was the silent witness.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
George Wyman	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
Total	£25	13	6

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

THE programme at the Hippodrome, Redditch, has included John Irvin and Miss Pinder, bareback equestrians, the Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey, Whimsical Walker, and other well-known turns.

JENNINGS' THEATRE is still at Evesham, giving first-class performances. This week's programme included Alex Fox, the ventriloquist.

MR. ROBERT W. PAUL, the patentee of the Reliance Animatograph, has secured an exceptionally fine picture of this year's race for the Derby.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 1, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
June 25, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 13, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17. Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Oct. 8, 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, 28, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
June 25, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 17, 24, Christmas week, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 27, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Dec. 20, 3 nights, Dec. 24, Christmas week, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Sept. 3, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22 (three nights), 29, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Huddersfield, June 25, Xmas Week, on, Reading, June 25.
Leamington, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, on.
Theatre Royal, Leicester, June 25, July 2, 9.
Northampton, July 23, 30, Xmas week.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, July 2, 9, Aug. 27, onwards.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Aug. 13, onwards.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON; June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
E. GRAHAM FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, June 25, July 2 and 25. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. Apply, L. CARSON, Keighley.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction only, Aug. 27, only vacant date this year.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday), also Aug. 13, 20, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic or Musical Attractions, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 28, Feb. 18, and onwards. Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 13 20, 27 (3 nights), Sept. 10, 24, Nov. 15 (3 nights), Dec. 3. Booked in Conjunction with T. R., Whitehaven. Address, STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
WANTED, Aug. 13 probably vacant, Aug. 27 vacant. The Theatre Royal is now the only Theatre in Hull (population 256,000) playing to full prices. The Alexandra Theatre, the Original Drama House, no vacant dates this year.
WM. MORTON.

WANTED, good Dramatic Attractions for July 16, 23, and 30, also Musical Attraction only, for Sept. 10 and Oct. 8. Apply, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, good drawing Companies, for T.R., Aston and Smethwick, July 2; T.R., Chatham, July 23 and 30. BARNARD, Chislett-rd., West Hampstead.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO; PUBLIC HALL, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Attractions, Llandudno, June 21, 22, 23, July 2, 9, on; Colwyn Bay, June 11, July 2, 9, on, three or six nights each town. CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, Companies, Vacant June 18, and on, change of bill preferred. Strong attraction for Bank Holiday. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, through cancelling, First-class Co. for June 11; also vacant, July 9. Wire, POTTER, Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, High-class Company, July 16, only vacant date, Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough. Address, WADDINGTON, Stonegate, York.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Dec. 10.
Apply to Owner and Manager, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical or Variety preferred, June 18, 25, and Aug. 13. Apply J. W. CHAPMAN, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for June 25, July 2, 9, and 16. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Companies, for several South Coast Theatres. The only vacant season dates are July 23, 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 24. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, London.

DUNFERMLINE OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August 20, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, three nights, one matinée, June 14, 18, July 2; only good Companies entertained. Write, SEEBOLD, as above. Silence a polite negative.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 20, Sept. 24.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant May 28, Aug. 6, 13, 20.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant June 4, 11, 18, 25

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant June 4, 18, 25, July 2.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 3, 10, Nov. 5, Dec. 3.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 20.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant June 4, 11, 18, 25.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15, Nov. 5.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

WANTED, First-class Companies. THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH. Vacant July 2, 9.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS, Vacant June 25, and July.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 18, 25, July 2, and Oct. 1.
Bookings include:—Mr. William Mollison in "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," "The Earl and the Girl," "The Christian," "The Cingalee," "The Geisha," "The Greek Slave," Mr. Lawrence Brough in "The Lady of Ostend," "The White Chrysanthemum," "Florodora," &c.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Attraction, for week of July 9.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, July 30, Aug. 13, 27; also for Lyceum, Govan, July 30, Aug. 6. Terms, &c., to RICH. WALDON, Princess's, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Under the direction of Edward Michael.
WANTED, High-Class Companies for June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 16, 30 (three nights), Aug. 27 (three nights), Sept. 20 (three nights). N.B.—The Theatre Royal, Margate, is now completely refurnished with tip-up chairs, the holding capacity increased, and the stage completely equipped with a new plant of scenery.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Aug. 20, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 26. Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees, vacant Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 10, 17, for best Dramas, new to town. Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool. Wanted, Musical and other high-class Attractions for following Dates: Aug. 6, 13, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8. Undoubtedly one of the finest Musical Comedy Dates in the North. Re dates, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Aug. 6.
Apply, HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow.

WANTED, Musical Attractions. Aug. 6, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.
Aug. 13, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
Aug. 20, Grand Theatre, Hull.
Aug. 27, Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

WANTED, Companies, for June 7, 8, 9 (opening week of season), June 18, July 9, 10, 11, at Grand Llandudno. Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Pier, Eastbourne; next, St. Leonards.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for Suburban Theatres, from June 18, on. Apply, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-st., S.W.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
WANTED, First-Class Company, for Aug. 20, good opportunity for commencing Tour. Address, LAWSON LAMBERT.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13. WALTER MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20. WALTER MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 1. FREDK. MELVILLE, Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatre, Oct. 22, Nov. 5.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Nov. 26. DOUGLAS BRUCE, Bruges, Willow-avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-Class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatre, July 9, 16, Aug. 20, on.
"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
Sept. 10, 17, on, with exceptions.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Bath.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 2, 30, Aug. 6, 27, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1, 22, and Dec. 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Artillery Theatre, Woolwich. See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID!"
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
Miss DORA PRICE as "THE WOMAN."
WANTED, June 11, June 18, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, T. R., Croydon; next, Queen's, Farnworth.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY" TOUR.
Eugene C. Stafford's Company.
WANTED, Nov. 1 (three nights) and 12, Dec. 3 and 24, also Spring, 1907. Apply, care of FRENCH, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 6, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above Success.
EDWARD MARRIS, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
WANTED, July 23 and 30, South. Only summer dates open. 41st Week of present Tour. Sept. 3, 10, and 17, on.
Booking and re-bookings extend into March, 1907. Cast, scenery, and printing A1.
FRANK AYRTON, Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Enormous Holiday Attraction, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, and on, with exceptions. Apply, FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

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"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes, by Angels.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10, 24, onwards. JACK HADDON, Theatre Royal, Darlington.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
Mr. Jack Haddon, having acquired the sole proprietorship of above Pantomime, which is acknowledged to be one of the finest productions toured, will be pleased to hear from managers of first-class theatres, from Xmas week, and onwards. Address as above.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, June 11, June 11, June 11, follow T. R., Middlesbro'. precede T. R., Chatham, Thanks Messrs. Flanagan, Granville, King, Morton Powell, for offers of this date, still vacant. Wire, wire, wire. EDWARD SURREY, to-day, Queen's, Longton; next, T. R., Middlesbro'.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S SOUND SUCCESS,
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, July 9, 30, and Aug. 6, on. A luxury to lovers of drama.—L'pool Echo. Address, STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Big Theatres only, July 2, 16, 23, 30.
Managers refer J. F. Elliston, Esq.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, T. R., Bolton; June 4, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY AND M. V. LEVEAUX'S CO.,
in
"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for Aug. 6, Sept. 6 (three nights), and Oct. 29.
Address, MR. SILVANUS DAUNCEY, 22, Charing-cross, S.W.

HARDIE and VON LEER'S CO.
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, June 18, 25, July 2, 9.
E. P. CLIFT, 110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Telegrams, "Vagancy, London." Tel., 7504 Gerrard.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 13 and 27 (Midlands), for Edward Marris, Florence Smithers, and No. 1 Company, and Chorus in above. Wire, MARRIS, Shakespeare, Liverpool.

WANTED, for "Life's Sweetest Sin," June 18, July 2-9, Aug. 6-13, open to arrange for week's stock. T. ARTHUR JONES, Peckham; next, Bilston.

"HER LOST SELF," by Nita Rae.
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH,"
by F. A. Scudamore.
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 17, Xmas, New Year, on. FRANCES DELAVAL, to-day, Ashton-under-Lyne; June 4, Alexandra, Sheffield.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S NEW PLAY,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 29, on, including Xmas. Add., STUART CLEVELAND, T. R., Smethwick.

"THE GREAT AWAKENING."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Sept. 10, North or Midlands, Oct. 1 and 15.
Miss Maud Hildyard and Powerful Company.
Mr. ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire T., Oldham.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
WANTED, Dates, Sept., onwards, for the No. 1 Production.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

Mr. ANDREW MOIR'S COMPANY.
WANTED, July 2, between King's, Glasgow, and Lyceum, Edinburgh.
Wire, F. MARTIN MORRIS, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

"EAST LYNNE," &c.
WANTED, June 11, 25, July, on, for Musical Version. Répertoire now consists of "Life," "Streets of London," "Sorrows of Satan," "Mystery of Hansom Cab," all well played and advertised. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, Hippo., Mansfield. Write, T. R., Ilkeston.

WANTED, Theatres, for PHIL HERMAN'S "FRITZ" CO., Vacant June 18, July 9, 16, 23, Aug. 6, 13.
Apply,
H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

The never-failing Attraction.
Mr. REGINALD H. ADAIR'S CO.,
"THE LUCK OF LIFE."
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"THE LUCK OF LIFE."
Star Cast of Sixteen Artists.
Clear Stage only required.
300 sheets of pictorials without a repeat.
Managers in doubt can with every confidence refer to either of the following re the above:—
R. C. Buchanan, Esq.,
Arthur Carlton, Esq.,
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Frank Macnaghten, Esq.,
Samuel James, Esq.,
Chas. Revill, Esq.,
Wm. D. Forsdike, Esq.,
J. W. Whitbread, Esq.,
E. H. Page, Esq.,
J. E. Culeen, Esq.,
M. Montgomery, Esq.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, between Leeds and North Shields.; Aug. 27, to follow Blackburn; Sept. 17, to precede Nottingham; Oct. 8, to follow Attercliffe; Dec. 3, to precede Devonport; and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, ROLAND YORKE, June 4, Gaiety, Burnley; June 11, Queen's, Dublin; Perm. add., 7, Arundel-street, Piccadilly, London, W.

Success! Success!! Success!!!
Miss MARY NEIL and Mr. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
Bookings include
Junc. and Osborne, Manchester (R.); Alex., Hull (R.); P., Blackburn (R.); T. R., Castleford (R.); T. R., Bolton; Alex., Sheffield; Grand, Blackpool; T. R., Lincoln; G., Derby; T. R., Leicester; T. R., South Shields; O. H., St. Helens; T. R., Sunderland; Q., Liverpool; Wigan; Prince's, Bradford; T. R., Barnsley; T. R., Middlesbrough; T. R., Chatham; T. R., Smethwick; T. R., Aston; Grand, Nottingham; Rotunda, Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne; P. Portsmouth; Alex., Birmingham.
Thanks for offers of P.O.W., Grimsby; T. R., Bristol; Grand, Swansea; G., Burnley; Accrington; Victoria, Broughton; Grand, Islington.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, and few Autumn Dates vacant for really good Theatres that can hold money. Rapidly booking 1907. Managers are invited to forward autumn vacancies to GEORGE KIRK, this, Queen's, L.pool; next, G., Nottingham

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
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A really excellent Company and Production.
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WANTED, June 18, 25, to follow Rochdale, and July 9, to precede Llandudno; also Aug. Bank Holiday.
EADE MONTEFIORE, Kennington Theatre.
Wire, "Busily, London."

C. AND F. RENAD'S PANTOMIME.
"PUSS IN BOOTS."
New Version, by Stanley Rogers, Esq.
WANTED, Important Theatre, for Two Weeks, Feb. 4 and 11.
Company of Seventy Artists.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, c/o "The Era."

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, June 25 and July 9, only vacancies.
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER,"
Aug. 6, 20, Oct. 22, 29, and onwards.
EUGENE BERTRAM, June 4, O. H., Southport.

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 13 and 27 (Midlands), for Edward Marris, Florence Smithers, and No. 1 Company, and Chorus, in above. Wire, MARRIS, Shakespeare, Liverpool.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 6, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above Success.
EDWARD MARRIS, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, for "Maids," Chief Company, Aug. 20, between Liverpool and Manchester; also "White Chrysanthemum," Sept. 10, between Reading and Kingston; also "Are You a Mason?", Aug. 20, to follow Plymouth. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever. E. CARTER LIVESEY, New, W. Stanley.

WANTED, June 25, July 9, for the All-Star Cast in
"HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR."
Mr. Lionel Mackinder,
Mr. Lenox Pawle,
Mr. Marsh Allen,
Mr. Loring Fernie,
Miss Janet Alexander,
Miss Ethel Matthews.
Another important name to add.
Address,
A. BERTRAM, Killarney, Lewisham; next week, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction, June 18, 25, July 2, 9, 16. "DEFENDING HIS HONOUR," vacant July 23 (North), Aug. 20, 27, and onward. Address, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 6, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above Success.
EDWARD MARRIS, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MESSRS. SHINTON & GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Theatres, Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 8.
All communications to JOHN B. SHINTON, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Xmas week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

"THE DANDY DOCTOR."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 13 and 27 (Midlands), for Edward Marris, Florence Smithers, and No. 1 Company, and Chorus in above. Wire, MARRIS, Shakespeare, Liverpool.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Miss DORA DENCH and FULL COMPANY.
WANTED, June 18, 25, July 9, Aug. 13, to follow Alex., Sheffield. Wire, DENCH, Met., Birmingham; next, Ton-y-Pandy.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
WANTED, June 11 and 18, Superb cast. Elegantly dressed.
Also in Répertoire,
"NANA" and "THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
This and next, LOIE ESMOND, Carlton T., Greenwich.

MILLAR ANDERSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, June 25, to precede Palace, Newcastle. Only No. 1 Theatre entertained. Absolute best terms. Cast includes Miss Mabel Mannering and Mr. Jerrold Heather. Wire, ANDERSON, Theatre, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, for "Circumstantial Evidence," June 11, 18, opened well at Oldham. Wire for June 11; to-day, Col., Oldham; June 4, H.M., Carlisle.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, July 9 and 16, to follow Chatham. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre; several dates vacant Autumn. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production which will be second to none touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain First-Class Theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

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WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

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WANTED, Sept. 15, 22, Nov. 26. All new scenery and printing. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, Good Theatres, for "The Heart of a Hero," "The Octoroon," and "The Ticket of Leave Man," June 25, and onwards. Can arrange for three plays in one week. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 10, 17, and Oct. 1. L. CARSON, Keighley.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Sept. 10, onwards, "SAINTS AND SINNERS" and "MIDDLEMAN," including Miss Elaine Verner and Mr. Harding Thomas.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

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Mr. Sturgess has decided to run through the summer.
WANTED, June 11, onwards, "A QUEEN OF VILLAINY," including Miss Edith Blande.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards, "IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S," by Sutton Vane.
Mr. ARTHUR CARLTON'S TOUR.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards, "ORPHAN HEIRESS" and "WORLD'S VERDICT."
Mr. W. REUBEN PAYNE'S TOUR.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, Vacant Aug. 27, Oct. 8, 15, 29, Nov. 5. Splendidly advertised, beautifully mounted, and cleverly acted.
A solid success.
Present bookings:—Newport (third), Chester (2), G. Swansea, Brixton (2), R. Cardiff, S. Shields, Sunderland, G. Croydon, Wolverhampton, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Broughton, Rochdale, Ashton, Newcastle, Birmingham, &c., &c. Now booking 1907. Grand, Swansea, June 4.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S TOURS.
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
"THE MIDNIGHT WEDDING,"
by WALTER HOWARD.
ANNIE SAKER. ALFRED PAUMIER.
WANTED, Good Theatres, 1907; only few weeks open.
ALFRED PAUMIER, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

ROBERT PERRIS' COMPANY.

"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 15. Thanks Hugh Robertson, Esq., for Contract.
Xmas and New Year vacant.
Address, Dalston Theatre, London, N.

LITTLETON'S "TERRORS OF A GAY CITY" COMPANY.
WANTED, July 9, 23, Aug. 6, onwards, with exceptions. New plant of scenery and printing. A clear stage required. GEO. LITTLETON, 70, Kennington-oval, London, S.E.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
Mr. Edward Graham Falcon has secured the entire rights from Messrs. Gatti and Frohman, and has purchased the No. 1 Production from Messrs. Murray, King and Clark. Tour commences September.
WANTED, Four weeks, from Dec. 24, at First-class Theatres only. Communications re dates,
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MESSRS. ARMADALE AND WARREN'S CO.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Oct. 8, 15, 22, Nov. 19, and Xmas. Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Address, ARMADALE and WARREN, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, July 2, to follow Blackpool. Refer Rich Waldon, Esq.
DICKIE CLARE, T. R., North Shields.

FRED GRANVILLE'S POPULAR PANTOMIMIC PRODUCTIONS. "THE FORTY THIEVES."
WANTED, Jan. 21, and onwards, with exceptions, for the above magnificent Combination, to follow production, Grand, Derby; gorgeous scenery and costumes; unrivalled cast; everything done that money and experience can command. Full chorus of forty carried; Continental specialities; good Theatres only. Address, FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, Aug. 6, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above Success.
EDWARD MARRIS, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

COLLEY-DRYDEN CO.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic and Variety Theatres, Halls, Piers, &c. Company includes Madame Ada Colley, Mr. Ed. E. Ford, Mr. Leo Dryden, and full company of first-grade artists. Mr. D. wishes to thank Messrs. Buchanan, Bradley, Broadhead, Chaplin, De Frece, Dottridge, Elderton, Elliston, Morton-Powell, Mundill, Phillips, Potasch, Roberts, Rosen and Bliss, Saphrini, Sounes, Spenser, Willmot, Worswick, &c., for offers. Coms., LEO DRYDEN, Palace, Manchester.

WANTED, Dates, for "The Gazekas" an Unique Concert Party under the personal direction of Mr. George Graves, of Daly's Theatre, London. Novel methods and printing. J. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn street, London.

WANTED, July, August, onwards, First-class Theatres, Piers, Pavilions, &c., for Walter Payne's up-to-date picture exhibit, unparalleled success everywhere. Circus, Hull, packed nightly. Complimented by Mr. Emerson. Everything done to ensure success. Rent, share, or certainty. Particulars, 346, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, good Theatres and Halls, for First-Class Variety Company, Shares or Cert. ELLIMAN'S Agency, 5, Vernon-street, Dublin.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED for Autumn, Musical Comedy, Prima Donna Contralto; also Principal Baritone and Artists in all Lines; also Chorus Ladies, young and have good voices and appearance. Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

"THE LUCK OF LIFE."
WANTED, for the above, First-class Robust Character-Actor for part of Bahadur; must be tall, thoroughly experienced, strictly attentive to business, and dress well on or off. Smart Young Baggage Man, capable of playing small parts. State lowest summer terms, particulars, and enclose photo.
ROLAND YORKE, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
Mr Henry Belding please communicate.

ARTISTS WANTED.

"AFTER THE BALL" TOURS.
WANTED, Known, Mr. Carey will be glad to receive Applications for Parts in above Tours. All must be First-class Vocalists, accustomed to Musical Comedy, and send fullest particulars as to recent engagements and parts played, also (if possible) where can be seen playing. Also wanted, a First-class Troupe of Dancers and a Musical-Director. Tours start early July.
Address, CHARLES CAREY, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

WANTED, Rehearse, August Autumn Drama, Tour, Leading Juvenile Gentleman Light Comedy Gent., Second Heavy Gent., Small Part Gent. State terms, height, references, MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, London.

AUTUMN TOUR, "HELD IN BONDAGE."
WANTED, Heavy Gentleman; good voice. Swordsman, and thoroughly experienced. Height, references, photo., terms, V. GRANTHAM, 10, King-street, W.C.

WANTED, Full Company, for Tour; also Coloured People, Singers, "Octoroon," "Uncle Tom's Cabin"; sobriety imperative. Address, CHARLES HERMANN, H. M. Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Principals, Specialities, Chorus. Write with full particulars, photos., height, &c, JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, tall young Juvenile Heavy Gentleman, for Prince Eugene; also tall Lady, for short Juvenile Heavy part, must be young; both to understudy; to open Aug. 6, rehearse previous. Long Tour to suitable people. Terms, full-length photos, references, &c., ALFRED PAUMIER, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

WANTED, good Responsible Man (Répertoire), must do refined turn and have good modern wardrobe; also Pianist, to do turn or play parts preferred; rehearse June 8, Athlone. LEA and PRESTON, P.O., Tullamore, Ireland.

WANTED, for a forthcoming big production, in West End Halls, several smart and good-looking Ladies (amateurs preferred), to walk on, and speak a line or two; also a couple of Gentlemen. No premiums required. Small salary.
Permanent engagement to suitable people.
Excellent chance for practical experience.
Apply, with full particulars, Box 3,309, "The Era" Office.

Amateurs.
WANTED, Known, Two Ladies, Young, Good Appearance, and with dramatic ability, can be received into a first-class comedy company, now on tour. Premium required. Apply, in first instance, Box 3,302, "The Era" Office.

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WANTED, an experienced Acrobatic Dancer, to play a Dude. Very lowest terms for long tour to ALEXANDER LOFTUS, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, several young Ladies, tall and good appearance; experience not necessary; salary to commence. Apply 5 to-day, MENKES' Exhibition Offices, Earl's Court.

WANTED, for Musical Costume Concert Party, Humorist and Tenor Actor-Vocalist; must be able to act as Accompanist.
Reply immediately, SINKINS, 63, Berners-street, W

WANTED, Baritone, Comedians, Soubrette, Dancers, Gentlemanly Heavy, Specialities, July 12, few weeks. Miss Burman write. Terms, references, JARMAN, Theatre, Torquay.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Special Notice.
WANTED, Known, the Native Choir from Jamaica, specially brought to this country by Sir Alfred L. Jones, K.C.M.G., fully booked for this year with the exception of the following weeks only:
July 16, 23, Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday week), 13, Sept. 3 and 10.
A novel and artistic entertainment.
A sensation everywhere.
Native costume, camp dress for Sacred Concerts and Evening Dress.
Splendid lithos., framed photographs (three kinds), post-cards, &c.
Heartily complimented by Earl Roberts, Lord Derby, Lord Brassey, Lord Mayor of Liverpool, &c.
This week, London; next week, PALACE-BY-THE-SEA, TYNEMOUTH.
Apply immediately for terms for above dates to Sole Agents, Messrs. JONES and DOUGLASS, 21, Water-st., and 14, Dale-st., Liverpool.
Wires, "Motherland, Liverpool."
'Phones, 5650 and 2449 Central.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, this week Devonshire Park, Eastbourne. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, address Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, by experienced Ladies' Quartette or Quintette, Seaside Summer Engagement Highest testimonials. Miss MABEL MILLER, 32, Montrell-road, Streatham Hill.

WANTED, Known, Lady, Mezzo-soprano, desires Engagement with Concert Party for six or seven weeks, from Aug. 1, 1906. Address, Miss E. Scrooby, 7, Jameson-rd, Bexhill.

WANTED, by Miss Bessie Hardman, soprano, ballad vocalist, good répertoire, piers, pav., al fresco; experienced. 30, Victoria-st., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Known, Baritone wishes to join Quartette (touring) as First Bass; accustomed to part-singing. BARITONE, 8, The Park, Ealing, Middlesex.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, Theatre Managers, &c., to write for Leete's Catalogue of colours, varnishes, painting brushes, and every requisite for scene painting and theatre decoration. The fullest range of colours in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, used to Contract Work.
Terms, &c.,
H. O. RICHARDSON, Scenic Studio, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, at Liberty for Engagement or Contract; refs. excellent. Address, 20, Park-st., Middlesbro'

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WANTED, Known, that at Sykes' Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Manchester, a large stock of new and second-hand Scenery always for sale. Contracts solicited. Only high-class work executed; best materials used. Send us a trial order.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, with First-class London and Provincial References. Offers for Permanency, now or autumn, on moderate terms. Address, first instance, Box 3,283, "Era."

WANTED, Known, Resident Scenic Artist, at Liberty shortly, first-class theatre only. Excellent references. Box 3,325, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, First-Class Manager to undertake management of a Pierrot Troupe, must thoroughly understand working of same. Apply, with full particulars, REGINALD TAYLOR, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Manager that can influence dates Theatres and Halls, for a powerful Drawing Card of Unusual Merit and Originality, including a realistic sketch recently produced in London with great success. Only small capital required. Success assured to the right man. Address for particulars, Box 3,312, "The Era" Office.

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WANTED, by T. J. Colquhoun, late Joint Lessee and Manager Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow, Engagement as Manager, Variety Theatre or Pier Pavilion. Address, 5, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Levison, Business Representative, Finishing Season, Cooke's Hippodrome, Aberdeen. At Liberty June 11 or 18. General Out-door Business; Stage, Ring, or Front in Evening. Highest references. Wire or write, c/o Gairns, 55, Belmont-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting or Assistant-Manager or Secretary, resident or tour; expert accountant, smart, experienced. Highest references. Box 3,304, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Acting or Assistant Manager, Theatre or Music Hall, 26, experienced; excellent refs. Apply, Box 3,324. "The Era."

WANTED, by Acting-Manager, Engagement, Music Hall or Theatre; would accept a trustworthy position; excellent references. PEASE, Barnard's Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

WANTED, Employment, C. H. Reed, at Liberty, experienced Circus Agent or Manager, Assistant Hippo. Manager, Advertising Agent, Secretary; reliable, sober, energetic worker. Address, The Stores, Leigh-road, Leigh, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, as Advance Agent or Business-Manager; excellent references; thorough knowledge of all branches; abstainer. RENE CLAYTON, Biggar, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Louis Buels, Agent in Advance, at Liberty through termination of "A Royal Divorce" tour. Reference, W. W. Kelly, Esq. Address, Care of "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Property Master, Models, Masks, and Paints, Engagement in First-Class Theatre. H. HAMPTON, 27, Cavershamroad, N.W.

WANTED, Known, W. H. Owen, Property Master, two years with Charles Frohman, Esq., two years with F. R. Benson, Esq. Disengaged for autumn. Next week, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, by qualified Electrician; thoroughly experienced electrical work and repairs; sober, reliable. Address, PENDER, 41, Ann-st., Greenock, Scotland.

WANTED, by H. Leeding, practical carpenter, Re-engagement, resident in or near London, tools, abstainer, 32, bench hand; refs. 11, Little Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, by Stage Carpenter, Bench Work, old scenery touched up and repaired; highest references; capacious workshop. BARNES, 2, Addington-street, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Young Gentleman, English, educated in France, who possesses a good baritone voice, wishes to hear from a really good Al-fresco Concert Party. No agents. Box 3,305, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-Class Wardrobe Mistress shortly at Liberty; good references. Box 3,319, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by thoroughly competent Wardrobe Mistress, clever cutter and fitter. Address, Box 3,318, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Good Violinist, young lady or gent., to join First-class Harpist, for Hotels, &c. Will Ethel Brooks, Harpist, write Address, HARP, 4, Tanner's-lane, Soham, Cambs.

WANTED, for short Seaside Season, First Week in July, Solo Clarionet, Piccolo, First Horn, Euphonium, and Drums, uniform. MUSICUS, 3, Cambray, Cheltenham. No notice taken unless terms are named.

WANTED, Double Bass, for 10 weeks, for Filey, Yorks; must be thoroughly steady, and good player. State age and references terms, V. MEDCALF, Victoria-avenue, Filey, Yorks.

WANTED, First Horn, District Council, Military Band, open June 25, ten or twelve weeks. Terms, refs., BELLERBY, Mus.-Dir., Ilkley.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.

WANTED, Male Attendant, Bombardon or Cornet Player preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copy of testimonials, to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Viola, at Once. Wire, Rhyl Promenade Orchestra. BECKER, Bandmaster.

WANTED, good Pianist, combine First Clarionet, must be strictly sober, young, of good appearance. Refs., lowest terms, age, married or single, to SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Pianist-Vocalist (with own portable), also Baritone, Al Fresco, N. Wales. Particulars, salary, and répertoire, open June 11, ROB OTTO, 64, Cloudesley-road, Islington, London N.

WANTED, Open Monday, at Workington, Lady Pianist-Vocalist, for Tour. Terms must be very low, but sure. Week towns. Wire, MANAGER, Mechanics' Hall, Longtown, Cumberland.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Pianist, Youth or Lady, expert sight-reader (MS.). Wire lowest, J. ROLMAZ, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Double Drummer, to complete Band, H.M.S. Glory, Channel Fleet; instruments and uniform supplied; rail fare refunded; Band extra in addition to Service pay; short service. Apply at once, 596, Commercial-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, First-class Drummer, with Tympanis and Effects. Permanent position to steady, reliable man. Lowest terms, &c., CHARLES REVILL, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

WANTED, for the De Frece Circuit, Musicians, to open Aug. 6, and for later dates. Apply, with recent refs. and lowest terms, to J. HOWARD SHACKLETON, Musical Director, Hippo., Southampton.

WANTED, Ladies, experienced Leader, Drums, and all instrumentalists immediately. State experience. Box 3,307, "The Era."

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra, about Seven Double-handed Performers, for sketch. Coms., qualifications, lowest terms, LEO DRYDEN, Palace, Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
"Re Advertisement
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., for Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate, June 3.

WANTED, Known, Thomas C. Poyser, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, now at Liberty. Exceptional references. Address, 49, Cowper-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged, reliable London Variety Musical Director, Violinist, and Pianist, London only. Address, Box 3,297, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement or Deputising, experienced Leader, Solo Violinist; big Solo Répertoire, any business. 51, Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Engagement, by experienced Conductor (Pianist, Violinist, and Composer), late Conductor of the Grand Opera in Amsterdam. Box 3,303. "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Musical Director (Violin), Theatre or Varieties preferred. CONDUCTOR, 12, Herbert-road, Stockwell, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Mons. Jules Guitton, Deputy-Conductor, "Castles in Spain," Terry's Theatre, London, tenders his thanks for various offers of engagement.

WANTED, by experienced Conductor, speak French, German, Italian, English, Music Hall, Sub. Theatre; terms very mod. Box 3,310, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Musical Director. Violinist, thoroughly experienced in Variety business; good refs.; 5 years' present engagement. T. RICHARDSON, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, George Ess, Musical Director, Composer, Pianist, &c., at Liberty, open immediately. Fine testimonials. Offers to 38, Parliament-st., Harrogate.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director or Leader; thoroughly experienced and reliable; excellent references. Address, CONDUCTOR, 1, Castle-street, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Known, Thos. W. Dearlove, Conductor and Leader, open to Engagement in Theatre or Variety; excellent references. Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, at Liberty June 9. Address, V. R. CHALDER, Leader, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, young, good, in Theatre or Hall, London or provinces. Can open at once. Address, Box 3,313, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Lady, First Violin, experienced, at Liberty, June 20. LENA CHALLEN, Stinchcombe, Dursley, Glo'ster.

WANTED by First Violin, can combine Second or Third Clarionet, Engagement; good references. Box 3,314, "The Era."

WANTED, Summer or Permanent Engagement, by Violinist, First Violin, or Leader, Theatre and Variety experience. Address, J. L., 109, Northumberland-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company; excellent testimonials; now at Liberty. Address, MATTHEW LEWIS, Waterlooville, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement by Violinist, combine Clarionet, any business; good refs. W. F. HILL, 20, Methley-street, Kennington Park, S.E

WANTED, by First Violin (Soloist), Engagement, seaside or theatre, any business. Excellent references. J. H. Rawlings, Cressage, Shrewsbury

WANTED, Engagement, for June only, as Violinist or Pianist, good sight reader, experienced. MADELINE JUGMANN, 29, Weld-road, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, by Violinist, Oboist, and First Horn, Engagement, experienced in Grand Opera and Variety; high references. 14, Stanhope-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, by Second Violin and Viola, Engagement, or Deputising, any Business; sober. Apply, HAROLD BURTON, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

WANTED, by a First-rate Violinist, Engagement. W. ALMON, 1, Bushwood-road, Kew Gardens, W.

WANTED, Engagement, two Violins, Viola, 'Cello, Flute, Clarionet, Oboe, Bassoon, Cornet, Trombone, Drums, six weeks, commencing June 18, together or separate. C. FLY, T. R., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, First or Second Violinist, to commence Monday; experienced; good references. VIOLINIST, 41, Churchgate, Bolton.

WANTED, Engagement, in Ladies' Orchestra, as Second Violin; experienced. Miss HELEN IZETT, 18, Albion-place, Hanley.

WANTED, by an Experienced First Violinist or Viola Player, can combine second cornet, engagement, for 8 or 10 weeks. Address, in first instance, Box 123, "The Era."

WANTED, immediate, Orchestral or Military Band Engagement, Second Cornet, distance no object, Army references. Wire ZEALLEY, 3, Hartington-terrace, Brighton.

WANTED, by Cornet, First or Second, Situation in Military Band, would prefer permanency; six years' Military experience; good refs. A. R. E., 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, season or permanency, or immediate deputising. WILLIAMSON, 249, Southwark Bridge-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet (or Second Violin) after Whit Week. STEELE, Olympia Varieties, Bury.

WANTED, Engagement as Second Cornet. Address, H. RUSSELL, JUN., 4, Court-st., Leamington.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Cornet, at Liberty, solo or first, military or string. HUTCHBY, Grand Theatre, Croydon W.

WANTED, Known, good Cornet Player (comb. Viola), Open to Accept good Engagement for Season. E. FRITZ, 47, East-street-buildings, Baker-street, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Cornet (comb. Viola); highest references. At Liberty at once. Apply, CORNET, 80, Rosslyn-crescent, Wealdstone, Harrow.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionettist, Orchestral or Military; open at once. Apply, HUBERT PERKINS, 6, Beaumont-street, Oadby, near Leicester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, First or Second, outdoor preferred, age 40, wears glasses, sober, disengaged. FORD, 138, Lauriston-road, S. Hackney.

WANTED, Known, experienced and reliable Clarionet, disengaged for Summer Engagement; good references. D. CRAIG, 71, Lavendersweep, Lavender Hill, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Clarionet, Orchestral or Military; experienced; good references. G. J. BREWSTER, 7, Cranstoun-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarionet, Saxhorn, and E Flat Bombardon, experienced and reliable; disengaged June 16. A. B., 319, Seaside-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement; steady and reliable; good refs; could join at once. HARRY HARE, 21, Station-square, Harrogate.

WANTED, Known, Contra Bass at Liberty Summer Season, any business. Address, BASSO, Theatre Royal Orchestra, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Jas. L. Barker, Principal Double Bass, Grand, Leeds, Summer Engagement; would deputise; sober and reliable; highest references. 19, Nowell-mount, Harehill's-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Lady Bass Player; can open at once. H. SMITH, 35, Islip-street, Kentish Town.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, satisfaction guaranteed; any business. JACK ALLAN, 1, Buckland-st., New North-rd., London, N.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Theatrical, Music Hall, or Season Engagement; good references. Terms moderate. CONTRA BASS, 22, Church-st., Leominster.

WANTED, Engagement, Trombone, combine Violin, late Buxton and New Brighton Orchestras. SYKES, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone; thoroughly experienced; at Liberty June 9. HARRISON, Band 4th Lincoln Regt., Grantham

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombonist, late military, will be disengaged shortly, for season. Apply, COOKE, Trombone, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, competent and reliable Trombonist, any Business. Address, T. BLEAKLY, Trombone, Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone. P. GASCOIGNE, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, by E flat Bombardon or Euphonium, summer engagement, at Liberty after June 9, military experience. G. CLARKE, 14, St. Catherine's-rd., Grantham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Good B flat Bombardon, ex-Army man; good refs. BLACK, 153, King's-street, Ramsgate, Kent.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon, combine Double Bass, owing to the closing of Cooke's Hippodrome. J. AUCKLAND, G.P.O., Aberdeen, Scotland.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon, Seaside or Tenting; steady and reliable; can open at once. A. BLUNT, 36, Forest-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Situation, as First or Second E flat Tenor Horn; thoroughly competent, any business. Address, TEDDY GOODWIN, 18, London-road, Leek.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq,. King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Engagement by 'Cellist, Bass, Trombone, experienced, seaside, or any business, Disengaged from Whit week. HOWARD, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced 'Cellist, just finished Brighton Pier; would deputise, used to any business. 51, Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, good refs., and thoroughly reliable. HY. PEARCE, 74, Portland-place North, Clapham-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Experienced Lady 'Cellist, evening engagement, in London, during summer months, Sundays excepted. GEORGE, 118, Elgin-avenue, Maida Vale, W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist, good soloist; experienced any business; disengaged from June 16. L. H., 21, Beaumont-buildings, Oxford.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Soloist, Engagement, highly experienced and well up in Opera. 'CELLO, 3, Lyndhurst-grove, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola or Violin, good references; any business. F. W. ESKE, 29, Falcon-grove, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FRANK FIELD, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c.—49, Haverstock-hill, London, N. W.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, any Business, by well-known Variety Orchestral Harpist (combine Violin); young, good reader, and thoroughly experienced; highest references. Address, HARPIST, 4, Tanner's-lane, Soham, Cambs.

WANTED, Known, Harpist, Good, Gentleman, liberty at once, for pitching or troupe, &c., experienced. Wire, FRED BARRINGTON, 23, Higher Ormonde-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, by Flautists and Conductors, engaged for Council Bands, Flute, Piccolo, Disengaged; reliable; deputise or other business. 27, Thistlethwaite-road, Lower Clapton.

WANTED, Season's Engagement, Flute and Piccolo, Disengaged June 9. Address, BENNETT, 18, Marshall-street, Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, Orchestral or otherwise; experienced accompanist; sight reader. RODNEY, 52, Winstead-st., Battersea Park, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-Class Pianist (lady), good soloist, sight reader, accompanist. Box 3,306, "The Era."

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Re-engagement, London preferred. G. H., 26, Birdhurst-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

WANTED, by First-Class Pianist, Re-engagement, Orchestral, Al Fresco, Hydro, any bus.; lightning reader, transposer, young. CAMPBELL, 45, Edward-street, Bury.

WANTED, by competent Tympanist and Double Drummer, good permanent Engagement, Music Hall, Theatre, or large Orchestra, ten years last eng.; refs. Box 3,308, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer, through closing; good reference. F. MCCROHAN, 59, Tradescant-road, South Lambeth-road, S.W.

WANTED, by experienced Double Drummer, Engagements for Garden Parties, &c.; excellent references. HALLETT, 29 Priory-road, Acton Green West.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums, with all Effects; sober and reliable; Liberty June 11. Offers. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Orchestral Drummer an Engagement; competent, Theatre or Music Hall. D. D., 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Garner's Elysée Band, from three performers or first-class Orchestral Pianist; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury.

WANTED, Engagement, Small Orchestra, Piano, Violin, Flute, Cornet, Bass, all reliable. Add., CONDUCTOR, 219, Gt. Portland-st., W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagements, Miss Nellie Rennison's Ladies' Orchestras, English, Greek, Venetian. Liberty July 28 to Sept.; also String Quintette, month of Aug. Managers hotels, cafés, piers write; First-Class Solo Artists; attractive costumes. Permanent address, Derwent, Station-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Dodsworth's Northern Military or String Bands, from 12 upwards. Neat uniform. For terms, apply, DODSWORTH, 9, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, the Excelsior Military Band, at Liberty for Summer Engagement; excellent library, first-class references. JAMES WOODS, Bandmaster, 3, Agnes-street, Grantham.

WANTED, Short Season Engagement, the Golden Marguerite Orchestra, Liberty end of June. Terms and particulars, ETHEL CLIFFORD, 44, Burton-crescent.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists doing Two Acts, for one day Gala, Aug. 6, Yorkshire. Send full particulars, lowest terms, &c., DALTON'S Agency, 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Canadian Circus, Tenting, Ireland, Artists in all Lines, to Open at Once; also Good Tentmaster. Wire, Monday, Ballaghadreen. All letters, HANNEFORD'S Circus, 10, Goldsmith-street, Dublin. Allow 3 days for reply.

WANTED, Speciality Circus or Variety Artists who will accept Summer Terms, June 18, onwards, also Combinations, and Sunday Concert turns. Address, MANAGER, Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent.

HIPPODROME, REDDITCH.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Monday, June 4, Circus and Variety. Wanted, to Buy, 2 Light Lorries and Band Carriage. Silence a polite negative. Address, H. GILES, as above.

WANTED, a First-class Wire-walker or any other Up-to-date Novelty, for Whiting's World's Fair and Carnivals, commencing June 15, for 4 weeks, and probably longer. Lowest terms in first instance to JOHN WHITING, c/o Albert Jones, Oxford Chambers, Manchester.

WANTED, July 2, week, July 9, 10, 13, 24, Aug. 6, Troupe of Acrobats, Wrestlers. T. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, a Comedian, for Rings, must be able to do a forward planche. No amateurs.

O. Z., 66, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Hand Balancer and Hand Jumper, good on the hands, &c. State tricks, weight, &c. GYMNAST, 199, Chester-rd, Manchester.

WANTED, smart useful Lad, one used to riding preferred. DAINES, Circus, Rosherville Gardens, Gravesend.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Best in Existence, Vacant June 11, July 2, 9, 16, and 23, Share or Certain; also Aug. Bank Holiday. Communications week June 4, KING'S THEATRE, GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE. Wire quick for June 11.

WANTED, Known, Caban's Marvellous Sixteen Performing Miniature Ponies, Donkeys, and Dogs; few dates at liberty. All coms., C. CABAN, North-street, Stamford.

WANTED, Known, Clown and Comical Donkey Domino; there is not another Donkey like it in England. Liberty Whit Week only. Thanks for Com. re Opera, Covent Garden. 9, Victoria-street, Redditch.

WANTED, Comical Walker, Local Nippers; also Reklaw, Globe Performer; two good turns; vacant Monday, Halls, Galas, &c. Hippo., Mansfield.

WANTED, Known the Maros, Comedy Three-bar Performers. Next week, Clough Hall, Hornсastle; Liberty 11th, 18th, 25th. Address, as above.

WANTED, by The Caples, Premier Gymnasts, Monday, through misunderstanding with two distinct Acts, Galas, Halls, Circus, &c. Wire quick for Monday, 58, White Hart-st, Kennington, London, S.E.

WANTED, Whitsun, through error, by Roma and Marti, Original Acrobatic and Herculean Gymnasts. Success guaranteed. Wire, 31, South-grove, Bow, London.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., Flying Triple Bar Act, vacant 25th onwards. Apply, 10, Fillwood-road, Fishponds, Bristol.

WANTED, June 11 and 18, Alex and Jolly, Smart Comic Three-bar Act. 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Lack and Ford, Classical Comedy Acrobats, Vacant June 11, 18, 25. A big act for galas. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Known, Knotella, Comedy Contortionist, Liberty Whit. Week, onward, fêtes, galas, &c. 103, Church-street, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Known, Urquhart, foot juggler, vacant Whit Monday; also Musical Act. Wire, URQUHART, Hippo., Bury.

WANTED, Engagement, by Smart Acrobat; would join First-class Troupe, Second Mounter; can tumble. At Liberty June 11. Apply, F. C., Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Comedy Posturer, at Liberty to join Troupe or Sketch. F. VINCENT, 14, Bridge-road, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, Situation by Man, 21, as Groom or Keeper, smart, willing, sober, tenting or halls. BERT CLARK, 3, Loughboro'-mansions, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagements, Swimmers, Divers, Teachers, Water Artists, Bath Managers, Prof. Phillips, Madame L'Estrange, home, abroad. 4, Lyceum-buildings, Newport, Mon.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artists, Big Specialities, Star Comedians, Star Comediennes, Comedy Acts, Sensational Acts. In fact anything that is New and Novel. Send list of bookings, lithos., and terms. WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09144.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Immediately, for the Coventry Hippodrome, Variety Artists of every description, for present and future dates. Big Topliners can be booked in conjunction with Sites, Ltd. Can arrange with a large ballet of sensational nature, with a hundred or more persons taking part. Any big novelties, with drawing power, can be immediately engaged. Apply, T. M. SILVESTER, Managing-Director, Sites, Ltd., 213, Piccadilly.

WANTED, for the West Bromwich New Hippodrome, opening Aug. 6, Artists, in all Lines of the Variety, Equestrian, and Dramatic Profession, for this gigantic enterprise, which will provide the grandest entertainment in West Bromwich or district. The handsome building, which is now in course of erection, will be the best of its kind ever erected in England, and for this reason the absolute cream of the profession is wanted. All the English, American, and Continental Stars can now be engaged for the above hall. Sensational attractions, novelties, ballets, equestrian, and other spectacles, that can be produced on a stage 50ft. by 60ft. A First-class Conductor, well up in all Variety Turns, required to provide an Orchestra of not less than twenty performers. Apply, stating in first instance absolutely lowest terms. Also General Staff, and usual men for the stage. Apply, T. M. SILVESTER, Managing-Director, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly, W.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, June 11, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in all Lines, June 11, onwards. WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

INDIA. THE GARDNER-BROWN VAUDEVILLE COMPANIES, the most complete and popular Variety Combinations Touring the East.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Immediate Vacancies for smart young Soubrettes with voices, Ballad Vocalists, Single Comedy Musical Acts, Small Sketch Parties (two or three persons, with répertoire of at least Four Original Sketches), and good Drawing Novelties. Wanted, First-class Pianist; must be sight-reader, transposer, and arranger. Also competent Bioscope Operator, lime and electric. Terms:—Nine months' engagement, fares paid out and home, hotel and travelling paid, salaries therefore absolutely net. Salaries (or part) paid weekly by bankers in England if desired. Full salaries paid during voyage out and home. To leave London about September. Apply, lowest net salaries, photos., bill matter, and all particulars, to MANAGER, The Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies, c/o Messrs. Soundy and Co., Ltd., Agents, Bombay, India. Notice.—The Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies are a sound and firmly established concern, with 6 years' excellent reputation and success. As a specimen of our treatment of artists and their appreciation thereof, read the following, which speaks for itself:—Sisters Romaine, duettists and speciality dancers, engaged for eight months, will complete three years in July. Leo Montague, quaint comedian, came out on three months' engagement, made three re-engagements extending over a period of eighteen months, and re-engaged for still another year. George Gulliver, first engagement three months, second engagement one year. Other instances too numerous to mention. The Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies provide exceptional opportunities for young artists with talent who are unable, owing to the crowded state of the Profession at home, to get an opening in England. Make a reputation abroad, and managers will then be glad to offer you engagements at home.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double turns, two weeks, June 25, July 9, 23. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, for July 21, for Charity Gala. Write lowest terms. Please give two weeks' addresses for reply. LUMB, Theatre Royal, Yeadon.

WANTED, Clever Al-fresco Artists, with Good Répertoire; willing to work sharing terms. J. W. MARSH, c/o Post Office, Blyth, Northumberland.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, to Know of this Offer. 1 doz. photographic post-cards, from any photo., 2/3. BROOK and Co., 28, Change-alley, Sheffield.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for June 11. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small.

WANTED, First-class Al-fresco Artists, open immediately Shrewsbury, Coventry, Manchester, &c. Send photos., lowest terms, YATES, Sydenham Palace Hotel, Coventry.

WANTED, for the Pierrot Pavilion, Lover's Walk, Matlock Bath, Class Al Fresco Artists, share or salary. Wire lowest, A. CRANE, as above.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, for June 11. J. G. ANDERSON, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, all Lines; Helensburgh, Scotland; Pianist (do turn), Artist produce Concerteds. Tommy Neldon, Frank Stanert write. CLAREMONT, 5, Parramatta-street, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Artists, of all Kinds, for Provincial Halls. I am personally visiting, immediately, onwards. New Big Acts send printing, lowest terms, and full list of all dates. New Acts. New Acts. New Acts.

Also Gala Artists Wanted, June 16, One-day Gala in Yorkshire.

Send full particulars and lowest terms, DALTON'S Agency, 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester. Henriques wire address.

KARDOC'S HIPPODROME, SITTINGBOURNE.
Lessee and Manager, HARRY KARDOC.
Acting-Manager, SYD. HERMAN.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, now, and onward. Terms, shares. Open for the season. First-class Artists only engaged. The only place of amusement in the town. Fitted with sliding roof.

WANTED, Artists, of all Descriptions. Write or call, with full particulars, J. W. JOHNSON, Variety and Pantomime Agent, 86, Waterloo-road.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager. T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager. G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

WANTED, Artists to note that the Tivoli, Grimsby, closes from June 9 until the first or second week in Sept., and that all Contracts for dates during that period are therefore cancelled. If the Artists in question will forward their vacancies, Sept. onwards, other dates will be arranged in lieu of those cancelled. Signed, JOSEPH H. CURRY.

WANTED, Clients keep me Posted. ATLAS, Agent, 17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

THE ALBEMARLE SYNDICATE,
MUSICAL, DRAMATIC, and VARIETY AGENTS.
157, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
Bankers, London and County.
Telephone, 4957 Gerrard.
Telegraphic Address, "Templify, London."

The above Agency opened for business on Monday last, May 28, under the Management of Mr. HARRY LEAMAR.
(Late of the Cee Mee Troupe).

WANTED, all Artists Known to me, and who cannot call, kindly write and send lists of Vacant Dates, samples of posters, printing, photos., full particulars of Act, terms, &c., in first letter.

HARRY LEAMAR has found out, during his 14 years' travelling in the British Isles and Continent, three Secrets, viz.,
(1) What Acts Proprietors and Managers Want.
(2) How to Place the Right Acts.
(3) What Money to Ask for Same.

You may think these are not Secrets, but they are, and don't you forget it.
Hours of Business, 10 to 4.
And Will Always give Hearing to Both Big and Little Acts, and is Always open to Give Advice, FREE.
Place your business in our hands, we will do the rest.
Will Proprietors and Managers in Want of the Right People Kindly Write Us.
Good Dumb Shows that have not yet Played the Continent write in.
Harry Leamar thanks the numerous Proprietors, Managers, and Artists for letters wishing him success.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Known, the above Hippo. Closed Saturday, April 21, 1906, and was duly advertised two weeks before that date. Now to let, for good combinations, picture shows, minstrels, ladies' orchestra, &c.; well seated, gas and electric. Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, all Artists Holding Contracts with Wilder Bros., Fête Agents, Birmingham, for Whit. Week, to be at their respective towns to fulfil their engagements early on Monday next.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY,
41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

WANTED, Starts and Specialities for Immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Stars all Lines, North, June 11, 18, and July 9. AYTOUN'S Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E. Pantomime Artists write. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Drawing Stars, on share; also Good-class Variety Artists, all descriptions. Lowest terms to J. ROLMAZ, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, for Immediate and Future Dates.
Send full particulars, terms, bookings, &c., to JESS VERNO,
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, for Hancock's Living Pictures and Variety Show, a good turn for inside show, to open Monday next for two weeks. Strong men, Contortionists, save stamps. Must be a good Variety turn. Wire to Redruth, Saturday, lowest terms and nature of show. W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Fair Field, Redruth.

WANTED, few Special Turns, for Dr. Carl Hermann's Company, Monday next; those known to me wire absolute lowest; also Bioscope Operator. Till Sunday, Stoll's Palace, Hull; after, Miners', Ashington, Northumberland.

WANTED, Good Musical Turns, Globe Performers, Skaters, one week, June 18, 1906. Send lowest terms. Will Musical Millar and the Deroneys wire?
FREEAR and SON,
39, Dame-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Variety Talent in all Lines for Theatre Royal, Hebburn, and Tivoli, South Shields, June 11, and on. R. SILVESTER, Market Hall, Whitehaven.

WANTED, First-Class Specialities of every description to write in at once for Gala Season, commencing Whit Monday, onwards. Terms and lithos. to E. VINCELLE, 140, Walbrook-road, Derby.

WANTED, Open Monday, near London, special week, Good Speciality (2 acts preferred). Lowest, call, wire, JURY, 142, Long-acre, London.

WANTED, Two First-class Specialities, immediate, on shares or cert., for the most Successful Combination Touring. J. ARNOLD, Theatre Royal, Pontypool.

MELVIN and TAYLOR'S AGENCY,
434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Immediate and Future Dates, Big Sensational Dramatic Sketches,
Illusionists, Vents., Musical Acts,
Comedians, Serios, Dancers,
Novelties of all Descriptions.
Send full list of bookings,
with positive lowest terms,
to above.
No preliminary fees.
Telephone, 8102 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Impromptu, London."

AL FRESCO PAVILION,
FRIZINGHALL, BRADFORD.

Finest in the Country; fitted up and as comfortable as the best Theatres; open till end of Sept.

WANTED, Refined Speciality Acts, suitable for Class Audiences; also First-Class Baritone, well up in Sketches and Concerted Items. Photo. and terms first letter. Address,
POPPLEWELL, BENTLEY, and KILDUFF, as above.

WANTED, for Palace, Bridlington, Monday, June 4, and onwards, comedy acts and sketch artists doing single turns, musical specialities, humorists, and good vocalists with illustrated songs. Terms, the MANAGER.

WANTED, Four Good Acts, Monday next; good comic singer, with chorus songs; also singing picture act.
Wire, ZALVA, Scarborough.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sound Attractions,
June 11, 18, 25 (North).
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
G. and F. PEEL,
Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, open air Novelties, for Kendal Gala, Tuesday, Aug. 7, 1906. State particulars and lowest inclusive terms, not later than June 19, to the Secretary, WM. SCALES, 30, Lowther-street, Kendal.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for alterations; re-opens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Big drawing Novelties required.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Companies, Sensational Specialities, nine turns, June 11, on. HERBERT VERE.

WANTED, Pierrots, Vocalists, Instrumentalists, also Pianist, for Midlands.
Write, PRICHARD,
Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Comedy Lady, one who can box preferred, for Comic Sketch. Coms., full particulars, lowest terms, LEO DRYDEN, Palace, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Big Specialities
Wanted, Big Specialities
Wanted, Big Specialities
Wanted, Big Specialities
Wanted, Big Specialities
Wanted, Big Specialities
Wanted, Big Specialities
and Variety Acts,
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and on.
and on.
and on.

Quote absolute lowest Terms
Quote absolute lowest Terms
and full Bookings.
and full Bookings.

GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
GEO. ZALVA'S Agency,
The Hippodrome,
The Hippodrome,
The Hippodrome,
The Hippodrome,
The Hippodrome,
Scarborough.
Scarborough.
Scarborough.
Scarborough.
Scarborough.

Telephone 288.
Telegrams, "Zalva."

Am now Booking for Scarborough Season 1906.
Am now Booking for Scarborough Season 1906.
Am now Booking for Scarborough Season 1906.

WANTED, Troupe of Lady Acrobats, who can sing, dance, ride bicycles, &c., for Sketch; all-round ability a consideration. Full particulars, qualifications, lowest terms, LEO DRYDEN, Palace, Manchester.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, smart young Girl, must be good acrobatic dancer and singer or tumbler, for renowned Comedy Sketch, live in; everything provided. State full particulars, wages expected; good respectable home. Address, Box 3,321, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, Young Lady, Amateur not objected to, and Gentleman, Comedian, to assist with illusions, must be slightly built, and not over 5ft. 6in. in height; open at once.
C. WILSON, 22, Low-hill, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Actor-Comedian, also Tenor, for Musical Sketch, to open immediately All kinds of acts required, single and double, comedians, quartettes, &c.
BARNEY M. ARMSTRONG,
Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

LEO FRITZ AGENCY,
55, Haverstock-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, for next Monday, June 11, onwards, Comedians, Serios, Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c.; in fact, acts in all lines. Wire for June 11. Wire or write immediately, to LEO FRITZ, Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Two Comedians to join Sketch, on Sharing Terms; everything ready; trial show already given. Those able to influence dates write. Box 3,315, "The Era."

WANTED, a really smart young Actor-Comedian, capable of intense work, must be of youthful appearance and short. Full particulars, Box 3,311, "The Era."

WANTED, Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, Rehearsal June 4 at 11, experienced Comedian write, specialities offered four weeks. HARRI MARVELLO, Proprietor.

WANTED, for Kilmarnock, Ayr, Saltcoats, and Dunoon, first-class al fresco comedians. Full particulars, LEE and ARDEN, Keswickridge, Sidney-st., Saltcoats, N.B.

WANTED, Comedians, Shares, Season, business improving as the season goes on. Open Monday. Wire, NOBLE, Durham Gardens.

WANTED, at once, funny Comic Singer, with funny make-ups and funny songs; also three smart Serios, who can also dance well. Call at once. SINCLAIR, 113, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Smart Knockabout Pantomimist, also Young Lady, for Dumb Sketch, all able to do turn; dress and fares after joiinng; only experienced people need apply. Photo., age, and lowest. Wys, 4, Conway-street, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, good Pierrot Baritone, Comedian, used to Sketches, must be young, refined, and experienced, for season thirteen weeks, in Ulster Seaside Resort, commence July. Photo. and all particulars, to MANAGER, Town Hall, Enniskillen.

WANTED, Clever Juvenile Comedians, Dancers, Acrobats, &c., over 14 and small. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Known, an Assistant required, to take part in "The Title-Rôle," "The Warrant," and "From Ot Lands," must not be younger than 16, nor abo 18 years of age. State wages, height, width, experienced to the job a little. Apply by letter to WILLIAM ROWLINSON, 16, Stanley-road, Cheadle, Hulme, Cheshire.

WANTED, Monday next, Good Ventriloquist, or Living Mannikins. Terms low; hall small. PICKARD, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, June 4, Vento, Conjurer, combined, Aug. 6, on, Variety and Star Acts all kinds. T. GANNON, West Grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Joint Couple, Conjurer or Ventriloquist, Soubrette or Singing Pictures, month certain, Ramsgate. FRED POLLARD, Empire, Dover. Bioscope write

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WANTED, First-class Operators, for Walter Payne's Biophotoscopes, well up in lime and electric; must know their business; to open at once. 346, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

To Managers and Proprietors.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Top, Bottom, and Middle of Bill, Fred W. Millis, Ventriloquist; Mlle. Yasiho, Queen of Picture Songs; Emile Lazern, the Mystic. Read this: The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd., Buxton, May 26, 1906.
Dear Mr. Millis,—Allow me to congratulate you on the excellent variety company you have provided for me this week. The *whole performance is good*, and free from the slightest vulgarity. Wishing you every success, believe me, yours faithfully, A. Willoughby. All communications, FRED W. MILLIS, Wattle Bloom, Broomwater West, Teddington.

COLLEY-DRYDEN CO.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic and Variety Theatres, Halls, Piers, &c. Company includes Madame Ada Colley, Mr. Ed. E. Ford, Mr. Leo Dryden, and company of first-rate artists. Mr. D. wishes to thank Messrs. Buchanan, Bradley, Chaplin, De Frece, Dottridge, Broadhead, Elderton, Elliston, Morton-Powell, Mundill, Phillips, Potasch, Roberts, Sanbrini, Sounes, Willmot, Worswick, &c., for offers. Coms., LEO DRYDEN, Palace, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ruby Bijou, the Daintiest of Dancers, and the best Barefooted Dancer, requires June 4, North. Wire, 2, Barber-street, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Grosvenor Sisters (three), harmonising vocalists, dis. until July. Offers invited. Wire, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate; next, 39, Electric-av., Brixton.

WANTED, by Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Factory Nightingales, June 18, 25, July 2, 16, only vacancies. Monday, Empire, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Comedy Musical Comedian, the funniest single musical act before the public, Liberty June 18, for halls, fêtes, and galas. Address, Royal Hippodrome, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, George Turner, Versatile Comedian, at Liberty for al fresco, pierrots, &c., good répertoire, last season with Southend Pierrots. 14, McNeil-rd., Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Dan Gregory, Musical and Acrobatic Eccentric, great success at Circus Varieties, Bury; Monday, June 4, Hippodrome, Hull; at Liberty June 11 and 18.

WANTED, June 11, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, a big novelty; also Ventriloquist; two first-class acts. Hippodrome, Paisley.

WANTED, June 18 and 25, for my New and Original Character Sketches.
PAUL WILSON, Jephson's Gardens, Leamington.

WANTED, Known, Fred Hadley, Comedian, Entertainer, and Dancer, late of Catlin's Scarborough Pierrots, Liberty Monday, al fresco. Wire, 44, Mawson-st., Ardwick Green, Manchester.

WANTED, June 25, between York and Stockton, G. Martinengo, Solo 'Cellist and Baritone, Scena, "The Unemployed Musician." Address, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, June 18, by Bob Graham, the Peculiar Comedian.
June 4, T. R., Merthyr; June 11, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, June 4, 11, and 18, by Prof. Inman Hocking, as the World's Laugh-maker and Mystifier, one or two Acts, or with own company, splendid lithos. and pictorials. Great success this at Opera House, Weymouth, where wire for Monday. Wire for sure draw.

WANTED, Monday, and on, by Jack Sheppard, the World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker. 6, Oakden-street, Kennington-road.

WANTED, Seaside Bookings, Three Distinct Turns, Conjuring, Second Sight, and Bioscope, latest pictures. PROF. LENTON, 15, Grange-terrace, Wood Green.

WANTED, by powerful Baritone and Comic Immediate Engagement, always sing with great success, Seaside Al-fresco. GORDON, 56A, Fulham Park-gardens, Fulham.

WANTED, June 11, by Original Kyoto, Versatile Japanese Act; May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne. Success, Tivoli, Dublin. Monday, Alhambra, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young and Ada Twibell, at Liberty June 11 and 18. Wire, one or both, Grand, Gravesend.

WANTED, June 4, on, the Mintos, Musical Eccentrics, lady and gentleman, second distinct turn if required. Wire, 34, Booth-st. East, Manchester

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WANTED, Monday (unexpectedly vacant) by Dave Wallace, Great Eccentric Comedian; Marie Tilley, Comedienne, Dancer. Halls, Galas. Wire, 324, Albany-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, by the St. Johns, Musicians and Speciality Dancers, June 18, onward, following 42nd week continuous tour, Hippo., Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Leonard and Larry (Louie and Lazy), Unique Komedy Kouple.
This week, Athenæum, Lancaster. Vacant Mon.

WANTED, Known, The Gelders, Marvellous Mystifiers, have June 11, 18, 25 vacant, through closing. Wire, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Webb, Re-engaged for Winter Gardens, Blackpool.
Vacant July 9, 23, and 30.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, meeting with great Success in Milano, Italy.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Globe Performes; also Comical Beano, with mechanical Donkey. Next, Casino, Aston, Lower Grounds, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, The Carlews, the Mad Musicians, at Liberty June 4 for Galas, through misunderstanding. Wire, 40, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, the Brothers Connolly (the essence of refinement) are at Liberty Aug. 6 and 13. Perm. Add., 14, Sackville-st., Reading.

WANTED, Monday and 11th, by Gravetta and Parr, clay modeller, jugglers, comedian, and contralto, al fresco or hall. Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

WANTED, Known, Esdale Bros., Comedians, vacant Monday. Wire Tivoli, Grimsby; after Saturday, 166, Shrewsbury-street, Brooks's Bar, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, Free June 11, onward, for theatres, galas, or sports. No fixings required. Proprietors and Managers please note.—This is a novelty. We give a performance, and we do the tricks. Four kinds of doubles.
Oct. 8, Moss and Stoll Tour.
238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, June 4, 11, the Meltons, Pantomimists, Musicians, Comic Act, halls, piers, galas. Wire, Empire, Oxford, Saturday; after, Chelsea Palace.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio (Two Ladies, One Gent.), Screamingly Funny Cycle Speciality. Monday next, Crystal Palace, London. Booked by CASS'S Agency. Vacant June 18, 25, whole of July, for Galas and Halls.
Address, 43, Oscar-street, St. John's, S.E.
Thank Stebbings for Contracts.

WANTED, Monday next, Scottie's Waifs and Strays, in brilliant Spectacular Act. Entire scenery and effects carried. Wire, SCOTTIE, Theatre, Lancaster.

WANTED, Engagement, Cecilians, Speciality Musicians, Vocalists, Expert Dancers, Pianoforte Sight-readers. Open Monday, Pier Pavilion, Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, offers for July, two first-class acts. Address, Union-rd., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Known
The Wonderful Selbinis,
in their marvellous Bicycle Pot-pourri,
including their sensational Somersault,
Man and Bicycle in Mid-air,
are at Liberty for following Dates (only dates open for this year):—June 11, 18, 25, July 2, 9, 23,
for Fêtes, Galas, or Halls.
Communications to WARNER,
or 193, Brixton-hill, London.

Company A,
Under the direction of JOHN LAWSON.
Episode "HUMANITY." Episode
"THE MONKEY'S PAW,"
by W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker.
VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
The production equal in every way to original, and individuality has been selected for respective parts.

WANTED, June 25 and intermediate Dates. Wire, V. NEWMAN, Olympia, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dates, Juvenile Military Spectacle, "Russo and Japan." Everything carried; good pictorials. CLARKE, Aston Lower Grounds, Birmingham.

WANTED, Bookings (few), June, onwards, piers, &c., whole or part programme. Liston and Lumley's "Merry Moments" (registered), Pier, Hunstanton.

WANTED, Monday next, by Tom Davis's Comedy Sketch Company: 20 minutes' yell. Wire, 30, Grosvenor-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, for "Dobson's Day Off," furiously funny Farce, dates in Aug. and Sept.
M. ELLISTON, 5, Water-lane, Stratford, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

MOORE'S MERRY MONKS,
SOCIETY ENTERTAINERS.

WANTED, Pier Pavilion or Gardens, for the Season. Address,
W. H. MOORE, 142, Castle-hill, Reading.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, the largest and smartest lady's Troupe in Europe, including the Masterpiece of Training, "The Goalkeeper."
Grand Finale, Electrically Illuminated Spectacle, "Over the Garden Wall."
Open for Piers, Garden Fêtes.
Vacant June 25, Aug. Com., Palace, Croydon.

WANTED, Summer Dates, Chard's Dog Circus, including the World's Greatest Troupe of High-leaping Hounds, the most Exciting and Sensational Act ever seen; fit to Top any Variety Hall in London. A reliable Draw on any Programme. Great Pantomime Speciality. Opera H., Porth; next, Royal, Pontypool.

WANTED, Alice Fontainebleau's Marvellous Dogs are booked for the following Fêtes: Longton Park, Kettering, Walsall, Selby, Ashby, Knighton, Bournville, Stourbridge, Tutbury, Cannock, Swindon, Burton, and many others to follow, only a few vacant dates this summer; Liberty Winter Season. Proprietors requiring a smart show apply Red Lion, Coleshill, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Engagements, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Punch and Judy, with Dog Toby. 101A, Penwith-road, Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Dane's Marionettes, at Lib. July, for Galas, Piers, &c. Offers invited. Poole's Myriorama, Park Hall, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known.—Cinematograph Photography. Experienced Operator at Liberty, late with leading firm of Film Manufacturers. Exceptional opportunity for showmen wishing to produce exclusive and local pictures. Box 3,317, "Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Operator, at Liberty, lime or electric, ten years' experience, own bioscope and outfit if necessary. Wire, TRAVERS, 54, Ward's-avenue, Fulham.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars.
Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO.,
120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

Auctioneers.

WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars.
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known, Select Music Hall (The Garden of Paris) possesses an Organ from the Renowned Firm, Ch. Marenghi et Cie. The first audition was given this week, and the success has been considerable.

All the Parisian Press is congratulating the makers.
The Figaro speaks of the Ideal Orchestra as a work of art.
in mechanism and harmony.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, for Grand Fête and Fireworks in Central Park, East Ham,
Saturday, June 16,
Roundabouts, Swings, Side-shows, &c.
Apply for space to
H. S., 14, Toronto-road, Ilford.

WANTED, everything suitable for a Fancy Fair and Carnival, articles for stalls, young ladies, attendants, and artists, July 9, &c. MORGAN, Kidwelly, S. Wales.

WANTED, Stalls, Games, Amusements, &c., Promenades, Portobello and New Brighton; also chairs or seats, cheap. Wire, PROPRIETOR, Rathbone House, Portobello.

WANTED, Good Freaks and Novelties, now, and future dates. Can book you two months in Scotland. Terms, salary. The Caledonian Waxwork and Mechanical Wonders, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow. Proprietor, FRED BURNETTE.

WANTED, Good Living Freak, to Open at Once. Wire particulars; sale of books and postcards allowed. JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, Novelty, to work double, Whit week (best week in the year). LEONARD WHITE, Exhibition, 238, Market-place, Dudley.

WANTED, thoroughly Experienced Lady Palmist, for the season, to open Monday next. Terms, share. MANAGER, Waxwork Exhibition, Queen-st., Ramsgate.

WANTED, Funny Planksman and Comedian, permanent to suitable young man, to re-open at Rishton (after Continental Holiday), June 14. Arthur Clark write. MARSHALL'S Auction Tent, Clayton-le-Moors, Accrington.

WANTED, at once, a steady experienced Doorsman, one who can lecture inside preferred, to travel with Cinématograph. Apply, GEORGE GREEN, Market-place, Preston.

WANTED, Early Dates, by Castania, Human Ostrich and Fire King, new up-to-date Show on Mephisto, Human Gasometer, &c.; great success at Humber's Exhibition, Aberdeen, second engagement within 9 months, Lib. June 11. Humber's Waxworks, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Galas, Chard's Dog Circus and World's Greatest Troupe of Leaping Hounds, Theatre Royal, Pontypool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Advance Agent or Business-Manager, Tenting Show, Machines, or Carnival; abstainer; excellent refs. RENE CLAYTON, Biggar, N.B.

BLACKPOOL SANDS.

WANTED, Known, the South Shore Fair Ground is the only place of Outdoor Entertainment and Attraction in Blackpool, situated at South Shore, next the Promenade; the electric trams run right to it; finest position in the town. The Grounds face the sea, and have a frontage of over 500yds. The permanent Attractions now installed include the River Caves of the World, the Maxim Flying Machine, Helter Skelter, &c.
Sea Circus now being erected.

One Building, 10ft. by 20ft. to Let.
A few Spaces only left.

Apply,
PROPRIETORS,
14, Balmoral-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Temperance Festival, Newcastle, June 26, 27, and 28. All requiring Stands for Shows, Roundabouts, &c., should apply to WALKER HOADLY, 141, Park-road, Park-lane, Gateshead. Also Walter Murphy, 102, Holly-avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne; also F. N. Richardson, 18, Pensbury-street, Darlington. P.S.—All Stands to be paid for before erected.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CARNIVALS FOR JUNE, 1906.
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ENGLAND.

June 2. Bilston
June 2. Caistor (Lincs.)
June 2. Carlisle
June 2. Clayton-le-Moors
June 2. Coventry
June 2. Darlington
June 2. Egremont (Cumb.)
June 2. Malton
June 2. North Shields
June 2. Redruth
June 2. Rothbury
June 2. Runcorn
June 2. Southwell
June 2. Stagshawbank
June 2. Sutton (Scarsdale)
June 2. Tyldesley
June 2. Wellington
June 4. Amersham
June 4. Appleby
June 4. Biggleswade
June 4. Birkenhead
June 4. Blockley
June 4. Brierfield
June 4. Cartmel
June 4. Castleford Feast
June 4. Cheltenham
June 4. Clevedon
June 4. Cockermouth
June 4. Coltishall
June 4. Dalton-in-Furness
June 4. Doncaster
June 4. Evesham
June 4. Flyford
June 4. Garston
June 4. Great Harwood
June 4. Helston
June 4. Hinckley
June 4. Horbury Fair
June 4. Jarrow-on-Tyne
June 4. Kenilworth
June 4. Lichfield
June 4. Malvern
June 4. Morecambe
June 4. Nantwich
June 4. New Brighton
June 4. Newcastle-on-Tyne
June 4. Newmarket
June 4. Normanton Feast
June 4. Northampton
June 4. Norwich
June 4. Oundle
June 4. Oulton Feast
June 4. Portsmouth
June 4. Preston
June 4. Reigate
June 4. Richmond (Surrey)
June 4. Rushden
June 4. Ryde
June 4. Salford (Trinity Market)
June 4. Southport
June 4. South Shields
June 4. Stafford
June 4. St. Ives (Hunts)
June 4. Taunton
June 4. Thornaby
June 4. Torksey
June 4. Tunbridge Wells
June 4. York Fair
June 5. Alford
June 5. Bognor
June 5. Camborne (Cornwall)
June 5. Cambourne
June 5. Fakenham
June 5. Halesworth
June 5. Hitchin
June 5. Leighton Buzzard
June 5. Long Milford
June 5. Longton
June 5. Melton Mowbray
June 5. Methley Feast
June 5. Penrith
June 5. Sheffield Summer Fair
June 6. Askham - in - Furness
June 6. Barnard Castle
June 6. Barrow - in - Furness
June 6. Bedworth
June 6. Bolton
June 6. Broadway (Worcester)
June 6. Broughton - in - Furness
June 6. Chislehurst
June 6. Truro
June 6. Workington
June 7. Adwalton Feast
June 7. Bacup
June 7. Bingham
June 7. Birmingham
June 7. Buckingham
June 7. Ely
June 7. Southrapps
June 7. Tiverton
June 7. Ulverstone
June 8. Chipping Camden
June 8. Deptford
June 8. Derby
June 8. Haslingden
June 9. Ashford (Derby)
June 9. Brackenfield
June 9. Grimesthorpe
June 9. Kendal
June 9. Keswick
June 9. Mickelton
June 9. Prescot
June 9. Richmond (Yorks)
June 9. Snowshill
June 9. Wooley
June 11. Bidford-on-Avon
June 11. Cranbrooke
June 11. Hounslow
June 11. Millom
June 11. Ossett Feast
June 11. Pool
June 11. Southampton
June 11. Southwold
June 12. Fiskerton
June 12. Hayle
June 13. St. Anstell
June 16. Astwith
June 16. Astwood Feast
June 16. Hardstaff
June 16. Outwood
June 16. Staveley
June 16. Staveley (Woodthorpe)
June 16. Taunton
June 18. Tetney
June 18. Thorne (Yorks)
June 20. Cinderford
June 20. Coleford
June 20. Lambert Castle
June 20. Maidstone
June 21. Kidderminster
June 21. Rawtenstall
June 22. Chepstow
June 22. Newport Pagnell
June 22. Penzance
June 22. Selby
June 23. Cambridge
June 23. Coal Aston
June 23. Farnham
June 23. Handley
June 23. Marbury Park
June 23. Mexboro' Feast
June 23. Norbriggs
June 23. Shipton - on - Stour
June 23. St. Just
June 23. Tideswell
June 23. Unston
June 23. Willersey
June 25. Bridgwater
June 25. Bromsgrove
June 25. Newcastle - on - Tyne
June 26. Halifax Fair
June 26. Pershore
June 26. Yeovil
June 28. Bolton-by-Bolland
June 28. Folkestone
June 28. Saltash
June 29. Andover
June 29. Bicester
June 29. Fareham
June 29. Reedham
June 30. Ashover
June 30. Barlboro'
June 30. Belper
June 30. Brampton
June 30. Conisboro' Feast
June 30. Duckmanton
June 30. Earby Feast
June 30. Eckington
June 30. Edensor
June 30. Elmton
June 30. Northedge
June 30. Penistone
June 30. Stainsby
June 30. Tibshelf
June 30. Winster

SCOTLAND.

June 12. Alyth
Race Week. Hawick
June 16. Largs
June 27. Fraserburg
June 29. Renfrew
June 30. Perth

WALES.

June 2. Caerphilly
June 2. Carmarthen
June 4. Flint
June 4. Mold
June 4. Newport (Mon.)
June 5. Denbigh
June 6. Cardiff
June 8. Merthyr Tydvil
June 9. Llandovery
June 9. Treorchy
June 12. Brynmawr
June 14. Ferndale
June 16. Llangefeloch
June 16. Porth
June 16. Usk
June 25. Lydney
June 30. Tony Pandy

WANTED, Known, that the Treharris First Annual Midsummer Fair will be Held on the New Athletic Grounds (centre of Town) on July 7, 9, 10. Space to Let for Roundabouts, Bioscope Shows, Side-shows, Cocoanut sheets, Swings, Circuses, Menageries, Flannel Dealers, Stall Owners &c. No one barred. This fair is extensively advertised. Apply, DAVIS, Auctioneer, Treharris.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen and Others. Market Yard, West Hartlepool.
Mr. W. T. Ryan, F.A.I., instructed by the Proprietor, will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, June 13, 1906, at 2 o'clock:—1 Shuttered Show Booth and Truck combined, 40ft. by 24ft; 1 set Steam Hobby Horses, 3 abreast, with organ, and 2 Motor Cars, newly done up; 1 Double-tube Shooting Gallery and Rifles, in good order; also several other useful Show-yard lots.
Terms, cash only.
No reserve.
Sale Office: 24, Lynn-street, West Hartlepool. Tel. 0671.

WANTED, to Sell,
New Saloon Living Car,
for Road or Rail,
18ft. long,
7ft. 6in. wide,
mahogany panelled outside,
and splendidly fitted and upholstered inside, with every convenience for travelling.

Apply,
GEORGE WARD,
Removal and Storage Contractor,
Harrogate.

WANTED, to Sell, Shuttered Booth, 26ft. front, 40ft. back, also new Tilt; also Stage on truck, 16ft. square, also linings, lamps, and paintings, all compelte, cheap for cash. Reason for selling, owner retiring. Address, GOLIATH, Post Office, Lochgelly, Fife, N.B.

WANTED, to Sell, One 4-abreast Set of Gallopers, for road or rail, complete with waggons; one 3-abreast set of gallopers, with waggons, complete for rail; also one ordinary machine, complete, with waggons, for road. Can be seen working. All the above are equal to new. Arrangements can be made for part cash and part hire of any of the above.
WALKER, Roundabout Maker, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED to Sell, Automatic Fortune Machines, Money-takers, one to six drawers, cheap. Catalogue; samples free. MEURICE, 39, Argyle-square, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of every Description, best and cheapest. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London. Established 1887.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Husbands, Babies, Love-Letters, Palmistry, Lunatics', Marriage, and Liars' Licences. MEURICS, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

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POOLE, Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Sell, Rifle Range, 8 guns, gas fittings, and 6 naphtha lamps, everything ready for work, £10 will be taken, cheap at £30. WALCOT, 1, Duncan-terrace, City-road, E.C.

WANTED, to Buy, Electrical Engraver, must be in good condition; also Battery or Accumulator for same. S. LIPMAN, Drill Hall, Falmouth.

WANTED, a Traction Engine Driver, able to assist with electric light; also two good Knockabouts and two Lady Paraders, or any suitable people for Living Picture Exhibition, only abstainers need apply; a good shop for good people, winter and summer if suitable, and money sure. Address, BIDDALL'S Electric Exhibition, Monday, Hampstead Heath, and remainder of week Welsh Harp, Hendon, Middlesex.

WANTED, my Father, Mr. H. C. Craycroft, to meet me at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff, on Monday, 4 o'clock. Am taking brother home. CHARLOTTE CRAYCROFT.

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately re-addressed, according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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WANTED, to Sell, Films, Sherlock Holmes, 700; Those Boys Again, 300; Hackenschmidt-McInerney, 350; Gran'pa and Butterfly, 375. Others. BOLTON, Pontefract.

WANTED, to Sell, Film, Dorothy's "Dream of the Pantomimes," about 1,200ft., condition as new. Price £7. First telegram has it. ANDERTON'S Modern Show, Redruth.

WANTED, to Sell, Woven Animal Dresses, Paddings, Tights, Opera Hose, in all Materials Lowest prices. H. J. BOXALL, 166, Waterloo-road London, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Handsome State Coaches (the property of the late Duke of Cambridge), excellent advertising medium, together with four-in-hand harness, cheap. K., 28 Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Four Handsome Midget Shetland Ponies, 32in. high, thoroughly trained for stage, used in "Cinderella" Panto mime; also complete harness for same. Apply, K., 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, Thoroughbred Mare (Bay), does Two Good Acts, Manège and Liberty act, Cake Walk, Talking Horse, &c.; also very Small Pony, Hide and Seek, Picking Up, &c.; also Seizing Donkey. TRANSFIELD, Hippo., Dartford.

WANTED, to Sell, Handsome Skewbald Shetland Stallion, 3 years, 46in.; also large assortment from 30in. CLARK, Ashbank, Aberdeen.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Kiosk, with Dressing-rooms, and Stage, for Al-fresco Entertainments; quantity of timber for Enclosure; also good 4-octave Portable Harmonium. CLIFTON, Post Office, Deganwy, N. Wales.

WANTED, to Sell, eight handsome Bandsmen's Uniforms, trousers, tunic, and cap, trimmed gold lace, splendid condition, cheap. DAVIS, Costumier, Chiswick.

WANTED, to Sell, all Kinds of Wardrobe. State wants. WARDROBE MISTRESS, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, to Sell, Quantity Black Velvet, also Illusions and Roller Skates, cheap. Write, 20, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall.

WANTED, to Sell, Healer's Electrical Treatments, Big Showy-looking American Electrostatic Apparatus, cures Rheumatism one application, £10; cost treble. DYKE, 85, Wingrove-gardens, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Sell, about 150 Plush Lift-up Chairs, and 30 20ft. Benches, upholstered in plush, in good condition. Apply, HORNER, Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Orchestrion, with Tunes, equal to full Band, with Water Motor. Wanting room, must sell quickly. Grand Attraction for place of Amusement.
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WANTED, to Sell, 90ft. Secondhand Circus Tent, green cloth, Secondhand Wallings to match; red and white Switchback Tilt, 46ft. frame. ARTHUR SAUNDERS, Tent Maker, Wisbech.

WANTED, to Sell, large supply of Marquees, Tents, from 30ft. upwards to 140ft. by 40ft. W. SAUNDERS, 6, Nene-quay, Wisbech.

WANTED, to Sell, Complete Marionette Show, plush fit-up, scenes, and figures. HARRY LYNTON, 3, Besson-street, New Cross-road, S.E.

WANTED, to Sell, four short Stage Dresses, in good condition. Can be seen any afternoon, 15, Trinity House, Bath-terrace, near Elephant and Castle.

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WANTED, to Sell, Magic Lantern, with Slides, also Side Lamps and Projectors, for under stage, suit serpentine number; also large green Stage Floor-cloth. Address, 142, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

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ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, to Purchase, large Rickety Wheel and Tickets, must be in good order. Apply, CAPT. DANDO, Barronstrand-st., Waterford, Ireland.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Buy, four or five Arc Lamps, for Lanterns, must be cheap. BAILEY, 4, Newport-buildings, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, to Purchase, pair of Tympani, secondhand pair in good condition not objected to. Details, also price in first instance, to NIGHTINGALE, Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Small Net, 20ft. by 11ft. (approx.), with Border Rope, must be in good condition, large mesh suitable. Send sample cord. Also six pairs Net Pulley Blocks. Particulars to J. W. E., 11, Blagdon-street, Lewisham.

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WANTED, at Once, for Cash, a Xylophone; must be in good condition, and cheap. ZERBINIS, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, to Purchase, two Good Bucking Mules or Donkeys. Address, full particulars, TONY TRANSFIELD, Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, to Buy, any Ventriloquial or Musical Novelty.
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Full particulars can be obtained of
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STOCKPORT
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Scenery. Address, MANAGER, as above.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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WANTED, Known, Members of the Actors' Association are invited to consult the Secretary before signing Agreements. Members wishing the Council of the Actors' Association to recover Unpaid Salary would greatly assist by not allowing arrears to accumulate.
10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, Artists to Note that the Tivoli, Grimsby, closes from June 9 until the first or second week in Sept., and that all Contracts for dates during that period are therefore cancelled. If the Artists in question will forward their vacancies, Sept. onwards, other dates will be arranged in lieu of those cancelled.
Signed, JOSEPH H. CURRY.

WANTED, Known.—A reader wishes to know if any other Lady or Gentleman can Recite a whole Play without being Prompted. The inquirer in question has recited one before a Press Reporter—Shakespeare's play, named "Romeo and Juliet" (number of lines 2,522. 17 scenes, 5 acts). Letters, L. WATKIN, Woodside, Buxton-road, Chingford.

WANTED, Known, to stop further mistakes, E. V. Wilkes after this date will be known as Chas. Banks.

ANDERTON AND ROWLAND'S EMPIRE.
WANTED, to thank all Artists that replied to our Advert. All Vacancies now filled.

WANTED, Address of Miss Campbell, Trunk Lady, at once.
DEBRANCA,
Post Office, Ballygawley, Ireland.

WANTED, Address of Jim Stewart, who last season was with Messrs. Toft and Turnbull.
MCGURK,
P.O., Drogheda, Ireland.

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To Hotel Proprietors who regularly file "The Era."
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Two females, one male, tame young birds.
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Notwithstanding
These animals having been offered by a certain firm, who had no authority to do so, I beg to state publicly that the above animals are the only Gnus which have left South Africa for past two-and-a-half years, and that I am the only dealer who has them for sale.
Penguins,
Most interesting curious water birds,
Only Ten left.
Cape Sea Lions,
Beautiful pair feeding, quite tame.
Interesting illustrated price list, with particulars of journeys, sent free on application.
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Usual small animals for sale.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) is, of course, issued by our premier theatrical journal, which, under the literary supervision of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, has recently improved an already strong position. The Annual is better than ever, and includes, besides details of all plays produced in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin, lists of all theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, &c., many stories and sketches by and portraits of actors and actresses. It is a remarkable shillingsworth; useful and interesting to all playgoers and members of the profession alike.—Sunday Sun, Jan. 21, '06.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
EARLY TRAINS.
The Railway Companies are moving with the Times, and are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements in time to reach the office on Thursday.
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MESSRS. WILLIE EDELSTEN, 29, Lorn-road, Brixton, would esteem it a great favour if they would read the following letter from the Proprietor, Mr. Bell, of Theatre Royal, Darlington, who has Confirmed my Contracts.

Theatre Royal, Darlington. Manager, James Bell. May 21, 1906.
W. Edelsten, Esq., London, S.W.
DEAR MR. EDELSTEN,—When handing your contracts to Mr. Walter Bentley it was agreed, and he had definite instructions from me, to see you and arrange to take over as many of the turns as he possibly could. They were given to him in a private and confidential manner for that purpose only, and I am sorry if he has used them in any other way.—Yours faithfully,
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1906.

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"The Flood," Bioscope, Lavater Lee, Brothers Leslie, Morton and Elliott, Trapnells, Jas. H. Jee, Ober Steirer Troupe, Les Bastiens, Inaudi, McPhee and Hill, Max Yorke's Dogs, Cinquevalli, Spessardy's Bears, Staley's Transformation, Link, Three Olympiers.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for:—
Mike S. Whallen, Howard and Collinson, Mackweys, J. Alexander and Co., Northern Troupe, Marie Collins, Neil Kenyon, Rex King, Avolos, Bioscope, Sutcliffe Family.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
Hary Lauder, Bioscope, Four Olympian Stars, Dumond Minstrels, Labakans, J. W. Rickaby, Maud Mortimer, Mariano Sisters, Melot Hermann, Mdlle. De Dio.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
J. H. Wakefield, Fred Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Bioscope, Fred Erick, Sloan, Vetter Bros., Agnes Hanson, Alexandra Dagmar, Jack Theo. Trio.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for:—
"Mumming Birds," Bioscope, Illustrated Song, George Lucas, O'Malley and Brown, Goltz Trio, Abdullah Arabs, Motramos, Letine, Passmore Bros.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Casey's Circus, The Findens, McConnell Trio, Nellie Martell, Klos Sisters, Alf. Barker, Lily Langtry, New York Nippers, Wille Bros., Eily Adair.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Ray Wallace, Will Mitcham, Maud Ross, Howard Bros., Casino Comedy Four, Cape Girls, Venie Clements, Kaufmanns, Spry and Monti, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Ernest Shand, Athas and Collins, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Alf. Holt, Jagos, Claire Beasy's Cats, Bevan's Highlanders, Bioscope, Barowsky Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
W. F. Frame, Dora Lyric, Lios Alfas, Forest and King, Edwin Barwick, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Will English, D'Arc's Marionettes, Dronza, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Bransby Williams, Flo. Deighton, Ernie Mayne, Sisters Caselli, Egbert Bros., Johnson and Dean, Borellis, Jurgens' Trio, Howard and St. Clair, Holles Goldman Trio.

EMPIRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Geo. Gray and Co., in "The Road to Ruin," Bioscope, Marie Weston, George Formby, Fred Lincoln, Celeste, Gracie Grahame, Cambrian Trio, Addie Dorina, Hayes and Suits.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Nellie Wallace, Bioscope, Constance Bellamy, Frank Dunlop, Ike Scott and Son, Booker and Narbis, Solbrig's Automatos, Madge Osmond.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Wilkie Bard, Nellie Stratton, Bioscope, George Brooks, Lizzie Daniels, Maud Courtney, Walton and Lester, Harry Helm, Theo. Bowmeester and Co., Conn and Conrad, Carney and Armstrong, May Mars, Manning's Entertainers.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Van Biene and Co., Bioscope, Albany, Minnie Cunningham, Willie Gardner, Queen and Le Brun, Ross and Grayson, Shirley Liggins, Jonghmann Sisters, John Lawson and Co., in "Humanity."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Fred Conquest and Co., Spry and Austin, Atroy and Violi, Pat Rafferty, Ambrose Thorne, Bros. Horne, May Evans, Tina Clementa, Conway and Leland, Harry Cardsale.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Clark and Hamilton, Florrie Gallimore, Four Figaros, Margaret Ashton, Alix Lukos, Nancy St. John, Flo. D'Orville, Will Cornish, Deane Tribune Trio, Pit and Cute.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Flo. Esdaile, Sandford and Lyons, Jack Lane, Will Musgrave, George Lashwood, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, The Remingtons, The Fantasies, Bioscope, Punch and Judy Girls.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
G. H. Chirgwin, Frank Seeley, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Henry Taylor Trio, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Classicum Quartette, Belle Davis and Piccs., Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for:—
Dinah Morris, Prof. Vox, Cole De Losse Duo, Johnnie Gilmore, Chas. Austin, Flem and Brok, Stella Troupe, Alec Hurley and Co. in "Coster's Beanfeast," Baker and Balfe, Josh Dixon, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Hackenschmidt, Ben Albert, Austin Rudd, Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Three Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Little Tich, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Fielding and Hull, Ella Retford, Stave, Leah Arden, Johnson and Bert, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Mark Sheridan, Sisters Chester, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitane, Belloni's Cockatoos, Frank and Free, Odeyne Sparke, Francis and Alfred, Bros. Damm, J. H. Milburn.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Eugene Stratton, Norman and Leonard Trio, Marba and Verity, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Chinko, Arthur Lloyd Trio, The Uessems, Alf. Hurley, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for:—
The Boissetts, Cora Caselli, Chas. Gardiner, Walter King, The Seddons, Vernando, Sisters Bosanquet, Datas, Bioscope, Illustrated Song.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Leopolds, "House-boat," Bioscope, Attab Bros., Lancashire Lassies, Morton Trio, Harry Bedford, Althoffs, Ancillotti and Pilu, Martin Adeson and Co.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
"Moses and Son," Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Boswell's Circus, Maples, Horace Wheatley, Canary Co., Harmony Four.

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Rehearsal at 2 for:—
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Billy McClain's Sextette, Bioscope, Dolly Moore, Alf. Kingston, Frank Comminger, Delevines, Warsaw Bros., Bessie Butt.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for:—
Bellonini, Harry Pleon, Tom Costello, Chris. Richards, Orpheus, G. H. Elliott, Florrie Forde, Rosie Lloyd, Sisters Pine, Winifred Hare, May Marton, Rich and Rich, Lyons Trio, Howards, Joe Elvin and Co., Four Watsons, Paulasto Troupe, Bioscope.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for:—
Gus Elen, Michael Nolan, Harry Grey, Tom Costello, George Reeves, Albert Whelan, Florrie Forde, Rosie Lloyd, Kitty Rayburn, Winifred Hare, Janet Reynolds, Joe Elvin and Co., Andreassen Bros., The Kings, Steinway Glee Singers, Two Bostons, The Vernons, Three Hiltons, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements Cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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"BARBADOES,"
"JUST A LITTLE ROCKING-CHAIR AND YOU,"
"WHAT HAS THE NIGHT-TIME TO DO WITH THE GIRL?"
"GOOD-BYE, MY LITTLE LONDON GIRL."

FOUR GREAT COON SONGS:
"GOOD-NIGHT, MR. BROWN, I'M OUT,"
"SYMPATHY,"
"AIN'T YOU GOING TO SAY 'HOW DO?"
"CAN'T YOU FIND A SWEETHEART OF YOUR OWN?"

FOUR GREAT HUMOROUS SONGS:
"IT'S THE CUSTOM OVER THERE,"
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"Fairies."
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"Would You Care?"
"Peggy Machree."
"Give My Regards to Leicester Square."
"Is London Like It Used To Be?"
"My Bungalow in Borneo."
"Bonnie Mary o' Glengary."
"Good-bye, Sweet Marie."
"Wait Till the Work Comes Round."
"The Cowslip and the Cow."
"My Little Turtle Dove."
"I Wonder if the Girl I'm Thinking Of."
"Suzannah's Long Stocking."
"Good-bye, Dear Old London Town."
"Have You Seen My Soldier Boy?"

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All applications by either Artists or their Agents must be made to the Head Office.

Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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MR. T. GERALD MORTON,
Empire Palace, Leeds.

BIRMINGHAM, NOTTINGHAM, LEICESTER, AND DISTRICT.
MR. HATTON WHARTON,
Empire Theatre, Nottingham.

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.
MR. W. LEA,
Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

LONDON DISTRICT.
MR. WILLIAM COLLINS,
The Empire, Shepherd's Bush, W.

N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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ARTISTS (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

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CLAPHAM.

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Manager, H. KETTERMAN.

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Rehearsal Monday, at 12 o'clock.

R. A. Roberts, Daisy Jerome, the Three Careys, Fred Cullane, Mlle. Roza, Aida Martini, Frank Gee, Billy Farrell, Calile and Walker, Ten Loonies.

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CALLS

FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Madge Morley and Co., King Roy, Joe Oliver, Sisters Ford, Hessey Soloists, Judge's Cockatoos, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Astley's Circus, Lily Morris, Nash and Noel, Bros. Redmond, Marion Scott, George Rapley, Marie Santoi Troupe, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Baroni and Kemp, Grant and Allen, Bros. Herne, The Lessors, Henri Bekker, Clara Sefton, Elvio Trio, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
W. H. Rawlins and Co., Grace Merton, Will Lytton, Paragon Trio, Continental Stilt Walkers, Lily Sharplin, Pender Troupe, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Nat Clifford, The Elgars, Carl Rosine, Les Laurens, George Grogie, Florence Yaymen, George Bendon, Mill May, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
Harold Montagu and Co. in "Vagabonds," Ross and Lewis, Keith and Merson, A Ba-Be, Barrington, E. Montefiore and Co., Ford and Barris, Edie Gray and "White Coon," Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
Marguerite Broadfoote, Dan Conroy, Otto and Olga, Fred Bronte, Sisters Varley, Ted Farrer, Lily Esplin, J. W. Rowley, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL
Four Kweeries, Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene, Oakdene, Adey Spencer, Lee and Kingston, Harry Briggs, H. J. Kisbey, Jack and Evelyn, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.
"High Jinks," W. H. Downs, Rohda Bros., Miss Florence, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

KING'S, NOTTINGHAM.
Matinée Thursday.
J. G. Johnson, Helm and Cozens, Florrie Beck, The Nettas, Arthur Stacey, Llewellyn, Raymond's Bio-Tableau.

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LYCEUM THEATRE.
Geo. Westlands, Maud Preston, D. U. Barry, Pasquelli Bros., Nathilie and Diana, Raymond's Bioscope, The Alhambras, The London Girls, Albert Wyndham and Co., Barton and Ashley, Sisters Morgan, The Charles Troupe.

THE BRITANNIA.
Telephone, 7285 Central.
Matinées, Monday and Thursday.
Amiel, F. Lawrence and Co., Percy Dalton, Raymond's Bioscope, Kittie Corrie, Frances Drew, The Three Leaves, Nelly McVelt, Moule and Nicholls' Sketch, Stacey and Williams.

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Rita and Roma, Mephisto, Carlotta De Yonson and Co., Society Quartette, Edie Endon, Johnny Walker, Edna Latonne, Andie Burn, Raymond's Bioscope, Vaudeville Sketch Co.

SURREY THEATRE.
Telephone, 1460 Hop
Matinée every Monday.
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Raymond's Bioscope, Fred Hallam, G. Marriott and Co., Harley and Hardon, Rose Hamilton, Dave O. Toole, J. Mackenjie and Co., Lottie Lennox, Lily Gaston, Melody Makers.

Artists please note,
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

N.B.—All Billing Matter and Business Communications relating to the Provincial Circuit must be addressed to "King's Chambers, Angel-street Sheffield."

THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS for MONDAY, JUNE 4, 1906.

REHEARSAL EVERY MONDAY AT ALL OUR PLACES AT 12 NOON.

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Owing to extensive alterations being necessary, the Tivoli, Leeds, will be closing on June 16, 1906, for six weeks, re-opening again August Bank Holiday.

Mr. Barrasford presents his compliments to the artists booked there during that time, and would feel obliged if they would kindly postpone their date till after August 6, 1906. Kindly send in vacant dates to the Head Office.

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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Messrs. Rodgers, Rigg, and Ryder, Sisters Poole, Schiavonis, Halter and Ray, V. L. Granville, Gertie Gertana, Lancashire Lads, Musical Schaffers, Pictures, George Leyton.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Arthur Rigby, Myles and May, Evelyn Taylor, Arthur Reece, Lily Lena, George D'Albert, Dent and Harris, Yamamoto and Koyoshi, J. B. Preston, The Sivronis, Pictures, Hill and Whittaker.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
John Tiller and Co., Mons. D'Musto, Carina Sisters, R. A. Speedwell, Paul Vandy, Mdlle. Clotilde, Pictures, Ada and August, Abdullah and La Superbe.

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Bill Matter must be sent to the London Office Two Weeks before opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.
All Artists must carry Band Parts for Full Band.

All communications to be addressed to the London Office,

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GLASGOW PAVILION.
CALL for Monday, June 4, 1906.
Rehearsal at 12 noon.
Rogers, Rigg and Ryden and Co., Hill and Lane, Frank Leon, Fred Cary, Chas. Diamond and Beatrice, Alf Gibson, Lizzie Kirk, Jose Collins, Max Waldon.

PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m.
G. French, Wallau, Sherlock and Vandall, Barbara Babington, Cherry Lass, Barney Stuart, Rushforths, Pictures.
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Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

Call for Monday, June 4: Edwin Boyde, Edna Groves, Conan and Doyle, Barton and Franklin, Belrose and De Velin, Frank Bernard and Co., Lola Patey, The Virginians.

CALL for Coventry Hippodrome.
Rehearsal, 11 o'clock, sharp,
for Matinée, 2.30,
Wal Pink's "Workmen in Repairs," Sable Fern, Dale and O'Malley, Johnny Dywer, Viviana, Arthur Elvy, Hippodrome Pictures, and Mabelle May.

CALL for Corn Exchange, Maidstone.
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ROSA LOADER,
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ELLISTON WEBB,
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W. A. PETERKIN,
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EDGAR BERTE,
Elocutionist,
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Lady and gentleman in search of apartments. The rival landladies. The right house at last. Viewing the rooms. Gentleman has the tail of his coat torn off by the door of Room No. 1. His wife will not listen to his tale of woe, but rushes him on, as she seems charmed with the apartments. A lovely outlook from the second room, but quite spoilt by a rug and flower-pot falling on old gentleman's silk hat. Examining the chimneys. A fall of soot. Encounter with the paperhanger. A seat in the paste. An involuntary shower-bath. Old gentleman, taking a last look out, falls out of window, but is luckily saved by a cart which is standing underneath. The couple are not so pleased with the rooms as they were, and walk off without further word to the landlady. About 230ft. The Subject, £5 15s. 0d.

THE TARGET.

The boy and the rifle. A shot at the candle. The willing helper. Breaking an egg with disastrous results to the boy underneath. A paper target is now made and pasted, and laid on a seat while the pot of paste is put away. Old gentleman sits on seat, and the target sticks to the seat of his trousers. Bending down to do a bit of gardening, he gives a full view of the target, and a boy scores a bull's-eye on it. Capture and punishment of the wrong scorer. About 164ft.
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The youngster is seen to fondle her treasure, and ultimately, unable to rest, gets out of bed, putting the doll in, and, after tucking it up, leaves the room, just as her mother had done to her so often. As the little girl departs, the window is thrown open, and the man who had stopped the child in the street enters the room. He approaches the bed, wraps what he supposes to be the child quickly up in the bed-clothes, and, going to the window, passes the bundle to the woman, who is outside on a ladder. She is first to discover that it is only a doll, and, in her rage, smashes it against the side of the ladder, and pitches her confederate into the dustbin.

The little girl, who had evidently gone down to fetch mamma to look at her "dear dolly," returns to find her treasure gone, and runs to her mother's side and cries bitterly with grief. The parent, suspecting somewhat of the truth of the matter, goes to the window, and realising what a narrow escape her dear one had, kisses her again and again in joy and thankfulness.

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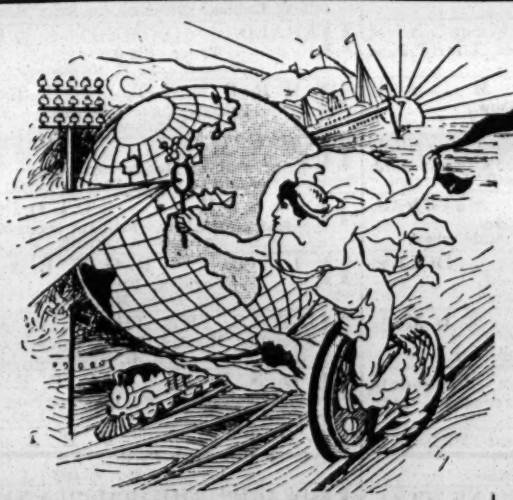

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COSGROVE and BURNS, Scottish-American Comedy Duo. This week, Hipp., Hastings; Next, Empire, Wolverhampton.

COSTELLO, BROS., Knockabout Comedians. Still on Tour. Address, Care of "The Era."

COTTERELL, SID, and CO., in the Great Comedy Success, "The Substitute." Palace, Plymouth; Next, P., Bristol.

COUNSELL and MILLS, Musical Playlets. Hippodrome, Ipswich. Next, Pier, Penarth. SOMERS and WARNER.

COURTNEY FAMILY, Complimented by management. This Middlesex. Next Hounslow. Coms., Mrs. Paul Courtney en route.

CRAGGS, THE, in New Act, "Billy." This, Her Majesty's, Walsall; next, T. R., Leigh.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, A Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Care of "The Era."

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Co., London Hippodrome.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY. Hippodrome, Accrington.

CULLEN, DOLLY, and ELSIE JORDISON, Dainty Little Vocalists and Dancers, June 4, Hippo., Bury.

CURRAN, FRED, Premier Parody Singer. Latest by Murphy and Lipton. Monday, Lower Ballroom, Blackpool.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. At Liberty June 4. Wire 35, Mytton-street, Hulme, Manchester.

DAINEZ, E. R., Circus. Free, June 11, 18, 25. Address, Smilers, Pitsea, Essex.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Henriques Wire Address. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANIELS, THE TWO. Another Most Tremendous Success, Empire Theatre. Require Monday. Wire, 10, St. Mary's-road, Oxford.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Cyclists (Monarchs of the Wheel). June 4, Hippo., Stoke.

DAVIES, ROBERT, Bare Back Equestrian. On Tour. Perm. address, 32, Woodstock-road, Belfast.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Alhambra, London.

DEETRICH'S VAUDEVILLE BUREAUX, 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool. Always immediate vacancies for good acts.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Phenomenal Marvellous Painter and Cockatoos. Hippodrome, Hull.

DELEVINES, THE, in New and Original Comedy, "Flipp and Flopp." Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet open on Sundays.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., the Lady Foli, J. H. HAWTREY, Actor Vocalist. Empire, Wolverhampton.

DEVERENNE Requires Immediate engagement. Nail Walker and Balancer, the Mystery. Care of "The Era."

DE VOYE, JAMES, and BILLY, the celebrated Horse, the Marvel. Success everywhere. Next week, Alhambra, Morecambe.

DE ZELLO, Juggler on the Slack Wire. John Trewar, Comic Conjurer, vac. Sept. 10. Perm. add., 230, Sumner-road, Peckham, S.E.

DILLONS, BOUNCING, June 4 and 5, Fêtes, Pontypool. Address Harry's Cottage, Up. Sutton-st., Aston, B'ham.

DIXON, CHARLEY, KATE LYND, Big Success, starring, Dover and Sandgate. Per. add., 69, Roan-st., Greenwich, S.E., all letters.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, "The Man in the Grey Dress Suit." No vacancies for three years.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, The Factory Nightingales. Starring Grand, Stockton. Mon., Empire, Wolverhamton. 3rd return.

DOMINOS, TWO, at Liberty Whit Week, a comic and refined Animal Act. Talking Donkey. No equal. 9, Victoria-st, Redditch.

DON, EMMA, and her Black-and-White Quartette. Vacant July 2 through Tiv., Leeds, Closing. June 4, Theatre R., Warrington.

DONNAS TRIO, Sensational Ladder Trapeze Equilibrist. Crystal Palace Theatre. CASS, 30, Maiden-lane. 'Phone, 6704 Central.

DORRETTA, LITTLE, Dutch Acrobatic Comedienne, Great Success, King's, Hammersmith. Next, Alexandra P., 2 w'ks.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, The chic comedienne.—Vide Press. Brilliant Success, Walham Green, 9.10.

DOYLE and GIBSON, Patter Comedians and Dancers. This week, Whitehaven; Next week, Hippo., Carlisle. Vacant June 25.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Comedienne and Dancer. Coms., E. STEBBINGS, Manchester. 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUNCAN and MORTON. "'Aint we Popular." Grapho and Jackson's Pierrots, Northampton.

DUNNING, and KAHN and KAHN, Concerts. Letters, 106, Loughboro'-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 14, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Gaiety, Oldham. Next week, June 4, Hippodrome, Hastings.

EARLE, ELSIE, Chorus Comedienne. Recalled nightly Middlesex. Next two weeks Shrewsbury. Letters en route.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Sisters, Novel Instrumentalists and Dancers, Liberty June 11, 18. Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

ELLA'S, MISS, Best existing Lion Show. King's Theatre, Gateshead.

ELLERTON, Author Dunville's Nurse Sheridan's Mottoes, Tich's Twenty-third, Lynne's School Teacher. 90, Vassall-rd, Brixton.

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ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY. Monday next, Foresters', June 11, Empire, Hackney.

ELTON and ELMA, Comedy Bar Act, Monday, Great Pontypool Gala.

ELVY, ARTHUR, "The Up-to-date Tipster." This, Hippo., Birmingham; next, Hippo., Coventry. At liberty July 2.

ENGLISH, GEORGE, and PENLEY, FLO, London Nightly. "A Fishmonger's Romance."

EPLETT, KATIE, FRANK ZARA, Comedienne, Dancer; Comedian, Raconteur. Monday, London, Shoreditch, E.

ESCALADERS, THREE, June 2, Fête and Sports, Porth. June 4, Temperance Hall, Merthyr, S. Wales.

ESDALE BROS., Comedians. Vacant Monday. Wire Tivoli, Grimsby. After Sat., 166, Shrewsbury-st., Brook's Bar, Manchester.

EUSTACE, FRED, June 4, Queen's, Poplar. "Our Curate."

FAME, PEGGY, "Girl in Grey Without a Smile." Ireland captivated, London shortly. Monday, Parthenon, Liverpool.

FARRIMOND, PERCY, the Original Lancashire Singing Collier. Best wishes to all. June 4, Hippodrome, Wigan.

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FITZROYS, THE, Society Gymnasts. June 2, Hippodrome, Maidstone.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Sure Success. Liberty June 11. Managers Wire, Hippo., Birmingham; Monday, Hippo., Liverpool.

FLORIZELL, Original. England's Leading Lady Contortionist and Gymnast. All letters, T. R., Merthyr. Great for Panto.

FORD and HANSON, The American Musical Millionaires. No Vacancies. Address, Midland Hotel, Hull.

FORD, SISTERS, Character and Comedy Duettists. Monday, Pavilion, Leicester.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams "Waggishly." 'Phone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FRANCISCO, Equilibrist, and MAY MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist. Vacant June 18 onwards. Address next week, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

FREDRICKS, CARL, and YA PYN KETO FAMILY. Fredricks and Carlton Concert Controls. Pier Pavilion, Lytham.

GALINO, PERCY. This, Sadler's Wells. Monday, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots. Rock Park, Llandrindod Wells.

GANNON, NELLIE. A Furore, Alhambra, Belfast; HARRY WRIGHT. Well, ask everybody. Monday, Parthenon Liverpool.

GLENNIE'S MARIONETTES, June 18 wanted. Address, care of "The Era."

GRAHAM, BOB, June 4, Royal, Merthyr. June 11, Empire, Dudley.

GRAHAM, Human Marionettes. No Vacant Dates until October. Permanent Address, 28, Chaucer-road, Brixton.

GRAHAM'S, DAISY, Performing Birds, on Tour with Poole's Myriorama Co. Theatre, Alexandra Palace.

GRANADAS, LOS, 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham. Agent, TOM SHAW.

GRANTLEY and COLEMAN (CHAS.) (LILLIE) June 4, Doncaster.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, Burlesque Scena, "In a Restaurant." Coms., Abington Park Hotel, Northampton.

GRAY, GEORGE, Stoll-Moss Empires. Stoll-Moss Empires.

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HARRIS and WORTH, Palace, Blackpool.

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HAYDEE, Pier Pavilion, Hastings.

HEARNES, THE FOUR, Comedy Acrobats and Tumblers. Vac. June 18 on. This week, Preston. Monday, Hippo., Ashton.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Genius, Usual Success, P., Bath; Monday, Paddington and Westminster, Liverpool.

HENDERSON, LADE, Character Vocalist; great success Aldershot, to follow, London. All coms. to BILLY HENDERSON.

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HERMAN, SYD. Third week of Management Hippo., Sittingbourne. Specialities write. Sharing terms only.

HESSEY SOLOISTS, Instrumentalists. Brilliant success. Macnaghten Circuit.

HILL, ROWLAND, Pavilion, Portrush. For Three Months.

HILTONS, THE THREE, in a New Speciality, Monday, Palace, Camberwell. Lib. June 11, 18. Perm. Add., 47, Nuttall-st., Liverpool.

HONRI, PEROY, Communications, 357, Holloway-road, N. Telegrams, Honri, London. 'Phone, 1,063, North.

HOPE, FRANK, Celebrated Trick Cyclist. Next week galas. 8, Bridgman-st., Walsall.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH & NELLIE) Granville, Walham Green.

HULA, SISTERS, Vocalists and Dancers. Vacant Monday, wire or write, Albert Hall, Southport.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL, Illusionist, first-class. Vac for July. Offers invited. Union-road, Macclesfield.

HULINES, NEW, Musical Clowns, and BESSIE TRAVIS, Lady Ventriloquist. Monday, Crystal Palace, London.

HUMBER, FANNIE, Concludes Two Weeks Casino, Calais, France. Address, 85, De Laune-street, Kennington Park, London.

HUNTER, G. W., Comedian and Raconteur, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

HUXTER, THREE BROS., June 4, C.P., Morecambe. P., 10, Middle-street, Worcester

INGLE, ARTHUR, Coster Juggler. Free for Galas, June 11, onwards. King's Head Hotel, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

JAQUES, T. C., Vocal Comedian. This week Victoria Opera House, Burnley. Coms., 10, North Marine-rd., Scarborough.

JUDGE, SISTERS, With their Marvellous Performing Cockatooc, Parrots and Macaws. June 4, Pav., Leicester.

KATHRENA, MISS IDA, Scena, "The Carnival of Toys." Metropolitan.

KATOS, THE, Komikal Kidgets. Hippodrome, Stoke.

KAVADOS, Juggler; FLO MELVILLE, Burlesque Artist, Palace, Grimsby. Monday, Palace, Attercliffe.

KEENE, BILLY, and JESSIE ADAMS, Our Pierrots. Eleventh Season. Pavilion, Portrush, Ireland.

KEITH and MERSON, Palace, Blackburn.

KEITHS, THE ORIGINAL MUSICAL, CARLINA and CHARLIE. Monday next, June 4, Tower, Blackpool.

MR. ARTHUR GRENVILLE.
At Liberty.
20, Kenyon-mansions, West Kensington, W.

MR. FRED GROVE,
and MISS EMILY GROVE, Disengaged.
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Pendennis, in "Colonel Newcome,"
His Majesty's Theatre.

MR. A. C. HARDIE,
Concludes with Miss Hildyard to-night. Dis.
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King's-road, Chelsea, S.W. T. No. 2077, Ken.

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Disengaged for a few weeks.
Address, 11, Beira-street, Balham, S.W.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
Disengaged.
Actors' Association, 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. CYRIL HARRISON,
At Liberty till July 30.
52, Upperton-gardens, Eastbourne.

MR. FORRESTER HARVEY,
Concluding Mr. Cyril Maude's "Beauty and the Barge" Co. Add., 6, Pump-court, Temple, E.C.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Dr. Watson, "Sherlock Holmes."
June 11, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

MR. R. CALVERT HAWS,
"Castles in Spain,"
Terry's Theatre, W.C.

MR. JOHN S. HAYDON,
at Liberty now for Autumn, and onwards.
23, Carter-street, Prince's-road, Liverpool.

MR. T. P. HAYNES,
Disengaged.
Address, Care of "The Era."

MR. JERROLD HEATHER,
Lead. Dis. Autumn. "Starring" with Mr. M. Anderson's Rép. Co., Prince's, Llandudno.

MR. A. T. HILTON,
Sir Peter Teazle, Hardcastle, Damas,
Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES,
At Lib. for Juvenile Lead, Shakespearean or modern work. 10, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD. All Business communications to be made direct to Mr. CECIL BARTH, 8, Melina-place, St. John's Wood, N.W.

MR. FRANK HOWARD,
Hon. Bertie Bray, "The Woman Who Gambles" Co. June 11, Osborne T., Manchester.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD
(Miss Clara Earle).
June 11, King's Theatre, Glasgow (six nights).

MR. HENRY HOWARD,
Business or Acting Management. Disengaged for the Autumn. 89, Elm Park-mans., Chelsea, S.W.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD
(Miss Carlotta Ansqn).
Disengaged. Offers invited. 46, Graham-rd., Dalston.

MR. ERIC HUDSON,
at Liberty June 16.
June 11, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, 6 nights.

MR. S. HERBERT HUMBER and BEATRICE SINCLAIR. Disengaged. Lead and jun. lead or com. 15, Fairmead-rd, Holloway.

MR. JAMES P. E. HUSSEY, Lieut.
David Cairn, and S. M., in "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace," West Pier, Brighton. Dis. June 11.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner, Contralto), Disengaged, Character Com. 52, Crowndale-rd., N.W.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON,
Compton Comedy Co. Disengaged June 16.
June 11, New Theatre, Oxford.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES,
Touring the Success, "Life's Sweetest Sins."
Address, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. THEO JONES and ADA MANSFIELD. A. M., Engaged for Mrs. O'Kelly, in "The Shaughraun," P. T., Preston.

MR. S. MAJOR JONES,
at Liberty.
101, Sugden-road, Clapham Common, S.W.

MR. F. JOYNSEN - POWELL.
"A Royal Divorce" (Scala production). C/o. Ross, Branford, & Co., 5, Old Queen-st, Westminster.

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Disengaged.
Actors' Association.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
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MR. EDMUND F. KENNEDY,
Title-rôle, "Lucky Durham." Dis. June 11, few weeks. 38, Sydney-rd., West Ealing, W.

MR. and MRS. EDGAR KENT (Miss Ada Clarke). Stock Season. Pier, Paignton, S. Devon. Perm. add., Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.

MR. CLAUDE KING,
Disengaged for Juvenile Leading Business.
Blenheim Lodge, Teddington.

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Garrick Theatre, W.C.

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Engaged by Wm. Maclaren, Esq., for Agazil, Autumn Tour of "Claudian." T. R., Lincoln.

MR. J. POOLE KIRKWOOD,
John Forman in Sherlock Holmes.
June 11, T. R., Bradford. Dis. June 18.

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This week, Fagin, "Oliver Twist." Pastorals, Cambridge, June 12. 100, Earls' Court-rd., S.W.

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Piccadilly, W.

MR. OSWALD LINGARD,
Disengaged.
Address, 10, St. Barnabas-terrace, Leicester.

MR. G. H. LIOT,
Disengaged.
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MR. FRANK LISTER,
Disengaged. Offers invited for autumn.
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311, Kentish Town-road, N.W.

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"The Village Blacksmith" Co.,
60, King's-road, Kingston-on-Thames.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
Disengaged.
28, Chelverton-road, Putney.

MR. EDWARD LLOYD,
At Liberty Autumn.
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH,
At Liberty, July 2, Lead and Character. June 11, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
Disengaged for Autumn and interim productions. Address, 7, Bridson-street, Liverpool.

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Aldwych Theatre.

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Own Tour, "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route, or Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

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at Lib., Old Men, Heavy, Char. Holly Villa, Hartington-rd., Southend.

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At Liberty.
Address, 18a, Hartswood-road, Wendell Park, W.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
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MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
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All Kinds of Music Composed and Orchestrated. Pantomimes, &c. Add., C/o "The Era."

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Offers Invited, Autumn.
T. R., Stratford, E.

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At Liberty June 18.
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MR. ARTHUR B. MURRAY,
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Duke of York's Theatre.

MR. and MRS. KENYON MUSGRAVE
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MR. H. ADAIR NELSON,
Riversdale,
Lynmouth.

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MR. DAVID G. NOBLE,
Lead, or Heavy Lead. At Lib. June 11, on. Perm. add., 48, Agate-road, Hammersmith.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
Heavy Lead, "The Prodigal Parson."
June 11, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. & MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
(Dorothy Carington), "Sweet and Twenty."
Disengaged 16th inst. June 11, Blackpool.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON,
Lead, "Man's Enemy,"
Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

MR. GUS OXLEY,
Daly's Theatre,
W.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN,
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The London Music Hall, Shoreditch.

MR. WILLIAM PIMM,
Isaacs, "A Rogue's Daughter." Dis. June 16, Char., Com., Heavy, &c. G. T., Newcastle.

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172, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

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at Liberty now and Autumn. Address, 256, Penton-place, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

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MR. HOWARD RUSSELL,
Re-engaged for Autumn by Arthur Collins, Esq. Dis. until then. 88a, Queen's-rd., Battersea.

MR. F. SANDY Concludes To-night with "A Modern Adventuress." Next, "At Duty's Call." Dis. June 17. T. R., S. Shields.

MR. and MRS. VERNON SANSBURY
(Miss Gladys Vernon), Dis. June 16. Lead and Ingénue, Joint or Separate. T. R., Smethwick.

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Heavies, Old Men. At Liberty for Autumn.
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) is, of course, issued by our premier theatrical journal, which, under the literary supervision of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, has recently improved an already strong position. The Annual is better than ever, and includes, besides details of all plays produced in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin, lists of all theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, &c., many stories and sketches by and portraits of actors and actresses. It is a remarkable shillingsworth; useful and interesting to all playgoers and members of the profession alike.—Sunday Sun, Jan. 21, '06.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1905. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27, 1906.

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Chapter II.
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INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as the "Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters, respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr. J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr. Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise, it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr. A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman.

Mr. A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes," which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette.

Published at "The Era" Buildings,
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IMPORTANT NOTICE.
EARLY TRAINS.

The Railway Companies are moving with the times, and are despatching many morning trains earlier than hitherto. This will enable subscribers and advertisers in the provincial towns to get copies of "The Era" in time for the breakfast table. Advertisers are requested to forward their advertisements in time to reach the office on Thursday.

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THE PUBLISHER, The Era Buildings, 5, Tavistock Street, W.C.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.—NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. L. Andrews.—The boards here are occupied this week by Miss Edith Isabelle's company, in *The Girl from the Halls*. Mr. Chas. Ross is exceedingly good as the Rev. Twinkle; Mr. Geo. Elsworth is a capable Jack Weston; Mr. G. Fisher, as Hon. Richard Graham, is all that can be desired; Miss Connie Laurie, as Hon. Frederick Humphum, and Miss Edith Isabelle, as Janie, are throughout excellent, and keep the house in roars of laughter. Miss Frances Allen, as Minnie Weston, acts and sings with much credit; the part of Mrs. Twinkle is ably filled by Miss Helen Douglas; Miss Lily Ward, as Miss Edna June, also merits praise; and Miss Nellie Loft, as Penelope Ann, is worthy of special note. The Mascotte Trio of Lady Dancers also add greatly to the success of the piece.

ACCRINGTON.—PRINCESS THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Barnes.—*A Modern Adventuress* is once more the holiday attraction here. In the title-rôle, Miss Kate Froude gives an excellent reading of a difficult part; Miss Alice Defoe is once more welcome as Vivette Delby; whilst Miss Ivy Chandos as Sally Hodges proves very acceptable; Mr. Leonard Aardale repeats his former success in his original part of Pietro Donelli; whilst Mr. Fred Sandy scores as Wallace Danton; Mr. Louis Edmonde does his best as Harry Delby; and Mr. A. G. Polson-Turner as the Detective, Beal, is convincing and painstaking; also excellent are Mr. Frank Orchard, Mr. Harry C. Rutland, Mr. Tom Avery, and Mr. H. M. Victor, and Mr. Leonard R. Montgomery gives a good comedy character study of the Yorkshireman, John Crompton.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker.—The bill provided here this week includes Flora Lumière's Fairy Grotto, where she introduces her attractive fire dances; Cullen and Carthy are amusing comedians; Akbar is good on the silver rings; Billy Burns, the singing pit lad, is well received; Bennett and Martell are funny in their nautical absurdity, *The Shipwreckers*; J. C. Aitken is amusing; Hector and Paulus are clever comedy acrobats; the Bioscope completes the programme.

ALDERSHOT.—ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. E. Williams.—A good holiday bill of fare is being rewarded by full houses, Mr. Charles Carey's company giving a capital interpretation of *After the Ball*. Miss M. Sadie, who has been here on other occasions, finds ample scope in the rôle of Nancy to exercise the many gifts she undoubtedly possesses. Mr. Roy Sydney's is a clever conception of Halliwell Menit; as Martin, Mr. Buckstone Clair's humour causes him to become a favourite; Mr. Chas. Carey is powerful and effective as the dyspeptic Colonel; and Mr. Norman Bowyer plays the fop, Dick Seymour, with effect. Miss Nellie Groves has a winning manner as Nellie, and she sings effectively. Miss May Florence sings and acts with grace as Ruth; whilst Miss Nellie James's Kitty proves her of more than ordinary ability. The chorus of Gibson Girls and Waitresses also help to make the comedy a success.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The drama being presented here for Whitsun week at the Theatre Royal is *When Woman Hates*. Miss Mabel Mannering as Cora Daintry is sufficiently fascinating in face and figure; Mr. Millar Anderson as Godfrey Lawton, the male scoundrel, cool, callous, and determined; Mr. Jarrold Heather is the hero and Miss Maud Townsend the heroine, and the characters are both well acted. Mr. Chas. Herberte sustains with effect the part of a retired army general; and Mr. J. G. Maine is good as a cool specimen of the successful Yankee. Humour finds ample outlet in the comic acting of Mr. Frank Litchfield as an Irish policeman. Miss Gladys Lloyd plays with much tenderness the young person who has taken a false step and repented of it; Miss Violet Leal is good as the child.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—Lockhart's elephants are a big attraction here this week. Silent Tait pleases very much by his quaint style; the Four Hearnes combine exceedingly clever acrobatic work with humour; the musical sketch, *Jack Sheppard*, of Theo. Jones and colleague, is very tuneful and taking; Harry Marlow and May Manton introduce a novel sketch, *Other People's Babies*; Leo Trainor, in feminine garb, cracks jokes and gives a musical medley in good style; Sheila McNeil, a Scotch comedienne, is appreciated; the Dainton Girls sing a gipsy song very prettily; the Wedburns, in quaint make-up, joke well, sing well, and play the clarionet in capable style; and Bioscope pictures conclude the programme.

ATTERCLIFFE.—THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—The Whitsun holiday attraction here was furnished by Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Lester Jackson's company in the interesting drama, *Her One Great Sin*. An excellent interpretation of the hero, Reuben Warhurst, is given by Mr. Sam Arthur; villainy finds a vigorous and convincing exponent in Mr. C. Quinton Fulford, who, as Arnold Thornhill, plays with telling effect; Mr. Charles E. Lambert is good in the character part of Dan Hundle; Mr. Sam Roberts is praiseworthy as Jack Hundle; Mr. Fred Hodson as Jerry Jumble introduces the necessary comedy business, ably assisted by Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy Wimpenny; as Grace Warhurst, Miss Lydia Donovan plays with care and finish, and proves herself a capable actress; Miss Louie Walton does well as Bet Hundle; Miss Phyllis Damien as Charlie, a flower-seller; and Miss Maudie Lambert as Little Gracie are to be commended. The general management of the company is in the experienced hands of Mr. Sam Arthur.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—Typical holiday crowds packed this popular house on Monday. Mr. Max Sterling presents several of Maskelyne and Devant's mysteries, including the magic kettle and the Burmese gong; Vosper, facial mimic, is clever in his impersonations of celebrities; Sandes and Vincent (lady and gentleman) cause much mirth in a grotesque comedy act; Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures by the Attergraph are as acceptable as ever; Miss Flo Melville, comedienne, is well received; Kavados is smart as juggler, equilibrist, and cannon-ball performer; Mr. Will Letters is an acceptable comedian; and the Ringling Trio are responsible for a good turn as comedy acrobats, and introduce a cake-walk on stilts.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company, with *The Power of Gold*, is here this week. Mr. Chas. Whitlock's impersonation of the Malay doctor, Hadji Zambra, is really capital; Mr. Frank Holyoake's Dr. Stephen Saunders is a very natural characterisation; Mr. Richard Oliver, as Paul Judson; and Miss Georgina V. France, as Meg Judson, are particularly good in their respective parts. Miss Lilla Wilde is a clever actress, and portrays the part of Lady Brandon in powerful style; Mr. Frank Ayrton, as Sammy Smudge, is the life and soul of the piece, and he is very ably supported by Mr. W. Victor as Peter Maguire and Mr. Wilson Wyte as Marc Anthony.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—The attraction here for the holiday week is Miss Hetty Jeffries' company in *The Curate*. Mr. Arthur Mervyn embodies the title-rôle in manly style. As Gilbert Westwood, Mr. Whitmore Ledger displays some clever acting; Miss Rosa Mervyn is sweet and pleasing as Mabel Verner; and the remainder of the cast is in excellent hands.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—*Fishing*, by Harry Tate and company, is at the top of the bill here this week, and keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Les Bollingers give a unique performance with their pictures in rags; Master Ralph More is a young vocalist of great promise; Larry Lewis is very quaint, and was well received; Fred Reeves gives a refined entertainment; the Lorrisons, eccentric comedians, are an excellent turn; and Mabel Hind is a comedienne with a pleasing style.

BATH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long.—For the Whitsuntide holidays the management arranged with Mr. Chas. Harrington to stage the naval play, *The Sailors of the King*. Mr. Harrington himself enacts Admiral Drake with conviction and success. That well-versed melodramatic actress Miss Maude Digby gives a graphic impersonation of the unscrupulous housekeeper, Rebecca Crosby, her foil and associate in crime, Orrel Drake, being unflinchingly portrayed by Mr. F. Vernon Travers. Mr. Harry Douglas, as Dick Drake, makes a fine hero, whose sweetheart, Felicia Phrynne, has in Miss Sylvia Stella a pleasing exponent. Mr. Walter Farnsworth undertakes Rufford Dent, and Mr. Fred Owen plays the money-lending Jew, Harris Wilkinstein. The comedy element is greatly to the fore, with Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Barnet Fair; he gets able assistance in fun-making from Miss Hero Hathaway, as the Quakeress, Penelope Penn; Miss Gertrude Sterroll sustains the betrayed Daisy Dent in a clever manner. Others in a long cast that do well are Mr. Charles Trevlayne (Captain Cancardine) and Mr. Richard Cowell (Bige). A marked feature is the effective scenery, painted by Mr. E. Egerton. After tonight (Saturday) the theatre remains closed for the usual summer vacation.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Chas. Schubert.—The holiday programme here includes the musical comedy favourite, W. H. Rawlins, who, associated with another popular comedian, Lionel Victor, and two ladies, appear in the farcical sketch, *Mashing the Missus*, with great success. An old-fashioned pantomimic absurdity, *Hands Up*, gives the Pender Troupe every chance to show their cleverness as acrobatic and knockabout comedians. They are also responsible for a laughable turn, entitled the Continental Stilt Walkers, quite a novelty, and very funny. The clear, ringing voice of Grace Merton, the original street singer, is greatly appreciated. Lily Sharplin mimics "stars" with even greater success than before, and also forms one of the Paragon Trio of vocalists, whose harmonious efforts are justly acclaimed. Will Lytton, comedian, appears. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux are always worth staying for. The theatre now closes for the vacation.

SYDNEY GARDENS.—On Whit Monday Mr. T. R. Gannon gave his usual fête and gala, and, being fortunate in the weather, scored a big success. On Tuesday Mr. Sidney Leighton's Royal Bohemian Players commenced a series of entertainments, which are to be continued through the summer. The latest songs of the day and amusing sketches are given by the clever performers, and an enjoyable programme is always assured.

BEDFORD.—THE ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. Walter Maxwell's company in J. M. Barrie's comedy *Little Mary*. Mr. Ben Field makes an excellent Earl of Carlton, and Mr. Arthur Kightley is a clever exponent of the rôle of Lord Rolfe. Mr. Lewis Edgard satisfactorily depicts the character of the Earl of Plumleigh; Mr. Gerald Malvern as Sir Jennings Pyke leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Herbert Chown admirably renders the part of Dr. Topping; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon cleverly impersonates the Countess of Plumleigh; and Miss Christina Silver proves quite a success as Moira Loney. Miss Margaret Nybloc and Miss Madge Murray do full justice to the parts of Lady Milly and Eleanor Gray respectively.

BELFAST.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—On Monday Mr. Andrew Moir's company (under the direction of Mr. F. Martin Morris) produced for the first time a farcical comedy in three acts, entitled *The Major's Double*, and a miniature grand opera, called *The Gamester*, composed by Aiulf Hjovard. Notices of both pieces will be found in another column.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The star here is Tarro Myaki, styled "The Champion Wrestler of Japan," whose performance has created the utmost interest; Mr. Herbert Lloyd ("King of Diamonds") submits a novel act, and has been accorded a capital reception; and a fine equilibristic performance is submitted by the Troupe La Faille, their feats being really astonishing; the Forrest Combination produce, with the happiest results, their comedy-sketch, *My Friend the Enemy*, and the Six Palace Girls delight all with their capital songs and dances; Gold and Sterling, vocalists; Mr. George Collins, comedian; Mr. Robb Gilmore, comedian, and the Palace Pictures are also in the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The leading attraction is provided by Miss Minnie Hunt, and Mr. Rhys Thomas, who appear to much advantage in their musical comedy-act, *Her Birthday*. Florence and Lilian play a number of musical instruments to perfection, and the feats of Mr. Paul Dow, styled "Dublin's Athletic Marvel," are certainly sensational; Palles and Cussick, two very droll comedians, create a fund of merriment with their songs and patter, and a big reception has been extended to Miss Gladys Movins, who sings coon songs so excellently, while her dancing is decidedly smart; Miss Belle Braham, pictorial songstress, takes well, and deservedly so; and also here are Celeste, baton manipulator; and the Bioscope in up-to-date pictures.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Wyndham and Walker top the bill, and have been most successful with their speciality-act, *The Professor and His Pupil*. The Five M.P.'s (Musical Palmers), in their speciality "Officers at Play," are afforded an opportunity of exhibiting their musical ability, and the Three Coopers delight all with their vocalism; the new pictures exhibited by the Bioscope are a vast attraction, and Kyoto is a wonderfully smart juggler. Also here are Miss Daisy Palmer, comedienne; Miss Ruby Dahl, with her wonderful mannikins; Miss May Geraldine, comedienne and dancer; Miss Minnie Fenton, Scotch comedienne, and Smiler Lee, comedian.

BILSTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—The attraction for Whit week is the drama *Life's Sweetest Sins*, played by Mr. T. Arthur Jones's company. Mr. Jones himself appears as the hero of the drama, Capt. Marston, and is a very capable actor; Miss Marie Daventry acts Doreen Rivers with her accustomed skill; the heavy part of Doctor Colbrooke has the excellent services of Mr. Oswald Douglas. In the comedy part of Bob Tanner, Mr. Edgar Morgan pleases greatly.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—A strong holiday attraction consists of Mr. Lingford Carson's company in *The Drama of Life*, a domestic drama of considerable interest. Mr. George M. Newall is prominent with a powerful rendering of Harry Beech, and scores heavily throughout the piece; and Mr. Edward M. Hamilton, in the unpopular rôle of Walter Beech, plays with commendable force and distinction; the eccentricities of Sir Dobson Wilde are amusingly illustrated by Mr. Harwood Roberts, and Mr. Edward Van Biene displays ability as the French adventurer, Count de Fol; Miss Kate Hallam wins general admiration by a careful and finished rendering of Sylvia Beech; Miss Florence French is well suited as Lady Jane Wilde; and Betty Black is carefully played by Miss Nellie Birchenough. Remaining parts in a somewhat lengthy cast are all adequately filled, and the production is very creditably staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—The Six Imrie Sisters in some clever club juggling, and Elton and Edwin, whose banjo playing is quite a revelation, are new appearances, and head an excellent combination; Mr. Jake Friedman, the one man opera, is on a welcome return visit, and scores heavily; Mr. David Pool is a competent ventriloquist; and Les Belles Americaines, accomplished lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers, are an acquisition; Miss Amy Russell, balladist, is a general favourite; and Mr. Bert Byrne, comedian, Burley and Burley, acrobatic comedians, and Miss Beatrice Lane, comedienne, are prominent members of the company. A good display by the Bioscope is an interesting feature.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—*The Christian* is repeating for Mr. Wentworth Croke's talented company the success of its former visit here last year. Miss Grace Chalmers again presents the varying phases of Glory Quayle in the most equable style; Mr. Frank Tennant impresses the crowded and enthusiastic audience with his fervent and manly impersonation of John Storm; Mr. T. Renaud Lockwood's polished and incisive style is capitally employed in the rôle of Lord Robert Ure; Mr. Stanley Radcliffe is an able representative of Father Lamplugh; and Messrs. Chas. E. Dering, Chas. Hill, Jackson Wilcox, Oswald Marshall, and the Misses Molly Hayden, Vashti Wellborne, and Lottie Chesterman act with discretion.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*Public Opinion* is here reflected in a highly successful and most entertaining fashion by Miss Emma Hutchison and company. Mr. George Giddens shines in his congenial, diverting, and original rôle of Horace Wibsey; Mr. William Hargreaves appears in his own experienced and clever manner as Mr. Mulley; Mr. George Mallett has his telling moments as Sir Babbington Mulley; Mr. Ernest Ruston acts with discerning emphasis as the gingery Spencer Traughton; and Messrs. Harold West and Templer Powell are extremely well suited as Pomfey and Kilgour respectively; Miss Emma Hutchison graces the rôle of Lady Diana with a dignified and fluent air, and Mesdames Muriel Johnstone, Mary Mallalieu and Alice Bennett are highly successful.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Victor Turner.—*The Three Musketeers* is wisely retained in the holiday bill here, and with Mr. H. A. Saintsbury as the dashing d'Artagnan, supported by the capable stock company already favourably noticed, has proved an irresistible attraction.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*Gipsy Jack* is again delighting local admirers of this popular drama, and Mr. Henry Bedford in the title-rôle is the hero of the week. Mr. Bedford in his dramatic realisation is well supported. As May Harvey, Miss Bessie Bedford wins many admirers with her bright vivacious method; Miss Violet Alwyn fills the rôle of Dorothy Dexter with rare ability; Mr. Cecil B. Churton presents many clever qualities as the Curate; and the Skinners, father and son, have all the attributes of villainy as enacted by Messrs. W. H. Domoney and Alec Alexander; Mr. Sid Bedford exercises his fine comedy powers to good purpose as Joe Banks, and is well supported by Miss Jennie Risley as Jenny Huggins. *The See-Saw of Life* is played during the latter portion of the week.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Andrew Melville; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hindle Taylor.—*A Woman's Revenge* is depicted in a highly effective manner here by Miss Winifred Chalmers's company. Mr. Henry L. Osmond receives an ovation for his fine, manly impersonation of Frank Drummond; Miss Winifred Chalmers wins much popularity for her finished acting as Mary Lonsdale; Mr. Alexander Haviland acts in an exceedingly clever way as Robert Overstone; Miss Phyllis Vaughan is realistic as the adventuress, Mabel Wentworth; Mr. Elmore Frith is prominent with a well-studied presentment of Jeptha Grimwade; and comedy of a truly diverting kind is supplied by Mr. Harry Cooke as Dick Chilton, prettily and cleverly supported by Miss Mabel Tremere as Lottie Bromley.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—*A Gambler's Daughter*, submitted here for the first time by Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company, is meeting with a cordial reception. Miss Adria Hill displays artistic taste and ability in the dual rôle of mother and daughter, Mildred and Miriam Grant; and Mr. Robert Ayrton is in receipt of much applause and favour as the emigrant, Desmond O'Dare.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*For Life—and After*, Mr. George R. Sims's new play, produced by Hardie and Von Leer's company, reached Birmingham on Monday, when it received a most favourable verdict. Miss Grace Heywood is seen to advantage as Marion Grey; Miss Muriel Dean invests the rôle of Dora Grey with the utmost refinement; Miss Emil Leslie comes in for much sympathy as Loo Hexham; and Miss Marion Fawcett as Jenny Huggett and Miss Evelyn Shaw as Mrs. Grimper do well. Mr. Vernon Sansbury plays powerfully and well as Richard Grey, Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne shows decided acumen as Gilbert O'Neill, Mr. Henry Hare cleverly doubles the rôles of the two Huggetts, and Messrs. E. K. Nelson and Chris Mason lend much support in their rôles.

BLACKBURN. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr. Reginald C. Yorke.—This place of amusement will be closed from to-night (Saturday) for the usual summer vacation. For the concluding week of the season Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden have been presenting *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray*. It is almost three years ago since Mrs. Sugden was last in Blackburn, and on that occasion she scored a great success in this particular play, so that the warm welcome she has received from local playgoers was only to be expected. Mrs. Sugden has appeared in many parts, but in few has she surpassed her representation of the character of Paula in the Pineroic play. The rôle offers excellent opportunities for the emotional actress, and Mrs. Sugden gives of her best. Her acting reaches a very high plane, and her portrayal of the woman who attempts to reinstate herself in honourable society by means of her marriage, but whose wayward, ill-balanced nature overcomes her in the struggle has met with the fullest approval of her audience this week. Mr. Sugden appears in the part of Cayley Doummle, and is all that could be desired; while Mr. Wontner as Aubrey Tanqueray is also excellent.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A good holiday programme includes Barrington, who plays the piano in a variety of amusing ways; A Ba Be in her album of tableaux; Ernest Montefiore and company in a pretty playlet entitled *The Little Colonel*; Ross and Lewis in American comedy; Edie Gray and her white coons; and Ford and Barris.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—*Napoleon the Great*, a drama dealing with the life of the Emperor of the French, is drawing crowded houses at this theatre.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone. — The Whitsuntide attraction here is provided by Mr. George Musgrove's company, in *The Prince of Pilsen*. The title-rôle is admirably filled by Mr. Stuart Alexander. Mr. Edwin Adeler presents a clever study of Hans Wagner; Miss Ruby Verdi as Nellie Vagner; Miss Mildred Baker as Edith Adams; Miss Nellie Cozens as Mrs. Crocker; Miss Nell Emerald as Sidonie; Miss Clara Stanton as the Gibson Girl; and Mr. Alfred Selwyn as François, are also successful in their singing, dancing, and acting.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*Florodora*, as enacted by Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company, is exactly the right fare for the holiday-makers which throng the theatre nightly. Mr. Daly Cooper scores an immense success as Anthony Tweedlepunch; whilst Mr. S. White as Gilfain and Mr. B. Courtier Dutton as Frank Abercoed also sing and act well. A delightful Lady Holyrood is found in Miss Edith Houseley; and Miss Leonora Grieve makes a charming Dolores. The other parts are also in capable hands, and the chorus is strong and tuneful. The special dances introduced materially assist in the success of the play.

PALACE. — General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—The contributions to this week's programme are Phil Ray, Mlle. Nadje, equipoise artist; Tom E. Hughes, comedian; Rastus and Banks, American entertainers; Three Laurels, acrobats; Millie, vocalist; Ella Shields, American comedienne; Harris and Worth, comedians; the De Breans, in a Japanese entertainment; Charlie Pastor, comedian; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Dulgnan.—An exceedingly attractive bill is set forth here this week, and the lessees are reaping the reward of their enterprise. Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery give great delight with their sketch, *The Would-Be Actors*; and Alf Gibson and J. W. Hall, comedians, are also favourites. Other good turns are supplied by Sisters Lytton, vocalists; Matt Wilkinson, in a sketch; Carl Lynn, animal mimic; Ernesto, juggler; Andre and Brenton, sketch artists; and Dick's Comedy Five.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—The Provincial Syndicate has presented for the first time here an interesting military melodrama, entitled *The Prodigal Son*. Chief honours fall to Mr. John S. Chamberlain, who as Larry McGehan keeps the audience highly amused. Mr. F. Dudley is well suited in the part of Sir John Fanshaw; Mr. W. A. Buckstone and Mr. J. P. McBride score as the two sons of Sir John; Mr. Guy Morville is a good representative of Bill Burke; Mr. John Bryce as Ralph Marsden gives a realistic portrayal; Miss Maud Weston, as Mary, Miss Marion Forrester, as Margaret Marsden, Miss Nellie Bedford, as Nellie Burke, and Miss Nellie de Lacy, as Dick, an outcast, are most successful.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. William Tudor.—For the Whitsun holidays Mr. Tudor has provided a strong attraction by presenting animated pictures of the Britt-Nelson fight; Kid Gwynn also appears, and gave a capital exhibition of ball-punching; attractive duets and charming dances are introduced by the Charnleys, who are recipients of much applause.

RIDLEY PARK.—Managers, The District Council.—The White Coons, organised by Messrs. George and Edwards, opened the summer season on Monday under most successful auspices, the weather being fine, and the alfresco entertainment was of a most enjoyable description.

BOLTON. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston.—A variety programme is submitted here this week consisting of the latest illusion, *The Shrine of Ishtar*, performed by the Chaldean Yogi Simbri; Agnese and Arthur Lynch with the latest American singing pictures; the Meymotts (Mr. Jack Meymott and Mrs. Ada Elliston Meymott), who appear in their highly-diverting musical duologue, "Semi-detached"; and the Imperial Bioscope.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—The attractions here are Haley's Prize Juveniles, in their carnival scene; Miss Lottie de Abbey, charming impersonator; Charles Dillon, eccentric comedian; Jack Ross, double-voiced vocalist; Virto, assisted by his daughter, Irene, in a refined drawing-room musical act; Madoline Rees, comedienne; Woodhouse and Wells, patterers and dancers; Sid Bandon, character comedian; James and Lucy Allison, comedy duettists and dancers; Maud Rodney, descriptive vocalist; Driscoll and Beattie, in *Major McPee, M.P.*; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—A crowded house gathered on Whit Monday to witness the excellent holiday programme provided by the management of this house. Arthur Roberts in *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife* is the chief attraction, and is more popular than ever; Hess and Lisbon present an unique skating speciality, which is both clever and pleasing. A musical speciality by Volp and Volp is much enjoyed. Billy Tucker, champion ball-puncher; Andy Higginson, light comedian; Two Neros, comedy acrobats; and Billie Burford are other enjoyable items.

BRADFORD. — THEATRE ROYAL — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson. — Much interest is this week centred in the performance here of Ibsen's play *The Pillars of Society*, and Mr. Harold V. Neilson, who is supported by a fine company, is to be congratulated on his subtle and clever impersonation of the schemer, Consul Bernick; Miss Kitty Carew's Mrs. Bernick has the true ring of pathos and sympathy; Roy Lorraine is bright as the boy Olaf; Martha is played with tenderness by Miss Katharine M. Romsey; Mr. Lionel Atwill's Johan Tonnesen is a vigorous and manly effort; the idealistic Lona is a convincing performance by Miss Mary Raby; there is a delightful air of humour in Mr. W. Lemmon Warde's Hilmer Tonnesen, while the cynical Dr. Rorlund is a capable effort by Mr. Bellenden Clark; Mr. Murray Carrington as Krap and Mr. J. F. Fox as Aune are alike excellent; and as the high-souled Dina Dorf Miss Amy Sangster achieves success.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Francis Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—As a holiday attraction here Mrs. Kimberley's domestic melodrama *A Sister's Sin* is proving very successful, and the story of gipsy life is well told by a capable company, amongst whom Miss Augusta Tullock, in a telling rendering of Charzel, the vindictive gipsy, wins distinction. Miss M. Eversleigh is effective as her wronged sister; as Jack Miss Dorothea Vivian is good; Harold Raymond, the hero, has a capable exponent in Mr. William Vane; George Oakley is effective in Mr. Andrew Money's hands; and the other impersonations claiming notice are Larry Murphy (Mr. Horace Custins), Walter Hastings (Mr. C. Locke), Ikey Moses (Mr. E. Frere), and Theophilus Hope (Mr. H. Lyndon). The piece is effectively staged.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Dronza, the marvellous talking wax head, is perplexing the audiences here this week, and Frame, the delightful Scotch comedian, is paying a welcome return visit; D'Arc's Marionettes give lifelike impersonations of famous music-hall celebrities; in an original comedy turn Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts are eminently successful; Dora Lyric, comedienne, sings in pleasing style; Will English is responsible for a good coon turn; and Lios Alfa Sisters are clever in a trapeze performance. In his dramatic scena *The Moan of Mephisto* Edwin Barwick is excellent; the dancing of Forest and King is cleverly executed; and scenes from the eventful "Spanish Wedding," shown by the Bioscope, are interesting features of the programme.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—The agile and funny comedian, Nat Clifford, who heads the programme here, is eliciting hearty laughter. A dainty entertainment by Theresa and May, protean and vocal artists, also wins approbation; Les Laurens in their statuary poses are entertaining; George Grogie submits acceptable comedy; Carl Rosine presents a novel and clever hoop trick, and performs also some smart card manipulation; the Elgars are good vocal duettists; and George Bendon's coon songs are vigorously rendered. There is originality and humour in Florence Yamen's capital negro songs and dancing; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux show some new and interesting films.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE. — Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer. — Herr Sigmund Winternitz and a largely augmented orchestra have been delighting the thousands of holiday-makers at this popular resort. The vocalists include Miss Lilian Payne, a pleasing contralto, and Mrs. Arthur Rousbey whose fine soprano voice gives great delight. Mr. Tom J. Morton and his concert party, "The Yokels," commenced their season here on Monday, in their entertainment, *A Holiday at the Farmhouse*; Miss Empsie Bowman, as the Shepherdess, is very dainty, and her songs are well rendered; the Margy of Miss Maggie Bowman is a clever character-sketch; Mr. Albert Chapman possesses a fine baritone voice, and as the Farmer is quite at home; the Giles of Mr. Tom J. Morton gives that versatile actor every opportunity of showing his ability as a "laughter-maker." Mr. Stanley Holt is an excellent solo-pianist and accompanist.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—The genial and enterprising manager of the Spa has again secured Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese Orchestra for the season, and they have submitted excellent programmes, afternoon and evening. The vocalists for the week are Miss Marie Westcott, contralto, and Mr. Hickman-Smith, baritone, and their songs and duets have been highly appreciated, both possessing good voices and a finished style. Mr. Sydney James and his "Strolling Players" are here once more, and are drawing large crowds to the capital entertainments; Miss Madeleine Rossiter is as charming as ever in her songs, and her dancing is remarkably smart; Miss Clarice May is an efficient soloist and accompanist; Mr. Gilbert Fernie's songs are well received; Mr. James Law is a versatile vocalist and entertainer, and Mr. Alfred Wootton sings tenor songs in a finished style; Mr. Stuart Janes is a genial humourist and mimic, and Mr. Sydney James, who is always well received, seems to never tire of responding to the demands of the delighted audiences at his quaint humour and clever ventriloquial sketches.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—The new manager is determined to keep the ball rolling in his endeavours to please "the million," and has provided some novel attractions for the holidays, including Grace and Mai Gilbey, talented instrumentalists and entertainers; Salida and Vone in an amusing American speciality act; Lazy Larry, a quaint comedian, and Miss Lilian, a pleasing soprano vocalist; Franconi's juggling act is appreciated; Leonard and Larry's comedy turn is smart; and the Horbury Handbell Ringers give a fine exhibition of campanology. The Animated Pictures are an additional attraction.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton.—This popular resort on the seafront opened on Saturday for the season, when "The Waterloo Pierrots" commenced with a very attractive programme. Mr. Charles Beanland's songs are always humorous, and capitally rendered; Mr. Charles Danton, in song and dance, is always welcomed, and Mr. Joe Bath causes great amusement by his "funnisities"; Mr. Geogre Hyam is a popular comedian, and the other members of the company in songs, instrumental solos, and dances make up a clever combination of talent.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Charles Macdona's company opened here on Monday with *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Nellie Beryl made a pleasing Norah, and danced gracefully; Miss Nellie Hodson was a charming Julie Bon-Bon; Mr. Charles Macdona was very amusing as Major Forsdyke, the "Battersea Butterfly"; Mr. Will Harmer acted with alertness as the "Shining Light"; Mr. Clifford Seyler added to the fun as M. Pompier; Miss Holford Beringer was capitally suited as Mrs. Hongycombe; and the Imperial Glee Singers achieved much success. At Thursday's special matinée Madame Jane Hading and her entire Parisian company gave a performance of *Le Maître de Forges*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—The drama, *Shadows of a Great City*, occupies the boards here this week, and is doing excellent business. Mr. Ronald Adair is a manly and highly popular Tom Cooper; Miss Daisy Halling acquits herself admirably as the heroine, Nellie Standish; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers acts with convincing force as the villainous George Benson; Mr. Sam T. Pearce makes a capital Abe Nathans; Mr. Geo. H. Asquin's Jim Farren is highly commendable; and Miss Lucy Murray submits an excellent portrayal of Biddy Roonan. The remaining characters are ably sustained.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—The holiday programme here is admirably sustained. George Newburn, the popular London mimic, is enthusiastically received; Russell Wallett, "the lady in black," submits a very entertaining turn; Dolly and Madge McCalla, dainty little artists, sing and dance themselves into great favour; Alice Digby and the four Digby girls are highly successful in their noved dancing act; Charles Kitts and Rhoda Windrum and company are very effective in their military sketch, *The Cuckoo*; Goodfellow and Gregson (George and Jennie) present an artistic turn, which includes some clever "cakewalk

band provided a number of popular selections and music for dancing between the stage entertainments. The fine collection of animals, birds, and reptiles proved a great attraction to the holiday visitors, and the swings, shooting galleries, &c., in the country fair were well patronised. The day's amusements concluded with a fine display of fireworks by Messrs. W. and J. Wilder, of Birmingham.

BROMLEY.—LYRIC THEATRE.—Lessee, A. Carlton; Resident-Manager, H. Strong.—The holiday attraction is Mr. Loris Lorell's company in Sydney Grundy's play, *A Bunch of Violets*. Mr. Kingsford Pearce gives a capital impersonation of Sir Phillip Marchant; Lord Mount Sorrell is well played by Mr. Lynward Graham; an excellent character-study of Mark Murgatroyd is presented by Mr. Whitford Kane; the small character of Hon. Harold Inglis is adequately represented by Mr. Loris Lorell; another clever study is the Jacob Swartz of Mr. George Wallace; Mr. Frederick Castleman is good as Harker. A creditable performance of Lady Marchant is given by Miss Mabel Taylor; Mrs. Murgatroyd is well represented by Miss Wynne Hanley; Violet is prettily played by Miss Nannie Griffin; and Miss Nellie Griffin is an ideal maid.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA, LTD — Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—A pleasant entertainment is this week presented by Mr. Leigh Lovell's company in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Miss Mary Lovett as Hermia and Miss Octavia Kenmore as Helena are each excellent in their work; Oberon and Titania are cleverly played by Miss Alys Rees and Miss Gertrude Tate; Mr. Leigh Lovell is very droll as Bottom; roars of laughter are caused by Mr. W. Mann-Mayne as Peter Quince, Mr. Gordon R. Kingsley as Snug, Mr. Percy H. Vernon as Flute, Mr. Richard Marshall as Snout, and Mr. Max Jerome as Starveling. Lysander and Demetrius are respectively in the capable hands of Mr. T. A. Shannon and Mr. Francis Chamier; Miss Mary Bessie is a sprightly Puck, and the singing Fairy gives Miss Ethel Beckwith good opportunities, which she avails herself of, showing her trained vocalisation; Mr. Wilfred Beckwith as Theseus and Mr. A. McCulloch acquit themselves in excellent style.

BURTON-ON-TRENT. — NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Waller.—The Bank Holiday attraction here is *No Escape*, by Mr. Coleman Davies' company. Mr. Thomas S. Cooke creditably sustains his dual rôle of father and son. Mr. Thornton Heath scores as the villain Horace Hardcastle; the veteran comedian, Mr. Coleman Davies, retains his popularity as Gripp O'Grady; Mr. Terry Davies shows marked ability as Vandyke-Collodion; the heroine is pathetically played by Miss Evelyn Clare, while the comic element is in the capable hands of Mr. W. V. Tulloch, Miss Eunice Udall, and Miss Nellie Austin.

BUXTON.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Arthur Willoughby.—A most popular attraction for the first three nights of Whit-week was Mr. James Welch and company in *Dear Old Charley*, by C. H. E. Brookfield. Mr. Welch has a part in the farce entirely suited to his method, and kept the house in a continual roar of laughter. Mr. Welch is fortunate in having so excellent a company to support him, including Mr. J. W. Deverell as Gabriel Peploe; Mr. Fred Lewis, who made the ever-mournful Thomas Dumphie a very amusing personage; Mr. George F. Tully, as the ever-present guest, Colonel Fishbourne (his father-in-law), and Mr. Leopold Profeit as an immaculate manservant Purkitt; Miss Helen Vicary admirably represented Mrs. Fishbourne, and Miss Estille Winwood was a most pleasing Agnes; Miss Ethel Hollingstead did well in the small part of Reeves.

CAMBRIDGE. — NEW THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. H B. Redfern, J.P., D.L. — This week will see the end of the season here. On Monday and two following evenings Messrs. Fraser-Brunner and Gilbert Heron's company (by arrangement with Mr. Cyril Maude) played *The Superior Miss Pellender*. The comedy was admirably acted and staged, Miss Esther Belmore in the title-rôle being perfectly suited to the part. Miss Jessie Danvers was also very successful as Mrs. Pellman; Mr. Gilbert Heron played Mr. Tister in a convincing manner; Mr. Geo. Belmore as Noel was good; as were Miss Jessie Ramsey and Miss Alice Bowes in small parts. The comedy was preceded by *Kit's Atonement*, the characters being taken by Messrs. William Fraser-Brunner, Geo. Belmore, and W. H. Gainsford, and Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner.

CANTERBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Répertoire Theatre Association. — The attraction for this week at the Theatre Royal is Mr. Frank Weathersby's London company. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, *Shall We Forgive Her?* was presented for the first time to a Canterbury audience, and on each evening there were large and appreciative audiences. Mr. Cyril Austen Lee is excellent as the manly, muscular missionary; whilst Mr. Claude Agnew impersonates very creditably the somewhat unenviable rôle of Niel Garth. Mr. Frank Liston acts with marked ability, and gains the full sympathy of the audience in the part of Oliver West; Mr. Arthur Law Raynor, Mr. J. Edgar Stephenson, and Mr. Stanton Dawson are all good in their respective rôles of James Blake, Dr. McKerrow, and Jerry Blake; whilst Mr. Ernest W. Marsh capably sustains the rôle of the breezy young clerk, Reggie Walton. As Grace West Miss Frances Routledge does splendidly, appearing to especial advantage in the emotional phases of the part. As Johanna Lightfoot Miss Frances Ruttledge plays the character so well that she thoroughly fulfils her object of gaining general disapprobation; as Nellie West Miss Violet Agnew is successful in producing the necessary merriment; Miss Clara Nicholls' impersonation of James Stapleton's mother is a most capable one. For the last three nights of the week *The New Magdalen* (by arrangement with Mr. W. J. B. Mulholland) was billed for presentation by the same company.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—The comic opera, *Peggy Mochree*, is being presented here this week by Mr Charles E. Hamilton's company. Miss Claudia Losell, in the rôle of Peggy, is delightfully piquant and captivating, her singing being much appreciated; the part of Molly is admirably undertaken by Miss Blanch Astley; Miss Madge Avery does exceedingly well as Moira Cafferty; and Mme. de la Coeur and Hon. Emily Pryor are effectively rendered by Miss Doris Kelvey and Miss Leila Gordon; Mr. Vernon Davidson is a clever and manly Barry Trevor; Mr. Ralph Lynn is exceptionally diverting as Sir Lawrence; Alexander M'Dougall is well portrayed by Mr. Milroy Cooper; the Michael of Mr. Edgar Ashwin is a piece of capital character-acting; Mr. John Morley is an excellent Sergeant Bampton, and Mr. Marc Macdermott acquits himself most creditably as Captain de la Coeur.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—Mr. Samuel James has now taken over the command of this theatre, and on Monday night presented his own and Miss Mabel Lowe's company in the drama *Lost in London*. Miss Lowe impersonates Nellie Armroyd admirably, while Mr. Beresford Whitcomb gives a capital interpretation of Job Armroyd. The remaining parts are all very capably acted, the comedy element being extremely well represented.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll. —At the Empire Hackenschmidt, the famous wrestler, is a great attraction. Austin Rudd gains popularity with his latest songs and parodies; Cooke and Rothert give a typical "mix-up" of American comedy; George Ridgwell is a fine baritone, and gains much applause; and the Three Sisters Hayden are well received. The Phydoras, grotesque musicians; Ben Albert, "a dry old stick"; the Sisters Terry, comediennes and dancers; the Sisters Urma, in "Sports on the Trapeze," and the Bioscope complete the programme.

CARLISLE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Trustees of R. Stewart M'Kim; Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Stanley.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clifford's company, in the military drama, *On Circumstantial Evidence*, is attracting good audiences here. Mr. Clifford in the heavy rôle is very successful; and Mrs. Clifford makes an ideal heroine. The comedy is supplied by Mr. Newton Pearce and Miss Amy Stuart, who, as the Sergeant and Maid, have ample opportunities of displaying their humour. Miss Hilda Hatton, too, in dual rôles, contributes an artistic performance; and "Chips," a cleverly trained dog, becomes quite a favourite.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Silvester's "Picture Land," is still here, and the continuous changes of pictures and the excellent variety turns provided continue to attract large audiences.

THE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Limited; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The management here provided a capital programme for the holiday week. Hardeen, the handcuff king, is a great attraction; J. A. Wilson, negro entertainer is deservedly popular, and his performing dog, "Private Towser," is correctly described as "wonderful"; a novel and pleasing turn is contributed by Francis Haskoll, the "vocal chameleon,"; Royal Best, in his impersonations of celebrities, Merton and Rydon in comedy duets, Dot Stanley, a charming comedienne, and George Barron, eccentric comedian, also meet with much favour. The ever-popular pictures conclude the performance.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley. —Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren's company are here in *Proof*. The most noteworthy features of the production are the powerful representations of Mr. William Dexter, Mr. Gerald Kennedy, and Miss May Grimshaw, as Lazare, Pierre Lorance, and Valentine respectively.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—Excellent business is being done here. Phillips and Terry are prime favourites in *The Revolt of Man*; Lillian Jeffries is a talented comedienne and sprightly dancer; The Burnells are a quartette of very hardworking and amusing comedians, and are seen in an absurdity *On the Links*. The company also includes Alf Cawthorne, comic vocalist and dancer; Lill O'Gorman, vocalist and dancer; Lacey's Erascope, with an entire change of films; *The Isle Despair*, a capitally-staged romantic sketch, in which Mr. Leonard Mortimer and company appear to much advantage.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor Capt. H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Miss Mabel Bright and company are producing a vocal mélange, *Girls Will be Girls*. The troupe consists of six young ladies, whose performance is very well received; Carlton scores with patter and smart card tricks; Sterling and Love's musical domestic squabble forms an entertaining item; and Katie Marsh shows much versatility in her original pot-pourri of drama, song, and dance. W. H. Downs, the well-known coloured vocalist; Ted Cowan, comedian; and Emmie Harlow, complete the variety turns, while the Edisonograph continues to find fresh views.

CHELTENHAM.—OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—Mr. F. S. Gilbert's United English Opera Company opened on Monday evening with *Maritana*, Miss Faith Laborde sustained the title-part in a pleasing manner; Mr. F. S. Gilbert was a spirited Don Cæsar de Bazan; Mr. J. Kneale Campbell as Don Jose gave a sympathetic rendering of "In happy moments"; Mr. H. Brindle was an effective King of Spain; Miss Vera Vizard ably sustained the part of Lazarillo, giving a fine rendering of "Alas, those chimes!"; and Miss Kate White, Mr. James Knox, Mr. Fred Featherstone, and Mr. H. Blagrave did well in their respective parts.

MONTPELLIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. Alfred W. Newton.—An excellent entertainment is provided this week by *The Hollanders*. Mr. Howard Cridland as Peter Snapps is the embodiment of fun; Mr. Leslie Gaze as Hans Brummell uses his excellent baritone voice to advantage; Mr. Hal Gaze as Villenn Marken sings taking coon songs; and Miss Ethel Staffley as Gurda Smidt, Miss Maude Aston as Tina Swartz, and Miss Bessie Cellayne as Gretchen Marken fill their parts with the utmost verve.

CHORLEY. — GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. G. T. Santé.—This week, which is the last of the season, Mr. Edwin Garth and his company, in the musical comedy *McKenna's Flirtation*, are paying a welcome return visit. Mr. Edwin Garth and Mr. Joe English, as Michael Ryan and Timothy McKenna respectively, are responsible for a considerable amount of fun; Mr. Wallace Childs is successful as Tim McKenna, jun.; and the part of Miss Mary Ellen Ryan has a graceful exponent in Miss Hettie Lind, who renders her vocal numbers charmingly.

COLCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Charles Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.—Mr. Arthur St. John and his répertoire company are here this week with *The Three Musketeers*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *Jane Shore*, each play being allotted two nights. The first-mentioned was given on Monday, with Mr. St. John himself as D'Artagnan, a part that he played in a very happy vein. Mr. J. Allen was followed very closely in his rôle of the Duke of Buckingham, his delivery being most impressive; Mr. W. J. MacKersey made an able Cardinal Richelieu; and the Three Musketeers were worthily represented by Messrs. H. Douglas, Archie Grant, and Powell James. Mr. Walter Clarke was successful as Boniface; and amongst the ladies the most prominent were Miss Ida St. John as Lady de Winter, Miss L. Atkinson as Constance, and Miss Kitty Bennett as Anne of Austria. The fall of the curtain on Saturday night marks the close of the season at this house, the reopening of which will take place, as usual, on August Bank Holiday.

HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—The leading item this week is a smart little scene entitled *The Willow Pattern Plate*, in which the following ladies show to great advantage, viz., Miss Kitty Upton, Miss Marjorie Cecil, Miss V. Holland, Miss N. Holmes, and Miss L. Holmes. The Young Colossus and L'Homme Miniature, introduced by Mr. Ben de Frece in a witty little speech, form a most novel and interesting turn; Wal Phillips is an up-to-date patterer; and A. E. Clifford a popular vocalist. Ada Parker, being an old favourite, is deservedly applauded for her dainty dancing; and the bill is completed by Bert and Dora, comedy artists, and the bioscope.

CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Clarance.—For the concluding week of the season Miss Brenda Leslie and her company of Popular Pierrots are occupying the boards here. The company consists of the following talented artists:—Ted Burton, comedian; Bert Rolfe, falsetto vocalist; Charles Bradford, comedian; Flemini, the one-legged marvel; Trixie Toole, serio and dancer; Brenda Leslie, descriptive vocalist; and the Comic Trio, in an acrobatic dance. A series of animated pictures completes a first-class programme.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Allan Wilkie's dramatic company opened a week's engagement here on Monday with *The Merchant of Venice*. Miss Haidee Gunn as Portia gave a charming and finished performance; the Shylock of Mr. Allan Wilkie was a careful and interesting study; Mr. George T. Greig as Antonio was most successful; Mr. Clifford Rean as Bassanio ably sustained the part; Mr. G. Lambton filled the rôle of Gratiano with distinction; Miss Ine Cameron as Jessica acted with grace and charm; and Miss Lizzie Maddocks was capable as Nerissa. *Othello*, *The Lady of Lyons*, *The Corsican Brothers*, *Robert Macaire*, *The Fool's Revenge*, and *The Two Orphan Girls* are also in the company's répertoire.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—The drama *A Heart's Desire*, by Frank Adair, produced by a powerful company under the direction of Messrs. Travers Green and Arthur Hinton, is proving quite a success here. Mr. Arthur Hinton is highly capable as Lord St. Ives; Mr. Travers Green makes a capital villain as Luke Forrest; Mr. Frank Brunell is seen to advantage as Davis McCullock; and Mr. Pleons Gains is a typical Butler Coombs. The Hon. Bertie Beresford and Gwendoline Ross, in the hands of Mr. Fred Tenaur and Miss Lydia Audre respectively, are responsible for the humorous side of the piece; Miss Leila Lilwood merits all the praise she gets for the admirable manner in which she enacts the rôle of Olya.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester. —An attractive programme has been arranged to meet the holiday-makers this week. Wal Pink's company appears in a laughable interlude entitled *Repairs*, which is cleverly played by some smart people and enjoyed by everyone. Miss Sable Fern's songs are well rendered; Johnny Dwyer, comedian, is quite a favourite; Arthur Elvy, as the "Up-to-Date Tipster," quite catches on; and Miss Mabelle May, comedienne; Mlle. Viviani, speciality dancer; Dale and O'Malley, knockabouts; and the usual animated pictures are among the other attractions.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Mr. John Power's company is here in *Man's Enemy*. Mr. Norman A. Overton gives a powerful presentation of Harry Stanton, whose father, General Sir Arthur Stanton, is ably impersonated by Mr. Edgar Thorne. Mr. John Power himself takes the part of Tom Drake, and wins well-earned applause. Miss Clara Reid is responsible for the rôle of Polly Harris; and Miss Daisy Halling is entrusted with the part of Sarah Drake; both ladies act with grace and feeling. Mr. A. Dennemead makes a dignified Fred Lisle; and Mr. F. Newton Cowling is well placed as Issac Barnett. Count Lanski is a part ably acted by Mr. Harold White; and Mr. E. W. Bretton gives a pleasing embodiment of Bill Sanders. Mr. Alfred Minns as P.C. Smithers, and Mr. G. Porteous as Adolphe D'Embonpoint, fully justify their selection. Mr. Bernard Wise as Overseer of the Works, deserves mention; as also do Mr. Fred Ross as Johnny Bates, Miss Lynn Darlington as Grace Lisle, and Little Florrie Sorsby as Nelly Saunders.

CREWE.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Taylor.—Mr. Morton Powell's company in *Darkness*, a play in four acts founded on Guy Thorne's book "When It Was Dark," is proving a great attraction here this week. Mr. Bonhote Wilson is very effective as Constantine Schwabe; Mr. John Davidson is prominent as the Rev. Basil Gortre; Mr. Henry Heller acts well the part of the Rev. Mr. Byars; and Mr. Edward Valentine is good as Sir Robert Llewellyn. Miss V. St. Lawrence as Gertrude Hunt creates an excellent impression; and Mrs. Morton Powell gives a careful rendering of Helena Byars. Miss Nellie Freeland, Mr. Louis Lingard, Mr. Frank Etheridge, and Mr. Millor Wilson adequately present other parts.

CROYDON. — GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—Mr. Fred Winn's company in *Niobe* is the holiday attraction here. Mr. Harry Paulton submits a quaint rendering of Peter Amos Dunn, and he is ably seconded by Miss Annie Esmond, whose portrayal of Niobe is in every way a success. Mr. J. Edward Pearce is well placed as Cornelius Griffen; Mr. Harry Paulton, jun., hits off to a nicety the rôle of Philip Innings; Mr. Fred Thompson is seen to advantage as Hamilton Tomkins; and Mr. George Farrow is agreeable as Parker Sillocks. Miss Lucie Verrier is good in the part of Beatrice Sillocks; Miss Lillian Brennan shines as Madeline Mifton; Miss Violet Hollom is praiseworthy as Hattie Griffen; Miss Kate Turner wins approbation as Caroline Dunn; Miss Mary Kilpack is a pleasant Helen Griffen; and Miss Alicia Jones deserves a word of praise as Mary. Mr. Lawson Lambert is an energetic manager.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—For Whitsun we have Miss Grace Warner's company in *The Scarlet Clue*. Mr. George Gordon powerfully represents the rôle of Michael Stanton; Mr. J. Leighton Leigh is commendable in the dual characters of Harry and Jack Esmond; Mr. J. Campling is well suited as Jack Croker; Mr. Victor T. Raymond is excellent as Billy the Rotter; and Mr. J. Tomlinson is good as Crazy Jim. Miss Nellie and Little Phillis Massey are intelligent in the parts of Polly and Reggie; Miss Lizzie Palmer is charming as Elsie Dane; Miss Kathleen Cranston is natural as Mother Scrooge; Miss Fanny Olive is praiseworthy as Tabitha Esmond; and Misses Mowbray and Esther Dean are appropriate as Mary Smith and Musette. Miss Grace Warner may be warmly congratulated upon her histrionic abilities as Sal Scarlet.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—Mr. R. A. Roberts brings down the house with his clever rendering of six quick-change characters in *Dick Turpin;* the Ten Loonies keep the audience agog with merriment in their instrumental eccentric act, *Dotty;* Calile and Walker, comedy duologue artists, are well up to their business; Mlle. Roza's marvellous canine hippodrome is appreciated; Fred Cullane's comedy trio in *The Ladies' School* would be hard to beat; and Daisy Jerome, comedienne, is brisk and racy. Acceptable items are also given by Frank Gee, burlesque comedian; Ada Martine, comedienne and dancer; and the Three Careys, Australian comedy artists.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Messrs. Paumier and Howard's company is here with the well-known drama, *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Jack Haddon (a favourite actor here) plays the part of Captain Demetrius, and thoroughly pleases the audience; Mr. G. Herbert as General Romanoff is a typical Russian officer; Mr. Bernard Mervyn scores in the heavy part, Michal; Mr. C. Melton as the hero wins the sympathy of the audience; Miss Marie Rayner as Luka Marischia gives an excellent embodiment of a difficult part; Miss Agnes Howard in the light comedy part is very chic; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh is charming in the rôle of Vera Vassiloff.

DEAL.—ODDFELLOWS' HALL.—Mr. Albert Chevalier and company appeared here on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Mr. Chevalier sang some of his well-known songs in his usual effective style; Miss Ethel Walker gave her musical entertainment, and became quite a favourite with the audience; Mr. Alfred West was the accompanist, and the entertainment was brought to a finish with a sketch entitled *The Goose With the Golden Eggs*

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—There is a continuation of melodrama here this week. Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's company occupy the boards with *The Poor Must Live*. Miss Olive Fulton gives a careful and effective study of Olga D'Eyncourt; and Mr. Walle Spinner as Clifton Manville affords powerful assistance. The Earl of Marswood is well played by Mr. Charles O'Connor; and Mr. Harold C. Macartney acts with success Captain Dick Harding in the prologue, and Donald in the play. Mr. Arthur Trail is capital as Sam Sully, and Miss Violet Hammersley praiseworthy as the Countess of Marswood in the prologue, and Dorothy Murdock in the play. Another successful study is that by Miss Marguerite Thorne of Sal Darling; and Miss Alice Buckland as Moya Darling is all that can be desired. Excellent diversion is provided by Mr. Herbert Clifton as Dick Sully, who varies the proceedings with some capital songs, and Mr. Shann Glenville, who plays Hooker, and sings with credit several comic songs.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—This week the bill is headed by the Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese performers and equilibrists. This turn is remarkably clever, and is accorded a hearty reception. Another very acceptable item is that of Alma Obrey, a pleasing burlesque actress, who makes the most of her opportunities. The Four Jumels, refined musicians, are eminently successful; the Brady Johnson company appears in a diverting sketch, entitled *Turning the Tables*; Chris Masters is an entertaining comedian; and the efforts of Jimmy James, a clever banjoist and bone soloist, are duly recognised. Bob Baxter, comedian, also causes much merriment; and the Palace Bioscope is responsible for a realistic film of the San Francisco earthquake.

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE.—Owners, Carltons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—*The Prince of Rogues* is here this week. Mr. H. C. Hunt makes an admirable hero as Frank Farrell; Mr. Geoffrey Rammell as the scheming villain George Flint receives material assistance from Miss Madge Laverton as Rita Congreave.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*The Span of Life* has proved sufficiently attractive to the Whitsun holiday-makers here. Mr. Sanderson Moffatt is a breezy Richard Blunt, and Mr. S. R. Trelawney is good as Dunstan Leech; Mr. Walter Dale is a vigorous Nutty Brown, and Miss Mary Moffatt is a pretty Cecil Blunt; Miss Kitty Russell, with songs, does well as Shrove Tuesday; and Miss Phyllis Hamilton ably portrays Kate Heathcote; a pleasing variety turn comes from the Almo Trio, who also constitute the human bridge.

DOVER. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD. — Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—Hearty and prolonged applause greeted Mr. Norman Macowan and his company on their second appearance in Dover with the costume play *Monsieur Beaucaire*. There was a crowded house on Monday, and the romantic incidents of the play were followed with deep attention. Mr. Macowan played the title-rôle with the perfection of skill and grace of manner that has won him popularity; and the natural charm and assumed dignity of Miss Marguerite Cellier made her impersonation of Lady Mary Carlisle wholly delightful. Unqualified approval must be given Mr. Murray Hathorn for his clever performance as the Duke of Winterset, his ally, Captain Badger, finding an excellent exponent in Mr. P. Ramsey Forman. A handsome and gallant portrayer of Major Molyneaux is found in Mr. Arthur Somers; a striking and characteristic portrait of Beau Nash is contributed by Mr. Leonard Lawrence; Mr. Conyboare Gough a capable Rakell; and Mr. Franc Stoney admirable as Bicksett, are also worthy of mention. An effective piece of acting is the depiction of Mr. Bantison by Mr. R. Taylor; a capable portrayal of Lord Townbreak is submitted by Mr. W. Barnett Parker; and Mr. Hans Schlesenger doubles with much success the dual rôle of François and the Marquis de Merepoix. The mingled sweetness and sincerity of Miss Annie Windsor's acting as Lucy Rellerton calls for particular praise; a capital sketch of the Countess of Greenbury is contributed by Miss Izzard; and Miss C. Howard Medley and Miss Mabel Adams are excellent as Lady Rellerton and Mrs. Mabsley. *A Soldier of Fortune*, played by the same company, was announced for the latter end of the week.

THE PROMENADE PIER PAVILION, LTD.—Chairman of Directors, Mr. B Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—An admirable series of concerts has been given on Sunday and during the week by the clever company of artists called The Follies. On Sunday evening Claus and Mme. Bunz were billed to appear, but the lady was unfortunately indisposed. Herr Bunz rendered several violin solos with much expression, and was repeatedly encored. Miss Winnie O'Connor sings in good style; Mr. Alexander Chentrens, who possesses a charming tenor voice, meets with a good reception; and Miss Amy Veness accompanies as well as sings one or two pretty little songs. The humorous element is introduced by Mr. Robert Corray and Mr. Colin Campbell, two amusing artists; while some charming Irish ballads are contributed by Mr. Percy Corray. Miss Minnie Johnson, described as the Champion Lady Swimmer on the South Coast, gives daily exhibitions of fancy and ornamental swimming, and also is responsible for a unique performance in the crystal tank. Professor Davenport continues his aquatic performances daily, and excites much interest with his famous sack dive.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland. — Mr. Brandon Thomas's company is drawing packed houses here this week with *Charley's Aunt*. The impersonation of Sir Francis Chesney given by Mr. Thomas is an admirable performance; and Miss Lena McNaughton capitally portrays the rôle of Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; Mr. Stanley Cooke creates much merriment as Lord Fancourt Babberley; and Mr. Walter Beaumont is exceedingly good as Stephen Spettigue; as is also Miss Dorothy Deacon in the rôle of Amy Spettigue; Jack Chesney has a capable representative in Mr. Hastings Lynn; and Miss Marian Ripley acts successfully as Kitty Verdun; Mr. Richard Mason is very amusing as Charley Wykeham; and the parts of Brassett and Ela Delahy are well sustained by Mr. Sidney Compton and Miss Gladys Storey. The one-act play, *A Highland Legacy*, precedes, and is well received.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company is presenting *A Royal Divorce*, which is thoroughly appreciated by large audiences. Mr. Frederick Moyes in the part of Napoleon, repeats his former success; and Miss Edith Cole acts the rôle of Josephine with dignity and grace; Tallyrand has an able exponent in Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell; and Miss Elizabeth Watson plays with judgment the part of Marie Louise; Mr. George W. Cockburn, Mr. George Howard, and Mr. St. George Frere act capably as Marquis de Beaumont, General Augereau, and Marshal Murat; Mr. Dennis Bryan well sustains the part of Dr. Corvisart; and Miss Helena Meadows is effective as Mother Lomas.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—An attractive holiday programme was provided here on Monday by "The Smart Set" Entertainers. The company, which is a clever one, consists of Miss Georgie Martin, Mr. Walter George, Miss Ethel Wilford, Miss Lena Hutchings, and Miss Hilda Light. All contribute successful items, and the musical playlet, *The Silver Spoon*, and the Bioscope pictures are also appreciated.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—This week's excellent programme is headed by Nelson's Newsboys, whose vocal items are highly acceptable. The Albert and Edmunds Troupe appear to much advantage in *A Trip to Boulogne;* and Nono's coon songs and dances are loudly applauded; Bernar's Fantoches are highly interesting; and the Sisters Lunelle as singers and dancers make a decided hit; James H. Cullen, "The Man from Chicago," meets with a good reception; and the New Macs and the Dorells (who remain over from last week) are encored nightly. The Empire pictures are, as usual, good.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Waldrons, who top the bill here, are successful in their comedy act, *The Silly Burglar;* another laughter-provoking sketch, entitled *Kiss Your Father*, is ably presented by Mr. Lonnen Meadow's company, and the comedy bar act of the Bros. Artois, is much appreciated; N. T. Kioto is a smart equilibrist; and Frank Whiteley, comedian and dancer, is going as strong as ever; the Brooklands, comediennes and dancers, merit applause; and Will Montgomery, comedian, has caught on; Garden and Zesch are capital society entertainers; and Madge Fenton, ballad vocalist, and Roy Ralston, baritone, complete the programme.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The following artists are appearing here:—Eric Thorpe, humorist and banjoist; Harry Cookson, descriptive vocalist; Teddy Lennon, comedian and dancer; Mlle. Dorothy, vocalist and elocutionist; and the Eragraph.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. S. Samuels.—The bill here includes:—Harry Leivers, eccentric comedian; Kittie Anderson, ballad vocalist; Ida Bond, coon singer; Will Elliott, comedian; Bros. Hewitt, comedy artists; and Tom Lawrence, eccentric comedian.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—Mr. Charles Hermann's company is appearing here this week in a version of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Uncle Tom is sympathetically impersonated by Mr. Harry Leander; and Phineas Fletcher finds a capable representative in Mr. Charles Hermann; Mr. Charles Freeman plays admirably as George Harris; Mr. Frank Woodward is realistically brutal as Legree; and Mr. J. F. Millar makes a farcical Marks, the lawyer. Miss Florence Tench plays the part of Eliza Harris very vigorously; Miss Hettie Ferguson is a handsome Cassie; Miss Amy Correlli is good as Aunt Chloe; and Miss Cissie Carter acts very nicely the part of Little Eva. Miss Nellie Shannon scores as the irresistible Topsy; and Mr. John Walton as Sambo shines in a well-sung song and chorus.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—A varied and attractive programme is submitted this week, the top-liner being Miss Rose Elliott, who pays a welcome return visit after an absence of only five weeks, and she makes a tremendous hit. Henderson and Stanley are a very versatile couple, their turn consisting of gymnastics, dancing, singing, and playing, in all of which they prove adepts. Jack Mills scores as a Scotch comedian; and Charles A. Ashdowne is likewise very successful in his singing and dancing. Mokano completely mystifies the audience with his conjuring tricks; Miss Myra Morran is an agreeable contralto vocalist; while the singing and dancing of the Sisters Barrie and Mr. Sheila Barrett is well received. Vernon's bioscope has some very interesting films on view.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—That very versatile company of players, the Kingston Dramatic Company, have been retained for another week, and on Monday gave an excellent interpretation of *Macbeth*. The production was a credit to all concerned, and was followed with rapt attention. Mr. A. W. B. Kingston appeared in the title-rôle, and gave a very powerful rendering of the part; as Banquo Mr. Sommerville played with great feeling; and Miss Carrie Henderson gave a praiseworthy interpretation of Lady Macbeth.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—An interesting programme is submitted at this popular resort this week. C. W. Walker is a baritone vocalist of unusual ability, his songs being very finely rendered; Dodd and Preston are clever dancers; while Istar causes a great sensation with his revolving box mystery. The Gaiety bioscope, with a fine series of films, is another strong item of the bill.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—Mr. Frank Graus' company is appearing here in *The Other Man's Business*. Mr. Frank Stanmore is a very amusing and effective Anthony Bloggett; Mr. G. W. Anson creates continual laughter in the part of Mr. Rattlechip; and Mr. G. W. Elton is a smart and boyish Horatio; Mr. Frank E. Petley is an appropriately vigorous Simpson; Mr. A. H. Warburton provides much fun as Henry; and smaller parts are well played. Miss Lilian Hubbard is a pretty, bright, and fascinating Topsy Temple; Miss Nina Osborne is an attractive, polished, and pleasing Matilda; Miss Adie Boyne as Emma takes a large share in the provocation of laughter; and Miss Gertrude Price is an excellent Miss Challow. *Monsieur Le Marquis* precedes, and is well played.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. William MacLaren and company are appearing here in *Claudian*. The drama is admirably staged and the large company is an excellent one. Mr. William MacLaren is endowed with a fine voice and imposing presence, and as Claudian he is popular and artistic. Mr. Wilson Howard is a strong and effective Thariogalus; Mr. George R. J. Austin is a finely effective Agazili; Mr. C. T. Chaloner, as Belos, is very skilful in the comedy work, and is ably assisted by Miss Carlotta Anson as Edessa; Mr. A. G. Carr is a most impressive Holy Clement; and Mr. Weston Hubbard is a capital Alcares; Miss Lily C. Bandmann does excellent work as Almida; Miss Rose Webster is a very clever Serena; Miss Dora Harvey is a pretty Clia, and sings her song admirably; and Miss Amy Hardcastle is a graceful and charming dancer.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—At the head of the programme offered here this week is Mendel, the blind pianist, who is much in favour both for his playing and feats of memory; Max Gruber has an elephant, horse, and pony which show the results of fine animal training; Lennie and Hast have a very novel and pleasing scena and sketch; the Wilfords are finely developed men, and give a pleasing exhibition of strength; Miss Gladys Witton scores as a juvenile contralto; Mr. Walter Wallis is a successful comed

quaint comedian; the Shamrocks gives a good turn as harmonising vocalists and expert dancers; Florence Hill scores as a burlesque actress and dancer. The Hackenschmidt and Madrali wrestling match is depicted on the Bioscope.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Mr. M. Russell Rosse's company occupies the boards of the Lyceum this week with a programme comprising *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The School for Scandal*, *A Marriage of Convenience*, and *The Lady of Lyons*. In all these plays the charming actress, Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, has proved her power and versatility by appearing in such diverse characters as Miss Hardcastle, Lady Teazle, the Comtesse de Candale, and Pauline. On Monday *She Stoops to Conquer* received a successful rendering. The personal grace and dramatic insight of Miss Godfrey-Turner enabled her to give an impersonation of Miss Hardcastle in which the varying shades of the character were finely distinguished. Young Marlow, in the hands of Mr. Robert Minster, abounded in clever comedy touches; and the Hastings of Mr. Frederick D. Davis was admirably sustained. That sound actor Mr. A. T. Hilton gave an able study of Old Hardcastle; Mr. Charles Hann was full of vitality and humour as Tony Lumpkin; and Mr. A. J. Harding was a droll Diggory. Mr. Norman Clark as Sir Charles Marlow; Mr. A. J. Harding as Stingo; and Mr. Henry Martin as Roger, were all good. Miss Lilian Locke, a young actress who bids fair to take a prominent position as a comedienne, played Miss Neville with marked ability. Gifted with a dainty figure and a pleasing face, and with an evident zeal for her art, Miss Locke's acting was vivid and interesting. Miss Eugenie Vernie was an excellent Mrs. Hardcastle; and Miss Eva Lonsdale's maid was neatly acted. The performance has begun each evening with a pretty one-act play, *Lady Fortune*, which affords Miss Godfrey-Turner a further chance, as Kate Cunliffe, of showing her ability.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—An exhilarating programme is presented at the Empire this week. Mr. Mike S. Whallen, with a budget of fresh stories, causes incessant laughter; Mr. Neil Kenyon, a pawky Scotch comedian—who can also give impersonations of characters in which the Doric has no part—evokes much applause; and Mr. Rex King shows dramatic power in his sketches. The Avolos give a spirited and daring performance on the upright bars; the Mackweys, in their sketch, ably uphold their title, "The Riotous Trio"; and the Sutcliffe Family, garbed in Highland costume, are clever pipers, dancers, and acrobats. Miss Marie Collins, bright and graceful as ever, gains an enthusiastic welcome; Howard and Collinson dance cleverly in their sketch *The Porter and the Parcel*; and the attractiveness of the bill is enhanced by the smart Northern Troupe of International Dancers; by J. Alexander and company in their sketch; and by a display of new films by the bioscope.

EXETER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Dr. E. J. Domville, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—The attraction for Whitsun week is a return visit of the sensational drama, *The 10.30 Down Express*, by Mr. Horace Stanley, and played by his company. Mr. Stanley himself sustains the part of Sam Wagstaffe, a character which he portrays with much ability. The hero, Jack O'Malley, is ably sustained by Mr. Charles Burdon, and Mr. George Arthur is equally good as James Inderwick; Miss Elsie Capell, as Bessie Leigh, gives a fine representation of Jack's sweetheart; Mr. Tom Roydon, as Seth Coombes, also does well.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Mr. W. A. Armour's company is this week presenting the drama, *What a Woman Did*. Mr. Charles Earle in the part of Piton gives a capital representation; Mr. W. A. Armour's impersonation of the villain is a clever study, and Mr. Edward Rawlinson plays the part of the husband in a natural and convincing manner; Mr. Jim Woods, as Fritz, is responsible for not a little of the success of the performance, whilst Mr. Fred Rignold, as Peter, is all that could be desired; Miss Dora Price in the title-rôle is responsible for a powerful and at the same time pathetic impersonation; Miss Amy Eliam, as Papillon, proves herself a charming and graceful actress, and Miss Bertan Clifton in the part of Nannette causes plenty of laughter.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—Mr. H. J. Snelson's stock company is this week appearing in *True to the Core*. Mr. Bert Albert sustains the part of Noel Meadows very well; Mr. Harwood Cooper does well as Captain Frank Meadows; Stephen Dudley is ably represented by Mr. H. J. Snelson; and Dr. Keith Konyers is effectively embodied by Mr. Cecil Barrett. Mr. Aylmer J. Williams appears to advantage as Old Neptune; Mr. J. Carl Lyle and Mr. Robin Shiells are very good as Joe Lamb and Mat Blacklock; Mr. Herbert Lewis makes a good Timothy Twist; and Miss Effie D. Crawford is smart as Polly Pringle. Mrs. H. J. Snelson, who take the parts of Mrs. Gratton and Old Sal, is quite satisfactory in both; Miss Olive Lloyd appears with success as Mabel Gratton.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Lionel Rignold, Miss Ada Blanche and company in *What the Butler Saw* is the holiday attraction here this week. Miss Blanche, as Mrs. Barrington, is distinctly good; Mr. Lionel Rignold, as Pink, causes much fun; Mr. Charles Fawsett's Jack Barrington leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Reddick Anderson, as Sir Charles Foden, gives an able interpretation of the part; Mr. George Ascott as the irascible General Dunlop is well placed; Mr. Harry H. Rignold submits a characteristic portraiture of Abraham Weinstein; Miss Marie Daltra as Miss Foden scores a success; and Miss Edith Blanche makes an excellent Mrs. Heming Smythe.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. C. Watson Mill is presenting the new drama, *A Warning to Women*, here this week. Mr. Mill, in the rôle of Dr. Dread, is a conspicuous figure; Mr. N. Carter Slaughter is successful in the part of Lord Eversleigh; Mr. Henry Lonsdale is a capable exponent of Shaun; Mr. Wingold Lawrence is seen to advantage as Fergus McNaughton; Mr. George Scully is a humorous Mike McQuade; Miss Rosalind submits a powerful portrayal of Moira Kennion; and Misses Emmie Barton and Ellen Beverley fulfil their parts with distinction.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Mlle. Ella's Lions form the principal attraction here, the lady's daring performance receiving great applause; Selbo juggles with clubs and plates as only a master hand can do; Harry Wenburn, a comedian of exceptional merit, receives the maximum amount of praise; Gray and Welford are knockabouts "par excellence"; the Haverleys, with illustrated songs, please the audience immensely; Charles Williams, negro comedian and big boot dancer, makes a "hit"; Mersano, a coin and card manipulator, proves very powerful; Allsopp and Beckwith, in a comedy act; and Flo Banks, comedienne, complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—A very attractive programme is submitted here this week. King's College Boys hold the leading line, and receive loud applause for some excellent vocal numbers; Lilian, a lady trick cyclist gives a very clever performance; Bessie Willow, a local favourite, sings excellently; J. P. Carroll is an expert with the tambourine; Eric, a clever ventriloquist; Lambert and Olive, comedians and dancers; and some very interesting pictures shown by Downey's Bioscope complete the bill.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, pro tem., Mr. Percy Humphrys.—A distinct novelty and a treat seldom afforded local playgoers is provided by the visit of the Irish National Theatre Company, in those striking little plays which embody the dramatic aspirations of the Sister Isle, and the breaking away from the stage conventionalities of the Boucicault type of drama. A sympathetic and hearty welcome was accorded the four plays given on the opening night, comprising J. M. Lynge's *In the Shadow of the Glen*, a strong little drama, with quite an Ibsen flavour in its grim reality; W. B. Yeats' *Kathleen ni Houlihan*; and, by way of relief, Lady Gregory's two humorous episodes, *Hyacinth Halevy* and *Spreading the News*. In the various plays Miss Maire O'Neill, Miss Sara Allgood, Mr. W. G. Fay, Mr. P. J. Fay, Mr. Arthur Sinclair, and Miss Brigit O'Dempsey showed their versatility, and gave a delightfully real aspect to the varied sketches of Irish life. Mr. Arthur Darley contributed some beautiful selections of Irish folk-songs on the violin; and the attitude of the large audience was sympathetic in the extreme, the points in each play being caught at once and accorded their meed of praise in no unstinted fashion.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. James Stillwell and company are here this week in *The King's Secret*, in which Mr. Stillwell ably sustains the character of the hero, Captain Fairburn, and Miss Zana St. George gives a picturesque representation of Zenopa, the Egyptian adventuress. Mr. Edward Fryer, as Hassan Alfar, an unscrupulous accomplice of Zenopa, plays the part satisfactorily; Mr. Beckett Bould, as a military dude, gives a good rendering of the part; Mr. Paul E. Teulon as Boatswain Jack, a rollicking British sailor, is excellent; a notable character, ably rendered by Mr. Robert A. Earl, is Jonathan Newark, an American millionaire; while Miss Kitty McPherson, as a lively American girl, is equally good; Miss Hester Kennedy plays the boy part of Charlie Fairburn very nicely; while Miss Katherine Barnett, as Leila Fairburn, gives a spirited representation of the character; Mr. Atherton Edwards, as a German spy, interprets the character well; and the same may be said of Mr. Charles Crosby's portrayal of a lawyer.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—Harry Lauder is again testing the capacity of this popular theatre to its utmost, and the crowds are phenomenal. In old songs or new he is equally happy. Hermann Melot is a conjurer of more than average ability; Mlle. De Dio again gives her clever dancing turn, the ingenious devices of which, in lighting and effects, are marvellous; J. W. Rickaby is a popular comedian, and his soldier medley is intensely comic; Maud Mortimer, always a favourite here, sings with good effect; the Dumond Minstrels, in their Parisian eccentricities, get a hearty reception; Mariano Sisters on the trapeze, the Labakans and their dog, and the Four Olympian Stars complete a good bill.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Fred Ginnett and company in the sketch, *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, are a pronounced success; the efforts of Alexandra Dagmar are loudly applauded; Sloan presents an amusing juggling turn; the Jack Theo Trio, equilibrists; Agnes Hanson, vocalist and dancer; J. H. Wakefield, coon impersonator; the Vetler Brothers, speciality athletes; and Fred Erick, comedian, contribute to a good programme.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Miss Dorothy L. Clarke has made her appearance here, and her songs are given in fine dramatic style; the female impersonations presented by Max Waldon are a feature of the programme; in a clever revolving ladder act the Rigoletto Brothers are seen to advantage; and a charmingly chic appearance is made by Miss Jose Collins, a serio and dancer of much ability; a cordial reception is tendered Frank Leon, whose dancing is undoubtedly of the highest order; Charles Diamond and Miss Beatrice secure a good reception; Fred Carey tickles the house with eccentric comedy songs and touches of humour; while Lizzie Kirk pleases as a comedienne and dancer; with Hill and Lane in "Home Lessons," a speciality worthy of notice, a first-rate programme closes.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—The chief attraction here this week is Edwin Boyde, the well-known comedian, and a great favourite; Belrose and De Velin are high-class duettists; and the Virginians, coloured performers, have had a flattering reception; a smart sketch is given by Frank Bernard and company, entitled *Hello;* and Conan and Doyle excel as tellers of funny stories; other items of special interest include Edna Groves, comedienne; Barton and Franklin, clever musicians and dancers; Lola Patey, charming vocalist; and the Royal Troupe of International Dancers.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—A bright and entertaining programme is gone through here with Fred Karno's diverting burlesque, *Mumming Birds* as the principal item, and it is almost needless to say that the skit is received with continuous laughter; the Hadj Abdullah Troupe of Arabs give their wonderful acrobatic display; and the illustrated songs of Eloise Brinsmade prove highly acceptable; Tom and Marie Motramo's acting and patter are exceptionally clever in their musical act; another amusing sketch, entitled *The Day I Came Back*, being submitted by O'Malley and Brown; the Goltz Trio give a finished juggling performance; and the smart female impersonator Letine is well received; the bass songs of George Lucas are also appreciated; Passmore Brothers, with their Dummy figures, are good; and a new series of American Bioscope films completes the entertainment.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—The programme submitted here this week is a good one. *Bertie's Birthday Party*, an amusing musical sketch, is well played, and the programme also includes Ray and Colby, comedians and dancers; Mons. Latarric, juggler; Bob Nicol, mimic; and Amy de Frece, comedienne.

GLOSSOP.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser.—This is the last week of the present season, and Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Spenser's own company is appearing in *The Hero of the Flag*. Jack Lawrence is played by Mr. William Heilbronn with ability; and as Captain Hilliard, Mr. Alfred Goddard gives a capital representation; Mr. Sydney Spenser, as the unscrupulous Paul Mansfield, acts with effect; Mr. G. F. Royd, as Stephen Clifford, and Mr. Cecil Webb, as Mark Forrester, are admirable; Mr. Unwin Grafton as Blue Jake does well; Mr. Johnny McElroy, as Johnny Truckle, and Miss Amy Maitland, as Jenny Stubbs, introduce good comedy and score with songs and dances; Miss Lizzie Hall cleverly fills the rôle of Mabel Forester (with songs); and Miss Roma Tremayne ably sustains the part of Ruth Clifford. Mr. W. E. Cottrill (a Glossopian) is in charge of the band this week.

GLOUCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole.—This week we have the annual visit of Mr. Joseph Poole's Myriorama, and the attendance has been of the best. The myriorama, of course, includes the latest events, and is supplemented by a fine series of animated pictures. The varieties include The Carls in their comic speciality, *Fun in a Café;* Mlle. Bartenelli, a clever contortionist; the Boultons in a special musical act; Eileen and Mayne, the musical dancing dots; Johnny O'Rourke, a droll comedian; and Carl Howlette's Marionettes. Mr. H. G. Berry acts as guide, being assisted by Mr. Percy Brunel. Mr. Fred Drake is the musical director, and the whole show is supervised by Mr. J. Wolseley Poole.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—The Whitsuntide attraction is Mrs. Brown Potter in the romance, *Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots*, and on Monday afternoon and evening crowded houses assembled to greet the famous actress. In the title-rôle Mrs. Brown Potter looks the part to perfection, and acts with charm and vigour. Her dresses are magnificent. She is well supported by Mr. Edward Irley as Lord James Stuart; Mr. Geoffrey Tearle as the Earl of Bothwell; Mr. Harry Friend as the Earl of Huntley, and Miss Sara de Groot as May Beaton.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert.—An exceptionally good programme, provided for the holiday week, has been well received. Untham, the armless wonder, astonishes with the dexterity with which he uses his feet in lieu of hands; Durell gives a graceful log-rolling turn; Craig, Rose and Craig contribute a clever trapeze show; Miss Ada Gatty provides an admirable slack-wire entertainment. Fun is contributed by Rag and Miles, eccentric jugglers; Little Bishop and his performing elephants; Learto, the musical comedian; the Big Doodles, and the Ethairian Bros. in a farcical boxing bout. Tremendous applause follows the Bioscope exhibition of the picture of San Francisco after the earthquake.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—A capital variety programme is well received each evening. Miss Veronica Brady and company supply a clever musical sketch, *The Rag-Time Queen*, and Erno Aguzzi's Elite Pierrots give a successful entertainment. Other artists appearing are Mr. Fern Pounds, actor-vocalist; Mr. Jack Vincent, with his edephone solos; Miss Ada Tunks, soprano, and Miss Veronica Brady, musical comedy soubrette.

WELLINGTON PIER PAVILION.—Proprietors, Great Yarmouth Corporation; Manager, Mr. Harry Tunbridge.—An excellent company, The Gems, consisting of three gentlemen and two ladies, supply a capital programme of song, play, and mirth. Miss Olive Mortimer is the soprano, Miss Elsie Jones, contralto, Mr. Wallace Kennedy, tenor, Mr. Edgar Stevens, bass, and Mr. Kenna Lawson, comedian. Each artiste on Monday evening received innumerable encores, and the programme was voted one of the best ever given at the Pavilion.

GREENOCK.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessees, the Greenock Pavilion, Ltd; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Frank Sherlock and Jean Van Dalle top the bill here, and give an enjoyable scena entitled, *The Mummy and the Undergrad*. Other good items are Wallan, juggler; the Rushforths, illustrated song exponents; Barbara Babington, soprano vocalist; Barney Stuart, character actor and mimic; King Leo, ventriloquist; Cherry Lass, comedienne and dancer; and George French, comedian.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—After an absence of several years the American drama, *Wep-ton-No-Mah*, illustrative of life in the Wild West, has visited here. Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, the popular American Indian actress, again represents the central character of the mail carrier; Spanish Joe is vividly represented by Mr. Edward Leroy; whilst Mr. C. W. Charles, as Colonel Stockton, and Miss Minnie Goepel, as Nelly, are good. Comedy is a strong feature of the play, and is contributed to by Mr. Dan Ryan, as Garry Cullen, an Irishman; Mr. Guy D. Hackney, as Sam White, a negro; and Miss Dorothy Neville, as Matilda, an elderly spinster.

CURRY'S TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mlle. Eugénie Fougère, the Parisian comedienne, has scored a great success here; Dandy George has given an entertaining turn, introducing his clever dog Rosie; the burlesque, *In a Studio*, presented by Fred Mulvey and Minnie Miriam, is extremely laughable; and plenty of fun is also occasioned by Miss Dolly Harmer; the novel dancing by Curtis and Vanity is one of the most popular items of the programme, which is completed by Miss Lucretia, burlesque actress; Frank Cass, comedian; and the Fyfe Family, a smart local troupe of athletes. The Tivoli closes for the summer months after this week.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—A capital display of eccentric acrobatics has been given by the Four Emilions. They perform a series of distinctly novel feats. Mannon's Merry Maids appear in a laughable motoring burlesque, *A Motor 'Bus Outing*, and also introduce pleasing vocal numbers; instrumental business is well represented, Caselli and James proving expert banjo soloists, whilst the Raymond Trio show considerable skill as performers on the mandoline. An amusing sketch, A Lesson in Love, is presented by Lytton and Bland; and others contributing are the Fimans, in a comedy speciality; James Lowery, vocalist; and Maude Beaumont, burlesque actress.

THE EMPIRE, CLEETHORPES.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Carter-White; Manager, Mr. W. Baker.—Miss Maidie Scott has provided the principal attraction for the opening week of the season, and her dainty manner and pretty songs have pleased everyone. A refined drawing-room entertainment is given by the Original Cecilias, their turn including vocal and instrumental items. The Three Sisters Tree submit a clever hunting episode; whilst Hurman displays skill as a hoop manipulator; May Hammond contributes pretty dances; Hector and Sultan give a funny eccentric acrobatic exhibition; Joe Humphreys proves an amusing comedian; and Kid Johnson and Maisie Pelham present a composite turn of ball punching, singing, and dancing.

HANLEY.—ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Charles Howard.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr. Vivian Edmonds's company opened here on Monday in *The Golden Ladder*. Mr. John Clyde as the Rev. Frank Thornhill plays admirably; Miss Eva Moss scores a decided success a Lilian Grant; Mr. Joseph Rowlands contributes a clever character sketch as Samuel Peckaby; Mr. J. Milne Taylor is well placed in the heavy part; Mr. Graham Winsford does well as Peranza; Mrs. Peckaby finds a good representative in Miss Nellie Graham; Miss Teresa Haynes is a capable Mrs. Dixon.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—The Holloway Troupe head the bill here in their wonderful wire performance, which is much appreciated; the Brothers Ashley in a comedy boxing act are clever and amusing; Dot Hardy is successful in her vocal contributions; the Empire Comedy Four sing harmoniously, and are repeatedly recalled; Harry Conlin is as funny as ever; Sibb and Sibb are seen in an excellent trapeze act; Rosie Coleman is a sand dancer of merit; and Frank Leslie, who contributes songs, is deserving of praise. Urbanora shows the latest pictures.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Cyril Fielding-Smyth.—Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company has paid a return visit with *The Freedom of Suzanne* this week. In the title-rôle Miss Beatrice Lindley repeats her fine performance; Mr. Herbert J. Bentley gives a clever portrayal of Charles Trevor; Mr. F. G. Thurstars is as amusing as ever as Fitzroy Harding; as Lady Charlotte Trevor, Miss Emily Patterson is sufficiently "withering"; Miss Violet Ley is charming as Lady Isabel; Suzanne's admirers are capably played by Messrs. Harley West, Townsend Whiting, and Archie Selwyn as Lord Datchet, Captain Cecil and Tommy Keston respectively. The curtain-raiser, *Two in a Trap*, precedes the latter part of the week. Mr. James Welch proved a big draw in *Dear Old Charley*.

HARTLEPOOL.—EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—At the head of the programme here are Charles Baldwin's comedians, in the pantomimic absurdity, *The Bank Clerks*, which is provocative of unbounded laughter; Billy Williams, Australia's comedian, is refined and quite refreshing in his originality; the Villions comedy acrobatic cyclists are having a pleasing welcome; the musical entertainment provided by Ford and Hansom is successful; Lily Currie is a pleasing vocalist; Fred Keeton's eccentricities, and some remarkable funny pictures on the Bioscope are also in the bill.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—On Whit Monday Mr. Cyril Maude's company opened a return visit here in *Beauty and the Barge*. Much merriment was created by Mr. Harry Ashford in the rôle of Captain Barclay, and Mr. Walter Pemberton as Major Smedley ably sustained his part; Miss May Fairclough, as Edith Smedley, and Mr. Percival Knight, as Lieutenant Boyne, played well together as the lovers; Mr. J. Wheatman, as John Dobbs, and Miss Ethel Stalman, as Mrs. Smedley, ably sustained these characters; Miss Mary Griffiths, as Mrs. Baldwin, played with much humour, as also did Miss Mary Pemberton as Lucy Dallas, and Mr. Percy Marmont as Herbert Manners. *That Brute Simmons* preceded the farce, and was well played by Mr. J. Wheatman, Miss Harriott Trench, and Mr. Fred Paul.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—An excellent holiday programme is provided here, an attractive feature being the ever-changing films of the Hippodrome Bioscope. Mr. Frank Couch, eccentric comedian, is very droll and amusing; the Sisters St. Julian charm all by their melodious vocalisation; Johnnie Fuller is extremely clever; the Stanley's Urchins give a refined turn of harmony and comedy; some remarkable feats of strength are performed by Luis Hardt with great success; as an operatic soprano-vocalist Mdlle. Du Roche may be complimented. Another well-appreciated turn is given by Duncan and Godfrey in their famous coster romance, "Me and 'Er."

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—The attractive Sisters Bronson, character duettists and dancers, open the programme here. Mr. J. D. Hunter, who is a special favourite, gives his songs and sketches with exceptional ability. A very amusing divertissement of drolleries is given by Brull and Hemsley, entitled "Fun in a Music Shop." The manipulation of Haydee's Marionettes is delightfully interesting and clever; an excellent turn is given by Thornley Dodge, the society entertainer; the Royal Six versatile lady vocalists and instrumentalists achieve some remarkable and graceful feats on their bicycles. The up-to-date pictures and animated photographs conclude a good entertainment.

ST. LEONARD'S PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Mr. Esmonde Bramley's company is giving some adequate productions of Shakespeare's plays, including *Richard III.*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *As You Like it*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. In each of the plays the actors display quite a natural aptitude for their parts. In the comedy *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, nothing could be truer to life than the part of Sir John Falstaff as played by Mr. Cyril Este; Mr. Baliol Holloway and Mr. Frederick Scarth come out well in the respective characters of Ford and Page; Mr. Stanley Farbridge, as Dr. Caius, is a typical French physician, and a good character-sketch Mr. David Beattie gives of Shallow; Slender and his servant Simple are capitally illustrated by Mr. Leonard Cheetham and Mr. Edward Dunstan; Mr. Philip Gordon is a rubicund mine host of the "Garter Inn"; Mrs. Barnard Parkin is extremely good as Mistress Quickly, her acting shows all the piquancy which the character demands; Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page are undertaken by Miss Millie Ford and Miss Maud Garth, their comedy is excellent throughout, and they play their parts with a light and effective touch altogether delightful.

HEREFORD.—GARRICK THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Whitby Smith.—Messrs. F. Douglas Wentworth and Charles Johnston's company are appearing here this week in *The Bauble Shop*. Mr. T. W. Rawson, as Lord Clive, is quite equal to the task of infusing manliness and vigour into the part. One of Hereford's favourite actors, Mr. Ernest Cossart, is renewing his popularity here with an excellent rendering of the Hon. Charles Teviot. Miss Lily Bertram is to be complimented upon her portrayal of Jessie Keber which she invests with graceful charm. A performance of much prominence is Matthias Keber, cleverly played by Mr. William Passmore, and the part of the Earl of Sarum is efficiently undertaken by Mr. Leonard Booker.

HORWICH.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessees, The Provincial Theatres Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Bradley; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ben Hawke.—This, the last week of the season, Mr. E. Oswald Brook's company in *The Trail of the Serpent*, occupies the boards. Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly is capital as Gerald Kington; Mr. Willford Cheetham successfully paints Ralph Hammond in very dark colours; Mr. Vincent Kelway is responsible for the comedy element; and as William Higgins causes roars of laughter; Booth Conway plays Gipsy Jake in capital style; Miss Ethel Stuart, as Rachael, the gipsy, acts with great feeling; and Miss Marjorie May's Ethel Maynard is a most artistic and sympathetic rendering; Miss Gladys Newcombe, as Rose Wilson, ably assists Mr. Kelway in the humorous situations.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Messrs. Dottridge and Langden's company in *The Midnight Mail* causes much excitement here. We must congratulate Mr. Fred G. Evison on his portrayal of the part of Billy Brewer.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Company, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The patrons of the Hippodrome are listening this week to another fine variety company. Those old favourites the Haytors are paying a return visit after many years. At the top of the bill is the popular sketch *Three of a Kind*, which is well received.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—*Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush* was the holiday attraction here. That sterling actor, Wm. Mollison, is still the head of this clever band of artists, the dour old Scot being painted with remarkable skill. Mr. Alec F. Thompson is amusing as Archibald McKettrick; Mr. Allen Thomas invests the character of Doch with many fine touches; Mr. Durward Lely makes the rôle of the Rev. Mr. Carmichael a conspicuous success. The two children's parts, impersonated by Miss Martha Stewart (Geordie) and Miss Jeannie Fitzgerald (Jeannie), are delightfully presented; Miss Evelyn McNay is an acceptable Flora Campbell; whilst Miss Josephine Woodward is a pleasing and homely Marget.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Local-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*Sherlock Holmes* is being played at this house, and the play apparently has lost none of its power of attraction on this occasion, and is added to by the presence of a new representative of the title-rôle, Mr. Henry Renouf, an actor ever favourably received in this city. Professor Monantz is entrusted to the capable player, Mr. F. W. Sterling; Miss Vera Longden has made Miss Faulkner a striking success; and Miss Violet Lewis is no less successful as Madge Larrabee.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. George Morton.—The summer-like weather of Bank Holiday had no effect on the attendance here. Mr. Fred. Granville's play, *Defending His Honour*, is not new to this city, but this only added to its interest. As Douglas Bryce, Mr. Fred Goddard had a rôle for which he was eminently fitted; Mr. A. Balfour Mackay found favour as George Duncan; as Ethel Bryce, Miss Chrissie Dunbar had a rôle which raised her reputation still higher in public favour; the comedy parts were capitally sustained by Mr. O. Redmonde, as Dick Verison; and Miss A. Mackay, as Trixie Lucien, their presence adding much to the enjoyment of the audience.

THE PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Ray Wallace, the popular mimic, heads the bill, and is a big favourite; the Kaufman Troupe of lady cyclists go through a clever performance, remarkable for its gracefulness; Venie Clements, rapidly got into the good graces of the audience by her superior talent; the Howard Bros. go through an excellent banjo act, their clever juggling with banjos being a leading feature; big favourites are Spry and Monti, who present an effective combination of wit and humour; the Three Cape Girls are well received; the Casino Comedy Four are much applauded; other turns include Maud Ross and Will Mitcham.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Appearing here are George Gilbey, De Henan, the Gregson Comedy Trio, Vincent, Jack Crawley, Aladina, Dan Gregory, and Maxford and O'Niel.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—The Globe Animated Picture Co. This place is crowded nightly with a splendid series of pictures.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—The comedy-drama, *Life*, by Herbert Barrs, and *East Lynne*, are being played here this week. The first-mentioned was staged on the opening night, and Mr. Barrs himself appeared as Jack Lockhart with decided success. The rôle of Ruth Thorpe was well filled by Miss D. Oswald, and Miss Agnes Collier scored in the pathetic part of Beatrice Ferrars. As Zac Crabbe Mr. Herbert Fuller caused much mirth, and in conjunction with Miss M. Vincent, as Jess, gave genuine pleasure with their songs and dances. Mr. E. Cheetham made a capital Detective Blake, and Mr. Willis Collins was an admirable Joe Pippet. Mr. A. Pringle appeared with effect as the villain, Sir Horace Lester.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Knightall.—Hindley and Berte are vaudeville artists of much merit, whilst Conway and Dora impart pleasure as duettists and dancers; Vera Mayne entertains with good songs; and Dan Conway, comedian; Alice Dora, serio; Professor Parkin, instrumentalist, and others complete the bill.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. J. E. Jennings.—*Too Many Cooks* was the title of the comedy provided for the Whitsun-week by Mr. Wentworth Croke's No. 1 Company. Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore in the part of Arthur Winton was the mainstay of the comedy, and made a favourable impression in his scenes with Georgiana, capitally played by Miss Hilda Fairfax; as Major Brasket, Mr. Christmas Grose personated a bluff old soldier with effect, and Mr. Willis Searle was a humorous amateur detective; Mr. Herbert E. Standing and Miss Lilian Rogers were a pair of engaging lovers, and the character of the policeman Simkin was well acted by Mr. George Ode.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—A capital holiday programme has been provided for Whit-week. Mr. G. W. Hunter, who headed the bill, rendered some well-written songs in a humorous manner, also scoring as a droll raconteur; the Greys proved themselves accomplished operatic vocalists, the lady especially eliciting unstinted applause; another couple of artistes, Josephine Stanton and Henry Hallam, gave a musical-comedy sketch, called *A Broken Journey*, with considerable effect, and a musical turn of great merit was contributed by Sims and Sims. Other items included the Balsamos, a quartette of funny artists; Herbert La Martine, a clever dancer and singer; Poole and Poole, a couple of quaint comedians, and Will Vay's Juveniles, who depicted with effect *Life in the Slums*.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr. G. Watson.—The novelty at this large hall has been Mr. Walter Payne's Globe Animated Pictures. These were most interesting, and illustrated songs by Mr. Lester King were a pleasing feature of the entertainment.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. C. Robert Perkins.—Mr. R. C. Carton's farce, *Public Opinion*, is the great attraction here this week. Mr. Jack Hampton, as Hoarce Wibsey, is the life and soul of the piece; Mr. Shirley Lea is a portly Justice Mulley, and Mr. Douglas Hamilton, as Sir Babington Mulley, is a success; Mr. Charles Harley's interpretation of the rôle of Spencer Traughton leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Dorothy Lart, as Pansy Bligh, played her part well, and Miss Nancy Beresford is smart as Lady Diana Caldershaw; Miss Violet M. Harley undertakes the part of Phyllis Daggenham.

KING'S LYNN.—NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Henry B. Pareezer.—For the holiday attraction here this week Mr. Junius Booth and company are presenting *Monte Cristo*. At the outset, on Monday night, Mr. Booth put much vigour into his finished portrayal of Edward Dantes; and was capitally supported by Mr. E. Howard Templeton as M. Nortier, Mr. Laurence Grove as General Fernand Mondego, and Mr. Chauncey Morris as Caderousse. Miss Joan Ellis made a charming Mercèdes, and Miss Kate Maynard was good as La Carconte.

LANCASTER.—ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Hy. Wilkinson.—*A Mother's Love* forms the holiday attraction here, and is capitally presented by Mr. Fred L. Connynhame and company. Mr. Arthur Rose, as Paul Wingate, the vicar, is exceedingly good; and Miss Violet Macaree is decidedly successful as his wife, Winnie Wingate; Mr. George Child, as Geoffrey Mannering, makes a capital villain; whilst the part of Mat Ruddock is in the safe hands of Mr. Fred L. Connynghame; Miss Dorothy Monkhouse makes up well as the servant; Miss Marjory Murray is successful as Ellaine Mervin; and the same may be said of Miss Bertha Christobel as Marjorie Wingate.

PALATINE

attraction here is provided by the engagement of Messrs. Garside and Knowles's company in *The London Fireman*, which is effectively staged. Mr. J. Forbes Knowles makes a good impression as the young fireman, Hal Curtis; Miss Nellie Shirley plays well as Ida Curtis; both Mr. Charles A. Preece, as Nixey Stinger, and Miss Nellie Garside as Polly Bramble give popular and humorous portrayals; Mr. Oliver Birrell, as Viscount Fleming, is excellent; and Miss Nellie Waddington as the Countess Fleming, Miss Florence D. Daly as Grace Curtis; and Mr. Edward L. Garside are also to be complimented on performances of much merit.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Huge holiday audiences here are delighted with the versatile and varied programme, at the head of which are the Boisset Troupe, who create roars of laughter with their sketch, *The Bricklayers*. At the end is Datas, whose marvellous memory astounds the audience. A most popular turn is that of Ernest Tilbury, whose pictorial slides are triumphs of their kind. The artist is loudly encored for the songs, "Dear Old Georgia," and "Oh! What a Lovely Dream." The Seddons are mirth-provoking in their smart juggling turn; Vernando, the ventriloquial barber, is scoring a well-deserved success; Charles Gardiner is one of Leicester's oldest and popular comedians, his reception being as hearty as ever; Walter King is aptly described as the doleful comedian, whose style creates great amusement; the Sisters Bosanquet are excellent character duettists; Cora Caselli delights all with her extremely clever dancing. The Bioscope is depicting the destruction of San Francisco.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—A capital entertainment is provided here by the following:—Miss Madge Morley and company, who are presenting the dramatic playlet, *His Master's Wife*, and the comedy episode, *After the Races*; the Hessey soloists, in a delightful and refined musical act; Judge's performing cockatoos, parrots, and macaws, a remarkably clever show, which is introduced by the Sisters Judge; the Sisters Ford, character and comedy duettists; King Roy, coloured basso cantante; Joe Oliver, the singing coon; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—Audiences here are delighted with the entertaining programme submitted by the following artists:—Dan Lyndon, a mirth-provoking comedian; Bert Wallace, a really funny comedian; Frances O'Reilly, a vivacious vocalist; Syd Carlton, who renders his songs in good style; Edna Grey, an excellent vocalist; and Jeff Lytton, pianist and conductor.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Rousby.—Mr. Morton Powell's company opened here this week with the sensational drama entitled *The Woman Who Gambles*, and was accorded a hearty welcome on Monday night. Mr. Edward E. Ashby is well suited as Count Otto Steinbach; Miss Gertrude Hunt proves herself fully able to get through the arduous work demanded by the name part; Mr. Horatio Sinclair is decidedly effective as the villainous Baron Cratzlaw; Mr. Reginald Fox does creditable work in the character of Lieut. Karl; Miss Marie Ramuz makes the most of her opportunities as Stella; Miss Violet Sims gives an excellent interpretation of Cora Gouldhart; the comic element is safely entrusted to Mr. Chas. Calvert as the Hon. Bertie Bray and Miss Florrie Hall as Zila.

LINCOLN. — ROYAL. — Sole Owner, Mr. Frank King).—*Sapho* is being played here. Miss Annie Bell invests the title-rôle with strong individuality; and Mr. Pringle Röberts is excellent as Jean; Mr. Oswald Lingard plays with capital effect as Le Grand; Mr. G. Antley is particularly good as Fenat; and Mr. L. Kingsley deserves high praise for his Dechelette. The staging is very effective.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnagnten; Manager, Mr. Sydney Arthur.—Astley's American Circus tops the bill this week, and gives an amusing show. A particularly dainty item is that of Marie Santoi and her Japs; Bros. Redmond contribute a smart acrobatic turn; Nash and Noel are crisp comedians; George Rapley also raises laughter; and Lily Morris and Marion Scott each sing appreciably. The Raymond Bio-Tableaux are very effective.

LIVERPOOL.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—Mme. Jane Hading paid a "flying visit" on Monday afternoon, when a large and appreciative audience was present to witness the celebrated French actress and her eminently capable supporters in *Le Maitre de Forges*. Every point made by Mme. Hading and the accomplished M. Rouyer, who impersonated Phillipe, was warmly applauded. The curtain had to be raised several times at the close of each act. The evenings of the week saw the first appearance in Liverpool of *The School for Husbands*, which afforded Miss Jessie Millward an opportunity of renewing her acquaintance with the city wherein her 'ate father was a distinguished journalist. The comedy found ready acceptance, and the Lady Manners of Miss Millward fully revealed the versatility and resourcefulness of that able actress. Worthy assistance came from a capable all-round company. Mr. A. Scott Craven handled the rôle of Sir John Manners with the utmost discretion; Miss Mona K. Oram made a charming Lady Airish; as Clarissa Huntleigh Miss Maud Noel played carefully; every justice was done to the character of Captain Lovell by Mr. A. E. Grennaway; Miss Emma Chambers was a good Lady Speakill; praise is undoubtedly due to Mr. Philip Cunningham for his Eastern potentate; and Mr. T. Wigney-Percyval afforded amusement in the rôle of Lord Foppington. The staging was excellent, and the costumes and dresses very picturesque.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—Lessees, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. John Gaffney.—Mr. Edward Marris's company is here this week with *The Dandy Doctor*, which has been richly enjoyed. The Melchisadeck Brown of Mr. Marris was as mirth-provoking as ever, and at times the audience screamed with laughter at his antics with the housemaid Jane, delightfully played by Miss Florence Smithers. Mr. Walter B. Nugent was particularly good as Arthur Vandyke; Mr. Herbert Pearce as Colonel Pendred afforded the utmost satisfaction; the Colonel's daughter was capably impersonated by Miss Elfie Vincent, her singing being very much appreciated; Miss Rosie Chandler in the part of Marie Murton danced gracefully; and Mr. Leslie Martin provoked much merriment with his Bertie Bollingbroke. Specialities were introduced by the Dandy Belles, the Dutch Girls, and the Yeoman Male Voice Quartet.

ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—*For Better or Worse* has paid a first visit to the popular north-end house, the company presenting it being an able one sent by Mr. Fred Granville. Mr. George Edwin Clive holds the part of Captain Frank Hilliard, playing with much dramatic strength; Miss Marriot-Watson as Olive Heathcote shows a deal of naturalness; the unscrupulous Belle Bavestock is admirably portrayed by Miss Cissie St. Elmo; an excellent Major Gerald Crawford comes from Mr. Charles H. Lester; Mr. Owen Remond does credit to the character of Lieut. Hector Dalrymple; Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh is satisfactory as Ned Earnshaw; and much laughter is provoked by the specialities of Mr. Fred Acton as Horatio P. Ranter, an actor; and Miss Eva Reed, as Melinda Little.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles. — The holiday-week attraction is of a particularly varied nature. May Henderson heads the bill with her artistic and catchy coon and ballad songs; Halma's juggling is deservedly applauded; Vardon is a clever ventriloquist; Ara, Zebra, and Vora are daring in their gymnastic turn; Mr. "C." is an amusing comedian: Regan and Ryan create roars of laughter; George Ripon, Blanche Marion, and Fields and Lewis also contribute.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—Eight years ago this week the long career of the Star as a variety house was ended, Mr. Harris Fineberg, with a foresight which has proved eminently sound, then deciding to venture into the "legitimate." Since the change to drama, the Star has had a successful career, and this week, to mark the anniversary, *Hoodman Blind*, a work which inaugurated the new condition of things on Whit Monday, 1898, has been presented. Mr. Arnold Bell's talented company has been responsible for the production, which has afforded every satisfaction. That able actor was again seen to advantage as Jack Yeulett; Miss Frances Campbell made a delightful Nance and Jess, playing with considerable feeling; Mr. Cuthbert Imrie was a fine Mark Lezzard; the Ben Chibbles of Mr. John Belton was a well-drawn character; Miss Violet Campbell acquitted herself well as Polly Chibbles; praise is due to Miss Bowman for her Liz and Granny Quodling; and Miss Edith Byron made an acceptable Kitty.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—It is some years since *The Gamester of Metz* was seen in Liverpool, consequently its appearance here this week, in charge of the talented author, Mr. Charles March, has proved highly attractive. In the rôle of Paul Baldot Mr. March has opportunities for showing his remarkable versatile powers, and the rapid changes of character effected caused great wonderment. Miss Una Lane was a winsome Lucie Baldot; a capital Countess Baldot was submitted by Miss Eva Lyndhurst; Mr. Fred Aldworth capably filled the character of General Mon parasse; as Captain Badaire Mr. John B. Murray proved most satisfactory; Mr. P. Wentworth was the curé D'Artris; Miss Cissy Haighton a humorous Gwendolin Pearson; and Mr. W. Brinklow made the most of Courcelli. The play was very well put on.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Wilkie Bard is in big type here this week, and has been accorded a hearty reception for his favourite and new songs. The Mannings present a laughable item, *The Hotel Boots*; some excellent songs are rendered by Henry Helm, a French baritone; Theo Boumeister, assisted by two other artists, is seen in the dramatic episode, *Who is Guilty?* in which he undertakes seven distinct characters; a pleasing feature of the programme is Miss Maud Courtney's songs and stories; Carney and Armstrong are particularly happy in *The Professional and the Baggage Man*; the songs of Nellie Stratton prove most enjoyable; Conn and Conrad supply a smart gymnastic speciality in *Fun on the Barber's Pole*; Walton and Lester, "the world's worst wizards" cause much laughter; and the list also contains the names of Lizzie Daniels, comedienne; George Brooks, the sailor comedian; and May Mars, burlesque actress.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford. — During the whole of last week the remarkable work of Dr. Bodie attracted vast audiences here, and the second week which he has put in has proved quite as successful. Gipsy Woolf and her piccaninnies gave a very diverting and picturesque turn in *Fun in the Forest*; the Two Cabiacs provoke much laughter with their comical acrobatic antics; very pleasing are the baritone songs of Percy Hannan; the blind pianist and vocalist, Mons. Slippere, submits a satisfactory turn; Tiny Arnold, declared to be the smallest star artist in the world, renders some neat songs; Queenie May, another diminutive vocalist and dancer, is loudly applauded; Fyne and Hurley, as the coster and the dude, create fun; a smart quick-change scene, *The Nightingale*, comes from the Two Kays; and as vocalists and speciality dancers, the Floradora Girls are very acceptable.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—At the head of the bill here this week is H. O. Wills, whose latest successful songs are richly enjoyed; Howard Ward and Louie Davis have a lively musical comedy duologue, *Wanted, a Typist*; Harry Wright's extemporaneous rhymes are much enjoyed; Nellie Gannon's descriptive English and Irish songs are particularly good; Blarney and Kennard have a smart comedy act, introducing their waltzing dog; and Peggy Fame is a comedienne of merit.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The stock dramatic company, which is proving so successful here, has this week produced the sketch, *A Marriage of Vengeance*, from the pen of Arthur J. Charlson. Mr. Percy Boucher is the Bob Shorner; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood undertakes Glynne Earnscliffe; Mr. Harry Tresham is Paul Earnscliffe; and other characters are entrusted to Mr. E. D. Allen, Miss Lina Nazeby, and Miss Beryl Ravenswood. The eleven tableaux are effectively put on.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Henderson, the blind musician, is top of the programme this week, and gives some excellent selections; Frank Coyle, a popular comedian here, is well received for his latest songs; Myra Love proves a charming serio comedienne; as an eccentric comedian, Joe Atkinson is good; Lillian Victoria shows herself to be a clever young character artist, and her latest departure in appearing in male attire gives promise of proving successful; the dancing of Violet Wilton is marked by much skill; and J. W. Howley is a talented juvenile vocalist and sand dancer.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Heading the bill here this week are J. Wright Aitken and company, with the sketch, *A Human Fiend*, which has proved interesting; Bird and Arnold's illustrated songs afford much satisfaction; Little Dot Pardy gives some neat male impersonations; Tom Leo, announced as the "largest comedian on earth," is funny; and as comedians and dancers, Bernard and Weston acquit themselves creditably.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A smart sketch, entitled *A Life of Sin*, is being presented here this week by W. L. Lee and company; Rosie Leslie shines as a comedienne and expert dancer; Ernie Myers is an eccentric comedian, with many good points; some well-rendered songs come from Lily Lonsdale; and the Idento Brothers go through a deal of funny juggling.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—An attractive programme is offered here this week, at the top being J. Wright Aitken's sketch company, in *A True Briton*, the characters in which are ably undertaken by Messrs. Herbert Cecil, Walter Foster, C. Durand, and Miss Lillian Burns. A local favourite is Mr. Tom Kelso, and he and his company are creating great laughter with *The Silly Servant*; Henderson, the blind musician, provides a pleasing turn; Daisy O'Malley is successful as a comedienne; Edward Ind brings his latest songs; and Harry Zetter is funny and dances particularly well.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The public never seem to tire of John Lawson's sensational sketch, *Humanity*, and have enjoyed it this week as well as ever. In the absence of Auguste Van Biene, the actor-musician, who was to have made his first appearance on the variety stage with the playlet, *The Master Musician*, Paul Conchus gave a delightful exhibition of strength, performing very neatly several original feats; Queen and Le Brun and company present a laughable absurdity, *The Cockney Huntsman*; Mons. Albany had an excellent pot-pourri of ventriloquism and magic; the Sisters Jonghmanns render several harmonious vocal pieces; Minnie Cunningham, a refined and artistic comedienne, is received with much favour; Ross and Grayson are exceedingly pleasing with their extraordinary piano-playing, dancing, singing, and humour; Shirley Liggin, a coloured vocalist, has some acceptable songs; and Willie Gardner gives a unique performance on skates.

TOM CAMPBELL'S VAUDEVILLE ENTERTAINMENTS.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Tom Campbell; Musical-Director, Mr. Tom Bowstead.—Harry Fay is a great favourite here, and his songs are amusing; Lorraine is a clever mimic; Leo Cromo is an artist of no mean merit, his lightning sketches and smoke pictures being very good; Eveline Bly has a capital contralto voice; and W. E. Redmond sings with artistic finish.

LOWESTOFT. — MARINA. — Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—For the holidays we have a welcome return visit of the amusing comedy, *Are You a Mason?* which is admirably mounted and dressed. This popular playhouse has just been reopened for the season.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. George Gilbert.—The Royal Italian Circus opened here on Bank Holiday for a short season. There are upwards of 200 performing ponies, dogs, monkeys, goats, &c., under the direction of Signor B. Volpi, the able trainer, and the programme submitted is both interesting and amusing.

LUTON.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. Graham Falcon; Business-Manager, Mr. Louis J. Beard.—Holiday fare at this house is being supplied by Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, with the melodrama, *Her Wedding Day*. Harold Saxby is well interpreted by Mr. Herbert Humber; Weedon Kenyon is in the capable hands of Mr. Augustine Knight; Caccles, the Sexton, is given to Mr. Fred Yarnold, who throughout uses every opportunity the part allows to display his humorous abilities; Mr. T. Edward Ward, as Seth Mayson, is to be commended; as Dora, Miss Eva Bertram gives a very fine rendering; and as Madge Conway (the bride) Miss Ward is seen to perfection, being most sympathetic throughout.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gattey.—The Royal Pierrots and Mucograf company, under the personal supervision of Mr. J. Rolmaz are as popular as ever; Eva Barlow, balladist, who is already a general favourite, sings some pleasing songs; Little Eugene brings down the house; illustrated songs by Kilpack and Cobley are appreciated; Taylor Snowball is a host in himself; Dancing Mac provides an interesting turn; the Marvellous Margatte in her extraordinary act causes quite a sensation; Miss Blanche West with descriptive ditties is an attraction; Masti and Julietta, Norwegian athletes, appear in a speciality act.

MAIDENHEAD.—PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gude. — The seemingly ample provision made for a big crowd on Whit-Monday was taxed to its fullest extent, and the popular Pavilion Cadets had an enormous audience. Everything went off well, amid abundant signs of approval. Two recently-taken animated pictures by the Graphic Cinématograph Company were very amusing.

MAIDSTONE. — CORN EXCHANGE. — Manager, Mr. J. Besley.—This week the boards are occupied by Claude Ginnett's variety company. Among the chief turns are the spectacular sketch, *Rorke's Drift* and *Rejected Remounts*, which are played by Claude Ginnett's company; the Steens, clever mystifiers; Miss Maggie Rimmer, comedienne; Parker and Parr, duettists; Wilfredo, comedian; Charles Craston, comedian; and the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. H. Watson.—The following are apearing here this week:—Frank Elliston and company in *Aunt Matilda*, an exceedingly funny sketch; Fred Elton, in his scena *Life on a Liner*; Milner Verren, tenor vocalist; the Fitzroys, smart gymnasts; Lily Foy, a charming comedienne; Carl Howard, a funny burlesque conjuror; the Sisters Reno, dancers; and the Bioscope.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edwardstone Shirra.—Last week's attraction, *San Toy*, remains here another week.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Lee.—The well-known comedian Mr. John L. Shine is seen here this week with his company in *The Member for Slocum*. It is a very amusing piece, and the title-part is rendered in excellent style by Mr. J. L. Shine, who is supported cleverly by Miss Maud Henderson as the domineering mother-in-law; Mr. Robert Grey as the friendly Bill Smith; Miss Betty Castle as the servant; Miss Dora Nelson as the mysterious Arethusa; and others in minor rôles. The farce is preceded by *Hogmanay*, a well-written and well-acted episode of sentimental interest.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. M. Thorburn.—Mr. C. Edwardes presents here this week Mr. Alexander Loftus and company in the popular musical comedy *The New Barmaid*. A highly pleasing performance is given. Mr. Charles Adeson is prominently successful as Bertie White, brother to William, the head waiter, the latter rôle being capitally rendered by Mr. Alexander Loftus. Miss Maisie Ellinger is charming in the title-part; Miss Violet Osmond gives a clever rendering of the lady journalist, Dora Heather; Miss Maud Nicholls acts well as Brenda Louth, the old barmaid; Mr. Leslie Austin acts and sings very agreeably as Captain Lovebury; and Mr. James Grant presents a vigorous Col. Claymore. Among other clever members of the cast the Misses Amy Preston, May Hawthorne, and Queenie Bell deserve praise for their excellent dancing.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. J. H. Clyndes and company are appearing here this week in *A Royal Revenge*, a picturesque and romantic play of strong interest. Mr. J. H. Clyndes sustains the dual rôle of Alvarez and Pedro de Casto with great success; Miss Enid Edoni gives a powerful interpretation of the wife, Inez; Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes is remarkably good as Cora Casilda, the dancing girl; Mr. J. Boyd Pearson does very well as the King of Spain; and Mr. A. F. Dudley is successful as Count Uzela. Humorous parts are in the clever hands of Mr. Arthur Bradley and Miss Connie Bradley. The play was followed with interest on Monday by a good house.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A good programme here this week includes *Casey's Court*, an excellent and amusing sketch; the Marsumas, in a comic knockabout cycle act; the Sisters Allen, dainty dancers; the Three Macdonalds, in their musical garden; Tennyson and Law, clever character duettists; the Two Whites, American song and dance artists; Ned Mason, a smart whistling comedian and vocalist; and Harry Nelson, character comedian.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—The attraction here this week is provided by Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company in a sensational and well-acted drama entitled *The Branded Woman*. All the parts are in good hands, and the piece proved highly acceptable to a fairly large holiday audience on Monday.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Phil Herman, the popular Anglo-Dutch impersonator, is once more the attraction to local audiences at this house. He appears in the old favourite musical drama *Fritz*, and is well supported by a cast which includes Miss Susie Beavan as Katrina, Mr. William Marsh as the rascally lawyer, Mr. Stanley Carlton as the villainous Colonel Crafton, Mr. Fred C. Imbert as the shoeblack, and clever Miss Rubie Maude as Lena.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—The name of Mr. John F. Preston is a guarantee of good dramatic quality in the plays with which he is associated, and that in which he is appearing this week, *Rogues of the Turf*, is certainly no exception to the rule. It is known to Manchester playgoers as a spirited and interesting piece, vigorously dashed with the sensational, and staged with due completeness. Equally well known is Mr. John F. Preston's powerful depiction of the old trainer Joe Flaxman, an exacting and elaborate rôle; and Monday's audience at this theatre appreciated his fine effort to the full. Miss Madge Nelson also made a notable success as Nellie, the trainer's daughter; while humour was contributed very acceptably by Mr. Herbert Woodin as Sam Flaxman and Miss Madge Palmer as Phyllis. Other parts were correspondingly well played by the various members of the cast.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Charles Majilton's company of comedians is here this week in *The Trippers*, a mirth-provoking absurdity. The New York Comedy Four are excellent singers with droll ways; Leo Dryden, the well-known actor-vocalist, sings with his usual success; the Goldini Trio, including a clever juvenile contortionist, are wonderful plate and carpet-spinners; and the Calcutts contribute enjoyable banjo solos and a spirited dance. The Three Romas are seen to advantage in a modern gladiatorial act; Harry Freeman is a comedian with plenty of "go"; Mlle. Vonetta is a charming illusionist and protean artist; and Gracie Lawn dances smartly. The pictures are good.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—*The House Boat* is a lively sketch presented here this week by John Leopold's company of comedians, and causes no end of laughter. Ancillotti and his exceptionally well-trained dog "Pilu" provide an unique turn; and the Morton Trio are capital singers and comedians. Martin Adeson, Clara Bernard, and Bert Lloyd are seen in a diverting musical sketch entitled *The Masked Lady*, and are well received; the Althoffs make a hit in their original comic musical act; the Bros. Attab are neat head and hand balancers; Harry Bedford, comedian, scores with song and a capital eccentric dance added; and the Six Lancashire Lasses are expert clog dancers. Some good animated pictures are also shown.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—*Moses and Son*, Fred Karno's latest and perhaps best creation, with Fred Kitchen the inimitable in the cast, is the great attraction here this week, and packed houses are the rule. The Harmony Four are most enjoyable singers, and their comedy business is decidedly funny; the Canary Company are good in a comic pantomime; Boswell's stage circus introduces some cleverly-trained animals; Horace Wheatley, the popular Irish actor, sings and dances well; and the Maples give a practical lesson on "How to Treat a Burglar." Mr. Tom Ince sings to pictures "She waits by the deep blue sea," assisted by the choir, who also render Blumenthal's "Night," a delightful part-song. The bioscope shows up-to-date pictures.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Charming Stella Gastelle, of *La Poupée* fame, is the bright particular star here this week, and she meets with a good reception. Harry Pleon is also to the front with a mimetic novelty entitled "Stuff that dreams are made of," a series of capital impersonations, and subsequently Mr. Pleon, assisted by Celia Kent and Chris V. Bern, appears in a most amusing burlesque scena. The Mayvilles (Harry and Elsie) are successful, as usual, in their original Lilliputian entertainment; A. P. Boswell, "the furniture-shifter," does some astonishing chair and table-balancing; Walter Emerson, comedian, makes a hit with his song, "Another one off to America"; Ted Waite is another good comedian; Lily Black is a pleasing comedienne; Lillian Elfreda mimics favourite artists with success; and Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are good.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Harry Lowther and company, including Miss Hulo Hodgson, are here this week in a most amusing farcical comedietta entitled *Barmaids*, which goes with a rare swing, and is well received. The Tom Davis Trio "whirl the whirl" on motor-cycles in mid-air; and the Cleveland Burlesque Company introduces good dancing, tumbling, comedy juggling, &c., in a funny act. Other good turns are those of Tokio, Japanese mimic; Rupertos, novel equilibrists; Clifton and Gibson, eccentric comedians; Greener, the Salford pit lad; and "Rescinded by the Army," depicted on the bioscope.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Here this week Harry Roxbury and company offer a well-staged musical mélange entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, in which Harry Roxbury and the other members of the combination acquit themselves well, to the delight of patrons. Dawson Dewick is a versatile vocalist with a good voice; Charles Jackson is a good comedian and dancer; the Three Seymons contribute a clever juggling act; and other satisfactory turns are added by Paul De Lil, illusionist; the Wade Trio, comedians; Charles Hulbert, ventriloquist; and Flora and Hallic in a speciality act. "Her First Cake" is an amusing film shown on the bioscope.

HIPPODROME, HULME. — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Dou-Ban, the wonderful talking head, is appropriately at the top of the bill here this week, and causes considerable wonderment; Sam Jesson's Little Merry-Makers prove very entertaining in song and dance; and much amusement is caused by Harry Glynn's company in a rollicking sketch, *The New J.P.* Adams and Reuss contribute some smart patter and good dancing; and the "pocket" comedian, Master Joe Conway, is extremely popular. Charles F. Best, as McBunker, the showman, does some clever tumbling; and other good turns are given by Ionia, a first-rate rifle shot; George Martinengo, baritone and solo 'cellist; and Dick Kendall, comedian. Steane Louch, operatic vocalist, is billed, but did not appear on the night of our visit, the Tinkelers, two smart triple-bar artists, providing a clever turn in his place.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—A splendid holiday programme here this week includes the following capable artists: Fannie Newman, comedienne; Gillin, the great ventriloquist; Hugh Haines, comedian; John Chesney, concertina soloist; Kathleen Moore, soprano; W. H. Jackson, pianist; George Curzon, baritone; and Franklyn Taylor, Lancashire character comedian.

MANSFIELD.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. Jennings.—At this place of amusement the Schallers give a clever and amusing turn on the rings; the Two American Hartleys are entertaining; Mlle. Yelda wins great applause; Prof. Earle, Wal Owen, and Wilson Roberts also contribute, and Payne's Bioscope exhibits a series of interesting pictures.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Parlato's vaudeville company occupies the boards here. Miss Eva Anker's pleases with her singing; Miss Ethel Barrs wins applause for her cornet playing; Mr. Herbert H. Cullum provides a good turn; as also does Mr. Will Bradford; Mr. C. E. Parlato is greatly appreciated for his impersonations; Parker's performing animals create much amusement; and the Parlograph shows an excellent series of pictures.

MARGATE. — HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—Holiday audiences crowded this house at the matinée and the two evening performances on Monday. The programme submitted was an attractive one, the contributors being the Sisters Redfern, banjoists, vocalists, and dancers; Alf. Chester, comedian; Helen Charles, in her drawing-room entertainment; the Donatos, one-legged clowns; Mark Leslie, coon impersonator and dancer; and Pierri's International Troupe of Wrestlers, including Ahmed Madrali, the Terrible Turk

THEATRE ROYAL.—Exclusive Manager, Mr. Edward Michael.—This house reopened for the summer season on Saturday, after thorough renovation and refurnishing, the whole of the seating arrangements having been remodelled and the place brought up to date in every way. The season has been started by Miss Ethel Irving and her company with the comedy, *Lucky Miss Dean*. Miss Irving was a success in her original part of Acacia Dean, and Mr. Marsh Allen also scored in his original creation, Frederick Ware. Mr. A. Austin-Leigh was excellent as Perceval Chaney, and Mr. Arthur Bell capital as Horace Chaney; Mr. Percy Vale, as Wilfred Ashmole, and Mr. E. J. Ingledew, as John Smith, did good work in their respective parts; Miss Emmie O'Reilly played Lady Ashmole excellently, and the remaining characters were sustained satisfactorily by Mr. R. S. Wilton as George Lightfoot, and Mr. R. F. Bent as Bill Adams. The comedy was repeated on Monday. On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Albert Chevalier gave a matinée performance in which he, supported by his company, appeared in the best of his many successes.

MERTHYR TYDFIL. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—The variety holiday programme submitted here includes Bob Graham, comedian; Vere and Royal, the Komedy Kouple; Mlle. Florizell, the flexible lady; Miss Georgie Beaufort, burlesque and dance artist; Apollo and Hercules, athletes; Fred Ryce, comedy juggler; Fox and Melville, in vocal pictures; and an interesting display of animated pictures completes a capital holiday programme.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—An entertaining company here includes the Three Escaladors, in their ladder act; Miss Maud Marlow, burlesque artist and dancer; Hulo, man monkey; J. H. Crew, comedian and dancer; the Paulo Bros., comedy acrobats; and the biograph.

METHIL.—TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Mr. John Hamilton's Alhambra Company is still here. On Monday night *Burke and Hare* was presented. In the name parts Messrs. John and Edgar Hamilton acquitted themselves creditably; Messrs. Will Henderson and J. Jessamine did well as Dr. Williamson and Bobbie; Mr. Billie Barr scored a success in the part of Daft Jamie; Mrs. Lloydall and Miss Dukinfield were well suited as Mrs. Burke and Mrs. Hare; Mrs. Carrack made a sympathetic Mary Paterson. Other stirring dramas have been performed during the week.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—Mr. Fred J. Kirke is providing a double bill here this week with the musical plays *The Naval Detective* and *In Old Madrid*. In the former piece Mr. Kirke is delightful in the title-rôle; Mr. Harold Wallace makes an excellent Dr. Schreiner; Mr. Mark Practice (Captain Hustle) and Mr. L. Stuart (Hon. Bertie Fairlox) are funny in their respective rôles; Miss Louie Fountaine sings and acts charmingly as Phyllis Leslie; and Miss Lily Seymour is quaint and pleasing as Rebecca Gentle. A variety entertainment is given by Mr. Chas. H Burns, instrumentalist; Louie Fountaine, soprano; Edith Clarke, comedienne; Sisters English, dancers; Mark Practice, character comedian; Fred J. Kirke, tenor; and Mr. Lorrimer Stuart, baritone.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company in the drama, *The Plucky Nipper*, is here this week. Miss Bonwin Carlton gives a delightful impersonation of Polly Hithard; Mr Edward Surrey is decidedly successful as Bill Burgess; Miss Evelyn Derwent gives a fine impersonation of Ina Fenwick; Mr. Douglas Campbell, as Tommy Atkins, creates much laughter with his songs; Mr. George Knight is excellent as Colonel Fenwick; and Mr. Edward Stream leaves nothing to be desired; Miss Kitty Maynard, as the blind girl, does well.

OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—Messrs. Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company in the play, *The Village Blacksmith*, is here this week. Mr. Sam Livesey as John Strong, the blacksmith, is exceedingly good; Miss Bertha Hanbury gives a pathetic rendering of the character of Harry Strong, the blacksmith's child; Mr. Joseph Carter plays with unbounded vigour as Captain Leo; Miss Laura Walker acts the part of Strong's wife admirably; Miss Maggie Edwards gives a capital impersonation of Ruth Parkin, and Mr. George Campbell, as Billy, causes roars of laughter; Mr. Edwin Mayhew is good as Lucas.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles Rembges.—At this place of amusement the Six Brothers Luck cause roars of laughter in their amusing sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*; Burke, Andrus, and Frisco are also good; Little Ganty proves a popular favourite with his patter and songs, and the acrobatic feats of the Five Whiteleys are much applauded; the Ongars, Charles Ridgewell, and Madge May also contribute to the programme.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alfred Graham.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. A capital entertainment is given by Iona, and Will McIvor's singing is appreciated; Walter Munroe scores with his comic songs, as do Maxford and O'Neil with patter; Edna Thelma, comedienne; James Bell, entertainer; and Chanti also contribute successfully to the programme.

MORECAMBE. — ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Julian.—Mr. Lawrence Brough's company in *The Lady of Ostend* and *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally*, both pieces by Sir F. Burnand, have attracted excellent houses during the holidays. Mr. Brough has created much amusement in each piece, and he has been supported by Messrs. Henry Hampson, Chas. Groves, jun., H. Gower May, Evelyn Vernon, and J. Detlio; Misses Edith Vogue, Daisy Cook, Eleanor Gilbart, Evelyn Ormonde, and Kate Milford. Each evening the comedietta *Margaret's Stratagem* preceded the principal piece.

WINTER GARDENS.—Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—The Martelloni troupe of lady acrobats made their first appearance in England here on Monday and were cordially welcomed. A fine turn is that provided by the Novellos, who introduce horses, dogs, and elephants in a gorgeous setting. Max Wessely's jugglers are as clever as ever. A cleverly worked out sketch, *The 100 to 1 Chance*, is admirably given by Frank France and Edith Stewart. Reilly and Taylor are smart American-Dutch comedians; Stylo manipulates the hoops with much skill; Harry Bickley is an amusing comedian; and the eccentricities of Hall and Earle have just suited holiday audiences. The Sisters Marion are pleasing juvenile

irresistible humorist; and the great Jackson Family complete a well-balanced and enjoyable bill. Mr. Bayliss is the chef d'orchestre.

NELSON. — NEW GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft; Business-Manager, Mr. George E. Mudd.—The charming society play *A Bunch of Violets* is being played here this week under the direction of Mr. George E. Mudd. Mr. Norman Partriege gives a fine portrayal of the character of Sir Philip Marchant; Mrs. T. Greenwood Croft as the leading lady scores a dramatic success in the rôle of Mrs. Murgatroyd; Mr. William Attfield figures to distinct advantage as Lord Mount-Sorrel; Mark Murgatroyd is cleverly impersonated by Mr. Wilson Coleman; Mr. Patrick Evans as the Hon. Harold Inglis is an unqualified success; Miss Florence Russell-Spiers plays with distinction a Lady Marchant; Miss Tessa Myers is pleasing as Violet; Mr. C. W. Spencer does justice to the part of Jacob Schwartz; Mr. Leon Aynscliffe makes an effective Harker; Mr. Joe Bebb ably sustains the part of the butler; and Mr. Reginald Fletcher acquits himself admirably as the footman.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—An acceptable triple bill is being presented here this week by Miss Alice Chapin and company, the principal item being the favourite musical farce, *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, which renews acquaintance with a Newcastle audience after a very long absence. Mr. H. A. Welchman is irresistibly funny as the stage-manager; Mr. Fred Parks simply bubbles over with humour as Lord Pomeroy; and Mr. H. Chapin is immensely droll as Captain Tom Robinson. Miss Alice Chapin as Lady Muriel Beauciere, Miss Winsome Etherington as the Hon. Lily Eaton-Belgrave, and Miss Paula Fernan as the Hon. Violet Eaton-Belgrave are all delightfully amusing in these rôles. *Faithful James* and *The Lady Mesmerist* precede.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Charles Cartwright presents this week—the last week of the season—*Dan'l Peggotty*, a four-act adaptation by Mr. Kellett Chambers of "David Copperfield." The title part is given a most able interpretation by Mr. Cartwright himself, his picture of the rough, great-hearted fisherman being a very fine performance. Excellently played, too, is the part of Little Em'ly by Miss Molly Pearson. Mr. Arthur Royston's is a fine study of Steerforth, and ably done is the part of Micawber by Mr. George Bellamy, while a difficult character in Uriah Heap finds a capital exponent in Mr. Ivan Berlyn. Other parts are well filled as follows:—David Copperfield, Mr. Humphrey Warden; Ham, Mr. Alfred Woods; Mr. Wickfield, Mr. H. Carter Bligh; Lettimer, Mr. Ernest Mozar; Mrs. Steerforth, Miss Maude Williamson; Rosa Dartle, Miss Edith Cartwright; Betsy Trotwood, Miss Mabel Luxmore; Agnes Wickfield, Miss Gordon Walker; Mrs. Gummidge, Miss Mary Smith; Martha, Miss Scott-Lauder; Mrs. Barkis, Miss Ruby Wyndham.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Messrs. Garrod and Northway's company is responsible for the presentment of the drama entitled *The Prodigal Parson*, which occupies the boards here this week. Mr. W. V. Garrod himself enacts the name part in a thoroughly artistic manner; Mr. A. Northway as Churchwarden Jaggins, and Mr. Alfred Dallas as Ben Jaggins give a good example of up-to-date villainy. Miss Bertha Kingston acquits herself well in the leading feminine rôle, and the comedy efforts of Mr. P. Dawson and Miss May Grayce justify favourable comment. Variety is lent to the entertainment by the dancing of the Radium Girls.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The drama, entitled *A Noble Brother*, has been submitted to large audiences here this week by Mr. Charles Carte and company, Mr. Carte himself again delighting one and all with his clever impersonation of Jerry the tramp. Able support is forthcoming from Mr. Frank Lyndon, who portrays the rôle of the villain, Henry Travers, on popular lines; a satisfactory "juvenile lead" is found in Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin, who thoroughly justifies his selection; Mr. Michael Madden is agreeably placed as Larry O'Brien; Miss Doris Brooks displays rare charm as Nana Leigh, and Miss Rosie Conroy successfully assists in the comedy scenes as Rosie Rapid.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Large holiday audiences have laughed heartily at the ingenious and very amusing business in the absurdity, *The Casey Circus*, performed by a numerous and talented company. Some of the balancing feats of the Wille Brothers are marvellous in the extreme, and this clever trio deserve all the applause they receive; dainty and vivacious Lily Langtry is as lively and as entertaining as ever; the McConnell Trio are popular favourites hereabouts, and their musical sketch again meets with cordial recognition; the New York Nippers show much versatility in their scena, entitled *Bed Time*; Elly Adair and Nellie Martell both win favourable comment as comediennes and dancers; the duologue, *Two to One*, is a diverting little entertainment, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden; the Klos Sisters submit an athletic act with much success; and Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika introduce some clever performing animals in their circus act.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—The leading feature in this week's programme is contributed to by Arthur Rigby, whose song, "The March of the Married Men," is again productive of much merriment; F. Wilbur Hill and Willette Whitaker are accorded a flattering reception for their excellent banjo playing and vocalism, Miss Whitaker fairly bringing down the house with her beautiful rendering of "Hallelujah"; George D'Albert renews acquaintance here, and scores his customary success in a couple of cleverly written songs; J. B. Preston, Scotch comedian, is a popular favourite; Harry and Fanny Dent create infinite amusement with their well-known comedy sketch; Yamomoto and Koyoshi, Japanese equilibrists, are loudly applauded for a really clever and daring performance; Arthur Reece, vocal comedian, sings himself into favour; and other entertaining contributions emanate from Myles and May, the Merry Huntemen; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; Lily Lena, comedienne; the Sivronis, burlesque comedy artists; and the Barrascope, depicting *Quarter Day Conjuring*.

OLYMPIA THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton.—The U.S.A. and Greater Britain Animated Photo company again occupy this hall with a varied and entertaining series of pictures, the subjects chosen being both interesting and amusing. Excellent business has been done this week.

NEWPORT.—LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Cooper.—The holiday attraction here is provided by Mr. W. H. Hallatt's company in *The Temptress*. Mr. Hallatt plays Pedro Gonzales with real earnestness; Stella is portrayed by Miss Blanche Steele with power and intensity; and Mr. Frederick Ross plays admirably the part of Lucas Denbigh. Mr. Geo. D. Daiper is a manly hero, Philip Welford; and Mr. Robert Wilton makes an excellent Rev. Austin Dale. Mr. Tom E. Sinclair's Bob Turner is richly humorous, and he is capitally aided in the provision of fun by Mr. Alan Carruthers (Francis FitzFluke). Mr. Oscar Power, Miss Lizzy Chambers, and Miss Mabel Scudamore played their respective characters exceptionally well.

EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Mark Sheridan, always popular here, heads a very attractive holiday bill, and his drolleries keep the house in roars of laughter. Alcide Capitaine, a lady trapezist, is warmly applauded; Belloin's Birds give a marvellous performance; and Binns and Binns, comedians, combine fun and skill in a way that is enjoyable. Frank and Free are amusing; Miss Odeyne Spark sings and dances prettily; and the Bros. Damm go through a clever performance on the bar. J. H. Milburn sings in a pleasing style; and the Sisters Chester in a dainty turn complete the bill.

NORTHAMPTON. — OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Eeden.—Mr. Milton Bode's company has appeared this week in *Saved From the Sea*. Mr. William Matthews gives a forcible rendering of Dan Ellington; Jim Weaver, Peter Scalcher, and Richard Fenton, a trio of thorough scoundrels, are well acted by Mr. Louis Hector, Mr. Frederick Harker and Mr. Monson Thorpe, Mr. Edward Swinton and Mr. Scott Turner furnish some amusing fun as Billy Snooks and Jenkins, ably assisted by Miss Daisy Stone as Polly Blake and Miss Violet Temple as Mrs. Blake, and Miss Florence Creagh is a pleasing and sympathetic Nancy.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Augustin and Hartley are extremely clever in their barrel act; the Ashers appear with success as "the Earl and the Girl"; the Sisters Vincent are excellent duettists and dancers; Maude Kaye submits a coon song in fair style; Susie and Protti are speciality dancers of great ability; Nina Vesta is a smart comedienne; Baroux and Bion are smart eccentric acrobats; Ether Loftus, the comedy girl, makes a big hit with her funny songs; Bert Brantford is highly successful with his comic songs; and the Palace Pictures maintain their popularity.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—A large audience assembled here on Monday evening to welcome Mr. Dickie Clare's company in *Lucky Liza*. Mr. Dickie Clare as Silas Slim was responsible for much hearty laughter; and Mr. James Chippendale scored heavily as Peter Pettitoe. Mr. Leonard Maitland made quite a hit as Paul Pettitoe; Mr. Willie Reed was an amusing Biffens; and Mr. A. W. Thompson as Blatherwick, Mr. George Minto as the Judge, and Mr. James Quinn as the Usher added greatly to the fun. Miss Madge Brownie acquitted herself admirably as Liza Bird; Miss Madge Locke met with much appreciation as Virginia Blatherwick; and Miss Belle Russell made a good Marie Pettitoe.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—The Karno Trio, in *The Travellers' Rest*, top the bill here and cause hearty laughter; Mr. Arthur Albert, descriptive vocalist, comes in for a cordial reception; and Aryama, the Japanese Wonder, performs some marvellous feats. Mr. J. C. Scatter, comedian and dancer, is clever; and Messrs. Ewart and Byran, Hebrew comedians; the McKays, speciality artists; and the bio-photoscope are all successful.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—A capital company occupies the boards this week with the popular piece entitled *Dishonoured*. Mr. Percy Ballard acted well as Philip Cunningham, and Mr. Geoff Broughton deserves praise as Col. Sir William Cunningham. Mr. Walter T. Hybert was a success as Capt. Cholmondley, and Mr. Jackson-Hayes did well as Capt. Plythland. Mr. Harold B. Ford as the butler, Mr. Val Gully as Sunny Jim Stokes, and Mr. A. Raymond Shaw as a Hindoo scored in their respective parts. Miss Jessie Merrick was charming as Sybil, Miss Violet Cranford was good as Leslie Maynard, anon Mrs. Philip Cunningham, whilst Miss Annie Thompson was amusing as Annie Maria.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—A capital holiday programme is presented this week. Mr. Harry Rosebury's company, in a musical mélange brimful of mirth and melody, entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, is rapturously received; Austin and Cowan are successful vocal entertainers; Florence Watson proves a clever vocal comedienne; Williams and Warden are amusing duettists and dancers; Prince Bendon, ventriloquist, is a good turn; and Leo Frasettio is highly successful as a soloist on the violin, 'cello, harp, and xylophone; Harry Rogerson and Bessie Herbert in their scena *Sleepy Sam* are well received; and the Hippo Bio depicting scenes in the recent catastrophe at San Francisco is quite a feature of the programme.

NOTTINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney.—Mr. Edward Compton and company pay a welcome visit this week with a repertoire of Old English plays. On Monday was presented *Davy Garrick*, in which Mr. Compton played with his accustomed buoyancy and artistic skill, his embodiment calling forth unlimited applause. Miss Mackenzie undertook the rôle of Violet for the first time, acting with a charming grace and naturalness that gained appreciation; Mr. H. Crocker portrayed Alderman Gresham with vigour, and was entirely convincing; Mr. A. B. Imeson showed excellent aptitude in depicting the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut; and capital support was given by Miss M. Hassell, Muriel Meek, and Messrs. Herbert Pigot, Arnold Lucy, and G. W. Johnston. *The School for Scandal*, *To-morrow*, *Money*, and *New Men and Old Acres* were also in the bill for the week.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*Her Luck in London* has drawn crowded houses this week. Miss Mary Neil plays with tender feeling as Nellie Harborne, revealing artistic temperament and agreeable naturalness; Mr. Charles A. Leicester submits a careful and forcible reading of the Hon. O'Connor; and Mr. Alfred D. Adams makes an acceptable Richard Lenowen. Mr. Douglas Tremayne is very popular as the Rev. Lionel Strong, and Mr. Tyrone Power gives a picturesque representation of the tenant farmer Stephen Harborne. There is a strong element of comedy in which Misses Pamela Hodson, Ada Roscoe, Dora Woodberry, and Messrs. Charles Digby, J. T. Dillsen, and Bruce Clapham are seen to advantage.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller. — Patrons of this hall are being highly delighted with a couple of sketches by I. G. Johnson and company, entitled *In an Old Country Lane* and *Loyal Hearts*. Llewellyn is popular with his baritone songs, gaining hearty applause, and a pleasing singer is found in Florrie Beck. Helm and Cozens are an amusing pair of comedians, and Arthur Stacey earns a liberal reward for his smart dancing. The Nettas and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux complete an all-round good programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—Eugene Stratton's enjoyable coon songs with their charming settings nightly gain an enthusiastic reception. The dextrous performance of the Uessems calls forth the most vigorous plaudits; Chinko shows a deftness in his juggling that gains him a well-deserved demonstration of approval; Brooks, Dale, and Blitz provide a large fund of amusement; and an amusing absurdity by the Arthur Lloyd Trio is an excellent provoker of mirth. Marba and Verity give an exhibition of trick dancing, and Will Vokes proves his mercurial activity in a dance. The Norman-Leonard Trio introduce an acceptable musical sketch, and Alfred Hurley sings with considerable taste and fervour. The American Bioscope furnishes some films of the San Francisco disaster.

NUNEATON. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS' CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—The usual crowded holiday house assembled on Monday night, when the musical comedy-drama *The Convent Bell* was presented. Mr. Bertram Ross gives an excellent interpretation of Philip Vautier; Mr. Chas. E. Howell is good as the Colonel; Mr. Howell Webb as Pickle Podds causes roars of laughter. Miss L. B. Clarke as Marguerite wins applause, and Miss Emily Huby does good work as Christine Valgrave. Deserving praise are Miss Mara Collings, Lady Mother of the convent, Miss Dot Russell (Susette), with songs and dances, and Mr. R. Harris (Henri Cassella). On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, *The Price of Pleasure* was staged by the same company.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—*A Prince of the People*, a new romantic drama in five acts by Mr. Elwyn Barron, was produced here on Monday by Miss Emily Sheridan and a powerful company. A full notice of the piece appears in another column.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Wm. Eastwood.—Messrs. Armadale and Warren's company in *The Face at the Window* is here on a return visit, and a large audience gave it a hearty welcome on Monday. Mr. E. Hoggan Armadale plays the Chevalier, alias Le Loup, in a forcible manner; and Mr. T. W. Dunscombe as Gouffet is very fine. Le Blano is capitally enacted by Mr. G. Phythian, and Mr. C. Alan Hineson is humorous as Peter Pottleberry. Lucian Cortier is well played by Mr. Gilbert Hall, and Mr. Alfred Warne makes a good Henry de Brisson. Miss N. Thorne Hallam is a sympathetic Marie de Brisson. La Pinau is ably played by Miss Elaine Grant, and Miss Gwynne Warren is good as Babetta. Excellent business is being done.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Charlene and Charlene (Charles and Lilly) are starring here and provide a capital turn with their drawing-room entertainment. Dot Stephens sings very nicely; Carr and Rose give a good humorous duet; Alburtus and Jessie Millar create much laughter in their scena *At the Fair Grounds*; Marie Reeve is a good comedienne; Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright are effective in a farcical episode, *Cockie*; Harwood's Juveniles are a clever troupe of singers and dancers with a good novelty scena entitled *A Children's Christmas Evening*. Tony Iveson is good as the Ragman at the piano, and Tod Lowan, comedian, is also in the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—Katie Butler, character comedian, is at the top of the bill, and is well received; Allis and Cassati, comedian and Tyrolean vocalist, give a neat turn; Ragius, burlesque juggler, is very mirth-provoking with his ball manipulating; and Mlle. Victoria Dagmar does a graceful act on the horizontal bar; Pete and Minnie Lee are a good pair of vocalists; the Brothers Hayes appear in their latest success, *The Porter and the Professional*; Jake Tarr is a good vocal comedian; and the Dottoscope concludes with "The Villain's Wooing."

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Henry Doughty opened here on Monday to the customary full Bank Holiday house with *The Barrister*, which was heartily received. Mr. Doughty in the title-rôle is uncommonly good, and well deserved the applause he received. Capital support is given by Mr W. A. Dunlop as Capt. Walker, Mr. E. W. Thomas as Major Drayton, and Mr. A. C. Thornhill as Jack Rodderick; while Mr. Hanby Francks scores a big success in his clever impersonation of Walker's servant, Tom Price. Miss Vera Leslie gives a very effective rendering of Mrs. Maxwell, and the remaining ladies' parts find capable exponents in Misses Beryl Graham, Edith Coleman, Amy Lloyd Desmond, and Cicely Hamilton. *The Barrister* is preceded by a clever curtain-raiser, *The Traveller Returns*, in which Mr. Doughty appears with marked success as Johannes.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mrs. Walter Bentley's company opened on Monday night to a full and enthusiastic house with the costume play *A Queen's Vengeance*. Mr. Arthur Chisholm sustains the part of Henry II. with praiseworthy force and dignity; while Mr. J. O. Stevenson is convincing in his rendering of Sir Rupert Warriner. Mr. A. Bertram as Gilbert Ormonde and Mr. Arthur Bell as Sir Martin Clifford are both successful in their respective parts; while Mr. R. E. Trieve extracts humour out of Bibeau; and Mr. Geoffrey Mepstead is genuinely funny as Rafe Rudolph. Miss Lillian Deane gives a graceful rendering of Fair Rosamond, and is ably supported by Miss Adela Harvey as Janet Jessop. Mrs. Walter Bentley is successful as Queen Eleanor, a part which she interprets with great intensity and power.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—The stock company organised by Miss Violet Maitland and Mr. Herbert St. Clair is this week staging two plays, viz., *Shadows of a Great City* and *East Lynne*. Each receives capable treatment.

PLYMOUTH. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The Elter Grime Operatic Company is visiting Plymouth for the first time and creating a most favourable impression. *Maritana* was staged on Monday, when the title-rôle was played by Miss Marie Elster, a soprano of excellent range and power; Mr. Fred Hargreaves as Don Cæsar de Bazan secured a well-deserved encore for his excellent rendering of "Let me like a soldier fall"; Mr. Michael Kemble made the most of the musical numbers allotted to Don José; and Miss Madge Quillam as Lazarillo was best heard in the duet "Sainted Mother" with Maritana. The company have also played *La Fille de Madame Angot*, *Carmen*, *The Lily of Killarney*, *Faust*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—The recent escape from Dartmoor Prison lends additional local interest to William Bourne's drama *Man to Man*. Mr. Edward Lloyd plays the hero George Gordon in approved fashion; Mr. Stephen Ewart is a realistic villain as Richard Ellerton; Mr. Greene Taylor is a very humorous Bill Burkley; Miss Ethel Kay has a flattering reception as Ethel Maybourne; and Mr. C. A. Collins is a sympathetic Rev. Phillip Ormond.

PROMENADE PIER.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—The Olympian Singers are a much larger company than those generally appearing on the Pier, but quality by no means gives place to quantity. Mr. Phillip Ritte has a fine tenor voice; Mr. Eric Davison gave "Three jolly sailor boys" with plenty of "go"; and Mr. Robert Macaig sang "The beat of the drum" to the strains of a stirring march. Miss Doris Lee was warmly applauded for the popular "Rosie's bungalow," and Miss Haidee St. George was encored for her rendering of "A grand lady." Messrs. T. O. Taylor, Paul Mill, and Harry Harner maintain the humorous element at high level.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, County Theatres and Hotels, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr. J. Field; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Neil Carlton. — Mr. S. Bacon's company in the star turn *The Maniac* did not put in an appearance. The Alaskas, comedy artists, secured hearty applause for a very clever entertainment; Dainty Daisy Dormer is a very smart little comedienne; Clemart is a finished ventriloquist; the Tally-Ho Trio have an engaging musical number; the Brianos have some clever performing monkeys; and Poole and Monk do remarkable acrobatic feats. Others contributing are Vernon's Pictures, Geo. Prince, and Wright and Elton.

PORTH.—POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr Walter Bynorth.—For the Whitsuntide Holidays Messrs. Poole are presenting an excellent variety company. Mons. Felix de Marce presents his wonderful performing ponies and dogs, also the marvellous Joko and Koko, the equestrian baboons; the Cowells are seen in an attractive vocal and musical sketch; and the Three Panamas in an acrobatic, dancing, and comedy pot-pourri act. Other turns include Lottie Bray, comedienne; Nat Abbatt, musical humorist; the Danbys, comedians; Ariel and Astarte, horizontal bar performers; Beattie Worth, serio; and Sam Shipley, dialect comedian.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—The piece selected for the Whitsun holidays here was the comedy *Lucky Miss Dean*. Miss Dora Gray made a very graceful and vivacious Acacia Dean; Frederick Ware was played by Mr. William E. Ashcroft with untiring energy and gaiety; Mr. Cyril Price-Evans's Wilfred Ashmole was a capable character-study; Horace Chaney as portrayed by Mr. Vivian Gilbert was very good; Miss Estelle Despa and Mr. W. T. Elworthy were responsible for the successful rendering of Lady Ashmole and Percival Chaney. The piece was preceded by the one-act farce *My American Admirer*. On Wednesday there was a flying matinée by Mme. Jane Hading in *Le Maître de Forges*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The powerful and sensational drama *The Scarlet Woman* is being played here by Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson and company. Miss Scott-Watson displays great histrionic ability as the unscrupulous mercenary adventuress Marie Brandon; Miss Ethel Crawford gives an effective delineation as Margery Honor; Mr. Howell Travis is exceedingly capable as Richard Merchant; and the malevolent villainy of Will Raymond is well portrayed by Mr. William Bradford. Miss Julia Cadman as Charlotte Simkins and Mr. Tod Squires as Sam Hopkins infuse plenty of merriment into their respective parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The capital bill presented here includes Duncan's Collies, who are wonderfully sagacious; and Chas. Silburn, versatile comedian. The San Remo Girls are smart and versatile; Smith and Johnson, the coloured duo, are well received; Bros. Abo create much merriment with their amusing patter; Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in their comedy act *Fun at a Railway Station*, are much liked; the MacGregors appear in a refined musical act. Acceptable turns are also given by Sadie Simpson, comedienne; Lidden and Hayward, comedy and musical experts; and Payne's bio-photoscope.

PRESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Mr. Stephen Pritt.—*Our Boys* and *Caste* are two excellent attractions offered here this week, and both have been cordially received. Sir Geoffrey Champneys has a capital representative in Mr. C. Pilling Baird; Talbot Champneys is cleverly depicted by Mr. W. Besley Beltram; Mr. H. Robinson successfully fills the rôle of Charles Middlewick; and Mr. Charles Otley gives a genuinely amusing impersonation of Perkyn Middlewick. Miss Olive Palmer commendably sustains the part of Violet Melrose; Miss Edith Heron Brown is a pleasing Mary Melrose; the Clarissa Champneys of Miss Phyllis Manners is a natural and effective portrayal; and much praise is due to Miss Marie Jonquil for her humorous embodiment of Belinda.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—At the head of the bill here this week are the Eight Sarnthalers, who provide some excellent singing and dancing; Tom White's Arabs, accomplished vocalists, also score a success; Sandy and Carl greatly please with their versatility; the songs of Olga Fane and Stephen Blythe are distinctly popular; and other good turns are given by Rayner and Reece (singing and dancing pot-pourri); the Sheppards (comedians); the Sisters Belmont (dancers); and the Abdaroffs in *Prehistoric Peeps*.

RADCLIFFE. — GRAND OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Santé; Acting-Manager, Mr. James Boothman.—This house was opened on Saturday evening for Mr. Santé's seventh annual benefit, when a large crowd assembled to show their appreciation of this popular showman. A long and very varied programme was received with much favour. Among the artists were Jiel and Laval, capital comedy acrobats; Nancy Renshaw, the laughing negro comedienne; Mr. C. H. Charlton, society conjurer, who completely mystified the audience; Mr. A. B. Millard, the Curious One, who is full of funny gags; the Craigs, clever comedy acrobats; Little Loo, the child artist; the Shamrocks; Jack Spencer, eccentric comedian; T. Fox, champion clog dancer; C. B. Doolan, basso; Staffo, the butcher boy juggler; and Ernest Nelson, gold medallist athlete, who gave an exhibition of feats of strength.

RAMSGATE.—AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—*The Ruby Ring* has been the Whitsuntide attraction here. The piece (by Mr. H. B. Maxwell and Mr. J. D. Hunter) has been admirably staged by Mr. J. D. Hunter's company. Miss Alice Farleigh is a capital Helen Neville; and Mr. A. B. Tapping makes an effective appearance as Leloir. The Misses Eva and Blanche Bayley—old Ramsgate favourites—are also included in the cast.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Wallace.—Mr. Richeux has opened his lesseeship at the Pavilion in enterprising fashion with Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Eternal City*. Miss Marie Polini makes a thorough success of the part of Roma, and Mr. E. Stanton Sharpe scores heavily in the rôle of Baron Bonelli.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE — Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—Mr. F. H. Neville's company opened their second week's stay here on Monday with a clever performance of *Streets of London*, the piece being received with marked appreciation. Miss Glory Clarence emphasised the good impression she made last week by her fine impersonation of Alida Bloodgood; Mr. F. H. Neville as Badger was very powerful, his rendering of the character being decidedly clever; Mr. H. Claremont as Puffy was most humorous, his songs being well sung and keenly enjoyed; Mr. F. Kelland as Paul Fairweather gave a good portrayal; as also did Mr. Bradford Crosby of Mark Livingstone. Miss Mildred Monteath scored by her delineation of the part of Lucy Fairweather.

READING. — ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. B. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—The Whitsuntide attraction is provided by Mr. P. Howard Sturgess' No. 1 Company in the domestic drama *A Queen of Villainy*. Miss Edith Blande is specially engaged for the part of Cora Granville, which she portrays in a very artistic manner. Mr. Ern Carlton as Sir John Desborough, Mr. Laurence Stevenson as the waif Kit, Mr. Edward Heanley as Stephen Faucit, Mr. A. E. Maskell as Reuben Hawk, Mr. Charles Rodgers as Timothy Kodac, Mr. C. Stirling as Dick Leinster, Mr. W. Spearman as Matthew Dawes, Miss Cecilia Desmond as Rose Delmayne, Miss Jessie Crammonde as Mollie Maggs, and Miss Amy Ross Clyde as Sally Chimes, all sustain their parts in good style.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*A False Wife* occupies the boards here this week, Mr. W. Howard Barlow impersonates the hero, Geo. Mansfield, with effect; Mr. Elton Morgan is capital as Ben Rattler; Mr. Owen Edwin does well as Archibald Brown Tee; and Mr. Frank Strickland makes the most of Jean Beraud. Miss Ellen Armor enlists sympathy as Agnes Weyland; Miss Nita Imeson is vivacious as Bessie Blazer; and Miss Florence E. Florence cleverly acts the part of Lady Mansfield, otherwise Estelle de Lusson.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Hargreaves.—Pringle's North American Animated Picture Co. is here for the third week in succession with a change of programme. The Eltons, bar experts; Miss Mary Young, songstress; and Mlle. Sara's Marblesque Trio appear at intervals. The circus closes this week until August.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Hargreaves.—A capital array of talent marks the close of the season here. *Did He Deserve It?* a laughable farce, tops the bill; Zaid, assisted by Orienta, performs some daring evolutions on the swinging rings; Fentoni, entertainer; Andrews and Thompson, in a vocal act; May Zant and her juveniles; Sisters Brenton, comediennes and expert dancers; Bert Bowden, comedian; and the Empire bioscope complete the programme.

RUGBY. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh. — Messrs. O'Dell and Chabot's company are presenting the drama *The Romany's Revenge* here this week. Miss Ethel Ashleigh as Zamlet, a Gipsy boy, gives a very clever and acceptable impersonation; and in the dual rôle of Lilian Hope and Elspie, her half-sister, Miss Eva Elwes works hard and effectively. Miss Fanny Wallace as Dolly Pluck is very amusing, and is besides a clever dancer; Mr. Charles Gallier as John Hope is excellent, and wins the complete sympathy of the audience. Mr. Harry C. Robinson as David Renyard is good; and as Bobbie Bloom Mr. David Hamilton causes much amusement.

RYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, J. Bannister Howard, Ltd.—The Whitsun attraction here has been Mr. J. Bannister Howard's company in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. As Hawkshaw, the detective, Mr. A. Clifton Alderson submits a talented portrayal; while Miss G. Walton Hastings sympathetically sustains the part of May Edwards. The character of Robert Brierly finds effective treatment in the hands of Mr. H. K. Ayliff; and Mr. Paul Becket successfully undertakes the part of James Dalton; Melter Moss is well acted by Mr. James La Fane; Miss B. Doyle scores as Sam Willoughby; Miss Mildred Gilbert ably impersonates Mrs. Willoughby; and Mr. C. W. Crow is good as Mr. Gibson.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. J. Herbert Jay; Manager, Mr. F. T. Studd.—An attractive programme was presented for Whitsun by Ye Merrie Madcaps, whose first visit to the town is much appreciated; Miss E. Beaumont's whistling solos are a speciality; Miss Sharply sings effectively; Miss Swinburne's songs are popular; while Mr. Robert Cranny and Fred Leister are able entertainers.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden. Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Mr. Will White's company commenced on Monday before a good house a welcome return visit with the romantic western drama *The New World*, in which Mr. W. Campbell ably sustains the rôle of Jack Hawley; Jim Rawlings and Jose Alvarez are two good desperado character studies by Mr. W. S. Stevenson and Mr. W. H. Burton; Mr. Victor R. C. Moors also does excellent work as Joe Williams; Miss Beatrice Moore is a vivacious Jenny Williams, and Miss Evelyn Robson is a charming May Walton; Mr. Willie Hicks as Pete, Mr. Oliver Rogers as Brutus Brown, Mr. Stanhope Roche as Sam Smart, and Mr. Will White as Colonel Bilam Clayton contrive to keep the audience in excellent humour. The specialities by several of the above are much enjoyed.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—The programme this week is a capital one. Miss Lillie Soutter, comedy artiste, gives much satisfaction; much laughter is occasioned by Chris. Richards, eccentric dancer and comedian; some clever work is done by L. R. Roose, contortionist; the Madcaps give their smart acrobatic dancing performance. The other turns are provided by the Henriques, comedy acrobatic artistes; Barrett and Knowles, patter comedians; Dan Thomas, character comedian; George Young, a clever blind concertina soloist; Alec. Kendall, comedian, and Florence Wood, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Another capital programme includes *Codology*, a screamingly funny burlesque on hypnotism, presented by Prof. Hughes. *The Hypocrite* is an excellent dramatic sketch, played by Fred S. Peake and company. Fuller Graham and company have a good musical song-scena, called "The Shoeblack's Dream"; Rose Pink is a smart little comedienne and dancer. Several other good items are provided by Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists, including Madam Louie Gilbert, Farr and Farrland, comedians and clever banjoists; Will Harvey, comedian; Jock Walker, Scotch comedian, and Yorkshire Tom, animal mimic.

SCARBOROUGH. — PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman. — The twelve hours' programme is now in full swing here for the rest of the season. Miss Ada Webb and her troupe of lady swimmers give excellent exhibitions, assisted by "Little Elba"; Madame Marie Levante's ladies orchestra submits up-to-date programmes of music during the day, the band being composed solely of lady instrumentalists; Mr. Harry Thornton is the vocalist, and has created a favourable impression. Amongst the variety turns are Wit

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—The holiday attraction is Mr. C. W. Somerset's Co. in that stirring drama, *Human Hearts*, which is drawing good audiences. The company is an efficient one, and the staging excellent.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—The "star" attraction is Mr. John Tiller's Co. in that merry farcical sketch, *High Jinks*. The Rohda Bros. are responsible for a clever gymnastic act, and others who contribute to the success of the show are Florence, the jolly Dutch girl, and W. H. Downs, coloured comedian. Some capital views of the Derby are shown on the bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. P. Howell.—Harry Randall, with a budget of new songs, is a huge favourite; and Mr. W. Selkirk's juvenile sketch, *All Scotch*, finds great favour with the auditory. The spectacle is an interesting one, and the well-drilled youngsters do remarkably well. Pete and Juno, coloured comedians; Jessica Grace and her clever coons; Joe O'Gorman, Jack Pleasants, and Victor Travers, comedians, all contribute their quota to a capital holiday programme.

PIER PAVILION.—The Lindon Vaudevilles are providing the holiday bill of fare here, under the direction of Mr. Harry Collard, a popular society entertainer and instrumentalist, whose sketches at the piano give unbounded delight.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—The holiday attraction here is the well-known play entitled *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which is being presented by Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 American Combination. The play, which is prettily and effectively mounted, is sustained by a strong and capable company, and on Monday it was accorded the heartiest reception. As Uncle Tom Mr. J. Carr gives entire satisfaction; Mr. J. H. Renny ably interprets the rôle of Phineas Fletcher; and Mr. Stanley Howard is decidedly good as Mr. St. Clair. Legree, the slave owner, is forcibly taken by Mr. J. Henry Rogers. Merriment is provided by Mr. Walter Langford as Marks, the lawyer, and amusement is also provided by Miss Annie Watson as Topsy. Eliza Harris is entrusted to the clever Miss Hettie Johnson, who acquits herself creditably. Miss Ethel Mildmay as Cassy deserves mention for her successful portrayal; and as Little Eva a very refined and capital delineation is given by Little Minnie. The grand plantation scene is quite a feature, and the grand tableau is interesting.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—Plenty of amusement is provided here for the holiday week, and large and appreciative crowds are drawn. The Theatre entertainment is contributed by Edna and Wade, pleasing and clever duettists and dancers; the Brothers Litto are remarkable gun spinners; Mabel Lester, a capital character vocalist; Les Henris, smart acrobats; the Snow Flakes (Kursaal Girls); and Los Transfields, instrumentalists of exceptional ability. The Bioscope shows some really good pictures. The Hippodrome entertainment is under the direction of Mr. Dave Hyman. The Indian Hercules elicits keen curiosity in his marvellous feats of strength; Clown Argo is a mimic of no mean ability, and his fighting game cock arouses interest; Mlle. Renee as a juggler causes astonishment; and Knoto Lilian supplies a wonderful contortionist act. Several minor attractions are well patronised.

SOUTHPORT.—OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS. —Proprietors, the Southport Winter Gardens and Opera House Company, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—A capital holiday week attraction here is supplied by the engagament of Mr. Frank Bertram's company in the farcical comedy, *The New Clown*. Mr. Ernest Spalding submits an excellent impersonation of Lord Cyril Garston; Captain Jack Trent has a manly and vigorous representative in Mr. Cyril Vernon; Mr. A. M. Moore sustains the part of Thomas Baker very successfully; Mr. Alec Flood is an admirable exponent of the pompous circus proprietor; Mr. Douglas Payne acquits himself with credit as the strong man; Miss Connie Merton and Miss M. E. Ellis portray the sisters Maud and Winnie Chesterton in a charmingly piquant style, whilst Miss Celestine Bertram is a commendable representative of the circus proprietor's niece. The play is preceded each evening by a comedietta, entitled *My Lady Help*.

ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—A capital holiday programme is submitted at this popular variety hall, the star turn being provided by Miss Hetty King, the well-known male impersonator. The items include the Four Herberts, the jolly Californian farmers; the Du Gros Trio, comedy gymnasts; the Three Bodinas, musical eccentrics; Harry Carmen, comedian; Miss Ethel Yorke, vocal comedienne; Dare and Malvern, Australian comedy artistes; Frances Letty, comedienne and dancer; Miss Annie Nelson, vocalist, and Miss Daisy Lane, comedienne.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Parker; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Mertz.—The principal holiday attractions at this well-patronised variety hall are contributed by the K's Komedy Kompany, with a highly-diverting entertainment, and Criff, juggler, with mystifying feats. The programme also includes the Glenroy Troupe of fine speciality dancers; Charles E. Ernest, the human orchestra; Olly Oakley, banjoist, and the Bio-Tableaux.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensees and Managers, Messrs. J. and F. Coulson.—Large audiences are appreciating *The Orphan Heiress*, presented by Mr. W. Reuben Payne's company. Miss Rosalie Heath cleverly and charmingly portrays Mabel Ainsley; Mr. Charles Boult acquits himself well in the part of Douglas Kingston; Mr. Vincent W. Carlyle appears to advantage as Lawrence Gordon; Mr. Albert Brasque and Miss Beatrice Fitzhugh are successfully placed as Lord Ainsley and Lady Ainsley respectively; Miss Constance Medwyn submits an admirable interpretation of Edith Mowbray, and Miss Edith Halford powerfully portrays the villainous Olive Kingston. The comedy element is excellently supplied by Mr. T. H. Solly as Ginger, and Miss Cora Duncan as Betsy Buggles; Mr. Cecil Morand is noteworthy as Jenkins. Smaller parts are ably handled, and the staging is creditable.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen, Resident-Manager, Mr. George F. Thompson.—The star attraction here this week is the Rioguku Family of Japanese performers, who give an exceptionally clever equilibristic and gymnastic entertainment. Tom Wootwell, comedian, sings and dances himself into general favour, and Francis and Melli, musical grotesques, are also warm favourites; Harry Weldon, quaint comedian, is successful, and May Gibson, ballad vocalist, wins applause; the Brothers Harrison, knockabout comedians, are diverting, and the Raies, duettists and dancers; Guy Ryder, a clever whistler, and the American Bioscope strengthen the bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr. Joseph Sweeney.—Daisy De Roy heads the bill, and is the recipient of much applause; Fred Horsfall, vocalist and mimic, creates a favourable impression; and Mack Olive, assisted by Miss Daisy Baldry, in the scena, *The Candy Store*, submits some capital whistling. Other good turns are Lambert and Hands in scena entitled *Nell*; Le Wist, ventriloquist; Sisters Mottley, comediennes and dancers, and Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope.

A COSY CORNER on the sea-front is occupied by Burton's Bohemians, the Proprietor and Manager of which is Mr. George Burton.—The season commenced successfully on Saturday to a large and appreciative audience. Karr and Kooney, comedians, are already great favourites; Miss Pattie Burton, soprano, and Miss Ethel Vinroy sing pleasaingly. Other excellent turns contributed are Harry Harrop, comedian, Tom Johnstone, actor-vocalist and mimic, and Bert Davenport, baritone. Mr. George Burton is an able accompanist.

SPENNYMOOR.—CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Herbert Vere.—Mr. Sidney Bacon is providing an excellent holiday attraction in the shape of his Coliseum company of variety artists, whose efforts to amuse meet with much success. The sketch, *The Maniacs*, is the principal item in the programme, and in the title-rôle Mr. Melville Bickford displays dramatic capabilities of a high order; Mr. George Wybrow and Miss Josie Bickford, as Sammy Carrots, and Sally Jenkins provide some admirable comedy; Mr. William Brandon, and Miss Catherine Urwin are both efficient, as Jasper and Florence Woodleigh. Amongst the variety turns Little Violette, a diminutive Vesta Tilley; Prince Fee Lung, Chinese magician; Martino, speciality artist; the Singing Slavey, Lachie Thompson's Top Weights, and Downey's Living Pictures are all capital items.

STAFFORD. — LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Elphinstone.—Mr. Elphinstone's able stock-company is still retained at this theatre, and this week presents, *Jane Shore*; Mr. Francis Everard enacts the part of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, in his usual masterly manner, and as Anthony Yeaste, Mr. Edwin Turner is a distinct success; Miss Isabel Marto is an effective Elizabeth Woodville, and Miss Phylis Atherleigh gives a powerful and sympathetic rendering of the title-rôle.

STALYBRIDGE. — GRAND THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill. — *The Way of the World* is being given as a two-houses-a-night attraction by Messrs. Beaudyn and Crowe's company. Mr. Clarence Temple is very good as Matthew Malyon, a disgraced clergyman; Miss Cissy Bellamy claims sympathy in the part of Kate Montague, whilst Miss Marie Fontaine, Miss Violet Ingram, and Miss Sidney Crow are remarkably effective. Valuable assistance is also given by Messrs. Harold B. Lewis, Herbert Skardon, Augustus Hammond, Fred Mace, Pat Quinn, Frank Stanley, Charles Elliot, Reginald Elsie, Joseph Sydney, and Dick Seddon.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Mr. Ian Maclaren and company opened here on Monday, and were well received. The repertoire for the week includes *The Merchant of Venice*, *David Garrick*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, and *Othello*. The company possesses more than average ability.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Vic. Carnell.—A capital programme here this week includes the Six Brothers Luck company in *The Demon of the Cellar*; Sisters Hall, Sandy and Carl, Arthur Croxton, Illumino, Miss Violet Ashcroft, and the Brothers Gilbert.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Revill. — The historical play, *Lady Godiva*, forms the holiday attraction here, and is capably presented by Mr. John F. Preston's company. Mr. F. B. Woulfe acts powerfully as Tom of Coventry, and Miss Josephine Colona impersonates Lady Godiva with grace and ability; Mr. Clifford Marle makes a pleasing Leofric, and Mr. James Duncan acts effectively as Algar; the character of Unwolf is ably filled by Mr. Ernest Hamilton; Robin is amusingly presented by Mr. Bob Anderson, and Elfrida has a charming representative in Miss Edith Loraine.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —W. Permane's admirably-trained bears are a strong attraction here this week and included in a varied programme are the Four Skandias, graceful gymnasts and acrobats; Mark Merry in "Mirthful Melancholy"; Winnie Scott, a refined coon impersonator and dancer; Angeline, an exceedingly clever juggler; Wee Mona, a singer and dancer of ability; Percy Johnson, an amusing comic vocalist; May Fallowfield, a delightful comedienne; and Will Walton, whose songs were pleasingly rendered.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprieor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H Miller.—The premier position in the Whitsuntide programme is held by the Daunton-Shaw troupe of cyclists. The Dulops are acrobats and equilibrists of a high order; Agnes McKellar, the Scotch soprano, sings her songs admirably; T. B. Tayme is a comedian who is much appreciated; Mayor and Thurgate's combination, in their sketch *Mystery Fair*, are most amusing; The Katos contribute a good turn; the Woelhaffs, vaudeville artists, are smart; Alf Bishop is a comedy artist of much merit; the Bioscope shows capital pictures.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—The new play, *The Marriage Trap*, by Mr. Myles Wallerton, was produced here on Monday. A full notice appears in another column.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. Joshua Hemingway.—The holiday attraction here is provided by Mr. Frank Bateman's *No Wedding Bells for Her* company. The feature of this play is the presence of Miss Lizzie Montague in the rôle of Lola Delaspierre. She is supported by a capable all-round company.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Stringer.—The principal turn this week is provided by Herbert Darnley's company of comedians in the sketch entitled *Moving In*. Harry Lynn and Co. also provide a sketch under the heading of *Dead to the World*. Others contributing include Lorne and Rene, in a musical duo; Marie Neilson, comedienne and dancer; The Lyons Trio, pantomimists and dancers; Chas. Coverdale, comedian; the Davis and Gledhill trio of expert novel cycle racers; and the bioscope.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible-Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—This town has been crowded with visitors for the Bath and West of England Counties' Agricultural Show, especially on Whit Monday, when this popular playhouse was twice filled with bank-holiday audiences to greet Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchinson's clever company, under the business management of Mr. Sandin Perkins. For the second week of this visit, that delightful comedy *A Country Mouse* has been staged, and Mr. Percy Hutchinson must be complimented on his skilful study of the part of the Hon. Archibald Vyse, and Miss Lilias Earle for the commendable judgment with which she undertook that of Lady Silvia Bowlby; Miss Hilda Howes deserves high honours for her charming and effective work as Angela Muir, the many strong points of which she cleverly accentuated; Mr. George Mudie made much of the part of the Duke of Skitts, and Mr. Frank Hill gave a telling and natural embodiment of Jephcot, while Mr. Robert Forsyth, as John Bowlby, M.P.; Miss Margaret Marshall, as Violet Aynsley, and Miss Amy Coleman, as Mrs. Cropper, were all seen to excellent advantage. *His Landlady* has been a capital little curtain-riser at each performance. On Friday, that charming comedy *On the Love Path* was presented with Miss Lilias Earle and Mr. Percy Hutchinson in the leading parts.

TEIGNMOUTH. — PIER PAVILION. — Manager, Mr. J. A. Thompson.—An excellent programme is provided here this week by Messrs. Firth and Beer's Naval Cadets; Master Basil Clifford is a wonderful mimic, and his impersonations are excellent; Miss Maude Allen provides a good turn; Stratton Well's songs are appreciated; Miss Ella Dare is well received; Miss Millie Neale, dances neatly, and the Sisters Gaye are applauded. Mr. Ellis Midgley is the musical director, and his clever piano-solos deserve mention.

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse.—Mr. A. Hamilton Warden's principal company in *A Woman's Past* attracted an enthusiastic audience on Monday. A capable cast included Miss Maisie Hanbury, who was a pretty and popular heroine; Mr. Horace E. Herbert was effective as David Heath; Mr. Charles V. Sanford was good as Frank Dellanoy; and Mr. A. Hamilton Warden was excellent as Clement Harper; whilst the wiles of the villain of Mr. Oswald Cray found an effective counterpart in the low-comedy performance of Mr. T. Edward Evans as Bloater. Miss Gertrude Harrison did well as Clara Darrel, and Miss May Dallas was good as Dorothy Heath.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The summer season was opened this week by The Gaities under the direction of Mr. Wilson James and Mr. Charles Conyers. A first-class entertainment comprised humorous sketches and ventriloquism by Mr. Conyers, musical items by Mis Rosa Dallow and Miss Ruby Wilson, with humorous contributions by Mr. Wilson James, Miss Adelaide Schönberg acting as an efficient accompanist..

BATH SALOONS.—Proprietors, The Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. George Courtney. — The Royal Negro Choir and the Original Fisk Jubilee Singers paid a visit here this week, and were enthusiastically received. The Jubilee choruses were loudly applauded, several of the well-known darkie songs being encored.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Linden Travers. —The summer season was inaugurated on Saturday, and is again under the management of Mr. Linden Travers, who has after several years' absence returned to his old position here. A strong attraction is provided for the holiday carnival. A feature is the engagement of the Grand Casino Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr. Henry Spook, L.G.S.M., whose selections are exquisitely rendered and encored. Another popular item is the Jamaica Choir. Messrs. Reed, Morgan, and Miss Stevens appear in some amusing sketches; Mr. Harry Morgan, coon delineator, finds popularity; Gustave Fasola mystifies the audience with his clever illusions; Mr. Henry Nation, pianist, contributes some excellent solos; and the bioscope shows a series of up-to-date pictures.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The drama *Master and Man* occupies the boards this week, and has proved a great attraction.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Wild Willie and West head the bill, and contribute a clever acrobatic turn. The Camerons, comedy couple; the Lovelaces, song illustrators; Mignon, in a musical act; Maud Garland, comedienne; Marie De Voy, character-vocalist; and Fred Wright also contribute interesting items.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Billy McClain's coloured sextette, including Madame Cordelia, head the bill here this week. Dolly Moore, miniature male impersonator, is clever; the Delevines in their musical and dancing novelty *Flipp and Flopp* are well received; Bessie Butt proves herself a charming dancer; Frank Cumminger is a smart comedian and dancer; Alf. Kingston gives an acceptable vocal turn; the Warsaw Bros. are smart musicians and create roars of laughter; and a series of pictures on the American Bioscope concludes the programme.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in the drama, *Honour Thy Father*, occupies the boards here this week. It is an all-round good company, and the piece is well staged.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr. Fred C. Somerfield's company is here this week in the stirring play *Geoffrey Langdon's Wife* (?). Mr. Somerfield displays histrionic abilities as Will Maynard, and in the dual rôle of Cyril and Geoffrey Langdon Mr. Cyril Grier does well. Mr. T. G. Vane is well placed as Leonard Vimbart; Mr. Wallace Dandon is effective as Harold Hingston; and Mr. Willie Barrett as Mr. Miles and Mr. C. E. Warner as James cause much amusement. Miss Marie Dagmar as Elinor D'Arville proves herself an accomplished actress; and as Rosini Philipi Miss Geraldine Montrose acts well.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot.—Martin Conway is here this week, and the popular comedian has again established himself. Other good turns are Emma Don and her black and white quartette; the Vekeys, banjoists; Cooper and Lawson, speciality artists; Shawlene, whistler; and Eldee, pose artist.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby: Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—The holiday attraction here this week is Mr. Stuart Bolton's English Opera Co. On Monday evening *Maritana* was successfully played. Miss Kathleen Maccabe as Maritana was all that could be desired; Mr. Edward Stevens did remarkably good work as Don Cæsar, and as Don José Mr. Tom Griffiths evoked loud applause. On Tuesday *The Daughter of the Regiment* was staged, on Wednesday *Faust*, and on Thursday *The Bohemian Girl*.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—EXCHANGE THEATRE.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday capital performances of *Caste* and *The Little Intruder* were given by the Court Comedy company, with *The Prince and the Lady* as curtain-raiser. An excellent rendering of Eccles in *Caste* was contributed by Mr. Ernest Percy. Mr. Grahame Herington as Sam Gerridge was very good, and all the other characters were in safe hands.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Manager, Mr. J. A. Lewis.—*Somebody's Sweetheart* is attracting large houses here. The company is Mr. W. H. Kirby's, and that gentleman himself fills the rôle of Martin Biabbs with such success that there is not a dull moment in the piece; he is well supported, Miss Dot Reeve charmingly filling the title-rôle; whilst others who strengthen the cast are Mr. Percy Maitland, Mr. E. H. Bertram, Miss Dora Condor, Mr. J. Pyne Warburton, Mr. Robert Pittard, Miss Bella Perriss, Miss Gibson, and Miss Cordelia Knight.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Oakdene, the comedy ventriloquist, is one of the greatest hits of the week, and the reception accorded his performance is as flattering as it is fully deserved; Mr. and Mrs. Royston-Dene, in their playlet, *His Birthday*, make a lasting impression, so well are the characters represented; Jack and Evelyn, in their comedy act, *Come Into the Office*, are clever entertainers; as are Lee and Kingston, in their latest success, "Practical Joking"; Kisbey's unique speciality, *The Call Boy*, is another popular number; the Four Kweeries are repeating their illusion, which has puzzled so many; Harry Briggs (triple-voiced vocalist); Adey Spencer (the girl from the hat shop); and capital Bio-tableaux (Raymond's) complete the bill of fare.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. E. Lockwood's *Sergeant Brue* company opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday. Mr. J. Harold Carson did remarkably well in the title-rôle; Mr. Albert James convulsed the house with laughter by his funny interpretation of Crookie Scrubs; Mr. Frank Wilson was decidedly good as Michael Brue; Mr. Vernon C. Booth's acting and singing as Gerald Treherne gained loud applause; Mr. F. Laceby was successful as Mr. Crank, and Inspector Corringe found an excellent representative in Mr. Harold Godwin; Miss Gertie Fawcett gave a delightful impersonation of Aurora Brue; as Daisy Miss Amy Vivash was extremely comical; Miss Reydon Dallas made Lady Bickenhall a most charming personage, and Mabel Widget was sweetly portrayed by Miss Kathleen V. Grey. Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company in *Sweet and Twenty* occupied the boards for the remainder of the week.

WEYMOUTH.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. H. J. Nobbs.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood Ingram's company in *Sweet and Twenty* met with a cordial reception on Monday evening. Miss Ethel Weyburn played charmingly as Joan Trevelyan; Mr. Gus Wheatman was amusing as Prynne; Mr. Stephen Wentworth represented Eustace Floyd carefully and well; and Mr. Lionel Glenister scored as Douglas. Mr. Derlingcourt Odlum portrayed the Hon. and Rev. Jas. Floyd with marked ability; Miss Isabel Grey was exceedingly successful as Ellen; and Miss Zeta Russell prettily embodied the boy Chris. Mr. James Vincent as Trehearne, the blacksmith, and Miss Dorothy Carington as Mrs. Trevelyan were each capital in their respective parts. The play is preceded by the farce *In the Strand*.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—*The Love that Women Desire* proved an attractive holiday engagement. Mr. G. C. Wallace's company includes Mr. J. O. Stewart as Squire Abingdon; Mr. David G. Noble as Philip Carnaby; Miss Clarissa Bamford as Mariquinha; and Miss Lalla Stanhope as Sybil Thorburn.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—The Four Giraldos give a neat club juggling act; and the Athos Family are skilful acrobats and ball manipulators. Dusty Rhodes, styled the comedy merchant, and Percy Farrimond, a local collier vocalist, have been recalled each evening. Zeta Grey and Co. are well received in the sketch *The Lancashire Lass*, and other capable variety artistes are the Two St. Johns, the Three Sisters Kilner, Mabel Le Blanche, the Boston Twins, and Charlie Jerome.

WORCESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. Le Wards.—*Sergeant Brue* has this week provided an unusually attractive holiday programme, and Mr. E. Lockwood's company's admirable presentation of this highly successful musical comedy has aroused the enthusiasm of crowded houses. Mr. Arthur Reynolds in the title-rôle is the life and soul of the piece, and his numerous songs are excellently rendered. Mr. Charles McLagan is hardly less amusing. As the gay Lady Bickenhall Miss Lily Lingard has achieved much popularity, and other members of the company equally well suited are Mr. Percy Rogers (Michael Brue), Miss Eva Weigh (Aurora Brue), Mr. Arthur Stroud (Gerald Treherne), Miss Aileen Macdonald (Mabel Widget), and Miss Violet Ward (Vivienne Russell). The admirable staging and dressing are features of the production.

WORKINGTON. — QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE. — Lessee, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Manager, Mr. Falconer Jackes.—The Savonahs and Elliotts opened here to a fine house on Monday night with their splendid musical and cycling feat entertainment. They were enthusiastically greeted. Algie, the Juggler, is clever; and the Garden's Royal Quartette of singers and dancers are also successful.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. Harold Payne and company are here this week presenting *Petronella*, the new comic opera. Mr. Harold Payne, who has an excellent tenor voice, does well as Captain Bravadura; Mr. Harry Gribben is also successful as Don Sebastian Salutia; Mr. Alfred Majilton ably embodies the part of Marquis Circumvita; Mr. B. Black is extremely funny as Sergeant Bodega, and uses his baritone voice to the best effect; Miss Marie Ault deserves the highest commendation as Step-annie Flooretta Dossano; Miss Zoe Gilfillan in the title-rôle is very good, possessing an excellent voice and fine presence.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey are here with *A Traitor Prince*. Mr. G. M. Montanini, a clever and accomplished artist, undertakes the title-rôle; Mr. Ernest A. Duval fills the part of Lieut. Frank Derrick in good style; Mr. Edmond O'Grady and Mr. Edward Fenton as Billy Bright and the Hon. Bobby Vavasour Dalrymple are amusing; Mr. W. Norman portrays the part of Col. Vane in excellent style; Mr. Victor Rae as Cara, a half-caste, plays well; Miss Kitty Thomas fulfils the rôle of Miss Pansy Blossom in a clever and winsome manner; Miss Clara O'Grady as Mrs. Blossom is a capital mother; Miss Rose Routledge sustains the part of Lolo Vane in creditable style; Miss Nita Langford is clever as Vastiti, the snake-charmer.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week the Muir and Bartlett's powerful company appeared with success in the funny comedy *The Collar Stud*. The comedietta *Wanted, a Wife*, was also amusing. Mr. Arthur Wallis, an American monologue artist, was good, while the Electric Animated Tableaux proved attractive.

MISS HAIDEE GUNN

AS PORTIA AND DESDEMONA.
OPINIONS OF THE DUBLIN PRESS.
VICEREGAL VISIT.

Following her success as Portia on Monday night, Miss Haidée Gunn essayed a very different rôle last night. The play of *Othello* is a highly popular one at all times with Dublin audiences, but the prospect of seeing Miss Gunn in the part of Desdemona formed a potent attraction, and a crowded house, which included the Lord Lieutenant and the Countess of Aberdeen, very warmly acclaimed her portrayal of a character which, beyond all others, is full of gentleness and trusting, tender womanhood. She was, perhaps, hardly so effective as on Monday night, but at the same time her Desdemona must take high rank amongst modern conceptions of the part. That unswerving loyalty to her husband which is one of Desdemona's principal charms gave Miss Gunn the opportunity for some of her most effective work, but it was, perhaps, in her earnest pleading for the restoration of Cassio to her husband's favour that her finest efforts were revealed, and at the close of the fourth act the presentation of a number of floral tributes constituted a very tangible expression of the general appreciation with which her work was regarded.

Dublin is loyal to its old theatrical friends, and almost paternally loyal to theatrical ability in the second generation. On Monday night there was a crowded house at the Gaiety to witness Miss Haidée Gunn's first appearance in a really important part among her own *lares* and *penates*. A young actress ho attempts a classic rôle may be merely ambitious or may have a well-founded confidence in her own capacity to "go far." We do not know whether Miss Gunn has any such confidence, but she may be assured that after Monday night her friends will have a large measure of it. Her performance of Portia was one of which an older and far more experienced actress might well be proud. Exaggerated praise is not good for young people, but it would be unfair to Miss Gunn to refuse her the praise and stimulus of saying that she has justified her bold experiment, and that though she has still (like all actors of every age) something to learn, her acting on Monday night gave solid promise of distinguished future success in the highest walks of her profession.

Miss Gunn's first appearance on the stage was greeted with cheers that assured her of an audience ready to be "to her virtues very kind, and to her faults a little blind."

The assurance was flattering, but she soon showed that it was not necessary. Miss Gunn's acting made no drafts upon the tolerance of the audience; on the contrary, it made an almost instant appeal to their artistic appreciation. If she was nervous she showed no trace of it. Her acting was admirably finished and natural, and there were passages in the lighter scenes where it could hardly have been improved upon. She looked what she was—not a masculine, but a delightfully womanly Portia. If one tests her by the trial scene—as one usually tests Portias—she emerged from the test with much credit. As we have all known for a long time, one of Miss Gunn's most striking qualities is her musical voice—"an excellent thing in women," and a gift above rubies in an actress. Portia's voice dominated the trial scene, and her rendering of that test passage, "The quality of Mercy, etc.," was a perfect piece of elocution. The acting behind the voice was restrained and dignified. It was particularly powerful where Portia makes her final appeal to the Jew's mercy before shattering his visions of revenge.

It was, however, in the lighter scenes that Miss Gunn pleased us most. She is a born actress of elegant comedy—dainty, sympathetic, and with a laugh of compelling sweetness. We have never seen the ring episode after the trial scene better done; and never, on the whole, a more gracious and lovable Portia. In our opinion the qualities expressed by these two adjectives are the distinctive note of Miss Gunn's rendering of the part; so distinctive that on Monday night they very nearly entitled her to the proud name of a really creative actress. The house was honestly delighted with Miss Gunn's acting, and after the third, fourth, and fifth acts a number of bouquets were handed to her from the audience.

Miss Gunn's sweetness was well set off by the strong ferocity of Shylock. Mr. Allan Wilkie gave an uncommonly good and consistent interpretation of the part. There was a real element of dignity in his implacable pursuit of Antonio, and his final agonies never degenerated into mere baseness. He was very good in the particularly difficult passage where he is torn by the conflicting emotions of love for his daughter and sorrow for his stolen ducats.

The highest treat the stage offers is a play of Shakespeare well acted. That rare trial was last night offered to a crowded and appreciative house at the Gaiety. The two chief parts in *The Merchant of Venice* were admirably played. The Portia of Miss Haidée Gunn and . . . are as true and powerful as the modern stage can offer to an audience. Portia is a charming character to read; a complex and difficult character to play. To borrow a metaphor from music, there is a wider compass in her character than any of Shakespeare's heroines. One would need a score of epithets at least rightly to describe it. Merry, gracious, gentle tender, womanly, self-devoted, eloquent, are some of them. Yet in all those moods there is a sweet dignity which is, to our thinking, the keynote of the character. Portia is never skittish, as some actresses—and even great actresses—interpreted the part. It is marvellous how truthfully a young girl like Miss Haidée Gunn, with little experience, as the stage counts experience, interpreted the part and played it. Sympathy was the secret of her success. She did not analyse; she felt. She abandoned herself to the inspiration of the part. She forgot Haidée Gunn in Portia, and she tempted her audience to the same forgetfulness. The sweet lady of Belmont lived again upon the stage as the imagination loves to picture her. It is always hard to describe a good performance. Judicious censure is much more easy than judicious praise, even when both are equally deserved. In thorough enjoyment of a performance discrimination and even admiration are forgotten; the illusion is complete. The frolicsome mirth of the earlier scenes and of the last were as perfect in their way as the gracious dignity, the tenderness, the pathos, and the power of the trial scene, which is the highest revelation of the character. As has been said more than once of Miss Gunn—

"Her voice is low and sweet,
An excellent thing in a woman."

Specially excellent in a Shakespearean actress, whose every word is precious. Her voice is clear as a silver bell, for musical charm, perhaps, unrivalled on the stage. Her laughter rings clear from her soul. Her comedy last night was delightful, but it was in the trial scene she was at her best. In this scene she made a brilliant debut in Dublin. It was highly praised at the time, and rightly praised. In delicate grace and gentleness it could scarcely have been improved. Yet last night's performance proved how much the actress has grown since then. Sweet gentleness she always had. She has achieved power in the part. Calm and strong, the embodiment of the mercy she praises, she confronts and dominates the merciless rancour that is embodied in the character of Shylock. There are many and competent critics who think Portia's great speech the most beautiful passage in all Shakespeare. Never did the tender and exquisite music of the lines find voice more exquisite, or the tender, gracious pathos of the appeal more sympathetic utterance. The persistent rancour of the Jew took more repulsive shape when those lines were spoken.

Last night Miss Haidée Gunn surpassed herself in the part of Desdemona, and extorted from a crowded audience the tribute, not of applause merely, but also of tears. If anyone who had seen her play could doubt that here was a really great actress, last night's performance must have brought conviction. It is not enough to look the part, to move with grace and dignity, to speak the lines with musical clearness; these gifts Miss Gunn has, indeed, in rare perfection. But these are but the accessories of acting; she has the gift of sympathy and feeling, which is the essential for which nothing can compensate. "If you want to make me weep," said the wisest of the Latin poets, "you must weep yourself." It is the heart that prompts the really great artist, not the intellect. Study won't suffice. Every tone and gesture may be perfect, yet leave the audience cold if that indefinable something, which in music is called expression, is lacking. It is very hard to define the want in words; it is very easy to feel it. Miss Gunn is happy in gracious presence, in graceful presence, and in a voice of perfect music, but happiest of all in that quick and sensitive sympathy which identifies her, body and soul, with the character she plays in every varying phase of thought and passion. In Desdemona she wins admiration, affection, and pity that is pain in its intensity. She charms the audience from the first in that touching speech in which she makes choice between her husband and her father.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

WE wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen :—

Kate Olga Vernon—Saturday, June 9.
Emma Rainbow—Saturday, June 9.
Norman G. Appleby—Saturday, June 9.
Sybil Chester—Saturday, June 9.
Jerrold Heather—Saturday, June 9.
J. J. Webb—Sunday, June 10.
Mrs. Walford Bodie—Sunday, June 10.
Mabel Spencer—Sunday, June 10.
Ernest Leicester—Monday, June 11.
Violet Vanbrugh—Monday, June 11.
Will Knott—Monday, June 11.
Dr. Walford Bodie—Monday, June 11.
Julia Neilson—Tuesday, June 12.
May Davis—Tuesday, June 12.
H. H. Barrington—Tuesday, June 12.
Bob Leonard—Tuesday, June 12.
Frank Coyle—Tuesday, June 12.
Ethel Haydon—Wednesday, June 13.
Eustace Day—Wednesday, June 13.
Pope Pax—Wednesday, June 13.
Fannie Leslie—Wednesday, June 13.
J. A. Caicedo—Wednesday, June 13.
Charles Morritt—Wednesday, June 13.
Mark Kinghorne—Thursday, June 14.
F. W. Warden—Thursday, June 14.
Jack Collinson—Friday, June 15.
Percy Emery—Friday, June 15.
Ruth Wingrove—Friday, June 15.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE ADELPHI.

On Saturday, June 2,
Shakespeare's Comedy,
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

The revival of *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Adelphi on Saturday night gave playgoers another opportunity of enjoying the humours of Shakespeare's comedy, and the performance of no modern farce could have excited greater or more continuous merriment. Those who hold the opinion that the play should be acted as if it were a present-day farcical production can point to the fact that, in one version of the piece at least, a clown, known as "Sawny the Scot," was introduced. It was this adaptation, by the way, which Pepys witnessed on April 9, 1667, for he has placed it on record that he thought "Sawny the best part," though he complains that he could not well understand the words, no doubt because they were spoken in a broad Scotch accent. When Pepys made this entry the play had already for thirteen years had a place on the Dutch, and for nine on the German, stage, in vernacular versions. In Germany the comedy seems to have enjoyed exceptional popularity.

In the welcome revival of the comedy at the Adelphi, Mr. Oscar Asche is again seen as Petruchio, and enters with all his old zest and spirit into the representation of the shrew-tamer. In the scenes with Katharina Mr. Asche is quite at his best, and in "the Induction" which precedes the play he impersonates Christopher Sly, the tinker, with a keen sense of humour that delights the audience. Nor is the Katharina of Miss Lily Brayton lacking in any of those qualities which at once obtained for her unqualified success when she first appeared in the part. Paraphrasing a familiar quotation, it may be said of Miss Brayton's embodiment, "This is the shrew that Shakespeare drew." Every phase of the character is done justice to, and one cannot imagine a more effective representation of the part. Mr. Matheson Lang, succeeding Mr. Walter Hampden, is a handsome and graceful Lucentio; and Bianca's other suitors, Gremio and Hortensio, are again excellently embodied by Mr. Herbert Grimwood and Mr. H. R. Hignett, who also plays the part of the lord in the "Induction." Mr. Alfred Brydone is well-suited as Baptista, most effectively expressing the Paduan gentleman's delight at the prospect of getting his shrewish daughter off his hands; Mr. Caleb Porter gives an admirable portrayal of the vain, foolish old gentleman, Vincentio; Mr. G. K. Souper is a very amusing representative of Tranio, a part formerly played by Mr. Chas. Angelo; equally good is the Grumio of Mr. Charles Rock, a comedian of experience and resource; Mr. F. R. Anson must be credited with a capital portrayal of Biondello; Miss Francis Dillon, by reason of her charm of person and manner, is well chosen for the rôle of the fascinating Bianca, originally represented by Miss Pamela Gaythorne; Miss Constance Robertson deserves praise for her capital rendering of the part of the maid-servant Curtis; while other minor characters are carefully portrayed by Miss Frances Wetherall, Mr. Henry Kitts, Mr. J. R. Gillespie, Mr. Ivan Leslie, and Miss Blanche Catterson. The several scenes, painted by Mr. W. T. Hemsley and Mr. Joseph Harker, are charming artistic productions. Saturday night's audience showed their appreciation of the performance by recalling the principals with much enthusiasm, and "the Shrew" resumes her reign at the Adelphi under the most favourable conditions.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 4,
the Farcical Comedy, by Arthur Law, entitled
"THE NEW BOY."

That the Bank Holiday audience who crowded the King's on Monday evening had full value for their money was fully testified by the loud laughter which prevailed during the performance of Mr. Arthur Law's farce, *The New Boy*. The tortures which little Mr. Rennick is forced to undergo in the guise of a schoolboy at Doctor Candy's establishment are amusing in the extreme, and the enjoyment of the audience was evidenced by the curtain having to be raised several times after each act. Mr. Gerrard Grant-Allen's company is of all-round excellence, and includes Mr. Leon M. Lion and Miss Maud Magrath, in the characters of Archibald Rennick and Nancy Roach. Mr. Leon M. Lion gives an admirable rendering of the diminutive husband, Archibald Rennick, who is mistaken by Doctor Candy for the son of his old "flame," Mrs. Martha Boulder. Mr. Lion's appearance in boy's clothes, and his airs of importance and familiarity when in that guise he speaks to the elder people, were too ludicrous for description, and the impersonation must be pronounced a decided triumph for the young actor. Mr. A. Corney Grain was a successful Dr. Candy, his schoolmaster manner being very realistic; the Felix Roach of Mr. Talbot Homewood was in all respects good; and the Theodore de Brizac of Mr. Harold Weston was satisfactory. Mr. Stanley Logan as the school bully, Bullock Major, was exceedingly amusing; and Mr. Stubber was well played by Mr. M. A. Scott. The youthful flirt, Nancy Roach, of Miss Maud Magrath was a performance of genuine merit. Miss Katherine Harrington, a lady of majestic proportions, made a great success as Mrs. Martha Boulder; and Miss Margaret Fareleigh was bright as Susan the maid. The farcical comedy was preceded by a highly interesting and sentimental play in one act, by Tom Gallon and Leon M. Lion, entitled *The Borrowed Uncle*, in which Mr. Lion displayed his versatility in the part of Timothy Filby, an escaped convict. Mr. A. Corney Grain, Mr. Stanley Logan, and Miss Margaret Fareleigh rendered valuable aid. After this week the theatre remains closed for the usual summer vacation.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, June 4,
the Adaptation from Dickens's Novel, entitled
"OLIVER TWIST."

For the last week of the present season, *Oliver Twist*, the recent great success from His Majesty's Theatre, is being presented by Mr. Bannister Howard's excellent company. One can bestow no higher praise on the acting than by saying that it was equal in merit to the play. Every part, large or small, was thoroughly well played, and never for a moment lost grip on the interest of the audience. Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, in the rôle of Fagin, is a host in himself, and by his fine acting and artistic make-up, made the part impressive. It would be difficult to imagine an abler exponent of the part of Bill Sikes than Mr. William H. Kemble, whose portrayal is marked by thorough histrionic ability. Mr. Charlie Clark gives an excellent study of the Artful Dodger; and Fagin's other pupils, Charlie Bates, Tom Chitting, and Barney, are characters that are rendered with ability by Messrs. R. C. Hunter, J. Johns, and J. Hames. Mr. Fred Penley contributes a performance of considerable merit as Mr. Brownlow; and Mr. W. H. Rotherham, in the dual rôle of Mr. Trimwig and Monks, submits admirable assumptions. Mr. Cyril Cattley, in addition to his arduous duties as stage-director, essays the part of Harry Maylie, and his performance is much appreciated. Messrs. Edward Walsh, J. C. Appleby, T. Williams, Crank, J. James, and C. Brown all render their parts with ability. Miss Dorothy Marstin as Oliver Twist has the sympathies of the audience from start to finish, and gives a praiseworthy representation of the unfortunate waif. Miss Daisy England and Miss Helen Clement are well placed as Mrs. and Rose Maylie respectively; and the Misses Black and White are also good as Betsy and Mrs. Bedwin; whilst Miss Tyers does well in the small part of Mrs. Bumble. Miss Edith Anton Laing handles the difficult part of Nancy with considerable skill, giving full effect to the many fine scenes in which she is concerned. Effective scenery and admirable stage-management are among the strong points of an excellent performance.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
"THE BOOM OF BIG BEN."

The holiday attraction here has been the above well-known and well-written drama, which, capably handled by Messrs. E. H. Knight and George Denham's company, was just the thing to please a Woolwich popular audience. Miss Mildred Cottell submitted a striking portrayal of Olive Lorette, being most successful in suggesting the occasional gleam of an idea of better things, which breaks through the gloom of Olive's life of crime. Miss Hilda Baynton gave a sympathetic rendering of Marjorie Galloway, and played the big scene in the "Ran Dan" Club with good effect. Miss Nellie Fletcher acted with tenderness and truth as Judith Galloway; in the rôle of Captain Joe Galloway Mr. Fred Powell was responsible for a life-like character-study; Mr. Harry Scott acted with a good deal of power as Gilbert Galloway, his fine resonant voice adding considerably to the value of his impersonation; Mr. George Denham gave a vigorous representation of Tom Battleby; Mr. Stanley Bedwell was sufficiently vindictive as Siegenbeck, doing notably good work in the strangling scene; and Mr. John Brittain was amusing as Tony Prebble. The smaller parts were capably handled, worthy of special mention being the Danby Wisk of Mr. H. A. Lyons, and the drama was well mounted and staged.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, June 4,
the Comedy, by Hubert Henry Davies, entitled
"MRS. GORRINGE'S NECKLACE."

A more than usually attractive Bank Holiday programme is provided at the Coronet Theatre this Whitsuntide in the comely shape of Miss Mary Moore and company in *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. The part of the portly, frivolous, inconsequent, self-absorbed Mrs. Gorringe suits Miss Mary Moore to perfection. Her pretty petulant air and her intense self-importance, her charming insipidity and fascinating stupidity as the daughter of the County Councillor and Mayor of Ipswich are admirably limned. Mr. Yorke Stephens as Captain Mowbray acts with his customary easy, unaffected, yet earnest and intense manner, and earns golden opinions by his interesting and virile embodiment. Miss Marie Illington has a rôle after her own heart as Mrs. Jardine, and all the *bons mots* allotted to her receive their full point and meaning at her hands. She contributes an inimitable portraiture of this selfish, shallow, yet most amusing creature. Mr. Maitland Dicker is intensely droll and very well placed as Colonel Jardine, who completes the trio in this triangular source of irritation. Miss Lilias Waldegrave, besides being as pretty as a picture, shows considerable emotional ability in the sympathetic rôle of Isabel Kirke. Mr. Charles Kenyon acts with care and discretion in the thankless part of the weak-minded, erring young Lieutenant David Cairn. Miss Isabel Fladgate plays the small part of the irrepressible Vicky Jardine quite satisfactorily, and Mr. Reginald Walter creates a good impression as Jernigan, a detective. Miss Ethel Marryat is Miss Potts, and Mr. Lawrence J. White is the footman Charles. The *pièce de résistance* is preceded by Rosina Fillipi's duologue, *An American Widow*, a bright, lively little sketch in which Miss Lilias Waldegrave does excellently well as a charming and outspoken Transatlantic widow; and Mr. Reginald Walter very ably portrays the confusion and delight of the young Earl, who is mistaken for the widow's solicitor. Mr. Reginald Walter, assisted by Mr. Lawrence J. White, stage-manages the show, and Mr. Augustus Bingham is the courteous and able business-manager.

PRINCE'S, POPLAR.

On Monday, June 4,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Hal Reid, entitled
"AT CRIPPLE CREEK."

This powerful play, bringing with it the atmosphere of the backwoods of America, and depicting mining life in the Far West, has been received with every mark of favour at Poplar this week. Mr. Mark Blow makes a fine figure as the hero, Joe Mayfield. His acting is beyond reproach, and he scores all through the performance. As the Terror of Cripple Creek, Martin Mason, Mr. Walter Thornton is excellent. He acts with force and power. Mr. Douglas Carlile as the bully Manuel Alverez makes a capital Mexican; Mr. A. D. Layland gives a spirited rendering of Wahketah, the faithful Indian friend of Joe Mayfield; and Mr. Albert Rogers causes much merriment as the nigger, Ben White. He is ably seconded by Mr Will Hook, who, as a Boston dude, Reggie Harwood, proves a great mirth provoker. Little Freda, who plays the Baby of Cripple Creek, known as Little Tatto, speedily becomes a great favourite with the audience; and Miss Daisy Carlton is exceedingly good as Maggie Mason. Miss Lily Beagle looks and acts well as Belle Gordon; and as Dynamite Ann Miss Vera Fordyce presents a powerful piece of acting. All the smaller parts are in capable hands, and the whole production reflects credit on all concerned.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 4,
the Comic Opera, entitled
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

No better choice for a holiday attraction could have been made than Planquette's ever-popular comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*, which was received in an enthusiastic manner on Monday evening by a very large audience. The music is as delightful as ever, and it loses none of its brightness and charm as time goes on. Mr. E. St. Alban has surrounded himself with a capital company, and the chorus is particularly good. Mr. St. Alban himself appears in the rôle of Gaspard, the old miser, who uses the empty castle to store his gold. It is a capital impersonation, realistic in the extreme, and the scene in which Gaspard is discovered in the castle is most effective and evokes great applause. As the Marquis de Corneville, Mr. G. A. Fox presents a commanding figure, and he sings with distinction; indeed, he scores heavily throughout. The Germain of Miss Marion Ayling is a delightful impersonation which charms everyone, while her singing is also greatly admired. Miss May Bradbury is likewise successful as Serpolette, infusing much energy into her acting, and she is distinctly amusing in the last scene when masquerading as the Countess. Mr. William Everard plays Grenicheaux in an able manner, and Miss L. Rhodes does well as Christophe. The Bailie of Mr. Fred Dark is responsible for much hilarity; Mr. Dark has a quiet way which is quite amusing; another cause of mirth is the Gobo of Mr. Richard Martin, who also scores by a clever dance. The chorus and orchestra do their work admirably under the able direction of Chevalier Legrand.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 4,
the Military Drama, entitled
"DEATH OR GLORY BOYS."

There was a typical Bank Holiday audience at the Kingston playhouse on Monday evening when this stirring play was played in a most capable manner by a strong company, engineered by Mr. J. M. East. The part of Jack Malden was represented by Mr. Fred Victor, who speedily became a great favourite with the audience. Miss Lily Hammersley also made a pleasing appearance as Nena Furgeson; and Miss J. Phillips acquitted herself well as Edith Malden; a successful impersonation of the part of Captain Ferrers was given by Mr. Horace Hunter; while Mr. Alfred Harding gave a fine picture of Colonel Furgeson, and Mr. Henry W. Hatchman scored as Captain Ferrers's servant. Other members of the company deserving of notice are Mr. E. Brooke as Lieut. Duff, Mr. Edward Coleman, and Miss Nellie Sheffield.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Mr. Walter Melville's companies are always sure of a hearty reception at the Elephant and Castle, and this week, notwithstanding the far from theatre-going weather, crowded houses have been the rule. Elaborate staging and the careful attention to detail which is evident in all Mr. Melville's productions, no doubt to a great extent account for their popularity. These are very evident in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, which is being presented this week. A delightful piece of character-acting is supplied by Mr. Charles Franmore as the old farmer, John Meadows. The part of Barbara Wade, a trying rôle, is quite safe in the hands of Miss Beaumont Collins. As Jack Livingstone Mr. Frank R. Robertson plays in a convincing and manly style; Mr. Courtney Bellenden is effective as Dr. Weston; while Cuthbert Lumley is played in an easy, polished manner by Mr. Roy Forteseque. As Tilly Vane and Toby Turvey, Miss Lena Delphine and Mr. Fred Ingram provide the comic relief, which is much appreciated, and they soon become great favourites with the audience. Mr. John Brooks is well placed as Luke Ramsden, and the part of a pickpocket is capitally sustained by Mr. Bert Hedger. Miss Elsie Saville plays carefully as Constance Cornell. Miss Nellie Meade as Nellie Meadows, the country girl who renounces her father, acts with distinction, and ably depicts the young woman's repentance in the later scenes. The minor parts are all in capable hands.

THE TERRISS.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, by C. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WRECKER OF MEN."

This exciting drama proved a capital selection for a Bank Holiday audience, and crowded houses have been nightly certifying to its success. The story opens in London, with a mysterious murder. We are then taken to the wilds of Dartmoor, and witness the escape of the convict hero. The scene is next shifted to a realistic storm at sea; and, finally, virtue is rewarded and villainy punished in a most impressive scene in the Temple of Karnac, on the coast of Egypt. Miss Hilda Beverley gives a very fine performance as Risca Mallison, the modern Circe, who entangles so many men in her coils. Miss Beverley looks very handsome in the part, and the callous nature of the beautiful temptress is shown with much skill. Mr. Philip Darlen is a manly young hero as Guise Strange, thoroughly enlisting the sympathy of the house in his misfortunes. Mr. Tubby Edlin does all that is possible for the part of the vacuous, but good-hearted, swell, the Hon. Reggie Verincourt, who only appears in the second act. Mr. John Sargeant gives a fine character-sketch as the burglar, Jim Murley, enlivening his part with some flashes of grim humour. Mr. Fred Terriss appears to much advantage as the calm, inexorable, and silent Railton; Miss Nell Oliver plays very sympathetically as the hero's sweetheart, Dorris Melville; and Miss Nellie Jackson excites much laughter as the ubiquitous maid of all work, Slopper. Mr. Frank Dennis is excellent as the kindly Jew financier, Ezekiel Isaacs, and afterwards acts with much impressiveness as the Egyptian Karnaphus. Mr. Leyton Cancellor gives a good study of polished villainy as Pharosaphus; and Mr. Fred de Vere makes the most of the rôle of Detective-Inspector Bransmere. Mr. Allen Davenport plays excellently as the unlucky young gambler, Eric Melville. The scenery and effects are excellent, particularly the storm at sea, and the final tableau in the Temple of Karnac. Mr. Will Taylor looks well after the comfort of his patrons in front of the house.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, June 7,
the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."

Mr. Dudley Bennett's attraction for the Whitsuntide holidays is Mr. Weedon Grossmith's clever and amusing farce *The Night of the Party*, presented by Messrs. Cecil Barth and Arthur Eldred's company. Mr. Sebastian Smith submits an entertaining performance of Mr. Crosbie on the lines of the originator of the part, and the vagaries of the artful little valet cause considerable amusement. An easy and natural Frank Frayne comes from Mr. F. G. Bayly; Mr. Arthur Eldred contributes a neat and finished sketch of the footman Roundle; and Mr. J. W. Braithwaite is just a little inclined to exaggerate the eccentricities of the hall porter Bogle. The best played part in the piece is the Mr. Flambert of Mr. Victor Widdicombe, whose artistic and finished performance of the pompous and self-satisfied butler it would be hard to improve upon. Miss Hope Mayne is a pleasing and engaging Lady Hampshire; and Sir Charles Hampshire is played in exactly the right spirit by Mr. Lewis Scaby. Paulina finds a bright and vivacious exponent in Miss Joan Burnett; and Miss Blanka Stewart is a satisfactory Gipsy Vandeleur. Other parts are admirably filled by Messrs. Algernon Newark, Gerald Jones, Charles Turner, Frank Ridley, and Master S. Kelly, and Misses Gertrude Hornewood, N. Rowley, and Mabel Morley.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Herbert N. Leonard, entitled
"THE MERCILESS WORLD."

Mr. Charles Neville's company in the above drama is the attraction for the holiday week, and good houses have been the result. Miss East Robertson as Kate St. Clair is clever in the heavy rôle; Miss Madge Haines is sympathetic as the heroine; and Miss May Seton amusing in the lighter scenes. Mr. C. F. Collins as Stanley acts well and with sincerity; Mr. Fred Morgan portrays the villain in the accepted style; Mr. Somers Bellamy as Gaston is good; and Mr. H. H. Barrington well cast as the fisherman, Rogers. Mr. A. Davis as Sir George Stanley handles a small part well; and Mr. E. Perry is satisfactory as the Governor. Mr. A. P. Kaye as Riley is an amusing comedian, and the remaining smaller parts are all in good hands. The drama was well received.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"MENDELE THE MARTYR."

A typical Bank Holiday audience crammed the Pavilion in every part on Monday, and expressed hearty approval in no uncertain manner of the merits of *Mendele the Martyr*, in which drama there is sufficient motive for a very strong play. The action, however, moves slowly on account of the amount of superfluous dialogue introduced, whereby the piece lasted until close upon midnight. The Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company is so excellent in the management of all departments that a trifling attention to the great length of their admirable performances would be of material advantage. Mr. Natansohn, who has now settled down to the theatre, was received with enthusiasm in the title-character, and gave an embodiment of an onerous part with much skill and power. Mr. Axelrad was generally effective as Shmuel Icik; and Mr. Joseph Fineberg displayed the malignity of Chazkele Cahn in strong melodramatic style. Mr. Schoor, a capital actor, scored heavily as Shleimele Weinberg; and Mr. Schilling capably enacted Asher Zelig. Mme. Natansohn acquitted herself with much ability and feeling as Rivkele; and Feigele found a good exponent in Mme. J. Kayzer; Mirele being efficiently represented by Miss Bryh. Mme. Schapira deserves commendation for her portrayal of Sara; and Mme. Goldstein was seen to advantage as the Aunt Yente; while Mr. Marinhoff was successful as Hershele Zilberstein. During the week *Alexander*, *The Jewish Priest*, *The Wisdom of Woman*, and *The Jewish Minister*, have been played.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Charles Darrell and George Testo Sante, entitled
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."

The attraction for the present week is the first visit heré of the above exciting drama. Mr. George Testo Sante makes a great impression in the part of the hero, Brian Leader, and in the circus scene in the second act undertakes several feats of strength, which elicit deserved applause. Mr. Frank Sante affords much amusement as Tommy Allthere; and Mr. Johnny Clegg as the sailor Ben Tic-Tac materially assists in the comedy portions of the piece. Mr. Edward Warden as the Rev. Cyril Arliss plays with much sincerity; Mr. Logan Darra as Hendrick Marais soon gains the execrations of the occupants of the cheaper portions of the house for his realisation of the dastardly conduct of a determined stage villain; Mr. Charles Osborne is good as Sir Noel Hartland; that experienced actress, Miss Amy McNeill, gives a very fine rendering of the adventuress, Agatha Winter; Miss May Warden is warmly applauded for her spirited acting as Lynette Leader; Miss May Neilson is excellent as Angelina Mutton; and Miss Enid Trench gives a capital rendering of the part of Lena Hartland. The struggle at the end of the third act, where Brian Leader successfully disposes of his five assailants, is capitally managed, and rouses the house to a high pitch of enthusiasm.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 4,
the American Drama, by Malcolm Douglas, entitled
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."

Mr. Robert Perris's company is providing the holiday attraction at the Dalston Theatre this week with the American drama, having the sufficiently descriptive title *A Fight for Millions*. Mr. Robert Perris himself represents Richard Dudley, and to his credit it must be said that he infuses into the part sufficient interest to keep the audience fully intent upon his adventures. Mr. John C. Carlyle is Tom Manley, the inventor of a wireless ocean telephone, which, in the end, stands him in good stead. Pearl Rivers, with whose fortunes for good or ill Manley's fate is closely allied, finds a pleasing representative in Miss Eva Purcell. The parents of this young lady, Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Rivers, are represented by Mr. P. G. Beresford and Miss Audrey Canning respectively. Miss Audrey Sutherland and Miss Lottie Pearce are also included in the female cast. Mr. Frank Sutherland as a typical tramp, Mr. Karl H. Edwards as Solomon Moses, and Mr. Nicholas Conway as a butler, provide a good deal of fun; and other characters are represented by Mr. J. Knox, Mr. R. Bradshaw, Mr. W. Turner, Mr. J. Risk, Mr. Gus Harding, and Mr. George Hodges.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, entitled
"FATAL FORTUNE."

The Whit-week attraction at the Lyric is the drama *Fatal Fortune*, which is being performed to a well-filled house each evening with marked success. The rôle of Seton Desmond, an adventurer of the worst type, has been safely entrusted to Mr. Lewis Gilbert. It is an extremely difficult part, but he carries it through with an ability which deserves and obtains appreciation. As Jack, Mr. Douglas Vigors is all that can be desired, giving to the character a touch of vigour combined with pathos. Miss Marie Clavering submits an excellent portrayal of the relenting adventuress, Beauty Glitters, and in a by no means easy part is very entertaining. Charming and winning, too, is Miss Minnie Grey as Mary Weston. Her lines are spoken eloquently and with a grace all her own. Mr. Thorp Tracy and Mr. Fred Moy are responsible for most of the fun; but one must not forget the really able assistance given them by Miss Ella Seton. Miss Florence Lovel, during an all too short appearance, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; Mr. Frank Harris as George Thornton plays in a very natural manner; and Mr. J. E. Manning and Mr. J. Sands in their respective parts give valuable assistance.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Dion Boucicault, entitled
"THE STREETS OF LONDON."

This highly successful sensational drama is the attraction at the Standard this week, and as a holiday production is meeting with every success. On Monday night the house was crowded, and the enthusiastic reception the piece gained proved that the play is as popular now as it was when first produced. The drama is capitally mounted, and receives an exceptionally fine interpretation at the hands of a decidedly capable body of players. Much praise is due to Mr. Ashley Page for his excellent delineation of Badger. His reading of the rôle is particularly good, being at times humorous, but full of power and highly impressive. Mr. Alfred Harding plays with a sufficient amount of cruelty and hard-heartedness as Gideon Crawley; Mr. E. J. Collins submits a capital embodiment of Mark Livingstone, and meets with much approval; as Puffy, the pieman, Mr. Johnny Chippendale plays with genuine humour, and succeeds in causing considerable mirth; Little Albert supplies a creditable delineation of Dan; Mr. John Sargent is seen to advantage as Captain Fairweather; Mr. C. A. Chandler scores as Paul Fairweather; and Mr. Eric Williams is all that could be desired as Jim Doolan. Miss Mattie Everitt ably sustains the rôle of Mrs. Puffy, and assists materially in the lighter portions of the play; as Alida Crawley, Miss Rosemary Rees contributes a charming and most acceptable impersonation; and Miss Marion Denvil must be complimented on her praiseworthy portrait of Lucy Fairweather, a part which she plays with sincerity and pathos, earning hearty and well-deserved applause.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Six Acts, by Charles Reade, entitled
"DRINK."

Marylebone has been having a dramatic treat this week in the performance of Mr. Charles Warner and company in *Drink*, it being one of the biggest Whitsuntide attractions that Mr. William Bailey has given his patrons for a long time. So much has been written round Mr. Warner's remarkable dramatic portrayal of Coupeau that it is like ploughing the sand to endeavour to find new words of praise and commendation for his masterly impersonation. Suffice it to say that all the varying phases of the drunkard's life are handled with artistic taste and delicate touches of sentiment skilfully presented, with the result that the curtain has to be raised again and again at the end of each act to enable Mr. Warner to bow his acknowledgments. The support all round is good, especially the Gouget of Mr. Norman Wrighton, who works with unflagging energy. Lautier finds a capable exponent in Mr. C. Herbert Hewetson; Mr. Charles Schmidt deserves a word of praise for his Poisson; and Mr. Alfred P. Phillips enacts Mes Bottes in a light, genial style. The part of Gervaise calls for sympathetic treatment, and this is ably given by Miss H. Graeme, who is easy and natural; whilst a study of quite an opposite kind is provided by Miss Mary Allestree as Virginie, who brings well to the fore the jealousy and spite embodied in the character. Miss Flossie Hale Daviss is intelligent and pleasing as Little Nana; Miss Frances Day is bright and cheery as Phœbe Sage; and Miss Ada Kay is suitably cast as Madame Rouge. The smaller parts are carefully played, the all-round excellence of the company being most marked.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 4,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Dion Boucicault, entitled
"THE SHAUGHRAUN."

Mr. Dudley Bennett's engagement of Mr. John M. East's company for the holiday week is proving most successful, and, notwithstanding numerous outdoor attractions, Dion Boucicault's great Irish play has received its full share of public patronage. The play is ably acted by a company admirably suited to their various rôles, and the scenery and general effects leave nothing to be desired. Mr. C. E. Matthews as Conn, the Shaughraun, is the life and soul of the piece, and his clever acting and dry humour keep the audience in continual merriment. Mr. Frank Adair as Capt. Molyneux contributes a sterling performance; Corry Kinchela has an excellent representative in Mr. J. C. Aubrey, who scores with an admirable delineation of the Irish Squireen; Mr. George Taverner as Father Dolan, the Parish Priest, acts with quiet reserve, and creates a favourable impression; Mr. Cecil Calvert is manly and straightforward as Robert Ffolliott; and Mr. J. P. Dryden as Harvey Duff contributes an excellent character study of a police agent. Miss Daisy Murch plays with charm and intelligence as Arte O'Neal; and Miss Eily Malyon quickly wins the favour of the house by her natural impersonation of Claire Ffolliott. Miss B. Stanley cleverly assumes the rôle of Mrs. O'Kelly, Conn's mother, and causes much laughter by her clever comedy acting. Miss Daisy Marshall as Moya, Father Dolan's niece, acts her part ably.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 4,
the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Mrs. Musgrave, entitled
"OUR FLAT."

There are few farcical pieces which can be compared with "Our Flat" in point of popularity. It has now pursued its merry career nearly a score of years, and yet the piece betrays no signs of age or staleness. Mrs. Musgrave had indeed a "happy thought" when she chose as the basis of her farcical comedy the impecuniosity of a young married couple who are compelled to exercise their ingenuity in furnishing a room that has been suddenly despoiled of its ordinary goods and chattels. It is the real humour of this domestic incident that so forcibly appeals to every man and woman in the audience, and accounts in a large degree for the success which continues to attend the representation of the comedy. At the same time every credit must be given to Mr. Charles Steuart's company for a thoroughly sound and satisfactory performance. Mr. Steuart himself plays the part of Reginald Sylvester in just the right spirit, the debt-encumbered married man facing an embarrassing situation with the utmost good humour and sangfroid. Miss Daisy Atherton displays much vivacity in her portrayal of the young wife who takes an active share in making the flat that has been so unceremoniously denuded of furniture ready for the reception of the unsuspecting visitor. Miss Atherton's co-operation in the well-planned scheme of amusement is of the utmost value; and her clever acting is recognised by generous applause. Mr. Wilfred E. Shine cuts an exceedingly comical figure as the pompous theatrical manager, Nathaniel Glover, and adds considerably to the merriment of the audience by his broadly farcical treatment of the character. Mr. Frank Emery is a capital representative of Stout, the hall porter. Miss Pollie Emery gets abundance of fun out of the part of Bella, the slavey, none of the many opportunities which the rôle presents being missed by this excellent actress. Mr. Percy Foster proves to be quite capable of meeting all the requirements of the part of the hard-up young artist, Clarence Vane, whose sweetheart, Lucy McCullum, has an attractive exponent in Miss Florence Tressilian. Miss Mary Stuart appears to advantage as Madame Volant, the pretended Parisienne, who drops her French accent when she is very angry by the non-payment of her long-standing bill. Another highly effective and amusing impersonation is the Clara Pryout of Miss Murtie Slade. Mr. Fred Knight does well as Mr. McCullum; Mr. J. E. Savery scores as the dairyman, and Mr. Kaye Brudell supplies a neat character-sketch of the foreman from the furniture stores who supervises the removal of the goods. *Our Flat* is preceded by the farce in one act, entitled *The Water Cure*, which can be recommended as a merry introduction to the principal attraction.

THE GORDON WILSON (G. W. GLENNY) BENEFIT FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Kindly allow me to acknowledge the following amounts received in answer to my appeal on behalf of this well-known author and actor, who, at over sixty years of age, is permanently invalided, following a long illness. He has left Stockton Hospital, and is now staying at 34, Tramway-street, Leeds, undergoing medical treatment. Further contributions, however small, will be gladly acknowledged by, yours faithfully,

MATTHEW ARNOLD.

55, High-street, Watford, Herts. June 2.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

E. D. Walker, Esq., J.P., Darlington	£3	0	0
The Actors' Benevolent Fund (First Gift)	2	0	0
J. Wilmer, Esq., Maida Vale	1	1	0
The Crooked Spire Lodge, R.O.A.B.	0	10	0
W. Earnshaw, Esq., Stockton	0	10	0
H. Vaughan	0	5	0
"Disengaged"	0	2	0
"Stamps"	0	1	6
J. de Voye	0	1	0
The Actors' Benevolent Fund (Second Gift)	1	0	0
G. Gordon Hoskins, Esq., J.P., Darlington	0	10	6
Dr. Fothergill, Esq., M.D., Darlington	0	10	0
H. Robinson, Esq., Darlington	0	5	0
F. Brown, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Stockton	0	10	6
	£10	6	6

The Japanese naval officers at Portsmouth gave a reception on the Katori, one of their two new battleships, on Tuesday. The company included a number of London guests, who were conveyed to Portsmouth in two special trains. The warship was elaborately decorated with paper flowers, and Japanese plays were performed on the quarter-deck. The visitors were provided with a resumé of the plot printed in English. Japanese sailors also gave an exhibition of jiu-jitsu.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAS FEST DER HANDWERKER."
Musical Farce, in Two Acts, by Louis Angely, produced at the Lustspielhaus, June 1.

Wohlmann ..... HERR HOEFLICH
Kluck ..... HERR BECKMANN
Hähnchen ..... HERR PAULMULLER
Stehauf ..... HERR MARX
Puff ..... HERR IMPEKOVEN
Kind ..... HERR RITTER
Madame Kluck ..... FRAULEIN EULER
Madame Stehauf ..... FRAULEIN LIMBURG
Madame Puff ..... FRAULEIN CERIGIOLI
Frau Wietzel ..... FRAULEIN HILLER
Leuchen ..... FRAULEIN WASSMANN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 7.—This was just the right kind of piece for the holidays, during which it ran right merrily. Angely has long since ceased to exist, but his amusing work lives after him, and a little modernising made it all the more palatable. On its production some years ago at the Berliner the plot of *Das Fest der Handwerker* was fully detailed in your columns, so that it only remains to add that its revival, coming as a novelty to many, was attended by unquestionable success. The cast of this capital little burlesque volks-play was particularly bright. Fräulein Cefigioli as Madame Puff, a charming little Xantippe, and Fräulein Wassmann as Leuchen made decided hits, while Herren Paulmüller, Marx and Beckmann played with such infectious humour that they were frequently applauded by open stage. Preceding the farce, Offenbach's one-act comic opera *Die Verlobung bei der Laterne* was given. The delightfully sparkling and melodious music made its customary mark, despite the paucity of the book, and the interpretation was surprisingly good. Herr Marx—known hitherto as an actor only—proved himself to be the possessor of a well-trained, pleasing baritone, and Fräuleins Obermaier and Von Bonomi, as Katharine and Anne Marie, as well as Fräulein Liebert in the part of Liese, fully deserved the hearty applause that fell to their lot. Kapellmeister Johndorff led the orchestra in commendable manner.

MISS BELLA ALTEN is singing at Krolls, earning well-merited success. Her sympathetic voice and good acting are worthy of better works than the light operas in which she is appearing; but this is the summer opera season, which covereth many things. In *Fra Diavolo* Miss Alten made a great hit as Zerline, Dr. Briesemeister singing the titlerôle. The latter is a particularly clever actor, and his good singing makes up for any deficiencies of voice. Herr Hansen as Lorenzo was rewarded with such enthusiastic applause that he was compelled to repeat his great song in the second act.

THE cold and rainy weather of Whit Sunday and Monday proved an undisguised blessing to our managers. Usually the theatres are sparsely filled on these days, everyone hastening to the woods, mountains, or sea; but this year all the theatres were crowded, and not a seat was to be had for love or money after seven o'clock, crowds being turned away from the Casse. At the Royal opera Fräulein Frieda Hempel sang the part of Margarete de Valois in *Die Hugenotten* on Sunday evening. This talented young artist was, it may be remembered, very favourably mentioned in your columns a year ago, on the occasion of a performance of the Stern Conservatorium Operatic Class in the Theatre des Westens. Fräulein Hempel's fame has increased by leaps and bounds. She was engaged at a Court theatre in the South of Germany, after giving several successful performances at our Royal opera, and she has been engaged for Bayreuth this season. On Whit Monday *Die Zauberflöte* occupied the boards of the Opera House, *Lohengrin*, as one of the Wagner cycle now going on, following on Tuesday, known here as "the third holiday."

A MEMORIAL celebration in honour of the great dramatist, Henrik Ibsen, took place on Friday in the Schiller Theatre, O., every seat in the large house being taken, and many people having to be refused admittance. After a harmonium selection from Grieg's "Peer Gynt, Herr Max Halbe spoke at length upon Ibsen's life, works, and influence upon the drama of the day. The speaker's heart was in his speech, and the effect was electrical; the listeners rose with one accord, hearing the last words standing with breathless attention, while the emotion of the speaker communicated itself to many. Some suitable Norwegian songs were sung, and the fourth act of *Brand*—admirably played by Herr Von Winterstein and Fräulein Feldhammer—completed the programme.

HERR REINHARDT has acquired the German rights of Bernard Shaw's *Man and Super-Man*, and announces the production at the Deutsches for early next season.

ACTORS' DAY.

In addition to those whose names have already been published the following have promised their support on Actors' Day:—Messrs. Adell and Chabot; Addison, Martin; Aldred, Charles; Alexander, Alec.; Alwyn, Violet; Arliss, George; Arnold, Charles; Arnold, Sidney; Beaumont, Anna; Bedford, Bessie; Bedford, Henry; Bedford, Sidney Allen; Bland, Vernon; Blind, Eric; Booth, T. H.; Brenan, Howard; Burton, John; Caldwell, Marianne; Carlyle, Ellis D.; Chambers, G. J.; Churton, Cecil B.; Clinton, Daisy; Dalton, Shirley; Domoney, Walter H.; Elliston, Harry; Eykyn, Llewn. E.; Fairfax, C. Arthur; Faydon, Nita; Fellowes, Dora; Feilding, Richard; Foley, Frances J.; Freeman, Charles; Fulton, Geoffrey; Furnival, Violet; Galton, Gwynette; Gatley, M. K.; Gaunt, Elsina; Griffin, Ernest; Gwyn-Richardson, F. R.; Halton, Hilda; Harding, Alfred; Harlington, Grace; Hewetson, Geo. W.; Hewson, T. James; Hill, Frank; Hughes, C. H.; Ingleton, George; Jackman, William E.; Kingsley, Cecil; Lamb, Beatrice; Langton, Charles; Lennox, Katie; Leonard, Herbert; Lester, Adeline; Lewis, Fred; Lilly, E. C.; Major-Jones, Saml.; Mathews, Norris; Matthison, Edith Wynne; Mazzoni, Alice; Medwin, Charles; Menzies, A. Hall; Mervyn, Arthur; Mervyn, Rosa; Millar, Jack H.; Nesbitt, John; Nevill, Nancy; Nuttall, H.; Overton, Norman A.; Page, B. Leonard; Papeira, Eleanor; Paulton, Tom; Price-Evans, Cyril; Rey, Vera; Raymond, Grace; Raymond, Joe; Rhodes, Undine; Risley, Jennie; Robertson, W. J.; Robinson, George; Rousby, Harry; Roy, Frank; Rozant, Ina; Sass, Edward; Saville, Ethel; Savill, Margaret; Shea, Jas.; Sinclair, Beatrice; Stanley, Blanche; Stevens, J.; Stone, Charles R.; Story-Gofton, E.; Strachan, Malcolm; Taylor, James C.; Tench, Florence; Turner-Elliott, Elizabeth; Verne, Gertrude; Vernon, May; Victor, Eddie; Waldron, Millie; Walker, Laura; White, Dorothy; Wigney, Jennie; Worthing, Frank.

As it is impossible to communicate directly with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask for the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. Copies of the appeal, and forms for signature, will be sent to those who will be kind enough to write for them.

If one member in each company playing, and residents in different parts of the country, would do this, and endeavour to obtain promises of help from their friends, they would be rendering excellent service.

All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

OWING to the recent illness of Mme. Clara Butt, she has been obliged to relinquish her engagement to sing at the Handel Festival. The Crystal Palace Company, however, have been very fortunate in securing the services of Miss Ada Crossley, who will sing on all four days.

"THE RENEGADE."

An Irish Drama, in Four Acts, by F. J. O'Hare. Played for the first time at the Queen's Theatre, Dublin, on Monday, June 4.

Conor MacDermott ..... MR. ROBT. FAULKNER
Hamilton Rowan ..... MR. H. RYELAND LEIGH
Stephen MacNally ..... MR. DANE CLARKE
General Fairfax ..... MR. ION IRELAND
Capt. Armitage ..... MR. JACK DAWSON
Pat Dempsey ..... MR. JAMES O'BRIEN
Dan Heffernan ..... MR. JAMES DALY
Sergeant Ormsby ..... MR. HARRY RICHARDSON
Major Braithwaite ..... MR. J. E. SMITHERS
Colonel Onslow ..... MR. ARTHUR WILSON
Sir Harry Vane ..... MR. ALFRED J. TRENCH
Captain L'Estrange ..... MR. THOS. ROONEY
Matt Whelan ..... MR. T. BAYLEY
Phil Cassidy ..... MR. T. DALTON
Mabel Fairfax ..... MISS CECILIA DARE
Eileen MacDermott ..... MISS MADELINE HURST
Nora M'Killup ..... MISS MONICA KELLY
Mrs. Nance M'Killup ..... MRS. BRADY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr. F. J. O. Hare's name has already appeared as the author of a comedy, entitled *A Bachelor's Widow*, produced some years ago. *The Renegade* had a very favourable reception on Monday night, when a crowded audience witnessed the production. The play deals with the stirring times of '98, and the author has created some sensational and exciting scenes. Hamilton Rowan and Conor MacDermott, two leaders of the revolutionary movement, are both stricken by Cupid's darts. MacDermott falls in love with Mabel Fairfax, the daughter of an English General whose mission is to crush the Irish, and Rowan has fallen a victim to the charm of Eileen, MacDermott's sister. Fairfax has become involved in financial difficulties, and falls into the toils of an informer named MacNally, who has an accomplice in Dan Heffernan, another Castle spy. MacDermott sides with his countrymen, and is immediately denounced by Fairfax. A series of exciting events follow, in the course of which a meeting of the United Irishmen, arranged by a daring highwayman named Pat Dempsey, is broken in upon by the forces of the Crown, but MacDermott and Rowan escape. McDermott is eventually arrested, and the United Irishmen are led, by misrepresentation, to look on him as a traitor to the National cause. Rowan, dispirited at the turn affairs had taken, as also by the supposed perfidy of MacDermott, decides on seeking a home in France, but just as the patriot is about to depart for foreign shores, he obtains proof that MacDermott is not a renegade, and rescues him as he is on the point of being executed by the British as a rebel.

The new production went without the slightest hitch. Mr. Robert Faulkner gave a masterly and warmly appreciated impersonation of Conor MacDermott; Miss Cecilia Dare was commendable as Mabel Fairfax; Mr. Dane Clarke depicted the villainies of Stephen McNally in a realistic manner; and the rôle of Eileen MacDermott was played with power and pathos by Miss Madeline Hurst. Mr. James O'Brien as Pat Dempsey sustained the humour of the piece with his accustomed ability, and was well supported by Miss Monica Kelly in the rôle of Nora M'Killup; Mr. James Daly's interpretation of the part of Dan Heffernan was a clever and praiseworthy performance; Hamilton Rowan had a good representative in Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh; Mr. Jack Dawson was distinctly good in the character of Captain Armitage; and Mr. Ion Ireland was excellent as General Fairfax. Mr. Thomas Rooney was eminently successful as Capt. L'Estrange; and as Major Braithwaite, Colonel Onslow, and Sir Harry Vane, Messrs. J. E. Smithers, Arthur Wilson, and Alfred J. Trench were also good in their respective parts. Mrs. Brady acquitte dherself well as Nance M'Killup; and Mr. Harry Richardson as Sergeant Ormsby, Mr. Tom Bailey as Matt Whelan, and Mr. T. Dalton as Phil Cassidy also sustained their parts in a creditable manner. It should be mentioned that the author had the invaluable assistance of Mr. J. W. Whitbread, the well-known writer and producer of Irish dramas, under whose direction *The Renegade* was staged. An excellent selection of Irish airs was played by the orchestra under the direction of Mr. P. M. Levenston.

DEATH OF A VETERAN ACTOR.

Mr. Edward Miles, who has long been regarded as England's oldest actor, passed away with tragic suddenness on the evening of the 31st ult., at the advanced age of ninety-two. The deceased actor's wonderful vitality had long been the subject of general admiration among his wide circle of friends and acquaintances, and even at his great age he was able to take part in many favourite pastimes. Mr. Miles, who resided with his wife at 9, Sandyland-street, Wisbech, was a member of the local Liberal and Radical Club, and it was his custom to seek recreation and amusement there in the evening. On the night of his demise he went to the club as usual, and indulged in a game at billiards, at which he was considered to be an expert. He won by the narrow margin of one or two points, and sat down in a chair in the room to watch others playing. A few minutes later one of the members noticed that "Daddy," as he was familiarly called, was breathing heavily, and was looking very distressed. His condition was found to be serious, and he was taken into the yard at the rear of the Club so as to get the benefit of the open-air. The dying man was able to take several sips of the brandy, but before the doctor, who had been sent for could arrive, and within a quarter of an hour of the first seizure, he had ceased to breathe. Later in the evening, the body was conveyed home by members of the Institute Ambulance Corps. As the deccased had been under medical treatment for some time, there was no necessity for an inquest to be held.

Mr. Miles, who was born in March, 1814, commenced his theatrical career at the early age of twenty, and came into contact with many of the leading stars and celebrities of the last century. Among those with whom he played were Mrs. Waylett, the ballad singer; the celebrated actress, Mrs. Sterling, in whose company he played "Juveniles"; Mr. H. P. Gratton; the veteran Braham, the famous English tenor, and many other celebrities in those days. Mr. Miles performed at Chester with Sheridan Knowles, and after visiting many provincial towns, took part in the Shakespearean play *Macbeth*. The veteran actor also took the Warwick Theatre, and managed it for some time; afterwards going to Plymouth, and other places. During his prime, Mr. Miles had considerable versatility, and could undertake comedy or tragedy with equal ease. He played Romeo to his daughter's Juliet, Harlequin at the age of sixty, and gave Shakespearean readings at Peterborough and Walsoken at the age of 85. He could boast of having lived in four reigns, and witnessed four coronations. Some years ago Miles was in very straightened circumstances, and needed assistance. His case was brought to the notice of the leading members of the theatrical profession, and with local assistance a substantial fund was raised to place the veteran in a position of comfort. The late Sir Henry Irving, the late Wilson Barrett, and Miss Ellen Terry frequently assisted him, and one or two pensions were granted to Miles from theatrical benevolent funds, so that to the end of his days he was relieved from any financial anxiety.

MR. NAT C. GOODWIN recently produced a pathetic little play, by Paul Armstrong, entitled *A Blase of Glory*. The scene was laid in a private ward of Bellevue Hospital, New York, and Mr. Goodwin impersonated a tramp, the part being quite different from any which he had previously played.

"THE MARRIAGE TRAP."

A New Romantic Drama, in Four Acts, by Myles Wallerton, produced for the first time on any stage at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, On Monday, June 4.

Rupert Lauriston ..... MR. STANLEY S. GORDON
Stephen Maynard ..... MR. ALBERT SEMBER
James Marlowe ..... MR. DUNCAN BELL
Dicky Bird ..... MR. CHAS. M. DALY
Hamlet Julius Peterkin .. MR. HENRY BELDING
P.C. Pat O'Brien ..... MR. EDWARD W. CUDD
Dr. Ferguson ..... MR. EDWIN CLARKE
Rev. P. Sinclair ..... MR. REGINALD PORTER
P.C. 65A ..... MR. GEO. P. LESTER
Sally Straker ..... MISS DORA HILSTROM
Bertha ..... MISS VIOLET BARLEY CLARKE
Valerie ..... MISS MAUD LESLIE CUDD
Jacky ..... MASTER COLIN GORDON
Mrs. Margaret Milverton .. MISS NINA VAUGHTON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This interesting romantic drama, produced at the above theatre on Whit-Monday, is a compound of modern romance, intrigue, sensationalism, and pathos, enlivened with a considerable amount of good hearty comedy that does not detract from the story. It abounds with intense incidents, has several thrilling situations, and contains some pleasing romantic passages which cannot fail to appeal to the many lovers of a class of drama that has by no means lost its hold of the people. The period of the play is just before the passing of the Married Women's Property Bill, and the principal motive of the plot hinges upon this.

Although in many ways bearing a likeness, so far as regards the characters, to many dramas that have gone before, the mode of treatment and many of the situations are both novel and unconventional. Mrs. Margaret Milverton (known as Miss Margaret) is a young widow, whose only son Jacky is heir to his father's wealth. She is, however, loved by Rupert Lauriston, a young clerk to an unscrupulous employer named Stephen Maynard, who, amongst other shady transactions, is mixed up with a forgery case. This Maynard decides to, and finally does, marry Miss Margaret, but on the completion of the marriage an old actor, who has a long-standing grudge against Maynard, now has an opportunity of satisfying his revenge, and denounces him as a double-dyed scoundrel. The actual forger, who has also put in an appearance, complicates matters by dying suddenly, though not without leaving evidence of Maynard's complicity. Margaret declines to have anything further to do with her husband. On arriving at the house she finds Maynard's mistress, Valerie, installed there, passing as his sister-in-law. Margaret denounces them both, and departs with her boy Jacky. Maynard and Valerie trace and capture them, conveying them both to his laboratory, where by torture and threats of suffocation by sulphurous fumes, Margaret is urged to sign papers necessary for Maynard to secure her own and her boy's money. Margaret bravely declines, and just in the nick of time is saved by her young lover, Lauriston. They are again traced by their persecutors, but saved by a friendly constable. After other vicissitudes she, accompanied by her boy, appears on the Thames Embankment. They are in the last stages of dejected poverty, without money and apparently without friends, and nothing seems left but the river. Leaving the boy for a moment she returns only to find that he has disappeared—taken off by Valerie—and in his place, Rupert and Maynard, with the friendly constable. Maynard charges her with throwing the boy in the river, but the policeman declines to act, being "off duty." The loss of her boy and the appalling charge drive her to distraction, and finally to the loss of her reason.

Valerie having taken the boy to Maynard's home, Maynard determines to be rid both of his mistress and the lad. To attain this end he arranges to poison them both, drugging the wine for Valerie and providing poisoned biscuits for the latter; but his plans are frustrated by a friendly domestic, who changes the glasses and biscuits, with the result that Maynard is caught in his own toils, and becomes the victim of his foul acts. Margaret at last regains her reason by the persistent efforts of Rupert and the doctor, who find the way to success through the presence of her son Jacky, and finally the play ends in the usual happy way.

Mr. Stanley S. Gordon was successful as the young lover, Rupert Lauriston. Mr. Albert Sember, as the unscrupulous Stephen Maynard, played with quiet though incisive power. Mr. Chas. M. Daly, as Dicky Bird, infused excellent comedy into his part. Mr. Henry Belding submitted an excellent character-study of the old actor Peterkin. Mr. Edward W. Cudd proved acceptable as the kind-hearted Constable O'Brien. Miss Nina Vaughton, as the muchly-persecuted heroine, Mrs. Margaret Milverton, is an emotional actress of great power and versatility, and her acting was particularly striking in the Embankment scene, when the heroine loses her boy and her reason. Miss Maud Leslie Cudd did the best possible with the rather unthankful rôle of Valerie. Miss Dora Hilstrom's rendering of the soubrette part of Sally Straker was highly amusing. Miss Violet B. Clarke submitted a bright and intelligent interpretation of the somewhat minor rôle of Bertha. Mr. Duncan Bell was efficient as James Marlowe, the forger. Mr. Edwin Clarke and Mr. Reginald Porter were excellent as Dr. Ferguson and the Rev. P. Sinclair respectively.

The piece was well staged, special scenery being provided. There are some really clever set scenes by the resident scenic artist, Mr. Josh Hemingway, those representing the Thames Embankment by night, with Westminster Bridge and the Westminster tower clock, with the flowing river in the distance being especially realistic.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Mozart's Quartet for Strings in C, No. 17, was the first item in the concert at the Royal College on Thursday evening, June 7, the young performers, Mr. Arthur Beckwith, Mr. William Armstrong, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Mr. Charles Warwick-Evans, giving a praiseworthy rendering, though severely handicapped by the chimes at the Imperial Institute, which greatly interfered with second movement. In Rubinstein's song, "The Dewdrops Glitter," Mr. Frederic Pedgrift, a pupil of Albert Visetti, greatly distinguished himself, being possessed of a fine, rich, and well-trained voice; he was most heartily recalled at the close. Three piano solos by Mr. Frank Tapp were heard for the first time. Two of the pieces were entitled Intermezzos, the first being in A flat major and the other in B flat minor. This latter, containing a well worked-out theme, proved the most musicianly and attractive. The third solo was a Caprice of a lively and genial character. The young composer, who admirably interpreted his own work, was enthusiastically recalled to the platform. Miss Anna Izard was entirely satisfactory in her two violoncello solos, "Elegie," by Van Goens, and "Irrlichter," by Nölck; and Miss Eleanor Evans displayed her fine voice to great advantage in Elgar's song, "Like to the Damask Rose." Miss Ethel Duthvil sang four "Brantleider" songs by Cornelius, the concert concluding with Schubert's Quintet for piano and strings, the executants being Miss Ellen Edwards, Miss May Harrison, Mr. F. Bridge, Mr. Charles Warwick-Evans, and Mr. Victor Watson.

POOLE'S Opera House, Porth, will be closed after this week for renovation and cleaning, and will reopen on Friday, June 22nd, for afternoon and evening performances by the celebrated Black Dike Band.

THE ELLEN TERRY FESTIVAL.

The following is the programme in its entirety of the performance in honour of Miss Ellen Terry's jubilee, to be given at Drury-lane on Tuesday afternoon:—

(1) OVERTURE ....Conducted by Mr. J. M. Glover.

(2) MINSTREL CONCERT PARTY.
(Under the direction of Mr. Seymour Hicks.)

Mr. Angelo Asher.	Mr. George Grossmith, jun
Mr. W. H. Berry.	Mr. Seymour Hicks.
Mr. Will Bishop	Mr. G. P. Huntley.
Mr. James Blakeley.	Mr. Henry Lytton.
Mr. Louis Bradfield.	Mr. Lionel Mackinder.
Mr. Colin Coop.	Mr. Edmund Payne.
Mr. Johnny Danvers.	Mr. Bert Sinden.
Mr. Willie Edouin.	Mr. Farren Soutar.
Mr. Harry Fragson.	Mr. Arthur Williams.
Mr. Harry Grattan.	Mr. Fred Wright, jun.
Mr. George Graves.	Mr. Huntley Wright.

Mr. E. Royce, jun. (hon. stage manager).

(3) MR. LEWIS WALLER.....Recitation.

(4) "SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL."
(Dinner and Picture Scene.)

Charles Surface ..... SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM
Sir Oliver ..... MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER
Moses ..... MR. EDWARD TERRY
Trip ..... MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Careless ..... MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
Sir Harry Bumper ..... MR. BEN DAVIES
(With song: "Here's to the Maiden").

Gentlemen round the Table: Messrs. Allen Aynesworth, Fred Kerr, George Giddens, Weedon Grossmith, Martin Harvey, A. E. Matthews, Arthur Playfair, and Herbert Sleath.

(5) MADAME DUSE.

(6) TABLEAUX VIVANTS.

I.—"ANNE BOLEYN," arranged by Mr. Luke Fildes, R.A. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith. Miss Violet Vanbrugh (Anne Boleyn), Miss Daisy Thimm, Miss Kate Phillips, Miss Lilias Waldegrave.

II.—"THE LADIES WALDEGRAVE," arranged by Mr. Luke Fildes, R.A. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith. Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Julie Opp, Miss Grace Lane.

III.—"RIVAL BEAUTIES," arranged by Sir L. Alma-Tadema, R.A. Scene painted by Mr. Joseph Harker. Miss Constance Collier, Miss Edna May.

IV.—"CINDERELLA" (after Millais's picture). Scene painted by Mr. W. Johnstone. Dress designed by Wilhelm. Miss Ellaline Terriss.

V.—"BEGINNERS FOR THE FIRST ACT—A HUNDRED YEARS AGO," arranged by Mr. James Pryde. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith. Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Winifred Emery, Mrs. Tree, Miss Beatrice Ferrar, Miss Mabel Beardsley, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Geraldine Wilson, Mrs. Sam Sothern, Miss Margaret Bussé, Miss Pauline Chase.

VI.—"A WATTEAU PICTURE," arranged by Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, R.A. Scene painted by Mr. W. Hann. Miss Sarah Brooke, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Gertrude Elliott, Miss Ellis Jeffreys, Miss Rita Jolivet, Miss Suzanne Sheldon, Miss Irene Vanbrugh.

VII.—"JOAN OF ARC," arranged by Mr. P. Macquoid. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith. Miss Beatrice Beckley, Miss Lilian Braithwaite (Joan of Arc), Miss Beryl Faber, Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, Miss Iris Hawkins, Miss Beatrice Irwin, Miss Nora Lancaster, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Dorothy Minto, Miss May Palfrey, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Miss Hazel Thompson.

VIII.—"CLEOPATRA," arranged by Sir J. Linton, R.I. Scene painted by Mr. J. Harker, Miss Dora Barton, Mrs. Langtry (Cleopatra), Miss Ray Rockman.

IX.—"THE FOUR MARIES," arranged by Sir J. Linton, R.I. Scene painted by Mr. W. Johnstone. Mrs. Brown-Potter (Mary Queen of Scots), Miss Dorothy Grimston, Miss Annie Hughes, Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Edith Wynne-Matthison.

X.—"READING ALOUD," arranged by Mr. A. L. Baldry. Scene painted by Mr. McCleery. Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Nancy Price.

XI.—"THE BLESSED DAMOZEL," arranged by Mr. Byam Shaw. Scene painted by Mr. W. Hann. Miss Dorothea Baird, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Lettice Fairfax, Miss Mabel Hackney, Miss Dagmar Wiehe, Miss Margaret Halstan, Miss Julia Neilson (the Madonna).

XII.—"QUEEN VICTORIA AS A GIRL IN KENSINGTON PALACE GARDENS," arranged by Sir James Linton, R.I. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith. Miss Margaret Illington, Miss Mary Moore (Queen Victoria), Miss Kate Rorke, Miss Mary Rorke.

(7) Song, SIGNOR CARUSO. Accompanied by Signor Tosti.

(8) "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."

Note.—The members of the Terry family are indicated by a star (*).

ACT I.

Don Pedro ..... MR. FRED TERRY*
Don John ..... MR. H. B. IRVING
Claudio ..... MR. J. FORBES-ROBERTSON
Benedick ..... MR. H. BEERBOHM TREE
Leonato ..... MR. HERMANN VEZIN
Antonio ..... MR. HENRY NEVILLE
Balthazar ..... MR. EDMUND GWENN*
Conrade ..... MR. NORMAN FORBES
Borachio ..... MR. OSCAR ASCHE
Messenger ..... MR. LAURENCE IRVING
Hero ..... MISS MARION TERRY
Beatrice ..... MISS ELLEN TERRY*
Margaret ..... MISS MINNIE TERRY*
Ursula ..... MISS KATE TERRY*
First Drummer ..... MISS OLIVE TERRY*
Second Drummer ..... MISS BEATRICE TERRY*
First Dancer ..... MISS MABEL TERRY LEWIS*
Second Dancer ..... MISS MINNIE TERRY*
Third Dancer ..... MISS EDITH CRAIG*
First Torch-bearer .. MISS LUCY TERRY LEWIS*
Second Torch-bearer MISS KATE TERRY GULGRID*
Third Torch-bearer MISS JANET TERRY GULGRID*
Fourth Torch-bearer ..... MISS PHYLLIS TERRY*
Page ..... MASTER DENIS TERRY*
Page ..... MASTER ROSEMARY CRAIG*
Page ..... MASTER ROBIN CRAIG*
Page ..... MASTER PETER CRAIG*
Servant ..... MR. CHARLES TERRY*
Servant ..... MR. GEORGE TERRY*

The following will take part in the masked dance: Mr. H. Ainley, Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. Sidney Brough, Mr. Graham Browne, Mr. Frank Mills, Mr. Harcourt Williams, Mr. Matheson Lang, Mr. Julian L'Estrange, Mr. Charles Thursby, Mr. H. Esmond, Mr. G. Trollope, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. James Carew, Mr. V. Sternroyd, Mr. Horace Terry*, Mr. Geoffrey Morriss*.

Scenery designed and dance arranged by Mr. Gordon Craig*. Hon. stage-manager, Mr. Lionel Belmore. Hon. musical-director, Mr. Christopher Wilson.

(9) MLLE. ADELINE GENEE .....Pas de Deux, With M. P. Lundberg.
Conductor, Mr. Glasier.

Interval of 12 Minutes.

(10) SCENE FROM "THE BEAUTY OF BATH."
Mr. Seymour Hicks and all the "Bath Buns."

(11) SCENE FROM "LE MARIAGE FORCE" (Molière).

Pancrace ..... M. COQUELIN AINE
Sganarelle ..... M. J. COQUELIN

(12) MME. MELBA in the Mad Scene from Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*.
Flute Obbligato by Mr. Albert Fransella.
Conductor, Mr. Landon Ronald.

(13) "TRIAL BY JURY."
By W. S. Gilbert and the late Sir Arthur Sullivan.
(By kind permission of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte.)

Judge ..... MR. RUTLAND BARRINGTON
Defendant ..... MR. COURTICE POUNDS
Counsel for Plaintiff ..... MR. HARRY LYTTON
Usher ..... MR. WALTER PASSMORE
The Associate ..... MR. W. S. GILBERT
Plaintiff ..... MISS RUTH VINCENT

BRIDESMAIDS.

Miss Adrienne Augarde, Miss Amy Augarde, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Miss Kate Cutler, Miss Zena Dare, Miss May de Sousa, Miss Agnes Fraser, Miss Aida Jenoure, Miss Mollie Lowell, Miss Olive May, Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Decima Moore, Miss Olive Morrell, Miss Denise Orme, Miss Louie Pounds, Miss Gabrielle Ray, Miss Florence Smithson, Miss Madge Vincent.

JURY.

Foreman ..... CAPTAIN ROBERT MARSHALL

Sir Francis Burnand, Mr. Alfred Calmour, Mr. Comyns Carr, Mr. Haddon Chambers, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. Sydney Grundy, Mr. Cosmo Hamilton, Mr. Henry Hamilton, Mr. Owen Hall, Mr. Anthony Hope, Sir Gilbert Parker, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Brandon Thomas, Mr. Bernard Shaw.

SEATS ON THE BENCH.

Mrs. Bernard Beere, Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Agnes Thomas, Mis Lydia Thompson, Miss Lottie Venne, Miss Genevieve Ward, Mrs. John Wood.

CROWD IN COURT.

Mr. W. L. Abingdon, Mr. Paul Arthur, Mr. J. H. Barnes, Miss Kate Bishop, Miss Rosina Brandram, Miss Fanny Brough, Mr. William Devereux, the Misses Edouin, Miss Helen Ferrers, Miss Charlotte Granville, Miss Clara Jecks, Mr. Lawrence Kellie, Mr. W. T. Lovell, Mr. Luigi Lablache, Mr. Mark Kinghorne, Mr. Eugene Mayeur, Miss Eily Malyon, Mr. Harry Paulton, Mr. Norman Salmond, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. George Shelton, Mr. Sydney Valentine, Mr. Herbert Waring, Miss Muriel Wylford.

Conductor ..... MR. J. M. GLOVER

Produced under the personal supervision of the author.

(14) MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL .....Recitation
(15) MR. HARRY FRAGSON .....Song
(16) MR. GEORGE GRAVES .....Song

(17) RECEPTION SCENE: When representatives of the dramatic and musical professions and the General and Executive Committees will be present.

Lady Bancroft will address a few words to everyone present, and will say something directly to Miss Terry.

Stage under the direction of Mr. Arthur Collins.

All the artists are appearing by permission of their respective managers.

"A PRINCE OF THE PEOPLE."

Drama, in Five Acts, by Elwyn Barron, Produced for the first time at the Empire Theatre, Oldham, On Monday, June 4.

Victor Lafond ..... MR. F. RAWSON BUCKLEY
Berthault ..... MR. WM. H. BROUGHAM
Count de Valrière ..... MR. LIONEL GADSDONE
Albert, Marquis de Sancy .. MR. H. G. TWYMAN
Baudru ..... MR. DOUGLAS MUNRO
De Roubert ..... MR. R. REGINALD
Antoine ..... MR. SID LESLIE
Pierre ..... MR. ARTHUR DRAKE
Guyot ..... MR. ASHMORE J. VINCENT
Rene ..... MR. FRED MISSING
Jean ..... MR. JOSEPH DEAN
Municipal Clerk ..... MR. WALTER VINE
First Soldier ..... MR. REUBEN WITHERS
Second Soldier ..... MR. DAN RIBEAU
Third Soldier ..... MR. PETER MANEY
First Drummer ..... MR. SIMON PALACTER
Second Drummer ..... MR. CHRIS JENNER
Officer ..... MR. E. H. HENRI
First Citizen ..... MR. EDWARD PALACTER
Marie ..... MISS LILLIAN VILLIARS
Lucille de Valrière ..... MISS EMILY SHERIDAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

An enthusiastic verdict of success was passed upon the above play on its first production on Monday. The piece, which is laid at the period of the French Revolution, opens before the gates of the Count de Valrière's château. Victor Lafond the Count's valet, hitherto a peasant, has taught himself to read and write, and imbibes the principles of Liberty and Equality. On the arrival of the soldiers of the Republican army Victor's imagination is fired by a stirring speech from Berthault, representative of the Convention, and, much to the surprise and indignation of the Count and his daughter Lucille, he enlists. During an interval of two years Victor has risen to the rank of Colonel, and the Count has been sent to the guillotine. Lucille is also condemned to die, and her cousin Albert, Marquis de Sancy, to whom she is betrothed, concocts a plan for her escape. Victor, who has long loved Lucille in secret, learns that he can save the young aristocrat by marrying her, and sends for Lucille, who consents to wed Victor, thinking it is a part of her cousin's plan of escape. Albert enters the camp of the Revolutionary army in disguise, and is captured. As a result of Lucille's pleading he is set at liberty, but not before he has stolen some plans. He tells his cousin that he will have her husband shot as soon as he appears on the field where they are to meet in single-handed combat. The plans are missed, and Victor is arrested as a traitor and condemned to be shot. Lucille realises at length that she loves Victor, despite his lowly birth, and, finding Albert is waiting to take her away, she succeeds in obtaining possession of the stolen papers, and rushes to the place of execution just in time to prevent it taking place.

The play was well acted by a strong company, Miss Emily Sheridan assumed the part of Lucille, and ably portrayed the grande demoiselle who gradually loses the respect for her own class and learns to love the man she has ignored and despised as her father's servant. Mr. F. Rawson Buckley as Victor Lafond acted the part in fine style, cleverly showing the awakening of a torpid mind to the full vigour of manhood. Mr. William H. Brougham's fine portrayal of Berthault, the representative of the Convention, was one of the features of the piece; and Mr. H. G. Twyman was all that could be desired as Albert, Marquis de Sancy. The comedy parts were in the safe hands of Mr. Douglas Munro and Miss Lillian Villiars as Baudru and Marie respectively, the lady showing strong histrionic ability. Mr. Lionel Gadsdone was a capable Count de Valrière, and Messrs. Reginald and Leslie were good as De Roubert and Antoine. The piece is splendidly mounted and dressed, the uniforms being elegant and correct. A striking feature of the last scene, "On the Plains," is a realistic snowstorm effect, the soldiers, by an ingenious process, being literally smothered with the white flakes as they descend.

LOVELY BROWN HAIR.

Grey, or faded hair, can be easily restored to a Golden Brown, Auburn Brown, or to almost any other desired shade of Brown, by "Condy's Fluid," which is non-poisonous, and harmless in every way.

The fullest possible Directions for obtaining the various natural shades of brown hair, and copies of a large number of Valuable Testimonials, can be obtained from Condy's Fluid Works, 65, Goswell-road, London, E.C. Insist on having "Condy's Fluid." Sold by all Chemists, 1s. 8oz.; 20oz., 2s. Beware of Substitutes.

The Lady's Pictorial, The Gentlewoman, The Lady, and other High Class Ladies' Journals strongly recommend the use of "Condy's Fluid" for restoring the hair when grey or faded.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

THE unanimous expression of the goodwill of her fellow artists towards Miss Ellen Terry on the attainment of her jubilee is within four days of its accomplishment, and not one name eminent in the dramatic world is absent from the long list of players anxious to do her honour. In another column we give the programme of the remarkable matinée at Drury-lane on Tuesday, to which the name of Mme. Jane Hading, the distinguished French actress, is now to be added. Private boxes, a few of which have yet to be disposed of from 20 guineas upwards, have been sold at 100 guineas, and other seats at correspondingly high prices. Only a very limited number of four and five guinea stalls now remain.

THE scene will be graced by the presence of the King and Queen, and the audience at the National Theatre will be representative of the highest in the land. Miss Terry's first appearance will be made as Beatrice, an impersonation cherished by the majority of her admirers, and more than a score of persons bearing the honoured name will take part in the performance of Shakespeare's comedy. The climax of an eventful afternoon will be reached when Lady Bancroft, after addressing a few words to the audience, will say something directly to her brilliant sister in art.

A CURIOUS scene took place on Thursday night in the House of Commons with reference to the Musical Copyright Bill. As the Bill is in the hands of a private member, it could not be brought on till eleven o'clock. Mr. O'Connor then proposed that the second reading should be taken. According to the rules of the House a Bill cannot be taken after eleven o'clock if any one member objects. There was only one opponent of the Bill present—Mr. Caldwell—and as he is now vice-chairman of the House, it was supposed that he would act in accordance with all precedent, and, being an official, would refrain from taking part in any discussion on Bills.

BUT Mr. Caldwell is not a man to be guided by the ordinary rules, and, to the surprise of everybody, when Mr. O'Connor proposed his Bill, called out, "I object." Something stranger followed. Mr. O'Connor appealed to Mr. Caldwell to allow the Bill to pass; and when Mr. O'Connor sat down, Mr. Herbert Gladstone got up and made the same appeal. Mr. Gladstone, as Home Secretary, has in charge the department which deals with copyright; and, of course, as a Cabinet Minister and as a colleague had, it was assumed, to look with certainty to Mr. Caldwell accepting his advice. But, to the amazement of the House, Mr. Caldwell took no notice of the appeal, and again called out, "I object." Mr. O'Connor made another appeal—it was equally vain. This remarkable incident is expected to have other and larger consequences, and, in the end, may not prove to have been prejudicial to the cause of copyright and to the chances of the Bill passing this year into law.

ADVICES regarding Mr. J. L. Toole's illness have become less alarming during the week, and the hope may be encouraged that the health of the eminent comedian is not so seriously impaired as was at first supposed. There has been no material change in the course of Mr. Toole's malady, but he has had some refreshing intervals of sleep. During the early part of Thursday morning he obtained a fair amount of repose, and was thus enabled to maintain the slight improvement which had manifested itself.

MR. ARLTON, the nephew of Mr. Toole, is of opinion that the patient is undoubtedly very ill, and his condition is causing his friends the gravest anxiety. "He is up one day and down the next," says Mr. Alton, "though up to the present he has managed to hold his own, and he takes a satisfactory amount of nourishment. He has been very deaf since the last attack on the 24th ult., and that is a new phase of the situation. Dr. Langton has been in consultation with Dr. Branfoot, and they hope to get the patient downstairs again soon."

"MR. TOOLE," adds Mr. Alton, "is naturally very weak, and occasionally has hysterical fits, and is a little light-headed; but that soon passes off. He is suffering from degeneration of the spinal cord, or, as some call it, creeping paralysis; and after an illness of nearly ten years that is dangerous in a man seventy-seven years of age. At present we do not apprehend any immediate danger. Mr. Toole has wonderful vitality, and his organs being so good, he may rally, though the longer he stays in bed, of course, the less hopeful his condition is. Mr. Toole was always such a popular favourite that we are inundated with kind inquiries from the public every day as to the progress of the patient. His old theatrical friends have exhibited the greatest interest in his illness, especially since the last serious turn."

THE theatrical sports were favoured by glorious weather, and, as they deserve, by a larger gathering than formerly of the talent and beauty of the profession. Miss Irene Vanbrugh, tall and stately, exquisitely gowned in pale putty-coloured cloth and crowned with a most becoming hat, which seemed all soft white plumes, showed great interest in the different "events," and charmed the large gathering by her gracious manner in bestowing the prizes upon the victors.

MRS. GEORGE ALEXANDER, whose frocks are always beautiful, wore a lovely gown of *broderie anglaise*, and a large white straw hat, shaded with pink roses and white feathers. Quite a murmur of admiration followed her entrance to the grand stand. Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, of the Borough Theatre, was gowned in a beautiful mouse-coloured velvet, and evidently watched the Tug-of-War competition with great interest. Little Miss Iris Hawkins, in a becoming white frock and black hat, made one regret that she has always taken boy parts, and, consequently, disguised herself in the masculine wig and less tasteful attire of the unpicturesque sex.

A GALAXY of beauty occupied seats in the grand stand, among whom were a number of Miss Vanbrugh's friends, and Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Bella Pateman, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Coltson, and Mr. and Mrs. E. Vivian Reynolds.

THE Hon. Sec. of the Sports Committee was fortunate in his choice of the bouquet presented by him on behalf of the committee to Miss Vanbrugh, the pale pink carnations toned beautifully with her gown. Altogether, apart from the purely sporting success of the function, the gathering was decidedly a smart one socially, and it is to be hoped that, year by year, it will receive greater support from the upper ranks of the profession.

A DRAMATIC festival, which is Mr. Charles Frohman's description of the last of his productions of the season at his Duke of York's Theatre, will begin this evening, when Miss Marie Tempest and Miss Ellis Jeffreys resume their original parts in the revival of *The Marriage of Kitty*. The cast will be completed by Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Lloyd Lowndes, Mr. Lichfield Owen, and Miss Elsie Chester. Additional interest will be given to the bill by the appearance of Mr. Albert Chevalier and Miss Pauline Chase, in J. M. Barrie's one-act play *Pantaloon*. Mr. Chevalier will have the title-rôle, and the occasion will mark his first appearance in an acting part in a play since he entered upon his successful career as a coster comedian.

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES has enjoyed one of his proverbial successes with *The Little Michus*, which will be withdrawn this evening, after a run of just over 400 performances at Daly's. On Thursday Mr. Edwardes will revive *The Geisha*, for the title-rôle of which he has selected Miss May De Sousa. Mr. Fred Wright, jun., Mr. Robert Evett, Mr. W. Louis Bradfield, Mr. Tailleur Andrews, Mr. Gordon Cleather, Mr. George Graves, Miss Marie Studholme, Mlle. Mariette Sully, Miss Iris Hoey, Miss Thelma Raye, Miss Alice Hatton, Miss Watt Tanner, Miss Edith Fink, and Miss Grace Pinder will also be in the cast. Mr. Edwardes' new autumn production will witness the return to musical comedy of Miss Evie Greene.

MR. LEWIS WALLER announces the last nights, for the present, of *Brigadier Gerard* at the Lyric Theatre, after which *Othello*, by reason of its great success, will be transferred to the evening bill, the date fixed upon being Saturday next. Mr. H. B. Irving will continue his striking impersonation of Iago, and the cast will remain the same as at the recent special matinées.

GOLF and the green-room will divide the time of the members of the little commonwealth whose tour with *His Excellency the Governor* begins at Kennington on Monday. Mr. James Blakeley will appear with Mr. Marsh Allen, Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Loring Fernie, Miss Janet Alexander, and Miss Ethel Matthews.

MR. LIONEL MACKINDER, one of the leading spirits of the enterprise, thus expresses the intention of the promoters:—"We are going, mainly, because we want to play golf, and to foster a healthy spirit of rivalry. Miss Matthews has very generously offered a gold cup for the best player—not to the best actor, mind—that might lead to a serious difference of opinion. Having thus provided for our days, we began to wonder what on earth we should do with ourselves in the evenings. Somebody, for lack, I should imagine, of a more brilliant inspiration, suggested acting, and so by general consent we became a commonwealth management, with power to add a our number. We have engaged six people, all expert golfers, and, I think, capable actors. We have already booked several excellent matches and half a dozen theatres. The commonwealth is a quartet, because 'four' seemed the right word for the tour."

MANY of the suburban houses are closing for the summer; but at Poplar Mr. Clarence Sounes has made arrangements to keep his New Prince's Theatre open, with powerful dramatic attractions, right through until August, when he will continue, as hitherto, a varied programme, embracing comedy, musical comedy, and high-class drama. Mr. Sounes's efforts in Poplar have been well appreciated by the theatre-going public of the East End, and the universal opinion is that the Prince's Theatre, coming after many years of theatrical neglect, has filled a long-felt want in the neighbourhood of Poplar, Millwall, Canning Town, and the adjacent districts.

MISS LENA ASHWELL has decided to defer production at the Savoy of the new third act of *The Shulamite* until Tuesday, in order that a clash with another first night may be avoided. For the same evening she will reserve the last performance of *An Exile from Home*, the musical farce, written by Malcolm Watson and composed by Percy Fletcher and E. Hess. In the cast will appear Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. Reynolds Denniston, Mr. Thomas Pauncefort, Mrs. de Solla, and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy.

"THE CHINESE BRIDE" is the title of the new comedy with music which Mr. George Edwardes is shortly to produce at the Prince of Wales's, where *A Girl on the Stage* terminated on Saturday. The new piece, it will be remembered, is an adaptation by Mr. Charles Brookfield of Mme. Fred de Gresac's *La Troisième Lune*, brought out two years ago at the Paris Vaudeville. The incidental music is by Mr. Sydney Jones, with additional numbers by Mr. Frank Tours, and the cast will consist of Messrs. Huntley Wright, Maurice Farkoa, W. H. Berry, and Fred Emney, and Misses Adrienne Augarde, Kitty Hanson, Gabrielle Ray, Zena Dare, Maitland, Sybil Grey, and Denise Orme.

MR. EDWARD MILES, whose death—recorded in another column—occurred on the 31st ult., at Wisbech, in his 93rd year, was assisted by the Actors' Benevolent Fund to the extent of £295, being in receipt of a weekly allowance of one pound up to the day of his death. He was interred on Monday last at the expense of the Fund.

THE Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund has received from Mr. Arthur Laurence, of the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, the sum of £4 4s., being a portion of the amount realised by a sale of unclaimed articles left in the theatre.

MISS ADA REHAN, whose exquisite impersonations of Shakespeare's heroines, among which her Viola and Katharina figure conspicuously, will be well within the memory of London playgoers, is in a worse state of health than former reports led us to believe. The gifted American actress is unfortunately suffering from appendicitis, and her contemplated trip to Europe is in consequence indefinitely postponed.

MR. J. D. BEVERIDGE, who has had an enjoyable tour of the United States, is returning to this country earlier than he anticipated, owing to the San Francisco disaster. *Man and Superman*, which has been a big success in New York and other important centres, was to have been played in the ill-fated city till the end of July; but the recent calamitous occurrences put an end to the arrangements, and the popular actor is therefore on his way back to renew those friendly relations with his own countrymen which extend over so long a period.

MISS MURIEL GODFREY-TURNER, who has taken captive the hearts of theatre-goers as well as the cautious critics of Scotland, in the leading parts with Mr. Rosse's classic comedy répertoire company is now hard at work studying and rehearsing Marguerite Gautier in *La Dame aux Camelias*, which Mr. Rosse will produce at Cheltenham in about a fortnight's time. Special dresses have been ordered from Paris, and every effort will be made to do full justice to Dumas' celebrated work.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN was made the recipient at the end of the Drunken Scene in *Garrick* at Brighton last Saturday week of a beautiful silver-mounted walking-stick, which was handed up over the footlights, together with a letter of congratulation from several of the residents.

A MATINEE in aid of the funds of the parish of St. George-in-the-East is to be given at the Haymarket Theatre on Monday. The programme will include the little comedy, *Time is Money*, with Mr. Charles Hawtrey in his original part; a costume recital by Mr. and Mrs. Matheson Lang; a Spanish song-drama by Mr. Alfonso de Garcia Abello and Miss Mabilia Daniell; and a comedietta in three scenes, entitled *Anthony Dean's Double*, adapted by Paul Sylvester from a story by Mr. Walter S. Grogan. The second scene of this piece will embrace a variety entertainment, in which Miss Lottie Venne, Miss Lydia Nerville, Miss Letty Lind, and Miss Amy Lowther have promised to take part. To these attractions will be added a recitation by Miss Beatrice Herford Heyward, and a violin solo by Herr Franz Moisel.

MR. CYRIL MAUDE, whose season at the Waldorf will terminate shortly, has entered into an arrangement with Mr. Charles Frohman that will be to the advantage of both actor and manager as well as to the vast number of admirers of the popular comedian. He has, in fact, engaged to appear under Mr. Frohman's management at one of that gentleman's theatres during the autumn season, commencing in September. It is good news also to learn that Mr. Maude's engagement is associated with that of his accomplished wife, Miss Winifred Emery, who will appear with her husband in several plays to be announced.

MISS RUBY VERDI, whose dainty personality and charming vocalisation are brought to bear with such excellent results upon the part of Nellie Wagner, in Mr. George Musgrove's *Prince of Pilsen* company, will repair to Milan during the vacation for a course of study under Signor Giovannini, the famous Italian maestro.

MISS RUTH ST. DENIS greatly interested New York playgoers a few weeks ago with her Hindu Rhada dances, and the young lady has been engaged by Mr. Charles Frohman to give a series at special matinées at one of his West End theatres. The dances are of an Oriental character, and each one is said to tell a complete story, Rhada being the wife of Kreshna, who is the eighth reincarnation of Vishnu, the Preserver.

"MATT OF MERRYMONTH," a new romantic comedy by "John Rutherford," to whose pen we are indebted for *The Breed of the Treshams* and *Boy O'Carroll*, two of Mr. Martin Harvey's most notable successes, has been secured by Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson for production in London next season. "John Rutherford," we learn, is the *nom-de-plume* of Beulah Mary Dix and Mrs. E. G. Sutherland, both of Boston, U.S.A.

MR. J. B. MULHOLLAND has received a large number of applications for a *New Magdalen* tour, to which reference was made in a paragraph appearing in certain papers. The play has been let to Mr. Robert Arthur, Mr. Bannister Howard, Mr. Sidney Cooper, and other managers; but it is not Mr. Mulholland's intention to tour the piece, and he regrets the disappointment which has been occasioned to the many artists who have favoured him with applications.

ACTORS, actresses, and authors, to the number of nearly thirty, who have been associated with the Ibsen productions in this country, put their signatures to a telegram sent to Stats-Minister Sigurd Ibsen at Christiania, expressing sympathy, with Frau Ibsen in the loss of the great playwright. The names appended to the telegram include those of William Archer, Oscar Asche, Janet Achurch, F. R. Benson, Stella Campbell, Laurence Irving, J. Huntley McCarthy, Elizabeth Robins, Bernard Shaw, Ellen Terry, Beerbohm Tree, and J. E. Vedrenne.

FOLLOWING is a translation of the letter sent in acknowledgment by Statsminister Sigurd Ibsen. It is addressed to Mr. William Archer, whose name happened to stand first in the alphabetical order of the signatures:—"Riis, by Christiania, June 2, 1906. Dear Mr. Archer,—Greatly touched by the beautiful greeting from London which reached us yesterday, on the day of my father's funeral. My mother and I beg you and your co-signatories of the telegram to accept our deeply-felt thanks.—Faithfully yours, SIGURD IBSEN."

MISS IRENE ROSS expects to play some special weeks before she starts on tour in August, to win the hearts of provincial audiences in her original part of the Kipper, in *Good as Gold*. She has had great experience in pastorals, and proved herself, on more than one occasion, absolutely indifferent to sudden changes of weather, for there is only one thing to be relied on in open-air performances—it is always fine for *The Tempest*, and invariably rains during *A Midsummer Night's Dream!* Miss Ross is generally accompanied to the theatre by Nelson, a most intelligent "canine companion."

ON the occasion of Miss Haidée Gunn's first appearance as Desdemona at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on May 28, their Excellencies the Lord and Lady Lieutenant and suite graciously honoured the performance with their presence. At the conclusion of the play, Miss Gunn was sent for by their Excellencies, who personally congratulated her on her complete success. Miss Gunn has been engaged by Mr. Cyril Keightly, late Mr. F. R. Benson's leading man, for his forthcoming autumn tour, when she will play Lady Teazle and Kate Hardcastle, as well as create a high comedy part in a new costume play.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY announces that he will give a special matinée of *A Cigarette-Maker's Romance* on Thursday, June 14, at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Harvey will be supported by Mr. Charles Glenney and Miss N. de Silva. The usual performances of *Boy O'Carroll* will be given up to and including Saturday, June 16, when Mr. Harvey's season at the Imperial Theatre ends.

MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN'S revival of *Claudian*, which has had a most successful tour of thirty-eight weeks, finishes to-night at Eastbourne for the summer vacation. The autumn tour starts in August.

MR. MARK KINGHORNE has been specially engaged by Mrs. Patrick Campbell to create the part of Dr. Fergus Munro in the production, *The Macleans of Bearness*. This will make ten original Scotch parts which Mr. Kinghorne has played in ten years, thereby constituting a remarkable record.

MRS. MARGARET IRVING, whose death took place on Saturday at Portobello, was a cousin of the late Sir Henry Irving. Mrs. Irving, who was in her seventy-fifth year, was one of the few remaining survivors of Florence Nightingale's company of nurses during the Crimean War, and possessed the decoration for war services.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN plays Colonel Brinthorpe for the 242nd time to-night, when the spring tour of *Sunday* terminates. Mr. Pagden is re-engaged for autumn. Meantime, on the 18th inst., he will produce *The Idler* at the West Pier, Brighton, appearing as Mark Cross, supported by his own company.

AT the Royal Academy of Music, the Charles Rube Prize (Quartet Playing) has been awarded to the following quartet:—Juliet Capron (first violin), Thomas Morgan (second violin), James T. Lockyer (viola), and Frederick W. Hodgkinson ('cello). Sam Robinson (first violin), Mildred Johns (second violin), James T. Lockyer (viola), and Edgar Fawcett ('cello), were highly commended. The adjudicator was Mr. Paul J. Ludwig.

"IN HOLY ORDERS," a new drama in four acts and twelve scenes, by Wyn Weaver, will be produced at the Theatre Royal Dover, on Monday, June 18. It will be played by Mr. H. F. Maltby and company, who are meeting with great success on tour in the romantic play, *The Youngest of Three*. The principal parts will be played by Mr. H. F. Maltby, Mr. W. Henry Hargreaves, Mr. Ralph Hutton, Mr. Ernest Noble, Miss Beatrice Marsdene, Miss Mara Maltby, Miss Mabel Mellor, and the author.

MISS LILY DORIS, late of the *Florodora* company, is now lying seriously ill at 51, Woodcroft-road, Sefton Park, Liverpool, and would be pleased to hear from any old friends.

MR. AND MRS. DANIEL FROHMAN (Miss Margaret Illington) sailed for New York on Friday in the Cedric. In September Miss Illington will appear at the Empire Theatre, New York, in Pinero's *His House in Order*, enacting there the rôle of Nina, played here by Miss Irene Vanbrugh.

THE fate of the matinée hat has been settled by Parisian audiences, who were last week invited by a popular newspaper to show by ballot their opposition or otherwise to the gigantic headgear which so often takes the place of the play in the view of audiences at morning performances. The newspaper arranged a plebiscite in the twelve chief theatres of Paris, including the Opéra Comique, the Vaudeville, the Gymnase, the Nouveautés, and the Théâtre Sarah Bernhardt. Nearly 112,000 votes were cast, and, as a result, 58,319 declared in favour of compelling all women to remove their hats in theatres, 51,767 advocated the adoption of small hats, and 1,656 were for entire freedom of action.

IN consequence of this overwhelming testimony, it is stated several managers of theatres, notably M. Jules Claretie, of the Comedie Francaise, and M. Albert Carré, of the Opera Comique, have decided to suppress hats, not only in the orchestra stalls but in the balconies. This measure will be put into operation at the beginning of next season. Managers of boulevard theatres will encourage the small hat, and ladies who intend to be present at "first nights" will be compelled to adopt it, otherwise it is presumed they will not be allowed to enter the theatres.

SENOR ARBOS, the accomplished professor at the Royal College of Music, is commanded to Madrid by the King of Spain to arrange the State concert there in connection with the wedding festivities to-morrow evening. Senor Arbos will conduct the Madrid Symphony Orchestra, and the concert will begin with some typical British music in honour of the King's alliance with a Princess of this country. Sir A. C. Mackenzie's "Britannia Overture," the prelude to Sir E. Elgar's "Lux Christi," with a selection from this composer's "Enigma" Variations, and Sir Charles Stanford's Irish Rhapsody, will be given. Interspersed with these examples of British musical art there will be some modern Spanish music represented by Chapy's "Suite" and Breton's "Wedding March." The rest of the concert, which will be purely orchestral, will be made up of Bach, Beethoven, and Wagner.

DR. SAINT-SAENS, who recently celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of his first appearance in public, on which occasion a concert was given in Paris in his honour, is said to be the only modern composer who can claim to have achieved success in all the great branches of music. He made his first appearance in public as a pianist when only ten years old. At the age of seventy he is still full of activity, and is constantly adding to the long list of his works compositions of importance, the opera *L'Ancêtre*, produced at Monte Carlo, being among the latest of his many brilliant achievements.

THE attraction of *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* is so potent that Mr. Harry Yorke specially engaged Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sugden and their company in the celebrated Pinero play for the Whitsuntide programme at the Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

MME. MELBA had an amusing adventure on her way from Coombe Cottage to sing at Covent Garden on Tuesday night. The motor-car in which she travels every night broke down. There was no time to go back and get another vehicle, no time to make repairs, so she clambered into a grocer's cart that had pulled up alongside and told the man to drive to Coombe Station. He did not know her, but, of course, he gallantly assented, and the van arrived at Coombe Station in time for the prima donna to catch the train to Waterloo, whence she drove to the theatre in a cab.

THE fifth production of the seventh season of the Incorporated Stage Society will be on Sunday, June 17th, and the following Monday afternoon. The programme will consist of *The Invention of Doctor Metzler*, a play in one act, by John Pollock (produced by Albert E. Drinkwater), in which Miss Gertrude Kingston, Miss Berta Van Raalte, Eugene Mayeur, Trevor Lowe, and Frank H. Denton will appear; and *The Inspector-General*, a comedy in three acts, based on a translation of Gogol's *Revisor*, by A. A. Sykes. In the cast will be Herbert Grimwood, Trevor Lowe, Henry Kitts, Frank H. Denton, Arthur Bell, C. R. Gibbon, Burton Cooke, Norman Page, Fred Grove, Michael Sherbrooke, Percy Crawford, Miss Bertha Van Raalte, Miss Stella St. Audrie, Miss Jean Cadell, and W. Hubert. The comedy will be produced by Charles Rock.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held last Tuesday, when there were present Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (Deputy Chairman), Mesdames Kate Bishop and Beatrice Lamb, and Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, Alfred Kendrick, M. R. Morand, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (Secretary). Frank Pennington-Gush, Mabel L. Adams, and Arthur Collins-Rolfe were nominated for election. Several matters of importance were under discussion, and the further consideration of various subjects was postponed.

A MEETING of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was held, Mr. M. R. Morand occupying the chair, supported by Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, Alfred Kendrick, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (Secretary). The latter received instructions to issue a circular to the members whose subscriptions for the current year remain unpaid.

"THE FASCINATING MR. VANDERVELDT," at the Garrick, reached its fiftieth performance last evening. To-night, *Castles in Spain*, which was moved from the Royalty to Terry's Theatre a little over a week ago, also achieves its half-century; and on the same occasion *The Girl Behind the Counter* will register its fiftieth performance at Wyndham's.

MR. JOHN GAFFNEY, the esteemed manager and secretary of the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre, will, on Thursday evening next, take his eighteenth annual benefit, an event which is a "red-letter night."

MR. FRED L. ARTHUR, manager of the Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, was on Monday, the occasion of his birthday, presented with a handsome silver cigarette-case by the staff; while from the employés of the Queen's Theatre, Keighley, where he was formerly stationed, came the following telegram: "Most potent, grave, and reverend signor, the boys and girls of the répertoire company wish you many happy returns of the day. May your shadow never grow less. Health, wealth, and prosperity be yours."

MR. FREDERICK SARGENT has been engaged by Mr. A. B. Tapping to play the Duke of Guisebury in *The Dancing Girl*, and Luversan and Laroque in *A Man's Shadow*, both pieces being shortly produced on the pier at Hastings. Mr. Sargent has had varied experience during the past spring. He opened the year playing lead in Shakespeare, but in a few weeks he took up the title-rôle in the production of *Jevan, the Prodigal Son*, at Glasgow. A few weeks as Ned Annesley, in *Sowing the Wind*, followed, and he concludes in a fortnight a short tour under the management of Mr. J. D. Hunter.

MISS JANE MARY COATES, a sister of Miss Connie Ediss, the popular Gaiety comedienne, was married at the Congregational Church, Wimbledon, on Sunday to Mr. Charles Frederick Byatt, a gentleman well known in the world of sport. The bride, who has already achieved a reputation on the stage as a dainty dancer, looked very charming, and wore with becoming grace a beautiful veil that has been for generations in the family, and some old lace in which her grandmother was married seventy years ago. Amongst the bridesmaids were two other younger sisters of Miss Connie Ediss, while a little brother and nephew acted as pages of honour.

OPPORTUNITY was taken of the fine weather to have an open-air wedding breakfast in the orchard attached to Miss Ediss's cottage, which is situated in a secluded spot between Raynes Park and Malden. In another corner of the orchard was a little bar, over which Miss Connie Ediss had herself painted the sign "Ye Olde Bull and Bush," where refreshments were dispensed.

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE, who is successfully touring *Facing the Music*, will produce a new three-act farce from his own pen, entitled *Where's William?* at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Thursday, June 21.

IN the beautiful grounds of Downing College, Cambridge, by kind permission of the Master and Fellows, on Tuesday next, June 12, will be given Shakespeare's comedies, *Twelfth Night* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, as pastorals, in the afternoon and the evening. The company will be headed by Mr. D. Lewin Mannering, supported by Miss Violet March and a strong company, and Mr. Mannering will play Malvolio and Proteus himself. He is also responsible for the production of both plays.

MR. STEPHEN PHILLIPS' idea of *Faust*, a version of which he has in contemplation for Mr. George Alexander, is that it should be "a compact drama," of which spectacular embellishment should form no part. "In the version of *Faust*, which I am going to prepare," says Mr. Phillips, "there will be nothing spectacular, nothing to overshadow or intrude upon an immortal theme. As to how I shall treat the story, and as to the form in which it will be written, I am not yet sure—it may be a play in blank verse, or in prose with lyrics. But, at least, I have decided not to closely follow Goethe, whose second part of *Faust*—great as it is—does not, in my view, lend itself to effective dramatic treatment.

"FAR more suitable, I think," continues the poet, "is the ending of Marlowe, who, into the last hour of life vouchsafed to the unhappy Faustus brings tragedy terrible and appalling. In Marlowe's last, awful scene, Faust, left alone by his friends, counts the flying minutes of the final hour:—

Now hast thou but one bare hour to live,
And then thou must be damned perpetually!
Stand still you ever-moving spheres of heaven,
That time may cease and midnight never come.

These are the words of the man who, having tasted the joys of his bargain, knows that the punishment is inevitable. Here, it seems to me, is a situation of great possibilties, and upon this ending I shall base the closing scene of my version, in which Faust will be the dominating, outstanding figure."

SOME consternation was caused last week at Blackpool, when Ping Pong, the donkey used in Mr. Frank Bertram's company of *The New Clown*, was arrested for blocking the traffic. The donkey, which had a little boy on his back, dressed as a miniature clown, was taken to the police station, attended by an admiring crowd, but on promising not to repeat the offence, he was allowed to return home in time for the evening performance.

MISS CLARA COWPER (Mrs. William Calvert) has been specially engaged by Mr. Samuel James to "star" as Lady Isabel in her own version of *East Lynne* at the Grand, Islington, next week.

MISS DORIS GILHAM has been engaged by Mr. Eade Montefiore for his summer season at the Coronet, Camden, and Kennington Theatres.

MR. T. EDWARD WARD concludes to-night at the Grand Theatre, Luton, a lengthy tour of some forty-six weeks' run, which, from a financial point of view, has proved most satisfactory. The revival of *Her Wedding Day*, which has been the attraction since Christmas, has gone exceedingly well, and has become increasingly popular. Mr. and Mrs. Ward will now take a holiday, resuming work later on with their other play, *Her Fatal Past*, for which they have booked a long and important tour, extending to Christmas.

IN the Glasgow Sheriff Small-Debt Court on Wednesday, Mrs. C. Finch Hatton, professionally known as Miss Renee Glendower, with consent of Mr. C. Finch Hatton, manager, Moss's Empires, Ltd., Edinburgh, sued Mr. James Stillwell and Co., proprietors of a theatrical company travelling with the plays, *The Branded Woman* and *The King's Secret*, for £5, being two weeks' wages, for unjustifiable dismissal. In his evidence defender said pursuer was leading lady in the company playing *The King's Secret*. A child, under pursuer's care, played an important part. At Barrow-in-Furness, on April 24, the child ran away, and was afterwards found in Manchester. Owing to the child's disappearance they could not produce that play. He would have nothing further to do with the child, she having broken her contract, but pursuer brought the girl with her to Spennymoor, where they next appeared, and, because he would not allow the child on to the brake conveying them, pursuer spread a report that he made the child walk behind the vehicle four miles to Spennymoor. He dismissed her accordingly.

PURSUER stated that owing to indisposition she gave Mr. Stillwell a fortnight's notice, and was working that notice when she was dismissed. Pursuer had not spoken to anyone in Spennymoor about the child having to run four miles behind the brake. The child, an attractive girl of fourteen years of age, said pursuer was kind to her. His Lordship said pursuer seemed to have been dismissed owing to damaging reports circulated in Spennymoor, but any person might have seen the child running behind the brake. He found that justifiable dismissal had not been proved, and gave decree for the sum sued for, with expenses.

MR. JOHN COATES, who will give a vocal recital at Bechstein Hall on the 14th inst., has been engaged for the Birmingham Festival, and will sing the tenor music in Sir Edward Elgar's recently-completed addition to "The Apostles." For a short time Mr. Coates sang in the musical piece, *The Gay Defenders*, at the now defunct Globe Theatre, and was also chosen to sing Sir Arthur Sullivan's last number, "The Absent-Minded Beggar," at the Alhambra.

AT the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, on Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, by arrangement with Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett, the Cowper-street (Old Boys') Club will present the comic opera *Merrie England*. For the remainder of the week and Thursday's matinée *Jedbury, Junior*, will be played. The performances, which are under influential patronage, are in aid of the funds of the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland-Road.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Carmen, given for the first time this season on Thursday, May 31, aroused considerable interest, owing to the fact that Mme. Kirkby Lunn impersonated the part of the callous gipsy. Mme. Lunn has before sung this character, when it was done in English, at the season given by the Carl Rosa Opera Company some years ago at the Lyceum Theatre, and recently she has played it with success at Buda-Pesth. But performing it at Covent Garden in the grand season is a different matter, for opera-goers have heard many famous artists in the rôle—Mme. Minnie Hauk, Mlle. Zélie de Lussan, and Mme. Calvé, in many respects the greatest of all Carmens. Vocally Mme. Lunn has fine resources, but the part requires strong dramatic treatment, and here, perhaps, the artist did not entirely realise Prosper Mérimée's heroine, Mme. Lunn being at her best in the scene where Carmen learns her fate by the cards. In this portion, her fine voice and largeness of style told superbly. M. Laffitte, a singer from the Brussels Opera House, appeared as Don José, and made a good impression. His voice is light, but pure in quality, and he acted with intelligence. Mlle. Donalda sang the music of Micaela charmingly, but her make-up was hardly satisfactory. M. Seveilhac proved a somewhat tame bull-fighter; but M. Gilibert as usual made an excellent Dancairo, and M. Crabbé an admirable Morales. The other characters of Remendado (M. Dognies), and Zuniga (M. Artus) were skilfully performed, and the small parts of Frasquita and Mercedes, well sung by Mme. Gilibert-Lejeune and Mme. Paulin; and the orchestra, under M. Messager, was entirely successful.

Wagner's *Der Fliegende Holländer* was performed before a full house on Monday night, and aroused great interest, not only from the power and beauty of much of the music, but from the fact that the Dutchman is seldom heard nowadays. The revival was welcome, as the opera was well cast, and the performance generally excellent; new scenery also had been specially painted for the occasion by Mr. Harry Brooke, who may be warmly congratulated for the most picturesque and striking effects of sea and ships, and the ghostly appearance of the phantom ship in the final act. Herr Van Rooy appeared as the Holländer, and greatly distinguished himself, both as a vocalist and actor, being particularly successful in his duett with Senta in the second act; indeed, throughout the entire opera, Herr Van Rooy realised to the full the fatalistic and imaginative side of the character, and he sang with a passionate intensity of feeling deserving the warmest praise. Fraulein Destinn, who was the Senta of the cast, also shared to the full in the honours of the evening, her fine voice and dramatic intuition being especially noticeable in her scene with Erik, and her delivery of the "Ballad," and in the last act she did not spare herself, but gave the fullest value to the dramatic music. Herr Knüpfer showed to great advantage as Daland; and Herr Burgstaller used a resonant voice with good effect in the character of Erik. Fraulein Grünn, in the small part of Marey, and the Steersman of Herr Nictan were satisfactory performances; and the chorus singing of the "Spinning Song" tuneful and effective; while a fine rendering of the wonderful overture was secured by the orchestra, under the watchful care of Dr. Richter.

Frau von Mildenburg and Herr Burgstaller did not appear at Covent Garden last Saturday, *Tannhäuser*, with Herr Anthes in the title-rôle, and Mme. Knüpfer-Egli, as Elisabeth, filling the gap, Herr Whitehill undertaking the part of Wolfram, and Herr Knüpfer, Hermann. Neither Mme. Knüpfer-Egli, as Elisabeth, nor Herr Anthes were heard to any great advantage in their respective characters; but Herr Whitehill rendered Wolfram's music with much charm. Mme. Reinl and Mme. Agnes Nicholls were in the cast, as Venus and the Shepherd, Dr. Richter conducting the orchestra.

On Wednesday evening, Fräulein Von Mildenburg, who has achieved marked success in Vienna, made her first appearance at Covent Garden in the character of Isolde. Fräulein Von Mildenburg, who has an excellent voice combined with considerable ability as an actress, at once created a most favourable impression. Her rendering of the part was on broad and effective lines, and her ample vocal resources will make the artist a valuable addition to the list of Wagnerian singers. The Tristan was Herr Burgstaller, who sang the part of Erik in *Der Flugende Holländer* on Monday night; that Herr Burgstaller still suffered slightly from cold was manifest, and no doubt caused a lack of vitality in his acting. The rest of the cast was the same as on a former performance, but mention may be made of the fine work done on Wednesday by Mme. Kirkby Lunn, Herr Knüpfer, and Herr Van Rooy. Dr. Richter conducted.

Rigoletto drew a full house on Tuesday night. Mme. Melba and Signor Caruso being in the fine cast, which included Signor Scotti. Although it did not appear that Madame was in her finest voice as Gilda, the famous tenor sang in his usual impassioned and delightful manner; while Signor Scotti proved an excellent Rigoletto. The rest of the cast contained MM. Journet, Gilibert, Zucchi, and Sampieri. Signor Campanine conducted.

AT Daly's, New York, music and the drama have been supplanted for the nonce by an exhibition of moving pictures, taken in San Francisco during the fire that followed the earthquake. The pictures are very clear, and many of them are strikingly descriptive of the havoc wrought by the flames. Mr. Frank McKee will become the manager of Daly's Theatre next September.

"MAN'S ENEMY," with Mr. Norman A. Qverton in the leading part, is at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, next week. Under Mr. John Power's management the piece is playing more powerfully than ever.

THE THEATRICAL SPORTS.

Fine weather again favoured the athletic members of theatre and music-hall staffs when they engaged in their annual sports on Tuesday at the Stamford Bridge Grounds. There was not, perhaps, as good a "gate" as might have been anticipated on a Whit Tuesday, but the attendance was better than last year's, and every one of the events was followed with the keenest interest, amounting in some cases to enthusiasm of the most unrestrained order. The grand stand presented a pleasing and picturesque aspect, thanks mainly to the pretty summer dresses and hats worn by the ladies. Miss Irene Vanbrugh, who had kindly consented to present the prizes to the successful competitors, arrived on the scene in good time, and took delight in watching the various contests. She

[*Photo by Ellis and Walery.*

MISS IRENE VANBRUGH.

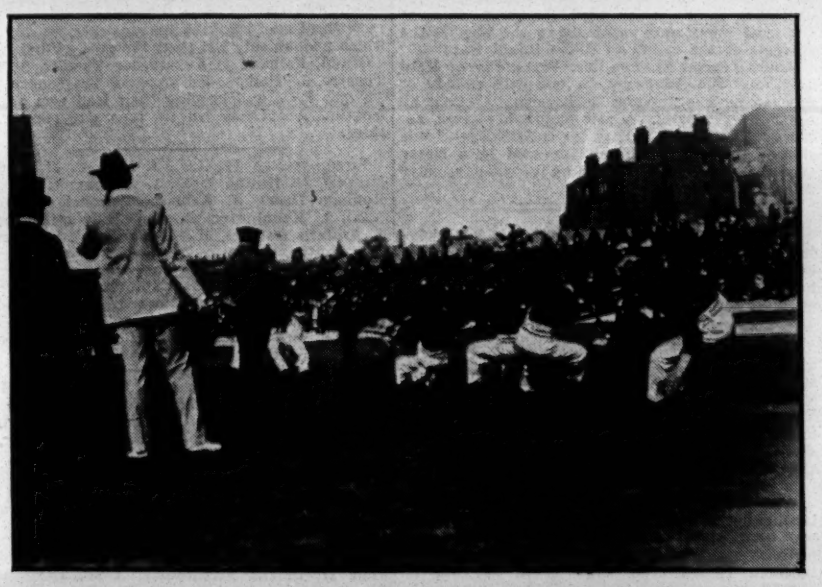
was attired in an exceedingly neat and becoming cream tailor-made costume, and a lovely bouquet of pink flowers was handed to her by Mr. W. Johnson immediately she made her appearance. Mrs. George Alexander was also present, and others who attended were Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mrs. Vanbrugh, Miss Iris Hawkins, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Bella Pateman, Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Coltson, and Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Reynolds.

The Theatrical Sports, it might be mentioned, are arranged annually by a joint committee of the Heads of Departments Association, the Theatrical Carpenters' Society, and the general staff (No. 1 branch) of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, and the contests are open to theatre managers and their assistants, actors, and theatre and music hall (civilian) employees. The establishment of a benevolent fund to assist theatrical employees of both sexes is the object for which these sports are held.

The names of the gentlemen who officiated in one way or another upon the grounds on Tuesday are as follow :—

The Sports Committee :—Messrs. Lionel Belmore, H. R. Kimpton, James Cullen, A. Palmer, T. Sheridan, G. W. Wilton, T. Morgan, P. Sheridan, H. Porter, A. E. Wood, H. Mather, P. Thomas, R. Ward, W. G. Farrell, C. Thorogood, J. Reed.

Hon. Treasurer :—Mr. G. H. Dyball.
Hon. Secretary :—Mr. William Johnson.
Referee :—Mr. Robert Watson.
Judges : — Messrs. Horace Chambers, F. Fredericks, S. Fredericks, Cyril Maude, Edmund Maurice, F. H. Pedgrift, Cecil I. Paget, F. W. Parker, George Robey, C. Aubrey Smith, John Wilson, Frank Shorland.



[*Photo by G. Bolak.*

THE DUBLIN TEAM, WINNERS OF "THE ERA" CHALLENGE SHIELD FOR THE TUG-OF-WAR.

Official Starter :—Mr. H. Ransom.
Timekeeper :—Mr. F. W. Parker.
Handicapper :—Mr. Ed. Bostock.
Marksman :—G. H. Dyball.

Clerks of the Course :—Messrs. P. Sheridan, A. Palmer, T. Morgan, P. Thomas, G. W. Wilton, A. Earnshaw, R. Jenkins, J. T. Sheridan, G. Lawrance.

Reception Committee :—Messrs. C. Aubrey Smith, Herbert Waring, Dawson Milward, Robert Horton, H. R. Kimpton, James Cullen, and William Johnson.

Stewards :—Transfer—Mr. Charles Thorogood Weighing—Messrs. A. Palmer and A. Earnshaw. Programmes—Messrs. H. Mather, A. George, John Phelps, Edward Stow, W. Hall, B. J. Taylor, W. Bevington, T. Swift, G. T. Dalgarno, G. Lofton, A. Beasley, G. Davis, A. Bryan, W. J. Hindey, W. G. Farrell, G. Palmer, J. Reed, S. Simkins, H. Porter, and E. Shepherd.

A delightful programme of music was prepared by Mr. George Bryer, who conducted the Alexander Imperial Military Band on the grounds, the score or so of selections affording an agreeable variation from the immediate work at hand in the different events, and, possibly, inspiring some of the competitors to mighty efforts.

Unquestionably the tug-of-war evoked the greatest interest. For the previous three years, *The Era* shield, offered in connection with this contest, had been won successively by the Dublin Empire, and is now the property of the men from the Emerald Isle. This year a new shield was given by the proprietors of this journal as a perpetual trophy, to be exhibited for the six months next following the date of the sports in the theatre represented by the winning team, and on the present occasion a fresh condition was set forth in regard to the tug-of-war. The maximum weight of each team was limited to 60st., with a maximum allowance of 10lb. per team. The competitors were weighed on the grounds, and the conditions set forth in the rules and regulations were strictly adhered to. But, no matter! the Dublin boys again triumphed. In the first round the Dublin Empire men pulled against the Gaiety Theatre, and won at both ends of the gutter. Then the Canterbury entered against the Crown Theatre, Peckham, a draw being first recorded, and the Crown winning on the third attempt. A similar thing occurred in the struggle between Stratford Borough Theatre and Stratford Royal, honours eventually falling to the former team; while the Waldorf men triumphed over the Canterbury. In the second round, the Dublinites defeated the Peckham men, and the Borough, Stratford, were successful against the Waldorf. The final round between the Dublin Empire and the Borough Theatre resulted in the Irishmen claiming the shield, as it was confidently expected they would do. The heaviest team was the Waldorf, the collective weight of whose five members reached 60st. 6½lb., and the lightest was the Royal, Stratford, 56st. 12lb. The Dublin men scaled 57st. 8lb.; the Crown, Peckham, 59st. 8lb.; the Alhambra, 57st. 3lb.; the Borough, 58st. 12lb.; and the Gaiety, 59st. Considerable excitement centred round the five miles cycling race. For the past two years Mr. E. S. Dawson, of the Holborn Empire, has held the fine championship shield presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, M.P., and had he passed first on Tuesday the trophy would have become his property. As it was, he made a fine show, and came in an exceedingly close second to Mr. S. F. Bailey, of the Borough, Stratford. In the final heat, Mr. A. Clements, of the Alhambra, was seen in a most commendable performance, practically keeping the pace for thirteen or fourteen laps. In the 50 yards blindfold race, which was won by A. F. Lenton, of the Comedy, the fact that one or two of the competitors were wearing boots with long spikes seems, regrettably enough, to have been overlooked by the clerks of the course, and one of the results was that a runner had both of his shoes torn and his feet lacerated by the spikes. One would have thought that it had been sufficient to leave it to the honour of the contestants to see that they did not wear anything which would, in such an event as a blindfold race, cause bodily injury to their rivals; but apparently such considerations did not occur to the men to whose unsportsmanlike conduct we refer. No doubt attention will be paid to this point in future sports. In the 80 yards hopping championship the agile Mr. G. Harold, late of the Adelphi, again won the silver challenge cup presented by Mr. W. Templeton, and it now becomes his permanent possession. In the 100 yards veterans' handicap Mr. J. Andrews seemed to be able to throw off the yoke of fifty-seven years, and once more secured the first prize, which this year is an oil-painting, executed and presented by Mr. E. A. Taylor, the master carpenter at the Scala Theatre. In the 100 yards running handicap the premier prize—a handsome marble clock, presented by Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander—was taken by Mr. G. Harold. The obstacle sack race, won by Mr. G. Bailey, of the Paragon, created great hilarity; as did also the 50 yards boot race, in which the competitors' boots were put into a sack, and each had to run to the sack, find and put on his boots, and race to a mark. Mr. C. Douglas, of the Gaiety Theatre, was first in this event, and received a handsome silver inkstand, given by Sir Squire Bancroft. Miss Irene Vanbrugh's gift of a fine silver-mounted oak smoker's cabinet, for the quarter-mile obstacle race, came into the ownership of Mr. A. Wright, of the London Pavilion; and Mr. J. Warner's (Alhambra) feat of pedestrianism in the one-mile walking handicap gained him the leading prize, consisting of a case of knives and forks. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith's silver challenge cup for the four-laps relay race will for the next six months be on exhibition at Daly's Theatre, three sturdy members of whose working staff—A. W. Cordier (runner), F. Robinson (walker), and E. Dawson (cyclist)—proving their superiority over "all comers."

Very gracefully did Miss Irene Vanbrugh fulfil her office as distributor of the prizes, and her pleasant, tactful manner made the more nervous of the victors somewhat at ease as they came forward to receive their prizes. When the last trophy had been presented, Mr. William Johnson, the energetic secretary, proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Irene Vanbrugh for her presence, and called for cheers for Mrs. George Alexander and the ladies and gentlemen present as the guests of the committee, which were given vociferously. Miss Vanbrugh appropriately responded in a quiet little speech.

Among the ladies and gentlemen and firms who subscribed to the prize fund, and who made handsome gifts to the sports were Mr. and Mrs. Alexander, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Adrienne Augarde, Lady Bancroft, Sir Squire Bancroft, Miss Jessie Bateman, Miss Tita Brand, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Dr. Bodie, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Miss Compton, Mr. G. H. Dyball, Mrs. Ellis Fredericks, Mr. William Greet, Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Robert Horton, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, Mr. Sidney Jones, Mr. Cosmo Gordon-Lennox, Mr. W. Long, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, Mr. W. A. Pinero, Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. Cecil Paget, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Mrs. Raleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Kennerley Rumford, Mr. Alfred Sutro, Mr. Oswald Stoll, Mr. E. Sandow, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. Edward Terry, Mrs. Tree, Mr. H. B. Tree, Mr. Fred Terry, Mr. C. Thorogood, Mr. W. H. Tilling, Mr. J. E. Vedrenne, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. E. W. Hart (Central Catering Co.), Proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph*, Messrs. James Buchanan and Co., Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, Messrs. Elms-Lester Bros., The Palace Theatre Co., The Empire Theatre Co., Dublin, Messrs. Strode and Co., Mr. W. T. Sharpe (Messrs. Whitbread and Co.), the Proprietors of *The Era*, Mr. C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr. J. Cullen, Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. F. R. Benson, Mr. Harris, of the Chemical Cleaning Co., and Messrs. Ashley and Smith (the *Sportsman*).

The results in the heats and finals of the various events are as follows :—

100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP.—Heat 1, G. Harding, Gaiety. Heat 2—F. Horne, St. James's. Heat 3—G. Poynton, jun., Gaiety— Heat 4.—G. F. Ford, Camden. Heat 5—Pat Lavender, Fulham Grand. Heat 6—R. Day, Stratford Borough. Heat 7—G. Harold, late Adelphi. Heat 8—W. Rosser, South London Music Hall. Semi-final : Heat 1—G. Poynton, jun., 1; G. F. Ford, 2. Heat 2—G. Harold, 1; Pat Lavender, 2. Final Heat—G. Harold, 1; Pat Lavender, 2; G. F. Ford, 3; G. Poynton, jun., 4. Time, 11 2-5sec.
1st prize, a clock, presented by Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander; 2nd, ink stand; 3rd, flower stand; special 4th, a case of Electric Liniment, presented by Dr. Bodie.

HALF-MILE CYCLING HANDICAP.—Heat 1—G. S. Bailey, Borough. Heat 2—F. W. Runham, Chelsea Palace. Heat 3—B. E. Major, Duke of York's. Heat 4—G. Fuller, Croydon Grand. Final—B. E. Major, 1; F. W. Runham, 2; G. S. Bailey, 3. Time, 66 2-5sec.
1st prize, fruit and flower stand; 2nd, pair of spirit decanters; 3rd, a pocket flask; special 4th, a case of Electric Liniment, presented by Dr. Bodie.

100 YARDS RUNNING (VETERANS') HANDICAP. — J. Andrews, Alhambra, 1; J. Knott, Fulham Grand, 2. Time, 13 sec.
1st prize, oil painting; painted and presented by Mr. E. A. Taylor, Master Carpenter, the Scala Theatre; 2nd, a biscuit box.

QUARTER-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.—Heat 1—A. Williams, Coliseum, 1; W. Blades, Peckham Crown, 2; E. T. Willett, Waldorf, 3; G. A. Poynton, Gaiety, 4. Heat 2—G. Poynton, jun., Gaiety, 1; A. H. Lenton, Comedy, 2; F. Horne, St James's, 3; J. A. Green, Gaiety, 4. Final—A. Williams, 1; W. Blades, 2; J. A. Green, 3; F. Horne, 4. Time, 54 secs.
1st prize, pair of entrée dishes; 2nd, set of carvers in case; 3rd, a teapot.

80 YARDS HOPPING CHAMPIONSHIP.—G. Harold, late Adelphi, 1; J. F. Hill, Holborn Empire, 2; W Rosser, South London, 3. Time, 14 3-5sec.
Silver Challenge Cup, presented by Mr. W. Templeton (to be won twice in succession or three times in all), holder, G. Harold.
1st prize, gold medal; 2nd, tankard; 3rd, gold centre medal.

ONE MILE WALKING HANDICAP.—J. Warner, Alhambra, 1; F. Robinson, Daly's, 2; J. H. Kent, Peckham Crown, 3. Time, 7min. 54sec.
1st prize, Knives and forks in case; 2nd, coffee pot; 3rd, gold centre medal.

HALF-MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.—A. H. Lenton, Comedy, 1; E. T. Willatt, Waldorf, 2; G. A. Poynton, Gaiety, 3; J. Robinson, Fulham Grand, 4. Time, 2min. 5 1-5sec.
1st prize, wine cruet, presented by Dr. Bodie; 2nd, tea set; 3rd, pair of flower vases; special 4th, a case of Electric Liniment, presented by Dr. Bodie.

ONE MILE CYCLING HANDICAP.—Heat 1—W. Hasthorpe, Coronet, 1; A. Ford, Chelsea Palace, 2. Heat 2—G. Fuller, Croydon Grand. Heat 3—J. Ilinis, Dalston. Heat 4—S. F. Bailey, Stratford Borough. Final—A. Ford, 1; J. Ilinis, 2; S. F Bailey, 3. Time, 2min. 20 2-5sec.
1st prize, set of decanters; 2nd, claret jug; 3rd, silver-mounted brush.

TUG-OF-WAR.—Round 1—Dublin Empire beat London Gaiety; Peckham Crown beat Canterbury; Stratford Borough beat Stratford Royal; Waldorf beat Alhambra. Round 2—Dublin Empire beat Peckham Crown; Stratford Borough beat Waldorf. Final Round—Dublin Empire beat Stratford Borough.
For a Challenge Shield, presented by the Proprietors of *The Era*.
This shield will be a perpetual trophy, and may be exhibited for six months, next following the date of the sports, in the theatre represented by the winning team. The trustees, for the time being, of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, shall be the custodians of the shield, and, in the event of any dispute, the donors of the shield shall decide the same.
The maximum weight of each team is limited to 60 stone, with a maximum allowance of 10lb. per team. The teams will weigh on the grounds, and the conditions set forth in the rules and regulations strictly adhered to.
1st prize, five gold medals; 2nd prize, five gold centre medals. The coach of each of the teams pulling in the final presented with a medal.

120 YARDS OBSTACLE SACK RACE.—Heat 1—A. French, Palace, 1; G. Bailey, Paragon, 2; C. Bristow, Palace, 3. Heat 2—G. Swanson, Aldwych, 1; W. Rosser, South London, 2; J. Murphy, Camden, 3. Final Heat—G. Bailey, 1; A. French, 2; W. Rosser, 3.
1st prize, cake dish, 2nd, flower stand; 3rd, gold centre medal.

QUARTER-MILE OBSTACLE RACE.—A. Wright, London Pavilion, 1; J. Maskell, London Pavilion, 2; A. Williams, Coliseum, 3.
1st prize, a smoker's cabinet, presented by Miss Irene Vanbrugh; 2nd, cruet stand; 3rd, gold centre medal.

FIVE MILES CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.—Heat 1—F. W. Parrott, Chelsea Palace, 1; B. E. Major, Duke of York's, 2. Heat 2—E. S. Dawson, Holborn Empire, 1; A. Clements, Alhambra, 2. Heat 3—G. Fuller, Croydon Grand, 1; F. W. Runham, Chelsea Palace, 2. Heat 4—S. F. Bailey, Stratford Borough, 1; J. Ilinis, Dalston, 2. Final Heat—S. F. Bailey, 1; E. S. Dawson, 2; J. Ilinis, 3. Time, 14min. 55 4-5sec.
For the Dewar Championship Shield, presented by Sir Thomas Dewar, M.P.
To be won three times in succession to establish ownership. The shield to be held six months by the winner, at his own risk, and to be exhibited for six months as arranged by representative of Sport's Committee.
Holder, E. S. Dawson.
1st prize, 15ct. gold medal; 2nd, 9ct. gold medal; 3rd, gold centre medal; 4th (lap), silver match box.

ONE MILE RUNNING HANDICAP.—E. T. Willatt, Waldorf, 1; J. Murphy, Camden, 2; J. Robinson, Fulham Grand, 3. Time, 4min. 53 4-5sec.
1st prize, set of carvers in case; 2nd, cake dish; 3rd, silver cigarette case.

50 YARDS BOOT RACE.—C. Douglas, Gaiety, 1; J. Langham, Waldorf, 2; W. Branch, Waldorf, 3.
1st prize, silver ink stand, presented by Sir Squire Bancroft; 2nd, oak biscuit box; 3rd, gold centre medal.

FOUR LAPS RELAY RACE.—Daly's Theatre (A. W. Cordier, F. Robinson, and F. King), 1; Duke of York's (A. Whale, T. Blatch, and B. E. Major), 2; Croydon Grand (C. Mason, G. Langridge, and G. Fuller), 3.
For a Silver Challenge Cup, presented by C. Aubrey Smith.
The cup will become the property of the manager for the time being of the theatre or music hall whose team wins this race three times in succession. The cup may be exhibited for six months at the theatre represented by the winners at each meeting, subject to the conditions specified by the Sports Committee.
1st prize, three gold medals; 2nd, three silver match boxes; 3rd, three gold centre medals.

50 YARDS BLINDFOLD RACE.—A. F. Lenton, Comedy, 1; F. Horne, St. James's, 2; J. Harvey, Stratford Borough, 3.
1st prize, set of salt cellars in case, presented by Lady Bancroft; 2nd, silver cigarette case; 3rd, gold centre medal.

100 YARDS SCRATCH CONSOLATION RACE.—J. Simms, Waldorf, 1; F. Morley, St. James's, 2; A. B. Cheney, Drury-lane, 3; W. Annis, 4.
1st prize, set of vases, presented by Mrs. Ellis Fredericks; 2nd, a box of cigars, presented by Mr. W. Long; 3rd, pair of pickle jars; 4th, gold centre medal.

MR. J. J. DALLAS is concluding his tour in Australia with his Strand Theatre company in *The J.P.*, after a remarkably successful trip, in the course of which he has added to his laurels in all parts of the colony. Mr. Dallas' humour in the title-rôle has had an irresistible effect on large audiences everywhere, and throughout the three acts of the popular farcical comedy hilarity reigned supreme. Miss Florence Lloyd, whose 'Liza Shoddam in *The Earl and the Girl*, it will be remembered, had a marked effect on London play-goers, is creating similar manifestations of delight with Australian audiences by her acting, singing, and dancing, in the part of Flo Neville; and the whole company work with a spirit and zest that carried the piece unmistakably on the road to success. During the visit to Perth recently the performance was honoured by the presence of His Excellency the Governor and a party from Government House.

MR. MOUILLOT, who was the defendant in the theatrical suit in which he was mulcted in £192 damages, has appealed against the decision of the King's Bench. Mr. Mouillot has been a theatrical manager for over twenty years, and this is his first law suit with an artist or an employee—surely a record, considering the number of artists he has had under engagement, estimated at over 20,000.

[*Photo by G. Bolak.*

MRS. GEORGE ALEXANDER, MISS IRENE VANBRUGH, AND LADIES AT THE THEATRICAL SPORTS, 1906.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

Little Dorothy, City of London, June 8, 1863.
Little Duchess, Theatre Royal, Stockton, Sept. 9, 1897.
Little Duke, Philharmonic, April 27, 1878.
Little 18-Carat, Theatre Royal, Sunderland, Nov. 16, 1885.
Little Em'ly, Olympic, Oct. 9, 1869.
Little Emily's Trials, Sadler's Wells, March 4, 1871.
Little Eyolf, Avenue, Nov. 23, 1896.
Little Fibs, Charing Cross, Sept. 11, 1869.
Little Genius, Shaftesbury, July 9, 1896.
Little Heroes, Oldham, March 29, 1900.
Little Intruder, Kingston, Dec. 10, 1900.
Little Jack Carpenter, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, May 15, 1875.
Little Jack Horner, Drury Lane, —
Little Jack Sheppard, Gaiety, Dec. 26, 1885.
Little Jessie, Steinway Hall, July 2, 1891.
Little King Pippin, Drury Lane, Dec. 23, 1865.
Little Lady Loo, Opera House, Harrogate, May 10, 1900.
Little Lalla Rookh, Gaiety, Hastings, Aug. 31, 1885.
Little Lohengrin, Holborn, Aug. 16, 1884.
Little Lord Fauntleroy, Prince of Wales's, Feb. 23, 1888.
Little Minister, Haymarket, Nov. 6, 1897.
Little Miss Cute, Royalty, Sept. 14, 1894.
Little Miss Muffet, Criterion, Sept. 2, 1882.
Little Miss Muffit, Crystal Palace, Dec. 24, 1866.
Little Miss Nobody, Opera House, Cheltenham, March 5, 1898.
Little Mister Faust, Parkhurst, Aug. 18, 1894.
Little Mother, Royalty, April 21, 1870.
Little Nelly, Surrey, Nov. 23, 1872.
Little Nobody, Vaudeville, July 24, 1890.
Little One, The, Vaudeville, Jan. 22, 1885.
Little Paul, Lyceum, Rochdale, March 6, 1871.
Little Pest, Theatre Royal, Halifax, Oct. 11, 1875.
Little Pilgrim, Criterion, July 3, 1886.
Little Ragamuffin, Pavilion, June 27, 1868.
Little Ray of Sunshine, Yeovil, May 3, 1898.
Little Rebel, Olympic, April 1, 1861.
Little Red Cross, Alhambra, Wigan, July 16, 1885.
Little Robin Hood, New Royalty, April 19, 1871.
Little Robinson Crusoe, Theatre Royal, Oxford, April 13, 1885.
Little Sentinel, St. James's, May 4, 1863.
Little Squire, Lyric, April 5, 1894.
Littlest Girl, Court, July 15, 1896.
Little Sunbeam, Lyric, June 30, 1892.
Little Supper, Globe, Dec. 6, 1900.
Little Toddlekins, Lyceum, Dec. 15, 1852.
Little Tom Bowling, Gainsborough, Aug. 5, 1889.
Little Tom Tucker, Elephant and Castle, December 23, 1876.
Little Tom Tug, Opéra Comique, Nov. 12, 1873.
Little Treasure, Haymarket, Oct. 11, 1855.
Little Vagrant, Cleethorpes, July 8, 1897.
Little Viscount, Gaiety, Aug. 2, 1884.
Little Vixen, Olympic, Feb. 2, 1878.
Little Widow, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Feb. 2, 1891.
Little Wonder, Theatre Royal, Gravesend, March 14, 1874.
Lively Hal, Plympton, April 11, 1893.
Lively Honeymoon, Merthyr, July 14, 1897.
Living at Ease, Strand, Oct. 5, 1870.
Living Lie, Royalty, Blackburn, June 18, 1883.
Living Models, Theatre Royal, Maidenhead, May 5, 1898.
Living or Dead, Sadler's Wells, Oct. 9, 1886.
Living too Fast, Princess's, Oct. 9, 1854.
Lizer's New Lodger, Brompton Hospital, March 9, 1897.
Lizzie Leigh, City of London, Aug. 27, 1866.
Lizzie Lyle, Marylebone, Feb. 9, 1874.
Liz; or, That Lass o' Lowries, Amphitheatre, Liverpool, July 9, 1877.
Llewelyn, the Last King of Wales, Carmarthen, Nov. 25, 1872.
Loadstone, The, Lyceum, April 7, 1888.
L'Oca del Cairo, Drury Lane, May 12, 1870.
Local Veto Villa, Weston-super-Mare, Oct. 30, 1895.
Locked In, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 17, 1870.
Locked Out, Haymarket, July 12, 1875.
Lock-keeper's Daughter, Theatre Royal, Stratford, Sept. 4, 1886.
Lock Out, Adelphi, Glasgow, July 6, 1874.
Locrine, St. George's Hall, March 20, 1899.
Lodgers, The, Globe, Jan. 18, 1887.
Lodgers and Dodgers, Strand, May 13, 1871.
Lodgings at Cleethorpes, Theatre Royal, Grimsby, Aug. 20, 1878.
L'Œil Crevé, Globe, June 15, 1872.
Lohengrin, Covent Garden, May 8, 1875.
L'Olandese Dannato, Drury Lane, July 23, 1870.
Lola the Belle of Baccarato, Olympic, Jan. 15, 1881.
Lolo, Manchester, Sept. 8, 1900.
Lolotte, St. James's, Nov. 3, 1890.
L'Ombra, Her Majesty's, Jan. 12, 1878.
London Arab, Victoria, April 2, 1866.
London Assurance, Criterion, Nov. 27, 1890.
London by Gaslight, Sadler's Wells, Sept. 19, 1868.
London Day by Day, Adelphi, Sept. 14, 1889.
London Life, Grecian, Sept. 24, 1881.
London Mystery, Pavilion, July 15, 1895.
London; or, Life of a Streetboy, Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Jan. 1, 1885.
London Pride, Philharmonic, Jan. 28, 1882.
London's Curse, Theatre Royal, Darlington, May 4, 1900.
Lonely Man of the Ocean, Olympic, 1851.
Long Ago, Royalty, April 22, 1882.
Long Live the Queen, Theatre Royal, Hednesford, Feb. 17, 1887.
Long Odds, Theatre Royal, Bath, Feb. 10, 1883.
Long Pack, Lyceum, Sunderland, March 17, 1879.
Long Strike, Lyceum, Sept. 15, 1866.
Loo, and the Party who Took Miss, Strand, Sept. 28, 1874.
Looey Napoleong, Theatre Royal, Dublin, Sept. 12, 1868.
Look on the Bright Side, City of London, July 28, 1866.
Loose Tiles, Vaudeville, Jan. 28, 1885.
Lord Allangford, Theatre Royal, Torquay, May 16, 1895.
Lord and Lady Algy, Comedy, April 21, 1898.
Lord and Lady Guilderoy, Theatre Royal, Brighton, April 9, 1896.
Lord and the Lout, Victoria, Jan. 31, 1859.
Lord Anerley, St. James's, Nov. 7, 1891.
Lord Bateman, Globe, Dec. 27, 1869.
Lord Bateman, Burlesque, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour, April 17, 1876.
Lord Bateman's Overland Journey, Adelphi, April 17, 1854.
Lord Darcy, Cheltenham, Dec. 1, 1896.
Lord Dolly, Wallington, June 18, 1898.
Lord Dunnohoo, Theatre Royal, Aldershot, July 5, 1897.
Lord Edward; or, '98, Queen's, Dublin, March 26, 1894.
Lord FitzHarris, Gallery of Illustration, May 24, 1873.
Lord Halifax, Queen's, Barnsley, Feb. 8, 1875.
Lord Harry, The, Princess's, Feb. 18, 1886.
Lord in Waiting, Avenue, July 8, 1893.
Lord Lovel, A.D.C. Rooms, Cambridge, Nov., 1856.
Lord Macninny, Vaudeville, Dec. 21, 1886.
Lord Marple's Daughter, Grand, Nov. 29, 1886.
Lord Mayor, Strand, Nov. 1, 1895.
Lord Mayor's Day, Folly, June 30, 1879.
Lord of the Manor, Imperial, Jan. 3, 1880.
Lords and Commons, Haymarket, Nov. 24, 1883.
Lords of Creation, Oxford, Feb. 4, 1895.
Lord Tom Noddy, Theatre Royal, Bradford, April 6, 1896.
Lorenzaccio, Adelphi, June 17, 1897.
Lorraine, Theatre Royal, Torquay, Jan. 10, 1898.
Lost, Standard, Oct. 16, 1871.
Lost and Found, Gallery of Illustration, Feb. 5, 1870.
Lost at Sea: A London Story, Adelphi, Oct. 2, 1869.
Lost Cause, Olympic, July 22, 1884.
Lost Child, Lyceum, Dec. 26, 1863.
Lost Chord, West London, March 24, 1900.
Lost Discharge, St. George's, June 20, 1873.
Lost Eden, Novelty, June 1, 1897.
Lost Emily, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, June 30, 1870.
Lost Em'ly, Surrey, March 8, 1873.
Lost for Ever; or, Milly the Collier's Wife, Royal Queen's, Barnsley, Jan. 11, 1869.
Lost for Gold, Winchester, Dec. 26, 1885.
Losing Hazard, Parkhurst, April 11, 1892.
Lost Heir, Kendal, Dec. 7, 1868.
Lost Heir of Macclesfield, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, Feb. 15, 1875.

Charles Stewart Robins, 34, described as a fitter, of Venue-street, Poplar, was charged, before Mr. Marsham at Bow-street on Tuesday, with assaulting Henry John Hinton, a wig dresser and super employed at the Coliseum. The prosecutor, whose head was bandaged, stated that at eleven o'clock on Saturday last he was in Bedfordbury, when the prisoner (who was formerly employed at the Coliseum) struck him two violent blows on the fact. One of his teeth fell out, and he was so badly injured that he had to be taken to Charing-cross Hospital. He had not quarrelled with the prisoner, and had done nothing to provoke him. Just as the prisoner struck him he said, "You have got two jobs; I'll give you three." He was told at the hospital that his jaw was broken. The prisoner said the prosecutor seized him by the shoulders and kicked him on the legs because he asked him a question about a bookmaker; but that was denied. The prisoner was remanded on bail.

"THE MAJOR'S DOUBLE."

A New Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by J. W. MacCabe, produced, for the first time on any stage, at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, on Monday, June 4.

Major Prendergast .....Mr. J. B. Gordon
Jack Jannaway .....Mr. Charles Hanbury
John Cockle .....Mr. Percy Marshall
Tim Blake .....Mr. James Danvers
Dick .....Mr. W. B. Frerar
Madge .....Miss Lilian Hallows
Daisy .....Miss Dorrie Roberts
Norah Sullivan .....Miss Eily Helene

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene of this new farcical comedy is the morning-room of the Jannaways. When the curtain rises, we find that Mr. Jack Jannaway has, on the previous evening, while his wife was visiting, taken Mrs. Prendergast to supper, he having, before her marriage to the Major, been a suitor for her hand. A Mr. Cockle (uncle of Mrs. Jannaway)—who, by the way, bears a startling resemblance to Major Prendergast—happens to see Jack and Mr. Prendergast at supper, and next morning produces a handkerchief, with the name of Madge embroidered in one corner. He accuses Jack of meeting the lady, who, in reply, points out to Mr. Cockle the many little affairs of the heart that he had previously been engaged in. Mrs. Jannaway, who is always changing her servants, engages an Irish domestic, who is not long a member of the household before she introduces a former admirer in the person of one Tim Blake, of the Irish Guards, but whom Mrs. Jannaway at once consigns to the kitchen. Then Major and Mrs. Prendergast arrive on the scene. They are looking for a new house, and the Major, an irascible gentleman, is evidently very much annoyed with Mrs. Prendergast for stopping out late the previous evening, and hints that she met some male admirer. He produces a packet of letters which he has discovered signed by one "Jack," and states his intention of finding this gentleman, even if he has to search all London. The Major is informed that the house to let is next door to the Jannaways, and, after narrowly watching his wife's introduction to Jack, comes to the conclusion they have met before. It should be stated that in Mrs. Prendergast, Mrs. Jannaway discovers a former school friend. We now learn from Norah, the Irish servant, that one Tudor Plantagenet—a sobriquet of the amorous Mr. Cockle—had promised her marriage in Ireland, but had disappeared, and when she sees Major Prendergast, she believes him to be the individual in question, and, to his surprise and consternation, falls into his arms.

The second act is full of amusing complications, Norah being still in pursuit of the Major, while Mrs. Prendergast is naturally indignant at her husband's conduct. The real delinquent, Mr. Cockle, is unaware of what is going on, until he is informed that Norah, the new maid from Ireland, had mistaken the Major for her deceiver, and he then attempts to escape. He is also accused by the Major of being the "Jack" referred to in the packet of letters already mentioned. The second act is the best, being certainly very funny. In the third and concluding act the mystery is solved by the Major, who cross-examines Tim and Norah, when it is discovered that Mr. Cockle, who, as stated, resembles the Major so closely, has been the cause of all the trouble. Mr. Cockle settles the matter with the lady by a cheque for £200, and Jack, having confessed to the Major that he was the gentleman who took Mrs. Prendergast to supper, he is forgiven, and this brings the merry piece to an end.

Mr. MacCabe may be congratulated on the success of the comedy, which contains all the ingredients that make for success. The principals received a deserved call at the close of the second act. Mr. Chas. Hanbury was a capital Jack Jannaway; and Mr. J. B. Gordon played Major Prendergast excellently, being entirely free from exaggeration. Miss Eily Helene, with a delightful brogue, was a charming Norah Sullivan. Mr. James Danvers seemed hardly suited to the part of Tim Blake; but doubtless this clever comedian will make it funnier in time. Mr. Percy Marshall was the amorous John Cockle, and acted with spirit throughout; while we have nothing but praise for that charming actress, Miss Lilian Hallows, who so delightfully filled the rôle of Madge Prendergast. Miss Dorrie Roberts acted cleverly as Daisy Jannaway; and the part of an impossible page-boy Dick, was played by Mr. W. B. Frerar.

"THE GAMESTER."

Miniature Opera, in One Act, Written by Walter Grogan, Composed by Aiulf Hjovard, produced for the first time on any stage, at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, on Monday, June 4.

Angus .....Mr. Andrew Roy
Raphael .....Mr. Charles Cautley
Marjorie .....Miss Dorothy Southgate

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The story of *The Gamester*, which is musically treated in the manner of grand opera, is laid in the time when George III. was King. Angus, the husband of Marjorie, has fallen a victim to the vice of gambling. This he has kept a secret from his wife, to whom he is devotedly attached. The scene opens with the discovery of Angus waiting for the advent of Raphael, who has played the part of tempter. Raphael was a former suitor of Marjorie's, and is still passionately attached to her. Angus, when interrupted in his preparations for gaming by the calling of his wife, pretends to be immersed in the writing of a book. Marjorie tries to raise him to a happier mood by reminding him of her song when they were first betrothed. It is Hallowe'en. She asks him to mull some wine that they may drink it together at midnight, and then leaves him, as she imagines, to continue his work. Raphael enters, and overcomes the weak scruples of Angus, who gives way to the enticements of the dice-box. At each throw he is beaten, until he has lost all. Raphael then suggests Marjorie as a stake. Angus is horrified at first; but, remembering that he has with him a phial of poison, consents. He loses. Almost dazed, he pours the poison into the wine he is preparing for his wife and himself. Marjorie enters, and Raphael explains that her husband has staked her, and that he, Raphael, has won. She calls on her husband to deny this; but, full of the impending tragedy, Angus only replies that the wine is poisoned. Marjorie handles the dice used by Raphael, and discovers they are loaded. She accuses Raphael, and he, finding that he is discovered, drinks the poisoned wine, and dies, as Angus and Marjorie, unheeding him, sing their love song. Presented in grand opera style, the little piece commanded a great success, the tuneful music being much admired. It runs for nearly an hour. The composer personally conducted. Mr. Andrew Roy's fine tenor voice was heard to much advantage, and he sang his music with fine dramatic power. Miss Dorothy Southgate's delightfully sweet soprano voice charmingly interpreted the music of the part of Marjorie. Miss Southgate sang the number, "Time of Roses," charmingly. Mr. Charles Cautley's baritone voice was fully equal to the music of the fiery Raphael, and he also made a favourable impression.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, May 1.—*A Moorish Maid* is a new comic opera, composed by Mr. Alfred Hill, whose former works, *Hine Moa*, *Tapu*, and *Lady Dolly*, were so successful when produced here. Mr. George Stephenson has strengthened his company by the addition of Miss Rosina Buckmann, a New Zealand soprano, Mr. Charles Abert (tenor), and Miss Mabelle Morgan. The other principals, Miss May Beatty, Miss May Garstang, Mr. Edward Lauri, Mr. Charles McNaughton, and the Bovis Brothers, are all in the cast. There are some capital comedy parts. The music is bright and sparkling, one item, "See o'er the mountains," sung by Miss Buckmann, evoking great applause. The book by Mr. J. Youlin Birch, of New Zealand, whence Mr. Alfred Hill also hails, is capitally written, and altogether an excellent result is obtained. The chorus is a fine one, and the orchestra, conducted by the composer, comprises many first-class musicians. Mr. Stephenson has mounted the new opera in his best style, and everything points to success and a long run.

The non-arrival of Mr. Reginald Roberts (tenor), owing to the San Francisco disaster, has compelled Mr. J. C. Williamson to postpone the production of *The Little Michus*, and *The Orchid* was revived on the 28th ult.

"Besieged in Port Arthur," with John Brunton's fine scenery, the military tableaux, complete mounting, and excellent acting by Mr. Bland Holt's company, obviates the necessity for any change at the Theatre Royal.

"The Fatal Wedding," fiercely attacked by all sections of the Press, is cramming the Criterion, to the satisfaction and profit of Messrs. Meynell and Gunn, and their manager, Mr. G. H. Barnes.

The Tivoli has Miss Marguerite Keller, Mr. Homer B. Mason, and Mr. Henry Travers, in a sketch called *Hooked by Crook*. Miss Alice Raymond, Slade Murray, Fanny Powers, Fred Bluett, and a host of other artists fill Mr. Harry Rickards' bill.

Miss Titiell Brune had her house and furniture entirely destroyed by the earthquake in San Francisco, a loss valued at £2,000.

The theatrical managers met on the 27th, and determined to erect a drinking fountain as a memorial to the late Robert Brough. The proposal has Mrs. Brough's approval, and subscriptions will be invited from the profession and the late actor-manager's many admirers.

The block bounded by Market, Castlereagh, and Elizabeth streets, and lately purchased from the Government by Horden Brothers, will be leased by Messrs. Bland Holt and William Anderson, who will build an up-to-date theatre thereon, to suit their elaborate productions. This is the very best site for a theatre in the city.

MELBOURNE, May 1. — Princess's Theatre (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Representative, Mr. G. V. Allen).—*La Fille du Tambour Major* will only run for another five nights. The opera has proved highly successful from a managerial point of view, the attendances throughout the season being large. Miss Addie Campbell as Stella and Mr. A. Rebottaro as Capitaine Robert have both scored pronounced successes, their singing and acting being exceedingly good. They are ably assisted by Mr. Edwin Lester as the short-sighted Duke, Mr. Quealy as Bambini, and Miss Maud Thornton as Griolet. The scenery and costumes are on a lavish scale, while the orchestral work is particularly good.

Her Majesty's Theatre (Lessee, Mr. J. C. Williamson; Manager, Mr. George Tallis).—*Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall* entered upon its third week on Saturday evening, the theatre being crowded in all parts. Miss Brune, as the beautiful, self-willed Dorothy, was again most enthusiastically received; Mr. Kingston and Mr. Mervale were highly successful as the rival suitors for Miss Dorothy's hand; Miss Susie Vaughan as Queen Elizabeth, Miss Ferguson as Mary Queen of Scots, and Miss Gleeson as Jenny Faxton, all did good work; while Mr. Maurice Dudley scored in the part of the crooked dwarf.

Opera House (Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rickards; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Aydon).—There was not a vacant seat at this popular theatre on Saturday evening last. Notwithstanding the already strong bill at present provided for Opera House patrons, yet another novelty, in the shape of the Radium Dance was added to the programme on Saturday evening. The turn is a novel one, and was well received. The Miles-Stavordale Quintet played a number of new selections, which were enthusiastically encored; Martinetti and Grossi are as popular as ever; and Miss Nada Moret, the Carmos, Scottish Meisters, Miss Ella Wellington, Mr. Irving Sayles, and the rest of the company, contribute pleasing items.

Theatre Royal (Lessee, Mr. William Anderson; Business-Manager, Mr. Julius Grant).—The popularity of *The Midnight Mail* shows no signs of waning. The piece is already in its third week. The startling situations with which it is filled continue to draw crowded houses. One of the most sensational incidents in the play is the struggle on the engine of the midnight train.

Gaiety Theatre (Lessee, Mr. Frank Clark; Manager, Mr. Joe Solomons).—A complete change of programme was provided on Saturday evening by the Folly Company. A new biograph picture, entitled "The Hen that Lays the Golden Eggs," was shown; the Three Lazaras appeared in a clever acrobatic turn; while the rest of the company gave interesting turns.

At the Spa, Scarborough, Mr. Francis Goodricke, the manager, has inaugurated Sunday evening concerts from 8.30 to 10. The attraction has proved a huge success, and Mr. Chas. Godfrey is supplying an up-to-date and popular programme of music.

The series of drawings by C. E. Ritchie, exhibited at the Fine Art Society's galleries in New Bond-street during June, includes portraits of many stage favourites, among whom are Misses Irene Vanbrugh, Winifred Emery, Sybil Arundale, Kate Cutler, Ethel Matthews, Adrienne Augarde, and Beatrice Ferrar. Messrs. Lewis Waller and Granville Barker also figure in the exhibition.

A memorial tablet has been fixed at the house in the Speckstrasse in Hamburg, where Brahms was born, and was unveiled on May 7 (Brahms' birthday). The house in which the composer lived in Vienna is to come down, but will be re-built as a museum for the Brahms treasures.

The staff of the St. Helens Theatre held their thirteenth annual pic-nic on Whit-Sunday, the party, numbering about thirty, journeying by special saloon to Chester, where they arrived about 9.30. Before dinner the city walls and other places of interest were visited, and a large proportion attended the morning service at the cathedral. Dinner was laid at the well-known hostelry, "The Pied Bull Hotel," where the host (Mr. Hilton) provided a sumptuous menu. After dinner the toast of "The Theatre," coupled with the name of Mr. McLeod Loader, was drunk with acclamtion. The beautiful River Dee formed the chief attraction during the afternoon, and after a glorious day a start for home was made at 8.35, St. Helens being reached before eleven o'clock. The whole arrangements were carried out under the guidance of Mr. Jack Bradley, stage-manager and master-carpenter, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was passed on the journey home.

"The Era" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 11.

After the Ball.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Anderson's, Millar, Repr.—Llandudno.
At Duty's Call.—Theatre Royal, South Shields.
At the World's Mercy.—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
Benson, Mr. and Mrs. F. R.—Bedford and Luton.
Blind Foundling.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Boom of Big Ben.—West London Theatre.
Compton Comedy Co.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.
Dishonoured.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Face at the Window.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Facing the Music.—O. H., Cheltenham.
False Wife.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
For Life—and After.—T. R., Smethwick.
Go-Won-Go Mohawk.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Great Awakening.—Empire T., Oldham.
Great Wilderness.—Grand T., Fulham.
Her Lost Self.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Her Luck in London.—T. R., Chatham.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Stalybridge.
Honour Thy Father.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Human Hearts.—Broadway T., Deptford.
I Defy the World.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
In Holy Russia.—T. R., North Shields.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Ingleton.
Life of a Showman.—West London Theatre.
Little Bread-Winner.—T. R., Huddersfield.
London Fireman.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Luck of Life.—Queen's T., Dublin.
Man's Enemy.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Manxman, The.—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
Monte Cristo.—Junction T., Manchester.
New World, The.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Norman V. Norman.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
No Wedding Bells for Her.—T. R., Jarrow.
Octoroon.—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
Poor Must Live.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Power of Gold.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Prodigal Parson.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Rogue's Daughter.—Grand T., Newcastle.
Romany's Revenge.—P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.
Royal Divorce.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Royal Revenge.—County T., Kingston.
Sailors of the King.—Prince's Theatre, Poplar.
Sherlock Holmes.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
Still Alarm.—Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.
Throne of Terror.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Traitor Prince.—Queen's T., Gateshead.
Two Hussars.—T. R., Merthyr.
Two Little Vagabonds.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Har.).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Under the Czar.—Royalty T., Chester.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Pier, St. Leonards.
Way of the World.—T .R., Leicester.
Woman's Past.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Woulfe, T. B.—P. O. W. Theatre, Mexboro'.
Youngest of the Three.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
10.30 Down Express.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

The twelfth annual Theatrical Regatta took place on Sunday last, commencing at eleven o'clock a.m., the course being the Putney Mile. There was a considerable gathering of the members of the staffs of the Metropolitan theatres. The programme consisted of Challenge Fours, Rum-Tum Handicap, Pair-oared Race and Open Fours.

The officials were:—Umpire, S. Bowden, Esq. (Captain Putney Amateur Rowing Club); Distance Judges, H. Kelley (Daly's Theatre) and J. Marsland (assistant-secretary St. James's and Soho Rowing Club); Starter, J. Ryan (Drury-lane Theatre); Dressing-room Steward, A. Butcher (Covent Garden Theatre); Committee, J. Robinson (Grand Theatre, Fulham), F. Hemmings (Kennington Theatre), W. Roche (Adelphi), E. Wright (Apollo), W. Walters (Imperial), J. T. Sheridan (Waldorf), J. Ray (Gaiety), H. Mather (Duke of York's), W. White (Daly's), and J. Langham (Waldorf). Hon. Secretary, E. Callaghan (Apollo); Assistant-Secretary, R. Kinney (Grand Theatre, Fulham).

The results were as follows:—Challenge Fours, Heat 1.—New Theatre: A. Austin (bow), R. Barclay, A. Townsend, R. Forman (stroke), G. Bailey (cox), 1. Fulham Grand, No. 2 Crew: P. Lavender (bow), A. Spooner, W. Layton, J. Knott (stroke), W. Hall (cox), 2. A fine race, won by three-quarters of a length. Heat 2.—Kennington Theatre: T. Wheeler (bow), G. Hemmings, F. Hemmings, T. Ashterie (stroke), H. Skinner (cox), 1. Waldorf Theatre: J. Langham (bow), W. Brand, J. Sims, E. Willat (stroke), W. Brampton (cox), 2. Duke of York's Theatre: J. Mott (bow), T. Mack, E. Arnott, H. Mather (stroke), W. Smith (cox), 3. Won by two lengths, a quarter of a length between second and third. Heat 3.—Fulham Grand Theatre: No. 1 Crew, H. Moyse (bow), E. Dare, A. Runham, J. Robinson (stroke), J. Healey (cox), 1. Adelphi: W. Roche (bow), B. Walker, C. Delehaunt, W. Walker (stroke), A. Craige (cox), 2. Gaiety Theatre: R. Jenkins (bow), G. A. Poynton, J. Ray, C. H. Hodges (stroke), C. Hulton (cox), 3. Won by a length, a similar distance between second and third. The Gaiety Crew suffered a misfortune by their third man breaking his stretcher, an accident which undoubtedly lost them the race. Final Heat.—Grand, Fulham, 1; Kennington Theatre, 2; New Theatre, 3. Fulham led from off the Sons of the Thames R.C., and keeping their lead won by two lengths. About four lengths separated second and third.

Pairs.—Gaiety Theatre: J. Ray, C. H. Hodges (stroke), C. Hulton (cox), 1. Fulham Grand: A. Runham (bow), J. Robinson (stroke), J. Healy (cox), 2. Kennington Theatre: T. Wheeler (bow), T. Ashterie (stroke), H. Skinner (cox), 3. Won by two lengths.

Rum-Tum Handicap: E. Callaghan, 28secs., 1; H. Moyse, 4secs., 2; W. Walters, 17secs., 3; T. Ashterie, scratch, 0. The winner got well away, and won by two lengths, second and third being divided by a length.

Open Fours: J. Simms, P. Lavender, F. Hemmings, E. Wright (stroke), J. Langham (cox), 1. B. Walker, E. Willat, G. Hemmings, E. Dare (stroke), A. Whittaker (cox), 2. A. Spooner, C. Richards, F. Sinkins, W. Walters (stroke), W. Layton (cox), 3. Dare's Crew led to the London R.C. Boathouse, when Wright's Crew drew up and won a keen race by half-a-length, with a length and a half between second and third.

The prizes will be distributed on Sunday evening, June 17, in the Freemasons' Arms, Long Acre. The trophies and prizes are:—For Pairs, the Haymarket Challenge Cup, presented by Mr. Cyril Maude and Mr. Frederick Harrison, 1st prize, silver cigarette cases. Second, cruets. For House-to-House Fours: The Dewar Challenge Shield. First prize gold medals, presented by Mr. G. P. Huntley. Second prize, gold-centre medals. Rum-Tum Handicap: Silver Cup, to be won twice in succession, presented by Mr. Cyril Maude. 1st prize, marble clock; 2nd prize, jam-jars, presented by H. A. Lytton; 3rd prize, fruit dish, presented by E. H. Parr; 4th prize, pair of field-glasses. Open Fours: 1st prize, silver watches; 2nd prize, case of carvers.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WILLIAMS.—*The cast of the drama by J. B. Johnstone, entitled* The Devil of Paris, *produced at the Surrey Theatre, March 4, 1861, is as follows: Marcel, Mr. Fernandez; Dr. Moncano, Mr. Creswick; Pilati, Mr. C. Rice; Jerome, Mr. R. Norman; Julie, Miss Page; the Baroness de Clercy, Miss Forrester.*

GEO. B. ROUTLEDGE.—*A copy of the picture, with song, can be obtained of B. Feldman and Co., 2 and 3, Arthur-street, New Oxford-street, London, price one shilling.*

R. DUN.—The Frozen Deep *was produced at the Olympia Theatre on Oct. 27, 1866, with the following cast:—Richard Wardour, H. Neville, Frank Aldersley, H. J. Montagu, Lieut. Crayford, H. Wigan, John Want, Dominick Murray, Clara Vernon, Lydia Foote, Lucy Crayford, Mrs. St. John, Mrs. Steventon, Miss Amy Sheridan, and Rose Ebsworth, Miss Alliston.*

WHERE DID YOU?—"*Where did you lose your arm?*" *was sung by the late G. H. Macdermott. As far as we know, he was the first to introduce the song to the public.*

M.H.H.—*We cannot say. Write to S. French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand, London.*

J. MCLAREN.—*A copy of every new piece intended to be produced must be forwarded for licencee to the Examiner of Plays seven clear days before the production. The fee charged is at the rate of one guinea per act.*

JUNIUS.—*Christopher Marlowe was born in 1564 at Canterbury, and was educated in the King's school of that city. He was sent as a pensioner to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and took his M.A. degree in 1587. At a subsequent date he was attached as dramatist to one of the theatrical companies belonging to the Earl of Nottingham, by whom his plays were produced. His tragedy,* Faustus, *appeared in 1588, and* The Jew of Malta *shortly after.* Edward II. *was Marlowe's first English historical drama. He met his death in a drunken brawl when little more than twenty-nine years old.*

A. B.—*When* Othello *was revived at the Lyceum Theatre on Feb. 14, 1876, the cast was as follows:—Othello, Mr. Henry Irving; Duke, Mr. Collett; Brabantio, Mr. Mead; Roderigo, Mr. Carton; Gratiano, Mr. Huntley; Lodovico, Mr. Archer; Cassio, Mr. Brooke; Iago, Mr. Forrester; Montano, Mr. Beaumont; Antonio, Mr. Sargent; Julio, Mr. Tapping; Marco, Mr. Harwood; Paulo, Mr. Butler; Desdemona, Miss Isabel Bateman; Emilia, Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe).*

CRICKET.

The following is the official balance-sheet of the London Actors *v.* Provincial Actors Cricket Match, which took place at the Oval in the summer of 1905:

RECEIPTS.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d
In hand from 1904 match	1 14 3	
Received after last balance from 1904 match	2 17 0	
		4 11 3
Gate money		10 3 6
Books of Tickets:—		
Per C. A. Smith: C. A. Smith, 23s.; K. Douglas, 27s.; A. Crook, 9s.; L. Grossmith, 5s.; H. Nye Chart, 52s.; A. G. Stacey, 18s.; S. Dixon, 12s.; J. Beckett, 26s.; S. A. Mussabini, 5s.; F. and Miss Stayton, 25s.; V. O'Connor, 10s.; F. Stoner, 16s.; A. McC. Stewart, 9s.; C. Brook, 11s.; B. Egerton, 11s.; D. Macrae, 20s.; Miss E. Craig, 8s.; R. Denbigh, 25s.; L. Owen, 23s.; E. Jones, 4s.; R. Evett, 13s.; A. E. Drinkwater, 19s.; W. R. Staveley, 5s.; J. Mackay, 9s.; W. Devereux, 54s.; C. Rock, 5s.; Miss A. Webster, 18s.; T. Homewood, 12s.; N. V. Norman, 5s.; W. H. Bright, 6s.; C. Kennard, 50s.; Miss C. Lee, 14s.; S. Barraclough, 5s.; J. Blakeley, 25s.; S. Trevor, 13s.; A. S. Homewood, 5s.; J. S. Hughes, 12s.; H. Mackay, 33s.; L. Lillies, 32s.; Bassett Roe, 5s.; P. Jackson, 9s.; J. F. Crauford, 10s.; P. Knox, 3s.; Miss L. Fairfax, 2s.; C. Macdona, 25s.; J. H. Barnes, 25s.; Miss D. Hole, 17s.; C. H. Coffin, 39s.; C. Barth, 3s.; W. A. May, 13s.; J. Royce, 18s.	45 3 0	
Per H. R. Kimpton: Green Room Club, 1s.; C. Hawtrey, 25s.; M. Leveaux, 25s.; C. Cruikshanks, 9s.; H. Nye Chart, 23s.; A. Brydone, 2s.; Books, 60, 101/4, 106/9, 117/8, 120/3, 127/37, 139/50, 176/86, 183s.	13 8 0	
Per C. I. Coltson	2 6 0	
Per Arthur Whittaker	0 16 0	
Per Oscar Asche	1 1 0	
		62 14 0
Donations		7 4 0
		£84 12 9

EXPENDITURE.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d
Expenses at Oval		5 6 6
Per C. A. Smith: Parcels....	0 1 2	
Rosettes	0 8 2	
Ticket-books (Miles, printer)	6 10 0	
Band (Mr. Jesson).....	4 10 0	
Typing	0 5 0	
Correspondence	1 10 0	
Per Talbot Homewood	0 6 0	
		13 10 4
Per H. R. Kimpton: Bouquet..	0 15 0	
Newspaper advts., boardsmen, stationery, bill-posting, 12,000 throwaways, stamps, messengers, telegrams, cabs, 'busses, &c.....	10 0 0	
		10 15 0
Dec. 6. Cheque to Actors' Orphanage Fund	12 10 0	
Dec. 6. Cheque to Actors' Benevolent Fund	37 10 0	
		50 0 0
Cash in hand:		
C. I. Coltson	2 6 0	
C. A. Smith	1 13 11	
Oscar Asche	1 1 0	
		5 0 11
		£84 12 9

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"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Adeson, Miss Edith
Alexander, Mr. Gerald
Allnutt, Mr. E.
Allison's, M.
Ardale, Mr. Leonard
Baldry, Mr. H
Balleni, Mr. H
Baptiste, Mr. Alfred
Barnes, Mr. Chas.
Barrie, Mr. Cecil
Barry, Mr. Nelson
Beaumont, Miss Agnes
Bergeran, Mr. T. C.
Bohee, Mr. G.
Biddall, Bros.
Billing, Mrs. H. C.
Bon-Bon, Mr. Harry
Borie, Mr. H. O.
Boucicault, Miss N.
Boulton, Mr. M.
Branscombe, Mr. A.
Brown, Mr. Thomas
Bryne, Mr. Geo.
Byrne, Mr. T.
Buss, Mr. Harry
Butler, Mr. Pearce
Caban, Mr. C.
Caddick, Mr. B.
Callan, Mr. John
Caritra, Mr. Stanley
Carr, Mr. Harry P.
Carte, Mr. Chas.
Cartwright, Mr. Chas.
Cavallotti Bros.
Cavanagh, Mr. James
Cedric, Mr. A.
Challis, Miss F.
Chante
Chipperfield, Miss C.
Chipperfield, Mr.
Claydon, Mr. Sidney
Coda, Mr. H. B.
Collins, Miss Lottie
Conn and Conrad
Conway, Mr. Martin
Cordite and Buffalo
Coral, Miss Ada
Cottrell, Mr. J.
Cumberlands, The Five
Dallas, Mr. Henry
D'Alroy, Miss Evelyn
Dagmar, Mr. James M.
Dancks, Miss M.
Dare, Mr. Eric
Darc's Marionettes
Davis, Miss Belle
Denelvo, Mr. R.
Dickenson, Prof.
Dillon, Miss Isabelle
Elgardo, Mr. Z.
Elton, Mr. Sam
Elton and Edwin, Messrs
Etherdo, Miss Adell
Fairburn, Mr. Geo.
Fane, Mr. Mansel
Farrell, Mr. Billy
Fergusson, Miss Maude
Ferriss, Mr. Edward
Fisher, Mr. Chas.
Forrest, Mrs. Edgar
Franklyn, Mr. Conrad
Frank's Midget
Firth, Mr. Harry
Gard, Mr. C.
Gilchrist, Miss Gladys
Gilmore, Mr. Harry
Glenister, Mr. Lionel
Glenny, Mr. Chas.
Godfrey, Miss Violet
Godfrey, Mr. Sidney
Goldsmith, Mr.
Graham, Miss Bertha
Gray, Miss Winifred
Graydon, Mr. Ned
Greybrooke, Miss Ethel
Grovini, Mr. James
Halma, Mr.
Hanlon and Bishop
Harris, Mr. Wm. T.
Harrison, Mr. F.
Hemelsoët, Mons. Louis
Hoban, Mr. Stanley
Holme, Miss Vera
Hylton, Mr. Robert
Ishmail, Mr. P.
Jackson, Miss Annie
Jackson, Miss Margaret
Jackson, Miss Beatrice
Jackson, Mr. Jim
Jones, Miss Alfreda
Jones, Mr. J. N.
Jtonye, Marquis
Justin, Mr. J.
Karmanns, The
Kasper, Mr. Harry
Keddle, Mr. H. B.
Kendal, Mr. W. H.
Latham, Mr. Norman
Lawton, Mr. Frank
Lazern, Mrs.
Lee, Mr. Smiler
Leedam, Mr. A. Stanley
Leoni and Leighton
Leotard Bros.
Letters, Mr. Will
Levaine, Mr. Harry
Lewis, Mr. Edward
Lewis, Mr. Fred
Lillian, Mlle.
Linwood, Mr. Lance
Lotto, Mr. Alfred
Lukos, Mr. Allx
Lukushima Troupe
Lyons Trio
Lytton, Miss Ruth
Mack, Mr. John J.
Magrath, Mr. Chas.
Martin and Ridgway
Mason, Mr.
Matthews, Mr.
Mayer, Mr. Fred
McNaughtons, The
Merileese, Miss Jessie
Mineta, Mr. H.
Moore, Miss Carrie
Morris, Mrs.
Mowbray, Mr. Gerald
Negretti, Miss Ethel
Nelldon, Mr. Tom
Newrey, Mr. James
Noel, Miss Maude
Norbury, Mr. Tom
Nugent, Mr. T. R.
Oliver, Mr. Joe
Olrac, Mr. J.
Ongar, Mr. D.
O'Toole, Mr. Dave
Palmer, Miss Minnie
Patey, Miss Lola
Payne, Mr. W.
Pease, Mr. Sidney T.
Phydora, Mr. C.
Pierri, Mr. Antonio
Prinz's Lions
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Rastus and Banks
Rawson, Mr. T. W.
Reddish, Prof
Reeves, Mr. George
Reilly, Mr. James A.
Richards, Mrs. J. W
Richards, Mr. Sam
Richardson, Mr. J. F.
Rochesters, The
Rolfe, Mr. Alfred
Rosamond Sisters
Rowland, Capt.
Russell, Mr. Harry
Russell, Mr. Scott
Scherck, Herr
Scott, Great
Scott, Mr. C. Wilkinson
Searle, Mr G. S.
Seeley, Miss Mabel
Shelley, Miss Bessie
Sheldon, Mr. George
Siegenberg, Miss Lottie
Sitherland, Mr. Harry
Slater, Mdme. R.
Sleedes, Mr. Bobb
Smithson, Mr. Frank
Spencer, Mr. Austin
Stanhope, Mr. Percy
Stanefield, Mrs. E.
Stapley, Mr. M.
Stewart, Mr. H. H.
Sullivan, Mr. J. E.
Tait, Mr. David
Taylor, Capt. Joe
Tearle, Mr. Godfrey
Tomps and Wells
Trevosper, Miss M.
Van Blene, Mr. A.
Vasco
Vio, Mr. S.
Vowles and Bryan
Wadbrook, Mr.
Wallis, Mr. Claude
Warlocks, The
Ward, Miss Sadie
Watanabe, Mr. S.
Whayman, Mr
White, Miss Kitty
Whiteman, Mr. Harry
Whitman, Mr. H.
Wilson, Mr. F.
Winskill, Mr. Eric
Wyndham, Mr. Albert

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny.**

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

BAYNTON.—On June 1, at 28, Wicklow-street Dublin, the wife of H. J. Baynton, of a son.

HILLIARY.—On Whit-Monday (first wedding anniversary), the wife of E. J. Hilliary (song-writer), of 38, King David-lane, London, E. A fine boy.

MARRIAGES.

ARTHUR—CADMAN.—On 6th inst., at St. Martin's, Trafalgar-square, Donald Arthur, of 434, Strand, and Ethel Cadman, of Winchmore Hill, London.

DEATHS.

DEETS.—May 14, at Los Angeles, California, of consumption, Harry Deets, variety artist (of Deets and Don), late of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels.

HARCOURT.—Norman Phillip Harcourt, youngest son of the late Fred Harcourt and Lilian Warren, aged one year, who fell asleep June 5, and was laid to rest by the side of his dear father, June 7, at Crumpsall Cemetery, Manchester. Sleep on, dear loved ones, until we meet. Never forgotten.

MILES.—May 31, at his residence, 9, Sandyland street, Wisbech, Edward Miles, retired actor, aged 92.

PINDER.—On the 4th inst., William Olman Pinder, Directeur Cirque Pinder Frères, France, and son of William Pinder, retired cirque proprietor. Age 38. Interred at Orange, France.

PINDER.—At the Hospice, Orange, France, on June 4, William Olman Pinder, circus proprietor. Aged 38 years. Eternal rest.

IN MEMORIAM.

GOURIET.—In ever-loving memory of our darling sister Maggie Crossland Gouriet, who passed away June 8, 1904. Never forgotten by her loving sisters, Maud and Lottie Crossland.

MR. WILL SUMMERSON AND MR. GEO. BERNARD commenced their season on Saturday at Teignmouth, Devon. They are running two troupes, on original lines, and a successful season is assured.

MR. WILTON J. SELBY, who, for the last twelve months, has played the part of Tadwell Teague, in the farcical sketch *Barmaids*, has been ordered complete rest by his medical adviser, and has, in consequence, to cancel his engagements.

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Alexander, Mr. Alex.	June 2, 1906.
Allan, Mr. Charles	December 2, 1905.
Arnold, the Late Mr. Chas.	May 13, 1905.
Ashton, Mr. George	May 5, 1906.
Barbour, Mr. William	March 3, 1906.
Barclay, Mr. Arthur J.	May 26, 1906.
Barlow, Miss Billie	March 10, 1906.
Barrasford, Mrs.	February 10, 1906.
Barry, Mr. Lennox	March 4, 1905.
Bawtree, Mr. Arthur	March 18, 1905.
Berlyn, Mr. Ivan	November 4, 1905.
Bertoldi, Late Miss Ena	April 7, 1906.
Bessle, Late Miss Elizabeth	February 3, 1906.
Billington, Mrs. John	January 20, 1905.
Booth, Mr. Junius	September 16, 1905.
Bordin, Signorina Maria	Oct. 21, 1905.
Bostock, Mr. E. H.	September 30, 1905.
Brand, Miss Tita	April 1, 1905.
Bromwich, Mr. F. Dudman	March 11, 1905.
Brough, Mr Lionel	May 13, 1905.
Brown-Potter, Mrs.	March 3, 1906
Burton, Mr. John	March 10, 1906.
Carrington, Miss Eva	February 24, 1906.
Casson, Late Mr. Walter	Nov. 11. 1905.
Cavalho, Miss Sylvia	March 3, 1906.
Cellier, Miss Marguerite	May 26, 1906.
Chapin, Miss Alice	May 25, 1905.
Cinquevalli, Mr. Paul	May 5, 1906.
Clarey, Late Mr. H. O.	February 24. 1906.
Clark, Mr. William	March 3. 1906.
Clark, Late Mr. Henri	Dec. 9. 1905.
Clark, Mr. T. Sealey	May 19, 1905.
Collette, Mr. Charles	November 4. 1905.
Collier, Mr. Hal	May 19, 1906.
Conquest, Mr. Arthur	May 26, 1906
Conquest, Mr. Fred	Dec. 9, 1905.
Coote, Mr. Bert	August 12, 1905.
Crane, Mr. Harry J.	Nov. 11, 1905.
Craven, Late Mr H. T.	April 15, 1905.
Crisp, Late Mr Henry	May 26, 1906.
Croke, Mr. Wentworth	Aug. 5, 1905.
Cruikshank, Mr. Alfred	March 17, 1906.
Cruikshanks, Mr. Charles	May 6, 1905.
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D'Alcorn, Late Mr. Henri	June 10, 1905.
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Duff, Master Harry E.	April 29, 1905.
Dyball, Mr. George H.	January 13. 1906.
Earnshaw, Mr Arthur	November 4, 1905.
Elliott, Late Mr. J. B.	May 26, 1906.
Elen, Mr. Gus	September 23, 1905.
Fordyce, Miss Vera	March 18, 1905.
Fulton, Miss Mary	March 18, 1905.
Gastelle, Miss Stella	July 15, 1905.
Godfrey-Turner, Miss M.	October 28, 1905.
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Illington, Miss Margaret	June 2, 1906.
Irving, Late Sir Henry	Oct. 21, 1905.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1906.

THE ELLEN TERRY JUBILEE.

A characteristic of the English is their thrift of emotion. They store up their feelings like electricity in a Leyden jar, until one touches the knob and is shocked by the explosion. Unlike the Latin races, the Anglo-Saxons, intensely sentimental, are not demonstrative or effusive. They bide their time, and nothing is lost for the intensity of the outburst by the waiting.

These ebullitions of emotion, when they do come, are in the nature of revelations to the slightly-cynical and cultured observer; indeed, they often upset the calculations of the most experienced, as well as astound the most penetrative. The demonstrations at the death of Sir HENRY IRVING were instances of English emotion exceeding all expectation; and we may reckon, at the ELLEN TERRY Matinée on Tuesday, on an outpouring of emotion which will be in two acceptations of the word "phenomenal."

The "town," to use the expressive phrase which was used by the eighteenth-century writers to include the smart playgoing set of their time, has no idea what the theatre is to thousands who are neither rich, nor famous, nor happy. Consider that, for two shillings, an artisan can be introduced, for three hours, not only into the best society, but into a quintessence of the best society, more various, more amusing, and more essential than the "real thing." Many men who have risen, when they came to see the world which they had previously regarded from the audience side of the footlights, have felt a sense of disappointment. Somehow they had expected to find it much more exciting and amusing. And the shop-girl in the front row of the pit has a chance of enjoyment equal to that of the fine lady in the last row of the stalls, upon whose back hair she breathes. An audience is, for the time being, a community, bent on the same delight, influenced by the same emotions. Nowhere are people more human and less selfish than at the theatre.

But above all the pleasure of gratified curiosity and agreeable excitement must be valued the personal magnetism of the popular actor and actress. The feeling that exists between them and their audience is a very subtle, yet very strong one. It reminds us, in a way, of that fine foolishness of the Parisians, when in the hopeful period of the Revolution, half starving, yet sanguine of a millennium, they brought out their scanty meals and ate them in company out of sheer sympathy and goodwill. No wonder, when the artist is warm-hearted, the unbidden tear starts into the eye at the "reception" on his entrance. The unconfessed, exquisite joy of these moments repays the "poor player" for years of toil and trouble. It is the wine of the footlights, and the essence of that intoxication—so pitifully, pathetically human!—which has always been the attraction of the stage.

The Latins are more capricious and more cruel than the Anglo-Saxons, whose hearts govern their heads. The ruffian who threw a wreath of immortelles to Mademoiselle MARS as a hint to her to leave the boards would hardly find a supporter, certainly not an imitator, in England. "For auld lang syne" is a song which always has a sympathetic echo on this side of the Channel. We do not "scrap" our theatrical implements as soon as they are out of date. On the contrary, we preserve the illusion when the reality has vanished. Long after SIMS REEVES's voice had lost its quality audiences used to hypnotise themselves into the idea that it was, and would be, beautiful for ever.

It is not only the sense of æsthetic pleasure that is gratified by seeing an old favourite on the boards. The feeling is one of personal affection, based on years of mutual happiness. The player and the audience; the performer and the applauder; the artist and the artist-lover—so in pairs do they walk the world through. When an actress comes to her Jubilee how many nameless and unknown jubilees are wound up with her career! How many there are whose youth grew side by side with her youth, whose memories are mixed with her "reminiscences," who have been her friends in every sense but that of personal contact! One might almost say that the actor and actress are more intimate with their unknown allies across the footlights than with their people at home. For the latter only get the dross, after the gold has been given away to the public. And—strange and wonderful thing!—this *rapport* is absolutely impersonal. To the actor or actress, in the glance round the "house" on entry, it is a big blotch of pinkish-white and mixed tints, blurred in a bath of artificial light. But from this abyss come concentrated currents of electricity, converging on the individual; and each of these wires telegraphs: "I wish you well! How handsome, how clever you are! Be bold, be at your best, for I love you!"

An intoxication? Yes. A folly? Perhaps. But, after all, it is the only thing that lasts, the only thing that in one or other of its shapes is worth living for. For the finest part of Fame is not intensified vanity, but popular affection. "Not everyone," says the old soldier at the obsequies of the Republican General in *La Cousine Bette*, "has the people at his funeral!" Not every actor and actress has this love-evoking power. It is strong in all the TERRY family, and strongest of all in the actress who takes her benefit at Drury Lane Theatre on Tuesday. Art is a thing of times and fashions; the "advanced" of to-day, in not very many years, will be the old-fashioned. But the art of our youth will always have a hold on our heart-strings. It has been ousted by other arts from our intelligence; it may be *rococo*, *demodé*—what you will; but there was a time when we worshipped it, and with an enthusiasm which we cannot conjure up now. Miss TERRY's matinée, however, will be far from being a festival of sentimental "fogies." She was playing in *Madame Sans-Gêne*, and playing at her best, in 1897; and she charmed CHARLES READE as Philippa in *The Wandering Heir* in 1874. Between these dates she has done nothing but enlist admirers and win millions of friends. What a mighty host they must make! And what an "ovation" she must expect on Tuesday. Like VOLTAIRE on a celebrated occasion, she runs a risk of being smothered in roses.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

At the concert given by the students of the Royal Academy at Queen's Hall on Friday, June 1, two new works by students were introduced, the first being an Introduction and Allegro for string octet (MS.) composed by Miss Eleanor Rudall. As the work of a student, the octet proved to a certain extent interesting, revealing the careful training the young composer has received at the Royal Academy. The octet was cleverly played by Mr. Rowsby Woof, Miss Jessie Bowater, Miss Elsie W. Owen, Mr. H. O. Parsons, Mr. James T. Lockyer, Mr. Thomas Morgan, Miss Gwendolen Griffiths, and Mr. E. A. Carrodus. The second novelty was by Mr. Hubert Bath, a student who has already produced some compositions of considerable merit. The work heard on Friday was strangely entitled Two Sonnet Reflections for string octet, pianoforte, and organ, the two sonnets being D. G. Rossetti's "Death in Love" and "A Sea-Spell." Before the music was given, Miss Vera Cockburn skilfully recited Rossetti's verses, describing the meaning of a sonnet, and after that the poem, "Death in Love," the music following the reciter, the same method being adopted in "A Sea-Spell." With regard to Mr. Bath's music, it was at once fresh, strong, and original, not in the least requiring the aid of verses or reciter, the themes of the two compositions being cleverly worked out, and the organ introduced in a really masterly manner. The young composer was warmly applauded at the close of his clever and musicianly compositions. Other able instrumental performances were four charming studies for pianoforte by Eduard Poldini, played with delightful crispness and delicacy of touch by Miss Dorothy Grinstead; and a praiseworthy rendering of Beethoven's First Movement (Allegro) from Quartet in F (Op. 59), by Miss Juliet Capron, Mr. Thomas Morgan, Mr. James T. Lockyer, and Mr. F. W. Hodgkinson. In Romance and Humoresque for violoncello, by Saint-Saëns and Neruda, Miss Gwendolen Griffiths produced a good tone and expression; and Miss Adelaide M. Dodgson gained much applause for her playing of Chopin's piano solo, Scherzo in C sharp minor. The vocal items included "Dancing Lightly," by Sterndale Bennett, cleverly sung by Mrs. A. L. Shergold; "Un' aura Amorosa," from Mozart's "Cosi fan tütte," delivered with much intelligence by Mr. Hubert Baker; and two of Brahms' songs, "Liebestreu" and "Von Ewiger Liebe," sung with great ability by Miss Gwladys Roberts. Mr. James McNaughton Duncan was unfortunate in choosing such uninteresting songs as "Griefs that I cannot measure," "The rose complained," "Marie at the window," and "Forebodings," by Robert Franz. The third song, "Marie at the window," proved the most attractive. Miss Kathleen Nigel-Jones and Miss Alice Baxter distinguished themselves, the first in Beethoven's "Die Ehre Gottes aus der Natur," and the latter in "Vinto e l' amor" ("Ottone"), Handel; and the programme closed with Second Polonaise, for violin (Wieniawski), played by Miss Lilian Evans.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE CLOS."
Opéra-Comique, in Four Acts, by MM. Michel Carré and Ch. Silver.
Produced at the Opéra-Comique on June 6.

Jean Simon	M. ED. CLEMENT
Pierre	M. DUFRANNE
Hennebaut	M. VIEUILLE
Blaisot	M. CAZENEUVE
Gervais	M. BILLOT
Pelavoix	M. MESSAICKER
Geneviève	MME. MARIE THIERY
Margot	MLLE. DANGE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 7.—As far as the libretto is concerned, the new work produced by M. Albert Carré is more of an operette than an opéra-comique. The plot, taken from one of Amédée Achard's novels, is as follows. Pierre Hennebaut, the son of a rich, avaricious farmer, is in love with Geneviève, the daughter of Gervais, the rural policeman. When, however, he asks for her, the girl, to his surprise, refuses him because she has promised her hand to Simon, a youth as poor as herself. The Hennebauts, father and son, are not the people to forget such a slight; and as old Gervais owes them some fifty pounds, which he cannot repay, they decide to sell his cottage, "Le Clos," where Geneviève was born, and which the Hennebauts hold as a mortgage. Gervais and the girl are disconsolate; but Simon will not be the cause of their ruin. He releases Geneviève from her promise, and, despite her tears, leaves the village. The girl then marries Pierre, but the latter is not happy. He is afraid his wife still loves Simon; and, more than all, he dreads that youth's return to the village. His fears come true. Simon, unable to overcome his love, has come back, and meets Geneviève in the little garden of "Le Clos," the cause of all the trouble. But in reply to his ardent protestations, she loyally replies that she belongs to her husband, and will never betray him. At that moment a shot is heard. Geneviève rushes into the house, fearing that Pierre may have seen them together, and committed suicide. It was Pierre who fired that shot; but it was only a trick on his part to see if his wife really loved him. She throws her arms round his neck; and Simon disappears, never to return. M. Silver's music is hardly suited to such a slight plot. It is too heavy and pretentious, although here and there the composer shows he has the gift of melody in a high degree. The work was fairly well interpreted.

THE open-air theatre at Champigny, "Le Théâtre de la Nature," as its founder, M. Albert Damond, calls it, has inaugurated the summer season with *Le Dieu Nouveau*, a three-act tragedy, by M. Paul Souchon. This author is not devoid of talent, as he proved by his *Phyllis*, brought out at the Théâtre Bour last year; but this time he has gone beyond his depth. It wanted a genius to deal with a subject like the conflict between Paganism and Christianity. He certainly tried his best, and shows us the supreme struggle of light and darkness between the religions that glorify the joys of life and the dogma of everlasting repentance. Only a master-hand could have dealt with such a problem, and we would have liked to have seen in the work a personage taking up the cudgels for or against Paganism. Instead of this, M. Souchon introduces Apollo and the Muses. Driven away by the Christians, they have deserted Greece, and have come to Arles. This was a fatal mistake. Our public does not like to hear Apollo and the Muses talk, because we do not believe in their reality. Their troubles do not affect us, nor are we alarmed when their lives are in danger, because we look upon them as allegories and, therefore, immortal. The author has been more successful in the scene when Mary Magdalen is taken by the Muses to their retreat. In all the others his verse was lacking in strength. The interpretation was good. M. Albert was an impressive Apollo; M. Perrin splendidly impersonated Lazare; and Mlles. Daria and Neith Blanc acquitted themselves well of their task.

M. ANTOINE has not only left the theatre that bears his name, but has altogether said good-bye to the stage. He has decided never to act any more. His new duties at the Odéon, he says, will take up so much of his time that he will not find a moment to learn his rôles. To dramatic art M. Antoine's resolution is a distinct loss, for he ranks foremost among the Paris actors. He will, however, continue to teach others; and we all know that as a professor he is unrivalled. Hard, and sometimes even a little rough, he is adored by artists of both sexes, who, thanks to his advice, have attained a great name in the profession. But he could never stand mediocrities. He would not waste his time over those who, as he put it, "had no stuff in them." And for that reason the fact of any actor or actress having been engaged for any length of time at the Théâtre Antoine always proved a recommendation likely to secure them good engagements elsewhere.

THE news that M. Antoine replaced M. Ginisty at the Odéon has given general satisfaction. There is one gentleman, however, who has good reasons to be dissatisfied, and that is M. Tarride, the well-known actor. M. Ginisty made him throw up a splendid engagement to make him stage-manager at the Odéon, where for many months he worked hard to raise the standard of the house. For some unexplained reason M. Ginisty concealed from M. Tarride the fact that he would have to cede his place soon to M. Antoine, and when M. Tarride once put the question to him whether the rumours he had heard were true, M. Ginisty gave an evasive answer. The affair, therefore, came upon M. Tarride like a thunderbolt, and he is suing the former Odéon manager for damages. M. Tarride, like many of his colleagues here, has the ambition of becoming an actor-manager. He now hopes to carry out his dream, and is looking for the necessary capital. If he succeeds, he would like a playhouse on English lines, with comfortable stalls arranged like those in His Majesty's Theatre. M. Tarride will find a valuable assistant in his wife, one of the best actresses on our stage.

THE Gymnase closes its doors at the end of this week, and during the summer months the house will be put in repair. It is one of the most uncomfortable theatres in Paris, and M. Franck, the manager, estimates that the cost of making the place presentable will cost him at least £5,000. It will be money well spent.

M. GRISIER, of the Ambigu, has a long list of new plays ready for production next season. Among them are *Remords ou Noel tragique*, by M. Henri Demesse, which will be the first novelty. Then will follow *L'Interpellation*, by MM. Gugenheim and Le Faure; *L'Angélus*, by M. Spitzmuller; *Louis the Seventeenth*, by M. de Pohles; *La Boscotte*, by M. Georges Maldague; *Les Soldats de France*, by M. Jean de Rodé; and a play by M. Decourcelle.

THE Gaité announces the last performances of *L'Hotel du libre Echange*, in order to start the rehearsals of *La Mioche dorée*, a new work by MM. Alphonse Lemonnier and Louis Péricaud.

M. BERNY, manager of the Théâtre des Arts, has received a three-act play by MM. Poinsot and Pascal-Bonetti, called *Les Paysans*.

LAST week's receipts at the Opera were much in excess of the corresponding week in the preceding year, which is attributable to the large number of strangers now in Paris. The works that made most money were *Faust*, *Armide*, *Les Huguenots*, and *Romeo et Juliette*. As to Wagner, who a few years ago headed the list, he brings in less than any other composer. Poor Wagner always hated the French; and if he came to life now the attitude of the French public towards his works would not lessen his dislike.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

FRENCH PLAYS AT THE ROYALTY.

M. Coquelin *aîné*, on Friday, the 1st inst., presented himself in one of his most famous rôles apart from the classical characters of Molière—that of the dear old curé in *L'Abbé Constantin*, which was adapted by Hector Crémieux and Pierre Decourcelle (author of *Les Deux Gosses*, the original of *Two Little Vagabonds*) from the famous novel by Ludovic Halévy. It was produced on November 4, 1887, at the Gymnase. Modern French fiction can boast no tale more simple, immaculate, and interesting at the same time. All its personages are models of goodness and purity, over whom the novelist has diffused a superabundance of sweetness and light. Dramatic interest, however, the book contains none; but the adaptors, while preserving all the delicacy of the original, have lopped off its superfluous details, and have even succeeded in adding the dramatic interest wanting in the book. The action takes place in and around the village of Sauvigny, and the curtain rises on the garden of the parish priest's house, which touches the old church. Bernard, the aged gardener from the adjacent château of Longueval, is there giving a hand at weeding, and Pauline, the curé's servant, is preparing her master's dinner. At the other side of the wall appear a young artillery officer, Jean Raynaud, the Abbé's godson, whose father, the village doctor, had been killed in the war of 1870. A Mme de Lavardens bursts on the scene in a great state of flurry. She is all anxiety to know how the sale of the Longueval estate had passed off. The château, so the venerable Abbé reports, had been acquired by heretics; but when Mme. Scott and her sister, Bettina Percival, arrive, he discovers that he has made a mistake, for the new owners are good Catholics. The love interest, which is delightfully accentuated, revolves round Paul Lavardens, Jean Raynaud, and Bettina, who is an heiress. The rivals fight a duel, in which the young artilleryman treats his opponent so magnanimously that the two become firm friends. Of course there is a happy ending, with the dear old Abbé as *bénisseur*. M. Coquelin's delineation of the title-rôle, as we have already hinted, must be counted as one of the most finished creations of his distinguished career—perhaps the most perfect. He is the old country parish priest to the life—walk, bearing, gesture, manner, and speech, all inimitably natural. He is well supported by Mlle. Suzanne Devoyod as Mme. Scott, Mme. Bouchetal, and M. Chabert as Bernard.

The piece following *L'Abbé Constantin* was the excellent farce, by Tristan Bernard, entitled *L'Anglais Tel Qu'on Parle*. Its hilarious humour is derived from Eugène's ignorance of English and his pretensions as an interpreter. At an hotel he takes the place, in an emergency, of one skilled in the use of Anglo-Saxon, and in his pretence to be able to translate, makes a terrible muddle, and involves the characters in absurd situations. Hogson, the Englishman from Newcastle, is supposed to have lost his purse, while he has really lost his daughter, who has eloped. M. Coquelin *aîné* as Eugènie and his son Jean as Mr. Hogson were admirable.

ON Monday was produced the drama, in three acts, by Alphonse Daudet, entitled

"L'ARLESIENNE."

Balthazar	M. COQUELIN aîné
Le Patron Marc	M. JEAN COQUELIN
Mitifio	M. DESJARDINS
Frédéri	M. MONTEUX
Francet Mamai	M. LEFAUR
L'Equipage	M. CHABERT
Rose Mamai	MME. BOUCHETAL
Vivette	MLLE. FANNY AUBEL
Renaude	MLLE. KERWICH
L'Innocente	MLLE. GUERRAZ

Alphonse Daudet's piece, which for years was regarded as an excellent stock attraction of the Odéon (especially with Mme. Aimée Tessandier in her favourite part of Rose Mamai), was done into English by Mr. Jocelyn Brandon, and produced on January 27, 1888, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and on November 26 of the same year at the Princess's. The story is a very simple one. Frédéri, the son of Rose Mamai, the mistress of the farm of Castelet, has become deeply enamoured of a beautiful girl in the neighbouring town of Arles, and when the action commences is about to marry her. The engagement is broken off, however, through the intervention of the gipsy Mitifio, a hot-tempered horse-trainer, who claims the girl as his own, and furnishes proof indisputable that she has long been his mistress. Frédéri gets a rude shock, which seems to threaten not only his reason, but his life. His mother, filled with anguish, persuades her godchild, the pretty Vivette, who has secretly cherished a passion for Frédéri, to declare her love for him, and thus to attempt his cure; but she is repulsed, and proposes to leave the farm. The mother, rather than see her darling boy die, resolves to fling considerations of honour to the winds, and consents to the introduction of the Arlésienne into the family circle as Frédéri's wife. He, however, will not allow this sacrifice to be made, and presently he is found swearing eternal constancy to Vivette. The old love, he declares, is a thing of the past. On the very night of the betrothal feast Frédéri overhears Mitifio say that he is that night going to carry off the Arlésienne, and the thought is more than he can bear. He eludes his mother's vigilance, and leaps from the top of a tower which forms part of the farm buildings. *L'Arlésienne* is a drama of primal emotions, and the author shows considerable power, though the tragedy is crude and undisciplined. Such a subject, however, inspired Bizet to write some delightful music, and the suite *L'Arlésienne* is almost as popular in this country as the *Peer Gynt* suite by Grieg. M. Coquelin *aîné* was seen in the part of the old shepherd Balthazar, which he endowed with rare tenderness and dignity. An excellent piece of acting, too, was M. Jean Coquelin as Le Patron Marc, the young actor ably supplying the comedy relief that is so very welcome. Mme. Bouchetal was seen to advantage as Rose Mamai; M. Monteux did much for the part of Frédéri; and Mdlles. Fanny Aubel and Guerraz lent adequate aid.

M. Coquelin as M. Jourdain, the titular character in Molière's great comedy *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* should be seen by every student of French acting. It is essentially a farcical part, and the performance of the eminent comedian is so well known and so justly esteemed that to praise it at this time of day seems superfluous. On Wednesday he was certainly at his best. Mlle. Devoyod and M. Jean Coquelin were notably good.

Thursday saw the presentation of *Mademoiselle de la Seiglière*, the well-known comedy in four acts of Jules Sardeau. The action of the piece takes place in 1817, two years after the final downfall of Napoleon the Great and the establishment of the Monarchy in France under Louis XVIII. The Marquis de Seiglière, once an exile, retains his estates, which had passed into the hands of his steward, Thomas Stamply, who restores it, being rewarded for his loyalty and honesty by neglect. Hélène, the Marquis's daughter—Mademoiselle de la Seiglière—reproves her father for his ingratitude. The generous girl is betrothed to Raoul, the son of the Baronne de Vaubert, who in turn is wooed by a not too scrupulous lawyer, named Destournelles. This worthy's suit for the hand of the Baronne is scorned by her. Raoul eventually finds a rival in Bernard, the son of the deceased steward, who burns with indignation at the treatment meted out to his father by the Marquis. He, however, falls a victim to the charms of the sweet-natured and generous Hélène, who returns his affection. By Raoul breaking off his engagement to the heroine, she is able to marry Bernard. Thus a happy ending is secured. M. Coquelin *aîné* as the scheming lawyer, Destournelles, Mme. Bouchetal as the Baronne de Vaubert, M. Jean Coquelin as the Marquis, and Mlle. Fanny Aubel as Hélène, were responsible for excellent performances.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

The revival of the sports in aid of the funds of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund is welcome news to both the profession and the public, who have in past years invariably enjoyed the carnival at Herne Hill, where the last gathering was held in July, 1904. This year the venue is changed, and that excellent centre for athletic gatherings, the Stamford Bridge Sports Ground, Fulham-road, has been chosen. The date of the fixture is Thursday, July 12. The entries close Tuesday, July 3. All applications and all communications concerning the event should be made to Mr. Horace Marriott, at the Committee Rooms, 18, Adam-street, Adelphi.

A curious scene took place on Thursday night in the House of Commons with reference to the Musical Copyright Bill. As the Bill is in the hands of a private member, it could not be brought on till eleven o'clock. Mr. O'Connor then proposed that the second reading should be taken. According to the rules of the House a Bill cannot be taken after eleven o'clock if any one member objects. There was only one opponent of the Bill present—Mr. Caldwell—and as he is now vice-chairman of the House, it was supposed that he would act in accordance with all precedent, and, being an official, would refrain from taking part in any discussion on Bills.

But Mr. Caldwell is not a man to be guided by the ordinary rules, and, to the surprise of everybody, when Mr. O'Connor proposed his Bill, called out, "I object." Something stranger followed. Mr. O'Connor appealed to Mr. Caldwell to allow the Bill to pass; and when Mr. O'Connor sat down, Mr. Herbert Gladstone got up and made the same appeal. Mr. Gladstone, as Home Secretary, has in charge the department which deals with copyright; and, of course, as a Cabinet Minister and as a colleague had, it was assumed, to look with certainty to Mr. Caldwell accepting his advice. But, to the amazement of the House, Mr. Caldwell took no notice of the appeal, and again called out, "I object." Mr. O'Connor made another appeal—it was equally vain. This remarkable incident is expected to have other and larger consequences, and, in the end, may not prove to have been prejudicial to the cause of copyright and to the chances of the Bill passing this year into law.

Mr. Oswald Stoll is arranging a gala performance at the London Coliseum in aid of the funds of Charing Cross Hospital on Monday. The three o'clock performance of the Revue on the day in question has been chosen for this purpose, and a record "house" is anticipated. In consequence, applications for tickets will be dealt with in the order of priority received. These should be addressed to either Mr. Woolridge, the treasurer of Charing Cross Hospital, or to Mr. John Donald, at the Coliseum. The usual prices will prevail.

Among those who will positively be present will be the Marquise d'Hautpool, Lady Clementine Waring, Duchess of Devonshire, Duchess of Montrose, Duchess of Norfolk, Dowager Duchess of Newcastle, Countess of Cromartie, Countess Kenmare, Countess of Ancaster, Lady Helen Vincent, Dowager Countess of Dudley, Countess of Dufferin and Ava, Lady Arthur Hill, Countess of Ormonde, Marchioness of Tweeddale, Duchess of Newcastle, Countess of Northbrook, Countess of Aylesford, Lady Hothfield, Countess Derby, and Lady Aberdare.

Signorina Maria Bordin, who will make her Alhambra début on Monday as Mylitta, the daughter of King Darius in the new Assyrian ballet, *L'Amour*, was born in Padua. For years she studied and practised her art at a well-known dancing academy at Milan, and at the age of sixteen made her first appearance at Lisbon as a prima ballerina. Though we do not appreciate the art of dancing in this country as much as they do on the Continent, Londoners yet gave a very warm welcome to this clever and charming dancer at the Lyceum last October, on the production of *Excelsior*, and no doubt that welcome will be renewed on Monday at the older ballet house in Leicester-square.

Mr. Walter Tilbury, who may be called the Grossmith of variety, is propounding an excellent conundrum nightly at the London Pavilion. He asks his lady partner, "Why are the Chicago meat-packers paradoxes?" "Because what they can't eat they can, and what they can they can't eat."

That well-known American musical comedy actress, Miss Lucy Ashton, will appear at the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue, on Monday, June 18, in an entirely new and original aerial up-to-date fantasy, entitled "Skyland," written by John P. Harrington, and musicked by James W. Tate. She will be assisted by a bevy of lovely girls, and the production, for which special scenery is being painted, will be in the experienced hands of Edouard Espinosa. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company is issuing "Skyland" in its popular "Sixpenny Successes" series.

The new classical ballet at the Alhambra, which Mr. Charles Wilson has written and arranged from the scenario of Mrs. Hay-Ritchie, and the composition of which has found Mons. Francois Thomé in his happiest mood, has received the title of *L'Amour*, and will be produced on Monday. The action, which is divided into three tableaux (each set being from the masterly brush of E. H. Ryan), takes place during the period immediately preceding the fall of the Assyrian Empire, and its interpretation will introduce to patrons of the Alhambra Signorine Maria Bordin and Enrica Varasi, whose perfect technique has been gained in the Milanese and Viennese schools respectively; Signor Alfredo Curti, who, as maître de ballet, is responsible for the principal dances, and himself enacts the chief male character; Mesdames Edith Slack, Julia Reeve, Rosie Dean, Hill, Baton, Edwards, etc., Signors Giovani, Rosi and Amadeo Santini, and M Henri Frielli.

Miss Godwynne Earle and Mr. Louis Bradfield, Commère and Compère respectively of the Coliseum *Revue*, will take a balloon trip with Mr. Percival Spencer, the great æronaut, from the private annexe of the Wandsworth and Putney Gasworks on Sunday, at 11 a.m. precisely. The balloon to be used is a new one of 45,000 cubic feet capacity, and there will be a race between it and a number of Humber racing cars. Mr. Eustace Gray and Mr. Will Bishop will drive the principal cars, which will have as passengers the representatives of the leading London newspapers.

Mr. Albert Chevalier is by way of returning to the regular stage, his services having been secured by Mr. Charles Frohman for the Duke of York's, not only for a series of matinées to be given in conjunction with Mme. Yvette Guilbert (the first of which occurred on Friday afternoon), but for the evening performances of the first piece, Mr. J. M. Barrie's *Pantaloon*, which is to precede the revival of *The Marriage of Kitty* at the St. Martin's-lane house. In this the well-known comedian will play the title-rôle. Mr. Chevalier's last appearance in a part in a London theatre was in *The Two Recruits* at Toole's in 1891.

It has been reported that the Palace, Tottenham, will close with the advent of the new hall. This in one of those *canards* which become current in variety circles, and we have the best authority for contradicting it, for Mrs. Lawson has just passed the plans for extensive alterations. The comfort and elegance of the place will be much increased by an electric light installation.

The Mansfield Hippodrome closes its doors for the present to-night (Saturday). After a renovation of the interior it will reopen for the autumn season in a month or six weeks' time.

The Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne, has been kindly lent by Moss Empires (Limited) on Tuesday next for the purposes of a matinée in aid of that most deserving charity, the Home for Destitute Cripples at Gosforth. Mr. E. Leslie Conroy, the resident-manager, is very proud of his list of patrons, which includes, besides the Mayor and Mayoress and the Sheriff of Newcastle, the Earl of Durham, the Earl of Scarborough, the Right Hon. Viscount Ridley, the Right Hon. Lord Armstrong, Sir W. Eden, Bart., Sir G. H. Philipson, M.D., Sir Riley Lord, and Sir Walter R. Plummer.

The holiday attractions presented by the proprietress, Mrs. Thomas Barrasford, at the Devil's Dyke, Brighton, on Whit Monday proved highly successful. Great interest was centred in a go-as-you-please race from the Brighton Hippodrome to the Dyke, the seven prizes including a silver cup presented by Mr. Thomas Barrasford, and those successful being M. Haslem, 1; G. Bennett, 2; W. Wilkins, 3; H. King, 4; W. Cornford, 5; W. Oram, 6; and C. R. Thorpe, 7. A variety entertainment in the Café Chantant was sustained by the Italian Troupe of Vocalists and Instrumentalists; Mlle. Sylvia du Barry, operatic vocalist; Les Fedoras, instrumental duettists; the Oboes, pantomimists, the Davenports, illusionists; and the Cicianos. Athletic sports were held during the afternoon. Extra trains were run during the day from the Brighton Central station to the Dyke, and thousands availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting this popular resort.

The new system of two shows nightly at the West Bromwich Hippodrome (late Theatre Royal) was inaugurated on Monday, when Mr. James P. Moore, the proprietor and manager, presented a bright and attractive programme, including Mr. Kennedy's famous Edison-Barnum electric animated pictures. The public of the town are hardly yet used to the new system, and Mr. Moore is trying it more as an experiment to test the feelings of his patrons. If successful, it will be continued throughout the autumn season.

The experiment of holding the Brum Theatrical Charity Sports at Whitsuntide and on Tuesday proved an unqualified success. The crowds in the streets were phenomenal, the collections realising £12 2s. 10d. The gate money amounted to £227 18s. 9d.; donations added another £118 2s. 6d.; the sacred concerts will realise upwards of £200; with the result that the takings of previous years will be beaten by a large margin.

There was a fine progression of tableaux cars. The Theatre Royal tableau represented Birmingham's three favourites—Mr. Chamberlain, whose head appeared from the rotundity of fiscal loaves, a miniature Quaife, and a youth in the Villa jersey. That from the Bordesley Palace was patriotic. A gentleman representing the Prince of Wales was surrounded by the Anglo-Indian friends of his recent tour. The grim picture of ambulance work in war-time was reflected from the car of the Hippodrome, and a charming array of Robin Hood's merry men "under the greenwood tree" had been evolved from the ingenious mind of the Gaiety management, the Grand Theatre sending an equally lawless band in the shape of "The Three Musketeers." Britannia, in state, before a representation of a colossal penny, testified to the enthusiasm of the Alexandra management.

The innovation of decorated cycles and motors, arranged by Mr. P. D. Elbourne, received a great deal of favourable comment. During the afternoon Mr. Margoschis, honorary life president, presented to Mrs. A. W. Matcham a beautiful bouquet on behalf of the committee. Mr. Matcham responded on behalf of his wife. Messrs. Bushell, Collingwood, and Calver were present.

The Manager of the Amphitheatre, Ramsgate (Mr. Henry Bowman) being suddenly without a company for last week, at the eleventh hour succeeded in engaging some excellent variety artists, including Little Zola, of Drury-lane fame, W. E. Gillin, ventriloquist, the Grosvenors, Victor's Dog Orchestra, and Eddie Clay. Edison's Bioscope with up-to-date pictures was also an attraction. An excellent programme was given twice nightly.

A new musical sketch, entitled *The Hollanders*, and designated "a pot-pourri of pretty musical numbers and dialogue," was produced by Mr. Leslie Gaze at a special matinée at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Saturday, before a limited but appreciative audience. The piece consists of a series of musical items, interspersed with recitations, novelties, and dialogue, the whole forming a merry and agreeable entertainment. The artists taking part in it, in addition to Mr. Gaze himself, were Miss Bessie Alayne, Miss Maud Aston, Mr. Howard Cridland, and Mr. Hal Gaze. The scene is laid in Holland, and the quaint and picturesque costumes of that country give a pleasant colour to the production.

Mr. John Leopold successfully produced on Monday at the Ardwick Empire, Manchester, a new sketch, in two scenes, entitled *The House-Boat*, from the pen of Mr. Leopold and Mr. Wilfred Vaughan. Eighteen artists are engaged in this sketch, and all play their respective parts with ability. The scenery is excellent, the House-boat on the Thames being picturesque, and the dresses are also very pretty. The efforts of the comedians result in roars of laughter, and the whole production goes with a swing, which is no doubt due to the fact that Mr. Leopold himself has personally supervised the production. The sketch will be seen next week at the Empire, Birmingham.

Mr. Harry Marvello opened on Whit Monday the Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, with his original Geisha entertainers. This is his second season there, and, despite numerous counter attractions, the huge enclosure was completely filled, whilst thousands viewed the entertainment from the outside. This place is very popular with the citizens of Edinburgh, who come down in the cable cars in hundreds each night. The company engaged includes Lottie Poole, Frank Weir, Carr and Carr, Tony Freedman, Fred Smart, Will Wilson, Harry Marvello, and Miss Alice Hutchison, pianist.

Miss Cora Duncan and Mr. Albert Brasque will conclude an eighteen weeks' engagement with Mr. W. Reuben Payne, Esq., to-day, at the Theatre Royal, South Shields, and will open at the Palace, Bradford, on Monday, with their own duologue, entitled *A Dressing-room Romance*.

At the Stockport Borough police-court on Tuesday a well-dressed youth named Arthur Sullivan (18), of Dudley-street, Higher Broughton, pleaded guilty to a charge of obtaining food and lodgings by false pretences, on the 28th ult. Mrs. Eliza Thompson, of Edward-street, Stockport, gave evidence to the effect that the prisoner engaged lodgings at 25s. per week, representing that his name was Mr. George Miller, and that he was engaged at the Empire Theatre, Stockport, to produce *A Village Blacksmith* with a troupe of boys. Mr. W. Black, of the Empire, gave evidence that the prisoner was not employed at the theatre, and also stated that he knew nothing whatever about him. The Chief Constable said there was nothing known against the prisoner in Stockport, but that he was wanted for two similar cases in Manchester. Prisoner, who is in delicate health, was committed to prison for seven days.

Among the chief attractions of the Edward Swanborough matinée on Thursday, June 28, at the London Pavilion, will be Mr. Charles Hawtrey, who has kindly promised to appear in the amusing comedietta, *Time is Money*.

It is proposed to place a memorial stone over the grave of Mr. G. W. Hunt, the "Jingo" bard, at Abney Park to show coming generations where the patriotic song writer's remains are. His celebrated song, "We don't want to fight," was sung by every patriotic Englishman in the middle seventies, and it made the fame of the late G. H. Macdermott. The memorial stone is now being prepared by Thomas Judd and Co., of Holloway-road. It is estimated to cost £20. Mr. E. J. Hiscock, F.S.S., of 51, Sotheby-road, Highbury, has about half that sum in hand; and if anybody else would like to pay tribute to the late song-writer, they may do so by sending contributions to Mr. Hiscock, or to the "G. W. Hunt Memorial Fund," London and Provincial Bank, Essex-road, N.

Don Juan A. Caicedo, "the king of the wire" since he left England for America in December, 1904, has been working consecutively for fourteen months, having only lost three weeks in his voyage from the States to Cuba and back again. He is now returning to England, sailing from New York on board the s.s. Paul of the American line on the 16th inst. His intrepid performance has won for him golden opinions on the other side, and he comes back to England with gratifying memories of many triumphs in the land of the almighty dollar.

Miss Ruby Dahl, who has a capital novelty in her mannikins, which we hope to see shortly in London, is now at Belfast, and goes next week to Dublin. She has been secured by the Syndicate for twenty weeks a year for four years, and holds a thirty-four weeks' contract with Mr. Oswald Stoll. Mr. Albert Bushell, of Birmingham, has also booked her for ten dates. Her agent is Mr. Will Dalton, the Manchester hustler.

Mr. Walter Gibbons has written to an evening contemporary concerning the standing room prohibition contemplated by the L.C.C. He says: "No place of entertainment is built until the plans have been approved by the L.C.C., and no place can be opened until the Council is satisfied that it has been constructed in accordance with those plans. The result is that a licensed place of entertainment is far safer than any other place where fire may occur. The cost of running a theatre or music hall ranges roughly from £500 to £1,800 weekly, and if the receipts from seat accommodation reached their maximum every night of the week at present prices, no proprietor could run any such place at a profit, and the tendency of expense is still upward, the most serious item of all—namely, artists' salaries—being practically fixed for years to come."

Mr. Gibbons concludes:—"Insomuch as the construction of existing places of entertainment has been approved, standing room permitted, and many millions of capital invested upon present earning capacity, I contend that it is absolutely unjustifiable for the London County Council to persist in an innovation which can be of no possible benefit to the public, but, on the other hand, can only be considerable inconvenience to the poorer classes, many of whom are indifferent as to whether they sit or stand when visiting a theatre or music hall."

Miss Flo Esdaile, the Australian vocalist, who has been making herself very popular this week at the New Cross Empire, sails for South Africa on December 29. Her Colonial engagement is to last for three months, most of which time will be spent in Cape Town and Johannesburg. It will be remembered that Miss Esdaile was the principal girl (Princess Ivy) at last season's Broadway Theatre, Deptford, pantomime of *Puss in Boots*, in which she scored a distinct success.

The Alhambra is showing nightly at 9.40 some exclusive and very graphic "Urbanora" animated views of the Spanish Royal wedding, the excellence of which, and the peculiar sympathy now attaching thereto, evoke the warmest enthusiasm.

The one and only Cinquevalli, who is in the last week of his eight weeks' engagement at the Hippodrome, will now leave town, to which he will not return until a lapse of fifteen months. The famous juggler is a "cosmopolite," and is wanted everywhere in his unique entertainment, which requires no speech to explain its many excellences. If it did, Cinquevalli is an accomplished linguist, speaking at least five languages.

Such is the popularity of the Terriers annual up-river outing that Mr. Harry Lester, the active and energetic secretary of that fraternity, informs us that immediate application for tickets is necessary by those desirous of being one of the jolly party that will enjoy the delights of riparian scenery on the bosom of Father Thames on Sunday, the 17th inst. The day's excursion will commence with a train journey from Paddington to Reading, then back by steam launch to Staines.

Mr. John Donald on Wednesday evening entertained 550 boys of the Duke of York's School at the six o'clock performance of the *Revue* at the London Coliseum. Major Dyke was in charge of the lads, who enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

The 466th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held at the offices, in Wellington-street, on Tuesday, when the chair was occupied by Mr. Albert Le Fre, and subsequently by Mr. Harry Blake, Mr. Wal Pink also filling the position during the latter gentleman's absence. The other members present were:—Messrs. R. Abel, Peter Bijou, Fred Herbert, Michael Nolan, Geo. Preston, Jeff Vendome, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising out of them dealt with. Mr. Chas. R. Standfield, secretary of the Empire Palace, Dover, was appointed agent in that town, and Mr. G. W. Gerald, of 19, Rue D'Enghien, was appointed to represent the association in Paris.

A sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Blake, Herbert, and Preston, and the secretary, was appointed to wait upon the manager of the Ocean Accident Company, with a view to revising the insurance premium. Cases of refunds and lost property were considered, and instructions given to the secretary. The financial statement for the week ending June 2 was submitted, showing the receipts to be £52 3s. 6d. and the expenditure £18 14s. 9d., and the addition of fifty-eight new members to the list.

Mr. Tom Costello has been confined to his bed this Whitsuntide, and has suffered terrible agonies through partaking of a portion of pork pie on his hurried journey to fulfil London engagements.

Miss Millie Lindon, who is nightly making such a success at the Oxford and her other engagements with Ballard Macdonald and James W. Tate's song, "Mary—she kept a dairy," which is published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company, will in a few days produce a new romantic ballad, entitled "Sweetheart, don't say 'Good-bye'!" by Harrington and Tate, the publishing rights of which have been also acquired by the same company.

There appeared in a recent issue of the *American Musician and Artistic Journal* a signed article by that well-known writer, Monroe H. Rosenfeld, descriptive of the advent and progress of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter, as music publishers in New York City. He frankly avers that the general belief was that an English publisher could not invade or flourish on American soil, but goes on to say that the firm's upright and fearless system of square dealing, combined with a "go-aheaditiveness" that reflected credit even upon Yankee energy, has dispelled all such beliefs, and Mr. Rosenfeld admits that at the present time the name of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter stands at the top of successful American enterprises.

The article goes on to inform the New York public that the off-shoot of the well-known London house was primarily established in their midst for the protection of English copyrights, and, incidentally, to perform the same office for American copyrights in Great Britain. But, immediately after its arrival in New York, there arose a vast demand for the publications of the firm, and on the suggestion of Mr. Sam Gross—whom we may dub the Lester Barrett of New York, he holding "across the Pond" a similar onerous position to that well-known gentleman's in London—it launched out on an extensive scale, and is now installed in a suite of the most exquisitely furnished offices in the quarter, offices where professional singers flock in unlimited numbers.

Mr. Rosenfeld's critique, which is embellished with a portrait of Mr. David Day's son, concludes thus: "It may be affirmed that the name of Francis, Day, and Hunter upon the title-page of an American piece of music now possesses a standard value—one that means, as it now does, merit and desirability; for, with the honest and progressive methods of this clean English house, and with the keen and conscientious efforts of young Fred Day, its New York representative, there can be no outcome other than unexceptionable prosperity."

Messrs. F. F. Proctor and B. F. Keith have combined their interests, and Mr. Keith will henceforth book not only his own attractions, but those for Mr. Proctor's houses, making a circuit of at least thirty-five theatres altogether. A stock company has been formed, each manager taking fifty per cent. of the shares, the agreement being for a period of ten years, with a renewal clause. The new concern will build a vaudeville theatre of the most costly and luxurious description in the heart of the New York theatre district. Mr. E. F. Albee, who has been Mr. Keith's representative for a number of years, will be the general-manager of the new corporation.

Not the least interesting of the large number of weddings that are celebrated in "the leafy month" took place on Saturday afternoon. Canon Cowley Brown, in St. John's Episcopal, Edinburgh, joined in wedlock Miss Dora Alice, younger daughter of Sir Edward Moss, and Mr. Edward Francis Wyer. There was a large company of guests, which included relatives of the bride and bridegroom and members of Edinburgh Corporation. The best man was Mr. Arthur Greenwood, and the train-bearer Miss Hilda Mackinlay.

The three bridesmaids were Miss Maud Allen, Miss Wyer, and Miss Sibyl Alkey. The bride looked charming in a Princess robe of ivory duchesse mousseline satin, draped down the front panel with duchesse lace, and having side panels embroidered in silver and pearl, the designs being of roses and lily of the valley. Miss Moss wore a full Court train, white satin embroidered, to match the skirt, and lined with gathered chiffon; a Brussels lace veil, edged with duchesse lace, and arranged over a wreath of orange blossoms, completed the exquisite bridal array. The bouquet carried was of roses, lilies of the valley, and Ascension lilies. The ornaments included a pink and white pearl drop pendant, the gift of the bridegroom.

The bridesmaids wore ivory spotted net sewn with medallions of blue linen, with lace insertions, and white mushroom hats ruched with white tulle and trimmed with forget-me-nots. They carried pink carnation bouquets, and wore diamond and emerald pendants, the gifts of the bridegroom. The train-bearer was in white silk, with a Puritan bonnet of white heather. Lady Moss wore a Princess dress of white ninon de soie, inserted with Irish crochet, and a pink hat draped with a pink scarf and trimmed with a bronze rose. She carried a bouquet of pink carnations.

The bride's going-away dress was of pearl-grey cloth, with corselet skirt trimmed with grey braid, and completed by a small short coat and long black gloves. Miss Moss, who is a very charming girl, was the recipient of many presents, the givers including Lord Provost Sir Robert Cranston and Lady Cranston, Lord Kingsburgh, Sir Lewis M'Iver, M.P., and Lady M'Iver, Sir Thomas Lipton, Sir Thomas Dewar, Sir Edward Moss and Lady Moss, Mr. George M'Crae, M.P., and Mrs. M'Crae, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzroy Stewart, Provost Mackie and Mrs. Mackie, Major and Mrs. Cranston, Commander and Mrs. Metcalf. The bridegroom's gift was a diamond pendant, with pink and white pearl drops, and the bride's present to her husband was a leather dressing-case, with ivory and silver-mounted fittings.

Other most acceptable presents came from Mr. Edward Weyer, the tenants on the Middleton estate, Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Stoll, the servants at Middleton Hall, the tradespeople of Gorebridge, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, Mr. Robert Wilson, and a good many members of the Edinburgh Corporation, including Treasurer Brown, Colonel Menzies, Dean of Guild Wilson, Bailie Murray, Judge Gibson, Bailie Douglas, Bailie Dobie, Bailie M'Michael, Convener Barton, Judge Macpherson, Councillor Inches, and Judge Cameron. After the ceremony Sir Edward and Lady Moss held a reception in the North British Station Hotel.

Datas, during his visit to Bury last week, proved himself a sporting prophet as well as a marvellous memory man. On the stage at the local Olympia on his opening night, he tipped Spearmint, the winner of the Derby, and also the first and second for the Oaks. A great number of the 'cute Lancashire folk availed themselves of his prophetic knowledge, including a well-known sporting hotel proprietor, who won a considerable sum of money on the races named. The only disappointed people were the bookmakers, who had to pay out. "Is that right, sir?"

The sad news has reached us of the death of Mr. Harry Deets, of Deets and Don, who passed away in Los Angeles, California, on May 14. Harry Deets was for many years connected with the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, and had also played, as Deets and Don (Harry and Lulu), at all the leading music halls of Great Britain, including the Palace, Shaftesbury-avenue. For the last eight years the deceased artist and his wife (Lulu Don) have been obliged to live in California, as he was suffering from that terrible disease, consumption. The widow, Mrs. Deets, is sister of Miss Emma Don and Alice Lorette, and was one of the original Three Sisters Don.

Mr. Fred and Miss Lillie Monckton will shortly reproduce *What Railing Did*, an original farcical comedy sketch by Councillor E. J. Hart, successfully produced by those well-known artists at the Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

A pyrotechnic drama in one act, entitled "I wouldn't leave my Little Wooden Hut for You," has been arranged by C. T. Brock and Co., who, in their inauguration of it at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, have established a formidable rival to the cinematograph drama. The popular song was illustrated by flaming devices, and the novelty proved to be a great attraction for a large number of sightseers at the favourite Sydenham resort at the opening of the summer season. The spectators see the little cabin limned in coloured fire. The lady leaves it to meet her admirer. In the distance is observed the husband paddling up the river. On his way he encounters a rival making love to his wife, and, stealthily approaching, he gives the disturber of his peace the *coup de grâce* with his tomahawk. The interest which such a show must lend to pyrotechnical display is much enhanced when the band, playing the popular melody, accompanies the singing of it by the crowd; and if the chorus were only on the screen in bold letters the success would be still more complete.

Messrs. Brock and Co. are ever up to date watching the trend of daily events, and singling out those which bear most interest. The great eruption of Vesuvius has claimed their attention, and taxed their ingenuity in placing before their patrons a close resemblance to Nature's latest upheaval. The volcano and the villages lying around its base are clearly defined in vivid lines of colour. The eruption takes place. Deafening reports, clouds of smoke, torrents of fire, and streams of lava issue from fissures in the mountain side, and represent a truly awe-inspiring sight. Every Londoner and every country cousin should make a point of seeing Mount Vesuvius in eruption at the Crystal Palace during the warm summer nights.

It has been suggested that, in the hands of Messrs. Brock and Co., pyrotechny could no further go; but Mr. Arthur Brock, when speaking at a Press dinner on Saturday, gave us to understand that finality had not yet been reached, and that improvements in colour, brilliancy, and in the musical fireworks, would be noticed in the 1906 shows. All this and much more were noted in the display on Saturday night last. Crowned heads, Governments, and millionaires frequently call upon the firm of Brock and Co. to "give them one of their best," and Mr. Arthur Brock never fails to see that the call is obeyed, and that the name of Brock is a synonym for excellence.

Messrs. Lawrance and Mellor's popular song, "I've built a bamboo bungalow for you," has "caught on" marvellously at our seaside resorts. Already it is the rage of Southsea with Cardow's entertainers, and of Southend, where Chirgwin's company is making a special feature of the number. The Monte Carlo Publishing Company, who issue the morceau in their "Sixpenny Successes" series, are correspondingly jubilant.

At the Richmond Theatre this week large audiences have been much impressed by the singing of Mlle. Nasiho, whose pretty ballads have had their story brought home to the hearts of her hearers not only by the charm of her voice, but also by some admirable pictures. In the same programme Emile Lazern, the mystic, is causing wonderment by his ingenious sleight-of-hand problems and his capitally-executed illusions.

Miss Georgina Preston (Mrs. Fred McNaughton), of the Sisters Preston, arrives home to-day on the Kenilworth Castle from South Africa, after a most successful engagement with Mr. Sidney Hyman, and will open in London shortly.

The artists sailing for the Cape on Saturday by the Kildonan Castle, to appear at the Empire, Johannesburg, and the Tivoli, Cape Town, include Malcolm Scott ("the woman who knows"); Julian Mack, comedian, Roma and Romani, musical act; May Moore Duprez, Dutch comedienne and dancer; and Libby Arnold Blondell, American comedienne. Mr. Malcolm Scott is a brother of Rear-Admiral Sir Percy Scott, C.V.O., C.B., of H.M.S. Terrible.

The Secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund acknowledges with many thanks the sum of £6 4s. from Mr. Charles Mussett, collected by him at the Empire, Glasgow. Also £1 5s. from Mr. Thomas Barrasford, jun., collected by him in the pence box at the Lyceum; and £6 4s. 7d. from Mr. Horace Cole, of the Liverpool Empire.

Miss Marie Lloyd has achieved an instantaneous and marked success with Messrs. Harrington and Tate's specially-written song, "Customs of the country," which she is singing nightly at all her London engagements. As Miss Lloyd remarked to deponent: "This is the first song I have sung without George Le Brunn's music for the past fifteen years." So both her new composer and the fair artist are to be congratulated on the success of their initial attempt.

Mr. G. H. Chirgwin and his party of entertainers were prevented by the weather from opening at Southend-on-Sea with an al fresco entertainment in the Happy Valley, and therefore appeared at the Clarence Hall on the afternoon of Saturday last, drawing a good audience. Among the stars, in addition to the popular White-eyed Kaffir, were Gus Elen, Charles Coborn, Hamilton Hill, and Harry Tate. The hall only holds 250, but Chirgwin gathered £10 for the National Lifeboat Fund. On the Whit Monday, in lovely weather, there were some three thousand people in the Happy Valley to listen to Mr. Chirgwin's company, which included himself. He desires to thank through our columns the senders of numerous telegrams of congratulation from friends.

Louis Symons, a music dealer, of 69, Kitchener-road, Forest Gate, was summoned at West Ham Police-court on Wednesday to show cause why certain copies of pirated music found on his premises should not be forfeited. The proceedings were taken by Mr. Herbert Cooper, the agent of twenty-six publishers, who on May 28 went to the defendant's premises and seized 200 or so copies of copyright songs piratically printed. The defendant raised no objection to the confiscation of the copies, which he said he did not know were pirated. He had bought the music as a job lot off a stall. Mr. Cooper said that he had been put to considerable trouble in the matter, and he asked for costs. He also asked for an order of the Court that the music seized be delivered up to the owners of the copyright. Mr. Gillespie made the order, and directed the defendant to pay £2 2s. costs.

Miss Lil Hawthorne made her first appearance before a Stockton audience on Monday at the Hippodrome, and had a grand reception. After singing three songs and an encore, she had to appear five times before the audience would let her retire.

Miss Margaret Parker's numerous friends will be glad to know that she scored a success at the Palace, Walthamstow, as Bet, in her new dramatic playlet, *Under the Seal*, by William Felton. Owing to her success, Mr. Adney Payne has arranged to put on the sketch at the South London next week. Mr. Hugh Jay Didcott is now arranging bookings.

Mlle. Renée, the versatile instrumentalist, has just concluded a most successful engagement at the London Pavilion, and will pay a return visit there in November. She is now making a lengthy tour of the provinces.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

LONDON PAVILION.

The large audience at the London Pavilion on Whit Monday was extensively recruited from our country visitors, who found in Mr. Frank Glenister's admirably-arranged programme that variety which, by the poet Cowper, is said to be the very spice of life that gives it all its flavour. The chief novelty is the scena, *The Topical Topper*, cleverly, ingeniously, and attractively presented by Mr. Albert Le Fre and the Pavilion Girls. The scene of the bright and pleasing interlude is a fashionable hat shop, presumably in Bond-street or Piccadilly, kept by a gentleman who apparently was born nearer the banks of the Seine than of the Thames. A smart contingent of aristocratic young men arrive to make a selection of headgear, and Monsieur Bonhomme sings to them a number of verses descriptive of hats of various kinds. There are some scathing lines concerning the huge and irritating proportions of the matinée hat, and the "typical topical" number is also embellished with lyrical praise of the only "Joe"—otherwise the member for Birmingham. The varieties of brain covering supplied by the merchant include every kind, from that providing comfort for the "tropical tripper" to the "kadi" of the coster. One of the customers in the shop says he wants a "bowler." "So does Gloucester," asserts the proprietor of the topper emporium. It will thus be seen that the trifle can be continually brought up to date; but its chief recommendation is the smart impersonation of the hatter by the versatile Mr. Albert Le Fre, who not only gives a real touch of drollery to the limited dialogue, but sings with excellent point the verses referring to "The Topical Topper." In an excellent dance at the end of each verse Mr. Le Fre is assisted by a smart chorus of girls, dressed in white suits and straw hats. He himself has also several solo dances, including just a few acrobatic tricks—very smartly performed, and once more displays an agility and a humour that serve him equally well in musical comedy, burlesque, or pantomime. Another entertaining item is *When the Cat's Away*, presented by Mr. Walter Tilbury, the clever and amusing man at the piano, who is the author of the songs in the trifle. He makes a pronounced hit in the parody of "The Death of Nelson," the verses of which condemn Free Trade in no measured terms. A well-written number is also Mr. Tilbury's song, "Lazy," which he gives most effectively. Miss Daisy Ford, who cuts a superb figure in a principal boy's costume of blue, describes the conduct of an American millionairess, who, on becoming a duchess, wears the tiara in bed. A pretty serenade is also introduced as a duet, and the success of the trifle is never in doubt.

Time after time Mr. Charles Collette comes to the house in Piccadilly-circus to entertain with his character-studies and to convulse us with his command of patter. We used to hear him at the theatres in his *Cryptoconchoidsyphonostomata*—a name that reminds us of the portentous terms employed by Henry Carey, the author of "God Save the King" and "Sally in Our Alley," in a famous burlesque. The versatile and always entertaining Charles presents a monologue, *Broke*, which is mostly made up of the street patter employed by such *chevaliers d'industrie* as are to be found at the corners of our thoroughfares vending wares of universal utility. The make-up is a study in itself, and the comedian rattles on in the most amusing way, with welcome intervals of song—one of which is entitled "It never came off." Mr. Collette is a decided acquisition at the London Pavilion. A new ventriloquist appears in the person of Miss Mabel Sinclair, who introduces a coster small boy, endowed with patter that is not always in the best of taste. Miss Sinclair's technique, however, is excellent for one so very young, and the jödelling song is particularly well done. She is apparently of cockney origin, if we may judge by her speech.

Beauty of form, as we have recently noticed in these columns, is one of the strong attractions at the London Pavilion, and the finely-modelled Milo is still posing as the heroines of classical lore, her chaste presentments of ancient and modern sculpture being interspersed by Cruikshank's series of lightning caricatures of celebrities. Of the female form divine, there is now another exponent in Miss Vulcana, who, after lifting a number of weights of various avoirdupois, and balancing a huge double dumb-bell on her toes, gives, in a curtained alcove, a display of the muscular development of her arms and back—an exhibition that is as interesting as it is unique. Mr. Atlas, who accompanies Miss Vulcana, toys with the heaviest weights, and, laying on his back, spins round on his upturned feet an immense steel bar bell. The Sisters Gwen and Maude Atlas also show the value of muscular training by the ease with which they lift a number of heavy objects. There is nothing of the aggressiveness of the powerful Amazon about the show, which is both refined and artistic.

The Kentucky Four successfully revive the melodies of the old plantation, and possess a wonderful dancer in Topsy; Jordan and Harvey are responsible for patter that catches the ear of the house; and laughter in the early part of the evening is heard during Mr. Tom Leamore's droll presentation of the character of a park-keeper, and Mr. James Stewart's familiar exploitation of humour at the piano. Mr. Arthur Slater, the man in white, has genuine abilities as a sifleur, and interests the audience in his realisation of the mellifluous cadences of song birds; Mr. C. Emlyn Jones and his Emerald Ladies Quartet rejoice the hearts of music lovers in their delightful singing of the national melodies of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales; two clever dancers appear in the attractive persons of Miss Mignon Tremaine and Miss Esta Stella; and other turns in the bill are the Five Vernons, Mr. T. E. Dunville, the Pavilion Girls, Mr. Leo Stormont, and Nipper Lupino Lane.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Many Whitsuntide holiday-makers found delightful leisure at the seaside; but a large number of them, after enjoying the open spaces of Suburbia, resorted to the many fine variety theatres of the metropolis to spend the passing hour in listening to their favourites. Mr. Jack Edgar welcomed on Monday a very large crowd, and every part of the richly-decorated house in the Edgware-road was packed to listen to a programme mostly contributed to by stars. In her own amusing and inimitable fashion Miss Marie Lloyd, who had a tremendous welcome on Monday, submitted three numbers from her extensive repertory. "The custom of the country" is a song that gives her all the requisite opportunity for asserting to advantage her comedy gifts. Another successful selection was "Something on his mind," but the most favoured item was "The Coster's Wedding," a low comedy description of Cockney life, which is as clear cut and amusing as a caricature by Caran d'Ache. Its humours on Monday kept the house in a most hilarious mood, and great reluctance was shown by the admirers of the queen of comedy in allowing her to depart. Mr. George Robey, who arrived earlier in the evening, was most intensely amusing in his impersonation of the music hall dresser, and his doings are fully commented on in our notice of another hall. Mr. Frank Lynne, who has just returned from a tour in the States, is quite successful with his naïve comedy manner in the song "I can't make it out, can you?" Another number which accentuated his success suggests the quaint fancies that crowd the mind of a man half awakened from a dreamy sleep. A warm favourite at the Metropolitan is Dan Crawley, who has a couple of sure successes in "Father keeps on doing it" and "They can't diddle me." Mr. Crawley is a chartered libertine in the matter of jest, and treats his hearers in the familiar fashion that they so thoroughly appreciate.

Miss Ethel Ra Leslie, looking very attractive in court costume, has a capital song in "Little Billee Taylor," to which she does complete justice. In more sentimental vein she gives "When love flies," and wins favour by her sympathetic expression. "Sympathetic" is the word, too, that exactly describes Mr. Harry Anderson's rendering of the song "My new pal is my old gal." Here is a number that might with all propriety be introduced by Sir John M'Dougall into his family circle, so wholesome is its tone. Mr. Hal Forde, in the early part of the evening, entertains with some new readings of the English dictionary; as a silent jester Ciniselli amuses one with his fooling round and about a kitchen dresser, and his swallowing of puff pastry; the Sisters Desmond emphasise cleverly the lady who rides her hunter in the Row and the less distinguished looking "person" who is satisfied with a mount on a moke; Tray and Rich tell "stories" of the skyscraper order of architecture; and the bill is wound up by the Evalos in a comic juggling and gymnastic mélange. Other turns in the Whitsuntide bill are Mr. Frank Dunlo, comedian; Miss Frances Kapstowne, comedienne; Primavesi, a capital juggler; and the Anartos.

A great attraction is Mr. Fred Karno's company of comedians, in the screaming absurdity known as *The Thirsty First*. The piece might be called *Venus and Vinous*, because Aphrodite and Bacchus certainly rule the proceedings of the "swaddies" belonging to the regiment suggested by the title. Round the village pub, in the barrack square, and on the tented field the fun runs fast and furious, and the hilarious proceedings of the troopers are presented with plenty of acrobatic energy, the result being considerable laughter. Mr. Jack Edgar has a courteous assistant in Mr. Leon Zeitlin, and the band possesses a careful and painstaking conductor in Mr. D. M. Trytel.

THE EMPRESS.

Premier place in the programme at the Empress, so ably governed by Mr. Nelson Francis, is this week taken by Messrs. Wal Pink and Jeff Vendome's company, with *The Daybreakers*, a sketch which portrays in dumb show the exciting events that come with the morning light. The scene is a street, one side of which is given up to a series of humorous incidents, while the other side favours the tragic. Organ-grinders, milkmen, police-constables, and a gorilla, who combine to harass a peaceable householder, furnish the fun; while the more serious aspect is shown in a raid on the house opposite, in which a coiner is seen at work at his nefarious trade. The incidents are of the most ludicrous character, and the kaleidoscope nature of the piece keeps the audience in a continuous state of mirth.

A new boxing act is given by the favourite Harvey Boys, who well maintain their reputation for drollery in the sketch *That Was Me!* The clever youths appear as messenger boys, and indulge in some amusing banter, which speedily brings about a quarrel. The "mittens" are donned, and a policeman called in to act as judge. The points fall chiefly to the comic man, who, at every blow which strikes home, addresses the referee in the phrase which gives the title to the sketch, emphasising his injunction with a right-hander on the policeman's anatomy. The act, to which a little dancing gives variety, is smartly worked, and elicits laughter and cheers.

The popular playlet is well represented in the programme, one of the most favoured being that of *A Bachelor's Dream*, which gives opportunity for the clever character impersonations of Miss May Edouin and Mr. Fred Edwards, which are thoroughly enjoyed. Another sketch of a humorous description is found in *The Stage-Struck Girl*, in which Mr. Edwin Palmer is very funny as a police inspector who makes a judicial investigation of the case of a diminished joint of meat. Miss Herbert and Miss Hilda Herbert play the parts of a couple of girls who yearn to distinguish themselves in the legitimate drama; and Miss Bessie Palmer acts quaintly as a doting mother.

A distinct hit is made by Nipper Lane, a youthful comedian in whose diminutive personality many talents are united. He creates a diversion as a youngster home for the holidays, and afterwards appears in the picturesque dress of a Dutch boy, performing a clever dance in clogs. The fact that Nipper Lane is a born comedian does not conceal the possession of a strong and melodious voice, which serves him well in his jödel singing as the youthful Hollander, and the enthusiastic recall which he receives is in every way deserved. Miss Rachel Lowe has a particularly agreeable number in "The Gay Bohemian Knights," a song which permits the comely comedienne to appear as a lady of high degree in a becoming "Court" dress, and to sing a most melodious and lilting refrain. A character of quite a different sort is forthcoming in that of a lady of lower rank, whose refrain, "They all go to church on Sunday," is rendered with a wealth of satire. Cruikshank, who prides himself on being the "fool of the family," delivers many pungent witticisms in the quaintest possible style, which ensure their acceptance. His singing of a ballad about "Mother," in which he accompanies himself on a violoncello, is also thoroughly enjoyed; and a parody on "I wouldn't leave my little wooden hut for you" obtains a demand for an encore, which the clever jester gratifies by a terse recitation.

A bright and merry interlude is supplied by the Leonards in their "Entente Cordiale," in which Mr. Bob Leonard as a naval officer and Miss Jenny Leonard as a chic French demoiselle create mirth and melody. Tunefulness is also secured in their duet of "My Irish Ivy," to which is added a dance remarkable for the precision with which it is executed. Many "double turns" have arisen since the Leonards first came to charm variety lovers with their duets and dances, but they still hold a high place among comedy artists of the first order. Mr. Arthur Slater, minus any artificial aid, gives lifelike imitations of the trilling of song birds, his reproduction of the whistling of a skylark on its flight from earth to heaven being wonderful. Mr. Slater's sibilant powers are also demonstrated in a performance of an American Bowery boy, who expresses himself entirely in a shrill whistle which seems capable of every mode of expression. Expert hand-balancing and lifting is displayed by the Sandwinas, the lady of whom is able to swing her male partner about with ease, finally bearing him off the stage held aloft with one hand. Park's Eton Boys are enthusiastically applauded for their solo and part singing; and attractiveness is given to the bill by the presence therein of Miss Kate Traill, the lady at the piano, Mr. Walter Clyde, tenor vocalist, and Ruffell's Up-to-date pictures.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

Amongst North London places of amusement the Islington Empire has enjoyed a full share of public patronage during Whit week, crowded audiences showing in no half-hearted manner their appreciation of the excellent programme submitted. With regard to the comedians engaged the heartiest reception has unquestionably been reserved for Mr. Will Evans, who has introduced with the greatest success his latest absurdity, entitled "I am a Soldier." Mr. Evans has been seen in far funnier impersonations than this burlesque military officer, but it is a fact, nevertheless, that Empire audiences have laughed consumedly at the wild eccentricities of this shambling representative of the Service, who brings with him some half-dozen even more extraordinary specimens of the army. Their extravagant make-up alone is quite sufficient to excite merriment, to say nothing of their performance. Mr. Evans makes jesting allusions to the German Invasion of 1910, and when informed by a military messenger that the enemy have taken Barking Creek, replies that they are quite welcome to it. But, as leader of the home forces, he absolutely declines to surrender Islington Green, and prepares to do battle with the foreign foe. The stage is darkened, and much firing of guns and other indications of a severe fight in progress are heard. When the lights are again turned up the battlefield is found to be strewn with dead soldiers; and the commanding officer, Mr. Will Evans, is bidding the only live soldier left a comical farewell. The versatile comedian, it should be said, is as alert and active as ever, and there can be no question as to his popularity at the North London hall.

Mr. C. Emlyn Jones and his Emerald Ladies' Quartette, in their international vocal scena, are to be commended for an excellent musical entertainment. The four ladies represent England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales; and in succession popular national songs are given in admirable style. The well-known ditty in praise of "England, home, and beauty," is the concluding item. Mr. Jones and his ladies' quartette are recalled, and it is evident that their artistic performance is appreciated. The musical artist known as Orpheus is also here, and his solos on the saxophone and the oboe are greeted with applause. An interesting selection is the piece descriptive of a day's outing in the country, the different stages of the journey being cleverly indicated by the music.

Miss Rachel Lowe, in a very charming dress, sings with much animation of the doings of "The maids of gay Bohemia," and then, embodying a much more familiar and less picturesque personage, she gives, with equal acceptance, "They all go to church on Sunday." That Miss Lowe meets with a flattering reception may be taken for granted. So, too, does Mr. Dan Crawley, who is a frequent visitor to this hall. He continues to maintain his popularity with "Father keeps on doing it" and other ditties. Mr. Walter Stanley, comedian, introduces a song on the tram and 'bus ticket collecting craze. He also does well with a ditty called "I'm glad I live in England." Frobel and Ruge go through a performance on a pole, which is balanced on a swinging trapeze, and also revolves, with the comedians—one of them made up to represent a Chinaman—"holding on" at each end. A return visit is being paid by Jordan and Harvey, who are described as American Hebrew dialect comedians. Their cross-talk is very funny. The Five Bonbons appear with successful results in their new trap act, *Hot Time for One*. A specially interesting feature of this week's programme has been the Bioscope, with a series of pictures illustrating Princess Ena's Wedding, The bride and bridegroom are seen descending the steep steps leading from the church where the marriage was solemnised; and entering the royal carriage, which is surmounted by a large crown. Mr. Lynden Greenwood, the manager at this hall, admirably discharges his various duties; and Mr. A. Petersen is the able musical-director.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

An attractive and well-varied programme has been submitted here this week, and a large section of local holiday-makers have availed themselves of the opportunity of witnessing a first-class entertainment, in which the humorous element largely predominates. The comedy couple, Clark and Hamilton, are on a visit here, and have received a warm welcome. The genuine humour of Mr. Clark's embodiment of a gentleman of seedy appearance, who adopts a haughty tone, displays huge so-called diamond rings, and appears to be in possession of unlimited wealth in the shape of bank-notes, always appeals to an audience, and he delights in introducing pointed topical allusions that seldom miss fire. But Mr. Clark is not only a capital comedian; he is as versatile as he is clever. He is a skilful pianist; and then, by a rapid change of dress in full sight of the audience, he assumes the character of a Jap, and serenades his lady love, who, Juliet-like, appears at the window in response to his amorous ditty, "My Yokohama Queen." But the maiden, not having any old nurse to watch her movements, descends to the garden, and joins her admirer in a charming dance. Miss Hamilton enters with spirit into the comedy part of the business, and is also an exceptionally attractive vocalist and dancer.

Mr. Deane Tribune presents his amusing sketch, entitled *Applicants*. The requirements of a gouty old gentleman have for years been carefully looked after by his nephew and niece, but he suddenly takes it into his head that he will engage a companion. His nephew, Tom, is a clever mimic, and, determined, if possible, to prevent his eccentric uncle from engaging a stranger as companion, assumes various characters, who are introduced as applicants for the situation. A French lady calls first, then a gentleman of pugilistic fame, followed by a kilted Scotchman and a blear-eyed woman, who has had "a past," and has to be ejected. Next comes a professor with an electric battery, with which he proceeds to experiment upon the maid-servant, whose contortions cause much merriment. The several characters are cleverly portrayed; and the gouty old gentleman, his niece, and his extremely active maid-servant, are all well acted by the members of the company.

Miss Florrie Gallimore is one of the leading attractions in the current programme, and has been very successful with a selection from her budget of songs. Amongst these may be specially mentioned "The Belle of Barcelona," "I never talks about my neighbours," and "Give us a chance," the last-mentioned being a revival of the "answer song," which was popular at the halls a few years ago, but is seldom heard nowadays. Miss Margaret Ashton appears in a pretty white costume to sing "The Winter Girl," the scene representing snow-clad mountains, while into the melody is introduced the tinkling sound of sleigh-bells. Altogether, the effect is very charming. Mr. Will Cornish wins much applause by his skilful rendering of "The Lost Chord" on the bamboo chimes, and the popular "Sing me to sleep" on the silver bells. Miss Flo D'Orville scores in the character of a lady of the ballet, who complains of being placed in the back row, and indulges in a burlesque dance. Mr. Alix Lukos, in his scena, *Pictures in the Fire*, is well received; and so, too, is Miss Nancy St. John, comedienne, who advises everybody to "Put a bit away for a rainy day." The Four Figaros, in their international songs and dances, give an interesting and attractive performance; and Pit and Cute, who arrive in an airship, are responsible for a novel acrobatic act. The front of the house is under the careful supervision of Mr. C. W. Adams, the acting-manager, and the orchestra is ably directed by Mr. Henry W. May.

THE SURREY.

The Belle of Barcelona; or, the Mummer and the Maid, produced here on Monday by Mr. Jack Mackenzie, who is loyally supported by an excellent company, is a bright and merry hotch-potch of song, dance, and cross-talk, that bears a strong resemblance to many a "Belle" that has gone before. The story, or what there is of it, is laid in sunny Barcelona, and although we are aware that that is the place "where the 'Nuts' come from," we never knew before that "Chestnuts" were so very plentiful in that country. However, *The Belle of Barcelona* will admirably serve its purpose as a thirty minutes' diversion, for it is everything in turn and nothing long. The President of Barcelona has a daughter who is the acknowledged "Belle" of the State, and has been promised in marriage to Beppo, the chief of police, who although having held the appointment for twenty-five years has never made an arrest. This angers the President, who informs his prospective son-in-law that unless he arrests someone before sundown his engagement to his daughter is off. Fate seems to play into Beppo's hands, for there comes into the town a stranded English comedian, Marmaduke Miggles, who, meeting the charming Belle of Barcelona, tells her his tale of woe, and straightway falls in love with her, while she informs Miggles that she will do anything to escape from Beppo's hateful attentions. Miggles arranges to disguise himself as a woman, and when the fair Belle goes for her morning dip, to be there also, and endeavour to reach the English ship lying in the bay. Beppo's spy, Pedro, overhears this scheme, and tells his employer, who in turn informs the President, who sentences poor Miggles to death. Miggles, by assuming various disguises, manages to escape, and gets into Beppo's confidence. He tells Miggles his plans to depose the President and become ruler of Barcelona. Miggles sees his way to win the President's favour, and his daughter too, and is so successful that he gains both at the end. This miniature musical comedy is well mounted, and the scene of the Bay of Barcelona is rich in colour and animation. The lady who represents the title-rôle merits warm praise for a very bright and chic performance. Mr. Jack Mackenzie, as the irrepressible Marmaduke Miggles, is highly diverting, and Mr. Herbert Boyle scores as the Chief of Police. A word of praise is due to the Spanish dancer, who adds not a little to the general success. With a comely and tuneful chorus, and costumes elegant in design, *The Belle of Barcelona* is well equipped for a prosperous career.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

An exceptionally enticing list of talented turns has been provided this week at the popular Camberwell variety theatre, and, as a consequence, the house has been packed nightly. The bill is especially strong in comedians, a particularly cordial welcome being extended the favourite coster delineator, Mr. Gus Elen, in his clever song scena on the unemployed question. Mr. Elen's portrait of the "work-shy" has been much elaborated since we last saw it, and the business introduced greatly adds to the merriment this original and really humorous impersonation creates. Entertaining also is the interlude for which Mr. Albert Whelan is responsible. His ability as a sifleur is displayed in the whistling solo from *The Belle of New York*; and much laughter is created by his imitation of a lady with a bad cold singing "Because I love you." His varied and admirably worked turn also includes some excellent mimicry of Mr. Alf Gibson, Mr. Harry Lauder, and Mr. G. H. Chirgwin, his imitation of the voice and "patter" of the "white-eyed one" being particularly good.

Miss Kittee Rayburn, a comedienne who should eventually find her way into musical comedy, a class of entertainment for which she is admirably equipped—especially in a Connie Ediss part—sings with much point and archness "Come and make love to me," an invitation to a gentleman in the stalls, the musical director, and an occupant of a box, the efforts of the last-named to get on the stage being provocative of considerable hilarity. There is also much quiet humour in this accomplished little lady's second contribution, "Oh! you clever, superior men," and her reception at its conclusion is decidedly cordial. Another favourite artist is Miss Florrie Forde, who has an excellent chorus number in "Do Drop into the Dewdrop Inn"; but her best contribution is undoubtedly a humorous ditty concerning a parson and his "flock," an admirably-rendered and much-appreciated number. The Two Bostons submit their familiar and always amusing turn as "Novelty Showmen," to the success of which a couple of white cats and a particularly intelligent retriever contribute considerably, the younger Boston also displaying much smartness as a step dancer; and the attractive and clever musical turn given by the Vernons, xylophone experts, is accorded some of the loudest applause heard during the evening.

The cultured vocalism of Miss Winifred Hare is, of course, a popular item, her refined and expressive singing of the tuneful number, "There's one little lonely star," being acclaimed at its true worth. "Can't you think of any other name but Baby" is also an attractive item as rendered by this accomplished vocalist. Harry Grey, billed as the "Australian Nugget," evokes considerable hilarity with a nonsense song; and his impersonation of a lady singing "Sweet Chiming Bells" is decidedly humorous, the "bells" largely aiding in the merriment created. The vocalism of the Steinway Glee Singers is a much appreciated item in the programme, "The Anchor's Weighed," "Tom Bowling," "Go to Sea," and other popular numbers being introduced into their well-worked and interesting interlude, a quaint rendering of "Simple Simon" also being given. Clever gymnastic and funny comedy business are combined in the turn of the Hiltons; and the wonderful strength of arm and real ability as acrobats of the Andreassen Brothers call forth much admiration and applause. Early in the evening Mr. George Reeves compels laughter with a ditty concerning a bad cigar; and other contributors to the programme are Miss Janet Reynolds, King and Benson, the popular Irish comedian, Mr. Michael Nolan; Miss Rosie Lloyd, Joe Elvin and Co. in *Billy, the Obedient Boy*, and Mr. Tom Costello, the last-named artist being absent on Tuesday evening owing to indisposition. The Animated Pictures shown by Vernon's Bioscope also add to the enjoyment of the audience. Mr. P. A. Lennon in a courteous manager; and the excellent orchestra is under the careful control of Mr. Leon A. Bassett.

EALING HIPPODROME.

Could Izaak Walton, the great father of all things piscatorial, revisit the scenes of his triumphs in company with Mr. Harry Tate, he might have reason for regretting that his lot was cast among the duller folk of the seventeenth century, and not among the purveyors of fun belonging to the twentieth. Silence and solitude, coupled with a punt, are generally associated with the "gentle art," but while Mr. Tate avails himself of the useful punt, he, somehow, contrives to dispense with silence and solitude. When *Fishing* was first produced, it was easy to see that it had come to stay, and how many thousands have laughed at its drollery since it first amused audiences at the London Pavilion it would require a greater genius than Inaudi to calculate. Repetition apparently only adds fresh funny features; and to-day it constitutes one of the most side-splitting productions on the variety stage. It is soon seen that the commissariat department will form an important adjunct to the expedition, and when an endless array of whiskies, brandies, and bottled beers line the stage, the fun becomes contagious, but more fun is to follow. The embarkation having taken place, the angler "sails away for the placid backwater." "We are soon there," is the remark. Unhappily, there is another angler—a keen sport, who knows the traditions of the "pool," and between Mr. Tate and that other, language becomes somewhat lurid, the solitary gentleman having conscientious objections to the continual emptying of "ground bait" into the stream. He is much upset, and so, in the end, are Mr. Tate and his punt. The uproarious trifle is played by the comedian in his own inimitable style, and he is admirably supported by his company. The scena, of which Mr. Wal Pink is the author, is received with genuine applause.

The Arcadians, a trio of "pastoral players and vocalists," give an entertainment which is pretty in its surroundings and musical in its accompaniments. "Under the Greenwood Tree" is a charmingly concerted piece, and a dainty little love episode is played with crispness and abandon. Mr. Tom Stuart, character actor and mimic, is very successful in his representation of Wilfred Denver, from *The Silver King*, the dream speech being well given, and he scores greatly by his presentation of the miser Gaspard, from *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Stuart's make-up is perfect, and he thoroughly realises the intense love of gold, which is the sole passion of the unhappy old man. Mr. Bert Williams may certainly claim to be in the front rank as a ventriloquist. His patter is funny, racy, full of quips and conundrums, and entirely free from vulgarity. His boy is sufficiently impudent to be amusing, and the little maid in the swing shows wonderful manipulation. The old gentleman, too, both sings and acts while Mr. Williams, entirely disconnected, plays an accompaniment upon the piano. The entertainer is again and again recalled. The Wakeman Quartette—three gentlemen and a lady—present harmonised versions of the favourite ballads, "Annie Laurie" and "The Banks of Allan Water." As an encore, the late Sir Arthur Sullivan's part-song, "Sweet and Low," was given on the night to which we are particularly alluding. The piano effects were delightful. Espinosa and Neilson, as a duo, combine both international and whirlwind dancing; as a burlesque *première danseuse* the gentleman of the energetic pair brings down the house; whilst as the "Russian dancers—from Whitechapel" the couple evoke enthusiastic applause. The bright and sparkling Sisters Sprightly are well-named "up-to-date" comediennes. Apparently the scene of their comedy business is laid in a toy shop, and three figures, a wooden doll, a mascot, and a pompadour, are discovered asleep. Preluded by some pretty music, the clock strikes twelve, and very soon the three dolls awake. One after another they "take the boards," and the fun is fast and furious. Later, one of the mimes figures as the proprietress of two chocolate-coloured coons. Briskness and brightness are happily allied in the turn, on which applause is showered. The Lannons give a display of double high pedestal dancing which wins appreciation; and Hans and Lux are truly termed "eccentric comedy entertainers." They certainly are most amusing, and particularly eccentric. Maudie Ford, with a handsome figure, is a good dancer. To produce a budget of novelties that shall be equally pleasing to stalls, pit, and gallery must, indeed, be a difficult task, yet this labour is accomplished by Mr. E. W. James, who presides so successfully over the fortunes of the Ealing Hippodrome. Mr. C. M. Lurring, the acting-manager, ably seconds his chief, and is unceasing in his attentions to the comfort of the audience. There is an excellent orchestra, too, under the baton of Mr. W. Neale.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Mr. Ernest Bridgen, the able manager of the New Cross Empire, has had nothing to complain about in the attendance this week at his establishment, which, on the evening of our visit, presented an animated spectacle, what with the holiday hats and dresses of the ladies, and the light attire of the men. Mr. Bridgen, who has only held office at New Cross for some six months, has within that brief period made himself exceedingly popular with the local people, and as he pays such strict attention to every detail of the management of Mr. Stoll's south-eastern theatre, his efforts in the control and conduct of the house have been heartily appreciated, and have greatly conduced towards the comfort and enjoyment of the audience. Now, as to the Whitsuntide programme. There is Mr. George Lashwood, who comes upon the stage attired in smart evening dress, and in a few well-sung verses tells us how every cloud has a silver lining, and he also fails not to inform his hearers in how many ways the saying is applicable. Then, after changing into a light summer suit, he, while spring—the season in which the fancies of young men are popularly supposed to turn to thoughts of love—is still with us, he takes the opportunity to tell the ladies what to do in order to secure a husband, and his advice causes a good deal of amusement in the house. On his third appearance he is seen to be wearing a light fawn frock coat of the latest style and cut, and this time he has some entertaining remarks to make in reference to what is to be witnessed while one is travelling on the top of a tramway car. We have a particularly pleasing vocalist in the person of Miss Flo Esdaile, whose rendering of the "Soldiers' Chorus," from *Faust*, is one of the most enchanting items in the programme. Her dress is particularly striking. It is of oyster-coloured satin, over emerald-green chiffon, spangled with green and gold. Miss Esdaile, who is an Australian, possesses a high soprano voice, which is heard to advantage both in the number from *Faust* and in another, called "Shining Star."

While he is before the footlights, Mr. Jack Lane is a comical Yorkshire rustic. He sings some burlesque lines about the present tramway ticket craze, and he proceeds to relate the experiences of a farmer coming to London for the first time. Mr Lane always succeeds in compelling one's laughter, and in this direction he has been most successful this week at New Cross. He concludes his turn with a capital soprano rendering of "Dear Heart," his top notes being especially clear. Messrs. Sanford and Lyons, who are now well into their second year of the Stoll tour, are indeed a whimsical couple. Their songs and cross-talk and other patter are full of funny points, and in their simultaneous speciality dancing, they prove themselves to be wonderfully clever in that branch of art. The act is an irresistibly humorous one. The Clarkes are experts with the banjo, and their playing of the finale from *William Tell* and "The old plantation" is a pleasing bit of instrumentation. The Fantasies appear to find some favour with a new singing and dancing turn; and from the American Bioscope we get fine and clear pictures of the Derby Race, as well as of the ruins of San Francisco after the earthquake, ending with an amusing series of scenes illustrative of the adventures of the first cake made by a young wife.

The dainty and engaging Miss Irene Rose sings in agreeable fashion a story somewhat on the lines of "The Spider and the Fly." A man is the spider and a girl is the fly. The fly, it seems, is a remarkably unsophisticated little creature, for she confides in the spider, and even goes so far as to give the latter all her money. The result is that the spider goes away, and is never seen again. In her second ditty Miss Rose has something to say about what are commonly known as "goo-goo eyes," and in this, as well as in her preceding number, and in her dancing, she is most entertaining. She is a young artist who should be heard of a good deal in the future. Mr. Will Musgrave creates intense merriment with his quaint mannerisms and his diverting songs. His "A good job I had my mother with me" appears highly acceptable to the audience, who applaud the popular Will to the echo. A party of sixteen youngsters, calling themselves the Punch and Judy Girls, appear in a delightful song-scena. These kiddies are as merry as children round a may-pole, and their dancing is quite as pretty and effective. They are, indeed, merry specimens of miniature mankind, and their voices are heard to good effect in "Ma honey" and "My own Lallie." The Remingtons, a clever acrobatic troupe, consisting of four ladies and two gentlemen, perform a number of really smart athletic feats, including novel somersaults and turns which require no small amount of agility and skilfulness to execute.

MISS FLORENCE ST. JOHN, for her entertainment in the halls, has been furnished with a duologue by Mr. Forbes Dawson, who has also written one for Mr. Harry Kilburn. *Burnham, the Scout*, which is from the pen of the same author, who wrote it during the progress of the Boer War, has been successfully produced at Greenwich by Mr. Guy Addison and company.

CLACTON'S NEW PALACE.

It must have been a stony-hearted cynic, disgusted by some frantic outburst of rowdyism on the part of a big, undisciplined crowd of East-enders at the seaside, who wrote:—

By the sad sea wave
Gloomy trippers rave,
Kicking up their heels
In semi-drunken reels.

He might have encountered a toil-worn multitude which, tired of gazing at the dancing waters, had sought the means of disturbance at the pewter's mouth, afterwards disgusting the local authorities with unblushing blackguardism. The scene might, indeed, have been enacted at Clacton, the queen of Essex watering places. If it did, then we are bold enough to state that its recurrence there is extremely problematical, to say the least, for a man of enterprise has arisen on the marge of East Anglia—an apostle of wholesome amusement for those who gladden their hearts by a day at the seaside. A year or two since, Mr. Henry Ford, of Brixton, made up his mind that at least one popular seaside resort of England below the Humber should cater for the tripper, and should no longer regard the jaded, anæmic worker of the great metropolis as a most unwelcome visitor. He found in Mr. George R. Sims an enthusiastic advocate of the provision on a more generous scale than has hitherto prevailed of places of amusement for the many thousands of Londoners and others, who, during the summer and autumn seasons, make short railway trips to our popular South and East Coast health resorts, and, with the cordial approval of that gentleman, he set to work to build a palace and pleasaunce by the sea that should be an artistic reflex of the magnificent pleasure resorts to be found in Beneficient Blackpool, the seaside capital of busy Lancashire, to which the weaver, the mill hand, and the pitman come in their thousands, to find themselves welcomed and entertained in a way that finds no counterpart on our other coasts.

Mr. Ford, who made a fortune in Brixton by his business foresight and energy, with the courage of his convictions, has not invited support from syndicate or company, but has found the whole of the money for his scheme, and Clacton's new pleasure house by the ocean is a one-man enterprise—a very remarkable fact in these days of colossal combinations.

The Palace Theatre, with its pretty, effective, and artistic façade, is situated on Clacton's Marine Parade, and faces due south, looking out over the German Ocean. It is built entirely of steel and iron framing, and the seating capacity of the auditorium is 1,200, exclusive of the promenade. The great hall is 100ft. long by 60ft. wide, with seating accommodation for nearly 1,000 people, and round three sides of it there is a charmingly-arranged promenade. The floor has been specially built and arranged for dancing, and can be converted into a beautiful ballroom in the short space of a quarter-of-an-hour. The East-ender, and, for that matter, the North-ender or the Drury-laner, loves to dance. Give him the proper environment of well-upholstered seats, artistic decorations, a fine band, and a magnificent floor, and he will behave as a gentleman. Mr. Ford has this faith in the tripper, who will have no inducement to indulge in alcoholic liquors at the Palace, as no liquor licence will be applied for. The architects of the beautiful theatre and the great hall are Messrs. Arthur G. Spencer, M.S.A., and Arthur Tighe, of Clacton-on-Sea, who must certainly have created a record in quick building. In the theatre, which contains a remarkably pretty supper lounge, entertainments of the highest class will be given. Flanking the beautiful entrance hall, with its flower-beds and myriad lights and decoration, are two terraces, where the finest bits of seascape and landscape may be viewed. Nearly all Doulton ware, the "Madeira Walks" are pictures of tasteful design, especially in the evening when festooned with electric lights, and promenaded by holiday-makers. But it is in the grounds themselves that the chief charm of the Palace lies. Here is to be found the charming band-stand, standing Venice-like in a lagoon of its own, and the Japanese, Indian, and Swiss tea houses. Here, built out against a background that makes us believe we are roaming in the sunny South, is a beautiful grape-vine terrace, where, in the cool evenings, one may sit and listen to the soft music of mandoline and guitar, and note the ingenious lighting of the place by the incandescence of luxurious bunches of fruit. Then there is an Ice House, of original design, which appears like a miniature iceberg, and is just as cool. The blue grotto of Capri is an artistic delight, with its wonderful rockwork, its winding paths, its trickling waters, and its cool, sequestered nooks. The electric fountains, direct from the St. Louis Exhibition, are marvellously contrived, and their changing colours will flash many a time and oft upon a fairy scene that even the projectors of the great palaces of the North may envy. Then there are several rockeries, waterfalls, and cosy corners of turf, flower-bed, and fern, and the wonderful illusory landscape painting of the backgrounds, which give the ensemble a spacious perspective. In these respects the most artistic results have been achieved, but the average holiday-maker wants a little more substantial fare for his money, even if it be only 3d., as at the Palace, and so Mr. Ford has given him all sorts of side shows, including a shooting gallery, a spiral mat-slide, which the spinning slider has already dubbed "slipping the slip," a siege of Port Arthur, "Tibet," distorting mirrors, and countless other little distractions with which to spend a happy day. The laying out of the spacious grounds and the building up of the artistic attractions they contain has been wisely entrusted to Mr. T. B. Harpham, of 141, West-avenue, Portman Market, Church-street, London, N.W., whose fame as a horticultural designer has long since been established. Mr. Ford's speculation is remarkable for the completeness and finish of its detail, and he is assisted by a hardworking and energetic staff, the heads of departments being Mr. Edgar Curtis (business-manager), Mr. T. B. Harpham (superintendent of grounds), and Mr. Jack McLaren (stage-manager).

The artists specially engaged for the week ending June 9 are Miss Beatrice Willey, Miss Lilian Gardner, Miss Rosa Loader, Mr. Elliston Webb, Mr. W. A. Peterkin, Mr. Edgar Berte, Mr. Edgar Curtis, and the Scarlet Pompoms (Miss Marjory Lytton, Miss Maud Willey, Mr. Ethelbert Edwards, and Mr. Jack McLaren), in a twenty-minutes' travesty. Bioscope pictures by Ruffell's Syndicate will be shown each evening, and on Sunday there will be concerts at three and eight.

The Great Eastern Railway will, during the summer, run a frequent service of express trains between London and Clacton, and will issue cheap tickets for varying periods.

On Saturday Mr. Frank Marshall piloted a party of visitors from London to Clacton, to assist at the opening ceremony, which was performed with his characteristic charm by Mr. George R. Sims.

After Miss Lilian Gardner had sung "God Save the King," Mr. Sims spoke as follows:—This was a day of deeds, and in the presence of deeds which spoke for themselves he did not propose to weary them with words. The reason he was here was because for many years he had been advocating in the public Press the better catering at the seaside—more especially on the South and East Coasts—for the amusement of the people. When his friend Mr. Henry Ford, to whom they owed this splendid venture—this miniature Earl's Court by the sea—when Mr. Ford came to him some time ago and said: "You have been writing a great deal about palaces of amusement, and advising the East and South Coast to adopt some such idea; if I put my money down and build one, will you stand sponsor for it on the opening day?" He said he would. He had seen the Palace, had been round the grounds, and he had no hesitation in saying that Mr. Ford, by his pluck and perseverance, and firm faith in the appreciation of the British public for that which was really good, had far surpassed the expectations he had formed when he first explained his programme. He was quite sure this was a step—nay, a gigantic stride—in the right direction. Many of the seaside places, here and around the coast, were complaining a great deal about losing the patronage of the English people—complaining that the English people were going abroad to spend their leisure—and that which mattered more, their money—and he was inclined to think that was a little the fault of our seaside places. There were the beauty spots where the sea was, and having the sea, they said to the visitors: "There is the sea; go and amuse yourself looking at it for a month." That was where the Continent had competed with us. They had given variety, and catered with rather more enterprise than we for the amusement of the seaside visitor, not to mention the tripper. Variety, they knew, was charming, and the sea was salt; but variety was the salt of life. Here in Clacton they were going to meet the foreigner on his own ground. Here they were going to give the people the same class—and in many ways better class—than the foreigners were giving, and in many places where the foreigner had taken the money it would be taken and spent in this country. Here in Clacton Mr. Ford was going to do the very best that could possibly be done; he was going to rely upon the patronage of people who would appreciate a great and artistic endeavour, and he felt that not only was the visitor going to be benefited, but Clacton itself would find its prosperity materially added to by having upon its coast such a place of entertainment as this. As a Londoner, he knew that Clacton was not properly appreciated; in London those who had had the privilege of seeing Clacton had a false idea of it; they did not appreciate it, and the greater the charms they could provide to bring them down here, the more rapid would be the well-deserved advance of Clacton. Concluding, Mr. Sims said he was glad to be present on this occasion, and proud that an idea he had been advocating for fifteen years had been carried out; and he felt they owed Mr. Ford a debt of gratitude for the way in which he had carried it out. He was perfectly certain he was voicing the sentiments of everyone present when he heartily congratulated Mr. Ford and wished him long life and prosperity as lord of this bright domain.

Mr. Henry Ford, who was received with tremendous cheering, said he might be either a plucky man or—there were various opinions—a fool, but they would know by next September. Mr. Ford acknowledged the services of architects, builders, and Mr. Harpham for the splendid efforts they had put forward to bring the Palace to its present position, and for his part he should do his utmost to please his patrons, and to make the undertaking the success he intended it to be.

Mr. W. Bailey, L.C.C., of the West London Theatre, and the oldest theatre proprietor and manager in the Metropolis, followed in a happy speech, in which he urged that those who lived to please must also please to live, and he wished Mr. Ford hearty success in his gigantic undertaking. He had started well with a good orchestra, for music was the soul of love—and that was a very good thing to go on with, to say nothing of the quaint little alcoves in the grounds, which invited pleasant tête-à-tête tea-parties. He hoped by next year it would be found that Mr. Ford's banking account had been swelled, that he had been able to attract more visitors to the place, and had successfully catered for their amusement.

Mr. T. B. Harpham expressed pride in the fact that these handsome buildings had risen in what six months ago was an open field, and said he had never worked with a gentleman more sanguine of success than Mr. Ford.

HOUNSLOW HIPPODROME.

This week has witnessed quite a galaxy of talent at the above named pretty temple of varieties, which has completely won its way to favour. Little Zola returns to the scene of his former triumphs, and richly merits the applause showered on him. His methods are original and his humour spontaneous, and peal after peal of merriment rings out as he confides his experiences as the commander of a troop of military. Another of his successes is supplied in "Nursery Rhymes," and then, by special request, he gives a burlesque scena as "The Ghost of Mrs. Porter." This is quite a droll ditty, and the diminutive comedian interprets it admirably. Miss Kitty Gresham, a bright comedienne, sings a cricket song with plenty of verve, and scores literally right along the line. The Mimosa Trio sing capitally and dance with no little skill, their "coon" ballad being excellently done. Ballad singing is supplied by Miss Sadie Lawrence, who renders "A Dream of Paradise" with artistic feeling. A lot of fun is created by the Three Currans in their burlesque boxing, and their sketch, *Taking the Census*, is one of the funniest items in the bill. The Courtneys add to the humours of the evening with a wildly hilarious farce, entitled *The Doctor*, and Miss Josie Watson wins her way to popularity by hard work and the exercise of considerable talent. Harry Royde billed as "the funniest man that ever appeared," may lay some pretentions to the announcement; certainly his fun proved highly infectious, and his contributions were much esteemed. Jury's Bioscope gives the audience an opportunity of witnessing the Madrali wrestling contest, followed by 'An Affair of Honour." The orchestra, under the able direction of Mr. Bodin, capably interprets C. Howard Cole's stirring composition "L'Assemble," and Mr. Reginald Grant discharges his duties in the front of the house with much courtesy.

Mention may be made of an appreciable innovation in the sale of the programmes, each of which bears a number. Mrs. Lawson, the lessee, has selected certain numbers which she has written on a sheet of notepaper, and deposited in her safe at her private residence. The numbers selected will be read out from the stage at the first and second houses at the end of the week, and those who have programmes bearing corresponding numbers will have opportunity of selling them to the management for a certain sum. Mrs. Lawson stipulates "that the programme must be purchased within the Hippodrome between the dates of June 4th and June 9th, before the hours of 7.40 in the first houses and 9.40 in the second houses. It will be useless purchasing the programmes from persons outside the building, as the management have a method of checking every programme sold." On the evening of our visit the programmes were greatly in demand.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow:—

	£	s.	d.
A. B. and J. J. Wright, Greenock	1	1	0
A. Allison	0	10	0
T. Jones, Putney	0	10	0
J. R. Watson (219)	0	2	6
J. M. Boyd (219)	0	2	6
H. (4)	0	2	6
T. G. H.	0	1	0

Miss Winifred Hare is taking a brief holiday next week before opening on the Stoll suburban tour at the Empire, Hackney.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

Bank Holiday witnessed a large crowd at the People's Palace and grounds, thousands flocking from all parts. Appropriate outdoor amusements were provided, including a balloon ascent, under the auspices of M. Auguste Gaudron. On an open-air stage the Geisha Boys amused large audiences; and the witticisms of Dave Hall and his compatriots provoked shouts of laughter. In the Central Hall Mr. G. D. Cunningham received the most flattering testimonials to his ability on the large organ. Three variety shows were given. The Brothers Bennett proved to be excellent pedestal dancers; Mr. R. P. Hopkins as a bell manipulator has probably few equals; and Miss Violet Ludlow, with laurels long since gained at the A.P., was once more to the front with her sweet voice. The Alexandre Trio of trapezists gave a clever series of performances; the cornet solos of Mr. W. E. Bates were meritorious numbers; and the Three Pickards, in their comedy act, well deserved the applause with which they were received. Walter Bellonini, the famous juggler, combined novelty with good business, agility, and versatility of action, and secured enthusiastic applause. In the Industrial Hall, Fanning's Royal Court Marionettes played to overflowing houses; the Howards mystified all with their marvellous powers. "Slipping the Slip" and "The Haunted Swing" were all day occupied. In the South Corridor Hall Messrs. Lewis and Tombs gave a thoroughly refined and laughable entertainment, the ventriloquial interlude being artistic. In the Bijou Theatre the Rawson Family drew their usual crowded houses for their monological and humorous drawing-room entertainment. The well-known negro and coon delineators, Snow and Farron, gave a show with their black and white mascots in the Londesborough Hall.

An entirely new departure was made in the theatre on Monday, when Charles W. Poole's Royal Myriorama commenced their first three performances of their fortnight's stay. The views depicted were original sketches by artists of ability—amongst them the new method of submarine warfare, the eruption of Mount Pelée, pictures of the Russo-Japanese War, and the Massacre of St. Petersburg. Living pictures by the cinematograph were items received with peals of laughter. The variety artists engaged with the tour are of known celebrity. Miss Daisy Graham has a wonderful collection of trained birds, and her clever coon dog, "Nap," alone is worth a visit. A pretty little child artist, Doretta, sings well, and adds acrobatic feats to her other accomplishments; Harry Stewart, as a quick-change artist in sight of the audience, calls for special commendation; the Avondale Quartette are possessors of well-trained voices, and combine comicality with their business, which is praiseworthy and novel; Leonard and Mac are two eccentrics of the knockabout order, and scored a distinct success; Miss Kitty Woodford, a lady singer of illustrated songs, is a piquant and sprightly comedienne, and combines with her business the management of a wonderful canine orchestra and circus. The Bank Holiday entertainments at the A.P. concluded on the lake enclosure with a fire-work display by Messrs. Pain and Sons.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.

At Westminster Police Court on Saturday, application was made by a solicitor to Mr. Curtis Bennett for licences to permit Miss Carrie Laurie's juvenile troupe to perform at the Canterbury Music Hall. He mentioned the fact that a similar application, which was granted, had been made earlier at Marlborough-street by Mr. Albert Gilmer in respect of permission for performance at the Oxford.

Inspector Spencer (Z Division) said he was directed by the Commissioner of Police to inform his worship that these children, six in all, whose ages ranged from ten to thirteen, were last week licensed for places as far distant as the Chelsea Palace and the Islington Empire. With regard to the latter hall, the magistrate refused the licence to two on the ground that they were under size.

Miss Laurie stated that the children were only to be at the Oxford for ten minutes, and, it was hoped, for a similar time at the Canterbury. There would be an interval of two hours between each performance, and the children would finish before ten o'clock.

Mr. Curtis Bennett: I do not think these children ought to be carted about day by day like this.

The Solicitor: There are only two halls next week.

Mr. Curtis Bennett: I am not going on granting licences for young children in this way. I will not continue it—let that be understood. I will grant it this time, but for a week only, and for not later than 9.30 p.m.

The Solicitor: Will you make it for ten o'clock, sir. The "turn" has already been altered.

The Magistrate: I will not. You can take it or leave it, as you like.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently, draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the uregent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

	£	s.	d.
Lord John Sanger	5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
George Wyman	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Total	£26	1	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

The usual monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held on Wednesday next at 2 o'clock at the York Hotel, York-road.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

A change for the better has unmistakably come over the old-established hall at Poplar, and the enterprise of the veterans Messrs. F. and M. Abrahams is reaping its reward in packed houses. Mr. Jack Woolf, the energetic manager, has evidently discovered the exact means whereby to cater for the wants of a community whose monetary resources are limited, but whose perception is very keen. The hall has become quite a family resort, and it is no uncommon occurrence for the seats in the higher-priced portions of the hall to be booked some days ahead. The programme is invariably of an attractive and interesting character. Comic sketches and pieces in which sentiment principally figures are contained in the current bill, which is an admirable one all round. A sensational "episode of the day" is furnished by Mr. Fred Eustace and company in *Our Curate*. Rapid changes of scenery are effected in the piece, which introduces, among other sensational incidents, a set-to between a manly young curate and a public-house bully, who receives his quietus. The last scene witnesses the wedding of the fighting parson and the girl in whose interest he engaged in the contest, and the cheers of the audience, which are all along liberally bestowed, become very enthusiastic. Mr. Eustace plays with vigorous intensity as the Rev. Jack Russell, and a winning impersonation of the heroine is given by Miss Mary Eustace. A striking portrayal of a debased ruffian is given by Mr. Edwin Bennet; and Messrs. Ferris Gordon, David Collins, and David Curtis ably impersonate other parts.

The absurd side of the dramatic art is presented by the Breton Troupe in the pantomimical sketch *A Tramps' Picnic*. The head of the troupe distinguishes himself by his clever miming in the principal rôle, and is capitally supported by his coadjutors in comedy. Lord, Murrey, and Lord contribute a combination of fun and athleticism in their gymnastic mélange, entitled *The Intruder*, their dexterity on the punching-ball creating wild enthusiasm.

An instrumental sketch is presented "in a blaze of light" by the Musical Markies, one of whom was once popularly known as Miss Molly Malone. The young lady assumes the character of an Irish paper girl, whose singing of a ballad about the "Irish" not only captivates the audience, but secures the admiration of a French musician, who promises to show her the way to fame and fortune on the stage. He invites her to his lordly mansion, where a number of musical arrangements, decorated with brilliant electric lights, are revealed. The musician plays "The dear little Shamrock" on the sleigh-bells, and the paper girl, who has now been transformed into a principal boy, very properly makes a start with the musical glasses, on which she plays "Alice, where art thou?" as a duet with her partner. Afterwards the Parisian virtuoso renders "The Stars and Stripes" march on a row of bottles, claiming to be the only musician in Great Britain who can accomplish such a feat. The combination is a novel one, but is unmistakaby pleasing to the audience, who bestow many hearty recalls.

"The Black Diamond," as Mr. Chas. J. Johnson elects to be known, shines conspicuously in darkie songs and dances cleverly. He is very well received, and in response to an encore gives an illustration of the way in which he won cake-walk competitions both in America and Paris, putting in some elegant as well as quaint evolutions. The Sisters Malva have tuneful and powerful voices, and are listened to with pleasure in a couple of duets. The progress of the pictures on the new Bioscope is attended by roars of laughter, and interest is also aroused by the more instructive films. The Franko Midgets, said to be the smallest performers in the world, give an extraordinary conjuring act; and other contributors to the well-assorted programme are Mr. Sam Mitchello, comedian, and Miss Jessie Eplett, comedienne and speciality dancer.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

After spending a glorious holiday in the open air on Monday, the crowd at Walthamstow came down like a wolf on the fold—a wolf, be it said, that Mr. Arthur J. Barclay, the courteous manager, had no wish to keep from the door of his Palace. First in importance of the "turns" for the week is the appearance of Fred Maxwell and company in their latest success *Dick Dare, M.P.*, a highly dramatic little play, well constructed, and written with much point and crispness. Miss Lois Du Cane acts the dual rôle of the two sisters with rare ability, her quick changes—not only changes of costume, but of manner and temperament—being cleverly managed. Mr. Fred Maxwell is a handsome and fiery Dick, delivering the many effective speeches with which the part of the young M.P. is studded with great elocutionary excellence. Mr. Gerald Blake is the Italian, Antonio, and plays with striking power and intensity; Mr. Charles Levey is very good as Lucy's accomplice in crime, Rafael Vallois; Mr. Sam Harcourt gives an amusing portrait of the fire-eating and gout-afflicted Lord Savage; and Mr. A. Saunders gives a sound rendering of Sir Edward Vernon. The scene of the play is a beautiful "set." Abel and Welsh are among the very best "eccentrics" we have seen for a long time, and their contortions show to what extraordinary twistings the human frame can be subjected with impunity. The Four Esmeraldas, attractive young ladies in summer-like costumes, sing two songs with great purity of tone and much expression, their voices harmonising melodiously. Mr. Horace White still keeps his place among our best ventriloquists, while he adds to his leading business a pretty and bright touch as a pianist. Much of his talk with his puppets is very smart and amusing. Mr. Charles Penrose sings his two songs with the same skill as formerly. One of the hits of the week is made by My Fancy, whose dancing rouses the audience to enthusiasm. Dancing is always popular at this house, but none ever more popular than that of My Fancy. The Three Resuas are equilibrists with a unique entertainment, the manner in which the elder gentleman apparently supports with his teeth a settee on which the lady and the other gentleman sit being extraordinary. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some pretty and amusing pictures. The overture for the week is entitled "Whitsun Echoes," written by Mr. H. Petersen on well-known airs, and finely played by his orchestra.

The proprietors of the Colchester Hippodrome (Messrs. Mouillot and De Frece) had an unwelcome patron on Saturday last. Saturday is market day, and whilst the usual matinée was in progress, a bullock endeavoured to enter the house by way of the gallery staircase. Mr. George Alen and Mr. Ben de Frece had a lively quarter of an hour, but eventually succeeded in getting the animal out backwards, and what, at one time, looked a serious situation, was happily averted by the promptitude displayed by the chiefs of the staff.

Mr. Francis H. Bull, whose pretty specimens of brushwork are the delight of music-hall frequenters in all parts of the metropolis, and in the principal variety theatres in the provinces, has opened a new department in theatrical and music-hall advertising. He has struck the original idea of supplying managers with hand-painted art posters (pictorial or letterpress) for London or the provinces. These posters can be made transparent if necessary, and changed weekly at a reasonable price by contract. The art of the poster has made immense strides forward during the last few years, and Messrs. Bull, it is evident, are in the van of the movement.

THE EUSTON.

Full well they have laughed this week at the Euston, and with very good reason, for the contingent of comedians is headed by the one and only George Robey, to whom has been given the proud title of the "Prime Minister of Mirth." Mr. Robey's comedy is—if we may use such an American phrase—"featured" in his face. He evokes roars of laughter, often without saying one word, for every gesture is eloquent of fun. To the first item given by him on the night to which we are now referring may be attached the title "What are you looking at me for?" and is a study in surprises. In its humorous possibilities it does not equal the Robeyan impersonation of the serio's dresser—a woman who, like Charles Surface's aunt, sets a value upon herself. She makes her début as deputy for a lady of greater reputation, and complains of the shocking professional jealousy that so seriously affects her spirits. She takes the audience into her confidence regarding her dresses, and her sketch of the *vie intime* of the *coulisses* is, broadly speaking, a screamer. Mr. Sam Mayo, who has recently returned from South Africa, finds many admirers for his immobile comedy, and he evokes shouts of laughter in his impersonation of a Chinaman who was born much nearer the banks of the Thames than of the Yang-tse-Kiang. Mr. Whit Cunliffe, who has rapidly come to the front, has a tuneful number in "A Different Girl Again," and scores most unmistakably in his dictionary song with a number of new meanings which have been ingeniously thought out, and are decidedly smart. Mr. Cunliffe does not depend for his humorous effects on a red nose or a tattered and ill-fitting wardrobe, suggesting the casual ward or the Embankment loafer. He is, indeed, one of the smartest dressed light comedians on the variety boards, and, blessed relief!—speaks without a Cockney accent or a nasal twang.

Sentimental singers are always highly favoured at the Euston, especially when they are as liberally endowed with voice and as well cultured as Miss Daisy Davidson. The new soprano, who is mistress of roulade, cadenza, or rapid scale passages, has a fine resonant soprano voice, which has been well trained by that veteran master of *bel canto*, Signor Alberto Randegger. In her first solo Miss Davidson displays both her capacity for the rendering of difficult passages, singing with enthusiasm and without effort. In her ballad "Eyes of Brown" she displays a command of mezza voce effects, and sings with real sympathy. She is liberally rewarded with applause by the Eustonians, who seem to be delighted with her singing, and signify that delight enthusiastically. Park's Eton Boys in concerted and solo singing are encored again and again in popular items, in which they are accompanied by Mr. Willie Benn, their trainer.

The Anartos term their scena "A Morning's Mail." It is embellished with humorous patter, which precedes musical selections on the saxophone and fiddle, and the comedian of the pair puts on the "antick disposition" in a way that sends his audience into the merriest of moods. The scheme of fun propounded by the Three Prestons in their absurdity, *The Liftman's Rise*, is not quite clear; but that they have the hereditary ability possessed by their sisters there can be no shadow of doubt. The "liftman" is, indeed, a funny personage, with a fine command of Doric or the brogue, and his burlesque sketch of a Scotchman might with advantage be elaborated, especially as comedians "frae North of the Tweed" have become quite the fashion. The lady of the trio has all the vivacity, energy, and vim of her sister Jessie, and she betrays her relationship in every intonation of the voice and every gesture. The Misses Fraser and Haley indulge in a sleepy duet of the sickly sentimental type, which should do little to advance their reputation. One of the pair has a good contralto voice, but has not learned to use it. Other attractions on the programme engineered by Mr. Fred M'Avoy are Miss May Martin and Ruffell's Bioscope in a new series of up-to-date pictures.

A MISHAP IN MID-AIR.

The grounds of the Alexandra Palace were the scene of an exciting incident on Monday, when Mr. Harry Grande, who deputised for Professor Gaudron, the well-known aeronaut, had a narrow escape from death through an accident to the balloon in which he made an ascent. The start was made opposite the east front or main entrance to the Palace, and near the terminus of the electric tramway. The balloon, which had a capacity of over 40,000 cubic feet, was inflated and released, but at an altitude of about 120ft. it burst, and collapsed into a shapeless mass. With great presence of mind, Grande instantly pulled the cord by which is released the bolt attaching the parachute to the balloon. For nearly 100ft. his descent was unchecked, but ten or twelve yards from the ground the parachute fully expanded, and the rate at which he was falling was at once lessened. He fell among the crowd, but the momentum of his fall had been so minimised that several men had time to partially seize hold of him, and, falling to the earth with him, one of them was slightly injured. Grande was carried into one of the secretarial rooms, and members of the St. John Ambulance Association at once gave him first aid, and the news which was carried outside that they found him conscious, and apparently only slightly injured, gave great relief to the assembled crowd. Grande's wife, who, with her daughter, witnessed the ascent from the grounds, was quickly by her husband's side, and the honorary medical officer of the Alexander Palace Trustees was promptly summoned, and, after a careful examination, stated that there was no indication of Grande having sustained any internal injury, and there was no reason to expect that any such injury would develop itself later. Beyond a twisted foot, the shock, and a few bruises, Grande has passed through his adventure scathless. The wrecked balloon was gathered together and was at once placed under lock and key in view of future examination.

Grande afterwards proceeded to the Central Hall, where, to demonstrate to the audience the slightness of his injuries, he walked across the stage, amid great cheering. He lives in the neighbourhood, and after a brief visit to his home returned to the Palace, and, accompanied by a professional friend, made the ascent by the balloon which it had been arranged to release at half-past five o'clock. There was no attempt at a parachute descent, indeed none had been contemplated, and in this case the balloon was gas inflated and was fitted with a car which Grande and his friend occupied. The weather was beautifully bright when, within five minutes of the time fixed, the balloon was released and slowly ascended. By throwing out a lot of ballast the balloon rose quickly for a time, and then catching the breeze sailed away towards Hampstead.

Mr. Frank Lynne has made a great hit at the Metropolitan with the comic song entitled "When I woke up in the morning." It has been published by Mr. David Day, and is by Edgar Bateman and Fred W. Leigh.

One of the verses of Mr. Harry Randall's present amusing song, "Cursory Rhymes," by Chas. Osborne, has found its living prototype in a London police-court during the week, a man unwittingly wearing his waistcoat beneath his shirt for an entire day, and charging another man with having stolen it. Who can now say that ideas for comic songs are far-fetched?

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

DESPITE the alarming prognostications of the weather prophets, Londoners at home, and their 300,000 country cousins, who crowded in to help them, enjoyed a most glorious Whitsun Bank Holiday. From all the great fair grounds of the outer ring of the metropolis comes news of record crowds of visitors and good business. We started our pilgrimage of the London fairs at Wormwood Scrubbs, that wonderful open free space, so much beloved of North-Western Londoners. Between the hostelry The North Pole and the entrance to the Scrubbs we counted over sixty stalls, vending all kinds of fair-ground novelties and comestibles, and stretching still further to a side entrance was a line of twenty or thirty stalls. It is no exaggeration of speech to say that, in the main string of visitors it would have been possible, so thronged was it, to have walked upon the people's heads. This determined, eager stream forged ahead across the vast open plateau of the Scrubbs, towards the immense carnival fair in the distance. Passing along we noticed the excellent provisions and wise forethought of the London County Council for the people's pleasure and necessities. Not only were the people provided with a well-selected aggregation of shows, roundabouts, and fair-ground novelties (and these things were, of course, enjoyed immensely by the great majority of visitors), but also provision was made for the minority, whose delight is not in the fun of the fair, but in quiet walks and open-air games. So vast is the open space that, whilst tens of thousands of people could enjoy all the delights of a big fair, all the local cricket clubs had ample space for big cricket matches, attended by hundreds of onlookers, without in any way interfering with the pilgrims' fair.

THE fair-ground itself, well set out, consisted of a huge square, intersected by four great avenues, containing the shows, machines, and other novelties. There were two great lines of swings and high-fliers, a dozen sets in each avenue, and with them were overboats and juvenile roundabouts. Amongst these we noticed the well-known concerns of Messrs. Allingham, Groom, Martin, Knighton, and George. The big machine sets were Smith and Whittle's switchback, and Knighton's cockerels and steam horses. The smaller roundabouts were those of J. Manning and George Sanders. The big show at the Scrubbs was the magnificent cinematograph theatre of Messrs. Hastings and Whayman. This capital exhibition with its splendid outside parade, with comedians and coon dancers, was doing first-class business. We also noticed that enterprising athlete and showman, Edward Elliott, has much improved and enlarged his fistiana booth. Here the patrons of British pluck and manly science were able to witness the expert boxing and athletic skill of Elliott's school of boxing and athletics.

A SPECIAL feature of this fair is the great crowd of amusement caterers with throwing games, coker sheets, football frames, ring and dart boards, Japanese fish vases, dolly frames, bottle batteries, pipe and window breakers, &c. These novelties consisted of the well-known firms of Messrs. W. Bedford, T. Proctor, S. Putnam, Holt, Worley, Goodall, Martin, Taylor, T. Irish, Goodhall, Elliott, G. Taylor, G. Sanders, W. Hussey, E. Smith, J. Bond, Traylen, G. Bond, Sulley, Pickard, and Mrs. Sanders. In the smaller fair ground, in the open space behind the North Pole Hotel, brisk business was done by Wm. Beach, with his famed aggregation of fair-ground novelties, including the motor-car set, the aerial flight, park swings, shooting range, and minor novelties.

INTERESTING as were the evidences of showmen enterprise at Wormwood Scrubbs, these were outdistanced by the entertainments, both great and small, provided by the showmen on Wanstead Flats. The great quadrangle set apart by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests was entirely filled with big roundabouts, large shows, swings, coker sheets, throwing games, and other novelties. In the centre were placed Barker and Thurston's composite machine, Swale Forrest's whirling the whirl, Brown's roundabout, and Parr's big wheel. Along the top line of the ground were three high-class cinematograph exhibitions, the central position being occupied by Wm. Taylor, with his well-known coliseum of varieties and animated photography. On his left, Alf. Ball, with his equally famous cinematograph and variety company, and on the right-hand side Barker and Thurston's celebrated electrograph. These three concerns afforded immense delight to the constant stream of their delighted patrons.

THE admirably selected array of minor novelties, throwing games, gem sets of horses and swings, were provided by W. Harris, Parr Bros., W. Houldsworth, and Brook the photographer. The double line of coker sheets were provided by T. Forrest, H. Simpson, Draper, Cooper, Parker, and Taylor Bros. Here, as at Wormwood Scrubbs, were two long ranges of swings and high flyers, mainly supplied by local caterers. Judged by the enormous number of people thronging the Flats when we made our visit, and the still increasing crowds pressing towards it as we left, there can be no doubt that the enterprise of the showmen, encouraged by the authorities controlling the open spaces, provides a compelling necessity of London life at holiday times. It is appalling to think what would become of the people if there were no such popular al fresco entertainments within a twopenny car ride of their congested home-dwellings.

THE great fair on Hampstead Heath attracted the biggest crowd ever known, the official computation of numbers being over 100,000 visitors. Quite a mile before we reached the Heath the streams of people from the great North London centres of life were converging towards the popular holiday resort. And what an excited crowd it was, bubbling over with good humour and ready wit; ready, too were the traders—both local and itinerant—in keen competition for the red-hot pennies of the eager sightseers.

As we stepped upon the Heath our first thought was, "Well done, London County Council; you are indeed providers of the people's amusement upon a grand scale." Here was the evidence of the business co-operation of the enterprising showman and the progressive County Council combining together for the well-being and entertainment of the multitude on Hampstead Heath.

ON the slopes of the breezy Heath, stretching from where it touches the village right away to the Vale of Health and back again, we have, roughly speaking, along the sides of a great triangle three big settlements of shows and fairground varieties.

THE larger concerns were—Purchase's wild beast menagerie, Wm. Biddall's cinématograph, Chipperfield's menagerie, Chittock's cinématograph, George Biddall's electograph, Hastings' two ground booths, Wilson and Bailey's fine art galleries, Sol Elliott's boxing booth, and some half-dozen minor sideshows. The principal machines were provided by Bailey, Forrest, Wilson, and Brett.

Two immense avenues of throwing games, coker-sheets, ring and dart boards, football games, dolly frames, and varieties were provided by—Messrs. Rawlings, Rowe, Russell, Farnsworth, Day, Bloxham, Birch, Spencer, Peters, Purchase, Bolesworth, Wilson, Lang, Hewitt, Forrest, Parsons, Higley, Ayres, Collis, Gardner, Daniels, Gregory, Carter, Denham, Beverley, and others. There were some half-dozen pitches set apart for park swings, and amongst the providers of these were Messrs. Rowe, Crisp, Forrest, Corby, and Brett.

THE Vale of Health site was as usual occupied by the numerous concerns controlled by Harry Cox, the local caterer, and these included galloping horses, giant wheel, over-boats, and swings. With them were the usual aggregation of minor novelties—toy, pannum, and variety stalls, penny-in-the-slot machines, strikers, and other novelties, all doing good business.

OVER one hundred pitches were let by the County Council to showmen on the Heath, and in addition to these (it is no exaggeration to say) there were hundreds of stallholders and fair-ground traders.

THE same excellent arrangement (with additonal facilities) that we chronicled at Easter time were provided by the Council for the convenience of visitors and showmen.

BLACKHEATH shares with Hampstead the distinction of attracting immense crowds of visitors at holiday times. Here, for their entertainment, were a number of well-known amusement caterers. The cokers and throwing games (fifty in number) were provided by Messrs. Lomax, Mould, Penfold, Clasper, Laws, White, Smith, Delamane, Maddox, Harrigan, Walker, Davis, Emberson, Bassett and others.

A SPECIAL feature of this fair is the long ranges of park swings and highfliers. These were provided by Arthur Cooke, S. Turner, F. Heath, W. Clasper, J. W. Martin, W. H. Darrent, George Smith, W. J. Ward, H. Pickard, M. Edwards, and others. Robert Buckley's show and other sideshows; machine and roundabout sets were provided by Messrs. T. Knighton, J. Saunders, D. Kane, T. Forrest, J. Edwards, Hook, Bodley, Poole, and Mrs. Sweetlove.

HERE, as at the other open spaces controlled by the London County Council, vast crowds enjoyed the open fair, and the report from all these great centres of open-air amusement is that the people enjoyed themselves, and that everything was conducted in the most good-humoured and orderly manner.

AT the Shorefields Liverpool Whitsuntide Fair, J. Berry's motor-cars and steam yachts, Collins's gondolas, Berry and G. Smith's big swings and punchballs were well patronised. Throwing games were represented by Fred Berry, Mrs. Deluney, and John Fairclough; and small games by J. Moffatt Mullon, Mrs. Jones Trotman, and Mrs. Ogden. "Whirling the Whirl" was supplied by Messrs. Lewis.

EVESHAM Whitsuntide Fair numbered amongst its attractions Mr. Thomas Clarke with racing motor-cars, Mr. H. Ayer's steam roundabouts, Mr. A. Curtis with pony roundabouts, Chipperfield's hall of laughter, shooting saloons, bottle batteries; and African jungles by Messrs. Clarke, Wilson, Ayers, Curtis, and Hatwell; park swings by Messrs. Clarke, Rawlings, Curtis, and Ayers; and strikers, cokernut sheets, stalls, fisheries, and other attractions by Messrs. Clarke, Chipperfield, Wilson, Kemp, Watkins, Stanley, Buckland, Taylor, Turner, Harding, and Kimberley.

AT Offenham Wake were Mr. H. Ayers with steam roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, and other amusements.

HERBERTS, the local showmen, with roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, and bottle battery comprised the attractions at Redditch temperance fête.

AT Studley Fête were Herberts' World's Fair, roundabouts, swing boats, shooting saloons, and other fair-ground paraphernalia.

FECKENHAM WAKE, near Redditch, will be held on July 2nd, not June 25th. Feckenham is about eight miles from Bromsgrove, at which place the fair is held on June 25.

CARMARTHEN June Fair took place on the Corporation Pleasure Fair-ground on Tuesday, in glorious summer weather, and thousands from the country-side flocked in, good business being the result. Messrs. Henry Studt and Son's electric motor-cars, Haggar's electric bioscope, and Prince Samonda's Egyptian mysteries (late of Barnum and Bailey's Show) were the chief attractions. Messrs. North's juvenile roundabouts, D. T. Danter, North and Booth's cokernut shies, fish aquariums, shooting galleries, swings, Aunt Sallies, and the other concomitants of a pleasure fair were also in evidence. The fair practically commenced on Saturday evening, and was continued on Whit-Monday evening, when the ground was resorted to by hundreds of pleasure-seekers; but the fair proper was held on Tuesday, when the place was crowded throughout the day.

ON Whit-Monday, in connection with the Carmarthen sports and cycle races, Captain Bidmead made a most successful balloon ascent and parachute descent.

THE Preston Whitsuntide Pleasure Fair was held, as usual, in the spacious market-place and adjoining streets. The weather was glorious and business good. The heavy list of riding machines consisted of three new sets of "electric racing motor-cars" belonging to Messrs. John Green, George Green, and Wm. Mitchell, jun. The attractions included: Mrs. Susan Holden's No. 1 set of gallopers, Harry Wallis's electric steeplechasers, John Green's switchback gondolas, Ben Mitchell's electric roosters, George Green's monstre farmyard, James Hibbert's original set of horses, R. H. Williams's tunnel railway, E. Holland's razzle-dazzle, W. H. Taylor's recently purchased set of overhead jumpers, and Fred Harrison's "Whirling the Whirl Lighthouse." The side-shows were of excellent quality throughout, viz., President Kemp with his new palace of light and music, Colonel Clark's theatre of varieties, Captain Payne's electric bioscope, Mr. George Green with his new royal cinematograph, John Shaw's (late W. Wright) fine art exhibition, Alf Haydn's second light act, Lidi Ali Gibson, the illusionist, Master Payne's toy ponies, and Ida Leslie, expert sharp shot. Mrs. John Green, Messrs. J. D. Humphrey, W. Talbot, J. Sharpe, and J. Parr each sent one set of gem horses and motors. Mr. Tom Harrison and Mrs. John Cornwall with overboats, gem swings by John Sharpe, and Tom Mitchell with his large steam boats catered for the swinging department. The pea saloons were under the supervision of Mrs. Bouser, Mrs. Omerod, Mrs. Harrison, James Ingham, J. J. and J. W. Butterworth, and E. Chadwick; and the shooting saloons and galleries under the direction of W. H. Taylor, J. D. Humphrey, R. H. Williams, George Cornwall, Mrs. Harrison, John Sharpe, Mrs. George Cornwall, and Mrs. John Cornwall. The fair-ground games were represented by J. Richmond, J. Taylor, John Ingham, J. Leonard, W. Jennings, jun., W. Utton, Albert Jolly, R. Richmond, G. Garlick, A. Garlick, T. Garlick, W. Grant, jun., T. Taylor, T. Forshaw, W. Talbot, J. Wilson, W. James Mitchell, H. Horsfall, George Cornwall, C. Wright, W. Wright, J. Freer, Mrs. Lorenza, Lorenza Crick, W. Dearden, G. Chadwick, and Isaac Harrison. For the pannam stalls Jennings and Butterworth were responsible.

THE old-time observance of Lichfield Greenhill Bower and Court of Array took place on Whit-Monday, and, the weather being of an ideal character, resulted in a great success. On no previous occasion has there been a bigger attendance of the public, while the executive are to be congratulated on keeping the attractive and popular side of the festival well to the fore. The procession included military bands, tableaux (all of which were well arranged), a royal progress in the days of Henry VIII., the court of arraye, embracing many examples of men and boys in armour, trades' procession, civic and fire brigade display. The general details were so complete and of such an attractive character as to deserve the warmest congratulations of the numberless visitors and the local public. At Lichfield the civic and cathedral authorities work hand in hand to make the Whitsuntide festival a great day of enjoyment, and on no previous occasion has a more complete success been achieved. The lessee of the tolls was Mr. C. Farrell, of Chester, who provided a capital lot of attractions. This is Mr. Farrell's third year of lesseeship, and it appears probable that his connection with Lichfield Greenhill Bower will be of a permanent character.

HANNEFORD'S up-to-date Circus, under the management of Mr. Harry Metcalf, visited Sligo on Monday, and gave two first-class performances before packed houses. This happy state of affairs was an agreeable surprise, as Sligo had earned the reputation of being very hostile towards travelling shows, and a large force of police was secured to check any rowdyism that might occur. Nothing happened, however, to mar the success of the performances, and Mr. Metcalf, when called by the audience for a speech, said that no matter what other show people might say, he had no hesitation in saying that a more appreciative and orderly audience he had never seen. The programme included the celebrated equestrians, the Hanneford Family; the well-known favourites, the Brothers Huston; Madame Steckles; Mons. Foot, the famous equilibrist; Mr. Will Frazer, Irish comedian and dancer; and Mr. E. Hanneford, with his performing ponies, elephants, camels, and dromedaries.

KIRKBY STEPHEN kept its fair on May 28 and following day. The new coliseum of varieties and animated photography, proprietor Mr. Cottrell (of swimming fame), did excellent business, exhibiting a fine range of up-to-date films. Johnson's circus, as usual, afforded immense delight to its hosts of patrons. Carr's steam horses and George Newsome's swings, rifle saloon, and emma sheets, M. Taylor's bottle battery, T. Newsome's cokers, and Taylor's throwing games, all did good business.

CROWLE fair (Lincolnshire) had for amusements J. Ball's cinematograph, Tom Harniess's motor-car set, minor varieties, and throwing games by Messrs. Ball, Gilliatt, Wroot, and local caterers.

THE chief providers of the amusements at Egremont (Cumberland) fair on June 2 were Messrs. Cariss and Fox with gondolas, and Messrs. Emmerson and Hazard with park swings.

THE Whitsun fair at Redruth opened on Saturday, the eve of the festival. The principal amusements, as usual, were provided by Messrs. W. C. and S. Hancock. Their exhibits included a cinematograph theatre, a set of electric motor-cars, a steam-horse set, and minor novelties. The other important concerns were Anderton's and Rowland's coliseum of varieties and up-to-date films, Lawrence's marionette theatre, and Brewer's galloping horses. There were in addition ranges of park swings, rifle saloons, bottle batteries, and the usual variety of fair-ground novelties.

AT the Cornish fair, Kilkhampton, the entertainments were provided by the celebrated Jones family, of circus renown, who, with their up-to-date cinematograph and variety show, greatly delighted the crowds of visitors. Mr. Jones also exhibited a rifle-shooting saloon. There were stalls and other novelties by local caterers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Showmen's Guild. Per Mr. Shuttleworth: Connelley and Sons, 10s.; J. Smith, 5s.; P. Blakey, 5s.; J. Hale, 5s.. Per Rev. T. Horne: F. Sully, 5s.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Bidford-on-Avon, Cranbrooke, Hounslow, Millom, Ossett Feast, Pool, Southampton, Southwold, Fiskerton, Hayle, St. Anstell, Penzance, Astwith, Astwood Feast, Hardstaff, Outwood, Staveley, Staveley (Woodthorpe), and Taunton. In Scotland we have Alyth and Largs; in Wales, Brynmawr, Ferndale, Llangefeloch, Porth, and Usk.

SHEFFIELD WHITSUN FAIR.—The people of Steelopolis turn out in their thousands to enjoy their pleasure fairs, the principal one being that of Whitsuntide. Not only all Sheffield, but the large towns round about send in their train loads of show-loving people, and, given fine weather, the fair at Sheffield well repays the enterprise of the show men fortunate enough to be on the ground.

THE Sheffield blades enter into the fun of the fair with that strenuousness of purpose that has made their town the foremost centre of the steel trade, and one of the industrial marvels of the world. Among the multiplicity of attractions are Enoch Farrar's magnificent portable theatre of living pictures, John Proctor's electric cinématograph and varieties, Ling's fine art and distorting mirrors, Wilson's boxers, Westray's midgets, and several novelty booths. The machine list—always a big one at this fair—included the new motor-car sets by Tuby and Marshall (Marshall also exhibited flying motors), Tuby's galloping horses, Waddington's steam horses, and steam yachts and steam swings by Shaw, Corrigan, and Amos. There were also four sets of gem motors and three sets of small swings, Leven, Ratcliffe, Burton, and Bentley with rifle saloons, John Seed with bazaar, and George Wright with pannum stalls. The minor novelties (throwing games, &c.) were—sixteen cokers, fifteen variety frames, and twelve Emma-sheets.

AT Skipton, for the Whitsuntide festivities, were Prof. Blakey, with second-sight and esoteric mysteries; Darkey's school of boxers and athletes, Connolly's flying motors and highfliers, Heeson's steam horses and park swings, Shuttleworth's over-boats, gem motor-cars, miniature horses and baby swings; Scott's rifle saloon, swings, and throwing games; Burgess's shooting gallery and varieties; and minor novelties by Messrs. Crowther, Hales, and Howorth. These, with Howorth and Sons' Bazaar, tell the story of Skipton Fair.

COVENTRY FAIR began on Saturday, the eve of the Whitsun festival, and lasted until the 8th. The splendid cinématograph of Thurston Bros. was the centre of attraction. Prof. Ruby's mystic show, the X-Rays, and Harry Hughes' two exhibitions—the assault-at-arms and the fine-art gallery—were the shows. Patrick Collins exhibited gondolas, flying ostriches, steam yachts, and big boats; John Collins, whirling-the-whirls; Oliver Twigdon, gondola set and big wheel; H. Thurston, steam gallopers and highfliers; and swings by Messrs. Wood, Lowe, Wilson, and Whiting. A capital array of shooting concerns included ranges by Messrs. Neal, R. Paskin, W. Harris, and E. Shaw. The fun of the fair, in the shape of Emma-sheets, cokers, ring and dart boards, and variety stalls, were by Messrs. Holdsworth, Powell Bros., Lowe, Holmes, Johnson, Parkin Harris, Humphries, Haycock, Ogden, Wright, and Whiting.

SOME SHOWMAN WORTHIES.

By the Rev. T. Horne, Hon. Chaplain, the Showmen's Guild.

NELSON LEE.

(Copyright.)

A conspicuous figure on the fair-grounds of England was Nelson Lee, who flourished in the early Victorian times, and was a link between the showmen of the dim historic past, of whose exploits we have but little record, and those giants of the road of the later period, with whose life story this series of biographies is mainly concerned.

Nelson Lee, the son of Colonel Lee (a gallant officer, who won much distinction during the Peninsula War), broke away from all his home associations, and determined to follow the wandering and Bohemian life of the fair-ground. His first theatrical venture was at the Old Royalty Theatre, beginning at the bottom of the ladder as general utility, and with this experience only, joined the famous Richardson at Greenwich Fair.

After a season with Richardson he joined Gyngell, who had a show the equivalent of the modern circus of variety, the entertainment being almost entirely given by members of the Gyngell family. With this clever family Nelson Lee learnt the art of juggling, and, later on, we hear of him fulfilling engagements as a juggler at the Adelphi and other London theatres.

Equally smitten with the show fever, Nelson's brother, James Lee, had served an apprenticeship with Bannister's circus, and we next find the Brothers James and Nelson Lee fitting up an unoccupied factory in the Old Kent-road as a theatre. This was in 1822, and, although business was good, the young and somewhat inexperienced managers had neglected to obtain a theatrical licence, with the result that information was laid against them by rival theatrical managers, and the police raided the theatre, and arrested both audience and actors, with one exception, Saker, the comedian, who made his escape into a loft, and cut off the police by drawing up the ladder after him.

There was quite a liberation of the watch-houses of Southwark, Newington, Camberwell, and Greenwich, when, the following morning, after severe caution and reprimand, the audience and actors were discharged. James and Nelson Lee, pleading their ignorance of the exact letter of the law, were let off with a small fine.

The next important event in Nelson Lee's life was his partnership with John Johnson, to whom Richardson bequeathed £500. With Johnson Nelson Lee entered into partnership in order to purchase the famous Richardson show, which was then in the market. At the time of this important event Nelson Lee was managing Sadler's Wells Theatre for Osbalditston.

Lee had acquired a great deal of experience as a travelling showman, with Holloway's show, and had been the Scotch round, first with Grey's fantoccini, and afterwards with Dodsworth and Steven's automatons.

The partnership between Johnson and Nelson Lee effected the purchase of Richardson's show booth, and the new proprietors set forth upon their fair-ground ventures by staging the Esmeralda Ballet, principally with a view to the outside parade. This free show on the outside was in those days the most important means of advertising the inside performance.

They opened at Greenwich for the Whitsun fair, the booth being pitched at the extreme end of the fair, on a very excellent site near the bridge at Deptford Creek.

The new outside parade, the Esmeralda Ballet, was a big success, and Nelson Lee was warmly complimented by its original producer, who journeyed to the fair from the Adelphi to see it.

The drama was the *Tyrant Doge*, and the pantomime was given a local name, *One Tree Hill*, was one of a long series of pantomime productions that made Lee famous. Many notable actors were then in the company, amongst whom were John Douglas, Paul Herring, and Crowther.

Visiting Deptford and Camberwell Fairs they next took their renovated theatre to Smithfield.

An amusing story is told of the clown attached to the theatre. The show was at Croydon Fair, and the first day being very wet, the clown thought he would divert the tedium of the situation by strolling through the town, and for the purpose in his mind, put on the uniform overcoat of a policeman. The clown did not know the risk he was running, for it appears that a number of robberies had been committed in the town by a thief similarly dressed. The result was that the constable on duty in the High-street, seeing a bogus policeman, thought that this must be the masquerading burglar, and so took the astonished clown into custody, and hauled him off to the station-house. The clown, protesting his innocence, which, of course, was speedily corroborated by Lee, was liberated, and allowed to return to the theatre.

The suburban fairs were declining so much at this time that Johnson and Lee were deterred by their diminished receipts at Greenwich and Deptford from visiting Ealing, Camberwell, and Enfield; and, on being excluded from Smithfield, proceeded to Chatham, whence they moved to Croydon. The decadence was still more manifest in the following year, and at Enfield an attempt was made by the magistrate to prevent them from opening on the third day, the more officious than learned administrator of the law being ignorant of the fact that, though the fair had for many years been held on two days only, the charter by which it was held allowed three days.

Lee had taken care to obtain a copy of the charter, and on the superintendent of police going to the theatre with the magistrate's order for its immediate removal, he positively refused obedience to the mandate, and produced the charter. The superintendent thereupon apologised, and returned to the magistrate with the news of his discomfiture.

Croydon Fair was disturbed this year by a fight between the youths of the East India Company's military college at Addiscombe, about a mile from the town, and the members of Johnson and Lee's company. The fiasco originated with an insulting remark made by one of the cadets, as they were generally called, to a young lady of the theatrical company, promenading at the time on the parade. The insult was promptly resented by a male member of the troupe, who hurled the offender down the steps. A dozen of his companions immediately rushed up the steps, and assailed the champion, who was supported by the rest of the company, and the consequence was a sharp scrimmage, ending in the arrival of several constables, and the removal to the station-house of as many of the cadets as could not escape by flight.

Next morning they were taken before the magistrates, and, being proved to have been the aggressors, they were fined, and from that time the military aspirants of Addiscombe were forbidden to enter the town during the three days of the fair.

Charles Freer was the leading actor of the company at this time, and the principal lady was Mrs. Hugh Campbell, who was seen a year or two afterwards at the Gravesend Theatre. She was afterwards engaged, as was Freer also, at the Pavilion. Her successor at Richardson's was Mrs. Yates, who was afterwards engaged at the Standard.

The harlequin was a nervous, eccentric, one-eyed young man named Charles Shaw, who was dismissed from the company towards the close of the season on account of his freaks reaching a pitch which at times raised a doubt as to his sanity, besides threatening detriment to the interests of the theatre.

When the time approached at which the campaign of 1842 was to be commenced, it was found necessary to advertise for a harlequin; and the announcement of the want produced a response from Charles Wilson, who stated that he had been engaged through the preceding pantomime season at Birmingham. This gentleman seeming eligible, he was engaged, but was not seen by Lee or any of the company until he presented himself at the theatre on Easter Sunday at Greenwich.

Lee was immediately struck with the new harlequin's resemblance to the old one, which extended to every feature but the eyes: these were the same colour as Shaw's, but he had two, while Shaw had lost one. On the second day of the fair, however, it was discovered that the eye which had thus long puzzled everyone as to his identity was a glass one; and on his being charged with being Shaw he acknowledged the deception, observing that he had felt sure that he would not be re-engaged if he applied in his proper name. The deception was forgiven, and his subsequent freaks seem to have been fewer and of a milder description.

Nelson Lee played a trick at Croydon Fair this year which can only be defended on the principle that "all is fair at fair-time." Finding that the Bosjesmans were being exhibited in the town, and were attracting great numbers of persons to their receptions, he hung out, on the second day of the fair, a show-cloth with the announcement in large black letters, "Arrival of the real Bosjesmen."

Three or four of the company were then "made-up" to represent the strange specimens of humanity which had lately been discovered in South Africa, and their appearance on the parade in an antic dance produced a rush to witness the further representations of the manners and sports of savage life to be seen inside.

Johnson and Lee began the season of 1843 with some of the members of the Pavilion company in their troupe; but they attended fewer fairs than in any previous year, and in 1844 their theatre appeared only at Greenwich, Enfield, and Croydon. In the following year it was burned while in a field at Dartford, and the proprietors not being insured, sustained a loss of £1,700. Nothing was rescued but the parade waggon, which was dragged away before the flames could reach it, and, with the scene waggon and other properties, which had been bought in 1838, formed the nucleus of the new theatre with which the proprietors opened the fair campaign of 1847.

Henry Howard joined the travelling company in that year at Ealing Fair on the closing of the Standard.

During the latter part of their career as proprietors of a travelling theatre, Johnson and Lee found it paid better to conduct their business on the plan of locating the theatre for two or three weeks at a time in some large town than to wander from fair to fair, staying only a few days.

In 1849 Johnson and Lee opened their theatre at Croydon for a three weeks' stay, their company was drawn principally from the smaller theatres of London, and included Leander Melville, Billington, Seaman, Phillips, Mrs. Barnett, Mrs. Campbell, and Miss Slater. *The Stranger* was selected for the first night, and, as usual, drew a good audience. Under the able and judicious management of Nelson Lee, and with a change of performance every night, good business was done. The experiment was repeated with great success at Uxbridge and Reading.

At Greenwich Fair in 1850 an outrageous and dastardly attack was made on Johnson and Lee's theatre by a number of soldiers from Woolwich. It seems to have originated in a practical joke played by a soldier upon a young man in the crowd before the theatre, and followed by an assault. On the latter retreating up the steps of the parade waggon followed by his assailant, Nelson Lee interfered for his protection, and was himself assaulted by the soldier, who was thereupon ejected. A number of soldiers seeing the discomfiture of their companion, immediately rushed up the steps and began an indiscriminate attack upon everybody on the parade. The company finding themselves over-matched, either took refuge in the interior or jumped off the parade, and fled as if for their lives.

One of the actors named Chappell stood by Nelson Lee after the rest had fled, but ultimately he joined in the stampede, and the proprietor was left alone to defend himself and his property as well as he could against a swarm of foes. There was a story told long afterwards of the harlequin of the company, that he ran without stopping to the railway station and jumped into a train for London. He then ran from London Bridge to Shoreditch, and rushing into a public-house adjoining the City of London Theatre, gasped, "Blood—soldiers—Mr. Lee—frightful affair—three pen'orth o' brandy." The soldiers having driven their opponents off the field, began destroying the front of the theatre, smashing the lamps, which fortunately were not lighted. If they had been burning the result would probably have been a terrific conflagration, which might have swept the fair and destroyed many thousand pounds' worth of property.

The soldiery, now mad with fury, went the length of attempting to hoist Nelson Lee by means of a rope fastened round his body to the top of the front; this was prevented by the opportune arrival of a body of constabulary. Seeing themselves outnumbered by the police, the soldiers abandoned the field, and mixed with the crowd. A number of the soldiers were taken, and were committed for trial to the Old Bailey Prison.

Johnson and Lee, not wishing to severely punish the rioters, and hoping that their generous withdrawal from the prosecution might obtain compensation for the loss of their property, did not appear to press the charge. The result, however, of the showmen's leniency was not as they had anticipated, for not a penny was given them by way of compensation

During the Whitsuntide Fair the soldiers were strictly confined to the barracks, but wise as this necessary precaution on the part of the military authorities was, it had the effect of diminishing the money taken at the fair, as the soldiers and their friends had been among the best patrons of the drama.

Removing the show from Greenwich to Croydon, they had a season of private business, and here Henry Howard and Mrs. Campbell played the leading parts, and also for short seasons at Hertford and Uxbridge.

About this time the great national event was the exhibition of 1851, and in preparation for this a World's Fair to be held at the same time at Bayswater was projected. To carry out this scheme a strong committee of leading showmen was appointed, and, of course, included the names of Johnson and Lee. This undertaking was a complete failure, the weather was cold and cheerless when the fair opened, and the railway companies had not then realised the possibilities of cheap excursion traffic.

Johnson and Lee's theatre opened at Greenwich Fair in 1852; this was their last appearance upon a fairground. The concern then proceeded to Uxbridge, where the company was joined by James Robson, the celebrated comedian.

In the following year the entire show was sold by auction, and the property completely dispersed. This was the end of Richardson's historic show and practically the end in the Metropolitan district of large portable theatres.

Nelson Lee, still in partnership with Johnson, leased the Marylebone Theatre, and with great success continued their dramatic enterprise. They then migrated to the Pavilion Theatre, but, finding this too small for their great productions, they

took the Standard Theatre, and from the Standard went to the City of London Theatre, which they held for fifteen years.

Something must be said here of the prolific writings of Nelson Lee. He was the author of two hundred and nine pantomimes—the first of these was produced at Sadler's Wells under Osbaldiston's management. The next, *Johnnie Gilpin*, was written for Ducrow, and was produced at Astley's Amphitheatre. As a producer of spectacular drama and pantomime on the grand scale, Nelson Lee was the most successful and original artist of his day.

On the death of his partner, Johnson, he continued for three seasons on his own management the City of London Theatre, then in 1868 he sold the property for railway purposes and retired from active management, still, however, taking an active interest in the theatrical life of his beloved London. He died quite suddenly on Jan. 2, 1872, and was buried at Abney Park Cemetery amid every token of public esteem and respect.

The life of Nelson Lee illustrates an often-forgotten truth—that the showman's life affords to men of genius and many-sided ability their best field of enterprise and usefulness. That Nelson Lee was a genius goes without saying; that he was also a man of great business aptitude and unceasing energy was also true, and it is such men who are the salt of the earth, no matter what profession or business in life they may find their opportunity and vocation.

The Hon. Chaplain to the Showmen's Guild starts on his annual visit to the Welsh fairs next week. The principal gathering of show people will be at Porth Fair, where the Guild meeting for Wales will take place. Attention is directed to the advertisements of the above, and also to the important meeting of the Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union next week.

On the ground at Kew Bridge for the Whitsun holidays were Mr. George Beach's fairground aggregation—the cinématograph show, the steam roundabout, horses, and ostriches, the park swings, shooting range, and minor novelties.

On the fairground, Hampstead Village, were W. Le Neve and Norah Sullivan, the Sandows of the ground booth; Fred Gray's roundabouts and varieties; Jones's throwing games and other novelties.

Messrs. Hastings' and Whayman's ground at the Welsh Harp, Hendon, had for its attractions the well-known exhibits of this enterprising firm, and Prof. B. T. Burnelli's battery and military assault-at-arms, with other minor novelties.

Excellent and unique films of the Royal wedding were obtained by the Warwick Trading Company, of 4 and 5, Warwick-court, Holborn, who can always be relied upon to supply photographic reproductions of superb quality. The pictures of the historic function in Madrid were exhibited at the Palace Theatre at 5 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. By courtesy of the Civil Governor and the Chief of Police of Madrid, the enterprising firm was enabled to secure exclusive pictures outside the church, and so get magnificent portraits of the bride and bridegroom descending the steps. Another exclusive picture is that of H.M.S. Montagu on the rocks at Lundy, taken during the terrible gale of Friday, June 1; and a view of the launch of the new Cunarder, s.s. Lusitania, at Clydebank, taken under similar favourable conditions, is promised for this (Saturday) morning.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
George Wyman	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Total	£26	1	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

Mr. Harry J. Crane reproduced the sketch *Private Tom Travers* (originally known as *Our Lads in Red*) at the Richmond Theatre on Monday, when a large audience gave the stirring playlet and its chief interpreters a most favourable reception.

Mr. Harry Liston and Miss Lord Lumley, who are always adding to their already extensive repertoire, concluded on Saturday their ninth successive year's engagement (twenty-seven visits) at Blackpool, the North Pier Pavilion being densely crowded. They are re-engaged for Blackpool, and are now touring the East Coast with their *Merry Moments* company.

Harwood's Juveniles made their first bow to any audience at the Theatre Royal, Oldham, on Monday evening in a pretty sketch, *A Children's Christmas Evening*. Mr. Ernest Dottridge, manager of the Royal, has taken over the sole booking of the merry little party. The cleverness and earnestness with which the youngsters play their various parts are wonderful, and speak volumes for Mr. Harwood.

The Monte Carlo Publishing Company have just accepted for publication in their "Sixpenny Successes" series Miss Winifred Hare's charming song, with which she was so successful at the Oxford recently, viz., "One little lonely star," written by John P. Harrington, and composed by the late George Le Brunn, which will be issued in "Sixpenny Successes" form at an early date.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the Publisher, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, May 30.—*The Girl Patsy*, a play in four acts, by Mrs. Jane Mauldin Feigl, was submitted to the public at the Savoy Theatre on the 26th inst., this being the last dramatic offering of the season. Mrs. Feigl wrote a play called *Texas* some time ago, and it proved a decided success at the "popular price" houses. The play under notice will probably do just as well after some revision. Patsy, a simple-minded country girl, lives with her reputed aunt, Mrs. Musselwhite, who is in lowly circumstances. Noel Heritage, a young artist of good family, is engaged to Patricia, the daughter of Judge Clifford, the match having been arranged by Noel's worldly-wise mother. Noel meets Patsy, and is struck with her beauty. He makes several sketches of her, and arouses the jealousy of Patricia. As time passes he becomes more and more interested in the humble Patsy, which serves the purpose of the ambitious Mr. John Wilkins, Patricia's manservant, who has his eye on his mistress and her money. Patsy is engaged as housemaid in Judge Clifford's household, and Noel's growing indifference to Patricia angers his mother and the girl he is about to marry. The latter is haughty and overbearing, while Patsy is gentle and lovable. The scheming Wilkins obtains possession of Noel's sketchbook and uses it to advance his own interests. The upshot of all this is that Patricia elopes with her manservant, her flight being discovered a few minutes before the time set for her marriage to Noel Heritage. In the meantime Mrs. Musselwhite's drunken husband discloses the fact that Patsy is really Judge Clifford's daughter, Patricia's plebeian instincts being explained by the circumstance that she is the natural child of Mrs. Musselwhite's sister. Judge Clifford welcomes Patsy as his daughter, and makes no objection when Noel declares his intention of marrying her. Miss Mary Ryan was a winsome Patsy and the other rôles were in good hands.

His Honour the Mayor, a musical play produced at the New York Theatre last Monday, is a typical "summer show." Its most attractive features are the vocal accomplishments of Miss Blanche Ring and the clever dancing of the English "pony" ballet, which has been largely responsible for the success of several productions of this ilk during the last few years. Miss Ring, as a Hungarian heiress, Katrinka, sings with her usual vivacity and infectious good humour, the catchy effusion, "Come take a skate with me," and another lively refrain, "Waltz me around again, Willie," which have decidedly "caught on," also rendering a sentimental ballad called "The Magyar Maid," with good effect. Mr. Clarence Harvey, a comedian from the West, is very amusing in the title-rôle, his imitation of a baggage inspector making a big hit. Mr. Henri French, the "trick" bicyclist, scores as R. La Carte, a French waiter with a propensity for juggling bottles and glasses. Miss Mabel Hollins sings with irresistible archness "A little girl like me." Mr. Harry Kelly, as a grim-visaged but nimble-footed deacon, and Miss Madelyn Marshall, as his countrified daughter, both "doing" Paris, help the fun along; and Mr. Fletcher Norton's eccentric dancing makes his "Military Willie" song a popular number. The story is of little consequence, there being just enough to justify the title. The Mayor of Kankakee is in Paris because his political methods have been somewhat irregular, and he has found it advisable to make himself scarce. The scene of the second act is an illuminated winter garden in Hungary. Julian Edwards and Alfred E. Aarons composed the music, while the book and lyrics were written by C. E. Campbell and R. M. Skinner.

The tamer attached to a menagerie which was installed in a field at Nimes has had a narrow escape. He was making leopards go through their performance, when one of the animals bounded upon him. He struggled courageously with the beast. Meanwhile the spectators became seized with panic. Finally a tamer, named Emmanuel, who was amongst the spectators, rushed into the cage, and succeeded in rescuing the tamer, who was seriously wounded.

Miss Winifred Hare, "the brightest and cheeriest of principal boys," who for the time being has deserted the "legitimate" for the variety stage, never moves from her home without her mascot—a beautiful Persian cat. To this cat Miss Hare attributes the phenomenal success that has attended her professional career, but others are of opinion that her brilliant record is due solely to her own personality and wonderful voice.

At the same time, Miss Hare has more reason than one for pinning her faith on the cat. One night quite recently the talented actress was awakened by the excessive mewing of her favourite. Jumping out of bed, she discovered to her horror that smoke was slowly curling up the stairway, and, dashing downstairs, she was just in time to avert a serious conflagration.

At another time Miss Hare owed a providential escape from death to her favourite. Once when Miss Hare was playing in the North, the cat, while walking across the stage, started back as if stung by a serpent. Miss Hare, who was following, stopped stock still, and it is a mercy that she did. The cat had stepped on an insecure trap door, and another foot forward Miss Hare would have been hurled 20 feet below. Miss Hare is shortly to appear on the Moss-Stoll tour.

Mr. Ernest Bridgen, who has installed himself in local favour during his six months' management of the New Cross Empire, was for some twelve months in charge of affairs at the Granville, Walham-green. While occupying his responsible position at the latter house, he was instrumental in clearing up what at one time partook of the nature of a sensational mystery. Some of the papers had given a good deal of attention to the inexplicable disappearance of an Oxford undergraduate named Arthur Norris. One evening a youth walked into the Granville, and as his strange manner aroused Mr. Bridgen's suspicions, he interrogated the lad, and found that he was the missing student. Mr. Bridgen at once took Norris into his private office, and provided him with a sound meal, and at the conclusion of the performance accommodated the youth at his own house. The following morning posters were to be seen on the hoardings in the neighbourhood, intimating that the missing undergrad. would appear on the stage the same evening at the Granville; and appear he did, being introduced to the audience by the shrewd manager. For two days Mr. Bridgen looked after Norris at his own home, the student's father eventually turning up to claim his son.

The Three Rubys, after thirty-eight weeks' tour, will return to town shortly. They are booked for the Moss and Stoll tour for 1907.

On Monday next, at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, Mr. Henry Doughty and Miss Vera Leslie will appear in a new comedy duologue, *Entertaining the Dowager*, which has been specially written for them by G. Colmore, the well-known novelist, author of "The Valley of Shadows," "A Ladder of Tears," &c.

Mme. Dorina Natalia, who plays the piano and sings, has been scoring most unmistakably at the Empress, Brixton, where she has been delighting audiences by her rendering of Ernest Newton's charming song "The scent of the clover" and Joscelyn Noel's "Serenade in June." For her pianoforte solo Mme. Natalea has chosen Wilfred Sanderson's *morceau* "Coquette."

THE MIDDLESEX.

Mr. Graydon is able to boast an admirable holiday programme, and, as usual, crowded houses have resulted. Osborne and Brooks have an exceedingly amusing comedy duologue in *Partners*. It is the story of two lovers. The lady, apparently, is anxious to get an actor to become a partner with her in some stage production. She does not give her sweetheart credit for histrionic ability. He, on his part, feels sure he can act, and to prove it, he makes up as a somewhat cadaverous-looking player, and calls upon her, presumably in answer to an advertisement. In a laughable scene, he is able to demonstrate his talents, and immediately afterwards throws off his disguise, and is accepted by the lady as a partner, both in love and in business. Osborne and Brooks enact their little sketch in most acceptable fashion. Miss Ethel May is an enchanting comedienne and vocalist, and dances prettily; and Mr. W. P. Dempsey distinguishes himself as a character comedian. The J'Alvans furnish an extremely laughable comedy juggling act, of which, by the way, they treat us to a touch of the Oriental class of business. Mr. Will Farrell maintains his reputation as a "lightning comedian," and his rapidly-delivered songs, specially that which is accompanied by the waving of a Union Jack, find much favour with the Drury-lane boys

Drew and Alders are seen in a bright and lively act as comic bill-posters, and we know not what besides. Ludicrous in the extreme is the scene in which one of the gentlemen tries to teach the other a few juggling tricks. Miss Dolly Golden proves an engaging comedienne; and Mr. Ted Saunders is as entertaining a mimic as one could wish to meet. Mr. Fred Herbert, the topical vocalist, meets with an enthusiastic reception. His opening verses, "It's a wonder what money will do," tell the old story of the vanishing of friends with the vanishing of one's banking account, and Mr. Herbert very forcibly applies the truth of the saying in several directions. Then, in some apt lines, he deals with questions and topics of the day, such as the Royal Wedding at Madrid and the latest American scandal. So much of what he has to say appeals to the audience that he is recalled again and again. The Six Bretons make for hilarity with their pantomimical absurdity, *The Tramp's Picnic*, and the agile way in which they tumble over one another is something to marvel at. For fun of the rollicking order they stand pre-eminent at the Middlesex this week. Lee and Bentley also greatly assist in the general merry-making, with their farcical sketch, *Castles in the Air*, the parts of the Englishman and the German being humorously presented. Miss Daisy Mayer excels as a coon artist and sand dancer; and Kelly and Ashby, "the original bounding billiardists," excite one's admiration as well as one's risible faculties with their neatly-executed feats. Professor Thornbury, who modestly describes himself as a sand artist and smoke-painter, wins golden opinions for his lightning cartoons and ventriloquial demonstration.

A word of praise is due to those who are responsible for the beautiful and up-to-date series of pictures thrown on the New Bioscope screen. These scenes are most attractive, and are being watched with the keenest interest by Mr. Graydon's patrons. Mr. Roy Cochrane, supported by an able company, provides intense amusement with the sketch, set in the Cheviot Hills, entitled *No Parson Required*. There is plenty to laugh at in this little farce, and each member of the company enters with zest into his or her characterisation. On Thursday night a new vaudeville act was presented by Miss Rose Harvey, with the assistance of three attractive young ladies. Two of the girls are made up, one as a black boy and the other as a black girl, while Miss Harvey is attired in a white satin evening dress suit as the lover of the white lady. The black boy is also a suitor for the white lady's hand and heart, but his advances are rejected, and he eventually consoles himself with one of his own colour. The act is decidedly musical throughout, the harmonising of popular songs, which have been strung together to form a plot, being the distinctive feature of the sketch. The comedy is supplied by the black lady and an automatic cat, which interrupts the proceedings at a certain period in howling on the wall. There is a very effective dance, executed in sprightly style by Miss Florrie Parkinson, as the coloured girl. Miss Rose Harvey, as the leading juvenile, acts in dainty manner, and plays the part of one of the jeunesse dorée in characteristic style. Miss Ethel Melburne, as the white lady, pleasingly fulfils the requirements of her rôle; and Miss Gabrielle Harvey, as the black coon, submits a capital demonstration of her comedy powers. The piece is stage-managed and produced by Mr. H. Cory Woodrow.

During the visit last week of Miss Ella and her troupe of lions to the Palace of Varieties, Attercliffe, a sensation was provided by two local gentlemen—Mr. William Ellis and Mr. Alfred Long—engaging in a billiard match in the cage, with the lions as spectators. The cueists played with the utmost sang-froid, and, beyond an occasional roar, the animals were very passive, due no doubt to the command held over them by Miss Ella, their trainer.

Mr. Kennedy Johnson, the well-known assistant acting-manager at the Hackney Empire, whose health, as we informed our readers last week, has recently completely broken down, is now in the Victoria Park Hospital, N., undergoing a course of open-air treatment. The visiting days are Sundays from 2 o'clock until 3.30, and Thursdays from 3 o'clock till 5.

A double event was celebrated by Mr. H. J. Curry, of Grimsby, last Tuesday. It was exactly twenty years since he laid the foundation-stone of the Prince of Wales's Theatre in that town, and it was also the first anniversary of his laying the foundation of the Tivoli Variety Theatre there. There are now three generations of the family concerned in the management of these houses, for Mr. Curry's son, Mr. J. H. Curry, has been connected with the P.O.W. the whole of the time it has been open, and is now managing director, as well as occupying a similar office in regard to the Tivoli, whilst his grandson, Mr. Harry Curry, has been on the staff for over a year now.

Mr. Albert Mathams, the popular manager of the Hastings Hippodrome, has not been slow to take advantage of a popular craze, and last week purchased each night ten local 'bus and tram tickets from members of the audience, who had those numbers shown upon the Bioscope-sheet for that day, paying 5s. each. The idea is a success.

The latest quotations for music hall shares are as follows:—Alhambra 1½, Canterbury 1, Empire (15s. paid) 1½, Empire (10s. paid) 1, London Pavilion Ordinary 4, London Pavilion Preferred 4½, London Coliseum ¼, Metropolitan ⅜, Moss Empire 4⅜, Moss Empire Preferred 4, Oxford 6⅞, Palace 9s., Tivoli 6½, Var. Cons. Theatres 14s. 6d.

Visitors to the Ranelagh Club on Wednesday had a pleasant surprise. After the polo match, between the Moonlighters and the 1st Life Guards, Will Rogers, the Texas cowboy, who is one of the "stars" at the Palace Theatre, appeared with his pony and assistant, and gave a remarkable exhibition of lassooing, trick-riding, and other forms of cowboy manœuvres. He was received with much enthusiasm, and at the conclusion of his performance was presented by the club with a silver cup as a souvenir of the occasion.

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

This Scale does not apply to "Trade" Advertisements in these Columns.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION (Post Free).

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5, TAVISTOCK-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post, Free of Charge.

NO STAMPS.

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The Publisher,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

In case of the non delivery of "THE ERA" by the First Post, the Publisher will be greatly obliged if Advertisers will forward their Postal Wrappers, with the time of delivery marked upon them.

COMPANIES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 1, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
June 25, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 13, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17.
Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Oct. 8, 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, 28, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 17, 24, Christmas week, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Aug. 27, Nov. 26, Dec. 10, Dec. 20, 3 nights, Dec. 24, Christmas week, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22 (three nights), 29, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Huddersfield, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 24 (Xmas week).
Reading, June 25.
Leamington, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, on.
Theatre Royal, Leicester, July 2, 9, 16.
Northampton, July 23, 30, Xmas week.
Opera House, Leicester, Aug. 13.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
July 2 (wire), Aug. 13, Sept. 22.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Aug. 13, 27, Oct. 15, 22, 29.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6, onwards, with exceptions.
E. Graham Falcon,
County Theatre, Bedford.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, July 30 (unexpectedly vacant).
Apply, T. E. Rowe.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 13, 20, 27 (3 nights), Sept. 10, 24, Nov. 15 (3 nights), Dec. 3. Booked in Conjunction with T. R., Whitehaven. Address, Stanley Rogers, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, July 16 and 23. Applications, with full particulars, to J. R. Huddlestone, Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, good Dramatic Attractions for July 16, 23, and 30, also Musical Attraction only, for Sept. 10 and Oct. 8. Apply, Sidney Cooper, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction, for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday), also Aug. 13, 20, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, Companies, Drama, or good Combination, June 25, July 2, and on, big Attraction for Bank Holiday. James Elphinstone.

GRAND THEATRE, RADCLIFFE.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29, and on.
Sante.

GRAND THEATRE, CHORLEY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, 15, 22, 29, and on.
Sante.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Musical Comedy preferred, Monday, July 16, owing to Manager desirous of cancelling date.
Nightingale, Aquarium, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, First-Class Attractions, June 25 (six nights). W. Payne, Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House, Weston-super-Mare.

PRINCE OF WALES'S T., MEXBORO'.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Aug. 6.
Address, W. H. Melton.

WANTED, Companies, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury, Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday), Sept. 3, 17, 24, and Dec. 3, good musical comedy preferred. Write, W. C. Dornton, Business-Manager.

WANTED, High-class Company, July 16, only vacant date, Londesborough Theatre, Scarborough. Address, Waddington, Stonegate, York.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction, three nights, one matinée, June 14, 18, July 2; only good Companies entertained. Write, Seebold, as above. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, First-class Co., for Grand Theatre, Llandudno, July 9, 10, 11, only Date in Season. Record House at Usual prices, £164. Wire, Haldane Crichton, Pier, St. Leonards.

WANTED, for Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for June 25, July 2, 9, and 16. Address, E. B. Goulden.

NEW GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Cos. (Musical preferred), new brick and stone Theatre, opens September, now being erected at cost of £10,000; stage 60 by 40; 40 to flies; holds 1,200.
Clayton, 53, Grosvenor Park-rd., Walthamstow.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Comedy or Drama, July 9, 30, Aug. 6 and 13.
E. H. Page.

DUNFERMLINE OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, High-class Cos., Musical preferred, August 20, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts, Opera House, Dunfermline.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies, for July 16 and 30.
Address, Charles Revill, Stockport.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant June 11, July 30, Aug. 20, Oct. 1.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant May 28, Aug. 6, 13, 20.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 3, 24, Nov. 5, Dec. 3.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 20.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant June 11, 18, 25, July 2

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25.

"ALADDIN,"
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

All communications to Arthur Carlton,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

THEATRE ROYAL, DARWEN.
WANTED, Strong Attractions for the following Dates: July 30 (re-opening date after Summer Vacation), Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 17, 24, Nov. 8, 9, and 10 (3 nights), Dec. 3, 10, 17, Feb. 4, and onwards. Last season's bookings included Moody-Manners Opera Co., "The Earl and the Girl," "The Country Girl," "The Toreador," Band of H.M. Scots Guards, Ian Maclaren, Chung Ling Soo, Grace Warner, "Still Alarm," The Elliotts and Savonas, &c., &c. Address, M. Loader, T. R., St. Helens.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, June 18, 25, Oct. 1, and on.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, General-Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Attraction, for week of July 9.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, June 25 and July 2. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. Apply, L. Carson, Keighley.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction only, Aug. 27, only vacant date this year.
Address, Harry Yorke.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic or Musical Attractions, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 23, Feb. 18, and onwards.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON.
General-Manager, J. Fred Watson.
WANTED Companies, must be strong shows, July 16, 23, 30, Aug. 6, Nov. 12, Dec. 3, also strong Pantomimes.
Notice to Managers.—In future address all communications to the above.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Dec. 10.
Apply to Owner and Manager, James Kiernan.

COURT THEATRE, GALWAY.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, 15, and onwards, with exceptions.
For terms please address,
P. O'Shaughnessy, Proprietor.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Aug. 6.
Jos. B. Ormerod.

WANTED, Good Cos., Aug. 27, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and 12, on, with exceptions.
Manager, King's T., Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

COLISEUM, ABERYSTWYTH.
WANTED, Best Companies only, June, on. Booking Season Dates. Apply, Phillips.

WANTED, First-class Company or Variety Combination, for Queen's, Leeds, June 25.
Wire, Dottridge, Empire, Oldham.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

WANTED, Dates. Touring Companies and Concert Managers. King's Theatre, Walton-on-Naze. Seating 600. July, Aug., Sept. Particulars, Manager, 87, Sutton-court, Chiswick.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ODDFELLOWS' HALL, DEAL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 16, Sept. 5, onwards. Can take theatre scenery.
WHITE, Manager.

WANTED, Good Companies, June 21, 22, 23, also July 2, 9, on, with exceptions, for Prince's Theatre, Llandudno, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay. Apply, CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20. Oct. 15.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, 13, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 24, Oct. 1.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Nov. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
"Bruges," Willow-av., Edgbaston, Birmingham.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,"
The Most Successful Play Produced during the Year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-Class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-square, Birkenhead.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, weeks of June 25 and July 2.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, July 2, 16, on.

"SAILORS OF THE KING,"
Aug. 27, Sept. 10, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Prince's Theatre, Poplar, London.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Third Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
Miss Dora Price as the Woman.
WANTED, June 18, June 25, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
This and next, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 2, 30, Aug. 6, 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 22, and Dec. 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Aquarium Theatre, Gt. Yarmouth.
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-second Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into March, '07.
WANTED, July 23 and 30, follow W. London. Aug. 20, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 1.
FRANK AYRTON,
Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
The Successful Domestic Drama,
by Frank Lindo.
WANTED, owing to Continuation of Tour through Summer,
July 16, 23, and 30;
also Oct. 8 and 22.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and 24.
Apply,
FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

WANTED, for "Circumstantial Evidence," June 18 and 25. Refer Mr. Stanley Rogers, Carlisle. Wire, CLIFFORD, to-day, Carlisle; June 11, Pavilion, Altrincham.

PHIL HERMAN'S "FRITZ" CO.
WANTED, Known, open dates June 18, July 9, 16 23, Aug. 6, 13, 21, 27.
Thanks to Messrs. Robert Arthur, Broadhead and Co., Buchanan, Culling, Bacon, Carlton, Pennington, Powell, &c., &c., for offers and dates.
Address, JORDISON, St. James' Hall, Manchester.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 16, 30, Aug. 6 (?), Xmas.
FRANK E. BURDETT, 161, Chesterfield-rd., Sheffield.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY" TOUR.
Eugene C. Stafford's Company.
WANTED, Nov. 1 (three nights) and 12, Dec. 3 and 24, also Spring, 1907. Apply, care of FRENCH, Ltd., 26, Southampton-street, Strand, London.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S NEW PLAY,
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
WANTED, Oct. 29, on, including Xmas. Add., STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre R., Chesterfield.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatre, June 25, Vacant through obliging a Manager. Wire or write, OSMOND, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

MILLAR ANDERSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, June 25, to Precede Palace, Newcastle, only No. 1 theatre entertained, absolute best terms. Cast includes Miss Mabel Mannering and Mr. Jerrold Heather. Wire, ANDERSON, Theatre, Llandudno.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, July 9, to follow Blackpool, July 16 and 23.
DICKIE CLARE, T. R., Lincoln.

"A MISERABLE MARRIAGE" CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this Great Attraction, Oct. 8, 15, and on. J. NIGUS, T. R., Bolton.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Miss Dora Dench and Powerful Company.
WANTED, June 25, July 9 and 16.
Wires DENCH, Ton-y-Pandy;
next, Queen's, Manchester.

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, Best Theatres, June 18, July 2, Aug. 6, Oct. 8, 22. T. ARTHUR JONES, T. R., Bilston; next, Star, Swansea.

WANTED, for "Assassin," Oct. 29, only vacant Autumn.
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, 19, Dunalley-par., Cheltenham.

"THE TEMPTRESS."
WANTED, Aug. 13, only vacant 1906 date.
W. H. HALLATT, 1, St. John's-road, Richmond, Surrey.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 9, 23, Aug. 6.
HENRY L. OSMOND,
Queen's, Longton.

WANTED, Theatres, for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Enormous success of "Her Lost Self" at Alexandra, Sheffield. Vacant Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 8, Xmas, New Year. FRANCES DELAVAL, Alexandra, Hull.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, July 2, 16, Aug. 13.
Company second to none touring.
HARRY FOXWELL, Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, June 18, on, Aug. 13, various on, a Sterling High-class Drama. Wire, MILLER, Royal, Stockton; next, Muncaster, Bootle.

WANTED, July 9, 16, and 23, big Theatre for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday) and 13; also Sept. 17 and 24, Nov. 5, on, by the Elster Grimi Opera Co. O. H., Torquay.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, July 9 and 16, to follow Chatham. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre; several dates vacant Autumn. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production which will be second to none touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of carefully-selected Artists
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain First-Class Theatres for this undoubted success. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.
WANTED, Good Theatres, for "The Heart of a Hero," "The Octoroon," and "The Ticket of Leave Man," June 25, July 9, and onwards. Can arrange for three plays in one week. L. CARSON, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Sept. 10, 17, and Oct. 1. L. CARSON, Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, Vacant Aug. 27, Oct. 8 (North), Oct. 29, Nov. 5 and 19.
Dec. 24 Vacant. Splendidly advertised, beautifully mounted, and cleverly acted. A great success.
Present Bookings: R., Cardiff; G., Swansea; L., Newport; Sunderland; S. Shields; Brixton; G., Croydon; Broughton; A., Sheffield; G., Wolverhampton; Llandudno; Edinburgh; Bootle; Seacombe; &c., &c. T. R., Cardiff, June 11.

Success! Success!! Success!!!
Miss MARY NEIL and Mr. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
Bookings include
Junc. and Osborne, Manchester (R.); Alex., Hull (R.); P., Blackburn (R.); T. R., Castleford (R.); T. R., Bolton; Alex., Sheffield; Grand, Blackpool; T. R., Lincoln; G., Derby; T. R., Leicester; T. R., South Shields; O. H., St. Helens; T. R., Sunderland; G., Liverpool; Wigan; Prince's, Bradford; T. R., Barnsley; T. R., Middlesbrough; T. R., Chatham; T. R., Smethwick; T. R., Aston; Grand, Nottingham; Rotunda, Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Prince's, Portsmouth; Alexandra Birmingham; P. O. W., Grimsby.
Thanks for offers of T. R., Bristol; Grand, Swansea; G., Burnley; Accrington; Victoria, Broughton; Grand, Islington.

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, and few Autumn Dates vacant for really good Theatres that can hold money. Rapidly booking 1907. Managers are invited to forward autumn vacancies to GEORGE KIRK, this, Grand, Nottingham; next, T. R., Chatham.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, few later,
Mr. Samuel James's
Magnificent Production of
"AS GOOD AS GOLD."
The Dramatic Success of the Year.
Daily Express says:—
Proved an instantaneous success.
Mr. J. F. Elliston writes:—
I am exceedingly pleased to see that you are going to tour the piece on a really high-class scale. It is the only way to make money nowadays. I now enclose confirmation of contract, and trust that we shall have a pleasant and profitable week.
Immediately booked after Production for Palace, Newcastle; Alex., Hull; T. R., Sheffield; Queen's, Liverpool (3rd).
Address, F. S. JENNINGS, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

JOHN DRAYTON, MILLIONAIRE ? ? ?
A Most Striking Play.
WANTED, Dates, July 9 and July 16 (South preferred), to follow Ramsgate, for Messrs. Dew and Ross's Company of Players, in the above Play. A Fanciful Comedy, by H. M. Walbrook. Wanted, July 9 and July 16. This play has been revised and title altered. It was produced with considerable success at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, and the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne. Apply, Mr. FREDERICK ROSS, until Friday, 62, Portsdown-road, Maida Vale, London, W.; or to Mr. FRED C. DEW, Theatre Royal, Dover.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE NEW CLOWN."
"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, June 25, only Vacant Date.
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
First Vacant Date Oct. 22.
EUGENE BERTRAM, O. H., Coventry.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Special
Aug. 13, Scenery,
Aug. 20, Attractive
Sept. 10 (?) Printing.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, Criterion T., London.

WANTED, June 25, all July, Aug. 6, 20, for Musical Versions of "Life" and "East Lynne." Répertoire if desired. First-class Co. Six Musical Numbers. Agent and magnificent printing. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, T. R., Ilkeston. Write, T. R., Bedford, Leigh.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever. E. CARTER LIVESEY, to-day, Hippodrome, Blackpool; next, Metropole, Gateshead.

PAUMIER AND HOWARD'S
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG."
"UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG,"
by Walter Howard. Tour under the personal direction of Jack Haddon. New scenery and costumes, by Angels.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10, 24, onwards.
JACK HADDON, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
Mr. Jack Haddon, having acquired the sole proprietorship of above Pantomime, which is acknowledged to be one of the finest productions toured, will be pleased to hear from managers of first-class theatres, from Xmas week, and onwards.
Address as above.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Oct. 1, 8, 15, Nov. 5, and on. No greater success Touring.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande.
Address, JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Xmas week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, July 9, 30, Aug. 6, on.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
Fifth Year of Successful Tour.
Address,
STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Theatres, Miss Alice Chapin's Co., "A PANTOMIME REHEARSAL," and "FAITHFUL JAMES."
June 11, 12, 13 (North), June 18, July 16.
Wire, Saturday (agent and printing ready), COYNE, Tyne, Newcastle; after, O. H., Harrogate.

"THE BARRISTER."
WANTED, Theatres for June 25, July 2, 9, 16, and 23.
Apply,
HENRY DOUGHTY, Devonshire Park T., Eastbourne

E. H. KNIGHT and GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.,
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24.
GEORGE DENHAM,
Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

HILLIARD VOX'S
"ALASKA."
"ALASKA."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 24, for this Powerful American Melodrama. Address, HILLIARD VOX, Alhambra Theatre, Belfast.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Sept. 10, onwards,
"SAINTS AND SINNERS"
and "MIDDLEMAN,"
including Miss Elsie Verner
and Mr. Harding Thomas.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
Mr. Sturgess having decided to run through the summer,
WANTED, June 18, onwards,
"A QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
including Miss Edith Blande.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards,
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
by Sutton Vane.
Mr. ARTHUR CARLTON'S TOUR.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards,
"ORPHAN HEIRESS"
and "WORLD'S VERDICT."
Mr. W. REUBEN PAYNE'S TOUR.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

"IN HOLY (!) RUSSIA."
The Success of the Season.
WANTED, the following open Dates:
Aug. 6, Dalston Theatre, London.
13, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
20, Grand Theatre, Woolwich.
27, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
Sept. 3, Queen's Gateshead.
10, Opera House, Middlesbro'.
17, Theatre Royal, Castleford.
24, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
Oct. 1, Grand Theatre, Walsall.
8, Theatre Royal, Croydon.
15, Theatre Royal, Chatham.
22, Grand Theatre, Islington.
29, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
Nov. 5, West London Theatre.
12, Vacant (through transferring).
19, Vacant.
26, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Dec. 3, Junction Theatre, Manchester.
10, Theatre Royal, Bolton.
17, Vacation.
24, Vacant.
31, Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Jan. 7, Vacant.
14, Theatre Royal, Belfast.
21, Vacant.
28, Vacant.
Feb. 4, Vacant.
11, Vacant.
18, Theatre Royal, Leigh.
25, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Mar. 4, Vacant.
11, Theatre Royal, Aston.
18, Smethwick.
25, Vacation.
Apr. 1, Court Theatre, Wigan.
The general opinion of all Managers with whom we have played since the first production, May 29, 1905: In writing, playing, staging, and dressing the show would not disgrace a West End theatre.
Address, J. RICE CASSIDY,
This, York T. R.; next, N. SHIELDS.

Company A,
Under the direction of JOHN LAWSON.
Episode "HUMANITY." Episode
"THE MONKEY'S PAW,"
by W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker.
VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
The production equal in every way to original, and individuality has been selected for respective parts.
WANTED, June 25 and intermediate Dates.
Wire, V. NEWMAN, Olympia, Liverpool.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

JAMES WILLARD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, to complete casts for Autumn Tours, Juvenile Gentlemen, Juvenile Ladies, Gentlemen for Old Men, Child Actress, Gentlemen for Heavy, Character, and Comedy, good Chambermaid. All must send photographs, height, age, and lowest terms to JAMES WILLARD, 29, Queen-square, Bristol.

"A BOLT FROM THE BLUE" CO.
WANTED, Juvenile Lady and Gentleman, for production of above dramatic sketch, special fortnight, probable tour to follow; gentleman must not be less than 5ft. 9in. in height, and not look more than 21 or 22; lady must sing, and not look more than 18. Only first-class artists need apply. Also Gentleman, for understudy, young, good appearance. Photos., terms, references, address, MANAGER, "A Bolt from the Blue" Co., Empire Theatre, Dublin.

"THE MANXMAN" TOUR.
WANTED, Artists, for Important Vacancies, now and autumn, character comedian for Cregeen, juvenile leading gentleman, light comedian, responsible and bright young soubrette; all must dress well. Fullest particulars, age, height, photos., recent references, &c., A. B. CROSS, T. R., Cardiff.

WANTED, Artists, for Comedy Drama, few weeks' tour through S. Wales. Summer terms. HUDSPATH and MCDONALD, P.O., Merthyr Tydfil.

WANTED, Liverpool (two nights), 14th, 15th, Wahnotee, Capt. Rolls, Mrs. Peyton rehearse Tuesday. MILLER, this, Royal, Stockton; next, Muncaster, Bootle.

WANTED, for Little Lew, "Her Fatal Past" Autumn Tour, Clever Child Actress, 14 years, not above 4ft. 7in., refined and sympathetic. Address, with full particulars, photos., &c., to T. E. WARD, Royal West London Theatre, W.

WANTED, for Early Autumn, Musical Comedy, two principal baritones, two low comedians. Apply, Tuesday morning, between 10 and 11 o'clock, to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer's Tour, autumn, good responsible actor; also lady, for small parts. Address, 36, Gloucester-road, Kew, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer can receive a lady and gentleman, as pupils, in her répertoire company, for autumn tour. Address, 36, Gloucester-road, Kew, Surrey.

WANTED, Good Tenors and Basses, for Long Season. Apply, Monday and Tuesday, 20, Valmar-road, Denmark-hill, S.E.

ACCRINGTON AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY.
WANTED, Coach, for production of "Trial by Jury" and "The Sorcerer," Feb. 4 to 9, 1907; engagement for three weeks before and the week of performance. Apply, with references, to CHAS. S. HAYWOOD, Hon. Sec., Post Office-chambers, Accrington.

THE AUDITION CO., LTD.
10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C
Notice to Artists and Agents.
WANTED, Artists to Know,
The above Company is formed for the purpose of arranging Trial Performances either for Professionals or Amateurs. Artists desiring an opportunity of appearing before Agents with a view to Engagements should communicate at once.
N.B.—Next Audition, Monday, June 11.

WANTED, Immediately, Sopranos, Contraltos, Tenors, Basses; must be young and attractive. Apply, F. DARRELL and Co., 415, Strand.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, London Halls, Rehearse immediately. Full particulars, terms (must be low), letters only, to MANAGER, 3, Stockwell Park-road, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, £20 Bonus to anyone securing actor (13 years' experience) a really good engagement, town or country. Every qualification. Strictly confidential.
Box 3,333, "The Era."

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Gavin Wood, Bass-Baritone (late Carl Rosa and Geo. Edwardes' Cos.), Free for Summer work; large experience in Al-fresco and Concerted Work, Quartettes, Trios, &c.; large répertoire Solos. 15, Fentiman-road, South Lambeth, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Baritone, good voice and répertoire, thoroughly experienced, Al Fresco or Concert Party; join immediately. BERT BERRY, Lecturer, Poole's Theatre, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagements for Concerts and At Homes, Rosina Wildair (diplomatist), F. R. Benson, elocutionist, humorous monologues, sketches, recitals to music. Care of "The Era" Office.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
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WANTED, Artists disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Specialities, Dumb Shows, Comedians for Panto., Chorus, &c. MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Principals, Specialities, Chorus. Write with full particulars, photos., height, &c, JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

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WANTED, Scenic Artists, to touch up Scenery in London next week. Terms, references, to JAMES WILLARD, 29, Queen-square, Bristol.

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WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, c/o The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Scenic Artist, with First-class London and Provincial References. Offers for Permanency, now or autumn, on moderate terms. Address, first instance, Box 3,283, "Era."

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, at Liberty for Engagement or Contract now or autumn. Refs. excellent. Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts, Oldest Scenic Studio in Manchester (Rumford-street, C.-on-M.). Compare terms. To Let, good Dry Storage, cheap. W. B. BOSTOCK.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, Acting-Manager, duties commencing July. Address, with photo., references, age, and lowest terms, to
R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Manager for First-class Music Hall; must be competent, with highest references. Investment £500, with salaried position. Genuine applicants. Address, STAGE, c/o Anderson's Advertising Agency, 14, Cockspur-street, S.W.

WANTED, a First-class Variety Manager, for a First-class Music Hall in Lancashire; only those who have held a similar position need apply. State age, salary required, and send copy of testimonials. Box 3,327, "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Gentlemanly Business Manager, to manage Band Concerts, East Cliff front. References indispensable. Apply, SAINTON, Mus. Dir., T. H., Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, as Assistant Acting-Manager and Understudy, for good tour. No premium.
Age, height, photo., references,
Box 3,346, "The Era."

WANTED, by Acting Stage-Manager. Young man (23) requires appointment, £20 premium given, variety hall only. State wages. RICHARDSON, 19, Reginald-road, Eastney, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Martin Comstock, now at Liberty, Management or Advance. Few special weeks. Wire to-day, Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting-Manager, by Chas. J. Cawood, late Acting-Manager, Empire, Edinburgh, for 13 years. Address, 2, Cecil-house, Venn-street, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Actor-Dramatist is open to collaborate; novels adapted, plays read and advised upon. Address Box 3,344, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting-Manager, Theatre or Music Hall, Provinces pref., thoroughly experienced; excellent references. Apply, Box 3,354, "The Era."

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WANTED, by Electrician, thoroughly experienced. Engagement; well up in all branches of Theatre Work, Engines, Motors, &c. Box 3,329, "The Era."

WANTED, by H. Leeding, Carpenter, re-engagement, resident, near London preferred; tools; abstainer, 32; refs; bench. 11, Little Litchfield-street, W.

WANTED, by Refined Lady, Permanent Employment in Hotel, attractive, assist in bar; premium, or cash security given if desired. Miss RAYMOND, G.P.O., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Maid-companion, to Travel; no salary. Address, MAY, 54, Pictonstreet, Stoke's Croft, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, First-class Wardrobe Mistress, Costumier, good Cutter-out; and good reference. Shortly at Liberty. Box 3,352, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by a thoroughly competent Wardrobe Mistress; experienced in all classes of Costume. M., 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington.

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WANTED, Martin Comstock, now at Liberty, Management or Advance. Few special weeks. Wire to-day, Empire Theatre, Southend-on-Sea.

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WANTED, Leader for Cardiff. Apply, stating age, salary required, and giving names and addresses for references to OSWALD STOLL, Cranbourn-mansions, W.C.

WANTED, Experienced Musical Director (Violin), to supply Good Orchestra, for Variety Work and Dancing; must provide up-to-date Music, competent Musicians, and furnish good references.
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Write, Box 3,332.

WANTED, immediately, through Vacation at Palace Theatre (Varieties), First Violin, Trombone, Tympanist, Effects. Long experience. WADSWORTH, 32, Staunton-street, Lincoln.

WANTED, Violin, Double Bass, Vocalist, Pitching. Terms, shares. Town Band. Apply, J. BURRO, 6, Auboro'-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, to commence immediately, till about the end of September,
good Second Cornet.
Apply, with terms and references, to
Mr. DAN GODFREY,
Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, good Solo Cornet, for Town Band, Shares, permanent.
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WANTED, Cornet, young, used Variety, must be good Soloist; sobriety indispensable.
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WANTED, First Clarionet Player, to join Town Band (Pitching), commence June 18. State lowest terms. J. C. HUDSON, Parkside, Skegness.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Clarionet, Orchestral or Military; experienced and reliable; good references. G. J. BREWSTER, 7, Cranstoun-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Clarionet, to combine 'Cello or Viola; also Horn to combine Viola or 'Cello. State terms. VINCE, St. Leonards, Sussex.

WANTED, July 16, for nine weeks, Double Bass, for Clarence Gardens Orchestra, Scarborough. State lowest terms. A. L. ARNOLD, 32, Tennyson-avenue, Scarborough.

For Continental Tour with
Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie.
WANTED, Competent Slide Trombone, salary 40s. weekly; and Double Drummer, 36s. 6d. weekly; both to commence June 18. Apply, FRANK BOSTOCK, Saturday and Sunday, Binche; Monday, Leval-Trahegnies, Belgium; or permanent address, 17, Rue Saulmier, Paris.

WANTED, Solo Euphonium Player, for a Staff Band, at well-known Seaport;
exceptional advantages to the right man,
and a comfortable position.
ALFRED HAYS,
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London, W.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Oboe, and Oboe and Cor Anglais, for Season, to Sept. 30, to commence at once. First-class instrumentalists only. Apply, stating experience, and terms for two performances daily, to J. R. HUDDLESTONE, General-Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Harpist, lady or gentleman, to join with First-Class Violinist and Vocalist (young), for Pitching, Seaside. Box 3,343, "The Era."

WANTED, an experienced Flautist, from June 16 till end of September, for Dunoon Castle Gardens and Pavilion. Apply, with terms and particulars, to RICHARD DAEBLITZ, 244, West Prince's-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, ex-Army Flute and Piccolo, Militia Training, July 2, Aug. 25. State lowest terms, BANDMASTER, The Castle, Monmouth.

WANTED, a Good Pianist, capable of Musical Sketches; also First-class Violin and Cornet; long tour to suitable people. Lowest terms and references, letters only, ERNEST MANSELL, King's Service, 2, Amen-corner, E.C.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Youth; must play M.S. at Sight, Transpose. Lowest terms, photo., to ROLMAZ, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, Cheshire.

WANTED, First-class Drummer, with Tympanis, Drums, and Effects, experienced in Concert Work, to combine Librarian preferred, for Seaside Resort, South Coast, end July until October. Write, stating experience, age, and references to Box 3,337, "The Era."

WANTED, a small Band of Four or Five, used to Fair Business, for small Circus, three or four days in each town. Wire or write, lowest terms, Circus, Baker's, Treorchy Fair Ground, S. Wales.

WANTED, at once, Solo Clarionet, Second Cornet, First French Horn, Flute and Piccolo, and Drums, military; must be good; five hours daily. State age, and terms, which must be low. CONDUCTOR, Pleasure Grounds, Matlock Bath.

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra, Four Performers, long engagement to right people. Write, A. E. PICKARD, Britannia Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wan

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WANTED, by Violinist, young, good repetiteur, situation in Theatre or Hall, distance no object; can open at once. Address, 20, Colvestone-crescent, Dalston, N.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Second Violin, reliable, disengaged June 21, seaside preferred. JOHN KEMPSTER, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, combine Trombone, late Buxton and New Brighton Orchestras. SYKES, 108, Howard-street, Oxford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Violinist, Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, excellent testimonials, now at Liberty. Address, MATTHEW LEWIS, Waterlooville, Hants.

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violin, Double Bass, together or separate; experienced; good ref. VIOLINIST, 3, Castle-terrace, Church-street, Oxford.

WANTED, by Violin or Viola, any business; excellent reference; reliable. H. S., 15, Standen St. John's, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Engagement, July 2, Two Violins, Piano (combine viola), 'Cello, Bass, Flute, Clarionet, Cornet, Drums, together or separate. T. HULLEY, M.D. (Violin), Royalty T., Chester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet or Second Violin, after 16th inst.
GEORGE STEELE, Olympia Varieties, Bury.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, any Business; can join at once; combine string if required. CORNETIST, 13, Rosser-street, Neath, Glam.

WANTED, by Cornet, as First or Second, age 21, for Seaside or anywhere. Apply, MAC, 2, Moreland-street, Finsbury Park, N.

WANTED, Known, Reliable Cornet at Liberty,
HUTCHBY, 7, Kimberley-rd., Croydon, W.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet, experienced, can join at once. Address, CORNET, 4 Chestnut-gardens, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet and Trombone, together or separate. Wire,
HARRISON, 82, Commercial-road, Grantham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet.
F. YOUNG,
117, East Surrey-grove, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Clarionet, at Lib. June 9; good refs. CLARIONET, Hillside Villa, Cymmer-road, Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, First Clarionet, two Solo Cornets, Piccolo, and Flute and Trombone, together or separate. Apply, WOODS, Barracks, Grantham.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, Engagement, any business, sober and reliable; can start at once. WILL SMITH, 15, Portland-place, Carlisle.

WANTED, Engagement, at Once, by First-class Clarionettist, Orchestra or Military; thoroughly experienced; best instruments. H. SUMMERS, 43, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, String Bass (theatre closing), any Business; would deputise. Theatre Royal, Attercliffe; or J. MURRAY, 37, Thorpe-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass (4-stringed), any Business; splendid refs. JACK PAYNE, 9, Somers-road, Worcester.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, steady and reliable, good refs., could join at once. HARRY HARE, 21, Station-square, Harrogate.

WANTED, by Jas. L. Barker, Principal Double Bass. Grand, Leeds, Summer Engagement; would deputise; sober and reliable; highest references. 19, Nowell-mount, Harehill's-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Double Bass Player. Opera, Drama, or Variety; good references. Terms moderate. PEENE, 22, Church-street, Leominster.

WANTED, good Engagement, by Bass, five years in present Engagement.
WILLIAMSON, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Bass, any Business; steady and reliable. BASSO, 24, St. James-street, Accrington.

WANTED, by Double Bass, experienced, Engagement or Deputising, any Business. Apply, BASSIST, 1, Honeybrook-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, satisfaction guaranteed; any business. J. ALLAN, 1, Buckland-st., New North-rd., London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by Solo Trombone. Just finished third season with Pump Room Orchestra. Address, OTTO LUSCHER, 24, Union-passage, Bath.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, Season or Permanency, at Liberty June 23.
HIBES, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombonist, any business. A. ENGLISH, 30, Wood-street, High Barnet, Herts.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, at Lib. June 11.
GASCOIGNE, 112, Penshurst-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombonist, late military, will be disengaged shortly, for season. Apply, COOKE, Trombone, New Theatre, Cambridge.

WANTED, Engagement as Bombardon, Seaside or Tenting; steady and reliable; can open at once. A. BLUNT, 36, Forest-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, by E flat Bombardon, season or permanent; experienced and reliable; undeniable references. J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-street, Cheltenham, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Horn, First or Second, long experience; steady and reliable; military band preferred; excellent refs. W. J., 70, Lowther-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist, good soloist; experienced any business; disengaged from June 16. L. H., 21, Beaumont-buildings, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cello, Double Bass, and Trombone, experienced men, seaside, or any business. Apply, TEASDALE, 128, Lansdowne-rd., Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly experienced 'Cellist, Disengaged, in town or sea side; will also Deputise. 51, Cleveland-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, any business. CELLO, 10, Emily-mansions, Landor-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Oboe, experienced in any capacity, late R.A. Band, Woolwich; sober and reliable. FRANK FIELD, 28, Cardozo-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c.—7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, L.L.C.M., Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement (together), by Two Musicians, Flautist and Harpist, sight-readers. Address, FLAUTIST, 26, King-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo Player.
Address, BENNETT, 13, Church-st., Beeston, Notts.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, any Business, Theatre closing; would deputise; military or string. RELIABLE, 27, Thistlethwaite-rd., Lower Clapton.

WANTED, Known, Flautist and Piccolo Player, First-class and Well-known, Disengaged at present. Address, C. J. B., Heathbank, Braunton, N. Devon.

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, Orchestral or otherwise; experienced accompanist; sight reader. RODNEY, 52, Winstead-st., Battersea Park, S.W.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement by a Lady, as Pianiste and Vocalist. Tour or permanent. L. R., Smith's Library, Russell-gardens, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, David Davies, thoroughly experienced sight-reader, seeks regular engagement, as pianist, orchestral or otherwise. Box 3,330, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by N. Robinson, pianist, through disappointment, any business, steady, reliable, good refs., good reader. 50, Saddler-st., Durham.

WANTED, Known, Howard Jones, Pianist, Disengaged, late ten years Queen's, Poplar; London or near. 29, Hayday-rd., Barking-rd., Plaistow, E.

WANTED, by Pianist, Re-eng., Orchestral, Al-fresco, Hydro, any Bus., Lightning Reader, Transposer, young. CAMPBELL, 45, Edward-street, Bury.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, Second Violin, or Viola; experienced, smart, steady. Refs. Orchestral or tour; any Business. At Lib. June 25. MARTON, c/o Morland, 38, Leoville-st., Springfield-rd., Belfast.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, by First-Class Orchestral Pianist, combine Clarionet (good); thoroughly experienced all Lines. Wire, J. VEVERS, 53, Carroun-rd., Clapham-rd., London.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Young Lady solo instrumentalist and pianist, sight-reader, thoroughly experienced any business. Write, Box 3,340, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Double Drums, at Liberty, any Business; all Effects. GEO. SMITH, 19, Brecknock-road, London, N.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Tympanist, and Effects; excellent references. J. TELL, 36, St. James's-road, Bermondsey, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Drums and Effects; sober, reliable, any Business. Liberty Monday, Military or Orchestral. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, immediately Engagement, by First class Drummer and Effects, orchestra or military; best references. H. PRICE, 8, Church-street, Kennington, London.

WANTED, b- Orchestral Drummer, Engagement, competent, highest refs. W. GOWINGS, 50, Flood-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Known, the Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, can supply Ladies' Bands, any number, brilliant costumes, latest music. Address, CONDUCTRESS, Volthurst, Newbury.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Dodsworth's Northern Military or String Bands, from 12 upwards. Neat uniform. For terms, apply, DODSWORTH, 9, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Garner's Elysée Band, from three performers or first-class Orchestral Pianist; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury.

WANTED, the Bradfield Ladies' Orchestra, Engagement, September; also Garden Parties, &c.; excellent Soloists; Music specially arranged. 111, Holland-road, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Engagement, small Orchestra, Piano, Violin, Flute, Cornet, Bass, all reliable. Add., CONDUCTOR, 218, Gt. Portland-street, London, W.

WANTED, Seaside Summer Engagement, by experienced Quartette or Quintette (Ladies). Highest testimonials. Miss MABEL MILLER, 32, Montrell-road, Streatham Hill.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Canadian Circus, Tenting, Ireland, Artists in all Lines, those doing more than one act preferred; also good Tent-master, to join at once. Wire, Sat., Strokestown; Mon., Mullingar. After, address, HANNEFORD'S Circus, 10, Goldsmith-street, Dublin.

WANTED, to Engage, High Wire Walker, or Pole Climber, at once; or anything suitable.

Apply,
WALLIS,
Seaforth.

WANTED, Young Man or Youth, for Knock-about Bar Act. Address, with full particulars, to GYMNAST, 53, Church-st., Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, John Henry Cooke's Herd of Diving Reindeer and Stud of Plunging Horses
will be at Liberty
on July 2.
Proprietors or Managers having water 10ft. deep please write.
JOHN HENRY COOKE,
Circus,
Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, only one in this country of its kind, vacant Monday next, wire quick. Also July 2, 9, 16, 23, and Aug. 6, share or certain. The greatest Attraction for Fête and Gala. Com., King's Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne. Wire quick for Monday next.

WANTED, by New Hulines, Modern Musical Clowns, Creators of Comical Curiosities, June 11 and 18. This week, Crystal Palace, Wire.

WANTED, by the Two Dominos, Clown and Donkey, re-engaged Hippo., Redditch, Lib. later for Galas, &c.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Lady Aërial Sensational Gympast, 50ft. high, no net. Great success, Pontefract Gala. Liberty for galas, carnivals, exhibitions, sports. Add., 78, Gartside-st., Manchester.

WANTED, June 18 and 25, by Les Uniques, original gymnastic pot-pourri on two electrically illuminated perpendicular ladders. Big success, Pontefract Fête. Next week, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known the Maros, Comedy Three-bar Performers. Next week, Clough Hall, Harecastle. Liberty 11th, 18th, 25th. Address, as above.

WANTED, Known, The Wambas (Lily and Albert), Musical Gymnasts, vacant Monday and on, with exceptions. Wire, Cooke's Circus, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Onga Trio, One Lady Two Gentlemen, Sensational Stage-flying Gymnastic Novelty. Open Monday, Tenting or Galas. Hippo., Hastings.

WANTED, by Bros. Almo, First-class Comedy 3-Bar Act, Monday next. Wire, 19, Baker-street, Doncaster.

WANTED, Monday next, and 18th, Lillian and Agouste, Comedy Contortionists, conclude Casino, Calais. All communications 65A, Ellen-st., London, E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday, the Reays, equilibrists. Wire, 55, King Cross-street, Halifax. Gala Artists wanted July 5, write in.

WANTED, by Urquhart, Foot Juggler; big success Clough Hall, Harecastle; vacant Mon. next. 17, Cheltenham-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pauletti, Aërial Leaping Acrobatic Cyclist, two good acts, for galas. Post Office, Allithwaite, Grange-over-Sands, via Carnforth.

WANTED, Offers for Miss Beatrice Kerr, Australia's Champion Swimmer and Diver, along with her latest Sensational Acts. Just finished successful tour through Australia. Gave 366 performances at Prince's Court, Melbourne. Full particulars, S. REDMOND, 33, Hare Hill-road, Littleborough, Lancashire.

WANTED, Known, Swimmers, Divers, Teachers, Water Artists, Bath Managers, Professor Phillips, Madame L'Estrange. Open for Engagements. 4, Lyceum-buildings, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Known, Lad wishes Situation, Trick or Comedy Cyclists, eighteen different tricks on bicycle. SWIFTO, 23, California-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Engagements, Balloon and Parachute Exhibition; One Balloon still vacant August Holiday. FLEET, 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Known, P. McNamara at Liberty for Stud or Artist Groom, thoroughly experienced and reliable. Address, Shaftesbury Stables, Lisle-st., Leicester-square, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 9, and other dates.
Artists having been with us before, or having worked on same bill with us, preferred.
Terms must be Low, but Money Sure, and Comfortable Engagements.
Combination Summer Terms to
THE DAYTON FAMILY, Alhambra Theatre, London W.C. N.B.—Interviewed by appointment only.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Lady Instrumentalist, &c., for Al Fresco and occasional Halls; dress well; Shares. BRUMMELL, 134, Fairfax-road, Harringay, N.

WANTED, Variety Artists, June 18, on, sisters, serios, and good double and single acts. Lowest terms, or shares. DALE, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Aug. Bank Holiday, onwards, for Halls, Bristol, S. Wales, Variety Artists all Lines. T. GANNON, Agent, West-grove, Bristol.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, June 18, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

HIPPODROME,
DARLINGTON.
WANTED, for June 25, July 2, 9, 16, and 30, Variety Artists in all Lines.
JAMES BELL.

INDIA. THE GARDNER-BROWN VAUDEVILLE COMPANIES, the most complete and popular Variety Combinations Touring the East.
WANTED, Artists in all Lines. Immediate Vacancies for smart young Soubrettes with voices, Ballad Vocalists, Single Comedy Musical Acts, Small Sketch Parties (two or three persons, with répertoire of at least Four Original Sketches), and good Drawing Novelties. Wanted, First-class Pianist; must be sight-reader, transposer, and arranger. Also competent Bioscope Operator, lime and electric. Terms:—Nine months' engagement, fares paid out and home, hotel and travelling paid, salaries therefore absolutely net. Salaries (or part) paid weekly by bankers in England if desired. Full salaries paid during voyage out and home. To leave London about September. Apply, lowest net salaries, photos., bill matter, and all particulars, to MANAGER, The Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies, c/o Messrs. Soundy and Co., Ltd., Agents, Bombay, India. Notice.—The Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies are a sound and firmly established concern, with 5 years' excellent reputation and success. As a specimen of our treatment of artists and their appreciation thereof, read the following, which speaks for itself:—Sisters Romaine, duettists and speciality dancers, engaged for eight months, will complete three years in July. Leo Montague, quaint comedian, came out on three months' engagement, made three re-engagements extending over a period of eighteen months, and re-engaged for still another year. George Gulliver, first engagement three months, second engagement one year. Other instances too numerous to mention. The Gardner-Brown Vaudeville Companies provide exceptional opportunities for young artists with talent who are unable, owing to the crowded state of the Profession at home, to get an opening in England. Make a reputation abroad, and managers will then be glad to offer you engagements at home.

Telephone, O9261.
Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."
WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines, Big Gala Acts.
Pantomime Artists, all Lines,
Big Specialities, Novelties.
Lowest terms, bookings, lithos.,
EDGAR STEBBINGS and Co.,
23, Egerton-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Stebbings, Manchester."
Telephone, O9261.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists all descriptions, for Pavilion, Lovers' Walk, Matlock Bath, holds over 1,000; admission 1s., 6d., and 3d.; sharing terms to good Artists. Can open at once. Wire or write full particulars to CRANE, Pavilion Pierrots, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double turns, two weeks, June 25, July 9, 23. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for June 18. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

GLASGOW CONCERTS.
WANTED, Refined Artists, suitable for above. Dates and lowest terms to THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists for Charity Gala, July 12, including Pierrot and Minstrel Troupes, not to exceed five. Apply, J. T. BOYCE, Sec., 128, Heneage-road, Grimsby.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, and Good Specialities, Pleasure Gardens, Kirn, June 25, onwards, week or fortnight bookings. Write, GRAHAM COURTNEY.

WANTED, immediately, Pierrot Artists all Lines, Pianist, Instrumentalists, good Comedians for Sketches, for Sutton-on-Sea. Wire, SAPHRINI, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Artists, Good Comedy Numbers, for Gateshead and Hartlepool. All Acts known to me write. W. LOVELL HURT, G.P.O., Hartlepool.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, all Descriptions; shares. Sisters doing Singles, Balladists, Comedians. Open at once. Address, CRANE, Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes all Lines, for June 18.
J. G. ANDERSON, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Artists, for Pierrots; also artists, in all lines, for June 18, Palace, Oldbury. Good combination write or wire, TOM PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Artists, for Fêtes and Galas, for week commencing July 9, '06. Terms and lithos. to JAMES S. SMITH, Amusement Caterer, 84, Earl-street, Grimsby, Lincs.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS VARIETIES.
FOUNDRY-STREET,
DEWSBURY.
General-Manager, GEORGE WELDON.
WANTED, Known, the present Season will Terminate to-day, Saturday, June 9, re-open Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday). Artists of every Description required for then and forward dates. Those writing, please state where they can be seen performing for the next six weeks.
Preference given to those new to the town.

VALENTINE VALLEY PIERROTS,
BOGGART HOLE CLOUGH, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines, June 18, and onwards, complete Troupes or Combinations Entertained; large stage, dressing-rooms, electric light, &c. Terms and all particulars to LOUIS MURRAY, General-Manager.

WANTED, Artists, of all Descriptions, Write or call, with full particulars,
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety and Pantomime Agent,
86, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Artists, Town, Country, Seaside, St. Bride Entertainments. See "Amusement." 6d. everywhere; post, 7d. EDWIN DREW, 7, Whitefriars-street, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for alterations; reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted, Artists all lines.

WANTED, Known, the Atlas Variety Agency Keep me posted.
17, Waterford-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, for immediate and future dates.
Send full particulars, bookings, &c., to
JESS VERNO,
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36 Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

GAIETY T., DUNDEE (twice nightly).
WANTED, First-class Variety Turns, June 18, and on. Incompetent people save stamps. Two weeks can be given to good stuff. R. A. P. WILLIAMS, Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, Funny Turns working Doubles, Al Fresco, for Monday next. Wire, lowest terms, ACHILLES, Hexthorpe Flats, Doncaster.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sound Attractions,
June 18, 25 (North).
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
G. and F. PEEL,
Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, good Gala Acts, July 21, 25, Aug. 2, 6, onwards. Victor's Dogs, Whittaker and Page, Hector and Prince write. Bills, lithos., terms, permanent address, WOOD, Caterer, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Good Musical Acts, for June 16 and 17, or 17th only. Write lowest terms to MANAGER, Hippodrome, Dartford.

WANTED, Acts in all Lines. Full list of bookings, or useless. MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Acts in all Lines, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, &c. MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Variety Combinations, Sensational Specialities, June 11, onwards. Wire, HERBERT VERE.

WANTED, Specialities, Al Fresco Show. Send lowest summer terms, vacant dates. perm. address, &c., to ASTLEY BROS., Comedy Cadets, Fleetwood.

WANTED, First-class Specialities, for Al Fresco Pavilion; covered-in stage. Good Marionettes write. HARRY MARVELLO, Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello.

WANTED, Specialities, June 18, on. Absolute lowest summer terms, or no notice taken. ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, June 29, July 2 (week), 10, 16, 25, 29, Aug. 6, Specialities suitable for Fêtes. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Drawing Specialities, new to Macclesfield, on Share; also Class Variety Artists, all kinds. J. ROLMAZ, T. R., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Good Specialities, for June 18, and onwards, for the Promenade, Hartlepool, Al Fresco. Lowest summer terms, full particulars, twice daily, ALLNUTT, 25, Middlegate-st., Hartlepool.

WANTED, Immediately, for Bookings throughout England, also for Germany, and American Tour of Forty Weeks, every class of act in the business.
Note.—When writing in, I must have your full list of present bookings right up to date, and the very lowest you are prepared to accept for England, also Continental figure, otherwise no notice taken of application.
I am prepared to receive the greatest novelties working, and guarantee them (if they have not been hampered about already by being on everybody's books) forty weeks out of fifty-two.

I am also prepared to take a few more acts for Sole Agency.

All Communications Address immediately to
HARRY BURNS,
Sole Proprietor,
Harry Burns's Agency,
Head Office:
Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

Telephones, 0231 and 0231A.

Also at
London and Manchester.

Established 1895.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Novelties and Specialities, for Numerous Fêtes, August Bank Holiday and other dates. Absolute lowest terms or useless. Specimen lithos. Letters only, SYLVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED, for Poole's Pierrots, Doubles doing Singles, for June 11 and onwards. Lowest terms; must have white Pierrot dress. Address, T. H. POOLE, Palace, Boston.

THE LEON VINT'S
GLOBE CHOIR AND SCENORAMA.
WANTED, the following Artists, &c., for 10 months' tour, starting July 16, Powerful Young Soprano, Smart Dainty International Dancer, Two Lady Violinists, Sight-readers (preference given to those who can sing); also Novelty Musical Speciality, one or two ladies (no gents.); Smart Gent., Deputy, Lecturer, Sketches, and assist with Billing; also good Strong Baggage Man. Age, photo., references, lowest terms (singers send list of songs, range of voice). Apply, LEON VINT, 124, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, a Troupe of Old-fashioned Minstrels, under able direction, for about six weeks' engagement, on lawns, at fashionable seaside resort. Sharing terms. Write, J. LAURENCE (late Muldoon Bros.). Caterer, St. John's-st., Folkestone. Will Walter Shepherd or Bert Hill communicate?

ALEXANDRA HALL, BLYTH,
NORTHUMBERLAND.
WANTED, First-class Troupe of Pierrots, on sharing terms, for two hours' entertainment (8 to 10 p.m.).
Apply, A. C. MOODY, Lessee.

WANTED, Pierrots, for Beach, Swansea, open Monday; only those in close proximity write or wire. ZETTELLO, 4, Singleton-terrace, Swansea.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Young Lady, previous experience unnecessary, refined and ladylike, for High-class Illusion Entertainment; good figure, to wear tights; comfortable engagement. State height, age, and enclose photo., lowest terms, GUSTAVE FASOLA, Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, June 18, Lady and Gentleman Duettists, working Single and Double (must be good vocalists), to augment Pierrot Troupe for Palace Gardens, Bridlington. Free Open-air Show. Address terms to MANAGER.

WANTED, First-class Artists, to open immediately, good Comedy Man and Pianist, Character Actor, Quartette of Ladies, Single and Double Comedians. Wire or write,
BARNEY M. ARMSTRONG,
Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart Comedian and Dancer, must be young and well up in Concerted Items; work white. Send photo., lowest terms, eighteen weeks. E. H. WILLIAMS, "Merrie Men," Rhyl.

WANTED, Refined Versatile Comedian (not comic singer), for High-class Concert Party. Open June 25, for 12 weeks. PRESCOTT, 38, Waterloo-street, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Smart Comedian, through disappointment, in High-class Concert Party, at once, Al Fresco, height about 5ft. 6in., must be refined, gentlemanly. Write Box 3,341, "The Era."

WANTED, through obliging, Stern and Stern, Funny Comedians; must sing well, have large répertoire of up-to-date songs, well up in sketches, concerted items, gags, &c. Lowest terms, HARRY COLLINS, Minstrels, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Immediately, First-class Comedian, also Specialities.
THIELS, Arcadia, Roker, Sunderland.

WANTED, Clever Juvenile Comedians, Dancers, Acrobats, &c., over 14 and small. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Singing Comedians, Specialities, Al-fresco. Full particulars, terms, and photo., V. BENSON, 5, Wesley-terrace, Douglas.

WANTED, Baritone, one to accompany preferred; must be young, refined, and well up in Al-fresco. Share or salary. FORGE, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Good Descriptive Vocalist, used to Al-fresco, open Monday. Wire lowest. JOE MALVA, Morpeth.

WANTED, Smart Youth, for Sketch, over 14, small for age, coloured boy preferred. Full particulars, SPRY and MONTI, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, smart Young Man, as Assistant Illusionist, must be steady and reliable. State age, height, and lowest terms, to GUSTAVE FASOLA, Palace, Tynemouth, near Newcastle.

WANTED, at Once, Young Boy, Coloured Coon, Comic Singer, and Dancer, cake walks, &c., good shop, well-known show. Also a Good Boy Soprano Wanted.
Apply,
Box 3,349, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Double Acrobatic Clown Act, for Gala, August Bank Holiday. Agency, 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by recognised Conjurer, &c., a small smart Coloured Boy, as assistant; good home. Write, 30, James-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, experienced electric and lime.
Reply,
stating experience and terms required,
Box 3,326, "The Era."

WANTED, a competent Bioscope Operator, for season. State terms, references, and all particulars, O. T. ROBINSON, 27, Birley-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

THE LONDON ENTERTAINERS.
WANTED, Known, Florence Bellamy, Percy Newport, Penyston Miles, Chas. Dudley, vocalists, and W. W. Whitlock comedian and instrumentalist. Bright up-to-date Programmes for Garden and River Fêtes, or special Saturday and Sunday Concerts at Seaside. MANAGER, 185, Upland-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, next week. Pier Pavilion, Dover. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, address Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Contracts. Music Hall Managers, Concert Agents should not fail to hear Mme. Dorina Natalia, the celebrated South African Contralto and Pianiste. Empress Theatre, Brixton.

WANTED, by Mlle. Sylvesto, Monday, June 11, also July 16, 30. Wire, Hippodrome, Brighton, till Saturday. See Card after.

WANTED, June 18, 25, Magna, in beautiful and Classical Poses; Rodin. Eccentric Knock-about Cycle Act; also Galas. Mon., Hippo., Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, Vocalist and Soubrette, disengaged June 11, concluding most successful engagement with Corporation Band, Aberystwyth. Address, Tantivy, Penglaise-terrace, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, by Eileen and Maynie, Sisters, Novel Instrumental Dancing Act, June 11, 18, 25. Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, Europe's Funniest Musical Comedian; also the Acrobat Dummy Boy. Liberty June 11, 18. Wire, Hippodrome, Aberdeen. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Tony Iveson, the "Aristocratic Ragman and the Piano," vacant June 18, through Tivoli, Grimsby, closing. Only vacancy this year. For June 18, wire this week,
Theatre Royal, Oldham, till Saturday.
Address, June 11, Empire, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Harry Keeble, Comedian and Ventriloquist, June 11. Address, c/o Kelley's Merry Mascots, Southport, fourth week.

WANTED, June 11 and 18, Dutch Act, original gags, song, grotesque dance, with concertinacalities. DUTHY, Palace, Swansea.

WANTED, June 18, July 2 and 16, by Harry Morris, Character Comedian and Mimic. Next week, Empire, Stockport.

WANTED, by Martinengo, Solo 'Cellist and Baritone, June 25 and July 30, to follow Lyric, Liverpool. Hippo., Ashton, Manchester.

WANTED, by Jimmy Shields, the famous Comedian and One-legged Dancer, June 18, on. Cavendish Hotel, Derby.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, late of Catlin's Scarborough Pierrots, Liberty Monday next, Al-fresco. Wire, 25, Esplanade, Knott End, Fleetwood.

WANTED, Monday, by Foo Soo, Chinese Magician, Big Show, splendid stage setting. Success here. Refer management. Wire, Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Carl Vernon, Magician and Illusionist, at Liberty for Piers, Concerts, Pierrot Troupes, or Halls, new and original. Write or wire, 15, Hart-street, New Cleethorpes, Grimsby.

WANTED, Tom Collins will join First-class Troupe for Summer Season; well-known tour fallen through. Wire, Hippodrome, Stockton.

WANTED, Known, Amateur Comedian, own songs, pleased to give services, in London, for fares. COMIC, 443, Coldharbour-lane, S.E.

WANTED, Proprietors, Managers, and others to note on and after July 2 next, I, Frank Dunlop, will be known as Evan Evans.

WANTED, Monday next and June 18, by The Monctops, in their excruciatingly funny Musical Comedy Acts. 7, Charles-street, Blackpool

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, June 11, 25. Wire, Alhambra, Belfast. Kyoto, Japanese Act; May Geraldine, Dancing Comedienne. After, Sat., 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-ter., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ted Young and Ada Twibell, Liberty June 18. Wire one or both, Standard Music Hall, London, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, on, by Otto Ethardo, Artistic Juggler; and Lizzie Pardoe, Dancing Speciality. Royal Hippo., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Mon. (1st), by the Fordyces (Jenny and Willie), Singers and Dancers extraordinary. Wire, 44, Morton-st., S. Shields. Panto. settled.

WANTED, Monday next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; and Ada Whitton, Burlesque. Wire, Palace Theatre, Plymouth.

WANTED, Monday, on, Ethel Gale, marvellous blind comedienne, totally unassisted; Harry Carter, comedian; also double turn. 37, Pitt-street, Barnsley.

WANTED, Monday next, by Tom Collins and Beatie Kent, also 18th.
Wire, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Known, Dan Noble, the popular Comedian, and Marie Yorke, Dainty Coon Vocalist, Liberty Monday, Halls or Al Fresco. Wire, Hippodrome, Mansfield.

WANTED, Known, The Gelders, the Marvellous Mystifiers, want June 18, 25, through obliging. Wire, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, June 25, onwards, by the St. Johns, Musicians, Campanologists, and Dancers; a sure success. Queen's, Gateshead. Fortieth week continuous tour.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, meeting with great Success
in
Milano, Italy.

WANTED, June 11, 18, 25, Wanted, Driscoll and Beattie.
Grand, Bolton; next, Agent's.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 9, 23, and 30.
Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known. Lack and Ford, Classical Comedy Acrobats, vacant June 11, 18, 25, a Big Act for Galas, Original, New, Novel. 14, Loughboro'-road, Brixton, London. Telephone, 15 Brixton.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey. Roars of laughter. 2 distinct acts. 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Fêtes, Galas, &c., Alex and Jolly, Comedians on the Three Bars; The Holmars, Eccentric and Acrobatic Funniosities. Address, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Vacant June 11, 18, Three Great Acts, Soros the Mystery, Whizzing the Whirl, and finest possible pictures; percentage or salary. Wire for Monday, for One or Three Acts, Soros, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, through Barring, the Rushforths, song illustrators (own songs); King Leo, ventriloquist; two smart acts, vacant June 18 25. Monday, Grand, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free June 11, onward, for Theatres, Galas, or Sports; no fixings required. Thanks to Mr. Tom Shaw for Contracts this week. Return Oct. 8 Moss and Stoll Tour.
238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

On account of closing Tivoli, Leeds.
WANTED, June 18 and July 16, by the world-famed Madcaps, in their clever Dancing Act. Wire, Hippodrome, Liverpool.

WANTED, June 18 and 25, for Scottie's Waifs and Strays and "Whizzing the Whirl," two big novelties. Offers, Hippodrome, Maidstone.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Monday next, Craig, Roze, and Craig.
Wires, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by The Marconis, Electric Act, Monday next, until July 16, through postponing Tour. Wire, 23, Colnbrook-st., London-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, by Gilroy, Vent., and Boston Bioscope, two sound shows. Com., Wire, Gilroy, 55, Effingham-street, Rotherham.

WANTED, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusions, offers for July, two first-class acts. Address, Union-rd., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Immediate Dates, for Racing Sketch, "The Winner," everything carried. sure draw. BRIEN MCCULLOUGH, 12, Elm-grove, Hammersmith, London, W.

WANTED, for "Dobson's Day Off," furiously Funny Farce, June 25, July 2, Four Artists. C/o M. ELLISTON, Empire, Glasgow.

WANTED, few Bookings, Piers, &c., Liston and Lumley's "Merry Moments" (registered) Co., St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED, Dates, Juvenile Military Spectacle, "Russo and Japan." Everything carried. Good pictorials. Sure draw. CLARKE, 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Piers, Pavilions, Theatres, Share or Certainty, whole or part programme, by Warden, Reed, and Co.
Address, with full particulars,
M. REED, Palace, Tynemouth.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, the largest and smartest lady's Troupe in Europe, including the Masterpiece of Training, "The Goalkeeper."
Grand Finale, Electrically Illuminated Spectacle, "Over the Garden Wall."
Open for Piers, Garden Fêtes.
Vacant June 25, Aug.
B. H. Com., Palace, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Sergt.-Major Williams' Military and Champion Trick Dogs, for stage, ring, or galas, the perfection of training, new and novel acts, received with tremendous applause. 2A, Belgrave-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Human Dog Show, the Biggest Novelty before the public. Liberty June 18 and 21. Sure draw. Address, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Novelty Dog Show, will share, big act for Galas, Liberty June 18 and 25. Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED few immediate dates, Chard's Dog Circus.
Wire, Theatre, Pontypool.

WANTED, Bookings, for Latest Absolute Novelty of Mysterious Show, Telepathy, Music, Sketching; also Good Agents. Apply, Box 3,351, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Carl Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, experienced Operator, electric and lime, Electric Engineer; can also double, Orchestra. Terms, &c., OPERATOR, 28, Union-street, Halifax.

WANTED, Engagement, by Bioscope Operator, at Liberty Monday, June 18, electric or lime. References. DENVERS, Palace, Lincoln.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
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WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Great Moor-street, Bolton, on Tuesday next, June 12, at 2.30 p.m., when all members are requested to attend.
Important Business.
Signed,
T. HURST, Secretary.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
WANTED, Known, Annual Meeting, for Wales, at Porth, Sunday next, June 17, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.
Speaker, the Rev. T. Horne.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Select Music Hall (The Garden of Paris) possesses an Organ from the Renowned Firm, Ch. Marenghi et Cie. The first audition was given last week, and the success has been considerable.
All the Parisian Press is congratulating the makers.
The Figaro speaks of the Ideal Orchestra as a work of art in mechanism and harmony.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that T. Brittain and Sons Build High-class Motor Cars, for Roundabouts. Several on View, Built for Eminent Showman.
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WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars. Graduated payment to responsible buyers.
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WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, a few Vacancies for Good Exhibits. Special terms for Summer Months. Scenic Stalls, Counters, and Gas-fittings provided free. Keswick, June 15 to 26. Admission free. Address, MANAGER, "Japan" Trades Exhibition, Queen of the Lakes Pavilion, Keswick.

WANTED, Known, "Japan," the original (and now the only) Scenic Trades Exhibition, has never had any connection whatever with other shows (now extinct) which have traded upon its name and reputation. Third year of unbroken tour. Queen of the Lakes Pavilion, Keswick, June 15 to 26.

THE GREAT FETE AND GALA OF KENT, held annually. Aug. 6, at Eltham, over 7,000 to 8,000 visitors; only a few important spaces left.

WANTED, good Side Shows and Novelties, a sure success. WEATHERHEAD, Star and Garter, New Cross-road.

WANTED, a good Animal Novelty, or Latest Illusion. State particulars and lowest cash price in first letter, ALFRED TESTO, Exhibition Show Ground, Swalwell, near Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Good Living Freak, to Open at Once. Wire particulars; sale of books and postcards allowed. JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, for Monday next, Good Freaks, or any good quick-showing novelty, to follow Lucy Moore, giantess, good position. Ashmores wire. Terms, shares. Wire for Monday, BOUNDS, 103, Manchester-road, Bradford.

WANTED, a Good Novelty for an Exhibition, a Good Fat preferred, a good place for good novelty. Would Mme. Pattison, of Newcastle, Staffs, send her address? Also good Doorsman, for same exhibition, to make himself generally useful; good wages to suitable man. E. NORTH, Novelty Exhibition, Fair Ground, Birmingham, till Tuesday, the 12th.

WANTED, Novelties, for Humber's Permanent Waxwork Exhibition, George-street, Aberdeen. I can book you for eight weeks.

WANTED, Good Marionette Entertainment, or Cinematograph, to work show, 60 by 30 front, drums all complete. Address, WEAVER, Shanks.

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WANTED, Comedian, Singer and Planksman, one that can play piano preferred. Apply BERT HALL, Auction Tent, Lancashire Hill, Stockport.

WANTED, two or three good Salesmen, who can tell the tale, to work Fairy Floss Machine. SHAW, Harbour House, Margate.

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WANTED, Young Man, to work Illusions (Side Show), and make self useful. Salary, 25s. weekly. Address, ILLUSIONS, Drill Hall, St. Albans.

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WANTED, June 18, Glennie's Marionettes, Great Variety, 20 to 60 minutes' show.
Wire, 273, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, through Disappointment, Lena South, artistically tattooed lady. Lib. 18th, for season or otherwise. 45, Hercules-road, Westminster, London.

WANTED, Engagement, as Auctioneer, can join at once; will buy own licence July. JIMMY HOWARTH, until Wed. Poste Resante, Birmingham.

WANTED, Charles Mount, at Liberty, Lecturer or Doorsman, First-Class Show, fluent and grammatical speaker, thoroughly experienced, dress well. 49, Sidmouth-street, W.C.

WANTED, Known Treharris First Annual Midsummer Fair will be Held on the New Athletic Grounds on July 7, 9, 10. Space to Let for Roundabouts, Bioscope Side-shows, Cocoanut sheets, Swings, Circuses, Menageries, Flannel Dealers, Stall Owners, &c. DAVIS, Auctioneer, Treharris.

WANTED, Known, Temperance Festival, Newcastle, June 26, 27, and 28. All requiring Stands for Shows, Roundabouts, &c., apply to WALKER HOADLY, 141, Park-road, Park-lane, Gateshead. Also W. Murphy, 102, Holly-avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne; also F. N. Richardson, 18, Pensbury-st., Darlington.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces in Summer Pleasure Gardens, for Stalls (Wire-workers, Jewellery, Fancy, &c.). Full particulars, SYMONDS, 20, Pelham-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen and Others. Market Yard, West Hartlepool.
Mr. W. T. Ryan, F.A.I., instructed by the Proprietor, will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, June 13, 1906, at 2 o'clock:—1 Shuttered Show Booth and Truck combined, 40ft. by 24ft; 1 set Steam Hobby Horses, 3 abreast, with organ, and 2 Motor Cars, newly done up; 1 Double-tube Shooting Gallery and Rifles, in good order; also several other useful Show-yard lots.
Terms, cash only.
No reserve.
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Address all communications, allowing three days' grace for reply, to LORD JOHN SANGER and SONS, LTD., Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

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Removal and Storage Contractor,
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WANTED, to Sell, Waggon, containing room and kitchen, four years old, go by road or rail. Cheap. TODD, Vinegar Hill, Glasgow.

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Toboggan Slide, at Kursaal, Southend; good thing for man working himself. Payment by arrangement.
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WANTED, to Sell, Large Orchestrion, with Tunes, equal to full Band, with Water Motor. Wanting room, must sell quickly. Grand Attraction for place of Amusement.
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Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Known,
to Proprietors,
Managers,
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and
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esteem it
a great favour
if they would read
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from the Proprietor,
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of Theatre Royal, Darlington,
who has
Confirmed
my
Contracts.

Theatre Royal, Darlington.
Manager, James Bell.
May 21, 1906.
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Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Pilu, Guy Ryder, The Raies, Warsaw Bros., J. W. Rickaby, Lily Langtry, Harry Weldon, Alexandra Dagmar, Tom Woottwell, Galletti's Monkeys, Mignonette Kokin, Abdullah Arabs.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
George Gray and Co. in "The Fighting Parson," Bioscope, The Mackweys, Howard and Collinson, Goldmann-Holles Trio, J. Alexander and Co., Rene Best, Mike S. Whallen, Shirley Liggins.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Karno's "Early Birds," Bioscope, Carne and Armstrong, Rex King, Mezzettis, Spry and Monti, Sutcliffe Family, Carter Livesey and Co., Melot Hermann.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Fred Ginnett and Co., Bioscope, Ed. E. Forde, Northern Troupe, Rosa Loader, Walton and Lester, Canary Co., Lloyd Morgan, "Home from the Honeymoon."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Lauder, Francis and Melli, Marie Collins, Claire Beasy's Cats, Cruikshank, Frank Dunlop, Barowsky Troupe, Bioscope, Gordon Highlanders.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bransby Williams, The Findens, Caselli Sisters, Howard and St. Clair, W. F. Frame, Alf Holt, Automatos, Borellis, Nellie Wallace, Bioscope.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Casey's Circus," Three Cape Girls, Will English, Casino Comedy Four, Venie Clements, Howard Bros., Jurgens Trio, Bros. Harrison, Kaufmanns, Bioscope.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ernest Shand, Kitty Wager, Fred Poplar, Bioscope, Bros. Egbert, Athas and Collins, Cora Caselli, Jonghmann Sisters, Jagos, Wille Bros.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
McNaughtons, Dora Lyric, George Formby, Ike Scott and Son, Lilian Lea, Edgar Forrest and Co., Alice Lloyd, Bioscope, Maud Courtney, Billy McClain.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Leopolds, Bioscope, Mark Merry, Flo Deighton, Ernie Mayne, Harry Helm, Attab Bros., Brett and Orford, Cinquevalli.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Rogues of the Turf," Bioscope, Dot Stevens, Lios Alfas, Edwin Barwick, Forest and King, The Althoffs, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Alec Hurley and Co. in "The Coster's Beanfeast," Bioscope, Amann and Hartley, Daisy Dormer, Leonie Dixon, The Craggs, Sloan, Jas H. Cullen, Goltz Trio, Fred Erick, Lunell Sisters, Nelson's Newsboys.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Marie Loftus, Bioscope, Helen Forde, Marie Weston, Alf Kingston, Delevines, Bernar's Fantoches, Vetter Bros., Harmony Four, John Lawson and Co. in "The Monkey's Paw."

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
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EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
George Lashwood, Flo Esdaile, Sandford and Lyons, Jack Lane, Will Musgrave, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, Raku, Remington's Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
G. H. Chirgwin, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Frank Seeley, Henri Taylor Trio, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Belle Davis and Piccaninnies, Classicum Quartette, Kitty Kirwan, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Norman and Leonard Trio, Marba and Verity, Will Vokes, Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, Chinko, Arthur Lloyd Trio, The Uessems, Alfred Hurley, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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London Music Halls and Theatres.
Their Telephone Numbers.
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A very youthful farmer is seen to hastily come down the street, burdened with a huge package under his arm, just as the little child comes running in. After the usual greetings have passed between the happy family, the package is opened under the eyes of the little maid, who, with evident delight, seizes upon the contents—a lovely doll almost as big as herself. The mother, with that usual indulgence for an only child, in putting her to bed, allows her to have "dolly" with her.

The youngster is seen to fondle her treasure, and ultimately, unable to rest, gets out of bed, putting the doll in, and, after tucking it up, leaves the room, just as her mother had done to her so often. As the little girl departs, the window is thrown open, and the man who had stopped the child in the street enters the room. He approaches the bed, wraps what he supposes to be the child quickly up in the bed-clothes, and, going to the window, passes the bundle to the woman, who is outside on a ladder. She is first to discover that it is only a doll, and, in her rage, smashes it against the side of the ladder, and pitches her confederate into the dustbin.

The little girl, who had evidently gone down to fetch mamma to look at her "dear dolly," returns to find her treasure gone, and runs to her mother's side and cries bitterly with grief. The parent, suspecting somewhat of the truth of the matter, goes to the window, and realising what a narrow escape her dear one had, kisses her again and again in joy and thankfulness.

The conspirators, on the appearance of "a man in blue," tear off down the street, with the policeman following closely on their heels.

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No. 1055. **AN EPISODE OF THE DERBY.**

A happy party drive to the Derby, mother, father, and their only child, a young and attractive girl. Arriving on the field the parents leave their child in the trap, with strict instructions not to move, but seeing her parents go off on a round of pleasure she leaves her safe position and runs to see what fun she can obtain, beside backing her favourite for the race. She gets her racing card, a full view of which with the number is given. As she runs along she is met by an old gipsy woman who is anxious to tell her fortune. The girl, only too delighted to listen, is led away by the woman to her caravan, where with the aid of a confederate she is forced to go in, change her clothes, and come out in rags and tatters. A young lad standing by is roughly pushed away by the man, who is seen to threaten the girl. He walks off, leaving her outside the caravan, where she is watched by his accomplices. The lad goes to the captive, and, looking round anxiously, offers his assistance to the almost despairing girl. At last with happy thought she produces her betting ticket and gives it to him, and he rushes off quickly with it to the Bookie. The parents meanwhile have been anxiously searching for their child after discovering the empty trap. They tear about the rings asking anyone and everyone for information, and going up to one of the Bookmakers they are just in time to meet the friendly youth who has brought the girl's ticket with all explanations. The frantic father and mother rush off after him to the caravan, and find their daughter being roughly handled by boys who are laughing and jeering at her.

She is instantly recognised by her fond mother and clasped in her arms, while the father struggles with her abductor, who tries to resist, but with the help of their guide he is overcome. The girl regains her pretty clothes, and they walk along to see the race! A splendid view is given of the course with thousands of cheering spectators, and an exciting peep of the race as the horses dash past. The ticket which the young girl obtained proves lucky in more ways than one, and she is seen to draw her winnings with delight and satisfaction.

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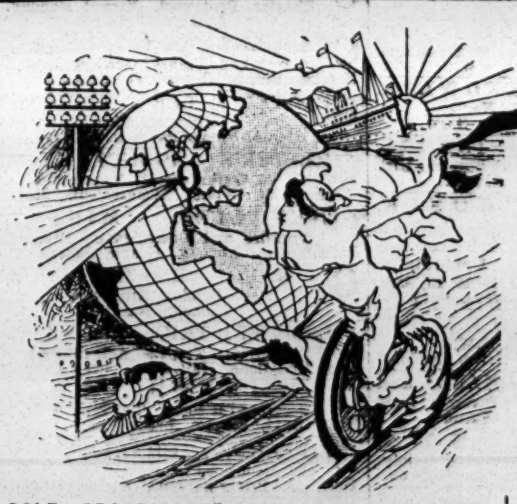

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Producing "Where is William?"
June 21, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

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APPLICATIONS FOR POSITIONS
on the FRONT PAGE of "The Era"
should be addressed to the PUBLISHER.

AUTUMN TOURS.

WE ARE NOW VERY BUSY CLEANING DRESSES FOR AUTUMN TOURS,
but have plenty of room, and, like Oliver Twist, WE ASK FOR MORE.

We are also very busy Cleaning and Renovating Tableaux Curtains and Draperies from London and Country Theatres and Music Halls.

We still hold the field as Cleaners and Dyers to the Theatrical and Music Hall Professions. This fact is clearly proved by the unsolicited testimonials we are continually receiving.

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Start the approaching Autumn Tours with Dresses Looking Spick and Span.

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To Come and See You Anywhere.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS:

Old Coastguards' Cottages, Littlehampton, June 9, 1906.

Dear Mr. Harris,
Delighted with the dresses; you have cleaned them beautifully. I am sending you two more to clean for me this week.
Faithfully yours,
ROSIE SYLVESTER.

Theatre Royal, Smethwick, June 11, 1906.

Mrs. Dick Winslow has received goods safely, and is very pleased with the same.

6, ARGYLL ST., REGENT ST., W.
Telegraphic Address, "CLEANING, LONDON."
'Phone, THREE-NINE-TWO-THREE GERRARD

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) is, of course, issued by our premier theatrical journal, which, under the literary supervision of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, has recently improved an already strong position. The Annual is better than ever, and includes, besides details of all plays produced in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin, lists of all theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, &c., many stories and sketches by and portraits of actors and actresses. It is a remarkable shillingsworth; useful and interesting to all playgoers and members of the profession alike.—Sunday Sun, Jan. 21, '06.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
In "The Era" Annual (5, Tavistock-street, Strand, 1s.), Miss Vesta Tilley breaks into verse, and a score or more of her comrades of "the boards" try their hands at fiction. The result is entertaining, and as there is added a list of new plays and revivals during the past year, with other information, the annual is worth a place on the playgoer's bookshelves.—The Yorkshire Post, Jan 21, 1906.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA.

Kind expressions from Authors and Managers.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT.
"I congratulate you on your 'Fifty Years of the Drama': the list must prove both interesting and useful to lovers of and workers for the stage."

MR. GEORGE EDWARDES.
"I think the new feature of *The Era* is most interesting and useful. A list of plays produced from 1850 to 1900 will certainly be of great service to a very large number of your readers."

MR. EDWARD TERRY.
"An admirable idea, and will prove a most valuable record."

MR. FRANK CURZON.
"Your list, I think, will be most useful for reference."

MRS. W. K. CLIFFORD.
"I think the list will be immensely useful."

MR. SYDNEY GRUNDY.
"Your list will be exceedingly useful. But, of course, there is no reason why old titles should not be used again. Indeed, some day we shall have to go back to them. Some of our modern titles, when they are not mere proper names with an adjective attached, display the desperation of the dramatist in too ludicrous a light. Such a title as 'The Importance of Being Earnest' amounts to a misdemeanour."

MR. ARTHUR W. PINERO.
"The list of plays produced during the last half-century is a most valuable record. The thanks of those interested in the theatre are due to *The Era* for this and many other enterprises."

MR. ALFRED SUTRO.
"The list you are compiling will be of very great benefit, and I am looking forward to the time when it shall be complete, and obtainable in pamphlet form."

MR. JUSTIN HUNTLY McCARTHY.
"I have watched with the greatest interest the progress of your alphabetical list of the plays published during the last half of the nineteenth century. It is a most useful undertaking, and when it appears in volume form, it must prove of great value to all who are concerned with the drama."

MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL.
"The list of plays will be very interesting and useful when published in complete form. The etiquette of the profession apparently still allows of novelists' titles being used by playwrights. Thus, *The Master*, which will appear in your list as a play by somebody else, is the name of a book of mine; while the new play, *Noah's Ark*, has the same title as a shorter story of mine."

MR. ARTHUR LAW.
"The publication in *The Era* of a list of plays produced during the fifty years, 1850-1900, is an excellent idea, and will be most useful to authors who may be in doubt as to their right to a certain title. When it is issued in book form I shall be very glad to possess a copy."

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER.
"Mr. Arthur Bourchier thinks the list very useful indeed."

MR. TOM GALLON.
"Your idea seems to me to be a most excellent one. Quite apart from the fact that there is always a difficulty in knowing what titles have been used, there very often arises the question of when and where a play was actually produced—a question difficult to be answered. Actors and authors should alike be grateful to *The Era*."

MR. LOUIS N. PARKER.
"I think your list of plays, produced between 1850 and 1900, will, like the other contents of your

MR. HAROLD MONTAGUE.
"I think the idea of printing a list of plays produced during the last fifty years an excellent one. It should be of great value to authors."

MR. ARTHUR SHIRLEY.
"The list of produced plays was not merely a happy thought, for the same idea has probably occurred to many, though until *The Era* carried it out no one took the pains to collect and publish such a truly valuable record.
"Managers, dramatists, as well as would-be authors, will henceforward have a long list of titles to refer to, and there will be neither reason nor excuse for encroaching on pre-existing copyright in play titles. What a lot of trouble it should save us all!"

MR. WALTER MELVILLE.
"I think it shows great enterprise on the part of your journal, and likely to prove most useful and at the same time interesting to the general profession."

MR. ARTHUR MORRISON.
"The list you are publishing will be a most valuable work of reference to everybody taking an interest in the stage, and I have no doubt that when it is published as a book you will find its success warrant you in issuing fresh editions from time to time, with the information brought to date in each case."

MR. J. J. DILLEY.
"The idea is an excellent one, and there can be no question at all of the usefulness of such a summary. *Cousin Grace* has not been included. This is a little piece from the French, played at a matinée performance at the Gaiety Theatre, Dec. 4, 1884."

MR. COSMO HAMILTON.
"I think that your new feature is an excellent and most useful one. A list of plays produced during fifty years is interesting not only to the playgoer, but essentially so to the manager and the playwright. They will only have to consult it to be sure that a title has not been used before."

MR. CHARLES H. E. BROOKFIELD.
"My attention has been called to your list of plays produced between 1850-1900. I have no doubt it will prove interesting and useful to many."

MR. F. FRANKFORT MOORE.
"The list of plays produced during the past fifty years, now appearing in *The Era*, will, I am certain, prove, when completed, extremely valuable to everyone associated with the drama in England. I am convinced—and I have had a considerable amount of experience in this direction—that it will be especially valued by all writers upon stage matters. The advantage of being able to refer at a moment's notice to the criticisms upon the production of various plays in various newspapers must be apparent to everyone. If such a list had been in existence some years ago, I would have been saved a vast amount of worry and vexation of spirit. *The Era* has once again proved itself appreciative of the conditions under which the best interests of the drama in England are maintained."

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, MAY 30.—*The Student King*, a comic opera in three acts, was recently produced by Mr. Henry W Savage at the Studebaker Theatre, Chicago. The book was written by Frederick Ranken and Stanislaus Stange, and the music was composed by Reginald De Koven. The King referred to in the title is chosen by the students of Prague, and is permitted by the King of Bohemia to rule for a day, while the latter, freed from the cares of state, plunges into the merrymaking. The real King and the King pro tem. fall in love with the same woman, who becomes confused through the masquerading of her two suitors in similar dominoes. But the real monarch soon discovers that she is in love with the student. The lady is a Tyrolean of noble birth, and the student turns out to be the King's own son, who was lost through a strange mischance during his infancy. The King is constantly attended by two advisers, one being grave and the other optimistic. The first act shows the exterior of the University at Prague, and opens with the election of the Student King. Three masqueraders appear before the curtain at the beginning of the second act, and after a brief interlude of pantomime the ball-room of the royal palace is disclosed, with the masked merrymakers in possession. The last act passes in the fest hall of the University, where drinking songs are introduced with good effect by an excellent male chorus. Mr. Raymond Hitchcock made a hit as Rudolph, King of Bohemia, and Mr. Henry Coote won approval in the title-rôle.

Mr. Henry Miller and Miss Margaret Anglin are appearing together at the Majestic Theatre, Boston, in a new comedy called *Young Fernald*, which has proved a decidedly interesting finale to the dramatic season in that city. The authors are Evelyn Greenleaf Sutherland and Beulah Marie Dix, and their play deals with the humorous love affair of David Lowne and Carey Fernald, an odd pair who meet at a Yorkshire farmhouse in late November. David is a writer and a sort of woman hater. He engages Carey Fernald as his secretary, supposing that the individual called "Young Fernald" is a man, and in course of time falls in love with her. The cast is as follows:—David Lowne, Mr. Henry Miller; Carey Fernald, Miss Margaret Anglin; Robert Lowne, Mr. Jack Standing; Lionel Lowne, Mr. Bertram Harrison; Bennett, Mr. Arthur R. Lawrence; Aunt Penelope, Mrs. Thomas Whiffen; Edith, Miss Lucille Watson.

Mr. E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe are appearing at the Academy of Music in their Shakespearian répertoire, opening with *Romeo and Juliet*. The engagement is for four weeks at popular prices. For desirable seats at the Broadway theatres the prices are prohibitive to a large number of people, so it goes without saying that an opportunity of seeing these talented artists in the magnificent Shakespearian revivals in which they appeared at the Knickerbocker Theatre a few months ago is eagerly welcomed by the "masses."

An operatic company composed exclusively of coloured artists, and known as the Theodore Drury Grand Opera Company, is under engagement at the Fourteenth-street Theatre. This attraction is a unique novelty, and is treated as an important social function by the "high-toned" coloured people of this city. *Aïda* and *Carmen* are to be presented alternately during the week.

Glancing over the list of productions at the leading theatres, seven plays stand out in bold relief as the biggest successes of the season. They are J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*, Charles Klein's *The Lion and the Mouse*, David Belasco's *The Girl of the Golden West*, Edwin Milton Royle's *The Squaw Man*, George Bernard Shaw's *Man and Superman*, Edward Peple's *The Prince Chap*, and Alfred Sutro's *The Walls of Jericho*. *Peter Pan*, still running at the Empire Theatre, has undoubtedly afforded the greatest enjoyment to the greatest number. It stands by itself as the season's one pure example of poetic imagination, and Miss Maude Adams's Peter will always be one of the most delightful recollections of the American stage. Hardly less popular has been *The Lion and the Mouse*, which, closely following his other great success, *The Music Master*, has given Mr. Charles Klein distinction as the most successful native dramatist of the year. Of the seven plays above mentioned, three are of British origin. Two others from the same source that won favour with American audiences are R. C. Carton's *Mr. Hopkinson*, in which Mr. Dallas Welford, a new-comer, scored a personal success of the first magnitude, and *The Fascinating Mr. Vanderveldt*, by Alfred Sutro, mention of which recalls the grace and charm of Miss Ellis Jeffreys. Another play by J. M. Barrie, *Alice Sit-by-the-Fire*, was not the success here that it was in London, Miss Ethel Barrymore being far too youthful for the part of a middle-aged woman. Mr. Arnold Daly, who was instrumental in bringing the plays of Bernard Shaw into popularity in New York, produced *Mrs. Warren's Profession* and *John Bull's Other Island*, both of which were failures, and revived *Arms and the Man*, originally produced here by Mr. Richard Mansfield. Miss Olga Nethersole fulfilled an engagement of six weeks at the Herald-square Theatre during the winter, appearing for the first time in *The Labyrinth*, and also in répertoire. Madame Sarah Bernhardt came to the Lyric Theatre for a fortnight, and was seen in nine plays, all of which except *The Sorceress*, had been previously presented in this city.

Mr. Richard Mansfield's annual engagement in the metropolis was fulfilled at the New Amsterdam Theatre, and was attended with great success. Besides appearing in his familiar répertoire, Mr. Mansfield produced for the first time in English Schiller's tragedy, *Don Carlos*, and was seen in a revival of *The Scarlet Letter*. Miss Julia Marlowe and Mr. Edward H. Sothern prospered exceedingly in their Shakespearian revivals at the Knickerbocker Theatre, and Mr. Robert Mantell came to the front again during his engagement at the Garden Theatre, renewing the prestige he won many years ago in the tragedies of Shakespeare.

The demand for legitimate comic opera seems to be as strong as ever, and three good examples of this form of entertainment enjoyed the favour they deserved. These were *Happyland*, a diverting piece of nonsense by the late Frederick Ranken, with delightful music by Reginald De Koven, which brought Mr. De Wolf Hopper back to his old prominence, and was played at three different theatres during the season; *Mlle. Modiste*, by Blossom and Herbert, in which Miss Fritzi Scheff appeared with uninterrupted success for a long period at the Knickerbocker Theatre; and Sousa's *The Free Lance*, which won unanimous approval at the New Amsterdam Theatre. The musical comedies that hit the mark were *The Catch of the Season*, in which Miss Edna May easily maintained her popularity at Daly's Theatre; *The Vanderbilt Cup*, which had a long run at the Broadway Theatre; *The Pearl and the Pumpkin*, produced at the same house at the beginning of the season; *The Social Whirl*, which has settled at the Casino for the summer; *Mexicana* and *The Babes and the Baron*, both presented at the Lyric Theatre; and *Twiddle-Twaddle*, a musical hodge-podge, which has run through the entire season at Weber's Music Hall.

MR. JOHN GAFFNEY, the popular manager of the Liverpool Shakespeare Theatre, took his eighteenth annual benefit on Thursday evening, when a large audience assembled to enjoy an admirable programme, to which all the principal variety artists engaged in the city contributed. The farce *My Lord in Livery*, by Theyre Smith, presented by a number of amateurs, was greatly enjoyed.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, MAY 8.—*The Prodigal Son*, so long expected, was staged by Mr. Bland Holt on the 5th at the Theatre Royal. The Icelandic scenery has been capitally painted by Mr. John Brunton, and that of the Riviera is equally good. Magnus Stephenson is powerfully played by Mr. Walter Baker; and Oscar, as acted by Mr. Albert Norman, presents a fine contrast. Miss Maggie Knight again wooed public favour, this time as the Governor's gentle wife. Miss Frances Ross is Thora, full of tender concern; and Miss Harrie Ireland portrays faithfully the selfish Helga; and Mrs. Bland Holt has a congenial task in depicting the spinster, Margaret Nielsen; and Miss Florrie Kelly, Mr. Arthur Styan, and Mr. Charles Brown (an Ibsen-like Nielsen) are in the cast. Mr. Bland Holt contented himself with directing the excellent performance.

"THE FATAL WEDDING" is doing enormous business at the Criterion, the chief attraction being the fine acting of Miss Maisie Posner as Jessie. It is certainly the best child acting we have seen here, and the house is full every night. The season closes on the 11th.

THE Willoughby-Ward combination, which includes Miss Grace Palotta, Mr. Hugh J. Ward, and Mr. George Willoughby, under the direction of Mr. Edwin Geach, will open at the Criterion on the 12th in *The Man from Mexico*.

"A MOORISH MAID" has given place to *The Skirt Dancer* at the Palace. *Bill Adams* will follow.

MR. EDWARD LAURI, Miss May Beatty, Miss May Garstang, and Mr. Charles McNaughton will leave for England on the 26th.

THE Tivoli bill now includes the Carnos, and at a banquet given to Mr. J. C. Leete the other night, Mr. Harry Rickards announced his early departure for London to secure the best of English and Continental talent to keep his many Australian ventures going.

CRICKET.

THEATRE ROYAL C.C. v. "A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS" C.C.
Played at West Ham Park, May 31, a close game being won by the Theatre Royal by five runs. Scores:—
T.R.C.C.—J. Groom, b Darien, 0; S. Fredericks (capt.), b Edlin, 3; Stimson, b Darien, 1; H. Merritt, c Planner b Darien, 23; R. Day, b Darien, 15; W. Aldous, b Robertson, 3; W. Fredericks, b Darien, 3; W. Burrell, b Robertson, 12; Jackson, not out, 1; W. Ryder, lbw b Robertson, 0; J. Corbett, c Planner b Robertson, 2; extras, 13; total, 76.
G.C.R.C.C.—Planner, c Day b Merritt, 28; Blaker, b Merritt, 0; Darien, b Merritt, 20; Tulby Edlin, lbw b Merritt, 3; Robertson (capt.), b Merritt, 2; Barnes, b Stimson, 2; Williams, b Merritt, 1; Hedger, b Groom, 1; Tenaur, b Merritt, 3,; Johnson, run out, 4; Glen, not out, 2; extras, 5; total, 71.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. MUSIC HALLS.
Played on Clifton Downs, May 26. Fred B. Nicholls and Harry Belding bowled well for their respective sides. Scores:—
Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs:—Alf Mattock, b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Harry Hare (captain), b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Jack Aubrey, b Fred B. Nicholls, 17; Harry Belding, b Fred B. Nicholls, 5; Archie Hamlin, b Dan O'Connor, 0; Harry Clements, b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Ern Belding, c and b Fred B. Nicholls, 3; Jack Lewis, b Dan O'Connor, 7; Walter J. Horton, run out, 2; Harry Slade, b Fred B. Nicholls, 0; Arthur E. Bailey, not out, 1; extras, 7. Total, 42.
Music Halls C.C.:—Bob Cullen, b Harry Hare, 4; Patrick Reardon, b Harry Belding, 1; Tom Neagle (captain), b Harry Belding, 0; Will Meadows, b Harry Hare, 1; Harry C. Douglas, b Harry Belding, 0; Dan O'Connor, b Harry Hare, 22; Fred B. Nicholls, b Harry Belding, 15; Will Hinder, run out, 0; Jack Pyley (late of St. Michael's 2nd C.C.), b Harry Belding, 28; Joe Lacey, c Jack Lewis, b Harry Hare, 3; Frank Hansford, not out, 0; extras, 11. Total, 85.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. JACK LEONARD'S ELEVEN.
Played near Bristol on Whit. Monday, June 4. In the evening an enjoyable concert and dance was arranged, the following contributing songs, &c.:—Miss Grace Leonard, Miss Minnie Leonard, Miss Ethel Bowman, (banjo solos) Archie Hamlin, (violin solos) Leonard Hamlin, (harp solos) Harry Edwards, (cornet solos) Percy Hewlett, (piccolo and flute solos) Alf. Mattock, ('cello solos) Harry Hare, (piano solos), Jack Lewis, Harry Belding, Ted Palmer, Syd. Carter, Jack Leonard, Albert Lucas, Frank Thorne. Harry Hare presided at the piano. The Orchestral Band played selections from *The Catch of the Season* (Haines and Baker), Plantation Songs (Chambers), "Pomp and Circumstance" (Elgar), *The Congress of Nations* (Jacobi), *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Sullivan), descriptive piece, "A Motor Ride" (Bidgood), *The Yeoman of the Guard* (Sullivan), *The White Chrysanthemum* (Talbot), "Cake Walk Lancers" (Kerry Mills); also dance music. In the match the scores were:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, 41; Jack Leonard's Eleven, 93. Jack Leonard batted and bowled well for his side.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND MUSIC HALLS ATHLETIC CLUBS V. HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND C.C.
Played on Clifton Downs, Saturday, June 2. Scores:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Music Halls, 67; Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Club, 35. Dan O'Connor (Music Halls C.C.) bowled well.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

FEMININE headgear is manifesting itself unpleasantly in other places besides the auditorium of the theatre, and the question of ladies wearing large hats during the rehearsal for the Handel Festival and at the festival itself is one which is assuming quite alarming proportions. The complaints are not coming from the male sex, but from ladies. Mr. J. H. Cozens, the manager of the Crystal Palace, is receiving numerous letters on this subject. One lady, an alto, writes complaining that she finds it very difficult to see Dr. Cowen's bâton at the rehearsals owing to the large hats of those in front. At the first rehearsal it was impossible for her to see him at all. She adds, "Will you kindly bring this to our conductor's notice, and perhaps a word from him would obviate this difficulty at the Handel Festival?"

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE music hall sports will take place on Thursday, July 12th, on the Stamford Bridge Sports Grounds. If the committee follow the practice of previous years, the employés of the music halls will have an opportunity of competing in a number of the events. The office of the committee is at 18, Adam-street, Strand. Mr. Horace Marriott, the secretary, will no doubt supply any information desired.

THERE is a movement on foot among the stage staff at the Alhambra Theatre to show their appreciation of Mr. Charles Wilson, the stage director, who will shortly leave England for America. There are few, if any, stage managers as popular with their staff as is Mr. Wilson, or whose sense of justice is more fully trusted, and it is much to be regretted that he is leaving the Alhambra.

THEATRICAL (LONDON) SPORTS ACCOUNTS.

RECEIPTS TO DATE.

Donations to the Prize Fund	£57 12 0
Entry fees (less amount refunded)	14 9 0
Sale of tickets (less amount due)	42 7 6
Gate receipts and transfers	20 2 6
Sale of programmes	6 11 2
Discounts and sundries receipts	22 1 6
	£163 3 8

PAYMENTS.

Prizes purchased	72 18 0
Hire of ground	10 10 0
Groundsmen, check takers, police	8 6 6
Printing	23 7 6
Press advertisements	4 17 6
Boardmen and bill posting	2 19 0
Handicapper and referee	3 13 0
Refreshments on ground	6 2 8
Band	6 15 0
Postage, stationery, bill distributing, clerical assistance, numbers, badges, flags, etc.	12 5 6
	£151 14 8
Balance (subject to addition)	11 9 0
	£163 3 8

A NUMBER of ticket sellers have not yet sent in their returns, and it is probable the balance will exceed £15—a very small reward for the exertions made. A comparison with last year's accounts shows that the income for 1906 exceeds that of 1905 by some £13, and the expenditure is, in the gross, £1 7s. larger this year than last. The various items are much the same, the hire of the ground being £2 2s. in excess of the charge made last year. It will be seen that although the 6d. admission on the day may be credited with the increase in the receipts, it undoubtedly caused a falling off in the sum total of the tickets sold previous to the event.

THAT the Sports as an athletic meeting are a success goes without saying, and if proof were needed it is supplied in a letter from that veteran sportsman, Mr. Robert Watson, who acted as the referee. He writes: "I consider the Sports were most excellently managed, and in that respect, at least, a pattern to any first-class athletic meeting. I have not seen any newspaper report, but feel sure the good word given is a compliment richly deserved. In my experience I have never worked with a more conscientious, competent, and kindly set of officials, whose sole aim and ambition are to labour harmoniously, one with the other. You deserve to be better appreciated by the public, and as time passes all your best wishes will be realised."

THE clerks of the course were more successful this year in keeping the track clear. It is obviously a difficult and, sometimes, an unpleasant task; but it is due to the public that they should have no ground of complaint on the score of obstruction of view by competitors or unofficial persons. Unfortunately, some of the worst offenders in this respect are competitors, than whom none ought to be more considerate of the spectators, as without public support these Sports cannot be continued. There is also an unfortunate impression abroad that an attempt was made by two of the most likely winners of one race to square it to their mutual advantage. The result, as it happened, was not exactly what they expected, but the motive was obvious, and it deserves the consideration of the committee. Such tactics ought to be crushed with a firm hand, and those who adopt them barred from future meetings.

"THE ERA"
EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4 36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for the "Era" by Messrs. Hughes and Young, Patent Agents, 55-56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

727. Theatrical appliances. Patentee, W. E. Smith, Field House, Marlow, Buckinghamshire. This invention relates to drop scene curtains and the like which are detachably suspended by means of sectors attached to tong-like devices, and forming a complete roller with one or more loose sectors. The curtains or the like are passed round the loose sectors and the double thickness gripped between the parts, the lower ends of the tongs are fastened together by a bolt engaging forked lugs, or by other means, and the upper ends are held together by the suspension cord or by right and left handed screws, or by an oval ring engaging notches on the tongs or by a pivoted hook.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—A number of Irish plays are being presented here by the National Theatre Company this week. On Monday the programme included four pieces, *A Pot of Broth*, *Riders to the Sea*, *The Building Fund*, and *Spreading the News*. The motif of the first is decidedly humorous; that of the second is somewhat tragic; the third is also a comedietta, while the *dénouement* of the fourth is arranged with a considerable amount of ingenuity. Mr. W. G. Fay, who appeared in all the plays on Monday, is a strong and reliable principal, with a quiet but effective style of acting, which is, perhaps, shown best in his representation of Shan Grogan in *The Building Fund*. Miss Sara Allgood plays very naturally and impressively, her Mrs. Grogan in particular being keenly appreciated. All the minor parts are capably filled. Mr. Arthur Darley, a highly accomplished musician, plays various selections of Irish music on the violin at the beginning of each of the pieces.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The most notable turn this week is undoubtedly supplied by Mr. Charles Prinz and his troupe of performing lions. Among the other artists are the Labakous, who cleverly combine acrobatism with comedy; Mr. Jack Mills, the well-known Scotch comedian; Mr. Charles Williams, a smart coon comedian; Mr. George Belrose and Miss Maud de Velin, successful duettists and soloists; the vivacious Sisters Barrie, vocalists and dancers; Beaufort, a resourceful contortionist, and Miss Myra Norman, a talented singer.

CATLIN'S ROYAL PIERROTS.—Manager, Mr. D. H. C. Lovell.—The entertainments given daily at the Bathing Station by this excellent company are being greatly appreciated and well patronised. Each of the artists is very clever and resourceful, and the arrangements of Mr. Lovell are in every way admirable.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Potter, Vandy, and Weisker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—The company here includes Ara, Zebra, and Vora in their latest novelty, *Indian Pastimes*; Idento Brothers give a clever jugging act; Bert and Dora are well received; and Arthur Croxon proves a big success; Bird and Arnold are entertaining; Elton and Elma should be complimented for their clever and amusing knockabout bar act; Dare and Mavern are good in the sketch, *May and December*; and the Bioscope completes an excellent bill.

ALDERSHOT.— THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Williams.—After an absence of some time, a return visit is being paid this week by Mr. Morice Prendergast's company in the drama *A Woman of Pleasure*, under the direction of Mr. Gilroy, who is supported by Misses Theodora Henries, Dolly Gilroy, Carlotta Blondin; Messrs. Jerrold Ord, H. T. Wood, Fred Norburn, J. Brandt, Fred Laws, A. Bradley, and Deane Cliffe. Several of the company were here before. The play is well staged.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr. Will White's company is here with the drama of Western life, entitled *The New World*. The leading parts are well sustained by Mr. W. S. Stevenson, Mr. W. H. Burton, and Mr. Wallace Campbell, who, as Jack Hawley, has all the essentials of physique and manly presence for the part of the hero. Mr. Victor R. C. Moors as the old mineowner wins the favour of the audience. Miss Beatrice Moore as Jenny is fearless and bold, and a crack shot with the revolver; Miss Evelyn Robson and Miss Maud Leslie are good in minor female rôles. The humour of the piece is in the safe keeping of Mr. W. Hicks as a nigger-help, Mr. Oliver Rogers as a broken-down actor of melodrama, and Mr. Stanhope Roche, a vendor of pills. Mr. Will White makes the host of "Home, Sweet Home," a prominent figure in the drama.

THE EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broad head; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The programme here this week includes Dou-bau, the mechanical talking head; Chas. Hulbert, a good ventriloquist; Martinengo, baritone and 'cello soloist; Harry Nelson, character comedian; the Three Seymours, clever equilibrists; Ionia and his human target; Paul De Lil, illusionist; the Three Royal Temples, operatic vocalists; the Marsumas, knockabouts; and the bioscope.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. —Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—A diversified programme is submitted here this week, headed by the Mohamed Troupe of Souasa Arabs, who give a marvellous exhibition of pyramid-building, gun-spinning, and tumbling. The Raymond Trio are responsible for a bright and pleasing musical act; Mr. James Lowrey, described as the "singing furnaceman," is possessed of a powerful baritone voice, which he uses to advantage; Mr. E. C. Clayton's pictures are highly interesting; the Sisters Hula are good, both as vocalists and dancers; a smart show is given by Linton, rope equilibrist; Cris is an amusing ventriloquist; and Mr. Stan Aubrey an eccentric and amusing comedian.

BEDFORD.—THE ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company. On Monday evening *The Taming of the Shrew* was played. Mr. Benson was excellent as Petruchio; while the rôle of the Shew was admirably sustained by Mrs. Benson; Mr. Percy D. Owen met with success in the part of Baptiste; while Vincentio found a capable exponent in Mr. Philip Sanders; Mr. George Buchanan cleverly depicted the love-smitten Lucentio; Mr. George R. Weir gave a humorous portrayal of Grumio; Mr. Clarence Derwent and Mr. Cyril Keightley, as Tranio and Biondello respectively, left nothing to be desired; Miss Olive Notte was a charming Bianca. On the other nights of the week *Julius Cæsar*, *Henry V.*, and *Richard II.* occupy the boards.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Harris.—The leading attraction here is provided by Mr. Arthur Rigby, a clever comedian, who produces, with every element of success, his matrimonial mixture, entitled *The March of the Married Man*, in which he is assisted by a capable little company. A big hit has been recorded by that droll comedian, Mr. W. J. Churchill, who is always welcome here, his funny character songs creating the utmost hilarity. A novel appearance is being made by Max Duffell, a marvellous contortionist, who plays musical instruments while assuming some difficult positions; and nothing but praise must be accorded Mr. Ernest Montefiore and company, who appear with great success in their sketch *The Little Colonel*. Also appearing are Mr. Frank Lawton, the famous whistling comedian; the Sisters Reno, acrobatic dancers; Les Rallis, in their unique acrobatic speciality, *The Artist and His Monkey*; and Miss Frances Manners, comedienne.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—The Dumond Minstrels head the bill, and have been most successful with their musical act. Fun, fast and furious, reigns while the Albert and Edmund's Troupe occupy the stage with their exceedingly smart sketch *A Trip to Boulogne*; Miss Maud Mortimer, the charming actress, gains a big reception nightly; and the humorous character songs rendered by Mr. Geo. Brooks have afforded much enjoyment. Letine is a clever female impersonator; and the Four Olympian Stars delight all with their vocalism and neat dancing. Also here are Miss Lizzie Daniels, comedienne; and the Bioscope, in new Eastern pictures.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The new departure of a dramatic season at this theatre commenced on Monday, and was successfully inaugurated, both houses being crowded. Under the personal direction of Mr. M. Montgomery, jun., the sensational drama *Her Wedding Day* was presented by the Alhambra Dramatic Company. Mr. Hilliard Vox impersonated Harold Saxby most successfully; and the villainies of Weedon Kenyon were realistically portrayed by Mr. Herbert Cecil. Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a clever emotional actress, delighted all with her graceful and winning impersonation of Madge Conway; and a fine piece of character-acting was exhibited by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan, as the convict Seth Mayson. Miss Beryl Ravenswood impersonated Dora naturally, and with much credit to herself; and Mr. Luke Forster was all that could be desired as Lothario Cackles. The humorous element was in the hands of Mr. Victor Gordon and Miss Evelyn Marrable, who were certainly entertaining as Jordan P. Jessop and Dolly Klink. Other rôles were efficiently sustained by Miss Ada Arnott and Mr. A. Edwards.

BILSTON.—AL FRESCO PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Rattersby; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—On Monday was given the first performance of a company of vaudeville artists, known as the Imperial Pierrots. These Al Fresco entertainments are held in ornamental grounds adjoining the Theatre Royal, and will be continued daily throughout the summer season. The initial programme includes Miss Minnie Newman, soprano; Mr. David Rowlands, tenor; Mr. George Kirby, baritone; and Messrs. Syd Bazley and Alf Brookes, comedians. The musical-director is Mr. J. Bertram Brennan. Chester and Lee's marionettes are underlined for the current week as the concluding item.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr. C. Edwards is presenting Mr. Alexander Loftus and company in the musical comedy *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Loftus has a long familiarity with the rôle of William White, a part which he plays to perfection. Mr. Charles Odeson is equally good as Bertie White, and Mr. W. E. Chewd gives a capital character-sketch as the French Club proprietor, Mons. Bonsor. Captain Lovebury is admirably enacted by Mr. Leslie Austin, and the irascible Colonel Claymore is capitally represented by Mr. James Grant. Miss Masie Ellinger is winsome and vivacious as Ethel Joy, and is deservedly very successful. Brenda Louth has an excellent exponent in Miss Maud Nichols; Miss Violet Osmund is efficient as Dora Heather, and Lady Moulton is well embodied by Miss Winifred Preston, the remaining parts being also well sustained. There are some pretty dances by Miss Queenie Bell, Miss Amy Preston, Miss May Hawthorne, and also by the Star Trio, and a host of supernumaries render excellent service.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Mr. George Mozart, the popular comedian, is a centre of attraction, and is greeted with the customary enthusiasm. Mr. Albert Whelan, an Australian comedian of versatility, has made a decided hit, and Mr. Bert Woodward, a really marvellous trick cyclist, is also a leading feature; Miss Annie Wilson is a descriptive vocalist of exceptional ability; the Three Brothers Huxter give an interesting athletic and acrobatic entertainment; and Miss Florrie Bray, comedienne, and Mr. Fred Lincoln, comedian, contribute to an excellent programme. Some effective Bioscope pictures are interesting.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway.—A special flying matinée performance of *Othello* took place here on Monday last, when the chief actors responsible, Messrs. Lewis Waller and H. B. Irving, took their admirers completely by storm. Both artists had their fine points, Mr. Waller's declamatory power as Othello, and Mr. Irving's subtlety as the conscienceless Iago thoroughly justifying the interest and enthusiasm evinced; Miss Evelyn Millard furnished a touching and sweet Desdemona, and Miss Edith Wynne-Matthison was most welcome and satisfactory as Emilia; Messrs. A. E. George, S. A. Cookson, Henry Ainley, Henry Neville, and Miss Sarah Brooke were successful in the other parts.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*A Queen Without a Crown*, as originally produced by Mr. Graham, is the attraction here this week. Miss Ruth Mackay continues to shine in her clever embodiment of the rôle of Countess Mercedes Melrosa; Miss Geraldine Olliffe distinguishes herself by her well pointed and powerful acting as Theresa Maria; Miss Helen Grenville gives grace and prominence to the part of Rudolph; Mr. Wellesley Smith displays rich humour as Dr. Daly, and Messrs. Eric Hudson, T. Holding, and S. Creagh Henry as General Dominica, Michael Granino and Nicholas Marcosa respectively, are exceedingly fine. Others worthy to be commended are Miss Kate Kearney as the Duchess of Rudini, Miss Emma Rainbow as Ilga Branski, Miss C. Moore as Madame Valbourg, Mr. Owen Williams as Carolly, and Mr. Charles Barrett as the Cardinal.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Bernardo.—*Dishonoured*, a spectacular and romantic military drama by Arthur St. John, has proved a powerful antidote to the holiday aftermath, Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company being the participants in the success achieved. Miss Violet Cranford, both as Azelmah in the prologue, and Leslie Maynard in the play-proper, draws the audience completely to her with her fine emotional powers; Mr. Percy Ballard imparts a true touch of pathos and heroism to the rôle of the dishonoured soldier, Philip Cunningham; Mr. Jackson-Hayes plays the villain's part, Cecil Peyntland, with zest and dramatic skill, and Mr. W. T. Hybert as the staunch and true Cholmondley, Mr. Geoff-Broughton as Sir William Cunningham, Mr. A.Raymond Shaw as the Hindoo, and Miss Jessie Merrick with her sympathetic acting as Sybil, score; Mr. Val Gully as Jem Stokes, Miss Annie Thompson as Ann Maria, Mr. Charles M. Julian as Mike Farthing, and others provide excellent support.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander. Kennedy's Komics, comprising the Electric Animated Pictures; Sandes and Vincent, burlesque artistes and acrobatic dancers; the Three Sisters Horsley, a sweet singing comedy trio; James Dunn and Mabel Lendon, rifle manipulators, who also vouchsafe an amazing living statuary display; Frank Gibson, vocalist; Kino and Kirby, styled "the local boys"; and Aylmer and Turner, the brilliant comedy couple, are the attractons for the week present. The scena *By the Band Stand on the Promenade at Blackpool* is, with its myriad electric lights, much admired, and the entire programme, which is submitted at reduced prices, gives the utmost satisfaction.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The King's Secret* is revealed here by Mr. James Stillwell's company, who all attain a high degree of success in their parts. Mr. James Stillwell brings out the character of the hero, Captain Fairburn, in fine, manly style; Miss Zana St. George, as Zenopa, simulates the arts and wiles of the adventuress with irresistible effect; Mr. Edward Fryer enacts the rôle of the ally, Hassan Alfer, with a clever show of cunning; Mr. Beckett Bould apes the manners of the military dude with much effect; Mr. Robert A. Earle, as the millionaire, Johnathan Newark, delivers himself in a clever, characteristic manner; Mr. Paul E. Teulon, as Boatswain Jack, proves an exhilarating specimen of the British seaman; and Mr. Atherton Edwards as the Spy, and Mr. Chas. Crosby's interpretation of the Lawyer, are successful; Miss Kitty McPherson is vivacious as the American girl; Miss Katherine Barnett acts with animation as Leila Fairburn, and Miss Hester Kennedy plays a boy's part well.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Cinquevalli is paying a return visit, and his wonderful juggling feats win loud applause; John Leopold and company present an absurdity, *The House-Boat*; Ernie Mayne is a comedian who provides many opportunities for laughter; Brett and Orford have a refined vaudeville entertainment; Henry Helme renders his ballads with marked success; some clever head and hand balancing is displayed by the Brothers Attab; Mark Merry is as lively as ever, while Flo Deighton is well applauded for her songs.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Lil Hawthorne is attracting large audiences here, and her songs are rendered in her usual successful manner. Harry Tate delights with his *Motoring* Sketch, which has become so popular, while Frank Bertram and Co. in the sketch *The Chaperone* are amusing; a good entertainment is provided by the Musical Markies; the Lurins have a bright extravaganza, *Cinderella*; Marie de Paso is a clever clay modeller; the Carlyles, in an eccentric dancing act, Zavan, Billy Morgan, Hector and Paulus, and the Gaiety Pictures complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A diversified programme is presented here. Radford and Valentine put plenty of rich humour into their juggling turn, while Downs and Langford are highly entertaining; Edie Gray with her coons are an attraction, as also is T. E. Finglas; George Prince, the Sivronis, and Fyne and Hurley are all loudly applauded; Professor McCann's dogs show clever training; the Sisters Wingrove sing and dance themselves into favour.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—John Preston and company are presenting the thrilling dramatic sketch *Rogues of the Turf* this week; Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts are applauded for their singing and dancing; Edwin Barwick, a character actor of wide experience, has a scena, *The Moan of Mephisto*, and other impersonations; Forest and King are clever acrobats, as also are the Lios Alpha Sisters; Dot Stevens is a dainty comedienne; the musical entertainment presented by the Althopps is of a high order.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Messrs. Lionel Glenister and Wood-Ingram's company is paying a return visit here this week with *Sweet and Twenty*. Mr. Derlingcourt Odlum repeats his admirable portrayal of the Rev. James Floyd, and Messrs. Stephen Wentworth and Lionel Glenister are again seen as the sons, Eustace and Douglas respectively; Mr. Gus Wheatman proves himself an excellent comedian as Prynne; Miss Dorothy Carrington does well as Mrs. Trevelyan, and Miss Ethel Weyburn captivates all by her charming impersonation of Joan Trevelyan. *In the Strand* is the curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*A Bunch of Violets*, played by Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft's company, is the attraction here this week. A clever study of Sir Philip Marchant is presented by Mr. Norman Partridge, and Mrs. Greenwood-Croft contributes a skilful impersonation of Mrs. Murgatroyd. The remainder of the cast is also in efficient hands.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Mendel, the blind musician, is the favourite turn here this week. Other contributions to a very attractive programme are Foreman and Fannan, comedians; Bert Byrne, light comique; the Musical Schafers; the Three Laurels, acrobats; Charles Pastor, vocalist; Lily Payne, comedian; and the Mayvilles in their lilliputian novelty act.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—A capital and well-varied programme is provided here by Brothers Otto, acrobats; Mike Cray, juggler; the Original Cecilias in a musical act; Marie Elsie, comedienne; Dick Williams, banjoist; Fox and Melville, song illustrators; Frank Sylvo, juggler; Sisters Vincent, dancers; Carden and Zesch, society entertainers, and the Royal Bioscope with up-to-date pictures.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E Wilson. — Mr. William J. Miller and company opened here on Monday with the French historical drama, *The Throne of Terror*. Miss Catherine Maud Davies plays the part of Marguerite with much feeling, and Mr. W. J. Miller renders the part of Robespierre with capital dramatic talent; Mr. Roy Milton gives an admirable impersonation of Captain Eugene, and Mr. Frank Fuller is seen to advantage as the Comte de Riquefort. The comedy relief is ably sustained by Miss Eva Norman as Peppietia, and Mr. Bert Ellis as Jou Jou, and the part of Victorine is in the able hands of Miss Ethel Layon Maude. The piece is capitally staged. On Thursday and Friday evenings *The Octoroon* was played.

BOSCOMBE.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Ball.—Harry Randall is heading the bill with his latest successes, and his songs and patter are much appreciated; Joe O'Gorman is paying a return visit; Coram, ventriloquist, has a great reception nightly; Ryder Slone, character comedian; the San Remo Girls, vocalists and clever acrobatic dancers; Alfred Chester, versatile comedian; and the Strolling Players, in their pastoral entertainment, are also included in the good things provided here this week.

BOSTON.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—This hall has re-opened with Tom Poole's Pierrots, and, judging from the applause which greeted them, they should prove a good attraction. The first part of the programme consisted of a "sit round," and individual items were rendered by each member of the troupe. The Greys were encored for their singing; and the Eldines were enthusiastically recalled for their trio and barefoot dancing. Specialities were given in the second part by Poole and Poole, who fairly brought down the house with their clever pedestal dance, acrobatic feats, and smart patter. Will Ivor, a marvellous high-stit performer; Jessie Harper, the Lancashire singing mill lass; Clown Ohmy and his dog Toby; Violet Zermy, descriptive vocalist, conclude the variety entertainment.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Fred Winn's company opened here on Monday with that favourite farcical comedy *Niobe*. Mr. Harry Paulton, in his original character of Peter Amos Dunn, was as good as ever, and was ably assisted by Miss Annie Esmond, a capital Niobe; Mr. J. Edward Pearce was good as the egotistical Cornelius, and Miss May Kilpack played excellently as Helen Griffin; amongst others deserving of mention were Mr. F. Tompkins, Mr. H. Paulton, jun., Miss Lucy Verrier, Miss Kate Turner, Miss Lillian Brennand, and Miss Violet Hollom.

BRADFORD. — THEATRE ROYAL — Lessee, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—*Sherlock Holmes* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Henry Renouf gives a clever performance of the part of the great detective, and he is well supported by the members of Mr. Charles Frohman's company; Mr. Francis Hawley is easy and self-possessed as Dr. Watson; Mr. J. Poole Kirkwood, as John Forman, Mr. Philip Renouf, as Sidney Prince, and Mr. Walter Hicks, as Billy, are alike excellent; Mr. W. F. Stirling gives a telling and subtle performance of the villain, Professor Moriarty; the scoundrel Larrabee has a forcible exponent in Mr. Ernest Gray; Miss Violet Lewes represents Madge Larrabee with power; and the Alice Faulkner of Miss Vera Longden is an effort full of tenderness and pathos.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—We are having another visit here this week from the clever Indian actress Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, who in her stirring drama, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, has capital support in her picturesque impersonation of the brave mail carrier. Some changes have taken place in the company since the last visit, the desperado, Spanish Joe, has a clever exponent in Mr. Edward Leroy, and a capable performance of the villain, Captain Franklin, is given by Mr. Ike Shawcross; Miss Minnie Goepel is as bright as ever as Nellie Stockton.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—In a programme of a most attractive character here this week is that delightful comedian, Ernest Shand, whose quaintness is irresistible; Kitty Wagner is an acceptable comedienne; Atlas and Collins submit good comedy and excellent dancing; with their duets, dancing, and baton manipulating the Jagos are very entertaining; the Jonghmann Sisters submit some harmonious glees; as a comedian Fred Poplar is original and funny; Cora Caselli submits acceptable vocalism and graceful dancing; the pole and head balancing by the Brothers Wille is distinctly clever; those delightful acrobatic comedians, the Brothers Egbert, "The Happy Dustmen," are paying a welcome return visit; capital up-to-date films are shown by the American Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—A return visit is being paid here this week by Dr. Walford Bodie, the wonderful electrician and bloodless surgeon, and his demonstrations are witnessed nightly by deeply interested audiences. Bella Skene is an excellent descriptive vocalist; and Sig. Bandoni contributes an interesting turn as a "one man band"; Duncan and Brasque's sketch, *A Dressing-Room Romance*, is well acted; Norman Mi'ls, as "The Real John Bull," submits with vigour a good patriotic song; little Polly Robson is a clever child comedienne; Arthur Stacey submits his funny comic songs in an original style; Helen Henri sings ballads acceptably; and a rousing musical mélange by Emma Don and company, *The Prodigal Son*, is humorous and entertaining.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE. — Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—Master Edwin Percy Lee, a boy soprano, who sings with great taste, and possesses a voice of rare purity, has been a source of great attraction at the promenade concerts; Mr. and Mrs. Godley, soloists and duettists, have been well received; Mr. Tom J. Morton and concert party, "The Yokels," are always well received in their songs and humorous pieces.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese Band have established themselves as favourites here; Mme. A. Radford, soprano, is heard to advantage in some well selected songs; Mr. Will Osborne's Six White Coons opened on Monday night in their pierrot entertainment, and are giving three programmes daily.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—The variety programme this week is interspersed with dancing, the grand hall being laid out for the purpose. The performers appear between the dances, the company including Tom Brantford, American comedian, with his clever "one man band"; Grace and Mai Gilbey are still delighting with their musical turn, both being very expert on a variety of instruments; the Lovelaces are applauded for some well-rendered illustrated songs; and the animated pictures never fail to delight and amuse. Open-air entertainments are given daily in the Palace grounds by the Palace Pierrots, and Mr. Hubner is endeavouring to make his musical afternoons a feature of the show at the Palace.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. C. Beanland.—Some good programmes are presented nightly by the company, the various songs and sketches being well received. In addition to Messrs. Charles Beanland, J. Bath, and C. Danton, who are established favourites in Bridlington, the company includes Geo. Hyam, comedian; H. B. Coda, song and dance artist; W. Mason, and Ernest Benn.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr. Brandon Thomas and company are here this week with *Charley's Aunt*. Mr. Thomas submits an excellent portrayal of Sir Francis Chesney; Mr. Stanley Cooke repeats his very amusing representation of Lord Fancourt Babberley; Mr. Walter Beaumont's Stephen Spettigue is admirably played; Mr. Hastings Lynn as Jack Chesney and Mr. Richard Mason as Charley Wykeham are a lively pair; Miss Lena McNaughton is a handsome Donna Lucia; the parts of Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue are charmingly enacted by Miss Marion Ripley and Miss Dorothy Deacon; and Mr. Sidney Compton is a capital Brassett. The piece is preceded by *A Highland Legacy*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*The Middleman* occupies the boards here this week, and proves highly attractive. Mr. Ernest Carpenter gives a masterly impersonation of Cyrus Blenkarn, which is enthusiastically appreciated; Mrs. Ernest Carpenter, who is making her first appearance in Brighton, is a winsome Nancy Blenkarn; while Miss Daisy Halling is charming and impressive as Mary Blenkarn. Mr. H. C. Lanceley acquits himself admirably as Joseph Chandler; Mr. Marmaduke Wetherell is well suited as Captain Chandler; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers makes a dignified Sir Seton Umfreville; Mr. Ronald Adair's Batty Todd merits warm praise; and Mr. George H. Asquin is entertaining as Jesse Pegg. Other parts are ably sustained by Mr. Sam T. Pearce, Miss Lucy Murray, Miss Lydia Manning-ton, and Miss Kate Walfred.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—A capital programme is sustained here this week. Alexandre and Hughes, "America's brilliant pair," are very entertaining musical comedians; Nat Clifford, "the nimble one," wins enthusiastic applause for his comic songs, amusing patter, and eccentric dancing; the Paolias are effective in a turn in which the male performer, a highly-developed athlete, submits graceful posings; Hayman and Franklin achieve great success in their laughable skit *A Matrimonial Agency*; Dolly and Madge McCalla, juvenile vocalists and dancers, are here for their second week, and are well received; Rezene and Robini are clever and amusing in their trapeze act; the Wyffs appear in a much-appreciated comedy duologue, *The Parson's Mishaps in a London Flat*; Fred Bronte is a capital descriptive vocalist; while Lily Esplin, low comedy artist, and the Alhambrascope pictures add to the enjoyment of the audience.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—There is an excellent company here this week. The Jackson Family achieve conspicuous success in their refined musical entertainment; George Leyton, who is warmly received, is especially effective in his naval scena, *Nelson's Name*; Lillie Soutter, character comedienne, submits an admirable turn; the Manhattan Comedy Four evoke hearty laughter with their burlesque of the prison scene in *Faust*; Barlee and Smith are amusing in *A Rehearsal*; Billy Williams, Australian comedian, contributes some capital songs; the Eight Lancashire Lads sing and dance themselves into great favour; Wallan gives a clever juggling performance; Frank Halter and Marie Ray, Hebrew character comedian and soubrette, are very entertaining; Bishop and Vale, acrobatic comedians and dancers, win cordial applause; L. B. Athol, a characteristic artist, gives a pleasing turn; and the Barrascope pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Walter Maxwell's company opened here on Monday with *Little Mary*. Mr. Ben Field gave an excellent portrayal of the Earl of Carlton; Mr. Arthur Kightley's Lord Rolfe was a clever enactment; Mr. Herbert Chown's Dr. Topping, and Mr. Gerald Malvern's Sir Jennings Pyke were admirably played; Mr. Lewis Edgard as Terence Reilly was well suited; Miss Christine Silver made a graceful and charming Moira Loney; and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as the Countess of Plumleigh, Miss Margaret Nybloc as Lady Milly, and Miss Madge Murray as Eleanor Gray, were also highly effective.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—The Court Comedy Theatre opened here on Monday with a triple bill. The farcical comedy *The Little Intruder* was ably represented. Mr. Grahame Harrington was very effective as Adam Pemberton, whose son, Gerald, had a capital exponent in Mr. Stanley Harrison; and Mr. Arthur Hatton was a capital Captain Sanday. Miss Mabel Durrant's Olive, Miss Nolan O'Connor's Amy, and Miss Mary Wymond's Mrs. Blundell merit commendation. The programme also included *The Prince and the Lady* and *Scare the Skunk*.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—Mr. B. A. Rutley's company gives afternoon and evening performances of the musical comedy burlesque *Merry Robin Hood*; Mr. Frank Major's party of refined entertainers appear on the roof garden; Miss Minnie Letta's Sporting Girls provide a series of novel and classical entertainments in the Bijou Kursaal; and other attractions include Dunning-arto's clever card manipulations.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—Mr. Charles Harrington's company is here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The company is a satisfactory one, there is a large contingent of real negroes and full chorus, and the variety entertainment in the plantation festival is attractive. Mr. J. Carr presents a fine exposition of Uncle Tom, being very earnest throughout; Mr. J. Henry Rogers is sufficiently aggressive as Legree; Messrs. Stanley Howard, J. H. Rennie, and Leslie Beaufort do well as St. Clair, Phineas Fletcher, and George Harris; Miss Hettie Johnson makes the most of Eliza Harris; Miss Zerlina Zerbini displays power as Cassy; Eva is prettily played by Little Minnie; and Miss Annie Watson is decidedly successful as Topsy.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—*The 10.30 Down Express* is the attraction here, the play being put on in excellent style, including a realistic mechanical locomotive. Mr. Horace Stanley's company is a good one, all the parts being capitally taken. Mr. Stanley, as Sam Wagstaffe, makes the most of all his opportunities; Mr. Charles Burdon acts well as Jack O'Malley; Mr. George Arthur is careful and consistent as James Inderwick; and Miss Elsie Capell, as Bessie Leigh; Miss Evelyn Walton, as Letitia Leigh; Miss Clara Stanley, as Olive Coombes; Miss Hilda Miller, as Matilda Ann; and Miss Kate Kilpack, as Peggy Potts all do full justice to their respective parts; and the smaller characters were also well represented.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—The Gothams, vocalists and comedians, provide some excellent singing, and introduce funny interludes to advantage; the Davis and Gledhill Trio have a sensational novelty in the way of bicycle and motor-paced races, and competitions for amateurs are arranged for each evening; Joe Mack, patter comedian and eccentric dancer, obtains applause; Lil O'Gorman is a pleasing comedienne; the Bensons amuse with song and dance; Cliff and Kean also do a good turn of song and dance; James Willard and company have an interesting sketch, *Did He Deserve It?* Lady Julia, performing ape, is admirably trained, and causes much merriment; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope concludes the entertainment, with a capital set of pictures, "The Dream of a Rare-bit Fiend."

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas.—The Athos Troupe of acrobats and ball manipulators head the programme here, and obtain considerable appreciation; Wyndham and Kitty present a clever performance on the wire; Les Belles Americaines are pleasing vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Avon and Crest amuse with song, patter, dance, and contortionist acts; Dan Thomas, patter comedian and dancer, obtains much applause; Selby and Myers dance well, and entertain with cross-talk; Dan Filmer, comedian, displays ability as a step-dancer; Cribb and Cribb score as "tramp" comedians; and Jessie Albini, comedienne, has some pleasing songs, which go well. The performance concludes with animated pictures projected by Ruffell's Bioscope.

BROUGHTON. — VICTORIA, LTD.— Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. James W. Haworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—The management have arranged to devote the proceeds of this week's performances to the benefit of the Salford Royal Hospital, and intend to run a special week-end each year for that most deserving charity. On Monday, Mr. Harold V. Neilson's company commenced with Ibsen's well-known play *A Doll's House*, which was witnessed by a good house, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Salford (Alderman and Mrs. Frankenburg), and several members of the Council. Miss Amy Sangster sustained the onerous part of Nora Helmer with sterling ability, and much satisfaction was evinced at the clever acting of Mr. Courtney Thorpe as Torvald Helmer; Mr. Harold V. Neilson was excellent as Nils Krogstad, and Miss Katherine M. Romsey was very successful as Mrs. Linden; Mr. Lionel Atwill, as Dr. Rank, was very good, and the other parts were well played. *A Doll's House* was billed for Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings, and Wednesday matinee, the other evenings being set apart for Sidney Grundy's play *A Fool's Paradise*, with Mr. Neilson as Sir Peter Lund, and Miss Sangster as Beatrice Selwyn, but owing to the sudden illness of that lady it was found necessary to change the programme, leaving out *A Doll's House*, and performing *A Fool's Paradise* all the week.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—Crowded houses are the rule here this week, the principal attraction being flying the revolving wheel

immense favourite with the audience, and is vociferously applauded; whilst another turn which is particularly well received is Lucy Coventry, a comedienne and dancer, with catchy songs and possessed of wonderful nimbleness of foot. Rosie Bartlett is a dainty comedienne; George Victor is realistic with his character songs; and to lovers of Gaelic humour Fred Collins appeals very powerfully. The Bioscope is interesting, and the musical director, Mr. Jas. Hargreaves, is to be commended for the able manner in which he adapts his music to the various pictures as they appear.

CORK.—OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. John Horgan.—Mr. Andrew Moir's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday night with the farcical comedy by J. W. MacCabe *The Major's Double*. The piece is a lively, bustling, and amusing farce, and affords plenty of laughter from start to finish. Miss Eily Hélène, a clever young Cork lady, was a decided success, her archness and humour as Nora Sullivan exercising great effect; Mr. J. B. Gordon was a most irascible Major Prendergast; while Mr. Percy Marshall as the major's double, John Bocke, M.P., was excellent; Mr. Jas. Danvers created much laughter as Tim Blake (a guardsman); Miss Lilian Hallows as Madge and Miss Dorrie Roberts as Daisy were well placed. The play was followed by the new one-act piece *The Gamester*. Miss Dorothy Southgate as Marjorie possesses a beautiful soprano voice, and sang her music admirably; Mr. Andrew Roy's fine tenor voice was heard agreeably in the part of Angus; and as Raphael Mr. Charles Cautley displayed to the full the power of his splendid baritone voice. The combination of the farce and grand opera was an appreciable success.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*The New Clown* is being played here this week by Mr. Frank Bertram's company. Mr. Ernest Spalding is quaintly amusing as the timid Lord Cyril Garstan; Mr. Cyril Vernon is specially praiseworthy as Captain Jack Trent; Mr. Alec Flood gives a hearty rendering of Mr. Dixon, the circus proprietor; Miss Celestine Bertram deserves all the credit she receives as the fascinating Rose Platt; Miss Connie Merton and Miss M. E. Ellis as the Sisters Chesterton are very good.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—Harry Tate's company is scoring here in the comedy act entitled *Fishing*; Mr. George M. Schilling, American athlete, gives a graphic account of his walk round the world; Miss Florence Watson is a capable comedienne; the Daintons appear in an up-to-date comedy act; Jack Pleasants is a successful comedian; and Hector is appreciated in his turn as a wire artist and hoop manipulator. The Hippodrome pictures are up to date.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company is staging *A Queen of Villainy* here this week. Mr. Gordon Carnegie is well placed as Sir John Desborough; Mr. Ernest G. Batley is excellent as Alec; Mr. Lawrence Stevenson hits the mark in the part of Kit; Mr. Edward Heanley acts with dramatic effect as Stephen Faucet; Mr. Arthur E. Maskel is entertaining as Reuben Hawk; Mr. P. Howard Sturgess is a capital Timothy Kodac; and Mr. Charles Stirling makes the most of Dick Leinster. Miss Cecilia Desmond prettily portrays the rôle of Rose Delmayne; Miss Jessie Crammonde is an amusing Mollie Maggs; Miss Amy Ross Clyde deserves praise for her rendering of Sally Chimes, and Miss Edith Blande plays with tact and judgment as Cora Granville. Mr. John Rellie ably conducts a hard-working orchestra.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—Price and Revost submit an eccentric acrobatic act which is novel and smart; Lottie Govell is an interesting comedienne; Frederick Maxwell's company, including Miss Lois de Cane, appears in the one-act drama, *Dick Dare, M.P.*, with dramatic effect; Eugénie Fougère, French comedienne, receives quite an ovation; the Collinson combination are very funny in the sketch *The Academy*; the Ten Dixie Girls are enchanting in vocal and tepsichorean scena, *The Silver Coon*; and bright turns are also given by the Lannons, duettists and dancers; Charles Whittle, comedian; Harry Thurston, mimic; and Hans and Lux, patter comedians.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—A splendid variety company is here this week. Leoni Clarke, with his cats, monkeys, rabbits, caranies, &c., heads the bill. The Five Whiteleys, in their original acrobatic wire walking musical pot-pourri, gave a splendid exhibition of their skill. Ray and Calden (comedy artists) score a great success with their witty patter and acrobatic dancing; the Sisters Brenton (comediennes) are expert dancers; Cyclo is very amusing as a comedy cyclist; and other artists who contribute to the success of the show are Jesse Burnett (comedian and dancer), Mark Leslie (swell coon comedian), and the Bellograph.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is paying a return visit with *Two Little Vagabonds*. Miss Valerie Crespin is especially successful as Marion Thornton, and Mr. William Fagan's George Thornton is a thoroughly sound and praiseworthy piece of acting. The Captain Darville of Mr. Sidney Vautier is in every way efficient, and Miss Edith Savery very capably assumes the role of Barbara Scarth. As the two little vagabonds, Miss D. Rosslyn Vane as Dick, and Miss Josie Beltram as Wally, play their respective parts to the life; Mr. John F. Traynor gives an excellent performance as Bill Mullins; Mr. Frank Gordon and Mr. Fred Archer both do well as Dido Bunce and the Cough-drop respectively; and Miss Marie Pritchard appears to advantage as Biddy. Other parts are well sustained by Mr. Dunstan Haye, Miss Muriel Eley, Mr. Frank G. Kent, Mr. Marston Moor, Mr. Hugh Holliman, Mr. Thos. Blakeman, Mr. W. T. Harris, and Miss Lena Vernon.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—Miss Zeta Grey and company are the attraction here in the musical comedy *The Lancashire Lass*, and are responsible for some delightful singing and much hearty merriment. Another good turn is that of the Ringling Trio of Eccentric Tumblers, introducing a cake walk on stilts, which is heartily applauded. Will Letters, comedian, is exceptionally clever, his funny stories provoking roars of laughter; Mlle. Haydee is highly successful with her miniature theatre, a pleasing little show altogether; Flo Melville is a charming burlesque artist, and is worthy of commendation; the Fimans are diverting in their comedy creation; and Kavados, juggler and equilibrist, is praiseworthy, his feat with the cannon ball deserving special mention. The Palace Bioscope is responsible for a film, entitled "The Dream of the Rarebit Fiend."

DEVONPORT.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owners, Carltons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—*The Black Bishop* is staged here this week. Mr. Jeanie Marquise undertakes the dual rôle of Marian Strathcoat and Kate Marleigh in creditable fashion; Mr. C. H. Gallier is equally good in the less acceptable part of Simeon Strathcoat; Mr. J. Kingsley Rider is very fine in the title-rôle; and Miss Madge Turner as Ruth's child is a very promising little actress.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—Herr Fritz and company are here this week, the programme furnished being of an admirably diversified nature and replete with entertaining items. Evelyn Taylor, a comedienne of superior attainments, sings her several songs with a skill that earns emphatic approval; J. H. McCann, comedian and acrobatic dancer, gives a remarkable display or roller-skating, which provokes enthusiastic applause; the Three Permans, in their novelty pantomime act, *Dans le Jardin*, give a varied exhibition of acrobatic and gymnastic exploits, alternated by many quaint interludes; Nipper Anten has talent of no mean order as a boy comedian and mimic, his impersonation of Harry Lauder in "The Saftest o' the Family," being cleverly ludicrous. Herr Fritz created general wonderment with his astounding illusions, which are worked with business-like rapidity; other smart turns comprise Clare Sefton, comedienne and dancer; The Lessors, American premier speciality artistes; John Ross, a striking success as a double-voiced vocalist; and Nora Nellie, a clever executant on various musical instruments.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*A Soldier's Revenge*, presented by Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company, is the attraction here this week. Mr. Montagu Beaudyn graphically depicts Ironhand, the avenger. Mr. Robertson Fowlis does well in the rôle of Sir Marsden Mardyke, and Mr. Howard Hardy gives a capital embodiment of Matthew Mardyke's son; Mr. Albert Wray gives energy and manifest devotion to Walter Clifford, and excellent qualities are brought to bear by Mr. Tom Robertson upon his assumption of the Protector. Mr. T. R. White is every inch "mine host" in the rôle of Shadrack Shadwell, and Mr. Harry Momber plays Toby with success. Miss Annie Glunn is a neat Betsy, Miss Gloria Hill is good in her presentation of Mistress Judith, and Miss Irene Munroe excels as Ruby Ayondale.

DOUGLAS.—THE GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. C. Fox, jun.—Mr. Herbert Ralland, the well-known entrepreneur, is responsible for the entertainment at the Gaiety Theatre, and has provided an excellent programme in Sydney Grundy's farcical comedy, *The Arabian Nights*. Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont, as Arthur Hummingtop, is very amusing; the Ralph Ormerod of Mr. James Gildred is all that can be desired; Mr. Fred Fowler is quaintly funny as Joshua Gillibrand; the Dobson of Mr. J. Birch proves serviceable; Miss Chrissie Ralland, always a vivacious artiste, is dainty as Daisy Maitland; Miss Minnie Walsh, a young actress, who belongs to Hall Cain's land, is charming as Mrs. Hummingtop; Miss Nina Zambray makes the most of Mrs. Gillibrand; Miss Ethel Ashton is well suited as Barbara, and Miss Kitty Cavendish does full justice to the very piquant opportunities afforded by the rôle. The *pièce de resistance* is preceded by William Muskerry's playlet, *An Odd Trick*, well and artistically acted by Miss Minnie Walsh, Mr. Richard Walsh, Mr. Wm. Grimn, and Mr. Arthur Dennis.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Business-Manager, Mr. J. Kelly.—The attendance at this ever-popular place of amusement has been very gratifying, and the floor of the Ballroom is in perfect condition, and Mr. Harry Wood's orchestra induces all and sundry to dance. In the variety entertainment, Messrs. Seeley and West, musical humorists, provoke laughter and applause; the Two Falcons, acrobatic and equilibristic comedians, are daring and clever; Rhodesia, the latest lady juggler, provides a novel vehicle for displaying her art. In addition the picture gallery and lounge have many patrons.

Mr. Frederick Buxton's Pierrots at his newly-erected Pavilion and Tea Gardens draw large audiences.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—A capital presentation of a charming play is given here this week by Mr. H. F. Maltby and company in *The Youngest of Three*. Mr. Maltby's portrayal of George Wendover is both clever and impressive; Mr. W. Henry Hargraves makes a handsome and gallant Gerald Wendover, and his love scenes with Miss Beatrice Marsden (a captivating Lucy) are amongst the most delightful features of the play. The skilful touches that show the master hand are most apparent in Mr. Wyn Weaver's impersonation of Philip Radford, and Mr. Ernest Noble as Paul and Joshua Pynne contributes two humorous and quite dissimilar character-sketches. A quaint study of a servant is given by Miss Nancy York as Jane; while Mr. Ralph Hutton is excellent in the minor rôle of Samuel Johns. A small part made prominent by good acting is the Hickey of Mr. George Mortimer, and Mr. W. Reginald Favell is most amusing as Loke. A tender and convincing touch of pathos is given to the rôle of Florence Dulley by Miss Mara Maltby, and the Anne Dulley of Miss Mabel Mellor is noticeable as the work of an accomplished actress. *The Youngest of Three* is preceded by a little musical comedy, entitled *Fannikin*, in which Miss Mara Maltby in the title-part sings and acts with considerable charm. Mr. Wyn Weaver scores a decided success as Harcourt Harrington; Mr. George Mortimer adds to the fun, and plays with spirit as Archibald Thwaites, and Mr. Ernest Noble wins popularity with a droll impersonation of Otto, a waiter.

THE PAVILION, DOVER PROMENADE PIER.—Lessees, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew.—The Stanford Quartette and Concert Party have been giving a series of entertainments here this week, which have been well patronised. Miss Ivy Moore's sweet contralto voice has won her many warm admirers, and Miss Eva Colton shares the honours of the evening for her soprano songs, rendered with taste and expression. The pretty ballads, well sung by Mr. Ivor Warren, an excellent tenor, and several good baritone songs by Mr. Lloyd Stanford have been received with enthusiasm, and Mr. Harry Prenton contributes some amusing items. A word of praise must be given to the Quartette for their well-harmonised part songs.

DUBLIN.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—Mr. John L. Shine's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, when George R. Sims's comedy, *The Member for Slocum*, was presented. Onesimus Epps is made an agreeably funny personage by Mr. John L. Shine, while Miss Dora Nelson successfully portrays the rôle of Arethusa. Mr. Robert Grey ably depicts the part of Bill Smith, and Madeline is played in good style by Miss Nellie Clyde. Mr. Alec Chrichton is quite at home in the rôle of Gunning, and Miss Maude Henderson is excellent as Mrs. Jeffs. Mr. Laurence Doyle scores as Perkins, and the rôles of Fanny and Betsy are well sustained by the Misses Betty Castle and Blanche Connor. The curtain raiser, *Hogmanay*, precedes, and is well received.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The second hippodrome season opened here on Monday, when an attractive variety programme was presented. Madrali, the famous wrestler, who heads the bill, was accorded a hearty reception. Nino Martino possesses a fine voice, and sings effectively. Bonnie Goodwin's Picanninies receive merited applause, while the efforts of Wee Mona, comedienne and dancer, are well rewarded. De Gracia's Troupe of Elephants display remarkable intelligence, A. D. Robbins is an expert cyclist, and Miss Lottie Stone's Troupe of Dancers elicit applause. The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs score a decided success, and De Briere, juggler, is much appreciated. Kelly and Gillette enhance their reputation as acrobats, and the Royal Pictures portray up-to-date events.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W. Whitbread; General-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—*The Luck of Life* is being presented here this week by Mr. Reginald Adair's company. Mr. Joseph Millaine plays with credit the rôle of George Stanhope, and Miss Mary Dawson gives a careful study of the rôle of Bazilovitz. Mr. Roland Yorke submits a clever reading of the Anarchist Bazilovitz, and Countess Vlame is well presented by Miss Gertrude Bonser. Mr. Frank Danvers provides much humour as Simon Stanley, and Miss Dora Huggett as Laura North, and Mr. Leonard Thackeray as Count Petroff are both excellent in their respective rôles.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C. Irvine Bacon.—The Vagabonds' company of vocalists and instrumentalists, who are appearing here this week, are attracting large audiences daily. The artists includes Mr. Harold Montague, who is ably assisted by Miss Ethel Meyaffre in an original comedietta, which causes plenty of laughter. Mr. Percival Mackenzie, Miss Bella Green, Miss Merita Leclair, Mr. David Norton, and Mr. Ernest Devereaux also contribute successfully to an excellent programme. The Bioscope is projecting some new pictures, which are duly appreciated.

EMPIRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—The principal attraction here this week is Madge Grey, comedienne, whose songs and imitations evoke applause. The songs, dances, and piano-playing of Ross and Grayson are received with marked favour, and Miss Gladys Marius, comedienne and dancer, is an artist of undoubted ability. Ted Waite is a comedian of no mean order, and Belle Braham wins approbation for her capital rendering of picture songs. Two old favourites, Palles and Cussick, excites the laughter of the audience by their drollery, and Celeste is a capital wire performer. The clever instrumental turn of Florence and Lilian is well received, and the Empire Pictures are also interesting.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—The Martelloni Troupe of Acrobats head the bill here this week, and meet with a warm reception. Regan and Ryan in their amusing comedy act are nightly recalled, and the Musical Palmers meet with every mark of approval. The Three Coopers, descriptive vocalists, score a success, as does also Ruby and Laws, in a musical comedy act, entitled *Cora's Visitors*. Ruby Dahl's Mannikins supply an interesting turn, and Daisy Palmer is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. Percy Johnson, comedian, Minnie Fenton, comedienne, and the Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

DUNDEE.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. Louis Karpe.—A good house assembled on Monday to welcome Mr. Edward Tearle and company, the piece presented being the romantic play, *The Three Musketeers*. Miss Mary Campbell, as the Queen, looked and acted the part admirably; Miss Kate Clinton, in the important rôle of Miladi, displayed excellent art; Miss Esther Tearle played the part of Constance, the Queen's Tire Woman, delightfully; Mr. Emund Tearle was a capital D'Artagnan, his recital of the famous ride of the four Musketeers being specially good. The parts of Athos, Porthos, and Aramis were impersonated in dashing style by Mr. Ernest Lodge, Mr. J. A. Keogh, and Mr. A. W. Wynne respectively; Mr. Brenhardt Turner gave an excellent rendering of the wily Cardinal Richelieu; Mr. M. Lane made a dashing Duke of Buckingham, and Mr. T. W. Benson a droll Boniface.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—The programme submitted this week contains several items of more than ordinary interest. Carlotta Lunn is a comedienne of prepossessing appearance and gifted with a fine voice, her various songs are heartily applauded; Harry Bent submits impersonations of well-known music hall stars, and gets a flattering reception; Cambo, the musical man-monkey, has made his usual hit, while a hearty welcome is also accorded Charles Bignell; a capital sketch, *The Order of the Bath*, is well played by Lilieth Leyton's company, and Alma Burton charms one and all with her tasteful singing and dancing; Cooper and Clarke, comedians, and Joe Edmunds, negro comedians, are responsible for much merriment; Professor Milne, in a well worked ventriloquial act, and Vernon's Bioscope, with some very fine pictures, complete the attractions.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—Mr. A. W. B. Kingston's company entered on its third week's stay here on Monday, and it says very much for the versatility of the company that the programme has been changed nightly. *Napoleon* was the drama staged on Monday, and was well received by a good house. Mr. A. W. B. Kingston, as Napoleon, acted with great dramatic force; Mr. Harry Egan, as Jerome, kept the house in shrieks of laughter; while Mr. James Sommerville was very satisfactory as Marshal Lefebre; Miss Dora Hamilton made an excellent Catherine Upscher; and Miss Emily Peel gave an excellent rendering of the rôle of Annette; as Empress Josephine, Miss Carrie Henderson acted with great ability.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—The management of this popular house have secured a trump card this week in the shape of the famous Jamaica choir, whose fine singing is well worth a visit to hear; Sam Thomson is a comedian of more than average merit; while the patter of Rene and Wilson is refreshingly new and clever; C. W. Walker, a baritone vocalist, is always a great favourite here, and Rosie Morris, a chic comedienne, and the Gaiety Bioscope complete the bill.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—For the first half of the week Mr. Henry Doughty and his company are occupying the stage here with *The Barrister*. Mr. Henry Doughty as the barrister, Arthur Maxwell, works hard and well; Mr. W. E. Dunlop is a capital Captain Walker; and Mr. E. W. Thomas is a conspicuous success as Major Drayton. Mr. A. C. Thornhill is a good Jack; Mr. George Burke an effective Jenkins; and Mr. Charles Bradley a diverting waiter. Mr. James Seymour is a smart Crisp; and Mr. Hawley Francks a realistic Tom. Miss Vera Leslie is a satisfactory Mrs. Maxwell; Miss Edith Coleman is an able Miss Fayre; and Miss Cicely Hamilton an interesting Miss Foster; while Miss Amy Lloyd-Desmond is a bright Jane, and Miss Beryl Graham an attractive Kitty Drayton. A cleverly-written melodrama in one act, entitled *The Traveller Returns*, precedes, and is well played by Miss C. Hamilton, Miss A. L. Desmond, Mr. H. Doughty, and Mr. W. A. Dunlop. *The Gems* are billed to appear during the latter half of the week.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Peter Davey's company is appearing here in *Walker, London*. Mr. Blake Adams invokes much laughter, and very cleverly fills the part of Jasper Phipps; Mr. Orlando Daly is a smart and animated Kit Upjohn; Mr. Wylie A. Thompson is a boyish and convincing W. G.; Mr. E. Coventry is an excellent Andrew McPhail; and Mr. Cyril Melton a very satisfactory Ben. Miss Victoria Addison and Miss Irma Foldi are charming representatives of Bell Golightly and Nanny O'Brien; Miss Ethel Rainforth supplies able comedy work as Sarah Rigg; Miss Kate Carlyon is an efficient Mrs. Golightly; and Miss Hope Willoughby gives good help as Penny. A costume-sketch, entitled *A Triple Dilemma*, forms the curtain-raiser.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—The Seener-Fridkin troupe of Russian dancers give animated samples of their national dances, and are in great favour; Mr. Russel Wallet has a remarkably realistic female impersonation, and he keeps the house in roars of laughter; the twin Brothers Dean are among the cleverest of step-dancers, and their neat and skilful turn wins much applause; Mr. Johnny Fuller as a cat is a nimble, agile, and clever acrobat; Mr. Frank Crouch sings his clever songs in capital style; Miss Jeanette Reynolds is a pretty, attractive vocalist, with a pleasing voice; the Sisters Julian are neat and bright singers and dancers; Mr. Arthur Goodman is a comedy juggler, with novel jokes; and the animated picture of Hackenschmidt and Madrali's wrestling is very exciting.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Wardle and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—A variety company is again occupying the boards this week. Little Tim Galloway is amusing with his queer songs; Watt Tyler receives the full approval of the audience; Lily Lonsdale is a charming vocalist; Tarri Suma, Japanese conjurer and illusionist, fully deserves the applause his performance evokes; Jack Rae is smart; Mona Macdonald has met with a pleasing reception; the Allens are clever in their handling of various musical instruments; Mabel Vaughan scores with her impersonations; Ernie Myers, eccentric comedian, wins marked approval; the Whit-week Sunday School Procession is depicted on the Bioscope.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—Mr. James Welch and company began a week's engagement here on Monday in the new farce *Dear Old Charley*. Mr. James Welch, in the title-rôle, showed his command of humour, and the house rang with merriment whenever he was on the stage. As the two friends of Charley, Gabriel Peploe and Thomas Dumphie, Mr. John W. Deverell and Mr. Fred Lewis gave admirable sketches of eccentric characters, Mr. Lewis being particularly diverting. Mr. George F. Tully as a peppery Colonel was extremely good; and Mr. Leopold Profeit was altogether excellent in the part of Purkitt, the butler. Miss Estelle Winwood played with much charm as Agnes; Miss Helen Vicary acted vivaciously as Mrs. Fishbourne; and Miss Ethel Hollingshead was a piquant Reeves. The farce was preceded on Monday by *The Man in the Street*, Mr. Welch repeating his pathetic and realistic impersonation of Jabez Gover; and during the week the one-act play *The Lady Burglar*, was also given, with Mr. George Tully and Miss Estelle Winwood in the cast.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—Variety is well emphasised in this week's bill, the principal items of which include Ancillotti, with his thought-reading dog "Pilu"; Miss Alexandra Dagmar, in interesting imitations of sundry types of music-hall artists; the Warsaw Brothers, who are entertaining musical comedians; and the Hadj Abdullah troupe of Arabs, in a lively display of acrobatic feats and pyramid building. Galletti's monkeys and dogs show the skill of their trainer in amusing fashion; animated turns are contributed by Miss Lily Langtry, Miss Mignonette Kokin, and the Raies, all of whom are expert dancers; and Guy Ryder, the boy sifteur, is specially clever in his imitations of singing birds. The singing comedian element is well supplied by Mr. Harry Weldon, Mr. Tom Wootwell, and, notably, by Mr. J. W. Rickaby, an old favourite in Edinburgh.

FLEETWOOD.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. H. J. Snelson.—*The Secret of an Orange Girl* is this week being presented by Mr. Snelson's company. Mr. Aylmer J. Williams as Sir Peregrine Beamish makes an admirable villain, and Mr. H. J. Snelson as Uriah Underwood ably supports him. The character of Pepper Frost is well taken by Mr. Robin Shiells, and Mr. J. Carl Lyle gives an excellent representation of the kind-hearted governor of the gaol. Mr. Harwood Cooper is admirable in the character of John Fryer, the wrongly-accused hero. Miss Florence Mitchell scores in the part of Jane Fryer, and Miss Olive Lloyd as Jenny is attractive. The performance concludes with a laughable sketch, entitled *The Married Microbe*, in which Miss Kate Chard appears.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—On Tuesday and Wednesday the boards were occupied by a distinguished company of amateurs, including the Countess of Lathom, in *Diplomacy*, in aid of local charities.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prouse and Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—The Imperial Austrian Band, conducted by Herr Franz Meisel, performs here three times daily, and is accorded a hearty reception. The evening concert is augmented by two talented vocalists, Miss Lalla Parry and Mr. Fred Rowe, both gaining applause. The Wednesday evening's special programme and dance are exceedingly popular.

TOWN HALL.—Lessee, Mr. E. J. Chadwick.—The Globe Animated Picture company opened a short season here on Monday; the pictures proved most entertaining and pleasing.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—Miss Pauline Theurer, soprano, and Mr. Paul Wilson, character-actor, are the artistes engaged here this week. The Ladies' Blue Salon Orchestra discouses music at intervals, and the entertainment concludes with a series of animated pictures.

GATESHEAD.—METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Messrs. Beaudyn and Livesey are presenting here this week the drama *A Traitor Prince*. Mr. G. M. Montanini gives a striking picture of Prince Rao; Mr. Ernest A. Duval plays somewhat quietly, yet successfully, as the hero Frank Derrick; a humorous character is that of Billy Bright, cleverly portrayed by Mr. Edmond O'Grady; Mr. Edward Fenton as the Hon. Bobby is responsible for an effective representation; Miss Nita Langford's depiction of Vashti leaves nothing to be desired; and Miss Rose Routledge is a convincing Lola Vane; Misses Kitty Thomas and Clara O'Grady are conspicuous in humorous rôles.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Chas. Baldwin's company of comedians occupy the leading place here this week, and are delighting good audiences with an excellent sketch bearing the title *The Bank Clerks*. The Four Juggling Geraldos give an exhibition of hoop-twirling and club-juggling which would be hard to beat; Effie White scores heavily with her kaleidoscope dances; the Two Kays have an excellent song-scena entitled *The Nightingale*; Lozelle is a clever gymnast whose business is original; Matt Wilkinson's sketch *The Registry Office* is highly amusing; also appearing are Miss Madge Allan, vocalist; Miss Mary Neilson, comedienne; and Miss Mabel Le Blanche, burlesque actress. The King's Bioscope concludes the "show."

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Verno and Voyce are "starring" here, and these clever singing comedians provide an excellent entertainment; Joe Humphreys is here once again, and pleases with old and new favourites; the St. Johns in a musical act get a large amount of praise; Mabel Hind is a charming young comedienne whose Japanese scena is much appreciated; Morzetto is a clever juggler; and Brack and Johnson are comedians of ability. Downey's Pictures end the entertainment.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, pro tem., Mr. Percy Humphrys.—Mr. W. W. Kelly's company in *A Royal Divorce* is with us once again, and is seen to great advantage on this its first visit to the West-end house. Miss Edith Cole's Josephine is as refined and touching as ever, and the Napoleon of Mr. Frederick Moyes ranks as one of the most successful impersonations yet seen of the great Emperor. Talleyrand is represented with telling effect by Mr. F. Joynsen-Powell; Beaumont is played with fine reserve by Mr. George W. Cockburn; Mr. George Howard gives the proper spirit to Augereau; Mr. St. George Frere makes a distinguished Marshal Murat, and Mr. Alfred Willesley again depicts Grimand in striking fashion. Miss Elizabeth Watson is still with the company repeating her powerful study of Marie Louise; Miss Clara Earle makes a bright and interesting Stephanie; an attractive Blanche D'Hervas is seen in Miss Helen Richmond, and the little King of Rome is intelligently portrayed by Miss Maggie Cardiff.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—A season of Irish drama was opened here on Monday, the first week being devoted to *The Irish Dragoon*, a stage version by Mr. J. W. Whitbread of Charles Lever's famous romance, "Charles O'Malley." Mr. Whitbread's company includes a number of clever artists, and prominent among them were Mr. Robert Faulkner, who made a striking figure as Charles O'Malley; Miss Cecilia Dare, whose Lucy Dashwood was a most charming impersonation; Mr. H. Ryeland Leigh as Major Hammersley, the evil genius of the play; Mr. Tom Ireland as the brave old general, Sir George Dashwood, and Mr. James O'Brien as the irrepressible Micky Free, O'Malley's servant and retainer, with his witty remarks and unctuous Irish humour. Mr. Dane Clarke gave a clever embodiment of Napoleon, and the tableaux of Waterloo and St. Helena were cleverly staged. Miss Monica Kelly as Micky's sweetheart Susie, ably assisted the fun. Mr. J. A. Daly, Mr. H. Richardson, Mr. T. Bayley, Miss Madeline Hurst, and Mrs. Brady accounted for the other leading parts. The play was heartily received.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. Mussett.—Despite the summer weather there was a large audience here on the opening night. The very attractive programme is headed by Mike S. Whallen, a storyteller without a superior, who had a capital reception, his patter being greatly enjoyed; Mr. George Gray and company in *The Fighting Parson* were also highly successful. The other turns of note include Shirley Liggins, coloured vocalist; Holles and Goldman Trio in comedy melange; the Mackweys Trio, wire performers; J. Alexander and company, sketch artists; Howard and Collinson, burlesque artists; Rene Bert, comedienne; and the American Bioscope with a series of up-to-date pictures.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Fred Karno's troupe of comedians pay a welcome return visit this week, and present that laughable sketch *Early Birds* with their usual success. The Sutcliffe family give a clever display of dancing and acrobatism; Nermann Melot mystifies his audience with his conjuring tricks; a humorous sketch, entitled *The Would-be Actors*, is presented by Miss Lilian Rosebery, Mr. Carter Livesey, and Mr. Albert Mason, and gained much appreciation; Rex King is an impersonator of much merit, and his turn takes well; Carney and Armstrong, Spry and Monti, and the Mezzettis are exceptionally good turns. Pictures depicting the Spanish Royal wedding are shown by the Bioscope.

PAVILION.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—A first-class company is billed here this week, the chief item on the programme being the engagement of Max Sterling, who mystifies all with his wonderful Burmese gong and other illusions. George French, comedian, is heard in several good songs; and a daring performance is given by Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi, Japanese equilibrists. Other turns of special merit include Cherry Lass, vocalist and dancer; Herbert Clifton, mimic; Dolly Harmer, popular comedienne; Tennyson and Wallis, high-class comedians; Troupe La Faille in equilibristic act, and Pueblo and Cropp, speciality artists.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Harry Dent, assisted by Fanny Harris, in their comedy act cause much merriment. Chanti, protean artist, elicits applause for sterling work. Martin Conway is as quaint and humorous as ever; Gipsy Woolf and Six Sunbeams in *Fun in a Forest* supply an item of excellent quality. Tom Lloyd, comedian, contributes some funny songs, and Maidie Scott, comedienne, is well appreciated; Vincent, acrobat; Spencer and Marks, vocalists; F. De Marce, in equestrian act, are meritorious turns, and Myles and May, Merry Huntsmen, complete a good programme.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. J. MacLachlan.—Fred Ginnett and company in *Turpin's Ride to York* produce a spectacle which makes a surprisingly fine stage turn. Mr. F. Ginnett as Dick with the highly-trained mare Black Bess are the centre of attraction, Mr. Geo. Jennings being capital as Tom King. The spectacle is well received, the scenery, staging, and acting meriting much praise. Lloyd Morgan is recalled for his singing of tuneful songs in a good baritone voice; Rosa Loader as "the slavey at the piano" makes a decided hit, and Walton and Lester are as funny as ever in their clever burlesque show as magicians. The Canary company are pantomime artists of ability and resourceful merrymakers; the Northern Troupe dance with their wonted agility and grace; Ed. E. Forde, "the Australian Sundowner," gains many admirers; *Home from the Honeymoon*, a clever sketch by Arthur Jefferson, is smartly presented by a party of very capable comedians. The American Bioscope is notable for a very fine presentation of the launch of the new Cunard liner *Lusitania*.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—*Bertie's Birthday Party* has proved a first-rate attraction here, and is now running its fourth week. The Five Grovinis give a clever tumbling and acrobatic display, which is well received; Amy Bell sings several songs in taking style; Gordon and Dunn in a humorous conjuring turn are good; Bros. Laurence, dancers, and Jack, the man monkey, completing a well diversified programme.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company is paying a return visit with the musical comedy, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. In the title-rôle, Miss Dorothy Desmonde acts brightly and sings expressively; Miss Ethel M. Darsley is very successful as Ruth Montrose; Capt. Fielding is represented in manly style by Mr. Walter Ashley; and Mr. Henry C. Ward is excellent as Capt. Dudley. Mr. Frank Howard is amusing as Featherstone Haugh; Mr. Edward Kipling makes much of the rôle of Silas Crump; and Miss Nellie Harcourt is a bright, vivacious Judith. In the plantation scena these two artists win loud applause.

GREENOCK.—PAVILION THEATRE.—Lessees, the Greenock Pavilion, Ltd; General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The principal turn here is given by Frank Leon, dancer, and

was a very humorous Sergeant Bodega; Mr. Harry A. Gribben played cleverly as Don Sebastian; and Mr. Alfred H. Majilton played vigorously as the Marquis Circumvita; Miss Beatrice Ford was principal danseuse. Mr. Sydney Payne conducted the orchestra with commendable care, the chorus was capable, and the mounting and dressing of the piece enective.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Resident and General Manager, Mr. Albert Matnams.—The pleasing comedienne, Cissy Sinclair, heads a good programme here; the Meymotts are highly amusing in a musical interlude, *Semi-Detached*. The Hippodrome Bioscope exhibits among the films a very effective scene of the carnival at Nice; Maree Kean has established herself quite a favourite by her quaint impersonations; the acrobatism of the Wilfords is smart and clever; Marco decidedly excels in juggling; a superior musical comedy is introduced by Alex. Keith and Julia Kent, whose business is most amusing; quite an original turn is given by the Bouncing Dillons; Nat Watkins is a truly eccentric comedian, and scores a success.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. D. Hunter.—Mr. J. D. Hunter and his company are again appearing in the interesting drama entitled *The Ruby Ring*. Nothing could be better than the acting of Mr. Frederick Sargent in the part of Cuthbert Vaughan; Colonel Clethorpe is played very naturally by Mr. George Cecil Murray; the unthankful part of Reginald Clethorpe by Mr. Horace Pollock is a very vital realisation; a clearly-drawn sketch of Henry Jordon is submitted by Mr. Charles Langton; Mr. George Mudie does an excellent piece of work as Charles Lynton; whilst the valet, John Jenkins, is in the hands of Mr. J. D. Hunter, who brings its diverting qualities into strong relief; Mr. Walter Selby gives a fine characterisation of the solicitor, John Kendall, whose clerk, Peter Tagg, Mr. Harry Collier impersonates in a very laughable manner; Mr. A. B. Tapping as Alphonse Leloir is admirable; as the heiress, Helen Neville, Miss Alice Farleigh is charmingly natural; as Mrs. Renshaw, Miss Eva Bayley in a small part quite realises the character; Miss Bella Parkin gives a touch of distinction to her impersonation of Mrs. De Tracy-Harcourt; Miss Blanche Bayley as Helen's maid is bright and vivacious.

HUDDERSFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—Mr. J. A. Campbell and company are playing Mr. Campbell's drama entitled *The Little Breadwinner*. The play is a wholesome piece of domestic history, admirably presented by Miss Mary Fulton as Margaret, Mr. David Gordon as Richard Lawrence, whose trials are caused by the villainies of Joseph Prior (Mr. Scott Leighton). Sympathetic friends are found in Charles Prior (Mr. Allen Charles), Bridget O'Flanaghan (Miss Jenny Bostock), and Ruth Cherry (Miss Emmie Litchfield). Two juvenile parts are cleverly embodied by Miss Lissa Young as Bobby and Little Emmie Thomas as Meg.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—A screaming farce entitled *Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is staged here by way of variety. The piece causes roars of laughter, the chief merriment-provoker being Miss Florence Baines as Mary Ellen Thompson.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—The large number of visitors attracted to the city by the Beverley race meeting have found a fund of enjoyment in Weedon Grossmith's *Night of the Party*, which is paying a second visit at this house. The manœuvres of the man-servant Leslie are made even more diverting by the skilful acting of Mr. Leslie Holland, Mr. G. Stephenson making of his companion, Frank Frayne, an equal contributor to the evening's entertainment. The Lady Hampshire of Miss Evelyn Howard reveals much artistic talent. Mr. Fred Rolph is a comedian who never fails in his aims; his Mr. Flambert is a piece of work to remember.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—*The Curate*, a play new to this city, is filling this popular house. The Rev. John Audley is ably represented by Mr. A. Mervyn; and Dick the Trumpeter is cleverly portrayed by Miss Hettie Jeffries. Her vivacity being agreeably conspicuous. The Russian spy, Gilbert Westwood, is played with force by Mr. Whitmore Ledger; and the remainder of the cast is effective.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. George Morton.—*Her Lost Self* fully meets the taste of Mr. Morton's patrons, and is drawing big audiences. In the rôle of Philipine Marcel, Miss Frances Delaval, the directress of the company, finds full opportunity for the display of her histrionic ability; and equally praiseworthy are the efforts of Mr. P. C. Waram as Wilfrid Daventry. The Norman Esmond of Mr. A. Brandon presents many pleasing features; Tiny Carrie Johnson supplies some well-rendered comedy songs. Good business has been done during the week.

THE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Jno. S. Barnett.—Bransby Wiliams in his dramatic sketches secures hearty applause for his effective efforts in depicting both the humorous and pathetic. Nellie Wallace is another successful artist. Novelty is introduced by Solberg's automaton. No less than two sketches are presented by Mr. and Mrs. Harald Finden in *A Desperate Remedy* and Howard St. Clair, who cause much laughter. The Sisters Caselli, who sing sweetly and dance well, are vociferously applauded; Alf Holt is an excellent mimic; the Borellis, in some musical tit-bits and Frame, the Scotch comedian, complete a good bill.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Edwin Boyde is a big favourite here; V. L. Granville gives some clever impersonations from *The Silver King*, &c.; the New York Comedy Four possess good voices; Queenie May is an acceptable singer; Maude Vera, a coon artist of much ability. Selbo, Will Driscoll, and J. C. Manley complete the bill.

HYDE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Fred Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. R. Feather.—The dramatic sketch, *The Maniac*, heads the bill here this week. Mr. Melville Bickford excellently interprets the rôle of the maniac, Nathan Blake; Mr. William Brandon is sufficiently callous as Jaspar Woodleigh; and Miss Gladys Rose plays with pathos and feeling as Florence Woodleigh. Mr. George Wybrow creates roars of laughter by his quaint impersonation of Sammy Garret; and Miss Josie Bickford makes a sprightly Sally Jenkins, acting, singing, and dancing in a delightful manner. Yorkshire Tom is a clever mimic, and his efforts are vociferously applauded; Little Violet displays considerable talent as a male impersonator; the Juvenile Wonders give a fine boxing and wrestling display; and Mr. Frank Coyle scores as a comedian. The other turns are Miss Josie Bickford, comedienne; J. S. Scatter, comedian and dancer; and the Electric Bioscope.

ILKESTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—*Under Two Flags* is presented this week by Mr. Louis Cohn and company. Miss E. Turner-Elliott plays the part of Cigarette with much skill and animation; whilst Mr. George Steel exhibits some capital acting as Bertie Cecil. Mr. E. Bulwer-Pitt, as Lord Rockingham, gives a delightful interpretation of the part; and Miss Gwendoline Thorpe wins admiration as Princess Venetia. Mr Walter Rousby plays appropriately as Rake; Mr. Reginald Hargreaves, as Barklie Cecil; and Mr. Charles Brooke, as Lord Royellieu, both do good work. Miss Issa Steel appears with effect as Lady Beatrice; Mr. Louis Cohn makes a good Ezra Baroni; and Mr. Charles D. Pitt is meritorious as Colonel Chateauroy.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Two performances every evening have now given place to one only, the leading turn this week being a miniature musical comedy entitled *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, played by Mr. Harry Roxberry's company. Mr. J. E. Nightingale is the principal of the twenty performers, and causes much laughter; while Miss Carr's singing and dancing are much applauded. Mildare's imitations of various song birds greatly delight the audience. Among other items are Elton and Edwin, entertaining banjo experts; Williams and Warden, who are very amusing; the Sisters Cora, whose tuneful singing and neat dancing are much appreciated; and Charles Russell, descriptive vocalist. The chief picture on the Biograph is an effective representation of *San Franciso in Ruins*.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. Frank Bateman's company is here this week with the powerful drama entitled *No Wedding Bells for Her*. Mr. George C. Doughty gives a good rendering of Dick Delver; while Mr. Stuart Lomath scores in the part of Frank Hatherleigh. Mr. Louis Garton does full justice to the rôle of Montague Blair; and Mr. Archie Helsby acts powerfully as Abney Stone. Mr. Edward E. Louis gives a manly portrayal of Harold Treveiyan; Miss Lizzie Montague plays with vigour the part of Lola Delaspierre; and Miss Doris Lorraine is charming as Doris Fane. Mr. Will Skelton makes the most of the character of Simkins, and is ably assisted by Miss Alice Mattin as Peggy.

KEIGHLEY.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Carson and Kendall; General-Manager, Mr. R. Kendall.—On Monday the variety season opened here. Mr. George A. De Gray presents a capital sketch *Husband's Troubles*. It is smartly played by a capable company. Conway and Garland provide a capital turn; Miss Maggie Grimshaw, the miniature Vesta Tilley, is much appreciated; Tony, the Society whistler, warbles in fine style; Miss Janette Latour sings well; and the Queen's Bioscope pictures are highly interesting.

LEEDS.—GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. Edward Liston.—A distinctly creditable performance of *Hoodman Blind* is being given at the Royal this week by a capable company under the direction of Mr. Arnold Bell. Mr. Bell, in the part of Jack Yeulett, is powerful and convincing; Miss Frances Campbell interprets a trying dual rôle in clever style; and other leading characters are faithfully portrayed by Mr. Cuthbert Imrie, Mr. John Belton, and Miss Owlet Campbell.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden: Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—*A Prince of the People*, a powerful drama dealing with the time of the French Revolution, is the attraction here this week. Mr. F. Rawson Buckley plays the part of Victor Lafond admirably; the count's daughter, Lucille, is a capable personation by Miss Emily Sheridan; the portrayal of Berthault is a masterly effort by Mr. William H. Brougham; and Mr. H. G. Twyman, as the Marquis de Sancy, is an effective villain; the comedy parts of Badru and Marie are in the hands of Mr. Douglas Munro and Lillian Villiars, respectively; Mr. Lionel Gadsdone, Mr. R. Reginald, and Mr. Sid Leslie also do good work in leading parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The *Casey Circus* is a screaming farce from start to finish, and proves very acceptable fare at this hall; the Kaufmann Troupe of lady cyclists go through some wonderful evolutions on wheels; Howard Bros., display both musical ability and muscular dexterity in the handling of their instruments; the Casino Comedy Four combine comedy and vocal effort to the delight of the audience; the Cape Girls do well in song and dance, and the well-known Jurgens Trio present again their specialty; the Bros. Harrison contribute eccentric comedy, calculated to please; Will English needs no introduction as a favourite comedian; and Venie Clements is also appearing with success.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr. Thos. Barrasford; Managers, Mr. Chas. Weldon and Mr. Claude Shayler.—This is the last week for the present of the popular Tivoli, for to-day it will close for six weeks. The big attraction is John Tiller's company with the farce *High Jinks*, in which those popular favourites Bob Selvidge and Bessie Cohen give general satisfaction. The Four Holloways are prominent with a sensational wire act, and others in the bill are Percy Hannan, baritone vocalist; Harris and Worth, eccentrics; Mons. Slippere, expert blind pianist; A. J. Rebla, in comedy jugglery; and Fred Curran, comedian.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Wilbur Hill and Willette Whittaker are a strikingly successful lead in the week's bill here, their musical and vocal contributions being much enjoyed; Arthur Reece scores with nursery-rhyme ditties, whilst Will Dalton and Tom Yorke also do well in a similar line; Bayne and Hope present a dramatic episode in capital style; Callis and Cassati and the Brothers Ralston are well to the fore with comedy entertainment; and Rosie Reval, a pleasing comedienne, completes the bill.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—A stirring melodrama, entitled *The Way of the World*, is being presented here this week by Montague Beaudyn and Sidney Crowe's excellent company, under the direction of Mr. Herbert Skardon. The staging is a special feature, especially the race-course scene. Miss Sidney Crowe makes a conspicuous success as Adela de la Roche; Miss Cissie Bellamy is good as Kate Montague; and Violet Ingram as Marion Fanshaw, and Miss Marie Fontaine as Polly Bell are also capitally placed. Mr. Harold B. Lewis as Cecil Montague is excellent, and as Captain Fred Slade Mr. Herbert Skardon shines with a portrayal of merit; Mr. Clarence Temple plays well as Matthew Malyon; Mr. Pat Quinn as Silas Montague does good work; and both Mr. Augustus Hammond as Horatio Bluff and Mr. Dick Seddon as Joe Sparrow are good.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—The premier position here this week is held by Eugene Stratton, whose delightful rendering of coon songs evokes the greatest admiration; a really fine equilibristic act is submitted by the Uessems; the Arthur Lloyd Trio give with the greatest success their well-acted comical dilemma playlet, entitled *Little Charlie*; Chinko, the boy juggler, goes through his performance with a smartness that is heartily appreciated; the Norman Leonard Trio prove most entertaining in their comedy musical sketch, *The Itinerant*; Brooks, Dale, and Blitz, with their mule, provide plenty of amusement; Marba and Verity, the gay, whirling couple of dancers, are good; Will Vokes is a clever and quaint eccentric dancer; Alfred Hurley is an excellent vocalist; and the Bioscope depicts the Royal Wedding of the King and Queen of Spain.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The following artists constitute the company appearing here this week: Leo Lester's canine pantomime, entitled *Sports*; the Brothers Herne, in their neat juggling and club manipulating act; the Elvio Trio, in their latest laughable absurdity, *Those Troublesome Slaveys*, in which some good acrobatic work is introduced; George Bendon, the popular white coon, in connection with whose engagement a singing competition is taking place; Kisbey, in his amusing and unique speciality, *The Call Boy*; George Rapley, a capital burlesque comedian; Adey Spencer, the girl from the hat-shop; and Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is retained.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—The new-comers here this week are Amy Bellwood, a dainty comedienne; Mme. Alice Smythe, a soprano of much ability; and Charlie Neary, a popular comedian. Retained from last week are Dan Lyndon, a first-rate comedian; Bert Wallace, an amusing comedian; and Jeff Lytton, pianist and conductor.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Rousby.—Mr. Herbert Barrs and company is here this week with the comedy drama, entitled *Life*. Mr. Herbert Barrs plays with dramatic effect as Jack Lockhart; Mr. Herbert Fuller evokes much laughter as Zac Krabbe; Mr. A. Pringle gives a strong delineation of Sir Horace Lester; Miss Dorotny Oswald sympathetically embodies Ruth Thorpe; Miss Maudie Vincent is good as Jess, the London waif, her songs being well rendered; and Miss Agness Collier does effective work as Beatrice Ferrars.

LIVERPOOL.—ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—A capital all-round performance of the revised version of *The Prodigal Parson* has been given here during the week by Messrs. Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's company. As the Rev. Tom Godley Mr. Garrod exhibited excellent dramatic powers; Miss Bertha Kingston in the rôle of the wife afforded every satisfaction; Enoch Jaggins found in Mr. Alfred Northway a capable exponent; the part of Ben Jaggins was in the able hands of Mr. Frank Dallas; Miss Gladys Conover was sympathetic as the blind child Myrtle Godley; and good work came from Mr. Walter Vincent as Kettlepin; Mr. Thomas Ashton in the rôle of Detective Markby; and Mr. Percy Dawsone, who undertook Phil Drive.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs. T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—A capital programme is provided here this week. Messrs. Fergusson and Mack, "Yankee Curiosities," are a pronounced success; the Four Scandias give a really clever equilibristic display; Messrs. Bernard and Weston are high-class comedians; Miss Katie Butler, comedienne, shows talent; Mr. Harry Conlin is a good comedian; Mr. J. S. Aitken scores with amusing patter; Miss Rosie Coleman is a dancer of ability; Sauteron, trick and fancy jumper, receives approbation; and the Lyric Bioscope has a variety of up-to-date pictures.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—*The Poor Must Live* has held the boards here during the week. Mr. Geoffrey Fulton's talented company presented it, the scenic effects being excellent. Mr. Shaun Glenville, specially engaged, gained the favour of the audiance for his Hooker Holdswitch, a character full of humour; Miss Olive Fulton as Olga D'Eyncourt ably presented a picture of a female mob leader, and earned much applause; as the Society blackguard Manville Mr. Walter Spinner was eminently successful; a dignified and well-drawn Earl of Marswood came from Mr. Charles O'Connor; and Mr. Harold C. Macartney well fitted the character of Donald. Miss Alice Buckland made the most of Moya Darling; and Miss Marguerite Thorne as Sal Darling and Miss Violet Hammersley in the rôle of Dorothy afforded good support.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—It is evident from the manner in which it has been received here this week that *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* still possesses great drawing powers, particularly when presented by such a competent company as Mr. Carson has sent. It was a pleasure to witness the Bob Brierley of Mr. Charles Draycott, who moved his auditors to frequent applause; Miss Hettie Senior exhibited tenderness and discretion as the affectionate wife May Edwards; Mr. J. Dobson-Clyde handled the part of Dalton in masterly fashion; as Melter Moss no fault could be found with Mr. Arthur Byron; and Mr. Ernest J. Fare's Hawkshaw was full of good points. A word of praise is certainly due to Miss Daisy Norman for her Sam Willoughby; and Mr. Morley Carrol proved natural as Mr. Gibson. The staging was in every way satisfactory.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Alec Hurley heads an attractive programme here this week with his funny *Coster's Beanfeast*, the company engaged provoking great laughter; the famous Craggs in *Billy* are a source of keen enjoyment; Daisy Dormer is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Sloan, the cigar-box king, goes through some clever manipulation of balls, &c.; the songs and patter of James H. Cullen go exceedingly well; Nelson's Newsboys render a number of taking songs and harmonies; a cleverly directed marionette show is Bernar's Fantoches, which appeared instead of Amaun and Hartley; Mr. Fred Erick is a quaint comedian; some clever juggling on globes earned for the Goltz Trio loud applause; and others who appeared included Leone Dixon, an accomplished dancer; and the Lunelle Sisters, singers and dancers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—This place of amusement continues to do good business. Top of the bill this week are Donaldson Bros. and Ardel with their speciality in two scenes, *A Zoological Comedy*, which provides much amusement and is richly enjoyed; George Gilbey brings his newest songs and patter, which meet with cordial approval; the Four Madcaps supply some capital acrobatic dancing; Sable Fern pleases everybody with her well-rendered songs; the banjo playing of Evelyn Desa is very acceptable; everybody has to laugh at Will Souls; Max Waldon's transformation act is a notable item in the programme; the Brooklands are dainty comediennes and dancers; and Nora Emerald dances with taste and ability.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—A change in the customary bill of fare has taken place at this cosy little theatre this week, the evening's entertainment consisting of a fine set of moving pictures, interspersed with variety turns. The Bioscope belongs to the British Imperial Company, and the pictures, both coloured and plain, are unusually steady and clear.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The ten-tableaux sketch *Her Fate* has been given here this week by the "Royal" Stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher was the Bob Smith; Mr. Harry Tresham made a capital Rev. Frank Thornton; Miss Nina Nazeby, a talented actress, was the Ruth Hastings; Miss Gertrude Entwistle gave satisfaction as Lady Fenwicke; the double part of Ernest Hastings and Charles Fenwicke was well handled by Miss Gladys Evelyn; and strong support came from Mr. Sydney Grant and Mr. E. D. Allen.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Cavern and Cave are at the top of the bill here this week with a very laughable item, *An Early Morning Dip*; Shirley Barton and company present a smart three-tableaux turn entitled *Convict 88*; with their skit *Stage Aspirants* Dene and Dawson provoke endless laughter; Charles Grantley gives a neat entertainment in songs, stories, and mimicry; Lillie Coleman is a versatile artist; and Gladys Christo sings some taking songs.

PARK PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Florence Yaymen, a coon comedienne of merit, is foremost here this week, with some catchy songs; Mr. L. Lee presents a dramatic sketch, *Adrift on the World*; Henri Cazman, "the one-man music-hall," is very entertaining; a neat vocal and comedy acrobatic act is given by Haig and Nevel; the singing, dancing, and speciality act of Fields and Lewis is approved; Daisy O'Malley sings and dances very satisfactorily; and others in the list are Edward Ind, character comedian, and Queenie West, vocal comedienne.

HAYMARKET.—Leesee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—The always-popular Charles Majilton and company are principal here this week with *The Plumber*, which has been followed by screams of laughter; Sandy and Karl are a pair of able comedians and dancers; the singing and patter of Mr. C. is pleasing; Blanche Marion dances well; some taking coon ditties are supplied by J. H. Wakefield; and Kitty Kearns does a good turn as a vocal comedienne.

WESTMINSTER.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—A big line here this week is Charles Bignell, who is pleasing everyone with his latest songs, including "Are we down-hearted?" and "Why walk about girls?" Maxford and O'Neill are overflowing with funny songs and sayings, which keep their hearers in a merry mood; Little Dot Pardy is a neat juvenile male impersonator; the Bros. Adderley, with their song and instrumental mimicry, receive a hearty welcome on their return visit; J. W. Howley is a talented juvenile comedian and sand dancer; Violet Mack supplies some favourite ditties; and Gladys Christoe has a pleasing voice.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The always popular Miss Marie Loftus heads the bill here this week, and hosts of her admirers have enjoyed her latest songs, including "Singers past and present." There was no mistaking the warmth of the welcome accorded to the talented artist. John Lawson's *Monkey's Paw* has been witnessed by delighted audiences; a funny act, *Flipp and Flopp*, consisting of eccentric dancing, is given by the Delevines; clever vocalism and quaint humour mark the work of the accomplished Harmony Four; a smart acrobatic display is provided by the Vetter Bros; Bernar's Fantoches are wonderfully manipulated; Helen Ford sings in a very pleasing fashion; and the programme also contains the names of Marie Weston, comedienne, and Alf Kingston, vocalist.

TOM CAMPBELL'S VAUDEVILLE ENTERTAINMENT.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Tom Campbell.—Attractive fare is billed here for this week. Mr. Will Austin, comedian, brings down the house with his humorous songs; Mr. Harry Fay is still a prime favourite; Mme. St. Albans, contralto, is in capital voice; a successful turn is given by Mr. E. W. Williams; and Lorraine, mimic, is very good.

LLANDUDNO.—GRAND THEATRE.—Responsible Manager, Mr. A. G. Pugh.—The Ian MacLaren Shakespearean and Répertoire company is here for a fortnight, and opened on Monday with *David Garrick*. Mr. Ian MacLaren's impersonation of the title-rôle evoked loud applause throughout. He was admirably supported by Miss G. Gilbert as Mabel Brackson, and every praise is due to her for a capital representation of a difficult part. Mr. Claud Haviland as Alderman Brackson was a typical "stern" father, and in all respects played well; Mr. François Cellier, jun., as Hon. Mon. Fairley, sustained the part of the drunken nephew in good style. The company is a capital one, and the stage effects first-class. *The Merchant of Venice*, *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *Othello*, and *Romeo and Juliet* were also down for production.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. R. Chaplin.—Mr. Millar Anderson's company occupy the boards of this theatre for six nights, *Bachelor of Arts* being produced on Monday. Mr. Frank Litchfield as Andrew Wylie, the moneylender, was *par excellence*, sustaining the part splendidly. Mr. Jerrold Heather as Harry Jasper was exceptionally good, and was ably supported by Miss Gladys Lloyd as Mrs. Thornton. A special word of praise is due to Miss Mabel Mannering for an excellent rendering of Emma Thornton. *Camille* was staged on Wednesday and Thursday, and *Lena* on Friday and Saturday.

The Promenade Concerts, under the conductorship of Mr. J. Mohr, are in full swing, Mr. Curtis D'Alton delighting audiences by his vocal abilities each evening. Like wine, he improves with age.

Perry's Minstrels have opened their season in the Happy Valley in brilliant weather. The troupe is considered the best seen here. The evergreen Billy Richardson heads the comedians, who are versatile in every respect. The vocalists, amongst whom is Sam A. Atherton, late principal Lincoln Cathedral, are accomplished. An efficient band completes an altogether good all-round show.

LOWESTOFT.—MARINA.—Managing-Director, Mr. E. A. Smith.—Messrs. Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company are paying a first visit this week with the play *When a Man Hates*. The general mounting and scenery are particularly good. Mr. Arthur Hinton appears to advantage in the rôle of Pietro Danelli, and Mr. Travis Green is also praiseworthy as Detective Smart; Mr. Frank Brundell gives an amusing character-sketch as Peter Pimple, and is ably supported by Miss Florence Zillwood (Dolly Dimple); as Olgar Gwynne, Miss Leila Zillwood is exceedingly well placed, and presents a capital piece of acting.

MACCLESFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—Trio Alskarno, Italian comedy acrobats, have made a hit here, and Miss Blanche West, with descriptive songs, is as entertaining as ever; the Holman Sisters, in trios and dances, again meet with cordial recognition; Dancing Mac scores his customary success; Jammie and Joey, in droll duologue, are a lively pair; Taylor Snowball is very funny; the Macograf animated pictures are an attractive item; and Leopold and Lorna, with their performing dog, meet with approval.

MAIDSTONE.—HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. H. Watson.—The following are included in the bill this week:—Scottie's Waifs and Strays in their scenes from London street arab life; Amandus, a clever impersonator of celebrities; Eugene and Willie, acrobatic instrumentalists; Miss Connie Milton, comedienne; Mr. Arthur St. George, dramatic vocalist; Harry High, "the Loony on Skates," and Miss Rose Tree.

MANCHESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Edmonstone Shirra.—Miss Jessie Millward and company are here this week in *The School for Husbands*, an enjoyable costume comedy. Miss Jessie Millward is excellent throughout as Lady Manners, and Sir John Manners is played in fine style by Mr. A. Scott Craven. Mr. Philip Cunningham, a great favourite in Manchester, is good as Prince Assam; Mr. A. E. Greenaway does well as Captain Lovel, and vastly amusing is Mr. T. Wigney-Percyval, a most versatile actor, as Lord Foppington; Miss Maude Noel is delightful as Clarissa Huntleigh; Miss Mona K. Oram adds distinction to the part of Lady Aivish; and the Lady Speakill of Miss Emma Chambers is capital; Miss Maud Abbott is good in the small part of Betty, and others to be commended are Miss Maude Leslie as Lady Tattle, and Messrs. J. T. Manning and F. Delaine. The costumes are elaborate, and the scenery excellent.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent play performed by an excellent company is the audience's verdict upon *The Woman who Gambles*, a drama presented by Mr. Morton Powell here this week. The chief honours are divided between Miss Gertrude Hunt, who as Natalie Steinbach in her struggle between love and jealousy shows herself a powerful, emotional actress, and Mr. Horace Sinclair, who gives a very strong delineation of Baron Cratzlaw, the villain; Mr. Edward E. Ashby also does well as Count Otto; Mr. Reg. Fox is seen to advantage as Lieutenant Karl; Mr. Frank Howard gives a lively depiction of the Hon. Bertie Bray; Mr. Fred Prior is effective as the police spy; Miss Violet Sims gives character to the part of Cora Gouldhart; Miss M. Ramuz acts well as Stella Melakorf, and the Misses Florrie Hall and Brenda May acquit themselves well in minor rôles. The staging leaves nothing to be desired.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An agreeable programme here this week comprises J. Wright Aitken and company in *Beneath the Mask*, a well-acted sensational episode. Harry Glynn's comedy company in a comic sketch, *The New J.P.*; Anthony, the mysterious man in white, a clever entertainer; Charles Rowen, a lively comedian; Joe Conway, a juvenile comedian of marked ability; Rita Bell, the entertaining little Dutch girl; Burns and Bentley, smart comedians; Howard and Townsend, accomplished duettists, and Carney Brothers, pleasing duettists and vocalists.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—A novel introduction here this week is the presentment by Mr. Flanagan of *The Cricket on the Hearth* twice each evening. In a very clever cast, Mr. Ricard Dalton figures admirably as Caleb Plummer; Miss Ella Thornton gives a sympathetic rendering of Dot; Mr. John Wainwright moves with commendable cleverness as John Peerybiagle; and Miss Florrie Ferguson takes advantage of her chances as Tilly Slowboy; while good work is done also by Mr. A. E. Calver as Gruff Tackleton; Miss Francis May as Bertha, and Mr. Garrett as the stranger. The smaller parts are in good hands, and the piece is quite successfully put on.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Mr. Janius Booth is paying a return visit to Manchester, this time to the Hulme house, with his costume play, *Monte Cristo*. Mr. Booth's depiction of the Count is a very fine piece of work. So is that of M. Nortier by Mr. E. Howard Templeton; Mr. Leonard Marshall shines as De Morcef, and Messrs. Arthur B. Morris and Chauncey Morris figure admirably; while as Mercedes Miss Joan Ellis is conspicuous for her grace and ability.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—*The Rich and Poor of London*, presented here by Mr. Sidney Dench and company, is a local favourite, and the drama was enjoyed by a fair house on Monday. Mr. Sidney Dench has a big and congenial part as Spider Jack; Miss Dora Dench does excellently as May Braithwaite, the nurse; and two correspondingly strong rôles were played in excellent style by Mr. A. Avinal and Miss Violet Lytton.

PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—The top star turn here this week is provided by the Six Brothers Luck in one of their amusing pantomime burlesques. Another big turn is that of Louie Collier (assisted by Fred Hudson), whose singing is delightful; and Hettie King, male impersonator, comes in for a big share of the honours. Beside these, Harry Freeman figures with his usual success; Mabel Thorne, soubrette, sings pleasantly; the Eight Sunrays present *La Maxixe* with a lively grace; Mdlle. Kloet poses beautifully; Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians and dancers, are well received; Constance Moir is a pleasing vocalist and speciality dancer; and Tom Leo, the lazy comedian, displays distinct gifts.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The well-known *Bricklayers* sketch of the Boisset Troupe, which sends the house into roars of laughter, and a fine little sketch called, *The Master Musician*, which introduces Auguste van Biene with immense success to the variety style, are alone sufficient to attract big crowds here this week. But these items are reinforced by others equally clever in their scope; Mons. Albany gives a smart exhibition of make-believe; Hall and Earle are loudly applauded for their skilful tumbling act; Frank Cumminger is surely unsurpassable as a sand dancer; Eloise Brinsmade sings illustrated songs in excellent style; the Seddons go through some clever comic juggling "in a restaurant"; Walter King, comedian, gives an amusing and popular turn; and the Bioscope pictures are interesting. The Sisters Bosanquet did not appear on our visit.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Fred Karno's *Moses and Sons* remains the top attraction here another week. The Riogoku Japs give a typical Eastern entertainment; the Bros. O'Brian are very clever on the bars; Vernando, the ventriloquial barber, has claims to originality; the Queen and Le Brun company are seen in a successful absurdity. *The Cockney Huntsman*; Charles Gardiner sings comic ditties in good style, and the choir are heard in a couple of choice selections. The Bioscope adds to the pleasure of the evening.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Jake Friedman has a big reception here in his "One-man Opera" act; J. W. Rowley's quaint humour is also productive of much fun; Wyotti gives a clever and comic juggling performance; Messano is smart in his coin and card speciality act; Bessie Travis, musical ventriloquist, is well received; Ella Dean has several good songs; Gladys Archbutt sings and dances very well; the Sisters Brooke, comediennes and dancers, are favourably received; and R. C. Note, the small comedian, gives a clever turn.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—A delightful turn here this week is "The Fairy Grotto," a beautiful electrical spectacle presented by Mdlle. Lumiere, assisted by Mr. D. J. Birteno. Ben Harris and Nippers are good in a capital comedy speciality, entitled *The Promising Pupil*; and Violet Whitworth's Cycling Girls are seen to advantage in a sporting act; very amusing and clever are the Four Hearnes, acrobats; and good turns are also given by Jennis and Laune, smart young character duettists; Lou Langley, a pleasing chic comedienne; J. Hughes, baritone; the Bonanzas, acrobats; and the Zanos in a comedy bar-act. The Animated Pictures are good.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent contribution to this week's entertainment is given by Hinton Wootton, who plays a football match on bicycles. The Wedburns are amusing patter vocalists; Cullen and Jordison give a dainty juvenile turn; and other excellent items are submitted by A. E. Clifford in a novel sketch; the Steane Louch Trio in operatic gems; Ada Parker, comedienne and dancer; and a clever lady deputy for Jack McKenzie, Scotch comedian.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Casey's Court tops the bill here this week. The Bonnettis give a smart and novel juggling act; Lady Fauntleroy, ventriloquist, is very good; Olga and Ivan present a clever dancing act; and other capital turns are Mignon, musicienne; Rose Pink, smart juvenile comedienne and dancer; Shiela McNeil, Sc

admirable work having been enthusiastically received in all parts of the house; Mr. T. W. Rawson, as Lord Clivebrook, gives a finished representation of this striking character, and Miss Lily Bertram, as Jessie Kaber, delights everyone; Mr. Raymond Thomas gives a careful representation of Stooch, and Miss Antoinette Barrington proves a charming Gussy Bellenden. Other parts have been conscientiously played by Messrs. Leonard Booker, R. E. Evans, Ernest Cossart, C. A. Johnson, F. Douglas, W. E. Passmore; Misses Liza Coleman and Renee L'Estrade. The piece is admirably mounted.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. — TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. M. Russell Rosse's company is giving some effective productions of classical plays, including *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The School for Scandal*, *A Marriage of Convenience*, and *The Lady of Lyons*. The company includes the talented actress Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner, who as Miss Hardcastle in Goldsmith's famous comedy achieved a conspicuous success. Mr. Robert Minster was also well to the fore with a masterly interpretation of Young Marlow, his rendering being embellished with many touches of humour. Mr. Frederick D. Davis played admirably as Hastings, and Mr. A. T. Hilton sustained with much ability the rôle of old Hardcastle. There was a delightful air of humour in Mr. Charles Hann's rendering of Tony Lumpkin, and a similar comment applies to the Diggory of Mr. A. J. Harding. Miss Lilian Locke was a graceful and charming Miss Neville, and Miss Eugenie Vernie artistically impersonated the rôle of Mrs. Hardcastle. A one-act play entitled *Lady Fortune* preceded.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Mr. Sydney Spenser and Co. are appearing here this week in the naval drama, entitled *The Hero of the Flag*. Very skilfully does Mr. Spenser himself undertake the heavy part of Paul Mansfield; Mr. William Heilbronn's rendering of Jack Lawrence is characterised by clear and well-nigh perfect enunciation; that popular Novocastrian actor, Mr. Alfred Goddard, is satisfactorily placed as Captain Hilliard; and Mr. Johnny McElroy as Johnny Truckle, and Miss Amy Maitland as Jenny Stubbs provide the comedy element in a very amusing manner. Miss Lizzie Hall as Mabel Forrester dons boy's clothes for the major part of the evening, and scores a decided success. The rôle of Ruth Clifford, an adventuress, receives complete justice from Miss Roma Tremayne.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—*A Rogue's Daughter* is the title of the drama Miss Marie Menzies and Co. are presenting here this week. The dual rôle of Lady Mynard and Mrs. Jenkins is played in brilliant style by Miss Menzies, who is frequently applauded. Miss Madge Deverens is seen to much advantage as Letty Grey, and Miss Marie E. Robertson is a vivacious exponent of Priscilla. The villainous characteristics of Colonel Forster are ably portrayed by Mr. Richard Ferris, and Mr. Frank V. Feur does exceedingly well as Frank Tyler. Others deserving of commendation are Miss Millie Gordon as Dickie; Mr. A. Hall-Menzies as John Gibbs, Mr. William Pimm as Isaacs, and Mr. Tom Taylor as Ebenezer.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—The return visit of Harry Lauder has been the means of packing the Empire to its utmost capacity this week. The famous Scotch comedian was in his best form on Monday night, and delighted his many admirers with his amusing and well-known delineations of Scotch characters. Cruikshank proves highly entertaining in song and story; the Barowsky Trio execute their acrobatic feats with a neatness and precision which win admiration; remarkably clever is the lightning drill act of the Gordon Highlanders; Marie Collins imparts rare vim and "go" into her chorus songs; and Frank Dunlop faithfully mimics various dialects in the singing of a well-known song. Francis and Melli score a success as comedy musicians; Claire Beasy's performing cats display wonderful intelligence; and the bioscope completes a good bill.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—A popular return visit is being made here by Herbert Lloyd, "the versatile one," who again scores his usual success; Fred Earle, comedian, is a great favourite hereabouts; Lina Verdi in her imitations is still as clever as ever; the fine vocalism of Stewart and Morgan is duly appreciated; the Five Olracs, acrobatic comedians, are wonderfully clever; and Pauline Zaro, Lola Patey, and Alice Ormonde, comediennes, the Corbiacs, comic acrobats, and the Barrascope, with a picture of the local Exchange-walk, complete the bill.

NEWPORT. — EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Little Tich has met with a hearty reception here this week; Marie Kendall scores with her taking songs; Dave, the musical Kaffir, is accorded a warm reception; and Ella Retford, in a becoming costume, renders a couple of acceptable songs. Leah Arden sings in good style; a knockabout turn by Johnson and Bert is full of fun; and Fielding and Hull give some pleasing solos and duets. Steve M'Carthy contributes songs, patter, and jokes; and the bioscope shows some excellent pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Kioto, the clever Japanese equilibrist, heads the bill; Happy Tom Parker scores with comic songs and a cleverly executed clog dance; May Marton, comedienne, is successful; the Korries please with their "Kurious Konglomerations"; the ragtime vocalism and dancing of Bessie Benson are good; Terry and Bentley appear in *The Hunt*; the Palace pictures and Taffy Foote, comedian, complete the programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy's company, with *In Holy (!) Russia*, has occupied the boards here this week. Mr. Arthur Stratton as Colonel Arthur Forrest gives a captial representation of the character; and Mr. J. Rice Cassidy as Micky Nolan comes in for a hearty reception. Mr. Louis Norman is well placed as Michael Natoski; and Mr. Joe Cuthbertson makes the most of Baron von Pleve. Mr. Robert Cockcroft is successful as the Czar of Russia; Mr. Tom G. Warrey is effective as Count Gregoni Petroloski; and Mr. Carl Rovinelli is an able Laurice Sleragoff. As Renee Rubinoff Mrs. J. Rice Cassidy plays the part admirably; Miss Beatrice Weston is seen to great advantage as Catska Lavotski; Miss Alice Marsden is an efficient Mme Natoski.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Wm. Mould.—Virto, assisted by his daughter Irene, in an enjoyable musical act, is having a cordial reception here; Mlle. Lucretia, burlesque actress and dancer, also makes a great hit; and Mr. Arthur Albert, descriptive vocalist, is as popular as ever. Mr. Pete Oswald, equilibrist, is smart; Messrs. Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, are clever; and Mr. George Le West, speciality artist, and the bioscope, are also billed.

NORTHWICH. — PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, the Royal Pierrots Co.; under the direction of Messrs. Sidney Dooley and Glanmore Jones.—An attractive programme has been provided here this week. Miss Kessler, instrumentalist, gives a good turn; Miss Maude Clifton has met with a hearty reception for her pretty and well-rendered songs; Tom Odlin sings a good comic song; Sullie and Saroni are hightly appreciated in an excellent turn; and Milsted and Bell should be very well satisfied with the applause they receive for their American Indian sketch, in which Miss Milsted presents a well executed dance. The performance is brought to a close with a laughable sketch.

NORWICH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. F. Morgan.—Closed.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is presented this week. Unthan, the armless wonder, gives an astonishing performance; G. W. Hunter, comedian, is a capital turn; Mlle. Sylvian's vocal tableaux is very pleasing; Lenny and Hash are successful in their poetic phantasy *The Sea Nymph*; Dick's Comedy Five are good as acrobats, and win much applause; Henry Hallam and Josephine Stanton do well in their comedy sketch *A Broken Journey*; Fraser and Halley as contralto duettists and dancers are very entertaining. The Hippodrome Bioscope is a great success.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*The Blind Foundling* is paying its first visit here. The name-part is sympathetically rendered by Miss Mabel Hall, while Miss Belle Tilbury conveys the requisite winsomeness and tender feeling as Isabel; Mr. Chas. H. Phelps, the author of the play, gives a characteristic study of Gerald Dalton, an artist; Mr. Frank Harvey acts spiritedly as Parson Rays; Mr. Bernard Webb invests Mark Redman with a repulsive villainy which is effective; and Mr. Geo. Rufus makes a smart exponent of Detective Downham. There is an abundance of comedy supplied by Mr. Harry Tilbury (Dobbins), Mr. Charles Byron (Algy), Mr. Arthur Tinn (Constable Tip), Miss Amy Dalby (Viola), and Miss Millie Doris (Winnie Dobbins).

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—*East Lynne* is presented here by Mr. Henry George and company. The rôle of Lady Isobel is rendered with much pathetic feeling and dramatic force by Miss Laura Handson, and as Archibald Carlyle Mr. George displays histrionic capabilities; the cold-blooded villainy of Richard Levison is well depicted by Mr. Henry Watson. Raymond's Bio-Tableaux also furnishes some interesting films.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The jokes, patter, and songs of Mark Sheridan keep his audience in a continual roar of laughter; Marie Santoi and her smart attendants give an exceedingly interesting musical sketch; acrobatic feats are cleverly performed by the Bros. Damm, whose reception is of the most enthusiastic. The fun is helped along by Binns and Binns, and another comical pair are seen in Frank and Free; the juggling of Francis and his assistant Alfred evokes hearty cheering; and Belloni's cockatoos are a source of pleasure; the Sisters Chester dance gracefully, as also does Odeyne Spark; Alcide Capitaine contributes an agreeable item, and the American Bioscope shows films of the Spanish Royal wedding.

NUNEATON. — PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS' CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—The Carr-Loates' Co. is this week presenting *At the World's Mercy*. Mr. W. L. Irvine makes a good Captain Frank Manley; Mr. Carr Loates does excellent work as Morris Goldstein; Miss A. Hunter gives a pleasing portrayal of Rosie; Little Daisy as Dot is pleasing, and gives some pretty songs and dances; Miss Cissie Wigley as Skittles wins applause; Mr. Leo Rodway is well placed as Slouching Sam, and is encored for his song, "A Sportsman"; Miss Jenny Clare is good as Kitty Knott; and Mr. H. E. Gibbon as Charlie Smart (a music-hall star) is amusing.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme.—After an absence of five years, Harry Starr and his musical plays, *Otto, the Outcast*, and *Carl, the Clockmaker*, are paying a return visit. Harry Starr, as Otto, has lost none of his charm as a vocalist, and he is ably assisted by Miss Kate Norris, who plays Lara admirably; Miss Madge Blundell is sympathetic in the character of Corrine; Misses C. Hastings and F. Jacobs are good as Marchioness D'Anvilliers and Madame Chaumont; Mr. Edwin Firth is excellent as Roderique; and Mr. W. Miller scores as Daddy Bruneau, and Mr. Will Hee appears successfully as the Marquis Laporte; Mr. Fred Graham in the comedy part of August creates much merriment, and Miss Ella Crossley as Susette is well placed; Mr. Bernand Mostyn is good as the lawyer, and the other parts are played in a capable manner by Messrs. Bond, Wills, Rusher, Cooke, and Wilton. *Carl, the Clockmaker* is announced for the last three nights of the week.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—This week Mr. Herbert Darnley and his troupe of pantomimists, including Mr. Chas. Bell, Mr. Billy Reeves, and Johnny Doyle are appearing here in the mirth-provoking sketch, *Moving In*. The Two Clarks provide a clever turn with the rolling globe; Marcus Boyle, quaint comedian, is well received; as is Harry Wright; Miss Peggy Fame is a clever artist, who is very popular; and Miss Nellie Gannon is well received; Miss Bertha Cousins is a bright comedienne; and Nellie Wilson is a smart top-boot dancer; Doyle and Marney are expert dancers; and Little Beano and his mechanical donkey are very acceptable. An excellent weight-lifting turn is given by Bob Hunter, a local man. Mr. Darnley produced for the first time on Monday a new comic military pantomime, entitled *The Skirmishers*, and another capital sketch is seen in which Messrs. Bell, Reeves, Doyle, and Herbert Belmore are the principals.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Menetkel, or the mystic ball, heads the bill, and is introduced by Mr. and Mrs. Berol-Konorah; the Three Zaracs have a funny comedy sketch, entitled *Mashing the Barmaid*; and Little Ada Merry is a smart comedienne; a good juggling show is given by A. Bo-Kou; Nash and Noel are versatile comedians; a capital turn is provided by Boswell's Stage Circus, in which several highly-trained ponies, dogs, and a donkey appear; Madeline Rees is a capable comedienne; and Phil Herman is a good character comedian; the Ladderites are marvellous in their ladder act; and Master May is an excellent vocalist.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Nuttall.—John Higgins, billed as the champion jumper of the world, is appearing here this week, and a clever exhibition is witnessed; a very amusing turn is given by Will Rain and Co. in the novelty *The Motor Maniac*; Pearce and Ward are good with their patter and boxing; the Brothers Onda give a capital entetainment in their gymnastic absurdity, *On Deck*; Beaty Foster is a clever comedienne; and Fred Tenby is a funny comedian; as is Wallace Whitney, comedian. The Dottoscope completes the programme with some excellent pictures.

OXFORD. — NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Edward Compton is paying us his annual visit this week, opening to a highly-appreciative house on Monday with the ever-popular *Davy Garrick*, in which he appeared in the title-rôle with his accustomed success. He was admirably supported by his excellent company. Mr. H. Crocker was just the Alderman Gresham that one looks for; Mr. A. B. Imeson was a very vigorous and effective Hon. Tom Tallyhaut; and Rumbelow, Sowerby, and Simkins found excellent exponents in Messrs. H. Pigot, A. Lucy, and G. W. Johnston. Miss M. Hassell was uncommonly good as Mrs. Rumbelow; Miss Muriel Meek made a quaint Selina; while Violet found a charming and sympathetic exponent in Miss Mackenzie. *The School for Scandal*, *New Men and Old Acres*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *To-morrow*, and *The Desperate Lover*, are included in the week's bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. Edward Neville's répertoire company is on a return visit here with *Tempest Tossed*. Mr. Gus Bowerman delineates Harry Haworth in excellent style; while the villain, Hubert Marsden, could not be in better hands than those of Mr. W. H. Wilson. Mr. Henry Gilbert does well as William Haworth; and Mr. J. N. Turner creates merriment as Jerry Joyce. Mr. Edward Neville, an old favourite here, is highly successful with his artistic portrayal of Theophilus Jewry; Miss Flora Leslie plays with due restraint as Ethel Vernon; Miss Rosie Neville makes the most of Tim; and Miss Lole Esmond leaves a good impression as Charlotte Marsden. Baby Lilybell is clever as Willie Haworth.

PAISLEY.—PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. H. Savile.—For the last week of the season at this house the stock company organised by Mr. Herbert St. Clair and Miss Violet Maitland have staged *Wee Curly*. Prominent characters are capably represented by Miss Maitland, Miss Phyllis St. Claire, Miss Doris Brandon, Miss Bertha Travis, Miss Flo Cameron, Mr. Harry Rich, Mr. Herbert St. Clair, Mr. Fred Sidney, Mr. Harry Glenney, and Mr. Reginald Fox.

PLYMOUTH. — GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Langdon Lee.—*Shadows of a Great City* is here this week. Mr. Edward Lloyd is a hard-working Tom Cooper; Mr. S. Ewart makes an able Geo. Benson; Mr. T. Macfarlane is a typical Abe Nathan; and Mr. Greene Taylor gives a well-studied impersonation of Jim Farren. Miss Ethel Kay is a sympathetic heroine and Miss Caroline Fenton is very popular as the generous Biddy.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—A smart little nautical company known as *The Middies and the Maids* commenced a week's engagement on Monday. Miss Millicent Davis has a contralto voice far above the average; Miss Nellie Tauer furnishes some tit-bits from musical comedies; Mr. Bert Williams is a clever Whistler, and Mr. Haydon Parker supplies the humorous element.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, County Hotels and Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Field.—Harry Ford is the principal attraction here this week, all his songs being vociferously applauded; the Reed Oetzman Troupe cause plenty of merriment in their sketch *On Tour in the Tyrol*; the Ferraris, cosmopolitan dancers, have an item of a unique description; Tom Fancourt and Jenny Ruby, old Plymouth favourites, have a rousing welcome in their sketch entitled *Out of Barracks*; Jessie Merrilees is a most accomplished vocalist; and Shavo and Frank perform some clever bits of jugglery. Myra Stansfield, Jock Walker, and Vernon's Pictures complete the programme.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Norman V. Norman and company are here this week, and opened on Monday with *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*, Miss Beatrice Wilson playing the impetuous and wayward Lady Ursula Barrington delightfully. Mr. Norman's Sir George Silvester was a finished performance; the Earl of Hassenden was satisfactorily portrayed by Mr. Dennis Cleugh; Mr. Brember Wills made an exceedingly effective Mr. Dent; Miss Sibyl Ruskin as Dorothy Fenton was sprightly and effusive. The week's bill includes *Nell Gwynn of Drury Lane*, *Count Hannibal*, and *David Garrick*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The domestic drama, *A Woman's Past*, is being presented here this week by Mr. A. Hamilton Warden and company. Mr. Horace E. Herbert acts the part of the wronged husband, David Heath, in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Oswald Cray plays the villain, Uriah Craven, in a most unctuous style; Clement Harper is taken by Mr. Hamilton Warden in a vigorous, manly fashion that appeals to the house; Frank Dellannoy is well placed in the hands of Mr. Charles V. Sandford; Miss Maisie Hanbury's impersonation of Bessie is sympathetic and pleasing; Clara Darrel is powerfully portrayed by Miss Gertrude Harrison; Miss May Dallas as Dorothy Heath is most winsome.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Franco Piper heads the bill here, and gives a capital exposition of the art of banjo playing; Annie Laurie is a pleasing soubrette and dancer; the Toreadors convulse the house with laughter with their antics in their comic bull fight; Kitts and Windrum have had a cordial greeting for their handsomely-staged sketch, *The Cuckoo*; Gwennie Hasto is a graceful dancer and capital vocalist; Carr and Rose are much liked in their humorous sketch, *Domestic Episode*; G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, an old favourite here, has had a warm welcome; acceptable terms are also given by Sisters Charnley, smart duettists and dancers; Harry Lawson, a capital taking eccentric comedian; and Payne's Biophotoscope with some good pictures.

PRESTON.—PRINCES THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruffe.—Mr. Charles March in the sensational play, *The Gamester of Metz*, is appearing here this week, supported by a powerful company. Mr. March plays Paul Baldot with his usual skill and ability. He is ably supported by Miss Una Lane as Lucie Baldot and Miss Eva Lyndhurst as Countess Baldot. Captain Badaire and Louis Badaire are admirably portrayed by Messrs. Murray and Dudney. The Lieutenant Herve of Mr. George Paget is excellent, and the comedy parts are in the able hands of Miss Cissy Haighton and Mr. Victor Knight.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—First place in this week's bill is given to D'Ars' mechanical theatre, which affords a clever and diverting performance; Theo Bouwmeester, protean character actor, displays remarkable ability in his sketch, *Not Guilty*; the Bollingers, "rag pickers," show how rags may be used to produce pictures; Stylo is an expert in the manipulation of hoops; Tokio is an excellent Japanese mimic. Other successful turns are provided by Moon and Morris, comedians and double dancers; the Two Whites, American comedy artists, and Dick Kendal, comedian. The Bioscope pictures are, as usual, a pleasing feature of the entertainment.

RAMSGATE. — SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—W. F Jury's Imperial Bioscope has furnished the main attraction at "Sanger's" this week. The most up-to-date films have been exhibited. The Madrid Royal Wedding festivities, and the bomb outrage, the San Franciso disaster, the tour of the Prince and Princess of Wales through India, and many other matters of great public interest are vividly depicted, and there are humorous and dramatic animated photographs, with a constant change of programme. Variety is lent to the entertainment by the contributions of talented vocalists and other artists. Mr. G. F. G. Burnett is general manager of the show. There have been good audiences.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee, Mr. Jules Richeux; Secretary, Mr. G. Tyler; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Wallace.—The first two nights of the week at the Pavilion were blank, and Wednesday evening was set apart for a big gathering and banquet of Freemasons. On Thursday, the well-known entertainers, The Gazekas, under the direction of Mr. George Graves, were booked to commence a three nights' engagement in *Mirth, Music, and Mystery*, introducing songs, solos, glees, choruses, conjuring, illusions, sketches, mimicry, &c. Mr. Michael Connelly is the director of the efficient Pavilion orchestra.

RAWTENSTALL. — GRAND THEATRE. — Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—A welcome visit is being made here this week by Mrs. Walter Bentley's company in the romantic historical drama, *A Queen's Vengeance*. Mrs. Walter Bentley gave a powerful interpretation of Queen Eleanor; Miss Adele Harvey as Janet Jessop was decidedly good, her musical contributions being charmingly sung; as Henry II. Mr. Arthur Chisholm was decidedly good, his impersonation being easy and natural; Mr. J. O. Stevenson as Sir Rupert Warriner made an excellent villain; Mr. Bertram Croucher as Gilbert Ormonde also scored; Mr. R. S. Treive as Bibeau was adequate.

READING. — ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—Mr. Charles Watson Mill is presenting the picturesque and psychological melodrama *A Wrecker of Men* this week. Miss Amy Ellam gives a strong portrayal of the character of Risca Mallison; Mr. Eric Campbell plays the part of Jim Murley, the sworn foe of Risca, with considerable power; Mr. Milner Noble as Pharosophus, an Egyptian wanderer, acts with skill; and Mr. Matthew Boulton as Guise Strange, Mr. Alfred Maurice as Railton, a silent servant, and Miss Mabel Durham as Doris Melville play well; Mr. Henry P. Kennedy being effective in the dual rôles of Ezekial Isaacs, a Jew, and Karnaphus, a mummy.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Streets of London* occupies the boards here this week. Mr. Wm. Rokeby plays the part of Badger with good effect; Mr. Henry Moxon sustains with power the rôle of Gideon Bloodgood; Mr. H. Douglas Cottell is heard to advantage as Mark Livingstone; Mr. Clifford Bown creates much amusement as Jonas Puffy; and Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie does well as Paul Fairweather. Miss Octavia Noel acts with success as Alida Bloodgood; Miss Edyth Goodall enlists sympathy as Lucy Fairweather; Miss Violet Vivian is a motherly Mrs. Puffy; and Miss Marion Armitage is a favourite as Dan Puffy.

RUNCORN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. M. Caddick.—Variety holds the boards here this week, Mr. Geo. Le Wist's combination appearing with success, and including Armino, who performs wonderful strong man feats; Miss Ada Thompson, a pleasing descriptive vocalist; Le Wist, with his excelent ventriloquial act; Miss Nancy Lill, a vocalist of merit; Staffo, in a juggling act; Tom Ashley, comedian and dancer; and the Two Melias, artistic vocalists and dancers.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—Messrs. E. A'Dell and Fred Chabot's company are entertaining good houses this week with *The Romany's Revenge*, which has been here several times previously, but has lost none of its popularity. Miss Ethel Ashleigh cleverly presents the gipsy boy Zamet; Mr. C. Gallier portrays John Hope, the hero, with spirit; and the half-sisters, Lillian and Elspie, are well sustained by Miss Eva Glaves. The villain Dave Renard is fittingly played by Mr. H. C. Robinson. Mr. David Hamilton as Bobbie Bloom, and Miss Fanny Wallace as Polly Pluck, are responsible for the comedy business, and their singing and dancing are acceptable.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Sib and Sib (Gertrude and Willie) do some very smart trapeze work; Minnie Wren gets much applause for her clever chorus songs; the Stavordale Quintette, on banjos and harp, give much satisfaction; and other good turns are supplied by Charlie Dillon, eccentric comedian; Nellie Dunbar, comedienne and dancer; Harry Zetter, comedian and eccentric dancer; Ernest Rees, droll comedian; and Doris Lillian, serio-comic and dancer.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—Much laughter is caused by the smart conjuring of "The Demon Chef," by Picitt and Lizette; the Kyasyas, in their strong act, come in for much applause. The excellent programme also includes turns by Phedona, in her musical act; Silent Tate, a very comical conjurer; Charles Jackson, comedian and dancer; the Sheppards, with their smart patter; Sam Jesson's Little Merrymakers; Billy Burns, a pit-boy singer; Sisters Belmont, good dancers; and Adams and Reuss, comedian and comedienne.

SCARBOROUGH. — PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM. — Managing-Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—The day's programme here now extends to twelve hours. Madame Levante's orchestra of ladies is proving very popular. The vocalist this week is Miss Florence Smithson, who possesses a good soprano voice. The Uniques, in their ladder act, give a cultivated and highly finished show; Devereux's Dogs display extraordinary intelligence; Mlle. Ameda is well versed in the art of juggling; the Elbon Bros., comedians, have a penchant for heated arguments which cause amusement; Miss Bessie Willows is a clever vocalist; Miss Blanche Gerard and her dog give a popular turn; M. Edgar performs difficult tricks with ease on the trapeze; and Le Brun and Irene, equilibrists, are well received. Miss Ada Webb and her troupe of lady swimmers give exhibitions daily; and the Vernon Bioscope and Curtis Leo play important parts in a long and popular programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. Fred P. Morgan.—Mr. Fred L. Connynghame's company is presenting *A Mother's Love* here this week. Mr. Connynghame, as Mat Ruddock, shows much humour and no little pathos; Mr. Arthur Rose as Paul Wingate takes the part of a clergyman faithfully; Miss Violet Macaree as Winny Wingate acquits herself with credit in a difficult part; and as Ellaline Mervin Miss Marjorie Murray acts with great care. Miss Bertha Christobel as Marjorie Wingate shows every promise of becoming popular as a youthful actress; and Mr. George Child pleases everyone in the character of Geoffrey Mannering.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—Will McIvor is possessed of a fine voice, and has made a good impression here; the Sisters Lyle are versatile and entertaining artists; and Harry Hayton, comedian, introduces plenty of life into his business. The speciality is Garden's Royal Quintette of dancers, vocalists, and pipers, who are very popular, and submit a programme that would please anyone; a series of fine films, showing the Royal wedding in Spain, is also exhibited.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. C. Harrison.—The management has secured for this week's bill of fare the animated pictures of the Britt-Nelson fight for the championship of the world. In addition, Kid Gwynn, American ball puncher, contributes a smart turn; the Sisters Mottley appear in song and dance, and win much praise.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. P. Reymond.—Heading the bill this week are Dale and Vale, in the comedy act, *A Lesson in Dancing*. Miss Madge Rennie, comedienne and dancer, is accorded a hearty welcome; Mr. Will Garner, comedian, is also well received; and Miss Lily Denton is a pleasing comedienne. The remaining contributors include Miss Bella Bright, descriptive vocalist; and Miss Marie Florence, comedienne.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—The New Bioscopic Animated Picture Company is giving a series of popular entertainments here, with a change of programme each week. Included in the current productions is a highly interesting film, entitled "A Convict's Escape."

BAND PAVILION.—An excellent company, known as the Georgians, is giving capital variety concerts here, both afternoon and evening.

SHEFFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Melodrama of the wholesome Adelphi type is always welcome here, and a large audience on Monday appeared highly pleased with the alternate scenes of pathos and humour unfolded in the interesting plot of *A Woman's Redemption*. Miss Irene Clifford acted with much dramatic ability as the heroine, and Mr. Joe Bracewell as Leonatus Brown played with his usual quiet and genial drollery. The play was effectively staged by Mr. James Hare.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—Those popular favourites Mr. Frank Ayrton and Miss Lilla Wilde opened to a good house on Monday in the favourite drama *The Power of Gold*, which was again cordially received. Miss Wilde looked well in her fashionable frocks and acted with emotional power as Lady Brandon; Miss Georgina France was a dramatic and interesting Meg; Mr. Charles Whitlock was a picturesque embodiment of Oriental villainy as Hadji Zambra; Mr. Frank Ayrton caused great merriment by his funniosities in the comic rôle of Sammy Smudge; Mr. Frank Holyoake submitted a good character sketch as the doctor; and the other parts were efficiently played by Mr. Wilson Wyte and Mr. Richard Oliver. The rather lurid story of crime was brightened up by some pleasing songs and diverting comic scenes.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—This week the company includes the Macnaughtons, with their laughter-provoking patter and burlesque business; Miss Alice Lloyd, a smart serio, with elegant dresses and lively ditties; Ike Scott and Son, in their sentry act; Mr. George Formby, the unobtrusive comic singer; Mr. Edgar Forrest and company, in a comic sketch; Miss Maud Courtnay, a cultured vocalist; Miss Dora Lyric, a pleasing entertainer; Miss Lillian Lea, the handsome and accomplished opera-bouffe artist in a delightful scena; and Mr. Billy McClain and his coloured sextette, with original songs and cleverly executed coon dances. In addition there is the Bioscope with pictures of the Royal wedding, &c.

GRAND PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. George Dickinson.—A delighted audience cheered the following artists on Monday: Judge's famous cockatoos, put through their smart act by two pretty young ladies; Mr. King Roy, a good baritone vocalist; Barrington, in a refined and original musical show; Mr. Arthur Elvey in his song-scena *At the Derby*; Mr. Herbert Rule, eccentric comedian; Mr. J. G. Johnson's company, in the sketch *In a Country Lane*; and the Pallister Bioscope, with topical and humorous pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—Animated pictures are going as big as ever here, and good turns are done by Miss Lillie Husker, the Gelders, Miss Lillian Melton, Pictoralia, and Mr. Fred Alberto, an old Sheffield favourite, with new and amusing character impersonations.

SMETHWICK. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's company is here in G. R. Sims's recently-produced play *For Life—and After*. Mr. Vernon Sansbury as Richard Grey plays with a thorough grasp of the character. The mental anguish of the dipsomaniac is vividly portrayed, and in the second act, wherein Grey's brain gives way under the influence of drink, he holds the audience with his powerful acting. Miss Grace Heywood is a sympathetic and interesting Marion Grey, depicting with womanly charm the trials of the much-wronged wife; Miss Muriel Dean is a dainty and engaging Dora Grey, imparting to the character a grace and freshness that are most pleasing; Miss Emil Leslie gives a strong reading of Loo Hexham, whose lover and persecutor, Jim Huggett, is a typical "tough" in the hands of Mr. Henry Hare; Mr. Chris. Mason as the old showman, Joe Grimper, and Miss Evelyn Shaw as Mrs. Grimper are a quaint pair, their quiet humour being most acceptable; while Mr. H. G. Wright is also amusing as Zeke. Mr. Arthur E. Melbourne is a manly and natural Gilbert O'Neill. Others worthy of special mention are Mr. E. K. Nelson, an excellent Rube Hexham; Mr. H. F. Wright as Dr. Shand; Messrs. Stanley Field, Mayor Cooke, and H. Munro as Marks, Pilcher, and Bob; Miss Marion Fawcett as Jenny Huggett; and Miss Sissie Murdock as 'Liza Jones. Mr. Arthur E. Melborne attends to the duties of acting-manager with his usual courtesy.

SOUTHAMPTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fredk. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton.—The favourite, *East Lynne*, is this week being played by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. Miss Julie Kennard invests the rôle of Lady Isabel with great emotional power; Mr. Eric Mayne, as the scoundrel Levison, is most convincing, and Mr. C. C. Gratton is a humorous P. C. Bullock.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. W. Trussell.—The Empire Comedy Four and the Four Burmells are the star artistes here, and both turns are much appreciated; Oakdene, ventriloquist; Lily Sharplin, mimic; the Arleys, gymnasts; the Paragon Trio, vocalists; Lidden and Hayward, comedy pianoforte experts; Hessey Soloists; Carl Rosine, with his hoop tricks, and the Bio-tableaux pictures of the Royal Wedding are all interesting features of the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; District-Manager, Mr. Sydney Paxton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold P. Howell.—Arthur Roberts and company in *The Importance of being Another Man's Wife* is more popular than on the previous visit; James Fawn, comedian, is successful; and others who do well are Abel and Welsh, grotesque acrobats; the Donatos

"MARRIAGE OF KITTY" REVIVED.

The Lion and the Mouse, an excellently made play, for some unaccountable reason did not meet with the measure of success that Mr. Charles Frohman quite justifiably anticipated, and on Saturday evening the programme at the Duke of York's was again changed, the chief attraction being the adaptation in three acts, by Cosmo Gordon Lennox, of *La Passerelle*, by Mme. Fred Grésac and M. Francis de Croiset, entitled

"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."

Sir Reginald Belsize	MR. LEONARD BOYNE
John Travers	MR. ERIC LEWIS
Norbury	MR. LLOYD LOWNDES
Hampton	MR. LICHFIELD OWEN
Madame de Semiano	MISS ELLIS JEFFREYS
Rosalie	MISS ELSIE CHESTER
Kitty Silverton	MISS MARIE TEMPEST

When one listens to the somewhat salacious humour of Mme. Fred Grésac and M. Francis de Croisset's comedy *La Passerelle*, one is struck with the adroitness of Mr. Cosmo Gordon Lennox in his work as an adaptor, and his process of deodorisation has this immense advantage—that it has not eliminated the fun of the original from *The Marriage of Kitty*. The revival on Saturday at the Duke of York's, where the adaptation was originally given on Aug. 19, 1902, brought back to the St. Martin's-lane house Miss Marie Tempest, who again accentuated most charmingly her position as one of the leading comedy actresses on the English stage in the part of Kitty Silverton. It will be remembered that Kitty is an innocent country girl married to Sir Reginald Belsize in order that he may fulfil one of the conditions imposed upon him by a rich uncle who has left him a vast sum of money. Kitty, purposely deceiving the baronet as to her face and figure in the first act, becomes in the second a singularly elegant, witty, and pleasant girl, and her husband, who has not seen her since the marriage at the local registrar's office, easily capitulates to her cleverness and charm. She is in a châlet in Switzerland, where her position weighs upon her terribly. As the baronet has grown very tired of Madame de Semiano, to whom he is engaged, one may readily guess the result of his growing admiration for his own wife, with whom he "elopes" at the end of the third act, his old flame finding consolation in the devotion of a former admirer.

The revival met with a deal of favour on Saturday, and situations and dialogue were heartily laughed at by a large audience. Miss Tempest has not allowed frequent repetition of the part of Kitty to blunt her keen perception of the artistic essentials of that character, and played it once more with a gaiety and a finesse that kept the house in a state of continual delight. In the second act, which is certainly the best of the three, she indicated with no little delicacy and subtlety Kitty's growing admiration for her husband, to whom she sings most charmingly the favourite waltz song, "Tout passe, tout lasse, tout casse." Mr. Leonard Boyne repeated his easy and polished impersonation of Sir Reginald Belsize, being specially droll in the last act, wherein the vacillating baronet is afflicted with a most unmistakable attack of nasal catarrh. Miss Ellis Jeffreys, who has been winning triumphs in America, returned to her original part of Madame de Semiano on Saturday evening, and amused us again immensely by her clever rendering of the neurotic Peruvian widow. She looked exceedingly handsome in some elegant gowns, and won a very cordial reception. Mr. Eric Lewis, who takes up Mr. Gilbert Hare's old part of the solicitor Travers, played with the assured ease and lightness of touch that we expect from so accomplished a comedian. Miss Elsie Chester repeated her success as the sympathetic and observant Rosalie; and Mr. Lloyd Lowndes and Mr. Lichfield Owen were unimpeachable in the small parts of Norbury and Hampton.

The chief piece of the evening was preceded by a revival of Mr. J. M. Barrie's *Pantaloon*, produced at this theatre on April 5 last year. The present cast is as follows:—

Clown	MR. H. W. BASKCOMB
Pantaloon	MR. ALBERT CHEVALIER
Harlequin	MR. WILLIE WARDE
Child	MISS GERALDINE WILSON
Columbine	MISS PAULINE CHASE

This half-real, half-fanciful piece bears the Barrie impress most unmistakably, but it is a deal more interesting than curtain-raisers as a rule; and it has the supreme advantage at the Duke of York's of being excellently acted. Mr. Albert Chevalier, who returns to the regular boards after an absence of fifteen years, is responsible for a superb performance of Pantaloon. On Saturday evening he started somewhat nervously, but soon warmed to his work, winning the enthusiastic favour of the house for his touching representation of the "old 'un" who, for the sake of his professional standing—even of his bare wage—has to sacrifice his daughter to the vindictive clown. He brings out with a rare pathetic touch the old man's humiliation when he begs his former master the clown to give him a bite of his sausage and receives the reply, "I only bites with the perfession." At the close of Saturday's performance of Mr. Barrie's piece Mr. Chevalier was the recipient of a series of compliments in the way of enthusiastic calls that must have been as gratifying to the management as to himself. Miss Pauline Chase, who was the original Columbine, has grown in grace and charm since last year, and the dramatic significance of her acting has increased perceptibly. Few young actresses on our stage could mime so perfectly or pathetically or dance with such delightful ease. Mr. Willie Warde's Harlequin is another excellent bit of pantomime, and Mr. A. E. Baskcomb's Clown sounds just the right note of vindictiveness, the child being played with much intelligence by Miss Geraldine Wilson. Mr. John Crook's admirable music, which so aptly illustrates the theme of the fantasy, was delightfully played by the orchestra under the composer's direction.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Master Harry L. Lupino—Saturday, June 16.
Kitty Loftus—Saturday, June 16.
George Giddens—Sunday, June 17.
Dorothy Hanbury—Sunday, June 17.
Constance Elgin—Sunday, June 17.
Claire Pauncefort—Sunday, June 17.
J. Selbini—Sunday, June 17.
Fred Marlow—Monday, June 18.
J. M. Glover—Monday, June 18.
Arthur Nelstone—Monday, June 18.
Dot Russell—Monday, June 18.
May Whitty—Tuesday, June 19.
George Alexander—Tuesday, June 19.
Max Pemberton—Tuesday, June 19.
H. C. Beryl—Tuesday, June 19.
Maude Jefferson—Tuesday, June 19.
Henry Neville—Wednesday, June 20.
Charles Glenney—Wednesday, June 20.
Fred Storey—Wednesday, June 20.
Sybil Arundale—Wednesday, June 20.
Marie Dainton—Wednesday, June 20.
Leah Marlborough—Wednesday, June 20.
Lionel West—Wednesday, June 20.
W. Bailey—Thursday, June 21.
Bernard Stavordale—Thursday, June 21
Arthur Bourchier—Friday, June 22.
Paul Martinetti—Friday, June 22.

THE Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, is closing for the summer season for a period of six weeks, and will reopen with the principal dramatic and musical attractions.

CHAT WITH MR. BERT COOTE.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Mr. Bert Coote, who recently concluded a highly-successful vaudeville tour in America, is once more back again in London, attending to his English enterprises. Before going on to speak of these, it might be as well to let him give his latest experiences of theatrical things in the States.

"My object in going to America last September," says Mr. Coote, "was really to keep my name before the public there, though I may tell you that I have spent, in a theatrical way, a greater number of years on the other side of the water than in Great Britain, and during that time I acquired a reputation in vaudeville. And, when I come to think of it, the salaries paid in the States to legitimate people in vaudeville are so good that it almost seems a mistake on my part to give it up, even temporarily. At the end of last September I took out a sketch company, consisting of three people. The piece bore the title of *A Lamb on Wall Street*, and was a condensed Stock Exchange comedy-drama, written by myself. I played in it myself, the kind of part I took being that of an English Johnnie. Being English myself, and knowing both sides of the water thoroughly, I am regarded as holding rather a unique position in the style of business referred to. Another motive of my going to America was to acquire some material for an English production; but my object in that respect was not accomplished, because I could see nothing out there which would appeal to British audiences."

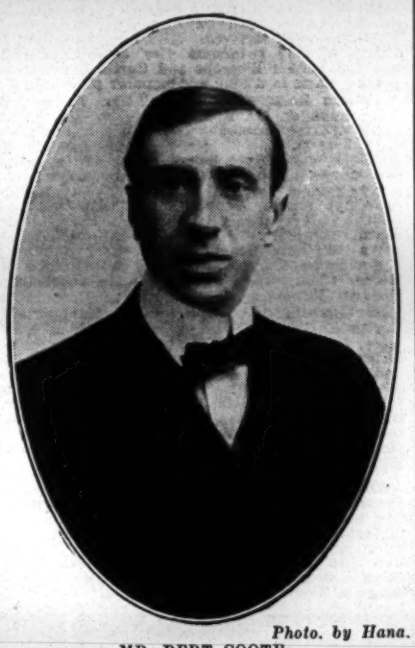

Photo. by Hana.
MR. BERT COOTE.

"Then you are not of opinion that American plays would find favour with English playgoers?"

"Candidly, I am not. You see, the tastes of the people are so very different. I have lived twenty years in America, and think I understand what is appreciated there, and I also understand what it is that the English market demands. American plays, with very few exceptions, are of no use as English productions. In the first place, they generally lack refinement, which is one of the most essential qualities in our high-class West-end pieces. Secondly, it does not seem to me that the construction of American plays is as good as that of English. Everything in the States appears of so ephemeral, so superficial, a character, that it is hardly surprising that powerful acting convinces the people of that country more than a well-written, sensibly-conceived story. They will far more readily accept a highly-improbable situation than even the lowest class of our own provincial audiences."

During his recent American tour, which, by the way, lasted thirty weeks, Mr. Coote visited the Keith circuit, the Middle West, and California trip. He tells us that the travelling accommodation is very good, though with the exception of the heat in the English carriages, he prefers the latter, more especially as he is able to get civility from railway servants in this country. The tour was quite a successful one, and strong inducements were held out to him to return again for forty weeks, commencing next September. He is now considering the offer.

So far as the legitimate theatres are concerned, Mr. Coote is confining himself during the approach of autumn to two tours of *The Fatal Wedding* in the English provinces. In vaudeville he is arranging for the music hall appearance of two or three troupes of lady artists, notably the Irish-Indian Maids, who will open at the Holborn Empire on June 11. He is also supplying several novelties for the forthcoming pantomimes.

"Any importations of American performers?"

"No. I think England is a great deal better off without importations. I certainly do not think that there is anything in America which is likely to appeal to the people here. There have been extremely few American successes in England. I can say, in regard to *The Fatal Wedding*, that if it had not been for the children's scene in that play, the piece would hardly have done anything at all, and I am obliged to maintain that juvenile element. In Australia *The Fatal Wedding* has been the greatest popular melodramatic success they have had for years. I have let the rights of the play for that colony to Mr. Clyde C. Maynell."

Mr. Coote informs us that he has secured from American authors one or two good comedies, which are comparatively new, and not very well known in the States, which he thinks would be suited to British tastes. His present ambition is to get a London theatre, and become a West-End producer of plays. He finds, however, that the expenses in connection with such an undertaking are so great, and the public likes seem to be so variable, as to make the enterprise an exceedingly hazardous one.

The subject of this interview belongs to an old English theatrical family. His sister, Elizabeth, was at the Gaiety for years, and his sister Carrie and himself appeared for a long period at the Adelphi, Drury-lane, Gaiety, and Opera Comique theatres; while his brother Charles was for a considerable period associated with the late Mr. Wilson Barrett at the Princess's. Mr. Coote's father was Rob Coote, the composer, and his grandfather Charles Coote, proprietor of the music-publishing firm of Hopwood and Crews. Mr. Bert Coote started his professional career at Sadler's Wells at the age of four, and from the Clerkenwell house he went to the Surrey Theatre in Frank W. Green's peculiarly-named burlesque, *Cherry and Fairstar*. Then he was seen in pantomime in Exeter, York, Bath, Leeds, and other big provincial centres, and was juvenile clown for three years at the Adelphi under F. B. Chatterton's management, and for two years under Sir Augustus Harris, and was in the production of *Gulliver's Travels*, and seen in the original production of *Les Cloches de Corneville*, in which he played the part of the Bailie. At the age of sixteen he went to America, performing in conjunction with all the prominent stars. With *The New Boy* he took lead in his own company in a tour throughout the States lasting for three years. Subsequently, he drifted into vaudeville, in which line of business, in America, he has held a recognised and strong position.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

In the presence of a crowded house Signor Puccini's *La Tosca* was produced last Saturday night for the first time this season, Mme. Giachetti making her reappearance in the character of the unhappy heroine. Mme. Giachetti, who was in good voice, fully realised the dramatic side of the part, giving a most striking and vivid rendering in the torture scene, where Tosca, driven to despair, kills the fiendish Scarpia. The prima donna was admirably supported by Signor Scotti, who gave a most artistic and finished interpretation of the sinister villain, Scarpia, the painter Cavaradossi being impersonated by Signor Caruso, who imparted his intense and passionate singing to the music of the part. M. Gilibert, as usual, was excellent in the small character of the Sacristan, and Signor Rossi made an effective Conspirator; while praise must be awarded to Signor Campanini for the general excellence of the ensemble. The revival of *La Tosca*, however, deepens the impression that it is a pity so delightful a composer as Puccini should have wedded his refined art to so revolting a story.

In *Rigoletto*, on Wednesday evening, at Covent Garden, Signor Battistini made his welcome rentrée, giving a splendid dramatic reading in the part of the unhappy jester. There were, however, times during the evening when one felt that Signor Battistini somewhat sacrificed the vocal side of the character to his evident power as an actor. Mlle. Frances Alda proved an acceptable Gilda, though the young artist is severely handicapped by the fact that Mme. Melba has so recently sung in this part. Signor Caruso, as usual, made an excellent Duke, the artist being in fine voice. The rest of the cast was as on a former occasion, Signor Campanini conducting.

YVETTE GUILBERT AND ALBERT CHEVALIER.

It is to be hoped that the most successful results will accrue from the enterprise of Mr. Charles Frohman, who is emphasising the artistic entente cordiale by presenting Mme. Yvette Guilbert and Mr. Albert Chevalier at a series of matinées at the Duke of York's; and it was pleasant to see so large an audience assembled on Friday afternoon, the 8th inst., to enjoy so exceptional an entertainment. Both artists gave us a study in the perfection of diction. Mr. Chevalier introduced us once again to "The Fallen Star," a lifelike sketch of the broken-down actor, living on the memories of former triumphs at the Vic. The touching story of neglect and privation is not only told with penetrating pathos, but illustrated by a wealth of detail that brings home the pitiful plaint with undeniable strength. What a contrast to the neglected favourite of the footlights is found in the Hampshire rustic, overjoyed at the thought of basking in the sunshine of the affections of Meg, who asks, "Wot vur do 'e love oi?" An impersonation of a vastly different character to either of the preceding is the sharp-witted and shrewd professor of hanky-panky, who is equal to exploiting the three-card trick on a racecourse or in a bye-street when the coppers are not about. There is some wonderfully true pantomime illustrating the theme, and just a few conjuring tricks that prove the completeness with which Mr. Chevalier endows all his artistic work. "The Future Mrs. Hawkins," "Our Little Nipper," and "An Old Bachelor" are other successes that he presented with his customary success to an audience full of appreciation of his consummate ability. The accompaniments were admirably played by Mr. Alfred H. West.

Mme. Guilbert commenced her contributions to the programme by selections from her Pompadour songs, repeating, to the delight of her admirers, the piquant "Colinette," and the well-known "La Peureuse." "Les Souvenirs de Lisette," given in a contemplative mood, with just a touch of gentle melancholy, roused the house to enthusiasm, and other French songs in which the brilliant *diseuse* scored were a melodious Canadian song, "La Belle Françoise," "Margoton va-tà-l'eau," "Le Petit Mercerat," "Le Jaloux et la Menteuse," and "Les Cloches de Nantes." She astonished the audience by her perfect rendering of some old English country songs, evoking roars of laughter by her interpretation of the cynical sentiment of "The Dumb Wife," and by the archness of her comedy in "The Keys of Heaven" and "The Bargain." M. R. Hafemann was the clever accompanist to the great French artist.

The new *Era* Shield, given by the proprietors of this journal as a perpetual trophy, to be exhibited for the six months next following the date of the Annual Theatrical Sports in the theatre represented by the winning team.

WHY worry the brain when the British Calculator will instantly add up pounds, shillings, and pence, and the action is so simple that the machine can be worked by a child? The speed is generally about six times as rapid as mental addition, but quick operators can exceed this. There is no brain exertion, all the conversions of pence to shillings and shillings to pounds being done mechanically, and accuracy is absolutely assured. The British Calculator (pocket size) repeats at £500, thus making the machine effective for checking accounts up to hundreds of thousands of pounds if necessary. The working is learnt in a few minutes. This wonderful invention is to be obtained of the patentees, Messrs. Dickinson and Shields, Alliance Mills, Stoke Newington, N.

THE International Copyright Bureau, Limited, have come to an arrangement with Messrs. Selwyn and Co., by which they are able to offer the most successful American plays, more especially sensational drama, likely to suit provincial managers. Particulars may be obtained of Mr. Ernest Mayer, the managing-director of the enterprising firm, whose address is Oswaldestre House, Norfolk-street, Strand.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS EDITH HERON-BROWN.

Miss Edith Heron-Brown started her theatrical career under the management of Mr. H. S. Dacre, appearing as Diana Chesney in *The Sorrows of Satan*, Winifred in *Mamma*, and Angelica in *The Medium*. She then joined Mr. W. S. Penley's chief *Charley's Aunt* company, with which she remained for over a year, achieving considerable success in the ingénue part of Ela Delahay. This was followed by a Christmas engagement at the Royalty Theatre. Next came a long engagement with Messrs. Frohman and Edwardes' company in *Are You a Mason?* in which she played several parts, under the management of Mr. Arthur Whittaker. During this engagement she secured much commendation for her admirable impersonation of Mrs. Roberts in *A Dangerous Ruffian*.

Leaving farcical comedy, this versatile actress next appeared with marked success as Mercy Merrick in *The New Magdalen*, and shortly after this as Violet in *The Temptations of an Actress*. Subsequently she was engaged by Mr. C. W. Somerset to play an important part in his production of *A Stranger in a Strange Land*.

Miss Heron-Brown next fulfilled an engagement with Mrs. Langtry, and accompanied her on her South African tour. She played character and comedy parts, including Susannah Verner in *Mrs. Dering's Divorce*, Tiny Mornington (the Eye Glass Girl) in *The Walls of Jericho*, Lady Stornaway in *The Degenerates*, More recently Miss Heron-Brown has been playing the part of Mary in *Our Boys*. Amongst many other parts played by her

Photo. by Sawyer.
MISS EDITH HERON-BROWN

may be mentioned Juliet in *Petticoat Perfidy*, Violet in *Our Boys*, Minerva in *What Happened to Jones*, Mary Bazin in *The Linen-Draper*, and Dulcie in *The New Housemaid*, the Press notices of the last-named being particularly flattering.

We may add that Miss Heron-Brown is the daughter of the late W. Heron-Brown, for many years a member of the Green Room Club, and well known in journalistic and dramatic circles.

CARMEN-SYLVA CONCERT.

"Carmen-Sylva," the child soprano, gave her concert at the Steinway Hall, on Thursday evening, and the growing popularity of the young vocalist was shown in a house crowded without a vacancy. The stage was well dressed with flowers, and looked most attractive. Mr. Charles Matthews, L.R.A.M., opened with a piano solo, followed by a song by Mr. John Bartlett. Miss Rita Ramsden, an excellent singer, gave "Beloved, it is morn," accompanied by the composer, Mme. Florence Aylward. Miss Ethel Walker contributed her "Humorous Songs at the Piano," and Mr. Herbert Larratt, the gifted baritone, sang Mme. Aylward's "Garden of Roses," accompanied by the composer. Miss Maude Horne's violin solo, "Salterelle," was good in technique and expression; and in "The Nightingale" Miss Florence Dodson displayed a pleasing voice. Mr. Richard Temple's recitation was dramatic to a degree, and secured a recall. Carmen-Sylva gave as her first item a new song by Mme. Florence Aylward, entitled "The Sleepy Song," and the child's easy treatment and bright intelligence did justice to a composition which should win approval with the world. The young vocalist was heartily applauded, and her own enjoyment of success was very evident. After good items by Mr. Albert Fox, Mr. Clifton Barritt, the musical humourist, and Mr. Kingston-Smith, a cultured tenor, Carmen-Sylva, by desire, gave that famous song "Sing, sweet bird," and in this she truly showed the wonderful gift of melody she possesses, while her voice was capable of rendering every requirement of the composition She literally enthralled the audience, and was called and recalled. Such a scene is rare even in London, and in her encores, with "Spring is here" and "Home, Sweet Home," the vocalist proved her right to the title of "the child Patti." The floral offerings were more those of a great opera night than the ordinary concert. The phenomenal strength of the child's high notes, with such striking clearness, should interest all musicians and singers. Mr. Arthur Walenn, Mr. Leonard Harris (a good comic reciter), and Miss Nellie Watson followed. A fine item was Signor Bartolotta in the "Flower Song" (Bizet); Miss Hudson Smith sang; and then Carmen-Sylva finished the most successful evening with the National Anthem. Her future should indeed be a bright one.

PROFESSIONAL GOLF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Seeing that there are so many in our profession who have taken up golf, will no one assist to arrange an annual match between the provincial and town actors?

Surely if it can be managed with cricket there should be no difficulty with this game. There are many keen and proficient golfers in the provinces, and they would be certain to give the West-Enders a good game.

If you will so oblige me by placing this suggestion before your readers I feel certain there will be some who will give their opinions, and in the near future we may find all sorts of good things in store for us.—Yours faithfully,

HUGH LESLIE DOBREE.
(Royal Weymouth Golf Club).

The Anchorage, Weymouth, June 12, 1906.

PRESENTATION.—At the termination of the performance at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, on the 8th inst., the staff assembled on the stage and presented Mr. Charles Howard, who is leaving the theatre, with a handsome silver cigarette case, subscribed for by the employés, and suitably inscribed. On Tuesday Mr. Howard was entertained at luncheon by Mr. Halliwell, manager at the Grand Hotel, Hanley, Mr. Alfred Edwardes, manager of the Grand Theatre, being amongst those present.

"SALOME" AT THE KING'S HALL.

Great interest attached to the performance of the late Oscar Wilde's play *Salome*, which was produced under the auspices of the Literary Theatre Society at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Sunday. The play, of which a private performance was given at the Bijou Hall, Bayswater, some two years ago, has long lain under the ban of the censor, and a similar prohibition existed in Germany for the space of twelve months, but after that period it was removed, and it has since been given with extraordinary success in Berlin and other Continental cities. The censor, in his report to his official superiors, paid special tribute to the remarkable artistic merits of the play—a unique instance of such a concession on the part of the Prussian censorship. It was then put on the stage at the Neues Theater, with an exceptionally clever actress, Gertrud Eysolt, as Salome, and was acted about 175 times. Since then all of Wilde's comedies have been acted in Berlin—*Lady Windermere's Fan* at the Deutsches Theater, *A Woman of No Importance* at the Neues Theater, *The Ideal Husband* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (under the title of *Bunbury*) at the Kleines Theater. *Salome*, which was originally written in French, is full of that figurative and not altogether sane language to which the author descended at the latter period of his career, but the play constantly reflects the brilliant dramatic gifts of which the playwright was possessed. The little piece, of course, is founded on the Biblical story of St. John the Baptist. Salome dances before Herod, and then asks for the Baptist's head as a revenge for baffled love, kisses its lips, and is instantly killed at Herod's order. A number of prominent artists took part in the representation. In the rôle of Salome Miss Darragh seemed to be overweighted with the difficulties of a character which would tax the resources of the finest actress; but the earnestness infused into her delivery of the lines made the representation remarkably striking and impressive. Mr. Robert Farquharson limned in deep colours the imbecility of Herod, and quite succeeded in creating an impression of loathing for the unscrupulous monarch. Mr. Lewis Casson was a dignified John the Baptist, and embellished the character with many elocutionary graces which were invaluable in the part. The costumes were a feature of the production, and provoked general admiration.

Another of Oscar Wilde's plays was seen in *The Florentine Tragedy*, which was originally produced at the Deutsches Theater, Berlin, last January. A play entitled *Flower o' the Rose*, by Wm. J. Locke, having the same episode as a foundation, figured in the programme of the Clement Scott matinée at His Majesty's in the June of 1904, when Mr. George Alexander played the principal part. The piece contains only three characters—an old Florentine merchant, his beautiful young wife, and her lover. The merchant, arriving suddenly at his home after a short absence, finds his wife and his rival in her affections together at supper. At first he is affable and courteous, but gradually leads up to what, it is obvious, had been his fixed purpose from the beginning, and draws the lover into a duel. This takes place in the presence of the wife, who holds aloft a torch in order that the two swordsmen may fight the more easily. Swords are exchanged for daggers, the two men close with each other, and the younger one falls, mortally wounded. The infuriated husband is about to wreak a similar revenge on his faithless wife, but her love has been awakened by the display of his strength and superiority, and she falls into his arms. "Why did you not tell me you were so strong?" says she. "Why did you not tell me you were so beautiful?" rejoins the husband, and a reconciliation is thus effected.

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Henry Arthur Jones	2	2	0
J. M. Chute	2	2	0
Robert Arthur	1	1	0
A. E. Franklin	1	1	0
Henry Kemble	1	1	0
John Le Hay	1	1	0
Miss Nora Lancaster	1	1	0
Miss Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. B. Mulholland	1	1	0
Lieut.-Col. H. Walker	1	1	0
Miss Wallis	1	1	0
Cyril Maude	1	1	0
H. Cecil Beryl	1	1	0
Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Miss Irene Vanbrugh	1	1	0
W. B. Smith (Yorick Club)	1	1	0
E. H. Bull (Green Room Club)	1	1	0
Viola Tree	0	10	6
Haidee Gunn	0	10	6
Charles Rock	0	10	6
Bassett Roe	0	10	6
Henry Swinerd	0	3	0
J. W. Cordiner	0	2	6
Per H. Cecil Beryl:—			
Mr. E. Bridger	0	10	6
Mr. Pilbam	0	10	6
Wm. Sommerlad	0	10	6
Chas. Sommerlad	0	5	0
E. Pulleyne	0	5	0
Mr. J. Hobday	0	3	0
Miss S. Collins	0	2	6
Ch. Page	0	2	6
Total	205	15	0
Cost of bed at Seaford Convalescent Home for 12 years	200	0	0
Balance returned to Actors' Benevolent Fund	5	15	0
	£205	15	0

The above is a full list of subscriptions received, and an account of the disposal of the total amount.

F. H. PEDGRIFT,
Hon. Treasurer.

M. SAINT-SAENS puts in a strong protest in an articles in the Vienna *Neue Freie Presse* against the anarchistic tendency of modern music, and predicts a reaction which shall restore the human voice to its natural predominance. He says music will return to a stage in which "the keys, instead of following each other in a purposeless round, will relieve and support each other, as of old, in obedience to logical laws."

"MY ONLY DAUGHTER," a musical comedy, in two acts, by F. Kinsey Peile and Adrian Ross, with music by Eustache de Lorey, was produced for copyright purposes at the Waldorf Theatre on Tuesday.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

LOST HUSBAND, Belgrave Square, Nov. 21, 1884.
LOST IN LONDON, Adelphi, March 16, 1867.
LOST LOVE, Pavilion, March 8, 1879.
LOST IN NEW YORK, Olympic, Aug. 3, 1896.
LOST IN THE SNOW, Pavilion, Jan. 18, 1864.
LOST LADY OF LYNNE, Theatre Royal, Coventry, Jan. 24, 1883.
LOST LEGION, Liverpool, Nov. 7, 1898.
LOST LIFE, Gallery of Illustration, Nov. 24, 1870.
LOST OR FOUND, Holborn, Dec. 21, 1872.
LOST OVERTURE, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, March 25, 1892.
LOST PARADISE, Adelphi, Dec. 22, 1892.
LOST PRINCE, Crystal Palace, May 18, 1895.
LOST SHEEP, Theatre Royal, Bradford, July 13, 1891.
LOST, STOLEN, OR STRAYED, Duke of York's, April 27, 1897.
LOST, £30,000, Marylebone, March 24, 1856.
LOST THREAD, Prince's Hall, May 20, 1890.
LOST TO LIFE, Theatre Royal, Leicester, March 3, 1884.
LOST TO THE WORLD, Crewe, Feb. 15, 1892.
LOST WIFE, Britannia, Aug. 7, 1871.
LOST WITNESS, Grecian, May 22, 1880.
LOTA; OR, A MOTHER'S LOVE, Sadler's Wells, Aug. 8, 1892.
LOTHAIR, BATTI BATTI, AND SHAH DEE DOO, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Oct. 13, 1873.
LOTTIE, Novelty, Nov. 20, 1884.
LOTTIE'S LOVE, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, May 15, 1868.
LOT No. 1, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Oct. 5, 1874.
LOT 49, Gaiety, Jan. 17, 1888.
LOUISIANA CREOLE, Theatre Royal, Preston, May 30, 1891.
LOUIS XI., Burlesque, Theatre Royal, West Hartlepool, July 9, 1869.
LOUIS XVI., Theatre Royal, Bath, Feb. 7, 1895.
LOVE, Theatre Royal, Gloucester, Dec. 11, 1876.
LOVE AND ART, Hammersmith, March 28, 1889.
LOVE AND AVARICE, Olympic, June 27, 1853.
LOVE AND CRIME, Grecian, May 24, 1858.
LOVE AND DENTISTRY, Greenwich, Dec. 5, 1893.
LOVE AND HATE, Olympic, June 23, 1869.
LOVE AND HALFPENCE, St. George's Hall, Jan. 31, 1888.
LOVE AND HONOUR, Surrey, Nov. 5, 1856.
LOVE AND HUNGER, Adelphi, Sept. 26, 1859.
LOVE AND LAW, Wolverhampton, Feb. 26, 1886.
LOVE AND LOYALTY, Drury Lane, March 22, 1856.
LOVE AND MONEY, Adelphi, Nov. 18, 1882.
LOVE AND POLITICS, Opéra Comique, Feb. 9, 1888.
LOVE AND STRATAGEM, Gaiety, March 15, 1886.
LOVE AND WAR, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, June 17, 1895.
LOVE APPLE, Gaiety, Sept. 24, 1874.
LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, Woolwich, May 3, 1889.
LOVE AT HOME, Theatre Royal, West Hartlepool, May 14, 1891.
LOVE BIRD, Vaudeville, June 19, 1872.
LOVE CHASE, Shaftesbury, June 1, 1891.
LOVE CONQUERS, Camden Town, Feb. 21, 1889.
LOVED AND LOST, Queen's, Manchester, Nov. 3, 1879.
LOVE GAME, Lyric, Ealing, Feb. 17, 1885.
LOVE IN A FLAT, Fulham, Feb. 13, 1899.
LOVE IN A MAZE, Princess's, March 10, 1851.
LOVE IN A MIST, Crystal Palace, July 9, 1891.
LOVING AND SCHEMING, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 16, 1874.
LOVING CUP, Royalty, Nov. 26, 1868.
LOVING HEARTS, Strand, May 21, 1870.
LOVE IN IDLENESS, Theatre Royal, Brighton, March 13, 1896.
LOVING LEGACY, Eastbourne, Jan. 28, 1895.
LOVE IN TANDEM, Daly's, July 18, 1893.
LOVE KING, Reading, March 9, 1893.
LOVE KNOT, Drury Lane, March 8, 1858.
LOVE LAUGHS AT LOCKSMITHS, Albert Hall, May 13, 1899.
LOVE LETTER, Strand, May 10, 1894.
LOVE LETTER, ADVENTURES OF A, Drury Lane, Nov. 19, 1860.
LOVE LIES BLEEDING, Bayswater, April 30, 1900.
LOVE, LIMITED, Reading, Nov. 10, 1894.
LOVE LOCK, Olympic, Feb. 13, 1854.
LOVE MAKES THE MAN, Sadler's Wells, Sept. 22, 1853.
LOVE ON CRUTCHES, Comedy, July 28, 1896.
LOVE OR HATE, Prince of Wales's, Salford April 19, 1886.
LOVE OR LIFE, Olympic, June 10, 1878.
LOVE PHILTRE, Theatre Royal, Torquay, Jan. 7, 1898.
LOVER OF TWO, Theatre Royal, Preston, July 27, 1896.
LOVERS, Theatre Royal, Cork, May 5, 1886.
LOVER'S AMAZEMENT, Lyceum, Jan. 20, 1858.
LOVERS AT PLAY, Strand, May 5, 1856.
LOVERS' KNOTS, St. George's Hall, May 5, 1880.
LOVER'S LEAP, Prince of Wales's, Glasgow, Feb. 16, 1874.
LOVER'S RUSE, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, Oct. 27, 1873.
LOVE'S ALARMS, Haymarket, Nov. 17, 1853.
LOVES AND GLOVES, Tyne, Newcastle, March 23, 1878.
LOVE'S ANGUISH, Adelphi, May 3, 1882.
LOVE'S CRONES, Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton, Jan. 28, 1881.
LOVE'S DOCTOR, Royalty, Jan. 27, 1870.
LOVE'S DREAM, Britannia, Dec. 27, 1881.
LOVE'S ERROR, Theatre Royal, Southampton, Dec. 20, 1870.
LOVE'S EYES, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, March 5, 1891.
LOVE'S LIMIT, New Royalty, Jan. 6, 1866.
LOVE'S LOYALTY, Greenwich, Sept. 2, 1876.
LOVE'S MAGIC, Woolwich, Feb. 18, 1890.
LOVE'S MARTYRDOM, Haymarket, June 11, 1856.
LOVES OF ARCADIA, Strand, March 12, 1860.
LOVE'S ORDEAL, Drury Lane, May 4, 1865.
LOVE'S RETRIBUTION, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, Dec. 4, 1882.
LOVE'S REVENGE, Greenwich, Nov. 21, 1868.
LOVE'S SACRIFICE, Hastings, Nov. 25, 1896.
LOVE'S SECRET, Ladbroke Hall, Jan. 2, 1888.
LOVE STORY, THE, Strand, May 23, 1888.
LOVE'S TEST, Norwich, Sept. 4, 1874.
LOVE'S TRIAL, Opera House, Liverpool, May 5, 1882.
LOVE'S TRICKERY, Lyric, Aug. 31, 1889.
LOVE'S TRIUMPH, Covent Garden, Nov. 3, 1862.
LOVE'S YOUNG DREAM, New Royalty, March 30, 1864.
LOVE TEST, Gaiety, June 22, 1872.
LOVE THAT KILLS, Prince of Wales's, Jan. 27, 1888.
LOVE THAT LASTS, Theatre Royal, Northampton, Jan. 10, 1881.
LOVE, THE MAGICIAN, Shaftesbury, July 7, 1892.
LOVE TRAP, New Theatre Royal, Bristol, Sept., 1883.
LOVE VERSUS LAW, Princess's, Dec. 8, 1862.
LOVE VERSUS SCIENCE, S.W. London Polytechnic, May 9, 1896.
LOVE WINS, Theatre Royal, Cambridge, Aug. 11, 1873.
LOVE WINS THE DAY, Gallery of Illustration, Oct. 30, 1865.
LOVE WISELY, Avenue, April 27, 1898.
LOW WATER, Globe, Jan. 12, 1884.
LOYAL, Vaudeville, Aug. 9, 1894.
LOYALIST, Coronet, May 22, 1900.
LOYAL LOVE, Gaiety, Aug. 13, 1887.
LOYAL LOVERS, Vaudeville, Dec. 2, 1886.
LOYAL TO THE LAST, Theatre Royal, Birmingham, June 16, 1896.
LOYAL TRAITOR, St. James's, May 10, 1900.
LOYALTY, Criterion, March 13, 1876.
L.S.D., Royalty, June 29, 1872.
L.S.D.; OR, FACE TO FACE, Pavilion, July 15, 1889.
LUCETTE'S LEGACY, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Feb. 18, 1884.
LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR, Prince of Wales's, Sept. 25, 1865.
LUCIFER, SON OF THE MORNING, Stafford, Dec. 15, 1898.
LUCK, Imperial, Nov. 15, 1879.
LUCK OF LIFE, Manchester, May 30, 1898.
LUCK; OR, A STORY OF PASTORAL LIFE, Britannia, July 19, 1869.
LUCK; OR, THE YORKSHIRE LASS, Amphitheatre, Leeds, March 8, 1869.
LUCKY BAG, Savoy, June 8, 1893.
LUCKY DOG, Strand, July 4, 1892.
LUCKY ESCAPE, Strand, Sept. 9, 1861.
LUCKY GIRL, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, Nov. 18, 1889.
LUCKY HIT, Drury Lane, Feb. 1, 1858.
LUCKY SHILLING, Standard, Feb. 20, 1888.
LUCKY STAR, Theatre Royal, Darlington, Aug. 1, 1887.
LUCKY STONE, Britannia, July 16, 1877.
LUCREZIA BORGIA, Marylebone, July 20, 1867.
LUCREZIA BORGIA, M.D., Holborn, Oct. 28, 1868.
LUCY BRANDON, Imperial, April 8, 1882.
LUCY HATTON, Marylebone, Nov. 2, 1863.
LUGGAGE PER RAIL, Her Majesty's Theatre, Richmond, July 12, 1882.
LUNACY COMMISSION, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, March 10, 1876.
LUNATIC, THE, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Aug. 30, 1898.
LURED TO LONDON, Lyceum, Crewe, Feb. 14, 1889.
LURED TO RUIN, Princess's, Glasgow, June 30, 1890.
LURETTE, Avenue, March 24, 1883.
LURLINE, Covent Garden, Feb. 23, 1860.
LURLINE, Burlesque, Assembly Room, Leamington, Dec. 20, 1867.
LYING DUTCHMAN, Strand, Dec. 21, 1876.
LYNCH LAW, Theatre Royal, West Hartlepool, Sept. 19, 1874.
LYONS MAIL, Lyceum, Feb. 7, 1891.
LYSIANE, Lyric, June 21, 1898.

MISS NETHERSOLE AT CHICAGO.

Miss Olga Nethersole recently delivered an address to the Graduate Club at the Chicago University. The popular actress said:—

My mission in life, ladies and gentlemen, is to interpret the words and thoughts of others, and to give life to characters conceived and designed by dramatists. I stand before you this afternoon with no claim to be an orator. I am merely a woman representing, in my humble way, a noble profession.

One of the great regrets of my life has been that I had not the advantage of a University education; but, alas! when I was a student everybody in England looked askance at the woman who dared to claim that she was entitled to share in the higher branches of education with men, and who was bold enough to urge her claim. How different are things to-day!

Ladies and gentlemen, mine has been a struggle. My lot—at first, at any rate—was the usual experience of the ambitious. I was not believed in. I struggled and strove and worked, as it seemed to me, in the dark, without making much headway, until a gleam of light broke through the clouds of disappointment, and I was given the opportunity I sought for, and at least from that time I had secured a foothold which by persistence and endeavour has ultimately brought me to the platform of the University of Chicago.

I cannot help seeing that, while the stage of America has learned many bitter lessons and gained much experience from her elder sister, the stage of England, slowly but surely the knowledge is forced upon me that the English stage has now to reckon with the American stage as a factor for example, and we have to learn much from you. I do not know how this comes about, unless it be that you, like clever people, have adopted the best of ours, and still, like clever people, have improved upon our best, so that now, as was freely admitted in London last summer, when several of your notable managers ventured to introduce their companies into London, we English have a great deal to learn from you in acting and dramatic ensemble. I do not think we need feel much mortification on this account; we should, however, realise our obvious duty, or in the time to come you will have left us far behind, and it will come about that, in place of English actors coming to New York and Chicago, American actors will go to London, and, which is more to the purpose, will remain there. There are only two ways of averting this: One is to learn a lesson from the American stage, and the other is to establish a Dingley Tariff on dramatic art, which as apostles of Free Trade would be extremely repugnant to the English people.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE STAGE.

It is amazing to realise how the influence of the stage has gathered and grown in England and America during the past twenty-five years. In England the Renaissance began, so to speak, somewhere in the early sixties; steadily the influence has continued, and now, honoured by all ranks of society, from their Queen downward, its members, jealous of their rights, occupy a position second to no other profession.

I wonder what our grandfathers and grandmothers would have said if they could have known that, in this last year of the century, the much-maligned stage of their days would be crowned with laurels and clothed in the purple. I wonder what your grandfathers and grandmothers would have thought could they have known that you have been willing, and anxious, to have a member of my profession come here and address you in this beautiful theatre?

Several illustrious members of the dramatic profession have addressed you, from time to time, from this platform. By being invited to do so you have conferred upon them a distinction and an honour, and, not only upon them, but upon their colleagues, which we acknowledge with gratitude. By so doing you seem to recollect that the stage, as a social factor, needs all the encouragement and all the help it can acquire; and, remember, every time that you invite one of us to mingle with you you are breaking down barriers and conferring incalculable benefits upon our profession which cannot fail to be productive of good results.

Without desiring to lay before you the difficulties and trials of the stage, I should like to say just a word or so about a subject of the profoundest importance. Unless we are able to give you good plays we cannot give you performances. That is a maxim that none can dispute. A paramount difficulty, and one too little recognised, or only recognised in some of its effects, is the play supply. The good attractive plays are too few, and I venture to believe that they are too few because, under the present system, dramatic authorship is not properly developed. To give authors every opportunity, speed them in every channel, to welcome changes, to encourage the appearance of the drama in as many aspects as possible and in as many quarters as possible—that is the obvious course to pursue.

There is no means whereby the playwright can be trained and qualified to write successful plays. His college or training school must be made the public stage, and the men who pay for his education are the unfortunate managers. Playwrights are not "Heaven born." There is a large amount of technical skill needed, besides the original inventive faculty that a man must have before he can claim even to be a playwright, much less a successful one. It is only practice that can perfect the tyro in his experience, and, unless he receive encouragement, he cannot gain the experience. It is a very hard nut to crack, this paucity of playwrights and plays. I do not, myself, see how any other system can be adopted than the rough-and-ready one which is now pursued. Naturally, the public will not allow themselves to be practised upon. If they do not like a play they say so and they are justly entitled to say so.

It is upon managers that the task of encouraging young playwrights devolves. But where it is possible I do pray that the critics—the critics who are the mouthpieces of the public—will try to find out of the work of the young and inexperienced some gleam of hope for the future, and offer the word of encouragement and praise, without which many of us must, and shall, fall fainting by the wayside. Do you believe that the masterpiece of England's greatest living dramatist, which I have had the honour of presenting to Chicago during my first visit this season, would ever have been written and given to all ages and all tongues had it not been that Mr. W. A. Pinero received the encouragement and the support of managers years ago, even at the expense of their pockets? Mr. Pinero himself has admitted what a hard and thorny path he had to travel over before he could see that he had completed the first lap in his race for fame.

Speaking of Mr. Pinero, I well remember a notable speech which he made on the occasion of a public dinner over which he presided some years ago in London. He was referring to the need for encouragement of young actors, and, in a remarkable peroration, he made use of the following words:—

"I say to you in conclusion that, if you wish to elevate your stage and improve your acting, you must give praise unstintingly to the young, to the ambitious. There is one thing that they need more than any other, and that is praise—and so I say to you praise, praise, and still more praise."

I have never forgotten those words, because I have felt that, when Mr. Pinero spoke them, he spoke them from his heart, and that he recollected how hard and bitter a struggle he had had, and how much he needed praise, and what it meant to him. It is so easy to give praise to those who have achieved. They need it far less than those who are struggling, and, you may take it from me, a word of encouragement is worth a whole page of advice.

I myself very vividly remember your own great Joseph Jefferson speaking to me on the subject of my not following tradition, and praising me for my endeavour in these very remarkable words:—"My dear," said he, "some of us have roads made ready for us to tramp along to our destinies. You were born to make new roads. Go on making them, and take my praise!"

Some people seem never to be able to adopt anything but a pessimisitic attitude towards the drama and its future. They are the people who cry out from the housetops of the decay of the drama. I believe that the drama, at any rate in England and America, was never in a more optimistic condition than to-day. It seems to me in a sort of way it has shed its skin. The freedom which modern manners permit will, I think, tend to strengthen and solidify, and while, as is always the case at first, there may be some abuse of this freedom, the pendulum will swing backwards and forwards until it shall swing itself into a position of correctness, with the result that out of its freedom will come independence, and through its independence it will throw off all that which is least desirable. A new generation is constantly springing up around us, and I look with envy upon the pleasure that future generation are going to receive at the hands of the drama when this evolution shall have become an accomplished fact.

MR. HARE AND IBSEN.

I was reading recently in an English newspaper the account of a speech delivered by Mr. John Hare—with whose company I had the honour and pleasure of being associated at one period of my career—at the Playgoers' Club in London, in which he spoke of the faddists and cranks who, from time to time, spring up in every art, to disturb the existing state of things by sheer audacity and eccentricity. I take leave to believe that in these words Mr. Hare was referring to Ibsen and his followers. He went on to say that there are pleasant and unpleasant truths in life, but that the former, and not the latter, were truths in which the stage should concern itself.

In a sentence I venture to disagree with my former manager. I hold that it is the duty of the stage, as an educational factor (which, if it is anything, it certainly is), that the obvious duty of the stage is to hold the mirror up to Nature, and to deal with both pleasant and unpleasant phases of human life, not necessarily forcing the one upon the attention of the public at the expense of the other, but it is the duty of the dramatist to deal with life as he finds it, no matter whether it be pleasant or unpleasant. If you are truthful, you cannot shut your eyes to one phase and open them to the other. But I will qualify that statement by asking the dramatist not to expose the disease without suggesting the remedy.

I have spoken of Ibsen as presumably influencing the younger school of dramatists. Whatever any of us may feel or think of his work, we must in the abstract pay a tribute of respect and veneration to a man who had "such honour for the truth" that he was compelled to force himself to deal with much that is unpleasant and distasteful to all of us. "The good that men do lives after them," and you may depend upon it that the influence of Ibsen will live and live, when the man has become but a memory.

I have dwelt very elaborately on the subject of the young dramatist and our duty towards him; but there is another individual who needs as much looking after and encouragement as he—I refer to the actor. As dramatists are not born but made, so also are the actors not "Heaven born." Given the natural aptitude, there is incumbent on him or her a course of training.

THE TOURING SYSTEM.

I am grieved to say that the system which has obtained upon the English stage during the past few years has caused a crowding of the profession with people who, while not qualified actors in any sense of the word, are more or less capable to the limited extent of mimicing, which satisfies most of the requirements of a London success on tour. A play is produced in London, and becomes immediately a very great success. The manager is anxious to make money, and so he organises one, two, or three companies, to send them travelling on tour. The actors and actresses engaged to interpret the parts are told that they must mimic, or reproduce as nearly as possible, the people who created the parts in London. For this purpose the people succeed, and have the faculty for imitating well developed; and the result is that you find people playing the parts with no particular training, and they continue to play them for a year or two, without making any headway or receiving any enlightenment in their profession. The run comes to an end, the actor has learned nothing, and he waits patiently, or impatiently, according to his pocket, until another opportunity presents itself to go in and copy, as a Paris fashion, some other body's work. Whether this system reigns in America as it does in England I do not know; but if it be so it is none the less fatal to the best interests of the State. What is to be done to obviate this? I told you in the early part of my address that I could not see any possible way of training the dramatist, except at the expense of the managers; that is a rough-and-ready method that may have some possible advantage, but such a method applied to actors appears to be wrong, even to the least enlightened of us. In the old days the stock company was the rough school wherein the actor was fitted for his profession. He had to proceed by slow but sure steps, season by season, from one grade to the other, until he blossomed forth leading man or first comedian, or what not, or perchance realised that the stage was not his as either. Here your stock company days seem to be reviving in a measure, and I hail with delight the revival, as I feel that it is a step in the right direction.

TRAINING THE ACTOR.

It certainly is possible to train the actor. Why should we not take the bull by the horns and establish a dramatic conservatoire? Every other enterprise of art has its training school, and why not the stage? We find it flourishing in France, we find it flourishing in German; then why not in America and in England? It is not that its enemies can suggest that a conservatoire would not be useful, because we have the overwhelming evidence that in France and Germany there are the best and most accomplished actors, and I claim that it is because they have received proper training, and are fitted by such training to appear on the stage before the public. It is absolutely surprising that people should have the impertinence (forgive my heat) to expect to be allowed to appear before the public for the first time without any qualification whatsoever, and expect that the public shall appreciate and applaud them, when in all probability the public know a great deal more about the matter. I claim that the actor has a mission—he has a duty towards his fellow men which he can only fulfil after a course of training and preparation, and I would have the State in each country establish a college for the training of actors, and no one should be allowed to appear in public without his diploma, any more than a lawyer or a doctor is allowed to practice medicine or law without one. Until such a conservatoire is established, our profession will always be subject to a certain feeling of distrust on the part of the public.

I am so solicitous for my art that I want it invested with every dignity, and I pray that I may live to see the day when the people of England and America shall come to regard the stage so seriously as to compel them to bring ours into line with that of other professions. Our profession should be incorporated under a charter, and schools should be inaugurated. Educational qualifications should be necessary for admission to the schools, and a course of study should be prescribed. Then, after a due season of preparation, examination should be made in one, two, or three degrees; after, the student, having proved himself able and worthy, should receive his diploma as a Graduate in Dramatic Art. Until some such system is adopted we can never hope to advance ourselves rapidly, and the sooner this course is admitted the sooner we shall arrive at the solution of that which is, after all, one of the profoundest questions affecting the drama. It is a law of nature that the fittest survive, but with my conservatoire we can arrive more quickly at what is fittest than by the present method.

NEW MUSIC.

FRANCIS, DAY, and HUNTER are the publishers of "The Treasure Cave," written and composed by Mr. G. D. Fox, introduced by Ted Wootten in Little and Darcy's pantomime, *The Forty Thieves*. The composer is one of those experienced musicians who do so much credit to the theatrical profession, owing to their readiness and skill in arranging and composing music suitable for such pieces as the above. The composer, who resides at Brighton, has written incidental music for a host of dramas, and if anyone fancies that he has not done himself justice, we may mention that Beethoven, Weber, and other great composers have done the same thing, and Mr. Fox, who is competent in every department of musical art, is entitled to hearty praise for his bright and clever music to many popular plays. He is equally skilful in writing for the variety stage.

LEONARD and Co., 311, Oxford-street, W., are the publishers of the following:—"Knowst thou why?" is a song from the Persian music by Eileen Quayle. This has the fanciful character of Persian poetry, the music associated being simple enough. "Heliotrope," an intermezzo for the pianoforte, by James Philp, is brightly written, with sundry changes of key, not absolutely necessary, but clever in their way. The piece will make a good study for a youthful student. "Love, the Wanderer," words by Arthur Chapman, music by Wilton King, tells very pleasantly why Love wandered and where, and finishes to the melody of a pretty waltz.

GOULD and Co., of Poland-street, are advancing rapidly as publishers of popular music. Young Mr. Jacoby is our first contributor. His Six Pieces for the Violin will prove most serviceable to the amateur, teaching him (or her, as the case may be) to produce a broad, rich tone. Mr. Jacoby is not insensible to the charm of old-fashioned dances, and his "Bourrée" has much merit. In this department Mr. Siegfried Jacoby is worthy of his distinguished father, whose ballet music was so much admired at the Alhambra. "A prayer for you," by F. W. Sparrow, is a simple ballad that tells its own story. Mr. Noel Johnson, so well known as a song composer, is very successful in his sacred ditty, "Faith and Hope," set to verses by Christina Rossetti. "There is a green hill" is a setting by W. E. Sanderson of the words which Gounod so successfully used. We can compliment Mr. Sanderson on the fact that he has not imitated the more celebrated composer, but has a fairly original melody. Stephen Glover wrote some pleasant music in his time, and his part songs are not without merit.

ENOCH and SONS are the publishers of a charming Pastorale, by Mlle. Chaminade, the delightful composer of so much pretty music for the piano. A portrait of the lady, after one of Mendelssohn the artist, adorns the title-page. A song by the same fair composer, called "In happy mood," is worthy the attention of a good contralto, as the music lies in the best portion of the voice. "Songs of the desert," by G. H. Clutsam, are published for low and high voices, and have much of the romance of the desert, aided by dreamy melodies and characteristic words, also by the same musician. "In Sunshine and Shadow," the title of six songs by Landon Ronald, which have an agreeable flavour of the classic school, as we know it in the celebrated songs of Schubert and Robert Franz. The second of these songs has been sung by Mme. Melba, and is remarkable for a novel and original accompaniment. "Tom Brown," words by Weatherly, music by W. H. Squire, is a new version of "The Village Blacksmith," with the sentiment of Longfellow left out. "Tom Brown" is, in fact, a lively, humorous ditty, and would suit a genial baritone. "Day Dreams," by Emilie Clarke, has a touch of sentiment of a pleasing kind carried out in music and words. The sacred song, "Take up thy cross," by Cecil Grant, has a hymn tune, made impressive by an organ accompaniment of some merit. Alice Kuhling is the composer of "Scattered Blossoms," a song with words from the German. The music has also a Teutonic echo, by no means disagreeable. "Wings of Night," music by Arthur Vernon, employs two authors for the verses, "Bonnie dear," by Josef Holbrooke, a young composer, who is rapidly gaining fame, is hardly equal to his chamber music in quality, but has much merit of its kind.

ENOCH and SONS are also the publishers of the excellent pieces of Paul Wachs, a capital composer of pianoforte music, who combines grace and fluency with moderate demands on the executant, a fact which teachers should take into account when purchasing new music. The learned Dr. Bellairs has issued "The elements of pianoforte arranged on a rythmic basis." The doctor claims that his system saves the teacher much trouble and the pupil much labour. In any case, his plan is worthy of consideration. Herbert Bunning, who last season had an opera produced at Covent Garden, and who has written some clever songs, here produces a "Sérénade à Columbine" of much merit. "In Eighteen-five October," published by Charles Woolhouse, 174, Wardour-street, Mr. Cliffe Forrester celebrates Nelson's victory at Trafalgar. Charles Woolhouse also publishes the following:—Two dances from *The Taming of the Shrew*, by Noel Johnson, are a minuet and country dance, and "Trois Morceaux," by S. von Leer, in the antique style, have a freshness that makes them welcome. "Songs in Sun and Shade," by Frederick Nicholls, for contralto or baritone, have much merit, and are not without originality.

THE B. F. WOOD MUSIC COMPANY, of Boston, have also a branch at 12, Rathbone-place, Oxford-street, where Five Little Tone Pictures, by C. W. Krogmann, are published. They are fanciful pieces, the first being a polka song, "The Raindrops," and having lively words, can either be sung or played. Ten Melodious Recreations, by Wilhelm Aletter, are for the pianoforte, and are quite simple in form and execution. "The Vesper Prayer," by Frank H. Brackett, is a sacred song, with a violin and organ accompaniment, written in a devotional spirit. "What would you say, dear?" by C. S. Briggs, is a love song of a more sprightly character than those effusions generally are. "My Japanese" has a suggestion of *The Darling of the Gods*. The music is by Gibson Cooke.

Hopwood and Crew publish "The Young Recruit," composed by Ernest Vousden, welcome for its military flavour. "Luna," composed by W. Tate, has more sentiment.

HERR JOSEF KAINZ has, I am glad to be able to state, completely recovered from all effects of his recent severe illness. The famous actor will be seen in Berlin again before long, while at the beginning of July he will commence the season that was unfortunately postponed on account of his illness.

"THE FATAL STOCKINGS," a play in one act, by Arthur Holmes-Gore, will be produced in front of *Too Many Cooks*, at the Grand Theatre, Blackpool, on Monday.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE SAVOY.

On Tuesday, June 12,
A new Musical Farce, in One Act, written by Malcolm Watson, Music by Percy E. Fletcher and E. Hess, entitled
"AN EXILE FROM HOME."

Signor Guglielmo Baillini ..MR. EDWARD SASS
Harry Merton .....MR. REYNOLDS DENNISTON
Beppo .....MR. THOMAS PAUNCEFORT
Miss Bulby .....MRS. B. M. DE SOLLA
Marjorie Wren .....MISS EVELYN D'ALROY

We were under the impression that we had seen the last of the gentleman known far and wide as Bill Bailey, who was so long deaf to melodious entreaties to "come home," but he bobbed up serenely in the new first piece—a musical farce—produced at the Savoy Theatre on Tuesday evening. Somewhat thinly disguised, under the title of Signor Guglielmo Baillini, he follows the calling of a teacher of singing. Amongst his pupils is a fair English maiden, Marjorie Wren by name, who, for some inexplicable reason, displays a foolish liking for the middle-aged signor, and gives the cold shoulder to Harry Merton, although he has youth on his side, and is honestly in love with Marjorie. The signor has in his service a youth known as Beppo, who is really a native of Whitechapel, but has been taught a little Italian. Marjorie comes to Baillini's lodgings in Soho, accompanied by a lady known as Miss Bulby, who complains of having been deserted by her scamp of a husband years ago. It is not necessary to be a very experienced playgoer to guess the end of the story; but before this is reached young Merton makes his appearance, and feels it incumbent upon him to inflict personal chastisement upon the supposed Italian. Then the lady who passes as Miss Bulby enters the room, and recognises in the teacher of singing her husband Bill Bailey. His excuses for deserting his wife are not flattering to that lady, but she is evidently of a forgiving disposition, and when she mentions that she has been left a small legacy Bill is easily persuaded to "come home," and the young couple, Harry and Marjorie, are speedily reconciled. The musical numbers include a song for Marjorie, a part that was brightly played by Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, who also sang in charming style; and a lively quartette in the buffo-Italian style, that was deservedly encored. Mr. Edward Sass gave an amusing embodiment of the self-styled Signor Baillini; Mr. Reynolds Denniston did well as Harry Merton; and Mr. Thomas Pauncefort made a capital representative of the pseudo-Italian youth Beppo. Mrs. B. M. de Solla gave able support as Miss Bulby, alias Mrs. Bill Bailey. The music was bright, the overture being distinguished by some striking variations upon the familiar air of "Home, Sweet Home." The new curtain-raiser, though rather old-fashioned in style, met with a favourable reception.

The last act of the powerful play by Claude Askew and Edward Knoblauch, entitled *The Shulamite*, which was produced at this theatre on May 12, has been so altered as to bring about a happy ending. In the original version Deborah confesses that her husband was killed by Robert Waring in order to prevent him leaving the country; but she also takes a solemn oath that the parting with her lover shall be for ever. In the new version, Tante Anna, by close cross-examination, forces Deborah to admit the truth, but her son taking sides with the lovers she is compelled to keep silence. Waring also receives news of the death of his wife, leaving him free to wed Deborah at no distant date. The acting in this play remains remarkably impressive and real. Miss Lena Ashwell depicts the feelings of Deborah with a power and intensity that evoke the warmest admiration of the audience, and hearty congratulations can be accorded the clever actress upon her success. Nor would it be easy to find a flaw in the fine performance of Mr. Norman McKinnel as Simeon Krillet, a perfect picture of the sincere, but mistaken, man, who interprets the Scriptures in accordance with his own narrow views. Mr. Henry Ainley gives a vivid representation of Robert Waring, the Englishman whose life has been ruined by an unhappy marriage; it is a performance that adds to his reputation as a clever actor. Mr. Eugene Mayeur deserves every credit for his natural embodiment of Jan Vanderberg; Miss Elsie Chester is excellent as Tante Anna; and Miss Beryl Mercer is very good in the part of the Kaffir girl, Memke.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 11,
the Farcical Romance, in Three Acts,
by Captain Robert Marshall, entitled
"HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR."

A propitious start has been made by the little company of West-End players who are embarking on a short tour in the interests of the drama and of what may be called the sport of Cabinet Ministers, and a crowded audience assembled at the Kennington Theatre on Monday to give each popular favourite a hearty greeting. It would seem that in the event there is to be less golf than acting, for the little company has grown so much in demand that special matinées will in some towns militate against their frequent appearance on the links. The representation of Captain Marshall's clever comedy, in which the effects of the dust of the aloe lead to such droll results, gave the audience at Kennington a very merry evening, and the curtain was kept busy rising and falling at the end of each act. Mr. Lionel Mackinder takes the rôle of John Baverstock, the private secretary of the Governor of the Islands in the Indian Ocean, and great interest was centred in the appearance of the popular Gaiety *jeune premier*, shorn of the songs and dances to which he has accustomed his admirers. It was confidently to be expected that Mr. Mackinder would give a clever assumption of the part, but we were hardly prepared for the wealth of comic resource which is displayed. His sonorous voice gives added value to the lines which he has to deliver as the solemn and matter-of-fact Secretary, and his quaint by-play and action keep the audience in constant mirth. It would be sad to see the musical play robbed of Mr. Mackinder's services, but there can be no doubt that his adherence to the principles of the comedian pure and simple would be a distinct gain to that form of art. A real success must also be placed to the credit of Mr. Lennox Pawle, who plays the Right Hon. Henry Carlton, M.P., in the original style that has found for him a place among the front rank of comedians. The air of importance assumed by the pompous M.P. furnishes a mirthful contrast to his amorous wooing, and Mr. Pawle's every speech and action is followed by a round of laughter. The qualities of comedy and charm are agreeably combined in Miss Ethel Matthews' performance of Stella De Gex, the resourceful variety artist whose presence so disturbs the official equanimity of the Governor of the Islands in the Indian Ocean. The little inflections of the voice which Miss Matthews assumes give increased point to the numerous smart sayings which she has to deliver, and her constant vivacity and the charm of her presence render the impersonation completely captivating. Mr. Loring Fernie plays with undiminishing energy and power as the Governor. His dignified composure in many of the trying situations in which he is placed preserves the impersonation from the charge of extravagance, while his amorous rhapsody from the top of the pile of furniture which forms the barricade in the last act is intensely funny. Mr. H. Marsh Allen is a buoyant and soldierly Captain Charles Carew, and his chivalrous bearing as the manly young officer gives the dash of romance which is needed to preserve the piece from utter farce. A refined and ingenuous performance of Ethel Carlton is given by Miss Janet Alexander, who plays with well-varied skill in the love-making scenes of which she is the object. Miss Dolly Jones as Miss Wentworth-Bolingbroke does not hesitate to assume the dowdy appearance and querulous utterance of the typical old maid, and her enunciation of the mordant lines of the part is particularly effective. Mr. James Blakeley makes a truly comic personage of the Sentry, and the audience would fain have more of him. Mr. Blakeley has little to say, but his capacious smile is distinctly precious, and his intonation when the sentry raises his voice in the refrain of "I want yer, ma honey," has an irresistibly comic effect. The Butler of Mr. R. H. Sherrard is also a grotesque study, which adds to the merriment of the evening; and Mr. Littledale Power and Mr. Arthur Willoughby as Captain Rivers and Major Kildare respectively make the excellence of the cast complete. The performance of Captain Marshall's piece is ushered in by songs and stories of Mr. Frederick Norton, who has been recently entertaining the patrons of the Duke of York's Theatre. He was encored many times on Monday for his sweetly-rendered songs, which included selections from *The Gondoliers*. "The merriest fellows are we," from that popular opera, was enthusiastically redemanded, and Mr. Norton gave in response "I'll sing thee songs of Araby," which was so well appreciated that he had to repeat the last verse of Clay's immortal ballad.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 11,
the Comedy, by H. H. Davies, entitled
"MRS. GORRINGE'S NECKLACE."

Miss Mary Moore and an excellent company are here in that delightful play by Mr. Hubert Henry Davies, *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace*. Every part is excellently played, and as Miss Mary Moore and Miss Marie Illington are appearing in their original rôles, it was no surprise that such a powerful attraction should have drawn the crowded house it did on Monday evening. Miss Mary Moore is seen at her best as Mrs. Gorringe; it is a delightful piece of acting, and thoroughly consistent throughout. The author has drawn a very common type, but it is one which requires delicate handling, and Miss Mary Moore is quite equal to the task. As Mrs. Jardine Miss Marie Illington submits a capital portrayal of one of those characters which she always plays so admirably and with such finish; Mr. Yorke Stephens acts the part of Captain Mowbray so well that he impresses his own personality on the character, and plays with great force; Mr. Brisco Owen embodies the rôle of David Cairn in a clever manner, and, by his quiet and effective handling of it, compels sympathy for this weak young man. Mr. Maitland Dicker is amusing as Colonel Jardine; and Mr. Reginald Walter is distinctly good as the Detective. Miss Lilias Waldegrave as Isabel Kirke gives a really fine piece of acting. She plays with a fine reserve, and the firm and resolute character is admirably delineated. Miss Isabel Fladgate is a bright Vicky, and Miss Ethel Marryat does well as Miss Potts. Mr. L. J. White lends valuable assistance as Charles. The play is preceded by a bright little trifle, entitled *The American Widow*, in which Miss Lilias Waldegrave and Mr. Reginald Walter appear with great success. The plays are well staged, and the whole production is under the direction of Mr. Thomas McKenzie.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 11,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."

Once again melodrama holds the boards at this theatre, and there was a highly-interested audience present on Monday to witness the performance by Mr. Lingford Carson's talented company of the above-named exciting drama. Miss Kate Hallam gave a tender and sympathetic rendering of the much-wronged Sylvia Beech, proving herself an actress of considerable emotional power. As Lady Jane Wilde Miss Florence French worked hard, and caused considerable amusement by her lively portrayal of this dashing member of the aristocracy; Miss Nellie Birchenough, in the rôle of Betty Black, submitted a character-study which was commendably life-like in conception and in execution; and Miss Elsie May played cleverly, and made an attractive youngster of Master Robert Beech. Mr. Geo. M. Newall was responsible for a strong and, at times, really masterly rendering of Harry Beech, and was especially successful in portraying the broken-down banker's rapidly-changing moods in the drunken scenes, while his rendering of the strong scene in the fourth act was excellent in every detail. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton made a vindictive and sardonic Walter Beech, and soon earned his reward in the loudly-expressed disapproval of the "gods." Mr. H. Maxwell Payne was amusing as Jack Lawton, and his acting, and the antics of Mr. A. McGrath as a "harmless aristocrat," did much to keep the audience in a good humour. The less important characters were all capably handled, worthy of special mention being the wily Count de Foi of Mr. Edward van Biene, and the realistic detective of Mr. Walter Steele.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 11,
the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."

After a long run of successful dramas a return is this week made to lighter fare, and the attraction provided is Mr. Weedon Grossmith's farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*, which met with so much success at the Avenue Theatre. Excellently acted by Messrs. Cecil Barth and Arthur Eldred's company, the play goes with a swing, and the humorous situations keep the audience in uproarious laughter throughout. Mr. Sebastian Smith scores heavily with his representation of Mr. Crosbie, and is warmly applauded. Having a thorough grip of the character, and making the most of his opportunities, Mr. Smith, by his clever acting and cool self-assurance in awkward predicaments, causes much merriment. A finished performance is given by Mr. Frank G. Bayley in the rôle of Mr. Frank Frayne; Mr. Lewis Sealy, who is also stage-manager, acts with sufficient force as Sir Charles Hampshire; and Mr. Algernon Newark is amusing as Alderman Hargen. Mr. Victor Widdicombe as Mr. Flambert contributes to the gaiety of the evening by his clever delineation of the pompous butler; and Mr. Arthur Eldred gives a natural representation of Mr. Rundle, the footman. The part of Mr. Bogle is in the safe hands of Mr. J. W. Braithwaite, whose efforts are commendable. Mr. Gerald Jones as Alec Montressor, Mr. Chas. Turner as Horace Clouge, and Mr. Frank Ridley as Mr. McRoth, are good in their respective parts; and Master S. Kelly as a Page Boy is to be congratulated. Miss Hope Mayne is charming as Lady Hampshire, and gives a capital piece of quiet acting. A decided contrast is the Gipsy Vandelier of Miss Blanka Stewart, who is seen to great advantage; Miss Joan Burnett is satisfactory as Paulina; and Miss Gertrude Homewood is excellent as Mrs. Young. Miss N. Rowell as Nannie Portland, and Miss Mabel Morley as Baby Hastings, capably sustain their respective parts.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, June 11,
the Drama, in Five Acts,
Adapted from Mrs. Henry Wood's Novel, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

Mr. Samuel James is producing this ever-popular play at the above theatre this week, and capital houses have been the result. The time is long past for any critical remarks on a drama which has so endeared itself to popular audiences. Suffice it to say that once more the tribulations and trials of the unhappy Lady Isabel find a ready response from the feminine portion of the house. Miss Clara Cowper, who is starring as Lady Isabel, gives a sympathetic and acceptable performance, and her reception is very flattering. Miss Minnie Grey as Barbara is very good in a part of limited opportunity; Miss Florence Lovell is amusing as the aggressive Cornelia, Miss May Seton effective as Joyce, and Miss Florrie Black as Willie deserves a word of commendation. Mr. Douglas Vigors is dignified as Carlyle, acting with commendable discretion; Mr. Fred Morgan is quite excellent as Levison, Mr. E. T. Manning humorous as Hare, and Mr. E. J. Collins commendable as Richard. Mr. H. H. Barrington submits a dignified performance of Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. H. P. Kaye does everything possible with a poor part as Dill. The scenery and mounting of the drama are, as usual, most complete and satisfactory. Mr. Maurice, the acting-manager here, is most assiduous and courteous in the front of the house.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, June 11,
the Naval Play, in Four Acts, by F. Bateman, entitled
"THE SAILORS OF THE KING."

The attraction this week at the New Prince's Theatre is a very powerful drama from the pen of Mr. F. Bateman, entitled *The Sailors of the King*. It is full of powerful situations and thrilling incidents, and the interest of the audience is thoroughly maintained throughout the play. Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 company present the drama, and right well do they acquit themselves. Mr. Harrington himself enacts the rôle of Admiral Drake, a bluff old sea dog of the old school, in a very excellent fashion. He has a natural style of acting, and his enunciation is perfect. His son Dick Drake is well played by Mr. Harry Douglas, who makes a breezy, hearty sailor and an earnest lover. Mr. Vernon Travers, who plays the rascally brother Orrel Drake, is particularly successful in his delineation of the character; and Mr. Kenneth Black, jun., as Barnet Fair is exceedingly humorous. Mr. Fred Owen as a Jew moneylender, Harris Wilkinstein, is very amusing; and Mr. Walter Farnsworth could not be bettered in the part of Rufford Dent. As the heroine Felicia Phrynne Miss Sylvia Stella is highly successful. She is possessed of a delicate and refined manner, and yet manages to add reality to her struggle with her captors in the last act. As Daisy Dent Miss Gertrude Sterroll presents a pathetic picture of a wronged woman, and quickly enlists the sympathy of her audience. Miss Hero Hathaway as Penelope Penn plays the part of a young Quakeress as if to the manner born, and added greatly to the humour of the piece. Miss Maude Digby is excellent in the character of Rebecca Crosby, a scheming adventuress, and her rendering of the passionate, revengeful woman is powerful and highly realistic. All the smaller parts are in capable hands, and the piece is admirably staged, the deck of the man-of-war and the launch being effective sets.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 11,
the Farcical Comedy,
by Beard Frances and Herbert Laeland, entitled
"THE MEDICAL STUDENT."

A crowded audience assembled on Monday evening to welcome the above amusing farcical comedy, which was originally produced at the Strand Theatre some years ago. The piece is full of diverting complications and laughable lines, proving much to the taste of the house. Not the least merit of the comedy is the fact that it provides capital parts for those two well-known comedians Messrs. George Giddens and Fred Kaye. The company, which is under the direction of the Mr. Hilton Frances, gives an excellent interpretation of the piece. Mr. George Giddens is a dashing representative of the mercurial medical student Dick De Feetum, and acts with unflagging energy in the various amusing situations in which the authors have involved him. Mr. Fred Kaye as the eccentric little Tim Burton, who gets into terrible trouble through marrying a ward in Chancery, has an excellent part, of which he makes the most. His make-up is effective, and he is responsible for continuous laughter whenever he is on the stage. Mr. Hilton Frances is a duly fierce and domineering old gentleman as Mr. Burton; and Mr. Arthur Rodney is appropriately pompous and precise as Sir Giles De Feetum. Miss Marie Kenrick acts with animation and sincerity as Tim Burton's young wife; and Miss Dido Drake looks charming and plays sympathetically as Alice Burton, the medical student's sweetheart. Miss Muriel Langley gives a clever character sketch as the "slavey" Sarah, who takes such a warm interest in her young mistress's affairs. Mr. Charles R. Travers is amusing as the German professor of music; and Mr. Allan Brooke appears with success as the cabman. Mrs. Burton is played with refinement and intelligence by Miss Constance Groves; and Miss L. Murray, Miss Connie Shillingford, Mr. Stephen Thomas, Mr. R. C. Liversay, and Mr. Charles Arthur successfully complete the cast. The comedy is preceded by the one-act play *Foibles*, in which Miss Lucy Murray gives a good portrait of the young wife Lady Blanche Wintage; Sir Edward Wintage is well enacted by Mr. R. C. Liversay; and Mr. Charles R Travers is quaintly humorous in the part of the faithful old servant Shackles.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 11,
the Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Henry Bedford, entitled
"THE SEE-SAW OF LIFE."

Mr. Henry Bedford, supported by members of his own company, is presenting the sensational drama *The See-Saw of Life* at the Dalston Theatre this week to appreciative audiences. Mr. Bedford is quite at home in the character of Matt Marston, imparting to it all the necessary quaint humour. Miss Bessie Bedford plays most successfully the part of Laurie Musgrave; and Miss Frances Foley appears to advantage as Mrs. Palmer. Mr. Alec Alexander represents Sir James Dalroy with satisfactory results; and Miss Violet Alwyn embodies Judith Dalroy with no little cleverness. Others in the female cast are Miss Jennie Risley, Miss Dora Steeple, and Miss Clara Bush. Mr. Frank Denton finds an effective representative in Mr. Walter H. Domoney, Mr. George W. Hewetson is Paul Zulmar, Mr. Cecil B. Churton plays the part of a detective, and Mr. Walter Noridge puts in good service as a police-inspector.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday June 11,
the Drama, by Joseph Arthur, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

This week the American drama *The Still Alarm*, which was played with success many years ago at the Princess's Theatre, is here, being presented by Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's Company. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville gives a convincing portrait of Jack Manley, the hero, and obtains a hearty reception. Mr. Cecil Du Gue powerfully depicts Jack Bird. From the part of Doc Wilber Mr. Fred Osmond extracts much merriment. One of the most effective pieces of acting is given by Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Wilber. Possessing a charming voice, she pleases the audience with an occasional song, and sustains the part in a vivacious and energetic manner. She is materially assisted by Mr. Tom Beasley as Willie Manley; Mr. J. Sutton Pateman contributes an excellent study of Franklyn Fordham; while Miss Maud Warburton completely wins the sympathy of the audience by her rendering of the sorely-tried heroine Elinor. A better portrayal of an old and loving mother than that given by Miss Mabel Veriton can hardly be desired, and she contrives to combine a little humour with her pathos. During the most important scene, which represents a modern fire station, introducing two well-trained horses, the Lyric Comedy Four impart a little variety by melodious vocal quartettes. In minor parts Messrs. W. S. Cook, Frank Wilson, Harry Smith, and George Owens deserve special praise; while Messrs. W. Edwards, E. Tudor, and H. Johnson give great assistance. Mr. G. Francis as Joe Nozzle, though only a short time on the stage, manages to evoke a good deal of laughter.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, June 11,
the Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE JEWISH HAMLET."

Despite the warm weather a large audience welcomed on Monday evening a meritorious performance by the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company of *The Jewish Hamlet*, an interesting and impressive play, containing many powerful scenes, which afforded opportunity for forcible acting. Mr. Natansohn, who is in the last week of his engagement here, gave a strongly-defined reading of Avigdor, the Jewish Hamlet, in which he displayed much pathos, power, and intensity, his scene with his mother in the third act being a striking histrionic effort. An entirely satisfactory interpretation of Todris was submitted by Mr. Axelrad; and Zabel had a capable exponent in Mr. Joseph Fineberg. Mr. Schilling, who would do well to introduce a little variety in make-up, gave a capital character-sketch of Pize, and was warmly and justly applauded. Mr. J. Scherman was thoroughly successful as Benisel, brightening up the play whenever he appeared; the varied feelings and passions of Esther were cleverly portrayed by Mme. Natansohn; and Miss Rubenstein creditably represented the blind Zinele. Mme. Kayzer acted the part of Chanele with delightful ingenuousness; and the conception of Dveire by Mme. Goldstein was exceedingly natural. Mr. Marinhof deserves much praise for his well-studied and careful rendering of Sholem Dayen; Mr. Katz was a suitable Chaim; and Mr. Raitz an able Pristav. During the week *Hadasse*, *The Savages*, *The Wise Man*, *The Jewess*, and *Haman the Second* have been presented with excellent results.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 11,
the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Charles Darrell and George Testo Sante, entitled
"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."

There are several novel features in this play which go far towards securing it the popularity it undoubtedly enjoys. The part of Brien Leader provides Mr. George Testo Sante with many opportunities of displaying his athletic talents to the full, of which he takes ample advantage, his struggle in the second act with two powerful dray horses being most realistic and vivid. As Hendrik Marais Mr. Logan Darra gives a perfect exhibition of cool, calculating villainy that rouses the house to the uttermost. Mr. Charles Osborne is quietly effective as Sir Noel Hartland, afterwards Stickers, the circus bill-poster; Mr. Edward Ward is easy and natural as the Rev. Cyril Arliss; and Master Harry Warden is a precocious Dickie. An adequate impersonation of Agatha Winter is proffered by Miss Amy McNeill, she depicting the character in a forcible, telling manner; Miss May Neilson is genuinely funny as the mountain of adipose tissue Angelina Mutton; Miss Enid Trench is to be commended for her Lena Hartland; whilst Miss May Warden plays with intelligent interest and vivacity as little Lynnette. Others worthy of mention are Mr. Frank Sante (Tommy Allthere), Mr. John Clegg (Ben Tick-Tack), Mr. Fred Vaughan (Ned Chuckers), Mr. J. C. Sante (Laurie Grey), and Mr. Arnold Price (Andy Shivers). In the circus scene Lord, Murray, and Lord give a clever display of ball-punching, which is loudly cheered.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 11, the Romantic Drama, in a Prologue and Three Acts,
By Adrian O'Connell and Eugene McCarthy, entitled,
"A ROYAL REVENGE."

A strong company, under the direction of Mr. J. H. Clyndes, is appearing this week at the Royal County Theatre in this attractive production, which secured a most favourable reception at each performance. On Monday evening Mr. Clyndes was to have filled the leading part, but was unable, through indisposition, to do so, and the part was accordingly ably portrayed by Mr. J. Boyd Pearson. A creditable appearance also was made by Mr. A. F. Audley as the hunchback, Count Uzeda. Miss Aimee Grattan-Clyndes won much favour by her portrayal of the gipsy dancing girl, and Miss Enid Edoni achieved a distinct success as Inez Alvarez. The Paquita Marcella of Miss Lucy Fitzroy was also very good. The mounting of the play was most admirably done.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, June 11,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"HUMAN HEARTS."

Presented by the popular actor-manager, Mr. C. W. Somerset, the applause which greeted the many telling speeches and carefully-arranged situations showed that the above piece, one of the best melodramas ever sent over from America, met with the entire approval of the audience. Perhaps the gem of the play is the scene in the Governor's office between the Governor, Richard Markham (played by Mr. Arthur Estcourt) and Mrs. Sam Logan (acted by Mrs. L. L'Estrange). The episode is admirably depicted by both artists. Mr. George Silver is really excellent as Tom Logan. Earnest and powerful throughout, he is at his best in the Prison scene. Mr. George Jordan is a polished and easy exponent of the villainies of the unscrupulous Fred Armsdale; Mr. Ben McDale is good as the faithful Mose, as is Mr. Thomas Terry as Sirus A. Lamb. Mr. Frith Leicester is a humorous Patrick; Mr. Charles Cecil is excellent as Sam Logan; Mr. Sidney Sarl as James Shaw and Mr. Wynne Hammond as Wilson Davis are well placed; and Mr. Stephen Langton is a huge favourite as Titus Eels, his quaint style and make-up, coupled with his untiring energy, meeting with decided appreciation. Miss Winifred Pearson as Jennie Logan has an excellent grasp of the character; Miss Millie Sylvestre is a gentle and womanly Ruth Western; Miss Rena Robertson a winsome and natural Gracie; and Miss Barbara Bateman gives a clever and pathetic rendering of the character of Limpy Logan. The scenery and accessories are all that could be wished.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, June 4,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled
"TOMMY ATKINS."

This stirring military drama entered upon the concluding week of its fortnight's engagement on Monday night, and as this is the initial visit of the piece to Stratford, it continues to draw capital audiences. Mr. Ernest E. Norris has secured an excellent cast for the interpretation of the piece, and the large number of supernumeraries engaged are well up to their work. Mr. Ernest E. Norris makes a manly and buoyant Harold Wilson, and declaims his lines most convincingly; Mr. Oscar Adye contributes a powerful rendition of the scheming, cowardly Captain Maitland, whose cat's-paw, Private Mason, is graphically delineated by Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn; Mr. Wilton Reed skilfully handles the part of the narrow-minded Stephen Raymond; Mr. W. P. Sheen cleverly depicts the bibbling reprobate, Ebenezer Skindale; Capt. Bob Sparrow becomes a very popular personage in the hands of Mr. Wm. Burghill; and Mr. Chas. L. Ludlow is genuinely funny in the rôle of Serjeant Paddy Malloy. Miss Katharine Clarke brings much histrionic ability to bear upon the exacting part of Ruth Raymond, and enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout; Miss Nina Westerleigh is a charming Elsie Wilson; Miss Georgie de Lara makes the very utmost of her opportunities as Margaret Maitland; Miss Gladys King is a pleasing Rose Selwyn; and Miss Dora Hargrave makes a bright and amusing Kate Perkins.

GREEK TRAGEDY AT SYDENHAM.

On Thursday, June 7, in the Crystal Palace School of Art,
Revival of the Play in Verse by Algernon Charles Swinburne, with incidental music by Muriel Elliot, entitled,
"ATALANTA IN CALYDON."

Chief Huntsman and Herald MR. LEWIS CASSON
Chorus Leader .....MISS MARY WEBB
Althæa .....MISS ELSIE FOGERTY
Atalanta .....MISS HAZEL THOMPSON
Meleager .....MR. GERALD AMES
Œneus .....MR. HILDING
Toxeus .....MR. L. PRYCE HAMER
I'lexippus .....MR. SYDNEY BROOKFIELD
Captain of the Guard .....MR. DELPH
Messenger .....MR. L. PRYCE HAMER
Second Messenger .....MISS NORAH DILLON

The careful and scholarly production of the above seldom-acted tragedy at the Crystal Palace last week aroused a duly proportionate interest, and, despite the high prices of seats, the building was filled for each performance. From first to last evidence of the thoroughness and painstaking rehearsal that had been devoted to the production was apparent, resulting in an impressive and interesting performance, on which Miss Elsie Fogerty, under whose direction it was produced, and all concerned may be congratulated. The entire representation was in the ancient Greek style, the scene, an apartment in the Palace of Queen Althæa, being set on a slightly raised platform, below which the chorus posed, sang, and danced.

The plot, briefly stated, is as follows:—The goddess Artemis, being enraged, has sent a fierce wild boar to Calydon, which has ravaged the countryside, and the highest in the kingdom have assembled to hunt and slay the monster. Chief among these are Œneus the King and his son, Meleager, together with two brothers of the Queen, Toxeus and Plexippus, between whom and Meleager there is constant variance. At the meeting appears Atalanta, daughter of the King of Scyros, huntress, too, but her coming is but coldly welcomed by all, except by Meleager, who offers her the cup of libation, thereby provoking the taunts and anger of the brothers of the Queen. At the hunt Meleager kills the boar, and offers the trophies of the chase to Atalanta, which so provokes Toxeus and Plexippus that they attempt to rob her of them, and in the end are both slain by Meleager. When their dead bodies are brought before Queen Althæa, her duty compels her to compass the death of her son in revenge, which she is able to do through a spell cast over him at his birth by the Fates, who were present, and who decreed that Meleager should live only as long as a brand which was then burning on the fire should remain unconsumed. His mother, on hearing it, at once quenched the flame, and carefully preserved the wood and her son's life, but in her anger at the killing of her brothers she cast the fatal faggot in the flames and her son's life ebbed as it was consumed. He is brought in on a litter dying, and declares his love for Atalanta, who stands sadly by as he dies. The scene closes with the death of Althæa from remorse, and after covering her hero with her veil, Atalanta sadly withdraws.

Swinburne's fine verse was ably declaimed by the members of the company. Mr. Gerald Ames made a manly figure of Meleager, speaking his lines with sincerity and conviction, and his dying scene was a clever piece of restrained acting. Mr. Hilding made a dignified Œneus, and Mr. Lewis Casson, who had the dual rôle of Chief Huntsman and a Herald, was admirable in each character, his speech describing the hunting of the boar being finely delivered. Mr. L. Pryce Hamer and Mr. Sydney Brookfield, as Toxeus and Plexippus, the jealous uncles, acted well. Miss Norah Dillon, who took a man's part as Second Messenger, was more than common tall, and acquitted herself well. Miss Elsie Fogerty had the burden of the work as Althæa, being seldom off the stage. She spoke her lines with remarkable effect, even her longest speeches being invested with interest. As Atalanta Miss Hazel Thompson took every advantage of a sympathetic part, and succeeded both in looking charming and in enlisting the sympathies of all. One of the notable features of the afternoon was the chorus, whose services are in requisition throughout the entire length of the play, which lasted three hours. During that period, the ladies constituting the chorus never left the stage, and, moreover, never ceased to act, for it is their office to anticipate and foreshadow events in the play, and to pose, sing or dance in becoming style. The music, which was on modern lines, was always subordinate to the action of the play, and showed rare control and appropriateness. The double chorus in the first Stasimon, with its echoed reply from a choir "off" was noticeable, and the Hyporcheme or Dance Song, with rolling accompaniment for 'cellos, was remarkable also. The choir was accompanied by an orchestra of stringed instruments under the conductorship of Mr. Charles Aves. Earnestness was the badge of all, the absence of staginess, was also marked, and one small particular may be cited; the actors of both sexes did not disdain to show a bare and sunburned leg, and bare sandalled feet were the only wear for all. The small actions, such as making libation to the gods on entrance, and the draping of altars with garlands, also served to give realism to the production. The piece, which was performed for the benefit of the Church of England Waifs and Strays Society, was repeated at the Palace on Saturday, and on Monday afternoon at the Scala Theatre, when it was given in aid of the Bedford College Site and Building Fund.

THEATRICAL CHARITY SPORTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In last Saturday's *Era*, the figures given in connection with the Birmingham Theatrical Charity Sports, held on Whit Tuesday, are very excellent, and the chairman and all connected deserve the greatest praise, but they do not create a financial record. The last year but one of my treasurership (1902) of these sports—a position held by me for some years—realised in gate receipts, subscriptions, &c., over £766, and the committee were enabled to give £514 2s. in donations to the various local hospitals, institutions, &c., and to the professional charities, after paying all expenses.

In the course of my business I had to leave Birmingham, but I am glad to see my old friends on the committee are continuing the good work, and hope that next year they will be successful in establishing a record that cannot be challenged.—Yours faithfully,

HARRY LYONS,
New Prince's Theatre, Poplar, June 12.

MR. GILBERT SHORTER, the successor to the late Clifford Harrison on the platform, will give his fifth elocutionary and musical recital at Steinway Hall, this Saturday, at 3. He recited at His Majesty's Theatre on Thursday, and will also contribute to the items at Miss Hylda Stapleton's "at home" next Monday evening.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"HEIRATSLUSTIG,"
Farce, in Three Acts, by Maurice Champagne,
Produced at the Schiller O., June 9, 1906.

Aurora ..... FRAULEIN WYDA
Polykarp ..... HERR KIRSCHNER
Chamourot ..... HERR HUBENER
Frau Chamourot ..... FRAULEIN GUNDRA
Martha ..... FRAULEIN BLEYA
Paturet ..... HERR IWALD
Bachurey ..... HERR ROLAN
Gabriele ..... FRAULEIN HOHNS
Chambray ..... HERR OTTO
Pachadin ..... HERR HOLTHAUS
Wachtmeister ..... HERR MEINHARD
Oberkellner ..... HERR MEYER
Kellner ..... HERR SANDEN
Kassierin ..... FRAULEIN RUKOWSKA
Polizist ..... HERR HERTWICH

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 14.—The author has obviously adopted a French-sounding name to give colour to the farce, whose action he has laid in France. Play and author are—to use the slang of the day—nevertheless as German as they make them, and the little subterfuge is apparent to all. Now, German humour—though perhaps sometimes heavy—is a very good thing in its way, but when it attempts to disguise itself in French habiliments the spectator is unconsciously reminded of a bull in a china shop. Thus it is with *Heiratslustig*, which, had Herr Champagne placed it in a German "milieu," might have been a successful farce. Plot there is little or none; the scenes and the characters are all more or less familiar to us, and an interminable rigmarole of misunderstandings and complications make the piece. Paul Paturet, a timid young man, is too shy to declare his love for the girl of his heart, and gets all but snapped up by an old maid named Aurora Ribouli. He cannot get away from Aurora's wiles; she has made up her mind to be married to someone, and fancies Paul an easy prey. All his struggles are in vain, and even when he is on the eve of his wedding with his inamorata Nemesis in the form of Aurora turns up. It is only by pretending to have gone out of his mind that Paul succeeds in shaking her off, and to complete the cure Aurora becomes his mother-in-law in the end. There are a few amusing "situations," which were made the most of by a capital cast, Fräulein Wyda and Herren Iwald and Holthaus (a Commissioner of Police) being the best. The piece met with a most cordial reception, the author being called before the curtain after each act and heartily aplauded.

A THREE ACT comedy, *Die Teufelskirche*, by Adolf Paul, was produced for the first time by the Meinhard-Bernauer company at the Lessing, last week. The author is a Finlander living in Berlin. He has written several plays, the best-known being *Hille Bobbe*—recently produced at the Kleines—and *Die Doppelgänger*, which was given some time ago at the Berliner. None of them have much literary value, and the same may be said of the latest piece, which is, to say the least of it, obscure both in plot and tendency. One of our first critics declares that no honest person in the audience could say he understood it. At the same time, some strong dramatic moments in the play must be allowed. The first act and the conclusion are well written, but all that lies between is confusion twice confounded, while the characters are one and all poorly drawn. The peasants of a Northern village want to have a new church built, but nobody is willing to give anything towards the project; on the contrary, each is eager to get some profit out of the undertaking. After a good deal of haggling the pastor decides to give up the plan, and put up with the old inadequate wooden building. In the midst of the squabble the devil appears in person and offers to build a handsome church for nothing, always supposing that the pastor will assent to deny God. The fine new church is erected in the twinkling of an eye, the pastor—who is in love with one of the peasant's wives—preaches a new doctrine, and denies entrance to the "lieben Gott," whom he takes for a beggar. After a good deal more obscure talk a free fight takes place between the devil, the pastor, and the congregation to obtain possession of the crucifix; and when this is at its height the peasant Asmus (whose wife has been seduced by the devil, alias one of the villagers) wakes up, and we learn that it was all a dream that we have been listening to and wondering at. The interpretation of the enigmatical play was good, Fräulein Arnold as the "Bäuerin" and Herr Froböse as Mephisto giving very effective renderings. The author was "called" and applauded with much cordiality, but at the risk of appearing pessimistic I must acknowledge a doubt as to anything like a long run for *Die Teufelskirche*.

AN interesting performance of *Don Juan* is announced at the New Royal Opera this week. Frau Lilli Lehmann will sing the part of Donna Anna, Signor D'Andrade the title-rôle, and Fräulein Alten takes the part of Zerline. As may be imagined, the demand for tickets is unusually great.

"ORPHEUS IN DER UNTERWELT" has reached its twenty-fifth consecutive performance at the Neues. It is proving a strong draw still, thanks to the original setting of Director Reinhardt and to the exquisite humour of Herren Engels, Pagay, and Wassmann. It is a pity that the voices are so poor, for the music—orchestrally speaking—is excellently given, and this is saying a good deal, for Offenbach's music is not so easy as the majority of people imagine. Fräulein Révy, from the Theatre des Westens, is new in the part of Eurydice; she has a pleasing voice, and uses it very intelligently. Fräulein Durieux—a most capable actress in serious plays—was utterly out of place in the cast of a burlesque opera, and her impersonation of "die öffentliche meinung" (public opinion) was the poorest thing of the evening. *Orpheus* is holding the boards to the exclusion of all else, and there is every probability of its popularity continuing.

AT the Kleines, Oscar Wilde's play *Ein Idealer Gatte* is still running smoothly, and has already passed its twenty-fifth performance. The cast has improved somewhat since the opening night, and those of the audience who are not conversant with the manners of English society and know nothing of the way in which a society piece is acted in London find nothing to object to.

THE management of the Deutsches purposes giving several of Ibsen's plays before long, thus entering into competition with the Lessing, which is the Ibsen theatre *par excellence* of Berlin. *Hedda Gabler* and *Ghosts* are the pieces announced at present. Early in the coming season novelties by Bernard Shaw and Frank Wedekind will also be produced at the Deutsches.

MISS GERALDINE FARRAR is back again at our Royal Opera after her series of triumphs in the South. The talented young American gave the rôle of Elisabeth in *Tannhäuser* on Saturday evening, making her customary mark. Herr Grüning's fine voice was heard to best advantage in the title-rôle, and Fräulein Plaischinger sang the part of Venus. Mr. Griswold, the new and admirable American bass singer, gave the Landgraf—a rôle which suits him down to the ground.

"DIE LUSTIGE WITTWE," at the Berliner Theatre, was honoured for the second time by the Crown Prince's presence last week. H.I.H., who was accompanied by a number of brother officers, invited the manager of the clever Hamburg company to his box and again expressed his warm appreciation of the performance. The charming operetta will be given there until the middle of the month, when the company move to the Lessing.

A DRAMATIC and musical recital will be given by Miss Greta Garnier at the Steinway Hall, on Tuesday evening next.

JANE HADING AT THE CORONET.

Mme. Jane Hading and her entire Parisian company are having a three weeks' season at the pretty Notting Hill Gate theatre, *Le Demi Monde*, the five-act comedy by Alexandre Dumas fils, being given on Monday. It is an education in itself to see and hear a supremely gifted artist of any nationality in a play written by one of their own countrymen, and acted in their own native language. Even to those who are not conversant with the French tongue there is intelligibility in the graphic gesticulation and dumb show of our friends across the water. In Mme. Hading we have an acress of the first rank, with great personal magnetism and a subtle mesmeric force, which compels admiration and reverence for her art. In *Le Demi Monde* there is nothing to call for any great emotional strain of tragic intensity. It is simply an attempt to depict life in "le demi monde" (as the title implies) in an easy, breezy fashion, and may strike many as a trifle artificial and old-fashioned. But it serves its purpose effectually as a vehicle to display the easy transition from grave to gay, from comedy to pathos, of which Mme. Hading is capable. The story of the social duel between Suzanne, known as La Baronne D'Ange, and Olivier de Jalin, and the wrecking of the courtezan's mercenary schemes to attain respectable married affluence, is too well known to need enumerating, more especially considering that Dumas fils' characteristic work was produced some fifty years ago. The consummate wit and skill with which the slight thread of the story is kept constantly dangling before us compels our admiration for the stage-craft of the dramatist, even while we could wish for a stronger and more durable material. Apart from the charm of her manner, Mme. Hading's captivating smile, her rich fund of humour, tinged with shades of pathetic intensity, her remarkably clear enunciation and bell-like utterance, provide a rare treat; while her wonderful confections, her sweeping feathers and flowing robes, seemingly part of herself and her personality, are alone sufficient to draw to her shrine all the feminine worshippers of beauty and fashion. In Mons. Arnaud an admirable Olivier de Jalin is found; handsome, courtly, distingué, debonair, and alert, he is just the kind of man we could imagine as a fitting adversary for the brilliant and unscrupulous demi-mondaine whom he exentually outwits. Every word he utters is distinct, and fraught with meaning, and his by-play is worthy of the best traditions of the theatre. Mons. Rouyer acts with any amount of verve and enthusiasm as the impulsive, hot-headed, ardent lover, Raymond de Nanjac, and his ebullitions of grief, despair, and the intoxication of love are cleverly and convincingly expressed. Mlle. Cath Fonteney is a charming exponent of the warm-hearted impulsive ingénue, Marcelle, and Mlle, Feriel is a vivacious and fascinating Valentine de Santis. Mme. Alcime-Leblanc is good as the Viscomtesse de Vernieres, and so is Mons. Luguet as the Marquis de Thonnerins, while Mons. Garat does excellent service as Hippolyte Richmond.

Le Maitre de Forges, the piece in which Mme. Hading appeared at the Wednesday matinée and on Friday, has been made memorable by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's production of *The Ironmaster* at the St. James's, and also by Robert Buchanan's adaptation, *Lady Clare*, produced at the Globe in 1883. Mme. Hading enacted the rôle of Claire de Beaulieu and Mons. Arnaud that of Le Duc de Bligny.

On Wednesday evening Mme. Hading appeared in the rôle of Thérèse de Rives in *La Châtelaine*, the four-act comedy by Mr. Alfred Capus. The piece was adapted by Mr. Comyns Carr, and produced at the New Theatre under the title of *The Lady of Rosedale*. The plot of the piece may be recalled. Mme. de la Baudière, a kind of social Catherine de Medicis, disapproves of her daughter's choice, a young notary, M. de Méray, deeming André Jossan, a wealthy bachelor, a better parti. Her good-natured husband thinks otherwise, but his plan of campaign is always to agree with her and then to gradually influence her so as to gain his own ends. Jossan meets Thérèse, who is seeking a divorce from her husband, La Baudière's nephew, who, besides being faithless, has dissipated all her dowry but the Château Sauveterre, and this she endeavours to sell in order to educate her little son, Jacques. It is a case of love at first sight, and Jossan buys the château for a sum far in excess of its worth, and then pleads his suit successfully. But Gaston de Rives puts unexpected obstacles in the way, and in a jealous fury declines to allow the divorce to proceed and takes away her little boy. Eventually Gaston consents to the divorce, and having disgusted and alienated Mme. de la Baudière by trying to borrow money, this inconsistent lady allows her daughter Lucienne to receive the attentions of M. de Méray, and all ends happily.

Mme. Hading is sweetly sympathetic and womanly as Thérèse, all tears and tenderness, love and loyalty, and in her one scene of passion in the Rives Park she rises to a great height of emotional art. Mons. Arnaud is delightful as the manly, earnest cavalier André Jossan; Mons. Luguet, as the simple-minded, kind-hearted, far-seeing La Baudière, contributes a most illuminative and pleasantly amusing sketch of character; Mlle. Sauer is bright and pleasing as Lucienne; Mlle. Florian is good as La Baronne de Morénes; Mons. Rouyer, with a few deft touches, suggests the character of the worthless and dissipated Gaston de Rives; Mme. Alcime-Leblanc is amusing as the arrogant and overbearing Mme. de la Baudière; and the other small parts are suitably allotted. The scenery is very pretty and tasteful, especially handsome being the Château de Sauveterre "set" and the pretty Park Thérèse de Rives. To-day (Saturday) Mme. Hading appears in *La Châtelaine* at the matinée and *Le Demi Monde* in the evening.

MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH'S RECITAL.

At Bechstein Hall on Friday afternoon, June 8, Mr. George Grossmith gave his humorous and musical recital before a large and delighted audience. The popular reciter, after a short piano solo, gave his first illustration, "How a Lady Shops." Mr. Grossmith in this explains how ladies can spend hours in a large store without in the end purchasing a single article, and to judge by the laughter among the ladies present it seemed a very home thrust. A new song, "The lady, the dog, and the dogcart," also caused great merriment; and one of Mr. Grossmith's old favourites, "The Happy Fatherland," with many a sly hit at our Teutonic friends, caused much laughter. People often want a carriage to themselves, and in the illustration "How to Keep People out of a Railway Carriage" the reciter shows in the funniest manner how this can be accomplished. A song, "What ho! the gentle lark," a burlesque on the composer Bishop, and another on German music, entitled "Ich liebe dich, hocheimer," to which Mr. Grossmith begged the indulgence of the assembly on the score of his pronunciation, greatly amused the audience. In the second part a few selections were given from *Miserable Moments*, which included a laughable description of a boy who has swallowed his return ticket; and a song, "'Twas in the time of turnips," the illustrations being "Hotel Waiters" and "The Phonograph." Mr. Grossmith was also extremely funny in "The Cinematograph," giving a most comic illustration of how he was photographed and how he came out on the screen.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

CHAT WITH MISS MIRIAM LEWES.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

"If you are provincial, you're doomed!"

Thus the young lady who at the present moment is representing Queen Elizabeth in *Dorothy o' the Hall* at the New Theatre. Serious eyes looked at you from an intelligent face. In the earnestness of the expression there was conviction, and the decisive tone of voice confirmed it. In faith, good Queen Bess could not have uttered the words in a more authoritative, didactic manner, and history tells us that *she* was a lady much given to speaking her mind in terms that admitted of no refutation, no argument.

The discussion, confined to two persons—the interviewee and the interviewer—was being carried on in perhaps the most awkward place it was possible for an interview to be held—just inside a stage-door. Some folk might gain inspiration from the babel of many voices, from the rushing in and out of stage-hands and others, from the group of contemplative loafers who are always to be seen at the back of a theatre, from the shouts on the stage, the violent clamour and the sudden silence, even from the sublime dignity of the stage-door keeper—for it must be confessed that no king at his coronation ever attained the pomp and glory of the gentlemen who guard the entrances to the land of mystery known as "behind the scenes."

But inspiration did come. Scarcely had the word "doomed" fallen from the lady's lips than was heard the ominous clanging of church bells.

Photo. by Vanderbilt.

MISS MIRIAM LEWES.

It was an inspiration of terror. It seemed to accentuate the statement, as if the speaker's prototype had risen from the grave to utter a warning and a prophecy. It seemed to say, "Miss Miriam Lewes is right. Provincials *are* doomed."

"Surely it's not as bad as that, Miss Lewes?"

"I mean it. I played splendid parts on tour, and tried, and tried, and tried, and wrote, and wrote, and wrote, times without number, but nothing came of it. It was only through Mr. Calvert recommending me to Mr. Fred Terry that I got the opportunity of appearing in London. I feel certain that a good deal of influence is necessary to get on here in the theatrical profession. I have had tons of experience in stock seasons; yet, for all that, I consider myself extremely lucky to get an opportunity of being seen in London. And let me tell you this—ability without influence is no good."

Miss Lewes looked and spoke with such startling earnestness that one began to indulge in inward prophecies regarding her future as a tragedienne.

"If you have appeared in melodrama," she continued, "managers think that you cannot sit down properly, that you will stare into the lights, that you cannot hold your dress properly, that you cannot even speak decently."

"Evidently Mr. Terry does not hold such opinions?"

"Well, I read the part to Mr. Terry, and he was kind enough to engage me for it. That was a little time back, and at the same time he gave me the understudy to Miss Julia Neilson as Lady Blakeney in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. I am also understudying her as Dorothy Vernon in the new piece. It is a very charming engagement. Mr. Terry is a splendid stage-manager."

Miss Miriam Lewes was born in Russia, and came over to this country when she was five years old. She commenced her professional career as a dancer, but, cherishing the desire to become an actress, she secured an engagement to play a small part in *Driven from Home*. This was followed by a stock season at Llandudno, and she was seen in such parts as Nellie Jedbury in *Jedbury, jun.*, Nora Fitzgerald in *Harvest*, Kate Hardcastle in *She Stoops to Conquer*, Kitty Cline and understudy Peg Woffington, and Lady Teazle in *School for Scandal* with Lancelot Louder's Old English Opera Company. Then she was seen in various melodramas. She was playing title-rôle in *The Beautiful Fiend* when she was seen by Van Biene's manager and engaged for the part of the Duchess in *The Broken Melody*. Later she enacted the rôle of Violet in *The Dear Old Dad*, and from that played the part of Mrs. Hackett in *In Flying Colours*. Then Miss Lewes joined Mr. William Greet's company, to appear as Donna Clothilde in *Captain Kettle*, and was highly complimented by the author for her efforts. At the termination of that engagement Miss Lewes was secured for the pathetic comedy part of Loo Hexham in *The Woman from Gaol*, and in this Mr. Walter Melville was so struck by her acting that he entered into an arrangement with her to take the character of the "female Coupeau" in *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Subsequently she became a member of Miss Fortescue's company, and represented Constance Neville in *She Stoops to Conquer*, and played other parts in Miss Fortescue's répertoire. More recently Miss Lewes starred as Cigarette in *Under Two Flags* with Miss Ida Molesworth's company, her last engagement before becoming associated with Mr. Terry and Miss Neilson being with Mr. Louis Calvert as Princess Eleanor in *The Garden of Lies*.

THE Ulster Dramatic Company successfully produced on Tuesday last, at Ulster Hall, Belfast, Mr. J. B. Buckstone's three-act comedy, *The Ladies' Privilege*. In the rôle of Sir Solomon Solas Mr. T. B. McCandless acquitted himself with distinction; and Mr. Isaac Meharry played the character part of Mr. Dimple with undoubted skill. Mr. R. H. McCandless was a capital William Walker; and Miss Edith May as Miss O'Leary was much admired. Miss Madge Crawford deserves much credit for her clever impersonation of Flora Flowerdew; and other rôles were capably sustained by Miss Molly Mulligan, Miss N. Palmer, Miss Annie Jones, Miss Eva Lyle, and Messrs. E. Curzon, W. K. Rose, Herbert Parr, and J. M. Stockard.

"ANTHONY DEAN'S DOUBLE."

A Comedietta in Three Scenes, adapted by Paul Sylvester from the Story by Walter S. Grogan, and Produced at a Matinée Entertainment at the Haymarket Theatre on Monday, June 11.

Anthony Dean ..... MR. HUGO RUMBOLT
Tom Palmer ..... MR. HENRY HARDINGE
Enery Awkins ..... MR. MAURICE O'GRADY
John ..... HON. STEPHEN POWYS
The Stranger ..... MR. CALEB PORTER
Mrs. Tompkins ..... MISS ARMINE GRACE
Ann Tompkins ..... MISS FRANCES WETHERALL

This new piece was produced at a matinée entertainment given in aid of the poor of St. George-in-the-East, Mr. Frederick Harrison having kindly granted the use of the Haymarket Theatre for the performance. The first scene represents the bar parlour at "The Green Dragon," Slumborough. Anthony Dean, a commercial traveller, who evidently prides himself upon his smart clothes, is paying court to the landlady's daughter, Ann Tompkins, while Tom Palmer, a young grocer, is seated at a table close by moodily reading the newspaper. He is sulky and unhappy because the girl behind the bar is showing a decided preference for the company of the flashily-dressed commercial traveller, and ignoring his own claims to be regarded as her faithful adorer. A stranger enters, and with a lofty air orders half a pint of ale. Left alone with Tom Palmer, he informs him that he is a showman, a fair being held in the immediate neighbourhood. His own company, however, has deserted him, having taken advantage of a better offer. He has, it seems, noticed the rivalry between Tom and the commercial traveller, and proposes to turn it to his own advantage. For the sum of £5 he offers to communicate a scheme which he guarantees will prove disastrous to Anthony Dean's hopes of wedding the landlady's daughter. Tom is willing to go as far as £2, and the impecunious showman eagerly closes with the offer. He then discloses his plans. At Budbury Fair is to be found a pedlar known as Enery Awkins, a disreputable character who is seldom sober. In face and form, however, he bears a close resemblance to Anthony Dean; and, having learnt that Ann and her mother intend paying a visit to the fair, the showman's artful plan is that the drunken pedlar shall be mistaken for Dean. Tom makes the acquaintance of Awkins at the fair, and induces him to have a wash and put on a new suit of clothes. The scheme succeeds. Mrs. Tompkins and her daughter mistake the pedlar for Anthony. He has evidently been imbibing freely, and is singing a comic song. Disgusted with this conduct, Ann resolves to have nothing more to do with Anthony, and again takes the delighted Tom Palmer into favour, he paying the compliment to his absent rival of closely imitating his style of dress. But his triumph is short-lived. Anthony Dean returns, and to his surprise is coldly received by Ann, who, being called upon for an explanation, refers to his behaviour at Budbury Fair. He denies that he was ever there in his life; and the entrance of the pedlar causes the hasty retreat of Tom Palmer, while the subsequent explanation places matters as they were when the curtain rose. Mr. Hugo Rumbolt was an excellent representative of Anthony Dean, and Mr. Henry Hardinge was well placed as Tom Palmer. Mr. Maurice O'Grady as Enery Awkins sang in good style a coster song, words and music by Mr. Leonard Corfe. Mr. Caleb Porter gave a capital sketch of the showman. Miss Frances Wetherall cleverly depicted Ann Tompkins; and Miss Armine Grace as the loquacious landlady of "The Green Dragon" and the Hon. Stephen Powys as a barman completed the cast.

In the second scene, Budbury Fair ground, a variety entertainment was given. Miss Pauline Chase and Miss Aimée Lowther appeared in the pretty scena, *Le Madrigal de Pierrot*. Miss Lydia Nerville sang with much charm "Lakmé" and "Comin' thro' the Rye." Miss Lottie Venne, who received a cordial welcome, recited "A Broken Heart" and "Across the Street"; and Señor Don Alfonso de Garcia Abello and Miss Mabilia Daniell delighted the audience with their Spanish song dramas.

The programme also included the amusing one-act comedy *Time is Money*, admirably played by Mr. Charles Hawtrey as Charles Grahame, Miss Florence Sinclair as Mrs. Murray, and Miss Mona Harrison as Susan. Miss Hutin Britton and Mr. Matheson Lang successfully appeared as Lady Anne and Richard III. in a scene from Shakespeare's *Richard III.* Mrs. Beatrice Herford Hayward evoked much laughter with two monologues; Herr Franz Meisel contributed a violin solo; and Mrs. Tobin a pianoforte solo. The matinée, which was well attended, was under the patronage of Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein and other ladies.

"THE ERA."

EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8.20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

AT the Colchester County Court, recently, John Henry Lang Sims, a captain in His Majesty's 3rd Royal Sussex Regiment, "and now or late the lessee of the Grand Palace Theatre of Varieties Colchester," attended for his adjourned examination. He originally came to the Court with a statement of affairs showing liabilities to rank for dividend amounting to £593 7s., and assets a bad book debt amounting to £25, the deficiency being put at £593 7s. Since then, sundry Colchester debtors have proved for goods supplied to Lang Sims and Le Butt for the theatre. The Official Receiver stated he had nothing more to ask the debtor, and, after various questions had been put and answered, the public examination was closed.

THE ART OF THE ACTOR.

M. Coquelin *aîné*, the distinguished French actor, gave a *conférence* on "L'Art et le Comédien," on the afternoon of Friday, the 8th inst., before the members of the Alliance Franco-Britannique, in the hall of the Society of Arts. Mr. Beerbohm Tree presided, and among those present were the French Ambassador (M. Paul Cambon) and most of the *personnel* of the Embassy.

Mr. Tree, in opening the proceedings, said that M. Coquelin was no stranger to us—indeed, he was an institution, and M. Coquelin represented to English minds the genius of France just as the Lord Mayor of London represented to the French mind the genius of England. It was a great pleasure and a joy to have M. Coquelin in our midst, for he did much to cement those friendly feelings which now happily existed between the two countries. It was well, indeed, that the *entente* should rest upon something other than the mere shifting commercial interests of the two nations.

M. Coquelin, speaking in French, said that even yet the question of actors had not been finally settled. It was still thought in certain old-fashioned circles imbued with ancient principles that actors were people apart both in art and in society. People no longer ventured to say that they were mere parrots, but they still rather thought so. Well, he would try to prove that the actor was an artist, and that he had the same title as other citizens to his place in the State. The material of the poet was language, that of the sculptor marble or bronze, that of the painter colours and canvas, that of the musician sounds; the material of the actor was himself. It was upon himself that he worked to realise a thought, an image, a human portrait. He was his own keyboard, he played on his own strings, he moulded himself like plaster, he sculptured and he painted himself! Would anyone say that that was not the work of an artist because the thought which he realised was not his own, and because the peculiar property of art was creation? Ah, creation! Did not the good sense of the public answer that objection immediately, since creation was precisely the word which it employed to describe the first realisation of a part? And the word was strictly correct. Voltaire, Marmontel, and Victor Hugo, and other authorities, could be cited in support of this assertion. Yes, the actor created, even when he interpreted the dreams of geniuses such as Racine, Corneille, Hugo; even—and this was stranger still—if the character was one thought out by those rare masters who were actors themselves, such as Shakespeare and Molière. Again, it was said that the actor did not create, because nothing remained of him after his death. That was, indeed, the great misfortune of their art. Talma deplored it in his last hour. Yet that was not absolutely true, and, even if it were, the art of the actor did not stand alone in that respect. The durability of the creations of art? Alas! It was a question of more or less. What sublime works of poetry, of sculpture, of painting had perished for ever! Still, the actor's statues fell with him, and that was the misfortune of his art, but it was not a diminution of it. "You must pity us for it, that's all," exclaimed M. Coquelin. "You should, perhaps, love us more on that account, oh dear, commiserating public, since you are at once for us the present and the future, and our immortality expires with the echo of your applause."

After touching on the utility of the stage, the lecturer proceeded to discuss the question whether an actor ought to feel the passions of his part. He was persuaded that one was not a great actor except on condition of governing one's self absolutely, and of being able to express at will feelings which one did not feel, which one would never feel, which, according to one's own nature, one could not feel. One evening Talma was playing Hamlet. While awaiting his turn to go on he was chatting in the wings with a friend; the "call boy" saw him smiling and distracted, and drew near. "Monsieur Talma, you will be wanted directly!" "All right, all right, I am waiting for my cue." His scene, the ghost scene, began in the wings, and the spectator had to hear Talma before seeing him. He continued his conversation very gaily, the cue arrived, he shook hands with his companion, and, a smile still on his lips, his friend's hand still clasped, exclaimed: "Fuis, spectre épouvantable!" The friend drew back affrighted, and a shudder ran through the house. This characteristic trait showed the artist hovering, as it were, over his own emotions, and submitting them to his judgment in order to make of them the fund to which later on he might have recourse. Just as their sufferings helped poets to write beautiful verses, so the sufferings of the actor served him to create fine parts.

An actor, however, had no more need of feeling emotion than a pianist had of being in despair in order to play the funeral marches of Chopin or Beethoven. He did not wish to deny the existence of what were called flashes of genius, but he thought that genius was more revealed by a full and constant self-possession than by intermittent moments, sublime if you like, but incoherent—a sort of trump card that one turned up by chance. And nothing was more apt to cause inspiration than good preparatory work. To acquire the spirit one must put one's self in a state of grace—that is to say, must fertilise one's brain by the meditation and the constant practice of one's parts. The opinion which he held was that of all the really great actors—Talma, Rachel, Samson, Régnier, Mme. Dorval, even. The opposite opinion was a prejudice of the mob. It was by virtue of that naïve prejudice that this same mob would not suffer—and with justice—the actor to allow his own feelings, his domestic griefs, to appear through his part, and allowed, nay, ordered, that they should play screamingly funny rôles when sometimes they were ready to cry out with pain. It was by virtue of this naïve prejudice that that same mob awaited the villain at the doors of the theatre in order to give him a warm reception. When M. Provost played the part of Hudson Lowe at the Porte St. Martin he was obliged to have an escort on his exit from the theatre. He ought to leave the subject there; but while he was telling the story of Talma he was reminded of another, a very sad one, but one which he could not refrain from telling them, because it was charming. One morning in the spring of 1849 a father was crossing the Pont des Arts with his little daughter, a very sweet child, and as the fancy took her to run, he, like a child also, ran after her, and, catching her in her flight, raised her to his lips and kissed her. "Bravo!" said some one behind him gaily, clapping his hands as if at the theatre. He who applauded was Emile Augier, the father was Régnier, and Régnier, remembering the famous saying of Henri IV., when surprised at play with his children, laughingly asked, "Etes-vous père, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur?" Three months later the father and his illustrious friend returned from the cemetery where, alas! they had left the child, and, on reaching home, Augier, who was then retouching the fifth act of *Gabrielle*, added these verses to it:

"Nous n'existons vraiment que par ces petits êtres
Qui dans tout notre cœur s'établissent en maîtres,
Qui prennent notre vie en ne s'en doutant pas,
Et n'ont qu'à vivre heureux pour n'être pas ingrats."

These verses, so charming and so true, were subsequently uttered on the stage by the father himself, who, as an artist, imposed silence on his grief, or, rather, by a kind of courage proper to his art, kneaded them with his part to make it an admirable creation.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

ALL who had the privilege of being present at the Ellen Terry matinée on Tuesday will have enduring memories of an occasion without a parallel in contemporary dramatic history. Such an outburst of reverence and affection from friends on both sides of the footlights can rarely have been witnessed, and the happiness of the event was rendered complete by the knowledge that the eminent actress, still in the fulness of her powers, remains to ornament the stage and to grace the art she loves so well.

A CHERISHED memento of the matinée will be the souvenir programme, edited by Mr. W. Nicholson, which contains eight full-page pictures of Miss Terry at various periods of her career. They consist of a crayon drawing of Miss Terry as Olivia, by Mr. Edwin Abbey, R.A.; a coloured picture of her first part as the page Mamillius in *The Winter's Tale*, executed by Mr. W. Nicholson; a reproduction of Mr. W. Orpen's picture of Miss Terry as Clara Douglas (1875); an impressionist sketch of the dance in *Much Ado About Nothing*, by Mr. Byam Shaw; a reproduction of Mr. J. S. Sargent's picture of Miss Terry as Lady Macbeth; a sketch of her as Nance Oldfield (1894), by Mr. James Pryde; an exquisite sketch by Sir Laurence Alma-Tadema of Miss Terry as Imogen (1896); and a sketch of the actress as Beatrice (1906), by Mr. Bernard Partridge. An interesting biographical review of her whole career also was supplied by Mr. Austin Brereton, who acted in the capacity of hon. Press manager. The title-page and quaint headings of the programme, which came from the clever pencil of Mr. Walter Crane, were among the most artistic features of the brochure.

THE "old sweet days" to which Miss Terry referred in her touching speech on Tuesday were those at the Prince of Wales's, where she first played Portia to the Shylock of Mr. Coghlan. It was here, too, that the accomplished actress was first seen as Blanche in Robertson's *Ours*, and Clara Douglas in Lord Lytton's *Money*.

After the moving scenes of the matinée were over on Tuesday, Miss Terry had to face another ovation in the evening, when she appeared as Lady Cicely Waynfleet in *Captain Brassbound's Conversion* at the Court. Miss Terry's engagement at the Court Theatre comes to an end on July 7, and in the autumn she will begin a season at His Majesty's, playing in the revival of *The Winter's Tale*. Subsequently Miss Terry will play a farewell tour in America under Mr. Charles Frohman's management. The tour is to be of four months' duration, and during its progress the popular actress will appear in a new play, as well as in various pieces comprised in her répertoire.

THE festivities in connection with the Jubilee of the eminent actress are by no means over, for the dinner in her honour has yet to take place. It is fixed for Sunday next at the Hotel Cecil, and the chair will be taken by the Right Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P., Under-Secretary for the Colonies. Over 400 guests are expected. Miss Terry, in addition, is to be accorded a civic welcome on the ocasion of a visit to Coventry, her native city, on the 30th inst. She will take part in a stone-laying ceremony in connection with the conversion of the Corn Exchange into a Coliseum for Mr. George Dance. After the stone-laying Miss Terry will be entertained in the ancient St. Mary's Hall at a banquet, at which the Mayor, Alderman A. H. Drinkwater, is to present her with an illuminated address on behalf of the Corporation.

MR. E. S. WILLARD arrived in London late on Sunday evening on his return from America, where he has had one of the most successful seasons in many years. Though he got back too late to take a special part in the Ellen Terry Jubilee, in compliment to his old friend he took an incidental share in the performance to attest his affectionate regard and professional esteem of the beloved artist. Mr. Willard will rest for two months, and will then begin work on the plays he is to present next season.

ONLY once in his long and honourable career has Mr. Willard acted with Miss Terry. That was in the production of *The Amber Heart*, at a matinée at the Lyceum, on June 7, 1887, when Mr. Willard played Coranto. Mr. Beerbohm Tree was also in the cast.

LADY BANCROFT, who was one of the principal performers in the memorable event of Tuesday afternoon, graciously officiated the next evening at the ball at Prince's Galleries, given on behalf of the St. Moritz Aid Fund, when the eminent actress bestowed the favours earned by the partakers in a cotillon danced during the evening. Sir Squire Bancroft, who takes a practical interest in the fund, was among the invited guests, Miss Mary Moore being also included in the distinguished company.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE pleaded eloquently on behalf of poor children at a meeting of the Children's Country Holiday Fund, held in the Mansion House on Thursday. "Charity," said Mr. Tree, "is the only conscience money which we pay to the poor. We give them by courtesy what is theirs by right. I hope this is no heresy. Just as we all agree that every child should have its mind equipped for the battle of life by free education, so no less should we agree that its body should be equipped for that battle by free air." The treasurer, the Earl of Arran, announced that an offer had been made at that meeting of £50, on the condition that nine others should contribute the same amount. Mr. Tree consented to form one of the nine givers.

LATER in the day Mr. Tree was again active in the cause of charity, when a matinée was given at His Majesty's Theatre in aid of the Princess Frederica's Homes for Gentlewomen, Tulse-hill. A long programme included the speaking of a prologue, by Miss Ellen Bowick, which was a poem about the Homes by Mr. Arthur Wimperis; a performance of *The Balladmonger*, in which Mr. Tree, Mr. J. Fisher White, and Miss Lily Brayton appeared; and *The Third Time of Asking*, a rustic comedy, by M. E. Francis, in which Mr. Bourchier and Miss Pamela Gaythorne took the chief parts. To the second part of the programme, which was chiefly musical, Mme. Blanche Marchesi, Miss Frances Andrews, Miss Janotha, Mme. Ella Russell, Mr. Sydney Brooks, and others contributed, and Mr. H. B. Irving gave a recitation.

MISS ADA REHAN is due to-day in England, where she proposes to spend her usual summer holiday. It is to be hoped that the famous actress, whose illness is deeply regretted by all, will enjoy a beneficial rest, and that her holiday will have the result of restoring her to perfect health.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL adheres to Tuesday evening next as the date of her production of the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton's new play, *The Macleans of Bairness*, at the Criterion. Mrs. Campbell's stay at that theatre cannot extend beyond a few weeks, as Mr. A. H. Canby is to produce there next month a piece entitled *The Prince Chap*, an adaptation by Mr. E. H. Peple of his novel of the same title, which has had a successful career in America. Included in the cast will be Miss Hilda Trevelyan, who will appear as a typical "slavey," Mr. George Shelton, and Mr. H. R. Roberts, a young Australian actor who has won a reputation in America.

MR. J. L. TOOLE'S condition has given cause for the gravest anxiety throughout the week, during which long periods of unconsciousness have taken place. On Thursday the patient's pulse had become somewhat weaker, but in the course of the day he had various periods of refreshing sleep, in the interval of which he took nourishment fairly well. At the hour of going to press we received the following telegram from Mr. F. J. Arlton, Mr. Toole's nephew:—"Toole passed restless night, and is not so well to-day. Condition very grave."

THE melodramatic monstrosity which is this year, as usual, to be an attraction at the Actors' Orphanage Garden Party on July 6, is to be called *Gruesome Grange; or, the Banished Earl*, and is written by Robert Marshall, Anthony Hope, and Comyns Carr, whose pens seem literally to have been dipped in gore, so blood-curdling has the play become. The piece, which boasts three acts, and is to be played continuously from noon till six by two distinct casts, will be produced under the direction of Mr. Cyril Maude, with whom will be associated Messrs. Charles Allen, Lennox Pawle, Frank Mills, W. Cheesman, Basil Gill, W. H. Berry, and George Graves, and Misses Annie Hughes, Nancy Price, Alice Crawford, and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree.

OTHER irresistible attractions will be found in a grand vaudeville entertainment from the London Hippodrome and the Palace Theatre, contributed to by the principal music-hall artists; a café-chantant, under the supervision of Mr. Arthur Wellesley; a grand hat-trimming competition, conducted by Miss Phyllis Broughton; a cricket-match, Actors *versus* Actresses; fortune-telling; a gipsy caravan, in charge of Mrs. Cecil Raleigh; a séance of mental magnetism, by Mr. David and Miss Dora Devant; and a Melba, Caruso, and Kubelik concert at intervals. An orphans' stall will be conducted by Miss Winifred Emery, and the appearance of Miss Edna May, together with many favourite artists, is promised.

THE Waldorf Theatre is to be turned to the purposes of a musical play in the autumn, when the Brothers Shubert will reopen it with *Fantana*, a piece which has proved profitable in America. Negotiations, it is said, are in progress for the removal of *The Shulamite* from the Savoy to the Waldorf. If this should be brought about, the run of Messrs. Askew and Knoblauch's play would be continued at the Messrs. Shubert's theatre immediately upon the withdrawal of *Shore Acres*.

MISS KATE RORKE'S pupils at the Guildhall School of Music will give their first performance in the school's theatre next Thursday afternoon, when W. S. Gilbert's *Broken Hearts* and Sydney Grundy's *Man Proposes* will be played. Miss Rorke herself, it is interesting to recall, played in the production of *Broken Hearts* at the Court in the December of 1875, creating the character of Lady Amanthis. A remarkable cast also included Miss Madge Robertson (now Mrs. Kendal) as Lady Hilda, Mr. W. H. Kendal as Prince Florian, Mr. G. W. Anson as Mousta, and Miss Bessie Hollingshead as Lady Vavir.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY drew a large audience to the Imperial Theatre on Thursday afternoon, when a special matinée of *A Cigarette Maker's Romance*, Mr. Charles Hannan's adaptation of Mr. Marion Crawford's novel, was given. The play is among the most successful of Mr. Harvey's repertoire, and the applause of the house was throughout enthusiastic.

"THE LITTLE MICHUS" ended its brilliant career at Daly's Theatre on Saturday, when a large audience assisted at the farewell of the pretty and tuneful piece. Mr. George Graves, the discoverer of that modern monstrosity the "Gazeka," was called upon for a speech, and in response the comedian came forward minus his hirsute adornment and said that without his wig and stiff leg he was not prepared to say much. "But," he added, "when we foregather for *The Geisha* we'll say something, and, in the meantime, it's good-night, and God bless you all."

"SEE-SEE" has finally been revealed as the title of the new Chinese comic opera which Mr. George Edwardes will produce at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Saturday. The book of this translation from the French is by Charles H. E. Brookfield, the lyrics by Adrian Ross, and the music by Sydney Jones, with additional numbers by Frank E. Tours. The principal members of the strong cast will be Misses Denise Orme, Adrienne Augarde, Gabrielle Ray, Amy Augarde, Lily Elsie, Lena Maitland, and Sibyl Gray; Messrs. Maurice Farkoa, W. H. Berry, Fred Emney, and Huntley Wright.

MR. COMYNS CARR'S poetical play, *Tristram and Iseult*, is to be Mr. Otho Stuart's next production at the Adelphi Theatre, where it will be presented early in September. The legend that forms the subject of Mr. Carr's drama is already known to lovers of music through the medium of Wagner's opera, and is familiar in Malory's *Morte d'Arthur;* but the play to be presented at the Adelphi includes some essential incidents of the legend which are not incorporated in Wagner's opera. Miss Lily Brayton will play the part of Iseult, and Mr. Oscar Asche will be seen as King Mark.

"COUNT HANNIBAL," the adaptation by Messrs. Freeman Wills and Frederick Langbridge of Stanley Weyman's powerful novel, which has been playing to crowded houses at Portsmouth and Brighton, will be seen at the Grand, Woolwich, next week, with Mr. Norman V. Norman as Count Hannibal and Miss Beatrice Wilson as Clotilde de Vrillac. At Portsmouth on Thursday there were fourteen "curtains," five of which came at the end of the play.

MR. EDWARD TERRY is now completing his arrangements for the autumn, and will commence his provincial tour on Bank Holiday, Aug. 6. The popular comedian has warm admirers in all parts of the kingdom, and a hearty welcome awaits him in all the towns which he proposes to visit.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS was the prosecutor in a case at Reigate County Court on Saturday, when John Stanley, William Andeson, and William Stanley, flower-sellers, of Croydon, were summoned for doing damage to his game covert at Cialdon. The defendants were caught in the act of gathering grasses for the purpose of tying up with flowers. They were each fined 2s. 6d. and costs.

MR. AND MRS. F. R. BENSON, who terminate a most successful tour to-day, will now enjoy a vacation until they recommence their autumn tour at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham Junction, on Sept. 10. Next Boxing Day Mr. Benson will begin a season of five weeks at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, with *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.

MR. CHARLES MACDONA has engaged Mr. J. G. Lowther to produce and stage-manage his tour of *Mr. Hopkinson* in the autumn. Mr. Lowther has been connected with the piece since the original production at Wyndham's, and has completed two tours with it under the management of Mr. Frank Curzon.

M. COQUELIN'S season at the Royalty ends to-day, and on Monday Mme. Réjane will start a fortnight's engagement. The distinguished Parisienne will begin with the production of a new comedy by Dario Nicodemi, adapted from the late Henry Harland's novel "The Lady Paramount."

MR. W. L. ABINGDON, who during the last few years has made a reputation in America almost equal to that achieved here, has returned to this country accompanied by a bride. Mrs. Abingdon is the American actress popularly known as Miss Bijou Fernandez, and is the daughter of Mr. B. E. Price, a prominent business man of New York. The wedding took place at the Calvary Baptist Church in that city on May 29, and was attended by many stage celebrities, among whom were Miss Maude Adams and Miss Lillian Russell; Miss Amelia Bingham and Miss Louise Galloway were "matrons of honour"; and Mr. Charles Richman was best man, with Messrs. De Wolf Hopper, Vincent Serrano, Wilton Lackaye, John Brander, Augustus Barret, and Ernest Lawford as ushers.

A RECEPTION was given at the Astor Hotel after the ceremony, followed by the wedding breakfast, during which messages of congratulation were received from Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Ellen Terry, Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Laurence Irving, and others of the bridegroom's comrades in England. At the close of the reception Mr. and Mrs. Abingdon left for a brief trip, returning to catch the St. Louis, en route for this country, where they arrived in time for Mr. Abingdon to take part in the Ellen Terry Jubilee matinée. The bridal couple are to be present at the golden wedding celebration of Mr. Abingdon's parents to-morrow (Sunday), and after a short tour in Europe they return to New York, where Mr. Abingdon is to serve under Mr. John Drew as leading man next season. The gifts were numerous and valuable, the bride's mother presenting her daughter with a full set of table and personal linen embroidered by herself and the deed to a $15,000 cottage in Larchmont, where Mr. and Mrs. Abingdon will make their home when in America.

THE marriage of Mr. Richard S. Kendall (Messrs. Carson and Kendall, proprietors of the Queen's Theatre and the Hippodrome, Keighley, the Queen's, Liverpool, and several dramas and companies), to Miss Mary Hird, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hird, of Keighley, created a great stir in the well-known Yorkshire town. The happy event took place on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Holy Trinity Church, Lawkholme, the Rev. Mr. Seely officiating. The popularity of the contracting parties was fully evidenced by the crowded state of the streets leading to the church and the packed condition of that edifice. Such interest in a wedding is rarely seen in Keighley.

AFTER the ceremony some seventy guests sat down to a sumptuous wedding breakfast in the schoolroom, where Mr. Lingford Carson presided, and in the name of innumerable friends, expressed his hope that the newly-wedded pair would be blessed with every happiness. The wedding presents were numerous and magnificent, among them being a solid silver tea-tray, suitably inscribed, from the staff and orchestra of the Queen's, Liverpool, a few friends, and the members of *A Modern Adventuress* and *The Drama of Life* companies, and a solid silver tea service from the staff and friends of the Queen's, Keighley.

MR. AND MRS. KENDALL left during the afternoon for Edinburgh, amid a scene of great enthusiasm, the railway station being besieged. On the following evening the entire staff of the theatre, together with their wives, were entertained to supper, about 140 sitting down. A very clear cinematograph film was taken of the wedding festival, and this was "bioscoped" during the week at the Keighley Theatre. Next week the patrons of the Queen's, Liverpool, will have it shown to them.

PASTORAL plays were given in the beautiful grounds of Downing College, Cambridge, on Tuesday, under the management of Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P. In the afternoon, Mr. D. Lewin Mannering and a company excellent in every respect played *Twelfth Night*. Mr. Lewin-Mannering gave an artistic impersonation of Malvolio; Miss Margaretta Evelyn as Olivia rendered the part very tastefully; Viola and Maria were admirably enacted by Miss Violet Marsh and Miss Mary Mannering respectively; Mr. H. K. Ayliff was good as Sir Toby Belch, well supported by Mr. C. Clarke as Sir Andrew Aguecheek; Mr. E. H. Brooke was very distinct as Orsino; and Mr. Duncan Yarrow, Mr. Edward Comberbach, and Mr. Simon Ord also acted ably. In the evening, when the grounds were beautifully illuminated, *Two Gentlemen of Verona* was given.

THE name of a stage celebrity was heard in the County Court on Tuesday, when Miss May Yohe was summoned at Tower Bridge by a cabman for 30s. cab fare, but did not appear. The complainant said he had called at Savoy-mansions, and was told that the defendant had gone to America. He added that he drove the defendant to Waterloo Station on Saturday, May 26, and she asked him to wait for her. She had a lady with her whom she was going to see off by train, she said, but just before the train started she jumped in, and they went off together. The magistrate decided to hear the case in the defendant's absence, and in the result he ordered her to pay 30s. fare and 30s. costs.

THE annual festival of the Royal Society of Musicians will be held at the Gaiety Restaurant on the 28th inst. The Duke of Marlborough will preside, and an appeal is to be made to the public for financial support for this old-established institution.

AN orchestral concert, under the auspices of the Royal College of Music Patron's Fund, founded by Mr. S. Ernest Palmer for the encouragement of British composers and artists, will take place at Queen's Hall on Tuesday evening, July 3. The programme will be selected from a comprehensive list of new works.

MR. ESMONDE BRAMLEY'S Shakespearean company concluded on Saturday a successful tour at the Pavilion Theatre, Hastings, where the all-round excellence of the plays presented had attracted large and appreciative audiences. Advantage was taken by some members of the company of the opportunity afforded by an unexpected vacancy this week, and at short notice they organised a three-days' performance each of *David Garrick* and *She Stoops to Conquer*, and the result has proved very gratifying, both to themselves and to the management of the Pavilion, the audiences being numerous and enthusiastic.

A "PORTRAIT BIOGRAPHY" of the late Sir Henry Irving, by Mortimer Menpes, is being published by Messrs. Black. It is a dainty souvenir of the great actor, and has for its chief feature a set of eight portraits delicately executed in pencil and tint. Mr. Menpes' book claims to be an impression of Sir Henry as he was in real life, with all those subtle variations of expression—the elevated eyebrow, the twist of the mouth—that help to give a true idea of the celebrated actor.

"FOIL AND COUNTERFOIL," a new play by Mary Woodifield, will be produced by the members of the Wyndham Club, in conjunction with other amateur actors and actresses, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, on Thursday evening, the 28th inst. The performance will be in aid of the Soldiers' Home, Guards' Depôt, Caterham, and the Duchess of Norfolk and other distinguished personages will give their patronage on the occasion.

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER is following up the success of *His House in Order*, which achieved its 150th performance at the St. James's on Wednesday, by sending out two companies with Mr. Pinero's great play. The part of Nina in one of the companies will be taken by Miss Jean Sterling McKinlay—a daughter of Mme. Antoinette Sterling. The young actress, who has been understudying Miss Vanbrugh at the St. James's, created the part of Page Dearborn in the production of *The Wheat King* at the Apollo in 1894, and numbers among her principal successes that of Sunday, in the play of that name. Miss Oriel Lee has been selected for the other Nina.

MR. ARTHUR RODNEY, who scored a success as Sir Giles De Feetum, in the farcical comedy, *The Medical Student*, produced at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, on Monday last, also combined the duties of business management.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last, when there were present Messrs. Lawrence Grant (in the chair), Henry W. Mote (Hon. Solicitor), Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, M. R. Morland, Walter Russell, and Charles Cruikshanks (Sec.). Mr. Boothroyd Fairclough was nominated for election. The Hon. Solicitors reported progress in several matters, and the report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received.

MISS EMILY CUSTANCE took up this week at very short notice the heavy part, Cora Daintry, in *When Woman Hates*. Owing to delay in post she did not receive the part until Saturday evening, but travelled to Ashton-under-Lyne on Sunday, and opened Monday evening. The part is a very trying one, and includes a knife fight with the juvenile lady in Act. IV., but notwithstanding these difficulties Miss Custance gave a successful performance, and was heartily congratulated by the management.

MR. STANLEY DREWITT, who played Fagin in His Majesty's Theatre version of *Oliver Twist* during the suburban tour of that notable play last autumn and early part of this year, accepted in the early spring an offer to play in America at the Castle-square Stock Theatre in Boston, where he has since been acting in a different play each week, adding many important new parts to his already extensive répertoire. Mr. Drewitt returns to England immediately, and is looking forward to playing again in his native land.

THE tour of *A Queen Without a Crown*, which has visited most of the principal towns, terminates to-day. Miss Helen Grenville, who was already popular with playgoers by her lifelike portrayal of Wally in *Two Little Vagabonds*, has achieved another success in boys' parts by her impersonation of the young King.

MISS AMY SANGSTER, we regret to learn, is in hospital suffering from an attack of pleurisy. She played the part of Nora Helmer in the performance of Ibsen's *Doll's House*, given in aid of Salford Royal Hospital, at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, on Monday, but was suddenly seized with illness and had to seek relief in the very institution on whose behalf she had been working so ably. Miss Sangster's place was filled by Miss Katherine M. Romsey, who played Beatrice Selwyn in *A Fool's Revenge*, which was given on Tuesday in place of Ibsen's drama, and played for the rest of the week.

THE committee of the Ellen Terry Jubilee Matinée, in answer to a large number of inquiries, wish it to be known that photographs of the Tableaux Vivants, *School for Scandal Scene*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Trial by Jury*, are on sale at the Dover-street Studios, Piccadilly; also that a limited reprint of the Souvenir is necessary to supply those unable to obtain a copy on Tuesday. Monday is the earliest day for this new edition. The price will be 5s. 5d. post free.

MR. EDWARD LAURI and Company, who have been touring Australia and New Zealand with phenomenal success, arrive home per R.M.S. China on July 2. Great praise has been won by the company, which was originally organised by Mr. Lauri for a six months' tour, but on May 28, 1906, they will have concluded a two years' engagement. Mr. Lauri, it may be mentioned, is empowered to purchase pieces and engage artists and novelties in all branches of the profession for a six or twelve months' tour of the colonies.

MR. FREDERICK STANHOPE, who has so admirably managed the Broadway Theatre for the past four years for the lessees, Messrs. F. Mouillot, F. Lockwood, and L. Calvert, relinquishes his post at the termination of the season next week, and goes to the New Theatre to fill a similar position under the management of Mr. Louis Calvert.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Wednesday, G. H. W. Burroughs passed his public examination on accounts showing liabilities £2,276, of which £1,526 was expected to rank, and no available assets. The debtor towards the end of 1905 became lessee of the White Horse Tavern, Pitfield-street, Hoxton, and of the New King's Theatre adjoining. Towards the end of March last he was unable to pay the theatrical staff, etc., and the lessors agreed to advance the necessary funds and finance the business, which they continued to do until the date of the receiving order. From December to early in March last the debtor and a partner also produced at a loss the pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor* at Torquay and other towns.

"CAPTAIN BRASSBOUND'S CONVERSION," the outstanding feature of which is Miss Ellen Terry's performance of Lady Cicely Waynfleet, has, despite its success, to be withdrawn from the Court Theatre on Saturday, July 7, in view of engagements previously entered into by Messrs. Vedrenne and Barker for the revival on Monday, July 9, of Bernard Shaw's comedy *You Never Can Tell*.

MISS VIOLET SIMS, of Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, is reciting at Levenshulme to-day (Saturday) in aid of the Manchester Hospitals and Nurses' Homes.

Two honorary medical officers of the Actors' Association were in attendance at the Drury Lane matinée on Tuesday in case of illness. They were Dr. R. Nitch-Smith and Dr. C. Stanford Read.

MR. OSWALD BRAND, whose admirable adaptations of Dicken's novels formed a feature of his management of the Grand Theatre, Islington, and who is the author of the book of *The Fisher Girl* also given at that theatre, will be accorded a benefit matinée on Tuesday, June 26, at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, kindly lent by Mr. J. B. Mulholland. Sir Charles Wyndham and other leading actors and managers have promised their support, and Mr. Brand's wide popularity is bound to ensure a gratifying success.

AT West Ham police-court on Thursday, Solomon Selson, aged 20, a Russian subject, was charged with assaulting Walter Frost, a musical agent, of Regent-street, S.W. He was also summoned to show cause why certain copies of music should not be forfeited. On the evidence of copyright, Mr. Gillespie ordered the destruction of 181 copies of pirated music, but the charge of assault was withdrawn.

MISS RUTH ST. DENIS, who is shortly to give a series of Hindu dances at special matinées at a West-end theatre, under Mr. Charles Frohman's direction, is not a native of India, as has been said, but was born in New York, where she has lived practically the whole of her life. For years she has been a keen student of Hindu literature, and, possessing a highly imaginative and artistic temperament, she has succeeded in materialising her researches into Eastern traditions, which have culminated in a series of movements by which she is able to tell a story without having recourse to living accessories.

THE staging of Miss St. Denis's dances is only less wonderful than her dancing itself. One scene, representing the interior of a Hindu temple, has astonished hundreds of Eastern travellers, by reason of the marvellous accuracy of all its details. Popularity is sure to be attained by the "cobra" dance, in which the dancer's arms—her fingers are encircled by large emerald-mounted rings—are manipulated so as to convey the idea of writhing serpents. So wonderful are Miss St. Denis's movements in this dance that many in her audiences have imagined that she was literally snake-charming. She tells of two old ladies who, at the conclusion of one of her performances, begged her in future to dispense with live snakes.

THE Arts Theatre at Barcelona has been destroyed by fire, the loss being estimated at 500,000 pesetas. Twenty-one firemen, it is stated, were injured in fighting the flames.

BALLET will be restored to Covent Garden next Thursday when M. André Messager's *Les Deux Pigeons* will be produced. The première danseuse will be Signorina Aida Boni, a Milanese, who will be supported by a corps de ballet from Brussels. M. Messager will conduct.

"GRANDFATHER COQUESNE," a new one-act play by Cosmo Hamilton, will be among the items of the programme at the Charterhouse matinée at the Garrick. The scene is laid in a cobbler's cottage of the village of Givonne, at the time of the Franco-Prussian war. Grandfather Coquesne, cobbler, was once a sergeant in Napoleon's Guard; and the story turns upon the murder by him of a young Prussian trooper billetted in his house. Mr. Aubrey Smith will play the part of the cobbler, whose crime is induced by motives of patriotism and family pride.

MISS NETTIE WARE will play the title-rôle in *She Stands Alone*, a new Anglo-German drama, in four acts, by William Hibbert, which will be produced on Monday at the Lyric, Hammersmith. Other members of Mr. Samuel James's stock company who will appear in the piece will include Mr. J. J. Bartlett, Mr. Willie Scott, Mr. Lewis Gilbert, and Mr. Murray Yorke.

MR. MARTIN HARVEY and company had a splendid reception at the special flying matinée given by them at the Crystal Palace Theatre on Wednesday. The autumn season will open in September, but during the summer months it is Mr. Bannister Howard's intention to arrange occasional flying matinées.

AN original comedy, entitled *Peggy*, by Miss Atholie Robertson, will be produced by Mr. H. Bernhardt at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, June 25. Miss Robertson is a young actress who has written some successful little sketches.

MR. RICHARD NUGENT has been re-engaged by Mr. Lingford Carson, and will tour during the autumn with *The Power of the Cross* company.

MR. MATTHEW BRODIE has returned from his long sojourn in the Highlands. He is happily in the very best of health, and eager for work.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT sailed on Thursday for Havre on the Transatlantique Company's ship La Touraine, after a successful tour in the United States, in which it is said the French actress has received £50,000. Mme. Bernhardt declared that she would not return to America unless a theatre was built for her accommodation in New York City. In that case she would have regular seasons in New York.

AN entertainment tax has been instituted in Germany, the Berlin Municipality having decided to make a levy on tickets for theatres, music halls, and other public entertainments. The taxes will be on a sliding scale according to the price of admission, a halfpenny being imposed on every ticket the cost of which does not exceed one shilling. It is estimated that the tax, which is very unpopular, will produce an annual revenue of £60,000.

WINKELMANN, the celebrated tenor, who was the original Bayreuth Parsifal, and took part in the first performances of "The Ring" in London in 1882, has just taken his farewell of the stage at Vienna, his last appearance being made as Tannhäuser. In a Vienna paper he relates some interesting reminiscences of Wagner at the time *Parsifal* was being rehearsed. His great aim in the staging of his music dramas was to make every gesture natural. "Whoever is not natural is my enemy," he used to say. He always insisted that all artists should sing at rehearsals, not hum, and he objected most strongly to movements he called "swimming exercises."

THE last two German performances of the season take place at Covent Garden this week. On Thursday *The Flying Dutchman* was again given, and will be repeated to-night without change of cast, except that Herr Raboth will sing the part of Daland. Massenet's *Le Jongleur de Notre Dame* and *Pagliacci* were announced for Friday evening, with M. Laffite as the Juggler—who proves his adoration of the Virgin by juggling before her image because he does not know how else to honour her—and M. Gilibert as his friend and adviser, Brother Boniface. A peculiarity of the work is that there are no female characters in it.

MME. MELBA, who was announced to sing at the Terry benefit, but did not appear, has taken a complete rest this week. The celebrated cantatrice has cancelled all her engagements, but has announced her intention of singing twice a week at Covent Garden till the end of the season. On July 10 Mme. Melba will give a concert at Bechstein Hall in order to introduce Miss Irene Ainsley, a New Zealand vocalist, who is credited with the possession of a remarkable contralto voice. Mme. Melba will play the accompaniments for her protégée's songs.

M. MAURICE LEFEVRE, the foremost French musical antiquarian, will lecture in London next month on French folk-songs, which are said to number 1,830, and date from the fifteenth century. The "illustrations" will be rendered by Mlle. Jeanne Thomassin, Mlle. Mariette Sully (who is to appear at Daly's in *The Geisha*), and Mr. Maurice Farkoa.

ARABELLA VALE, aged sixty, a married woman, who resided in Highgate-street, went with two friends on Monday evening to witness the performance of *Dishonoured* at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. Probably excited by the dramatic realism of the play and overcome by the warm weather, she was taken ill during the production of the piece. She fainted in the theatre, and her friends at once accompanied her outside into Station-street. There Mrs. Vale sat down upon the pavement and expired immediately.

THE ELLEN TERRY JUBILEE.

A Great Event.

That Miss Ellen Terry has endeared herself to us all is a fact she long since discovered, and the festival of Tuesday, which did honour not only to a queen of the stage, but to the English theatre and the English public, demonstrated this loyalty and affection in the happiest manner. Thrice blessed the artist who can inspire such devotion as was shown outside and inside Old Drury on Monday and Tuesday; and the sweet memory of it will live in the heart of the charming exemplar of Shakespearean heroines while life lasts. Fifty years of stage work, as Lady Bancroft said in her speech of simple eloquence, is a large slice of life to be spent in the congenial work of the footlights, but Miss Terry has, we hope, many years before her of active service in the exposition of her beautiful art—years that we hope will bring her increased honour and reward. The National Theatre has seen many notable gatherings within its walls, but none more distinguished or more enthusiastic than that which filled its every corner on Tuesday. Leading representatives of literature, great painters, and prominent politicians were among those who did honour to a festival that shed lustre on a beautiful art and on its professors.

Precisely at 12.30 Mr. James W. Glover mounted the rostrum and started the overture, being received with a cheer. Then Mr. Harry Fragson sang "Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son" (new version, from *Castles in Spain*), words by Eustace Ponsonby and music by the Anglo-French comedian. An encore being demanded, the singing comedian replied with "Adieu, Granada," from the same musical piece. Mrs. Patrick Campbell, who was simply announced to give a recitation, chose a fragment from *For the Crown*, John Davidson's version of François Coppée's *Pour La Couronne*. It was the beautiful verses on "Butterflies," which the favourite actress first recited in her part of Militza when the piece was produced at the Lyceum in the nineties. The selection was well received, and then the audience settled themselves for one of the tit-bits of the afternoon—the dramatic cantata, by Gilbert and Sullivan, entitled

"TRIAL BY JURY."

The Learned Judge..MR. RUTLAND BARRINGTON
The Defendant .....MR. COURTICE POUNDS
Counsel for the Plaintiff..MR. HENRY A. LYTTON
Usher .....MR. WALTER PASSMORE
The Associate .....MR. W. S. GILBERT
The Associate's Wife.....MISS FANNY BROUGH
The Plaintiff .....MISS RUTH VINCENT

A Jocund Jury.

Produced under the personal direction of the author, and conducted by Mr. James Glover, this merry and amusing musical absurdity went with immense spirit, and played as closely as if it had been in the middle of a long run. Of course great interest was felt in the presence beneath the Judge's rostrum of Mr. W. S. Gilbert, who had as companions Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Sir Francis Burnand, the creator of Sherlock Holmes and the late editor of *Punch* being flanked by Mr. James Fernandez, the veteran actor. Catching the Judge's eye in the jury-box were Captain Robert Marshall, Mr. Owen Hall, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Haddon Chambers, and other interesting personalities. When about to be sworn in by the funny little Usher, Mr. Walter Passmore, who was full of quaint antics, the "good men and true" sank beneath the weight of their responsibilities, until only a show of hands could be seen. The opening statement of the Counsel for the Plaintiff was listened to with a remarkable show of interest, the musical exposition of his client's case by Mr. Henry A. Lytton being as clear as catchy music and appropriate verse could make it. As the Defendant, Mr. Courtice Pounds urged his plea to indifferent ears; but the fair Plaintiff (Miss Ruth Vincent) was all-conquering, capturing the foreman by a kiss and the Judge by a smile. It was a flagrant abuse, too, of the practice of the Courts that Miss Phyllis Broughton, who led the Bridesmaids, should receive a *billet doux* from the learned Judge, Mr. Rutland Barrington, who worked in a little bit of gag when, in return for a book handed up to him, he said: "Thank you, Mr. Gilbert," a remark that brought forth from the audience cheers, which the author of "Bab Ballads" had perforce to acknowledge. We attach a full list of the well-known people constituting the stage crowd:—

BRIDESMAIDS.

Miss Phyllis Broughton	Miss Mollie Lowell
Miss Adrienne Augarde	Miss Olive May
Miss Amy Augarde	Miss Gertie Millar
Miss Billie Burke	Miss Decima Moore
Miss Kate Cutler	Miss Olive Morrell
Miss Zena Dare	Miss Denise Orme
Miss May de Sousa	Miss Louie Pounds
Miss Agnes Fraser	Miss Gabrielle Ray
Miss Aida Jenoure	

JURY.

Foreman, Capt. Robert Marshall.

Sir Francis Burnand	Mr. Owen Hall
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle	Mr. Cosmo Hamilton
Sir Gilbert Parker	Mr. Henry Hamilton
Mr. Alfred Calmour	Mr. Anthony Hope
Mr. Comyns Carr	Mr. Cecil Raleigh
Mr. Haddon Chambers	Mr. Brandon Thomas

SEATS BY COUNSEL.

Mr. Dion Boucicault	Mr. J. Martin Harvey
Mr. James Fernandez	Mr. Charles Hawtrey
Mr. Sydney Grundy	Mr. E. S. Willard

SEATS ON THE BENCH.

Mrs. Bernard Beere	Miss Agnes Thomas
Miss Charlotte Granville	Miss Lydia Thompson
Miss Gertrude Kingston	Miss Lottie Venne
Miss Jessie Millward	Miss Genevieve Ward
Miss Florence St. John	Mrs. John Wood.

CROWD IN COURT.

The Misses Edouin	Mr. Albert Gates
Miss Marie Illington	Mr. Gloyne
Miss Clara Jecks	Mr. H. G. Gordon
Miss Beatrice Lamb	Mr. Oliver Grey
Miss Ewerretta Lawrence	Mr. Lyn Harding
Miss Kitty Loftus	Mr. Rudge Harding
Miss Ethel Maynard	Mr. Gilbert Hare
Miss Jessie Moore	Mr. Arthur Hatherton
Miss Tina Murray	Mr. Bert Hunter
Miss Bella Pateman	Mr. Lawrence Kellie
Miss Elsie Reamer	Mr. Mark Kinghorne
Miss Cicely Richards	Mr. Knoblauch
Miss Edith Standen	Mr. Herbert Waring
Miss Gertrude Thornton	Mr. Luigi Lablache
Miss Maud Thornton	Mr. R. Lewis
Miss Gertrude White	Mr. Iago Lewis
Miss Muriel Wylford	Mr. Frank Lincoln
Miss Isabelle Agnew	Mr. W. T. Lovell
Miss Kate Bishop	Mr. Herbert Mari
Miss Rosina Brandram	Mr. Eugene Mayeur
Miss Julie Dolaro	Mr. Sydney McAlpine
Miss Pollie Emery	Mr. Norman McKinnel
Miss Emmerson	Mr. John Morland
Miss Vane Featherston	Mr. Herbert O'Brien
Miss Helen Ferrers	Mr. Robert Pateman
Capt. Basil Hood	Mr. Harry Paulton
Mr. A. Alexander	Mr. Powis Pinder
Mr. W. L. Abingdon	Mr. Nigel Playfair
Mr. Paul Arthur	Mr. Norman Salmond
Mr. J. H. Barnes	Mr. Edward Sass
Mr. Edwin Bryan	Mr. George Shelton
Mr. Robert Caradoc	Mr. Aubrey Smith
Mr. Harry Cottell	Mr. Herbert Sparling
Mr. Alec Davidson	Mr. William Spray
Mr. Albert Derrick	Mr. Ernest Terrence
Mr. William Devereux	Mr. Sydney Valentine
Mr. A. E. Drinkwater	Mr. Hubert Willis
Mr. Carr Evans	

Mr. George Graves was to have furnished the next item by making a few remarks, but he was not able to answer to his number. The curtain, therefore, rose on the street scene from Molière's *Le Mariage Forcé*, played by M. Coquelin aîné as Pancrace and by M. Jean Coquelin as Sganarelle, in ordinary morning dress, to an accompaniment of laughter. The eminent French comedians were very heartily received.

Beauty's Kingdom.

Then came a delightful series of tableaux vivants, arranged after celebrated pictures by the first painters of the day, including among those who posed the leading London actresses. The pictures were revealed in the following order:—

1.—"Anne Boleyn."

Arranged by Mr. Luke Fildes, R.A. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh as Anne Boleyn	Miss Daisy Thimm
Miss Kate Phillips	Miss Lilias Waldegrave

2.—"The Ladies Waldegrave."

Arranged by Mr. Luke Fildes. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith.

Miss Grace Lane	Miss Julie Opp
Miss Evelyn Millard.	

3.—A Watteau Subject.

Arranged by Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, R.A. Scene painted by Mr. W. Hann.

Miss Sarah Brooke	Miss Suzanne Sheldon
Miss Alexandra Carlisle	Miss Rita Jolivet
Miss Gertrude Elliott	Miss Irene Vanbrugh

4.—"Cinderella."

After Millais' picture. Scene painted by Mr. W. Johnstone.

Miss Ellaline Terriss.

5.—"Beginners for the First Act. A Hundred Years Ago."

Arranged by Mr. James Pryde. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith.

Miss Mabel Beardsley	Miss Geraldine Wilson
Miss Beatrice Ferrar	Miss Pauline Chase
Mrs. Tree	Miss Margaret Bussé
Miss Winifred Emery	Mrs. Sam Sothern
Miss Lena Ashwell	Miss Hilda Trevelyan

6.—"Rival Beauties."

Arranged by Sir L. Alma Tadema, R.A. Scene painted by Mr. Joseph Harker.

Miss Constance Collier, Miss Edna May.

7.—"Ladies of the Court of France presenting the Oriflamme to Joan of Arc."

Arranged by Mr. Percy Macquoid. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith.

Miss Lilian Braithwaite (Joan of Arc)	Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson
Miss Nora Lancaster	Mrs. Cecil Raleigh
Miss Beatrice Irwin	Miss May Palfrey
Miss Iris Hawkins	Miss Dorothy Minto
Miss Beryl Faber	Miss Mary Mackenzie
Miss Beatrice Beckley	Miss Hazel Thompson

8.—"The Four Maries."

Arranged by Sir James Linton, R.I. Scene painted by Mr. W. Johnstone.

Miss Annie Hughes	Miss Edyth Olive
Miss Dorothy Grimston	Miss Kate Rorke (Mary Queen of Scots)
Miss Edith Wynne Matthison	

9.—"Cleopatra."

Arranged by Sir James Linton, R.I. Scene painted by Mr. Joseph Harker.

Miss Dora Barton	Miss Ray Rockman
Mrs. Langtry (Cleopatra)	Miss Betty Theodora Green

10.—"The Blessed Damozel."

Arranged by Mr. Byam Shaw. Scene painted by Mr. Walter Hann.

Miss Lettice Fairfax	Miss Margaret Halstan
Miss Sybil Carlisle	Miss Mabel Hackney
Miss Muriel Beaumont	Miss Julia Neilson (the Madonna)
Miss Jessie Bateman	Miss Dagmar Wiehe
Miss Valerie Salberg	

11.—"Reading Aloud."

Arranged by Mr. A. L. Baldry. Scene painted by Mr. R. C. McCleery.

Miss Lily Brayton	Miss Eva Moore
	Miss Nancy Price.

12.—"Queen Victoria as a Girl in Kensington Palace Gardens."

Arranged by Sir James Linton, R.I. Scene painted by Mr. Bruce Smith.

Miss Alice Crawford	Miss Margaret Illington
Miss N. de Silva	
Miss Mary Rorke	

Miss Mary Moore (Queen Victoria).

Photo by Ellis and Walery.

MISS ELLEN TERRY.

Scenic Art.

In the backgrounds of these excellent living reproductions of never-to-be-forgotten masterpieces the scenic artists more than distinguished themselves. Mr. Bruce Smith was responsible for no less than five cloths, and showed the real cleverness of his brush work in every one, but especially was this the case in No. 5—"Beginners for the First Act. A Hundred Years Ago." Mr. W. Hann found congenial work in "A Watteau Subject," a dainty piece of landscape; to Mr. Joseph Harker's fertile imagination was due a rich setting for "The Rival Beauties"; Mr. W. Johnstone realised with artistic truth the humble surroundings of the heroine of the hearth, "Cinderella"; Mr. Walter Hann was very happy in his treatment of the atmosphere of "The Blessed Damozel"; and Mr. R. C. McCleery did excellently well in the brush-work requisite for the picture "Reading Aloud." The accompanying music to this unique series of tableaux was composed and directed by Herman Finck, the gifted young musical director of the Palace Theatre.

Then came Mr. Seymour Hicks, the volatile and energetic, with a cohort of beauties known to the theatre-goer as the "Bath Buns," introduced a scene from *The Beauty of Bath*. Several encores were demanded, and given. The ladies assisting Mr. Hicks included Miss Mabel Ellis, Miss Pauline Francis, Miss May Gates, Miss Hilda Harris, Miss Marion Harris, Miss Agnes Hodgkinson, Miss Lillie McIntyre, Miss Elsie Kay, Miss Enid Leslie, Miss Marion Lindsay, Miss Kitty Melrose, Miss Madelein Morton, Miss Clara Rickards, and Miss Mabel Yellowy-Watson. The conductor was Mr. Carl Kiefert.

A Record Cast.

As an excerpt from Molière had been given Sheridan very rightly found a place in so unique a programme, and the picture and dinner scene from *The School for Scandal* brought to the cognisance of the audience the chief actor-managers of London. We append the fine cast:—

"THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL."

Charles Surface .....SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM
Sir Oliver .....MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER
Moses .....MR. EDWARD TERRY
Trip .....MR. CYRIL MAUDE
Careless .....MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER
Rowley .....MR. LIONEL BROUGH
Sir Harry Bumper .....MR. BEN DAVIES
(With song: "Here's to the Maiden.")

Guests of Charles Surface:—Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Cooper Cliffe, Mr. Frederick Kerr, Mr. George Giddens, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. A. E. Matthews, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Mr. Herbert Sleath. Mr. Cyril Maude, as that most original and imperious of lackeys, Trip, opened the scene with Mr. Edward Terry as Moses with the customary gag, "I'll take my oath of that." Mr. Terry, however, did not exaggerate the peculiarities of the Hebraic moneylender. Mr. Arthur Bourchier, though looking rather tall for "Little Premium," was responsible for a sound bit of comedy acting as Sir Oliver. Sir Charles Wyndham once more gave us a Charles Surface full of the joy of living—as genial a rake as ever handled a dice-box. The auction was carried through with great spirit, with Mr. George Alexander, an excellent Careless, as auctioneer. From Mr. Ben Davies, who, as Sir Harry Bumper, sang the song "Here's to the maiden," was extracted an encore. Mr. Lionel Brough, who was introduced as Rowley at the end of the scene, was warmly welcomed. The hon. stage-managers of the representation were Mr. Lionel Belmore and Mr. Alexander Stuart.

A Famous Family—and Tree.

Sheridan was followed by Shakespeare, the chief attraction of the afternoon being the first act and part of the second of

"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."

Don Pedro .....MR. FRED TERRY*
Don John .....MR. H. B. IRVING
Claudio .....MR. J. FORBES-ROBERTSON
Benedick .....MR. H. BEERBOHM TREE
Leonato .....MR. HERMANN VEZIN
Antonio.....MR. HENRY NEVILLE
Balthazar .....MR. EDMUND GWENN*
Conrade .....MR. NORMAN FORBES
Borachio .....MR. OSCAR ASCHE
Messenger .....MR. LAURENCE IRVING
Hero.....MISS MARION TERRY
Beatrice.....MISS ELLEN TERRY*
Margaret .....MISS MINNIE TERRY*
Ursula .....MISS KATE TERRY*
First Drummer .....MISS OLIVE TERRY*
Second Drummer.....MISS BEATRICE TERRY*
First Dancer .....MISS MABEL TERRY LEWIS*
Second Dancer .....MISS MINNIE TERRY*
Third Dancer .....MISS EDITH CRAIG*
First Torchbearer ....MISS LUCY TERRY LEWIS*
Second Torchbearer..MISS KATE TERRY GIELGUD*
Third Torchbearer ..MISS JANET TERRY LEWIS*
Fourth Torchbearer .....MISS PHYLLIS TERRY*
Page .....DENIS TERRY*
Page .....ROSEMARY CRAIG*
Page .....ROBIN CRAIG*
Page .....PETER CRAIG*
Servant .....MR. CHARLES TERRY*
Servant .....MR. GEORGE TERRY*

Note.—The members of the Terry family are indicated by a star (*).

The following took part in the masked dance:—Mr. H. Ainley, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. Sidney Brough, Mr. Graham Browne, Mr. Frank Mills, Mr. Harcourt E. Williams, Mr. Matheson Lang, Mr. Julian L'Estrange, Mr. Charles Thursby, Mr. H. V. Esmond, Mr. George Trollope, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. James Carew, Mr. Vincent Sternroyd, Mr. Horace Terry, Mr. Geoffrey Morriss.

Scenery designed and dance arranged by Mr. Gordon Craig.* Hon. stage-manager, Mr. Lionel Belmore. Hon. musical-director, Mr. Christopher Wilson.

The opening speeches of this finely-written comedy were much disturbed by "receptions." There were old playgoers in the house glad to recognise Miss Kate Terry, who retired from the stage in the 'sixties on her marriage, but returned for a short space a couple of years or so ago to the now defunct Globe Theatre. She was heartily greeted on her appearance. Then came Miss Marion Terry as Hero, followed very soon by the heroine of the afternoon, Ellen Terry, looking blithe and bonnie as Beatrice. The house roared its welcome, and nothing could exceed the enthusiasm of gallery and pit, most of whom had spent many weary hours waiting for this supreme moment. The actress was visibly touched, and after bowing again and again and standing with bent head for some moments, she recalled the gaiety and abandon of the most wonderful Beatrice of our time in her opening speech, and the raillery of "dear Lady Disdain" had much of the charm that was to be noted in the magnificent revival of the comedy on Oct. 11, 1882, at the Lyceum. The applause was specially significant when this incomparable Beatrice repeated the line—"My mother cried; then there was a star danced, and under it I was born." The performance went with wonderful smoothness. Mr. Hermann Vezin's Leonato, and Mr. Henry Neville's Antonio were both conceived in the true Shakespearean spirit; Mr. Beerbohm Tree made a gallant and amusing Benedick; Mr. Fred Terry's Don Pedro reminded us strongly of the rendering of the same character by the lamented William Terriss; Mr. Forbes Robertson was again an admirable Claudio; Mr. Ocsar Asche added lustre to the cast by his impersonation of Borachio; Mr. Norman Forbes made an excellent Conrade; Mr. H. B. Irving gave the necessary sinister touch to the part of Don John; and Mr. Lawrence Irving was content with the part of the Messenger. Miss Minnie Terry, now quite grown up, was an engaging Margaret. The masked dances, arranged by Mr. Gordon Craig, were executed with immense spirit; and Mr. Christopher Wilson conducted with his usual ability.

At the conclusion of what may well be termed the *scène à faire*, there was another opportunity for enthusiasm, and Miss Terry was again overwhelmed with compliments, and several beautiful bouquets were thrown to her. She dragged on Mr. Arthur Collins, then she appeared with her sisters, Kate and Marion, and, lastly, brought on two of her little grandchildren.

Following this memorable scene came a dance by Mlle. Adeline Genée, who was announced to appear with Mr. P. Sundberg in a *pas de deux*. In consequence of this gentleman's absence the popular *première danseuse* contented herself with a few graceful steps, which she accomplished in a riding habit, the orchestra being directed by Mr. Glaser of the Empire. Signor Caruso had an excellent reception on coming forward with Signor Tosti, who accompanied this superb artist and phenomenal tenor in two songs from his own pen. Modern musical comedy was again in the ascendant when Miss Ellaline Terriss, in another scene from *The Beauty of Bath*, sang "There are lots of things you never learn at school," in which she was supported by Misses Jenny Bateman, Lilian Burns, Nell Carter, Julia James, Dorothy Lane, Sylvia Storey, and the Bath Buns. The introduction of a political verse on such an occasion was an error of taste, for which some compensation, however, was forthcoming in additional lines written concerning the event of the afternoon.

The Minstrel Mummers.

A well-devised novelty in the stupendous bill was the introduction of a number of leading comedians of the London stage as minstrels, with Mr. Seymour Hicks as interlocutor, or "middle-man"—a position that prompted a jocular reference to Mr. Willard. Mr. Hicks, after an opening chorus, introduced his troupe—which he designated as rotten—and as each name was called out black masks were raised, discovering the well-known lineaments of Mr. W. H. Berry, Mr. Will Bishop, Mr. James Blakeley, Mr. Louis Bradfield, Mr. Colin Coop, Mr. Johnny Danvers, Mr. Harry Fragson, Mr. Harry Grattan, Mr. George Grossmith, jun., Mr. Henry Lytton, Mr. Edmund Payne, Mr. Bert Sinden, Mr. Farren Soutar, Mr. Arthur Williams, and Mr. Fred Wright, jun. There were some particularly daring wheezes, and Mr. Hicks's sententious utterances as the "questioner" were in the true burlesque vein. The threat that the unabashed utterers of jokes should "sail by the boat on Wednesday" was another droll touch on the part of the young actor-manager of the Aldwych Theatre. Mr. George Grossmith, jun., was responsible for the pathetic ballad, "When the rust is off the latch-key I'll come home"; and Mr. Edmund Payne had arranged a little quartet on that perennially popular legend, "Mary had a little lamb," which was sung by the "Clare Market Warblers"—Messrs. W. H. Berry, Colin Coop, H. A. Lytton, and George Grossmith, jun. The last-named gentleman propounded the conundrum, "What is the difference between these gentlemen here and actors?" The question, put to Mr. Hicks, evoked no response. Mr. Grossmith then volunteered the information that he knew, but wouldn't say, as they wouldn't believe him. Mr. Louis Bradfield revived the plantation ballad, "Uncle Ned"; Mr. Johnny Danvers, who was for years a popular corner man with the Mohawks, gave "Tapioca" with a characteristic dance; Mr. Will Bishop and Mr. Bert Sinden burlesqued American song and dance in clever fashion; Mr. Harry Fragson sang; and the entire company wound up the minstrel interlude by singing "Dem Golden Slippers." The hon. conductor of this show was Mr. Jacques Greebe, and the hon. stage-manager Mr. E. Royce, jun. The remaining items of the programme were Miss Gertie Millar, with the song, "In Rotterdam," from *The Spring Chicken*; and Mr. Lewis Waller in his finely-delivered speech of Henry the Fifth at Harfleur.

Lady Bancroft's Heartfelt Words.

The last item on the programme brought Lady Bancroft, sweetly eloquent, to speak a few words of welcome. She said: "Ladies and Gentlemen,—It was suggested to me that I should make a set speech to you, but I have always been an advocate of natural acting, and I think a few simple, homely words straight from the heart, prompted only by the heart, and not by our friend in the corner—pointing to the prompter—will be more acceptable to you, and I am sure they will be pleasanter to me to speak. It is my happy privilege to welcome you here to-day in celebration of the stage jubilee of our dear mutual friend, Ellen Terry. It is a joyous occasion, not a mournful one, for she is not going to say good-bye to you. Fifty years of hard stage work is a good slice out of one's life, but when that work

is congenial and Dame Fortune favours us, we can, so to speak, defy old Father Time, and

"The labour we delight in physics pain."

Nothing to us is more delightful, more enchanting, than the beautiful music of applause. We live for it; it is our food. Our dear friend, Ellen Terry, has experienced all this. She has lived in the sunshine of your affection for fifty years, and I only hope and trust that she may enjoy it for a long time yet—I was going to say another fifty years, but that is rather a large order; but of this I am assured, that, so long as health and strength hold on, she will keep herself fastened to your hearts with hooks of steel. And now I am going to raise the curtain; or rather, I am going to give the signal for someone else to do it, though, as a sort of fairy godmother—I feel I don't look the part—I should be capable of anything."

Lady Bancroft then tapped the curtain with her fan, and as its folds were swept aside one could see the heroine of the afternoon sitting in state beneath a bust of Shakespeare. Grouped round Miss Terry were the artists who had taken part in the performance, besides such notable additions as Mr. E. S. Willard, Signora Dusé, and Mme. Jane Hading Addressing herself now to Miss Terry, Lady Bancroft continued: "My dear Ellen Terry—or may I on this occasion say, Sweet Nell of Old Drury?—I have been talking to our dear friends in front, and we all rejoice that you are not going to say good-bye to us. We cannot afford to lose you. You know, as well as I and many others in Stageland, who have worked so hard, how difficult it is to reconcile the bare idea of saying good-bye to the rapture of applause and the enduring love of so many kind hearts. Some say we are soon forgotten, but I don't believe it. No; experience tells me that even after a protracted absence we are still held in sweet remembrance. I don't know what to say to you, Ellen. My heart is very full of all kinds of thoughts, remembrances, and sweetness of every kind. I am glad to see you looking so bonny—(taking her hands)—and I hope you will always remain so. May you live long in the esteem and love of your friends, and may their devotion be indelibly engraved on your heart as it is on mine in the unfading ink of gratitude."

Ellen Terry's Touching Reply.

Miss Ellen Terry, who was smiling through her tears, made a brave effort to conquer her emotion, and spoke the following touching reply to Lady Bancroft's gracious words: "My dear Lady Bancroft, my friend of many years, my manager of old, sweet days, how can I thank you? You greet me last

"to make the end most sweet."

Facing the audience, Miss Terry proceeded: "I never felt so strongly till now that language was given to conceal rather than to reveal one's thoughts. I have no words at all to say what is in my heart; indeed, I really don't quite know what is in my heart. I can only trust to these my friends on the stage and to my friends in the audience to be eloquent for me. If I began to thank everybody who has had any share in making this day so wonderful for me I should never be able to stop. There is Mr. Collins, who has lent me this great historic theatre with its inspiring memories. There is the committee with their chairman and secretary always faithfully to hand, They have done with enthusiasm all that men could do and more to make the wheels go round. The gentlemen of the Press, too, have worked with a will for the success of this afternoon, and their help has been of the very greatest value. Then there are the artists and painters who have honoured me in bringing their most beautiful art to the service of this celebration. To their work and talents we owe the programme and also the tableaux. These are my brothers and sisters. It was they who first inspired this great performance, and they have since been the very head and front of it. The fact that my foreign comrades have joined with the fellow-artists of my own country has touched me much—(here she gave a hand each to Signora Dusé and Signor Caruso). My most special loving thanks are due to Mme. Dusé, who came all the way from Florence just to honour me. (Mme. Dusé here kissed the speaker affectionately on both cheeks.) This has touched me very deeply. Nor must I forget my brothers and sisters in blood and my son and daughter, who have been a tower of strength to me; and last, but not least, there is the Public—my friends for fifty years, who have been so faithful, so affectionate, so loyal. To each and all I owe a debt of gratitude, which must ever remain unpaid. If I stood here as long as the Pyramids have stood there I could never say what this day has been to me. I have the heart to wonder at all you have done, but not the tongue to praise you. I am not going to say good-bye. It is one of my chief joys to-day that I am not going to say good-bye just yet, but that I can speak to all of you as one who is still among you on the active list and still in your service, if you please."

Mr. A. W. Pinero, as an extra turn, came forward to tell the audience that the financial result of the matinée would approach the sum of £6000.

And then came cheers, and flowers, and curtain-raisings innumerable, and "Auld Lang Syne," and "God Save the King." The immense audience slowly filed out into the June sunshine, bearing away with them ineffaceable recollections of an unique tribute to a popular actress and a remarkable woman.

The Organisation.

To Mr. Arthur Collins, who directed the stage, chief thanks are due for the punctuality and smoothness of the whole performance. The stage-management was largely in the hands of Mr. Ernest D'Auban, assisted by Mr. Frank Collins. These gentlemen, of course, had many willing helpers in those whose names we have mentioned in our notice. The business management had an invaluable head in Mr. Sydney Smith; and to the hard and untiring work of Mr. Acton Bond in the organisation of the gigantic affair we must bear witness. Mr. Austin Brereton's courtesy and ready help to the Press will not readily fade from the remembrance of the journalists and critics who went a-roving. As business-managers in front on Tuesday were Messrs. Henry Dana, Bram Stoker, J. E. Vedrenne, and Alfred Courtenay. Mr. C. H. Thomas is acting as hon. treasurer and Mr. C. F. Taylor as hon. accountant.

The Crowd.

The assembly behind the footlights of Old Drury contained most of the artists appearing in the performance, as well as a large portion of the executive and general committees, in addition to the following:—

Lady Monckton
Mme. J. Hading
Mme. Duse
Miss C. Addison
Miss F. Coleman
Miss Fortescue
Miss Jennie Lee
Miss Wallis
Miss Compton
Mrs. Billington
Mrs. E. H. Brooke
Mrs. Alfred Mellon
Sir S. Bancroft
Sir A. Mackenzie
Mr. R. Arthur
Mr. M. Ball
Mr. F. B. Benson
Mr. A. Bishop
Mr. M. Bode
Mr. J. M. Chute
Mr. C. I. Coltson
Mr. C. Cruikshanks
Mr. C. J. Davis
Mr. G. Farquhar
Mr. E. German
Mr. G. Grossmith
Mr. E. Lockwood
Mr. J. B. Mulholland
Mr. William Orpen
Mr. Bernard Partridge
Mr. F. W. Wyndham

The executive committee included:—

Sir Charles Wyndham
Sir Squire Bancroft
Hon. Stephen Coleridge
Mr. Arthur W. Pinero (Chairman)
Mr. George Alexander
Mr. Arthur Bourchier
Mr. Arthur Chudleigh
Mr. Arthur Collins
Mr. Alfred Courtenay
Mr. Henry Dana
Mr. Tom B. Davis
Mr. George Edwardes
Mr. Charles Frohman
Mr. Stephano Gatti
Mr. William Greet
Mr. Frederick Harrison
Mr. Seymour Hicks
Mr. Cyril Maude
M. André Messager
Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson
Mr. Sidney Smith
Mr. Bram Stoker
Mr. Otho Stuart
Mr. Ed. Terry
Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree
Mr. J. E. Vedrenne
Mr. Lewis Waller
Mr. James Welch
Mr. Austin Brereton
Mr. Acton Bond (Hon. Secretary)

The general committee were:—

Duke of Beaufort
Duke of Bedford
Duke of Devonshire
Duke of Rutland
Duke of Newcastle
Duke of Fife
Marquis of Ormonde
Marquis of Granby
Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham
Earl of Wemyss and March
Earl of Aberdeen
Earl of Jersey
Earl of Craven
Earl of Ellesmere
Earl of Kilmorey
Earl of Wharncliffe
Earl of Londesborough
Earl of Carrington
Earl of Crewe
Earl Roberts
Lord Tennyson
Lord Glenesk
Lord Inverclyde
Lord Campbell
Lord Iveagh
Lord Avebury
Lord Burnham
Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain
Rt. Hon. Sir F. Milner
Rt. Hon. Sir E. Cassel
The Hon. S. Coleridge
The Hon. Sir H. Tozer
The Hon. A. Yorke
Sir D. Cooper
Sir S. Crossley
Sir F. Pollock
Sir A. Seymour
Sir J. Aird
Sir H. Parry
Sir G. Lewis
Sir T. Lipton
Sir A. C. Doyle
Sir D. Straight
Sir F. Semon
Sir C. Wyndham
Sir Squire Bancroft
Sir E. Shaw
Sir A Critchett
Sir E. Moss
Sir J. Blyth
Col. N. Davis
Dr. J. M. Bruce
Mr. P. J. Agnew
Mr. G. Alexander
Mr. W. Archer
Mr. D. Armour
Mr. A. Bond
Mr. A. Bourchier
Mr. W. L. Bradbury
Mr. A. Brereton
Mr. W. L. A. Burdett-Coutts
Mr. R. Butler
Mr. A. Calmour
Mr. C. Carr
Mr. E. Castle
Mr. A. Chudleigh
Mr. A. Collins
Mr. A. Courtenay
Mr. W. L. Courtney
Mr. F. M. Crawford
Mr. H. Dana
Mr. T. B. Davis
Mr. G. Delacher
Mr. H. F. Dickens
Mr. A. Dobson
Mr. G. Edwardes
Mr. G. Faber
Dr. F. A. Farr
Mr. T. Fraser
Mr. C. Frohman
Mr. S. Gatti
Mr. M. P. Grace
Mr. F. Green
Mr. W. Greet
Mr. J. T. Grein
Mr. O. Hall
Mr. F. Harrison
Mr. S. Heilbut
Mr. C. Hentschel
Mr. R. Hichens
Mr. S. Hicks
Mr. R. D. Isaacs
Mr. W. W. Jacobs
Mr. S. B. Joel
Mr. S. Jousiffe
Mr. R. Kipling
Mr. J. Knight
Mr. H. A. Lane
Mr. S. Lee
Mr. J. Lyons
Mr. C. Maude
Mr. M. A. Messager
Mr. C. Meyer
Mr. M. Morris
Mr. H. C. Newton
Mr. T. P. O'Connor
Mr. C. A. Pearson
Mr. A. W. Pinero
Mr. W. Reid
Mr. A. De Rothschild
Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson
Mr. S. Smith
Mr. A. Spalding
Mr. E. Speyer
Mr. B. Stoker
Mr. O. Stuart
Mr. E. Terry
Dr. St. Clair Thomson
Mr. F. Thomasson
Mr. H. B. Tree
Mr. J. E. Vedrenne
Mr. L. Waller
Mr. A. F. Walters
Mr. M. Watson
Mr. J. Welch
Mr. J. Willing, jun.
Mr. I. Zangwill

Sweet Saleswomen.

Quite an army of beautifully dressed young actresses gave their services as programme-sellers, and many of them commenced their labours in the gallery and pit as early as 10.30 in the morning. The price of the souvenir programme was 5s., but with the addition of an autograph some fetched double the price. The fair saleswomen included:—

Miss Mabel Adair
Miss Sybil Arundale
Miss Roxy Barton
Miss Evelyn Beaumont
Miss Inez Bensusan
Miss Esme Beringer
Miss May Beringer
Miss Vera Beringer
Miss Phyllis Blair
Miss Hutin Britton
Miss Enid Spencer Brunton
Miss Joan Burnett
Miss Marcelle Chevalier
Miss Daisy Cordell
Miss Mablia Daniell
Miss Mabel Ellis
Miss Jessie Ferrar
Miss Pauline Francis
Miss May Gater
Miss R. Robertson Grimston
Miss F. Glossop Harris
Miss Hilda Harris
Miss Marion Harris
Miss Agnes Hodgkinson
Miss Iris Hoey
Miss Ethelwynne Arthur-Jones
Miss Elsie Kay
Miss Enid Leslie
Miss Beatrice Lindley
Miss Marion Lindsay
Miss Mabel Love
Miss Blanche Love
Miss Ruth Erskine Maitland
Miss Lillie McIntyre
Miss Katharine Maude
Miss Kitty Melrose
Miss Ida Molesworth
Miss Madelein Morton
Miss Susie Nainby
Miss Amy Ravenscroft
Miss Clara Richards
Miss Dorothy Scott
Miss Gertrude Scott
Miss Nina Sevening
Miss May Warley
Miss Ada Webster
Miss Maud Winter
Miss Haidée Wright
Miss Hilda Wright
Miss Mabel Yellowy-Watson
Mrs. Cheatle
Mrs. Harry Grattan
Mrs. Lindsay Smith
Mrs. Lane Joynt

Among the distinguished patrons present in the house were Lord Curzon of Kedleston, the Marchioness of Granby, the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, the Earl and Countess of Dudley, the Earl and Countess of Craven, Lord and Lady Mickleham, Lady Maud Warrender, Lady Faudel-Phillips, Sir Ernest Cassel, Lord Burnham, Sir Douglas Straight, Sir Francis Burnand, Lady Newnes, Sir Alma and Lady Tadema, Miss Lawrence Alma-Tadema, Field-Marshal Sir Frederick Haines, and Sir James Linton.

HOW IT WAS ARRANGED.

CHAT WITH MR. ACTON BOND.

"I want to know how this performance was arranged and organised." The demand was made by Our Own Commissioner of Mr. Acton Bond, the honorary organising secretary of the Ellen Terry Jubilee Commemoration.

"Well," replied Mr. Bond, with business-like promptitude, "I have the whole business at my finger-tips. The idea occurred while two or three managers were discussing things in general, and they came to the conclusion that it was only fitting that there should be a tribute from the profession to Miss Ellen Terry on the occasion of her jubilee as an actress. After the preliminary debate we had a luncheon at the Garrick Club, when I was asked if I would act as honorary secretary, to which, of course, I readily assented. Then the whole subject was more thoroughly entered into, for, as you will imagine, many considerations had to be taken into account. It was decided that the most suitable place in which to give the matinée was the national theatre; and when Sir Charles Wyndham telephoned to Drury Lane on behalf of the meeting of managers, Mr. Arthur Collins and his co-director, Mr. Sidney Smith, kindly agreed to lend the famous old playhouse for the function.

"Then, of course, the question as to what the entertainment should consist of arose. It was realised that the programme and those whose names figured upon it would have to be representative from every point of view. The original suggestion was that *The School for Scandal* should be presented in its entirety with a star cast; but as the committee went deeper into the subject they found it was not possible to get a Lady Teazle. Certainly the name of Miss Emery did occur to us, but she was not very well at the time, and we could not therefore be absolutely sure of securing her services for the afternoon. Therefore some other plan of action had to be thought out. We were, as I have already informed you, anxious to have a representative gathering of the British stage, in addition to representatives of the foreign stage. As to the latter, the Messrs. Coquelin readily proffered their services, and Signora Eleonora Dusé wrote saying that Miss Terry had no more loyal and sincere comrade or greater admirer than the writer, and she would be happy to assist at the commemoration performance. Mme. Jane Hading, who is now acting at the Coronet Theatre, was also present, but her name was unfortunately omitted from the programme, as we did not hear from her until after we had gone to press. It was hoped that Mme. Réjane would have attended, but she was unable to get away from Paris. Mr. Dan Frohman, the president of the Actors' Fund of America, was on the stage to represent the United States; and the musical profession furnished such distinguished members as Sir Villiers Stanford, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, and Mr. Edward German; while from the world of art we had Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, R.A., Mr. Luke Fildes, R.A., Mr. Walter Craven, Mr. Byam Shaw, Sir James D. Linton, Mr. Solomon J. Solomon, Mr. James Pryde, Mr. Percy Macquoid, Mr. John S. Sargent, R.A., and Mr. E. A. Abbey, R.A. In the reception scene, too, were the representatives of the two theatrical funds, Messrs. C. I. Coltson and Charles Davies; while Mr. Charles Cruikshanks appeared for the Actors' Association. The Theatrical Managers' Association was ably represented in its various sections, Mr. J. B. Mulholland attending on behalf of the suburban section, Mr. Chute as vice-president of the provincial branch, and Mr. Edward Lockwood as president of the Touring Managers' Association. Others were Mr. Robert Arthur, Miss Compton, Miss E. H. Brooke, Mrs. Billington, Miss Fortescue, Miss Jenny Lee, and Miss Wallis. Among the organising non-theatrical members of the general committee of the matinée were the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, Lord Ellesmere, Lord Glenesk, Lord Burnham, and the Hon. Stephen Coleridge."

The work of organising commenced at Easter, from which date Mr. Acton Bond has attended Drury Lane daily in order to cope with the work involved. The minstrel entertainment was Mr. Collins's idea, and it was developed in good style by Mr. Seymour Hicks, at whose theatre the rehearsals were carried out. All the rest of the programme was arranged and rehearsed at the Lane, a great deal of attention being given to *Trial by Jury*. The tableaux vivants entailed in their arrangement no small amount of ingenuity and thought. Places had to be found for a very large number of celebrated people, and the difficulty was to discover adequate pictures for so much "talent." *The School for Scandal*, the *Trial by Jury*, and the minstrel entertainment took a good many prominent actors and actresses, but there were forty ladies and gentlemen whose services had yet to be utilised. So when the suggestion of tableaux vivants was offered it was enthusiastically supported.

Miss Terry particularly desired the committee to produce a play in which these forty or so players could take parts, but the organisers could think of no piece which would afford so large a cast, and the "living pictures" therefore admirably filled the breach.

"When we informed Miss Terry of our decision," continued Mr. Bond, "she again said she would like the ladies to act with her at the matinée. We pointed out that Lady Bancroft was going to make the address and that Mrs. Patrick Campbell would recite, and that therefore English actresses would be heard in 'speaking parts.' Well, having disposed of our leading ladies, we put the prominent actor-managers in *Much Ado* and *The School for Scandal*. *Much Ado* afforded an opportunity for all the Terry family appearing in the one scene."

In more than one respect has a record to be placed to the credit of the Ellen Terry Commemoration. Out of some four hundred artists who had arranged to appear not more than two were left out; while the punctuality with which the different items were introduced to the audience is a matter upon which Mr. Arthur Collins, who officiated as stage-manager, may be congratulated.

Then, as to the public who were to be entertained. Mr. Bond tells us that many and long were the discussions on this point. The committee took warning by the experiences at the Nellie Farren matinée; and, in order to prevent any awkward scenes in the streets, as soon as a sufficient number of people had assembled (allowance being made for a certain margin in the pit and gallery), the police were informed that the pavements were cleared so as to permit of reserved ticket-holders entering without inconvenience. Immediately the doors opened there was a race between a man and a woman to be first in the pit, and the woman won.

"It was extraordinary," remarked Mr. Bond, "to see how cheery and bright the people were after the all-night wait. We let them in about 10.45, in order to give them nearly a couple of hours' rest before the performance commenced. We recollected that at the Nellie Farren benefit the people who had waited outside the theatre were so tired that they could not enjoy the performance. The whole entertainment went without a hitch. We had carefully timed every item beforehand, and at the interval had only lost ten minutes of our actual time. Later we had four minutes up our sleeves, and the curtain was down at a quarter to six. This reflects great credit on the stage staff."

"How did you secure such remarkable precision?"

"Each person taking part in the scenes was provided with a card of admission on which was stated the time he or she had to appear on the stage. Mr. Vivian Reynolds and Mr. Mayer, both being intimate with the personnel of the profession, acted as stewards at the stage-door, took the cards and passed their bearers, and prevented unauthorised persons from gaining admittance."

It may be of interest to state that in the largest scene, that of *Trial by Jury*, there were no less than 145 actors and actresses. Mr. Bond's lowest computation of the number of the audience is 3600, and something like 2500 souvenirs were sold. A reprint of these beautifully and artistically got-up "mementoes" is now in the press, and copies can be had for 5s. 5d., post free. Among the souvenir-sellers there was keen competition between Mrs. Lindsey Smith and Miss Daisy Cordell; but Mrs. Smith came out triumphant with £29, Miss Cordell's collection being £26 17s. 11d. The lady who had the lowest amount to her credit, largely owing to her services being also required in the performances, took £3 10s. It is anticipated that the total proceeds of the commemoration will exceed £6000.

We can scarcely conclude this article without a reference to the yeoman services performed by Mr. Acton Bond in the work of organisation. He had, as will be imagined, much to do, and we now have sufficient proof that what he did was done well.

It should also be stated that Mr. A. W. Pinero took a great personal interest in his duties as chairman of the Executive Committee of the Terry Commemoration.

THE "ALL-NIGHTERS."

THE "WAITING" SCENES.

(By Our Own Commissioner.)

"Don't let 'im pass, muvver." This to a fat woman from her undersized offspring, a pale-faced and weakly-looking, but enthusiastic, young man who had been loudly expressing his opinions upon the state of the drama and the theatrical profession generally, and who claimed a right to do so by reason of his membership of some society for the early possession of pavements outside theatres on first nights. "We come here before you," they both shouted, adding indignantly, "and you shouldn't try to squeeze in."

The writer assured the good creatures that he had no intention of usurping their pride of place, and, after a little more haranguing, was allowed to pass on.

This happened in the covered courtway off Catherine-street, which provides shelter for the waiting pittites and galleryites of old Drury. The scene could scarcely be described as a picturesque one, but as a tribute of admiration and respect to the greatest actress of our age, it spoke worlds for the personal popularity of Miss Terry. At first glance one might have imagined being on board the steerage deck of a cheap excursion steamer. At once the predominance in numbers of the fair sex asserted itself. Straw hats and light summer blouses were strongly in evidence, but in anticipation of the chilly early morning air, many of the women had provided themselves with cloaks and travelling rugs. Large numbers had come furnished with deck chairs, and enterprising Covent Garden porters and loafers were doing a brisk business selling jerry-built stools and even empty fruit boxes. Creature comforts had not been forgotten. Beer and stout were the favoured beverages, while more solid nutriment took the form of sandwiches and pork pies. In one or two instances the more ambitious pic-nic basket was to be noticed. Later on vendors of ice-cream, ginger beer, oranges, and various other comestibles made their appearance, and at eleven o'clock at night seemed to be doing a roaring trade.

At any rate, it was not a silent vigil that these worshippers at the Terry shrine maintained with such wonderful pertinacity of purpose throughout Monday night and Tuesday morning. They freely joked and jested with one another, and packs of cards were brought into requisition to while the weary hours away. Two or three of the ladies busied themselves with crochet work or with knitting, and others still regaled their mental activities with *Ally Sloper* and any of the light literature that was to be had. Had a bookseller or a newsagent turned up with a trayful of the better class of works, he would undoubtedly have netted a nice little sum.

A record stands to the credit of a lady living in Bayswater, who was enthusiastic enough to remain outside Drury Lane Theatre for twenty-eight hours. She reached the amphitheatre entrance at half-past six on Monday morning, and as the doors were opened at a quarter to eleven the following morning, her vigil lasted exactly 28½ hours, and if the time spent inside the theatre prior to the commencement of the performance at half-past twelve be included, her total number of hours would be thirty. From ten o'clock on Monday more patient folk came along, but the real crush did not begin until some twelve hours later, and by eleven o'clock at night the colonnade in Russell-street, as well as one side of Vinegar-yard, was thickly lined with people who intended, if possible, to form a goodly portion of the audience on the following afternoon. Others were messenger boys, commissionaires, and Church Army men, who had been hired to keep places in the queues for people to whom the all-night wait did not appeal as an inviting prospect.

In the covered courtway "Uncle Green" was the central figure of an admiring little crowd of first-nighters and other similar ardent spirits. Uncle Green, it should be mentioned, is one of our oldest playgoers, if, indeed, he does not stand first in that category. He is now seventy years of age, and has been a regular theatre-goer since boyhood. His recollections go back to the days of Madame Celeste, and he remembers quite well seeing Benjamin Webster in *The Quest for Gold* at the old Adelphi over half-a-century ago, and he recalls, too, Macready in the character of Virginius at the Surrey Theatre. "Uncle Green" is a devoted first-nighter, and he is, as may be imagined, a living encyclopædia of the drama.

"This is a hazardous enterprise for a septuagenarian, Mr. Green, and you may have to fight for your seat at the end of the vigil."

"Ah!" replied the old gentleman, in his cheery way, "I enjoy a good struggle." And one could not help thinking that the older the playgoer the greater his enthusiasm.

One rather unfortunate feature in the long wait to secure seats was the presence of a number of loafers, who entered the crowd from time to time and sold and re-sold their places. Some of these artful gentry were assisted by touts in the streets on the look-out for clients, and there is not the slightest doubt that they proved a serious annoyance to the better class people who had taken up positions in the colonnade and in the archway.

"Make love to the bobby and you're all right," was the very excellent advice given by one young lady to a girl friend. And indubitably, even waving aside this delicate subject of romance, the "bobbies" were much sought after by the women, who plied them with all manner of questions. Great credit is due to the police for the courteous manner in which they performed what must have been an extremely irksome duty, and on several occasions they acted with commendable promptness and firmness in clearing the immediate neighbourhood from undesirable characters.

The management of the theatre considerately allowed the electric lights around the house to be kept on at full power through the night, and this kindly little act was highly appreciated, as was also the provision, from the same source, of tea at seven o'clock on Tuesday morning.

It was a curious sight, as the hours all too slowly passed away, to see one woman after another quietly falling asleep, occasionally to wake to fitful consciousness of her strange surroundings. The card-players gradually abandoned their game, and a general feeling of drowsy listlessness overcame even those who earlier in the evening had been full of boisterous merriment. The cause, no doubt, was a good one, but the question is, to what heights of dogged endurance might not the people of London be roused if they were ever brought face to face with circumstances imperilling their national existence?

Truly a wonderful tribute to a great actress!

"£1000 Reward," the popular drama by the late Charles Rogers, re-written and brought up to date by Charles Rogers, jun., will be sent on tour on Aug. 6, under the personal supervision of Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling. Two truck loads of specially-painted scenery will be travelled, including the electrically-lighted music hall set, and the success of the piece, which is acknowledged to be a money-making drama, is sure to be repeated. The company includes Messrs. Charles Rogers, jun., Charles Halling, Frank J. Pitt, Frank Dallas, Miss Daisy Halling, Mrs. Sidney Halling, Miss Cissie Francis, and Miss Lynn Darlington (the Australian contralto).

H.R.H. Princess Christian, accompanied by H.R.H. Princess Victoria, visited the Comedy Theatre on Saturday evening, and witnessed the performance of *Raffles*.

TO ELLEN TERRY,

On the occasion of her Jubilee, June 12, 1906,

These lines are respectfully dedicated in a spirit of true admiration by the author.

Come, rouse, each Thespian servitor,
And wind a laurel crown!
Thalia's handmaids to the fore,
And weave a royal gown;
And let the regal garment be
The richest ever seen,
A gift to grace the Jubilee
Of England's Player Queen.

She's served her art full fifty years
In every kind of play;
Ruled both your laughter and your tears
With true magnetic sway!
The varied muse of Shakespeare's lore
For us she truly limned:
Her name will stand for evermore
A star that shines undimned.

The great may come, the great may go,
As erst they came and went;
But none will ever shadow throw
On her, bright orb unspent!
In art's annals she'll ever live,
Decade upon decade,
And all the world will homage give
Her who an epoch made!

Her art uphold in every land
Where English hearts may beat,
So that the magic of her wand
Its full reward will meet!
And may the laurels we entwine
Rest proudly evergreen
Upon the marble brow divine
Of England's Player Queen!

Oswald Brand.

FRENCH PLAYS AT THE ROYALTY.

M. Coquelin aîné revived, at the Royalty on Friday, the 8th inst., for one night only, *L'Aventurière*, by Emile Augier, which drew a brilliant house. The comedy, it will be remembered, was adapted by T. W. Robertson, under the title of *Home*; and the version of it entitled *Late Love* was by the late Leonard Outram; Harry St. Maur was responsible for a rendering of the story under the title of *What a Woman!* and the late Edward Rose, the adaptor of *The Prisoner of Zenda*, gave the English stage still another version produced as *The Adventurers*. *L'Aventurière* was performed in the original French at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on May 11, 1880, Miss Geneviève Ward being the Clorinde; Miss Hébert the Célie; Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree the Monte Prade; Mr. Horace Wigan the Dario; Mr. H. St. Maur the Fabrice; and M. Marius the Don Annibal. In the last-mentioned part M. Coquelin suggested admirably the gasconading Bohemian, whose direst schemes are enlivened by his unquenchable high spirits. It is a part that fits him perfectly, and his treatment of the drunken scene in Act II. was a conspicuous example of his sound discretion. He did not exaggerate, and was, therefore, intensely funny. Clorinde, a part that was originally played by Mme. Arnould Plessy, has been represented by both Croizette and Bernhardt. Mlle. Suzanne Devoyod could not hope to rival the performances of two such distinguished representatives of the Comédie-Française, but came through very creditably, and touched the hearts of her hearers in the great scene with Célie. Patient at first, under the cold indifference of the young girl, the home thrust dealt at her lawless life by the youth and purity which so cruelly contrast with herself rouses the woman within her, and with a bitter cry Clorinde pours forth an eloquent diatribe against Pharisaical society. Mlle. Devoyod sounded emotional depths that drew forth gratifying tributes of admiration. M. Monteux, in the part of Monte Prade, represented the old hidalgo—the *père noble*—to the life, his reading of the amorous victim and hapless dupe of the beautiful gipsy adding no little to the success of the representation. Fabrice, the prodigal son of Monte Prade, found a capable representative in M. Desjardins, who was light and humorous in the comedy passages and always the high-spirited gentleman. Mlle. Guerray also delighted everyone by her winsome impersonation of Célie, who in this instance was something more than the conventional French ingénue. M. Coquelin entertained the house in some of his monologues, giving *Le Naufragé*, *Une Jolie Histoire* and, in answer to an encore, *La Chasse*.

Monday evening was devoted to revivals of *Tartuffe* and *Les Précieuses Ridicules*, and Tuesday saw the reproduction of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, M. Coquelin re-appearing in his famous impersonation of the Gascon hero, a part with which his fame as an actor has been largely identified since the production of Edmond Rostand's five-act piece at the Porte St. Martin on Dec. 28, 1897. The titular part will be always as much associated with the name of the eminent French comedian as is that of Macaire with Frédéric Lemaitre. Indeed, to see M. Coquelin as Cyrano is a liberal education in the art of the actor, and we cannot add anything fresh to the criticisms that have been passed upon a performance that reflects lustre on the French theatre. M. Coquelin, who has been repeating the character during the week, is well supported by MM. Jean Coquelin, Desjardins, and d'Auchy, and also by Mlle. Devoyod as Roxane. Next week Réjane comes to the Royalty.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The concert of Wednesday last began with a clever performance by Miss Vera Leleu and Miss Dorothy Holden of Raff's duet for two pianofortes, "Chaconne." Miss Ruby C. Lee sang the cavatina "O Mio Fernando," from Donizetti's *La Favorita*, with certain ability, though she would have done better with less exacting music. In Saint-Saëns Concerto in A minor for violoncello Mr. Norman Attwell produced a good tone and neat execution; and Miss Lilian Branston gained hearty applause for her clever mandoline solo on airs from Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, arranged by Singelee. Pelissier's fine song "Awake" was remarkably well sung by Miss Rosa Graves, who has a voice pure in quality and of ample power; but Mr. W. R. Naylor was not entirely successful in Coleridge-Taylor's somewhat unattractive song "Eleanore." Miss K. Ethel Harman bravely attacked the difficulties of Chopin's pianoforte Scherzo in B minor, and not without a certain measure of success. Other interesting instrumental items were the solo violin Nocturne in E flat (Chopin-Sarasate) played by Master Leonard Connabeer; and the duet for two pianos, "Rondo," by Chopin, performed by the Misses Katie Gray and Muriel Hearson. Miss Nellie Major was heard in two songs by Findon, "If in the great bazaar" and "Allah! be with us"; and relief was afforded to the concert by the clever reciting of "Stage-struck" by Miss Gertrude A. Shill, a talented pupil of Mr. L. F. Chapuy. Miss Jenny Hyman acted as accompanist, and Mrs. Charles P. Smith superintended the appearance of the young ladies on the platform.

Mr. S. Coleridge-Taylor's incidental music to *Nero* is now published in various forms by Messrs. Novello. The "Intermezzo" and "Eastern Dance" are entrancing numbers, and should enjoy wide popularity.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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The PUBLISHER,
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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AJAX.—*The whole idea of a copyright performance is that it must be a public performance—that is to say, that the public shall have the right of entrance on payment of the entrance fee. It does not matter if the public does not avail itself of its right. It is usual for some friend to pay one entrance fee, and no "outside" witnesses are required.*

NORTH.—*There are at present both a theatre and a music hall in course of erection in Sunderland. The former it is proposed to name the King's Theatre. The architect is Mr. W. Hope, and the contractor is Mr. S. F. Davidson, both of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. It is owned, we understand, by a Scottish syndicate. The music hall is said to be the private venture of Mr. Richard Thornton (Moss and Thornton), and is being built by Mr. J. W. White, of Sunderland; the architect is Mr. Milburn, of the same town. The theatre is situate in Crow Tree-road, and the hall in High-street. We cannot say who are the electrical contractors. The dates of opening have not yet been fixed.*

F. R. K. (Perth).—*We have received many similar applications, and are sorry we are unable to comply with your request.*

E. T. W.—*(1) Sandow was born at Königsberg, in Prussia. (2) At the Royal Aquarium, Westminster.*

H. J. H.—The Devil's Disciple, *by George Bernard Shaw, was first produced in England September 26, 1899, at the Kennington Theatre, when the principal parts were played by Messrs. Murray Carson, F. H. Macklin, Creagh Henry, John Willes, Luigi Lablache, Lesley Thompson, and Edward Lennox; and Misses Bessie Hatton, Elsie Chester, and Grace Warner. When Mr. Forbes Robertson played the piece at Kennington on November 21, 1900, he was himself the representative of Dick Dudgeon.*

B. B.—The Brixton Burglary *was originally produced at Terry's, December 6, 1898, and was revived at the Strand, June 23, 1900.*

J. WINTER.—Quality Street *was withdrawn from the Vaudeville November 28, 1903.*

VERNON.—*The play entitled* One Touch of Nature, *adapted from the French by Benjamin Webster, was first performed at the Adelphi on Aug. 6, 1859.*

J. H.—Sowing and Reaping *was produced at a Criterion matinée on June 5, 1890, and went into the evening bill there a month later.*

JOE B.—*Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews made their first appearance in England after their marriage in a Haymarket revival of* London Assurance, *on Oct. 11, 1858, sustaining the parts of Dazzle and Lady Gay respectively.*

MAC.—*Charlotte Cushman appeared for the first time as Romeo, at the Princess's Theatre, on Feb. 29, 1855.*

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 18.

AFTER THE BALL.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
ANDERSON'S MILLER. REPTR.—Colwyn Bay.
BLIND FOUNDLING.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Grand T., Southampton.
DISHONOURED.—Grand T., Nottingham.
GO-WON-GO MOHAWK.—T. R., Darlington.
HER LOST SELF.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Queen's T., Dublin.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
HOW MONEY'S MADE.—Court T., Warrington.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
IN HOLY RUSSIA.—Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—Elephant and Castle T.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (A) Co.—West Bromwich.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (B) Co.—T. R., Worcester.
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KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (E) Co.—T. R. Rugby.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (F) Co.—O. H., Dudley.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (G) Co.—T. R., Wednesbury.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (H) Co.—Empire T., Cradley.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Low, Bentham.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—Grand Theatre, Bolton.
LITTLE MARY.—T. R., Bournemouth.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Palace T., Newcastle.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
MANXMAN, THE.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
MONTE CRISTO.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
NEW WORLD, THE.—Queen's T., Farnworth.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—Grand T., Woolwich.
NO WEDDINGS BELLS FOR HER.—Osborne, Manchester
OCTOROON.—Alexandra T., Hull.
POOR MUST LIVE.—T. R., Huddersfield.
POWER OF GOLD.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—O. H., St. Helens.
ROMANY'S REVENGE.—Colosseum, Oldham.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Lyceum T., Edinboro'.
ROYAL REVENGE.—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
SAILORS OF THE KING.—Broadway Theatre, Deptford.
STILL ALARM.—Grand Theatre, Islington.
THRONE OF TERROR.—P. O. W., Salford.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
TWO HUSSARS.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
UNDER THE CZAR.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
WAY OF THE WORLD.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
WOULFE, T. B.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
YOUNGEST OF THE THREE.—Tunbridge Wells and Worthing.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Royalty T., Chester.

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The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth** or **Death** or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

The charge for a notice of **Marriage**, not exceeding forty words, is **Two Shillings and Sixpence**, every additional word **One Penny**.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

DE FRECE.—On May 30th, at Albion Cottage, Brixton-road, S.W., the wife of Jack de Frece of a daughter (stillborn). Many thanks for kind enquiries.

MARRIAGES.

COSGROVE—BURNS. — On June 13, at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Chapel, Mulberry-street, Manchester, Jack Cosgrove, of Edinburgh, to Ethel A. Burns, of Manchester.

DEATHS.

HOLLENDER.—June 11, from pneumonia, Count Max Hollender (Chairman of Board of Directors Palace Theatre), age 51.

MATHEWS.—On the 7th inst., of pneumonia, at 9, Lower Seymour-street, W., Julia Isabelle Mathews, daughter of Harry R. and the late Isabelle Mathews, of New York City, U.S.

WILLIAMS.—June 7, at Paddington, Nellie Williams, music-hall comedienne, aged 41.

IN MEMORIAM.

BEST.—In loving memory of my dear wife and true friend, Louise Dorothy Best (Miss Lalo), who died June 16, 1905. Rest thee, dear one.

CRAWFORD. — In loving memory of my husband, Alexander Gumming Rutherford Crawford (Harry Linn), who died June 11, 1890.

LE FER.—In ever loving memory of our darling son, Albert, aged 13, taken from us June 17, 1905. Deeply regretted by his sorrowing mother and father.

Oh! for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still.

FOR SYMPATHY.

HARCOURT.—Mrs. Fred Harcourt (Lilian Warren) begs to thank her many friends and sympathisers for their letters of condolence on the loss of her child.

OBERAMMAGAU, the home of the Passion Play, was the scene of an interesting ceremony on Whit-Monday, when £500 collected by Miss Milner, Mrs. Lloyd, and Mr. and Mrs. Robertson Lawson in connection with the cottage hospital was handed to the Burgomaster. The money has been collected to endow the hospital in perpetuity in memory of the Passion Play and of the late Burgomaster, Josef Mayr. Miss Milner, in making the presentation, pointed out that generous subscriptions had been given by King Edward and the Duke of Connaught, who warmly approved of the scheme.

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INDEX.

	Page.		Page.
Actions for Deceit ..	3	Injunct'ns, Disobey'g	40
Actor, Illness of	11	,, Interim ...	40
,, Incompetence of	17	,, irrespective of Contract	40
Advertisement of Artist's Name may be a Libel	81	Injunctions, not granted where previous compromise...	39
Agents	2	Injunction only granted where injury irreparable ..	38
,, cannot appoint other Agents	2	Injunctions party applying must have performed his part	35
Applicat'n for Theat'l Licence	53	Injunctions, there must be a negative clause	34
,, ,, Music and Dancing Licence ..	61	Injunctions to restrain Libel or Slander	40
Apprentices, Contracts with	31	Injunctions to restrain Nuisance ..	40
Ballet d'Action	52	Injunctions to restrain Performance	40
,, Divertissement..	52	Letters, Contract made by	2
Band Music	74	Libel	77
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., to Lord Chamb'l'n..54,	150	,, restraining	40
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., Form of	150	Licence, Effect of Want of 4,	55
Booth, when Licence Required for	50	Licence, Excise	63
Breach of Promise to Marry	41	,, ,, by whom granted	63
Children, Licence to Employ	32	Licence, Music and Dancing	58
Children's Dangerous Performance Act, 1879 32,	95	Licence, Music and Dancing, Application for	61
Closing Times	63	Licence, Music and Dancing, Penalties on Breach of	62
Commission Payable to Agent	28	Licence, Music and Dancing, when required	59
Consideration, Meaning of	2	Licence, Theatrical..	
Conspiracy to Damn a Piece	43	,, Theatrical, Application for	53
Contract, Definit'n of.	7	Licence, Theatrical, Application, Evidence on	53
,, Form of Theatrical	5	Licence, Theatrical, Granted Subject to Conditions	53
,, General Rules as to	1	Licence, Th-atrical, Granted to Manager of Theatre only ..	52
,, Grounds for Determination of	3	Licence, Theatrical, Penalties on Breach of	55
,, in Writing or Verbal	1	Licence, Theatrical, when Required	49
,, Made by Agent	2	Licence to Employ Children	33
,, Made by Letters	2	Liquidated Damages	39
,, must have a consideration. no consideration necessary where under seal	2	London County Council, Regulations of..	120
,, Setting aside..	3	Lord Chamberlain, Bond Required by.54	150
,, Stamp on	3	Lord Chamberlain, Fees of	55
,, Variation of Written ..	2	Lord Chamberlain, Jurisdiction of	52
,, with Apprentice	31	Lord Chamberlain, Licence, Form of..	150
,, with Infant..	31	Lord Chamberlain, Regulations of	146
Copyright	66	Malicious Enticement to break Contract..	31
,, Assignment of	67	Management and Audience	43
,, Duration of..	67	Manager, Jurisdict'n of, subject to Court	19
,, Infringement	76	Misrepresentation in Contract	3
,, International	73	Mistake in Contract..	3
,, Meaning of ..	66	Music, Licence for ..	58
,, Mode of Registration of	66	,, Hall Act, 1752 58,	93
,, Musical	69	,, Copyright in Sheet of	69
,, Plays performed Abroad	69	Music and Dancing Licence (see Licence, Music and Dancing).	
,, Remedies for Infringement of	76	Musical Copyright ..	69
,, Act 1842 ...67,	100	,, Compositions Act, 1882..70	123
,, (Musical Compositions) 1887 Act 70,	123	Musical Compositions Act, 1888 70,	125
(Musical Compositions) 1888 Act 70,	125	Novel, Dramatising a	74
County Council....52,	61	Nuisance caused by Crowds	47
,, ,, Discretion of as to granting Licence	53	Opera, Copyright in..	71
,, ,, Jurisdiction of	53	Order on Programme libellous	81
Criticism 43,	77	Owner of Unlicensed Premises liable	51
,, must be honest	43	Partnership in Unlicensed Theatre cannot be enforced ..	5
,, Right to ..43,	77	Payment and no Room	46
Crowds may be a nuisance	47	Payment not essential to necessity for Licence	59
Custom of the Profession 2,	22	Penalties under Excise Acts	65
Damages	34	Penalties as to Music and Dancing Licences	62
,, for Breach of Contract	41	Penalties as to Theatrical Licences	55
,, for Breach of Promise to Marry	41	Penalty on Unstamped Agreement	3
,, for Tort	41	Pianoforte Arrangement	71
,, Measure of ..	41	Plans of Theatre	52
,, must not be too remote ..	42	,, Music Hall ..	61
Dancing, Licence for	58	Playwright 66,	68
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897 32,	97	Principal and Agent	2
Defamatory Words..	77	Public Health Act,1890	59
Disorderly Conduct in Theatres, &c. ..	43	,, House	61
Dramatic Copyright Act, 1833	98	,, Performance..	50
Dramatic Piece, What is a?	71	,, Place	68
Dramatising a Novel	74	Re-engagement, Meaning of	28
Drunkenness no Excuse	17	Remedies for Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Duologue, when a Stage Play	52	Remedies for Fraud in Contract	3
Evidence on hearing of Application for Licence 53,	61	Representation, Right of	68
Excise Licence (see Licence, Excise).		,, Registration of Right of	68
Fame a Consideration in Contract ..	23	Retaining a Seat....	48
Fines and Forfeits must be reasonable	18	Rinking requires a Licence	59
Fraud in Contract ..	3	Riot	43
"Hire" defined	55	Room, Performance in	51
Hissing an Actor....	43	Season, Meaning of..	26
House, When Licence required for	50	Seat, Right to Retain	48
Illness of Actor	11	Services, Specific Performance of	34
,, ,, Clause in Contract as to ..	16	Slander	77
,, Manager may prevent Actor from performing	16	Song, when a Dramatic Piece	71
,, ,, when it excuses..	11	Song, when a Musical Composition ..	71
Infringement of Copyright	76	Stage Play, Meaning of	51
,, Remedies for	76	Stage Play, must be duly Licensed	54
Injunctions	34	Starring	31
,, Acquiescence will prevent	40	Sunday Act	55
,, conduct of party applying must be fair and honest	40	,, Performing on Theatres Act, 1843 ..49,	87
Incompetence of Actor	17	Theatre, Patent	50
Infants	31	,, Unlicensed 4,	50
,, Contracts with..	31	Theatrical Licence (see Licence, Theatrical).	
,, Licence to employ	33		

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1906.

THE NYE CHART BED.

We are pleased to be able to inform our readers that the £200 which was needed to secure the continuance of the bed in the Seaford Convalescent Hospital for the use of any member of the profession who should require rest and kindly care during or after illness has been subscribed, and the bed is available for members of the dramatic profession for the next twelve years. While the amount was being supplied by the generosity of numerous contributors, the authorities at the hospital kindly kept the bed open; and it has been constantly at the disposal of the profession. The history of the establishment of the bed is interesting. In the February of 1892, a notable figure in provincial management passed away. Mrs. NYE CHART was an interesting type of the popular provincial manageress, familiar with every detail of her profession, and generally beloved and respected. After going through a complete training for the stage, which commenced at a small outlying London theatre, and was maintained with the accompaniments of steady study and real hard work, Mrs. CHART continued to appear in public, with unvarying success for over fourteen years. After the death of her husband in 1876, she carried on, till shortly before her decease, the management of the Theatre Royal, Brighton, one of the best-conducted provincial playhouses in the Kingdom. The good-will which Mrs. CHART enjoyed in Brighton was not confined to theatrical circles. She was immensely popular in society; and her affability and generosity made her the favourite of those who came into contact with her. Her industry and activity were wonderful; she was devoted, heart and soul, to the duties of her profession, and identified herself thoroughly with its prosperity, its reputation, and its interests. It occurred to us that the best memorial to her would be the alleviation of some of the sorrow and pain which are almost inseparable from the career of the theatrical artist. We therefore proposed, with the help of the profession, to endow a bed in a hospital to be devoted to the use of any member of the profession who should require rest and kindly care during or after illness. Mr. NYE CHART, the son, headed the subscription list; and, as usual when an appeal of this sort is made in *The Era*, response was prompt and liberal. After due consideration it was decided to select the Seaside Convalescent Hospital at Seaford, near Newhaven, Sussex. This institution was established in 1860 for the purpose of affording sea air, nutritious diet, repose, and, if required, medical treatment to convalescent persons in order to enable them to regain the strength necessary for them to resume their employment. The hospital affords the comforts of a home, the attentions of a competent staff, medical supervision, and a generous dietary of the best food. Hundreds of young persons in the early stages of consumption have been completely restored to health by the invigorating air of Seaford, and the care and attention they have received at the Hospital. To endow a bed in the Seaford Convalescent Hospital, and to call it the "Nye Chart Bed," seemed to be the best tribute to the many virtues of the departed manageress. The requisite legal documents were drawn up by Messrs. BOLTON and MOTE, and a cheque was handed to the treasurer of the Seaford Hospital for the endowment of the bed, the balance remaining, amounting to over £30, being forwarded to Mr. COLTSON for the Actors' Benevolent Fund, the committee of which institution sent their most sincere and grateful thanks to us for our share in the endowment, credit for which was chiefly due to the great kindness of heart and generosity of the profession.

The result of the endowment exceeded our highest hopes. Many an actor, recovering from illness, has availed himself of the Nye Chart bed at Seaford, and has blessed the generosity of the profession with deep fervency. It will be indeed a pleasant reflection for those who have subscribed to this fund, that any of their fellow-artists recovering from illness will have a "sanatorium" of which they can take advantage during convalescence without obligation, except to their fellows. Those who come back from the Hospital do so with hearts full of gratitude and mouths full of testimony to the precious value of the treatment they have received. In the words of one old actor, once in a notable position in London, he came back "feeling quite another man."

The period for which the bed was originally taken having elapsed, a new appeal to the profession was made, with the result indicated at the head of this article.

The hon. treasurer, Mr. F. H. PEDGRIFT, reports that the usual legal documents for the fresh term of years have been drawn up and completed by JOHN H. W. MOTE, Esq., honorary solicitor to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. In another column will be found a full list of subscriptions received, and a statement as to the disposal of the full amount, by which it will be seen that £200 has been devoted to the maintenance of the bed, and the balance of £5 15s. forwarded to the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The orchestral and choral concert of Wednesday evening last was interesting as showing the great advance the pupils of the Royal College are making, the finished rendering of Symphony No. 7 in C major, by the genial old master, Haydn, being a good example. The first performance of three new songs by Mr. Ernest B. Farrar was also a feature of the concert on Wednesday. Mr. Farrar has set two poems, "The Pine Tree" and "Golden Stars," by the famous poet Heine, to music of more than average merit, the most effective being "Golden Stars." The third song, "A Song of the Open Road," to verses of R. L. Stevenson, proved the least attractive of the series. Mr. Robert Chignell interpreted the songs with skill and intelligence, both vocalist and composer being recalled and warmly applauded by the huge audience. Mr. James Friskin undertook the solo instrument in Brahms' Concerto for piano and orchestra, No. 2 in B flat, with great ability, being ably supported by the orchestra, conducted by Sir Charles V. Stanford. At the close Mr. Friskin was honoured by three hearty recalls. The part-song for ladies' voices, "Litany," by Mr. William Y. Hurlstone, whose lamented death occurred on May 30, 1906, showed that we have lost a young composer of great promise, Mr. Hurlstone's clever compositions both at these and the Patrons' Fund concerts having aroused considerable hopes for the future for the talented young artist. Mr. S. Coleridge Taylor's cantata, "Kubla Khan," for solo and chorus concluded the concert. The cantata is founded on verses by the great poet Coleridge, "who relates that during a profound sleep he composed two to three hundred lines. On awaking he began to write down the poem, but being interrupted, found he could not remember all; the poem therefore remains a fragment." The chorus, on the whole, rendered the work fairly well, the best item being the solo by Miss Maggie Kirkbride.

IBSEN'S *Ghosts* will form the subject of a lecture to be delivered by Dr. Stanton Coit, the leader of the ethical movement in England, at a meeting of the West London Ethical Society on Sunday morning at the Kensington Town Hall.

THE King was present at Covent Garden on Wednesday night, and listened to a superb performance of *Rigoletto*.

A TRANSLATION by Mr. Arthur Allen Sykes of Gogol's Russian comedy, *The Inspector-General*, will be produced by the Incorporated Stage Society at the Scala Theatre on June 17. The translator is the husband of Miss Nellie Ganthony, whose musical recitals have won such general popularity, and is the author of "The Coronation Cruise of the 'Midnight Sun'" and other works.

THE MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

This is the present position of the Musical Copyright Bill. Mr. O'Connor, after he had carried the second reading, was asked by Mr. Gladstone, the Home Secretary, to accept certain amendments in the Bill which the Home Office thought necessary. Several consultations were held, at which were present Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Herbert Samuel, the Under-Secretary, Mr. Boosey, and the legal representatives of the music trade; and as a result of the negotiations, the Home Office and Mr. O'Connor came to a complete understanding, and it was agreed that the measure should be amended so that now it runs thus:—

1.—Every person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any copies of any musical work, or has in his possession any plates, for the purpose of printing or reproducing pirated copies of any musical work, shall (unless he proves that he acted innocently) be guilty of an offence punishable on summary conviction, and shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £5, and on a second or subsequent conviction to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding two months or to a fine not exceeding £10. Any constable may take into custody without warrant any person who sells, exposes, offers, or has in his possession for sale any pirated music.

2.—(1) If a court of summary jurisdiction is satisfied by information on oath that there is reasonable ground for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed on any premises, the Court may grant a search warrant authorising the constable named therein to enter the premises between the hours of six of the clock in the morning and nine of the clock in the evening, and, if necessary, use force for making such entry, whether by breaking open doors or otherwise, and to seize any copies of any musical work or any plates in respect of which he has reasonable ground for suspecting that an offence against this Act is being committed.

(2) All copies of any musical work and plates seized under this section shall be brought before a court of summary jurisdiction, and if proved to be pirated copies or plates intended to be used for the printing or reproduction of pirated copies shall be forfeited and destroyed or otherwise dealt with as the Court think fit.

3.—In this Act the expression "pirated copies" means copies of any musical work written, printed, or otherwise reproduced without the consent lawfully given by the owner of the copyright in such musical work, and the expression "plates" includes any stereotype or other plates, stones, matrices, transfers, or negatives used or intended to be used for printing or reproducing copies of any musical work.

4.—This Act may be cited as the Pirated Music Act, 1906; and the Musical (Summary Proceedings) Copyright Act, 1902, and this Act may be cited together as the Musical Copyright Acts, 1902 and 1906.

The Government, being thus satisfied with the Bill, resolved to add all its weight to the effort to pass it into law; and Mr. Herbert Gladstone and Mr. Herbert Samuel have attended each night in their places when the Bill has been proposed. This cannot be done till eleven o'clock. Unfortunately, by the Rules of the House it requires universal assent for a Bill to be taken after eleven o'clock and one single Member is therefore sufficient, by uttering the simple words, "I object," to stop further progress with the Bill. Mr. Caldwell, though now prevented from taking any direct part in opposing the Bill, has been active in the lobbies; and unfortunately has been able to obtain the assistance of three Liberal Members—Mr. Harwood, Mr. Byles, and lately, Mr. Lupton. Mr. O'Connor has renewed several nights in succession his attempt to get the Bill discussed, but on each occasion one of the three gentlemen named has stopped him. Mr. Herbert Gladstone has appealed to these gentlemen to desist from further obstruction of a Bill which the Government is now thoroughly able to support. Mr. Redmond, the leader of the Irish Party, has also made a similar and even stronger appeal; but the appeals have up to the present failed. There is little doubt, however, that the Government themselves will ultimately take up the Bill, and, by giving it some Government time, pass it into law. The prospects are, of course, greatly improved by the fact that it is now practically certain there will be an autumn Session; and between now and the month of December there will be ample opportunity to pass the Bill in spite of the efforts of the obstructives.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—The late SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

MR. WILLIAM POEL will introduce Mr. Samuel Arthur King to the London public at a Shakespearean recital at the Royalty Theatre on Friday, the 29th inst. Mr. King's recital is to be preceded by a little comedy named *Mamma's Opinions*, and will be followed by a piece called *Love and Halfpence*, in which Miss Rita Jolivet and Mr. Poel are to appear.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir, in your notice last week of the Tivoli, Glasgow, you put Mons. Latharrie and Amy De Frece; it should have been, Yours very truly, "Wisper," comedy tourist juggler, and Miss Beattie Bloom.

A QUAINT missive showing that Beethoven was not entirely devoid of business instincts figured in Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's sale on the 8th inst. The letter was dated Wien, 1817, addressed to the musician in the Imperial Orchestra in Vienna, and in it the great composer says: "If you do not return to me within eight days the Salba and parts of the ballet *Promotheo* composed by me, I shall enforce my claim to same through the authorities. . . . You ought to be ashamed of yourself to want to cheat me in this way, or to do me ont of what is mine. Do not believe that I merely threaten. I will, and must have, the part again which belongs to me." The letter was sold for 20 guineas.

MR. JAMES WILLARD is producing the farcical sketch, *The Strange Little Stranger*, at the Royal, Oldham, on Monday. The bookings for the variety theatres are in the hands of Mr. Ernest Dottridge.

A COPY of "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, JUNE 14.—In a few days half the Paris theatres will be closed, quite a fortnight earlier than usually is the case. Our playhouses certainly have had a bad season, and Messieurs les directeurs were probably not sorry to lock up their places and leave for their holidays, hoping for better days in September. Some of these gentlemen are inclined to accuse the "trust" with being the cause of the theatrical crisis. Such a statement could only be dictated by envy. The "trust" owns the Athénée and the Folies Dramatiques, and these are—with the exception of the Théâtre Antoine—the only houses doing a prosperous trade. The ill-starred Bouffes Parisiens, it was announced, would pass next season into the management of M. Charles Samson, backed by big capital. Everything was settled, when the Authors' Society discovered that M. Samson was supposed to be secretly connected with the hateful "trust," whereupon they withheld their consent; and the matter is still in suspense. The truth is that the crisis is attributable to the bad plays produced. Our managers show little discretion in the selection of the works they accept, or else they mount them for financial considerations that do not tend to raise the standard of their house.

Before starting on tour, M. Antoine, the new manager of the Odéon, has discharged many members of the old company. Among those he retains are: MM. Dorival, Darras, Duard, Escoffier, Violet, Brou, Chevalet; Mmes. Marcelle, Jullien, and Tessandier. We regret not to see on that list the name of Mlle. Sergine, the talented young artist who made such a brilliant début in M. Camille de Saint-Croix's great work, *Armide et Gildis*. But, for private reasons, that lady tendered her resignation.

M. Porel, of the Vaudeville, has engaged Mlle. Baletta, from the Théâtre Michel in St. Petersburg, to replace Mme. Andrée Mégard in the piece with which he intends to inaugurate the coming season. M. Coquet has also joined the Vaudeville to impersonate the character of Cercleux in *Education de Prince*. M. Porel does not intend to open before the first days of November.

At the Porte-Saint-Martin, where *Les Exilés* is still running, MM. Clèves and Larochelle are putting into rehearsal *Strasbourg*, a patriotic drama, that plays during the Franco-Prussian war. We will have the pleasure of once more beholding the spiked helmets, which, some twenty years ago, the authorities would not tolerate on the stage.

It was to be foreseen that the erection of a statue to George Sand would induce playwrights to show us the great authoress in the flesh. As it turns out, two gentlemen, M. Le Lasseur and M. A. Laget, hit upon that same idea. In both plays the principal characters will be George Sand and Alfred de Musset, who, it will be remembered, was that lady's lover, an honour he shared with Chopin.

I am sorry to have to record the death of Mlle. Henriette Baréty, who for many years appeared in important rôles in opera. She rarely sang in Paris, but always had first-class engagements in the provinces. She was the sister of Mlle. Baréty, the well-known actress of the Odéon.

It is a lamentable fact that the works of great men go out of fashion like hats and dresses. Some ten years ago the plays of Corneille were still regularly produced at the Comédie Française. But, slowly, Corneille began to lose ground, and, until quite recently, months passed without his name appearing on the bill. Fortunately for his memory, and also for his admirers, the centenary of his birth was celebrated, and he at last received his statue. Beautiful speeches were made; everybody declared he was a genius; but nobody asked why that genius's works were now only read at school, and never produced at our classical playhouse. However, attention has once more been drawn to him, and it is to be hoped that *Le Cid*, *Horace*, *Cinna*, *Polyeucte*, &c., will reappear on the Comédie Française répertoire, and, what is more, remain there.

Another spectre has made its reappearance. The Trianon theatre unearthed Hérold's *Le Pré aux Clercs*, and the audience seemed to take kindly to the tuneful but woefully old-fashioned music. They did, however, not go into ecstasies over it like when it was first produced in the good year 1832. Then it was a long cry of enthusiasm and admiration from every part of the house. At the close of the third act the audience rose and loudly called for the author, who, they thought, was sitting at the back of the stage box, enjoying his triumph. Alas! the box was empty, and when the curtain rose, Thénard, the famous singer, came forward, and, in a voice choked with emotion, said: "Ladies and gentlemen, M. Hérold is too ill to appear before you. He is not in the house." After the first act the excitement had proved too much for him. Coughing violently a hæmorrhage had set in, and he fell fainting into the arms of his friends. He was taken home, and never rose from his sick bed.

Our music halls are launching their summer revues, and La Cigale opened the ball with *Que tu dis!* in two acts and eight tableaux, by MM. P. L. Flers and Eugène Héros. The authors have not expended an enormous amount of wit on their production; but they have had the good fortune to find exponents like Maurel and Prince, who, by their drollery, imparted the necessary "go" to the revue. We see these excellent comedians at Mlle. Piérat's wedding; at Algeciras; at the Elysée, on the day M. Loubet makes room for his successor. Among the ladies I can specially mention Miss Lowler, who danced herself into favour with the public, and came in for a large share of well-deserved applause. The revue is well mounted, especially the tableau of the défilé in Saint James's Park.

A couple of years ago we referred in these columns to the "white slave trade," warning English music hall singers to make careful inquiries before accepting any engagement in the French provinces. The evil to which we alluded grew worse in the course of years, and everybody will compliment Senator Bérenger for drawing the Prime Minister's attention to the disgraceful proceedings on the part of the owners of the so-called cafés-concert. Unsuspecting girls—frequently strangers—are brought to these places, and engaged as vocalists. But, once there, they discover to their horror that a different class of work is expected from them. Fortunate even are those who are only asked by the master of the establishment to drink with the customers. In many places it is even much worse; and the wretched owners use every trick to prevent their victims from escaping. A new law, therefore, is now proposed by which the proprietor of a café-chantant renders himself liable to a long term of imprisonment if he compels the artists in his employ either to drink with the customers or to lead an immoral life. Moreover, they will have to pay a heavy fine and their licence will be revoked. It is to be hoped that this law will soon be passed, and thus put a stop to a state of things unworthy of a civilised country.

SHAKESPEARE'S country as it was in the great dramatist's time and as it is now will be dealt with in a new book shortly to be published. Mr. George Morley is the author, and the work will be illustrated with three-colour pictures by Mr. J. E. Duggins.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In this week's notice of the Pier Pavilion, Dover, your correspondent styles us the Follies Concert Party. It should be the Jollies.—Yours faithfully, BERTIE RALLAND, Manager for the Jollies Concert Party, The Kursaal, Bexhill-on-Sea, June 10.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. EDWARD TERRY, an old friend of Mr. Edward Swanborough, has kindly consented to say a few words of thanks at the conclusion of the matinée at the London Pavilion on June 28.

MR. FRANK WEEKS, the popular manager of the South London Palace, started last Saturday morning for a fortnight's jaunt to Jersey. Before starting he made arrangements for a matinée to-day at the "South," in aid of the Hospital Saturday Fund. The Mayor of Southwark will speak.

MR. DAVID DAY is expediting, through the Press, a humorous song by the author of "By kind permission of the *Daily Mail*." It is named "'In Chicago.' Canned by Edgar Bateman. Labelled by J. Airlie Dix." Professional copies will be ready in a few days.

MR. J. W. ROWLEY writes to tell us that the Jingo song, "We don't want to fight," did not "make" the late Mr. G. H. Macdermott. His terms were raised from £6 to £25 per week while he was singing "The Scamp" at the London Pavilion. No other singing comedian up to that time had received more than £12, and only George Leybourne and Arthur Lloyd were able to command that.

THE Palace Theatre mourns the loss of Count MAX HOLLENDER, who succumbed to an attack of pneumonia on Monday, at the age of fifty-one. He was chairman of the board of directors from the original formation of the Palace Theatre, Ltd., until the day of his death, and took a deep interest in all the affairs of the company. In other respects he was well-known in the entertainment world, having been interested in the financing of several theatrical ventures. Outside of theatrical business, Count Hollender was best known as a remarkably clever connoisseur of and dealer in works of art, and as one of the proprietors of the Hanover Gallery in Old Bond-street. In his early days he was associated with journalism, more particularly as a contributor to the Paris *Figaro*.

AMONG the many floral tributes at the funeral were wreaths from each of the Palace directors, the general-manager and the four principal members of the Palace staff, the employees of the theatre being represented by a magnificent harp over four feet in height, composed of orchids, arum lilies, and violets.

MISS ROSE STAHL'S success has been so pronounced that her engagement has been extended for a second time at the Palace, where on Monday Miss Lucy Ashton, a clever young American singer, will appear in two scenas, *Skyland* and *The Grass Widows*, supported by a chorus of pretty girls.

MR. SEYMOUR HICKS, like many other comedians on the theatrical stage, is not above borrowing from the variety patterer. Mr. Dick Knowles had a famous gag on his last visit to the Oxford. In a talk between two passengers on a liner one said to the other, "Where did you get that black eye?" "Oh, that is a birth-mark," was the reply. "Nonsense," retorted the first speaker; "you didn't have it yesterday morning." "I know," explained the other; "I got it last night by going into the wrong berth." With Mr. Hicks in *The Beauty of Bath*, at the Aldwych, the black eye becomes a scratch on the face.

THE ridiculous report that Miss Ellen Terry has been offered £1000 per week to appear in a series of vaudeville recitals in America under the direction of Messrs. Keith, the American variety managers, is, of course, contradicted. The famous actress is not likely to leave the legitimate for the variety stage.

A BILL extending the Dangerous Performances Acts to women, without regard to age, is promised by the Home Secretary, in view of the recent parachute fatality. Danger of life of a more or less imminent character is involved in parachuting and some performances of the "looping-the-loop" type, and in future are to be barred to women.

MISS HARRIETT VERNON, who is at the Oxford, produced last Monday an entirely new and original scena, entitled "Sunshine and Shadow," assisted by Mr. Leslie Race. This is one of the best things this well-known artist has done for some years. We hear it is a forerunner of a number of scenas. "Sunshine and Shadow" has certainly made a great hit at the Oxford.

IN consequence of the great success of Miss Marie Lloyd's new number, "The Custom of the Country," by Messrs. Harrington and Tate, the Monte Carlo Publishing Company have accepted it for early inclusion in their rapidly-growing list of "Sixpenny Successes."

MESSRS. HARRINGTON AND TATE are now busily engaged writing and composing a special new song-scena of a most novel and original type for Miss Alice Lloyd (who has been causing a *furore* at the Empire, Sheffield, this week, with "Bamboo Bungalow"), with which she will open at one of the leading West End halls in October.

NEVER has Guerrero looked more handsome than she does now, in *The Daughter of the Mountain*, at the Palace Theatre. She makes her entrance, with the inevitable soft, grey felt hat on her black hair, and a rose behind her ear, in a dress where a dozen different shades of blue—violet, purple, mauve—are mingled with grass green, and the white silk shawl twisted round her willowy figure is embroidered with delicate flowers the colours of the rainbow. At the end of the pantomime the beautiful Spanish dancer appears in deep purple and silver, one of her sleeves—a daring touch—being made of a trellis-work design of rose-red velvet ribbon.

MISS NINA GORDON, whose imitations of music hall stars are always encored at the Palace, gave an entertainment last Sunday evening, at the Grand Hotel, Folkestone, before a large and critical audience. She was assisted by her mother, Mrs. Westell-Gordon—the Westell-Gordon family is as well known on the concert platform as Miss Nina on the music hall stage—and her sisters and brother. Miss Eva has hit on a somewhat novel line in the mimicry of popular actresses, Miss Baby is quite a clever little whistler, and Mr. James Gordon plays the 'cello. Signor Tosti, who is staying at Folkestone, was delighted with the performance. On a previous occasion he had paid Miss Nina Gordon the compliment of offering to accompany her in his most popular song, "Good-bye."

WHAT is virtually another edition of the revue *Venus, 1906* will be presented at the Empire on Monday, when a number of new songs and novel "business" will be introduced. *Coppelia*, Délibes's delightful ballet, with Mdlle. Genée in the principal part, still remains the chief attraction at this variety theatre in Leicester-square.

MISS NELLIE WILLIAMS, known in variety circles as "The Lady Chevalier," died on Thursday, the 7th inst., at Paddington, after a short illness. The deceased lady had been on the variety boards since she was 16 years of age, and was much respected by her numerous friends. The funeral took place on Monday, the interment being at the Paddington Cemetery, Willesden. Miss Williams, who was 41 at the time of her death, made popular "The Whelk Stall Gal," written by Mr. Charles Wilmott and composed by Mr. H. E. Pether.

MR. JAMES CHAPPELL, that veteran performer and caterer, will open his season of beach concerts at Great Yarmouth on Monday with an excellent company. Performances will be given three times daily, and visitors to breezy Bloatertown will again be able to enjoy harmony and hilarity within sound of the wild waves.

To Mr. Fred Leighton, who is retiring from the management of the Empire, Bristol, to take up a position in London, was given a complimentary supper on Friday evening, the 8th inst., at the Crown and Dove Hotel, Bridewell-street, Bristol.

THERE were nearly 100 guests present, including a number of ladies; and the genial manager of the People's Palace, Mr. Horace Livermore, was in the chair. After supper and the loyal toasts had been disposed of with enthusiasm, Mr. Livermore proposed the toast of the evening, "Our Guest," speaking in felicitous terms of the courtesy invariably shown by Mr. Leighton. To the toast of "Music Hall Performers," Mr. Fred Neiman replied, and Miss Annie Purcell responded for "The Ladies." Mr. Leighton gratefully acknowledged the kindness and support he had received in Bristol from the Press and public.

AMONG other presentations to Mr. Leighton have been several illuminated addresses, a cheque for £10 10s. from Mr. B. Pearce Lucas and Mr. Day, and a case of silver fish eaters from Mr. and Mrs. Lucas, of the White Hart Hotel. At the Empire on Saturday night a Bioscope picture was shown containing Mr. Leighton's photograph, with appropriate wording, and it was greeted with prolonged cheers.

A PLEASANT surprise awaited both Mr. George Leyton and his audience on Saturday last at the Birmingham Hippodrome, where and when the popular actor-vocalist, who was finishing a brilliantly successful two-weeks' starring engagement, was made the recipient of a gratifying and certainly most deserved presentation of a beautiful oak-cased clock with the explanatory inscription: "Presented to Mr. George Leyton by the committee of the Birmingham Military Veterans (Crimean and Indian Mutiny), as a token of gratitude for services rendered by him to the needy military veterans of Great Britain, 9 June, 1906."

MR. COUNCILLOR MARCH, who was supported by Mr. A. W. Matcham, treasurer, Mr. P. D. Elbourne, resident-manager, Hippodrome, and others, made some pertinent remarks anent the Government, which were strenuously cheered by the veterans themselves present, as well as by the audience. Mr. Leyton, in responding, expressed his determination to persist in his efforts until the Government took up the work. Mr. Leyton's efforts have, so far, realised the magnificent sum of £1,276 11s. 6d.

MR. WALTER SMITH, the courteous and energetic resident-manager of the Hippodrome, Eastbourne, is to be given a complimentary benefit on Friday, June 22nd. Mr. Smith will be remembered by many members of the profession as head of the stage staff at some of the Brighton theatres. Since his transference to the front of the house at the Hippodrome, Eastbourne, he has fully justified his position, and his many friends will wish him a bumper house on the occasion of his benefit.

MR. ARTHUR D. BURTON, the enterprising manager of the old-established George Burton gala agency, was entertained by the members of the Sheffield Garrick Club on the 9th inst. The genial Arthur was felicitated by the members on his recovery from his recent indisposition and safe return from a continental tour. As a little souvenir of a happy event, Mr. Burton was presented by Mr. Edward Hamilton, on behalf of a few close friends, with a diamond scarf-pin.

THE Tivoli, Leeds, will to-day (Saturday) close for six weeks, during which time extensive structural alterations are to be carried out and the interior renovated and upholstered in sumptuous Barrasfordian style.

MR. A. VIC. CARNELL, the courteous and popular manager of the St. Helens Hippodrome, was married at Christ Church, Nottingham, on Monday to Miss Florence North, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. North, of Nottingham. Mr. and Mrs. Carnell have been the recipients of numerous handsome presents, including a cheque for nearly £50 subscribed for by Mr. Carnell's many St. Helens friends, and valuable gifts from Mr. Fred Willmott, Mr. Fred Weisker, Mr. W. H. Crooks, and the staff and orchestra of the St. Helens Hippodrome.

AT the top of the bill at the Palace, Tottenham, this week, are the Montague Brothers, in their famous act, "The Sculptor's Dream." It is a pity that these fine artists are not seen West, for their show is clean and neat and excellent in every way. Little Zola is another performer who scores during the evening with his funny ways, the audience enjoying his turn immensely. The bottom of the bill is occupied by a Chinese sketch, entitled *La Chang*, depicting the horrors of the opium den. It is well played by Mr. W. Bradford, Mr. Stanley Grosvenor, Misses Ethel King, Mabel Wynne, and Laura Reed. Lily Black dances and sings in the best style; and Kitty Gresham, the Society Girl, and the Sisters Selwyn, with illustrated songs, conclude a strong programme.

MR. CHARLES CLIFFORD, the favourite harpist and humourist, leaves town this week to fulfil a long series of provincial engagements, commencing at the Empire, Portsmouth, next Monday.

AN application to the Grimsby Town Council was made on Friday, the 8th inst., by Mr. Matthew Dowse for a dramatic licence for the performance of stage plays at the Hippodrome. Mr. Wilkin said that the Council would remember a similar application made on behalf of the Palace Theatre, and also that when applications of this kind were made the granting of a dramatic licence carried with it the right to an excise licence. He should therefore move that a dramatic licence should be granted, subject to the applicant giving an undertaking that no intoxicating liquors should be sold or served in the Hippodrome. The Council decided to grant the licence, inserting upon it the restriction that no intoxicating liquors should be sold under certain pains and penalties.

THE greater portion of the audience at the second performance at the Birmingham Gaiety on Thursday week became the involuntary spectators of a "turn" of which the programme gave no inkling. Upwards of a score of young men, said to be Birmingham University undergraduates, who had booked seats in the stalls, behaved in a very disgraceful fashion, interrupting the performance and creating such a hubbub that at last Mr. Albert Bushell, the resident manager, whose persuasive appeals to the unruly visitors had been treated with contempt, summoned the members of his staff and had the delinquents turned out neck and crop.

MR. BUSHELL states that the students had not been in the place above five minutes before they commenced caterwauling and uttering other cries that disturbed the artists and audience alike. He personally appealed to the offenders to desist, but as the evening advanced they became more obnoxious, and so objectionable was their behaviour during the time the Kellinos were appearing that the performers refused to continue their turn. The management then had the disturbers summarily ejected, a scene of considerable excitement ensuing. Quietude being thus restored, the performance was continued.

THE Lyceum again closed its doors on Saturday night. The future of the theatre has been discussed in the daily Press during the week. Reports have been current that the famous house will be taken by a well-known actor-manager who spent his novitiate there during the most brilliant days of the Irving régime.

THE sports in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, to be held at Stamford Bridge Sports Ground, Fulham, on Thursday, July 12, will be blessed with a very entertaining programme of events. For the competitors valuable prizes will be offered, including a challenge cup for the one-mile walking handicap, presented by Mr. Frank Allen, the popular manager of Moss Empires, and another cup from the "Terriers'" Association for the half-mile running handicap. Comic interludes are being arranged by the leading artists of the day. Mr. Horace Marriott will be glad to receive at once the names of ladies and gentlemen who will be willing to give prizes to be competed for.

THE announcement that the entire staff of the Coliseum had been given a fortnight's notice that their services would no longer be required has led many to believe that the fine establishment in St. Martin's-lane was possibly to be closed for good. Everyone will therefore be delighted to know that this is far from being the case. Mr. John Donald, the acting manager, was good enough the explain the official situation to a representative. "When the present run of the Revue terminates," he said, "the Coliseum will close for the production of an autumn Revue, and to permit of preparations for the pantomime, *Cinderella*, which is to be staged at Christmas. The run of the present performance may terminate ten days hence or last for another month. Our notice to the staff has been issued as a precautionary measure, in order to safeguard the management in any new arrangements they might think it desirable to introduce.

"THE public may rest assured that there has never been any thought of closing the establishment permanently. It will remain closed only during the minimum time required to rehearse the new production, which is to be another Revue, with altogether new scenes and novel effects, which will probably be arranged by M. de Cottens. His present work, you know, has been most flatteringly received by the London public, and will reach its 150th performance next Saturday. The next production will be under the auspices of a reconstructed company. The idea is, I believe, to thoroughly reorganise the theatre and start afresh with the next production, under altogether happier and more promising circumstances."

MR. CHARLES COBORN'S many friends will be pleased to learn that his daughter, Miss Frances McCallum, is doing very well indeed in Yokohama, and is immensely enjoying her many novel experiences. In a recent letter to her parents she describes her first experiences in the use of the chopsticks in a Japanese tea house, where the customers have to remove their shoes. There is, it appears, an amateur dramatic club in Yokohama, and their last performance was Mrs. Musgrave's farcical comedy, *Our Flat*.

THE Palace dog, Jack, whose death was recently announced, to the regret of his many friends, will not be readily forgotten behind the scenes at the popular house in Shaftesbury-avenue, for the faithful fox-terrier has been stuffed and placed in a big glass-case in the green-room. He wears his old collar round his neck, and looks most life-like. A comic Phil May sketch has also been added to the interesting little collection of pictures in the Palace green-room. It comes from a Brighton hotel, and shows the effect on the artist of three days' good living. In the first sketch he is as thin as a knife, and in the second place he looks as poor Phil never looked, as stout as Falstaff.

DURING his recent engagement in South Africa, Mr. Tom McNaughton (a partner in the Monte Carlo Publishing Company) entered into an important contract with one of the leading houses in Capetown, whereby the latter will act as exclusive agents for the London firm's "Sixpenny Successes" in South Africa. The first order, received by cable, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday last, was for 15,000 assorted copies of the Monte Carlo Company's publications, and the consignment was dispatched by Wednesday, 5.40 p.m., to the shippers, Messrs. Ledger, Sons, and Co., St. Mary Axe, E.C., in time to catch the R.M.S. Carisbrooke Castle, sailing from Southampton to-day (Saturday) for South Africa. This is truly a record order for so young a firm, and for promptness and dispatch, we think, hard to beat.

A GALA performance, under distinguished patronage, was given at the Coliseum on Monday in aid of the funds of the Charing-cross Hospital. The Duchess of Devonshire, the Duchess of Newcastle, the Duchess of Norfolk, the Duchess of Montrose, and the Marchioness of Ormonde were amongst the purchasers of seats; and the attractions of the Revue, with Miss Billie Burke as commère and Mr. Tom E. Murray as compère, were watched with great interest.

MR. HARRY SOFTLEY, who plays The Clincher in Mr. Geo. Gray's *Fighting Parson* company, is now in his old part again, having been two weeks in the Northern Hospital, Liverpool, under the care of Dr. Owen, the M.H.R.R.A.'s doctor of that town. He thanks his many kind friends for their thoughtful inquiries, and desires to express his indebtedness also to Dr. Owen for his great care.

THE latest sketch from the pen of Brien McCullough is named *The Wrong Letter*. It is in one scene, and there are three in the cast. It will play about fifteen minutes. With complications that are extremely funny, the sketch should do well. It will shortly be produced in London.

THE Secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £3 4s. 1d., collected by Mr. Frank Weeks at the South London Palace; also £3 6s. 3d. from Mr. Fred Miller, collected at the Canterbury; and £2 1s. 11d. from Mr. S. Greenwood, collected at the Islington Empire.

MR. WALTER MUNROE has in active rehearsal, and will produce at all his engagements, at an early date, the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's tuneful Irish chorus song, "Widow Doolin," written and composed by Mr. J. F. Lambe.

MISS NORAH HAYWARD is, it appears, a cousin of Tom Hayward, the famous Surrey batsman, who has distinguished himself both north and south of the Equator by his brilliant performances with the willow. Miss Norah is also scoring in quite another way at the London and Collins's.

THE latest quotations of Music Hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra 1½, Canterbury 1, Drury ½, Empire (15s. paid) 1½, Ditto (10s. paid) 1½, Lane Gaiety 1, London Pavilion Ord. 4, Ditto Pref. 4¾, London Coliseum ¼, Metropolitan ⅞, Moss Empire 4⅝, Ditto Pref. 4, Oxford 6⅞, Palace 10s., Tivoli 6⅛, Varieties Cons. Theatres ½.

MRS. CISSIE LOUIE LAWSON has just written a sketch entitled *The Daughter of Spain*, which she will produce at the Palace, Tottenham, on Monday.

MISS EDITH MUIR AND MR. HUBERT BARTLETT will re-appear on Monday evening next (after an absence of only six weeks) at the Standard, Pimlico, in another of Mr. Bartlett's tabloid comedies, entitled *How Baggs was Bagged*. The parts in the new production will be taken by Miss Muir and Mr. Bartlett, assisted by Miss Pollie Marsh and Mr. Arthur Wallis.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS will arrive in England on Saturday next to book artists for his various enterprises for the whole of 1907 and 1908. His address is care of "The Era" office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MISS VESTA TILLEY commenced the last week of her phenomenally successful New York engagement at the Colonial Theatre there on June 4, and sailed for home yesterday on board the s.s. Cedric. The London idol long since became the adored of New York, and was tendered a farewell at a special matinée given in her honour by Mr. Joe Weber and his company at Weber's Theatre before she sailed. Miss Tilley's first appearance at Mr. Williams's New Alhambra Theatre resulted in another record week's business, and she brings home another silver loving-cup, suitably inscribed, to commemorate another record. She returns to play the same circuit in 1908.

MISS MARIE LLOYD will open on Monday with new songs at the Tivoli, where the powerful company includes Wilkie Bard, in his funny new song, "Let me Sing." Mme. Helena, the phenomenal soprano, will on Monday sing the Jewel Song from *Faust* in costume and with garden scene, thus reviving in part the conditions under which Gounod's masterpiece was originally given in London, the late Miss Russell being the Marguerite.

THOSE theatrical and variety artists who so readily and heartily gave their services to the cause of charity in January last, when the annual Liverpool Theatrical Football Gala was held, will be gratified to learn that the sum of £1,382 was realised from all sources—a fine record. Thanks are especially due to the indefatigable chairman of the gala, Mr. Lewis Peake, and the treasurer, Mr. Tom Bush, both of whom worked hard towards attaining success.

UNDER the chairmanship of Mr. W. W. Rutherford, M.P. (the president), a meeting of the Council has been held, when it was decided to distribute £1000 among the following institutions:—Liverpool Stanley Hospital, £200; Consumption Hospital, £100; Woolton Convalescent Home, £100; Actors' Benevolent Fund, £40; Actors' Orphanage, £40; Music-Hall Benevolent Fund, £40; Music-Hall Home, £40; Musicians' Union, £10; Police Orphanage, £50; Bootle Hospital, £50; and the remainder among several worthy local charities.

THE following amounts have already been distributed at the request of Mr. George Robey, whose generosity and kindness, while engaged at the last Royal Court Theatre pantomime will not soon be forgotten:—General Booth's charities, £38; Sandon Tug Disaster Fund, £25; making a grand total of £1063.

ORIGINALLY the Theatrical Gala funds were distributed among Liverpool hospitals, but it was felt that as the members of the profession were the real attraction, appearing in all their war-paint, and throwing themselves with genuine enthusiasm into the noble work, some recognition of their kindness should be made. The result was that years ago institutions connected with the stage were given a fair proportion of the total funds. This year the amount is £170, a good share of the several hundred pounds obtained on the football grounds. Since the inauguration of the gala, eighteen years ago, the sum of over £11,000 has been handed to charities.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN, with Lady Gerrard, Baron and Baroness De Forest, and the Earl of Lonsdale, witnessed the performance of the successful ballet *Coppelia* at the Empire on Saturday night.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY has been topping the bill at the Paragon with his protean sketch *Dan the Outlaw*, and doing it twice a night at the Holborn Empire with brilliant success. Taking into consideration that he has to do twenty-two minutes for each show, with only himself in the cast, his task may be considered pretty stiff work for an artist in these glorious summer days; but his early bathe in the Thames every morning at picturesque Chiswick keeps him fit.

W. SCOTT PHIPP has been engaged by Servais Le Roy as his general business manager, from which association we may expect enterprising and interesting developments.

MR. TOM VINE, who was singing last week at the Hippodrome, Dartford, unfortunately lost a very valuable diamond stud, for which a large reward is offered.

MISS WINIFRED HARE, the charming and popular actress, has had a theatrical career of unvaried brilliance and success. From December, 1900, when she appeared as Dick Whittington in the pantomime at the Coronet Theatre, Notting-hill-gate, she enacted for three consecutive years the rôle of principal boy in the annual pantomime at that popular playhouse. She is also a well-known favourite in opera-bouffe, and has played with great success the part of Mademoiselle Lange in the production of *Madame Angot*, the late Clement Scott having remarked that her impersonation of the rôle was quite the best he had ever seen in English. Miss Hare also played the leading rôle of Stella in the *Silver Slipper*, at the Lyric, and in 1903 appeared as Fredegonde in the revival of *Chilperic*.

MR. W. F. FRAME, of "Hooch-Ay" fame, concludes the Moss Empire tour on June 30 at Manchester, and will rest a month on the banks of the Clyde, opening his vaudeville tour for thirteen weeks at Saltcoats on July 30.

THE monthly meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday at the York Hotel, York-road. Mr. Pat Carey (President) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs. W. J. Wainratta (vice-president), Frank Heath (hon. treasurer), Tom Carney, G. Desmonti, W. Brisco, Seth White, and W. West. The chairman pointed out that some misunderstanding appeared to exist in certain quarters with regard to the case of a late member of the society who unhappily took his own life. An application was made to the society on behalf of the widow; but while the committee deeply sympathised with her, they were unable to make the usual grant, being bound by rule 3 (par. 4), which states: "In all cases of death (except in a case of death caused by suicide) the sum of £10 shall be paid to the widow, widower, or nearest of kin of the deceased member." If the committee were to grant such an application they would render themselves personally liable should legal action be taken; and, besides, it would be setting a very bad precedent. Mr. Wainratta said it was highly important that the president's explanation should be made public, to prevent a wrong impression from getting abroad.

MR. FRANK HEATH mentioned that nearly all the managers of the London and suburban halls had readily given their consent to framed bills, calling attention to the objects of the society and giving particulars, being placed in the dressing-rooms. This could not fail to make the Fund better known amongst the variety profession, and he hoped there would be a large accession of members. The secretary (Mr. R. T. Baines) announced that the annual general meeting of members will be held on the second Wednesday in July, in accordance with the rules of the society; and the proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE attention of our readers is directed to the amended provisions of the Musical Copyright Bill, which will be found printed on p. 19 of our present issue.

MRS. T. HAY RITCHIE, who collaborated with Mr. Charles Wilson in the scenario of *L'Amour*, is the inventor of a most amusing puzzle that was "all the rage" about ten years ago. It was a small box in the shape of a drum—the Orangeman's drum—one end being painted to represent the map of Ireland, with a coffin beside it into which it was possible, by gently tapping the drum, to jerk half-a-dozen little nails, the coffin being labelled "Home Rule." Mrs. Ritchie has written another ballet, and the success of *L'Amour* will ensure a cordial welcome for her work in the future.

IN reference to the different reports which have arisen as the result of the new vaudeville combination in the United States, Mr. H. B. Marinelli, who represents Messrs. Oscar Hammerstein, Percy Williams, and William Morris in Europe, writes us that these gentlemen have informed him by cable that "all artists will play contracts as originally signed." The above-mentioned managers, without joining the Trust, will play big acts ten to twelve weeks in New York alone. The Eastern and Western tours to follow will pan out to twenty-five or thirty weeks.

OF all the costumes in *L'Amour*, the new ballet at the Alhambra, the most beautiful are worn by the throng of dancers in the second scene, when they attempt to fascinate Prince Nashar el Din (Signor Alfredo Curti). Their floating draperies are made of silk gauze of pale violet colour, while the wreaths on their long red hair are big white blossoms. A ballet of flowers and bees gives an opportunity for much wealth of detail, the dresses of the flowers being composed of pink silk petals, the foliage being delicately suggested in softest green silk. The effect of the bees is greatly enhanced by the black stripes across the yellow of their costumes, and the head-dresses are exceedingly realistic—great bees with outspread wings, the bodies curving down over the hair.

SIGNORINA MARIA BORDIN looks her prettiest in a pink tulle ballet dress in the last scene—like a full-blown rose—with flowers and sparkling jewels in her dark hair. Signorina Enrica Varasi, who only dances once, wears satin and chiffon of the brightest orange tint. Miss Edith Slack appears in the only dress that can be called simple, and only then by comparison with her surroundings. It is white and gold, clinging and soft, with a wide, jewelled belt. Of the men, Signor Curti makes a very handsome lover for the captivating prima ballerina, his crimson costume being heavily embroidered in gold; and Signor Giovani Rosi, wonderfully made-up as Nanour, the High Priest, wears an elaborate robe of many dull colours cleverly intermingled.

A MOST successful matinée ever given in a Newcastle music hall was that which was held in the Empire Theatre on Tuesday afternoon. The object of the function was to benefit the funds of the Home for Destitute Crippled Children at Gosforth, and seldom have the more wealthy class of Novocastrians come to the aid of charity more handsomely. The local managing director of Moss Empires, Mr. Richard Thornton, procured the use of the hall quite readily free of charge, and Mr. Leslie Conroy, the resident-manager, threw himself into the effort with characteristic energy.

THE case of George Isenthal *v.* Jean Priver came before his Honour Judge Woodfall at the Westminster County Court this week. The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Valentia (instructed by Messrs. Osborne and Osborne), and the defendant by Mr. William Whately (instructed by Mr. Wilfrid Powell, of 28 and 29, St. Swithin's-lane, E.C.). The plaintiff claimed for the sum of £41, being balance of the amount due for thirty-one weeks at £2 per week after giving credit for the sum of £19 15s., which he admitted he had received from the defendant. The defendant proved to the satisfaction of the Judge that the plaintiff was only entitled to receive salary when the troupe of the "Eight Mysterious Guards" were performing, and when it was not performing the plaintiff was not entitled to receive any salary. Judgment accordingly was given for the plaintiff for the sum of £15, being the balance due at the rate of £2 per week when the troupe was performing.

MY FANCY, who is a great favourite in the Isle of Man, has just been secured to appear there for four weeks, commencing Monday, June 25.

MR. W. J. CHURCHILL, the comedian, has become the lessee of the Happy Valley, Llandudno, having been chosen out of several applicants. His selection has caused no surprise, for it was Mr. Churchill who helped, with the late Mr. Alfred Allan, to make the Happy Valley the success that it was in former years.

THE Terriers' "up-the-river" outing takes place on Sunday. The happy party starts from Paddington by rail to Reading, and from thence to Staines by steam launch, returning to Waterloo by train in the evening.

MR. JOHN HYMAN has presented Mrs. John Lawson's latest daughter with her first Court dress. The little lady will wear this when she is presented at Court by the "King's Minister"—Humanity John.

MADAME DORINA NATALIA, the South African contralto, who is fulfilling a successful engagement this week at the Empress, Brixton, has appealed successfully to the lovers of popular ballads by her rendering of Angelo Mascheroni's "For all Eternity" and "Annie Laurie."

THE 467th meeting of the committee of the Music-Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Tuesday, when there were present Messrs. Fred Herbert (in the chair), Harry Blake, Albert Le Fre, Fred Neiman, George Preston, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer). Minutes of the previous meeting was read and passed, and matters arising therefrom dealt with. Mr. James Bell, acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Darlington, was appointed agent for the Association in that town. Cases of refunds were considered, and in regard to the objection of a member to pay for the conveyance of luggage from one London terminus to another, it was mentioned that railway companies did not undertake to transmit luggage by road free on Sundays.

A LETTER of thanks was read from a member, acknowledging the help given by the Association in a recent law case. The financial statement for the week ending June 10 was read, showing that the receipts were £31 15s., and the expenditure £14 4s. 5d., the number of new members being thirty-six. The financial report of the hon. treasurer, giving the number of members as 4351, and the total amount standing to the credit of the Association as £1312 17s. 7d., was also passed.

THE report of the sub-committee which was appointed to deal with the insurance premium was presented by Mr. Harry Blake, who announced that they had been successful in obtaining a rebate of the odd £23 15s. 11d. from the total amount due of £423 15s. 11d.—a reduction of nearly 1d. a head on the membership. A vote of thanks to the sub-committee was passed nem. con. The hon. treasurer's offer of a number of pictures to hang in the rooms of the Association was accepted with thanks.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE CANTERBURY.

The Canterbury programme numbers amongst its many attractive items a large proportion of artists who have won popularity by reason of the conspicuous ability they have shown as comedians. Selecting them in the order of their appearance, we have first Mr. Tom Leamore, who meets with a very flattering reception from his South London admirers. In the rôle of a park-keeper in the employ of the L.C.C. Mr. Leamore is quite in his element. His description of the various duties which devolve upon the park-keeper is genuinely funny, more particularly his allusions to the ducks, of which his wife is so extremely fond when the birds are served up for the Sunday dinner. For some reason or other, not altogether unconnected no doubt with a determination to overawe mischievous youths, Mr. Leamore's park-keeper wears a policeman's helmet and a long overcoat. Presenting a complete contrast, the popular comedian next appears as a red-haired gentleman in a light suit, who sings a ditty, the burden of which is, "Oh Rufus," this greeting from the ladies being a delicate allusion to the colour of his flowing locks. Mr. George Bastow, another favourite comedian, gives a capital portrait of a hale and hearty old countryman, who, in spite of the burden of his years, is still active and full of vivacity. He is a genial old fellow, and quickly gets on good terms with the audience. A quick change, and Mr. Bastow reappears as "the galloping major," an elderly officer wearing riding breeches, who in the chorus of his song imitates the actions of the rider of a spirited horse. Mr. Bastow's reception is of the most cordial description; and a similar welcome awaits Mr. Wilkie Bard, a comedian whose stage business in invariably marked by a humorous exaggeration that proves most effective. In his character of a scene-shifter he introduces some very amusing patter; but funnier still is this clever comedian's representation of an elderly female, with a doleful ballad called "Let me sing." The lady has a warm discussion with a fireman, who objects to being mentioned in the ditty. Eventually he threatens to put her out. "Put me out!" indignantly cries the ancient female. "Why, I'm not a fire!" Having temporarily got rid of the interfering official, she asks some boy in the gallery to join in the chorus of the song, whereupon an individual with a long grey beard comes to the front of one of the private boxes and accepts the invitation, much to the simulated astonishment of the lady. Later in the evening Mr. Sam Mayo, known as "the immobile comedian," makes an eminently successful appearance; and Mr. James Stewart, the "Tramp at the Piano," is also greeted with loud applause.

One of the most pleasing turns in the programme is that of Miss Lily Burnand, who happily retains all those attractive qualities which originally brought this clever and attractive comedienne so prominently to the front. Displaying admirable good taste in her costumes, Miss Burnand also shows discrimination in the selection of suitable songs. "When she was in the ballet they called her Sally" is distinguished by a very catchy melody, and Miss Burnand sings the ditty excellently, winning the appreciative applause of her audience. Another melodious number is "When my ship comes sailing home," which is also given in spirited style. Miss Rachel Lowe contributes a couple of songs with successful results, the one in which she impersonates a lady who chatters about her neighbours being specially good. Mr. John Ford's skill as a step-dancer receives, as it deserves, generous recognition. It is indeed a remarkable exhibition. Mr. Rex Fox, in his ventriloquial and musical act on the wire, gives a very clever and original show; and Miss Carrie Laurie and her Juveniles are as popular as ever. Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, *The Smoking Concert*, is one of the leading items in the current programme, which also includes Howe and Ardie, comedians, Herr E. Rousby's cleverly-worked electrical review, entitled "Round Paris; or, Paris in London," and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope. The front of the house is carefully looked after by Mr. Fred Miller, the popular general manager.

BOW PALACE.

"There's many a sensible story told in a good old chorus song" is the statement which forms a couple of lines in one of Miss Lottie Lennox's verses this week at the Bow Palace And no one, we are sure, will be inclined to disagree with the lady. Seemingly there is a special reason for eulogising the chorus song, for a competition was arranged to take place at the hall referred to last night, local amateur vocalists being offered prizes for the best rendering of any of Miss Lennox's ditties. East-enders were permitted the choice of three, with all of which Miss Lennox has been delighting crowded houses during the past few days. In addition to her chorus song, the clever comedienne treats the audience to her popular numbers, entitled "One, two, three, four" and "Don't keep them waiting any longer," which bears a reference to the shameless way in which ladies are imprisoned by suspense for the long-delayed proposal of marriage. And after this we shall reasonably anticipate agreeable announcements being made in the Bow churches, while the local registrars should have their hands full for a few weeks. Miss Lennox has a nice style and delivery, and her performances are much appreciated.

Walker and Lane, the popular purveyors of patter, provide a turn that is full of merry quips and cranks; and Mr. Will Farrell also makes for mirthfulness with his "express" comedy. The Lynches are seen in a refined act, which consists of the singing of dainty songs illustrated by charming pictures, the series depicting "the old home" being perhaps most in general favour. Mr. Johnny Walker gives us much to laugh at in his tale about a shopkeeper, a rôle he presents in comical fashion for the time being. Then he perpetrates a number of exceeding apt puns, and concludes with imitations of the sounds made by animals and by artificial means. It is a capital vocal representation that we get from him of the sawing of a piece of timber, while his other efforts in the directions of mimicry are not less realistic. A sprightly comedienne and sand-dancer comes along in the person of Miss Edie Endon, whose rendering of "You shall have a lovely home" is most ear-enchanting. As to the latter portion of her show, it is sufficient to say that she is an admirable disciple of Terpsichore. Some men are well enough content to pursue their peregrinations on their appropriate pedal extremities. Not so Mephisto, who shows us that he can travel along upon his hands almost as well, if not as quickly, as with his feet. There is nothing in his contortionistic feats which leaves an unpleasant feeling with the spectators. Whatever he does is done neatly and gracefully, and particularly commendable is his balancing of a wineglass full of water as he twists his body round from a peculiar-seated posture.

Mr. Joe Oliver appeals to one's sentiments with a song, delivered with feeling and expression, concerning an aged mother who is anxiously waiting, lone and weary, for the return of her son to her little cottage over the hills of old Virginia. The lines are touching in the extreme, and are met by a responsive echo from Mr. Oliver's hearers. The Musical Vaudeville Sketch Company, under the direction of Mr. Fred Lawrence, furnish a distinctive feature of the programme with their absurdity, *Muggins, V.C.* Mr. Fred Lawrence makes us laugh with his impersonation of a comic waiter and his rendering of "The very next day." Mr. Horace Selby ably presents the rôle of an irascible colonel; and Mr. C. Herbert Summers is entertaining as Captain Slashington. Miss Edith Harmer gives a good account of herself as Lady Slingsby; and the other rôles are well looked after. Miss Lottie Stone's twelve black and white girls dance admirably, and the whole piece goes with a hilarious swing from beginning to end. Miss Sadie Simpson wins golden opinions for her coon singing and dancing; and Lacey's Erascope entertains us with amusing and serious pictures.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

Mirth and melody are agreeably combined in *Dotty*, an absurdity presented by the Ten Loonies, which occupies a prominent place in Mr. J. C. Coe's entertaining programme at the Hammersmith Palace this week. The Loonies represent a number of "music mad" inmates of an asylum, and their eccentric behaviour is a source of continued annoyance to their keepers, a "loony" who will persist in playing the big drum being especially irritating. The combination includes some excellent instrumentalists, the many popular selections played all being well rendered, especially a brass quartet. It is the first visit of this troupe to Hammersmith, but it will certainly not be the last, for laughter was almost continuous during their occupancy of the stage, and their various musical numbers were loudly applauded. Another item which made for hearty laughter was *How to Treat a Burglar*, a humorous little duologue given by the Maples, who enact a Benedict who has been out on the spree and his decidedly better half. The wife determines to give "hubby" a lesson, and treats him as she declares she would a burglar, "flooring" him repeatedly, and administering most severe punishment. Some exceptionally clever and attractive dancing is included in this very amusing trifle, and the talented and hard-working couple are warmly acclaimed at its conclusion.

Mr. Richard Novel gave some excellent imitations of the voices and mannerisms of Mr. Wilkie Bard and Mr. Harry Lauder; and was also fairly successful in his mimicry of Mr. Beerbohm Tree playing Hamlet, especially in his reproduction of the voice of the distinguished actor-manager. Mr. Novel also amused with a smartly-written recitation composed almost entirely of the titles of plays, and his imitation of Mr. Huntley Wright in the Gollywog dance from *The Cingalee* was heartily applauded. The vocal imitations of Miss Elsa Joel included a French lady singing a serenade and "Because I love you," an Italian operatic singer, and a damsel from the East-End warbling "I can't tell why I love you"—all admirable impersonations and well received, as was also the cultured singer's first selection, a number which displayed her vocal gifts to much advantage. King and Benson were responsible for a welcome interlude of comedy and vocalism, the playful banter of the couple compelling laughter, and their melodious singing of "Sally in our Alley" and other popular songs evoking applause.

Some of the heartiest laughter heard during the evening was created by the Karno Trio in *The Travellers' Rest*, a comic offering that includes some smartly-worked if familiar business; and the wonderful eccentric dancing and clean high-kicking of Mr. Herbert La Martine evoked enthusiastic plaudits. Miss Gertie Gitana was responsible for some clever impersonations in her attractive scena *A Schoolgirl's Holiday*; and the programme also included Mr. Charles Lilburn, comedian; Percival and Morley, in a comedy duologue *Turtle Doves*; Cul Pit, assisted by Mlle. Adele; the popular comedian Mr. Harry Tate in *Motoring*, and the Edisonograph.

THE GRANVILLE.

Walham Green is bestowing liberal patronage this week on the Granville, which is going well under the genial auspices of Mr. Robert W. Duce, the acting-manager. Mr. Joe Elvin and company are appearing in the screaming knockabout farce entitled *The Bookie*, in which the usual mix-up of nomenclature and jealousy of an inamorata, who bears the same name as a mare, are to the fore. In this case the gee-gee does not romp home, but the respective wives rush to one another's arms in anything but a friendly way. Joe Elvin as Mr. Jay is as irresistibly funny as ever, and his dire experiences as a bookie are sufficient to warn off any aspirant to the art of a "penciller." Miss Billie Barlow scores considerably in her songs, "Oh, nursey, nursey, won't you kiss the pain away" and a recital of how she went on the stage, with a lively refrain of "The fidgetty fits he had that day," interspersed with smart patter and personalities. Datas, the human almanac and encyclopædia of chronological sequence, puts to flight all his would-be posers and detractors, and instead of being scored off invariably performs that operation on his opponents. Mr. Carl Lynn, the marvellous animal mimic, gives a capital turn. He asks us to imagine we are starting out into the country on a motor-car, and imitates with life-like realism the getting up steam and tooting of the automobile; then come the arrival at a country house and the yapping of a little dog which objects to the invasion. Next is heard the whinnying of a frightened horse and the welcome of a more friendly equine. A cow and a calf are then introduced; incidentally a little girl in trouble invites attention, and then the pigs and the ducks squeal and quack respectively as to the manner born. At a menagerie hard by we are introduced to a cage of lions. The cats on the tiles afterwards claim attention, and finally a donkey brays realistically. Altogether this is a most novel exhibition of mimetic skill in the exposition of animal life. Jolly and Neilson are a pair of sweet-voiced duettists, who sing songs in character costume very charmingly, whether it be "Alice, where art thou?" or a Spanish serenade. The Sisters Morgan deserve a word of praise for their lively, bustling duets, rendered with great *verve* and vivacity and apparent enjoyment, pretty types of song being chosen in "There's nobody just like you, sweetheart" and "You'll be my Snowdrop Queen." The Leonards are highly successful in their vocal comedy *entente cordiale* act as the English sailorman and the gay Parisienne, and again in the duet and dance, "My Irish Ivy." Miss Daisy Lane is a saucy soubrette, who sings "Girls, don't you wish you had a nice little boy like mine" and "I don't want any motor-car." Dusty Rhodes is a very peculiar comedian and an excellent raconteur, who is determined to make his audience laugh. He is remarkably clever, his best effort being the old-fashioned and new-fashioned love songs. Mezzetti and Mora, in their triple-bar act, make one's hair stand on end by reason of their daring and dexterity; and Luis Hardt, the mighty atom, gives a marvellous exhibition of weight-lifting both of human beings and inanimate objects. Four men and a 131lb. weight appear to be a mere bagatelle to him, whilst he raises 171lb. (literally) single-handed. James Stewart, the tramp at the piano, runs through the usual gamut of pianoforte exercises, and introduces a novelty in the shape of playing a dance and dancing to it at the same time. Mr. Walter Clyde is an excellent tenor vocalist, whose renditions of "Children of the City" and "Always" are extremely popular. Starr and Leslie's turn with the "watch the lamp" episode, is well known and always interesting. Vernon's bioscope shows the Royal Wedding of Queen Ena Victoria and King Alfonso, including a picture after the outrage, and Royalty arriving at the Olympic games at Athens and a comic sketch "In the Summer-time; or, Hoodwinking Ma."

MR. WALTER DE FRECE, who sailed from America yesterday (Friday) with his accomplished wife, may add a New York house to his rapidly-increasing circuit. Plans are being prepared for a magnificent up-to-date theatre to be erected on a fine site in 44th-street and Broadway, to be run by Mr. de Frece on the lines of the Empire and Alhambra, London.

CHAT WITH MISS VESTA VICTORIA.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Miss Vesta Victoria, who is at the time these lines are being penned, fulfilling contracts at the Tivoli, Oxford, and Paragon, speaks in enthusiastic terms of her recently-concluded American engagement. "They say I made the greatest success that has ever been known there," she says in her vivacious manner. "The Press and the public were awfully good to me; in fact, I have never even been treated so well in my own country. I was away from home for three months, and I performed all the time in New York, appearing under the management of Messrs. Percy Williams, Hammerstein, and Proctor. Had it not been for the fact that I had arranged to open in London on June 4 I should undoubtedly have stayed much longer in the States. Mr. Louis Fields wanted me to play the leading comedy part in his new play at the Herald-square Theatre in New York. If I had been able to comply with his wishes, I should have been with him for thirty-five weeks—the period for which the piece is to run."

Miss Victoria's statements as to the hearty reception she experienced in New York is fully borne out by certain Transatlantic newspaper extracts which have been placed at our disposal. Here is one from the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*: "The little English music-hall star, in her eccentric characters and comic songs, has proved the best vaudeville attraction Mr. Williams has ever had."

[*Photo by Otto Sarony and Co.*
MISS VESTA VICTORIA.

That is saying a good deal, but there is no doubt that it is the truth, as a consensus of Press opinions indicates. Miss Victoria is going back to America in October. She tells us that the salaries given in the land of dollars and dimes are far better than those to be got in England, and she herself has such an admiration for American people that she is already looking forward with keen pleasure to the renewing of their acquaintance. She finds very little difference between the variety theatres of the two countries. "Our high-class music halls," she says, "may be somewhat more elaborate in their appointments and decorations, but that is about all. No; I did not play in any of the theatres where continuous performances are given. My longest appearance for one night? Well, I was on the stage for forty-seven minutes, that was my record. Every night there were continual shouts for encores, and I had to make speeches to the people."

"Then they were not satisfied with two or three songs, Miss Victoria?"

"I used to sing six or seven songs at each performance, my répertoire including "It ain't all honey," "The artist's model," "Waiting at the church," the "Hunting song," "The country girl," and 'The Turkey girl.' All of them proved immensely popular. I happened just to take out the stuff they particularly liked. American audiences are most demonstrative. I had no end of bouquets, flowers, presents, and congratulatory letters."

A reference by Miss Victoria to a couple of new songs she was producing at the London halls suggested a question.

"I suppose the bringing out of a new song is something akin, from the artist's point of view, to the playing of a new part?"

"I am always very nervous," replies the lady, "concerning the singing for the first time in public of a new song. Of course, I know that, having been on the stage since I was four years of age, I ought to have got used to the work by now. But the fact is, you never can foretell how a song is going to turn out at its introduction before a crowded house. I sang songs in America that lots of people said would fall flat there. The only way to test a song is to render it before an audience, for there are lots of songs which the artist may think are suitable, but which do not appeal to the audience. Another set of verses which, in one's own opinion, possesses no artistic merit, may go splendidly with the house. Now, the songs I prefer are those which afford opportunities for plenty of comedy work and burlesque acting. Anybody can sing a chorus song. I think my new song, 'Waiting at the church,' will prove almost, if not quite, as popular as 'Our lodger's such a nice young man.' I only put that song on just before I sailed for America, and it was the most successful thing I did over there."

"How long will you be away from us the next time?"

"I have engagements in the States offered me for six months. I should probably remain in New York for four months, and the rest of the time would be spent in some of the other big towns."

Miss Victoria made her first big hit with the song of "Good-for-nothing Nan," when she was a child of ten. She dressed and made up as a wayward, Topsy-like character. From that she went on to do broad low comedy as well as light comedy. But a greater triumph came with "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-wow," which created a sensation in variety circles. The tune was whistled and hummed in the streets of every town and city in the Kingdom, as well as in America, where Miss Victoria was awarded with rapturous applause. The clever artist could have made a nice little sum of money by the sale of dogs, for specimens of every breed of the canine family were presented to her while the "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-bow" craze was at its height. She had a similar experience, though the presents were not of the live-stock order, when she sang the song "Just because they put me into trousers," a song which, among many others, that became equally popular, was written by Miss Victoria's brother, Mr. Lawrence Barclay.

Admirers of Miss Victoria may be interested to learn that the grotesque dresses which she has been seen wearing on the stage have been designed by herself, and made by her mother.

"L'AMOUR" AT THE ALHAMBRA.

There have been spectacles of Eastern richness and brilliance before at the Alhambra, but the latest production there on Monday evening surpasses in the magnificence of its stage-setting and mounting anything of the same kind—even if we go back to the palmy days of Pitteri and Charles Morton. *L'Amour*, too, bore a special significance for the fashionable world, for Mrs. Hay-Ritchie, who, with Mr. Charles Wilson, is responsible for the scenario, is a relative of Mrs. Ronalds, a famous leader of society, and this fact and the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Longworth (Miss Alice Roosevelt) to the famous ballet house drew an immense audience, which gave a warm welcome to the American President's daughter. Among others observed in a memorable gathering were the Princess Hatzfeldt, Baroness Cederström, Mrs. Ronalds, Mrs. Hay-Ritchie, Lord and Lady Cheylesmore, Lord Kilmorey, Mrs. Bradley-Martin, Mrs. Baring, Mrs. Henry Sturgis, Lady Newborough, Colonel Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Ronalds, and Lord Athlumney.

L'Amour is really a reversion to grand ballet; and the buried glories of the ancient Assyrian Empire have not only inspired the authors to sound dramatic depths in their principal scene, but have given opportunity to M. Francis Thomé to compose some alluring and melodious music. Perhaps he has not sufficiently emphasised the barbaric note by the use of brass, and has suggested by flowing cadences a more restful and placid story than is to be found in Mrs. Hay-Ritchie and Mr. Charles Wilson's scenario; but the musical listener can listen with unfeigned pleasure to a score that is always graceful, appealing, and admirably orchestrated. The cast of the ballet is as follows:—

Prince Nashar el Din....SIGNOR ALFREDO CURTI
Darius ....M. HENRI FRIELLI
Nanour ....SIGNOR GIOVANI ROSI
Nanarus ....SIGNOR AMEDEO SANTINI
Sethos ....MISS NELLIE HILL
Agron ....MISS BATON
Assarai ....MISS G. EDWARDS
Asti ....MISS EDITH SLACK
Crysis ....MISS ROSIE DEAN
Bacchis ....MISS JULIA REEVE
Sèlika ....SIGNORINA ENRICA VARASI
Mylitta ....SIGNORINA MARIA BORDIN

The action of the ballet centres round the beautiful Princess Mylitta (the Assyrian name of Venus), whose father Darius, King of Assyria, desires to find a husband worthy of her. There are numerous suitors among the Assyrian nobles, but these find the task set them by the powerful and ambitious Assyrian ruler entirely beyond their capabilities. They have to pierce with a javelin taken from the altar of Love the single golden apple on the tree of life, but each in turn is baffled by a blinding light from the sacred flame of purity. For the benefit of Nanarus, the son of King Assur, Asti, Mylitta's handmaiden, pours upon the flame a philtre to dim its glare, but the gods interfere, and Nanarus is dashed to the earth by the bolts of Jove. More successful is Prince Nashar el Din, commanding the invading Persian army, whose eyes are protected from the blinding flame by Mylitta's tresses. He hurls the javelin, and cleaves the golden fruit! Mylitta takes one half, he the other. But the future husband of a Royal Assyrian princess must submit to a further test; and it is ordained by the priesthood that he must pass one long probationary night alone in the temple, subject to the fascinating wiles and erotic allurements of a number of dancing sirens—another temptation of St. Antony. Until Mylitta herself, jealously doubting the honour of her lover, appears disguised, Nashar is as impassible as cold steel, but her sinuous grace is too much for him, and he succumbs. In the last scene Darius and Mylitta await in the Palace the coming of Nashar, who is imprisoned by the priests. The girl claims his release, and her claim is successfully upheld by the nobles. Thus all ends happily.

Though it has been stated by a contemporary that Signorina Maria Bordin made her first appearance in England on Monday evening at the Alhambra, this statement is not correct, for this clever ballerina first delighted a British public at the Lyceum in Mrs. Barrasford's production of the ballet *Excelsior*, wherein she represented Civilisation. It was again apparent on Monday that we have in this lady, who played the Princess Mylitta, a dancer of the first rank, and a mime of great intelligence and culture. Her reception at the conclusion of *L'Amour* on the first representation was most cordial, and she was the recipient of several bouquets. Signor Alfredo Curti as Prince Nashar realised the dramatic possibilities of his part to the full, especially in the "temptation" scene, which will bear judicious pruning. Here, too, Signorina Enrica Varasi, another distinguished Italian prima ballerina, also won honours. Miss Edith Slack, a great Alhambra favourite, did well in the part of Asti, the high priestess; M. Henri Frielli made a dignified and imposing figure of the aged Darius; Signor Giovani Rosi was effective as Nanour, the High Priest; and Signor Amedeo Santini was quite equal to the pantomimic stress of such a part as Nanarus. Others who added to the general excellence of the first representation were Misses Nellie Hill, Baton, G. Edwards, Rosi Dean, Julia Reeve, A. Mortimer, B. Davis, L. Bryant, G. Cormani, Q. Wood, and Ida Bailey. The scenery, by E. H. Ryan, discloses three wonderful pictures, the last of which—the Palace—reveals a luxury and gorgeousness which, in spite of great richness, have no garishness. The ballerine in Comelli's tastefully-designed dresses become a swaying, moving mass of glowing colour, always harmonious. In the Temple (Scene II.) the necessary air of mysticism is not lacking, and one is naturally interested in the dances of *les aphrodysiaques*, *les charmeuses*, and *des cheveux*. In the last-mentioned dance a quatrain of coryphées wear lovely tresses of great length, supplied probably from the atelier of Gustave, who is responsible for the wigs. *L'Amour*, the performance of which was ably conducted by Mr. George Byng, will have to be compressed, but it has so much of brilliancy and beauty of spectacle and charm of *mise-en-scène* that its attractiveness would not suffer thereby in the least.

The Urbanora pictures have become a permanent attraction of the Alhambra, and the highly interesting series now being exhibited includes a view of the Royal coach—in which the King and Queen of Spain were returning from their wedding—immediately after the bomb outrage, showing the wounded horse struggling on the ground. The Royal bull fight is another film of considerable interest, as it was the first function of the kind ever attended by an English Princess. The most famous matadors are here represented in rich costumes, and all cruelty has been eliminated from the spectacle as shown on the screen.

MR. C. E. PARLATO, who has been on tour this season with his animated picture and vaudeville company, is now terminating a successful tour at Mansfield, after booking an extra week. He is spending two weeks' vacation on the Continent, then returns to rehearse his pierrot teams at Scarborough. At the close of the summer season he contemplates touring a No. 1 and No. 2 company in the provinces.

MR. MARK MELFORD is making a wonderful recovery from the operation which ensued after his accident with the gun, and proposes to open on the 25th inst. at Swansea for a long Moss and Thornton tour. A season of pantomime at the Shakespeare, Clapham, where Mr. Melford will play the Widow Twankey in *Aladdin*, will follow, and a visit to America in 1907 is not unlikely.

THE SOUTH LONDON.

Reports of the most favourable kind may be given of the South London, whose manager, Mr. Frank Weeks, is just now enjoying a holiday trip to the Channel Islands. The vast house is constantly crowded, and the appreciation of the audience at the items of the programme is invariably manifest. The current bill of fare is noteworthy for the inclusion of a new sketch, by William Felton, entitled *Under the Seal*. The "Seal" referred to is that of the confessional, a subject to which the drama on the regular boards has at various times been devoted with more or less regard to theological exactitude. Mr. Felton, however, has managed to construct an effective little piece without misrepresentation, and the playlet held the house in silent appreciation until the close, when hearty cheers were bestowed. On the rising of the curtain a "village priest" named Father David has just absolved a ruffian named Isaac Fogdale, who some months previously had murdered the priest's brother in revenge for having had him sent justly to prison. Fogdale also cherishes hatred towards the priest, and conceives the fiendish idea of revealing his crime under the seal of confession in order that the clergyman may be tormented with the secret and yet not be able to bring the murderer to justice. Father David has a rough but good-hearted maid-servant named Bet, whom he has rescued from the gutter, and who holds both the priest and his murdered brother in reverence. She endeavours to extract from the priest the reason for the melancholy under which he is labouring, but Father David preserves his vows. Bet becomes suspicious of Fogdale, and when he returns to taunt the priest with his terrible secret she hides behind the door, and overhears the villain boast of the deed, she fetches the police, and Fogdale endeavours to escape, but is prevented by Father David. A struggle ensues, and Fogdale, drawing a knife, is about to stab the clergyman when Bet throws herself between the two men and receives the fatal thrust. The little piece is thoroughly well performed by a company headed by Miss Margaret Parker, who plays the part of Bet—a hoydenish maiden—first-cousin to Nan in *Good-for-Nothing*. Miss Parker acted the low-comedy episodes effectively, causing great merriment, and the pathetic scene at the end was very touchingly played. Mr. Herbert Harden's mellow voice well suited the rôle of Father David, and he acted the priest admirably. A picturesque portrayal of a villain in corduroys was given by Mr. Morrice Seaton; and Mr. E. J. Wooley appeared as a policeman.

Excellent melodrama is supplied in the sketch *Betrayed Friendship*, the scene of which passes from a British encampment in South Africa to a street in London and thence to a country cottage. The story, which deals with the frustration of a villainous plot, is a military one, and affords chances of dramatic distinction, of which Mr. Watts Phillips and company take full opportunity, the audience being moved alternately to laughter and cheers. The duologue, *Four-a-shilling, Fine Mackerel*, is responsible for a good deal of the laughter which is aroused in the course of the evening. Mr. George English, whose name will be easily recalled in connection with stirring recitations delivered in times past, appears as a coster, and who makes up as an actor in order to win the affections of a comely maid-servant. Mr. English's representation of the "mummer" is a clever and quaint characterisation, involving a neat quick-change. And Miss Flo Penley plays a vivacious servant-girl on original lines, and secures unbounded merriment by her funny sayings as well as by her singing of a "lunatic asylum" song. The sketch may certainly be set down as one of the successes of the evening.

Admiration of the Dickens impersonations of Miss Arabella Allen is general throughout the house, her vivid reproductions of Uriah Heep and the Grandfather of "The Old Curiosity Shop" being among the finest examples of her art, and calling forth enthusiastic applause. The Two Anartos first put their heroes into throes of mirth by their exceedingly comic exchanges, and then enthrall them by their music dispensed on concertina and saxophone, and later by a violin solo, which the low comedian conducts à la Sousa. The ticket craze furnishes Mr. Walter Stanley with material which he puts to droll uses in a song, and his pointed refrain, "I'm glad I live in England," with his quaint dance, serves thoroughly to amuse the house. Blarney and Kennard attain popularity by means of their songs, sayings, and dancing, and the success which they achieve is assisted not a little by the antics of two pretty little dogs, who are prevailed upon to execute a waltz. Mr. Harry Maynard's comic songs are thoroughly enjoyed, and the programme is strengthened by the appearance of Miss Sadie Seymour, a smart comedienne, and the up-to-date pictures of Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

"A HOT TIME FOR NODDLES."

A Farcelet, by W. Scott Phipp,
Produced for the First Time at
the Lyceum Theatre,
on Thursday Afternoon, June 7.

Mr. Noddles ....MR. A. WRIGHT
Mrs. Noddles ....MISS BEATRICE BRADDON
Mr. Frank Endale ....MR. VIVIAN WILLIS

The scene of the "farcelet," which was introduced into the programme at the matinée at the Lyceum on the 7th inst., is the drawing-room of Mr. Noddles, who is described as a domestic tyrant. Mr. Noddles accuses his wife of exhibiting too much freedom towards other men, and declares he will not permit it. On the peppery gentleman retiring with the significant utterance that he "will return soon," in fact "sooner than the lady expects," he exits with the specific object of disguising himself as a process server, and coming to the house to watch his wife. The lady's brother, Frank Endale, becomes aware of the jealous husband's intentions, and a plot is accordingly hatched by Frank and his sister to checkmate him. Frank is to visit the place in various disguises while the husband is on the watch, and to make it very warm for the pseudo process-server. Mr. Noddles duly puts in an appearance, and there is a funny scene between himself and Mrs. Noddles in which he fondly imagines he is safe from recognition. Frank Endale then comes on in rotation as Gussie, a dandy, Crackandslit, a wrestler, and Nicholas Spitski, a terrible Nihilist; and in every scene he contrives to make things very uncomfortable for Mr. Noddles, who ultimately comes to the conclusion that he has made a great mistake, and pleads for forgiveness. It will be seen that there is plenty of opportunity for the introduction of ludicrous situations and harmless fun, and we have no doubt the sketch will be very acceptable to music-hall audiences.

AT the recent benefit for the San Francisco sufferers at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, Miss Vesta Tilley made the hit of the evening, and afterwards autographed a programme, which was sold by auction and realised 1000 dollars (£200). Mr. Howard E. Cotter, of Broadway, who obtained Miss Tilley's signature, sent the "favourite boy" a congratulatory letter of thanks, announcing the above result, and stating that he had enjoyed Miss Tilley's entertainment six times during her visit to the city.

MR. DION WADE, who has been unable to fulfil his engagements for the past two months through severe throat trouble, is quite well and strong again, and will open at the Chelsea Palace on Monday.

MARK MELFORD'S OPERATION.

A wonderful recovery is being made by Mr. Mark Melford from the results of the accident which he suffered by the sudden explosion of a gun while out shooting, and we give in his own quaint words an account of the operation which he recently had to undergo:—

"In Epping Forest I accidentally shot myself, and although the bullet travelled a foot along the fleshy border of my ribs and embedded itself in the muscles of the back, I was up and about in a week, feeling better for the first real rest after thirty years of continuous acting. Just to vary matters a bit I broke a blood-vessel a month later at Manchester, and once again overheard an ominous remark of the doctor who had been fetched while I was insensible. At the shooting episode I came to in time to hear the police discussing the mechanism of my gun, and they appeared a little surprised to suddenly hear from me: 'You had better keep the gun; you'll want it for the inquest!'

"On the Manchester occasion my doctor's remark was the first thing I heard on recovering consciousness: 'If he's sick again *he'll go!*' supplemented by the voice of an eccentric landlady, who somewhat aggressively addressed my little daughter: 'Why don't you kneel and pray for your father?' Once again the voice of the invalid was heard: 'Don't make me laugh, or I shall be sick.' Two months later I am confronting a specialist with a frank demand to know the nature of the complication that is making my health an anxiety to my friends. With a grave face, but perfectly business-like air, the oracle of Weymouth-street speaks: 'You must undergo a critical operation. You may come out alright; but there's a risk.' Thus was facing me episode No. 3, that amounted to the tossing up of a copper—heads he dies; tails he lives! A curious and novel sensation to a man who had never known a day's illness in half-a-century, or missed a single night's engagement for thirty years.

"May 24. Call 10.30 for the operation. Bathed, trimmed, and trussed up the night before, I awaited the signal to be conducted to the theatre of operations. Precisely at the hour the nurse entered languidly, and remarked in tones of studied indifference, 'Now, if you will follow me.' I afterwards learnt that my case was agitating the Home to an unusual extent on account of its evenly-balanced danger. I nipped out of bed, and followed my nurse through several passages and down two flights of stairs, when the sight of the front door for an instant suggested comedy—the astonishment of all if I suddenly bolted out and did two or three laps round Regent's Park in my weird costume. Two more turnings, and I suddenly found myself in a kind of studio, with a trestled slab-like bed in the centre, and an exceedingly business-like group of seven people standing round. Dr. Furnival, the eminent surgeon (my leading man), was tucking up his sleeves with a glint of scientific enthusiasm in his eye, and within reach an exceedingly suggestive-looking array of cutlery peeped out from beneath a spotless serviette. Dr. Hutchinson, the well-known specialist, stood on my right, with Dr. Walker, my own genial doctor and expert golfist, at the foot of the operating-table, on which, after an elaborate bow to the little company, including the matron of the establishment and her attendant nurses, I obediently stretched myself. All was ready—the dull buzz of the anæsthetic apparatus and pungent smell of ether prevailed.

"'One word,' said I. The situation is so novel, the possibility that this may be my last glimpse of daylight so interesting to a philosopher like myself, that the opportunity to test my nerve by a moment's pause is irresistible. 'Look! my hand'—I held it out; not a tremor, steady, firm, and cool! In ten seconds I was insensible. In seven hours I awoke to hear the words 'Half-past five.'

"All was over; but the thirst—thirst for twenty-four hours—each minute counted. When a teaspoon half-full of water was dropped into my mouth it was like dropping the same into a hot saucepan on the hob. It fizzed; it didn't go down my throat. It turned to steam! In duty bound they ignored my entreaties for water. I pestered them with applications for one whole day and one whole night. The period of peril was up. Twenty-four hours had gone by, and my blessed doctor dropped a piece of ice in my mouth. The spell was broken. I slept.

"My rapid recovery—'a record,' the surgeon says—finds me eager to rejoin my many good-natured colleagues of the halls. Another fortnight and I shall be amongst them, snatched from a very permanent engagement—for the *investigation* startled the doctors into pronouncing my chances very small indeed; and but for the operation a month at the most would have put 'Curtain' to the career of Mark Melford."

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street Glasgow. The Fund is now being held in trust in the joint names of Mr. Richard Waldon, Roya Princess's, Glasgow, and Mr. Crichton:—

	£	s.	d.
Caledonian Railway Lodge (No. 354)	2	0	0
Neptune Kilwinning Lodge (No. 442, Saltcoats)	2	0	0
Montefiore Lodge (No. 753)	1	1	0
J. F. Elliston, Bolton, P.M. of the E.C.	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dent	1	1	0
Harry Tate	1	0	0
Employees in Royal Princess's, Glasgow	1	0	0
Sawers and Co.'s Girls, Glasgow	0	9	0
Carter Livesey	0	7	0
Lillian Rosebery	0	7	0
Frank Bertram	0	5	0
J. B. Cousin, Gourock	0	5	0
H. Arnold, jun.	0	2	6
George D'Albert	0	2	6
R. Barton	0	2	6
Arthur Redgby	0	2	6

Wizard Stone, who hails from Denver, Colorado, arrived in England a few weeks ago with the most sensational act ever attempted on a motor-cycle. He loops the loop in an enormous spherical cage, constructed of the finest steel, riding at the speed of fifty miles an hour. Before mounting his motor, Mr. Stone gives an exhibition of quick riding on an ordinary machine inside his huge ball, accompanied by his sister, Miss Irene Stone. He is a man of iron nerve, trained as a professional rider—a "speed merchant," as it is called in the United States—and he has only met with one accident during the two years he has been performing his daring feat. On that occasion something went wrong with his motor-cycle, and he came down from the roof of the cage, but succeeded in turning over as he fell, to get the machine underneath, and so escaped unhurt.

Mr. Walter Hassan, manager of the Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool, was presented by Dr. Walford Bodie on Saturday last, 9th inst., with a very handsome diamond ring.

Dolly and Madge McCalla, who were engaged at the Alhambra, Brighton, last week, won such popularity that Mr. Graydon immediately extended their visit for another six nights. They have introduced a new number this week, entitled *The Millionaire's Daughters.*

EDWARD SWANBOROUGH.

A VETERAN MANAGER.

Mr. Henri Gros is at the head of the movement to give a matinée and testimonial benefit to Mr. Edward Swanborough, to take place at the London Pavilion on Thursday, June 28.

Mr. Swanborough has recently been afflicted with a serious illness, which, in all probability, will prevent him from resuming active work for a very long period at least, but most likely for ever. The present, therefore, would be an opportune time to honour this trusty public servant with a testimonial matinée and benefit, and in order that this should take place at a central West-End establishment, the directors of the London Pavilion

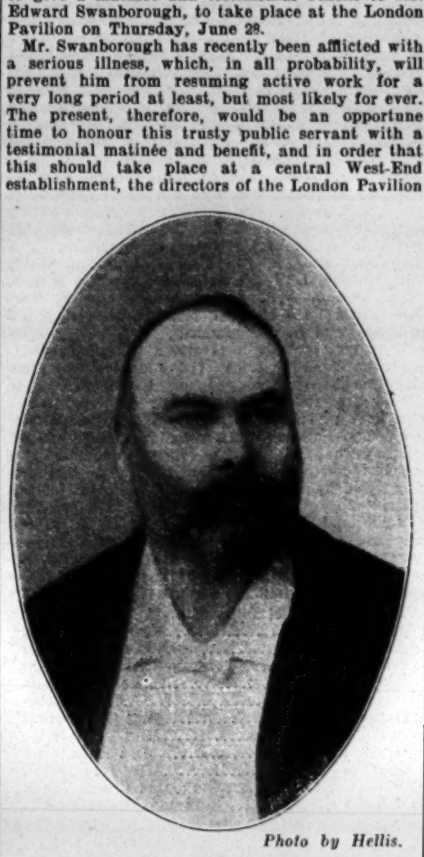


Photo by Hellis.

EDWARD SWANBOROUGH.

have been approached, and have cordially agreed to assist the deserving cause by lending their hall for the matinée.

The object of this matinée is to raise a substantial sum which will be placed in the hands of trustees, and thus enable them to make the beneficiaire a weekly allowance.

Before his appointment as manager of the Chelsea Palace, Mr. Swanborough was out of employment for a considerable period. For a long time he has been hampered with financial responsibilities not of his own creation, and which he has honourably and secretly discharged to keep his good name. An appeal is now made, therefore, to the dramatic and musical professions to recognise his many sterling qualities by substantially assisting, thus giving to the man we have learned to know and appreciate so well a substantial token of respect and goodwill.

Mr. Swanborough has many happy and humorous recollections of the old Strand Theatre. On two occasions as a youngster he decorated the house with cheap gold and red French paper bought in Cannon-street, being assisted in this undertaking by the painter's labourer, Tom Christian—who, by the way, had a pension from the proprietress until the day of his death—and Mr. Swanborough recalls now, with a laugh, that the newspapers at the time highly complimented him upon his artistic and decorative abilities. Another little anecdote he has to relate does not appear to flatter the old playhouse in the Strand. A piece, called *The Woman in the Dusthole*, written by John Oxenford, was produced there, and Oxenford wrote his own criticism upon it in the *Times*, stating in the course of his remarks that a more appropriate title could not have been chosen, as the place in which the play was produced was, indeed, a dusthole. Later on, however, when Mr. Swanborough's sister (now Mrs. Major Lyon) took possession of the old Strand very great alterations and improvements were effected.

Mr. Swanborough regards it as a rather curious thing that he has always been called upon during the terms of his different appointments to personally pay the salaries of the artists, and even in the case of his present responsible position his managing-director, Mr. Henri Gros, has requested him to fulfil the same duty at the Chelsea Palace. Our old friend thinks he has never been in a more beautiful and interesting neighbourhood than Chelsea, and he feels that he is quite back among old associations, for his father's country house was in Beaufort-street (now pulled down), where he and his two brothers used to stay from the Saturday night to the Monday morning. In those days Mrs. Keeley also lived in Beaufort-street, as well as Miss Woolgar and her parents, and Alfred Mellon, whom she afterwards married. At that period Beaufort-street was almost a recognised place of residence for artists who moved in the higher circles. What times those were! And now, as Mr. Swanborough occasionally indulges in a retrospect, he is inclined to share with Tennyson's Princess that "divine despair" and melancholy regret

In looking on the happy autumn fields,
And thinking of the days that are no more.

Among the old-time celebrities who were in the habit of meeting at the old Strand Theatre were Charles Dickens, William Makepeace Thackeray, and "Frank" (now Sir Francis) Burnand, the editor of *Punch*. When the doors were shut they used to form into a little party and regale themselves by way of supper at one Charlotte Goodwin's oyster shop opposite the theatre. Mr. Swanborough tells the story that on one occasion Douglas Jerrold called often and vociferously for a glass of grog. Charlotte at last condescended to put it down on the table, with the remark, "There! you troublesome little man, and now you've got it mind you don't fall in!"

The Prince of Wales (now the King), accompanied by the Princess and their children, as a rule paid three or four visits a month to the Strand, and the Prince's first request was always, "I want to be received by my boys," meaning Mr. Swanborough and his brother Arthur. Mr. Swanborough was the first theatrical manager who went over to the music halls. At the time of his becoming connected with the London Pavilion—which, by the way, has been rebuilt since he managed it—there were no stalls, the space where these are now being then occupied by lounges and tables.

The subject of this interview stands on a high rung of the ladder of Masonry. In December, 1864, he was passed into the Lodge of Joppa, 188, some years later becoming a member of the Asaph Lodge, with which he has been associated for nearly thirty-four years. In 1879 he was a Master of this Lodge, and journeyed to Truro with the Grand Lodge of England to witness the Prince of Wales lay the foundation-stone of Truro Cathedral. He is also, together with Mr. James Willing, jun., one of the founders of the Strand Lodge, and its first Senior Warden.

Mr. Swanborough's sister, Mrs. Major Lyon, is the original Miss Swanborough who played at the Olympic with Robson and Emden, and, prior to that, she was at the Haymarket Theatre, under J. B. Buckstone's management, playing Juliet to Miss Cushman's Romeo. It was William Swanborough, a brother, who built the Prince of Wales's Theatre in Birmingham, the other brother, Arthur, being the acting-manager of the Strand for many years, and managed the Royal for five years, up to the time of his death.

Subscriptions will be gladly received and duly acknowledged in *The Era*. They may be addressed to the Hon. Treasurers, Mr. George Adney Payne, 1, Durham House-street, W.C., or to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, *The Era* Office, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

Miss Rose Stahl, whose one-act comedy, *The Chorus Girl*, has been such a success at the Palace Theatre, is a New Yorker who was educated at a convent in Montreal. She has played Miss Patricia O'Brien, the chorus girl, over a thousand times in America, having previously made her name as an actress of straight parts. In the famous sketch that she is presenting for the first time in England she has no opportunity to wear pretty clothes, although the clinging Greek robe with a jewelled belt, in which she finishes her clever sketch, is very effective, especially when she stands for a minute with a great bouquet of crimson roses in her arms.

The Athenæum, Lancaster, closed on Saturday evening until August.

Raku, a new Japanese wrestler—said to be the best exponent of jiu-jitsu on the stage—is appearing at Stratford Empire this week. Wearing spectacles and attired in evening dress, he shows how to defend oneself against footpads. Even the other sex can do this, and a lady supplements Raku's show by giving forcible examples of how a frail girl may repel a sudden attack, and become in turn the assailant.

FRANK MACNAGHTEN'S RETURN.

Mr. Frank Macnaghten, the enterprising originator and director of the famous Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, has returned to England after his tour round the world. A small but influential gathering met him on the Prince's Landing Stage at Liverpool on Saturday evening last, and the heads of the Circuit—Mr. E. P. Lawton, general-manager; Mr. Fred Baugh, general-manager of the London Circuit; and Mr. Brandon Blake, assistant general-manager—warmly welcomed their chief on disembarking from the s.s. Cedric.

FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

To celebrate Mr. Macnaghten's return, the London and provincial managers of the circuits gave a dinner in his honour at the Monico, on Sunday evening last. The menu was as follows:—

Délices des Gastronomes.
Tortue Claire au Madere.
Bisque d'Ecrevisses.

Truite Jaunonée à la Chambord.
Filets de Sole en Whitebait.

Poularde Soufflé Alexandra.

Tournedos Marie Louise.
Granit Duchesse.
Chaudfroid de Caille Bellevue.

Caneton Rouennais à la fine Champagne.
Coeur de Laitues à la Crème.

Asperges Ice. Mousseline.

Pèches Melba.
Corbeille de Friandises.

Canapé Madhi.

Fraises aux Liqueurs.

Mr. E. P. Lawton proposed the health of "The Chief" in a graceful and well-turned speech, and was supported by Mr. Baugh, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Will Murray, Mr. H. C. Arnold, and Mr. Brandon Blake, the toast being received with all the honours. Mr. Macnaghten, in responding, gave an interesting summary of his travels. He witnessed the volcanic outbreak of Vesuvius, and the appalling catastrophe at San Francisco. He arrived at the latter place on the second day of the earthquake, and had to return to his vessel to sleep each night. The band of the Surrey Theatre attended, and performed a very fine selection of music, including a "Welcome Home" marche triomphale, specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Hinkinson, the musical director of the house across the bridge. The dinner was admirably served in the Louis Quatorze Suite of the Monico, beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Among those present were:—Mr. E. P. Lawton, chairman; Mr. F. Baugh; Mr. Brandon Blake, vice-chairman; Mr. Sydney Arthur (Lincoln), Mr. Wm. Trussell (Southampton), Mr. C. Schuberth (Bath), Mr. Wm. Murray (Blackburn), Mr. E. Harrison (Halifax), Mr. R. E. Liston (Leeds), Mr. H. C. Arnold (Bradford), Mr. J. Simpson (Hartlepool), Mr. J. Lawrence (Leicester), Mr. W. Lapworth (Leicester), Mr. C. Craig (Surrey), Mr. C. Harvey (Bow), Mr. J. Kutland (Foresters), Mr. J. Macarthy (Britannia), and Mr. Thurston G. Nourse, of Philadelphia, who was Mr. Macnaghten's *compagnon de voyage.*

"WELCOME HOME" DINNER TO MR. FRANK MACNAGHTEN. *Photo by Brandon Blake.*

"THE SECRET SPY."

A Dramatic Sketch,
by Dora Deane and Fred G. Brooke,
produced at the Queen's, Poplar,
on Monday, June 11.

Sir Francis Tunbridge ..Mr. Walter Thornton
Lieut. Harry Tunbridge..Mr. Ernest Owtrim
Dr. Redfern .....Mr. Wellesley Draper
Private Adams .....Mr. Fred G. Brooke
Ethel Danby .....Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne
Cora Leclercq .....Miss Dora Deane

Miss Dora Deane and Mr. Fred G. Brooke have proved themselves to be prolific writers of sensational sketches for the music-halls. They seem to have treated every subject possible for dramatic treatment. In their latest work, *The Secret Spy*, they touch upon a fairly up-to-date topic. The story contains several thrilling situations, which should make it popular with patrons of variety entertainments. Lieut. Harry Tunbridge, who is in love with Ethel Danby, has, unfortunately, in the past had dealings with an adventuress, one Cora Leclercq, who, along with her paramour, Dr. Redfern, make their unwelcome appearance at the house of Harry's father, Sir Francis Tunbridge. Apparently some time previously a form of marriage had been entered into between the lieutenant and Cora Leclercq, and Dr. Redfern, who is a spy in the pay of the German Government, fails not to remind the hapless young man of the unhappy recollection. Sir Francis wishes his son to proceed upon a secret mission to St. Petersburg, which the young man is not particularly willing to undertake. However, he agrees to go. Then the scheming goes on in real earnest. The despatch papers are to be stolen from the lieutenant's bag by the German spy and false papers substituted, together with letters written by Cora incriminating Harry Tunbridge. Private Adams, who has escaped from a Durban prison and who is supposed to be a hopeless drunkard, begs Sir Francis to allow him to redeem his past, and Sir Francis affords him the opportunity by way of the despatches. Dr. Redfern persuades Ethel Danby to make an attempt on the life of Adams, which she does, without, however, fatal results. Then Adams kills her, and secures the documents stolen by Dr. Redfern. Subsequently there is an angry scene between Sir Francis Tunbridge and his son. Sir Francis feels that the young man has betrayed the trust placed in him, and tells him that the best thing he can do is to end his life. The lieutenant is on the point of acting upon his father's suggestion and shooting himself with a revolver when Adams bursts in upon the scene and exonerates Harry Tunbridge, at the same time denouncing Dr. Redfern. The end may be guessed. Mr. Fred G. Brooke gives us a clever character study of the soldier who through drink has fallen, but who is yet capable of noble acts in the service of his country. Mr. Ernest Owtrim is manly, vigorous, lover-like, and earnest as Lieut. Tunbridge, and Mr. Walter Thornton adequately represents the dignity and age and soldierly qualities of Sir Francis Tunbridge. Mr. Wellesley Draper acts with considerable subtlety in the difficult part of the villainous Dr. Redfern. Miss Dora Deane played the part of the adventuress, Cora Leclercq, in her usual good style, and Miss Isla Garnet-Vayne is delightfully sympathetic, pretty, and engaging in the rôle of Ethel Danby. The scene in which the story is told is quite of the superb order.

Miss Alice Hollander, the Australian contralto, made her Palace début this week in Gibson Girl black velvet, beautified by a big spray of lilies-of-the-valley. Miss Ethel Negretti sings her two songs in a smart little satin frock of vivid orange colour, with bunches of red berries in her hair. Miss Alice Russon looks delightfully fresh and girlish in a pale pink coat with puff sleeves, worn over a white silk dress, much be-ribboned, her stiff muslin cap being adorned with pink rosettes, that look like Malmaison carnations. A striking contrast in costume is the fit-like-a-glove blue Paris frock of Mlle. Trombetta. The lady gymnast, in the turn given by Toledo and Price, is not only in excellent taste for her style of work, but exceedingly dainty into the bargain.

Messrs. Tom Carney and Charles West, both favourites with frequenters of Dunn's concerts on the Old Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth, open for the season with their refined London Vaudeville Concert Party at the Pavilion, Gorleston, on July 9.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Tetney, Thorne (Yorks.), Cinderford, Coleford, Lambert Castle, Maidstone, Kidderminster, Rawtenstall, Chepstow, Newport Pagnell, Selby, Cambridge, Coal Aston, Farnham, Handley, Marbury Park, Mexboro' Feast, Norbriggs, Shipton-on-Stour, St. Just, Tideswell, Unston, and Willersey.

KIDDERMINSTER is an excellent fair on the Midland round, its charter dating from the reign of Charles I. The population is stationary, and amounts to nearly 25,000. Besides extensive carpet works, there are worsted spinning mills, tinplate works, and dye works. The railways are the Oxford and Wolverhampton and the Great Western.

MAIDSTONE has many old charters under which its fairs and markets are secured. It is a great centre of the hop-growing country, and has excellent railway connection by means of the South-Eastern and the London, Chatham, and Dover lines.

RAWTENSTALL, a Lancashire town chiefly engaged in cotton spinning, is the chief borough in Rosendale, and is well served by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, with four stations—Clough Fold, Waterfoot, Ewood Bridge, and Rawtenstall itself; and at the time of the fair the neighbouring towns and villages take full advantage of these railway facilities.

CAMBRIDGE was incorporated by charter of Henry I. and confirmed by several other monarchs, but was forfeited at the time of the riots between the town and university, to be reinstated in the reign of Henry VII. It is a principal station on the Great Eastern Railway and a terminus on the Great Northern, London and North-Western, and Midland Railways.

A LARGE horse and pleasure fair is held on June 26 at Pershore, a small town in Worcestershire on the River Avon. It is nine miles from Worcester, six from Evesham, and about seventeen from Redditch. The chief industries are market gardening, fruit growing, jam factories, and agricultural implement works. The pleasure fair is held in Broad-street, a very wide thoroughfare in the centre of the town.

FOSSETT'S circus and hippodrome has been paying a visit to Upton-on-Severn and Pershore, and gave some excellent performances. At Malvern Link Common Strickland's steam galloping horses, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, and cokernut sheets were among the attractions.

MR. FRED M. BARBER'S grand auction pavilion is paying a return visit to the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch.

BROADWAY WAKES was maintained by Mr. T. Clarke's electric racing motor-cars, Mr. Albert Curtis's roundabouts, Chipperfield's Hall of Laughter, and other attractions.

AT Harvington were Mr. H. Ayers, with steam roundabouts, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, cokernut sheets, &c.

ELSECAR FEAST was held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The chief attractions were: W. H. Marshall and Sons' grand motor-cars; T. Harness's flying motors and other minor roundabouts; cinématograph shows were exhibited by Messrs. Farrar, Lawrence, and Proctor; and other shows included boxing, midgets, &c. T. Burgin's steam swings were here, also Messrs. Hepworth, Pullen, &c., with swing boats; rifle saloons by Messrs. Bentley, Reany, Pullen, &c.; and pannun, cokers, &c., galore. Toys and presents were sold at Gledstone bazaar.

THE Bank Holiday amusements at Richmond Park, Surrey, were in the capable hands of W. Matthews, the local showman, whose headquarters are at Farnborough. Mr. Matthews provided roundabouts, shooting ranges, side-shows, and throwing games. The glorious weather ensured good business, and there was a record attendance.

THE ancient city of York kept its historic Whitsun fair in grand style, the principal exhibits being provided by Messrs Aspland, Howden, and Son. This up-to-date fair had motor-cars, whirling the whirl, and steam horse sets. Steam horses were also supplied by Messrs. Shipley and Warrington, and swings, highfliers, etc., by Messrs. Richards, Fisher, and W. Fisher, Rifle saloons were provided by Messrs. Culine, Fisher, and Warrington; other fair-ground novelties by Fisher, Flood, and Mrs. Johnson.

PENRITH, on the Far North round, had for its fair-ground entertainers Mrs. Sarah Johnston, with circus; Mr. S. Biddall, with freak exhibition; Mr. J. Wilmot, with flying motors; Mr. T. Day, with steam horses; Mrs. Palmer and Family, with highfliers and throwing games; the Day Family, with shooting range, pipe breaker, cup smasher, and striking machine, and coker sheet; Mr. A. Broughton, with shooting range and pipe breaker; Mr. J. Hughes, with shooting range and football game; the Palmer Family, with throwing games and football game; Mr. Mackintosh, with dolly stalls; Mr. W. Hiscoe, with Emma sheet; and Mr. J. Hunscathe, with football frame.

AT Carlisle Fair the best of the shows on the North Round forgathered. These included J. H. Chipperfield's Menagerie, Buff Bill's Menagerie and Cowboy Experts, James Biddall's Circus, Senator J. Leo's American Enterprise and Animated Photography, Styles and Gould's Temple of Magic, C. Relph's Mirror Show, S. Biddall's Freak Exhibition, Prof. W. Moore's School of Boxers, and Prof. Wood's Boxing Booth. The array of up-to-date machine novelties included James Wilmot's motor-cars, J. Wingate's Whirling the Whirl, T. Day's galloping horses, M. Mitchell's steam horses, and swings, highfliers, and miniature sets by Messrs. Newey, Wilmot, S. Biddall, M. Mitchell, Day, and Palmer.

THE shooting ranges, rifle saloons, and batteries were by Messrs. Palmer, Strand, Mitchell, J. Day, J. Hughes, S. Biddall, Black, Dawson, Broughton, and Hughes. The olla podrida of fairground varieties were by Messrs. O'Brien, McIntosh, Irving, Black, Slater, Wheatley, Palmer, W. Day, Strand, jun., Blockley, Ross, Gow, Golberg, Gandy, Kelly, O'Neil, Franklin, Drummond, and others.

FOLLOWING Carlisle, the next big fair is Cockermouth, and here were found Chipperfield, Leo, Keyes, Ralph and Pedley, Moore and Wood, with their high-class exhibitions. Ralph and Pedley also headed the machine list with their new money magnet, Whirling the Whirl. Caris and Fox exhibited their switchback, and Cross steam horses and swings. Highfliers by Newey, shooters by McGregor, Potts, Lawrence, and Merrick; minor novelties by Slater, Blockley, Irving, and others.

ON the Lancashire Round, following Preston Fair, we have Bolton. Here were Payne and Kemp's cinematograph shows, Haydon's Mystic Temple, Layland's Marionettes, Wright's Fine Art Academy, Whiting's gondolas, Mitchell and J. Green's motor car sets, T. Hurst and Ben Mitchell's birds, R. H. Williams's railway roundabout, W. Mitchell's steam yachts, and gem horses by Humphreys and Sharp, shooting ranges and bottle batteries by Geo. Cornwell, A. Jewell, and Mrs. John Cornwell, refreshment booths by Mrs. Bowser and Mr. J. W. Butterworth. The other fairground caterers were: Messrs. W. H. and J. Taylor, W. Holmes, T. Forshaw, A. Jewell, W. Lee, E. Harrington, T. J. Mitchell, J. Whiting, C. Wright, and Kate Lorenzo.

THE principal shows and roundabouts at Long Melford Fair were supplied by Messrs. Barker and Thurston, and included their East Anglian Circus, their Coliseum of Varieties and cinematograph, the fine art gallery, and two superb machine sets, the Venetian gondolas and the switchback. Gem horses, shooting galleries, and minor novelties were supplied by Messrs. Horne, Duffield, Hearne, Wilson, Brigg, Summers, Holmes, Wheatley, and T. Bond.

THE Welsh meeting of the members and friends of the Showmen's Guild will take place at Porth on Sunday, June 24th, and not on the 17th, as previously advertised.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to Guild funds this week:—Per Mr. Ashington, W. Bassett, 5s.; per Mr. Mitchell, J. Butterworth, 5s.

A SHOWMAN'S WEDDING.

At Holy Trinity Church, Nantyglo, on Tuesday, the 5th inst., the wedding took place of Mr. Richard Dooner, cinématograph proprietor, and Miss Nellie Wadbrook, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Alfred Wadbrook, of Wadbrook's well-known cinématograph show. The church was crowded with the élite of the travelling world, and large numbers of people waited outside the church to catch a glimpse of the wedding party. The Rev. Mr. Griffiths (vicar) officiated. The bride was given away by Mr. Henry Scard (Wadbrook's show), the best man was Mr. F. Pillinger (Bristol), and the bridesmaids were the Misses Lillie and Harriot Dooner.

The bridal party were afterwards photographed on the Vicarage lawn, and then drove to the Griffin Hotel, where a large number sat down to breakfast. The usual toasts were given, and in the afternoon the couple left for London. The bride was dressed in a dark grey costume trimmed with grey silk, white silk blouse trimmed with Maltese lace, and wore a grey hat trimmed with grey tips. The bridesmaids' dresses were of navy blue, trimmed with white silk, with picture hats trimmed with roses, and all carried shower bouquets. As the bridal couple left the Brynmawr Railway Station they received an ovation from a large number of spectators.

The happy couple were the recipients of a large number of costly presents, including:—Bridegroom to bride, handsome diamond necklace and brooch; Henry Scard (brother-in-law), silver coffee service; Mr. Alfred Wadbrook (brother), gold-mounted brushes and rack; Henry Wadbrook (brother), silver-mounted brush and comb; Lily Wright (sister), silver bread-tray; Flo Johnson (sister), tea service; Henry Scard, jun. (nephew), half-dozen Doulton wishing cups and saucers; Flo Scard (niece), silver egg cruet; Mrs. Brown (aunt), set of household Irish linen; James Knight (uncle), marble and gold-mounted timepiece Wadbrook's employees:—Mr. and Mrs. Jeffreys, silver hot-water jug; Lily Russell, table linen; Mary Davies, silver cake dish; Mr. and Mrs. Harrington, fancy tablecloth and silver spoons; Miss E. Phillips, nickel-plated pickle-jar; Brothers Costello, pickle-jar and silver butter dish; six employees, silver biscuit barrel; Mr. Dooner, sen., gave a gold brooch, and presents were also received from the Misses Mary Ann, Harriot, Lilly, and S. Dooner, Mrs. E. Birchall (sister), Dooner's employees (Mr. and Mrs. Ward, M. A. Miller, P. Nash, Working Staff, Miss Godfrey, and W. Lashmar), Mr. John Studt (Cardiff), Mrs. John Studt, Mr. Jacob Studt, Mr. and Mrs. Pillinger (Bristol), Mr. and Mrs. John North (Swansea), Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Butlin (Cardiff), Brothers Plinston (Warrington), Mrs. Bunter (Bristol), Z. Wheatley (Abergavenny), Abergavenny Athletic Association, A. Griffith (Rhymney), Mrs. Evans (Pontypridd), Miss G. Freeman (Cardiff), Miss L. Skinner (Pontypridd), Mrs. J. Davies, jun. (Cardiff), Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Lewis (Brynmawr), and others.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
George Wyman	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Total	£26	1	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

THE Press of Belfast have been unanimous in praises of Miss Dorothy Southgate's cultured soprano voice, and a great future is prognosticated for the young lady who helped to make the miniature grand opera, *The Gamester*, at the Theatre Royal the success it was, as reported in these columns recently. Aiulf Hjorvard, the composer, is delighted with the talent displayed by the lady, and has also given expression to high encomiums of praise to Reginald Allan for his musicianly orchestration of the work. Mr. Allan, it will be remembered, was selected by Mr. James Glover to arrange the parts for his splendid Alhambra success *Parisiana*.

MR. TOM FANCOURT and Miss Jennie Rubie are about to produce shortly a novel and beautifully mounted duologue with a scene that has cost £100, and with electrical fittings by Florador and Matthews. The trifle is written by Mr. Charles D. Hickman and Miss Jennie Rubie, and the music is composed and arranged by Vincent Exley.

THE popular description of juggler does not apply at all to the elaborated act which Valazzi is presenting this week at the Chelsea Palace. Mr. Valazzi's show is practically a pot-pourri of the cream of juggling, acrobatic, and equilibristic work, and his crowning feat, "Sloping the Slope on a Cannon Ball," still remains quite unsurpassed in its daring and skill.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

By the REV. T. HORNE, Hon. Chaplain Showmen's Guild.

(Copyright.)

"THE SHOWMAN PATRIOT."

The showman's greatest asset is peace. When a nation is at war, the first class in the community to suffer are the travelling show-people. This is eminently true of nations subject to either internal war or revolution.

The great Russian Empire, made up of so many nationalities, tribes, and people, has its polyglot showmen, who range the vast limits of the hybrid Empire and exhibit wherever they can find an audience. The great Russian fairs, lasting some of them for six and seven weeks at a stretch, afford a splendid field for showman enterprise, for, although the primitive idea of the fair as a trading centre is still maintained, the merchants, traders, and buyers are ready at all times to blend pleasure with trade and profit, and to visit in the intervals between their marketing the shows and entertainment always ready to hand.

A notable showman at the beginning of the late struggle of Russia with Japan was Dradj Poupowski, the greatest Russian expert with marionettes. The last of a long line of marionette workers, he was famous in every city and commune of great Russia, with his wonderful exhibition of fantoccini and marionettes.

Travelling from town to town, deeply intimate with the life of the people, and intensely sympathetic with their aspirations for liberty and constitutional Government, Poupowski as a citizen was fully in touch with the best liberal thought of the Empire. But however keen his sympathies and deep-rooted and earnest his political convictions, he never obtruded them upon public notice, This he did upon the very understandable principle that the showman is in a very real sense the servant of the people, and that to take sides in any great political appeal would be to lose one of the greatest securities of his class in the economy of the national life.

When war was declared Poupowski, with his marionette theatre, was stationed at St. Petersburg. Upon more than one occasion the show had been patronised by younger members of the Imperial House, and Poupowski had received a commission from Prince Alixovitch, a grand-nephew of the Emperor, to erect for him a marionette stage and equip it with a full company of his ingenious fantoches. The young Prince, a bright youth of but sixteen years, had been fully initiated by Poupowski into the mysteries of marionette working. The above details are given merely to show the intimate connection between the Imperial House and Poupowski, and how that intimacy was seized upon by the Anarchist wing of the Revolutionary Party to further their nefarious and dastardly schemes.

Within a fortnight of that memorable black Sunday, in the January following the opening of the war, when, owing to the mistaken action of the Emperor, the whole of Russia was crying out for revenge upon the Czar and the bureaucrats, Poupowski was approached by an agent of the extreme Revolutionary Party to lend himself to one of the many schemes then being concocted with a view of assassinating the Imperial Family. Poupowski, a true son of the people, felt most keenly that red murder had been inflicted upon innocent men, women, and children, and that his beloved Russia was suffering from one of the most awful and tragic of those recurring periods of reaction and tyranny that hitherto had fatally dogged all her steps in a progressive direction. Granting all this, however, and, keen patriot though he was, Poupowski refused with the greatest indignation the overtures of the conspirators.

Russian Anarchism is a relentless, pitiless, and determined force, so that within ten hours of his refusal a bomb was exploded under Poupowski's stage-van, and his magnificent outfit, scenery, and figures almost utterly destroyed.

Poupowski, though subjected to the most severe interrogations of the Minister of Police, did not divulge the nature of the negotiations that the Anarchists had opened up with him. He, like many another good citizen, whilst utterly repudiating the murderous schemes of the Revolutionary Party, yet felt that in silence was the only policy of individual safety; and also the known methods of the police were so repugnant to justice-loving citizens that the least said to the so-called agents of law and justice the better.

The outbreak of the Revolution, the stoppage of the railway by the national strike, the paralysis of trade and enterprise completely prevented Poupowski from following his calling as a showman, and brooding upon the injuries thus heaped upon him, it is not to be wondered at that his whole heart and soul were bent upon some means of helping forward all that was good and peaceful in the national life.

Genius as he was, and talented beyond most men of his class, he had yet all the simple Russian's faith in the goodness of the "little white Father." He saw, like all true Russians, that the head of the State was prevented by the very securities of his position by coming into direct touch with the heart or voice of the people. To Poupowski, as to many another compatriot before him, impelled by the same faith in the almost divine goodness of the Czar, the one thing needed was to get the people's needs voiced in the Imperial ear, and the people's heart and mind understood of their beloved Emperor.

Still the Revolution rolled on; disaster at home and disaster abroad, the misery of the people, the despair of the Imperial House, the tyranny of the Grand Dukes, assassination, fire and bloodshed—all these together made one of the darkest tragedies ever known in the history of the Empires of the world. It is such tragedies of national life that inspire poets, patriots, and martyrs, and it was this inspiration that impelled the showman Poupowski to a deed of heroism that will rank as a classic of patriotism as long as the world lasts.

Here was a prophet of the people (not a Revolutionist) with a message to deliver, not a death-dealing missile to throw, but words of truth and courageous wisdom. The prophet was ready, the message in his mouth, and the "Great Father" gave him the opportunity according to the Russian peasant's simple creed of voicing that message to the "Little Father," the Czar of all the Russias.

It was towards the end of the war when this opportunity came to Poupowski, through the young Prince Alexovitch, who, in order to afford some slight relaxation to the overstrained mind of the silent, overwrought Emperor, proposed to exhibit his marionettes to the Imperial children at Tsarskoyeselo.

At the very last moment the young Prince suffered from stage fright, the inevitable penalty of all amateur effort, and begged that he might have the professional assistance of Poupowski; but, knowing how jealously the Imperial Family was guarded, he had very little expectation of his request being granted. To his great relief, however, the secret police reported that Poupowski was absolutely loyal, and that they had reason to believe that the showman had suffered the bomb outrage because he had refused to identify himself with the red Revolutionary Party.

Greatly elated with his success, Alexovitch hastened to the showman's residence and told him of the proposed entertainment at the Imperial Palace. The showman said: "My Prince, I thank God for this opportunity of being of some use to the poor distracted Czar, and I trust to be able to bring some little relief to his overburdened mind."

The princely amateur showman was too busily employed in thinking out the forward arrangements of the Imperial marionette performance to notice either the strange behaviour or abstracted manner of the real showman.

The play chosen for the marionette theatre was that well-known classic of the mimic stage *The Miller and His Men*. The Imperial Family, headed by the Czar himself, were present, and the entertainment was more than a success: it was a veritable triumph for Poupowski and the princely amateur. The Czarina and the young Princesses forgot for a brief time the terrors that haunted them daily, and the great Emperor himself was seen to lose his brooding sadness and to actually enjoy the show.

After complimenting Alexovitch, the Emperor said: "Send Poupowski to me. I have heard of this showman, and I know that I possess in him a loyal subject, for already he has suffered in my cause. I would speak with him."

At the Prince's bidding the showman came; and, after making a lowly obeisance to the Emperor and Empress, was bidden to stand.

"You travel the country with your show, I understand, and you are the last descendant of a long line of showmen who have carried on your trade and art in the Russian Empire."

"That is true, O mighty Emperor. I know Russia and its people as but few men know it. I know what its people *feel, and think, and say*. I understand its great heart, and I feel for its sorrows and for its many sufferings. In the thronged cities and towns, in the village communes, I have heard Russia speak. I have heard the whole-hearted loyalty and simple faith of your people, sire; and I know that her bravest sons and daughters are found amongst the vast multitude of those who believe that if you did but know the strength and depth of their love for you and yours you would trust them more and let them bear with you some of the heavy burden of rule and government."

The Emperor had risen from his seat in his keen interest and eagerness to hear the showman's strange speech. With regard to the rest of the Imperial audience, it is using a mild word to say that they were astounded.

When the showman paused for a moment, as though waiting the Czar's permission to proceed, or his order of instant dismissal, the Grand Duke Androwski shouted in furious rage: "Officers of the Guard, arrest that mouthing Revolutionary!"

The Emperor turned and looked upon his uncle, the despot Duke, and said, in that awful, even-toned voice of his: "Uncle, you forget yourself."

"Yes," continued the bold showman patriot. "The noble Prince forgets that in the scene of the burning mill just finished on the stage a Revolutionist would have found full opportunity for the horrors of assassination and death. The Prince must know from his Chief of Police that I refused to lend my show to Anarchist plotters, and that I suffered for so doing."

"We have heard of that, my brave showman," said the Czar. "We know your loyal heart. You have secured the right of audience with your Emperor—a right belonging to every son of Russia. Speak on."

The showman, now in the throes of the most intense emotion—a veritable prophet of the people inspired with a message of historic moment to the House of Romanoff—again bowed himself in lowliest homage to that noble figure, "every inch a king," the Great White Czar.

"With my heart and soul, O Emperor, I love you, and want you to know that your people love you. Build your throne upon the love of your people. Seek your people's peace and trust them. Heed not the counsels of those who tell you that it is not wise to let the people have liberty. Give your great powers to the divine task of securing your people's welfare. I have prayed for this golden moment—to speak what is in my heart to you. I know that my boldness in so doing may merit punishment. I am in that matter entirely in your hands. Of this truth I am certain, that half the wrongs—nay, more than half the wrongs—of our afflicted Motherland arises from the sad fact that you, our beloved Father, never get near enough to the heart of your down-trodden children to understand their agonies or to hear their heart-cries."

Still standing, the Great White Czar listened with infinite patience to the burning words of the inspired showman. The Ruler of All the Russias heard his humble subject in silence unto the end of the oration

Then, speaking more to his Imperial uncle and the attendant courtiers and Ministers than to Poupowski, the Emperor said: "We were about to thank you, faithful Poupowski, for the pleasure your performance has given us and ours to-day. For that ministry of your talent we do thank you, and we will think of some mark of appreciation to follow our words.

"For the courageous words of your message to us, as coming from your intimate knowledge of our people, we can find no words equal to our thanks. You know, you say, the real heart of our people, and how deeply founded our dynasty is in the love of the people. Go, my noble, outspoken Poupowski. No man shall dare to stay you. It is the birthright of every son of Russia to speak face to face with the Czar.

"You have exercised that right. We have heard your brave words and wise counsel, and we should fail in our duty if we did not heed them, and, when God sends us opportunity, profit by them."

With the Empress and the young Princesses the Emperor left the great hall, and retired to the closely-guarded inner apartments of the palace.

Prince Alexovitch heartily sympathised with Poupowski; and, feeling sure that the showman had won the heart of the Emperor, assured the overwrought showman that he had nothing to fear from the Grand Duke Androwski.

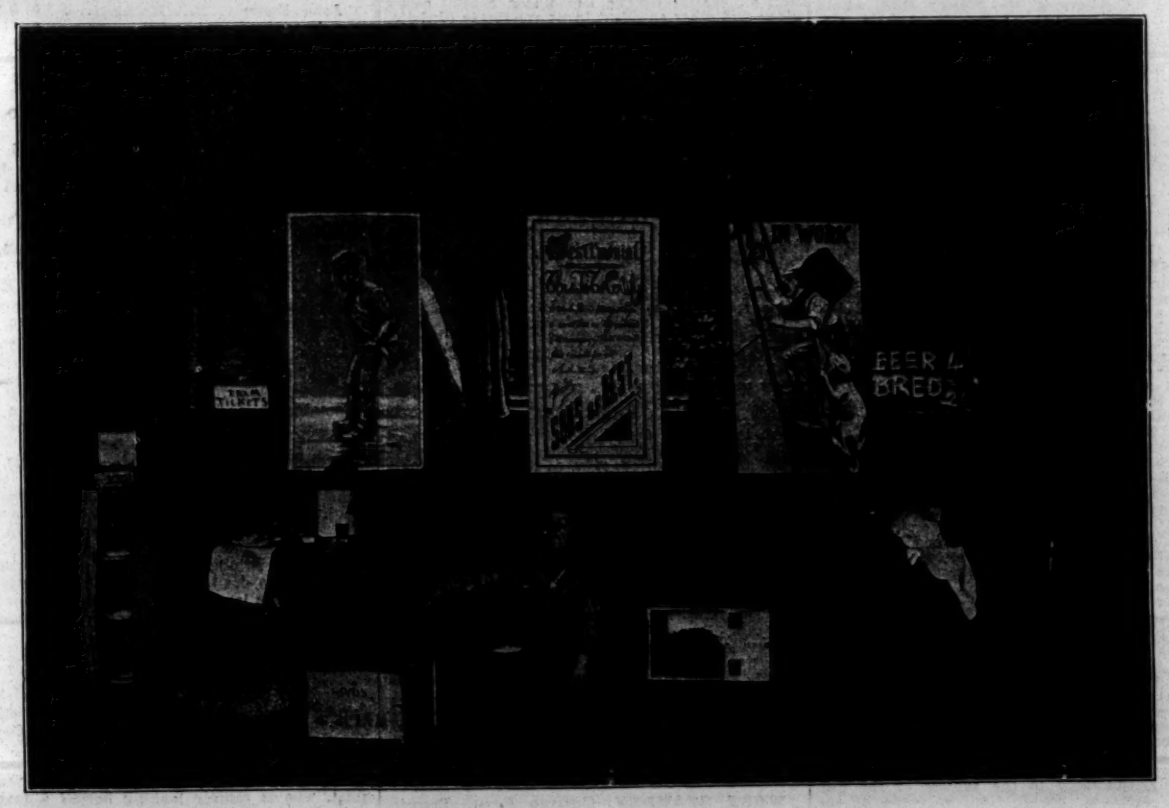
The after events are so very recent that it will remain to the future historian to determine what real effect Poupowski's brave words had in the promulgation of that progressive and constitutional reform that now marks the rapid evolution of the Russian Empire.

MESSRS. ARTHUR RODNEY and Montague Turner are presenting their new farcical sketch, *A Dead Certainty*, at Collins's, on Monday. The sketch has been well received at the South London.

MR. GUS ELEN

IN HIS NEW SONG SCENA ON THE .. UNEMPLOYED QUESTION. ..

Mr Gus Elen's actions in his song-scena are truly eloquent. Full of irresistible comicality. One of the best things the famous coster comedian has given us.—The Era, May 26, '06.



Music composed and business arranged by Mr. Elen.

Written by Charles Cornell and T. Leybourne.

Mr Gus Elen has an excelle t number in his song-scena, "The Unemployed Questi n." Mr. Elen's "out-of-work" is quite an optimist in his way. He doesn't "worrit" himself about his enforced idleness, and he doesn't become footsore in his search for "graft." As he aptly reasons—

If you don't get work,
Well, you can't get the sack—
That's an argyment that seems to me most sound.
With the swells in Rotten-row,
You can sit and take a blow
And wait till the work comes round.

This is the best thing we have had from the famous coster comedian for some time.—The Era, April 21.

Scene—
THE WRONG-UN'S BEDROOM

Time—
12 o'clock in the day.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 9.)

ST. LEONARDS.—PIER PAVILION.—Pier-Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—This week Esmonde Bramley's company is appearing in two old comedies, *David Garrick* and *She Stoops to Conquer*. In the first-named play Mr. Owen Chambers, in the title-rôle, distinguishes himself by the natural and faithful representation of the character; Mr. Phillip Gordon is equally successful in the part of Squire John Chase; Mr. David Beattie gives a good character sketch of the alderman, Sir Humphrey Basing, and does the part ample justice; Tattfallow, Crabshaw, and Snifkins are divertingly personified by Mr. L. Evans, Mr. C. Doyle, and Mr. Frederick Scarth; Mrs. Bernard Parkin is well suited as the bonny Mrs. Crabshaw; Miss Mildred Surrey plays Miss Tattfallow in a well-studied manner; Basing's daughter, Lillian, could not be more delightfully played than it is by Miss Maud Garth.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Revill. — Satisfactory audiences have been attracted here this week by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr. Douglas B. Watson gives a manly impersonation of Jack Halyard; and the character of Duncan Bly is effectively presented by Mr. Clavering Craig; Mr. Sinclair Holden is seen to advantage as Mike Connlestone; and as Ned Pennycumquick, Mr. W. H. Melrose acts with ability. Mrs. Clavering Craig plays sympathetically as Gertrude Garth; and Miss Mabel Coleman makes a capital Lilian Garth; whilst Miss Winnie Donovan charmingly fills the part of Mercy Merry.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel's successful comedy sketch, *Three of a Kind*, forms a big attraction here this week, and, as presented by this talented company, has been thoroughly enjoyed. Included in the evening's entertainment are the Brothers Artois, in their clever and amusing horizontal bar act; the Swift Trio of trick cyclists; an old favourite here in Gus Balsiger, comedian; Harry Morris, character comedian, with up-to-date patter; Elsie Rubina, expert wire dancer; and the Lizette Troupe, comprising a quartette of charming and graceful lady acrobats.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Geo. and R. A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—Another good bill is presented here, headed by the Novello's Elephants, Ponies, Dogs, &c., a really clever turn; Jack and Evelyn are exceedingly funny; Magner, in classical poses, is interesting; Frank Hartley is a clever juggler; Tom Moore, comedian, scores a success; the Musical Keiths, Harry Lee, mimic, and Miss Madge Northcote, vocalist, along with the Pictoscope, assist in drawing good houses.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—At the top of the bill is Neil Kenyon, Scotch comedian, who is decidedly funny; George D'Albert is well received; Burley and Burley introduce some novel acrobatic feats; the Three Henriques are smart; and the Virginians also score; Lambert and Hands possess good voices; Miss Lilly Currie is acceptable; and the Bioscope completes the bill.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—An admirable turn heads the bill this week in the Regal Operatic Quartette, who give selections from *Maritana*. Mr. Edward Wynn as Don Cæsar, Mr. Albert German as Don Jose, Mme. Marie Burnett as Lazaretto, and Mlle. Adele Prescott as Maritana. The Brady and Johnson company, in their sketch, *Turning the Tables*, are uproariously funny; Lytton and Bland, in their *Lessons in Love* are capital; May Fallowfield is a smart comedienne; the Three Rubys as athletes are clever, their trapeze business being an excellent feature; Ernesto juggles admirably, and is well received; Percy Curry is a comedian of much merit; the Sisters Lytton sing well together; and the Bioscope shows the destruction of San Francisco. Business continues excellent.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE.— Director and Manager, Mr. Charles E. Machin.—The popular manager's Stock Season company is this week playing the Bullock version of *East Lynne*. Miss Nina Vaughton in the title-rôle is seen to advantage, giving full scope to her versatility; Mr. Albert Jember also scores strongly with his fine recollection of Archibald Carlists. The lighter comedy is safe in the experienced hands of Mr. Charles M. Daly, who is responsible for the rôle of Bullock; Mr. Henry Belding finds scope for his undoubted ability in the part of Justice Hare; Sir Francis Levison has a capital exponent in Mr. Stanley S. Gordon; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd is excellent as Cornelius Carlists, and Miss Hilda Merrilese, as Barbara Hare, leaves little to be desired; whilst Joyce has a capable exponent in Miss Violet B. Clarke.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—Mr. Jack Haddon's company is here in the stirring military drama, *Under the Russian Flag*. Mr. Cecil Melton impersonates the hero, Ivan Romanoff, in incisive style, and as Michael Mr. Bernard Mervyn plays with force and boldness; Mr. Jack Haddon, who sustains the rôle of Captain Demetrius, gives a really fine performance; Mr. George Herbert submits a creditable study of the old General Romanoff; Mr. W. Wilson is impressive as Colonel Souvaroff, and Mr. Fred Haming amusing as Lieutenant Alexis Ikopolopi; Mr. William Rivers is equal to the demands of the part of Doctor Keroff, and Mr. Charles Giddon's study of Wolf Marischia is good; Mr. Hal Forde causes much amusement by his humorous interpretation of Peter Poulski; Miss Elaine Vanbrugh's delineation of the rôle of Vera Vassiloff is charmingly natural; Miss Marie Rayner's embodiment of Luka Marischia is deserving of praise; Miss Agnes Howard is pleasingly saucy and piquant as Ogurita. Others rendering valuable assistance are Mr. Wm. Parkin (Nicholas), Mr. J. H. Ward (a sentry), and Mr. Frank Watson (an orderly).

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Stringer.—A well-diversified bill is submitted here by Bella and Bijou, whose clever comedy is appreciated to the full; C. Wordley Hulse and company, who appear in a stirring sketch, entitled *The Fight in the Forge*; the Three Romas, who score in their gladiatorial feats; Princess Lucie, the Russian fat girl; Gracie Lawn, vocalist; Martini and Ion, American song illustrators; the Alaskas, in a novel and refined comedy act; Harry Newburn, comedian; and the Bioscope pictures.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—The management of this popular house have followed comedy with a strong variety programme, opening on Monday to a large and appreciative audience. The turn provided by Mlle. Alice Lorette was an excellent one, her delightful series of classic poses, with her wonderful dog Ben, being received with the utmost enthusiasm. Another smart and entertaining turn was Zelda, who played on a number of novel musical instruments; Mr. T. C. Jacques fully merited the applause that followed his efforts as an actor-vocalist; Little Boden and Bell proved themselves clever juvenile entertainers; and Mr. Percy Hayes, who made a "hit" as a lecturer, also undertook the duties of stage-manager.

TON-Y-PANDY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr. D. Haggar and company opened here for the stock season with an extensive repertoire. On Monday evening a well filled house greeted the presentation of *Our Guardian Angel*. Other plays billed for this week are *Jane Shore*, *Oliver Twist*, *London Life*, and *The Iron Chain*

TORQUAY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr. Arthur Pearse. *La Fille de Madame Angot* is the attraction this week, and is very well put on by the Elster-Grime Opera company. The principal character is taken by Miss Marie Elster, who is an exceedingly accomplished actress, and evokes much applause. She is well supported by Mr. Albert Kewley, who gives a very finished performance of Pomponnet, his betrothed being ably represented by Miss Elsie Lynham, who contributes considerably to the success of the production. Mention should also be made of the Larivandière of Mr. M. Kemble, of the Ange Pitou of Mr. Payne Clarke, and also of Miss Madge Quilliam and Miss Nellie Russell.

PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Olympian Entertainers, under the direction of Mr. Paul-Mill, are paying a visit here this week. Mr. Paul Mill and Mr. J. G. Taylor, who is also stage-manager, afford plenty of amusement with their humorous songs, and are encored nightly. Miss Haidee St. George and Miss Winifred Channing sing with much acceptance, and the fine tenor voice of Mr. Philip Ritte is much appreciated. Other members of a capable party include Miss Doris Lee, and Messrs. Robert Macaig, Harry Harmet, and Eric Davidson.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA. — Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers. —The programme is this week headed by Adeler's Entertainers, whose various items are highly appreciated; the Gustave Fasola's Indian wonders and mystifiers remain over from last week, and prove as popular as ever; W. H. Clemart is a clever and amusing ventriloquist; Harry Morgan scores with his smart songs and dances; Vasey and Ramsey, duettists and dancers, also find favour; an entertaining sketch is submitted by Stephens and Reed. The Bioscope pictures are also shown.

WAKEFIELD.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The play *The Octoroon* is the attraction this week, and is receiving good support.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Mr. Harry Kardoc heads the bill this week and displays great skill as a handcuff manipulator; the Brothers Arnold, illusionists, are smart; Abex performs great feats of strength; Mlle. Florence, globe performer, wins applause, and the bill also includes the Woolhafs, an amusing couple; Harry Balfour, eccentric comedian; Lead and Lead, comedy artists; Miss Mabel Welfare, comedienne; Frederick Austin, minstrel comedian; and Dale and D'Argan, acrobats, who win favour.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The programme here is headed by Horace Wheatley, a capital Irish comedian and dancer; Nellie Martell, comedienne, is well received; Ernest Tilbury sings with good effect; Conn and Conrad, the amateur burglars; Avolos, novelty acrobats; Kathleen Cogan, juvenile singer and dancer; and the New York Nippers, in their speciality scene *Bed-time*, all meet with a favourable reception, and the American Bioscope proves a great attraction.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company is here this week with *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. Horace Custins acts with distinction as Larry Murphy; Mr. William Vane is well placed as Harold Raymond; George Oakley is in the capable hands of Mr. Andrew Money; Mr. Erneson Frere makes a capital Ikey Moses; Miss Violet Langley displays ability as Minnie Hastings; Miss Isa Lyndon makes a charming May Raymond; and Miss Dorothea Vivian sustains the rôle of Jack with credit.

WALTHAMSTOW.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—Variety in the truest sense may be said to be the distinguishing feature of Mr. Barclay's programme this week, almost every species of popular entertainment being represented. Mr. Leonard Mortimer and his company present a thrilling melodramatic sketch, entitled *The Earl of Enniscare*. This "society sensation," the scene of which is laid in a Park Lane mansion—a really beautiful set representing the interior of a conservatory—deals with the attempt of a gang of villains to steal "the great Princess diamond, valued at £500,000," from its rightful owner, Algernon Conyers. How their schemes seem to succeed; how they are ultimately baffled, and how the millionaire meets his death, combine to form a plot full of movement and vigour. Mr. Leonard Mortimer plays the dual rôle of the two brothers Conyers—the millionaire mentioned, and his brave twin, Gerald, a captain in the Royal Navy; Mr. Mortimer very finely contrasts the two dissimilar characters, and acts each equally well; Mr. Leonard Robson acts well as Fenton Lorrimore, a South African detective, and speaks with admirable distinctness; Mr. J. G. Leighton does very well as the adventurer; James Fromner and Mr. Reginald Weighill are both intense and amusing as the Marquis St. Middlesex; Miss Edith Lewis plays powerfully as Stella Conyers, and Miss Ida Clifford puts every scrap of acting into the part of Doris Lyle of which it is capable; a dainty little dancer is Miss Maudie Forde, who also sings with successful results; Oakley and James keep the ball of fun rolling merrily in their scene in which tumbling, singing and knockabout business add to the merriment. One of the finest singers we have had here for a long time is Miss Lilian Lowe, whose admirable voice is displayed to the utmost advantage in "It was a Dream," and "The Song that Reached my Heart." A turn that meets with huge success is introduced by the Athlones, who, as physical culture artistes, can hold their own against anyone; they give an exhibition of combined strength and grace that fairly rouses the audience to enthusiasm. A great success is achieved by Mr. Joe Archer, who sings "Johnny, where's your Tailor?" and "If we Hadn't any Women in the World," most amusingly. Dale and O'Malley are excellent comedians. Ruffell's Bioscope completes the programme.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Miss Marie Dagmar is here another week, and a successful production of *East Lynne* has been attended by good audiences. Miss Dagmar as Lady Isabel has proved herself to be an accomplished emotional actress; Mr. Fred C. Somerfield is well placed as Archibald Carlyle; and Mr. Alfred Grier is good as Sir Francis Levison. Mr. Walter Roberts is a dignified Lord Mountsevern; Mr. George C. Hall as Richard Hare, Mr. Willie Barratt as Mr. Dill, Miss Geraldine Montrose as Corney Carlisle, and Miss Podmore as Barbara Hare are all excellent in their respective parts.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Haley's Prize Juveniles head the bill here this week, and their charming vocalisation has won all hearts; George Ripon is a capital comedian; and other excellent turns are Harry Christie, comedian; Sisters Hall, duettists; Akbar, ring performer; Belle Leaburn, comedienne; Halma, juggler; and the Royal Bioscope pictures.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — PALACE. — Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The performance by Ford and Barris, the street arab dancers, is novel in its way and attractive; a Ba-Be Picture Postcard Album is artistic and well worked, the grouping and harmony of colours are perfect. Aerial and Astarte are first-class entertainers in their gymnastic act; the sensational performance of the Yags Mary Trio in a cycle somersaulting act is one of the hits of the evening; Lily Morris's talents are indisputable as a chic comedienne; Henri Bekker does some wonderful things in the conjuring line—many of his tricks are quite mystifying; the Sisters Varley are harmonising vocalists of no mean order, and their reception is flattering; George Grogie, the Sussex comedian, makes a favourable impression; an acceptable number is filled in by Ted Lowan, comedian; and the pictures form a pleasing conclusion to the programme.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. — KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Charles Otley's company is here this week in *War to the Knife* and *Miriam's Crime*. The former was presented on Monday. Mr. C. Otley's impersonation of Mr. Nubby was richly humorous; Mr. Herbert Robinson gave a highly artistic interpretation of Captain Thistleton; Mr. William Allison made an excellent Mr. Harcourt; and a good performance too was the John Blunt of Mr. C. Pilling Baird. Mrs. Delacour found a charming exponent in Miss Phyllis Manners; Miss Olive Palmer was a praiseworthy Mrs. Harcourt; Miss Marie Jonquil as Mrs. Penson, and Miss Edith Heron Brown as Jane Trimmer both deserve commendation.

GRAND PIER PAVILION. — The Æolian Opera Singers are paying a welcome return visit here this week, the vocalists including Miss Jennie Johns, Miss Florence Kay, Miss Rose Alderman, Mr. Vivian Munro, and Mr. Charles Parker. Mr. Richardson Taylor scores with his marvellous imitation of birds and his ventriloquial act. Herr Julian Kändt's Austrian Blue Band commenced the third year of their engagement, and have had a flattering reception. Mr. Frank Lews shows some excellent pictures on the Bioscope.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.: Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—Mr. Pringle's North American Animated Picture Company is paying a prolonged visit here. The Two Eltons give a good performance on the triple bar; the Marblesques submit realistic representations of statuary which are well received.

WEXFORD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. E. P. RONAN.—Mr. Allen Wilkie's dramatic company is here this week in a selection of first-class plays, and is meeting with a full measure of support. *The Merchant of Venice* was produced on Monday night, when Allen Wilkie gained much praise for his portrayal of the rôle of Shylock, and Mr. George T. Greig gave a very consistent and meritorious performance as Antonio. The impersonation of Bassanio by Mr. Clifford Rean left nothing to be desired, and Mr. George Lambton and Mr. Malcolm Tearle as Gratiano and Salarino respectively were well suited to their parts. Mr. Alfred Gray was a manly Lorenzo, and Mr. R. Seeth Innes as Launcelot Gobbo was excellent. Miss Ine Cameron was a very pleasing Portia, and Miss Lizzie Maddocks made the most of the part of Nerissa, Miss Barbara Pigott being very winsome as Jessica. After to-night (Saturday) the theatre will remain closed until the end of August.

WIGAN.—ROYAL COURT THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company have presented the popular drama, *The London Fireman*. The play is admirably produced by a strong and numerous cast, including Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as Colonel Fleming and Mr. Edward L. Garside as Hal Curtis. The part of Ida Curtis, the fireman's wife, is admirably played by Miss Nellie Shirley, and other lady characters are gracefully impersonated by Miss Nellie Waddington, Miss Florence M. Daly, and Miss Nellie Garside.

THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—The Tom Davies' Trio give a sensational motoring act in mid air, and the Arizona Troupe are exceedingly accomplished acrobats. The Du Gros Trio give an aërial comic gymnastic act; and Will Percival is a clever comedian and clog dancer; Amy Neild is a comedienne destined to rise high in estimation; and other excellent performances are given by Will Poluski, jun., comedian and dancer; Tom Taylor, capital baritone vocalist; Arthur Bond, comedian and dancer; Semi and Demi, instrumentalists; and Raynor and Reece, humorous singers and dancers.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr. E. St. Alban's Opera company is here this week presenting *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr. Geo. A. Fox as Henri Marquis de Corneville has a fine voice and excellent presence; Mr. E. St. Alban gives an excellent rendering of the part of Gaspard; Mr. William Everard is heard to advantage as Grenicheaux; Mr. Fred Dark as the Bailie, and Mr. Richard Martin as Gobo are extremely funny. Miss L. Rhodes does well as Christophe; Miss Marion Ayling has a good soprano voice, and is winsome as Germaine; Miss May Bradbury is successful as Serpolette. Special mention should be made of the fine chorus.

WREXHAM.—EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week the attractions are Mr. Sid Bandon, who sings in effective style; the Rosslyns, singers and dancers, in a pleasing show; the Sisters Grenville, duettists, in clever and pretty dancing; Mr. George Raper, comedian; Miss Alice Dora, comedienne and dancer, and the Pictures.

YORK.—OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brook.—An exceptionally good programme is given this week. Henry Carlton, the popular comedian, and company cause much laughter with the sketch *The Window Cleaner*; the Percys' duets are exceptionally well rendered and their dancing is much appreciated; Fred Keeton, comedian, is amusing and secures well-merited applause; McPhee and Hill are novel gymnasts, and their marvellous feats received well merited applause; Learto, musical comedian, assisted by his clever dog Mabs, is very funny, and keeps the audience in good humour. The Coolvilles, vocalists and dancers, are exceptionally good; Lillian Victoria, soubrette and male impersonator, is well received; the Clavers, equilibrists and jugglers, perform some clever and neat feats, and the programme is brought to a close by some amusing pictures thrown on the Bioscope.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently, draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the uregent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
George Wyman	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
Total	£26	1	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

MR. FRED G. BROOKE will produce a new sketch, written by himself and Miss Dora Deane, entitled *The Destroyers*, at the Royal Albert, Canning Town, on August Bank Holiday.

MISS MABEL SINCLAIR, the youthful lady ventriloquist, who is rapidly making herself a favourite at the London Pavilion, has been specially retained by Mr. B. E. Keith for his circuit of American Theatres.

MISS LIL HAWTHORNE has made a great success with Mr. H. K. Hamilton Field's quaint and tuneful number, "That's your cactus over there," at the Gaiety, Birmingham, this week, and the local Press speaks most eulogistically of both singer and song. It forms No. 26 of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's "Sixpenny Successes."

THE DECLINE OF BALLET IN ENGLAND.

The earliest ballets, which closely resembled the old English masques, consisted not of dancing only, but also of vocal and instrumental music. In his book on the subject of "La Danse" M. Castile Blaze traces back the ballet from France to Italy, from Italy to Greece, and through the Greek stage to festivals in honour of Bacchus. But the ballet as signifying an entertainment exclusively in dancing dates from the foundation of the Academie Royal de Musique or soon afterwards. It is on record that Louis XIV. of France took such a delight in ballets that he frequently appeared as a ballet-dancer, or rather as a figurant, himself. The ballet never possessed in London anything like the importance which was attached to it in France from the beginning of the eighteenth century until a comparatively recent time.

To the June number of *Macmillan's Magazine* Mr. T. L. Bensusan, in an interesting article, deals with "The Decline of Ballet in England." He believes that in London ballet is entirely misunderstood, and suffering from neglect it has done nothing to deserve. There are scores of citizens, he says, who regard a ballet as an entertainment designed primarily for the delectation of elderly gentlemen who have lost most of their hair, all their sense of propriety, and so much of their sight that they must seek the aid of opera-glasses even when they sit in the front row of the stalls.

And yet time was, and not so long ago, when ballet taken seriously was one of the attractions of our opera houses; and even when it passed from there it seemed destined to find an honoured home at the Alhambra and afterwards at the Empire as well. Ballet lifted these houses into a position altogether different from that of mere variety theatres, and helped to attract a class of audience that would never have entered Leicester-square to see a variety show.

It is to be feared that very many people, in England at least, go to see a ballet in these days with no further wish than to have their ears tickled by lively music, and their eyes charmed by the figures and costumes of the dancers. They refuse to realise that *ballet d'action* has any other than mere sensuous attractions, and that a good ballet has all the qualities of a serious stage-play in addition to many to which no play can lay claim. It sets out to tell a simple yet dramatic story, and in place of speech there is gesture, strengthened by music, which in a sense takes the place of the human voice.

Of course, it is not necessary to go far back in stage-history to point out how large a measure of appreciation ballet has secured in England. It is not so very long ago that ballet was closely associated with opera. Then, when it had been appropriated by the music halls and was beginning to thrive in Leicester-square, there arose a generation that found ballet tiresome, not because it was less interesting than before, but because it was ceasing to be understood. This is a recent matter, and synchronises with the movement of burlesque towards musical comedy. Artistic salvation, so far as dancing is concerned, was held to lie in the long skirts, and with the rise of very charming manipulators of those garments there came an outcry against the skilled work of the *prima ballerina*, and the often delightful achievements of her less gifted sisters. The newer work was found more easy to understand. Of course the protests may have been genuine; but it is difficult to avoid the belief that the outcry was founded, in part at least, upon the fact that almost anybody can become a skirt-dancer, while to become a real dancer years of hard work are demanded.

A great dancer is a great artist, and in using this hackneyed term I am thinking of Ruskin's well-known definition of an artist as "a person who has submitted to a law which it is painful to obey, in order to bestow the delight which it is gracious to bestow." The only alteration one might make in the definition would be to substitute laws for law, in as much as the great dancer finds herself beset on all sides by restrictions. Not only must she practise every day, but she must not ride nor run, or play tennis or hockey; she must develop her ear for music, seeing so much depends on her sense of rhythm; and she must have an innate or carefully-cultivated sense of beauty of line and curve, must, in short, have a feeling for sculpture. She must be strong-minded enough to refrain from the pursuit of what is merely popular, and to withstand the temptation of the big offers that are always awaiting her if she will degrade her art by appealing to the lower forms of what is quaintly termed the public taste. When we remember, moreover, that no measure of work and no amount of restrictions will avail to make a dancer unless she happen to begin with natural gifts of an uncommon order, it will be seen that her art is as rare as it is difficult.

Unfortunately, in this country nobody seems to think that dancing need be studied at all, and English dancers encourage the fond illusion. In the Continental schools attached to great opera houses, and sometimes subsidised by Government, the work of the dancer is not of the kind that can be learnt in a year or so. Life in the dancing-school begins when a child is no more than eight or nine years old, and the ordinary course demands some nine years of study.

Not only are many of the steps that must be studied exceedingly difficult, but the dancer who has learnt her work in the schools of Vienna, Milan, Moscow, or Paris knows well enough that should she falter in their execution she will have no chance at all with the public. In London, on the other hand, several great dancers have told me that it is not worth their while to take trouble about very difficult steps, because unfortunately they are not understood; while something that is obvious and childlike in its simplicity, like a *pas de bourrée*, is safe to meet with a measure of applause at least as great as that which rewards some movements which can only be acquired at the end of long years of study by a very few dancers whose natural gifts are exceptional. If you watch a really distinguished dancer, you are bound to notice that she never has an ungraceful movement or unhappy pose. It is not a case of occasional happy moments, but of one long succession of movements whose rhythm has the beauty of fine verse. The results that make great dancers so much admired by those who are at any pains to study their work are quite within the reach of English girls; but it is an unfortunate fact, for which every great ballet-mistress will vouch, that English girls as a class do not take the trouble to work hard enough to acquire the perfect control over limbs and movement that is the reward of their Continental sisters. It is on this account that what is sometimes called English dancing cannot be taken seriously. Of course one cannot blame the English dancers altogether; it is of very little use to prepare a delicate dish for the delectation of the sturdy animal whose favourite food is thistles; and while the public remain content with a pretty face, a pleasing figure, a dainty dress, and an air for which barrel-organs cry aloud, English girls may regard it as a labour lost to give them anything better. And yet the successes in years past of dancers like Katti Lanner and Malvina Cavallazzi, and the triumph that has fallen to Adeline Genée to-day, must prove that there is an English audience for better things. Perhaps, if we had more dancers who could and would take their work seriously, the tone of what so many people are generously pleased to call their taste might cease to be contemptible.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 1, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
June 25, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER.
Aug. 13, Oct. 8, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17.
Jan. 21, Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Oct. 8, 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, 28, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 13 (three nights), 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22 (three nights), 29, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Huddersfield, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 24 (Xmas week).
Reading, June 25.
Leamington, Sept. 13 (3 nights), 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, on.
Theatre Royal, Leicester, July 9, 16.
Northampton, July 23, 30, Xmas week.
Opera House, Leicester, Aug. 13.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Aug. 27, Oct. 18, Dec. 3, 17.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Aug. 13, 27, Oct. 29, Dec. 3, 17, 24.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gatesehad."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Aug. 6, 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, 24,
Oct. 8, 22, Nov. 12,
onwards, with exceptions.

E. GRAHAM FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Dramas and Musical Companies, Aug. 6, Nov. 19, Dec, onwards.
Address, HERBERT VERE.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Lessee, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
WANTED, good Opera or Musical Company, for June 25. N.B.—This being Coronation week is a public holiday in the Isle of Wight, and quite as good as a Bank Holiday week.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Under the Direction of EDWARD MICHAEL.
WANTED, First-Class Musical or Comedy Company for June 25 and July 9, only open dates.
Bookings include: "Mr. Popple," "His House in Order," "The Cingalee," Mrs. Weedon Grossmith and Fred Kerr, "Duchess of Dantzic," "Mollentrave on Women," "The Blue Moon," "Walls of Jericho," "Sergeant Brue," Aubrey Fitzgerald and West End Company, "Faust Up to Date," "Charley's Aunt," "Earl and the Girl," "Public Opinion," "Gay Parisienne," "Florodora," &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, and 27 (three nights each), Sept. 10 and 17 (three nights).

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic or Musical Attractions, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 23, Feb. 18, and onwards.
Address, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-Class Company, for July 5, 6, 7, (three nights).
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attraction for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday), also vacant Aug. 13, 20, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

P. O. W., NUNEATON.
WANTED, Sound Musical Attractions, for the following reserved dates: Sept. 3, Oct. 22, Jan. 14, Feb. 18, March 11, 18. A. F. CROSS.

WANTED, Companies, T. R., Rugby, Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 3, 17, 24, Oct. 15, 29 (three), Nov. 19, Dec. 3; also Spring dates, for new theatre. A. F. CROSS, Nuneaton.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, three nights, one matinée, July 2, 5, 9, several dates on, only good Attractions entertained. Silence a polite negative. SEEBOLD, Worthing Theatre Royal.

WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates for the Spa Theatre, Bridlington. Just completed. Electric light throughout. First-class Attractions (no dramas) for week July 30 (3 or 6 nights) also July 30 to Aug. 4, Aug. 9, 10, 11, 27, 28, 29, Sept. 13, 14, 15.
HAGUE, General Manager.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-Class Companies, for July 2, 9, and 16. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, good Companies (Musical preferred), Autumn and Spring.
CLAYTON, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies June 25, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, Aug. 6 (unexpectedly vacant), 13, and Sept. 24. Apply, MANAGING-DIRECTOR, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction,

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 20, Oct. 1.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant June 18, 25, July 2.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant June 18, 25, July 2, 9.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant June 18, 25, July 2, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 3, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 10.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant June 18, 25, July 2.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant June 18, 25, July 2, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 20.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant June 18, 25, July 2, 9.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15.

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11.

"ALADDIN."
Vacant Dec. 31, Jan. 7, 14, 21.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Grand Re-opening Aug. 16, after Re-decoration and Renovating, with R. A. P. Williams's New Comic Opera Co., "Les Cloches de Corneville."
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and on, with exceptions. New Year's Week Vacant for First-class Pantomime. W. E. POTTS.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 30, Aug. 6, 13.
E. H. PAGE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-Class Companies, for the following dates: Aug. 13, 20 (Flower Show week), and 27, Oct. 1 and 15, Nov. 12 and 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, and 24. Pantomime Companies from Jan. 7, 1907, onwards.
Apply, A. C. MOODY, Lessee and Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Aug., Sept., and Oct.
Musical Comedies preferred.
JAMES BELL.

LYCEUM THEATRE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, Companies, July 2, 9, 23, and on; Bank Holiday vacant.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

NEW GRAND THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies, for this New Brick and Stone Theatre, now being erected in Main Street, Centre of Town,
Holds 1,200. Stage 60 by 40. 40 to Flies.
Bookings include Best Companies on Road.
Will Open in September.
Vacant for First-class Company for Opening.
CLAYTON, 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED. Wanted. Wanted, through obliging a Manager,
Good, Sound Attraction, Musical preferred, for July 2, week.
Particulars to
MANAGER,
Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Aug. 6. Apply,
WADDINGTON and SONS, Theatre Royal, York.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company, for July 23.
Copy of day-bill and particulars to
J. H. CURRY, as above.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, for Important Theatre on the South Coast, Aug. 27. J. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION and OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, June 25 (three or six nights), July 12, 13, 14, 16, and 23 (six nights). W. PAYNE.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, July 30. Musical preferred. HARRY FISCHER.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Dates. Touring Companies and Concert Managers. King's Theatre, Walton-on-Naze. Seating 600 July, Aug., Sept. Particulars, MANAGER, 87, Sutton-court, Chiswick.

WANTED, for Prince's Theatre, Llandudno, Public Hall, Colwyn Bay, good Companies, July 2, 9, 16, 23 (three or six nights). Address, CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, through disappointment, First-class Attraction, for week of July 9.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-Class Attraction only, Aug. 27, only vacant date this year.
Address, HARRY YORKE.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 2, and several Autumn Dates vacant. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. Apply, L. CARSON, Keighley.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Dec. 10.
Apply to Owner and Manager, JAMES KIERNAN.

PIER PAVILION, TEIGNMOUTH, S. DEVON.
WANTED, June 18, July 2 and 9, Good Bright Complete Entertainments and Concert Parties, for above dates. Share terms. Wire for June 18. E. A'DELL, Pier, Teignmouth.

THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.
WANTED, to Let, for Eight Weeks, for First-class Shows, complete in themselves, on rental or share (not dramatic).
Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6 (?), 13, 20. Oct. 1, 15.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

FREDK MELVILLE'S DRAMATIC COS.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 17 24, Oct. 1.
FREDK. MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Nov. 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
Bruges, Willow-avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Week of July 2.
Wire,
"Hustler, Birkenhead."

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, July 2, 16, on, with exceptions.
"SAILORS OF THE KING."
Aug. 6, 27, on, with exceptions.
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Broadway Theatre, London.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 22, 29, Nov. 12, and Dec. 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Grand Theatre, Southampton.
See Companies Advertisement, Page 2.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANIES.
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
WANTED, June 25 and on, with exceptions.
"THE BEST OF HER SEX,"
Wanted, July 23, 30, Aug. 6, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY" TOUR.
Eugene C. Stafford's Company.
WANTED, Nov. 1 (three nights) and 12, Dec. 3 and 24, also Spring, 1907. Apply, care of FRENCH, Ltd., 26, Southampton-st., Strand, London.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-third Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into March, '07.
WANTED, July 23 and 30, follow W. London.
Aug. 20, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 1.
FRANK AYRTON,
Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.

Mr. H. F. MALTBY and COMPANY,
"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 13, onwards, with exceptions, and Spring, '07.
WYN WEAVER, T. R., Dover.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever. E. CARTER LIVESEY, to-day, Metropole, Gateshead; next, T. R., Sunderland.

"SAPHO."
"SAPHO."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 8, 15. No greater success touring. Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grande. Address, JAMES BELL, Theatre, Darlington.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and 24.
Apply,
FRED GRANVILLE, Park View, Crosby, Liverpool.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, through misunderstanding, Aug. 6, Sept. 3. Address, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 2, Sunnyside-terrace, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, for Arthur Shirley's Great Domestic play, "THE BOOM OF BIG BEN,"
Exceptionally Powerful Company,
June 25, July 2, London or near.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
Aug. 27, Sept., and onwards, with exceptions.
GEORGE DENHAM, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Theatres for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae; "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Miss Frances Delaval, Mr. Percy Carne Waram, and powerful company. "Scamp" vacant Aug. 6. Both plays Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 1, 8, Nov. 5, Xmas, New Year. Wire, Alec., Hull; next, T. R., Stockport.

"RICH AND POOR OF LONDON."
Miss Dora Dench
and Powerful Company.
WANTED, Good Theatres, for June 25, July 2.
Wire, DENCH,
Queen's, Manchester; next, North Shields.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, July 2, Aug. 13,
Refer Messrs. W. Morton, H. Fineberg, T. W. Rowe, S. James, L. Collingwood, W. Bailey, J. W. Boughton. To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, Prince's T., Blackburn. June 18, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

FRANK BERTRAM'S TOURS.
"THE NEW CLOWN."
"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, June 25, to follow Southend. wire, to-day, EUGENE BERTRAM,
O. H., Coventry;
Next, Empire, Southend-on-Sea.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, June 25, July 2, 9,
EADE MONTEFIORE, Kennington Theatre.
Wire, "Busily, London."

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, Best Theatres Only, July 2, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, 24, Xmas. T. ARTHUR JONES, Star Theatre, Swansea.

"THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and 27.
HILL-MITCHELSON, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, July 9 and 16, to follow Chatham. The company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee good business at any theatre. Several dates vacant, autumn. Address,
L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

LINGFORD CARSON'S
REPERTOIRE CO.
"THE HEART OF A HERO."
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."
"THE OCTOROON."
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 9, and onwards. Can arrange for four plays in one week. L. CARSON, Keighley.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Dates,
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY"
(including Miss Edith Blande). June 18, 25 (between London and Leicester preferred), July 9, various onwards.
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Aug. 6, 13, 27 (Midlands), various onwards.
"ORPHAN HEIRESS" and
"WORLD'S VERDICT."
Aug. 20, 27, various, onwards.
"SAINTS AND SINNERS" and
"MIDDLEMAN."
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North), Dec. 3, 17.
Address, Metropole, Glasgow.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."

WANTED, Best Theatres, Vacant Oct. 8 (North), Oct. 29, Nov. 5 and 19, Dec. 24.
Present Bookings: R., Cardiff; G., Swansea; L., Newport; Sunderland; S. Shields; Brixton; G., Croydon; Broughton; A., Sheffield; G., Wolverhampton; Llandudno; Edinburgh; Bootle; Seacombe; &c. Now Booking Spring, 1907.
T. R., Rochdale, June 18.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON,"
by Geo. R. Sims.
The Ninth Tour, under the direction of Herbert Hollister, of this famous Drama commences in August.
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, for Sept. 3 (?), 10, Oct. 15 (London or South), Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3 and 10 (North). Spring fully booked with two exceptions.
H. HOLLISTER, c/o David Allens, Ltd.,
17, Leicester-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

Mr. Edward Graham Falcon
has secured the entire rights from
Messrs. Gatti and Frohman,
and has purchased the
No. 1 Production
from Messrs. Murray King and Clark.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 8, 29, and Four Weeks at Christmas.
Managers send Spring Dates.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

MR. and MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, July 2 (Midlands), for this Great Attraction, only vacant date this year.
Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Vauxhall, The Scotlands, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Theatres, for the Elster-Grime Opera Co., July 9 (to follow Swansea), 16, 23, Aug. 6, 13, and on, South preferred. O. H., Torquay; next, Alexandra Hall, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, on, for "A London Actress."
STUART CLEVELAND, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, for First-class Pantomime, with Big Cast, Jan. 21, and on. Only Theatre capable of holding money can be entertained.
Please address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

WANTED, "Assassin," Oct. 29.
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
19, Dunalley-parade, Cheltenham.

MISS MURIEL GODFREY-TURNER AND REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
WANTED, June 25, between Cheltenham and Douglas. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, O. H., Cheltenham.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Special
Aug. 13, Scenery,
Aug. 20, Attractive
Sept. 10 (?) Printing.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, Criterion T., London.

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play produced during the year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-sq., Birkenhead.

Managers who are looking for money, book
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 25, July 9, 30, Aug. 6. Wire,
OSMOND, Queen's, Longton; next, Mexborough.

"A WOMAN'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 9, 16, Aug. 6.
HENRY L. OSMOND, Queen's, Longton;
next, Mexborough.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED Good Theatres,
July 16, 30, Aug. 6.
FRANK E. BURDETT, 161, Chesterfield-rd., Sheffield.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Attraction, First-class Theatres, for
Aug. 27,
Sept. 10, 24,
Oct. 8, 15,
Nov. 12.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, c/o "The Era."

PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Theatre, Jan. 21, 1907, to follow month at London house. Address, for particulars, G. BRYDON-PHILLIPS, c/o "The Era."

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, June 25, on, Aug. 20, various, on. Refer last week, Stockton; this, Muncaster, Bootle. MILLER, this Bootle; next, Prince of Wales', Salford.

"LIFE," "EAST LYNNE," &c.
WANTED, June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, Aug. 6 (follow Metropole, Glasgow), Powerful Co. Splendid pictorials. HERBERT BARRS,
Grand Theatre, Hull.

"PUSS IN BOOTS."
WANTED, Important Theatre only, for Feb. 4 and 11.
Company of Seventy Artists.
Address, C. and F. RENAD, c/o "The Era."

Christmas Pantomime, 1906-1907.
WANTED, Dates, "Cinderella," by Henry Austin, original and sparkling music, ten magnificent scenes, specially painted by Walter Drury, fourteen principal Artists, troupe of trained juveniles, full chorus, strong specialities for Palace scene; up-to-date in every detail; produced by Walter Drury. Managers write to DONALD ARTHUR'S Agency, 434, Strand, W.C.

"THE TEMPTRESS."
WANTED, Aug. 13. W. H. HALLATT, 1, St. John's-road, Richmond, Surrey.

THEATRES WANTED.

Success! Success!! Success!!!
Miss MARY NEIL and Mr. GEORGE KIRK'S
"HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
By Charles Darrell.
Bookings include
Junc. and Osborne, Manchester (R.); Alex., Hull (R.); P., Blackburn (R.); T. R., Castleford (R.); T. R., Bolton; Alex., Sheffield; Grand, Blackpool; T. R., Lincoln; G., Derby; T. R., Leicester; T. R., South Shields; O. H., St. Helens; T. R., Sunderland; Q., Liverpool; Wigan; Prince's, Bradford; T. R., Barnsley; T. R., Middlesbrough; T. R., Chatham; T. R., Smethwick; T. R., Aston; Grand, Nottingham; Rotunda, Liverpool; Col., Oldham; Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Prince's, Portsmouth; A'exandra, Birmingham; P.O.W., Grimsby; and Grand, Islington, N.
Thanks for offers of T. R., Bristol; Grand, Swansea; G., Burnley; Accrington; Victoria, Broughton.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 3, and few Autumn Dates Vacant, for really good Theatres that can hold money. Rapidly booking 1907. Managers are invited to forward Autumn vacancies to GEORGE KIRK, this, T. R., Chatham; next, 210, Barbury-street, Birmingham.

"£1,000 REWARD."
By the late Charles Rogers.
Re-written and brought up to date by
Charles Rogers, jun.
This Sterling Drama will be sent on Tour Aug. 6, under the Personal Supervision of Frank J. Pitt and Charles Halling.
Bookings include
Mexborough,
Attercliffe,
Rotherham,
Chesterfield,
Leeds, T. R.,
Rawtenstall,
Ton-y-Pandy,
Penire,
Stourbridge,
Walsall,
&c., &c.
Two Truck Loads of Specially-painted Scenery will be Travelled, including the Gorgeous, Electrically-lighted Music Hall Set.
Special Printing has been Struck for this Tour, by Stafford and Co., bringing the aggregate up to 244 D.C. Sheets, without a Repeat.
Everything Carried. Clear Stage only required.
The Company includes
Charles Rogers, jun., Charles Halling, Frank J. Pitt, Frank Dallas, Miss Daisy Halling, Mrs. Sidney Halling, Miss Cissie Francis, and Miss Lynn Darlington (the Australian Contralto).
"£1,000 REWARD."
Sumptuously Staged, Adequately Advertised, Artistically Performed. This Favourite Drama has been, and will be, a Money-maker.
WANTED, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, Dec. 3, 10, and Xmas Week.
Rapidly Booking Spring. Re Dates.
FRANK J. PITT, VINE HOUSE, WORCESTER; Other Coms.,
CHARLES HALLING, OPERA HOUSE, ST. HELENS.

LESTER COLLINGWOOD'S PANTOMIME.
"BLUE BEARD," "BLUE BEARD."
WANTED, Jan. 21 and 28, good Theatres, with holding capacity, for the above superlative Attraction, only vacant dates. Everything carried; beautiful scenery, costumes, and electrical effects.
LESTER COLLINGWOOD,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

Company A.
Under the direction of JOHN LAWSON.
Episode "HUMANITY." Episode
"THE MONKEY'S PAW."
by W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker.
VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
The production equal in every way to original, and individuality has been selected for respective parts.
WANTED, June 25 and intermediate Dates.
Wire, V. NEWMAN, Olympia, Liverpool.

COLLEY-DRYDEN COMPANY.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic and Variety Theatres, Share or Certainty. Thanks to numerous Managers for offers.
Call, Hippodrome, Bury, June 18: Madame Ada Colley, Mr. Ed. E. Ford, Miss Madge Mayfield, the Arizona Troupe, Lytton and Bland, Mr. Will Percival, Mr. Mike Johnson, Pictures, The Indian, and Mr. Leo Dryden.
Rehearsal, 11; matinée, 2.30.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, in the Autumn, for the Bandmann Opera Company, to Tour in the East,
Principal Comedian, Principal Soprano and Contralto, Soubrette, Principal Baritone, Principal Dancer, and Chorus. All for répertoire. Write full particulars, enclosing photo., marked "Bandmann," to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for Aug. 6, Artists to complete Cast for "Bluebell," Children (all over 14), Conductor, Stage Manager, Carpenter, Baggage Man, Agent in Advance, Wardrobe Mistress, to commence immediately. No notice will be taken unless age, height, lowest terms, ladies' photos., and full particulars are forwarded.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, Artists, to complete Company. Two tall experienced responsible Gents., First-class Advance Man, Ladies for Chorus, Soprano, and Contralto; Young Woman as Dresser. Age, height, terms, recent photos., references, &c.
WM. MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-rd., Worthing.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Autumn Tours of my No. 1 and No. 2 Animated Picture Companies; also a Responsible Manager, who can give substantial security. A reliable and smart Advance Agent wanted. C. E. PARLATO, 1, Brinkburn-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Small Part and Chorus Ladies, London and Provincial Pantomimes. Good Salaries Paid. Write, EDWARD CRANSTON, 8A, Oxford and Cambridge-mansions; or apply, with photograph in costume, Tuesday and Thursday next, between 2 and 3, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, for Arthur Carlton's Autumn Productions, Artists in all Lines. Send age, height, lowest salary, and last two refs., to ARTHUR CARLTON, T. R., Worcester. Mark envelopes "Tours."

JUNIUS BOOTH and CO.,
"MONTE CRISTO."
WANTED, Young Leading Lady, Character Actor. H. G. GRIFFIN,
Crown Theatre, Peckham.

WANTED, Young, Handsome, Intelligent Lady, for a lengthy Engagement in Wordless Plays; must understand Stage Business. Apply, WARNER and Co., Ltd., 20, Wellington-street, Strand, Tuesday next, between 1 and 2 o'clock.

"THE GAZEKAS," under the direction of GEORGE GRAVES, Daly's Theatre, W.
WANTED, Soubrette, must be first-class Vocalist. Call, AUDITION Co., Ltd., 10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG."
WANTED, Smart Comedian, Short, with Good Songs, rehearse 25th, Manchester. Apply, stating age, height, summer terms, references, SYDNEY SPENSER, Queen's T., Liverpool.

WANTED, for King Charles and Buckingham, Gentlemen, must be tall; Sketch. ADDERLEY HOWARD, 14, Kingsdene, Vassall-road, Brixton.

Amateurs.
WANTED, Known, Two Ladies, Young, Good Appearance, and with Dramatic Ability, can be received into a first-class comedy company, now on tour. Apply, in first instance, Box 3,362, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Amateur, Lady or Gentleman; usual terms. Apply, MOORE and SEYMOUR, 132, Kennington Park-road. Also a good Bioscope wanted.

WANTED, Hybert's "U.T.C." Fit-up Tour, starting August, Coloured Singers, Gent. for Tom (vocalist), other vacancies, coloured men for baggage, &c. J. A. HYBERT, Uphill, Weston-s-Mare.

WANTED, for Al-fresco and Hotel Business, Seaside, good vocalist, lady or gentleman. Address, PIANIST, 8, College-place, St. Albans, Herts.

ARTISTS WANTED.

ACCRINGTON AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY.
WANTED, Coach, for production of "Trial by Jury" and "The Sorcerer," Feb. 4 to 9, 1907; engagement for three weeks before and the week of performance. Apply, with references, to CHAS. S. HAYWOOD, Hon. Sec.,
Post Office-chambers, Accrington.

WANTED, for Autumn, Lady Soprano and Gentleman Tenor, who can yodel well; also Ladies and Gentlemen for Chorus. Apply immediately, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, immediately, good Sopranos, Tenors, Basses; also Principals for Musical Comedy. Apply immediately, F. DARRELL and Co., 415, Strand.

WANTED, Immediately, for Randal's Original Middies and Maids Party, first-class Baritone, used to concerteds; must be gentleman. Fullest particulars, terms, and photo., to RANDAL, Pier Pavilion, Skegness.

WANTED, Boy Singers, permanent Engagement; good salary, for exceptional Soloists, well-known Professional Troupe. 107, Grosvenor-street, Manchester.

WANTED, immediately, First-Class Banjoist. Apply personally to
THE AUDITION Co., Ltd.,
10, Bedford-chambers. Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, Pianist-Humorist, for Week, July 23, near London; must be strong in both lines. Apply by letter, 80, Union-rd., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, Pier Pavilion, Dover. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Comediennes, Vocalists, Instrumentalists, experienced Performers (Cornets, Banjos, Mandolines, E. Concertina, Harmonica, Piano). Can play parts in sketches, &c. Disengaged June 25. Write A. C., 153, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Trained Contralto, Engagement with Choir Company. Wire, WILSON, Water-lane, South Normanton, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Known, Operatic Tenor, of well-known company, extensive high-class répertoire, liberty. Best offers only entertained. F., 39, Runswick-terrace, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contralto, experienced, very large répertoire; can play piano. Address, MARJORIE IRVINE, care of Mrs. Lavender, Brent-st., Hendon, N.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by experienced Quartette or Quintette of Ladies. Highest testimonials. Miss MABEL MILLER, 32, Montrell-road, Streatham Hill.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for "Babes" Pantomime, '06-7, Dashing Principal Boy and Girl, both must sing and dance well; experienced Comedian for Dame. Latest photographs and references; also Musical Director, and Forty tall, handsome Chorus Ladies. Address, LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley. Endorse envelopes "Panto."

WANTED, for Panto. A few good Dancers, those well up in Acrobatic and Step-dancing preferred; good money to those who know their business; 8 weeks' certain and run.
Write full particulars to MANAGER,
65, Ivy-road, Northampton.

WANTED, Artists disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery. High-class work and best materials at reasonable prices. Large and well-appointed studio. Address, CHARLES J. SAYER, Scenic Artist, 2, Clarendon-road, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, for Scenery. Roberts and Co. supply bright, effective, cheap scenery. Studio, Blucher-st., Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, by A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, Engagement, now or autumn.
Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Manager, for Variety Music Hall, Pier Pavilion, Southport. State age and salary required. Apply, Southport Pier Co.

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, with Small Capital, to manage a fit-up tour, for well-known manager. Address,
Box 3,364, "The Era."

TENTING CIRCUS, IRELAND.
WANTED, Agent, at once (Thompson or Cullen wire); also Musicians, Cornet, Euphonium, &c. Route, Sat., Balbriggan; Monday, Dunleer; Tuesday, Castlebellingham; Wednesday, Louth. Address, MANAGER, Circus.

WANTED, a Youth, learn management, good home, all found. Send photo. (full length), age, height, &c., CRANE, Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

WANTED, good Bill Posters, permanent shop for steady men, must be sober and reliable. Wages 24s. per week. No fares advanced. Apply, DE REES, Ltd., Newport, Mon.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Experienced Picture Workers and Assistant Window Billers, &c., commence Aug. 6. Apply, POOLE, Theatre, Merthyr.

Apprentice.
WANTED, Known, the Hana Studios can take a suitable Youth, and give him a thorough training in photography; premium required. Apply, 22, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, Experienced Wardrobe Mistress, to Make, Cut-out, and Design Pantomime Costumes; must have own machine; a long engagement to a thoroughly competent, trustworthy person. (Mark envelope "Wardrobe.") Add., JOHN A. THOMSON, Pelham House, Paignton.

WANTED, Engagement, Acting-Management, resident or tour, experienced, smart, highest refs., security or small investment. Box 3,367, "The Era."

WANTED, Known. Entrepreneurs who contemplate change of Management. Langley Wyatt wants Engagement, Resident or Tour. 112, Canterbury-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance, one able to play Piano or do small turn preferred; must have knowledge of working institutions. BANVARD, c/o P.O., Doon, County Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, Billposter requires situation. High-ladderman; good references. Apply, J. PRIESTLEY LOCKE, 106, St. Hugh-road, Anerley.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement, by a thoroughly competent Wardrobe Mistress; experienced in all classes of Costume. M., 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington.

WANTED, by Youth, Situation as Valet. Address, Box 3,356, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

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H. AND F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, to Commence Aug. 6, Violin (Conductor), D. Bass, Trombone, Cornet, Pianist, Drums (all effects), Flute, and Piccolo; all wear evening dress, and assist fittings when travelling (conductor excepted). Rowland Rudge and Ben Morris see "The Era" Letter-Box for letters waiting them, or write me. Apply, POOLE, Theatre, Merthyr.

WANTED, at Once, First-class Solo Violinist, with extensive solo répertoire and good orchestral experience, for high-class string orchestra of 25, seaside. Only really excellent soloists of good appearance need apply. Reference, full particulars of solos, Box 3,370, "The Era."

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WANTED, at Once, Solo Cornet. Apply, stating references and salary, to R. THORNTON.

WANTED, Cornet, for Hippo., Colchester, used to Variety Business, open Monday, 18th. Lowest terms to J. HARGREAVES, Conductor.

WANTED, First-class Clarionet, open Monday, thoroughly experienced in varieties. Wire terms, HINCHCLIFFE, Conductor, Palace Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, for Ramsgate Town Band, Solo Clarionet, Euphonium, and Horn; Shares. Add, H. YATES, Ship Inn, Harbour-st., Ramsgate.

WANTED, Trombone and Double Drums, permanent shop for steady performers, in London and Glasgow. Will Messrs. Leah, Wilford, and Wordsworth write in? Terms, 35s.

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RHYL PROMENADE BAND.
WANTED, at Once, Flute and Piccolo, sobriety indispensable. Wire, BECKER, Bandmaster.

WANTED, for Hancock's Palace of Varieties, a Pianist; must be used to fair business, and able to read music; can join at once. Only those thoroughly used to the business need apply. W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Penzance, Saturday; Falmouth next week.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Youth, read MS. at sight. Photo., age, lowest terms, and particulars, CRANE, Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, genteel Pianist, and wife (Vocalists, &c.), read, transpose, accompany well. Age, photos., refs., salary, to LISTON, St. George's H., W.

WANTED, Good Pianist, and Double-bass Players, 2 months, concert work; pianist must be experienced accompanist. ORCHESTRA, 89, Linden-crescent, Folkestone.

WANTED, Immediately, Brilliant Pianist, preferably tall, able to sing. Apply, at once, MEHER, 1, Clifford's-inn, E.C.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate, Summer Season; enormous success with own First-Class Band.

WANTED, Known, M. Jules Guitton, Musical-Director, Composer, and Arranger, Disengaged after June 20. 51, Fairland-road, West Ham, E.

WANTED, Known, Thomas C. Poyser, Musical Director, Composer, and Arranger, now at Liberty. Exceptional references. Address, 49, Cowper-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor, Musical Director, London Orchestral Societies in Hampstead, Highgate, Chelsea, and South Kensington, Leader (Solo), at Liberty. Field End Villa, 19, Worsley-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director (violin), thoroughly experienced in variety business, five years last engagement. Add., T. RICHARDSON, 13, Roberts-rd., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Thomas P. Fish, Musical Director (Violin and Piano), Disengaged. Composer and Arranger. 6 years last engagement. 519, Holloway-road, N.

WANTED, Engagement by experienced Conductor (Pianist, Violinist, and Composer), of the Grand Opera in Amsterdam. ANTON PEERS, 53, Tottenham Court-rd, W.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Edgar Haines, Conductor (Violinist), Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Prince's Theatre, Manchester, for Panto., 1905-6, at Liberty the end of June. Address, Gaiety, Dublin.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, last reference three years London theatre. Address, STRANK, 42, Rutland-st., Pimlico.

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin. Address, V. R. CHALDER, Leader, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

WANTED, by Bachelor of Music, of Oxford, Engagement, experienced Musical-Director, Conductor, Chorus Trainer, Pianist, powerful baritone voice. MUS. BAS., 58, Warwick-avenue, Maida Hill, W.

WANTED, by Experienced Conductor, capable of producing, engagement for autumn; successful composer and arranger. Box 3,366, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, immediately, as Leader or First Violin, thoroughly experienced; good refs.; any business. Address, SEYMOUR, 75, Steiner-street, Accrington.

WANTED, Engagement, until End of July, by two violinists, or violin and viola, together or separate. VIOLINIST, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement, in Lady's Orchestra, as second violin, experienced. Miss HELEN IZETT, 18, Albion-place, Hanley.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, any Business; total abstainer; 6 years Greenwich Theatre. A. GATES, 26, South-street, Greenwich.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Second Violin, reliable experienced; Seaside preferred; Disengaged June 21. JOHN KEMPSTER, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Known, Mr. S. Barker, Solo Violinist, London and Provincial Concerts, is Open for Summer Engagement in First-class Orchestra. Park-road, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, combine Trombone, First-class on Both Instruments. Late Buxton and New Brighton Orchestras. LEADER, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, Theatre and Variety; experience; age 28; abstainer good refs.; Disengaged. HERBERT PHIPPS, 5, Hardman-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist and 'Cellist (Ladies), well experienced. Address, L., 2, County-grove, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Violinist, First-class refs., Scottish Orchestra, North Pier, Blackpool, &c. VIOLINIST, 8, Oakfield-terrace, Pendleton, Manchester.

WANTED, by Two Ladies, Violinist and 'Cellist, Engagement, experienced in orchestra and theatre. Address, Box 3,368, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Cornet Soloist, Orchestral or Military Band; thoroughly experienced. CORNETIST, 134, Stanhope-st., Regent's Park.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Solo or First, prefer Military or String; good military experience; good refs. A. R. E., 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, Orchestra or Military. Address, 29, Walham-grove, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Good Cornet, at Liberty June 17 till July 1; good refs. G. TOOMEY, 26, Pyramid-street, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by an experienced Cornet, for Season or Permanency, any Business. DAWSON, Beryl, Ravenscar-road, Tolworth, Surbiton.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, or Second Violin, through closing. STEELE, c/o Mrs. Murphy, 64, Georgiana-street, Bury.

WANTED, by Cornet, First or Second, Engagement, disengaged, military or string, experienced, sober, reliable. Address, CORNET, 94, Wyndham-rd., Salisbury.

WANTED, Known, Cornet, Disengaged after 16th inst., through closing; good deputising, London and suburbs. BROWN, 22, Byfield-road, Isleworth.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Clarionet, Orchestral or Military; experienced and reliable; good references. G. J. BREWSTER, 7, Cranstoun-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Engagement, for Clarionet. Address, W. E. HARRISON, 14, Rockingham-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, Solo or First, at Liberty June 19, through disappointment. BEARE, 14, Albany-rd., Birches Head, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, by Clarionet, string or military, reliable and steady, at Liberty June 18. MCCRUDDEN, Pavilion Orch., Buxton.

WANTED, by experienced and reliable Clarionet, Summer Engagement; good references. D. CRAIG, 71, Lavender-sweep, Lavender Hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Clarionet and Horn; experienced and reliable. WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, thoroughly experienced in all lines, good refs., and reliable. CLARIONET, 82, Windsor-rd., Bexhill, Sussex.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement by thoroughly experienced Clarionettist; any business; open to deputising. Wire, H. PRICE, 8, Church-street, Kennington, London.

WANTED, Engagement, from 16th inst., Clarionet and 'Cello; excellent refs. IRWIN, 37, Badlis-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, steady and reliable, good refs., could join at once. HARRY HARE, 21, Station-square, Harrogate.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement, any business, thoroughly experienced, join at once; would deputise. HENRY TAYLOR, 12, Adelaide-road, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Double Bass, also First-class Trombone (combine Euphonium), after June 23, any Bus. Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Experienced Bassoon, Engagement, for summer. Apply, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, at once, Double Bass, any business; sober and reliable; splendid refs. J. PAYNE, 9, Somers-road, Worcester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Double Bass Player, String or Military Band; good experience and references. BARSON GERMAINE, 29, Harcourt-street, Marylebone-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Double Bass (four strings), theatre or music hall preferred. Best refs. L. WITTIG, Victoria Hall, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, any Business. J. ALLAN, 1, Buckland-street, New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass, on account of theatre closing, present engagement over ten years; other refs. WM. SMITH, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, G Trombone, 12 years' experience, just leaving the Army, would like to join a good Band where work is found; good refs.; total abstainer. Apply J. WINCH, No. 70, Aldbridge-street, Surrey-square, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Trombone and Solo Cornet. Disengaged owing to closing, London or Suburbs preferred. BRAIN, 195, Sandycombe-road, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, Trombone, any business. S. FREDERICK, 44, Harders-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Engagement, by competent Trombonist, any Business; splendid references. Can commence at once. BERT ROBINSON, Carr Green, Rastrick, Brighouse, Yorkshire.

WANTED, by Trombone, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, Summer Engagement, any Business. Address, J. LONG, Cannon Hill-place, Hallam-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, for Trombone, Engagement, any business, steady and reliable, good refs. CHAS. TOPPING, 14, Clift-terrace, Carlisle.

WANTED, by Experienced Euphonium, Engagement; good refs. Can open at once. Address, CHAS. GRICE, 63, Harley-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Euphonium; reliable. A. F., 4, Rydon-crescent, Rosebery-avenue, E.C.

WANTED, by E flat Bombardon, season or permanent; experienced and reliable; undeniable references. J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-street, Cheltenham, Gloucester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Bombardon, Seaside or Tenting; steady and reliable; can open at once. A. BLUNT, 36, Forest-rd., Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, to Deputise, from July 9 till Aug. 3, French Horn, any business; thoroughly experienced. S. GATES, 4, Odsey-street, Needham-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, Deputising, any business. FLETCHER, 100, Bishopsgate-street, Without, E.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist, good soloist; experienced any business; disengaged from June 21. L. H., 21, Beaumont-buildings, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced 'Cellist, any Business, through reducing Orchestra; good references. GEO. HIRST, 'Cellist, Palace T., Carlisle.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement, any business. 'CELLO, 3, Lyndhurst-grove, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Viola or Violin, any business; good references. F. W. ESKE, 29, Falcon-grove, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Oboe or Double Bass, any business, Season or Permanent. J. CRABTREE, 10, Bethesda-street, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, by thoroughly Experienced Oboe Player, any business, summer or permanent. First-class references. WILLIAM, 22, Charman-rd., Redhill.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c.—7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Florence Maye, L.R.A.M., Solo and Orchestral Harpist; can accept Summer Engagement. 180, Blomfield-terrace, W.

WANTED, Engagment by Flute and Piccolo, Military or String; good military experience; good refs. E. FRANKLIN, 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo Player. Address, W. BENNETT, 13, Church-street, Beeston, Notts.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Pianist or First Violin preferred. Apply, stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Engagement, as Pianist, Conduct and Arrange, Halls, Pierrots, &c. Nine years Palace, Portsmouth. Has finest monster portable organ ever built, 200 reeds, new, splendid novelty. LORENZO LEWIS, 744, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, Situation, Wm. Boardman, Pianist, brilliant soloist, used to any business. 15, Wolseley-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, Disengaged; thoroughly experienced; good sight-reader, transposer, &c. FORTESCUE, 48, Doughty-street, W.C.

WANTED, by Young Lady Pianist, Engagement; used to Variety Company; good sight reader; in Music Hall or a good Society Company. Address, J. M., 81, Abbey-mansions, Abbey-street, Bermondsey, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Richard Mason, Pianist, late Cremona Orchestra, seeks Engagement, Seaside or otherwise; good Accompanist and Sight-reader. 46F, Caulfield-road, East Ham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by First-class Pianist-Vocalist (Tenor); refined répertoire; gentlemanly and steady. WATSON, 150, Clifton-st., Brook's Bar, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double-handed Man, Piano and Cornet, or singly. W. B., 31, Lillie-road, West Brompton.

WANTED, Known, Smart Youth, Pianist, open June 27, for Season; good reader, used to Variety. FRED GRIMSHAW, 23, White-st., Seedley, Manchester.

WANTED, by experienced and reliable Tympanist, Drums, &c., Engagement. Address, R. HARRIS, 6, Firth-street, Oldham.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement, experienced music hall or theatre. Highest refs. DRUMS, 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, competent Drummer, now at Liberty; all effects; sober and reliable; experienced, any Business. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Seaside Engagement, by the Golden Marguerite Orchestra, at Liberty end of June; splendid répertoire of music, dainty costumes, excellent performers. Terms, &c., apply, Miss CLIFFORD, 44, Burton-crescent, London.

WANTED, Known, the Shikissimma Band, Ladies' Japanese Orchestra, can supply Ladies' Bands, any number, brilliant costumes, latest music. Address, CONDUCTRESS, Volthurst, Newbury.

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter. Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Margate, April, May.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Dodsworth's Northern Military or String Bands, from 12 upwards. Neat uniform. For terms, apply DODSWORTH, 9, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, Small Orchestra, Piano, Violin, Flute, Cornet, Bass through theatre closing. Can open at once any Business. Address, CONDUCTOR, 55, Denmark-street, Bedford.

WANTED, Mr. G. M. Gates' celebrated London Orchestra, at Liberty. Theatre closed. Any business, any part. 26, South-street, Greenwich.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Garner's Elysée Band, from three performers or first-class Orchestral Pianist; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury.

WANTED, Known, Miss Nellie Rennison's Ladies' String Quintette (or part), Liberty July 28, played together 2 years. DERWENT, Station-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone 9327 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, July 15, Aug. 5, 6 (Ireland), June 30, July 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 23, Aug. 6 (near Bristol), Aug. 6, onwards, for S. Wales, Specialities. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Touring Ireland, ground acts, or gymnasts, doing double turns preferred. Monday, Mill-st.; Tuesday, 19th, Killarney.

WANTED, Acrobats, Ring Performers, for outside work. State lowest terms. JOHNSON, 19, Cambridge-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Good Ring Performer, one doing few Tricks on Bars preferred. State age, weight, terms, tricks, &c., Box 3,357, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Disengaged July 2, 9, 16, 23, and Aug. 13. Share or Certainty. Suitable for Fête and Gala. Comm. week June 18. Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

WANTED, all July, by Billy, the Educated Horse, the marvel, through cancelling Continental engagement. Work anywhere. Address, DE VOYE, Empire, Burnley.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, &c., The Holmars, Acrobatic Clowns; Alex and Jolly, Comic 3-Bar Act. Booked for Leeds District Hospital Sports, Yeadon Fête, Rhymney Fête, &c., &c. Address, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, Comedy Triple-bar Act, Vacant June 25. Address, 123, Kennington-road, London.

WANTED, Known, Bodey Bros., the great Triple Bar Act. This week, Hippo., Ashford; next, Hippo., Sittingbourne. Wire for Monday, June 25.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Comedy Bar Athletes, quick, quaint, and clean. Liberty 18th, 25th. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, Le Brun and Irene, Novel Equilibrist and Lady Juggler, vacant Monday next. Wire, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, the Wongos, Indian Jugglers, Balancers, and Plate Manipulators, Liberty Monday next. 18, Tower Hamlets-rd., Forest Gate, Essex.

WANTED, Known, Vilo, Juggler, Lamp and Japanese Block Manipulator, Liberty, Galas. Address, 28, Pingle-street, Leicester.

WANTED, Tenting Season, by Dartigan, as Le Diabelo, to Open July 7, in the Greatest Cycle Sensations in the World.
Riding the Devil's Wheel.
Trick Cycling in the Devil's Wheel.
Looping the Devil's Wheel.
Riding Outside the Devil's Wheel, and Dashing Down a Steep Incline of 45deg. into net.
Three of the Greatest Sensations in One Act.
This Act is entirely different to any other Act produced.
Speciality, Novelty, Sensation combined.
Now Touring with Alexandra Taylor's Circus.
Reason for leaving, misunderstanding.
18-sheet posters in colours of this Act, by David Allen and Sons.
Send for postcard, and address all offers to 37, Chipley-street, New Cross, London, S.E.
Bosco please write.

WANTED, Offers for Miss Beatrice Kerr, Australia's Champion Swimmer and Diver, along with her latest Sensational Acts. Just finished tour through Australia. Gave 366 performances at Prince's Court, Melbourne. S. REDMOND, 33, Hare Hill-road, Littleborough, Lancs.

WANTED, Engagements, Balloon and Parachute; One Balloon still vacant August Holiday. FLEET, 53, Grosvenor Park-rd., Walthamstow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for the New Hippodrome, West Bromwich, August and onward, First-Class Variety Artists of every description, big Top Liners, Specialities, Animals Acts, and every class of Novelty and Attraction for a First-Class Hall. Pantomimes and Ballets of exceptional large production, Continental and American Novelties are invited to send vacancies and terms for the above Hall, good Electrician and General Staff.
A First-Class Stage-Manager wanted,
one who thoroughly knows his business, and not afraid of work.
Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, for the West Bromwich Hippodrome, First-Class Musical Conductor, to supply an Orchestra of from twelve to twenty performers, all must be first-class Artists, and well up in the Variety business. Apply, stating terms for twelve or twenty performers, to T. M. SYLVESTER, Sites, Limited, 213, Piccadilly, W.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, July 9, and other dates.
Artists having been with us before, or having worked on same bill with us, preferred.
Terms must be Low, but Money Sure, and Comfortable Engagements.
Combination Summer Terms to THE DAYTON FAMILY, Oxford, Middlesbrough.
Marion Sisters please write address.
P.S.—Friends, Agents, and Artists please note, we cannot answer all.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Variety Artists, Big Specialities,
Star Comedians,
Star Comediennes,
Comedy Acts,
Sensational Acts.
In fact, anything that is New and Novel.
Send list of bookings, lithos., and terms,
WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09144.

The JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS and VARIETY ORGANISATIONS.
Season 1906-7.
WANTED, to Commence, Aug. 6, First-class Variety Artists, for Long and Short Engagements, also Musicians, Graph Operators, Carpenters, Picture Workers, Window Billers, and Agents who can use the brush and sticks and not afraid of opposition. Long engagement to suitable people. Absolute lowest terms in each case. J. WOLSELEY POOLE, "Verona," Malmesbury, Wilts.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Serios, Sisters, Comedians, Al Fresco Artists, shares or salary. Lowest terms to CRANE, Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, June 25, July 2, onwards.
MARCUS BOYLE, G.P.O., Darlington.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, June 25, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Lines, Musical excepted, June 25 and July 2. Lowest terms, The Bohemians, T. R., Tyldesley, Lancs.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for June 25, REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, High-class Minstrel Artists, Good Singers, Corner Men, Musical Acts, Pianist, and Humorous; all must understand the business; dress well. Apply before 12 o'clock, HEARN BRATTON, 13, Wroxton-road, Peckham.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 2, 9, 23. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for June 18, on. Big stars wire lowest. DEETRICH'S Vaudeville Bureau, 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Speciality Artists, Conjurers, Vents., for North. Vacancies, particulars, and absolute lowest, to J. HIGHAM, 60, Smeaton-street, Barrow.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, all Lines. Big Gala Acts, Aug. 6, on. Terms, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telephone 09261. Telegrams, "Stebbing."

WANTED, Artists all Lines, big Tops on Shares; big hall, Lancashire, Seaside, June 25, July 2. SOROS, Theatre Royal, Bury.

WANTED, Artists, for Pavilion, Coventry. Good Stage-Manager write; able to produce concerted numbers. Open Monday. Lowest terms first letter. Address, ALBERT VENTER.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, a few good Artists for Lancashire, June 25; also Responsible Man, to provide Show for a large tent, on sharing terms; with good stand preferred. Apply, Dr. CARL HERMANN, Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, Artists Known to me keep me Posted. Send bookings and lowest terms, Alhambra, Brighton. BILLY HENDERSON.

WANTED, Artists, Town, Country, Seaside. See "Amusement," 6d. everywhere. EDWIN DREW, 7, Whitefriars-st., E.C. Steinway Hall Entertainments.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager.
T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager.
G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

HIPPODROME,
DARLINGTON.
DARLINGTON.
WANTED, Artists to note that the above Theatre closes June 30, until the second week in August, and that all Contracts for dates during that period are therefore cancelled. If the Artists in question will forward their vacancies Oct., onwards, other dates will be arranged in lieu of those cancelled. Signed, JAMES BELL.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession,
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland,
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone 09144.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, for Immediate and Future Dates.
Send full list of bookings, terms, &c., to JESS VERNO, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, June 25, July 2, Stars, London and Provinces, also for Pantomime. GEO. AYTOUN, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36 Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

GOUROCK PAVILION.
WANTED, Comedy Turns, Speciality Artists, one or two weeks' Engagement.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sound Attractions,
June 25, July 2 (North),
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
G. and F. PEEL,
Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Gala Acts, Aug. 6, Gala Acts, Aug. 6.
DALTON'S AGENCY, 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

AYTOUN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Star Acts to send lowest terms and bookings to FRANK LYNNE, Palace Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Aug. 6, onwards, for Important Palace of Varieties, near Bristol, Variety and Star Acts, all kinds. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, for July 12, for Nine Days, Big Acts, suitable for open-air or large covered stage, big animal acts, high wire walkers, high stilt performers, &c. Talking and ground acts have stamps. Apply, GREEN, The Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Sensational Novelty Act, for Fête, August Bank Holiday, to follow Dare-Devil Schreyer. Specimen litho. Terms no object if suitable. SYLVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Acts, in all Lines.
MARTINO'S AGENCY, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

TOMKINSON'S ROYAL GIPSY CO. Estab. 1888.
WANTED, for Season 1906-7 (nine months' tour), commence Sept., big Specialities and Variety Acts, refined Sisters, Serios, and Comedians. Apply, with full particulars and where can be seen performing, to JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

THE PAGODA (AL FRESCO),
LITTLEHAMPTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Good Specialities (Stage 36ft. by 20ft.), During Promenade Concert Season. Full particulars to Sole Proprietor, HARRY E. JOSEPH.

WANTED, Specialities, July 2, on. Absolute lowest summer terms, or no notice taken. ENTERTAINMENT MANAGER, Tower, New Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for alterations; reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted, Drawing Novelties.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wiggles-worth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, for Monday next, Doubles doing Singles, good Comedians. Lowest terms; big Acts can have shares. Wire, POOLE'S PIERROTS, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, really good First-class Combination, for Theatre (not public hall), near Birmingham, July 2 and 9. Write full particulars, MONTAGUE, 14, Tower-street, Dudley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Combinations, Choirs, Minstrels, Pierrots, &c., June 11, onwards, finest open-air grounds, Portobello, splendidly advertised, good stage, dressing-rooms, &c. Will buy good seats, cheap. Wire, PROPRIETOR, Rathbone House, Promenade, Portobello.

WANTED, Good Combination, June 25.
Wire, LINDON, Royal, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, a Troupe of Pierrots for the Devil's Dyke, Brighton.
Apply, Mrs. BARRASFORD, Dyke Hotel, Devil's Dyke, Brighton.

WANTED, Cyclists, with Tea-cup Track, One-day Gala, July 20, Scotland.
Full particulars and lowest terms,
DALTON'S AGENCY, 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Duets, Tercets, Quartets, and Octets of Lady Troupes, forty-five weeks, North America. State lowest terms and forward good photos. GUISE, 27, Bonham-road.

WANTED, Figure-workers, Comedians, Instrumentalists, Conjurers, Jugglers, Vents. Photo., particulars, age, experience, V. BENSON, 5, Wesley-terrace, Douglas.

WANTED, Immediately, for High-class Combination, touring during summer season, Talented Lady or Gentleman desirous of entering the music hall profession. Small premium required as a guarantee, which will be returned in salary. Box 3,363, "The Era."

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Good Serios, Doubles, doing Single, &c., Cavalry Theatre, &c., Harry Saunders Entertainment Caterer, 1st Army Corps, Tintern Villa, Grosvenor-road, Aldershot.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Refined Serio, Smart Dancer, for concert party, long engagement. State lowest terms. Railway fares paid after joining. To open Saturday, Aug. 4. J. M. HAMILTON, 24, Pollok-street, Glasgow.

ORIGINAL SCARBOROUGH PIERROTS.
(12th Season.)

WANTED, First-class Comedian; must be refined, versatile, and have good speciality; eleven weeks, commencing July 2, private enclosure. Send age, refs., répertoire, and lowest terms, to TOM CARRICK, Constitutional Club, Scarborough.

WANTED, to Complete Troupe, one Comedian, refined, and with thoroughly up-to-date répertoire. Send photos. and last three references. Open North Side, Scarborough, July 16. Those who wrote Gainsborough, kindly write again, Parlato's Pierrots. C. E. PARLATO, 1, Brinkburn-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Refined Comedian, well up in Gags, Sketches, &c., Pavilion, Gorleston. CARNEY & WEST, 172, Cassland-rd., South Hackney, London.

WANTED, Immediately, Young, Smart Humorist, dance preferred, good voice, for duets, with soubrette, and concerted numbers. LEIGHTON, Sydney Gardens, Bath.

Al Fresco.

WANTED, real Comedian, powerful voice, large répertoire, well up in gags, sketches, &c., with Speciality preferred. Lowest, CLIFTON, Cinque Ports Hotel, Margate.

WANTED, Young Man, to Sing to Illustrated Songs, Tenor or Baritone, used to shows preferred. LAWRENCE, Cinematograph, Dodworth, Barnsley.

WANTED, pair Acrobatic Grotesques, for Gala, August Bank Holiday. CLAYTON, 53, Grosvenor Park-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Boy 14, small for age; must sing, dance. Apply Monday, 12 o'clock, VALENTINE'S, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street.

WANTED, Operator, for Bioscope, Electric, continuous; must be steady and capable. Terms and references. PARRY, 19, Ashdale-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known,
Florence Challis arrives in England,
after Overwhelming Success in Australia,
third week in June.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement, as First-Class Seaside Resort, as Sentimental or Serio Comic Singer. Box 3369, "The Era."

WANTED, Monday, onwards, by Sisters Grenville, Vocalists and Speciality Dancers; and George Raper, Character Comedian. Sure success. Wire, Empire Wrexham.

WANTED, by Dolly and Madge McCalla, next two weeks. Wire, Alhambra, Brighton (second week, thanks to enormous success). See reports.

WANTED, by Grosvenor Sisters (Three), Harmonising Vocalists, June 25, July 2, 23. Offers invited; handsome costumes. 39, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Two Roses, Dashing Duettists and Acrobats, Dancers, at Lib. June 18, 25, July 2. 8, Heathfield House, Rushcroft-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Neddy Vokes, Europe's Funniest Single-handed Musical Comedian, Liberty June 25, July 2. Address, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Tony Iveson, Vacant Monday next, through closing of Tivoli, Grimsby; Tony Iveson, "the Aristocratic Ragman and the Piano." Wire, wire, wire quick for this Act. Only vacant week this year. To-day, or till Monday, Empire, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, June 25, Cambo, the Musical Monkey, also Ventriloquist. Big Success with both Acts, Palace, Dundee. Monday, Palace T., Aberdeen.

WANTED, Proprietors and Managers to note on and after July 2, I, Frank Dunlop, will be known as Evan Evans.

WANTED, Monday next, and later, by J. H. Kavanagh, star comedian. Wire, 7, James-street, Spennymoor, Co. Durham.

WANTED, by Harry Rylton, Swell Comique and Dancer, Liberty Monday, on, Al-fresco not objected to; thoroughly used to sketches. Wire, Wonderland, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Oliver Conroy, Comedian, June 18, 25, or later; also Pantomime, 1906-7. Address, care of Central Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, July 2, 9, 16, Harry Keeble, Comedian and Ventriloquist, two distinct turns if necessary. June 18, Hippodrome, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Monday next, also 25th, July 2, onward, by Jimmy Shields, the great One-legged Comedian and Dancer, Halls or Al-fresco; or could Manage a Show. Address till Saturday, Cavendish Hotel, Derby. After, 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Clive Watts, Comedian and World's Greatest Wooden Shoe Dancer, Mon. next. Wire, 29, Stockwell-rd., Clapham, London, S.W.

WANTED, June 25, onward, Rodin, eccentric Knockabout Comedy Cycle Act, at Liberty for Galas, two acts. Address, Hippodrome, Stockton-on-Tees (second week).

WANTED, June 25, July 2, to Aug. 20, by Kyoto, the original one, versatile comedy Japanese speciality act. The laughing and applauding hit, on every bill. Also May Geraldine, the daintiest of comediennes and dancers. Monday, June 18, Gaiety, Birmingham. Wire, one or both.

WANTED, Monday, by Jack Sheppard, the World's Greatest Handcuff King and Prison Breaker; sure draw (see Cards); also May Tyler, Comedienne and Dancer. 6, Oakden-st., Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, by the St. Johns, June 25, onward, an Act, comprising Operatic Selections, Campanology, and Dancing. Palace, N. Shields.

WANTED, Monday next, onwards, The Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality performers; distance no object. Wire, Empire Music Hall, York.

WANTED, Monday next and June 25, by The Monckton, in their excruciatingly funny Musical Comedy Acts. 7, Charles-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Townend and Burnard, in successful Duologue, entitled "A Scene in a Dream," vacant Monday. Wire, 27, Henry Nelson-street, South Shields.

WANTED, Dates, by
Keen and Waller,
Leading Novel Eccentrics.
Our seventh week,
Alhambra, London.

Managers requiring a good
Top or Bottom of Bill
for June 18 or 25,
Wire, KEEN and WALLER,
Alhambra, London.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, meeting with great Success
in
Milano, Italy.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 9, 23, and 30.
Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bass and Guinness, Comedians, Patterers, and Dancers; also Aug. 6, 13. Wires, Circus, Bury.

WANTED, Monday next, by Fields and Lewis, great comedy act. For a sure hit, wire, Park Palace, Liverpool. Only vacant date.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Lloyd, on Tour, in the last Successful "War of Words." Vacant Aug. 6, on. Perm., 44, Dover-street, Maidstone.

WANTED, Monday next, by The Boultons and Mlle. Bartenelli; two acts. Wire, 18, Alexandra-road, Lake-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, 18th, 25th, by the Meltons, Pantomimists, Musicians, and Eccentric Comedians, novel properties. Wire, Theatre Royal, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Cycle Speciality, vacant June 18, 25, also July 2. Wire, Empire, Stockport. After, 32, Cobden-street, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, June 25 and July 2, by Stanley's Urchins, and Mlle. Du Roche. 2 distinct acts. Address, Empire, Bristol.

WANTED, Comical Walker, Local Nippers, Reklaw, Globe Performer, Success, Zoo Gardens, Bristol. Two Good Turns. Vacant Monday, Halls, Galas, &c. Wire, Bricklayer's Arms, Peterborough.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free June 18, onward, for Theatres, Galas, or Sports; no fixings required. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Walter Roselle, Ventriloquist, at Liberty Monday next, and June 25. Add., 18, Farnworth-street, Kensington, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist; and De Lil, Illusionist, July 16, 23, two First-class Acts. Offers invited. Letters, Union-rd., Macclesfield.

WANTED, by Bessie Travis (daughter of Lieut. Travis) only Lady Ventriloquist-Pianist in the World, Monday, June 18, wire, Tivoli, Manchester.

WANTED, for "Dobson's Day Off," furiously funny farce, dates in August and September, four artists. M. ELLISTON, Palace, Hull.

WANTED, all July, by Billy, the Educated Horse, the marvel, through cancelling Continental engagement. Work anywhere. Address, DE VOYE, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, few Bookings, Piers, &c., Liston and Lumley's "Merry Moments" (registered) Co., St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau's Marvellous Dogs were a big success, Longton Park, also Kettering Show, to follow, Northwich, Bournville, Walsall, Stourbridge, Tutbury, Cannock, Swindon, Burton, Selby, Ashby, and Knighton. Agents, WILDER BROTHERS, Birmingham. Liberty Winter Season. Address, Red Lion Hotel, Coleshill, Warwickshire.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Dog Show, at Liberty July 2, for Galas, Piers, Halls, &c. Big show, sure draw. Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, that Le Clair's Bioscope and Dogs re-engaged for another 16 weeks, making 70 consecutive weeks at Pier Pavilion, Southend.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by Experienced Operator, for Cinématograph, Mechanic and Electrician; understands every kind of machinery. R., 28, Osnaburth-street, Portland-rd., W.

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President, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
Postponement of Welsh Meeting.
WANTED, Known, the Meeting at Porth, advertised for June 17, will take place next Sunday, at 3.30 in the afternoon.
Speaker, Rev. T. Horne.

WANTED, it Known,
that Chiappa and Sons, Limited,
of London and Manchester,
have just delivered
two new (1906 model) 110-key Gavioliphones—
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and the other to
Mr. Monte Williams, of Hartlepool.
Both our clients state that the Organs
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for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

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WANTED, for Outside of Show,
Jugglers,
Dancers,
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for Show Front.
Long Engagement to suitable people.
Apply, stating lowest terms
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RANDALL WILLIAMS,
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1906.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

"The Flood," Barowsky Trio, Morton and Elliott, Lios Alfas, Staley's Transformation, Trapnells, Jas. H. Jee, Ob r Steirer Troupe, Les Bastiens, Inaudi, Link, Spessardy's Bears, Yorke's Dogs, Three Olympiers, Bioscope, Lavater Lee.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1.30 for :—
Gordon Highlanders, Nellie Martell, Jagos, McConnells, Francis and Melli, Bioscope, Klos Sisters, Eily Adair, Myra Stansfield, Alfred Barker, Walton and Lester, New York Nippers.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Carter Livesey and Co., Bioscope, Lily Langtry, Galletti's Monkeys, Mignonette Kokin, Kaufmanns, Jackson Family, Tom Woottwell, The Raies, Ancillotti and Pilu.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
"High Jinks," Bioscope, Guy Ryder, The Seddons, Spry and Monti, The Gems, Billy Hobbs.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
The Leopolds, Bioscope, Harry Weldon, Warsaw Bros., Wyndham and Kitty, Attab Bros., Alice Lloyd, The Sutcliffes, McNaughtons, Corrie and Dereve's Co. in "Heart-strings."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ernest Shand, Maud Ross, Howard Bros., Will Mitcham, Abdullah's Arabs, Bioscope, Ray Wallace, Althoffs, Alf Holt, Casino Comedy Four.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"The Fighting Parson," Kitty Wager, Jurgens Trio, Lilian Lea, Fred Poplar, Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, Will McIvor, Bioscope, Mount and Corelli.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bransby Williams, Caselli Sisters, Howard and St. Clair, Findens, George Formby, Borrellis, Automatos, Nellie Wallace, Frank Dunlop, Bros. Egbert.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Gertrude Sandiford, Paul Cinquevalli, Bros. Harrison, Brett and Orford, Ike Scott and Son, Sisters Lunelle, Bernar's Fantoches, Jas. H. Cullen, Bioscope, Five Delevines.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Marie Loftus, Starr and Leslie, Harry Freeman, Georgina Leonard, Conn and Conrad, Bioscope, Wm. Lee and Co., J. A. Wilson, Martin Adeson and Co., "The Masked Lady."

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Moses and Son," Bioscope, Eloise Brinsmede, Cape Girls, Frank Cumminger, Ferguson and Mack, Duncan's Dogs, Alexandra Dagmar, Dolly Moore.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
"Casey's Court," Bioscope, Athas and Collins, Will English, Jonghmann Sisters, Avolos, Leonie Dixon, Kathleen Cogan.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Lauder, Bioscope, Ernest Tilbury, Florence and Lillian, Derenda and Green, Florence Deighton, Rene Best, Canary Co., Rex King, Celeste, Palles and Cussick, "Home from the Honeymoon."

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Fred Conquest and Co., Bioscope, Belle Braham, Harding and Ah Sid, Olive, Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Gladys Mavius, Lloyd Morgan, Terry and Lambert, Dronza.

EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Ten Loonies, Rich and Rich, Elsie Robey, The Leonards, Sisters Pine, Drew and Alders, Minnie Cunningham, Goltz Trio, The Zanettos, Winifred Hare, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Griffiths Bros., Harry Leybourne, Tally Ho Trio, The Tupps, Tatten Hall, Max Wessellys, Sisters Iris, Leonard and Francis, J. W. Hall, Howard and Elsworthy.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Harry Ford, Spry and Austin, Atroy, Violi, Pat Rafferty, Ambrose Thorne, Bros. Horne, May Evans, Tina Clementa, Conway and Leland, Harry Carsdale.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Clarke and Hamilton, Florrie Gallimore, Four Figaros, Margaret Ashton, Alix Lukos, Nancy St. John, Flo D'Orville, Will Cornish, Tribune Trio, Pit and Cute.

EMPIRE, SHEPHERD'S BUSH.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
George Lashwood, Flo Esdaile, Sanford and Lyons, Will Musgrave, Jack Lane, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, Remingtons, Wille Bros., Bioscope, Clement Trio.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Annie Abbott, Frank Seeley, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Henri Taylor Trio, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Classicum Quartette, Belle Davis and Piccs, Bioscope.

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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
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EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Ben Albert, Austin Rudd, Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Three Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Little Tich, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Fielding and Hull, Ella Retford, Stave, Leah Arden, Johnson and Bert, Frank Elliston and Co., Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
"Moving In," Mark Sheridan, Sisters Chester, Alcide Capitane, Binns and Binns, Belloni's Cockatoos, Frank and Free, Francis and Alfred, Odeyne Sparke, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
The Boissetts in "A Trip to the Continent," Johnson and Dean, Brooks, Dale and Blitz, Will Vokes, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Henry Helm, Bioscope, Helen Forde, Marba and Verity.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Chinko, Alf Hurley, Nelson's Newsboys, The Craggs, Holles Trio, Illustrated Song, Bioscope, Norman and Leonard Trio, The Uessems.

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Rehearsal at 2 for :—
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Gus Elen, Tom Edwards, Walter Munroe, Cruikshank, Amy Russell, Gwennie Hasto, Sisters St. Julian, Peggy Pryde, Harriett Vernon, Ada Cerito, Bandurrias, Kitts and Windrum, Wal Pink, Three Prestons, Jackley Wonders, "A Bit of String," Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Harry Tate, Walter Stanley, Tom Edwards, Dusty Rhodes, Tom Stuart, Gwennie Hasto, Alma Curzon, New York Quartette, Ada Cerito, Les Reubens, Barrett and Knowles, Doody and Wright, Hale-Davis Comb, The Dillons, "True to His Trust," Laurie's Kindergarten, Pictures.

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Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements Cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

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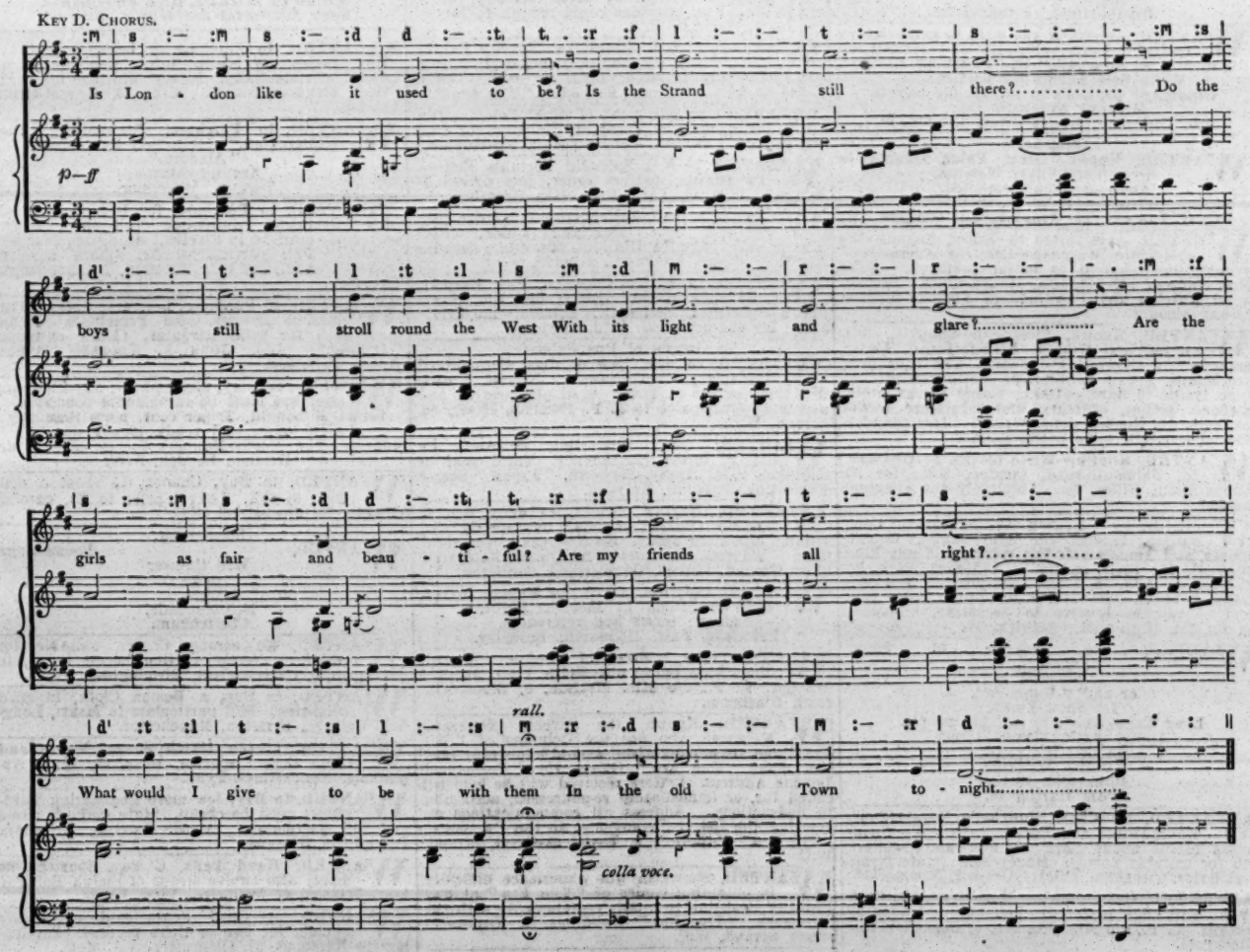

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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
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CALL for Monday, June 18, 1906.
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PAVILION, Ltd., GREENOCK, (late Palace).
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for Burmese Gong, Charles Dillon, Beattie Bloom, Redferns, Whisper, O'Malley and Brown's Pictures.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists are also requested to send words of choruses and music in advance, so that the permanent ladies' choir may learn them.
SAMUEL LLOYD.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance. Call for Monday, June 18: Peter Bermingham, Heeley and Meeley, Two Eltons, Hill and Whittaker, Herbert Lloyd, Tom Lowen, Arthur Rigby, V. L. Granville, Jose Collins.

Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

NOTICE TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS.
All Artists holding contracts with the LONDON and COLLINS'S MUSIC HALLS are hereby notified that these Halls WILL BE CLOSED for redecorations from July 9 to August 4, 1906.

Contracts for this period can be cancelled or dates re-arranged.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTS.
Notice is hereby given that Mr. CHARLES PARKER terminates his proprietorship of the Pier Pavilion, Southport, on Saturday, June 23, and all Contracts after that date will be null and void unless sent in to the new proprietors,
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J. H. Crew, Harry Barker,
Leslie Reed, Ernest D'Almaine.
Will Netta, The Nettas,
The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Late,
Fred Dice, Amy Allnutt.

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FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1906.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
J. G. Johnson and Co., Daisy Rhyl, George Grogie, Keith and Merson, Pallister's Bioscope, Duncan and Brasque.

PALACE, LINCOLN.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Diana Hope and Co., Kisbey, Louie Hurman, Adey Spencer, Jack Foley, George Bendon, Pallister's Bioscope.
Matinée Monday.

PALACE, BATH.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
La Faille Troupe, The Henres, Lily Sharplin, Virto, King Roy, Paragon Trio, Harry Pleon, Tennyson and Wallis, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.
Matinée Thursday.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Nat Clifford, The Elgars, Molly Doon, Ariel and Astarte, Ruth Lytton, Lambert and Hands, Percy Curry, Eight Sunrays, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Yags and Mary Trio, Les Laurens, Marion Scott, Emma Don and Co., Bros. Redmond, Theresa and May, Four Burnells, Ford and Barris, Baroni and Kemp, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.
Matinée Thursday.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Harry Roxbury and Co., in "The Prince of Monte Carlo," Barrington, Three Delaries, Ray Royal, Goldini Trio, Carlton, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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Artists please Note.
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All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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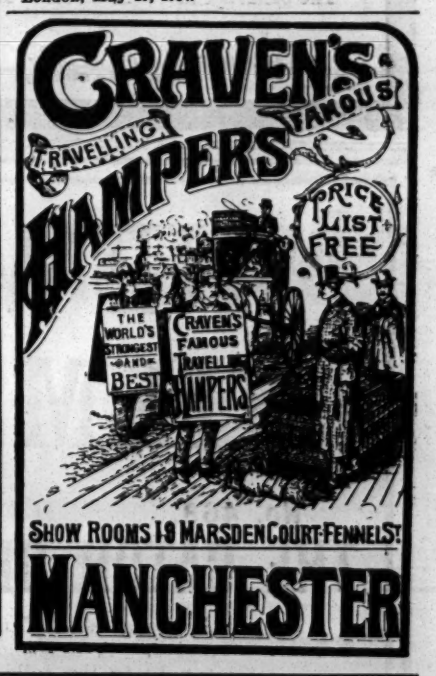

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No. 1061.

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The note is very soon discovered upon the son's return, and he at once makes preparations for forcible methods for their return. He arms himself with a whip, and, mounting a bicycle, follows in hot pursuit, picking up on the road a handkerchief which he recognises; he puts on speed, hoping to catch the erring pair. The runaways, abandoning their conveyance, proceed on foot, but are overtaken by the irate son. Seizing his parent he unmasks him in the presence of a constable, who seeing a "lady" apparently roughly handled, pounces upon the assailant and throws him down. The artful old man realising the only way of escape, smashes a window, and he and his companion are marched off to the police station and charged.

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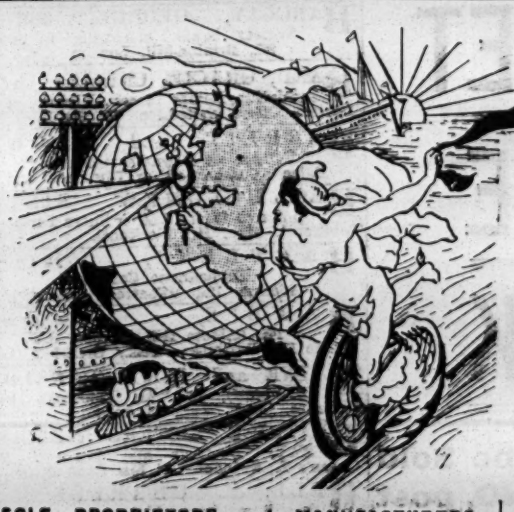

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"The Era" Annual is published from the offices of the old-established organ of the theatrical profession, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. As usual, it is a carefully-compiled record of notable events of the year 1905. A pleasing feature is the selection of short stories, after recounting strange experiences, by "stars" of the dramatic and music-hall professions, these being in every case accompanied by photographs of the writers.—Newcastle Daily Journal, Jan. 27, 1906.

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"The Era" Annual for 1906, 1s. 5, Tavistock-street, W.C. This useful little work, which brings nearly up to date the calendar of dramatic events which is so excellent a feature, is, as usual, full of stories over the signature of prominent stage lights. To those interested in the business of the theatre the work has become a necessity by reason of its valuable record of the progress of the drama.—Financial Times, Jan. 22, '06.

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"The Era" Annual again makes its welcome appearance. I say welcome because, as a work of theatrical reference, it is always handy to have in the house—or office. In this connection I am glad to note that the lists of play-productions for the past year are given in better type and altogether in a much clearer manner. As of yore, there are sundry stories in prose and verse. The best of these include "Stage Superstitions," by Charles Warner; "Boy Bob at Sea," a poem by Louie Freear; "The Last Muster," a weird tragic military story, by Mr. Joseph Wilson, who has been a soldier himself; and "Nellie Bligh's Notices," a capital theatrical story, by Mr. Frank Desprez.—Referee, Jan. 28, 1906.

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List of Clubs.
Information about Stamping Contracts.
Foreign Money Table.
London Music Halls and Theatres.
Their Telephone Numbers.
List of Brougham Proprietors.
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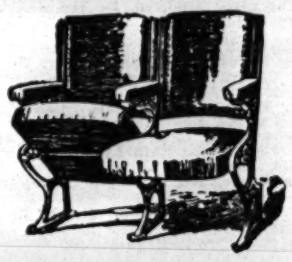

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"The idea is an excellent one, and there can be no question at all of the usefulness of such a summary. *Cousin Grace* has not been included. This is a little piece from the French, played at a matinée performance at the Gaiety Theatre, Dec. 4, 1884."

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"The list of plays produced during the past fifty years, now appearing in *The Era*, will, I am certain, prove, when completed, extremely valuable to everyone associated with the drama in England. I am convinced—and I have had a considerable amount of experience in this direction—that it will be especially valued by all writers upon stage matters. The advantage of being able to refer at a moment's notice to the criticisms upon the production of various plays in various newspapers must be apparent to everyone. If such a list had been in existence some years ago I would have been saved a vast amount of worry and vexation of spirit. *The Era* has once again proved itself appreciative of the conditions under which the best interests of the drama in England are maintained."

MR. LOUIS N. PARKER.

"I think your list of plays, produced between 1850 and 1900, will, like the other contents of your paper, be invaluable."

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

MAY 1. *The Knight of the Bath*, farce, in three acts, by Arthur Applin—Terry's.
" 5. *Vienna by Night*, burlesque operetta (produced by Herr Gabor Steiner's company)—Summer Theatre, Earl's Court Austrian Exhibition.
" 5. *A Girl on the Stage* (revised version of *The Little Cherub*), musical play, in two acts, book by Owen Hall, music by F. E. Tours, Jerome D. Kern, and Ivan Caryll, lyrics by Adrian Ross, Percy Greenbank, and Ralph Roberts—Prince of Wales's.
" 7. *The Plucky Nipper*, comedy-drama (for the first time in London)—Carlton, Greenwich.
" 8. *Olf and the Little Maid*, comedy, in one act, by M. E. Frances (Mrs. Francis Blundell)—Haymarket.
" 11. *The Vagabond and the Princess* (*Der Vagabund und die Prinzessin*), opera, in one act, libretto by Herr A. F. Seligmann, music by Edouard Poldini (originally produced at Buda-Pest, 1904)—Royal Opera, Covent Garden.
" 11. *The Barber of Bagdad* (*Der Barbier von Bagdad*), comic opera, in German, in two acts, by Peter Cornelius (produced at Weimar, under Liszt—one performance only—Dec. 16, 1858; revived at Munich, Oct. 15, 1885; given in English by the pupils of the Royal College of Music, at the Savoy Theatre, Dec. 9, 1891)—Royal Opera, Covent Garden.
" 12. *Raffles, the Amateur Cracksman*, drama, in three acts, founded by E. W. Hornung and E. W. Presbrey on tales written by the former—Comedy.
" 12. *The Shulamite*, play, in three acts, adapted from the novel of the same name, by Claude Askew (one of the original authors) and Edward Knoblauch—Savoy.
" 13. *Midsummer Fires* (*Johannisfeuer*, originally produced at the Royal Schauspiel-Haus, Berlin, Oct. 5, 1900), play, in four acts, by Hermann Sudermann, faithfully rendered into English by Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Grein—Scala.
" 14. *As Good as Gold*, drama, in four acts, by Frederick S. Jennings—Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.
" 15. *The Lonely Millionaires*, comedy, in three acts, by Mrs. Henry de la Pasture—Adelphi.
" 19. *Boy O'Carroll*, comedy, in four acts, by Mrs. B. M. Dix and Evelyn G. Sutherland (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne, April 27, 1906)—Imperial.
" 20. *Compromising Martha*, comedy, in one act, by Keble Howard—Royalty.
" 20. *Out of Sight*, comedietta, by Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce—Royalty.
" 20. *Daughters of Shem*, play, in one act, adapted by Samuel Gordon and Carmel Goldsmid from the former's story of the same name—Royalty.
" 21. *Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots*, romantic play, in four acts, by Reginald Kennedy Cox—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
" 21. *Shore Acres*, play, in four acts, by James A. Herne (originally produced in America)—Waldorf.
" 22. *The Lion and the Mouse*, play, in four acts, by Charles Klein (originally produced in America)—Duke of York's.
" 23. *The Whirlwind*, play, in three acts, translated by Harry Melvill from the French of Henri Bernstein's *La Rafale* (Paris Gymnase, Oct. 20, 1905) (Mrs. Patrick Campbell's season)—Criterion.
" 23. *Undine*, first act of Mr. W. L. Courtney's dream play, adapted from De la Motte-Fouqué (and produced originally in America) (Mrs. Patrick Campbell's season)—Criterion.
" 24. *New Year's Lesson*, dream play, in one act, by Lauderdale Maitland—Coronet.
" 24. *Her Grace*, comedy, in one act, by Forbes Dawson—Coronet.
" 24. *Greysteel: The Bearsarks Come to Surnadale*, opera, in one act, the text by Mr. R. Gatty, the music by Mr. Nicholas Gatty (the plot based on Sir George Dasint's translation of the Icelandic saga of "Gisli the Soursop") (originally produced at Sheffield, March 1)—Crystal Palace Theatre.
" 26. *Petronella; or, A Royal Romance*, Spanish comic opera, by Montague Turner, composed by W. T. Gliddon, with additional lyrics by Miss Stafford M. Smith—Great Queen-street Theatre.
" 28. *Les Romanesques*, comedy, in three acts, in verse, by Edmond Rostand (originally produced at the Comédie Française on May 21, 1894; adapted into English by "George Fleming," under the title of *The Fantasticks*, and produced by Mrs. Patrick Campbell at the Shaftesbury Theatre on May 29, 1900) (opening of the season of M. Coquelin *aîné*)—New Royalty.
" 28. *The Scarlet Clue*, drama, in four acts, by St. Bernard Wyntour (originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, on March 30, 1905)—Grand, Islington.
" 29. *Colonel Newcome*, version, in four acts, of W. M. Thackeray's novel, by Michael Morton—His Majesty's.
" 30. *The Third Time of Asking*, rustic comedy, by M. E. Francis—Garrick.

PROVINCES.

MAY 7. *Hounslow Heath*, drama, in one act, by H. F. Maltby—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
" 7. *Lucky 'Liza*, farcical musical play, in three acts, by Fred Locke—Paisley Theatre.
" 9. *A Tight Corner*, light comedy, in three acts, by Herbert Swears—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
" 9. *Breaking It Gently*, comedietta, in one act, by Richard Warren—River Parish Room, Dover.
" 10. *Piccalilli*, Anglo-Japanese musical play, written and composed by Catherine Adams—Drill Hall, Basingstoke.
" 10. *The Thunderbolt*, comedy, in three acts, by Richard Ganthony—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
" 11. *The Traveller Returns*, melodrama, in one act, by C. Hamilton—New Palace Theatre, Brighton.
" 15. *A Japanese Dance*, sketch, by W. G. Hyde Lees—Chiswick Town Hall.
" 17. *Poor Old Charley*, farce, in three acts, by Charles H. E. Brookfield, from the French of MM. Labiche and Delacour—Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
" 24. *Fannikin*, musical comedy in a nutshell, book and lyrics by H. F. Maltby, music by Katherine Barry and H. F. Maltby—Pier Pavilion, Hastings.
" 28. *Cupid's Dream*, interlude, by Henry Austin—Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.
" 28. *A Warning to Woman*, romantic drama, in four acts, by C. Watson Mill—Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.
" 28. *The Shadow of a Crime*, drama, in four acts, by Nita Rae—Pier Pavilion, Hastings.
" 28. *The Young Lieutenant*: A Tale of 1805, comic opera, in two acts, words by Herbert Dawson, music by R. A. Smith, jun. (produced by amateurs)—Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

REVIVALS.

MAY 17. *Othello*, Shakespeare's tragedy (Mr. Lewis Waller, Mr. Henry B. Irving)—Lyric.
" 28. *La Joie Fait Peur*, drama, in one act, by Mme. Emile de Girardin (M. Coquelin *aîné*)—New Royalty.
" 30. *Notre Jeunesse*, comedy, in four acts, by Alfred Capus (produced at the Comédie-Française on Nov. 16, 1904; first presented in London at the Shaftesbury Theatre on June 9, 1905) (M. Coquelin *aîné*)—New Royalty.

BERLIN.

May 1. *Die Lustige Wittwe*, three-act operetta, by Franz Lehár (Hamburg New Operetta Company season)—Berliner.
" 7. *Tragœdie der Liebe*, four-act play, by Gunner Heiberg—Kleines.
" 12. *Aus altem Geschlecht*, five-act play, by Carl Wendt—Carl Weiss.
" 12. *Alpenkönig und Menschenfeind*, opera, in three acts, by Leo Blech—New Royal Opera.
" 18. *Kameraden*, comedy, in four acts, by August Strindberg—Lessing.
" 26. *Das Lebensfest*, three-act farce, by Karl Roessler—Lessing.
" 26. *Der Wegdes Märtyrers*, play, in five acts, by H. Rolf—Carl Weiss.

PARIS.

May 7. *La Pitié*, play, in three acts, by Maurice Leblanc—Antoine.
" 8. *Le Roi Aveugle*, lyric play, in two acts, by Lavigne—Opéra Comique.
" 8. *Nos Salariés*, play, in five acts, by Mme. Tola Dorian—Molière.
" 11. *Roule-Ta-Bosse*, melodrama, in six acts, by Jules Mary and Emile Rochard—Ambigu.
" 15. *Le Paradis de Mohamet*, operette, in three acts and four tableaux, by Henri Blondeau, music by Robert Planquette.
" 16. *Le Tour de Main*, comedy, in three acts, by Francis de Croisset and Abel Tarride—Gymnase.
" 16. *La Chance du Mari*, comedy, in one act, by G. A. de Caillavet and Robert de Flers—Gymnase.
" 18. *Le Virage*, comedy, in four acts, by Mme. Jane de la Vandère—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 18. *Tout s'arrange*, opera-comique, in one act, by G. Signan—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 21. *L'Etrange Avanture*, comedy, in three acts, by M. L. Gleize—Odéon.
" 21. *Le jeu des ans et de l'Amour*, comedy, in two acts, by Aderer and Ephraim—Odéon.
" 23. *Chaine Anglaise*, comedy, in three acts, by Camille Oudinot—Vaudeville.
" 26. *Le Mari de Loulou*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Maurice Soulié and Henry de Gorsse—Nouveatés.
" 28. *Le Réformateur*, in three acts, by Edouard Rod—Nouveau-Théâtre.
" 28. *Le Cloaque*, one act, by Jean Dobry—Nouveau-Théâtre.
" 28. *Le Bon Inventaire, ô Gué*, comedy, in one act, by Rip and Paul Ardot—Palais-Royal.

MISS GRETA GARNIER'S RECITAL.

At Steinway Hall on Tuesday evening Miss Greta Garnier gave a recital, assisted by the well-known violinist, M. Tivadar Nachèz. Miss Garnier is possessed of a fine, well-modulated voice and clear enunciation, the lady also has the good taste not to give the usual hackneyed recitations; the audience therefore were not told that the "Curfew shall not ring to-night," or inflicted with the sorrows of the "Princess May," "The Jester Dagobert," or "Lorraine, Lorrée." Miss Garnier's first recitation was "The Monk," by the Baroness de Bertouch, with incidental music composed and played by Miss Lucille Merle. "The Monk" is a work of a serious character, containing here and there some fine imaginative touches to which Miss Garnier gave due importance, the incidental music also was in good taste. A monologue, "What a pretty tale," one of Browning's last poems, served to display the versatility of the reciter, which was further shown in the American sketch, *The Appreciators* (the Smart Set), by Zona Gale, a work which beyond giving Miss Garnier the chance of showing her skill in the American dialect, was otherwise hardly worthy of the reciter's ability. The fine poem of William Morris, "Atalanta's Race," was one of Miss Garnier's best efforts, and the reciter may be heartily thanked for reviving a work that has formed the subject of many a noble picture. Lever's amusing Irish sketch, *The Widow Malone*, greatly pleased the audience, as well as the quaint "The Duel," by Field, a fight between a rag cat and a nankeen dog, related by a Chinese plate. This served to show how admirably the reciter would give some of Anderson's charming little stories. Later in the programme Miss Garnier gave a piece of her own adaptation, "The First Kiss," a French-English monologue, "The Children's Hour" with music, and a short piece, "The Fair Circassian," by Dr. Richard Garnett. The reciter was warmly greeted by the audience, and received many recalls. Some clever violin solos were given by M. Tivadar Nachèz, who was first heard in "Thème Varié in F," by Tartini (1692), a pleasing Adagio of Nardini's (1760), and "Tambourin" in C, by Le Clair (1697), the charm of the quaint old-world music being given in a most expressive manner by the talented violinist. M. Nachèz, later in the programme, played "Ein Albumblatt (Wagner), Tschaikowsky's "Scherzo" in C Minor, Dvorak's "Humoreske," C. V. Stanford's "Irish Fantasias," and the "Poème de la Pusxta," Hungarian rhapsody of his own composition. Mr. Hamilton Harty acted as accompanist with great efficiency.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In connection with the Association there is a body of workers known as "missioners," whose aims are to enlist new members and promote the welfare of the Association. The idea emanated from Mr. Cyril Maude originally, and much good work has been done by its members. It has been thought desirable that a meeting of the "missioners" should take place, and this has been arranged, under the auspices of the Council, for Thursday next at 10, King-street, Covent Garden, at three o'clock.

In addition to the "missioners" all members of the Association are invited to attend, and volunteers to enrol thei rnames.—Yours faithfully,
CECIL BARTH.

THE staff of the Theatre Royal, Colchester, had their annual outing on Saturday, a journey to the metropolis being made for the occasion. Despite the fact that rain was falling heavily during part of the day, those superintending the arrangements so arranged matters that the excursion was thoroughly enjoyable. Following a visit to the Tower was a luncheon at Pinoli's of Wardour-street, at which Mr. Charles Macdona, the sole proprietor of the Royal, presided, supported by Mr. F. Graham Macdona and Dr. J. Becker. The afternoon was spent in a circular trip to Greenwich, and then the whole party, through the courtesy of Mr. Jno. Donald, witnessed *The Revue* at the Coliseum. The evening was wiled away at Earl's Court, and the homeward journey commenced by the 12.3 train from Liverpool-street. The secretarial duties were ably performed by Mr. H. O. Cousins, the duties of treasurer being undertaken by the popular resident-manager, Mr. F. C. Upton.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are here for a short season with a repertoire of popular plays. On Monday *The Three Musketeers* was presented. Mr. Tearle makes a very picturesque figure as D'Artagnan, and he is admirably supported by Mr. Bernhardt Turner as the Cardinal and Mr. T. W. Benson as Boniface, and Miss Kate Clinton gives a good representation of Miladi; and the other members of the company are all efficient. The remaining pieces for the week include *Macbeth*, *Ingomar*, *Jeanie Deans*, *Hamlet*, and *The Octoroon*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The principal attraction this week is Taro Myaki, the Japanese wrestler, who provides a splendid Jiu-Jitsu entertainment, assisted by S. K. Eida. There is also a capital variety company, including Newhouse and Ward, comedy cyclists; Campo, the musical man-monkey; Mr. Charles Bignell, the talented comedian; Miss Alma Burton and Miss Ethel Yorke, comediennes, and Mr. Joe Edmunds.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Wusker; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Campkin.—Alec Hurley and company top the bill this week; Hector and Sultan must be complimented on their smart acrobatic act; Vardon is a good ventriloquist; Willie Quinn a quaint comedian; and Jack Ross a pleasing vocalist. The same may be said of Lilian Victoria, and Luigo's Serenaders are well received. Smith and Johnson have made themselves special favourites, and the Hippo Pictures complete a good show.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Williams.—Mr. J. H. Clyndes and a capable company are playing *A Royal Revenge* here with distinct success. Mr. Clyndes, as Esteven, is a conspicuous success, his acting still showing true dramatic eloquence and vigor; Miss Enid Edoni's embodiment of Inez is realistic, the many pathetic incidents receiving capital treatment; Miss Aimee Grattan Clyndes enacts the difficult rôle of Cora with effect; as Musid, Mr. A. Dudley is clever, and Old Nick is excellently personated by Mr. John Foxhill; Mr. Ellerslie Pyne proves a dashing Manuel, and Mr. Paul Beckett is good as the King of Spain. The comedy side of the play is well represented by Mr. A. Bradley and Miss Connie Bradley; Miss Grace Jones, as Mother Superior, and Mr. Leslie Parker (Monk), are worthy of mention.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—The play with the Scriptural precept as title, *Honour Thy Father*, is the attraction at the Theatre Royal this week. Mr. T. Morton Powell's company is responsible for the representation. Mr. Douglas B. Watson finds scope for his marked ability as the naval hero. The villain, Duncan Bly, is capably portrayed by Mr. Clavering Craig; Mr. Walter M. Cameron as Garth, an old farmer, plays with commendable force in the early scenes, and with much pathetic feeling in the latter portion of the play. The humour is supplied by Messrs. W. H. Melrose, a farm labourer, and Mr. S. Holden as a comical scoundrel; Miss Mabel Coleman, as the heroine, is well suited, and Miss Winnie Donovan as the sweetheart of the naval officer, Mrs. Clavering Craig, and Miss Lizzie Morley, as a lively slavey, also do well.

THE EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Leech.—The company here includes the Kyasyas in their wonderful feats of lifting heavy weights; Desmonti and Mori, clever at triple-bar gymnastics; the Sisters Valli, a versatile pair; Chas. Rowen, comedian; J. Hughes, Lancashire baritone; Brothers Carney, duettists; the Eight Sarnthalers, a "star" turn; and Adams and Rouss, a funny couple.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. Gibbons.—The Royal Tokio Troupe of Japanese head the bill here, and give a clever exhibition of equilibristic skill, top-spinning, and rope-walking; Mr. Alf Bishop, aptly described as the "little lump of fun," has a quaint style which is highly appreciated; Miss Agnes McKellar is a charming Scotch soprano, whose songs are rendered in a finished manner; the earthquake at San Francisco is realistically presented by Mr. Clayton on the "Attergraph"; Mr. Carl Vernon is responsible for some good conjuring tricks; a laughable comedy-illusion, entitled *Mystery Fair*, is given by Major and Thurgate's combination; and Mr. Will Daniels, comedian, is well received.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—Mrs. T. Greenwood-Croft and Co. in *A Bunch of Violets* are here this week. She herself as Mrs. Murgatroyd plays with much distinction, and Mr. Norman Partriege as Sir Philip Marchant is particularly artistic; Mr. William Attfield is a good Lord Mount-Sorrel, and Mr. Patrick Evans a capable Hon. Harold Inglis, while Mr. Wilson Coleman represents the broad, breezy Mark Murgatroyd to the life. Lady Marchant is pleasantly drawn by Miss Florence Russell-Spiers; Miss Tessa Myers is a convincing and winning Violet; and the Jacob Schwartz of Mr. C. W. Spencer and the Harker of Mr. Leon Aynscliffe are both capable studies.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. W. F. Jury's Animated Pictures are much appreciated. There are several illustrated pictures, and Mr. J. W. Merton renders the vocal part in a pleasing manner.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—The Waldrons top the bill here with a comical sketch, *The Silly Burglar*; Spencer and Marks are good in an original act, *The Stage-struck Waifs*; Charles F. Best gives a unique comedy act, *McBunker, the Mountebank*, in an exceedingly clever manner; the Floradora Girls are successful in song and dance; and Sidney Dolf gives an excellent entertainment of conjuring, juggling, and vocalism.

BEDFORD.—THE ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by the Gazekas, under the personal direction of Mr. George Graves. Mr. Wellesley Lynn, assisted by Mr. Charles Leverton, Mr. Cyril Dane, Miss Florence Wix, Miss Bessie Graves, gives a unique and original entertainment of mirth, mystery, and music. Miss Thelma Leighton is the accompanist.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The leading feature at this popular theatre is the production of the equestrian spectacle, *Turpin's Ride to York*. Mr. Ginnett impersonates Dick Turpin cleverly, and the piece has been received with enthusiasm; Dandy George introduces his marvellously-trained dog, Rosie; Mr. Ernest Rees, aptly described as a droll comedian, commands success; and a hit has been made by Miss Dolly Harmer, a charming comedienne with an engaging style; Haig and Novel; Miss Rosie Reval, comedienne; the Musical Schafers, in their attractive speciality; the Sisters McNulty; Miss Constance Mori, comedienne; and the Palace Pictures complete the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John A. Walker.—Mr. Mike S. Whallen, the clever comedian, tops the bill; Ross and Grayson, a comedy duo of much excellence, gain a big reception for their songs and performance at the piano; Alexander and company create roars of laughter with their exhilarating sketch, *Troubles of a Tourist*, and the Northern Troupe execute International dances with undoubted ability; Howard and Collinson appear to much advantage in their comedy-act, *The Porter and the Parcel*, and Mr. Gus Garrick is an exceptionally clever mimic; Miss Madge Osmund, male impersonator, and the Bioscope complete.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—Undoubtedly the dramatic season which opened on the 17th inst. at this old-established hall has proved a success. This week *A Marriage of Vengeance* is the attraction. Mr. Hilliard Vox, a clever actor, furnishes a manly impersonation of Paul Earnscliffe; and the villainies of Geoffrey Vannock are realistically portrayed by Mr. Herbert Cecil; Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a delightful actress, is a charming Elsie; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood acts with undoubted skill as Stella; Mr. Cecil Ravenswood is a capital Glynn Earnscliffe; and Mr. Stephen S. Scanlan is all that can be desired as Rheinardt; Mr. Luke Forster is decidedly humorous as Bob Shorner, causing roars of laughter; and other rôles are adequately sustained by Miss Evelyn Marrable; and Messrs. Victor Gordon, R. Lascelles, etc. Mr. Herbert Cecil is responsible for the stage management.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Aacting-Manager, Mr. Charles Bell.—A visit from Mr. James Hare's company in the domestic drama, *A Woman's Redemption*, has created an excellent impression. Miss Irene Clifford displays remarkable power as Ruth, a gipsy, and secures the interest of the audience throughout; Reuben Griffiths is well impersonated by Mr. Albert H. Clarke; Mr. Percy Brown plays the Rev. John Ganthony with suitable effect, and Mr. James Hare is a commendable Hon. Bernard Sutcliffe. The humour of the piece is abundantly supplied by Mr. Joe Bracewell, Miss Jenny Haleworth, and Master Freddie Bentley; Miss Ethel Bracewell displays considerable skill as Mary Griffiths, and minor parts are all well sustained. The scenic effects and appointments are highly creditable.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—Miss Lil Hawthorne, the popular comedienne, is on a welcome return visit, and is repeating previous successes, and Mr. Charles R. Whittle, a talented versatile comedian, is also renewing acquaintance with hosts of admirers. The capital company likewise includes the New Macs, amusing knockabouts; Miss Millie Howell, an accomplished comedienne and descriptive vocalist; Barton and Franklin in their clever musical entertainment; Mr. Fred Keeton, character comedian; Miss Cora Casseli, a charming danseuse; the Dorrells, duettists and dancers, and an effective Bioscope display.

BIRMINGHAM.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*A Prince of the People* has been witnessed here with much interest and favour. Miss Emily Sheridan is particularly successful as Lucille; Mr. T. Rawson Buckley as Victor Lafond voices the aspirations of the part in a manner that arouses the audience into quick and enthusiastic sympathy; Mr. William H. Brougham depicts the commandant Berthaut in fine style; Mr. H. G. Twyman is most effective as the Marquis de Sancy; and Mr. Léonel Gadsden as Count de Valriere, Mr. R. Reginald as De Rouvert, and Syd Leslie as Antoine contribute well-drawn characters. The picture is completed with the admirable comedy vouchsafed by Miss Lilian Williams as Marie, and Mr. Douglas Munro as Badru. Mr. T. R. Foster, one time acting-manager here, is renewing old friendships as agent and advertising manager to the company.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Bernardo.—*The Gamester of Metz*, which the author, Mr. Charles March, presents with his own company, is enjoying extensive patronage here. Mr. March, as usual, works his way cleverly to the fore with his protean character of Paul Baldot, which his versatility invests with frequent startling and dramatic effect. Miss Una Lane endows the rôle of Lucie Baldot with many fascinating features, and the Comtesse Baldot is ably portrayed by Miss Eva Lyndhurst. The remaining male parts are worthily filled by Mr. Fred Aldworth as General Monparasse, Mr. John B. Murray as Captain Badaire, Mr. George Paget as Lieutenant Herve, Mr. P. Wentworth as D'Artris, Mr. W. Brinklow as Courcelli, Mr. W. G. Dudeney as Louis Badaire, and Mr. Wilfred Protheroe as Du Basson, while Miss Cissy Haighton scores as Gwendolin Pearson.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komiks remain the attraction here with the Electric Animated Pictures. The artists engaged include Landes and Vincent, burlesque artistes and acrobatic dancers; the Three Sisters Horsley, the fair and clever comedy trio; James Dunn and Mabel Lenden, in a smart rifle and living statuary act; Mr. Frank Gibson, vocalist; Kino and Kirby, the local boys; and Aylmer and Turner, comedy artists.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles.—*The Drama of Life*, played by Mr. Lingford Carson's company, has drawn large audiences here this week, Mr. George M. Newall being a powerful factor in its success with his exceedingly strong and popular exposition of the leading rôle, Harry Beech. Mr. Edward M. Hamilton is also to be credited with much of the success with his convincing rôle of the less popular Walter Beech, and Miss Kate Hallam as Sylvia Beech is generally admired for her rare and graceful acting. Mr. Edward Van Biene presents the Count de Foi on clever lines; Mr. Fred Luard is a humorous Sir Dobson Wilde; Miss Florence French distinguishes herself as Lady Jane Wilde; Miss Nelly Birchenough acts the rôle of Betty Black to much and well-studied effect.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—Mr. Fred Karno's Company of Comedians in their new sketch *Moses and Sons* is proving a great attraction here this week. Fred Kitchen is more amusing than ever; Alexandra Dagmar, who has some good songs, wins loud applause; Frank Cunminger is an amusing comedian; Ferguson and Mack give a capital comedy turn; the Three Cape Girls are smart comedy vocalists and long-boot dancers; Duncan's dogs are an interesting turn; Eloise Brinsmade, with illustrated songs, and Dolly Moore, juvenile male impersonator, conclude the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Hetty King is starring here this week; the Tom Davis Trio in *Motoring in Mid-air* perform a most daring and sensational feat; Kijoto is a mysterious Japanese juggler and comedian; as a wheel comedian with plenty of go Bert Woodward makes a big hit; Vernando has a ventriloquial sketch, which is up to date; Rose Tilley is applauded for her songs, as also are Daisy Martell and May Geraldine; Baroux and Bion are amusing acrobats; and Will Johnson is a good comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—Foreman and Fannan and the popular Irish comedian Fred Cary are appearing here with their usual success; Sable Fern has established herself here as a favourite; the Sisters Cora have a new song scena, *Sweethearts*, which is well received; Mlle. Haydee presents her miniature vaudeville theatre; Max Waldon is a lady whose impersonations are far above the average; Tiny Arnold has made a good impression with her singing and dancing; Silvo, in a musical turn. F. De Marce, with his horses, and J. G. Grahame's company in a dramatic episode, *The Downfall*, contribute to the long bill.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—*Casey's Court*, an amusing juvenile sketch, is the leading attraction here; the Avolos achieve some daring feats on upright poles; Will English is a capital coon comedian; Athos and Collins give a good comedy turn; Kathleen Cogan is an attractive comedienne, as is also Leonie Dixon. The glees rendered by the Jonghmann Sisters are well received.

BLACKBURN.—PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—Nat Clifford is paying a return visit here, and his inimitable humour has convulsed the audiences; Percy Curry wih his "Candy Man" song is also a good comedian; and other artists are Lambert and Hands, vocal duettists; Oriel and Astarte, clever gymnasts; Ruth Lytton, Scotch comedienne; the Elgars, vocal entertainers; Mollie Doon, comedienne, and the Eight Sunrays, dancing girls.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—Mr. Frank Ayrton's company in *The Power of Gold* is playing here to large houses.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. F. Douglas Wentworth presents *The Bauble Shop* here this week, and the production is meeting with a very cordial reception. The Lord Clivebrook of Mr. C. F. Collings is a painstaking performance, and Mr. Leonard Booker contributes a clever study of the Earl of Sarum; Mr. Wentworth carefully embodies Sir John Stradbrook, and Mr. William E. Passmore scores a success as Matthew Kebor; Messrs. Raymond Thomas and R. E. Evans as Mr. Stoach, M.P., and Mr. Bussey, M.P., also give satisfaction; a charming Jessie Keber is found in Miss Lily Bertram, and Misses Lisa Coleman, Antoinette Barrington, and Renee L'Estrade are good in their respective parts. *The Married Bachelor* supplies a pleasing curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—*Too Many Cooks*, as enacted by Mr. Wentworth Croke's company, is the attraction here this week. A tower of strength is found in Mr. Arthur Holmes-Gore, who plays the part of Arthur Winton with unqualified success; Mr. Jackson Wilcox is well placed as the fiery Major Bracket; Mr. Wilfred Noy is an efficient Lieutenant Alfred Ashurst, and Mr. Willis Searle provides amusement as John Bimbleby; the Sinkin of Mr. George Ide is also a very creditable performance; Miss Lilian Rogers wins golden opinions as Dora Brasket; Miss Hilda Fairfax acts very naturally the part of Georgina Winton, and Miss Dorothy Maud does well as Susan. The curtain-raiser is *The Fatal Stockings*, a new production, full particulars of which will be found in another column.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Neil Keynon tops a big bill here this week. Mr. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, is paying another visit, and his efforts are cordially received. Other capital turns are supplied by Lerarni in a wire-act; Mari Santoi in a musical scena; the Sandwinas, acrobats; De Vere and Kenwick, vocalists; Claver and Piccolo, jugglers, and Queenie May, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—An excellent and well-varied programme is provided here this week; Tom and Marie Motramo appear with great success in a musical act; the Sisters Walmsley supply a sketch; Les Bollingers are clever painters; Beatty and Blanche sing and dance well; Babs Lloyd is a clever juvenile comedienne; the Two Kanes are skilful musicians; Mlle. Aladina exhibits some well-trained birds; De Henau shows that he can use his toes in a wonderful manner, and the Two Kanes appear in a musical act.

BOLTON. — GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—This week we have a return visit of George Testo Sante and company in *The Life of a Showman*. The drama is well mounted and staged, and the various parts are ably portrayed by a good company.

BOOTLE.—MUNCASTER THEATRE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington; Manager, Mr. H. Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert E. Wilson. — The last week of the season here was opened on Monday by Miss Violet Maitland and Mr. H. St. Clair's company in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*. Mr. Harry Glenny makes a capable Jem Dalton, and the part of Gibson is well played by Mr. H. Rich; Miss Violet Maitland is a sympathetic May Edwards, and Mr. Herbert St. Clair gives a good reading of Bob Brierly. The cast is materially strengthened by Mr. H. Hesslegrave, who gives a powerful rendering of Hawkshaw, the detective. Other characters are in capable hands. On Wednesday and Thursday *Tempest Tossed* was produced, and on Friday, *The Shadows of a Great City*.

BOSTON.—PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Geo. Eaphraim.—Poole's Pierrots continue to draw large and enthusiastic audiences. This week the new arrivals are Belford and Mars, who are accorded a flattering reception on their reappearance, and were doubly encored. Barney Noble made a good impression, and should prove a draw during the season. On Thursday afternoon the same entertainment is given on Freiston shore. Permission has been granted by the Mayor for the Pierrots to perform on "the Green" fine evenings.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Maxwell's principal company, which is paying a return visit with *Little Mary*, opened to an appreciative house on Monday. As the Earl of Carlton Mr. Ben Field gave a capital impersonation, and the Lord Rolfe of Mr. Arthur Kightley was a sound piece of acting. Mr. Gerald Malvern as Sir Jennings Pyke, Mr. Lewis Edgard as Plumleigh, and Mr. Dyer as Dighton are also well cast. Miss Christine Silver

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has made a careful study of Moira Loney, and renders it with much effect, and Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Lady Plumleigh is excellent.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—*Darkness*, Mr. S. Buchanan Rogerson's adaptation of Mr. Guy Thorne's novel, "When it was Dark," was presented for the first time here on Monday by Mr. Morton Powell's company, and great interest was manifested in the thrilling incidents of the piece. Mr. Ernest Griffin presents a Mephistophelian portraiture of Constantine Schwabe, which is intensely dramatic, and Miss Laura Walker wins golden opinions for her powerful acting as Gertrude Hunt; Mr. Edward Valentine's Sir Robert Llewellyn is a fine performance, and the Rev. Basile Gortre is an earnest and convincing effort on the part of Mr. John Davidson; Mr. Louis Lingard as Harold Spence, Mr. Eric North as Mr. Ommaney, and Mr. Harry Heller as the Rev. Mr. Byars do excellent work; and the comic relief is admirably brought out by Mr. Millar Wilson as the Hon. Charlie Gayfly, Mrs. Morton Powell as Helena Byars, and Miss Nellie Freeland as Gracie Goldeneye.

THE EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—That prince of jugglers, Cinquevalli, is creating great enthusiasm on his return visit here this week; he is as graceful, artistic, and wonderful as ever, and has assistance from an attendant who is delightfuly humorous; the Delevines also re-appear in a new comic sketch, *Flipp and Flopp*, which is clever and very funny; Brett and Orford again present one of their bright and popular sketches; Bernard's Fantoches, a clever marionette show, varies the programme agreeably; a smart turn in singing and dancing is presented by the Lunelle Sisters; Ike Scott and Son, greatly entertaining as usual, are on a return visit; the Harrison Brothers are a capital comedy couple; James H. Cullen submits parodies of familiar songs in quaint style; Gertrude Sandford, contralto, renders ballads with taste and skill; and the American Bioscope shows some fine films.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—The La Faille Troupe of gymnasts and equilibrists are very prominent here in a daring performance easily and gracefully accomplished; King Roy submits basso songs finely; an excellent turn by the Henres in juggling and club-swinging finds favour; Virto on a variety of wind instruments displays great proficiency and skill; Harry Pleon in a burlesque sketch, *P.C. Pudden* (assisted by Chris. V. Bern and Celia Kent) is very diverting; Lily Sharplin is responsible for some good mimicry; excellent harmony is submitted by the Paragon Trio of Vocalists; Tennyson and Wallis supply good comedy, patter, and dancing; and some capital films shown by Raymond's Bio-Tableau prove very interesting to the audience.

BRIGHTON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Harcourt M. Beryl.—*His Excellency the Governor* occupies the boards here this week, and is admirably performed by an excellent company of London West-End players. Mr. Lionel Mackinder gives a very fine impersonation of Mr. John Baverstock; Mr. Loring Fernie is vivacious and convincing as His Excellency Sir Montague Martin; Mr. Lennox Pawle's Sir Henry Carlton is cleverly played; Mr. H. Marsh Allen achieves conspicuous success as Captain Charles Carew. Miss Janet Alexander's Ethel Carlton is a delightfully ingenuous piece of acting; Miss Ethel Matthews is bright and winsome as Stella de Grex; Miss Dolly Jones does well as the sedate Miss Wentworth Bolingbroke; and Mr. James Blakeley is decidedly funny as the Sentry. The remaining characters are ably sustained. The farcical romance is preceded by a variety entertainment entitled *A Waste of Time*, in which Mr. James Blakeley sings "Willie won't be seen for a long time now." Mr. H. Marsh Allen recites a parody on "The Wreck of the Hesperus," and Mr. Lionel Mackinder sings "Clementine," and also dances in his own inimitable style. The apparently impromptu prelude proves very enjoyable.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*It's Never Too Late to Mend* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Ernest Carpenter makes a manly and popular Rev. Francis Eden; and Miss Daisy Halling is a charming and convincing Susan Merton; Mr. Wilton Charles is duly aggressive as the Prison Governor; Mr. Ronald Adair's representation of Tom Robinson merits unstinted praise; Mr. Marmaduke Wetherell's George Fielding and Mr. Sam T. Pearce's Peter Crawley are admirably played; Mr. Paul Barry Leevers is forcible as George Meadows; while Mr. George H. Asquin as Jackey and Miss Lucy Murray as Josephs are capitally suited.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is a capital company here this week. Datas, "the marvellous man of memory," submits an interesting turn; Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, wins very hearty applause; the Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' combination are highly amusing in the comedy sketch *The Battle of the Belles*; May Henderson, "the dusky comedy queen," is as popular as ever; Frazer and Mac are capital comedy and vocal entertainers; Harry Bedford is an eccentric comedian; Sterling and Love are well received in their vocal and instrumental comedy act; Beatrice Willey is heard to great advantage in a medley of old-flower songs; Edgar Budden, comedian, bone soloist, and roller skate dancer, gives a good turn; Ruby Aston is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Dolly and Madge McCalla sing and dance themselves into favour, and the Alhambrascope pictures are interesting.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—An attractive programme is sustained here this week. George Leyton achieves great success in his military scena, *Boys of the Chelsea School*; the Harmony Four are clever and humorous in their musical comedy performance; Dan Thomas is a very amusing comedian; the Original Arleys combination win warm applause for their refined and amusing turn, in which three small dogs figure successfully in their display of heading a large air-ball; Rose Harvey and her company of ladies submit a musical act, *Black and White*, which is cordially appreciated; Simms and Simms are talented musical comedians; Jack Pleasants proves himself an original and eccentric comedian; the Olive Trio are dainty vocal comediennes and dancers; Lawrence Barclay is a droll comedian; and the Barrascope pictures are entertaining.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—Mr. Leonard Pagden, a prime Brighton favourite, and company are here this week with *The Idler*. Mr. Leonard Pagden presents a fine enactment of Mark Cross; Miss Margaret Damer is a charming Kate Merryweather; Mr. Douglas Vigors achieves great success as Sir John Harding; Miss Ida Phillips is an admirable Lady Harding; Miss Rosalind Ross makes a capital Mrs. Glynn-Stanmore; Mr. Arthur Vezin deserves warm commendation for his Simeon Strong; Miss Constance Grover is very effective as Mrs. Cross; and Mr. A. Willoughby gives an able representation of General Mereweather.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—*The Ticket of Leave Man* is performed here by the Comedy Répertoire company. Mr. Yorke Hatton is highly successful as Bob Brierly; Miss Mabel Durrant gives a charming impersonation of May Edwards; Mr. Grahame Herington renders good service as Mr. Gibson; Mr. Robert Whyte, jun., makes a capital Hawkshaw; Mr. Ernest Percy's Jem Dalton and Mr. Stanley Harrison's Melter Moss are praiseworthy enactments; Miss Ella Danecourt is well placed as Sam Willoughby, and Miss May Wymond is effective as Mrs. Willoughby. The play is preceded by a new comedietta, *The Princess of Pain*, which is fully noticed in another column.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—Mr. Frank Major's party of refined entertainers and Miss Minnie Letta's Sporting Girls are still here. Mr. B. S. Rutley's répertoire company, continuing their engagement in the theatre, give afternoon and evening performances of the musical comedy burlesque, *Cinderella, the Little Slavey*.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—*San Toy* is the attraction this week. The musical comedy is staged well, the chorus is strong and tuneful, and the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr. Albert Bartlett. Miss Fanny Dango is decidedly pleasing as San Toy; Miss Maud Darling is highly successful as Dudley; Mr. Frank Danby is capital as Li; Mr. John Humphries distinguishes himself as Yen How; Mr. Dennis Drew both acts and sings well as Bobby Preston; Mr. W. J. Manning is decidedly smart as Li Bingo Preston; and Miss Rhoda Gordon is well placed as Poppy Preston. Some clever mock-operatic and other singing is introduced by Mr. Frank Wood and Miss Louie Collier, who successfully play the parts of Fo Hop and Chu San; and some graceful dancing is contributed by Miss May Gould.—Mr. Chute's annual benefit is announced for Saturday evening, the performance being under the patronage of the High Sheriff of Bristol (Mr. H. L. Riseley); Sir George White, Bart.; his Honour Judge Austin; the Master of the Merchant Venturers (J. Russell Harvey, Esq.); the President of the Chamber of Commerce (Sidney Humphries, Esq.), and other notable citizens.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—Messrs. Stillwell and Teulon's company is here with *The Branded Woman*, a romantic drama which is very well staged. Miss Zana St. George acts with considerable power as Genevieve Larouche; Miss Katherine Barnett is pleasing as Marie; Mr. James Stillwell distinguishes himself as Philip Maurice, successfully assuming several disguises; Mr. Edward Fryer acts with care as Baron Hauber, obtaining good support from Mr. Paul E. Teulon as Louis Duroc; and the comic parts of Dick Brown and Jacqueline are capitally taken by Mr. Beckett Bould and Miss Florence Lambeth.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Yukio Tani, the Japanese wrestler, is attracting a large attendance, and prizes are offered to local amateurs. There are several bouts each evening, and some of the Bristolians have made a stout resistance. Shavo and Frank do a good turn as comedy jugglers, &c.; Florrie St. Roy presents a pleasing turn of song and acrobatic dance; Brothers Bright are exceptionally capable gymnasts; Tom Fancourt and Jennie Rubie have a good comedy act, *Out of Barracks*; Amy Elcock is an effective coon vocalist and dancer; Charles Ashdowne amuses with eccentric songs, patter, and dancing; Lulu Brooke, comedienne, obtains considerable appreciation; and the performance concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macaire.—Maxmilian Gruber is here with his performing elephant, horse, and pony, the animals being very cleverly trained; Ara, Zebra, and Vora amuse with their speciality *Indian Pastimes*; Stanley's Urchins (five in number) obtain applause for their singing, dancing, &c.; Zanfretti and Napio score as musical eccentrics; Wilton Heriot and company provide a good sketch *An Anglo-American Alliance*; Harry Coates, singing navvy, has a good voice; Mlle. Du Roche is a pleasing vocalist; Nat Watkins, patter comedian, is appreciated; and Nellie Wilson scores both in song and dance. The performance concludes with some good animated photographs of San Francisco before and after the earthquake.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Frank Lindo commenced on Monday an engagement which began well with *Home, Sweet Home*, a domestic drama, written by himself, and the principal rôle of which, Stephen Armitage, is ably sustained by him; Miss Marion Wakeford is excellent as Joan; Little Miss Daisy Rochefort is a clever little Dora; valuable support comes from Mr. D. Laurence Doyle as David Armitage; Captain Gerald Gambier as Duke of Ancaster; Mr. J. W. Henson as Lucas Lyle; Mr. Sydney Bryant as the Hon. Percy; Mr. George Overs as Dick Redmayne; Mr. Ernest E. Owens; Mr. Helsby Wright as Gaffer; Miss Mary Denver as Lady Summerton, and Miss Hetty Webster as Sybil Fay, each contributing to the success of the play.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—There is a good bill here this week. Tom Grave, in Flying the Wheel, is re-engaged; the Rigolette Brothers, who perform on a revolving ladder, are loudly applauded; L. B. Athol is excellent in his song, "Dreamland"; and Ross and Lewis create much laughter. Arthur Croxen is a clever punster; the Gilberts are smart gymnasts; a unique novelty is James de Voyes's horse "Billy," who is possessed of extraordinary intelligence; and Will Vay's Juveniles in *Life in the Slums* are well applauded.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—The New Empire Theatrescope and Vaudeville company provides the entertainment here this week. A large number of pictures are shown. Hurman is a clever juggler and hoop manipulator; Goros, the Egyptian mystifier, is very good; J. C. Jaques, actor vocalist, and Boden and Bell, dancers, are successful turns.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—A really good bill here includes Miss Ada Colley, the Australian prima donna; the Arizona Troupe of jugglers and acrobats; E. E. Ford, a humourist with a good voice; Lytton and Bland, comedians; Will Percival, clog dancer; Mike Johnson, Dutch comedian; and Leo Dryden. The Bioscope pictures are excellent.

CARDIFF.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—The famous comedy, *Caste*, has attracted good audiences to the popular Royal this week. Mr. W. Charles Otley in his impersonation of Eccles gives an exceptionally fine piece of acting; as Polly Eccles Miss Marie Jonquil would be difficult to surpass; while Miss Olive Palmer as Esther is particularly charming and graceful. Mr. William Allison as the honest Sam Gerridge presents a clever piece of character acting; and Mr. Arthur Bawtree as the manly George D'Alroy and Mr. Herbert Robinson in a capital representation of Major Hawtry deserve mention; and the Marquise de St. Maur receives an excellent representation at the hands of Miss Phyllis Manners.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Duncan.—*The Blind Foundling*, capitally presented by Messrs. Phelps and Tilbury's company, is the drama occupying the boards here. Miss Belle Tilbury proves a capable exponent of Isabel Dalton; Mr. Chas. H. Phelps's rendering of Gerald Dalton does not lack power; and the sympathetic impersonation of Fairy, the blind foundling, by Miss Mabel Hall, is in a large measure the success of the piece; Mr. Harry Pilbury as Dick Dobbins delights the audience with his clever comedy.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll. Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. S. Dring.—Annie Abbott, described as "The Little Georgia Magnet," is appearing here with her wonderful performance; Belle Davis and her Pick-Chicks are funny, the merry nigger boys excelling as step dancers; *A Venetian Love Scena* by the Classicum Quartette is an entertaining turn, very effectively staged; delightful Amber Austa quickly wins popularity; the Henri Taylor Trio are expert equilibrists and jugglers; and Frank Seeley, with his diverting songs, secures a good reception; the Sisters Oswald in a dainty dance; Hamilton Hill, the well-known baritone; Will Haines, light comedian; and the amusing pictures on the Bioscope, are also included in this week's bill.

CARLISLE.—THE PALACE.—Proprietors, Palace Theatre, Carlisle, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—Another attractive programme is submitted here this week. Messrs Rezeni and Robini are making a first appearance here, and their novel comedy and clever trapeze work is immensely popular. A pleasing performance in contributed by Mlle. Renée, who plays selections on the saxophone, piano, and cornet; Les Ralli's wonderful acrobatic work in their act, entitled *The Artist and His Monkey*, is much appreciated. Cherry Lass, a dainty dancer and comedienne; Harley and Hardon; and Bionetti and Corrie, eccentric jugglers, are all excellent turns which meet with well-deserved approval. Miss Marie Collins, who tops the bill, is well received, and Vernon's Bioscope, with new pictures, completes a most interesting programme.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley. —*The Plucky Nipper*, with Miss Bonwin Carlton in the title-rôle is the attraction here this week.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The star turn here is provided by the Charles Troupe, in a clever acrobatic and juggling act; Phillips and Terry remain from last week with *The Dummy*; Rose and Calvert contribute a merry entertainment; Harry Wenburn's *'Ave-a-Couple* just suits the patrons of this hall; Cul Pitt gives his pot-pourri act; Kate Perrier is also announced; while Lacey's Erascope exhibits interesting pictures.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor Capt. H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Captain Davis's trump card is the engagement of Hackenschmidt, whose wrestling act is proving very attractive. Childe Stuart is billed, but in her stead we have Charles Russell, comedian; the Delornes are smart dancers; Johnny Holland and company score with a comedy sketch entitled *The Millionaire*; Carrie Joy gives "Remember me" in good style; Ailsa Douglas, ballad vocalist, and Dan Conroy, comedian, raconteur, and dancer, complete the company.

CHESTERFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Richard Ralli.—Mr. John F. Preston's company is this week appearing here in *Lady Godiva*. Mr. F. B. Woulfe gives a capital portrayal of Tom of Coventry; Mr. Clifford Marle is most effective in the part of Leofric; Mr. James Duncan proves a success as Algar; Mr. E. Hamilton is good as Unwolf; Miss Ethel Griffies plays the title-rôle with dramatic power; Miss Catherine Brook is successful as Lady Aldyth, and Miss Edith Lorraine is a charming Elfrida.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fred K. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—The bill here this week is headed by the New York Comedy Four, a turn distinguished by good vocalism and a sprinkling of timely humour. The Fitzroys, society gymnasts, on the trapeze and perpendicular rope, give a decidedly clever exhibition; Frank Couch provides a topical and thoroughly up-to-date entertainment, whilst good dancing comes from the Two Coolvilles, who are also a dainty pair of vocalists; Nellie Chandos quite confirms the good opinions formed of her during her last visit, being as charming as ever; the Two Heros are a comic pair of acrobats and benders, and a particularly welcome item is a violin solo by Mr. James Hargreaves.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Bennett.—A well filled house gathered on Monday night to witness Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in the melodrama by Mrs. Kimberley, entitled *A Sister's Sin*. Mr. William Vane achieves a success as the hero, Harry Raymond; and as the heroine, Minnie Hastings, Miss Langley is seen to great advantage; Miss Edie Macklin and Miss Alice Granville do themselves full justice as Floss Perks and Nell Stubbs. The impersonation of the villain, George Oakley, is in the capable hands of Mr. George Money; and other characters worthy of mention are Mr. Chas. Locke as Walter Hastings, Mr. Harry Lyndon as Theophilus Hope, Miss Augusta Tullock as Charzel, and Miss M. Eversleigh as Redempta.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester. —A good variety programme is this week being appreciated by large houses. Mr. Claude Ginnett and company appear in a very successful military spectacle on the Zulu War, and the exciting incidents are followed with interest. Alf Chester makes a welcome reappearance as a comedian, and is very popular; Mlle. Roza's Canine Hippodrome is another clever turn, the dogs performing some clever and original tricks; Norman Mint is a capital comedian, while Frank and Violet Payte in a comedy duologue, Harry Litter, comedian, Robins and Collier in a musical comedy scena, entitled *The Lady and the Porter*, all considerably add to the success of the evening.

CRADLEY HEATH.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Jno. H. Morton.—Kennedy's Komics are here this week; the Four Sisters Godfrey, dancers, give a capital terpsichorean entertainment; Professor Brier introduces his performing donkey with great success; Teddy Lennon has several good songs which are well received; Little Hatch scores as a comic singer and dancer; Professor Clowe Harley gives a smart ventriloquial entertainment; and Miss Osborne wins applause as a ballad vocalist.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Herrick.—The boards here are occupied by Mr. Lewis Gilbert's company in *Partners in Crime*. Miss Marie Clavering, always reliable, renders valuable services as Gladys Davenport; Miss Gladys Summers is painstaking as Jessie Davenport; Miss Ella Seton makes the most of Nancy; and Miss May Grahame is quite suitable as Jim; Mr. Percy Maitland is a whimsical Tennyson Scott Burns; Mr. H. H. Barrington powerfully enacts the heavy part of Noel Cranford; Mr. Aubrey Johnson makes a big hit as Ben Halliday; Mr. F. Thorpe Tracy is satisfactory as Aaron Moss; and adequate assistance is given by Mr. Johnnie Leonie, as Jack Cartwright, Mr. A. J. Robins as Sergeant O'Hara, and Mr. Ashton Winslow as a policeman.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The entertainment here is up to the usual high standard. The Poluski Bros. (Will and Sam) are effective in their amusing act, *Laughs*; Fred Karno's company of comedians are irresistible in the extravaganza, *The Dandy Thieves*; the Arcadians are pleasing pastoral players and vocalists; Tate and Tate are clever comedy crobats; Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Lucas in their scenes from Dickens are appreciated; Kahn and Kahn appear in a smart exposition of magic; R. Dunning's ventriloquial efforts are in the right direction; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler, is well worth seeing; Edie Veno is a taking comedienne and dancer; and the Bros. Lang are quaint knockabout comedians.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—The entertainment this week is given by a capital variety company, headed by Edward Stillward and company in the sketch, entitled *Satan*; Miss Marie Weston, vocalist, banjoist, and dancer, delights the audience; Marcus Boyle, comedian, well maintains his reputation; Vincent, acrobatic table expert, gives a clever performance; the musical prodigy, little Luigi Salvino, is much applauded; the Bros. Relton are clever vocalists; the Carvers and the Bellograph conclude the programme.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. F. Wybert Clive's company is here this week with *The Conscript*. Mr. Harry Cullenford fills the rôle of Karl Truevitch with notable success, and Nadia is charmingly impersonated by Miss Violet Carlyle; Mr. Watts Steele plays Ivan Manloff with conspicuous ability, and Mr. Charles E. Johnson is deserving of commendation as Paul Hardiski; Mr. Edward Lowrie is thoroughly successful as Doggervitch, and the same can be said of Mr. F. H. Bellwood as Maxim Fedka; considerable fun is provided by Mr. Tom Breen as Tretch Trotoff, a postman, and Miss Connie Meadows as Wanda Khoval, and the other characters are in excellent hands. The scenery is effective.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—The attraction here this week is Edwin Barwick, the clever character-comedian, who has a hearty reception. Another good turn is that of Will Godwin, who appears in "Re-united," and is deservedly recalled; the Saxonias appear in great advantage in a capital musical speciality; Herbert Rule is a decidedly droll comedian; Cris, ventriloquist, has as good a reception as ever; Carlin is an acceptable foot equilibrist; Ruby Wentworth is a charming comedienne; and the Palace Bioscope submits an interesting film of the Royal Spanish Marriage, with the subsequent disastrous effects of the bomb outrage.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—*Miss Lancashire, Limited*, is the bill of fare this week, with Miss Florence Baines in the leading rôle. The audience on Monday evening went into recurrent fits of hilarity over the unorthodox behaviour of Mary Ellen Thompson in her sudden incursion into "high society." Miss Baines is truly the "life and soul" of the play. Her assumption of the Lancashire dialect is "as to the manner born." The popular comedienne was enthusiastically encored for her songs. Eva Lancashire, "the real article," is demurely represented by a very charming ingénue actress in Miss Anena Walton. Mr. Robert Turley as Harry plays the part ably, but needs to speak his lines more boldly. Other rôles are satisfactorily filled by Messrs. David Donaldson, Richard C. Hicks, Will Casey, Chas. Reeves, Allan M. Servington, Payne Fletcher, Miss Mabella Tinton, and Miss Pattie Groves.

DONCASTER.—NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Chapman.—*Wep-Ton-No-Mah* is the attraction here. Mr. C. W. Charles is a breezy and manly Colonel Stockton; Mr. Edward Leroy scores as Manuel Lopes, and Mr. Ike Shawcross acquits himself well as Capt. Franklin. Extremely realistic is the portrayal of Chief Ga No-Gua by Mr. Theo. Alker; and Mr. Guy D. Hackney's assumption of Sam White, a happy Hottentot, is a popular one. Garry Cullen is ably represented by Mr. Dan Ryan; Miss Minnie Goepel is a dainty Nellie Stockton; Miss Matilda Shiffles, the Colonel's housekeeper, is quaintly represented by Miss Dorothy Neville; the title-rôle is undertaken by Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, who, in spite of a recent unfortunate accident, continues to give a telling embodiment of the Indian mail carrier.

DOUGLAS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—*A Pair of Spectacles* is the attraction here, and the members of the capable company which Mr. Herbert Ralland has gathered together for his stock season have deserved the generous applause which has rewarded their artistic efforts. Mr. Arthur Dennis as Benjamin Goldfinch was admirable in his presentment of the guileless gentleman who has only faced the problems of the simple life; the man from Sheffield, Uncle Gregory, could not have been better interpreted than it was by Mr. William Griffen. The young men of the comedy were most pleasantly played by Mr. James Geldred and Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont. Mr. Richard Walsh, a young actor of great versatility, emphasised his dramatic capacity as Lorrimer. The Bartholomew of Mr. Fred Fowler was a quaint study; and other characters were suitably sustained by Mr. Fred Birch and Mr. J. Mason. Miss Chrissie Ralland, a smart comedienne, was pleasing as Lucy; Miss Kitty Cavendish was excellent as Mrs. Goldfinch; Miss Minnie Walsh, a clever actress, had too little to do as Charlotte, but she did it very well; Mr. Harry Nicholls' farce, *The New Butler*, was the curtain-raiser. It evoked roars of laughter, being well played by Mr. Fred Fowler, Miss Nina Zambray, and Miss Chrissie Ralland.

DERBY CASTLE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Business Manager, Mr. W. Kelly.—An excellent variety programme is provided here. The ballroom floor is in superb condition. The variety performers include Mr. Chris. Richards, a clever comedian and dancer; Messrs. Jack and Evelyn, eccentric artists, with an amusing interlude; and the Boganny Troupe, with their laughter-provoking sketch, *The Lunatic Bakers*.

Mr. Frederick Buxton, with his up-to-date tea village and pierrots, attracts large audiences.

Mr. Charles Dare, with his burnt cork comedians, on Douglas Head, deservedly secures a fair share of patronage.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—On Monday afternoon and evening M. Coquelin and company appeared here in two of his famous creations *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*. On Tuesday Mr. Andrew Moir's company commenced a five nights' engagement with a triple bill. In a dramatic episode in one act, entitled *Andrew Patterson*, Mr. Percy Marshall was commendable in the rôle of Seymour O'Neill, and he was ably supported by Miss Lilian Hallowes as Rosie and Mr. Charles Hanbury as Dick Poole. The second piece was the three act comedy, *The Major's Double*. The rôle of Major Prendergast was cleverly enacted by Mr. J. B. Gordon, and Norah Sullivan had a capable representative in Miss Eily Helene; Mr. Charles Hanbury was good as Jack Jannaway, and Miss Dora Roberts ably depicted the part of Daisy; John Cockle had an able exponent in Mr. Percy Marshall, and Miss Lilian Hallowes was excellent as Madge; the rôles of Tim Blake and Dick were well filled by Messrs. James Danvers and W. B. Freear. The one-act miniature grand opera, *The Gamester*, in which Mr. Audry Roy, Miss Dorothy Southgate, and Mr. Charles Cautley appeared, concluded the programme.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The second week of the Hippodrome season commenced here on Monday night, the principal attraction being "Menetekel, or the Mystic Ball," a marvellous show, which is introduced by Mr. and Mrs. Max Berol-Konorah. The Manhattan Comedy Four are funny in their travesty of the prison scene in *Faust*; and the Matweef Hugoston troupe are nightly recalled; the Five Whiteleys submit a smart acrobatic and wire-walking act, anr Harry Tate's company, in the sketch *Fishing*, is highly amusing; Onda and Artell are capital gymnasts, and the ventriloquial turn of Russell Carr is well received, as is also that of Frank Lawton, sifleur; the Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels, make a decided hit, and Oldham is a clever female impersonator. The pictures of recent events are interesting.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—The boards are occupied here this week by Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson's company, and on Monday night the emotional drama, *Her One Great Sin*, was produced and favourably received. Mr. Sam Arthur gives a clever rendering of Reuben Warhurst, and as Grace Warhurst Miss Lydia Donovan quite wins the sympathy of the audience by her able exposition; Mr. Fred Hodson is highly amusing as Jerry Jumble, and Miss Nellie Lambert displays ability as Nancy Winpenny; villainy is well presented by Mr. Quinton Fulford as Arnold Thornhill, and as Dan Hundle Mr. Charles E. Lambert is exceedingly good; Mr. Sam Roberts as Jack Hundle, Mr. J. Nella as Mr. Benton, and Miss Maudie Lambert as Little Gracie are also creditable in their respective parts. *The Penalty of Crime* is billed for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C Irvine Bacon.—At this popular resort the Red Cloaks, under the direction of Mr. George Reynolds, are appearing this week. The company includes Miss Eva Hambhin, Mr. Fred Milner, Miss Conyers, Mr. Barry, and Mr. Davidson, whose vocal duets, solos, and some excellent 'cello and piano playing, are heartily enjoyed.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—In the strong and varied programme presented here this week the principal feature is the Dumond Minstrels, whose vocal and instrumental turn scores successfully. George Brooks is a droll comedian, who creates plenty of amusement with his songs and patter, and Lizzie Daniels is a vivacious comedienne; the Mackweys, in their comedy wire act, cause roars of laughter, and the Four Olympian Stars are a popular item; Maud Mortimer, actress vocalist, is deservedly applauded for her serious and humorous contributions, and Les Voces, operatic vocalists, are an acceptable turn; Ted Waite, who remains over from last week, is going as strong as ever, and the Empire pictures are interesting.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy. At the top of the bill here this week is the old Dublin favourite Horace Wheatley, who receives an ovation nightly; Angeline, lady juggler, performs some pleasing feats; and the Four Jumels are accomplished instrumentalists; Lillie Soutter, comedy artist, sings her songs in good style, and J. F. Farrelly is an excellent baritone vocalist; Miss Frederiga's troupe of terriers are an interesting turn, and Kendrick and Laura are successful in their drawing-room entertainment; Will Sullivan is a capital comedian, and Maud Clifton a pleasing comedienne; the Bioscope pictures conclude the programme.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Kennedy's Komiks have taken possession of this house for the summer season, and are giving a fresh programme each week at popular prices. Miss Daisy is a smart and vivacious comedienne, and Miss Marie Liston performs with much confidence; Percy Victor and his performing dogs are an entertaining turn; Dudley Gibson (tenor), Kitty Vivian (in musical comedy), Frank Aylmer (comedian), Ellis and Liston (speciality artists), and several other good turns, including Loder Lyons, a clever ventriloquist, make up a fine programme.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—Sam Redfern tops the bill, and is responsible for some clever and original lightning patter; Ada Clair is a dainty serio and dancer; Millie Butler is a powerful contralto; the Boston Twins are clever as boxers, vocalists, and mimics; the Izons and the Sisters Stratton are both good turns, and the Empire pictures retain their popularity.

DUNDEE.—PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Manager, Mr. E. J. Dexter.—There is a capital company appearing here for the last week of the season, the principal item being Prinz's performing lions. Arthur Richards' turn is marked by originality; Flora Donaldson sings Scotch ditties sweetly, and Renu Walon is a clever vocalist and dancer; the comic element is well looked after by J. C. Scatter and J. W. Hennessey, comedians; Carrie Bernard pleases immensely with her catchy songs, and Vernon's animated pictures complete a good bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—The Kingston Dramatic Company appeared here on Monday in *Eileen Alannah*, which, by reason of its fine sentiment and fund of humour, is sure to prove a success. The stage setting was very creditable, and included a scene depicting Ballyshannon Fair, in which over thirty local children sing and dance. Mr. A. W. B. Kingston, as Barney O'Regan, a persecuted young Irishman, plays with fine power, and Mr. Harry Egan represents Michael Finegan humorously. As Lady Bertram, Miss Emily Peel acts well and sings sweetly, and Miss Dora Hamilton makes a vivacious Mary Quick.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams. The top-liner here is R. C. Note, who is accorded a flattering reception; Daisy Davenport sings sweetly and dances bewitchingly; Myles and May score in a well-worked act; C. W. Walker is successful as a vocalist; Nellie Nora, society entertainer and mimic, proves very entertaining; and W. Hughes, boy vocalist, is much applauded. The Gaiety Bioscope, as usual, has some interesting films on view.

EASTBOURNE.— PIER PAVILION.— Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. J. D. Hunter and company are appearing here in a drama, entitled *The Ruby Ring*. Mr. Frederick Sargent is a thoroughly convincing Cuthbert Vaughan, and plays well throughout; Mr. Horace Pollock gives a cleverly restrained and effective performance as Reginald Clethorpe; Mr. George Mudie, jun., is a breezy and buoyant Charles Lynton; and Mr. George C. Murray is a capable Colonel Clethorpe. Mr. A. B. Tapping submits a fine character-sketch in the part of Leloir; Mr. Hunter as Jenkins and Mr. Harry Collier as Peter Tagg are excellent and favourite comedians, and Mr. Charles Langton is a good Henry Jordon. Miss Alice Fairleigh has an attractive appearance, and as Helen Neville soon wins the sympathy of the audience; Miss Clarissa Selwynne is delightfully natural and bright as Jane; Miss Edith Matt is seen to advantage in the trying part of Mother Hicks; Miss Blanche Bayley makes the most of her opportunities as Mary Richard, and Miss Eva Bayley lends excellent help as Mrs. Renshaw.—Messrs. Arthur and Mills' Olympian Concert Party, under the management of Mr. Idris Perkins, is giving daily concerts in the band stand. The pierrot party is individually a very strong one. Miss Edith

GATESHEAD.— METROPOLE THEATRE.— Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Mr. Fred L. Connynghame's company is presenting *A Mother's Love* here this week. Mr. Connynghame is the central figure, and his depiction of the rôle of Mat Ruddock is most humorous; Mr. George Child portrays Geoffrey Mannering in finished style, and Mr. Arthur Rose gives a powerful rendering of Paul Wingate; Mr. Robert Lynn makes the most of his opportunities in the comedy part of Joe Jackson. Miss Violet Macaree's representation of Winnie Wingate leaves nothing to be desired, and Miss Marjory Murray is successful as Ellaine Mervin; Miss Dorothy Monkhouse as Mary Smart lends able assistance.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—Novello's *India in Europe* heads the bill here. In this turn there are introduced clever elephants, ponies, dogs, and some excellent acrobats; Lennie and Hast in a poetic phantasy named *The Sea Nymph*, are deserving of all the praise expressed by delighted audiences; C. Wordley Hulse and a clever company play a dramatic sketch, entitled *The Fight in the Forge*; N. T. Kioto is a smart young Japanese equilibrist; Mlle. Zelda has an entertaining musical act, and Martine and Son with their illustrated songs make a big hit. Geo. Antill, comedian, and the King's Bioscope complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—The pictures of the Britt v. Nelson boxing contest have been drawing large audiences to this house. Also appearing are Kyd Gwynne in a ball-punching act, and Miss Addie Dorina, an exponent of the quick-changing art, who impersonates six distinct characters in a sketch bearing the title *How it Was Done*.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. H. Macfarlane.—Hearty and continuous laughter greets the new farcical comedy, *Good Old Charley*, given here by Mr. James Welch and company. As the gay young dog, Charley Ingleton, Mr. Welch has an excellent part, which he plays in his own inimitable style, making his points tell easily and naturally in all the amusing complications of the plot. Mr. John W. Deverell is well placed as the elderly husband, Gabriel Peploe, and the lugubrious Thomas Dumphie is most amusingly played by Mr. Fred Lewis. Miss Estelle Winwood makes a charming Agnes, and Mr. George F. Tully and Miss Helen Vicary ably hit off the characteristics of the "parents-in-law," Colonel and Mrs. Fishbourne. Mr. Leopold Profeit as Purkitt, and Miss Ethel Hollingshead as Reeves complete an able cast. *The Man in the Street*, with Mr James Welch in his clever and elaborate study of Jabez Gover, acts as a curtain-raiser.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—The second week of Mr. J. W. Whitbread's season of Irish drama commenced on Monday, when his new historical play, *The Ulster Hero*, was performed in capital style before a large and enthusiastic audience. Mr. Robert Faulkner gave a dashing impersonation of the revolutionary hero, Henry Joy McCracken, while the traitors Hughes and Niblock were played with strong dramatic effect by Mr. James Daly and Mr. Ion Ireland respectively; the favourite Irish comedian, Mr. James O'Brien, was provided with a good part in James Hope; Mr. Dane Clarke's clear, incisive style was well suited to the rôle of Captain Fox; as Lieutenant Ellis, Mr. Henry Forrest bore himself admirably; and other clever assumptions were the Russell of Mr. T. W. Rooney and the Wolfe Tone of Mr. T. Johnson; Miss Cecilia Dare made a sweet and sympathetic Norah Bodel; Miss Madeline Hurst gave strength and character to the part of Mary Tomb; the Mary McCracken of Mrs. E. H. Brady was a pleasing study; and the Rose Mullen of Miss Monica Kelly created a deal of amusement. The play was repeated on the three nights following, the remaining evenings being devoted to *The Insurgent Chief*, another of Mr. Whitbread's historical dramas.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—A distinct novelty is provided here in the thought-reading dog "Pilu," introduced by M. Ancilotti, the tricks done by the animal being marvellous; the Jackson Family are clever musicians, whose items are all heartily received, their selections from *Martha* in particular; the Kauffmann troupe of lady cyclists perform the most difficult feats with astonishing neatness and skill; Lily Langtry, lively as ever, comes provided with some new ditties, built on her favourite methods; Tom Woottwell's eccentric songs prove highly popular; Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery make a decided hit with their *Would-be Actors* sketch; the Two Raies, expert dancers; Mignonette Kokin, American soubrette; and Salletti's monkeys complete a varied bill.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The chief attraction here this week is supplied by John Tiller's company in the comedy sketch, *High Jinks, or Doon the Watter*. The company is so well known in Glasgow that comment is needless, but special mention may be made of the abilities of Messrs. Bob Selvidge, Teddy Gibbs, Barney Dixon, and Misses Bessie Cohen, Rene Howard, and Lizzie Hay in their respective characters. The piece is well mounted, and was much enjoyed. A unique entertainment, entitled *Song, Play, and Mirth*, is provided by The Gems, under the direction of Mr. Wallace Kennedy, the motor-car act being exceptionally clever; the efforts of Spry and Monti met with deserved appreciation, and other members of the company include Guy Ryder, the boy siffleur; Billy Hobbs, clever coon comedian and dancer; and the Hippodrome Bioscope, with new and interesting pictures.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—An excellent programme is provided here this week, and attracts large houses. Harry Tate and company are responsible for endless amusement with the absurdity, *Motoring*, the witticisms and antics of the cranky automobilist creating roars of laughter; Miss Carlotta Levey, comedienne, also has a flattering reception, and sings several songs in her usual taking manner; other notable artists include Tom Lloyd, the popular eccentric comedian; Ethel Dove, comedy artist; Chanti, quick change artist; the Avrignys, jugglers; Kelly and Gillette, comedy artistes, in their well-known billiard table act; Matt Wilkinson and company, sketch artists, in the amusing farce, *The Registry Office*; Ruby Bijou, expert dancer; Robert Beivers, vocalist; and the Two Cabiacs, acrobats.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—A really excellent company is here this week, and capital houses are the result, in spite of the fine weather; Jose Collins, a Glasgow pantomime favourite, is well received for her pleasing songs and graceful dancing; and Tom Lowen is truly named a funny fellow; in a comedy bar act, the Two Eltons submit an enjoyable performance; Hill and Whittaker give a musical treat of high excellence, in which the harp, banjo, and violin are played in a manner denoting fine artistic skill, while Miss Whittaker excels in the American song, "Hallelujah"; in leading parts from famous plays V. L. Granville proves an impersonator of great resource, talent, and versatility; Peter Bermingham is in fine trim, and makes a hit as a Scotch patterer and comedian; the "two lucky tramps," Heeley and Meely, have undoubted originality, and are par excellence in their line; Herbert Lloyd's humour is irresistible; "The March of the Married Men," in which Mr. Arthur Rigby appears, was repeatedly and deservedly encored.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. Sam Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—The McNaughtons are the stars here this week, and they come provided with lots of new patter and business, with the result that the audience are kept in one continuous roar of laughter; Dainty Alice Lloyd, too, has always a hearty welcome here, and her new songs are quite in her best style; Wyndham and Kitty give a wire walking act, with which a lot of original ideas are incorporated; Miss Gladys Horley appears in a new sketch entitled *Heartstrings*, in which she displays a wonderful command of the violin; Miss Annie Milburn and Mr. Harry J. Crane sustain the more serious acting parts in the sketch; John Leopold's company give a lively acrobatic sketch called *The Houseboat*, which is well received; and clever turns are also given by the Brothers Warsaw, comedy musicians; Harry Weldon, comedian; the Sutcliffe Family; and Brothers Attab.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. M. Armstrong.—This house is now closed on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, but open on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday with boxing and variety entertainments.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—Mr. George Stephenson's company is here this week with the popular farcical comedy, *The Night of the Party*. Mr. Leslie Holland is a host in himself as Mr. Crosbie, and is excellently supported by Mr. George Stephenson as Frank Fagne. Mr. Fred Rolph, Mr. George Sade, Mr. H. V. Surrey, Mr. Ernest Cresfan, and Mr. William Consett appear successfully in other characters. Miss Evelyn Howard is a capital Lady Hampshire, Miss Evie Erskine does well as Gipsy Vandelier, and Miss Hilda Saros plays Nannie Portland creditably.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. W. Nightingale.—The programme for the week includes Harry Roxbury's brilliant vaudeville company in the new musical mélange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*; Hilda and Gilda in a musical entertainment; Ross Warren, eccentric patter comedian; the Romany Four, in their scena, *Life in a Gipsy Camp*; and Tommy Dodds and Cissie Sephten, duologue artists. A series of new pictures is shown by the Britanniscope. On Sunday afternoon and evening the celebrated Besses o' the Barn Band gave two concerts. Highly appreciative audiences applauded loudly the various selections, half of which consisted of sacred music.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—The Royal Italian Circus is the attraction for the week, and nightly Signor Volpi's highly trained performing animals win unstinted applause for their clever tricks. Dogs, ponies, monkeys, goats, a bear, and an elephant take part in the entertainment.

GREENOCK.—PAVILION THEATRE, LTD.—General Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—Max Sterling, illusionist, heads the bill here, and his act entitled "The Burmese Gong," is much appreciated; other good items are The Redferns, banjoists, vocalists, and dancers; Allan and Hart, dancers and vocalists; O'Malley and Brown, in a comedy act, entitled *The Day I came Back*; Wisper, comedy juggler; Charlie Dillon, eccentric comedian; and Beattie Bloom, comedienne.

EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. L. Skivington.—Mr. Barney Armstrong presents the principal turn here, an amusing sketch entitled *Bertie's Birthday Party*, and the remainder of the programme is ably sustained by Lena Brunton, mimic; Georgina Nicol, vocalist; and Little Barney.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Sydney Tolfree.—Mr. Lingford Carson's répertoire company has presented three popular dramas. Mr. Carson's own play, *The Heart of a Hero*, was staged on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Charles Draycott is now seen in the character of Jem Resdale, the Lancashire lad, and imparts a manly vigour to it. *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* was the attraction on Wednesday and Thursday, Mr. Draycott playing Bob Brierley; whilst the remaining play was the ever-popular *The Octoroon*, with Mr. Draycott as Salem Scudder and Miss Hettie Senior as Zoe. Others who have taken prominent parts in the various plays are Mr. J. D. Clyde, Mr. Ernest J. Fare, Mr. Arthur Byron, Mr. Sidney C. Cranston, Mr. Morley Carroll, Mr. Harry Scatchard, Miss Louise Millward, Miss Laurie A. Pardy, and Miss Daisy Norman.

THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. A. Edwardes; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. V. Allton.—Uncle Willie, otherwise J. W. Churchill, is a comedian essentially of the eccentric order. His funny songs, amusing patter, and grotesque make-up all combine to render him a popular artist with Grimsby audiences. A novelty was presented in the shape of an abridged performance of Wallace's ballad opera, *Maritana*, this including two of the principal scenes and most of the favourite numbers. The characters were represented by the Regal Quartette, composed of Mlle. Adele Prescott, Mme. Marie Burnett, Mr. Edward Wynne, and Mr. Albert German, each of whom proved talented vocalists. The remainder of the programme was contributed by the Ringling Trio, smart tumblers; Brady and Johnson, whose sketch, *Turning the Tables*, was pleasingly original besides being laughable; Bishop and Vale, comedians and dancers; Vera Mayne, burlesque actress; the Woelhaffs, vaudeville artists; and Captain Devereux's dogs, who gave an interesting speciality.

HALIFAX.—THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—The Riogoku family troupe of Japanese equilibrists head the bill here; mysteries reign supreme while Morimura occupies the boards, his conjuring being especially clever; the four elephants introduced by Miss Taylor perform some wonderful tricks; Verno and Voyce are funny in their *Butcher and Baker* and *Dear Old Pals*; a comedian with a winning style is Tom Hughes, whose songs and gags are very popular; the same can be said of George Reeves; Lena Verdi's delineations of leading lights are artistically conceived; Flo Cecil is a sprightly little lady.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edward Harrison.—Ford and Barras are here this week, and their singing and dancing are highly appreciated; some dexterous cycling work is introduced by the Yags and Mary trio; the sketch *On the Links*, submitted by the Four Burnells, convulses the audience with laughter. Other capable artists are Marion Scott (comedienne), Theresa and May (singing protean artists), Baroni and Kemp (quick-change artists), Bros. Redmond (acrobatic comedians), and Emma Don and Co. in their musical mélange, *The Prodigal Son*.

HANLEY.—GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Mlle. de Dio heads the bill in her wonderful dance, "Terpsichore's Dream," which is much admired and appreciated; Paul Conchas is a juggler and strong man, and several of his feats are most astounding; the Five M.P.'s in their musical act are always appreciated; Gerti Gitana meets with success; and O'Connor and Brady prove an amusing pair of comedians. Frank Leon is a capital dancer, and Lizzie Kirk is a comedienne of much merit. Fred Lincoln sings in good style. The pictures are, as usual, excellent.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—On Monday and two following nights *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* was presented by M. Thomas McKenzie's company. That excellent actress Miss Marie Illington plays the part of Mrs. Jardine excellently; Mr. Yorke Stephens is good as Capt. Mowbray; and the same remark applies to Mr. Maitland Dicker as Colonel Jardine. Miss Frances Vine gives a clever and amusing study of the foolish Mrs. Gorringe; Miss Mary Webb is well placed as Isabel Kirk; and Mr. W. B. Owen scores as David Cairn. *Camille*, with Miss Mabel Mannering in the title-rôle, was played on Thursday and Friday evenings.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The programme this week is somewhat of a novelty, inasmuch as it consists entirely (with the exception of a series of bioscope films) of the farcical sketch, *McKenna in Love*, played by Mr. Edwin Garth and company. Timothy McKenna, as depicted by Mr. Joe English, is an exceedingly funny character; and he is well supported by Mr. Garth as Michel Ryan. Some capital singing is contributed by Miss Hettie Lind, who is exactly fitted to the rôle of Miss Mary Ellen Ryan; whilst the character of Mrs. Mary Ellen Ryan has an able exponent in Miss Amy Knott, whose singing is also much appreciated.

HASTINGS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles E. Scutt.—Farcical comedy is successfully presented here this week by Mr. Lawrence Brough and company, who opened on Monday with *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Lawrence Brough's impersonation of Le Baron de Longueville created much amusement, and was decidedly clever; Mr. Henry Hampson was distinctly good as Dick Whortles, and won hearty plaudits. Miss Daisy Cook showed marked ability in the title-rôle; and very effective aid was rendered by Miss Kate Milford as Dorothy Whortles; Mr. H. Gomer May made a formidable Toby Krockitt, and cleverly acted the part; Mr. Charles Groves, jun., made a hit as Joseph Carbury; and the part of Matilda Carbury was well filled by Miss Eleanor Gilbert. *Margaret's Stratagem* preceded the farce, and was ably played by Messrs. H. Gomer May, Chas. Groves, jun., and Miss Daisy Cook. On Thursday and remainder of the week *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* was played, with Mr. Lawrence Brough in the rôle of Herbert Jocelyn.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Resident-General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams.—Miss Jeanette Reynolds, a pleasing singer, opens a good programme; Mr. Arthur Goodman, the tramp juggler, is highly amusing; the comedy acrobats, Lack and Ford, introduce a laughable turn; the Hippodrome Bioscope gives scenes from Dickens's "Oliver Twist," which prove exceedingly interesting; a decidedly novel turn is given by Cordite and Buffalo, showing in a clever manner the system of Mexican lasso throwing and rope spinning; another well appreciated turn is Russell Wallet, who assumes the character of a refined lady vocalist and pianist in a piquant sketch; the Seener-Fridkin troupe of Russian singers and dancers display marked ability.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment-Manager, Mr. J. W. Hunter.—Mr. Thomas Sidney and his company are producing the interesting comedy, *The Case of Rebellious Susan*. The company are smart and clever, and their performance gains well merited approval. Mr. Thomas Sidney as Sir Richard Kato, K.C., gives a polished interpretation, elegant, natural, and neat; Mr. Frank Sutherland submits a telling interpretation of the part of Sir Joseph Darby; a good character sketch of James Harabin is given by Mr. Bonhote-Wilson; and Fergusson Pybus has a capital exponent in Mr. Alfred Mansfield. Mr. Cecil Klein successfully impersonates Lucien Edensor; Miss Dorothy Sidney gives a sweet rendering of the part of Lady Susan Harabin, playing the heroine with gentleness and grace; Miss Josephine Rae is well suited as Lady Darby; Miss Kathleen Russell does full justice to the part of Mrs. Quesuel; and high praise can be awarded to Miss Marjorie Cassini, her comedy in the part of Elaine Shrimpton being excellent.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—Miss Grace Warner and company were appearing the early part of the week in the musical, farcical comedy, entitled *The Little Widow*. The musical numbers are lively and tuneful, and several pleasing songs are introduced. Miss Grace Warner is a brisk and natural representative of Mrs. Constance Rattlebrain, the principal character in the piece; Mr. George Gordon gives a realistic piece of acting in the part of Mr. Wilkins Potter, an enthusiast on mesmerism; and Mr. Leighton Leigh gives a finished study of a medical student. Sophinisba is represented in a highly amusing manner by Miss Kathleen Cranston; Mr. J. E. Tomlinson makes a capital landlord; Mr. Horace Moseley is a diverting butler; Mrs. Wilkins Potter is well represented by Miss Ellen Beverley; Miss Lizzie Palmer quite realises the character of Emily Randal; and the juvenile Potters are represented by Miss Phyllis Massey and Miss Edith Rutland. For the last three evenings of the week *East Lynne* was announced.

HUDDERSFIELD. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. J. Andrews.—This week's piece is entitled *The Poor Must Live*, and is being played with considerable ability by Mr. Geoffery Fulton's company, which includes Miss Olive Fulton in the strong part of Olga D'Eyncourt; Miss Violet Hammersley, a sympathetic Dorothy; Miss Marguerite Thorne, in a weird and repulsive make-up as Sal; Mr. C. O'Connor as the hard Earl of Marswood; Mr. Harold C. Macartney as Donald; Mr. Walle Spinner as the crafty Manville; Mr. F. H. Dale as Dick, and Miss Alice Buckland as Moya, a couple of lively youngsters; and Mr. Shaun Glenville, a comedian of originality as Hooker, also contribute to the success of the production.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—Miss Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas are at the top of the bill, playing in an agreeable manner a smart comedietta, entitled *Her Birthday*. The other turns are Mlle. Yetta, a clever slack wire artist; the Three Renards, in a daring acrobatic performance; Miss Alice May and company in a sketch; Tom Moy, vocalist; Six Lancashire Lasses, a set of smart dancers; Griff, the imperturbable humorist; the Twin Brothers Dean, a couple of accomplished graceful dancers; Hall and Earle, in their acrobatic absurdity; and the Hippodrome Pictures are also in the bill.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Wm. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—As befitting the summer season, the entertainment provided this week is of the lightest possible character. It claims to be a farcical absurdity, and no one will seriously contest its pretension to rank as such. Its title is *Lucky Liza*. For much of the fun Messrs. J. Chippendale (Peter Pettitoe) and L. Maitland (Paul Pettitoe) are responsible. Miss M. Brownie figures as Eliza Bird, and is also much appreciated for her vocal effort.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—Dion Boucicault's famous drama, *The Streets of London*, figures on the programme this week. The rôle of Badger provides Mr. Herbert Fuller with ample scope to shine; whilst Mr. E. Cheetham does well as Puffy. The sympathy gained by Miss E. Bateman as Mrs. Fairweather and also accorded Miss D. Oswald as Lucy are tributes to their skill. Miss Lilly Fuller proves herself to be a very acceptable Little Johnnie.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Morton's, Ltd.—General-Manager, Mr. George Morton.—A very popular play in this city is *The Octoroon*. All the characters are household friends. The Salem Scudder of the current week is Mr. Hugh Montgomery, whose reading of the rôle is strictly conventional, hence its success. Zoe, the Octoroon, is pathetically presented by Miss L. Warner; the Jacob M'Closky of Mr. J. O. Stewart is cast in familiar lines. The remainder of the company give a very fair representation of this old standard play.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. Louis Cohn's company is here this week in *The Danites* and *Trilby*. In the first-mentioned play the double part of Nancy Williams and Billy Piper is very capably sustained by Miss E. T. Elliott; Mr. George Steel acts with much force as Alexander McGee, and is applauded for his rendering of "The Blind Collier"; whilst Miss Gwendoline Thorpe gives satisfaction as Hulda Brown. Mr. Clement Wakefield does well as Thomas A. Grosvenor; and Mr. R. Hargreaves scores as Washee-Washee. Mr. Charles D. Pitt as Charles Godfrey does the work entrusted to him cleverly; and Mr. E. Bulwer Pitt as William Wise fills the rôle admirably. Mr. Louis Cohn and Mr. John Ford appear as Danites.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—The most striking attraction in this week's programme is the extraordinary performance of Charles Unthan, known as the "Armless Wonder." Another special turn is that of Dick's Comedy Five, who contribute an amusing performance of singing and tumbling; Fraser and Haley are a couple of clever dancers and vocalists. Other items of a strong programme include Charles Terra, an expert gymnast and hand balancer; Conan and Doyle, eccentric comedians; Rose Elliot, whose songs are received with much applause; and Jack Vincent, whose clever instrumental selections on the adeophone are much appreciated.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Mr. C. Watson Mills's company is here this week with the powerful drama, entitled *A Warning to Women*. Mr. Mills gives a forcible rendering of Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. Henry Lonsdale is good as Shaun; Mr. Lawrence submits a manly portrayal of Fergus McNaughton; the character of Lord Eversleigh is done full justice to by Mr. N. C. Slaughter; the part of Squire Kennion is in the capable hands of Mr. Henry Rutland; Miss Rosalind Tate gives a charming performance as Moira Kennion; Miss Emmie Barton is quite at home as Shella Kennion, and Miss Ellen Beverley scores as Molly O'More.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston.—Melodrama continues to be popular fare here, a condensed version of that powerful piece *Defending His Honour* being well supported twice nightly. Mr. F. W. Goddard plays the part of Douglas Bryce in manly and effective style; the heroine, Ethel Bryce, has a pleasing and winsome exponent in Miss Chrissie Dunbar; the evil Stephen Graid is presented in approved style by Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh; Mr. Charles Walker does extremely well as Harry Denby; the part of Denby's wife is ably exploited by Miss Norah Egerton; and in other prominent parts Mr. A. Balfour Mackay and Mr. Willie Black are seen to advantage.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden: Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—Mr. Charles Carte is here with a strong company presenting the drama *A Noble Brother* to large audiences. Mr. Carte is very happy in his delineation of Jerry the Tramp, and evokes much approval, as also does Miss Doris Brooks, in a charming sketch of the heroine Nina Leigh. Mr. Frank Lyndon is very effective as the villain, Henry Travers; Mr. Howard Thorne faithfully depicts the character of Colonel Leigh; Mr. Arthur A. Tomlin is responsible for a capital effort as the manly Jack Elsworth; the comedy element is well looked after by Mr. Michael Madden and Miss Rosie Conroy. Other leading parts are well and carefully played by Miss Alice Ballard, Mr. Payne Reynolds, and Miss N. Faithful. A new play, entitled *A Ranchman's Romance*, was produced here on Wednesday. A full description will be found in another column.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—This hall has been filled to overflowing to welcome Mr. Bransby Williams, the inimitable versatile character actor, whose excellent turn has aroused manifest enthusiasm. A clever duologue, *Two to One*, by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, is a diverting entertainment. The Borellis continue big favourites with musical and vocal tit-bits. Howard and St. Clair are seen to advantage in comedy sketch; the Bros. Egbert are again provocative of great merriment in their knockabout sketch; Nellie Wallace is very successful as a low-comedy artist; and George Formby is the essence of quaint comedy, provoking continual merriment. Other capital turns are submitted by the Caselli Sisters, in clever song and dance; and Frank Dunlop, comedian; whilst Solbrig's Automatas are well manipulated and prove entertaining.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—Henry Carlton, a clever comedian, heads the list here this week with a good company in the presentation of a farcical comedy, *The Window Cleaner*. The Bros. Ashley score heavily with their novel screamer *Next, Please*; an original speciality by Hill and Lane is a much-enjoyed item; J. P. Ling does well as comedian and mimic; and H. Cotton is also successful in the comedy business. W. H. Downs, the popular coloured vocalist, is on a welcome return visit; E. Gray and Coons prove to be harmonious vocalists; we are pleased to renew acquaintance with Edna Cragge, burlesque actress; and Thelma, a novel lady clay-modeller, also appears with success.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The military play, entitled *The Two Hussars*, presented by Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company, is the attraction here this week. Prominent parts are played by Mr. Wilson Benge (Harry Alford), Mr. F. J. Webb (Captain Paul Villiers), Mr. J. Stuart (Colonel Manners), Mr. Louis Nanton (Robert Runn), Mr. Paradise (Sergeant M'Finnie), Miss M. Danvers Smith (Ellen Maythorne), Miss Lalah Price (Molly Cutts), and Miss Sadie Smith (Marie).

PALACE THEATRE, BTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews.—Herbert Darnley's company of comedians have made their first appearance here this week, and are presenting, with the greatest success, the mirth-provoking skit, entitled *Moving In*, which keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter. Another big favourite here, and deservedly so, is Mark Sheridan, a droll comedian, whose song, "Come for a Stroll in the Park," is enthusiastically received; Binns and Binns are funny and popular musical comedians; Belloni's Cockatoos are aptly described as a marvellous example of bird-training; Francis does some wonderful feats with a 28lb. cannon ball, and is also a clever juggler; a word of praise should also be accorded his smart assistant Alfred; Alcide Capitaine goes through a gymnastic performance on the trapeze in a clean, clever, and graceful manner; the Three Sisters Chester are well received for their singing, dancing, and banjo-playing; Frank and Free, the comedy couple, are very good; Odeyne Spark is an excellent comedienne and dancer. The American Bioscope is depicting in twenty scenes a tour through Cornwall with a travelling menagerie.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The chief attraction here this week is Mr. J. G. Johnson and company, who are presenting in capital style the sensational sketch, *The Unknown*, and the comedy-sketch, *My Wife's Jealous*, in which Miss Leah Marlborough, Mr. J. G. Johnson, and Mr. Bert Morley appear with success. An enjoyable turn is given by Duncan and Brasque, entitled *A Dressing Room Romance*, an interesting and refined musical dramatic episode; Keith and Merson are smart in their acrobatic hunting absurdity, entitled *The Meet*. Others who contribute to the programme are George Grogie, comedian; Daisy Rhyl, comedienne; and Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth.—The following artists are contributing to an enjoyable entertainment here, and are accorded well-merited applause:—Dan Lyndon, comedian; Edith May, soubrette; Ernest Hildred, baritone and descriptive vocalist; Charlie Neary, comedian; Gertrude Lytton, comedienne; the Bohemian Glee Singers; and Jeff Lytton, pianist and musical director.

LEIGH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. W. Cragg; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Rousby.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company is this week occupying the boards here with the sensational melodrama, entitled *A Wrecker of Men*. A powerful delineation of the title-rôle is given by Miss Amy Ellam; Mr. Alfred Maurice is effective as the silent Railton; Mr. Matthew Boulton plays the part of the hero, Guise Strange, in a praiseworthy manner; Mr. Eric Campbell has a part well suited to his abilities as Jim Murley; Mr. Milner Noble is a success in the villainous character of Pharosaphus; Miss Mabel Durham sympathetically portrays Doris Melville; Miss Kitty Melville causes much laughter as the maid-of-all-work, Slopper; Mr. T. Carruthers is highly successful as Erric Melville; Mr. H. P. Kennedy well sustains the dual rôles of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—Despite the summer weather that has prevailed during the week, the popular north-end house has enjoyed a deal of patronage, on account of the production of *The Luck of Life*, one of the late J. K. Murray's best-written dramas. Certainly the play is not new to Liverpool, but on the present occasion an excellent company, sent by Mr. Reginald H. Adair, has staged it in first-class style, a fact which has added to the work additional charm and interest. Mr. Ronald Yorke held the part of Michael Basilovitz, the leader of the Nihilists, and at times carried his audience with him; Miss Mary Dawson as Rene acted with every discretion and judgment; Miss Gertrude Bonser made an admirable Countess Vlame; every justice was done to the rôle of Count Petroff by Mr. Leonard Thackeray; Mr. Albert Cuthbertson handled the character of Ivan Polowski with care; a naturally-drawn solicitor was presented by Mr. Joseph Millaine in the part of George Stanhope; some good points were made by Mr. Polson Turner as the Hindoo Bahadur; and Miss Kate Perowne afforded satisfaction as Mlle. Beaudyn. A clever comedian, Mr. Fred Danvers, as the solicitor's clerk Simon, and Miss Dora Huggett in the character of Laura North, provided a deal of fun.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr Harris Fineberg.—The stirring drama, *Under the Czar*, has been here this week with Mr. Jarman's company. Well staged and costumed, the play has proved most enjoyable. Mr. Jack Fortescue presented a powerful Chief of the Russian Police; Miss May Fortescue proved exceedingly pleasing as the noble Russian girl, Sonia; Zara, the gipsy, was ably undertaken by Miss P. Carewe; Mr. Gerald Smythe was a manly Captain Johnson; as Zakhar, of the Russian police, Mr. W. H. Riley gave satisfaction; credit is due to Mr. Louis Weston for his Paul Ignat; also to Mr. J. Leicester for his Egor; and to Mr. Lawrence Brien, who undertook Alexis Petroff.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—Large audiences have been present in this favourite theatre during the week to witness *The Hero of the Flag*, presented by Mr. Sydney Spenser's company. The drama has proved particularly satisfactory. Miss Lizzie Hall, an actress of exceptional ability possessing a pleasing delivery, was the Mabel Forester, and speedily earned the favour of her auditors; a well-presented type of schemer came from Mr. Sydney Spenser as Paul Mansfield; with the utmost reserve and care Mr. Alfred Goddard held the part of Captain Hilliard; a manly Jack Lawrence was offered by Mr. William Heilbroun; endless laughter followed the work of Mr. Johnny McElroy as Johnny Truckle, and that of Miss Amy Maitland in the rôle of Jenny Stubbs; Miss Roma Tremayne was a sympathetic Ruth Clifford; and valuable assistance was offered by Mr. G. F. Royd as Stephen Clifford, and Mr. Wilton Hardcastle as Hancher Hicks. The scenery and seamen's costumes were picturesque, and the naval fight in the third act very effective.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Harry Lauder heads the bill here this week, and has had a cordial reception; Derenda and Green go through some smart juggling; the Canary Company have a smart sketch; Palles and Cussick are appreciated for their comedy work; and other artists who appear are Florence and Lilian, drawing-room entertainers; Ernest Tilbury, with illustrated songs; Celest, with his wire act; Flo Deighton, vocalist; Rex King, "the one-man programme"; and Rene Best, vocalist.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—As usual, an excellent bill of fare is presented at this popular hall. Edwin Boyde, so well known in Liverpool, tops the bill, and has had a most gratifying reception; George D'Albert's latest successes were received with every pleasure; Arthur Kenny went through some remarkable tricks on the bicycle; Otto and Olga presented an excellent musical and mock opera sketch; T. E. Finglas rendered several clever coon songs; Fred Curran's parodies on well-known ditties were especially smart; the Australian Twin Andersons gave a pleasing turn as singers and dancers; and others on the list were Harris and Worth, the huntsmen; Maude Vera, vocalist and coon artist; Arthur Reece, comedian; and George Prince, comedian.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—This week a new set of animated pictures are being shown here, interspersed with several variety turns. The audiences have been large and enthusiastic.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole.—The dramatic sketch, given here this week by the "Royal" stock company, has been *The Flowers of the Forest*. Mr. Percy Boucher was particularly amusing as Cheap Jack; Miss Florence Palmer, an old favourite here, had a cordial reception on her return, playing Cynthia with effect; Miss Tina Nazeby made an excellent Starlight Bess; a powerful Hugh Laverock came from Mr. Sydney Grant; Mr. Harry Tresham was a manly Alfred; as the Kinchen, Mr. E. D. Allen played in excellent style; and Mr. John Burton, an able actor, was the Wolf.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, M

Feldman's troupe of clever juveniles; the Sisters Belmont, very good dancers; and the Bioscope pictures complete an enjoyable programme.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Miss Emma Letchfield's company, under the direction of Mr. Stuart Cleveland, is once more at this theatre in the well-known successful drama *A London Actress*. Miss Litchfield (authoress of the play) is seen in the rôle of Hilda Mannering, which she tenders with great success. Mr. Stuart Cleveland is also prominent as Sergeant-Major Crawford; while Mr. George H. Doyle gives a powerful delineation of Moses Mendoza. Mr. Harry Stuart is well suited as Lieut. Kingstone, and Mr. John Hitchens makes a success of the lighter rôle of Pat Maloney. The remaining parts are correspondingly well played by the various members of the cast, and the general staging is all that could be desired.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's attraction at the Royal Osborne Theatre, *The Woman Who Gambles*, is presented here successfully this week by Mr. Morton Powell's company.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Jerrard Grant-Allen's company is here this week in Arthur Law's well-known farcical comedy *The New Boy*. At the head of the clever people employed, Mr. Leon M. Lion sustains with excellent spirit the part of Archibald Rennick; and Miss Maud Magrath acts with admirable vivacity as Nancy Roach. Mr. A. Corney Grain makes a capital Dr. Candy; Mr. Talbot Homewood is good as Felix Roach; Mr. Harold Weston gives a characteristic sketch of De Brizac; a good idea of Bullock Major is presented by Mr. Stanley Logan; Miss Katherine Harrington is well suited as Mrs. Rennick; Miss Margaret Fareleigh is satisfactory as Susan; and Mr. Stubbes and the Constable are well handled in a quiet way by Mr. M. A. Scott and Mr. W. Corneille. The piece is preceded by a short sentimental comedy called *The Borrowed Uncle*.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Mrs. Brown-Potter and an excellent company head the bill here this week in a dramatic episode, entitled *Mary Queen of Scots*, and are well received. George Newburn, a capital mimic, meets with a flattering reception; the Carlyles are exceptionally graceful and clever Spanish and whirlwind dancers; and *Barmaids* is a highly amusing sketch, well acted by Harry Lowther and company. Other capital items are those of Yorkshire Tom, a first-rate animal mimic; A. B. Houghton, trick pianist; May Morton, *chic* comedienne; and a series of animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—The Boissets are here another week in their elaborate farcical knockabout sketch, *A Trip to the Continent*, which keeps the audience lively for upwards of forty minutes. A big turn also is that of Johnson and Dean, "the coloured fashion plates," whose general business is extraordinary. The Arthur-Lloyd Trio give their amusing sketch, *Little Charlie*, with distinct success; Henry Helme, the French baritone, makes a great hit by his vigorous and excellent singing; Marba and Verity present their eccentric and amusing acrobatic act; Will Vokes amply justifies his description as a quaint and eccentric dancer; and Helen Ford gives a pleasing vocal turn. As usual, the Bioscope presents a series of interesting and sensational pictures, including the Royal Bull-fight at Madrid.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—As usual, the programme here is excellent. Eugene Stratton, the Exceptional, tops the bill, and makes a big hit, especially with his song "The Spoony Coon," with its capital dance; the famous Craggs are wonderfully clever and amusing in *Billy*, a sketch full of good business; the Uessems are equilibrists of high merit; Chinko, the boy juggler, does some astonishing feats in a highly effective manner; and Alfred Hurley, vocalist, is very popular. The Holles-Goldman Trio create much laughter with a funny sketch; Nelson's Newsboys sing and dance well; and the Norman-Leonard Trio present an enjoyable comedy musical sketch. "Strike the Lyre" is well rendered by the Choir, who also assist Mr. J. Foye with an illustrated song, "In the shade of the old apple-tree." The Royal Bull-fight at Madrid is shown on the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—Charming La Cigale sings beautifully here this week, and meets with deserved approval; Mabel Osborn and Gordon Brookes are delightful in a musical comedy sketch, and are well received; Herbert Clifton, a mimic with a good singing voice, is loudly applauded; and the Columbia Comedy Trio, in operatic and humorous selections, are good. Others who contribute to an excellent programme are Andrews and Thompson, good singers, in a humorous act; Charles Faning, a comedian who "gets there"; the Wilsons, quick-fire conversationalists; the Sisters Troy, Continental gymnasts; and George Rapley, comedian. Raymond's Vivagraph pictures are very good.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. B. Broadhead.—*A Soldier's Revenge* is the attraction here this week, presented in fine style by Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company. It is a melodrama of the days of Cromwell, and has many thrilling moments. Mr. Montague Beaudyn is particularly good as Ironhand; Mr. Robertson Foulis as Sir Marsden Mardyke does well; and Mr. Albert Wray is suitably placed as Walter Clifford. Miss Irene Munroe makes a pleasing Ruby Avondale; and considerable fun is added to the play by Messrs. Harry C. Momber as Toby and T. R. White as Shadrack Shadwell.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The chief item here this week is provided by the famous Dutch protean actor, Theo. Bouwmeester, in *Who is Guilty?* in which he performs seven distinct parts in a most effective manner. Wee Mona, a clever juvenile comedienne, sings and dances nicely, and deserves the hearty applause accorded her; Phedons gives a pleasing musical act; the Three Templers are excellent vocalists; Victoria Dagmar and Clown are smart on the horizontal bar; Sheila McNeil is an amusing Scotch comedienne with good patter; the efforts of Jack Cosgrove and Ethel Burns, a smart comedy duo, are appreciated; and Dick Kendall, comedian, and Rita Bell, the Dutch Girl, acquit themselves well. Bioscope pictures complete the programme.

HIPPODROME, HULME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The great Hughes is here this week in his vastly amusing "Codology," a screamingly funny exposture of mesmerism. The Wedburne, instrumentalists, vocalists, and patterers, contribute a most enjoyable turn; the Westwoods are exceptionally clever cyclists; Howard and Townsend are good duettists; and very pleasing is Lou Langley, comedienne. Other good turns are those of the Steane Louch Trio in a scena from *The Daughter of the Regiment*; Theodore Jones and company in *Jack Sheppard*; Wyndham and Waters as the "Professor and the pupil"; and Charles Jackson, comedian. "Father's Blackpool Picnic" is depicted on the Bioscope.

RUSHOLME PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Leslie; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles North.—Another capital programme is submitted here this week, and business is good.

MARGATE.—THE HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. F. Mouillot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—A big attraction here this week is Dinah Morris, the American comedienne, and her company, including Bessie Morris and the Southern Belle troupe of dancers, in the musical comedy *The Lost Coon; or, Black Michael's Revenge*. Dinah Morris, as the belle of Lucanna, is really good, her dancing being especially captivating. Bessie Morris is vivacious as captain of the Dixie Brigade; and a full chorus gives good support. Silent Tait, the eccentric wizard, is amusing; Curtis and Vanity, in a smart dance act, Lena Willard, comedienne and impersonator, Ernest Montefiore and company, with the musical scena *The Little Colonel*, the Mezzettis, exceedingly clever triple-bar performers, and the Hippodrome Pictures, go to make up one of the best programmes ever put upon the boards here.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Another capital variety programme is arranged here this week. At the head is Martin Melia, Irish comedian and expert clog-dancer; Les Louberts contribute an amusing sketch, *Uninvited*, which is well received; the Mays are good burlesque artists and dancers; Sleath and Aldin supply a musical novelty, *Dashing Duval*; Piccollo and Fiori are amusing as Continental clowns; Chester and Lee's marionettes are pleasing; and Miss Lill, contralto vocalist, is successful in her musical numbers. The bioscope is entertaining with a series of up-to-date pictures.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—The attraction here this week is Charlie Green, Edie Bracewell, McClemo, Louie Ginnett, Esdale Bros., E. W. Selwas, Gillin's Arabs, Louie Dallas, Alveno and Cleo, George Mackintosh and Tina Royal, Chard's Dogs, and biograph animated pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Melton.—The closing attraction of the season here is Miss Winifred Chalmers' company in the melodrama, *The Master Criminal*. Mr. Hy. L. Osmond is prominent with a vigorous and skilful embodiment of Telford Lestage; the Philip Manners of Mr. Alex. Haviland is a well-studied rendering; Mr. E. Frith (Ben Beaudy) and Mr. J. W. Gallagher (Gentleman Jim) also work successfully; Mr. Hy. Cooke is an amusing Tommy Dale. Miss Winifred Chalmers plays with rare dramatic skill the rôle of Cecile; Miss Phyllis Vaughan sympathetically treats the character of Mabel Manners; Miss Mabel Tremere is a vivacious and pleasing Peggie Perks.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Eade Montefiore's company, in the domestic drama *The Streets of London*, is here this week. Mr. William Rokeby plays the character of Badger with great effect; Mr. Henry Moxon sustains with power the rôle of Gideon Bloodgood; and Mr. Douglas Cottell is seen to advantage as Mark Livingstone. Mr. Clifford Bown creates much amusement as Jonas Puffy; and Mr. Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie does well as Paul Fairweather. Miss Edith Goodhall is exceedingly good as Alice Bloodgood; and Miss Violet Vivian leaves nothing to be desired as Mrs. Puffy. The other rôles are ably sustained, and the scenery and stage effects are excellent.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*The Shaughraun* is being presented here this week. Mr. John S. Chamberlain, in the character of Conn, the Shaughraun, causes roars of laughter; as does Mr. Charles Antley, as Harvey Duff. Miss Nora Malone gives a fine impersonation of Moya; Miss Rosamond Mayne Young does well as the Sligo Lady. Miss Nora Bedford and Miss Grace Fainton are excellent in their respective rôles; and Mr. Godfrey Fearle is good as Robert Folliot.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Chas. Rembges.—A programme of excellent variety is being presented here this week. George Mozart, the well-known comedian, is well received; and Ada Parker, with coon songs, proves a popular favourite. Selbo delights the house with his juggling tricks; the Paul Kramer's troupe provides an excellent acrobatic turn; and the Sisters Vincent dance well. The Wyffs give a funny sketch, entitled *The Parson's Mishap in a London Flat*; and Gallando proves himself a clever sculptor. Other turns are provided by Tom Yorke and the Bioscope.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf Graham.—Frame, a big favourite, is paying a return visit here, and as usual his breezy songs and racy humour delight the audience. The Dayton Family, a troupe of acrobats, provide an interesting turn; and Frank Cass, vocal comedian, sings well. David Poole, ventriloquist, causes much amusement; and Mandoline Rees, comedienne, does well. Other turns are provided by George Penn, eccentric; Katie Butler, comedienne; and Mabel Kessler, vocalist.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. F. C. Sutcliffe.—The National Theatre Society are presenting a number of Irish plays here this week. They produced no less than four each night and their répertoire at the opening performance comprised *A Pot of Broth, Riders to the Sea, Spreading the News*, and *The Building Fund*. An entire change in the programme was announced for the second part of the week. A flying visit of the famous French artist M. Coquelin with *Cyrano de Bergerac* was announced for yesterday (Friday) afternoon.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—Messrs. Garside and Knowle's company is appearing here this week in the drama *The London Fireman*. A strong all-round company includes Mr. J. Forbes Knowles as Colonel Fleming and Mr. Edward L. Garside as Hal Curtis, both of whom are seen to distinct advantage; Miss Nellie Shirley, an accomplished actress, makes a charming heroine; and Mr. Charles A. Preece and Miss Nellie Garside are the clever exponents of the comedy element. The drama is staged in excellent style.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—The bill of fare here this week consists of the sensational drama entitled *Under the Russian Flag*, produced by a company under the direction of Mr. Jack Haddon. Miss Marie Rayner undertakes with complete success the long and arduous rôle of Luka Marischia, an adventuress; Mr. Haddon impersonates the character of Captain Demetrius with force and vigour; the comedy work of Mr. Fred Haming and Miss Agnes Howard leaves little to be desired; and admirable support is also forthcoming from Mr. Bernard Mervyn, Mr. Cecil Melton, Mr. Charles Liddon, and Miss Elaine Vanbrugh.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—Mr. Ernest Shand has proved highly entertaining and amusing here this week; Ray Wallace, the popular mimic, continues faithfully to portray popular performers; the "madness" imported into the tumbling feats by the Hadj Abdullah troupe is quite effective; the Howard Brothers open their act with some trick banjo playing, and then give a fine rendering of the overture "Poet and Peasant"; the Casino Comedy Four are a quaint quartette of vocalists; Will Mitcham always commands attention as a musical comedian; and the Althoffs, musical sketch artists, Alf Holt, mimic, Maud Ross, dancer, and the Bioscope, with a beautiful picture of the recent Royal wedding, constitute the remainder of the programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman.—Despite the warm weather we are experiencing just now, the Pavilion is always well filled, and on Monday a large audience was greatly amused with the funny antics of Martin Conway, "the quaint one." The tight-wire performance of the Four Holloways gained much appreciation; the eccentric acrobatic act of the Five Schiavonys is decidedly clever; Maidie Scott in song and dance won cordial approval; Frank Bernard and company, in an amusing sketch, Percy Hannon, baritone vocalist, Gipsy Woolf and her Six Sunbeams, Webb and Branston, vocalists, and Will Souls and Will Driscoll, comedians, and the Barrascope, are the remaining turns.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Austin Rudd is warmly received here; Cooke and Miss Robert are responsible for amusing knockabout business; and Geo. Ridgwell earns well-deserved applause with his fine baritone voice. The Three Hayden Sisters sing delightfully; the Sisters Urma do some amazing tricks on the trapeze; and the Sisters Terry are capable mimics; the Phydoras (musicians) are entertaining; Ben Albert evokes much laughter; and the Bioscope pictures are attractive.

NORTHAMPTON.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Robert Barton.—Rex Fox heads the bill this week with his clever wire act; Fred Erick is highly successful as a quaint comedian; York, Mac, and York furnish a capital comedy act; Sylvia Spiers appears with success as a coon vocalist and dancer; San Juan, novelty ventriloquist, gives a good turn; Molly Seymour, comedienne and dancer, scores in a vocal and dancing scene, in which she is assisted by a clever child; Tom E. Cliffe, comedian, does well; and the Palace Pictures are of the newest. This theatre now closes for the annual vacation.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, the Royal Pierrots Company.—The programme this week has been provided by Mr. Lindon Wyatt and his costume concert company. Miss Isabel Jardine is an accomplished soprano, and is very successful in her songs; Miss Flo Holroyd, coon soubrette, is heartily applauded for her several contributions; Mr. Bob. Taylor, buffo vocalist, sings with good effect; Mr. G. W. Nicholson, in his humorous songs, is vociferously encored; Mr. Glanmore Jones is again in good voice, and gives one of his popular selections; Mr. Lindon Wyatt's performance is appreciated; and Mr. Len Robinson has proved himself a talented musician.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—This week Mr. Jackson's eight Lancashire lads head the bill, and high compliments are paid to their pleasing singing and dancing; Elton and Elma, in their eccentric bar act, come in for a fair share of approbation; whilst the Clevelands, in their dancing, tumbling, and juggling acts, create great fun. Walter Ray, comedian, is well received; and Ian Colquhoun renders his baritone solos excellently. Espinosa and Neilson, terpsichorean artists, are well received; the Athlones are refined athletes; whilst Charles A. East and company convulse the audience with laughter in their funny sketch *£1000 for a Baby*.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*Dishonoured* has been presented for the first time here by the company of Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr. J. Leicester Jackson. Mr. Percy Ballard plays Philip Cunningham with a manliness and intensity that call forth unbounded enthusiasm; the embodiment of Leslie Maynard by Miss Violet Craufurd has the requisite dramatic intensity and pathetic touch; as the scoundrelly Captain Peyntland Mr. Jackson Hayes plays with subtlety and power; Mr. Geoff. Broughton makes a capable Sir Wm. Cunningham, and Mr. Louis Scott effectively impersonates the faithful friend Cholmondley; Miss Jessie Merrick gives a charming portrayal of Sybil, and Miss Walton earns distinction as Lady Cunningham. There is some excellent comedy, well rendered by Miss Pollie Denville, Miss Annie Thompson, Miss Georgie Allen, and Messrs. Harold B. Ford, Val Gully, and Cecil Morand.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The Royal Animated Picture Company presents a succession of films that prove highly interesting and amusing, and songs are contributed at intervals by Mr. Steve Fitzgerald.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—An uproarious welcome awaited Little Tich on Monday night, and his songs, quips, antics, and comical patter evoked the highest merriment. A medley of tuneful songs were capitally vocalised by Fielding and Hull; and a song by Leah Arden was well received; the cross-talk and smart acrobatic feats of Johnson and Bert gave the greatest pleasure, and a humorous sketch entitled *Aunt Matilda* caused hearty laughter as played by Frank Elliston and company. Marie Kendall's effervescent style of song called forth abundant applause, as did also the dancing of Ella Retford. Stave, the Musical Kaffir, Steve McCarthy, comedian, and the American Bioscope, with new films, added their share to the general enjoyment.

NUNEATON.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENTS CO., LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter J. R. Bryan.—Kennedy's Komiks are providing an exceptionally good variety entertainment here; excellent turns are given by Miss Florrie Mears (ballad singer), Mr. Feen Pounds (actor vocalist), Miss Veronica Brady (with songs and dances), and Mr. Herbert Cullum (comedian). The Two Cedrics give some clever comic turns, and Mr. Frank Lyndon introduces an interesting musical performance. A musical comedy sketch, *The Rag-Time Queen*, is thoroughly enjoyed; and some excellent pictures are shown on the Cinematograph.

OLDHAM.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Closed for renovation.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—*The Romany's Revenge* is being presented here by Messrs. E. A'Dell and Fred Chabot's company. Miss Ethel Ashleigh plays the part of Zamet in a clever manner; Mr. C. H. Gallier is excellent as John Hope, the hero; and Mr. H. C. Robinson is a good exponent of villainy as David Renard. Miss Eva Elwes cleverly doubles the parts of Lillian Hope and Elspie; Mr. L. Eykyn scores as Archibald Heath; and Miss Lil Francis does well as Archie. Miss Fanny Wallace and Mr. David Hamilton, as Polly Pluck and Bobby Bloom, cause much merriment, and contribute some capital songs and dances.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Park's Eton Boys are well received for their excellent singing; the Four Geraldos give a neat and clever exhibition of juggling with clubs; Miss Venie Clements has proved herself to be a refined comedienne and dancer; and Inez Clough is a capable vocalist. Woodhouse and Wells, popular story-tellers, are good; and Bugler J. Carr gives a marvellous balancing turn; Miss Mabel Le Blanche is a pleasing comedienne; and the Three Missouris are smart acrobats. Mr. James Willard produced on Monday a new farcical sketch, entitled *Strange Little Stranger*, in which Little Tony, Miss Nora Layton, Johnnie Wilkinson, and Tom Taylor appeared. This capital sketch is full of fun, and it was well played.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. C. Dorrill.—Mr. Brandon Thomas is paying us his most delightful annual visit with the ever-popular *Charley's Aunt*, which was received on Monday with all the old enthusiasm by a delighted house. Mr. Brandon Thomas repeats his finished and artistic performance of Col. Chesney; Mr. W. Beaumont is well suited as the lawyer Spettigue; Mr. Stanley Cooke is as good as ever in his mirth-provoking impersonation of Lord Babberley; his two companions at college find excellent exponents in Messrs. Hastings Lynn and R. S. Mason, and Mr. Sidney Compton scores heavily as the scout Brassett; the ladies' parts could hardly be better played than they are by the Misses Lena Macnaughton, Marian Ripley, Dorothy Deacon, and Gladys Storey.

PLYMOUTH.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Mr. Percy Williams' stock company opened their season's engagement with Walter Howard's *Man and Wife*. Mr. Edward Lloyd earns high encomiums as Paul Revere; Mr. Stephen Ewart is distinctly good as the intriguing Captain D'Esparre; Messrs. Cecil Collins and Frank Harrison as Sergeant Jacques and Colonel Lateur respectively are commendable exponents of these parts. Miss Ethel Kay as Marcelle is satisfactory in the leading female part, and others contributing are the Misses Hammersley, Whitney, and Fenton.

DEVONPORT METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owners, Carltons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. S. Mitchell.—*The Union Jack* forms a great attraction in the service town. Mr. C. Phelps as John Medway is fresh as ever, notwithstanding he has played this part some hundreds of times, and Miss Grace Harlington gives excellent support as Ruth Medway; as the villain, Captain Norton, it would be difficult to better Mr. L. Aardale's representation.

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—Mr. Victor Stevens' Premier Pierrots are drawing large audiences, and well deserve the patronage bestowed. Miss Vera Neville is a smart banjoist; Miss Alice Brookes is a fascinating little dancer; Mr. George Neilson's songs caught on immensely, and Mr. Arthur Tomlin is a delightfully refreshing humorist. Mr. Victor Stevens and Mr. Will Pettitt also contribute acceptable items.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, County Hotels and Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. Field. Treasurer, Mr. N. Carlton.—Notwithstanding almost tropical heat the Palace was packed on Monday evening at both performances. Fred Karno's comedians in *Mumming Birds* kept the audience convulsed with laughter. The Davis and Gledhill Trio have a most remarkable turn, and by the assistance of some cleverly-contrived mechanical appliances are enabled to furnish a most exciting bicycle race on the stage; Mons. Slippere, the blind pianist, introduces a touch of pathos into the entertainment, and richly deserved his encore; Winnie Derson is a vivacious comedienne, and Hans and Lux, argumentative college chums, have some very original gag. Others contributing to an exceedingly well balanced programme were the Bros. Brooks and Harry Anderson, comedians, and Vernon's animated pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—That bright and amusing comedy, *On the Love Path*, is being presented here this week by Miss Emma and Mr. Percy Hutchison's company. The impressionable Arthur Frederick Adolphus Taunton is played by Mr. Percy Hutchison with good judgment and untiring energy; Mr. George Mudie as the matrimonial diplomatist, John Gripleigh, handles this part in a thoroughly capable manner; Peter Concannon is amusingly depicted by Mr. Frank Hill; Denbigh Thraile and Gerald Marvel are admirably sustained by Messrs. Townsend, Whitling, and Mr. Greet. Miss Lilias Earle in the rôle of Charity Concannon is delightfully bewitching; Mary and Nora Concannon are satisfactorily played by Miss Margaret Marshall and Miss Hilda Honiss respectively. The curtain-raiser each evening is the one-act farce *His Landlady*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—The highly sensational piece *The Trail of the Serpent* is being played here this week by Mr. E. Oswald Brooks's No. 1 Co. Mr. Wilford Cheetham as Ralph Hammond plays vigorously and well; the hero, Gerald Kingston, is portrayed in manly fashion by Mr. A. Campbell-Kelly; Miss Marjorie May is a sympathetic and capable Ethel Maynard, the much-persecuted heroine.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The leading attraction here this week is Phil Ray, the popular comedian, who with his quaint songs delights the audience; Rosie Coleman, a pleasing soubrette and sand dancer, is most acceptable; the Smythsons, with the amusing sketch, *A Tea-House Flirtation*, are well received; Edie Sylvesto is exceedingly supple and graceful in contortionistic evolutions; Harry Conlin, a versatile comedian, has a fund of amusing patter; the Lannons are duettists, and for their pedestal dancing received well deserved applause; Jessie Albini, a smart comedienne, is much liked; Charles Clifford as a vocalist and solo harpist is clever; Lee and Kingston in the interlude *Practical Joking*, and Payne's Biophotoscope complete the bill.

PRESTON.—PRINCES THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton's company is presenting this week the well-known play, *A Gambler's Daughter*. Miss Hill in the dual rôle of Mildred Grant and Miriam Grant wins the complete sympathy of the house; Desmond O'Dare, a rollicking Irishman, is ably portrayed by Mr. Robert Ayrton; Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe ably sustains the difficult part of Stephen Brand; Mr. Alfred Sanders acquits himself well in the part of Solomon Solomons; Mr. H. Barham as Dick, the Weasel, is accorded hearty applause; Mr. Vincent Carlyle displays great dramatic ability as Ralph Gillman; Mr. Victor Millard merits praise for his conception of Jack Grant; Mr. Harriet Loydall keeps the house convulsed with laughter in the part of Auntie Zeb. Others who ably sustain their respective characters are Miss Lizzie Gordan as Carman Sancho, and Mr. George Vinning as Tom.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. W. B. Broadhead.—An exceedingly good programme is presented here this week. The Hohamed Ben Mohamed troupe of eight Arabs give a very fine tumbling display; a most artistic and pleasing show is Mlle. Lumiere's "Fairy Grotto"; Henderson, the blind musician, delights the audience with his brilliant instrumental playing; Mr. Harry Marlow and Miss May Manton appear in an amusing sketch, entitled *Other People's Babies*; Miss Evelyn Taylor gains a cordial reception with her catchy chorus songs; a bright and clever song scena, entitled *The Shoeblack's Dream*, is presented by Messrs. Fuller Graham and Co.; Mr. Chas. Hulbert receives deserved applause for his smart ventriloquial entertainment; Master Joe Conway, a clever juvenile comedian, sings some good parodies on popular songs; a skilful sleight-of-hand performance is that of Paul de Lil. Some exceedingly good pictures of the destruction of San Francisco are depicted on the Bioscope.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Co-proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—Princess Leah gives an interesting opening turn. Billy Bint has scored a great success as a character comedian. The Two Dianias give a clever display as eccentric comedians and acrobats; Miss Fanny Robina delights her audience with her pleasing contributions; the Fontains give an amusing marionette entertainment; Arielello's illusion is an interesting item; Miss Florry Cooper sings in decidedly good style; the De Roys give clever and amusing conjuring specialities, and the Marvellous Howards submit an exceedingly interesting display; the Revell Troupe appear in a comical pantomime sketch *Mischief*, which causes roars of laughter.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett.—Messrs. E. H. Knight and George Denham are presenting here the successful drama *The Boom of Big Ben*. Mr. Fred Powell gives a powerful rendering of Captain Joe Galloway; other characters are well sustained by Messrs. Harry Scott, Geo. Denham, Stanley Bedwell, J. Brittain, Harry Agar Lyons, Leonard Howe as Dr. Forbes, Mr. G. Child as Inspector Denver, Mrs. G. Child as Mrs. Pennythorp, Miss Hilda Baynton, Miss Nellie Fletcher, and Miss Mildred Cottrell.

RHYL.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessees, Messrs. Adeler and Sutton; Manager, Mr. Jack Macdermott.—An attractive programme is arranged here this week. Bob Hamilton is a deservedly popular comedian, and his turn is a merry one; Elsie Steadman once more delights everyone, and with J. H. Scotland renders some charming duets; Tom Percy is a clever juvenile comedian; and A. W. Parry, solo pianist, renders valuable assistance; the Pierrots are under the management of Mr. Jack Macdermott, who has become a great favourite.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—*The Manxman* is the attraction here this week, and a really fine production of this interesting play is presented by a clever all-round company. Mr. Alfred B. Cross takes premier honours with an impassioned portrayal of Pete; Miss Minnie Watersford acts the part of Kate Cregeen to the life; Mr. David Phillips as the unbending Cæsar Cregeen plays with effect; Mr. Sydney C. Kearns scores a distinct success as Philip Christian; Mr. George Marriott, jun., deserves a word of praise as Ross Christian; and Mr. Arthur J. Moss does well as Tom the postman; Miss Nancy Mitchell submits a spirited embodiment of Nancy, and Miss Mona Spearing appears to advantage as Miss Christian.

RUNCORN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Caddick.—Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's company is here for the week. Mr. Oliver Leach heads the list with a pleasing rendering of several classical numbers; Jimmy Taylor is a clever comedian; and other contributors are Harry Lautenberg, with humorous songs; Basil Baker, a first-rate singer of bass songs; Will Gordon and Jimmy Macklin, eccentric comedians; Fred Martley, good tenor vocalist; Albert Garner, baritone; and Mr. J. Gar Kiddie, whose comicalities are the source of continuous laughter.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—The French romantic play, *The Throne of Terror*, drew a good house on Monday, when Mr. Wm. J. Miller ably sustained the principal part of Maximilian Robespierre and Miss Ethel Lanyon Maude successfully portrayed Robespierre's accomplice, Victorine D'Almonte; Captain Eugène de Lisle was well played by Mr. Roy Milton; Mr. Bert Ellis as Joujou and Miss Eva Norman as Peppietta, were seen to advantage in the comedy business. Good support was given by Mr. Frank Fuller, as Comte de Roquefort, and Miss Katherine Maude Davies, as Marguerite de Roquefort.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Some smart conjuring by Germaine gives much pleasure; Bonnie Goodwin and her piccaninnies are much applauded for their clever dancing; *An Early Morning Dip* is a very funny extravaganza by Cavern and Cave; other good turns include Ernie Myers, patter comedian; Lily Lonsdale, soprano vocalist; Fentoni, with his sand and smoke painting; Ted Saunders, popular mimic; Nash and Noal, comedians and dancers; and Violet Stockelle, chic comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—The sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*, worked by the Six Brothers Luck, is very comical; the two dainty juveniles, Cullen and Jordison, are clever duettists and dancers; the Violet Whitworth cycling girls have a novel racing machine, which gives much pleasure. There are several other acceptable turns, including the Three Seymons, in an equilibrist juggling act; Myra Love, a charming serio; Harry Nelson, character comedian; Ionia and his human target; Burns and Bentley, song and dance; and Tennis and Laune, duettists.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. P. Reymond.—A capital bill is submitted here, and comprises the Rosslyns, who provoke much amusement with their comedy-act, *The Shoeblack and Country Girl*; Dan Conway, eccentric comedian and dancer, pleases immensely; Miss Alice Dora, comedienne and dancer, is much appreciated; Miss Marie Florence, comedienne, is also deserving of praise; and the Eltons, comedy-sketch artists, complete the programme.

SHEFFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Alex. Loftus, accompanied by Mr. C. Edwards's company, opened to a good house, on Monday, in *The New Barmaid*. Mr. Charles Adeson proved very successful as Bertie White; and Mr. Alexander Loftus again provided abundant excuses for hearty mirth as the waiter, William White; Miss Violet Osmond was smart and vivacious as the lady journalist, Dora Heather; Miss Maisie Ellenger made a pretty and tuneful representative of the "New Barmaid," Ethel Joy; Mr. Leslie Austin was first-rate as Captain Lovebury; and Mr. James Grant's Col. Claymore was a diverting character impersonation. There was a well-dressed chorus and several new lyrics and interpolated skits were loudly applauded.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*Man's Enemy; or, The Downward Path*, a play with a strong moral purpose, is again being acted here to delighted and approving audiences, under the direction of Mr. John Power, who gives a strong portrayal of the temptations and trials of Dan Blake.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—Marie Loftus, graceful and charming as ever, with the same irresistible style, and the bright smile that won the proudest position possible on the variety stage years ago for "Our Mollie," is again bewitching large audiences at the Empire, in her skit, *Singers — Past and Present*, in a parody on the music-hall sketch, and, finally, in an Indian scena she demonstrated her wonderful versatility and mimetic talent. Miss Loftus was recalled again and again at the end of her long turn. A smart little sketch by Lee and Bentley was deservedly applauded; Conn and Conrad, in their daring and original act on the revolving spar, were enthusiastically received; Mr. J. A. Wilson and his soldier dog are again cordially applauded; and other welcome favourites are Starr and Leslie, comic jugglers; Miss Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress and ballad vocalist; and that old and always welcome favourite, Mr. Harry Freeman, in new and mirth-provoking comic creations; in addition, there is the Bioscope, with up-to-date films.

GRAND P

"SHE STANDS ALONE."

Drama, in Four Acts, by William Hibbert,
Produced at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith,
on Monday, June 18.

Major Terence O'Malley ....MR. LEWIS GILBERT
Baron Von Karl Werter.....MR. J. J. BARTLETT
Sir Hugh Ferguson .....MR. J. A. ROSIER
Captain Von Shelling .....MR. MURRAY YORKE
Timothy O'Dowd .....MR. WILLIE SCOTT
Zobeski .....MR. FRED HORNBY
Kowtow .....MR. E. CUTHBERT
Rudolph .....MR. R. WATSON
Doctor Heaton .....MR. FRANK WILSON
Miss Rose Ferguson .....MISS DAISY MURCH
Rebecca Moggs.....MISS BLANCHE STANLEY
Maggy Smith .....MISS AGNES PAULTON
Little Katrine Shelling .....MISS IDA THOMSON
Countess Zara .....MISS DAISY MARSHALL
Clotilde Marnoff .....MISS NETTIE WARE

Female villainy has lately been a particularly favourite theme with writers of melodrama, and in *She Stands Alone*, the latest play from the pen of Mr. William Hibbert, an author who has written two or three pieces which have met with success in the provinces and the outlying London theatres, it is again a woman, fair, fierce, and fascinating, who is largely responsible for the righteous indignation of gallery and pit. Clotilde Marnoff, alias Zenia, the traitress, is the "tool" of Baron Von Carl Werter, a German political agent. The British Ambassador at Pekin, Sir Hugh Ferguson, has in his possession some papers incriminating Germany, and Werner is determined to obtain them at any cost. Clotilde is entrusted with the task, and, disguised as an old lady, quickly gets to work. Feigning sickness, and thereby gaining admittance to the Ambassador's house, she soon discovers the all-important documents, and of course annexes them. The theft is at once discovered, but the aged Sir Hugh is rendered insensible by a blow from the crafty Werter. The recovery of the papers seems hopeless, but Major Terence O'Malley, chief of the British Secret Service, who has been hovering around disguised as a brainless "dude," promises to do his best to get them back. Clotilde and Werter are members of an Anarchist gang, and Werter, scenting danger from the "traitress," and anxious to get her out of the way, informs Zobeski, the chief, that she has betrayed them. In an impressive scene in the den of the Anarchists she is sentenced to death, and is about to be hurled down an opening that leads to the sea, when the gallant O'Malley and his volatile servant, Timothy O'Dowd, who have managed somehow to attend the meeting as members of the society, rescue her—and also the papers. In the next act we discover that O'Malley has capitulated to the charms of Clotilde, of course quite unaware as to her real identity, and proposes marriage. There is a prospect of happiness for the "traitress," and she will redeem the past; but Werter again comes on the scene, and threatens that if she does not secure the papers a terrible punishment shall be hers—captivity in the mines. Eventually she consents to Werter's cowardly plan, which is that O'Malley shall be persuaded to play cards, be accused of cheating, and in the duel which is bound to follow his adversary, Captain Von Shelling, a German spy, shall wear mail beneath his uniform, O'Malley's death being thus certain. Clotilde, however, warns him not to fight with swords, and pistols are used, neither combatant being seriously injured. Clotilde discovers that the Ambassador's daughter, Rose, has a fondness for O'Malley, and, her jealousy being aroused, she lures the girl from the cholera hospital where she has been acting as nurse by telling her her father is seriously ill. She (Rose) is forcibly taken to an apartment by a couple of soldiers, and Werter makes dishonourable proposals to her; but she is rescued by Von Shelling, whose little daughter she nursed through a dangerous illness. In the last act the "traitress" drugs O'Malley, taking the papers from inside his coat. He is, of course, blamed for his foolishness by the Ambassador, who, however, afterwards regrets his hasty words. O'Malley quickly transfers his affections to Rose, and in the end Clotilde restores the papers to O'Malley, Werter and the "traitress" both expiring from shots fired at each other.

The prominent part of Clotilde was admirably enacted by Miss Nettie Ware, who will do even better when relieved of the anxiety attendant on a first-night performance. She was especially successful in indicating the jealousy of the "traitress" when she discovers Rose's love for O'Malley, and also in the scene where she has to choose between captivity in the mines and betraying the only man she has ever loved. Miss Ware, who was charmingly costumed throughout the play, was supported by an excellent company. Miss Daisy Murch was a refined and in every way satisfactory representative of Rose, the lady's elocution being particularly praiseworthy; Miss Ida Thomson submitted a bright and intelligent portrayal of little Katrine Shelling; and an impressive impersonation of Countess Zara was given by Miss Daisy Marshall. Mr. Lewis Gilbert made a manly, sincere, and in every way commendable Major Terence O'Malley; that experienced and finished actor Mr. J. J. Bartlett submitted a convincing impersonation of the cruel and crafty Werter; Mr. Murray Yorke is entitled to commendation for his excellent enactment of Captain Von Shelling; and Mr. J. A. Rosier played Sir Hugh Ferguson quite capably. Mr. Hibbert has supplied plenty of comedy relief, some of the lines being especially funny, and is most loyally served by the interpreters of the comic rôles A particularly humorous impersonation was the Timothy O'Dowd of Mr. Willie Scott, a comedian who was untiring in his efforts to create merriment. O'Dowd during the greater part of the play appears as a Chinaman, and his numerous funny sayings and quaint bits of business compelled laughter whenever he was on the stage. He received valuable aid from Miss Blanche Stanley, who is to be warmly congratulated on her really comic portrayal of Rebecca Moggs, a damsel of uncertain age but very decided opinions; and the scene where she prepares a meal for "Wun Lung"—canned beef and bull-pup soup—simply convulsed the house. Miss Agnes Paulton was a bright and engaging representative of Maggy Smith, and also largely contributed to the merriment of the evening; and the other rôles were all adequately undertaken. The scenery deserves a word of praise. *She Stands Alone*, which is a well-written and constructed play, was favourably received by the large audience at the Lyric on Monday. The play was produced by Mr. J. M. East, and went very smoothly for a first performance. Drama still attracts at Hammersmith, especially when played by such an excellent all-round stock company as Mr. Samuel James, the enterprising managing-director, has gathered together. Mr. Fred S. Jennings is the popular acting-manager here, and his extensive experience and thorough knowledge of every branch of the theatrical business must be of valuable assistance to his chief.

THE annual benefit to the staff of H.M. Theatre, Carlisle, took place on the 14th inst., when the house was crowded in every part. *Still Waters Run Deep* was the principal piece, and Mr. Stanley Rogers (the acting-manager) as John Mildmay, Mrs. Stanley Rogers as Mrs. Mildmay, and Mr. Frank Stanley (assistant acting-manager) as Mr. Potter contributed performances which gained enthusiastic appreciation. After the performance Mrs. R. Stewart M'Kim, on behalf of the theatre staff, presented Mr. Rogers with a handsome silver spirit kettle and teapot. Mr. Rogers in reply said that almost every touring manager that visited the theatre complimented him on his courteous and obliging staff, which compared favourably with that of any provincial theatre.

"IN HOLY ORDERS."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Wyn Weaver.
Produced for the first time on any stage at the
Theatre Royal, Dover,
on Monday, June 18.

Lord Midhurst .....MR. RALPH HUTTON
Richard Finch .....MR. GEORGE MORTIMER
Lewis Finch .....MR. ERNEST NOBLE
Hardy Challis .....MR. W. HENRY HARGREAVES
Bairn .....MR. H. F. MALTBY
Guy Rolleston .....MR. A. E. WYN WEAVER
Andrew de Ville .....MR. REGINALD FAVELL
An Office Boy .....MISS NANCY YORKE
Lady Hazel .....MISS BEATRICE MARSDENE
Mrs. Baxter .....MISS MABEL MELLOR
Joan .....MISS MARA MALTBY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new drama, a pleasing compound of romance, sensationalism, and pathos, enlivened with some excellent comedy, had a most gratifying reception on its production at the above theatre on Monday. There are several really stirring and exciting scenes, and Mr. Weaver must be congratulated as the author of a cleverly-constructed and intensely interesting play.

The opening scene is at Midhurst Hall, where we learn that in his youth Lord Midhurst was responsible for the ruin of a little country girl named Joan Challis. To completely deceive her he went through a marriage ceremony, performed by one Guy Rolleston. Midhurst is not aware that Rolleston was once in Holy Orders, but had been forced to leave the Church owing to his disgraceful life. Tiring of Joan, now the mother of his two-year-old son, Midhurst tells her that she was never his wife, and the poor woman, in despair, leaves him, taking the child with her. Two years later the boy is brought back, and the baronet learns that Joan is dead. He adopts the child, who is known as Hardy Challis, and brings him up ignorant of his true identity. Richard Finch (Lord Midhurst's brother) and his son Lewis are anxious to obtain the title and estate, there being no legitimate issue, and helped by a rascally lawyer, De Ville, bribe Rolleston to aid them in the nefarious designs. Lord Midhurst has long repented of his blackguardly act, and would do anything to recall the past. Hardy, who is Lewis's successful rival for the hand of Lady Hazel, is forced into a quarrel with Finch, jun., who, in a moment of passion, reveals the fact of Hardy's illegitimacy. The boy is stunned by the shock, and refusing to forgive his father the wrong done his loving and trusting mother, leaves the house, to work his own way in the world.

The principal scene in Act II. is that in Chanstone Churchyard. Joan, who circulated the report of her death eighteen years ago, has been abroad, but the mother love within her is too strong, and she returns to try and obtain one glimpse of her boy. In this she is aided by Bairn, a faithful servant of the family. In a most pathetic scene she meets and has conversation with Hardy, but does not reveal her identity, and he has no idea that the broken-hearted woman to whom he speaks kind words is his own mother. Richard Finch, Lewis, and De Ville meet at Rolleston Hall, and learning from the latter (who overheard the conversation between Bairn and Joan) that the woman is alive, decide to render their schemes secure by killing her. They leave Rolleston, now sunk in a drunken stupor, from which he is awakened by Bairn with the news that Joan is alive. The remorse which he has long felt for his part in her betrayal comes to him again, and he determines to right the wrong, and proclaim before the world that he was still in Holy Orders when he performed the marriage, and that, consequently, it was both legal and binding. Bairn has told Hardy that his mother is alive, and they are just in time to rescue her from De Ville, who makes an attempt to murder her at the old barn in which she has taken shelter for the night. There is an undying hatred between Rolleston and De Ville, who was responsible for the latter's financial ruin, and in a fight between them De Ville is accidentally killed. Rolleston covers the body with a blanket, and assuming the lawyer's disguise, helps the Finches consign it to the river, they being under the impression that they have rid themselves of the woman who stood between them and fortune.

The last act is again at Midhurst Hall. Hardy is devoted to his mother, and Bairn is trying to reconcile father and son. Robert Finch learns from Rolleston the fact of De Ville's death, and, furious at his treachery, shoots and mortally wounds him. Midhurst enters and learns from the erstwhile parson that Joan was his legal wife. Hardy breaks the news that his mother is still alive, and the weary and remorseful old man falls at last at the feet of the woman he so cruelly wronged, and learns from her own lips of her forgiveness and love.

The drama is capitally mounted and staged, and receives an exceptionally fine interpretation at the hands of a decidedly capable company of players. One of the most striking character-studies is that of Guy Rolleston, whose natural impulses for good have been stifled by years of dissipation, but who eventually makes retribution for the greatest of his misdeeds, and pays the penalty with his life. The part is played by Mr. Weaver himself, whose artistic and finished performance it would be hard to improve upon, and which adds considerably to his reputation as a clever artist. Mr. George Mortimer as Robert Finch acts with his customary ease; unaffected, yet earnest and intense, he earns golden opinions by his powerful and virile embodiment. Mr. Ralph Hutton as Lord Midhurst is excellent. Every phase of the character is done justice to, and one cannot imagine a more effective portrayal. Mr. Henry Hargreaves chivalrous bearing as the hero, Hardy Challis, gives a touch of romance to the part, and the impersonation must be pronounced a decided triumph for the young actor. A clever rendering of De Ville is contributed by Mr. Reginald Favell; while Mr. Ernest Noble as Lewis Finch is excellent. A fine character-sketch of the old servant, commendably life-like in conception and in execution, is given by Mr. Maltby. Miss Beatrice Marsdene, by reason of her charm of person and histrionic ability, was well chosen for the rôle of the fascinating Lady Hazel. Miss Mara Maltby depicts the feelings of Joan with a power and intensity that evoke the warmest admiration of the audience. Miss Mabel Mellor as Mrs. Baxter plays with genuine humour the rôle of the matrimonially inclined widow, and succeeds in causing considerable mirth; and Miss Nancy York is funny in portraying the antics of a precocious office boy.

At the conclusion of the play an enthusiastic scene was witnessed, the curtain having to be raised again and again, while loud cries of "Author" brought forward Mr. Wyn Weaver, who thanked the audience for the more than kind reception accorded him, and paid a generous tribute of thanks to Mr. H. F. Maltby and company, who had worked so hard and so well in winning for the play the success it had achieved.

DR. OSCAR BLUMENTHAL has just completed a new three-act comedy entitled *Das Glashaus*, which has been accepted by the management of the Royal Schauspielhaus, Berlin, and will be produced early next season It has also been acquired for almost simultaneous production at the Imperial Burg Theatre at Vienna.

THE autographed vellum which was presented to Miss Ellen Terry, containing the names of those taking part in the matinée at Drury-lane on the 12th inst., has been reproduced on vellum paper, fac-simile double crown size, and can be obtained from Mr. Alfred Courtenay, Parliament Chambers, Great Smith-street, Westminster, for 1s.

MR. LEONARD SHEPHERD.

Mr. Leonard Shepherd and Miss Helena Head have just returned from the States, after an absence of nearly two years, and have many pleasurable experiences to recount. Amongst others, Mr. Shepherd tells of a compliment to his acting and make-up he recently received while playing Trivulzio in *Monna Vanna* in Washington. Some friends of his who came in as the curtain was going up and were consequently unable to get a programme, knowing he was in the cast, were looking for him, and wondering why he did not come on. However, although failing to recognise him, they singled out the part he was playing, and one turning to the other, said: "Isn't that a wonderful piece of acting?" "Yes," said the other,

MR. SHEPHERD AS TRIVULZIO,
in production of *Monna Vanna* in New York.

"wonderful; but the poor old chap will never play another season."

Mr. Shepherd, who has been stationary in New York for about a year of the time, estimates that during the twelve months he was travelling he covered about 30,000 miles.

"THE FATAL STOCKINGS."

A Trifle in One Act, by Arthur Holmes-Gore,
produced for the first time at the
Grand Theatre, Blackpool,
on Monday, June 18, 1906.

Mrs. Daisy Crawford .....MISS LILIAN ROGERS
A Stranger .....MR. A. HOLMES-GORE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The above "trifle," which is the description the author modestly gives to a very clever little play, illustrates an unsuccessful attempt at revolt on the part of Desmond Crawford's young wife, Daisy. The scene is at Monte Carlo. Forbidden to go into the streets to see the fun of the fair at carnival time, Daisy has been told by her husband she "can watch the procession from the balcony" of their rooms at the Hôtel des Ambassadeurs. This restriction galls Mrs. Crawford, who is a girl of spirit, and her husband, having gone to the club, she goes to a costumier, selects the loose trousers and gaberdine of a pierrot, and so arrayed, with a big false nose, sallies forth to see the fun. The piece opens with her return, panting and in terror—on the verge of hysterics. She relates how she has been followed through the streets by a horrid Frenchman, also in pierrot's garb, whose pressing attentions have alarmed her, and sent her scuttling home. She dashes into her dressing-room to change the treacherous pierrot's garments, and is sent back in horrified alarm on finding it already occupied by the stranger who had persecuted her all the morning. An amusing scene follows, the Frenchman, in broken English, volubly maintaining that as "all things are permit at carnival time," she should reward his devoted persistence with a "little keess." She evades him, and runs into her dressing-room, locking herself in. Whereupon the intruder proceeds to divest himself of his false nose and pierrot clothes in view of the audience, revealing himself the debonair young Englishman in smart flannels whose instructions his wife had so rashly defied. She had realised her dangerous folly when the stranger had coolly declared that he had recognised her "by ze stockings," which, he explained, he had admired when he had fitted her with American boots at his master's shop the day before. Desmond now calls to his wife in his natural voice, and Daisy tremblingly emerges, clad in a loose kimono. She essays to make a clean breast of it, trusting to win his forgiveness by her candour and undisguised penitence. He mischievously makes the task of explanation difficult, till she finally blurts out that "the impudent pursuer had recognised her by her stockings." Desmond feigns surprise and righteous horror at the suggestion implied, and the wretched Daisy, shocked at the innuendo, turns on him in majestic indignation, but is suddenly brought up by the sound of the Frenchman's voice, as Desmond quotes from their previous scene. She realises the trick that has been played on her, and in mingled relief and mortification and a flood of tears she subsides in her husband's consoling arms.

The play went exceedingly well and found great favour with the audience. The idea has been cleverly conceived by the author, and is ably demonstrated by two very clever artists. Mr. Holmes-Gore's versatility is well known, and his disguises are cleverly assumed, the audience being as completely deceived as the young wife is supposed to be. Miss Lilian Rogers as the wayward Daisy also scores a great success. She depicts her intense anxiety in the manner of a true artist, and the mock solemnity of the interview with her husband, when she describes her adventures, is highly diverting. Mr. Gore is indeed fortunate in having such a clever associate to assist him in the production of a play which, no doubt, will have the prosperous career it merits.

No less than sixty-seven MSS. were submitted to the judges in connection with a "phantasy competition," promoted by the Worshipful Company of Musicians, to bring forward a short form of the string quartette. The judges appointed were Sir Alex. Mackenzie, Mr. A. Gibson, Mr. W. W. Cobbett, and Mr. H. Sternberg, the first prize being awarded to W. Y. Hurlstone, and five other prizes to the following composers (mentioned alphabetically): Frank Bridge, James Friskin, Josef Holbrooke, Waldo Warner, and Haydon Wood. These works were to constitute the programme of a concert announced for yesterday (Friday) at Bechstein Hall.

KEEPS THE SKIN COOL AND REFRESHED during the Summer.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, winds, and hard water. Entirely removes and prevents all roughness, redness, heat, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS THE SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION, DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after walking, golfing, cycling, motoring, boating, &c. Gentlemen will find it wonderfully soothing if applied after shaving. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores. M. BEETHAM and SON, CHELTENHAM.—[ADVT.]

AMERICAN PLAYS FOR ENGLAND.

CHAT WITH MR. A. H. WOODS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

That American dramatists can be appreciated in this country has been proved over and over again. We need only refer to two fairly recent instances to point to the truth of our observation. Those instances are *Her Fatal Wedding* and *Leah Kleschna*, both of which were written by American authors, and both of which gained great favour with British audiences. It would, therefore, scarcely seem too much to expect that there are other American productions which might, if tried, be found to attain a similar plane of popularity.

At any rate, there is one gentleman at present on a visit to this country from the United States who is determined to leave no stone unturned to give the English playgoer an opportunity of sampling American dramas. That gentleman is Mr. A. H. Woods, a well-known producer and manager on the other side, who at the present moment has no less than fourteen companies running in his own country. He intends to add to that number by four new plays, which he will shortly produce in the States. In the course of conversation Mr. Woods informs us that he does not think that there is anyone who produces more plays in America than he.

"Is there any special principle on which you secure your plays?"

"Well," came the answer, "I generally give the authors the ideas and they write plays around them."

"An excellent system for the playwright, since it take so much responsibility off his shoulders. So that if a play turns out a failure, you yourself share the blame with the author?"

"Well, I've been in this business about seven years, and I've never had a failure. I guess that's a pretty considerable record. Now, with all my attractions I employ somewhere in the neighbourhood of 2,500 people. My New York offices are at the Knickerbocker Theatre Building, and I control two playhouses in New York, namely, the Thalia and Third Avenue Theatres."

"Tell me something about the condition of things theatrical in America."

"Well, we never had a more prosperous season than the season of 1905-6, and things look as if they were going to be pretty bright for some time to come. I find that the American public to-day are looking for the better class of melodrama, with heart interest and big scenic effects."

"Is there much difference between the salary paid to American actors in drama and their English compeers?"

"They tell me here that a leading man in a touring company gets three and a half pounds a week. My average actor gets £7, and some of my people receive as much as £25."

"This is your first visit to London, Mr. Woods. What do you think of us and our city?"

"I think you're just beginning to realise that you want some new buildings in London! Of course, I haven't been all over yet. I think that your Scala Theatre is the most beautiful theatre in the world.

"I've come to England for the purpose," went on Mr. Woods, in reply to a question, "of putting on the market here a number of American plays. I am prepared to sell the English rights, or to rent on a reasonable royalty to responsible managers, the following plays:—*Queen of White Slaves, King of Detectives, Gambler of the West, Secrets of the Police, Confessions of a Wife, A Race for Life, Queen of Convicts, Dangers of Working Girls, Queen of High-binders, Rachel Goldstein* (a Jewish melodrama), *Bertha, the Sewing Machine Girl, Fast Life in New York, Wedded and Parted, Lured from Home, Fallen by the Wayside, Chinatown Charlie, For Her Children's Sake, Secret Service Sam* (now being played by Mr. Charles T. Aldridge), *Ruled Off the Turf, Dealers in White Women, Tracked Around the World*, and *Lost in a Big City*. All these plays are equipped with pictorial printing.

"The first play I handled," continued Mr. Woods, "was a piece called *The Bowery After Dark*, in which I was associated with Mr. P. H. Sullivan and Mr. Sam H. Harris, the last-mentioned being now the manager for Mr. George M. Cohan. The firm at that time was known as Sullivan, Harris, and Woods. Since then I have launched out for myself, and I may tell you that I like the show business very much. If you are successful in it, there is no other department of work which can offer such big returns. Perhaps you will be interested to know that the most successful melodrama in America to-day is *Bedford's Hope*, written by Mr. Lincoln J. Carter, and produced by Messrs. Stair and Havlin. There is a sensational scene, in which an automobile races a train. I think that English people would appreciate the piece very much, and I believe that it is intended to bring it to this country before very long."

Mr. Woods is accompanied by his capable general manager, Mr. J. B. Isaacs, who has been associated with him for six years. After leaving London, they will spend some three weeks in Paris, Berlin, and Vienna, leaving for the States in June.

"THE PRINCESS OF PAIN."

An Episode written by E. Nolan O'Connor, and
produced at the New Palace Theatre, Brighton,
on Monday Evening, June 18, 1906.

Captain Dranovitch ....MR. STANLEY HARRISON
Count Michael Zodoff .....MR. R. WHYTE, JUN.
Princess Zodoff .....MISS E. NOLAN O'CONNOR

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A very cordial reception was given this new piece on its production at the New Palace Theatre, Brighton, last Monday evening. The piece is admirably written, the brief story is interesting, and the characters are ably drawn. When the curtain rises the Princess Zodoff is seen in the study of her brother-in-law, Count Michael Zodoff, where she receives a visit from Captain Dranovitch, who is several years her junior, and of whom she was enamoured before her marriage. The captain is very depressed, and appeals to the Princess as his fairy godmother to help him. He is deeply in love with a young lady named Olga, but has a rival in Count Zodoff, who holds incriminating papers written by the captain. The latter realises that if the documents were made public he would be banished to Siberia, and he implores the Princess to secure the papers from her brother-in-law, and thus enable him to fearlessly declare his love for Olga. The Princess, sympathising deeply with the captain, approaches the Count, but the wily diplomatist realises the whole situation. He, however, makes the Princess a proposition with regard to the papers, which are in a safe in the study. The Princess must take the key, and open the safe herself; but she is warned that in doing so she will receive a shot from a revolver secreted in the interior. After much hesitation, she opens the safe, obtains the papers, but receives a fatal wound. The captain, hearing the shot, enters the study, and the Princess, as she falls to the ground, hands the papers to him.

Miss E. Nolan O'Connor submitted an artistic and impressive enactment of Princess Zodoff; Mr. Stanley Harrison displayed easy and natural acting as Captain Dranovitch; and Mr. R. Whyte, jun., was admirably suited as the cool and clever diplomat, Count Michael Zodoff.

MR. ARTHUR MELVILLE'S company in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, has continued to attract large houses during the second week of their stay at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. The mounting of the piece is particularly effective, the various striking scenes being elaborately staged.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER TRAUM,"

Burlesque Tragi-Comedy, in One Act, by Rideamus,
Produced at the Lessing,
June 14, 1906.

Lulatsch .....HERR FISCHER
Carline .....FRAULEIN BUENGER
Dünnelier .....HERR BERNAUER
Königin .....FRAULEIN GERNOD
Fürst .....HERR HEPNER
Gygas .....HERR DAPPER
König von Lydien .....HERR LEHNDORFF
Ausrufer .....HERR HOFFMANN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 21.—This is one of three one-act pieces, novelties that I fear are doomed to early extinction. The author prefers to veil his real name under a *nom de plume*, and as the applause was not strong enough to bring him forth from his place of concealment our curiosity to see him was not satisfied. Of the piece itself there is little to be said. The title in its entirety runs as follows: "The dream of the Kanzleidiätar, Casimir Lulatsch, from Potschapel, near Dresden." Had the rôle of the under-clerk Lulatsch been played with less humour than it was by Herr Fischer the piece would have scarcely been listened to at all, and as it was a goodly number of hisses mingled with the applause. Lulatsch has a deep grudge against his chief in the office, who tyrannises over his subordinates. One day the clerk has to copy a piece called "Die Königin von Samakand," and this makes such an impression on him that he dreams about it at night. He is—in his dream—the King of Samakand, surrounded by every luxury. His lightest wish being law, the pseudo potentate takes it out of his former chief by a sound thrashing, and when Lulatsch awakes to the sad knowledge that he has only been dreaming there still remains a crumb of consolation in the recollection. Herr Fisher was screamingly funny in the rôle, his Saxon dialect with good-humoured exaggerations creating roars of laughter; Fräulein Gernod, too, was very good in the part of the Queen of Samakand. For such an indifferent play a great deal of scenery had to be employed, and it was skilfully staged.

THE first of the three pieces, *Mitzi-Mutzi*, is called a "psychological bluette"—whatever that may be. Despite the fact, however, it is a crude piece of work based upon several similar plays. At a jovial supper-party two young society men learn that they have the same mistress—Mitzi-Mutzi by name—who has succeeded hitherto in making each of them believe he is the only favoured one. Herr Fischer in the part of a Pole named Ingelmaier made a hit. As to the third one-act piece, it was the cause of a conflict, and for a while it was a toss-up as to whether hissers or applauders would gain the upper hand. The scene of the burlesque—which is entitled *Die Tuskaroras*—is laid in Berlin W. Two married ladies, to whom the word "fidelity" signifies nothing, have carried their flirtations to the length of inviting a couple of Indian chiefs of the Tuskarora tribe—on show here—to their house. Taihuhu and Brown Horse arrive at an unexpected moment to fetch their squaws, and the husbands are treated as enemies of war. The whole scene is very wild and confused, but there is plenty of broad fun, and had the piece been given at a different class of theatre it might have made a more favourable impression. At the Lessing it only appears to be a poor attempt to follow in the footsteps of Voltaire's *L'Ingénu*. The acting was bright as far as the artists had any chance at all, but cries of "Down with the curtain!" are not encouraging.

FRAULEIN MARIA POSPISCHIL began a season at the Berliner on Saturday with her own company. This famous actress is an old favourite here, and her welcome was very cordial. The opening performance was Adolf Wilbrandt's adaptation of Sophocles' tragedy *Electra*—a scholarly and interesting piece of work, if less popular, perhaps, than the adaptation by Herr von Hoffmannsthal. Fräulein Pospischil—who is more at home in tragedy than anything else—gave the title-rôle with great power and feeling, and she was admirably supported by Herr Stockhausen as Orestes, by Fräulein Serda as Chrysothemis, and others of the company. Goethe's *Iphigenie auf Taurus* followed, Fräulein Pospischil giving a very artistic rendering of the name-part, and being compelled to come before the curtain a great number of times.

THE Royal Opera and Schauspielhaus are closed for the holidays, reopening the middle of August. During the past season only three works were performed for the first time at the Opera House—Beethoven's *Lenore*, Stenhammer's *Fest auf Solhaug*, and Waikowsky's *Der lange Kerl*. This was the poorest season in the way of novelties that we have had for many years.

A CROWDED house was the result of the announcement that Frau Lilli Lehmann was to sing the Donna Anna to D'Andrade's *Don Giovanni* last week at the New Royal Opera. By the time the doors were open there was not a ticket to be had, and many people had to leave disappointed. It would be superfluous to add one word of praise to the impersonation of this world-renowned queen of song. Frau Lehmann's voice was fresh and beautiful as ever, and her art is incomparable: age cannot wither her, and the enthusiasm of the audience rose to the point of frenzy. Signor D'Andrade's rendering of Don Juan is well known and appreciated; it is the clever artist's best rôle, and the one in which he made his début here—also with Lilli Lehmann—some sixteen years ago. He still sings it in Italian, which is a pity, as it disturbs the ensemble, and there is really no reason for it, for D'Andrade has settled in Berlin and speaks German fluently. Fräulein Alten gave the part of Zerline adequately, but the Elvira of Fräulein Villani was lacking in temperament. Dr. Kunwald was the conductor, and fully confirmed the favourable impression of former occasions. The performance will be repeated, with the same cast, two evenings this week.

THE Morwitz summer opera season has begun at the Schiller Theatre. Meyerbeer's dramatic opera *Die Afrikanerin* was the opening performance—a somewhat over-ambitious experiment. The work is not easy either to sing or mount, and the results were on the whole unsatisfactory. In lighter works no doubt the company will prove efficient. Herr Albert Fischer, who gave the rôle of Nelusko, possesses a fine baritone voice of great power and compass, and he uses it well, but his acting is immature. Frau König sang the part of Selica and Fräulein Heinze that of Ines sympathetically; and the remainder did their best to give satisfaction. Kapellmeister Grimm conducted with judgment, orchestra and chorus responding accurately. The theatre was very full, and the audience appreciative. *Der Rattenfänger von Hamelu*—a time worn opera by Nessler—is in rehearsal.

"DIE LUSTIGE WITTWE"—the most successful operetta we have had for a number of years—has removed, with its Hamburg company, from the Berliner to the Lessing, where it shows no decrease in public favour. It is filling the bill to the exclusion of all else.

THE famous Austrian actor Adolf Sonnenthal has just been the subject of many honours on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of his first appearance in public. The Emperor conferred the Komtur Cross of the Franz Josef Order upon him, and a jubilee performance was given at the Burg. In a happy little speech Herr Sonnenthal declared it was his fiftieth birthday that was being celebrated at the Imperial theatre, for it was only since he became an actor that he began to live.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA—1850-1900.

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In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

MABEL, Olympic, Oct. 16, 1880.
MABEL LAKE, Britannia, Feb. 10, 1873.
MABEL'S LIFE, Adelphi, Nov. 2, 1872.
MABEL'S SECRET, Derby, March 1, 1870.
MABEL THE FORSAKEN, Longton, Sept. 27, 1869.
MAB'S MANGLE, Sefton, Liverpool, Aug. 27, 1883.
MACAIRE, Crystal Palace, Sept. 20, 1887.
MACBETH, Travesty, New Cross, June 3, 1889.
MACBETH MYSTIFIED, Theatre Royal, Brighton, May 3, 1869.
MACDUFF'S CROSS, St. George's Hall, Dec. 8, 1887.
MACFARLANE'S WILL, Imperial, Dec. 26, 1881.
MACHAGGIS, Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Feb. 22, 1897.
M'KENNA'S FLIRTATION, Opera House, Coventry, Aug. 1, 1892.
MA COUSINE, Garrick, July 1, 1895.
M'TAVISH, THE, Glasgow, Oct. 5, 1896.
MAD, Olympic, June 12, 1880.
MADAME, Opera Comique, Dec. 7, 1895.
MADAME ANGOT, Royalty, June 4, 1875.
MADAME BERLIOT'S BALL, Royalty, Dec. 26, 1863.
MADAME BONIVARD, Comedy, Nov. 16, 1900.
MADAME BUTTERFLY, Duke of York's, April 28, 1900.
MADAME CARTOUCHE, Opera House, Leicester, Sept. 21, 1891.
MADAME DE RAIMONT, Gaiety, May 8, 1883.
MADAME FAVART, Strand, April 12, 1879.
MADAME L'ARCHIDUC, Opéra Comique, Jan. 13, 1876.
MADAM MIDAS, Theatre Royal, Stratford, July 7, 1888.
MADAME OR MISS, Bayswater, Nov. 14, 1900.
MADAME RECOIT-ELLE? Prince of Wales's, May 24, 1886.
MADAME SANS-GENE, Gaiety, June 23, 1894.
MAD AS A HATTER, New Royalty, Dec. 7, 1863.
MADCAP, Royalty, Feb. 7, 1878.
MADCAP MADGE, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, June 22, 1895.
MADCAP MIDGE, Opéra Comique, Dec. 5. 1889.
MADCAP PRINCE, Haymarket, Aug. 3, 1874.
MADCAP VIOLET, Sadler's Wells, March 18, 1882.
MADEIRA; OR, W(H)INES FROM THE WOOD, King's Cross, Oct. 25, 1875.
MADELAINE MOREL, Queen's, April 20, 1878.
MADELEINE, Vaudeville, Feb. 1, 1873.
MADELINE MARTEL, Theatre Royal, Northampton, Feb. 9, 1882.
MADEMOISELLE DE LIRA, Comedy, Jan. 7, 1890.
MADEMOISELLE DELPHINE, Camberwell, June 11, 1900.
MADGE, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, March 24, 1888.
MADGE WILDFIRE, Standard, Oct. 18, 1868.
MADMAN, THE, Theatre Royal, Gloucester, May 6, 1881.
MAD MARRIAGE, Theatre Royal, Northampton, Jan. 16, 1884.
MAD MATCH, Great Malvern, Oct. 28, 1887.
MAD MEG, Theatre Royal, Workington, Nov. 9, 1885.
MAD MOTHER AND HER LOST SON, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, April 21, 1884.
MAD; OR, BACK TO LIFE, Theatre Royal, Castleford, Jan. 2, 1893.
MAD PAINTER, Alhambra, Oct. 6, 1879.
MAD PASSION, Theatre Royal, Castleford, Jan. 23, 1888.
MAD REVENGE, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Feb. 2, 1880.
MAD RUTH OF WILTON, Pavilion, Salisbury, Jan. 29, 1872.
MAD WOMAN THROUGH LOVE, Manchester, Aug. 10, 1885.
MAELSTROM, THE, Shaftesbury, April 9, 1892.
MAEVE, Dublin, Feb. 19, 1900.
MAFEKING NIGHT, Balham, Oct. 15, 1900.
MAGDA, Daly's, June 10, 1895.
MAGGIE LORME, Olympic, Feb. 3, 1873.
MAGGIE'S SITUATION, Court, Jan. 27, 1875.
MAGIC CUP, Morley, Oct. 21, 1895.
MAGIC FIFE, Gaiety, Jan. 25, 1873.
MAGIC FLUTE, Lyceum, Dec. 12, 1899.
MAGIC FOUNTAIN, St. George's Hall, Feb. 1, 1894.
MAGIC GLASS, Brighton, Nov. 8, 1887.
MAGICIAN'S DAUGHTER, Theatre Royal, Bradford, Dec. 16, 1889.
MAGIC LOVE PHILTRE, Upper Clapton, Nov. 20, 1896.
MAGIC MOONSTONE, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1899.
MAGIC MULE, Britannia, Dec. 26, 1878.
MAGIC OPAL, Lyric, Jan. 9, 1893.
MAGIC PEARL, Alexandra, Sept. 29, 1873.
MAGIC RING, Grand, Oct. 11, 1886.
MAGIC WHISPER, Britannia, Nov. 14, 1870.
MAGISTRATE, Court, March 21, 1885.
MAGLOIRE THE PRESTIGIATOR, Adelphi, April 1, 1861.
MAGNA CHARTA, Lancaster, Jan. 12, 1888.
MAGNET, THE, Bayswater, April 27, 1893.
MAGPIE AND THIMBLE, Globe, March 17, 1877.
MAID AND THE MAGPIE, Strand, Oct. 11, 1858.
MAHATMA, Lichfield, Feb. 15, 1894.
MAIDENLY MANŒUVRES, Hackney, Nov. 14, 1900.
MAIDEN WIFE, Empire, Aug. 21, 1886.
MAID MARIAN, Camden Town, Sept. 20, 1890.
MAID OF ARTEMIS, Kingston-on-Thames, July 13, 1895.
MAID OF ATHENS, Opera Comique, June 3, 1897.
MAID OF BIGGAR, Theatre Royal, Barrow, Sept. 9, 1872.
MAID OF CEFN YAFA, Aberdare, April 21, 1870.
MAID OF CROXDALE, Spennymoor, Jan. 8, 1877.
MAID OF GLENDALOUGH, Prince of Wales's, June 13, 1899.
MAID OF HONOUR, Strand, May 16, 1864.
MAIDS OF HONOUR, Mirror, April 24, 1875.
MAID OF ST. AUBYNS, Jersey, March 15, 1870.
MAID OF THE MILL, Folkestone, Jan. 5, 1897.
MAID OF YESTERDAY, Queen's Gate Hall, May 11, 1896.
MAIN CHANCE, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Dec. 16, 1873.
MAIN HOPE, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, Aug. 31, 1885.
MAINTOP WATCH, Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, Sept. 14, 1868.
MAJOR, THE, Prince of Wales's, Wolverhampton, Oct. 20, 1882.
MAJOR AND MINER, Olympic, Aug. 6, 1881.
MAJOR BAGGS, Theatre Royal, Barrow, Sept. 2, 1878.
MAJOR HOPE, Vaudeville, Feb. 11, 1892.
MAJOR MARIE ANNE, Britannia, May 17, 1880.
MAJOR PROPOSES, Theatre Royal, Rotherham, March 16, 1884.
MAJOR RAYMOND, Terry's, June 25, 1896.
MAJOR'S DILEMMA, Theatre Royal, Jersey, Sept. 26, 1894.
MAKE BELIEFS, Royalty, May 27, 1892.
MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME, Mirror, April 24, 1875.
MAKING IT PLEASANT, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Aug. 22, 1887.
MALALA, Gaiety, April 8, 1871.
MA MIE ROSETTE, Globe, Nov. 17, 1892.
MAMMA, Gaiety, Dublin, May 8, 1876.
MAMMA'S OPINIONS, St. George's Hall, Jan. 31, 1893.
MAMMON, Strand, April 7, 1877.
MAMON, Standard, Sept. 21, 1896.
MAM'ZELLE NITOUCHE, Gaiety, June 13, 1884.
MAM'ZELLE; OR, THE LITTLE MILLINER, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, Oct. 22, 1894.
MAN, Theatre Royal, Gloucester, Jan. 5, 1874.
MAN ABOUT TOWN, A, Avenue Theatre, Jan. 2, 1897.
MANAGER, THE, Court, Feb. 15, 1882.
MANAGER IN LOVE, Haymarket, Feb. 3, 1873.
MANAGING DIRECTOR, THE, Victoria, March 16, 1863.
MAN ABOUT TOWN, Avenue, Jan. 2, 1897.
MAN AND HIS MAKERS, Lyceum, Oct. 7, 1899.
MAN AND HIS MASTER, Opera House, Ashton, July 16, 1883.
MAN AND THE SPIRIT, Britannia, Feb. 28, 1881.
MAN AND THE WOMAN, Criterion, Dec. 19, 1889.
MAN AND WIFE, Theatre Royal, Belfast, Sept. 2, 1870.
MAN AND WOMAN, Opéra Comique, March 25, 1893.
MANCHESTER BY DAY AND NIGHT, Manchester, Sept. 17, 1900.
MANDARIN'S DAUGHTER, Strand, Dec. 26, 1851.
MANHOOD, Theatre Royal, St. Helens, March 27, 1876.
MAN HUNTER, Newport, May 11, 1891.
MANY HAPPY RETURNS, St. George's Hall, March 28, 1881.
MAN IN A THOUSAND, Theatre Royal, N. Shields, Aug. 11, 1890.
MAN IN BLACK, Vaudeville, Sept. 3, 1897.
MAN IN LOVE, Wimbledon, Nov. 1, 1895.
MAN IN POSSESSION, Gaiety, Dec. 4, 1876.
MAN IN THE CLOAK, Victoria, Feb. 7, 1870.
MAN IN THE HOUSE, Theatre Royal Huddersfield, Aug. 14, 1884.
MAN IN THE IRON MASK, Marylebone, Feb. 5, 1855.
MAN IN THE MOON, Princess's, April 10, 1871.
MAN IN THE STREET, Avenue, May 14, 1894.
MAN IN THE ULSTER, Britannia, Nov. 16, 1874.
MAN IS NOT PERFECT, Adelphi, Oct. 14, 1867.
MANKIND, Surrey, May 22, 1893.
MANKIND; OR, BEGGAR YOUR NEIGHBOUR, Surrey, Oct. 3, 1881.
MANŒUVRES OF JANE, Haymarket, Oct. 29, 1898.
MAN O' AIRLIE, Princess's, July 20, 1867.
MAN OF BUSINESS, St. George's Hall, March 26, 1887.
MAN OF DESTINY, Croydon, July 1, 1897.
MAN OF FORTY, King's Cross, June 29, 1880.
MAN OF IRON, Theatre Royal, Great Grimsby, June 15, 1885.
MAN OF LAW, Haymarket, Dec. 9, 1851.
MAN OF MANY FRIENDS, Haymarket, Sept. 1, 1855.
MAN OF NO PRINCIPLE, Theatre Royal, Hyde, March 4, 1895.
MAN OF QUALITY, Gaiety, May 7, 1870.
MAN OF THE PEOPLE, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, March 17, 1879.
MAN OF THE WORLD, Treharris, March 7, 1894.
MAN OF TWO LIVES, Drury Lane, March 29, 1869.
MANOLA, Strand, Feb. 11, 1882.
MANOLA; OR, THE GITANA'S LOVE, R.M., Plymouth, Oct. 21, 1872.
MANON, Court, Liverpool, Jan. 17, 1885.
MANON LESCANT, Covent Garden, May 14, 1894.
MAN OR MONEY, Surrey, May 7, 1860.
MAN; OR, GOLDEN FETTERS, Amphitheatre, Leeds, Nov. 10, 1873.
MAN-O-WAR'S MAN, Mexborough, Aug. 10, 1894.
MAN PROPOSES, Duke's, March 18, 1878.
MAN'S ENEMY, Blackburn, Jan. 14, 1897.
MAN'S LOVE, Prince of Wales's, June 25, 1889.
MAN'S MERCY, Theatre Royal, Darlington, May 5, 1874.
MAN'S SHADOW, Haymarket, Sept. 12, 1889.
MAN SUCHT EINEN ERZIEHER, Opera Comique, Oct. 24, 1894.
MAN'S TALISMAN—GOLD, Britannia, Dec. 17, 1877.
MANTEAUX NOIRS, Avenue, June 3, 1882.
MAN THAT HESITATES, St. George's Hall, Feb. 28, 1888.
MAN TO MAN, Queen's, Manchester, March 24, 1884.
MAN WHO FOLLOWS THE LADIES, Strand, July 19, 1856.
MAN WITH A PAST, Strand, Sept. 9, 1895.
MAN WITH THREE WIVES, Criterion, Jan. 23, 1886.
MAN WHO WASN'T, Bayswater, Feb. 22, 1895.
MANXMAN, Leeds, Aug. 22, 1894.
MARAH, Prince of Wales's, May 30, 1889.
MARBLE ARCH, Prince of Wales's, Feb. 2, 1882.
MARBLE HEART, Adelphi, May 22, 1854.
MARBLE MAIDEN, Royalty, July 24, 1873.
MARCH HARE HUNT, Lyceum, Aug. 29, 1877.
MARCH ON MAGDALA, Queen's, Dublin, Feb. 21, 1870.
MARCH WINDS AND APRIL SHOWERS, Marylebone, May 21, 1860.
MARCO SPADA, Princess's, March 28, 1853.
MARDEN GRANGE, Queen's, Dec. 4, 1869.
MARDO, Queen's, Manchester, July 7, 1883.
MARE'S NEST, Vaudeville, Nov. 17, 1887.
MARGARET BYNG, Criterion, Dec. 8, 1891.
MARGATE, Terry's, Feb. 5, 1895.
MARGATE SANDS, Strand, Jan. 10, 1864.
MARGERY DAW, Adelphi, Dec. 17, 1861.
MARGERY'S LOVERS, Court, Feb. 18, 1884.
MARGOT, Britannia, March 29, 1875.
MARGUERITE, Alexandra, May 31, 1873.
MARIA DI GAND, St. George's, July 18, 1877.
MARIAGE BLANC, Royalty, June 15, 1891.
MARIAN, Southminster, Edinburgh, June 6, 1870.
MARIANA, Court, Feb. 22, 1897.
MARIAN AND THE KNIGHT TEMPLAR, Greenwich, Nov. 25, 1871.
MARIE, Opéra Comique, Aug. 26, 1871.
MARIE ANTOINETTE, Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, Oct. 6, 1868.
MARIE DE COURCELLES, Olympic, Nov. 9, 1878.
MARIE JEANNE, New Theatre Royal, Bristol, March 10, 1879.
MARIETTE'S WEDDING, Adelphi, Sept. 30, 1882.
MARIGOLD, Olympic, Oct. 29, 1879.
MARIGOLD FARM, Opera Comique, Feb. 7, 1893.
MARINA, Gaiety, Aug. 4, 1888.
MARINER'S COMPASS, Astley's, March 4, 1865.
MARINERS OF ENGLAND, Nottingham, March 1, 1897.
MARION, Royalty, Dec. 6, 1899.
MARION DE LORME, Princess's, June 28, 1887.
MARIONETTES, THE, Haymarket, June 16, 1879.
MARISHKA, Theatre Royal, Great Grimsby, Aug. 4, 1890.
MARJORIE, Prince of Wales's, July 18, 1889.
MARJORIE'S COUSIN, Westminster, May 10, 1886.
MARJORY GITZEAN, Elgin, Nov. 16, 1888.
MARKED FOR LIFE, Walthamstow, Oct. 29, 1900.
MARKED MAN, Theatre Royal, Colchester, Jan. 2, 1893.
MARK OF CAIN, Prince of Wales's, Greenwich, July 25, 1887.
MARLBOROUGH, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Oct. 21, 1872.
MARLEYVALE, Eastbourne, May 31, 1886.
MARMADUKE SNOOKS, Opera House, Leicester, Feb. 10, 1879.
MARMION, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, April 8, 1891.
MARQUESA, Opéra Comique, July 11, 1889.
MARRIAGE, Court, June 7, 1892.
MARRIAGE A LA MODE, Queen's Hall, Nov. 29, 1895.
MARRIAGE A LOTTERY, Strand, May 20, 1858.
MARRIAGE AT ANY PRICE, Strand, July 28, 1862.
MARRIAGE BELLS, Vaudeville, Nov. 28, 1881.
MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE, Britannia, June 10, 1867.
MARRIAGE KNOT, Ramsgate, June 8, 1894.
MARRIAGE, NOT DIVORCE, Britannia, May 2, 1870.
MARRIAGE LINES, Court, March 17, 1873.
MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE, Haymarket, June 5, 1897.
MARRIAGE OF FIGARO, Adelphi, March 28, 1878.
MARRIAGE OF GEORGETTE, Covent Garden, Nov. 26, 1860.
MARRIED, Royalty, Nov. 29, 1873.
MARRIED ANOTHER, Opéra Comique, Sept. 1, 1877.
MARRIED BENEATH HIM, Workington, Oct. 12, 1900.
MARRIED BY PROXY, Theatre Royal, Greenock, Jan. 19, 1894.
MARRIED FOR MONEY, Drury Lane, Oct. 10, 1856.
MARRIED FROM SCHOOL, Queen's, Manchester, March 10, 1876.
MARRIED IN HASTE, Haymarket, Oct. 2, 1875.
MARRIED, NOT MATED, Theatre Royal, Brighton, Aug. 31, 1877.
MARRIED TO-MORROW, Opera House, Chatham, March 28, 1898.
MARRIED UNMARRIED, Princess's, March 25, 1854.
MARRY YOURSELVES, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, March 4, 1873.
MARSAC OF GASCONY, Birmingham, Nov. 11, 1899.
MARTHA, Gaiety, April 14, 1873.
MARTHA'S DOUBLE, Bayswater, July 24, 1896.
MARTIN CHUZZLEWIT, Olympic, March 2, 1868.
MARTIN GUERRE, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Sept. 13, 1873.
MARTYR, Vaudeville, Nov. 3, 1892.
MARTYR OF ANTIOCH, Edinburgh, Feb. 25, 1898.
MARTYR OF FREEDOM, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, Aug. 28, 1882.
MARVELS OF ELECTRICITY, Holborn, Dec. 28, 1868.
MARY, Avenue, Feb. 16, 1897.
MARY BARTON, Victoria, Feb. 17, 1851.
MARY GRAHAM, Grecian, Dec. 8, 1862.
MARY JONES, Queen's, March 30, 1868.
MARY PENNINGTON, SPINSTER, St. James's, April 24, 1896.
MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS, Princess's, Feb. 23, 1874.
MARY'S DEVOTION, Surrey, April 29, 1898.
MARY'S HOLIDAY, Surrey, Sept. 29, 1879.
MARY'S SECRET, Criterion, May 15, 1876.
MARY STUART, Court, Oct. 9, 1880.
MARY, THE CHILD OF MISFORTUNE, Strand, Oct. 17, 1893.
MARY TURNER, New Holborn, Oct. 25, 1867.
MARY WARNER, Haymarket, June 21, 1869.
MASANIELLO, Olympic, July 2, 1857.
MASCOTTE, Comedy, Oct. 15, 1881.
MASKED, Britannia, April 18, 1870.
MASKED BALL, Criterion, Jan. 6, 1900.
MASKED MAN, Effingham, July 23, 1866.
MASK OF DEATH, Burslem, July 19, 1897.
MASK OF GUILT, Surrey, June 21, 1894.
MASK OF LOVE, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, May 23, 1877.
MASKS AND FACES, Haymarket, Nov. , 1852.
MA'S MISTAKE, Dublin, Aug. 26, 1895.
MA'S OLD BEAU, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Oct. 16, 1888.
MASQUERADERS, St. James's, April 28, 1894.
MASSACRE OF ABERGAVENNY, Llandudno, Sept. 18, 1897.
MASSARONI, Dublin, Jan. 23, 1894.
MASSE-EN-YELL-OH, Comedy, March 23, 1886.
MASTER, THE, Globe, April 23, 1898.
MASTER AND MAN, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, March 18, 1889.
MASTER BUILDER, Trafalgar Square, Feb. 20, 1893.
MASTER CHRISTIAN, Grand, Leeds, Aug. 18, 1900.
MASTER JONES' BIRTHDAY, Princess's, Aug. 24, 1868.
MASTER OF HOPE, Stalybridge, Dec. 3, 1898.
MASTER OF RAVENSWOOD, Lyceum, Dec. 23, 1865.
MASTER OF THE CHAIN, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Feb. 21, 1900.
MASTER OF THE SITUATION, St. Leonards, July 24, 1899.
MASTER PASSION, Olympic, Sept. 1, 1852.
MASTERPIECE, Royalty, April 15, 1893.
MASTER'S LODGE NIGHT, Surrey, Feb. 24, 1872.
MASTER TOMMY'S SCHOOL, St. George's Hall, Dec. 22, 1883.
MASTER TOMMY'S THEATRICALS, St. George's Hall, Dec. 26, 1881.
MATAMOROS, Ealing, Dec. 18, 1889.
MATCHES, Comedy, Jan. 17, 1899.
MATCHMAKER, Gaiety, Oct. 11, 1871.
MATE, Ladbroke Hall, Jan. 31, 1895.
MATED, Criterion, June 28, 1879.
MATERNAL INSTINCT, Duke of York's, June 9, 1898.
MATES, Theatre Royal, Burnley, June 20, 1881.
MATRIMONIAL, Novelty, June 9, 1891.
MATRIMONIAL ADVERTISEMENT, Camberwell, Oct. 28, 1895.
MATRIMONIAL AGENCY, Bayswater, Nov. 15, 1888.
MATRIMONIAL NOOSE, Prince's, May 1, 1885.
MATRIMONIAL PROSPECTUSES, Strand, March 4, 1852.
MATRIMONY, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, May 14, 1883.
MAUDE MULLER, Alexandra, Walsall, Nov. 1, 1883.
MAUD'S PERIL, Adelphi, Oct. 23, 1867.
MAUREEN NA LAVEEN, Theatre Royal, Greenock, Feb. 7, 1873.
MAY AND DECEMBER, Prince of Wales's, 1865.
MAYFAIR, St. James's, Oct. 31, 1885.
MAYFAIR AND RAGFAIR, Globe, Aug. 31, 1878.
MAYFLOWER, THE, Opéra Comique, Jan. 9, 1892.
MAY MEETINGS, Reading, Oct. 6, 1894.
MAY MORNING, Bayswater, Dec. 3, 1895.
MAY MYRTLE, Theatre Royal, Dundee, April 26, 1875.
MAY; OR, DOLLY'S DELUSION, Strand, April 4, 1874.
MAYOR OF MONTILLADO, St. George's Hall, May 9, 1900.
MAYPOLE, THE, Theatre Royal, Limerick, Oct. 6, 1887.
MAY QUEEN, Theatre Royal, Leicester, March 2, 1874.
MAZEPPA, Olympic, Dec. 27, 1858.
MAZOURKA, Burlesque, Strand, April 27, 1864.
M.D., Garrick, June 9, 1879.
M.D.; OR, SWEETS AND BITTERS, Theatre Royal, Liverpool, March 7, 1874.
MDLLE. CLEOPATRA, Avenue, March 2, 1891.
MDLLE. DE LA SEIGLIERE, Drury Lane, June 24, 1893.
MEADOW SWEET, Vaudeville, March 5, 1890.
MEAN ADVANTAGE, Theatre Royal, Newcastle, June 29, 1888.
MECHANIC, THE, Ladbroke Hall, Sept. 28, 1889.
MECHANICAL PARTNER, Gaiety, Dublin, May 10, 1873.
MECHANICAL TOY, Britannia, March 21, 1870.
MECHANIC'S WIFE, Rotunda, Liverpool, Aug. 13, 1883.
MEDAL OF DEATH, Effingham, Nov. 19, 1866.
MEDDLE AND MUDDLE, Royalty, Glasgow, June 3, 1887.
MEDEA, Her Majesty's, June 6, 1865.
MEDEA, Burlesque, Adelphi, July 10, 1856.
MEDEA IN CORINTH, Lyceum, July 8, 1872.
MEDICAL MAN, St. George's Theatre, Oct. 24, 1872.
MEDICAL STUDENT, Strand, July 4, 1893.
MEDICINE MAN, Lyceum, May 4, 1898.
MEDICO, THE, Ladbroke Hall, May 7, 1894.
MEDIUM, THE, Acton Green, Oct. 12, 1899.
MEDUSA, St. James's, March , 1882.
MEFISTOFELE, Her Majesty's, July 6, 1880.
MEFISTOFELE II., Alhambra, Dec. 20, 1880.
MEG MERRILIES, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Nov. 10, 1873.
MEG'S DIVERSION, Royalty, Oct. 17, 1866.
MEHALAH, Gaiety, June 11, 1886.
MEIN LEOFOLD, Opéra Comique, Oct. 13, 1894.
MEISTERSINGERS, Theatre Royal, Manchester, April 16, 1896.
MELITA, Novelty, Dec. 9, 1882.
MELTING MOMENTS, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Feb. 18, 1884.
MELODRAMA, THE, Lyceum, May 2, 1899.
MELODROMANIA, St. George's Hall, Dec. 20, 1894.
MELUSINE, Holborn Amphitheatre, Oct. 7, 1874.
MEM 7, Royalty, Oct. 20, 1879.
MEMBER FOR SLOCUM, Royalty, May 4, 1881.
MEMORIES, Court, Oct. 12, 1878.
MEN AND WOMEN, Surrey, July 17, 1882.
MENASSAH BEN ISRAEL, Opera House, Liverpool, Aug. 10, 1885.
MEN OF METAL, Theatre Royal, Barnsley, Oct. 3, 1890.
MEPHISTO, Royalty, June 14, 1886.
MERCEDES, Grand, March 24, 1896.
MERCHANT OF PAISLEY, Theatre Royal, Paisley, Nov. 17, 1870.
MERCHANT'S VENTURE, Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Feb. 3, 1868.
MERCILESS WORLD, Hammersmith, Oct. 12, 1896.
MERCY, Theatre Royal, Norwich, Nov. 17, 1879.
MERE CHILD, Haymarket, Dec. 26, 1866.
MERELY ACTING, St. James's Hall, June 28, 1898.
MERE QUESTION OF TIME, Kilburn, July 14, 1897.
MERMAID, Ladbroke Hall, Feb. 15, 1887.
MERMAIDS, THE, Avenue, Oct. 2, 1897.
MEROFLEDE, Theatre Royal, Preston, Dec. 31, 1892.
MERRIE FAMILIE, Brentford, March 3, 1886.
MERRIE PRINCE HAL, Sadler's Wells, Aug. 31, 1891.
MERRIFIELD'S GHOST, Vaudeville, Nov. 13, 1895.
MERRY BLACKSMITH, Vaudeville, Sept. 25, 1893.
MERRY CHRISTMAS, Strand, Feb. 1, 1897.
MERRY DUCHESS, Royalty, April 23, 1883.
MERRY-GO-ROUND, Gaiety, Jan. 13, 1898.
MERRY MADCAP, Ealing, Aug. 3, 1896.
MERRY MARGATE, Comedy, March 27, 1889.
MERRY MEETING, Opéra Comique, Feb. 26, 1887.
MERRY MIGNON, Court, Liverpool, April 26, 1882.
MERRY MONK, Matinée, July 15, 1897.
MERRY MR. MERLIN, Elephant and Castle, Feb. 11, 1895.
MERRY PIPER OF NUREMBURG, Savoy, June 8, 1893.
MERRY SELL, Woolwich, May 21, 1888.
MERRY WAR, Alhambra, Oct. 16, 1882.
MERRY WIDOW, St. James's, Jan. 31, 1863.
MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR, Opera House, Aberdeen, Oct. 10, 1877.
MERRY ZINGARA, Royalty, March 21, 1868.
MESMERIC MYSTERY, Victoria, Aug. 17, 1867.
MESMERISM, Opéra Comique, May 22, 1890.
MESMERIST, Grecian, Oct. 4, 1879.
MESSAGE FROM MARS, Avenue, Nov. 22, 1899.
MESSAGE FROM THE SEA, Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, Aug. 30, 1869.
MESSALINE, Covent Garden, July 13, 1899.
MESSENGER BOY, Gaiety, Feb. 3, 1900.
MEXICAN BILL, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Aug. 29, 1887.
MIAMI, Princess's, Oct. 16, 1893.
MICHAEL AND HIS LOST ANGEL, Lyceum, Jan. 15, 1896.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Sir Augustus Harris, Henry Hamilton, and Cecil Raleigh, entitled
"CHEER BOYS, CHEER."

The banner of an intrepid invader from the North was raised in South London on Monday, when Mr Eade Montefiore, one of the most successful entrepreneurs of Scotland and of many provincial towns, began his summer season of Drury Lane drama at the handsome Kennington Theatre. The success of his enterprise was foreshadowed in a large audience, which filled every part of the theatre, and in the cheers and recalls which awaited each curtain. There are many stirring moments in *Cheer, Boys, Cheer*, the drama constructed on the famous melody of the late Henry Russell by the trio of Drury Lane dramatists named above; and none of the excitement was permitted to lapse at the hands of the capable and experienced players whom Mr. Montefiore has enlisted in his company. A pleasing feature of the production is the presence in the cast of Miss V. St. Lawrence, an actress who has attained much popularity by reason of her meritorious work in the metropolis both as actress and manageress. She is seen in a favourite character in that of Lady Hilyard, the gracious and whole-souled society lady, whose kind-heartedness is so agreeable a feature of the play Her handsome and stately presence gives added significance to the rôle, and her passionate outburst at the end of Act II., when she showers her scorn and contempt upon the littleness of social conventions, created such an impression on Monday that the curtain had repeatedly to be raised. Miss Hilda Stewart plays with quiet emotional fervour as the persecuted Blanche Lindesay, and secures the utmost sympathy throughout. A well-studied portrayal of the Marquis of Chepstowe is given by Mr. Arthur Royston, an actor of wide experience, who surmounts the difficulties of the part with ease, his acting in the scene of the massacre of the British by a horde of Matabele being particularly natural and effective. Lord Archibald has a bright representative in Mr. Templer Powell, whose manly bearing and elocutionary skill combine to secure perfection. Mr. Cyril Austin-Lee, who not long since was giving evidence of his comedy powers in the leading part in *A Message From Mars*, well suggests the chivalry and manliness of George Hilyard, and adds by many dramatic touches to the effect of the character. Mr. Harry H. Rignold, who appears as Wolf Meikstein, takes up a class of character that has long been associated with his name, and the many sly touches of humour with which he embellishes his portrayal of the designing Jew give rise to general mirth. The vivacious Kitty Parker is played with assurance and a lively sense of humour by Miss Lena Delphine, who creates abundant hilarity. Similar agreeable methods are pursued by Mr. Augustin Symonds, who makes a droll character of the socialistic but amorous Oliver C. Brown; and a quaint impersonation of the wily Cyrus Trueman is given by Mr. James R. La Fane, who also makes a successful appeal to the risible faculties. Mr. Riddell Robinson is the embodiment of callous roguery as Reginald Fitzdavis, giving colour to the nefarious schemes of the villain by cleverly-varied emphasis. The spite and malevolence of Lady Kesteven are vividly expressed by Miss Octavia Noel, who assumes a metallic utterance and repellent demeanour that well befit the part. Mr. John Richter gives a sympathetic sketch of the Rev. Mr. Nugent; Mr. Alick Macmillan looks well as the youthful soldier, the writing of whose last letter supplies such a touching episode of the second act; and the host of smaller parts are ably portrayed by the rest of the company, some of whom double parts skilfully. The elaborate setting demanded by the play is fully conceded by Mr. Montefiore, who appears to have hesitated at no expense in his determination to make the production complete.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

The playgoing public never seem to weary of seeing the play adapted from Mrs. Henry Wood's famous novel, "East Lynne," and a very large audience was present when that charming actress, Miss Lilian Dundas, and company appeared in what is termed an entirely new version of the story. The present production has been produced under the direction of Mr. Henry Dundas, and it is practically the same version that he used to tour with, though undoubtedly the changes are for the best in every case. As Lady Isabel Miss Lilian Dundas repeats the fine performance which has marked her out as an emotional actress of great merit. It is a very fine piece of acting, and never fails to impress the audience and elicit full sympathy for the character. Mr. Hamilton Stewart embodies Captain Levison in an admirable manner; with a quiet voice and the bearing of a gentleman there is always the undercurrent of treachery and deceit to be observed. It is a long time since we saw the villain's part in a drama so excellently played. Mr. George Mitchell represents Archibald Carlyle with great force and earnestness; and Mr. Trueman Towers is good as the excitable Justice Hare. That clever actor, Mr. Adam Alexander, gives a dignified and impressive portrait of Lord Mountsevern; Miss Leslie Dane is charming as Barbara Hare; and Miss Cornelia Carlyle is amusingly portrayed by Miss Esther Carthew. Another humorous character is that of Lawyer Dill, as played by Mr. Arthur G. Brown. Miss Mabel May and Miss May Darling acquit themselves well as Willie and Isabel Carlyle; Miss Florence Melville is capital as the faithful Joyce; and Miss Jessie Dunbar smart as Suzanne. Richard Hare is carefully acted by Mr. James Jarrett; and Mr. Angus Alexander causes much laughter as Obadiah Stiggins. The various other characters are in suitable hands. The play is capitally mounted, and some of Miss Dundas's dresses are very handsome. Mr. Trueman Towers is the general-manager for Miss Dundas.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

A cordial greeting was extended at the Shakespeare on Monday to Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company, who presented the original Heath Barrett adaptation of Mrs. Henry Wood's famous novel "East Lynne." A large and enthusiastic audience followed the play with keen interest. Of Miss Julie Kennard's Lady Isabel it would be difficult to speak too highly, and the applause that greeted her at the fall of the curtain was thoroughly deserved. Miss Ethel Hardacre as Cornelia Carlyle acts her part with marked ability; Miss Violet Thorold as Barbara Hare gives a pleasing performance; and Miss A. Byrom as Joyce is also excellent. Miss Ethel Russell capably sustains the rôle of Lady Mountsevern; and a capital study of the French maid Suzanne is given by Miss Emily Frith. Miss Dorothy Townrow as Little Willie acts with rare feeling and pathos; and Miss Ethel Rae is a satisfactory Little Isabel. Mr. Eric Maine submits an effective impersonation of Francis Levison, and the resourcefulness of his acting is very pronounced. Mr. Alfred Beaumont as Archibald Carlyle gives a very natural representation, and acquits himself with complete credit; Mr. Campbell Goldsmid makes the most of his opportunities as Richard Hare; Mr. Spencer Goodwin is a dignified Lord Mountsevern; and Mr. Paul Belmore, who is frequently applauded, gives a meritorious picture of the irascible Justice Hare. Some welcome touches of humour are contributed by Mr. Cyril Hayward as Lawyer Dill; and Mr. C. C. Gratton as P.C. Bullock keeps the audience in continual merriment during the time he is on the stage.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 18,
the Historical Comedy,
"NELL GWYN OF DRURY LANE."

Mr. Norman V. Norman's excellent company has been the attraction here this week, and has been drawing good houses with a well-selected répertoire, consisting of *Nell Gwyn*, *The Adventure of Lady Ursula*, *David Garrick*, and *Count Hannibal*. The first-named comedy was chosen for presentation on Monday and Tuesday evenings, and was well received by an attentive and deeply-interested audience. The title-rôle was admirably filled by Miss Beatrice Wilson, who soon succeeded in making the girl of the people as great a favourite at Woolwich as her historic prototype had been at Whitehall. Miss Wilson played the part in the true vein of high comedy, and never missed one of the many chances afforded her. As Charles II. Mr. Norman V. Norman submitted a character study as original in conception as it was brilliant in execution; and, while keeping sufficiently near to the historic idea of Old Rowley, gave a convincing impersonation of the man as distinct from the King. Miss Sybil Ruskin acted prettily and unaffectedly as Betty Arundale; and Miss Hilda Gregory was well suited as the virago Lady Castlemain. Mr. Dennis W. Cleugh made a manly Ralph Cursitor, and played several love scenes with tenderness and good effect; Mr. Norman Leslie was sufficiently vindictive as Lord Dellans, and came with commendable ease through the somewhat trying soliloquies with which the character is liberally endowed; as Colonel Blood Mr. Sam Wilkinson, jun., was amusingly ferocious; Mr. Francis Hope made the most of the old servitor Adam Bareacres; Mr. Alexander Cassy was a distinguished Lord Rochester; and the minor characters were ably rendered by actors who were completely at home in regard to their lines and their costumes.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by Joseph Arthur, entitled
"THE STILL ALARM."

This drama, which has not been seen here for some years, opened for a week's engagement with a capable company, under the direction of Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. The elaborate scenery and effects continue to arouse much interest in this exciting play. Mr. Matthew Glenville himself as Jack Manley gives a sound and convincing performance; Mr. Cecil du Gue as Bird submits a vigorous portrayal of that very unpleasant gentleman; Mr. Tom Beasley is good as Tom Manley; and Mr. J. Sutton Pateman scores as Fordham. Mr. Fred Osmond gives a neat character-study as Doc Wilber, that gains flattering recognition; Miss Mabel Verilon as Mrs. Manley is excellent; Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Wilber is bright and amusing; and Miss Maud Warburton as Elinore acts with a sympathetic touch that proves effective. The Lyric Comedy Four enliven Act III. with some capital quartettes, and this, together with the horses and the realistic turn-out to a fire, make this scene the hit of the piece.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, entitled
"THE UNKNOWN."

Mr. Henry Bedford, with the members of his company, are appearing at the Dalston Theatre this week in the drama entitled *The Unknown*. Mr. Bedford sustains the part of Harold Merribright (the unknown), whose first introduction to the audience is in the guise of a seafaring man. In his subsequent appearances as a mysterious individual, whose identity is impenetrable, he acts with subtle power and intensity, which arouses widely-expressed admiration. Miss Bessie Bedford appears to great advantage in the part of Bessie Merribright, Harold's sister; Mr. J. Monkhouse brings a stentorian voice and a dramatic method to bear on the part of Jack Salt, a bo'sun; Mr. Walter H. Domoney adequately represents the villainous and cowardly Dr. Brinkton (Bessie's guardian); and Miss Violet Alwyn is the doctor's sister, Alga, who, it is satisfactory to contemplate, has very few counterparts in real life in the matter of cool, calculating wickedness; Mr. Alec Alexander is good as Lieut. Albert Stormking. Mr. Sidney Bedford as Blimey Jim, Mr. Arthur Wynne as Coster Joe, Mr. George W. Hewetson as an Irish servant, and Miss Jennie Risley as Louise, fill in the humorous element.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, June 18,
the Military Drama, in Four Acts and a Prologue, by Mr. James Willard, entitled
"A WOMAN OF PLEASURE."

Mr. Morice Prendergast's company with *A Woman of Pleasure*, is providing plenty of excitement for the habitués of this theatre during the present week. As Lord Carlingforth Mr. Jerrold Ord gives a masterly representation of a nobleman of the old school. Mr. H. T. Wood as Rev. Luke Goddard presents a fine study of the country parson, playing the part with adequate vigour. Mr. Arthur Gilroy as Major Burrows, the villain, gives a fine rendering of the part. His acting in the scene at the Boer headquarters is specially excellent, being full of life and force. Bobby Bumpwell, as played by Mr. Deane Cliffe, provides plenty of amusement of a wholesome sort; and Mr. Alec Brady as Joe Ploughman, a Devonshire yeoman, is admirable. Captain Zoratoff, of the Boer Foreign Legion, is well played by Mr. Sid Vincent; as is also the part of Michael Issett by Mr. Fred Laws. A fine portrayal of the much-tried Countess of Carlingforth is given by Miss Theodora Henries, who proves herself to be an actress of considerable power. As Mrs. Josiah Bumpwell, Miss Carlotta Blondin affords much amusement as a lady from Chicago; and little Flo Florence as Lord Arthur Selwood is an attractive youngster. Miss Dolly Gilroy as a Devonshire lass is bright and winsome; Mr. Percy Scott as Captain Fairdale is well placed; and Mr. John Freeman as a Cornet in the Boer forces, does good service. All the smaller parts are in capable hands, and the incidental music, under the direction of Mr. Stephen E. Blythe, is well rendered.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, adapted from the novel of the same name, entitled
"MONTE CRISTO."

Despite the weather, which has been all against indoor amusements, very fair audiences have assembled to witness Mr. Junius Booth and company in the old favourite, *Monte Cristo*. In the present adaptation, the leading incidents of Dumas's famous novel have been carefully preserved, and the spectators follow the adventures of the hero with the utmost interest. Mr. Junius Booth acts with great ability and reserved force as Edmond Dantes, and the disguises he assumes are effective. Mr. Booth is deservedly recalled several times at the end of each act. Miss Joan Ellis plays sympathetically and prettily as Mercedes, afterwards the Countess de Morcerf; Mr. E. Howard Templeton, who also acts as stage-manager, is well placed as the good-natured Nortier; Mr. Alfred Terriss is adequate as Baron Danglass; Mr. Laurence Grove makes a capital representative of the Count de Morcerf; Mr. W. Uridge plays excellently as the wicked M. Villefort; Mr. Leonard Marshall is admirable as the young lieutenant, Albert de Morcerf; Mr. Walter Martin is impressive as the luckless prisoner, the Abbe Faria; Miss Kate Maynard is good as the hag, La Carconte; and Mr. Chauncy Morris gives a powerful character-study as the dissipated, but good-hearted, Caderousse. The scenery and effects are quite adequate, the mechanical change from the exterior of the Château D'If to the open sea, being excellently done.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"HOW LONDON LIVES."

This popular Princess's drama is an exceedingly well-concocted one, and Mr. Ernest E. Norris's company interprets its many varied situations in most intelligent fashion. The principal burden of the piece falls on the capable shoulders of Mr. Ernest E. Norris, who as Jack Ferrers, known as Happy Jack, plays in a light, buoyant style, his conception of the part being admirable, and his success undoubted. The rascalities of Stephen Grainger are well brought out by Mr. Oscar Adye, who interprets the character in a vigorous and finished way; Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn is an easy but dignified Mr. George Ferrers; whilst Mr. William Burchill lends valuable assistance as Lieut. Harry Maxwell. The important rôle of Gladys is sustained by Miss Theresa Osborne in a natural and sympathetic way; Miss Georgie de Lara scores by her passionate intensity in her portrayal of the wilful Lady Ferrers; and Miss Florrie Green is quietly confident as Katie. The rest of the cast all work with pleasing energy and will, and the whole production is most praiseworthy.

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by James Willard, entitled
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

Though the dog days of summer are upon us, there is no diminution of interest in melodrama at this theatre, and crowded houses testify to the attraction of the drama *In the Shadow of Night*, which Mr. John M. East has secured for this week. Mr. James Willard has provided a strong company. Mr. George R. Montford, in addition to the responsibility of rehearsing and producing the piece, takes the part of Clifford Yorke, the villain, and his performance stands out as a really polished and refined piece of acting. As Gordon Allington, the much-wronged cousin of the villain, Mr. Austin Mortimer plays in a convincing way; and Mr. George Harvey is effective as Squire Allington, who is murdered in the early scenes of the play. Mr. E. Arnold Palmer as Tom Nainby, a dashing young soldier just back from active service, becomes soon a great favourite by reason of his light-hearted impersonation; Mr. Fred Norburn presents a fine piece of character-acting as Jake Grudgewell, a poacher, and is repeatedly applauded; and Mr. Harry Emmerson, who also does the stage-management of the piece, portrays the old farmer James Woodstock with much skill. Mr. C. P. Wentworth very ably doubles the characters of the Rector of Hazelmere and Joe Jackson, the deaf village postman. In the latter character he scores heavily, and is responsible for one of the funniest scenes of the play. Miss Phyllis French plays the little tramp Bob very naturally; Miss Phyllis Dailly gives a sympathetic and unforced reading as Violet Kingston, the squire's ward, her fine presence and easy manner being well suited to the part. As the farmer's daughter Mollie Woodstock Miss Nellie Sheffield, by her vivacious rendering, is responsible for much fun and brightness. The remaining small parts are all in good hands. The staging is everything that could be desired, such heavy scenes as the Wharf Fire and the River Thames by Night, when the stage is flooded with water, being thoroughly realistic.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 18,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Sidney Bowkett, entitled
"THE SUPERIOR MISS PELLENDER."

The attendances at the Kingston playhouse this week, where this charming little comedy is being presented, have been utterly out of proportion to its merits. Those who patronised the cosy little theatre, however, were amply repaid by seeing one of the best of modern comedies ably acted by a company engineered by Mr. William Fraser-Brunner and Mr. Gilbert Heron. Each artist in the small cast gave a most capable interpretation of the part allotted to him or her. The parts were filled as follows: Mrs. Pellender, Miss Jessie Danvers; Miss Pellender, Miss Alice Esther Belmore; Edith, Miss Jessie Ramsey; Nancy, Miss Alice Bowes; Noel, Mr. George Belmore; and Mr. Lister, Mr. Gilbert Heron. The play was admirably staged. Preceding the comedy was played *Kit's Atonement*, in which the parts were sustained as follows: Dick Russell, Mr. George Belmore; Boer Officer, Mr. W. H. Gainsford; Marie, Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner; and Kit Denver, Mr. William Fraser-Brunner.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, June 18,
the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by H. F. Housden, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PAST."

A woman led astray in early life by a specious scoundrel, and who, when freed from evil associations, develops into a true and faithful wife, thereby obliterating the past, provides a theme which, while possessing nothing of newness, can always be relied upon to appeal to popular audiences; and the piece under notice being lucidly written, with many well-contrived situations, it is meeting with every success at the Stratford Theatre Royal this week. Miss Maisie Hanbury as Bessie, whose chequered career suggests the title, plays with considerable power and feeling, and enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout. Mr. Horace E. Herbert acts with earnestness and dignity as David Heath, and carries conviction with every line he utters; Mr. Charles V. Sandford plays Frank Dellaney in bright and buoyant style; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden contributes a sound performance in the genial character of Clement Harper; and Mr. Oswald Cray depicts the villainous Uriah Craven in light, cynical vein which is most effective. Miss Gertrude Harrison contributes a most incisive portraiture of the scheming Clara Darrell; and Miss May Dallas makes a vivacious and pleasing Dorothy Heath. Remaining parts are all played with intelligence and care.

MR. F. W. DAVIES, lately resident-manager of the New Century Theatre, Motherwell, who has received an appointment at the Opera House, Londonderry, and to manage Mr. W. Payne Seddon's Irish circuit, was entertained at a social gathering in the Royal Hotel on the 15th inst., when he was presented with a purse of gold and a handsome walking-stick as tokens of goodwill. At the conclusion of his engagement with the Motherwell Theatre Co., Ltd., Mr. Davies was made the recipient of a handsome cheque as a mark of appreciation of his work by the directors of the company.

THE Hon. Harry Lawson will preside at the sixty-seventh anniversary festival in aid of the funds of the Newsvendors' Institution at De Keyser's Royal Hotel on Monday, Nov. 5. Grants in aid of worthy and necessitous newsvendors have trebled in the past five years, consequently this Society's need of funds has increased greatly.

THE STATUS OF A GIBSON GIRL.

In the Court of King's Bench on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Grantham and a special jury, the action brought by Ethel Lucy Karri Thomas, now Mrs. Hawkins, to recover from Messrs. Gatti and Mr. Charles Frohman, proprietors of various theatres, damages for wrongful dismissal, came on for hearing. This was the third trial of the case.

Plaintiff, who had been engaged by Mr. Seymour Hicks, the defendants' representative, as one of the ten Gibson Girls, was dismissed at a fortnight's notice, and she now contended that she was engaged for the "run of the piece." Owing to the inopportune time at which this took place she was unable to obtain employment at once. She estimated that she had lost £150 by the dismissal, and against that she set off £32 which she earned as the Fairy Queen in *The Babes in the Wood* pantomime at Croydon. The defence was that the plaintiff was engaged subject to a fortnight's notice, and that notice she received.

Mr. Eldon Bankes, who appeared for the defendant, stated that owing to the illness of Mr. Seymour Hicks he should not be able to call him as a witness, but he thought his evidence in the box might be dispensed with, and his evidence given at a previous trial could be read if necessary.

Mr. Marshall Hall, plaintiff's counsel, regretted the illness of Mr. Seymour Hicks, whom he would have liked to cross-examine. This action, he said, had had the misfortune of being twice tried before. On the first occasion the jury disagreed, and on the second trial the jury agreed on all statements except one. Miss Karri Thomas had played the part of the Princess in a well-known piece called *The Country Girl*, and she had also played other parts; but in August, 1904, she was out of an engagement, and she met Mr. Stanley Brett, the brother of Mr. Seymour Hicks, who asked her if she would like to play in a piece, about to be produced at the Vaudeville Theatre, called *The Catch of the Season*, in which she would take the part of "a Gibson Girl." The plaintiff, by appointment, attended at the theatre, and saw Mr. Seymour Hicks, the result of the interview being that she was engaged for the run of the piece at a salary of £3 per week. After five weeks' rehearsal she played in the piece for a period of three weeks, and then on Sept. 30 she was given a fortnight's notice to leave. She put the matter into the hands of her solicitor, when the defendants set up the plea that she was engaged as a chorus girl and subject to a fortnight's notice.

The plaintiff was then called, and bore out her counsel's opening statement, adding that her stage name was Ethel Karri. After leaving the Vaudeville Theatre she performed as the Fairie Queen in *The Babes in the Wood* pantomime at Southend and Croydon, and altogether, from that time to *The Catch of the Season* being taken off, she had earned about £32.

Mr. Eldon Bankes: You have been married since then?—Yes.

Mr. Justice Grantham: "The catch of the season."

In further cross-examination, plaintiff said she was married in January of the present year. When engaged by the defendants she was engaged for the run of the piece, and nothing was said about the engagement being subject to a fortnight's notice.

The evidence of Sir Charles Wyndham, taken on commission, was then read. It was to the effect that unless specified in the contract an actress engaged in a piece in London could not be dismissed upon a fortnight's notice. If there was no written contract it went without saying that an actress was engaged for the run of the piece. Sir Charles, in his testimony, said the plaintiff was an "actress," because she was called upon to exercise her own intelligence. It did not matter in that case whether it was one line or two. The words were so foolish that it required a lot of intelligence to give them life.

In cross-examination, Sir Charles said he produced the first musical comedy in London, *Miss Decima*, but had not produced any lately. He was asked whether one of a stage crowd on a racecourse who said, "I'm a wonder at spotting winners, and I have just backed this winner," would become an actor by those words; and he replied, "Yes, he had to exercise his intelligence as an actor."

Mr. Hayden Coffin said he agreed with Sir Charles Wyndham that when nothing was said to an actress upon engagement it meant that she was engaged for the run of the piece.

In cross-examination, witness said that not having been in the position of a manager he could only speak of the custom in the profession from an actor's point of view.

Mr. Eldon Bankes: If a super came on with a file of soldiers and had to say "Halt—front" would that take him out of the class of super and promote him to being an actor?—It would show that he had been picked out as the most intelligent of the lot, and if he did his work satisfactorily he would be permitted to hold the part, and no doubt in another piece would be chosen for another small part. The management would call him a super still, but——

Mr. Justice Grantham: Yes, but what?

Witness: I was going to say that his friends among the supers would call him a leading man.

In re-examination, witness said he entirely agreed with the evidence of Sir Charles Wyndham.

In reply to Mr. Justice Grantham, witness said that a part like that of a Gibson Girl could not be compared with that of a super who had a few words to say.

Mr. Montague Perkins, the plaintiff's solicitor, gave evidence of an interview with the defendants' representatives, and stated that nothing was then said about it having been stipulated that the plaintiff was engaged under a fortnight's notice.

Mr. John L. Shine gave his opinion that the plaintiff was an actress. He agreed with the evidence of Sir Charles Wyndham.

Mr. James Davis, professionally known as Owen Hall, the author of *The Geisha* and *Florodora*, said he should call the plaintiff a "small part principal." He considered the term "show girl" offensive, and one that was not used in high-class theatres.

Other corroborative evidence having been given, the plaintiff's case ended.

For the defence, Mr. Bankes said there were two distinct points for the jury The plaintiff said that she was engaged for the run of the piece. The defendants said that she was definitely engaged upon the terms that either side could give the other fourteen days' notice. He impressed upon the jury that if the plaintiff was to be engaged as an actress she would have undergone a different examination to that which she did on her application for an engagement. His case was that she was not an actress, but one of the intermediate class between an actress and a chorus girl, called a show girl, and that she was engaged subject to fourteen days' notice.

The evidence of Mr. Seymour Hicks given at the last trial was read by Mr. Frampton. Mr. Hicks expressed the opinion that the Gibson Girls were "very attractive show girls," but not actresses.

Mr. Mervyn Deane, chorus director of the Vaudeville Theatre, gave evidence that he engaged the plaintiff as a Gibson Girl at £3 a week with a fortnight's notice. When he gave her the notice she was much upset. If she had not gone to her solicitors he would have tried to find her something somewhere else. In his opinion, the plaintiff was not an actress.

Mr. Stanley Brett, a brother of Mr. Seymour Hicks, gave evidence, and said he did not engage the plaintiff. He recommended the plaintiff to his brother.

Mr. Clark, business manager to Messrs. Gatti and Frohman, stated that many of the Gibson Girls had contracts. He gave the plaintiff notice.

At this point the case was adjourned till Thursday, when the managing clerk to defendants' solicitor said he took instructions from Mr. Clark to defend the action, and Mr. Clark told him that there was no written contract, and that the engagement was on the footing of a fortnight's notice on either side. When the defence was read over in its original form to Mr. Seymour Hicks, he said it was wrong, and that the lady had been specifically engaged upon a fortnight's notice. He then applied for leave to amend the defence.

Mr. James Glover, musical director at Drury Lane, did not think the plaintiff in the part she played could be described as an actress.

Cross-examined by Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C.: It did not make the slightest difference in his view that plaintiff had played the Princess in *The Country Girl*.

Mr. Hall: Mr. Seymour Hicks asserted that once a show girl always a show girl, and reluctantly had to admit the corollary that once an actress always an actress. Now, Miss Thomas was an actress?

Witness: I am not here to corroborate corollaries.

Mr. Hall: That may be funny, but why is the lady who played Miss Stella Gibson in *The Catch of the Season* an actress?

Witness: If I may say so, that is a conundrum.

Mr. Hall: You are here to answer conundrums.

His Lordship: The jury will answer the question.

Witness went on to explain that when the lines for the chorus girls are given out, they are given out promiscuously, and there was a general battue for lines.

Mr. Hall: There is a general battue—who does the driving?

Witness went on to say that the giving-out of the lines did not immediately make them actresses, though it did require a certain amount of intelligence to speak intelligently.

Mr. Hall: And it requires a certain amount of intelligence to give evidence intelligently.

Witness: That depends how counsel puts the question.

Shown the cast of *The Beauty of Bath*, Mr. Glover emphatically denied that the "Bath Buns" were members of the cast.

Mr. Hugh Moss, with twenty-six years' experience as a stage manager, and Mr. Augustus Moore, who had been literary adviser to the late Sir Augustus Harris, and who had twenty-seven years' experience of theatrical matters, both stated that, in their opinion, the Gibson Girls were not actresses.

Mr. Courtneidge, who produced *The Dairymaids* at the Apollo, asked by Mr. Marshall Hall to define an actress, said that the definition given by another witness in the case was most excellent: "An actress would express her own individuality apart from the chorus, who expressed their part collectively."

Other evidence of a similar character having been given, counsel on both sides addressed the jury.

In summing up, the Judge said that if an actor was engaged for a piece he was engaged for the run of the piece, whether it ran for one day or through centuries of performances. To show that it did not depend upon the number of lines spoken as to what constituted an actor or actress, his lordship observed that had Mr. Glover been in the famous *Trial by Jury* play and had given the retort "It depends how counsel puts such questions," as he had done that morning, the house would have been "brought down." That one answer would have made the play a success.

Eventually the jury found for the plaintiff on all points, and gave damages to the amount of £200, certain deductions to be made and agreed upon by counsel on each side.

His Lordship entered judgment for plaintiff, with costs of the three trials.

ACTORS' DAY.

The following, in addition to those whose names have already been published, have promised their support on Actors' Day:—

Anton-Laing, Edith; Atkins, Robert; Bawtree, Arthur; Beaufort, Anne; Bell, Beatrix; Bertram, Eva; Cadell, Jean D.; Chevalier, May; Clarence, Nellie; Clarke, Charlie; Cooper, Horton; Cordova, Rudolph de; Couch-Johns, B.; Crawford, Percy; Cross, A. F.; Crow, K.; Danvers, Jessie; D'Arragan, Agnese; Despa, Estelle; Elliott, Beth; Elworthy, W. T.; English, James; Fanchette, Amy; Fawcett, Anthony; Forsyth, Lallie; Fraser-Brunner, Queenie; Fraser-Brunner, Wm.; George, H. Cannon; Gibbon, C. Robertson; Gilbert, Robert; Glenville, T. C.; Gordon, David; Grose, Christmas; Hallows, Lilian; Hames, John; Harris, Owen; Harwood, John; Hawthorne, Gladys; Heron, Gilbert; Hill, Annie; Hiller, Harry; Hone, Beatrice; Hudson, Marcella; Huggett, Dora; Humber, S. Herbert; Hunter, Reg. C.; Jeffries, Hettie; Johnstone, A. E.; Lawrence, Lorna; Ledger, Whitmore; Lee, Edward; Ling, Edwin; Lohr, M.; Lomax, Fawcett; Lowe, Wm.; Lowe, Mrs. Wm.; Mannering, D. Lewin; March, Daisy; Marsdin, Dorothy; Maud, Morris; Mayeur, Eugene; Melstead, Frances; Mervyn, Edward; Mills, Frank; Moody, Louise; Moore-Lane, Dorothy; O'Connor, Kathleen; Ouston, Edward; Owen, Reginald; Payne, Ben Iden; Penley, Fred; Phipp, W. Scott; Pierpoint, Lena; Powell, David; Price-Evans, Donald; Prittie-Tydd, Lucy; Ramsey, Alicia; Reeves-Smith, H.; Rignold, Harry H.; Rogerson, Amy; Roland, Isabel; Rooke, Irene; St. Clair, Stuart; Seilby, Dot; Selwyn, Archie; Seymore, Charles; Shine, J. L.; Stockley, Emma; Taylor, Robert M.; Turner, Alfred; Vaile, Doris; Van Raalte, Berta; Verona, Irene; Walsh, Edward; Warley, May; West, Harold; Winiard, May; Wynton, Dudley; Yates-Southgate, S.

As it is, unfortunately, impossible to communicate directly with all who are interested in Actors' Day, the committee ask for the co-operation of all who are willing to assist in the work of organisation. Copies of the appeal, and forms for signature, will be sent to those who will be kind enough to write for them.

If one member in each company playing, and residents in different parts of the country, would do this, and endeavour to obtain promises of help from their friends, they would be rendering excellent service.

All communications should be addressed to the Actors' Day Organising Committee, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

LATEINER AND FRIDZEL'S operetta, *Gabriel*, as presented by the capable members of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company at the Pavilion Theatre, was again repeated on Monday evening to a full house. During the week performances have been given of *Haman the Second*, *The Greenhorn*, *The Somnambulist*, *The Countess*, *Captain Dreyfus*, and *Blimele*. The company is now under the direct management of the Pavilion, and increased support is the result.

WE regret to say that Mr. T. W. Rawson met with an accident at Morecambe last week, sustaining a serious fractured ankle, through which he will be confined to his bed at Morecambe for some weeks to come. The popular actor will be the object of sympathy from his many friends and admirers. At the time of the mishap Mr. Rawson was playing Lord Clivebrook in Jones's play, *The Bauble Shop*, under Mr. F. Douglas Wentworth's management.

BANQUET TO ELLEN TERRY.

Never before in theatrical history has an English actress received such honours as have fallen to Miss Ellen Terry on reaching the jubilee of her first appearance on the stage which she has graced with her presence and enriched by her genius; and the celebrations which have been held in recognition of the occasion came to a brilliant conclusion on Sunday evening, when the distinguished actress was the honoured guest at a festival banquet given at the Hotel Cecil. The Victoria Room, in which the dinner took place, was charmingly decorated with flowers. Above Miss Ellen Terry's seat was a large canopy composed of dark red and white roses, the tribute of her son, Mr. Gordon Craig, with a pendant of pink rambler roses in the form of a horseshoe. All the tables were bedecked with beautiful orchids, blooms of a different tint being assigned to each table. The menu card had on its cover a portrait of the guest of the evening, and the menu itself was arranged in her honour, some of the dishes being distinguished by her name or the names of characters which she has made famous. Each guest was presented with a souvenir scroll, on which were represented all these characters, beginning with the Mamillius of 1856, and ending with the Lady Cecily Waynflete of 1906. During dinner a selection of music (arranged by Mr. Edward German) was performed by the members of the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mr. John Ansell.

The guests numbered nearly two hundred. Mr. Winston Churchill, M.P. (Under-Secretary for the Colonies) presided. On his right hand were Miss Terry, Mr. Franklin Thomasson, M.P., Mrs. Thomasson, and the Hon. Stephen Coleridge. To the left of the chairman were Mrs. Kate Terry Lewis, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Marion Terry, Mr. William Archer, and Mrs. Craigie.

Among the other guests were Sir Alfred and Lady Turner, Lord and Lady Rosmead, Sir Albert Seymour, Sir Frederick Milner, Sir Alfred and Lady Cooper, Sir Charles Scotter, Lady Alex Egerton, Mr. and Mrs. George Alexander, Professor Von Herkomer, Mr. Fred Terry, Mrs. Cummings, Miss Edith Craig, Miss Beatrice Harraden, the Hon. Constance Crichton, Miss Susan Stewart, Mrs. Bernard Beere, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Nina Sevening, Mr. R. Stewart, Miss Maria Davis, Mrs. Langtry, Miss Nancy Price, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Abingdon, Mr. Acton Bond, Mr. Joseph Knight, Mr. Harcourt Williams, Mr. J. A. Nicklin, Mrs. Fagan, Miss Onslow, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, Miss Pauline Chase, Mr. F. B. O'Neill, Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Vedrenne, Mr. Alfred Courtnay, Mrs. Max Heinrich, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. J. Y. MacAlister, Mr. C. Lander, Mr. F. M. Fisk, Mr. W. Nicholson, Mr. Bernard Waller, Mr. and Mrs. Granville Barker, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bowater, Mr. George A. Delacher, Mr. George Spencer Edwards, Mr. Charles Fry, Mr. Edward German, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Knoblauch, Mr. McLeod Moore, Mr. Mostyn Pigott, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Robbins, Mr. F. Topham, Mrs. Wood, and Miss Florence Wood.

Mr. William Hill, Mr. Bram Stoker, Mr. R. Balch, and Mr. S. A. Bartlett were the four vice-chairmen.

The following message had been received from Lord Tennyson: "Ellen Terry's noble interpretations of Portia and Beatrice, and her great imaginative creations of Camma and Rosamund, will always live in our memories—and how can we thank her enough for all that she has done for our English stage? The sound of that dear voice, so musically low, chokes all the syllabies that strive to rise from all our hearts.—TENNYSON."

The toast of "The King" having been duly honoured, the Chairman said: Ladies and gentlemen,—After the various public demonstrations of respect and admiration for Miss Ellen Terry which have marked the last three months a number of those who are among her most intimate personal friends have gathered together here to render her one further tribute of respect and of good feeling. I am not going to try to collect the phrases, to repeat the universal and deserved eulogiums which we have heard and read on all sides in the last week. I will simply, as it were, pick a flower here and there from a path which is strewn as well as overshadowed by roses, and present them in a bouquet—a bouquet in which no danger lurks—to the guest of this evening. The great demonstrations of admiration which have been so general lately to the great actress show, I think, that the English people are sincere lovers of the drama, and are genuinely grateful to all who raise its tone and its quality in our country. Well, I think they ought to be grateful, because we do not in this country do very much for the dramatic art. We leave it to shift for itself. We leave it to take its chance. We are content to let it be governed and guided, to ebb and flow hither and thither, simply by chance and by caprice, and to regulate it, as far as the nation is concerned, only by commercial considerations. I cannot help thinking that it is a great pity. We do not, as in Germany or France, endeavour to sustain the drama by national influence and national agency, and although I know that this is a subject on which opinions are widely divided, I think it a pity, and even a folly, that we do not make some national effort to aid and assist dramatic representation. I am not going to decry the great principle of self-interest. It is a very flexible principle, and it has this advantage, that, as a motive power, it is almost universal. But, after all, it is self-sacrifice and not self-interest which is the parent of the arts. I am one of those who hold that it is the duty of the State to be the generous but discriminating patron of the arts and the sciences; and I think if we could only divert national attention from the often senseless process of territorial expansion and the ugly apparatus of war to the more graceful and gentler flights of fancy and ambition which are associated with the theatre and the drama we should more securely vindicate our claims to be a civilised people. After all, think how easily money can always be obtained for any purpose involving the destruction of life and property. Think with what excitement and interest this nation witnesses the construction or the launching of a Dreadnought. What a pity it is that some measure of that interest might not be turned upon the launching of—shall I say?—a national theatre. I confess that I look forward to some time when that reproach upon us will be removed, and when we shall imitate the example of Germany and France in lending the recognition and stimulus which the State can supply to what is, after all, the most essentially human and the most intimately connected with popular life of all the arts, which are developed in a free and enlightened community. I confess I have the idea that a great national theatre, with branches in the great provincial cities, and with connections in the great Colonies, would have a great effect upon the solidarity of the English-speaking people all over the world. In the Shakespearean drama we have links of gold if we could only use them, strong enough in themselves to resist the shocks and changes of time, which are strengthening and must strengthen with every development of wealth and of culture, and which unite in the sympathy of a common admiration all the English-speaking branches of the human family. We suffer because we do not attempt more thoroughly to organise this great branch of human effort. Why is it we do not suffer more? It is because we have been singularly fortunate in this, as in other spheres of human activity. The drama in England is supported by a comparatively small number of gifted individuals, individuals of grace and power and distinction, who, in their own persons, elevate and sustain the dramatic art in this country. We owe, I think, a great deal to Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and to others who are gathered round this board to-night; but, perhaps, most of all we owe this great advantage to the guest of the evening. It is her interpretations of the great characters of Shakespeare which more than anything else will constitute the memorable achievements of her life. I have heard it often deplored that dramatists should hamper themselves by writing particular parts for particular players, but I am quite sure that lovers of Shakespeare will never regret that marvellous foresight which induced him to write the parts of Beatrice and of Portia specially for the representation of our guest, Miss Ellen Terry. I think it no exaggeration to say that the happy conjunction of her charming genius with the mysterious and sinister grace of Henry Irving kept Shakespeare upon the English stage during the 'seventies and the 'eighties of the last century. And if this evening we are gathered together to do Miss Ellen Terry honour, it is not only because we are anxious to show ourselves grateful for the pleasure and instruction we have so often derived from seeing so many famous characters of history and romance vivified and illuminated by her delightful personality, but it is also because we know by her personal gifts and power she has elevated and sustained the quality and distinction of the theatrical art in England during long years when that duty was somewhat discreditably neglected by the State.

MR. ALFRED COURTNAY then read the following poem, written for the occasion by Mr. Justin Huntley McCarthy:—

"The years that are your friends, with each a rose
And each a laurel, for the love, the fame,
That ever constant with their progress came.
The years that smile at Time and scorn his woes
Gather to-day, fair angels of repose,
About your radiant presence, while your name
Rings from a thousand voices, with the same
Rapture of homage that the whole world owes.
Delicate Nell, delightful Nell, bright queen
Of all the heart's best kingdoms, on this day,
Of many days the crown and flower,
Rejoice to be what you have ever been,
The living spirit of mirth, the muse of May,
Whom Heaven gave abiding youth for dower."

MR. WILLIAM ARCHER, who was the next speaker, said he had been searching for precedents, but there was not in history any precedent for such world-wide homage being paid to an actress. The nearest approach in theatrical annals was in the case of Anne Oldfield (who was buried in Westminster Abbey), but that was only post mortem homage. He thought that they had a better way of expressing their admiration for and gratitude to the genius which had delighted them so long. From their applause he gathered that they agreed with him. In referring to Miss Terry's career he said he could not boast of being present on the occasion of her first appearance on that memorable 28th of February, 1856, but he had for thirty years witnessed all her performances. He had memories of her beautiful Portia at the old Prince of Wales's Theatre; it was also his privilege to see her as Mabel Vane in *Masks and Faces*—an exquisite performance—and also as the heroine in *Olivia* at the Court Theatre. He sat in the pit of the Lyceum Theatre when she took the town by storm as Ophelia. He yielded to no one in his admiration for her Shakespearean performances. In the great scene on Tuesday last at Drury Lane an instalment of the debt of love felt towards Miss Terry was paid, but yet the stock remained quite undiminished. That night they were paying another large instalment, and yet the debt was as far as ever from being paid off. When the shouting and the tumult had passed Miss Terry would know that the love which was borne towards her had not died; indeed, such was her art that they might confidently prophesy that for centuries—so long, in fact, as English stage history was read—they would attach an inseparable association—a sort of haunting aroma of love and tenderness—to the name of Ellen Terry.

MR. TREE, who spoke next, said he understood that there were to be no formal speeches, but he felt he must say a few words from the point of view of the fellow-actors upon their dear guest. He remembered his first vision—what a vision it was!—of Ellen Terry as Portia. He had undergone many changes since then, and had lost many illusions, but his adoration for Miss Ellen Terry remained unchanged. She seemed to be then as she seemed to be that night, a thing apart in her native bower. Her beauty was something of her own. Like other great women in history, she had created her own type of beauty, and that remained for many an ideal of beauty. He remembered the first time that he acted with Miss Terry in *The Amber Heart* how much he was astonished to find in her whose art seemed so spontaneous what great trouble she took at rehearsals. Her success, beyond her personality, was in a large measure due to that seriousness towards her art. That taught them much. Referring to the remarkable scene at Drury Lane, Mr. Tree said: We did not render lip service, but heart service, and one and all in our profession are devoted to this dear lady—not only actors and actresses, but many others who serve in the theatre share that adoration, for she never loses an opportunity of doing an act of kindness to the humblest servant. I will only join with other speakers in wishing this dear lady long and continued health and happiness, so that she may enjoy the fruits of the splendid tribute which has been offered to her, and may Heaven send her every blessing.

MRS. CRAIGIE ("John Oliver Hobbes"), in the absence of the American Ambassador, expressed the admiration of her countrymen and women for Ellen Terry, to whom, she said, they owed their finest ideal of women's work in the classic and romantic drama of our English race. Mrs. Craigie then read the following cablegram from Mr. Choate, the late American Ambassador to Great Britain: "Many thanks to Miss Terry from America for the great delight she has given for so many years by her charming sympathetic rendering of her favourite characters. Her interesting and brilliant career will always be cherished in loving memory by all American lovers of dramatic art." Mrs. Craigie said that Miss Terry had given them a series of impersonations which for pathos and gaiety had never been equalled by any actress of our time.

THE HON. STEPHEN COLERIDGE (hon. treasurer of the *Tribune* fund) stated that the fund amounted to 53,563 shillings. The American contribution reached £322, making a total of £3000. The Drury Lane performance brought in £5783, so that the grand total of the Terry Fund was £8784. Mr. Coleridge, in the course of a warm appreciation of Miss Terry's career, declared that her laughter and her tears had always come straight from her heart into the hearts of her admirers, and had made every one of them better men and women.

MR. FRANKLIN THOMASSON said he rose to present Miss Terry with another token of the affection and esteem in which they held her. It was a volume containing a history of her jubilee celebration from the beginning, and included reports—newspaper and otherwise—of everything that had taken place in connection with the festival. It contained the originals of the letters which were received, and the autographs of those who knew Miss Terry and who had written in connection with the jubilee. The volume covered not only this country, but practically the entire civilised world. "I have only to express the hope," concluded Mr. Thomasson, addressing Miss Terry, "that this volume will in the many long years which I trust you will yet enjoy recall to your mind many pleasant days and happy memories." The large volume is bound in English oak and ornamented with red morocco. The hinges are of hammered iron, and the book bears a medallion of hammered iron, inscribed on which is the name of Ellen Terry.

Amid an enthusiastic demonstration from the company, MISS TERRY rose to reply. She said: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,—I have made many speeches in my time, but they were all set down for me in my parts, and I took great pains to con them. To-night, when I want to speak to you in my own words, I think of those beautiful, express, and admirable speeches of Shakespeare with something like despair! But our chairman's brilliant and delightful use of words has made them seem not such stubborn things after all. I feel like an amateur who sees the professional act, and thinks, "Oh, how easy!" I shall not be even with the Under-Secretary for the Colonies until he acts a part with me. Alas! even if he could spare the time from controlling the destinies of Empire, I am afraid he is a little too young to support me. Frankly, I feel I have lately become a perfect nuisance to people. One really can have too much of—a good thing! I think a little jubilee goes a very long way. For months you have had Ellen Terry poked under your nose, until—well, if you will bear with me this evening, I promise to go to America in January. It is an ill wind that pleases nobody, and I have had a lovely time. The heart of my message is gratitude. Lately it has seemed to me that there were only two words in the whole world—"Thank you." If I could inventory my thanks the roll would be a long one indeed, far longer than Mr. Nicholson's souvenir. First on the roll I see the name of the *Tribune*. I can never forget that London's youngest newspaper first conceived the idea of celebrating my stage jubilee. From my heart I thank all who are connected with the paper (Mr. Franklin Thomasson most especially) for their immense work and thought for me. Often and often I have asked myself during the last few months what I have done to deserve this, and the great show of honour in which my comrades in art, my dear French and Italian friends, as well as my American and English brothers and sisters, have joined with the public to give me, and I have found no answer. One thing more I must say, and that is that the testimony of affection and homage that I have received is, I believe, very greatly due to the intention of the public to honour Henry Irving and myself together. Never for one instant have I forgotten this, nor that his light shines on me now as it did in the old days when we acted together at the Lyceum Theatre. Through the whole-hearted co-operation of Press, public, and fellow-artists this player has been well bestowed indeed, beyond the dreams of Hamlet, the Prince of Dreamers. The practical gift to me which the *Tribune* has organised so magnificently can be valued, but I have been given other things which are beyond price as they are quite beyond speech. My fifty years of work have been crowned in the most unexpected and wonderful way, and I could never express myself to tell you how happy it has all made me. My sole object in speaking this evening is to thank you, but I cannot in words. Only let me tell you I shall always feel "The debt immense of endless gratitude."

At the close of the speech, the audience sang with great heartiness "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow."

MR. GEORGE ALEXANDER, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, expressed a hope that the time would come when Mr. Winston Churchill's idea of a national theatre would be realised. No one was more gratified than himself at the splendid tribute which had been paid Miss Terry that night.

MR. JOSEPH KNIGHT, the veteran critic, having been called upon, made a few remarks, in the course of which he described Miss Terry as an honour to English art, and caused some laughter by declaring that he was in love with her himself.

At the conclusion of the proceedings Miss Terry paid a visit to the office of the *Tribune*, and there wrote a note, which was cabled in her presence to Mr. Choate, at New York, stating that she could not let the happy day pass over without thanking him and his friends in America for all their sweet remembrances of her stage jubilee.

A NATIONAL THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I be permitted to express the fervent hope that, in view of the weighty and valuable words of Mr. Winston Churchill, M.P., at the Festival Dinner in honour of Miss Ellen Terry's Jubilee, as regards the need and formation of a National Theatre, we may now make a very serious national effort to effect its permanent establishment in our midst? It would, as Mr. Winston Churchill so ably pointed out, "have a great effect upon the solidarity of the English-speaking people all over the world," whilst we are all aware that it would feed the soul of art and lift the motif of both play and players far above the exigencies of the box office.

We surely cannot, in view of such a pronouncement, leave our drama to chance any longer, or to that caprice which is regulated solely by commercial considerations.

A great opportunity now presents itself to the nation to acquire the Lyceum Theatre for this purpose, and I am sure I voice the heartfelt wish and desire of Miss Ellen Terry when I state that, like many others, she still awaits to see some such movement started, which would also serve as a worthy memorial of our late great actor and lamented chief, Sir Henry Irving, whose earnest and constant advocacy of a National Theatre was also so well known.

I would suggest that the building should be called the Irving Repertory Theatre, and that Parliament should be asked to grant an annual subsidy, and the whole nation be invited to subscribe to a fund to place the movement and scheme on a sound and permanent financial basis.

I shall be most happy to do all in my power to support, financially and otherwise, such a national movement, and I shall also be pleased to hear from all those who desire to co-operate with me in the matter, and who, whilst realising that the State should always be a discriminating yet generous patron of the arts and sciences, yet also wish to more securely vindicate our claims to be a civilised people by the permanent establishment of a National Theatre in the capital city of our great Empire.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER STEPHENS.

London, W., June 18, 1905.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

THE STAGE SOCIETY.

The Stage Society produced two new plays at the Scala Theatre on Sunday, June 17, and the performance was repeated at a matinée on Monday, June 18. The first of these new productions was a play in one act, by John Pollock, entitled

"THE INVENTION OF DR. METZLER."

Doctor Metzler .....MR. TREVOR LOWE
A Hungarian Officer .....MR. ERIC BLIND
An Austrian Officer ....MR. FRANK H. DENTON
Rosa von West .....MISS GERTRUDE KINGSTON
Fanny .....MISS BERTHA VAN RAALTE

Dr. Metzler is a student of science who has devoted the best years of his life to the invention of an electric lamp, and he has just perfected it when the play begins. He lives with his widowed daughter at an unnamed town in Hungary, and the date is 1849. Outside is heard the sound of gun-firing; but the doctor, wholly immersed in the work which has cost him so many hours of thought and experiment, takes not the slightest interest in the war between Austria and Hungary. He explains the details of his invention to his daughter and his servant Fanny; but the widow, who has lost her husband, an Austrian officer, in the war, reproaches him for not taking arms in defence of his native land. They are interrupted by a noise and the sudden entrance of an Hungarian officer, who explains that he has come from a besieged garrison close by, having made his way by a secret passage through the Austrian lines. Fever has broken out in the garrison, and he implores the doctor to return with him at once. In spite of an impassioned protest from his daughter, he consents; but while the doctor and the Hungarian are preparing for the journey, an Austrian officer makes his appearance, and learns the truth from Rosa. It is agreed that the Hungarian is to be shot down as soon as Rosa shows a light. She endeavours in vain to prevent her father from accompanying the officer, and when the moment comes for lighting the lamp, her determination fails her. The servant entering the room, however, turns on the electric lamp; two shots are heard, and the presumption is that both the men are killed.

Mr. Trevor Lowe gave a capital embodiment of Doctor Metzler; and Miss Gertrude Kingston played the part of Rosa von West with much intensity and force. The Hungarian and Austrian officers were well represented by Mr. Eric Blind and Mr. Frank H. Denton. Miss Berta Van Raalte was good as the servant Fanny. Mr. A. E. Drinkwater produced the play, which, in spite of some weak points, was favourably received.

The opening piece was followed by a farcical comedy in three acts, by Nikolai V. Gogol, entitled

"THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL."

Anton Antonovich ....MR. HERBERT GRIMWOOD
Ammos Fyodorovich .....MR. TREVOR LOWE
Artemi Philippovich .....MR. HENRY KITTS
Luka Lukich .....MR. FRANK H. DENTON
A Police Superintendent ....MR. ARTHUR BELL
Svistunov .....MR. C. R. GIBBON
Derzhimorda .....MR. BURTON COOKE
Ivan Kuzmich .....MR. NORMAN PAGE
Bobchinski .....MR. FRED GROVE
Dobchinski .....MR. J. H. BREWER
Osip .....MR. EUGENE MAYEUR
Ivan Khlestakov ....MR. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
Waiter at the Inn .....MR. PERCY CRAWFORD
First Shopkeeper .....MR. ARTHUR BELL
Second Shopkeeper .....MR. PERCY CRAWFORD
Orderly .....MR. W. HUBERT
Anna Andreyevna .....MISS KATE PHILLIPS
Marya Antonovna .....MISS ISABEL ROLAND
Liza .....MISS BERTA VAN RAALTE
Locksmith's Wife ....MISS STELLA ST. AUDRIE
Sergeant's Wife .....MISS JEAN CADELL

Actuated no doubt by a commendable desire to vary as much as possible their dramatic bill-of-fare, the society has made an experiment with quite a new dish—farcical comedy. Not modern farcical comedy, be it said, for Gogol's play has attained the fairly venerable age of seventy years. According to a note on the programme, the present version is based on a translation by Mr. Arthur A. Sykes, who "kindly permitted his text to be abbreviated for presentation before the Society." We can scarcely congratulate the committee upon their selection. *The Inspector-General* was, by all accounts, a great success in Germany, but it is a specimen of old-fashioned farce that is not in the least likely to win the favourable verdict of an English audience. The piece has its amusing moments, but some of the scenes are tedious, and the plot is too thin to be spread over three acts. No doubt, too, the "show-up" of Russian official corruption would be better appreciated by German playgoers.

The scene is a provincial town in Russia seventy years ago, the Governor of which, Anton Antonovich, is an exceedingly corrupt official, who makes exacting demands upon the local tradespeople. Nor are the other town officials any better—they are a grasping, greedy, dishonest lot, who constantly abuse the privileges of the positions they hold. This being the case, the news that an Inspector-General—Der Revisor, in German—is expected from St. Petersburgh, whose duty it will be to make a close examination into the government of the town, naturally causes a great flutter amongst the leading officials, who fear that their scandalous conduct of local affairs will be exposed. The arrival of a stranger at one of the local inns puts them on the *qui vive*, and they jump to the conclusion that he is no other than the Inspector, who, for reasons of his own, has forborne to proclaim his official rank. The mysterious stranger is really Ivan Khlestakov, a Government clerk, who, accompanied by his servant Osip, is on his way to his parental home in the country. As the result of a game of cards with an Army officer he happened to meet, he has lost all his money, and the landlord of the inn has refused to supply him with any more food unless the bill is settled. But, to his astonishment, he receives a visit from the Governor of the town, accompanied by one of his colleagues. They treat him with the utmost deference, lend him some money, the Governor giving him a pressing invitation to accept his hospitality. Ivan, the poor clerk, finds himself in clover. He is escorted to the local hospital, where he is invited to an excellent luncheon, partaking so freely of wine that, when he arrives at the Governor's house, and is introduced to that official's fussy wife and pretty daughter, he talks airily of his palace at St. Petersburgh and the distinguished people he entertains there. Being found on his knees, clasping the hand of the pretty daughter, he becomes engaged to her, much to the gratification of the Governor. He interviews the Judge, the Charity Commissioner, and the Postmaster of the town, and from each borrows a sum of money; while a deputation of shopkeepers who have come to complain of the Governor's conduct also make him a pecuniary present in the hope of getting their grievances redressed. His servant Osip warns the supposed Inspector that it is time to disappear, and, taking the hint, he pleads important business as the excuse for his hurried departure, promising to return the next day. Soon afterwards the Postmaster, by opening a letter which has been written by Ivan to a friend in St. Petersburgh, makes the discovery that the Governor's late guest is an imposter, and there can be no possibility of mistake about this when an orderly appears with a message from the genuine Inspector-General, who has just arrived.

Mr. Michael Sherbrooke made Ivan Khlestakov a merry, rollicking young fellow, who took life easily, and made the best of the good things that chance put in his way. It was a bright, artistic, and highly-effective performance. Mr. Herbert Grimwood was also successful in depicting the pompous, foolish old Governor, who has only himself to blame for being so egregiously deceived. A clever companion picture was the Judge of Mr. Trevor Lowe. Mr. Henry Kitts was an unctuous and quietly humorous exponent of the Charity Commissioner and Warden of the Hospital. Mr. Frank H. Denton was good as the Director of Education; Mr. Norman Page was a quaint representative of the Postmaster; and Mr. Fred Grove and Mr. J. H. Brewer did well as two fussy, excitable, independent gentlemen named Bobchinski and Dobchinski. Mr. Eugene Mayeur made excellent use of his opportunities as Ivan's servant Osip, who shares his master's good fortune; and Mr. Percy Crawford was satisfactory in the small part of the waiter at the inn. Miss Kate Phillips had a congenial rôle in the Governor's wife, and her animated acting was greatly appreciated; while his daughter Marya had a pretty and graceful representative in Miss Isabel Roland. Miss Berta Van Raalte was brisk as the Governor's servant Liza. Other minor rôles were ably played by Messrs. Percy Bell, C. R. Gibbon, Burton Cooke, W. Hubert, and the Misses Stella St. Audrie and Jean Cadell. The play was produced by Mr. Charles Rock.

"ALICE, WHERE ART THOU?"

A Domestic Drama, in Four Acts,
By Louie Neville Banwell,
Produced for the First Time at the
Empire Theatre, Oxford,
on Monday, June 18.

Matthew Hornibrook ....MR. W. H. BRADFORD
Fred Montague .....MR. WALTER H. WILSON
Jack Hornibrook .....MR. ROLAND HOPE
Ben Brewin .....MR. GUS BOWERMAN
Larry McCarthy .....MR. J. NELSON-TURNER
Jim Jarvis .....MR. EDWARD NEVILLE
Murton Topps .....MR. F. J. MEDCAL
Will Thompson .....MR. CHAS. HENRY
Sergeant Jones .....MR. ARTHUR FLIPPETT
Policeman Tupper .....MR. D. JARVIS
Kate Hornibrook .....MISS FLORA LESLIE
Alice Hornibrook .....MISS EVIE CONWAY
Polly Montague .....MISS LOIE ESMOND
Sally Hodges.....MISS ROSIE NEVILLE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The plot of this piece, which should prove a genuine success, turns principally on the theme of Asher's popular song, "Alice, where art thou?" Matthew Hornibrook and Fred Montague have been fast friends from boyhood. Matthew, having made a position in the world, has become wealthy, while Montague has been less fortunate, owing to his somewhat dissolute habits. Nevertheless, Matthew assists his friend financially, and allows him to use his house as his own home whenever he chooses. Fred Montague abuses the kindness of his old friend by seducing Matthew's only daughter, Alice, who, to hide her shame, decides to leave home and go on the stage. When this decision is accidentally made known to him by means of a letter addressed to his daughter from a theatrical agent, Matthew angrily resolves to disown his daughter, and leaves her, not then knowing the reason for her apparently unhappy choice. Before leaving, Alice has an interview with her lover, and threatens to expose him to her father unless he instantly marries her.

Montague informs her that is impossible, as he is already married. In her despair Alice endeavours to go to her father to confess all, but is prevented by her lover, who, in the moment of anger and fear, strangles her and places her body in a crevasse in the private grounds. The only witness to the deed is a poacher named Ben Brewin, whose silence is purchased by Montague.

Matthew Hornibrook imagines his daughter has gone to London, but as he has no news of her whereabouts he sets out on a fruitless search for her. On his return the body of Alice is found; and as it is known, through the information of Larry McCarthy, that Matthew parted in anger with his daughter, he is arrested for murder and sent to penal servitude for life. Through the instrumentality of Jim Jarvis, the Hornibrooks' servant, and Larry McCarthy, Matthew succeeds in escaping from prison, and flees across the sea to a desolate island. Meanwhile, Fred Montague, who has been living at the Hornibrooks', is greatly troubled in conscience, especially when news of his wife and her distressful condition reaches the ears of Mrs. Hornibrook. She determines to befriend Polly Montague, and brings her to the house. Fred becomes more and more tormented, till he fancies he sees a vision of Alice, and in his wanderings and ravings the real facts of the murder are disclosed. Mrs. Hornibrook immediately sets sail in the endeavour to find her husband and bring him back a free man. Polly Montague tries to nurse her husband back to strength, but his illness increases, until he wanders in his raving back to the glen, the scene of the murder. Matthew, who has now returned, tracks his enemy to the glen, having resolved to kill him. Fred, who is terror-stricken at the return of the friend he has wronged, at first refuses to fight, but is forced to do so by Matthew. During the struggle Fred is struck by lightning, when the vision of Alice is seen once again, and Matthew Hornibrook is spared the possible crime of manslaughter.

On the whole the piece was very well acted for a first night; most of the actors appeared to have studied their parts well, and brought out all the forcible points. Mr. W. H. Bradford gave a very consistent and careful rendering of Matthew Hornibrook, and Mr. Walter H. Wilson may be complimented on a very artistic and successful portrayal of Fred Montague. Mr. Edward Nevillewas quite up to his usual standard of excellence, and made himself very amusing as Jim Jarvis; Mr. Gus Bowerman was robust as Ben Brewin; and Mr. J. Nelson-Turner was very natural as Larry McCarthy. Mr. D. Jarvis did well as Policeman Tupper; Miss Flora Leslie was a sympathetic Kate Hornibrook; and Miss Evie Conway was well suited as Alice. Miss Rosie Neville made a good Sally Hodges; and Miss Loie Esmond was impressive as Polly Montague. The play was adequately mounted, some of the scenery being very attractive.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In the interview with me published in your current issue, it is stated that my grandfather, Charles Coote, owned Hopwood and Crew's music-publishing establishment. It should have been my uncle, Charles Coote, who has since written me pointing out the mistake. He has retired from business, and is hale and hearty at his seventy-fifth birthday, which he celebrates to-morrow.—Yours faithfully, BERT COOTE.

150, Oxford-street, London, W.
June 20.

LOVELY BROWN HAIR.

Grey, or faded hair, can be easily restored to a Golden Brown, Auburn Brown, or to almost any other desired shade of Brown, by "Condy's Fluid," which is non-poisonous, and harmless in every way.

The fullest possible Directions for obtaining the various natural shades of brown hair, and copies of a large number of Valuable Testimonials, can be obtained from Condy's Fluid Works, 91, Goswell-road, London, E.C. Insist on having "Condy's Fluid." Sold by all Chemists, 1s. 6d.; 20os., 2s. Beware of Substitutes.

The Lady's Pictorial, The Gentlewoman, The Lady, and other High Class Ladies' Journals strongly recommend the use of "Condy's Fluid" for restoring the hair when grey or faded.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM was called away to the Continent on the 15th inst. on important business, so that, much to his regret, he had to decline the invitation to the dinner to Miss Ellen Terry on Sunday. Sir Charles had got no further than Folkestone, however, when he was served with a subpœna, necessitating his return to town on Monday to give evidence on commission in the Gibson Girl case. On Tuesday morning he again left town for Italy. Sir Charles is naturally anxious that it should be known that his absence from the Terry Dinner, as well as his appearance in the law case referred to, were quite unavoidable.

THE prospect of the eminent actor's return to the home of his earlier successes is one from which his many admirers will derive much satisfaction. The attractiveness of *Captain Drew on Leave* in London last season was so pronounced that Sir Charles was induced to cancel his American engagement, and his reappearance with Miss Mary Moore at the Criterion in a new play by Mr. Hubert Henry Davies will be awaited with the most agreeable anticipations.

THE most graceful part of the charming speech made by Miss Ellen Terry at the dinner on Sunday was that in which the eminent actress referred to her late distinguished comrade in art. "The testimony of affection and homage that I have received," said Miss Terry, "is, I believe, very greatly due to the intention of the public to honour Henry Irving and myself together. Never for one moment have I forgotten this, nor that his light shines on me now as in the old days when we acted together at the Lyceum Theatre."

OFFICIAL notification of the visit of Miss Ellen Terry to her native city on Saturday next was made to the Coventry City Council on Tuesday by the Mayor, Alderman Drinkwater, who proposed that an address of welcome should be presented to Miss Terry by the Corporation. It would be discourteous, he said, at this time, when Miss Terry had obtained so deep a hold upon public esteem, if her native city were not to accord her a hearty welcome. They had never before had so timely an opportunity. The proposal was enthusiastically adopted. The famous actress, it may again be stated, is also to be entertained at luncheon by the theatre proprietors in St. Mary's Hall, and the members of the Council and other leading citizens will be present.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, as promoter of the Musical Copyright Bill, has been approached by representatives of the companies engaged in the production of perforated music, and in order to avoid any misapprehension as to the object and aim of the measure, Mr. O'Connor has undertaken to insert the following proviso in the definition clause: "Provided always that the expressions 'pirated copies' and 'plates' shall not, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to include perforated music rolls used for playing mechanical instruments, or records used for the reproduction of sound waves, or the matrices or other appliances by which such rolls or records respectively are made."

THE intolerant attitude of Mr. Harwood and Mr. Byles, who rise in their places to "object" to the Musical Copyright Bill, has evoked for that Measure the sympathy of all parties in the House. Mr. O'Connor's proviso mentioned above was prompted by representations from the Gramophone Co. and the Pianola, Angelus, and other mechanical instrument companies. One firm has in stock perforated rolls to the value of £12,000.

MR. J. L. TOOLE has been in a state of extreme exhaustion throughout the week, during which he has steadily become weaker, though he has succeeded in retaining consciousness. A bulletin issued on Thursday evening stated that during the day there had been no improvement. The patient had taken a little nourishment, but his general state was extremely weak, with a gradual but perceptible diminution of vital energy. On Wednesday the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who is staying in Brighton, sent, with a kindly message, a box of lovely flowers which had just arrived from Holly Lodge, and the sufferer was able to recognise the gift, and to murmur in a low voice a request that it might be acknowledged with his heartfelt thanks.

SYMPATHETIC reference to Mr. Toole was made at the City of London School on Tuesday by the Master of the Rolls, Sir Richard Henn Collins, who presented the Beaufoy and Mortimer prizes for the encouragement and study of the works of Shakespeare. "It was natural," he said, "on such an occasion that they should recall the distinguished men who had passed under the discipline of the school. One old boy, Mr. J. L. Toole, now lay upon a bed of sickness, but he could look back on a career begun in that school, in which, starting with no adventitious advantages, he had won for himself a position in which he had no rival, but was absolutely first. In all his life he had never made an enemy and never lost a friend." Sir Richard's remarks were received with great cheering.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE has had a most gratifying success with *Colonel Newcome* at His Majesty's, where the run of Mr. Michael Morton's clever adaptation will continue till the end of the season. On Sept. 3 Mr. Tree will go on a short provincial tour, during which a double bill, consisting of *Business is Business* and *The Man Who Was* will alternate with *Colonel Newcome*, and will return to his own theatre at the end of October in a production of *Macbeth*. His Majesty's will meanwhile be occupied with the promised revival, beginning in September, of *The Winter's Tale*, in which Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Viola Tree, Mr. Basil Gill, Mr. Lyn Harding, Mr. C. W. Somerset, Mr. Fisher White, and Mr. Charles Warner will appear.

MISS JULIA NEILSON and Mr. Fred Terry, who will take a short holiday at the termination of their London season, begin a provincial tour at Blackpool on Monday, August 27. *Dorothy o' the Hall* will be the principal attraction during the tour, in the course of which Miss Neilson and Mr. Terry will test the merits of two new pieces, with a view to their production on their return next year to the New Theatre. Of these one is a modern play in four acts by Mr. Harry Langley Lander, and the other a piece by B. M. Dix and E. G. Sutherland.

THE story of *The Prince Chap*, the play by Edward Reple, already well known in America, which Mr. A. H. Canby is to produce at the Criterion next month, deals with the romance of a struggling sculptor in London, to whom a former model bequeaths the care of her child, a five year old girl. The latter wins the artist's entire affections, and he relates to her the story of a certain prince who left his princess to seek his fortune abroad. The "princess" eventually arrives, and finding she has lost the love of the sculptor, accuses him of being the father of the girl, and insists that he shall choose between the two. The artist selects the child, and the lovelorn "princess" goes off to marry another. After ten years, she returns with the news that her husband is dead, and again lays her heart at the feet of the sculptor, but he is more than ever attached to the maiden, who finally secures the victory.

MR. ARTHUR BOURCHIER, one of the Vice-Presidents of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, has kindly lent the Garrick Theatre for the purposes of a special meeting of the society on Monday, July 2, at 2.30, when the Bishop of Ripon—not the Bishop of London, as has been erroneously stated—will give an address on Shakespeare's plays. Mr. Sidney Lee (president) will take the chair and Lady Bancroft will distribute the Society's prizes, and Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. George Alexander, Mr. Forbes Roberson, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. H. B. Irving, and Mr. Acton Bond are expected to speak. Tickets can be obtained for non-members of the Hon. Sec., Miss Greta Morritt, 17, Southwell-gardens, S.W.

THE secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £3 5s. 9d. from Mr. J. M. Gerold, being half the proceeds of a recital given by Miss Lemoine on the R.M.S. Armadale Castle, the total sum derived therefrom being devoted to charities. The secretary has also received £2 from the Editor of *The Referee*, that amount having been sent to him by Mr. H. W. Varna for a theatrical charity.

THE Moody-Manners company open their season of grand opera in English at the Lyric Theatre on Saturday, July 21. The company's repertory will include *Faust, Lohengrin, Tannhäuser, Trovatore, Cavalleria Rusticana Pagliacci, Huguenots, Marriage of Figaro, Martha, Philémon and Baucis*, and Tschaikowski's *Eugène Onegin*, a work which has attained great popularity.

IN addition to Mr. Manners, the excellent combination of vocalists will include Mmes. Clementine de Vere, Zelie de Lussan, Fanny Moody, Toni Seiter, and Messrs. Joseph O'Mara, Wilson Pembroke, John Child, Lewys-James, and Charles Magrath. Prices of admission will be somewhat lower than during the regular theatrical season, reserved seats ranging from 3s. to half a guinea. Mr. Tom Davis, to whose enterprise this welcome series of operas is in a great measure due, hopes to make an operatic season an annual summer feature of the Lyric.

MR. "JIMMY" GLOVER, if he had not won fame as a musical conductor, might easily have made a fortune as a comedian. This, at all events, is the opinion of the Judge who tried the "Gibson Girl" case this week. Referring to Mr. Glover's answer to Mr. Marshall Hall, his lordship imagined a theatrical "situation" in which Mr. Glover was a "super" taking part in a trial. If he made on the stage the repartee he had made to counsel people would come to see him just for those few words.

"THE SHULAMITE" is by no means a solitary instance in recent years of a drama being provided with a "happy ending" in deference to the public will. *The Profligate*, one of the finest of Mr. Pinero's dramas, was altered in a similar respect when produced by Mr. John Hare at the Garrick some fifteen or sixteen years ago. *The Prayer of the Sword* at the Adelphi was another example. The strangest case on record was perhaps that of *Le Courrierde Lyon* on its production in Paris some fifty years back. Different versions were played on alternate nights. On Monday Lesurgues' fatal resemblance to the wicked Dubosc sent him to the scaffold; on Tuesday he was rescued, and the villain lynched by the mob; but the conventional ending showing the triumph of virtue and the downfall of vice was finally adopted, and it was this denouëment that the late Sir Henry Irving utilised in *The Lyons Mail*.

PREACHERS in America certainly do not hide their light under a bushel, as the following glowing pæan of self praise abundantly proves. A certain Dr. —— says he "always preaches to packed churches," and confesses in his advertisement that he is "a preacher, an orator, and a magnet"; that "his style is one of easy grace, with constantly changing poses"; and that his "voice ranges from the soft tinkle of silver bells to the terrified tones of Dante's Inferno." He also supplies the affecting information that "he has a peculiar grey eye that looks directly at you, a little beyond, and almost through you—yet, withal, its penetrating power tells of a kind heart, intensity of feeling, and honesty." Oh, Modesty, where is thy blush?

A VALUABLE hint to managers who wish to suppress the matinée hat and do not know how to deal with intractable ladies, is contained in an historical episode to which a witty French journalist calls attention. During Louis XIV.'s reign, it became the fashion with the ladies of the Court to mount the box and drive their cumbersome vehicles through the Paris streets. The fair drivers being quite inexperienced, terrible accidents arose, and at length the matter grew so bad that the King issued a proclamation forbidding women to hold the reins. No notice whatever was taken of the edict, and, if possible, things grew worse than before. The Chief of the Police, not daring to interfere personally, implored His Majesty to adopt more stringent measures towards the delinquents. Louis XIV., who had a keen sense of humour, then asked for the edict, and in his own Royal hand added: "In future only ladies of forty and more will be allowed to drive." The next day all the fair ones had deserted the box.

MR. MARSH ALLEN, one of the company of West-End actors travelling in the interests of golf and *His Excellency the Governor*, won the Ethel Matthews Cup at Brighton this week. His score at Kemptown Links was two down on bogey. The golfing actors will appear at Eastbourne next week, and the following week will be seen at the Coronet Theatre.

"A WASTE OF TIME" is the obviously inappropriate title which has been bestowed on a series of variety turns which preceded the performance of *His Excellency the Governor* at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Monday. A telegram is supposed to come from the lessee, Mr. H. Cecil Beryl, stating that as *His Excellency the Governor* lasts but two hours an extra piece is needed. A number of selections are then given, much to the delight of the audience, by the members of the company, including Messrs. Lionel Mackinder, Lennox Pawle, James Blakeley, H. Marsh Allen, Loring Fernie, and Littledale Power.

MISS NOEL NEVILLE has succeeded Miss May De Sousa in the principal part of Violet, the captivating American girl, in *Castles in Spain*, at Terry's.

"YOU NEVER CAN TELL" will be revived at the Court Theatre on Monday evening, July 9, for a limited number of weeks. Mr. Bernard Shaw's play will have the following in the cast: Misses Florence Haydon, Lillah McCarthy, Dorothy Minto, and Hazel Thompson, and Messrs. Norman Page, Edmund Gurney, J. H. Barnes, Henry Ainley, James Hearn, and Louis Calvert.

MISS ELIZABETH PARKINA, who will be remembered as the delightful Singing Fairy of the recent revival of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Adelphi, was, unhappily, so indisposed on Monday that she was unable to finish her performance of Musetta at Covent Garden. The music of the last act was accordingly sung by Mme. Galibert.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN and Miss Beatrice Wilson, in spite of the counter attractions of the Agricultural Show, Illuminated Fête, and Naval Manœuvres, played to such excellent and enthusiastic audiences at the Royal, Portsmouth, last week that a return visit at an early date is being arranged.

MR. LEWIS WALLER has obeyed the mandate of his numerous admirers by placing *Othello* in the evening bill at the Lyric, where a crowded audience greeted him enthusiastically on Saturday night. In his representation of the Moor, Mr. Waller has added to the roll of his most noted Robertson, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. H. B. Irving, Iago is a curiously fascinating piece of acting, embellished by many subtleties of action and inflexion, of which the young actor is a master. Miss Evelyn Millard's Desdemona still captivates by the gentleness, sincerity, and grace of the impersonation; and Miss Edith Wynne Matthison makes the part of Emilia instinct with fire and passionate suggestion, which gives way at the close to a moving scene of real pathos. Mr. Henry Neville's Brabantio is another fine example of this accomplished actor's art; and the Cassio of Mr. Owen Roughwood, the Biancha of Miss May Taverner, and the Roderigo of Mr. A. E. George, add appreciably to the excellence of the production. Curtain-calls were exceptionally numerous on Saturday, no less than ten being insisted on after the third act.

ADMIRERS of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Livesey's beautiful bulldog will regret to learn that he was poisoned last week at their home, Barry, and before the "vet." had time to arrive died in fearful agony.

THE quality of mercy was gracefully exercised at Bradford on Saturday, when Charles Farrington, who had been acting-manager of the company playing *Dr. Wake's Patient* at the local Theatre Royal, was charged with embezzling £47, the property of Herbert Ross, general-manager, and another. It was stated that the prisoner had spent the money on racecourses. Mr. Ross, having obtained special permission to address the Court, made a strong appeal in behalf of the accused, but the Stipendiary said it was a bad case of embezzlement, and the prisoner would have to go to gaol for one month, without hard labour.

AFTER the business of the Court concluded, Mr. Ross renewed his pleading, urging that the prisoner might be dealt with as a first offender. "He will never be able to earn a livelihood again," said Mr. Ross. "You do not know how difficult it is to make a living in this business. I would not have taken out the warrant had I known." The stipendiary had the prisoner brought back, and told him that Mr. Ross had again been pleading for him. Under the circumstances, he would withdraw the sentence, and the prisoner must come up in a month for judgment. Prisoner said he was very thankful to Mr. Ross for his kindness.

AT the Marlborough-street Police-court on Saturday, Mr. George Edwardes's manager at the Prince of Wales's Theatre applied for licences permitting seven girls and four boys to appear in *See-See*, the new Chinese comic opera, produced on Wednesday. They would only be on the stage in the chorus for about five minutes at ten in the evening, said Mr. Davies. Mr. Kennedy granted the licences, but remarked that it was rather late in the evening for children.

AT the special matinée at His Majesty's Theatre on behalf of the Gentlewomen's Homes, organised by Lady Langattock, a striking item was the recitation of "The Duet," by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, given by Mr. Gilbert Shorter, the famous elocutionist, with musical accompaniment by Mme. Lillian Adams, who specially arranged the music. Mr. Gilbert Shorter was well received by the fashionable audience, and the proverbial pin might have been heard to drop. He was recalled, and his success was a distinct advancement in his professional career.

MR. ALGERNON ASHTON writes that the grave of Chopin in Père Lachaise cemetery is "in a most miserable condition." How true it is that the world knows little of its great composers, and cares less. We hope Mr. Ashton's timely protest will meet the eye of M. Vladimir de Pachmann, the French composer's greatest interpreter. Chopin was perhaps the greatest pianoforte composer who ever lived.

MISS ITALIA CONTI will give a musical and dramatic recital, by permission of the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, at Stafford House on Thursday afternoon, July 5. The programme will include an interlude, entitled *The Princess and the Stranger*, by Lady Alix Egerton, a novel feature of which is that it will be played up and down the staircase of Stafford House. Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Amy Castles, Miss Lily Brayton, Miss Aimée Lowther, and Mr. Graham Browne are among those who have promised to appear.

MISS MAY DE SOUSA had a painful experience on Monday evening, when her maid, Miss Emma Finch, was run over by a motor-car in the Brompton-road and killed. She was on her way to Daly's Theatre with Miss de Sousa when the accident happened, the wheels of the motor-car passing over her chest. She was taken to St. George's Hospital, where life was pronounced extinct.

MISS EVA LONSDALE, who has been playing Mary Melrose with Mr. Russell Rosse so successfully, has been transferred to the repertory company, and is now appearing as Constance in *She Stoops to Conquer*, Maria in *School for Scandal*, and Marton in *A Marriage of Convenience*.

AN amended statement of affairs has been filed, under the failure of Edward George Saunders, solicitor and theatrical manager and proprietor, disclosing liabilities £12,415, of which £4836 are returned as expected to rank, and an estimated surplus in assets of £20,545. A sitting held on Tuesday for the public examination of the debtor was adjourned, upon the application of the trustee's solicitor, with a view to further investigation.

THE Brixton Theatre, which is now closed for the summer vacation, will reopen on August Bank Holiday with the late Wilson Barrett's adaptation of Hall Caine's novel "The Manxman." Many dramatic and musical successes will figure in the programme in the course of the ensuing season.

THE provinces are shortly to have an opportunity of seeing Mr. Cecil Klein's play *The Lion and the Mouse*, for Mr. Walter Maxwell has secured the entire provincial rights from Mr. Frohman, and sends out a company headed by Miss Christine Silver on a tour opening at Theatre Royal, Cardiff, on August Bank Holiday. The play is one of the strongest and most dramatic of recent years, and with an English company recruited chiefly from Mr. Maxwell's other companies of *The Little Minister, Quality Street*, and *Little Mary* should succeed as it so richly deserves.

THE recital of soliloquies from Shakespeare's Plays, to be given by Mr. Samuel Arthur King at the New Royalty Theatre, on the afternoon of June 29, will be repeated at St. George's Hall on the evening of July 3, when the two half-hour comedies, *Mamma's Opinion* and *Love and Halfpence*, will also be given. Mr. William Poel, who is responsible for the management, will revive on Aug. 9 and 10 Goldsmith's comedy *The Good-Natured Man* before the summer students at Cambridge by special request of the University Lectures Syndicate.

MISS MARGARET DAVIES WEBSTER, a clever young actress too little seen of late on the West-End stage, will shortly embark upon a summer tour of *Mine Hostess*, her own adaptation of *La Locandiera*, Golcondi's famous comedy. Miss Davies Webster's business arrangements are in the expert hands of Mr. Hugh Fleming.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON and Miss Gertrude Elliott, whose recent tour in the suburbs and elsewhere was so remarkably successful, are going into the provinces in August, starting on the 27th of that month at Manchester. At that town the popular actor-manager purposes reviving *The Merchant of Venice*, in which he and his charming wife will be seen for the first time, and *Hamlet, Mice and Men*, and *The Light that Failed* will also figure in their répertoire. In October they sail for America.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present Mr. C. Aubrey Smith (chairman), Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Kate Bishop, Kate Phillips, and Saba Raleigh, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, J. Cooke Beresford, Clarence Blakiston, Acton Bond, Burton Cooke, F. Cremlin, William Devereux, A. E. George, Lawrence Grant, Norman McKinnel, M. R. Morand, Walter Russell, Spencer Trevor, Fredk. Volpe, Hubert Willis, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The secretary reported that a member who was insured under a policy issued through the instrumentality of the Association had made a claim against the insurance company, which had been settled to his complete satisfaction, he receiving nearly £200.

THE secretary announced that the fourth bi-monthly meeting of the members would be held on Thursday, the 12th proximo, at 2.30 p.m., in the Saloon of the Association. Mr. Cecil Barth suggested that in order to promote and stimulate interest amongst the members in these meetings they should be invited to prepare and read papers on subjects of interest to the members on which an open discussion could take place. The suggestion afterwards took the form of a proposition, which, having been duly seconded, was unanimously agreed to by the Council. Mr. Cecil Barth promised to read a paper at the next bi-monthly meeting. Rita Ward, Laurence de Frece, and Mabel Sealby were nominated for election to the Association.

MR. ACTON BOND reported that the executive committee of the Ellen Terry Jubilee had thanked Dr. R. Nitch-Smith and Dr. C. Stanford for their attendance at Drury Lane Theatre on the 12th inst. A question having arisen as to extending the operations and usefulness of the "missioners," it was agreed that a special meeting of the Council be held at an early date to consider the matter. The hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters.

THE Finance and General Purposes Committee held a meeting on Tuesday last, there being in attendance Mr. Acton Bond (chairman), and Messrs. A. E. Drinkwater, R. Morand, C. Aubrey Smith, and Chas. Cruikshanks (secretary). The secretary received instructions to procure an estimate for the supply of lockers for the convenience of members desiring to hire them.

A COUNTRY FAIR which is to be given at the Botanical Gardens, Regent's Park, on Friday and Saturday, July 13 and 14, in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League, will derive special attractiveness from the presence in an official capacity of a number of popular actresses. The presidents of tea tables at the refreshment booths, which will be in charge of Mrs. C. Hayden Coffin, will consist of Misses Marie Tempest, Marie Moore, Isabel Jay, Constance Collier, Fanny Brough, and Phyllis Broughton. Mr. C. Hayden Coffin will conduct a hat-trimming competition; and in the exploitation of a waxwork and freak show Mrs. Albert Bradshaw and Mrs. George Dance, the proprietors, will be assisted, among others, by Miss Kate Santley, Miss Alice Liebman, Miss L. Patterson, Miss Woolgar Mellon, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. Mark Melford, Mr. Acton Bond, and Mr. Leon Lion. Variety entertainments, contributed to by well-known artists, will also be a feature of the fair.

THE good news that Mrs. Herman Merivale is to receive a Government pension of £50 a year in consideration of the literary work of her late husband, recalls a pretty little compliment that the author of "Forget-Me-Not" paid to Miss Ellen Terry. When the famous actress played Lady Macbeth she asked Mr. Merivale how he enjoyed the performance, and he made the graceful reply: "I saw you as Puck, many years ago, jump up from behind a toadstool and you instantly bewitched me, Ellen, and everybody else in the theatre. How can I judge your acting? You have bewitched me ever since!"

MISS EVA MOSS, who is at present enjoying a short holiday after forty-three weeks' hard work, has been specially engaged to play Camille at the Pavilion, Ramsgate, in July.

MR. EADE MONTEFIORE'S season at Mr. Robert Arthur's Camden Theatre opens on Monday with the Drury Lane drama *Cheer, Boys, Cheer*. During his season Mr. Montefiore is introducing popular prices at the Camden, a seat being obtainable for two shillings in the dress circle and for sixpence in the pit. The enterprising manager considers that this is the age of small prices and greater numbers, and the experiment is being viewed with general interest.

MR. H. B. IRVING has kindly consented to act as honorary examiner on Saturday afternoon at the 22nd annual examination of the students at the Polytechnic School of Elocution, which will be held this year in the small Queen's Hall. Medals and certificates will be awarded to the successful aspirants

THE application of Mr. W. D. Forsdike (the managing director) to allow smoking in the Alexandra Theatre, was passed by the Sheffield City Council on Wednesday, the 13th, so that patrons of the popular house may now indulge in the "weed" if they so desire, and doubtless the privilege will be much appreciated. We might mention that this is the revival of an old custom, as smoking in Sheffield theatres originated at the Alexandra many years ago, and when the management, in compliance with the universally expressed wishes of their patrons, decided to make application to renew the permit, the decision was received with much satisfaction by the habitués. The Alexandra is open, as usual, throughout the summer, and Mr. Forsdike has secured a strong array of dramatic attractions for the ensuing autumn.

MISS F. GLOSSOP-HARRIS, who has just concluded a long tour with Mr. Ian Maclaren, playing Rosalind, Portia, and other Shakespearean leads with success, has been re-engaged by Mr. Edward Terry to play Minnie Gilfillian on tour with him in the autumn.—Mr. Archie Selwyn has been engaged to create Tom Gradgrind in a dramatisation of Charles Dickens's novel "Hard Times," entitled *Mr. Gradgrind's System*, to be produced at Llandudno on July 2.

MR. H. BERNHARDT will produce at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, a new comedy in four acts, entitled *Peggy*. The authoress, Miss Athole Robertson, who will play the name-part, is a talented young actress, and the writer of some clever dramatic sketches. *Peggy* is her most ambitious effort, and report speaks highly of it.

MR. HENRY CROCKER concluded on Saturday an eleven months' tour with Mr. Edward Compton, playing Sir Peter Teazle, Sir Anthony Absolute, &c.; and also acting as stage-manager. He has been engaged for the autumn by Mr. Cyril Keightley to play Sir Peter Teazle, Mr. Hardcastle, and to stage manage.

MR. LIONEL RIGNOLD AND MISS ADA BLANCHE, who have just finished a most successful tour with *What the Butler Saw*, will now take a well-earned rest. They will start their autumn tour on July 23 at Worthing, and after visiting some of the principal provincial cities will return to London for the suburban theatres in the late autumn. The comedy has been enthusiastically received in every theatre yet visited, and return dates offered. Mr. Rignold and Miss Blanche will be supported by a first-class company of experienced artists, and it is safe to predict for this excellent entertainment a long and successful career.

SINCE his return from the provinces Mr. Rignold has had some exciting experiences. A few mornings ago he was aroused from his bed to find that his premises had been burglariously entered, and a quantity of valuables stolen, among them an old Bolloni violin, which he much prized. None of the property has up to now been traced; but, fortunately, a portion of his loss was covered by insurance. Mr. Rignold, however, has had good fortune as well as bad. On visiting his club he was informed, greatly to his surprise, that he had drawn Spearmint in the Derby Sweep. This is the second time in three years that Mr. Rignold has drawn the first prize in the Green Room Sweepstakes.

THE matinée arranged by Mr. Alan Mackinnon in aid of the building fund of the Charterhouse Mission, which will be given at the Garrick Theatre, by permission of Mr. Arthur Bourchier, on Monday will begin with *That Dreadful Doctor*, in which Mr. Charles Allan, Mr. Charles Maude, and Miss Ethel Warwick will take part. Mr. Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh will appear in The Trial Scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, a scene from *The Clandestine Marriage* will be played by Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. A. E. Matthews, and Miss Alice Crawford, and Mr. Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott will be seen in the second act of *Hamlet*. The programme will also include Cosmo Hamilton's new one-act play entitled *Gran'father Coquesne*, in which Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, Mr. Philip Cuningham, Master Philip Tonge, and Miss Ada Webster will appear. A scene from Geo. Colman's *The Heir-at-Law*, sustained by Mr. Cyril Maude and Mr. G. M. Graham, will complete the attractiveness of a superlative entertainment.

OWING to a relapse in Mr. Oswald Brand's condition and to the closing of the theatre for its vacation, he has, with the consent of Mr. J. B. Mulholland, postponed his benefit matinée at the King's Theatre until September next.

THE career of Cæsar Borgia has been selected for treatment by Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy, who has just completed a play on the subject of the soldier-cardinal. In accordance with his usual method, Mr. McCarthy is now turning the play into a novel.

IN the Westminster County Court on Thursday came up the action George Dance *v.* Arthur Payne Seddon, which was tried by his Honour Judge Woodfall. The plaintiff claimed to recover £6 17s. 7d., the alleged balance of plaintiff's shore of the gross takings for the visit of *The Girl From Kay's* to Hawick on January 11. The defendant was represented by Mr. Towry Piper, solicitor, and claimed to set off the amount in dispute on the ground of payments made on plaintiff's behalf in respect of printing and other items in connection with performances of *The Cingalee* and *The Orchid* at other places. Letters from plaintiff's manager of "fit-up" tours, authorising the payments (together with other evidence) were produced. His Honour held that the defendant was entitled to set off the payments, and the case was adjourned generally to enable the parties to agree to the figures (as to which some slight discrepancy appeared), the case to be restored to the list and disposed of by the Judge in the event of a settlement not being arrived at.

THEATRE CRANKS, or "people who patronise and pester," forms the subject of an article in next Saturday's issue of *Ideas*, a bright little periodical which seems to deal with every variety of topic. The Gaiety Theatre, it is related, has a pit patron, who occupies the same corner seat every Friday night with unfailing regularity. He has done so ever since the new Gaiety was opened, and he did the same thing as regards the old Gaiety for more years than any of the attendants now on duty can remember.

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE, during the opera season, has for one of its regular patrons a gentleman, said to be a Colonial ex-Premier, whose rooted aversion to evening dress is only equalled by his love for classical music. As evening dress is, of course, essential at these performances, he was, on first presenting himself many years ago clad in ordinary attire, refused admission. Not to be outdone, he borrowed a white tie from an attendant, and, buttoning his black overcoat over his blue lounge suit, wended his way to his stall. No objection was raised, and he has continued to repeat the manœuvre ever since, the attendant who supplies him with the tie being invariably rewarded with a handsome tip.

THE British Canadian concert, organised by Dr. Charles Harriss, of Montreal, will take place at Queen's Hall on the evening of Wednesday, the 27th inst., when the King has graciously promised to be present. Several of our most eminent composers will conduct their own compositions, and the programme will include Dr. Charles Harriss's choric idyll, *Pan*, which is to be performed for the first time in England. It is a setting of a poem by Miss Josephine Peabody, and the text revives certain rudiments of the earliest Greek drama, in that it treats the story of Pan as a little satyr-play centred about a worship of nature. The chorus embodies the voices of the forest, spirits of trees and streams, fauns, and echoes, and the orchestral music fills in the action.

DR. HARRISS has enthusiastic hopes for the future of music in Canada. For years past he has worked hard to establish an interest in music from the Atlantic to the Pacific. "My aim," he says, "has been to make music a living force in Canada, and at the same time to foster a love of British music in our colony. Then in time, when Canadian music grows up, I hope that the mother country will give it a kind greeting and help it along. The people are very enthusiastic, and will go big distances to hear concerts or attend rehearsals. I have known men ride 100 miles to a choir practice, and come into the hall in the winter with icicles on their beards. I, myself, too, have on occasions travelled as much as 3000 miles to hold a rehearsal."

AT Marlborough-street Police-court on Monday George Edwin Kyte, aged 29, an advertising agent, living in Glengall-road, Kilburn, was charged on remand with having attempted to obtain by fraud two tickets of the Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross-road. The prisoner wrote to the theatre several times, representing himself sometimes as stage-manager of the Lyceum and sometimes as advertising manager for that theatre, asking for tickets. A boy sent to the Garrick for tickets on the 9th inst. was handed an envelope containing a blank sheet of paper, and followed. He was seen to hand the envelope to the prisoner in Bedford-court. A detective-sergeant said that the prisoner had obtained tickets from other theatres. He was a lazy man, and had received a month's imprisonment for embezzlement. Mr. Kennedy sentenced Kyte to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

THE MACLEANS OF BAIRNESS.

Play, in Four Acts, by Edith Lyttelton, produced at the Criterion Theatre, on Tuesday, June 19, 1906.

Prince Charles Edward Stuart — MR. HARCOURT WILLIAMS
Sir Alan Maclean of Bairness — MR. FRANK WORTHING
Captain Lascelles — MR. JULIAN ROYCE
Captain O'Flanagan — MR. DANIEL MCCARTHY
Father Lamond — MR. DENNIS EADIE
Dr. Fergus Munro — MR. MARK KINGHORNE
David — MR. A. G. POULTON
A Highland Courier — MR. DUNCAN TOVEY
Margaretta Sinclair — MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL
Miss Grizel Maclean — MISS CARLOTTA ADDISON

The Hon. Mrs. A. Lyttelton has founded her play on a story of considerable dramatic possibilities, but is not sufficiently versed in the art of the theatre to realise those possibilities. Hence her drama is a pulseless thing; her dialogue for the most part tedious and commonplace; and her characters are mere adumbrations. Our emotions are never aroused, nor do we become in the least excited during the progress of the drama, which, however, drew to the Criterion on Tuesday evening a large and distinguished house, and the members of the British aristocracy present were apparently determined to set the seal of their approval upon *The Macleans of Bairness*.

The story is woven round the Young Pretender, Charles Edward, who, like his ancestor, the Merry Monarch, is a libertine. He has "stolen the innocence" of Margaretta Sinclair, a young girl whom he met at Court in Rome, and who had saved his life. The secret of her shame weighs upon the soul of Margaretta—more heavily, perhaps, since she has become installed as head nurse to her kinsman, Sir Alan Maclean of Bairness. She has learnt to love him, and her passion is returned tenfold. His medical attendant, Dr. Fergus Munro, does not regard in at all a favourable light the ministrations of the young girl, whose sad, sweet face has cast a spell over his patient. Sir Alan, who believes himself to be dying, is anxious to be united to Margaretta, in order that she may have his property. She is in despair. Scorning to deceive him, she makes confession of her past to Miss Grizel Maclean, who, with her confessor, Father Lamond, agrees that it would be fatal to the invalid to learn the truth, and equally fatal for Margaretta to refuse to marry him without giving her reason. So, with the vow that she will never really be Sir Alan's wife until he knows her story, she goes through the ceremony.

At the opening of the second act Margaretta has not yet spoken of the black stain upon her past to Sir Alan, who is naturally anxious to dispel the shadow that is between them. She is about to confess, when the tête-à-tête is interrupted by the entrance of an English officer in search of the Prince Charles Edward, a fugitive after Butcher Cumberland's massacre at Culloden. Captain Lascelles, in the King's service, who knows that Sir Alan favours the Hanoverian cause, is determined to leave no stone unturned to secure the £50,000, the price set upon the capture of the Pretender, dead or alive; but while he is in one part of Castle Bairness, his quarry, ragged and hungry, comes in at the door to seek food and shelter. Disguised in the gown of Father Lamond the Pretender escapes the observation of Lascelles and his troopers, but cannot leave the Castle, which is watched by sentries at every point. He must therefore perforce stay, and immediately abuses the hospitality of a rather unwilling host by renewing his protestations of affection to Margaretta, whom he attempts to kiss. Driven to desperation, the indignant wife drives her brooch pin into his hand. The couple have hardly time to recover their composure before Sir Alan, stern and suspicious, enters. He has not yet learnt the history of his wife's past, but is soon to do so, for during supper the Prince and an Irish captain, in their cups, make no secret of the relations that have existed between the former and the unfortunate woman who was not proof against his fascinations. Now comes the dramatic moment of the play. Sir Alan, in a fury, throws himself upon the Prince; Margaretta extinguishes the lights, after clearing the table of cups and platters, and all is confusion and darkness. We know nothing more than that the anger of the wronged husband has been sufficiently restrained to enable the Pretender to escape from his clutches, for next morning the Royal roysterer apologises, though his apology is haughtily refused by Sir Alan, who, however, assists him to escape. Margaretta, who acts as the Prince's envoy, is arrested, but he eludes capture. The English captain, however, is induced to let her go on the parole of her husband, who promises that she shall not leave the precincts of the Castle for at least two months. Sir Alan forgives the "blot," and the curtain falls on a happy ending.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell has in the character of Margaretta a part exactly suited to her temperament. No one can play the repentant, brave-souled woman, deeply conscious of sin, with more penetrating pathos than she can, and yet somehow she failed to impress her audience to any great extent on Tuesday. She rose to the situation at the end of the second act, and she gave the best speech of the play, wherein Margaretta describes the freeing of a hawk from a gin, with the poetic feeling required. The actress realised also the poignancy of the feelings of the self-condemned woman when, convulsively sobbing at her father confessor's knees, she ends her appeal with the words, "Maim me—hurt me—but set me free!" A *cri de cœur*, indeed! and one that thrilled the audience. But it was the only thrill of a dull, profitless evening. Mr. Frank Worthing as Sir Alan has not been well treated by the author. The Scotch laird has not enough blood in him, and is conventional, not to say dull. Mr. Worthing put heart into his work in the situation at the end of the third act. Mr. Harcourt Williams, in the better-drawn character of Prince Charles Edward Stuart, imparted the devil-may-care gaiety of manner to the dashing rebel, and gave no little dignity to the Pretender in the last scene. Mr. Julian Royce played with spirit and a gallant air the rôle of the King's officer, Captain Lascelles; Mr. Daniel McCarthy was racy of the soil as the Irish Captain O'Flanagan; Mr. Mark Kinghorne invested with some interest the character of an uninteresting Scotch medical practitioner, whose only remedy is bleeding; Mr. Dennis Eadie was not quite at home in the character of Father Lamond; Mr. A. G. Poulton was painstaking as David; and Mr. Duncan Tovey made a satisfactory Highland courier. Miss Carlotta Addison was sweet and motherly as the faithful and lovable Grizel Maclean.

"THE GEISHA" REVIVED.

On Monday, June 18, Revival of the Japanese Musical Play, in Two Acts, by Owen Hall, Lyrics by the late Harry Greenbank, Music by Sidney Jones and Lionel Monckton, entitled "THE GEISHA."

O Mimosa San — MISS MAY DE SOUSA
Miss Molly Seamore — MISS MARIE STUDHOLME
Nami — MISS KATHLEEN SEVERN
O Kiku San — MISS THELMA RAYE
O Hana San — MISS IRIS HOEY
O Kinkoto San — MISS DAISY STRATTON
Komurasaki San — MISS ALICE HATTON
Lady Constance Wynne — MISS WATT TANNER
Miss Marie Worthington — MISS GERTRUDE GLYNN
Miss Ethel Hurst — MISS NINA SEVENING
Miss Waters — MISS ANGY EDWARDINE
Juliette Diamant — MLLE. MARIETTE SULLY
Reginald Fairfax — MR. ROBERT EVETT
Dick Cuningham — MR. W. LOUIS BRADFIELD
Bronville — MR. GORDON CLEATHER
Grimston — MR. VALENTINE O'CONNOR
Tommy Stanley — MISS EDITH FINK
Captain Katana — MR. TAILLEUR ANDREWS
Takamine — MR. NORMAN GREENE
Wo-Mi — MR. WILLIE WARDE
Wun Hi — MR. FRED WRIGHT, JUN.
The Marquis Imari — MR. GEORGE GRAVES

The most musical of musical plays, and possessing a story sufficiently sentimental, *The Geisha* enjoyed a popularity that extended beyond these shores, and reached a run that stands as a record at Daly's. It was performed over 800 times at its first production at the same house in 1896; no less than four companies presented it in the provinces; it was played in every colony of Greater Britain; and its melodious score won the hearty recognition and approval of French, German, Russian, and Dutch, and even Peruvian audiences. Its strong claims to revival can therefore be readily understood; and the sound judgment of Mr. George Edwardes in putting it up for a summer run was endorsed at Daly's on Monday by an immense audience, overcharged with enthusiasm. In fact, of every single number a repetition was demanded by a noisy section of the audience, and, as many encores were given, it was somewhat late before the curtain fell, and Mr. Edwardes—following his company, who had done so excellently—appeared in response to continued applause and wisely declined to give a speech, for which vociferous cries were raised. Since the production of *The Geisha* at Daly's on April 25, 1896, Miss Marie Tempest, the original O Mimosa San, has graduated as an actress of modern comedy. Though her place is scarcely filled by Miss May de Sousa, who possesses not the musical culture of her predecessor, the fair American makes a very good substitute. At present, however, she lacks the complete control of her vocal resources, and though her middle register is pleasant to listen to, the higher notes are not always distinguished by true intonation. Miss de Sousa has much personal charm, however, and if she does not attempt to disguise herself as O Mimosa San, but is simply a pretty girl masquerading in ravishing Japanese costumes, she is an immense favourite, and the numbers "An Amorous Goldfish" and "The Jewel of Asia," as given by her, revive the pleasantest recollections of a score that is always alluring, bristling as it does with charming melody. The hit of the evening on Monday was scored by Miss Mariette Sully, a new-comer to the London stage, who was the original Véronique when M. Messager's opera was produced in Paris, in December, 1898, having previous to this performance distinguished herself by her impersonation of La Poupée. Miss Sully is therefore well equipped vocally and dramatically, and she has besides a pretty way of speaking broken English which was not excelled in charm by Miss Juliette Nesville, the original of Juliette Diamant. She is an artist to her finger tips, as was speedily discovered when she sang an interpolated song in the first act, and is decidedly coquettish and fascinating—a Parisienne possessing all the *joie de vivre* that is so characteristic. Her second song, given towards the end of the representation, which is entitled "C'est moi, Marquis," is a gem in its way, and was delightfully sung. The new Marquis Imari is Mr. George Graves, one of the most popular comedians in London at the present day. Mr. Rutland Barrington, his predecessor in the part, was not so daring or persistent a gagger—a fact due probably to the severest repression of such a practice during his early career as a Savoyard. But the public expect Mr. Graves to gag, and he takes care that they are not disappointed. On Monday he had often to rely on the prompter, but was extremely droll nevertheless, and may be trusted to improve his opportunities as time goes on. Mr. Robert Evett follows Mr. Hayden Coffin in the part of Reggie Fairfax, in which the favourite tenor has no real opportunity for acting. He made an excellent impression in the "Kissing Duet" with Molly Seamore, the success of which was shared by Miss Marie Studholme, who had considerable experience in the provinces in her early career in that character. Mr. Evett gave also with much spirit "Jack's the boy," and was encored in that "sugary" ballad, "Star of my soul," beloved of amateurs. Miss Studholme also repeated the triumph of the "parrot" song, one of the most favoured numbers. Mr. Louis Bradfield, the only member of the original cast playing at Daly's, again acquits himself well in the rôle of Dick Cunningham, being quite excellent in his contribution, "The dear little Jappy-Jap-Jappy." Mr. Huntley Wright is playing a Chinese character in another production; but the part of Wun-Hi still remains in the family, Mr. Fred Wright being an excellent deputy for his brother, of whom he reminds us in every inflexion of voice; but one must none the less recognise the originality and quaintness of the latest impersonator of the cunning Celestial, and Mr. Wright's rendering of "Chin Chin Chinaman" with accompanying dance was one of the big hits of the evening. Mr. Tailleur Andrews sang well as Captain Katani; and artistic vocal help came from Mr. Gordon Cleather as Bronville and Mr. Valentine O'Connor as Grimston. Miss Watt Tanner, who made the most of her slender chances as Lady Constance Wynne, chaperoned charming specimens of English girlhood in Miss Gertrude Glynn as Miss Marie Worthington, Miss Nina Sevening as Miss Ethel Hurst; and Miss Angy Edwardine as Miss Waters. Miss Edith Fink distinguished herself as Tommy Stanley; Mr. Norman Greene was a sonorous Takamine; and Mr. Willie Warde an amusing Wo-Mi. The four principal Geisha, Miss Thelma Raye, Miss Iris Hoey, Miss Daisy Stratton, and Miss Alice Hatton, sing well, and look charming; and Miss Kathleen Severn is quite satisfactory as Nami. Mr. Sidney Jones conducted Monday's performance, and received a hearty welcome. The Tea House of Ten Thousand Joys and the Chrysanthemum Fête are fine examples of Mr. Hawes Craven and Mr. Joseph Harker's best brush-work; and the ladies' rich dresses reflect the daintiness and taste that are the special characteristics of the weaker sex in Tokio and Yokohama.

"SEE-SEE" AT THE PRINCE OF WALES'S.

On Wednesday, June 20, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, was produced a Chinese comic opera, in two acts, the book by Charles H. E. Brookfield, the lyrics by Adrian Ross, and the music by Sidney Jones, with additional numbers by Frank Tours, entitled *See-See*.

Yen — MR. MAURICE FARKOA
Cheoo — MR. W. H. BERRY
Hoang — MR. FRED EMNEY
M. Mascotte — MR. RALPH ROBERTS
Hi-Tee — MR. FRED J. BLACKMAN
Sing-Song — MR. FRANCIS RAYNE
Tie-Pin — MR. H. E. PEARCE
So-Long — MR. P. H. BRACY
Hang-Kee — MR. HUNTLEY WRIGHT
Lee — MISS ADRIENNE AUGARDE
Poo-See — MISS LENA MAITLAND
Miao-Yao — MISS SYBIL GREY
Shoo-Shoo — MISS LILIAN HEWITSON
Mrs. Hoang — MISS KITTY HANSON
Mai-Yai — MISS AMY AUGARDE
Humming Bird — MISS LILY ELSIE
So-Hie — MISS GABRIELLE RAY
Silky-Lips — MISS SHELLY CALTON
Sea of Jade — MISS DORIS DEAN
Sly Smile — MISS DORA LANGHAM
Forbidden Fruit — MISS MABEL RUSSELL
See-See — MISS DENISE ORME

Again we are taken to the East, with its mysticism, its glorious traditions, and its glowing atmosphere, for the setting of the latest light opera—for that is the proper title of Mr. George Edwardes's production at the Prince of Wales's—and the telling of a story, the action of which takes place in the heart of Pekin, has afforded excellent opportunities for reaching a plane of splendid elegance in dresses and mounting, of which full advantage has been taken both by the scene-painter and the costumier. Then in the score Mr. Sidney Jones has shown not only his customary command of suave and pleasant melody, but has reached artistic excellence in his concerted numbers, and the octet "Very nice" and the quartet "The Third Moon" may be quoted as particularly grateful examples of choral structure and delicate and piquant orchestration. We have, too, in the duet "Doves" and in the solo "Snowflake and Rose" a couple of airs that rise above the commonplace, and yet that fall on the ear gratefully. There are two incidental numbers from the pen of Mr. Frank Tours, a pretty song about "Butterflies"—a popular subject for composers—and a doll song. Mr. Charles Brookfield has cleverly burlesqued the Oriental metaphor and flowery terms of speech in his libretto, and his work throughout is decidedly well done. Mr. Adrian Ross, too, has scored a brilliant success with his well-turned lyrics, and there is no doubt that his "Chinese Slavery" verses will prove to be the topical hit of the season. Mr. Sidney Ellison, in the work of production, has succeeded in presenting a series of perfect stage pictures, and to his artistic exertions the brilliant success of the newest musical piece was largely due. With judicious compression and a brightening-up of the first act, there should be a long run in store for *See-See*.

See-See is a Pekin beauty, honoured and reverenced by her Chinese sisters, who are living with her in seclusion in the summer palace of the coterie of learned and pretty women known as the Pearls beyond Price. The "third moon," the forerunner of spring—not an inconstant moon, let us hope—is at hand, when even the youth of Pekin turn lightly to thoughts of love; and See-See, tired of the respectful homage rendered to her by her own sex, would taste of the rapture of a genuine passion, and is thirsting for some adventure that will enliven her humdrum existence. Her wishes do not long remain ungratified, for Yen, the carefully brought up son of Cheoo in some mysterious way is able to intrude upon the privacy of the "Pearls beyond Price," and is so struck with admiration of a portrait of See-See painted on a screen that he serenades it. But the Pekin beauty is not the girl chosen for him by his grasping old father Cheoo, who affianced him to Lee, the daughter of Hoang, while both were infants. Lee, in her turn is in love with Hang-Kee, a coolie, who belongs to the labour party in the land of the mandarin. Chance comes to the assistance of all the lovers. Hank-Kee has the distinguished honour of being the foster-brother of See-See, whom he calls a "sister of the feeding-bottle," and he implores her powerful aid to annihilate the matrimonial scheme arranged by the flint-hearted parents without any regard to the wishes of the chief contracting parties. See-See, with the help of Mai-Yai, a Chinese occultist, determines on a ruse which she hopes will save the lovers, and at the same time afford her plenty of fun. Knowing that old Cheoo has not seen Hoang since the days of their youth, and has never met Lee, she resolves to impersonate her, to allow herself to be married to Yen, and then to disappear as mysteriously as she came. Escorted by a mock wedding party, See-See departs at the end of the first act for Cheoo's residence, the love-lorn and penniless Hang-Kee becoming for the nonce Hoang. On their arrival at the residence of Cheoo that worthy greets Hank-Kee as his friend of the old days, and though the latter endeavours to paint his family and himself in the blackest of colours, the shrewd and crafty merchant is determined on the alliance between the families. Yen is therefore united to See-See (veiled) by a quaint ceremony, and the well-laid scheme threatens to "gang agley." But when the real Hoang arrives we learn that See-See, who is his long-lost daughter by a banished wife, had always been intended for Yen. Everything therefore turns out quite happily, for See-See soon loses here heart, and becomes the willing slave of her husband. Lee then pairs off with Hang-Kee.

Mr. Huntley Wright's return to the congenial sphere of light opera was welcomed by a packed house with very great enthusiasm, and it says much for this comedian's versatility that in the new Chinese character, Hang-Kee, which he presents with so much comicality, his method differs entirely from that adopted in his Wun-hi, the Celestial in *The Geisha*, an impersonation that establishes his claim to rank as a leading comedian. He scored his great success on Wednesday evening with the cleverly-written topical song "Chinese Slavery," to which we have already referred. We cannot resist the temptation of quoting one of the verses, which we recommend to the attention of our golfing readers. It runs as follows:

"If you wander through Britain and round about,
Then every few miles on and off,
You'll see wretched creatures with agonised features
Condemned to hard labour called golf!
They must hit little balls on the ground about,
And bury them deep in the sands;
Their language so bad is that warders called caddies,
Stand over with clubs in their hands!
Free, free, is the happy Chinee,
But there, on that isle in the waves,
They must get on the green, if it takes them nineteen.
And there's no one would do it but slaves!"

Encores in general were wisely suppressed on the opening night; but the irresistible "go" of this song roused the house to enthusiasm, and Mr. Wright had to comply with the demands for a *bis*. Hang-Kee is a man of many disguises, and the part should become even funnier than it was on the opening night, when the comedian has settled down to it. Mr. W. H. Berry is broadly droll as Cheoo, a retired merchant blessed with three wives; but he does not appear until the second act, when his command of humour, which has occasionally a cockney flavour, finds scope in an amusing song and some cleverly-written dialogue. The comicalities of Mr. Fred Emney have been very slenderly provided for, and his opportunities might be increased with advantage. Miss Denise Orme, who represents the Chinese maiden See-See, displays the charm of her voice in the song "Snowflake and Rose," and again in the duet "Doves," the success of which is shared by Mr. Maurice Farkoa, who plays the lover in his most taking style. Miss Orme further distinguishes herself by playing a Japanese fiddle obbligato to the song in the first act given by So-Hie, a boy's part, prettily acted by the winsome Miss Gabrielle Ray, who dances with a grace distinctly her own in the second act in a "doll's" song. Miss Amy Augarde has a part eminently fitted to her capabilities in that of the fortune-teller Mai-Yai, her song "Chang-Ho" being one of the most successful numbers of the first act. Miss Adrienne Augarde has but little to do as Lee, but her special number—"Butterflies"—in which pretty property coleoptera float about the Chinese palace, is a decided success. Miss Lily Elsie gives excellent aid as Humming Bird; the wives of Cheoo are presented with no little humour by Miss Lena Maitland, Miss Sybil Grey, and Miss Lilian Hewitson; and Miss Kitty Hanson gives effective aid in the part of Mrs. Hoang. The chief "Pearls beyond Price" are impersonated with considerable charm by Miss Shelly Calton, Miss Doris Dean, Miss Dora Langham, and Miss Mabel Russell.

A PLEA FOR ENGLISH OPERA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I wonder how many people reflect that if the critics had not killed English opera at its inception in 1762 it might have been a flourishing national institution to-day! It is curious that even to this moment the musical critics consistently ignore the claims of English composers and English opera. I venture to say that the production of a new musical comedy would receive longer and more favourable and sympathetic consideration than the production of a grand opera by a British subject.

I may just mention in passing that during my eight years as director of an opera company I have produced four operas by English composers. The last of these, Mr. Nicholas Gatty's *Grey-Steel*, was played only a couple of weeks ago at the Crystal Palace.

I am a firm believer not only in English opera, but in opera in English, and I am thoroughly convinced that there is a large public for grand opera on these lines. I am only too painfully aware of our innumerable shortcomings when we essay either of these forms of musical art, but then I remember "A child must creep before it walks." If it can creep there is obviously at least a possibility (some would say a distinct probability) that it will one day walk.

At any rate, no great amount of logic is required to enable one to say if it never creeps it will most certainly never walk.

Now, in view of the possibility in question, and because English opera, or opera in English, does most certainly give great pleasure to innumerable people, I am all in favour of encouraging the creeping child, giving it a pat on the back or a help along, or, at the very least, not deliberately putting obstacles in its way.

In England we are very unpatriotic where artists are concerned. If a musician or singer arrives from a foreign country, leaders of the social and artistic world rush to do him honour, while a native-born artist must either change his name or go abroad for recognition.

English opera as a national institution can only come into existence by way of opera in English, and for this reason the composing of an opera is a long and very laborious task, and composers must first see that there is some chance of their work gaining at least a hearing before they can afford to spend two or three years writing an opera.

This is undoubtedly one reason why the English operas which are heard are unworthy of support. Instead of being the outcome of genuine inspiration and an impelled artistic impulse which must find its expression in great music, they are too often either the pastime of a wealthy dilettante or the hobby of an elderly musician filling a high official position, and whose inspiration is most probably deadened by long contact with tradition and the schools.

If English opera were in a flourishing condition, and paid those who followed it as an art, then we would not have to put up with the terrible English librettos that are now so annoying. When a new opera was produced abroad the followers of letters and poetry in England would, if they were assured of a demand, turn their attention to making a literary and beautiful translation, just as at present they make us translations of Maeterlinck, Ibsen, d'Annunzio, and a score of others

Hitherto composers have devoted little or no attention to the libretto of their operas; but I think those days are past, and I look forward to a time when we will have men like Arthur Symons, Stephen Phillips, and John Davidson writing librettos for our great musicians. At any rate, it is this hope which makes us work; it is a hope dear to many of us, and it makes the prevailing conditions not only endurable, but even acceptable.

With regard to the objection urged against the connection of exquisite musical phrases and commonplace, everyday words, may I take the liberty of reminding the public that Shakespeare, and many lesser artists, too, have dealt with the most commonplace incidents of life in language that was not only acceptable to the most fastidious ear, but was not seldom "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever"?

The English language is second to none in its capacity for expressing human thought and emotion in a beautiful and fitting manner. I look forward to the time when it will have become possible to have fine translations made of all the operas in one's répertoire by cultured Englishmen who have artistic instinct and poetic feeling, joined to a command of the language which we are all so proud to call our mother-tongue.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES MANNERS.

London, June 15.

JANE HADING AT THE CORONET.

On Monday, June 18, for the first time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Maurice Donnay, entitled "LE RETOUR DE JERUSALEM."

Henriette / Judith — MME. JANE HADING
Suzanne Aubier — MME. FERIEL
Andrée Daincourt — MME. FLORIAN
Mme. Aubier — MME. ALCIME-LEBLANC
Mme. Arkler — MME. SAUER
Léontine — MME. NAUDY
Michel Aubier — M. ROUYER
Lazare Hændelssohn — M. ARNAUD
L'Oncle Emile Aubier — M. M. LUGUET
Docteur Lurdau — M. A. BOUR
Vowenberg — M. GARAT
M. Aubier — M. LENOIR
Trévières — M. PEYRIERE
Moissac — M. MAX ROBERT
Afkler — M. G. DEYRENS
Georges Daincourt — M. ARMAND
Le Capitaine Aubier — M. LANGLOIS
Un Domestique — M. GEORGES
Un Ouvrier — M. ANTONIN
Le Petit Raymond — LE PETIT CORNILLIA

Mme. Jane Hading inaugurated the second week of her stay at the Notting Hill-gate house by the production of Maurice Donnay's play, entitled *Le Retour de Jérusalem*, originally produced at the Paris Gymnase on Dec. 3, 1903. Any work from the pen of such a clever author as M. Donnay invariably excites considerable interest; and though he is not at his best in this play, we understand that its suggestions of racial animosity between Jew and Gentile won for it more than a *succès d'estime*. According to the popular playwright, a *rapprochement* between Aryan and Semite is a matter of impossibility, and they therefore should remain apart. This contention roused fierce controversy in Paris at the time of the *première* of the play, in which Mme. Simone Le Bargy was the Judith, a somewhat unreal personage, scarcely representative of the Hebrew race. A freethinker by conviction, Judith goes over to Rome in order to marry a Marquis. When she visits Jerusalem, the glorious past of her people and their subsequent troubles are supposed to work so much upon her mind that she determines to return to the old creed and devote her life to the welfare of her co-religionists. On the whole, *Le Retour de Jérusalem* is a rather gloomy, pessimistic play, in which M. Donnay appears to gibe at the phase of love termed the intellectual companionship between man and woman, the sexual distinctions preventing real Platonic love, and therefore wrecking the whole scheme of mental amitié.

Judith, an intellectual, cultivated, but somewhat hysterical Jewess is inspired with a desire to further the advancement and solidarity of the Hebrew race. She changed her religion externally when she married, while still quite a girl, but she is far more ready to change her husband than the real religious belief which is part of her life, and which later on her honeymoon in Jerusalem deepens and strengthens. After a brief but stormy scene, in which Suzanne Aubier discovers by means of a letter in Judith's reticule, that her husband Michel, entertains something more than a mere platonic affection for the beautiful and talented Jewess, she dismisses him, and he goes to join his new love. In a sumptuously furnished flat we find Judith and Michel carrying on a constant intermittent mental warfare, he in vain endeavouring to uphold French traditions and honour. He refuses her friend Lazare his signature to a league of "Progress, irrespective of race, religion, or nationality," and eventually requests another of Judith's Hebrew friends to quit his house, owing to his disparaging remarks concerning the French Army. This is the thin end of the wedge, and, after Suzanne has come to tell him of her intended marriage, and to gain his consent to her taking the children with her, Judith also claims her liberty, and Michel is left alone to ponder on the utter failure of his cherished schemes for intellectual regeneration. Act III. ends with Judith working herself up into a frenzy, which ends in her swooning. The arrival of Lazare and the confession of her love for him is omitted in the present version.

Mme. Hading gives a magnificent performance as Henriette, alias Judith, and paints in glowing colours the almost frenzied ambitions and aspirations of the beautiful Jewess. Her restless, feverish energy of mind, mingled with a certain amount of animal passion, is portrayed with rare grace, charm, and feeling. It is hard to condemn so seductive a creature, though really there is little to admire in the selfish, scheming nature except her fervent racial devotion. M. Rouyer has the great man's part of the play as Michel Aubier, a self-centred seeker after intellectual advancement who learns too late that one's own individuality cannot be successfully cultivated at the expense of suffering in others. He acts with great dramatic power and ability, and earns a sympathetic tear for Michel, in spite of the weak, contemptible nature of the man. Mme. Feriel is very sweet and gentle as the deeply-wronged wife, Suzanne Aubier; Mme. Florian is full of *joie de vivre* as Andrée Daincourt, and we cannot for the world help liking this extremely "modern" but exceedingly charming and typical Parisienne. M. Arnaud has a very small part as Lazare Hændelssohn, which he plays to perfection; and Mme. Alcime-Leblanc, Mme. Sauer, M. M. Lenoir (very amusing as Aubier, *père*), Peyriere, Garat, &c., successfully fill in tiny *silhouettes* of character.

On Wednesday, June 20, the Drama, entitled "SAPHO."

On Wednesday Mme. Hading gave a fine performance of "Sapho" in Alphonse Daudet's well-known play. Miss Olga Nethersole has already made this piece well known to English and American audiences. Mme. Hading's wonderful witchery as the fascinating Fanny Legrand, her gentleness and grace, mingled with almost animal fury, quite electrified the audience, and her paroxysm of passion at parting with her lover, Jean Gaussin, elicited repeated recalls. Hers is a wonderful exposition of a complex character. M. Rouyer gave a fine performance as Jean Gaussin, his stormy tumultuous passion, his intense jealousy and chagrin at finding how he has been duped, were admirably portrayed. M. Arnaud gave a very effective and touching embodiment of Déchelette; Mlle. C. Fonteney was very sweet as the all too loving Alice Doré; Mme. Florian was excellent as Francine; Mme. Feriel delightful as Divonne; and Mme. Alcime-Leblanc was capital as the cheery Mme. Hettéma. Mlle. Sauer was well in the picture as Iréne Vitalis; M. Bour was a most amusing uncle Césaire; and the other minor rôles were cleverly sustained.

"HER NAMELESS CHILD," a drama in four acts, by Madge Duckworth and Ridgewood Barrie, was produced for copyright purposes at the Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy, on Monday afternoon.

THE King has graciously accepted a copy of Mr. Sterling Mackinlay's recently-published book, "Antoinette Sterling and Other Celebrities."

AT a special sitting of the Southampton County Court on the 15th inst., before His Honour Judge Gye, William Dunn, a local musician and licensed victualler, sued Messrs. Frederick Mouillot and Walter de Frece, proprietors of the Hippodrome, Southampton, to recover the sum of £4 2s. 6d. for one week's wages as a musician and two weeks' wages in lieu of notice. His honour found for plaintiff, with costs. Notice of appeal was given, and leave granted.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

"LA MIOCHE DORÉE,"

Drama, in Five Acts,

by MM. Alphonse Lemonnier and Louis Péricaud,

Produced at the Ambigu, on June 14.

Marie Rousset .....MLLE. BERTILE LEBLANC
Madeleine Rousset .....MME. RENÉE LEMERCIER
Berthe de Rosay .....MLLE. MAGDA
Comtesse de Saint-Simond..MME. LOUISE DAUVILLE
Toussaint Rousset .....M. HENRY KRAUSS
Robin père .....M. LOUIS PERICAUD
Charles de Saint-Simond .....M. ROGER
Jean Robin .....M. PRADELY
Le Docteur Andrieux ....M. CHARLES BERTEAUX

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 21.—It is a long time since the ladies enjoyed such a good old-fashioned cry like they did at *La Mioche Dorée*, the new drama brought out at the Ambigu. No tremolo greeted the appearance of the villain, but otherwise, as far as the sentiment was concerned, we might have imagined ourselves assisting at a play written twenty years ago. The plot is as follows: Touissaint Rousset and his wife Madeleine are true Normandy peasants, who, through hard work, have amassed some thirty thousand pounds. They have sent their daughter Marie to a first-class college, where she makes the acquaintance of Berthe de Rosay and of the latter's cousin, Charles de Saint-Simond. When Marie returns home she turns her back on her rustic lover because she has lost her heart to the aristocratic Charles, who, overwhelmed with debts, is glad to ask for the hand of the rich peasants' daughter. The noble Charles not only sells himself for thirty thousand pounds, but he is faithless to Berthe de Rosay, to whom he was engaged. When Marie's child grows up Berthe is engaged as governess. Charles at once starts making violent love to Berthe, and one day Rousset, Marie's father, comes in unexpectedly when his son-in-law is taking the governess in his arms. He tells his daughter what he has seen, but to his surprise and indignation Marie, for her child's sake, refuses to leave her husband. The position becomes awkward, but the authors solve the difficulty in the usual banal way. Charles de Saint-Simond, having lost heavily at cards, blows out his silly brains; Marie becomes reconciled to her father, and we foresee that ere long she will marry the discarded Jean Robin, who, having enlisted, has been raised to the rank of lieutenant. The piece, well written, and containing many bright scenes, is a reminiscence of several well-known plays. It was creditably interpreted. M. Péricaud—one of the authors—supplied a good sketch of the sly peasant Robin; M. Roger imparted the necessary colour to the rôle of Charles de Saint-Simond; Mlle. Bertile Leblanc was a touching Marie; and Mme. Louise Dauville impersonated the old Countess de Saint-Simond with great tact.

FOR some unknown reason the Press was not invited to the performance of *Francillon* and *La Visite de Noces*, given at the Comédie Française in honour of Dumas fils. All I know is that the house was "sold out," which speaks well for Dumas and for the theatre.

BEFORE leaving for London Mme. Réjane has signed the engagement of M. Draquin, the excellent actor from the Vaudeville. M. Draquin made a hit in *Le Péril Jaune* and in *La Belle Madame Héber*, produced at the last-named house.

"LE CHEVALIER D'EON is the title of a new opera by M. Henri Cain, for which M. Rodolphe Berger has written the music. The story is taken from a work by Armand Silvestre.

M. COQUELIN aîné will make his reappearance at the Gaîté in *Nos bons Villageois*, M. Sardou having sanctioned its production at that house. M. Coquelin will interpret the rôle of Floupin, created by Arnal.

MLLE. MAIA, the clever young actress from the Theatre du Parc in Brussels, who has been repeatedly mentioned in these columns, has just been engaged by M. Franck. Mlle. Maia will make her début at the Gymnase in a new piece by M. Donnay.

M. ALBERT DARMONT, manager of the Champigny open-air theatre, announces the production of *Xerxès Vaincu*, by M. Hector Fleischmann. The latter, our youngest playwright—for he is only twenty-three—has already given us *L'Affaire Capet*, and his last work, *Les Larmes du Masque*, will be brought out at the Théâtre Molière next season. M. Damont has engaged for the principal rôle M. de Max, who for the last twelve months has kept away from the boards. The rôle of the blind queen will be taken by Mme. Laure Mouret, who played the leading part in *Dyonisos*, recently given at the Théâtre de l'Œuvre. The rehearsals of M. Fleischmann's work are in full swing.

THERE are several new engagements at the Théâtre de l'Athénée, among which that of Mlle. Juliette Garcia, who replaced Mlle. Marville in *La Chaste Suzanne*.

WE will not have the pleasure of applauding Miss Olga Nethersole at the Vaudeville. The English company was to have made its appearance there next month, but at the last moment difficulties arose, and Miss Nethersole's plans had to be abandoned. This is all the more to be regretted as the difficulties in question could have been easily overcome. The responsibility rests with a certain gentleman here, whose attitude in the matter has been reprehensible.

THE public in our outlying districts have not lost their taste for operette. Thus, at the Théâtre de Montrouge, Lecocq's *La Petite Mariée* is drawing well, and the work, despite the heat, will remain on the bill certainly until the end of the month.

GUILDHALL DRAMATIC STUDENTS.

The pupils of Miss Kate Rorke gave an excellent performance of W. S. Gilbert's *Broken Hearts* and Sydney Grundy's comedy *Man Proposes* in the theatre of the Institution before a very large audience on Thursday afternoon. In Gilbert's fairy play, *Broken Hearts*, Mr. Joseph St. Aubyn and Miss Annie Walden took chief honours, though all the performers showed the care and skill bestowed on their training by their eminent teacher, Miss Kate Rorke. Mr. Joseph St. Aubyn as the deformed Mousta greatly distinguished himself, and in his dramatic scene with the Lady Hilda proved that he has all the instincts of a true actor, both in his gestures and the delivery of his lines, being most ably seconded by Miss Annie Walden, who was a very efficient Lady Hilda. Mr. George Cooke also rendered good service in the character of Prince Florian, although at times his elocution was slightly unequal. The other characters of the Lady Vavir, Lady Melusine, and Lady Amanthis were well enacted by Miss Christobel Daniel, Miss Daisy Browne, and Miss Dorothy Roberts. The make-up of the various performers was excellent, the costumes being kindly lent for this performance by Mrs. Martin Harvey, and the one picturesque scene of the Island of Broken Hearts did the greatest credit to the Guildhall stage management. At the close all the principals and Miss Kate Rorke were called to the front and warmly applauded. Mr. Grundy's one-act comedy *Man Proposes* was acted with great spirit, Mr. Arthur Minton playing Captain Huntingdon in a most lively and amusing manner and Miss Olga Kent made a charming Belle Huntingdon, while we must not forget to praise Miss Winifred Barnett, who appeared as the pert maid Dinah. A small but effective orchestra, consisting of piano and strings, rendered good service in the following pieces:—March, "Avec Aplomb"; Michiels' "Hungarian Czardas"; and Sousa's "Mahattan Beach"; cleverly conducted by Mr. H. Phillipe Thomas. The stage furniture of the scene of Col. Campbell's house was kindly lent by Messrs. Story and Triggs.

ACTRESS'S CLAIM FOR SALARY.

At Bloomsbury County Court on Thursday his Honour Judge Bacon heard an action brought by Miss Italia Conti against Mrs. Margaret C. Scott, the widow of the late Mr. Clement Scott, of Woburn-square, W.C. The action was to recover the sum of £15 as damages, being for three weeks' salary on a month's engagement to play in the defendant's *Diamond Express* company.

Mr. Rowsell, plaintiff's counsel, said his client had acted under the management of Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. George Alexander, and in two plays by Mr. Cecil Raleigh. On Feb. 13 she received a telegram from Mr. Raleigh, author of the sketch, *The Diamond Express*, and had an interview with him. What took place at that was next day repeated to Mrs. Clement Scott. There was some question about plaintiff's terms, and it was agreed that she was to have £5 per week, a sum much lower than her ordinary salary, as she had never acted in a music hall before. There was a month's engagement, which was to comprise a week at the Canterbury Music Hall, a fortnight at the Metropolitan, and a week at Ealing. There was a rehearsal in the presence of Mrs. Clement Scott and Mr. Raleigh, and afterwards the plaintiff performed at the Canterbury. After four nights plaintiff was handed a week's salary, and upon going to the hall the following night she was told that she was no longer required, as Mrs. Clement Scott intended to resume taking the part. She now sued for the remaining three weeks of the month's engagement.

In answer to Mr. Robinson, plaintiff said that she had never been on a music hall stage before.

His Honour: What is your line, tragic or comic?

Plaintiff: I am a tragedienne and a comedienne.

His Honour: Both sorts.

In reply to Mr. Robinson, she said that there was no complaint as to the way she played her part. She did it very well, considering it was a first performance.

Mr. Robinson: Isn't it a fact that the villain locks the railway points with a chain and the audience think the train is rushing to certain destruction, and that if you don't speak your lines, "Locked on the down line, locked to certain death," the biograph man does not know when to turn the train on? Did the man also complain that you fired the revolver in the air, instead of on the ground?

Judge Bacon: Dear me! Was there a revolver in it as well as a railway train?

Plaintiff said she was holding the revolver up, and it went off by accident.

Mr. Robinson said that the plaintiff had to stoop down and fire four shots.

Judge Bacon: Whatever for?

Mr. Robinson: The pistol shots were to break the chain which the villain had locked around the railway points.

Mrs. Clement Scott, the defendant, said the plaintiff was engaged for one week, owing to witness's indisposition. She further stated that, although she had not recovered, she had to take the part on the Friday night, as Mr. Adney Payne had threatened to cut the sketch out of the bill.

Mr. Robinson: So you were forced to step into the breach and thus save the situation?

His Honour: Oh, nobody is forced to step into breach; it is an act of heroism.

Several witnesses were called on behalf of the defence, and in the end the Judge came to the conclusion that the plaintiff had failed to establish that her engagement had been for four weeks, and judgment was entered for the defendant.

"THE RANCHMAN'S ROMANCE."

A New Romantic Play, in Three Acts, by Constance Bromley, produced for the first time on any stage at the Queen's Theatre, Leeds, On Wednesday, June 20.

Fred Chesterton .....MR. HARVEY BRABAN
Harry Mason .....MR. CONRAD HEYWOOD
Binks .....MR. EDWIN C. BUFFUM
Jim .....MR. TOM ARMITAGE
Elsie Gordon .....MISS CECILIA GILMORE
Eleanor .....MISS CONSTANCE BROMLEY

The Ranchman's Romance is—as its title suggests—an episode occurring in the Far West, and its authoress, Miss Constance Bromley, a young Leeds actress of promise, has been fortunate in obtaining her local colour and detail at first hand, for several members of her family are in Canada engaged in farming and prospecting. The story opens with Fred Chesterton leaving his native town on the miscarriage of a love affair with a young widow, Mrs. Partington, and taking up ranching under the assumed name of Graeme. Now, this same ranch was formerly in the possession of Mrs. Partington's deceased husband, and that lady, thinking it is part of her patrimony, visits the place, and so again meets Chesterton, who does not acquaint her with the fact that he is the proprietor until a reconciliation has been effected. On realising the true state of affairs Mrs. Partington has a stormy interview with Chesterton, the outcome of which is her instant departure; but on the return journey she learns that a prairie fire has placed the occupants of the ranch in great peril, and retraces her steps, to find her lover badly burned. Then follow upbraidings, tears, a final reconciliation, and a happy ending.

Mr. Harvey Braban realised the manly and verile character of Fred Chesterton, or Graeme, in powerful style; his acting in the strong third act being a very masterful and convincing effort. Miss Constance Bromley gave a warmly-appreciated portrayal of Mrs. Partington, her emotional acting being of a high order of excellence. Mr. Edwin C. Buffum was decidedly good as the Yank Binks, in spite of somewhat restricted opportunities. Mr. Conrad Heywood plays Graeme's chum, Curley, and evidently has a part to his liking. He made a good impression. The humour of the piece was sustained in somewhat extravagant manner by Mr. Tom Armitage as the servant Jim. Miss Cecilia Gilmore played the part of Elsie Gordon in an eminently successful style. Incidental music has been specially composed for the piece by Mr. Carl Sherrington.

M. COQUELIN, the celebrated French comedian, and his company appeared at the Palace Theatre, Belfast, on Tuesday with great success in *Cyrano De Bergerac*. M. Coquelin's success in the title-rôle was in every respect complete. He was assisted by a remarkably fine company, honours being especially due to Mlle. Suzanne Devoyod as Roxane.

THE Besses o' th' Barn visited Norwich on Monday last, and gave two performances in Chapel Field Gardens, much to the appreciation of immense audiences. At the conclusion of the evening's performance Messrs. J. Pain and Son exhibited some very fine fireworks.

A FUND is being raised for the publication of Mr. W. Y. Hurlstone's greatly admired pianoforte quartett as a memorial to the late composer. The publication of this work, besides placing it within reach of those who are interested in chamber music, would be a material help to those whom he has left behind. Sir Hubert Parry has expressed his approval of the scheme, and Mr. Percy V. Sharman, of Limpsfield, Surrey, will receive subscriptions.

MRS. HAMILTON EARLE (Mme. Louise Dale), who has been so much missed for some time from the concert platform, gave birth to a son at her residence in Sloane-street on Tuesday, and it is satisfactory to learn that both mother and child are doing well.

"PUT IT IN BLACK AND WHITE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

DEAR SIR,—*The Era* having, ever since I can remember (and that dates from the year 1873) been the mouthpiece of the theatrical profession, I shall feel obliged if you will kindly give publicity to this letter.

If the verdict obtained against the Vaudeville Theatre to-day is to become a precedent for theatrical custom, viz.:—

That all engagements are for the run of the play unless there is a written contract to the contrary,

then what I have always understood to be theatrical custom, viz.:—

That all engagements entered into, unless otherwise specified, are subject to a fortnight's notice on either side

must be considered abolished, and it is most important that all managers and artists should become acquainted with this new ruling.

Artists of ability taking an engagement without a contract will find themselves very much handicapped in their career by being bound to remain in a small part, when, had the old ruling existed, after a reasonable run any better offer could have been accepted. And a manager would also find himself in a very awkward position by having to retain for the run of the piece some individual who at rehearsals might have seemed suited to a part, but whose subsequent performance turned out to be most detrimental to the play. Therefore, in the interests of both parties, it is most urgent for you to bring before the profession the fact that no agreements should be entered into except in writing, and thus, once and for all, put an end to this interminable question of *what is the custom of the profession*.

Although there are some extremely clever managers now in existence, there have in the past been equally clever ones, and it is not to be presumed that there was not an object in the old unwritten law that both parties could terminate an unsuitable engagement by giving a fortnight's notice, unless both parties concerned were so perfectly assured that they would meet with each other's approval that they were justified, prior to opening, in entering into a contract fixing the engagement for the run of the piece.

There can be no doubt that the old ruling is best. It has been proved for many years that if there is any doubt as to the capacity of an artist, or any hesitation on the part of an artist as to whether they desire to remain for any long time under one management, it is undoubtedly far better for such engagements to be terminable by a fortnight's notice on either side.

In asking you to give publicity to this letter, I do so with the knowledge that I have had to deal with thousands of contracts during the thirty-three years I have been in this business. I am perfectly aware that in the earlier years many engagements were for stock seasons.

I am, Sir, Yours truly,
HERBERT BLACKMORE,
Dramatic Agent.

11, Garrick-street, June 21, 1906.

[P.S.—The above interesting letter should afford material for discussion, and letters from managers and the theatrical profession are invited.—ED. *The Era*.]

JAMES NELSON, LTD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA

SIR,—May I beg the favour of your inserting in your next issue a few lines of personal explanation with regard to my connection with the above company, which has lately closed at the Standard Theatre, Johannesburg?

A syndicate was formed in Johannesburg for the purpose of running theatrical companies in South Africa, of which Mr. Sass and myself were appointed joint managers; but it being considered beneficial from a business point of view, my name was to be used alone—but solely and only as the style and title of the company and with no other liability whatever.

During my absence in South America the character of the initial entertainment was decided, and my co-manager was instructed to proceed to New York to purchase plays and secure a company.

On my return later to South Africa I was informed of this arrangement, and was directed to proceed to England on other matters connected with the syndicate's business.

After a stay here of some weeks I returned to Johannesburg to open the theatre on March 9 with the American company engaged in New York. I found that during my absence, and without my consent or even consultation with me, the syndicate had been turned into a limited liability company under the above title.

For various reasons the plays selected and the company engaged utterly failed to attract, and by a resolution of the board of directors I was instructed to return to England and send out a more popular class of entertainment; since which date—March—with the exception of two cables and one letter, I have been kept in total ignorance of the state of affairs in South Africa.

The news from an outside source of the closing of the theatre was a great surprise to me, and on consultation with my co-manager I found that he had made, prior to the company leaving America, special provision, under a substantial guarantee, for the return of all the artists to their homes.

In the face of this statement the article in a contemporary as to the stranded condition of the artists in Johannesburg is absolutely untrue, it being within my certain knowledge that the necessary funds have long since been cabled to Africa for their return.

The salaries, amounting to £430 per week, have, I am advised, been paid up to the closing of the theatre—May 26—so that the artists are in a better position than myself, for in addition to my having received no salary since April 1, I have been largely out of pocket for monies paid by me on behalf of the company.

Under these circumstances I feel it is unfair to suggest, as has been done in some quarters, that I am responsible for any trouble which may have arisen.—I am, Sir, yours truly,

JAMES NELSON.

London, June 20.

THE GUILBERT-CHEVALIER RECITAL.

A new series of matinées, which has grown out of the success of the former ones, was begun at the Duke of York's on Tuesday, when a programme mainly fresh in its constitution was presented. Mme. Yvette Guilbert's contributions were divided into four groups, of which "Pompadour" and "Crinoline" formed two. The first was a tragic piece of grotesquerie entitled "La Mort du Mari," which held the audience entranced. The favourite "Glu," which reappeared in the fourth suite, with which was also associated a modern ballad of a French workman, entitled "Ma Tête," the grimly dramatic meaning of which was brought out with wonderful effect. In "Ma Grandmère" Mme. Guilbert is a venerable old woman, who dilates slyly and with exquisite finish on the gaieties of her girlhood. Three little English songs served as a contrast, and succeeded in quite captivating the audience. An irresistibly touching effect was exercised by Mr. Albert Chevalier in his pathetic portrait of "The Workhouse Man," in which he appears as a guest of the guardians, who has a mild lament concerning the separation of aged couples who are forced to fall back upon the rates. "Hemmer," "What's the good of anyfink?" and "Wot fur do 'e love Oi?" were also superb examples of the comedian's inimitable art, and for "The Future Mrs. Hawkins" a welcome hearty and sincere was reserved.

"STOCK" IN THE TWENTIES.

I first met my new manager, says James R. Anderson, in his "Life," at a little town called Irvine, if I rightly remember. I found him at his lodgings, in a dirty public-house, seated at a common deal table, with some books and papers, pen and ink, a gill of whisky, and a broken wine-glass before him. I introduced myself to the great leader of the Thespian band. He rose from his throne courteously, and, I might add, majestically, bowed like a gentleman, shook me by the hand, and gave me a hearty welcome. He pointed with his finger, in a fine tragic manner, to a chair without a bottom on the other side of the table, and begged I would be seated. When I had accomplished this somewhat difficult feat by edging myself on to it cornerwise, he proceeded to replenish the cracked glass, and begged I would do him the honour to pledge him in a flowing goblet to our future friendship and success.

I politely declined the proffered bowl, as I was unaccustomed to partake of spirits so early in the day, adding that such nectar could only be drained with impunity by Jupiter.

He smiled blandly at my grandiloquence, and said, "Young gentleman, I applaud your prudence and discretion, and if you only adhere to your virtuous resolution, I have no fear of your future success. Ah! my young friend," said he, as he raised the little glass to his capacious maw, "I never saw an actor with a gill of whisky before him without mentally exclaiming, in the words of the immortal bard, 'Oh! the drink, Hamlet, the drink!' Ah! the number of good actors and fine fellows I have seen succumb to the foul fiend whisky. Did I but name them, 'twould fright the isle from its propriety.' However, there is no time to moralise; we must soon meet at rehearsal. So again I bid you welcome.

As I watched him while writing out the cast for *Douglas* (it was agreed I was to open in Young Norval in a night or two), I thought his friends never could have imagined for him a name of such appropriateness as they had bestowed, namely, Greasy Sam Johnstone.

He was a big, burly man, and very broad-shouldered, with a large head and most unmeaning features, a wide bladder-of-lard face, fearfully pitted with the small-pox, and he had a husky, grating voice, compounded of fog and whisky. He played the King in *Hamlet*, *Henry VI.*, and similar parts

The whisky, together with the excitement of having obtained a young recruit, caused him to stream at every pore, and here he sat like a fine Gruyère cheese cut in halves, and running rich at every hole. Oh! he was an unctuous morsel, was Manager Greasy Sam.

Having finished his writing and his whisky, he accompanied me to the theatre, and I was introduced to the company. Good heavens! Never shall I forget the shock I then received. Of course I was prepared to witness something very different to the company of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh; but the contrast here absolutely took away my breath, and my beating heart fell plump into my half-boots.

The "Temple of the Drama," as they facetiously called it, was literally an old barn, with a few school benches for boxes, pit, and gallery, or front and back seats. A scanty bit of proscenium representing red drapery with a framework behind it, six wings with flaps to serve for interiors and woods, half-a-dozen scenes on rollers, the ropes attached to big tenpenny nails driven into the wall, with two or three ragged "sky-borders" fluttering above, made the theatre.

Each wing had three tin sconces to hold as many candles, and the "float," or footlights, was made up of ten black bottles, with the remains of last night's tallow guttered down their sides There was a fixed board on the auditorium side to shield the eyes of the audience from the glare of the light, and another on the stage side, raised by a string, to make a dark scene. As I contemplated all these arrangements my surprise and horror were complete.

After some little time, however, my disgust wore off, as I listened to the merry jests, laughter, and cackle of these badly-fledged barn-door fowls. The company consisted of about six men and four women, a prompter and a property-man, who both acted. There was a grand orchestra of three musicians, placed on the O.P. (left-hand) of the proscenium.

The first morning I went into the "Temple of the Drama" they were rehearsing *Macbeth*, in which every one, save the leading man and woman, took two or even three parts. All Locke's music was sung, and not badly either. Greasy Sam doubled Duncan and Hecate, and something else. Besides "doubling," everybody was expected to put on a cloak and assist in the choruses. I offered no excuse, as no one knew me, and it could not spoil my first appearance. The "leading man," however, felt his *amour propre* considerably hurt. He had never heard, he said, of Kean or Kemble being asked to do anything so degrading. Greasy Sam was peremptory, however, and insisted that he should do as the others did, observing at the same time that *he* above all the rest ought to recognise the value of discipline.

I learned soon afterwards that our Macbeth had been a sailor in his youth, master of a small fishing-smack, who had exchanged the mariner's boots for the player's buskins, and was always called captain by the rest of the company. He was a terribly inflated party, short and thick, with bandy legs, a large face, small eyes, a curly head of red hair, and a voice like a speaking-trumpet. When they came to the cauldron scene I wondered how they would get on without a "trap" for the apparitions. But, Lord bless you! they were equal to every occasion. The painted set-piece for the cauldron was sufficiently high to hide anyone behind it; there lay the property-man with three little canvas frames, painted to represent the armed head, the bloody apparition, and the crowned child. At the proper cue he raised those pictures out of the cauldron, and at three different wings three different voices gave the three different speeches. The effect was really telling in a dark scene, and surprised as well as amused me greatly.

Lady Macbeth was, to my mind, the best artist in the troupe. She was a long way past her meridian, tall and gaunt, but very lady-like, and read her part well, in a full, clear voice. The great drawback to her success was the misfortune of having only one eye, that is, only one natural eye; the other was glass, and by no means good at that.

The play that night was a great success, so the actors said, and was repeated two nights more to fair houses, which gave me a better chance of having rehearsals for *Douglas*, besides bringing me a few shillings for my three nights' shares.

It was the manager's invariable rule to count the nightly receipts in presence of the entire company. The expenses were first taken out of the cash, such as hire of room, musicians, candles, &c. What remained (if anything) was divided into equal shares, and handed to each individual. The manager, of course, took the lion's share—that is, he had a share for his management, a share for his acting, a share for the company's wardrobe, a share for his scenery, a share for his play-books and music, a share for his wife (who took money at the door, and had a reputation of being rather clever at it), and a share for his daughter as the "walking lady" of the company. In this fashion the Greasy One rolled up for his own use seven shares of the receipts.

On my first appearance as Young Norval I made a considerable impression, was received with much applause, and soon became a favourite both with town and company, receiving from the latter the flattering sobriquet of "Young Roscius the Second."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

AUBREY.—On June 20, at 40, Florence-road, Seacombe, the wife of Stan. Aubrey (late of Bennett and Martell), of a daughter; both doing well.

EARLE.—June 19, at her residence in Sloane-street, the wife of Hamilton Earle (Madame Louise Dale), of a son.

KELLINO.—The wife of James Kellino, of a fine son. Both doing well.

PRICE-EVANS.—At Fuchsia Cottage, Wittering, Chichester, the wife of Donald Price-Evans (Miss Marcella Hudson), of a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

CROKER—TURNER.—At the Rochdale Parish Church, by special licence, Charles Langton Croker, of Rochdale, to Lily Turner, music hall artist, of Birmingham. Thanks to friends for numerous presents.

SHINTON—RYDER.—On the 12th June, at West Derby Registrar's Office, Liverpool, John B. Shinton (touring "The Price of her Soul" Co.) to Ada M. Ryder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Ryder (Grace Garside), and granddaughter of the late John Ryder, tragedian and elocutionist.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE.

BUDDEN-DENHAM.—On Wednesday, June 27, 1906, by special licence, Edgar Budden to Millie Denham. Address, The Laurels, Arnison-road, East Molesey.

DEATHS.

BUTLER.—At Genoa, Italy, John Pearce Butler (late advance agent with Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie in Africa and Australia), of 2, George-square, Greenock, only son of the late Rev. John Edmund Butler, aged 54 years. Deeply regretted by his sorrowing wife and daughter.

HEAVER.—On Thursday, June 14, 1906, at 14, Marco-road, Hammersmith, William Heaver, the dearly-loved father of Nellie Christie.

MCNEIL.—On June 11, 1906, at 46, Robert-street, Cathays, Cardiff, David McNeil, aged 66, the dearly beloved father of Dave McNeil, comedian. Deeply regretted.

IN MEMORIAM.

HARRIS.—In ever-loving memory of Augustus Henry Glossop Harris, who passed away June 22, 1896. Age 44.

LOGAN.—In loving memory of my darling mother, who passed away June 21, 1904. Never forgotten by her sorrowing daughter, Gracie Logan. Rest in peace.

MORRIS.—In loving memory of our dear brother Alfred James Morris, who died June 25, 1905. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing sisters, Pollie and Lily.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

IT is a pleasure to be able to announce that the directors of the Alhambra Theatre, Leicester-square, have decided to increase the rate of pay for the night men employed in the stage department from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per performance. The increase dates from Monday of this week. It is, unfortunately, too true that for many years no general increase of pay has been secured by the working staff, who, with other sections of the community, have to bear their proportionate share in the general increase in the cost of living. On the other hand, a decrease of pay has been imposed in several suburban theatres and halls, where the pay has, in few cases, been equal to the West End rate. In these circumstances, the directors of the Alhambra deserve great credit for an act of justice and consideration to a hard-working body of men, and it is to be hoped that such an example will find favour in other quarters.

THERE is trouble between the management of the Grand Theatre, Islington, and the general staff branch of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, owing to the management of that house having "locked out" the members—practically the whole of the working staff—of that branch. The matter has been the subject of discussion in the local Press, and the Islington Trade and Labour Council have issued handbills and provided boardmen in support of the employees' case.

AT the meeting of the General Staff Branch Committee on Wednesday evening it was reported that the absence of the president, Mr. C. Thorogood, was due to the lamentable death of his wife, on the morning of that day. The following resolution was unanimously passed by the committee:—"Resolved, that this committee convey to their honoured and esteemed president, Mr. C. Thorogood, their deep regret at the great loss he has sustained by the death of his wife, and beg to assure him of their most sincere sympathy with him in his bereavement." It was also decided to send a wreath on behalf of the members, and that the Society should be represented at the funeral by the committee.

AT the same meeting several applications for sick pay were granted, and two applications for grants from the Benevolent Fund, one applicant being granted 5s. per week for a month and another 10s. per week for a month.

A MEETING of the Theatrical Carpenters' Branch N.A.T.E. will be held on Sunday evening in the Salisbury Hotel, St. Martin's-lane, W.C., at 8.30. Members are urged to be present.

ON the occasion of her benefit performance Miss Ellen Terry presented W. W. Simmond, call-boy at the Court Theatre, with a silver watch and chain inscribed with her autograph.

THIS week's programme of the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, shows that the name of Mr. James W. Haworth, managing-director and licensee, has dropped out of the management of the theatre, leaving Mr. J. Fred Watson in sole charge. Since Mr. Watson came to the theatre several improvements have been made in the arrangements for the comfort of the patrons.

THE full rehearsal for the Handel Festival takes place at the Crystal Palace to-day, the festival itself being fixed for Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday next. *The Messiah* will be given on Tuesday, the selections, which include the most popular numbers from *Israel in Egypt*, on Thursday, and *Judas Maccabæus*—which has not been heard in its entirety for many years—on Saturday. The list of soloists is exceptionally strong. The London Symphony Orchestra will form the nucleus of the band, and Dr. Cowen will conduct.

THE question of costume and ladies' hats came up again at the last rehearsal of the Handel Festival Choir on Monday night at Exeter Hall, when Dr. Cowen announced, amid much laughter, that gentlemen were *not* to wear sashes. After many sleepless nights and numerous board meetings, he added, it had been definitely decided that ladies might wear hats or not, just as they pleased. Among the latest suggestions was one that the ladies should appear in mantillas. He was told by one who knew that mantillas were quite as beautiful and some of them quite as expensive as hats. Besides, it would be a compliment to the Queen of Spain, who, it was reported, had taken a great fancy to the mantilla.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

Notice to Contributors.

All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Advertisements should reach the Office early in the week, and not later than Thursday, 7 p.m. Remittances, payable to "THE ERA," LTD., and crossed Lloyd's Bank.

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(two doors off Wellington Street)
Telegrams, "The Era, London," Telephone, 4747, Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TOM MAC.—*Park's Eton Boys appeared at Barnard's, Woolwich, the week ending Nov. 4, 1905.*

A. WILLIAMS.—*According to the weekly advertisement in* The Era *no drama entitled* Zingarella *was produced at the Britannia Theatre during the year 1860.*

ROSA DARTLE.—*We do not remember the title of the sketch you refer to. Write to Mr. Lawson.*

J. E. F.—*William Charles Macready was born in London on March 3, 1793. In September, 1816, he made his appearance at Covent Garden as Orestes in* The Distressed Mother. *Richard III., Virginius, and Macbeth are considered his best characters. He took his farewell at Drury Lane on Feb. 26, 1851, when he appeared as Macbeth. The remainder of his life was spent at Sherborne, where he died on April 29, 1873.*

W. BELLONINI.—*G. V. Brooke made his last appearance on the stage at Belfast on Dec. 23, 1865. In Lawrence's Life of Brooke we cannot find any mention of H. C. Mellon, nor do we know where you could see an old play bill.*

S. E. T.—*When* Shock-headed Peter *was produced at the Garrick, Dec. 26, 1900, the cast included Messrs. Reginald Crompton, R. C. Herz, H. M. M. Woodward, Cecil Ramsay, George Grossmith, jun., Thatcher, and Richard Earle; and Misses Kate Bishop and Kitty Loftus.*

WAKEFIELD.—Olivia *was adapted by the late W. G. Wills from "The Vicar of Wakefield," and was originally produced at the Court, with Miss Terry in the name-part and Mr. Hermann Vezin as the Vicar.*

V. T.—His Eightieth Birthday, *a comedietta by Scott Craven, was first produced in London at the Grand, Islington, March 25, 1901. The cast was: Sir John Phillimore, Mr. Ben Greet; Jack, Mr. Vivian Thomas; Twitterling, Mr. C. Rann Kennedy; Rogers, Mr. B. Field; Miss Maddox, Miss Dorothy Field.*

WEST HAM.—*Offenbach's comic opera,* The Brigands, *produced at the Avenue on Sept. 16, 1889, was a revised version of* Fal-sac-ap-pa, *which was adapted by Henry S. Leigh, and produced at the Globe, April 22, 1871.*

PETO.—*Mr. Charles Kelly (family name Wardell) died in April, 1885.*

W. RUDGE.—*Last Christmas Mr. Harry Tate appeared as Abanazar in* Aladdin *at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham*

C. BUSWELL AND CO.—*Mr. Toole made his last appearance on the stage at the Theatre Royal, Rochdale, on December 19, 1896.*

DAN DARGUE.—*Write to S. French and Co., theatrical publishers, Southampton-street, Strand.*

ON THE ROAD, JUNE 25.

BLIND FOUNDLING.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
CONSCRIPT, THE.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
CURATE, THE.—Grand T., Nottingham.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Bournemouth.
DISHONOURED.—Grand T., Islington.
GO-WON-GO MOHAWK.—T. R., Birkenhead.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—T. R., Huddersfield.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—O. H., Coventry.
IN HOLY RUSSIA.—Grand T., Newcastle.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—T. R., Stratford.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Kirkby-by-Steven.
LIFE OF A SHOWMAN.—Prince's T., Bradford.
LITTLE MARY.—Grand T., Southampton.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Scarborough.
MANXMAN, THE.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
NEW WORLD, THE.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—Grand T., Woolwich.
NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER.—Junction T., Manchester.
OCTOROON.—New Prince's T., Blackburn.
POOR MUST LIVE.—P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby.
POWER OF GOLD.—Prince's Theatre, Preston.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
ROMANY'S REVENGE.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Royalty T., Barrow.
STILL ALARM.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
THRONE OF TERROR.—P. O. W., Salford.
TWO HUSSARS.—Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—South Shields.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Pav., St. Leonards.
WOMAN'S PAST.—Prince's Theatre, Poplar.
YOUNGEST OF THE THREE.—T. R., Worthing.
10.30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Star T., Liverpool.
£1000 REWARD.—T. R., Chatham.

"ENTERTAINING THE DOWAGER," a comedy in one act, by G. Colmore, was produced for copyright purposes at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, on the 13th inst.

AN application for an unrestricted licence for the Opera House, Buxton, made at the local Town Hall on Saturday, met with opposition. It was eventually decided to grant the licence on the condition that no intoxicating liquors should be sold or consumed in the theatre except in the two saloons, and between the time of the commencement of the performance and the ending thereof, or 11 o'clock, whichever time is the earlier. Furthermore, no female is to be at any time allowed to serve in either of the above-mentioned two saloons, and actors and actresses and the theatre staff are not to be served at any time in either of the saloons. For every breach of the above rules the manager is to forfeit and pay a penalty not exceeding £5.

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Alberto Troupe
Alexandro, Miss Ada
Allen, Miss Madge
Allnutt, Mr. E.
Allison's, M.
Anderson, Miss Mary
Anthony, Mr. Henry
Applin, Mr. Arthur
Baldry, Mr. H.
Baptiste, Mr. Alfred
Barnard, Miss Hettie
Barnard, Herr R. A.
Barnard, Mr. J.
Barrie, Mr. Cecil
Barry, Mr. Bert
Bayne-Smyth, Mrs.
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We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

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J. Wilfred Chilton—Saturday, June 23.
Ben de Frece—Saturday, June 23.
Madge Campbell—Sunday, June 24.
John Cassidy—Sunday, June 24.
Alexander C. Isaacson—Sunday, June 24.
Flo Hastings—Sunday, June 24.
Marie Eaton—Sunday, June 24.
Wm. G. Fortescue—Sunday, June 24.
Gwendolen Floyd—Sunday, June 24.
Fred Mulvey—Sunday, June 24.
Annie Halford—Monday, June 25.
Maude Montague—Monday, June 25.
Flo Varley—Monday, June 25.
Sydney Paxton—Monday, June 25.
Evan Roland—Monday, June 25.
J. G. Graham, jun.—Monday, June 25.
Edwin Dodd—Tuesday, June 26.
Austin Boyd—Tuesday, June 26.
Ben Nathan—Tuesday, June 26.
Iona Robertson—Tuesday, June 26.
Trixie Gilfain—Tuesday, June 26.
May Moore Duprez—Tuesday, June 26.
Georgina Preston—Wednesday, June 27.
J. Myron Howard—Wednesday, June 27.
Norman Wrighton—Wednesday, June 27.
Blanche Cavaliero—Wednesday, June 27.
C. Onda—Wednesday, June 27.
Ciss Smythson—Wednesday, June 27.
Joseph L. S. Moss—Thursday, June 28.
Slade Murray—Thursday, June 28.
Ethel Bracewell—Thursday, June 28.
George Abel—Thursday, June 28.
Madge Carr—Thursday, June 28.
G. M. Polini—Thursday, June 28.
Charles Darrell—Friday, June 29.
Hugh Dempsey—Friday, June 29.
Joseph Barker—Friday, June 29.

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Monday, June 25, 1906, Sylvia Cavalho as Lulu, in "The Heart of an Actress," the Two Anartos, Frank Crisp, Lucy Coventry, Garden's Royal Quintette, Frank Lynne, the Two Leslies, Blanche and Powell, Carney and Armstrong, Maggie Carr, Farley, Rennie and Farley, Edisonograph, Stacey and Williams, Sam Mayo.
Telephone, 106, Hammersmith.
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Victoria Dock-road (opposite Canning Town Railway Station). Proprietor and Manager, Mr. CHARLES RELF, sen.; Chairman, Mr. Walter Leaver; Musical-Director, Mr. R. A. Howell. Monday, June 25, Harry Roxbury and Co., Maynard and France, Ferris and Farnley, Miss Rose Harvey and Co., Knoto, Sisters Albert, Harry Village, Josie Watson, Harry Royde, Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope, Monte Bayley and Co.
Popular prices, from 3d. to 1s. 6d.

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Manager, JOSEPH WILSON.
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—Lightning Programme.—Fred G. Brooke & Co. in a powerful and interesting sketch entitled "The Secret Spy," Tray & Rich, Gwennie Hasto, Lee and Kingston, comedy duo, Rosie Lloyd, Sados, Three Clarions, Grant & Allen, W. H. Sloan & Co. in comedy sketch entitled "The Plumber," Billy French, The Wilfords, The New Bioscope, Alice Maple, Jack & May Mackenzie, Alexandre & Hughes, musical comedians. Commence 7.15. Saturdays one hour earlier.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1906.
"The Era" Annual (1s.) is, of course, issued by our premier theatrical journal, which, under the literary supervision of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, has recently improved an already strong position. The Annual is better than ever, and includes, besides details of all plays produced in London, the provinces, Paris, and Berlin, lists of all theatres and music halls in the United Kingdom, &c., many stories and sketches by and portraits of actors and actresses. It is a remarkable shillingsworth; useful and interesting to all playgoers and members of the profession alike.—Sunday Sun, Jan. 21, '06.

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Conductor, Mr. Angelo A. Asher,
assisted by Mr. J. H. Alexandra.
VALUABLE PRIZES.
List of Events,
open to those legitimately connected with the Music-Hall Profession during twelve months immediately preceding these Sports.
MEMENTO SHIELD. 120yds. Running Handicap. Presented by the Proprietor of The Music Hall and Theatre Review. To be held by the winner for one year only and returned. Winner's name to be inscribed in Shield.
SIX CHAMPIONSHIP CUPS.
THE "TERRIERS'" CHALLENGE CUP, for Half-Mile Running Handicap. Presented by The Terriers' Association. To be won twice in succession or three years in all. Also a "Terriers" Gold Medal to the winner.
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"BUCHANAN" CHALLENGE CUP, for One Mile Bicycle Race. Presented by Messrs. James Buchanan and Co. To be won three years in succession.
"OLDFIELD" CHALLENGE CUP, for the Tug-of-War. Presented by The Oldfield Printing Company. To be won twice, not necessarily successive years.
"FRED KARNO" CHALLENGE CUP, for one mile Running Handicap. Presented by Fred Karno, Esq. (To be won three times, not necessarily successive years.)
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TWO MILES BICYCLE HANDICAP.
COMIC COSTUME SCRAMBLE.
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360 YARDS OBSTACLE RUNNING HANDICAP.
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ONE MILE "BUCHANAN" CHALLENGE CUP BICYCLE RACE (Professional Racing Cyclists Barred).
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440 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP. Artists, Employees, Musicians, Waiters, &c.
100 YARDS RUNNING HANDICAP. Boys and Girls. Artists' Children only over 6 and under 14. Special Prize each for the Prettiest Costume—Boy and Girl.
The Committee reserve to themselves the right of objection to any entry.
In addition to the above interesting Events, there will be numerous
COMIC INTERLUDES
by the Foremost Artists of the Day.
Entry Fee, for each Event, ONE SHILLING.
Entries close Tuesday, July 3.
Entry Forms to be had from all Managers, Agents, and Committeemen, also from the Secretary of the Music-Hall Benevolent Fund, HORACE MARRIOTT, 18, Adam-street, Strand W.C.
To assist the Committee, intending Competitors are urged to send in their Entries at once.
SPORTS COMMENCE AT 12 NOON.
Admission, 6d., 1s., 2s., and 3s.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1906.

THE STATUS OF THE MANAGER.

Turning over the other day the leaves of an old novel of EDMUND YATES'S, we came upon these words: "*His business instincts made him turn to a file of* THE ERA *on the table.*" We found that "he" was Mr. WUFF, the manager of the "splendid Theatre Royal, Hatton Garden." This Mr. WUFF, it appears, was originally a sheriff's officer, but, coming into a sum of money on the death of a distant relative, he forsook the necessary, but hardly popular, calling of a sheriff's officer, took the Theatre Royal, Hatton Garden, and opened it "with a revival of the legitimate drama in general and of Shakespearean plays in particular." His leading actor was BUNCLE, a "heavy, ignorant, ill-educated" man, who had played fourth-rate parts in the "palmy" days of the drama, and who now, *faute de mieux*, found himself pitchforked into the leading characters. SHAKESPEARE, as interpreted by BUNCLE, Mrs. BUNCLE, and a certain STAMPEDE, "whom BUNCLE always took about with him to play his seconds," drew for a certain length of time. Then the audience thinned gradually, and WUFF found it necessary to supplement *King Lear* with *The Harem Beauties*, a ballet "supported by the best band of coryphées in Europe." "While BUNCLE was lying down and dying as Lear, the clubmen came trooping into the house; and BUNCLE'S apostrophes to his dead daughter were nearly inaudible in the creaking of boots and the settling into seats. The pit cried 'Hush!' and 'Shame!' but the 'swells' did not care about the pit, and the curtain fell on BUNCLE thirsting for aristocratic blood."

The ballet at first attracted largely. But after a time it ceased to draw; and Mr. WUFF could not supplement it by another, for the coryphées had all returned to their allegiance to the manager of the opera-house, whose season had just commenced. Then we have described the consultation of WUFF with his treasurer, Mr. BOND:

"What's it to be, Tommy?" repeated Mr. Wuff for the twentieth time. "They've had it all round hot and strong, and what's the caper for 'em now, I don't know."

"What do you think of reviving *Julius Cæsar*? The classic costume has not been seen on these boards for years."

"What, Billy's *Julius Cæsar*? No, thank you! I've had enough of Bill to last me for some time. Is there a good lion-and-camel lot about?"

"There's Roker's troupe, at North Shields."

"Roker's are performing lions, ain't they?"

"Yes."

"All right. Write to him about terms at once; and send to Darn, and tell him we want a piece to bring out this lot at once. Must be Eastern, because of the camel—long procession slaves, caskets, and all that kind of thing, and a fight with the lion for Roker. That's all Roker's to do, mind; he can't act a bit."

Finally, it is decided that the new sensation shall be a leading actress from America, who is "bōomed" to the British public by a *canard* being spread to the effect that she is the daughter of an English nobleman, and has left her home because her father was cruel to her.

EDMUND YATES was a keen observer of his contemporaries; and doubtless Mr. WUFF was typical of the London manager of his day. But how the whole system of theatrical management then was permeated by a kind of vulgar primitiveness! How crude and simple were the methods by which the public was attracted and a theatre kept going! The machinery, compared to that of modern management, was that of the wheelbarrow to the locomotive. In Mr. WUFF'S idea of management there seems to have been no principle of continuity or of sustaining the reputation of the theatre. He simply put on anything that would draw for the moment. SHAKESPEARE, with BUNCLE for a leading man, did sufficiently well; and when the receipts dropped it was supplemented by a ballet. When both failed, WUFF fell back on performing lions. The whole thing was in a state of almost savage simplicity. And the manager himself was in harmony with his business and his surroundings. He leapt at a bound from the position of sheriff's officer to that of *entrepreneur;* and he was utterly "impossible," both socially and artistically.

We have heard a great deal about the status of the actor; but even more extraordinary is the change which has taken place in the status of the London manager. Our actor-managers are amongst the most interesting figures in modern Society. It would be taking a liberty to allude to their private careers, were not the knowledge common property. Sir SQUIRE and Lady BANCROFT have long held high positions in London Society, by whose members they are equally respected and beloved. Mr. and Mrs. KENDAL, though recently they have spent much of their time in the provinces, have always been "smart people"; and Mr. JOHN HARE'S social position is equally enviable. As for Mr. and Mrs. ALEXANDER, at their pretty house in Pont-street they receive everyone who is worth receiving and know everyone who is worth knowing. Even Mr. TREE, whose arduous occupations leave him little time for frivolity, finds himself able to spare the smart set some of the attention which he devotes to the elevation of the drama and the delight of the public. Mr. CYRIL MAUDE was "to the manner born," and only takes his inherited place in the *beau monde*. Beautiful West End mansions, motors and *chauffeurs*, art, comfort, country houses, "pleasure-horses," and the admiring estimation of their contemporaries—our actor-managers have them all as the reward of their labours.

It is probable, however, that no class of men is more indifferent to these accessories of life than our actor-managers. The greater overpowers the less; and the ruling in the heart of the actor-manager is artistic ambition. Compared with the gratification of this master-passion, luxuries and greetings in the market-place are but as toys, or are only important as evidences of artistic success. The actor in Society, even more than other artists, is superior to his surroundings. Practised in the detection of pretence, humanised by contact with all classes in his profession, he is able to take Society for what it is worth and no more. The *vie intime* of the great actor-managers is simple, in many cases comparatively ascetic. And probably the great secret of their social success is the *insouciance* with which they may treat the assumptions of superiority made by wealth and rank. The actor-manager, unlike the painter, need not seek patrons in Society. Smartness may bring a few friends to the stalls; but in the last resort the manager's appeal must be to the general and not to any particular public, and he values the friendship of the former more than all the caresses of the "fashionables."

MR. GILBERT SHORTER'S RECITAL.

Among the not too long list of really able male reciters it is a great pleasure to add the name of Mr. Gilbert Shorter, who on Saturday last, at Steinway Hall, gave the fifth of his series of dramatic and musical recitals. Mr. Shorter has a distinguished appearance on the platform, a fine, rich, melodious voice, and, lastly, above all, youth. Mr. Shorter was assisted by Miss Jean Newman, a talented Canadian soprano, Mr. Stanley Adams, Mr. Julius Falk, Mr. George H. Shapira, and Little Beryl; while Mme. Lillian Adams presided at the piano. Mr. Shorter was first heard in "Isura," by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, to incidental music composed and played by Mme. Lillian Adams. The quaint piece of Rudyard Kipling, "The Story of Uriah," was given in the reciter's happiest vein; this also was accompanied by the music of Mme. Adams. "An Old Sweetheart," by Whitcombe Riley, with the appropriate air of "There's nothing half so sweet in life as love's young dream," softly played on the piano, greatly pleased the audience. Mr. Shorter's best effects seem to lie in recitations of this character, full of refined sentiment. Other interesting examples given by this clever reciter, who follows the method of Clifford Harrison in neither shouting nor "tearing a passion to tatters," were "Platonic" (Wheeler Wilcox), Marie Corelli's "God and Satan," and the popular and dramatic sketch, "Devil may care." In all these Mr. Shorter was well received, and heartily greeted by his audience. In the second part of the programme the reciter also gave "At the Opera," by Lord Lytton. Little Beryl, an extremely youthful reciter, gave "The Tendril's Faith" and "A Little Fairy Story," to the manifest delight of her hearers. The little lady also joined Mr. Shorter in "The Maelstrom," especially composed for Mr. Shorter and Little Beryl by Ida Mansfield Wilson. The vocal numbers in this recital were of more than usual interest. Miss Jean Newman sang "Fuyons," by Gaston Paulin, and "Si tu veux Mignonne," in a most artistic and finished style, the vocalist being possessed of a very pure and flexible voice. Miss Newman was also heard to great advantage later in the programme is Strauss's "Standchen," Chaminade's "L'Amour Captif," and "Happy Song," by Theresa del Riego. Mr. George H. Shapiro in Chopin's "Scherzo," for the pianoforte, so greatly pleased the audience that he was encored. Some able violin solos were given by Mr. Julius Falk, who played "Sonata" (Le Tombeau), by Jean Marie Leclair, and Hubay's "Scènes de la Csardas"; and Mr. Stanley Adams was completely successful in his singing of Hahn's Reverie, "D'une Prison," and Chadwick's "The Maiden and the Butterfly." Mme. Adams also may be heartily commended for her incidental music to several of Mr. Shorter's recitations.

REJANE AT THE ROYALTY.

Mme. Réjane returns with the roses in June, and brings with her the bouquet of Parisian comedy. She has the faculty of not growing old. So fascinating indeed is her art that we listen to her voice, we hear her laugh, and we forget the passage of years. To her première at the Royalty, where she was welcomed with great cordiality on Monday evening, more than the customary importance may be attached, as she presented for the first time on any stage a new play in four acts, adapted by Dario Nicodemi from the late Henry Harland's novel, "The Lady Paramount." The title chosen is

"SUZERAINE."

Anthony Craford	M. PIERRE MAGNIER
Adrian Willes	M. NOIZEUX
Le Commandeur	M. ARVEL
Baldo del Ponte	M. DAUVILLIERS
Marson	M. SAINT-BONNET
Wickersmith	M. BOSMAN
Un Domestique	M. MONTVALLIER
Susanna, Comtesse de Sampaolo	MME. RÉJANE
Miss Sandus	MME. MILLER
La Baronne	MLLE. JEANNE EVEN
Pya	MLLE. HARDY
1ère Invitée	MLLE. CELIA
2ème Invitée	MLLE. VARNAND

M. Dario Nicodemi is already known here by his three-act comedy *L'Hirondelle*, originally produced in Brussels, we believe, which was first seen in London at Terry's during Réjane's season last year at that house. "The Lady Paramount" is a charming story, and was told in a pretty narrative style by the lamented author, but it is essentially undramatic, and loses rather than gains by its transference to the stage. The heroine of the play, as of the novel, is Susanna, the suzeraine of a little island on the Adriatic called Sampaolo. But she has no claim to the sovereignty of the place, the rightful heir being her cousin, Anthony Craford, who has settled down as a country squire in Dorset, and apparently takes not the slightest interest in his own island or in the inhabitants thereof, who adore their princess. With a love of adventure natural to a heroine of romance, Susanna travels to England *incognita*, determined to seek out her unknown relative and lawful owner of the island she inhabits. Susanna, who gives out that she is a widow, meets him, and promptly falls in love with him. The affection is mutual, and when Craford asks her to become his wife she insists as a condition of her assent to the proposal that he shall take a journey to the home of his ancestors. He goes to the island in company with his friend, Adrian Willes, who is well aware that Susanna and a lady companion have also travelled to Sampaolo by another route. When staying at the inn in Vallanza, the chief town of the island, it is suggested to Anthony Craford—at the instigation of Susanna—that it would be prudent for him to marry his *cousiné*, who had usurped his rights, but he peremptorily refuses to consider any such proposition, alleging his betrothal to the "widow," who he thinks is still at Craford Manor. Of course he is highly delighted when he discovers that the "lady paramount" of Sampaolo and his fiancée are one and the same.

Mme. Réjane, without any special opportunity, plays with finesse, delicacy, and charm in some well-written comedy scenes, in which M. Dario Nicodemi has retained much of the English author's distinctive wit. M. Pierre Magnier, as Anthony Craford, struggles gallantly with a purely Anglo-Saxon rôle, and if its essentially British characteristics are a little beyond him, we must confess that he is always gay and debonair.

On Thursday, June 21,
the Comedy, by Edmond Pailleron, entitled
"LE MONDE OÙ L'ON S'ENNUIE.

Thursday evening saw the very interesting revival of Pailleron's masterpiece, *Le Monde où l'on s'ennuie*, which has always been one of the most popular pieces in the modern repertory of the Comédie Française. When the play was produced at the house of Molière on April 25, 1881, it ran for 122 nights. It is an exceedingly brilliant and effective satire on the pedantry of science and moral philosophy, and on certain typical figures of political society in Paris. Much of the ridicule reminds one of *Les Femmes Savantes*, the last act being borrowed from *Le Mariage de Figaro*. The action takes place in the country house, near Paris, of the Comtesse de Céran, who is the centre of a circle of ponderous wiseacres, pseudo philosophers, prigs in petticoats, and other portentous bores. Her house is the place where reputations are lost and won, and where advantageous introductions are managed for those who are place-hunting. Throughout the second act the author suspends the action of the piece in order to give play to his satire. The curtain rises on the learned coterie of guests seated in the Comtesse de Céran's drawing-room in a semi-circle and listening to Bellac's profound absurdities about the mysteries of soul love—a rigmarole about which there is much pretended rapture expressed, except on the part of the Duchesse, whose blunt and highly amusing interjections provide a droll contrast to the nonsensical and bombastic periods of the professor. He is not, however, allowed to have the whole field to himself. The ladies have also to listen to a long-winded discourse on the Vedic mythology by the Baron de St. Réault, and hardly have they stifled their yawns over this than they are hurried off to hear the poet Des Millets read his five-act tragedy in blank verse. A translation of the comedy by Mr. J. T. Grein, in three acts, was given under its French title at a matinée at Terry's in February, 1901, but when produced later at the same theatre as an attraction for the evening bill the title was altered to *The Lion Hunters*. It was not, however, a success.

Interesting characters in Pailleron's witty and amusing work are Jeanne Raymond and her husband Paul. He utilises his wife's talents for assuming the air of a *femme de ministre* to obtain a position as a *sous-prefet*. The two have not long been married, and the allotment, therefore, of a separate bedroom to each by the Comtesse is a thoughtful little attention that is resented by both inwardly, though not outwardly. The character of Jeanne was originally assigned at the Comédie-Francaise to Mlle. Reichemberg, and Mme. Réjane plays it brilliantly at the Royalty portraying the frank spirit of mischief that dominates the sunny disposition of Jeanne with much vivacity and breadth of style. M. Pierre Magnier gives good support as Paul Raymond; and Mlle. Lanthelme makes a spirited Suzanne, being especially good in the second act, in which she interprets a touching scene with much pathos. The revival gave considerable pleasure to a large house.

MME. ALBANI, who will take part in the Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday, when *The Messiah* will be performed, sang in forty-two concerts during her recent tour in Canada. The tour lasted for fifteen weeks, and she never missed a single song. Besides giving these forty-two concerts, she travelled from the Atlantic to the Pacific, making railway journeys amounting to at least 9000 miles.

MR. H. BERNHARDT has provided a very attractive programme for next Sunday at the Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, where he alternates light entertainments with more serious and ambitious concerts. Miss Alice Esty is the bright particular star, and other artists include such well-known singers as Mr. Herbert Grover. An interesting first appearance is that of Miss Marguerite Pedley, a charming young contralto whose singing at a recital this week gained great praise.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN

The first performance in England of Massenet's *Le Jongleur de Notre-Dame* was given on Friday, June 15, preceded by *Pagliacci*. Massenet, the French composer, has many years ago given us *Le Roi de Lahore*, a work full of Eastern colouring, and later on the delightful and dainty *Manon*, therefore expectation ran high as to the merits of the new work. M. Maurice Lena has written the book of *Le Jongleur de Notre-Dame*, the opera being divided into three acts, the last two being given without any break. In the first act an open space is shown near a monastery, a crowd are watching Jean, a poor travelling juggler, who, with his tricks and capers is trying to amuse his audience but without success, so to please them the half-starved mountebank sings a sacrilegious Alleluia in praise of wine. The song is received with favour by the crowd, when the stern Prior of the monastery appears, rebukes the people, who fly, leaving Jean alone with the angry Prior, who sternly rebukes the poor jester. Jean is so overcome with remorse that the Prior relents, and offers to pardon him if he will turn monk. Jean hesitates, as liberty is dear to him, but at the same time he is very hungry, and as Boniface, the cook of the monastery, at this moment arrives laden with good things for the monks' dinner, the poor juggler accepts the Prior's offer. In the next act Jean has changed his dress for a monk's cassock, the scene being the interior of the monastery, where the monks are getting ready for the Feast of the Assumption, each making an offering to the Madonna: one can paint the image of the Virgin, another is a sculptor, another a poet, while a fourth has composed a new anthem. The poor juggler, although now well fed, feels unhappy—he can do nothing for the Virgin; but Boniface, the kindly cook, comforts him, telling him of the Divine acceptance of even humble things, and by this gives Jean an idea. The same night he enters the chapel, and before the image of the Virgin he goes through all his old tricks, dancing, singing, and juggling. Aroused by the noise, the monks, headed by the indignant Prior, rush in, and are about to seize Jean when a cry of "A miracle!" is raised; the statue of the Virgin is seen to be flooded with light, one hand being raised in benediction over the prostrate form of Jean, a halo shining over his head, but on the monks endeavouring to raise him it is seen that the poor juggler is dead. The opera, which was first produced at Monte Carlo in 1903, and afterwards brought to the Opéra Comique, Paris, contains, as might be expected from the composer of *Manon*, music of a refined and delicate order. The first act is written somewhat in the spirit of light opera, with the songs and dances of the juggler, the most important item being the clever "Alleluia du vin," sung by Jean, and his invocation to liberty. The church music and chants in the second act are effective, as well as the "Légende de la Sauge," which Boniface the cook sings; and in the last scene the striking features are the music which accompanies Jean's songs and dances before the altar; but the solemn climax to the opera is not entirely realised by the music, and to a great extent depends on the dramatic situation. M. Laffitte, the new tenor, made a good impression in the part of Jean by his ability as an actor and vocalist, although his voice is slightly hard in quality; and M. Gilibert as the genial Boniface proved excellent, humorous, and quite in the spirit of the character; nor must we fail to praise the performance of M. Seveilhac in the part of the Prior. The smaller characters of the monks who represent Poetry, Painting, Music, and Sculpture were well filled by M. Dognies, M. Artus, M. Crabbé, and Mr. Frank Arthur. The mounting of the opera reflected the greatest credit on the management, and the performance generally went very smoothly under the conductorship of M. André Messager. In *Pagliacci* the cast was as on a previous occasion, Mlle. Destinn, Signor Caruso, and Signor Scotti repeating their former triumphs. The work was conducted by Signor Campanini.

The performance of *Pagliacci* and *Le Jongleur de Notre-Dame* was honoured by the presence of His Majesty the King, the Prince and Princess Christian, and Princesses Victoria and Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein.

On Thursday night, June 14, Gounod's opera, *Romeo et Juliette*, was heard for the first time this season. Although never quite so popular an opera as *Faust*, *Romeo* contains much charming music. Mlle. Donalda, who appeared as Juliet, has several times during the present season proved her title to be regarded as an operatic singer of great gifts, and her performance on Thursday night showed that Mlle. Donalda is an artist both in her acting and the delightfully pure and sympathetic quality of her voice, the rendering of the Valse Song in the first scene being admirable; while throughout the opera the young vocalist displayed great intelligence both in her acting and singing. M. Atechevsky's rendering of Romeo was unequal, though at times successful, but his acting always deserves praise. M. Journet made an excellent Friar, and M. Gilibert a capable Capulet. The Mercutio of M. Seveilhac and the Tybalt of M. Dognies were clever performances; and the small part of the Duke received careful treatment in the hands of M. Artus. The chorus were not at all times above reproach, but the finale to the third act was finely given, and the orchestra under M. Messager secured an effective ensemble.

M. COQUELIN, the popular French comedian, has determined further to strengthen the *entente cordiale* by the institution of a Molière Festival on his return to London next year. For two weeks he intends to play only the works of the great French writer—*Tartufe*, *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, *Les Précieuses Ridicules*, &c. M. Coquelin has very favourable views on the culture of the English nation. "Classic comedy," he says, "enjoys here all the prestige which is its due—a fact which proves that Englishmen have an excellent taste in masterpieces. I have been astonished to meet everywhere that I have been in society so many people with a knowledge of our literature. English ladies, who speak our tongue so daintily, can quote the chief passages in most important plays of the French stage, and I only wish that their sisters in France had an equal knowledge of Shakespeare and other English authors."

"THE popularity of Molière's works in this country," continues the eminent comedian, "may be due to the educational element they contain, which undoubtedly must appeal to the well-known English leanings towards the practical. I do not merely allude to our great dramatist's masterpieces as being educational in the general sense that they help us in 'knowing ourselves,' but also to the simple, direct, clear style in which they are written, and which, to foreign students especially, must be of enormous assistance in the study of the language. It is obvious that such assistance is increased tenfold when the works are not only read, but seen on the stage. To an Englishman, anxious to know French, a stage performance, in my opinion, is worth twenty lessons from any teacher, however experienced he might be." M. Coquelin has just begun a tour in the course of which he will visit Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE Theatre Royal, Dumfries, which is now closed for repairs, is to reopen in August under the management of Mr Payne Seddon, who will run companies at Dumfries and Hawick three days each.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. T. P. O'CONNOR has undertaken to insert the following proviso in the "Definition" clause of the Musical Copyright Bill: "Provided always that the expressions 'pirated copies' and 'plates' shall not for the purpose of this Act be deemed to include perforated music rolls used for playing mechanical instruments, or records used for the reproduction of sound waves, or the matrices or other appliances by which such rolls or records respectively are made."

MR. T. ERNEST POLDEN, who has been a director of the Palace Theatre company since its inception, has been unanimously elected chairman in the place of the late Count Max Hollender; and Mr. Alfred Butt, who has been associated with the Palace for some years, and has been manager since Mr. Charles Morton's death in October, 1904, has been elected to the vacant seat on the board, and has now become managing-director.

MISS VESTA VICTORIA, our readers will learn with considerable regret, has contracted an affection of the throat that will prevent her from fulfilling her engagements for the next month. A slight operation may be necessary, and Miss Victoria's medical advisers have every confidence that she will be able to reappear in the time mentioned. As most people know, Miss Victoria scored a veritable triumph in America recently, and her vocal resources were much taxed by singing at dozens of benefit performances for the relief of the sufferers in the San Francisco earthquake disaster. Uncle Sam has shown his appreciation of the popular comedienne's hard work by naming one of the new thoroughfares now building "Vesta Victoria-avenue."

THE Swanborough matinée is fixed for Thursday afternoon next at the London Pavilion, and in connection therewith we would draw the attention of our readers to a letter from Mr. Henri Gros, who is unhappily laid aside by illness. Mr. Gros' brotherly sympathy has helped along a cause that is in every way worthy of the support of our readers, and we sincerely hope there will be a bumper house.

The following prominent artists have kindly consented to appear by permission of their respective managers:—Messrs. Charles Hawtrey, in *Time is Money*, Wilkie Bard, Harry Tate, Louis Bradfield, George Robey, Arthur Prince, Jordan and Harvey, J. H. Barnes, Stanelli, and Rutland Barrington; Misses Victoria Monks, Florence St. John, Winifred Hare, Vesta Victoria, Alice Hollander, Ida Rene, Rose Stahl, Margaret Cooper, La Milo, and Cruickshank, and the principal members of the London Pavilion company. Mr. Edward Terry, a staunch friend of the Swanborough family, and a comedian who did much for the prestige of the old Strand Theatre, has kindly consented to address the audience, as the beneficiaire is too ill to be present.

MR. FRANK MACNAGHTEN has just acquired the lease of Stoke Newington Theatre, which he will reopen as a variety house on August Bank Holiday. Mr. Frederick Baugh, Mr. Frank Macnaghten's chief lieutenant, during his chief's absence in America, took over the Lyceum for a certain term at a certain rental. The term was fulfilled and Mr. Macnaghten was perfectly satisfied with his deal.

THE fatal accident to Miss Lily Cove, a parachutist, as a matter of course prompted questions in the House of Commons, and Mr. Herbert Gladstone, in answer to Mr. Fell, expressed his regret that through the existing state of the law he was powerless to arrest the exhibition of performances by women which were dangerous to life and limb. After a woman has attained her majority the law against risk to the person ceases to be operative. He has now stated that the Government intends to initiate legislation to put a stop to "dangerous performances by women."

THE words quoted may be interpreted to have a very wide meaning. There is an element of danger in every acrobatic or trapeze performance, as there is in a football scrummage or in cricket. A troupe of acrobats go through some graceful exercises in Risley tumbling; but their feats must be accomplished subject to conditions of accident or chance, and we remember the case of a member of a highly-skilled and accomplished gymnastic troupe in which an awkward slip and fall resulted in a spinal injury and a painful death.

THE Government have their hands pretty full at present, but it behoves our readers to do their utmost to protect the gymnastic and equestrian professions from being harassed by grandmotherly legislation. Now is the time for the Variety Artists' Federation and the International Artists' Lodge to show their activity by placing the views and opinions of acrobatic trainers and performers before the Home Secretary.

THERE is no truth in the statement made in various quarters that there is any likelihood of Mr. Martin Harvey becoming a tenant of the Lyceum Theatre, which, in that case, of course, would return to its original *status* of a "legitimate" house. Mr. Harvey has no intention of permanently re-entering the ranks of London managers.

"THE LADY BURGLAR," a clever sketch by Mr. Charles Brookfield, will be presented at the Palace Theatre on Monday, with Mr. H. J. Ford and Miss Stella Hammerstein. Mr. Ford is a brother of Miss Audrey Ford and son of Miss Lottie Venne, and Miss Hammerstein is a daughter of Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, the well-known theatre proprietor of New York. Mr. Brookfield was the author of the successful sketch, *The New Régime*, produced at the same house, with Miss Lottie Venne and Mr. Henry Vibart in the chief characters. He is also the librettist of *See-See*, the new light Chinese opera at the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

MISS MILLIE PAYNE returns to town on Monday, when she opens at Collins's and the Cambridge. At both halls she has previously scored, and as she brings new songs she will doubtless add largely to the cohort of her admirers.

MR. WALTER MUNROE'S new song, "You're a jolly fine fellow when they want you," by Murray and Everard, has been secured for publication by Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

MISS JESSIE PRESTON, we are pleased to hear, is feeling much better after a rather serious illness caused by defective drains at one of the London music-halls.

MLLE. PILAR MORIN, who was the original Madame Butterfly in Mr. David Belasco's pathetic little play of that name in America, will be remembered in the halls by her powerful performance of the chief character in a Japanese playlet at the Tivoli when under Mr. Philip Yorke's management. This accomplished player has been appearing this week at the Metropolitan in a duologue entitled *My Twin Wife*, by Mr. Lawrence Sterner, in which she is supported by the author. A young wife's suspicions being aroused concerning her husband's admiration for her sister, she resolves to test his fidelity by disguising herself as her relative, with a result that causes no interruption of the perfect amity that brightens the domestic hearth. The dialogue is witty and telling, and Mlle. Pilar Morin plays with unbounded vivacity and grace. Mr. Sterner is also excellent as the husband.

MR. JAMES CHAPPELL opened his Beach Concerts Ring for the summer season at Great Yarmouth on Monday. The popular seaside resort is being favoured with brilliant weather, and the entertainment afforded by the veteran caterer's strong combination of star artists has been highly appreciated every day by large audiences of visitors, who have even thus early found their way to Yarmouth's sunny shores. We are glad to see that Mr. Chappell is still able to get about and visit the various places of entertainment in the town.

AT the Wolverhampton Police-court on Wednesday, George Frank Carpenter, in the employ of Mr. Arthur Roberts, who is appearing at the Wolverhampton Hippodrome this week, was placed in the dock, charged with being drunk in charge of a motor-car. The police evidence showed that the prisoner drove the car round to the Victoria Hotel, and there stopped. Mr. Roberts was in the car, and he called the policeman's attention to the state of his driver. Mr. Roberts, who was in Court, went into the box, and said the prisoner had been with him only a week, and was recommended to him by a London master.

THE stipendiary said it was a serious charge, and it was a miracle a tragedy did not happen. The evidence, however, did not disclose any recklessness, but the question was whether he should not send him to gaol without the option of a fine. This time Carpenter would be fined £2 and the costs, or one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, the well-known electric monarch and bloodless surgeon, has again created a great sensation with his latest electric novelty, "The Magic Electric Chair," and hundreds are crowding nightly to witness its wonders. The doctor commences his annual Scotch tour in two weeks' time, and after an itinerary in his native land, he returns to London for four months to Stoll's Empires and the syndicate halls.

MR. JAS. WILLARD'S sketch *The Strange Little Stranger* was produced at the Royal, Oldham, on Monday. It immediately caught on, and its success is assured. No doubt it will soon be an attraction in town.

MR. ALEC HULINE (late of the famous Hulines) and Tom Le May (the well-known musical grotesque) will in future be known as Huline and Le May. After a successful run at the Crystal Palace they commence their provincial tour on Monday next at the Hippodrome, Wakefield.

ALTHOUGH Miss Vesta Victoria has been away from America for some weeks, the song craze there is still Leigh and Pether's "Waiting at the church." Nothing else is heard at Coney Island, the pleasure resort which has been aptly described as the World's Fair sandwiched between Douglas and Blackpool. Parodies of the song abound, one being entitled "There was I waiting in my shirt."

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. John Pearce Butler, which sad event took place recently at Genoa, Italy. Mr. Butler had just terminated a two-and-a-half years' engagement with Bostock and Wombwell's Circus and Menagerie, which is at present touring through Australia, and was on his way home to England per s.s. Bremen when he was stricken down with rheumatic fever. On the arrival of the vessel at Genoa, he was conveyed ashore and taken to the hospital, but despite the best medical assistance he gradually grew worse, and passed away after a few days' illness.

MR. BUTLER was well known and extremely popular in the arena and among the circus profession. During his career he was engaged at various times with John Sangers and Sons, John Henry Cooke, Tudor and Bostock, and Wombwell. For nearly four years he acted as ring-master with Mr. E. H. Bostock at the Zoo Circus, Glasgow, afterwards taking up the management of the Empire Theatre of Varieties at Greenock. Immediately after giving up this position he again joined Mr. Bostock as equestrian director with his circus in South Africa, and during the tour of the Bostock and Wombwell amalgamation in Australia he acted in the capacity of agent in advance. Mr. Butler, who was the son of the late Rev. J. E. Butler, was in his fifty-fourth year, and leaves a widow and only daughter, who reside at 2, George-square, Greenock, for whom much sympathy is felt in their sad bereavement.

IN the Dundee Court of Session on Wednesday, Lord Johnston ordered intimation and service of a petition by Emslie Tosh, C.A., asking approval of his accounts as liquidator of the Dundee Gaiety Co., Ltd., his discharge as liquidator, and the dissolution of the company. The liquidator says that the theatre building is the only asset of the company, and it was bonded to the amount of £3000. Though widely advertised for sale, it has failed to find a purchaser at a price sufficient to leave any reversion. It has, therefore, been surrendered to the bond-holders. The theatre has, during the period of negotiations for sale, been let at a weekly rent, which, with the proceeds of certain items of movable property, forms the whole funds recovered by him. The fund is insufficient to fully meet the expenses of the liquidator, and accordingly there are no funds available for distribution to the creditors or shareholders.

MESSRS SANFORD AND LYONS conclude a most successful London engagement to-night at the Empire, Shepherd's Bush, and have been offered another three years' tour with Mr. Stoll. They return to town in November, previous to pantomime rehearsals at the Grand Theatre, Leeds

AT the Oxford, on Monday, Apollo, the European exponent of Jiu-Jitsu, and his pupils, will nightly demonstrate this novel system of defence against sudden attack, in which our allies the Japs are the greatest experts in the world. Apollo offers substantial prizes to the competitors who oppose him each night, and reserves the right to meet men over 14st., his weight being 12st. 6lb.

"SCENES IN EVERYDAY LIFE," with its lightning changes, has proved most interesting to audiences during the week at Olympia, Liverpool, where this clever act has been most successfully produced by John Terry and Mabel Lambert, whom we hope to see shortly in London.

MANAGER JOHN SMITH, of Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter's establishment, on Monday last safely delivered to "the trade" the most enormous quantity of printed matter ever sent out from the firm's premises at one time, being the "silver wedding" issues of the twenty-fifth "Song Annual" and twenty-fifth "Dance Album," two works which are waited for yearly with great interest in every quarter of the kingdom and beyond. As in former years, every known method of conveyance was pressed into the service.

MR. SMITH, who has for a quarter of a century personally assisted in, and for quite a number of years directed, the arrangements, was congratulated by all concerned on the smoothness with which the big undertaking passed off, and a certain sound heard at the close of an arduous day was by no means a "sixpenny pop." The wrapper of the "Song Annual" is this year adorned with a striking portrait of Miss Victoria Monks, that lady's "Ain't yer gwine to say 'How do?'" holding a place of prominence in the contents. The number of pages in either work has this year been increased to seventy-two, in honour of the twenty-fifth anniversary of these "hardy annuals."

THE first general meeting of the Variety Artists' Federation, which is to be held at the Trocadero on Tuesday, July 10, will start punctually at 11 a.m. Members to obtain admission must produce their green cards fully paid up to date. The constitution of the Federation and its rules and by-laws will be submitted to members for their approval and discussed. The V.A.F. now numbers no less than two thousand members. On and after July 2 the entrance fee will be 5s.

THE secretary of the Music-Hall Benevolent Fund has received the sum of £40 from Mr. Thos. S. Ashmole, being part of the proceeds of the Liverpool Theatrical Gala. The president and committee beg to publicly thank all the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly gave their generous assistance on the occasion. The secretary has also received from Mr. Lyndon Greenwood the sum of £3 13s. 6d., the contribution of the staff of the Islington Empire.

THE Sisters Adele Levey and May Lilian Levey have again become partners, and intend reviving many of their famous character-comedy creations. Offers are already being made for their services, including one from Paris. The Sisters will open in America in November.

"LA MILO" will impersonate on Monday at the London Pavilion with her own natural figure a most interesting series of new classical studies, including "Peace," "Pandora," "Circe," "Maidenhood," and "Daphne." She will also essay the daring experiment of imitating in statutary the famous "Velasquez Venus," recently presented to the nation, and now exhibited at the National Gallery.

MR. HERBERT CLARK (the clever comedian of the duo, Clark and Hamilton) has just accepted from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate a specially-commissioned new "tramp millionaire" number for his well-known comedy act, entitled *Too Beastly Rich*. Although Mr. Clark is a music publisher himself, this song will form one of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's "Sixpenny Successes."

TOM COSTELLO, recovered from a severe attack of ptomaine poisoning, resumed business on Monday night at the Islington Empire, where a crowded house greeted his "Old Clown" scena with vociferous cheers. Another number, which seems destined to attain "Sail away" popularity, is "Good-by, dear old London town." On Monday, Mr. Costello is starring at the Hippodrome, Coventry, where he will introduce a new skit on the subject of "Woman's Rights," and receive deputations of suffragettes on the stage nightly. Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott are the authors.

THE present programme at the Oxford is particularly strong. Miss Mayme Gehrue, the American sand dancer, exclusively engaged, appears in a novel boy's costume of black satin, covered with a design of spangled stars, the zouave jacket worn over a full white silk shirt. The Bargetti Troupe's extraordinary jumping and balancing feats are performed in ordinary lounge suits—the Pantzer Brothers seem to have set the fashion for acrobats to dress "as themselves." Miss Benson, of King and Benson, looks very smart in a thin white silk short frock over rose-red stiff underskirts, with small roses and leaves dotted here and there, and a tiny wreath of buds twined round her little muslin cap, with long ribbons of the same vivid colour. *The King of Sahara*, that is still going very well at the Oxford, is to have a new "book" written by Mr. Forbes Dawson when it is produced at the suburban halls in about three weeks time. There will also be several important changes in the cast.

MR. FRANK LEO, the author-composer of Wilkie Bard's "Cowslip and the Cow," is responsible for his latest London hits, viz., "Let me sing," "The scene-shifter," and "I want you to notice my leggings."

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE has just accepted from Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate a new comedy song, entitled "We'd like to be there," which she has in active rehearal, and will shortly produce on the Stoll tour.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS left Sydney for London in the India on May 12, in search of star artists for the Tivoli. Mrs. Rickards and Mr. Joseph Larkin (private secretary), and Mr. J. W. Winton, ventriloquist, accompanied the intrepid entrepreneur.

MR. WAL PINK has offered to present a substantial prize for the heaviest specimen chub, to be fished for by members of the Stockwell Angling Society, to which body he is attached. Mr. F. V. St. Clair writes enthusiastically of the fine fishing to be enjoyed just now at Windermere.

"BERTIE'S ADVENTURE," a farcical comedietta of particularly rollicking nature is to be given this evening at the Middlesex at 7 o'clock. It is written by F. L. Webber and Stewart D. Wright, and is of that lighttexture so suitable to warm summer evenings.

IN glorious summer weather the popular fraternity of Terriers and their friends on Sunday took their annual water trip, and heartily enjoyed the riparian beauties of Father Thames, finding delight in the sylvan glories of Quarry and Cliveden Woods during the journey down by the launch La Burgoine from Reading to Staines, where they disembarked for the return journey by train to Paddington.

THE happy party numbered about 100, and included Messrs. Jesse Sparrow (president), Mr. C. P. R. Burgess (hon. solicitor), Mr. George Preston (chairman), Mr. Douglas White (hon. treasurer) and Mrs. White, Mr. Michael Joyce, M.P., and Mayor of Limerick, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Lennon, Mr. Atlas and Miss Vulcana, Mr. and Miss Picton, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Millis, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Neiman, Mr. and Mrs. John Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gage, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gage, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Stockton, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Aarons, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. White, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Cooke, Mrs. Thacker, Mr. and Mrs. Gate, Mr. and Mrs. George Pearson (Miss Peggy Pryde) and Tony Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Alexandra, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gray, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Wiltshire, the Brothers Obo, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Edelsten (Miss Marguerite Broadfoote), Mr. and Mrs. Martin, Miss Lillie Lester, Miss Barnett, Messrs. W. Jeapes, Moy, "Spot," E. C. Webb, Samuels, Mark Ringham, Will Van Allen, Francis, Rupert Burnham, Douglas and Claude Stuart, Leon and Will Bassett, Jimmy Traynor, Billy Kloof, George Gunnup, Walter Norman, Charles Cornish, and Harry Lester, the indefatigable secretary.

LUNCHEON and tea were served on board, the catering being in the excellent hands of Mr. J. Ucelli, of the Hotel Boulogne, Gerrard-street, W., who was highly complimented by the company.

CONTRIBUTIONS to the entertainment were given by Messrs. Leon and Will Bassett, Harry Gray, Tony Pearson, Walter Norman, George Preston, the Brothers Obo, Mrs. Joe Aarons, and Miss Marguerite Broadfoote. Comedy pictures of the entire company, taken for the cinematograph, were engineered by Mr. W. Jeapes. Everyone present declared the outing to have been the best on record, and Mr. Harry Lester was heartily congratulated on the success of all his arrangements.

THE Terriers, amidst their enjoyment, did not forget Hospital Sunday, and a collection made amongst them at Boveney Lock realised £2 2s.

ACCORDING to American exchanges Messrs. Thompson and Dundy have resigned the management of the New York Hippodrome. They started in the show business as partners some years ago, and have been very successful. The Hippodrome, which long was a dream of Mr. Fredk. B. Thompson, is the result of his energy and enterprise. It seats 5,500 persons, and is the largest place of its kind in the world. The land on which it stands, on Sixth-avenue, between Forty-third and Forty-fourth-street, is owned by the United States Reality Company. Mr. Thompson is not yet thirty years old. They begin hustling young in America. Foreign artists should note that all contracts are cancelled.

MR. ARTHUR PRINCE sails by the Umbria next Saturday for America, where he opens at Hammerstein's, New York, for a seven weeks' engagement, to be followed by a lengthy tour. He will be accompanied by his wife (Miss Ida Rene) and his business manager, Mr. A. McAllister. This will be the clever young ventriloquist's second visit to the United States. The farewell engagement that he is now playing at the Empire has been very successful, his turn being greatly strengthened by the introduction of new "patter," and a capital song, for which Mr. McAllister is responsible, called "One Day." When Mr. and Mrs. Prince were in San Francisco last year there was a slight shock of earthquake—a forerunner of the recent catastrophe; but they took it as a matter of course, little suspecting that they were playing in the Orpheum, one of the finest variety theatres in America, for the last time.

MISS LUCY ASHTON'S scena, called *Skyland*, is one of the new features in the Palace programme this week, and gives an opportunity for half a dozen strikingly handsome girls to appear in smart walking dresses of different colours, with flowery feathery hats and silk parasols, Miss Ashton herself wearing a little black satin frock, with a Belle of New York bonnet with ostrich plumes. She is an American—one of New York's pretty "Casino girls"—who has played straight parts, starred as a principal in comic opera, and seems to have made her chief hit in a piece that was very popular on the other side, called *Piff! Paff! Puff!* She has been on the stage for about five years, this being her first appearance in London. *Skyland* was arranged and produced in under three weeks.

SERVAIS LE ROY will shortly present Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco in a new and original mystical play, which this enterprising conjurer will aim to make of startling novelty and attractiveness. Weird mysticism, amusing tricks, and astonishing surprises are to be allied to dramatic cohesion and consistency in this remarkable production.

THE marriage of Mr. Bert Brantford to Miss Agnes Asher was duly solemnized on Tuesday at St. James's Church, Clapham-park, S.W. A large number of friends, relatives, and artists witnessed the ceremony, and at the reception afterwards held at the residence of the bride's mother (7, Park Hill-gardens) amongst the guests were:—Mrs. Asher (bride's mother), Mike Asher (brother), Mr. and Mrs. Ford, sen., Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ford (brother of bridegroom and sister of bride respectively), Miss Lillian Groom (bridesmaid), Miss Rosie Ford (bridesmaid), Mr. and Mrs. Harry Boden, Mr. and Mrs. Napoli, Mrs. L. Turner, Mrs. Spencer and family, Mr. and Mrs. Worton David, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Reeves and son, Mr. Dave O'Toole, Mr. Dave Cohen, Mr. Walter Inge, Mr. T. E. Dunville, Master H. Ford (aged ten months), and others too numerous to mention.

THE bride looked sweet in soft white silk trimmed with jasmine wreaths and orange blossom, with a jasmine tiara fastening the veil. The senior bridesmaid wore a very becoming turquoise gown (Paris shade) with Valenciennes lace hat; and the junior bridesmaid a white embroidered frock with Valenciennes lace bonnet. Mrs. Asher, the bride's mother, was dressed in a stylish lilac crêpe-de-chine gown trimmed with Paris lace, and in a Paris straw hat trimmed with lilac. Mrs. Ford, the bridegroom's mother, looked exceedingly well in a champagne-coloured crêpe-de-chine gown, with lace toque. Mrs. Harry Ford, the bride's sister, was much admired in her confection of pink chine silk skirt, guipure lace over-skirt threaded with black velvet ribbon, the Valenciennes lace bodice being trimmed with chine silk guipure lace, and the costume completed by a guipure lace hat.

THE presents, which were numerous and costly, included a hamper of Irish linen from the bride's mother, bronze clock and ornaments from the bridegroom's mother, luncheon basket from the bride's brother, sideboard and rolled-top bureau from the bride's sister, substantial cheque from the groom's brother. The groom presented the bride with a beautiful diamond ring, the bride presenting the groom with a plain flat gold ring. The bride was given away by her mother, the groom's brother officiating as best man. The honeymoon will be spent at Eastbourne.

"HOOCH AYE!" is quite the rage in Middlesbrough this week, where "The man you know of that ilk" has been expatiating.—Little Zola is receiving many congratulations on the success of his song, "Who would have thought it?"

THE rooms in Wellington-street wherein the committee of the Music-Hall Artists' Railway Association conduct their weekly deliberations are now adorned by a number of cartoons from the pencil of the late Mr. Tom Merry, presented by Mr. Douglas White, the hon. treasurer, and a founder of the Association. One of the pictures depicts the lamented Dan Leno in the character of a stoker, shovelling fuel into the engine that is to carry the petition for concessions before the railway magnates. The drawings are remarkably well executed, and possess added interest from the fact that they recall the early days of the Association before it had entered upon its present period of affluence.

THE 468th meeting of the committee was held on Tuesday, when Mr. Joe O'Gorman occupied the chair, and Messrs. Harry Blake, Jack Collinson, Charles Gardiner, Walter Munroe, Michael Nolan, George Preston, C. Douglas Stuart (secretary), and Douglas White (hon. treasurer), were also present. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and matters arising out of them discussed. In respect to the application of a medical gentleman in the provinces, it was decided that it would not be expedient to appoint specialists outside the metropolis. The resignation from the committee of Mr. Eugene Stratton was accepted with regret, and the succession of Mr. Barney Vox, the next in order of election, was approved. The secretary's financial report, showing the addition of twenty-seven new members for the week ending June 16, during which period the receipts were £27 10s. 6d., and the expenditure £10 6s. 2½d., was received, and the hon. treasurer's cash statement was also read and passed. The secretary reported that a satisfactory arrangement had been arrived at with the landlord, by which it would be no longer necessary to pay the rent of the premises in advance.

A STRIKING feature of the composition of the executive of the M.H.A.R.A. is the recent access of ventriloquists to the board. Three vacancies in succession have been filled by exponents of the polyphonic art, and the number of ventriloquists now on the committee amounts to five. It is hoped that no grave complications will be caused by one of these artists putting into the mouth of any of his colleagues sentiments directly opposed to those which he intended to utter.

MR. A. B. MARINELLI is the head of a variety and dramatic agency which rightly claims a cosmopolitan character, as it represents first-class houses of amusement in all parts of the world. He has been busily engaged of late in arranging the business in America of some of the world's chief variety entertainers, and was largely instrumental in the introduction of the delightful Mariette Sully into the production of *The Geisha* at Daly's.

ORIGINALLY intended for a commercial life, Mr. Ernest Ch. Gittins, one of the youngest theatrical and operatic managers "on the road," served for over six years in a well-known Liverpool office. Meeting a professional friend one day, they decided there and then to take out a concert party in the Lancashire and Yorkshire fit-ups, which proved a fairly successful venture, Mr. Gittins doing a turn as pianist, and playing a part in the sketch which terminated each performance.

HE next joined Mr. Lawson's sketches, *Humanity* and *The Shield of David*, &c., and was Mr. Lawson's aide-de-camp for three and a half years, during which time the People's Palace, Tottenham, was opened, Mr. Gittins also assisting in the management. Tired of being resident, he toured again with Mr. Walter Gibbons's animated pictures and phono. bio-tableaux from the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and, after gaining experience of "picture" business, accepted an engagement with the Edison Picture Company at the St. James's Hall, Manchester.

MR. GITTINS then turned his attention to comic opera, and joined the well-known Milton Ray's forces, appearing in the musical comedies *A Hot Night* and *The Cruise of the Calabar*, also in the pantomimes *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, and *Robinson Crusoe*, the last-named being one of the most successful productions of the kind at the Theatre Royal, Belfast. From chorus and small parts he ultimately became Mr. Arthur Milton's manager. Drama also claimed him for tours with *Siberia* and Hardie and Von Leer's *In London Town* (under the direction of Jas. M. Hardie, jun.), in which latter piece he doubled the parts of Flemming and Joe.

MR. GITTINS'S first engagement in Grand Opera was with the second tour of the Moody-Manners Opera A Company, for which he was secretary (Mr. Gittins is an expert typist and shorthand writer). Since that time he has piloted the F. S. Gilbert Opera Company, the Elster-Grime Opera Company (Irish fit-ups), and, last of all, the oldest opera company in the world, viz., Her (late) Majesty's servants, the Royal Carl Rosa Opera Company, and with this company he has been associated for the past four seasons.

MR. GITTINS attributes his high position at such an early age to hard work and his ambition to get to the top of the tree, and the experience gained by commencing at the bottom rung of the ladder, and working in chorus, small parts, as pianist, amanuensis, "in advance," resident and touring management has proved a most valuable school for the arduous duties of an operatic manager. What spare time he now gets is always taken up in his compositions, and, although his songs and glees have never yet seen the light, the talent is still there, and no doubt one day will prove still another useful accomplishment.

THE Monte Carlo Publishing Company have in the press, and will produce, at an early date, Miss Marie Lloyd's latest success, by Harrington and Tate, "That's the custom of the country," with which this talented artist is nightly winning "golden opinions" at the Tivoli and her other engagements.

MR. GINTARO, whose exceptionally fine juggling is so highly appreciated in Messrs. Maskelyne and Devant's Mysteries at St. George's Hall, is one of the many Japanese in London who are masters jiu-jitsu. He met with a little adventure a short while ago in which his skill in scientific self-defence stood him in good stead. One night when he was returning home after the performance, accompanied by his wife, a man who had started by begging began to look dangerous, and Mr. Gintaro saw that a second morose-looking fellow was approaching from the shadow of a house. The street was deserted. The two men, both of whom were bigger and heavier than the Japanese, began to use threatening language and press closer. Then Mr. Gintaro, in the coolest manner in the world, suddenly seized one of his assailants, and, knowing exactly how to do it, put him flat on his back on the pavement. He said that the expression on the face of the second man, before he took to his heels, was too funny for words.

MR. JOE PETERMAN was sued at the Southwark County Court on Thursday on a judgment summons issued at the instance of Walter Bentley, a variety agent, of Stamford-street, S.E., for £3 15s., balance of a judgment for commission earned. The creditor said that Peterman was performing the sketch *King of Sahara* at the Oxford, for which he received £100 a week, out of which he had to pay about thirty people, and that he was living at the Hotel Russell. The creditor added that since the judgment he had made contracts for the debtor, one being for £125 per week, whilst Peterman had three or four sketches running. Judge Addison made an order for the payment of the amount within a month, twenty-one days in default.

MR. CHARLES CARTWRIGHT, who has just concluded a brief and highly successful tour with *Em'ly*, his play based upon incidents in "David Copperfield," and produced at the Adelphi on Aug. 1, 1903, has received a tempting offer to present a condensed version of the piece on the variety stage. If the necessary arrangements can be made, *Em'ly* will be given in about thirty-five minutes by six people, Mr. Cartwright, of course, playing the old boatman, Dan'l Peggotty, a favourite character with the late Sam Emery.

MLLE. RENEE, the clever instrumentalist, has been making a great hit at the Palace Theatre, Carlisle, this week, taking four curtains at each performance. She has just made her return contract with Signor Pepi at a large increase of salary.

MR. EDITOR.—Sir,—In his report of the Hippodrome, Coventry, your correspondent omitted all mention of us. We appeared as the "Factory Nightingales," and were a great success.—Yours faithfully, DOLLY, AGNES, AND MAUD.

AT the County of London Sessions on Thursday, before Mr. Loveland-Loveland, K.C., at Newington, Nicholas McDonald, a coster, Herbert Higgins, a carman, and James Costello, a coster, were found guilty of wounding George Davey, and assaulting Charles Smith, at the Empress, Brixton. Evidence was given that, during a performance on the night of May 14, Higgins caused a disturbance in the gallery, and Charles Smith, an attendant, spoke to him. He immediately struck Smith on the right jaw, knocking him down, and kicked him. George Davey, another attendant, came to the rescue, and the scrimmage became general. The prisoners took the affair very lightly in court, and were only silenced when Mr. Loveland-Loveland commenced in a stern manner to sentence them. "You have been acting more like wild beasts than human beings," he said, "and I mean to give you such punishment as will deter others from following your example. This rowdyism and assaults upon peaceful citizens must be put a stop to." McDonald was sentenced to 15 months' hard labour, Higgins to 18 months' hard labour, and Costello to 15 months' hard labour.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The Holborn Empire—known for so many years as "the Royal"—has, under the present management entered upon prosperous times, and the secret of the success which has undoubtedly been achieved may be attributed not only to the great improvements recently carried out in this old-established theatre of varieties, but more particularly to the series of excellent programmes which have been presented since the re-opening. Novelty has very judiciously been made a feature in the bill; and while old favourites have not by any means had the cold shoulder, many attractive items that present the charm of freshness have found a place in the programme. Visitors to the Holborn Empire this week have been delighted with the refined and artistic production, which, under the title of "Klio," is sandwiched between more ordinary items of a variety entertainment. Possibly the title was suggested by Clio, one of the muses, who presided over history, and recorded the heroic deeds of brave men. Miss Irma Lorraine, a lady whom Nature has endowed with a fine figure, represents a series of studies in sculpture, the originals of which can be seen in Continental cities. Each pose is a perfect simile of the original figures by eminent sculptors. The first of the series is Music, followed by Salambo, Nymph at the Fountain, Literature, Bacchante (the original, by Mlle. Amelie Colombier, was exhibited in the Salon de Paris last year), Fortune, Venus, Diana, Truth, and Electra. That at one time notorious individual, "the prude on the prowl," could find no valid objection to this display of the female form divine; for the canons of art are observed in the strictest degree, and not a suspicion of vulgarity mars this really artistic exhibition. The brief interval between each pose is filled by a charming fountain display. The water is thrown to a height of 30ft., and powerful limelight being employed, a variety of prismatic and kaleidoscopic effects are produced, to the evident delight of the audience.

Amongst acrobatic comedians Price and Revost hold high rank; and their performance is one that should not be missed. The artist that plays the comic part falls about the stage in such eccentric fashion as to cause repeated roars of laughter; and then, as a finish to his funny performance, he gets apparently hopelessly entangled with a number of chairs, and has to be extricated from his awkward position by his partner, who, by the way, is himself a very smart acrobat, who well deserves the applause accorded him. The Folkestones appear with much success in their comedy act, called *The Channel Swimmers*. As a matter of fact, the act has very little to do with swimming, though the scene represents the seaside, with a bathing-machine in the foreground. One of the two performers enters this, and prepares for the swim across the Channel. He has a rival, who disrobes outside the machine, and throws his discarded clothes in through the window. The couple conclude with a smartly-executed sand dance, which is greeted with much applause. Harrigan and Holt win favour as cross-talk comedians. They also introduce an amusing parody on "Only a Jew," called "Only a stew," and excel as dancers. The Three Sisters Sprightly are well received. One of them appears as a coon singer, and the other two as coons who do most of the work. With lively song and dance the trio achieve a notable success. Mr. Cliff Ryland, described as "the stolid comedian," rattles off his funny anecdotes about his friend Carey and other people and things with his usual glibness; his reception is of the most cordial character. The Four Papillons are young ladies, who, attired in pretty dresses, and carrying sunshades, do exceedingly well in both the singing and dancing departments. Mr. Jake Friedman, who rejoices in the title of "the one-man opera," upholds his reputation as a clever and amusing artist; Mr. Charles Lilburn, comedian, sings "It's better than nothing at all" in telling style; and Mr. Frank Gee, comedian, also contributes. Terry and Bentley, a lady and gentleman, score in the comedy sketch, called *The Hunt*. Miss May Edouin and Mr. Edwards are seen to advantage in *A Bachelor's Dream*; and the Jees are repeating their well-known *Musical Smithy*, both of which sketches have been frequently and favourably noticed in our columns. Eugenie Fougère, whose speciality is French chansons and American coon songs, is also engaged here; and the Imperial Bioscope is presenting "A Phantom Ride from Nice to Monte Carlo." Mr. Claude Marner is the manager at this hall, and the orchestra is under the leadership of Mr. James Sale.

FORESTERS'.

A big and varied programme is offered at the Foresters' this week. There is a very strong thing for a hot night in a new sketch,

"BLUE RIVER VALLEY,"

By C. Douglass Carlile.

Brian Nolan .....MR. C. DOUGLASS CARLILE
Dan Cooper .....MR. CHARLES A. CARLILE
Pete .....MR. JACK MANLEY
Sambo .....MR. LEE GILBERT
Myra .....MISS CARLOTTA DE YONSON

Mr. C. D. Carlile will be remembered as the author of several successful sketches, the present being his fifth attempt in this direction. The story of *Blue River Valley* opens, as the title indicates, at a Western American gold mining camp. Brian Nolan is seated playing cards with another miner, Dan Cooper. The latter is a sharper, and produces four kings from his pocket. Naturally Brian expresses his opinion upon this kind of conduct in the strongest terms, and Dan Cooper leaves the cottage vowing vengeance. Myra, Brian's wife, appears on the scene, she having walked from San Francisco with a letter which tells her husband that he has inherited a fortune. Dan Cooper, wishing to pay off the gambling score against Brian, tells the latter that women are not allowed in the camp; but Brian has already decided to quit the place. During his temporary absence from the cottage Dan vents some of his spite upon Myra, and Brian just turns up in time to prevent her being carried off by the ruffian. There is, of course, a fight, in which Dan gets considerably the worst of it. Later on there is still another encounter, and again Brian comes out triumphant. Miss Carlotta de Yonson displays all the qualities of a tragedienne in her impersonation of Myra, the heroine; and Mr. C. Douglass Carlile as Brian Nolan presents a virile and sturdy hero. Mr. Charles A. Carlile is sufficiently obnoxious as the blackguardly Dan Cooper; and Mr. Lee Gilbert as Sambo and Mr. Jack Manley as Pete adequately portray what is required of them. Mr. Marley shows decided ability.

As to the rest of the programme, we have Mr. Lew Lake and his company in the laughable sketch *My Pal Jerry*. Mr. Bob Morris as Jerry Jackson and Mr. Lew Lake as Nobbler Nolan create intense merriment, and the whole show is by far the liveliest item in the programme. Mr. Dave O'Toole also gives us plenty to laugh at in his song, "We all walked out again." Mr. O'Toole has a style all his own, and it is a style which has proved hugely to the liking of the patrons of the Foresters'. Four talented dancers come on the stage in the persons of the Society Quartette. The bâton dance and the long boot dance performed by two members of the little troupe are exceedingly smart in their way, the first being most picturesque. The verse sung by the quartette about one Stella is rendered harmoniously, and the turn is pleasing throughout. Miss Madge Morley and company have a very entertaining thing in the comedy episode, *After the Races*, written by Walter Howard. In her own part Miss Morley shows herself to be an accomplished comedienne. Mr. Andy Fagan is an amusing patterer and dancer, and his story about "Fighting Macanny" cannot fail to excite one's risible faculties. The spirit of comedy is strong in Mr. Fagan.

Mr. Andy Burn sings of the sorrows of a broken-down millionaire, and the lugubrious manner in which in the character he refers to past glories and compares them with present circumstances is really funny. Mr. Burn's eccentricities have quite gained the favour of East-Enders, and what enhances that favour is the fact that he is a talented dancer. Mr. Harry Lewis is another comedian who creditably acquits himself, and his ditty, "Is it true?" wins golden opinions from his hearers. Mr. G. H. Keith is a versatile mirth-provoker and entertainer, and he submits an agreeable number in "The Violet." Raymond's Bio-Tableaux comes in for a good share of attention. It would seem that animated pictures are becoming more popular day by day. In their own line Messrs. Raymond keep well to the fore, and are always to be relied upon for securing new subjects for the cinematograph screen. This week at the Foresters' they introdnce a couple of attractive series in "The Mistaken Laundry" and "The Deserter," the scenes in both of which are remarkably clear and well conceived.

PARAGON.

Miss Carrie Laurie's "model school" is by now pretty well known to music-hall habitués, but a renewal of its acquaintance is always welcome. The youngsters themselves are so clever, and enter so heartily into the fun of their mimic schooling, that it is a pleasure to listen to and watch them. The boy who appears as the dunce is a smart little comedian, who should make a name for himself as a single turn when he reaches manhood's estate. Miss Laurie may herself be congratulated upon the excellent results of her training, and upon the fact that she is ever developing whatever talents each child possesses. She is continually making changes in the business of her young protégés, so as not to weary an audience with too much repetition. The "bogie man" dance and song proves an interesting feature of the little show, as is also the playing of various musical instruments. Rivington and Gordyn make for merriment with their comedy duologue, "Not a single word," which is amusing throughout. Mr. Wilson Hallett is most entertaining with his imitations of children, every one of his efforts in this direction being highly characteristic of what it is supposed to represent. The whimsical Wilkie Bard, made up and dressed as a burlesque Tommy Atkins, is absurd enough in all faith, what with his comical mannerisms and his satirical lines about "one-and-a-penny a day," but he is even more absurd as a voluble woman who wishes to display "her" qualities as a vocalist. "Let me sing," cries the "lady," and then, as a reference is made to a fireman, a uniformed official rushes on the stage to object to being associated with the song. A laughable scene ensues. More laughter is caused when Mr. Bard invites a boy in the audience to join in the chorus, and an apparently elderly man in evening dress responds to the request, and sings in unison with the comedian.

Herr E. Rousby's electrical review, entitled *Round Paris; or, Paris in London*, is one of the prettiest and most attractive novelties we have seen for a long time. We get remarkably vivid representations of the Place de la Concorde, and a scene from the Louvre. The varying tints and hues of the sky as day breaks changes into sunset, and sunset into moonrise, afford a beautiful series of spectacles, and we should imagine that the inventive capacity of some electrical genius must have been taxed to the utmost to conceive and produce such wonderful effects. The "Palace of Illusions" and the "Summer Night Festival on the Champ de Mars," in which a neat model of the Eiffel Tower is brought into requisition, also are electrical wonders. We can heartily commend Herr Rousby's exceedingly interesting "review," and not the least surprising part of it is the production of melodies by electrically-worked contrivances. The rollicking Will Evans as a Spanish danseuse, ridiculously attired in flaming colours, is something to upset the gravity of a misanthrope. And the way in which this "Mlle. Flora de Dindigul" whisks and prances about the stage in a diaphanous "skirt," which it would be almost libellous to describe as comprehensive, is a sight for the gods. But the fun goes faster and more furiously as Mr. Evans' "grand corps de ballet" swing round and round in one another's arms, their physical endowments not altogether giving one the impression of dainty little ballet girls. It is laughter, laughter, all the time the popular Will is before the footlights, and laughter some time after as the recollection of his doings is borne upon one's mind. Mr. Charles Norton is, indeed, a versatile comedian. He gives us capital imitations of some of the leading stars on the music-hall stage. His representation of Harry Lauder in "Stop yer ticklin', Jock," and R. G. Knowles's song about women, are particularly praiseworthy, and characteristic, too, is his mimicry of Arthur Roberts, G. H. Chirgwin, Harry Ford, and T. E. Dunville in some of their best-known numbers.

Miss Sylvia Cavalho excites general admiration for her tragic and sympathetic representation of the deceived actress in Mr. Charles Darrell's dramatic episode, *Lulu*. It is an intensely clever bit of acting which Miss Cavalho treats the house to in the part. The plot of the sketch has been dealt with by us ere now, and it is not therefore necessary at this time to retell the story. Mr. Clifford Pembroke ably interprets the rôle of the unscrupulous theatrical manager; Miss Emma Chambers as Tabitha Tappitt furnishes a good character-study; and Miss Gertrude de Burgh is ladylike and appropriately subdued as Edith Montcalm. Mr. Harry Carr suitably fulfils the requirements of the part of the stage-manager. The Fred Gillet Trio acquit themselves creditably in a smart and novel equilibristic act. One of the gentlemen succeeds in balancing his body while supporting himself with his hands resting upon a couple of long lighted candles—not the same sort, we presume, that is brought into use in the ritual of the Roman Catholic Church; but, at any rate, similar in appearance. Several other feats are neatly executed by the trio. The Lowenwirth Brothers are a couple of delightful cross-talkers, and the fact that they are set down as Hebrew comedians ensures them a first-rate reception from a Paragon audience, which always comprises members of the fraternity. The patter of the Lowenwirths is highly diverting, and includes any number of funny jokes and witty sayings. The Sisters Marion distinguish themselves as duettists and dancers, their vocal performances being extremely acceptable and cordially applauded. Ruffell's Bioscope presents an admirable set of pictures, which add greatly to the pleasure of the house.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The pretty music hall at Clapham, under Mr. H. Ketteman's able management, has this week enjoyed a fair amount of patronage, taking into consideration the possible drawbacks in the way of attendance owing to the hot weather. The popular Mr. Joe Elvin is encouraging local joviality with his latest sketch, *Two Nights Out*. As the gay and festive bookmaker, who meets with such strange adventures, Mr. Elvin contrives to force the pace of hilarity, and induces one to think that after all the world is not such a dreary place. Mr. Elvin understands well how to squeeze the utmost humour out of his lines, and he certainly succeeds in carrying out this principle in the petite comedy referred to. The curious costerlike intonation he gives to his words seems appropriately enough to fit in with the requirements of the character, and of the sketch it seems scarcely necessary to say that it is a valuable item of any music hall programme. The parts of the wife, the burglar, and the policemen are all cleverly played, and the little piece is extremely well staged. Miss Mabel Thorne, the talented soubrette and low-comedy artist, has some amusing lines to offer in her song, "Sitting on the point." What the lady has to say is very much to the point, for she proves highly entertaining to the house.

Mr. Herbert Shelley, who is a great favourite with Clapham audiences, is this week delighting his old South-West London friends with his song on the subject of Sunday and what a good job it is that we have such an institution as a holiday once a week. The verses are given in Mr. Shelley's expressive style, and the good points are not lost upon his hearers. Roxburgh and Wright appear in "a farcical episode, in one jump," called *Cockie*. Farcical is the right word to apply in reference to this turn, for the story of *Cockie* cannot fail to arouse one's sense of the ridiculous. Messrs. Roxburgh and Wright display great originality, and the introduction into their act of a parrot and a cat is arranged with excellent results. Mr. T. E. Dunville is another successful merry-maker, and his latest song and patter, "Ticketitis," is excruciatingly funny. Mr. Dunville doesn't believe in being behind the times, and his satire on the latest craze is much appreciated. Mr. Herbert Madden is a character vocalist of no small order. He succeeds in compelling our admiration for his interpretation of some patriotic verses, in which one catches the names of Nelson and Beaconsfield. Mr. Madden's "show" is an agreeable and refined one. The popular Miss Florrie Forde, who had been announced to appear at the Grand, Clapham, has unfortunately been obliged to absent herself from the theatre in consequence of illness. We trust by the time these lines appear in print that she will have quite recovered. Miss Forde is such an immense favourite with variety theatre habitués that she is at once missed if through some reason or other she is unable to fulfil a previously-advertised contract.

Mr. Charles Morritt is a dealer in illusions, and a very able dealer, too. One sits and looks on in amazement as a young lady, in an apparently comatose condition, slowly ascends in the air without the aid of any visible power. Then, to prove there are no wires keeping the woman in position, Mr. Morritt passes a large white hoop over the body. An invitation to the audience, and three youths appear on the stage. Mr. Morritt touches the nose of one of them, and lo and behold! a couple of rabbits come into being. Then from pockets which were formerly empty are produced a variety of articles, including cards, flags, and birds. Of course, we presume it is a question of the quickness of the hand deceiving the eye, but the rapidity and neatness with which the different tricks are performed are most commendable. The electric table and chair causes endless merriment as each victim writhes and wriggles under the influence of the strange force. The entire act is surprisingly smart and interesting. Mlle. Alice Lorette and her prize medal dog, Ben, appear in attractive and artistically arranged "living statue" scenes which find high favour with the spectators. Brown and Robinson, "the bricklayer and his labourer," need no recommendation at this hour. We have on many previous occasions referred in eulogistic terms to their vocal abilities, and it is pleasant to be able to say that they appear to improve as time goes on. Their singing of "The Lost Chord" is a particularly fine bit of work. The Imperial Bioscope pictures, especially that series depicting the adventures of a fakir among foot-pads, provide an interesting and much appreciated concluding item.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, June 18, was produced, for the first time, a new farcical sketch, written by Hubert Bartlett, entitled

"HOW BAGGS WAS BAGGED."

Augustus Baggs .....MR. HUBERT BARTLETT
Nathaniel Peck .....MR. ARTHUR WALLIS
A Policeman .....BY HIMSELF (?)
Trixie Angostura .....MISS HELEN MARIUS
Mrs. Baggs .....MISS EDITH MUIR

A farcical sketch is just the light, easily digestible fare that is acceptable in mid-summer; and *How Baggs was Bagged* met with a decidedly favourable reception at its first production on Monday evening. The dialogue was found to be bright and crisp, and some funny situations were evolved. Augustus Baggs, a commercial traveller, has a weakness for carrying on flirtations with young ladies he happens to meet on his travels, and as he is a married man it is not surprising that this dangerous pastime eventually lands him in a domestic difficulty. Amongst the young women he has been paying lover-like attentions to is Miss Trixie Angostura, a Basingstoke barmaid, who, finding that Augustus is a gay deceiver, vows to have revenge. Mrs. Baggs keeps a boarding-house, and the barmaid, having traced the false Augustus to his home, becomes a paying guest at the establishment. Baggs finds himself in a very awkward position, and cudgels his brains to discover a way out of it. The presence at the boarding-house of a melancholy individual named Peck suggests a means of escape. Peck is by trade an undertaker, and has left his home in consequence of a serious disagreement with his wife, who, however, is resolved upon a restitution of conjugal rights. Peck is told by Baggs that the new lady boarder is Mrs. Peck, and he is induced to make up so as to resemble Augustus as closely as possible. This leads to a series of most amusing complications, as Mrs. Baggs mistakes the undertaker for her own husband, who is himself arrested for the wife deserter, Peck. Mr. Hubert Bartlett gets a lot of fun out of the part of Augustus Baggs, and Mr. Arthur Wallis scores all through by his capital sketch of the doleful undertaker. Miss Helen Marius plays well as the aggrieved barmaid, and Miss Edith Muir is good as Mrs. Baggs.

Amongst the comedians engaged here this week is Mr. Tom Bass, who, as a policeman known by the highly suggestive name of Moppit, indulges in some very amusing patter. His embodiment of a widow with an extensive matrimonial experience is also a richly humorous character sketch. The Larins (Frank and Alice) appear in a burlesque duo, entitled *The Abode of Love*, the Gentleman representing a curate and the lady impersonating the damsel who calls upon him in reply to an advertisement. The reverend gentleman falls an easy victim to the charms of his visitor, and the sketch concludes merrily and musically with a medley duet composed of snatches from many popular songs of the day. Miss Maud Prenton, dainty and fresh, sings in animated style a couple of ditties, "Make hay while the sun shines" and "She didn't even stop to say good-night." A successful appearance is also made by Miss Millie Denham, who sings "Charley's got curly hair," and another song the chorus of which is excellently rendered by a little girl in the auditorium. The strong man known as Ben Hur is the central figure in an athletic scena. He first gives a display of his fine muscular development, and then affords evidence of his prowess as a lifter of heavy weights. Some degree of amusement is derived from a competition organised by Ben Hur, the object of the competitors being to remove from the stage a heavy bag of sand, a feat that is easily accomplished by the strong man. The Four Watsons present a well-varied musical entertainment, in which vocal ability and instrumental skill are both displayed. The quartet are well received, and so, too, is Mr. Will Lytton, comedian, with a funny parody on "The pilgrims of the night" and a ditty in which he bewails the fact that his newly-married wife, being a Scotch woman, compels him to wear a kilt. Mr. Fred Lester, comedian, has a capital parody on the "Hiawatha" song. Miss Lil O'Gorman sings and dances successfully; Mr. Jake Friedman, "the one-man opera," meets with a good reception; and Mr. Mark Reeves, comedian, and Cliff and Kean, comedy duo, are also in the current programme which concludes with a series of animated pictures shown by the Edisonograph. Mr. Maurice Volny, assistant manager, performs his duties with commendable zeal, and Mr. Frederick Allwood is the able musical director.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Business here may be described as unusually brisk for the time of year, when warm evenings and prolonged sunshine tempt people, in a place like this, to roam about in forest glades till the "sleepy bell" begins to ring, and wanderers are often too tired to patronise indoor amusements. But so long as Mr. Arthur J. Barclay offers a counter attraction so strong as his bill for this week, it will not be surprising if good business is done in the hottest of dog-days.

The engagement of Miss Marie Lloyd is no doubt partly responsible for the large attendances. The popular comedienne, who surely gets few warmer welcomes anywhere than that which attends her visits to Walthamstow, is as artistic in her methods as ever. It would be difficult to say whether Miss Lloyd is best in "The custom of the country," "Things of the past," or "She didn't like to tell him what she wanted," all of which she has been singing. An item on the programme that gives very lively satisfaction, and is warmly received, is Mr. Owen Hall's musical "comedy in little," entitled *The Lady Bankrupt*. Interpreted cleverly by Miss Elsie Molloy and her company, the piece is as bright and amusing as need be. Miss Molloy herself, whose fascinating personality is set off to the best advantage by a fetching costume, acts, as Lady Mary Pendillion, with a good comedy manner, sings very sweetly, and dances exquisitely. Miss Mabel Dent is bright and piquant as the lady's-maid; and the crowd of lady creditors are both smart and pretty. Mr. Armitage Laceby plays with great comic resource as the Official Receiver, a part conceived quite in the Gilbertian spirit. Mr. R. A. Beaton is very amusing as his clerk; and Mr. Fred de Vere is a capital Magnus Wenk.

A great success is made by Valazzi, in a "juggling, equilibristic, athletic act." All his feats are extremely clever, several of them exceptionally so; while his performance of "sloping the slope" on a cannon ball is watched with much interest. Valazzi is fortunate in having an assistant almost as alert as himself. Miss Daisy Davidson, a soprano hailing from New Zealand, has a voice of uncommon range and considerable sweetness. She sings first a brilliant Italian bravura air with fluency and precision, but achieves an even more popular success by her rendering of the pretty song, "Eyes of blue and eyes of brown." Miss Katie Marsh, in a pot-pourri entitled "Grave and Gay," imitates various styles of performance, so widely different as an impersonation of Lady Isabel in *East Lynne*, a variety comedienne, a dancer, and a "coon." Mr. Herbert La Martine, a young performer who is no stranger here, sings vigorously, and dances with a "go" that fairly rouses the audience. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope has some very good pictures of the processions connected with the recent Royal marriage in Madrid.

One of the best features of the programme is undoubtedly the merry trifle entitled *The Substitute*, played by Mr. Sid Cotterell and two supporters—a lady and gentleman. The plot of the piece turns upon the troubles arising from a gay young married man, who, wishing to absent himself at night without the knowledge of his wife, and for the purpose of meeting a former flame, enlists the aid of the new hall porter to occupy his bed till he returns. The complications that arise can be easily imagined; but, of course, all comes straight. *The Substitute* is well constructed and smartly written; while it enjoys the inestimable blessing of being absolutely free from the faintest suspicion of anything that might offend the taste of the most fastidious; it is, in short, a perfectly clean, wholesome, and amusing little play. It is admirably acted. Mr. Cotterell himself is possessed of a rich fund of humour, and employs it with good effect as the bewildered hall porter. The lady of the cast acts the young wife with great spirit, and looks charming; while the young husband is handsome and debonnair. Mr. John Grant is to be commended for his stage-management. The overture to Rossini's *William Tell* receives a very fine rendering from the orchestra, under the smart direction of Mr. H. Petersen.

THE EMPRESS.

The demand for novelty is constantly being met by Mr. Nelson Francis, whose management at the Empress has been marked by many fresh departures in the way of the musical sketch. The latest thing in trifles of this kind was given on Monday, when Mr. Bob Hutt produced a playlet "in two scenes and a lot of trouble," by Harry Leighton and George Errard, entitled *Welcome Home*. The piece deals with the misadventures of a newly-married man, who returns with his bride to find his mother-in-law in possession and his house in the throes of a "spring-cleaning." Painters and decorators invade every room, and the diminutive husband is openly defied by his dragon of a mother-in-law, who even refuses to allow him to write a letter in the front parlour. The newly-wedded victim insists on completing his correspondence, but the table is snatched away from him by a number of furniture polishers, and pens, ink, and paper sent flying. Eventually he comes in conflict with the workmen, a pot of varnish is emptied over him, and a sweep's sooty brush enters by the window and decorates the face of the bridegroom. Rushing upstairs, he engages in a terrific struggle with the painters, and finally comes crashing through the ceiling into the room below. The events of the piece are ludicrous and exciting, and the laughter of the audience knows no abatement from first to last. Mr. Bob Hutt enters thoroughly into the spirit of the part of the bridegroom, whose various encounters result in the destruction of at least one summer suit, while furniture, glassware, and china are recklessly shattered. He has a song in which the joy of the happy Benedict before his warm reception at home is enthusiastically expressed, followed by an eccentric dance. Mr. Hutt is well supported by a comely young lady, who sings excellently in the part of the wife, and by the other members of the company. The comic surprises contained in the piece are numberless, and the success attained was thoroughly borne out by the enthusiastic applause which awaited it from an audience who had been kept constantly in a state of laughter. The scenery of the little piece, which depicts the exterior and interior of Love Villa, is the work of the able artist Mr. Francis H. Bull, and it is to the effective mounting and the manipulation of the properties that the success is in a great measure due.

Mr. Joe Elvin is a great source of attraction in the sketch *The New Boy*—no relation, it may be said, to Mr. Arthur Law's popular comedy. The favourite coster comedian excites the wildest hilarity in the part of Obedient Billy, and the efforts of his company are effectively exerted towards a similar end. Another sketch with farcical tendencies is that of *The Yorkshire Lad in London*, in which Mr. Tom Foy, who receives a hearty greeting, arouses constant mirth in his well-known and drolly-finished impersonation of the lad from the county of broad acres.

An early place in the programme and a high position in favour is taken by Miss Maree Kean, a fresh and dainty young artist who possesses real comedy gifts. She has a novel song in "Why did I marry Mr. Brown?" a clever lyric from the newly-combined pens of J. P. Harrington and J. W. Tate; and the approbation of the audience is accorded with liberal hand. The Sisters Marion, a prepossessing pair of juveniles, win enthusiastic cheers for their prettily-sung duets, one of which is formed out of the ballad "Sing me to sleep,"; and the Howards supplement their clever playing on bugles and cornets with a large amount of fun.

Canine intelligence is conspicuous in the Two Bostons' comic sketch, *The Novelty Showman*, in which a well-trained retriever slips his collar and purloins his master's dinner, placing the cat on the table to bear the charge of theft. The animal acts entirely independent of his trainer, and goes through his allotted task with marvellous sagacity. Miss Daisy James, who dazzles the eye with some charming costumes, sings in her slyest style "The world will never know" and "He's just the same as me," gaining the good-will of the audience, who are enthusiastic in admiration. Mr. Wal Pink's popular monologue *Cheap Jack* yields a good deal of humour and not a little patriotic excitement. His alphabetical diary contains a picture and a poem on every page, and Mr. Pink has to return so many times that he runs the entire course from A to W. Something akin to sensation is caused by the dancing of Mr. Jack Lorimer, who renders Scottish songs in racy style; the Glenroy troupe of lady and gentleman dancers also show what can be accomplished by experts in the saltatory art; the Brontes appear in their funny sketch *The Saucy Maid*; and Mr. Fred Dunstone in parodies and patter; and Mr. Herbert Shelley, comedian, also contribute to the bill. An "extra turn" has been provided in Bolger and Gomer, a deep baritone and a tuneful mezzo-soprano, who enact an interlude in which a quarrelling duet is succeeded by an artistic rendering of Benedict's melodious composition "The moon hath raised her lamp above." The turn was well received, the latter duet going exceptionally well. Mr. Robert Allington controls the orchestra with care, and Mr. Francis Winchcombe acts with tact and courtesy as assistant-manager.

"WE DON'T WANT TO FIGHT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I read with much interest the letter from Mr. J. W. Rowley in your issue of June 16. The song that "made" Macdermott was, as the writer of the letter says, "The Scamp," and, one might add, it was the best song that its fortunate singer ever had. This ditty, written by the late Henry Pettitt, was only second in popularity to Hunt's *chef-d'œuvre*, "We don't want to fight," whilst Macdermott's "swell" creation, "I'll strike you with a feather," made his third big hit. In a collection of old comic song-covers I find a capital picture of Macdermott in the character of "The Scamp," one of Alfred Concanen's cleverest productions in the way of frontispieces. "Jingo Mac" is there depicted as a smug, soberly-attired individual, but the song-verses reveal the fact that his methods and dealings are scarcely in keeping with his highly respectable, not to say clerical, appearance. The "scamp's" redeeming feature, however, is his candour, callous though it be:—

Oh! *if* there was ever a scamp,
I flatter myself I am he,
From William the Norman, to Brigham the Mormon,
They can't hold a candle to me.

By the way, Sir, your correspondent was, if I am not mistaken, the only music-hall "star" who, during the "Jingo" wave, or the reaction thereafter, ventured to say—or to sing—something on the other side. As I write, I have before me Mr. Rowley's song, "Gladstone, or The Tide's on the Turn," the frontispiece of which shows a remarkably good likeness of the Grand Old Man. Thus runs the prophetic refrain:—

The Jingoes may laugh, they may bluster, they may "chaff,"
But the tide's on the turn, never fear;
In the good times of peace, they'll in wisdom increase:
Then they'll give *William Gladstone* a cheer.

Yours truly,
W. E. IMESON.

13, Crusoe-road, Mitcham, Surrey.
June 20, 1906.

THE MUSIC-HALL SICK FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to supplement your report of our last committee meeting by mentioning a case which appears to have caused in certain quarters some discussion which may possibly prove damaging to the society, of which I have the honour to be president, if left unexplained. Unhappily, a member of the Fund recently took his own life, and a claim was made by the widow for the £10 which is in ordinary cases paid on the death of a member. But, deeply as the Committee sympathised with the applicant, and with every desire to assist her, they found that as members of a duly registered friendly society they were debarred by law from handing her the death grant. I enclose herewith a copy of Rule 3, par. 4, which states that payment is made in all cases with the one exception of a death from suicide. This rule has been in existence since the formation of the Society in 1867, and the Committee were bound by it.—Yours faithfully,

PAT CAREY.

198, Kennington-road, S.E., June 18, 1906.

HORACE WHEATLEY IN DUBLIN.

Among an extremely clever company of variety artists at the Tivoli last night Horace Wheatley was the great attraction. His abilities as a *raconteur* of humorous stories are well known and appreciated in Dublin and elsewhere, while his Irish songs are most catching, and his dancing is simply marvellous. He was encored again and again, each time delighting the audiences.—*Irish Times*, June 19, 1906.

That Horace Wheatley's great popularity in Dublin has not waned during his all too long absence from the city was forcibly demonstrated by the magnificent reception accorded him at the Tivoli last night. He told stories of his friend M'Intyre in that fresh and racy style so characteristic of him, and his dancing has lost none of its sprightliness. At the end of his three songs he was loudly called upon for an encore.—*Mail*, Dublin, June 20, 1906.

AFTER calls and recalls in the "second house" at the Walthamstow Palace on Monday night, Miss Marie Lloyd was presented with a handsome bouquet, which was handed to her across the footlights amidst the cheers of a crowded audience.

MR. AND MRS. WALTER DE FRECE (Miss Vesta Tilley) sailed from America per ss. Celtic on Friday, the 15th inst., and will therefore be in England by the time these lines catch the eyes of our readers, among whom the popular couple number a legion of friends.

MR. AND MRS. GEO. CHIRGWIN, who are giving a garden party to their friends on Sunday at Easdale, Streatham Hill, S.W., have arranged for a billiard match, 250 up, all in, "nothing barred," between Mr. Joe Elvin and Mr. Wal Pink. This sporting event, which is sure to excite immense interest, will take place in Mr. Chirgwin's handsome billiard-room. The match is for £10 a-side. The first contestant who succeeds in beating the record break of the room will receive a handsome silver cup, given by Mrs. Chirgwin. The stakeholder is to be Mr. John Barton, the referee Mr. Harry Tate—the "garrulous golfer"—and the marker Mr. Mike Conway.

THE SWANBOROUGH MATINEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I want to thank you on behalf of the Committee and my good friend the beneficiaire for your sympathetic article appearing in your issue of the 16th inst. I ask your permission to tender my thanks to the ladies and gentlemen of the dramatic and music hall professions, who have agreed to give their services, and of which I enclose you a list, as well as the General Committee list, and through your columns I would make it known that we shall be glad to receive subscriptions and applications for tickets right up to the day, and that for subscriptions the list will be kept open up to and including August 6. At foot please find list of subscriptions received to date.

I take little or no interest in testimonials or benefits, &c., of which one way or another we get more than enough, but I have taken a particular interest in this matter for our old manager at Chelsea, who has earned during his services with us our affection, esteem, and respect.

I would not have troubled you with this letter, but I dictate it from a bed of serious illness, which deprives me of all interference with any business communications, and as I have taken the lead in this matter, I hope that your friend and my friend, "Teddy Swanborough," will not suffer from my illness or my absence.—I am, yours faithfully,

HENRI GROS.

1, Taviton-street, Gordon-square, June 21.

The following is the list of subscriptions up to date:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Alfred De Rothschild	21	0	0
Mr. J. R. Buchanan	21	0	0
Directors of Chelsea Palace	21	0	0
Messrs. A. and S. Gatti	5	5	0
Miss Marie Lloyd	5	5	0
Edward Terry	5	5	0
Mr. F. W. Crawford	5	5	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	5	0	0
My Fancy	5	0	0
Mr. F. H. Lyon	5	0	0
Sir Thos. Dewar	3	3	0
R. Warner and Co., Ltd.	3	3	0
C. Dancocks	3	3	0
J. Chapman (Grimsby)	3	3	0
Bass and Co.	3	3	0
J. S. Lyon	3	2	0
H. Nichols	2	2	0
E. A. Gosnay	2	2	0
H. Blackmore	2	2	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
Wilkes and Co.	2	2	0
Sir Edward Moss	2	2	0
C. Coote	2	2	0
Joe Elvin	2	2	0
J. Lyons	2	2	0
Alec Hurley	2	2	0
John Leopold	2	2	0
Somers and Warner	2	2	0
W. Millwood	2	2	0
G. W. Partridge	2	2	0
A. Bourchier	2	2	0
Major W. F. Woods	2	2	0
Ashton's	2	2	0
R. Wake	2	2	0
Sir Francis Burnand	1	10	0
Mr. Gaston Mayer	1	1	0
T. Holmes	1	1	0
J. Wilson	1	1	0
W. R. Mead	1	1	0
A. J. Tozer	1	1	0
A. J. Barclay	1	1	0
J. Willing, jun.	1	1	0
A. Borelli	1	1	0
A. Butt	1	1	0
T. Claxton	1	1	0
S. Hyman	1	1	0
Davis and Bennett	1	1	0
J. L. Graydon	1	1	0
Sherek and Braff	1	1	0
De la Rue and			
G. W. Hunter	1	1	0
C. Newson Smith	1	1	0
T. Shaw	1	1	0
J. H. Milburn	1	1	0
R. M. Cocks	1	1	0
H. Balding	1	1	0
F. Abraham	1	1	0
Will Evans	1	1	0
J. C. Boswell	1	1	0
Sir Faudel Phillips	1	1	0
"An Old Acquaintance"	1	1	0
L. A. Cohen	1	1	0
Kittie Rayburn	1	1	0
Oswald Stoll	1	1	0
J. H. Cleaver	1	1	0
F. and C. Osler	1	1	0
E. V. Page	1	1	0
Amery, Parkes, and Co.	1	1	0
C. Roth	1	1	0
J. W. Edgar	1	1	0
F. M'Avoy	1	1	0
F. Weekes	1	1	0
Nelson Francis	1	1	0
F. H. Pedgrift	1	1	0
H. Baroni	1	1	0
H. Bawn	1	1	0
E. T. R. Lester	1	1	0
W. F. K. Walton	1	1	0
C. E. Chapman	1	1	0
H. F. Bingham	1	1	0
F. Winn	1	1	0
Douglas White	1	1	0
Karl Hooper	1	1	0
R. Moran	1	1	0
E. Brett	1	1	0
H. Mason	1	1	0
Albert Christian	1	1	0
Leon Zeitlin	1	1	0
Mrs. Mary Lumley	1	1	0
G. Brooks	1	1	0
Miss Hadley	1	0	0
Primavesi	1	0	0
C. Wellard	1	0	0
C. J. Doughty	0	15	0
Hal Chapter	0	10	6
J. Ratillon	0	10	6
J. Hyman	0	10	6
A. J. Felton	0	10	6
Clapham and District Billposting Co.	0	10	6
W. Nicholls	0	10	6
Mrs. F. Wolffe	0	10	6
L. M. Pearson	0	10	6
Burt Shepard	0	10	6
H. Stelling	0	10	6
H. R. Mayville	0	10	6
W. H. Hitch	0	10	0
Pascall's	0	10	0
R. M. Mayne	0	10	0
J. Jeffreys	0	10	0
Mrs. Griffith	0	10	0
W. Permane	0	5	0
J. Bull	0	2	6

Special Committee: Mr. Hugh Astley (chairman), Sir Francis Burnand, Frank Allen, James R. Buchanan, W. Hamar Bass, John Bax, Alfred Butt, A. J. Barclay, G. Barclay, Charles Beecham, Herbert Blackmore, John Brill, A. Burgess, Thos. Catling, C. W. Clement-Smith, T. Claxton, C. B. Cochrane, Arthur Collins, Charles Coote, C. H. Dancocks, David Devant, Sir Squire Bancroft, H. J. Didcott, J. W. Edgar, George Edwardes, George Foster, Nelson Francis, Stephano Gatti, John Gatti, Rocco Gatti, Walter Gibbons, Albert Gilmer, C. W. Glassington, Frank Glenister, J. Gover, George Grossmith, F. Higham, H. Hitchins, T. Holmes, S. Hyman, I. Ibbetson, Sir Horace E. Moss, Jas. Jeffrey, J.P., L.C.C., J. D. Langton, W. Lestocq, J. J. Lyon, Joseph Lyons, J. W. Matthews, R. M. Mayne, Fred McAvoy, W. Rayment Mead, H. Milburn, Fred Miller, David Christie Murray, Ben Nathan, Harry Nicholls, W. Nicholls, W. Oliver, Harry Paulton, G. Peel, William Ross, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Major W. Fountain Woods, George R. Sims, Tom Shaw, Arthur H. Smith, J. Somers, Oswald Stoll, Leo. Sunderland, Edward Terry, F. H. Pedgrift, E. De Vere, E. Warner, Richard Warner, Frank Weeks, H. H. Wells, C. A. Whitmore, J. Willing, jun., Joseph Wilson, John Woulfe, Sir Thomas R. Dewar, and J. L. Graydon, the W.M., Officers and Brethren of the Chelsea Lodge, the W.M., Officers and Brethren of the St. Asaph Lodge. Hon. Treasurer, George Adney Payne. Trustees, Joseph Davis and Henry Tozer. Hon. Secretary, Henri Gros, 1, Durham House-street, Strand, W.C.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow. The Fund is now being held in trust in the joint names of Mr. Richard Waldon, Royal Princess's, Glasgow, and Mr. Crichton:—

	£	s.	d.
Star Lodge (No. 219)	2	0	0
Lionel Rignold (P.M. of Drury-lane Lodge, No. 2127, E.C.)	1	1	0
Allis and Cassati	0	16	0
J. B. Preston	0	10	6
Frank Doyle	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Royston Dene	0	5	0
James O'Brien	0	5	0
Mrs. Morton (London)	0	5	0
Jim (Southampton)	0	2	0

THE performer Kioto, who was arrested in Northampton on the 12th inst., is in no way connected with the Original Kyoto, who has suffered considerable annoyance through the case owing to the similarity of name.

SERVAIS LE ROY.

Probably Servais Le Roy is one of the cleverest "mystery" men at present before the public, and his show now being submitted at the Alhambra Theatre literally "takes one's breath away." The speed at which the entertainment is taken, the remarkable element of novelty and perfection, and the weird effects, all tend to induce such a state of bewilderment in the mind of the onlooker that when the show finishes there exists a keen desire to see it again. This latter is the showman's secret. To invent an entertainment which the public enjoy repeatedly is the art of the true performer, an art acquired by an exceedingly small minority.

[*Photo by Frühling Studio.*

LE ROY, TALMA, AND BOSCO.

Servais Le Roy "knows his book," and in Mlle. Talma, the Vital Spark among magicians, and Leon Bosco, the genial humourist, he has colleagues who play into his hands with that acumen and ability born of long experience and association. To see these three producing rabbits, ducks, geese, pigeons (and we should not be surprised if an ostrich or two were ultimately introduced) from small vessels, and, in fact, nowhere, is too wonderful for words. People simply gasp with utter amazement, and before they can wink other rollicking feats almost beyond description are trotted out with a coolness and decision that positively electrifies onlookers. There is no waiting. One moment "the World's Monarchs of Magic" are producing scores of poultry from goodness knows where, and ere we have had time to think how it is done we are fairly staggered to find the lively three amongst us in the auditorium chaffing us in merry spirit, and under our very noses doing such wonderful tricks that we feel constrained to vote the "Comédians de Mephisto Co." the most successful dissipators of sorrow we have come into *close* contact with.

Le Roy believes in influencing good, honest laughter, and one has only to witness the entertainment of Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco to become immediately assured that there is no doubt whatever hereon. After coming amongst us, Le Roy appears on the stage with his two colleagues for his *coup de grâce*, which consists of vanishing Talma in full view of the audience. The charming and alert lady is first hynotised, after which she ascends in the air, and there remains without any visible means of support. Then, hey, presto! nothing remains, and—we look in vain for Mlle. Talma.

It is only natural in witnessing such a performance that there should lurk in the recesses of our minds the notion that we have been caught napping; we accordingly decide to see the show again, with our wits specially sharpened for the occasion. But each time we become more and more mystified, until we feel bound to admit that Servais Le Roy is one too many for us, and we reluctantly abandon all ideas of elucidating his mysteries. Besides being a staunch advocate of laughter, Le Roy firmly believes in constant change of programme, and the result is that when one show is in thorough working order he is experimenting on new feats of skill. During the twenty-six years Servais Le Roy has been performing in public he has invented hundreds of tricks, many, of course, taking months to reach to that degree of perfection which enables the adroit entertainer to deceive his audience.

There can be no possible doubt that the art of legerdemain will ever be an attractive one to humanity. The great difficulty at all times is to invent something entirely new, effective, and novel, as this is positively the only method to make the conjurer's entertainment attractive, and in this department the efforts of Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco may be termed eminently satisfactory.

Servais Le Roy has in prospective many new departures even more astounding than those at present or gone before, so we may confidently anticipate further great successes in the near future for this enterprising and versatile illusionist.

It is interesting to learn that wherever Le Roy's trio reappear on a return visit they invariably renew acquaintance with the people who have patronised them previously, and who bring along with them "expert" friends (many of them passable amateur conjurers) in the hope that the tricks of Le Roy may be explained. But, alas! for their hopes, "the quickness of the hand deceives the eye"; and although Le Roy and his companions insist that the tricks are very easy (when you know how to execute them), the would-be "exposes" depart, and return and depart again and again, fairly and squarely beaten by the artistic, scientific, and quaint tricks and illusions conceived by Servais Le Roy and presented with such irresistible spirit by Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, "the World's Monarchs of Magic."

MASKELYNE AND DEVANT'S mysteries are so greatly in demand at seaside resorts that the season at St George's Hall will finish to-day. England's Home of Mystery will reopen on Bank Holiday, Aug. 6, with a new programme.

MR. GEO. F. SLATTER, the acting-manager at the Walthamstow Palace, leaves to-day (Saturday) for a fortnight's much-needed holiday and rest.

THE animated pictures at the Empire, Middlesbrough, have now been running seven years, which we believe constitutes a record for the provinces. Under the manipulation of Mr. G. W. Sangster the pictures are as big a draw as ever.

AT the Pier Pavilion, Portobello, on the 15th inst., on the occasion of the birthday of Mr. Phil Howard, the manager, a large company sat down to supper after the show, and dancing was enjoyed until the early hours, the music being supplied by the Pavilion orchestra. During the evening Mr. Peter Higgins, the well-known "professional publican," of Edinburgh, who officiated as chairman, presented Mr. Howard with a box of cigars from himself, and with a handsome silver-mounted walking-stick on behalf of some friends. Mr. Harry Marvello, the proprietor of the Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello, handed to Mr. Howard a handsome dressing-case on behalf of his company, the Geisha Entertainers. Mr. Howard suitably returned thanks, and a very enjoyable night was spent.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

A dainty young lady in a dainty purple dress comes on the stage, and in a most charming manner revives the pantomime memories of last season. The lady is Miss Nancy St. John, and her mode of so pleasantly taking us back a few months is by a capital rendering of the song, "Put a little bit away for a rainy day." And before she passes from our sight she dances in most exquisite fashion to the accompaniment of the music of the song she had previously delivered. An interesting and attractive act is that of the Four Figaros, in their international songs and dances. They begin with what they call an "Echo of Switzerland," and after a change into the quaint Dutch costume—sabots, and silk hats—we are treated to a chorus better known in Holland than here. Then we are given a lively Spanish dance and song, the performers, of course, being attired in the many-coloured and bedecorated costumes which are associated with the land of bull-fights. In each of their characterisations the Figaros seem to catch the essential spirit of each country they represent. Miss Flo D'Orville appears in a rather pathetic character-study of a coster lass, who tells us that somehow she can't make up her mind when certain proposals come to her. Miss D'Orville certainly has command of the coster dialect, and her very sympathetic subject is treated with delicacy and feeling, her vocalisation being extremely good. She is a true artist, and that is saying a good deal. A musician who produces wonderful effects from novel silver bells and other instruments of a somewhat original character is Mr. Will Cornish. For instance, we have, among other things, a very delightful and tuneful instrumentation through the medium of hand-bells of "Sing me to sleep."

Mr. Alix Lukos offers an exceedingly refined turn. Imagine a fine drawing-room, old-fashioned in its appointments, and rendered cosy by a huge fire. By the side of the fire there sits a man reflectively looking into the flames. And what does he see? Pictures in the fire! They are interesting pictures round which to weave a soliloquy. The first face that comes to the dreamer by the fire is that of Lord Beaconsfield, and a famous speech is brought once more to our notice. "Peace with honour" is the burden of the address, and the dreamer, Mr. Lukos, delivers it with fine elocutionary effect. Tennyson's is the second face that is resurrected in the ashes, and a magnificent recital of "The Charge of the Light Brigade" renews one's recollections of the genius of the great Poet Laureate. And last, a celebrated singer, Signor Foley, is brought back to life just to sing "Beware" once more, and to warn us of the dangers of the deep. Mr. Lukos's "business" would tend to elevate the tone of any music hall. Miss Margaret Ashton endeavours to relieve us of our individual conceit by singing a song, the outstanding line of which runs, "You're not the only rose in the garden." The verses are most expressively and prettily rendered. The second portion of her turn consists of a new song-scena, "The Winter Girl." There is a picturesque background illustrative of snow-clad hills, icicles, &c., and in front of this Miss Ashton, appropriately dressed in white furs, which gives the aspect of Christmas-time, comes and tells us all about the class of girl—the winter one—she is supposed to represent. The scena receives much favour from the audience. Mr. Deane Tribune demonstrates considerable versatility in his "comedy concoction," *Applicants*. A gentleman advertises for a companion, and among the applicants are humorously-disposed persons, including an effeminate Johnny, a bellicose Scotsman, and a foreign quack-doctor, all of which characters are personated by Mr. Tribune, much to the hilarity of the spectators.

Miss Florrie Gallimore has quite hit the public fancy with her song, "If the postman doesn't rat-tat!" And the audience don't forget to join in with the rapping at the right moment, just to show their appreciation of the ditty, in which, by the way, Miss Gallimore furnishes, free of charge, some useful advice to young ladies in the gentle art of avoiding parental inquisitiveness. Her succeeding number, "I never likes to talk abart me neighbours," is a low-comedy portraiture, which affords evidence of Miss Gallimore's many-sidedness as a comedienne. She causes a good deal of merriment with her concluding item, for, in answer to several affectionate advances to the audience, a number of young men in the stalls cry out, in passionate tones, "Oh, give us a chance!" Miss Gallimore's present visit to the Stratford Empire has greatly enhanced her popularity with the patrons of this establishment. Clark and Hamilton, with all their eccentricities and whimsicalities, keep the house in convulsions. One could scarcely get tired of their quaint comedy, absurd sayings, and ridiculous antics. The conversation between the "tramp" and the lady is highly diverting, while the mannerisms of both are not less calculated to upset one's gravity. Indeed, it were a crime to keep a straight face while Clark and Hamilton stand before one's eyes. Pit and Cute submit some novel ideas in acrobatics, their different feats being smartly and neatly performed, and with remarkable precision. During the week and late in the evenings the management have considerately published the latest cricket results through the medium of the cinematograph. Mr. T. S. Mayne, the able acting-manager, looks after, in his usual courteous and tactful manner, the comfort and convenience of his patrons.

[*Photo by Foulsham and Banfield.*

CHIRGWIN ENGAGED AT BILLIARDS AT HOME ON A FULL-SIZE BURROUGHES AND WATTS MATCH TABLE.

MR. C. DOUGLAS CARLILE, whose new sketch, *Blue River Valley*, is proving popular at the Foresters' this week, will produce a playlet, written by himself, and entitled *Crime and the Criminal*, on Monday at the Pavilion, Leicester. This will be his sixth sketch, and his versatility extends even beyond that, for on the 2nd of July he will bring out another, *The Dandy Detective*, at the Grand Theatre, Sheffield. In conjunction with Mr. Albert Rogers, he is now engaged upon a four-act American melodrama, *Alaska*, which will see its première at Stockton on August Bank Holiday.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at the principal bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE Indian cricketers and the Essex Eleven accepted the invitation of Mr. T. S. Mayne, the popular manager of the Stratford Empire, to witness the performance at this variety theatre on Friday, the 15th inst., and the presence of the teams being known to the large audience there was much enthusiasm aroused when the Bioscope displayed the closing scores of the match then in progress at the neighbouring Essex county ground.

THE first annual outing of the Executive staff of the Moss and Stoll Empires takes place on Sunday, July 8. The venue that will most probably be chosen will be Caterham Valley. The party will number fifty.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, MAY 15.—The Willoughby-Ward Comedy Company opened at the Criterion on the 12th in a farce-comedy, intituled *The Man from Mexico*. Miss Grace Palotta, who had an uproarious welcome from the crowded house, was vivacious and neat as Mrs. FitzHugh, and the popular Viennese was at her best all through the performance. Mr. Hugh J. Ward was full of fun as FitzHugh; and Mr. George Willoughby was the Majors' friend, whose anxiety to fix things up amounted to a mania. In this kind of mix-up part Mr. Willoughby is ever at home, and he was so on Saturday. Mr. Edward Bonfield is a valuable member of the company, and adds importance to every scene in which he is engaged. His Loveall was an enjoyable impersonation. Mr. Reginald Wykeham was the all-important Detective Cook, massive and forbidding; and the acting of Mr. J. W. Hartman as Von Bulow Bismarck Schmidt was excellent. Miss Olive Wilton used her deep chest tones with great effect as Sallie Grace; and Miss Lillian Scaife and Mr. Arthur Cornell made quite a hit in their proposal scene as Nettie Majors and Edward Farrar. Miss Edith Warren made a charming maid; and the architect's duties were undertaken by Mr. C. Warburton Gamble. Capitally staged and scrupulously well rehearsed, the new venture directed by Mr. Edwin Yeach promises to be a substantial success.

MR. BLAND HOLT keeps *The Prodigal Son* in his Icelandic aspect before his patrons at the Theatre Royal, and Hall Caine's fine play interests the folks so intensely that no necessity for its retirement will exist for some time to come.

MR. GEORGE STEPHENSON will close his two years' season of musical comedy to-night. Mr. Edward Lauri came out, bringing Miss May Garstang and Mr. Charles McNaughton, and engaging Miss May Beatty for a six months' season, but this has been quadrupled. Now, the four artists named return to England on the 26th, or, rather, Miss May Beatty goes there for the first time. On Saturday night *The Dandy Doctor* was produced, and the aglomeration of song, dance, burlesque, and uproarious fun, caught on wonderfully well. In addition to the artists already named, the Boris Brothers, Mr. Charles Albert, Miss Florence Dalley, Mr. Harold Reeve, and Miss Rosie White divided the parts amongst them with a most satisfactory result.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS has a very large company at the Tivoli just now. Baby Sutton, the Warner Sisters, Miss Nita Leete (in an illustrated march-song, "Australia"), Baby Cooper, the Carmos, Alice Raymond, Fred Bluett, Les Wharton, Slade Murray, Harry Sadler, Fanny Powers, Tambo and Tambo, Larola, Maggie Fraser, Rose Cabani, Olive Robinson, and the Mason-Keeler company. Next Saturday the duologue artists, Blake and Granby, will appear at the Tivoli.

MISS SARA HENDY has seceded from the Brescians, and the dainty singer left for London in the R.M.S. India on the 12th inst. Her place is filled by Miss Nellie Lamert, a fine singer and pianist.

MARTINI'S BUCK JUMPERS, after a twenty-seven weeks' succession of crowded houses, must close next Saturday, the 19th, because the Government requires the land for a street as an approach to the new Central Railway station.

MR. J. F. SHERIDAN is closing a record tour through New Zealand. He will arrive in Sydney about the 24th, and rest for a few weeks before going to Queensland.

THE Lyceum Hall, late theatre, has a series of cinematographic entertainments going on from week to week.

THE Brough-Flemming Comedy Company did fine business in Brisbane, Mrs. Robert Brough having a cordial reception on her first appearance since her talented husband's decease.

MESSRS. CLYDE MEYNELL AND JOHN GUNN'S *Fatal Wedding* season at the Criterion was a phenomenal one. On every night but one many people were turned away. The excellent acting of little Maisie Posner as the child Jessie, and the children's scene, were the chief attractions.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students' orchestral concert was given on Wednesday evening in the large hall of the City of London School, a large audience being present. The concert began with Mozart's concerto for piano and orchestra, No. 20 in D minor. Miss Alice Neilsen, who was responsible for the solo instrument, played in a neat and finished manner, though at times slightly overpowered by the orchestra, which, however, showed greater restraint in Weber's fine concertstück, the pianoforte portion being admirably interpreted by Mr. Arthur L'Estrange; and still better work was done by the orchestra in Mendelssohn's overture "Meeresstille" (Calm sea and prosperous voyage), which was rendered in a really harmonious and able style. Miss Elizabeth Tarttelin gave evidence of good vocal training, though somewhat severely tried by the difficulties of the recit. and air "Open on to me the gates of righteousness" and "I will extol Thee, O Lord" from Costa's *Eli*. Handel's recitative and air "Armida! dispietata" and "Lascia ch'io pianga" were expressively sung by Miss Alice Stroud, who possesses a fine and most promising contralto voice. Both these vocal items were most carefully accompanied by the orchestra. Dr. Cummings conducted, and the concert, though brief, proved interesting in showing the great advance the orchestral students are making.

A vocal recital by the pupils of Mr. Walter Austin took place at the above institution on Thursday evening, June 14. The recital commenced with the duet "The Rose and the Nightingale" (Löhr), carefully sung by Miss Elmes and Miss Gladys French; Miss Freda Gratton also merited praise for her song "To the Night," by Bohm. Mr H. E. B. Sewell was not quite so successful as he would have been in a more attractive song than Whinfield's "To Althea." Mr. Robert Young and Miss Evelyn Bendy, both clever pupils of Mr. Austin, deserved commendation, the former in Verdi's Recit and Aria "O tu Palermo" and the latter in "Lovers in the Lane," by Liza Lehmann; but Miss Alice Dixon partly failed to get the true effect out of "A Southern Song," by Landon Ronald. A more ambitious example was afforded by Miss Elmes, who chose Gounod's Recit and Aria, "Since yesterday, I've sought in vain my master," but she needs greater experience before attempting music of this character. In Tosti's song, "Mattinata," Mr. Josef Kiesewetter marred the effect by faulty intonation. A long, but not particularly interesting duet, Kashmiri love story, "On Jhelum River," by Findon, was well sung by Miss Evelyn Bendy and Miss Alice Stroud; the latter young lady, one of Mr. Austin's most gifted pupils, being also heard in Gluck's "Che farò," which, however hackneyed an air among students, served to display Miss Stroud's fine contralto voice to great advantage. Miss Beatrice Ditton greatly pleased by her finished singing of Maude White's charming song "To Mary," and Miss Gladys French received a hearty recall after her rendering of "Tu fai la superbetta," Fesch's aria. More light and shade was required in Mr. Ernest Muriel's otherwise meritorious singing of "The Pipes of Pan" (Elgar). Other pupils that did credit to their professor were Mr. R. Young, Miss A. Dixon, Miss E. Tubb, and Mr. B. Wyatt. Mr. Walter Austin presided at the pianoforte.

THE annual cricket match between Huntsmen and Jockeys will take place on Monday at Kennington Oval. The teams are invited later to visit the Empire, boxes having been placed at their disposal by the directors.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

BIRMINGHAM FAIR, for the Whitsuntide holidays, was, as usual, under the excellent management of P. Collins, the principal novelties being provided by the well-known Walsall firm. Their exhibits were Mrs. Fanny Collins's celebrated theatre of varieties and up-to-date cinématograph films; Patrick Collins, jun.'s, Coliseum of Animated Photography—the No. 2 concern; ten of their high-class machines were on the ground. These included John Collins's switchback, ostriches, and steam yachts; Patrick Collins's gondolas, switch-back, gallopers, steam horses, ostriches, and steam yachts. The other machine sets were two by Russell, steam horses and gallopers; Chas. Farrell, with galloping horses; and Jervis, with steam swings.

SEDGWICK'S menagerie was a great attraction. John Hastings, two ground booths; Chas. Farrell, cinématograph; Wright's fine art exhibition. The athletes and boxers were the troupe under the direction of H. Cullis, Frank Gess, and Gal Hague. The shooting ranges and bottle batteries were those of Messrs. Dobson, Ford, Wyatt, Farrell, Wright, and Cartwright; Emma sheets, coker sheets, and varieties by Messrs. Cordwell, Deeks, Mercer, Humphries, Wharton, and Cooper. The other fair-ground novelties, pannum, and other stalls were provided by Messrs. Wright, Groom, Mercer, Cordwell and Son, Deek, Hastings, Russell, Humphries, Cooper, Dobson, Ford, Whyatt, Dillon, and others.

OUR correspondent on the Yorkshire round sends us word of Ossett Feast. Here, for the delight of the feasters, were Crighton's cinématograph and variety theatre; G. T. Tuby's coliseum; the freak exhibits of Sam Towers—the midget ponies, giant rodents, badgers, and canine marvels; Prof. Permane's performing bears and circus; and Mrs. Birch's swimming experts.

THE machine list included J. W. Waddington's motor-cars; T. Harnier's flying motors; Ted Morley's slipping the slope; Tuby's galloping horses; J. W. Waddington's ostriches; A. Morley's steam swings; Mrs. Thomas's miniature motor-cars and three sets of gem swings; T. Proctor, A. Morley, and Mrs. Riley, with high-fliers and park swings. The excellent fairing bazaars of Messrs. Gledstone, Alf Seed and Sons, and the pannum stalls—six in number—were by local caterers. The rifle ranges and bottle batteries were by Messrs. Holdsworth, Jameson, and Williams. There were also some forty or more throwing games, varieties, &c.

AT St. Ives, Hunts, the amusements were in the capable hands of the local showman Rich, who provided park swings and throwing games.

ROTHWELL FAIR, near Kettering, was maintained by Thurston's motors, horses, and ostriches, and midget switchback; Billing's galloping horses; Tiller's mechanical mannikins and bioscope; Thurston's grand Royal show; Hughes' assault-at-arms; and other attractions. The proclamation of the fair for five days was read by Mr. Willis, who has performed that ceremony for no less than forty years.

MR. A. TILLER'S mechanical mannikins and bioscope and variety exhibition are giving high-class performances at Corby.

AT the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch, Mr. F. M. Barber, with his auction pavilion, is paying a return visit.

AT Jennings's Alexandra Theatre, Evesham, this week, the local play *The Needle-Maker* and *Maria Martin; or, The Murder in the Red Barn*, have been played.

FOSSETT'S London circus and hippodrome has paid a visit to Astwood Bank, and given an excellent programme, including Dick Turpin's Ride to York, the Lola troupe of acrobats, Lorenzo's trained dogs, Mr. R. Yelding (champion jockey), Thomas Fossett (boy jockey), Bros. La Perch (pole climbers), a cake walk by Miss Fossett and Red Hot, and Professor Morris with his bioscope.

AT Bidford were Clarke's racing motors, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle battery, and coker-nut sheets; Wilson's shooting saloons, Chipperfield's hall of laughter, Kemp's bazaars, and others.

THE fairs ahead for next week are Bridgwater, Bromsgrove, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Halifax, Pershore, Yeovil, Bolton-by-Bolland, Folkestone, Saltash, Andover, Bicester, Fareham, Reedham, Ashover, Barlboro', Belper, Brampton, Conisboro' Feast, Duckmanton, Earby Feast, Eckington, Edensor, Elmton, Northedge, Penistone, Stainsby, Tibshelf, and Winster. In Scotland, Fraserburgh, Renfrew, and Perth; and in Wales, Lydney and Ton-y-Pandy.

BRIDGWATER is a market town in Somerset. It is well served by the Great Western Railway, with branches in connection with the Midland and London and South-Western. The first charter was granted by King John, and much improved and enlarged by succeeding Monarchs. Bridgwater has a population of 15,000 inhabitants, and holds its markets on Wednesday and Saturday.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, a thriving town with a population of over 264,000, is situated on the North-Eastern Railway, and is well served by branch lines to all parts of England. William II. granted its first charter, but there were no less than thirty-four granted altogether. Newcastle is a town of many industries, principally coal, and contains one of the largest engine factories in Europe, and the shipping trade is extensive. General markets are held on Tuesday and Saturday.

HALIFAX, a large manufacturing town in the West Riding of Yorkshire, has an excellent service of trains, supplied by the Lancashire and Yorkshire and Great Northern Railways. It was not incorporated by charter till 1848. The population is nearly 105,000, and markets are held on Saturday.

YEOVIL, a market town in Somerset, is noted chiefly for its large glove manufacture, in which most of the inhabitants are engaged. It is a junction on the Great Western and South-Western Railways. Fairs are held twice annually, and general markets three times a week. Its population is about 10,000.

FOLKESTONE, a thriving seaport and market town of Kent, is one of the principal stations on the South-Eastern Railway, and to the energy and activity of this company owes much of its present prosperity, on account of its being the company's harbour of embarkation, and landing to and from the Continent. Folkestone has received many charters, the ruling one being granted by Edward II.; the market is held on Saturday, and the population is 39,000.

AT Melton Mowbray, for the recent fair, the exhibitions were Holland's cinematograph and the fine art galleries of Messrs. Simpson and Brown. Neal, the local caterer, had galloping horses, swings, rifle saloon, and throwing games on the ground. Armstrong had big boats and park swings. The other entertainers with shooting concerns, cokers, and throwing games were Messrs. Morgan, Holland, Rudal, Neals, and Bland.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to Guild funds:—Per Mr. Ashington. C. Johnson, 5s.; Wm. Blackburn, 5s.; S. Doubtfire, 5s.

ANDOVER, a market town of Hampshire, was incorporated by charter of Henry I., and confirmed by many succeeding Monarchs. The chief trade is in corn and malt, and it has a population of over 6000. It is a station on the South-Western Railway, and a junction of the Midland and South-Western Railways.

OUTWOOD, near Wakefield, keeps its feast the second week after Trinity. The principal exhibition was Harry Ashington's celebrated theatre of varieties and cinematograph, introducing the latest marvel in animated photography, "phantom photos," the throwing of pictures on the housetops, over the heads of people on the fair-ground, a wierd and astounding development of film work. Kil Johnson's flying motors, Doubtfire's hobby horses, Mrs. Thomas's gem motors, and Johnson and Thomas's sets of park swings were the machine novelties. The shooting range and the bottle batteries were provided by T. Goodall. The other amusement caterers were Messrs. Miller, Bassett, Vanner, Rhodes, Brogden, Towers, Doubtfire, Thomas, and Goodall.

THE LATE JOHN DEE HUMPHREYS.

The letter from Mr. Arthur Reeve, published in our columns recently draws attention to the necessity for helping Mrs. Humphreys and her family. We strongly commend this most deserving case to the generosity of the showman world.

The many friends of the deceased, who was one of the founders of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, will, we are confident, now that they know the urgent necessity of the case, respond with readiness to this appeal.

During the whole course of a laborious and honourable career John Dee Humphreys was ever ready to assist his brother showmen. His open-handed generosity and unfailing kindness endeared him to a wide circle of friends and comrades in the circus and show world.

The object of the fund is to enable the widow and family to maintain their home until such time as the children are able to earn an income sufficient for that purpose.

Second list of subscriptions:—

Lord John Sanger	£5	5	0
Lord G. Sanger	5	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Reeve	2	2	0
James Upton, Esq.	2	2	0
John Hyman	2	2	0
E. H. Bostock	2	2	0
Terriers' Association	2	2	0
Mrs. Ellis Frederick	1	1	0
H. Hales	1	1	0
Thomas Holden	1	1	0
Charles J. Childs	0	10	0
J. R. Philpotts	0	5	0
Harry Lester	0	5	0
Arthur Simmons	0	5	0
G. H. Smythson	0	5	0
John Moore	0	5	0
W. H. Atlas	0	5	0
F. W. Millis	0	5	0
C. Douglas Stuart	0	5	0
George Nyman	0	3	0
E. E. Cooke	0	2	6
E. D'Almaine	0	2	6
G. A. Rampling	0	2	6
Per Harry Lester			
Jesse Sparrow	0	10	6
Douglas White	0	10	6
Harry Gage	0	10	6
Mark Ringham	0	5	0
Bros. Obos	0	5	0
L. A. Smith	0	1	0
Total..	£29	1	0

Subscriptions sent to *The Era* to Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, hon. treasurer, will be acknowledged week by week.

DEFENCE OF CORNISH FAIRS AND SHOWMEN.

In very marked and pleasing contrast to the state of public opinion with reference to fairs and showmen in Cornwall a dozen years ago is the better mind that exists to-day. The Showmen's Guild has not been able to do more than co-operate with, and, in some measure, strengthen the zeal and enterprise of a few independent workers in the showman world in the Duchy. Chief amongst these must be placed that noble-hearted champion of showmen, Mr. Geoffrey W. A. Norton, of Penzance, hon. member of the Guild, and correspondent of *The Era* Showman World for Cornwall and the West.

Mr. Norton wields an able pen, and often has he used it in the defence of the showman's home life and business. The following correspondence has appeared in the Truro papers. We think our Cornish showmen have reason to be thankful for the altered states of public opinion.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "WESTERN MORNING NEWS.")

TRURO FAIR.

SIR,—There are evils too local to call for protest from the highest religious authorities, which are yet grave enough to draw remonstrance from some one who ministers in sacred things.

Now, it cannot be denied that the annual fair which visits Truro is associated with a considerable amount of harm. In itself, of course, a fair may afford opportunities of amusement which are innocent. Nor can we wonder that the young people should look forward to the arrival of such with keen anticipation. While, further, there will be connected with it a proportion of people whose hearts are honest and good.

Nevertheless, what, as a matter of fact, do we see at fair-time? In our city, where, at other seasons, during four years I have only observed one drunken person in the street, you may see many who are the worse for drink; where, apart from it, I have never seen a drunken woman, you may note several who are in drink; where, at the different hours of the day, you will not have forced upon your attention forms of evil, worse than drunkenness, you cannot avoid the knowledge that, while the fair is in progress, the streets of the city are infested with it. If less serious than all this, it was distressing to witness in the early hours of a Sunday last year, how, notwithstanding the day and its claims, the roundabouts were still in full swing. As citizens we cannot disown a measure of responsibility for the consequences of what we allow. Certainly, we are in duty bound to pray that our people will be kept from what is bad and mischievous at this time. According to our opportunities we should do our best to protect the young. Parents who permit their children to remain late at the fair are guilty of something more serious than culpable negligence. Employers who take no pains to watch over young domestic servants must needs incur what they will have to answer for. Those who are conscious of a strong call to special work for others will seek ways by which they may lessen temptation for them, and help them avoid what will hurt more deeply than disappointment. At these places there are always wolves waiting to devour their prey. The servants of One who laid down His life to save His sheep and lambs from these and their like will admit the duty of coming to the rescue. The fair is again upon us, and I ask you, sir, of your kindness, to publish this letter concerning it.

GERALD V. SAMPSON.

Kenwyn, Truro, June 5.

SIR,—As an hon. member of the Showmen's Guild—a trades union protecting the interests of the 70,000 showpeople engaged in the fair business throughout the British Isles—I cannot allow Canon Sampson's letter, in your issue of yesterday, to pass unchallenged.

It is so grossly unfair to the travellers that I cannot avoid coming to the conclusion that the rev. gentleman, in his capacity of Canon Missioner, has not taken the trouble to visit the showpeople, and so learn what kind of people they are who yearly bring what he considers an infliction upon Truro.

From my own personal knowledge I can guarantee that he would find what would probably surprise him—a great respect for the truths of their religion and for the marriage tie, and a love and care for children that might well be emulated by some of the citizens of Truro.

If drunkenness and impurity exist when the fair comes to Truro, the fault does not lie at the showman's door, but rather at that of the Church, which has failed to inculcate the contrary virtues. No showman visiting the West of England would wantonly introduce what was "bad and mischievous." There is too much intolerance exhibited against a class of people so frequently and unjustly maligned and misunderstood. To me, knowing so well as I do the hardships and trials of the travellers' lives, it is something little short of marvellous that they are, for the most part, the men they are, and this, despite the Church which taboos the local feast and too often treats the showman, who, it must be remembered, brings a splash of colour into the countryman's otherwise humdrum life, as a social pariah. A little more charity, Canon Sampson, if you please.

GEOFFREY W. A. NORTON,

Beachfield Hotel, Penzance, June 7.

SIR,—The letter you publish to-day from the Canon Missioner on the above subject is, to say the least of it, unfortunate, and, I do not hesitate to add, sadly lacking in tact and Christian charity.

Two charges are made in his letter against us during this fair time, viz., those of drunkenness and immorality. It would have been wise of this missioner of "peace on earth and goodwill towards men" had carefully satisfied himself ere making his rash statements. Feeling that the fair name of my native city was attacked, I inquired this morning at the police-office, and was told that not one single case of drunkenness was reported during last year's pleasure fair. Is it not natural, I ask your readers, that feelings of indignation should arise at such a misleading statement appearing?

Concerning the second charge, of immorality, Truro will gladly face an investigation, and, even at this fair time, to mistake the innocent frivolity and ardour of youth for darker intentions is an error one would hardly anticipate from the servant of One who said: "Neither do I condemn thee."

When Canon Mason was missioner of the diocese and Canon C. Fox Harvey rector of Truro, these two gentlemen held services for the men and women associated with the fair, and those services were well attended. I would humbly suggest to the Canon Missioner that to follow such a course would become him better than his ill-judged efforts in the columns of the Press.

EDWARD FORBES WHITLEY.

Woodville, Truro, June 7.

SIR,—It would grieve me to hurt the feelings of Mr. Norton or Mr. Whitley or any other of my fellow-townsmen. Neither they nor others would, however, experience any wounded feeling if they recognised that I am not a critic speaking from outside, but one of themselves, sharing their responsibility, and working in and on behalf of the city for which we all care. If my letter seemed to show want of sympathy I am sorry. Mr. Geoffrey Norton misunderstands my meaning. I said no word against the fair in itself, except with

H. B. MARINELLI,

THE WORLD'S AGENCY.

IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT!

To correct mis-statements, doubtless put into circulation to create misunderstandings,

I WANT IT TO BE KNOWN

that the following Artistes have been imported in America by me lately:—

VESTA VICTORIA
ARTHUR PRINCE
CLIFFE BERZAC
BONHAIR GRIGORY
CARMENCITA
METEORS
TOM HEARN
RALPH JOHNSTONE
LUIGI ROSSI'S HORSE
FRANK KERN'S DOG
BROWNING & WALLY
CELESSE
VERNON TROUPE
BORSINI
LALA SELBINI
FOUR MARNOS
RAFFIN'S MONKEYS
BATTY'S BEARS
SILVAS
URBANI & SON
WRESTLING GIRLS
BRUNINS

HARRY TATE'S COMPANY
R. A. ROBERTS
AGOUST FAMILY
KLOESS SISTERS
ABDEL KADER
CHRIS LECUSSONS
BARBER RITCHIE TRIO
SMAUN SING HPOO
FOUR MILONS
PIROSCOFFIS
DARRAS BROTHERS
WIORA
PAUL SANDOR
GAUTSCHMIDTS
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LERIS
NATALIE ROSSI
GERMINAL
SAM ELTON
PIWITT
JAMES JEE
SPESSARDY'S BEARS

KARNO'S COMPANY
IDA RENE
WOODWARD'S SEALS
COCO
TOTO
THOMPSON'S ELEPHANTS
HAVEMANN'S ANIMALS
MERIAN'S DOGS
LEO NINO
ROMANO'S DANCERS
CATANEOS
KITTY TRANEY
PICHIANIS
MANELLO-MARNITZ TROUPE
SCIPIO ARGENANTI
FERREROS
SELMA BRAATZ
POWELL'S MARIONETTES
GILLO THE ARTIFICIAL MAN
GASCH SISTERS
MONBAR
(THE FLYING TOBOGGAN)
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MACHNOW, THE RUSSIAN GIANT.

OTHER SENSATIONS WILL FOLLOW IN SUCCESSION.

The following are appearing in LONDON at the PRESENT MOMENT, arranged through this Agency:—

GUERRERO
ROCKING GIRLS
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MARIETTE SULLY
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MLLE. BORDIN
SPESSARDY'S BEARS
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THE WORLD'S AGENCY, H. B. MARINELLI.

regard to the use of the roundabouts very early on a Sunday morning; still less did I write against the showmen and salesmen of the fair. How good these can be I know. When living in London my wife and I received at our house a performer from a local fair, and in Gloucester the leading man of the fair was glad to be shown over the Cathedral and to arrange for an outdoor service on the Sunday. A thing may be an occasion of evil without being itself evil, and it was in the hope of doing something to prevent the fair from being even an occasion of evil that I wrote. Mr. Whitley evidently thinks that I was writing from hearsay. As a matter of fact, during fair-time last year I was engaged with other men and some ladies and workers in trying to prevent the drinking and immorality which are always commoner at these seasons than most everywhere. They and I had the evidence of our eyes and ears as to the prevalence of what I have said.

Mr. Whitley will also allow me to tell him that I invited to a small meeting last year some of our laymen best acquainted with Truro, and took counsel with them as to the possibility of holding religious services at the fair. I was instructed, however, that as the fair would be leaving on Sunday morning it would be useless to attempt these, and, I was told, might do more harm than good.

The tone of your correspondents' letters on the subject of the fair makes me fear that I must have expressed myself clumsily, as, alas! I have done before. But I hope they will believe me when I say that I wrote, much against the grain, from a strong sense of responsibility, and with the wish to remind myself, as well as others, of the importance of doing all we can for the good name and fame of our city.

GERALD V. SAMPSON.

Kenwyn, Truro, June 8.

SIR,—As another honorary member of the Showman's Guild, I am greatly interested in the correspondence in your columns concerning Truro Fair. The impression formed in my mind on reading the Canon's first letter was exactly that which Mr. Geof. Norton voiced so ably, but I am exceedingly glad that Canon Sampson has made the amende honourable. His manly letter of explanation and open acknowledgment of what I had ventured to hope had been but an unfortunate method of expression, clears the atmosphere considerably. The result of the correspondence is truly happy, inasmuch as showmen now may know they have another friend in the Church, where travellers' friends are all too scarce.

ALFRED LANGLEY.

Sea View Hotel, Downderry, St. Germans.
June 9.

CINDERFORD FAIR, in the Royal Forest of Dean, was held on Monday, in brilliant weather, on the new fair ground near the Railway Hotel. W. Symonds' four-abreast galloping horses, Sedgwick's No. 1 collection of wild beasts, Biddall's Royal bioscope and living pictures, Chipperfield's grand exhibition of living pictures, Sutton's overboats and swings, Powell and Sutton's shooters, Buckley's bottle smashers, cokernut sheet by Wright, and a host of small stalls did good business.

LORD JOHN SANGER AND SON'S Royal Circus is now touring the Far West of England, and this week paid a two days' visit to Penzance. The Great Western Railway made special arrangements to run late motors after the evening performances to the remote neighbourhoods of St. Just and Marazion. Other Cornish, Devon, and Dorset towns will be visited by the circus.

"THE ERA."

EARLY DELIVERY.

SPECIAL NEWSPAPER EXPRESS SERVICES now running on the London and North-Western, Great Northern, Midland, and Great Central Railways, carry *The Era* to the following important cities and towns at the times named. Newsvendors and subscribers obtain their papers at a much earlier hour than was previously possible.

	a.m.
RUGBY	4.30
COVENTRY	4.54
BIRMINGHAM	5.20
CREWE	6. 5
MANCHESTER	6.50
LIVERPOOL	7. 0
CHESTER	9. 3
DONCASTER	6.10
YORK	7. 0
HULL	8 20
DARLINGTON	8.58
SCARBOROUGH	10. 5
NEWCASTLE	10.10
LEEDS (Central)	6.58
HUDDERSFIELD	7.37
BRADFORD (Exchange)	7.47
HARROGATE	7.50
HALIFAX	8.17
BURNLEY	9.28
LEICESTER	4.36
NOTTINGHAM	5.10
DERBY	5.35
SHEFFIELD	6. 6

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—SIR HENRY IRVING.

Mr. Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News.*

Should be found very useful.—*Pelican.*

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun.*

Contains in a handy compass and in a clear style the law relating to theatres and music halls. The book is well up to date.—*Law Times.*

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News.*

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—*Star.*

Mr. A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era.*

THE Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra will give three concerts, under the conductorship of Herr Schalk, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in Queen's Hall and on Saturday at the Albert Hall. The hour of the last concert has been changed to noon by command of the King, who has expressed his intention to be present. The orchestra is recognised as one of the finest on the Continent, and is the leading factor in Viennese musical life. It was conducted for many years by Dr. Richter, under whom it attained its greatest eminence. The expenses of the visit are being defrayed by Dr. Krupp, and the proceeds of the concerts are to be devoted to charity.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9.*)

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—One of the best variety entertainments ever produced here is being submitted this week, the programme meeting with a most spontaneous reception. The chief attraction undoubtedly is that of the Elliotts and Savonas, and in their marvellous musical act they hold the audience with rapt attention and fascination; their exceptionally well-rendered selections proving them to be musicians of considerable repute. They are equally successful in their great cycle-act, when they provide a skilful and really interesting entertainment. The reception given these talented artists is enthusiastic. Miss Florence in her celebrated illustrated songs is heard to advantage, and Professor Vincent as an illusionist, and in his card tricks proves interesting. The Urban Bioscope has a capital series of pictures, and the Red Band, under the bâton of the Acting-Manager, discourses excellent selections.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—The Variety Theatre produces an excellent programme this week, and meets with general approval. The Brothers Shine are good as eccentric comedians; Charles Grey is a descriptive vocalist; Susie Marney, character vocalist, gains rapturous applause; the comedy sketches given by Flo Penley and George English are well and humorously rendered; the Ottaways as musical cowboys win well-merited praise; the Weimars, speciality acrobatic artistes, are smart and clever; and Flo Penley entertains as comedienne; the Café Chantant entertainment is contributed by Mr. Harry Cardow, comedian; Mr. Ryder Davis, descriptive vocalist; Miss Eva Ward, burlesque artiste; Mr. George Barriscale, baritone vocalist; and Miss Gwennie Stevenson, who gives pianoforte selections; Professor Fluffem and his troupe of litle Arabs perform in the Hippodrome, and wrestling matches are also witnessed here; Galatea, the mystic marvel; Mons. Beaute, the Continental fasting champion; Chung Foo Soo, the Royal Chinese magician, and slipping the slip, are other attractions.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Owners, the Southend-on-Sea Empire Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power. — The engagament of Mr. Frank Bertram's company in the comedy, entitled *The New Clown*, is proving very popular this week, and the play is presented with success. Mr. Ernest Spalding, as Lord Cyril Garston, is good, whilst Mr. Cyril Vernon creditably enacts Captain Jack Trent; as Mr. Dixon, Mr. Alec Flood gives a pleasing exposition of the circus proprietor, and is ably assisted by Mr. A. M. Moore as Thomas Baker, his characterisation of the clown being both pleasing and humorous; Mr. Gerald Clarke causes amusement as Mr. Pennyquick, and Mr. Douglas Payne is decidedly good as Billy; Rosie Platt finds in Miss Celestine Bertram a clever exponent, who is successful in her endeavours.

ST. HELENS.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader.—Messrs. A. Northway and W. V. Garrod's company is here this week for the first time in the interesting drama *The Prodigal Parson*. Mr. Garrod sustains the title-rôle excellently; Jaggins has a competent exponent in Mr. Alfred Northway; Miss Bertha Kingston is well cast as Fern, the parson's wife; Miss Gladys Conover is good as the blind child Myrtle, and the remaining rôles are in safe hands.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Wilmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. V. Carnell.—The principal attraction here is Mr. Charles Majilton and company in the sketch *The Plumber*, which causes roars of laughter; Stylo performs some wonderful feats with hoops; the Ockeys secure much favour as banjoists; Miss Bella Seabourne is a popular comedienne; Akbar is an expert gymnast; Ward and Davis cause much hilarity in their scena *The Typist*, and the Bioscope with fresh pictures is well received.

STOCKPORT. — THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. William Revill. — The many exciting incidents in *Her Lost Self* have suited the popular taste here this week, Miss Frances Delaval's company giving excellent representations of the drama. Mr. Percy Carne Warum acts impressively as Wilford Daventry, and Mr. Alfred Brandon displays merit as Norman Esmond. As Victor Elsworth, Mr. Fred Lillywhite admirably presents the character, and Mr. L. W. Halfpenny impersonates the part of Abraham Cohen with ability; Mr. Horace Buckley as Tom Flyaway is very amusing, whilst Miss Nell Ingram is good in the character of Bridget Malone. In the chief part, that of Philipine Marcel, Miss Frances Delaval acts throughout with much power and effect.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Stockport Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Black. —The chief attraction here this week is the Martelloni troupe of acrobats, whose marvellously clever feats have commanded enthusiastic applause. Among others engaged are Satsuma, an exceedingly smart conjuror; The Strads, entertaining musical sketch artistes; Silly Billy Elliott, in amusing patter and song; Doris Lillian, a pleasing comedienne and acrobatic dancer; Fred Mason, the whistling comedian; the Three McDonalds, who are successful in their novel musical act; J. G. Aitken, comedian; and Fred S. Peake and Co. in a dramatic sketch, *The Hypocrite*, admirably presented and favoured by marked appreciation.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—Gustave Fasola, magician, tops the bill; the Lizette troupe of lady acrobats give a very entertaining show; the smartness of Selby and Myers earned merited applause, whilst McCann's dogs are well worth seeing; Rodin, trick cyclist, causes plenty of fun; Bert Byrne, comedian, scores; Vasey and Ramsey, eccentrics, Reilly and Taylor, Elsie Rubina, and Bertha Norwod complete a good programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—A sketch, entitled *Three of a Kind*, with Miss Ethel Arden as Mrs. Whimpers, tops the bill; H. O. Wills is a comedian with a style all his own; the Marlo and Dunham trio are exceptionally clever, whilst the smartness of Henry Bekker, conjurer, earns applause; Ford and Hanson, musicians; Hector and Paulas, comedy acrobats; Lily Currie, vocalist; and Barney Salmon, a local soldier vocalist, complete a good programme.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—Mlle. Von-Etta heads the bill this week in her interesting turn, her clever illusions and quick changes being much appreciated; the Grovini Family, in their acrobatic tumbling, &c., contribute a turn of excellence; Harry Hayton is a good comedian; the Davenports are magicians of ability; Kavados juggles and balances admirably; Mint and Mart, in a paper-tearing turn, are capital; Flo Melville is a smart comedienne; Johnny Chippendale is a clever comedian; and the pictures are excellent.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners.—Mr. Manners has put on another strong variety entertainment here this week. The feature of a capital programme is undoubtedly the excellent performance given by The Ettenas, their work being novel, clever, and very amusing; while Cinizelli's acrobatic work is particularly smart; the appearance of the smart clog-dancer, Nat Randall, is greatly appreciated; a bright and pleasing turn is that of Miss Harriet Fawn, a talented artist, and Mr. Loveden Plass, who undertakes the duties of stage-manager, is also a fine baritone vocalist. Other turns that gained deserving applause are James, a wonderful bone soloist, Sisters Beatrice, Nat and Doris, Elsie Le Var, and the Empire Bioscope.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The Koncert Komedy Kompany, under the direction of Mr. Flockton-Foster, is here this week, and on Monday an enthusiastic audience was provided with a good evening's entertainment. Mr. Flockton-Foster does well in his humorous songs, and his monologues are rendered in an able manner. Miss Rita Vincent displays much talent, and is accorded well-merited applause; Mr. Arnold Richardson does not fail in his aim as a humourist; whilst Miss Eileen Hope and Miss Ethel Longdale are worthy of mention; Mr. Ernie Le Butt is an instrumentalist and comedian of ability, being seen to particular advantage in the song scena, *The Registrar*.

WAKEFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—John Higgins, champion jumper, heads the bill this week, and contributes a clever turn; Hanvaar and Lee, as the golfer and the maid, prove popular; Will Rain and company are funny in a sketch entitled *A Motor Maniac*; the Brothers Onda are smart acrobats; Achilles, strong man; Wee Jessie, juvenile vocalist; and Gillin, ventriloquist, win favour.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Hermann Melot heads the bill here this week, and completely mystifies the audience with his conjuring; Dot Stevens, juvenile vocalist, is well received; Mary Merry is amusing; Monsieur Albany, ventriloquist, gives an enjoyable turn; Rita and Roma, duettists and dancers, are distinctly popular; Harwood's Juveniles give a pleasing entertainment, *The Children's Christmas Tree*; and the Bros. Damm go through a clever performance on the bar; the Royal Wedding of Queen Ena and King Alfonso, shown on the American Bioscope, proves a great attraction.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—The musical comedy, *The Naval Detective*, was played here on Monday, and two following evenings. Mr. F. J Kirke displays great ability in the title-rôle; Miss Violet English as Pearl and Miss Lillie English as Ruby (dancing girls) are capital. Other characters are well sustained. On Thursday and Friday the musical comedy drama, *Our Sailor Lad*, was presented.

WARRINGTON.—ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mr. John Cecil's company is paying a return visit here this week in the stirring drama *How Money's Made*. Mr. Cecil again makes Judge Franklyn a striking personality, and acts with dramatic force throughout. Mr. Frank Strickland is good as Eustace Dare; and Mr. Arthur Lowry well placed as Leonard Murray. Mr. Elton Morgan as Glory is a vivacious darkey; Miss Minnie Leslie is a charming Ruth.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Willmot. —Les Rupertos score as equilibrists; Eileen and Mayne are refined musical mites; Frank Harvey is a capital entertainer and whistler; and the Idento Brothers expert jugglers. Francis Hasholl is good in an electric illusory novelty; and Edward Ido a smart comedian. Pete and Juno are well received; and the Royal Bioscope pictures are delightfully entertaining.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—Kennedy's Komiks have proved a decided success here this week. An excellent performance, called *Versatility and Fun*, is given by Mr. Eric Thorpe, and Mr. Vic Verney in his comic sketch keeps the house in roars of laughter; Miss Millie Howe in her vocal and dancing entertainment is a special favourite; the Vervains, coon vocalists and dancers, and Miss Queenie Vane, comedienne, are well received; and the animated pictures shown by the London Bioscope Co. are most interesting.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. — PALACE. — Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—Mr. Harry Roxbury and his company, in a musical mélange, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, is proving a strong attraction here. The company is a strong one, and render some well-arranged music in capital style; while much merriment is evoked by the irresistible humour of Mr. Harry Roxbury as P.C. Longfellow. Carlton is more amusing than ever, and his card manipulations are very interesting; some pretty effects in electric lighting and carpet and bowl spinning are presented by the Spanish Goldins; novelty in the way of rope-swinging is introduced into "The Demon Grotto" by the Three Delaires; Barrington, a musical expert, is decidedly clever in all he undertakes; Ray Royal, chorus vocalist and Raymond's Bio-tableaux are also attractive turns.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—GRAND PIER PAVILION.—Mr. John Ridding's Opera Company is paying a return visit here this week, and on Monday delighted a large audience by staging Sir Julius Benedict's *Lily of Killarney*. The interpretation of Danny Mann by Mr. John Ridding was intensely dramatic, and his singing admirable; Mr. F. C. Mullings' exceptional voice was heard to great advantage as Miles; Mr. Fred Clendon gave a highly artistic impersonation of Corrigan; Mr. Charles Le Sueur is entitled to the highest commendation for his acting and singing as Hardress Cregan; as O'Moore Mr. Arthur Fisher did well. It would be impossible to praise too highly the Eily of Miss Kitty Brownless; Mrs. Cregan found a meritorious exponent in Miss Jessie Dennis; Miss Grace Parrish made a charming Ann Chute; and Miss Knightley was a praiseworthy Sheila. The week's programme also includes the following operas: *Faust*, *Maritana*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Old Knockles*.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—Mr. Alfred West grand animatograph entertainment has been well received nightly. The variety turns are loudly applauded.

WIGAN.—THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—The Court Theatre is being closed for the summer vacation. The stage of the Hippodrome has been occupied during the week by the play *The Little Breadwinner*. The part of Lord William Dorrington is ably impersonated by Mr. J. A. Campbell, and Richard Lawrence has an admirable representative in Mr. David Gordon. Mr. Scott Leighton is excellent as Joseph Prior, the villain of the piece. The humorous element is provided by Mr. Allan Charles, as Charles Prior. Miss Mary Fulton gives an emotional rendering of the part of Margaret Daventry; Miss Jennie Bostock enacts well the character of Bridget O'Flanaghan; Miss Maud Buchanan is responsible for the part of Kate Cherry; and the title-rôle has an excellent exponent in little Emmie Thomas, who sings and dances very charmingly.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—Experimentally during the hot weather the system of two houses nightly is being tried this week, with every prospect of success. In *The Monkey's Paw* and *Humanity*, the following artists acquit themselves with much skill: Lionel Ellis, Lily Herries, Richard Bosco, Frank Siddon, T. Maxwell, I. Montefiore, Leah Barnato, and Buena Bent. Both sketches have been well received. Miss Louie Belrose is an expert dancer; the eccentricities of Little Zola are vastly amusing; and the biograph displays some up-to-date pictures.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—Charlene and Charlene give an original drawing-room entertainment with much success, and the Three Laureis are speciality acrobats who never fail to please. Maxford and O'Neil have some amusing patter which is popular; and Jack Truman has a pleasing voice which he uses artistically. Miss Bessie Willow sings some clever songs; and Stidder and Dunbar, in their musical act are a success. Zetta Grey and Co. appear in a sketch; and the company also includes Harry Lee, comedian.

CRICKET.

F. R. BENSON'S C.C. v. G. S. PERKINS'S XI.

Played at Bedford, June 12, and resulted in a draw. Scores:—

F. R. Benson's XI.—G. Hannam-Clarke, not out, 129; C. Warburton, b Hodgkins, 7; J. P. Wilson, c Perkins, b Hodgkins, 2; F. G. Warlock, lbw, b Van Cuylenbury, 46; G. Buchanan, lbw, b Van Cuylenbury, 1; H. O. Nicholson, b Hodgkins, 8; C. Keightley, b Hodgkins, 2; S. Howlett, b Wilkins, 13; T. Lucas, lbw, b Hodgkins, 15; F. Hardy, not out, 9; extras, 25; total (for 8 wickets), 257. R. Davis did not bat.

G. S. Perkins's XI.—A. D. Wilkins, not out, 85; H. J. Hodgkins, c Nicholson, b Warlock, 0; C. W. F. Van Cuylenbury, b Warlock, 7; G. S. Perkins, b Buchanan, 41; C. Attenborough, not out, 43; extras, 14; total (for 3 wickets), 192.

MR. FRANK O'TOOLE, secretary of the cricket club connected with the Liverpool Theatre Royal, Breck-road, will be glad to arrange fixtures with any company visiting the city on the Mersey. On Saturday last the "Royal" met the Oakfield Club at Sark-road, Green-lane, and defeated them by nine runs.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

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MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING. Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER. Aug. 13, Oct. 29, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Oct. 8, 29, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD. Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 17, 24, Christmas week, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. July 30, Aug. 27, Nov. 26, Dec. 20, (three nights), Dec. 24, Christmas week, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER. July 9, 16, 23, 30, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Sept. 13 (three nights), 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22 (three nights), 29, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Aug. 27, Dec. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 14.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD, Aug. 13, 27, Oct. 29, Dec. 3, 17, March 4.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD; GRAND THEATRE, LUTON; Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, 24, Oct. 1, 15, 22, Nov. 12, onwards, with exceptions.
E. GRAHAM FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS
WANTED, Dramas and Musical Companies, Aug. 6, Nov. 19, Dec, onwards. HERBERT VERE.

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Musical Comedy or High-class London Production for the only Vacant Dates this year, viz., Aug. 30, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, and Dec. 12. A few Spring 1907 dates still open. All communications, CHAS. E. MACHIN, Avenue Opera House, Sunderland. Telegraphic address, "Alhambraic, Sunderland."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 2, and several Autumn Dates vacant. Managers can always depend on doing a good week's business at the Queen's. Apply, L. CARSON, Keighley.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for July 30 and Aug. 6, only vacant dates this year.
H. FISCHER.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Sound Attractions for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday); also Aug. 13, 27, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, for Aug. 6.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, T. R., Stockport.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 5, 6, 7, and 12, 13, 14, 3 nights each
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Aug. 13, 20, 27 (3 nights), Sept. 10, 24, Nov. 15 (3 nights), Dec. 3. Booked in Conjunction with T. R., Whitehaven. Address, STANLEY ROGERS, 124, Warwick-road, Carlisle.

GRAND THEATRES,
RADCLIFFE and CHORLEY.
WANTED, Big Musical Attractions, both Houses, Aug., Sept., on. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR, and ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, First-Class Company, for Merthyr, July 2 and 16; also good Attraction for Pontypridd, Aug. 6, and Merthyr, Aug. 13 and 27. Address applications, WILL SMITHSON, T. R., Merthyr.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic or Musical Attractions, Aug. 20, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 28, Feb. 25, and onwards. T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday). M. MONTGOMERY, JUN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED First-class Attractions, Aug. 27, Oct. 15, Jan. 3, 28, on.
Address, FRANK KING.
N.B.—Silence polite negative.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, Co. DURHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions for few Autumn Dates, extra terms to good Companies. T. C. RAWES.

WANTED, for Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, first-class companies, for July 2, 9, and 16. Address, E. B. GOULDEN

WANTED, Known, only Vacant Dates for the Spa Theatre, Bridlington. Just completed. Electric light throughout. First-class Attractions (no dramas) for week July 30 (3 or 6 nights) also July 30 to Aug 4, Aug. 9, 10, 11, 27, 28, 29, Sept. 13, 14, 15.
HAGUE, General Manager.

WANTED, Companies, July 2, 9, 23, and 30, also Bank Holiday. Drama or Good Variety.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, First-class Musical Play, for Aug. 6.
Apply, WADDINGTON and SONS, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Companies, for New Grand Theatre, Mansfield, opens Autumn, stage 60 by 40, stage anything. Apply, CECIL CLAYTON, Walthamstow.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON THEATRES, LTD.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Wanted, First-class Companies

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 20, Oct. 1, Dec. 17.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY
Vacant June 25, July 2, 9, 16.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH
Vacant June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Sept. 3, Nov. 5, Dec. 3, 10.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.
Vacant June 25, July 2.

CARLTON AND DUCKWORTH THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant July 23, 30, Aug. 6, 20.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant June 25, July 2, 9, 16.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15.

"CINDERELLA,"
Vacant Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4.

"ALADDIN."
Vacant Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON,
Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBORO'
WANTED Good Companies, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 29, and Nov. 12, last three days of each week.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Wanted, Good Companies, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, and Christmas.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES.
Vacant Nov. 26, New Year, and on.
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Vacant Sept. 10 or 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 26, and New Year.
Dumfries, first three days; Hawick, last three days of alternate weeks only.
Bookings include:—Return visits of "Florodora," "Country Girl," Edward Terry, F. R. Benson, "Charley's Aunt," "The Christian," "Eternal City," Hoggan Armadale, &c.
First visits of "Sergeant Brue," "Blue Moon," "After the Ball," "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," &c.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for August Bank Holiday, August 6, Musical preferred, Vacant through cancelling to oblige.
Apply,
Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS, T. R., Plymouth.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, three nights, one matinée, July 5, 9, 12, several dates, onwards. Bookings include "Petronella," "Cloches de Corneville," "Florodora," "What the Butler Saw," "Are You a Mason?" "Cingalee," "Silver King," "Orchid," Benson, "Faust Up-to-Date," "Walls of Jericho," "Duchess of Dantzic," "Brigadier Gerard," "Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner," "Sergeant Brue," "Monte Cristo," "Public Opinion," "Chinese Honeymoon," &c., &c. Wire or write, SEEBOLD, as above.

BRIXTON THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. ERNEST STEVENS.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, Sept. 3, Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (through change), Oct. 8 (?).
Brixton Theatre.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, July 9.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad Court-chambers, W.C.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, July 9, 30, Aug. 6, 27.
E. H. PAGE.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Drama or Musical, for Aug. 13, 20, Oct. 1, 22, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 7, on, with exceptions.
R. ADDISON, Limited.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Aug. 24, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 15, 22. Managers please Note.—These are the only dates open this year for the above Theatre. No trouble in booking now. Apply to JAS. KIERNAN.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED First-class Companies, July 5 6, 7, and 12, 13, 14, 3 nights each.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, First-class Company, for July 9, week, Grand, Llandudno (to oblige). Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Creekside, East Molesey.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Good Drama, Twice Nightly, July 9, 16.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Good Companies, Aug. 6, 13, 20.
A. D. VERNON.

COMPANIES WANTED.

FRED GRANVILLE'S THEATRES.
THEATRE ROYAL, HYDE.
WANTED, a Powerful Attraction, Aug. 13 (certainty if desired).
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON-ON-TEES.
Vacant Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 10, 17, for Best Dramas new to town.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Vacant Aug. 13, Oct. 8, 22, for Musical and other High-class Attractions. Wanted, Pantomime Production, for Stockton, Xmas and New Year Weeks.
Address, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

NORTHERN THEATRES CO., LTD.
WANTED, First class Companies
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX, Aug. 20 Sept. 24, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10.
GRAND THEATRE, HALIFAX, Various Autumn and Spring.
THEATRE ROYAL, BURY. Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Dec. 3, Feb. 25.
THEATRE ROYAL, ROCHDALE, Aug. 6 Oct. 8, Nov. 12-19.
THEATRE ROYAL, DEWSBURY, Aug. 13, 27, Nov. 19, Feb. 4.
HIPPODROME, HUDDERSFIELD, Variety.
OLYMPIA, BURY, Variety.
Address, OTTO C. CULLING, Bury.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Grand Re-opening Aug. 16, after Re-decoration and Renovating, with R. A. P. Williams's New Comic Opera Co., "Les Cloches de Corneville."
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and on, with exceptions. New Year's Week Vacant for First-class Pantomime. W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Good Companies, Autumn and Spring, for King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield; good companies, good bus. Apply, CECIL CLAYTON, Walthamstow.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED First-class Companies, July 5, 6, 7, and 12, 13, 14, 3 nights each.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

THEATRES ROYAL, BILSTON AND WEDNESBURY.
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. Bank Holiday, both theatres, and various autumn dates. H. BATTERSBY, Bilston.

WANTED, to Let, the Theatre Royal, Bolton, for Five Weeks, from July 9, for Approved Combinations, complete in themselves; non-dramatic preferred. Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Managing-Director.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 12, 13, 14, 16, 23, 30 (six nights). W. PAYNE.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE, KENDAL.
WANTED, for Aug. 6 and 7, all September and Christmas, good-class Musical Shows and Comedies. Everything to ensure success. J. W. BUTLER, Manager.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY. Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards, Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Oct. 15.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for the Scala Production, Sept. 3 and 17.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY."
The Most Successful Play Produced during the year 1905.
Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.
WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only. Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-sq., Birkenhead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, Dec. 10 and 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR
"THE MANXMAN."
WANTED, Best Theatres, Vacant Oct. 8 (North), Oct. 29, Nov. 5 and 19, Dec. 24. Present Bookings: R., Cardiff; G., Swansea; L., Newport; Sunderland; S. Shields; Brixton; G., Croydon; Broughton; A., Sheffield; G., Wolverhampton; Llandudno; Edinburgh; Bootle; Seacombe; &c. Now Booking Spring, 1907.
T. R., ASHTON-U.-LYNE, June 25.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, June 25, July 2, 9, 16, 23, Aug. 27, on, a perfect production, going stronger than ever. E. CARTER LIVESEY, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and 24.
Apply,
FERD GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

FRED GRANVILLE'S PANTOMIMES.
"THE FORTY THIEVES."
WANTED, for this enormous Attraction, to follow production and run at Grand Theatre, Derby, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11. A No. 1 production, for big Theatres only, Company over fifty strong, grand specialities; cast and full particulars on application. "The Babes in the Wood," a production second to none. Vacant Jan. 14, 21, 28. Re Dates, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 9, 16, Aug. 6, 27, all Sept. HENRY L. OSMOND, Osborne Theatre, Manchester. (Return within 7 months).

HENRY E. LEIGH'S COMPANY,
"THE VARSITY BELLE."
WANTED, Good Theatre (South), Aug. 27, follow Hastings, precede Brighton. See Companies Column, page 2. Address, ANDREW W. SPENS, 1, Brookwood-road, Southfields, S.W.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, July 2, follow T. R., Bristol. Wire, Wire, Wire, for July 2,
EDWARD SURREY,
To-day, T. R., Chatham; next, T. R., Bristol.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."
Mr. Edward Graham Falcon
has secured the entire rights from
Messrs. Gatti and Frohman,
and has purchased the
No. 1 Production
from Messrs. Murray King and Clark.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, and Good Theatre not doing pantomime for four weeks at Christmas.
Managers send Spring Dates.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

FRED GRANVILLE'S TOURS.
"FOR BETTER OR WORSE."
WANTED, for this splendid Attraction, July 16, 23, Sept. 10; one of the few real successes on the road. Re Dates, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

Mr. H. F. MALTBY and CO.
"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 3 (?), 10, and October. WYN WEAVER, T. R., Worthing.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
Aug. 6, 13 (to precede Grand, Brighton), 27 (to follow), various on, towards Midlands.
"MIDDLEMAN" and "SAINTS,"
Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 1, North.
"HEIRESS" and "VERDICT,"
Aug. 27, Sept. 3, working down from Scotland.
"QUEEN OF VILLAINY,"
This, Crown, Peckham; next T. R., Leicester, July 9 open, between Leicester and Queen's, Manchester; Aug. 13 open, to follow Leeds, various on.
Letters, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

WANTED, Aug. 13 onwards,
"ITS NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES
(by special arrangement with Mr. John Wainwright)
will tour the above.
Every scene and property carried.
A First-class Company.
Note.—Mr. Wainwright, prior to his contract with Mr. James, booked the following eight towns, viz.: Birmingham, Stockport, Hull, Leeds, Bradford, Manchester, Coventry, Sheffield. Mr. James is not at liberty to play within a radius of ten miles of these towns or in Scotland.
Address re dates,
F. S. JENNINGS Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
Mr. SAMUEL JAMES'S CO.
WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, 15, few later.
Everything carried.
First-class Star Company.
Booked Newcastle, Sheffield, Hull, Liverpool, Bolton, &c.
The London Daily Express says:—
Proved an instantaneous success.
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MISS MARY NEIL'S and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston) and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby), must be First-Class Theatres and give equitable terms.
GEORGE KIRK,
210, Burbury-street, Birmingham.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-fourth Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bookings extend into Aug., 1907.
WANTED, July 23, follow W. London, Aug. 20, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 1.
FRANK AVERON,
Prince's Theatre, Preston.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
By Geo. R. Sims and the late Wilson Barrett.
A magnificent Production.
WANTED, Good Theatre, Aug. 6, Sept. 3, 10 (South), Oct. 8, 29 (North).
Wire, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS,
2, Sunnyside-terrace, Weston-super-Mare.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN,"
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED, Aug. 6, Special
Aug. 13, Scenery,
Aug. 20, Attractive
Sept. 10 (?) Printing.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, Criterion T., London.

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WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

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"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, and various, on.
GEORGE DENHAM, Theatre Royal, Margate.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 2 and 16.
Wire,
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
June 25, Theatre Royal, Aston.

WANTED, for "Her Lost Self," by Nita Rae, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore, a few Dates, Autumn, and Spring, '07, Xmas, New Year. FRANCES DELAVAL, 23, Cromwell-rd., Whitstable-on-Sea, Kent.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANY.
"A LONDON ACTRESS."
WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, 13.
STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, N. Shields.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, July 2, on, Aug. 20, various, on, a thoroughly high-class Costume Drama.
W. J. MILLER, Prince of Wales's T., Salford.

"LIFE," "EAST LYNNE," &c.
WANTED, July 9, 16, 23 (between Ashington and Glasgow), First-Class Company, six Musical items. Wires, HERBERT BARRS, Grand, Hull; Monday, 10, Featherstone-street, Roker, Sunderland.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
WANTED, July 2 and 9.
Wire, "Busily, London."
EADE MONTEFIORE, Kennington Theatre.

WANTED, "Assassin," Oct. 29.
AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
19, Dunalley-parade, Cheltenham.

"THE GIRL BEHIND THE COUNTER."
Vacant Xmas, 10 nights (South).
WANTED, First-class Theatre.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad Court-chambers, Bow-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Sept. 17
Oct. 1 and 8, Nov. 19 (Scotland),
First-class Theatres for
"What Men Dare,"
the Great Sensational Russian Drama.
Magnificent Production.
PERCY NORMAN,
c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, "Under Two Flags" and "A Sailor's Sweetheart."
MARK BLOW, 7, Herne Cliff-gardens, Herne Bay.

WANTED, First-class Theatres for "Mason," Aug. 20, Oct. 8; "Hopkinson," Oct. 29, Nov. 5. Communicate, CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SHINTON and GREENWOOD'S TOUR,
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL,"
with an Excellent Cast.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, and on, with exceptions.
JOHN B. SHINTON, 38, Victoria-road, Scarboro'.

"CLAUDIAN."
WANTED, through Transferring, Sept. 3, between Leicester and Birkenhead. Only vacant date next autumn. WILLIAM MACLAREN, Gowanlea, Navarino-road, Worthing, Sussex.

LESTER COLLINGWOOD'S PANTOMIME.
"BLUE BEARD," "BLUE BEARD."
WANTED, Jan. 21, good Theatre, with holding capacity, for the above superlative Attraction, only vacant date. Everything carried; beautiful scenery, costumes, and electrical effects.
LESTER COLLINGWOOD,
Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

STANLEY CARLTON'S COMPANIES. "A LIFE'S STORY," "A MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE."
By arrangement with Mr. Fred Benton.
WANTED, Best Theatres, Vacant Aug. 6, 13, and on, with exceptions. Everything carried, clear stage only required. Exceptionally powerful company. June 25, T. R., Dewsbury.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 30, Aug. 6 (to oblige J. P. Moore, Esq.)
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GRAND OPERA (BIJOU), LTD.,
in
Full Repertoire.
Double Set of Principals.
Full Chorus and Orchestra.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct., and on.
D. ARTHUR, 434, Strand, W.C.

HILLIARD VOX'S
"ALASKA."
"ALASKA."
WANTED, Oct. 15, Nov. 12 and 19, Dec. 24, for this Powerful American Melodrama. Address, HILLIARD VOX, Alhambra Theatre, Belfast.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, July 30, between Manchester and Newcastle, Aug. 27, onward.
DICKIE CLARE, Grand Theatre, Derby.

THEATRES WANTED.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

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WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

WANTED, Theatres, Piers, &c., for
"THE GAZEKAS,"
"THE GAZEKAS,"
"THE GAZEKAS,"
under the personal direction of Mr. Geo. Graves, Daly's Theatre, W.
First-class Artists, First-class Entertainment, First-class Printing.
Few vacant dates.
Apply, SEC, AUDITION CO., LTD., 10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C. Telephone, 10231 Central.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, tall First-class Leading Man, Known Comedians for Jarvis and Philosopher Jack, two or three Smart Young Actors for Responsible Parts, and small Child Actress (must be 14) for Waif. Miss Douglas write. In all cases send age, height, photos., last two references, and lowest terms to H. HOLLISTER, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Lady or Gentleman, for Leading Part, or learn Acting-Management, in Tour of Highly Successful Drama, playing First-class Theatres, Clever Amateur (who would be thoroughly taught) entertained. Premium required. Salary paid. Principals or their Solicitors address, Box 3,386, "The Era."

WANTED, for Aug. 6, Artists to complete Cast for "Bluebell," Children (all over 14), Conductor, Stage-Manager, Business-Manager. No notice will be taken unless age, height, lowest terms, ladies' photos., and full particulars are forwarded.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, a smart, pretty, young, juvenile lady, for part of Miss Lancashire; must be good Pianist, with contralto voice; must dress well both on and off the stage. Terms for long engagement, recent photograph, and references. Address, BRIS DOYLE, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Continental Tour, commencing August, Artists, in all Lines, for "In the Ranks," "The Fatal Wedding," "The Fatal Card," and "A Woman's Revenge." Preference given to those who have previously played parts in same. Apply by letter, giving full particulars, to ALEXANDER and HARRINGTON, 177, Coldharbour-lane, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Fit-up Tour, commencing Aug., Versatile Artists for Important Parts, Coloured Singers, &c. Lowest terms, refs., HYBERT, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

"THE ROMANY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, through illness, a good experienced petite, pathetic Juvenile Lady, for small boy's part, capable of power. Rehearse at once, Leicester. Age, height, photo (essential), refs., summer terms. E. A'DELL, Pier Pavilion, Teignmouth, South Devon.

WANTED, Tall Heavy Lady, for Lead, must have good appearance and dress part really well. Rehearse July 3; long tour if suitable. Full particulars, lowest terms, photo., MANAGER, 34, Frederick-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Young, Handsome Woman, height from 5ft. 2in., age about 24, with good deportment and knowledge of Stage Business. Apply to WARNER and COMPANY, 20, Wellington-street, Strand. Those who do not fulfil above requirements need not apply.

WANTED, Gentleman, to play Character Part in Successful Sketch; Good Amateur or Professional willing to take monetary interest. Now playing in London. Box 3,389, "The Era."

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WANTED, Gent., to play Small Parts. Also Wardrobe Mistress.
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NORMAN V. NORMAN,
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WANTED, Lady and Gentleman (good amateurs), for refined Musical Sketch; lady must have good voice (Soprano preferred); gentleman (Baritone); excellent opportunity, as Sketch is fully booked up.
Write or call, giving full particulars, with photo., GENERAL MANAGER, Hippodrome, Hastings.

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WANTED, by Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, a Lady and Gentleman as Pupils in her Répertoire Company for the Autumn.
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WANTED, Chorus Ladies, London and Provinces. Good salaries paid. Apply, Tuesday and Friday, 2 to 3, EDWARD CRANSTON, Rule's, Maiden-lane.

WANTED, Boy Singers; good salary, long engagement to exceptional Ballad Soloist, well-known Professional Troupe. 13, Hanover-square, Bradford.

WANTED, Immediately, Lady Acrobatic Dancers. Apply, with Practice Skirts, Monday next, 11 o'clock,
NEWMAN MAURICE, Grand Theatre, Islington.

AUDITION CO., LTD., 10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C.
WANTED, Artists requiring Engagements and Managers requiring Artists to communicate immediately. No fees of any kind. Audition free. Sole Proprietors of the "Gazekas."

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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.
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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, July 9, onwards, with exceptions, by The Gazekas, an unique concert party of seven artists, under the direction of Mr. George Graves, of Daly's Theatre. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, London.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, Pier Pavilion, Dover. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Autumn Engagement, Refined Chambermaids, Soubrettes. Miss RUBY ROMA, 6, South Molton-mansions, South Molton-st., W.; excellent references.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Principals, Specialities, Chorus. Send full particulars, photo, height, &c., to JESS VERNO'S Agency, 61, West Derby-st., Liverpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.
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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, in Bristol, to paint a Toboggan Slide. Write, with terms,
PUMILLA, Birnbeck Pier, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, own brushes, to paint Fit-up Flats and Cloths, at my Stores. Terms, refs., Miss MAGGIE MORTON, Twickenham.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.
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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, by A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, Engagement, now or autumn. Refs. excellent. Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Contracts for all Kinds of Scenery and Properties. ROBERTS and Co., Scenic Artists, Blucher-street, Liverpool-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Wm. McCulloch, Scenic Artist, Sheffield, is still alive. Friends having friends wishing good work done reasonably, kindly recommend.

WANTED, to Paint High-class Scenery at Lowest prices. Carlyle Scenic Studio (W. B. ROBISON), 170, King's-road, S.W.; or S.A.A.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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WANTED, by a well-known Theatrical Manager, a Financer, for Pantomime, in a town near London. 30th consecutive year of production. Sum required more than taken on certainty during first two weeks. Only responsible persons dealt with, and fullest particulars given. Apply, in first instance to
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WANTED, a First-Class Advance Agent; none but thoroughly experienced, sober, and reliable need apply. Lowest terms and references for long engagement. Address,
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WANTED, First-class Ledger Clerk; must be well up in all Theatrical work, and fully experienced. Apply, with terms and references, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance Agent, one who has knowledge of working Institutions, &c., must be energetic; one who could play Piano or do small turn preferred. Address, BANVARD, Doon, County Limerick, Ireland.

WANTED, Youth, to Learn Billposting. Apply,
Box 3,381, "The Era."

WANTED, Fred Lewis, Disengaged for Management or Acting ditto, Theatre or Variety, 19 years' experience, late of Godfrey's and Hart's Palaces, London, T. R., Woolwich, Winter Gardens, Birmingham, People's Oldham, Colosseum, Oldham, People's, Bolton, &c. Address, 33, Frankhill-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, I am prepared to Finance a Good, Sound Concern, Dramatic, Variety, or otherwise. Bankers' and Solicitors' references exchanged. All communications treated in strict confidence. C. E. PARLATO,
1, Brinkburn-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Acting-Management, Resident or Tour, smart, capable, experienced, not afraid of work. Highest references. Box 3,394, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young, Experienced Manager, Re-engagement, First-Class Tour, Theatre or Music-Hall.
Testimonials from leading London Managers.
Box 3,384, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, James Ashworth, Advance or Acting-Management, Circus, Menagerie, Theatres, Fit-ups, or any kind of road show. 61, Rocky-lane, Aston, Birmingham. Open to show with first-class fit-up company.

WANTED, by H. Leeding, Carpenter, Re-engagement, resident, now or autumn, tools, abstainer, 32, refs., bench. 11, Little Titchfield-st., W.

WANTED, by Alf. George, Engagement as Master Carpenter, 9 years Grand Theatre, Islington; good references. 3, Remington-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, Known, Billposter requires situation High-ladderman; good references. Apply, J. PRIESTLEY LOCKE, 106, St. Hugh-road, Anerley.

WANTED, Known.—Will any Lady or Gentleman get Advertiser Evening Employment, Programmes or Cloak-room. Would give £2. or few weeks free. Low salary for permanency. London Address, Box 3,391, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by a thoroughly competent Wardrobe Mistress; experienced in all classes of Costume. M., 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Situation, in Box Office or Bar, in theatre or music hall, ten years last situation, thoroughly experienced. Box 3,399, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTED.
TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Musical Director (Pianist), combine Acting-Management for Theatre North of England, reopening Sept. Salary and good commission; must be energetic and understand his work. Apply by letter, with two recent refs. MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, Adelphi Hotel, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Beanmaris Pier Concerts, from Aug. 4 to Sept. 8, inclusive, Leader, 'Cello, Trombone, to combine Violin and Piano. Reply, stating lowest terms to MUSICAL-DIRECTOR, 3, Plas Coch-terrace, Beaumaris.

"MISS LANCASHIRE, LIMITED."
WANTED, a competent Conductor (Pianist); must be good arranger; none but a thoroughly experienced, sober, and reliable man need apply. Lowest terms and recent references for a long engagement. Address, BRIS DOYLE, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, Good Leader and Musicians, to complete orchestra, Scarborough Season, commencing July 30. Lowest terms and references, GEO. ZALVA.

WANTED, Musical Conductor, for few weeks, July 2. Summer terms, reference, JARMAN, Torridge, Tor Church-road, Torquay.

WANTED, Musical-Director, capable Composer, Pianist, &c., wants Autumn Engagement; excellent references. GEORGE ESS, Riggs Cottage, Runswick Bay, Henderwall, Yorks.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, to Act as Conductor (when required); also a First-class Cornet Player, for autumn season. Apply with terms and references, W. E. BARNETT, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, at once, good First or Second Violin and Euphonium; terms shares; permanency. Apply, J. DUCHSCHERER, Victoria-road, Exmouth.

WANTED, two First Violins, First and Second Cornets, Flute, and Clarionet, for Hippo., Douglas; steady, reliable, and used to Variety business. A. DOUGLAS WILLCOX, M.D., 34, West Blackhall-street, Greenock, N.B.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED, for Small First-class Orchestra, July 30 to end of Sept., Good First Violin, Oboe, to combine Second Violin, Flute, Clarionet, Solo Cornet, Trombone, to combine Euphonium.
CONDUCTOR, 10, Cavendish-road, Herne Bay.

WANTED, for Lynton Town Band, good First Violin (Leader), Second Violin, Viola, Pianist (to combine Second Violin or Viola), Basso, Cornet, and Clarionet, to commence July 8, for the season. Terms to T. H. REANO, Poste Restante, Lynton, N. Devon.

WANTED, for Baker's Circus, Good Cornet Player, also E flat Horn and Bombardon, used to fair business. BAKER'S CIRCUS, Fair Ground, Porth, near Pontypridd.

WANTED, Two Good Cornets, and Clarionet, for Town Band. Shares, permanent. Sam James write. PHILLIPS, 11, Market-place, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Cornet, Strong Soloist. Terms and references to
ALEX. CORRISON, Conductor, Penzance Military Band.

WANTED, at Once, by the Weston-super-Mare Town Band, Solo Cornet and Trombone. Terms, 30s. weekly.
W. PFAFF, Bandmaster.

WANTED, at Once, Seaside, Solo Cornet, Leader to Conduct, First Violin, Flute and Piccolo, 'Cello, Bass, and Trombone; must know variety. Lowest terms, age, and refs., CONDUCTOR, 172, Cemetery-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Experienced Clarionet and Flute, for bandstand. Terms, refs., &c., A. E. DAVISON, 1, Piedmont, Llandrindod Wells, Wales. Threappleton write.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Canadian Circus, Tenting, Ireland, good reliable Trombone, to open at once. Wire, METCALFE, Leader, Sat., Coote Hill; Monday, Enniskillen, Ireland.

WANTED, good Bombardon Player, for the 2nd V.B. the Royal Fusiliers. Write, the BANDMASTER, 9, Tufton-street, Westminster.

WANTED, a Horn and two Clarionet Players, for the Royal Anglesey Royal Engineers Militia, ex-Army men only. Write or wire, R. YEARSLEY, Bandmaster, Beaumaris.

WANTED, 'Cello and Oboe, London and Tour, only men competent Grand Opera need apply, with refs., letters, to ST. CLAIR, Moody-Manners Stores, The Hyde, Hendon.

WANTED, at once, 'Cello and Cornet, for Hippodrome, Hastings, permanency.
Write or wire MANAGER.

WANTED, 'Cello or String Bass, for Pacific Liner Band, to sail July 5th. J. O. SHEPHERD, 11a, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Flute, July 7 to 22, or longer, £2 10s. weekly and fares from London.
Apply,
Box 3,396, "The Era."

WANTED, for the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra and Military Band, to commence early in October, First-class Flute and Piccolo, to play Second in Orchestra and Principal in Military Band; must be thoroughly experienced in high-class work; winter or permanent engagement; also thoroughly experienced First Violin (state whether combine wind instrument). Apply with terms and references to Mr. DAN GODFREY, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Good Flute, Clarionet, Bass, Piano, open immediately, Ladies or Gents.; also good Vocalists. Terms, age, Box 3,375, "The Era."

WANTED, for Hancock's Living Pictures and Variety Show, a good Piano Player, must be used to show business, and make himself generally useful; also a Traction Engine Driver, and a good Operator, for Cinematograph, Summer and Winter job, none other than those thoroughly used to the business need apply. Lowest terms in first letter. St. Blazey, Cornwall. Saturday, Monday, and for one week Plymouth.

WANTED, Pianist and wife (both Vocalists), read, transpose, accompany well; Tour; age, photos., refs., to L., 186, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Pianist; must be good Orchestral Player, to commence July 1, for Season. Apply, COLLINSON, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Pianist, used to Tents, and Sight-reader; must be sober man. WEST'S Auction Tent, Little Lever, near Bolton, Lancashire.

WANTED, Young, Gentlemanly Pianist, quick Sight-reader, High-class Al-fresco. Actual lowest terms, refs., Box 3,396, "The Era."

WANTED, Good All-round Pianist, able to Play in Sketches; also Good Tenor, with large répertoire of good-class songs; al fresco. Terms, shares. Fullest particulars, S. D., 58, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Pianist, Lady or Youth; must play Manuscript at Sight. Lowest terms, photo., to CRANE, Pierrot Pavilion, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Drummer and Tympanist. State recent Engagements. SURTEES CORNE, Musical Director, The Pier, Hastings.

TENBY
WANTED, for the Summer Season, July, August, and part of September,
a small Double-handed Band,
to play on the
various Promenades
at Tenby,
mornings and evenings.
Applications, stating number of performers, Instruments, and salary required, to
TOWN CLERK,
Tenby.

SHIKISSIMA BAND, LADIES' JAPANESE ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Cornet, Flute, 'Cello, Double Bass, also Good Leader, Violin. Photos. essential. Open June 30, three months' engagement in France.
CONDUCTRESS, Volthurst, Newbury.

WANTED, at Once, Boy Instrumentalists for Abroad, age 14-19 years, short boys preferred: 2 First Violinists, 1 Viola, 1 Solo Cornet. Only good and experienced write. State salary, and photo. (which will be returned). Good long shop, only first-class Concerts. Letters, Box 3,372, "The Era." Also other Instr. may write, and good Pianist.

WANTED, following Instruments, to augment Band for South Coast Tour: Second Violin, Viola (both combine brass), Second Clarionet (capable of First), Euphonium, used to Circus business, join at once. Write or wire, BANDMASTER, Post Office, Bournemouth.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.,
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.'
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER,
"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate, Summer Season; enormous success with own First-Class Band.

WANTED, Known, Jules Koopman, Conductor, Musical Director, London Orchestral Societies in Hampstead, Highgate, Chelsea, and South Kensington, Leader (Solo), at Liberty. Field End Villa, 19, Worsley-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Conductor or Leader, just concluded twelve months' engagement as Conductor, Hippodrome, Hastings, Highest credentials; up-to-date library. Address, CHAS. P. FOX, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, Bachelor of Music, Oxford, Musical-Director, Conductor, Chorus Trainer, Pianist, Powerful Baritone. References. MUSBAC, 75, Sutherland-avenue, W.

WANTED, Known, Nat Young, Conductor-Pianist, at Liberty, any Business; seaside. Address, 15, Florence-street, Hightown, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, through Closing, Conductor or Violin, any business. GEO. ROBERTSHAW, Conductor, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent. At Lib. July 2.

WANTED, Engagement, by Leader, or First Violin, ex. refs.; also good Second Violin at Lib. A. ROBINSON, 27, Calder Vale-rd., Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader (Violin); excellent refs.; through vacation at Palace Theatre (Varieties). Address, J. HEALE, 46, Gray-street, Lincoln.

WANTED, by Bandmaster (Diploma), late Yeomanry and Volunteers, appointment, temporary or permanent. Bands found for Trainings. Own Instruments and Music. Box 3,398, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical-Director (Violin), thoroughly experienced in Variety business; good refs.; 5 years last engagement. THOS. RICHARDSON, 20, Woodhouse-street, Hyde Park, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist, thoroughly experienced, all Lines, London and Suburban only, or good Seaside Engagement; five years' West-End and Suburban experience; would Deputise few months. Strictly sober. Disengaged June 25. Box 3,385, "The Era."

WANTED, by Solo Violinist, experienced Leader, Engagement, late First Violinist Royal Dutch Opera. Address, 51, Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Second Violin; experienced, reliable.
JOHN KEMPSTER, New Theatre, Oxford.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Good Violinist, any business; references, &c.
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WANTED, Known, Violinists (2), Young. Good, are open to accept engagement for few weeks, starting July 9, seaside preferred. Address, Box 3,380, "The Era."

WANTED, Re-engagement, First or Second Violin, any Business; highest references.
Apply, D. WOODS, 11, Prince-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist and 'Cellist (ladies), well experienced. Address, L., 2, County-grove, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Two Musicians, Violin and Piano, and Cornet, any Business. Apply, HOPKINS, 14, Humberstone-gate, Leicester.

WANTED, by Violinist, High-class Summer Engagement, thoroughly experienced, Concert Party preferred; répertoire of Brilliant Solos from memory; age 22; dress well. VIOLINIST, 6, Abingdon-road, Kensington, W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement, Theatre and Variety; experience; age 28; abstainer, good refs.; Disengaged. HERBERT PHIPPS, 5, Hardman-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Good Violinist, Engagement, in good variety theatre, or other business, stock of music, and experienced. CARPENTER, Gilpin-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin, combine Trombone, first-class on both instruments. Excellent references. SYKES, 108, Howard-st., Oxford.

WANTED, Known, First Violin can Combine Clarionet, at Liberty for summer engagement. Excellent references. Box 3,400, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, late Military, after July 1. V. G., 16, Orchard-crescent, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

WANTED, Known, Good Cornet, at Liberty, any Business. SIDNEY DEAN, Grand, Leeds; or 17, Ganton-place, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Solo or First, prefer Military or String; good military experience; good refs. A. R. E., 14, Dudley-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet or Horn, in Military or Strings; good refs. A. C., 8, Harwood-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, any Business.
WM. FLETCHER, 95, Hornby-st., Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, experienced orchestral or military. W. BULLINGER, 130, Peabody-buildings, Stamford-street, S.E.

WANTED, through Closing, Season Engagement, cornet and drums, at Liberty June 23. H. HATHRILL, 33, Hartley-road, Luton.

WANTED Engagement, as Cornet. Experienced. At Liberty.
J. R. LONG, 28, Green-lanes, London, N.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Second or Third; excellent reference. CLARIONET, 98, Warwick-road, Kensington, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Clarionet, Military Band preferred; could come at once. F. BROOME, No. 11, Bond-street, Vauxhall, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by reliable and steady Clarionet or Bassoon, String or Military. MCCRUDDEN, 17, Odsey-st., Needham-rd., Liverpool.

WANTED, through Closing, Engagement, by experienced Clarionettist (combine violin), permanent or season, sober and reliable. CLARIONET, 94, Castle-street, Luton.

WANTED, Engagements, First or Second Clarionet, Military; also Violinist, any business, both steady and reliable. 1, Nutclough, Hebden Bridge, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Solo Clarionet, Military Band, twenty years' Army experience; can come at once. G. HYLIER, 85, North-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Second Clarionet, ex-Army Bandsman; thoroughly used to Army Journals. SKINNER, 46, Lawrence-street, Canning Town, Essex.

WANTED, Engagement, by excellent all-round Clarionet Sololist (B or E flat); terminating 9 months' tour. Address, CLARIONET, Public Hall, Blaina, Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, at Liberty Monday, June 25, steady and reliable. Address, BATEMAN, Hascombe, Godalming, Surrey.

WANTED, Saturday and Sunday Business for Bassoon. Orchestra or Military, during Summer. J., 16, Warwick-road, Hampton Wick.

WANTED, at Once, Engagement, Double Bass. Theatre closed; steady and reliable; splendid refs. J. PAYNE, 9, Somers-road, Worcester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Double Bass, combine Cornet, any Business. J. ALLAN, 1, Buckland-street, New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement, Orchestral or Military, about eight weeks; splendid references; good Solo répertoire. HARRY RICHARDSON, 37, Eden-street, Kettering.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent Trombonist, any business, splendid references, can commence at once. BERT ROBINSON, Carr Green, Bestrick, Brighouse, Yorkshire.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, any Business, steady and reliable, can commence at once, through disappointment. Address, STEWART SMITH, 88, Lavender-hill, S.W.

WANTED, by First-class Trombonist, Summer Engagement; smart, and competent in all Branches. Address, Box 3,376, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, or Deputising, Trombone, any business.
S. FREDERICK, 44, Harders-road, Peckham.

WANTED, by E flat Bombardon, season or permanent; experienced and reliable; undeniable references. J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-street, Cheltenham, Gloucester.

WANTED, by experienced Euphonium, Engagement, any Business; good refs. Can open at once. CHARLES GRICE, 7, Station-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq,. King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist, good soloist; experienced any business; now Disengaged. L. H., 21, Beaumont-buildings, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Viola or Violin, any Business; good references. F. W. ESKE, 29, Falcon-grove, Clapham Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Viola or Violin, combine clarionet, would deputise. W. HANN, 5, Bardolph-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c.—7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions. Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, temporary Engagement, through theatre closing, any Business, Liberty June 25. NICKEL, 27, Moore-st., West Hartlepool.

WANTED, through closing of Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, situation as Flautist; good references. H. J. JOEL, 5, Lawrence-street, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Flautist (steady), few weeks' Engagement, orchestra, and seaside preferred. References. Address, with terms, F., 54, Hertford-st., Cambridge.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement by Pianist, Sight-reader, Transposer, sober and reliable, experienced variety and dramatic. SMITH, 28, Fitzwilliam-street, Huddersfield.

WANTED, Known, Pianiste, Disengaged; thoroughly experienced; good sight-reader, transposer, &c. FORTESCUE, 48, Doughty-street, W.C.

WANTED, immediately, Engagement, through closing, by good Pianist, can combine Clarionet; good reference. Wire or write, PIANIST, 3, Mill-street, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Pianist, combine violin or viola. W. CHILD, 30, Richmond-road, Oxford.

WANTED, Engagement, by a Lady Pianist and Vocalist; tour or permanency. L. R., Smith's Library Russell-gardens, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Male Pianist, Accompanist, and Sight-reader, open Monday next. PIANIST, Pier, Folkestone. After Sunday, address, 65, Delaune-street, Kennington, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Pianist (good first sight-reader), and Bass Vocalist (trained). Any reasonable offer. F. P., 106, New Bridge-rd., Hull, E.

WANTED, by Pianist, Summer Engagement, used to Variety; good Soloist; young. M. B., 173, Grove-road, Victoria Park.

WANTED, Engagement, Aug., Sept., Lady Pianist; good accompanist and sight reader; Violin and Viola (used to Band Work), Mandoline, 'Cello. VIOLA, 75, Ferne Park-road, Hornsey.

WANTED, Engagement, with Established Al Fresco Party, by Pianist, Humorist, Vocalist, good voice and appearance. FOSTER, 36, Foord-rd., Folkestone.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by reliable Tympanist and Double Drummer, own instruments; ten years last shop. For terms and references apply F. W. HALL, Tympanist, &c., 33, South-view, Millstone Hill, Swallownest, near Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tympanist and Trap Drummer; experienced and reliable. Address to HARRIS, 6, Firth-street, Oldham.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Tympanist, and Effects; excellent references. J. TELL, 36, St. James's-road, Bermondsey, S.E.

WANTED, Immediately, an Engagement by a First-class Lady Double Drummer, thoroughly experienced. Miss FRANCES EARLE, 9, Cranmer-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums and Effects, any Business, liberty now; thoroughly experienced, sober, and reliable. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Special Engagements, any Affair, by Artist on Bells (42), tune playing. C/o Haden's Music Depôt, Southgate-street, Leicester.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, Engagement, experienced and reliable. W. G., 50, Flood-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, Garner's Elysée Band, from three performers or first-class Orchestral Pianist; large music library. 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Known, Miss Nellie Rennison's Ladies' String Quintette (or part), Liberty July 28, played together 2 years. DERWENT, Station-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, for Dodsworth's Northern Military or String Bands, from 12 upwards. Neat uniform. For terms, apply, DODSWORTH, 9, Victoria-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

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WANTED, for July 12, for Nine Days, Big Acts, suitable for open-air or large covered stage, big animal acts, high wire walkers, high stilt performers, &c. Talking and ground acts save stamps. Apply,
GREEN, The Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Artists, Acrobats, Aerial Shows, &c., for week, Aug. 6. Lithos. and terms to WILDER, 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, for Gala, July 23, High Trapeze Show, Flying preferred. Terms, lithos., and particulars to Box 3,392, "The Era."

WANTED, Good Ring Performer, one doing few Tricks on Bars preferred. State age, weight, terms, tricks, &c., Box 3,357, "The Era."

WANTED, Bar Performer, Long Engagement if suitable; Apparatus and Dresses found. State all particulars, ALMA, 34, Highfield-st., Beeston Hill, Leeds.

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THE HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.

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WANTED, July, Aug., and Sept., Big Specialities, for Ring and Stage.

Quote Absolute Lowest Terms and Full Bookings.

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CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Mlle. Montero, with her Miniature Circus, including Liberty and Manège Horse, a Wonderful World-famed Troupe of Performing and Riding Dogs, also Performing Ponies, at Liberty June 25, for Home or Abroad. An Act suitable for Circus, Stage, Fêtes, or Galas. For particulars, ROSA MONTERO, 110, High-street, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, John Henry Cooke's Herd of Diving Reindeer and Stud of Plunging Horses, will be at Liberty on July 2.
Proprietors or Managers having water 10ft. deep please write.
JOHN HENRY COOKE,
Circus,
Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Vacant July 2, 9, 16, 23, and Aug. 13.
Communicate, week June 25, Hippodrome, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, by Billy, the Educated Horse, all July (except first week), only vacancy this year. Address, JIMMY DE VOYE, Palace, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Vacant July 2 for Summer Season, complete Circus Performance, for Fêtes, Galas, Exhibitions; would like to hear of building (seaside), on share, rental, or salary. DIRECTOR, 1, Hutchinson-street, Liverpool, E.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors, Managers of Hippodromes, &c., to note that the Sisters Ohmys, Greatest Acrobatic Three-Horse Riders and Somersault Equestriennes, on three beautiful coloured horses, will shortly be at Liberty; also Claude Ohmy, greatest all round performer in the world, now appearing at The Tower Circus, Blackpool; grand wardrobe, properties, harness, and new up-to-date posters, lithos., &c.
Address,
CLAUDE OHMY, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Barebacked Equestrians and Clown, own Horse, at Liberty. Address, 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), the eccentric talking, tumbling, and knockabout clown and agouste, Liberty July 2. 41, Lavan-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Bailey Brothers, England's Premier Musical Clowns. Offers invited for home or abroad At Liberty Aug., onwards. Tower, New Brighton. Perm. address, Mozart Villa, Broughton, Kettering.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, &c., The Holmars, Acrobatic Clowns, &c.; Alex and Jolly, the smartest of all Comedy Three-bar Acts; booked Guildford Fête, Rhymney Gala, &c. 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, Galas, July and Aug., by Mlle. Bartenelli, the sensational lady gymnast and contortionist, on the revolving column; also the Boultons, comedy artists. 43, Canning-place, Liverpool. Sat. next, Bingley Hall Gala.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Lo Lo, Lady Gymnst, Speciality, at Liberty Monday, 18th, on, for Galas, Fêtes. 12, Grange-road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Horizontal Bar Experts, Proprietors, Managers, and Agents are invited to witness this unique Comedy Act. Next week, Regent Theatre, Salford; booked by STEBBINGS, Liberty July 2, 9.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Act, July 2, 16, South preferred. Address,
Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Society Acrobats and Equilibrists, on Tour. All coms., 130, Magdalen-rd., Norwich. Enormous success.

WANTED, July 2, and onwards (with exceptions), by Sergt. Mumford. The Soldier on the Wire, in Full Regimentals. Write, Hippodrome, Stoke.

WANTED, a Few Immediate Dates, by Alveno and Cleo, the finest breakaway ladder act before the public. None barred. Communications, Temperance Hall, Merthyr, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Don Pedro, the Modern Blondin, most daring High-rope Performer, open for fêtes and galas. Enormous success. 121, Rhyddings Park-road, Swansea.

WANTED, John Irvin, Foot Equilibrist, just finished Eight Weeks' Tour. Liberty July and August Bank Holiday. Big Act for Galas. Agent, HARRY LEAMAR, 157, Strand, London; or, JOHN IRVIN, 144, High-street, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Vilo, Juggler, Lamp and Japanese Block Manipulator, at Liberty for fêtes and galas. Address, 28, Pingle-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Offers for Miss Beatrice Kerr, Australia's Champion Swimmer and Diver, along with her latest Sensational Acts. Just finished tour through Australia. Gave 366 performances at Prince's Court, Melbourne. S. REDMOND, 33, Hare Hill-road, Littleborough, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Dickinson and Johnson (Albert and Queenie), swimmers, high divers, and tank act. Liberty July 2, onwards. Address, 7, Aliwal-road, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, as Tent-master. Experienced, just finished with Cooke's, Aberdeen. JOHN WARD, 1, Jubilee-place, Great Yarmouth.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED, July 2, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Boy and Girl Vocalists, Speciality Turns, on shares. Lowest terms, full particulars, CRANE, Pierrot Pavilion, Matlock Bath.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S
ROYAL ELECTRIC STARS.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, big Sensational Novelties, July 2, 9, onwards. State when and where last in Scotland; absolute lowest summer combination terms. All letters address,
Dr. WALFORD BODIE,
The Electric Wizard,
Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for Dates, July 9, and onwards. Lithos. and lowest terms, MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart Al-fresco Artists, with Good Numbers. Write, with permanent address, to GEORGE H. BOND, c/o Post Office, Launceston, Cornwall.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, July 2, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists of Every Description, to open July 9, South. State absolute lowest salary (not shares), MANAGER, 43, Canning-place, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists, for Morecambe, July 2, '06, Extra Big Act on shares, twice daily. Address, WILL PERCIVAL, 27, Boardman-st., Eccles.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, Doubles, doing Singles, Specialities, Bioscope Operator with own Machine. Write in for season. KARDOC, Hippodrome, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, Monday next, for twelve weeks, those known to me preferred. CHARLIE HOWARD, 5, Cammidge-street, Withernsea, Yorks.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 2, 9, 23. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

GLASGOW CONCERTS.
WANTED, refined Artists, suitable for above. Lowest terms to THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for "Crusoe," "Babes," &c. Apply, H. A. JORDISON, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Artists, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, for June 25. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest; Hall small.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, from now, onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, June 25, on. Send lowest terms and bookings, FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1a, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Gala Artists all Lines, Aug. 2. Victor's Dogs and Phinas and Aida write. SMALLEY, 19, Bessborough-st., Westminster, London.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, Comedians, Baritone, Tenor, Soprano, Pianist. Dress suit. Write or call, 3 till 5, Sat., MANAGER, 39, Godolphin-road, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, Artist, all Lines, July 2, 9, and 16, Midlands. Address, WILL ONDA, Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Artists of all kinds, &c., Bioscope, Aug. 6 (Yorkshire); Punch and Marionettes, July 14 (Lancashire); Teacup Cycle Track, July 20 (North); Bars and Wire Acts, Aug. 6, July 14; Comedy Cyclist, Aug. 6, July dates. Wanted, addresses of (and to wire), Matweef Hugostons, Rappo and Ella, Nell Wynne, H. Abdy,

DALTON'S Agency,
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Mnachester.
Wires, "Granbeste, West Didsbury."

WANTED, Artists Known to me keep me Posted. Send bookings and lowest terms, BILLY HENDERSON, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. FRANK LYNNE, 12, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, immediate and onward dates.
Send full list bookings, terms, &c., to
JESS VERNO,
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for alterations; reopens Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Wanted Stars, all Lines.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY,
138, Denmark-hill, London, S.E.
WANTED, by Henri Cazman's Agency, Star Turns, July 9, 16, 23, St. Helens, Warrington, Accrington, my own Companies, splendid opportunity. See New Acts. Can always book Big Features and Novel Specialities. Big Turns for Special Watering-places wanted. Full particulars, bookings, and lowest terms, London and country, lithos., &c., &c., HENRI CAZMAN, 156, Islington, Liverpool.

GOUROCK PAVILION.
WANTED, Comedy Turns, Speciality Artists, one or two weeks' Engagement.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, for Saturday, July 14 (Benefit), Variety turns. Lowest terms to LOUIS J. BEARD, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, Suitable Turns, for Outdoor Fête and Sports, August Bank Holiday.
Apply,
YOUNG, Estate Offices, Pwllheli.

WANTED, Big Specialities, Variety Artists, for Clough Hall, Aug. 6, on. Terms, lithos., EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Good Specialities, July 2 and onwards, Al-fresco, Promenade, Hartlepool, twice daily. Absolute lowest summer terms. ALLNUTT, 25, Middlegate-street, Hartlepool.

CASINO EXPOSITION, AMIENS (FRANCE).
WANTED, for July, August, September, Big Speciality Acts all kinds, funny, comical acts, Troup of Ladies, Sisters, with good appearance, must be really first-class or useless, three weeks' engagement; money sure. Fares paid from Boulogne.

All communications address,
CHEVALIER CLIQUOT,
Casino Exposition, Amiens, France; or
DAHAN'S AGENCY,
35, Rue De Trevise, Paris.

HIPPODROME, DARTFORD,
now in the Full Tide of Success.
WANTED, the Greatest Acts, on sharing terms, or Combinations, also Specialities for Sunday Concerts.

WANTED, Aug. 6, near Bristol, Star and Variety Acts. Artists on Western Tour can have two weeks. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

BRADFORD ORIGINAL AL FRESCO PAV.,
FRIZINGHALL, BRADFORD.
WANTED, Refined Specialities for above, large stage; terrific success of Rosa Loader this week. Only a few open weeks now.

WANTED, First-class Specialities, Good Musical Show, &c., July, Bilston Al-fresco Pavilion, stage 24 by 14, electric light. W. J. CRANSTON, Manager.

WANTED, for Nine Months' Tour, commence September, big specialities and variety acts. Full particulars, JOHN H. TOMKINSON, Smallthorne, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, July 15, Aug. 5, 6 (Ireland), June 30, July 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 23, Aug. 6 (near Bristol), Aug. 6, onwards, for S. Wales, Specialities. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Joint Couples, and Doubles doing Singles, and anything good and cheap.
MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
First-class Combination,
for the
Victoria Pavilion
Winter Gardens,
Morecambe,
for
July 2.
Write immediately,
with
List of Artists
and
Lowest Terms,
to
TOM ATKINSON,
General-Manager,
Winter Gardens,
Morecambe.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Sound Attractions,
July 2 and 9 (North).
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
G. and F. PEEL,
Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Big Tops and Artists of all Kinds, for July 2, onwards, nothing too big. Send list of bookings and permanent address, which is important, and lowest terms, to FRED NEIMAN, 74, The Grove, Camberwell, London, S.E. Tel. 247, Brixton. Those on my book keep me posted. Bros. De Wynne write.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, for July 2, Big Top on Shares, also Artists, all Lines. Soros, this week, Theatre, Bury. Monday, Alhambra, Morecambe.

WANTED, for the opening of Sanger's Grand Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, July 2, a good Man, for front, tall and good appearance, one able to talk and keep sober. Address, with full particulars, age, height, references, to
Mr. CHAS. EVANS, General-Manager, as above.
Also a few vacancies left for First-Class Original Specialities.

STANLEY, DURHAM, NEW ROYAL, Ltd.
WANTED, Good Combination, July 2.
Apply, MARK H. LINDON.

WANTED, for several Fêtes, Monkey Act, or perpendicular Rope and other Novelties. State terms, specimen lithos., rail fares paid. letters only, SYLVESTER, Agent, 271, Clapham-road, London. To the inquisitive: I booked Dare-Devil Schreyer at a fabulous salary for Pontypool Fêtes last Whitsuntide.

WANTED, Vocalists and Refined Humorists of the First Rank only to write me with full particulars, terms, &c. JOSEPH SAINTON, Musical-Director to the Council, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, Serio and Dancer, lowest terms, probable Tour; also Doubles working Singles. Lowest terms, HARRY DELVA, P.O., Andover, Hants.

WANTED, for Monday, and on, Comedians, Doubles doing Singles, used to al fresco work. Lowest summer terms, POOLE'S PIERROTS, Boston.

WANTED, Two First-class Comedians, well up in Gags, Sketches, &c., open here Monday. Wire, A. DUNHAM, 28, High-street, Maryport.

WANTED, Known, always Vacancies for Clever Children; must be fourteen years old and small. COLLINSON, 78, Holland-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Good Biograph Operator. State salary required, references, &c.,
MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

Tarro Myaki,
the Champion Jiu-Jitsu Wrestler of Japan,
the Only Man who has ever Defeated
the Great Yukio Tani.
A Sure Draw.
Geo. Harvey's
Eight Handsome Ladies, in Italian Hand Ball Game. Just arrived from Alhambra, Milan.
A Cert. Winner.
Yvonne,
the Beautiful Irish Girl, in Tabloid Turns
(title registered),
Just arrived from America.
A Refined and Fascinating Number.
Mlle. Ella's Lions,
Best and Greatest Existing Educated Lion Show of the World.
A Most Sensational Drawing Card.

WANTED Known,
Proprietors and Managers
in want of above Powerful Numbers
can have full particulars, terms, &c., from
HARRY LEAMAR,
Business Manager.

THE ALBEMARLE SYNDICATE,
Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agents,
157, Strand, London, W.C.
Telephone, 4957 Gerrard.
Telegraphic address, "Templify, London."
Bankers, London and County.

WANTED, Known,
Florence Challis arrives in England, after Overwhelming Success in Australia, third week in June.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Lovell, the Great Male Impersonator, Lib. June 25 and July 2 and 9; also all Aug. Offers. Wire, 88, Boston-st., Manchester. Also Lib. for Panto., principal.

WANTED, Monday next and on, Original Oldham Singing Mill Girl, Jessie Harper, and Clown Ohmy, High Stilt Act, and Dog Toby. Wire, Palace, Boston.

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, Vocalist, Disengaged Monday, concluded successful engagement with Pierrots, Kinver. Wire, 13, High Park-terrace, Paignton, Devon.

WANTED, by Little Tina, Monologuist, Mimic, July 2, and on. Low for comfortable seaside engagement. June 25, Hippo., St. Helens.

WANTED, Known, Little Edie (daughter of Lebrun and Irene) made a great success on her first appearance as a Comedy Juggler, June 14, at the Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, July and August, Babs Lloyd, Star Artist; Nellie Vann, Comedy Artist. Big hit, Hippodrome, Blackpool. Wire, 85, Spring-gardens, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Romaine, comedy duettists, are open to buy good sensible comedy duets. Song Writers and Agents communicate. ROMAINE, 31, Great Pulteney-st., W.

WANTED, Known, Four Sisters Sligo, Musical Speciality (Instrumental and Vocal Harmonised), 12 instruments. Lib. Mon., June 25 and on. Good offers invited. Wire, 23, Alberta-street, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

WANTED, June 25 and onwards, Carl Vernon, Illusionist. Great Success, Palace, Attercliffe. Write, 15, Hart-street, New Cleethorpes, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, Little Zola, Comedian, Great Success of New Song, "Who ever would have thought it?" Vacant Monday, 25th, and July 2. Wire, Theatre Royal, York.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Jack Hyder, Comedian, Patterer, and Sketch Artist, Engagement, Al-fresco, Season, July 2, experienced, share or salary. Palace, Plymouth.

WANTED, by Harry Keeble, Star Comedian and Ventriloquist, tremendous success, Halls or Al-fresco. Wire for Monday, Hippodrome, Sittingbourne.

WANTED, by young Amateur Gentleman anxious to get on the Music Halls, Small Part in Sketch, or travel with Star Comedian. Write, B. and W., 5, Millbrook-terrace, Emlyn-st., Newport, Mon.

WANTED, July 9, 16, Martin Melia, Comedian, and the World's Artistic Dancing Masterpiece; also Miss Lill, Contralto Vocalist and Song and Dance Speciality. Terrific success, and starring T. R., Merthyr, where send offers.

WANTED, July 2, 23, by the Fordyces, Singers and Dancers Extraordinary. Wire to-day, Palace, Sunderland. Mon., Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, by the St. Johns, Monday, onward. A sound musical comedy and dancing turn. Wire, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, July 9, 16, also Aug. 13, the Melias, duettists and speciality coon dancers, and winners of the world's clog-dancing championship. Terrific success, and starring, Theatre Royal, Merthyr, where send offers.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 9, 23, and 30. Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey. Roars of laughter. 2 distinct acts. 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Esdale Bros., Comedians, vacant Monday. Wire, 28, Ayres-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Lloyd, the greatest of all Patterers, on Tour, Vacant Aug. 6. Perm., 44, Dover-street, Maidstone.

WANTED, Galas, Vaudevilles, Circus, Al Fresco, &c., Turle and Turle, Comedy Gymnasts, two rollicking acts, busy working galas. Terms or shares. Permanent, 5, Wood-street East, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Two Li Changs, Chinese Illusionists, July 9, onwards. A sure success. This, The Euston. Mon., June 25, Barnard's, Chatham.

WANTED, by Paulo Bros., Society Athletes, July 2, 9, 16. Address, c/o Mr. JOE MAY, Manager, King's Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, Monday next, and July 2, by the Moncktons, in original, excrutiatingly funny musical comedy acts. 7, Charles-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free June 25, onward, for Theatres, Galas, or Sports; no fixings required. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Wulfrunas (three Ladies and four Gentlemen), in Comedy Acrobatic Sketch, entitled "Fun in a Café," only Act of its kind in the business; biggest success ever made Guinness's Gala, Dublin; Lib. Monday, through obliging. Wire, 22, Ashted-row, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, W. L. Murray in Gladiatorial Speciality Act; magnificently staged in three scenes. Wire, 373A, Battersea Park-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, July 16, 23. Offers invited. Letters, Union-road, Macclesfield.

WANTED, July 2, by the Bouncing Dillons, Comedy Gymnasts, with a great drawing novelty. This week, enormous success, Palace, Camberwell, London. We return to the Palace, Camberwell, in two weeks' time, viz., July 9. We never fail. Free July 2, one week, sharing terms, or salary. Great show for galas. No fixing required. Wire for July 2, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Superior Al Fresco Pitches, for the greatest money-taker of the Century, "The Solar Kinematographe," Animated Pictures in broad daylight. Shares or Certainty. Address BEAUMONT, Inventor and Patentee, Stour-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Bookings, July 23 to Aug. 4, Piers, &c., whole or part programme; salary or share. Mr. Harry Liston's "Merry Moments" Co., St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED, Few Immediate Dates, Chard's Dog Circus, Temperance Hall, Merthyr. Vacant Aug. 6.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Marvellous Dog Show, the most novel and original act before the public, Liberty July 2, galas, &c. Hippodrome, Stoke.

WANTED, Known.—Artists, Friends, and Agents who have written to us and not received reply, please Note, We thank you for your letters, but cannot answer all. Please accept our best wishes for a very Successful Season. The Dayton Family, Palace of Varieties, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Superior Al Fresco Pitches, for the greatest money-taker of the century, The Solar Kinematographe, animated pictures in broad daylight, shares or certainty. Address, BEAUMONT, Inventor and Patentee, Stour-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, that Le Clair's Bioscope and Dogs re-engaged for another 16 weeks, making 70 consecutive weeks at Pier Pavilion, Southend.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING. Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Wanted, Known, Important, that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be Held at Halifax, on Thursday next, June 28, at 2.30 p.m. Members to Meet on the Fair Ground. Important Business. Signed, T. HURST, Secretary.

WANTED, it Known, that Chiappa and Sons, Limited, of London and Manchester, have just delivered two new (1906 model) 110-key Gavioliphones—one to Mr. William Wilson, of Preston, and the other to Mr. Monte Williams, of Hartlepool. Both our clients state that the Organs more than surpass their expectations.

Two 110-key organs of different design will be on sale by the end of month. Intending purchasers are invited to send us their names and addresses, and we will wire them as soon as organs arrive. These 110-key Organs have a Complete Scale, making it absolutely unnecessary to ever require any larger size, as the tone and design is perfection, and no show will be up-to-date without one of these works of art.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that T. Brittain and Sons Build High-class Motor Cars, for Roundabouts. Several on View, Built for Eminent Showman. Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars. Graduated payment to responsible buyers. MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

Auctioneers. WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches. Auctioneers only supplied. Write to-day for particulars. C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Showmen to save money by sending for Leete's Catalogue of specially prepared paints, colours, varnishes, brushes, &c., and every requisite for decorating caravans, roundabouts, swings, &c. Cheapest house in the trade. A. LEETE and Co., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 56, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Known, for Guns, Cartridges, Targets, &c., also all requirements for fairkeepers. Our new throwing games. STACEY and Co., Settles-st., E.

WANTED, Mysteries, Illusions, Side Shows, for Plymouth Exhibition, Oct. 24 to Nov. 14, 1906; estimated attendance 60,000; sharing terms. Send particulars to A. D. BREEZE, Chartered Secretary, Great Western-chambers, Plymouth.

WANTED, for the Continent, any Good Freak or Exciting Exhibition; good salary to any respectable person. Six months guaranteed. Apply, L. BOUNDS, 2, Picton-place, Swansea.

WANTED, Living Freaks and Novelties, open at once; sale of books and postcards allowed. Wire, CHARLES JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, First-class Novelties, suitable for Waxworks, open Monday, and on; good Doorsman write. Good place for sober man. All particulars first letter. WEST, 48, St. Mary's-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Living Novelties or Freaks, good flash paintings preferred, half share, July, Aug. Address, L. P., MRS. WRIGHT, 5, St. Bede's-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Punch and Judy Show (good), town near Lincoln, Aug. 9. State terms. EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Lady Character Delineator, well up in the business, good two months, half share. L. P., Mrs. Wright, 5, St. Bede's-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, a Character Reader. Write or wire, A. E. PICKARD, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Doorsman, tall and smart. State experience, height, references, &c., salary required, MANAGER, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Two Smart Men, as Doorsmen, to make themselves generally useful. Write, stating full particulars in first letter, wages required, Prof. RUBY, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Two Coloured Men; must be tall, sober, and reliable, as Doorsmen and assist generally. Write, full particulars, wages required, in first letter, Prof. RUBY, "The Era."

WANTED, Watchmaker, Piano Player, or Singer preferred; also Funny Planksman; steady and reliable, plenty of gags. Box 3,382, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, good appearance, accustomed to Globe Shooting business, for First-Class steam Shooting Saloon, three months' engagement; good wages and good home for suitable girl. JONES, 18, Willow-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, Engagement, by Commissionaire or Doorman or Porter, Theatre or Music Hall or Hotel, height 6ft. 10in.; Disengaged July 6; last situation Hippodrome, Birmingham; age 24, teetotaler. Photo on application to JOHN G. S. HOLMES, 229, Edward-rd., Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Dane's Marionettes, at Liberty after July 14, op. Offers invited for Aug. Bank Holiday. POOLE'S Myriorama, Blaina.

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EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Eugene Stratton, Flo Esdaile, Sanford and Lyons, Jack Lane, Will Musgrave, Irene Rose, The Clarkes, The Remingtons, Alfred Hurley, Bioscope.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-STREET, CARDIFF.
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EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
George Lashwood, Frank Seeley, Hamilton Hill, Sisters Oswald, Henri Taylor Trio, Will Haines, Amber Austa, Classicum Quartette, Belle Davis and Piccs, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
R. A. Roberts, Prof. Vox, Johnny Gilmore, Chas. Austin, Cole de Losse Duo, Flem and Brok, Baker and Balfe, Stella Troupe, Josh Dixon, Nellie Young.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Herbert Darnley's Company, Ben Albert, Three Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert, Kaufmann Troupe, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Little Tich, Marie Kendall, Steve McCarthy, Fielding and Hull, Ella Retford, Stave, Leah Arden, The Craggs, Bioscope.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mark Sheridan, Bioscope, Belloni's Cockatoos, Francis and Alfred, Odeyne Sparke, Frank and Free, The Gems, Damm Bros., Rex King, Arthur Jefferson's Company.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Ginnett's "Dick Turpin," Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Monte Myro Troupe, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Sisters Chester, Daisy Dormer, W. F. Frame, Paul Conchas.

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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Madge Osmond, Northern Troupe, Andy Fagan, Howard and Collinson, Pictures, J. Alexander and Co., Gus Garrick, Sutcliffe Family.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Harry Wheldon, Lily Langtry, The Raies, Tom Woottwell, Les Voces, Spry and Monti, Guy Ryder, The Mackweys.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Casino Comedy Four, Marie Weston, The Maros, Pictures, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Alf Holt, Howard Bros.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Closed for redecoration and cleaning.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Annie Abbott, Two Madges, Cambrian Trio, Bioscope, "The Would-be Actors," Johnson and Bert, The Strads, Frank Darwin, Gertrude Bradshaw.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
T. E. Dunville, Edwin Barwick, Chas. Sloman, J. G. Forde, Ray Wallace, Marguerite Broadfoote, Gracie Grahame, New York Quartette, Fanny Erris, Peggy Fame, Caledonian Boys, Sivronis, "Little Colonel," Urquhart, Two Bostons, Four Burnells, Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Cruikshank, Luis Hardt, Fred Herbert, Harry Bent, Arthur Rigby, Marguerite Broadfoote, Daisy Lane, Cissie Heath, Kathleen Deighton, Carlotta Lunn, Benson and Geoffreys, Three Prestons, Caledonian Boys, Bros. Obo, Ralston and Frances, "The Bloomsbury Burglars," Pictures.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

N.B.—Silence in every case a polite negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Letters marked "Private" will be delayed.

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"CAN'T YOU FIND A SWEETHEART OF YOUR OWN?"

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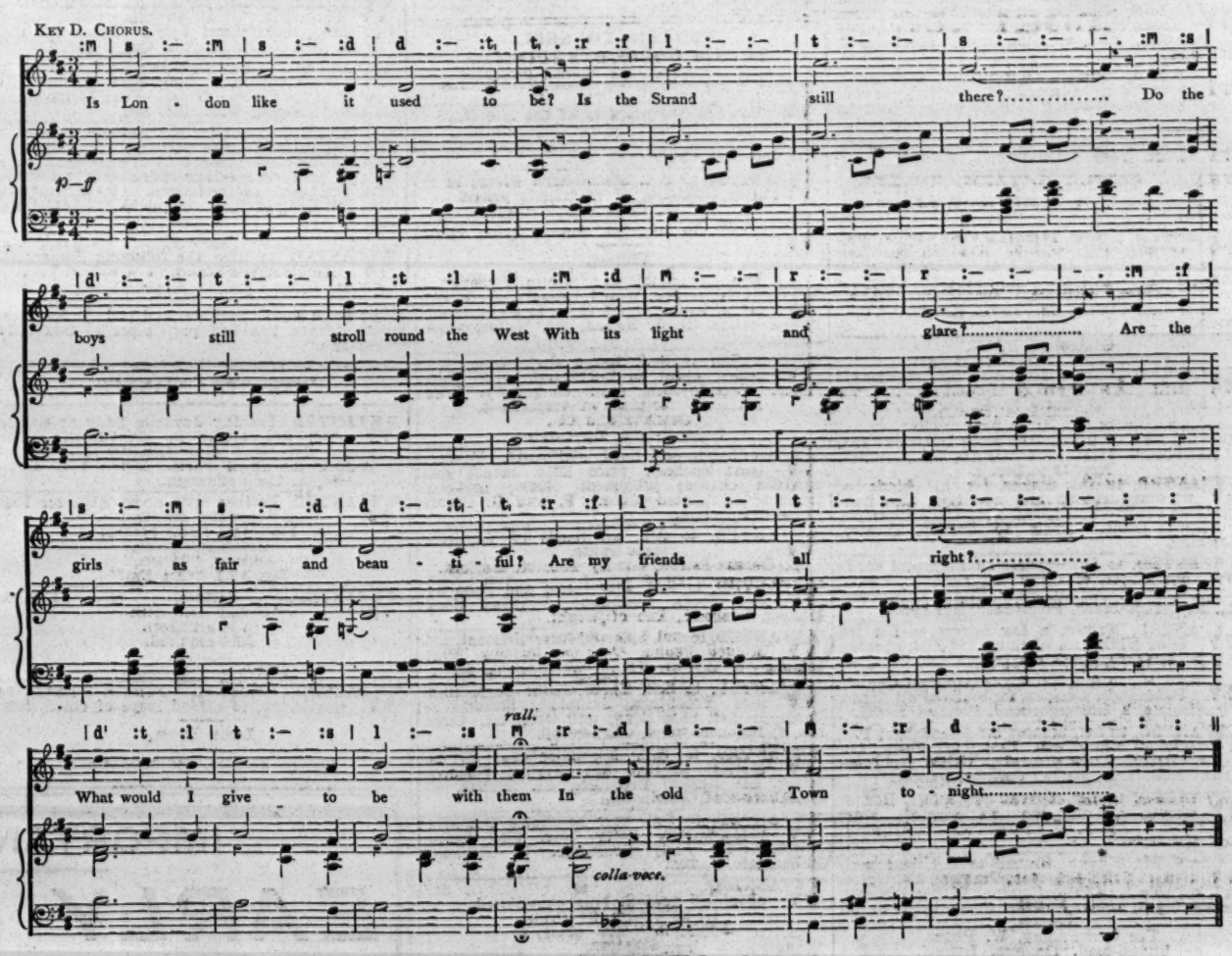

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Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not rebooked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows :—

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N.B.—Mr. OSWALD STOLL or Mr. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.

Maidie Scott, Arthur Elvy, Billy Williams, Edwin Boyde, F. De Marce, Stewart and Morgan, Francis Haskoll, Pictures, Hill and Whittaker, &c.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.

George D'Albert, Mdlle. Sylvesto, Webb and Branston, Rebla, Barton and Franklin, Australian Twin Andersons, Arthur Reece, Barlee and Smith, Fred Curran, Harris and Worth, The Brooklands, Pictures, Four Madcaps.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.

Harry Roxbury, in "The Prince of Monte Carlo," Vincent, Haydee, Edie Gray and Coons, Two Eltons, Tom Lloyd, V. L. Granville, Tod Lowen, Pictures, Vashti Wynne and Co., Heeley and Meeley, "For Liberty."

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.

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GLASGOW PAVILION.

CALL for Monday, June 25, 1906.
Rehearsal at 11 o'clock sharp for
Herbert Lloyd, Nora Emerald, L. B. Athol, The Carlyles, Will Souls, Mlle. Zelda, Allan and Hart, Louie Collier, Donaldson Bros., and Ardel.
PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
Fred Sinclair and Grace Whiteford, Miss Ruby Bijou, Peter Bermingham, The Pavoscope, Four Jumels.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists failing this run the risk of having their contract cancelled.
By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

CALL.—O'Connor and Brady Vaudeville Co., Wakefield Hippodrome, Monday, June 25: Gertie Gitana, Huline and Le May, The Dunlops, Fields and Lewis, Bessie Travis, Animated Pictures, Lillian Sivado, O'Connor and Brady.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTS.
Notice is hereby given that Mr. CHARLES PARKER terminates his proprietorship of the Pier Pavilion, Southport, on Saturday, June 23, and all Contracts after that date will be null and void unless sent in to the new proprietors,
The Southport Pier Co., Ltd.
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Dated this 9th day of June.
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Will Netta, The Nettas,
The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
Bros. Hannaway, Ada Victor,
Miss Minnie Leverentz, Pauletti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Late,
Fred Dice, Amy Allnutt.

HOWARD LESLEIGH, Pianist and Accompanist.
HARRY BARKER, Acting-Manager.
HARRY BARTLETT, Stage Manager.

NOTICE.
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NOTICE.

WHEREAS it has come to the knowledge of us, Naojiro Takeda Rioto and René Walter Owen, that slanderous statements have been and are being circulated concerning us;

NOW THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE that proceedings will be commenced immediately against any person or persons after this date guilty of circulating any statements in any way reflecting upon the characters or reputations of us.

(Signed) NAOJIRO TAKEDA RIOTO,
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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12·0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Carlotta De Yonson, Helm and Cozens, Lily Black, Jack Foley, Pallister's Bioscope, Louie Hurman.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Closed. Re-opening August 6.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
J. H. Brownson and Co., Daisy Rhyl, Jach Heath, Three Bros. Curran, Daisy Silcott, Leo Lester's Dogs, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Closed. Re-opening August 6.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Eight Sunrays, Kisbey, Blanche Marion, Three Delaries, Baroni and Kemp, Adey Spencer, Percy Curry, Molly Doon, Oakdene, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
Kelly and Gillette, Ray Royal, Rastus and Banks, Carlotta Levey, Paragon Trio, The Henres, Tennyson and Wallis, Lily Sharplin, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
De Biere, Sadie Seymour, King Roy, Lambert and Hands, Alice Ormonde, The Baleamos, Duncan and Brasque, Fred Earle, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL
Dayton Family, Theresa and May, Emma Don and Co., Marion Scott, Les Laurens, George Bendon, Bros. Redmond, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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Frank Danby and Co., Virto, Lily Esplin, Duncan and Godfrey, George Grogie, Albert Whelan, Fred Bronte, Moule, Nicholls, and Co., Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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THE BRITANNIA.
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Matinées Monday and Thursday.
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Matinée every Monday.
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SURREY THEATRE.
Telephone, 1460 Hop
Matinée every Monday.
Will Farrell, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Madge Morley and Co., Andy Fagan, G. H. Keith, Society Quartette, Arthur Kenny, Muggins, V.C., the Guyons, Kittie Corri, the Bensons, Albert Wyndham Co.
All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.

Artists please Note.
That under no circumstances whatever will permission be given to Artists who are booked the Macnaghten Circuit to appear at the Queen's, Poplar.

All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
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The frantic maiden rushes about on deck seeking some loophole of safety, dodging all efforts of the crew to detain her. Brandishing an oar, she threatens any who endeavour to touch her, but the audience are simply amused by the vain and futile actions. The captain carries her off to his own cabin, having her put in irons, so that she is absolutely deprived of freedom. The poor fettered prisoner, worn out with her hard labours, abandons all hope, and gives way to despairing grief. The officer is interrupted by one of his crew, who apparently requires his services on deck. As soon as the captain is once again alone with the captive he forcibly lifts her face, kisses it passionately, and leaves her.

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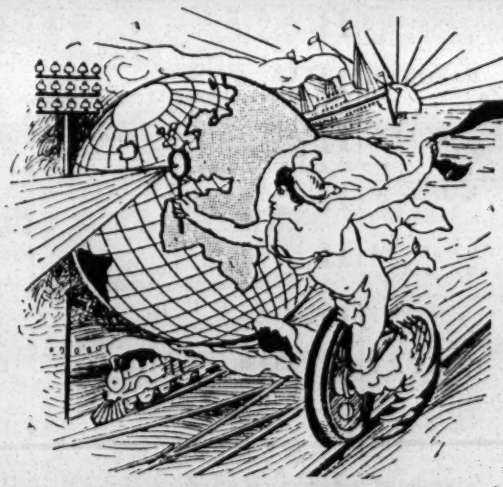

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ESDALE BROS., Comedians, Vacant Monday. Wire 28, Ayres-road, Manchester. New act.

EUSTACE, FRED. "Our Curate." June 25, Palace, Walthamstow.

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FITZROYS, June 25, Albert Hall, Southport. Vacant July 16.

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KAIL, ALBERT, Comedian and Acrobatic Dancer. I wonder who will get it Tuesday. Perry, Happy Valley, Llandudno.

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KATOS, Komical Kidgets. Palace Clacton-on-Sea.

KAVADOS, Juggler; FLO MELVILLE, Burlesque Artist, Hippo., Stoke. F. M., Monday, Vulcaris Concert Party, Monifieth, N.B.

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KEITH, GEO. H., June 25, Surrey Theatre.

KEITH and MERSON, Empire, Stockport.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. C. Cavanah, C.A.—Mr. Edmund Tearle and company are appearing this week in *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. Mr. Tearle plays powerfully as Tom Robinson, and he is admirably supported by the other members of the cast; Mr. Montagu Lane gives a spirited presentation of George Fielding; Mr. T. W. Benson is successful as Peter Crawley; Mr. Vernon O. Crabtree throws a good deal of life into the part of Meadows; and excellent work is also contributed by Mr. Bernhardt Turner as the Rev. Francis Eden; Mr. Ernest Lodge, as the Jew; Mr. W. R. Wilson, as Governor Hawes; and Mr. J. A. Keogh, as the Australian Aboriginal. Miss Esther Tearle acts with much ability and sympathy the part of Susan; and Miss Mary Campbell, as one of the victims of the prison system, puts a good deal of pathos into the character.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Directors, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—The principal turn is an admirably played sketch by C. Woodley Hulse and company, entitled *The Fight in the Forge*. All the parts are well acted, that of an aged rustic by Mr. Gerald Nolan being admirably done; Mr. Charles Matthews, who is assisted by Miss Doris Reece, puts in some remarkable jumping feats; and Stanley's Urchins, who are singularly expert dancers as well as capital part singers, are also enthusiastically received; the Balmoral Quartette of local dancers give an attractive and graceful performance; the Hare Trio appear in a daring high trapeze act; and among the other successful artists may be noted Miss Renee Walon, vocalist and dancer; Mlle. du Roche, a fine operatic soprano singer; and Messrs. Arthur Richards and J. C. Scatter, comedians. A fine show of pictures illustrative of the Spanish Royal Wedding is given by the Bioscope.

ACCRINGTON. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. Willmot, Vandy, Potter, and Weisker.—Mr. Charles Majilton tops the bill here with a company of clever comedians in the absurdity, called *The Plumber*. Mr. "C.," song and patter artist, is smart; Edward Ind is excellent; Ward and Davis are well received; the Two Sparks are appreciated; Los Rupertos give a high-class equilibristic act, and the Hippodrome Pictures conclude an attractive bill.

ALDERSHOT.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Williams.—*A Sister's Sin* is being presented here by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company. Mr. H. Custins is an admirable Larry, and finds support in Misses Alice Granville and Edie Macklin, as the rival lovers. The rôle of Minnie is in the capable hands of Miss Violet Langley; and Mr. Vane is good as Harold. Mr. A. Money does well in the arduous rôle of George Oakley; and true nomadic instinct and fervour are cleverly shown by Miss Tullock; whilst Miss D. Vivian is smart as Jack.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr. Alfred B. Cross and a capital company are here for the current week with Wilson Barrett's dramatised version of Hall Caine's story, *The Manxman*. Mr. Cross presents a finished study of Pete; Miss Minnie Watersford, as Kate Cregeen, proves fully equal to the demands made upon her intelligence and skill; the Demster is finely acted by Mr. Sydney C. Kearns; Mr. David Phillips is good as Kate's father, the old Manx innkeeper, and minor male parts are in the efficient keeping of Messrs. G. Marriot, E. H. Day, E. Cartell, F. Binning, and Arthur J. Moss; Miss Nancy Mitchell is sufficiently pert and amusing as Nancy, and Miss Mona Spearing does good work in the small part of Miss Christian. The play is admirably mounted.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—At the Hippodrome this week comedy is well represented by Charles Jackson, and Dick Kendall, who concludes with a smart dance; and the Boston Twins, who sing, patter, box, and dance with pronounced success; Victoria Dagmar is a graceful horizontal-bar artiste, the clown acting as a humorous foil to her clever performance; Lady Zilla presents a good ventriloquial sketch; the Sisters Thurban give a musical performance, in which the trio display much ability; Sam Jesson's *Merrymakers'* sketch is a troupe of juvenile singers and dancers of varied and pleasing talents, the song "Two's Company," and a cake-walk were very successful; "The Demon Chief," Pickett and Lizette, is a wonderful conjuring act, and the Bioscope presents thrilling and pathetic pictures of the recent destruction of San Francisco.

ATTERCLIFFE.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Lacy Lyne.—For the last week of the present season the management here are presenting an attractive bill, which finds much favour. The Grovini Family give a smart turn as acrobats, benders, and tumblers; Le Brun and Irene, equilibrist and lady juggler, are responsible for an interesting item; Mr. Johnny Chippendale, comedian, makes a welcome re-appearance; as usual, Mr. Clayton's "Attergraph" pictures are a leading feature; the Meymotts (Jack and Ada) are seen in a mirth-provoking sketch, entitled *Semi-Detached;* Mint and Mart produce artistic and beautiful designs simply by tearing newspapers; Mr. J. H. Wakefield, coon impersonator, gives some good songs and dances; and De Vere and Kenwick are highly entertaining in a series of burlesque pictures on popular songs.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. Stone.—*A Royal Divorce* is paying a return visit here. Mr. Frederick Moyes proves himself an excellent exponent of the great Emperor, and Miss Edith Cole as the Empress Josephine again gives an interesting and powerful delineation. The other parts are as ably filled as heretofore.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr. and Mrs. Calvert Routledge.—Mr. J. W. Jury continues to draw good houses here with his life-motion photos, and is well supported by a strong variety company.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr. Tom Whiting.—Gallando, the lightning sculptor, is at the top of the bill here this week; Addie Dorina's impersonations of several different characters in a surprisingly short time are exceedingly clever; Tom Taylor, the singing collier, renders some good songs; Bert Byem is a capital mimic; Rex Fox is clever in a unique act on the slack wire; the Sisters Walmleys give a pleasing song and dance turn; and Miss Ethel Dove is a smart comedy artist.

BELFAST.—PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Freece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—The chief feature in this week's bill is the marvellous mechanical talking head "Dronza." Miss Evelyn Taylor is a smart male impersonator, with good songs and style; and Mr. Michael Braham introduces his trained dog Mickey, whose feats are really remarkable. A fine exhibition of acrobatics is given by the Five Martellonis, lady acrobats; and others appearing are Miss Elsie Earle, Onda and Artell, and Tom Leo.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Walter.—The Mackweys top the bill here, and have been successful with their capital comedy wire act; Miss Lily Langtry, a dashing comedienne, has captivated many admirers with her vivacious rendering of several songs; Mr. Harry Weldon, a quaint comedian, is well received; and Les Voces are heard to advantage in duets. Mr. Tom Woottwell creates much amusement with his character songs; and a capital exhibition of dancing is submitted by the Raies. Mr. Guy Ryder, a wonderful boy whistler; and Spry and Monte, comedy artists, complete the bill.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The drama *A Man in a Thousand* is the attraction here this week. Mr. Hilliard Vox is a manly Owen Penrose; and Miss Nina Blake-Adams, a capable emotional actress, is all that could be desired as Laura Gibson. The villainies of Gregor Gibson are realistically portrayed by Mr. Stephen E. Scanlon; Mr. Herbert Cecil furnishes a capital impersonation of Sir Curwen Glynn, adding to the laurels he has already gained during his stay here. Miss Evelyn Kington plays cleverly as Little Adam Penrose; and Miss Beryl Ravenswood must be commended for her acting in the rôle of Hester Penrose. The humour of the piece is in the safe hands of Miss Evelyn Marrable as Mrs. Barkis, Mr. Cecil Ravenswood as Waterloo, and Mr. Luke Forster as Darby Quick. Mr. Victor Gordon as Rev. A. Tredgood completes the cast. The staging of the piece (for which Mr. Herbert Cecil is responsible) is in every way excellent.

BILSTON.—AL FRESCO PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr. Harry Battersby.—The entertainment here is given by the Imperial Pierrots, comprising Miss Minnie Newman, and Messrs. Tom Griffiths, Syd Bazley, and Alf Brookes; Carl Osmond, lightning cartoonist; Nellie Dunbar, coon singer and dancer; and Pulo, juggler. The musical director is Mr. J. Bertram Brennan.

BIRKENHEAD.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Pell.—A visit from Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk, with her American Indian drama *Wep-ton-no-mah* awakens pleasant reminiscences, and is proving attractive. Miss Mohawk repeats her picturesque rendering of the Indian mail-carrier, and Mr. C. W. Charles again gives an excellent rendering of Colonel Stockton; Mr. Edward Leroy, as Manuel Lopez, plays an unpopular rôle with much effect; Mr. Ike Shawcross makes the most of Captain Franklin, and Miss Minnie Goepel is a vivacious Nellie Stockton. The comedy element is admirably sustained by Mr. Guy D. Hackney, Mr. Dan Ryan, and Miss Dorothy Neville, and Mr. Theo Alker is a realistic Chief Ga No-Gua. The production is staged in a very complete manner.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke.—The popular and accomplished comedienne Miss Hetty King is a centre of attraction, and has made an undeniable hit; Miss Hulo Hodgson, Mr. Harry Lowther, and company in the well-sustained sketch *Barmaids* are a conspicuous success; and the New York Comedy Four in their amusing and clever act are a prominent feature. An excellent and varied programme is also supported by Miss Alice Digby, comedienne; the Twin Brothers Dean, expert step dancers; the Sisters Marion, promising juvenile duettists; Mr. Gus Le Clerq, comedian; and Miss Lottie Govell, serio; and there is in addition a capital Bioscope display. Mr. Ernest Denney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Rodgers, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—*East Lynne* winds up the season here in a thoroughly popular fashion, being admirably played by Messrs. H. Armitage and Arthur Leigh's company. The version presented is Wilson Barrett's, containing the character of the comic policeman, Bullock, which, enacted by Mr. C. C. Gratton, proves a source of great strength to the play. The unhappy Lady Isabel is played with fine feeling and emotion by Miss Julie Kennard; Mr. Eric Mayne, for his highly-effective acting as Captain Levison receives as tributes the execrations of the "gods"; and Mr. Alfred Beaumont acts with well-assumed dignity as Carlyle. Mr. Paul Belmore as Justice Hare, Mr. Cyril Hayward as Dill, Miss Ethel Hardacre as Cornelia, Miss Violet Throrold as Barbara, and Mr. Campbell Goldsmid as Richard Hare, rank among other successful character-studies.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Lester Collingwood; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Bernardo. — *The Blind Foundling* worthily sustains the reputation of this popular theatre as the central house of melodrama in Birmingham. Mr. Chas. H. Phelps, the author of the play, submits a study of the artist, Gerald Dalton, which is replete with clever characterisation; and Mr. Harry Tilbury, who shares with Mr. Phelps the responsibility of management, does some smart work, variety and otherwise, as Dick Dobbins; Miss Mabel Hall invests the rôle of the foundling Fairy with much pathos; Miss Belle Tilbury acts with delightful sympathy and charm as Isabel; Mr. Frank Harvey plays the rôle of Parson Ray with much ability; Mr. Alfred Geo. Fry distinguishes himself in the rôle of the adventurer, Mark Redman; and Mr. Geo. Rufus displays acumen as Detective Downham. Mr. John Byron as Algy, Miss Amy Dalby as Viola, and Miss Millie Doris as Winnie, are also satisfactory.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr. Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Alexander.—Kennedy's Komics continue to supply the entertainment here at popular prices for the summer months. The programme of artists, which has already been fully described, is again headed by the Electric Animated Pictures.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; General-Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Whittles. — *An Abandoned Woman* is being presented at this successful suburban house by Mr. Harry Foxwell. Miss Georgette Thiery represents the adventuress, Ninon, in a bold and clever style; and her associate in villainy, Phillipe Malvoisin, excites due antipathy in the capable acting of Mr. Bernard Leill. Mr. Wolston Foster serves excellently well as the hero, Captain Seaton; Miss Kathleen Magee shows estimable qualities as the wife, Eleanor; Mr. J. Abbott is successful as Sir Marmaduke; Mr. George Gormley is noticeable for his acting as Saunders, the artist; and the efforts of Mr. Will Percy as Paddy Boyle bring in a rich harvest of fun. Mr. Darcey Kelway shines as Sammy Sharp; and Miss Lily Beverley supports the humour of the play as Sally Sloper.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Matcham.—Harry Lauder, the popular Scotch comedian, is entertaining crowded houses here; Terry and Lambert introduce a scena which is full of burlesque humour; the Holles and Goldman Trio have an amusing mélange, "Oh! Jemima," Georgina Leonard wins loud applause; the Canary company are amusing; Harold Thornley sings some excellent songs in good style; J. H. Cullen, Russell Wallett, and Conway and Leland provide many opportunities for laughter.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Albert Bushell.—Mannon's Merry Maids in a Motor-'bus are an attractive item in the Gaiety bill; James Willard and company present their sketch, *Did He Deserve It?* and the acting all round is excellent; King's College Boys render their glees with effect; Georgina Leonard, from the Empire here, is deputising for another artist; the Andreassan Brothers are expert head and hand balancers; and the Avrignys are smart Japanese jugglers.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—George D'Albert is at the head of a long programme here; the Four Madcaps are responsible for some clever acrobatic dancing; Barton and Franklin submit a smart musical entertainment, which is far above the average; comedy turns are supplied by Arthur Reece, Fred Curran, Harris and Worth, and Barlee and Smith in a duologue entitled *A Rehearsal*. The Brooklands are attractive comediennes; an operatic turn of a high order is provided by W. H. Webb and Edna Branston; Mlle. Sylvesto, in a speciality act, Rebela, eccentric juggler, and the Australian Twin Andersons are excellent turns.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward Foster.—Marie Loftus is attracting crowded houses here, her principal item being *Singers, Past and Present;* the Delevines in their musical entertainment are also favourites; J. P. Ling is a clever mimic; the New Macs are smart knockabouts; Corrie and Dereve's company present the sketch *Heart-Strings*, in which Gladys Hooley is prominent; the Dorrells and the Lannens are applauded for their dances.

BLACKBURN.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page.—The well-known drama *The Octoroon* is the attraction here this week. The company presenting the play is Messrs. Granville and Thorne's, and is excellent in every respect, Mr. Hugh Montgomery as Salem Scudder and Mr. J. O. Stewart as Jacob McClosky being specially good in their respective parts.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—A capital all-round company here includes Rastus and Banks, coloured performers, in their vocal sketch *The Major and the Maid;* Kelly and Gillette, in their original acrobatic act; Carlotta Levey, with popular songs; Lily Sharplin, in impersonations of well-known music-hall artists; Roy Royal, chorus vocalist; Tennyson and Wallis, comedians; the Two Heures, jugglers; and the Paragon Trio of vocalists.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr. Thomas McKenzie's company is playing *Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace* here this week. Mr. Yorke Stephens repeats his clever impersonation of Captain Mowbray, and Miss Marie Illington is seen to the best advantage in her original part of Mrs. Jardine; Miss Frances Vine does well as Mrs. Gorringe, and Miss Mary Webb's assumption of Isabel Kirke is also to be commended; Mr. Maitland Dicker as Colonel Jardine and Mr. W. Brisco Owen as David Cairn likewise deserve praise. *Uncle Joseph* is the title of an amusing curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Owner and Manager, Mr. T. Sergenson.—Miss Florence Baines and company are here again with *Miss Lancashire, Limited.* Miss Baines's lifelike portrayal of the Lancashire lass from Blackburn is intensely amusing. She is supported by a capable company including Messrs. David Donaldson, Robert Turley, Richard C. Hicks, Allan M. Servington, Payne Fletcher, and Misses Anena Walton and Pattie Grove.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller.—Queenie Leighton tops the bill here this week. Other good turns are rendered by Gladys Archbutt, comedienne; May Mars, in a song scena; Walter Munroe, comedian; Norman French, dancer; Allis and Cassati; Lily Currie, vocalist; the Cotton Blossom Quartette of comedians, singers, and dancers; and Vernon and Voyce, comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Messrs. Whitehead and Ramsden; General-Manager, Mr. T. P. Duignan.—A well-varied programme is provided here this week by Woodhouse and Wells, story-tellers and dancers; Madge May, comedienne; Little Ganty, comedian; Ned Graydon, in a musical act; Will Dalton, comedian and patterer; Professor McCann, with his performing dogs; the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; Cherry Lass, comedienne; and Effie White, in her original kaleidoscope dances.

BLYTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Arthur C. Moody.—Mr. Moody has provided a strong attraction here, Mr. Eade Montemore's company being in possession, with Dion Boucicault's drama, *The Streets of London*. Mr. William Rokeby as Badger plays with power, and wins the applause of a delighted audience. As Gideon Bloodgood Mr. Henry Moxon renders good service; Mr. Douglas Cottell scores as Mark Livingstone; and the Jonas Puffy of Mr. Clifford Bown is an amusing piece of comedy acting. After this week the theatre will be closed until Bank Holiday.

BOLTON. — GRAND THEATRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Kenyon.—An excellent programme is supplied by the Three Laurels, who give an original and dashing acrobatic display on the ping-pong table; Maimie Iris, a capital comedienne and buck dancer; Tom Moy, an effective comedian; Bugler T. Carr, a clever equilibrist, &c.; Zaid, the Spanish Moor, in his novel speciality, assisted by Orienta; Wyndham and Waters, comedy vocalists, in *The Professor and his Pupil;* Hinton and Wooton, who play football on bicycles; Wee Jessie, in song and dance; H. R. Friscari, hat manipulator and juggler; Tom Moore, comedian; the Bouncing Dillons, in their gymnastic comedy act; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSTON.—PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Geo. Saphrini.—Tom Poole's Pierrots continue to draw large audiences. On fine evenings they perform on "the Green." The Brothers Carr, who provide the speciality this week, are clever head-to-head balancers and musicians.

BOURNEMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr. Mouillot; Manager, Mr. Rowland Stewart.—Mr. Henry Swinerd's company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, a musical comedy novelty, under the direction of Mr. J. W. Cordiner, opened here on Monday to an appreciative house. Mr. Edward Kipling bore off the honours of the evening with his impersonation of Silas Crump, and received capital support from Miss Dorothy Desmonde, who has a pleasing voice, and acted the heroine capitally; Miss Nellie Harcourt's lively style is well suited to the part of Judith. Other good performances came from Mr. Walter Ashley, Mr. Henry C. Ward, and Mr. Alfred Stretton. A variety scene, in which the Misses Lillie and Mabel Blake, Miss Nellie Harcourt, and Mr. Edward Kipling are conspicuously successful, takes place in the third act.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Laidler; Acting-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth.—Mr. Geo. Testo Sante's company opened here on Monday in *The Life of a Showman*. Mr. Sante appears as the hero Brien Leader, and in the circus scene his feats of strength as the showman are greeted with much applause. Mr. Chas. Osborne scores as Sir Noel Hartland, and subsequently the billposter Stickers; Mr. Edward Warden is good as the Rev. Cyril Arliss; Mr. J. G. Sante, who represents Laurie Grey, plays a selection on the violin with good effect; and Mr. Johnny Clegg is a comical Ben Tin Tac. Mr. Logan Darra as Hendrick Marais, Mr. Frank Sante as Tommy Allthere, and Mr. Fred Vaughan as Ned Chuckers all do good work. The Brothers Testo, with Clown Wimples, are conspicuous in the circus performance. Miss Amy McNeill plays with force and feeling the part of Hendrick's scheming confederate, Agatha; Miss Enid Trench is a charming Lena Hartland and Miss May Neilson a vivacious Angeline Mutton; Miss May Warden finds favour as Lynette Leader; and Master Harry Warden is capital as Dickie.

EMPIRE.—Chairman, Sir H. E. Moss; Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—Nellie Wallace, who heads the bill has a flattering reception; so too has Alexandra Dagmar. The company also includes Mlle. Olive, lady juggler; Harding and Ah-Sin; Harold Finden and Mrs. Finden in sketch *A Desperate Remedy;* Nelson's Newsboys; the thought-reading dog "Pilu"; George Formby, comedian; Celest, wire performer; and Derenda and Green, comedy jugglers.

PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. H. C. Arnold, jun.—The programme here includes the Eight Sunrays, dancers and vocalists, in "La Maxixe"; the Three Delaries in the sketch *The Demon Grotto;* Oakdene, the comedy ventriloquist; Percy Curry, a favourite pantomime artist; Blanche Marion, comedienne and dancer; Kisbey, in *The Call Boy;* Molly Doon; Baroni and Kemp, quick-change artists; Adey Spencer; and Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

ALFRESCO PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Popplewell, Bentley, and Kilduff.—The newcomer this week is Fentoni, a clever speciality artist; Rosa Leader, musical mimic, is re-engaged. A benefit performance last week for the lifeboat fund last week resulted in some £30 being handed over to the local fund.

BRIDLINGTON.—ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE. — Manager, Mr. Charles Palmer.—The promenade concerts given by Herr Sigmund Winternitz and his fine orchestra, continue to attract large audiences. Miss Emily Waddington, who is paying a return visit, has been nightly receiving an ovation for her finely-rendered songs; Mr. Tom J. Morton and his Concert company are this week introducing their entirely new entertainment, *High Life Below Stairs*, in which Miss Maggie Bowman, as Jane, shines in her humorous songs and amusing "business"; Mr. Arthur Chapman's fine baritone voice is heard to advantage in both songs and concerted numbers; Miss Empsie Bowman, as the lady's maid, renders some charming numbers, and Mr. T. J. Morton, as the Page, keeps the audience in good humour by his humorous impersonations and droll interpellations.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Henry Hague.—Herr Simon Wurm and his Imperial Viennese Band are making a great name by their fine performances at the Promenade concerts. Herr Morton's oboe solos especially stamping him as a great artiste on that instrument. The vocalists have been Miss Marie Stiven, a fine pure contralto, and Mr. Dan Billington, the Yorkshire baritone; Miss Lily Crawforth is the week-end vocalist.

THE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. A. Hubner.—The performances here are now given twice daily, the grounds surrounding the Palace being utilised in the fine weather for afternoon performances by the Palace Pierrots, followed by the show of animated pictures. At the evening show this week the chief attraction is the Manards, who accomplish some remarkable feats of precision in shooting with rifles, &c.; the Rushforths, in their illustrated songs, are well received; Leonard and Lari appear in amusing sketches, and Miss Mai Gilby is clever with her musical specialities.

SUMMER GARDENS.—Lessees, Messrs. Beanland, Bath, and Danton; Manager, Mr. C. Beanland.—Variety is the motto of the lessees of the Gardens, and this week they are giving popular programmes, including an old-fashioned Ethiopian night, when the members of the Waterloo Pierrots appear in Christy Minstrel garb, and give favourite negro songs and sketches.

BRIGHTON. — GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter.—*The Shaughraun* occupies the boards here this week, and is admirably staged. Mr. George H. Asquin gives a very artistic impersonation of Conn, the Shaughraun; Miss Daisy Halling makes a highly effective Clare Ffolliott, and Miss Lucy Murray is delightfully natural and winsome as Moya Doolan; Mr. H. C. Lanceley submits a capital character-study as the parish priest, Father Doolan; Mr. Ronald Adair achieves much success as Captain Molineux; Mr. Paul Barry-Lewers as Corry Kinchela, and Mr. Sam T. Pearce as Harvey Duff are well placed; Mr. Marmaduke Wetherell acquits himself admirably as Robert Ffolliott; and satisfactory support is given by Miss Lydia Mannington as Arte O'Neale; and Miss Kate Walford as Mrs. O'Kelly.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Graydon; General-Manager, Mr. Ernest Lepard.—There is an excellent company here this week. The Australian Musical Comedians, Leslie Brothers, make a big hit in their original act, *Music Mad;* Arthur Lennard, comedian, is enthusiastically received; the Three Cape Girls are very smart dancers in long boots; Florrie Robins wins hearty applause for her topical song; Lizzie Fletcher is a smart and entertaining comedienne; Alberto, a conversational deceptionist and eccentric magician, submits an excellent turn; Dale and O'Malley are clever comedians; Jenevera Tree is a charming and accomplished vocalist; Letine gives a good turn; and the Alhambrascope Pictures are, as usual, very interesting and amusing.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford.—A very attractive programme is sustained here this week. The renowned wrestler, George Hackenschmidt, is a host in himself; on Monday evening he defeated Mr. Charles Herman in 2min. 24secs., and Gunner Moore in 5min. 14sec.; George Gilbey, a capital comedian, is warmly received; Max Waldon appears with success in an original transformation act; Jack and Evelyn, the popular comedy duo, are very entertaining; Bob Baxter, the genial comedian, maintains his reputation; Grace Langley, comedienne and dancer, wins great favour; the Sisters Poole (Ada and Letta) are accomplished society entertainers; Pictor Roxborough and Fanny Wright contribute a very amusing duologue; Fyne and Hurley afford much fun in *The Coster and the Dude*, and the Barrascope Pictures are interesting.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment-Manager, Mr. A. D. Norman.—The Scarlet Mr. E's versatile and refined masked entertainers, are here this week. Their sentimental and humorous songs, and pianoforte and violin solos are admirably rendered and warmly appreciated; and the whole entertainment, written and produced by "The Jester." Mr. Walter Dowling, is a distinct success; in addition, Mr. Vivian Vivian, the well-known character-actor, submits some excellent character sketches from the works of Charles Dickens, and Banning, "the human mystery," is well received in his female impersonation.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—A new four-act comedy of modern life, entitled *Peggy*, was produced here on Monday evening, and is fully noticed in another column.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. J. Sallmayer; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry de Groot.—The musical-comedy burlesque, *Cinderella, the Little Slavey*, is repeated here this week by Mr. B. A. Rutley's repertoire company; Mr. Frank Major's party of refined entertainers, and Miss Minnie Letta's Sporting Girls are still here; and Miss Vera Ray, a charming vocalist, adds materially to the attractiveness of the various entertainments.

BRISTOL.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. James Macready Chute.—There was a large audience here on Saturday evening, which was the closing night of the season, and the annual benefit of the popular proprietor and manager, Mr. Chute. In the interval between the acts of *San Toy*, Mr. Chute appeared upon the stage to make his customary speech. After the demonstrative welcome of the audience had somewhat subsided, Mr. Chute said:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—It is a great satisfaction to me to have been able to place before you for the concluding week of the season so popular a play as *San Toy*. The selection of this popular musical-comedy for the final performance has, I venture to believe, met with your approval, if I can rightly judge from the splendid gathering before me. I beg you to accept my very hearty thanks, not only for your presence in such large numbers this evening, but also for the generous patronage bestowed throughout the entire season. In reviewing the past six months it is pleasant to dwell on two memorable events; namely, a pantomime which your appreciative support rendered a record, and the Shakesperian revival of *Romeo and Juliet*. The first I will endeavour to eclipse when *Humpty Dumpty* makes his bow next Christmas, and the second received so much encouragement at your hands that the experiment of another production will certainly be attempted on some future occasion. On July 19th, a matinée and evening performance will be organised to clear off the debt on the St. Augustine's Parish Schools. An attractive programme is in course of preparation, which I am sure will commend itself to your hearty and liberal support." Mr. Chute then mentioned various bookings which he had already made for the autumn season, and the various announcements were warmly applauded. The benefit performance was under the distinguished patronage of the High Sheriff of Bristol, Sir George and Lady White, His Honour Judge Austin, the Master of the Merchant Venturers, the President of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce, and various other notable citizens. The theatre will reopen on August Bank Holiday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. F. Crowe.—The comedy-drama, *The Plucky Nipper*, is the attraction here, and it is very well played by Miss Bonwin Carlton's company. Miss Bonwin Carlton acts cleverly, and in vivacious style, the part of Polly Hithard, a domestic servant, who afterwards masquerades as a boy, and is spoken of as the "Plucky Nipper." Miss Evelyn Derwent plays in a sympathetic manner as Ina Fenwick; Miss Kitty Maynard is interesting as the blind girl, Daisy Paget; Mr. Fred Rivers is good in the heavy part of Richard Vanburgh, obtaining excellent support from Mr. Edward Surrey, as Bill Burgess; and other important parts are carefully played by Mr. Pringle Roberts, Mr. Claud Kingston, Mr. Edward Stream, and Mr. Douglas Campbell. The play is nicely staged.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. J. V. Welchman.—Foreman and Fannan, patter comedians, head the programme, and obtain much appreciation; the Three Pirmans have an excellent comedy pantomime-act, *Dans le Jardin*, introducing triple-bar and contortionist business; Slippere, blind pianist and vocalist, obtains much applause; Tony Iveson is amusing in a scena at the piano; Hans and Lux do well as eccentric comedians; Lidden and Hayward amuse with their speciality, "The Midnight Express"; Marie Wilton displays ability as a comedienne; the Sisters Ford are pleasing comedy duettists; and the performance concludes with some good pictures of the destruction of San Francisco, projected by Vernon's Imperial Bioscope.

EMPIRE. — Proprietor, Mr. B. Pearce Lucas; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sid Macair. — Harry Cadle's company is here with the amusing pantomime, *Casey's Court*, in which there are lots of variety song and dance. The Four Charles present a well-staged and clever acrobatic turn; Bessie Butt is charmingly attractive as a soubrette and expert dancer, her "Scarecrow" song and dance obtaining well-deserved applause; Goodfellow and Gregson have an amusing and smart speciality of song, dance, and patter, "The Maid and the Schoolboy"; Gladys Whitton, juvenile vocalist, sings pleasingly, and has a good contralto voice; and both Walter Wallis, comedian, and Arthur Goodman, juggler and patterer, obtain applause. The performance concludes with interesting animated pictures of the Royal Wedding at Madrid.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA, LTD. — Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Fred Watson.—Mr. Frank Lindo is this week affording evidence of his ability as Shylock, with Miss Marion Wakeford as Portia, the clever acting of both being much appreciated by large houses. The production is well staged, and the support given is of excellent quality. The other characters in *The Merchant of Venice* are: Bassanio, by Mr. John F. Traynor; Gratiano, by Mr. Cyril Grier; Antonio, by Mr. J. W. Henson; Prince of Morocco, by Mr. Ulick Burke; Duke of Venice, by Captain Gerald Gambier; Lorenzo, Mr. F. Miles Hodgson; Gobbo, Mr. D. Laurence Doyle; Launcelot, Mr. Geo. Overs; Nerissa, Miss Mary Denver; and Jessica, Miss Muriel Clay, who were each seen to advantage.

BURNLEY.—EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. W. C. Horner.—A varied and entertaining programme is given here this the last week of the season, and is much appreciated by large audiences. The Uessems, two young equilibrists, are applauded to the echo for their clever performance; Mozzetto is a most dextrous manipulator of coins, and Kessanly's troupe of fox-terriers perform a smart series of cake walks, somersaults, and other feats; Bert Woodward, the "cycling coon," is a clever cyclist; Henry Maynard is a very good vocalist; Henri Bekker gives a clever conjuring display; the Schafers show their mastery of musical instruments in a comedy turn, and Hoppitt Toney and Tiny, in the Coster Circus, are highly amusing.

BURY (LANCS.).—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling.—A good programme here includes Lockhart's elephants, introduced by Marbelle, a lady trainer; Little Tony, Miss Nora Layton, Tom Taylor, and Johnny Wilkinson in their humorous sketch, *The Strange Little Stranger*; Mick and Mack, acrobats; Jack Rae, eccentric juggler; Conan and Doyle, comedians; Maud Clyton, comedienne; and Tom Williams, vocalist; are all good. Turpin's ride to York and a Carnival at Nice are depicted on the Ottograph.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; General-Manager, Mr. Broadhead, jun.—The bill is headed by Dr. Carl Herman, hypnotist, electrician, &c. Other items include Mlle. Anna Nanoni, vocalist; Horton and Linden, gymnasts; Ford and Hanson, musicians; Leopold and Lorna, comedy artists; Leon Lorette, vocalist; the Three Bostonians, singers and dancers; and the usual pictures.

CARDIFF.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan.—Mr. Beresford Whitcomb's company is here, in the drama *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. Mr. Beresford Whitcomb appears in the character of Tom Robinson, and submits a capable rendering; Mr. Edward Jephson as George Fielding displays rare histrionic powers; Miss Mabel Lowe's impersonation of Susan Merton quite captivates her audience; and Mr. Tom Seymour as the Australian black deserves special notice.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll.—With Eugene Stratton heading the bill, the Empire has done capital business, the coon singer being a great favourite here. The clever dancers Sandford and Lyons prove particularly smart with their patter; the Remingtons are expert acrobats; the Clarkes are skilful banjoists; Flo Esdale, a charming artist, gains much applause by her sweet vocalism; and Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, has jumped into popularity with his clever imitations. Irene Rose, comedienne and dancer; Will Musgrave, a smart comedian; Alfred Hurley, a capital singer; and the Bioscope, complete an excellent programme.

CARLISLE. — THE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Signor Rino Pepi; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. E. Nicholls.—The Deer Family, who head the bill this week, give a vivid and interesting representation of a settler's life on the Indian frontier. The act is remarkably well staged, and the whole business most realistic and dramatic. Queenie May is a clever little vocalist, who meets with considerable favour; Mr. George Adams is the happy possessor of a fine baritone voice, which he uses with skill in two excellent descriptive songs; James de Voye's wonderful educated horse "Billy" is now quite an old favourite here; Edney and Wade, vocalists and dancers, contribute a smart turn; Reilly and Taylor are capital laughter-makers; and the Swift Trio combine comedy with clever trick cycling. Vernon's Bioscope, with new pictures, is as attractive as ever.

CHATHAM. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr. Geo. G. Ridley. —*The Prodigal Parson*, a three-act melodrama, is here with Miss Bertha Kingston as Fern Godley and Mr. W. V. Garrod in the title-rôle. As an extra attraction the interval between the first two acts is occupied by Lacey's Erascope.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. L. B. Barnard.—The chief attraction here is *Casey's Court*, by the Midget Mimes. Another comedy sketch scoring strongly is *The Substitute*, produced by Sid Cotterell and company. Lacey's Erascope still pleases; while among the variety turns we have Minnie Wren, comedienne; Dick Graham, vocalist; the Sisters St. Julian, prime favourites; Jane Temple, comedienne; and Marie Blythe, serio.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor Capt. H. E. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. J. Donne.—Marie Santoi tops the bill here with her merry little Japs in the musical scena, entitled *The Japanese Tea-Garden by Night*, in which Miss Santoi appears as the Princess Yo San, and is heartily applauded. Raie Walters has an attractive style; the Five Whiteleys give great satisfaction, the tight-wire performance of one of the troupe being particularly smart; the Brothers Zampah are a pair of nimble and daring one-legged artists; also in the programme are Miss Lillie Coleman, soprano vocalist; Chas. Grantley, entertainer; George Maher, with an amusing medley; and the Edisonograph.

COLCHESTER.—HIPPODROME.—Joint Proprietors, Messrs. Fredk. Mouillot and Walter de Frece; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Alen.—Peggy Pryde heads the bill this week, and is received with every manifestation of delight by large audiences nightly. The Three Rubies give an exhibition of trapeze and acrobatic business which is loudly applauded. Prince Kuroki is an entertaining Japanese magician, with a very engaging personality; Percival and Morley present a smartly-written duologue entitled *Turtledoves*; Harry Desmond is a popular character comedian; and the Sisters Charnley excel as dancers. The Bioscope this week shows the O'Brien-Fitzsimmons glove contest, and elephant studies.

COVENTRY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Bennett.—*Honour Thy Father* is being presented by Mr. T. Morton Powell's company, and on Monday night was accorded a hearty welcome by a well-filled house. Mr. Walter M. Cameron acquits himself creditably as the hero, Gabriel Garth; Miss Mabel Coleman gives a pleasing rendering of Lilian Garth; Mr. Clavering Craig is seen to advantage as the unscrupulous villain Duncan Bly. Other characters well represented are Jack Halgard, Mr. Douglas B. Watson; Ned, Mr. W. H. Melrose; Mike Copplestone, Mr. Sinclair Holden; Gertrude Garth, Mrs. Clavering Craig; Poppy, Miss Lizzie Morley; Mercy Merry, Miss Winnie Donovan; and Dr. Sleak, Mr. Frank Eden.

THE HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. T. M. Sylvester.—A very old Coventry favourite, Tom Costello, is here this week, and on Monday night was enthusiastically received. Another turn well liked is that of Charles Mildare and Edna Werne, the former giving a marvellous imitation of various birds. Miss Rose Revell scores as a comedienne; the Les Sprays are clever Continental dancers; Charles Stevens, character vocalist; Will McIvor, a capital vocalist; and the Three Panamas, in an acrobatic and comedy act; and the usual animated pictures are also in the bill.

CROYDON.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Herrick.—Miss Ida Millais' company is here with *No Man's Land*. Miss Florence Lovell is good as Mrs. Poodle; Miss Marie Kildare is capital as Bessie Poodle; and Miss Ida Millais is satisfactory in the rôle of Mary Bathurst. Mr. H. H. Barrington is well to the fore with a conscientious rendering of Mat Marsden; Mr. Henry Herne is at his best as Harry Oaklands; Mr. Fred Morgan acts with strength as Silas Moor; Mr. W. H. Monti's Dr. Buxton is a finished performance; Mr. Fred Waller is great in the dual rôles of Gilbert Bathurst and Captain Norman Bathurst; Mr. G. K. Ashton distinguishes himself as Solomon Jacobs; Mr. Johnnie Leoni makes Thompson Poodle a droll personage; Mr. Vaughan Howe makes the most of Captain Spencer; and Mr. George North deserves a word of praise as Owen Rushton. The drama is creditably staged.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietor, Mr. Walter Gibbons; Manager, Mr. Eustace H. Jay.—The bill of fare here is giving general satisfaction. Phil Ray, comedian, receives quite an ovation; Primaveel, juggler, is remarkably smart; the Ferraris bring down the house with their dancing; Tom Stuart, character actor and mimic, is applauded; Amy Clevere is an artistic comedienne and dancer; Gertrude Glenn's company, and the inimitable Passmore Brothers, keep the house agog with merriment in sketch, *Larks in the Park*; much laughter is caused by Wal Pink's workmen, in knockabout sketch, *Repairs*; and interesting turns are given by Lux's trained dogs; Maggie Kimmer, serio and dancer; and Charles Craston, comedian.

DARLINGTON.—THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. James Bell.—Another good variety company is here this week. The Three Renards give a capital gymnastic ariel show; Fred Keeton, comedian, is successful; the Breton troupe score in their pantomimic absurdity, *A Tramp's Picnic*; Molly Wolstenhulme is a charming operatic vocalist; the Harwood's Juvenalles in their novelty sketch *A Children's Christmas Eve*, introduce taking songs and neat dancing; the Three Sisters Geronde, refined vocalists and dancers, and the Kellograph conclude a capital bill.

DERBY.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Orton.—Mr. Dickie Clare's company is appearing here in the new musical farcical absurdity, entitled *Lucky 'Liza*; Miss Madge Brownie, in the title-rôle, is irrestistible, and Miss Madge Locke makes a first-rate Vrginia Blatherwick; Mr. Willie Reid, as William Biffins, is in every way successful; the laughable parts of Peter Petticoe and Barnaby Blatherwick are well played by Mr. James Chippendale and Mr. A. W. Thompson; Mr. Dickie Clare, as Silas Slim, is capital, and Mr. Leonard Markland, as Paul Pettitoe, is most entertaining; the Astor Trio of lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers, give a couple of performances, and well merit the applause with which they are greeted. In the final act Helene and Emilon, Continental novelty gymnasts and equilibrists, provide a smart turn.

PALACE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant Manager, Mr. H. Taylor.—George French, "the amiable idiot," heads the bill here this week; the Regal Operatic Quartette, in delightful selections from *Maritana*, also provide a powerful attraction; their singing and acting being worthy of the highest commendation; Cyril Carl, a clever actor-vocalist, is very successful; May Fallowfield is a charming comedienne; Brothers Zano are clever performers on the triple-bars; the Bonanzas are responsible for a good acrobatic display; and the Sisters Hypatia are pleasing duettists and dancers. The Palace Bioscope submits several amusing films.

DEWSBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, The Northern Theatres Co. Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Asquith.—All the essentials of humour, pathos, dramatic interest, and tender sentiment are found admirably commingled in *Fritz: Our German Cousin*, presented here this week by Mr. Phil Herman's company. The brunt of the comic business is borne by Mr. Phil Herman, whose portrayal of Fritz was prominent in its naturalness and maturity. Mr. Herman sings and dances with much spirit, and his success is instantaneous; Miss Susie Beavan, who possesses ability and a fine physique, makes a comely Katrina, and is also an agreeable singer; Lena, the sister of Fritz, is impersonated by Miss Rubie Maude with pleasing sympathy and studious care; Little Doris Middleton is good as Little Schneider, and her mimicry has much merit; Mr. Stanley Carlton is polished, suave, and incisive in his portrayal of the villainous Colonel Crafton; the good-natured sentimentalist, Augustus, has an able exponent in Mr. Harry T. Butler and Messrs. Henry Lloyd and Fred C. Imbert, in their respective rôles of Bowery Bill and Sambo Squash, lend efficient aid.

DOUGLAS.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Palace and Derby Castle, Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Charles Fox, jun.; Business-Manager, Mr. George Gray.—Mr. Herbert Ralland and his clever company are this week appearing in Haddon Chambers's society melodrama, *Captain Swift*. Miss Minnie Walsh, a charming actress, plays Lady Staunton, and is vivacious and fascinating; Mrs. Seabrook is sincerely interpreted by Miss Nina Zambray; the Mabel Seabrook of Miss Chrissie Ralland has the charm of youth; Miss Kitty Cavendish plays with finish as Stella Darbyshire; the Mr. Wilding of Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont is excellent; Mr. Arthur Dennis is able to get much capital out of the part of Mr. Seabrook; Mr. Richard Walsh does well as Harry Seabrook; the Gardiner of Mr. William Griffin helps the performance, and Mr. James Geldred's Marshall is a study. The scenery and appointments reflect credit on the management. The piece of the evening is preceded by S. Theyer Smith's curtain-raiser, *The Happy Pair*, admirably played by Miss Chrissie Ralland and Mr. James Geldred.

DERBY CASTLE.—Derby Castle was well filled on Monday night with a crowd of holiday-makers. The bright music, the varied-coloured dresses, the picture hats, the decorations of the ball-room, and the rows of Chinese lamps, by which the building is lighted, all combined to make a picture of life and animation not easily forgotten. The floor is in the very best condition, and the music provided by Mr. Harry Woods' orchestra cannot be improved on for dancing. The variety programme is a good one, including My Fancy.

Mr. Frederick Buxton's Pierrots and Sea Village always attract visitors, and his new pavilion will, if the weather does not prove propitious, afford seating accommodation for as many pleasure-seekers as the Manx steamers can bring to our shores, and that is a large order.

DOVER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Ltd.; Managing Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter.—This week the boards are occupied by Messrs. F. C. Dew and Frederick Ross's company in *John Drayton, Millionaire*, a notice of which appears in another column.

THE PAVILION, PROMENADE PIER.—Proprietors, The Dover Thatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred C. Dew; Chairman of Directors, Mr. B. Carter.—The Rawson Family are making their first appearance in this town, and are attracting good houses nightly. Madame S. Rawson is an expert pianiste; Mr. Sidney Rawson is successful as a humourist and reciter; Miss Lelia with violin solos and contralto songs, and Miss Maggie with banjo songs and musical monologues give a charming turn; Master Jack is well received, and Mr. Owen Clark caused wonder by his cleverly manipulated illusions, and wins applause with his conjuring and hand shadows.

THE EMPIRE.—A capital bill is presented here this week. The Sprees give their delightful scena, *Twickenham Ferry*. Florrie Farren sings and dances in a spirited manner; Miss Emily Blanche, the Dutch girl, is well received, and some interesting pictures are shown by the Photo-Bioscope. An amusing turn is contributed by Tom Dunmore, comedian; Dorothy Bell is a great success, and Verender, the man of many instruments, receives much applause.

DUBLIN. — GAIETY THEATRE. — Sole Representative and Patentee, Mrs. Michael Gunn; General-Manager, Mr. Charles Hyland.—The attraction here this week is Miss Alice Chapin's Triple Bill Company. On Monday night the performance commenced with the farcical comedy *Faithful James*, in which Mr. Frederick Parks provides abundant excuses for hearty mirth as the waiter James; while Miss Winsome Etherington acquits herself admirably as Mrs. Melville; the part of Admiral Vincent has a good representative in Mr. J. Butler, and Miss Paula Fernau is excellent as Mrs. Duncan; Mr. Harold Chapin is exceedingly good as Harry Duncan, and the rôle of Phillip Melville is well played by Mr. H. A. Welchman. A one-act drama, entitled *Shame*, follows, in which Mr. H. A. Welchman as Dr. Hewett, Miss Alice Chapin as Annie, and Mr. J. Butler as Dr. Conway are all commendable in their respective parts. The concluding piece, the musical comedy *A Pantomime Rehearsal*, was well received. Mr. Frederick Park causes much amusement in the part of Lord Arthur Pomeroy, and Miss Alice Chapin faithfully portrays the rôle of Lady Muriel Beauclerc; Mr. H. A. Welchman is well suited as Jack Deedes, and the rôles of the Hon. Lily Eaton-Belgrave, the Hon. Violet Eaton-Belgrave, the Hon. May Russell-Portman, and the Hon. Rose Russell-Portman could hardly be better played than they are by the Misses Winsome Etherington, Dorothy Firmin, Paula Fernau, and Elsie Chapin respectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Moullot; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Parrington.—The third week of the Hippodrome season commenced here on Monday night. The Kellinos Family, Risley performers in a speciality act, *A Fête in Venice*, are deservedly applauded, and Mr. Alfred Lester, assisted by Miss Hilda Scarisbrick, appear in an amusing skit, entitled *The Scene Shifter's Lament*; the Sisters Llewellyn, operatic duettists, gain a cordial reception, and Colby and Way are nightly recalled for their smart ventriloquial entertainment; Yags and Mary Trio submit a sensational and daring cycle act, and Germaine, "the Wizard," does some remarkably clever tricks; as vocalists and dancers Les Belles Americaines excel; and Charles Ulrick, barrel king; Maud Prenton, refined comedienne, and the Royal pictures add their share to the general enjoyment.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager Mr. J. W. Whitbread; Acting-Manager, Mr. John M. Dawson.—The Trinity College Amateur and Dramatic Club are fulfilling a week's engagement here, and are producing Sheridan's comedy, *The Rivals*, and *His Excellency the Governor*.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr. C Irvine Dawson.—Mr. Sydney James's Strolling Players company is here this week with a good variety programme. The artists engaged include Miss Madeline Rossiter, Miss Clarice May, Mr. G. W. Desmond, Mr. Alfred Wooton, and Mr. Sydney James in several contributions, which are highly appreciated by large audiences.

EMPIRE. — General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager and Secretary, Mr. George H. Marsh.—Mike S. Whallen, the well-known comedian, is paying a return visit here this week, and repeats his former success. J. Alexander and company's sketch, *The Troubles of a Tourist*, causes roars of laughter, and Andy Fagan is a comedian of more than ordinary merit; the Sutcliffe Family, Scottish pipers and acrobats, receive due recognition, and Madge Osmund is a clever male impersonator; Howard and Collinson's sketch, *The Porter and the Parcel*, scores successfully, as does also the Northern Troupe of International Dancers; Gus Garrick's "Tit-Bits" merit applause, and the Empire pictures are up-to-date.

TIVOLI.—General-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr. H. A. Murphy.—George Ripon, vocal comedian, is having a very successful time here, and the efforts of the Three McDonalds, musical entertainers, receive due appreciation; the McNulty Sisters, in Southern pastimes, elicit loud applause, and Hess and Lisbon are seen to advantage in an amusing skating act; Ernest Rees is a comedian with a novel style, and Dolly Harmer, comedienne, has many admirers; the Betsons, eccentrics, are a lively pair; and Jack Martin is a capital comedian; Roose, contortionist, makes a decided hit, and the Bioscope is projecting some new films.

WORLD'S FAIR AND MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. A. James.—The company appearing here includes Syd Mountford, conjurer and performing dog; Lizzie Hayden, descriptive vocalist; Tony Merritt, actor-vocalist, and Cliff Dover, comedian and dancer.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. W. Tilley.—Kennedy's Komiks still hold the boards here. Madame Constance Bellamy takes premier honours this week as a ballad and operatic vocalist. Other good turns are supplied by J. F. Ellis, comedian; Miss Mollie Revell, a "bass-contralto" marvel; Miss Lilian Drake, and several other artists who appeared last week.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred H. Anderson.—A good programme is headed by Abex, the miniature Hercules; the Sisters Gresham are refined duettists and dancers; Dale and D'Argan are exceedingly clever acrobatic conjurers; the Bendons in "That's How They Say Good-night" secured hearty applause; and Mdlle. Florence, globe walker, is highly appreciated.

DUNDEE.—GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. R. A. P. Williams.—A special feature on Monday evening was the beginning of a wrestling match, in which John Fowler, the 9st. champion of Dundee, challenges a number of wrestlers for a massive silver cup; Winnie Scott, a charming coon singer and dancer, gave a most enjoyable turn; and Spencer and Marks scored in an amusing sketch, *The Stage-Struck Waifs*, in which one of their number gave a fine exhibition of step-dancing; Maxford and O'Neill purveyed some capital fooling in their clever turn, which was much applauded; G. W. Walker, the favourite baritone, sang with much effect, and joined Mrs. Williams, the wife of the popular lessee, in a sympathetic rendering of a familiar duet. The Gaiety Bioscope is always a welcome item here, and some capital pictures are shown this week, the effect of which is much enhanced by the delightful accompaniments of Mr. Hartley's orchestra.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—This popular house has been completely repainted and re-upholstered, and is now looking very spick and span. The Kingston Dramatic Company again occupies the boards, and on Monday presented an Irish play, *Rollicking Barney*. Mr. James Somerville scored as a young unfortunate Irish farmer; no less successful was Mr. A. W. B. Kingston as Barney Mulrooney; Mr. Harry Egan was quaintly funny as Billy Bragg; whilst Miss Dora Hamilton as Moreen had many admirers.

EASTBOURNE.—DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. Standen Triggs.—An exceptionally powerful company is appearing here during the first half of the week in *His Excellency the Governor*. Mr. Loring Fernie, clear and intense, is a most effective Sir Montague; Mr. Lennox Pawle is a delightful and humorously dignified Sir Henry Carlton; Mr. H. Marsh Allen is an easy, attractive and buoyant Captain Carew, and Mr. Lionel Mackinder is quite a triumph as Baverstock; Mr. Littledale Power and Mr. Arthur Willoughby are capital as Captain Rivers and Major Kildare; Mr. James Blakeley in a part of some limitations is an amusing sentry, and Mr. R. H. Sherard gives good help as the Butler. Miss Ethel Matthews, bright, fascinating and charming, is a very able Stella de Gex; Miss Janet Alexander is a girlish and dainty Ethel Carlton, and Miss Dolly Jones is successful as Mrs. Wentworth-Bolingbroke. Under the title of *A Waste of Time*, a clever and interesting entertainment is given as a curtain-raiser. Mr. Mackinder dances lightly and gracefully; Mr. James Blakeley sings in his best comic style; Mr. Marsh Allen delights the audience as a reciter; Mr. Loring Fernie declaims in his "heaviest" manner; Mr. Littledale Power supplies the instrumental music at the piano, and Mr. Lennox Pawle is an informal interlocutor.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes.—Mr. Harold Payne and his company are appearing here in *Petronella*. Mr. Harold Payne looks and sings well as Captain Phillipe; Mr. Arthur Lenville causes many laughs as Sergeant Bodega; Mr. Harry A. Gribben is a marked success, and contributes a clever performance as Governor Salutia; Mr. Alfred H. Majilton is a judiciously reserved and impressive Marquis Circumvita, and Mr. Fred Hill as Duc de Ceacida and Mr. Ivor Harvey as Posada give excellent help. Miss Zoe Gilfillan is a very pleasing and natural Petronella, and uses a fine voice well; Miss Alice Rene is a commanding and dignified Queen Cassilda; Miss Marie Ault is a most amusing Step-Annie, and her clever comedy work is one of the bright successes of the evening. The Four Arosas are a troupe of very good Spanish dancers. The scenery and dresses are worthy of particular mention.

THE HIPPODROME.—General-Manager, Mr. Harry Day; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Smith.—The Karno troupe of comedians are provoking roars of laughter by the funny and clever business introduced into the two sketches, *Mumming Birds* and *Jail Birds*. Terry and Bentley have a cleverly varied and very popular duologue which goes well; Cline and Clark are admirable dancers; Mr. Harry Coates scores as the singing navvy; Miss Florrie St. Roy is a pleasing comedienne; Miss Amy Elcock is a success as a singer and dancer, and the pictures complete the bill.

ECCLES.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Wardie and Potasch; Manager, Mr. P. Potasch.—The Colley-Dryden Combination is appearing twice nightly; Walter Whiteley, comedian, meets with approval; Will Percival gives a creditable exhibition of clog dancing; the Arizona Troupe of jugglers, acrobats, and contortionists are clever; and Mike Johnson proves very amusing. Mme. Ada Colley is in splendid voice, and her efforts are deservedly rewarded by loud applause; the "Comical Cleaners" prove a really laughable, and, at the same time, clever turn; Madge Mayfield, the premier exponent of dancing, is afforded a pleasing reception; Mr. Leo Dryden renders "Bachelor's Boys, Farewell," &c., in masterly style; and the programme concludes with animated pictures.

EDINBURGH.—ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. T. Minshull.—In the course of their tour the members of the Irish National Theatre Company have visited Edinburgh this week, and have presented the following plays from their répertoire—*A Pot of Broth, Riders to the Sea, The Building Fund, Spreading the News, In the Shadow of the Glen; Hyacinth Halvay*, and *Kathleen ni Houlihan*. The characters in these little pieces are quite recognisable types of the peasantry of the West of Ireland, and the plays have been agreeably performed by the company. The acting, if somewhat lacking in finish, is always interesting, and the brogue is spoken with irreproachable correctness. Miss Sara Allgood stands out prominently from her confrères by the range of her powers. In the gloomy, yet impressive piece, *Riders to the Sea*, her impersonation of a sorrow-stricken old woman is vivid and touching, while her acting of the miserly Mrs. Grogan in *The Building Fund* is equally artistic. Mr. W. G. Fay, the stage manager of the company, shows considerable ability as a comedian; and Miss Marie O'Neill and Miss Brigit O'Dempsey are both promising actresses. A feature of the performance is the admirable rendering of old Irish airs on the violin by Mr. Arthur Darley. Mr. Darley plays with fine feeling and sympathetic instinct, and his efforts meet with the warm approval of the audience.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting - Manager, Mr. C. Finch-Hatton.—The programme here this week includes several very entertaining turns. Mr. Ernest Shand, with his crisp, clever style, is highly amusing alike in patter and song, and receives the honour of a double recall; Martin Adeson and company make the most of rather scanty material in a farce, entitled *The Masked Lady*, in which Mr. Adeson gives proof of his ability in impersonation; The Automatus are funny in their sketch, and the Althoffs give amusement and pleasure to the audience by their musical turn; Mr. Will Mitcham plays skilfully upon flageolet and saxophone; Miss Maud Ross delights with her neat dancing, and Miss Claire Beasy shows what patient training can do with that unmanageable animal the cat. Miss Frances Letty, an American singer of coon songs, goes through her turn with praiseworthy vigour, and a charming child singer is heard in the person of pretty Miss Kathleen Cogan; Jean Privet's famous Rocking Girls introduce boot dances and a novelty in the form of a rocking chair dance; Mr. Ernest Tilbury, a capital singer, is applauded for his rendering of illustrated songs, and the Bioscope completes an excellent bill of fare.

FARNWORTH.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Morton Powell.—Miss Edith Isabelle's company in *The Girl From the Halls* is paying a visit here this week. Mr. Chas. Ross gives a capital performance as the Rev. Twinkle; Mr. G. Fisher as the Hon. Richard Graham is responsible for a clever character study; and Jack Weston has a capable exponent in Mr. G. Elsworth. Miss Edith Isabelle as Janie keeps the house in continual laughter throughout the performance, and is to be complimented on her lively assumption of the part. She is well assisted by Miss Connie Laurie as the Hon. Frederick Humphum. Miss Frances Allen as Minnie Weston sings very nicely; and Miss Helen Douglas ably fills the part of Mrs. Twinkle. The Mascotte trio of dancers also appear with success.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. W. Rowland.—Mr. Fred Winn's company in the farcical comedy, *Niobe*, is here this week. Mr. Harry Paulton is irresistible as Peter Amos Dunn, a part with which his name has been so long associated; Mr. J. Edward Pearce does extremely well as Corny Griffen; Mr. Harry Paulton, jun. makes a hit as Philip Innings; Mr. H. Asheton Tonge renders valuable assistance as Hamilton Tomkins; and Mr. George Farrow as Parker Sillocks is also well placed. Miss Lucie Verrier gives a charming performance as Beatrice Sillocks; Miss Lillian Brennard makes the most of her opportunities as Madeline Mifton; the Hattie Griffen of Miss Violet Hollom creates a lot of amusement; Miss Kate Turner makes an excellent Caroline Dunn; Miss Mary Kilpack evokes roars of laughter by her impersonation of Helen Griffen; and Miss Annie Esmond deserves high praise for her rendering of Niobe.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs. Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd.; Local Manager, Mr. J. Fenton Walsh.—A good programme is presented here this week. Miss Alice Braunstein delights her audience with her pleasing contributions; Miss Ida Freeman is a charming comedienne, and is much applauded for her dancing; and the Imperial Austrian Band, under the direction of Her Franz Mersel, is a strong attraction.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. A. Sitter.—Miss Florence Venning, contralto, is paying a return visit here this week, and is as popular as ever; Mr. Sydney Locklynne, mimic and raconteur, scores a success; and the Ladies' Blue Salon Band and the Animated Pictures are much appreciated.

GATESHEAD.— METROPOLE THEATRE.— Lessees, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Thomas France.—Miss Marie Menzies and company are appearing here in the drama, *A Rogue's Daughter*. Mr. Frank V. Fenn makes a capital hero, and Mr. Roy Gordon's portrayal of Sir George Mynard is well done. Mr. Richard Ferris depicts the villainous Colonel Forster with good effect; and to Mr. A. Hall-Menzies much praise is due for his humorous portrayal of 'Ercules. Miss Marie Menzies achieves a triumph in the dual rôles of Lady Mynard and Mrs. Jenkins. Miss M. E. Robertson scores in the part of Priscilla Jenkins; Misses Millie Gordon and Madge Devereux are successful in their respective characters.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. M. S. Hammond; General-Manager, Mr. Joe May.—The programme submitted here is of a first-class order. First and foremost come the Harmony Four, who are awarded the highest praise for their vocal and musical contributions; the Waldrons are a very amusing pair; the lady of the twain being also a smart dancer; Herbert La Martine is an eccentric dancer and bâton manipulator of the first class; Hector and Paulus are smart acrobats; Mark Leslie, a coon impersonator, makes a hit; and Miss Flo Deighton, a double-voiced vocalist, does likewise. Jack Crawley, mimic and raconteur; Wilson Roberts, actor-vocalist; and the pictures by the King's bioscope complete the bill.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bolam and Bacon; General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stephen Smith.—Occupying the leading line here is Harry Brown, an excellent coloured comedian; Stanley and Vandyke contribute an extremely funny sketch, entitled *A Broken Promise*; Annie Cohen sings two songs excellently; and Sibb and Sibb are responsible for a clever acrobatic act. The Calcotts submit a dancing and musical act which is well received; and the bill is completed by Billy Young, a local newsboy mimic; Miniature Marie, vocalist; and the Coolvilles, comediennes.

GLASGOW.—KING'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager pro tem., Mr. Percy Humphrys.—This week an interesting triple bill, embracing drama, farcical comedy, and grand opera, is being submitted by Mr. Andrew Moir's company. The first piece on the programme is *Andrew Paterson*, a dramatic episode in one act, in which Mr. Percy Marshall plays the title-part with fine effect; the other two characters, Dick Poole and Rosie, having handsome representatives in Mr. Charles Hanbury and Miss Lilian Hallowes. *The Major's Double*, a brisk and amusing comedy, supplies the farcical element. The parts of the irascible Major Prendergast and his counterpart John Cockie are capitally filled by Mr. J. B. Gordon and Mr. Percy Marshall respectively; Mr. Charles Hanbury is well suited as Jack Jannaway; Mr. James Danvers makes the most of his opportunities as Tim Blake, while a highly eccentric page boy is supplied by Mr. W. B. Frecar; Miss Lilian Hallowes and Miss Dorrie Roberts are charming as the young wives Madge and Daisy; and Miss Eilly Helene gives sufficient character to the part of Norah Sullivan. The third item is the new miniature opera *The Gamester*, which is personally conducted by the composer, Ainlf Hjorvard. In the tenor part Mr. Andrew Roy sings with great brilliance and power; the rôle of Marjorie is allotted to Miss Dorothy Southgate, who possesses a voice of great purity and sweetness; while the remaining character, Raphael, is represented in good style by Mr. Charles Cautley.

METROPOLE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Gillespy.—Mr. J. W. Whitbread's company is presenting *Sarsfield* here this week with admirable results. The part of Sarsfield is cleverly embodied by Mr. Robert Faulkner; Miss Cecilia Dare submits an artistic rendering of Lady Honor de Burgh; Mr. Dane Clarke is excellent in the rôle of General de Genkle; Mr. Henry Forrest proves very effective as the Duke of Wurtemburg; as Terry Hogan Mr. James O'Brien is very amusing; Miss Monica Kelly is good as Eilly Blake; and Miss Madeline Hurst plays Lady Rose with admirable effect. Mr. Harry Richardson is equal to the demands made upon him as Hans Oosterdam, and Miss E. F. Brady does well as Molly. On Friday the drama *Willy Reilly* was the attraction.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. Charles Mussett.—A good all-round company is billed here this week. Bransby Williams, in selections from his répertoire, is installed first favourite, his impersonation of the showman of bygone days being exceptionally clever; while his reading, entitled *The Student* causes much merriment; Mendel, the blind pianist, meets with a flattering reception. Owing to the unfortunate accident to Miss Dot Stephens (who nearly lost her life on the railway), the management secured the services of Miss Myra Stanfield, comedienne, to fill her place, which she did with much acceptance. A well-played sketch, entitled *The Freak's Revenge*, is presented by Fred Conquest and company; and the singing and dancing of Nellie Martell are much enjoyed. The other members of the company include Ergotti and King Luis, risleyists; Walter Curtis, comedian; Jagos, duettists and dancers; Francis and Melli, in a novel eccentric act; and the American Bioscope.

ZOO HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd., and E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. H. Bostock.—John Tiller's company in *Doon the Water* is fulfilling a second week's engagement, and delighting large houses with this popular and breezy spectacle. Myra Stanfield, comedienne, is quite sprightly in a dainty song, and the charming musical act by the Jackson Family is deservedly applauded. The novel athletic performance of the Klos Sisters is marked by grace of movement and strength of muscles; Lady Julia is undoubtedly a phenomenon, well described as "the ape with the human brains"; a clever musical comedy turn is given by Ross and Grayson. The Bioscope concludes a programme most suitable to the season.

PAVILION, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Samuel Lloyd.—The star turn here is Herbert Lloyd, whose quaint eccentricities keep the audience in roars of laughter all the time he is on. Donaldson Bros. and Ardel give their clever zoological sketch, which proves as popular and as enjoyable as ever; Louie Collier, assisted by Fred. Hudson, contributes the vocal success of the evening in a scena introducing several popular songs and duets; Mlle. Zelda plays a selection of popular airs on various novel instruments, and is well received. That dainty little comedienne, Nora Emerald, delights the audience with her clever songs and taking style; the Carlyles give a display of acrobatic dancing; Will Souls does well with his laughing song; L. B. Athol gives a dramatic song in praise of his briar pipe; and Allan and Hart are well received in their song and dance turn.

PALACE.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry McKelvie.—Fred Cary, comedian, tops the bill here, and justifies that position; another interesting and amusing turn is that of Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, jugglers and jesters. Other notable names include B. R. Day, champion runner, with exhibitions on a special track; Lily Lena, comedienne; Will Driscoll, comedian and dancer; the Holloways, expert wire-walkers; Lillian, lady cyclist; the Sisters Redfern, a smart pair of vocalists and dancers; and the Bioscope with a novel series of pictures.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Ltd.; District-Manager, Mr. S. Gething; Resident-Manager, Mr. B. G. Maclachlan.—Captain Bevan's Gordon Highlanders go through many intricate evolutions in neat style, and their wall-climbing display is wonderfully good; Macdonald's Melody Makers contribute a novel musical turn, which is well received; the McConnell Family have always been big favourites in Glasgow, and their welcome is again hearty; Griff comes with his new scena, representing himself at home rehearsing, and gets laughs in his own easy style; the New York Nippers are smart dancers and sweet singers, and their little comedian is a clever youngster; Eily Adair sings and dances neatly; the Warsaw Bros. with their musical turn are in their second week; Clown Barker and Miss Rozsika shows some cleverly trained dogs, ponies, &c.; Hector Adair, Scotch comedian, and the Bioscope complete a first-rate programme.

**GRAVESEND.

HANLEY.—GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. Biphinstone; Manager, Mr. Alfred Edwardes.—Another excellent programme is submitted this week. Miss Lil Hawthorne is at the head with clever vocal contributions; G. H. Elliott, "chocolate coloured coon," scores a distinct success; Frank Cass sings admirably; Athas and Collins are capital humorists; Marie Reeve is a comedienne and dancer of ability; Baroux and Bion, in their funny acrobatic business, are much appreciated; Bessie Benson is a capable dancer, and Urbanora shows amongst other pictures Spearmint's victory in the Grand Prix.

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager; Mr. C. Fielding Smith.—This week the attraction at this popular theatre is Messrs. Frazer-Brunner and Gilbert Heron's company in the *Superior Miss Pellender*. Miss Jessie Danvers is an excellent Mrs. Pellender, and Miss Alice Belmore, as Miss Pellender, does good work, and is greatly appreciated; a very clever performance is given by Mr. George Belmore as the boy Noel; the Misses Ramsey and Bowes are responsible for the parts of Edith and Nancy, both well played; Mr. Gilbert Heron is good as the nervous Mr. Tister. *The Superior Miss Pellender* is preceded by *Kit's Atonement*. Mr. Douglas Wentworth's company in *The Bauble Shop* is billed for the last three nights of the week.

HARTLEPOOL. — EMPRESS. — Proprietors, Messrs. Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr. Harry Burns.—The sporting fraternity are being well catered for this week, the programme consisting of a cinematograph exhibition of the Brett-Nelson fight for the championship of the world, which is clearly shown on a film between 5000 and 6000 feet long; Kid Gwyn, America's ball-puncher, gives a smart exhibition of his skill, and the old favourite, Frank Coyer, is here again.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr. J. J. Scott; Manager; Mr. Herbert Nicholls.—This week Yorick and Yorick, unique acrobatic comedians, give a clever show; while Capita, an up-to-date living marionette; Mr. Alex. Fox, a smart ventriloquist; Miss Katie More, comedienne, and Lake and Logan, in their original absurdity, *The Gunner's Lunch*, assist in a capital programme.

HASTINGS. — HIPPODROME. — Resident and General-Manager, Mr. Albert Mathams. — Miss Daisy Clements, a pleasing vocalist, takes the place of honour on the programme this week. An interesting sketch is introduced by Frank Elliston and company, entitled *Aunt Matilda*; the bioscope films are a source of great amusement; Stevens and Rennior delight the audience with their patter and dancing; a clever turn is given by Captain J. A. Davies and his black and white Zouaves in an exhibition of lightning drill and wall-scaling; Miss Nellie Chandos, comedienne and dancer, has many admirers; some very superior acting is shown in a romantic episode of 1770, a sketch which is much appreciated; Harry Champion, with well-sung songs, finishes a good entertainment.

PIER PAVILION. — Pier-Master, Mr. R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr. J. D. Turner.—Mr. A. B. Tapping and a first-class company are appearing in Mr. H. A. Jones's interesting play, entitled *The Dancing Girl*. Mr. Tapping is an excellent representative of Reginald Slingsby; Mr. Frederick Sargent gives a finished piece of work in the part of the Duke of Guisebury; as John Christison, Mr. George Mudie, jun., submits a fine example of dignity and subdued force; David Ives is well played by Mr. Harry Collier; a good impersonation of Mr. Crake is given by Mr. Cecil Murray; Miss Eva Bayley is satisfactory in both her dual characters, but excels as the old lady, Mrs. Christison; a charming rendering of Sybil Crake is given by Miss Clarissa Selwynne; Miss Cherry Sargent submits an effective interpretation of Faith Ives; Drusilla Ives is well represented by Miss Alice Farleigh, her sympathetic embodiment of the part deserving the highest praise.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master and Entertainment Manager, Mr. Elvey Thomas.—The comedy, entitled *My Artful Valet*, occupied the boards here the early part of the week, followed later on by *The Scarlet Clue*. In the first piece, Miss Grace Warner, an actress of considerable dramatic ability, plays the principal part in the character of Mrs. Lovering, a young widow; the lady is capitally seconded by the smart acting of Mr. George Gordon, who represents Mr. Leopold FitzJocelyn; Mr. John Tomlinson as the retired tanner is an excellent character sketch; and Jessie is successfully depicted by Miss Lizzie Palmer. Mr. Leighton Leigh gives an intelligent performance of Count Evitoff; the two Generals of the Russian Army are well sustained by Mr Andre and Mr. J. H. Grayson; an adequate interpretation of FitzJocelyn's valet, Spinks, is submitted by Mr. Reginald Brown; the parlour-maid, Parker, and Mrs. Lovering's maid, Kitty, are well portrayed by Miss Amy Lyle and Miss Kathleen Cranston.

HUDDERSFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. M. Robinson.—The great attraction here this week is Chung Ling Soo, whose conjuring tricks make him a great favourite. The Three Schaffers execute a number of clever and difficult gymnastic feats; a large amount of amusement is derived from Frank Keegan and company in their bicycle absurdity, the riders showing great ability; the Five Zerebinis provide a very able musical turn, and are loudly applauded; the vocal portion of the programme is made up by Messrs. Bob Hamilton, Starr and Jerome, Cissie Curlette, Austin and Cowan, Ida Ross, and G. W. Foster.

HULL.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr. W. F. Morton.—After a lapse of years Sydney Grundy's powerful play, *A Bunch of Violets*, again holds the boards at this house. The rôle of Sir Phillip Marchant is admirably depicted by Mr. Norman Partriege, an actor of much merit; while the character of Harker furnishes Mr. Leon Aynscliffe ample opportunity to prove his worth. Mrs. Murgatroyd has in Mrs. T. Greenwood -Croft an excellent representative; whilst the Violet of Miss Tessa Myers has many fine touches; Miss Florence Russell-Spiers is admirable as Lady Marchant. *A Bunch of Violets* has for a curtain-raiser a pretty little play, *Nan*.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wynn Miller.—The Arnold Bell company is paying an early return visit, and includes in its répertoire *Ben-My-Chree*, *Called Back*, and the *Shaughraun*. A notice of their work appeared so recently that it is only necessary to add that Mr. Bell's Dan Mylrea delighted the audience on Monday evening; whilst the Mona of Miss Lilian Earle was a distinguished representation.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Mortons, Ltd; General-Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—A play new to Hull is *A Noble Brother*, a drama which has acquired fame on two continents. In it Mr. Chas. Carte, an actor of sterling worth, shines conspicuously as Jerry, the tramp. Ably assisting Mr. Carte is Miss Doris Brooke as Nana Leigh. The scenery is worthy of the play.

THE PALACE. — Resident - Manager, Mr. John Barnett. — Mr. George Gray and company are presenting the excellent sketch, *The Road to Ruin*, which holds the audience spellbound. J. A. Wilson is an old favourite here; Vernando, a new ventriloquist, is very smart; Harry Freeman's rollicking songs meet with approbation. Other good turns include William Lee and Helen Bentley, Conn and Conrad, Starr and Leslie, and Walton and Lester.

THE HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Mr. Alfred Graham.—Iona, the enchanted statue, is the top turn, and is presented by two ladies and two gentlemen with good results; the Three Sisters Silcott are vocalists and dancers of much ability; Luigi Salvino is a clever boy musician; Shirley and Ransome present a character-song in which much dramatic feeling is displayed. Other turns include the Fimans, Lilian Elfreda (a good mimic), Auto and Mobil, and Milner Verren.

THE CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Emerson.—A capital selection of pictures are being presented here this week.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. L. F. A. Rogers.—Mr. Louis Cohn's stock company is appearing here this week in *Shadows of a Great City* and other pieces. Mr. George Steel is seen as Tom Cooper, a part which he takes with undoubted ability, and Miss E. Turner-Elliott's acting as Annie and Nellie Standish leaves nothing to be desired; the rôle of Mr. Arkwright is capably filled by Mr. Clement Wakefield; Miss Gwendoline Thorpe makes a suitable Biddy Roonan; Mr. E. Bulwer-Pitt is quite at home as Jim Farren; Mr. Charles D. Pitt successfully represents the unpleasant George Benson, and Mr. Cohn himself gives able assistance as Abe Nathan.

IPSWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. E. G. Boatock. — The week's programme is headed with a very attractive performance by Eight Lancashire Lads, singers and dancers of marked ability; Espinsos and Neilson give a clever display of French, Russian, and coon dances, and the Athlones accomplish some smart displays of muscular feats on the rings. Other turns include Ian Colquhoun, a robust baritone vocalist; Walter Ray, another singer of versatile selections; Elton and Elma, knockabout artists; the Cleveland burlesque company gives a medley of dancing, tumbling, and juggling, and a sketch, entitled *£1000 for a Baby*, by Charles A. East and company.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Acting-Manager, Mr. Jerold E. Reed.—Messrs. Garside and Knowles' company is here with the powerful drama, entitled *The London Fireman*, and Mr. E. L. Garside does full justice to the rôle of Hal Curtis, sen.; Miss Florence M. Daly makes the most of the part of Grace Curtis; Mr. Frank Hertie is well placed as Doctor Gerrard; Miss Nellie Shirley scores as Ida Curtis; Mr. J. Forbes-Knowles is an ideal Hal Curtis, the young fireman, and also appears with success as Colonel Fleming; Mr. Oliver Birrell does well as Viscount Fleming; Miss Nellie Garside is quite at home in the part of Polly Bramble, and Mr. Charles A. Preece is very droll as Nixey Stinger.

LEEDS.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr. R. Ernest Liston. — A sensational melodrama, *The Price of Pleasure*, is being played at the Royal this week by Miss Emily Huby's company. Mr. Howell Webb is responsible for a forceful and convincing presentment of the central figure of the piece, Sir James Featherstone; whilst the leading feminine part of Alice Rivers is an excellent personation by Miss M. Collins; Mr. H. B. Ross portrays with quiet power the important rôle of Gilbert Thompson; the work of Mr. Charles E. Howell as Charles Mordaunt leaves nothing to be desired; Mr. Richard Harris acquits himself with distinction in the comedy part of Sidney Roberts; and Mr. Edwin Ramsdale and Miss Lily Clark are also seen to advantage in leading characters.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden; General-Manager, Mr. C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Bush.—An interesting domestic drama, *A Mother's Love*, is the attraction at this popular theatre, and a good company, organised by one of the authors, Mr. Fred L. Connynghame, includes that gentleman in his original and vastly amusing presentation of the comedy part, Mat Ruddock. Mr. Arthur Rose does good work as the Rev. Paul Wingate; Mr. George Child is strong and effective as the evil-doer, Geoffrey Mannering; a sympathetic portrayal of the vicar's wife, Winnie, is to be credited to Miss Violet Macaree; the child, Marjorie, is cleverly embodied by Miss Bertha Christobel; and other parts are capably handled by Mr. Robert W. Lynne, Mr. S. Clifton, Miss Marjory Murray, and Miss Dorothy Monkhouse.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; District Manager, Mr. T. Gerald Morton; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alex. Galley.—The incomparable Cinquevalli is once again in evidence here, and his wonderful feats of jugglery, served up with a most enjoyable leaven of humour, arouse the liveliest interest and enthusiasm. George Brooks has on this visit enhanced a big local reputation as a clever comedian; a popular vocalist, Lilian Lea, is charming in the vocal scena, "My Borneo Bungalow"; Brett and Orford are successful with comedy and vocal titbits; entertaining comedy and smart dancing are also the specialities of Roberts, Hayes, and Roberts, an accomplished trio; and the Bastiens prove to be remarkably expert acrobats; the Lunelle Sisters do well in song and dance; Ike Scott and Son find favour with their well-known comedy specialities; and Lizzie Daniels, comedienne, contributes her quota to the bill.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. F. W. Wood; General-Manager, Mr. J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Jones.—The clever Scotch comedian Jack Lorimer is a strong line in the week's bill; Fanny and Harry Dent are big favourites in their comedy speciality; and the Ringling Trio are also smart in comedy contributions; the Six Lancashire Lasses win general applause with taking song and dance; Billy Hobbs, coon specialist, is good; there are mystifying feats by Penstone, illusionist; Joe Conway figures as a juvenile comedian; and Dora Lyric, comedienne, also contributes acceptable items.

LEICESTER.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. E. R. Beaumont.—The boards are held here this week by Messrs E. A'Dell and Fred Chabot's company in the interesting drama, *The Romany's Revenge*. A clever young actress, Miss Ethel Ashleigh, plays well as Zamlet; Miss Eva Elws gives a good account of the dual rôles of Lillian Hope and Elspie; Miss Fannie Wallace is a vivacious Dolly Pluck and dances smartly; Miss Lil Francis is capital as Archie; Mr. Charles Gallier makes an excellent impression as the hero, John Hope; and Mr. Harry C. Robinson, as the evil genius, David Renard, is well placed; Mr. David Hamilton, as Bobbie Bloom, is most amusing, and is popular with his songs.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; District-Manager, Mr. Hatton Wharton; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Andrews. — The place of honour amongst a list of clever artists is held by Little Tich. His turn is as bright and enjoyable as ever, and he keeps the audience in the merriest of moods. At the other end are the famous Craggs, who are presenting, for the first time here, their elaborate sketch, *Billy*, an extremely mirth-provoking entertainment, which also allows for a full display of their remarkable powers as acrobats. Marie Kendall, as usual, is heartily greeted, and her songs are rendered in her usual vivacious manner; Stave, the musical Kaffir, gives a clever turn, his patter, playing on various instruments, and big-boot dancing being well received; Steve McCarthy is encored for his exhibition of smart dancing; Ella Retford is an excellent comedienne and dancer; Leah Arden is an attractive vocalist; the American Bioscope is depicting the Royal Bull-Fight in Madrid, and the race for the Grand Prix of Paris. We regret that owing to illness, Mr. Hull (of Fielding and Hull) is unable to appear, but Miss Fielding, the lady partner, does a single turn, and is most successful.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Lapworth.—The principal attraction here this week is Carlotta De Yonson and her excellent company, who are presenting the dramatic sketch, *Crime and the Criminal*, and the comedy sketch, *Apartments to Let*, the parts played by Carlotta De Yonson, Mr. Chas. A. Carlile, Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, and Lee Gilbert being well sustained. The variety portion of the programme is contributed to by Louie Hurman, burlesque actress, who is scoring her usual big success here; Helm and Cozens, who prove amusing in their comedy trifle, *The Doctor and the Patient*; Maudie Vera, a vivacious and popular young comedienne; Walter H. Pallister's American Bioscope, with interesting pictures; and Jack Foley, comedian.

PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Abell, Johnson, and Unsworth. — This week the programme here is contributed to by the following artists, whose efforts are heartily appreciated:—Miss Ruth Nesbit and Mr. Stanley Johnson, in scenes from Shakespeare and old English comedy; Fred Erick, comedian; Dan Lyndon, comedian; Ernest Hildred, baritone vocalist; Edith May, soubrette; and Jeff Lytton, pianist and musical director.

LIVERPOOL. — ROTUNDA THEATRE. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.—*Defending His Honour*, from the able pen of Mr. Lingford Carson, is here this week, with Mr. Fred Granville's principal company. The absorbing story told in the plot has been followed with keen interest, while the dressing of the drama left nothing to be desired. Mr. Fred W. Goddard was in the chief rôle of Douglas Bryce, which he undertook with marked ability; Miss Chrissie Dunbar played most effectively as Ethel, the distressed wife; the unscrupulous scoundrel Stephen Graid found in Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh a worthy exponent; the child part, Jack Bryce, was satisfactorily held by Miss Dorothy Vaughan; Mr. Walter Manfree was good as David Pellar; the George Duncan of Mr. A. Balfour Mackay proved acceptable; and other well handled parts were those of Jack Damish (Mr. Evan Roland), Dick Verison (Mr. Haughton Macaulay), and Trixie Lucien (Miss Ida Mackay).

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles.—The varied programme presented here this week includes the Empire Comedy Four, well trained and artistic songsters; Charles Serra is loudly applauded for his daring equilibristic act; a good turn is that of Illumino Statuo, which is decidedly novel and artistic; Arthur Croxon is an amusing mimic; Dan Thomas is very comical; Billy Burns, the Pit Boy, has a good reception; Sidney Dolf is decidedly clever with his juggling and singing; Violet Ashcroft is also good as a comedienne.

STAR THEATRE. — Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harris Fineberg.—The sensational *10.30 Down Express* has occupied the boards here throughout the week, Mr. Horace Stanley and company paying a welcome return visit. As the manly Jack O'Malley Mr. Charles Burdon played with strong dramatic effect, and proved very popular; Miss Elsie Capell acted with discretion as Bessie Leigh; a capital villain, James Inderwick, came from Mr. George Arthur; Mr. Francis Serle filled the character of the detective, Huntley Mason, with the utmost satisfaction; Miss Evelyn M. Walton proved highly humorous as Letitia Leigh, the "new woman"; and strong support came from Mr. Horace Stanley (Sam Wagstaffe), Miss Clara Santley (Olive Coombes), and Miss Kate Kilpack (Peggy Potts). The immense engine was a particularly striking introduction.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Lingford Carson; Manager, Mr. Fred L. Arthur.—All the old Irish dramas never fail to prove attractive to Liverpool audiences, and this week *The Shaughraun* has, considering the warmness of the weather, been exceedingly well patronised here. The play was admirably mounted and dressed, while Mr. Carson's No. 1 company, which presented it, included some first-class artists. The Conn of Mr. Arthur Byron was full of life and gaiety; a finer Harvey Duff than that offered by Mr. Charles Draycott could hardly be desired; Miss Hettie Senior submitted a Claire Ffolliot which was remarkable for its polish and finish; Miss Daisy Norman did every credit to her work as Moya; Mr. J. Dobson Clyde was a manly Ffolliot; as Father Doolan Mr. M. Morley Carrol acted with discretion and reserve; thanks are due to Mr. Sydney C. Cranston for his Captain Molineux, also to Mr. Ernest J. Fare for his Kinchela; while Miss Louise A. Pardy was a sweet Arte O'Neale, and Miss Louise Millward is to be complimented on her Mrs. O'Kelly.

THE EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Horace Cole.—Neil Kenyon is the big attraction here this week; Horace Wheatley comes with some new things; Auguste Van Biene, with the playlet *The Master Musician*, has a cordial reception; a smart illusion *The Shrine of Ista*r, is introduced by Mr. Fred Carlton; and others in the list are Duncan's Scotch Collies; the Four Olympians; the Seddons; Maud Mortimer; Mariano Sisters; the Jack Theo Trio; and the Larakans.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Heading a capital bill this week are Wilber Hill and Willette Whitaker, who present a unique entertainment of music and song, for which they are accorded hearty applause; the remarkable exhibition of mental telegraphy so skilfully given by the Violas creates much astonishment; Edwin Boyde remains another six nights to put everybody in a good humour; F. De Marcé, with his dogs, ponies, and monkeys, affords a most interesting turn; Stewart and Morgan have a popular speciality, *Leaving Ireland*, into which some well-known Irish melodies are introduced; Billy Williams is an excellent comedian, with taking songs; Frances Haskoll, with illustrated numbers, including "The Boys of the Old Brigade," has had a gratifying reception; Arthur Elvey, with his latest, "The Up-to-date Tipster," proves most acceptable; and among others who appeared are Maidie Scott, comedienne; Recco, with a funny acrobatic act; and Robert Ganthony, entertainer.

NEW PARTHENON. — Proprietor, Mr. Edwin W. Smith.—A new set of very fine motion pictures are being shown here during the week, a number of variety artists giving turns at different periods of the evening. The Tuesday matinées are proving exceedingly popular.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole. — *A Woman's Honour*, by W. H. Dearlove, has been the dramatic sketch produced here this week by the "Royal" stock company. Mr. Percy Boucher created great fun with his Peter Puffkins, Miss Ida Salmon affording him much assistance as Sally Perks; Mr. Robert Wilton held the part of Dr. Ross Cowling with every satisfaction; the Ruel Faut of Mr. Harry Tresham was a well-drawn character; Mr. Sydney Grant played with his accustomed ability as Guy Thiel; Mr. John Burton gave an effective rendering of Sir Rowland Rawson; the Edmund Fitz-Pease of Mr. E. D. Allen proved eminently pleasing; Miss Lina Nazeby made an excellent Mona; and Miss Florence Palmer, a favourite here, very tenderly portrayed Fay.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A welcome return visit of Mr. J. Wright Aitken and company, including Miss Una Wright, has been paid here this week with the sketch *The Streets of London*. In the work, which has proved acceptable, Mr. Aitken gives a capital character sketch as Badger. The rest of the programme is occupied by Charles Coll, who, as a comedian, renders several taking songs, and Violet Mack, a smart serio. The Bioscope pictures, including "The Devil's Wooing," are pretty as well as startling.

PARK PALACE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter De Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. Fred Willmot.—Here this week Will Vay's Juveniles are producing a neat comedy scena entitled *Life in the Slums*, which has proved popular; some attractive character songs are rendered by Violet Beatrice; Wat Tyler has a pleasing scena, *The Deserted Home*; Rita Bell, the Girl from Holland, sings with taste; some clever comedy juggling comes from H. O. Borie; the operatic selections by the Royal Temple Trio, including Mme. Louie Gilbert, are received with every pleasure; and Matt Wilkinson's sketch company evokes continuous laughter with *The Registry Office*.

HAYMARKET.—Lessee, Mr. Fred Willmot.—A particularly good line here this week is Florence Yaymen, whose coon burlesque items have been hugely enjoyed; Lillie Le Breton is a dainty gymnast, her novelty trapeze act being warmly applauded; the Liverpool favourite T. W. Barrett, has a number of new songs and comedy titbits; uproarious laughter follows the comic character skating of the Miltons; the Sisters Bronson are sweet singers and dancers; some humorous songs and patter come from the quaint and agile Clem Lisbon; and Harry Cayman, a versatile artist, has a smart sketch, with special scenery, entitled *Le Café Chantant*.

WESTMINSTER. — Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery, jun.; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Montgomery.—Bennett and Martell, known as "the lunatics," top the bill here this week, and arouse irresistible laughter with their sketch *The Shipwrecks*; Elsie Belton is a chic comedienne and dancer; the juggling of Monty is both clever and humorous; Edna Cragge renders some excellent songs in good style; Lillian Victoria, the Eton Boy, is above the average as a male impersonator; John Power shows himself to be an accomplished coster character artist; and the Brothers Lillian, backed by a capital fit-up and electrical effects, give a remarkable performance on the silver chains.

OLYMPIA, LTD.—Manager, Mr. A. W. Young.—The excellence of the programmes submitted here is maintained. This week the Boisset Troupe in *The Bricklayers* cause screams of laughter; De Dio, with a charming spectacular dance, is a much-admired turn; the remarkable whistling powers of Shawlene are listened to with much attention; the head and hand balancing of the Broe Attab is cordially appreciated; the Dumond Minstrels have made a hit with their clever vocal and instrumental show; some mystifying feats of conjuring are provided by Hermann Melot; the electric cane dancing of Frank Cumminger is greatly admired; the quaint antics of the Brothers Harrison cause many a smile; and Frank Dunlop is a comedian of merit.

TOM CAMPBELL'S VAUDEVILLE ENTERTAINMENTS.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Tom Campbell.—Harry Fay keeps the audience in excellent humour with his songs; Tom Smith is a clever comedian; Little Marie Dane is a favourite here; Roger Dun is a talented descriptive vocalist; and A. J. Frame is answerable for a deal of laughter.

LONG EATON.—LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Meakin.—An arrangement has been made for a term with Messrs. Frederick Lloyd and E. St. Clair Forbes, and following the *Sorrows of Satan* has been introduced *The Octoroon*. The singing and dancing of Miss Daisy Stone and Mr. Edwin Ramsdale are greatly enjoyed; Miss Florence Creagh is a capable Zoe; Mr. Forbes, the faithful Wah-No-Tee, and Mr. Hugh Brady, the brutal slave-owner. The knife-fight is a feature of the closing scene.

MAIDENHEAD.—PAVILION PLEASURE GARDENS — Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gude.—The popular al fresco entertainments here continue to attract large audiences. Mr. Dan Dawlish and Mr. Chris Baker delight with humorous songs; Mr. Gus Daniels excels in character impersonations; Miss Gertie Lovedale is a smart and energetic comedienne; Miss Adelaide Twort is equally good in songs new and old; and Mr. Alec Tyson proves himself thoroughly efficient both as soloist and accompanist.

MAIDSTONE. — HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr. G. H. Watson.—Victor Travers makes a hit as an eccentric comedian; the Smythsons appear with laughable effect in *Our Suite*; Culpitt displays great ability as a conjurer; and the Gartell Trio, instrumentalists; and Fox and Melville, song illustrators, are also worthy of special mention. This is the last week of the present season.

MANCHESTER.—ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager. Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The popular drama, *The Master Criminal*, is presented here this week by a company headed by Mr. Henry L. Osmond, who gives a powerful rendering of the title-rôle, and Miss Winifred Chalmers, who is exceptionally good as Cecile. Mr. Elmore Frith as Ben Beaudy of Scotland-yard contributes also a fine performance, and some good comedy is submitted by Mr. Harry Cooke as Tommy Dale, and Mr. J. W. Gallagher, who figures as Gentleman Jim. Among others, Little Ellen Gillette distinguishes herself by some excellent singing.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—Last week's attraction at the King's, Longsight, *A Soldier's Revenge*, is presented here this week by Messrs. Beaudyn, Livesey, and Hardy's company.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gus Flanagan.—Mr. F. H. Neville's company are giving here this week a capital performance of *The Silent Witness*. Mr. F. H. Neville makes the most of his rôle of Jan Vedder, and his efforts are well supported by Miss Glory Clarence, who gives a strong rendering of her part of Estelle Meredith. Mr. Bradford Crosby fills the heroic rôle of Philip Meredith with credit; Mr. R. W. Bedford is successful as Joe Jorum; Miss Mildred Monteith is distinctly good as Anita; Mr. T. Byron is a lively Dandy Dick; and Miss E. Lewis is satisfactory as Polly Lockwood. Quite a notable addition to the strength of the cast is Miss M. Clarke who gives a wonderful exhibition in dancing and legmania, and is a decided acquisition to the company.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—This week we have here Mr. Frank Bateman's company in *No Wedding Bells for Her*, which was played to good houses at the Royal Osborne Theatre last week.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Berry.—Mr. Sydney Spenser's company give an admirable performance of *The Hero of the Flag* here this week. The story is of naval interest, and is exceptionally well staged. Mr. Sydney Spenser gives a good depiction of the unprincipled Paul Mansfield; a pleasing delineation of Mabel Forester is given by Miss Lizzie Hall; Mr. William Heilbronn is active and manly as Jack Lawrence; Miss Roma Tremayne acts with care and sympathy as Ruth Clifford; Captain Hilliard is presented in clever and dignified style by Mr. Alfred Goddard; and considerable amusement is caused in comic part by Mr. Johnny McElroy and Miss Amy Maitland.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Walter De Frece; Secretary, Mr. Peter Watson; Acting-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry.—Satan is a thrilling sketch presented here this week in fine style by Edward Sillward and a first-rate company. Mr. Sillward in the title-rôle is seen to great advantage, and the sketch is much above the average; the Manhattan Comedy Four are excellent humorous comedians and make a big hit; and the wonderful acrobatic and tumbling feats of the Achmid Ibrahim troupe of Bedouin Arabs are received with loud acclamation. Rose and Calvert are good in a burlesque on Captain Kettle; Venie Clements is a versatile comedian and a neat dancer; Alice May is very smart in a protean sketch; George Collins, comedian, is decidedly funy; and Mlle. Frederica introduces some cleverly trained terriers and a cake-walking pony. A series of capital animated pictures complete. On the occasion of our visit Charles Norton, mimic, did not appear. The fifteenth anniversary is announced for Friday next, June 29, when a big programme will be gone through.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Hall.—An extremely good programme here this week is headed by Mark Sheridan, who in his usual quaint style keeps the audience highly amused while he is on the stage. Another prominent item is *Home from the Honeymoon*, an interesting and laughable sketch by Arthur Jefferson. A very pleasing turn is that of the Gems, a combination of five accomplished vocalists, who treat the audience to a very clever and refined entertainment; Odeyne Spark, comedian, contributes some excellent dancing; and a good show is given by Francis, the cannon-ball king, who is humorously assisted by Alfred, a very smart juggling comedian; Belloni's cockatoos are a marvellous example of bird training; the Bros. Damm are accomplished athletes; Frank and Free are loudly aplauded for a very clever matrimonial comedy act; and Rex King, the one-man programme, presents a series of character parts with wonderful rapidity and skill. The pictures in the Bioscope are also interesting.

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. P. Morgan.—Fred Ginnett and company are the chief attraction here this week in an improved edition of *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*, in which a wonderfully intelligent mare is introduced as Black Bess; W. F. Frame, the Scotch comedian, sings several songs and is well received; Binns and Binns are particularly good in an eccentric musical item; Paul Conchas, who has a very funny assistant, does some sensational feats with cannon balls; and Alcide Capitaine is a pleasing and clever gymnast. Daisy Dormer is a delightful coon singer and dancer; the Three Chester Sisters are capital dancers; and the Monte Myro troupe are eccentric pantomimists who cause no end of fun. Two enjoyable vocal items are contributed by the choir; and the Bioscope shows H.M.S. "Montagu" on the rocks at Lundy Island.

TIVOLI. — Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes.—George Mozart is to the front here this week and is particularly well received, all his business being first class. The Matramos (Tom and Marie), as usual, are good in their musical comedy act *Do You Reverse?* and make a big hit; Ethel Negretti, burlesque artist, sings well; F. V. St. Clair, the well-known topical vocalist, is extremely popular and up to date; the Davenports are smart magicians and illusionists; and Cissy Paris, vocalist, is greatly appreciated. Other good turns are Marie Beresford, musical comedy artist; Ern Weslyn, vocal comedian; Beatty and Blanch, duettists and dancers; and Raymond's Vivagraph.

KING'S, LONGSIGHT.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Six Brothers Luck in their highly amusing sketch, *The Demon of the Cellar*, head the bill here this week, and create considerable laughter. Gustave Fasola presents a series of mystifying allusions which fairly bewilder the audience; Moon and Morris are good comedians and exceptionally clever double dancers; and Whimsical Walker, assisted by Frances Maddock, a clever child actress, presents a delightful sketch entitled *Captain Hamilton, V.C.* Cullen and Jordison, the smart juveniles, dance and sing well; and other enjoyable items are contributed by Phedona in a pleasing musical act; Olga Fane, vocalist, and Stephen Blythe, vocalist. The Bioscope pictures are good.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—The Eight Sarnthalers head the bill here this week, and contribute some wonderful dances in national costume, and also some splendid singing. Fuller, Graham, and company are good in a musical song-scena entitled *The Shoeblack's Dream*; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud sing sweetly; and Little Dot Moss, a local favourite, sings and dances daintily; C. H. Charlton, society conjuror, does some smart tricks; the Sisters Belmont are pleasing dancers; and enjoyable items are also contributed by Howard and Townsend, duettists, and Charles Rowan, comedian. The Bioscope pictures are funny.

HIPPODROME, HULME. — Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. B. Broadhead.—After a successful week at the Queen's Park Hippodrome Theo. Bouwmeester, the famous Dutch protean actor, is here and repeats his wonderful performance in *Who Is Guilty?* Dezmonti and Mora go through a sensational triple-bar act, and gain much applause; Tennis and Laune are capital duettists, and are well received; the Four Albertos are neat head and hand balancers; and Burns and Bentley are comedy purveyors and sand dancers of merit; good turns are provided also by Hector and Sultan, acrobatic comedy grotesques; Cavalli, a clever ventriloquist; J. Hughes, the Lancashire baritone; and Cosgrove and Burns, Scottish American comedy duo. *Foiled*, an exciting episode, is depicted on the Bioscope.

MARGATE.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Edward Michael; Business-Manager, Mr. A. Austin Leigh.—Messrs. E. H. Knight and Geo. Denham's company has been here this week with the drama *The Boom of Big Ben*. Mr. Fred Powell plays well as Captain Joe Galloway, whilst the rôle of Gilbert Galloway has been ably sustained by Mr. Harry Scott. Mr. G. Denham has been good as Tom Battleby; Miss Hilda Bayton has successfully played Marjorie Galloway; and the other members of the company doing good work in their respective parts include Misses Nellie Fletcher, Mildred Cottell, Alice Francis, Mabel Liston, Cissy Hayes, Gwynne Spencer, Dorothy Denn, and the Messrs. Stanley Bedwell, Harry Agar Lyons, Leonard Howe, George Child, and Henry Villiers.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. F. Moulliot and W. de Frece; General-Manager, Mr. J. de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. C. F. Bawtree.—The programme here this week is contributed to by the following, who have all been well received: Fred Horsfall, comedian and mimic; the San Remo Girls, clever vocalists and dancers; Ryder Slone, character comedian; Coram, ventriloquist; Abel and Welsh, grotesque comedians; James Fawn, comedian; the Strolling Players; and the Hippodrome pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Will Smithson.—Mr. F. S. Gilbert's Opera company is appearing here with success. The opera chosen for the opening performance was *Faust*, of which a highly satisfactory representation was submitted. Mr. F. S. Gilbert gave an excellent reading of the title-rôle, his acting and singing winning for him genuine applause, and Mephistopheles was ably undertaken by Mr. H. Brindle, and Mr. J. Kneale Campbell was good as Valentine. Miss Faith Laborde created a favourable impression as Marguerite, her vocalisation being greatly admired and loudly applauded; Miss Vera Vizard excellently interpreted Siebel; and Martha had a creditable representative in Miss Doris Gilbert. The week's programme includes *Il Trovatore*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—Here this week are the Coopers, in a comedy musical sketch, Stelfane, lady magician, Marian Blake, vocalist, Mi

MIDDLESBROUGH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Chas. Imeson.—Mr. Morton Powell's company is here this week in the play entitled *Darkness*. Mr. John Davidson in the character of the Rev. Basile Cortre and Mr. Henry Heller as the Vicar of Walkton are a decided success. Mr. Louis Lingard is excellent in his part and Mrs. Morton Powell does well as Helena Byars, the Vicar's daughter. Mr. Frank Etheridge as Nunc Wallace and Miss V. St. Lawrence as Gertrude Hunt cause much amusement. Mr. Edward Valentine gives a fine impersonation of Sir Robert, and Miss Nellie Freeland leaves nothing to be desired as Gracie.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—*The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is being presented here this week. Mr. Godfrey Tearle in the character of Robert Brierly is excellent, and Mr. Edward Sorley handles the part of James Dalton in a masterly fashion. Miss Rosamund Mayne Young exhibits tenderness and discretion as May Edwards, and Mr. George Autley is excellent as Melter Moss. Mr. Bryce Methven is natural as the broker, and Mr. Frederick Freeman does well as the detective. Miss Marion Holmes gives a touch of distinction to her impersonation of Mrs. Willoughby and Miss M. Malone acts admirably as Emily Evremond.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Brill; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembyes.—An interesting programme is presented here this week. The Poluski Brothers, this week's star turn, are a mirth-provoking pair of artists, and their patter and songs delight the audience; Clive Watts provides an excellent singing and dancing turn; and Sam Redfern causes much amusement with his songs and sayings. George Newburn proves a popular mimic, and Massona gives a clever juggling entertainment. Other turns are provided by Read and Wright, comedy duettists, Rezene and Robini, and Mlle. Sylva's vocal tableaux.

OXFORD PALACE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Alf. Graham.—Cullen and Cartly, together with Little Cluley, who is styled the smallest comedian on the stage, are the principal turn here this week, and are accorded a warm reception; Henry Carlton, comedian, in his latest success, *The Window Cleaner*, causes much amusement, and A Bo Kou is an excellent juggler. Other turns are provided by Fred Hallam, Lily Lonsdale, Ernie Myers, Harry Catton and Mlle. Kloet in her Continental speciality act.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General Manager, Mr. Charles M. Julian.—Mr. Jerrard Grant Allen's company has been successfully appearing in the *The New Boy*. Mr. Leon M. Lion as the diminutive City man, Archibald Rennick, plays cleverly, and Miss Maud Magrath is a charming Nancy. Other parts are sustained by Messrs. A. Corney Grain, Talbot Homewood, Harold Weston, Stanley Logan, Miss Catherine Herrington, and Miss Margaret Fareleigh. The piece has been preceded by an original sentimental comedy, *The Borrowed Uncle*, by Tom Gallon and Leon M. Lion.

WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr. Tom Atkinson.—Berg's Vaudeville Company has provided the fare here during the week, and the Arthur Saxon Trio of athletes have proved a popular turn. Berghas wrestled all comers in the Græco-Roman style. A capital sketch, entitled *Found Faithful*, has been presented by W. T. Burgess and Co. Other items have been provided by Alec Alexander, actor-vocalist; Jesse Ricardo, conjuror in novel business; Parlos Bros. in an amusing act; Mlle. Ena and Miss Clara Unwin, songstresses.

ALHAMBRA PALACE.—General-Manager, Alderman John Gardner.—The bill at this pretty house has this week included Miss Belle Leabourne, comedienne; Sam Shipley, a quaint comedian with catchy songs; Miss Koma, ballad vocalist; Craig, Rose, and Craig in a smart acrobatic act; Miss Beatrice Worth, burlesque actress; Violet Morgan, a smart impersonator of music-hall stars; and an animated panorama of a trip round the world nicely described by Miss Edna Reeve.

NEW BRIGHTON.—GRAND TOWER THEATRE.—The theatre is now in full swing, the entertainment being contributed to by the following artistes:—Queenie West, vocal comedienne, who renders some excellent items; the Royal Welsh Meister Singers, with a capital selection of nautical songs, duets, and choruses; Miss Belle Leaburn, descriptive vocalist; Mr. Will Daniels, the modern comedian; Miss Bessie Hardman, soprano vocalist, and Akbar, expert performer on the silver rings, introducing marvellous dislocations. The intervals are enlivened by the Towerscope, which shows some good films.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—TYNE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr. Edward Marris's company in the musical comedy, *The Dandy Doctor*, is again at the Tyne, and is proving capital entertainment for the local race holidays. Mr. Marris as the millionaire once more treats us to a richly humorous performance. He receives excellent support from Miss Florence Smithers, whose Jane is just about as clever a piece of low comedy acting as one can find. Mr. Leslie Martin impersonates the dude with much humour, and Mr. E. H. Bertram as Arthur Vandyke sings and acts admirably. Mr. James Danvers—so long connected with the part of the Colonel—is now an absentee, but his place is creditably filled by Mr. Herbert Pearce. Miss Elfie Vincent now plays the rôle of the Colonel's daughter, and her acting and singing are characterised by much charm. The specialities introduced are up to the usual standard, and include the Dandy Belles, the Dutch Girls, and a new feature, the Yeoman Male Voice Quartette.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr. E. B. Clark.—*The Woman Who Gambles* is the title of a sensational drama, Mr. Morton Powell's company is playing here this week. Miss Gertrude Hunt handles the somewhat trying part of Countess Steinbach with exemplary skill; Mr. Edward E. Ashby sustains the rôle of her husband in clever style; Mr. Horatio Sinclair gives an effective rendering of Baron Cratylaw; and Mr. Reginald Fox as a Lieutenant is distinctly good. Miss Violet Sims as Cora Gouldhart gives an intelligent interpretation to the part; and Miss Florrie Hall as a Medical Student deserves every praise. Also worthy of commendation are Mr. Ernest H. Clarke, Mr. Frank Howard, Mr. Fred Prior, and Miss Marie Ramuz.

GRAND THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon.—Mr. J. Rice Cassidy's company is appearing here this week in the drama, entitled *In Holy (!) Russia*. An excellent all-round company is responsible for the production, which abounds with exciting incidents.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Resident-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Leslie Conroy.—An enjoyable holiday programme is being submitted here this week, the principal attraction being John Lawson and company in the well-known playlet, *Humanity*. *The Monkey's Paw* was also presented during the latter part of the week. The patter and business of the McNaughtons are always of the refreshing kind; a musical act by the Borellis is distinctly clever; and Alice Lloyd, dainty as ever, scores in a couple of songs. A hearty reception is accorded Ernie Mayne, who is decidedly funny with a "Wooden Hut" parody; J. W. Rickaby still relies on his soldier song to "get there"; the Caselli Sisters are dainty duettists and dancers; Maude Courtney's pleasing voice is heard to advantage in a pretty song called "Mary"; Howard and St. Clair appear in a ludicrous trifle; and the Bioscope shows a picture of the Royal Bull Fight at Madrid.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Thomas Barrasford; Manager, Mr. Will H Boardman.—Harry Roxbury and Co. are again back at the "Pav." with the clever show, *The Prince of Monte Carlo*, and score their customary success. Those huge pantomime favourites, Heeley and Meeley, are here in an entirely new act, and give further proof of their excellence as comedy acrobats; the Two Eltons disport themselves with much hilarity on the horizontal bars; two funny comedians, Tom Lloyd and Tod Lowen, have many admirers; as a character impersonator, V. L. Granville is deserving of praise; Edie Grey and White Coons in a vocal act; the Great Vincent in an acrobatic table act; Miss Vashti Wynne and company in a dramatic sketch; the Haydees and the Barrascope are also included in a good all-round bill.

NEWPORT.—EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. O. Stoll.—Mr. R. A. Roberts, the famous protean artist, occupies first place in the bill here. The Cole de Losse Duo give a clever performance on the slack wire; Josh Dixon dances cleverly and sings a couple of good songs; and Miss Nellie Young executes a pretty dance. Chas. Austin, comedian, justifies his title to the term eccentric; the Stella Troupe of vocalists and dancers provide a taking turn; and Flem and Brok, aerial pugilists, are exceedingly amusing. Barney Vox, Irish ventriloquist, is entertaining, his patter being smart, and Baker and Balfe give a clever musical turn on the xylophone.

NORTHWICH.—PIERROT PAVILION.—Proprietors, The Royal Pierrots Co.—The attendance at these concerts is still good. Miss Madge Allan's winsome presence and charming singing have made her a great favourite; the Cains, clever mandoline players and skilled dancers, provide an excellent turn; Mr. Bert Danson is a quaint comedian; Mr. Lindon Wyatt does well; Mr. G. W. Nicholson's humorous songs delight the audience, and Mr. Glanmore Jones sings as sweetly as ever.

NORWICH.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. F. W. Fitt.—The following artists contribute to an excellent programme: The Clement Trio, daring trapezists; Graham, the human marionette; Ida Kathrena in the Carnival of Toys; Satsuma, the Japanese magician; the Arthur Lloyd Trio in their sketch, *Little Charlie; or the Twin Sisters;* J B. Preston, Scottish comedian; and Mollie Seymour, coedienne and violin artist; O'Malley and Brown eccentric comedians, and the Hippodroe Biograph, with excellent scenes, complete an enjoyable entertainent.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—*The Curate*, played by Miss Hettie Jeffries' company, had a good reception here on Monday. Mr. Arthur Mervyn gives a natural portraiture of the manly, warm-hearted curate, acting with commendable earnestness and taste; Mr. Whitmore Ledger effectively enacted the callous and rescally spy, Gilbert Westwood; and a spirited impersonation of the adventuress, Kibinka Vodsky, is supplied by Miss Winifred Stuart. Miss Hettie Jeffries gives a charming embodiment of Dick, a fearless and devoted little trumpeter; and Miss Rosa Mervyn makes a winsome Mabel Verner. There is an abundance of comedy capitally supplied by Miss Agnes D'Aragon, and Messrs. Frank Stuart, Sydney Claydon, Alfred Horton, and Harry Irvine.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—The Royal Animated Picture Company remain here this week with a fresh lot of films, and Mr. Wensley Russell gives much pleasure by his illustrated songs.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. H. Bowmaker.—The uproarious laughter which accompanied Mr. Herbert Darnley's comical skit, *Moving In*, on Monday last, was ample proof of its popularity, and hearty applause greeted the company throughout. The graceful and clever trick riding by the Kaufmann Troupe of lady cyclists elicited unbounded enthusiasm, which was fully deserved; an interesting and expert exhibition on the trapeze was given by the Sisters Urma; and the Sisters Terry executed a smart dance. The clever and comical feats of Cooke and Miss Rothert produced several merry moments, and the quaint musical "turn" of the Phydoras caused plenty of laughter. George Ridgwell's powerful and cultured baritone voice was heard in several songs, and the vocalism of the Three Hayden Sisters proved enjoyable. Ben Albert contributed a humorous item, and the American Bioscope showed some excellent films.

OLDHAM.—COLOSSEUM THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. Eastwood.—Mr. Charles March is here with a capital company in *The Gamester of Metz*. Mr. C. March gives a powerful rendering of Paul Baldot, his quick changes being smartly done; Mr. John B. Murray is excellent in the rôle of Captain Badaire; and Mr. Fred Aldworth is good as General Monparasse. As Countess Baldot, Miss Eva Lyndhurst does well, and Miss Una Lane acts the rôle of Lucie in an able manner. Miss Cissy Haighton is capital as Gwendolin Pearson, as is Miss B. Sims as Babette. Mr. G. Paget scores as Lieut. Herve, as does Mr. W. G. Dudeney as Louis Badaire. Mr. P. Wentworth appears as the Cure d'Artris, and Mr. W. G. Protheroe as Ferdinand, the remaining characters being played by Messrs. Corri, Brayne, Henson, and Brinklow.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Assistant-Manager, Mr. W. Howgate.—Jake Friedman is the principal turn this week, and he gives an excellent entertainment; Peggie Lennie and Walter Hast present another capital show in a poetic phantasy, *The Sea Nymph*; Yorkshire Tom is a clever animal mimic; H. O. Wills, comedian, keeps the audience in roars of laughter; and Freres Rigoletto, in their speciality act, are well received; the Sisters Wingrove are smart duettists and dancers; and the Three Henriques are funny acrobatic comedians. Violet Stockelle, comedienne, and Elsie Claire, soprano vocalist, also appear.

OXFORD.—EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. G. P. Wells.—Mr. Edward Neville is continuing his stock season here, and is this week playing *The Anarchist Terror* and *Nana*. In the former piece Mr. Edward Neville plays his original part of Mickey Dooland in his own amusing manner, and is accorded a hearty reception; Mr. W. H. Wilson successfully negotiates the difficult and trying part of the "Terror"; and Mr. Rowland Hope works well as Lieut. Armstrong. Mr. Gus Bowerman gives a powerful rendering of Ishmael. Miss Flora Leslie is seen to advantage as Marita, and Miss Evie Conway is good as Zara. Miss Rosie Neville makes an effective and attractive Columbia Goldstraw, and Miss Loie Esmond is a winsome and amusing Kitty Malone, her dances with Mickey Doolan being very effective

PLYMOUTH.—GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy Williams; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr. S. Langdon Lee.—The well-balanced stock company gives an interesting rendering of Charles Reade's play, *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. Mr. Edward Lloyd, as Tom Robinson, submits a forceful yet restrained version of the part; Mr. Frank Harrison, as the prison chaplain, the Rev. Francis Eden, quickly appeals to the house, and Mr. S. T. Ewart, as George Fielding, deserves particular mention; Miss Beatrice Whitney does not overdo the part of Josephs, as is often the case; and Mr. Greene Taylor, as the Australian Aborigine, Jackie, is exceedingly funny.

DEVONPORT METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owners, Carltons, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Mitchell.—*Called Back* was presented on Monday by the stock company. Mr. Douglas Phelps obtained hearty applause for his rendering of the rôle of Gilbert Vaughan, while Mr. Leonard Aardale was no less successful as the villain, Paolo Macari; others contributing no small share to the success of the performance were Mr. Geo. King (Dr. Ceneri), Miss Beatrice Vane (Priscilla), and Miss Pattie Hastings (Pauline March).

PROMENADE PIER AND PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. J. Higson.—Mr. Walter George's Smart Set Singers are paying a return visit, and furnish a great attraction for the Regatta Week. The company includes Messrs. Walter George, Arthur Court, and Charles Howard, and the Misses Georgie Martin, Lena Hutchings, Ethel Wilford, and Hilda Light. An experiment by the management of submitting a concerted musical play in place of isolated numbers bids fair to become a great success.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, County Theatres and Hotels, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Jack Field; Treasurer, Mr. N. Carlton.—Dinah Morris's comedy party furnish the leading item, entitled *The Lost Coon*, and introduce some clever dancing, singing, and incidental business; Sydney Bacon's company in *The Maniac*, including Mr. Melville Bickford, earns hearty applause for a highly exciting turn; Keen and Waller, American gymnasts, are finished exponents of their particular art; Amandus submits interesting facial contortions; and J. Hyder and Chas. Ashdowne have some very good humorous business; and Vernon's Pictures furnish an exceptionally clear film of the 'Frisco disaster. Others contributing are the Musical Rosina and Jeannette Latour (soprano vocalist).

PORTSMOUTH.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J.W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Armstrong Bell.—Mr. Lawrence Brough and company are here this week, playing that diverting comedy *The Lady of Ostend*. Mr. Brough personates the Baron de Longueville cleverly and with distinction. Miss Kate Milford is successful in her delination of Dorothy Whortles; Miss Eleanor Gilbart, as Matilda Carbury, makes a typical mother-in-law; the Dick Whortles of Mr. Henry Hampson is a meritorious performance; Joseph Carbury is ably played by Mr. Charles Groves, jun.; Toby Krockitt is amusingly portrayed by Mr. H. Gomer May. The nautical farcical comedy *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* was presented on Thursday and Friday. The comedies are preceded each evening by the one-act comedietta *Margaret's Stratagem*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. E. Agate.—This week, for the first time in Portsmouth, has been presented here, by Messrs. Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company, the thrilling comedy-drama *The Grip of the Law*. Mr. Edward Maydew powerfully sustains the part of the much-tried Dave Arkwright; Mr. William Matthews is a capable villain in the character of Sergt. Frank Paul; the exacting part of Zeph Sorrell, a stuttering detective, is cleverly depicted by Mr. E. D. Nicholls; Noel of the Night, an outcast, is admirably played by Mr. Charles Kean; Miss Dora Hammersley is a charming heroine, Rose Hockaday.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—Heading the bill here are the Pichel troupe of Italian acrobats; they go through their business with a smartness and crispness that gains them unstinted applause. D. W. Watson is a cornet soloist of no mean order; Regan and Ryan are a clever pair of patterers; Patty Yole is a most engaging comedienne and danseuse; Maxwell and Frances, in their flirtation vaudeville act, score well; Jack Pleasants, versatile comedian, is exceedingly droll, and nas made a decided hit; Carden and Zeach, Australian society entertainers, receive a very favourable verdict; the Mayvilles, with their Lilliputian act, cause much amusement; the Bros. Ashley and company, with the comedy boxing sketch *Next, Please*, work hard and greatly please. Other turns much liked are Lil O'Gorman, soubrette; and Payne's Pictures.

PRESTON.—PRINCES THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr. Frank Ayrton and company are here this week with the powerful drama entitled *The Power of Gold*. Miss Lilla Wilde gives a powerful rendering of Lady Brandon; the difficult part of Hadgi Zambra is ably taken by Mr. C. Whitlock; Miss Georgina V. France wins the entire sympathy of the house in the pathetic rôle of Meg Judson; Mr. Richard Oliver, as Paul Judson, comes in for much well merited applause; Mr. F. Ayrton as Sammy Smudge and Madge Seymour as Nora Donnelley keep the house convulsed with laughter; Mr. Albert Sefton shows great dramatic ability as Mark Harler. Much praise is also due to Mr. W. O'Connor, as Joe Skilletts. Others who ably sustain their respective parts are Mr. Frank Holyoake, as Dr. Stephen Saunders; Mr. Wilson Wyte, as Marc Antony; and Mr. W. Victor as Peter Maguire.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. E. J. Linsdell.—Don Ban, the talking head, is arousing great curiosity here this week; the Three Royal Raynors provide a smart acrobatic act; Adams and Rouse, comedian and comedienne, create much amusement; the Westwoods perform some brilliant cycling feats; a diverting and skilful turn is that of the Bonnettis; Theodore Jones and Co., in the song scena "Jack Shepnard," are well received; Carson Hicks is a popular vocalist and dancer; the Wedburns with their music and patter evoke hearty laughter and applause. Bioscope pictures complete a good programme.

RAMSGATE.—ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—At this house the boards during the past week have been occupied by Mr. Guy de Domballe's company in *The Eiderdown Quilt*. In the rôle of Patricia Miss Molly Carton has charmed her audience; Miss Victoria Addison is quite successful as Lucy Pemberton; as is also Miss Ella Dixon in the character of Sybil. As Sir John de Candebac, Mr. Willox Cadogan gives a capital performance; Mr. E. F. Meads is good as Dick, Sir John's son; Mr. A. W. Tyner ably sustains the part of Captain Archibald Bernard, and Mr. Cyril Baleine makes a hit as Alberto du Bologna. Others contributing fine work are Mr. George Percy, Miss Bertha Frances, and Miss Jane Bunny. The play has been capitally put on in all respects under the direction of Mr. E. F. Meads.

RAWTENSTALL.—GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Ellis Miller.—Mr. Millar Anderson's répertoire company opened here on Monday with *Camille*, which thoroughly delighted the audience. Miss Mabel Mannering as Camille gave a charming and powerful portrayal; Mr. Jerrold Heather as Armand Duval was also to be commended for a clever rendering of this character; as Count de Vaville Mr. J. G. Maine was admirable; and Mr. Charles Herbert as M. Duval was excellent as the pleading father. Mr. Claude Aymond made an exceptionally good Gaston; and Mr. Walter Long an equally acceptable Gustave. Miss Bessie Frank gave a piquant impersonation as Nichette; and Miss Gladys Lloyd was a typical Nanie; and Miss Eva James as Olimpe and Miss Maude Townsend as Madame Prudence were each thoroughly acceptable. The play was preceded by *The Other Charlie*. For Tuesday and Thursday *The Spider's Web* is billed, and on Wednesday *Bachelor of Arts* will be presented, concluding each evening with *Good For Nothing*.

READING.—ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr. Reginald Taylor.—The theatre season has been extended for a week for the production of the evergreen *East Lynne*, which is being played by a capable company under the able direction of Mr. Henry Dundas, who takes the part of Archibald Carlisle in excellent style. Mr Dundas was for several years lessee of the Reading Theatre, and is receiving a very enthusiastic welcome from his old patrons. Miss Lilian Dundas gives a sympathetic impersonation of the part of Lady Isabel; Mr. Percy Rhodes plays the villainous Captain Levison characteristically; Mr. Trueman Towers as Justice Hare, and Mr. James Jarrett as Richard Hare, act well; Miss Leslie Dane is a graceful Barbara Hare; Miss Esther Carthew is highly amusing as Cordelia Carlisle; and Little Mabel May acts cleverly as Willie Carlisle.

ROCHDALE.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Cullin; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Hague.—The highly-sensational play *Under the Czar* winds up the season here. Mr. Jack Fortiscue acts with distinction as Nicholas Yeroslaff; Mr. W. H. Riley skilfully impersonates the tyrannical Major Kovesky; Mr. Lawrence Brien submits a clever portrayal of Alexis Petroff, and Mr. Louis Weston creates amusement as Paul Ignat; Miss P. Carewe makes the most of Zara Bhura; Miss Linda Riley is heard to advantage as the garrulous Siomoka, and Miss May Forsdice enlists sympathy in portraying the trials and troubles of Sonia Gregorovitch

RUGBY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr. Drew Mackintosh.—Kennedy's Komiks are this week giving a good variety entertainment, which is much appreciated. The Cedrics in their comedy and equilibristic act are clever, and Mons. Vela in his exhibition of wire-walking is a great success; Mr. Natt Abbatt, musical clown, displays great ability, and Mr. Harry Monkhouse is very funny; Miss Ella Dare, soubrette, is charming and vivacious, and Miss Sara Yost, lady baritone, has a voice of excellent quality and compass; Miss Ethel Dunville, male impersonator, is good, and Miss Lalla Vincent sings several songs with taste and ability.

RUNCORN.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. H. W. Caddick.—Mr. E. Oswald Brook's company is here again with *The Trail of the Serpent*. Mr. A Campbell-Kelly is excellent as the hero, Gerald Kingston; Mr. Wilford Cheetham scores in the part of Ralph Hammond; Mr. Henry F. Kenn shines as Sir Gerald Kingston; Mr. Booth Conway is strong in every way as Gipsy Jake; William Higgins is well played by Mr. Vincent Kelway; and Miss Gladys Newcombe is good as Rose Wilson. Miss Marjorie May does good work as the persecuted heroine, Ethel Maynard; and Miss Nana Cameron gives a powerful portrayal of the gipsy, Rachel.

SALFORD.—PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—*A Wrecker of Men*, a melodrama, by Charles Watson Mill, is meeting with a good reception. Miss Amy Ellam is an excellent Risca Mallinson; Jim Murley is well played by Mr. Eric Campbell; Mr. M. Noble does a lot of work as Pharosophus; Miss K. Melville is funny as Vavasole Sloppér; Eric Melville is in the hands of Mr. T. Carruthers; Miss Cissie Podmore is a charming Doris Melville; Mr. Alfred Maurice, as Railton; Mr. M. Boulton, as Guise Strange; Mr. Lancelot Usher, as Hon. Reggie Vernicourt; Mr. H. P. Kennedy, in the dual rôle of Ezekial Isaacs and Karnaphus; and Miss Beatrice Reynolds give good support.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; Manager, Mr. Herbert Raymond; Secretary, Mr. J. C. Patterson.—Daisy de Roy is much applauded for her songs; Percy Maye gives his exceedingly successful female impersonations; *The Comic Scope*, by Robert Beevers, causes much laughter; Ada Twibell, burlesque artist; Leslie H. Murray, magician; Elsie May, juvenile vocalist; Marlo, clever juggler; Johnny Johnson, musical dandy; W. H. Downes, coloured Australian vocalist; and the Maros, comedy bar athletes, also contribute clever turns.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Wentworth.—An excellent programme is this week provided by the Mohamed Ben Mohamed Troupe of Soussa Arabs; the Sisters Valli, very good top-boot dancers; the Silvester Sansome Trio, in their funny sketch, *The Tutor and the Maid*; Claude Feldman's beau ideal troupe of clever juveniles; Charles Hulbert, ventriloquist; Lon Langley chic comedienne; Carney Bros., comedy duettists and character vocalists; Henderson, blind cocertinist; and Paul de Lil, a clever sleight-of-hand illusionist.

SCARBOROUGH.—PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr. Walter Kitchingman.—Mlle. Marie Levante's orchestra of ladies render capital programmes daily. The vocalist this week is Miss Beatrice Willan, whose fine contralto voice is heard to advantage. In the variety theatre the Gilbert Bros. contribute a fascinating turn on the tight-rope; Miss Lily Pender gives impersonations in artistic fashion; Tiny Arnold, midget artist, gives an exceedingly refined turn; Alf. Bishop is an amusing comedian; as a human band, Tom Brantford is responsible for much hilarity; Angeline, the dancing juggler speedily becomes a favourite; Max Merlin, contortionist, is well received; Learto, with the assistance of his dog, contributes an acceptable item; Curtis Leo is installed in the Old Ball Room, where he gives his juggling exhibition at various times during the day. Vernon's Bioscope still retains its popularity in a twelve-hours' programme.

THE HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. George Zalva.—An admirably arranged series of living pictures with a flavour of variety is submitted here this week. Casselli and James give a pleasing exhibition of banjo playing; with a good stock of patter, Harry Wright, comedian, soon gets on the right side of the audience; Nellie Gannon is admirably equipped with a selection of descriptive songs; Will Goodwin, in his scena *She's not my wife*, is a popular turn.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs. Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr. F. P. Morgan.—*Man's Enemy* is the attraction here this week, and Mr. John Power's company is having an enthusiastic reception. As Tom Drake Mr. Jno. Power gives an excellent delineation; Mr. Harry Stanton as Norman Overton is highly impressive; Miss Clara Reed as Polly would be hard to improve upon; a Scarborough man, Mr. Newton Cowling, plays well the part of Ikey Barnett; Miss M. Macauley gives a fine impersonation of Sarah Drake; and as Grace Lisle Miss Lynn Darlington displays force and sings well.

SOUTH FORESHORE.—Mr. Will Catlin's troupe of pierrots are attracting large audiences daily, with an up-to-date programme.

GRAND HOTEL, SKATING RINK.—Mr. Tom Carrick has taken his stand here for the season, and, with a troupe of capable artists, is doing remarkably well.

SHEERNESS.—PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. P. Reymond.—Topping the bill for this week are the Sisters Almar, duettists and dancers, who provide an interesting turn in *The Lady and the Flower Girl*; Mr. Dan Conway, eccentric comedian and dancer, in new songs is deservedly applauded; Miss Marie Florence, comedienne, contributes enjoyable songs and dances, and gains loud applause; and hearty commendation is also won by Miss Alice Dora in descriptive songs and dancing; and the Rosslyns in their comedy act, *Arguments*, are popular. The Palace closes to-night for a few weeks for alterations and redecorations.

BAND PAVILION.—The open-air concerts by the Georgian Quartette are still attracting large and appreciative audiences both afternoon and evening, and their efforts have been highly successful. The Walthamstow Silver Band have also contributed a series of excellent band performances, which have met with popular approval.

SHEFFIELD.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr. Wybert Clive's well-known drama, *The Conscript*, is being played this week, under the direction of the author. That old dramatic favourite, Mr. Harry Cullinford, acts in his usual forcible manner; and other parts are cleverly represented by Miss Violet Carlyle, Miss Connie Meadows, Mr. Walter Steele, and Mr. Charles Hudson. The drama is effectively staged.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—*The Luck of Life*, performed in a convincing manner by Mr. Reginald Adair's special company, was received with cordial applause on Monday by a good audience. Mr. Fred Danvers, who made a great success here in *Sinbad*, caused hearty laughter by his quaint acting in a low-comedy rôle—Simon Stanley; the character of Michael Basilovitch, as represented by Mr. Ronald Yorke, was an original and interesting creation; Mr. Albert Cuthbertson acted in a convincing manner as Ivan; Mr. Joseph Millaine's George Stanhope was a consistent character-sketch; and Mr. Leonard Thackeray's Count Petroff stood out boldly from the canvas. The Rene of Miss Mary Dawson was a careful and artistic impersonation; Miss Dora Huggett was a vivacious Laura; and good work was done by Mr. Polson Turner as the Hindoo, and Miss K. Perowne as Mrs. Beaudyn. The play was staged in a realistic manner. After an interval of twenty years, the Alexandra has reverted to its old custom, and those who care may now indulge in the fragrant weed during the performance.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Moss' Empires Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—A generous and well-served-up programme delighted crowded houses on Monday. That screamingly funny absurdity, *The Casey Circuit*, kept the audience in roars of laughter; the Imperial Russian Troupe of vocalists were enthusiastically applauded; the "old firm," the famous Albert and Edmunds Troupe, were very successful in a comic sketch; two old favourites, Palles and Cussick, proved as droll as ever; and others who successfully appeared were the Norman Leonard Trio, Bernar's Fantoches, Miss Gladys Mavius, Brown and Robinson, and the great Hadji Abdullah Troupe of tumblers.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. G. H. Beagle.—The company this week includes Leo Lester, with his diverting canine novelty sketch; Mr. Jack Heath, comedian; Pallister's popular bioscope; Mr. Brownson's company, in two thrilling dramatic sketches; and the Curran Trio, in a very smart boxing act.

SMETHWICK.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. C. Barnard; Manager, Mr. E. Hewitson.—*The Drama of Life*, presented by Mr. Lingford Carson's company, forms the attraction here. Mr. G. M. Newall, with his strong and popular exposition of the leading rôle of Harry Beech, is a powerful factor in the success achieved; Mr. E. M. Hamilton is to be credited with a convincing interpretation of Walter Beech; Miss Kate Hallam as Sylvia Beech is generally admired for her graceful acting; Mr. Ed. Van Biene presents the Count De Foi in clever style, and is also responsible for the general-management. The comedy of Mr. Fred Luard as Sir Dobson Wilde is highly amusing; and Miss Florence French distinguishes herself as Lady Jane Wilde. Miss N. Birch-enough makes a good study of Betty Black; Master Robert Beech has a clever representative in little Miss Elsie May; Mr. H. M. Payne as Jack Lawton and Mr. S. Fiennes as Dave Crane present the villainy of the piece realistically; Detective Brenton is in the capable hands of Mr. Horace Booth; and Mr. L. Murray is very droll as John Walsh, a railway porter. The elaborate scenery calls for special comment.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—PIER PAVILION.—Lessee and Manager Mr. H. E. Angless; Acting-Manager, Mr. Stanley E. Angless.—Owing to the enormous success of the Elliotts and Savonas, the popular lessee has retained their services for this week, and they continue to fascinate most appreciative audiences. Their marvellous musical act from the first is rendered with emphatic success, and the illuminations are a feature. The Elliotts, too, give their cycle act in an exceedingly clever manner, gaining well-earned appreciation. Professor Vincent and Miss Florence have been retained, and as an illusionist and vocalist respectively, are well received. Senorita Elolna causes wonderment as a trapeze artist; an interesting series of new pictures are displayed by the Urban Bioscope; whilst the celebrated Red Band add greatly to a capital programme.

THE KURSAAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr. P. T. J. Bacon.—A good programme is submitted here this week, including Chas. Denton and Ted Cowan, comedians; Maude Esmond, descriptive vocalist; Phinas and Aida, smart gymnasts; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. English, sketch artists; and Sardou, a clever illusionist. The pictures shown on the bioscope are a feature. The Café Chantant and the Hippodrome are both providing attractive fare. Last night Ally Sloper's visit caused considerable interest, and to-day the famous Besses o' th' Barn Band are giving two performances.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Empire Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. Conquest; Manager, Mr. A. Lingham Power.—Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore, supported by a capable company, are here in *Sowing the Wind*. Mr. Brabazon is creditably represented by Mr. Lovel; and Mr. Arthur Chesney is well suited as Mr. Watkin. Ned Annesley is well played by Mr. Hylton Allen; and Mr. Percy H. Vernon gives prominence to the rôle of Lord Petworth. Mr. Allan Pollock ably sustains the part of Sir Richard Cursitor; Miss Celia Gordon as Mrs. Fretwell is decidedly good; and Maud is carefully portrayed by Miss Ada D. Hatchwell. Miss Mary Maine is responsible for the part of Bridget; whilst Miss Octavia Kenmore gives a pleasing and delightful impersonation of Rosamond. The other members of the cast are Messrs. Aubrey Mather, Clement Talbot, and Alfred Allen, all of whom do creditable work in their respective characters.

SOUTHPORT.—ALBERT HALL, WINTER GARDENS.—General-Manager, Mr. Alfred Hemming.—An excellent combination of variety artists forms the attraction here this week. The Stavordale Quintette, musical speciality artists, submit a unique and clever performance, which is warmly applauded; Miss M. Ruby and Mr. E. Laws, in their quick-change musical comedy sketch, *Cora's Visitors*, contribute a highly diverting turn; Mr. R. Dunning gives a smart ventriloquial sketch, with novel figures; and the programme also includes Tom Haigh and Millie Novel, refined comedy act; Miss Kate Butler, character comedienne; the Fitzroys (Fred and Lilian), society gymnasts, trapeze, and rope specialists; Miss May Marton, comedienne; Kahn and Kahn, magical legerdemain act; and S

dancers, are cordially greeted; the Leaderites are marvellous ladder performers; Selby and Myers are capable comedians and dancers; and the Revell Troupe prove very successful in their sketch, *Mischief*.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES. — HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs. George and Robert A. Nicholson; Manager, Mr. Wm. Ainsworth.—George Leyton, in his success, "Nelson's Name," tops the bill, and is well received; Ruby Dahl, with her mannikins, makes a hit; Les Bollingers, who form pictures with rugs, are very clever; Bishop and Vale, comedians and dancers, are a capital turn; the Five M.P.'s, musicians, are appreciated; Arthur Gill has soon established himself a favourite; the Brothers Newport, gymnasts, and Adele Lincoln, comedienne, complete a good programme.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—Haley's Juveniles are at the top of the bill here; Mr. J. Churchill has had a most cordial reception; David Poole, ventriloquist, gives a good entertainment; the Three Coopers are a pleasing turn; Pervos, facial mimic, is particularly smart; G. H. Penn, musician; Bessie Friedman, ballad vocalist; along with the Bioscope, complete an excellent bill of fare.

STOKE.—HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. H. Miller.—The Emilions head the bill this week in a clever acrobatic and hand-balancing display; Nash and Noel are smart patterers, and their dancing is above the average; Walter Stanley is successful in his songs; Vera Mayne is successful; Deveraux's dogs always provide an interesting turn; The Elgars sing nicely, and meet with success; Toney is a smart whistler, and Sergeant Munford on the slack wire accomplishes some clever feats.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE THEATRE. — Director and Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Machin.—The summer stock season of Mr. Machin's capable company is proving highly successful. This week Robertson's famous comedy, *Cast*, is being performed, Mr. Chas. M. Daly assumes the part of Eccles in a praiseworthy manner; and Miss Maud L. Cudd is seen to considerable advantage as Polly Eccles. A new sketch, entitled, *The Gorilla's Revenge*, a full account of which appears in another column, serves as a curtain raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hemingway.—An excellent house assembled to witness Mr. C. Watson Mills's company in that romantic drama, *A Warning to Women*. Miss Rosalin Tate proves fully equal to the arduous rôle of Moira Kennion; and Mr. C. Watson Mill plays with distinction and incisiveness; the difficult part of Dr. Marcus Dread; Mr. Henry Lonsdale is commendable as Shaun, a wandering minstrel; Mr. Wingald Lawrence is successful as Fergus McNaughton; and Mr. U. Carter Slaughter good as Lord Eversleigh; Squire Kennion is safe in the hands of Mr. Henry Rutland; and Mr. Geo. Scully ably portrays the rôle of the Irishman, Mike McQuade; Miss Ida Fane creditably enacts the part of Hildred; and Miss Emmie Barton is equally good as Sheila Kennion.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Rosen and Bliss; Acting-Managers, Messrs. Alfred Browne and Syd B. Stringer.—An extra strong programme is this week headed by Wizard and Irene Stone, who give a sensational and daring cycling act within a large metal globe, in which a motor cycle and a bicycle career round at express speed; Belrose and De Velin, a couple of clever vocalists who were exceedingly popular in the last panto. here, well sustain their reputation; Clemart is a versatile ventriloquist; Herbert Clifton is a clever mimic; the Five Astleys are entertaining as "The American Musical Farmers; Ethel Yooke, comedienne, contributes some taking numbers; the Briano's acrobatic display; George Antill; and the Bioscope pictures completes the bill.

SWINDON.—QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Responsible Manager, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Lucas.—A good season concludes at this theatre this week with another visit of that popular America drama, *The Still Alarm*, capitally staged and played by Messrs. Glenville and Osmond's company. Mr. Mathew H. Glenville must be complimented on his fine performance as Jack Manley, all the strong points being cleverly accentuated. He was well supported by Mr. Cecil Du Gue, who was seen to advantage as Jack Bird; by Mr. Fred Osmond, who undertook the part of Doc Wilber with commendable judgment, and by Mr. Tom Beasley, who did well as Willie Manley, and ably undertook the duties of stage-manager. A feature of the piece was Miss Hettie Zillwood's telling and effective portrayal of the part of Carrie Wilber, her rendering of an occasional song being very pleasing; Miss Maud Warburton as Elinor gained the sympathy of the large audience; and Miss Mabel Veriton deserves special mention for her good work as Jack's mother. The Fire Station scene, introducing the well-trained horses and glees by the Lyric Comedy Four, was particularly interesting.

TORQUAY.—PRINCESS PIER CONCERT HALL.—Proprietors, the Torquay Town Council; Manager, Mr. A. T. Tremlett.—The John Ridding Opera Company are paying a welcome visit here this week, and on Monday evening *Maritana* was presented, with Miss Kitty Brownless, who sang splendidly in the name part, and was repeatedly applauded, as was also Mr. Chas. Le Seuer, whose Don Cæsar was full of vigour and expression; Mr. Fred Clendon was a kingly Charles II., and Mr. John Ridding acted with Machiavelian malignity as Don Jose. Miss Jessie Dennis made an acceptable Lazarillo, and Mr. Arthur Fisher was well placed as Captain of the Guard. In spite of the absence of orchestra, chorus, and scenery, the representation was well received by the patrons of the usual concert course, who were pleased by the change from the ordinary programme. The company are also producing this week *Faust*, *Old Knuckles*, *The Waterman*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

TYNEMOUTH.—PALACE-BY-THE-SEA AND WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietor, Mr. J. H. Graham; Manager, Mr. Lindon Travers.—Chanti, a clever quick-change artist, heads the bill here; John Warren, conjurer and ventriloquist, provides an excellent turn; Dora Barrington, a popular favourite here, proves herself to be a sweet and cultured soprano; the Solari Duo score in their musical mélange; the Ellimans, in their musical entertainment, provide some interesting items; and the Casino Orchestra remain under engagement. The entertainment winds up with an admirable show of animated pictures.

WAKEFIELD. — HIPPODROME. — Lessee, Mr. Alfred Selwyn; Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas.—Messrs. O'Connor and Brady's Combination is here this week. Miss Gertie Gitana, coon vocalist, delights with her singing and dancing; Huline and Le May are smart musical clowns; Mr. F. C. Fields and Miss F. Lewis are an amusing comedy-couple, and Miss Bessie Travis contributes an excellent ventriloquial turn; the Two Dunlops appear in a cycling act; Lilian Hivado is a pleasing gymnast, and O'Connor and Brady, comedians, prove very popular.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LTD. — General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Undoubtedly the star turn here is Annie Abbott, known as "The Little Georgia Magnet," who proves a great attraction; the Two Madges, duettists and dancers; Johnson and Bert, Austin Rudd, comedian; the Cambrian Trio, excellent vocalists and dancers; the Strads, in their clever musical act, are all well received. Carter Livesey and Lilian Rosebery present their new sketch, *Would-be Actors*, meeting with considerable success, and the American Bioscope completes the programme.

GRAND THEATRE, LTD.—General-Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Carr Loates' company is presenting this week the musical comedy-drama, *At the World's Mercy*. Mr. W. G. Irving makes a capital Captain Frank Manley; able support is forthcoming from Mr. Carr Loates, who portrays the rôle of Morris Goldstein; Mr. H. Evan Gibbon does well as Charlie Smart; Miss Isabel Singleton makes a charming Alice Lloyd; Miss Jennie Clare is well placed as Kitty Knott; Rosie is ably depicted by Miss A. Hunter; Dot is well played by Little Daisy; and Miss Jennie Gilmour is good as Mrs. Monke.

WALTHAMSTOW.—PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr. Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter.—There is no lack of amusement in Mr. Barclay's programme for the week. The solid "joint" of the menu takes the form of the well-known dramatic sketch, *Our Curate*, in which Mr. Fred Eustace and company appear with success. The clerical hero is well supported, Mr. Ferris Gordon as the malevolent Robert Lawson, and Mr. Edwin Bennett as Mark Rollaston being exceptionally good among the gentlemen. Miss Mary Eustace acts with much emotional power as the cruelly treated Mary Neville; and Miss Madge Lindsey gives due point to the acidulated utterances of Lady Hastings. The sketch is most elaborately staged. Another play in little that is received with delight is *The Lady in Red*, performed by Mr. Tom Craven and company. The merry piece is very smartly written, and it is acted in exactly the right spirit by the two ladies and the two gentlemen engaged. Mr. Stev. Addison brings to bear on the part of the peccant husband an amount of light comedy acting that would carry through a much more ambitious work. Mr. Tom Craven gives a capital picture of the bewildered manservant. The two ladies look charming, and act well. Among the varieties, Miss Maree Kean is a young comedienne who makes a fairly good impression; Mr. Harry Lawson's dry humour and voluble utterances are highly appreciated in his two songs, "On Me!" being received with a roar; an original touch is introduced by Mr. Tom Craven, who, admirably made-up and costumed in Welsh garb, impersonates Dame Wales, an elderly lady from the principality, who has come to look for her husband in London—the "turn" is very favourably received; Mr. Gilbert Girard gives his astonishing imitations, first of the Jew's harp, and afterwards of about half the animals that came out of the Ark, with a railway train thrown in; *Sammy's Birthday*, a musical interlude, raises a hearty laugh now and then; and the programme concludes with some pretty pictures shown by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope.

WARRINGTON. — ROYAL COURT. — Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred J. Reece.—Mrs. Walter Bentley's company is here again this week in the romantic play *A Queen's Vengeance*. As Queen Eleanor Mrs. Walter Bentley displays histrionic ability of a high order; Miss Adela Harvey acts faithfully as Janet Jessop, and sings several ballads in pleasing fashion; Miss Lilian Deane is good as Mistress Clifford; Mr. A. Bertram Croucher scores as Henry II.; and in the heavy rôle of Sir Rupert Warrener Mr. Charles H. Lester acts with dramatic force throughout. Mr. Arthur Ellis is a manly Gilbert Ormonde. Other characters are ably sustained by Messrs. Arthur Bell, R. E. Trieve, G. Mepstead, F. Moore, and S. Roberts.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. Johnson and J. Potter; General-Manager, Mr. J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr. F. Wilhurt.—Park's Eton Boys are delighting all here this week with their vocalisation; and Harrigan and Holt are causing convulsive laughter with their patter and up-to-date business. W. B. Raby is a quaint comedian; the Victorian Bros., expert dancers; Joe Hennessey, clever club-swinger; Vardon, a smart ventriloquist; and the Royal bioscope pictures are also in the bill.

WEDNESBURY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr. W. J. Cranston.—The Moore-Kennedy Combination Variety company is attracting good houses this week. Mr. Harrison Bewicke and Messrs. Dunn and Lenden, in their new military scenario and living statuary, give a clever performance; Mr. Chas. Levey, comedian, evokes loud applause; the quaint comedians and dancers, Messrs. Lander and Lovett, keep the house in continuous laughter; Miss Mollie Howe, soubrette, is an expert artist; Mr. Ronald Bayne and Miss Evelyn Hope, in the historic episode, *Napoleon's Divorce*, prove a great success. The animated pictures are a big attraction.

WEST HARTLEPOOL. PALACE. — Director-General, Mr. Frank Macnaghten.—The Dayton Family of pedestal Risley acrobats are the principal attraction, the feats performed by them are executed with astonishing dexterity and precision; Marion Scott, a dainty comedienne, sings in an engaging style; Les Lauriens give a classical statuary act that is well appreciated; the Bros. Redmond, acrobatic comedians; George Bendon, the White Coon; and Emma Don and company are favourites in this district, and have a pleasing reception; a capital number is contributed by Theresa and May, and some exciting pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Gaieties are proving a great attraction here this week, an excellent programme being contributed to by Miss Rose Dallow, Miss Ruby Wilson, Mr. Wilson James, a quaint comedian, and Mr. Charles Conyers in his sketch, *An Afternoon at Home*. Interesting pictures are shown on the Bioscope by Mr. Frank Lens, and Herr Julian Kändt's Austrian Blue Band is more popular than ever.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. W. Payne.—The Elster-Grime Opera Company is paying a return visit here. On Monday *Il Trovatore* was staged. Miss Elster appeared to advantage as Leonora; Miss Madge Guillam was a praiseworthy Azucena; Miss Elsie Lynham was an acceptable Inez; Mr. F. Hargrave was in excellent voice, and sang with artistic effect as Manrico; Mr. Gilbert King as Fernando deserves unstinted praise; Count di Luna found an able exponent in Mr. Frank Land, and Mr. Albert Kewley did good work as Ruiz.

WEST STANLEY.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Stanley Theatre Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon.—The attraction this week is a strong variety company, comprising John Higgins, champion jumper of the world, who gives a fine performance. The Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists, are exceedingly good; a novel turn is supplied by Will Rain and company, in *The Motor Maniac*; the Bros. Onda are smart and clever acrobatic comedians; some smart juggling is submitted by Hanvarr and Lee in *The Golfer and the Maid*, a turn which was loudly applauded; a clever patter and boxing exhibition is given by Pearce and Wari; Fred Tenby acquits himself creditably as a comedian; and Gillin is a clever ventriloquial humourist. The programme terminates with the latest pictures on the Edison bioscope.

WIGAN.—THE HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Worswick.—Mr. T. Arthur Jones' No. 1 company, including Miss Marie Daventry, presents the sensational drama *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr. T. Arthur Jones plays very naturally the part of Capt. Harold Marston, the hero; and Mr. Oswald Douglas forcibly represents the character of the villain of the piece, Dr. Colbrooke. Mr. Edgar Morgan is a very mirth-provoking Bob Tanner; Fay Colbrooke is capably impersonated by Miss Mary Ainslie; Bess Grayson is well played by Miss Elsie Walton; and Miss Marie Daventry is very successful as Doreen, the orphan heiress.

WORTHING. — THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold. — Mr. F. H. Maltby's company in *The Youngest of Three* is paying a welcome return visit this week, and excellent houses testify that the Worthing public have not forgotten this admirable play. The tour started at this theatre, and by a happy coincidence the hundredth performance was registered here on Monday last. The company is the identical one which visited the town last March, and the lavish staging is greatly to be admired. Mr. H. F. Maltby again gives us his finished performance of George Wendover, and the other members of the cast are all deserving of the highest praise. During the last three nights of the week the same company present Mr. Wyn Weaver's drama, *In Holy Orders*, which was produced with success last week at Dover.

YORK.—ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Dacre.—The New Empire Theatrescope is the principal attraction this week, the pictures presented being of the highest form of excellence. Hurman, juggler and hoop manipulator, is well received; Alice Lorette's posing is very effective; Boden and Bell are smart juveniles, whose dancing is a praiseworthy feature; and T. C. Jacques sings some excellent songs in first rate style.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Sidney Brooke.—The Riogoku Japanese Troupe are here this week, and their reception has been most cordial; Ruth Lytton sings a couple of songs cleverly; John Ross is a capable vocalist; and Wallace Whitney is applauded. The dancing of Cliff and Kean is a special feature, and Kelly and Ashby are well received. Praise is also due to Beattie Foster and the Lovelaces.

SOUVENIRS of Meyerbeer have recently been presented to the Museum of the Grand Opera, Paris, by a lady who received them, either from the composer himself, or from members of his family. Among them are a small bronze bust by Dantan, a medallion by Zieger, and a small pitchpipe which Meyerbeer used to carry in his waistcoat pocket.

THE BUTLEIGH REVEL.

Glorious sunshine favoured the ancient revels which took place on the 19th inst., in the presence of nearly two thousand spectators, at Butleigh Court, Glastonbury, which, by the way, is only two or three miles from Keinton Mandeville, the late Sir Henry Irving's birthplace. The proceedings commenced with a prologue, followed by a tableau of the Phœnician traders after the late Lord Leighton's painting in the Royal Exchange.

Act 1 very appropriately showed the coming of St. Joseph of Arimathea and the planting of the staff, A.D. 63, which furnished a very impressive scene. The second division of the act was the entry of King Aviragus, with his six chieftains, and the granting of the land at Ynyswytryn (the Glassy Isle), upon which was built the first church in Britain. Act 2 dealt with the burial of King Arthur in the Abbey of Glaston, A.D. 542, the solemnity of the scene being varied in Act 3 by the bringing of Alfred the Great to the hut of Denulf, about the year 878. The pageant would not be complete without the incident of the burning of the cakes and the belabouring of the King's shoulders by Gundred, the swincherd's wife, and this proved to be one of the most successful portions of the entertainment. The second scene of the act was an effective representation of the Signing of the Peace of Wedmore, A.D. 878.

Act 4 depicted St. Dunstan's visit to King Edmund, A.D. 940, concluding with a tableau, "The Tribute of Wolves' Skins at Edgarley." In Act 5 King Henry I. grants a charter at Glastonbury, and this scene ended with a capital representation of Tor Fair in the olden times.

A sad event in the history of Glastonbury, namely, the dissolution of the great Abbey, was the subject of the next act, and here was shown the arrest of Abbot Whyting at Sharpham Park, on Sept. 19, 1539, and his trial at the Bishop's Palace, Wells, in November of the same year. The final scene portrayed the mournful procession to Tor Hill, in which the Lord Abbot, Prior, and Sub-Prior are drawn on hurdles to their execution.

Act 7 showed the brief career of "King Monmouth," the first scene being devoted to the arrival of the seven men of Butleigh at the Taunton market-place, and the second to the presentation of a Bible and a banner by the "Fair Maids of Taunton," on the steps of the Market Cross.

The concluding act showed a change in style—Christmas Eve, 1752—the dialogue of which was given in the Somerset dialect, and greatly appreciated by the visitors. The pageant concluded with a grand procession of all who had taken part in the various scenes, the costumes, which were historically correct, looking very beautiful in their setting of natural woodland scenery.

The revel was repeated on the following day, and so successful has it proved that it is likely to become an annual affair.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.

A special dramatic performance in aid of the Soldiers' Home, Guards' Depôt, Caterham, was given at St. George's Hall on Thursday evening under most distinguished patronage. The performance consisted of a new and original play by Miss Mary Woodifield, entitled *Foil and Counter-foil*. The plot of this new play is somewhat intricate. Sir Mark Joscelyn, of Joscelyn Towers, has a son, Nicholas, who takes to racing and neglects to pay his tailor, using his allowance to pay his debts on the Turf instead of the tradesmen. This hopeful young man is in love with Lady Betty Cyprian; his mother wants him, however, to marry a certain Marion Merridew, reported to be rich, but this lady's affections are already engaged to Oliver Travers, a barrister. Sir Mark Joscelyn has a trusted secretary, Joseph Barton, who is in love with Sally Moffat, a young lady evidently of the lower rank, who also has the disadvantage of being in the power of a man called Tuke, a friend, and an evil one, of Nicholas Joscelyn. In the first scene some valuable jewels arrive for Lady Joscelyn, and the Secretary places them in an unlocked desk in the room for safety! Sally Moffat steals into the room, and is about to take the gems—when Joseph Barton, coming back, and seeing a strange man in the room—for Sally is disguised as a man—seizes the intruder and finds it is Sally. She leaves, and the Secretary takes the gems, and on the return of the inmates of the house they find the jewels gone from the desk. Ramms, a butler, enters, and states that he has found the Secretary hiding the gems under the floor of his bedroom. They bring in Joseph Barton, who confesses to the robbery, and all the valuables are found except a diamond pendant, Sally having put that in her pocket. The first scene in Act II. shows the outside of the Full Measure Inn, and comic relief is afforded by Jock Do'em and his wife. The next scene is the interior of a prison. Joseph refuses to give up the name of his friend Tuke, as by so doing Sally will get into trouble. Seven years elapse between Act II. and III., and in Act IV., of course, all things are wound up, the villain unmasked, and the separated lovers united. Mr. C. V. Reynolds undertook the parts of Sir Mark and Jock Do'em, a publican, with a certain freedom and ability, though his style is better suited to the comic Jock than the part of the old nobleman. Mr. Sydney Brookfield played with no little intelligence the character, Nicholas Joscelyn; and Mr. Alex Duncan made a good Joseph Barton. Mr. Charles Moore had a somewhat ungrateful task in acting Catesby, a most impossible detective; and Mr. Scott did well in the small part of Ramms, the butler. Lady Joscelyn was capitally performed by Miss Anna Goad; and Miss Julia Samuel was charming in the part of Lady Betty Cyprian. The other characters of Sally Moffat and Martha Do'em, wife of Jock, were skilfully acted.

The string band of the Irish Guards, conducted by Mr. Hassell, rendered good service, and Mr. Edward Beecher acted as stage-manager, the play being produced by him.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The programme of the concert on Wednesday evening opened with a pianoforte solo, "Au printemps,", by Grieg, neatly executed by Miss Edith M. Ballard. In Guy d'Hardelot's pretty song "Because" and "The little Irish girl," by Herman Löhr, Mr. Percy Garfield was heard to great advantage, having a voice that will amply repay training. Miss Effie Cook also sang T. Riego's song "Look up, O heart" in a really artistic manner; while Mr. Josef Kiesewetter gained hearty applause in Tosti's "Mattinata." Miss Mabel Stevens, in her ambitious attempt, the scene from *Irene*, "Far greater in his lowly state," deserved praise, although the music proved somewhat beyond her present powers. In the instrumental portions Miss Nora Cookes gave a fairly able performance of Dancla's violin solo "Romance and Bolero," and Miss Blanche Hutchings deserved commendation for her piano solo "Blumenstück," by Schumann. A clever harp solo, grand study in imitation of the mandoline, by Parish Alvars, was given by Mr. Arthur Jones; and the only fault that could be found with Miss Lois Barker's pianoforte solos, "The fates," H. Farjeon, and "Scherzo," Cowen, was a certain heaviness of touch. Other able performances were a violin solo, Polonaise, Op. 4, by Mlynarski, played by Miss Elsie Kimpton, and Miss Helen Squire's piano solo, "The cascade," by Pauer. Miss Kate Richards acted as accompanist.

THE King, attended by his suite, was present at the British-Canadian Festival Concert in aid of the Countess of Minto's hospitals in Canada, held in the Queen's Hall on Wednesday.

THE CLAIMS OF COMIC OPERA.

"When the Savoy Theatre closed its doors to comic opera, London lost one of its charms. Do we not all of us remember those days of our youth," says Mr. Arthur Poyser, in the *Musical Standard*, "or younger manhood, when we looked forward to the visit to town—a visit always sure to include an evening of delight in the temple of Gilbert and Sullivan on the Embankment? The touring companies, in bringing those operas of perennial freshness to the local theatres, only whetted our appetites for that visit to the home of English comic opera where, on a first night—what first nights those used to be!—we might even see Sullivan himself in the conductor's chair, and perchance succeed in bringing Gilbert before the curtain at the end. It was all delightful. In the new opera (was it *The Yeomen* or *The Gondoliers*?) we heard an entrancing medley of wit and grace, and sweetest music, and came away feeling that there was at least one theatre in London where a delectable evening could be spent. We felt we had been under the spell of two magicians who outbid their own Mr. Wells in the "first-class assortment of magic" they had to offer—magic of incomparable *libretti*, magic of faultless lyrics, magic of melodies that robbed us of sleep. Yet we were not so musical a nation in those days. We had not learned to stand in a crowd for three hours at Queen's Hall to listen to Tchaïkovsky and Richard Strauss, nor had we jostled each other rudely in order to hear the mystical oratorios of an Elgar. We have progressed on one road; we have slipped back on another. We forget the triumphs of English opera at the Savoy, and we applaud the banalities of musical comedy.

"I go so far as to say that there are very few forms of entertainment so attractive to educated men and women in an English theatre as a comic opera of that national type hall-marked at the Savoy. Yet, when the curtain fell on the last opera of the now classic series, we tried to prevail upon the lovers of genuine light opera that musical comedy of the weakest possible kind was really what was good for them. The Savoy Theatre very shortly afterwards locked its doors. What its recent history has been we know too well. To-day we read glowing accounts of the Savoy Restaurant and Hotel, and the prosperity of that building, as shown forth in its sudden expansion of frontage to the Strand, causes us to gaze upon it in awe as we pass along the Actor's Mile. But what of the theatre smothered away somewhere in that great building erected to the delights of gastronomy? What of the policy that theatre was erected to maintain, and did maintain with such brilliance for so long a time?

"In endeavouring to state the case of comic opera one is tempted at times to cry that there is no case to state, and that "Ichabod" should be written up over the door of the temple of that particular form of musical art in England. Such a proceeding would not mend matters much unless the condition of extreme hopelessness it implies brought us, as a music-loving, if not a musical, nation to ask what was to be done. This is not a problem that can be easily put on one side. Much has been written lately concerning the drift of the drama: that at least presupposes the existence of a drama to drift; whereas to write of the drift of English comic opera would, to-day, be impossible, for the good reason that the art-form in question does not exist. Here is a point at which we reach complete agreement, and, having attained so desirable a rallying-place, we may look for some suggestions as to the future.

"Our first hope must be that London—the London of men and women with any pretension to be the possessors of a certain amount of culture and refinement—is heartily weary of its depressing period of dramatic, and especially musical-dramatic *Zopf*. When there comes a demand for better things there will be surely some supply to meet it. We must not be too critical at first, or we crush the seed before it is properly sown, or, having sown it, dig it up in feverish haste to see how it is progressing. Art epochs are not born in a day, but in a day the first blades may appear as a promise of what is to follow. If we harshly criticise, and then ridicule the blade because it is not the stout stem we expected, our plant will never grow, and we shall have to rest content with artificial flowers. All the "preliminary puffing," the over-dressing and over-mounting, and—it must be owned—over praising of worthless things, are but the paper flowers. The germ of real growth from the actual soil is smothered and stifled to death amongst the superabundance of childish inanities. Yet we wonder why there are no good, enduring English plays, or operas, written at the present time. As to native grand opera, that is quite another matter; we must be content with lesser flights at first. What we do demand is that whatsoever is done in the name of native art shall be the best of its kind; also that it shall not be judged from the standpoint of, or compared to, something not of its kind.

"It has been said that we must read the past in order to understand the present. The task proves unexpectedly interesting. In reading the fifth volume of the 'Oxford History of Music,' recently published, one finds that a very similar state of matters to that existing in England to-day existed in the eighteenth century. 'Society wanted to be amused, and cared little for the propriety of the entertainment. The audience refused to listen to anything that demanded thought; the composer stood, hat in hand, ready to offer his patrons whatever they wanted. Serene Highness, wearied by a day in the council chamber or the hunting field, betook itself to the theatre for an evening's peace, and, provided that the tunes were pretty and the accompaniments inconspicuous, was perfectly willing to be satisfied with its entertainment. . . . Little by little the fashion percolated to the lower strata of society; in a word, there was real danger that the whole of European music would be swamped by a flood of trivial commonplaces which should overspread it from coast to coast, and should then stagnate.' A composer of the period had 'just enough imaginative force to stimulate the interest of his patrons without arousing their apprehension. . . Our simple public, always on the lookout for false idols, accorded him an enthusiastic welcome, and he accepted the situation with good-humoured cynicism.' It reads like an article on the present state of music in our theatres in a quarterly review of to-day. So does history repeat itself.

"But what followed this sterility of the early eighteenth century? Why, the springing up of Haydn as the young stem of the tree of progress, of Glück as one of its noblest branches, and then the full glory of its mid-summer fulness in Mozart and Beethoven. If we give up hope, we forget the wonderful powers of revival that music, the youngest of the arts, possesses. Are we to believe that because the public of the present day desires trivialities in the theatre, that it will rest satisfied with that desire? In our hearts we know it is not so. The people of this country, whether they are patronising drama, comic opera, or grand opera, will not fail to support that which is excellent of its kind, as they crowded in years gone by to the Gilbert and Sullivan operas at the Savoy. What we wait for is a manager with sufficient courage to try experiments, as D'Oyly Carte tried, and to break fresh ground.

"If good English light opera is to be set up again in high places and to succeed, there must be no compromise between comic opera and musical comedy, as we apprehend the terms. They have nothing in common, and if the one, fearful of itself, descends at times to the level of the other, failure is courted at the outset. Comic opera is a distinct art-form, born when Mozart overthrew the *singspiel*—the musical comedy of the period—with his *Il Seraglio*; musical comedy is a loosely-strung entertainment which appeals to the jaded men and women of a strenuous life, who call for amusement, and are satisfied, 'provided the tunes are pretty and the accompaniments inconspicuous.' But there are still people left, happily, who demand some coherence, some sanity in the music-play. They may be few, but if education is really doing anything, they must become more numerous every day. Magazines and reviews that call for serious thought and appeal to cultivated judgment, and books that have a certain stamp of intellectuality, are all about us. They are read when the day's work is over, and they lift the mind out of its groove and lead it into the delectable regions of fancy and imagination. The method is not that of our present-day musical entertainments at the theatre, yet the call upon the tired mind is not made in vain. People go to the theatre to be amused, it is true, and no more delightful form of amusement, in the best sense of the word, can be found than an excellent comic opera.

"It is idle to say that the vein is worked out, or to be satisfied with the cry that there are no subjects for native light opera in our land. Our neighbours on the Continent do not think it necessary to leave their home-land in search of material. Wagner wrote his great comic opera on the material supplied by the everyday life of narrow-minded men in a small German town; French writers find abundant stores for *libretti* in Normandy and Brittany; Italian composers think village life on the slopes of their own sun-bathed hills quite exciting enough for their most dramatic works. Yet we Englishmen, possessing as we do so large a section of the habitable globe, are incessantly imitating other nations, borrowing ideas, translating, adapting, calling in foreign composers to write our comic operas; and we lay the scenes in France, or in some fictitious principality or dukedom because we have not the courage to be national, or because we have the fear of being original, in our ideas.

"That is the case of comic opera. The English home of that branch of musical art—the Savoy Theatre—is its home no longer, there are no revivals of classics, there are no new works. Yet we like to be patted on the back and called a musical nation.

THE WARWICK PAGEANT.

Some 5,000 spectators attended the rehearsal on the 22nd inst. of the Warwick pageant, which is to be given in commemoration of the thousandth anniversary of the Conquest of Mercia by Queen Ethelfleda, in the grounds of Warwick Castle, from July 2 to July 7 next. It would be difficult to conceive a more beautiful scene for a pageant, the arena chosen sloping down through an avenue of trees to the river Avon, and wooded hills forming a dark background to the glittering spectacle. In the foreground the realistic properties are carried on and off in an unobstrusive way, and the episodes are so arranged that the principal speeches are delivered right in front of the huge grand stand, which accommodates all the audience. Two thousand people, drawn from Warwick and the immediate neighbourhood, take part in the most fascinating folk-play, which has been admirably arranged and composed by Mr. Louis N. Parker, the well-known playwright, in eleven episodes, all full of dramatic and spectacular interest. They deal with the main points of the history of Warwick from the earliest times, each forming a play of its own, with a grand final tableau. The dresses are gorgeous, with beautiful arrangement of colour, and the splendid grouping, together with the elysian surroundings, and the delightful singing of the narrative and dramatic choruses, all go towards making the Warwick pageant one of the greatest triumphs of natural acting off the stage.

The pageant commences with a long flourish of trumpets by three heralds, after which a hidden orchestra begins a solemn march, and the narrative chorus, picturesquely garbed as Druids, march towards a rough altar stone, singing the opening chorus. They do ample justice to the appropriate music, composed by Mr. A. K. Blachall, F.R.C.O., and the graceful verse of Mr. James Rhoades, by which the episodes are introduced and linked together. The first episode deals with the death of Kymboline, the crowning of Caradoc, and the dawn of Christianity. The second scene illustrates the origin of the Bear and Rugged Staff, and is followed up by the commemoration of the raising of Ethelfleda's Round. In this scene the Conquest of Mercia, and the overthrow of Paganism a thousand years ago, is vividly illustrated. Episode four unfolds the romantic career of Guy of Warwick, his marriage with the fair Phyllis, and the slaying of the Dun Cow, the monstrous head of which is borne triumphantly on a trolley across the arena. The next episode depicts the return of Roger de Newburgh from the Holy Land, and the raising of the Church of St. Mary to collegiate rank. Then comes the stirring times when the Barons make short work of Edward II.'s favourite, Piers Gaveston. This is a most dramatic scene, the characters of which are admirably sustained, especially that of the ill-fated Piers Gaveston.

The Kingmaker scenes from Shakespeare's Henry VI. follow, and these, with the exception of the Elizabethan episode, are the most striking features of a spectacular entertainment. The characters here are taken by the Kineton amateurs. Lord Willoughby de Broke is Louis XI. of France, and Lady Willoughby de Broke Queen Margaret of England. Episode eight deals with the charters, and here the boys of Warwick Grammar School are introduced, and sing a Latin carmen, written by the master (the Rev. W. T. Keeling). Then comes episode nine, introducing the unpopular proclamation at Warwick of Lady Jane Grey as Queen, following which is the visit of Queen Elizabeth to the city. This is a very fine episode, and is cleverly enacted. Prior to the advent of Elizabeth, there are introduced the bailiff and the burgesses of the ancient borough, who disputed even in those days, and meet with Thomas and Dame Oken, whose charities, including marriage dowries for maidens, yearly feasts for the burgesses, and old age pensions, are depicted. Then comes in Queen Elizabeth, and Court revels and dances are given in her honour. The stately dances and the morris dances lend added enjoyment to the scene, and there is also some very fine singing. Here we are also introduced to William Shakespeare, then a boy, who is kissed by the Queen, and who boldly kisses her in return. In this scene also the boys of the King's County School, nicely dressed, come on and sing. At the close of the scene the Queen and her attendants depart in the State barge down the Avon. The eleventh episode deals with the great fire of Warwick in 1694, and this is followed by a final tableau of unprecendented magnificence.

All those who have taken part in the pageant are very effectively grouped. Britannia, Mother Warwick, mounted on a pedestal, surrounded by the fourteen Colonial and American Warwicks, are all introduced. After the singing of the Old Hundredth and the National Anthem, the whole of the performers march past. Mrs. Batchelor gives a very remarkable portrayal of Queen Elizabeth; and Mr. Rybot as Piers Gaveston is also very good. The Earl of Yarmouth will, during pageant week, appear as the Earl of Leicester, but in the dress rehearsals he is ably seconded by Mr. A. E. Batchelor. Two more full dress rehearsals were this week given, when the inmates of the Workhouse, Home for Incurables, other charitable institutions, and the poor of Warwick were invited. On another occasion the scholars of Warwickshire were afforded a day to witness the pageant.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, June 25,
the Drama, entitled
"CHEER, BOYS, CHEER!"

This week Mr. Eade Montefiore commenced a short tenancy of this theatre for the summer season, during which he proposes to produce a series of dramas which have proved so popular at Drury Lane during past years. During the period which Mr. Montefiore has secured the theatre from Mr. Robert Arthur he will lower the prices of the seats, and this, coupled with the general excellence of the productions, should ensure good houses. It is a somewhat bold experiment, which, however, ought to meet with the support it deserves. On Monday evening *Cheer, Boys, Cheer!* was staged, and this stirring drama of the Matabele war, written by the late Sir Augustus Harris and Messrs. Hamilton and Raleigh, was capitally acted by a first-class company. Mr. Arthur Royston appears as the Marquis of Chepstowe, and he gives a finished interpretation of the character. As Lady Hilyard Miss Maud Williamson has made a great success by her vigorous acting. It is a capital delineation, played with much force, and full of sincerity. Miss Hilda Stewart is a very charming Blanche Lindesay. The scheming Reginald Fitzdavis is played in an effective manner by Mr. Riddell Robinson, who quite realises the requirements of this type of character. Mr. Templer Powell is excellent as Lord Archibald; while Mr. Cyril Austin Lee makes an earnest George Hilyard. Mr. Harry H. Rignold is most amusing as Wolff Meikstein, whose name betrays his nationality; and Mr. Augustin Symonds, another good comedian, is diverting as Oliver Brown, the clerk with a fondness for public oratory. Miss Lena Delphine is vivacious as Kitty Parker; and Miss Octavia Noel appears as Lady Kesteven with marked success. The other characters are capitally played, and the whole production is suitably mounted, under the stage-management of Mr. J. R. la Fane.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, June 25,
for the first time in London,
the Anglo-American Play, in Four Acts,
by Clarence Burnette, entitled
"A GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER."

Desmond O'Dare ..... MR. ROBERT AYRTON
Solomon Solomons ..... MR. ALFRED SANDERS
John Grant ..... MR. RICHARD PITT
Jack Grant ..... MR. VICTOR MILLARD
Ralph Gillman ..... MR. VINCENT CARLYLE
Carmen Sancho ..... MISS LIZZIE GORDON
Ling Lee ..... MISS K. DEMPSEY
Dick ..... MR. HARRY BARHAM
Stephen Brand ..... MR. LINCOLN CALTHORPE
Tom ..... MR. GEORGE VINNING
Jake ..... MR. HARRY MAY
Sam ..... MR. LARRY DARBY
Auntie Zeb ..... MISS HARRIET LOYDALL
Carita ..... MISS SANDERS
Mary ..... MISS FLORENCE COOKE
Mrs. Sam ..... MISS ANNIE BROUGHTON
Mrs. Jake ..... MISS LOTTIE SANDERS
Mrs. Long Tom ..... MISS MAGGIE HOBART
Mildred Grant, Miriam Grant ..... MISS ADRIA HILL

The evils of excessive drinking and gambling, and the misery that inevitably follows in their train, have often constituted the theme of melodrama; but seldom have they been more realistically shown than in *A Gambler's Daughter*, given with every sign of success at Mr. Bailey's popular playhouse on Monday. The drama, originally produced at the Theatre Royal, Blyth, on July 26, 1905, under the title of *A Drunkard's Daughter*, is well written, and contains plenty of sensational incidents and an abundance of comedy relief, and the "curtains" are all effective. The first scene takes place in a drinking saloon in Liverpool, and here we are introduced to the drunken gambler, John Grant, and the scoundrels responsible for his downfall, Stephen Brand, and his accomplice, the comedy villain, Solomon Solomons. Grant has lost all his money at the gaming table, and all the precious pair of evil-doers now want is a life policy for £2,000, which they determine shall be theirs ere he leaves the premises. His long-suffering and half-starved wife endeavours to persuade him to go home; but her pleadings are of no avail, and the poor woman is further tortured by the infamous proposals of Stephen Brand—of course, rejected. Brand's son, evidently a ne'er-do-weil, and Dick (known as "The Weasel")—the latter another victim of Brand, who has been imprisoned for forgery, of which he is innocent—also come to the saloon, and Dick is enabled to escape recapture by the police through the ingenuity of Desmond O'Dare, a genial Irishman, who is the guardian angel of virtue in distress throughout the play. Eventually Brand attempts to steal Grant's insurance policy; but the "gambler" makes a gallant attempt to retain it, Brand and Solomons killing their dupe at the finish, and Desmond O'Dare annexing the policy.

The next scene—a particularly tragic one—is Grant's home. His starving wife and children are awaiting his home-coming, and when his dead body is borne in, his broken-hearted wife soon falls lifeless by his side, after having first been assured of her children's welfare by Desmond O'Dare and a kind-hearted American capitalist, Ralph Gillman. Some years have elapsed when the next act opens, and Grant's children, brought up by their generous guardian, Gillman, have reached the age of discretion—or should have—when we see them on the Quayside, New York Harbour. All the principal characters have crossed "the pond" as well, for Desmond is there to watch over their welfare, and the scoundrel Brand, now known as Yelverton, and connected in business with Gillman, is also prowling around, determined to compass the downfall of the children, as he did that of their parents before them. He has been partially successful with young Jack Grant, who has frequented night clubs, and forged his guardian's signature to a cheque; but the girl is made of sterner stuff, and defies temptation, as her mother did. Dick, "the Weasel"—now Captain Stanhope—has fallen in love with her; and Brand persuades Carmen Sancho—still another of his victims—to waylay the gallant soldier and stab him. Carmen, however, kills Grant's own son by mistake, and Brand is arrested, but somehow again manages to escape justice. His next scheme to ruin Gillman, who has accepted a big Government contract which is to be completed within a certain time, is to entice all the workmen from the mills, giving them free drinks and unlimited credit. Gillman, young Jack Grant, and O'Dare all attempt to induce the men to return to work, as do also their half-starved women-folk; but the drinking-saloon is the strongest magnet. Then Miriam Grant has an idea. She induces the wives to follow their husband's example, and there is a very funny scene, wherein the men go home to find it deserted, and eventually discover their spouses in the liquor-palace, ordering drinks at their husbands' expense. The men insist that their wives shall not be served, and the women, as an alternative, ask Yelverton to refrain from supplying drink during working hours. This he refuses to do, and the women, in their wrath, completely wreck the saloon. Ere the curtain descends for the last time, Miriam saves her guardian and brother, and there is every prospect of happiness for "the gambler's daughter" and her friends.

Much of the success of the first performance is due to the admirable interpretation of the parts of Mildred and Miriam Grant and Desmond O'Dare by Miss Adria Hill and Mr. Robert Ayrton, who head an excellent company. Miss Hill has opportunities for the display of most of the emotions in her depiction of the dual rôle of mother and daughter, and she took full advantage of them all. Her acting was pathetic in the extreme in the first act, in which the weary and half-starved wife appeals to her husband to leave the gaming-table and return home; and also in the concluding episods of the first act. In her portrayal of the daughter, Miriam, Miss Hill also was seen to advantage, very spirited and convincing being her attempt to induce the men to return to work; and her love-making with Captain Stanhope was quietly humorous. Altogether, Miss Hill is to be warmly congratulated on her portrayal of a particularly arduous rôle. Equally successful was Mr. Robert Ayrton as the light-hearted Desmond O'Dare, a very popular personage with the audience. The character is mainly a humorous one, but it has its pathetic moments; but in whatever mood we see O'Dare, he is always easy and natural, and the impersonation throughout is one on which the experienced actor is to be complimented. Another very humorous portrayal was that of the artful old Jew, Solomon Solomons, by Mr. Alfred Sanders, especially funny being the scene in which he is "fooled" by the coloured servant, Auntie Zeb, a part exceptionally well played by Miss Harriet Loydall, a gifted comedienne, who certainly scored one of the hits of the evening by her quaintly comical yet unexaggerated portrayal of the artful negress. Mr. Richard Pitt gave an effective portrait of the drunkard and gambler, Grant; Mr. Victor Millard is to be commended for his impersonation of young Grant; the capitalist, Ralph Gillman, was admirably undertaken by Mr. Vincent Carlyle; Mr. Harry Barham was a manly and sincere Captain Stanhope; the villainous Stephen Brand, a long and important part, was cleverly and convincingly enacted by Mr. Lincoln Calthorpe, an actor of decided ability. The numerous other characters were all ably enacted; and the scenery and stage-management—especially the destruction of the drinking-saloon—is entitled to praise.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 25,
the Drama, in Five Acts,
by Henry Pettitt and Augustus Harris, entitled
"A MILLION OF MONEY."

The second week of Mr. Eade Montefiore's summer season has been productive of equally satisfactory results as those of the first, and audiences at Mr. Robert Arthur's theatre have responded in good numbers to the inducement held out by the production of the late Henry Pettitt and Augustus Harris's melodrama *A Million of Money*. Opportunity is given for some striking sets, of which full advantage is taken, and of the ten different scenes which illustrate the story those of the races and the Fête at the Exhibition provide the most elaborate specimens of scenic art The company has been selected with due regard to fitness. A splendid lead is furnished in Mr. H. Hamilton-Stewart, whose commanding presence dominates the piece agreeably. His manly fervour and dramatic expression give distinction to the inspiriting lines of the part, and the sentiment of Harry Dunstable's parting with his wife in the barrack-yard is made very affecting. Mr. W. F. Grant adopts an appropriately villainous scowl as the unscrupulous Major Belgrave, and a deep-toned voice used with skilful inflection gives added effect to the bitterness of his utterances. The character of Mary Maythorne is invested with gentleness and grace by Miss Doris Gilham, who is successful also in the portrayal of emotion as the young wife led by misrepresentation to believe that her husband is faithless. The spiteful Stella St. Clair receives adequately intense treatment at the hands of Miss Cecily Cromwell, who exerts her baneful influence realistically and suggests with unerring effect the vindictive nature of the character. The part of the scoundrelly Dick Bounder Mr. Victor Widdicombe makes entirely his own. His appearance is cleverly suggestive of the wily "sport," and the humour of the part is never allowed to flag. An artistic study of character is presented by Mr. Leslie Carter, the strength of whose portrayal of the unfortunate Geoffrey Stirling frequently raises a specially approving cheer; and another clever assumption is that of the lawyer Whetstone as presented by Mr. Frank M. Wood, who makes a very quaint and amusing personage of the elderly solicitor. Mr. George Percy is a buoyant and genial Tom Cricklewood; and a charmingly vivacious rendering of Hetty Nestledown is furnished by Miss Amy Grace, whose excellent light comedy style well befits the part. Mr. Wilfred Beckwith makes a benign parson as the Rev. Gabriel Maythorne, and acts with becoming gravity; and Mr. Murray Carrington should be cordially praised for his easy bearing and admirable delivery in the part of young Frank Hastings. Of the smaller characters the representation of Mrs. Marlow supplied by Miss May Romney, who speaks with excellent emphasis, should be singled out for praise; and the horse trainer of Mr. John Dane, the gipsy of Miss Viola Finney, and the Elsie Drummond of Miss Dorothy Finney, who dances elegantly, are also assumptions of distinct merit.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, June 25,
the Melodrama, entitled
"THE WAY OF THE WORLD."

For the last week of the spring season at this theatre Mr. Clarence Sounes made a popular booking in that of Messrs. Montague Beaudyn and Sidney Crowe's company, in *The Way of the World*. This play, which is well handled by an excellent cast, is a "melo-drama" in the strictest sense of the term, and the strong dramatic interest, combined with the interpolated musical numbers, proved much to the taste of Monday's audience. Miss Sidney Crowe is responsible for a forcible and convincing portrayal of Adela de la Roche, successfully insisting on the vixenish character of the vindictive Frenchwoman, and being particularly effective in the final scene of Adela's repentance. Miss Cissie Bellamy acts with a good deal of sympathy and power as Kate Montague, and soon becomes a firm favourite. As Marian Fanshaw Miss Violet Ingram speaks her lines distinctly, and with good effect. Miss Marie Fontaine causes considerable laughter as Polly Bell, the strong woman, and, with the aid of Mr. Dick Seddon, who also puts in a deal of hard work on his own account, is responsible for much of the success of the evening. As Cecil Montague Mr. Harold B. Lewis proves an excellent juvenile lead, acting with commendable ease and self-restraint. In the rôle of Captain Fred Slade Mr. Herbert Skardon earns the hearty execrations of the "gods." Mr. Clarence Temple plays Matthew Malyon with energy and conviction; Mr. Augustus Hammond is amusing as Horatio Bluff; and Mr. Pat Quinn acts well as Silas Montague.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, June 25,
the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

A return visit of Mr. Charles Harrington's No. 1 company, in an adaptation of Mrs. Beecher Stowe's beautiful work, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, is being paid this week, and the large audiences that attended each performance testified, in no uncertain manner, their appreciation of the humorous and pathetic episodes incidental to negro life in the old slavery days, which are so ably embodied in the play. The piece, too, is admirably staged, and the scenery throughout excellent.

Mr. J. Carr gives a convincing impersonation of Uncle Tom, and his quiet but earnest acting makes a deep impression on the audience. Phineas Fletcher has a capital representative in Mr. J. H. Renney; and Mr. Stanley Howard presents a painstaking study of the wealthy planter, Mr. St. Clair. Mr. Leslie Beaufort is sufficiently manly and forcible as George Harris; and Mr. J. Henry Rogers, as the brutal slave-owner, Legree, looks the part to perfection. Mr. John Gibson as Mr. Wilson and Mr. James Jackson as Dan Haley are satisfactory in their respective parts; and Mr. Walter Langford causes much amusement by his character-sketch of the lawyer Marks. Miss Hettie Johnson is seen to advantage in the rôle of Eliza Harris; and Miss Carrie Ellis capably sustains the part of Emmeline. Miss Annie Watson as Topsy scores a decided success, and her clever acting keeps the audience in uproarious laughter. Miss Jennie Malcolm does all that is possible with the part of the staid Aunt Ophelia; and Mrs. Carr gives a good performance of Uncle Tom's wife, Aunt Chloe. Little Minnie acts with natural innocence and grace as Little Eva, speaking her lines with praiseworthy distinctness; and Miss Ethel Mildmay as Cassy, the creole slave, plays with pronounced success. A feature of the play is the grand plantation festival, in which Miss May Vincent, ballad vocalist; Messrs. Ikey Jones and Shorty May, dancers; Mr. W. H. Holt, tenor; Mr. Ben Rowe, bone soloist; and Rowe and Holden, cake-walkers, are accorded much applause.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, June 25,
the Historical Tragedy, in Four Acts, by
J. Gordon, entitled
"MEDEA."

For Monday evening the Pavilion reverted to classical drama, and an excellent performance of J. Gordon's play *Medea* was given. Though not entirely free from the fault of diffuseness it proved one of the most successful pieces produced during the engagement of the Jewish Operatic and Dramatic Company. Mme. F. Waxman, who impersonated Medea, gave a fine example of high histrionic ability, and must be congratulated upon an admirable rendering of an extremely difficult character; every point was carefully made, and the conflicting passions were portrayed with great skill, while the intensity of her acting in the second act won unqualified applause. Mr. M. D. Waxman, looking very handsome in his classical costume, was in every respect an excellent Yozohn; Mr. M. Streng extracted all the humour possible from the part of Osanepontus; and Mr. D. Raitz was good as a Priest. Mme. Rose Waxman invested the rôle of Criozo with passionate warmth, and sang with much taste and effect. A highly meritorious rendition of Crehan was presented by Mr. Schapira; and Mme. J. Kayzer sustained Gara with conspicuous ability; while the Sisters Lubritzky acquitted themselves intelligently as the children of Yozohn and Medea. The play was suitably mounted. The week's programme includes *Rachel; or, the Flag of Judah, The Workman, Alexander, Azaria, the Hero of the Army*, and *Blimele*.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, June 25,
the Drama by Walter Burnott and Harry Bruce,
entitled
"THE TWO HUSSARS."

The attraction this week at the Lyric is the military drama, *The Two Hussars*, produced with every success by Messrs. Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company. Mr. Wilson Benge takes the leading part of Harry Alford, which he invests with all the pluck and dash so necessary for a soldier hero, and his performance is much appreciated by the audience. Mr. Fred J. Webb cleverly portrays the villainous Captain Paul Villiers; Miss Sadie Smith makes a very winning Ellen Maythorne, giving to the character at once a romantic and pathetic tone; Mr. Louis Nanton as Robert Runn, and Miss Lallah Price as Miss Molly Cutts, supply an abundance of merriment, and are the cause of much laughter. The part of Colonel Manners is entrusted to Mr. J. Stuart, who pictures this fierce old officer as a brave as well as good-hearted old man. Miss Danvers Smith renders the part of Marie with feeling, and acquits herself creditably. As Sergeant M'Finne Mr. G. Paradise is excellent; while Mr. Charles Fynes and a Mr. Jones give life-like studies of the Counsel for the Crown and defence respectively in the Law Court scene. Miss Marie Helene also deserves special praise, her part of Mrs. Giles, though small, being intelligently rendered. Minor rôles are successfully played by Messrs. F. G. Maddox, Louis Freeland, R. Charles, H. Lyndon, James Dalton, S. Little, Charles Dix, R. Bell, and R. Cross.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

On Monday, June 25,
the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts,
by H. F. Housden, entitled
"A WOMAN'S PAST."

A Woman's Past will rank as one of the best dramas of its kind seen at this house for some time. There is not a dull moment throughout the performance, and it is ably interpreted by Mr. A. Hamilton Warden's excellent company. The David Heath of Mr. Horace E. Herbert is a sterling performance. His acting throughout shows carefulness and thought, and well merits the applause it receives. As Frank Dellannoy, Mr. Charles V. Sanford gives a bright and breezy rendering of an American; Mr. A. Hamilton Warden as Clement Harper makes a capital medico; and Mr. Oswal Cray as Uriah Craven is sufficiently repulsive and dastardly as the man responsible for "the woman's past." Miss Maisie Hanbury acts the rôle of Bessie with great credit, and wins the approval of everyone by her grace and charm of manner; and Miss Gertrude Harrison scores as the wicked Clara Darrel, her representation of the vindictive and desperate woman being excellent; Miss May Dallas as Dorothy Heath is bright and attractive; the minor parts are well played, and the piece is capitally staged.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, June 25,
the Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Henry Bedford,
entitled
"THE STRAIGHT GAME."

Mr. Henry Bedford and members of his company are appearing at this theatre in the exciting drama entitled *The Straight Game*. Mr. Henry Bedford is excellent in the part of Nat Gould, and meets with a distinctly satisfactory reception; Mr. Alec Alexander as Frank Poole, an unscrupulous lawyer, portrays a calculating villain with just sufficient coolness of manner; Mr. Walter H. Domoney as Gilbert Lethbridge, the hero of the piece, has plenty to do, and he acts with vigour and good effect; Miss Bessie Bedford is Mary Lethbridge, Gilbert's wife, who has her full share of trouble; and a thoughtful study of the part of Belle Lorrimore, Mary's sister, comes from Miss Violet Alwynn. Mr. Sid Bedford as Tom Bounce, and Miss Jennie Risley as Kissie Lipscombe represent the courting servants, apparently indispensable in this class of play. The second act takes place in South Africa during the war. Here most of the people in the story who have been already seen make their reappearance, for one reason or another, and various military characters are well represented by Mr. George W. Hewetson as General Lisburn, Mr. Monkhouse as George Foster, and Mr. B. Leonard Page as Billy, a burglar.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, June 25,
the Drama, in Four Acts, by James Willard,
entitled
"IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT."

This well-known drama was accorded an enthusiastic reception on Monday night at the Stratford Theatre Royal, where the piece is paying a return visit. Mr. George Harvey makes the most of his opportunities in the limited part of John Allington, and Mr. Austin Mortimer plays with much earnestness as Gordon Allington. Mr. Geo. R. Montford makes Clifford Yorke the personification of gentlemanly blackguardism, in appearance, voice, and gesture; and Mr. E. Arnold Palmer is a breezy and manly exponent of Tom Nainby. Mr. Fred Norburn contributes a grim portraiture of Jake Grudgewell; and Mr. Harry Emmerson makes a hearty and rugged figure of Farmer Woodstock. Mr. C. P. Wentworth exhibits much resource in his depiction of such contrasted characters as the aged deaf postman, Joe Jackson, and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope; and Mr. Jas. Ingledew makes an alert Inspector Manners. Miss Phyllis Dailley is a sympathetic and charming Violet Kingston; Miss Nellie Sheffield is always bright and vivacious in the popular rôle of Molly Woodstock; and Miss Phyllis French plays with much expression as Bob. Minor parts are all in capable hands, and the piece is capitally mounted.

BROADWAY THEATRE.

On Monday, June 25,
the Play, in Five Acts, by Messrs. George Sims
and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

This, the last week of the present season, is devoted to a return visit of this highly attractive play, which is admirably interpreted by Hardie and Von Leer's clever company. Mr. William Fazan gives an earnest and painstaking performance of the part of George Thornton; Captain Darville is well acted by Mr. Sidney Vautier; John Scarth has an able representative in Mr. Dunstan Haye; Mr. S. Major Jones is a realistic Bill Muggins; and his confederates, Dido Bunce and the Cough-Drop, are well represented by Messrs. Frank Gordon and Fred Archer; Mr. Frank G. Kent is really excellent as Leeson; Mr. Marston Moor is good as Hargitt, as is Mr. Hugh Holliman as Joe Gargoyle; and the remaining male parts are in the capable hands of Messrs. Thomas Blakeman (Doctor Lynn), Henry Buckland (Whiffin), and W. T. Harris (the Footman). Miss Valerie Grespin gives a charming interpretation of Marion Thornton, gentle, tender, and sympathetic; Miss D. Rosslyn Vayne is an attractive Barbara Scarth; Miss Lenna Vernon is a pleasing Sister Randall; Miss Alice Ramsden is good as the maid; and Miss Marie Prichard as Biddy Mullins gives a neat character sketch. The two little Vagabonds are played by Miss May Hart, whose Dick is a bright, manly little fellow, who wins his way to all hearts; and by Miss Josie Beltram, whose Wally is pathetic, convincing, and most popular.

After this week the theatre will be closed for re-decoration, re-opening on August Bank Holiday.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, June 25,
the Original Domestic Drama, in Four Acts,
by Ridgewood Barrie, entitled
"A QUEEN OF VILLAINY."

Despite the weather, which has been so greatly against all theatrical amusements, a very fair audience assembled on Monday night to welcome Mr. P. Howard Sturgess's company in the exciting and interesting drama, *A Queen of Villainy*. The title-rôle is ably acted by Miss Edith Bland. Her excellent elocution and her handsome and commanding presence lend such distinction to the part of Cora Granville, that the audience are almost tempted to overlook the numerous moral delinquencies which must be charged to the character. Mr. Ernest G. Batley is an excellent representative of the hero Alec; Mr. Edward Heanley ably depicts the villainies of the unscrupulous Stephen Faucit; Mr. Arthur E. Maskel gives a good character-sketch as the poacher Reuben Hawk, infusing a good deal of grim humour into the part; Mr. P. Howard Sturgess causes abundant laughter as the timid tourist Timothy Kodac, whose sweetheart, Mollie Maggs, is brightly played by Miss Jessie Crummonde, who ably assists in keeping the ball of fun rolling. Miss Amy Ross Clyde, as the old nag Sally Chimes, contributes an able character-sketch, which is of the utmost value to the play. Miss Cecilia Desmond gains the sympathy of the house by her sympathetic rendering of the gentle Rose Delmayne; Mr. Charles Stirling is earnest and powerful as the convict Dick Leinster; and Mr. Lawrence Stevenson excellent as the waif Kit. Mr. Ern Carlton makes an aristocratic Sir John Desborough, and P.C. Martell is played with humour by Mr. Cecil de Lee, who also stage-manages the production. The scenery and effects are quite adequate, and special incidental music has been arranged by Mr. J. H. Hutchinson.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, June 25,
the Farcical Comedy, by Brandon Thomas, in
Three Acts, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

After a prolonged absence, regretted by many local playgoers, this amusing play, the popularity of which has not yet begun to wane, made a welcome reappearance at the Kingston playhouse on Monday, and has commanded fairly good audiences during the week, in spite of many out-of-doors counter attractions. The amusing antics of the old lady from Brazil were as provocative of mirth as ever. Mr. Stanley Cooke appears in the title-rôle, and extracts from it a maximum of humour. The parts of the two undergraduates are ably filled by Mr. Hastings Lynn and by Mr. Richard B. Mason. A capital impersonation of the part of the solicitor, Stephen Spettigue, is given by Mr. Walter Beaumont; and the part of Colonel Chesney is equally well played by Mr. C. B. Keston. Miss Lena MacNaughten figures prominently as Donna Lucia; and the other parts allotted to ladies are well played by the Misses Marion Ripley, Dorothy Deacon, and Gladys Storey. The play was admirably mounted.

COMPOSERS' BURIAL PLACES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—A contemporary journal has printed the subjoined paragraph, in answer to a correspondent:—"The remains of the following musicians have been reinterred: Bach, Haydn, Beethoven, Weber, Schubert, and Dragonetti; and of Englishmen, Dr. Greene, John Davy (in the same churchyard, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields), and Sir William Cusins. For a *complete* list you had better apply to Mr. Algernon Ashton: he could doubtless also furnish you with the names of those musicians who have been buried at sea—in other words, those who sleep their last sleep in the ocean's bed."

To the above-mentioned nine musical notabilities whose remains have been reinterred, I can add Gluck, who was transferred from the Matzleinsdorf Cemetery in Vienna, to the central cemetery of that city; Rossini, who rested for years in the cemetery of Père Lachaise, Paris, but whose embalmed body was subsequently taken to the church of Santa Croce, Florence; Bellini, who was likewise originally interred in Père Lachaise, but now lies buried in his native town of Catania, Sicily; and lastly, Schumann, who, in the year 1880, was taken from one grave to another in the cemetery at Bonn.

Of course there may be other famous musicians whose remains have been subjected to similar treatment, but whose names I cannot now recall. Regarding those musicians who were buried at sea (which is almost as horrible as cremation), I only know of one—Dr. John Naylor, the well-known church composer and organist of York Minster, who died on May 15, 1897, whilst on a voyage to Australia. Dr. Naylor was an esteemed personal friend of mine, to whom one of my earliest compositions (an Interludium for Organ, Op. 11) is dedicated.—I am, Sir, yours obediently,

ALGERNON ASHTON.

44, Hamilton-gardens, London, N.W., June 24.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The London County Council resumed its sittings after the Whitsun recess at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, on Tuesday.

RESIGNATION.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported with regret that Mr. D. S. Waterlow, M.P., had found it necessary to resign his membership of the committee. They intended to report later as to filling the vacancy.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME.

The committee reported that they had had before them during the recess two drawings, showing certain proposed modifications of the gallery seating and of the exit at the back of the pit at the Putney Hippodrome, Gardner's-lane, Putney. The arrangements shown on the drawings appeared to be satisfactory.

ALLEGED DANGEROUS PERFORMANCE.

The committee reported as follows:—

Our attention has been drawn by Dr. F. J. Waldo, the Coroner for the City of London, to the rider which was added to the verdict of the jury at an inquest held on May 24, 1906, regarding the death of Michael Murphy, who died from septicæmia following an operation for re-setting the bone of his left arm, which was fractured on Jan. 6, 1906, by the deceased being thrown from an "unrideable" mule at the New Grand Hall, Clapham Junction. It appears that in one of the turns included in the performance at this music hall on Jan. 6, 1906, a revolving table, a pony, and an "unrideable" mule were employed, and men and boys from the audience were invited to ride for prizes upon the table and upon each of the animals, competitors being warned that anyone attempting the performances did so at his own risk. Evidence was given at the inquest that several youths had been slightly injured by falling or being thrown from or bitten by the animals. The rider attached to the verdict of "accidental death" arrived at by the jury was to the effect that the performance at which the deceased met his injury was a dangerous one, and should be discountenanced. We concur in the view expressed by the jury, and have informed the licensee of the New Grand Hall accordingly. A copy of the rider has also been forwarded by Dr. Waldo to the Home Office. We may add that we understand that the turn in question is not at present being performed in London.

The report was received without discussion.

PROPOSED KILBURN MUSIC HALL.

The Council on Nov. 21, 1905, approved drawings submitted by Mr. F. W. Hingston, on behalf of Mr. W. Stephens, of a music hall building proposed to be erected on a site between Kilburn High-road and Kilburn Priory, subject to the condition, *inter alia*, that the building should be commenced within six months from the date of the approval. Mr. Stephens has asked that this time may be extended by six months, and the committee recommended that the application be acceded to.

Approved.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

A report having reference to this theatre, which was recently rebuilt after being destroyed by fire, was held over. The committee stated: It would seem to be quite clear that the Council has no jurisdiction and no responsibility for the safety of the public attending the theatre, and in the circumstances we do not think that the Council should take any further action in the matter.

THE TIVOLI.

The committee had considered drawings submitted by Mr. G. H. Dyball, showing how it is proposed to comply with certain of the suggestions made by the Council for the structural improvement of the Tivoli Music Hall, Strand. They recommended that Mr. Dyball be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the four drawings submitted by him, provided suggestions Nos. 18, 38, 39, 40, and 56 are complied with to the satisfaction of the Council.

Agreed to.

THE ALBERT HALL.

In reply to a question, Mr. Yates, the chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, stated that the solicitor to the Council had not yet given his opinion as to whether or not performances at the Royal Albert Hall came under the jurisdiction of the Council.

WALDORF THEATRE.

The Building Act Committee recommended that the Council do consent to the erection of two iron and glass shelters in front of the Waldorf Theatre, Aldwych and Catherine-street, as shown on the plans, dated April 5, 1906, and May 21, 1906, submitted in connection with the further application of Messrs. Gillow and Co., such consent being subject to the usual conditions.

"THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I should like, with your permission, to correct an impression which might be given by two or three passages in your criticism of Gogol's comedy in to-day's issue The play given at the Scala last week was translated a few years ago direct from the Russian, *not* from a German original or version. Its name in Russian is *Revizor*. It is of course a classic in that country, and was honoured by enthusiastic Jubilee celebrations in 1886, at St. Petersburg and Moscow.

For London audiences many of the Russian points and allusions had perforce to be cut, whereas I understand that the German version given some while back in Germany was artistically marred by being expanded and brought up to date.

The costumes in the Stage Society production were copied from Boklevski's album of "Types of Characters in the *Revizor*," as dressed for the Russian stage.—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR A. SYKES.

16, Edith-road, West Kensington.
June 23, 1906.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—In your notice of the production of *Welcome Home* at the Empress, Brixton, in your last week's issue, by a programme error you state that the authors are Mr. Harry Leighton and George Errard. The latter name should be George Everard.—Yours faithfully, BERT D'ARCY, Brixton, June 20.

ONLY three of Wagner's works, namely, *Der Ring des Niebelungen*, *Tristan und Isolde*, and *Parsifal* are to be produced at the Bayreuth Festival of 1906, which opens on July 23. The latter work will be given seven times, and will close the festival on August 20.

THE famous violinist, Dr. Joachim, attained his seventy-fifth birthday on Thursday. Dr. Joachim made his first appearance in England sixty-two years ago, and since then he has occupied a position of influence in connection with music in England that has hardly been rivalled.

ON Saturday last M. Coquelin and company paid a special flying visit to the Manchester Theatre Royal, when large audiences assembled to witness a matinée of *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* and a very fine performance in the evening of *Cyrano de Bergerac*.

MISS ELIZABETH PARKINA, who was taken ill on the stage during a performance of *La Bohème*, at Covent Garden, and was unable to finish her part, is recruiting in the country, and will be able to resume her place at Covent Garden next week

"JOHN DRAYTON, MILLIONAIRE."

A Fanciful Comedy, in Three Acts,
by H. M. Walbrooke,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Dover, on Monday, June 25.

John Drayton .....MR. FREDERICK ROSS
Philip Havelock .....MR. CHARLES FANCOURT
Constantius .....MR. RICHARD A. GREENE
Mary Maxwell.....MISS DOROTHY MAYHEW
Lady Maxwell .....MISS PHYLLIS NOELL
Nellie Brasher .....MISS DORA HARCOURT
Ellen .....MISS SYLVIA MORRIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

John Drayton, Millionaire, is described as a story of mediæval legend blended with modern London life, and was, we believe, produced for copyright purposes at Brighton some five years ago, under the title of *Sunshine and Rain*. Since that date, however, considerable changes have been made in the script, and the result is a daring and original play, written with considerable power, and with an element of the fantastic which reminds one of *A Message from Mars*. The comedy had a most enthusiastic reception, the principal scenes being greeted with rounds of applause.

The first act introduces John Drayton, author, living on the verge of starvation in the attic of a Bloomsbury boarding-house. However, hope has not quite gone, for he has still the love of his fiancée, Mary Maxwell, and his pal, Philip Havelock, comes forward with offers of pecuniary assistance. Following an interview with his sweetheart, he receives a visit from an old man in a strange garb named Constantius, who tells him that the legend of the Wandering Jew is true. He who committed the unpardonable sin still exists, and indeed cannot die until someone dowered with the money Constantius has saved through many centuries commits an entirely self-sacrificing act, and so sets his weary spirit free. The old man offers Drayton unlimited wealth on certain terms. He may do what he will with the money; but there will be no rain in England until he has performed one act of real unselfishness. Drayton, after some hesitation, accepts the offer, and undertakes the responsibility. The last words of Constantius to Drayton, before his disappearance in the same strange way that he came, are to spend the money in the best manner possible, and to remember that the happiness of millions is at stake.

The first act of the new millionaire is to engage as his private secretary his old friend Philip Havelock, and to secure a cosy little flat in Piccadilly. Here he is found surrounded by all the luxuries that unlimited wealth can buy. All the happiness that the latter can bring, however, is overshadowed by the knowledge that his action of nine weeks ago has caused a terrible drought in the land. Thousands of pounds have been given away in charity, but what act of self-sacrifice must he make to bring the rain so urgently needed? Constantius comes in answer to his cry of "What more can I do? I would give up everything to bring the rain!" Drayton confesses he is living in luxury, and has not performed one real act of unselfishness. Constantius tells him that the only thing that would be of avail would be to give up the girl he loves. Drayton, however, emphatically declines to do this, and resolves to go back to the old days of poverty and work.

The third act brings us again to Bloomsbury. Drayton has left all the money in charge of the bank, and is as poor as he was nine weeks ago. Mary visits him, and there is a tender scene between the lovers. The erstwhile millionaire struggles against the good impulses which prompt him to give up his love and bring gladness to millions; but finally they conquer. He tells Mary he never cared for her, and bids her forget him as speedily as possible. She leaves him apparently broken-hearted. Havelock enters and draws attention to the darkness of the sky. They both rush to the window. The room is suddenly illuminated by a flash of lightning, and the rain pours down in torrents. Havelock leaves, jubilant, and Drayton is again honoured by a visit from the Wandering Jew, who restores his wealth, and comforts him with the assurance that his sacrifice has not been in vain. Mary returns, confesses that she knew Drayton did not mean her to take seriously his wild words, and the curtain falls on two happy pairs of lovers, for Havelock, in the intervals of assisting his friend, has found time to woo and win Ellen (the daughter of an Army officer), who has been masquerading as a servant.

Mr. Frederick Ross is well-known locally as an artist of exceptional ability, but the audience were hardly prepared for such a remarkable display of talent as shown in his portrayal of John Drayton. The pathetic struggle of the penniless author, the remorse of the millionaire who is responsible for the awful curse upon the land, and the spontaneous humour in the lighter scenes, were cleverly depicted, and it would be impossible to imagine a more effective rendering of the part. Mr. Charles Fancourt as Philip Havelock acted with unflagging energy, and was particularly successful in the light comedy scenes, which suit him so well. Mr. Richard Greene—brother to the popular Evie Greene—deserves nothing but praise for his rendering of Constantius; it was both striking and impressive. A clever and fascinating Mary Maxwell was found in Miss Dorothy Mayhew; her vivacity and sympathetic manner renedered her performance completely captivating. A notable touch of individuality was given to the part of Ellen by Miss Sylvia Morris, who won the entire approbation of the audience by her graceful portrayal. Miss Phyllis Noell made the most of her slender chances as Lady Maxwell; and Miss Dora Harcourt, beautifully gowned, played with quiet assurance and considerable charm as Nellie Brasher.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The chamber concert of Friday evening, June 22, opened with a careful and intelligent performance of Schumann's "Quartet for Strings in F, op. 41, No. 2," the executants being Mr. William Armstrong, Miss Marjorie Beer, Mr. Frank Bridge, and Miss Beatrice Jones. A clever and extremely youthful student, Miss Gertrude Mustard, proved excellent in her piano solo of Schumann's "Carnaval," both for touch and execution. On the vocal side of the programme, Miss Janey Fyans displayed a well-trained mezzo-soprano voice in two songs, "I Cherish Thee," and "King of Thule," by Liszt. Miss Dilys Jones and Miss Mary C. Harrison were also much applauded in their vocal duets, "Die Zuversicht," "Die Gefangene," and "Die Trennung," by Dvorák; and Miss Mary Hughes greatly pleased by her performance of Wagner's two songs, "Träume" and "Stehe Still." The concert, which was largely attended, concluded with the organ solo, "Fantasia" (W. Wolstenholme), well played by Mr. Edward Tayler. Miss Alice Cotton, Miss May Harrison, and Mr. Harold Samuel acted as accompanists.

THE ALEXANDRA, STOKE NEWINGTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Our attention has been called to a paragraph which appears in your issue of the 23rd inst. to the effect that Mr. Frank Macnaghten has acquired the lease of the Stoke Newington Theatre, which he will re-open as a variety theatre on August Bank Holiday. We beg to inform you that this is in no manner the case, and that Mr. Macnaghten has not acquired the lease of the theatre, and we therefore shall be glad if you will insert this letter in your next issue.—Yours faithfully,

STILGOES
(Solicitors for the Alexandra Theatre).
24, Essex-street, Strand, W.C., June 27.

"WHERE IS WILLIAM?"

A New and Original Farcical Comedy,
by Charles Windermere,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, on Thursday, June 21.

Sir William Gregory ..MR. CHAS. WINDERMERE
Harry .....MR. HARRY AVERELL
General Rubbub .....MR. WENTWORTH FANE
William Jolley .....MR. GRAHAM MORRISON
Joe Budge .....MR. HENRY NELSON
Rafter .....MR. MACKENZIE
Lady Mary .....MISS PHYLLIS LESLIE
Phyllis .....MISS CLARE MANIFIELD
Emily .....MISS EVELYN SHELLEY
Eliza .....MISS ZOE DAVIS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The plot of Mr. Windermere's new farcical comedy turns on the remarkable likeness between William Jolley, the butler, and his employer, Sir William Gregory. Mr. Windermere is to be congratulated upon the amount of genuine humour he introduces in the unravelling of the awkward situations brought about by this likeness. Judging from its reception at the first performance, the new play is likely to have a successful run.

In the first act, Harry, son of Sir William, and Phyllis, companion to Lady Mary, hold a conversation respecting a model of a boy invented by the first-mentioned. Lady Mary, who is going to a dance, expresses her regret at her husband's resolve not to accompany her. Sir William, as an excuse for remaining at home, pleads that he is only a parvenu, while she is a lady. Jolley enters to announce that the motor-car is ready to take Lady Mary, Harry, and Phyllis to the dance. Lady Mary, turning hurriedly to give her husband a parting embrace, kisses Jolley, to her great annoyance. She complains that she can only tell her husband and the butler apart by the brass buttons on the latter's coat. Just prior to retiring for the night, Jolley announces that he must leave the service of Sir William, and threatens to commit suicide on account of the trouble he is in. Questioned by Sir William, he states that his first wife, whom he had supposed dead, was expected to arrive the next day from Australia. Sir William, after a glance at the photograph of the returning wife, assures the unhappy butler that he will assist him out of his difficulties.

During the night a burglar enters the house, and, bungling, rouses Jolley, who fires a revolver. The burglar is uninjured, but seeing no other way of escape, feigns death. Sir William enters, and hearing what has happened, helps Jolley to cover up the supposed corpse. He then advises Jolley to make good his escape. The burglar, before quitting the house, discovers the dummy figure, and places it in the spot where he had been left. Jolley and Sir William returning, decide to place the body in an ottoman. Jolley, who has donned his master's coat and hat, departs, and Sir William, in order to screw up his courage, drinks a tumbler of whiskey, and then, feeling cold, puts on Jolley's coat. Being overcome by the whiskey, he lies down on the ottoman, and falls fast asleep. Lady Mary, on returning home, finds him there, and supposing it to be Jolley, is extremely angry, and orders him to retire to the servants' quarters. He asserts he is Sir William, but is not believed, as he is wearing Jolley's coat. Eventually it is found that Sir William's hat and coat are missing and the party retire for the night.

In the morning there is no news of Sir William, so Harry goes to the police station to make enquiries. Amusing complications ensue through Sir William being mistaken for Jolley by both the first and second Mrs. Jolley. The father of Lady Mary also calls, and, not having before met Sir William, naturally takes him for the butler. He learns from his daughter that her husband is missing, and, meeting Mrs. Jolley and the lady from Australia, is led to suppose his daughter has been the victim of a bigamous marriage. Harry, having found Jolley, supposes him to be his father, and bails him out, the butler having been taken into charge for drunkenness. Thinking it a fit opportunity, Harry decides to ask permission to marry Phyllis. Jolley, forced to keep up the pretence, willingly gives his consent, to the astonishment of Harry. Joe Budge turns up in search of his long-lost wife Eliza, whose photograph he had recognised on the previous night. Jolley, having learnt that he has not committed murder, nor bigamously married Emily, seeks Sir William. Much fun is introduced in the third act in the unravelling of the several entanglements.

Mr. Charles Windermere as Sir William Gregory scored an unqualified success, his quaint humour and funny facial expression causing roars of laughter. Mr. Harry Averell also deserves special commendation as Harry. He played the part with admirable ease, and appreciably added to the general mirth. Mr. Wentworth Fane did well as the irascible, deaf General Rubbub; Mr. Graham Morrison scored as William Jolley; Mr. Henry Nelson was a typical burglar as Joe Budge; the part of Rafter, a cabman, was in the safe hands of Mr. Mackenzie; Miss Phyllis Leslie ably sustained the character of Lady Mary; Miss Clare Manifield was a winsome Phyllis; Miss Evelyn Shelley as Emily, Jolley's wife, was particularly good; and Miss Zoe Davis was also successful as Eliza from Australia.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE GLADE.

Midsummer Eve witnessed the resumption at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, of Mr. Patrick Kirwan's season of pastoral plays. The weather on Saturday was not altogether perfect, and a low-lying mist served somewhat to obscure the performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with which the series of Shakespearean plays began. The spot for the al fresco performance was happily chosen, and the fairy-like forms disporting in the limelight were gracefully outlined against the background of trees and foliage. The Idyllic Players, as they are called, worked hard and earnestly, and a large audience thoroughly enjoyed the performance. Mr. Kirwan himself played the part of Bottom, the lines of which he declaimed with emphasis and point. It was a humorous conception, and frequently aroused laughter. Miss Phyllis Relph distinguished herself in the rôle of Oberon, making a stately appearance, and speaking with admirable effect; and Miss Jessie Stanton also created a favourable impression in the part of Helena. Miss Barbara Guthrie made a sprightly Puck, although her voice was not equal to making itself heard without great effort. Miss Josephine Arthur sang well as Titania; a prepossessing Hermia was found in Miss Helena Parsons; and Miss Elizabeth Holt was a regal Hippolyta. Quince was drolly rendered by Mr. George Hawtrey, and Messrs. John Kelt, E. G. Venning, J. M. Napper, and St. Clair acted quaintly as Flute, Snug, Snout, and Starveling. Messrs. Frank Ellison and Gerald Saffery looked their parts excellently, and did very well as Lysander and Demetrius. Other parts were ably sustained by Mr. St. Clair Bayfield, who appeared as Egeus, Mr. Douglas Allington and Miss Elizabeth Holt as Theseus and Hippolyta, Miss Irene Arden as First Fairy, and Mr. Van T. Ranney as Philostrate. The music of the Singing Fairies was admirably rendered by Messrs. Bellew and Stock's choir. Selections from Mendelssohn's music were harmoniously rendered by Mr. Cecil Stock's quintet. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was announced for repetition on Thursday and to-night (Saturday).

A MONUMENT to the father of modern Norwegian music, Richard Nordraak, has been erected in the Jerusalem Cemetery, Berlin. Nordraak was the composer of the Norwegian National Hymn, and his career was one of great promise, till death cut it short in 1866, when he had lived only twenty-four years.

"THE GORILLA'S REVENGE."

A Sketch, in Two Acts, by Chas. M. Daly,
Produced, for the First Time, at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, on June 25.

Waram Braadt .....MR. ALBERT SEMBER
Jack Durand .....MR. STANLEY S. GORDON
Goorl Ramero.....MR. DUNCAN BELL
Borgia Ramero .....MISS NINA VAUGHTON
Jacky .....MR. CHARLES M. DALY
Zongalez .....BY HIMSELF
Zepher .....BY HIMSELF

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Novel, weird, and enthralling, the above-named sketch, produced as a curtain-raiser on Monday, is one that ought certainly to prove a welcome addition to the numerous plays that are now to be found in every variety programme. The incidents of the piece appertain to the struggle for the possession of a jewel of fabulous worth taken from the head of an Indian image. The jewel is in the possession of a young English seaman named Jack Durand, a former lover of one Borgia, the daughter of Goorl Ramero, an Indian dealer in wild animals and collector of precious stones. Borgia has been betrayed by an unscrupulous adventurer named Waram Braadt. When the play opens Braadt is seated in his private room, in which is a cage containing a huge gorilla called "Jacky," noted for its huge strength and also for its revengefulness towards anyone whom it dislikes. Braadt has incurred the anger of the animal through his cruelty to it during its confinement in his room. Borgia enters and demands to be made his wife; but Braadt is immovable. Durand now makes his appearance, expecting to find Goorl Ramero, to whom he wishes to dispose of the jewel. Braadt pretends that he is empowered to act as Ramero's representative in regard to the purchase, and Durand is left to sign the necessary paper of transfer. During Braadt's absence Borgia returns, and is surprised to find in Durand her old love. Hasty explanations are made; and, on her advice, instead of asking £500 for the stone, he raises the price to £5000. Braadt refuses to effect a deal for any such sum, and Durand angrily takes his departure, Braadt being finally driven from the room by Borgia, who holds a venomous snake on her outstretched hand.

In the second act the stage is converted into a huge menagerie, and in one of the cages the great gorilla is confined. In the next cage, separated by a sliding partition, the old Indian has fitted up his office. Durand calls by appointment, and agrees to accept the sum of £500 in payment for the jewel. He hands the stone to the Indian, on whose invitation he steps to the desk inside the cage, but finds that the wily old dealer has entrapped him by barring the door. The gorilla is then driven into the cage, but the beast makes no hostile movement beyond endeavouring to regain its liberty. Braadt has a desperate struggle with the dealer for the possession of the stone, which he ultimately obtains, and he then endeavours to enrage the gorilla so that he will attack Durand; but the animal succeeds in forcing the bars and, springing upon his tormentor, strangles him. The gorilla releases Durand, but is shot by Borgia, and after joining the hands of the lady and Durand the animal falls dead.

The piece had a flattering reception, and Mr. Machin is to be congratulated upon its successful production. The incidental music is by Mr. William Jackson, a Wearside musician, and is quite in keeping with this weird and wild production. The feature of the sketch is of course the part of the "gorilla," cleverly played by the author, Mr. Chas. M. Daly, and special commendation is due to this versatile artist for his highly realistic animal impersonation. Mr. Albert Sember is successful in his portrayal of the rôle of Waram Braadt; and Mr. Stanley S. Gordon is effective as Jack Durand. Mr. Duncan Bell submits an excellent study of the Indian dealer, Goorl Ramero; the rôle of Borgia Ramero makes no great demands upon Miss Nina Vaughton's well-known histrionic ability, but she does all that is possible with the part. Zongalez and Zepher, an Indian monkey and a Phybia snake respectively, are the importation of Mr. Cross, of Liverpool, and add considerably to the realism of the production.

THE HURLINGHAM PASTORALS.

"The gods on Thespis smile." A real, enpurpled midsummer night steeped in soft gloom the delightful grounds of this club on Wednesday last, where, in a green, undulating spot, embowered lovingly by grand old trees that might almost have been the very wood where Bottom and his companions met to rehearse their "tedious, brief, tragical, merry play," Mr. Patrick Kirwan's company of Idyllic Players unfolded to a large audience of members and their guests the pastoral scenes of Shakespeare's *Dream*. Pleasant limes secreted among the drooping foliage furnished the due effects, myriads of tiny jewelled lamps everywhere about the wide grounds, with the young moon glimmering over all, enhancing the fairy charm of the general scene.

One of the best impersonations came from Miss Phyllis Ralph, who brought out with fine elocution (especially in the "love-in-idleness" speech) the lyrical beauty of Oberon's lines, surely some of the most cloying-sweet verse that was ever penned. We speak advisedly; our own unchanged opinion being—notwithstanding the notable representations by some of our best actresses that one can recall—that the rôle of the Fairy King is essentially one for a *jeune premier*, a view (on purely artistic grounds, of course) which the recent Adelphi production is alone sufficient to justify. But this by the way. Miss Josephine Arthur acted with charm as Titania, though perhaps just a trifle monotonous of diction in the earlier passages. Puck, in the hands of Miss Barbara Guthrie, was a real "mad spirit," full of the *espièglerie* and downright love of mischief that the part demands; the First Fairy being well sung and spoken by Miss Irene Arden.

To descend to the mortals, Mr. Douglas Alington made a dignified and manly Theseus; and Messrs. Frank Ellison and Gerald Saffery very acceptable lovers as Lysander and Demetrius respectively, though somewhat passionless at times in the scenes with the Hermia of Miss Helena Parsons, and the Helena of Miss Jessie Stanton, the latter especially well done. Miss Elizabeth Holt made the most of the meagre opportunities of Hippolyta, even if physically she hardly suggested the sword-wooed warrior-queen

Excellent portrayals of the "crew of patches, rude mechanicals," came from Mr. George Hawtrey, very finished as Quince, Mr. John Kelt as Snug, Mr. E. G. Venning as Flute, and Mr. J. M. Napper as Snout; Mr. St. Clair Bayfield displaying good versatility in combining the doddering Starveling with the very diverse rôle of Egeus; and last, but assuredly not least, Mr. Kirwan himself, burly and deep-voiced as Bottom, getting out of the part every bit of ripe and unctuous humour of which it is capable—which is saying much. Mr. Vant-Ranney made the small part of Philostrate to quite stand out, dainty little fairies from the children of the Bellew and Stock Choir completing a very efficient cast.

MR. JOHN HARRISON, who has just finished his engagement at the Royal Opera, Covent Garden, and who sung the tenor part in Dr. Harriss's cantata *Pan* at the British Canadian Festival Concert on Wednesday evening, has been engaged for the Birmingham Festival in October.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"SUNDIGE LIEBE,"
Play, in Four Acts, by Horst Rolf,
Produced at the Carl Weiss Theatre, June 21, 1906.

Von Sanden .....HERR SCHAUP
Frau von Sanden .....FRAULEIN TUZAR
Erna .....FRAULEIN URMAINSKA
Hans .....HERR ARNDT
Roland .....HERR GRIMM
Walter .....HERR STUENKEL
Dr. Hillmann .....HERR SCHNEIBACH
Minna .....FRAULEIN GUNTHER
Diener .....HERR JACOBI
Friedrich .....HERR BACHMANN
Mädchen .....FRAULEIN RIESS
Carl .....HERR SCHULTZ
Fritz .....HERR WEGENER
Asta .....FRAULEIN MOELLER
Johannes .....HERR TRASER
Arndsen .....HERR FUHRMANN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, June 28.—This is the work of a young rising author, and, though not without traces of talent, is distinctly amateurish. A psychological problem is aimed at, but the experience necessary for such plays is lacking. The most successful features of the piece—which is termed a domestic tragedy—are the sympathetic characters and the dialogue, which is frequently superior. A few words will be sufficient to detail the plot. Frau von Sanden is the wife of a retired colonel. They have one daughter, Erna, who is the offspring of Hellmut Roland, a former lover of Frau von Sanden's—unknown, of course, to the colonel. This step from the path of virtue was taken about five-and-twenty years before we make the Sandens' acquaintance, and Nemesis is already claiming her rights. Roland, who is a widower, has one son, Walter, who has known Erne von Sanden from a child, and, unconsciously, the young people love each other, not knowing of the blood-relationship between them. The wretched mother sees trouble ahead, and marries off her daughter quickly to another man—Hans von Wernsdorf. This does not avert the catastrophe; on the contrary, it hastens it. Walter sees his sweetheart the wife of another, all the old feelings are aroused, and the lovers follow in their parents' footsteps. Then, when it is too late, they are told the terrible truth, and, according to them, there is but one way left—"blood; shame can only be atoned for by blood," they say, and a couple of revolver shots announce the end to the distracted parents. More than this, we gather from the few words Roland lets fall that he and the erring woman he still loves will follow the "children." With this massacre the play is at an end, and the curtain descends. The reception was very cordial, and the author was "called"; in response to hearty applause, too, the principal artists came before the curtain, fully meriting the honour.

AT the Schiller Theatre O, the Morwitz summer opera season is doing good business. In that crowded part of the city light opera at popular prices is very welcome, and the theatre is provided with a garden in which to spend the entr'actes. *Rigoletto* was put in the bill on Sunday with special success. The title-rôle was very well sung by Herr Albert Fischer, the star of the company; Fräulein Heinze as Gilda, and Herr Hocheim as the Duke, also gave admirable renderings.

FRAULEIN POSPISCHIL'S season at the Berliner is attended with a satisfactory amount of success. It is true the evenings are a little warm for the tragic plays which form the famous actress's repertory, but Fräulein Pospischil has so many devoted friends and admirers in the city where she lived so long that her audiences are fairly large. The finest specimen of her powers that we have had as yet was on Monday evening in the title-rôle of Grillparzer's tragedy *Sappho*, one of the best-written plays ever produced in Germany. Every phase of the character was splendidly portrayed, and Fräulein Pospischil was much and deservedly applauded. Unfortunately, she was but indifferently supported, the part of Phaon being very inadequately given by Herr Pfund.

ON Saturday an interesting experiment was tried at the Berliner, Shakespeare's *Cymbeline* being given by Fräulein Pospischil's company, she herself, however, not appearing in the piece. The part of Imogen was quite delightfully played by Fräulein Serda, a young actress of unusual talent, and the remainder of the cast was fairly satisfactorily sustained. It is very rarely that *Cymbeline* is performed, and our thanks are due to Fräulein Pospischil for reviving it.

MAXIM GORKI has just completed a new drama entitled *Barbaren* (barbarians). It will be produced at the Kleines Theatre early in October.

SARDOU'S new comedy, *La Piste*, has been translated into German, and adapted for the German stage by Dr. Oscar Blumenthal, and will be produced for the first time in Germany at the Lustspielhaus in October. The piece has also been acquired for Hamburg, Breslau, Vienna, Leipzig, and Hanover. The German title is *Verwehte Spuren*.

PASTORAL PLAYS AT NORTHAMPTON.

A series of pastoral plays was given on the 22nd and 23rd inst. in the magnificent grounds of St. Andrew's Hospital, Northampton, by Mr. Phillip Sanders's company of pastoral players. The performances were largely attended by the *élite* of the town and county, and were a great success in every respect. At a matinée on Saturday selections were given from the *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *The Tempest*. In the first-named comedy, Mr. Phillip Sanders gave a very good presentment of the amorous knight, Sir John Falstaff; Mr. R. A. Pittar was a commendable Ford; Mr. Geo. Buchanan played with due discretion as Page; and Mr. Stanley Howlett was an excellent Slender. Mistress Page and Mistress Ford were amusingly portrayed by Miss Vivienne Stuchley and Miss Violet Vorley. In *The Tempest* Mr. Sanders appeared as Caliban, bringing out strongly the fiendish malignity of the character. Mr. B. A. Pittar was an impressive and dignified Prospero, full of affection for his daughter; Miranda was sweetly presented by Miss Vivienne Stuchley, and ably wooed by Mr. Stanley Howlett as Ferdinand. Mr. Geo. Buchanan played with discretion the drunken butler Stephano; and Mr. John Cairns was also good as Trinculo. Miss Violet Vorley endowed the part of Ariel with lightness, refinement, and grace. *The Tempest* selection was repeated at the evening performances, where it gained in effect from the limelight and coloured lamps, preceded by selections from *The Taming of the Shrew*. As Petrucio Mr. Sanders was seen at his best. He is well suited to the part, and played it with discretionary power and finish. Miss Violet Vorley gave a spirited and charming presentment of Katharina; Mr. B. A. Pittar was an effective Biondello; Mr. Geo. Buchanan was full of humour as Grumio; Mr. John Cairns was good as Baptiste; Mr. Stanley Howlett was highly satisfactory as Hortensio; and Miss Violet Vorley made a charming Bianca.

"THE KINGDOM," the new composition by Sir Edward Elgar, to be produced at the Birmingham Festival, will be performed for the first time in London by the Alexandra Palace Choral and Orchestral Society, under the direction of Mr. Allen Gill, on November 17. The programme will also include Bach's Mass in B minor, Handel's *Messiah*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius*, Mr. Coleridge-Taylor's *Hiawatha*, Sullivan's *Golden Legend*, and Gounod's *Faust*.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, June 28.—The truth of the remark so frequently made that if a Parisian is far ahead of the provincial, as regards *esprit*, the latter possesses far more common sense, and does not indulge in such hysterical outbreaks of enthusiasm, has been found out by Mlle. Merelli to her cost. It will be remembered that this young lady was the mistress of an absconding bank clerk, with whom she was arrested in Bahia. Acquitted by a tender-hearted jury, Paris went so frantic over her that, although she has hardly any talent, an enterprising manager paid her £20 per night to appear at his music-hall. Everybody wanted to see her, and the music hall's speculation turned out very well. Unfortunately, Mlle. Merelli mistook all this excitement for genuine admiration for her artistic qualities, and, thirsting after fame, resolved to turn her back on music halls and try the legitimate stage. She found an impresario foolish enough to engage her as a "star" to play the leading part in *Le Premier Mars de France*, and they started on tour. Mlle. Merelli was not long in doubt. The first night she made her appearance there was a kind of hostile demonstration, followed a few days later by absolute indifference. The provincials wanted neither to see nor to hear her; and the company has now broken up. Parisians receive sometimes some wise lessons from the provincials—whom they generally turn into ridicule—but they never profit by them.

M. ALBERT GUENAN is putting the finishing touches to *Elle et Eux*, a new comedy in three acts, to be brought out at the Gymnase in the course of next season.

AT the Nouveautés the first novelty will be a play by MM. Maurice Hennequin and Pierre Véber, wherein M. Noblet will interpret the principal rôle. M. Micheau is also thinking of giving us a revival of *Florette et Patapan*.

"LE PRETEXTE" is the title of a new play by M. Daniel Riche, intended for the Comédie Française.

THE Palais Royal has been let during the summer months to M. Fursy, who will inaugurate the hot season on July 1 with *La Dame du 23*, the well-known farce by MM. Paul Gavault and Baurgain. With the thermometer at 95deg. in the shade this seems rather a rash venture, but no matter how high the temperature, there are always amateurs for theatres in Paris.

SISOWATH, King of Cambodia, is with us at present. His sixty-nine dancers have remained in Marseilles, but by Royal command these young ladies will come to Paris and exhibit themselves in the Trocadero. They have already appeared in public in Marseilles, and we are told that the people were somewhat taken aback by the slow movements and the character of these dances. The truth is that, with all respect to his dusky Majesty, King Sisowath, that monarch is wrong in allowing these ladies to exhibit themselves in public. These dances are absolutely sacred, and the young ladies perform several of them before going to rest, in lieu of prayers. These girls are the daughters of high State officials, and I know for a fact that among the King's followers there is dissatisfaction at his sanctioning these public performances. As one of them put it very plainly: "The King, to please the French, may act the part of balletmaster, but it will give strangers a poor idea of our respect for our religion. Would this same stranger like to see some of his religious ceremonies performed in a show before a gaping crowd?" Thus spoke a dark-skinned old gentleman, expressing himself in excellent French; and he is not far from the truth.

A CONDUCTOR'S CLAIM.

A case of interest to theatrical managers and theatre-goers was tried by a jury on Monday, in Judge Woodfall's court as Westminster, when Mr. Paul Graener, formerly the conductor of the orchestra at the Haymarket Theatre, sued Mr. Frederick Harrison, lessee of the theatre, for £100 damages for breach of contract or for wrongful dismissal.

Plaintiff's case was that for eight years past he had occupied the position of conductor of the orchestra at the Haymarket, and for some time past his salary was 10 guineas a week. On Friday evening, April 27, during Mr. Harrison's absence from London, two gentlemen in the stalls commenced an extraordinary system of annoyance to the plaintiff, throwing pellets of silver paper at him and other members of the orchestra, and tickling the back of plaintiff's neck with a programme. Plaintiff turned round and said to these gentlemen, "If I had you outside I would give you a good hiding." He afterwards proceeded to "the treasury" to draw salaries, and there told Mr. Watson, the acting-manager, what had happened. He added that he proposed to conduct the "march out," which, as a rule, he did not do, and, if the annoyance was repeated, he said he was quite capable of jumping over the barrier and giving the gentlemen a good hiding. Mr. Watson said, "Nonsense," but, as plaintiff appeared to be serious, he countermanded the "march out" altogether. On Monday plaintiff received a letter from Mr. Watson stating, in view of the incident of Friday night, he must offer the plaintiff one of three alternatives: Either his immediate resignation, or to take a holiday until Mr. Harrison returned. If he would accept neither of these, Mr. Watson said he would suspend him until Mr. Harrison's return. Plaintiff refused to do anything, and was forthwith suspended. Upon Mr. Harrison's return, plaintiff had an interview with him; but nothing came of it, and plaintiff brought this action.

Mr. Watson, in his evidence, said it never occurred to him that anybody in the plaintiff's position could seriously think of carrying out his threat, but he could not take the risk of a member of the staff assaulting a member of the audience, and therefore ordered the "march out" to be dispensed with. Plaintiff did not ask him to have the annoyance stopped. He only came to witness with his threat.

Mr. Frederick Harrison, lessee of the Haymarket Theatre, said he thoroughly approved of Mr. Watson's action. If the plaintiff had carried out his threat, a riot might have occurred, and it would have been most damaging to the interests of the theatre.

In stating the law upon the case, Judge Woodfall said that if the plaintiff did anything that was incompatible with the due discharge of his duties to his master, Mr. Watson, acting for the defendant, had a right to dismiss him. If he had clambered over the orchestra and approached these gentlemen, it would have been an outrageous thing, and if there was any serious prospect of his doing so it was only right that he should be prevented.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for £100, with costs.

Mr. Walter Lloyd appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. J. Willis for the defendant.

MR. BANNISTER HOWARD has selected a beautiful spot in the North Tower Gardens at the Crystal Palace for his Café Chantant, where performances are now given twice daily. Nothing is more delightful than to sit there of an afternoon or evening with a gentle breeze blowing off the country, and listening to a really good entertainment, such as is now provided. During the week the programme has included Sylvia Spears, comedienne and dancer; Eugene and Willis, musical and acrobatic clowns; Queenie Laurence, burlesque actress and vocalist; Harold Hughman, mimic; and Hallam and Stanton, in a particularly entertaining little comedy, called *A Broken Journey*.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MISS ELLEN TERRY'S visit to her native city takes place to-day. Leaving Euston at 10.15, and arriving at Coventry before one o'clock, the famous actress will proceed at once to the new theatre, and lay a commemorative tablet. Places of interest in the city, including Market-street, in which Miss Terry was born, will then be visited by means of the motor-car, after which luncheon will be taken at St. Mary's Hall, where the Mayor and Corporation and Miss Terry's personal friends will be among the guests. In the afternoon the Mayor and Mayoress will hold a reception, and an illuminated address of welcome will be presented to Miss Terry.

MR. J. L. TOOLE'S condition has undergone but little change in the course of the week, restless nights having given place to days during which the sufferer has experienced relief. The patient had a fairly comfortable day on Thursday, and in the evening no alteration was reported. On Sunday Sir Francis and Lady Burnand were among the callers.

THE Drury-lane pantomime this year is to be *Sinbad*, a subject which has not been treated at the National Theatre since 1882. Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. J. Hickory Wood will be responsible for the "book," the story of which lends itself to scenic display, of which Mr. Collins may well be trusted to take full advantage. The fun and frolic of the annual is also secure, many of last year's favourites being in the cast, including Mr. Harry Fragson and Miss May de Sousa, whose success in the pantomime was afterwards continued in *Castles in Spain* at the Royalty and Terry's. Mr. Harry Randall will again have a large share in the comic episodes, and other important engagements are in the making.

THE distressful case of the Musical Copyright Bill is humorously treated in a cartoon in yesterday's issue of the *Tribune*. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, seated at a piano, is conducting a young lady, representing the Bill, through the intricacies of the committee stage, the harmonies of which are shattered by a vigorous blast of opposition from a trombone blown by Mr. Caldwell, who stands outside the window in the character of a street musician.

"ALADDIN IN LONDON" is the title that Mr. George Edwardes might well bestow on his new production, which will succeed *The Spring Chicken* at the Gaiety in September. The action of the play, which has been written by James T. Tanner and W. H. Risque, with music by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton, is laid in the Great Metropolis, wherein the hero of the famous story disports himself in modern attire. An idealised view of London will be furnished, and amazing changes in its constitution will be wrought. Miss Gertie Millar will be seen as Aladdin, and Miss May de Sousa will lend her charming personality to the production in the part of a Princess. Mr. Edmund Payne will have a character in which his drollery will take a new turn; Mr. George Grossmith, jun., will be fitted with a rôle suited to his versatile powers; and Miss Connie Ediss will appear as the Slave of the Lamp.

MR. CHARLES MCLELLAN, the author of *The Belle of New York* and *Leah Kleschna*, is at work on the book and lyrics of a new musical play for Mr. Charles Frohman to be called *Nelly Neil*. The music is to flow from the tuneful pen of Mr. Ivan Caryll, who is similarly interested in the impending Gaiety production. The first act of the novelty of which Mr. Frohman will have both the English and American rights, is already finished, and its introduction to the stage may be looked for in the winter.

MEMBERS and supporters of the British Empire Shakespeare Society will muster in force on Monday afternoon at the Garrick Theatre, when the Bishop of Ripon gives his address on Shakespeare's plays. Among the distinguished gathering will be Her Highness Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, the Austrian Ambassador, the Marquess of Ripon, Lady Bancroft, Lady Dorothy Neville, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Genevieve Ward, Archdeacon Sinclair, Archdeacon Wilberforce, Mr. Hamilton Aidé, Sir Theodore Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, Mr. Herman Vezin, Mrs. George Alexander, Mr. Alan Mackinnon, Miss Gertrude Elliott, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, and Mr. Lewis Waller.

MR. E. S. WILLARD'S company for next season is entirely made up, so that requests for engagements will be fruitless. So many applications have been received by Mr. Willard that he is unable to answer all, and it is hoped that this intimation will be accepted in reply, and thus acquit him of any discourtesy.

"THE PRINCE CHAP" will make his début at the Criterion on Monday, July 16. The heroine, who in the course of the play grows up from childhood to womanhood, will be played, in the first act, by Miss Betty Green, in the second by Miss Geraldine Wilson, and in the third by Miss Janet Alexander. The cast will also include Mr. H. R. Roberts, Mr. George Shelton, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. Frank Collins, Mr. George Schäfer, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss A. E. Greenaway, Miss Evelyn Weedon, and Miss Lilias Waldegrave.

MR. G. P. HUNTLEY is about to tour under the auspices of Charles Macdona with the Apollo production of *Mr. Popple, of Ippleton*. Mr. Huntley will be seen in his original character, and Miss Millie Legarde has also been specially engaged. The largest cities in the provinces will be visited, but only four suburban theatres, embracing those at North, South, East, and West, will share in the good fortune of a visit from the popular comedian. While in Dublin it is Mr. Huntley's intention to enter one of his horses for a local event of some importance.

MRS. PATRICK CAMPBELL closed the Criterion Theatre on Saturday night, after five performances of the Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton's play, *The Macleans of Bairness*. On the same evening, *Castles in Spain*, at Terry's, came to an end. Mr. Harry Fragson will remove a little further up the Strand, having been engaged to appear shortly at the Tivoli, thus returning to the class of entertainment in which he gained his wide renown in Paris.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON will make Bernard Shaw's play *Cæsar and Cleopatra* a feature of his American tour, which starts at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York, on Oct. 29. The production, which is to have the personal supervision of the author, is to be of the most elaborate description. The company, which will be composed entirely of English artists, will include Miss Gertrude Elliott.

THE sixth annual Conference of the Actors' Church Union, the president of which is the Bishop of Southwark, will be held at Bishop's House, Kennington Park, on Tuesday, July 10, at 2.30, when the speakers will be Mr. Martin Harvey and the Rev. J. W. S. J. Danbury. Mrs. Talbot will be "at home" in the garden from four to six o'clock.

MR. OTHO STUART will produce *Tristram and Iseult*, the new play by Comyns Carr, early in September. During the short holiday that Miss Lily Brayton and Mr. Oscar Asche are presently to take, the Adelphi Theatre will be closed. In the new piece Mr. Matheson Lang will appear as Tristram, and the cast will also include Miss Hutin Britton and Miss Gertrude Scott.

MR. BEERBOHM TREE, feeling the need of a rest after an exceptionally busy season, will suspend the run of *Colonel Newcome* on Saturday next. This withdrawal will allow Mr. Tree to devote attention to the rehearsals of *A Winter's Tale*, which will be produced with Miss Ellen Terry as Hermione on Sept. 1. Two days later the eminent actor will start at Blackpool an eight weeks' tour with *Colonel Newcome*, *The Man Who Was*, and *Business is Business*. *Colonel Newcome* will be revived at His Majesty's at the earliest date possible.

"A WASTE OF TIME," the novel concoction produced at Brighton last week by the touring company of West End players, will have its London representation at the Coronet Theatre on Monday, when it will follow Captain Robert Marshall's comedy, *His Excellency the Governor*. The afterpiece is sustained by Mr. H. Marsh Allen, Mr. James Blakeley, Mr. Lionel Mackinder, Mr. Lennox Pawle, Mr. Littledale Power, and Mr. Loring Fernie, who each in turn contribute song, dance, or recitation, according to the class of work with which their names have long been associated.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN is this week commencing his annual season of Pastoral Plays. Most of the important towns in the South of England are booked, and Mr. Norman intends introducing several novelties in the shape of "Pastorals." He has arranged with Miss Beatrice Wilson to give her charming performance of Rosalind whenever *As You Like It* is produced.

A SMALL fair-haired girl of eight summers, accompanied by her father, applied, at the Marlborough-street Police Court on Thursday, for a licence to enable her to perform at a "charity concert" at Queen's Hall on the afternoon of July 21. It was explained that the concert was in aid of various hospital funds. The girl was very fond of the violin, and her greatest ambition was to play in public. Mr. Plowden said he did not think it necessary to ask for a licence for anything that takes place in the afternoon. "It is done in a noble cause," added the magistrate; "so fiddle away by all means."

MR. CLARENCE SOUNES will close the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, after this week for a short summer vacation, re-opening August Bank Holiday with *Brigadier Gerard*, by arrangement with Mr. Lewis Waller. Mr. Sounes will continue to present dramatic programmes at the New Prince's Theatre, Poplar, all through July. This theatre, in spite of the weather, is doing good business, a proof that it fulfils a long-felt want in the East End districts it caters for. The Theatre Royal, Aldershot, another of Mr. Sounes' enterprises, will also keep open during the summer.

A NEW one-act play by Mr. Alfred Sutro will figure in the programme of an entertainment which will take place at the Botanical Gardens on July 10, in aid of the promotion expenses of a guild called the Legion of Frontiersmen. Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Nancy Price, and Miss Constance Collier have promised to recite, and the play scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be performed by a company of popular artists. The programme will be under the direction of Mr. Norman McKinnel.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN is engaging a strong company of English and American actors to produce *The Hypocrites*, the new play, in four acts, by Henry Arthur Jones, at the Hudson Theatre, New York, in the autumn. The scene of the play is laid in the small southern English town of Weybury, near the cathedral city of Gilminster, and the time of the action is an autumn in the present decade. The *dramatis personæ* number fourteen, and form a little coterie of English county society. Mr. Jones will sail for New York next month to superintend the production. Mr. J. H. Barnes will be in the cast.

MR. T. D. FRAWLEY, one of the most enterprising of the young managers in America, is taking a stock company for the summer to the West. He begins at Seattle, and goes on to San Francisco, where a tent, which will hold 2,000 people, has been erected for him. Mr. Frawley's booking has already been enormous in San Francisco, as the people there wish their minds to be diverted from their terrible memories. Mr. Frawley will present a play written by Mrs. T. P. O'Connor, founded upon one of the most famous lawsuits that were ever tried in America—the play in brief is whether a girl is black and a slave, or white and free. This play will be produced for the first time in true showman's manner in a tent.

MISS RAY ROCKMAN, the American actress, was married last week to Mr. Frank Braham. After the ceremony a reception was held by Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Ford at their residence, 18, Old Queen-street. There were about 126 guests, including Sir Simeon and Lady Stuart, Sir Harry and Lady Johnston, the Hon. Arthur and Mrs. Ponsonby, Mr. and Mrs. Moberley Bell, Mrs. Meynell and her daughters, Mrs. W. K. Clifford, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Hewlett, Mrs. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Humphry Ward, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mills, Mrs. Alfred Sutro, Miss Edith Craig, Mr. Bram Stoker, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred East, and Mr. Arthur Hutchinson. Mr. and Mrs. Braham left for a honeymoon in Switzerland.

DURING his three years as manager of the Grand Theatre, Southampton, Mr. Sydney Paxton (who is severing his connection therefrom) has been thanked and complimented by Ellen Terry, Sarah Bernhardt, Mrs. Patrick Campbell, Olga Nethersole, Messrs. Charles Manners, F. R. Benson, Henry Jalland, Wentworth Croke, W. W. Kelly, Alfred Smyth-Piggott, Bram Stoker, H. J. Loveday, and many others.

THE late Sir Henry Irving, in his farewell speech at Southampton, said:—"I would also like to thank a very old and valued friend of mine, the manager of this theatre, Mr. Sydney Paxton. I have known him for many years and I knew his father before him. He came to me as a little bit of a boy, and I told him if he wanted to be an actor he must soon make a start and try. He made a start and became an actor, and got on very well, and eventually became the manager of this theatre, and I congratulate you on having so conscientious a manager as you have in him. Sydney Paxton is a man who wants to make the theatre a place of recreation for high-minded and intelligent people, and I think he will succeed." Mr. Paxton's former managers have included Mr. J. L. Toole ("Walker, London"); Mr. W. S. Penley, 1894-1897 (Globe Theatre); Mr. George Grossmith and Mr. Weedon Grossmith (Royalty and Avenue Theatres and America); Mr. Martin Harvey (Lyceum and Prince of Wales Theatres); Mr. Edward Compton, 1885-1892 (Compton Comedy Company); Mr. Harry Paulton, Miss Kate Santley, Messrs. A. and S. Gatti, and Mr. D'Oyly Carte.

MISS ST. DENIS appeared on Tuesday night before Consuelo Duchess of Manchester and her guests at Grosvenor-square, when the company included the American Ambassador, Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, the Duke of Devonshire, and many other notabilities.

DURING the absence of Miss Jane May from the cast of *The Belle of Mayfair* at the Vaudeville, the part of Lady Violet Gussop was most creditably sustained by Miss Dora Denton, who betrayed such distinct ability in what we understand is her initial effort as to give promise of a successful career.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN was the recipient on the night of the 21st inst., at the Garrick Club, of a remarkable tribute. More than sixty authors, playwrights, and actors entertained him at a supper as an expression of esteem for what Mr. Frohman had done for the stage, for the actor, and for dramatic literature Among those present were Mr. J. M. Barrie, Mr. Arthur W. Pinero, Captain Robert Marshall, Mr. Comyns Carr, Mr. Alfred Sutro, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. John Hare, Mr. Seymour Hicks, Mr. Dion Boucicault, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. Louis N. Parker, Mr. Gerald Du Maurier, Mr. H. B. Irving, Mr. Arthur Chudleigh, Mr. Sam Sothern, Mr. Cyril Maude, and Mr. E. A. Mason. There were no speeches.

THE usual weekly meeting of the Council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. There were present Mr. A. E. Drinkwater (deputy-chairman), Mr. Henry W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Mesdames Carlotta Addison, Beatrice Lamb, Kate Phillips, and Saba Raleigh, and Messrs. Cecil Barth, Clarence Blakiston, Burton Cooke, C. Hayden Coffin, F. Cremlin, Quinton McPherson, M. R. Morand, Brandon Thomas, Fredk. Volpe, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary). The hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters, and stated that they had advised different members upon points submitted. They were requested to confer with certain members as to claims against managers.

THE question of augmenting the band of "missioners" was again under consideration, and the secretary was directed to post a notice in the general offices to the effect that the meeting of the Council on Thursday last, to which the missioners were invited, would be open to all the members of the Association who were interested in the work of that body, and to invite them to offer their services to act in co-operation with those already appointed. A case of alleged bogus management was under consideration, and the secretary received instructions to endeavour to establish the identification of the person implicated. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. Dr. Campbell Boyd, of 13, Sloane-court, S.W., was appointed an hon. medical officer in the place of Dr. George A. Gunton, who had given up practice at that place, and gone into the country. May Fairclough, Ethel Dunbar, Frank Cave, Adelaide Weston, and H. Manfred Russell were nominated for election. The suggestion book was considered, and entries made.

MR. LOUIS BRADFIELD while in Australia ten years ago with the Gaiety company was able to render an important service to a gentleman of enormous wealth, whose gratitude was such that he immediately, it is said, made a will in Mr. Bradfield's favour by which the actor would benefit to the extent of over half-a-million. Difficulties have, however, arisen, and Mr. Bradfield's legal representatives in Australia are trying to bring about a satisfactory settlement.

THE Duke of Marlborough occupied the chair at the one hundred and sixty-eighth anniversary festival dinner of the Royal Society of Musicians, held on Thursday at the Gaiety Restaurant. The chairman said that perhaps at some future date the State would be able to recognise music in some practical form, but until that was done they must rely upon voluntary effort. He could not conceive an object more worthy of support than that of the Society. He would be very glad if he could lend his house in London at any time during the next six or eight months for the giving of a concert in aid of the funds of this Society. Subscriptions amounting to upwards of £1,200 were announced by Dr. W. H. Cummings (hon. treasurer), and also a legacy of £550 from Mrs. Elizabeth Mounsey. The subscriptions included donations of ten guineas from the King and five guineas from the Queen.

THE Royalty season of French plays will be continued in turn during July by the comedians, M. Felix Huguenet, M. Galipaux, and Mlle. Marthe Regnier. The end of the season will be marked by an interesting event in the last appearance on the stage of M. Antoine, the founder of the Théâtre Antoine, who has just been appointed to the control of the Odéon, one of the State-subsidised theatres of Paris.

MR. WALTER MCEWEN will shortly produce a new historical and romantic opera, entitled *The Cornish Girl*, written by E. C. Arden, with music by Clement Locknane and Jullien H. Wilson. The play is founded on fact, and deals with the adventures of a Cornish girl who is wooed by a London merchant, and eventually becomes Lady Mayoress. The scenes are laid in Cornwall and old London in the time of the Tudors. Mr. McEwen is engaging a strong company, with full chorus, quartettes, and dances, and the scenery and costumes will be a special feature of the production.

MISS FLORENCE GLOSSOP-HARRIS (daughter of the late Sir Augustus Harris) and Mr. Frank Cellier, jun. (son of the eminent musician, so long associated with the Savoy Theatre), are completing arrangements to tour a répertoire of Shakespearean and other plays, commencing at Christmas. The dresses are being specially designed, great care being taken to secure accuracy of detail, and new scenery and effects will make each production as complete as possible. The plays will be produced by Mr. Percy H. Vernon.

MRS. HARRY K. THAW, the wife of the perpetrator of the recent crime in Madison-square Theatre, was one of the flower girls in the American production of *Florodora*. It is curious that of the original *Florodora* girls in the New York production of Mr. Leslie Stuart's work, there is not one who has not achieved fame or had notoriety thrust upon her. Nan Patterson, it will be remembered, was a member of the *Florodora* company. All the Sextet girls, as Mr. Leslie Stuart recalls, married millionaires, and Miss Frances Belmont (née Donnelly), who was one of the celebrated "Sextet," married Lord Ashburton.

LADY ASHBURTON, who was admitted to be one of the prettiest girls on the American stage, began her career at the early age of sixteen at the Victoria Theatre, New York, as one of a chorus of charwomen, and after appearing in Mr. Leslie Stuart's musical comedy and in *The Toreador*, joined Mr. Charles Hawtrey's company, in which she rose to leading parts in *A Message from Mars* and other plays. She left the stage at the end of 1904, and took up her residence in Paris, where, in February last, she became the wife of Lord Ashburton, who is the holder of the oldest of the four peerages belonging to the Baring family.

MR. CHARLES MANNERS has made a generous offer to a musical enthusiast, who has under consideration the production of an opera by Dr. Arne. "I will gladly," says Mr. Manners, "lend scenery, costumes, and principal singers, free of charge, as, naturally, I am deeply interested in any opera in English, but more so when it is an English opera. Last week a man in Kissingen said English people who did not like foreign composed operas in English reminded him of the Frenchman who would not eat roast beef because it was on the menu in French. Granted, *Tannhäuser* (from the very high artistic point of view) does not sound quite so well in English as in German, is but this one little speck going to stop opera in our country and the thousand glorious probabilities that would come in its train?"

MISS KATE PARRY has been engaged by Mr. Chas. Macdona for *Mr. Popple* for the autumn.

MME. SARAH BERNHARDT, having completed the most eventful and profitable tour of America that any foreign artist has ever made, has returned to her native land, arriving at Havre at midnight on the 22nd inst. She gave three farewell performances at the Lyric Theatre, New York, during her last week in that city, appearing in *Hamlet*, *La Sorcière*, *L'Aiglon*, and *Frou-Frou*. The theatre was crowded to the doors at each performance, and Mme. Bernhardt received an ovation. During her long tour she played in tents, skating rinks, barns, town halls, and open-air theatres. In California she acted on a stage that had been "twisted" by the earthquake, but nothing disturbed her equilibrium in the least. Acording to the newspapers, Mme. Bernhardt's share of the proceeds of this remarkable tour amounted to something like $250,000.

WE regret to record the death at Stratford-on-Avon of Mr. A. H. Wall, for several years librarian of the Shakespeare Memorial, and at one time an actor, in which capacity he played with Macready. He also figured in his career as author, miniature painter, dramatist, novelist, and editor of the *Ladies' Pictorial* and other illustrated journals. He was a Shakespearean scholar of no little eminence, and was famed for acts of benevolence.

JUDGMENT in the action in which the late SIR HENRY IRVING appeared as a witness shortly before his death was delivered by the Lords of the First Division of the Court of Session at Edinburgh on the 22nd inst., when the former ruling was reversed. The action was brought by Mr. William Crooke, photographer, Edinburgh, against the Society Pictorial Publishing Company, Ltd., for £2,000 damages for breach of the Copyright Act in publishing a photograph of Sir Henry Irving, the copyright of which belonged to Crooke. In the Lower Court Lord Ardwall dismissed the action, but the First Division reversed the judgment. The Lord President said Sir Henry Irving went to be photographed for his friend, Mr. Shorter. Mr. Shorter had the selection of two photographs, and paid 5 guineas for the reproduction. Mr. Crooke had the copyright of the one photograph, and he awarded him £5 damages. The other judges concurred.

AN open-air performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was given by the Shakespeare Reading Society in the grounds of Cleve Hall, Champion Hill, on Saturday afternoon. A large audience, drawn from the neighbouring districts of Dulwich and Camberwell, was attracted, and the performance of Shakespeare's comedy was greatly admired.

MR. CHARLES HANNAN'S version of *The Vicar of Wakefield*, entitled *Sweet Olivia*, will again form a feature of Mr. Hoggan Armadale's costume répertoire, with which, after a year's vacation, he goes on the road next month. Mr. Armadale has previously played *Sweet Olivia* weekly in his répertoire for over two years.

THE Australian rights of Messrs. Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn's successful play *The Coal King* have been secured by Mr. Chas. Holloway, and the piece will be toured by him this year. Two companies of the play are going on tour this autumn in England.

THE Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, closed its doors on Saturday last for the summer vacation, and will re-open again on August Bank Holiday next During the interval a scheme of painting and redecorating is to be carried out. New, large mirrors are to be placed around the side walls, and many comforts will be added. The principal feature, however, will be the lighting of the house by electricity. This will be, indeed, a great improvement, and one that is badly needed. Mr. W. K. Gatley, the proprietor and manager, will supply his own plant.

THE R.M.S. Oroya will arrive at Tilbury Dock to-day with Messrs. J. J. Dallas, Clyde Meynell Wilde, and Mallalieu on board, returning from Australia after their brilliantly-successful tour with *The J.P., There and Back*, &c., which turned out to be one of the most successful tours of farcical comedy made for many years. Mr. Clyde Meynell who has secured the Australian rights of *The Little Stranger*, intends producing that eccentric farcical comedy at Melbourne about the time that the Cup is run for.

"THE JUNGLE," Mr. Upton Sinclair's novel, which revealed the horrors of the Chicago packing-houses is being dramatised for production in New York.

AT the Grand, Newcastle, on Saturday, Mr. T Arthur Jones will conclude his present tour of Mr W. A. Brabner's play, *Life's Sweetest Sins*, and incidentally nearly 700 performances. After a short vacation the tour, which is booked up well into 1907, will be resumed at Seaham Harbour.

MR. CHARLES CAREY is back in town after a brief holiday, during which he has motored from Tunbridge Wells to North Wales and back, breaking his journey at several places en route. On the return Mr. Carey passed through Warwick, where he witnessed the dress rehearsal of Mr. Louis Parker's magnificent pageant on the banks of the Avon, and we should not be surprised to hear of another pageant next year, and that at Tunbridge Wells.

"AFTER THE BALL," No. 1 company, sets forth on an eighteen weeks' tour early in August, visiting the principal Northern cities, including Edinburgh and Glasgow. The musical comedy will be played in two acts instead of three. An exceptionally strong cast has been secured, and new scenery and dresses are being prepared at the Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS, who has made a conspicuous success in the comedy part in *Cheer, Boys, Cheer*, at the Kennington and Camden Theatres, is engaged by Mr. Chas. Macdona to support Mr. G. P. Huntley in *Mr. Popple*, for the autumn.

MR. CHARLES FROHMAN has arranged with Miss Ruth St. Denis, the mystic dancer, to begin a series of periodical matinées at the Aldwych Theatre on Thursday next. Miss St. Denis will appear in East Indian dances, entitled "The Spirit of Incense," "The Cobra" (a study of Indian street life), and "Radha," a Hindoo temple dance.

THE Vienna Philharmonic Society's concert at Queen's Hall on Tuesday was a great success The fine tone, unanimity of attack, and beauties of expression secured by the players won great admiration, which was shown in constant applause.

MISS FLORENCE HAYDON having resigned the part of Mrs. Clandon in *You Never Can Tell*, by Bernard Shaw, it will be played by Miss Henrietta Watson at the Court Theatre on Monday, July 9 Miss Haydon prefers not to be in *You Never Can Tell*, and will come back to the Court Theatre for the new play by St. John Hankin, entitled *The Charity that Began at Home*, in which there is a very good part for her, and later on will play her original part of Mrs. Whitefield in *Man and Superman*.

WE are sorry to record the death of Mrs. Feaver Clarke, wife of Mr. R. Feaver Clarke, the popular and highly respected secretary of the New Public Hall and Theatre, Gravesend. Mrs. Clarke, like her husband, and identified herself with much good work in the town, and the sympathies of all will be with her husband in his bereavement.

MR. J. BANNISTER HOWARD has arranged for the Ben Greet Company to open a two weeks' season of pastoral plays at the Crystal Palace on Monday, July 9. *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be given every evening at 8.30, except Thursday and Saturday, when it will start at 7.15, and be over in time for the fireworks. There will be special matinées on Wednesday, July 11 and 18, of *The Comedy of Errors*, on Saturday, July 14, of *Twelfth Night*, and on Saturday, July 21, of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The spot chosen for these pastoral plays adjoins the panorama, and is within one minute of the Low-Level Station. When wet the performance will take place in the theatre.

MISS CELESTINE BERTRAM, who is playing Rosie Platt in *The New Clown*, thus relates her experience of the earthquake which took place at Swansea on Wednesday: "My brother and I had just sat down to breakfast when suddenly there was a terrific explosion. The walls on either side of us tottered; everything on the table was upset, pictures being shaken out of their frames, and the plaster torn from the ceiling. We rushed to the kitchen, thinking the explosion must have emanated from there, when we were met by the landlady, pale and frightened. We then went into the street, where people were rushing, shrieking in every direction, and the ground was strewn with bricks and chimney-pots which had been wrenched off by the shock. Trafalgar-terrace, overlooking the sea, seems to have felt the effects worse than higher in the town, the fact being probably accounted for by its close proximity to the Mumbles."

ON the arrival of the Glasgow night mail at Stafford early on Sunday morning the door of a second-class compartment was found open. A large amount of luggage was scattered about, but there was no one to claim it. A light engine was sent down the line to search, and three miles from Wolverhampton the men came across a young lady terribly mutilated. She proved to be Miss Dot Stephens, who had fulfilled an engagement on Saturday night at Her Majesty's, Walsall, and was travelling to Glasgow to appear there on Monday at the Empire. She was conveyed to Wolverhampton General Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate one foot and part of the other.

WE deeply regret to realise that the sad accident has cut short Miss Stephens's bright career on the stage at the early age of twenty-two. She first appeared with Mr. Bannister Howard as the Salvation Army lass in *The Belle of New York*, remaining with the company three years. She then joined Mr. George Dance for the part of Mrs. Pineapple in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, and afterwards Mr. C. P. Levilly, understudying Miss Stella Gastelle as Alesia in *La Poupée*, a part she subsequently played, and was to resume in the autumn in Mr. Herbert Ralland's company, lately on tour. Miss Stephens has been the sole support of a widowed mother.

"OUT WEST," an admirable one-act tragedy of Western life, founded by Mr. A. Chance on a story of Bret Harte's, was a feature of the programme at Lady Maud Wilbraham's matinée at the Scala on Tuesday. The chief part is that of Salomy Jane, a fine-spirited creature who shelters her lover, who is a horse thief. In the end she is shot by another man who has mistaken her motives. Miss Granville gave a finished and artistic performance of Salomy Jane; and Mr. Matheson Lang and Mr. Hubert Carter rendered able support.

MR. FRANK LINDO, who is running a summer season at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, produced on Monday last *The Merchant of Venice*, which proved so successful that it will be kept in the bill for one week longer. Compliments from all sources have been paid to Mr. Lindo as Shylock and Miss Marion Wakeford as Portia, and they are supported by a carefully selected company.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Thursday the affairs of C. W. Clifford Rean, described as of the Theatre Royal, Wexford, were discussed before the Official Receiver. The debtor has been connected with the stage since 1893, and six years later inherited about £900, which, together with a borrowed sum of £500, he lost in ventures for the production of plays. The liabilities were estimated at £900, the assets including the copyright of two plays. The meeting was adjourned for a week, with a view to the appointment of a trustee.

THE Hon. George Coppin, the Father of the English-speaking Stage, who recently died in Melbourne in his eighty-eighth year, left an estate valued at £10,232 10s. 4d. After making provision for his widow and family, he bequeathed 1,000 shares in the Melbourne Theatre Royal—the Australian Drury Lane—of which he was managing director, to augment the endowment fund of the benevolent homes for old Colonists and aged actors and actresses, which he was mainly instrumental in establishing in one of the prettiest spots near Melbourne.

AFTER a very long illness, which he bore with gentle resignation, Mr. Sidney Alport passed away at his sister's residence on Wednesday. He was a little over fifty-nine years of age, and in the palmy days of Messrs. David James and Thomas Thorne, at the Vaudeville Theatre, was one of the best-known and most popular theatrical managers of London. Before his engagement at the Vaudeville he was for some years secretary and treasurer at the Alhambra, in which position he was succeeded in January, 1882, by Mr James Howell of the Tivoli. He was a most patient sufferer, and endeared himself to all by his sweetness of disposition. He died at the house of his sister in Kensington, and was lovingly cared for until the end came. He is to be interred to-day in Tooting Cemetery.

MISS NAOMI ADA NEILSON is anxious that her correspondents should note that she is no longer resident at 74, Marlborough Flats, Walton-street, Chelsea. Notwithstanding the necessary notification to the Post Office authorities some twelve months ago, and the customary card in our advertisement columns, communications continue to be sent to the old address, with the serious result that a few days ago the lady lost an important engagement, the offer having been returned to the sender through the channel of the dead-letter office. Miss Neilson's address appears under her advertisement card in our columns.

ON Thursday evening, at the Haymarket, the part of Mr. Pomfrey in *The Man from Blankley's* was successfully played, in the absence of Mr. Aubrey Fitzgerald, by Mr. Victor H. Leslie.

PHELPS the actor was invariably to be found during the theatrical vacation for many successive years at his favourite haunt, the Lion Hotel, at Farningham, where he stayed for weeks together to enjoy the pleasure of trout fishing in the river Darent, which runs in front of the gardens of the old hostelry. The farmers in the neighbourhood never suspected that a visitor who conversed with them so freely about their crops was at the same time busy studying a part in a Shakespearean play, and it is related that a Kentish yeoman, bringing his family to town for the purpose of seeing *The Doge of Venice* at Drury-lane, recognised a familiar voice and manner in the prominent actor, and astonished the audience in the midst of the play by involuntarily exclaiming, "Blest if the Dodge isn't the old Farningham fisherman!"

GARRICK THEATRE MATINEE.

At a special matinée at the Garrick Theatre, on Monday, June 25, was produced a play in one act by Cosmo Hamilton, entitled

"GRAN'FATHER COQUESNE."

Gran'father Coquesne.....MR. C. AUBREY SMITH
Trooper Hans Dorp ....MR. PHILIP CUNINGHAM
Desiré .....MASTER PHILIP TONGE
Marie .....MISS ADA WEBSTER

This matinée, arranged by Mr. Alan Mackinnon, was in aid of the Building Fund of the Charterhouse Mission, Mr. Arthur Bourchier having kindly permitted the use of his theatre for the occasion. Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Charles Allan, Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, and Mr. Douglas Imbert-Terry, who were all Charterhouse boys, appeared in one or more of the plays and scenes from plays which formed the programme. The only novelty was Mr. Cosmo Hamilton's one-act play, *Gran'father Coquesne*. The story recalls the days when the Franco-German War was raging, and France had been invaded by the victorious foe. Gran'father Coquesne, a cobbler and ex-sergeant of Napoleon's Guard, has a son who is in the army and is away fighting for his country. The old man laments the fact that he himself is no longer able to serve as a soldier; and in his chats with his little grandson, Desiré, he expresses his bitter hatred of the foreign invader. He is considerably disconcerted when he hears that his daughter-in-law has been seen walking with Hans Dorp, the big Prussian trooper, who has been quartered at the cottage, and has by reason of his liberality in the provision of sweets become quite a favourite with little Desiré. The Prussian has been making love to his hostess, who encourages his amorous advances. Gran'father Coquesne obtains proof of this by watching the pair, and the old man resolves to preserve his son's honour at any cost. The trooper is accustomed to take his repose upon a bed in the sitting-room, and the old man persuades his grandson that he intends playing a practical joke upon Hans which will make him laugh when he wakes. The trooper is plied with brandy, which quickly takes effect, and, falling upon the bed, he goes fast asleep. The old man's grandson, blissfully unconscious that he is assisting at a murder, slips a noose round the sleeping man's neck, and the other end of the rope being attached to a windlass in the room, the Prussian is speedily strangled to death by the ex-sergeant, who is happy in the thought that he has saved his son's honour and at the same time rid his beloved country of a foe. Mr. C. Aubrey Smith, in a part quite out of his usual line, played Gran'father Coquesne with considerable power and intensity. Mr. Philip Cuningham was a fine soldierly Trooper Hans Dorp. Miss Ada Webster was excellent as the unfaithful Marie; and Master Philip Tonge was delightfully natural and boy-like as the cobbler's grandson, Desirée. The new production was favourably received.

The programme opened with the late Sir Charles Young's comedietta entitled *That Dreadful Doctor*, in which Mr. Charles Allan was an appropriately genial and good-natured Dr. Mars; Mr. Charles Maude was quietly effective as Edmund Beauchamp; and Miss Ethel Warwick did very well as Mrs. Beauchamp.

Next came the Trial Scene from *The Merchant of Venice*. Mr. Bourchier's admirable performance as Shylock and Miss Violet Vanbrugh's interesting and highly successful embodiment of Portia were again greatly appreciated. Mr. Arthur Whitby was a dignified Duke; and Miss Muriel Beaumont an attractive Nerissa. Other parts were excellently played by Messrs. Julian L'Estrange, Charles V. France, George Trollope, Wilfred Forster, Douglas Imbert-Terry, Alfred Bristowe, and Harrison-Carter.

In Scene I., Act II., of *The Clandestine Marriage* Mr. Cyril Maude delighted the audience by his cleverly-drawn picture of Lord Ogleby. Excellent, too, were the Stirling of Mr. Lionel Rignold, the Canton of Mr. Eric Lewis, and the Brush of Mr. A. E. Matthews; while Miss Alice Crawford was a charmingly coquettish Chambermaid.

The second act of *Hamlet* was the next item in the programme. Mr. Forbes-Robertson's Prince of Denmark is too well known to need comment; it is only necessary to place on record the fact that this notable performance is as admirable as ever it was, and Mr. Robertson was several times recalled. Miss Gertrude Elliott was also seen to special advantage as Ophelia. Mr. Charles Largley gave valuable assistance as Polonius; the King and Queen were ably represented by Mr. Ian Robertson and Miss Adeline Bourne; Mr. Hylton Allen and Mr. Frank Bickley were good as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern; and Mr. Walter Ringham as the First Player spoke his lines with capital effect. The performance concluded with a scene from *The Heir-at-Law*, Mr. Cyril Maude giving his amusing portrayal of Dr. Pangloss and Mr. G. M. Graham scoring in the part of Dick Dowlass.

It was announced from the stage that the handsome sum of £442 had resulted from the matinée performance.

AN inquiry into the sad death of Emma Elizabeth Finch, the young maid of Miss May de Sousa, who was run down by a motor-car in Brompton-road last week, was made on the 22nd inst. The maid, who was accompanying Miss de Sousa to Daly's Theatre on Monday evening about six o'clock, rushed into the road from the right-hand side, and was knocked down by a motor-car. The driver of the motor-car said the girl appeared to hit the front wheel and fell under the wheels. The crowd got round, and some of them seized him, and almost dragged him from his seat. They shouted, "Move the car on. The front wheel is on her." He moved the car on, and the back wheel went over her also. A verdict of accidental death was returned, but the jury expressed the opinion that proper precautions were not taken by the chauffeur to give an alarm in the congested traffic.

MR. TOM GREEN, the well-known comedian, clown, and stage-director, is making a most unique offer up to date, with a view to Christmas arrangements. Any manager or agent, who calls at the Walturdaw Co., 3, Dean-street, Holborn, or at Cricks and Sharp, 7, Great Queen-street, W.C., can see him in some of his latest productions on the cinematograph. This will enable managers to judge of an artist of thirty years' experience.

THE Palace-by-the-Sea at Clacton is doing excellent business, and the band stand (which this season is being run by the Municipal Council) is attracting large and appreciative audiences. There is an orchestra of nineteen performers, under the able conductorship of Mr. Joseph Sainton, and the special artists engaged for this week are Miss Marian Brereton and Mr. Lawrence Derrick, who have scored their usual success with their humorous duets and musical sketches. The business arrangements of the Municipal concerts are in the able hands of Mr. Fred McLeod.

THE HON. STEPHEN COLERIDGE will take the chair at the annual meeting of Our Dumb Friends' League at the Scala Theatre, Fitzroy-square, on Thursday afternoon next, when the Marchioness of Ormonde will distribute medals to the members of the Children's Branch of the Society. Tickets may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Mr. Arthur J. Coke, 118, Victoria-street, S.W.

"FOR WIFE AND HOME" will be produced, for copyright purposes, at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, on Friday, July 13th—not the 6th, as stated in a contemporary.

JANE HADING AT THE CORONET.

"LA PRINCESSE GEORGES."
Comédie, en 3 Actes, d'Alexandre Dumas Fils.

Séverine .....MME. JANE HADING
Sylvanie de Terremonde .....MME. FÉRIEL
Mme. de Périgny .....MME. ALCIME-LEBLANC
Rosalie .....MME. CATH. FONTENEY
Valentine .....MME. FLORIAN
Berthe .....MME. SAUER
La baronne .....MME. NAUDY
Prince de Birac .....M. ROUYER
Agénor de Terremonde .....M. GARAT
Galanson .....M. LUGUET
Victor .....M. A. BOUR
De Fondette .....M. PEYRIERE
Le baron .....M. LENOIR
Cervières .....M. MAX ROBERT
Un domestique .....M. G. DEYRENS

On Friday, the 22nd inst., Mme. Hading and company appeared in *La Princesse Georges*, by Dumas *fils*. As Séverine, Princesse de Birac ("La Princesse Georges"), Mme. Hading acts in her own inimitable fashion the part of the wronged wife of the title-rôle, who is about the only sympathetic character in this story of infidelity and mercenary motives, ending in the death of one of the infamous Sylvanie's lovers. The guilty pair, Sylvanie, Comtesse de Terremonde, and her lover, the Prince de Birac, are left to trammel the earth, the play thus ending in a note of interrogation so far as they are concerned. La Princesse Georges acquaints the Comte de Terremonde with his wife's perfidy by ordering her rival out of the house. Then, after a vain attempt to wean her husband from his folly by pointing out Sylvanie's unscrupulous nature and her notoriety, and finding that he really loves her, she advises him to go at once, thinking he will be shot by Sylvanie's outraged husband. She immediately regrets this step, but as the Prince prepares to go, the shot which kills M. de Fondette is heard. Mlle. Fériel is a fascinating Sylvanie de Terremonde; M. Rouyer an ardent Prince de Birac; M. Garat a vigorous and determined Agénor de Terremonde; Mme. Alcime-Leblanc a resourceful and masterful Mme. de Périgny; and the other parts are suitably allotted as above.

On Wednesday and Thursday evening *Frou-Frou* was presented at the Coronet. Mme. Hading depicts the vain, flighty, frivolous nature of Gilberte in the earlier scenes, her carelessness, coquetry, and caprice, but later the actress makes quite a *tour de force* of tragic intensity, and shows the deep feeling and passion underlying this butterfly exterior. She sounds the depths of despair in the last two acts, and her pathos is too deep for words. Her Frou-Frou is yet another notable illustration in her gallery of realistic triumphs in character-acting. Mlle. Fériel is delightful as the self-sacrificing sister, Louise, and small wonder she is so universally beloved. M. Arnaud is excellent in his well-regulated and touching rendering of the part of Valreas. M. Rouyer adds to his laurels with quite an unwonted performance of calm self-restraint as Sartorys, very aptly conveying in a few graphic touches the sufferings he endures in the closing acts. M. Luguet is remarkably lifelike and natural as the gallant old gentleman, M. Brigard. Mlle. Florian is good as Pauline; and M. Garat and Mme. Alcime-Leblanc act capitally as le Baron and la Baronne de Cambri.

"LE MAITRE DE FORGES."

By arrangement with Mr. W. H. Kendal, M. Georges Ohnet's clever play was presented during the first week of Mme. Hading's visit. It was repeated on Monday, and again on Wednesday (matinée) and Friday. This story of a loveless marriage and mental anguish, culminating in a duel, and reconciliation resulting from heroic self-sacrifice, happily unattended with serious results, shows off the supremely-gifted actress, Mme. Hading, in quite a new light. As Claire de Beaulieu she practices the art of severe emotional repression and latent fire; only when strung up to the highest pitch of cerebral excitement does the crater of her hidden passion break forth in an unrestrained torrent of tumultuous rage, grief, and despair. Deeply touching is her expression of dumb agony, and her mental revolt from this self-inflicted torture, finding expression in words and action, comes almost as a relief from the tension of her controlled suffering. Her performance as Claire ranks high among her portrayals of esoteric character. M. Rouyer is again well to the fore as the noble-minded, purposeful Philippe Derblay, and he strikes the right note of character as the magnanimous but determined ironmaster. The scenes where he reproaches Claire with having made a tool of him to maintain her pride of place, and again where he resists her blandishments when she would make him forego the duel, are very fine pieces of acting. Mme. Feriel almost makes the unpleasant part of Athénais palatable, so charming is her personality. Mlle. Florian (who on Monday enacted the part of Baronne de Préfont, instead of Mlle. Cath. Fonteney) is elegance and charm personified. Mme. Alcime-Leblanc is very elegant and *distinguée* as the Marquise de Beaulieu; M. Garat as le Baron the Marquise de Beaulieu; M. Garat as le Baron de Préfont, M. Arnaud as le Duc de Bligny, M. Peyriere as Octave, and others, are very commendable in minor rôles; nor must we forget the amusing portraiture of the thick-skinned *parvenu*, Moulinet, cleverly sketched by M. A. Bour.

This is the last week of Mme. Hading's visit to London with her Parisian company, and to-day is the last chance of seeing this fascinating and accomplished artist at the Coronet, *Sapho* being performed at the matinée and in the evening.

MR. H. CHANCE NEWTON, in an article on "Fools and Failures" in last Saturday's issue of the *Freelance*, refers to Sir Henry Irving, who, he says, was smitten with a sudden passion to revive Lord Byron's *Manfred*. He even ordered the music and sundry other more or less necessary ingredients, but Mr. Newton, seizing the privilege of an old and ever-outspoken friend, on his own account caused him to abandon that "most morbid, most miserable, and least money-drawing of plays."

THE Handel Festival, which began at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday, drew an enormous audience to the opening performance of *The Messiah*. Dr. F. H. Cowen conducted, and the soloists were Mmes. Albani and Ada Crossley and Messrs. Ben Davies and Charles Santley, the veteran singer being enthusiastically cheered on rising to sing his first number. All praise is due to the members of the chorus, who sang with admirable precision and perfect intonation. The London Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. Frye Parker, played the accompaniments to the solos, and Mr. Walter W. Hedgcock presided at the organ with his customary skill.

MISS CLARA MORRIS, the famous American actress, tells a characteristic story of the late Dion Boucicault, the celebrated dramatist and actor. She had observed that a certain death scene had been, in her opinion, a little too long for nature, and the actor-manager exclaimed: "Yes, and for art, too. Never rack your audience. Touch 'em—thrill 'em—chill 'em—but never s-t-r-a-i-n 'em."

"THE FATAL WEDDING," the well-known drama of "heart interest," proved such a pronounced success in Australia, that two companies were formed for its representation. The piece has now been played for six years in the United States of America by five companies, and in England by four companies. A Chicago newspaper states that the author, Mr. T. Kremer, has drawn 60,000 dollars (£16,000) a year in fees.

"PEGGY."

A New Comedy, in Four Acts, written by Miss Atholie Robertson, and produced at the New Palace Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, June 25.

Earl of Truro .....MR. FREDERICK ANNERLEY
Lord Brooklyn .....MR. DOUGLAS VIGORS
Captain Marshall .....MR. JACKSON WILCOX
Lord Bob .....MR. HERBERT DICKESON
James Purvis .....MR. SIMON ORD
Dawson .....MR. GILBERT WILLIAMS
Martin .....MR. ALBERT MURRAY
P.C. Jones .....MR. WILKINS BALDI
Lady Julia .....MISS ROSE CAZALET
Evelyn Morris .....MISS MOLLY PAGET
Elizabeth Purvis .....MISS NELLIE CLARENCE
Amelia Purvis .....MISS MARY RELFH
Peggy Purvis .....MISS ATHOLIE ROBERTSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A very hearty reception was given to this play at the New Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, last Monday evening, when it was produced by Mr. Chris. Walker, and performed by Mr. H. Bernhardt's company. On the termination of the comedy the authoress, who figured prominently in the performance as the heroine, was enthusiastically recalled by the very appreciative audience. On the conclusion of the second act she was also the recipient of a basket of beautiful flowers.

The first act opens in the Misses Purvis's parlour in the village of Dagmar. The two spinster ladies, who keep a small shop, are discovered in a state of great nervous excitement, owing to the news that has reached them of a burglary at a neighbouring farm. It is also obvious that the worthy ladies are very anxious respecting their niece, Peggy, whom they have on their hands, in consequence of the death of the girl's father in South Africa. Peggy is a lively little body, and evidently proves attractive to the young gentlemen of the district. Captain Marshall calls, leaving Lord Brooklyn's walking-stick, that a ferrule may be put to it. The aunts receive a letter from their nephew, James Purvis, who writes that he has made his "pile" in America, and intends paying them a six months' visit. He asks the old ladies to meet him at station, unless he wires that he is detained in London. The aunts have scarcely left home for the station, when Lord Brooklyn calls for his walking-stick. He is at once enamoured of the little shop-girl, who, on her part, imagines the visitor is the expected cousin, James, and falls in love with him at "first sight." An amusing scene follows. The "cousin" must have tea after his long journey, and his lordship is induced to array himself in cosy slippers and a white apron, and to make scones for the meal. A telegram from the real cousin arrives, stating he is detained in London for two days. Lord Brooklyn, who has realised the situation, burns the telegram during Peggy's temporary absence, when three knocks, arranged by the nervous aunts as the signal for admission, are heard at the door; and, as Peggy hurries to admit the spinster ladies, the curtain falls upon the interesting and humorous love scene.

In the second act it is seen that Lord Brooklyn, still posing as the real cousin, has been a guest of the Purvises for two days. He surprises Peggy by telling her that he has enjoyed the joke, and must leave her for good. Peggy fails to understand the joke, and is much depressed to think she is losing her "cousin." His lordship quietly places an explanatory letter on the breakfast table, kisses Peggy, and leaves the house. The aunts come down to breakfast, and cannot understand their "nephew's" departure. Peggy reads the letter, in which Lord Brooklyn, signing himself "James," asks her to marry him; she rushes excitedly from the room. The aunts, after some hesitation, also read the letter, and recall the fact that Peggy's father had left instructions that a box in his daughter's possession was to be opened when she had a proposal of marriage. The much perturbed aunts retire, and then the real nephew arrives, only to be regarded as a burglar, and ordered to leave the house. Lady Julia, Lord Brooklyn's sister, and Miss Evelyn Morris, an American heiress, appear upon the scene, having had some inkling of his lordship's escapade. They are anxious to gain information respecting the American heiress's rival for the hand of Lord Brooklyn. His lordship returns, and Peggy reproaches him for his joke, but he soon proves he is really in earnest, and desirous of marrying the little shop girl. The Earl, too, appears, and vainly appeals to his son to discard Peggy, and tells him the story of his own brother, who married beneath him, and, rejected by his family, died in Africa. A humorous scene follows, in which Peggy, disguised as one of the aunts, confronts the Earl, and demands £10,000 as a solatium for breaking off the engagement with the Earl's son. The aunts are indignant at Peggy's scheme, and they tell her the story of her mother's unfortunate marriage with a "gentleman," and her unhappy life that was closed in Africa. Then comes the opening of the box already referred to, and, as already anticipated, the audience realise that Peggy's mother married Earl Truro's brother, and, therefore, Lord Brooklyn is none other than Peggy's cousin.

At the opening of the third act, in the Earl of Truro's drawing-room, there is an interesting scene between Earl Truro and the American heiress, Evelyn Morris. The latter declares she does not care for Lord Brooklyn, and then succeeds in captivating the Earl himself. The spinster aunts arrive with Peggy, who has been invited to a dance at Brooklyn Hall by the Earl, the latter hoping the shop-girl will commit some error in good manners, and thereby disgust his son. Peggy begins to realise that Lady Julia, the Earl's daughter, is making sport of her; and, further, she is treated with scant courtesy by Captain Marshall, one of the guests, who rudely attempts to kiss her. Lord Brooklyn witnesses this, and orders the Captain to leave the house. Peggy, however, makes the mistake of assuming that Lord Brooklyn is also making sport of her, and states her determination to break off their engagement. She tells him of her mother's indiscreet marriage with one above her in rank; and the act closes with Peggy's declaration, "I won't make *you* unhappy!" All, however, ends happily in the last act, the scruples on the part of the Earl as to his son's marriage with Peggy being removed when he realises that the "shop-girl" is actually the daughter of his deceased brother.

Miss Atholie Robertson undertook the part of Peggy Purvis, and merits warm praise for the admirable manner in which she acquitted herself. In the light comedy scenes she was bright and winsome; while, on other occasions—notably in the third act—she showed herself capable of impassioned declamation. Mr. Douglas Vigors made an excellent Lord Brooklyn, and displayed manly, artistic, and thoroughly convincing acting. Mr. Frederick Annerley submitted a highly-polished enactment of the Earl of Truro; Mr. Simon Ord was well suited as James Purvis, and made the most of his opportunities; Miss Molly Paget was ingenious as the American heiress, Evelyn Morris, and was especially effective in the third act in her tactful advances to the Earl. Capital character studies of the nervous spinster aunts, Elizabeth and Amelia Purvis, were presented by Miss Nellie Clarence and Miss Mary Relf respectively; while the thankless part of Lady Julia was ably sustained by Miss Rose Cazelet. Mr. Jackson Wilcox as Captain Marshall, and Mr. Herbert Dickeson as Lord Bob, were well placed. Mr. Wilkins Baldi did capitally as P.C. Jones; and satisfactory support was given by Mr. Gilbert Williams and Mr. Albert Murray.

REJANE AT THE ROYALTY.

Mme. Réjane opened her second week with a representation of *Le Monde où l'on s'ennuie*, in which her performance of Jeanne Raymond again gave considerable pleasure to a large house. On Tuesday she revived *La Rafale*, which was seen at the same house in January last. The author, Henri Bernstein, undoubtedly possesses what is commonly known as the instinct of the theatre; but in his treatment of situations and incidents he seems to have given rein to a desire to be as brutally frank as is permissible on the stage. There is, however, a crude power in the piece, clumsy as it is in structure, and rough and unsympathetic as are its characters. Then there is Réjane, whose superb acting would justify the production of a worse piece. The plot, briefly outlined, runs as follows: The Baron de Lebourg is an exasperating snob, whose daughter, Hélène, is married to Armand de Bréchebel, a nonentity with a title and nothing more. Hélène had never taken the union seriously, and gives her love to Robert de Chacéroy, an inveterate gambler, whose only method of "raising the wind" is apparently the baccarat table. At the Baron's soirée in the first act, Robert informs Hélène that he has not only lost all that he possessed, but also a sum of 650,000 francs that did not belong to him. Unless he finds that amount in the course of the next day he will be arrested, and charged with embezzlement. It is a desperate case. Robert indignantly refuses Hélène's offer to help him; but the next morning she sends for a jeweller, and asks him to make her an advance on her jewels. The man is quite willing to do so, but requires time to find the money. Hélène then applies to Amédée, a former admirer and a cynical cur, who will help her—but on his own terms: the price of her honour. Hélène shows him the door; but, after a stormy interview with her father in the second act—the great dramatic moment of the play—she goes to Amédée, and secures the funds; but at what a price! She is too late, however, for Robert shoots himself.

None of the author's personages appeal to our sympathies, and this defect of the original play, which was produced on Oct. 20, 1905, at the Gymnase (with Mme. Simone le Bargy in the rôle of Hélène), was the chief cause of the failure of Mr. Harry Melvill's adaptation, *The Whirlwind*, with which Mrs. Patrick Campbell started her recent disastrous season at the Criterion on May 23. The most important scene in the piece is where Hélène seeks to obtain from the Baron, her father, the money to save her lover. Herein, Réjane has a chance of working herself into a whirlwind of passion, and she was seen at her very best on Tuesday, when the audience became very naturally quite enthusiastic. M. Pierre Magrier as the gambler, Robert de Chacéroy, again showed himself to be a finished actor; and the part of the Baron was effectively presented by M. Arvel. M. Saint Bonnet exhibited artistic restraint as the odious Amédée.

On Wednesday afternoon and evening was presented Edouard Pailleron's comedy in three acts, *La Souris*. Mme. Réjane had a rôle (Pépa) in which light-hearted gaiety predominated, and she played it in her most mercurial manner, constantly evoking the laughter of her legion of admirers by her breezy comedy. Mme. Suzanne Avril's Hermine was in excellent contrast; and M. Pierre Magnier as the man of the world, Max de Simiers, was quite irresistible in his love scene with Mdlle. Lély, who acts "the mouse" with freshness and charm. Mdlle. Verneuil as Clotilde also aided the effectiveness of the piece, which met with a favourable reception both at the afternoon and evening performances.

La Piste, Victorien Sardou's latest comedy, which was originally produced at the Théâtre des Variétés, Paris, filled the Thursday night's bill at the Royalty. It belongs to the same class as *Les Pattesde Mouche* and *Divorcons*. It is full of artifice, and is, as it were, built up on the points of needles. Not to put too fine a point upon it, it is just a shade *démodée*; but nevertheless its scenes possess a gaiety, a singular animation, a verve that easily carry it to success. The author's wonderful adroitness and dexterity in construction and fertility of invention are very marked throughout the three acts, and it is remarkable how M. Sardou, who has succeeded in all kinds of stage productions, should preserve such freshness and ingenuity after playwriting for over half a century.

The plot of *La Piste* is a typically Parisian intrigue. Florence Rébillon, a light-hearted somewhat feather-brained wife, has divorced her first husband, Philippe Jobelin, previous to her marriage with Casimir Rébillon, whose jealousy is aroused when he finds a compromising but anonymous letter some years old in her escritoire. Florence is ready with various explanations, none of which are regarded as satisfactory by a jealous spouse. One of her "fibs"—that the letter belonged to a lady who had been the former tenant of a flat—would have set his mind at rest had not her sister unintentionally blundered in saying that the desk was a family possession. As a last resource Florence hurries off to her former huband, Philippe Jobelin, and asks him to explain that he knew all about her affection for the mysterious writer of the letter, and that it is a matter of past history. In the belief that she is victimising her second husband Jobelin bears out her story, but finds that it is true, and that he had a rival. The discovery, although disagreeable for number one, is accepted by number two, who asks his friends to celebrate the occasion joyfully and dine with him. Mme. Réjane, who played her original part of Florence Rébillon, was intensely amusing. Mme. Suzanne Avril did admirably as Hortense.

AT the Marylebone County Court on Monday, Miss A. Anabel Montagu, a professional singer, who was sued by her landlord for £17, said to be due for her rent of a flat at Southwold-mansions, Elgin-avenue, put in a curious counter-claim. Miss Montagu said that while she was away her landlord broke into her flat to distrain on her goods, and then put a new lock on the door, which prevented a friend sending her letters on to her as he had done before, and caused a letter containing a contract of engagement for the Carl Rosa Opera Company to be returned. She lost the position and the chance of a lifetime. Mr. Walter van Noorden, manager of the Carl Rosa Company, said that the contract engaging Miss Montagu was returned to him unopened, and he had had to fill the position. The landlord said it was untrue to say he broke into the lady's flat. The door and window were open, and the bailiff walked straight in. He put a new lock on the door to protect Miss Montagu's goods. His Honour thought the evidence of damage for the lost contract was too remote even if there was liability, but he allowed defendant £4 for the damage of certain goods.

THE career of Haydn Gunter, the new Welsh violinist, who makes his London début at Miss Italia Conti's Stafford House concert on Thursday, has been a romantic one. The son of poor parents, he began life as a pit-boy at a Welsh colliery. His father, an engine-driver, was fond of music, and he gave the boy so much encouragement in his violin studies that at the Welsh National Eisteddfod he won, at the age of sixteen, the national prize. He was then sent to Leipsic, where he won the Mendelssohn Verein gold medal, being the first Britisher to gain that honour. Thence he went to Prague and Vienna, and returned home to play at the Eisteddfod as an artist, where he had formerly been a competitor.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

André Messager's *Les Deux Pigeons* was produced at Covent Garden on Thursday night, June 21. When originally performed at the Grand Opéra, Paris, in 1886, the ballet was in three acts, which has been condensed into two acts on its revival on Thursday night. In the past, when we had such famous exponents of the light fantastic as Fanny Gissler, Taglioni, and Carlotta Grisi, the ballet was an important feature of the Opera, and it remains to be seen if the present experiment will revive the ancient glories of the ballet in these modern days, with its increased knowledge of the higher forms of musical art. The story of *Les Deux Pigeons* is founded on one of La Fontaine's fables, and the first scene takes place in Mikalia's house, where her daughter Gourouli is expecting her lover Pepio. Gourouli and her friends are having a lively dance, as it is her mother's birthday, when Pepio arrives. It is at once apparent that something is wrong with the young lover, as he greets his fiancée coldly, and though she tries to please him with her dancing, and at last persuades him to join her; but when the dance is done Pepio relapses again into gloom. At this moment a gipsy troupe enters, accompanied by Djali, a Bohemian maid, and it is at once evident that she and Pepio have met before. After an Hungarian dance, in which Gourouli, competing with Djali, and failing to win back her lover, indignantly dismisses the gipsy troupe, Pepio states that he is going in search of adventure, in spite of Gourouli's pleading.

The second act is the gipsy camp. Pepio appears, and is warmly greeted by Djali. Shortly after, Gourouli arrives, and finding her lover still under the spell of her rival, thinks out a plot to reclaim him. She makes the gipsy chief an offer of a purse of gold if he will consent to her changing dresses with Djali and when this is done, Pepio thinks Gourouli is Djali. In her ruse Gourouli is successful. She tells fortunes, pleases the people by her dancing, and makes Pepio gamble until all his money is gone. A thunderstorm comes on, but Pepio has no money. The gipsies will not let him enter their tents; an innkeeper near by also refuses to take him in, so Pepio takes shelter under a tree, but this is struck by lightning, and the unfortunate man drenched to the skin, and thinking he is deserted by Djali, turns again to his former love. Pepio is satisfied with his flutter, seeks forgiveness of Gourouli, and all ends happily.

The music of M. Messager is lively, melodious, and, in many instances, charming. Much use is made of the gipsy motive to give strength and impart contrast to the work. A short introduction is given before the curtain rises. In the first scene, a lively dance by Gourouli's friends, who are carrying wreaths to decorate the room, proved very attractive, and the dance, "Pas des Deux Pigeons," between Pepio and Gourouli, was certainly one of the most charming numbers of the ballet. There is also a clever march, which heralds the approach of the gipsies, and some melodious and pathetic music, that accompanies Gourouli's endeavours to win back Pepio. In the second act there is some gipsy dancing, and the solo dances of Gourouli and Djali are in clever contrast. A vivacious waltz and an Hungarian dance are also pleasing features of this scene, which, after the storm music, closes with rejoicing and a spirited dance.

Mlle. Aida Boni, who was dressed in the regulation ballet costume, made a charming Gourouli, dancing in a graceful and finished style, with a good command of gesture; and Mlle. Irma Legrand proved equally attractive in the character of the fickle Pepio. Mlle. Lucie Raulin undertook the part of Djali with intelligence, but was hardly so successful in her dancing as her companions; M. F. Ambrosiny made an excellent gipsy chief; and Mme. Meulendyck appeared to advantage in the small part of Mikalia. The dresses were pretty, and the work mounted with considerable care, the general ensemble going smoothly under the conductorship of M. André Messager. The ballet was preceded by Massinet's charming miracle play, *La Jongleur de Notre-Dame*, a work that admirably contrasted with M. Messager's ballet.

A fine performance of Verdi's *Aïda* was given on Monday night at Covent Garden. Verdi's Egyptian opera always arouses interest, both by its great melodic charm, and the fine scenic effects that the Opera syndicate have lavished on this work. The cast included that great artist, Signor Caruso, who, being in good voice, sang the music allotted to the part of Radames to perfection. Mme. Giachetti as the heroine proved her ability as an actress, but vocally Mme. Giachetti was not entirely satisfactory, displaying at times a strong tendency to the vibrato. Amneris can always be considered one of Mme. Kirkby Lunn's best parts, and one that shows her fine voice to great advantage. Mme. Lunn made an effective use of her great vocal powers in the duet with Aïda, and in other more dramatic portions of the opera. Signor Sammarco as Amonasro, and M. Journet as Ramfis, were eminently successful in their respective characters; and M. Artus made a regal Il Ré. The dresses were handsome, and the opera mounted with the utmost care. Both the chorus and orchestra are worthy of great praise, under the skilful conducting of Signor Campanini.

CHOPIN'S NATIONALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your brief but kindly comment on my recent letter to the Press concerning the shockingly neglected state of Chopin's grave in the Père Lachaise Cemetery, Paris, you call Chopin a "French" composer. But please permit me to state that though this illustrious musician's father (Nicholas Chopin) was a born Frenchman, his mother (Justine Krzyzanowska) was a thorough Pole; and as Chopin himself was born on Polish soil (Zelazowa Wola, near Warsaw), he cannot in truth be called a Frenchman, notwithstanding that he made Paris his permanent home for many years.
—I am, Sir, yours obediently,

ALGERNON ASHTON.
44, Hamilton-gardens, N.W., June 24.

AN English 'cellist, in the person of Mr. Joseph Schofield, is to make his début at the Steinway Hall on July 3. The young musician, who is a Yorkshireman, was born in 1886, and in 1899 gained the Baron Johann Knoop open violoncello scholarship at the Guildhall School of Music. He has since taken numerous prizes for 'cello playing at this school. Since 1902 he has studied under Hans Brousil. A special feature of his concert will be his playing of "Le Streghi" (Paganini-Brousil), which has never before been given on the 'cello.

MR. MESSAGER'S Savoy opera, *Miretto*, will be presented, under the direction of the composer, at the inaugural performances of the Cambridge University Operatic Club at the Scala Theatre on the afternoons of July 2 and 3. The performances will enjoy the patronage of Princess Henry of Battenberg.

THE Madison-square Roof Garden Theatre, the scene of Mr. Stanford White's murder, is one among many roof gardens in New York, numerous hotels and music halls offering the open-air entertainment in summer. At one hall an artificial farmyard, with real roosters, pigs, and peasants, has been fitted up on its roof.

"PUT IT IN BLACK AND WHITE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Managers and actors can obviously make what customs they please, so long as they are agreed about them; but the old custom was simple, and fair to all. Why any manager wanted to upset it I cannot imagine. The new custom attempted to be set up is, I understand, that engagements for "parts" are for a run, unless there is a written contract to the contrary, but engagements for chorus are on two weeks' notice. The futility of attempting to make this distinction was shown in the Vaudeville case. If the new "custom" is to hold at all, it must obviously apply to *all* engagements. That it is an undesirable custom—whether for the actor or the manager—I have no manner of doubt.

I was asked to give evidence in Thomas *v.* Gatti. I replied that I could do no good, as I considered the defence was on mistaken lines. It would, in my opinion, be even more impossible to get a unanimous agreement, as to what constitutes an "actress" or a "part," than to get a unanimous approval of any form of the Education Bill. No hard-and-fast line can be drawn

The defence should, I consider, have been that, as far back as anyone can recollect, it has been the recognised theatrical custom that all agreements with artists, unless a defined time is specified in writing, are subject to two weeks' notice on either side. This is practical and sensible.

To waste the time of our judges and juries on such questions, especially the latter, seems to me ridiculous. The only useful result can be to afford some amusement to the Court.

Managers and artists had better return to the simple old plan, recognising the right of each party to give two weeks' notice unless it is clearly defined otherwise in writing—this to apply to everyone, principals and choristers. It is surely very easy, where a longer engagement is intended, to reduce the terms to writing; and it is certainly worth while to do so where such serious responsibilities are involved. Myself, I always have signed contracts with my artists, and in the many thousands of engagements we have made since 1877 each one has contained the following clause: "All engagements for the run of a piece or season, unless any defined time is specified, are terminable by a fortnight's notice from either party." When it is agreed to make the engagement definitely for the run or other fixed period this clause is cancelled and initialled by both parties. —Yours faithfully,

HELEN D'OYLY CARTE.

D'Oyly Carte Opera Companies,
Savoy Hotel, London, W.C. June 27.

SIR,—Taking into consideration the idiotic verdicts, given both for and against managers, and for and against artists, by judges and juries who are entirely ignorant of the customs and usages of the theatrical and variety profession, contracts are scarcely worth the paper they are written or printed on. I consider the only way out of the difficulty—with equal justice on both sides—is that every contract should be made with the mutual agreement that any dispute should be settled by a Board of Arbitration—so many on either side—people connected with and experienced in our profession, with a president who is neither a manager nor an artist, but who is intimately connected with the affairs of the profession, and who would have a casting vote.—Yours truly,

ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

June 27.

SIR,—I have always been under the impression that an engagement at a West End house meant for the entire run of the play—hence "the rehearsal on approval," and the non-payment for rehearsals (sometimes covering a period of five or six weeks). As a touring manager, I have always found the "Fortnight's notice on either side" to be insisted upon by artist and manager. I do not see how a London manager could insert the "Fortnight notice" clause in his contract, for often he takes the play off after a run of three nights.—I am, Sir, Yours truly,

E. VIVIAN EDMONDS.

2, Sunnyside-terrace, Weston-super-Mare.
June 27.

SIR,—No good manager will part with a good actor easily, and this, of course, cuts both ways; but in these days of syndicates, with their many voices, unfortunately there are others! As it is best to act in a clear atmosphere, all actors with confidence in their own tried powers should vote solidly for the old contract of a "fortnight's notice." Contracts for the "run of the piece," and for "three years," were invented by the manager for his own protection, not the actor's. When a person on the stage, whether he or she can act or not, makes a hit, there is an immediate run on him for his personality in the particular class of part he is called upon to impersonate (this, by some humorist, has been specialised as "his line"), and for the time being he could practically command his own terms. But he is tied to the manager "for the run of the piece," at his formerly undiscovered "line" price. Under the "three years" signing, the manager can "farm" the more or less fortunate actor, hit or miss, to whom he pleases, and in many instances pockets a good round sum as difference of salary. One cannot blame the manager; it is a legitimate gamble, and the actor has no right to grumble, as each contract is a matter for individual calculation. As a matter of "theatrical custom," however, it behoves us to stick to the old one. And now that this question has been raised, is it not also time that some arrangement should be come to about certain remuneration for rehearsals? Our cry should be for a fortnight's notice on either side, and half salaries for all rehearsals over a fortnight in London, and over a week for provincial tours, where artists are not employed in the evening bill.—Yours truly,

MATTHEW BRODIE.

21, Colville-road, W. June 26.

SIR,—My opinion is that provincial theatrical customs will not suffer by the decision given in the "Gibson Girl" case.

London customs have, in my experience, always differed from provincial ones. For instance, seldom is an actor or actress engaged in London unless they are known, and suited for the part they are engaged to play, and therefore it is only just and equitable that they should be engaged for the run of the piece. For my own part, I do not indulge in the luxury of contracts. Those that I have seen are, in my opinion, illogical, if not illegal. I make only two stipulations in my agreements, which always take the form of a letter. One refers to sobriety, the other, that this agreement is subject to the usual theatrical terms and conditions. It is thoroughly understood by every provincial actor or actress that these conditions comprise a fortnight's notice on either side, and "no play, no pay."

Pardon me if I consider this, as Artemus Ward put it, "enuff for all practical purposes."—Faithfully yours,

HENRY BEDFORD.

SIR,—The saying, "consuetudo pro lege servatur," has unusual weight in the theatrical profession, so, with regard to any particular point of law, it remains but to determine what is the "custom" in such case. As to the unwritten conditions of agreement when artists are verbally engaged, there appear to be two—London custom, affirming that all actors and actresses are engaged for the "run of the piece"; and provincial practice, contending that all engagements (unless otherwise specified in a written agreement), are terminable by a "fortnight's" notice on either side.

Mr. Blackmore has already said sufficient to show that provincial practice is more business-like and more conducive to harmony, though, from the London actor's pint of view, the possibility of receiving a fortnight's notice after having spent, perhaps, six weeks in rehearsals, is anything but reassuring. It appears, in fact, that each custom has grown up "a natura rei," and as it is doubtful if either will give way to the other, a written understanding of the matter, signed by both parties, is the only practical method of avoiding an occasional *mal entendu*.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HALLING.

T. R., Chatham. June 27.

SIR,—I make a great number of contracts with artists during the year; on every one of them (without exception) the following clause is printed:—

"This engagement is made subject to all the recognised rules and regulations governing first-class theatres and tours, and is at all times terminable, on either side, at two weeks' notice."

It seems to me an equitable sort of arrangement, and I never have any trouble.—Yours faithfully,

PETER DAVEY.

Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.
June 27.

SIR,—I have read Mr. Herbert Blackmore's letter on the custom of concluding engagements by a fortnight's notice.

As a difficulty has arisen over this question, it appears to me that the only way out of it is to insert on all contracts a clause to specify whether the engagement is for the season, the run, the tour, or terminable by the usual fortnight's notice.—Yours faithfully,

WYN WEAVER.

Theatre Royal, Worthing. June 26.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—There would be far less friction if a custom was generally recognised that every engagement made in a theatre was terminable on either side by giving a fortnight's notice, unless specified in writing that a definite period was mutually agreed on. This would be fair alike to manager and actor.

If the manager does not wish to bind himself for a stated period, it is only fair that the actor should better himself if he can. Per contra, if the actor will not bind himself for a certain time, it is fair the manager should suit his own convenience with a fortnight's notice.

I have been witness of a theatrical law-suit where out of twelve of our leading managers and actors six swore one way and six the other, and finally established that there was no custom at all and very little sense in theatrical contracts.—Yours faithfully,

WM. FARREN, JUN.

32, Cleveland-road, Barnes.

SIR,—I do not care to discuss or express a public opinion on any High Court judgments, but in regard to the general question of theatrical engagements, I disagree with Mr. Blackmore's ruling and interpretation of unwritten laws and general practice. Nearly everything in the dramatic profession is strangely elastic, and the "practice" may be anything an individual manager insists upon; but it must be *equitable* as a safeguard against favouritism and tyranny—and the ridiculous list of printed "pains and penalties" called "Rules and Regulations," which are generally disregarded, or considered loopholes for the unscrupulous and undependable.

A proper contract is a very simple matter, consisting of an offer on certain definite terms and conditions, and an acceptance. There is no need of uncertainty or ambiguity; a definite offer is made (say) for the—

1. Run of a play;
2. A season or seasons, years, months, weeks, or single performance;
3. At a fortnight's notice at any time after the first week; which also means that the engagement might last much longer than the first play you acted in; or, as a courteous concession of the manager, to inform his company generally of the termination of a run or season to all to whom it applied.

Theatrical disputes are deplorable, in my opinion, and should be easily avoided.—Most truly yours,

HENRY NEVILLE.

June 28, 1906.

SIR,—I do not hold with Mr. Herbert Blackmore's letter at all. Surely, from a legal point of view, it has been held long ago that an actor cannot be dismissed at a fortnight's notice, unless a specific agreement to that effect is mutually arranged by both parties. A manager should exercise care in selecting the actors and actresses who are likely to suit him, and he should not be allowed the luxury of caprice. On the other hand, an actor or actress should not enter into an engagement with his, or her, eyes shut. The reasons for which an artist can be dismissed are, or should be, always stated in the contract, where one exists, but the fortnight's notice is, in my opinion, bad for both parties. It is bad for the artist who after a long period of "resting," may be again sent into that blissful state, at the caprice of the manager; and it is bad for the manager who may be left with two weeks in which to procure, and rehearse, a possibly unknown artist, in important parts (a sometimes impossible task, in spite of the tremendous overcrowding of the theatrical profession) because the leading man, or woman's, dressing-room happens to have no electric light in it, or something equally important to the display of genius. No, take a little trouble over the matter, engage your people, and keep them. Much better for all parties if it were universal. Of course a certain amount of risk must always be taken in engaging people. They may not turn out quite as one expects, but managers should take the trouble to see artists' performances, even if it involves a railway journey, before engaging them, and, as a rule, if it is gently pointed out to an artist at rehearsal that his or her reading of a part is not quite to the liking of the management, and therefore also, presumably, not to that of the British Public, the artist usually sees the matter in the same light, and there is no difficulty, but if proper precautions were taken this would rarely occur.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Blackmore's letter in *The Era* of last Saturday, I quite agree with him in every detail, and the whole thing, it seems to me, would be simplified if, as Mr. Blackmore suggests, all agreements were made in writing.

The Two Weeks' Notice Clause on either side could not possibly be improved upon, and I have never found the slightest dissatisfaction with it among artists whom I have engaged; in fact, if there has been a suggestion of reluctance on the part of an artist agreeing to the two weeks' notice clause, I have invariably found that they were not desirable people to engage, and would attempt to bind a manager to a guarantee of so many weeks or a tour, not feeling sure of their ability to hold the engagement.

I think even though an artist be engaged for a run of a play, or a certain number of weeks, or a definite period, that there should be some established rules regulating the conduct of both manager and artist, the violation of which would justify a cancellation of the contract by either side giving a reasonable notice, say four weeks instead of two, because neither an artist or a manager wish to enter into an agreement for a definite period unless they both feel satisfied that the number of weeks stated is sufficient to protect their respective interests for that time.

If an artist is necessary enough to a manager to be engaged for a definite time, then also is the manager necessary enough to the artist to use his services for the same period, and from that standpoint probably both sides would find it a little more difficult to replace each other, and in my opinion the term of notice should be longer than the ordinary two weeks.—Yours faithfully,

BERT COOTE.

150, Oxford-street, W.
June 28.

DEAR SIR,—I must say that I quite agree with Mr. Blackmore, as I cannot understand any artist wishing to continue in an engagement to which he or she is unsuited, as it cannot be but disastrous to both artist and manager.—Sincerely yours,

AUSTIN MELFORD.

SIR,—Sir Charles Wyndham is abroad, but I am quite safe in telling you that Sir Charles's strong opinion is that an engagement is for the run of the piece, failing any written contract to the contrary.—Yours faithfully,

A. F. HENDERSON.

New Theatre, June 28.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

THE Challenge Shield presented by the proprietors of *The Era* for the tug-of-war competition at the Theatrical Sports, is at present on view at the office of that journal, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. It will shortly be dispatched to the holders, the Empire team, Dublin The Theatrical Sports Committee are anxoius to publish the accounts, and as the audit will take place on Monday at the office of the committee, 29, Wellington-street, Strand, the ticket-sellers who have not yet sent in their returns and sales are urgently requested to do so at once, in order that the business may be disposed of.

THE drawings sent in to the London County Council, showing how it is proposed to carry out the suggestions made by the Council for certain structural alterations at the Tivoli, Strand, were prepared by Mr. G. H. Dyball, the stage-manager.

THE annual outings of the working staff are now taking place week by week. On Sunday week the Alhambra staff will go for their outing to Dovercourt. The Empire staff will go to Clacton on the same day. At this latter house the management, for the first time, have taken over the control of the outing. The outing will be open to all employees, back or front, who care to go and subscribe 10s. each, which sum, it is expected, will be refunded, the expenses being provided by funds raised from other sources.

A SOCIAL gathering was held last Sunday in the Freemason's Arms, Long Acre, under the auspices of the Carpenters' Society and the General Operatives Sick and Benefit Society, for the purpose of receiving subscriptions for the benefit of Mr. T. Rowe, a well-known carpenter, who has become blind, and thus unable to follow his occupation. Mr. A. Palmer, of the Comedy Theatre, acted as chairman, and Mr. A. E. Wood vice-chairman. The meeting was well attended.

MR. E. FURGESON, a member of the American Alliance of Stage Employees and property master of the *Sho-Gun* company, has just returned to New York after a short stay in Paris and London, which he visited as a holiday. He attended a number of West End theatres, and much appreciates the courtesy shown to him by the various heads of departments.

A MEETING of the National Committee of the National Association of Theatrical Employees was held on Thursday evening, at 29, Wellington-street. Reports from the various branches were submitted. The meeting adjourned to next Thursday.

BLACKPOOL was the place chosen for the annual outing on Sunday of the employees of the Theatre Royal, Bradford, when the staff to the number of twenty-five availed themselves of the kind invitation of Mr. John Hart, the lessee. The arrangements, which were perfect, were in the hands of Mr. T. F. Doyle, the stage-manager, and the acting-manager, Mr. James Richardson. Lunch was provided at the County and Lane Ends Hotel, after which circular drives were indulged in, and a sumptuous dinner was partaken of in the evening at the hotel. The weather was delightful, and a most enjoyable day was spent.

THE annual staff outing of the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, took place on Sunday, when a party of forty, comprising members of the orchestra, front of house, and stage staff, including Mr. J. Gladwin, Mr. Sounes's manager. The company journeyed to Ramsgate, arriving a little before one, afterwards making their way to the Royal Oak Hotel, where an excellent dinner was prepared. After dinner, Mr. Gladwin proposed the health of the proprietor, Mr. Sounes. which was drunk with musical honours. Mr. Gladwin then, on behalf of Mr. Sounes, heartily thanked the staff for their efforts during the past season. Mr. Percy Court then accorded a vote of thanks to Mr. Gladwin. which was seconded by Mr. Joseph Klee, musical director, and enthusiastically carried. After dinner most of the musicians took a sea trip by the new yacht, Moss Rose; whilst the stage staff enjoyed a brake ride to Minster, returning to the same hotel to tea. The whole arrangements were carried out by Messrs. Percy Court, A. D. Jones, George Jewett, and Charles Kitchen.

FREEMASONRY.

The companions of the Asaph Chapter held their thirty-fourth installation meeting on Monday, at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Amongst those present as visitors to do honour to the occasion were Messrs. W. Cleghorn, P.G.S.B., W. H. Stocks, W. F. Allocy, W. B. Smith, Will Sparks, W. Lestocq, and Charles Cruikshanks. Mr. Luigi Lablache, the I.P.Z., acted as first principal, and was supported by Messrs. Tom de B. Holmes, J. D. Beveridge, Harry Nicholls, P.D.G.D.C., and A. G. Duck, past principals, and the following officers:—Messrs. W. J. Harvey, James Weaver, P.1stA.G.D.C., James W. Mathews, Ed. Humphrey, and E. H. Bull, and companions Messrs. Clarence Coggin, J. Powell, J. H. Ryley, W. J. Keen, Geo. F. Carr, G. A. Keen, A. P. Oxley, C. W. A. Trollope, and E. A. Whitehouse. Mr. Herbert Chenery became a member of the Chapter, and Mr. W. Cleghorn was unanimously elected as an hon. member, a distinction conferred upon him in recognition of his many services to the Chapter as Installing Master.

The Chapter having been opened, and the preliminary business settled, Mr. James W. Mathews was installed as Third Principal, and afterwards (in conjunction with Mr. W. J. Harvey) as Second Principal. A conclave of First Principals was formed, and Mr. W. J. Harvey was installed as the ruler of the Chapter, the ceremonies being conducted by Mr. W. Cleghorn in a masterly manner, and Messrs. Tom de B. Holmes, Ed. Humphrey, and A. G. Duck rendering valuable assistance. The newly appointed chief appointed and invested his officers:—Messrs. Jas. Weaver (E.), Clarence Coggin (N.), Ed. Humphrey (treasurer), Stanley Pringle (P.S.), E. H. Bull (A.S.), and Duncan Tovey (A.S.), and E. A. Whitehouse (O.). The choice of the companions fell upon Mr. Whitmore, the present Master of the Lodge of Asaph, as Third Principal, and Mr. Gilbert, who has held his office since the inception of the Chapter, as Janitor.

THE SWANBOROUGH BENEFIT.

The professions, both variety and theatrical, took considerable interest in the benefit matinée given to dear old Teddy Swanborough on Thursday afternoon, by the kind permission of the directors, at the London Pavilion; and the fine house which responded to the appeal of Mr. Henri Gros and an influential committee was in itself a splendid testimony of the affection and esteem in which the popular manager—now laid by through serious illness—is held. We were reminded of the old Strand days—the palmy days of well-written burlesque and Byronic comedy—when Mr. Edward Terry came on to the stage towards the end of a long and attractive entertainment to say a few words of thanks on behalf of the beneficiaire. The popular comedian, who claimed the indulgence of the audience as an extra turn, said it was his privilege that afternoon to return thanks to them for a dear, esteemed friend of his—a friend of many years—who, he felt sure, would rate very highly the very great testimony of feeling implied by the large number of his friends who had come there that hot afternoon. He would not refer to him as Mr. Edward Swanborough, but as "the genial Ted," the friend of them all, under whose revered mother he had served at the Strand Theatre in the days of his youth—days that he should never forget. He would thank Mr. Hugh Astley and the directors for the loan of the house and the artists for their kindly offices, and special thanks were due to Mr. Henri Gros. In conclusion, Mr. Terry stated that the sum raised by subscriptions and the matinée reached the handsome sum of £450, and that he would convey to Mr. Swanborough their hearty good wishes for his speedy restoration to health.

The entertainment had notable contributors in Mr. J. H. Barnes, who recited; Mr. Rutland Barrington, the old Savoyard, who gave "His last dinner"; Mr. Charles Collette, who sang, as he only can, "I've a terrible lot to do to-day"; and Mr. Charles Hawtrey, who appeared with his customary success as the light-hearted and mercurial Charles Grahame in the comedietta, by Lady Bell and the late Arthur Cecil, entitled *Time is Money*. Mr. Hawtrey was well supported by Miss Florence Sinclair as Mrs. Murray and Miss Mona Harrison, who appeared by permission of their several managers. Somewhat heavier in texture and of more serious interest than the airy trifle just mentioned was *The Chorus Girl*, presented by Miss Rose Stahl and her own company from the Palace Theatre. The American actress created an excellent impression by her powerful realisation of the moods of Miss "Pat" O'Brien, an extra lady at an opera house—a child of nature, a gem in the rough, a "dead straight girl," fierce in hate, but strong in affection—and the enthusiastic call at the close was a well-deserved compliment to the clever American actress. She was well supported by Mr. Jack Denton and Miss Elma Morris.

Another turn from America, the Kentucky Four, echoed the plantation melodies across the footlights. Messrs. Jordan and Harvey, also from the States, evoked laughter by their Hebrew dialect; Australia was well represented by Miss Alice Hollander and the beautiful Milo, in her posings as the Venus of various ancient sculptors; Mr. C. Emlyn Jones and his Emerald Quartette were responsible for an attractive vocal entertainment; and Miss Winifred Hare, looking radiant, chose a charming selection from her repertoire; Mr. Wilkie Bard roused laughter by his exceeding drollery in a popular number; and Mr. Arthur Prince, returning temporarily to the scene of his London début, again astonished his numerous admirers by his wonderful technique as a ventriloquist. Other turns in the matinée bill were Mr. James Stewart, the tramy pianist; Stenelli, a clever child violinist, age eleven, a pupil of Herr Stern, of Brighton, who made his first appearance in London; Cruikshank, the wonderful caricaturist, who drew impressionist sketches of Sammy Woods, the Somersetshire cricketer, and of R. H. Spooner, the brilliant bat of the Lancashire eleven; and Miss Sarah de Groot, who recited "The idyl of Battle Hollow," by Bret Harte. To Mr. Frank Glenister, who managed the entertainment, acknowledgments are due for the smooth working of an excellent list of attractions, which were accompanied throughout most artistically by the fine band under the direction of Mr. A. Bond Sayers.

DEAR SIR,—In my last letter to you, which you were good enough to publish last Saturday, I stated that the list for subscriptions would be kept open until August 6. This is a clerical error; it should have read July 6.

I send you herewith further list of donations received to-day.—Yours faithfully,

HENRI GROS.

The following is the list of subscriptions up to date:—

Amounts already acknowledged, £192 11s.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
The Directors of the Oxford, Ltd.	5	5	0	H. Paulton	1	1	0
				Frank Allen	1	1	0
				Fred Higham	1	1	0
The Directors of the Tivoli, Ltd.	5	5	0	E. A. Villiers	1	1	0
				J. F. Elliston	1	1	0
				Albert Le Fre	1	1	0
A. Moul	5	5	0	Burnette	1	1	0
Leo Sunderland	5	5	0	C. H. Dybal	1	1	0
				F. Clay	1	1	0
F. E. Beauclerk	5	0	0	Harry Randall	1	1	0
				J. W. Woodford	1	1	0
H. Newson Smith	3	3	0	King and Benson	1	1	0
J. W. Matthews	3	3	0	Atlas	1	1	0
Herbert Hitchens	2	2	0	Ern Chester	1	1	0
The National Sunday League	2	2	0	Radford	1	1	0
				J. Hambleton	1	0	0
London City and Midland Bank, Ltd., Chelsea	2	2	0	G. Gilbey	0	13	6
				W. Scott Adecker	0	12	0
				W. Doust	0	12	0
F. Newson Smith	1	1	0	I. Brimbaum	0	10	6
				J. Leslie Fuller	0	6	0
Thomas Catling	1	1	0	J. M.	0	2	6
W. Harris	1	1	0	Percy Clarke	0	10	0
S. Paterson	1	1	0	Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
Albert Gilmer	1	1	0	A. Smith	0	10	6

OPEN AIR music halls in Paris are coining money now, especially the Ambassadeurs, the management of which has just brought out *Et Puis—Zut!* a smartly-written revue by MM. Georges Manteuil and Henri de Garsse. The work, in keeping with the temperature, is rather "hot," and it would be impossible to describe the scenes in detail. The prudish stranger, however, will not be called upon to blush, for it is most improbable that he will understand many of the allusions. It is worth while going to see the revue, if only to hear Max Dearly take off an American, a Spaniard, &c., and hear his description of his journey to Madrid to attend the Royal wedding. Excellent, too, is Mme. Allems, an admirable *diseuse*, whose couplets, presented in her inimitable style, scored a huge success. Lastly, there is M. Girier, who appears as Mme. Aurelia, an imposing-looking lady, with large diamond ear-rings and bejewelled fingers. She is supposed to keep a glove shop, but the young ladies in her establishment have altogether a different profession; and when a government official calls to fill up the lists for the census, a *quid pro quo* arises that baffles description.

ONE of the principal attractions at the Hackney Empire next week is Mr. Frank Danby, who with a capital company will appear in *The Chauffeur*, a new musical comedy sketch. Mr. Danby is one of Mr. George Edwardes's principal comedians.

FIFTY YEARS OF THE DRAMA. 1850—1900.

(COPYRIGHT.)

In these columns it is proposed to give a strictly alphabetical arrangement of the titles of plays produced during the last fifty years. It will be the most complete list ever published, and should prove invaluable to authors desiring to discover whether a certain title has ever been used, and when. To members of the dramatic profession it will be useful in determining the dates of plays in which they have achieved successes. Our readers are politely requested to advise us of any omission or inaccuracy which they may notice.

This list as soon as complete will be published in cheap book form.

MICHAEL CENO, Victoria, June 5, 1854.
MICHAEL DANE'S GRANDSON, Hammersmith, April 18, 1896.
MICHAEL STROGOFF, Adelphi, March 14, 1881.
MIDDLEMAN, THE, Shaftesbury, Aug. 27, 1889.
MIDGE, Gaiety, Dublin, May 23, 1879.
MIDGELET, Strand, July 11, 1893.
MIDNIGHT, Princess's, May 24, 1888.
MIDNIGHT MAIL, Theatre Royal, Dumfries, April 30, 1877.
MIDNIGHT MARRIAGE, Theatre Royal, Margate, Aug. 30, 1883.
MIDNIGHT MUDDLE, Acton, May 2, 1900.
MIDNIGHT PARIS, Pavilion, May 14, 1900.
MIDNIGHT SHRIEK, Dublin, Jan. 5, 1896.
MIDNIGHT TRUST, Britannia, May 1, 1899.
MID-OCEAN, Southend, June 26, 1889.
MIDSUMMER DAY, St. James's, March 30, 1892.
MIDSUMMER'S EVE, Lyceum, Sept. 30, 1861.
MIDSUMMER'S MADNESS, Dublin, Nov. 7, 1892.
MIGHT AND RIGHT, Theatre Royal, Bolton, Nov. 23, 1881.
MIGHT OF RIGHT, Astley's, Jan. 30, 1864.
MIGHTY DOLLAR, Gaiety, Aug. 30, 1880.
MIGHTY ERROR, Avenue, July 14, 1891.
MIGHTY HAND, Reading, June 12, 1899.
MIGHTY MOTIVE, Stafford, Aug. 11, 1899.
MIGNON, Drury Lane, July 5, 1870.
MIGNONETTE, Royalty, Aug. 4, 1889.
MIKADO, THE, Savoy, March 14, 1885.
MIKE; OR, THE MILLER'S TRIALS, Albion, May 12, 1876.
MILADY, Avenue, May 28, 1885.
MILITARY BILLY TAYLOR, Royalty, April 22, 1869.
MILITARY MANŒUVRE, Vaudeville, Dec. 26, 1879.
MILITARY MANŒUVRES, Avenue, July 8, 1893.
MILITARY TOURNAMENT, West Hartlepool, Feb. 7, 1898.
MILKY WHITE, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, June 20, 1864.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Students' Orchestral Concert attracted a large audience to Queen's Hall on Wednesday afternoon. The programme, which was varied and interesting, began with a spirited and crisp performance by the orchestra of Auber's overture, "Marco Spada," one noteworthy feature being the good work done by the wind instruments, always a severe test of student orchestras. Mr. Rowsby Woof produced a slightly thin tone, but gave ample evidence of his executive ability in his violin solo of Brahms' First Movement from Concerto in D, in which Mr. Woof has introduced a clever cadenza of his own composition. At the close the young violinist was warmly applauded and recalled twice to the platform. The chief novelty of Wednesday's concert was a new work by that talented young composer, Mr. Hubert Bath (a Goring Thomas scholar), who on this occasion contributed "Orpheus and the Sirens," a Sea Picture (MS.) for solo, chorus, and orchestra, the words being taken from the poem of William Morris' "Life and Death of Janson," a selection being made from Book XIV. It was evident that so fine a subject offered great scope for musical treatment, and in this Mr. Bath has been eminently successful. There are some clever solos and most effective choruses, while the scoring for the orchestral portions shows decided talent; the extreme length was the only exception or drawback to the work, which showed the skill of its composer in varying the monotony of alternating solo and chorus. The composition owed not a little of its success to the refined singing of the female chorus in many melodious passages for the Sirens, while Mr. John Bardsley gave due importance to the solos of Orpheus and Miss Olive Clare to her one air. Great and long continued applause greeted the composer at the close of "Orpheus and the Sirens." In her pianoforte solo of the Second Concerto in E, by E. d'Albert, Miss Christian Carpenter gave ample proof of her technical capacity, being admirably supported by the orchestra, and Mr. Frederick W. Hodgkinson did good work in his violoncello solo, Varaitions sur un Thème Rococo, by Tschaïkowsky. The vocal items of the concert were also of much interest, Mrs. Alice G. Prowse singing with not a little dramatic power Weber's air, "Ocean, thou mighty Monster" (Oberon), and Miss Maude Isabelle Wadia an artistic rendering of "Aus Tiefe des Grames" (Achilleus), by Max Bruch. Mozart's song, "Mentre ti lascio, o figlia," was well sung by Mr. Leslie Mackay, although the music was somewhat low for his voice. Miss Ida Kahn also was successful in her song "Die Allmacht," Schubert—Liszt. Sir A. C. Mackenzie conducted the concert, which reflected the greatest credit on the teaching staff at the Tenterden-street institution.

"CASEY'S COURT," a very funny farce, is one of the principal attractions next week at Holloway Empire. It is a street urchin's idea of a variety entertainment, and is cleverly played by a fine company of youngsters.

MISS ETHEL RA LESLIE is taking a well-earned rest after a nine months' tour. She will spend her vacation between her houseboat up the Thames and her charming residence at Streatham.

MR. CHARLES FISHER, the well-known originator of "miniature opera" in the halls, has made arrangements with the executors of the late Sir Augustus Harris to give excerpts from *Carmen* at our variety theatres. We are quite sure, judging by Mr. Fisher's former artistic productions, that nothing will be wanting on his part to sustain the brilliant reputation of Bizet's masterpiece.

MISS JOSEPHINE COLONA, who has recently finished a provincial tour as Lady Godiva, will produce her own sketch on the same subject next week at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ALEC F. SMITH (Bombay).—*The comedian you mention is not "the biggest paid man" on the music hall stage at the present time.*

AMERICAN STUDENT.—Elizabeth, Queen of England, *was produced at the Adelphi Theatre on September 15, 1902, when Mr. Thomas Kingston played the part of Essex.*

T. T.—For Her Sake, *one-act drama by Alec Nelson (Edward B. Aveling) was produced at the Olympic, June 22, 1888.*

W. F.—*The Surrey Theatre was destroyed by fire on Jan. 30, 1865. There was no loss of life, but the actors in most cases had to escape in their theatrical costumes.*

LEICESTER SQUARE.—*The play called* Our American Cousin *was produced at Wallack's Theatre, New York, on May 12, 1858.* Our American Cousin *came to the Haymarket in 1861. A few years later Sothern appeared in a sequel (written by Henry J. Byron), entitled* Lord Dundreary Married and Done For.

COMEDIAN.—"*Tommy, make room for your uncle*" *was first sung by W. B. Fair at one of the London halls about 1874.*

E. J.—Under the Red Robe *was produced at the Haymarket on October 17, 1896. The cast included Messrs. Herbert Waring, Sydney Valentine, Hamilton Revelle, Holman Clark, Albert Meyer, Mackay, Bernard Gould, Dawson Milward, Clarence Blakiston, Rupert Lister, Granville Barker, and Cyril Maude, and Misses Eva Moore, Fanny Coleman, Halkett, Annie Saker, and Winifred Emery.*

HARRY.—*Mr. Beerbohm Tree first played* Hamlet *in London, at the Haymarket Theatre, on Feb. 21, 1892.*

C. G.—*Mr. H. V. Esmond's play* My Lady Virtue *was produced at the Garrick, Oct. 27, 1902.*

INQUIRER.—*F. T. Plotow, the composer of* Marta, *died Jan. 24, 1883.*

MAB.—*Miss May Yohé originally sang "Honey, Ma Honey" in* Little Christopher Columbus *at the Lyric in 1893.*

G. H. H.—*We do not, as a rule, insert the cast in the case of copyright performances.*

C. C.—*You must apply to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue for an excise licence.*

W. BELLONINI.—*We have, since replying to your query, received a letter from a correspondent, stating that Mr. Henry Spencer, 5, Bath-street, Glasgow, has two play-bills at least on which the name of H. C. Mellon appears. Quoting from memory, he adds that G. V. Brooke played Matthew Elmore, and Mr. H. Melton, Friar Dominic in* Love's Sacrifice *at Drury Lane on Nov. 18, 1861, and Mr. Mellon also appeared as Danny Mann in* The Colleen Bawn *at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, in Oct., 1861.*

WYNDHAM.—*We are not acquainted with any Accident Insurance Company that offers any special terms to members of the profession.*

ON THE ROAD, JULY 2.

BLIND FOUNDLING.—Grand Theatre, Hull.
CONSCRIPT, THE.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Margate.
DISHONOURED.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Grand T., Llandudno.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Queen's T., Leeds.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Royalty T., Morecambe.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT.—Empire, Southend.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (A Co.).—T. R., W. Bromwich.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (B Co.).—T. R., Worcester.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (C Co.).—P. O. W., Nuneaton.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (D Co).—Saltley, Birmingham.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (E Co.).—O. H., Dudley.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (F Co.):—T. R., Wednesbury.
KENNEDY'S KOMIKS (G Co).—Empire T., Cradley.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Aspatria and Silloth.
LITTLE MARY.—Jersey and Guernsey.
MAN'S ENEMY.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
MANXMAN, THE.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
OCTOROON.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
POOR MUST LIVE.—Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
POWER OF GOLD.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
PRODIGAL PARSON.—T. R., Windsor.
ROMANY'S REVENGE.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
STILL ALARM.—Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.
THRONE OF TERROR.—P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.
TWO HUSSARS.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
WARNER, MISS GRACE.—Pier, Herne Bay.
YOUNGEST OF THE THREE.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth or Death or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

The charge for a notice of Marriage, not exceeding forty words, is Two Shillings and Sixpence, every additional word One Penny.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

BIRTHS.

LAWTON.—On June 22, at 30, Long Acre, the wife of Frank Lawton (the whistler), a daughter.
LIVESEY.—On Monday, June 25, 1906, at 138, Holton-road, Barry, Glam., the wife of Joe Livesey (Miss Cassie Edwards) of a fine son; both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

BUDDEN—DENHAM. — On Wednesday, June 27, by special licence, at St. John's Church, Stratford, Mr. Edgar Budden to Miss Millie Denham. Thanks to friends for congratulatory letters and telegrams.

DEATHS.

ALPORT.—June 27, after a long illness, at the residence of his sister, 131, Palace-road, Tulse-hill, Sidney Alport, aged 59. Funeral at Tooting Cemetery to-day (Saturday), at 2.30 o'clock.
BROOME.—June 26, George Broome, age 2½ years, youngest son of Walter Broome, Assistant Stage-Manager, Empire, Bristol.

IN MEMORIAM.

FLETCHER.—In loving memory of our dear mother and father, Lizzie and Edward Fletcher, late lessee and manager of the T. R., Cardiff, who died June 20, 1899; June 26, 1896.
LAUCK.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Pierre H. Lauck, American gymnast, of St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A. Died June 26, 1899, aged 43 years. Never forgotten by his devoted wife, Rose Lauck

MR. STEPHEN S. STRATTON, the musical critic of the *Birmingham Daily Post*, died suddenly this week. Mr. Stratton was a prolific writer on musical subjects, and enjoyed the personal friendship of all the great artists attending the Birmingham Musical Festival. The compilation of "The British Musical Biography" occupied him ten years, and another interesting work which he wrote was "Curiosities in Music."

HOW TO KEEP COOL.

We strongly recommend all who suffer from the prevailing heat to add a few drops of Condy's Fluid to the Daily Bath or Foot Bath.

A Condy's Fluid Bath imparts a delightful sensation of Coolness, Freshness, and Purity. It invigorates the body and braces the nerves. The Cooling, Strengthening, and Bracing effects are Simply Magical, they are so very lasting.

Tired and Tender Feet are instantly relieved, and every trace of Odour and all other unpleasant effects of Perspiration immediately disappear. Book on bottle contains full directions and reports by a great many Eminent Physicians.

Sold by all Chemists, 1/- 8oz., 20oz. 2/- Caution.—Insist on having "Condy's Fluid."

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

Abbott, Mr. Chas. H.
Addison, Mr. Bert
Akimoto, Mr.
Alexandro, Miss Ada
Allen, Miss Madge
Allen, Mr. H. S.
Andreassen, Herr
Applin, Mr. Arthur
Artell, Mr. Fred
Ashdowne, Mr. Chas.
Attwood, Happy
Baldry, Mr. H.
Baptiste, Mr. Alfred
Bayne-Smyth, Mrs.
Beaufort, Miss A.
Beers, Mr. Alfred
Bell, Mr. W. G.
Belleu, Mr. Kyrle
Belmore, Mrs. Herbert
Bennett, Mr. Wm.
Benson, Mr. T. J.
Bergeran, Mr. T. C.
Biddall, Bros.
Bignell, Mr. Chas.
Bostons, The
Brooks and Brooks
Brough, Miss Fanny
Bryne, Mr. Geo
Bull, Mr. J. K.
Burns, Mr. Phil.
Burton, Miss Alma
Caban, Mrs. C.
Calcott, Mr. Eric
Carter, Mrs. Hubert
Cartwright, Mr. Chas.
Casson, Mr. F. A.
Chadwick, Mr. George
Charlton, Prof.
Clyo and Rochelle
Conn and Conrad
Cooper, Mr. Geo.
Corri, Mme. G.
Costello, Mr. Tom
Croxon, Mr. Arthur
Dagmar, Miss Victoria
Dagmar, Mr. James M.
Dare, Mr. Eric
Darling, Miss Maud
Davies, Mr. Edward
Davis, Mr.
Dawson, Mr. Forbes
Dennis, Mr. T. D.
Dillon, Miss Isabelle
Dixon, Mr. George
Dodd, Miss R.
Donaldson Bros.
Dormer, Miss Daisy
Dunville, Mr. Fred
Duse, Mdme. E.
Dyson, Mr. J.
Elliott, Miss M.
Farren, Mr. Wm.
Fawcett, Mr. Chas. S.
Feiber, Mr. W.
Fledora, Miss Bessie
Florador, Mrs. Fred
Foote, Mr. Eugene
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Fox and Melville
Friars, Mr. Austin
Gardner-Brown Vaudeville
George, Mr. Henry
Gilbert, Mr. F. S.
Goold, Mr. Chas.
Gooma, Princess
Grimson, Mr. H. Naylor
Guiver, Miss Hilda
Gulliver, Mr. George
Haddon, Mr. Jack
Handel, Miss T.
Harding and Ah Sid
Hardy, Miss Dot
Harker, Mr. Keane
Harland and Rollinson
Harlem, Bros.
Haywood, Mr. G. W.
Hedmondt, Mr. E. C.
Helena, Miss
Hemelsoët, Mons. Louis
Henris, Les
Herbert, Miss Katherine
Herman, Dr. Carl
Hill, Miss Annie
Hoban, Mr. Stanley
Horton, Mr. Walter
Howard, Mr. Geo.
Howard, Mr. Harry
Hylton, Miss M.
Jay, Miss Carrie
Johnson, Mr. H. T.
Jones, Miss Alma
Jones, Mr. J. M.
Kerno, Mr. Louis
Kimberley Boys
Kingston, Miss G.
Lake, Mr. H.
Lalla, Mr. E.
La Place, Mr. Geo.
Larder, Mr. J.
Leffler, Mr. H.
Legarde, Miss Millie
Leslie, Mr. Gerald
Levey, Mr. M.
Lewis, Miss Isabella
Lillian, Mlle.
Linde, Herr
Linforth, Mr. Arthur
Long, Mr. Hyam
Lord, Mr. Bob
Lovel, Mr. L.
Lynn, Mr. A. H.
Lyons Trio
Lytton, Mr. H. A.
Mackay, Mr. Charles
Maravilla, Herr E.
Marritt, Mr. C.
Martin and Ridgway
Martin, Miss Sylvia
Martin, Mrs. Arthur
Matthews Mr.
Mayne, Miss Vera
McArthur, Mr. Fred
McCann, Prof.
Melford, Mr. Mark
Melville, Mrs. Charles
Merlecese, Miss Jessie
Miller, Mr. St. Aubyn
Montague, Mr. Herbert
Moore, Miss Carrie
Morrison, Miss Marie
Newton, Mr. T.
Norbury, Mr. Tom
Oliver, Dr. J. C.
Ongar, Mr. D.
Osmond, Miss M.
Palmer, Miss Minnie
Partridge, Mr. Norman
Patey, Miss Lola
Payne, Mr. W.
Pook, Madame
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Pringle, Mr. Ralph
Rastus and Banks
Ravensburg, Miss Elaine
Raymond, Miss
Reilly, Mr. James A.
Ringham, Mr. Mark
Rosamond Sisters
Russell, Miss Clara
Russell, Mrs. Jack, W.
Russell, Mr. Harry
Scales, Mr. V. W.
Searelle, Mr. L.
Serenaders, The
Shrapnell, Mr. L.
Shields, Mr. W.
Silvester, Miss Connie
Sitherland, Mr. Harry
Steele, Miss Millie
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Van Biene, Mr. A.
Vay, Mr. Will
Ventris, Mr. Arthur
Vetter, Mr. O.
Vezzey, Miss Unity
Vincent, Miss Violet
Vio, Mr. S.
Vokes, Mr Neddy
Warner, Sisters
Weeden, Miss J.
Whaile, Mr. Ernest
Whittaker and Page
Wibrow, Mr. Chas.
Wilkie, Mr. Allan
Williams, Mr. Randall.
Wylford, Miss Muriel
Wylie, Mr. Laurie
Zuilla, Mdme.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Marie Dainton—Saturday, June 30.
Charles Bignell—Saturday, June 30.
H. A. Allen—Saturday, June 30.
Edward Mervyn—Saturday, June 30.
Jas. D. Preston—Saturday, June 30.
Maud Elmore—Sunday, July 1.
Muriel Blair—Sunday, July 1.
Tom McNaughton—Sunday, July 1.
Julian Rutt—Sunday, July 1.
Betty Colville—Sunday, July 1.
J. Maundy-Gregory—Sunday, July 1.
Edna Lester—Sunday, July 1.
H. J. Worswick—Sunday, July 1.
Cyril Harrison—Monday, July 2.
Ray Maskell—Monday, July 2.
Eugene Stafford—Monday, July 2.
Rosina Brandram—Monday, July 2.
Mary Turner—Monday, July 2.
Jeanette Lee—Monday, July 2.
Josephine Colona—Tuesday, July 3.
Mary Moore—Tuesday, July 3.
Grace Arundale—Tuesday, July 3.
Marie M. Garcia—Tuesday, July 3.
Harold B. Lewis—Tuesday, July 3.
Butler Stanhope—Wednesday, July 4.
Fred Poplar—Wednesday, July 4.
A. E. Stigant—Wednesday, July 4.
Lola Tempest—Wednesday, July 4.
Albert Brasque—Wednesday, July 4.
Wilfred Compton—Wednesday, July 4.
Nettie Ware—Wednesday, July 4.
Arthur T. Ray—Wednesday, July 4.
Jas. Stephens—Wednesday, July 4.
Whimsical Walker—Thursday, July 5.
Jan Kubelik—Thursday, July 5.
Naomi Hope—Thursday, July 5.
Billie Bint—Friday, July 6.
Rubie Redfern—Friday, July 6.

A VERY beautiful form of fountain, and a useful one withal, has just made its appearnce. It can be constructed to form and discharge up to 20,000 bubbles a minute. If the atmosphere be calm the bubbles, being inflated with gas, rise in a huge column in the air and form a very imposing and beautiful spectacle. They can be distinctly seen at a range of a quarter of a mile. If the sun is shining, the spectator sees two bright reflections in each bubble, wherever he may be standing. The beautiful series of tints of colours in the bubble-film is common knowledge. At night time a most fairy-like effect can be produced with artificial illumination, two points of light being reflected from every bubble for each light employed. With a large number of lights properly arranged the bubbles appear like balls of fire. The rising column can be lighted at the base, producing a pillar of fire.

THROUGH the closing of the Tivoli, Leeds, Miss Maidie Scott has an opportunity of appearing next week at the Palace, Hammersmith, and Ealing Hippodrome, where she should be welcome.

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		A	B			C		
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St. Pancras, ,, ..	..	..	9.45	10.18	..	12.20	2.40	4.10
Newmarket, arrive.....	10.33	11.45	12.18	12.50	2.20	4.48	6. 5	6.19

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		D	B*			D		C
Newmarket, depart ..	8. 3	8.59	10.42	12.30	3.57	4.10	4.15	5.40
St. Pancras, arrive....	10.23	11.15	..	2.45	6.15	5.55	..	7.35
Liverpool-street, ,, ...	10.15	10.56	12.40	2.51	6. 3	..	6. 5	7.40

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	C		At	
Liverpool-street, depart ..	5.12	8.20		
St. Pancras, ,, ..	5. 7	..		
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Up Trains.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
	B*	At		
Newmarket, depart ..	6. 0	6.15	8.35	..
St. Pancras, arrive....	8.10	8.35	..	..
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1906.

IBSEN AND HIS INFLUENCE.

Before deciding what was the influence of IBSEN on the modern English drama, we must ask: What is it that distinguishes the realistic dramas of IBSEN from the ordinary play? Chiefly, that the material dealt with is "stuff o' the conscience." He is more intimate with his characters than is the ordinary dramatist. The development of character by action, not the development of plot by incidents, is the object of his works. It is only in the very highest class of play that the former method is adopted. It is too costly for the ordinary playwright; for it involves the power of getting inside one's personages, and then turning them inside out.

The great vice of the modern English audience is inattention. They have been so long accustomed to find nothing in drama besides situations that they will not *listen* with the absorbed interest which the development of a moral struggle should evoke. So careless are they that many of the misapprehensions of IBSEN's plays at the time of their first production in England came from ignorance of the actual text. But what in IBSEN's dramas was chiefly resented by the British public was that, even to endeavour to understand them, one was forced to *think*. This, the unpardonable sin in a British dramatist, was not likely to be forgiven in a Norwegian.

And, in addition to making people think, IBSEN had an uncomfortable way of "touching them up" on their tender points. He went behind the ordinary "regulation" morality, and insisted upon exposing the pinchbeck ethics of the ordinary man. He would not be satisfied with the whitened front steps of the very respectable dwelling; he persisted in examining the drains. He disturbed the self-satisfaction of many worthy men—an unforgivable offence. Hundreds of Helmers had an uneasy half-recognition of themselves on the stage; dozens of ultra-submissive Mrs. Avelings saw their misgivings put into dramatic form, and secretly and sadly despised themselves; and in importing *An Enemy of the People* Mr. TREE ran the risk of offending somebody or other in every vestry or Board of Guardians in the Metropolis.

These observations refer to what we may call IBSEN's rational dramas. *Brand* and *Peer Gynt* are poems, and more or less cryptic; and at the other end of the list we have *The Master Builder*, *Little Eyolf*, and *When We Dead Awaken*. These, with *John Gabriel Borkman*, we verily believe to be tainted with the cloudiness of brain which came over IBSEN's declining years. But the other plays, the dramas dealing with ethics, are consistent works, with no shadowy "symbolism." Whatever IBSEN may have been in his conception of his art, in carrying out his ideas he was a workman. He knew how to put a play together, how to introduce his story, how to develop it, and how to end it. *Hedda Gabler* is faultless in workmanship; the climax of *Ghosts* is worked up to with the method of a master. If the British public did not like IBSEN, the English dramatists appreciated him in secret.

If IBSEN had any real influence on English dramatic art we should see it becoming more concerned with souls and less with situations, getting deeper and more serious. As a matter of fact, our leading playwrights, at the time when IBSEN was in the air, made several attempts in this direction, but without success. The IBSEN influence was strong in *The Notorious Mrs. Ebbsmith*, in *Iris*, and in *The Crusaders;* but the British dramatists fell between two stools. They wanted to combine the old-fashioned theatrical effect and smartness with the new-fashioned ethical argument. Still, to many, these plays, with all their shortcomings, have very great interest. The fact that they are forgotten shows the impossibility of using the English stage as a pulpit for the delivery of doctrine or as a stimulant to serious thought.

This impossibility is based on the deep seriousness of the English character. The Englishman's idea is to translate conviction into action; he cannot contemplate a question passively in art as the French and German can, and he is so much accustomed to going to the theatre to be amused that it seems a kind of desecration of a social theory to elaborate it behind the footlights. IBSEN's influence in England has been greater among readers than among playgoers; but he has had little on our playwrights. After the unavailing attempts above alluded to they returned to the play of character and situation. In this they were wise.

The great boons that dramatists owe to IBSEN are: his clearing the ground for more moderate freedoms in idea and speech, and his showing the way to make old situations interesting by dealing with souls in handling those situations. In *Letty*, in *Captain Drew*, and in many other modern plays, we come across many vivid and appreciative bits of soul-sketching which the authors would never have dreamt of putting there but for the example of IBSEN.

So far as the production of English plays of the IBSEN school is concerned, his "influence" has been, and is, immaterial. There is not a drama of the social problem sort on the boards at present. There is, however, a considerable minority who would like to see some of IBSEN's works again; and this seems an appropriate time for revivals. If any should take place, we hope the company will be influenced by Mr. TREE's *Enemy of the People* performance, and not take their parts so seriously or in such slow time as they did in the old days. IBSEN never has a fair chance when he is played by eccentrics with an obsession of seriousness, and amateurs who are always "letting it drop."

THE MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

The House of Commons went into Committee on the Musical Copyright Bill just before eleven o'clock on Thursday, the Speaker leaving his place, and Mr. Caldwell, amid cheers and laughter, coming forward to take the Chair as Deputy-Chairman of Committees. It being eleven o'clock by the time he reached his place the hon. gentleman quitted it immediately.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor: I appeal to hon. gentlemen—— (Loud cries of "Go on! Go on!")

Mr. Lupton (emphatically): I object!

The Speaker now returned to the Chair, and the House resumed.

Mr. O'Connor: Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether I am too late; but the Deputy-Chairman of Committees got very slowly into the Chair and very quickly out! It is now only eleven o'clock. There is ample time for the fullest debate on the amendments down in the name of the hon. member (Mr. Byles). Those amendments, so far as I am concerned, shall have the fullest and fairest discussion. Mr. Speaker, I appeal——

Mr. Byles: Are we allowed to debate this after eleven o'clock, Mr. Speaker? All I want is debate, and I shall be quite content to continue.

Mr. O'Connor: Mr. Speaker, I understand that, with the consent of the House, this can go on!

Mr. Lupton and several Members on the Irish benches: I object!

The Clerk: To-morrow!

The Bill had accordingly to stand over.

THE LYRIC.

On Thursday, June 28,
Revival of the Comedy, in Four Acts,
by Booth Tarkington and E. G. Sutherland,
entitled
"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE."

The revival for a short season of Messrs. Booth Tarkington and E. G. Sutherland's comedy affords playgoers an opportunity of seeing Mr. Lewis Waller in one of his most successful impersonations; and the genuine enthusiasm displayed by Thursday night's audience proved beyond a shadow of a doubt the sustained popularity of the character which owes so much of its interest and vitality to Mr. Waller's admirable performance. Played for the first time at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on October 6, 1902, *Monsieur Beaucaire* was first seen in London three weeks later at the Comedy Theatre. It was put on as a mere stop-gap, for the play had not been well received at Liverpool, but in the Metropolis it was from the first a decided success, and attracted a crowded and delighted audience at every performance. Indeed, the run of the piece was by no means exhausted when Mr. Waller closed the theatre in the August of the following year. It was revived last June at the Imperial Theatre, and now once more we have the chance of making or renewing the acquaintance of the eminently picturesque personage who became the talk of Bath society some hundred and fifty odd years ago. Mr. Waller as the Duke of Orleans, who, under the assumed name of Monsieur Beaucaire, cuts such a dashing figure in the fashionable West of England resort, bears himself right gallantly, and continues to invest the part with all those fascinating qualities which were the envy of the "young bloods" of Bath, and excited the unqualified admiration of the ladies who came within their powerful influence. Except for a slight hoarseness, which disappeared after a time, Mr. Waller was at his best on Thursday night, encouraged no doubt by the extremely cordial welcome he received from the crowded house. That Miss Evelyn Millard, who again appeared as Lady Mary Carlyle, had a large share in the triumphs of the evening, may be taken for granted. Her embodiment has all the grace and charm which one naturally associates with the beauty of Bath; and the popular actress's reception was of the heartiest. Mr. Charles Allan resumed his original part of Beau Nash, and his highly finished portrait of this famous personage was greatly appreciated. Mr. Arthur Lewis gave an excellent rendering of the Marquis de Mirepoix; and Mr. Frank Woolfe made good use of his opportunities in his impersonation of the Duke of Winterset. Mr. Owen Roughwood did well as Major Molyneux, and the Lord Townbrake of Mr. J. H. Irvine proved to be a highly creditable piece of work, while able assistance was rendered by Mr. C. McGuiness as Mr. Bantison, Mr. A. E. George as Mr. Rakell, Mr. Sheil Barry as Mr. Bicksett, and Mr. S. B. Brereton as Captain Badger. Miss Minnie Griffen gave a praiseworthy portrayal of the Countess of Greenbury, Miss Catherine Vyse was good as Miss Presbury, and Miss May Chenery a satisfactory Lucy Relleston. Other parts were safe in the hands of Messrs. J. Byron, W. L. Schonberg, and the Misses Constance Walton, Beatrice Lewis, May Taverner, and Eleanor May.

SOUSA, the "March King," recently appeared before a Joint Committee of the Senate and House at Washington to make a few remarks in his own behalf with regard to a proposed new Copyright Bill. He wanted some remuneration for the reproduction of his musical compositions in the phonographs. "When I was a boy," said Sousa, "the young people sat on the steps of their houses in the evening and sang the old songs and the new ones. Instead of hearing these young voices nowadays you hear those talking-machines. Caruso is paid a large sum for singing one song as a record, and a cornet-player receives four dollars for a solo, but the composer of the piece gets nothing." A provision in the new Bill will remedy this, as the consent of the composer will be required, before a record of a musical composition can be made for mechanical reproduction.

THE friends and admirers of Mr. Henry A. Moore, the well-known mimic, will be sorry to learn that he has been confined to his bed for the last three weeks with hæmorrhage of the stomach. No serious danger is apprehended, but the sufferer is ordered complete rest.

MR T. P. O'CONNOR ON PIRACY.

In an interesting "Talk," to which the well-known initials "H. F. S." are affixed, in the *Westminster Gazette* of Saturday last, Mr. T. P. O'Connor gives indisputable reasons why the Musical Copyright Bill, now before the House of Commons, should be allowed to pass speedily into law. "I do not think," says Mr. O'Connor, "that anybody outside the musical profession realises the personal tragedies which lie behind this question. Scores of men and women have literally been brought almost to starvation point. Some have actually died. Many widows and orphans have been left penniless. I will give you two instances out of many. George Le Brunn was, a few years ago, perhaps the most popular song-writer in England. His name was a household word. His songs must have been worth some thousands a year at one time, but in the last year of his life he made only £4 3s. 6d. He died at the age of forty-two, and a benefit had to be given for his widow and mother at the Oxford. Take also the case of Signor Mascheroni. His name is known to every lover of music and every singer. 'For all eternity' is one of his best-known songs. He lived in England during the greater part of his life, and had a fair competence. After the growth of this nefarious trade his income gradually diminished. He had to return to his native Italy, and died there, I believe, almost penniless. Edwin Greene is another popular composer. He is a permanent invalid, and dependent entirely for his livelihood on his songs. 'Sing me to sleep,' one of his best-known, has been pirated in several editions.

"This pirate war is against women as well as men. Take the case of Térèse del Riego. Some hundreds of thousands of one of her best-known songs, 'O dry those tears,' have been sold by pirates, without returning her a penny, and, of course, ruining her own copyright edition. Guy d'Hardelot is another well-known composer. Her song 'Because' has been pirated. These two ladies and the people dependent upon them get their whole income through their songs, and piracy has practically destroyed this.

"Let us look at this question from another point of view—the international. M. Messager, the French composer of *Véronique* and other well-known light operas, comes to London to superintend the production of his play. At the very door of the theatre where his play is being performed English thieves are selling the music they have stolen from him, and he has no redress. If an English composer found a French thief selling his music outside the door of a Paris theatre he would be able to have him immediately arrested and dealt with as an ordinary criminal. The case of America is even worse. The whole sale of the publications of Sousa, the well-known conductor, has been absolutely ruined in this country by piracy. An American song, copyright in America, being sung in pantomime, is sold at the doors of the theatre by pirates, and the American composer has no redress. An English composer in New York treated in the same way would be able to have the pirate arrested and tried by the ordinary law. In other words, we have made England the paradise of the music thieves against the music composer of every country in the world.

"The proportions reached by this trade are gigantic. Since the Act of 1902 the music publishers have seized between seven and eight million copies of pirated music. The irony of the situation is that the Act of 1902 was passed in the hope that it would put an end to this trouble. As a matter of fact, it has given it an enormous impetus. The number of copyrights infringed previous to the Act of 1902 was about fifty; the number has now increased to over four hundred, and is continually being added to. Mr. Caldwell insisted that the penalty clause should be excluded from the Bill. In the hope of getting rid of his opposition, and perhaps in the hope that the Act, though thus maimed, might be able to work, the promoters of the Bill consented to this change, and this is the result of Mr. Caldwell's tactics. The penalty proposed was 1s. a copy and 5s. a plate seized. But I need hardly say that such a penalty, which, if Mr. Caldwell had permitted it to pass at that time, might have put an end to the trade, is now quite insufficient in view of the gigantic profits in the pirate business.

"The objections to the Bill I can only describe as either unreasonable or irrelevant. It is objected that music is too expensive. The statement is not true. As to all classical music whose copyright is expired, music publishers now rival each other in producing cheap editions. You can get "The Messiah," "Elijah," or any other of the great classical oratorios for 1s., and the sonatas of Beethoven, or of any of the other great classical composers may be had in an excellent twopenny edition. So far as present-day music is concerned, cheapness does not save either the publisher or the composer. Take the case of Francis, Day, and Hunter. They publish most of their popular songs at 6d., but the pirate comes with his 2d. edition and robs them. Even the high-priced songs can be got in all shops at 1s. 4d. Two additional pieces of absurdity are added to arguments on this line. First, that there is a ring of music publishers keeping up prices; secondly, that this movement is organised by publishers without regard to the interests of composers. There is no such thing as a ring of publishers. On the contrary, the competition is keen, not to say relentless. Another proof of the hollowness of the statement about the dearness of music is forthcoming in a comparison of our prices with those on the Continent. Operettas published in France or Germany are never sold at less than 12s. In this country any one can be obtained for 4s. 6d.

"My Bill is mainly intended to strike at the hawker, though not because I think him the guiltiest person. I am not able to display the perverted sympathy of the opponents to the Bill for the thief instead of the composer; but, at the same time, this houseless and feckless kerbstone hawker appeals to me much more than the sleek thief behind him, who builds fine houses and acquires considerable property in the suburbs. But even the kerbstone trader cannot be permitted to live by robbing other people. He is the great agency through which this music is put upon the market, and if the law is made sufficiently strong to deal promptly with him, the whole nefarious traffic will come to an end. As the law stands, music publishers and composers have practically no remedy.

"How does the hawker know that the music is stolen? On every piece of pirated music there is what I may call 'the mark of the beast.' No piece of pirated music ever has upon it the name of a publisher or the imprint of a printer. Under my Bill the hawker will have exactly the same powers of proving his innocence as a man discovered in possession of a stolen watch or a woman in possession of a stolen brooch. If he has come by it innocently, he can go into the witness-box and prove it. If he declines to do so, the presumption that he is guilty is no more unfair in his case than in the case of the possessor of any other stolen goods. I know that the words of Clause 1 of the Bill—'Unless he proves that he acted innocently'—have excited some criticism and alarm, and they are said even to establish a new precedent. As a matter of fact, they do not create any precedent at all. They are a proviso recommended by the Report of the Musical Copyright Committee, appointed by the Home Department. I have appealed to the Home Department and to some of my legal friends as to whether I could safely leave these words out. If any legal ingenuity can give me words that will meet the objections as to proving innocence I will welcome it, provided that it does not destroy the Bill."

DANGEROUS PERFORMANCES.

The following is the text of "A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the employment of girls, boys, or women in Dangerous Performances," which was introduced on Monday in the House of Commons, by MR. HERBERT SAMUEL (Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department):—

"Be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1.—(1) If any person causes a girl, boy, or woman to take part in any public exhibition or performance, and in the opinion of the court hearing the case, the life or limbs of the girl, boy, or woman, are endangered by the exhibition or performance, that person shall be liable on summary conviction for each offence to a fine not exceeding *ten pounds*, and, if the offence is committed in relation to a boy or girl, the parent, or guardian, or any person having the custody of the boy or girl shall also be liable to the like penalty.

(2) If, in the course of a public exhibition or performance, which is in its nature dangerous to the life or limb of a girl, boy, or woman, any accident causing actual bodily harm occurs to any such girl, boy, or woman, the employer of the girl, boy, or woman shall be liable to be indicted as having committed an assault; and the court before whom the employer is convicted on indictment shall have the power of awarding compensation for the bodily harm so occasioned not exceeding *twenty pounds*, to be paid by the employer to the girl, boy, or woman, or in the case of a boy or girl, if the court think fit, to some person named by the court on behalf of that boy or girl.

(3) For the purposes of this Act "a girl" means a female under the age of eighteen years, and "a boy" means a male under the age of sixteen years, and if an offence is alleged to have been committed under this Act in respect of any person alleged to be a boy or girl, and that person is in the opinion of the court hearing the case apparently a boy or girl within the meaning of the Act, it shall lie on the defendant to prove the contrary.

(4) A person shall not be liable to be punished under this section twice for the same offence.

2.—(1) Except where an accident causing actual bodily harm occurs to any girl, boy, or woman, no prosecution or other proceeding shall be instituted for an offence under this Act without the consent in writing of the chief officer of police of the police area in which the offence is committed.

(2) For the purposes of this section the expression "chief officer of police"—

(*a*) with respect to any place in England other than the City of London, has the meaning assigned to it by the Police Act, 1890;

(*b*) with respect to the City of London, means the Commissioners of City Police;

(*c*) with respect to Scotland, has the meaning assigned to it by the Police (Scotland) Act, 1890;

(*d*) with respect to Ireland, means in the police district of Dublin metropolis either of the Commissioners of Police for that district, and elsewhere the district inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary.

3.—(1) The Acts mentioned in the First Part of the schedule to this Act (the Children's Dangerous Performances Act, 1879, and the Dangerous Performances Act, 1897) are hereby repealed.

(2) In order to bring the First Schedule to the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, 1904, into conformity with this Act, that Schedule shall be amended as shown in the Second Part of the Schedule to this Act.

4.—This Act may be cited as the Dangerous Performances Act, 1906.

GERMAN editors, on a visit to England, found their way on Saturday to Stratford-on-Avon, where they explored the treasure house of Shakespearean relics. The first pilgrimage was made to the Parish Church, where the visitors were shown the old register, open at entries of the baptism and burial of Shakespeare, and Herr Friedrich Dernburg, of the *Berliner Tageblatt*, the doyen of the party, laid on the poet's grave a huge wreath of laurel, tied by a silk ribbon of black, red, and yellow, the national colours of Germany. The veteran journalist declared they stood on holy ground. From time to time in the history of mankind there appeared men the greatness of whose genius brought to them godlike thoughts. Such a one was Shakespeare. Who could attempt adequately to praise him? He stood solitary and alone. He was the measure by which they might judge all other men and times. They were astonished that such a man could have existed. Germans were all educated in Shakespeare. To him they owed the renaissance of German culture. From him their classic authors had received inspiration. In Stratford, and by the side of that grave, they were not only friends and guests, but sons and comrades, and so they reverently bowed before this immortal."

THE party were afterwards entertained to luncheon by Alderman W. Pearce, the Mayor, among those present being Mr. Sidney Lee, chairman of the Trustees of Shakespeare's Birthplace, and Mr. F. R. Benson. One of the toasts was "The Immortal Memory of William Shakespeare," proposed by Mr. Lee. Nowhere, he ventured to think, ought Englishmen and Germans to grasp more warmly each other's hands than in that ancient borough, which owes its world-wide renown to its association with the greatest poet of all the world, Shakespeare—a link of gold between England and Germany. It was a singular fact that the best dictionary for interpreting the language of Shakespeare—and Shakespeare's language is his chiefest glory—should be due to the industry and insight of a German. A genius of the Shakespeare calibre may know little of the limitations of nationality, but Englishmen liked to remember that Shakespeare, as a matter of history, was one of us, was a native of that town of Stratford-on-Avon, who called his country

"This precious stone set in a silver sea,
This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England."

At the same time they rejoiced that other countries, and especially Germany, should love to honour our national poet; they rejoiced to do homage to Shakespeare's great memory in the companionship of so distinguished a body of German guests as was there assembled.

MR. EDITOR,—Sir,—Your correspondent of Birmingham says "'Kijoto' is a mysterious Japanese juggler and comedian."—It should have been, yours faithfully, KYOTO, the Original One.

A LETTER from Dundalk simply bearing a representation of a corned beef tin in place of address, with the words "The Canner, care of the Packers, London," was forwarded on Thursday by the Post Office authorities to Messrs. Francis and Day's, and proved to be a request for a professional copy of the firm's new song "In Chicago." The number will be heard on Monday night at a foremost West-End hall.

THE well-known "coon" singer, Mr. Billy Hobbs, will, at an early date, specially "feature" two of the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's "Sixpenny Successes," viz., "Good'bye, Mr. Williams," by Arthurs and Van Dixie; and "Try an' find another coon," by Paulton and Mellor.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

MR. HARRY RICKARDS will present the prizes at the Music Hall Sports on Thursday, July 12, at Stamford Bridge Grounds, Fulham. The popular Australian entrepreneur has also given a very handsome silver cup to be competed for.

THE Dangerous Performances Bill introduced in the House of Commons on Monday, on behalf of the Home Office, by Mr. Herbert Samuel, to consolidate and amend the law relating to the employment of girls, boys, or women in dangerous performances, will have to be drastically amended, if in future we are to enjoy gymnastic, acrobatic, or equestrian shows.

THE Bill makes no attempt at giving a definition of a dangerous performance. That seems to be left to the intelligence of an ordinary constable, who may pay a chance visit to a variety theatre. The full text of the Bill will be found on page 17, and we invite the opinions of our readers who are in any way connected, either as trainers or performers, with the acrobatic or equestrian professions, who should be on the alert to guard themselves against a measure that, if passed in its present form, threatens them with extinction.

MR. HARRY RANDALL, with his family, went on Monday to Margate, where he will spend a well-earned holiday. He has, however, accepted special engagements at "flying matinées" and evening performances at Harrogate, Buxton, Bournemouth, and Folkestone, and at the August Bank Holiday he will open a the Hippodrome, Margate. Just a few weeks after he will be busy rehearsing for another Drury Lane pantomime, the subject this year being *Sinbad the Sailor*, in which Mr. Randall will be again associated with Mr. Harry Fragson and Miss May de Sousa.

MISS CISSIE LOFTUS and Mr. Maurice Farkoa have been booked for America by Messrs. Somers and Warner. Miss Loftus is no stranger to audiences in the States, where she has won triumphs both on the legitimate and vaudeville stages. London audiences have recently been delighted with her performance of Peter Pan at the Duke of York's. It was while acting in America that Cissie was chosen by the lamented Sir Henry Irving to play the part of Marguerite in his last revival of *Faust* at the Lyceum. Both Miss Loftus and Mr. Farkoa will appear in musical comedy in December.

"THE LADY BANKRUPT" is a new musical sketch by Owen Hall, author of the book of *The Geisha* and other successful productions of Mr. George Edwardes' at Daly's and elsewhere. The music is by Frank Tours. When it is produced at the Oxford on Monday the title-part will be sustained by Miss Elsie Molloy, who has gained considerable notoriety by the exhibition of her portrait as "The Cherry Girl," by St. John Hare, this year at the Royal Academy.

MR. FRED TRUSSELL, the esteemed manager of the London Hippodrome, was paid a very graceful compliment on Wednesday by the directors, who informed him that his salary would be very considerably increased immediately, in recognition of his valuable services. It may be mentioned that since Mr. Trussell joined the Hippodrome five years ago, his yeoman services have very materially helped to mutually benefit all concerned.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE CHIRGWIN'S garden party at his pretty suburban home at Streatham went off very successfully on Sunday. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Elvin, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tate, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Elen, Mr. and Mrs. Wal Pink, Barton and Ashley, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Conway, Mr. and Mrs. Alf Plotto, Mr. George Jackley, Miss Peggy Pryde, Mr. J. B. Johnson, Mr. Ted Manseyh. Mr. Wal Pink won the billiard match, and was presented with a handsome (?) silver cup. The garden of Easdale was very prettily illuminated, and the guests had a sumptuous time.

AN unknown admirer of Miss Vesta Victoria, has, through Mr. F. A. G. Haynes, solicitor, of Carey-street, made an offer of marriage with the prospect of a settlement in her favour of a fortune of £25,000. Miss Victoria has refused not only the offer but the proposal for an interview.

THE fine rendering of Murphy and Lipton's "Do a good turn when you're able" has placed that song in the forefront of the successful ditties of the time, and Mr. David Day's firm have received extensive orders for copies from every town at which the gifted artist has sung it. It will be sung by her on Monday at the Oxford, together with a pretty number, entitled "Sympathy," by Messrs. Kendis and Paley.

IN our advertisement columns appears a challenge from J. F. Stirling, of Stirling and Cashen, to dance anyone for a £20 belt and the championship. The proceeds of the match will be handed to the Music Hall Benevolent Fund. Communications to Richard Cass's agency.

THE Terriers are making some important changes. Their registered office is now at 4, Kennington-road, S.E., and on and after July 6 the committee meeting of the fraternity will be transferred to the "Three Stags," 69, Kennington-road.

MISS CORA CORINA, the clever and attractive Anglo-Spanish singer and dancer, who has been appearing successfully at the Empire, Johannesburg, and the Tivoli, Cape Town, will arrive in London about the end of July. Her business is in the hands of the well-known agent Mr. Fred Higham.

MR. WILLIAM PAYNE, having just resigned his position as manager and treasurer of the People's Palace, Tottenham, after five years' service, will take a complimentary benefit on Monday, July 16, at the Holcombe Hall, High-road, Tottenham.

MR. FRANK LAWTON, the whistler, who played the mixed ale pugilist at the Shaftesbury Theatre in the first London production of *The Belle of New York*, is the proud father of a daughter, born on the 22nd. Mother and child are doing excellently well.

MR. BOB HUTT, who produced his new musical sketch *Welcome Home* at the Empress, Brixton, last week, in recognition of the way the music was played, at the conclusion of his performance presented Mr. Robert Allington, the musical-director, with a silver-mounted bâton.

BY an ingenious cooling apparatus, the canopy above the sliding roof of Holloway Empire renders that house one of the coolest in North London at the present time.

TO-DAY (Saturday) Messrs. Francis, Day and Hunter's business premises will be entirely closed for the annual staff outing, when it is expected and hoped that Mr. David Day and Mr. William Francis will be the guests of the personnel of the two establishments. Reserved corridor coaches will be attached to the 9.35 a.m. train from Waterloo (north station), and the large party on arriving at Staines will embark on the launch Diamond Queen. Dinner will be partaken of at Tull's Restaurant at Windsor, opposite the Curfew Tower, and at 3 p.m. the party will again embark and proceed up the river as far as traffic and circumstances will permit, tea being served on the launch. Mr. "Sixpenny Pops" Smith is the chairman of the day, and Mr. William Ryke the vice-chairman.

GREAT regret has been occasioned by the announcement that Mr. Sydney Paxton, resident-manager of the Grand Theatre, and district-manager of the Hippodrome, Southampton, is severing his connection with these enterprises in September. During his residence in Southampton Mr. Paxton has secured the esteem and regard not only of the local playgoers but of a much larger circle of the townspeople, including very many of the public men and prominent residents. Clever and courteous, generous and genial, Mr. Paxton will doubtless experience no difficulty in securing a popularity such as he has gained here in whatever town he may go to.

THE shareholders of the Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, held their annual meeting on Tuesday afternoon, when the chairman, Mr. Hugh Astley, was in the happy position of stating that as the result of last year's working the company had been enabled to pay off £2,083 12s. 5d. lost last year, and declare a dividend of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares The company, he said, was now in a prosperous condition, and to prove that the theatre was popular he mentioned that 698,000 people visited it during the year. For this pleasing state of affairs Mr. Astley complimented the popular manager, Mr. Will H. Boardman, on the successful and tactful manner in which he had conducted the theatre.

THE first annual picnic of the Glasgow Coliseum staff on Sunday resulted in a most enjoyable day being spent at Balloch. After dinner the only toast of the outing—"Moss's Empires"—was proposed by Mr. J. Rogers, stage manager, Mr. McLachlan, the manager of the Coliseum, replying. Boating parties were organised, and the sail up Loch Lomond was greatly enjoyed by the voyagers.

MESSRS. O'MALLEY AND BROWN have been engaged for pantomime at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, through Blackmore's Agency. They were specially recommended by Mr. Johnny Danvers, who will also play in the same pantomime, having been kindly lent by Mr. Arthur Collins. Mr. Danvers returns to Drury-lane the following season. The subject at the Shakespeare, Liverpool, next season will be *Mother Goose*, and Messrs. Danvers and O'Malley and Brown will play three important parts. Messrs. O'Malley and Brown have also been engaged by Mr. Oswald Stoll for all the Moss and Stoll tour owing to their recent success at the Coliseum, Glasgow. Mr. Will Oliver has become their representative.

MR. WALTER SMITH, the resident-manager of the Eastbourne Hippodrome, had a most successful benefit on Friday evening, the 22nd inst. A fine array of talent was offered to the excellent houses and included Miss Lily Burnand, Miss May Henderson, and Mr. Russel Wallet. During the second performance Mr. Goodson appeared upon the stage, and after speaking of the courtesy and ability with which the manager had carried out his duties, he presented Mr. Smith with a purse containing £25, and a handsome marble clock. The purse was subscribed by the patrons of the Hippodrome and the clock was given by the members of the staff. Mr. Smith, who was most cordially received, heartily thanked all those who had in any way taken part in providing the substantial presents, and also those who had assisted in making the benefit such an unqualified success.

MR. CHARLES PERRY, of the Happy Valley Minstrels Llandudno, writes:—"In your paragraphs of last week's issue you say that Wm. J. Churchill (in conjunction with the late Alf. Allen) 'made' the Happy Valley here. This I beg to contradict, as every resident or frequent visitor will acknowledge that the late Joe Perry is the man that made the Happy Valley entertainments so popular, and, instead of Billy Churchill 'making' the place, the Happy Valley made him."

A MILD sensation was caused at the Palace Theatre, Sunderland, on Monday night, by an accident in connection with a cycle act described as "The Globe of Life." This is a performance in which two cyclists go round a wire globe. During its progress in the "first house" the tyre of the machine of one of the performers, a lady, was punctured, and her partner collided with her. They both fell to bottom of the cage-like apparatus. The audience were momentarily alarmed, but it was soon found that neither of the performers was hurt, and the management announced that, after repairs to the lady's bicycle, the performance would be duly repeated at the "second house."

MR. BEN DE FRECE, who is extremely popular with the employees of the Colchester Hippodrome, was the recipient on Saturday last of some handsome presents on the occasion of his birthday, the orchestra, stage, and bar staffs presenting him with a handsome gold chain and a silver match-case, the latter being suitably engraved. Many telegrams were also received from old and new friends, besides numerous presents both from within and without the profession.

MANY and anxious inquiries were made after Miss Cissie Curlette's health on Saturday last at the Palace, Southampton, after her breakdown in her farmyard song, owing, it is thought, to the heat, which was most intense. Happily Miss Curlette was able to appear in the second house, and had a rousing reception.

ANTHONY, illusionist, has just returned from the provinces, after successful engagements with Messrs. Barrasford, De Frece, Wilmott, &c., and has signed for the Alhambra, Paris, with Mr. Barasford. As this gentleman speaks several languages he should just tickle Paris audiences with his extremely funny patter and clever leger-demain.

MR. E. C. CLAYTON, of 276, Western Bank, Sheffield, concludes to-night (Saturday) an engagement as cinematograph exhibitor at the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Attercliffe, extending from last August Bank Holiday without a break. Mr. Clayton's selections of pictures each week, which have included the latest and best films, both interesting and humorous, have proved so popular and given so much satisfaction, both to public and management, that Mr. T. Allan Edwardes has re-engaged him for his next season, which commences on Monday, August 6.

MISS ALICE MAY is still winning enthusiastic public favour on her successful provincial tour by her remarkable performance in her sketch *Tranquillity*. Lately at Manchester she has been highly complimented by the Press.

MR. HARRY NATION'S company at Herne Bay has certainly come to stay, judging by the crowds that listen to their performances nightly. Each performer is already very popular, and Miss Hettie Lee and Miss Alice Coates are constantly in receipt of bouquets.

MR. CHARLES EVANS, who, by the way, has just passed another anniversary as general-manager to Lord George Sanger at the Hall-by-the-Sea, Margate, again opens the doors of that popular resort for the summer season on Monday. He and the veteran showman have been busy for some weeks with an army of men redecorating the entire establishment in a manner which is almost beyond describing. The magnificent ballroom is, in fact, now a palace of gold, and the lavish way in which the whole structure has been adorned makes it one of the most gorgeous buildings in the country. We are sure that Lord George and his able manager can look forward to a most successful season.

THE directors of the Palace Theatre state that there is no truth in the report that the theatre will be closed for several weeks, or for any period, this year in order to carry out the requirements of the London County Council. As a matter of fact, many of these have already been complied with, others are in hand, and the remainder are having the careful consideration of the directors. The Palace Theatre, by the way, has no less than seven exits from the stalls level alone, and the numerous staircases communicating direct with the street are six feet wide.

MR. JOSEPH WILSON has secured Mr. Harry Fragson for the Tivoli, the Anglo-French comedian having signed a contract to appear there on Monday week. It is interesting to note that it is Mr. Fragson's first appearance on the English variety stage, and at the popular Tivoli he should prove a big success. Mr. Fragson will sing songs at the piano.

MR. EDGAR BUDDEN was married on Wednesday to Miss Millie Denham at St. John's Church, Broadway, Stratford, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Alexander Mansfield, who delivered from the altar an excellent exhortation to the young couple. The numerous handsome presents included a handsome travelling-case from the bridegroom's mother, a dining-room suite from Mr. and Mrs. Bradley, and from the best man, Mr. Pat Carey, a handsome diamond and sapphire pin and set of carvers.

THERE were present at the wedding breakfast, which was given by the bridegroom's mother at The Laurels, East Molesey, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Draper, Mr. and Mrs. Marhoff, Mr. and Mrs. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Clibbery, Mrs. Barnes (bride's mother), Mr. Charles Langridge, Mr. Tom Drury, Aunty Florry, and Mr. Pat Carey. Everything was thoroughly enjoyed, and the young couple departed to Yarmouth with the good wishes from everybody for their welfare and future happiness. The company was entertained afterwards to lunch, and the evening concluded with a concert and dance on the lawn, everyone going home well pleased that they had been at such an enjoyable and happy function.

"BERTIE'S ADVENTURE," a new farcical sketch by Stewart D. Wright, received a favourable introduction to a London audience at the Middlesex on Saturday. The new playlet, the scene of which is laid at a seaside hotel, teems with funny situations, and was smartly presented by Messrs. Holmes and Wright's company, consisting of Mr. Edward Morgan, Mr. A. T. Henden, Mr. E. H. Dobell, and Miss Cecile Egerton. The excellence of the sketch was fully appreciated, and it is being booked by leading agents.

MR. BERTRAM ROSS has been appointed manager of the Duchess Palace, Balham, in succession to Mr George Wilson, who has gone to the Islington Empire. Mr. Ross's promotion has been rapid. Serving for a short period under Mr. Walter Gibbons at Croydon, he was subsequently made acting-manager of the Duchess, and, after a few weeks in that capacity, succeeded to the post which he now holds. The new manager has youth, enthusiasm, and a capacity for hard work, and is a strict teetotaller.

MISS CONSTANCE MOXON will shortly produce at the Chelsea Palace an original musical monologue, entitled *A Toff for Ten Minutes*, written by Edgar Bateman. A special song, entitled "On the day when I was 'busking' on the Beach" has been written for the trifle. Mr. Harry Randall has secured all rights of this writer's comic song, "The garden outside in," and will himself compose the melody, as he did in the instance of the songs from the same pen, entitled "That interfering Marm downstairs," "It's a wonder I'm alive to tell the tale," "There isn't many wives like mine," and "Lightning results."

MISS CORA DUNCAN and Mr. Albert Brasque will shortly produce in London a new light comedy-sketch, specially written for them by Mr. William P. Sheen, author of many well-known plays and sketches. Miss Duncan will introduce a bright number, the music of which is being written by Mr. Tom Kent. The sketch bears the striking title, *Dare I Marry? or, The Painter and the Pro.*

A MEMORIAL stone has been erected to Walter Howard in East Ham churchyard to perpetuate the memory of one who lightened the burdens of life in so many thousands who witnessed his performances. The expenses have been met by a portion of the fund that a generous public subscribed to render the closing days of the minstrel comedian peaceful and happy. The Rev. W. E. Reginald Morrow, vicar of North Woolwich, was the prime mover in the raising of this fund.

THE 469th meeting of the committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association was held on Tuesday, when Harry Blake was voted to the chair. There were also present Messrs. Geo. Booker, Charles Coborn, Charles Gardiner, Fred Herbert, Fred Neiman, Joe O'Gorman, George Preston, and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). Minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed, and questions arising out of them settled. A letter was read from Mr. G. W. Gerald, the recently-elected agent of the Association in Paris, stating that he was endeavouring to arrange a concession on the part of various railways in the French capital. The secretary's financial statement for the week ending June 23, showing the addition of fifty-five new members, the receipt of £43 16s. 6d. and the expenditure of £17 7s. 1½d., was read and passed.

ONE of the most sensational crimes of modern times was reported on Tuesday from New York. Mr. Harry Thaw, a millionaire, and brother of the Countess of Yarmouth, shot dead Mr. Stanford White, also a millionaire, and a well-known architect. The murder was committed in the Madison-square Roof-garden Theatre, a building designed by the unfortunate victim of revenge. Mr. Thaw accused Mr. White of having wronged his wife, who, before her marriage, was Miss Florence Nesbit, a famous stage beauty of New York.

So great is the popularity of the present programme at the Empire that it will not be changed to any great extent for some time to come. Two turns of minor importance will be added to the bill on Monday in the Kremkas (comedy acrobats) and Paulton and Dooley (trick cyclists), who are old favourites at this house. Novelty is the keynote of the biograph pictures, the latest being the scenes at the coronation of King Haakon and Ascot Sunday on the river. All who were in or near Boulter's Lock on that particular afternoon should see these photographic records, as the portraits of some of those present are excellent.

MISS LENA VERDI is having a long and successful tour. Her admirers will welcome her return to London in August, when she reappears in the West End.

AT the Westminster Police-court on Friday, Edward Stebbing and Alfred Crew were before the magistrate on a remanded charge of stealing 30s. from Mr. Gunby Hadath, the popular song-writer, of Chichele-road, Cricklewood, who wrote the words of the well-known ballad, "Down the Vale." Mr. Hadath was reluctant to charge the prisoners, and said that if they were hard up he would let "the poor devils" go, and give them a sovereign each. For some five years Crew has kept out of trouble, and he was sentenced to seven weeks' hard labour. Stebbing was ordered to undergo six months' hard labour.

THE marriage of Mr. A. E. Maskelyne and Miss Cassie Bruce was celebrated at Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone, on Wednesday afternoon, the reception being afterwards held at St. George's Hall. The bride, who was given away by her uncle, Mr. Elton, looked very pretty in a simple white silk dress, with lace insertion, trimmed with orange blossom and white heather (her national flower), and a wreath of the same, her only ornament being an amethyst necklace and pendant, the gift of her aunt, Miss Kathleen Bruce, and she carried a shower bouquet of white roses and lilies. The two bridesmaids, Miss Maud Bruce and Miss Olive Elton (sister and cousin of the bride), wore pale pink dresses, painted chiffon picture hats of the same delicate tint, and carried bouquets of pink and white flowers. The bridegroom presented them each with a gold chain and pendant composed of pearls and amethysts—the latter being the bride's birth stone.

A LARGE number of guests were received at St. George's Hall by Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Maskelyne. Lunch was served on the stage, charmingly decorated with garlands of flowers, sparkling with electric lights, the tables being festooned with wreaths of smilax. Mr. David Devant proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom in a most amusing speech, introducing the titles of the various sketches in which Miss Cassie Bruce has appeared since she joined the company. Later in the afternoon, after the wedding party had been photographed and the bride had cut the cake, an impromptu minstrel show was given, when Mr. Barclay Gammon, the clever musical sketch artist, acted as chairman, with Mr. David Devant and Mr. Morehen as cornermen.

A RHYMING alphabet was the feature of this unexpected entertainment, in which Mr. Gammon paid happy compliments to the young couple, and convulsed his audience with some excruciatingly bad—and consequently very good—puns on "Maskelyne," "medium," and "Colley." The wedding presents, which were displayed in one of the private rooms at the top of the building—to which Mr. Devant acted as guide—numbered over a hundred. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. "Archie" Maskelyne left London to spend their honeymoon in Paris. In three weeks time they join the company on tour. It is good news to hear that Miss Cassie Bruce, who is such a dainty little actress, does not intend to leave the stage.

MLLE. BORDEVERRY, who will appear at the Palace Theatre on Monday evening in a novel and daring shooting act, is the daughter of "Colonel" Bordeverry, the French crack rifle shot who made such a success at the Hippodrome and the Alhambra a while ago. Mlle. Bordeverry, who has been trained by her father, is young, pretty, and wears most effective costumes and jewels on the stage.

MR. EDMOND BOSANQUET, we regret to hear, is severely indisposed. On Saturday he saw Dr. Sheen, of Ramsgate, who pronounced him to be suffering from neurasthenia, and ordered him to take a month's rest. This enforced idleness is most unfortunate for the well-known virtuoso, who was working up a new show.

MISS MARIE LLOYD has, this week, accepted from the author and composer of her highly-popular Tivoli success, "That's the custom of the country," Messrs. John P. Harrington and Jas. W. Tate, a special new number, to be produced at an early date, which has been tentatively christened "Boots."

ONE of the most popular songs with seaside entertainers just now is Messrs. Bert Delmar's and George Burton's stirring new march-song, "The Zing Ja-va-va Band" (a pantomime "certainty" this year), which is issued by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company in their popular "Sixpenny Successes," and is in great demand with pierrot troupes needing an effective "finale" song.

MR. HERBERT SHELLEY has received offers to appear as "Dan, the Outlaw," in South Africa, Australia, and America.

MR. GEORGE ADNEY PAYNE is having a delightful time at Marienbad with Mr. Emmanuel Warner, of the firm of Somers and Warner, dramatic and variety agents.

MR. GEORGE GULLIVER, ventriloquist, is returning from a long tour, in which he has fulfilled engagements at Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, and India. In India he has appeared at all the principal European stations, and all round has had exceptional success and some stirring experiences. He left Bombay on June 14 by the Messageries steamer La Nerà, and, travelling viâ Marseilles, Dieppe, and Newhaven, expects to arrive in London to-morrow (Sunday).

MR. J. W. ROWLEY has made an immense hit at Halifax and other provincial towns with the Monte Carlo Publishing Company's Irish "gem," entitled "Widow Doolin," written and composed by J. F. Lambe; and this tuneful song is also being nightly featured by Messrs. Walter Munroe, Pat Carey, and "Billy" Ashcroft.

THE latest quotations of Music Hall shares are as follow:—Alhambra, 1¾; Canterbury, 1; Empire (15s. pd), 1¼; Do. (10s. pd), 1⅛; London Pav. O., 3⅞; Do. Pref., 4⅜; Lon. Coliseum, ⅛; Metropolitan, ⅞, Moss Empire, 4⅜; Do. Pref., 4; Oxford, 6⅜; Palace, ⅛; Tivoli, 6; Var. Cons. Theas., 13s.

WE regret to announce that Mr. Kennedy Johnson, late assistant manager at the Hackney Empire, is still detained at the Victoria Park Hospital.

A NEW sketch, written by Mr. Forbes Dawson, was tried last Sunday evening at the Walsingham Club, and in consequence of its success will shortly see the light in the music halls. It is called *The Midnight*.

YVONNE, the beautiful Irish girl and American favourite, in her speciality, "Tabloid Turns," will shortly be seen at one of the West End Halls through the agency of Mr. Harry Leamar, of 157, Strand.

THE following artists sailed from Southampton on Saturday per the Kenilworth Castle to fulfil engagements in South Africa—The Maples, Phil and Nettie Peters, Dan Paulton, Rose Sylvester, and Hagedorn's Wonderful Grotto. Among the artists who arrived home on the same day were Douglas and Ford, Pierce and Maizie, and Mooney and Holbein.

MR. DAN THOMAS returns to town on Monday for two months to fulfil engagements on Payne and Walter Gibbons's suburban circuits.

MR. TOM FANCOURT AND MISS JENNIE RUBIE produced last week, at the Palace Theatre, Bristol, their new musical comedy duologue *Nursery Pets*, which proved a big success.

MR. BENNETT SCOTT writes:—"My attention has been called to a paragraph in your issue of June 9 last to the effect that Miss Marie Lloyd had not sung any but the late Geo. Le Brunn's music during the past fifteen years. On the contrary, she has sung many songs composed for her by (among others) Messrs. E. W. Rogers, Joseph Tabrar, Orlando Powell, George Rollitt, and Albert Perry; whilst, with all due modesty, I may personally confess to having composed at least half-a-dozen successes for our Queen of Comedy."

THE London Coliseum closed its doors on Saturday night with the possibility of reopening in October. The members of the company went gaily through the Revue, which was embellished by much impromptu dialogue and fun, in good spirits. Ringing cheers were given for some of the managers.

MR. FITZROY GARDNER, assistant-manager of the Palace Theatre of Varieties, applied on Monday to Mr. Kennedy, at the Marlborough-street Police-court, for licences to permit three little German children, two girls and a boy, to take part in the Colberg Family of Child Musicians. The licences were granted for one.

MR. BARRINGTON MATTHEWS, on behalf of the Palace Theatre, renewed the application at Marlborough-street on Tuesday with respect to the performance of some child artists belonging to the Colberg family. Mr. Matthews explained that two of the children—the girls—were thirteen and the boy twelve, and therefore they could perform without licences up till nine o'clock, the licence being required in order that the "turn" might be put on at an hour when a fashionable audience were in attendance—9.30 to 10. The licences, as granted on Monday, only covered that one evening until past nine. The children, though pale, were healthy, and the Palace management would not countenance the performance in any other circumstances. The police were present on Monday evening at the performance. Mr. Kennedy: A very sensible idea. If I could have gone myself I would have done so, as there is nothing like seeing. The licences were extended until 10 p.m.

MISS CARLOTTA DE YONSON produced a new sketch, entitled *Crime and the Criminal*, at the Pavilion, Leicester, on Monday. The author is Mr. C. Douglass Carlile, who has written several successful little dramas for the music hall stage. In *Crime and the Criminal* Miss de Yonson plays the part of the heroine, Muriel Belmore.

ONE of the most interesting and attractive features of the programme at the Islington Empire this week is the appearance of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lucas in scenes from Charles Dickens's novel "Martin Chuzzlewit." In the first scene, a rural one, with village church and burial ground in the distance, Mr. Lucas appears first as old Chuzzlewit, attired in the quaint garb of a bygone age, and Mrs. Lucas as Mercy Pecksniff. The miser warns the girl against making an unhappy marriage, but she only laughs at his words, and encourages the hopes of Jonas Chuzzlewit. In the second scene, when the curtain rises Mercy is found awaiting the return home of her husband Jonas, who presently makes his appearance in a drunken condition. The vileness of the man's character is revealed by his brutal treatment of his young wife, who bitterly regrets she did not heed old Chuzzlewit's advice. Mrs. Lucas cleverly contrasts the merry laughing girl of the first scene and the wretched wife of Jonas, who, in his drunken rage, savagely throws her to the ground. Old Chuzzlewit and the brutal Jonas are excellently played by Mr. Lucas.

IT is interesting to note that the first dramatic version of *Martin Chuzzlewit*, by Edward Stirling, was produced at the Lyceum Theatre on July 8, 1844, with Mr. Sam Emery as Jonas, Mr. Drinkwater Meadows as Tom Pinch—an admirable performance—and Miss Woolgar as Mercy. Another and less satisfactory version of the novel was produced at the Olympic Theatre on March 2, 1868, when the late Miss Nellie Farren gave a merry impersonation of the boy Bailey, Mr. John Clarke appeared as Sairey Gamp, and Mrs. Lennox Grey as Mercy Pecksniff.

MR. AND MRS. LUCAS concluded their entertainment by representing the well-known scene from "Bleak House," where poor Joe, the crossing-sweeper, dies in the presence of the kind friend, who gets him to repeat the Lord's Prayer. Mrs. Lucas presented a touching and pathetic picture of the consumptive lad, with the hacking cough, who has suffered so much until at length his troubled life is brought to a sudden but peaceful close. At each performance the scenes from Dickens have been greeted with hearty applause.

MISS BILLIE BURKE has had the misfortune to lose rings to the value of nearly £1,000, which, she says, disappeared during the nine o'clock performance of the Revue at the Coliseum on the 22nd inst. These rings, nine in number, were in the case when she left the dressing-room for the stage, and the door of the room was locked. A diamond necklace and two brooches, which were also in the case, were left. "People will say that an actress robbed of her jewellery is an old story," said Miss Burke; "but that does not affect the loss or make it less. My property has gone, and I am badly upset, for most of these rings were mine since I was a child."

THE "Urbanora" exhibition of animated pictures at the Alhambra includes, during this week and next, some superb scenes of the coronation of King Haakon, at Trondhjem, and a complete record of the rehearsal of Warwick's historic pageant. Favoured by ideal weather conditions and exceptional privileges in the choice of positions, Mr. Urban has secured some truly remarkable pictures.

FRED AND LILLIE MONCKTON, who have won success in the provinces with their successful musical comedy duologues, *A Woman's Curiosity* and *The Lady and the Burglar*, are producing on August 6 a new and original comedy act, by Lawrence Berg, entitled *The Lady Dentist*.

MISS MARGUERITE BROADFOOTE will produce immediately Mr. John F. Lambe's tuneful song, "My Queen of Old Samara," published by the Monte Carlo Publishing Company in their "Sixpenny Successes" series, and considers that it will fit her like the proverbial glove.

MISS MARIE LOFTUS' success this week is great at the Bordesley Palace, where, it appears, writes our Birmingham correspondent, audiences cannot have too much of her, and as the brilliant commedienne is just now in extraordinary good form, this is excellent for all parties. Both in the merit and duration of her turn Miss Loftus is a fair miracle; she runs the gamut of the arts with ease and looks as radiant as ever, while her voice is singularly free from traces of fatigue. Much as this accomplished artist has done in the past, it is the present with which were are so specially and pleasantly concerned, and we commend—in its present form—"Singers, past and present," as one of the brightest and best studies ever submitted even by Marie Loftus, both in the opportunities it affords and the treatment thereof.

"MARKSMEN ALL!" is the title of a well-written song, the inspiriting words being by T. F. Ridgwell, and the broad, flowing melody by Frank Peskett. The number has received the warm commendation of Lord Roberts, who rightly believes that if we are to keep our Empire intact every able-bodied man should learn to shoot straight.

EARL ROBERTS has authorised the publishers, Messrs. Enoch and Sons, of Great Marlborough-street, to issue the song for the purpose of helping to establish a fund for the encouragement of rifle-shooting throughout the country. Every purchaser of a copy—issued at 1s. net—in the United Kingdom gives sixpence towards the fund. "Marksmen All!" should be well worth the attention of variety vocalists.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE EMPIRE.

The endeavour to acclimatise the *revue* has met with more success at the Empire than at other houses we could name, and *Venus, 1906*, the production by Mr. George Grossmith, jun., has followed the fashion set by musical plays at the theatres, and passed into a second edition. With "the Gibson girl" in the cast, it was of course inevitable that some reference should be made to the recent decision of the Courts against the Vaudeville management, and there is another quite up-to-date allusion at the end of the amusing trifle, when a gigantic property can is filled with all sorts of rubbish by the employees of the "prehistoric beef trust," the mixture being labelled "heavenly tinned beef." It was a wise move also to endow Miss Sybil Arundale with another song or two. This bright and attractive "principal boy" makes a hit in skirts as the "Don't go" girl, who appeals to well-placed admirers in the stalls, balcony, and circle—mostly of the male persuasion. "What price me?" answers the gentleman in the balcony to Miss Arundale's earnest entreaty for a sweetheart. The rejoinder is similar to that of the "artless" little Scotch girl in W. S. Gilbert's comedy, *Engaged*—"What is your income?" "Five thousand pounds a year." "Don't go, please," sings the attractive Sybil, who joins her "audience" in a final and harmonious rendering of the refrain. The music of the number is by H. E. Haines, and the lyrics by Charles H. Taylor, these two gentlemen being associated with the Lyric production last year of *The Talk of the Town*. Mr. George Gregory, who has succeeded Mr. W. H. Berry—now in the opera of *See-See* at the Prince of Wales's—has won considerable reputation in what may be termed Edmund Payne parts. He gives free rein to a decided gift for humour in the part of the judge, and is most amusing in a travesty of a principal boy in pantomime, the drollery of the number being added to considerably by a chorus of males in petticoats. Some whimsical business with property animals, dating from the pleiocene or other antediluvian period, adds to the success of the last scene. Miss Daisy Cordell is a fascinating Venus—a somewhat trying part. Miss Elizabeth Firth realises all the traditional smartness of the Gibson girl; Mr. T. Tremayne's Vulcan is effective; and Mr. Harry Grattan's fine sense of parody is put to good uses in his varying efforts as the professor, Mr. Onions, Jane Cakebread, and Mr. Nelson, R.N.V. As the modern representative of the hero of Trafalgar he is joined at the base of the Nelson column by a coquettish representative of La Belle France, the two realising the *entente cordiale*, which is reflected in the music given under the skilful direction of Mr. Cuthbert Clark.

Mr. Ludwig Amann in his many admirable impersonations had also a thought for the *entente*, when he imported into his gallery of celebrities M. Delcassé, until lately the French Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Kaiser and King Edward VII. are other opportune and heartily-welcomed introductions. Mr. Arthur Prince, who is termed on the bill "the world's greatest ventriloquist," is about to depart for America to sustain that title, which he certainly does something to justify by his excellent phonic work with Jim, the cabin-boy. Mr. Morris Cronin and troupe bombard us with surprises in the way of club juggling, the head of the crowd, which includes a couple of capital juggling comedians, being a performer of remarkable ability, who has gained in expertness since we saw him years since at the Alhambra. The Australian Ladies' Quartet sing concerted versions of Balfe's "Killarney" and the late Sir Arthur Sullivan's "The Lost Chord," and are responsible for a good *ensemble* and excellent *forte* and *piano* effects. The only thing lacking in their singing is tone colour.

The delightful ballet, *Coppélia*, enables us to see the winsome Adeline Genée at her very best as Swanilda, the village girl, whose rival in the affections of Franz, her sweetheart, is the doll, a masterpiece of mechanism by the old toy-maker. In the second scene the Danish *prima donna assoluta* shows what a consummate actress she is by her *danse à la poupée*, in which she has most artistic assistance from Mr. Fred Farren, who plays Coppelius, the eccentric genius, with rare ability. Mr. P. Sundberg and Miss Elise Clerc score most unmistakably in their *pas comique*; and in the pretty mazurka, the bold and dashing csárdás, and the divertissement on a Slav theme, with variations, are found "numbers" which are admirable alike in conception, composition, and execution. The ballet is admirably conducted by Mr. Glaser. Other turns in Mr. Harry Hitchens's excellent programme are the Biograph, the Brothers Martine, and that clever and droll monologuist, Mr. R. H. Douglass.

THE TIVOLI.

American turns are not so much in evidence at the Tivoli as at other variety theatres we might name; but there are at least two artists claiming the States across the streak as their birthplace who are among those adding to the variety of the bill that is being presented to crowded audiences by Mr. Joseph Wilson. The later comer of the two is John Ford, who has arrived on these shores to show us the way that the "American champion" dances. It may not be quite clear, but John claims the title quoted, and seemingly does all that is in the power of man to justify his assumption. We have seen nothing so wonderful as his pedal dexterity since we watched Dan Leno, wearing a big silver belt, accomplishing an intricate step-dance at the Oxford in 1884. The great little comedian, who in his day was the best dancer who ever wore clogs, did not take things quite so seriously as Mr. Ford, nor did he require a stage attendant to take from him his cloak and gloves—a piece of affectation that does not in the least impress an English audience. Miss Edith Helena, also from America, has some phenomenally high notes, which she displays in the ballad "Comin' thro' the rye" and in the intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana*; but her rendering of the garden scene from *Faust*, in which she sings "The King of Thule" and "The Jewel Song," leaves something to be desired in point of finish and intonation.

The comic element in the bill is agreeably prominent when Mr. Gus Elen takes the stage as the "big loafer"—not in this instance a member of the Labour Party, but one of the fraternity entitled the Sons of Rest. He doesn't become footsore in his search for a job, his "argyment" being "if yer can't get work, yer can't get the sack." Since we first saw the coster comedian in this very amusing novelty he has added much "business," and his burlesque interlude is decidedly one of the best things in the programme. Mr. Wilkie Bard's return to the Tivoli synchronises with the introduction of a song, "Let me sing," which should be heard everywhere. Here, again, we have droll business which adds vastly to the whimsical nature of the number. Mr. Bard, after a dispute with a stage fireman, craves the assistance in the refrain of a choir-boy among the audience. From the "circle" comes the cheery voice of a gentleman with a flowing white beard, who, in the last verse, joins the comedian in the sort of harmony known, we believe, as "gipsy seconds," which should be a primary cause of trouble in any family of which the members possess a musical ear. Mr. Wilkie Bard has a capital burlesque skit on the "captain" who does not sail beyond Blackfriars Bridge. Mr. George Bastow, in his bucolic comic songs, has won fame far and wide; but he gets out of the beaten track with "The Galloping Major" and "Wire in." Another George—whose last name is Robey—has weighty responsibilities thrust upon him when the title of "Prime Minister of Mirth" is attached to his name. Mr. Robey, however, makes light of such responsibilities, and completely wins the ear of the house by his impersonation of "The Dresser," the humour of which has all those obvious qualities which make it a delight to the masses of music-hall frequenters who relish its mirth-inciting propensities. Miss Marie Lloyd queens it as a comedienne at the Tivoli as well as elsewhere, and is nightly adding to the number of her admirers by her singing of her latest number, "The custom of the country." Her other selections are older favourites, in which her success is still great and deserved. Mr. Tom Foy and company evoke roars of laughter with their favourite comedy act, *The Yorkshire Lad in London*; and nothing could be funnier than Harry Tate and company in the episode *Fishing*. The Anartos combine music and fun in their concoction *The Morning Mail*; Mr. Fred Russell, the humorist and ventriloquist, justifies both those titles in an entertainment that is excellently compiled and admirably worked; and other turns include Miss Edie King, vocalist and dancer; and Doody and Wright, Australian comiques.

SADLER'S WELLS.

Time has proved that Mr. Macnaghten's experiment with Sadler's Wells Theatre was a sound one, and every night sees crowded houses at each performance. There is always a good all-round programme. This week we have, among others, Joe Oliver, the singing coon. Mr. Oliver treats a sentimental theme in fitting fashion. His song, "I am longing for my old Kentucky home," is rendered in a way that at once commands the sympathy of the audience. A pretty feature of the programme is the picture songs of the Lynches. The coloured scenes thrown upon the sheet are both picturesque and sufficiently explanatory of the stories they tell. There are two series, one concerning the love affairs of Kate Kearney, and the other, "Lights of Home," gives us a taste of the briny. The singing of a young lady forms a delightful accompaniment to the pictures. Mr. Bert Bowden is indeed a quaint comedian. His principal ditty is "Tommy and I," in which he draws comparisons between two brothers. In the song Mr. Bowden appears as a droll schoolboy, and succeeds in bringing before us a ludicrous character. A gentleman who twists his body into all manner of shapes—and it would be well-nigh impossible to describe the various snake-like contortions his limbs assume—is Amiel, whose performances are of a somewhat surprising order, and seem to be much admired by the audience. The Bensley-Evans Sketch Company submit an exceedingly laughable trifle in *Sally's Dilemma*. The principal part—that of an absurd slavey—is a ridiculously comical figure in Miss Olive Lanty's hands. Miss Lanty excels in low comedy, and this Louie Freear kind of part is well-suited to her capabilities.

Martinet and Wallace, the coloured musical comedy artists, are makers of melody of a distinctly original turn of mind. Upon an instrument something like an inverted organ they touch a number of curiously-shapen keys, and we get an interpretation of "The old Kentucky home." Another melody is produced through the agency of what look like flowers and flower-pots; while the oboe and the cornet are also brought into requisition. In addition to their musical accomplishments, Martinet and Wallace are smart patterers. With a fine touch of humour in his facial expressions, Mr. Dave O'Toole treats the house to a few verses, sung in a swinging, lively manner, the chorus rhyming with the word "freezing." The adventures of a gay little party who went into various shops presumably to get out of the rain form the theme of his next number, and it provokes great merriment. Mr. O'Toole's lugubrious manner while singing this song is in itself something to laugh at. A couple of patterers whose rapid, discursive style scarce gives their hearers time to complete one laugh before they force another are Walker and Lane. Between them they have a fund of good stories, which are interpolated by witty sayings and apt repartee. In amusing fashion they propound jocular conundrums in the song, "That's the reason why," and as they themselves furnish the answers the conundrums are rendered still more diverting.

The Vaudeville Dramatic Company are responsible for the melodramatic element in the programme. *The Bells of Vernavale* is the playlet they are presenting, under the business and stage-management of Mr. Ernest Wingfield, and it has an undeniably interesting story. George Kendall, the foreman of the Vernavale Works, is the hero; while the villain is one Phillip Stafford, the son of the owner of the works. Phillip is not as scrupulous as he might be, and, after stealing some money and murdering his poor old father, he endeavours to incriminate Kendall. However, all ends well, and Kendall marries the beautiful heiress, Jessie Dane. Mr. Ernest Wingfield gives a most praiseworthy portrayal of the part of the hero, his style being manly and vigorous throughout. Mr. F. Fellows Bassett submits an effective character-study of an old man in the rôle of Edward Stanford; and Mr. Herbert Pearson makes himself distinctly obnoxious as the villainous Phillip Stafford. Miss Marguerite Trevosper is sweet and womanly as Jessie Dane, and the other parts are capably sustained. The concluding item in the evening's entertainment is a pictorial representation, by means of the Raymond Biotableaux, of certain episodes in the life of the notorious Charles Peace.

THE MIDDLESEX.

Mr. W. H. Sloan, the American comedian, who on Monday at the Middlesex made his début on the English music-hall stage, was last seen over here in *The Belle of New York*. In the American capital he has taken part in a great many Broadway Theatre successes, and all over the States he bears quite a name for musical comedy. The sketch he is this week introducing to London audiences is called *The Plumber*, and it may at once be said that at its première the playlet gained success. The story may be given briefly. An Anglo-German plumber is called to attend to a leaking pipe in a residence. The mistress of the house had at the same time sent out for a dentist to cure a violent attack of toothache. Well, she mistakes the plumber for the dentist, and as the plumber sees all the making of a good joke, he permits the assumption to pass unchallenged. They have a game at poker, which doesn't prove so enjoyable to the man of lead as it ought to be, owing to a maidservant having placed a lighted stove under his chair. Of course, the real dentist turns up in time, and the plumber makes a hasty exit into another room, where he can attend to his repairing job. A loud explosion is heard—apparently he has lighted a match—and in another second he rushes back to the lady of the house looking very much the worse for the explosion. It would indeed be difficult to describe the absurd comicalities of Mr. Sloan in the part of the plumber, but it is sufficient for the moment to say that he has unquestionably taken the Middlesex patrons by storm with his laughable acting. Miss Florence Gerald and Miss Kitti Hamilton render him excellent assistance in the production.

In a pretty low-neck pink dress, the flounces of which are adorned by delicate yellow lace, the dainty Miss Rosie Lloyd comes before the footlights and imparts good advice to an interested gathering. "Never let the grass grow under your feet," says she, and no one will deny the wisdom of the injunction. Then she treats us to a charming lyric about one Nolah who, we are informed, is an Indian maid, and after that we watch with admiring eyes while Miss Lloyd engages in an exquisite rainbow dance. One wishes that there were more artists on the variety stage like Miss Lloyd, for it is a pleasure to meet with a lady whose turn is so refined, so clever, and which so deservedly reaps the reward of applause. Kloof and Ramsey are an entertaining comedy couple; Sados, who claims to be the world's youngest juggler,

(*Continued on Fourth Column.*)

THEATRICALS IN AUSTRALIA.

CHAT WITH MR. HARRY RICKARDS.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

"Things theatrical have been very prosperous in Australia for some time past," says Mr. Harry Rickards, who is now in London on his annual visit to this country on the look-out for artists to take to the Antipodes.

"Does that mean that you are able to offer long contracts?"

"No; don't let anyone be misled on that point. At one time I used to be in a position to offer artists engagements lasting for twenty-four weeks. Now I cannot give them more than twelve or fourteen, and sixteen weeks is an outside limit. You see, the Australian public demand frequent changes. Not so many years ago I could run a star performer for three months each in my Melbourne and Sydney theatres; now the drawing powers come to an end in four weeks in any one town. At the same time, even under this new order, our variety establishments are more patronised than ever. I am open to make a great number of engagements a good way ahead. I haven't many vacancies for this year and next, but I am prepared to negotiate more fully for 1908."

"Then I suppose the fact that you have to send out every year an increasing number of turns spells additional expense to you in the way of travelling expenses?"

"During the last twelve months I have paid over £8,000 in passage fares alone to the P. and O. and the San Francisco steamship companies, and now that I am compelled to give shorter engagements a larger sum than that mentioned will have to be spent in sea voyages. At each of my four theatres—the Grand Opera House, Melbourne; the Tivoli, Sydney; the Tivoli, Adelaide, and the Theatre Royal, Perth—my expenses average about £600 per week."

[*Photo by Falk Studio.*

MR HARRY RICKARDS.

"Is there one particular class of turn that the Australians most favour?"

"I don't think they have any special preferences. What they want is something new and startling in any line of business. We have been giving them so much of the best that they now demand stars. I remember at one time I could put one star on the programme and fill up with local people, but at the present moment they wouldn't tolerate such treatment. Competition out there is very keen. Every manager tries to do his utmost to furnish an up-to-date entertainment, and I venture to say that he Australian playgoer and music hall habitué get better value for their money than some of your British audiences. But, then, I have nothing to complain of. The country never was in such a prosperous state as it is now. Last Easter our business was absolutely unprecedented, and in four weeks I took more money in my theatre than I had taken before within a similar period. And, what is still more gratifying, there is every prospect of better business next year provided we get plenty of rain."

"Yet you contrive to do these things with a small population."

"Yes; but the country wants populating badly. We could do with a couple of million people in New South Wales and a couple of million in Victoria, let alone other parts. Mind you, they don't want paupers there, they want people to go on the land who intend working, and who can bring a little money with them. My opinion is that there are fortunes to be made by farmers and others. The agricultural, as well as the gold-mining prospects, are unlimited. As to the Australians themselves, I can only tell you that I have spent a good many years of my life in the colony, and have never found a straighter and more honest set of people in my life. And the farmers and men who come from up country are splendid specimens of manhood."

"For the last seven months," continues Mr. Rickards, "things have been very brisk with me. Le Roy, Talma, and Bosco, whom I took out, proved an immense success, both artistically and financially. I played them right through Australia, and extended their engagement into New Zealand. I am now running variety shows at my Melbourne, Sydney, and Perth theatres; while, in regard to the Tivoli, Adelaide, Mr. Walter Sanford's American company have been playing there for the past four months to enormous business in melodrama, and from what I can see it is likely to go on indefinitely. Mr. Sanford puts his pieces on in first-class manner, and has got together a capable company of American and Australian artists. He has had the longest season that has been known there for years, and as he has a very big repertoire, he can change frequently."

Mr. Rickards, who will remain in this country, along with his wife and younger daughter, some three months, has already engaged one of our West End attractions, the *Motor Girl*, to go to Australia.

When the steamship Macedonia sails for Australia on Friday next, it will convey Mr. Rickards' first contingent of artists, including Mr. Alf. Chester and the Two Cabias, the clever dancers who were at the Palace Theatre a little while ago. Between now and the end of September many other people engaged by Mr. Rickards will sail, among others being the Oxford and Cambridge Girls, Mr. Harry Bedford, Mr. Harry Tate's company with all his repertoire of sketches, Mr. Larry Lewis, Miss Violet Stockelle, Duncan and Godfrey, and the Alaskas.

Mr. Joseph Larkin, who has been associated with Mr. Rickards for the past fourteen years, and who for some time past has acted as his private secretary, is also in London, busily assisting his chief to arrange matters.

MR. CHARLES DIXTON will present on Monday a new comic act, entitled *Uncle Obadiah*, at the Royal Standard, Pimlico.

gives a praiseworthy exhibition of his talents; and Billy French shows himself to be in wonderfully good form with his humorous songs and smart dances. Mr. Jack and Miss May Mackenzie offer a few minutes' hearty diversion with their duologue, *Married for Money*; and the Clarion Trio are comedy artists and dancers of no small merit. The Wilfords cause one to marvel at their really herculean equilibristic acts; and Tray and Rich provide the wherewithal, and plenty of it, for the making of merriment with their patter.

It would be difficult to decide whether Messrs. Alexandre and Hughes excelled more with their musical accomplishments than with their comedy patter, for both are first-rate. We have a fine performance of "The Holy City" on the concertina, and an imitation of the bagpipes on the same instrument. But while their efforts in this line are most effective, not less so is the humour of their duologue, which further has the merit of being perfectly "clean." Miss Gwennie Hasto gives evidence of versatility in her songs, "When the leaves begin to fall," and "Never introduce your bloke to your lady friend." In the second number she appears as a coster "lydy," and her mannerisms and dialect are very characteristic. Miss Alice Maple, attired in what our fair friends would call a dream of a pink dress, sings in her sweet and engaging way about a schoolgirl who gives patriotic definitions of the meanings of certain letters. Her second song is "I love a lily," which is equally well rendered. Iee and Kingston have a mirth-creating act in *Practical Joking*; and the New Bioscope introduces a remarkably clear series of pictures, giving views of different parts of the world, and entitled "The Detective's Tour Round the World in Eighty Days." Mr. Fred G. Brooke and his able company are seen in the sensational episode, *The Secret Spy*, with which we dealt fully a week or two ago. The sketch has proved greatly to the liking of the Drury-lane folk.

ROYAL ALBERT.

Mr. Walter Leaver, the popular chairman of the Royal Albert Music Hall, Canning Town, is this week presiding over a goodly array of talent, the quantity, quality, and variety of which is really wonderful value for the money paid for admission. There is Mr. Harry Royde, whose eccentric comedy tickles one's fancy immensely. He has quite an entertaining manner, and of his three songs, that entitled "Don't move" seems to find most favour with the audience. Miss Josie Watson is an engaging artist, who sings her verses in the liveliest way imaginable. Her principal numbers are "What can a man do?" "Every night," and "My dearest girl," upon each of which is bestowed a full meed of appreciation. Mr. Harry Roxbury and company simply compel one to laugh at the absurd doings of the characters in their "musical mélange," *The Prince of Monte Carlo*. Mr. Roxbury in the title-rôle is an uproariously merry fellow. He is funny to a degree, both as the none too smart detective and also when he assumes to be a Royal personage. What with sprightly dances, light music, and songs, *The Prince of Monte Carlo* is an evening's "show" in itself. It should be mentioned that the lyrics and music are the work of Mr. Paul Knox, who shares the honours of authorship of the "book" with Mr. Harry Roxbury. All the members of the company work well in unison, with the result that we get an admirable *tout ensemble*. The chorus, "A man, a beard, and a spoon," proves a distinct hit in the little piece.

Mr. Harry Village is one of those born comedians who can express a whimsical thought by a movement of the face. He is, indeed, jolly good company while he occupies the stage, and we have no doubt that he is jolly good company off the stage. His songs, "You don't want to go too near him," "Oh, Fatanah," and "Ding, dong," are hugely enjoyed by those whose luck it is to hear Mr. Village sing. No manager need be in want of amusing patterers and smart dancers while he can obtain the services of Ferris and Farnley, who certainly contribute no small measure of pleasure to the evening's entertainment. Miss Rose Harvey appears in an agreeable petite scena, *Black and White*, in the presentation of which she is assisted by the Misses Harvey, Parkinson, and Somers. Two of the ladies are attired and made up as black coons—sweethearts, by the way—while the other two may be said to be the white counterparts. They sing and dance in most enchanting style, their different verses about "Little yellow coon," "Dinah," and "The stars are shining" being particularly popular with the gallery. As an extra turn we have Mr. Charles Dalton, who brings out a lot of eccentric notions, and whose song, "She's lost her ticket," finds great favour with the audience. There is a clever contortionist in Knoto, who hails from the Continent. Knoto is seen and admired in a number of interesting feats, the majority of which are gracefully and neatly performed.

Mr. Godfrey Maynard and Miss Magua France have an extremely diverting skit in *A Perfect Lady*, which provides merriment of the uproarious order. The doings and sayings of the characters in this sketch are exceedingly comical, and the parts are played with great spirit and zest. The Sisters Albert are old favourites in Canning Town, and their appearances are always looked forward to. This week it has been an immense treat to hear them singing such songs as "Snowflakes," "Bungalow for two," and "Come back to Borneo." As popular vocalists, the talented sisters hold a high position on the music-hall stage. Mr. Monte Bayley and company offer a sensational "episode" in *The Doctor*. A medical man is called to render assistance to a gentleman who has been seriously injured in a motor-car accident. The doctor recognises in his patient a person who had once done him an injury. Shall he allow his personal feelings to override his professional duty? He decides to do nothing of the kind, and his honourable conduct is pathetically recognised by the patient. The playlet is well acted by the three people who take part in it. Mr. Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope, as usual, brings to our notice some excellent pictures.

THE SURREY.

In spite of the tropical heat of the past few days there has been no falling off in the attendance here, and the programme, as usual, is remarkable for its length and excellence. Of the thirteen items on the programme six are sketches, distinction being gained by the Shakespearean episode by Mr. Albert Wyndham and company in *Richard III.; or, the Battle of Bosworth Field*. All the tragic incidents of the murder of King Henry VI. and the Battle of Bosworth Fields, with the combat between Richmond and the hunchback King are reproduced. Mr. Albert Wyndham in the title-rôle acts well, and speaks with a clearness and emphasis that give the lines their proper value. In the dual part of Henry VI. and Richmond, Mr. Charles Whitley essays both characters with sincerity and power, and well merited the warm applause bestowed. Miss Amy Hollom imbues the part of Lady Anne with a right appreciation of the character, her denunciation of the murderer of her husband completely holding her audience. Other characters are well filled by Miss F. Pateman as the attendant, Mr. Thomas Gilby as Tressel, and Mr. L. Deveridge as Catesby.

In direct contrast to the above is the farcical and musical absurdity, *Muggins, V.C.*, energetically played by the Musical Vaudeville Sketch Company. The story is of the flimsiest character, but it serves as a vehicle for a series of songs, dances, and screamingly funny situations, by the clever and hard-working company, under the direction of Mr. Fred Lawrence, who is responsible for the title-rôle. Mr. Lawrence is very funny, and is the life and soul of this miniature musical comedy. As Priscilla, Miss Marie Brian is the very embodiment of a humble born hoyden, and is full of high spirits and tricky devices, while her rendering of "The rage of society" proves her to be the possessor of a capital voice. Miss Edith Harmer acts the part of Lady Clementina with vivacity, and has a pretty number in "Make hay while the sun shines." Mr. C. Herbert Summers as her lover, Captain Slashington, is decidedly good, and his song "The girl with the changeable eyes," in which he receives invaluable assistance from the chorus, makes a decided hit. Mr. Frank Ellis as the waiter Tibbs, with a sneeze in his voice, is decidedly funny; and Mr. Horace Selby as the irascible Colonel Pepper Potts, acts fully up to his name. A word of praise is due to the twelve "Black and White Girls," who not only do full justice as the tuneful chorus, but dance a fandango with much grace and energy. *After the Races* is a comedy act of the Box and Cox order, and Miss Madge Morley as the wife who has come to the races without the consent of her husband, carries the performance along to success. Unreserved praise must also be given to her confrères for their finished portrayal of the lady's husband, who has also come to the races without consulting his wife, and the excellent character-study of a Yorkshire landlady.

The Guyons appear in a powerful dramatic episode, entitled *His One Great Sin*, which contains much wholesome sentiment. Both the senior members of the trio give interesting performances, and the juvenile, who eventually gets her father to "sign the pledge" is deserving of praise for her pretty acting and dancing. Mr. Gus Harris's song-scena, *The Synagogue*, is brought fully up to date by reference to the recent massacre of Jews in Russia. Mr. Harris's vocal efforts win him hearty applause. The Society Quartette gain favour with their clever singing and untiring clog, big boot, and cake-walk dances. Arthur Kenny gives a daring and sensational trick cycle act, his exhibition, one of rare skill and judgment, being awarded loud applause. Will Farrell gives point and expression to his humorous song, "It's had a bit of wear and tear." G. H. Keith, in his comic ditty, "When you're in love," enlarges on the silly things youthful lovers do, and is well received; and Raymond's Tableaux creat much amusement and esnjoyment with pictures depicting "The Troubles of a Fireman; or, the Mistaken Laundry." The Bensons' vocal comedy act, *The Page and the Maid*, teems with smart comedy. The song, "There's my Molly," addressed to the lady in a private box, is a bright and merry episode in their clever entertainment, and their dancing arouses great enthusiasm. Perfect order is maintained at the Surrey under the direction of Mr. Charles Craig, the courteous acting-manager.

BANDURRIAS.

One of the prettiest music halls in London is the Granville, and to the attractions of the house is almost invariably added that of an excellent company. That appearing in the past week was particularly strong. The Bandurrias, on a return visit, brought with them a pot-pourri of music that gave unqualified delight to all worshippers at Euterpe's shrine. These clever instrumentalists put as much life and vigour into a comic song or march as they do tenderness and feeling into their rendering of more ambitious selections.—*Lloyd's Weekly News*, June 24, 1906.

TIVOLI NIGHTLY.

MR. GUS ELEN, IN PRIVATE LIFE, SPEAKS WITH MR. GUS ELEN, OF THE STAGE, ON THE UNEMPLOYED QUESTION AT EDITH VILLA, THURLEIGH-ROAD, CLAPHAM COMMON.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND WALES FOR JULY.

ENGLAND.

July 2. Alnwick.
July 2. Bradford Fair.
July 2. Droitwich.
July 2. Feckenham.
July 2. Inkberrow.
July 3. Bishampton.
July 3. Chipping Norton.
July 3. Sampford Courtenay.
July 4. Stoke Ferry.
July 4. Wakefield Fair.
July 5. Dereham.
July 5. Hertford.
July 6. Bognor.
July 6. Great Chesterford.
July 6. Haxey.
July 6. Skegness.
July 7. Blandford.
July 7. Chapel-en-le-Frith.
July 7. Dore and Totley.
July 7. Gloucester.
July 7. Harbottle.
July 7. Selstone.
July 7. Taunton.
July 10. Kidwelly.
July 10. Leeds Summer Fair.
July 10. Menston.
July 10. Ringwood.
July 10. Stroud.
July 10. York Fair.
July 12. Brierfield.
July 12. Burnley.
July 13. Headless Cross.
July 14. Chumleigh.
July 14. Holmesfield.
July 14. Linton.
July 14. Salisbury.
July 16. Baildon Feast.
July 16. Darwen.
July 16. Spilsby.
July 16. Tunstall.
July 18. Atherstone.
July 18. Horsham.
July 19. Dursley.
July 19. Launceston.
July 20. Kingsbridge.
July 21. Chesham.
July 21. Dewsbury Feast.
July 21. Hatherlow.
July 21. Haworth.
July 21. Hollinwood.
July 21. Longsight.
July 21. Nelson.
July 21. Normanton (Temple).
July 21. Stalybridge.
July 21. Tipton.
July 21. Walton.
July 23. Bramley Feast
July 23. Cheddingley.
July 24. Glemsford.
July 25. Epsom.
July 25. Hockswold.
July 25. Reading.
July 26. Alresford.
July 27. Cley-next-the-Sea.
July 27. Melsham.
July 28. Bollington.
July 28. Compstall.
July 28. Falmouth.
July 28. King's Nympton.
July 28. Mossley.
July 28. Olney.
July 28. Shirland.
July 28. Stretton.
July 28. Unsworth.
July 30. Heyford.
July 30. Keighley Feast.
July 30. Saltaire Feast.
July 30. Sandford.
July 30. Shipley Feast.
July 30. Windhill Feast.
July 31. Alfreton.
July 31. Knottingley.

SCOTLAND.

July 5. Greenock.
July 7. Galashiels.
July 7. Hawick.
July 9. Glasgow.
July 9. Jedburgh.
July 11. Motherwell.
July 12. Johnstone.
July 16. Forfar.
July 18. Rothsay.
July 21. Arbroath.
July 21. Kinross.
July 25. Stirling.
July 26. Edinburgh.
July 26. Kilmarnoch.
July 26. Kirkcudbright
July 28. Leith.

WALES.

July 3. Flint.
July 4. Brecon.
July 31. Tenby.

WELSH SHOWMEN IN COUNCIL.

The annual gathering of the show fraternity in Wales took place at Porth Fair on Sunday last, and both in attendance of members of the Guild and its friends, and in the interest and enthusiasm the meeting provoked, maintained the high record of the Principality in the support of the common interests of the showman world. A very pleasing feature of the annual meeting in Wales is the Church service provided by the local clergy and the choir of the parish of Porth.

The hon. organising chaplain, the Rev. T. Horne, and the hon. local chaplains, the Rev. G. Francis and the Rev. — Williams, officiated, the preacher being the Rev. G. Francis, who delivered an able address on "The Lord's Prayer." The lesson was read by the Rev. T. Horne, and the Rev. — Williams intoned the service, the choir assisting in that marvellous wealth of sacred song for which Wales is world famous.

At the close of the service the hon. organising chaplain, in the name of the show people, thanked the local clergy and the choir, for coming amongst them and giving them the opportunity once more of fellowship in the things of God. He felt sure that the show people valued this act of united and common prayer. He, therefore, in their name, again most heartily thanked the clergy and the choir of Porth for coming amongst them in Christian fellowship of praise and prayer.

The Rev. G. Francis in reply said that both his colleague in the ministry and the choir readily responded to the request of the show people, and rejoiced that so signal an opportunity was given them of bringing the message of God and the worship of the Church to the people of the fair ground. The beautiful show booth in which the service was held—Wadbrook's Electrograph (proprietor Mr. H. Scard)—made a most suitable temporary church. The clergy occupied the raised platform before the stage, the choir occupied the three front rows of stalls, the organist had the use of the piano in the orchestra, and the congregation filled the auditorium.

Immediately after the departure of the clergy and choir the meeting of the Guild begun. Mr. Vice-President, Henry Studt, presided, supported by Mr. Vice-President John Studt, and Messrs. R. Dooner, S. Plinston, and J. B. Butlin, members of the committee.

The chairman said that, despite the fact, well known to all, that he had only just left a sick bed, and was physically unequal to the work of the position of honour to which they had again elected him, he responded with a ready mind and will to their manifest desire that he should preside over their meeting. He responded at once to the call of duty. Their reverend friend and adviser, Mr. Horne, would doubtless again, as in former years, lay before them the story of the Guild's work during the past year. He, for his part, could only say that the Guild had his hearty approval and support. He was proud to preside over a gathering of Welsh showmen to plead the cause of so good and useful a society as the Showmen's Guild. They in Wales had been able to practically look after their business interests without any call upon the general body of showmen for protection or defence. This had not been so with their brethren in England. There showmen had had to fight a vigilant and constant throng of enemies. The Welsh showmen had recognised that their duty was to stand by their persecuted brethren in England, and to send what material assistance they could to the work of common defence.

He trusted that, as in the past, so now, Wales would respond generously to the appeal for funds that the hon. chaplain would make in the address he now called upon him to deliver.

The Rev. T. Horne was received with a warm Welsh greeting, and after a tribute of appreciation to the chairman, and hearty congratulations from his English confrères on the happy evidences of recovery from his late serious illness, proceeded to lay before his deeply-interested hearers the report of the Guild's work in 1905-6. Taking the two Sessions of Parliament—the last of the late Government and the first of the present Ministry—the speaker showed over one hundred Corporations and public bodies had sought for additional powers in Private Acts of Parliament, and it was entirely owing to the vigilance of the Guild that not one of these Acts of Parliament contained clauses against the show business. When they were introduced, some twenty or more did contain such penal clauses, but by the persistent energy of the Guild's expert agents, and the work of its executive officials, not a single Bill in 1905, or in the present Session of 1906, passed into law with injurious enactments against their business. When they began their Parliamentary defence work in the year 1898, nearly every Corporation Bill introduced into Parliament contained clauses that gave Corporations power to prohibit or to penalise their business. By their peristent opposition to every proposal of this kind they had at last shown Corporations that the showmen were a determined and an organised body of traders, and that they would in every case, and at all costs, defend their trade and avocation in life. But, it must be borne in mind, that to produce this impression on the mind of public bodies meant constant work and also considerable expense.

Since 1898, year by year, the number of corporations seeking additional powers to penalise them in their business had been decreasing; but every Session of Parliament they had to fight a number of Bills, and in every instance with signal success. In the present year, although the corporations of Wallasey and Pontefract had given them considerable trouble and anxiety they had arrived at an agreement with both these public bodies, without meeting them in the Private Bills Committe Room at the House of Commons. The agreement in both cases meant the withdrawal from the Bill of the obnoxious clauses penalising the show business. These agreements, by mutual conference between Parliamentary solicitors and agents, minimise very largely the inevitable costly legal expenses, and every effort was made to bring these agreements about. There was, however, one great working truth in these matters that must never be forgotten—they could only negotiate peacefully with these mistaken foes. After they had shown their ability and readiness to defeat them at all possible cost at the House of Commons. With the powerful County Council of Middlesex governing the greater portion of suburban London, they had to persist until the very day of considering the Bill by Parliament. It was only when they had fully prepared their case, briefed their Parliamentary counsel, and summoned their array of witnesses, that they were able to convince the powerful corporation that we meant business, and that, powerful as they were, they could not bluff the showmen of England. Negotiations at the last moment were opened up, and the result was satisfactory in the highest degree, the County Council agreeing to embody a new clause to the effect that the powers they sought by their Bill to obtain "should *not* apply to any showman, roundabout proprietor, or stallholder using vans or tents for their business."

This, he ventured to declare, marked a distinct and notable step to all engaged in the show business—the recognition in an Act of Parliament for the first time of the fact, that all previous legislation had failed to define, that the travelling showman is not of necessity a gipsy. Again and again legislation obtained to prevent the danger to public health by the unsanitary squatting down in suburban places of gipsy vans and tents had been used to prevent show-people carrying on their legitimate business. Well, without saying a word against the poor gipsy, he congratulated them on the fact that at last it was recognised, and set out in an Act of Parliament, that show-vans and show-booths were not, for the necessities of public health, to be classed as gipsy vans or tents. The general work of the Guild (an ever-increasing quantity), concerned in championing their interests, and defending them against misrepresentation in the public Press, or by the busybodies and fanatics who fail to see any good in the showman's life and work—that work in which he was constantly engaged, assisted by an ever-growing number of fellow-workers throughout the Empire, had prospered. He, therefore, confidently asked the Welsh members to renew their annual subscriptions, and thus to show their solidarity with their brethren of the road—east, west, north, and south.

At the conclusion of Mr. Horne's address, Messrs. R. Dooner and Slocombe were kept busy enrolling members, the following being the very gratifying result :—

	£	s.	d.
Mr. John Studt (2nd subscription)..	1	1	0
Mr. J. Dooner	1	1	0
Mr. R. Dooner	1	1	0
Mr. H. Scard	1	1	0
Messrs. Plinston Bros.	1	1	0
Mrs. Baker and Son	1	1	0
Mr. John North	1	1	0
Prince Samonda	1	0	0
Mr. H. Studt (2nd subscription)....	0	10	6
Mr. J. Davies	0	10	6
Mr. J. Scarrott	0	10	6
Mr. T. Butlin	0	10	6
Mr. J. Fossett	0	10	6
Mr. Jacob Butlin	0	10	6
Mr. W. Jones	0	5	0
Mr. G. Whisper	0	5	0
Mr. J. Chadwick	0	5	0
Mr. H. Freeman	0	5	0
Mr. W. Kinder	0	5	0

WELSH MIDSUMMER FAIRS.

The development of the Welsh coal industry completely revolutionised the country. From being a purely pastoral land—the habitat of an intensely land-loving race—Wales has become, within a very few years, the greatest coal exporting country in the world. The opening up of the Rhondda, the Taff Vale, and the Ebbw Vale district, and the settlement of half-a-million busy workers at the face of the coal has created a new Wales; not the Wales of song and fable, but Wales of the pick and spade.

Cotemporary with the growth of the steamcoal trade has been the march of the iron horse. Besides the great trunk lines—the G.W.R. and the L. and N.W.—there are local railways of great importance, like the Taff Vale, the Rhymney, the Cambrian, and the Barry Railways, all of them serving vast coalfields and acting as feeders to the main lines. The London and North-Western, in conjunction with the Great Western, runs through the heart of Wales. From Swansea to Hereford, the G.W.R.; from Swansea to Gloucester, and again from Swansea to Bristol.

With the industrial revolution there has, of course, been the growth and adaptation of fairs to the changed conditions of the life of the people. Instead of a series of old-time hiring fairs, or local pleasure fairs, we have now a well-ordered round of fairs, principally under the energetic management of Messrs. Henry and John Studt, the universally respected caterers and providers of open-air amusements in the Principality. True it is of all the world that the showman follows the people—this is eminently so of Wales. The greater number of fairs in the Principality are new, because the centres where they are held are new. It is not a parish festival or old Charter Fair that fixes the date, but the proximity of coal pits. The rise of a new town necessitated a new fair, and one important element in the phenomenal business success of the Studts is the fact that they were on the spot and saw the vast possibilities of show and fair-ground enterprise, and seeing its possibilities had the sound business ability to rise to the occasion.

The Rhondda Valley is a typical example of this growth of fairs in the local districts. Beginning the week after Whitsun at Treorchy, a great centre of colliery life, moving on to Porth, Ton-y-Pandy and Ferndale, the great valley of the Rhondda has a moving panorama of showland; the same wonderful delights of joyance, pleasure, and marvel moves from place to place, and the advent of the show is the one and only arbiter that fixes the time of the fair and the local holiday.

We visited Treorchy, where we found that, owing to the fact that the fair this year did not coincide with the big pay-day at the colleries, the wise showmen determined to wait another week, until the people had money in their hands to play with. This excellent business resolve was rewarded by the expected returns, and a big Saturday was the result.

The lessee of the ground, Mr. John Studt, exhibited his fine new machine, the International Motor-car Races, but owing to the limited space at his command, the other novelties under his management were not displayed. The principal shows were those of Messrs. Dooner and Son, H. Scord, Mrs. Baker and son, Sidney Braham, Prince Samonda, Carl White, Taylor and Scarrott. The providers of varieties—shooting and fairground novelties—were, amongst others, Messrs. Fossett, Freeman, Jones, Whisper, Davies, North, Chadwick, and the brothers Butlin.

The spacious and admirably arranged Fair-ground at Porth displayed to the best advantage the machines, exhibitions, side-shows, and varieties now in the Rhondda Valley for its cycle of Midsummer Fairs. Here Mr. Henry Studt joined forces with John Studt, and the superb electrical motor-car sets of the Studts were seen at their best. H. Studt and Son's machine, and John Studt's two sets—the motor-car race and the zoological roundabout. With these were the famous big wheel of Messrs. Plinston Brothers, and the juvenile and gem pony sets—three in number; of Messrs. Butlin Brothers and John North, Mrs. Baker's Metropolitan circus, and J. Scarrolt's athletes and school of boxers were located near the main entrance; and variety and throwing games lined the right-hand side of the avenue leading up to the colossal concerns—Wadbrook's electric cinematograph and Dooner and Son's bioscope of passing events, both facing down the fair; at this end was also Taylor's fistiana booth and British assault-at-arms. Making our way back again to the chief entrance, we found on the left-hand side of the ground that monarch of the modern side-show, Prince Samonda, the esoteric mystic and exponent of occult magic, Prof. Carl White, in his temple of mirth, magic, and mystery, and that delightful exhibition of trained birds of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Braham, one of the most unique shows on the road. Here, too, were the shooting ranges, bottle batteries, throwing and other games of Messrs. Fossett, North, Winsper, Hinder, Davies, Jones, Chadwick, Butlins, and the photo booths of Messrs. Fossett and Turner. Intensely modern as these fairs in the Rhondda are, there is one feature about them that links them with the olden time, and that is the long row of flannel stalls—the native industry of flannel-weaving was in its last throes of existence when it occurred to Mr. Henry Studt that if the small flannel weaver would travel the fairs and use the fair as a market for her goods the flannel industry might be saved. This was done, and now at most Welsh Fairs we have a curious revival. The Welsh flannel is traded, and extensively bought by the people, thus has the showman helped to save a native industry.

We are sorry to chronicle a somewhat serious accident to Mrs. Taylor, wife of Prof. Taylor, of the boxing booth. Mrs. Taylor was mounting a public conveyance at the entrance to the Fair-ground at Treorchy with the intention of visiting the lower portion of the town, when a cyclist, owing to the congestion of the traffic, lost command of his machine, which collided with the back of the carriage as Mrs. Taylor was in the act of mounting it. The result being that the handle-bar of the bicycle inflicted terrible injury upon her. So serious is the nature of the injury that Mrs. Taylor is now under surgical treatment.

The interesting old town of Llantwit Major, in the Vale of Glamorgan, gave us a glimpse of the old-time Welsh Fair. Here we were in a smiling pastoral land. No coal-pit or slate quarry within sight. A picture place with its dear old church and narrow, crooked streets. The fair only lasts a night or two; little business is done in the day-time. "Away from the coal away from the money" is true of Wales as far as the showman is concerned.

Here we found Danter's aggregation of fair-ground novelties—the four abreast ponies, ostriches and cockerells, throwing games, park swings, cokers, and dart-boards. Stockton's up-to-date peepshow, Mrs. Oxford's shooting ranges, and other varieties.

Just a few miles from Cardiff (the Liverpool of Wales) we have that Welsh "New Brighton"—Penarth, or Cardliff-by-the-Sea. Here, upon its breezy beach, fine promenade, and splendid pier we see another side of Welsh life, the busy city man and wife and family at the sea. The al fresco entertainments on the pier are provided by Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Mills. The open-air fit-up at the Pier-head is one of the best we have seen, and we heartily congratulate "the Royal Court entertainer" on the success of their show. In addition to Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Mills, both of them admirable variety artists, the company includes Mr. Arthur Ferriss, comedian; Mr. Caffyn Baxter, pianist; Mr. Charles Ellis, eccentric comedian; Miss E. Ferriss, comedienne; Miss M. Lawrence, comedienne; and Mr. W. Cameron, tenor. The programme included some of the most popular songs and concerted pieces of the day, and gave vast delight to their audience.

FROM the Birmingham round we have news of Sparkbrook Fair. Here the shows were Farrell's coliseum of varieties and animated photography, Cooper's freak show and novelty booth, and E. Johnson's ground booth; John Collins had three machines on the ground; the gondolas and motors, switchback, gallopers, steam yachts, and big boats; the steam horses were by S. Mercer, and the swings by J. Montgomery. Emma sheets, cokers, and throwing games by Mercer, Deeks, Johnson, and Montgomery; stalls by C. Blick, Mercer, Deeks, Johnson, Montgomery, Cooper, Latham, and Blood.

SOUTHWOLD FAIR was well maintained by Barker's cinématograph theatre, Stocks' steam circus, park swings, shooting concerns, cokers, and varieties; Messrs. Stocks, Prestney, R. Keeble, Abbott, and F. Keeble.

MAIDSTONE summer fair was entirely provided as regards show novelties by Mr. T. Pettigrove, who exhibited fine art show, switchback, swings, shooting concern, Emmas, cokers, and variety stalls.

FROM Lancashire we have news of that excellent wake in the Rossendale district—Rawtenstall. At the head of the show list was Col. Clark's electric coliseum and cinematograph; and with him, in close association, were that veteran showman James Norman with living picture exhibition, W. Shaw with fine art gallery, Haydon's mystics and second sight experts, and Blakey's novelty booth The machine list included Mitchell's motor cars, Geoghegan's steam horses, T. Holden's steam yachts, and Mrs. Holden's flying ostriches. The park swings and high fliers were by Messrs. Holland, Slater, Shuttleworth, and Sharpe; the shooting concerns were those of Messrs. Williams, Humphrey, Sharpe, and Royle. The other fair-ground caterers, stall-holders, &c., were Messrs. Horton, Slater, Jennings, Shorrocks, Hindle, Lorenzo, Ingham, Gall, Freer, Edwards, and Smith.

THE FRED LOCKE FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received by Mr. J. G. Crichton, 9, Bridge-street, Glasgow. The Fund is now being held in trust in the joint names of Mr. Richard Waldon, Royal Princess's, Glasgow, and Mr. Crichton :—

	£	s.	d.
The Hon. the Lord Provost of Glasgow	0	10	0
Men in Messrs. Sawers, Ltd., Glasgow	0	13	6
Charles Stewart and a Friend, London, per J. B. Gordon	0	10	0
Mrs. Forsyth	0	2	6

REVISED SCALE OF CHARGES FOR

MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTS, ARTISTS WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Oct. 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 21, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING,
Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER,
Aug. 13, Oct. 29, Nov. 19, 26, Dec. 10, 17.
Feb. 11, 25, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER,
Oct. 29, No. 5, Dec. 10, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 18, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON,
Aug. 20, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, Jan. 7, on
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD,
Oct. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 12, 19, Dec. 3, 17, 24,
Christmas week, Jan. 7, 14, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON,
July 30, Nov. 26, Dec. 20 (three nights),
Dec. 24, Christmas week, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER,
July 16, 23, 30, Oct. 8, Jan. 21, Feb. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Sept. 13 (three nights), 17, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22 (three nights), 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, THEATRE, READING.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical preferred, for Christmas Week, at Huddersfield and Northampton.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD;
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON;
Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 3, 10, 24,
Oct. 1, 15, 22, Nov. 12,
onwards, with exceptions.

E. GRAHAM FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-Class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Aug. 27, Dec. 3, 10.
METROPOLE THEATRE, GATESHEAD,
Aug. 13, 27, Oct. 29, Dec. 3, 17.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr. HARDING THOMAS
WANTED, Dramas and Musical Companies, Aug. 6 (?), Sept. 24, Dec. 3. HERBERT VERE.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, Aug. 13;
Grand Theatre, Hull, Aug. 20;
Musical Attraction preferred.
Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 12, 13, 14, and 23, 24, 25, three nights each.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-Class Attractions, for August Bank Holiday, Aug. 6, Aug. 6, Musical preferred; vacant through cancelling to oblige.
Apply,
Mr. C. F. WILLIAMS, T. R., Plymouth.

OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Grand Re-opening Aug. 16, after Re-decoration and Renovating, with R. A. P. Williams's New Comic Opera Co., "Les Cloches de Corneville."
WANTED, Attractions, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, and on, with exceptions. New Year's Week Vacant for First-class Pantomime. W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, really First-class Attractions, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29,
Nov. 5, 12, Dec. 10, 17.
Musical Plays preferred.
Address, JAMES BELL, Cleator, Cumberland.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, for Aug. 6 (Bank Holiday);
also, Aug. 13, 27, and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies, T. R., RUGBY,
Aug. 13, 20, Sept. 3, 17, Oct. 15, 29 (3), Nov. 5 (3), 19, Dec. 3, 10, and various, spring, for new theatre.
A. F. CROSS, P. O. W., Nuneaton.

GRAND THEATRES, RADCLIFFE AND CHORLEY.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, Big Dramatic Productions, both Houses, Aug.. Sept., or.
Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, for Osborne Theatre, Manchester, Dramatic Companies, July 9, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

THEATRE ROYAL BLYTH.
WANTED, Big Attractions for Aug. 20 (Flower Show week), Aug. 27, Dec. 17 and 24, Musical or Farcical Comedy preferred.
The above Theatre will be closed from June 30 to Aug. 6, and on re-opening will be lighted throughout with electricity, thus placing it in the front rank with the best theatres in the Northern Counties. Now booking 1907.
A. C. MOODY,
Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, Companies, for Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, July 9, 23, and on. Big Attraction for Bank Holiday. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, First-class Company, for July 9, week, Grand, Llandudno (to oblige). Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON,
Creekside, East Molesey.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Attractions, July 23, 30, and Aug. 6.
E. H. PAGE.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only. Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1. Apply, CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

P. T., LLANDUDNO, and P. H., COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Good Attraction, July 23 (three nights each town). CHAPLIN, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, First-Class Musical Play, for Aug. 6, Bank Holiday.
Apply, WADDINGTON, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for July 9, 16, Aug. 13, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, for Sept. 24, Strong Company, Musical Comedy preferred, for important South Coast Theatre. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies, THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant Dec. 3, 17, Feb. 4, onward.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant July 30, Oct. 1, Dec. 17.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant Aug. 13, 20, 27.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant Aug. 9 (3 nights), 13, 20, 27.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant July 30, Aug. 13, 20, 27.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant Aug. 6, 20.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27.

"SPAN OF LIFE" CO.
Vacant Oct. 15.

"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."
Vacant Aug. 13, 27.

"CINDERELLA."
Vacant Feb. 11, 18, 25, March 4.

"ALADDIN."
Dec. 26, Jan. 7, 14, 21, on.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Telegrams, "Carlton, Worcester."

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Farnworth,
Aug. 6, 13, 20, 27, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 15.
Brighouse,
Sept. 3, 10, 24, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

WANTED, First-Class Company, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, July 9.
Apply, F. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad Court-chambers, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBORO'.
WANTED, Good Companies, Sept. 24, Oct. 8, 29, and Nov. 12, last three days of each week.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Wanted, Good Companies, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, and Dec., on.
THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES,
Vacant Nov. 26, New Year, and on.
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK,
Vacant Sept. 10 or 17, Nov. 26, and New Year.
Dumfries, first three days; Hawick, last three days of alternate weeks only.
THE SPA, WHITBY,
All Bookings Completed. Aug. 30, 31, and Sept. 1 might be arranged for any very special attraction.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, The Spa, Whitby.

GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE,
Two Performances Nightly,
Sole Lessee and Manager, R. A. P. WILLIAMS.
Also Proprietor Park Theatre, Dundee.
Lighted throughout by electricity.
WANTED, Known, a few Autumn Dates Vacant for really First-Class Musical and Dramatic Companies, Share or Certainty (latter preferred). Only First-class stuff entertained. Always openings for real Top-Liners. All particulars, Day-bill, &c., to R. A. P. WILLIAMS.

THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. WILL SMITHSON.
ROYAL CLARENCE T., PONTYPRIDD.
WANTED, for Merthyr, good Attractions, July 16, Aug. 13 and 27; Wanted, for Pontypridd, good Company, Aug. 6, Sept. 17; First-class Attractions do well. For dates apply, WILL SMITHSON, T. R., Merthyr.

OPERA HOUSE, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, High-Class Companies, Aug. 6, Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, 26.
Address
J. P. MOORE, West Bromwich.

WEST BROMWICH.
WANTED, First-Class Companies only, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 22, Nov. 12.
Still the only and popular Theatre.
Address,
J. P. MOORE, West Bromwich.

IRVING THEATRE, SEACOMBE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24. Managers please note these are the only dates I have vacant this year. Fast filling up 1907. Apply to JAMES KIERNAN, Owner and Manager.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
WANTED, Good Attraction, July 16, five nights (Friday excepted). CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, H. M. T., Barrow.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Lessees and Managers, BROOKS and WOODBRIDGE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 16, Nov. 12, 26, Dec. 3, 10. Only vacancies in 1906. Now booking Spring and Autumn, 1907. Wire instanter for July 16.

E. OSWALD BROOKS, Resident Partner.

GAIETY THEATRE, DOUGLAS, I.O.M.
WANTED, First-Class Musical Attraction, for Sept. 10. Apply, C. FOX, jun.

GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, First-Class Company, Aug. 13, for re-opening week, after nine weeks' vacation. Musical Show preferred. GEORGE E. MUDD, Business-Manager, this week, T. R., Hull; next, Opera House, Harrogate

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies for two Nights, Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal and Concert Hall, Deal, good Attraction, Aug. 20 (week), 30, 31, Sept. 1, and 5 to 13, onward. Shares or Rental. WHITE, Manager.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, July 23 and 30. W. PAYNE.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, onwards. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Oct. 15.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS,"
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, Nov. 26.
WALTER MELVILLE,
Oakley House, 14, Bloomsbury-street, W.C.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 6, Sept. 17, Oct. 8, Nov. 26, Xmas, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Aug. 20 and Dec. 24.
DOUGLAS BRUCE,
22, Upper Hagley-road, Birmingham.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for the Scala production, Sept. 3 and 17.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

"THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,"
the most Successful Play produced during the year 1905. Miss Edith Cole as Belle Bascombe and Susan Meredith.

WANTED, Dates, in First-class Theatres only, Vacant Oct. 22, 29, and Nov. 5. Wire or write, W. W. KELLY, 8, Hamilton-sq., Birkenhead.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 27, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 12, Dec. 3, 10, and 31.
J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Margate.
See Companies Advertisement, page 2.

F. WYBERT CLIVE'S TOUR.
"THE CONSCRIPT,"
Revised throughout
with new and important additions.
Cast of fifteen experienced Artists, headed by MR. HARRY CULLENFORD as KARL.
MISS VIOLET CARLYLE as NADIA.
Bookings include:
DERBY,
ST. HELENS,
SHEFFIELD (ROYAL),
BRADFORD,
SCARBOROUGH,
SWINDON,
JARROW,
BARROW,
DEWSBURY,
MEXBOROUGH,
LIVERPOOL (QUEEN'S),
HULL (ALEX),
LUTON, SALFORD, SWANSEA,
LINCOLN, MANCHESTER, ABERDARE,
YARMOUTH, BURNLEY, BARNSLEY,
OLDHAM, CASTLEFORD, &c.

New Scenic Effects specially painted for this production by Egerton, Bradford.
Striking Plant of Pictorials and Catchy Letterpress (twenty-five varieties).
The entire production staged and played on first-class lines.

WANTED, Aug. 6, Sept. 10, 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 5, 26, Dec. 24, only vacant dates this year.

Refer M. Loader, Esq., St. Helens.
Refer J. H. Asquith, Esq., Dewsbury.
Refer T. A. Edwardes, Esq., Derby.

Address all communications, F. WYBERT CLIVE, This, Royal, Sheffield; next, GRAND, WALSALL.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
The great Oriental Play.
WANTED, July 23, Aug. 27, onwards.
A Perfect Production.
E. CARTER LIVESEY,
Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above success, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 12, 19.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, King's, Glasgow.

GRANVILLE AND THORNE'S TOURS.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this First-Class Attraction, Aug. 27, Sept. 10 and 24.
Apply
FRED GRANVILLE, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

SHINTON AND GREENWOOD'S TOURS.
"THE PRICE OF HER SOUL."
WANTED, Sept. 24, Oct. 1, Oct. 15, Nov. 5 and 19. Autumn tour commences A.B.H., at Grand, Brighton. Vacation. JOHN B. SHINTON, 7, Winchester-street, South Shields.

MISS MARY NEIL'S and MR. GEORGE KIRK'S "HER LUCK IN LONDON" CO.
WANTED, Sept. 3 (between Islington and Aston) and Sept. 24 (between Smethwick and Grimsby), must be First-Class Theatres and give equitable terms.
GEORGE KIRK,
210, Burbury-street, Birmingham.

"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, July 9, to follow Aquarium, Yarmouth. Wire,
EUGENE BERTRAM,
Grand, Swansea.

E. H. KNIGHT AND GEORGE DENHAM'S CO.
"THE GRIP OF IRON."

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17.
GEORGE DENHAM, Theatre Royal, Margate.

"HER LOST SELF,"
"THE BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH."
WANTED, Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 24, Oct. 1, Nov. 19. Xmas, New Year. Miss DELAVAL, 23, Cromwell-rd., Whitstable-on-Sea.

"NO WEDDING BELLS FOR HER."
WANTED, for the above Melodramatic Success,
Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 8, and on.
Sept. 10, 24, Oct. 8, and on.
A most Elaborate Production.
Address,
FRANK BATEMAN, Ryecroft Villa, Ryecroft, Walsall.

WANTED, "The Traitor," Aug. 27, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19.
First-Class production.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"THE THRONE OF TERROR."
WANTED, July 9, on, Aug. 20, various, on an artistic play performed by real artists
WILLIAM J. MILLER, Prince of Wales's T., Salford.

"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Aug. 6, 13. Wire for Aug. 6.
EDWARD SURREY,
to-day, T. R., Bristol;
next, T. R., Merthyr.

"THE POWER OF GOLD."
Forty-fifth Week of Present Tour.
Bookings and re-bokings extend into Aug., 1907.
WANTED, Aug. 6 (unexpectedly vacant), 2 by 6, 2 by 12, 1 by 18, and 2 D.C. pictorials newly added, in Stafford's best style.
FRANK AVERTON, T. R., Bristol.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Sept. 10, 17, 24.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Miss ANNIE BELL as FANNY LE GRANDE.
Wire, JAMES BELL, Cleator, Cumberland.

STANLEY CARLTON'S CO.'S (By Arrangement with Mr. Fred Benton), "A LIFE'S STORY,"
"A MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13 (to follow Liverpool), on, with exceptions. King's T., Longsight, Manchester.

T. Edward Ward's Gorgeous Revival, Spring, 1907, of Walter Howard's new "MAN AND WIFE," a Human Story, full of local colour.
WANTED, Known, Xmas vacant, for South or Midlands. Add., T. E. WARD, 2, Hickman road, Penarth.

MADGE McINTOSH and LUMSDEN HARE'S CO.
"MOLLENTRAVE ON WOMEN."
by Alfred Sutro, from the St. James's Theatre.
WANTED. Aug. 6, Special
Aug. 6, Scenery,
Aug. 6, Attractive
Sept. 10 (?) Printing.
Address, LUMSDEN HARE, T. R., Portsmouth.

"WHAT MEN DARE."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Aug. 6, 27, Sept. 17 and 24, Oct. 1 and 8, Nov. 19 (Scotland), magnificent production, strong cast. Thanks Arthur Carlton, Esq., Herbert Vere, Esq., Frank Percival, Esq., W. E. Potts, Esq., and many other gentlemen for Contracts.
Wire or write,
PERCY NORMAN, 68, Sayer-street, Walworth.

WANTED, July 9 and 30, Aug. 6 and 20. Wire, "Busily, London."
EADE MONTEFIORE,
Kennington Theatre.

Mr. H. F. MALTBY and CO.,
"THE YOUNGEST OF THREE."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 13, 27, Sept. 3 (?), 10, and Oct. Wyn WEAVER, Amphi., Ramsgate.

WANTED, July 30, Aug. 6, on, for "A London Actress."
STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, Known, "Mother's Love," vacant July 16, 23, and 30. Address, FRED L. CONNYNGHAME, Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"DARKNESS,"
"DARKNESS,"
founded on
"When It Was Dark."
"When It Was Dark."
The Most Successful Play and Greatest Money-maker on Tour.
Refer J. C. Imeson, Esq., T. R. Middlesbrough.
Refer Francis Laidler, P. T., Bradford;
or come and see the play.
Wanted, Sept. 10, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22,
Two Distinct Companies
start on Tour in August.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's T., Farnworth, Bolton.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates, for
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Aug. 7, 15, 22, 29.
MORTON POWELL, Farnworth.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR
"THE MANXMAN."

WANTED, Best Theatres, Vacant Oct. 8 (North), Oct. 29, Nov. 5 and 19, Dec. 24.
Present Bookings: R., Cardiff; G., Swansea; L., Newport; Sunderland; S. Shields; Brixton; G., Croydon; Broughton; A., Sheffield; G., Wolverhampton; Llandudno; Edinburgh; Bootle; Seacombe; &c. Now Booking Spring, 1907.
T. R., SUNDERLAND, July 2.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANIES.
"FLORODORA."
WANTED, First-Class Theatres, Aug. 13, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 26.
"THE ETERNAL CITY,"
Aug. 13, 20, Nov. 12.
"OLIVER TWIST,"
August Bank Holiday week, Aug. 20, Sept. 13 (three nights), 17 (three nights),
Also various Spring 1907 Dates.
WILLIAM MARTIN, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

"A BUNCH OF VIOLETS" CO.
WANTED, good Theatres, South Coast preferred, July 23, 30, and Aug. 6.
Mr. Norman Partriege as Sir Philip Marchant.
Refer to Managers Theatres visited as to show and business done.
This, T. R., Hull; next, Opera House, Harrogate.
GEORGE E. MUDD, Business-Manager.

WANTED, Aug. 6, 7, 8, to precede Llandudno, good Theatre, for a new light Comedy, by Arthur Law, author of "The New Boy," "A Country Mouse," &c., &c.
Special Engagement of
Mr. Fred Kerr, Mrs. Mouillot, Miss May Palfrey, and a powerful London Company.
Also Wanted, good Theatres in fashionable resorts, for Aug. 20 (week) and 27 (ditto).
Apply, RICHARD MAYNARD,
care of Robert Watson, 6, Bouverie-street, E.C.

"AN ABANDONED WOMAN."
WANTED, good Theatres only, July 16, 23, 30,
to precede Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Miss Georgette Thierry as Ninon.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

"LUCKY LIZA."
WANTED, July 23, between Manchester and Newcastle, Aug. 20, Sept. 3, onward. The visit of Dickie Clare's company to the Grand Theatre in the new musical farcical absurdity, "Lucky Liza," was last night a very great attraction, and is likely to continue to be throughout the show week. It was written by Mr. Fred Locke, the well-known pantomime writer, and author of "A Trip to the Highlands," and is brimful of music, singing, and dancing. The company is under the proprietorship of Mr. Dickie Clare, who himself heads the list of comedians and actors who have the play in hand. "Lucky Liza" is one of the funniest of pieces, and evoked merry laughter. It deals with the love-making of two young couples, including Lucky Liza, who is a lady's maid. She has been promised marriage by a gardener at the next villa. He refused to fulfil his promise. The audience is kept in a continuous roar of laughter from start to finish.—Derby Express, June 26. Refer T. Allen Edwards, Esq. Xmas and New Year's Week Vacant for this funny musical show, which is funnier than any pantomime. DICKIE CLARE, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

"BLUEBELL IN FAIRYLAND."

Mr. Edward Graham Falcon
has secured the entire rights from
Messrs. Gatti and Frohman,
and has purchased the
No. 1 Production
from Messrs. Murray King and Clark.
WANTED, Theatres, Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, and Good Theatre not doing pantomime for four weeks at Christmas.
Managers send Spring Dates.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

PHIL HERMAN'S FRITZ COMPANY.
WANTED, July 9 and 16.
Address, to-day, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury;
next week,
The King's Theatre, Longsight, Manchester.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above success, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 12, 19.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, King's, Glasgow.

COLLEY-DRYDEN COMPANY.
WANTED, Dramatic Theatres (twice nightly preferred), by the finest Variety Company on the road. Vacant July 9, onwards, with exceptions. Can only entertain first-class theatres. All coms., LEO DRYDEN, St. James' T., Manchester.

"AS GOOD AS GOLD,"
Mr. Samuel James's Enormous Success.
WANTED, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, 29, Nov. 12, 26, and few dates only in 1907.
An Attraction that will Pack Every Theatre it Visits.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
WANTED, July 9, 16, Aug. 6. Enormous Success, Fourth Visit to Oxford.
Also. "THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
Superb Cast, Exquisitely Dressed, Numerous Mystic Effects. Either or both Plays.
Wire, to-day, LOIE ESMOND, Empire, Oxford.
July 2, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley (fourth visit).

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Xmas Week, on, with exceptions.
FRED. BULMER (Vacation add.), Care of "The Era."

WANTED, July 9, for "A Woman's Redemption." Magnificent scenery, printing, and cast. JAMES HARE, to-day, Gaiety, Burnley; next, T. R., Stratford.

"THE WOMAN WHO GAMBLES."
WANTED, Dates, for this Magnificent Production, playing to excellent business, in spite of tropical heat.
No finer Romantic Play been Produced for years.
Refer Mr. Broadhead, Manchester; Mr. Rowe, Newcastle; or any Theatre visited.
Wanted, Sept. 3, 10, Oct. 1.
MORTON POWELL,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

WANTED, Theatres, Mr. Allan Wilkie, supported by Miss Iné Cameron and Mr. G. Alexander Marsh (late leading man with the Osmond Tearle Co.), in a Répertoire of Shakespearean and Standard Dramas. Vacant Aug. 20 (North), Sept. 3 (North), Oct. 22 (Midlands), and onwards, with exceptions. WILKIE, 28, Oxford-gardens, W.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, between Sept. 3 and Nov. 5 inclusive, for Mr. Harry Nicholls and Company, in a Special Attraction.
Wire or write, MACDONA,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 30 and Aug. 6.
FRANK E. BURDETT,
161, Chesterfield-road, Sheffield.

"THE STREETS OF LONDON."
"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above success, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 12, 19.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, King's, Glasgow.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates,
Aug. 6, 13 (to precede Grand, Brighton), 27 (to follow), various on (Midlands).
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S,"
"MIDDLEMAN" and "SAINTS,"
Sept. 24, Oct. 1 (North).
"HEIRESS" and "VERDICT,"
Sept. 24 (follow Shields), various on.
"QUEEN VILLAINY,"
including Miss Edith Bland.
This, Crown, Peckham; next, T. R., Leicester.
July 9 open (precede Queen's, Manchester), Aug. 6, various on.
Letters, Metropole, Glasgow.
Wires, "Jefferson, Glasgow."

"THE DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, for this Magnificent Production, Aug. 6, 20, 27, and onwards. The Company is of such all-round excellence that I can guarantee Good Business at any Theatre. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S REPERTOIRE CO.,
"THE HEART OF A HERO,"
"THE OCTOROON,"
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN,"
"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, July 30, Aug. 6, 13, and onwards. L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S MASCOT,
"THE POWER OF THE CROSS."
WANTED, Known, Managers desirous of making money should book this Splendid Production. Vacant Sept. 3, 24, and Nov. 5.
L. CARSON, Keighley.

"BABES IN THE WOOD."
A Production that will be Second to None Touring. Beautiful Dresses, and, above all, a Company of Carefully-selected Artists.
WANTED, Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 18. Can only entertain first-class theatres for this undoubted success. Address, L. CARSON, Keighley.

LINGFORD CARSON'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Managers to kindly Note that all the above Plays are beautifully staged and well played, and any production not satisfactory to the resident management, I shall take it as a personal favour if they will acquaint me immediately, so that I may have an opportunity of rectifying same.—Faithfully yours, LINGFORD CARSON.

WANTED, Aug. 20, 27, Sept. 17, 24, Nov. 26, for Mr. Samuel James's Great Production of the World-famous Drama,
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."
Mr. James is not at liberty to book Stockport, Hull, Leeds, Bradford, Manchester, and Sheffield, or Scotland, as Mr. John Wainwright had booked these towns prior to his contract with Mr. James.
Address, F. S. JENNINGS,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatre, for Witty Wattie Walton (in his original part) and Strong Company, in above success, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, 29, Nov. 12, 19.
Wire, EDWARD MARRIS, King's, Glasgow.

WANTED, Managers of Halls, Piers, and Theatres (London or South Coast preferred), wanting Strong Attraction for Bank Holiday and onwards, to send dates in immediately to
WALTER McEWEN,
10, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.,
for the Production of
"THE CORNISH GIRL,"
by E. C. Arden,
Music by Clement Locknane and Jullien H. Wilson.
An entirely New and Original Historical and Romantic Opera of the Fifteenth Century.
A Play of Pageantry, Pastoral and Spectacular Effect. Company of 50, Full London Chorus, Troupe of Dancers, Male Quartette, Maypole Dances, Morris Dances, Stately and Rustic Dances.
Act I.—An Orchard in Cornwall.
Act II.—Old Temple Bar.
The Opera will be preceded by a Superior Vaudeville Entertainment, consisting of Musical Sketches, &c., which may be varied.
N.B.—Send full particulars, and dimensions of stage. Terms, on Share, Certainty, or Rental.

COLLEY-DRYDEN COMPANY.
WANTED, Variety Theatres (twice nightly preferred), by the finest Variety Company on the road. Vacant July 9, onwards, with exceptions. Can only entertain first-class theatres. All coms., LEO DRYDEN, St. James' T., Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls, July 9, 16, for Henry Kemble's, Manager, Palace, Cork, Star Vaudeville Co., including Three Richards, Bertha Stuart, Rappo and Ella, Malie La Blanche, Sylvia, Hippograph, The Petrams.
Only recognised Houses Entertained.

Address,
HENRY KEMBLE,
Temperance Hall, Northampton.

WANTED, good Theatres or Halls, Share or Rent, for the British Empire Photo and Variety Company. July 16, 23, Aug. 6, onwards. Re-booked at every place visited this season. Wire or write, MANAGER, B. E. Co., this week, Opera House, Workington; next week, H. M. T., Barrow.

ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Romantic Juvenile Leading Actor, tall and good voice; good Responsible Actor, to combine Acting-management; heavy Responsible Actor, combine Assistant Stage-Management; must be robust and tall; Light Comedian; Baggage-man, to take charge of scenery and play small-part parts. MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

WANTED, Ladies, for Bluebell, Fairy Queen, small child (over 14), Chorus, good Comedians for Blob and King, must sing and dance well. No notice will be taken unless age, height, lowest terms, ladies' photos., and full particulars are forwarded.
E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Artists to complete cast for Autumn Tour, commencing July 30 (Poplar). All particulars, photos., E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 2, Sunnyside-terrace, Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Tall Character Actor, also Juvenile Gentleman, Low Comedian, and Chambermaid, joint, sing and dance, own speciality preferred. Rehearse about July 14. Those North preferred. Full particulars and photos. to S., care of Moody Bros., Needless-alley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Smart Low Comedian, for Pat, must have good brogue, sing two songs; also young, petite, pretty Chambermaid, to double Rosie and Call Boy; rehearse Jarrow, Wednesday next. Lowest terms, recent photos. STUART CLEVELAND, 124, Albert-road, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

FISHER POCKET OPERA CO.
WANTED, Grand Opera, Principal Baritone, immediately and autumn; must have played the Répertoire.
Write,
Westwood Lodge, Wood-lane, W.

WANTED, Good-looking Young Girls, and Men with Knowledge of the Stage, who can wear Evening Dress, tall people not required; also Young Lady to Play Part, must have good Stage Experience, and be young, good-looking, and not over 5ft. 2in. in height.
Apply Tuesday, between 1 and 2, to
WARNER and Co., 20, Wellington-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists, for Saturday, July 14, for New Gaiety Theatre, Leith. State terms at once, TULLY, 39, Primrose-street, Leith.

"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
WANTED, Aristocratic Old Lady (tall preferred), with Child over 14; must be joint. Send photos., refs., and lowest salary, to ROBERT PERRIS, Church Hill, Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales.

WANTED, Clever Actress or Actor, at once. Advertiser can arrange long tour with successful drama, playing first-class theatres. Bonus required. Particulars to G., 58, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, for 2½ weeks, Seaside, July 12, Lady for Singing Part, and Two Dancers. F. JARMAN, 21, Granville-place, W.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Immediately First-class Child Actress, over 14 years of age;
also Aristocratic Heavy Man, and Juvenile Lady;
Autumn Tour.
Rehearse next week Barrow-in-Furness.
Address,
FRED L. CONNYNGHAME,
Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

"THE COAL KING."
CHARLES VERNEY'S TOUR.
WANTED, First-Class Juvenile, also Gentlemanly Heavy.
Age, height, and enclose photo.
CHARLES VERNEY, care of "The Era."

"SAPHO."
WANTED, to complete Cast, really good Juvenile Leading Gent., for Jean. Address, with last two references, &c., JAMES BELL, Cleator, Cumberland.

WANTED, Gentleman, to play Small Parts; also Character and Responsibles. W. HOWARD ASHLEY, Montpellier Gardens, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Powerful Leading Man, to rehearse Crown Theatre, Peckham, Tuesday, July 3. Open Cardiff, 9th. LEICESTER-JACKSON, Greenisland, Belfast.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, for Autumn Tour, Character Heavy Actor. Apply, with full particulars and lowest terms, to
LEONARD DALRYMPLE, 188, Hammersmith-road, W.

WANTED, several Amateurs, small parts and understudy, tour London success; small premium. Salary commence. Age, height, particulars, Box 3,413, "The Era."

WANTED, one or two Amateurs to walk on and understudy in Shakespearean and Classical Répertoire. WILKIE, 28 Oxford-gardens, W.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, with good Voices, for London production and tour. Apply between 10 and 2 daily. HALLICK and MARSDEN, 44, Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, First Tenor and Basso, for Male Quartette, Vaudeville, must be steady, abstainers preferred; salary £3 per week and fares paid. Open July 30; rehearse week previous. Age, height, compass, photo. if possible, to
MANAGER,
22, Blomfield-road,
Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, First-class Tenor, Seaside Concert Party, experience, refinement necessary. Apply at once, WOOD, 38, Ramsden-rd., Balham, S.W.

WANTED, very deep Contralto, young, excellent appearance and education. High-class Concert Party; long engagement. Photos., particulars, ALEXANDER, Tenby.

WANTED, Boy Vocalist, Soprano, also Boy or Girl who can play either Violin, Mandoline, or Cornet. P. CLIFTON, Deganwy, N. Wales.

AUDITION CO., LTD., 10, Bedford-chambers, Covent Garden, W.C
WANTED, Artists requiring Engagements and Managers requiring Artists to communicate immediately. No fees of any kind. Audition free. Sole Proprietors of the "Gazekas."

WANTED, Dramatic Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, the Stanford Quartette, on Tour, Kursaal, Bexhill-on-Sea. For terms and vacant autumn and winter dates, Mr. LLOYD STANFORD, 11, Pennard-road, Shepherd's Bush, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Contralto, Experienced, very large répertoire, able to play piano. MARJORIE IRVINE, c/o Mrs. Lavender, Brent-st., Hendon.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Artists Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for London and Provincial Pantomimes, Chorus, Small-Part, and Show Ladies, good salaries paid. Apply (with photograph in costume), Tuesday and Friday 2 to 3. EDWARD CRANSTON (second floor), Rule's, Maiden-lane.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words. Sixpence.

WANTED, by The Three Cheers, Original Speciality, "Dick Whittington," introducing real Performing Cat. Wire, CHEERS, Post Office, Swindon.

WANTED, by The Buchanan Bros., England's Greatest Patterers, in their up-to-date Comedy Act; good Panto., Ruffians preferred. Address, 3, Clarence-street, Morecambe.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

H. and F. POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.
WANTED, Immediately, for a few Weeks, Scenic Artist, used to Myriorama Work. References and terms to
FRED POOLE, Burnham, Malmesbury.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, S. Beltram, at Liberty to accept Contracts. Quotations given; travelling scenery repainted, &c. Letters, The Ark Painting Rooms, Chester-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Wm. McCulloch, Scenic Artist, Sheffield, is still alive. Friends having friends wishing good work done reasonably, kindly recommend.

WANTED, by A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, Engagement, or Contract, now or autumn. Refs. excellent. Address, 20, Park-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, town or provinces. Refs. Address, 44, Randolph-gardens, Maida Vale, London.

WANTED, Contracts, for Carlyle Scenic Studio, attractive sets, effective scenes, lowest prices. W. B. ROBINSON, 170, King's-road, S.W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Manager, for First-class Music Hall; must be competent, with highest references. Investment £500, with salaried position. Genuine applicants address, "Stage," c/o Anderson's Advertising Agency, 14, King William-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Stage-Manager, for Large Music Hall in Midlands. Apply, with references, and stating salary required, Box 3,418, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man, as Advance Agent, one who has knowledge of working institutions, &c. BANVARD, Post Office, Doon, co. Limerick Ireland.

WANTED, an Electrician, for Palace Variety Theatre, Glasgow, one with knowledge of working Cinématograph. Terms, age, reference to
RICH. WALDON.

WANTED, at Once, Billposter; good wages to a steady, practical man. Apply, ROCKLEY'S, Limited, Leicester.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a thoroughly respectable Maid and Dresser, for a young Actress, one with previous experience preferred, and must be a good needlewoman. Applicants, with undoubted reference, address, stating previous employment, age, and salary expected, to Box 3,411, "The Era."

Business-Manager.
WANTED, Re-engagement, Manager, Music Hall, Theatre, Pier Pavilion, or any big Act. Thoroughly experienced in Bookings and all branches of the business; age 36.

With last firm six years; first-class references. Can open immediately.

FRANK WESTON,
43, Hollingreave-road, Burnley, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Green, the well-known Stage-Director, Comedian, and Pantomimist, is open to offers for Xmas.

Managers and Agents who call at the Walturdaw Co., 3, Dean-street, Holborn, or Cricks and Sharp, 7, Great Queen-street, Kingsway, can see him in some of his latest productions on the Cinématograph; then you can judge of an Artist of thirty years' experience.

THE STUDIO,
106, Fairholme-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by T. J. Colquhoun, late joint-lessee and manager, Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow, engagement, variety theatre, or would lease suitable building. Address, 5, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagement, James Ashworth, Advance or Acting-Management, Circus, Menagerie, Theatres, Fit-ups, or any kind of road show. 61, Rocky-lane, Aston, Birmingham.
Open to Share with first-class fit-up company.

WANTED.—Disengaged, Experienced Manager, dramatic or variety, now or autumn; 19 years' experience. MANAGER, 33, Frankhill-st., Oldham.

WANTED, Post, Secretarial or literary side theatre (permanency, not touring), literary, playwright, shorthand, typing, correspondence, all secretarial work; present with West End Club; age 25. Box 3,406, "The Era."

WANTED, by Alf. George, Engagement as Master Carpenter, 9 years Grand Theatre, Islington; good references. 3, Remington-street, London, E.C.

WANTED, Engagement as Bill Inspector or position of trust, late Bill Inspector for Mr. Lewis Waller. 9, Cato-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Known, Billposter requires situation High-ladderman; good references. Apply, J. PRIESTLEY LOCKE, 106, St. Hugh-road, Anerley.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Situation, in Box Office or Bar, in theatre or music hall, ten years last situation, thoroughly experienced. Box 3,399, "The Era."

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
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WANTED, First-class Pianist-Conductor; must be able to combine other instrument; young, good appearance, sober. Send refs., photo., age, lowest terms, to SEEBOLD, Theatre, Worthing.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
WANTED, to open July 23, really good First Violinist, Pianist, and Solo Cornettist, permanency to good men.
Address, with full particulars,
JAMES BELL, Cleator, Cumberland.

WANTED, First-Class Violinist, to act as Conductor when required; also Cornet Player and Double Bass Player, for Autumn Season (Aug. 5). Apply, with terms and references, to MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Young Lady Violinist, ten months' Tour, starting July 16. State age, photo., lowest terms, first letter. LEON VINT, 124, Cauncestreet, Blackpool.

WANTED, two good First Violins and Bassoon, for seven weeks, Seaside, commencing July 30. Send lowest terms, age, and reference. Box 3,412, "The Era."

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Manager, HENRY BOWMAN.
WANTED, to Augment Orchestra, Commencing July 9, Good First Violin. Terms and references to above.

WANTED, for Hanneford's Circus, Tenting Ireland, good reliable First Cornet, to join at once. Wire, METCALFE, Leader. Sat., Newtownstewart; Monday, Strabane, Ireland.

WANTED, Good Clarionet, for three weeks, Seaside, South Coast. Terms, £2 10s. per week. CLARIONET, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Viola, combine Third French Horn, for Military Band, July 2 to end of Sept.; uniform. State terms. VINCE, St. Leonards.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Managing-Director, Mr. ROBERT ARTHUR.
WANTED, for Orchestra, competent Oboe Player, to commence Aug. 6, 1906. Apply (by letter only) with references, &c., to J. O. SHEPHERD, Musical-Director. Silence a polite negative. No stamps.

WANTED, Harpist or Guitarist, steady, to sing, Lady or Gentleman, July 7 till end Sept. Terms, shares. MONTAGUE, Talbot Hotel, Blackpool.

WANTED, Flute, Three Months' Engagement, commencing July 16; also 'Cello, eight weeks' engagement, commencing Aug. 6. Apply, with references, terms, &c., J. D. HUNTER, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, Flute and Clarionet, 9 weeks, start July 16.
BANDMASTER, Laxey, Isle of Man.

JOSEPH POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.
WANTED, commence Aug. 6, Flute and Piccolo, Double Bass, and Cornet; must assist with Fittings when travelling. Terms and refs. to F. MAYER, Verona, Malmesbury, Wilts.

WANTED, Open Monday, Smart Accompanist (vocalist preferred), also Baritone and Tenor, for high-class al fresco. Applicants Note.—Must be young and refined, and good répertoire. Wire or call, MANAGER, 62, Dundonald-road, Wimbledon.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Male Attendant, Pianist or First Violin preferred.
Apply,
stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to
THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, Young Pianist, perhaps Wife (Vocalists), July 16, read, transpose, accompany well. Photos., terms, refs., MANAGER, 46, Egerton-street, New Brighton.

WANTED, Brilliant Solo Pianist, well up in Dramatic Business and M.S. Sight-reader. Permanent engagement to a thoroughly capable and reliable man. Address, Mr. E. POTTS, Opera House, Dunfermline.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE ASYLUM, FULBOURN, near CAMBRIDGE.

WANTED, Male Attendant, Musician preferred.
Apply,
stating age and height, and enclosing copies of testimonials, to
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, at the Asylum.

WANTED, First-Class Ladies' Band (ten to twelve performers), Aug. 17, Lancashire.

Write, with full particulars,
DALTON'S Agency,
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Several Musicians, to complete Orchestra, including First-class 'Cello and Flautist; all must be capable of playing Opera. Address, with lowest terms and late references, C. M JULIAN, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

WANTED, Bandsmen for Ocean Steamers, Pleasure Yachts, and Seaside, Pianists, Violins, Flutes, Clarionets, String Bass, 'Cello, Cornets, and Buglers, should apply Monday evening, 6 p.m., at
HETHERINGTON'S, 163A, Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTED.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words (each additional Six Words Sixpence) is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of "The Era" Advert. Dept.,
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, Michael Connelly, Musical-Director, engaged by Jules Richeux, Esq., Pavilion, Ramsgate. Enormous success, with own First-class Band.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director (Violin), thoroughly experienced; highest credentials. CHAS. P. FOX, 69, Childers-st, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagement, Conductor, Violin, any Business, at Lib. July 2, through closing. GEO. ROBERTSHAW, Conductor, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, by Bandmaster (Diploma), late Yeomanry and Volunteers, appointment, temporary or permanent. Bands found for Trainings. Own Instruments and Music. Box 3,398, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Leader or First Violin, summer or permanency, Liberty through closing, any business. First-class refs. LEADER, 16, Latham-st., Bolton.

WANTED, Immediate Engagement by Pianist-Conductor; excellent refs. and testimonials; experienced in all lines. COLLINGS, 25, Thomaston-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical-Director (Violin), thoroughly experienced in Variety business; good refs.; 5 years last engagement. THOS. RICHARDSON, 20, Woodhouse-street, Hyde Park, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director, Disengaged, terms moderate, ten years' London variety experience, violinist, pianist, &c., tho roughly reliable.
Box 3,416, "The Era."

WANTED, by George Hill, Engagement, as Conductor or Pianist, commencing July 9, on completion of 14 months' comfortable tour with R. Silvester, Esq., strictly steady and thoroughly competent, any business, good arranger, theatre or music hall preferred. Address, 116, Laygate-lane, South Shields.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, two First Violins, Bass, Piano, and Cornet, exceptional references. Wire or write, COOPER, Conductor, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class Violinist, thoroughly experienced in variety, &c., reliable, best refs. Wire or write, BERT M. STONE, Leader, Empire, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, good Violinist, any business; good refs. G. W., 132, Bolton-street, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement by Violin, can combine Clarionet, any business; good references. H. SMITH, 14, Princes-sq., Kennington Park, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Violinist at Liberty to accept any Engagement; also good Conductor and Leader. Box 3,401, "The Era."

WANTED, by good Violin Leader, Engagement. S. ALTMANN, 21, Foley-street, Upper Marylebone-street, London, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Two Musicians, Violin, combine Piano, other Cornet, experienced all lines. Apply, HOPKINS, 14, Humberstone-gate, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Violinist and 'Cellist (ladies), well experienced. Address, L., 2, County-grove, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by Violin and Viola, Engagement, through Theatre closing, in or out town; would deputise; reliable. VIOLINIST, 81, Broadway, London Fields.

WANTED, by Violinist, reliable, experienced, Engagement, season or permanent; good refs. C. LISTER, Crimsworth-terrace, Hebden Bridge.

WANTED.—Cornet, at Liberty, wants Shop, first or second, any business, sober, reliable. Apply, CORNET, 94, Wyndham-road, Salisbury.

WANTED, by Cornet, Situation, experienced, any business. CORNET, 45, College-road, Kensal Rise, W.

WANTED, by Cornet, Experienced, Engagement, Variety or otherwise. Refs. SAM FLETCHER, 13, Boothen Old-road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagement, through closing, Gent. Solo Cornet and Lady Pianist, together or separate. Experienced. Wire or write, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Cornet, can join immediately, best of refs. Address, F. R., St. James's Hall, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet, or Second Violin, after Saturday next. Address, CORNET, Pavilion Theatre, Greenock.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cornet, Repiano or Second. Excellent testimonials. F. BAKER, 2, Sunnyside-road, Sandgate.

WANTED, Engagement, as reliable First or Second Cornet; can join at once. Address, CORNET, 7, Stone-street, Hastings.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Cornet, sober and reliable, any business; good refs. J. ALLAN, 1, Buckland-street, New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, as Cornet Player, Orchestral or Military; experienced, steady. JAMES WHITFIELD, South Cottage, Lansdowne-road, Worcester.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-rate Clarionet Soloist, fully capable of solo, military or orchestral, just concluding long tour. Address, J. R. GARDNER, Public Hall, Newbridge, Mon.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, Military or String. C. STEAD, 1, Beaufort-buildings, Pittville, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet, Disengaged July 21, Orchestral or Military; refs. ONSLOW, Lonsdale Band, Jepson-gardens, Leamington.

WANTED, by Reliable Clarionettist, Military or Orchestral Engagements, at Liberty July 1 to Aug. 5. JOHNSON, 23, Bengal-st, W. Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, as Clarionet, String or Military, Seaside or Permanent, steady and reliable. Address, BATEMAN, Hascombe, Godalming, Surrey.

WANTED, by experienced Clarionettist (combine Violin), permanent or Summer Engagement; steady, reliable; can open at once. CLARIONET, 94, Castle-street, Luton.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement, Orchestral or Military, about eight weeks; splendid references; good Solo repertoire. HARRY RICHARDSON, 37, Eden-street, Kettering.

WANTED, Known, Disengaged June 30, Open to Engagement, Double Bass, and E flat Bombardon, late Staff Band. NORRIS, 35, Bellefields-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by E flat Bass, situation, permanent or otherwise; good reader. Refs., &c. F. B., 33, Grange-road, Southall, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Double Bass, any Business. Satisfaction guaranteed. BASSO, 1, Buckland-st., New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Trombone, London or Provinces, or good Seaside, any business; young and sober. ALBERT MATTHEWS, Trombone, Oadby, Leicester.

WANTED, Engagement, by W. J. Smith, Trombonist, any Business, at Liberty July 9. Address, Hippodrome, Southampton.

WANTED, by Experienced Trombone, Engagement, at Liberty July 7. Address, HIBBS, Band 3rd Yorks., Racecourse, Richmond, Yorkshire.

WANTED, by experienced Trombonist, sober and reliable, any business; highest refs. Apply, TROMBONE, 33, Elgar-st., Longsight, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone; could commence at once. GASCOIGNE, 112, Penshurst-road, Thornton Heath, Croydon.

WANTED, Engagement, by Trombone, any business, excellent references, or would deputise. METCALFE, 159, Lower-rd., Rotherhithe, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, as Trombone, from July 1, late Military, any Business. Address, COOKE, Trombone, New Theatre, 28, Union-road, Cambridge.

WANTED, by E flat Bombardon, season or permanent; experienced and reliable; undeniable references. J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-street, Cheltenham, Gloucester.

WANTED, Work in Factory, or Works Band, by Baritone, Bass, Drums, Euphonium, Horns, or Trombone; or would take Bandmaster's place. Address MUSICIAN, 61, Corrance-road, Brixton.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice for Little Girl on 'Cello; also Good Engagements for 'Cellist. Mr. CASSELLE, 35, Granville-sq., King's Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, by experienced 'Cellist, Deputising, any business.
FLETCHER, 100, Bishopsgate-street Without.

WANTED, Engagement, by 'Cellist, thoroughly experienced, well up in any business; would also deputise. 51, Cleveland-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Oboeist; excellent refs. Start at once. J. H. FIELD, 39, Camberwell-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-Class Oboist, seven seasons with Moody-Manners Opera Co. MCDONAGH, 107, Charlmont-rd., Lower Tooting, London, S.W.

WANTED, by Maud Estlin Grundy (age 18), Harpist, Hotel Cecil, London, Four Times; Three Months, Court Theatre, Liverpool; Three Months, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth; &c.—7, Provost-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Fortescue, LL.C.M., Harp Soloist, Albert and Queen's Hall, accepts Engagements for Concerts, At Homes, Receptions, Herself or Concert Party. Pupils received, Harp, Pianoforte. 24, Waldemar-mans., Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, any Business; steady and reliable. Join at once. FLAUTIST, 244, Mitcham-road, Tooting.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute Player, summer season. Address,
A. WILLIAMS, c/o P.O., Swainswick, near Bath.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo Sololist, Engagement; good répertoire of Solos; young and steady. S. HURN, 9, Upper Aberdyberthi, Swansea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo, thoroughly experienced in all Lines; London or Suburbs preferred. Box 3403, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Flute and Piccolo, summer or permanency, reliable, any business. Excellent refs. D. NEEDHAM, 76, Marlboro'-rd., Bedford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Flute and Piccolo; well up in Variety Business. F. BROUGHTON, 3, Montague-villas, Horncastle-road, Boston.

WANTED, by Pianist, combine 'Cello, Engagement, for hotel, ballroom, &c.; could supply small band. Good refs. Address, Box 3,408, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Pianist, Experienced, orchestral, dance, or concert, Liberty July 8 till Sept., abstainer. GARNER, 55, Richmond-road, Barnsbury, N.

WANTED, Engagement, through Closing, by Good Pianist, can combine clarionet, good refs., sober and reliable. PIANIST, 3, Mill-st., Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Variety Pianist, Halls, Pierrots, &c. 9 years' Pianist-Conductor, Palace, Portsmouth. Has most powerful 5-octave portable organ ever built. LORENZO LEWIS, 744, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement, by reliable Tympanist and Double Drummer, own instruments; ten years last shop. D. W. HALL, 33, South-view, Millstone-hill, Swallownest, near Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagement, by Competent Double Drummer, with full effects, thorough business man. Address, DRUMMER, c/o Poole's, Newbridge, Monmouthshire, South Wales.

WANTED, Engagements, Double Drums and Effects, for Concerts, Oratorios, Conversaziones, &c.; abstainer; good references. CRYER, 34, Myrtle-place, Bingley, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums and Effects, any business, Liberty now, thoroughly experienced, sober and reliable. HAYES, 165, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, reliable and experienced. D. D., 49, Manor-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement as Drummer, have Double Drums, Tympani, and Effects; good reference. Address, W. S. MILLS, 136, Ashford-street, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent

WANTED, Known, for Lady Instrumentalists and Bands. Apply, Bureau, 8, Bedford-ter., Kensington. Bookings Johannesburg, Jan. to July; Quartet now Disengaged.

WANTED, Known, Miss Nellie Rennison's Ladies' String Quintette (or part), Liberty July 28, played together 2 years. DERWENT, Station-road, Harborne, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency (Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company) can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Tel. address, "Amuse, Manchester"; Telephone, 6489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, W.C.; Tel. address, "Amusologia, London"; 'Phone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-st., Glasgow. Tel. 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, for Fêtes and Galas, Aug. 6, near Birmingham, Wire-walkers, Bar Performers, Comic Jugglers, Acrobats, in fact anything suitable for outdoor; those doing two Acts write, stating lowest terms, to LEMPRIERE and GREEN, Midland Caterers. 70 Holloway-head, Birmingham.

WANTED, Experienced Catcher, for Return Flying Trapeze Act; also some horizontal bar tricks; must be single, and of gentlemanly appearance. State tricks caught and previous experience; must catch doubles, and twisting tricks.
Address, with photo.,
THREE FLYING EUGENES,
11, Blagdon-street, Lewisham, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Smart Youth; must be a good Tumbler. Full particulars, age, height, salary expected. Address, Box 3,419, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Lady who can do a little Trapeze Work. Address with particulars, Box ????, "Era."

WANTED, Circus Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Known, John Henry Cooke's Herd of Diving Reindeer and Stud of Plunging Horses, will be at Liberty on July 2.
Proprietors or Managers having water 10ft. deep please write.
JOHN HENRY COOKE,
Circus,
Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lion Show, Vacant
July 2, 9, 16, and Aug. 13.
Com., 24, Overy-street, Dartford, Kent.

WANTED, Circus and Hippodrome Proprietors, Managers, Agents, &c., to Note that the Sisters Ohmy, greatest acrobatic bareback somersault three-horse riders will be at Liberty till the opening of the Coliseum, London, including Claude Ohmy, the greatest circus rider in the world. Great success at the Tower Circus, Blackpool. The talk of Blackpool. Re-engaged by particular desire. For full particulars, address, CLAUDE OHMY, Tower Circus, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, that we Play Europe by Permit from American Managers. Zampo and Clown, in "Rebounding," a humorous long-distance somersault bar canvas to bar lifting act. Touring with Messrs. Lord John Sanger, Ltd. Vacancies December. Represented by FRED NEIMAN, or letters direct to 168, Beresford-st., Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), eccentric tumbling, talking, and knock-about clown and entrées, Lib. July 2. 41, Lavan-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, &c., The Holmars, Comic Acrobatic Boxing Clowns, &c.; Alex and Jolly, Comedy Three-Bar Act; two First-class Clean Turns. Booked for June 30, Leeds, Burley Carnival; July 2, Guildford Fête; July 12, Grimsby Fête, &c. Address, 13, Westfield-terrace, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, smartest of all gymnastic Pot Pourri Acts, July 16.
Address,
Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Devoras Brothers, Gymnasts, Vacant for a few dates, three distinct acts, away from others, fêtes, galas, circuses. Coms., 58, White Hart-st., Kennington Park-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Quaintest Three-bar Comedians, Regent, Salford, Lib. July 2, 9. Wire. After, 126, Porter-st., Hull.

WANTED, Known, Bert Leonard Trio, Society Acrobats and Equilibrists, now on Tour. Success everywhere. Communications, 130, Magdalen-road, Norwich.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, &c., The Sisters Rizareli, in a Novel Trapeze Act; also The Recars, Acrobats. Two distinct acts. 3, Bowdon-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, Madame Leoville, Tight Wire and Rolling Globe; also Æolia, Trapeze Artist. Three distinct acts. Liberty Galas, Aug. Bank Holiday. 21, Granby-st., Devonport.

WANTED, Galas in August, by Mlle. Bartenelli, Aerial Contortionist and Gymnast; also The Boultons, Comedy Act. Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Bearer, Catcher, or Second; can Tumble. Can join at once. F. LEGLERE, 3, Beauty-av., Lemington-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Offers for Miss Beatrice Kerr, Australia's Champion Swimmer and Diver, along with her latest Sensational Acts. Just finished tour through Australia. Gave 366 performances at Prince's Court, Melbourne. S. REDMOND, 33, Hare Hill-road, Littleborough, Lancs.

WANTED, Secretaries of Sports, Flower Shows, Fêtes, &c., to Know that they can always ensure Big Gates by engaging Lieut. Lemprière, the popular, reliable Aeronaut, for Balloon Ascents and Parachute Descents. Parachute Races between Lieut. Lemprière and his charming Lady Pupils (3 in number) will draw vast crowds where all other Attractions fail.
LEMPRIERE, Handsworth, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
WANTED, Refined Variety Artists, all classes, to work three Halls, one night only (Saturdays), during Season, from Sept. 1, 1906, to March 23, 1907. Vacant dates and lowest terms to WM. BIGGAM, Mus.-Sec., 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Specialities, Aug. 6 onwards; Punch and Judy, Aug. 9; Lincolnshire. Terms, bookings, lithos., EDGAR STEBBINGS, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telephone, 09261; telegrams "Stebbing."

SCARBOROUGH.
WANTED July 9, and onwards, Variety Artists in all Lines. Full particulars, with permanent address (if any) to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Artists, all Lines, for immediate dates. Please state in first instance absolutely lowest terms, to save correspondence. Messrs. STANHOPE and Co., LTD., 63, Regent-street, W. Telephone 6070 Gerrard. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED Variety Artists, in all Lines, July 9, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

THE GARDNER-BROWN VAUDEVILLE COMPANIES, INDIA.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Leo Montague has been appointed sole Business Representative for the above companies, and will be in England during July and August for the purpose of engaging Artists for Season 1906-7.
Wanted,
Soubrettes, Ballad Vocalists, Sisters, Small Sketch Parties, Musical Acts, and good Novelty turns.

Terms: Nine Months' Engagement, fares out and home, salaries paid during the voyage, hotel and all travelling expenses paid during Engagement, to leave London end of August.

Apply,
LEO MONTAGUE,
Care of "The Era."

WANTED, Artists, Wanted, Artists, for
Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit.
Immediate trial weesk at
Sheffield and Leicester.
Successful Artists can be booked for sixteen weeks.

Write or call,
J. W. JOHNSON,
Variety and Speciality Agent,
86, Waterloo-road.

WANTED, Artists for Australia. Artists for India. Actual lowest, and full particulars in each case, where can be seen working next three or four weeks; three Star Turns for England, July 9 and 16.
GEO. AYTOUN, Agent,
22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1949 Hop.

GLASGOW CONCERTS.
WANTED, refined Artists, suitable for above. Lowest terms to THE SCOTTISH MUSICAL AGENCY, 107, George-street, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates.
WILLIAM MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, for Pierrot Troupe, Double-handed People pref.; also Portable and Violin. Open July 9. Terms shares.
DAGMAR, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, Artists, Single and Double Turns, two weeks, July 9, 23. CHARLES A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artists, for Immediate and Future Bookings. Full particulars, &c., GALWAY AGENCY, 16, Derby-street, Failsworth.

WANTED, Artists Known to me to Keep me Fully Posted from week to week. FRANK LYNNE, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, for the Littlehampton Promenade Concerts, for Al-fresco work, high-class. Apply, FRED SPENCER, Maxwelton, Littlehampton

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, from now onwards. Apply,
Mr. J. J. SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Al-fresco Artists, July 2, and onwards, Promenade, Hartlepool, Doubles doing Singles. Wire, absolute lowest terms, ALLNUTT, 25, Middlegate-street, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Artists, in all Lines, Benefit. Lowest terms,
LOUIS J. BEARD, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, July 2, on. Send lowest terms and bookings, FRED DURHAM'S Agency, 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Al Fresco Artists, for Prichard's Pierrots, Kinver (Stourbridge), and Palace, Oldbury. Baritone and good pianist write, PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for various Towns. Sharing terms. HARRY KARDOC, Monday, T. R., Dover. Artists who have written before write again.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME CO., LTD.
WANTED, Agents and Artists to please Note that from Dec. 23, 1904, no Contract will be recognised unless signed by the Secretary and Manager.
T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager.
G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.

WANTED, Known, Palace, Lancaster, closed for alterations; re-open Sept. 3. Proprietor and Manager, Mr. JOHN FELL. Required, Artists all lines.

WANTED, Known, the Palace, Sheerness, closes Saturday, June 30, for alterations and redecorations. Due notice will be given of re-opening. REYMOND.

WANTED, Known.—Artists, Friends, and Agents who have written to us and not received reply, please Note, We thank you for your letters, but cannot answer all. Please accept our best wishes for a very Successful Season.
The Dayton Family,
Palace of Varieties,
Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal Monday, 11 o'clock, Pier Pavilion, Southend, for "The Collar Stud," Alberto, A. Wallis, E. Richards, J. Raymond, Le Clair's Bioscope, C. Sharpley.

WANTED, Stars, Stars, Stars, immediate and onward dates.
Send full list, Bookings, Terms, &c., to
JESS VERNO,
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone 2076 Royal.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to BROOKS'S Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY,
138, Denmark-hill, London, S.E.
WANTED, by Henri Cazman's Agency, Star Turns, July 9, 16, 23, St. Helens, Warrington, Accrington, my own Companies, splendid opportunity. See New Acts. Can always book Big Features and Novel Specialities. Big Turns for Special Watering-places wanted. Full particulars, bookings, and lowest terms, London and country, lithos., &c., &c., HENRI CAZMAN, 156, Islington, Liverpool.

GOUROCK PAVILION.
WANTED, Comedy Turns, Speciality Artists, one or two weeks' Engagement.
H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Sound Attractions,
July 9 and 16 (North).
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
G. and F. PEEL,
Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
WANTED, Sept., Oct., and onward, Big Specialities, Star Comedians, Ballad Vocalists, Jugglers, &c.
Lowest terms, lithos., &c., to
HENRY KEMBLE,
North-Western Hotel, Northampton.

THE PAGODA,
LITTLEHAMPTON-ON-SEA
(between Portsmouth and Brighton).
WANTED, for Littlehampton Original Promenade Al Fresco Concerts (stage 36 by 20), Specialities for Aug. and Sept.
State full particulars, time Acts last, lithos., lowest terms, and vacant dates, to
Sole Proprietor, HARRY JOSEPH.

THE ALBEMARLE SYNDICATE,
Variety Agents,
157, Strand, London, W.C.
Telephone, 4957 Gerrard. Telegraphic Address, "Templify, London." Bankers, London & County.
WANTED, Known, Harry Leamar, in spite of tropical weather, is still booking novelties for home and abroad.
Hurry up, Proprietors and Managers in want of Tarro Myaki, the Jiu-jitsu Wrestler (nuff said), Geo. Harvey's Eight Handsome Girls, in Hand Ball Game, Ella's Lions, the Only and Original, and Beautiful and Charming Yvonne, in Tabloid Turns (title reg.).
Can Accept Few Immediate Dates.
First-class Establishments only Entertained.
All particulars, apply,
HARRY LEAMAR, Business-Manager, as above.

WANTED, Variety Novelties, Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. 164, Meadow-st., Alexandra Park, Manchester.

WANTED, Novelties, Jugglers, Performing Animals, Comedians, and Specialities, Al Fresco, Summer Season. Full particulars, BENSON, Bandstand, Douglas, I. of M.

HIPPODROME, WEST BROMWICH.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Aug. 6, onwards; Share or Certainty, with or without own combination. Apply,
J. DE FRECE, 178, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, for Galas, Bristol, Big Acts, Novelties, July 21, 25, Aug. 6, Sept. 10. Terms, lithos., WOOD, Caterer, Cheese-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Acts, in all Lines. Send full list of bookings and lowest terms, MARTINO'S Agency, 125, Barcroft-street, Grimsby.

THE ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
SANDGATE, KENT.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. HARRY BENET.
WANTED, First-class Combinations must have big Tops and Bottoms. Terrific success of Fred Southern's company this week; good terms to good people. Write for Oct., on.

WANTED, First-Class Variety Combinations, Stars, on Shares, Artists all lines, July 9, 23, Aug. 6. GEO. SAPHRINI, Lessee and Manager, Palace, Boston.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Bury, First-class Variety Combinations, July 9, 23, and 30.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

Leo Montague.
WANTED, Good Talent, Known to Me. Write immediately, c/o "The Era."

BILSTON AL FRESCO PAVILION.
WANTED, Lady Vocalists (refined), Artists all Lines, Specialities (good musical show). HARRY BATTERSBY, Corncville House, Bilston.

WANTED, at Once, Al-fresco, Good Pianist (Vocalist), Humorist, Comedians, Baritone, Tenor, all must be able to assist in Concerted Items, Sketches, &c. Season's Engagement if suitable. State age, full particulars of abilities, refs., répertoire, and terms, which must be moderate, to P. CLIFTON, Deganwy, N. Wales.

WANTED, for the South Side of Bridlington, a good Troupe of Pierrots. For terms apply GEORGE WRIGHTSON, Thorpe-street, Bridlington.

WANTED, Serios, Comedians, and Specialities, for Aldershot. Quote absolute lowest, as work is for longer than one week if suitable. WILL AVIS, A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd., Aldershot.

WANTED, at Once, young, tall, smart Character Comedienne, must be reliable, for Music Hall Sister Act. Full particulars, Box 3,420, c/o "Era."

WANTED, Young Lady, as Assistant; experience not necessary, to Tour America for forty weeks; all fares paid. Write, with photo., particulars, to H. KARDOC, Theatre Royal, Dover.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady Dancer (Speciality), ten months' Tour, starting July 16. State age, photo., lowest terms, first letter. LEON VINT, 124, Caunce-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Experienced Comedians, to augment Troupe, open Monday. Also Juggling, Wire Acts, &c. Specialities can arrange four weeks. State actual lowest. Offers invited for Advertising Curtain. HARRY MARVELLO, Harbour Green Pavilion, Portobello.

WANTED, First-class Al Fresco Comedians, also Specialities. Full particulars and lowest terms, LEE and ARDEN, Arcadia, Dunoon, Scotland.

WANTED, Smart Comedians and Humorists, for High-Class Promenade Concerts, must be well up in concerted numbers. Lowest terms, photos., refs., &c., D'ALTON, Tebby, Salisbury.

WANTED, Comedian and Baritone, both must play piano; Al-fresco. Particulars, salary, wire, SAM MITCHELLO, Abergele, N. Wales.

WANTED, for Macgregor Henderson's Concert Co., Male Artist, double turn, pianist and vocalist preferred; commence Aug. 1. Write, 14, East Mayfield, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Short, Thin Comedian, to Burlesque Strong Man; must be light in weight. BERTISCH, 16, Cavendish-gardens, Clapham Park, S.W.

WANTED, Smart, Refined Comedian, must sing and dance. Send refs., photos., and full particulars to
Miss GRACE WARNER, Pier Pavilion, Herne Bay.

WANTED, smart Boy Comedians, Dancers, Acrobats, Actors, &c.; must be small, and over 14. CADLE'S Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for High-class Al Fresco, Good Baritone Vocalist, steady and reliable. Send photo., terms, and refs., to ROYAL MAGNETS, Barmouth, N. Wales.

WANTED, Amateurs and Beginners, for Small Music Hall (London). Terms small. Opportunity for beginners. Write, GRAHAM, 7, Salford-road, Streatham Hill.

WANTED, Monday, Bioscope, and Operator, funny pictures, St. James's Theatre, Manchester. DRYDEN, Lyceum, Eccles.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator.
BENDON,
301, Cathcart-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Small Coloured Boy, by recognised conjurer, &c., good home, three years' contract. Address, WIZARD, Aquarium, Scarboro'.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, July 16 and 23, Rose Pink, Comedy Vocalist and Top-boot and Russian Dancer. 51, Croft-avenue, Wallsend.

WANTED, Known, Illustrated Songstress, at Liberty for tour of small halls, &c., July 25. Only good offers entertained. MINSTREL, Box 3,409, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Sisters Eldine, in Refined Musical Scena, "Little Drudge," introducing barefoot dancing, Lib. July 2. Offers, 20, Church-drive, Shirebrook, Derbyshire.

WANTED, by Grosvenor Sisters (three), Harmonising Vocalists, July 2, 23, 30. Offers invited; handsome costumes. 39, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Neddy Vokes, Europe's Funniest and most Refined Musical Comedian, Liberty July 16. Permanent address, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, week commencing Aug. 6, Frank Terry, Light Comedy Artist and Speciality Sand Dancer.
Coms., c/o "The Era."

WANTED, by Rich. Greene (late Will Giddings), Light Comedy. Songs, and Dates after Aug. 30, 1906. Hampson's Pierrots, Ayr. Agent write.

WANTED, Known, W. L. Murray, in Roman Speciality Act, magnificently staged in three scenes. Wire, 373A, Battersea Park-road, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, Forest and King, Comedy Acrobatic Dancing Act (Two pieces of elastic.—Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq.); also July 23, no other vacancies this year. Re-engaged Moss and Stoll Tour.
Wire, 126, Lambeth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Mon., onwards, The Mannikins, Living Marionettes, Harry and Maud, also Double Singing and Dancing Turn. Proof of success, 1 month here. The Arcadian, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Monday next, by Ryder Davis, comedian; Eva Ward, burlesque artist. Wire, one or both, Hippodrome, Dartford, Halls or Al Fresco.

WANTED, Monday next, and July 9, by The Moncktons, in original, excuciatingly funny Musical Comedy Acts. 7, Charles-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, by Hulbert, Ventriloquist, and De Lil, Illusionist, July 16, 23. Offers invited; two first-class acts. Pleasure Pavilion, Gourock.

WANTED, by the Bros. Webb, July 9, 23, and 30.
Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Langston and Cardiff, in their smart Pot-Pourri Act of Harmony and Humour, vacant for Panto. Thanks to F. BASSO for contracts. Address, c/o Will Clifton's Yachtsmen, Margate.

WANTED, Dates, Two Clarkes, Acrobatic Globe Performers; also Comical Beano, with Mechanical Donkey. Roars of laughter; 2 distinct acts. 63, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Clark and Gold, Meeting with Great Success, at Budapest, Hungary.

WANTED, July 2, 9, by The Meltons, Pantomimists, Musicians, Eccentric Comedians, novel properties. Communications, Theatre Royal, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, by Tomps and Wells, Comedy Musical Act, Monday next. Sure success. Wire, "Honri, London." 'Phone, 1063N. 357, Holloway-road.

WANTED, unexpectedly Monday next, on, by Lead and Lead, Comedy Duettists. Singles if Required. Wire, 2, Ball-street, Ludgreshall, Hants.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Al-frescos, Pier Managers, The Calcotts (Finest Musical Dancing Act) and Amy Leggett (Comedienne), vacant July 2, 9, 16, 23; both good Specialities. Coms., Queen's Varieties, Gateshead.

WANTED, by the Henrés, July 16 and 31, Aug. 27, to follow Morecambe. Communications, Palace, Blackburn; next week, Palace, Halifax.

WANTED, Monday, July 23 and 30, also Aug. 6 and 13, by the great Li Chang-Hi, and charming assistant Chinese conjurers. Monday, July 2, Empire, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Los Granadas, free July 2, onward, for Theatres, Galas, or Sports; no fixings required. 238, Victoria-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, by The Albanos, July 2, 9, and 16.
The Albanos are the Greatest Refined Musical Act now before the Public,
including Mr. Albano, the Celebrated Harpist, and the Greatst English Concertina Soloist of the World.
Wire. Wire. Wire.
39, Newcastle-road, Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Al Fresco Engagement, by Geo. Gulliver, Ventriloquist, July 9, on; just returned from Tour, Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, and India. Address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Gulliver, Ventriloquist, will arrive in England from India to-morrow (Sunday, July 1), viâ Marseilles, Dieppe, and Newhaven. Liberty onwards. Address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, July 9, onwards, Geo. Gulliver, Ventriloquial Entertainer, novel act, splendid figures, beautifully dressed; sure success. Just finished Colonial Tour. Address, Derngate, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, the London Entertainers (five, in costume) and the I.D.K. Minstrels, in their smart and bright performances, open for engagement at flower shows, garden parties, high-class fêtes. Aug. 6 (day) open. Apply, MANAGER, 185, Upland-road, East Dulwich, S.E.

WANTED, July 23, two weeks, Aug. 20, ditto, share or salary. Mr. Harry Liston's Concert Party, St. George's Hall, London, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Capt. Gruber's
Capt. Gruber's
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
Elephant, Horse, and Pony,
the best Animal Show ever has been on a Stage.
Liberty Aug. 6, 13, 20.
July 2, PALACE, MANCHESTER.

Managers, SOMERS and WARNER.

WANTED, by Billy, the Educated Horse, July 16, 23, and 30, only vacancy this year. Address, JIMMY DE VOYE, Tower, Blackpool.

WANTED, Galas, Chard's Dog Circus, the greatest animal act in the world,
Free July 9, Aug. 6.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Sensational Dog Act, the finest troupe on the road, Liberty July 9 and 16. Post Office, Bradford.

WANTED, July 9, other Dates, Chard's Dog Circus, the Smartest, Greatest, and most Sensational Dog Act in the World. Fourteen Trick and Leaping Hounds. Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, Known, Something New at Last. The Latest Scientific Wonder. The Beautiful, Bewildering Bubble Fountain, a Prismatic Fairyland. Millions in succession. Vacant Dates from August Bank Holiday. Address, Chevalier T. H. CROWTHER, 20, Lynthorne-road, Frizinghall.

WANTED, July 16, and onwards, by Le Diabelo, Riding the Devil's Wheel, Two Sensations in One Act, Looping the Devil's Wheel and Riding on the Outside of the Devil's Wheel and Dashing Down a Steep Incline of 45deg. into a net. Novelty, Speciality, and Sensation.

WANTED Known, Pauletti, Eccentric Acrobatic Leaping Cyclist, June 30, Rensham Park Gala; July 2 and 9, Chappell's Concerts, Yarmouth. Two acts, for galas.

WANTED, by Lad, situation with Trick or Comedy Cyclists, can do 18 Different Tricks on Bike. SWIFTO, 23, California-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Piers, &c., Harmon's Bioscope, Marionettes, also Royal Punch and Judy. Note new address, 326, Earlsfield-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, Turner's Bioscope; everything First-class. Wire, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, by experienced Operator for Cinematograph, Mechanic Electrician, Re-engagement; understands every kind of Machinery. M. R., 28, Osnaburgh-street, Portland-road.

WANTED, by Bioscope Operator, a Situation, used to alternating current. Good refs. Wire or write, 74, Kennington-lane, London.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Monday next, Bioscope Operator, 2½ years with Lacey's Erascope, 8½ years' experience; references. FIELD, 9, Culford-grove, Dalston.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Six Words, Sixpence.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Know that T. Brittain and Sons
Build High-class Motor Cars,
for Roundabouts.
Several on View,
Built for Eminent Showman.

Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, if you want to make money easily, quickly, cheaply, and strictly on the square, set up a Mills' Bag Punching Machine. Write Sole Agents for particulars. Graduated payment to responsible buyers. MINERVA AUTOMATIC CO., 120, York-road, King's Cross, London, N.

Auctioneers.

WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Secondhand Silver Watches. Auctioneers only supplied. Write to-day for particulars. C. G. CLICHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Simons, the up-to-date Warehouseman for Auctioneers' Wants, has removed to larger premises. Note New Address, 100, 101, 102A, Houndsditch. Second-hand Watches and Pawnbrokers' Forfeits Stocked to any amount.

WANTED, Known, Electrical.—Simpkin, Wilkinson, and Gibson, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, manufacture showmen's dynamos, new type flare arc lamps, organ motors, &c.; also convert old type lamps to flare pattern. Large stocks cable, carbons, globes, ordinary and miniature incandescents, &c. Repairs done. Write for free samples. Special line.—Portable petrol plants.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Amusement Caterers &c., Shanks and Taylor's Patent Flying Roundabouts are now ready for sale. Anyone wanting a draw for the Summer Season should secure one of these great novelties, size to carry twelve adults or eighteen children, £125, complete. We also have two machines that have been used a few times, at £95 each. 17, Poland-street, London.

WANTED, Known.—Write or call at Greene's, 55, Falmouth-road, London, S.E., for .22 Ammunition, Rifles, &c. Absolutely the cheapest market.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Side Shows, Illusions, Art Galleries, Shooters, and every description of high-class outside Amusements, Switchbacks, Novelties, &c. Write at once, TOM PRICHARD, Palace, Oldbury.

WANTED, Roundabouts, Games, Swings, Stalls, Amusements, Glasgow, Holidays or Season, best position, Portobello Promenade. Wire, PROPRIETOR, Rathbone House, Portobello.

WANTED, Shooting Range, for Important Pier on South Coast. J. HERBERT JAY, 10, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly. Telephone, 6534 Gerrard.

WANTED, Novelties, Marionettes, Freaks, &c., on shares, for hall, in fine position, Monday, onwards. Particulars, HOWARD, 28, Sandside, Scarborough.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Novelties and Tattooer, for Airdrie Market; Shares or Salaries. Apply, OWEN BAGAN, 68, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Novelties or Freaks, for Side-shows; half share, good stand, 2 months certain. L. P., 3, St. Bede's-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Living Freaks and Novelties, open at once; sale of books and postcards allowed. Wire, CHARLES JAMES, Waxworks, Dublin.

WANTED, for Holland's Cinematograph, for Parading, good Foot Equilibrist, Juggler, or Hand-balancer; must make themselves useful about the Exhibition. Can join at once. State terms, first letter, Rudington, Notts. Monday, Mansfield.

WANTED, Useful Couple, for Clark's Ghost Exhibition, Gent. for Comedy, Lady capable of Lead. Address till Saturday, Show Ground, Johnstone, N.B.; after Sat., Show Ground, Greenock, N.B.

WANTED, Good Comedian, those used to Auctioneering Business preferred; also Bar and Ring Performers, Trapaze, Good Contralto for Open Air, strong voice, live in. PERCINA, Greenlaw, N.B. Willie Mackay, Johnny Scott write.

WANTED, Lady Character Delineator, well up in the Business, 2 months certain, half share. Address, L. P., 3, St. Bede's-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Auctioneers.—Two Smart Men Required. Address, FARR'S Sale-rooms, 9 and 10, Wellington-terrace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Good Doorsman, with reference. State height and age to SAMUELS, Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Tattoo Artist, at Once; good connection already established. STEWART'S Waxwork, Cowcaddens, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, three marvellous Indian Freaks, entirely new to England, including Piramel, the only living double man, and Sopromanien, the shortest living man, will arrive July 17, enormous draw. Engagements wanted. Write, DEVEREUX, 4, Duke-street, Adelphi, London.

WANTED, Known, Waller's Paraders, Sam, Juggler, Balancer, Weight-lifter; Ernest and Nellie, Dancers, Cake Walkers. 129, Herries-street, Kilburn-lane, London.

WANTED, Known, Stelfane, Lady Magician, thanks Messrs. Anderton and Rowland for four weeks comfortable engagement, Liberty Mon. Wire, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, Known, Syko, new, original, startling, and mystifying Clairvoyant Act, Shop or Booth. Share or Cert. BURGESS, 19, Angle-st., Burnley.

WANTED, for Three Novelties, Shops, shares or salary; also Character Readers Write, MANAGER, 51, Mary-street, Dublin.

WANTED, by Young Man, Abstainer, Situation, any capacity, on living picture show. D. RICKARDS, 5, Fisher-street, Canning Town, E.

WANTED, Known, we have Ground to Let for all Kinds of Amusements. Holsworthy Fair, July 9, 10, 11; Exmouth Regatta, July 14; Exeter, Regatta, July 21; Honiton Fair, July 25; Kingsbridge Fair, July 26, 27, 28; Lympstone Regatta, Aug. 1; Newton Abbott and Torquay, Bank Holiday, Aug. 6; Dawlish Regatta, Aug. 9; Teignmouth, Paignton, Brixham, Torquay, and Dartmouth Regattas, and Totnes Races. No other than those who can be relied on for respectability need apply. Also to Let, the Winter Gardens, with or without large yard, used for Fancy Fair. Apply, W. C. & S. HANCOCK, Camborne, Sat. After that date, address all letters, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

SECOND ANNUAL TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING, Nov. 12 to Dec. 8.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces, for all kinds of working exhibits and novelties; also first-class side-shows wanted, good cinematograph. Would share with Distorting Mirrors, or purchase reasonably. Apply, SEEBOLD, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, Best Position, Tramore, County Waterford, side of the rolling sea, suitable for Cinematograph, Living Pictures, or any other Novelty Show. Also Space and Shuttered Booth, suitable for Sticky-backs; or would Let to a First-class Man with his own Tools. Either share or rental. Open to all comers.
For terms, apply,
W. PIPER,
Strand-road, Tramore, Ireland.

WANTED, to Let.—Spaces on Blackpool Sands for Shows of every Description. Apply, ALBERT ELLIS, Secretary, Starr Estate Fairground Co., 81, Central-beach, Promenade, Blackpool.

WANTED, Showmen and other Travellers to know that Gorton Wakes will be held as usual on the Chapel House Hotel Grounds. Rents reduced. Commence Aug. 31.
Apply for Ground as usual to
JOHN SMITHSON, Chapel House Hotel, Gorton.

GLASGOW FAIR,
commencing July 12, for 10 days.
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Rehearsal at 3 for :—
"Moses and Son," Prof. Vox, Johnny Gilmore, Chas. Austin, Cole de Losse Duo, Flem and Brok, Baker and Balfe, Josh Dixon, Bioscope.

PALACE, LEICESTER.
Rehearsal at 2.30 for :—
Arthur Roberts and Company, Austin Rudd, Sisters Hayden, Sisters Urma, Sisters Terry, Three Phydoras, George Ridgwell, Cooke and Rothert, May Henderson.

ARDWICK EMPIRE, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
"Casey's Circus," Bioscope, Royal Naval Quartette, Leah Arden, Tribune Trio, Johnson and Bert, Stave, Hector Grant, Steve McCarthy, Marie Kendall.

HIPPODROME, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Little Tich, Bioscope, Illustrated Song, Empire Comedy Four, Ella Retford, Fielding and Hull, Rossi Ashton, Harold Thorley, Spry and Monti, Inaudi.

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Rehearsal at 1 for :—
Capt. Bevan's Gordon Highlanders, Nellie Martell, Francis and Melli, Sam Shipley, Myra Stansfield, Bros. Harrison, Kavados, New York Nippers.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Bransby Williams, Caselli Sisters, J. P. Ling, Bioscope, Howard and St. Clair, Jagos, Frank Coyne, Borellis.

RICHMOND THEATRE, RICHMOND.
Proprietor, Mr. George Dance.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Closed for Cleaning and Re-decoration.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, WALSALL
Rehearsal at 12 for :—
Mike S. Whallen, Bioscope, Ruby Dahl, Nellie Young, Stella Troupe, Eloise Brinsmeade, Anartos, Ben Albert.

THE GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN.
Rehearsal at 3 for :—
Raku, Will Farrell, George Victor, Venton Swift, Chas. F. Stevens, Barrington, Kittie Cleveland, Sisters Brookland, Kittie Corrie, Lily Flexmore, Alice Maydue, Ralston Bros., Keen and Waller, Three Raynors, Adee and Agwin, Bros. Obo, "A Yacht for Sale," Pictures.

THE PALACE, CAMBERWELL.
Rehearsal at 2 for :—
Mark Sheridan, James Stewart, Chas. Sloman, Leo Tell, Harry Bedford, Victor Travers, Dolly McCalla, Queenie May, Three Sisters Chester, Maxwell and Francis, Foreman and Fannan, Les Henris, Sterling and Love, "A Bit of String," "My Pal Jerry," Pictures.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND (in course of erection).
Artists should be careful to keep Dates Open for this Theatre, Booking for which will shortly commence.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras (Fifteen for those engaged at the London Coliseum). Matter for Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR ALL THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to CO-OPERATIVE OFFICES, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, or at least TWO WEEKS, failing which Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artists must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artists are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced.

ARTISTS WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

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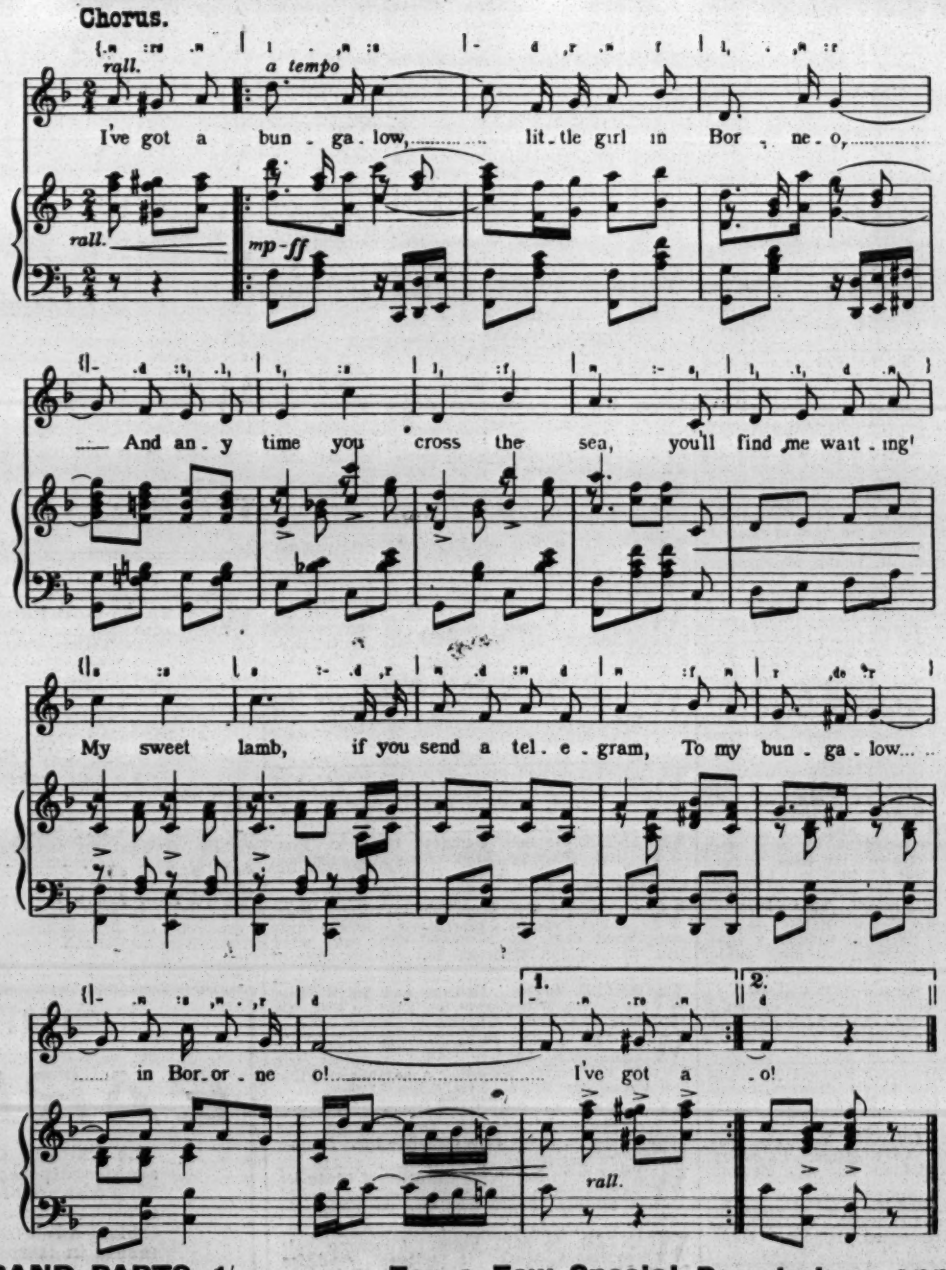

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Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns.

Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier.

Artists employing Agents should accredit one only at one time, as the friction arising when several Agents are employed at the same time, all expecting the one booking to go through each of them, often renders it expedient to avoid that booking altogether rather than give undeserved offence to several Agents.

New Acts seeking engagements, or turns not re-booked (possibly because they have played a series of dates without introducing new business), will facilitate matters by having their acts seen by our District Managers. Their Districts and Postal Addresses are as follows:—

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All Artists or Agents who communicate with our District Representatives must have made definite applications, in accordance with above directions, to the Head Office, at the same time, or just previously.

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CALL for Monday, July 2, 1906. Rehearsal at 11 o'clock sharp for Rose Stahl and Co., Nellie Nora, Peter Bermingham, Harry Radford and Mlle. Valentine, Walker and May, Sisters Desmond, V. L. Granville, Miss Alice Digby, Fred Elton.

PAVILION, GREENOCK.
Monday, July 2, 1906.
Rehearsal at 2 o'clock for
Harry Pleon, The Carlyles, Sidney Dolf, Pavoscope, Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright.
All bill matter to be sent fourteen days ahead to Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow. Artists failing this run the risk of having their contract cancelled.
By order.
SAMUEL LLOYD, General-Manager.

THE PALACE, GLASGOW.

TWO ARTISTS AND AGENTS. All future bookings from April 7, 1906, will be made direct from the above hall. Artists holding Contracts must please forward bill matter direct to the Palace, Glasgow, two weeks in advance. Call for Monday, July 2: The Six Bros. Luck, Marie Wilton, Five Olracs, Pauline Zaro, Edie Gray and Coons, Rae Walters, G. W. Foster, Mlle. Haydee, and Dusty Rhodes.

Address, MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

Rehearsal every Monday at 12 o'clock.

CALL.—Prince's Theatre, Preston, July 2. Bella and Bijou, Lydia Dreams, Jimmy Shields, McCann's Dogs, Edith St. Clare, Harry Butt, Fred Tenby, Pierce and Ward, Comical Walker, Cincinatti, Mons. Reklaw. MARCUS BOYLE.

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The Camerons, Sisters Hula,
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Miss Minnie Leverentz, Paulетti,
Clyo and Rochelle, Bernard and Weston,
Miss Adrienne, Harry Mansfield,
Caselli and James, Bros. Lavelle,
Prof. Deveraux, The Bowery Boys,
Carl Howard, Mdlle Sylvesto,
Joe Cookson, Hurley and Late,
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NOTICE TO ARTISTS AND AGENTS. The Hippodrome Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees, will be closed July 14 and re-open Aug. 6, for cleansing and re-decorations. Contracts can be cancelled or dates re-arranged. Please send on cost and I'll remit payment.
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RICHARD MURRAY, who Acted in America, 1902, is requested to communicate with Mr. Langdale, 50, Holborn-viaduct, London, E.C., on a matter of urgent importance.

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CALLS
FOR WEEK COMMENCING
MONDAY, JULY 2, 1906.

PROVINCIAL CIRCUIT.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
Rehearsal at all Halls, Monday, at 12-0 sharp.

PAVILION, LEICESTER.
Matinée Thursday.
Brownson, Ellis, and Co., Daisy Silcott, Fields and Lewis, Saxo, Millie Denham, Jack Heath, Three Brothers Curran, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, LINCOLN.
Closed.

GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Matinée Monday.
Carlotta De Yonson, E. W. Selman, George Grogie, Rozel, Ivy Gallard, Pallister's Bioscope.

PALACE, BATH.
Closed.

PALACE, BRADFORD.
Matinée Thursday.
Daisy Jerome, Herbert La Martine, Ray Royal, Lambert and Hands, Sadie Simpson, Adams and Ward, Lilian and Vera, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

PALACE, BLACKBURN.
Matinées Thursday and Saturday.
Jake Friedman, Adey Spencer, Keen and Waller, King Roy, Duncan and Brasque, Kisbey, Fyne and Hurley, Three Delaries.

PALACE, HALIFAX.
Matinée Thursday.
Dayton Family, Lily Sharplin, The Henres, Leo Lester's Dogs, George Bendon, Paragon Trio, Nat Clifford, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux, Percy Curry.

PALACE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
Barone and Kemp, Molly Doon, Sid Cottrell and Co., Helm and Cozens, Howe and Ardie, Hyram Travers, Woodhouse and Wells, Raymond's Bio-Tableaux.

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THE BRITANNIA.
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Matinée every Monday.
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All Artists engaged for Surrey Theatre must bring 14 Band parts.

Artists please Note.
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All Bill Matter or Notification of Appearance must be sent in 14 days prior to opening. All Artists must attend Band Rehearsal, or their Contracts may be cancelled at the option of the Management.

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Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
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Code Word, "BROCATELLE."

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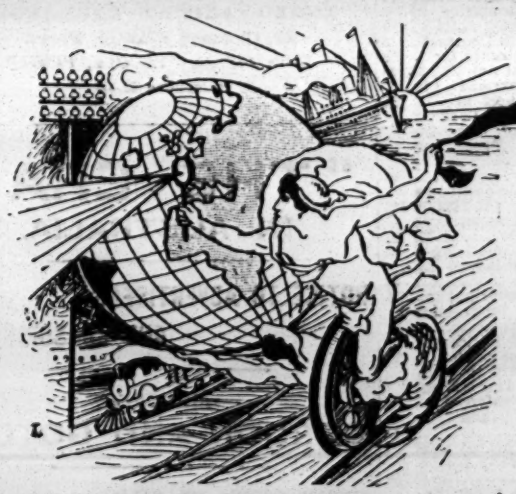

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By A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.
INDEX.

	Page.		Page.
Actions for Deceit ..	3	Injunct'ns, Disobey'g	40
Actor, Illness of	11	„ Interim ...	40
„ Incompetence of	17	„ irrespective of Contract	40
Advertisement of Artist's Name may be a Libel	81	Injunctions, not granted where previous compromise...	39
Agents	2	Injunction only granted where injury irreparable ..	38
„ cannot appoint other Agents	2	Injunctions party applying must have performed his part	35
Applicat'n for Theat'l Licence	53	Injunctions, there must be a negative clause	34
„ „ Music and Dancing Licence ..	61	Injunctions to restrain Libel or Slander	40
Apprentices, Contracts with	31	Injunctions to restrain Nuisance ..	40
Ballet d'Action	52	Injunctions to restrain Performance	40
„ Divertissement..	52	Letters, Contract made by	2
Band Music	74	Libel	77
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., to Lord Chamb'l'n..54,	150	„ restraining	40
Bond to be given by Manager, &c., Form of	150	Licence, Effect of Want of 4,	55
Booth, when Licence Required for	50	Licence, Excise	63
Breach of Promise to Marry	41	„ „ by whom granted	63
Children, Licence to Employ	32	Licence, Music and Dancing	58
Children's Dangerous Performance Act, 1879 32,	95	Licence, Music and Dancing, Application for	61
Closing Times	63	Licence, Music and Dancing, Penalties on Breach of	62
Commission Payable to Agent	28	Licence, Music and Dancing, when required	59
Consideration, Meaning of	2	Licence, Theatrical..	
Conspiracy to Damn a Piece	43	„ Theatrical, Application for	53
Contract, Definit'n of.	7	Licence, Theatrical, Application, Evidence on	53
„ Form of Theatrical	5	Licence, Theatrical, Granted Subject to Conditions	53
„ General Rules as to	1	Licence, Theatrical, Granted to Manager of Theatre only ..	52
„ Grounds for Determination of	3	Licence, Theatrical, Penalties on Breach of	55
„ in Writing or Verbal	1	Licence, Theatrical, when Required	49
„ Made by Agent	2	Licence to Employ Children	33
„ Made by Letters	2	Liquidated Damages	39
„ must have a consideration. no consideration necessary where under seal	2	London County Council, Regulations of..	120
„ Setting aside..	3	Lord Chamberlain, Bond Required by.54-	150
„ Stamp on	3	Lord Chamberlain, Fees of	55
„ Variation of Written ..	2	Lord Chamberlain, Jurisdiction of	52
„ with Apprentice	31	Lord Chamberlain, Licence, Form of..	150
„ with Infant..	31	Lord Chamberlain, Regulations of	146
Copyright	66	Malicious Enticement to break Contract..	31
„ Assignment of	67	Management and Audience	43
„ Duration of..	67	Manager, Jurisdict'n of, subject to Court	19
„ Infringement	76	Misrepresentation in Contract	3
„ International	73	Mistake in Contract..	3
„ Meaning of ..	66	Music, Licence for ..	58
„ Mode of Registration of	66	„ Hall Act, 1752 58,	93
„ Musical	69	„ Copyright in Sheet of	69
„ Plays performed Abroad	69	Music and Dancing Licence (see Licence, Music and Dancing).	
„ Remedies for Infringement of	76	Musical Copyright ..	69
„ Act 1842 ...67,	100	„ Compositions Act, 1882..70	123
„ (Musical Compositions) 1887 Act 70,	123	Musical Compositions Act, 1888 70,	125
(Musical Compositions) 1888 Act 70,	125	Novel, Dramatising a	74
County Council....52,	61	Nuisance caused by Crowds	47
„ „ Discretion of as to granting Licence	53	Opera, Copyright in..	71
„ Jurisdiction of	53	Order on Programme libellous	81
Criticism 43,	77	Owner of Unlicensed Premises liable	51
„ must be honest	43	Partnership in Unlicensed Theatre cannot be enforced ..	5
„ Right to .43,	77	Payment and no Room	46
Crowds may be a nuisance	47	Payment not essential to necessity for Licence	59
Custom of the Profession 2,	22	Penalties under Excise Acts	55
Damages	34	Penalties as to Music and Dancing Licences	62
„ for Breach of Contract	41	Penalties as to Theatrical Licences	55
„ for Breach of Promise to Marry	41	Penalty on Unstamped Agreement	3
„ for Tort	41	Pianoforte Arrangement	71
„ Measure of ..	41	Plans of Theatre	52
„ must not be too remote ..	42	„ Music Hall ..	51
Dancing, Licence for	58	Playwright 66,	68
Dangerous Performances Acts, 1879 and 1897 32,	97	Principal and Agent	2
Defamatory Words..	77	Public Health Act, 1890	59
Disorderly Conduct in Theatres, &c. ..	43	„ House	51
Dramatic Copyright Act, 1833	98	„ Performance..	50
Dramatic Piece, What is a?	71	„ Place	58
Dramatising a Novel	74	Re-engagement, Meaning of	28
Drunkenness no Excuse	17	Remedies for Misrepresentation in Contract	3
Duologue, when a Stage Play	52	Remedies for Fraud in Contract	3
Evidence on hearing of Application for Licence 53,	61	Representation, Right of	58
Excise Licence (see Licence, Excise).		„ Registration of Right of	58
Fame a Consideration in Contract ..	23	Retaining a Seat....	48
Fines and Forfeits must be reasonable	18	Rinking requires a Licence	59
Fraud in Contract ..	3	Riot	43
"Hire" defined	55	Room, Performance in	51
Hissing an Actor....	43	Season, Meaning of..	26
House, When Licence required for	50	Seat, Right to Retain	48
Illness of Actor	11	Services, Specific Performance of	34
„ „ Clause in Contract as to ..	16	Slander	77
„ Manager may prevent Actor from performing	16	Song, when a Dramatic Piece	71
„ „ when it excuses..	11	Song, when a Musical Composition ..	71
Infringement of Copyright	76	Stage Play, Meaning of	51
„ „ Remedies for	76	Stage Play, must be duly Licensed	54
Injunctions	34	Starring	31
„ Acquiescence will prevent	40	Sunday Act	55
„ conduct of party applying must be fair and honest	40	„ Performing on Theatres Act, 1843 ..49,	87
Incompetence of Actor	17	Theatre, Patent ...	50
Infants	31	„ Unlicensed 4,	55
„ Contracts with..	31	Theatrical Licence (see Licence, Theatrical).	
„ Licence to employ	33		

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